

navigating.* CORONAVIRUS

Update:
Wednesday, September 16



Communicating in
Crisis

Key takeaways:

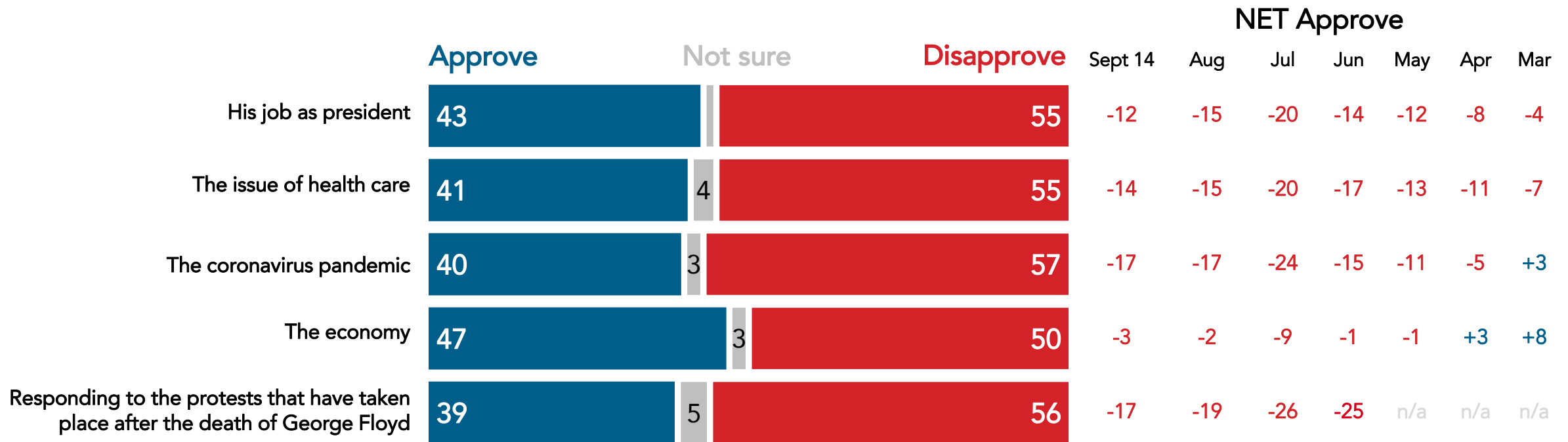
- Though the rate of new cases has plateaued in the United States, half still say the “worst is yet to come” in the pandemic and rate it as a top issue.
- On the pandemic, the public is most concerned Trump admitted to downplaying the virus in recently released audio tapes and is rushing to get a vaccine developed.
- While most Americans say they are “pro-vaccine,” they are mixed on whether it will be safe to get a coronavirus vaccine.

Trump's Job Approval Ratings Remain Underwater

Consistent with aggregate data across the last six months, Trump's approval ratings remain in the negative.

- Among independents in the latest survey, Trump is 20 points underwater on his handling of the economy (34% approve/54% disapprove) and 33 points underwater on his overall approval (29% approve/62% disapprove).

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



Nationwide survey of 1,007 registered voters; September 10-14, 2020.

Nationwide surveys of registered voters including 4,385 interviews in August, 2,017 interviews conducted in July, 5,148 in June, 6,288 in May, 7,393 in April, and 3,373 in March.

For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Trump's Handling of the Pandemic and His Lies Remain the Top Negative Things Heard About Him

The vast majority (78%) continue to hear some negative things about Trump this week, with a focus on his handling of the pandemic, lying to the public about the danger of coronavirus, and his comments disparaging the military.

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

September 14



"Downplayed COVID-19, incites tensions between parties."

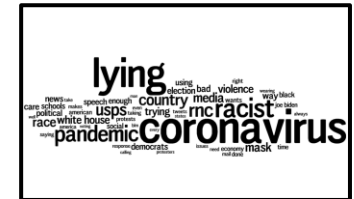
"Lying to Americans about virus."

"He does not care about the American people."

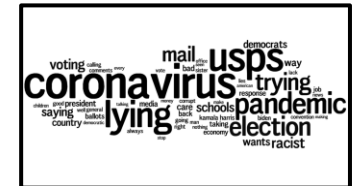
"He downplayed the COVID-19 crisis and he made comments about the military."

"He knew how dangerous and lethal this virus was back in the beginning of February and he lied."

