

# Social Justice Watch 0212

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[A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality](#)

[Economic Fallout From COVID-19 Continues To Hit Lower-Income Americans the Hardest](#)

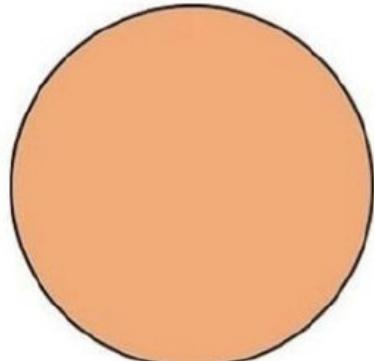
[Guns in America: Attitudes and Experiences of Americans](#)

来源：[Social Justice Watch](#)

[镜像](#)

# 图集精选

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## What people think PTSD is

@what.is.mental.illness

- Not being able to move on after a traumatic event



## What PTSD actually is

- |                        |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| ■ Unwanted memories    | ■ Anxiety/depression         |
| ■ Negative self-image  | ■ Excessive blame            |
| ■ Hypervigilance       | ■ Dissociation               |
| ■ Emotional distress   | ■ Easily scared              |
| ■ Sense of threat      | ■ Flashbacks                 |
| ■ Intrusive thoughts   | ■ Nightmares                 |
| ■ Avoidance/isolation  | ■ Sleeping problems          |
| ■ Memory problems      | ■ Self-destructive behaviors |
| ■ Anger, guilt & shame |                              |

[source](#)

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**Dr. Vassilia**  
@JunoCounseling

...

Parents saying that you owe them something because they fed you and put a roof over your head is emotional abuse. It implies you don't inherently deserve basic needs. The responsibility of feeding and housing a person was their choice.

Parents saying that you owe them something because they fed you and put a roof over your head is emotional abuse. It implies you don't inherently deserve basic needs. The responsibility of feeding and housing a person was their choice.

[source](#)

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A.S.L  
@scraptown79

I build powerlines for a living, and I make a good, union, wage. If a bunch of burger flippers started earning the same wages and benefits that I make, dude...

...I'd be celebrating with them and their families! Working people are my people! Their win is my win!

[source](#)

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**Dr. Vassilia**  
@JunoCounseling

...

You can love someone AND put space between you.

You can forgive someone AND refuse to let them back in.

You can have boundaries AND keep people close.

You can put yourself first AND give back to others.

Life is not black and white.

[source](#)

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si

@bbycherubs

...

horrible “fun” fact: most people do not realize they have been sexually assaulted until years later. your brain will block these traumatic memories out, or you wont even think twice about how violating of an encounter you had.  
listen to people who come forward years later.

[source](#)

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**Women** are at the  
frontline of the **COVID-19**  
pandemic response.





Globally, **70%** of  
health and social care  
workers are women.

SOURCE | WHO, 2019

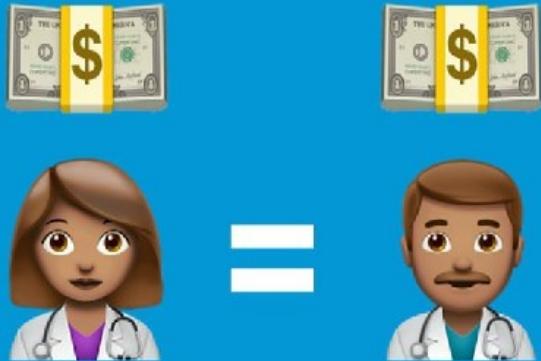




Yet, they get paid  
**11% less** than their  
male counterparts  
**with similar occupation  
and same working hours.**

SOURCE | WHO, 2019





Women deserve  
**equal pay.**



[source](#)

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for most of  
**history,**  
*anonymous*  
**was a WOMAN.**

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-Virginia Woolf-

[source](#)

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WHEN you DEBATE A PERSON about something that AFFECTS THEM MORE than it AFFECTS YOU, REMEMBER that it will TAKE A MUCH GREATER EMOTIONAL TOLL on THEM THAN ON YOU. FOR YOU it MAY FEEL like AN ACADEMIC EXERCISE. FOR THEM, it FEELS LIKE REVEALING THEIR PAIN only to HAVE YOU DISMISS THEIR EXPERIENCE and sometimes THEIR HUMANITY. THE FACT that YOU might REMAIN more CALM UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES is A CONSEQUENCE of YOUR PRIVILEGE, NOT INCREASED OBJECTIVITY ON YOUR PART. STAY HUMBLE.



When you debate a person about something that affects them more than it affects you, remember that it will take a much greater emotional toll on them than on you. For you it may feel like an academic exercise. For them, it feels like revealing their pain only to have you dismiss their experience and sometimes their humanity. The fact that you might remain more calm under these circumstances is a consequence of your privilege, not increased objectivity on your part. Stay humble. [source](#)

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darling,  
you feel heavy  
because you are  
too full of truth.

open your mouth more.  
let the truth exist  
somewhere other than  
inside your body.

- della hicks-wilson

#LOVEWARRIOR

[source](#)

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**socially squidward**

@AlienNationzzz

▼

rt if you know why

**Open Culture** @openculture

Maria Anna Mozart Was a Musical Prodigy  
Like Her Brother Wolfgang, So Why Did She  
Get Erased from History? [goo.gl/s39qH8](http://goo.gl/s39qH8)



<https://www.openculture.com/2017/10/maria-anna-mozart-was-a-musical-prodigy-like-her-brother-wolfgang-so-why-did-she-get-erased-from-history.html>

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*He runs like a girl.  
She's not like other girls.  
He's such a <sup>@farida.d.author</sup>pussy.  
She's got balls.*

Without even telling you at all how each statement translates, you already know that the ones referring to female and feminine are insults while the male and masculine are praise. This is the way the patriarchy insidiously operates.

And if that's not horrific, just imagine how many other aspects of your life this kind of thinking dominates. -Farida D.

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[source](#)



“ When I was a student at Cambridge I remember an anthropology professor holding up a picture of a bone with 28 incisions carved in it. ‘This is often considered to be man’s first attempt at a calendar’ she explained. She paused as we dutifully wrote this down. ‘My question to you is this – what man needs to mark 28 days? I would suggest to you that this is woman’s first attempt at a calendar.’ It was a moment that changed my life. In that second I stopped to question almost everything I had been taught about the past. How often had I overlooked women’s contributions?

Sandi Toksvig

“When I was a student at Cambridge, I remember an anthropology professor holding up a picture of a bone with 28 incisions carved in it. ‘This is often considered to be man’s first attempt at a calendar,’ she explained. She paused as we dutifully wrote this down. ‘My question to you is this — what man needs to mark 28 days? I would suggest to you that this is woman’s first attempt at a calendar.’ It was a moment that changed my life. In that second, I stopped to question almost everything I had been taught about the past. How often had I overlooked women’s contributions?” [source](#)

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**laura**  
@lauratnelson



My mom: wow it's so nice of Jeff to  
watch your kids for the next few days  
while you're gone

Me: yes, he is very excited to  
continue to be a father

[source](#)

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Marjane Satrapi

The world is not divided between East and West. You are American, I am Iranian, we don't know each other, but we talk and we understand each other perfectly. The difference between you and your government is much bigger than the difference between you and me. And the difference between me and my government is much bigger than the difference between me and you.  
And our governments are very much the same.

- Marjane Satrapi, Iranian Graphic Novelist

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# 消息精选

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[telegra.ph/A-Century-After-Women-Gained-the-Right-To-Vote-Majority-of-Americans-See-Work-To-Do-on-Gender-Equality-02-09](http://telegra.ph/A-Century-After-Women-Gained-the-Right-To-Vote-Majority-of-Americans-See-Work-To-Do-on-Gender-Equality-02-09)

Telegraph

A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality

Pew Research Center conducted this study to understand Americans' views of the current state of gender equality and the advancement of women around the 100th anniversary of women getting the right to vote. For this analysis, we surveyed 3,143 U.S. adults...

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[telegra.ph/Economic-Fallout-From-COVID-19-Continues-To-Hit-Lower-Income-Americans-the-Hardest-02-09](http://telegra.ph/Economic-Fallout-From-COVID-19-Continues-To-Hit-Lower-Income-Americans-the-Hardest-02-09)

Telegraph

Economic Fallout From COVID-19 Continues To Hit Lower-Income Americans the Hardest

Pew Research Center conducted this study to understand Americans' assessments of their personal financial situation during the current period of economic slowdown and high unemployment rates caused by the coronavirus outbreak. For this analysis, we surveyed...

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[telegra.ph/Guns-in-America-Attitudes-and-Experiences-of-Americans-02-09](http://telegra.ph/Guns-in-America-Attitudes-and-Experiences-of-Americans-02-09)

Telegraph

Guns in America: Attitudes and Experiences of Americans

As a nation, the U.S. has a deep and enduring connection to guns. Integrated into the fabric of American society since the country's earliest days, guns remain a point of pride for many Americans. Whether for hunting, sport shooting or personal protection...

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# A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality

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Pew Research Center conducted this study to understand Americans' views of the current state of gender equality and the advancement of women around the 100th anniversary of women getting the right to vote. For this analysis, we surveyed 3,143 U.S. adults in March and April 2020, including an oversample of Black and Hispanic respondents. The adults surveyed are members of the Ipsos Public Affairs KnowledgePanel, an online survey panel that is recruited through national random sampling of residential addresses and landline and cellphone numbers. KnowledgePanel provides internet access for those who do not have it and, if needed, a device to access the internet when they join the panel. To ensure that the results of this survey reflect a balanced cross section of the nation, the data are weighted to match the U.S. adult population by gender, age, education, race and ethnicity and other categories. The survey was conducted in

English and Spanish.

Here are the questions used for this report, along with responses, and the report's methodology.

References to white and Black adults include only those who are non-Hispanic and identify as only one race. Hispanics are of any race.

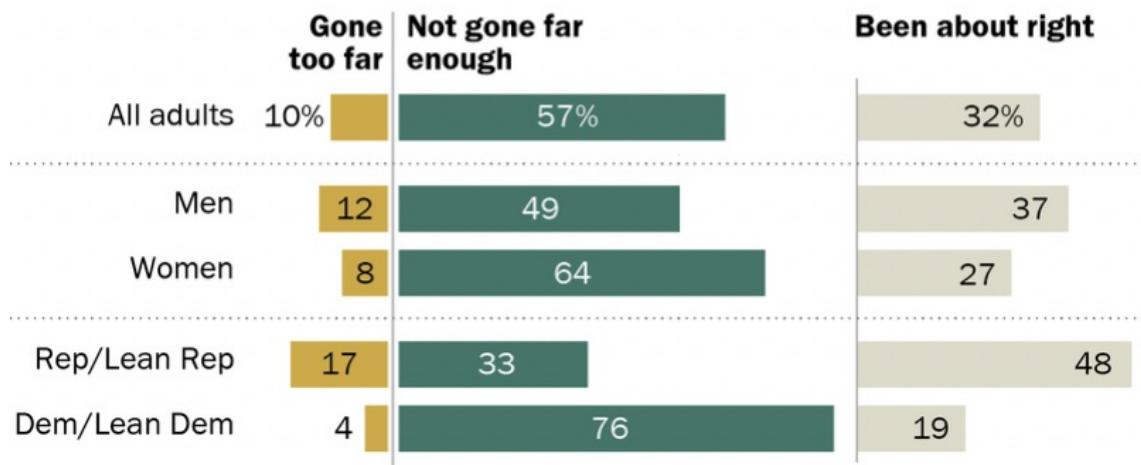
All references to party affiliation include those who lean toward that party. Republicans include those who identify as Republicans and independents who say they lean toward the Republican Party. Democrats include those who identify as Democrats and independents who say they lean toward the Democratic Party.

References to college graduates or people with a college degree comprise those with a bachelor's degree or more. "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree.

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## Views on how far the country has come on gender equality differ widely by gender and by party

*% saying, when it comes to giving women equal rights with men, they think our country has ...*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

"A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality"

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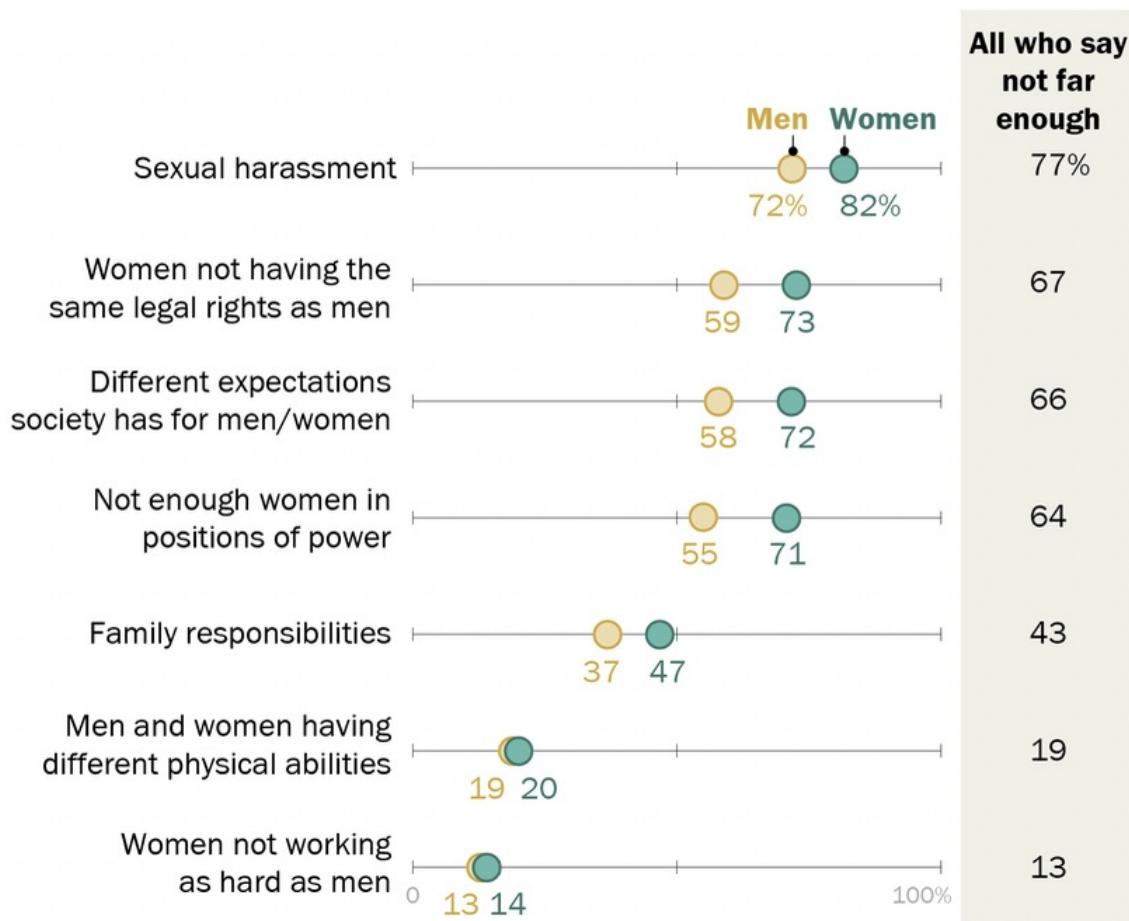
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A hundred years after the 19th Amendment was ratified, about half of Americans say granting women the right to vote has been the most important milestone in advancing the position of women in the country. Still, a majority of U.S. adults say the country hasn't gone far enough when it comes to giving women equal rights with men, even as a large share thinks there has been progress in the last decade, according to a new Pew Research Center survey.

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## About three-quarters of Americans who say country has work to do on gender equality see sexual harassment as a major obstacle

*Among those who say the country has not gone far enough when it comes to giving women equal rights with men, % of men and women saying each of the following is a major obstacle to women having equal rights with men in our country*



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

"A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality"

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Among those who think the country still has work to do in achieving gender equality, 77% point to sexual harassment as a major obstacle to women having

equal rights with men. Fewer, but still majorities, point to women not having the same legal rights as men (67%), different societal expectations for men and women (66%) and not enough women in positions of power (64%) as major obstacles to gender equality. Women are more likely than men to see each of these as a major obstacle.

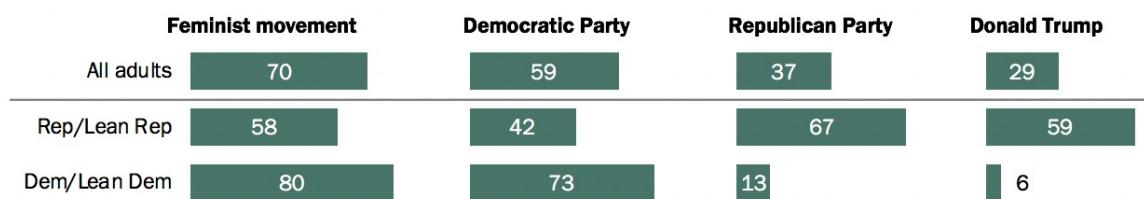
Many of those who say it is important for men and women to have equal rights point to aspects of the workplace when asked about what gender equality would look like. Fully 45% volunteer that a society where women have equal rights with men would include equal pay. An additional 19% say there would be no discrimination in hiring, promotion or educational opportunities. About one-in-ten say women would be more equally represented in business or political leadership.

In terms of the groups and institutions that have done the most to advance the rights of women in the U.S., 70% say the feminist movement has done at least a fair amount in this regard. The Democratic Party is viewed as having contributed more to the cause of women's rights than the Republican Party: 59% say the Democratic Party has done at least a fair amount to advance women's rights, while 37% say the same about the GOP. About three-in-ten (29%) say President Donald Trump has done at least a fair amount to advance women's rights, while 69% say Trump has not done much or has done nothing at all. These views vary considerably by party, with Republicans and Republican leaners at least five times as likely as Democrats and those who lean Democratic to say the GOP and Trump have done at least a fair amount and Democrats far more likely than Republicans to say the same about the Democratic Party.

