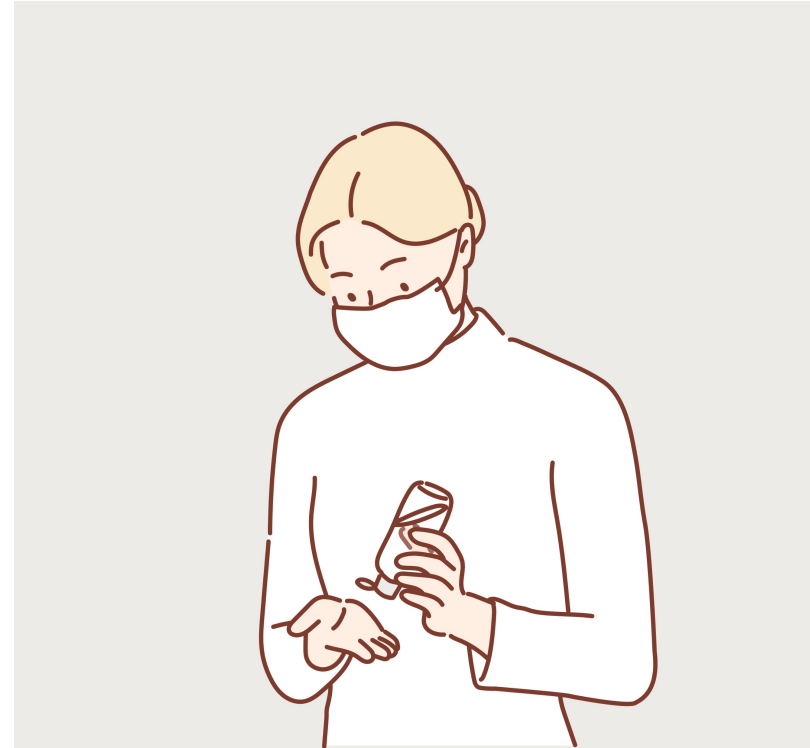


navigating.* coronavirus

Update:

Friday, May 22, 2020

Communicating in
Crisis: Coronavirus



Key takeaways:

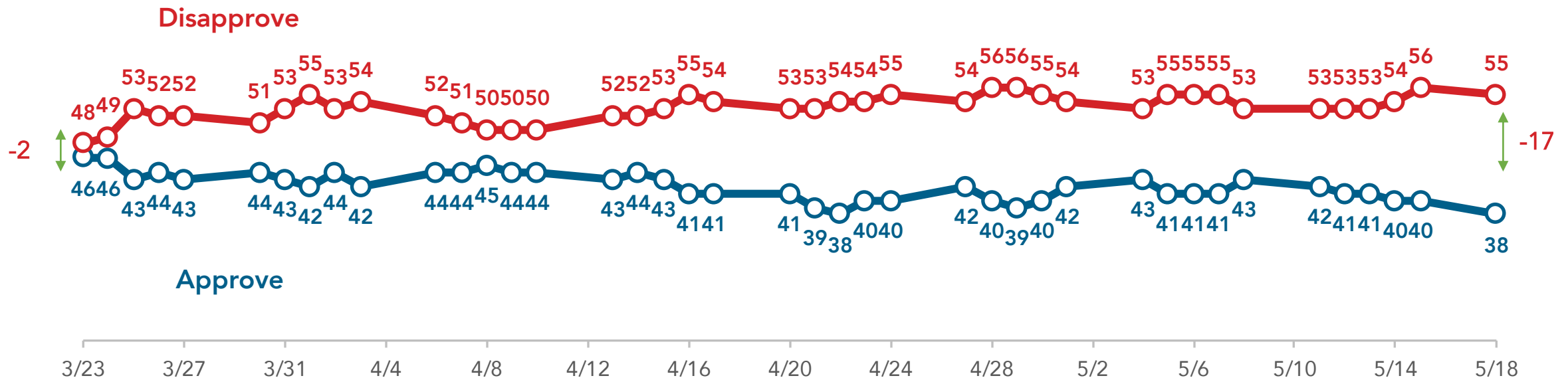
- A “second wave” of the pandemic and recession remain top worries for Americans, with the vulnerability of nursing homes to coronavirus also ranking high.
- The vast majority of Americans approve of relief bills, though there is growing concern that they favor the wealthy.
- Americans support the HEROES Act and disapprove of Republican holding it up in the Senate.

