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Majorities of Americans Say News Coverage of George Floyd Protests Has Been Good, Trump's Public Message Wrong

Among black adults, 72% say coverage has been good or excellent and 85% say Trump's message has been completely or mostly wrong

BY Amy Mitchell, Mark Jurkowitz, J. Baxter Oliphant and Elisa Shearer

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How we did this

Pew Research Center's [American News Pathways](#) project conducted this study to understand how Americans are engaging with and perceiving news coverage of the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd, a black man killed in police custody in Minneapolis.

For this analysis, we surveyed 9,654 U.S. adults between June 4-10, 2020. Everyone who completed the survey is a member of Pew Research Center's American Trends Panel (ATP), an online survey panel that is recruited through national, random sampling of residential addresses. This way nearly all U.S. adults have a chance of selection. The survey is weighted to be representative of the U.S. adult population by gender, race, ethnicity, partisan affiliation, education and other categories. Read more about the [ATP's methodology](#).

See here to read more about [the questions used for this report](#) and the report's [methodology](#).

Visit our [interactive data tool](#) to access the questions included in this report, as well as content about the coronavirus outbreak and the 2020 presidential election.

Majorities of Americans Say News Coverage of George Floyd Protests Has Been Good, Trump's Public Message Wrong

Among black adults, 72% say coverage has been good or excellent and 85% say Trump's message has been completely or mostly wrong

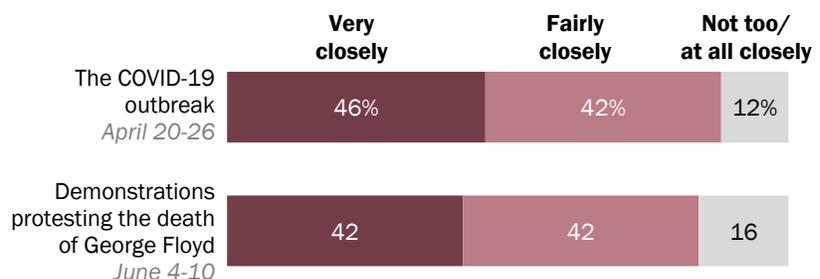
By Amy Mitchell, Mark Jurkowitz, J. Baxter Oliphant and Elisa Shearer

The killing of George Floyd while in custody of Minneapolis police and the protests that ensued across the country [have dominated news coverage](#) that had for the past few months been consumed with the [coronavirus pandemic](#).

Americans have been following news of Floyd's death and the demonstrations that followed nearly as closely as they had been keeping up with news related to COVID-19, and many are discussing it frequently with others, according to a new Pew Research Center survey of 9,654 U.S. adults on the [American Trends Panel](#), conducted June 4-10, 2020, as part of the Center's [American News Pathways](#) project.

Americans' high attention to news about the George Floyd protests about on par with recent high attention to COVID-19 outbreak

% of U.S. adults who are following each topic ...



Note: Respondents who did not give an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.

"Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump's public message wrong"

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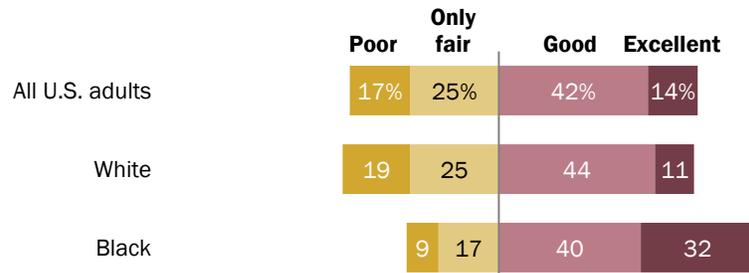
Amid this intense interest, the public has differing assessments of the news media's coverage and the message being delivered by their president. Fully six-in-ten U.S. adults say Donald Trump's message in response to the protests has been wrong, including about four-in-ten (39%) who say it has been "completely" wrong. Fewer (37%) say his message has struck the right tone, with just 12% saying Trump has delivered the "completely" right message.

When it comes to news coverage of the demonstrations, on the other hand, more Americans offer a positive assessment than a negative one. Most U.S. adults (57%) say news organizations have done a "good" or "excellent" job, compared with 42% who give the news media an "only fair" or "poor" assessment.

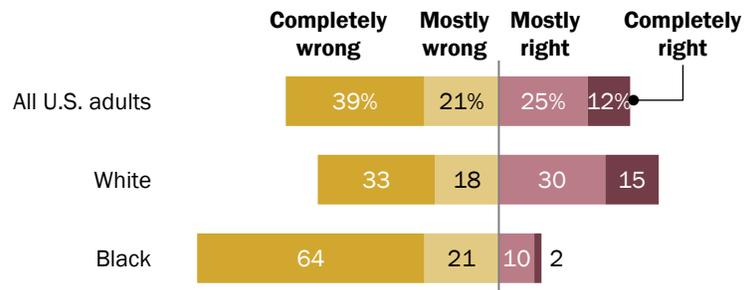
Differences in the evaluations of Trump and the news media are particularly dramatic when it comes to black Americans. A full 85% say the message Trump has been putting out is mostly (21%) or completely wrong (64%), while only 13% say it is right. Conversely, about seven-in-ten black adults (72%) say the media have done a good or excellent job covering the demonstrations in the wake of George Floyd's killing.

Black Americans more likely to approve of news media coverage of protests, say Trump has been giving the completely wrong message

% of U.S. adults who rate the job news organizations have done covering the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd as ...



% of U.S. adults who say Donald Trump has been delivering the _____ message in response to the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd



Note: White and black adults include those who report being only one race and are non-Hispanic. Respondents who did not give an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.

"Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump's public message wrong"

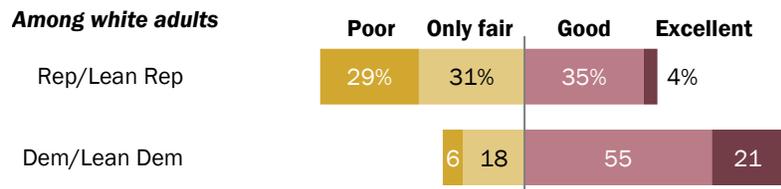
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White Americans are more closely divided, though still give a more negative (52%) than positive (45%) assessment of Trump's message, and a more positive (55%) than negative (44%) rating of media coverage of the protests.

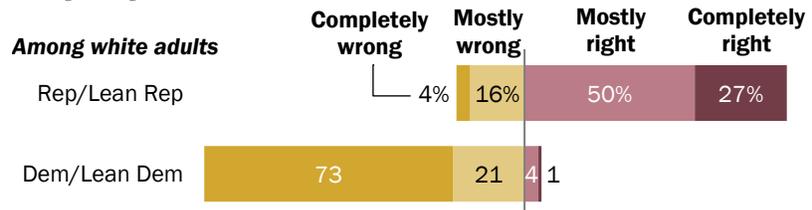
Much of what divides white adults in this case is political.¹ White Americans who are Democrats or lean Democratic and those who are Republicans or lean Republican express very different views on both Trump's messaging and media coverage around the protests. A total of 76% of white Republicans say Trump's message has been mostly or completely right, in contrast with almost unanimous agreement among white Democrats (94%) that it has been wrong (including almost three-quarters who say Trump's stance has been *completely* wrong). And while 60% of white Republicans say the news media have been covering the protests only fairly or poorly, 76% of white Democrats say journalists have been doing a good or excellent job.

Among white adults, Democrats and Republicans have different perspectives on Trump message and news media coverage

% of U.S. adults who rate the job news organizations have done covering the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd as ...



% of U.S. adults who say Donald Trump has been delivering the _____ message in response to the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.

"Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump's public message wrong"

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There are similar patterns by party affiliation overall – beyond differences among white adults. Democrats and those who lean Democratic, regardless of race or ethnicity, are more likely than Republicans and Republican leaners to be very closely following coverage of the demonstrations,

¹ In addition to the differences in views of racial issues between black and white adults, there are also often differences because of political party. Because black adults disproportionately identify with or lean to the Democratic Party, this report often shows gaps between Republicans and Democrats among white adults.

and partisans have starkly different assessments of the media coverage and Trump's message than Republicans.

On balance, Americans say too much news coverage has focused on acts of violence during protests, too little on nonviolent protests

In addition to news media coverage overall, the study asked the public's thoughts about the amount of coverage news organizations have devoted to six specific storylines related to the demonstrations. Acts of violence and destruction that have occurred around the protests is the only storyline of the six that a plurality of Americans say is receiving *too much* news coverage. More than four-in-ten U.S. adults (44%) say this element of the story is getting too much attention, compared with about half as many (20%) who say coverage is too light and 36% who say the level of coverage has been about right.

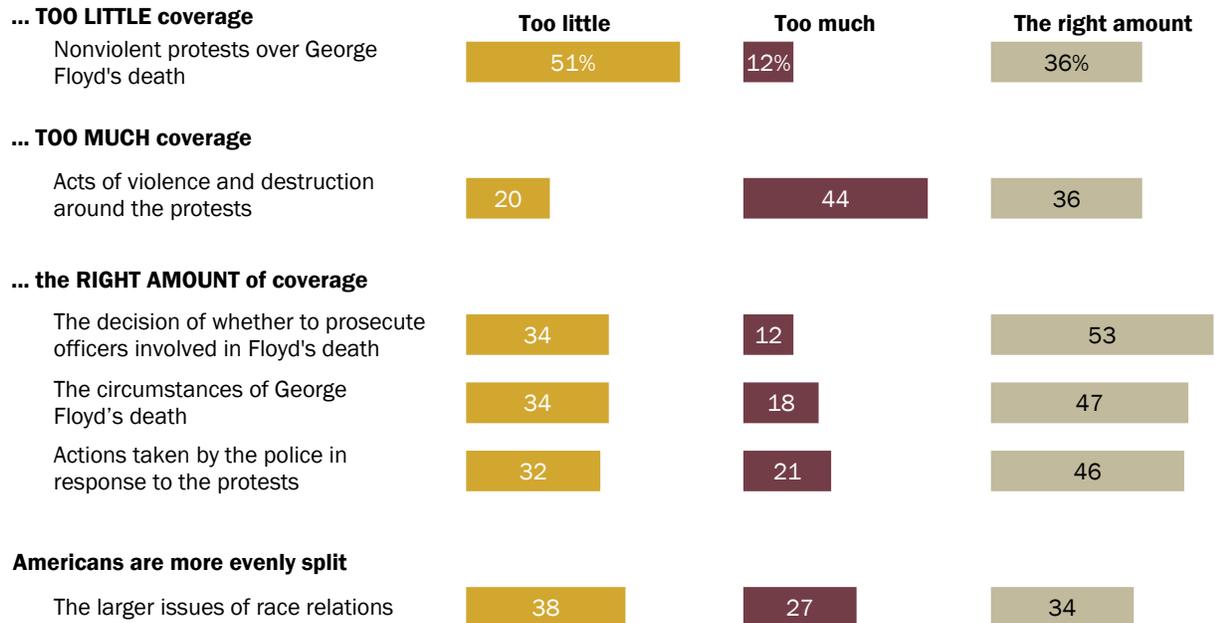
Conversely, about half of U.S. adults (51%) say nonviolent protests are getting *too little* coverage, with another 36% saying they are getting the right amount of coverage and far fewer (12%) who say there has been too much coverage of nonviolent demonstrations.