August 31



August 24



August 10



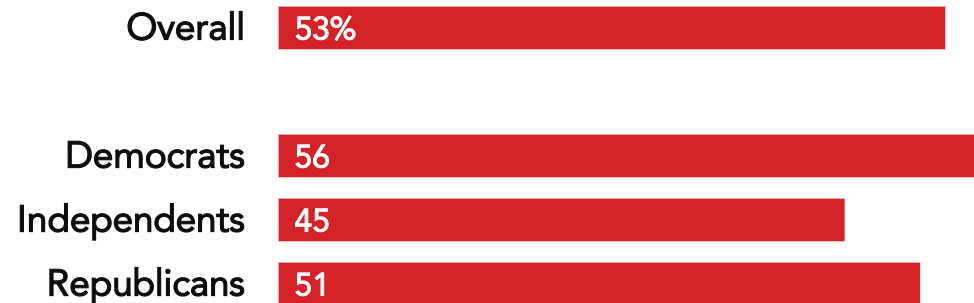
Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted September 10-14, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Majority Know Someone Who Has Gotten Sick and One in Four Know Someone Who Has Died from Coronavirus

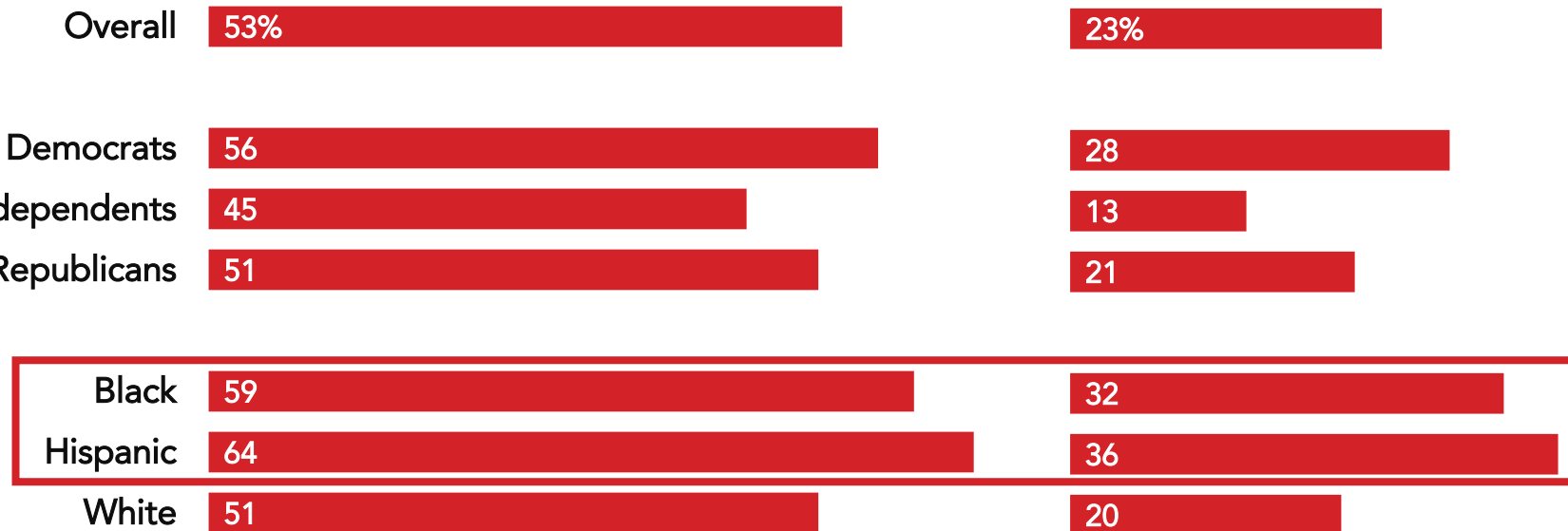
With total U.S. cases approaching seven million and nearly 200,000 dead from coronavirus, more than half of Americans know someone who has been infected and a quarter know someone who has died from it.

- Hispanic Americans and Black Americans are more likely to both know someone who has been infected and to know someone who has died from coronavirus than white Americans.

Do you know anyone who has been infected with coronavirus?



Understanding it may be difficult to talk about, do you personally know anyone who has died from complications related to coronavirus?