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**Seven-in-ten say the feminist movement has done at least a fair amount to advance women's rights**

*% saying each of the following have done a great deal or a fair amount to advance women's rights in our country*



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

"A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality"

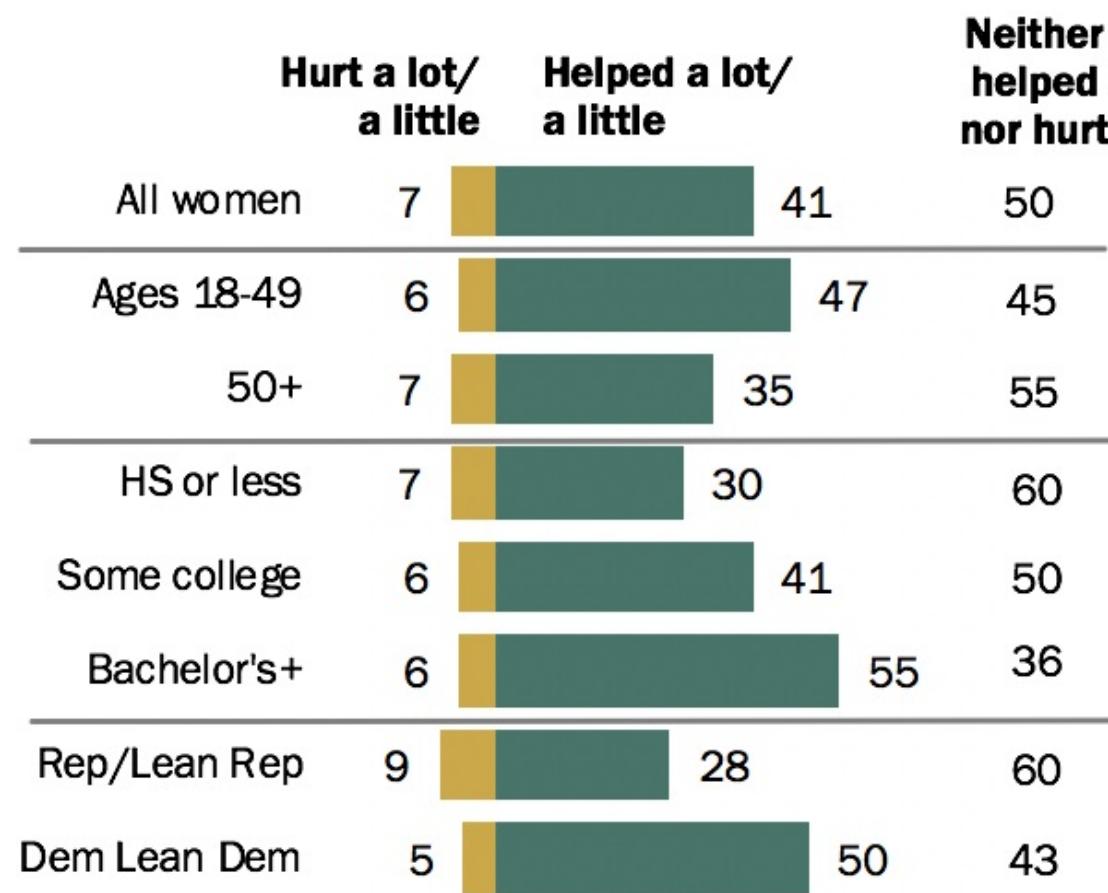
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## About four-in-ten women say feminism has helped them personally

*Among women, % saying that, overall, feminism has helped/hurt them personally*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.  
“Some college” includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.  
“A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality”

Views of the role the feminist movement has played in advancing gender equality are positive overall, though fewer than half of women say the movement has been beneficial to them personally. About four-in-ten (41%) say feminism has helped them at least a little, while half say it has neither helped nor hurt them. Relatively few (7%) say feminism has hurt them personally. Democratic women, those with a bachelor's degree or more education and women younger than 50 are among the most likely to say they've benefitted personally from feminism.

Views about how much progress the country has made on gender equality differ widely along partisan lines. About three-quarters of Democrats (76%) say the country hasn't gone far enough when it comes to giving women equal rights with men, while 19% say it's been about right and 4% say the country has gone too far. Among Republicans, a third say the country hasn't made enough progress, while 48% say it's been about right and 17% say the country has gone too far in giving women equal rights with men.

There is also a gender gap in these views, with 64% of women – compared with 49% of men – saying the country hasn't gone far enough in giving women equal rights with men. Democratic and Republican women are about ten percentage points more likely than their male counterparts to say this (82% of Democratic women vs. 70% of Democratic men and 38% of Republican women vs. 28% of Republican men).

The nationally representative survey of 3,143 U.S. adults was conducted online from March 18-April 1, 2020. Among the other key findings:

**More cite women's suffrage than other milestones as the most important in advancing the position of women in the U.S.** About half of Americans (49%) say women gaining the right to vote has been the most important milestone in advancing the position of women in the U.S.; 29% cite the passage of the Equal Pay Act, while smaller shares point to the passage of the Family and Medical Leave Act (12%) or the availability of the birth control pill (8%) as the most important milestone.

**A majority of Americans say feminism has had a positive impact on the lives of white, Black and Hispanic women.** About six-in-ten or more U.S. adults say feminism has helped the lives of white (64%), Black (61%) and

Hispanic (58%) women at least a little. But more say feminism helped white women a lot (32%) than say it's done the same for Black (21%) or Hispanic (15%) women. About a quarter (24%) say feminism has helped wealthy women a lot; just 10% say it's been equally helpful to poor women.

**About four-in-ten Republican men think women's gains have come at the expense of men.** Most Americans (76%) say the gains women have made in society have not come at the expense of men, but 22% think these gains have come at the expense of men. That view is more common among men (28%) than women (17%). Republican and Democratic men are more likely than their female counterparts to say the gains women have made in society have come at the expense of men. About four-in-ten Republican men (38%) say women's gains have come at the expense of men, compared with 25% of Republican women, 19% of Democratic men and 12% of Democratic women.

**Democrats are more likely than Republicans to say that, when it comes to gender discrimination, the bigger problem is discrimination being overlooked.** Two-thirds of U.S. adults say the bigger problem for our country today is people not seeing gender discrimination where it really *does* exist; 31% say people seeing gender discrimination where it really *does not* exist is the bigger problem. More than eight-in-ten Democrats (85%) point to people overlooking gender discrimination as the bigger problem; 46% of Republicans say the same.

**Most Americans favor adding the ERA to the U.S. Constitution, even as many don't think this would make much difference for women's rights.** About eight-in-ten U.S. adults (78%), including majorities of men and women and Republicans and Democrats alike, say they at least somewhat favor adding the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the U.S. Constitution. When asked about the impact they think adopting the ERA would have on women's rights in the U.S., 44% say it would advance women's rights, while 5% say this would be a setback for women's rights and 49% say it would not make much of a difference. Even among those who favor adopting the amendment, 44% say doing so wouldn't have much of an impact on women's rights (54% say it would advance women's rights).

**A majority of Americans say the country has not gone far enough in giving women equal rights with men**

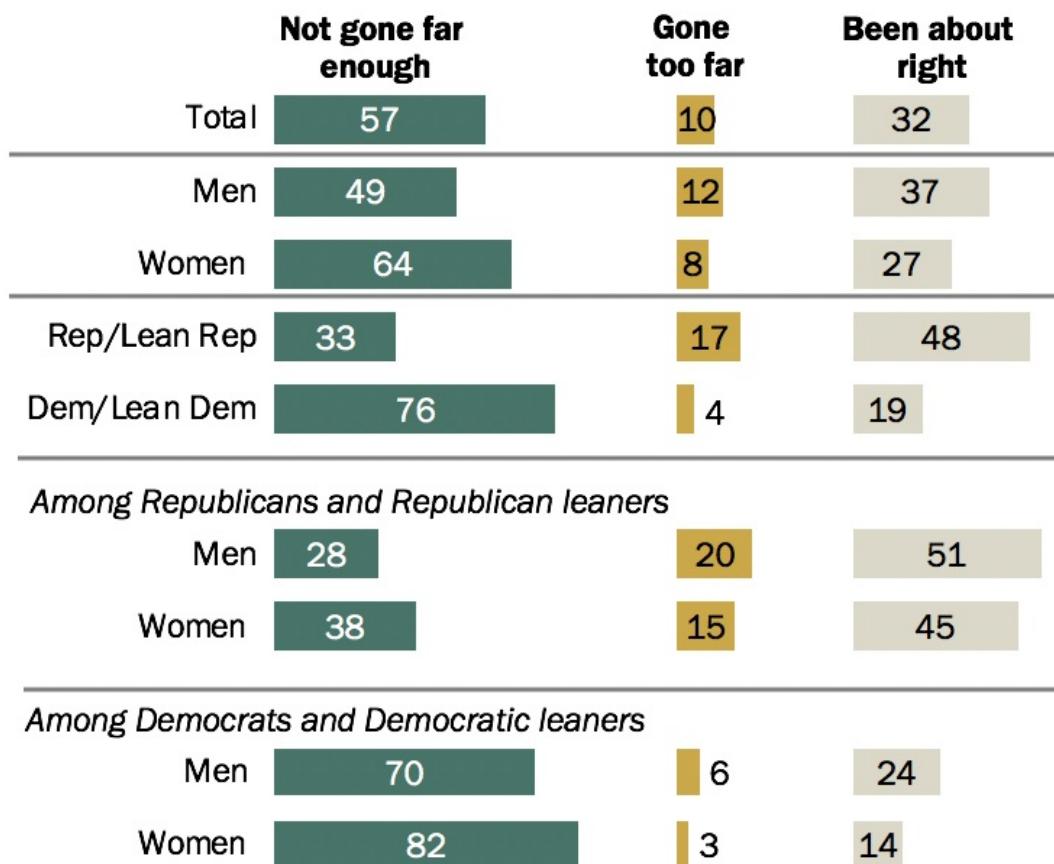
The vast majority of Americans across demographic and partisan groups agree that women should have equal rights with men. More than nine-in-ten U.S. adults say it is very important (79%) or somewhat important (18%) for women to have equal rights with men in this country. Just 3% of Americans say gender equality is not too or not at all important.

Democrats and those who lean to the Democratic Party (86%) are more likely than Republicans and Republican leaners (71%) to say it is very important for women to have equal rights with men. Still, majorities of Republicans and Democrats, including at least two-thirds of men and women in each party, say this is very important.

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## Majority of Americans say the U.S. has work to do to give women equal rights with men

*% saying, when it comes to giving women equal rights with men, they think our country has ...*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

"A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality"

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When it comes to giving women equal rights with men, a majority of adults (57%) think our country has not gone far enough, while 32% say things have been about right; 10% of Americans say the country has gone too far in giving women equal rights with men.

Women (64%) are more likely than men (49%) to say the country hasn't made enough progress on gender equality. However, there is also a sizable party gap. Roughly three-quarters of Democrats (76%) say the country hasn't gone far enough when it comes to giving women equal rights with men, compared with 33% of Republicans. Instead, 48% of Republicans – compared with 19% of Democrats – say things are about right when it comes to gender equality and 17% say the country has gone too far; just 4% of Democrats say things have gone too far.

Across parties, women are more likely than men to say the U.S. has not gone far enough in giving women equal rights with men. About four-in-ten Republican women (38%) say that gender equality has not come far enough, compared with 28% of Republican men. Still, about half of Republican men (51%) and 45% of Republican women say things are about right in the country when it comes to gender equality.

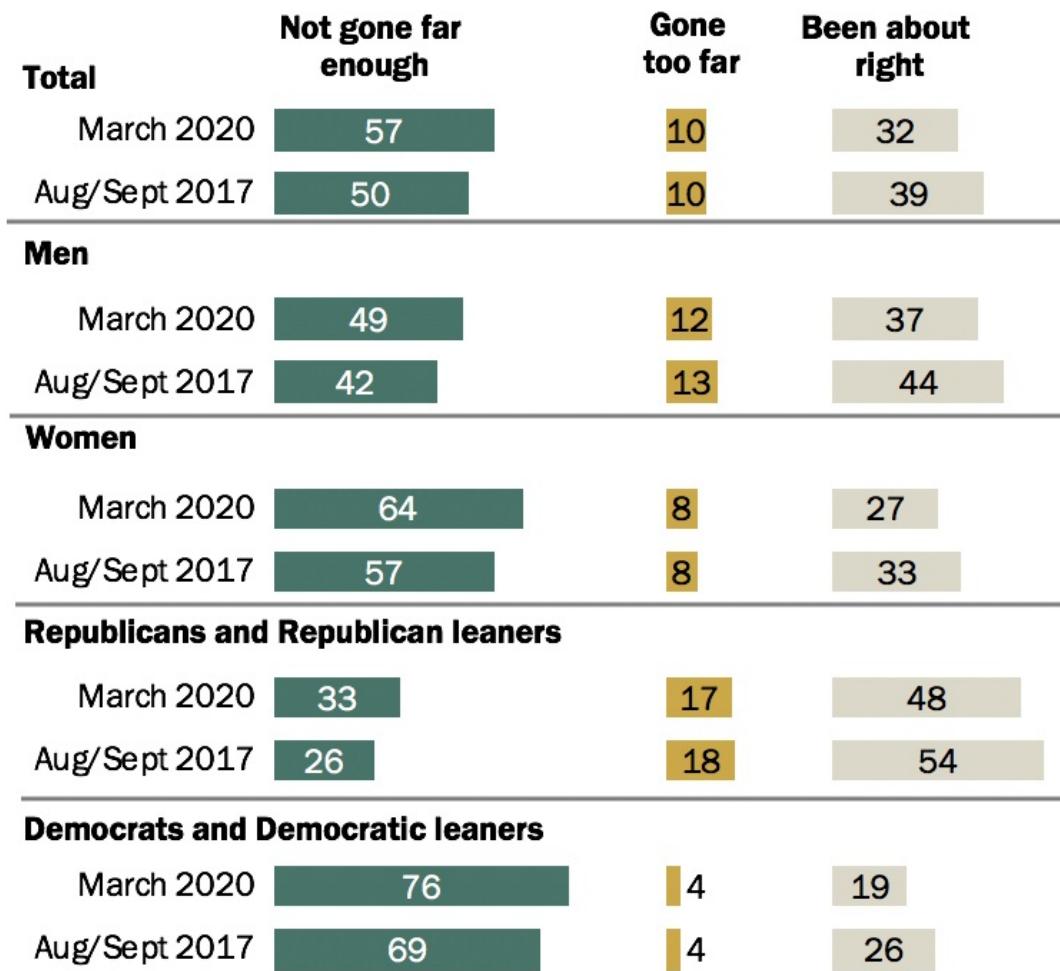
Among Democrats, 82% of women, compared with 70% of men, say the country still has work to do on gender equality. About a quarter of Democratic men (24%) say things are about right in the country when it comes to giving women equal rights with men, compared with 14% of Democratic women who say the same.

Among Democrats, those with at least some college education are more likely than those with no college experience to express dissatisfaction with the current state of gender equality.

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## **Growing share of Americans say the country has not gone far enough in giving women equal rights with men**

*% saying, when it comes to giving women equal rights with men, they think our country has ...*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown. In 2017, the question was asked about “the country.” In 2020, the question wording was changed to “our country.”

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

“A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality”

About eight-in-ten Democrats with a bachelor's degree or more education (82%) and 77% of those with some college education say the country hasn't gone far enough when it comes to giving women equal rights with men, compared with 71% of Democrats with a high school diploma or less education. Among Republicans, there is generally more agreement across levels of educational attainment.

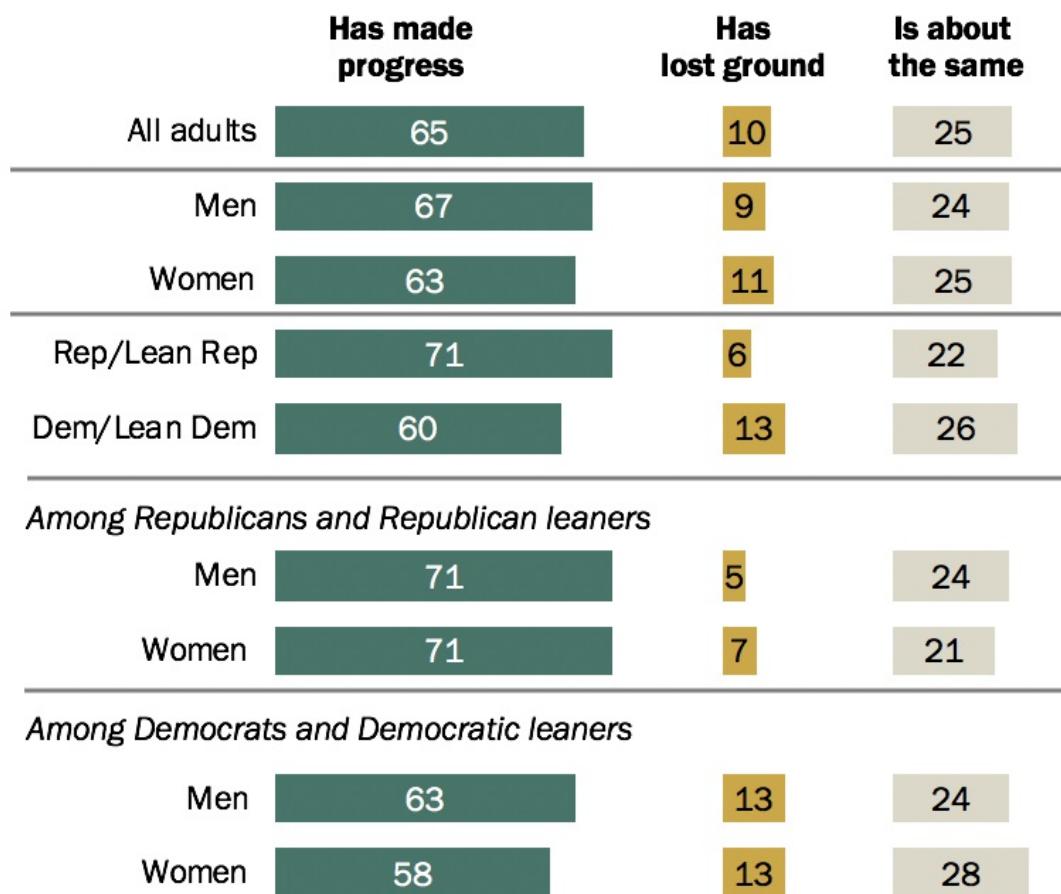
Overall, Americans express more dissatisfaction with the state of gender equality now than they did in 2017, when this question was last asked. Then, half said the country hadn't gone far enough in giving women equal rights with men, while 39% said things were about right and 10% said the country had gone too far. Attitudes have shifted among men and women and Republicans and Democrats alike.

**Most Democrats and Republicans say the country has made progress in giving women and men equal rights over the last 10 years**

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## **Majorities across parties, genders say U.S. has made progress in gender equality over last 10 years**

*% saying, overall, when it comes to giving women equal rights with men, they think our country \_\_\_ compared to 10 years ago*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

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While many Americans say there's still work to be done to achieve gender equality, most say there's been progress over the past decade. Majorities of men and women say the U.S. has made progress in the last 10 years when it comes to giving women equal rights with men. Still, 25% of Americans say things are the same as they were 10 years ago, and one-in-ten say the country has lost ground

when it comes to equal rights for women.

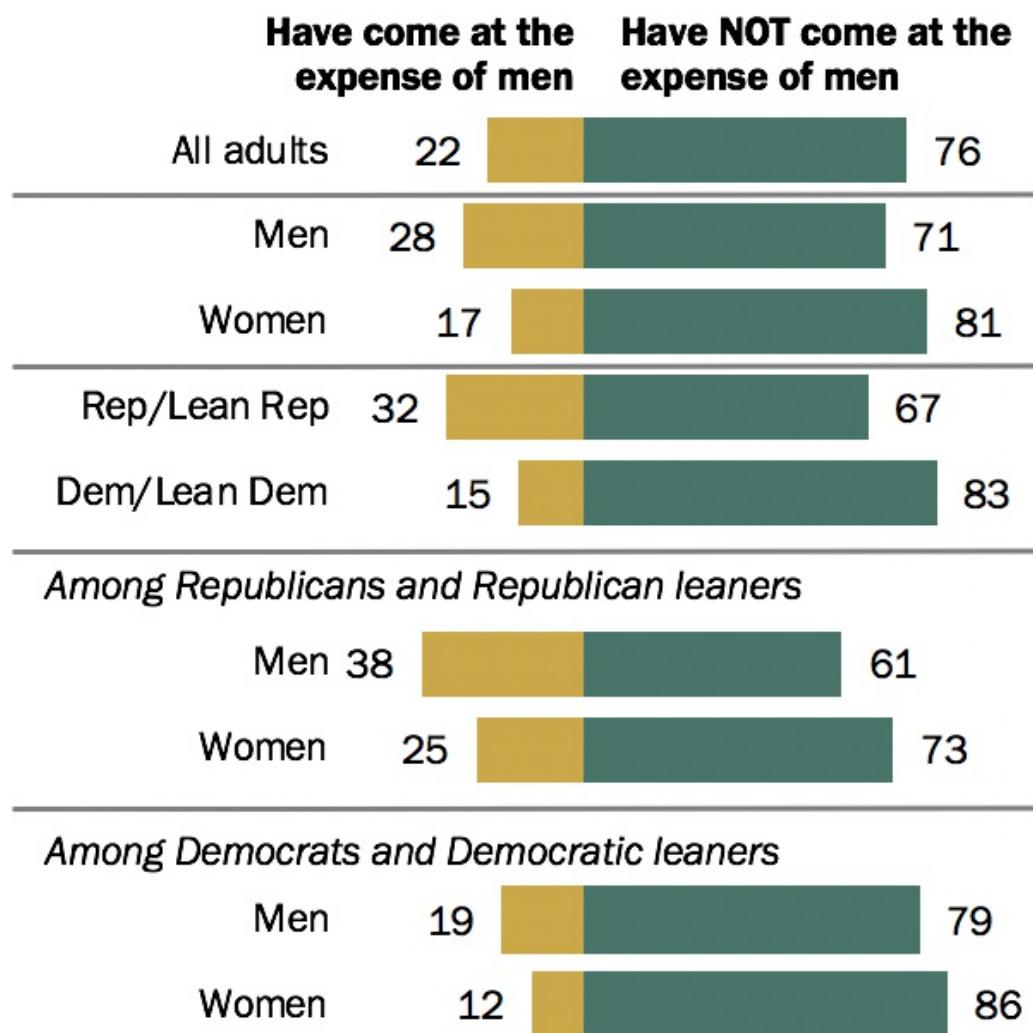
Majorities of Democrats (60%) and Republicans (71%) say that, in the last 10 years, the country has made progress on gender equality. However, Democratic women are the least likely to say this: 58% of Democratic women say this, compared with 63% of Democratic men and 71% of both Republican men and Republican women. Instead, 28% of Democratic women say things are about the same as they were 10 years ago (21% of Republican women say the same).

