

# Social Justice Watch 0828

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[COVID-19 Response Approved by Most in 14 Nations with Advanced Economies | Pew Research Center](#)

[The Progressive New Face of ‘Boys Will Be Boys’](#)

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# 图集精选

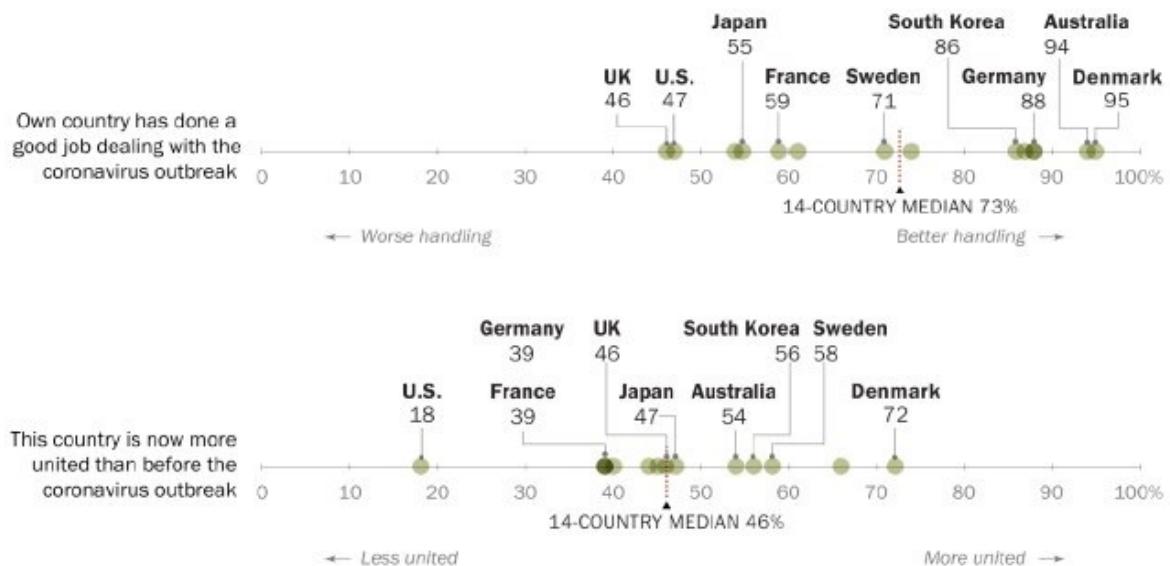
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**While many say their country's coronavirus response has been good, publics are divided over COVID-19's impact on national unity**

% who say ...



Note: In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Corona19."

Source: Spring 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q3 & Q10c.

"Most Approve of National Response to COVID-19 in 14 Advanced Economies"

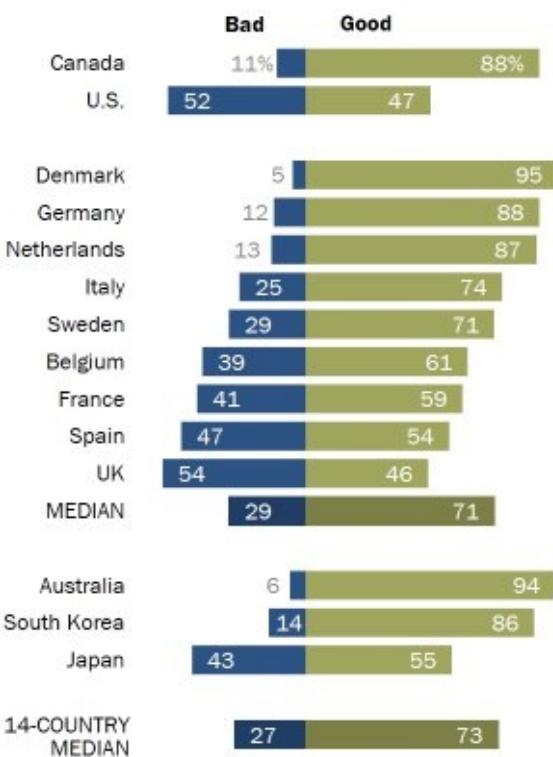
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## More think their country has handled COVID-19 well, with the exceptions of the U.S. and UK

% who say their own country has done a \_\_\_ job dealing with the coronavirus outbreak



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Corona19."

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q10c.

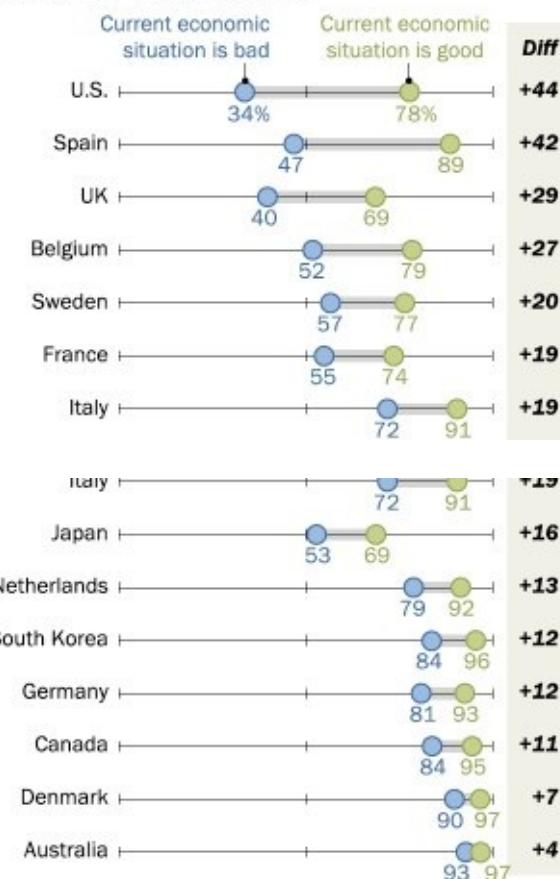
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## Economic confidence goes hand in hand with assessing national government's COVID-19 response

% who say their own country has done a **good job** dealing with the coronavirus outbreak, among those who say the \_\_\_ in their country



Note: All differences shown are statistically significant. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Coronavirus."

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q10c.

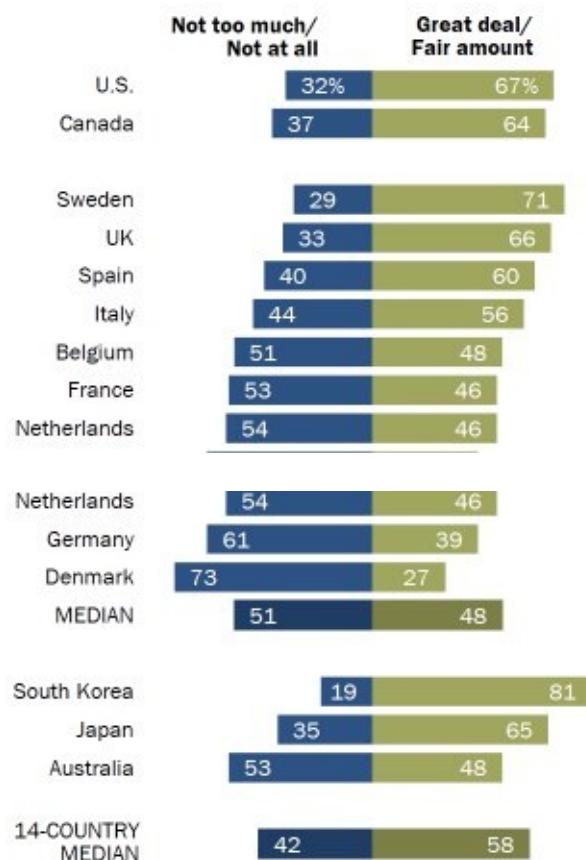
<sup>a</sup>Most Approve of National Response to COVID-19 in 14 Advanced Economies

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## Around the world, coronavirus has changed everyday life

% who say their life has changed \_\_\_ as a result of the coronavirus outbreak



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Coronavirus."

