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Supplementary Appendix to the Paper: Is Journalistic Truth Dead? Measuring How Informed Voters Are About Political News

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A Table Methodology

In this appendix, we describe the methodology corresponding to each of the main tables and figures reported in the main text. Unless noted otherwise, all the tables and figures described below rely on the parameter estimates corresponding to the main model described in Section 3.3.

Table 3. To compute the value of $\overline{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1\text{ true}, 1\text{ false})$ for a typical pair of true and fake news stories, we consider, for each quiz, the pairs of estimated parameters (γ_j, b_j) and $(\gamma_{j'}, b_{j'})$ corresponding to all the pairs of statements j and j' containing one true news story and one fake news story within the quiz. We repeat this procedure across all quizzes, giving us 108 values of $\left((\gamma_j, b_j), (\gamma_{j'}, b_{j'})\right)$. To then compute the average individual's probability $\overline{\pi}$ of selecting the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories, we first compute the π function for individual i with estimated parameter θ_i for a given value of $\left((\gamma_j, b_j), (\gamma_{j'}, b_{j'})\right)$. We then integrate this function over ϵ (given the estimated variance σ^2), integrate it using the empirical distribution of X_i and p_i (corresponding to the respondents who took the quiz containing statements j and j'), and finally we take the average across all 108 values of $\left((\gamma_j, b_j), (\gamma_{j'}, b_{j'})\right)$. Formally,

$$\overline{\pi} = \frac{1}{|P|} \sum_{(j,j') \in P} \frac{1}{|I(q(j,j'))|} \sum_{i \in I(q(j,j'))} \int_{\epsilon=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 + e^{(1+\beta X_i + \epsilon)(\gamma_{j'} - \gamma_j) + \alpha p_i (b_{j'} - b_j)}} f(\epsilon) d\epsilon,$$

where P is the set of all true-false pairs, $q(j,j')$ is the quiz containing j, j', and $I(q)$ is the set of respondents who have taken quiz q.

The procedure to compute the average individual's probability of selecting the true news story when the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month is identical, except that attention is restricted to pairs of true and false statements j and j' where the true statement corresponds to a news story ranked as first news story of the month by our panel of journalists. There are 36 such pairs.

The procedure to compute the average individual's probability of selecting the true news story when the hypothetical quiz contains 1 true statement and 3 false statements is very similar: we consider all combinations of one true story and three false stories within a quiz. Since our quizzes have three true statements and three false statements, we have three possible combinations of one true statement and three false statements per quiz (except in the three surveys in which news quizzes with synthetic fakes news stories and actual fake news stories were run in parallel, where there are six possible combinations of one true statement and three false statements).

Table 4. The procedure used to compute the probabilities reported in Table 4 is identical to that described for Table 3, replacing the function π with the function ρ. See Section 3.2 for the formulas of the π and ρ functions.

Tables 5a and 5b. To rank individuals by their level of discernment, we place individuals in tiers based on their average θ_i parameter using the estimated β parameters. We then compute the $\overline{\pi}$ and $\overline{\rho}$ values corresponding to each tier by following a procedure identical to that described above for Table 3.

Tables 6 and 7. To compute the values of $\overline{\pi}$ reported in Tables 6 and 7, for each statement j with parameters (γ_j, b_j) we compute the total probability that a respondent with estimated individual parameter θ_i selects a sequence of 3 statements containing j, given the estimated (γ, b) parameters of the remaining 5 statements included in the quiz containing statement j. We then integrate this function over ϵ (given the estimated variance σ^2) and integrate it using the empirical distribution of X_i and p_i corresponding to the respondents who took the quiz containing statement j. For the true statements that were included in both quizzes with actual fake news stories and quizzes with synthetic fake news stories, we compute the probability $\overline{\pi}$ separately for each variant of the quiz.

