

# navigator\*

Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>

## Abortion Medication: A Guide for Advocates



## Key Takeaways:

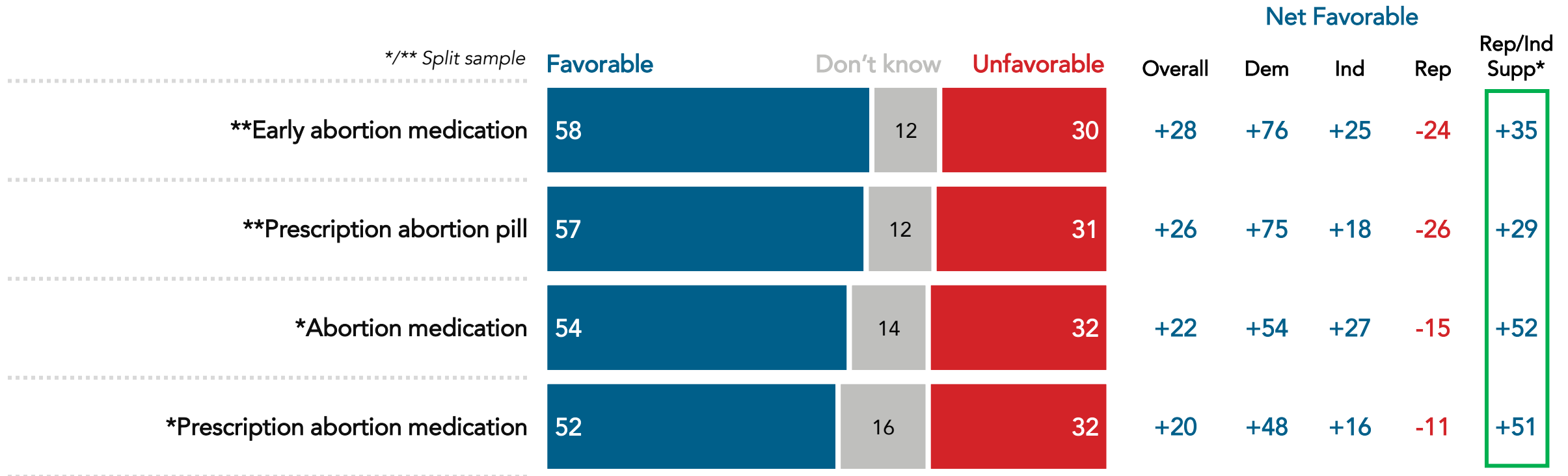
- Majorities of Americans hold favorable views of abortion medication and oppose the Texas ruling that suspended the FDA's authorization of it.
- More than three in five Americans say prescription abortion medication should remain legal and believe attacks on it are part of broader Republican agenda to ban abortion nationwide.
- The strongest arguments for keeping such medication legal focus on how it affects people's personal lives – abortion is a personal decision between a patient and their doctor, this medication can be used as a treatment for miscarriage, and it has been used safely for over 20 years.

# Most Americans View Abortion Medication in a Positive Light

There is relatively little difference in Americans' attitudes toward "abortion medication" (net +22 favorable overall) and "early abortion medication" (net +28), though the latter is viewed slightly more favorably overall.

- "Rep/Ind supporters" (Republicans and independents who think abortion should be legal in all or most cases) view "abortion medication" (net +52 favorable) and "prescription abortion medication" (net +51) most favorably.

You will now see the names of some people, groups, and other items. Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are to each one.



