

navigating.* CORONAVIRUS

Daily Update:
Saturday, May 2, 2020

Communicating in
Crisis: Coronavirus



Key takeaways:

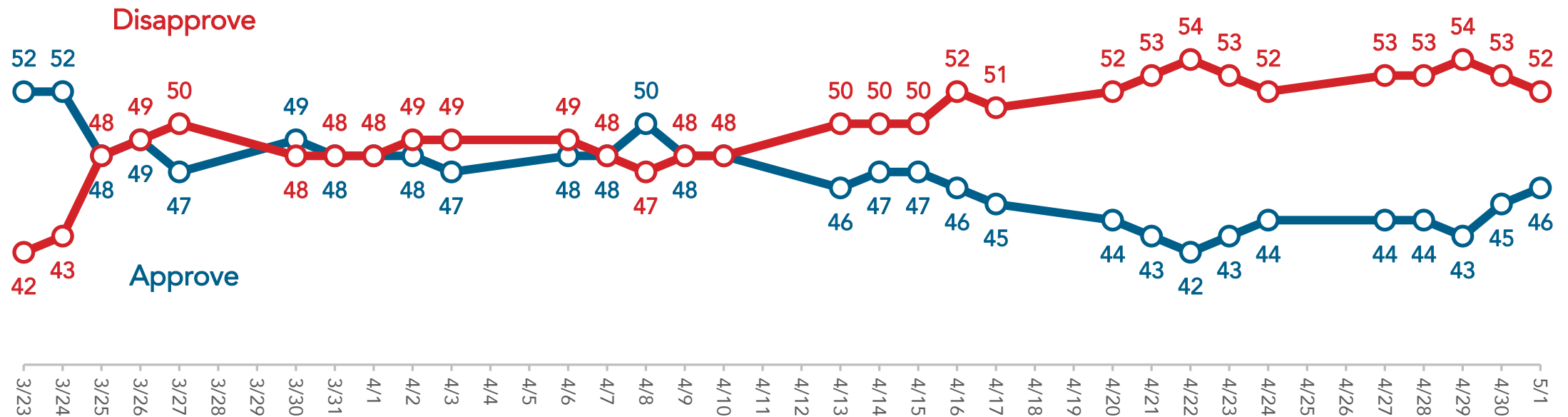
- A majority continue to disapprove of how Trump is handling the pandemic and remain concerned about his downplaying of the crisis and deflecting blame.
- While there are partisan differences on whether or not to relax social distancing measures, most continue practicing them.
- Americans getting their news from Fox News are more likely to believe disputed information relating to the pandemic.

Majority Disapprove of Trump's Handling

The majority of Americans continue to disapprove of how Trump is handling the pandemic.

- The share of Americans who "strongly disapprove" of Trump's handling of the pandemic has reached 41%, a 10-point increase since the beginning of our daily tracking on March 23rd (31% strongly disapprove).

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Donald Trump is handling the coronavirus pandemic?



Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three days. Latest wave conducted April 28-May 1, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Deflecting Blame and Downplaying Remain Top Concerns

Trump’s failure to take responsibility for his own handling and his initial downplaying of the threat raise serious concerns for a majority of Americans.

- Nearly half the country (48%) says that Trump “blaming others and tweeting insults” raises “very” serious concerns, an increase of 8 points since March 23 (from 40%).

Please indicate whether each criticism raises serious concerns about Trump’s handling of the coronavirus pandemic.

	Very Serious Concerns	Somewhat Serious Concerns	% Total Serious Concerns	
			Overall	Mixed on Trump*
Donald Trump is too often blaming others and tweeting insults instead of taking responsibility for his own handling of the situation	48%	11	59	67
Donald Trump downplayed the threat of the coronavirus early on, letting it get worse when we should have been preparing	48	10	58	60
Donald Trump has too often made decisions that have ignored or overruled the advice of health and medical experts	45	12	58	62
Donald Trump continues to downplay the health risks of coronavirus, pushing too aggressively to reopen the country even though that would put more lives at risk	45	11	56	61
Donald Trump’s chaotic style is only adding confusion and volatility to this crisis at a time when we need steady leadership	45	11	56	61

