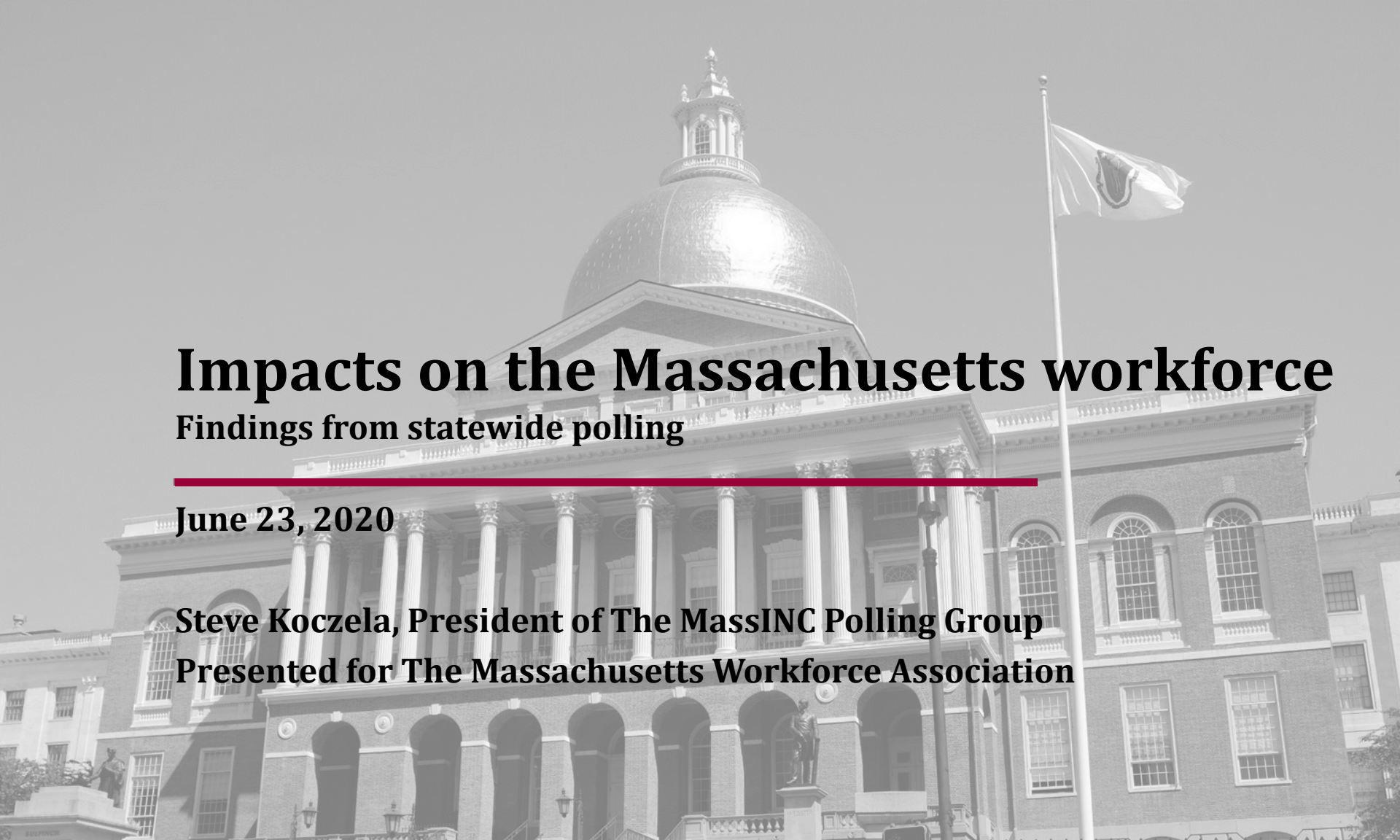


A grayscale photograph of the Massachusetts State House, featuring its prominent golden dome and classical columns. A flagpole with the state flag is visible on the right side of the building.

Impacts on the Massachusetts workforce

Findings from statewide polling

June 23, 2020

**Steve Koczela, President of The MassINC Polling Group
Presented for The Massachusetts Workforce Association**

info@massincpolling.com MassINCPolling.com [@MassINCPolling](https://twitter.com/MassINCPolling)

11 Beacon St Ste 500 | Boston, MA 02108 | Phone: (617) 224-1647



The MassINC Polling Group

- A non-partisan polling company, founded in 2010, now conducts the most public polling in Mass., as well as extensive private client polling. Polling partner for WBUR since 2011.
- Founder and President Steve Koczela
 - Corporate market research
 - Obama 2008 campaign
 - State department pollster
 - Iraq veteran
 - Associate Editor, Statistical Journal of the International Association of Official Statistics
 - Past President, New England Chapter, American Association for Public Opinion Research
 - Contributor, Commonwealth Magazine, WBUR, NHPR, CNN

Broad, uneven impacts of coronavirus

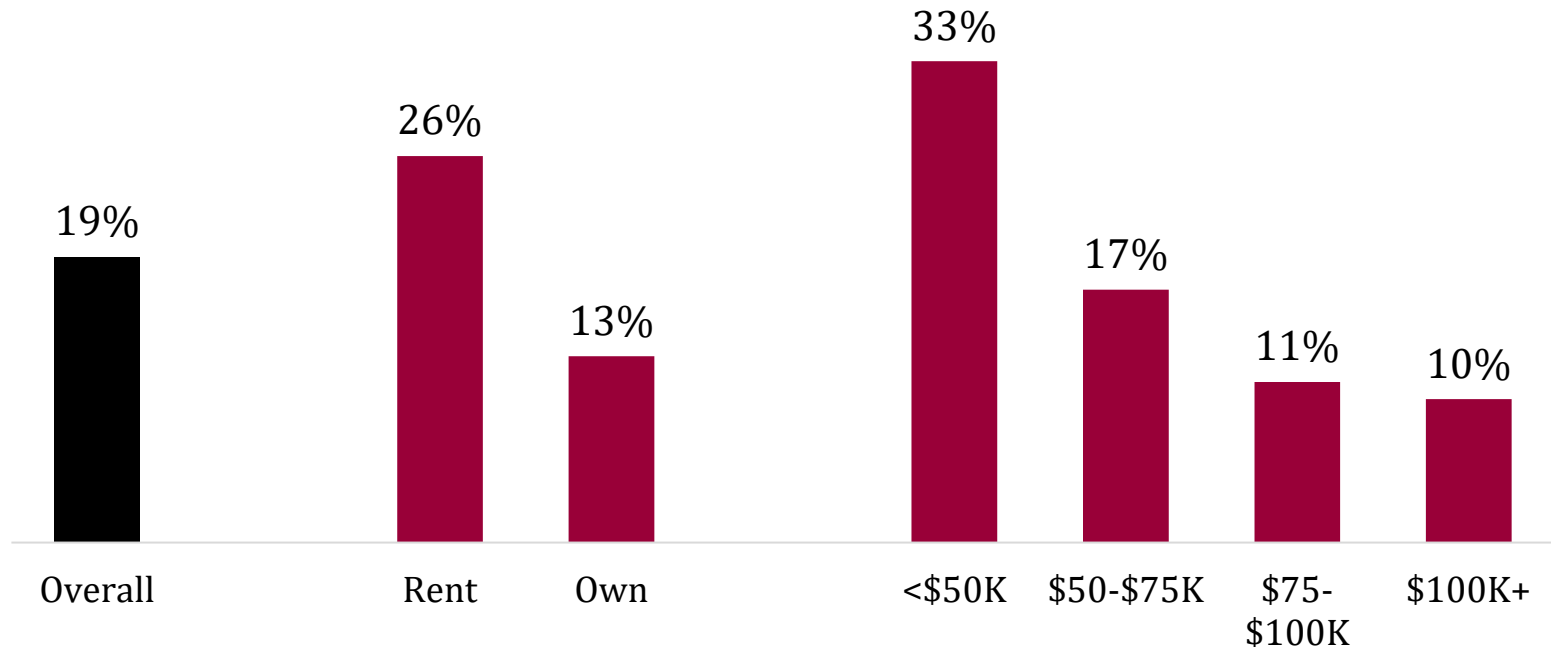
- Economics: The economic downturn is impacting workers' paychecks. Some demographics have been hit much harder than others.
- Health: Economic distress and COVID rates are closely linked.
- Housing: Massachusetts housing payments are a growing struggle, particularly for renters.
- Transportation: Residents anticipate fewer trips overall, more of them taken using solo-travel modes.
- Looking ahead: Working from home has taken hold. But equity issues loom.