**About three-in-ten U.S. men think women's gains have come at the expense of men**

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## About four-in-ten Republican men say women's gains in society have come at the expense of men

*% saying the gains women have made in society ...*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

"A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality"

When it comes to the gains that women have made in society, most Americans (76%) say the gains have not come at the expense of men, but 22% – including 28% of men – think these gains have come at the expense of men.

Republican men (38%) are twice as likely as Democratic men (19%) to say the gains women have made have come at the expense of men. A quarter of Republican women also say this, less than the share of their male counterparts but higher than the shares of Democratic men and women (12%) that hold this view.

Among women, those without a bachelor's degree are about twice as likely as college graduates to say gains have come at the expense of men (21% vs. 10%); educational differences are less pronounced, though still significant, among men: 30% of men with some college or less education say the gains women have made in society have come at the expense of men, compared with 24% of men with at least a bachelor's degree.

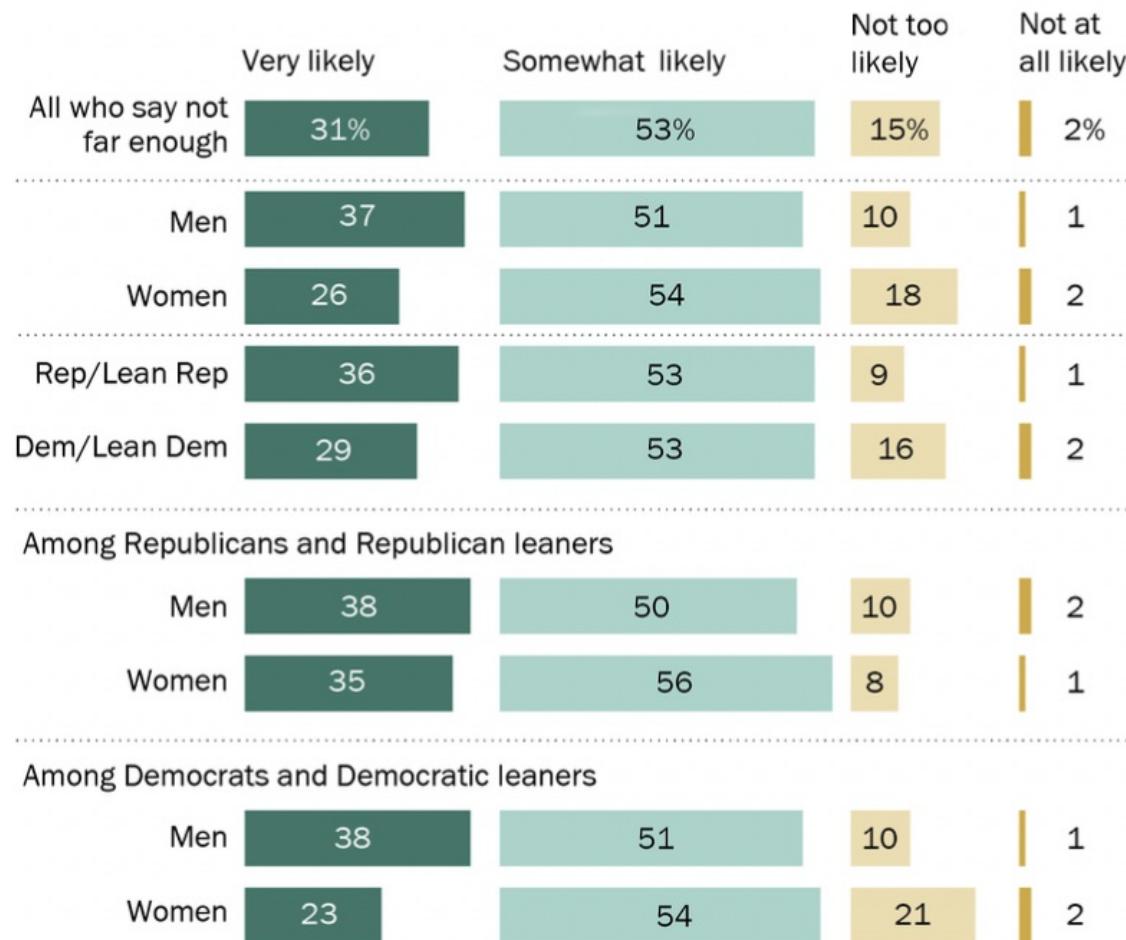
**Most who say the country still has work to do on gender equality say equality is likely in the future**

On the whole, the majority of Americans who say that the country has not gone far enough to give women equal rights with men think it is very or somewhat likely that women in our country will eventually have equal rights with men. More than eight-in-ten Americans who say the country hasn't made enough progress say this is very likely (31%) or somewhat likely (53%); just 16% say they think it is not too likely or not at all likely.

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## Higher share of men than women say gender equality is very likely

*Among those who say the country has not gone far enough when it comes to giving women equal rights with men, % saying it is \_\_\_ that women in our country will eventually have equal rights with men*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

"A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality"

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Large majorities of men and women and Republicans and Democrats who say the country has not yet achieved gender equality say it is at least somewhat

likely that men and women will eventually have equal rights, but men (37%) are considerably more likely than women (26%) to say it is very likely.

Among Republicans who say the U.S. has work to do to achieve gender equality, 36% say gender equality is very likely, compared with 29% of Democrats. This difference is driven in part by Democratic women, who are among the least likely to say they expect men and women to eventually have equal rights. Among Democratic women who say the country hasn't gone far enough to achieve gender equality, 23% say they think it is very likely that there will eventually be gender equality; 38% of Democratic men say the same.

Even among the small share of Americans who say the country has lost ground on gender equality in the last 10 years, 76% say it is very or somewhat likely that women will eventually have equal rights with men.

Whe

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## **Equal pay widely cited as a marker of a society with gender equality**

*People may have different ideas of what gender equality means. What are some **specific things you would expect to see** in a society where women have equal rights with men? [OPEN-END]*

	All who say equal rights are important %
<b>NET workplace issues</b>	<b>53</b>
Equal pay	45
No discrimination in hiring/promotion, educational opportunities	19
Men and women valued/respected the same in the workplace	5
Better paid leave/maternity/paternity support	2
<b>NET more/equal representation in business/political leadership</b>	<b>9</b>
More/equal representation in business leadership	5
<b>NET more/equal representation in political leadership</b>	<b>6</b>
More/equal representation in political office	4
Female president	2
Reproductive rights/autonomy over bodies/freedom of choice	4
Less traditional gender norms in society	4
No sexual harassment/sexual violence/violence against women	2
Differences between men and women are embraced/valued/recognized	2
Women in war/joining the draft	1
Men and women sharing housework/childcare	1
Generic equality	11
<b>Other</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>No answer</b>	<b>29</b>

Note: Open ended question asked of those who said it was important for men and women to have equal rights. Total may exceed 100% because of multiple responses.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.  
“A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality”

n those who say it is important for women to have equal rights with men are asked what a society with gender equality might look like, about half give examples that focus on equality in the workplace: 45% specifically say equal pay, 19% cite no discrimination in hiring and promotion, 5% say men and women getting equal respect in the workplace, and 2% say better paid leave and paternity and maternity support are things they would expect to see in a society where women have equal rights with men.

About one-in-ten cite more or equal representation of women in leadership, with 6% specifically mentioning political leadership and 5% mentioning business leadership. Relatively few point to reproductive rights (4%) and less traditional gender norms (4%) as markers of a society where women have equal rights with men. (*Respondents were asked to answer this question in their own words; for respondents who gave multiple examples, up to three responses were coded.*)

For the most part, men and women who say equal rights are important have a similar picture of what a society with gender equality would look like, but a larger share of women than men cite equal pay (51% vs. 40%). Still, the gender pay gap tops the list for both men and women who say gender equality is important.

Among women, references to equal pay differ by age. Women ages 50 and older (56%) are more likely than women under 50 (45%) to mention equal pay when describing a society where men and women have equal rights.

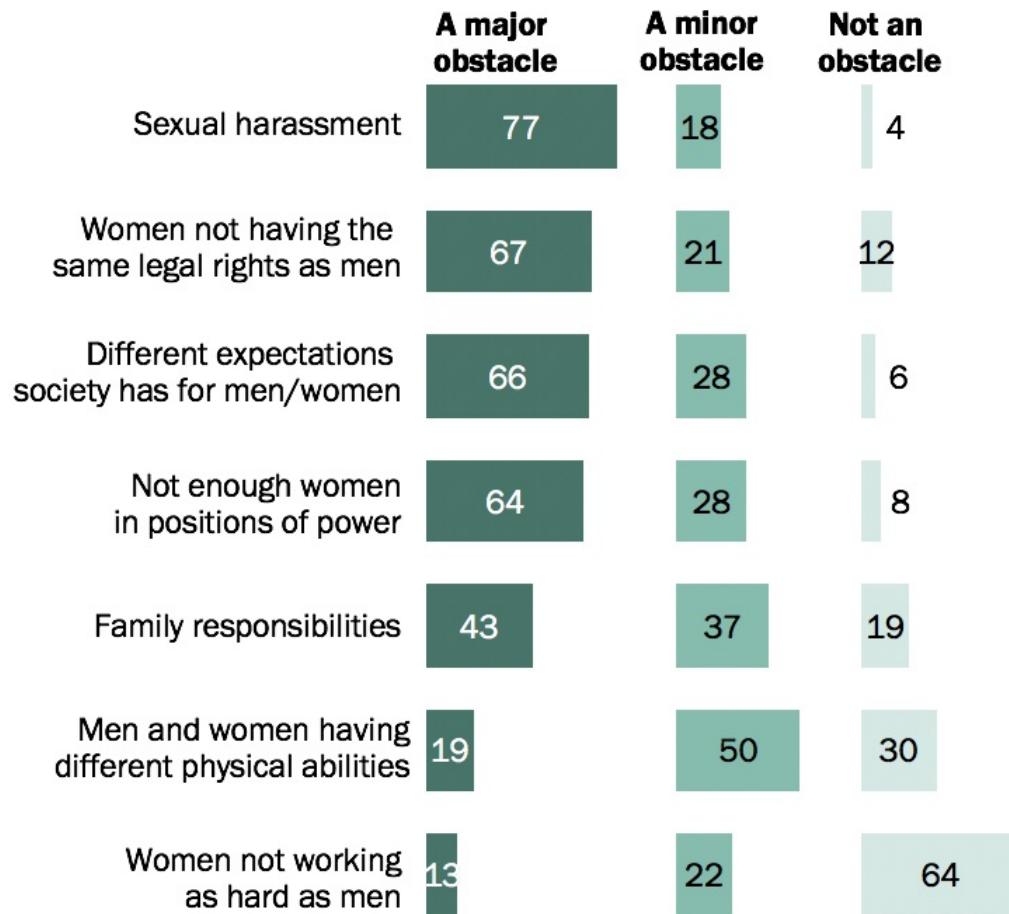
Democrats who say gender equality is important are more likely than their Republican counterparts to cite equal pay when asked about a society with gender equality: 50% of Democrats say this, compared with 41% of Republicans. Democrats are also more likely than Republicans to say that more or equal representation in business and politics is a marker of equality (12% vs. 5%).

## **Wide party and gender gaps in views of the obstacles women face in achieving gender equality**

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## About three-quarters cite sexual harassment as a major obstacle to gender equality

*Among those who say the country has not gone far enough when it comes to giving women equal rights with men, % saying each of the following is \_\_\_\_\_ to women having equal rights with men in our country*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

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When Americans who say the country has not gone far enough in giving women equal rights with men are asked about the *obstacles* to achieving equal rights,

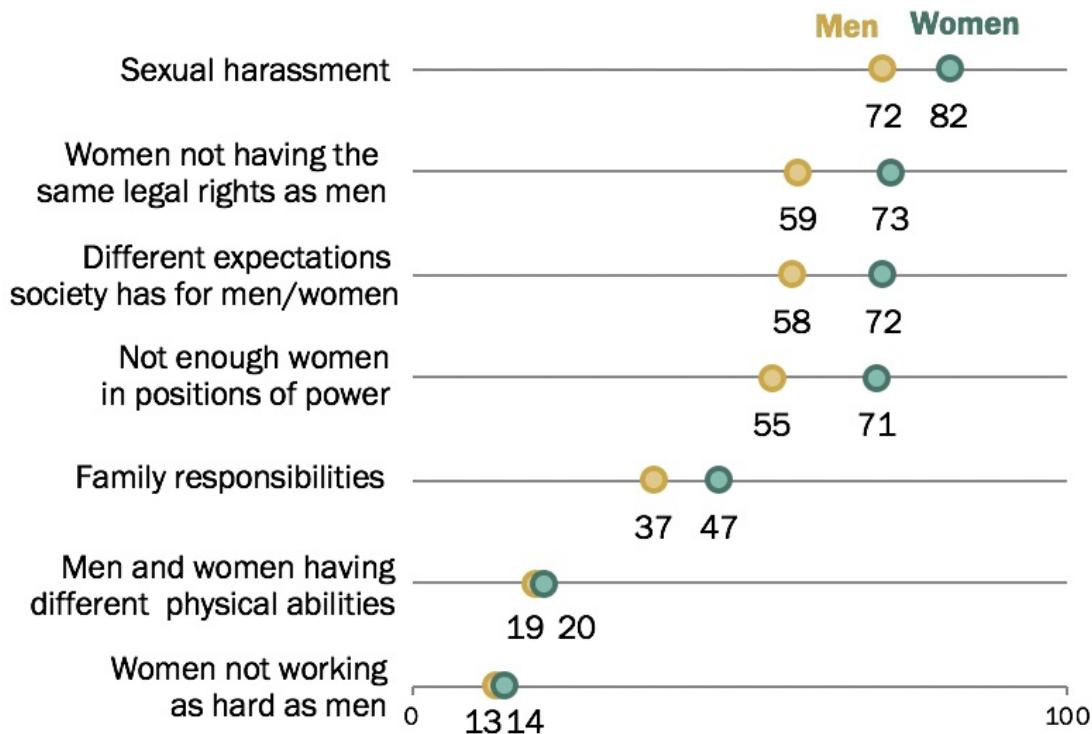
sexual harassment tops the list: 77% say this is a major obstacle for women. Roughly two-thirds say women not having the same legal rights as men (67%) and the different expectations that society has for men and women (66%) are major obstacles, and 64% say the same about not enough women in positions of power. Some 43% point to family responsibilities as a major obstacle, while fewer cite men and women having different physical abilities (19%) and women not working as hard as men (13%) as major obstacles. Roughly two-thirds (64%) of those who say the country has work to do on gender equality say women not working as hard as men is *not* an obstacle to gender equality.

Perceptions of the obstacles to gender equality vary across genders. For example, while 71% of women who say the country hasn't gone far enough in giving women equal rights with men cite not enough women in positions of power as a major obstacle to gender equality, 55% of men say the same.

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## Men and women differ over major obstacles to women having equal rights

*Among those who say the country has not gone far enough when it comes to giving women equal rights with men, % of men and women saying each of the following is a major obstacle to women having equal rights with men in our country*



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

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A majority of women who say the country hasn't made enough progress on gender equality also point to women not having the same legal rights as men (73%) and different societal expectations for men and women (72%) as major obstacles to women having equal rights with men. Fewer men who say this see each of these as major obstacles to gender equality (59% and 58%, respectively).

When it comes to the role sexual harassment plays in men and women having

equal rights, women who say the country hasn't gone far enough when it comes to gender equality (82%) are more likely than men who say the same (72%) to cite this as a major obstacle, though large majorities of both groups say this.

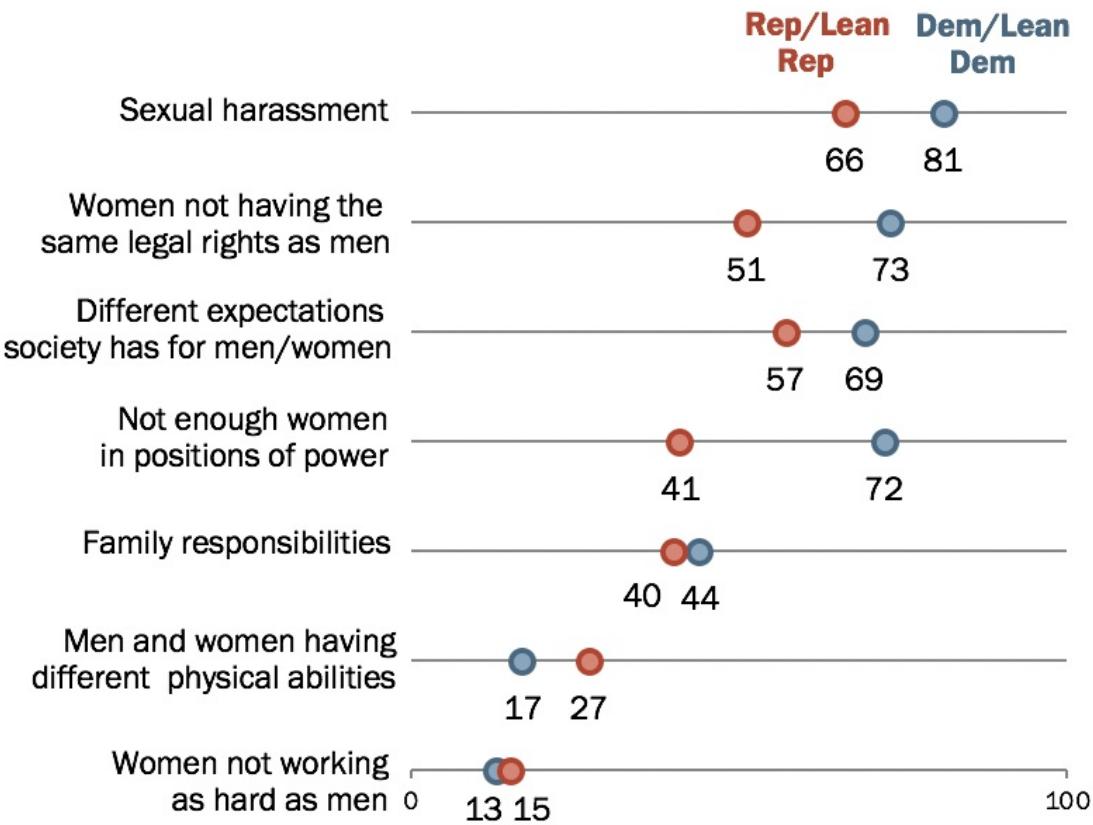
Among women who say the country hasn't made enough progress on gender equality, those with at least a bachelor's degree are more likely than those who have attended some college or less to say different societal expectations (81% vs. 67%) and not enough women in positions of power (80% vs. 66%) are major obstacles.

