



M E E T N G
S R E E T

HOW THE CORONAVIRUS IS CHANGING AMERICA: **THE STIMULUS PACKAGE**

KEY FINDINGS FROM A MARCH 29 – APRIL 1, 2020
ONLINE NATIONAL SURVEY OF VOTERS

M E E T N G

S R E E T

The Coronavirus pandemic has impacted every facet of American life. The state of healthcare, jobs and businesses, the economy, and the political landscape all are changing in very personal and broadly synchronous ways.

We wanted to get a glimpse into how individual Americans are being impacted, and how they are feeling about the state of our country now and as it is poised to evolve.

In this first report of a full series entitled **How the Coronavirus is Changing America** we look at how the national stimulus bill is perceived, what recipients and causes stand to receive the most support, and how it is likely to impact voting trends.

MAIN TAKEAWAYS

There is widespread support across the country for the federal stimulus package, and that support grows as people understand it.

Across most demographics, American voters generally support almost all of the causes included in the stimulus plan. But women stand to be the most likely to be convinced to support the package, given sufficient explanation of what is included and how it will work.

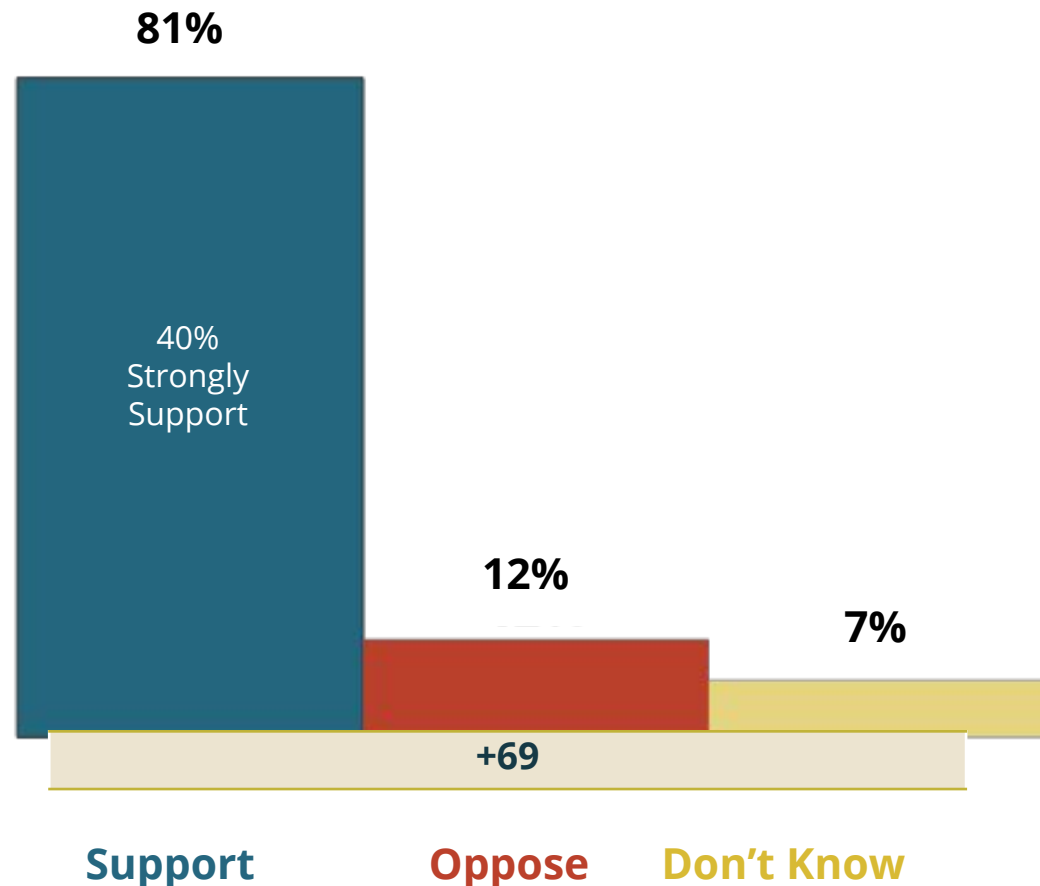
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I'm worried about my income, my child's education, and the uncertainty of not knowing what our government can and will do for its citizens.