Roughly half of Americans say the level of coverage has been appropriate on three topics: the decision of whether to prosecute the officers involved in George Floyd's death (53%), the death of Floyd himself (47%) and the actions taken by the police and National Guard in response to the protests (46%). In each case, more Americans say these stories have been getting too little coverage rather than too much.

Americans more likely to say there has been too little coverage of nonviolent protests than of events surrounding George Floyd's death

% of U.S. adults who say news organizations are giving each topic ____ coverage

Topics where more Americans say there has been ...



Note: Respondents who did not give an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.

"Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump's public message wrong"

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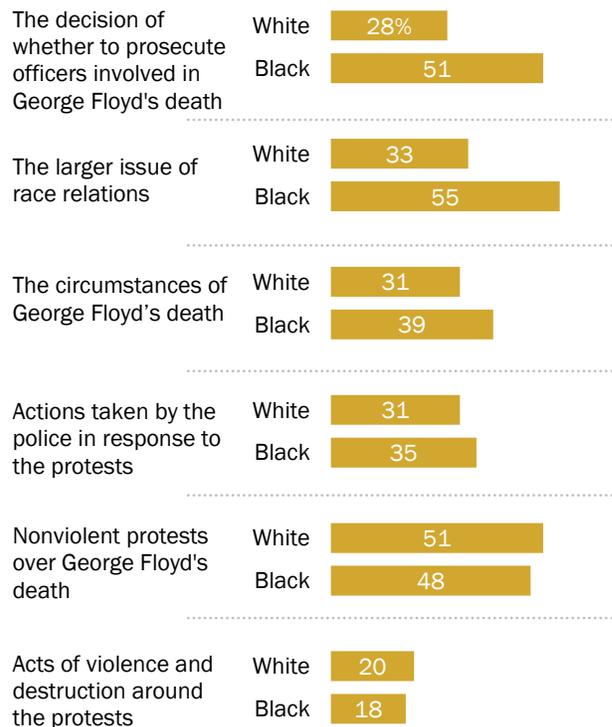
Black and white adults offer varying perspectives on the amount of coverage the news media are giving to some of the storylines. For example, about half of black adults (51%) say there has been too little coverage of the decisions around whether to prosecute Minneapolis police officers for Floyd's killing, while just 28% of white Americans agree.

A similar gap exists on the larger issue of race relations – 55% of black Americans say that subject has not been receiving enough attention, compared with 33% of white Americans who say the same. Among white adults, there are large differences between Democrats and Republicans on this question. About half of white Democrats (51%) and just 19% of white Republicans say that broader subject of race relations has not gotten enough coverage; meanwhile, 50% of white Republicans say it has gotten *too much* attention, compared with only 9% of white Democrats.

There is no consensus among Americans overall about news media coverage of race relations more broadly: 38% say there has been too little, 27% say there has been too much, and 34% say there has been about the right amount.

Black and white adults vary on opinions of news coverage of several aspects of the protests

% of U.S. adults who say news organizations are giving each topic *too little coverage*



Note: White and black adults include those who report being only one race and are non-Hispanic.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020. "Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump's public message wrong"

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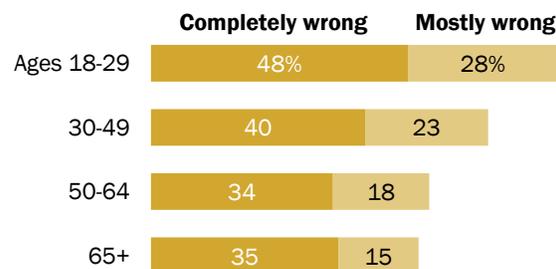
Young adults stand out for discussing the protests more than older adults, being particularly negative on Trump’s message and wanting more coverage of most issues

In evaluating responses to the events surrounding George Floyd’s death by age, one group clearly stands out — America’s youngest adults. They give Trump’s public response the most negative assessment of any age group, with 76% saying he is delivering a mostly or completely wrong message on the demonstrations. That contrasts with the 49% of Americans 65 and older who offer the same evaluation.

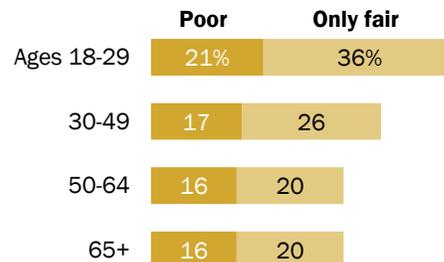
At the same time, adults under 30 also are more critical of the news media’s coverage than any other age group, with 43% rating it as excellent or good and 56% giving it a fair or poor grade. Among older Americans, majorities give the news media a positive assessment.

Younger Americans give more negative ratings of Trump’s message, news media coverage of protests

% of U.S. adults who say Trump has been delivering the ___ message in response to the demonstrations



% of U.S. adults who rate the job news organizations have done covering the demonstrations as ...



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.
“Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump’s public message wrong”

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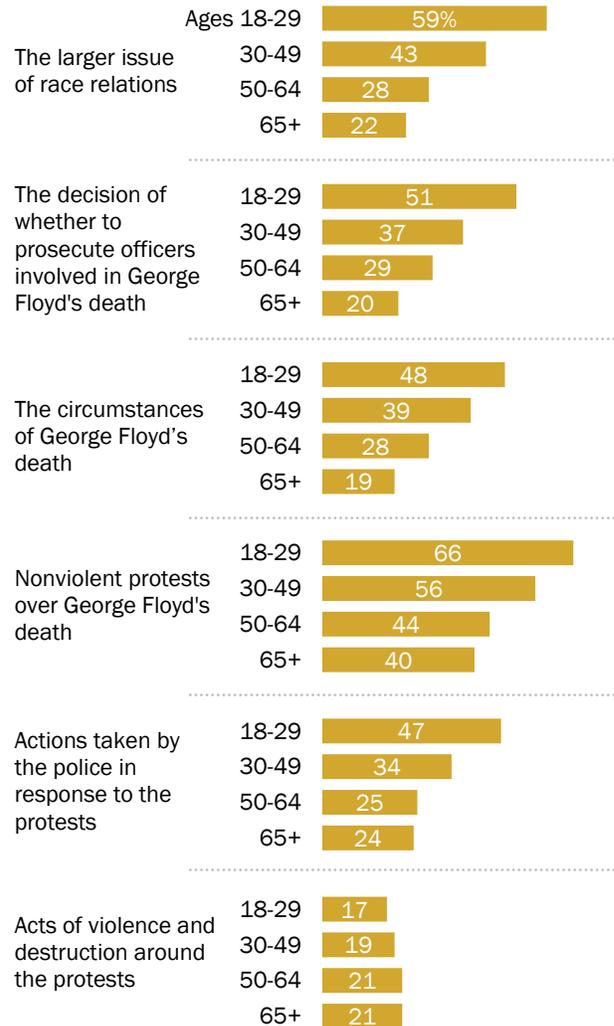
That negative assessment of the news coverage from young adults may be connected to their view that a number of important storylines have not been getting enough media attention. Americans ages 18 to 29 are more likely than their elders to say five of the six storylines explored in the survey have received insufficient coverage. That includes 66% who say there has been too little coverage of nonviolent protests and 59% who say the larger issue of race relations is not getting enough attention.

The only exception is the question about violence surrounding the protests: About one-in-five adults under 30 say the news media should be covering this more, similar to other age groups.

And in keeping with their [overall news media consumption habits](#), Americans 65 and older comprise the age group most likely to follow the demonstrations very or fairly closely (90%). But it is 18- to 29-year-olds who are most likely to be discussing them with others – nearly half (46%) say they discuss the protests almost all of the time or most of the time.

Younger adults want more news coverage of several aspects of protests

% of U.S. adults who say news organizations are giving each topic **too little coverage**



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020. "Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump's public message wrong"

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1. About four-in-ten U.S. adults are following news about George Floyd protests very closely and discussing it with others often

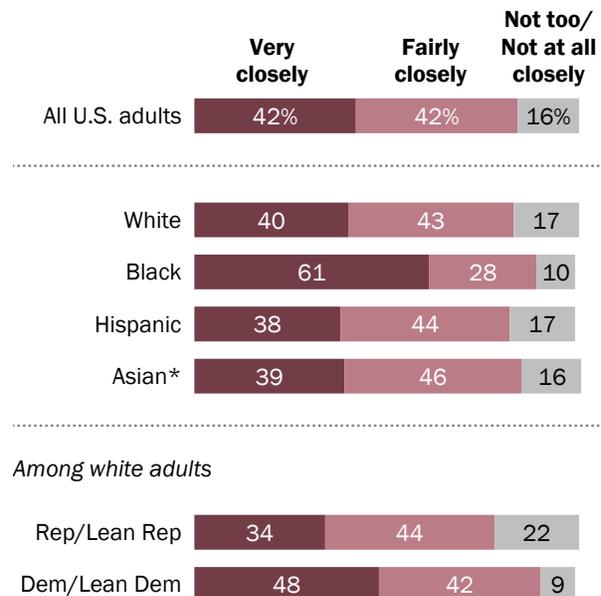
Most Americans are following news about the nationwide demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd, a black man killed while in Minneapolis police custody. More than eight-in-ten U.S. adults say they are following the story “very” (42%) or “fairly” closely (42%), while far fewer say they are following it “not too” (14%) or “not at all” closely (3%). The levels of interest in the protests nearly match the shares of Americans who were following news about the coronavirus outbreak [in late April](#), before Floyd’s death.

Interest in news about the protests over George Floyd’s death is high across all racial and ethnic groups studied. Around eight-in-ten white (83%), Hispanic (82%) and Asian adults (84%) are following the protests very or fairly closely.² And about nine-in-ten black adults (89%) are following at least fairly closely, including a majority of blacks (61%) who say they are following this news *very* closely.

While partisan differences often emerge among white adults, interest is high among both white Americans who identify with or lean toward the Democratic Party and white Republicans and Republican leaners. About eight-in-ten or more white Democrats and white Republicans are following the protests at least fairly closely, though

High interest in protests across the board, but black Americans are paying closer attention than whites

% of U.S. adults who say they are following news about the protests over the death of George Floyd ...



* Asian adults were interviewed in English only.

Note: White, black and Asian adults include those who report being only one race and are non-Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. Respondents who did not give an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.