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q1.

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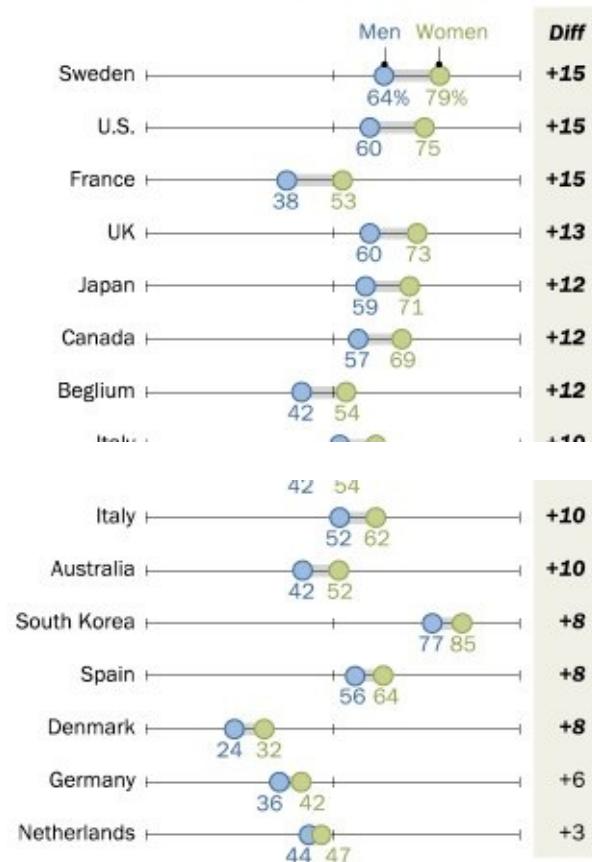
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## Women more likely than men to say their lives have changed because of COVID-19

% of \_\_\_ who say their life has changed a great deal/fair amount as a result of the coronavirus outbreak



Note: Statistically significant differences in bold. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Corona19."

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q1.

\*Most Approve of National Response to COVID-19 in 14 Advanced Economies

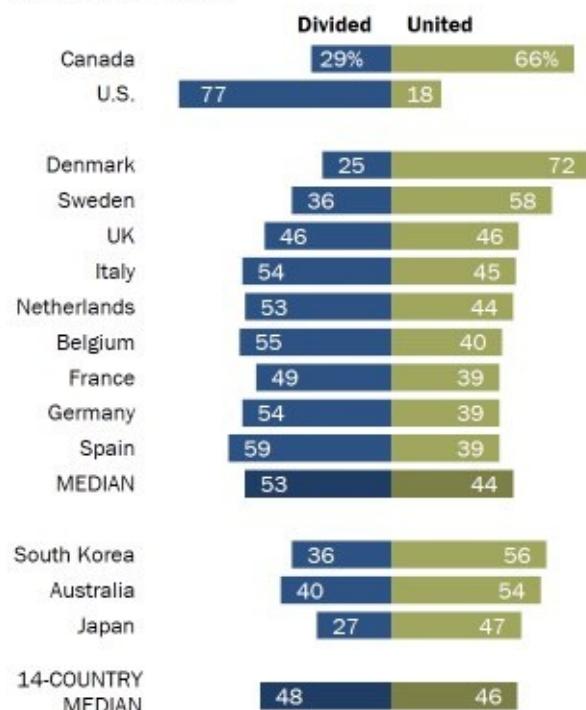
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## Americans stand out in belief that their country is more divided now than before coronavirus outbreak

% who say their country is now more \_\_\_ than before the coronavirus outbreak



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Corona19."

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q3.

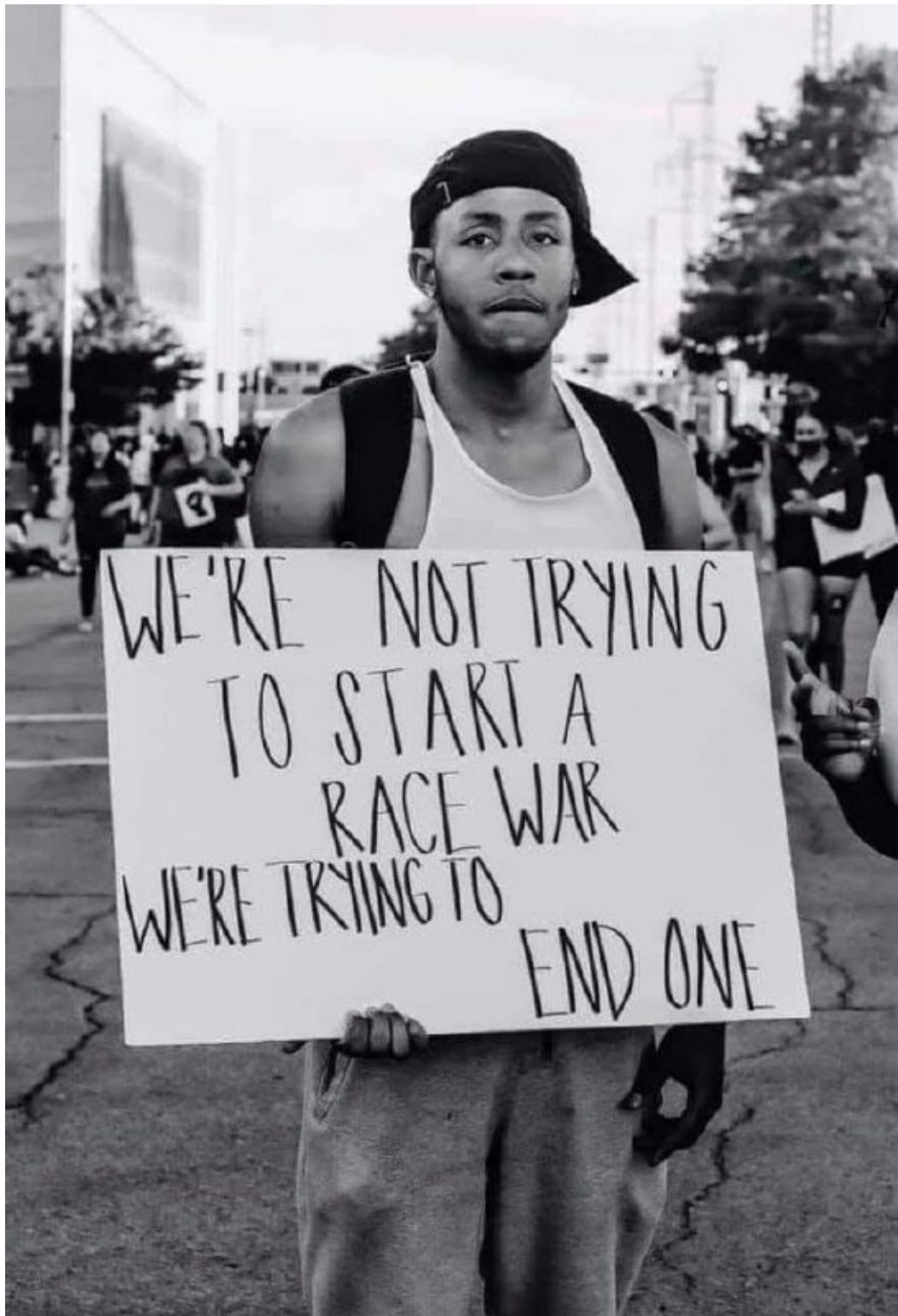
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COVID-19 Response Approved by Most in 14 Nations with Advanced Economies | Pew Research Center [source](#)