Job losses concentrated

- Renters, lower-income workers are having a much harder time, with more economic challenges and a harder time keeping up with housing payments.

Job losses have hit renters, low income households much harder

% of workforce who are furloughed or unemployed, by demographic group



Economic distress composite

- To analyze the totality of economic problems, we created a composite analysis variable using housing payments, food insecurity, and wage losses as follows.
 - Missed part of 1 month = 1 point
 - Missed all of 1 month = 2 points
 - Struggled to provide food = 2 points
 - Food from a food bank = 2 points
 - Lost pay = 2 points
 - Unemployed right now = 2 points

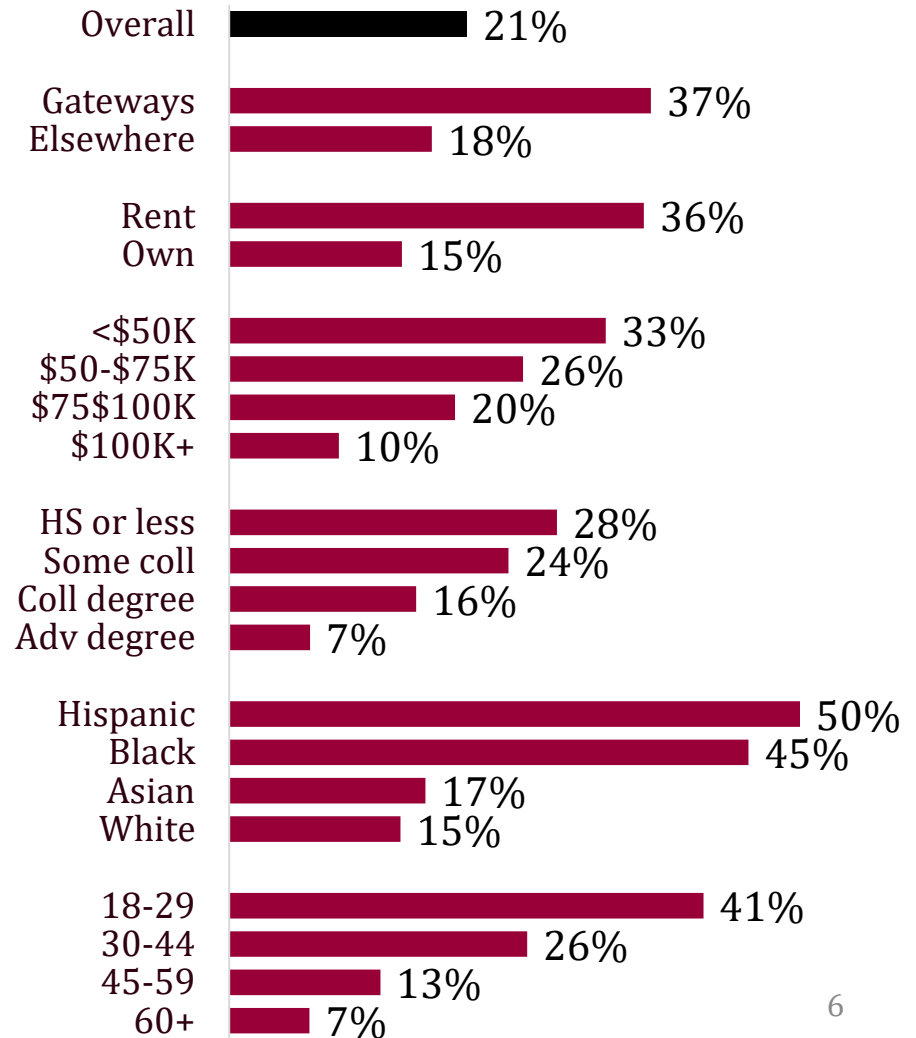
Economic distress composite distribution Categories (total score)	
No distress (0)	58%
Some distress (1 to 2)	22%
More distress (3 to 5)	12%
Most distress (6 or more)	8%

Economic distress uneven

- Economic distress is heavily concentrated by demographic and geographic groupings.
- While 21% of the state's population are in the 2 more distressed categories, 37% of Gateway Cities residents are.

Demographics of economic distress in Mass.

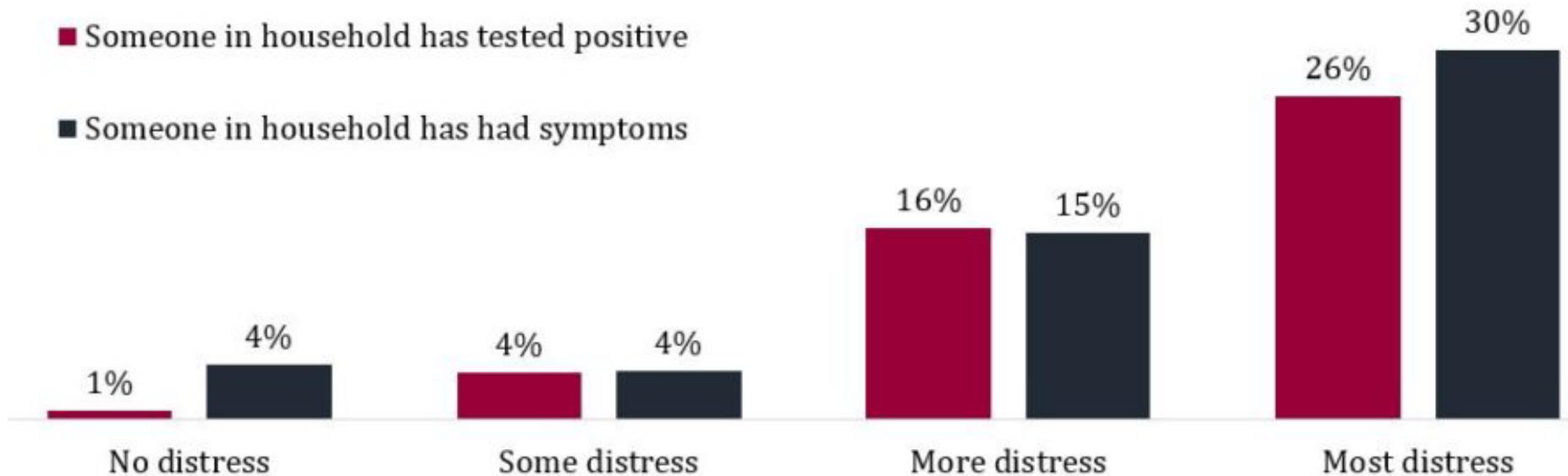
% in the "more distress" or "most distress" categories, by demographic grouping



A compound crisis

Economic distress linked to rates of COVID-19 in the household

% of Massachusetts residents in each category of economic distress who have COVID-19 in the household



Struggles to make payments, by group

- Wide differences between demographic groups in terms of their likelihood of making all housing payments between April and June.

