We continue to see declining trust in the government’s ability to manage COVID-19, particularly at the Federal level. We’re beginning to see these opinions divide more closely along political party lines, something we’ll continue to track.

Highlights are below, and additional topline data can be found here.

**Although half of younger Americans feel the government response has been too aggressive, less than 40% of the population overall feel that way.**

- Agreement on severity is correlated with age -- 52% of 18-34 year olds agree that the response has been too aggressive, compared to about 17% of those 65+
- 77% of 2016 Trump voters believe the U.S. response is better than other countries’, while just under half of non-Trump voters feel that way
- Almost 70% of Americans agree that science has been the driving factor behind government policy implementations. However, almost half of advanced degree holders (46%) strongly agreed that government COVID-19 action has been driven by politics over science (35% college educated, 30% high school or less)
Most Americans (63%) feel that K-12 schools should open in the fall for the 2020-2021 school year -- 38% indicate wanting significant precautionary changes, and 25% are interested in opening schools with no additional safety measures in place.

- 33% of those with children under 18 feel schools should reopen as usual, without significant precautionary changes
- White adults (28%) were about 10% more likely to prefer opening as usual, without significant precautionary changes

Americans are identifying more closely as a nation (38%) due to the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly those who were not impacted financially or medically.

- Likelihood of closer identification varied by related hardship experience -- about half of those reporting no financial or medical setbacks expressed this sentiment
- Those who were both financially and medically impacted by COVID-19 were most likely to say they felt the same level of identification with the US
- Younger adults also felt more distance during the pandemic than their older counterparts -- 32% of those 18-34 indicated 'less' closeness compared to 12% in the 65+ category
... and half of those who have reported a coronavirus-related job loss, themselves or in their family, expect to see it reinstated within six months. This varied by race, however, with white respondents showing this optimism 10% more than non-whites (55% vs. 45%).

- We also see a correlation with household income -- 62% from $100k+ households expect to see their jobs return, while only 23% of those under $50k felt this way.

To track how consumer opinions and behaviors change, Civis will be fielding research weekly. Subscribe to receive updates as they’re available in your inbox here. If you have questions about the research or want to request further analyses, please fill out the form below.

Methodology
Survey was fielded from May 8-11, 2020 and included responses from 2,038 adults from across the country, respectively. Results have been weighted to be representative of the U.S. population.