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# 消息精选

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If you're more upset about the athletes boycotting than you are about the death, division, and discrimination in our society...your priorities are wrong. [source](#)

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It's not enough just to say the words "Black lives matter." We have to make it true—by ending systemic racism and dismantling white supremacy in our institutions, our systems, and in every aspect of our society. [source](#)

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Why do the police decide that some threats must be extinguished, while other threats get defused? We know the answer. <https://youtu.be/5DvmM7nPqVA>  
[source](#)

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[telegra.ph/COVID-19-Response-Approved-by-Most-in-14-Nations-with-Advanced-Economies--Pew-Research-Center-08-27](https://www.pewresearch.org/global/2020/08/27/covid-19-response-approved-by-most-in-14-nations-with-advanced-economies/)

Telegraph

COVID-19 Response Approved by Most in 14 Nations with Advanced Economies | Pew Research Center

This analysis focuses on cross-national views of how governments have handled the coronavirus outbreak in 14 advanced economies, as well as the pandemic's effect on daily life and civic unity. Though Pew Research Center has published extensively on the coronavirus...

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[telegra.ph/The-Progressive-New-Face-of-Boys-Will-Be-Boys-08-27-2](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/08/27/the-progressive-new-face-of-boys-will-be-boys/)

Telegraph

The Progressive New Face of 'Boys Will Be Boys'

Nineteen-year-old Aaron Coleman is a dishwasher and soon, possibly, a left-wing state legislator. He just won an underdog primary campaign in Kansas, campaigning on issues like Medicare for All and the Green New Deal, and unseated a seven-term, anti-abortion...

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The Federal Elections Commission is supposed to monitor campaign spending, but thanks to the Senate they're kinda sitting 2020 out. [source](#)

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Andrew Yang:

I just spoke to Jacob Blake Sr.

His son is conscious.

His first question after he woke up was "Daddy, why did they shoot me so many times?"

He wept to his father.

He has restraints on even though he can't move his legs. [source](#)

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Why you should care about the Hatch Act [source](#)

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[telegra.ph/This-Is-Silicon-Valley-08-27](#)

Telegraph

This Is Silicon Valley

I am privileged to live in Silicon Valley. I was born here, I grew up here, and now I work here as a product manager at Google. The weather is lovely, the crime rate is low, and the schools are well funded. The adults have cushy jobs

and the kids have endless...

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# **COVID-19 Response Approved by Most in 14 Nations with Advanced Economies | Pew Research Center**

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This analysis focuses on cross-national views of how governments have handled the coronavirus outbreak in 14 advanced economies, as well as the pandemic’s effect on daily life and civic unity. Though Pew Research Center has published extensively on the coronavirus outbreak over the past months, this survey is the first that expands analysis to more than just the U.S. experience of the outbreak. This study was conducted only in countries where nationally representative telephone surveys are feasible. Due to the coronavirus outbreak, face-to-face interviewing is not currently possible in many parts of the world.

For this report, we use data from nationally representative surveys of 14,276 adults from June 10 to Aug. 3, 2020, in 14 advanced economies. All surveys were conducted over the phone with adults in the U.S., Canada, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, the UK,

Australia, Japan and South Korea.

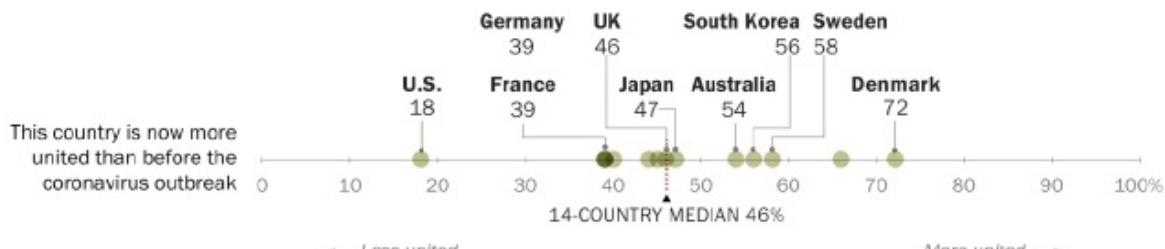
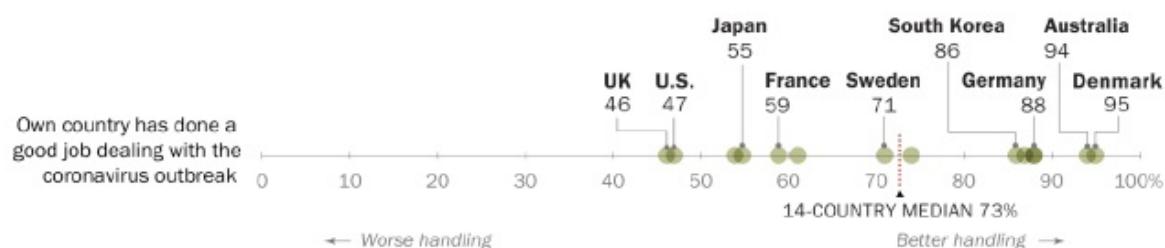
Here are the questions used for the report, along with responses, and the survey methodology.

Countries' approaches to combat the spread of the coronavirus have varied throughout Europe, North America, Australia, Japan and South Korea, but most publics in these regions believe their own country has done a good job of dealing with the outbreak, according to a new Pew Research Center survey of 14 advanced economies. Overall, a median of 73% across the nations say their country has done a good job of handling novel coronavirus, which has reached nearly every corner of the globe, infected more than 20 million people worldwide and resulted in the deaths of several hundred thousand.

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**While many say their country's coronavirus response has been good, publics are divided over COVID-19's impact on national unity**

% who say ...



Note: In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Corona19."

Source: Spring 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q3 & Q10c.

"Most Approve of National Response to COVID-19 in 14 Advanced Economies"

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But the pandemic has had a divisive effect on a sense of national unity in many of the countries surveyed: A median of 46% feel more national unity now than before the coronavirus outbreak, while 48% think divisions have grown. This

includes 77% of Americans who say they are further divided than prior to the pandemic, while just 18% believe the country to be more united.

In addition, a median of 58% say that their lives have changed a great deal or fair amount due to COVID-19. Women in particular have felt the effects of the virus most acutely.

And in a quarantine period marked with critiques of actors ranging from China to the United States to the World Health Organization, a median of 59% believe more international cooperation would have reduced the number of coronavirus cases facing their country. Young people in many nations are especially likely to hold this viewpoint.

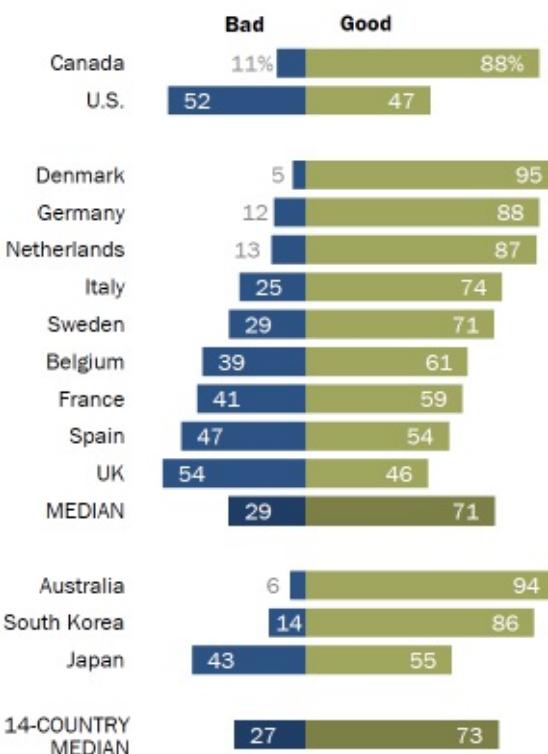
These are among the findings of a new Pew Research Center survey, conducted June 10 to Aug. 3, 2020, among 14,276 adults in 14 countries: the United States, Canada, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Australia, Japan and South Korea. The survey also finds that public attitudes toward their own country's dealing with the coronavirus epidemic and national unity are linked to feelings of trust in others and economic confidence in their nation.