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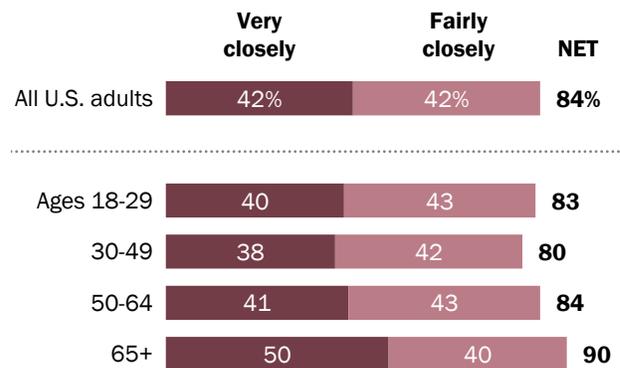
² The sample includes English-speaking Asian Americans only and, therefore, may not be representative of the overall Asian American population. Because of the relatively small size of the Asian American sample and a reduction in precision due to weighting, results for Asian Americans cannot be analyzed by party or demographic categories, such as age or gender. For more details, see the [methodology section](#) of the report.

white Democrats are more likely than white Republicans to be following the story very closely (48% vs. 34%).

As seen in news habits more broadly, the oldest group of Americans are more engaged with the story than younger Americans. Fully nine-in-ten U.S. adults ages 65 and older (90%) say they are following it at least fairly closely – including half who say they are following it very closely. Adults ages 18 to 29, 30 to 49, and 50 to 64 are somewhat less engaged; still, large majorities of all these groups say they are following the protests.

Oldest Americans paying more attention to news about the protests

% of U.S. adults who say they are following news about the protests over the death of George Floyd ...



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.
 “Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump’s public message wrong”

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Black Americans, young adults most likely to talk to others about the protests

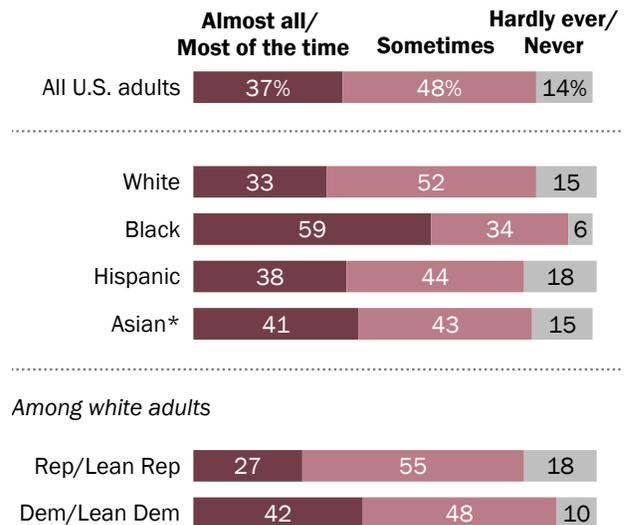
In addition to following the news closely themselves, most Americans are spending time talking with others about the protests over George Floyd's death. Roughly four-in-ten U.S. adults (37%) say they are talking about it "almost all" or "most" of the time. Another 48% say they "sometimes" discuss it with others, while just 14% "hardly ever" or "never" discuss it.

The protests are a more common topic of conversation for black Americans than other racial and ethnic groups. A majority of black adults (59%) say they are discussing the protests with others at least most of the time, including 30% who say they are talking about them almost all of the time. Fewer white adults, 33% in all, say they are talking with others about the story almost all (8%) or most (25%) of the time. Hispanic and Asian Americans fall in between blacks and whites – about four-in-ten in each ethnic group are talking frequently about the protests.

Just as they are following the story of the protests more closely, white Democrats are more likely than white Republicans to discuss the protests with others. About four-in-ten white Democrats (42%) say they are discussing the story all or most of the time, compared with 27% of white Republicans.

Majority of black Americans say they are talking about the protests most or all of the time

% of U.S. adults who say they are discussing the protests over George Floyd's death with others ...



* Asian adults were interviewed in English only.

Note: White, black and Asian adults include those who report being only one race and are non-Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. Respondents who did not give an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020. "Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump's public message wrong"

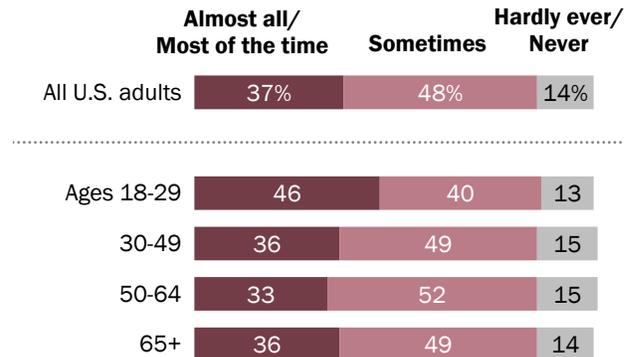
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While adults ages 65 and older are the most likely to follow news about the protests over Floyd's death, it is the youngest adults, ages 18 to 29, who report talking about the protests with others most often.

Slightly less than half of adults ages 18 to 29 (46%) say the protests come up almost all the time or most of the time in their conversations. The share saying the same is about 10 percentage points lower in each of the other age groups.

Adults under 30 are most likely to be talking about the protests frequently

% of U.S. adults who say they are discussing the protests over George Floyd's death with others ...



Note: Respondents who did not give an answer not shown.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.
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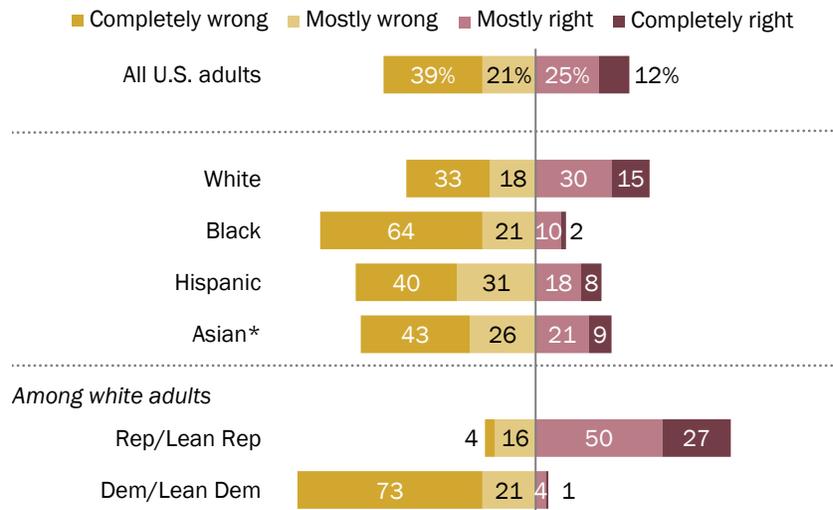
2. In protest response, Americans say Donald Trump’s message has been wrong, news media coverage good

Amid close attention to the news surrounding the death of George Floyd and ensuing protests, a majority of the public says Donald Trump’s messaging about the demonstrations has been wrong, while a similar portion says the news media’s coverage of the protests has been good.

Six-in-ten Americans say Trump has been delivering the wrong message to the country in response to the protests, including about four-in-ten (39%) who say his messaging has been “completely” wrong and 21% who say it has been “mostly” wrong. Fewer (37%) say his message has been right, including just 12% who say it has been “completely” right.

Six-in-ten Americans say Trump is delivering the wrong message about protests; higher among black adults

% of U.S. adults who say Donald Trump has been delivering the ___ message in response to the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd



* Asian adults were interviewed in English only.

Note: White, black and Asian adults include those who report being only one race and are non-Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. Respondents who did not give an answer not shown. Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.

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Overall, 85% of black Americans say Trump has delivered the wrong message, including nearly two-thirds (64%) who say his message has been completely wrong. Just 13% of black Americans say Trump has delivered the right message (with a mere 2% who say his message has been completely right). Hispanic and Asian Americans give almost as negative an assessment, with about seven-in-ten or more in each group saying Trump has been delivering the wrong message.

White Americans also are more likely than not to say Trump’s message has been wrong, though by a much smaller margin. About half of white Americans (52%) say his message about the protests has been mostly or completely wrong, compared with 45% who say the message has been right.

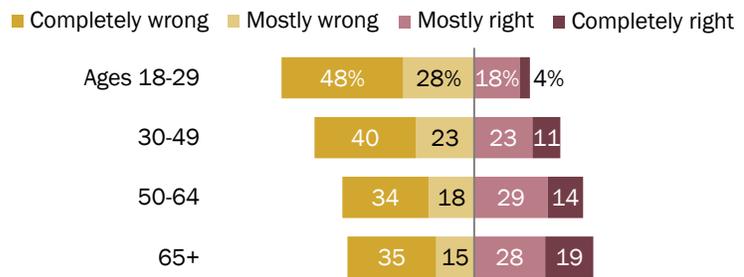
Among white adults, there is a stark divide by party. Fully 94% of white Democrats (including self-described independents who lean Democratic) say Trump has been delivering the *wrong* message about the protests, while 76% of white Republicans say Trump has delivered the *right* message. Still, white Democrats are more than twice as likely to say Trump's message has been completely wrong (73%) than white Republicans are to say the president has been completely right (27%).

The youngest U.S. adults, those ages 18 to 29, have the harshest assessment of the message Trump has been delivering about the protests. About three-quarters (76%) of those ages 18 to 29 say his message has been wrong, including close to half (48%) who say it has been completely wrong. Just 22% say it has been right.

Americans ages 65 and older, meanwhile, are evenly divided between those who say Trump's message has been wrong (49%) and those who say it has been right (47%).

Younger adults much more likely to say Trump is delivering the wrong message in response to the demonstrations

% of U.S. adults who say Donald Trump has been delivering the ____ message in response to the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.

"Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump's public message wrong"

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The public's negative view of Trump's public statements stands in contrast to its more positive assessment of media coverage of the recent protests. Overall, 57% of U.S. adults say the news media have done an "excellent" (14%) or "good" (42%) job of covering the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd. About four-in-ten say the media have done an "only fair" (25%) or "poor" (17%) job.

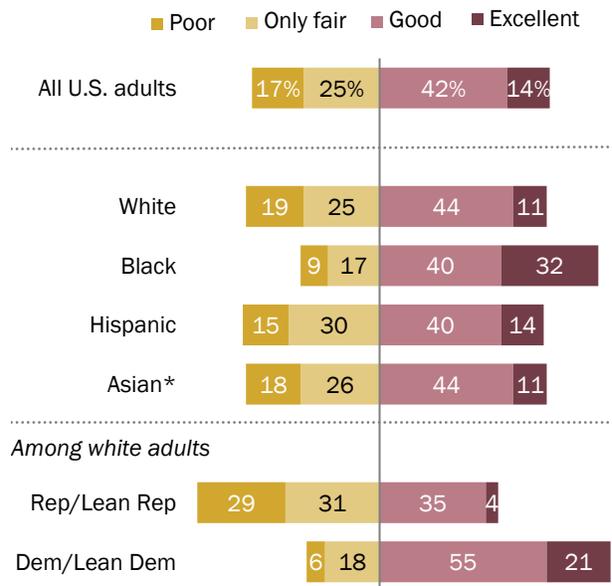
Black Americans give a particularly strong assessment of news coverage, which is in stark contrast to their rejection of Trump's message. Fully 72% of black adults say the news media have done at least a good job, including about a third (32%) who say they have done an excellent job. By contrast, in a telephone survey conducted in 2015 about the [demonstrations to protest the death of Freddie Gray](#), a black man who died in police custody in Baltimore, just 11% of black adults said the news media had done an excellent job covering the story; another 35% said at the time it had done a good job. (Overall, the public generally gave the news media less positive ratings in 2015.)

