

# navigating.\* CORONAVIRUS

Update:

Thursday, September 17



Communicating in  
Crisis

## Key takeaways:

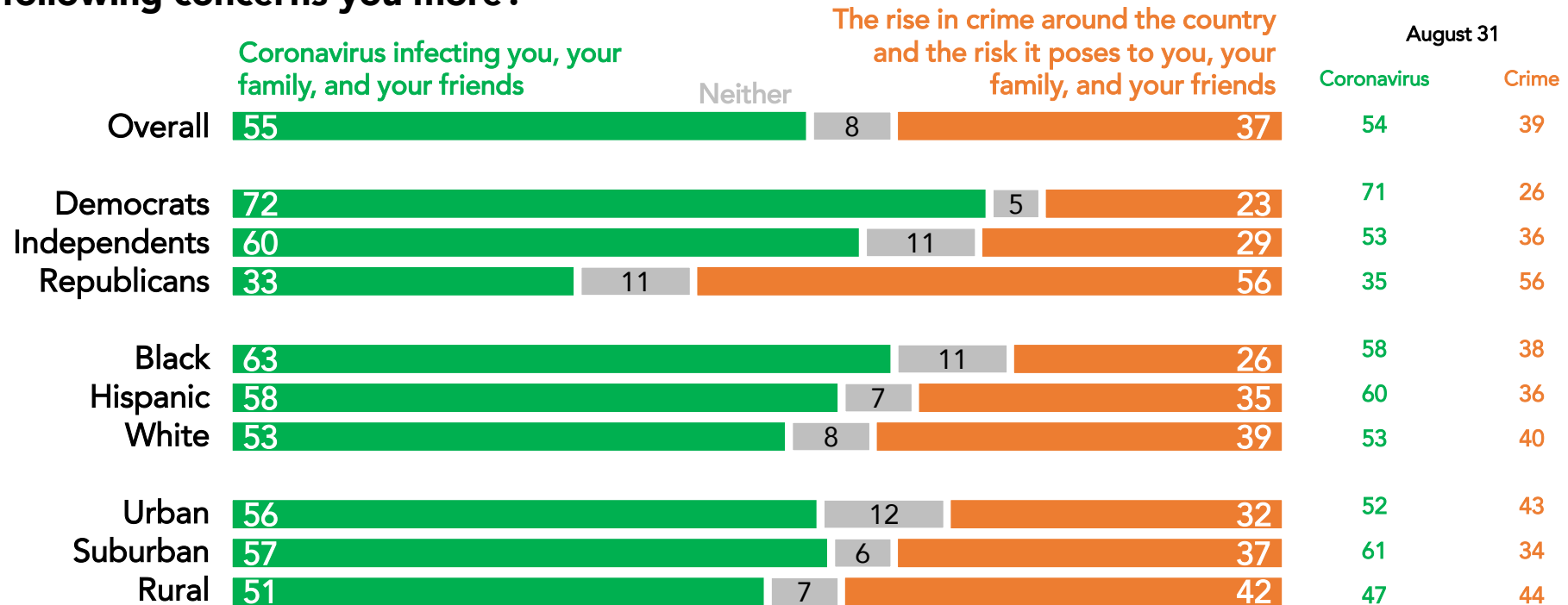
- While many are concerned about crime at a national level, fewer are concerned about crime in their community.
- Americans say Trump is contributing to making protests and disorder worse by trying to divide the public to win reelection.
- Three in five Americans are concerned by recent demeaning statements Trump has made about the military.

# Americans Remain Much More Concerned About the Pandemic Than They Are About Crime

A majority remain more concerned about coronavirus infecting them and those close to them, while less than two in five are more concerned about the personal risks from rising crime around the country.

- African Americans (63%) and Hispanic Americans (58%) are more concerned about coronavirus than white Americans (53%), as are Democrats (72%) more so than Republicans (33%).

Which of the following concerns you more?