HISPANIC WOMAN AGE 45-54 WHO LIVES IN THE WEST

Nationwide, the stimulus package has strong support.

“As you may know, Congress recently passed and President Trump recently signed into law a \$2 trillion stimulus package in response to the Coronavirus outbreak. Based on what you know, do you support or oppose this bill?”



	Support	Oppose
Base Republicans	88%	10%
Soft Republicans	86%	9%
Independents	71%	18%
Soft Democrats	78%	13%
Base Democrats	81%	11%
White Men	81%	16%
White Women	83%	6%
African-Americans	73%	17%
Hispanics	80%	17%
Northeast	81%	15%
Midwest	82%	11%
South	82%	11%
West	78%	14%

Eight components of the package receive 80%+ support.

"Below is a list of some of the different items in the \$2 trillion stimulus package.
Please indicate if you support or oppose each one."

	Strongly Support	Total Support	Total Oppose
\$117 billion in assistance to hospitals	73%	91%	5%
A \$100 billion fund to reimburse hospitals, doctors, nurses, suppliers, and others for expenses and lost revenues related to the Coronavirus outbreak	58%	86%	9%
Direct loans to mid-sized businesses and non-profits, with no payments due for six months	52%	86%	7%
Suspend payment on student loans through September 30th of this year	57%	84%	10%
A direct payment of \$1,200 for every single adult earning \$75,000 or less, with an additional \$500 per child	56%	84%	11%
Give independent contractors, the self- employed, and gig economy workers (such as Uber drivers, Airbnb hosts, and delivery people, for example) the same unemployment benefits that other workers currently receive	47%	81%	13%
\$454 billion in loans to businesses, states, and municipalities, as long as they retain 90% of their employees through September 30th of this year	45%	81%	12%
A direct payment of \$2,400 for married couples with a household income of \$150,000 or less, with an additional \$500 per child	51%	81%	13%

The NEA is the only funding area that lacks broad support.

“Below is a list of some of the different items in the \$2 trillion stimulus package. Please indicate if you support or oppose each one.”

	Strongly Support	Total Support	Total Oppose
\$25 billion in additional dollars in funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also known as food stamps, and the Child Nutrition Program	47%	78%	16%
Provide jobless workers with an extra \$600 a week for four months on top of their existing state unemployment benefits	50%	78%	17%
Prohibiting any aid in this bill from going to businesses that are owned by the President, the Vice President, the head of a federal government department, Members of Congress, or their families	56%	77%	14%
\$30 billion in emergency education funding for colleges and universities, states, and local school districts	39%	73%	20%
\$29 billion in federal aid to airlines	28%	60%	29%
\$75 million for the National Endowment of the Arts	20%	43%	44%

There is broad bipartisan agreement, except on the airlines and NEA.

% Support for Each Stimulus Package Piece by Party

	Republicans	Independents	Democrats
Hospital Assistance	95%	87%	91%
Reimburse Medical Professionals	91%	76%	87%
Mid-Size Business/Non-Profit Loan	91%	83%	84%
Suspend Student Loan Payments	86%	73%	88%
\$1,200 Per Adult	88%	78%	84%
Extend Unemployment Benefits	85%	71%	82%
Business Loans Tied To Retention	88%	76%	78%
\$2,400 For Married Couples	83%	73%	84%
Funding for SNAP/Child Nutrition	80%	66%	82%
\$600/Week for Jobless Workers	73%	68%	86%
No Aid for Politicians' Businesses	75%	64%	85%
Emergency Education Fund	68%	64%	82%
Federal Aid to Airlines	71%	53%	53%
NEA Funding	30%	30%	60%

Those most worried about the economic impact still give hospital and medical funding higher levels of support.

