



# OK, Boomer: Exploring Sociopolitical Attitudes within Gen Z

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## Survey Methodology

- **MTV/AP-NORC nationwide poll of 3,764 Americans ages 13-56 conducted September 1-19, 2021**
- **Sample consists of TrueNorth calibration of AmeriSpeak® probability panel and Dynata non-probability panel**
- **Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish via the web or telephone**

## Survey Population

	<b>Gen Z</b>	<b>Millennials</b>	<b>Gen X</b>
<b>Age range</b>	13 to 24	25 to 40	41 to 56
<b>Number of interviews</b>	2,683	668	413

### Within Gen Z:

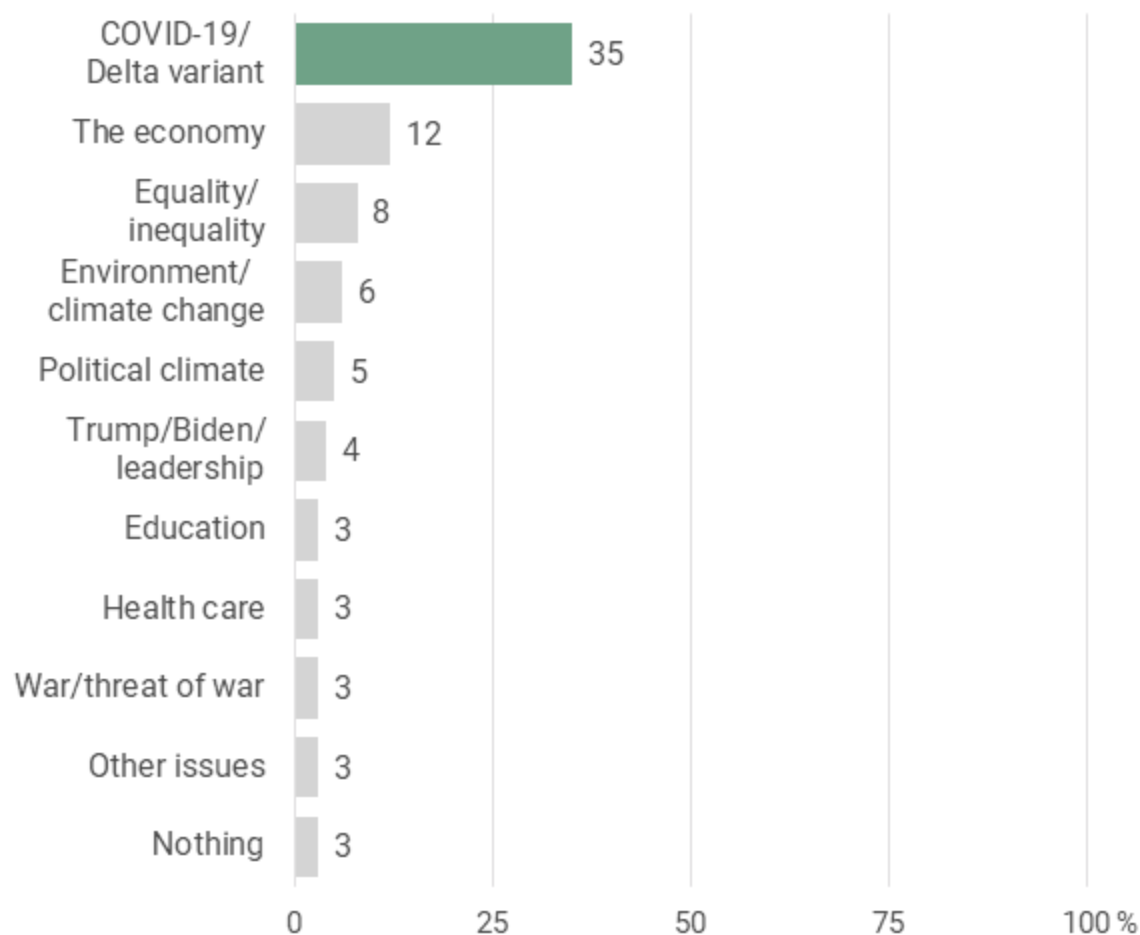
- **Teens – 13 to 17-year-olds**
- **Older Gen Z – 18 to 24-year-olds**

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# Gen Z's perception of COVID-19