Wide differences in keeping up on housing payments from April to June

% who say they have or will made all/missed any of their rent/mortgage payment from April-June

Most likely groups to say they have missed a housing payment

Women, 18-29	39%
18-29	35%
Non-white	33%
Men, 18-29	32%
Employed part-time	30%
Rent	29%
<\$50K	25%
Not employed	24%
High school or less	22%
\$50 K - <\$75K	22%
Boston / Inner Suburbs	21%

Least likely groups to say they have missed a housing payment

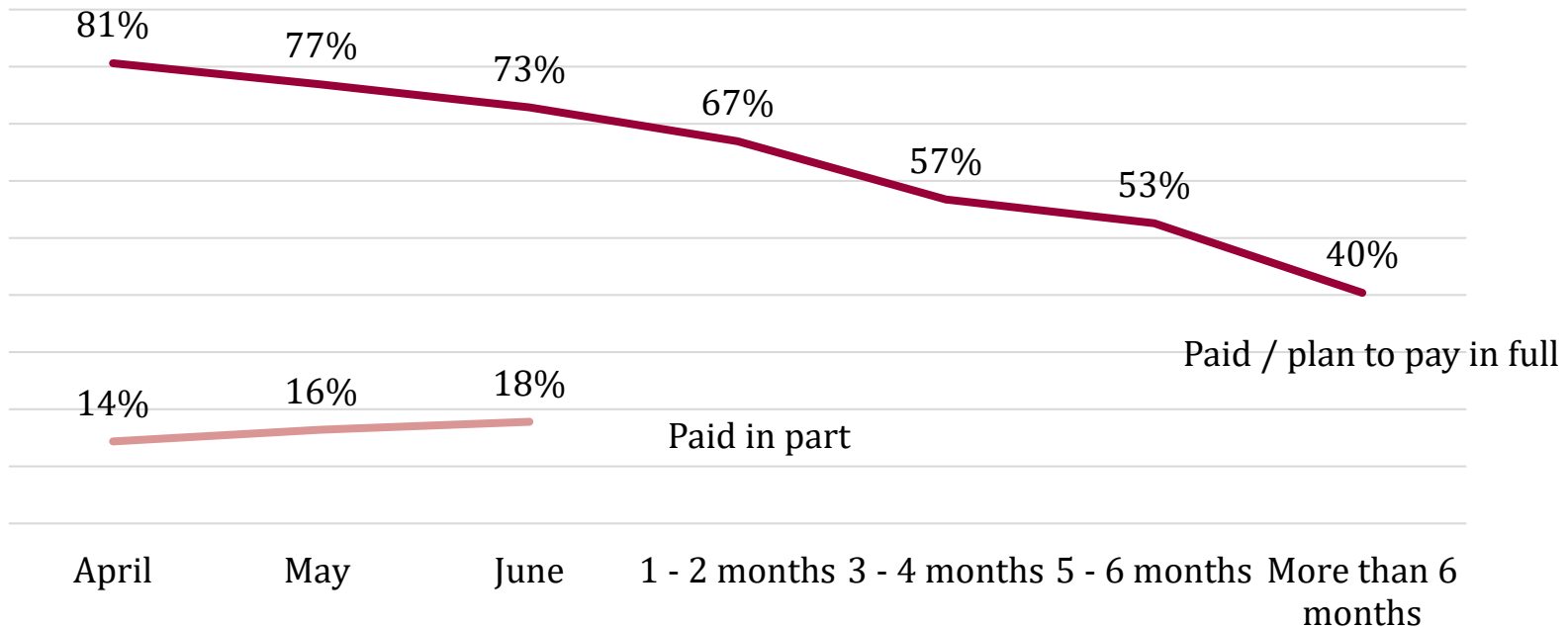
College degree	13%
Outer Boston Suburbs	12%
White	11%
Women, 45-59	10%
45-59	9%
\$100K+	9%
Men, 45-59	8%
Men, 60+	7%
Advanced degree	5%
60+	4%
Women, 60+	3%

Rent payment rates sliding

- Payment rates already fell in April – June time frame.
- Looking ahead, fewer expect to be able to continue full rent payment, the longer the crisis extends.

Rental payments rates are likely to slide further, the longer the crisis extends

% who say they have or will make all/missed any of their rent/mortgage payments for April, May, and June

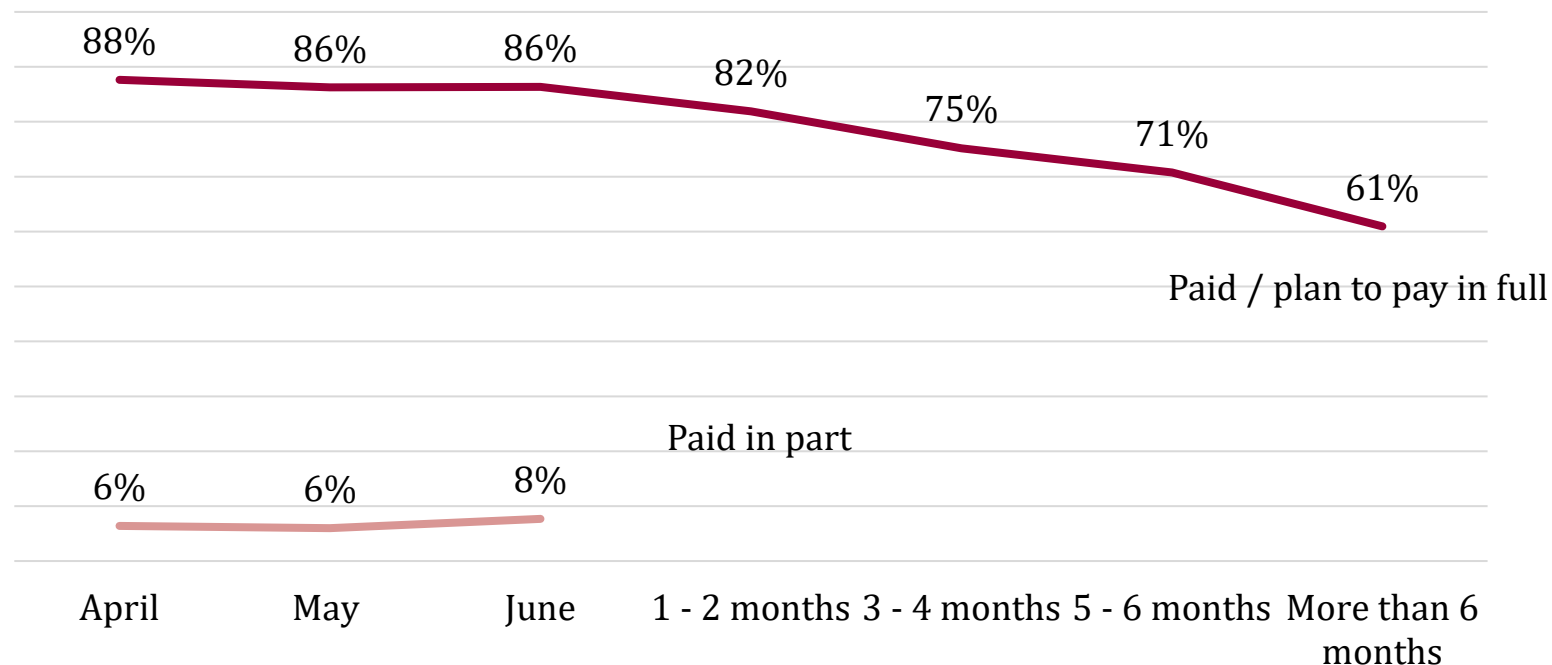


Mortgage trouble coming more slowly

- Looking ahead, homeowners with mortgages become less certain they can maintain full payment over time.