To compute the values of $\overline{\rho}(3)$ reported in Tables 6 and 7, we proceed as follows. For each true statement j, we construct all pairs of statements (j, j'), where j' is a false statement contained in the same quiz as j. We then compute the average individual's probability $\overline{\rho}$ of assigning 3:1 odds in favor of statement j when confronted with the pair of statements j-j', by integrating over the distribution of ϵ (given the estimated variance σ^2) and the empirical distribution of X_i and p_i (corresponding to the respondents who took the quiz containing statements j and j'). We then take the average over the possible values of j' (i.e., all the false statements included in the same quiz as statement j). The procedure to compute the values of $\overline{\rho}(3)$ corresponding to the false statements is very similar: for each false statement j, we take the average of $\overline{\rho}\,(3)$ over all true statements j' included in the same quiz as statement j. Formally, for a statement j, the value of $\overline{\rho}$ we report in Tables 6 and 7 is:

$$\overline{\rho}\,(3) = \frac{1}{|P(q(j), j)|} \sum_{j' \in P(q(j),j)} \frac{1}{|I(q(j))|} \sum_{i \in I(q(j))} \int_{\epsilon=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 + e^{(1+\beta X_i + \epsilon)(\gamma_{j'} - \gamma_j) + \alpha p_i (b_{j'} - b_j) + \ln(3)}}, f(\epsilon) d\epsilon,$$

where $q(j)$ is the quiz that contains j, $I(q)$ is the set of respondents who took quiz q, and $P(q, j)$ is the set of statements contained in quiz q whose truth value is opposite to that of j.

Table 8. The procedure to compute the average probabilities $\overline{\pi}$ and $\overline{\rho}\,(3)$ reported in Table 8 is identical to that used in Table 3, except that (i) we restrict attention to individuals whose associated p_i partisanship parameter is equal to either -1 or 1 (i.e., democrats and republicans), (ii) the fake news story is assumed neutral ($b_j = 0$), and (iii) the partisan score of the true news story is assumed to be equal to either the 10th, 25th, 50th, 75th, or 90th percentile in the b_j distribution of the true news stories (i.e., we disregard any co-dependence between γ_j and b_j). To capture the effect of time passing, we plug in the estimated δ parameter in the $\overline{\pi}$ and $\overline{\rho}\,(3)$ functions. The resulting formula for $\overline{\pi}$ for a given true statement partisanship level b and time delay t is:

$$\overline{\pi} = \frac{1}{|P|} \sum_{(j,j') \in P} \frac{1}{|I(q(j, j'))|} \sum_{i \in I(q(j,j'))} \int_{\epsilon=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 + e^{(1+\beta X_i + \epsilon)(\gamma_{j'} - \gamma_j)\delta^t - \alpha p_i b}} f(\epsilon) d\epsilon.$$

The formula for $\overline{\rho}(3)$ is very similar:

$$\overline{\rho}\,(3) = \frac{1}{|P|} \sum_{(j,j') \in P} \frac{1}{|I(q(j, j'))|} \sum_{i \in I(q(j,j'))} \int_{\epsilon=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 + e^{(1+\beta X_i + \epsilon)(\gamma_{j'} - \gamma_j)\delta^t - \alpha p_i b + \ln(3)}} f(\epsilon) d\epsilon.$$

Figures 1a and 1b. The procedure to compute the average probabilities $\overline{\pi}$ and $\overline{\rho}\,(3)$ by socioeconomic group reported in Figures 1a and 1b is identical to that used in Table 3, except that we use the empirical distributions of X_i and p_i conditional on specific socioeconomic characteristics and set the b_j parameter equal to 0 for all the statements.

The procedure to compute the average probabilities $\overline{\pi}$ and $\overline{\rho}\,(3)$ by partisan congruence reported in Figures 1a and 1b is identical to that used in Table 8, where a congruent (respectively, non-congruent) story is defined as a story whose b_j parameter is equal to the 25th percentile (respectively, 75th percentile) in the b_j distribution of the true news stories if $p_i = -1$ and equal to the 75th percentile (respectively, 25th percentile) if $p_i = 1$.

Table 9. The table reports the estimated β parameters as well as their associated 95% confidence intervals corresponding to the various versions of the model described in Table 9. To compute 95% confidence intervals for the estimates, we followed a three-step process: (1) we sampled respondents with replacement from our original sample, (2) we estimated the model on this new sample and recorded the new parameter estimates, and (3) we repeated this process 1,000 times and calculated the resulting standard deviation of each parameter estimate.

Table 10. The first row in Table 10 reports the average probabilities $\overline{\pi}$, $\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}\,(3)$, $\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}\,(3)$, and $\overline{\rho}_{\text{no bet}}\,(3)$ for a typical pair of true and false statements. The procedures adopted to compute these values are identical to those used in Tables 3 and 4 described above.