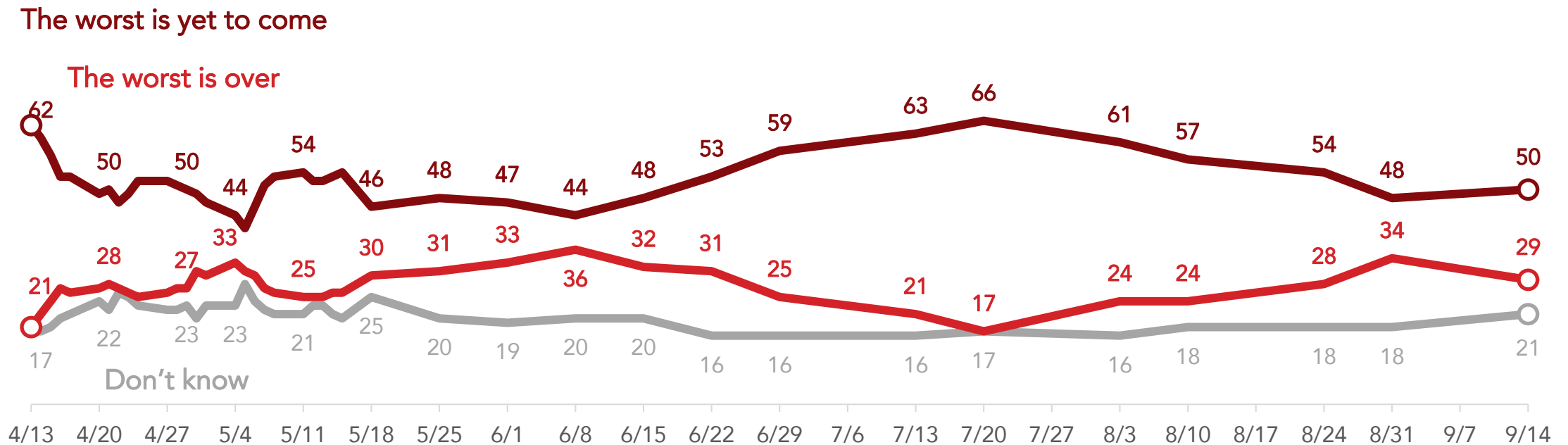


Half Remain Concerned That "Worst Is Yet to Come"

In the last two weeks, the share who say the "worst is yet to come" has increased 2 points, while the share who say the "worst is over" is down 5 points.

- Among independents, 54% say the "worst is yet to come" while only 22% say the "worst is over."

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

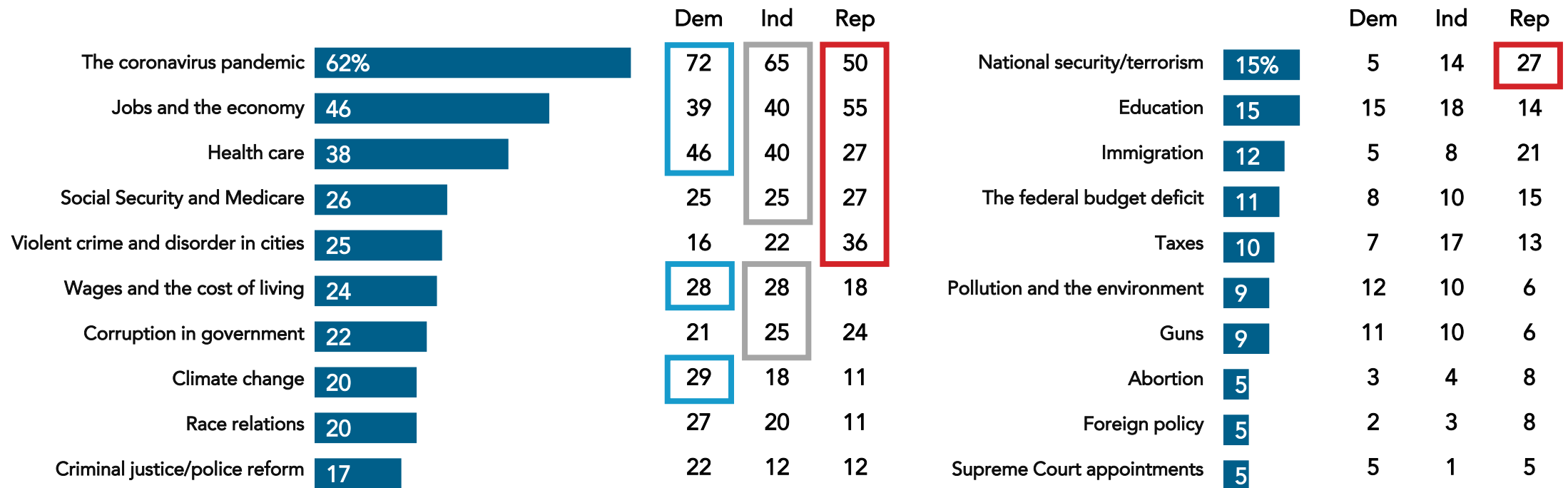


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Despite Plateau in Rate of New Cases, Pandemic Remains a Top Priority for Three in Five Americans

Coronavirus and the economy are the two issues that receive a high priority from Democrats, independents, and Republicans, while issues like climate change and violent crime and disorder are divided by partisanship.

Which four of the following issues are most important for the president and Congress to be focusing on right now?



