

navigator*

Tuesday, May 2nd

Abortion: A Guide for Advocates



Credit: Drew Petrimoulx/Shutterstock

Key Takeaways:

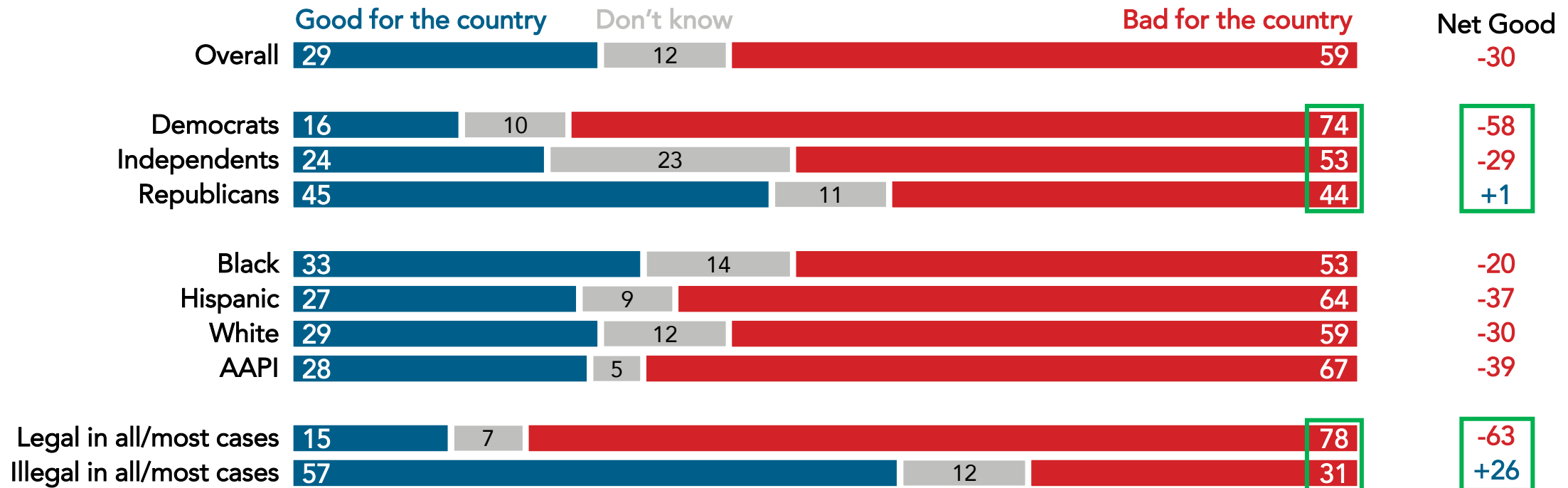
- By a two-to-one margin, more Americans say eliminating *Roe* has been bad for the country one year after a draft of the *Dobbs* decision leaked.
- Three in four Republicans believe their party wants abortion to be illegal in all or most cases – in tension with the two in five Republicans who believe it should be legal.
- Prescription abortion medication and Congressional legislation to protect abortion rights are broadly popular, while a series of proposed restrictions are deeply unpopular.

After One Year, Americans Believe Rolling Back Abortion Rights Was a “Bad Decision” By a Two-to-One Margin

By large margins, Democrats (net -58 good for the country) and independents (net -29) say the decision was bad for the country.

- Republicans are split, with nearly as many saying the decision was bad for the country (44%) as say it was good (45%).
- Nearly one in three Americans who say abortion should be illegal in all or most cases (31%) say the decision was bad for the country.

As you may know, the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*, eliminating the federal right to an abortion as a result. Do you think the Supreme Court eliminating the federal right to an abortion has been good or bad for the country?