Mortgage payments have held steady, but will likely slide if the crisis continues

% who say they have or will make all/missed any of their rent/mortgage payment for April, May, and June

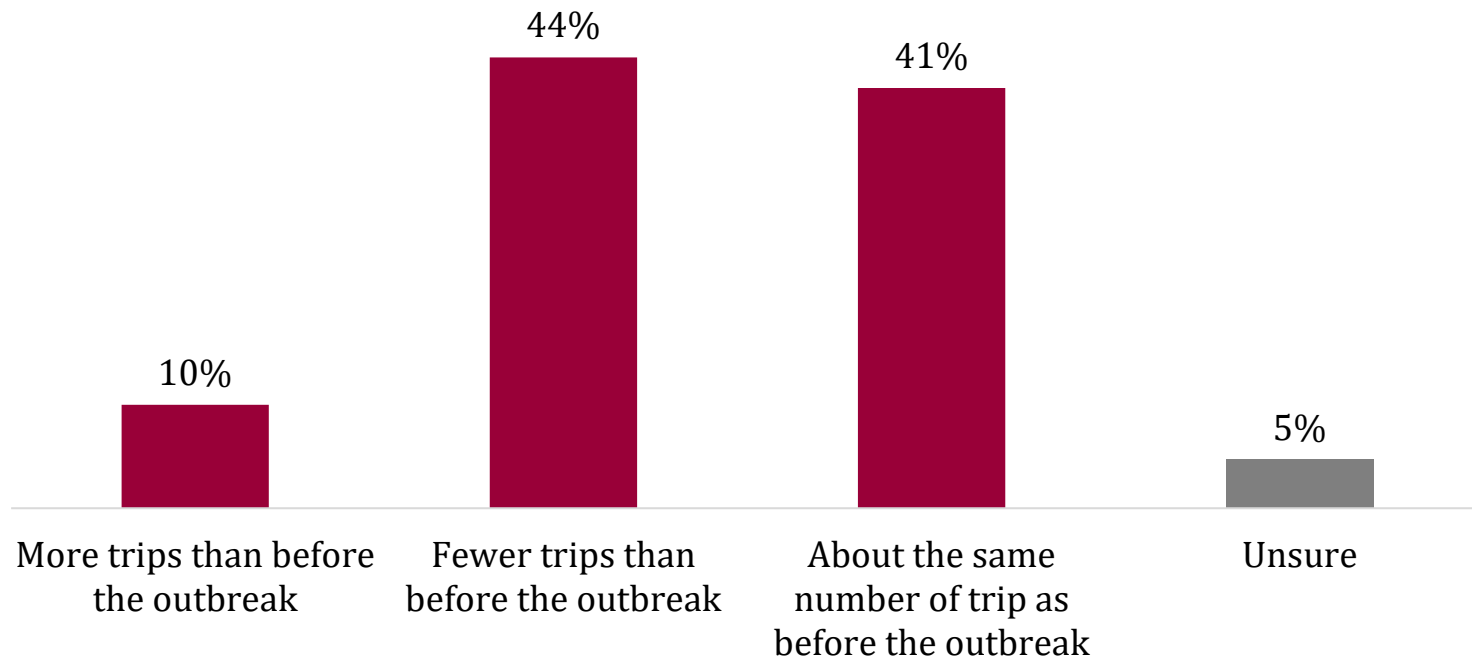


Fewer trips overall

- Most residents anticipate the same number, or fewer trips than before. If this holds, it means fewer overall trips.

More residents say they will take the same or fewer trips than in the past

% who expect to take more trips or fewer trips than before

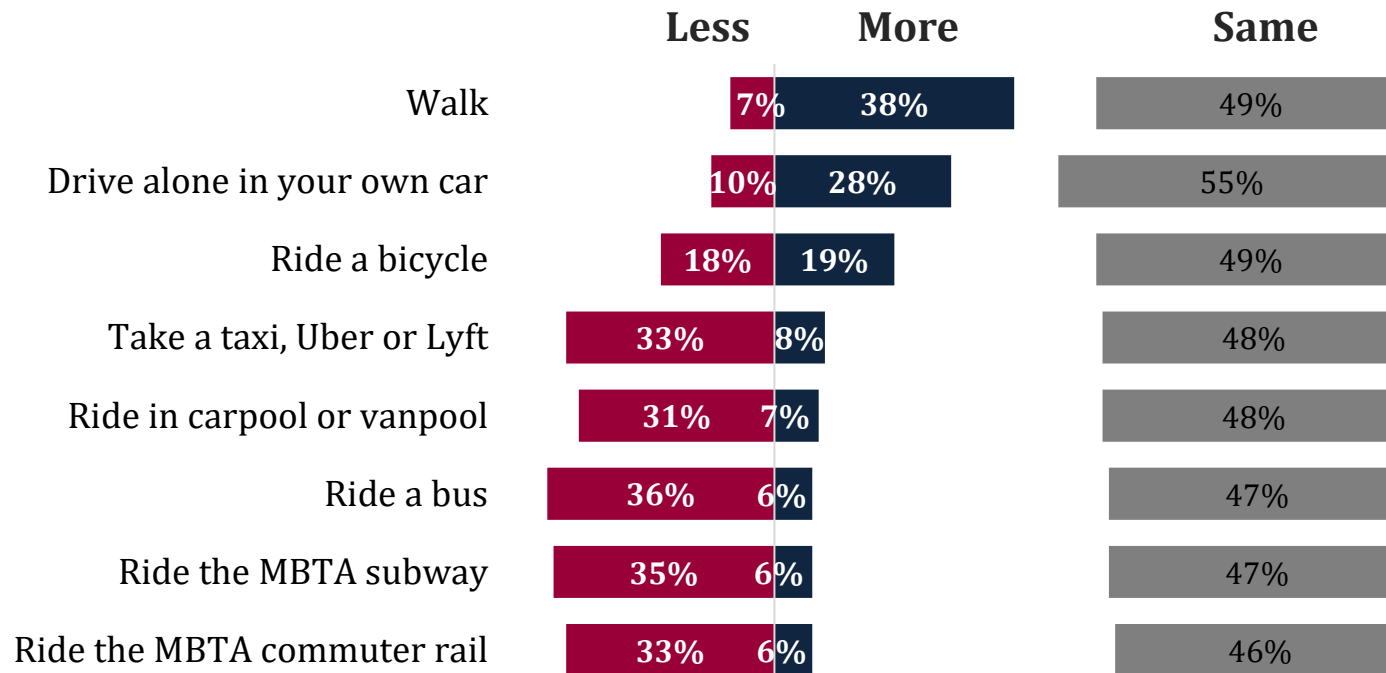


Major mode shift coming?

- Walking and driving look set to rise, while transit and shared ride services look likely to drop.

Individual transportation options look likely to grow in the short term

% who expect to use each mode more or less once the worst passes



No going back to the status quo

- By a wide margin, residents think we need “big changes” to transportation coming out of the coronavirus crisis.
- These gaps persist across regions of the state but are widest in the Greater Boston region.