## **Most people think their own country has done well handling pandemic response**

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**More think their country has handled COVID-19 well, with the exceptions of the U.S. and UK**

*% who say their own country has done a \_\_\_ job dealing with the coronavirus outbreak*



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Corona19."

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q10c.

"Most Approve of National Response to COVID-19 in 14 Advanced Economies"

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Across the 14 countries surveyed, a median of 73% say that their own country has done a good job dealing with the coronavirus outbreak. Just 27% believe their country has handled it poorly. However, there is some variation by country on this assessment.

About seven-in-ten or more give their nation's coronavirus response a positive review in Denmark, Australia, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, South Korea, Italy and Sweden. And more than half in Belgium, France, Japan and Spain share this sentiment.

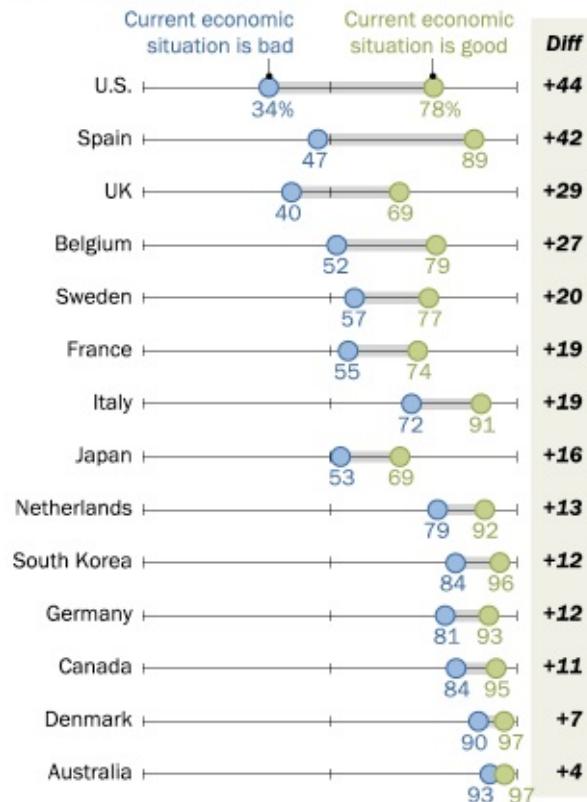
In two countries – the United Kingdom and the United States – people are divided in their beliefs when it comes to rating their government’s performance responding to the coronavirus. These two nations also have high levels of political polarization on views of the government’s handling of this crisis. In the U.S., 76% of Republicans and independents who lean to the Republican Party say the government has done a good job, while just a quarter of Democrats and Democratic leaners agree, a 51 percentage point difference. A majority of right-leaning Britons (55%) give a positive rating to their country’s handling of the pandemic, led by Prime Minister Boris Johnson’s Conservative government, but just 26% on the left hold the same opinion.

People in Spain, which is currently led by the left-leaning Spanish Socialist Workers’ Party, are also split ideologically on assessing their government’s response to COVID-19, but in the opposite direction: 73% on the left are pleased with how their country has managed the outbreak while 40% on right are not, a 33-point difference. Those on the left are also more positive on their country’s response to the outbreak than those on the right by double digits in Italy (18 points more positive), Sweden (17 points) and South Korea (15 points).

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## Economic confidence goes hand in hand with assessing national government's COVID-19 response

% who say their own country has done a **good job** dealing with the coronavirus outbreak, among those who say the \_\_\_ in their country



Note: All differences shown are statistically significant. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Coronavirus."

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q10c.

"Most Approve of National Response to COVID-19 in 14 Advanced Economies"

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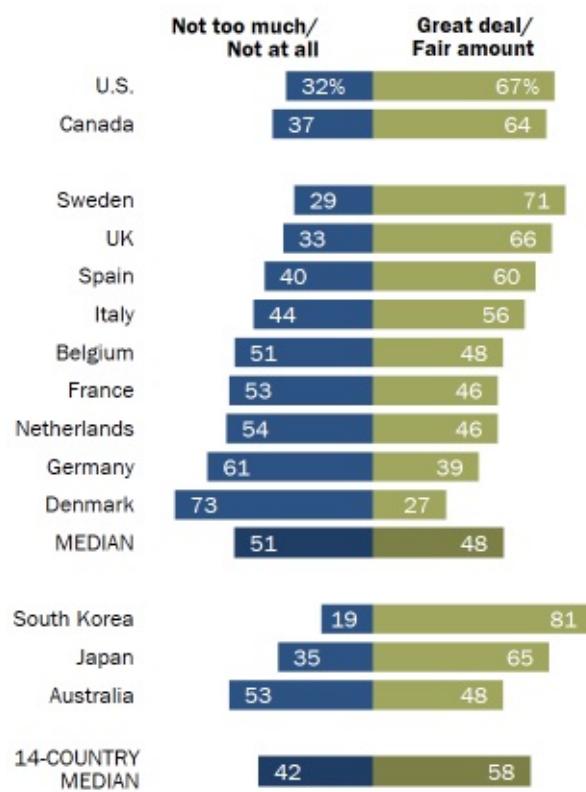
Economies around the world have contracted due to the unprecedented nature of the coronavirus outbreak, and the U.S. Congressional Research Service reports that the global economy could grow between 3% and 6% less in 2020 compared with previous projections. These economic effects also relate to how people assess their own nation's handling of the pandemic. Across all 14 nations included in the survey, those who think their current national economic situation is good are also more likely than those who believe the economy is bad to say their country has done a good job of dealing with the coronavirus outbreak.

This divergence is especially pronounced in the United States. Among those with a more optimistic view of the economy, 78% report that they approve of the way the U.S. government has dealt with the virus. But those who think the American economy is currently in poor shape are less than half as likely to give the government response a positive rating.

## Coronavirus has changed many lives throughout 14 nations

### Around the world, coronavirus has changed everyday life

% who say their life has changed \_\_\_ as a result of the coronavirus outbreak



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Corona19."

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q1.

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Each of the countries in the survey have suffered the effects of the coronavirus.

The number of deaths vary in the 14 countries from about 100 to more than 100,000 when the survey was fielded, and some nations completely locked down while others like Sweden, Japan and the U.S. used different measures to attempt to stave off the virus. Across the 14 countries surveyed, a median of 58% say the pandemic has changed their life either a great deal or fair amount, while 42% report not too much change or none at all.