**Among those who say there's work to be done on gender equality, a majority of Democrats, but fewer than half of Republicans, see not enough women in power as a major obstacle**

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## Democrats and Republicans differ over major obstacles to women having equal rights

*Among those who say the country has not gone far enough when it comes to giving women equal rights with men, % of **Republicans** and **Democrats** saying each of the following is a major obstacle to women having equal rights with men in our country*



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

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Among those who say there's more work to be done in giving women equal rights with men, Democrats and Republicans differ on the extent to which certain factors are holding women back. A higher share of Democrats than Republicans point to not enough women in positions of power (72% vs. 41%), women not having the same legal rights as men (73% vs. 51%), sexual

harassment (81 % vs. 66%) and different societal expectations (69% vs. 57%) as major obstacles to women having equal rights with men.

Republicans who say the country has not gone far enough to give women equal rights (27%) are more likely than similarly minded Democrats (17%) to say differences in the physical abilities of men and women are a major obstacle to women having equal rights with men, although relatively small shares of each group say this is the case. Meanwhile, there are no significant partisan gaps when it comes to views of family responsibilities (44% of Democrats and 40% of Republicans see it as a major obstacle) or women not working as hard as men (13% and 15%, respectively).

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## **Republican, Democratic women differ over extent to which not enough women in power hinders equality**

*Among those who say the country has not gone far enough when it comes to giving women equal rights with men, % saying each of the following is a major obstacle to women having equal rights with men in our country*

	<b>Among Rep/ Lean Rep</b>		<b>Among Dem/ Lean Dem</b>	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Sexual harassment	<b>59</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>84</b>
Women not having the same legal rights as men	<b>42</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>78</b>
Different expectations society has for men and women	<b>51</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>75</b>
Not enough women in positions of power	<b>31</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>77</b>
Family responsibilities	35	43	<b>38</b>	<b>48</b>
Men and women having different physical abilities	30	24	15	18
Women not working as hard as men	16	15	12	13

Note: Bolded numbers indicate a statistically significant difference between men and women in each party.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

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Democratic women are particularly likely to see some of these as major obstacles, while Republican men tend to be the least likely to do so. For example, 78% of Democratic women say women not having the same legal rights as men is a major obstacle to equal rights, as do 65% of Democratic men and 58% of Republican women. In contrast, 42% of Republican men say this is a major obstacle.

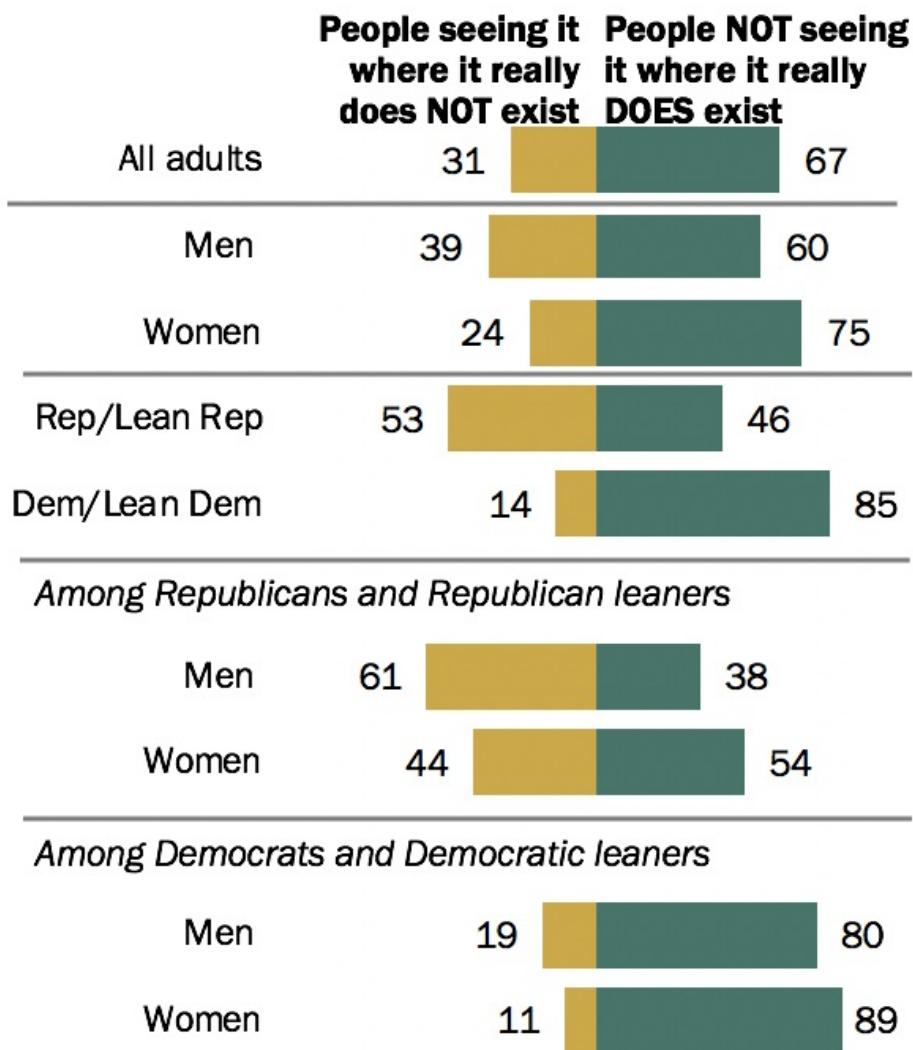
And while 77% of Democratic women, 65% of Democratic men and 50% of Republican women say not enough women in positions of power is a major obstacle to gender equality, just 31% of Republican men say the same.

**Democrats are nearly twice as likely as Republicans to say there are problems with gender discrimination being overlooked**

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## Most Americans say bigger problem is gender discrimination being overlooked

*% saying, when it comes to discrimination against women, they think the bigger problem for our country today is ...*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

"A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality"

When it comes to gender discrimination, by more than a two-to-one margin Americans say the bigger problem for the country is people not seeing discrimination where it really *does* exist, rather than people seeing gender discrimination where it really does *not* exist (67% vs. 31%).

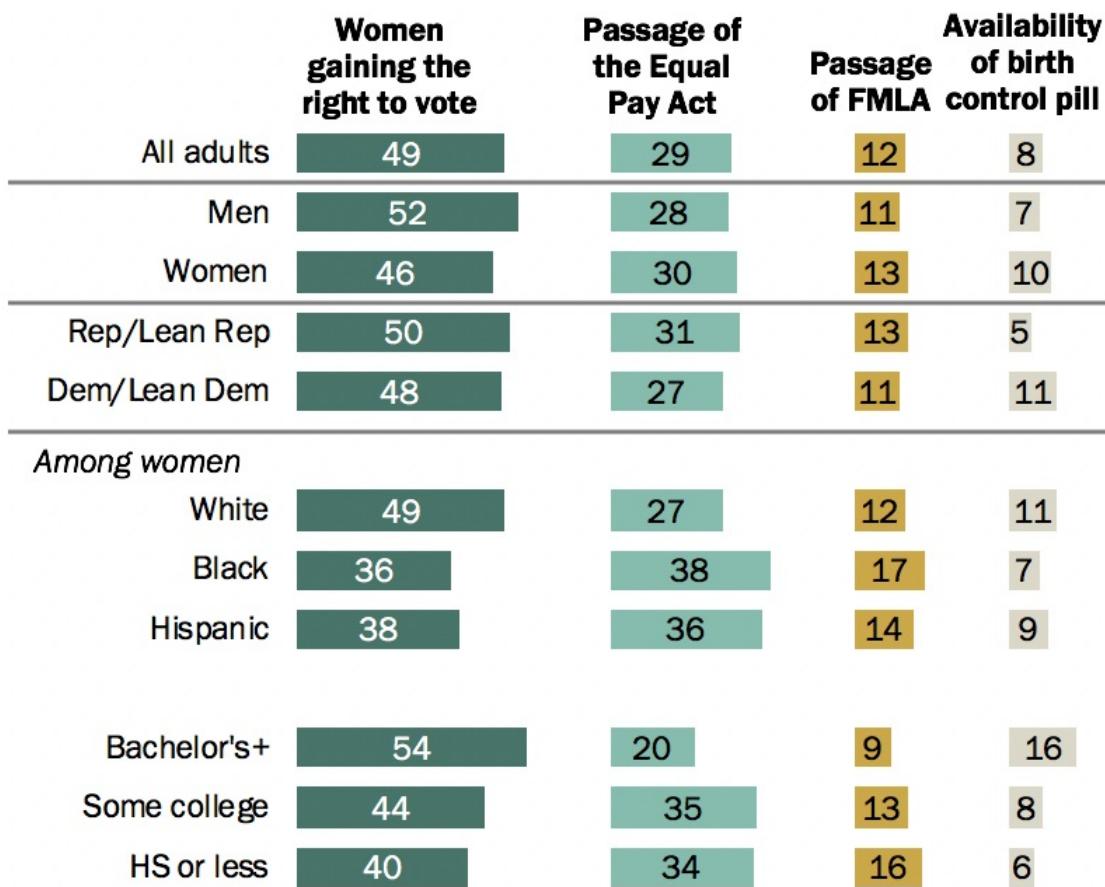
The vast majority of Democrats (85%) say the bigger problem is people not seeing gender discrimination where it really exists. In contrast, more Republicans say the bigger problem is people seeing discrimination where it doesn't exist (53%) than say the people overlooking discrimination is the bigger problem (46%).

There is a wide gender gap among Republicans. While a majority of Republican men (61%) say the bigger problem is people seeing gender discrimination where it doesn't exist, fewer than half of Republican women (44%) say the same. Democratic men are also more likely than their female counterparts to say this (19% vs. 11%), but 80% of Democratic men and 89% of Democratic women agree that the bigger problem is people overlooking gender discrimination.

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## About half of U.S. adults see women's suffrage as the most important milestone in advancing the position of women

*% saying \_\_\_ has been the most important milestone in advancing the position of women in our country*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown. White and Black adults include those who report being only one race and are non-Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. "FMLA" refers to the Family and Medical Leave Act.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

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When asked about milestones they see as important in advancing the position of

women in the U.S., about half of Americans (49%) point to women gaining the right to vote as the most important milestone, a view that is more common among men (52%) than women (46%). Roughly three-in-ten U.S. adults (29%) cite the passage of the Equal Pay Act, while smaller shares say passage of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and the availability of the birth control pill are the most important milestones in advancing the position of women (12% and 8%, respectively).

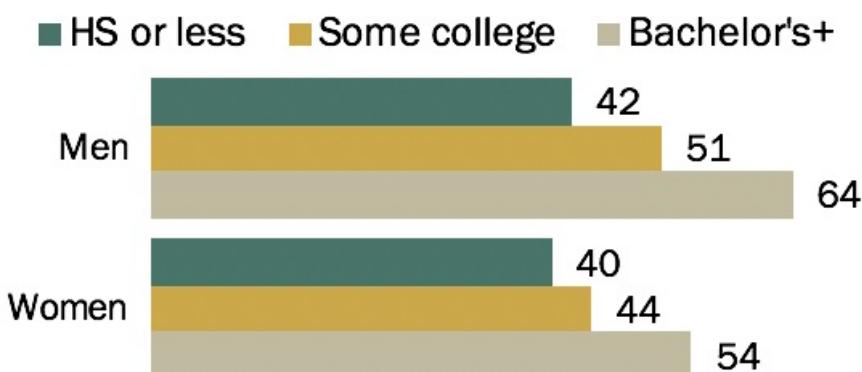
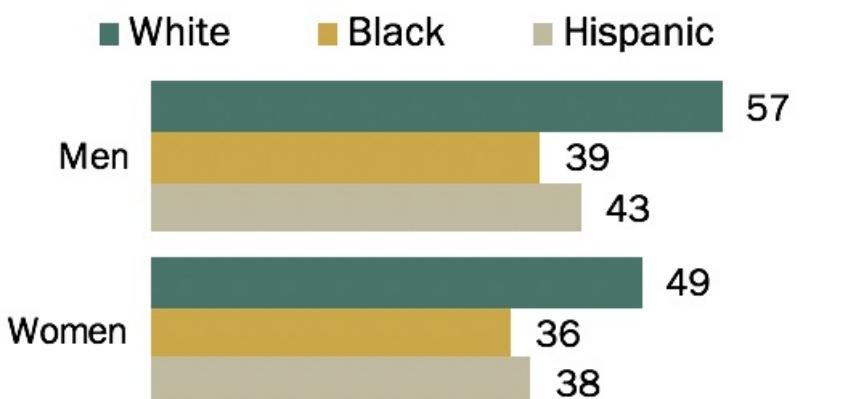
White adults, as well as those with at least a bachelor's degree, are more likely than Black and Hispanic adults and those with less education to see women's suffrage as the most important milestone in advancing the position of women in the U.S. Some 53% of white adults say women getting the right to vote has been a more important milestone than the passage of the Equal Pay Act, passage of the FMLA or the availability of the birth control pill. Black and Hispanic adults are about as likely to cite the passage of the Equal Pay Act as they are to cite women gaining the right to vote.

Among those with at least a bachelor's degree, 59% see women's suffrage as the most important milestone, compared with 48% of those with some college education and 41% of those with less education. Even so, across educational attainment, more point to women getting the right to vote than to the other milestones as the most important in advancing women's rights in the U.S.

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## **White men and male college graduates are the most likely to cite women's suffrage as most important milestone**

*% saying women gaining the right to vote has been the most important milestone in advancing the position of women in our country*



Note: White and Black adults include those who report being only one race and are non-Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

"A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality"

These differences by race and ethnicity and educational attainment are also evident when looking separately at the views of men and women. A majority of white men (57%) cite women gaining the right to vote as the most important milestone, compared with 39% of Black men and 43% of Hispanic men. And while white women are less likely than their male counterparts to say this (49% do so), even smaller shares of Black (36%) and Hispanic (38%) women point to women's suffrage as the most important milestone.

Similarly, men with at least a bachelor's degree (64%) are more likely than women with the same level of educational attainment (54%) to say women gaining the right to vote was the most important milestone. Both are more likely than their less educated counterparts to say this.

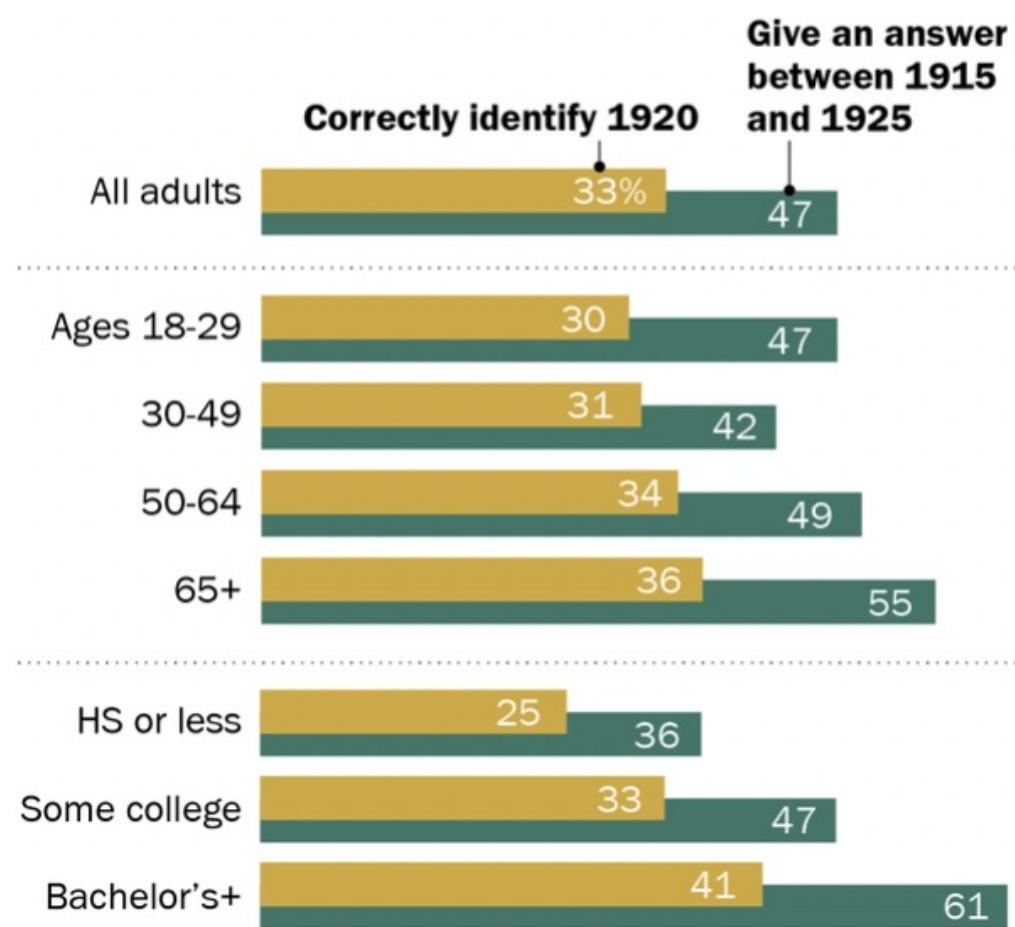
Views on this vary little, if at all, by age or partisanship, but Democrats and those who lean to the Democratic Party are about twice as likely as Republicans and Republican leaners to say the availability of the birth control pill has been the most important milestone in advancing the position of women in the U.S. (11% vs. 5%). Similar shares of Democratic women (12%) and men (11%) say this, compared with 6% of Republican women and an even smaller share of Republican men (3%).

**A third of Americans know what year women in the U.S. gained the right to vote**

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## One-third of Americans correctly cite 1920 as the year U.S. women gained the right to vote

*% who \_\_\_ when asked in about what year women in the U.S. gained the right to vote*



Note: "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

"A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality"

When asked in an open-ended format what year women in the U.S. gained the right to vote, 47% offer a year between 1915 and 1925 (within five years of the correct answer), including 33% who correctly identify 1920 as the year women gained the right to vote. About three-in-ten Americans (31%) say women gained the right to vote in 1926 or later, while just 7% say this happened before 1915. (Some 14% didn't provide an answer.) Men and women give similar answers.

Those who say women gaining the right to vote has been the most important milestone in advancing women's rights in the U.S. are not necessarily more knowledgeable about the timing of this milestone. An identical share of those who cite women's suffrage or the availability of the birth control pill as the most important milestones correctly identify 1920 as the year women gained the right to vote (38% each). Similar shares in these groups offer a year between 1915 and 1925.

Educational attainment is related to knowledge of the year women in the U.S. gained the right to vote. About six-in-ten adults with at least a bachelor's degree (61%) give a year between 1915 and 1925, with 41% correctly identifying 1920 as the year women gained the right to vote. Smaller shares of those with some college (47%) or with a high school diploma or less education (36%) give an answer within five years of the correct year, and a third and quarter, respectively, give the correct answer.

Adults ages 65 and older are more likely than those who are younger to give an answer within five years of the correct year. More than half of those ages 65 and older (55%) say U.S. women gained the right to vote between 1915 and 1925, compared with 49% of those ages 50 to 64, 42% of those ages 30 to 49 and 47% of adults younger than 30.

