

navigating.* coronavirus

Update:
Friday, July 17



Communicating in
Crisis

Key takeaways:

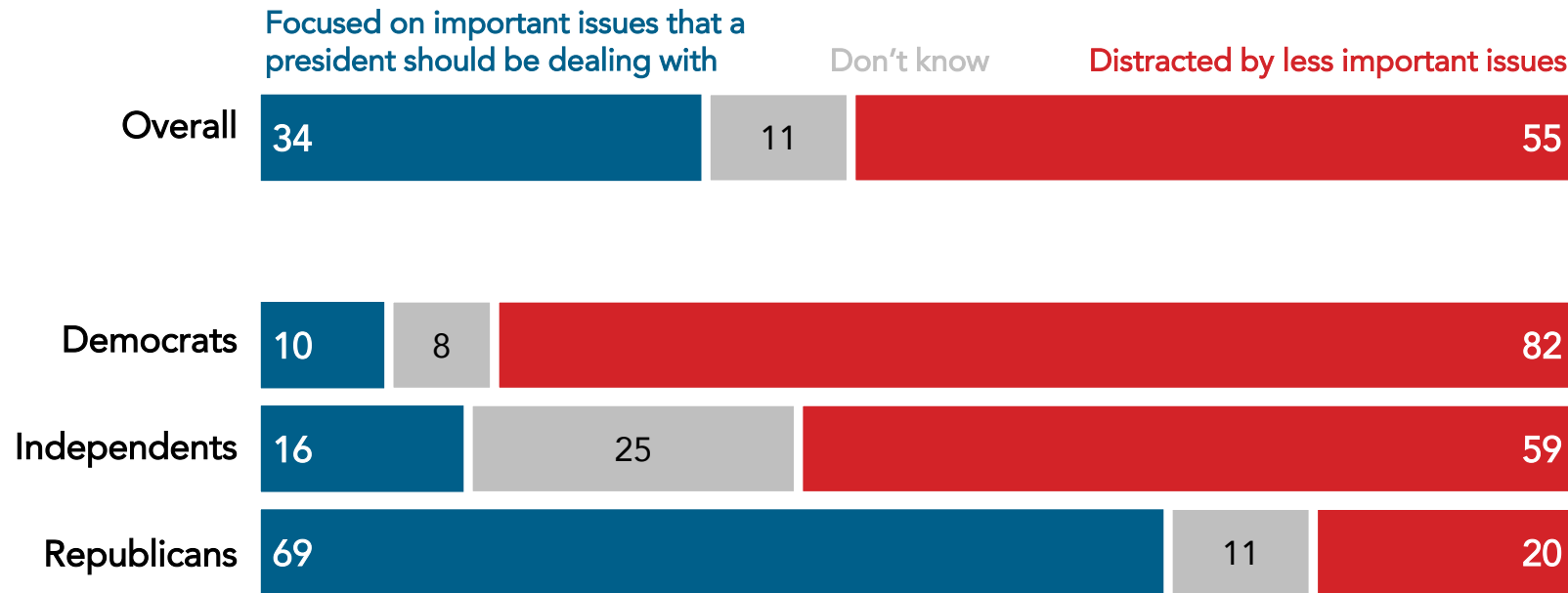
- A majority say Trump is distracted by less important issues rather than focusing on the things a president should be dealing with.
- Trump is losing the debate on culture war issues like the Confederate flag and the renaming of sports teams, and the public does not think a majority of Americans side with him.
- More than three in five say Trump should stop holding campaign rallies and think they model bad behavior.

Majority Say Trump is Distracted By “Less Important Issues”

More than half of Americans think Trump is distracted by “less important issues” instead of being more focused on important issues that a president should be dealing with.

- Even among 2016 Trump voters, more than one in five (22%) say that he is more distracted by “less important issues” rather than focused on important ones.