White Americans also give more positive than negative assessments of news coverage, with 55% saying the news media have done a good or excellent job and 44% rating their performance as fair or poor. But as seen in the assessment of Trump's public messaging on the issue, strong party divides exist among white Americans. While 76% of white Democrats say the news media have been doing well covering the protests, about half as many white Republicans say the same (39%). Instead, a majority of white Republicans say the media have been doing a fair (31%) or poor (29%) job.

Hispanic and Asian Americans fall a little closer to white Americans in their assessment of media coverage, with small majorities saying the news media are doing at least a good job covering the protests.

Majority of Americans say the media are covering the demonstrations well

% of U.S. adults who rate the job news organizations have done covering the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd as ...



* Asian adults were interviewed in English only.

Note: White, black and Asian adults include those who report being only one race and are non-Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

Respondents who did not give an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.

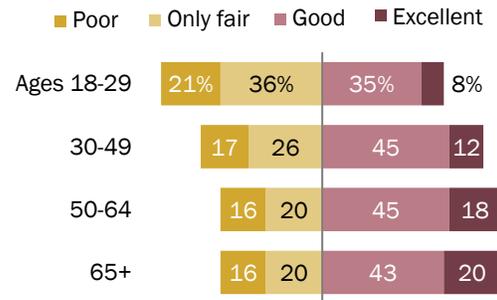
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Young adults exhibit a more critical eye toward news coverage of the protests than their elders – although they are not as negative toward the news media as they are toward Trump. Still, a majority of 18- to 29-year-olds (56%) say the media coverage of the protests has been only fair or poor, compared with 43% who say it has been good or excellent. Among all other age groups, majorities give a positive rather than negative assessment.

Younger Americans less likely to rate news media's protest coverage positively

% of U.S. adults who rate the job news organizations have done covering the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd as ...



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.
 “Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump’s public message wrong”

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Half of Americans say demonstrations have gotten the right amount of attention; about four-in-ten say there is too much focus on the protests

All in all, half of Americans say the demonstrations protesting the death of George Floyd have been getting the right amount of attention. The remainder is much more likely to say the demonstrations have gotten too much attention (38%) as opposed to too little (11%).

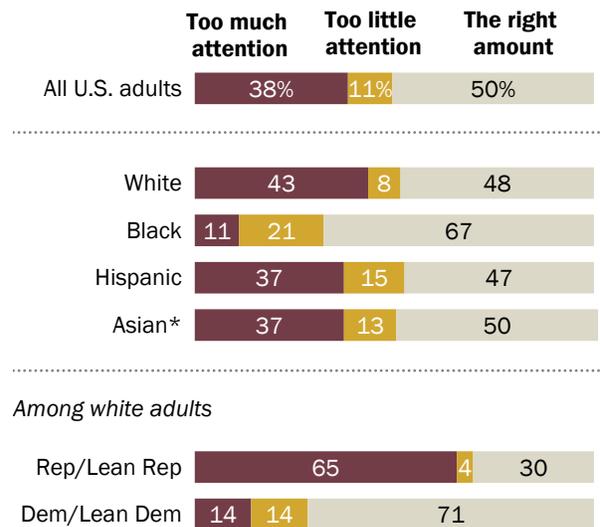
Black Americans are more likely to approve of the level of attention given to Floyd's death and the following protests, with 67% saying the demonstrations have gotten the right amount of attention. In contrast with the general public, black adults are more likely to say the protests have gotten too *little* attention (21%) rather than too much (11%). White adults, meanwhile, are five times as likely to say the protests have gotten too much attention (43%) as they are to say too little (8%).

Again, there is a strong partisan divide among whites. About seven-in-ten white Democrats (71%) say the demonstrations have gotten the right amount of attention, while a similarly large share of white Republicans (65%) say they have gotten too much attention.

Older Americans also are more likely than young adults to say too much attention has been paid to the protests.

About two-thirds of black Americans say the protests have been getting the right amount of attention

% of U.S. adults who say that the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd have been getting ...



* Asian adults were interviewed in English only.

Note: White, black and Asian adults include those who report being only one race and are non-Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

Respondents who did not give an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.

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The survey also asked a series of questions about whether news organizations specifically are giving too much coverage, not enough coverage or about the right amount of coverage to several aspects of the broader story surrounding Floyd's death.

Acts of violence and destruction that have occurred around the protests are the only storyline of the six that a plurality of Americans say is receiving *too much* coverage. More than four-in-ten U.S. adults (44%) say this element of the story is getting too much coverage, compared with about half as many (20%) who say coverage is too light and 36% who say the level of coverage has been about right.

Conversely, about half of U.S. adults (51%) say nonviolent protests are getting *too little* coverage, with another 36% saying they are getting the right amount of coverage and far fewer (12%) saying there has been too much.

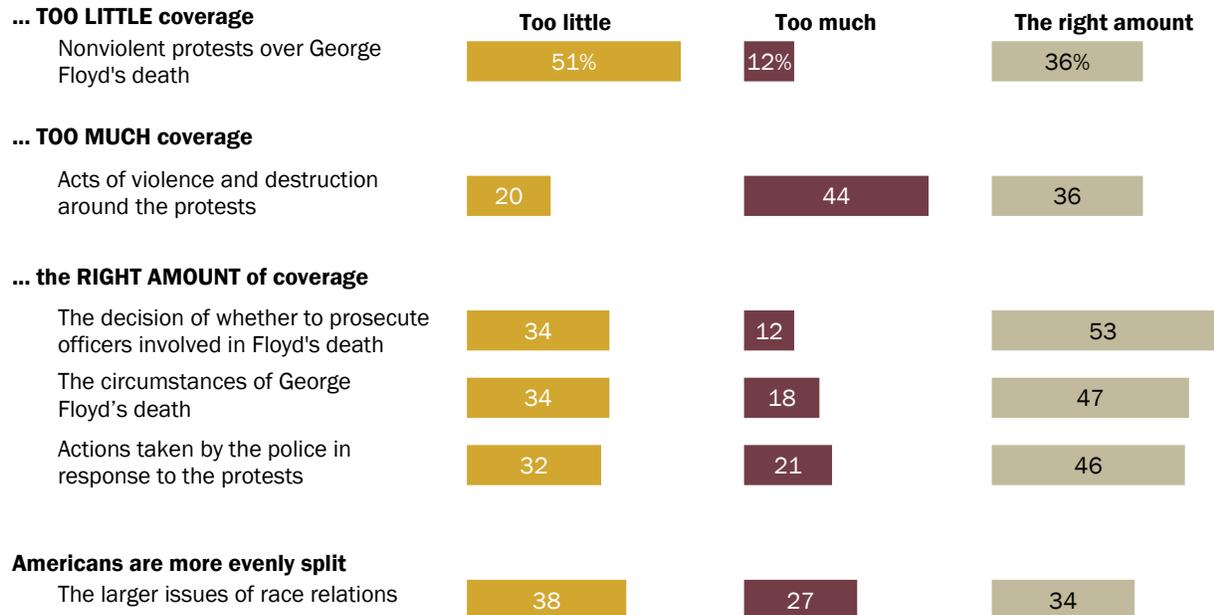
During the time the survey was conducted (June 4-10), roughly half of Americans said the level of coverage was appropriate on three topics: the decision of whether to prosecute the officers involved in George Floyd's death (53%), circumstances surrounding the death of Floyd himself (47%) and the actions taken by police in response to the protests (46%). In each case, more Americans say these stories have been getting too little coverage rather than too much.

U.S. adults are less likely to say larger issues of race relations are getting about the right amount of coverage (34%). But there is no strong consensus on what the media should be doing: 38% say there has not been enough coverage given to race relations more broadly, while 27% say there has been too much coverage.

On balance, Americans say there has been too much coverage of acts of violence around protests, not enough coverage of nonviolent demonstrations

% of U.S. adults who say news organizations are giving each topic ____ coverage

Topics where more Americans say there has been ...



Note: Respondents who did not give an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.

"Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump's public message wrong"

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Black Americans say decision about prosecuting Minneapolis officers and larger issue of race relations should get more coverage

Black and white Americans express some general agreement in the level of attention the news media have been giving to some elements of the story. But black Americans are more likely than white Americans to say too little coverage is being given to the decision of whether to prosecute the officers involved in George Floyd's death and to the issue of race relations more broadly. White adults, on the other hand, are more likely to say too much coverage is going to the acts of violence and destruction during protests.

The two storylines where black and white Americans express the most similar sense of coverage are the death of Floyd itself and police actions in response to protests. Close to half of both groups say the amount of coverage in these areas has been about right. And among those who say it hasn't been right, larger portions of each group say there has been too little coverage as opposed to too much.

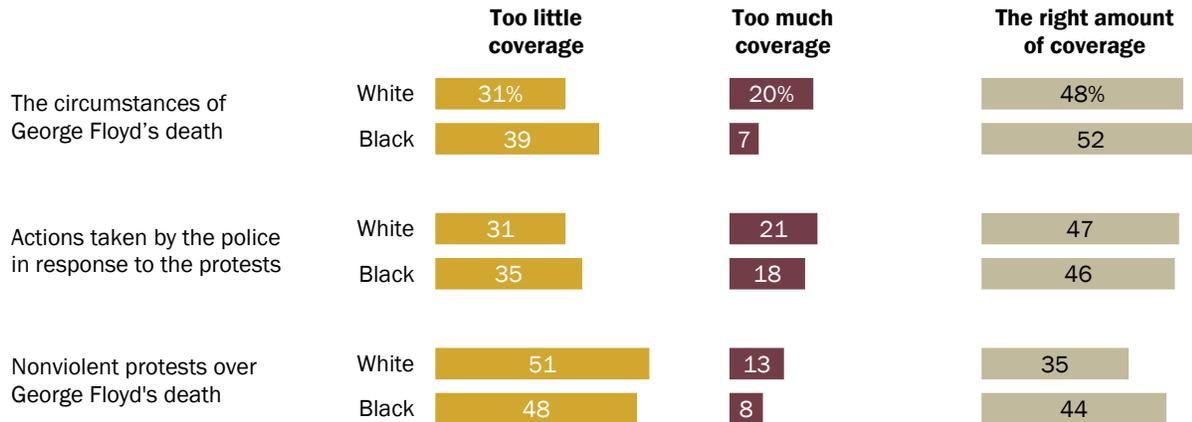
Similarly, about half of both black (48%) and white (51%) Americans say the news media have produced too little coverage of nonviolent protests. Black adults are somewhat more likely than white adults to say the level of coverage has been about right (44% vs. 35%), but only small minorities of each group say there has been too much coverage.

