

ESRI COVID Roundtable

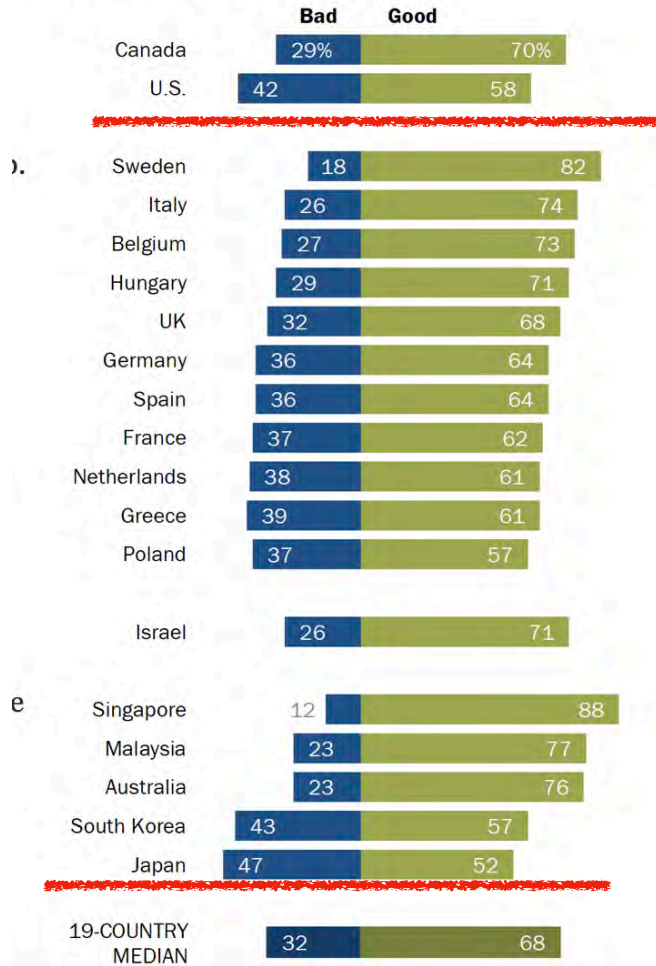
Trust in Government

Andrew Atkeson
UCLA

Diverse Views on Government and COVID

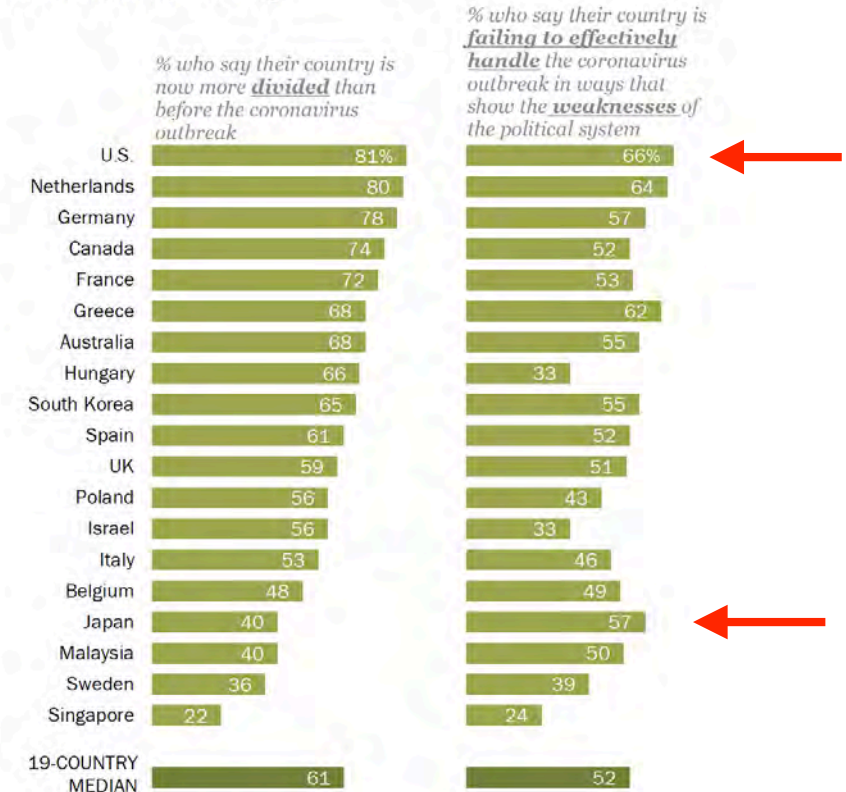
At least half say their country has dealt with the pandemic well

% who say their country has done a ___ job dealing with the coronavirus outbreak



Note: Those who did not answer not shown.
 Source: Spring 2022 Global Attitudes Survey, Q11.
 "Partisanship Colors Views of COVID-19 Handling Across Advanced Economies"
 PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Many say pandemic reveals social divisions, political flaws in their country



Source: Spring 2022 Global Attitudes Survey, Q12&13.
 "Partisanship Colors Views of COVID-19 Handling Across Advanced Economies"
 PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Striking finding of dissatisfaction with gov't in Japan and US

Pew Research Center August 2022

What went wrong in the US

- No clear strategic objective
- Lack of alignment of policy actions with strategic objective
- Lack of accommodation of personal/political choices