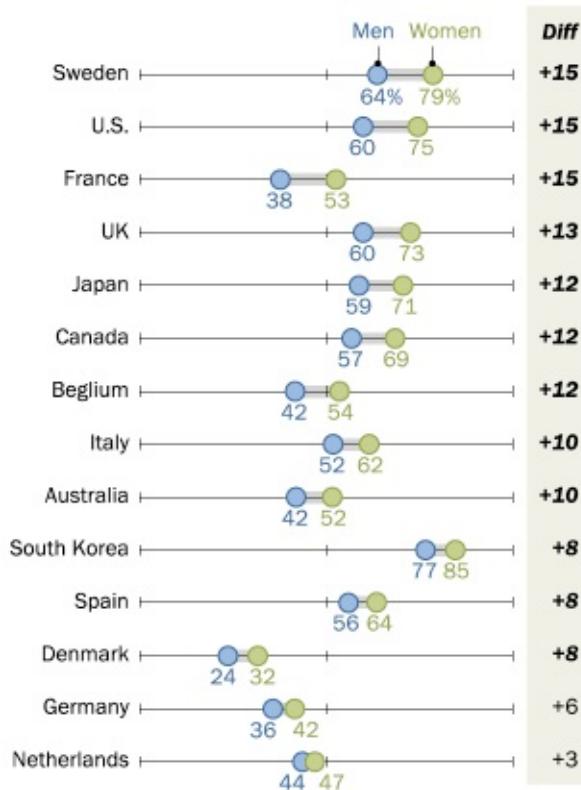
About two-thirds or more in South Korea, Sweden, the U.S., the UK, Japan and Canada say their lives have changed at least a fair amount due to the pandemic. (In all of these countries except the UK, the government never imposed a national-level lockdown.) And at least three-in-ten in South Korea, the U.S., Sweden and the UK say their lives have changed *a great deal* since the outbreak began. Majorities of people in Spain and Italy – two early hotspots – have also noted changes in their lives because of the outbreak.

In six countries, about half or more say that their lives have not changed much or at all since the onset of the virus, including 54% of the Dutch, 53% of Australians, 53% of the French and 51% of Belgians. In each of these six nations except Australia, governments did put in place national-level lockdowns to counter the spread of COVID-19.

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## Women more likely than men to say their lives have changed because of COVID-19

% of \_\_\_ who say their life has changed a great deal/fair amount as a result of the coronavirus outbreak



Note: Statistically significant differences in bold. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Corona19."

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q1.

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In 12 of the 14 countries surveyed, women are more likely than men to say their lives have changed due to the coronavirus. In nine of those countries, the gender gap reaches double digits – including in Sweden, the U.S. and France, where women were more likely to say this by 15 points each.

The changes that women have experienced during the pandemic could take many forms, and data underscores that women's burdens have increased both at work and at home. Women around the world typically do more unpaid work at home than their male counterparts, such as child care and housework, and this

may be amplified by closure of schools and day care centers to combat the spread of COVID-19. Additionally, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, a higher share of women than men in each of the surveyed countries participate in part-time employment, which is more likely to have been interrupted by the pandemic. And a report from Citi asserts that coronavirus-related job losses have disproportionately affected women globally.

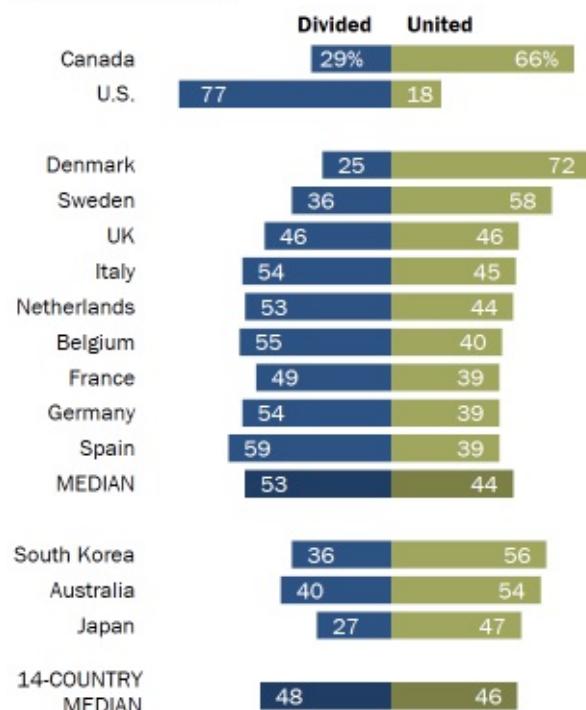
(Previous Center research from March also showed American women were more likely than their male counterparts to say their personal life had changed in a major way due to the virus.)

### **Little consensus on whether the pandemic has brought people together**

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**Americans stand out in belief that their country is more divided now than before coronavirus outbreak**

*% who say their country is now more \_\_\_ than before the coronavirus outbreak*



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Corona19."

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q3.

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The degree to which civic division has changed since the coronavirus emerged is itself a divisive question. When asked if their country is now more united or more divided than before the coronavirus outbreak, people in many countries are split, with a 14-country median of 46% saying their country is more united and 48% saying their country is more divided. (Since the onset of the coronavirus, countries in the survey have also experienced the effects of a global recession and protests related to the death of George Floyd, a Black American killed by a White police officer in May, among other events.)

In the U.S., where a patchwork of coronavirus-related restrictions reflects broad

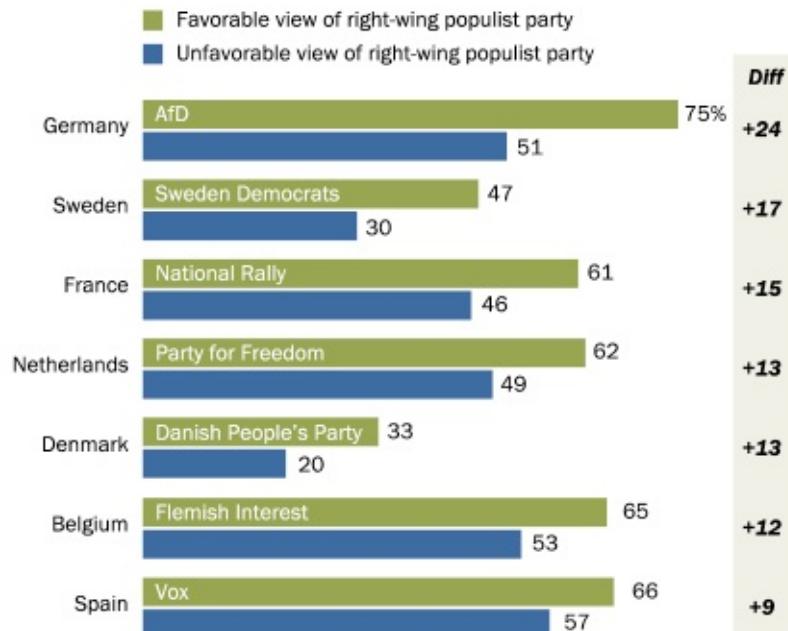
disagreement over the best path to economic recovery while mitigating the spread of the virus, roughly three-quarters say that the U.S. is more divided than before the coronavirus outbreak. Only about two-in-ten Americans say that the country has become more united. Though Americans of all ideological tilts say the country has become more divided, Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents (81%) are more likely than Republicans and Republican leaners (74%) to say division has increased.

In contrast, nearly three-quarters in Denmark say there is *more* unity now than before the coronavirus outbreak. More than half in Canada, Sweden, South Korea and Australia also say their countries have become more united since the coronavirus outbreak.

In every country surveyed, those who think their country has done a bad job of dealing with the coronavirus outbreak are more likely to say that their country is now more divided. This is particularly true in South Korea, where 74% of those who believe South Korea has done a bad job of dealing with the coronavirus say their country is now more divided, compared with just 29% among those who say their country has done a good job of dealing with the pandemic, a 45-point difference.

## Right-wing populist party supporters in Europe see more division since coronavirus outbreak

% who say their country is now *more divided* than before the coronavirus outbreak



Note: Only statistically significant differences shown.

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q3.

