

navigating.* coronavirus

Update:

Thursday, June 11, 2020



Communicating in
Crisis

Key takeaways:

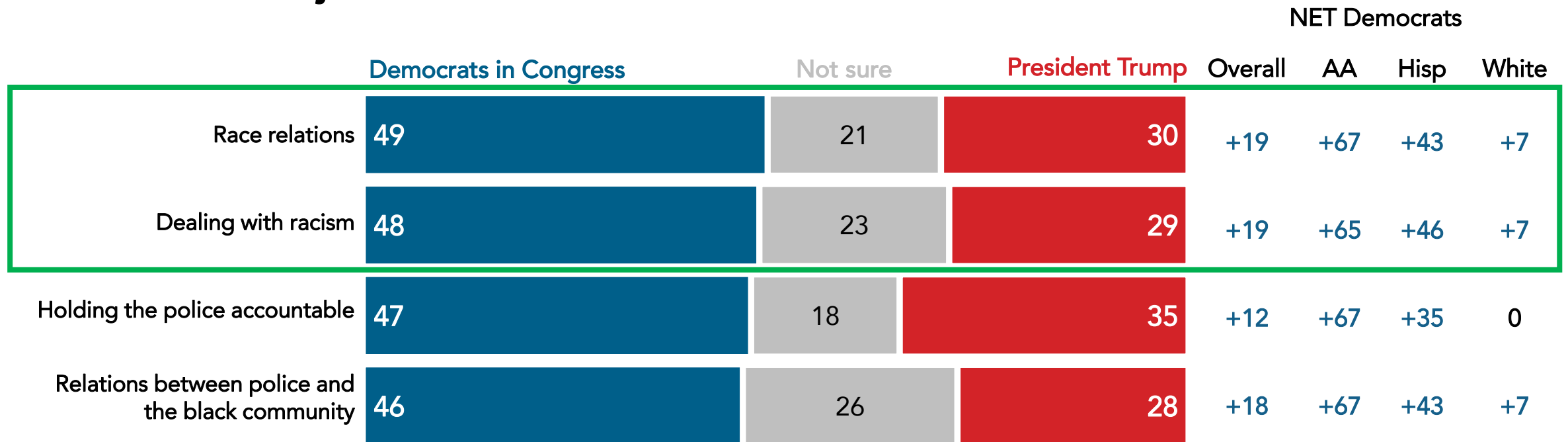
- Democrats in Congress are much more trusted than Trump on issues related to race relations, and most Americans lack confidence in him on issues related to police and race.
- A majority see race relations as having gotten worse under Trump and think he is making things worse through divisive language and actions.
- Four in five Americans are concerned that the national conversation has become too focused on the protests instead of the killings and systemic racism that have led up to them.

Democratic Advantage on Issues Relating to Race

Democrats in Congress hold a double-digit lead over Trump in trust to handle various issues relating to recent protests, including race relations and relations between the police and the Black community.

- Nearly three in four (74%) African Americans and 63% of Hispanics trust Democrats more than the president to handle race relations, while a plurality (43%) of white Americans say the same.

Please indicate who you would trust more to handle each one.



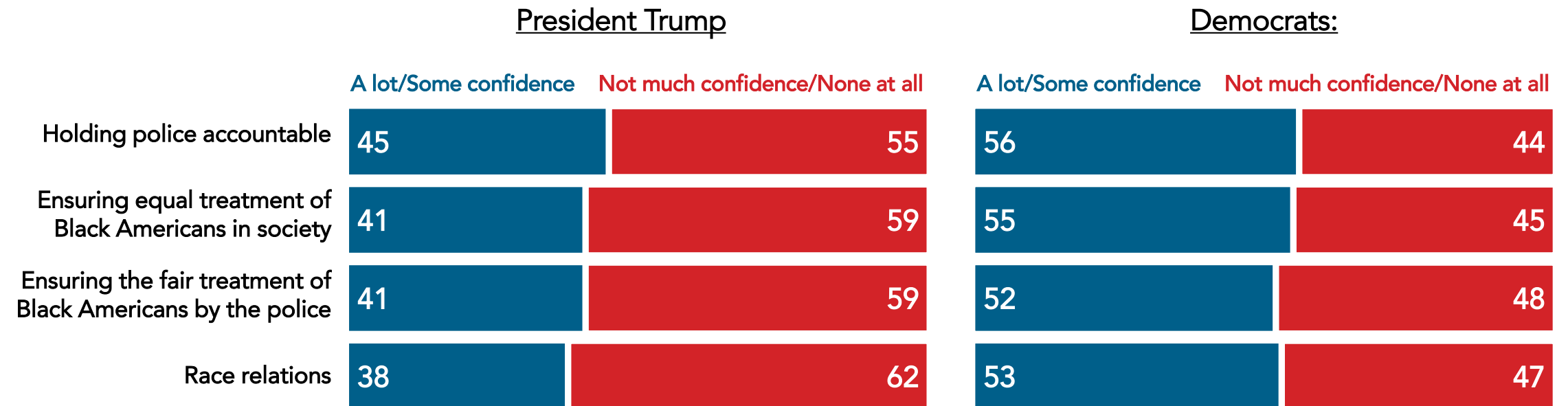
Nationwide survey of 1,608 registered voters; June 4-8, 2020.
For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