# COVID-19 is Gen Z's top issue of concern.

Percent of Americans ages 13-24 who say each is their top issue of concern

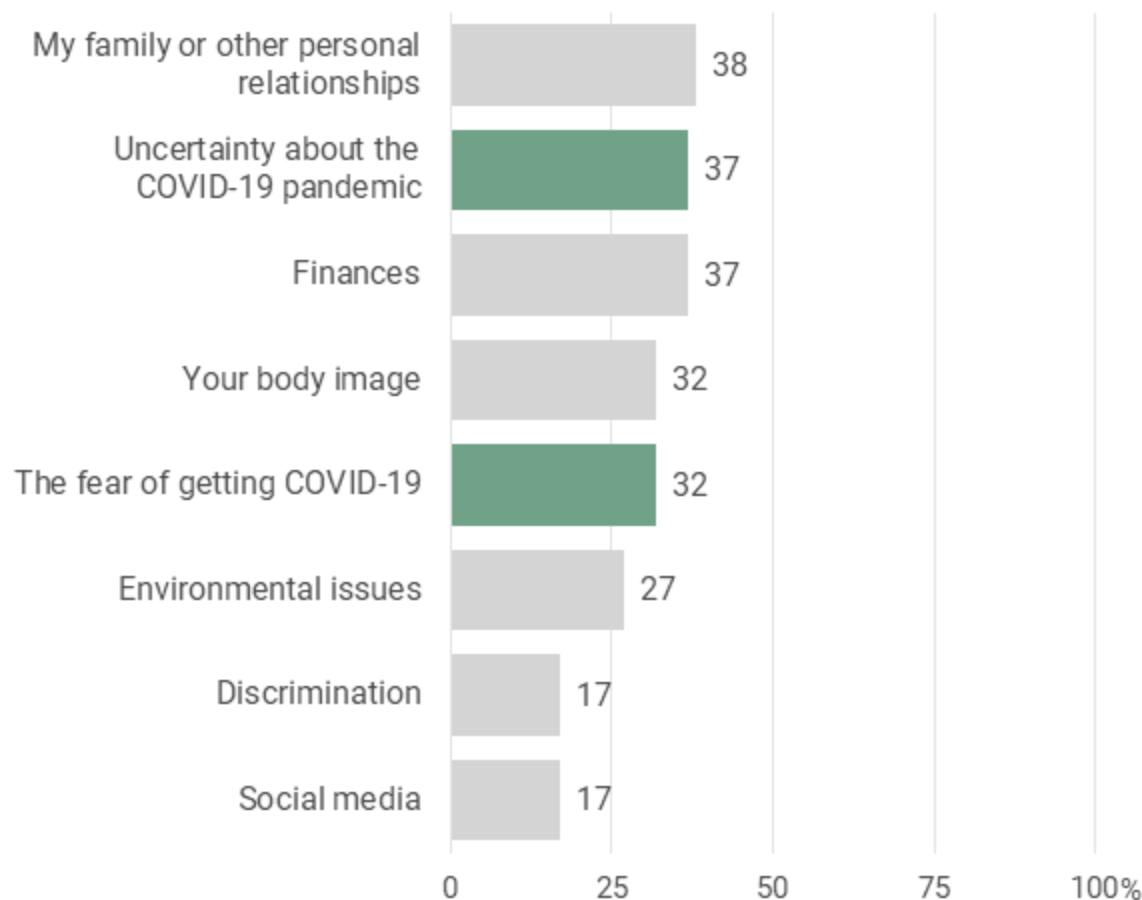


- 13 to 17-year-olds more likely to be concerned (42%) than 18 to 24-year-olds (25%).
- Gen Z Democrats (40%) and independents (38%) more likely to be concerned than Gen Z Republicans (25%).

Question: Of all the issues facing the country right now, what concerns you most?

# COVID-19 among top sources of stress for Gen Z.

Percent of Americans ages 13-24 who say each is a major source of stress



- **13 to 17-year-olds** more likely to say uncertainty about (**43% vs. 32%**) and getting COVID-19 (**40% vs. 26%**) are major sources of stress compared to 18 to 24-year-olds.
- **Gen Z Democrats** more likely to say uncertainty about (**50% vs. 32% vs. 27%**) and getting COVID-19 (**43% vs. 33% vs. 22%**) are major sources of stress compared to Gen Z independents and Republicans.

**Question:** Would you say each of the following is a major source of stress, a minor source of stress, or not a source of stress at all?