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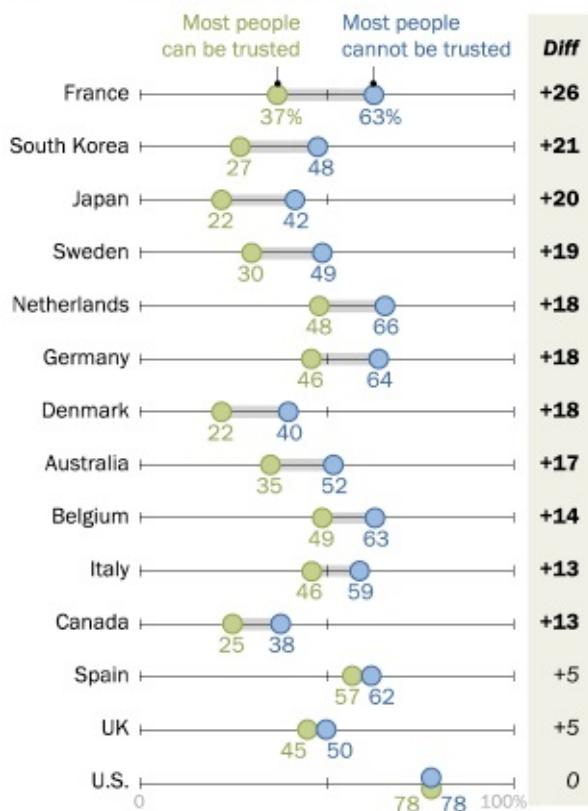
In Europe, those who have favorable opinions of right-wing populist parties are more likely than those with unfavorable views to say division has grown since the coronavirus outbreak began. This is especially true in Germany, where thousands have gathered to protest coronavirus restrictions in recent weeks, including some protestors affiliated with the far right. Fully 75% of Germans with a favorable opinion of the right-wing Alternative for Germany (AfD) party say Germany is now more divided than before the coronavirus outbreak, compared with 51% of those with an unfavorable view of AfD.

Other countries that have seen similar protests against prolonged lockdowns, including the Netherlands and Spain, also show gaps between those with favorable and unfavorable views of right-wing populist parties in their country.

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## Those with less trust more likely than high trusters to see national divisions in the wake of coronavirus

% who say their country is now **more divided** than before the coronavirus outbreak



Note: Statistically significant differences in **bold**. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Corona19."

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q3.

<sup>a</sup>"Most Approve of National Response to COVID-19 in 14 Advanced Economies"

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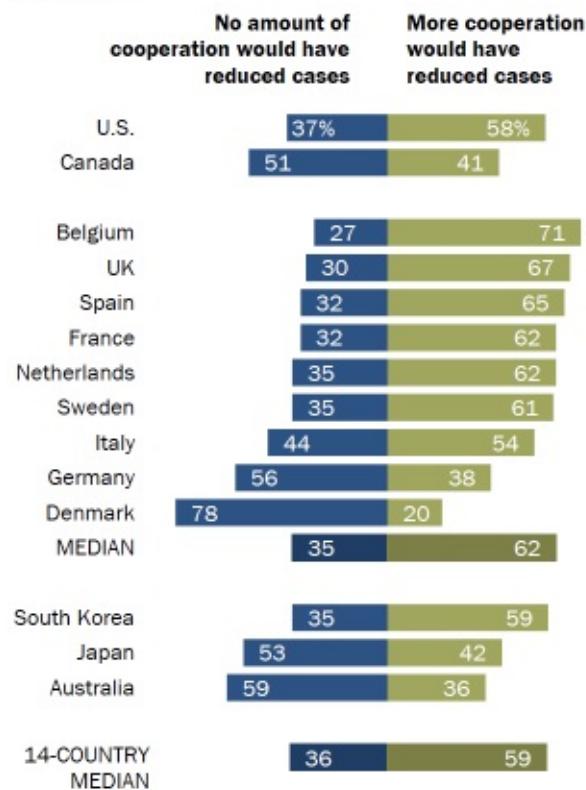
Feelings of national disunity are tied to feelings of distrust as well. In many countries, those who say that, in general, most people cannot be trusted are more likely to say their country is now more divided than those who say most people can be trusted. In 11 of 14 countries surveyed, this gap exceeds 10 percentage points.

France is a particularly stark example. A majority (63%) of those who say most people cannot be trusted also say the country is more divided now than before the coronavirus outbreak; fewer than four-in-ten (37%) of those who think most

people can be trusted see more division.

### Prevailing view that more international cooperation would have reduced coronavirus cases

% who say ...



Note: Those who did not answer are not shown. Full question wording: "Which statement comes closer to your view, even if neither is exactly right? If (survey country) had cooperated more with other countries, the number of coronavirus cases would have been lower in this country. OR No amount of cooperation between (survey country) and other countries would have reduced the number of coronavirus cases in this country." In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Corona19."

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q4.

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As confirmed cases of the coronavirus top 20 million globally, many in the countries surveyed say that count could have been minimized through stronger international cooperation. A 14-country median of 59% say that if their country had cooperated more with other countries, the number of coronavirus cases

would have been lower in their country. In comparison, a median of 36% say such cooperation would have been futile in reducing cases.

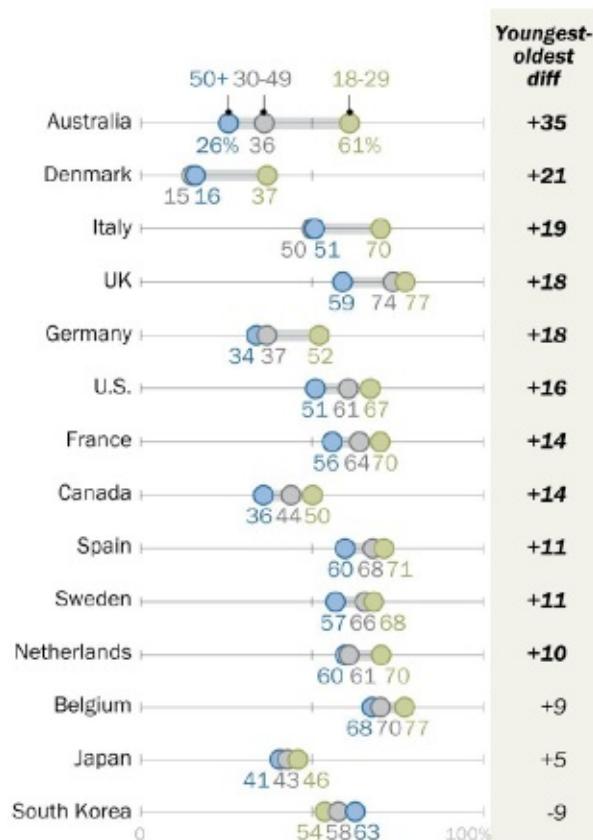
Missed opportunities for cooperation to reduce coronavirus cases are felt especially strongly in Europe, where failure to coordinate the initial response led to sudden and severe outbreaks in Northern Italy and Spain. More than half in seven of the nine European countries surveyed say that more cooperation would have reduced coronavirus cases.

Notably, 78% of Danes think the number of coronavirus cases would *not* have been reduced by international cooperation. A majority in Germany also say that cooperation would not have reduced case numbers.

Americans on the whole say that more cooperation could have limited the number of coronavirus cases. A majority (58%) of U.S. adults say that if the U.S. had cooperated with more countries, the number of American coronavirus cases would have been lower.

## Younger people see more value in international cooperation to reduce number of coronavirus cases

% who say if their country had cooperated more with other countries, the number of coronavirus cases would have been lower in their country, by age



Note: Statistically significant differences shown in bold. In Australia and Canada, the question was asked about "COVID-19." In Japan, it was asked about "novel coronavirus," and in South Korea, it was asked about "Corona19."

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q4.

<sup>a</sup>Most Approve of National Response to COVID-19 in 14 Advanced Economies

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Much as younger people globally tend to have more favorable opinions of the UN and younger Americans give higher approval ratings to the WHO for its handling of the coronavirus outbreak, those ages 18 to 29 are more likely than those 50 and older to say that more cooperation would have reduced the number of coronavirus cases in their country.