Nationwide survey of 1,007 registered voters; September 10-14, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

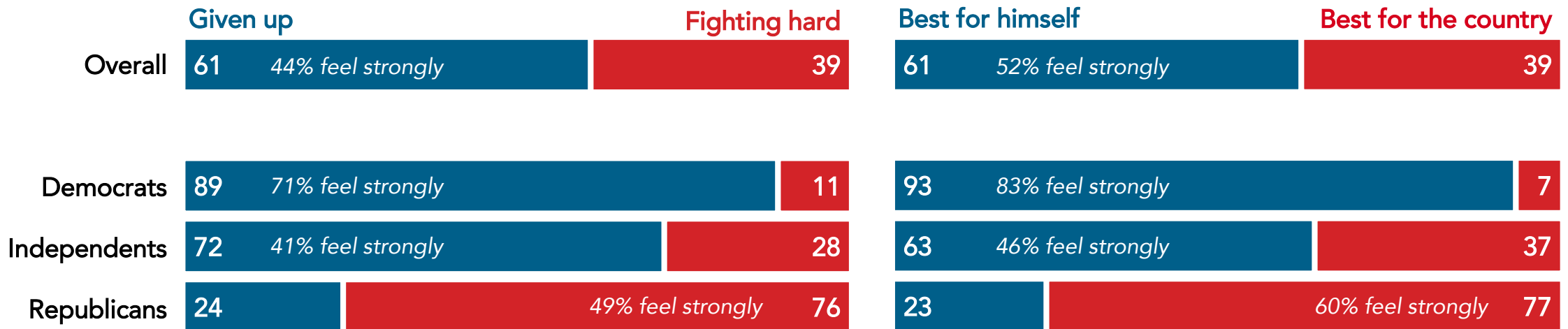
Three in Five Say Trump Has Given Up Fighting Coronavirus

A majority say Trump has given up fighting coronavirus and that he wants what is best for himself instead of what is best for the country.

- Among 2016 Trump voters*, 25% say that he has given up fighting coronavirus and 23% say he wants what is best for himself over what is best for the country.

Which do you agree with more:

- Donald Trump has **given up fighting coronavirus**
- Donald Trump is **fighting hard to stop the spread of coronavirus**
- Donald Trump **wants what is best for himself**
- Donald Trump **wants what is best for the country**

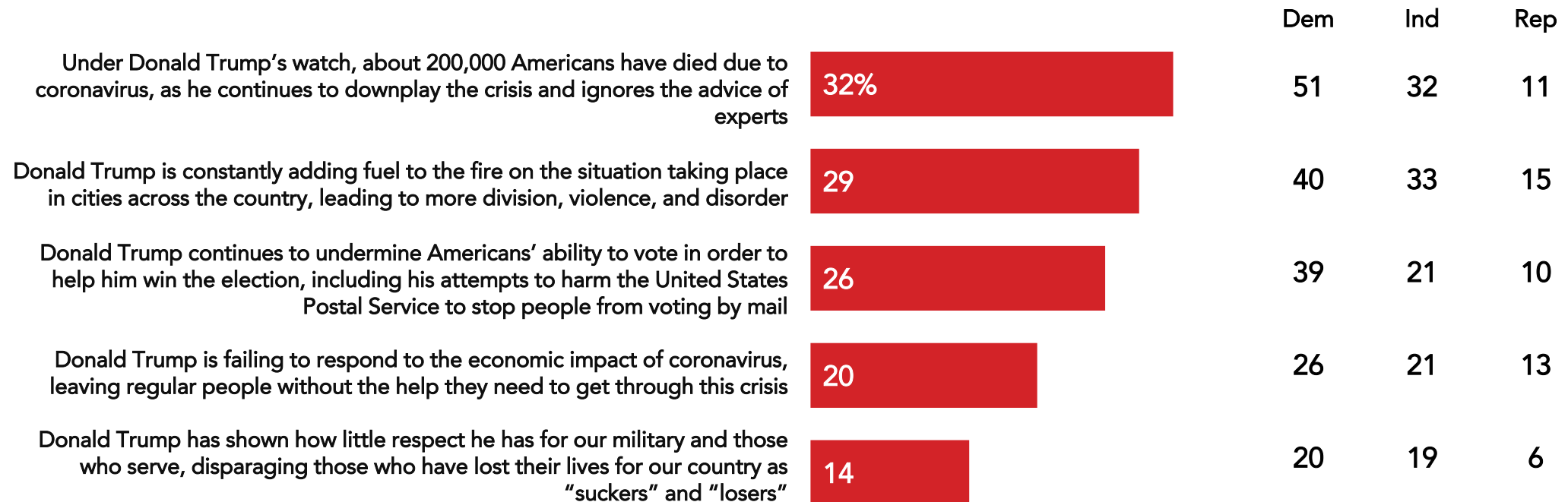


*2016 Trump voters" self-report having voted for Donald Trump in the 2016 election. Nationwide survey of 1,007 registered voters; September 10-14, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Top Concerns on Trump: Nearly 200,000 Americans Dead from Pandemic, His Making the Situation in Cities Worse

In thinking about Trump's job performance recently, Americans are most concerned about his mishandling of the coronavirus pandemic and the way he has worsened the situation in many cities.

Which TWO of the following things concern you the most about the way Trump has handled his job as president in the last few weeks?