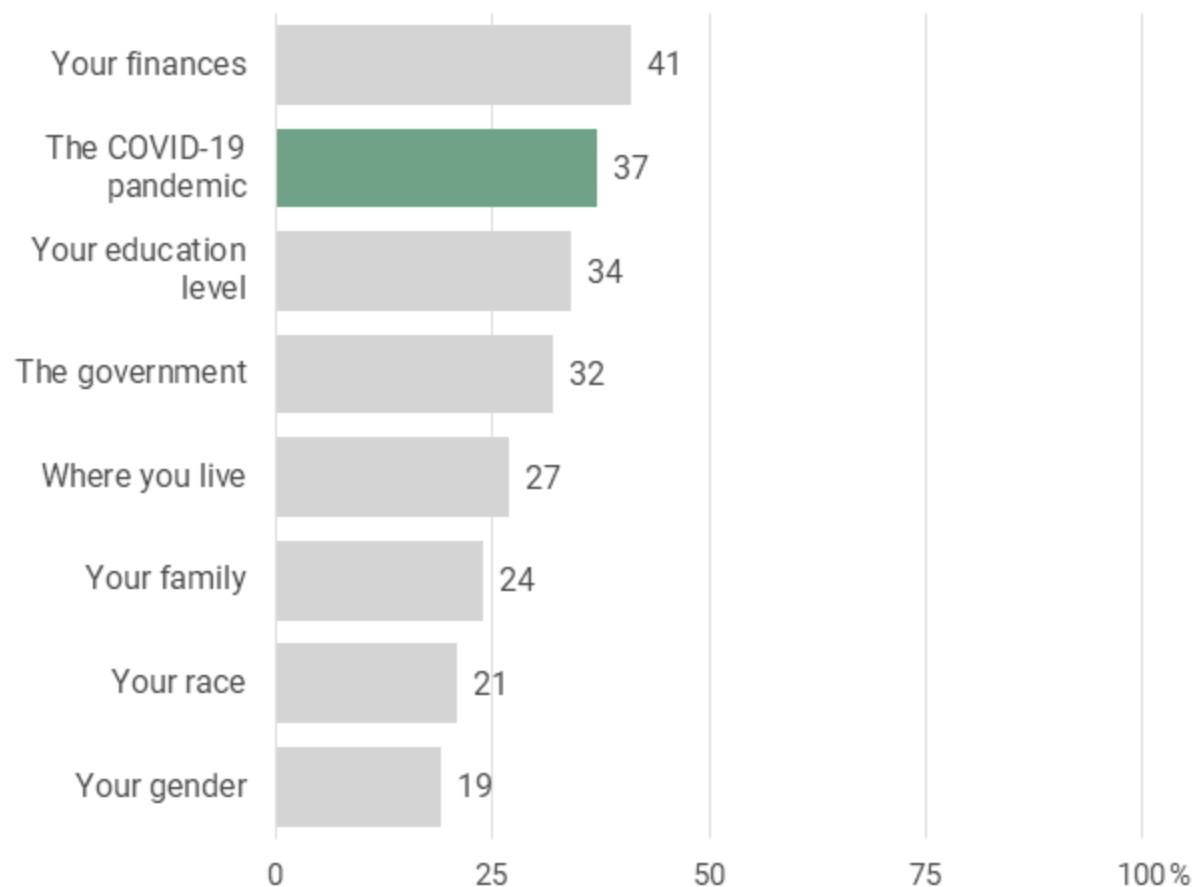
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# Impact of COVID-19 on Gen Z

# COVID-19 is one of the most cited barriers to achieving future goals.

- Gen Z Democrats (44%) more likely to say COVID-19 will get in the way of achieving future goals than Gen Z independents (35%) and Republicans (29%).

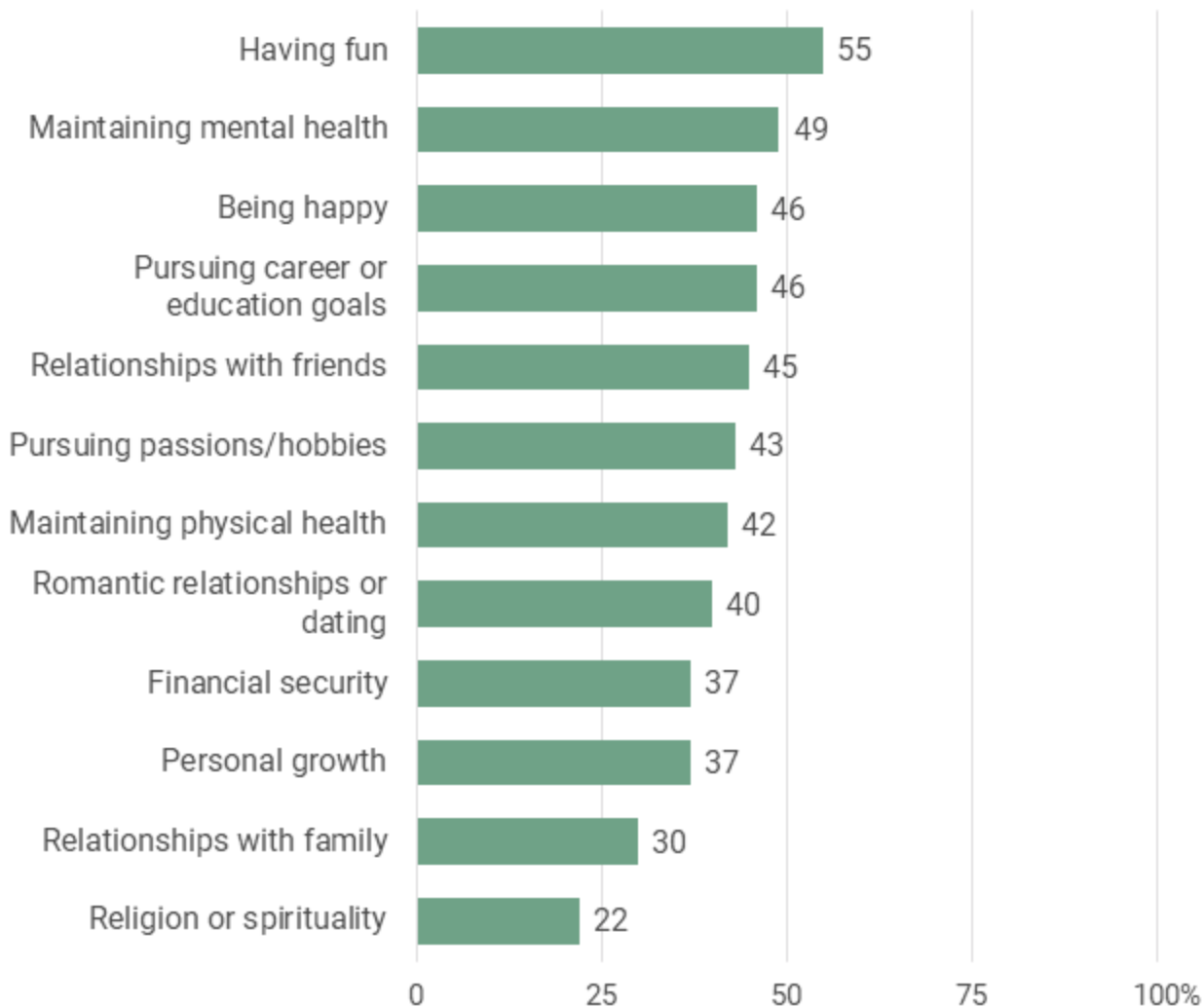
Percent of Americans ages 13-24 who say each will get in the way of achieving goals a great deal or quite a bit