Based on what you have seen, read, or heard about Donald Trump recently, do you think he has generally been:

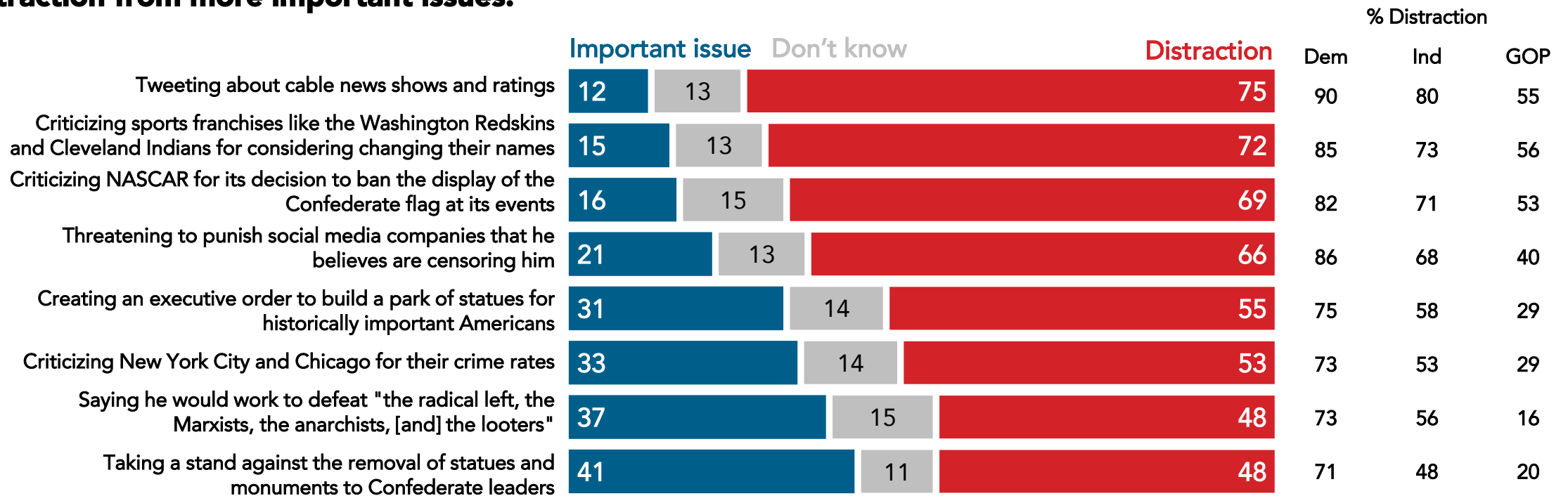


“2016 Trump Voters” self-report having voted for Donald Trump in the 2016 election.
Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters; July 9-13, 2020.
For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Tweeting, Criticizing Sports Franchises, and NASCAR Are Seen as Distractions, Not Important Presidential Issues

A majority find a range of issues that Trump has recently spoken out about, including tweeting about cable news ratings, criticizing sports teams, criticizing NASCAR for banning Confederate flags, and others to be distractions.

Below is a list of issues that President Trump has spoken out about recently. For each one, please indicate whether you think it is an important issue that the president should be dealing with right now, or a distraction from more important issues.