Residents would like to see changes to the transportation system

% who say we should _____ after the coronavirus crisis

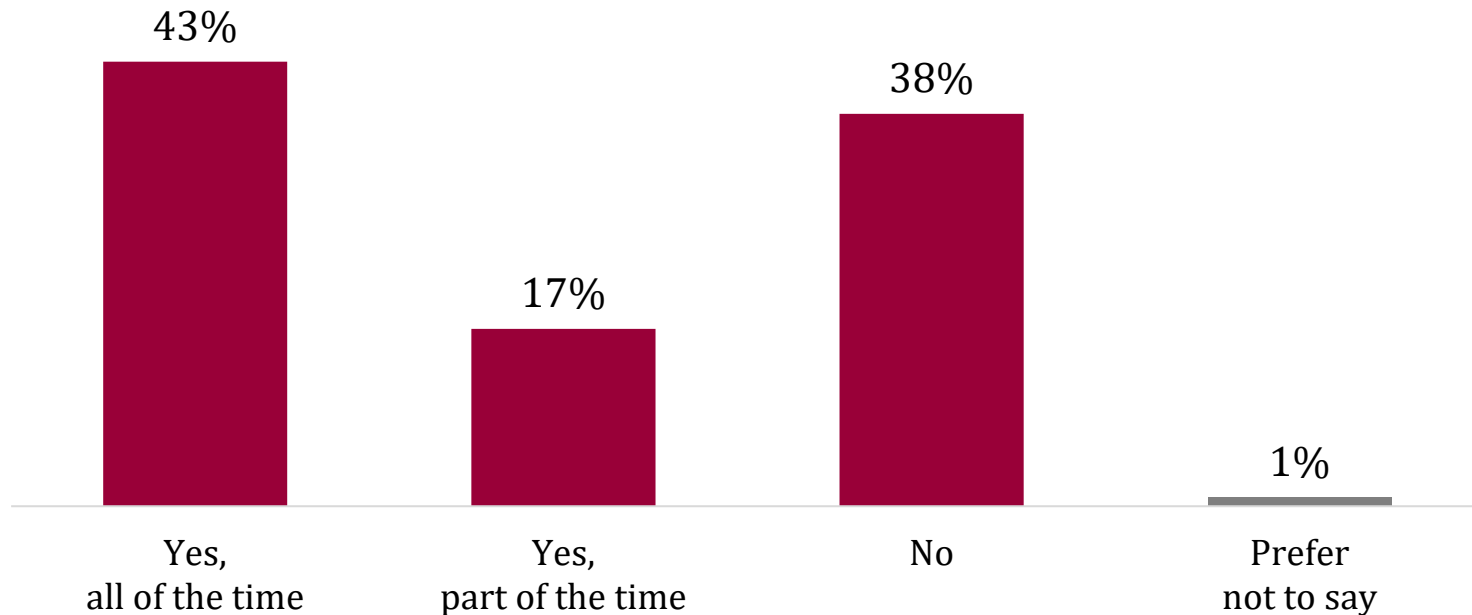
	Overall	Western	Central	S. East	Outer Suburbs	Inner Suburbs	Boston
Go back to the system we had	21%	30%	17%	25%	18%	18%	23%
Make big changes to the system	59%	41%	54%	54%	63%	70%	64%
<i>Unsure</i>	<i>19%</i>	<i>29%</i>	<i>29%</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>11%</i>	<i>13%</i>

A revolution in work patterns?

- Work from home patterns could have a huge impact on usage of the transportation system in the future.

Most employees have had at least some work from home experience

% who say they have worked from home during the crisis

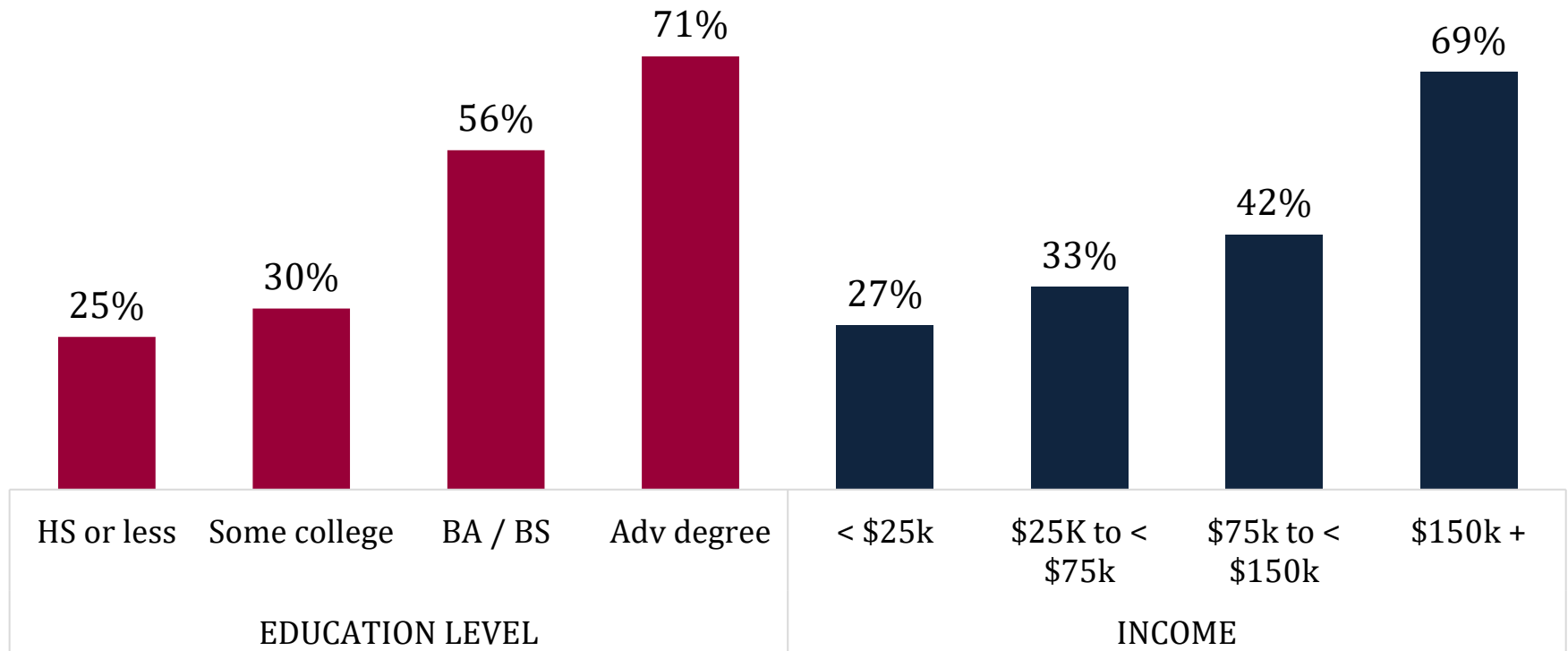


The inequities of remote work

- Work from home patterns during the crisis deepened existing income gaps.

The opportunity to work from home is not equally distributed

% in each group who say they worked from home "all of the time" during the crisis

