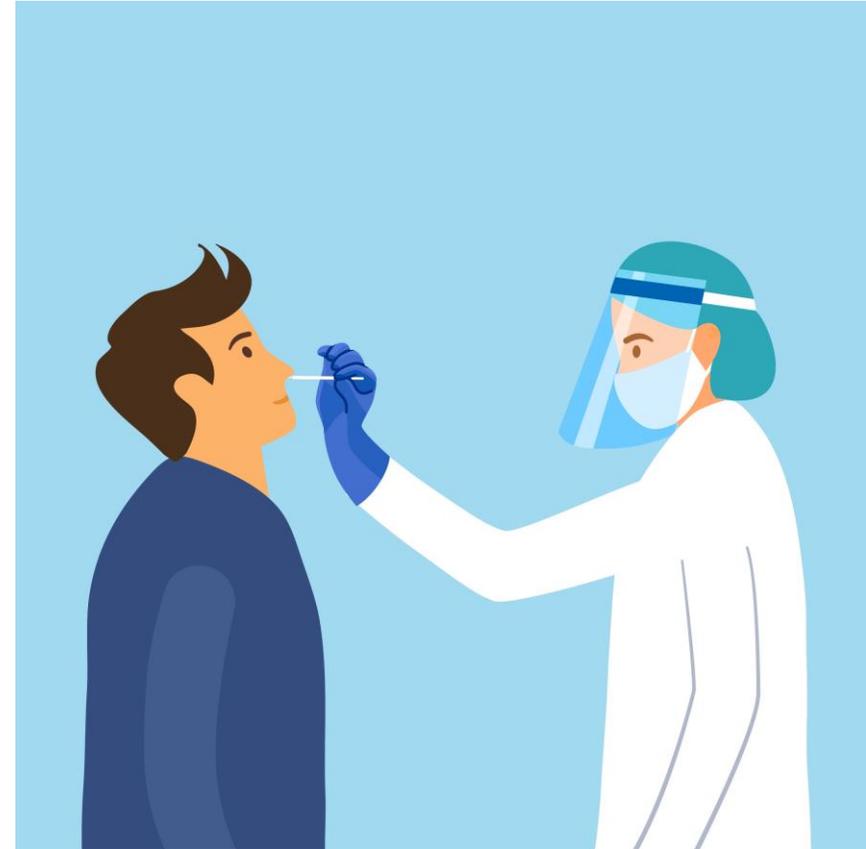


# navigator\*

navigating\*  
coronavirus

Thursday, August 5<sup>th</sup>

A Guide for Advocates:  
Update 1 of 2



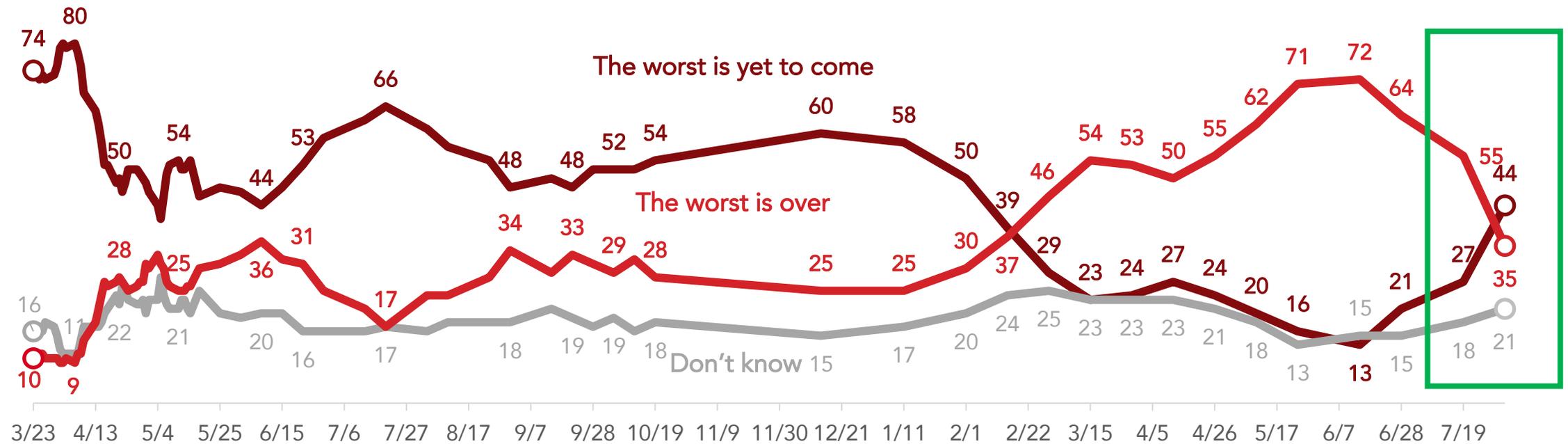
## Key Takeaways:

- The Delta variant and rising case numbers are top worries for Americans on the pandemic, as a plurality say the “worst is yet to come” for the first time since February.
- Despite rising cases and worries, Biden and Democrats remain more trusted to handle the pandemic and Republicans more blamed for the rise.
- Half of Americans say Biden is doing enough to get people vaccinated, while just one in four say the same of Republicans.