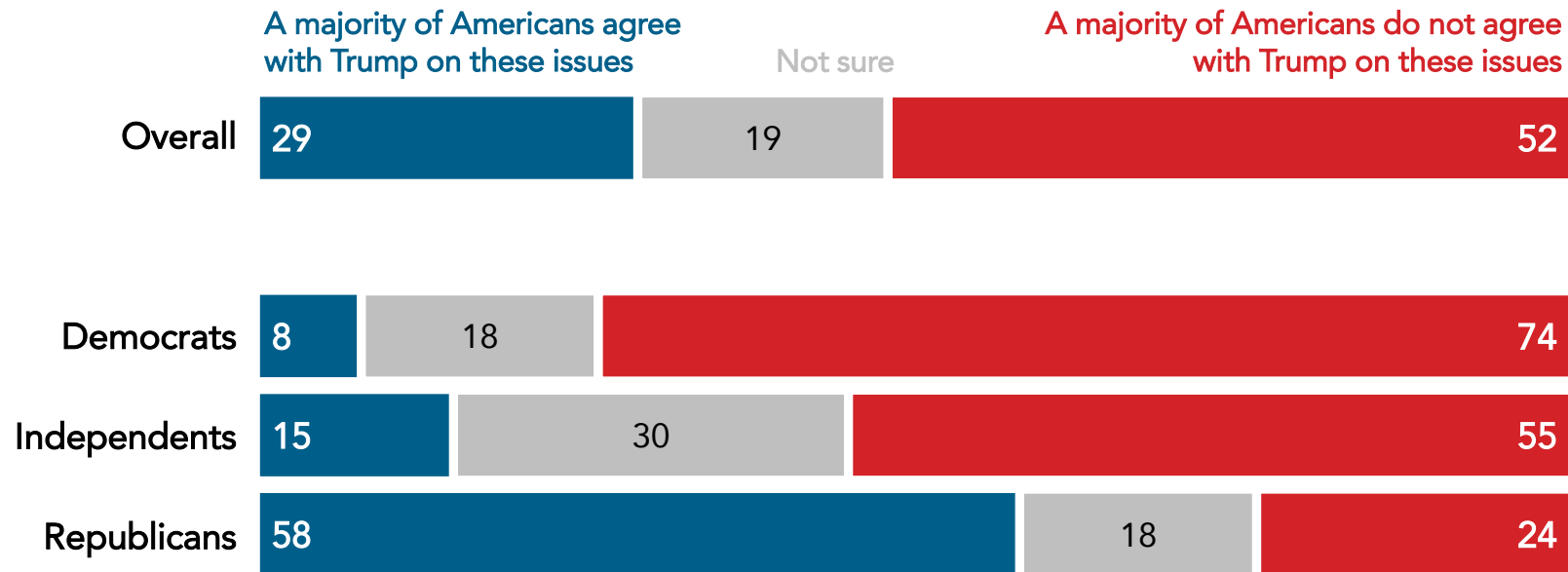
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Public Does Not Believe Majority of Americans Agree With Trump on Issues Like the Confederate Flag and Team Names

A majority believe that most Americans do not agree with Trump on his positions on issues like the Confederate flag or sports teams changing their names.

- Republicans who watch Fox News are in part driving the share who say they believe a majority agree with the president: 64% believe most Americans agree with him on these issues.

When Donald Trump speaks out about issues like the Confederate flag or sports teams changing their names, do you think a majority of Americans agree with him or not?



"Republicans who watch Fox News" are Republicans who report watching Fox News less than a few times a month. Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters; July 9-13, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Trump Losing the Culture War Debate as Few Agree He is “Standing Up for American Culture”

Majorities see Trump’s focusing on issues like protecting the Confederate flag as both a way to divide Americans and excite his political base, and as a tool to distract from his mishandling of the pandemic and recent protests.

Which side do you agree with more?

Those who say Donald Trump is seeking to divide Americans and excite his political base, and ultimately is encouraging racism by focusing on issues like the protecting the Confederate flag

Don't know

Those who say Donald Trump is standing up for American culture and heritage when he defends statues from being torn down



Which side do you agree with more?

Those who say Donald Trump is just trying to distract from his mishandling of the coronavirus pandemic and the recent protests by focusing on issues like protecting the Confederate flag

Don't know

Those who say Donald Trump is standing up for American culture and heritage when he defends statues from being torn down