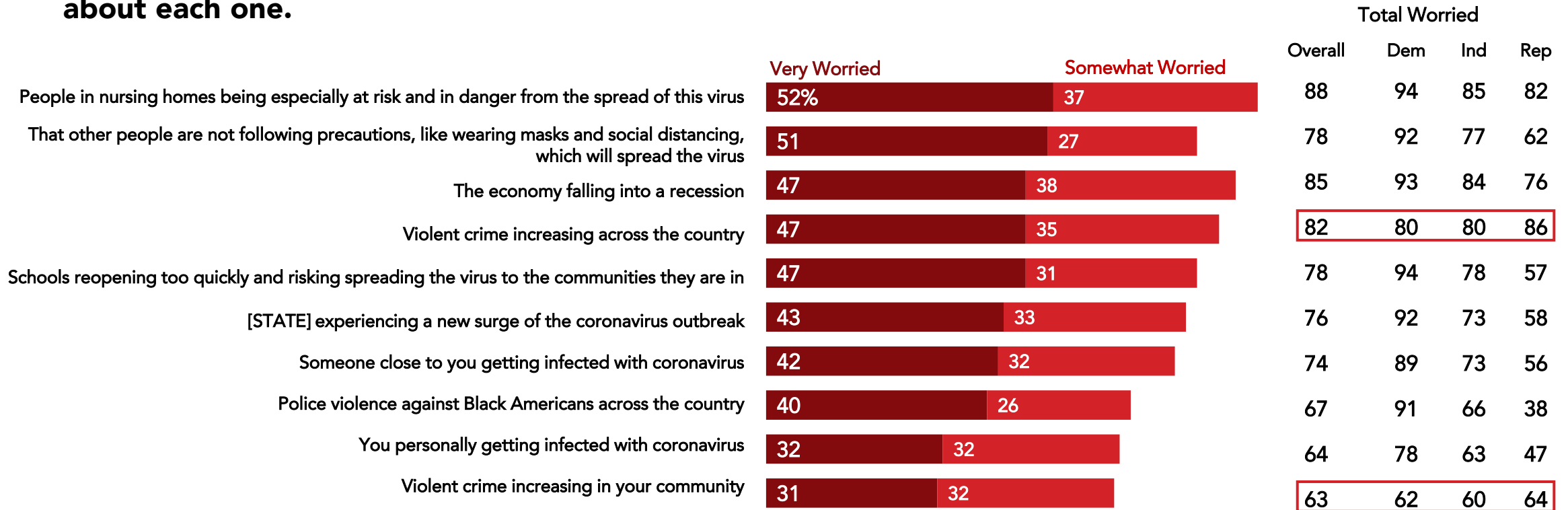


Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted September 10-14, 2020. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org)

# Public Worried About Virus, Economy, and National Crime Rates, But Far Less So About Local Crime

While violent crime around the country is a serious worry for four in five, crime “in your community” only worries about three in five.

Below are some things people might be worried about right now. Please indicate how worried you are about each one.



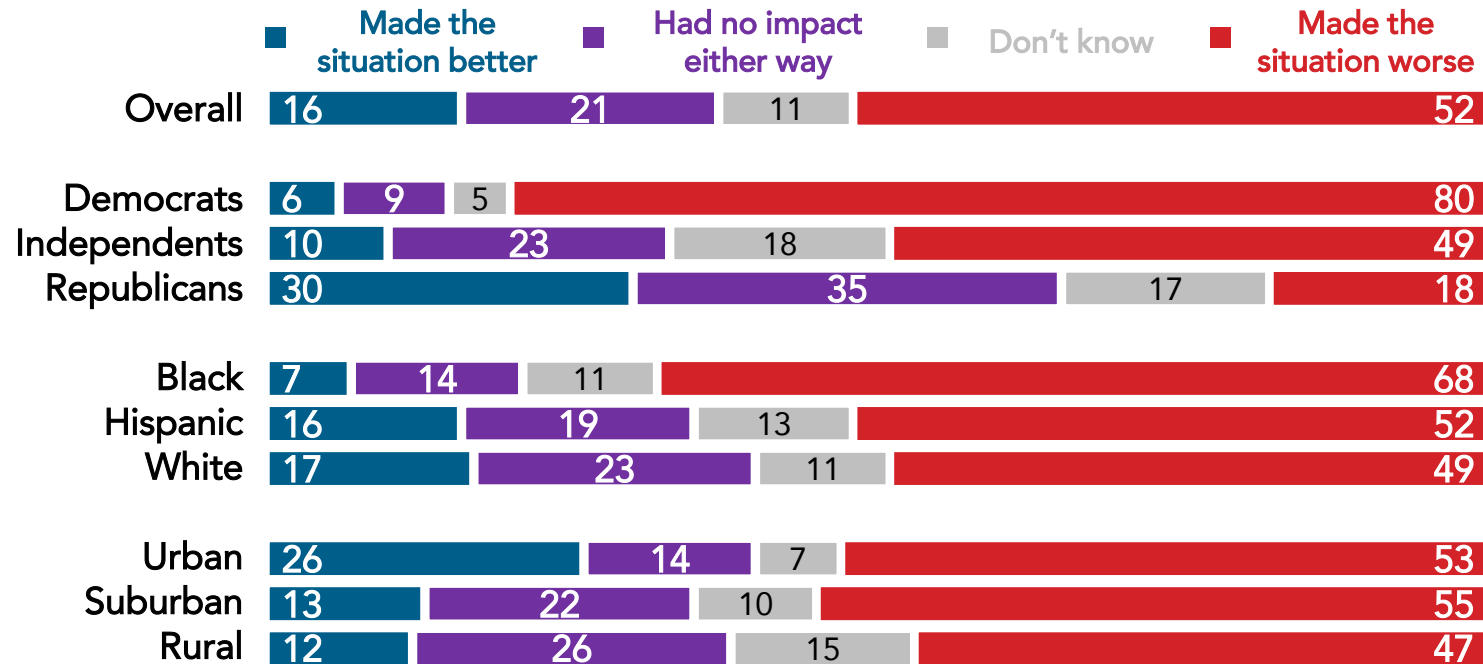
Nationwide survey of 1,007 registered voters; September 10-14, 2020.  
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# Majority Say Trump's Response Has Made Protests and Disorder Worse