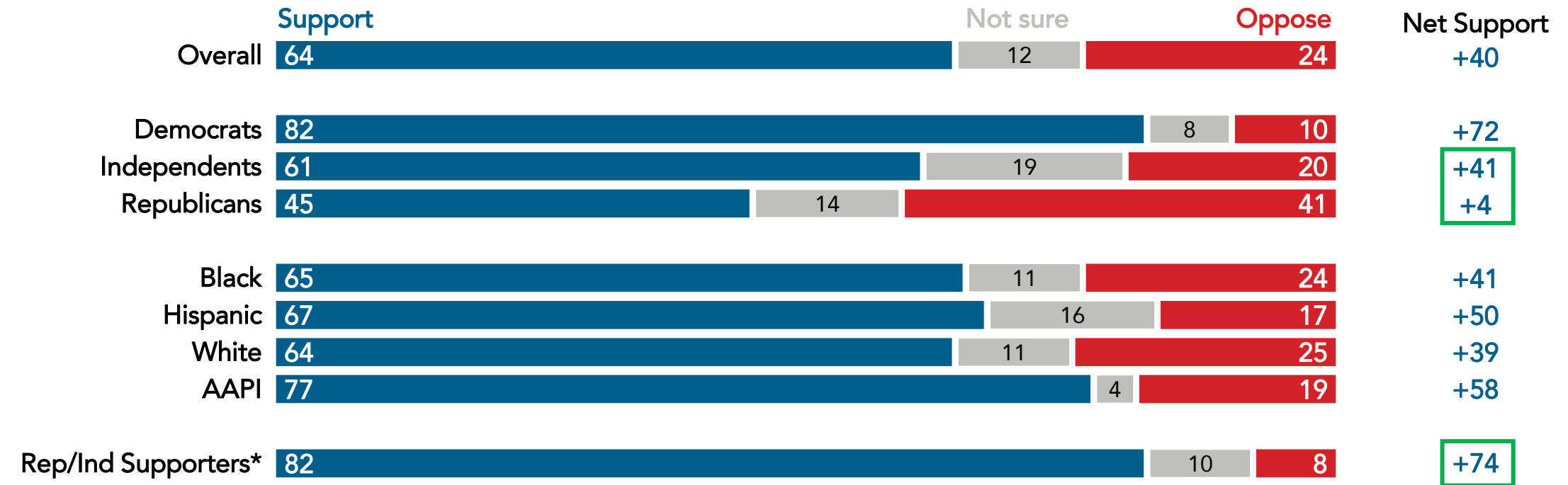
\*"Rep/Ind Supp" are self-identified Republicans or independents who say that abortion should be legal in all or most cases on a separate question. Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters conducted April 20-April 24, 2023. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org).

# Nearly Two in Three Americans Say Prescription Abortion Medication Should Remain Legal

More than four in five Democrats (82%), three in five independents (61%), and nearly half of Republicans (45%) support “allowing women to legally use prescription abortion medication to end an early pregnancy at home.”

- More than four in five Republicans and independents who support legal abortion (82%) agree.

**Please indicate whether you support or oppose:** Allowing women to legally use prescription abortion medication to end an early pregnancy at home.



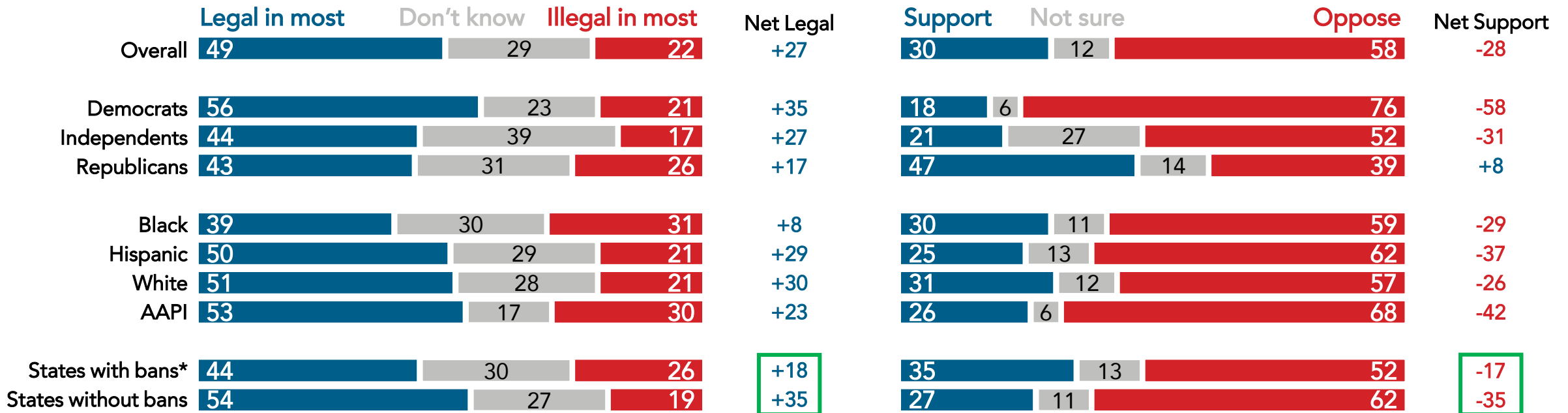
\*“Rep/Ind Supporters” are self-identified Republicans or independents who say that abortion should be legal in all or most cases on a separate question. Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters conducted April 20-April 24, 2023. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# Americans Want the Suspension of Prescription Abortion Medication to Be Reversed