**Question:** How much do you think each of the following will get in the way of achieving your goals for the future?



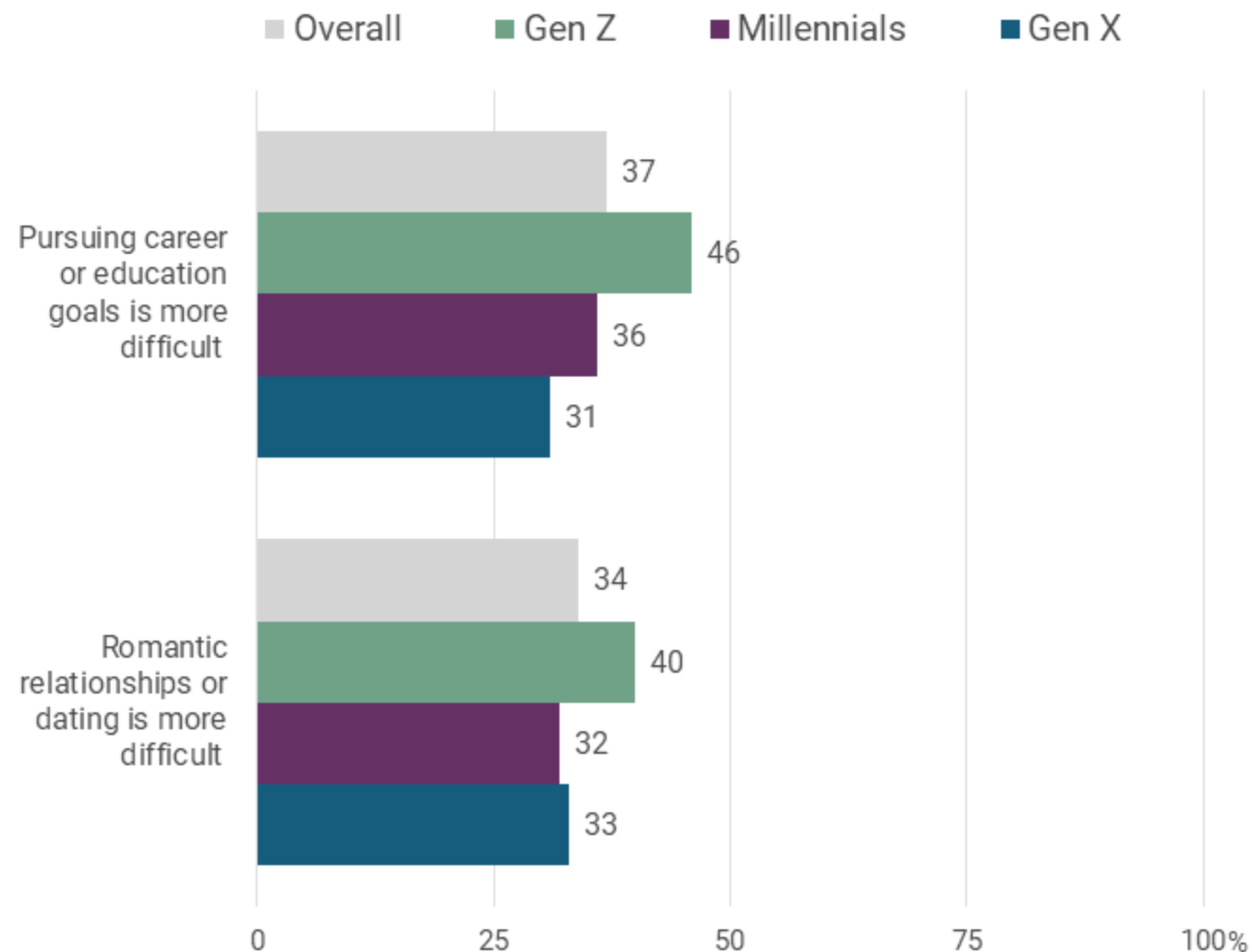
Percent of Americans ages 13-24 who say each is much or somewhat more difficult because of the pandemic



**Question:** Would you say the COVID-19 pandemic has made each of the following easier, more difficult, or neither easier nor more difficult?