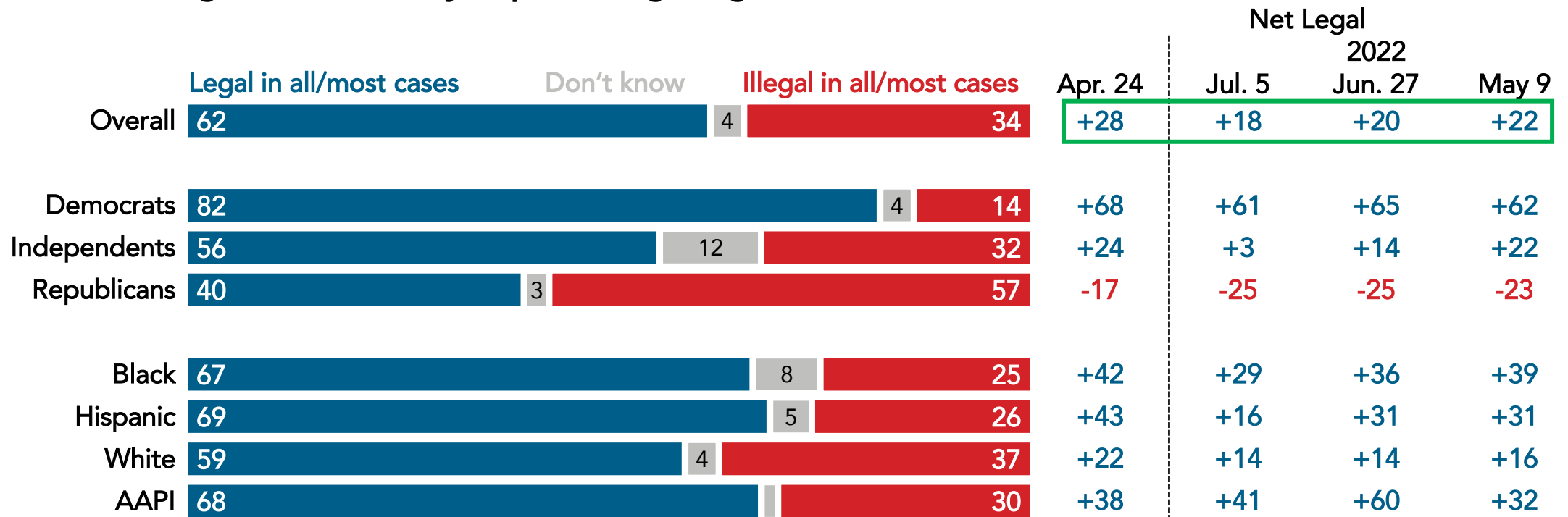


Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters conducted April 20-April 24, 2023.
For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

The Share of Americans Who Say Abortion Should Be Legal in All or Most Cases Has Grown Since Last July

By a net 28-point margin, Americans say that abortion should be legal in “all” or “most” cases, compared to a net 22-point margin in early May 2022, right after a draft of the *Dobbs* decision leaked from the Supreme Court.

Which of the following comes closest to your position regarding the issue of abortion?



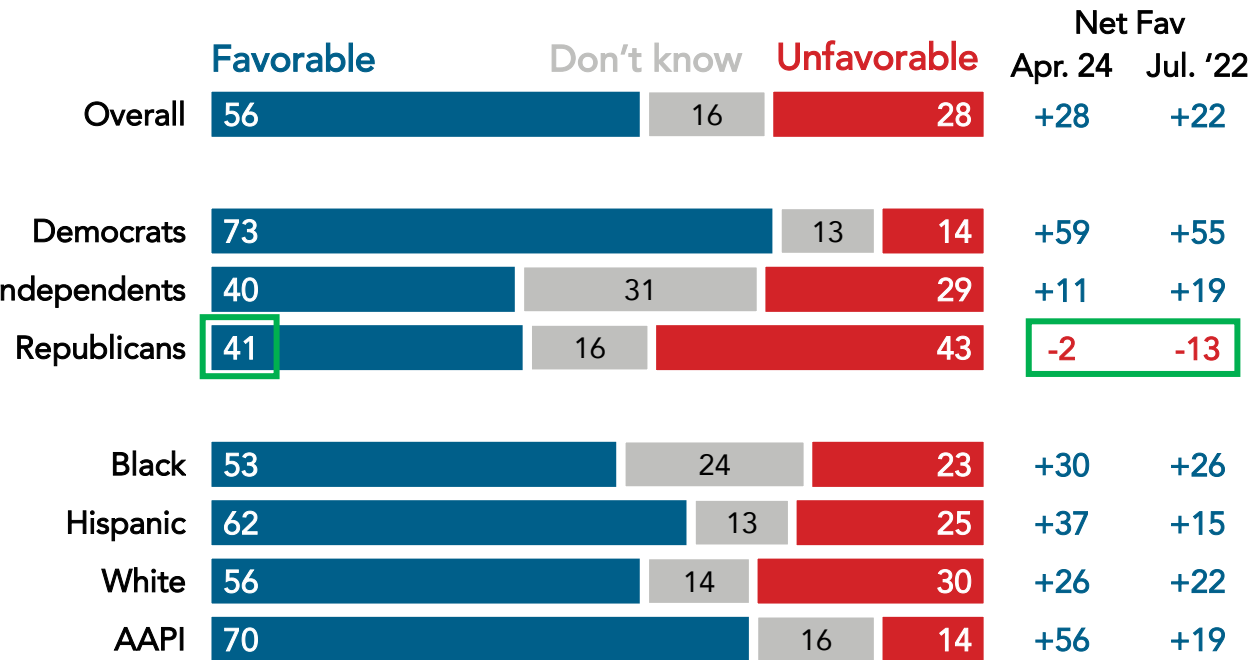
Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted April 20-April 24, 2023. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Roe v. Wade and Planned Parenthood Continue to Have Significant Appeal, Even Among Nearly Half of Republicans