Trump's Approval on Health Care Ties Record Low

Only 38% of Americans approve of how Trump is handling the issue of health care.

- There's now been a net decline of 15 points in Trump's handling since March 23rd (from -2 to -17).
- Among independents, only 30% approve of the job he's doing handling health care.

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Donald Trump is handling the issue of health care?



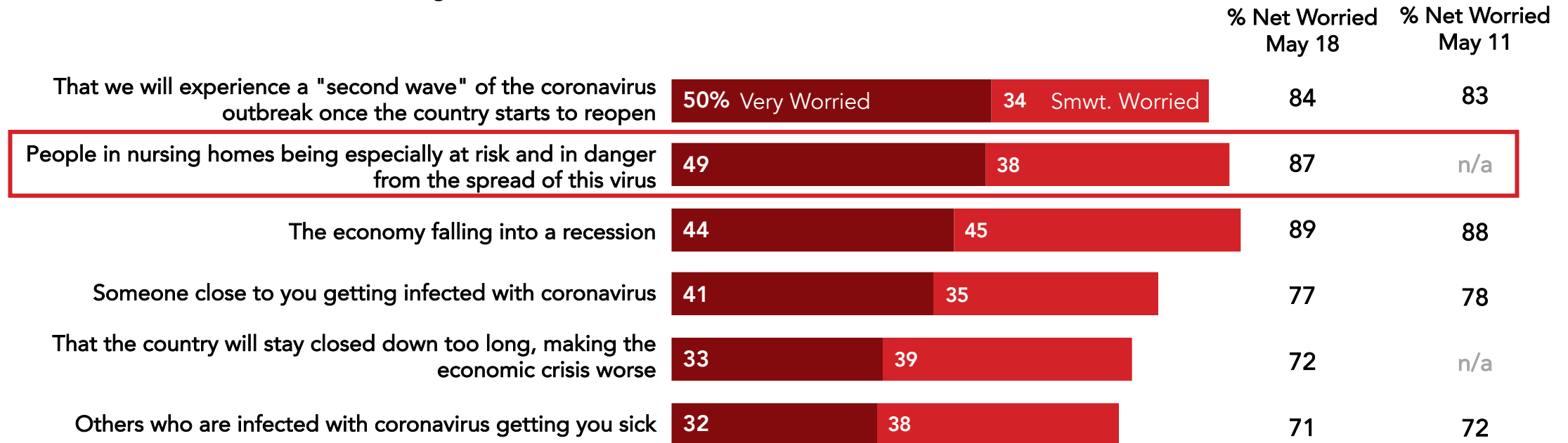
Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three days. Latest wave conducted May 15-May 18, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Second Wave, Recession, and Nursing Homes Top Worries

A "second wave" and a recession consistently rank as top worries for Americans – and a new question about the vulnerability of Americans in nursing homes rises to the top as well.

- In a separate question, more than half (52%) of Americans think that Trump is mostly or somewhat responsible for the disproportionate number of coronavirus-related deaths coming from nursing home workers/residents.

Below are some things some people might be worried about in light of the coronavirus pandemic. Please indicate how worried you are about each one.