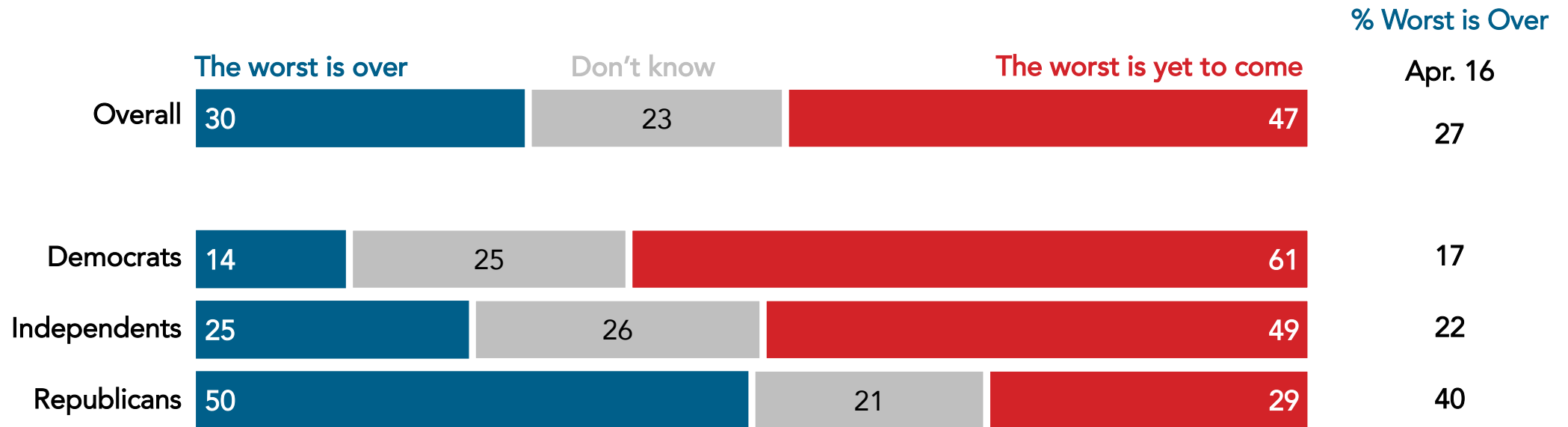
*“Mixed on Trump” refers to Americans that don’t always approve or don’t always disapprove of Trump’s overall job performance, his handling of the economy, his handling the coronavirus pandemic, and his handling of health care. Nationwide survey of 1,022 registered voters; April 28-May 1, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Divergent Views by Partisanship on Whether Worst is Over

Nearly half of Americans still believe that the worst is yet to come in the coronavirus pandemic, though this varies widely across parties.

- Half of Republicans say that “the worst is over,” while only 14% of Democrats say the same.
- The percentage of Republicans that think the “worst is over” has increased by 10 points since our April 16 update, while the percentage of Democrats who think the same has actually decreased by 3 points.

When it comes to the coronavirus pandemic in the United States, do you personally think that...



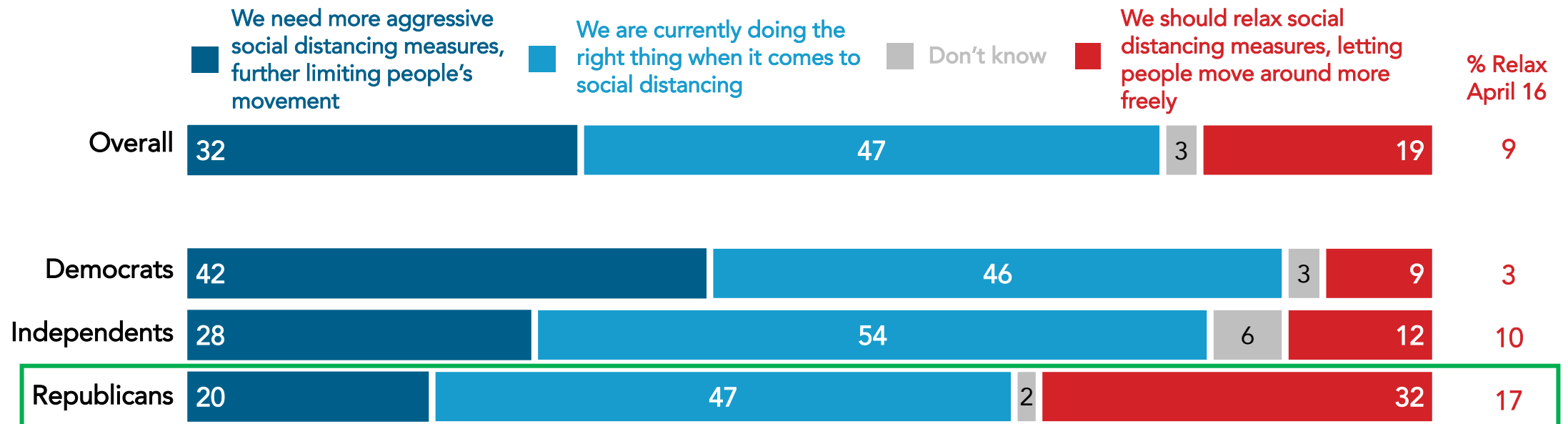
Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three days. Latest wave conducted April 28-May 1, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Some Republicans Want to Relax Social Distancing...