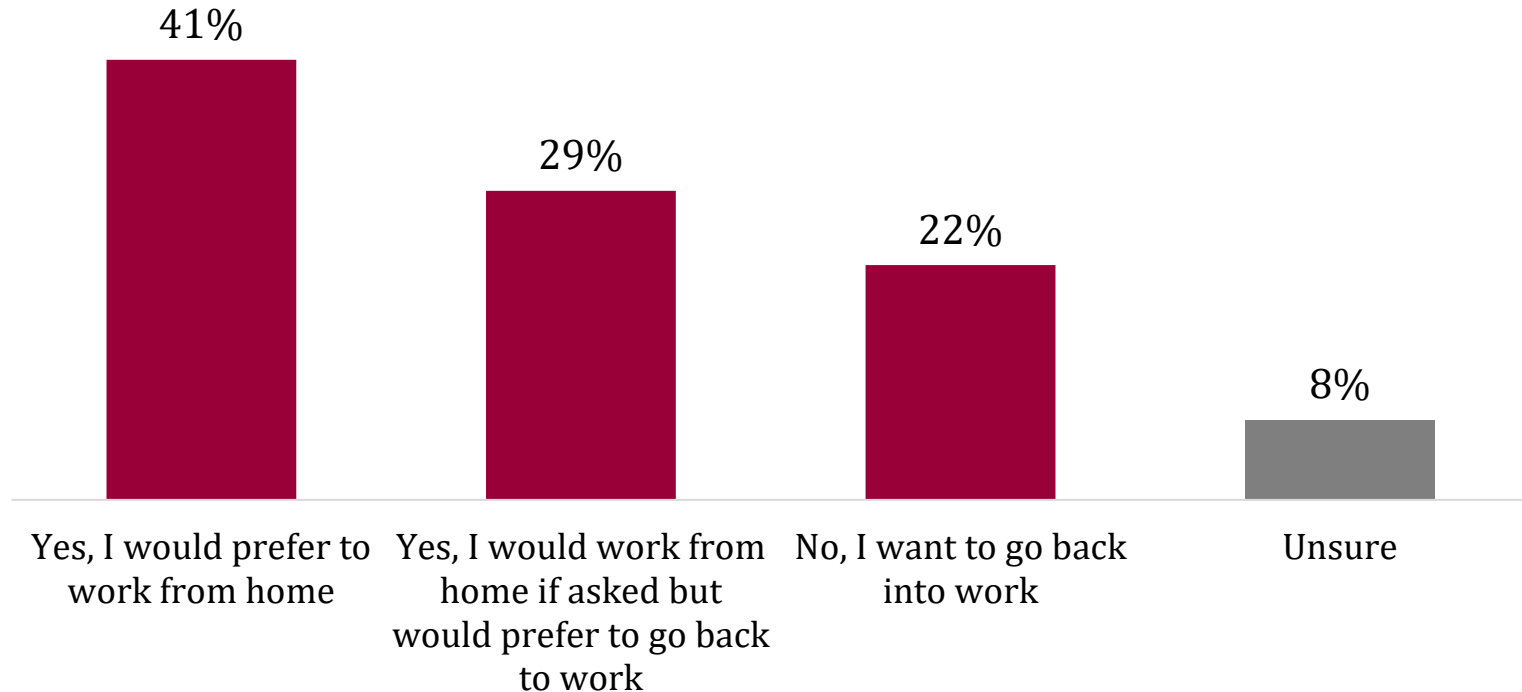


Will work from home persist?

- A considerable share of the workforce would prefer to work from home in the future

Many workers say they would prefer to work from home in the future

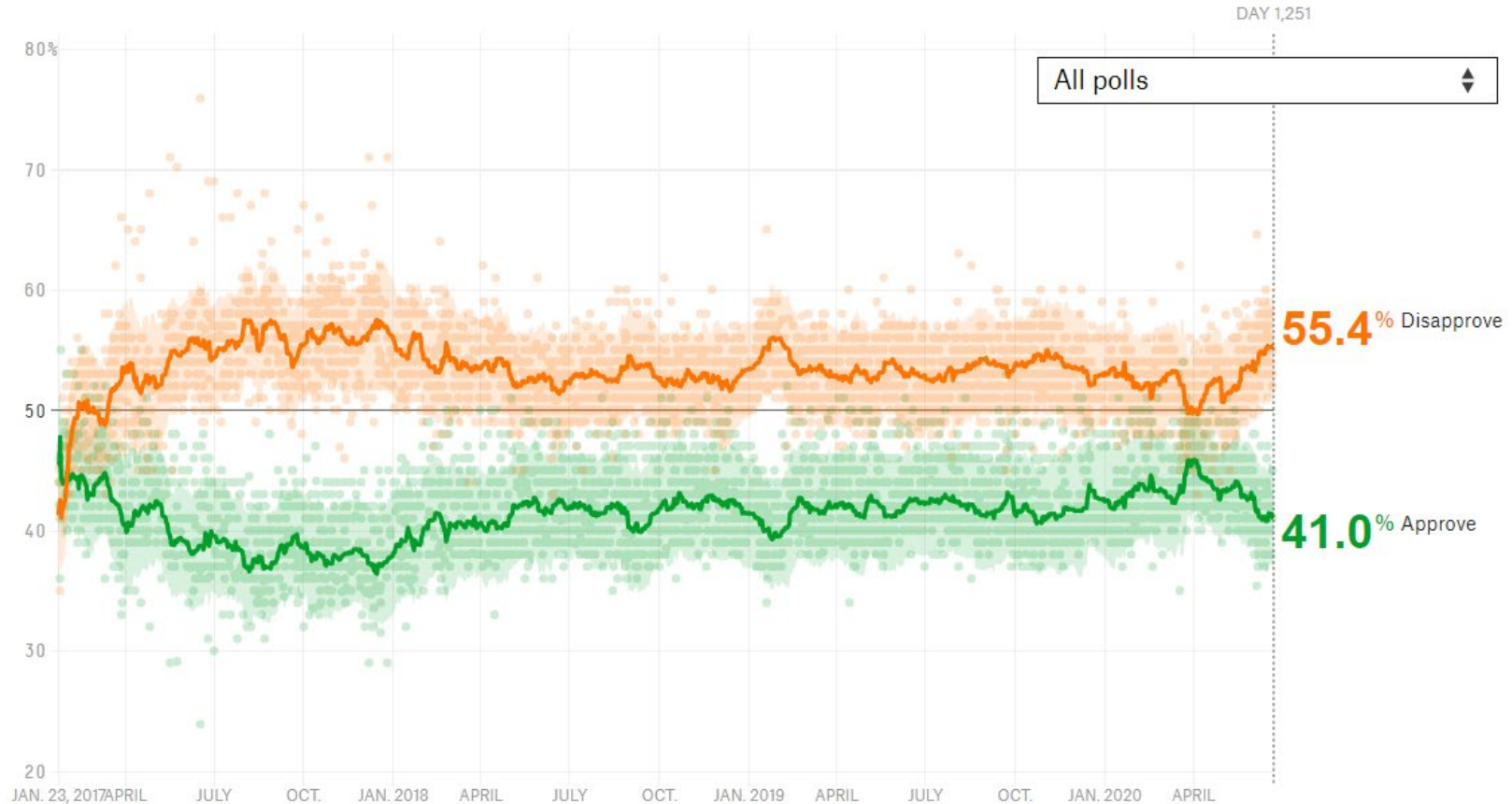
% who say they would prefer to work from home or go back to work after the crisis



A look at national polls

Trump approval rating

An updating calculation of the president's approval rating, accounting for each poll's quality, recency, sample size and partisan lean. [How this works »](#)