# As Concerns About Delta Variant Grow, Plurality Now Say Worst Is Yet to Come

The greatest share since February 2021 now say the “worst is yet to come” in the pandemic, up 17 points since just two weeks ago and 31 points since mid-June.

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

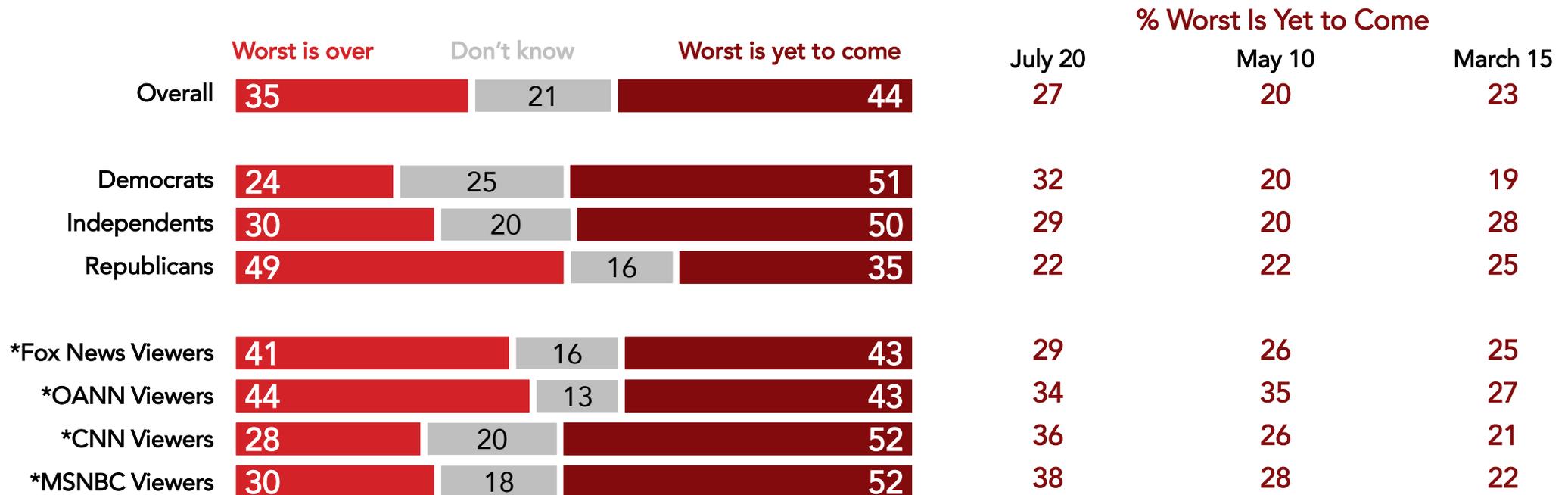


Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted July 29-August 2, 2021. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org)

# Share Saying Worst Is Yet to Come Increasing Across Party Lines and By News Consumption

Since mid-July, there have been double-digit increases in the belief the “worst is yet to come” among Fox News viewers (+14), CNN viewers (+16), and MSNBC viewers (+14).