More than half say Trump's response to the protests and disorder has made the situation worse, while just one in six say that he has made it better.

- A majority of suburbanites (55%) say Trump has made it worse.

**Do you think what Donald Trump has said and done about the protests and disorder happening in some parts of the country right now has generally made the situation better, made the situation worse, or had no impact either way?**

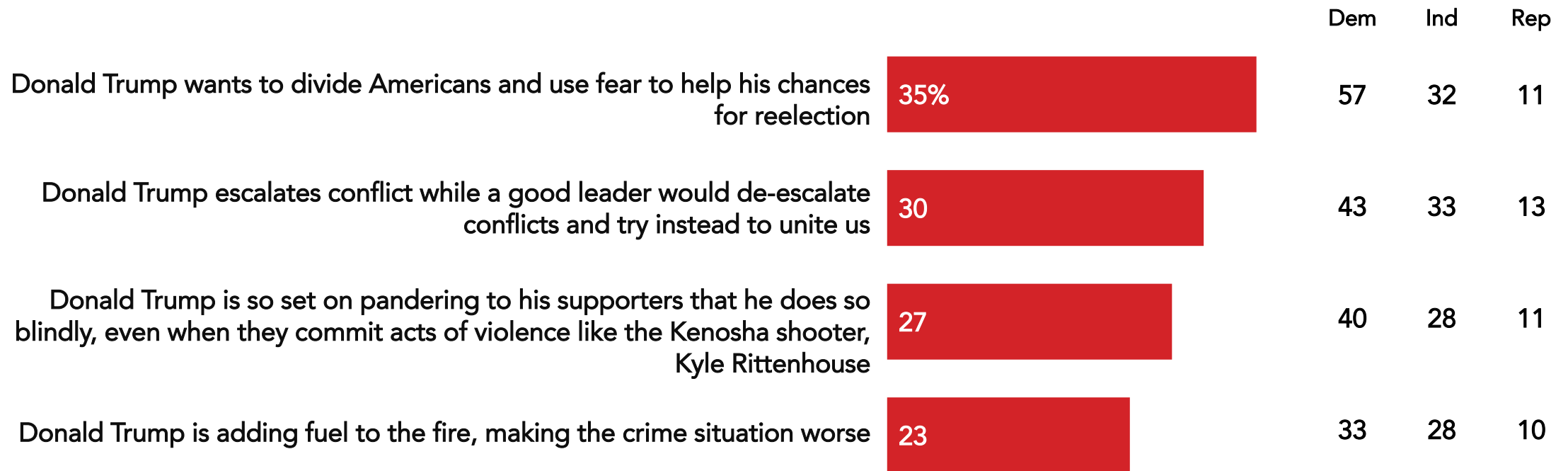


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# Top Reasons Trump Seen As Making Disorder Worse: His Divisiveness, Escalation of Conflict

Both the public overall and independents see the top two ways Trump is making the protests and disorder in America worse is his dividing of Americans to help his reelection chances, and escalating conflict.

Which TWO of the following things Donald Trump is doing do you think are most contributing to making the protests and disorder in the United States worse?