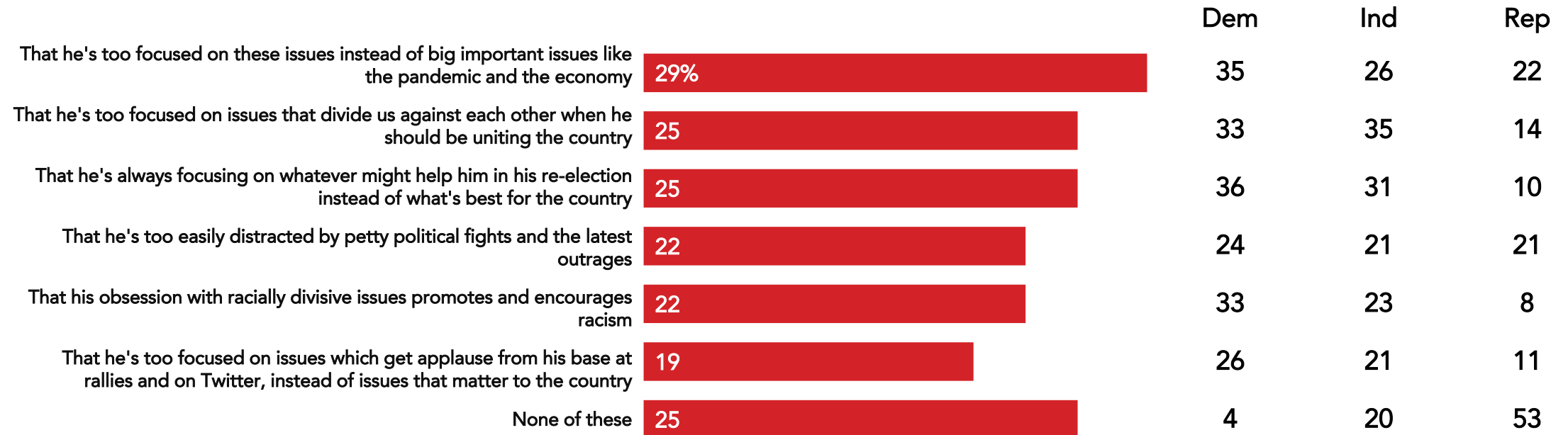


Top Concern Over Trump's Attempts to Change the Subject: Not Focusing Enough on Pandemic, Economy

The biggest concerns about Trump focusing on things like the Confederate flag are that he is not focused on important issues like the pandemic and the economy and that he seeks to divide Americans instead of uniting them.

- Among people of color, 40% say their biggest concern is that Trump is too focused on these issues instead of things like the pandemic.

When you hear Trump talking about issues like the Confederate flag or sports teams changing their names...What, if anything, are your TWO biggest concerns about that?



Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters; July 9-13, 2020.
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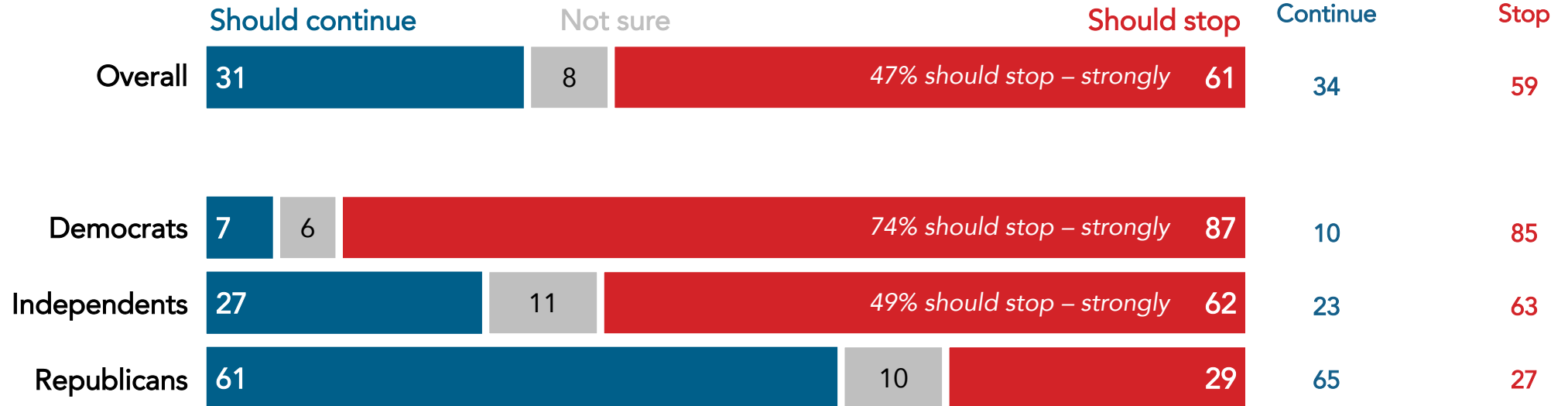
Nearly Half “Strongly” Feel Trump Should Stop Holding Rallies and Campaign Events

While just a third say Trump should continue to hold his campaign rallies, three in five think he should stop and almost half say that they feel “strongly” that he should stop.

- Republicans who watch Fox News are one of the only groups with a majority supporting Trump continuing to hold rallies: 73% say he should continue and 23% say he should stop.

As you may know, President Trump continues to hold campaign events and rallies. Do you think Trump should continue to hold campaign rallies or stop holding campaign rallies?