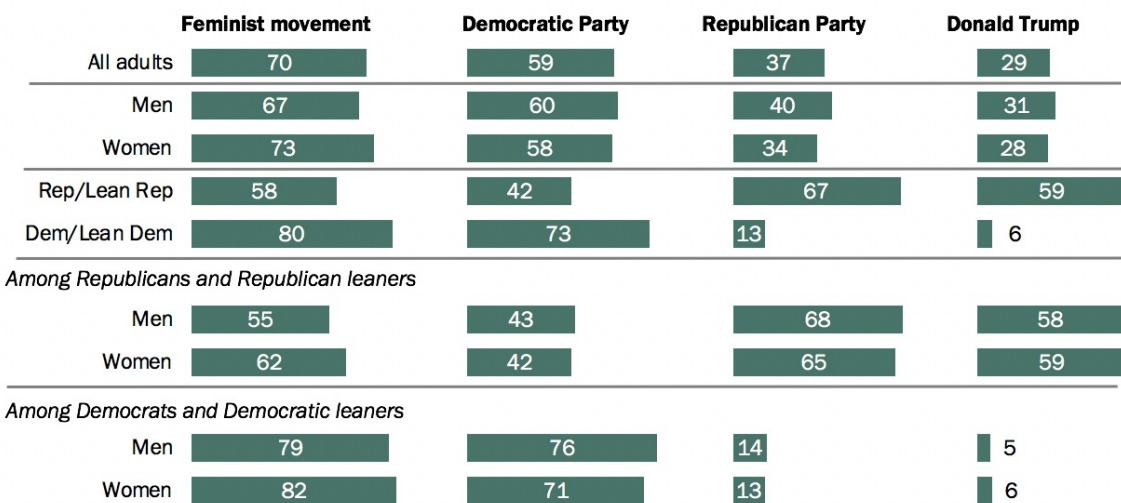
### **Majorities say the feminist movement and the Democratic Party have done at least a fair amount to advance women's rights in the U.S.**

Seven-in-ten Americans say the feminist movement has done a great deal (22%) or a fair amount (48%) to advance women's rights in the U.S.; 59% say the same about the Democratic Party, including 12% who say it has done a great deal. In contrast, most Americans say the Republican Party (61%) and Donald Trump (69%) have not done much or have done nothing at all to advance women's

rights.

### Wide partisan gaps in views of how much the parties, the feminist movement and Trump have done to advance women's rights

% saying each of the following have done a great deal or a fair amount to advance women's rights in our country



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

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Women (73%) are more likely than men (67%) to say the feminist movement has done at least a fair amount to advance the rights of women in the U.S., but large majorities of each group say this. Meanwhile, a larger share of men (40%) than women (34%) say the GOP has done at least a fair amount in this area.

There are far wider partisan gaps than gender gaps when it comes to these views. About three-quarters of Democrats and those who lean Democratic (73%) say the Democratic Party has done at least a fair amount to advance women's rights in the U.S.; fewer than half of Republicans and those who lean to the Republican Party (42%) say the same. Conversely, two-thirds of Republicans – but only 13% of Democrats – say the GOP has done a great deal or a fair amount in this area. Similarly, a majority of Republicans (59%) say Donald Trump has done at least a fair amount to advance women's rights, while just 6% of Democrats say the same.

When it comes to the feminist movement's impact, majorities of Democrats and Republicans say it has done at least a fair amount. Still, Democrats are far more likely than Republicans to say this (80% vs. 58%).

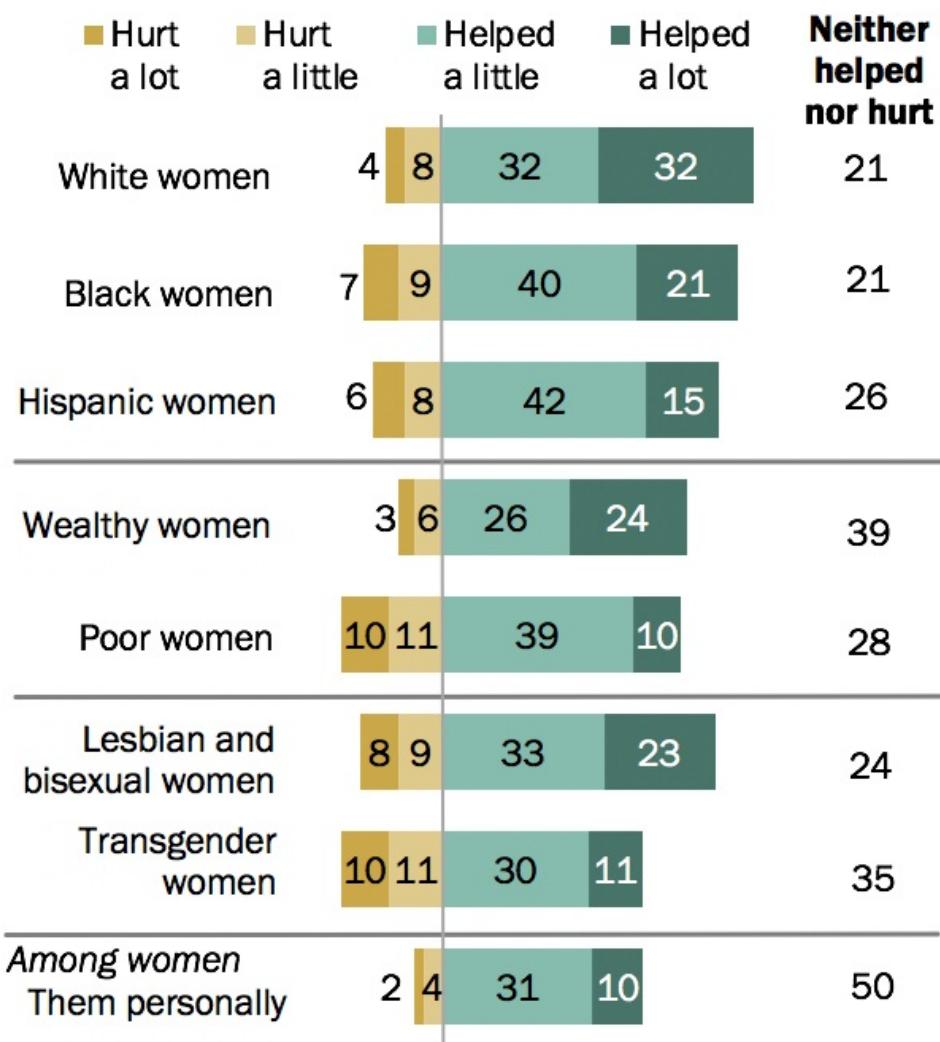
For the most part, views on this don't vary considerably by gender within each party. Republican women (62%) are more likely than Republican men (55%) to say the feminist movement has done a great deal or a fair amount to advance women's rights, but more than half of both say this. And while Democratic men are more likely than their female counterparts to say their party has done at least a fair amount, about seven-in-ten or more of each group share this view (76% of Democratic men and 71% of Democratic women). Republican men and women give similar views when it comes to how much each of the political parties and Donald Trump have done, and there are no significant differences between Democratic men and women in views of the feminist movement, the Republican Party or Trump.

**Majorities say feminism has helped white, Black and Hispanic women**

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## More say feminism has helped white women a lot than say it has done the same for Black or Hispanic women

*% saying that, overall, feminism has helped/hurt each of the following groups*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

"A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality"

In addition to saying the feminist movement has done at least a fair amount to advance women's rights in the U.S., a majority of Americans think feminism has had a positive impact on the lives of specific groups of women. For example, about six-in-ten or more say feminism has helped the lives of white (64%), Black (61%) and Hispanic (58%) women at least a little, although there are more pronounced differences in the shares saying feminism has helped each of these groups *a lot* (32% vs. 21% and 15%, respectively). Notably, just 41% of women say the movement has helped them personally.

A majority of Americans (57%) also think feminism has helped lesbian and bisexual women at least a little, including 23% who say it's helped this group a lot. By comparison, 41% say feminism has helped transgender women, with just 11% saying this group has been helped a lot. About one-in-five (21%) say feminism has hurt transgender women, and 17% say the same about its impact on lesbian and bisexual women.

When asked about the impact of feminism on the lives of wealthy and poor women, 49% say it has helped each of these groups at least a little, but while 24% say feminism has helped wealthy women a lot, just one-in-ten say the same about the impact it's had on the lives of poor women.

Opinions about how feminism has impacted each of these groups of women don't differ significantly between men and women. In fact, the shares of men and women saying feminism has helped each of these groups at least a little vary only by 3 percentage points or less.

Majorities of white and Hispanic adults say feminism has helped white, Black and Hispanic women at least a little. Some 64% of Black adults also say feminism has helped white women, more than the shares who say it's helped Black (49%) or Hispanic (48%) women. Black adults are the most likely to say feminism has helped white women a lot: 42% say this, compared with 34% of Hispanics and an even smaller share of white adults (29%).

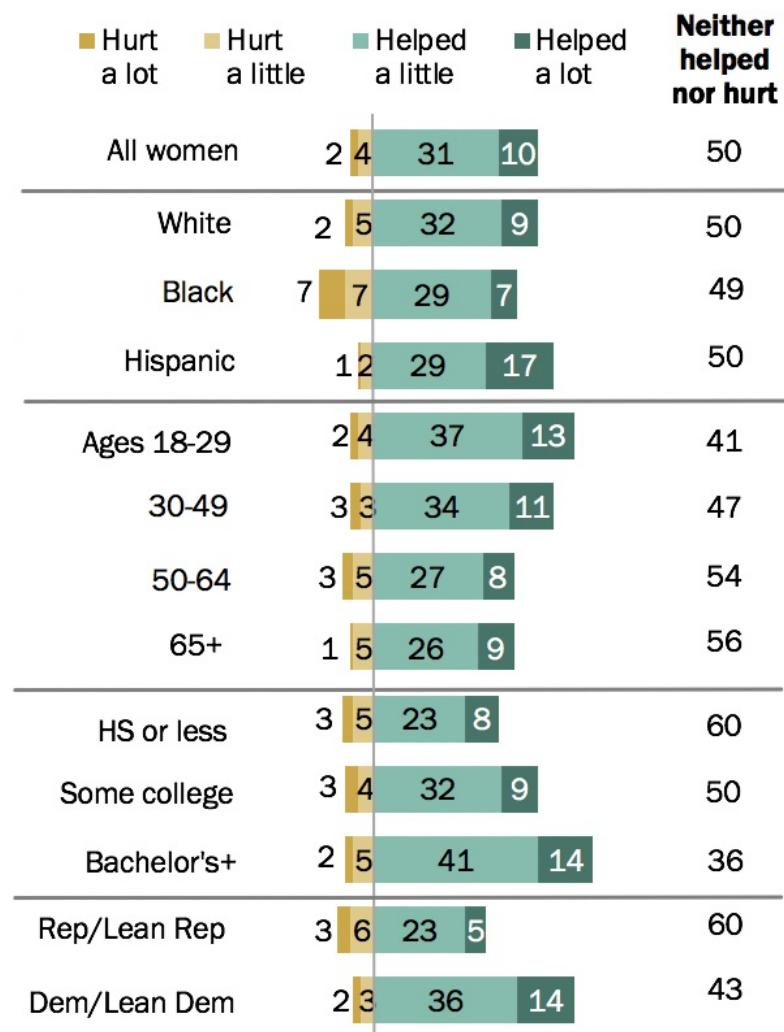
Consistent with the difference in the shares of Republicans and Democrats who say the feminist movement has done at least a fair amount to advance women's rights, Democrats are far more likely than Republicans to say feminism has helped each of these groups of women.

**About four-in-ten women say feminism has helped them personally**

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## Women with a bachelor's degree more likely than those with less education to say feminism has helped them

*Among women, % saying that, overall, feminism has helped/hurt them personally*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.  
White and Black adults include those who report being only one race and are non-Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.  
"A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality"

When asked about the impact of feminism on their own lives, 41% of women say it has helped them at least a little, with one-in-ten saying feminism has helped them a lot; 7% say feminism has hurt them, while half say it has neither helped nor hurt.

Some 55% of women with at least a bachelor's degree say feminism has helped them personally, compared with 41% of women with some college education and an even smaller share of those with a high school diploma or less education (30%). In turn, six-in-ten of those with no college experience and half of those with some college say feminism has neither helped nor hurt them; 36% of women with a bachelor's degree or more education say the same.

Hispanic women (46%) are more likely than Black women (36%) to say feminism has helped them personally; white women fall somewhere in the middle (41% say feminism has helped them). There are also differences by age, with 47% of women younger than 50 saying feminism has helped at least a little, compared with 35% of those ages 50 and older.

Among Democratic women, half say feminism has helped them personally, while just 5% say it has hurt them and 43% say it has neither helped nor hurt. By comparison, 28% of Republican women say feminism has helped them, while a majority (60%) say it's neither helped nor hurt; 9% of Republican women say feminism has hurt them.

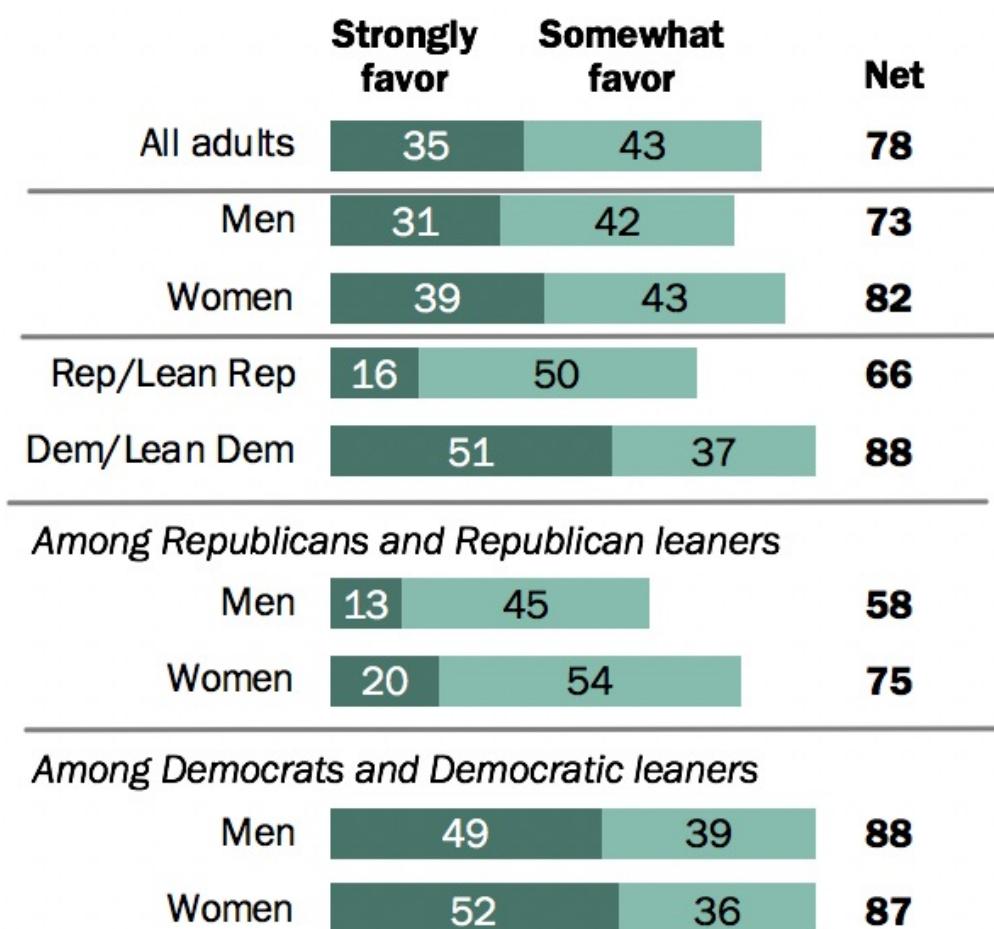
## **Most Americans favor adding the ERA to the U.S. Constitution**

In January 2020, Virginia became the 38th state to pass the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), nearly half a century after it passed the Senate in 1972. While the ERA has now been ratified by three-fourths of the states, the number required for amending the U.S. Constitution, it is likely to face legal challenges as the deadline for ratification has passed.

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## **Majorities of Democrats and Republicans support adding the ERA to the U.S. Constitution**

*% saying they \_\_\_ the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) being added to the U.S. Constitution*



Note: Figures may not add to subtotals due to rounding.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

“A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality”

The survey finds widespread support for adding the ERA to the U.S. Constitution: About eight-in-ten Americans (78%) say they favor it, including 35% who strongly favor it being added to the Constitution. Women are more likely than men to say they strongly favor adding the ERA to the Constitution (39% vs. 31%), but about three-quarters or more in each group say they favor it at least somewhat.

Democrats overwhelmingly favor adding the ERA to the U.S. Constitution, with roughly nine-in-ten saying they favor it strongly (51%) or somewhat (37%). There's less support among Republicans: 66% say they favor adopting the ERA, with 16% expressing strong support for this. Republican women (75%) are far more likely than Republican men (58%) to say they favor adding the ERA to the Constitution. Views on this do not differ by gender among Democrats, but they do vary across other dimensions, including educational attainment, race and ethnicity, and age.

Large majorities of Democrats across levels of educational attainment say they favor adding the ERA to the Constitution, but those with at least a bachelor's degree are the most likely to express strong support: 62% say they strongly favor adopting the ERA, compared with 55% of Democrats with some college and a smaller share of those with a high school diploma or less education (37%).

Among white Democrats, 58% say they strongly favor adding the ERA to the U.S. Constitution. About four-in-ten Black and Hispanic Democrats say the same (42% each). These gaps remain when taking differences in educational attainment into account.

And while more than eight-in-ten Democrats across age groups support adopting the ERA, those ages 65 and older are more likely than those who are younger to express strong support. About six-in-ten Democrats ages 65 and older (63%) say they strongly favor adding the ERA to the Constitution, compared with 46% of Democrats ages 18 to 29 and ages 30 to 49 and 52% of those 50 to 64.

These differences by age, educational attainment and race and ethnicity are present among Democratic men and women. Among Republicans, the only notable demographic split on views of adopting the ERA is along gender lines.

**Many say adding the ERA to the Constitution wouldn't make much difference for women's rights**

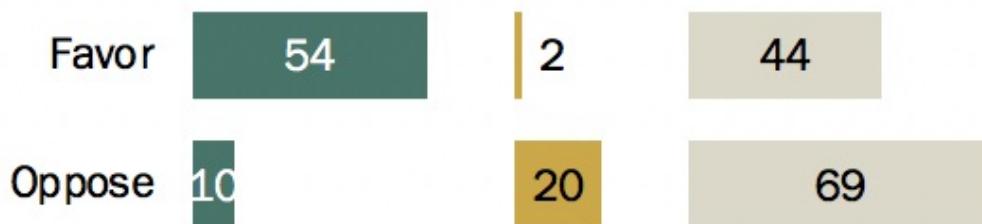
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## **Many say adding ERA to the U.S. Constitution would not make much difference for women's rights**

*% saying adding the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the U.S. Constitution would \_\_\_ in our country*



Among those who \_\_\_ adding the ERA to the U.S. Constitution



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 18-April 1, 2020.

"A Century After Women Gained the Right To Vote, Majority of Americans See Work To Do on Gender Equality"

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Despite widespread support for adding the ERA to the U.S. Constitution, 49% of Americans say this would not make much of a difference when it comes to women's rights in the country; 44% say this would advance women's rights and 5% think this would be a setback for women's rights.

Even among those who favor adding the ERA to the Constitution, a sizable share (44%) is skeptical that this would have much of an impact, while 54% say it would advance women's rights and just 2% see it as a potential setback.

Democratic supporters of the ERA are far more likely than their Republican counterparts to say this would advance women's rights in our country (63% vs. 38%). A majority of Republican ERA supporters (59%) say adding it to the Constitution wouldn't make much difference.