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

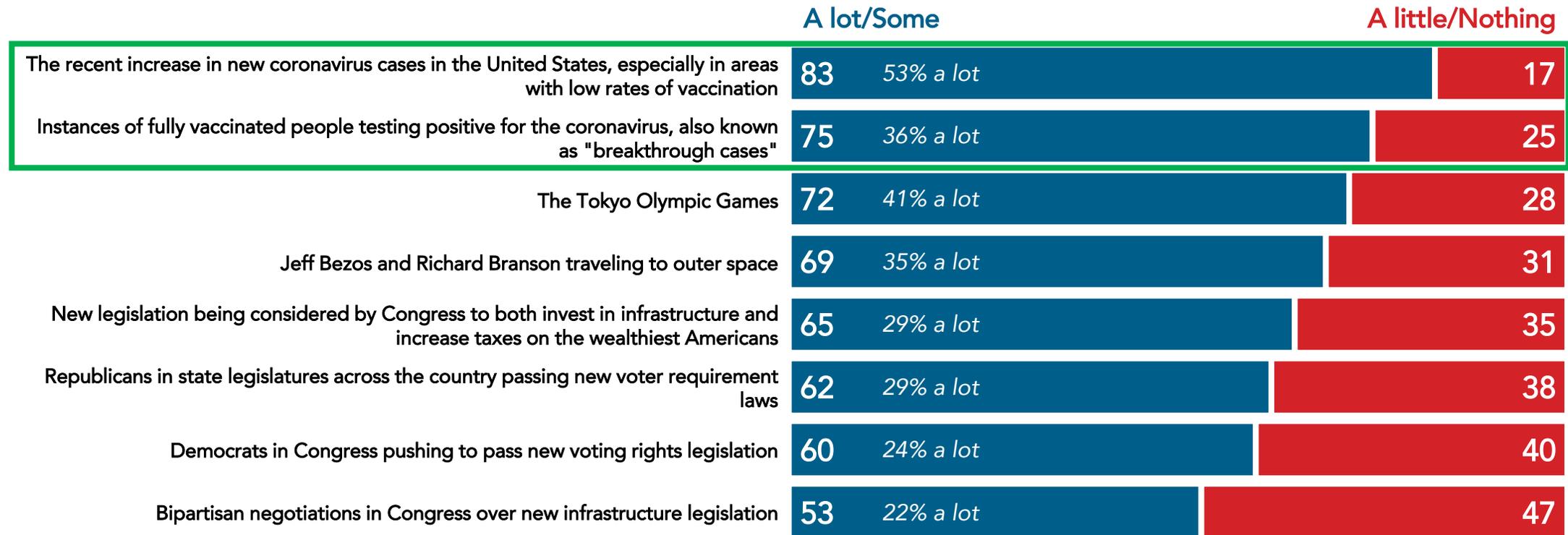


\*"Fox News," "OANN," "MSNBC," and "CNN" viewers are defined as those report watching each channel respectively at least monthly. Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted July 29-August 2, 2021. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org)

# More than the Olympics or Space Travel, Americans Are Hearing Most About Rising Cases

Three in four Americans report hearing about “breakthrough cases” among vaccinated people and four in five report hearing about increasing coronavirus cases, both higher than have heard about the Olympics.

Below is a list of issues that have been in the news recently. Please indicate how much you have seen, read, or heard about each.



Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted July 29-August 2, 2021.  
For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org).

# Rising Cases Nationwide Are Top Worry, Less Fear About Personal Risk

Compared to April 2020, those “very worried” about both personal infection (30% in April 2020) and someone close to you getting infected (43% in April 2020) are lower now.

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

	% Very Worried		Dem	Ind	Rep	% Very Worried	
	Very worried	Somewhat worried				*Vaccinated	Unvaccinated
The spread of the Delta variant of coronavirus in the United States	40	32	58	36	22	50	25
That a resurgence in new cases caused by low vaccination rates is going to prolong the pandemic much longer than it needed to be	40	31	58	29	22	52	18
Not enough Americans getting vaccinated	37	26	58	26	16	53	10
The economic recovery being threatened by a resurgence in new coronavirus cases	37	41	42	34	31	39	33
The Delta variant of coronavirus in your community and state	35	33	52	30	18	42	24
The economic recovery being threatened by government overreacting to a resurgence in new coronavirus cases	34	38	27	33	43	33	37
Someone close to you getting infected with coronavirus	31	32	43	27	18	37	20
Fully vaccinated people testing positive for coronavirus	29	34	38	30	20	30	28
That there won't be room in hospitals or available doctors if you get sick from coronavirus	25	28	38	24	11	30	16
You personally getting infected with coronavirus	21	28	30	20	10	24	15

\*“Vaccinated” respondents are defined as those who report being personally vaccinated. Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted July 29-August 2, 2021. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org)

# Lagging Vaccination Rates and the Delta Variant Top Concerns, With Many Placing Blame on Republican Governors

Among respondents who say “the worst is yet to come,” major drivers of this belief are the spread of the Delta variant, rising case counts, and those who are unvaccinated, with many expressing frustration with Republican governors – particularly Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and Texas Governor Greg Abbott.