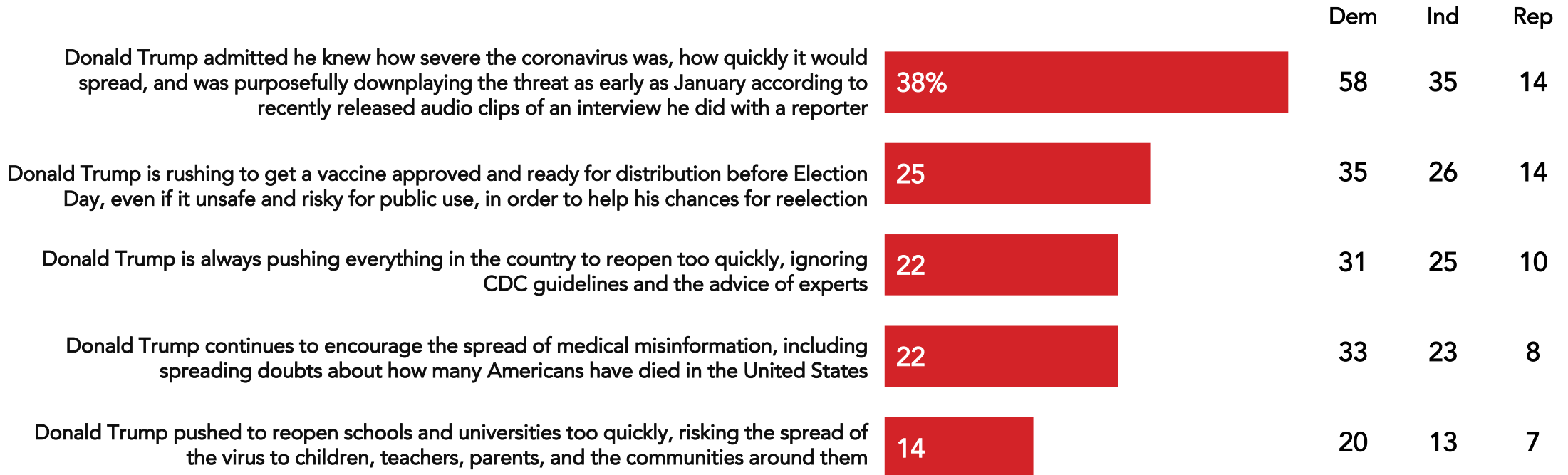
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Trump Admitting Downplaying Coronavirus, Rushing to Get Vaccine Are Top Pandemic-Related Concerns

Released in a recent audio tape from January, Trump’s admission that he purposefully downplayed the coronavirus is the most concerning item related to his handling of the pandemic.

- More than a third (35%) of independents find his purposeful downplaying of the virus most concerning.