Overall, male and female supporters of the ERA offer similar assessments of the impact adding the amendment to the Constitution would have on women's rights; 54% of women and 53% of men who favor adopting the ERA say this would advance women's rights in the U.S. Women ages 18 to 29 are more optimistic than women in older age groups to say adding the ERA to the Constitution would advance women's rights. About six-in-ten women younger than 30 who support the ERA (63%) say adopting the amendment would advance women's rights, compared with about half of older women who favor the ERA.

For the most part, adults who oppose adding the ERA to the U.S. Constitution say doing so wouldn't make much difference for women's rights (69% say this), while 20% think this would be a setback for women's rights and 10% say it would advance women's rights.

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# Economic Fallout From COVID-19 Continues To Hit Lower-Income Americans the Hardest

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Pew Research Center conducted this study to understand Americans' assessments of their personal financial situation during the current period of economic slowdown and high unemployment rates caused by the coronavirus outbreak. For this analysis, we surveyed 13,200 U.S. adults in August 2020. Everyone who took part 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.

References to White, Black and Asian adults include only those who are not Hispanic and identify as only one race. Hispanics are of any race.

References to college graduates or people with a college degree comprise those with a bachelor's degree or more. "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree.

"Middle income" is defined here as two-thirds to double the median annual family income for panelists on the American Trends Panel. "Lower income" falls below that range; "upper income" falls above it. See methodology for more details.

It's been roughly six months since the coronavirus outbreak sent shockwaves through the U.S. economy. While the labor market has recovered somewhat and early stock market losses have been reversed, many Americans continue to face deep financial hardship.

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## Financial pain points during coronavirus outbreak differ widely by race, ethnicity and income

*% saying they have \_\_\_ since the coronavirus outbreak started in February*

	Used money from savings/ retirement to pay bills	Had trouble paying bills	Gotten food from a food bank/ organization	Had problems paying rent/ mortgage
All adults	33	25	17	16
White	29	18	11	11
Black	40	43	33	28
Hispanic	43	37	30	26
Asian*	33	23	14	15
Upper income	16	5	1	3
Middle income	33	19	12	11
Lower income	44	46	35	32

\*Asian adults were interviewed in English only.

Note: White, Black and Asian adults include those who report being only one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. Family income tiers are based on adjusted 2019 earnings.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Aug. 3-16, 2020.

“Economic Fallout From COVID-19 Continues To Hit Lower-Income Americans the Hardest”

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A new Pew Research Center survey finds that, overall, one-in-four adults have had trouble paying their bills since the coronavirus outbreak started, a third have dipped into savings or retirement accounts to make ends meet, and about one-in-six have borrowed money from friends or family or gotten food from a food bank. As was the case earlier this year, these types of experiences continue to be more common among adults with lower incomes, those without a college degree and Black and Hispanic Americans.

Among lower-income adults, 46% say they have had trouble paying their bills since the pandemic started and roughly one third (32%) say it's been hard for them to make rent or mortgage payments. About one-in-five or fewer middle-income adults have faced these challenges, and the shares are substantially smaller for those in the upper-income tier. To be sure, some of these financial pain points may have existed even before the pandemic – particularly for lower-income adults.

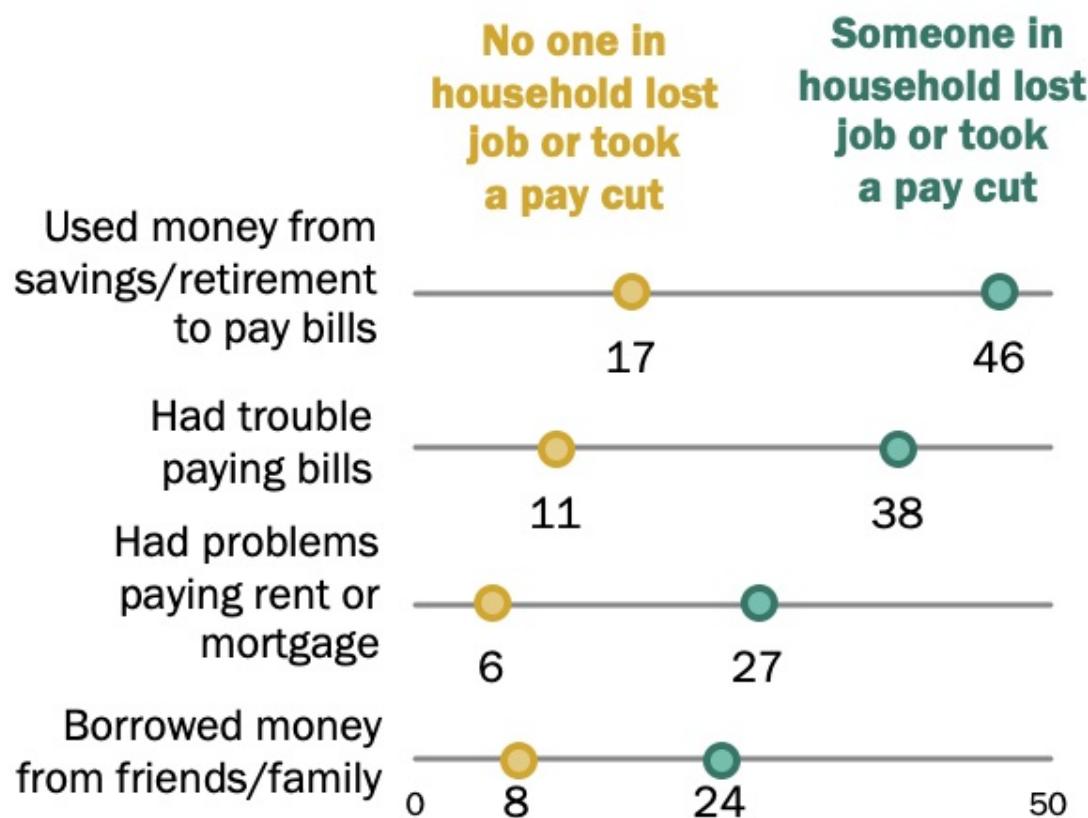
Job loss has also been more acute among certain demographic groups. Overall, 25% of U.S. adults say they or someone in their household was laid off or lost their job because of the coronavirus outbreak, with 15% saying this happened to them personally. Young adults (ages 18 to 29) and lower-income adults are among the most likely to say this has occurred in their household.

Of those who say they personally lost a job, half say they are still unemployed, a third have returned to their old job and 15% are in a different job than before. Lower-income adults who were laid off due to the coronavirus are less likely to be working now than middle- and upper-income adults who lost their jobs (43% vs. 58%). Adults ages 18 to 29 are less likely than those 30 to 64 to have returned to their previous job.

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## **Financial hardship much more pronounced among those who've lost a job or wages**

*% saying they \_\_\_ since the coronavirus outbreak started in February*



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Aug. 3-16, 2020.

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Even if they didn't lose a job, many workers have had to reduce their hours or

take a pay cut due to the economic fallout from the pandemic. About a third of all adults (32%) say this has happened to them or someone in their household, with 21% saying this happened to them personally. Most workers who've experienced this (60%) are earning less now than they were before the coronavirus outbreak, while 34% say they are earning the same now as they were before the outbreak and only 6% say they are earning more.

Job disruption, which has been much more pronounced among certain demographic groups, is strongly linked to financial struggles. Americans who have experienced job or wage loss – either personally or in their household – are more than twice as likely as those who have not to say they've had trouble paying their bills, struggled to pay their rent or mortgage, used money from savings or retirement to pay bills or borrowed money from friends or family.

In the meantime, many Americans say their ability to save money has been curtailed by the recent economic upheaval. Among those who indicate they are usually able to put money into savings, 36% say they've been saving less since the coronavirus outbreak started. Some 44% say they've been saving the same amount as they did before, and 19% say they've been saving more. Again, lower-income adults have been hardest hit – 51% among those who can typically save say they have been able to save less in recent months. By comparison, 35% of middle-income adults and 21% of those in the upper-income tier say they've been saving less.

These are among the findings of a Pew Research Center survey of 13,200 U.S. adults conducted from Aug. 3-16, 2020, using the Center's American Trends Panel.

**One-third of adults who said they were laid off because of the coronavirus outbreak are back in their old jobs**

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## Roughly four-in-ten adults say they or someone in their household lost a job or wages because of COVID-19

*% saying each of the following has happened to them or someone in their household because of the coronavirus outbreak*

	Been laid off/lost job	Had to take a cut in pay	Net either/both
All adults	25	32	42
White	23	29	38
Black	29	32	43
Hispanic	34	44	53
Asian*	24	41	47
Ages 18-29	32	45	54
30-49	28	38	48
50-64	27	30	40
65+	14	15	21
Bachelor's+	19	32	39
Some college	28	34	44
HS or less	29	31	42
Upper income	14	26	32
Middle income	26	33	42
Lower income	33	37	47

\*Asian adults were interviewed in English only.

Note: White, Black and Asian adults include those who report being only one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

"Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Family income tiers are based on adjusted 2019 earnings.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Aug. 3-16, 2020.

"Economic Fallout From COVID-19 Continues To Hit Lower-Income Americans the Hardest"

A quarter of U.S. adults say they or someone in their household has been laid off or lost a job because of the coronavirus outbreak, and 32% say they or someone else in their household has taken a pay cut due to reduced hours or demand for their work. Overall, 42% say their household has experienced one or both of these. These figures are largely unchanged from when Pew Research Center last asked these questions in early May.

Lower-income adults continue to be the most affected by coronavirus-related job loss or pay cuts. Some 47% of those with lower incomes say they or someone in their household has had these experiences, compared with 42% of those with middle incomes and 32% of upper-income adults.

These experiences also vary by age, with adults younger than 30 more likely than those who are older to say they or someone else in their household has been laid off or taken a pay cut because of the outbreak: 54% of adults ages 18 to 29 say their household has had one or both of these experiences, compared with 48% of those ages 30 to 49, 40% of those 50 to 64 and 21% of adults ages 65 and older.

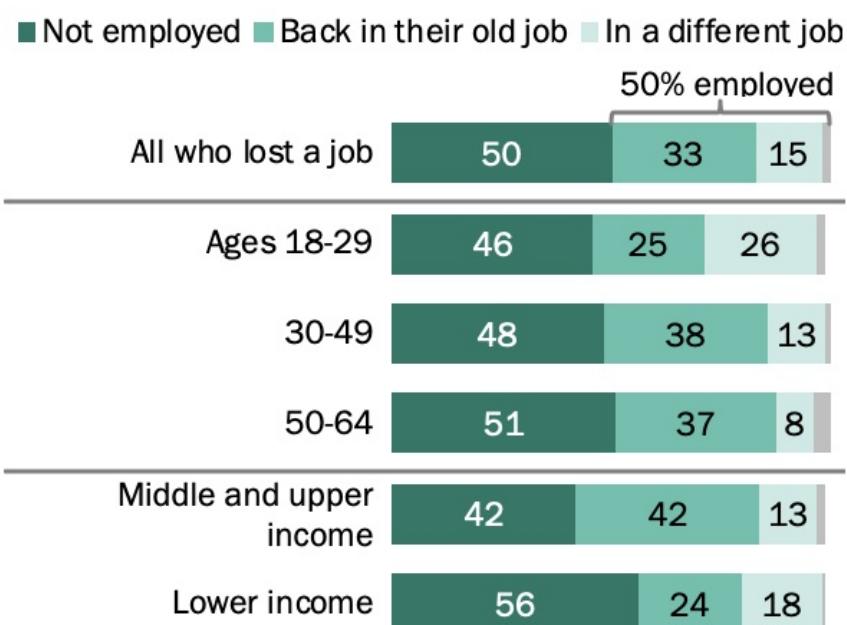
Among Hispanic Americans, 53% say they or someone else in their household have either been laid off or taken a pay cut because of the coronavirus outbreak, larger than the shares of White (38%) and Black (43%) adults who say the same; 47% of Asian Americans say they or someone else in their household has been laid off or taken a pay cut because of the outbreak.

**Half of adults who say they were laid off because of the coronavirus outbreak remain unemployed**

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## **Younger adults laid off because of the outbreak are more likely to be in a new job than their older counterparts**

*Among those who say they have been laid off or lost a job because of the coronavirus outbreak, % saying they are ...*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer to the employment question not shown. Share of respondents who are employed but didn't offer an answer to the question of whether they are working in the same job or a different job shown but not labeled. The number of adults ages 65 and older who say they have lost their job because of the outbreak is too small to analyze separately. Family income tiers are based on adjusted 2019 earnings. Middle- and upper-income adults are combined due to the relatively small sample of upper-income adults who say they have lost their job due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Aug. 3-16, 2020.

“Economic Fallout From COVID-19 Continues To Hit Lower-Income Americans the Hardest”

Fully 15% of adults report that they personally were laid off or lost their jobs because of the coronavirus outbreak. Of those, one-third say they have returned to the job they had before the outbreak, while 15% are working at a different job. Half say they are currently not employed.

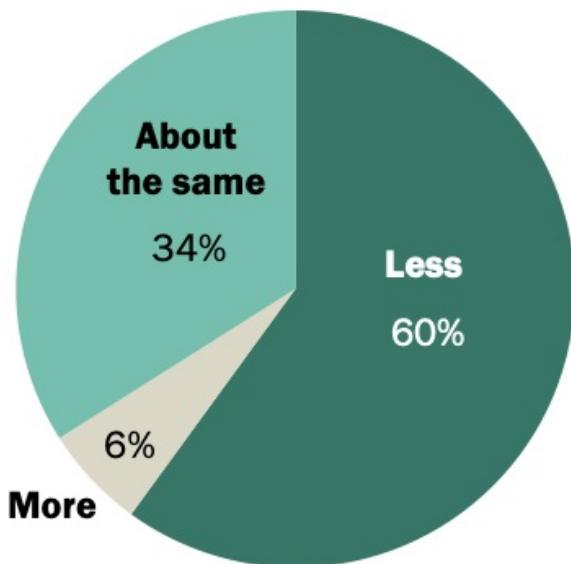
Lower-income adults who lost their job because of the coronavirus outbreak are more likely than those with middle or upper incomes to remain unemployed. Some 56% of workers with lower incomes who lost their job because of the coronavirus outbreak say they are currently unemployed, compared with 42% of middle- and upper-income adults.

Among lower-income adults who were laid off because of the outbreak, 24% say they are now back at their old job and 18% are working in a different job. In turn, those with middle and upper incomes who lost their job are far more likely to be back in the same job (42%) than to be in a different job (13%).

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## **Most workers who lost wages due to COVID-19 are still earning less**

*Among employed adults who say they had to take a cut in pay because of the coronavirus outbreak, % saying they are now earning \_\_\_ money than before*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Aug. 3-16, 2020.

“Economic Fallout From COVID-19 Continues To Hit Lower-Income Americans the Hardest”

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Young workers ages 18 to 29 who lost their job because of the coronavirus outbreak are twice as likely as those ages 30 to 49 and about three times as likely as those 50 to 64 to say they are now employed at a different job than before the outbreak (26%, 13% and 8%, respectively). On the other hand, adults ages 30 to 64 who say they were laid off because of the coronavirus outbreak are more likely than those ages 18 to 29 to say they have returned to their old job (38% of those ages 30 to 49 and 37% of those ages 50 to 64 vs. 25% of those younger than 30). Similar shares of adults across these three age groups who have been laid off because of the outbreak remain unemployed.

In addition to lost jobs, about one-in-five adults (21%) say that they personally had to take a cut in pay due to reduced hours or demand for their work as a result of the coronavirus outbreak. Most employed adults who say this happened to them (60%) say they are currently making less money than they did before the outbreak; 34% say they are making about the same amount of money and 6% say they are earning more money than before the coronavirus outbreak. There are no significant differences in these measures across demographic groups.

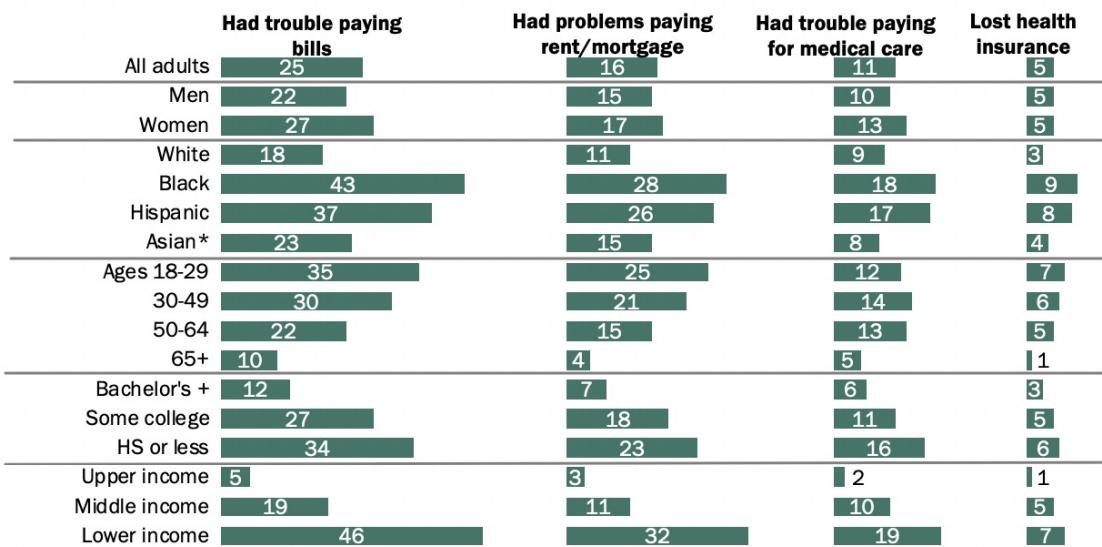
### **Nearly half of U.S. adults with lower incomes have had trouble paying their bills since the start of the coronavirus pandemic**

A quarter of U.S. adults say they have had trouble paying their bills since the coronavirus outbreak began. Smaller shares of U.S. adults say they have had problems paying their rent or mortgage (16%) or affording medical care for themselves or their families (11%). Still fewer say they lost their health insurance (5%).

Among adults with lower incomes, 46% say they have had trouble paying their bills, and about a third (32%) have had problems paying their rent or mortgage since February – significantly higher than the share of middle- and upper-income adults who have faced these struggles. This income pattern holds when looking at the shares saying they had trouble paying for medical care or lost their health insurance.

## Problems paying bills, rent or mortgage have impacted adults with lower incomes more than others since February

% of adults in each group who say they have \_\_\_\_ since the coronavirus outbreak began in February



\*Asian adults were interviewed in English only.

Note: White, Black and Asian adults include those who report being only one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Family income tiers are based on adjusted 2019 earnings.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Aug. 3-16, 2020.

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Among other key demographic groups, women, adults under age 30, Black and Hispanic adults, and those who have not obtained a college degree are among the most likely to say they have had trouble paying bills, their rent or mortgage, or for medical care. These groups have been especially impacted by higher unemployment rates during the coronavirus recession.

Black and Hispanic adults are more likely than White and Asian adults to have had trouble paying for medical care, bills or their rent or mortgage. While on most measures Black and Hispanic adults are about equally likely to say they have struggled with these payments, Black adults are more likely to say they have had trouble paying their bills (43%) since the beginning of the coronavirus outbreak than any other racial or ethnic group in the survey.

Age is also associated with people's ability to pay their bills or rent or mortgage since February. Fully 35% of adults ages 18 to 29 and 30% of those ages 30 to 49 say they have had trouble paying their bills during this time. This compares with 22% of those ages 50 to 64 and 10% of those 65 and older. About one-in-five or more adults ages 18 to 29 (25%) and 30 to 49 (21%) have had trouble

paying their rent or mortgage. This is significantly larger than the share among those 50 to 64 (15%) and 65 and older (4%).