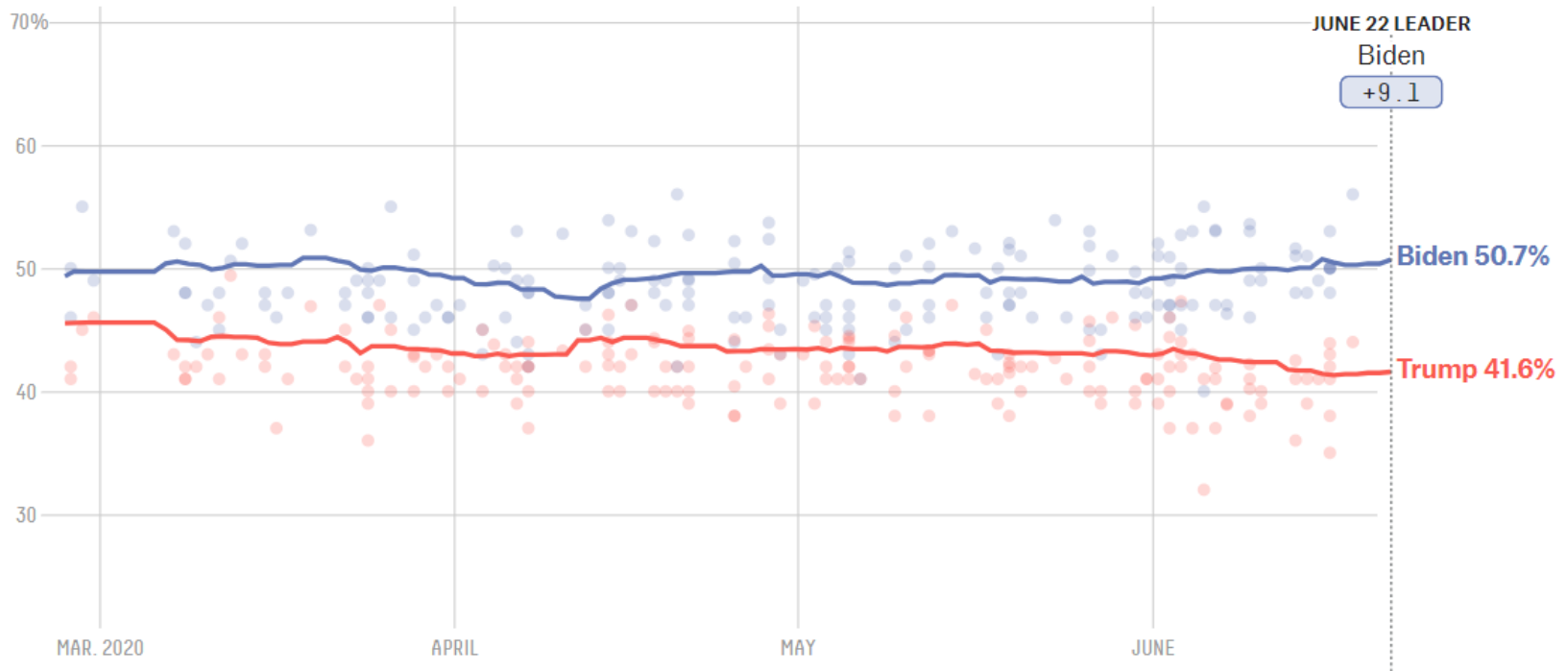


Source: FiveThirtyEight

Biden opening lead over Trump

Who's ahead in the national polls?

An updating average of 2020 presidential general election polls, accounting for each poll's quality, sample size and recency



Polling averages are adjusted based on state and national polls, which means candidates' averages can shift even if no new polls have been added to this page.

The shape of the election

2. If the election for president were being held today, and the candidates were Joe Biden the Democrat and Donald Trump the Republican, for whom would you vote?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... 4 YR COLL DEG	
							Yes	No
Biden	49%	7%	93%	43%	38%	59%	57%	33%
Trump	41	92	4	40	51	33	35	59
SMONE ELSE(VOL)	3	1	1	5	5	2	3	2
WLDN'T VOTE(VOL)	1	-	-	2	2	1	-	2
DK/NA	5	1	2	9	5	5	4	4

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....		Wht	Blk	Hsp
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom			
Biden	58%	45%	45%	51%	34%	50%	42%	82%	57%
Trump	31	42	47	43	57	43	50	9	31
SMONE ELSE(VOL)	4	7	1	1	4	2	3	3	4
WLDN'T VOTE(VOL)	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	-
DK/NA	5	4	6	4	3	4	4	5	8

	ECONOMY IS Q24	
	Exlnt/ Good	NtGood/ Poor
Biden	17%	70%
Trump	75	20
SMONE ELSE(VOL)	2	4
WLDN'T VOTE(VOL)	1	1
DK/NA	4	5

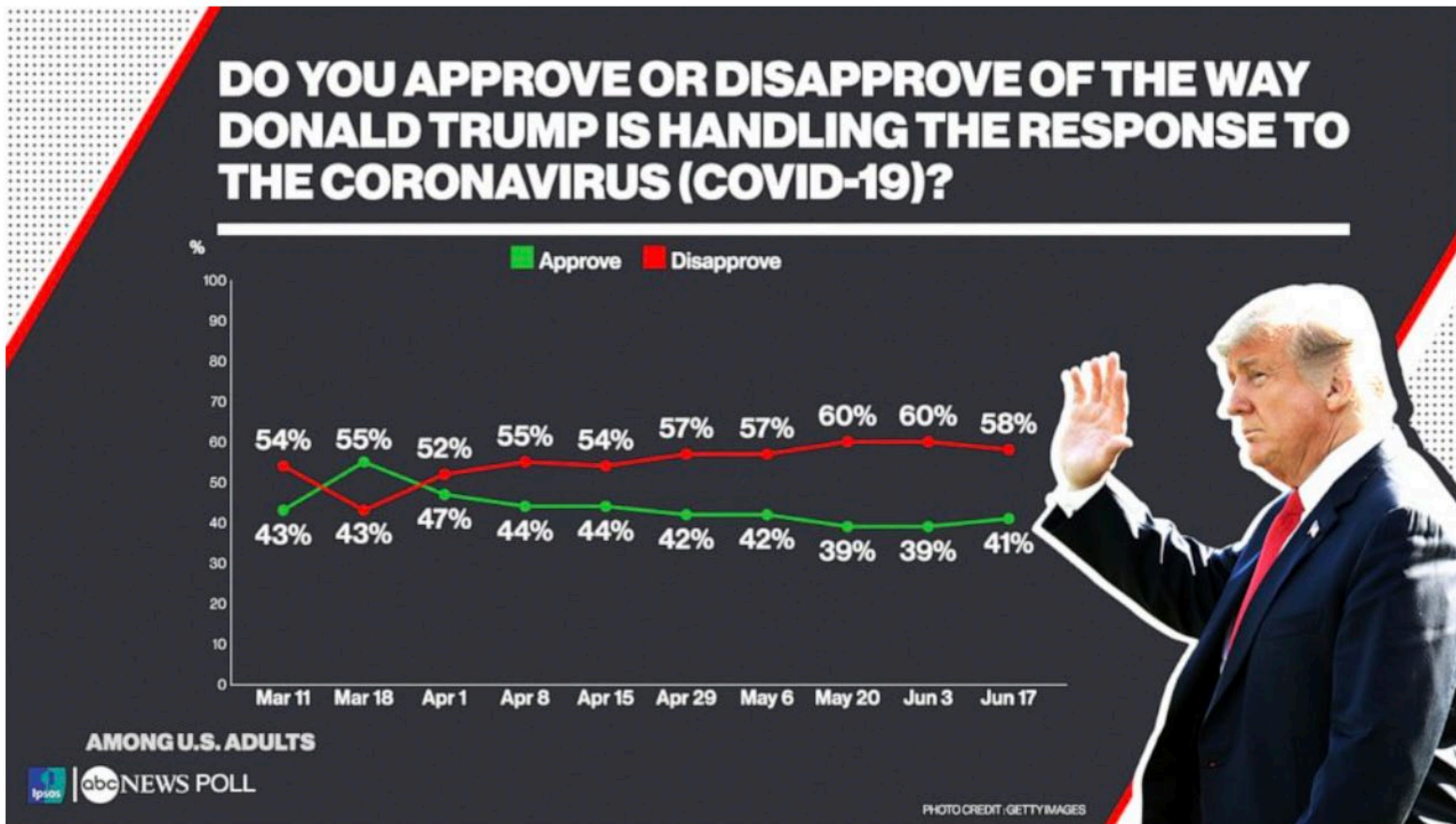
Source: Quinnipiac Poll

Issues: handling protests

10. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump handled the protests outside of the White House following George Floyd's death?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... 4 YR COLL DEG		
							Yes	No	
Approve	32%	75%	3%	29%	38%	27%	27%	48%	
Disapprove	60	16	95	61	55	65	69	43	
DK/NA	7	9	2	10	7	7	5	9	
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Approve	19%	34%	38%	38%	42%	37%	39%	9%	22%
Disapprove	71	59	58	56	50	55	53	88	71
DK/NA	10	7	4	6	8	7	8	3	7

Issues: handling coronavirus



 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19)?