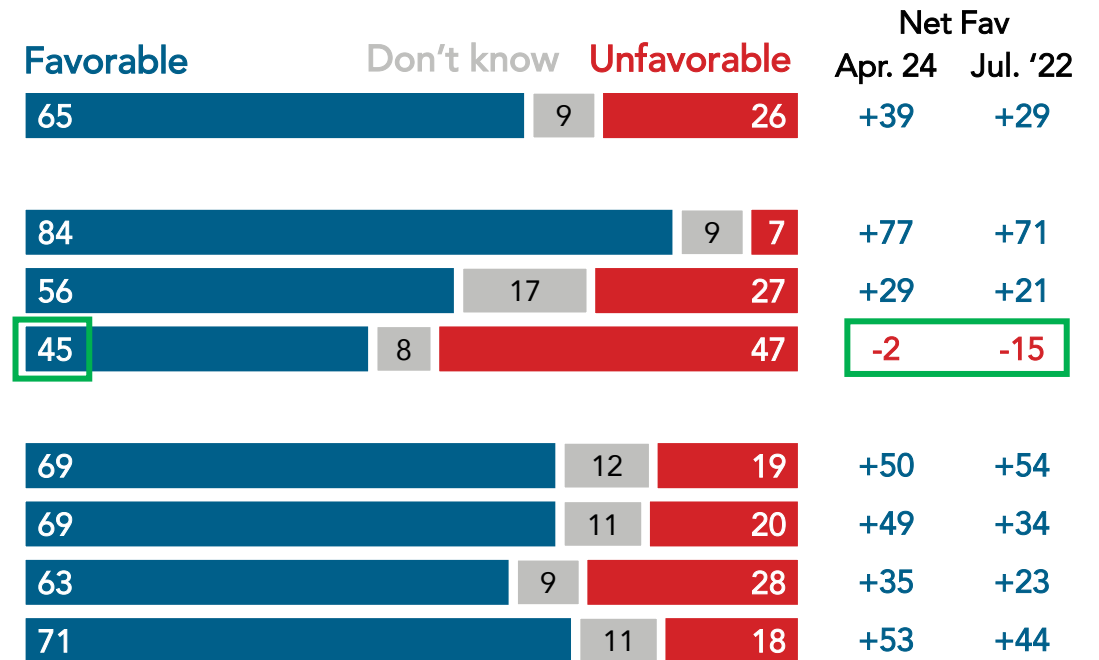
About two in five Republicans express favorable views of *Roe v. Wade* (41% favorable), and nearly half (45%) express favorable views of Planned Parenthood, both of which are improvements since the immediate aftermath of the *Dobbs* decision last July.

- Improvements among Republicans are also larger than changes among Democrats and independents during the same time period.

Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are to:
Roe v. Wade.



Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are to:
Planned Parenthood.