Adults without a bachelor's degree are more likely than those with at least a bachelor's degree to say they have experienced problems with paying their bills, affording medical expenses for themselves or their families, or making rent or mortgage payments. About a third of adults with a high school diploma or less education (34%) and 27% of those with some college experience say they have struggled with paying bills, compared with 12% of those with a bachelor's degree or more education. About one-in-five adults with some college or high school or less education say they have had problems paying their rent or mortgage (18% and 23%) since the beginning of the coronavirus outbreak. Those with a high school diploma or less education are twice as likely as those with a bachelor's degree or more education to have lost their health insurance in the same time period (6% vs. 3%).

People who say they or someone in their household have either been laid off or taken a pay cut as a result of the coronavirus outbreak are more than three times as likely as those who have not faced these hardships to have struggled to pay their bills since the beginning of the outbreak (38% vs. 11%). Similarly, 27% of those who have experienced job loss or a pay cut in their household had problems paying their rent or mortgage, compared with 6% of those who did not experience job or pay loss. People who say they or someone in their household have either been laid off or taken a pay cut as a result of the coronavirus outbreak are also more likely than those who had not to say they have lost their health insurance or had trouble paying for medical care.

### **A third of Americans say they have used money from a savings or retirement account to pay their bills since the outbreak**

As many Americans struggle with the effects of the coronavirus recession, a third say they have turned to savings or retirement accounts to pay their bills. Additionally, more than one-in-ten have borrowed money from friends or family (17%), gotten food from a food bank or charitable organization (17%), or received government assistance such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits (15%) or unemployment benefits (15%).

## About four-in-ten lower-income, Black and Hispanic adults have used money from savings or retirement accounts since outbreak began

% of adults in each group who have \_\_\_ since the coronavirus began in February

	Used money from savings/retirement accounts	Borrowed money from friends/family	Gotten food from a food bank/organization	Received government food assistance	Received unemployment benefits
All adults	33	17	17	15	15
Men	30	14	13	10	14
Women	35	19	20	20	15
White	29	11	11	10	13
Black	40	33	33	33	17
Hispanic	43	27	30	23	19
Asian*	33	15	14	10	16
Ages 18-29	39	28	18	17	23
30-49	34	20	19	19	18
50-64	33	14	19	15	13
65+	26	4	10	7	5
Bachelor's +	26	7	6	4	10
Some college	37	17	16	16	17
HS or less	36	25	27	25	17
Upper income	16	12	11	1	8
Middle income	33	11	12	7	17
Lower income	44	35	35	37	17

\*Asian adults were interviewed in English only.

Note: White, Black and Asian adults include those who report being only one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Family income tiers are based on adjusted 2019 earnings.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Aug. 3-16, 2020.

"Economic Fallout From COVID-19 Continues To Hit Lower-Income Americans the Hardest"

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Use of these additional resources since the coronavirus outbreak began is more common among Americans with lower incomes. More than four-in-ten lower-income adults (44%) say they have used money from a savings or retirement account to pay their bills during this time, and about a third or more have borrowed money from friends or family (35%), gotten food from a food bank or charitable organization (35%), or received government food assistance (37%). Among middle-income adults, 33% say they have used money from a savings or retirement account to pay their bills, 11% have borrowed money from family or friends, 12% have gotten food from a food bank or charitable organization, and 7% have received government food assistance. While much smaller shares of upper-income adults say they have drawn on these resources, 15% say they used money from a savings or retirement account to pay their bills since the coronavirus began.

Those affected by coronavirus related job loss or pay cuts are much more likely than those who have not experienced these setbacks to have drawn on additional resources. Fully 46% of adults who say they or someone in their household have either been laid off or taken a pay cut as a result of the coronavirus outbreak say they have used money from a savings or retirement account to pay their bills, compared with 17% of those who have not experienced these setbacks. About a quarter of adults who experienced job loss or a pay cut in their household (24%) say they have borrowed money from friends or family; 20% say they have gotten food from a food bank or other charitable organization and 18% say they have received government food assistance.

In addition, these experiences differ significantly by race and ethnicity. About four-in-ten Black (40%) and Hispanic adults (43%) say they have used money from a savings or retirement account to pay their bills since the beginning of the coronavirus outbreak compared with 29% of White adults and 33% of Asian adults. A third of Black adults and about a quarter of Hispanic adults (27%) have borrowed money from family and friends. Smaller shares of White (11%) and Asian (15%) adults have done so.

Black and Hispanic adults are more likely to have drawn on government or charitable food resources since the outbreak began. Black adults (48%) and Hispanic adults (40%) are significantly more likely to say they have drawn on either of these resources since February than White and Asian adults (16% and 19%).

Adults ages 18 to 29 are more likely than those ages 30 and older to have drawn on money from savings or retirement accounts to pay their bills or to have borrowed money from friends or family since the beginning of the coronavirus outbreak. Adults ages 65 and older are less likely than their younger counterparts to have drawn on any of these resources since the outbreak began.

These experiences also differ by educational attainment, with college graduates less likely to have drawn on other funds or governmental or charitable food assistance since the coronavirus outbreak began. Some 36% of those with a high school diploma or less education and 37% of those with some college experience say they have used money from a savings or retirement account to pay their bills, compared with 26% of those with a bachelor's degree or more education.

**About a quarter of adults younger than 30 say they have received**

## **unemployment benefits since outbreak began**

As the coronavirus pandemic continues and workers are affected by virus-related furloughs and job loss, many Americans are relying on unemployment benefits, including those provided by the CARES Act that expired at the end of July. This study finds that 15% of U.S. adults say they have received unemployment benefits since February.

Upper-income adults are significantly less likely than lower- and middle-income adults to say they have received unemployment benefits (8% vs. 17% each, respectively).

Younger adults are more likely to say they have received unemployment benefits, with the largest share among those younger than 30 (23%). Adults ages 30 to 49 (18%) and 50 to 64 (13%) are still more likely than those ages 65 and older (5%) to have received unemployment benefits (the vast majority of those 65 and older say they were not employed before the coronavirus outbreak).

Americans without a bachelor's degree (17%) are more likely than those with a bachelor's degree (10%) to say they have received unemployment benefits.

## **About half of lower-income adults who can usually put money into savings say they are saving less than before the outbreak**

A quarter of U.S. adults say they have been able to put less money than usual into savings since the coronavirus outbreak began; 31% say they have been able to put the same amount as usual into savings, and 13% have been able to put more. About three-in-ten adults (31%) say they are not usually able to put money into savings.

Looking only at those who indicate they can usually put money into savings, 36% say they are able to save less than they did before the coronavirus outbreak, while 19% say they are saving more and 44% say they are saving about the same.

Lower-income adults who are usually able to put money into savings are more likely than those with middle or upper incomes to say they have been able to save less since the coronavirus outbreak began. About half of those with lower incomes (51%) say this, compared with 35% of those with middle incomes and a

smaller share (21%) of those with upper incomes. In turn, upper-income adults who can usually put money into savings are more likely than those with middle and lower incomes to say they are now saving more (25% vs. 18% each in the middle- and lower-income groups).

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## **Lower-income adults hit hardest in being able to save less since the coronavirus outbreak began**

*Among those who are usually able to put money into savings, % who say they have been able to put \_\_\_ into savings since February*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown. Family income tiers are based on adjusted 2019 earnings.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Aug. 3-16, 2020.

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Among women who can usually save, 38% say they are able to put less money in savings than before the coronavirus outbreak, compared with 33% of men who can usually save. The differences are even more striking across racial and ethnic groups: 46% of Black adults and 48% of Hispanic adults who usually save say they are now able to put less into savings, compared with 31% of White and 33% of Asian adults.

There are also differences by age, with young adults more likely than older

adults to say they have been able to save less since the beginning of the coronavirus outbreak. Some 47% of adults ages 18 to 29 who usually save say they are able to save less. Among older typical savers, 37% of those ages 30 to 49, 35% of those 50 to 64 and 23% of those ages 65 and older have put less money into savings in the same timeframe. Younger adults are more likely to work in industries impacted by coronavirus shutdowns and to carry more debt, which can affect their ability to save.

Educational differences are also evident among those who usually save. About four-in-ten adults without a bachelor's degree (41%) say they were able to put less money in savings, compared with 28% of those with a bachelor's degree or more education.

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# Guns in America: Attitudes and Experiences of Americans

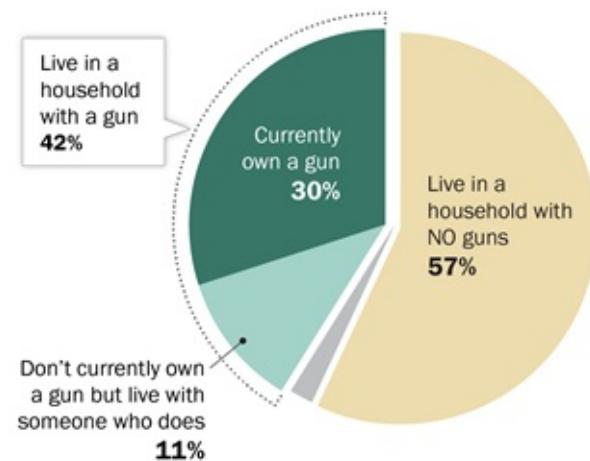
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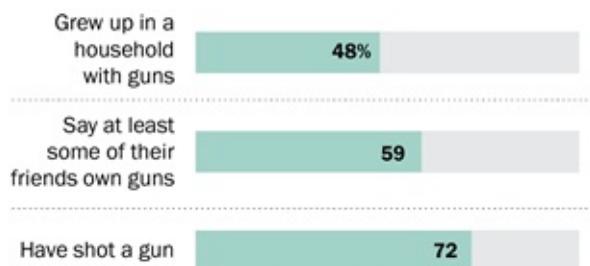
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## About four-in-ten U.S. adults say they live in a gun-owning household

*% of all adults saying they ...*



*% who ...*



Note: In pie chart, share of respondents who didn't offer an answer shown but not labeled. Figures may not add to 100% or to subtotals indicated due to rounding.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 13-27 and April 4-18, 2017.

"America's Complex Relationship With Guns"

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As a nation, the U.S. has a deep and enduring connection to guns. Integrated into the fabric of American society since the country's earliest days, guns remain a point of pride for many Americans. Whether for hunting, sport shooting or personal protection, most gun owners count the right to bear arms as central to their freedom. At the same time, the results of gun-related violence have shaken the nation, and debates over gun policy remain sharply polarized.

A new Pew Research Center survey attempts to better understand the complex relationship Americans have with guns and how that relationship intersects with their policy views.

The survey finds that Americans have broad exposure to guns, whether they personally own one or not. At least two-thirds have lived in a household with a gun at some point in their lives. And roughly seven-in-ten – including 55% of those who have never personally owned a gun – say they have fired a gun at some point. Today, three-in-ten U.S. adults say they own a gun, and an additional 36% say that while they don’t own one now, they might be open to owning a gun in the future. A third of adults say they don’t currently own a gun and can’t see themselves ever doing so.

To be sure, experiences with guns aren’t always positive: 44% of U.S. adults say they personally know someone who has been shot, either accidentally or intentionally, and about a quarter (23%) say they or someone in their family have been threatened or intimidated by someone using a gun. Half see gun violence as a very big problem in the U.S. today, although gun owners and non-owners offer divergent views on this.

Gun owners and non-owners are also deeply divided on several gun policy proposals, but there is agreement on some restrictions, such as preventing those with mental illnesses and those on federal watch lists from buying guns. Among gun owners, there is a diversity of views on gun policy, driven in large part by party affiliation.

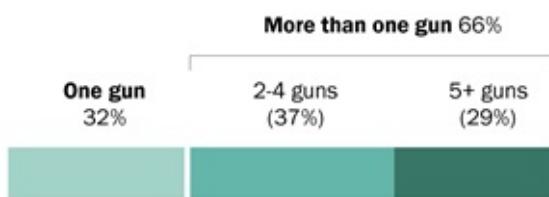
The nationally representative survey of 3,930 U.S. adults, including 1,269 gun owners, was conducted March 13 to 27 and April 4 to 18, 2017, using the Pew Research Center’s American Trends Panel. Among the key findings:

**The ties that bind gun owners to their firearms are often deep**

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## Majority of gun owners own multiple guns

*% of gun owners saying they own ...*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 13-27 and April 4-18, 2017.

"America's Complex Relationship With Guns"

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A majority of gun owners (66%) own multiple firearms, and about three-quarters (73%) say they could never see themselves *not* owning a gun.

Many American gun owners exist in a social context where gun ownership is the norm. Roughly half of all gun owners (49%) say that all or most of their friends own guns. In stark contrast, among those who don't own a gun, only one-in-ten say that all or most of their friends own guns.

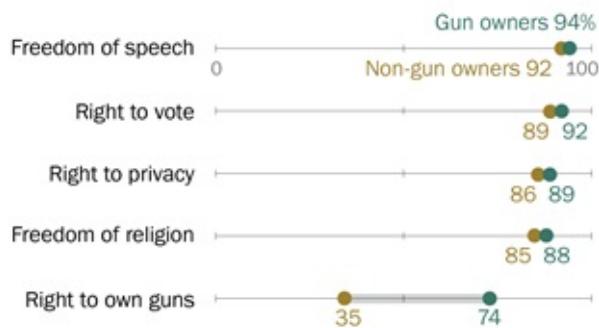
Experience with guns starts relatively early particularly for those who grew up in a gun-owning household. Men who grew up in a household with guns and who have ever shot a gun report that they first fired a gun when they were, on average, 12 years old. Among women who grew up in gun-owning households and who have ever shot a gun, the average age at which they first fired a gun is 17. Men tend to become gun owners at an earlier age than women: 19 years old, on average, vs. 27 years old for women.

**For most gun owners, owning a firearm is tied to their personal freedom**

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**About three-quarters of gun owners say owning a gun is essential to their freedom**

*% saying each is essential to their own sense of freedom*



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 13-27 and April 4-18, 2017.

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One key and defining characteristic of gun owners is the extent to which they associate the right to own guns with their own personal sense of freedom – 74% of gun owners say this right is essential, compared with only 35% of non-gun owners who say the same.

While the right to own guns is highly valued by most gun owners, not all gun owners see gun ownership the same way. Half of all gun owners say owning a gun is important to their overall identity – with 25% saying this is very important and another 25% calling it somewhat important. Three-in-ten gun owners say owning a gun is not too important to their identity and 20% say it's not at all important.

**White men are especially likely to be gun owners, but ownership crosses demographic boundaries**

About half of white men (48%) say they own a gun. By comparison, about a quarter of white women and nonwhite men (24% each) own guns, along with 16% of nonwhite women. There is also an education gap in gun ownership and that, too, is particularly pronounced among whites: 41% of whites without a bachelor's degree are gun owners, compared with about a quarter of whites with at least a bachelor's degree (26%).

Geographically, gun ownership is less concentrated in the Northeast than in other regions in the country, and there is a vast urban-rural divide across regions. Among adults who live in rural areas, 46% say they own a gun. By comparison, 28% of adults who live in the suburbs and even fewer – 19% – in urban areas own a gun.

### **Gun ownership varies across demographic groups**

*% of U.S. adults saying they ...*

	<b>Personally own a gun</b>	<b>Don't own a gun but live with someone who does</b>	<b>NET Gun in household</b>
All adults	30%	11%	42%
Men	39	5	44
Women	22	18	40
Ages 18-29	27	16	43
30-49	28	10	39
50-64	33	9	43
65+	33	12	45
Whites	36	13	49
Blacks	24	8	32
Hispanics	15	6	21
High school or less	31	10	41
Some college	34	13	47
Bachelor's degree+	25	12	37
Northeast	16	10	27
Midwest	32	12	44
South	36	10	45
West	31	15	46
Urban	19	9	29
Suburban	28	12	41
Rural	46	13	58
Republican	41	15	57
Democrat	16	9	25
Independent	36	12	48
Rep/lean Rep	44	12	56
Dem/lean Dem	20	10	30

Note: Figures may not add to subtotals indicated due to rounding. Whites and blacks are non-Hispanics. Hispanics are of any race. "Some college" includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 13-27 and April 4-18, 2017.

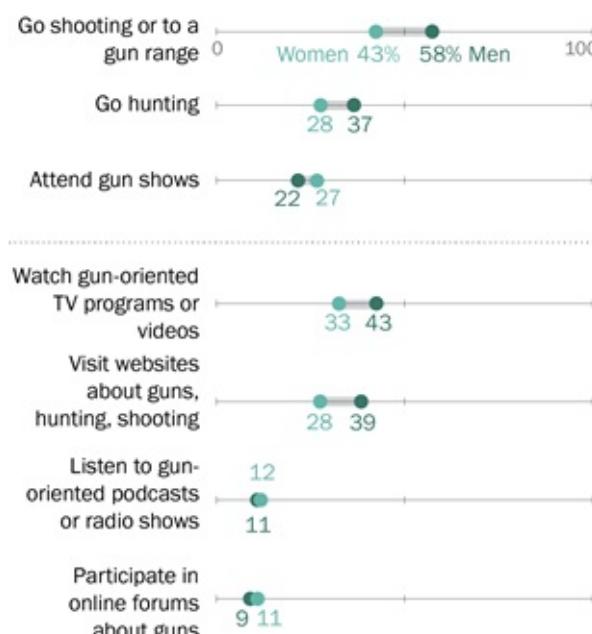
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## **Men are more likely than women to participate in some gun-oriented activities**

*% of gun owners saying they do each of the following often or sometimes*



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 13-27 and April 4-18, 2017.

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From hunting and shooting to visiting gun-related websites and watching gun-oriented TV programs, there are many activities available to gun enthusiasts. About half of gun owners (52%) say they go shooting or to a gun range often or sometimes; 34% go hunting and 24% attend gun shows at least sometimes.

When it comes to gun-oriented media, roughly four-in-ten gun owners (39%) report that they at least sometimes watch TV shows and videos about guns, and 35% visit websites about guns, hunting or other shooting sports. Gun-related podcasts, radio shows and online discussion forums are less popular: About one-in-ten gun owners say they listen to gun-oriented podcasts or radio shows (11%) or participate in online discussion forums about guns (10%) at least sometimes.

Male gun owners are more likely than women who own guns to engage in some of these activities. For example, 58% of men who own guns say they go shooting

or to a gun range at least sometimes, compared with 43% of female gun owners. Men also hunt at higher rates than women and watch more gun-oriented TV shows or videos.

Consistent with their more frequent engagement in gun-related activities, male gun owners are more socially connected to other gun owners than their female counterparts: 54% of men who own guns say all or most of their friends are also gun owners, while 40% of women say the same.

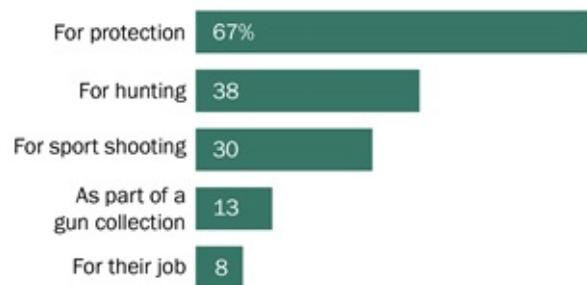
## Protection tops the list of reasons for owning a gun

Two-thirds of gun owners say protection is a major reason they own a gun. By comparison, about four-in-ten (38%) cite hunting as a major reason and three-in-ten cite sport shooting, including target shooting, trap and skeet. Fewer point to a gun collection (13%) or to their job (8%) as being central to why they own a gun. To be sure, for many gun owners, these reasons overlap: 44% offer more than one major reason for owning a gun.

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### Most gun owners cite protection as a major reason for owning a gun

*% of gun owners saying each is a major reason why they own a gun*



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 13-27 and April 4-18, 2017.