The second row in Table 10 reports the average probabilities $\overline{\pi}$, $\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}\,(3)$, $\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}\,(3)$, and $\overline{\rho}_{\text{no bet}}\,(3)$ for a pair of true and false statements in which attention is restricted to the most plausible false statements. Specifically, the procedures we adopt to compute these values are identical to those used in Tables 3 and 4, except that each true statement j is paired with the false statement j' with the highest associated estimated γ parameter amongst the set of false statements that were included in the same quizzes as statement j (i.e., either 3 false statements if only a variant with synthetic fake news stories was run or 6 false statements if variants with both synthetic and actual fake news stories were run).

The third row in Table 10 reports the average probabilities $\overline{\pi}$, $\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}\,(3)$, $\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}\,(3)$, and $\overline{\rho}_{\text{no bet}}\,(3)$ for a pair of true and false statements in which attention is restricted to individually-targeted false statements. Specifically, we consider 6 socioeconomic and partisan characteristics: gender, age, ethnicity, income, education, and partisanship. For each of these characteristics, we estimate the model allowing the gamma parameters of both the true and the false statements to vary by subgroup. For example, we compute one model where democrats, republicans and independents have different γ parameters for the same story, and another in which men and women have different γ parameters for the same story.[1] Formally, we let $z_{ij} = \gamma_{g(i),j}\theta_i + \alpha p b_j + \eta_{ij}$ where $g(i)$ denotes the subgroup to which i belongs. Then, for each individual i, and following procedures similar to those described for Tables 3 and 4, we compute the probabilities $\overline{\pi}$, $\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}$, and $\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}$ for a pair of true and false statements where (i) the true statement is chosen at random from the quiz they participated in and (ii) the fake news with the highest associated value of z_{ij} is included (chosen from the set of false statements that were included in the same quiz as the true statement; i.e., either 3 false statements if only a variant with synthetic fake news stories was run or 6 false statements if variants with both synthetic and actual fake news stories were run). We repeat this procedure for each of the 6 socioeconomic and partisan characteristics and we take the average across the corresponding values of $\overline{\pi}$, $\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}$, and $\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}$.

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[1] The vector of characteristics used to define groups is thus always distinct from (and typically coarser than) the vector of five socioeconomic characteristics that enter θ_i. For this reason, we are able to separately identify the individual-level discernment parameter θ_i from the group-level parameter γ_j.

Figures 2a and 2b. We consider 5 socioeconomic variables (gender, age, income, ethnicity and education) and in each of the subgroups defined by these characteristics we report the proportion of respondents who indicate that they have already voted or will definitely vote (Figure 2a) and the proportion of respondents who express a preference for a candidate (Figure 2b). In both figures, we drop respondents for whom income information is missing from all computations.

B Additional Descriptive Statistics

B.1 Media Consumption

We incorporated questions related to news media consumption in all YouGov surveys, except for the one conducted in May 2020. Survey respondents reported whether they had acquired information about national politics during the previous 7 days, and whether they acquired it online, by watching television, by listening to the radio, and/or by reading a print newspaper. We use this data to create the variable Media_i, defined as the number of media relied upon by individual i. We further asked respondents to report the news sources they relied on (e.g., CNN) during the previous 7 days. We used this information to create the variable News Sources_i. Finally, survey respondents were asked to report the amount of time they dedicated to consuming news about national politics during the previous 7 days. We used this information to code the variable Time_i. Tables H.1 and H.2 in Online Appendix H present the language used in the corresponding survey questions.

Table B.1 reports summary statistics when using the full sample of YouGov survey respondents. Our average survey respondent relies on about 1.58 media, and television and internet are by far the most popular media. Further, the average respondent relies on about 4.9 news sources to obtain information. Finally, the average survey respondent reports spending slightly less than one hour a day consuming the news. The median participant reports spending 26 minutes a day.

These numbers are in line with other measures of news media consumption. For instance, in 2010 the Pew Research Center reported that the average American spent 70 minutes a day consuming the news (Pew, 2010). This being said, self-reported measures of news consumption are notoriously exaggerated and we thus interpret them with caution (see, e.g., Prior, 2009; Guess, 2015).

Media	1.58
Television, %	0.63
Print, %	0.19
Radio, %	0.3
Online, %	0.64
News Sources	4.9
Total Time (minutes), mean	398.15
Total Time (minutes), median	180

Note: Full sample of YouGov survey respondents. *Media* is the number of media (television, print newspaper, radio, internet) relied upon to consume national news during 7 previous days. *Television, %*, *Print, %*, *Radio, %*, and *Online, %* are the share of respondents relying on each these media to consume nationals during 7 previous days. *News Sources* is the number of news sources relied upon to consume national news during 7 previous days. *Total Time* is the number of minutes spent consuming national news during 7 previous day.

