

navigating.* coronavirus

Update:
Wednesday, July 22

Communicating in
Crisis



Key takeaways:

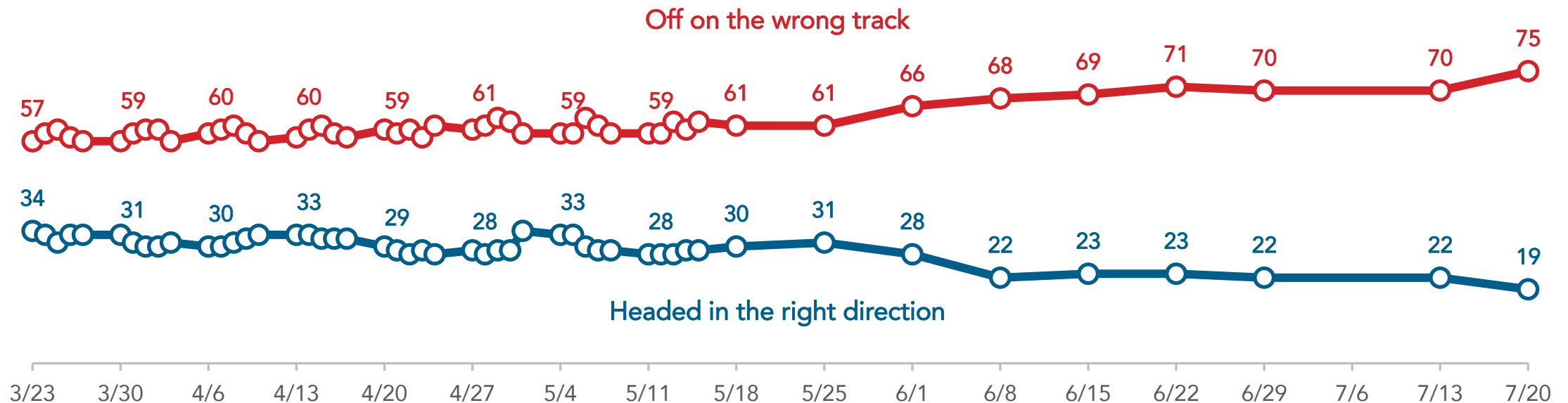
- Three in four now say the country is “off on the wrong track.”
- Americans increasingly identify as pro-mask and say those who don't wear one are “irresponsible” and “selfish.”
- The public thinks Trump should have been wearing a mask a long time ago and trusts Dr. Fauci over Trump to handle decisions on reopening – including schools.

Three in Four Now Say Country "Off on the Wrong Track"

Since the beginning of our tracking on March 23, there has been an 18-point increase in the share who say the country is "off on the wrong track."

- The majority of Republicans (52%) now say the country is "off on the wrong track," while only 38% say it's headed in the "right direction." Two months ago, Republicans were positive on this question (59% "right direction," 34% "wrong track").

Generally speaking, would you say the country today is...



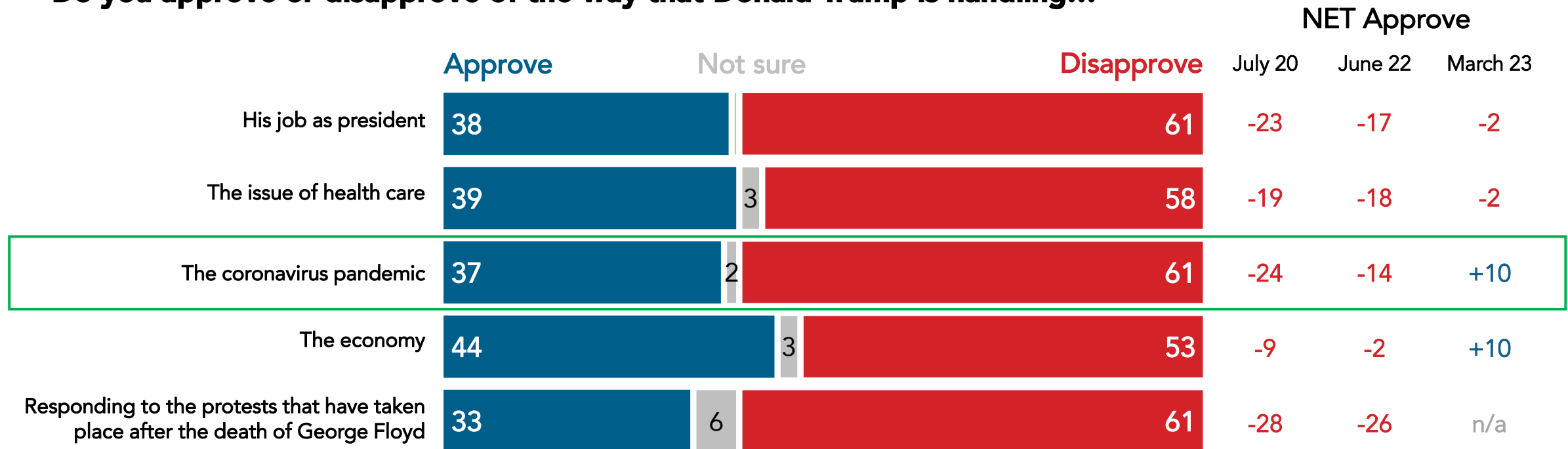
Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted July 16-July 20, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Trump Approval Ratings Remain at Low Point