The two angles where black and white adults diverge the most are the decision of whether to prosecute the officers involved in Floyd's death and the larger issue of race relations. Half or more of black Americans say the news media are giving too little coverage to each of these issues, with most of the remainder saying the level of coverage has been about right and very few saying there has been too much coverage. On the other hand, only 28% of white Americans say there has been too little coverage of whether to prosecute the officers; a majority of whites (57%) say the level of coverage has been about right. When it comes to coverage of race relations more broadly, white Americans are about equally likely to say the media's level of coverage has been about right (34%), too great (33%) or too small (33%).

Black and white Americans also express somewhat different views about the level of attention given to the violent aspects of the protests. In this case, white Americans are more likely than black Americans to say there has been too much coverage of violence surrounding the protests (45% vs. 36%). Still, both black and white adults are more likely to say there has been too much coverage of this, rather than too little.

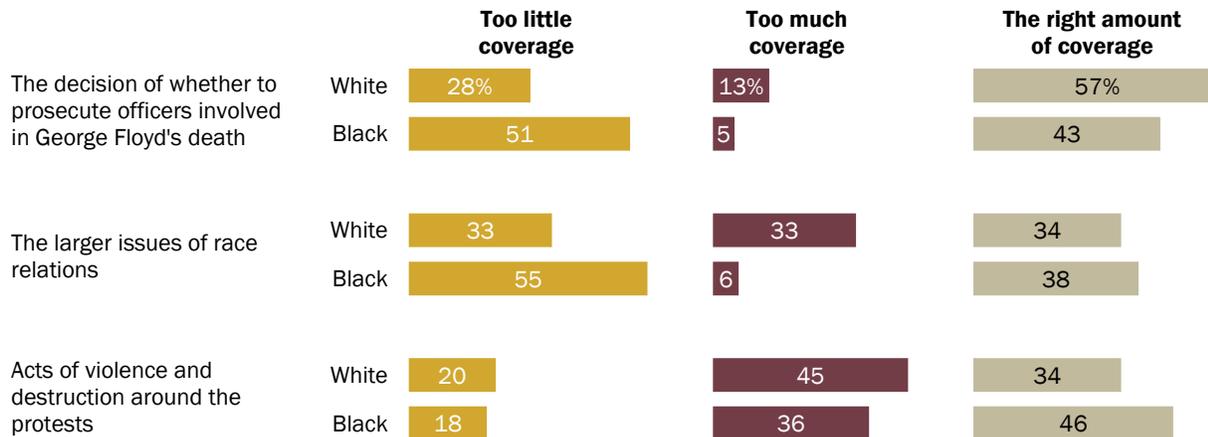
Some areas of agreement between black and white Americans on aspects of protest coverage ...

% of U.S. adults who say news organizations are giving each topic ...



... but black Americans more likely to say prosecution of officers and larger issues of race relations receive too little attention

% of U.S. adults who say news organizations are giving each topic ...



Note: White and black adults include those who report being only one race and are non-Hispanic.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.

"Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump's public message wrong"

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Here again, some partisan differences emerge among white adults. The angle where views vary the most is in coverage of the larger issues of race relations: Fully half of white Republicans say there has been too much coverage of the larger issues of race relations, while only 9% of white Democrats agree. Instead, roughly half of white Democrats (51%) say there has been *too little* coverage of race relations more broadly (compared with 19% of white Republicans who feel this way).

Differences also arise in the level of coverage given to the circumstances surrounding George Floyd's death. A solid majority of white Democrats (61%) feel the level of coverage has been right, followed by 30% who say there has been too little coverage and just 9% who say there has been too much. White Republicans, meanwhile, are much less likely than white Democrats to say the level of coverage of Floyd's death has been about right (39%) and much more likely to say there has been too much coverage (28%).

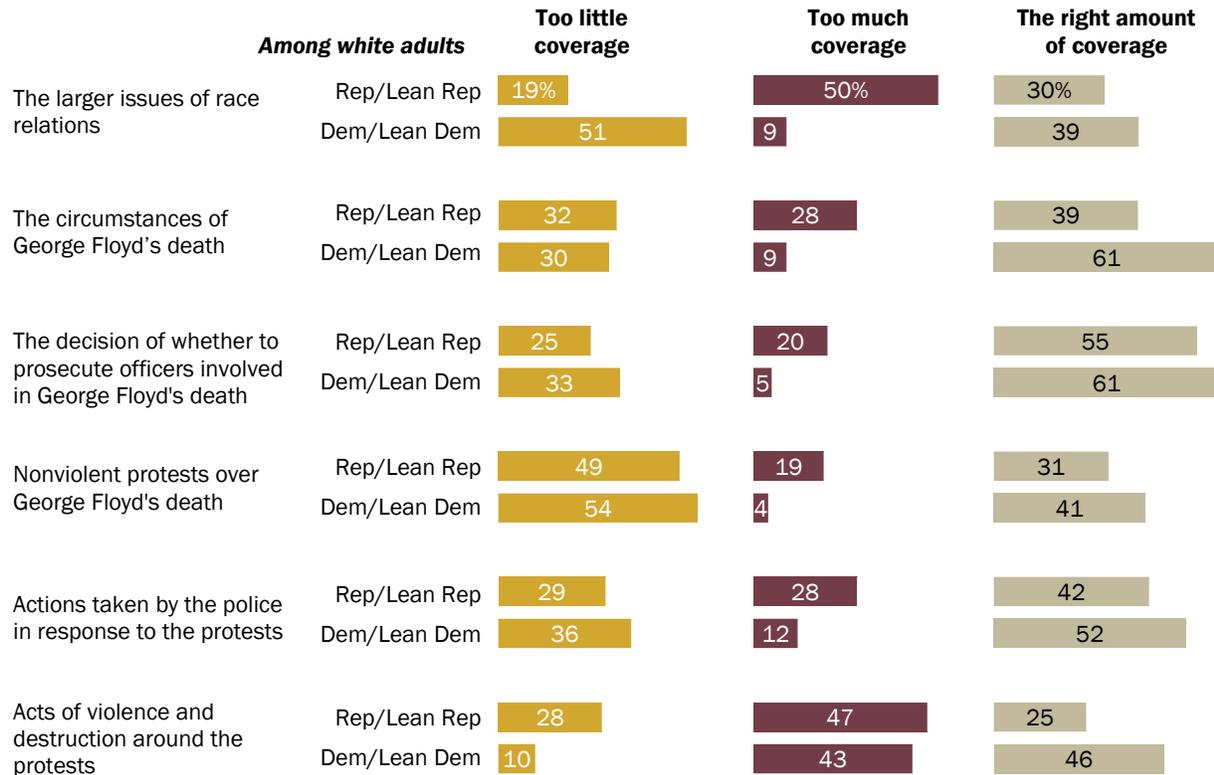
White Republicans are more likely than white Democrats to say that there has been too little coverage of violence surrounding the protests (28% vs. 10%), while white Democrats are more likely to say the coverage of this has been about right (46% vs. 25%). Still, a plurality of white Republicans (47%) say there has been too much coverage of violent acts.

White Democrats and white Republicans largely agree that there has been too little media coverage of the nonviolent protests and about the right amount of coverage about the decision of whether to prosecute the police officers involved in Floyd's death.

Partisan differences across all U.S. adults are discussed in [Chapter 3](#).

Among white adults, many Republicans say news media have given larger issues of race relations too much coverage, but few Democrats agree

% of U.S. adults who say news organizations are giving each topic ...



Note: White adults include those who report being only one race and are non-Hispanic.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.

"Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump's public message wrong"

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Young adults most likely to say there has been too little coverage of nearly all storylines

Some of the most consistent disagreement on the level of attention the news media have been giving different elements of the events around Floyd’s death is between younger and older Americans.

On five of the six topics asked about in the survey, U.S. adults under 30 are more likely than all other age groups to say that they received too little coverage. There are particularly large divides between the oldest and youngest Americans: those 18 to 29 are more than twice as likely as those 65 and older to say there has been too little coverage of the larger issue of race relations (59% vs. 22%), the decision of whether to prosecute the officers involved in Floyd’s death (51% vs. 20%) and the circumstances surrounding Floyd’s death (48% vs. 19%).

About two-thirds (66%) of the youngest adults, along with 56% of those ages 30 to 49, say there has been too little coverage of the nonviolent protests, compared with fewer than half of those ages 50 to 64 (44%) and 65 and older

Younger adults consistently more likely to think too little coverage is given to various aspects of protests

% of U.S. adults who say news organizations are giving each topic ...

		Too little coverage	Too much coverage	The right amount
	Ages 18-29	59%	14%	26%
The larger issues of race relations	30-49	43	26	30
	50-64	28	31	39
	65+	22	37	41

The decision of whether to prosecute officers involved in George Floyd's death	18-29	51	7	41
	30-49	37	13	48
	50-64	29	12	59
	65+	20	16	63

The circumstances of George Floyd's death	18-29	48	11	40
	30-49	39	15	44
	50-64	28	19	52
	65+	19	27	53

Nonviolent protests over George Floyd's death	18-29	66	10	23
	30-49	56	13	31
	50-64	44	13	43
	65+	40	14	46

Actions taken by the police in response to the protests	18-29	47	21	32
	30-49	34	21	44
	50-64	25	22	51
	65+	24	21	54

Acts of violence and destruction around the protests	18-29	17	53	29
	30-49	19	47	34
	50-64	21	39	39
	65+	21	38	40

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.
 “Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump’s public message wrong”

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(40%). Additionally, 47% of those ages 18 to 29 say that the news media are giving too little coverage to actions by the police and National Guard in response to the protests, higher than any of the older age groups.

The only topic that does not follow this pattern is coverage of acts of violence and destruction around the protests. Younger adults are slightly more likely than their elders to say that there has been *too much* coverage of violence and destruction.

3. Large partisan divide on news media's performance and the president's message, smaller divide on attention to events

Reactions to the events surrounding and following the death of George Floyd also have some significant differences by party and party affiliation across U.S. adults overall. This analysis offers a look at differences by party overall, a lens used for [much of](#) the Center's [work connected to](#) the [American News Pathways](#) project.

By several measures, Democrats and those who lean Democratic are more closely following and more engaged with the news surrounding Floyd's killing than Republicans and those who lean Republican. Wide partisan gaps emerge between members of the two parties when evaluating the performance of the news media and Donald Trump's response to the protests. And there are also differences between Republicans and Democrats on their evaluations of the amount of media coverage devoted to several key storylines, most notably the broader issue of race relations in the country.

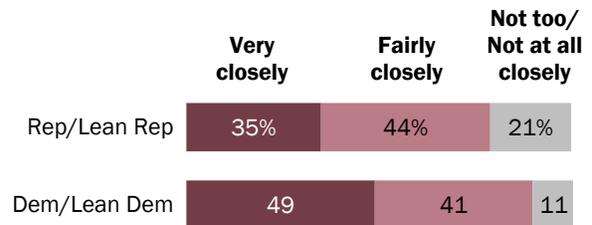
Democrats more likely to follow and discuss news of the demonstrations

Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents outpace Republicans and Republican leaners on the overall question of how intently they are following news of the demonstrations to protest Floyd's death. About half of Democrats (49%) say they are very closely following these events, compared with 35% of Republicans. Still, vast majorities of both groups are following this news at least fairly closely (89% of Democrats and 79% of Republicans).