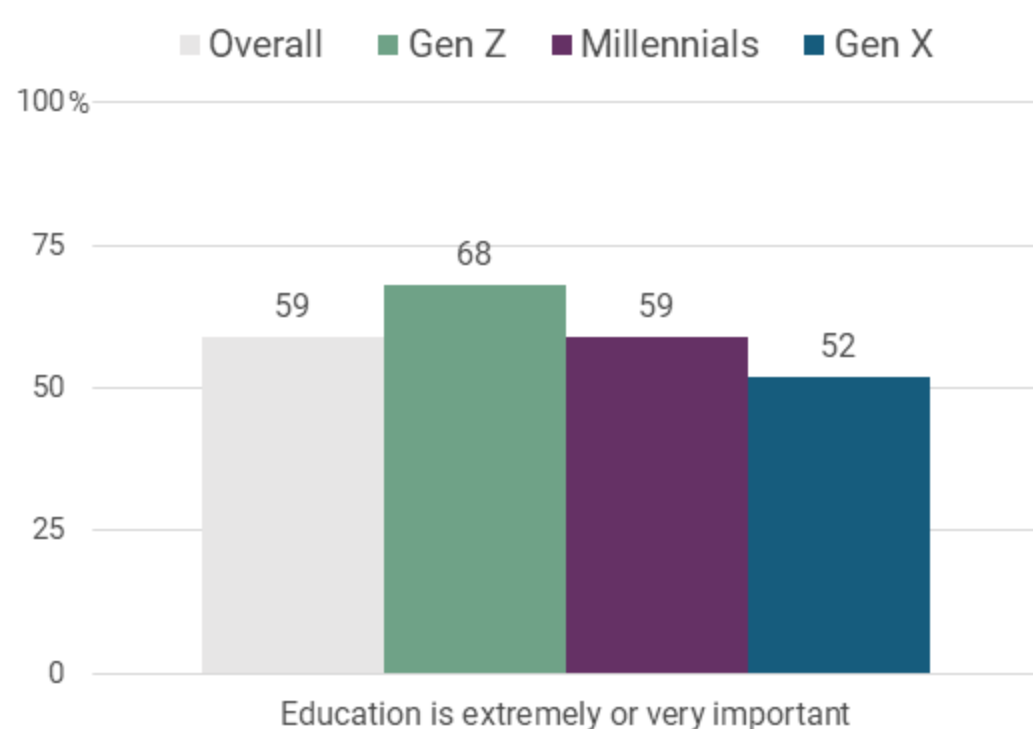
Because of the pandemic, having fun, maintaining mental health, and being happy became more difficult for many in Gen Z.

COVID-19 especially impacted Gen Z's career, education, and relationships.

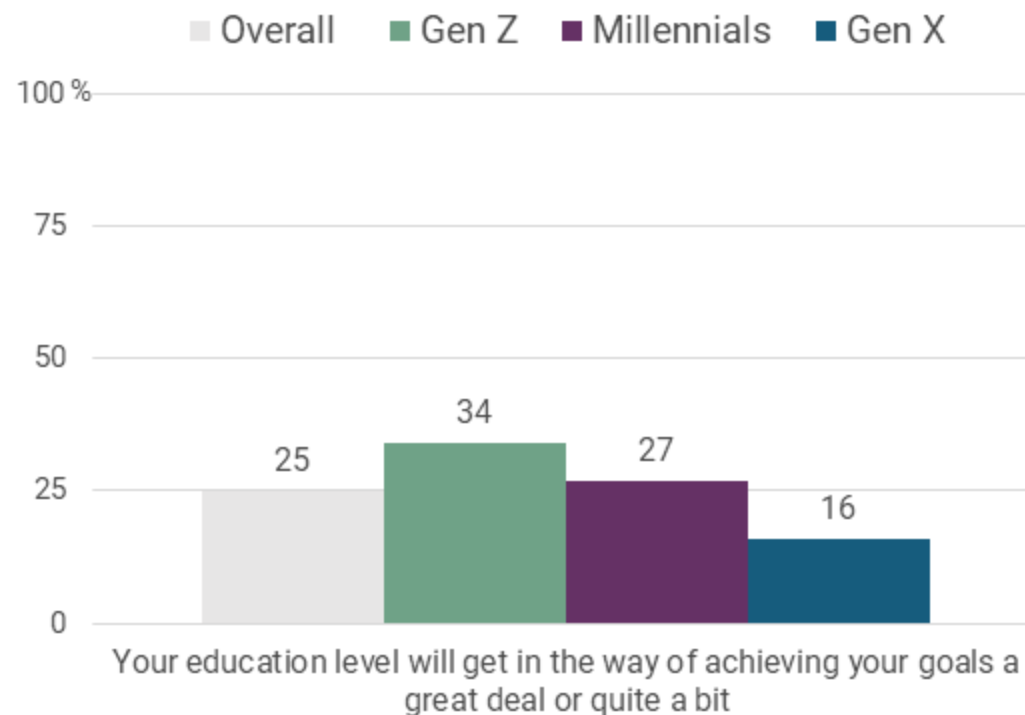


**Question:** Would you say the COVID-19 pandemic has made each of the following easier, more difficult, or neither easier nor more difficult?