Three in five Americans now disapprove of Trump’s handling of his job as president – a record high in Navigator dating back to April 2018 – while approval of his handling of the pandemic has declined a net -10 points in the past month.

- Among independents, Trump’s approval on handling the pandemic is at net -50; on June 22, he was at -33 among independents on his handling of the pandemic.

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Donald Trump is handling...



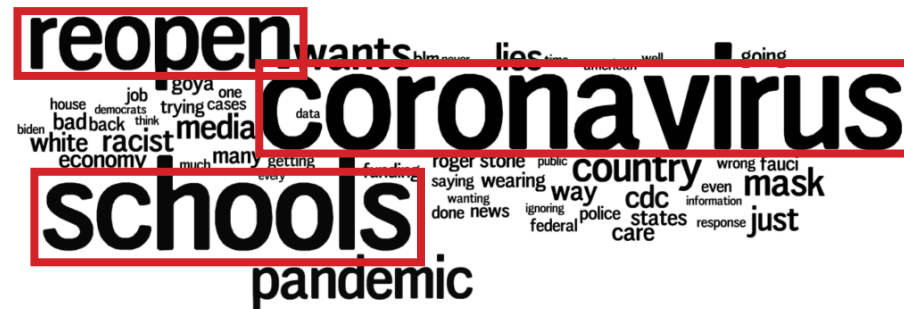
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Coronavirus and Trump's Push to Reopen Schools Continue to Dominate Negative Conversation Around Him

The vast majority of Americans (83%) continue to hear at least some negative things about President Trump, which are mostly focused on the pandemic and his push to reopen schools in the fall, much like last week.

In a few words, what **negative** things have you seen, read, or heard recently about Donald Trump?

July 20



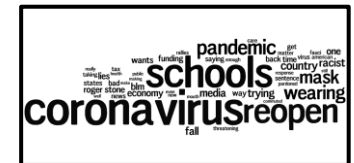
"For one thing, they say Trump wants to **open all schools in the fall**, but that will make the virus spread more."

"All schools have to open **to receive federal funds.**"

"That **Trump wants the schools to reopen** and that he **refuses to wear a mask.**"

"That **he is doing everything he can to downplay coronavirus** including ignoring the fact that the virus will get much worse as a result of his policies."

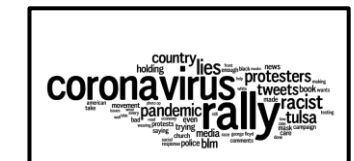
July 13



June 29



June 22



Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted July 16-July 20, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

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Share Who Think "Worst is Yet to Come" Continues to Rise

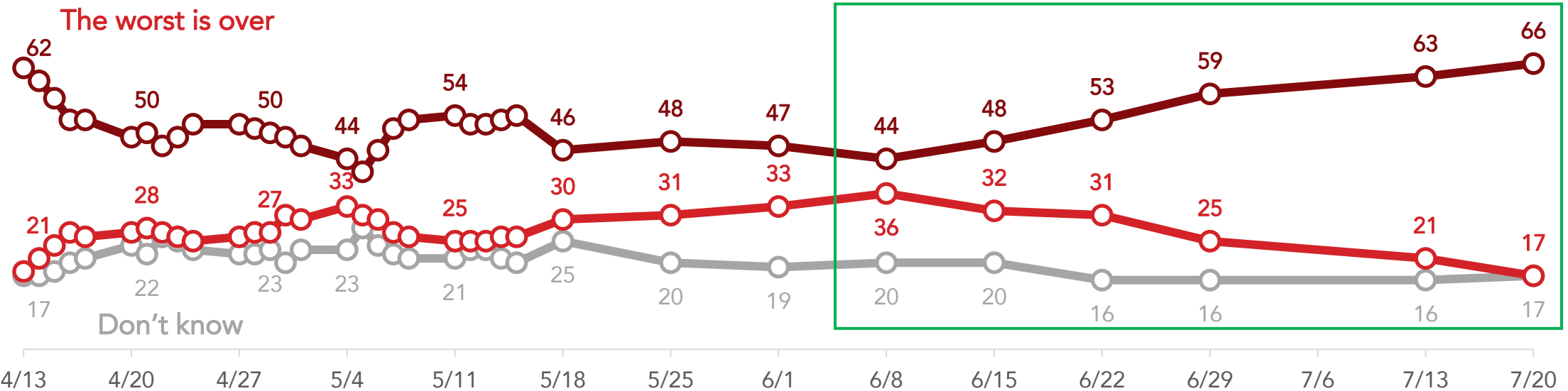
Since June 8, the share who say the "worst is yet to come" in the pandemic has grown by 22 points, while less than one in five now say that the "worst is over."