In Australia, for example, the difference between younger and older respondents

on the question of international cooperation on the pandemic exceeds 30 percentage points. While 61% of Australians ages 18 to 29 say more cooperation would have helped reduce the number of coronavirus cases, only about a quarter of Australians 50 and older say the same.

In most countries, those who say cooperation would have lowered the number of coronavirus cases are also more likely to say that their own country has done a bad job dealing with the coronavirus outbreak. For example, 64% of Britons who say cooperation would have reduced the number of coronavirus cases also think the UK government has done a bad job of dealing with the coronavirus outbreak.

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### Americans have largest ideological differences on global cooperation and COVID-19 outcomes

*% of those on the ideological \_\_\_ who say if their country had cooperated more with other countries, the number of coronavirus cases would have been lower in their country*

	Left	Center	Right	Left-Right diff
	%	%	%	
U.S.	83	63	34	<b>+49</b>
UK	85	68	55	<b>+30</b>
France	66	66	55	<b>+11</b>
Germany	45	35	35	+10
Australia	43	33	34	+9
Denmark	23	20	18	+5
Netherlands	67	60	62	+5
Belgium	75	69	71	+4
Italy	55	55	53	+2
Canada	42	41	42	0
Sweden	55	57	70	-15
South Korea	50	59	66	-16
Spain	49	68	75	-26

Note: Significant differences shown in bold. In U.S., ideology is defined as conservative (right), moderate (center) and liberal (left). In Japan, it was asked about “novel coronavirus,” and in South Korea, it was asked about “Corona19.”

Source: Summer 2020 Global Attitudes Survey, Q4.

“Most Approve of National Response to COVID-19 in 14 Advanced Economies”

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Whether people think more cooperation could have helped stop the spread of the coronavirus relates with whether they align with the ruling party’s ideology.

In the U.S. and the UK, where right-leaning parties currently hold national executive power, those on the left are more likely to say that more cooperation would have reduced the number of coronavirus cases. Those on the right are more skeptical of the effectiveness of international cooperation.

On the other hand, the left-wing Spanish Socialist Worker's Party currently holds power in Spain and Spaniards on the ideological right are more likely than those on the left to say their government could have limited coronavirus cases by cooperating more with other countries. And in South Korea and Sweden, where the governments are technically led by left-leaning coalitions, a similar pattern follows.

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# **The Progressive New Face of ‘Boys Will Be Boys’**

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Aaron Coleman for Kansas/Facebook

Nineteen-year-old Aaron Coleman is a dishwasher and soon, possibly, a left-wing state legislator. He just won an underdog primary campaign in Kansas, campaigning on issues like Medicare for All and the Green New Deal, and unseated a seven-term, anti-abortion incumbent in a heavily blue district. Up to this point, his story seems to mirror those of young leftists who took on Establishment candidates and won. But his victory isn't exactly a cause for

progressive celebration: When Coleman was 12, he tried to ruin a girl's life. "He got one of my nudes and blackmailed me with it and told me if I didn't send him more he would (send) it to all of my friends and family," his victim told the *Kansas City Star* several days after the primary results began to come in. "And when I didn't send him more, he sent it to everyone I knew." Two more women say he harassed them brutally while they were teenagers. One attempted suicide.

And Coleman hasn't exactly been the portrait of penitence. "I've moved on," he recently told a relative of the woman who tried to take her own life. When his past behavior first made the news two weeks ago, he issued a blanket apology, telling the *Star*, "I made serious mistakes in middle school and I deeply regret and apologize for them." This week, he said he would drop out of the race, only to take it back days later, in a lengthy, defensive statement in which he decried the press for "putting what I did in *middle school*" — outraged emphasis his own — "under that kind of national microscope." It remains unclear whether Coleman has offered a direct or meaningful apology to the women he hurt. From a fawning profile in the Intercept, we learn that he has "reached out to his victims ... to make amends." What does "reaching out" mean in this context? The Intercept piece doesn't specify, but it does note that none of his victims have responded to him. An accompanying interview doesn't offer any clarity. Coleman says all three women have him blocked on social media. He notes that his cell-phone number is public, and that they could call him if they wanted.

The initial outrage over Coleman's behavior set off a debate. To some, his critics were overly harsh, evidence that we live in a culture where no one can ever escape their youthful mistakes. Glenn Greenwald, who both published the Intercept piece and interviewed Coleman, wrote that his story "raises profound and important questions whether adults should be judged by the actions they undertook when they were a child, particularly when they have apologized and expressed remorse." This argument found traction on Twitter, where a handful of liberals and leftists expressed disbelief that someone so progressive should be "canceled" forever for something he did when he was just a kid. The writer Thomas Chatterton Williams called the backlash "horrific and intolerant." The Intercept's Ryan Grim tweeted, incredulously, "Wait, he did this stuff when he was 12? And we're just done with him forever?"

Only Coleman didn't just do "this stuff" — calculated, misogynistic harassment — when he was 12 and 14 years old. After he found his online defenders, the full extent of his violent contempt for women grew clearer. In the past few days,

new victims have come forward with claims of their own: Coleman's recent ex-girlfriend, Taylor Passow, told Grim that Coleman choked and slapped her last year. In a more thoroughly reported piece for Medium, Jessica Valenti revealed that Coleman threatened to kill Passow if she ever got pregnant and told her that he hoped she got abducted and raped. Another woman, a young pro-choice activist, told Valenti that Coleman badgered her repeatedly over Twitter after she told him to stop campaigning on her abortion story without her permission.

But even before these stories came out, his earliest victims said that Coleman didn't belong in the state House. "I just don't think he needs to be in a powerful position, considering what he's done to girls," one told the New York Times last week. In interviews with the *Star*, they expressed the same sentiment: We don't trust him with power. He abused it when he had it last.

So why did anyone look at Coleman and immediately conclude the world owes him a second chance? To some, the saga functioned as a case study in restorative justice, an alternative to the court system that emphasizes healing over punishment, bringing victims and perpetrators to seek restitution. The story hit at just the right moment. The left is winning elections again; meanwhile, protests over police brutality are pushing prison abolition into the mainstream. Growing out of all this desperation is a conviction: We must remake the world into something more humane. This means, at the same time, that people are trying on a progressive ideology for the first time. That political evolution is uncomfortable, especially for young white men like Coleman, who must unlearn racial and gender supremacy. But Coleman's defenders oversimplified the facts of his case, and exposed a blind spot the width of an ocean: They preemptively forgave someone who hadn't demonstrated any meaningful effort to take responsibility for his actions. This isn't what restorative justice looks like. Instead, it more closely resembles a familiar and worn-out argument defending any promising man accused of misconduct: *Why should we ruin his life over this?*

Coleman had years to make amends, but admits he only tried doing so after his misconduct became public. A mere week ago, he attacked critics for caring about "the opera show" while he focused on "working-class Kansans." And when he (temporarily) decided to withdraw, he complained, in a since-deleted tweet, that feminism was threatened by "Donatists," a reference to a medieval heresy which held that clergy must be totally pure. Cancel culture, in other words. In the statement he released to announce his intention to keep running for

office, he said he had an obligation to lead by example. “I will change the material conditions in my district, my opponent will not.”

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But misogyny is a material problem, and it does matter to the working class. Sexual harassment and misconduct are two leading motivations for women to organize at work. Activists with the Fight for \$15 and a Union have demanded gender justice alongside the right to organize and a living wage. They do so because they know, intimately, that misogyny is the bedrock upon which so many injustices are based. Why should any woman believe that Coleman understands this, or even cares enough to do something about it? He says he’s pro-choice now — though he wasn’t two years ago, when he ran for governor — and that, he and his defenders say, is a good enough reason to give him a chance. After all, do women really want an anti-abortion Democrat to keep that seat?