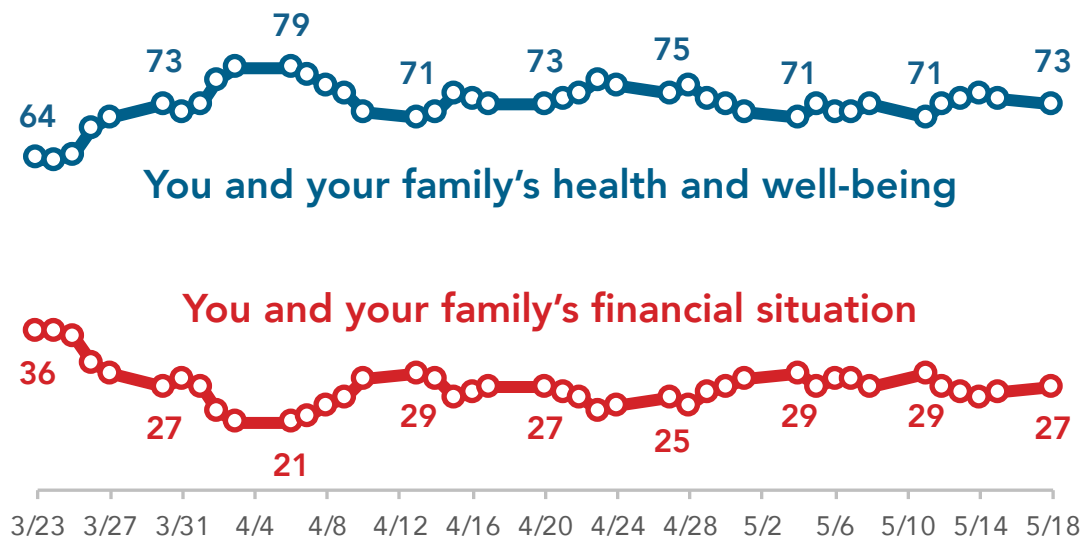
Nationwide survey of 1,011 registered voters; May 15-May 18, 2020.
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Personal and Public Health Remain Bigger Concern

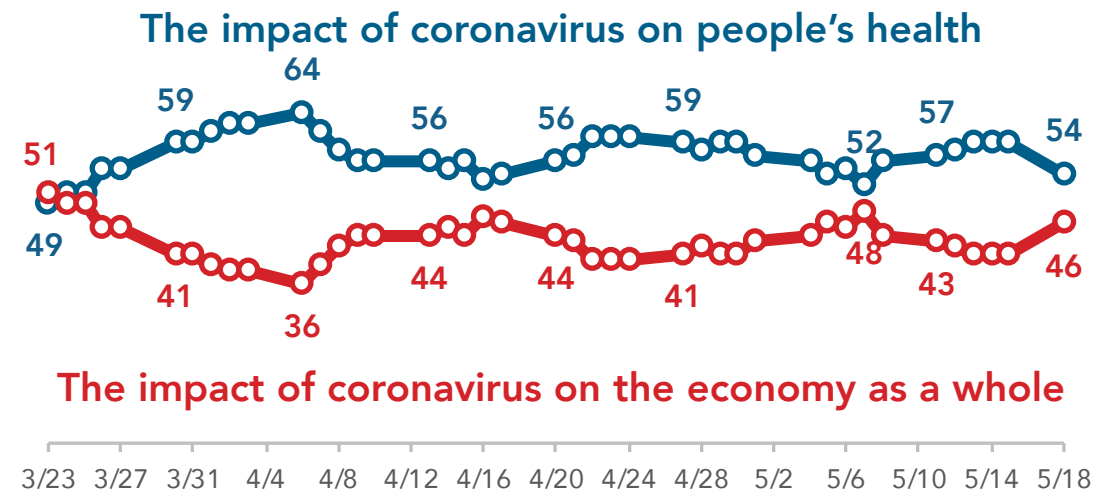
Americans remain more concerned about their family's health than their financial situation, and the impact of coronavirus on public health than the economy as a whole.

- Even among Republicans, 62% are more concerned about their family's health and well-being than their financial situations, and 39% are more concerned about the impact of coronavirus on national health.

In thinking about the impact of coronavirus on you, which are you more worried about...



In thinking about the impact of coronavirus on the country, which are you more worried about...