On Race, More Confidence in Democrats Than in Trump

A majority of Americans say they have “not much”/“no confidence” in Trump to resolve issues related to race and policing – while a majority say they have “a lot”/“some confidence” in Democrats to resolve those issues.

- On “ensuring the equal treatment of Black Americans in society,” 17% of African Americans have “a lot”/“some confidence” in Trump to resolve related issues, while 70% have “a lot”/“some confidence” in Democrats.

How much confidence do you have in _____ to resolve issues concerning each of the following?



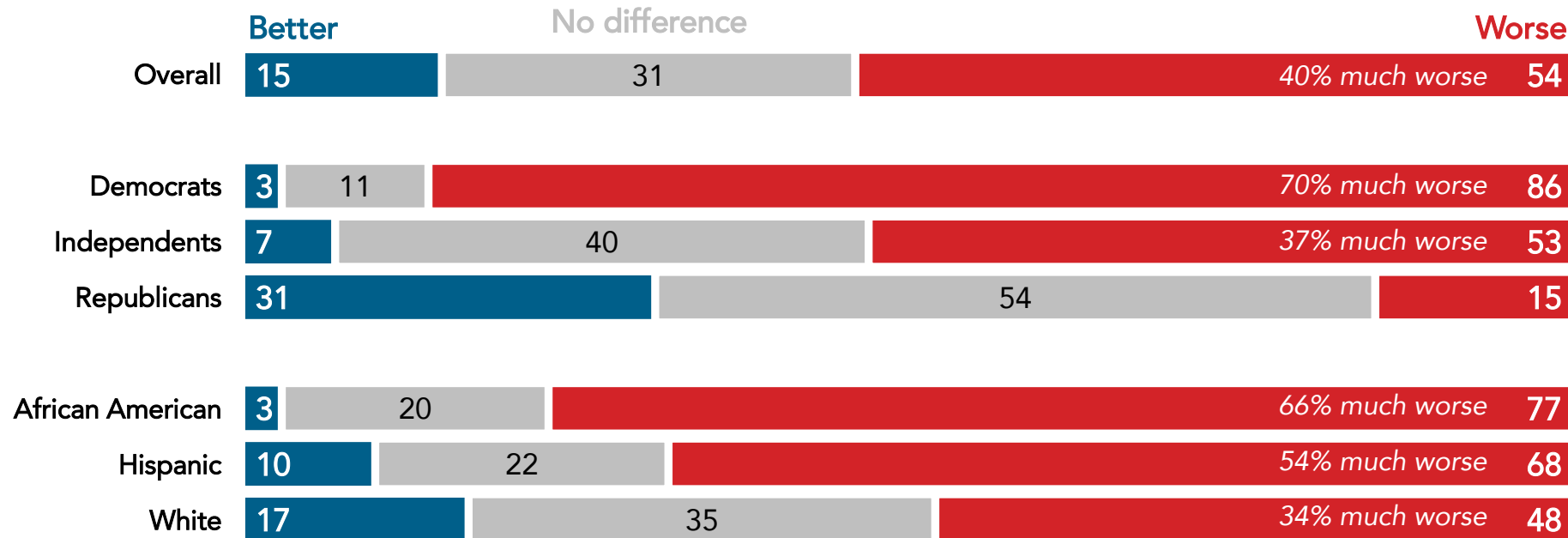
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Public Believes Race Relations Under Trump Have Worsened

More than half believe under Trump, race relations have gotten worse, and two in five say much worse.