# Gen Z finds their education more important and more likely to get in the way of achieving future goals.



**Question:** How important is each of the following to you personally?

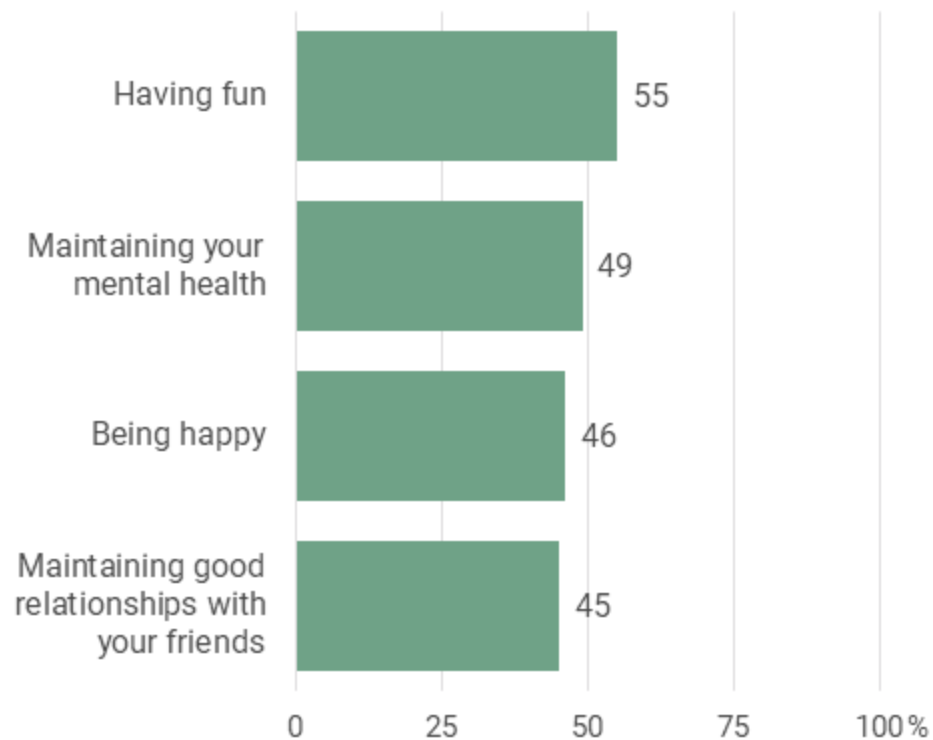


**Question:** How much do you think each of the following will get in the way of achieving your goals for the future?

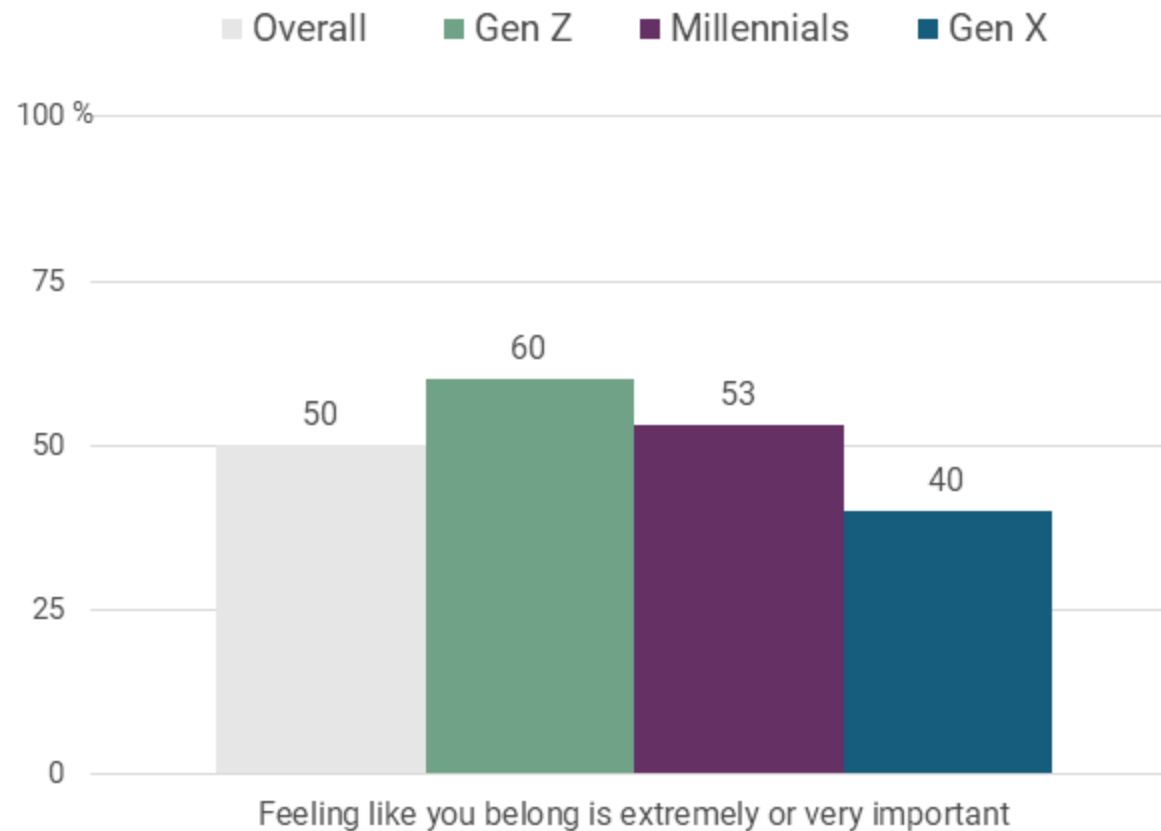


# A sense of belonging is important to Gen Z.

Percent of Americans ages 13-24 who say each is much or somewhat more difficult