**\*What makes you feel the worst of the coronavirus pandemic is yet to come?**

July 19<sup>th</sup>



*"In Florida... our governor is not forcing mask usage worried about businesses and the economy more than people."*

*"There are more variants that are being reported and too many people are still failing to do the responsible thing and social distance, mask up, and vaccinate. Now [the] Texas governor is stating masks are not required for students in schools."*

*"Those Republican governors that do not support getting vaccines or even wearing masks are going to cause a 4th wave that could be worse than what has already happened."*

*"The Delta variant is on the rise and numbers are rapidly increasing every day. Meanwhile, the Texas Governor is forbidding any protective mask measures to be mandated."*

*"Cases of coronavirus are increasing in Texas. Governor Abbott opened Texas too soon. He refuses to make masks mandatory again. We are facing a rise again to pandemic proportions."*

*"Lack of vaccinated people and Florida's will to be independent and not get [the vaccine] is mind blowing."*

*"[Coronavirus] is surging in Florida and the Governor wants to send kids without masks to schools."*

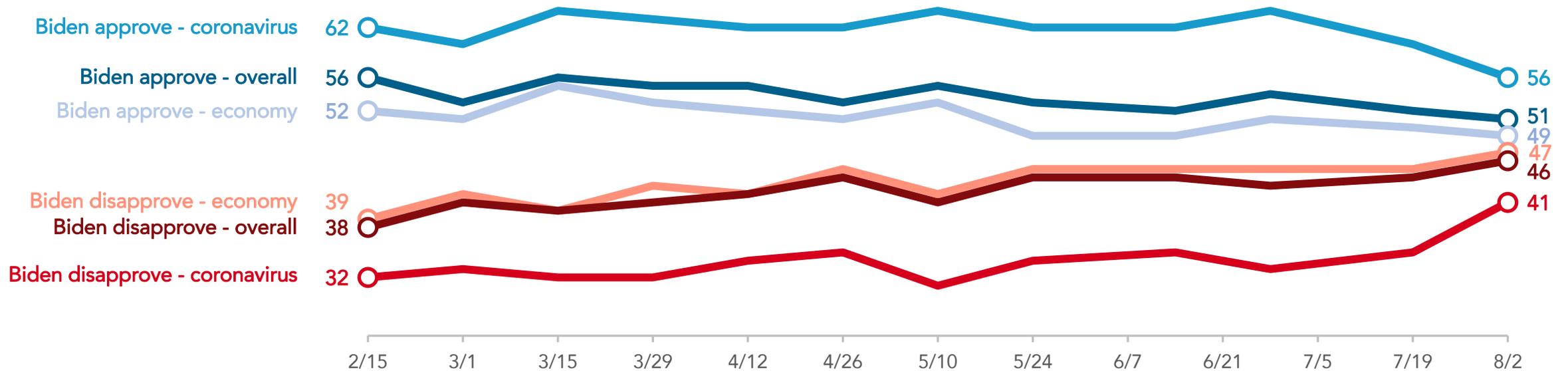
\*Asked of respondents who said the “worst is yet to come” on the pandemic on a separate question. Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted July 29-August 2, 2021. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org)

# While Biden's Approval Overall and on the Economy Remain Steady, His Pandemic Approval Sees Slight Downtick

While Biden's approval has remained consistently high on his job overall (net +5) and the economy (+2), there's been a slight decline in his approval on handling the pandemic (+15).

**Do you approve or disapprove of the way Joe Biden is handling:**

- His job as president
- The economy
- The coronavirus pandemic



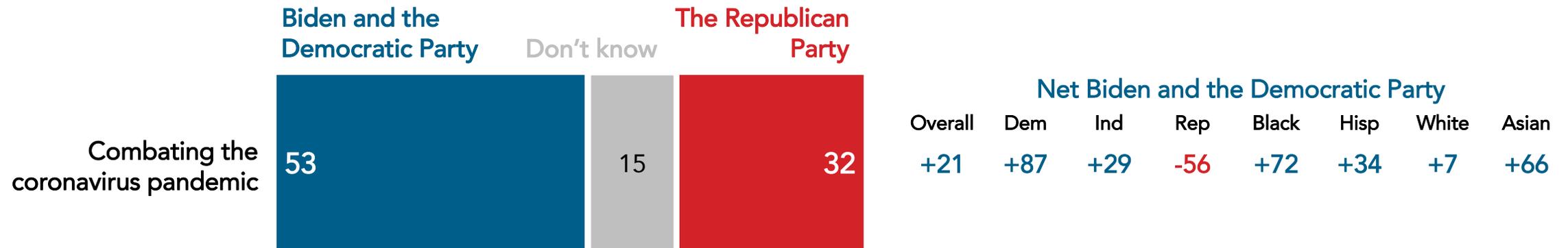
Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted July 29-August 2, 2021. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org)

# But, Biden and Democrats Still Much More Trusted to Handle the Pandemic Than Republicans

More than half of Americans trust Biden and the Democratic Party (53%) more than the Republican Party to combat coronavirus.