There is also a gap between Democrats and Republicans when it comes to discussing the protests and demonstrations with others. Somewhat less than half of Democrats (46%) – compared with 28% of Republicans – say they are discussing the protests with others almost all or most of the time.

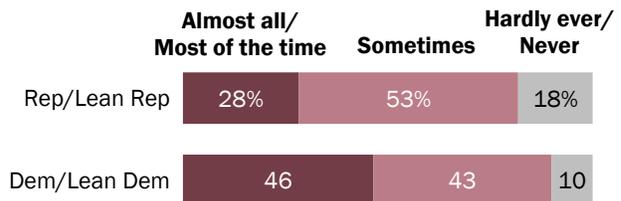
Democrats are following news about Floyd protests more closely than Republicans ...

% of U.S. adults who are following news about the demonstrations around the country to protest the death of George Floyd



... and discussing it more often with others

% of U.S. adults who say they are discussing the protests over George Floyd's death with others ...



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020. "Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump's public message wrong"

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Democrats and Republicans offer dramatically different assessments of news coverage and Trump statements about the protests

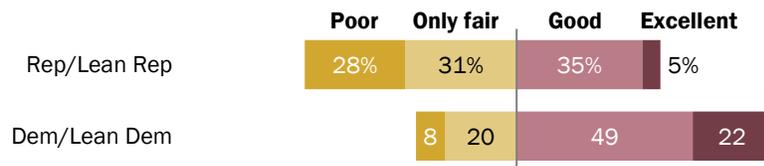
Roughly seven-in-ten Democrats and Democratic leaners (71%) say news organizations have done a good (49%) or excellent (22%) job covering these events. But among Republicans and Republican leaners, the number awarding good or excellent assessments of the news media's coverage falls to 40%, while 58% give the coverage a fair or poor evaluation.

The differences are even more stark on assessments of the message delivered by Donald Trump during the protests. While 73% of Republicans say his message has been completely or mostly right, only 8% of Democrats agree. Instead, the vast majority of Democrats (91%) say Trump's message has been wrong, including about two-thirds (67%) who say he has delivered a completely wrong message – a sentiment shared by just 7% of Republicans.

Republicans and Democrats also have very different views of the attention the protests are receiving. A majority of Republicans (63%) say the demonstrations to protest George Floyd's death have been getting too much attention; just 16% of Democrats say the same. Conversely, 66% of Democrats say the amount of attention being paid to these events is appropriate, a sentiment shared by about half as many Republicans (32%).

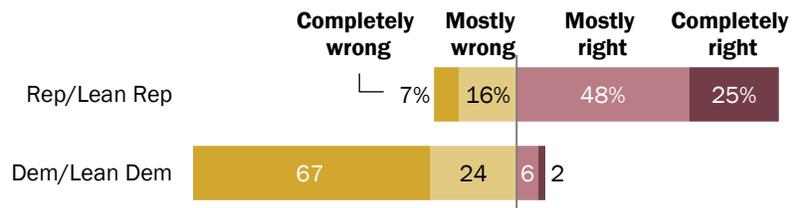
Democrats and Republicans offer contrasting assessments of news media coverage of protests ...

% of U.S. adults who rate the job news organizations have done covering the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd as ...



... and of the message Trump has delivered

% of U.S. adults who say Donald Trump has been delivering the ___ message in response to the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.

"Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump's public message wrong"

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When asked about media attention to specific aspects of the coverage of the demonstrations, partisan differences vary, depending on the topic.

No storyline asked about generates more partisan disagreement than coverage devoted to the larger issue of race relations surrounding the killing of George Floyd and the subsequent protests.

Nearly half of Republicans (47%) say that subject has gotten too much media attention, but only one-in-ten Democrats (10%) agree with that statement. Conversely, about half of Democrats (52%) say the news media have given the topic too *little* attention, a view that is shared by only 21% of Republicans.

While 55% of Democrats say the news media are paying the right amount of attention to the circumstances surrounding Floyd's death, fewer Republicans (39%) agree. Democrats also are more likely than Republicans to say that the media are devoting the right amount of coverage to acts of violence and destruction around the protests (44% vs. 25%, respectively), although substantial segments of both parties (46% of Republicans and 43% of Democrats) say there has been too much coverage of this violence.

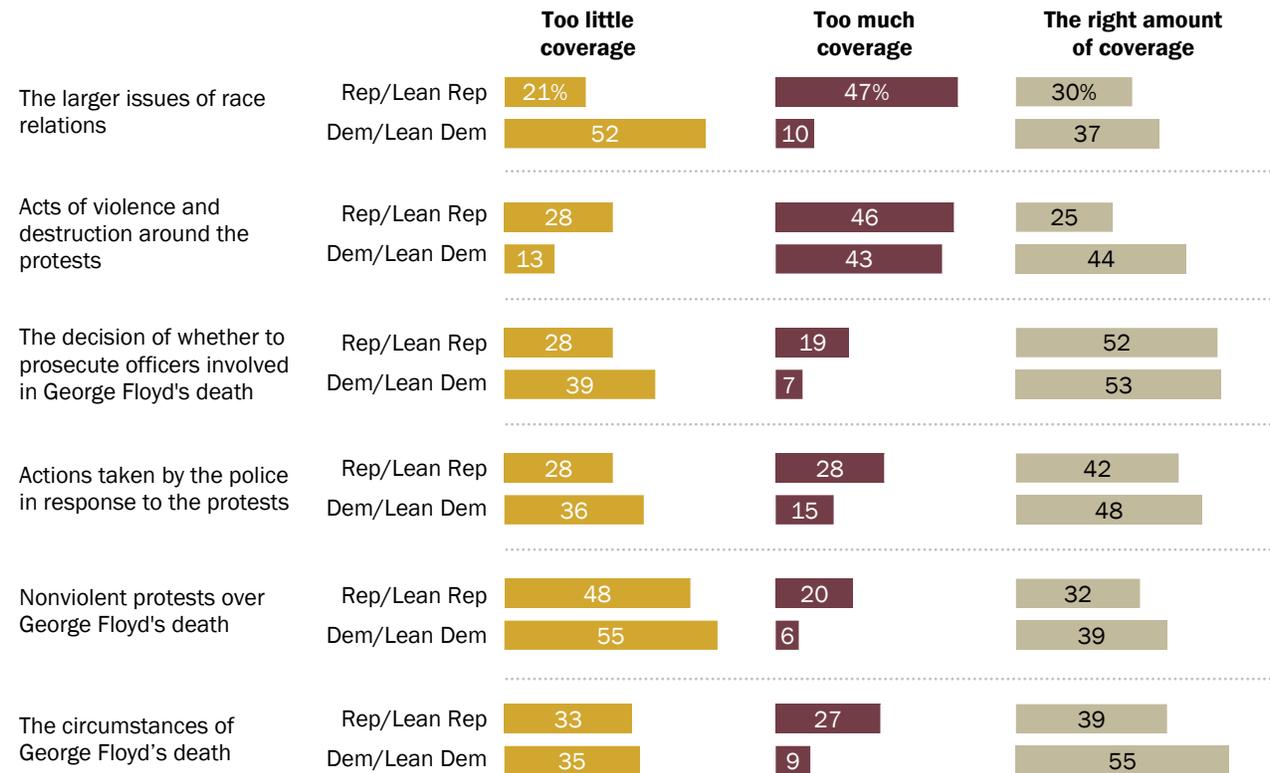
For several storylines, broadly similar shares of both parties the amount of news media attention is about right. For example, 42% of Republicans and 48% of Democrats say that the actions of the police and National Guard are receiving the right amount of attention. That's the case even though about twice as many Republicans (28%) as Democrats (15%) say journalists have devoted too much coverage to that storyline.

Similarly, 52% of Republicans and 53% of Democrats agree the news media have paid the proper amount of attention to the decision about whether to prosecute the Minneapolis police officers involved in George Floyd's death. Again, however, Republicans are more likely than Democrats, by a margin of 19% to 7%, to say there has been too much focus on that storyline.

Democrats (55%) and Republicans (48%) also largely agree that there has been too little attention paid to the nonviolent protests by demonstrators, though more Republicans (20%) than Democrats (6%) say the media have spent too much time on that aspect of the story.

Republicans and Democrats disagree on the amount of attention the news media should give to larger issues of race relations

% of U.S. adults who say news organizations are giving each topic ...



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 4-10, 2020.

"Majorities of Americans say news coverage of George Floyd protests has been good, Trump's public message wrong"

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Methodology

The American Trends Panel survey methodology

The American Trends Panel (ATP), created by Pew Research Center, is a nationally representative panel of randomly selected U.S. adults. Panelists participate via self-administered web surveys. Panelists who do not have internet access at home are provided with a tablet and wireless internet connection. The panel is being managed by Ipsos.

Data in this report is drawn from the panel wave conducted June 4 to June 10, 2020. A total of 9,654 panelists responded out of 11,013 who were sampled, for a response rate of 88%. This does not include two panelists who

were removed from the data due to extremely high rates of refusal or straightlining. The cumulative response rate accounting for nonresponse to the recruitment surveys and attrition is 4.7%. The break-off rate among panelists who logged on to the survey and completed at least one item is 1.6%. The margin of sampling error for the full sample of 9,654 respondents is plus or minus 1.6 percentage points.

American Trends Panel recruitment surveys

Recruitment dates	Mode	Invited	Joined	Active panelists remaining
Jan. 23 to March 16, 2014	Landline/ cell RDD	9,809	5,338	2,308
Aug. 27 to Oct. 4, 2015	Landline/ cell RDD	6,004	2,976	1,335
April 25 to June 4, 2017	Landline/ cell RDD	3,905	1,628	684
Aug. 8 to Oct. 31, 2018	ABS/web	9,396	8,778	6,407
Aug. 19 to Nov. 30, 2019	ABS/web	5,900	4,720	4,682
	Total	35,014	23,440	15,416

Note: Approximately once per year, panelists who have not participated in multiple consecutive waves or who did not complete an annual profiling survey are removed from the panel. Panelists also become inactive if they ask to be removed from the panel.

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The subsample from the ATP consisted of 11,013 ATP members that responded to the Wave 57 survey and were still active.

The ATP was created in 2014, with the first cohort of panelists invited to join the panel at the end of a large, national, landline and cellphone random-digit-dial survey that was conducted in both English and Spanish. Two additional recruitments were conducted using the same method in 2015 and 2017, respectively. Across these three surveys, a total of 19,718 adults were invited to join the ATP, of which 9,942 agreed to participate.