**Question:** Would you say the COVID-19 pandemic has made each of the following easier, more difficult, or neither easier nor more difficult?



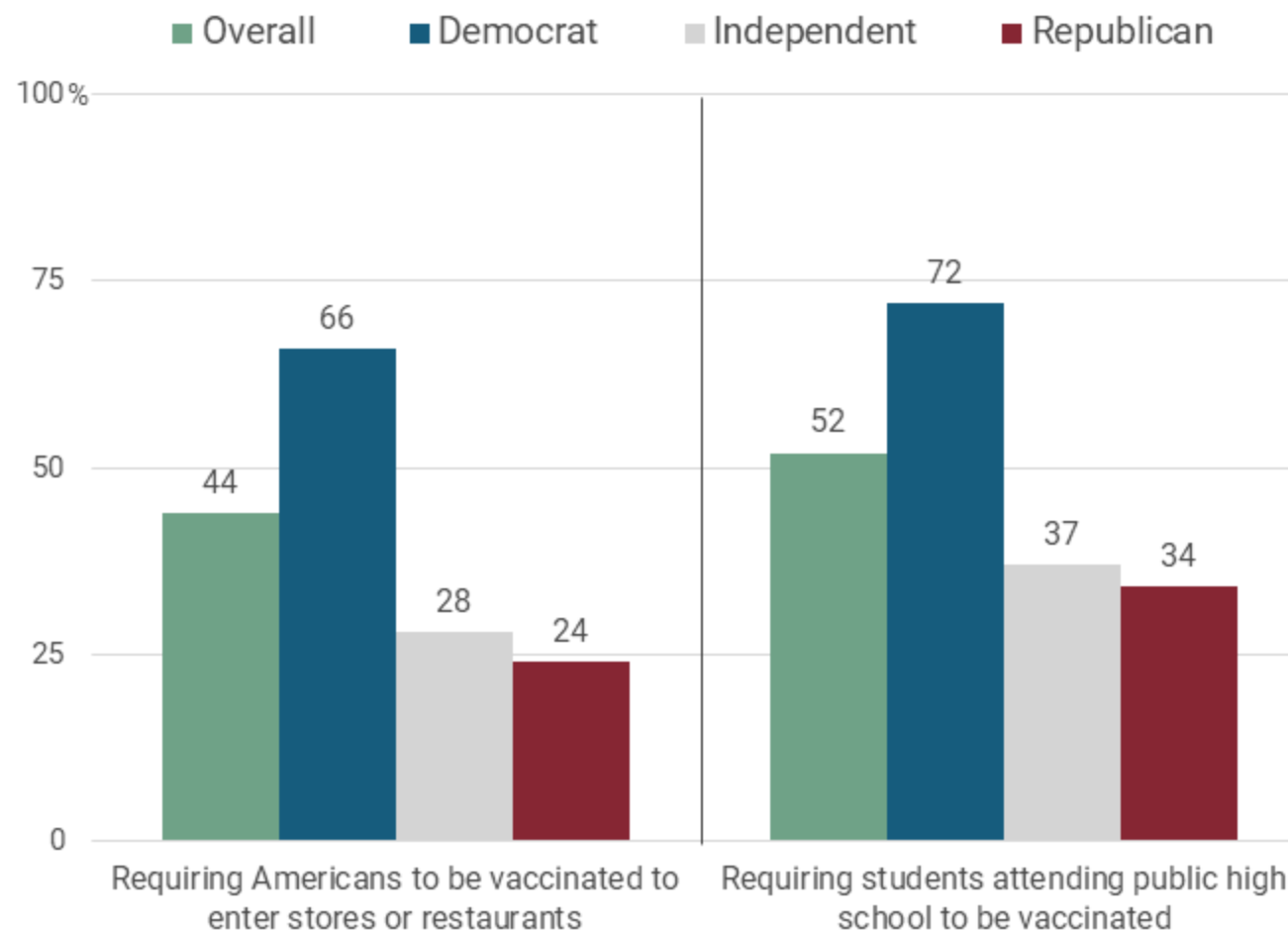
**Question:** How important is each of the following to you personally?

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# Gen Z's view of COVID-19 policy

Gen Z Democrats are more likely to favor COVID-19 vaccine mandates than Republicans and independents.