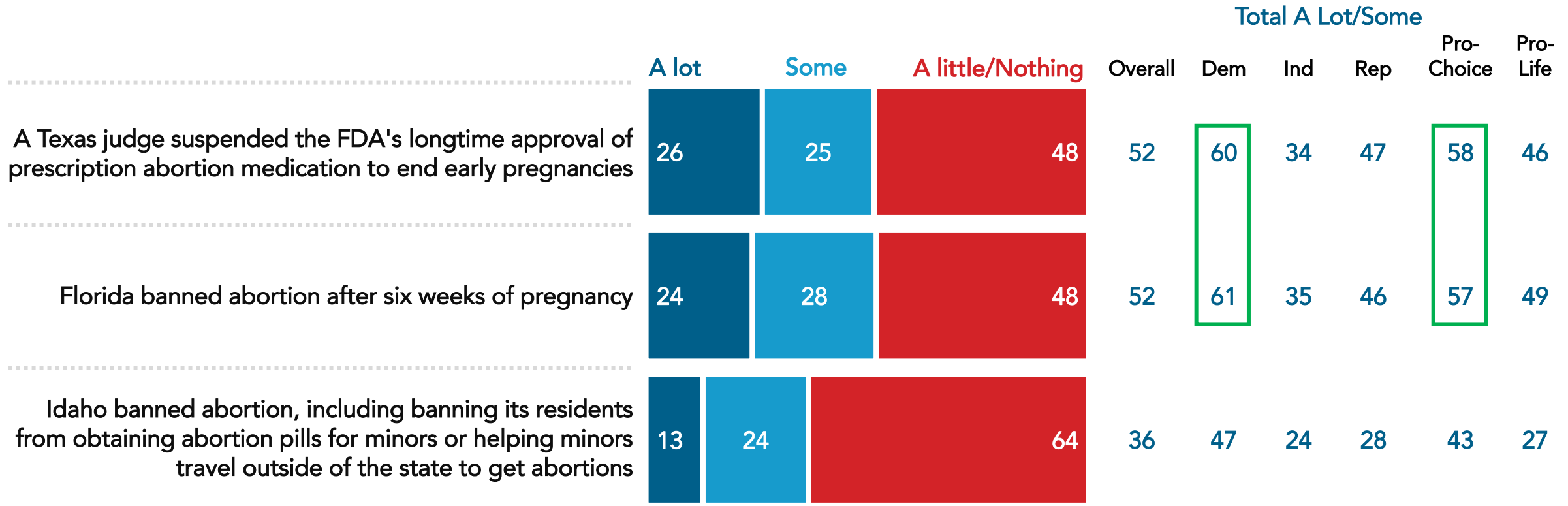


Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted April 20-April 24, 2023. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Ongoing Assaults on Abortion Rights Have Kept the Issue on Americans' Minds

Three in five Democrats report hearing “a lot” or “some” about the Texas ruling suspending the FDA’s approval of prescription abortion medication and Florida’s six-week ban (60% and 61%, respectively), as nearly as many pro-choice Americans say the same (58% and 57%).

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 one.

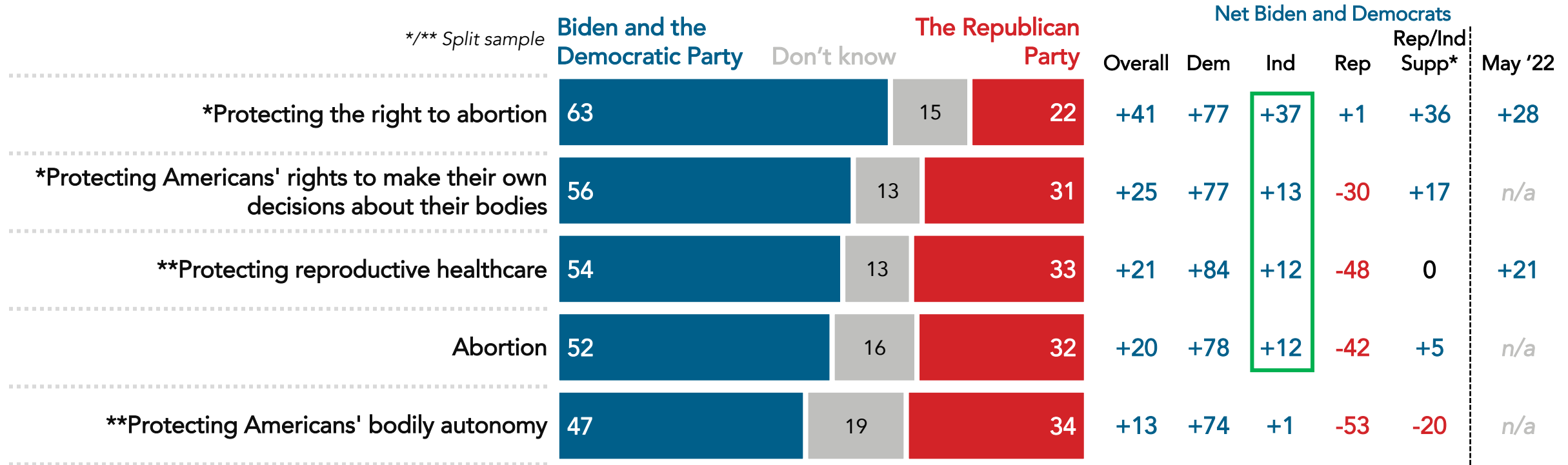


Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters conducted April 20-April 24, 2023. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Biden and Democrats Are More Trusted on a Range of Issues Related to Abortion, Especially “Protecting Rights”

Americans trust Biden and the Democratic Party much more than the Republican Party on “protecting the right to abortion” (net +41 Biden and Democrats overall, an increase of 13 points since last May) as independents trust Democrats much more on “protecting the right to abortion” (net +37) than “abortion” more generally (net +12).