% Support for Each Stimulus Package Piece by Key Groups

	Overall	Households With A Recent Job Loss	Those Very Worried About Job Loss OR Pay Cuts	Those Very Concerned About Nation's Economy
Hospital Assistance	91%	90%	85%	93%
Reimburse Medical Professionals	86%	85%	89%	92%
Mid-Size Business/Non-Profit Loan	86%	87%	77%	88%
Suspend Student Loan Payments	84%	86%	84%	88%
\$1,200 Per Adult	84%	83%	82%	86%
Extend Unemployment Benefits	81%	83%	79%	86%
Business Loans Tied To Retention	81%	80%	76%	85%
\$2,400 For Married Couples	81%	82%	78%	84%
Funding for SNAP/Child Nutrition	78%	80%	79%	84%
\$600/Week for Jobless Workers	78%	80%	82%	82%
No Aid for Politicians' Businesses	77%	73%	73%	81%
Emergency Education Fund	73%	77%	78%	78%
Federal Aid to Airlines	60%	64%	57%	63%
National Endowment Arts	43%	52%	54%	47%

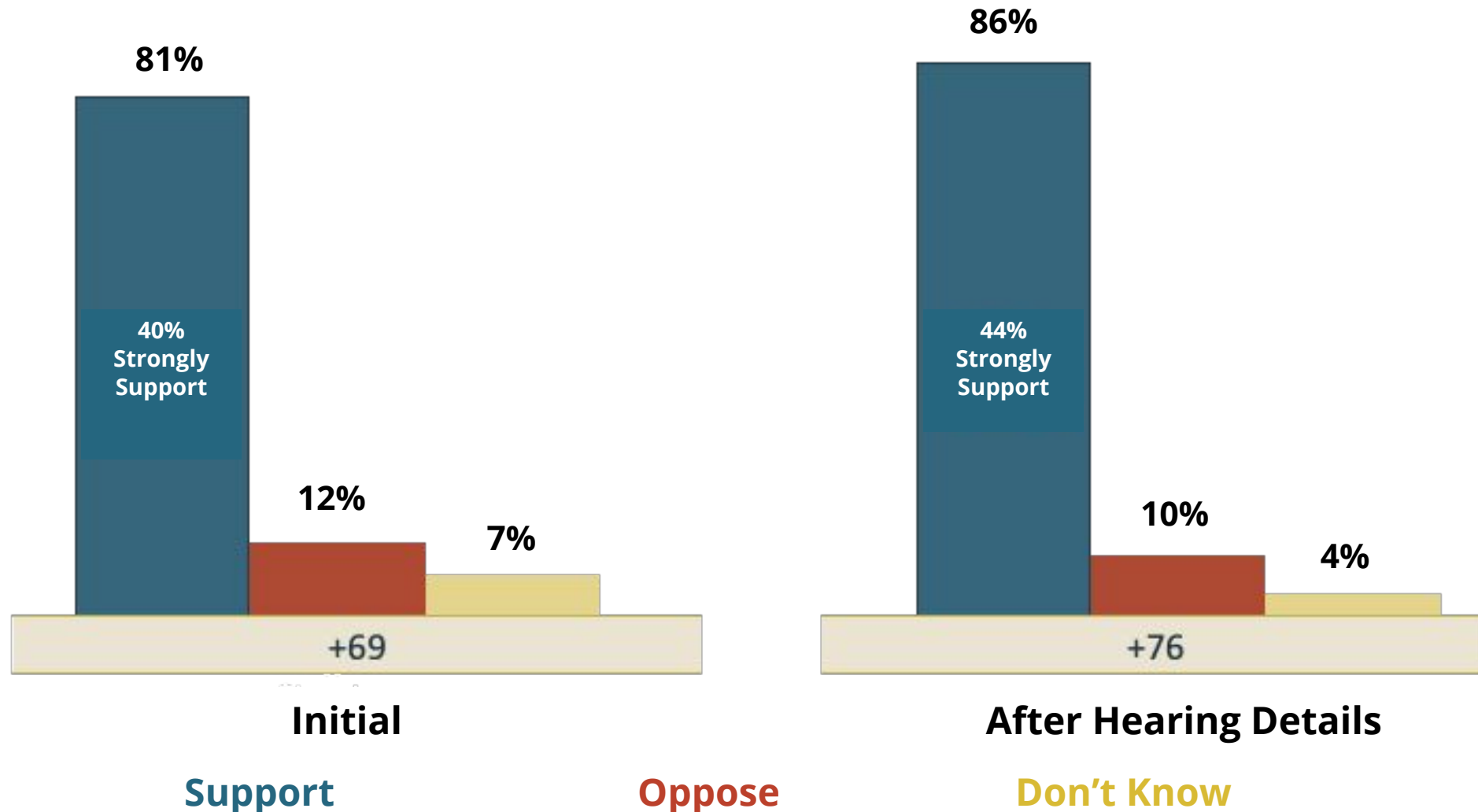
10 elements of the 14 elements receive 80% or higher support among voters in the most impacted states.