- Since June 8, the share who think the "worst is yet to come" has grown by 20 points among Republicans, from 25% to 45%, and by 25 points among independents, from 41% to 66%.

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

The worst is yet to come

The worst is over



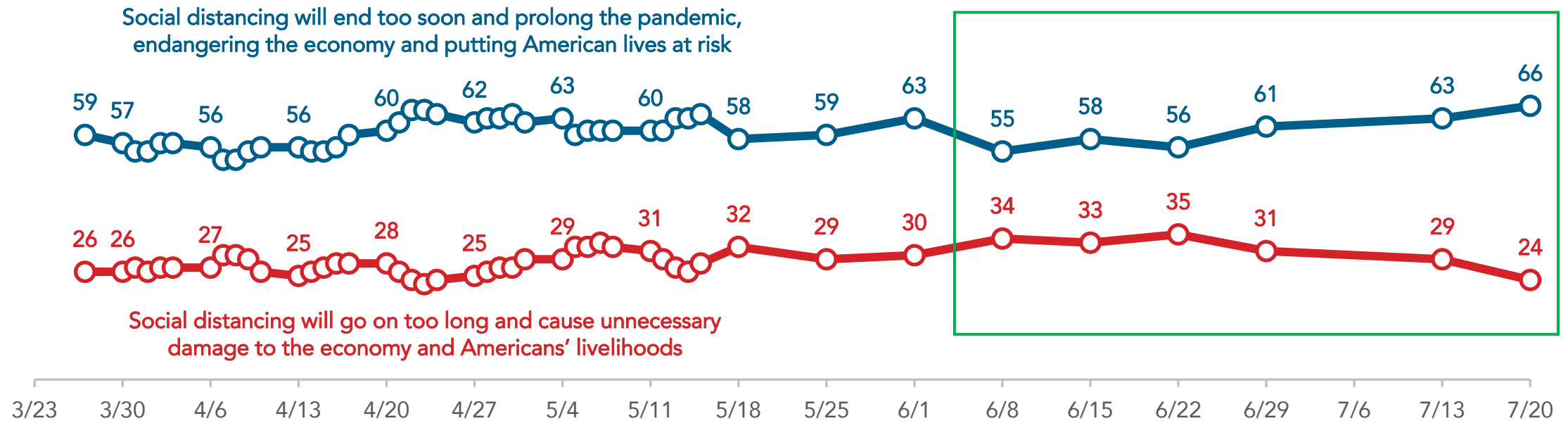
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Two in Three Concerned Social Distancing Will End Too Soon

Since June 8, there has been an 11-point increase in the share who are more concerned social distancing will end too soon rather than go on too long.

- On a separate question, 54% say that we need more aggressive social distancing measures, while only 11% say we should relax social distancing measures.

When it comes to social distancing and the coronavirus pandemic, which of the following concerns you more right now?



Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted July 16-July 20, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

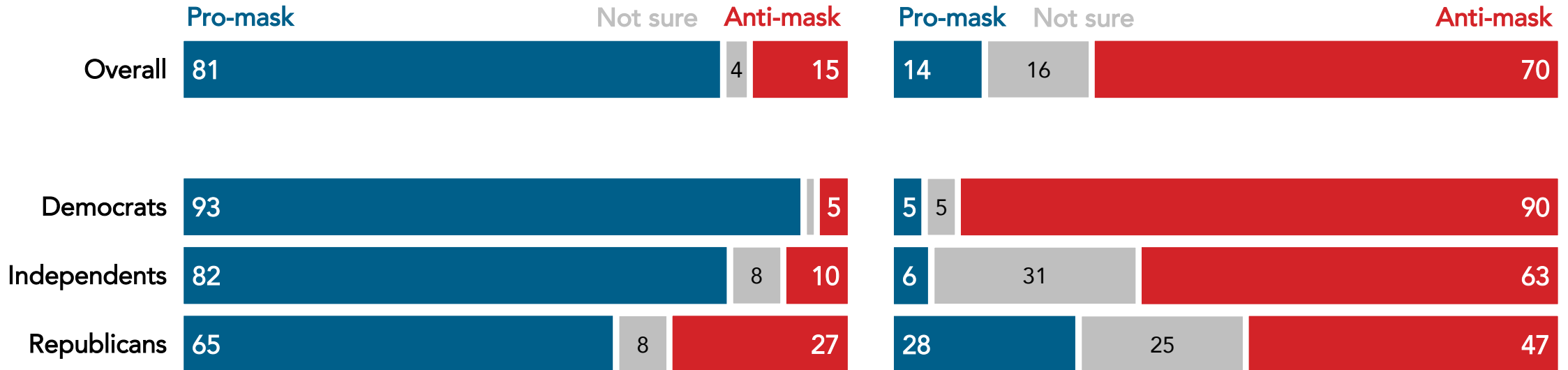
Trump Seen as Anti-Mask and Out of Step with Public on Masks