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

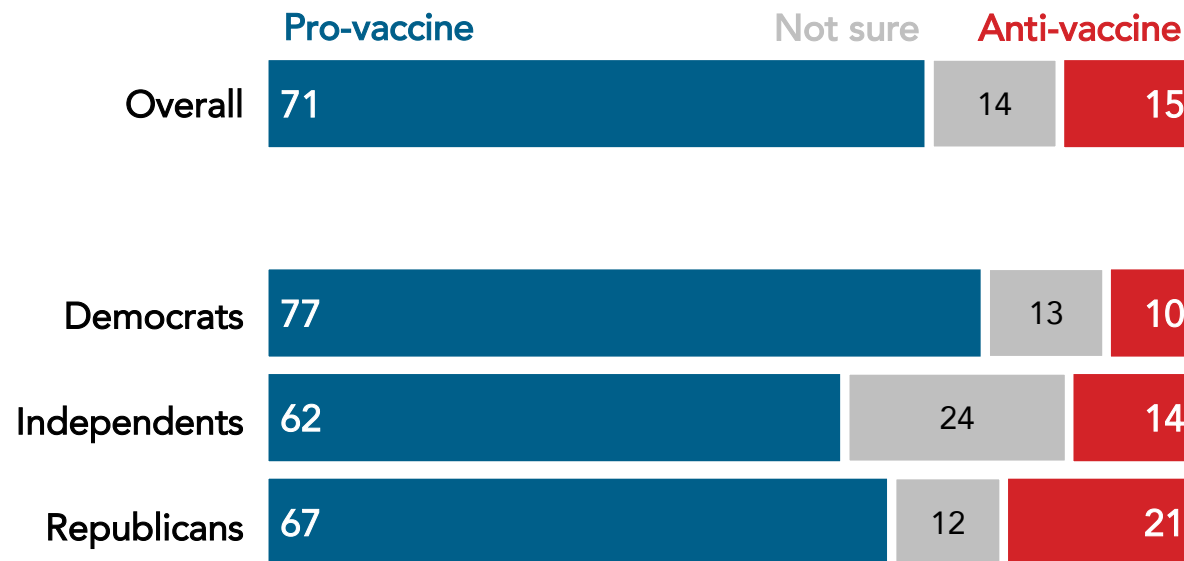


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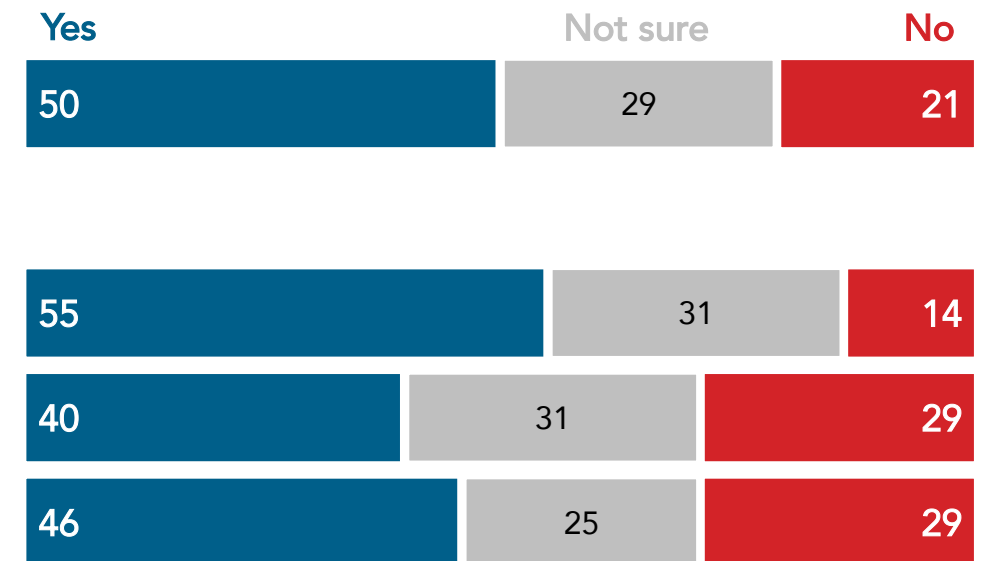
Vast Majority of Americans Are "Pro-Vaccine," But Only Half Would Choose to Get Coronavirus Vaccine

On a separate question, nearly two in three plan on getting the flu vaccine this year, including 68% of Democrats, 47% of independents, and 62% of Republicans.

If you had to choose, would you say that you are generally pro-vaccine or anti-vaccine?



If a vaccine for the coronavirus were to become available for use, would you choose to get vaccinated?



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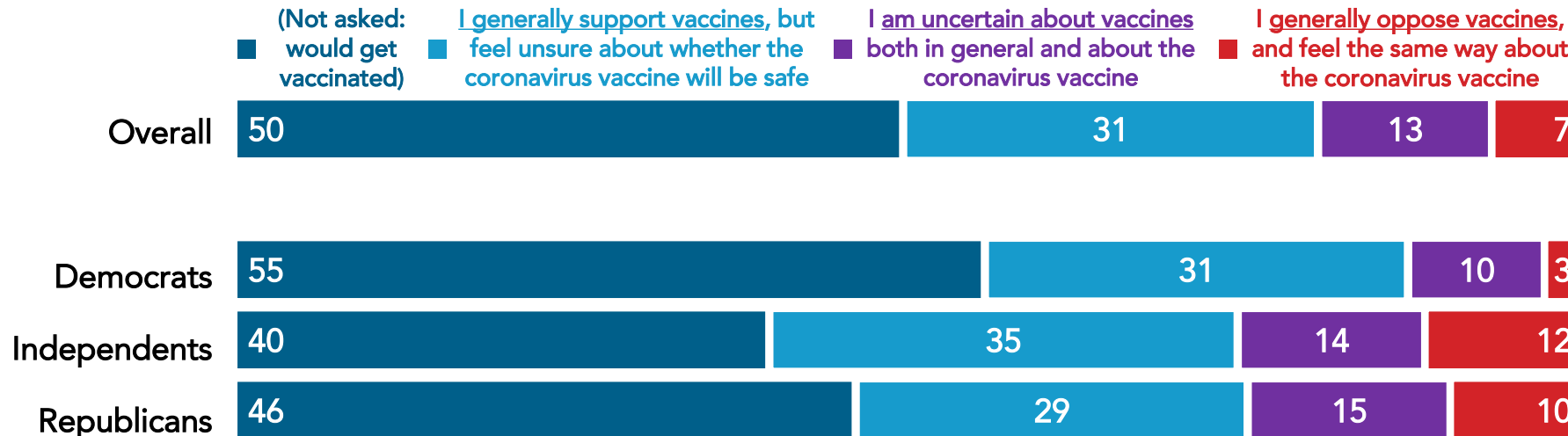
Most Hesitancy Toward Coronavirus Vaccine Is About Safety of This Vaccine – Not Vaccines in General

While half of Americans say they will get the coronavirus vaccine, nearly a third say they generally support vaccines but feel unsure about whether the coronavirus vaccine will be safe.