June 30



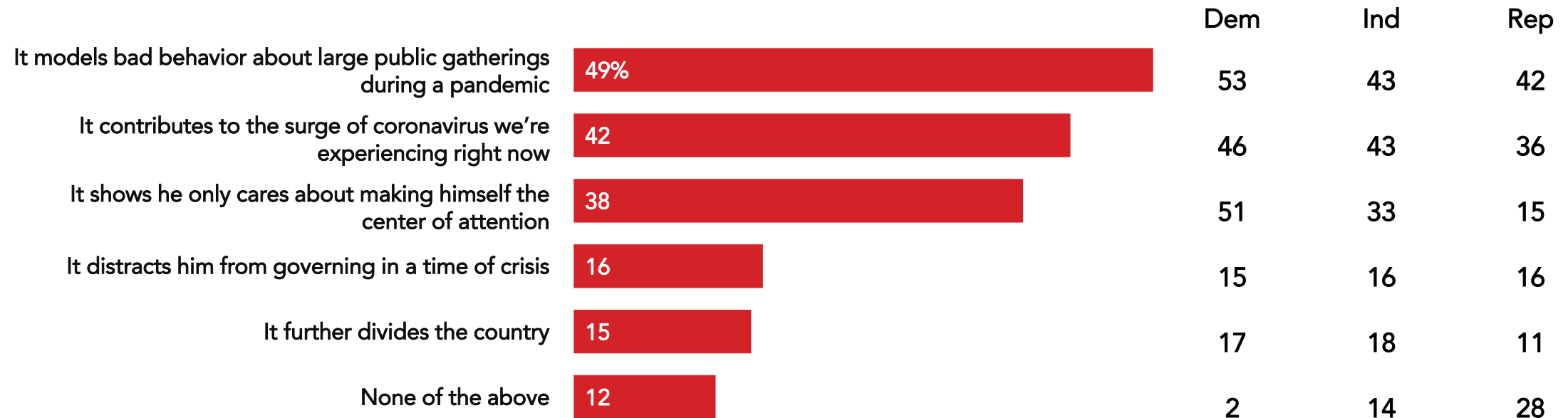
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Trump Holding Rallies Seen as Modeling Bad Behavior, Contributing to Surge

Among those who do not strongly support Trump continuing to hold campaign rallies, their top concerns are his modeling of bad behavior about public gatherings and contributing to new case surges.

- Even among 2016 Trump voters who do not strongly support Trump continuing to hold rallies (66% of all 2016 Trump voters), 40% say it models bad behavior about large public gatherings.

[If do not strongly support Trump continuing to hold rallies] Which of the following TWO things concern you most about Trump continuing to hold campaign rallies?