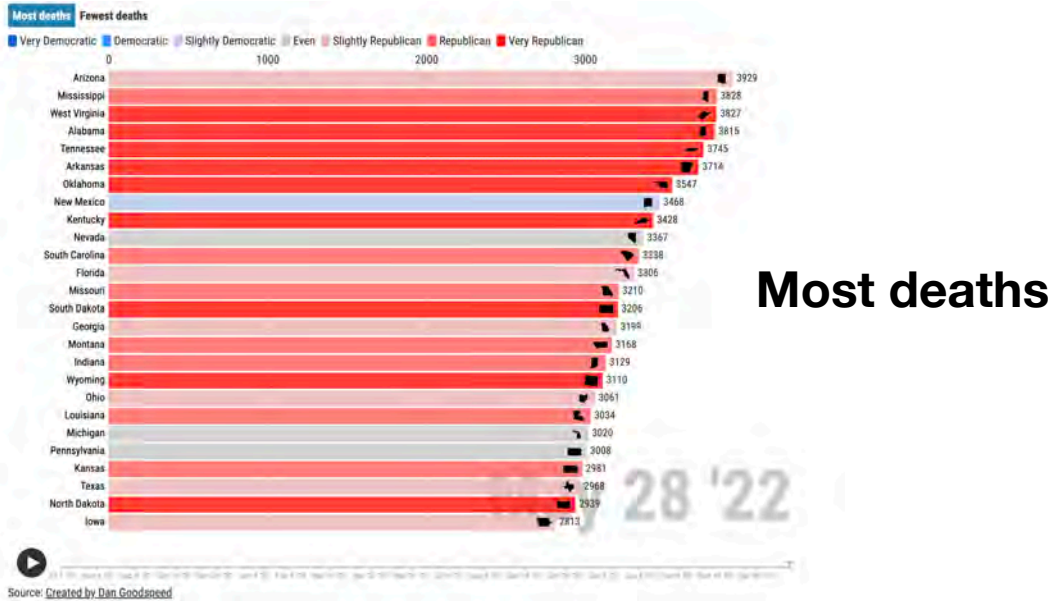
Explaining Pandemic Strategy

- Mitigation requires sacrifice
- Compare to wartime
- What is the strategic objective?
 - Peak prevalence
 - Cumulative mortality
 - Delay until vaccine or treatment arrives
- Despite prior Pandemic Influenza planning, US public health agencies did not articulate a goal for COVID mitigation

Alignment of all policy measures with strategic objective

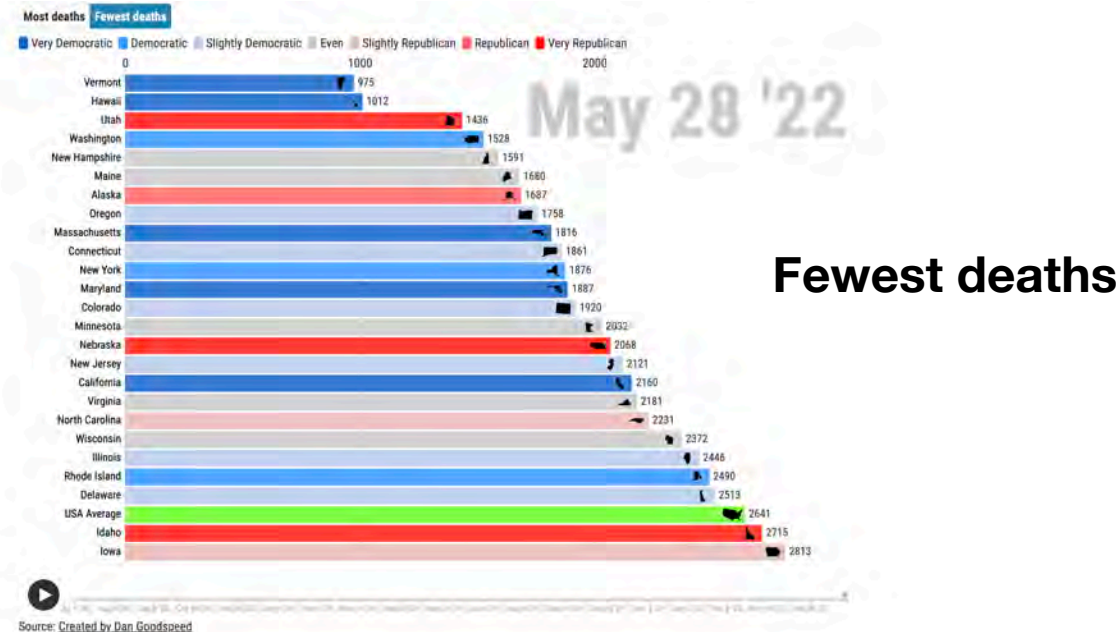
- Questions about policy in US
 - Politician compliance with lockdown
 - Extended school closures
 - Lack of epidemiological studies to identify transmission pathways for COVID despite huge potential economic and social returns
- Questions about policy in Japan
 - Delays in vaccine rollout
 - Other factors?

Respect for personal/political choice



**COVID Deaths
from July 1, 2020
to May 28, 2022
by US State with
political orientation
in color**

**Start counting
deaths
July 1 2020
since
early phase
was chaos**



**Clear sorting by
personal and
political preference**