People can change and yes, the left should embrace restorative justice. But restoration is a process. It can take years, and it produces evidence. Coleman never provided anything more substantial than words. If he withdrew — this time for good — and began the slow, difficult work required to bring healing to his victims, maybe he’ll become the person his apologists wanted him to be. But right now, that day looks far off. He’s promised “new solutions” to “old problems,” but there’s nothing new here: *Pick this bad man, or this other bad man will take away your right to abortion.* This isn’t material change, it’s the same old bullshit.

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# This Is Silicon Valley

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Credit: shoushu/DigitalVision Vectors/Getty

I am privileged to live in Silicon Valley. I was born here, I grew up here, and now I work here as a product manager at Google. The weather is lovely, the crime rate is low, and the schools are well funded. The adults have cushy jobs and the kids have endless resources. People feast on \$15 sushirritos and \$6 Blue Bottle coffees. The streets are filled with Teslas and self-driving cars.

It's a place of opportunity. Many new graduates, myself included, are making six-figure salaries straight out of college, plus equity, bonuses, and benefits on top of that. I get unlimited free food at work — three full meals a day and as many snacks as I want in between. There's a place to do laundry and get a haircut. There's even a bowling alley and a bouldering wall.

This is Silicon Valley. Who wouldn't want to live here?

When I was in eighth grade, over a six-month period four students at a nearby school committed suicide by jumping in front of the Caltrain. During my sophomore year of high school, a schoolmate I used to walk with to the library took her own life. In my senior year, every single one of my peers had a college counselor. Some paid up to \$400 an hour for counselors to edit their essays, and I witnessed other students paying to have their essays literally written for them. My classmates cried over getting an A- on a test, cried over getting fewer than 100 likes on their profile pictures, and cried over not getting into Harvard. (I admit, I cried over that one, too.) They pulled multiple all-nighters every week to survive their seven AP classes and seven after-school activities, starved themselves to fit in with the “popular kids,” stole money from their parents to buy brand name clothing, and developed harrowing mental health disorders that still persist today, years after high school graduation.

This is Silicon Valley.

During my four years of high school, there were a total of three black students and around a dozen Latinx students in my school of 1,300 kids. On my floor at work, at a company that puts so many resources into diversity and inclusion, there are no black or Latinx engineers. In 2017, of all tech hires at Google, 2 percent were black, 3 percent were Latinx, and 25 percent were female. Upper management statistics are worse, and numbers throughout the Valley are just as depressing.

The lack of diversity doesn’t stop at work — it permeates every aspect of life. Everyone wears Patagonia and North Face, everyone has AirPods hanging from their ears, and everyone goes to Lake Tahoe on weekends. And everyone talks about the same things: startups, blockchain, machine learning, and startups with blockchain and machine learning.

This is Silicon Valley.

In my liberal arts college, conversations varied dramatically, from British literature to public policy to moral philosophy to socioeconomic inequality. Compare this to my product management program filled with new grads, where even social conversations revolve around tech — whether it’s spilling the hottest gossip on the new VP, plotting how to get “double promoted” from a Level 3 to a Level 5 product manager in exactly 22 months, or debriefing where the top angel investors get drinks on Thursday nights. (And yes, Silicon Valley has an

alcohol and drug problem, too). Attempts to hold discussions about social issues are often met with bored faces and are quickly terminated. For example, a friend in the program and I have brought up climate change on many occasions, since it's an issue we're particularly passionate about. We've mentioned the worsening air quality in light of the Camp Fire that devastated more than 150,000 acres of Northern California, lamented the fact that Google still uses plastic water bottles and straws, and encouraged others to donate to environmental organizations during our company's giving week. Each time, we were met with silence.

Money comes from changing a button from green to blue.

In Silicon Valley, few people find things like climate change important enough to talk about at length, and even fewer find it important enough to work on. It's not where the money is at. It's not where "success" is at. And it's certainly not where the industry is at. Instead, money comes from changing a button from green to blue, from making yet another food delivery app, and from getting more clicks on ads. That's just how the Valley and the tech industry are set up. As Jeffrey Hammerbacher, a former Facebook executive, told Bloomberg, "The best minds of my generation are thinking about how to make people click ads."

This is Silicon Valley.

Houses are being sold for up to \$2,800 per square foot. Gentrification and homelessness in the San Francisco Bay Area are so bad that they have their own Wikipedia pages. And it's not just in the city, and it's not just "uneducated people." In December 2018, 4,300 students at San Jose State University — over 13 percent of the student body — reported experiencing homelessness over the past year. Income inequality levels, in both San Francisco and San Jose, rank among the 10 worst cities in the nation and the gap between the poor and the rich continues to increase.

In 2018, San Francisco passed Proposition C, a measure aimed at fighting homelessness by raising taxes on big businesses. Executives from Salesforce and Cisco supported the measure, while companies like Square, Stripe, and Lyft pushed back against the tax due to the way it would be collected.

Who wouldn't want to live here?

One could argue that some companies in Silicon Valley do care about the poor.

Many companies have annual holiday giving campaigns. At Google, employees are allocated \$400 to give to an approved organization, like a food bank or a homeless shelter. But while Silicon Valley employees may donate to these causes, they also complain about the tent camps in the city “ruining the view,” and they complain about the very people they claim to care about. Over 2,200 complaints have been filed, in the last decade, about homeless people on San Francisco’s Hyde Street alone, and reports suggest that some homeless people are even harassed in an attempt to drive them out.

This is Silicon Valley.

It's my everything. It's where my parents live. It's where my high school friends have returned and where my college friends have moved. It's where I first fell in love and where I first had my heart broken.

It's also where classmates stole my homework and cheated off of my tests. It's where I watched parents threaten teachers for giving their children a B+ and watched teachers threaten tutoring centers for handing out copies of past exams. It's where friends cut themselves, drugged themselves, and even killed themselves. It's where acquaintances tried to sabotage my relationships, my grades, and my career.

It's where everything is about networking. It's where everyone wants something from you, and you never know when someone will betray you because they want something from someone else more.

It's my everything. But Silicon Valley is no longer my home.

Silicon Valley is no longer my home. I feel myself being influenced by the tech bubble. I feel myself shifting my focus to money and career trajectory rather than serving those in need locally and worldwide, and I see myself being applauded and fitting in because of it. I feel myself becoming part of the machine. Living here, I reflect on my high school experiences and am filled with misery and anger. The mental health crisis among Silicon Valley high schoolers is getting worse. I think about the negative impacts of social media on mental health that my friends and I suffered in high school and how ironic it is that those same friends now work at Facebook.

I've been told that in every shitty situation there are three options: you can ignore the situation, you can try to improve it, or you can leave. Ignoring it is an

option, but it doesn't lead to any positive change. Trying to improve the situation is a good idea when you feel there is hope that you can make it better. And leaving is good when you don't think things will change and you don't know what to do.

I don't know what to do. Since moving back, my depression has returned after a four-year hiatus, paired with anxiety, a growing disappointment in humanity, and an influx of fake, self-serving, status-seeking "friends" and acquaintances.

So, I'm leaving. But I do hope to come back someday.

I hope to come back to a different Silicon Valley. One that takes care of the mental health of its students. One that doesn't just strive for diversity, but embraces and celebrates and exemplifies it, not only in the people, but also in their lifestyles and conversations and interests. One where people recognize that their picture-perfect lives come at a cost to others, and one where they strive to help those that they hurt.

Most importantly, I hope to return to a Silicon Valley where people care about others and want to work on things that actually improve our world, even if it doesn't generate clicks.

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