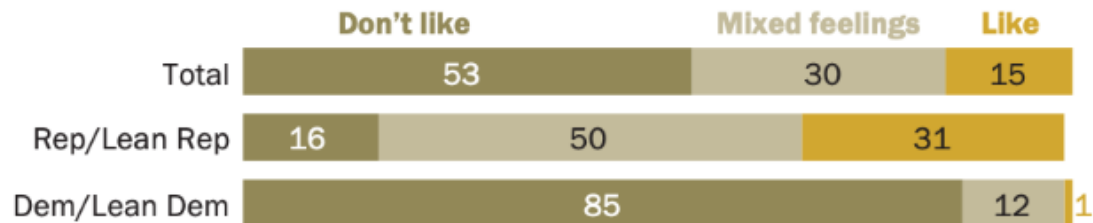
ABC News/Ipsos Poll

Issues vs sideshow

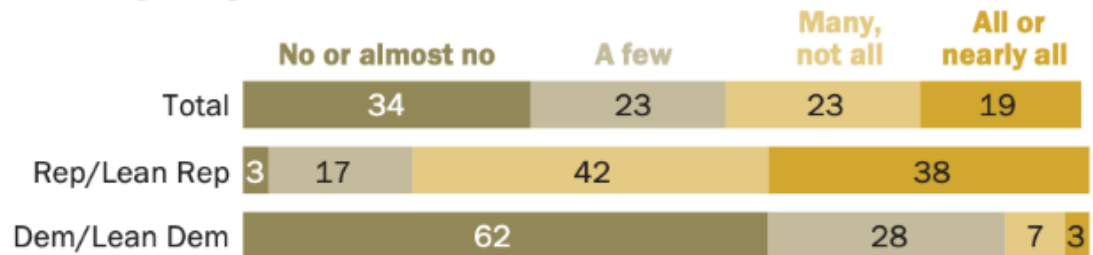
Republicans largely agree with Trump on issues, but only about a third say they like his personal conduct

Republicans largely agree with Trump on issues, but only about a third say they like his personal conduct

% who say they ____ the way Donald Trump conducts himself as president



% who say they agree with Donald Trump on ____ important issues facing the country today

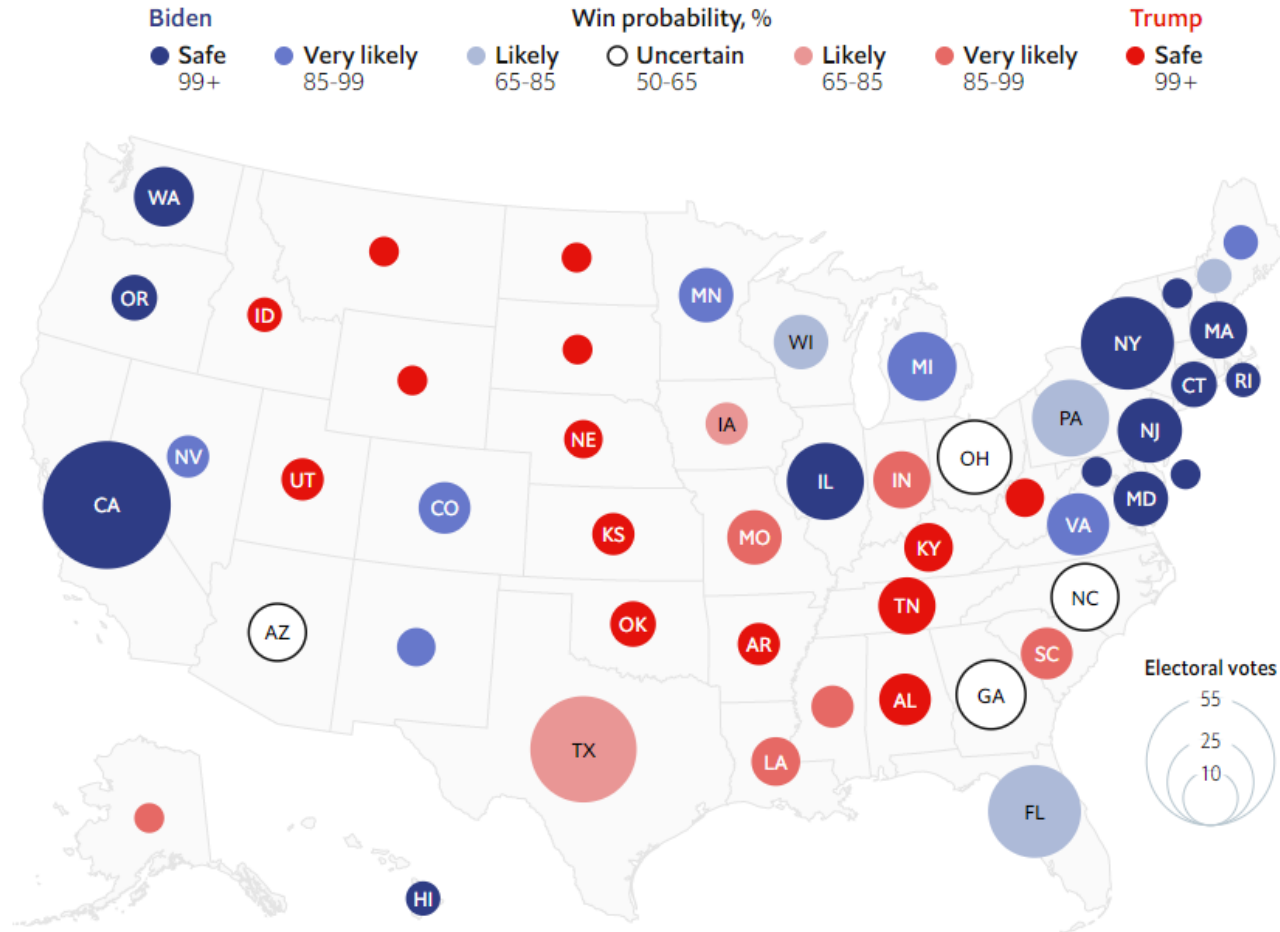


Note: No answer responses not shown.

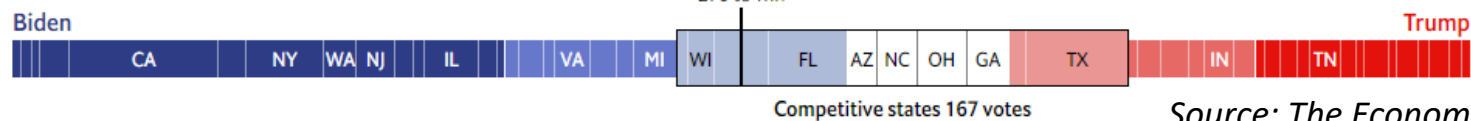
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Feb. 4-15, 2020.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

State by state elections



Electoral votes by state, ordered by win probability



Source: The Economist



info@massincpolling.com MassINCPolling.com [@MassINCPolling](https://twitter.com/MassINCPolling)

11 Beacon St, Suite 500 | Boston, MA 02108 | Phone: (617) 224-1647