Even in states with abortion bans\*, a majority of Americans oppose the Texas ruling that suspended the FDA's approval of prescription abortion medication (net -17 support) and a plurality believe that such medication is legal in most states (net +18 legal); those in states without bans are even less likely to support the Texas ruling (net -35 support).

To the best of your knowledge, is obtaining and using prescription abortion medication to end early pregnancies at home legal in most states?

As you may know, a Texas judge suspended the FDA's longtime approval of prescription abortion medication used to end early pregnancies at home. Do you support or oppose this ruling?

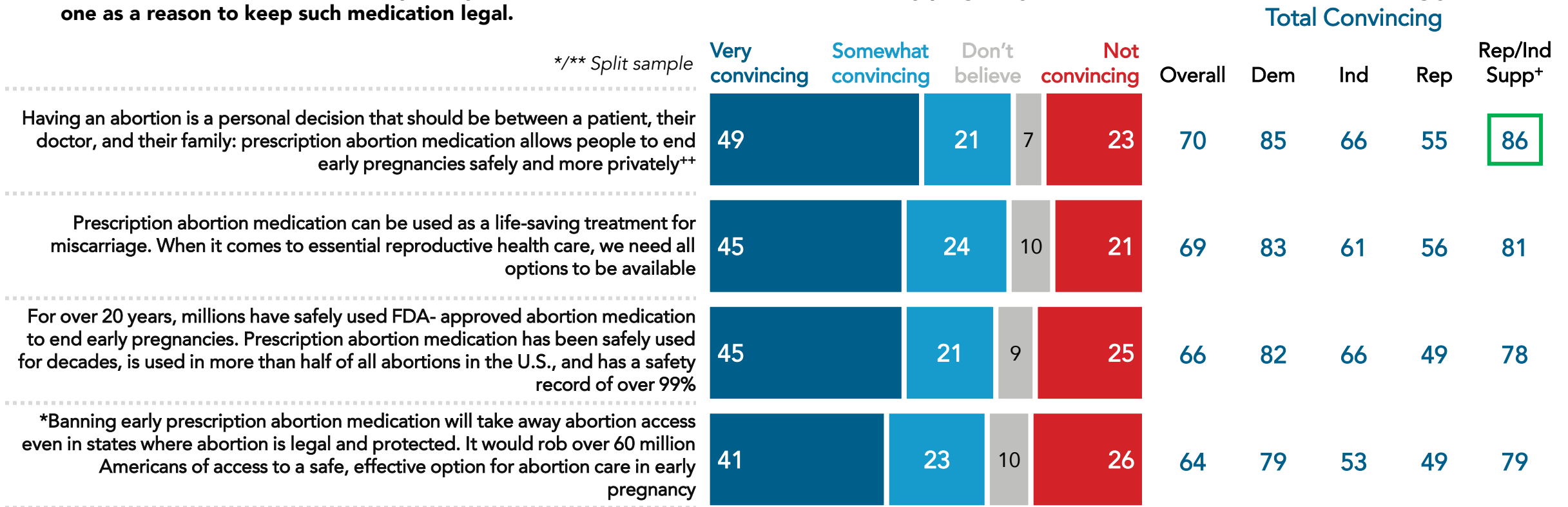


\*"States with bans" are states that have enacted bans in the aftermath of the *Dobbs* decision or have pre-*Roe* bans, including those that state courts have put on hold. Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters conducted April 20-April 24, 2023. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# Most Convincing Arguments for Keeping Prescription Abortion Medication Legal Focus on How It Affects Americans' Lives

Republicans and independents who support legal abortion say that the most convincing reason to keep such medication legal is that "having an abortion is a personal decision that should be between a patient, their doctor, and their family" (86% convincing).