In August 2018, the ATP switched from telephone to address-based recruitment. Invitations were sent to a random, address-based sample (ABS) of households selected from the U.S. Postal

Service’s Delivery Sequence File. In each household, the adult with the next birthday was asked to go online to complete a survey, at the end of which they were invited to join the panel. For a random half-sample of invitations, households without internet access were instructed to return a postcard. These households were contacted by telephone and sent a tablet if they agreed to participate. A total of 9,396 were invited to join the panel, and 8,778 agreed to join the panel and completed an initial profile survey. The same recruitment procedure was carried out on August 19, 2019, from which a total of 5,900 were invited to join the panel and 4,720 agreed to join the panel

and completed an initial profile survey. Of the 23,440 individuals who have ever joined the ATP, 15,416 remained active panelists and continued to receive survey invitations at the time this survey was conducted.

The U.S. Postal Service’s Delivery Sequence File has been estimated to cover as much as 98% of the population, although some studies suggest that the coverage could be in the low 90% range.³ The American Trends Panel never uses breakout routers or chains that direct respondents to additional surveys.

Weighting

The ATP data was weighted in a multistep process that begins with a base weight incorporating the respondents’ original selection probability. The next step in the weighting uses an iterative technique that aligns the sample to population benchmarks on the dimensions listed in the accompanying table.

Sampling errors and test of statistical significance take into account the effect of weighting. Interviews are conducted in both English and Spanish.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

Weighting dimensions

Variable	Benchmark source
Gender	2018 American Community Survey
Age	
Education	
Race/Hispanic origin	
Country of birth among Hispanics	
Years lived in the United States among Hispanics	
Home internet access	
Region x Metropolitan status	2019 CPS March Supplement
Volunteerism	2017 CPS Volunteering & Civic Life Supplement
Voter registration	2018 CPS Voting and Registration Supplement
Party affiliation	Average of the three most recent Pew Research Center telephone surveys.

Note: Estimates from the ACS are based on non-institutionalized adults. Voter registration is calculated using procedures from Hur, Achen (2013) and rescaled to include the total US adult population.

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³ AAPOR Task Force on Address-based Sampling. 2016. “AAPOR Report: Address-based Sampling.”

The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

Group	Unweighted sample size	Plus or minus ...
Total sample	9,654	1.6 percentage points
White	6,602	1.8 percentage points
Black	737	5.3 percentage points
Hispanic	1,645	4.5 percentage points
Asian ⁴	278	8.2 percentage points
Republican/Lean Republican	3,944	2.4 percentage points
Democrat/Lean Democrat	5,439	2.2 percentage points
<i>Among white adults</i>		
Republican/Lean Republican	3,095	2.6 percentage points
Democrat/Lean Democrat	3,382	2.6 percentage points

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

A note about the Asian American sample

This survey includes a total sample size of 278 Asian Americans. The sample includes English-speaking Asian Americans only and, therefore, may not be representative of the overall Asian American population (74% of our weighted Asian American sample was born in another country, compared with 77% of the Asian American adult population overall). Despite this limitation, it is important to report the views of Asian Americans on the topics in this study. As always, Asian Americans' responses are incorporated into the general population figures throughout this report. Because of the relatively small sample size and a reduction in precision due to weighting, we are not able to analyze Asian American respondents by demographic categories, such as gender, age or education.

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⁴ Asian Americans were interviewed in English only.

**2020 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
WAVE 68 JUNE 2020
FINAL TOPLINE
June 4-10, 2020
N=9,654**

NOTE: ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. THE PERCENTAGES LESS THAN 0.5% ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (*). ROWS/COLUMNS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING.

	Sample size	Margin of error at 95% confidence level
U.S. adults	9,654	+/- 1.6 percentage points
<i>White</i>	6,602	+/- 1.8 percentage points
<i>Black</i>	737	+/- 5.3 percentage points
<i>Hispanic</i>	1,645	+/- 4.5 percentage points
<i>Asian</i> ¹	278	+/- 8.2 percentage points

Note: In several cases, questions from past surveys conducted by telephone are shown as trends for comparison. This is noted throughout this topline.

ASK ALL:

FLOYDFOL How closely have you been following news about the demonstrations around the country to protest the death of George Floyd, a black man who died² while in police custody?

Jun 4-10
2020

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
42	Very closely	40	61	38	39
42	Fairly closely	43	28	44	46
14	Not too closely	14	10	15	14
3	Not at all closely	3	1	2	1
*	No answer	*	*	*	0

ASK ALL:

FLOYDDISC How often, if at all, are the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd with others whether online, in person or over the phone?

Jun 4-10
2020

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
11	Almost all the time	8	30	11	10
26	Most of the time	25	29	27	31
48	Sometimes	52	34	44	43
10	Hardly ever	10	5	13	10
4	Never	4	2	5	5
1	No answer	1	1	*	*

¹ The Asian sample in this survey was interviewed in English only.

² Because of a programming error, most respondents (N=9,151) saw the word "died" for this question; however, 503 respondents, including all who took the survey in Spanish (N=450), saw the intended wording of "was killed" instead.

ASK ALL:

FLOYDCOVER In general, how would you rate the job news organizations have done covering the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd?

Jun 4-10

2020

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
14	Excellent	11	32	14	11
42	Good	44	40	40	44
25	Only fair	25	17	30	26
17	Poor	19	9	15	18
1	No answer	1	3	1	*

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:

In general, how would you rate the job news organizations have done covering the events in Baltimore [referring to protests over the death of Freddie Gray, who died after his arrest by police in April 2015]? Have news organizations done an excellent, good, only fair, or poor job covering the events in Baltimore?

Apr 20-May 3

2015

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
9	Excellent	7	11	10	--
35	Good	36	35	41	--
28	Only fair	29	36	23	--
20	Poor	21	9	18	--
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	7	8	8	--

ASK ALL:

FLOYDATTN All in all, do you think that the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd have been getting... **[RANDOMIZE ANSWER CHOICES 1 AND 2; ALWAYS ASK ANSWER CHOICE 3 LAST]**

Jun 4-10

2020

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
38	Too much attention	43	11	37	37
11	Too little attention	8	21	15	13
50	About the right amount of attention	48	67	47	50
1	No answer	1	1	1	0

ASK ALL:

FLOYDATTN2 Thinking about some specific aspects of the demonstrations around the country, how much coverage do you think news organizations are giving each of the following? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1-2; ALWAYS ASK OPTION 3 LAST]**

a. The circumstances surrounding the death of George Floyd

Jun 4-10

2020

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
18	Too much coverage	20	7	19	14
34	Too little coverage	31	39	36	39
47	Right amount of coverage	48	52	43	47
1	No answer	1	2	2	*

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:

The circumstances surrounding the death of Freddie Gray

Apr 30-

May 3

2015

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
25	Too much coverage	30	8	23	--
28	Too little coverage	27	31	29	--
39	Right amount of coverage	36	54	40	--
9	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	8	7	8	--

b. Acts of violence and destruction committed around the protests over George Floyd's death

Jun 4-10

2020

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
44	Too much coverage	45	36	50	40
20	Too little coverage	20	18	16	23
36	Right amount of coverage	34	46	33	36
1	No answer	1	*	1	0

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:

Unrest and acts of violence that have taken place

Apr 30-

May 3

2015

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
44	Too much coverage	51	31	29	--
12	Too little coverage	9	22	17	--
38	Right amount of coverage	34	43	48	--
6	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	6	4	7	--

FLOYDATTN2 CONTINUED ...

c. Actions taken by the police and National Guard in response to the protests

Jun 4-10

2020

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
21	Too much coverage	21	18	23	27
32	Too little coverage	31	35	32	30
46	Right amount of coverage	47	46	43	43
1	No answer	1	1	1	0

d. The non-violent protests over George Floyd's death

Jun 4-10

2020

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
12	Too much coverage	13	8	15	16
51	Too little coverage	51	48	55	48
36	Right amount of coverage	35	44	30	36
1	No answer	1	0	1	0

PHONE TREND FOR COMPARISON:

The non-violent protests over Freddie Gray's death

Apr 30-

May 3

2015

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
22	Too much coverage	26	15	16	--
37	Too little coverage	38	38	29	--
34	Right amount of coverage	30	43	45	--
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	7	4	11	--

e. The decisions whether to prosecute the police officers involved in the death of George Floyd

Jun 4-10

2020

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
12	Too much coverage	13	5	13	18
34	Too little coverage	28	51	43	34
53	Right amount of coverage	57	43	43	48
1	No answer	1	*	1	*

f. The larger issues of race relations tied to George Floyd's death

Jun 4-10

2020

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
27	Too much coverage	33	6	23	23
38	Too little coverage	33	55	42	40
34	Right amount of coverage	34	38	34	37
1	No answer	1	2	1	*

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

ASK ALL:

FLOYDTRUMPFOL

How closely, if at all, have you been following what Donald Trump has been saying about the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd?

Jun 4-10
2020

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
24	Very closely	24	35	19	20
37	Fairly closely	39	30	36	42
28	Not too closely	28	24	32	32
10	Not at all closely	9	11	13	6
*	No answer	*	*	*	0

ASK ALL:

FLOYDTRUMPMSSG

From what you've seen or heard, do you generally think Donald Trump has been delivering the right message or the wrong message to the country in response to the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd? **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF OPTIONS 1-4 AND 4-1]**

Jun 4-10
2020

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
12	Completely RIGHT message	15	2	8	9
25	Mostly RIGHT message	30	10	18	21
21	Mostly WRONG message	18	21	31	26
39	Completely WRONG message	33	64	40	43
3	No answer	3	2	3	1

ASK ALL:

FLOYDSTLOCFOL

And how closely, if at all, have you been following what state and local elected officials have been saying about the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd?

Jun 4-10
2020

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
18	Very closely	17	34	13	9
42	Fairly closely	44	34	36	43
30	Not too closely	28	26	36	43
10	Not at all closely	10	5	13	5
1	No answer	1	1	1	*

ASK INTERNET USERS (XTABLET=2) [N=9,518]:

FLOYDSM How much, if any, news and information about the demonstrations to protest the death of George Floyd have you been getting on social media (such as Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram)?

BASED ON TOTAL:

Jun 4-10
2020

<u>Total</u>		<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>Asian</u>
40	A lot	33	49	52	53
21	A little ³	22	18	21	21
14	Not much	15	9	12	15
25	None at all	29	24	14	9
1	No answer	1	*	1	2

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ASK ALL:**

COVIDFOL How closely have you been following news about the outbreak of the coronavirus strain known as COVID-19?

Jun 4-10 <u>2020</u>		Apr 20-26 <u>2020</u>	Mar 19-24 <u>2020</u>	Mar 10-16 <u>2020</u>
39	Very closely	46	57	51
46	Fairly closely	42	35	38
11	Not too closely	10	7	9
3	Not at all closely	2	1	2
*	No answer	*	*	*

ASK ALL:

COVIDCOVER1 How well do you think the news media have covered the coronavirus outbreak?

Jun 4-10 <u>2020</u>		Apr 20-26 <u>2020</u>	Mar 10-16 <u>2020</u>
28	Very well	27	30
43	Somewhat well	42	40
17	Not too well	18	17
10	Not at all well	11	11
1	No answer	2	1

ASK ALL:

COVIDTRUMPFOL How closely, if at all, have you been following what Donald Trump has been saying about the coronavirus outbreak?