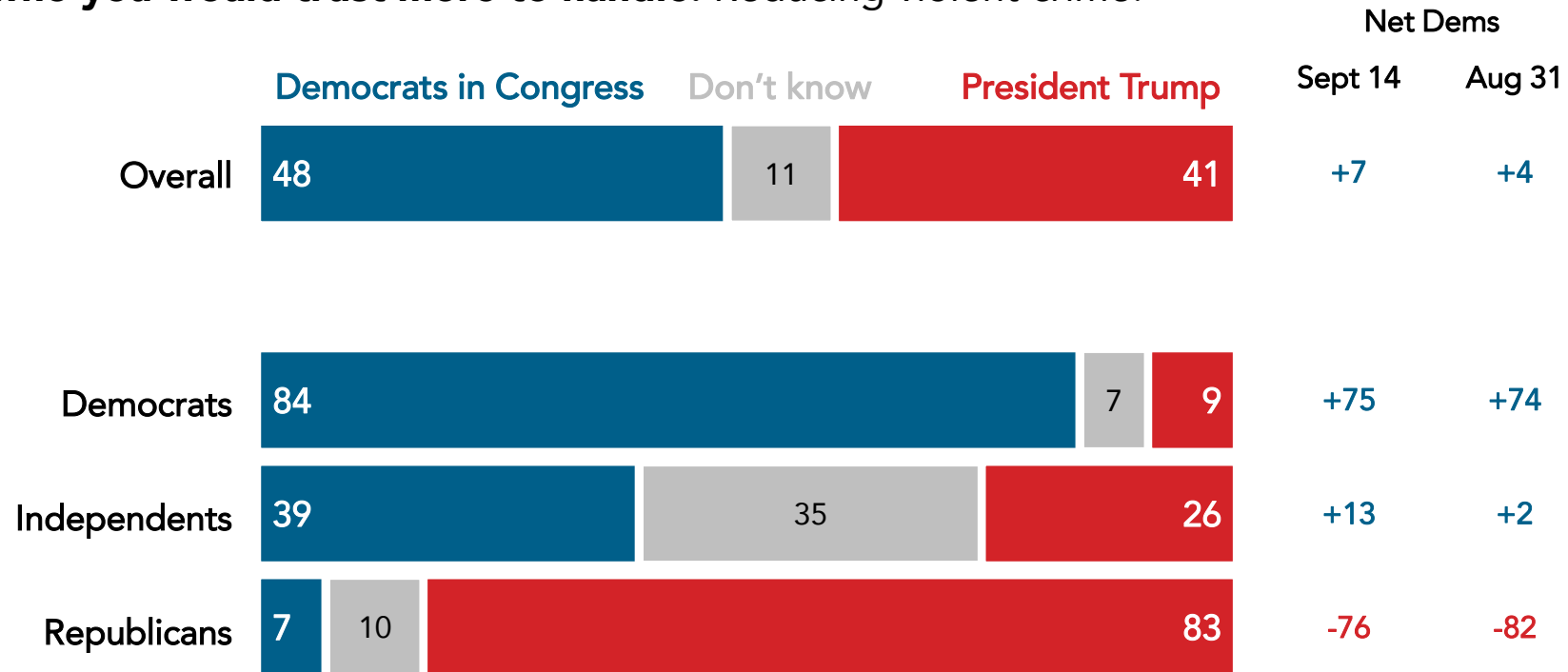
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# Democrats More Trusted Than Trump on “Reducing Violent Crime”

Democrats in Congress continue to hold a lead over the president on trust to reduce violent crime.

- In the last two weeks among independents, there has been an 11-point increase in the share who trust Democrats in Congress more than Trump to reduce violent crime (from +2 to +13).