- Two in three African Americans (66%) and 54% of Hispanics say race relations have gotten “much worse” under Trump.
- Even among 2016 Trump voters, only 35% say race relations have gotten better.

Since Donald Trump became president, do you think race relations in the United States have gotten better or worse?

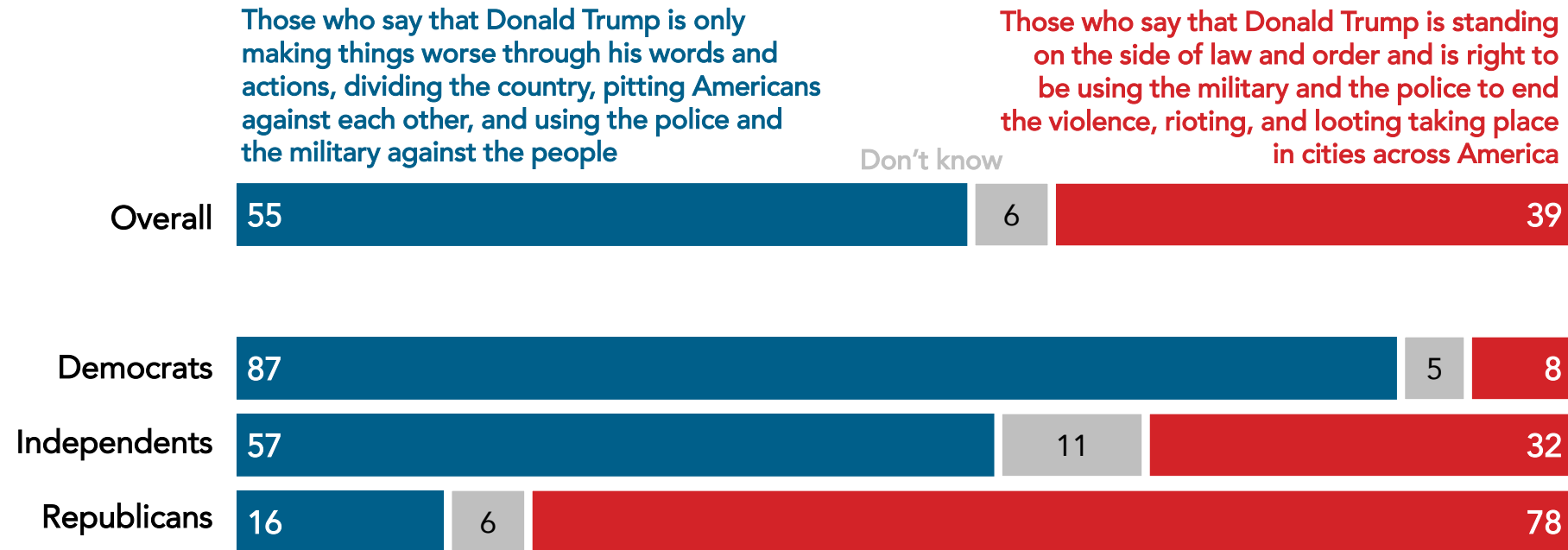


“2016 Trump Voters” self-report having voted for Donald Trump in the 2016 election.
Nationwide survey of 1,608 registered voters; June 4-8, 2020.
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Trump Losing Argument on Law and Order

More agree Trump is making things worse than say he is standing up for law and order.

Which side do you agree with more?



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Top Trump Concerns: "Fuel on the Fire," Caring About Himself

Roughly half – and many independents – say a series of Trump actions on coronavirus, recent protests, and the economy raise “very serious” concerns.

Please indicate whether each raises concerns about the Trump administration’s handling of recent events.

	% Very Serious Concerns	
	Overall	Ind
At a time when we need leadership and compassion from our president to bring people together, Donald Trump is pouring fuel on the fire on the situation, making things worse and only adding to chaos and violence with his inflammatory words and actions.	50	48
Recent events have made it clear that Donald Trump only cares about himself and his power, and not the people of this country. Whether it's his repeated ignoring of medical experts on the pandemic because he thinks he knows best, or his tear-gassing of innocent protesters for a photo op, it's clear Donald Trump just cares about himself and not you.	50	50
As crises in America build, Trump continues to divide us, pitting Americans against each other and refusing to play the role of a president who unites the nation. Trump knows no other way and his reaction to every event is the same – to divide and attack people who disagree with him.	49	47
Trump's different responses to armed protests at state capitol buildings and the current protests only highlight his callousness on the issue of racism. When people with guns protested stay-at-home orders at state capitols, Trump called them “very good people.” Now, he's calling the people protesting against police violence “thugs.”	47	44
Trump has failed to lead on every major crisis America has been confronted with recently , from the coronavirus pandemic to the protests over the police killings of Black Americans. On both, Trump is refusing to show leadership and failing to address Americans' pain and suffering.	47	43
Trump is a weak and thin-skinned leader who lashes out whenever he is criticized. When Americans were protesting outside of the White House, he hid in his bunker and turned the lights off. Then when people criticized him for that, he tear-gassed the protesters the next day.	46	47
Trump has given up on combating the coronavirus , and instead turned his attention to protests in major cities across America with a response that has been heavy-handed and over the top, threatening to turn the military on citizens and tear gassing protesters.	45	43