The vast majority of Americans think we need either more aggressive social distancing measures or are currently doing the right thing.

- Republicans (32%) are more than three times as likely as Democrats (9%) to say that we should relax social distancing measures.
- On a separate question, more than half (52%) of Republicans think that the United States will “return to normal” within the new month or next few months, while only 30% of Democrats say the same.

When it comes to social distancing, what do you think we, as a country, need to be doing right now?

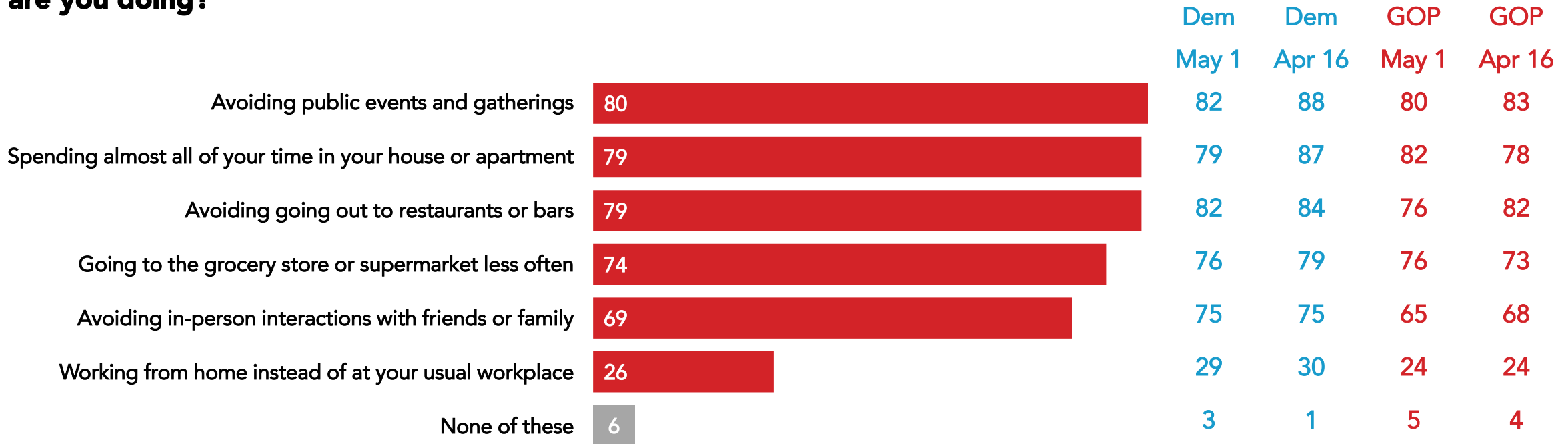


Nationwide survey of 1,022 registered voters; April 28-May 1, 2020.
For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

...But Most Republicans Still Staying Inside

Despite shifts in support for relaxing social distancing measures, the vast majority of Americans, including Republicans, continue to practice social distancing measures.

Below is a list of things some people are currently doing in response to the coronavirus pandemic. Which are you doing?



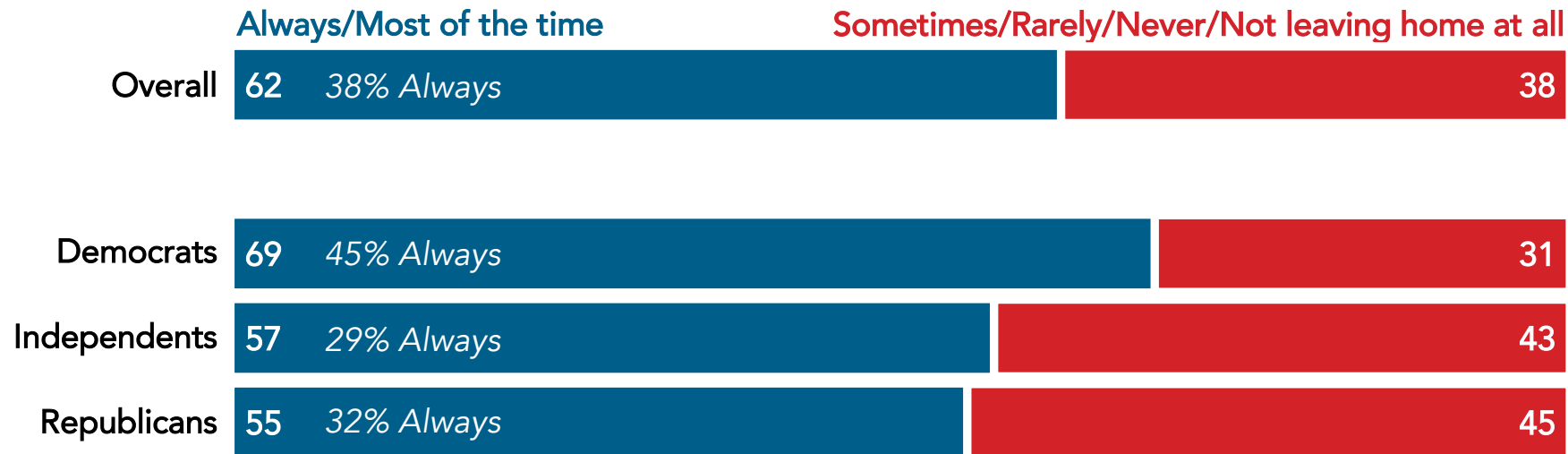
Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three days. Latest wave conducted April 28-May 1, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Democrats Most Likely to Wear Masks