- Among independents, Biden and Democrats are 29-points more trusted than the Republican Party to handle the pandemic (47% Biden and Democrats to 18% Republicans).

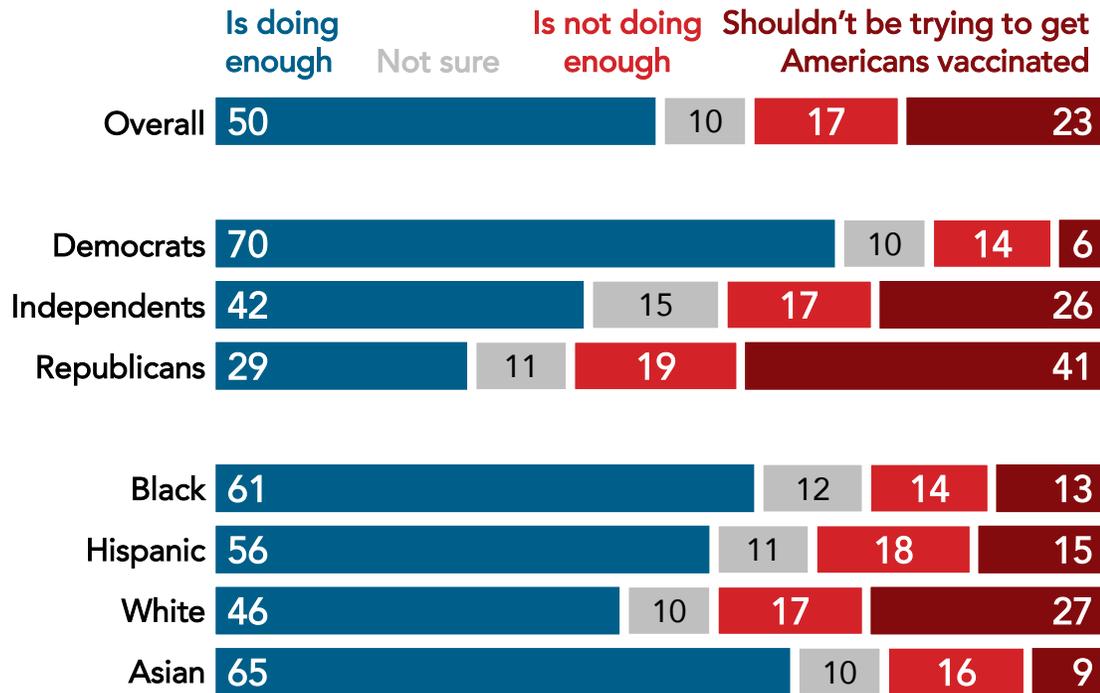
Below is a list of issues. Please indicate who you trust more to handle each one.



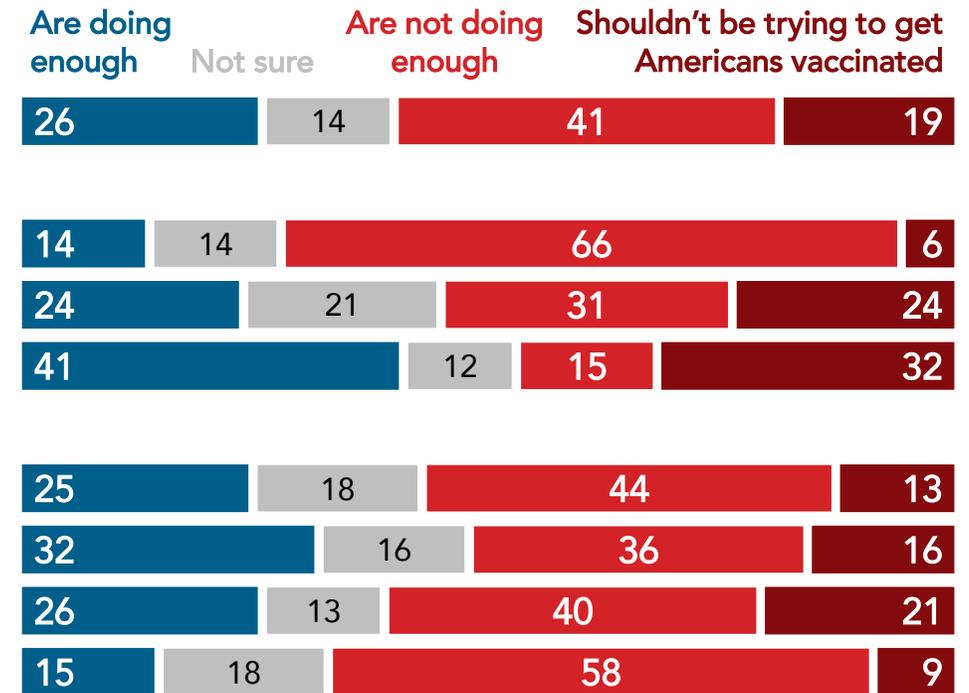
# More Say Biden Is Doing Enough to Get Americans Vaccinated Than Republicans in Congress

Among independents, 42% think President Biden is doing enough to get Americans vaccinated, while only 24% say the same of Congressional Republicans.