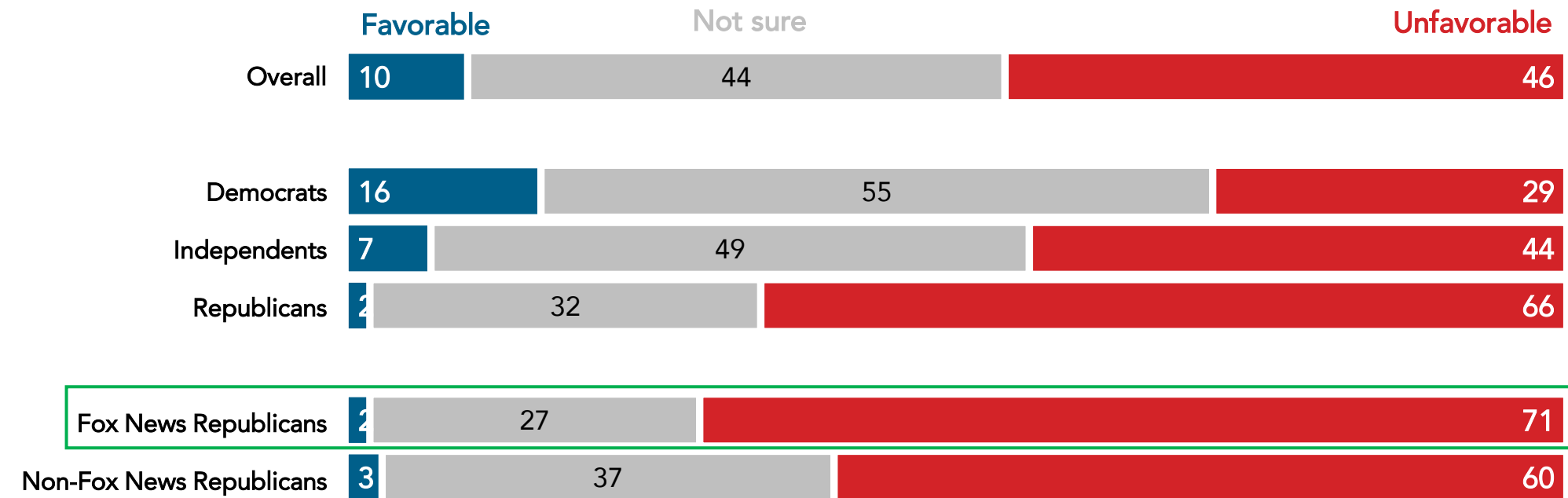
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Antifa is Largely a Republican Construct

While a plurality of Americans are unfavorable to Antifa, more than two in five Americans have not heard of them.

- Among Republicans who watch Fox News, only 27% are unfamiliar with the group and 71% are unfavorable – on the other hand, among Republicans who do not watch Fox News, 37% are unfamiliar and 60% are unfavorable.

Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are to Antifa.