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

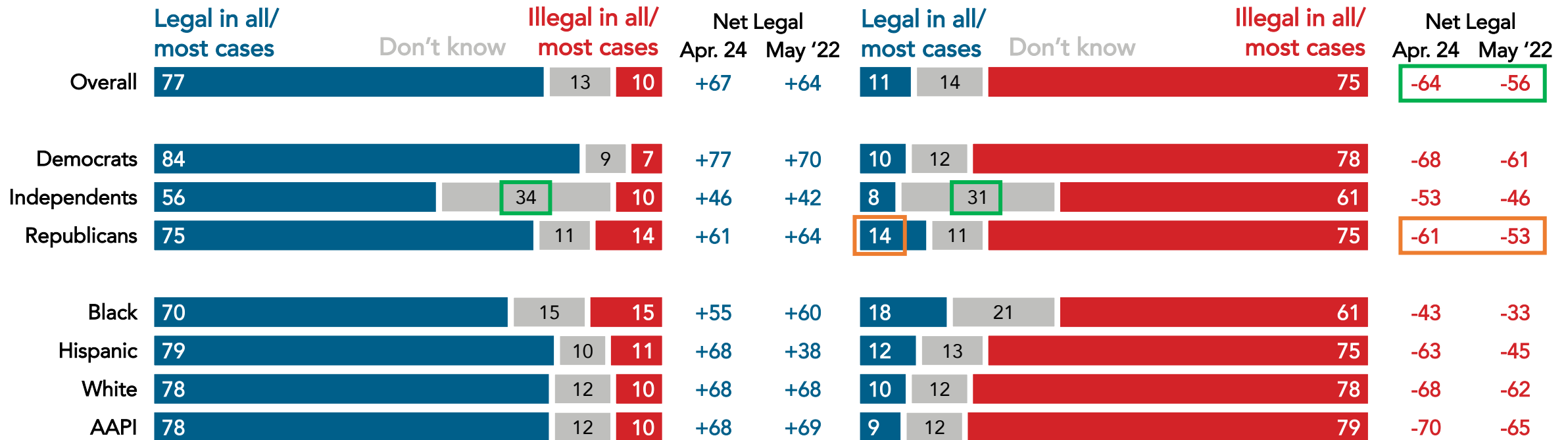
A Growing Share Believe the GOP Wants Abortion to Be Illegal

Since May of 2022, there has been an 8-point increase in the share who think the Republican Party's position on abortion is that it should be illegal in all or most cases (from net -56 legal to net -64 legal).

- One in three independents do not know enough to say on either the Democrats' position (34%) or the Republicans' (31%).

Which of the following do you think comes closest to the **Democratic Party's** position regarding the issue of abortion?

Which of the following do you think comes closest to the **Republican Party's** position regarding the issue of abortion?



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

A Third of Republicans Place Their Party's Position on Abortion to the Right of Their Own

While 40% of Republicans say that abortion should be legal in all or most cases, just 14% of Republicans say that is the party's position.

- Nearly as many Republicans say the Republican Party is to their right on abortion (34%) as say the party shares their views (40%).

Which of the following comes closest to your position regarding the issue of abortion?



Which of the following do you think comes closest to the Republican Party's position regarding the issue of abortion?



*Punch read "Abortion should not be allowed except in limited cases, such as rape, incest, and when the woman's life is endangered."

**Categories in the bottom chart were defined by respondents' personal views of abortion as compared to how they describe the Republican Party's views on abortion – for example, "party is to their right" indicates that respondents hold a more liberal view of abortion than they perceive the GOP to hold.

Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters conducted April 20-April 24, 2023.

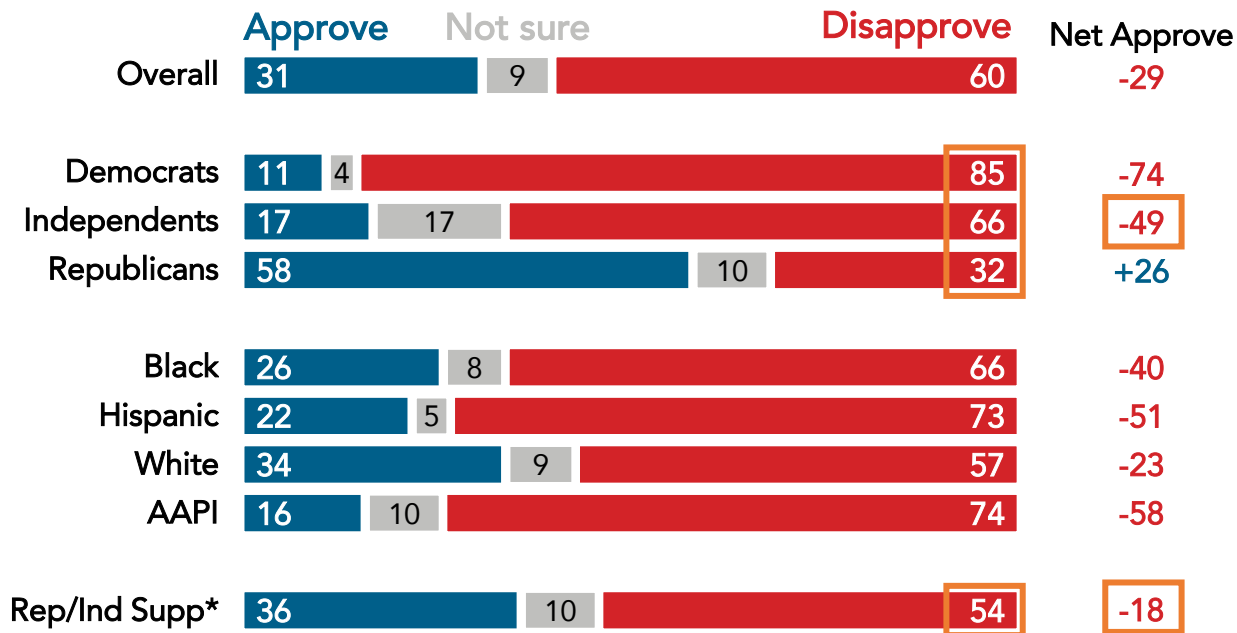
For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Three in Five Disapprove of How Republicans Are Handling Abortion