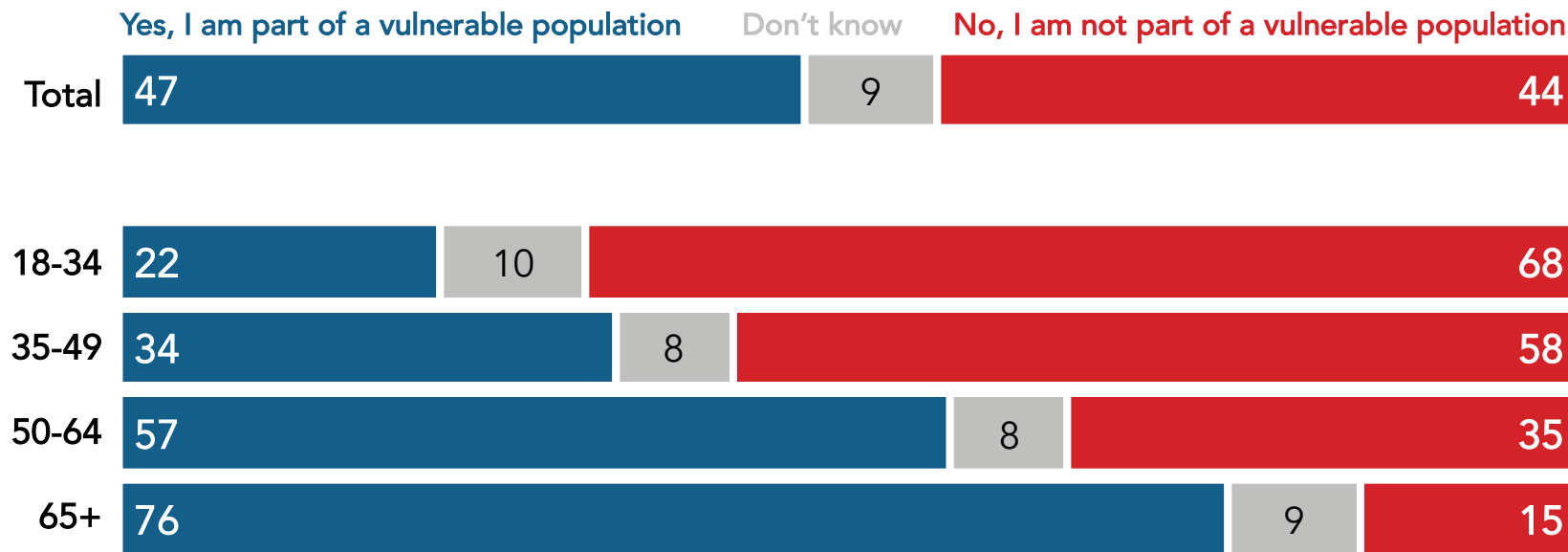
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Many People Consider Themselves Vulnerable to Virus

Nearly half of Americans consider themselves vulnerable to the virus, and the older someone is, the more likely they are to self-identify as being “vulnerable” to coronavirus.

- Perceived vulnerability to coronavirus is similar across different races: 48% of whites, 45% of African Americans, and 45% of Hispanics say they are vulnerable.

As you may know, certain groups of people are considered "vulnerable" to coronavirus and have a higher risk of complications, or even death, if they get sick from coronavirus. Do you consider yourself to be in that vulnerable, high-risk population for coronavirus?



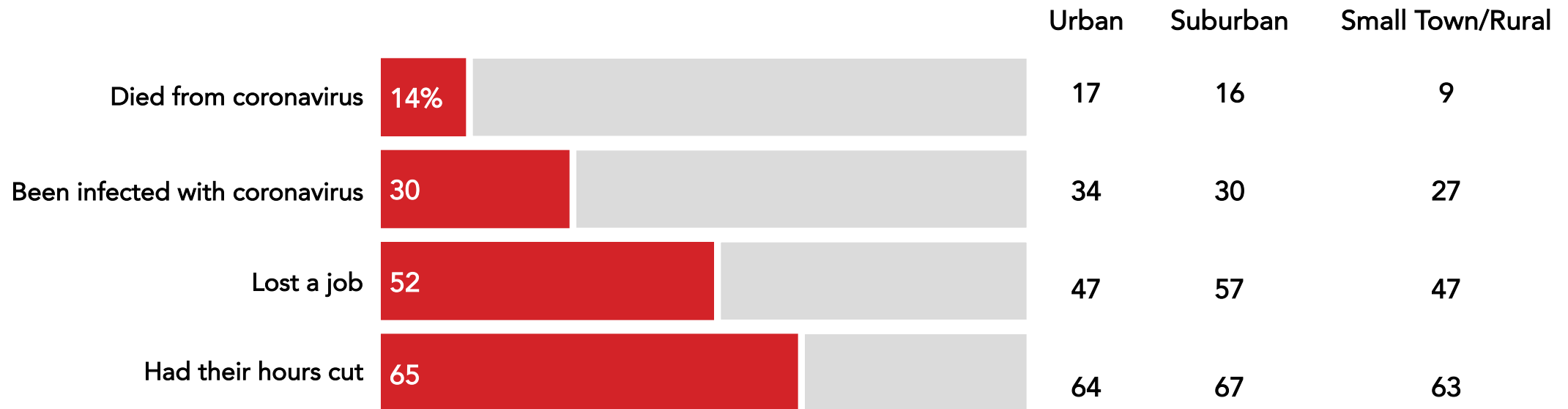
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Impacts of the Pandemic are Widespread