Table B.1: Media Consumption Summary Statistics

B.2 Quiz-Level Summary Statistics

Table B.2 provides descriptive statistics at the quiz level.[2] On average, in YouGov quizzes about federal politics, respondents selected 2.26 true statements and 0.74 false statements. When restricting attention to YouGov quizzes about federal politics with actual fake news stories, the average respondent selected 2.21 true statements and 0.79 false statements. For ease of comparison, the table also reports these statistics when restricting attention to YouGov quizzes about federal politics with synthetic fake news stories administered concurrently with YouGov quizzes about federal politics with actual fake news stories: in these quizzes, the average respondents selected 2.22 true statements and 0.78 false statements. In other words, the raw statistics are nearly identical independently of the type of fake news used.

In 5 YouGov surveys, we included quizzes about the Democratic Party primaries: on average, respondents selected 2.39 true statements and 0.61 false statements. As a comparison, the table reports these statistics when restricting attention to YouGov quizzes about federal politics administered concurrently with the YouGov quizzes about the Democratic Party primaries: in these quizzes, on average respondents selected 2.29 true statements and 0.71 false statements. Further, in 2 YouGov surveys we included quizzes about sports and entertainment. When combining both types of quizzes, the average respondent selected 2.18 true statements and 0.82 false statements. Table B.2 also reports quiz-level summary statistics for the 7 quizzes about federal politics (3 with actual fake news stories and 4 with synthetic fake news stories) administered through Amazon Mechanical Turk (MTurk). On average, MTurk respondents selected 2.34 true statements and 0.66 false statements. Finally, the table considers the 2 quizzes about federal politics (1 with actual fake news stories and 1 with synthetic fake news stories) administered through Ipsos: the average Ipsos respondent selected 2.33 true statements and 0.67 false statements. As a comparison, the table also reports these statistics when restricting attention to the same quizzes administered concurrently through YouGov: the average YouGov respondent selected 2.36 true statements and 0.64 false statements.[3]

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[2] Attention is restricted to survey respondents in which the respondent selected exactly 3 statements.

[3] We cannot produce YouGov quiz-level statistics comparable to the MTurk quiz-level statistics because not all MTurk surveys were run concurrently with YouGov.

		Mean	St. Dev.	Min	Max	Quizzes	N
All YouGov Federal Politics Quizzes	True News	2.26	0.68	0	3	12	7886
	Fake News	0.74	0.68	0	3	12	7886
Snopes YouGov Federal Politics Quizzes	True News	2.21	0.69	0	3	3	1423
	Fake News	0.79	0.69	0	3	3	1423
Synthetic YouGov Federal Politics Quizzes (Comparable to Snopes)	True News	2.22	0.69	0	3	3	1509
	Fake News	0.78	0.69	0	3	3	1509
YouGov Democratic Primaries Quizzes	True News	2.39	0.63	0	3	5	4270
	Fake News	0.61	0.63	0	3	5	4270
YouGov Federal Politics Quizzes (Comparable to Democratic Primaries)	True News	2.29	0.67	0	3	5	4419
	Fake News	0.71	0.67	0	3	5	4419
YouGov Sports and Entertainment Quizzes	True News	2.18	0.71	0	3	4	2196
	Fake News	0.82	0.71	0	3	4	2196
YouGov Federal Politics Quizzes (Comparable to Sports and Entertainment)	True News	2.18	0.71	0	3	4	2196
	Fake News	0.82	0.71	0	3	4	2196
MTurk Federal Politics Quizzes	True News	2.41	0.71	0	3	7	3722
	Fake News	0.59	0.71	0	3	7	3722
Ipsos Federal Politics Quizzes	True News	2.33	0.65	0	3	2	968
	Fake News	0.67	0.65	0	3	2	968
Yougov Federal Politics Quizzes (Comparable to Ipsos)	True News	2.36	0.63	0	3	2	830
	Fake News	0.64	0.63	0	3	2	830

Note: The table reports the average number of true and false statements selected by the survey participants when completing the news quizzes, distinguishing by topic, platform, and type of fake news (actual vs synthetic).

Table B.2: Quiz Level Summary Statistics

B.3 Voting

In addition to the usual media consumption questions and news quizzes, in the October/November, 2020 survey, respondents were asked to provide information regarding their voting intentions in the upcoming 2020 U.S. elections. Questions, responses, and response selection shares are reported in Table B.3.