**Do you think Joe Biden is doing enough to get Americans vaccinated? He...**



**Do you think the Republicans in Congress are doing enough to get Americans vaccinated? They...**

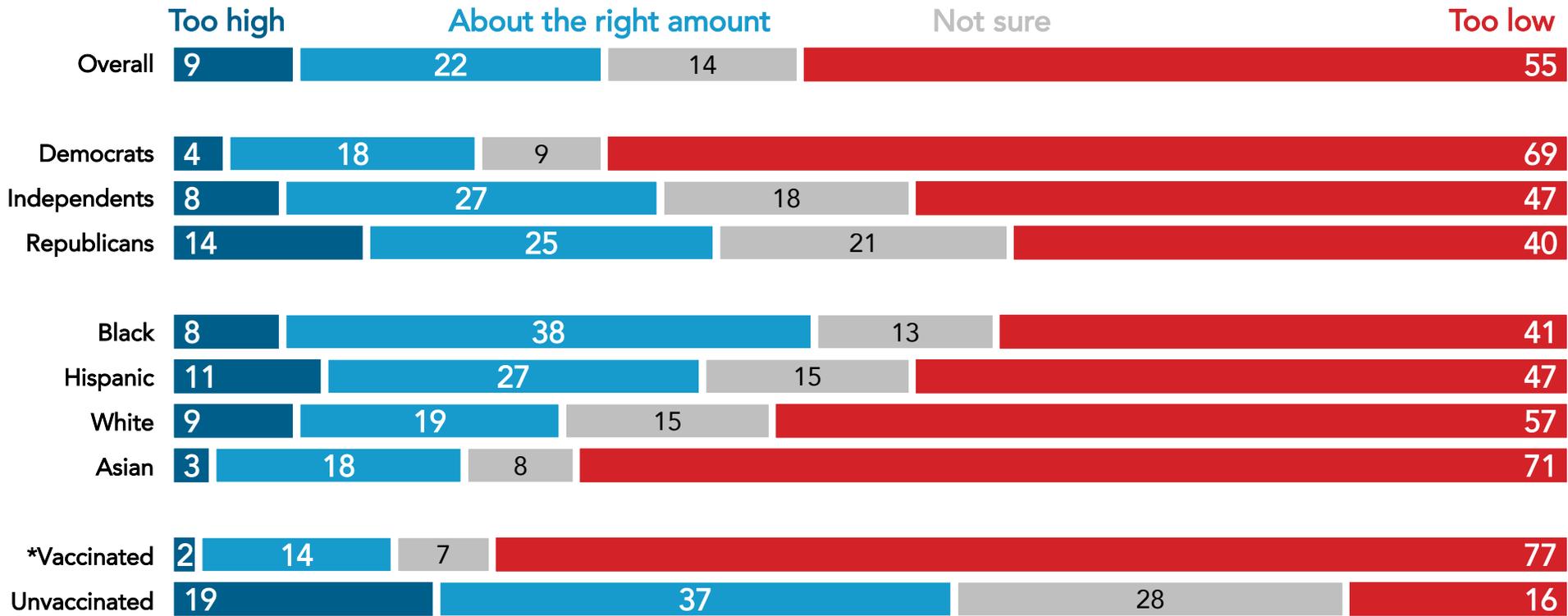


Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted July 29-August 2, 2021. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org).

# Majority Say the Rate of Vaccination in the United States Is Too Low

Among those who are vaccinated, 77% say the rates of vaccination are too low.

As you may know, about half of the American population is fully vaccinated. In your opinion, is this too high, too low, or about the right amount?