The majority of Americans say they know someone who has had their hours cut or lost a job, while almost a third of Americans know someone who has been infected and one in seven know someone who has died.

- Those in urban and suburban areas are most likely to know someone who has been infected or who has died.

Do you know anyone who has.....



Nationwide survey of 1,011 registered voters; May 15-May 18, 2020.
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Adding Coronavirus to Preexisting Condition Argument Is Effective

In a test where half the sample was asked if they agree more with Democrats who support Obamacare or Trump in his push to terminate it, a majority chose Democrats. When adding coronavirus as a preexisting condition that would be protected by Obamacare, the share siding with Democrats grows by a net 6 points.

- Among Republicans, comparing the messaging without coronavirus to the messaging with it mentioned as a preexisting condition, there is an 11-point increase in the share who agree with Democrats (from 16% to 27%).
- Among independents, there is a 7-point increase in the share who agree with Democrats (47% to 54%).

Which of the following statements do you agree with more?

Democrats, who oppose Trump's push to terminate Obamacare because it will allow insurance companies to deny coverage to people with pre-existing conditions

Donald Trump, who says he wants to terminate Obamacare and replace it with an even better health care system



Shown to half of sample

+12

Democrats, who oppose Trump's push to terminate Obamacare because it will allow insurance companies to deny coverage to people with pre-existing conditions, which would now include anyone who has tested positive for coronavirus

Donald Trump, who says he wants to terminate Obamacare and replace it with an even better health care system