Question Text	**Response**	**Selection Share**
How likely is it that you will vote?	I have already voted in person	22.9%
	I have already voted by mail	33.1%
	I definitely will vote	23.5%
	I probably will vote	3.6%
	I maybe will vote	2.8%
	I probably will not vote	3.1%
	I definitely will not vote	7.3%
	I don't know if I will vote	3.7%
Which candidate would you vote for? (Respondents who report not having voted yet)	Donald Trump (Republican)	44.5%
	Joe Biden (Democrat)	31.2%
	Jo Jorgensen (Libertarian)	2.3%
	Howie Hawkins (Green)	1.1%
	Not sure	20.1%

Note: The table reports the questions about voting intentions inserted in the October-November, 2020 survey as well as the share of respondents who selected each possible answer.

Table B.3: Voting Intention Summary Statistics

We note that Figure 2a reports a share of voters (i.e., respondents who indicate that they have either already voted or that they are "definitely" going to vote) equal to about 81% (as opposed to 79.5% as in Table B.3) because of individual observations with missing income information, which are excluded from the computations for this figure. Figure 2b reports a share of respondents expressing a preference over candidates approximately equal to 81% (as opposed to 79.9% as the values reported in Table B.3 would suggest) for the same reason.

C Inter-rater Reliability

We describe the method we employ to produce a measure of inter-rater reliability. We begin by listing some key characteristics of our news selection protocol, which motivate our specific choice of inter-rater reliability measure.

As we describe in Section 2, our panel comprises 3 journalists and the process by which we arrive at our monthly selection of news stories involves two steps. First, each week, we ask our journalists to select and rank the 5 most important news stories of the week and leave the remaining news stories unranked. Only the news stories that at least one journalist ranks as being among the 5 most important news stories of the week are kept. Second, when we launch a survey, we collect the four preceding weeks' selections of news stories (i.e., all the news stories that survived the first weekly screening), we ask one journalist to create meta-news stories based on these news stories, and we ask each journalist to rank the 5 most important meta-news stories according to him or her and leave the remaining news stories unranked. We note that our rankings are therefore incomplete at the weekly and monthly level.

We are not aware of inter-rater reliability measures that account for a sequential protocol in which the raters, in a first step, unanimously agree to disregard some items and, in a second step, rank the surviving items. In computing the degree of agreement between our journalists, we therefore disregard the journalists' weekly screening and instead focus on their rankings of the most important news stories at the monthly level. We believe this omission biases downward the degree of agreement we compute since we are ignoring the (many) news stories that all 3 journalists unanimously agree to disregard each week.

A standard measure of inter-rater reliability in the presence of more than two raters is Kendall and Babington Smith (1939)'s concordance coefficient W. However, a limitation of the W indicator is that in principle it is only applicable to complete rankings (i.e., rankings where every pair of items are either relations of strict dominance or indifference). As highlighted above, our monthly rankings of news stories are instead incomplete. We rely on the method developed in Franceschini and Maisano (2020), which extends Kendall and Babington Smith (1939)'s W concordance coefficient to the case of incomplete rankings. To put it simply, the idea behind Franceschini and Maisano (2020)'s approach consists of assigning, for each rater, "midranks" to each item left unrated by that rater, where the midrank is the average of the most favorable ranking and the least favorable ranking each unrated item could have received had it been rated, compatible with the rankings assigned to the rated items. The resulting W statistic takes values in the interval from 0 to 1, where 1 indicates perfect agreement and 0 indicates "independence of rankings" (i.e., as if the rankings had been randomly and independently generated).

We implement a statistical test of significance to determine whether the values of W we have computed are significantly different from 0. To do so, for each month, we compute an empirical cumulative distribution function as follows: (i) We compute all possible rankings for that month (all permutations of 5 of that month's n elements); (ii) We independently draw 3 possible rankings; (iii) We compute their W concordance measure; (iv) We repeat this procedure 500,000 times. Using the empirical CDF associated with these W draws, we compute a p-value for the Null hypothesis "H0: $W = 0$." Table C.1 reports, for each of our 11 surveys on the Federal Government, the number of news stories the journalists had to rank, the associated W statistic computed following Franceschini and Maisano (2020), and the p value

Survey Month	W	P-Value
June 2019	0.356	0.000
October 2019	0.320	0.004
November 2019	0.875	0.000
February 2020	0.441	0.043
April 2020	0.280	0.470
May 2020	0.341	0.083
August 2020	0.752	0.000
October 2020	0.956	0.000
November 2020	0.663	0.000
February 2021	0.508	0.133
March 2022	0.651	0.014

Note: W statistic computed as in Franceschini and Maisano (2020). The p-value is for the test of H_0 : W = 0, computed using the empirical CDF of 500,000 random draws of W.