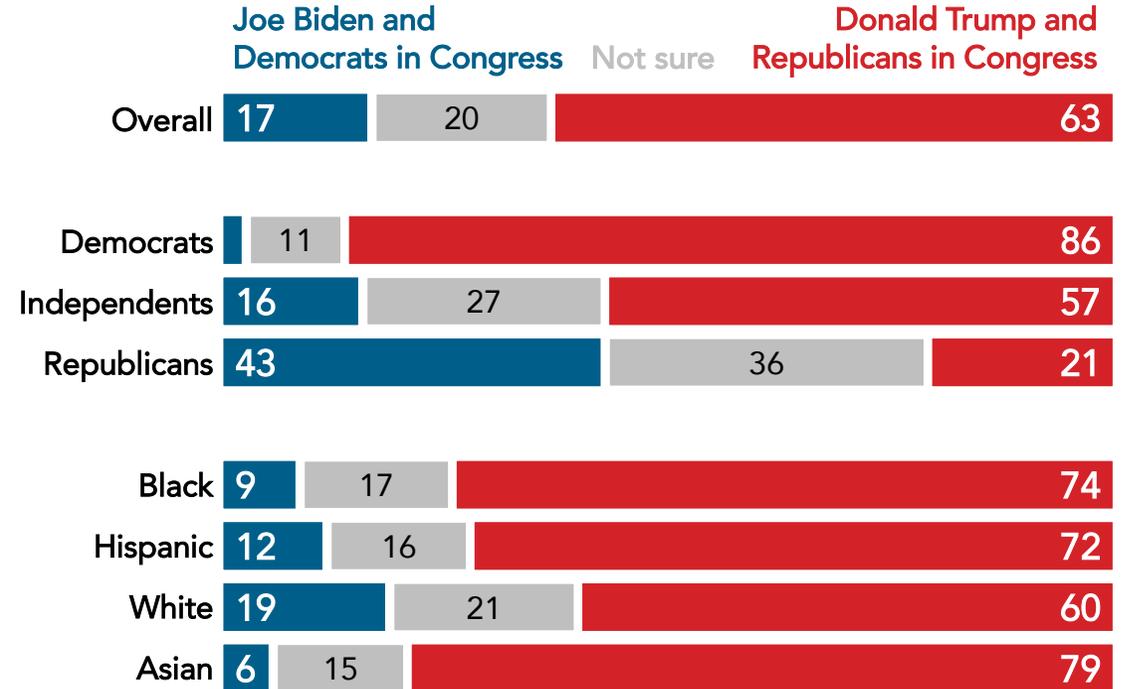
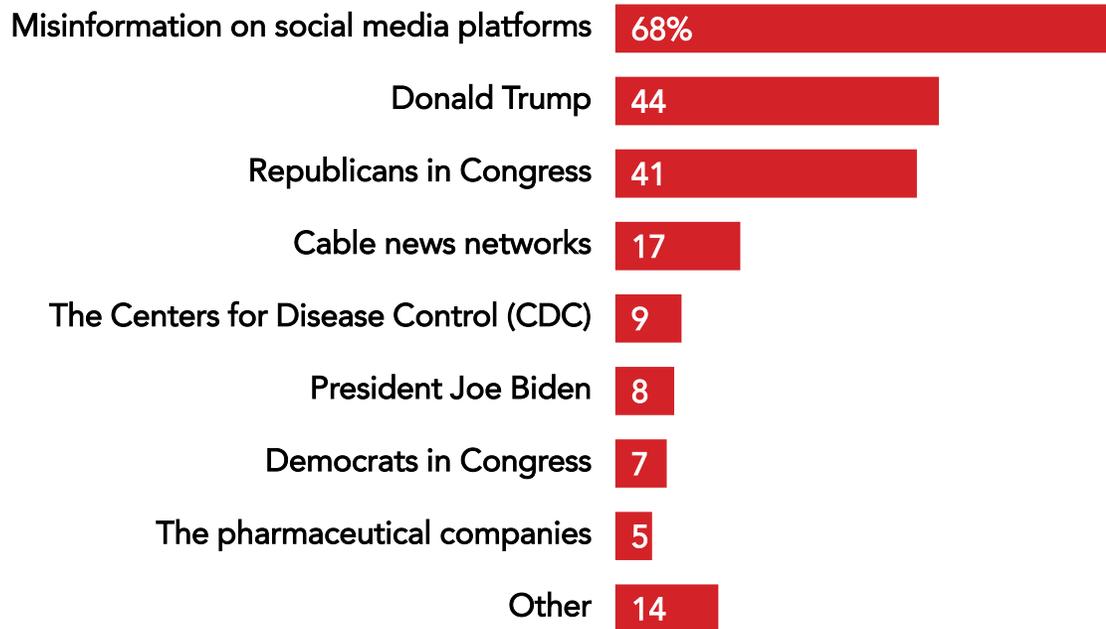
\*"Vaccinated" respondents are defined as those who report being personally vaccinated. Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted July 29-August 2, 2021. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org).