**Please indicate who you would trust more to handle:** Reducing violent crime.

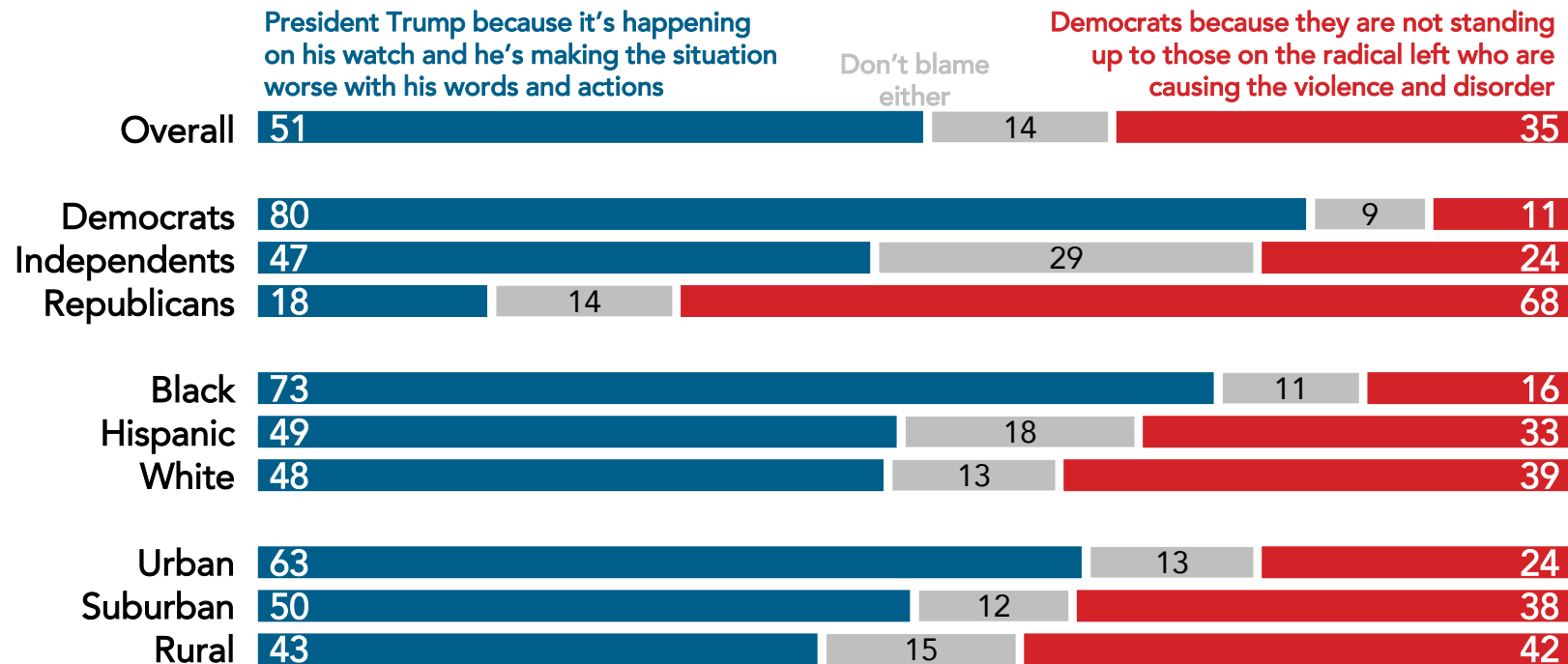


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# Majority Blames Trump More Than Democrats for Disorder

A majority of Americans say they blame Trump for the disorder in the country because it's happening on his watch, while one in three blame Democrats more for not standing up to the "radical left."

Thinking more specifically about the disorder that has been taking place in some places across the country, who do you blame more? Please choose even if it's hard to decide.