Shown to half of sample

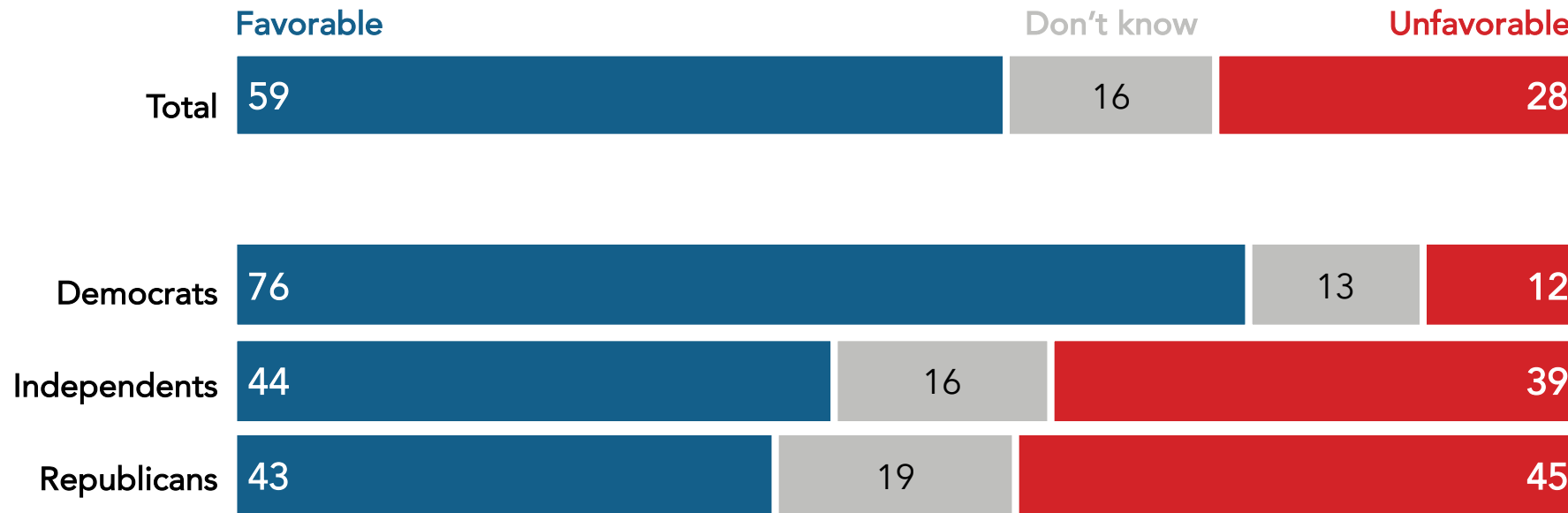
+18

Amid Conspiracies, Majority Favorable Towards Bill Gates

Despite disinformation theorizing that Bill Gates created the virus and other negative stories, he retains high levels of favorability.

- Fox News consumption makes no difference in feelings towards Gates – among Republicans who watch Fox News frequently, 43% are favorable to him; among Republicans that don't watch regularly, 42% are favorable.

Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are to Bill Gates.

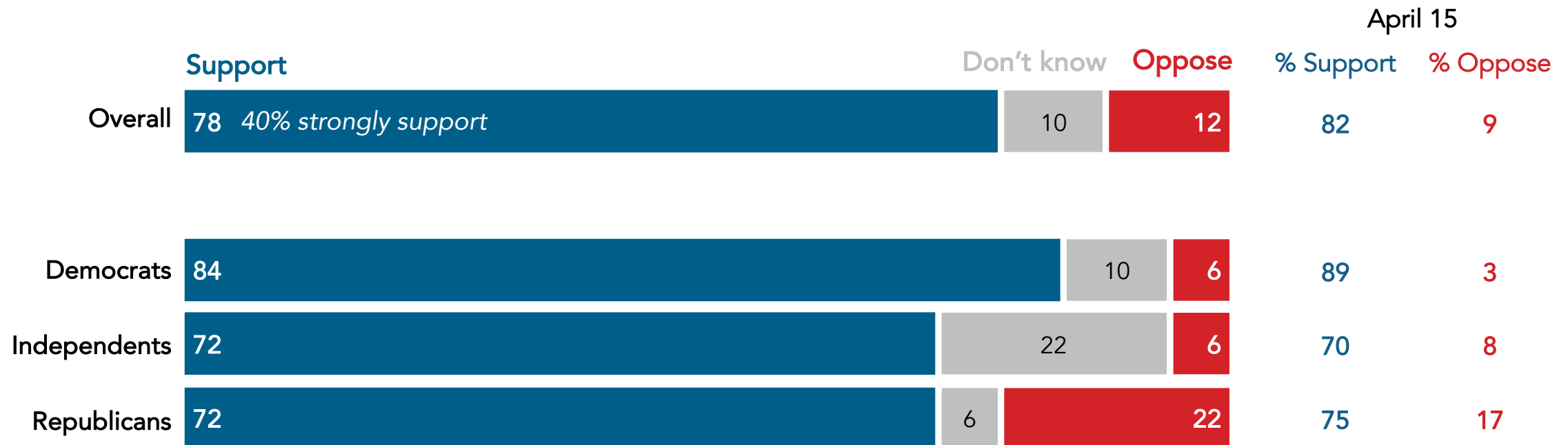


"Republicans who watch Fox News" are Republicans who report watching Fox News at least a few times a month. Nationwide survey of 1,011 registered voters; May 15-May 18, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Most Continue to Support Relief Bills

The vast majority of Americans – including both Democrats and Republicans – continue to support the relief bills passed by Congress.

Do you support or oppose the relief bills passed by Congress so far?