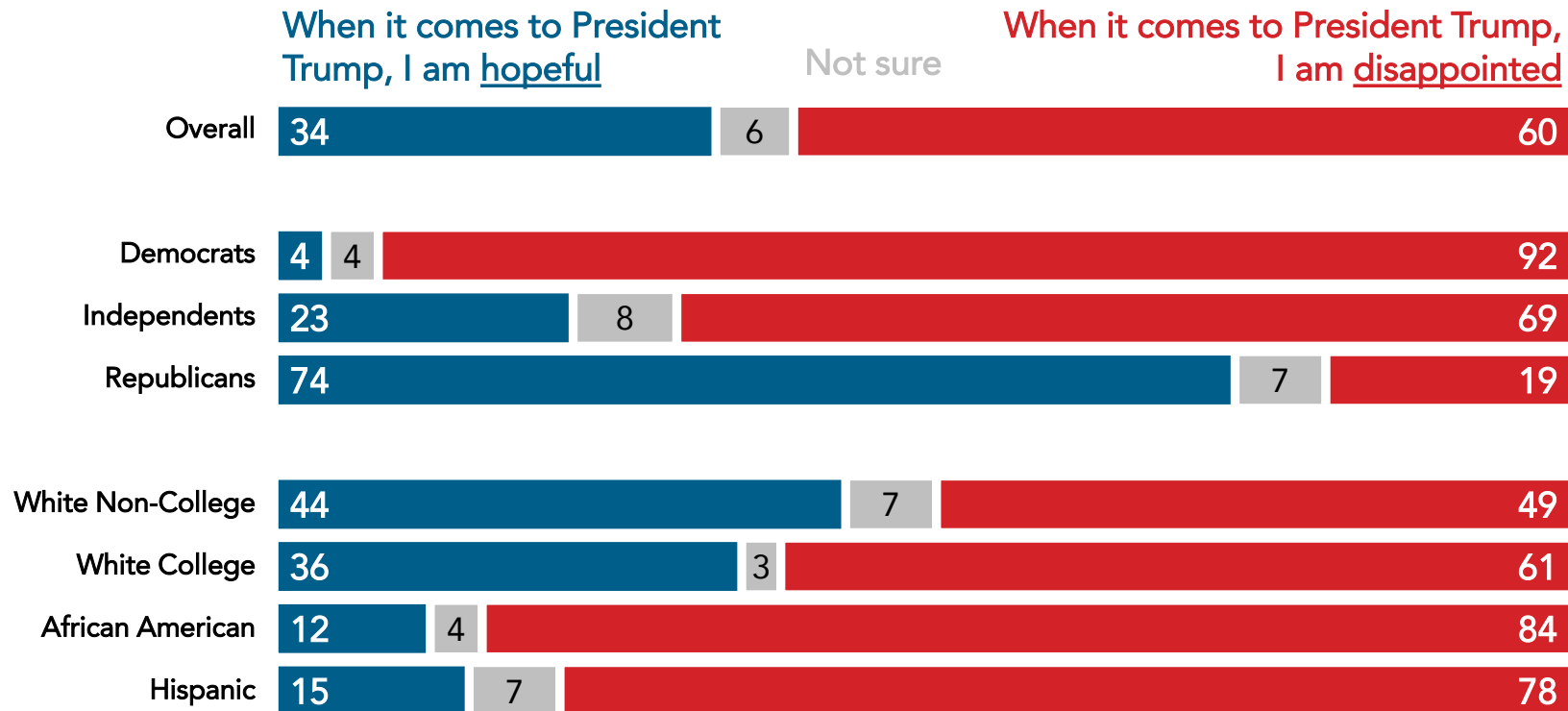
"2016 Trump Voters" self-report having voted for Donald Trump in the 2016 election. Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters; July 9-13, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Three in Five More Disappointed than Hopeful on Trump

A majority say they are disappointed by Trump, while only a third are hopeful when it comes to the president.

- One in five (19%) Republicans are more disappointed by the president than they are hopeful. Likewise, nearly half (49%) of white non-college Americans say they are more disappointed than hopeful.

Which comes closer to your view:



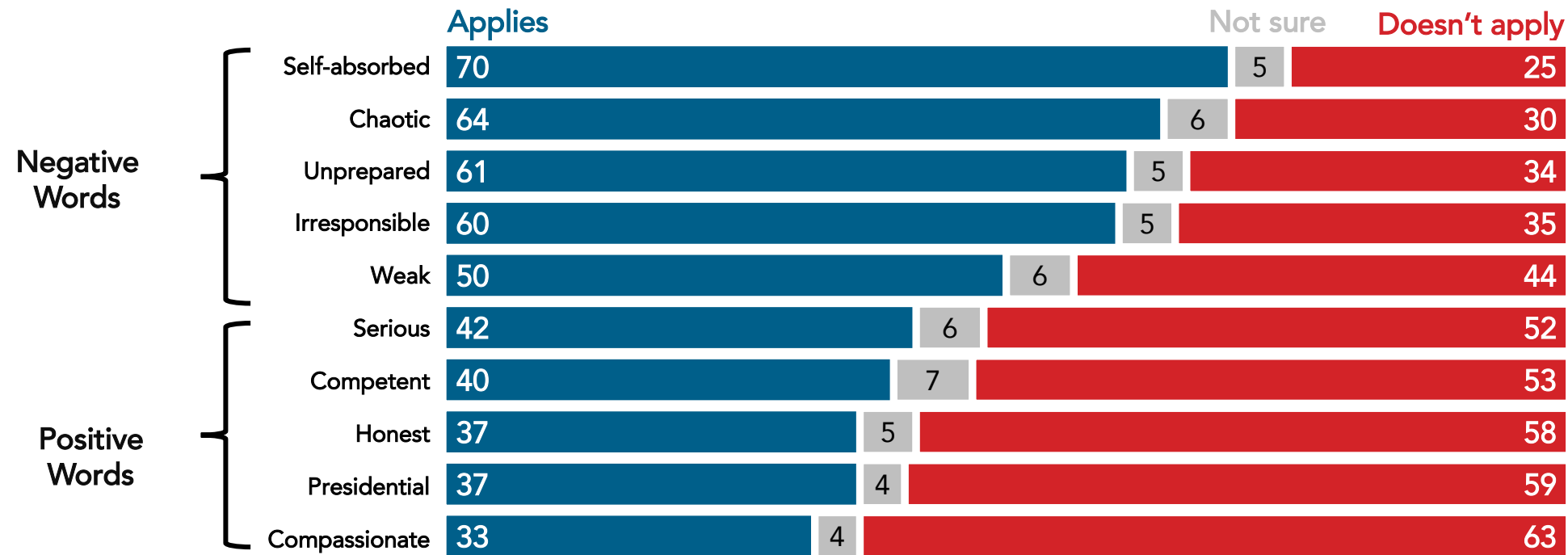
Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters; July 9-13, 2020.
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Trump's Coronavirus Response: Self-Absorbed, Chaotic