Table C.1: Journalists' Degree of Agreement

associated with the test aforementioned. We are able to reject the null of independence of rankings for 8 out of our 11 main surveys at the 5% confidence level (and 9 out of 11 at the 10% confidence level).

This approach allows us reject (for most of our monthly selections) the hypothesis that the journalists' individual rankings are as related as they would be had they been randomly and independently generated. However, it is not well suited to measure the *strength* of the degree of agreement between our journalists. To get at this, we also report some simple key statistics. On average, if a journalist ranks a news story 1st, the probability that at least one other journalist ranks the same story 1st is equal to 0.83, the probability that both other journalists ranks the same story 1st is equal to 0.5, the probability that at least one other journalist ranks the same story in his or her top 3 ranking is equal to 0.97, and the probability that two remaining journalists rank the same story in their top 3 ranking is equal to 0.83. Further, on average, if a journalist ranks a news story 2nd, the probability that at least one other journalist ranks the same story in his or her top 3 ranking is equal to 0.73, and the probability that the two remaining journalists rank the same story in their top 3 ranking is equal to 0.4. Finally, on average, if a journalist ranks a news story 3rd, the probability that at least one other journalist ranks the same story in his or her top 3 ranking is equal to 0.53 and the probability that the two remaining journalists rank the same story in their top 3 ranking is equal to 0.1.

The picture that emerges is one in which there is relatively strong agreement between our journalists regarding news stories' importance. At the same time, agreement is not complete, thereby underlying the importance of relying on multiple journalists' subjective assessments to arrive at our final selection. Finally, the statistics also indicate that – as expected – agreement is strongest regarding the first news story of the month, followed by the second news story of the month, and the third news story of the month.

D Theory: Information and Political Accountability

This simple model builds on Strömberg (2001), Prat and Strömberg (2013), and Matějka and Tabellini (2017). These papers consider both endogenous information acquisition on the part of voters and the effect of heterogeneous voter information on voting behavior. This model focuses on the second part only: it characterizes how an incumbent in a retrospective voting model selects policy in response to how informed different groups of voters are.

An incumbent is in office. Her only objective is to maximize the probability that she is re-elected. The incumbent chooses a policy x within a finite policy set X.

There is a mass 1 of voters divided into a set G of socioeconomic groups. Let $u_g(\cdot)$ be the policy preference of voters in group g, and let s_g be its mass. The policy chosen by a Utilitarian planner is:

$$x^* = \arg\max_{x \in X} \sum_{g \in G} s_g u_g(x)$$

which we assume to be a singleton.

After the incumbent chooses x, every voter chooses between the incumbent and a challenger. Voters use sincere retrospective voting. A voter i in g with information I_i votes for the if and only if his expected policy utility from the incumbent plus an idiosyncratic noise component ε_i is at least as large as the value of the challenger, which we normalize at zero:

$$E\left[u_g(x)\,|I_i\right] + \varepsilon_i \geq 0$$

We assume that the noise term ε_i is i.i.d. across voters with a uniform distribution on $[-a, a]$ where a is sufficiently large so that $u_g(x) \in [-a, a]$ for all g and all x.

Voters may be informed or uninformed. An informed voter observes x. An uninformed one does not see x (but is otherwise fully rational and Bayesian). Let ρ_i be the probability that voter i is informed. Let $\bar{\rho}_g$ be the average information share in group g. The average informed share in the population is given by:

$$\bar{\rho} = \sum_{g \in G} s_g \rho_g$$

Proposition 1 *The incumbent selects policy*

$$\hat{x} = \arg\max_{x \in X} \sum_{g \in G} \bar{\rho}_g s_g u_g(x)$$

which is equivalent to the policy that would be chosen by a Utilitarian planner who gives group g weight $\frac{\bar{\rho}_g}{\bar{\rho}} s_g$ rather than s_g.