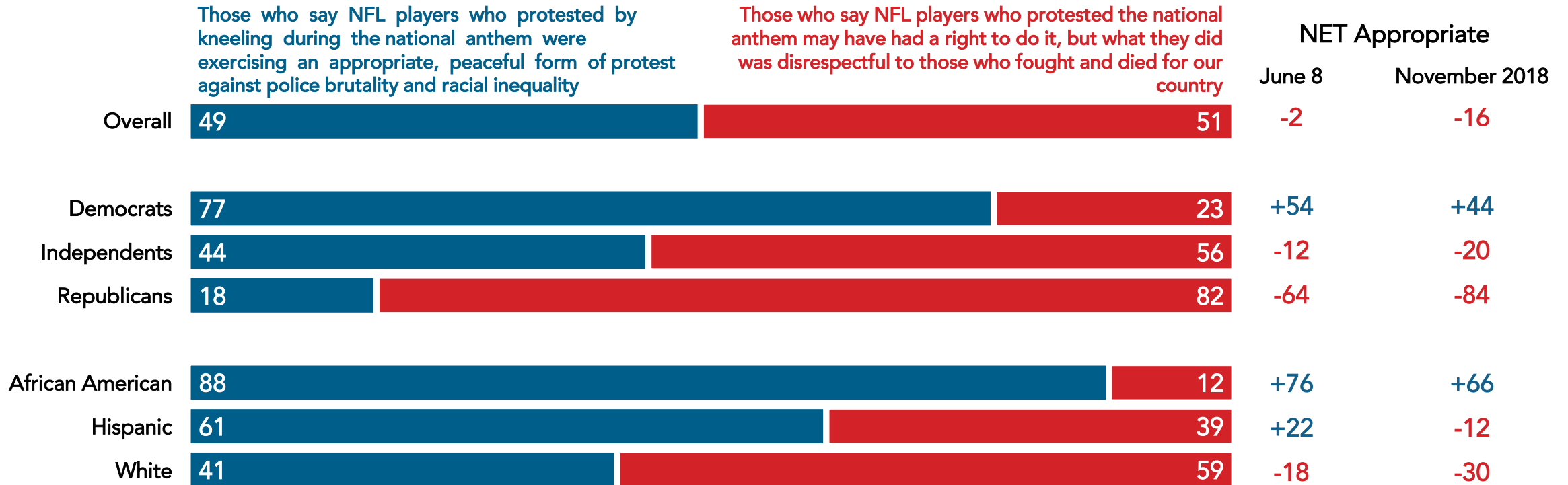
"Republicans who watch Fox news" are Republicans who report watching Fox News at least a few times a month.
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Shifting Attitudes on NFL Players Kneeling

Americans are evenly divided in their support for NFL players protesting by kneeling during the national anthem.

- Support for these protests has grown a net 14 points since November 2018, from net -16 support (42% appropriate/58% disrespectful) to -2 (49% appropriate/51% disrespectful).

Thinking back to the issue of NFL players who kneeled during the national anthem in protest against police brutality, who do you agree with more on that?



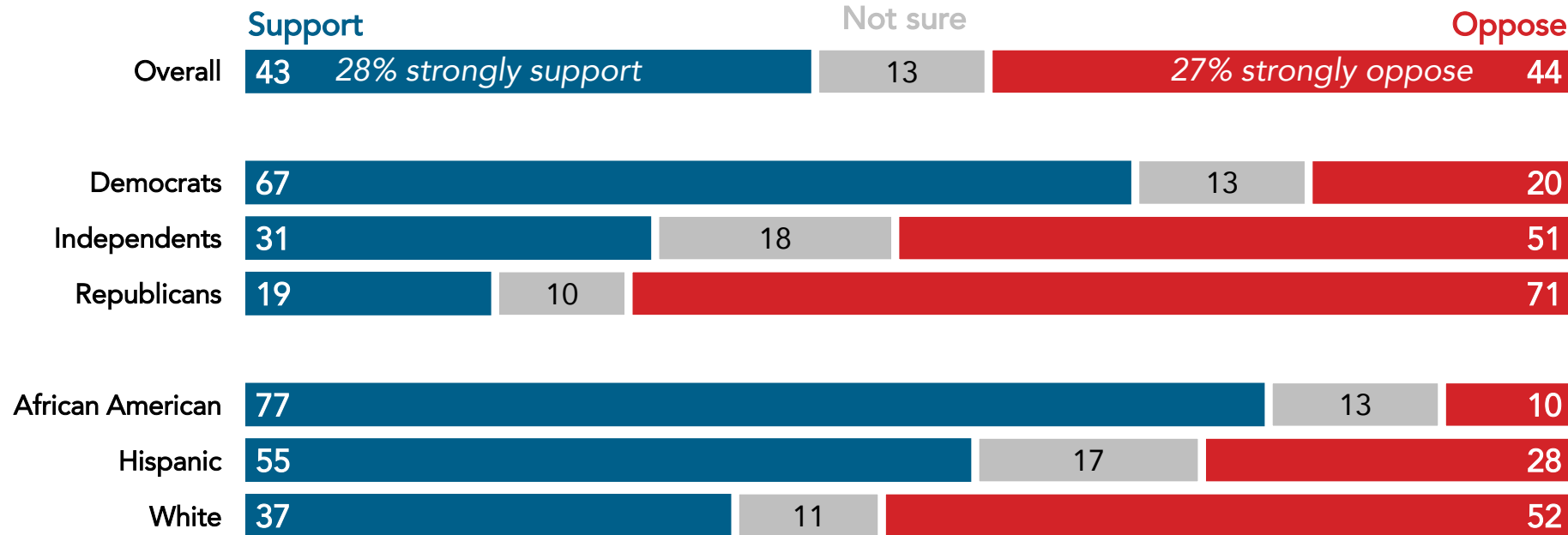
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Mixed Support for Removing Confederate Statues – But Progress Over Past Polling