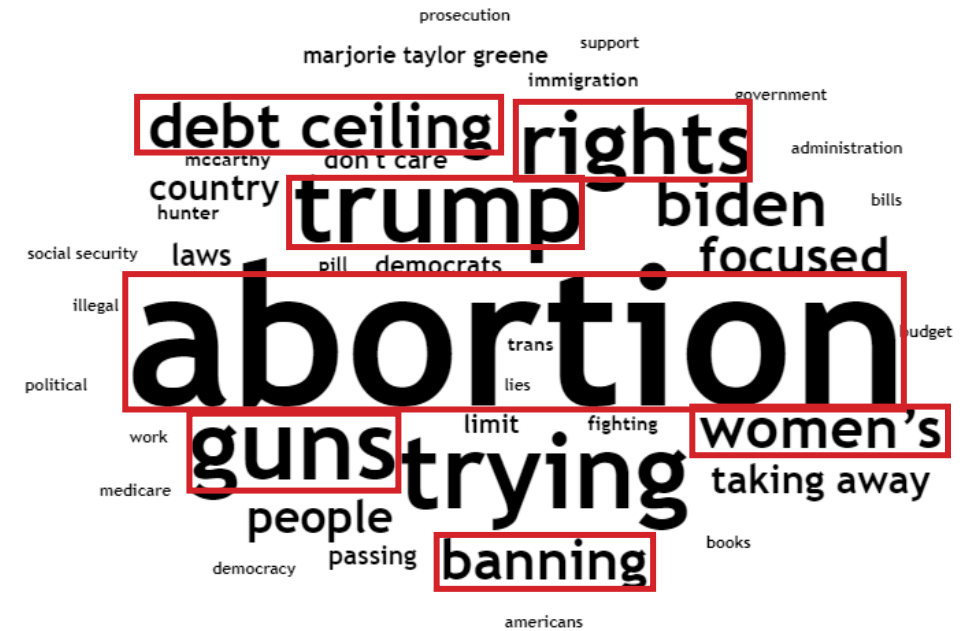
Independents disapprove of how Republicans are handling the issue of abortion by a near 50-point margin (17% approve/66% disapprove).

- A majority of Republicans and independents who support legal abortion (54%) also disapprove.

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Republicans in Congress are handling the issue of abortion?



In a few words, what negative things have you seen, read, or heard recently about Republicans in Congress?



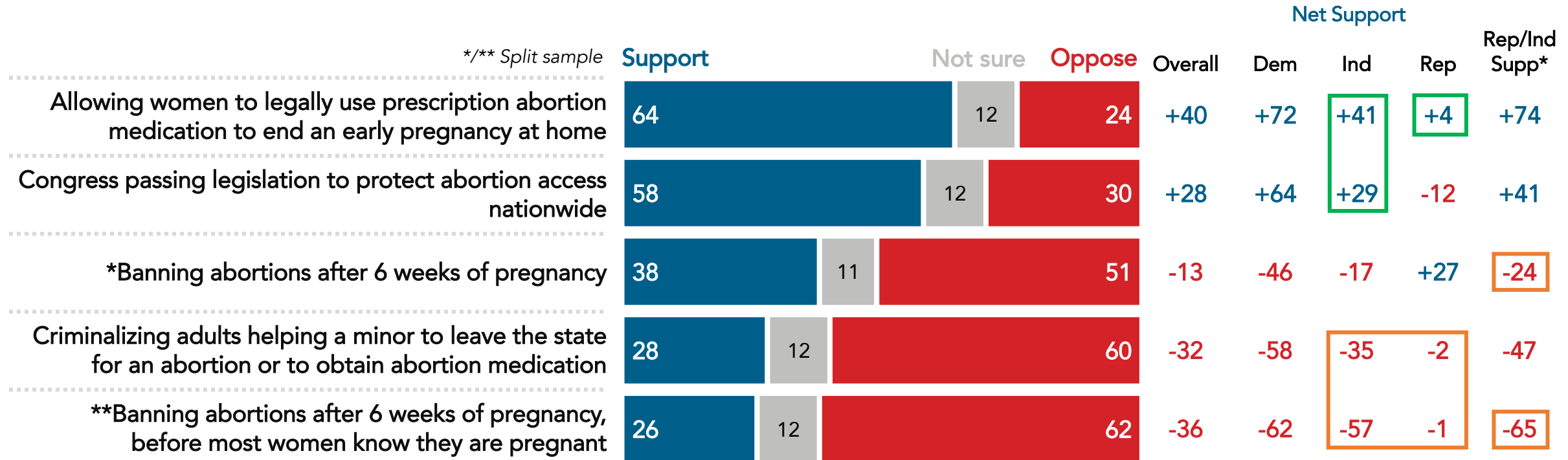
*"Rep/Ind Supp" are self-identified Republicans or independents who say that abortion should be legal in all or most cases on a separate question. Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters conducted April 20-April 24, 2023. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Specific Policies Protecting Abortion Access Are Widely Popular, Restrictions Widely Unpopular