Below are some statements about prescription abortion medication used to end an early pregnancy at home. Please indicate how convincing you find each one as a reason to keep such medication legal.



<sup>+</sup>"Rep/Ind Supp" are self-identified Republicans or independents who say that abortion should be legal in all or most cases on a separate question.  
<sup>++</sup>Half of respondents were asked a version that read "a woman, her doctor, and her family"; the combined results are displayed here.  
 Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters conducted April 20-April 24, 2023.  
 For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# Process Arguments About FDA Approval of Abortion Medication Are Less Convincing

Republicans and independents who support legal abortion say arguments about “[upending] the U.S. drug approval process” (58% convincing) and “[ignoring] the law and scientific research” (60%) are least convincing.

Below are some statements about prescription abortion medication used to end an early pregnancy at home. Please indicate how convincing you find each one as a reason to keep such medication legal.

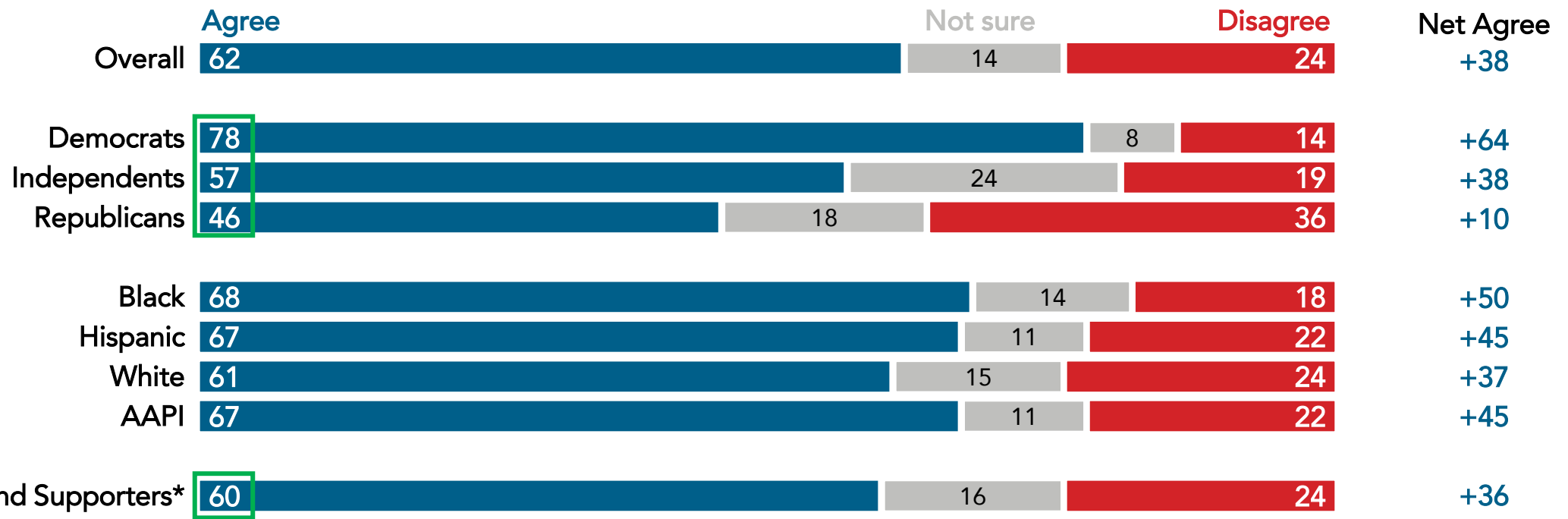
	Very convincing	Somewhat convincing	Don't believe	Not convincing	Total Convincing				Rep/Ind Supp <sup>+</sup>
					Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep	
<p><i>*/** Split sample</i></p> <p><b>**The Supreme Court's recent decision to overturn <i>Roe v. Wade</i> was founded on the idea that abortion laws should be left up to the states. Banning early prescription abortion medication will take away abortion access in states where voters and their lawmakers have made abortion legal and protected, violating the very foundation of this ruling</b></p>	34	26	11	29	60	73	48	49	73
<p>Millions of American women live in a county without an abortion provider: the costs of traveling long distances for abortion care can be high, and early abortion medication can be safely prescribed by a doctor in a telehealth session</p>	37	23	10	30	60	81	53	39	67
<p><b>**If the FDA's approval of prescription abortion medication is permanently suspended, it will mean companies will not only have to endure millions of dollars, years of testing, and FDA scientific review for new medicines, but they'll also have to survive challenges in court that could take decades: it will upend the U.S. drug approval process</b></p>	32	24	12	32	56	75	42	39	58
<p><b>*The Texas judge's decision to suspend the FDA experts' approval of prescription abortion medication ignored the law and scientific research, substituting anti-abortion politics for the FDA's experts and authority to review medications</b></p>	32	19	16	33	51	66	47	35	60

