

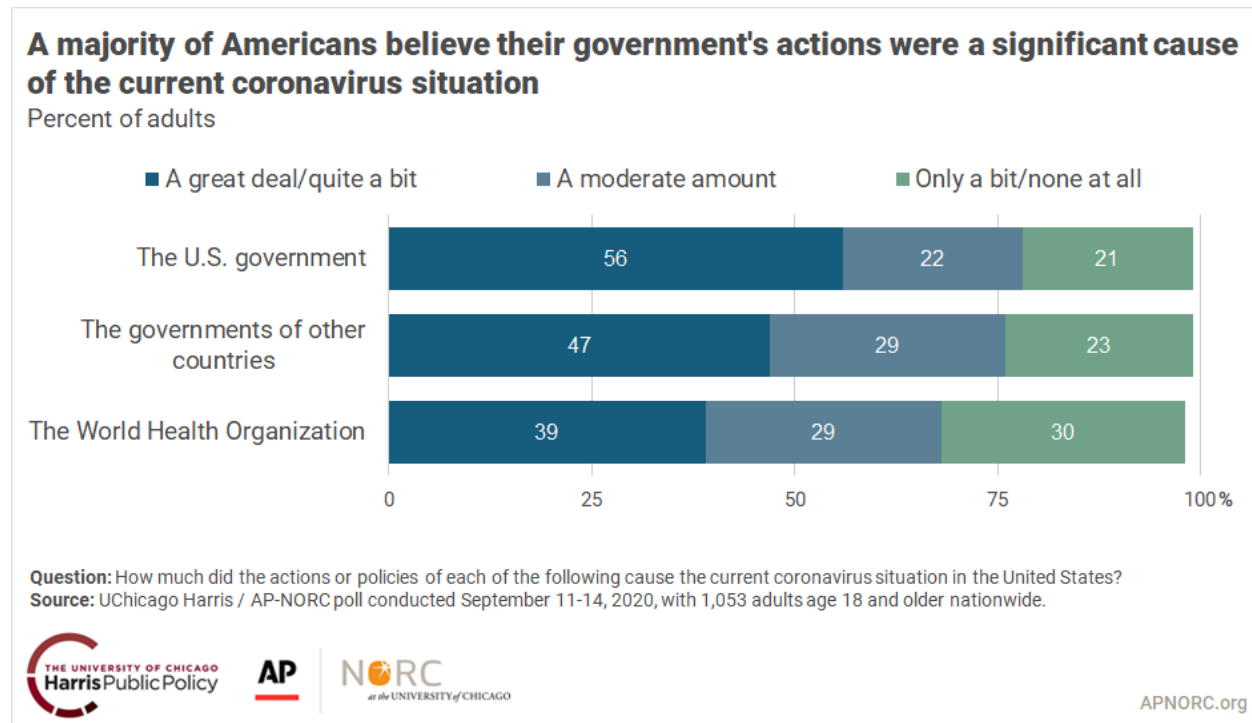
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## UChicago Harris/AP-NORC Poll: More Americans Blame U.S. Government than Other Countries or WHO for the Coronavirus Crisis

*A majority want the country to take a major role in developing a vaccine, but Democrats and Republicans are divided about sharing the vaccine globally.*

**CHICAGO, Oct. 5, 2020** – More Americans say the actions of the U.S. government caused the coronavirus situation in the country than attribute it to the policies of foreign governments or the World Health Organization.

This is among the findings of a new study from the [University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy](#) and [The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research](#) being released on the eve of the [2020 Pearson Global Forum](#), a virtual event that will bring together researchers and policymakers to develop strategies to prevent and resolve international conflicts.