At least half of Americans say that negative words, including self-absorbed, chaotic, and unprepared apply to Donald Trump's handling of his job as president, while only four in ten – or fewer – say positive words apply.

- More than four in five (82%) independents believe that "self-absorbed" applies to Trump's job handling.

Please indicate how well each of the following words or phrases apply to the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president.



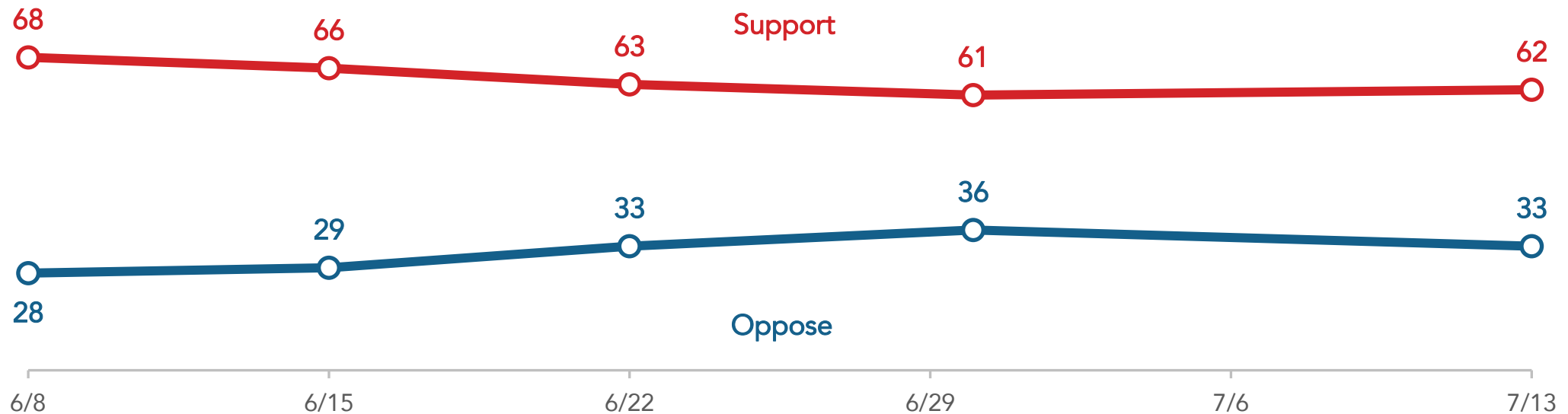
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Support for Protests Following the Death of George Floyd Remains Resilient

Since the start of protests in early June following the death of George Floyd, more than three in five continue to support them.

- This comes as Trump remains underwater by -27 on the issue of handling the protests (33% approve/60% disapprove).

As you may know, the death of George Floyd led to protests across the country focused on police treatment of Black Americans. Do you support or oppose those protests?



Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted July 9-July 13, 2020. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://www.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; 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 public opinion surveys among a sample of 1,002 registered voters conducted July 9-13, 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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<http://navigatorresearch.org>

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