More than four in five say they are pro-mask – while more than two in three identify the president as “anti-mask.”

- The share who say they are pro-mask has grown 8 points since a month ago, from 73% June 22 to 81% today.
- On a separate question, 63% say they wear a mask every time they leave their home.

There are differing opinions on whether or not people should be wearing masks right now when they are in public, but if you had to choose, would you say that you are generally pro-mask or anti-mask?

Do you think Donald Trump has generally been pro-mask or anti-mask?



Nationwide survey of 1,015 registered voters; July 16-20, 2020.
For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

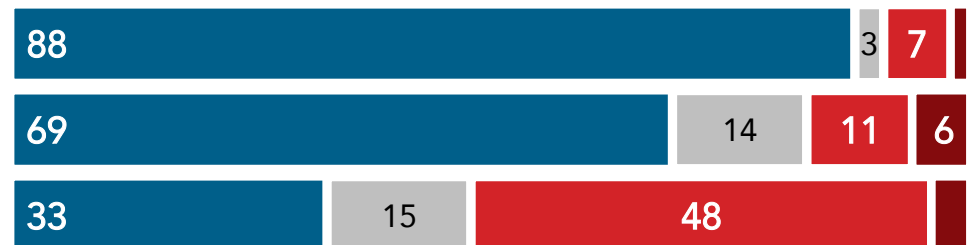
Majority Say Trump Should Wear Mask More & Should Have Worn One Earlier

While a vast majority say that Trump should wear a mask in public more often, after seeing a photo of him recently wearing one, nearly two in three say that he “was far too late in wearing a mask.”

When it comes to Donald Trump wearing a protective face mask, which of the following comes closest to your opinion?



Seeing this photo, which is your view:



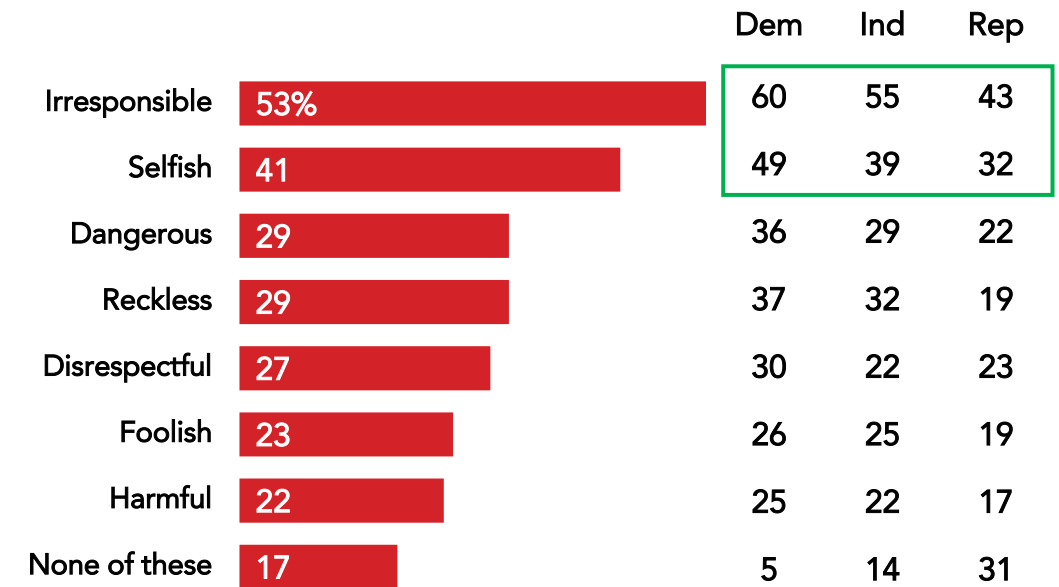
Nationwide survey of 1,015 registered voters; July 16-20, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Three in Four Say People Without Masks Should Be Called Out, Say It's Irresponsible, Selfish

The vast majority say that people who don't wear masks in public places are putting others at risk and deserve to be called out, and top descriptors that emerge for not wearing masks include "irresponsible," "selfish," and "dangerous."