A majority of the public reports wearing masks outside “always” or “most of the time.”

- Democrats (69%) are the most likely to report wearing masks, followed by independents (57%) and then Republicans (55%).
- Northeasterners (82%), Hispanics (79%), and liberals (70%) are also particularly likely to report wearing masks “always” or “most of the time.”

How often are you wearing a mask over your face when you leave your home?

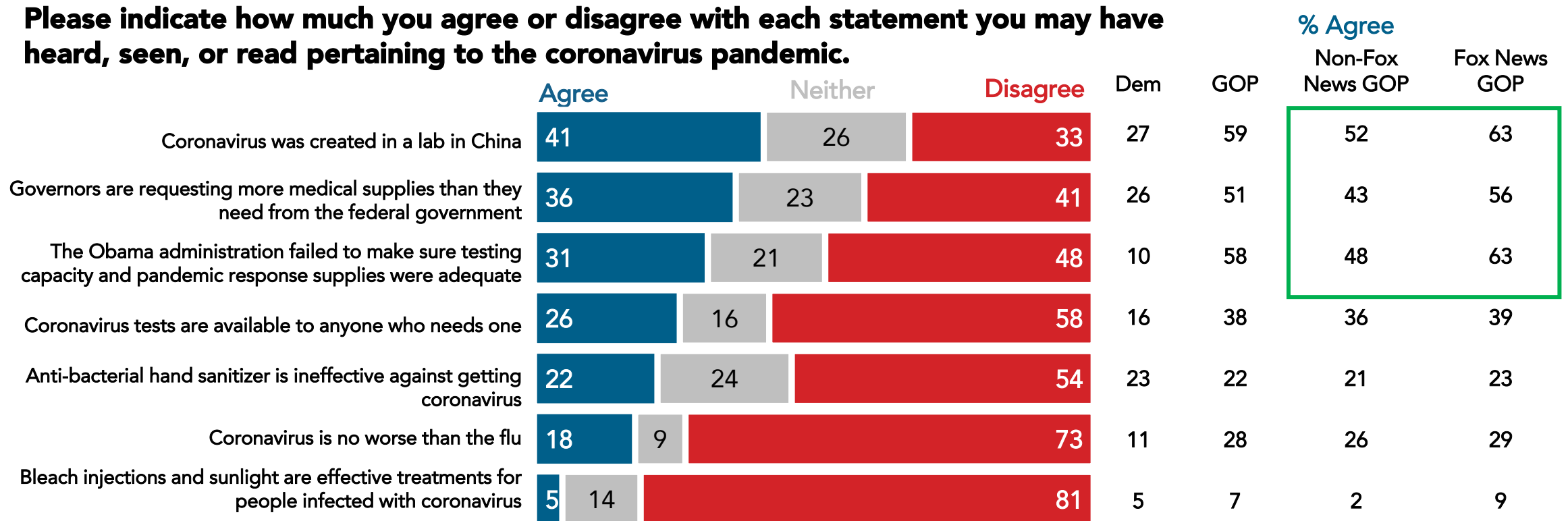


Disputed Info Spreading Among Republican Fox News Viewers

Republicans are significantly more likely to agree with a number of disputed claims pulled from recent news coverage than Democrats and independents are.

- Republicans who watch Fox News at least a few times a month are particularly likely to agree with these statements.

Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with each statement you may have heard, seen, or read pertaining to the coronavirus pandemic.



"Republicans who watch Fox News" are Republicans who report watching Fox News at least a few times a month. Nationwide survey of 1,004 registered voters; April 24-29, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

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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 1,022 registered voters conducted April 28-May 1, 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.

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To learn more about Navigator:

<http://navigatorresearch.org>

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