<sup>+</sup>“Rep/Ind Supp” are self-identified Republicans or independents who say that abortion should be legal in all or most cases on a separate question. Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters conducted April 20-April 24, 2023. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org).

# Three in Five Agree Attacks on Abortion Medication Are Part of a Broader Agenda to Ban Abortion Nationwide

Majorities of Democrats (78% agree), independents (57%), and Republicans/independents who support legal abortion (60%) – along with a plurality of Republicans overall (46%) – agree that “suspending the FDA’s approval of prescription abortion medication” is “part of a broader agenda by Republican politicians to ban abortion nationwide.”

**Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statement:** Suspending the FDA's approval of prescription abortion medication to end early pregnancies at home is part of a broader agenda by Republican politicians to ban abortion nationwide.



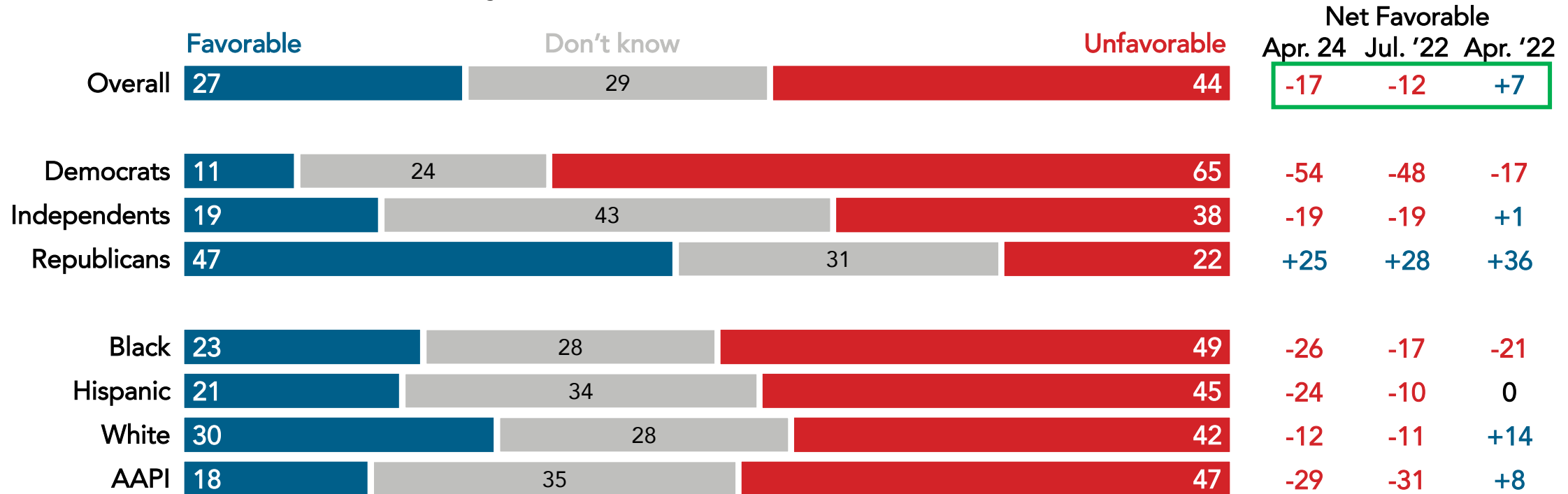
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# Clarence Thomas' Favorability Continues to Decline in the Wake of Reports About His Failure to Disclose Financial Dealings

Justice Thomas' favorability has declined substantially in the last year: from net +7 favorable among Americans overall last April, to net -12 in early July after the *Dobbs* decision, to net -17 today.

Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are to: Justice Clarence Thomas.



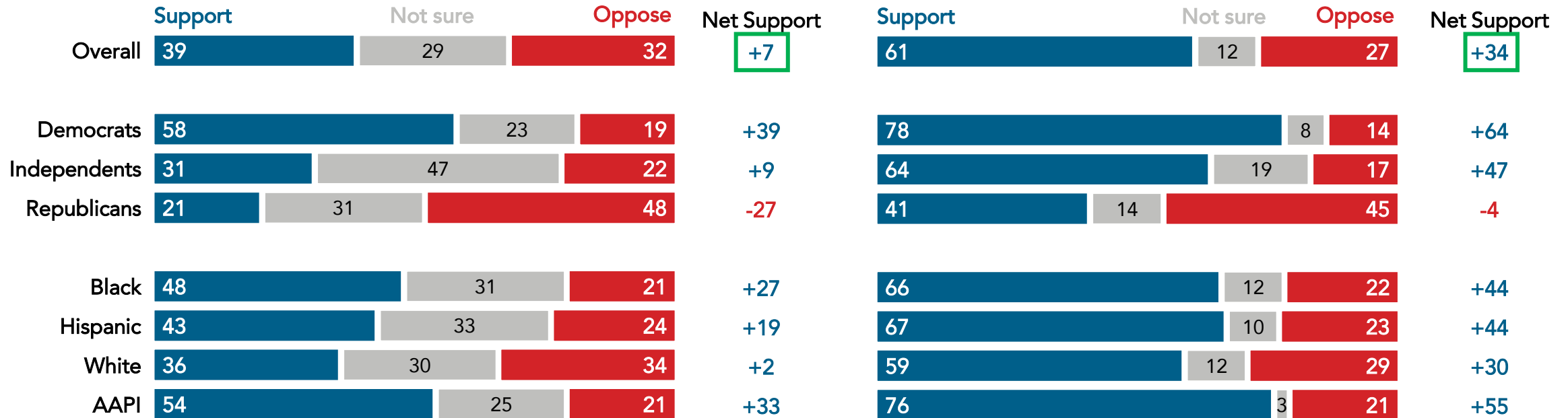
Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted April 20-April 24, 2023. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org)

# Americans Support Impeaching Clarence Thomas, Especially After the Facts Are Laid Out

Providing details about the “undisclosed luxury trips... other expensive gifts... [and failure] to report nearly \$700,000 in income that his wife earned from a conservative think tank” increase support for impeaching Justice Thomas from net +7 to net +34 among Americans overall.

**Do you support or oppose the impeachment of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas?**

**As you may know, it was recently reported that Justice Clarence Thomas has taken undisclosed luxury trips funded by a Republican donor, as well as other expensive gifts, despite federal law requiring the disclosure of such gifts. ... Knowing this, do you support or oppose the impeachment of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas?\***



\*Full text: “As you may know, it was recently reported that Justice Clarence Thomas has taken undisclosed luxury trips funded by a Republican donor, as well as other expensive gifts, despite federal law requiring the disclosure of such gifts. His mother also lives on a property bought by a Republican donor for which she doesn’t pay rent, and Thomas has failed to report nearly \$700,000 in income that his wife earned from a conservative think tank. Knowing this, do you support or oppose the impeachment of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas?”  
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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: Jessica Floyd, The Hub Project; Christina Reynolds, EMILY's List; 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 from April 20-April 24, 2023. 102 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. 98 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.

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To learn more about Navigator:

<http://navigatorresearch.org>

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