Which of the following do you agree with more?

When you see people not wearing masks at public gatherings, what words come to mind to describe what they're doing?



Nationwide survey of 1,015 registered voters; July 16-20, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Fauci Well-Liked and Well-Known, More Trusted to Decide How to Reopen Than Trump

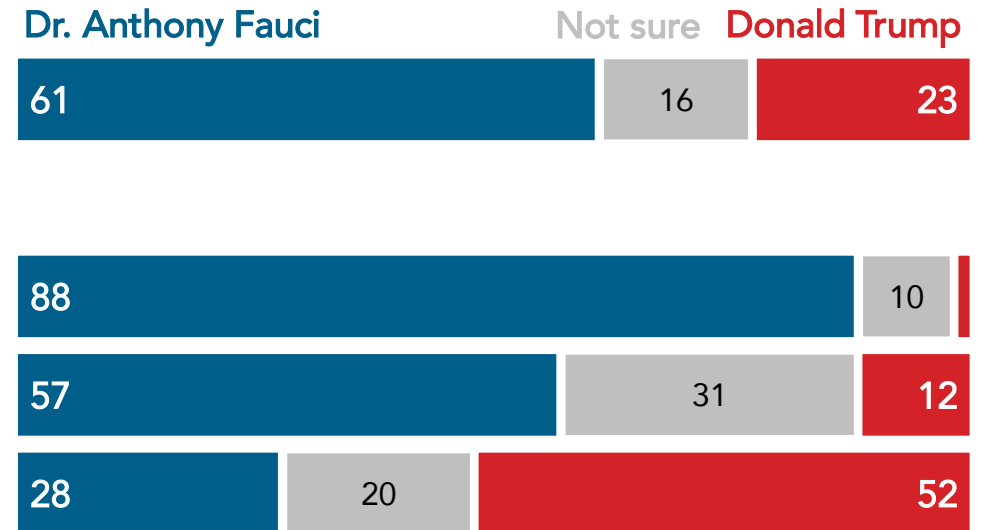
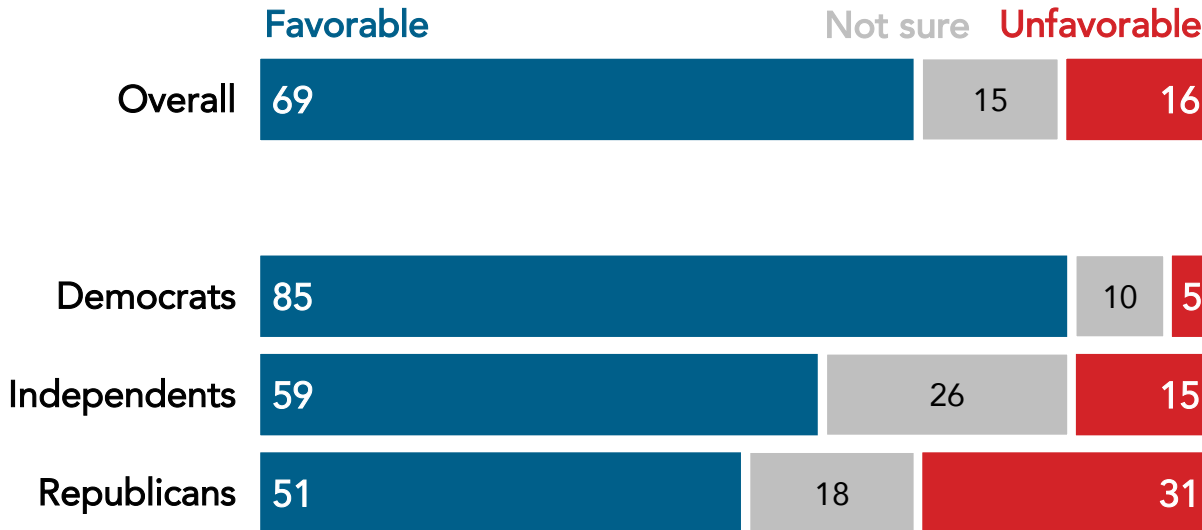
Dr. Fauci has become a household name and remains one of America's most popular public figures, as Americans trust him more to decide when and how to reopen the country than Trump.

- The share familiar with Fauci has grown from 66% on April 1 to 85% today.

Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are to:

Dr. Anthony Fauci

Who do you trust more to decide how and when we should reopen different parts of the country?