Support for removal of Confederate statues is divided significantly by race and party: majorities of independents, Republicans, and whites oppose their removal, while majorities of Democrats, Black, and Hispanic Americans support.

- In a [2017 Quinnipiac poll](#), 39% of Americans supported removing Confederate statues and 50% opposed: since, net support for removal has increased 10 points (from -11 to -1).

Do you support or oppose removing Confederate statues from public spaces around the country?



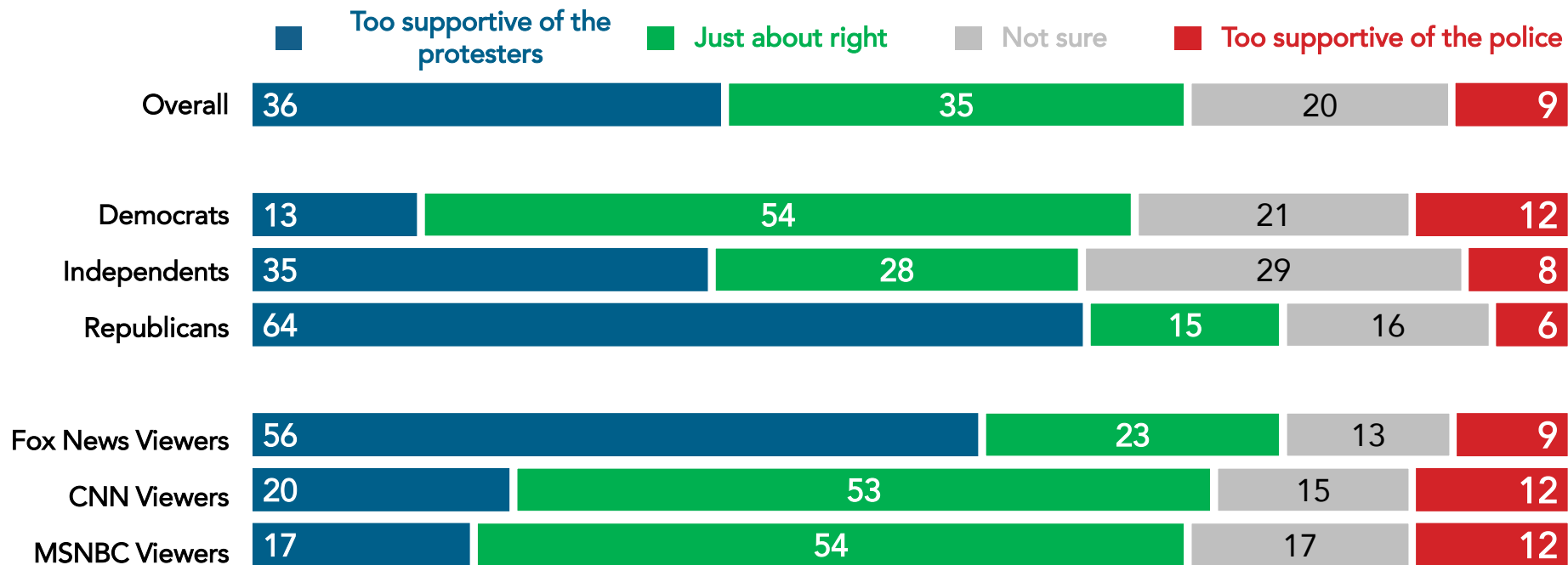
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Mixed Views on Media Coverage of Protests

Views on the media's coverage of recent protests is divided, driven largely by news consumption.