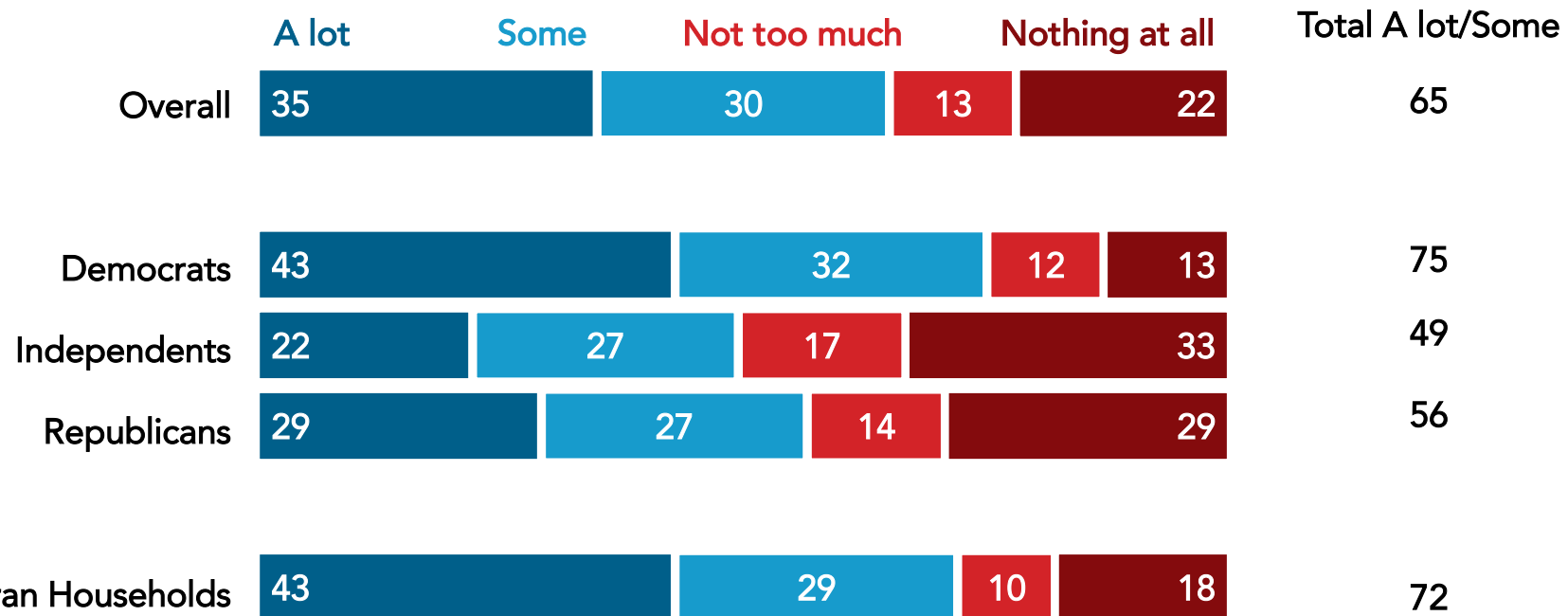
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# Americans – Especially Active Duty/Veteran Households – Are Hearing About Trump’s Disparaging Military Comments

Two in three Americans – including three in four in active duty/veteran households – report hearing “a lot” or “some” about comments *The Atlantic* recently reported Trump has made demeaning Americans who joined the military.

How much have you heard about recent allegations, published first by a news organization called *The Atlantic*, that Trump made demeaning remarks about Americans who joined the military?



“Active military/National Guard/veteran families” are those who self-report either them, someone in their household, or both themselves and someone in their household being a veteran, active military, or in the National Guard or Reserves. Nationwide survey of 1,007 registered voters; September 10-14, 2020. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org)

# Most Americans Concerned By Trump Comments on Military

Three in five Americans find a range of statements related to Trump’s disparaging of Americans who have served in the military concerning, as do three in five in active duty/veteran households.

**Below is a list of things that have appeared in recent news reports about Donald Trump and the military. For each, please indicate whether it raises concerns for you personally.**

	Total Serious Concerns		Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep	Military
	Very Serious Concerns	Somewhat Serious Concerns					
Donald Trump called traumatic brain injuries suffered by U.S. military personnel just “headaches”	48%	14	63	90	64	30	63
Donald Trump told senior staff that the 1,800 Marines who died at Belleau Woods in World War I were “suckers” for getting killed	48	15	64	91	64	30	63
Donald Trump told senior staff in November 2018 at the Aisne-Marne American Cemetery near Paris that the cemetery was “filled with losers”	47	15	62	89	62	29	62
Donald Trump was upset when the White House lowered flags to half-staff following Senator John McCain’s death, telling senior staff they wouldn’t “support that loser’s funeral” and calling McCain a “f--king loser”	46	16	63	89	61	31	61
Donald Trump said of late John McCain, who spent five years as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam, that “He’s not a war hero...I like people who weren’t captured”	46	18	64	91	63	31	64
Donald Trump referred to late President George H. W. Bush as a “loser” for being shot down by the Japanese as a Navy pilot in World War II	45	16	61	88	60	28	61

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# “Disrespectful” – What Bothers Americans About Trump’s Military Comments

The vast majority (70%) said they found at least one of the statements recently made by Trump disparaging the military concerning, focusing on his lack of respect for the military and those who have served.

You indicated you have serious concerns about at least one of the statements you just read about Donald Trump and the military. What is it that concerns you about this statement/these statements when it comes to Donald Trump?



“He is the **commander-in-chief**. He **should never say these things** about his own military.”

“It is a blatant lack of respect for American people, **specifically people who have put their lives on the line** to uphold values they hold dear. **As he is someone who dodged the draft**, it is so incredibly stupid and disrespectful.”

“He has **no compassion for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice**.”

“**He is so disrespectful**. Especially for someone who avoided getting drafted, he should have more respect for those who put their lives on the line to protect this country.”

“I am concerned **just how disrespectful Trump is** towards men and women who died in the service of this nation.”

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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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