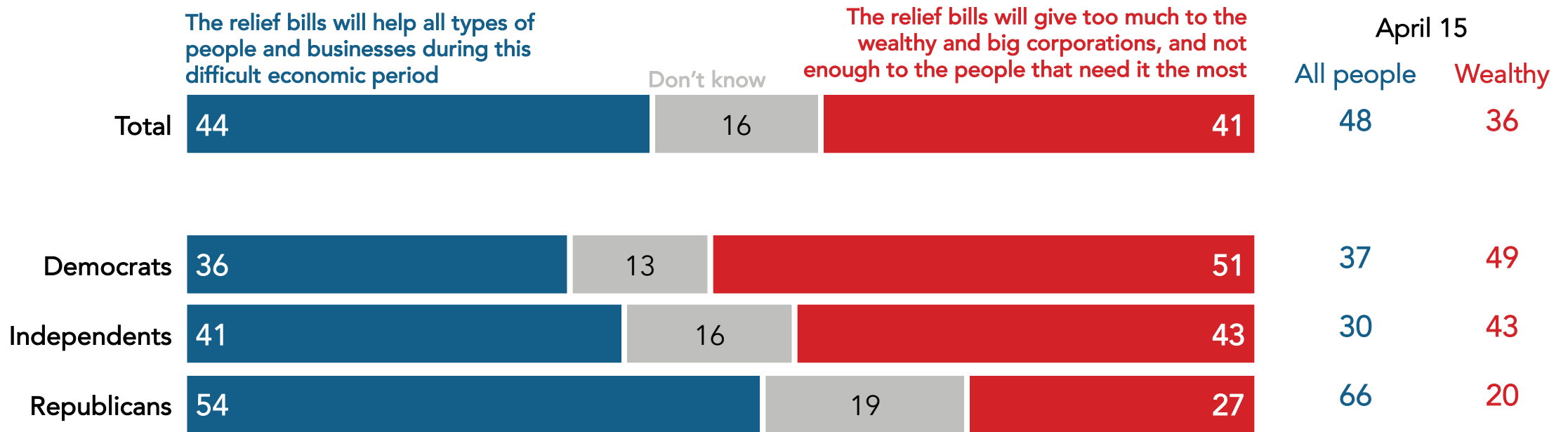
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Increasing Concern Relief Will Favor Wealthy

While a plurality still say that congressional relief bills will help all types of people, the share that says they will give too much to wealthy and big corporations has increased.

- A majority of Democrats, and more than four in 10 independents, believe the relief bills will give too much to wealthy and big corporations, and not enough to people that need it most.
- Among Republicans, there has been a 12-point decline in belief they will help all people (from 66% to 54%).

Based on what you know, which of the following do you agree with more about the economic relief bills passed by Congress?



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Wide Support for HEROES Act, Even After Hearing GOP Attack

A majority of Americans support the proposed HEROES Act and say they would disapprove of Republicans in the Senate not considering the legislation or putting it up for a vote.

- This legislation is particularly popular among independents: 80% support it, while 60% disapprove of Republicans blocking it.

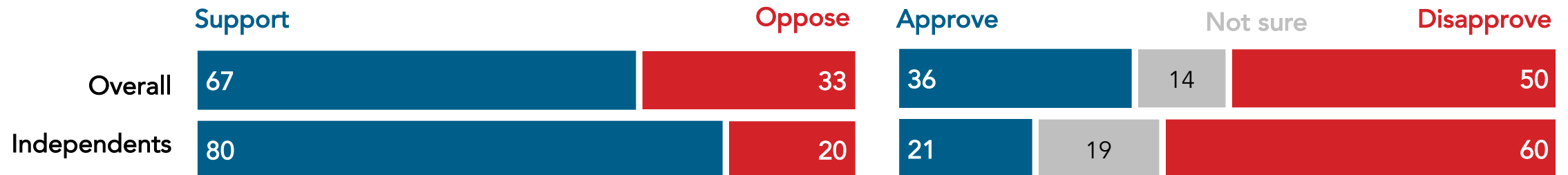
The House of Representatives is considering legislation to respond to the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

Democrats in Congress say they have a plan to combat the economic devastation and depression from coronavirus. Their plan includes economic relief to millions of Americans who have lost their jobs or had hours cut, with additional cash payments of up to \$1,200 per person, expanded unemployment benefits through January next year, and support for state and local governments to protect public programs and prevent first responders, medical workers, and teachers from being laid off.