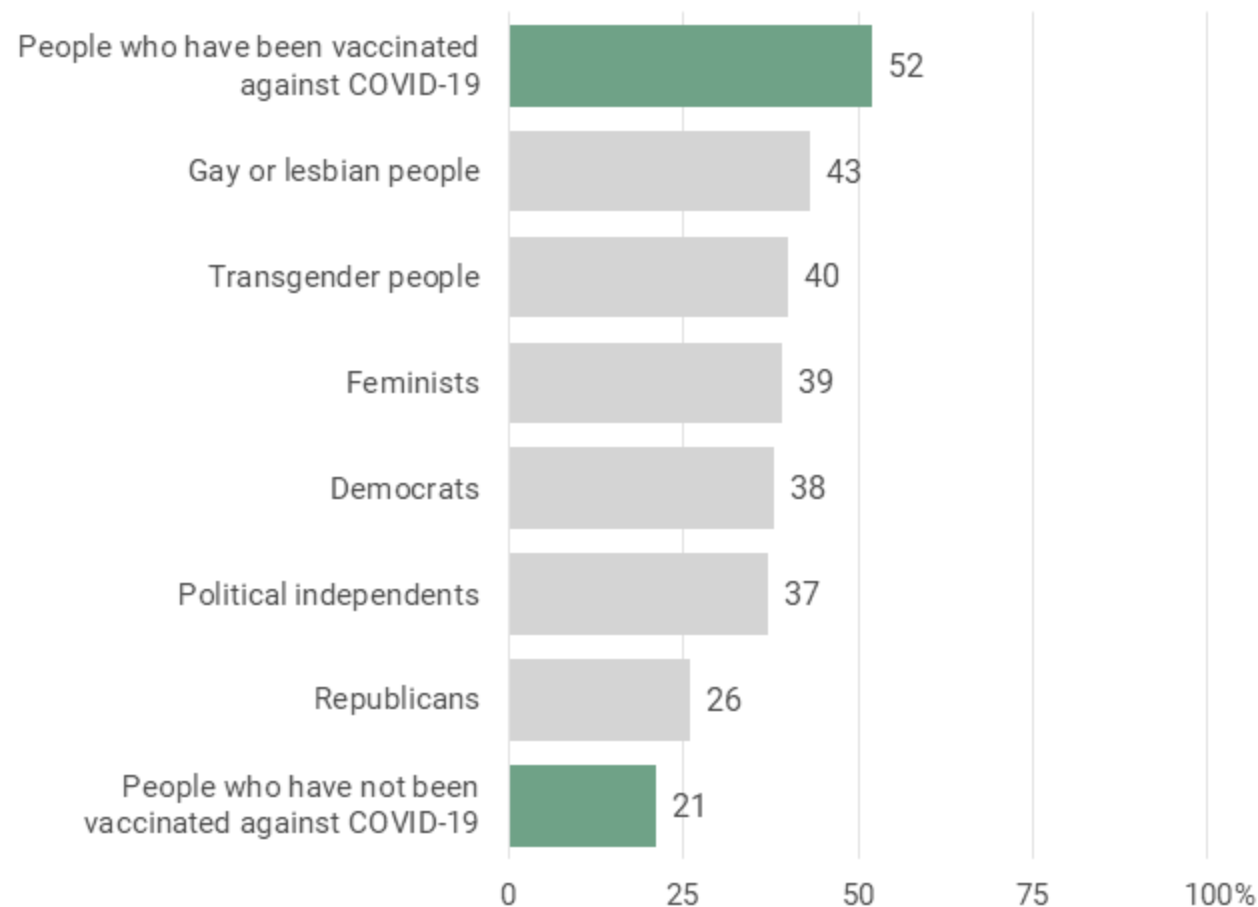
Percent of Americans ages 13-24 who strongly or somewhat favor each



**Questions:** Do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose each of the following? / Do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose requiring each of the following vaccines for students to attend public high school?

# Gen Z views vaccinated positively, unvaccinated negatively.

Percent of Americans ages 13-24 who have a very or somewhat positive view of each



- Gen Z Democrats more likely to view vaccinated people positively (67%) compared to Gen Z independents (36%) and Republicans (41%).

**Question:** Would you say you have a positive, negative, or neither positive nor negative view of each of the following?

# Key Takeaways

- **Gen Z is highly impacted by COVID-19**– the pandemic is the issue they are most concerned about, one of the top causes of stress, and one of the most cited barriers to achieving their future goals.
- **Gen Z's views of COVID-19 are mostly similar to older generations**, except when it comes to the pandemic's impact on their career, education, and romantic relationships.
- **Gen Z's views of COVID-19 are not homogenous** – several differences arise according to party identification and age among 13 to 24-year-olds.

**From TikTok to Black Lives Matter, how Gen Z is revolutionizing activism**

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gen z will **save the world**

gen z will **change the world**

**‘A cry for help’: CDC warns of a steep decline in teen mental health**



# Thank you!

Full MTV/AP-NORC report and data  
available at [apnorc.org](http://apnorc.org)

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