- Fox News viewers are more likely to think that coverage has been too supportive of protesters (56%), while majorities of CNN viewers (53%) and MSNBC viewers (54%) think coverage has gotten the balance about right.

Overall, do you think news coverage of the recent protests has been too supportive of the protesters, too supportive of the police, or just about right?

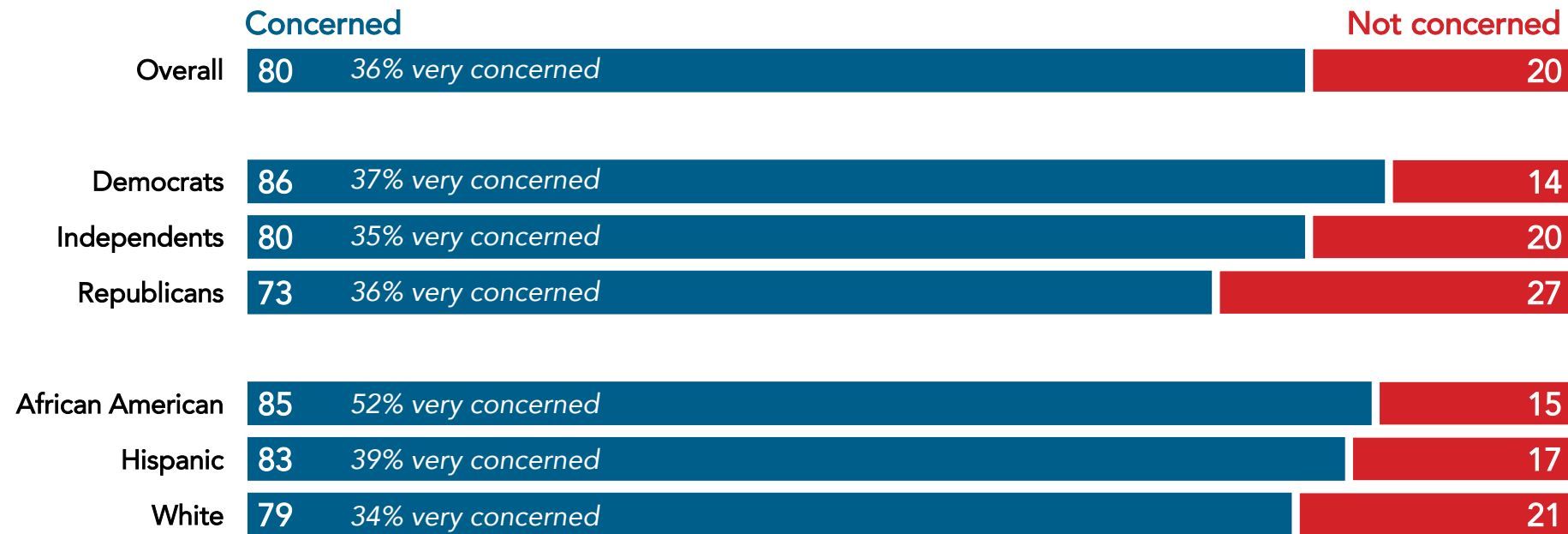


"Fox News viewers," "CNN viewers," and "MSNBC viewers" self-report that they consider each respective news source to be one of their main sources of news about politics and current events. Nationwide survey of 1,608 registered voters; June 4-8, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Concern National Conversation Not Focused Enough on Issues that Led to Protests

Across party and race, the vast majority of Americans are more concerned that the national conversation has become too focused on protests instead of the issues that led up to them.

How concerned are you that the national conversation has become too focused on protests and not enough on the issues that led up to the protests, such as police brutality and police killings of unarmed Black Americans?



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Negative Reaction to Image of Trump Holding up Bible at St. John's Church

A majority of Americans say they have a positive impression of various images related to the protests, though three in five Americans say an image of Trump with a bible in front of St. John's church gives them a negative impression.

- Only 18% of African Americans and 27% of Hispanics say the image of Trump gives them a positive impression.

Please indicate if you have a positive or negative impression of what is happening in this image.



Positive 87%
Negative 13%



Positive 75%
Negative 25%



Positive 63%
Negative 37%



Positive 54%
Negative 46%



Positive 53%
Negative 47%



Positive 41%
Negative 59%

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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; Joel Payne, 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 1,010 registered voters conducted June 4-June 8, 2020. 343 additional interviews were conducted among independents with no partisan lean. 200 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 271 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 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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<http://navigatorresearch.org>

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