The equilibrium payoff of group g is non-decreasing in its information share $\bar{\rho}_g$: If $\bar{\rho}''_g > \bar{\rho}'_g$ (and all other $\bar{\rho}_g$'s remain constant), then

$$u_g\left(\hat{x}''\right) \geq u_g\left(\hat{x}'\right)$$

Proof. Suppose $\hat{x}$ is the policy chosen by the incumbent in equilibrium. Consider a deviation: the incumbent chooses x rather than $\hat{x}$. Uninformed voters do not observe the deviation and continue to predict that the incumbent chooses $\hat{x}$. The probability that an uninformed voter in group g votes for the incumbent is therefore

$$\Pr\left(u_g(\hat{x}) + \varepsilon_i \geq 0\right) = \frac{a + u_g(\hat{x})}{2a}$$

Informed voters instead observe the chosen policy x. The probability that an informed voter in group g votes for the incumbent is therefore

$$\Pr\left(u_g(x) + \varepsilon_i \geq 0\right) = \frac{a + u_g(x)}{2a}$$

The incumbent's vote share if she chooses x instead of $\hat{x}$ is

$$\sum_{g \in G} \bar{\rho}_g s_g \frac{a + u_g(x)}{2a} + \sum_{g \in G} \left(1 - \bar{\rho}_g\right) s_g \frac{a + u_g(\hat{x})}{2a}$$

As $\hat{x}$ is not under the control of the incumbent and a is a constant, we have the first part of the proposition.

The second part is proven by contradiction. Consider two information share vectors $\bar{\boldsymbol{\rho}}'$ and $\bar{\boldsymbol{\rho}}''$. The vectors are identical except for group $\tilde{g}$, where $\bar{\rho}''_{\tilde{g}} > \bar{\rho}'_{\tilde{g}}$. Assume for contradiction that $u_{\tilde{g}}\left(\hat{x}''\right) < u_{\tilde{g}}\left(\hat{x}'\right)$. As $\hat{x}''$ and $\hat{x}'$ are maximizers, it must be that:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{g \in G} p\bar{\rho}''_g s_g u_g\left(\hat{x}''\right) &\geq \sum_{g \in G} \bar{\rho}''_g s_g u_g\left(\hat{x}'\right) \\ \sum_{g \in G} \bar{\rho}'_g s_g u_g\left(\hat{x}'\right) &\geq \sum_{g \in G} \bar{\rho}'_g s_g u_g\left(\hat{x}^{''}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Add the two inequalities:

$$\sum_{g \in G} \bar{\rho}''_g s_g u_g\left(\hat{x}''\right) + \sum_{g \in G} \bar{\rho}'_g s_g u_g\left(\hat{x}'\right) \geq \sum_{g \in G} \bar{\rho}''_g s_g u_g\left(\hat{x}'\right) + \sum_{g \in G} \bar{\rho}'_g s_g u_g\left(\hat{x}^{''}\right).$$

Note that all terms with $g \neq \tilde{g}$ cancel out:

$$\bar{\rho}''_{\tilde{g}} s_{\tilde{g}} u_{\tilde{g}}\left(\hat{x}''\right) + \bar{\rho}'_{\tilde{g}} s_{\tilde{g}} u_{\tilde{g}}\left(\hat{x}'\right) \geq \bar{\rho}''_{\tilde{g}} s_{\tilde{g}} u_{\tilde{g}}\left(\hat{x}'\right) + \bar{\rho}'_{\tilde{g}} s_{\tilde{g}} u_{\tilde{g}}\left(\hat{x}^{''}\right)$$

that is,

$$\left(\bar{\rho}''_{\tilde{g}} - \bar{\rho}'_{\tilde{g}}\right)\left(u_{\tilde{g}}\left(\hat{x}''\right) - u_{\tilde{g}}\left(\hat{x}'\right)\right) \geq 0$$

which contradicts the assumption that $\bar{\rho}''_{\tilde{g}} > \bar{\rho}'_{\tilde{g}}$ and $u_{\tilde{g}}\left(\hat{x}''\right) < u_{\tilde{g}}\left(\hat{x}'\right)$. ■

E Identification

In this appendix, we discuss the identification of the model introduced in Section 3.2. Fox and Lazzati (2017) provide conditions for the identification of discrete choice models. However, our setting – with no overlapping items (statements) across choice sets (survey rounds) – does not fit their set-up and we must develop an independent identification proof.

We show that, as the number of surveys goes to infinity and the number of subjects within each survey goes to infinity, the data non-parametrically identifies the distribution of the discernment parameter θ in the population. The result is shown for an arbitrarily fine discretization of the distribution of the discernment parameter.

The appendix proceeds as follows. To build intuition, we first consider a simpler problem where subjects choose one out of two items. Later, we extend the analysis to the setup we use in our surveys, where subjects choose three out of six items.