Independents support “allowing women to legally use prescription abortion medication” (net +41 support) and “legislation to protect abortion access nationwide” (net +29), but strongly oppose banning abortions “before most women know they are pregnant” (net -57).

- Republicans and independents who support legal abortion much more strongly oppose banning abortions “before most women know they are pregnant” (net -65 support) than “banning abortions after 6 weeks of pregnancy” (net -24).

Below is a list of policies and actions some support when it comes to the issue of abortion. Please indicate whether you support or oppose 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.

Americans From Across the Political Spectrum Are Very Concerned By the Real-Life Impacts of *Dobbs*

Around half of Republicans say they are very concerned by accounts of a 10-year-old rape victim being denied an abortion (51% very concerning) as well as women who suffered miscarriages being denied abortions.

Below are some outcomes that have occurred since the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*. Please indicate how concerning you find each one.

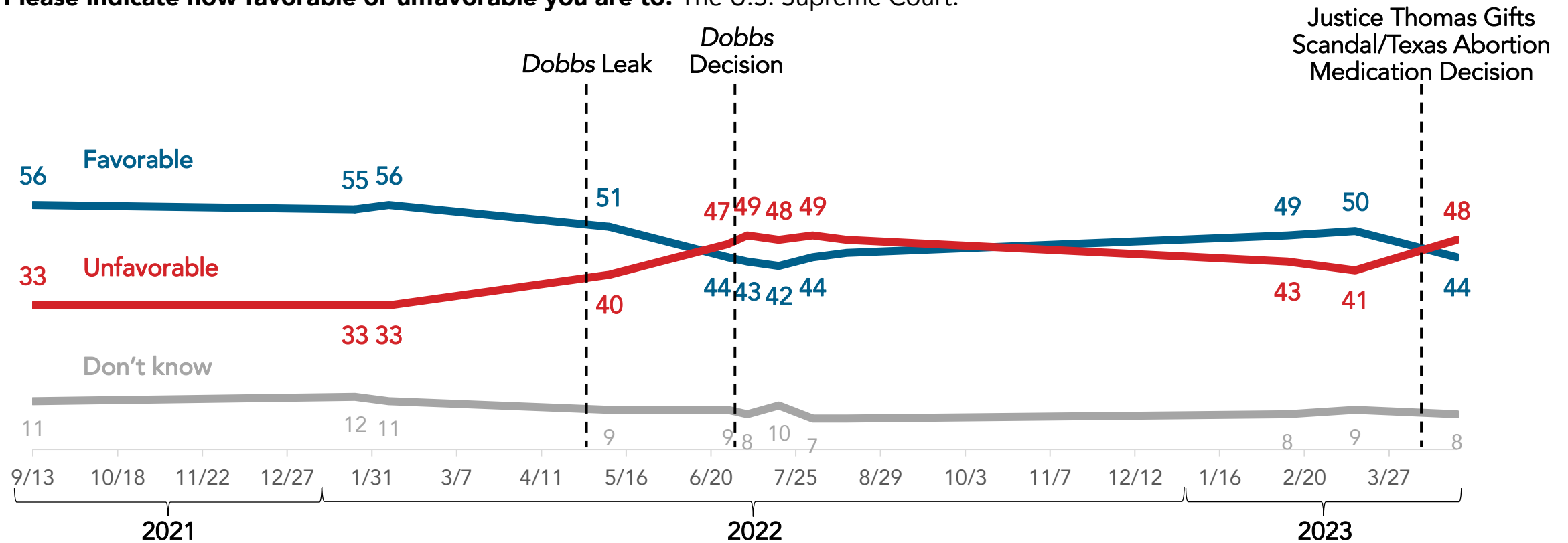
	*/** Split sample					% Very Concerning				
	Very concerning	Somewhat concerning	Not sure	Not concerning	Dem	Ind	Rep	Men	Women	
A ten-year-old rape victim was denied an abortion in her state because of her state's abortion ban	65	17	8	10	78	65	51	60	70	
**After suffering a miscarriage, a woman was forced to carry her dead fetus in the womb for 2 weeks before being allowed an abortion	65	17	8	10	80	60	50	60	70	
*A woman who experienced a premature rupture of membranes at 18 weeks pregnant was forced to wait for her baby to die in the womb or suffer a severe infection before being allowed an abortion	63	19	9	9	75	72	47	57	69	
Doctors were forced to wait until a woman lost liters of blood and was on a ventilator before legally being allowed to intervene and perform an abortion	63	16	9	12	79	62	45	57	68	
**Hospitals in Baton Rouge refused to provide treatments for a woman who had a nearly deadly miscarriage, for fear of being prosecuted under the state's abortion ban	62	17	8	13	78	50	48	56	67	
The U.S. is the most dangerous developed country to give birth. More women are dying in childbirth every year, at an even higher rate in states that restrict abortion. If more hospitals stop providing care for fear of lawsuits, even more women will die	52	19	9	20	71	46	31	45	57	
*One hospital in Idaho had to shut down its entire labor and delivery department after a mass exodus of OBGYNs left the state in the wake of the state's extreme abortion ban	51	23	10	16	66	54	33	46	55	