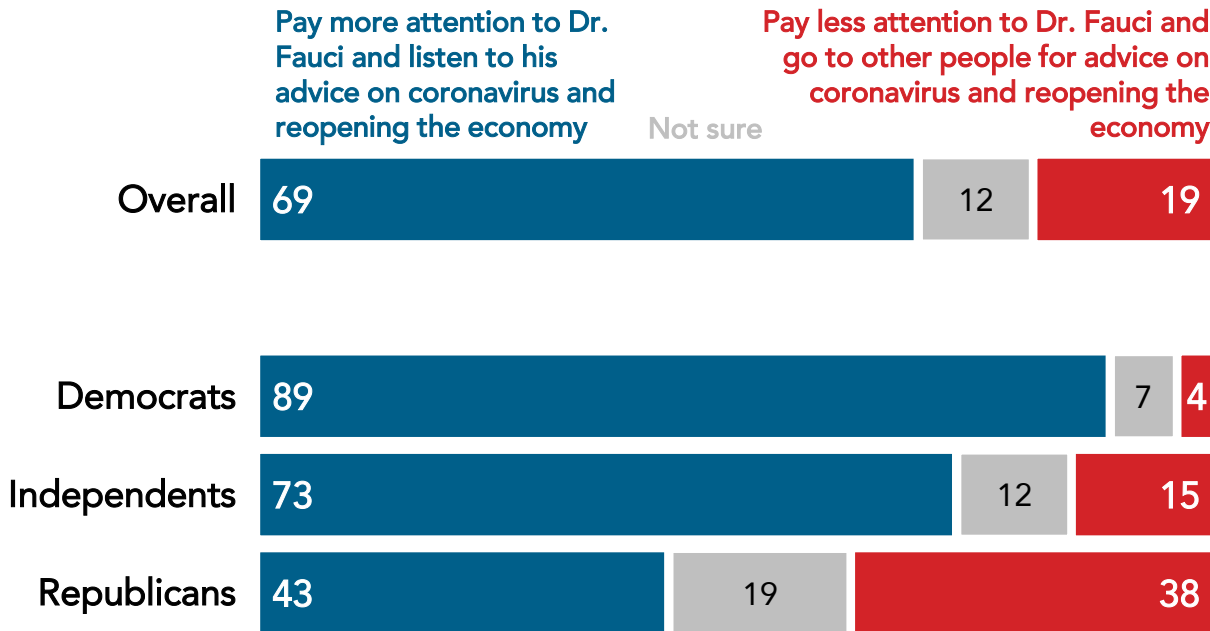


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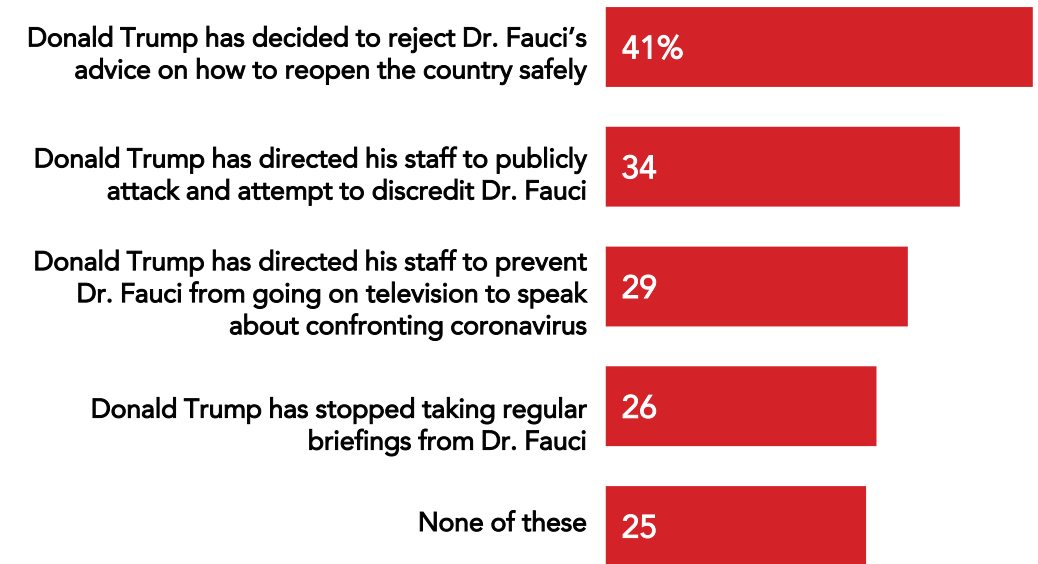
Majority Say Trump Should Pay More Attention to Fauci, Worry He's Rejecting Fauci's Advice on Reopening

Nearly three in four say that Trump should be listening to Dr. Fauci's advice on reopening the country, while two in five say they are most worried Trump is rejecting Fauci's advice on reopening the country safely.