If a vaccine for the coronavirus were to become available for use, would you choose to get vaccinated?



Which of the following best describes your hesitation about getting a coronavirus vaccine?

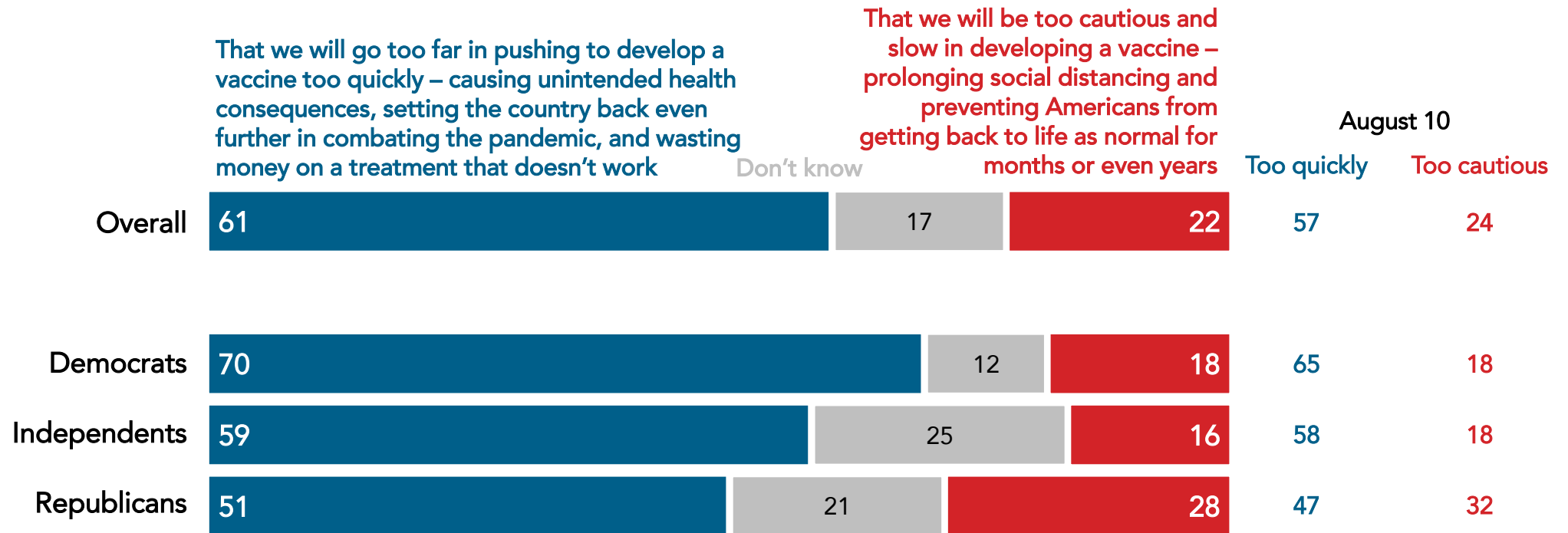


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On Vaccines, Growing Share Are More Concerned America Will Push to Develop One Too Quickly

Three in five now say they are more concerned that America will go too far in pushing to develop a vaccine too quickly rather than that America will be too cautious and slow.

Which of the following concerns you more?



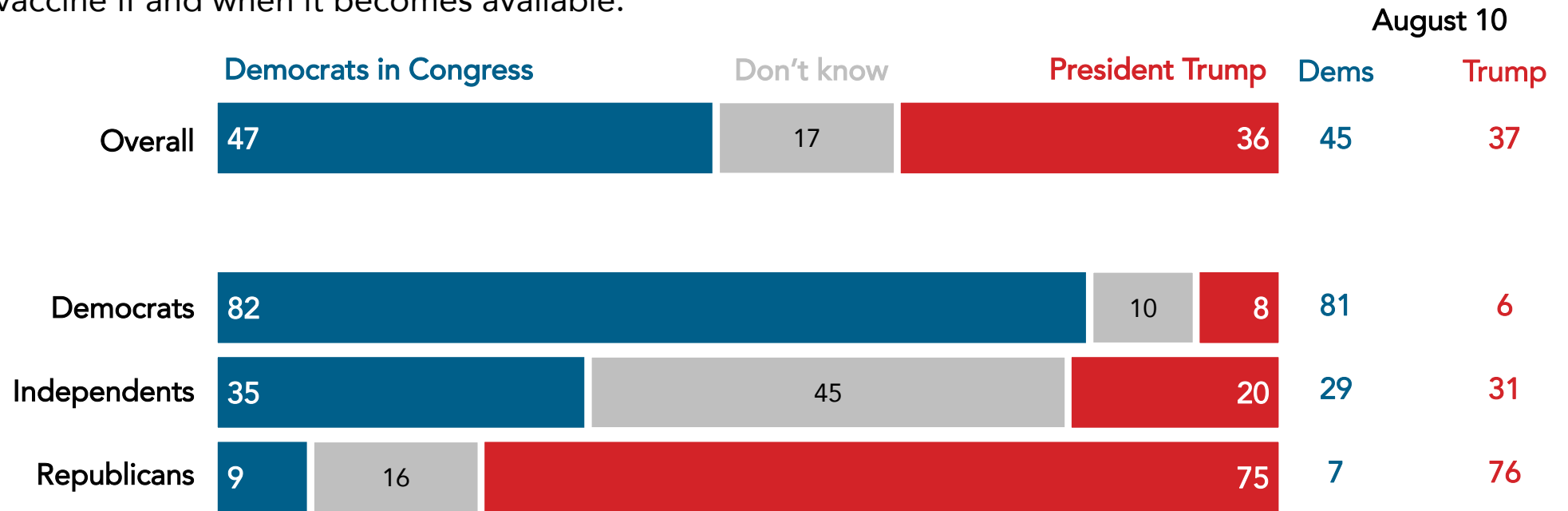
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Democrats in Congress More Trusted Than Trump to Handle Approval and Distribution of Coronavirus Vaccine