Nationwide survey of 1,002 registered voters conducted April 20-April 24, 2023. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Nearly Half of Americans Once Again Hold Unfavorable Views of the Supreme Court

The share of Americans who rate the Court favorably has declined from 56% in September 2021 (in line with 55% favorable in June 2019) to 44% today, while the share with unfavorable views has climbed from 33% to 48% over the same period.

Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are to: The U.S. Supreme Court.

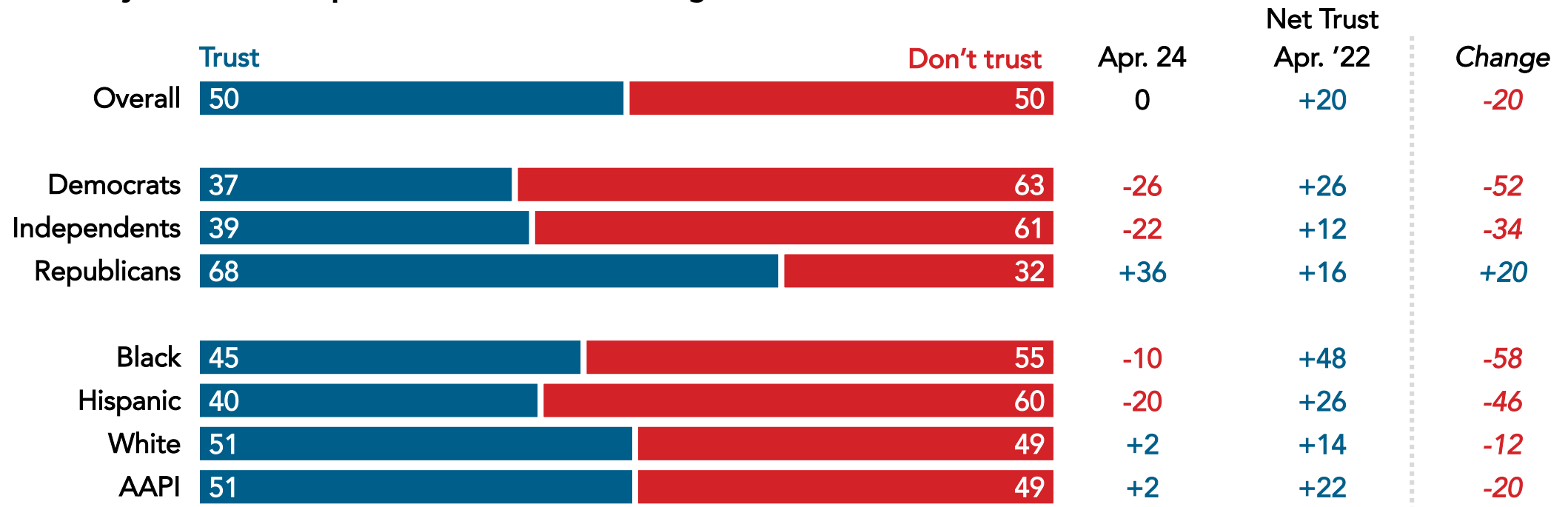


Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted April 20-April 24, 2023. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Trust in the Supreme Court Has Eroded Since April of Last Year Before *Dobbs* Was Leaked

Just half of Americans say they trust the Supreme Court “a lot” or “somewhat” to make the right decisions in the future, down from the three in five who said the same in April 2022 (60%). Greatest declines have happened among Democrats (down from net +26 trust to net -26 trust), Black Americans (down from net +48 to net -10), and Hispanic Americans (down from net +26 to net -20).

How much do you trust the Supreme Court to make the right decisions in the future?



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

navigator*

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.

For Press inquiries contact:

press@navigatorresearch.org

To learn more about Navigator:

<http://navigatorresearch.org>

@NavigatorSurvey on Twitter