Jun 4-10 <u>2020</u>	
29	Very closely
41	Fairly closely
23	Not too closely
6	Not at all closely
1	No answer

³ Because of a programming error, most respondents (N=9,151) saw the response option "A little" for this question; however, 503 respondents, including all who took the survey in Spanish (N=450), saw the intended wording of "Some" instead.

ASK ALL:

COVIDFACTS How often, if ever, do you think each of the following get the facts right when it comes to the coronavirus outbreak? **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF ITEMS]**

	<u>Almost all of the time</u>	<u>Most of the time</u>	<u>Some of the time</u>	<u>Hardly ever</u>	<u>Not sure</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Donald Trump and his administration Jun 4-10, 2020	8	21	29	36	5	*
b. The news media in general Jun 4-10, 2020	9	35	36	16	5	*
c. The CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and other public health organizations Jun 4-10, 2020	22	42	24	7	5	*
d. Your governor and state government Jun 4-10, 2020	14	39	30	11	6	*
e. The local news media in your area Jun 4-10, 2020	10	40	33	9	7	*

ASK ALL:

COVIDDEAL All in all, do you think that the coronavirus outbreak has been... **[RANDOMIZE ANSWER CHOICES 1 AND 2; ALWAYS ASK ANSWER CHOICE 3 LAST]**

Jun 4-10 <u>2020</u>		Apr 20-26 <u>2020</u>
38	Made a BIGGER deal than it really is	29
21	Made a SMALLER deal than it really is	27
40	Approached about right	42
1	No answer	1

ASK ALL:

COVIDNEWSCHNG Thinking about how you get news now compared to the FIRST COUPLE OF WEEKS OF the outbreak in the U.S. around the middle of March...

Compared to the FIRST COUPLE OF WEEKS of the outbreak, are you... **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF ITEMS; SHOW RESPONSES 1-3 IN ORDER; SHOW EACH ITEM ON SEPARATE SCREEN; SHOW INTRO TEXT ON FIRST SCREEN, REPEAT STEM ON EACH FOLLOWING SCREEN]**

a.	Spending MORE time getting news about <u>the outbreak</u>	Spending LESS time getting news about <u>the outbreak</u>	<u>No change</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Jun 4-10, 2020	15	57	27	1
b.	Checking for news updates about the outbreak MORE <u>frequently</u>	Checking for news updates about the outbreak LESS <u>frequently</u>	<u>No change</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Jun 4-10, 2020	18	52	29	1

COVIDNEWSCHNG CONTINUED ...

c.	Finding it HARDER to understand what is happening with <u>the outbreak</u>	Finding it EASIER to understand what is happening with <u>the outbreak</u>	No <u>change</u>	No <u>answer</u>
Jun 4-10, 2020	31	35	33	1
d.	Seeing MORE partisan viewpoints in the news <u>about the outbreak</u>	Seeing FEWER partisan viewpoints in the news <u>about the outbreak</u>	No <u>change</u>	No <u>answer</u>
Jun 4-10, 2020	41	22	35	2
e.	Finding it HARDER to identify what is true and what is false about <u>the outbreak</u>	Finding it EASIER to identify what is true and what is false about <u>the outbreak</u>	No <u>change</u>	No <u>answer</u>
Jun 4-10, 2020	38	30	31	1

ASK ALL:

COVIDTOGETHER

In general, does the news you get about the coronavirus make you feel...
[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1-2; ALWAYS ASK OPTION 3 LAST]

Jun 4-10

2020

21	More connected to other Americans
24	Less connected to other Americans
54	Neither
1	No answer

ASK ALL:

COVIDINFODIFF

When you get news and information about the coronavirus outbreak, do you generally find it... **[RANDOMIZE]**

Jun 4-10

2020

53	Difficult to determine what is true and what is not
45	Easy to determine what is true and what is not
2	No answer

Apr 20-26

2020

50
49
1

ASK ALL:

COVIDLOCINFO

When it comes to how the outbreak is affecting YOUR LOCAL AREA, do you find there is... **[RANDOMIZE]**

Jun 4-10

2020

65	Plenty of news and information available
33	Not enough news and information available
2	No answer

ASK ALL:

NEWSHEARD Thinking about some stories covered by news organizations in the past several weeks...

Regardless of your own views and opinions, how much, if anything, have you heard or read about each of the following? **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF ITEMS; PLEASE ADD A LINE OF SPACE BETWEEN THE QUESTION STEM AND FIRST SUB-ITEM; SPLIT ITEMS RANDOMLY ACROSS TWO SCREENS]**

	<u>A lot</u>	<u>A little</u>	<u>Nothing at all</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. A sexual assault allegation against Joe Biden Jun 4-10, 2020	22	55	22	*
No item b or c				
d. Debates about whether to expand voting by mail this year because of the coronavirus outbreak Jun 4-10, 2020	40	48	12	1
e. Charges being dropped against former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn for lying to the FBI Jun 4-10, 2020	21	42	36	1
f. Allegations that coronavirus lockdown rules and enforcement unfairly target religious gatherings and congregations Jun 4-10, 2020	27	47	25	1
g. Problems associated with the first coronavirus tests developed by the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) Jun 4-10, 2020	19	50	30	1
No item h				
i. COVID-19 outbreaks at meat-packing plants around the country Jun 4-10, 2020	41	45	13	1
j. Twitter adding a fact-check label or other content warnings to some of Donald Trump's tweets Jun 4-10, 2020	40	35	23	1

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

ASK ALL:

COVIDCOUNT

From what you've seen or heard, do you think the reported number of deaths from the coronavirus in the U.S. is... **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1-5 AND 5-1]**

Jun 4-10

2020

23	A lot higher than the actual number of deaths
17	A little higher than the actual number of deaths
22	About right
18	A little lower than the actual number of deaths
19	A lot lower than the actual number of deaths
1	No answer

ASK IF SAY DEATH COUNTS ARE TOO LOW OR TOO HIGH (COVIDCOUNT=1,2,4,5) [N=7,597]:

COVIDCOUNT2

And do you think errors in the reported number of deaths from the coronavirus in the U.S. are mostly... **[RANDOMIZE]**

BASED ON TOTAL:

Jun 4-10

2020

44	Intentional
33	Not intentional
1	No answer
22	Count is about right
1	No answer to COVIDCOUNT

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF QUESTIONS COVIDSTYHM-KNOWFAUCI**ASK ALL:**

COVIDSTYHM

As far as you know, how did states in the U.S. respond during the coronavirus outbreak? **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1-2; ALWAYS ASK OPTION 3 LAST]**

Jun 4-10

2020

29	Every state in the U.S. has had a statewide stay-at-home order at some point
54	Some states in the U.S. have not had a statewide stay-at-home order (correct)
17	Not sure
1	No answer

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF QUESTIONS COVIDSTYHM-KNOWFAUCI**ASK ALL:**

COVIDUNEMPLOY Is the national unemployment rate as reported by the government currently...

Jun 4-10

2020

1	Around 5%
5	Around 10%
34	Around 15%
17	Around 20%
15	Around 25%
28	Not sure
1	No answer

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF QUESTIONS COVIDSTYHM-KNOWFAUCI**ASK ALL:**

COVIDANTIBODIES As far as you know, are antibody tests for the coronavirus (also known as serology tests) intended to detect... **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1-2; ALWAYS ASK OPTIONS 3]**

Jun 4-10

2020

12	A current infection
59	A previous infection (correct)
28	Not sure
1	No answer

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF QUESTIONS COVIDSTYHM-KNOWFAUCI**ASK ALL:**

KNOWFAUCI Do you happen to know who Anthony Fauci is? [RANDOMIZE]

Jun 4-10

2020

1	Trump's personal doctor
5	The head of coronavirus response at the World Health Organization (WHO)
69	An infectious disease expert and government health adviser
1	CNN's Chief Medical Correspondent
23	Not sure
1	No answer

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

COVIDPLANHRD How much, if anything, have you heard about the theory that powerful people intentionally planned the coronavirus outbreak?

Jun 4-10

2020

19	A lot
52	A little
28	Nothing at all
1	No answer

ASK IF HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE ABOUT THEORY COVID PLANNED (COVIDPLANHRD=1,2)**[N=6,818]:**

COVIDPLANTRUE From what you have seen or heard, do you think the theory that powerful people intentionally planned the coronavirus outbreak is... **[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1-4 AND 4-1; ALWAYS ASK OPTION 5 LAST]**

Jun 4-10

2020

8	Definitely true
28	Probably true
28	Probably NOT true
23	Definitely NOT true
13	Not sure
*	No answer

ASK IF HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE ABOUT THEORY COVID PLANNED (COVIDPLANHRD=1,2)**[N=6,818]:**

COVIDPLANWATCH As you may know, an online video called "Plandemic" has received attention for making claims that the coronavirus outbreak was planned by powerful people.

Have you personally watched all or part of this online video called "Plandemic"?

Jun 4-10

2020

6	Yes, watched all of it
9	Yes, watched some of it
85	No, did not watch it
*	No answer

ASK ALL:

On a different topic...

CAMPNII How closely have you been following news about candidates for the 2020 presidential election?

Jun 4-10		Apr 20- 26	Feb 18- Mar 2	July 22- Aug 4	Oct 25- Nov 8	Sept 27- Oct 10	June 7- July 5
<u>2020</u>		<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2016</u> ⁴	<u>2016</u>	<u>2016</u>
21	Very closely	19	23	15	41	35	35
32	Fairly closely	33	37	37	37	40	43
29	Not too closely	31	29	34	16	18	18
17	Not at all closely	16	12	14	6	7	4
1	No answer	*	*	*	*	*	*

⁴ In surveys conducted in 2016, question asked about 2016 presidential election.

ASK ALL:

CAMP20INT How important, if at all, is it to you personally to get messages and statements about the upcoming election and other important issues from the presidential campaigns of Donald Trump and Joe Biden?

Jun 4-10 <u>2020</u>		Apr 20-26 <u>2020</u>
23	Very important	18
29	Somewhat important	27
26	Not too important	31
22	Not at all important	24
1	No answer	1

ASK INTERNET USERS (XTABLET=2) [N=9,518]:

CANDNEWS And in the last week, did you get political and election news or information directly from any of the following candidates or their campaigns online, such as through email, social media, or campaign website? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

BASED ON TOTAL:

a. Donald Trump or his presidential campaign

Jun 4-10 <u>2020</u>		Oct 29-Nov 11 <u>2019</u>
24	Yes	25
76	No	69
1	No answer	2
--	No internet	4

b. Joe Biden or his presidential campaign

Jun 4-10 <u>2020</u>		<i>A Democratic candidate or their presidential campaign</i> Oct 29-Nov 11 <u>2019</u>
22	Yes	26
78	No	67
1	No answer	2
--	No internet	4

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a:

ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE (PARTY=3 or 4) OR MISSING:

PARTYLN	As of today do you lean more to... ⁵	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Something else	No answer	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
		27	29	30	13	1	17	22

⁵ PARTY and PARTYLN asked in a prior survey.