The president faces a double-digit deficit on trust compared to Democrats in Congress on handling the approval and distribution of a coronavirus vaccine.

- Among those mixed on Trump*, 39% trust Democrats in Congress more to handle the approval and distribution of a coronavirus vaccine while only 27% trust Trump more.

Please indicate who you would trust more to handle each one: Handling the approval and distribution of a coronavirus vaccine if and when it becomes available.



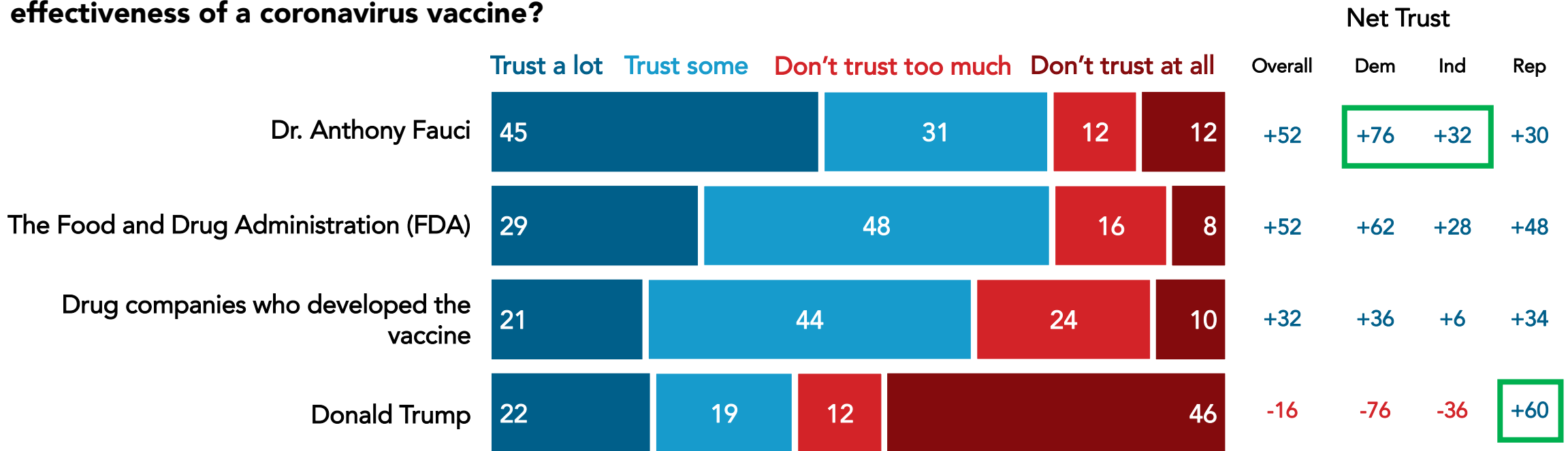
*"Mixed on Trump" refers to Americans who don't always approve or don't always disapprove of Trump's overall job performance, his handling of the economy, his handling the coronavirus pandemic, and his handling of health care. Nationwide survey of 1,007 registered voters; September 10-14, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Fauci Is Most Trusted to Tell the Truth on Coronavirus Vaccine While Trump Is Least Trusted

Three in four say they trust Dr. Fauci “a lot” or “some” to tell the truth about the safety of the coronavirus vaccine, while only two in five say the same about Donald Trump.

- Among independents (33%) and Democrats (63%), Fauci is the most trusted to tell the truth about a vaccine. Among Republicans, Donald Trump is the most trusted (47%).

How much do you trust each of the following people and groups to tell the truth about the safety and effectiveness of a coronavirus vaccine?



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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 1,007 registered voters from September 10-14, 2020. 102 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 102 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 103 additional interviews were conducted among independents with no partisan lean. 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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