Republicans in Congress say this legislation is nothing more than a liberal wish-list of big spending, while people are suffering because of coronavirus. Instead of trying to tackle the problems, they're using the crisis to pass new "environmental justice" regulations, pass bailouts to failed blue-state governors, and change voting laws to make voter fraud easier all while adding \$3 trillion to the national debt, which our country just can't afford.

Based on what you've read, do you support or oppose this legislation?

Would you approve or disapprove of Republicans in the Senate not considering this legislation or putting it up for a vote?



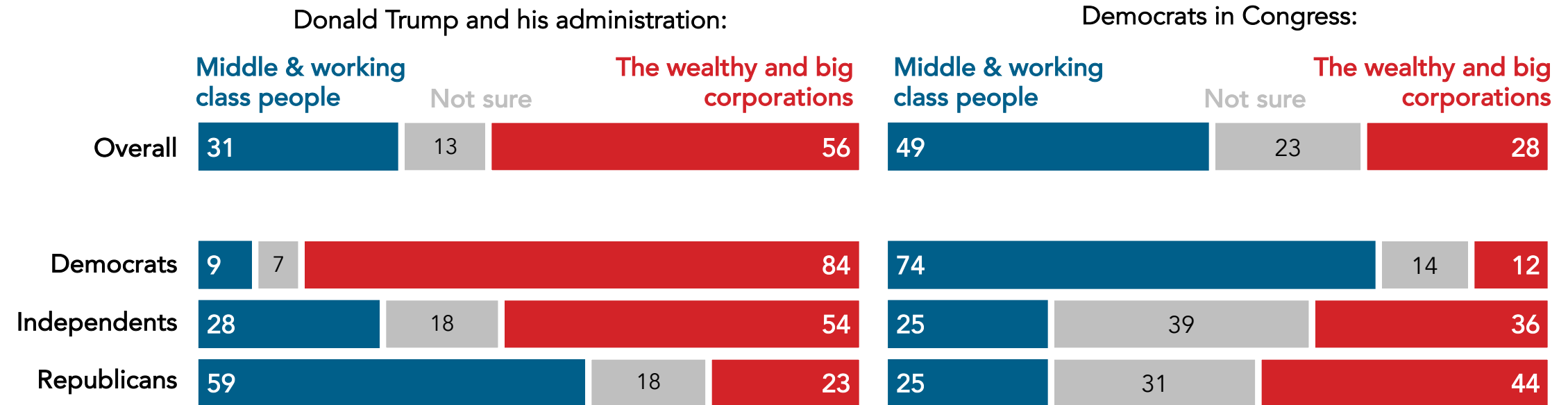
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Democrats Lead on Supporting Middle & Working Class

A majority of Americans feel Donald Trump's economic response favors wealthy and big corporations, while nearly half feel that congressional Democrats' policies favor middle and working class people.

- After reading about proposed relief legislation by congressional Democrats, there's a 7-point increase in the share saying their policies favor middle and working class people (from 49% to 56%).

Thinking more about how _____ are responding to the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic, who do you think _____'s policies favor most?



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About Navigator

In a world where the news cycle is the length of a tweet, our leaders often lack the real-time public-sentiment analysis to shape the best approaches to talking about the issues that matter the most. Navigator is designed to act as a consistent, flexible, responsive tool to inform policy debates by conducting research and reliable guidance to inform allies, elected leaders, and the press. Navigator is a project led by pollsters from Global Strategy Group and GBAO along with an advisory committee, including: Andrea Purse, progressive strategist; Arkadi Gerney, The Hub Project; Christina Reynolds, EMILY's List; Delvone Michael, Working Families; Felicia Wong, Roosevelt Institute; Mike Podhorzer, AFL-CIO; Jesse Ferguson, progressive strategist; Navin Nayak, Center for American Progress Action Fund; Stephanie Valencia, EquisLabs; and Melanie Newman, Planned Parenthood Action Fund.

About the Study

Global Strategy Group conducted a public opinion survey among a sample of 1,011 registered voters conducted May 15-May 18, 2020. The survey was conducted online, recruiting respondents from multiple opt-in online panel vendors. Respondents were verified against a voter file and special care was taken to ensure the demographic composition of our sample matched that of the national registered voter population across a variety of demographic variables.

For Press inquiries contact:

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