Do you think Donald Trump should...



Which, if any, of the following worries you the most?



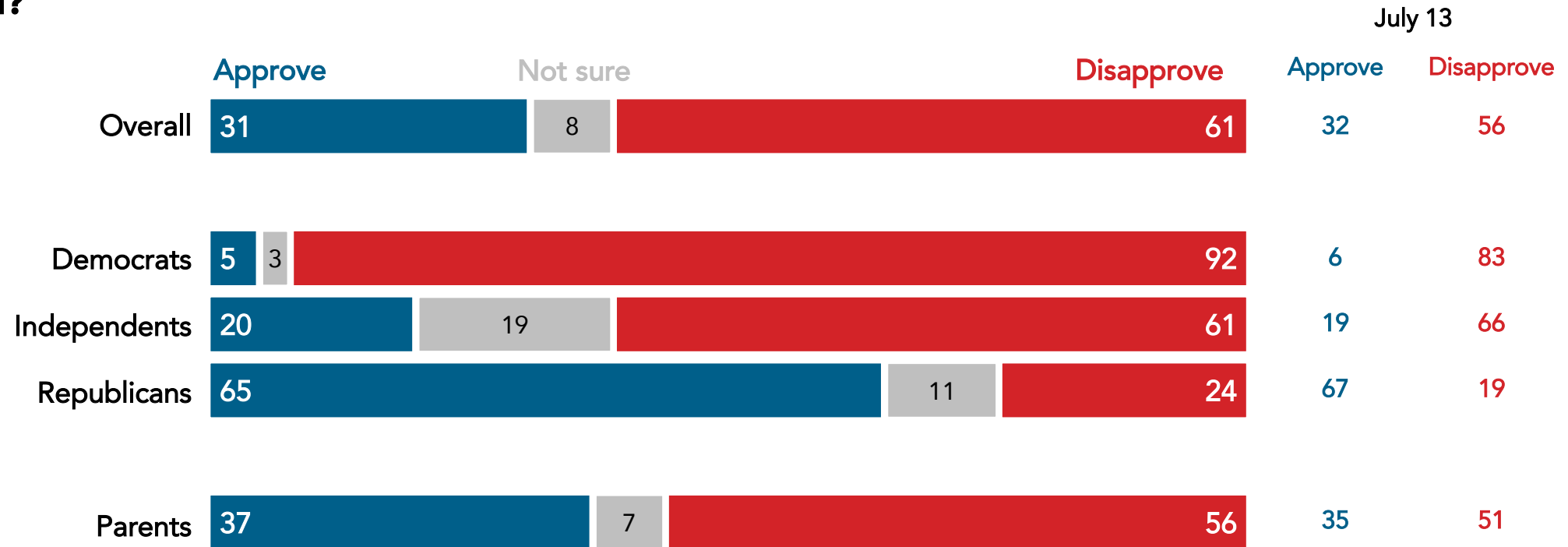
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Disapproval Growing on Trump's Push to Reopen Schools

Three in five disapprove of how the president is handling the issue, with net approval down 6 points since July 13.

- Among those living in suburban areas, net approval for Trump's handling of reopening schools is down 11 points since last week (from net -22 to -33)

Do you approve or disapprove of how President Trump is handling the issue of whether or not to reopen schools this fall?



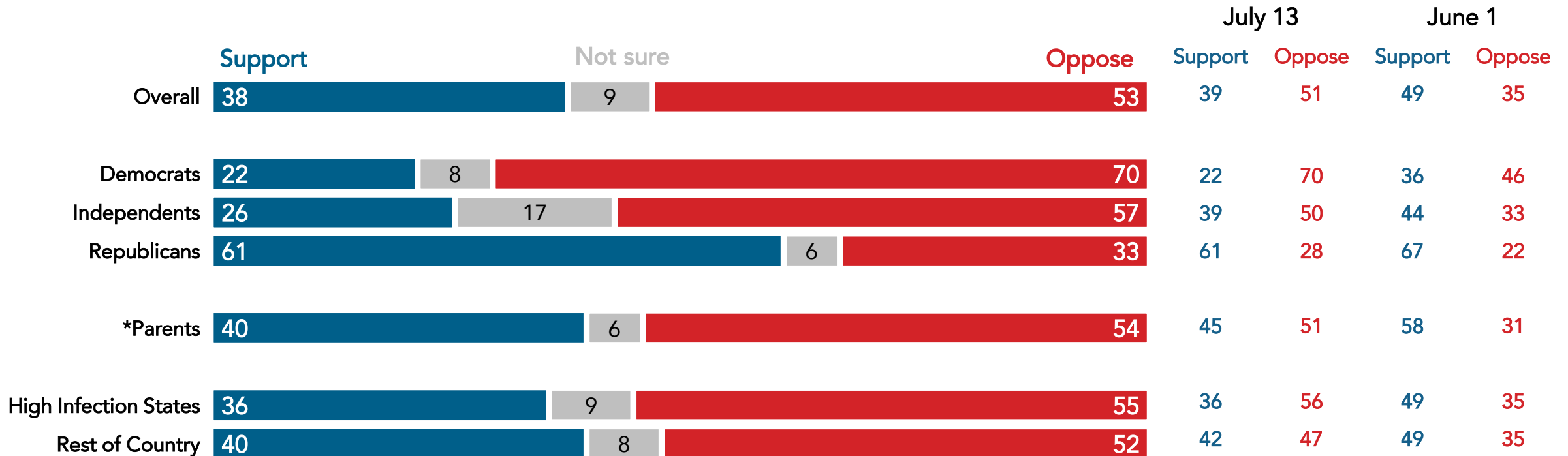
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Majority Continue to Oppose Reopening Schools