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Roughly one-in-seven adults who own or have owned a gun (15%) say they have fired or threatened to fire a gun to defend themselves, their family or their possessions.

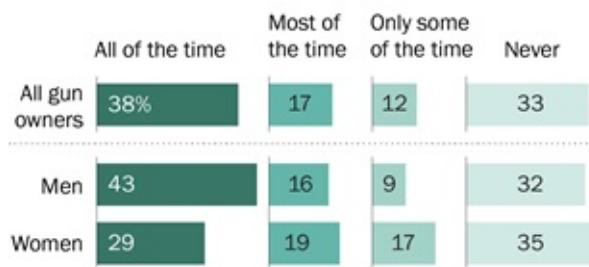
Regardless of the reasons for owning a gun, most gun owners don't think their

having a firearm is public business, but they also aren't going out of their way to hide the fact that they own a gun. Eight-in-ten gun owners say they don't mind if other people know they own a gun, but they don't set out to tell them; 14% say they'd rather other people not know that they have a firearm, and 6% actively do want others to know.

## For many gun owners, a gun is often close at hand

### About four-in-ten gun owners say there is always a loaded gun within easy reach when they're at home

% of gun owners saying there is a loaded gun easily accessible to them \_\_\_ when at home



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown.  
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 13-27 and April 4-18, 2017.

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Roughly four-in-ten gun owners (38%) say there is a gun that is both loaded and easily accessible to them all of the time when they're at home. Men are especially likely to have a loaded gun at the ready: 43% of male gun owners vs. 29% of women who own guns say a loaded gun is always easily accessible.

Overall, about seven-in-ten gun owners say they own a handgun or a pistol (72%), while 62% say they own a rifle and 54% own a shotgun. Handguns are more common among those who own a gun for protection.

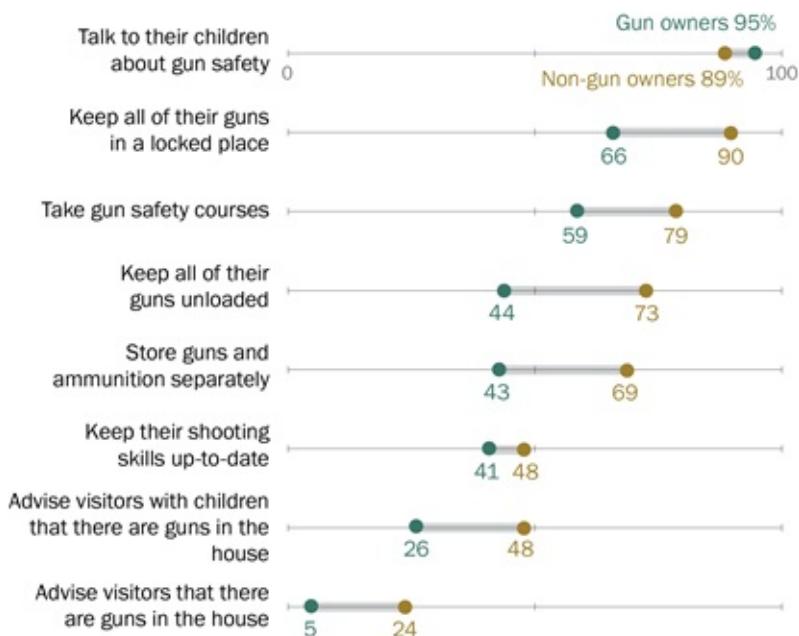
Among those who own a handgun, about one-in-four (26%) say they carry their gun with them outside of their home all or most of the time, a share that rises to 41% among those who think of their local community as unsafe.

## When it comes to gun safety in homes with children, there are some areas of

## agreement about key precautions

### Despite some agreement, gun owners and non-owners mostly differ on views of key responsibilities of gun owners

% saying it is essential for gun owners with children at home to do each of the following



Note: A random subset of respondents was asked about advising "visitors with children" that there are guns in the house and another random subset was asked about advising "visitors" that there are guns in the house.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 13-27 and April 4-18, 2017.  
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Of the many possible safety precautions gun owners could take when they live with children in the home, three receive majority support from both non-owners and those who currently own a firearm. Nearly all gun owners (95%) believe that talking to children about gun safety is essential, followed by 66% who say all guns should be kept in a locked place when there are children living in the home, and 59% who say gun owners who are parents should take a gun safety course. Majorities of non-gun owners also say these are essential measures for gun owners with children in the home.

The majority of Americans who don't own guns feel it is also essential for gun owners with children living in the home to keep their guns unloaded and in a

separate spot from the ammunition. Gun owners disagree. Majorities say these measures are either important but not essential or not important, even in households with children.

When asked about their own habits, roughly half of gun owners with children under 18 living at home say all of the guns in their home are kept in a locked place (54%) and all are unloaded (53%).

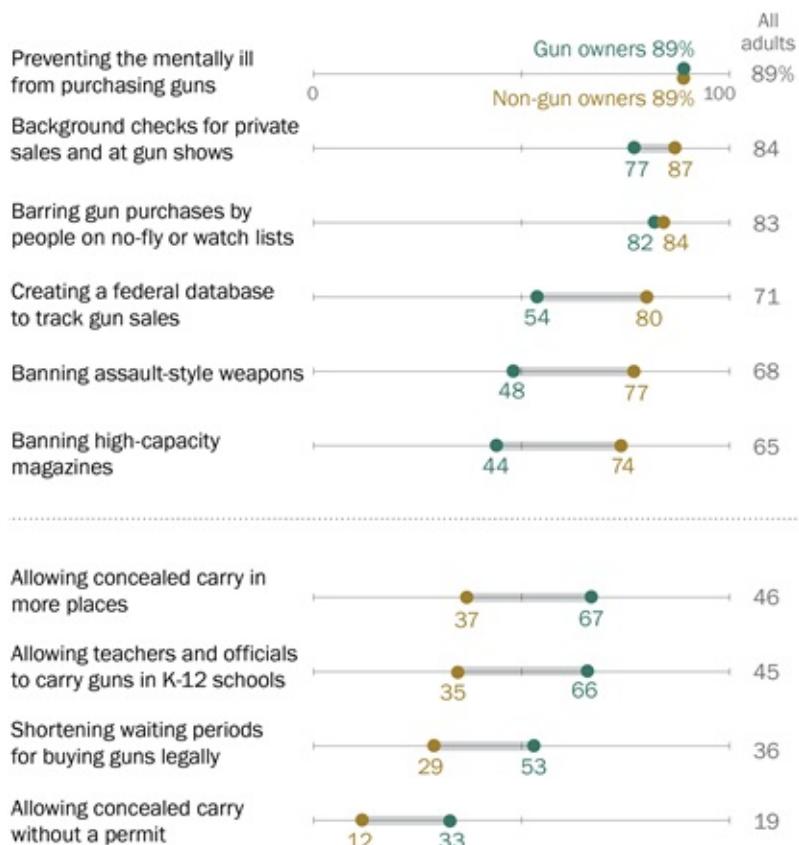
Still, many gun owners with children say at least some of their guns are kept unlocked and loaded. In fact, 30% of these gun owners say there is a gun that is both loaded and easily accessible to them all of the time when they're at home.

**Americans who own guns largely disagree with non-owners on gun policy, but some proposals have support from both groups**

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## Some agreement and many divisions between owners and non-owners on gun proposals

% who strongly or somewhat favor ...



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 13-27 and April 4-18, 2017.  
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Solid majorities of both gun owners and non-owners favor limiting access to guns for people with mental illnesses and individuals who are on the federal no-fly or watch lists (82% or higher favor among each group). In addition, strong majorities favor background checks for private sales and at gun shows (77% among gun owners and 87% among non-owners).

The groups are more divided when it comes to three other policy proposals: creating a federal database to track gun sales; banning assault-style weapons; and banning high-capacity magazines. Even so, significant shares of gun owners are open to these proposals. Roughly half of gun owners (54%) say they would favor creating a federal database, and 48% favor a ban on assault weapons.

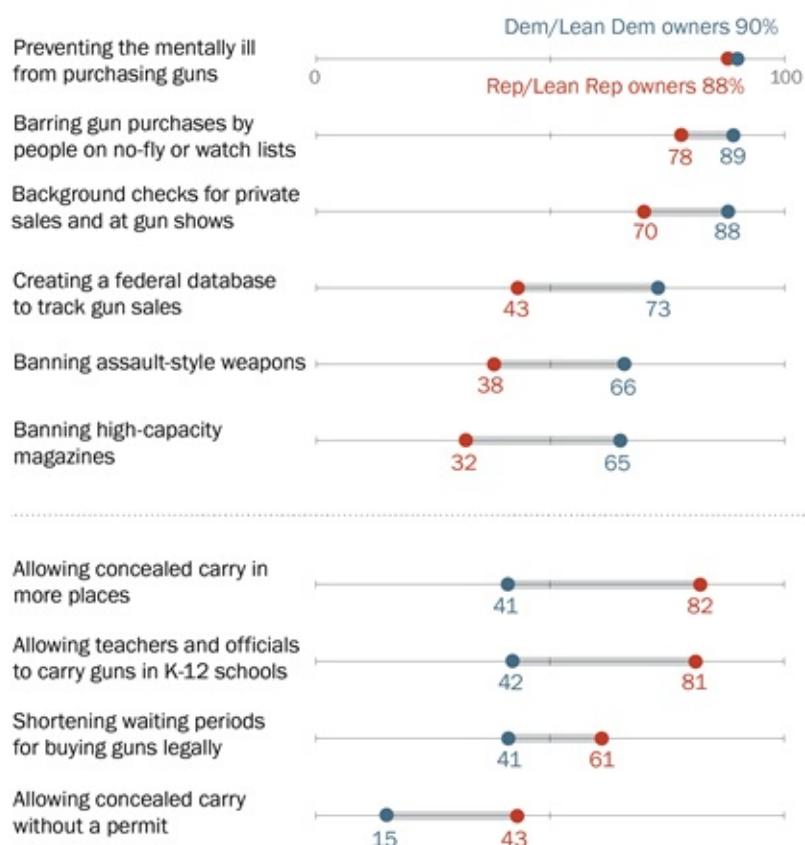
Some 44% of gun owners favor banning high-capacity magazines. Support for these proposals is much higher among non-gun owners, with about three-quarters or more saying they would support each of these proposals.

At the same time, majorities of gun owners favor proposals that would *expand* gun rights, such as allowing people to carry concealed guns in more places and allowing teachers and school officials to carry guns in K-12 schools – proposals that are each supported by only about a third of non-owners.

## Even among gun owners, Republicans and Democrats don't see eye to eye on gun policy

### Among gun owners there are large partisan gaps in opinion about restricting and expanding gun rights

% of gun owners who strongly or somewhat favor ...



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 13-27 and April 4-18, 2017.  
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There is a partisan divide in gun ownership: More than four-in-ten Republicans and Republican-leaning independents are gun owners (44%), compared with 20% of Democrats and independents who lean Democratic.

There is also a partisan divide on views of gun policy, and these differences remain even after controlling for gun ownership. For example, Republican gun owners are much more resistant than Democratic gun owners to creating a database to track gun sales and banning assault-style weapons and high-capacity magazines. On the flip side, Republicans are also more open to proposals that would expand gun rights. A prime example: 82% of Republican gun owners favor expanding concealed carry laws to more places, compared with 41% of their Democratic counterparts.

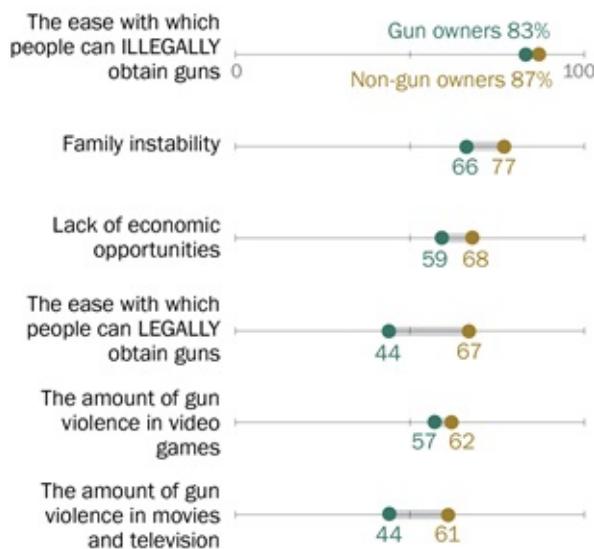
Republican gun owners are about twice as likely as Democratic gun owners to say owning a gun is essential to their freedom (91% vs. 43%), and there are also behavioral differences between these two groups. For example, Republican handgun owners are more likely than their Democratic counterparts to say they carry their gun with them, even if only some of the time (63% vs. 45%). Fully 55% of Democrats who own a handgun say they *never* carry.

**At the most basic level, gun owners and non-owners disagree on the extent to which gun violence is a problem in the U.S.**

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**Gun owners and non-owners disagree on impact that ease of access to legal guns has on gun violence**

*% saying each contributes a great deal or a fair amount to gun violence in the country today*



Note: A random half of respondents were asked about "family instability" and "the amount of gun violence in video games," while the other half were asked about "the amount of gun violence in movies and television" and "lack of economic opportunities."

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 13-27 and April 4-18, 2017.

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Half of Americans describe gun violence as a very big problem in the United States, but the perceptions of gun owners and those who don't own guns differ considerably. While a majority of those who do not own guns (59%) see gun violence as a major problem in the country today, a third of adults who own guns say this is a very big problem. Democrats and Republicans also offer different assessments, with Democrats far more likely to describe gun violence as a very big problem, and the partisan divide remains when controlling for gun ownership.

Americans see many factors as playing a role in gun violence in the country today. Fully 86% say the ease with which people can illegally obtain guns contributes to gun violence a great deal or a fair amount; more than half say the same about family instability (74%), lack of economic opportunities (65%), the amount of gun violence in video games (60%), the ease with which people can

legally obtain guns (60%), and the amount of gun violence in movies and television (55%).

Gun owners and non-owners alike point to the ease with which people can *illegally* obtain guns as a major contributor to gun violence in the U.S., but opinions diverge when it comes to guns obtained *legally*. Two-thirds of non-gun owners see the ease with which people can legally obtain guns as contributing at least a fair amount to gun violence; less than half (44%) of gun owners share this view.

It follows that non-gun owners are much more likely than gun owners to say further restricting legal gun sales would result in fewer mass shootings (56% vs. 29%); and non-gun owners are also more likely to say an increase in gun ownership would lead to more crime overall (44% vs. 13%). For their part, 54% of gun owners say there would be less crime if more people owned guns, and 33% say it wouldn't make much difference.

### **About a quarter of U.S. adults say they or someone in their family have been threatened or intimidated by someone using a gun**

Many Americans (44%) say they personally know someone who has been shot, either accidentally or intentionally. This is particularly common among black adults, 57% of whom say they know someone who has been shot; about four-in-ten whites (43%) and Hispanics (42%) say the same.

Higher share of gun owners (51%) than non-owners (40%) report that they know someone who has been shot, either accidentally or intentionally.

Separately, about a quarter of Americans (23%) – including roughly equal shares of gun owners and non-owners – say they or someone in their family have been threatened or intimidated by someone using a gun. Again, blacks are more likely than whites to say they have had this experience: About a third of blacks (32%) say they or someone in their family have been threatened or intimidated by someone with a gun, compared with 20% of whites. About a quarter of Hispanics (24%) say this has happened to them or to someone else in their family.

### **Roughly one-in-five gun owners belongs to the NRA**

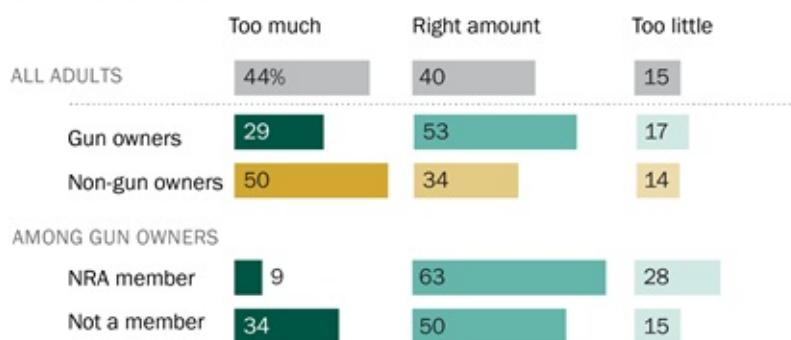
Overall, 19% of all U.S. gun owners say they belong to the NRA. Republican and Republican-leaning gun owners are twice as likely as Democratic and Democratic-leaning gun owners to say they belong to the NRA (24% vs. 11%). And, among Republicans, conservatives have significantly higher rates of membership – 28% vs. 17% of moderate or liberal Republicans.

The public is divided when it comes to the amount of influence the NRA has over guns laws in the U.S. While 44% of all adults say the NRA has too much influence over gun legislation, 40% say it has the right amount of influence. Relatively few (15%) say the NRA has too little influence.

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**Americans are divided between those who say the NRA has too much and the right amount of influence**

*% saying the National Rifle Association (NRA) has \_\_\_ influence over gun laws in this country*



Note: Share of respondents who didn't offer an answer not shown. Among all gun owners, 19% say they are members of the NRA.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted March 13-27 and April 4-18, 2017.

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For their part, NRA members are largely satisfied with the amount of influence the organization has over gun laws in the U.S. About six-in-ten (63%) say the NRA has the right amount of influence and 28% say it has too little influence. Only 9% of NRA members say the organization has too much influence over gun laws. Among non-gun owners, 50% view the NRA as too influential.

Gun owners are more likely than non-gun owners to have ever contacted a public official to express their opinion on gun policy. About one-in-five gun owners (21%) say they have done this, compared with 12% of non-gun owners.

The remainder of this report examines in greater detail the public's experiences

with guns as well as views on gun policies. Chapter 1 looks at the demographics of gun ownership and the reasons people own guns. It also explores early experiences with guns, such as growing up in a gun-owning household and participating in hunting or sport shooting. Chapter 2 focuses on the role guns have in the daily life of gun owners, including whether they carry a gun outside their home, how often they engage in gun-related activities or consume gun-oriented media, and their social ties to other gun owners. It also looks at negative experiences some people have had with guns. Chapter 3 examines the public's views on the responsibilities of gun ownership, with an emphasis on the differences between what gun owners and non-owners consider essential safety measures for gun owners to follow. Chapter 4 explores what Americans see as contributing factors to gun violence. Chapter 5 focuses on the public's views on policy proposals to restrict or expand access to guns.

Unless otherwise specified, “guns” refers to firearms and not to airsoft guns, such as paintball, BB or pellet guns.

“Gun owners” are those who say they personally own one or more guns. “Non-owners who live in a gun-owning household” are those who say they do not personally own any guns, but someone else in their household does.

Those who did not grow up with guns in the home includes those who say, as far as they know, there were never any guns in their household when they were growing up or they are not sure if there were guns in their household when they were growing up.

Those who are said to have children in the household or at home are those who are a parent or guardian to a child younger than 18 who lives in their household.

References to college graduates or people with a college degree comprise those with a bachelor’s degree or more. “Some college” refers to those with a two-year degree or those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. “High school” refers to those who have attained a high school diploma or its equivalent, such as a General Education Development (GED) certificate.

References to whites and blacks include only those who are non-Hispanic and identify as only one race. Hispanics are of any race.

All references to party affiliation, excluding one reference in chapter 1, include those who lean toward that party: Republicans include those who say they lean

toward the Republican Party and Democrats include those who say they lean toward the Democratic Party.

References to adults who live in an urban, suburban or rural area are based on an analysis that takes into account the density of the area where they live based on their address or the location of their telephone number or their ZIP code if they didn't provide an address. For a more detailed explanation of how community type was coded, see the Methodology section of the report.

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