% Support for Each Stimulus Package Piece by State's Level of Impact

	Overall	High Impact States	Medium Impact States	Low Impact States
Hospital Assistance	91%	93%	90%	92%
Reimburse Medical Professionals	86%	90%	85%	84%
Mid-Size Business/Non-Profit Loan	86%	88%	86%	85%
Suspend Student Loan Payments	84%	87%	83%	83%
\$1,200 Per Adult	84%	85%	83%	86%
Extend Unemployment Benefits	81%	80%	83%	78%
Business Loans Tied To Retention	81%	81%	82%	81%
\$2,400 For Married Couples	81%	83%	79%	84%
Funding for SNAP/Child Nutrition	78%	80%	77%	78%
\$600/Week for Jobless Workers	78%	78%	79%	76%
No Aid for Politicians' Businesses	77%	83%	75%	76%
Emergency Education Fund	73%	75%	72%	73%
Federal Aid to Airlines	60%	57%	62%	59%
National Endowment Arts	43%	45%	42%	42%

Support climbs to 86% after hearing more about the package.

"Now having heard more, do you support or oppose this \$2 trillion stimulus package recently passed by Congress and signed by President Trump?"



Key battleground voting blocs (Independents and the Midwest) indicate significant growth in support.

	Initial Support %	Informed Support %	Gain
Base Republicans	84%	90%	+3
Soft Republicans	76%	79%	+3
Independents	83%	86%	+7
Soft Democrats	85%	90%	+8
Base Democrats	80%	90%	+5
Northeast	86%	90%	+3
Midwest	82%	84%	+7
South	80%	85%	+4
West	84%	90%	+7
High Impact State	83%	89%	+5
Medium Impact State	73%	80%	+4
Low Impact State	80%	86%	+8

White women, especially middle-aged women, are moved more than white men to support the stimulus package.

	Initial Support %	Informed Support %	Gain
White Men Ages 18-34	88%	91%	+6
White Men Ages 35-54	86%	89%	+3
White Men Ages 55+	71%	78%	+3
White Women Ages 18-34	78%	86%	+5
White Women Ages 35-54	81%	86%	+10
White Women Ages 55+	81%	84%	+4
White Men < College	82%	89%	+2
White Men College +	82%	86%	+5
White Women < College	78%	85%	+6
White Women College +	81%	86%	+6
African-Americans	81%	85%	+7
Hispanics	80%	88%	+6

THE BOTTOM LINE

1

There is widespread support across the country for the recently passed federal stimulus package. And the more people hear about and understand what's in the package, the more they support it.

Every demographic group in our sample saw their support for the package increase after hearing more specifics about it.

THE BOTTOM LINE

2

Thirteen of the fourteen elements of the stimulus receive 60% or more support from American voters. Eight of them register 80%+ support).

The only piece of the package that didn't get the support of voters was the \$75 million for NEA funding. This aspect of the stimulus takes a hit from Republicans, Independents, and older white voters.

THE BOTTOM LINE

3

White women are among the biggest movers to support the stimulus package, along with voters in the Midwest.

Independent voters are the most “skeptical” of the package; that said, 78% support it after hearing the details (up 7 pts).

METHODOLOGY

Meeting Street Insights conducted an online national survey of registered voters (N=1,000). The study was March 29 – April 1, 2020.

In addition to our standard demographics, we also segmented states into three categories based on their number of Covid-19 cases per million residents.

- **High Impact States**

States with more than 500 cases per million residents as of April 2, 2020. Those states include CO, CT, DC, IL, LA, MA, MI, NJ, NY, RI, VT, and WA.

- **Medium Impact States**

States that have between 200 and 500 cases per million residents. Those states include AL, AR, CA, DE, FL, GA, ID, IN, ME, MD, MS, MO, MT, NV, NH, OH, PA, SC, TN, UT, WI, and WY.

- **Low Impact States**

States with fewer than 200 cases per million residents. Those states include AK, AZ, HI, IA, KS, KY, MN, NE, NM, NC, ND, OK, OR, SD, TX, VA, and WV.



BETWEEN THE LINES SERIES: STIMULUS

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