Support for reopening K-12 schools at the end of the summer continues to decline since June 1, with net support now having shifted 29 points (from +14 to -15).

- Among parents, there has been a net shift of 41 points since June 1, from +27 to -14.

Do you support or oppose allowing K-12 schools in [STATE] to open at the end of the summer?



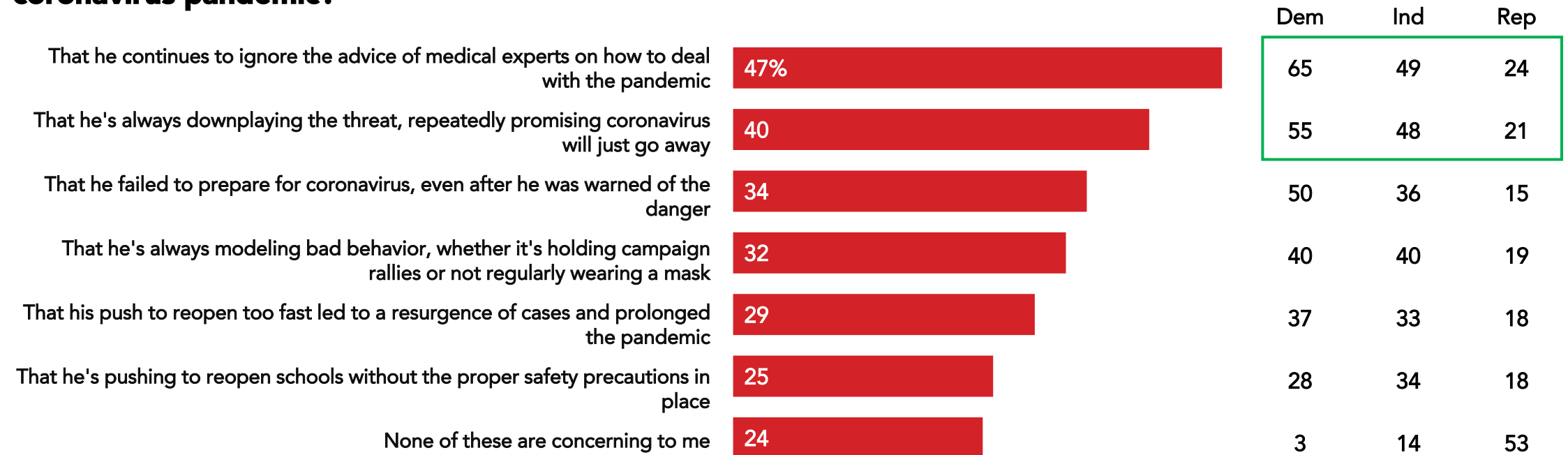
*"Parents" are those who self-report having a child/children under the age of 18. "High infection states" are those that fall under the NY travel restriction list, based on a "seven day rolling average of positive tests in excess of 10%, or number of positive cases exceeding 10 per 10,000 residents." "Rest of country" are those that do not fall on this list. Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted July 16-July 20, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Top Concerns on Trump Handling of Pandemic: Ignoring Experts, Downplaying Threat

Americans are most concerned by Trump's ignoring of medical experts, downplaying the threat, and failing to prepare for the pandemic.

- Among 2016 Trump voters, a quarter (25%) are most concerned by his ignoring of experts.

Which of the following THREE things concern you the most about the way Donald Trump has handled the coronavirus pandemic?



"2016 Trump voters" self-report having voted for Donald Trump in the 2016 election. Nationwide survey of 1,015 registered voters; July 16-20, 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; 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 1,015 registered voters from July 16-20, 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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