# Vaccine Blame Is Clear: Social Media Misinformation, Trump, and Republicans

Among the 55% of Americans who say vaccination rates are too low, 68% blame misinformation on social media, 44% blame Trump, and 41% blame Republicans in Congress.

[If vaccination rates too low] Who do you blame most for why unvaccinated adults have yet to get vaccinated?

[If vaccination rates too low] And thinking specifically about our political leaders, who do you blame more for why unvaccinated adults have yet to get vaccinated?



Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted July 29-August 2, 2021. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org).

# Americans Evenly Split on Attacks That Blame Biden For Prematurely Taking Credit vs. Republicans Making Things Worse

Americans are split between believing President Biden is responsible for rising cases because he took credit for the pandemic being over prematurely, and Republicans being responsible for rising cases because they downplayed the threat of the virus or oppose vaccinations and spread misinformation.

**Who do you think is more responsible for the rising number of coronavirus cases in America?**

**Statement 1:** President Biden because he took credit for the pandemic being over, but now under his watch and his pandemic policies, cases are back on the rise and getting worse

**Statement 2:** Republican officials because they have downplayed the threat of coronavirus from the very beginning and oppose measures like mask wearing to prevent the spread of the virus

**Statement 3:** Republican officials because they have opposed vaccinations and continue to spread misinformation and conspiracies about vaccines

<b>Statement 1:</b>	49%
<b>Statement 2:</b>	51%
<b>Net Statement 2:</b>	+2

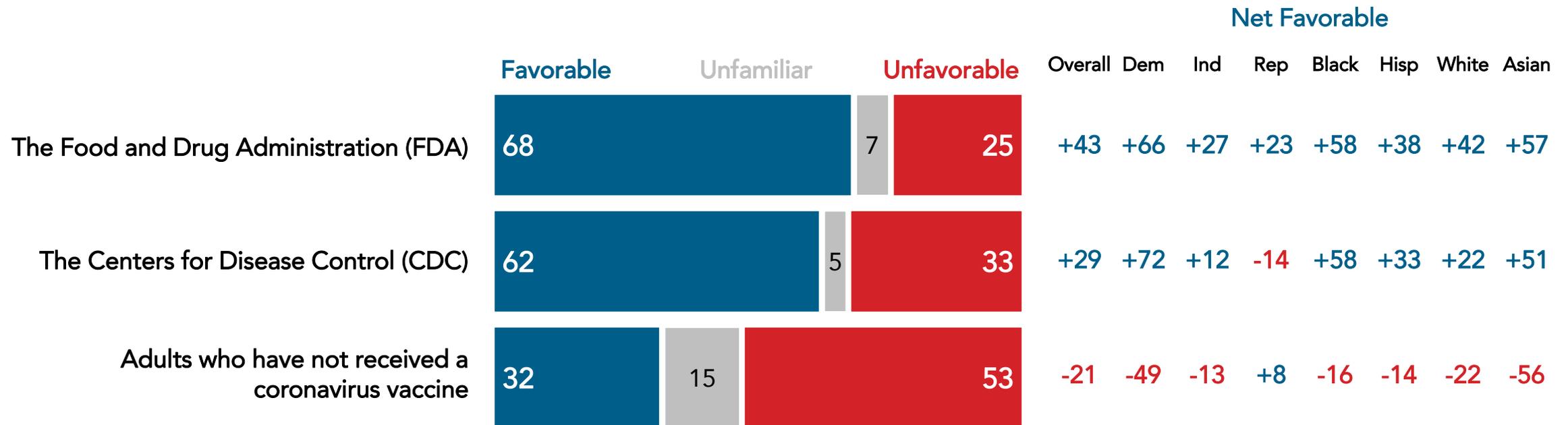
<b>Statement 1:</b>	50%
<b>Statement 3:</b>	50%
<b>Net Statement 3:</b>	Even

# The FDA and CDC Are Still Viewed Favorably; Most Are Unfavorable Toward Unvaccinated Americans

Since December 2020, roughly seven in ten continue to hold a favorable view of the FDA (68% favorable now, 71% then); the same is true of the CDC now (62%) compared to when last asked in May 2021 (67%).

- Across racial and partisan groups, more view unvaccinated adults unfavorably than favorably – except among Republicans, 45% of whom hold positive views of unvaccinated adults versus 37% who hold negative views.

Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are to each one.



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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 1,000 registered voters from July 29-August 2, 2021. 110 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 79 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. 105 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 100 additional interviews were conducted among independent voters. The survey was conducted online, recruiting respondents from an opt-in online panel vendor. 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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To learn more about Navigator:

<http://navigatorresearch.org>

@NavigatorSurvey on Twitter

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