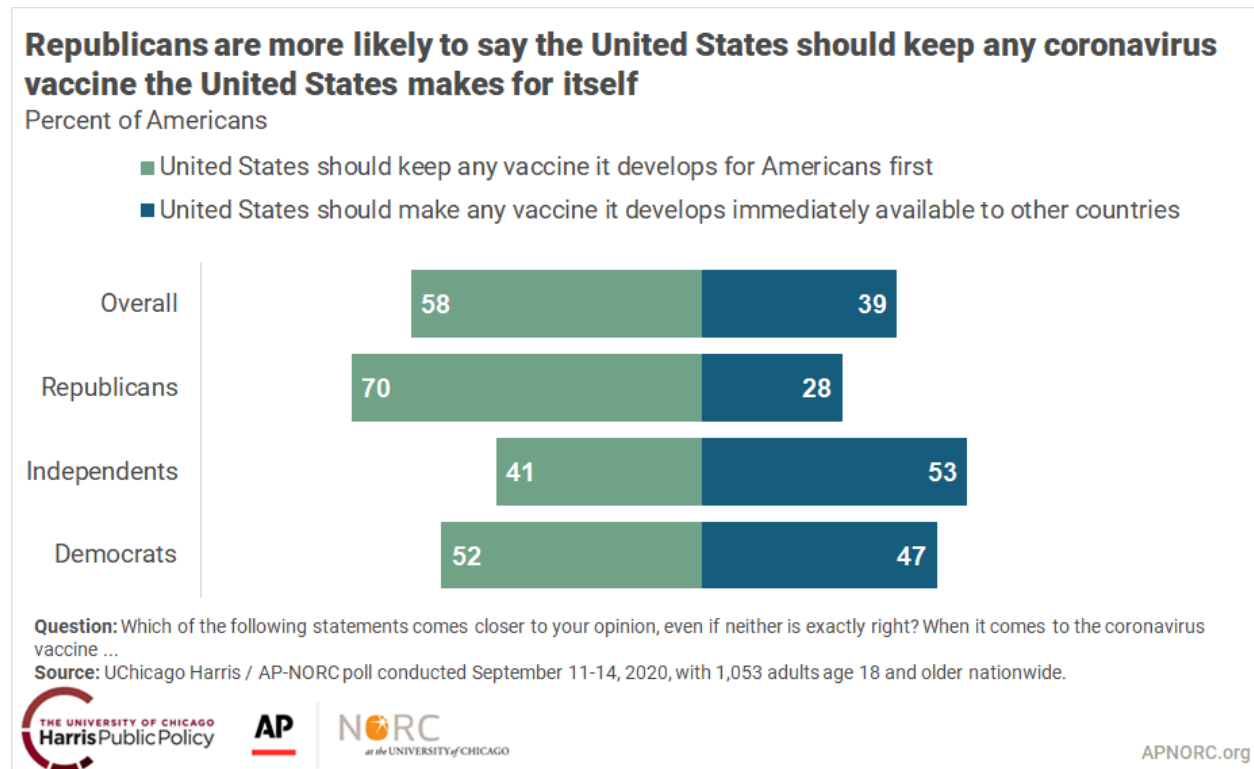
Americans are also more likely to say the United States should have a major role in developing a coronavirus vaccine (78%) than to say the same about the World Health Organization (57%), countries in the European Union (55%), and China (51%).

Yet, only 57% intend to get a vaccine when it is available, and that figure declines to 46% if the vaccine were to be developed outside the United States.

If the United States develops a vaccine, a majority say it should be kept for Americans first, even if that means fewer around the world are vaccinated right away.

“More than half of Americans prefer to keep the vaccine for U.S. citizens first, rather than share it with other countries,” said Austin Wright, an assistant professor at Harris and an affiliated faculty member at The Pearson Institute for the Study and Resolution of Global Conflicts.

“Republicans are more likely than Democrats and independents to hold this belief, even though they also say that they are less likely than others to get vaccinated.”



The poll shows a stark partisan split on who is to blame for the coronavirus situation in the United States and the role they should play in the development of a vaccine. For example, 55% of Republicans fault the World Health Organization for the coronavirus situation in the United States compared with 28% of independents and 27% of Democrats. And they are then less likely than independents and Democrats to want the World Health Organization to play a major role in vaccine development (39% vs. 59% and 75%, respectively).

At the same time, Republicans are less likely than Democrats to say they will get a vaccine, regardless of whether it is developed in the United States (42% vs. 70%) or outside of the United States (33% vs. 58%).

“The poll shows how Americans’ attitudes about who should lead the development of a vaccine and whether people will get a vaccine have become highly partisan,” said Trevor Tompson, director of The AP-NORC Center. “The findings highlight the significant challenges surrounding the global development and distribution of a vaccine.”

### **About the Study**

This study was conducted by the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy and The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research with funding from NORC at the University of Chicago. Staff from Harris Public Policy and The AP-NORC Center collaborated on all aspects of the study.

Data were collected using the AmeriSpeak Omnibus®, a monthly multi-client survey using NORC’s probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population. Interviews for this survey were conducted between September 11 and 14, 2020, with adults age 18 and over representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Panel members were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak, and 1,053 completed the survey—995 via the web and 58 via telephone. Interviews were conducted in English. The final stage completion rate is 19.5%, the weighted household panel response rate is 21%, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 80.4%, for a cumulative response rate of 3.3%. The overall margin of sampling error is +/- 4.13 percentage points at the 95% confidence level, including the design effect. The margin of sampling error may be higher for subgroups.

A full description of the study methodology for the survey can be found at the end of the report.

The proper description of the survey’s authorship is as follows: This study was conducted jointly by the [University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy](#) and [The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research](#).

### **About the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy**

One of the largest graduate professional schools at the University of Chicago, Harris Public Policy has been driven by the belief that evidence-based research, not ideology or intuition, is the best guide for public policy. For more than three decades, our exceptional community of scholars, students, and alumni have applied this exacting perspective to the world’s most pressing problems using the latest tools of social science. Through our undergraduate and

graduate programs, we empower a new generation of data-driven leaders to create a positive social impact throughout our global society.

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### **About The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research**

The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research taps into the power of social science research and the highest-quality journalism to bring key information to people across the nation and throughout the world.

[www.apnorc.org](http://www.apnorc.org)

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The two organizations have established The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research to conduct, analyze, and distribute social science research in the public interest on newsworthy topics, and to use the power of journalism to tell the stories that research reveals.

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