E.1 Model with Two Items

We make the following assumptions:

- The experimenter runs K **survey rounds**: $k = 1, ..., K$.
- In every round k there are I **subjects**: $i_k = 1, ..., I$. The subjects are different in every survey but they are drawn from the same underlying distribution.
- Each subject is characterized by a **discernment parameter** θ with M distinct values. Namely, the parameter is $\theta_i \in \Theta \subset [0, h]$, where $\Theta = \left\{\hat{\theta}_1 = \frac{h}{M}, \hat{\theta}_2 = \frac{2h}{M}, ..., \hat{\theta}_M = h\right\}$, where h is a known positive number and M is a positive integer. For instance, if $h = 1$ and $M = 100$, then $\Theta = \left\{\hat{\theta}_1 = 0.01, \hat{\theta}_2 = 0.02, ..., \hat{\theta}_{100} = 1\right\}$.
- Let f_m denote the unknown probability distribution of θ_i. Namely, $f_m = \Pr\left[\theta_i = \hat{\theta}_m\right] > 0$, where $\hat{\theta}_m = \frac{mh}{M}$, for $m = 1, ..., M$. The goal of the econometrician is to infer $(f_1, ..., f_M)$ from the data.
- In every round k, all subjects are faced with the same two **survey items**. One item is correct and the other is incorrect. All subjects must pick the item they believe is the most likely to be correct. The correct item is characterized by the unobservable parameter $\gamma_{k1} > 0$ and the incorrect item is characterized by the unobservable parameter $\gamma_{k2} < 0$.
- The probability that person i in round k chooses the correct item is given by:

$$\pi_{i1k} = \frac{\exp(\gamma_{k1}\theta_i)}{\exp(\gamma_{k1}\theta_i) + \exp(\gamma_{k2}\theta_i)}. \tag{1}$$

- To keep notation simple, we drop the partisan congruence part of the model and we focus on discernment only. The ideology part can be added back without additional identification channels because we the subjects' political preferences are observed directly. We also drop the effect of time passing (i.e., δ), which does not pose identification challenges either.

- As the probability term π_{i1k} is invariant to adding a constant to the **survey item parameters** γ_{k1} and γ_{k2}, we let without loss of generality $\gamma_{k1} = -\gamma_{k2} \equiv \frac{1}{2}\gamma_k$. We assume the parameter γ_k has a discrete distribution g with positive support $\left(\hat{\gamma}_1 = \frac{d}{N}, \hat{\gamma}_2 = \frac{2d}{N}, ..., \hat{\gamma}_N = d\right)$, for some known positive parameters d and N. The distribution g is unknown and will be recovered too. We assume that $N \geq M$.

We are interested in knowing what happens as we collect more and more data, both in terms of surveys and subjects within a survey. We can show:

Proposition 2 *Suppose that the number of survey rounds K and the number of subjects per round I go to infinity. The distribution f is identified if the following matrix has full rank:*

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{1+\exp(-dh)} & \cdots & \frac{1}{1+\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{1}{1+\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)} & \cdots & \frac{1}{1+\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M^2}\right)} \end{bmatrix}.$$

The proposition is proven below. The intuition for the result is that, as the number of surveys goes to infinity, we observe surveys with all possible instances of differences between γ_{k1} and γ_{k2} (i.e., all possible realizations of γ_k). Having an infinite number of subjects for each instance, we observe the value of:

$$\sum_{m=1}^{M} \frac{\exp\left(\gamma_{k1}\hat{\theta}_m\right)}{\exp\left(\gamma_{k1}\hat{\theta}_m\right) + \exp\left(\gamma_{k2}\hat{\theta}_m\right)} f_m. \tag{2}$$

Recovering the values f_m from these objects requires solving a linear equation system with at least as many equations as unknowns. The rank condition above is a sufficient condition for the system to have a unique solution.

While we could not determine an analytical approach to verifying the rank condition, we numerically checked that it is true for all values up to $M = 100$.

E.1.1 Proof of the Proposition

As the number of individuals in each survey goes to infinity ($I \to \infty$), the share of people who choose the correct item (i.e., item 1) in round k converges to:

$$\begin{aligned} x_k &= \sum_{m=1}^{M} \frac{\exp\left(\gamma_{k1}\hat{\theta}_m\right)}{\exp\left(\gamma_{k1}\hat{\theta}_m\right) + \exp\left(\gamma_{k2}\hat{\theta}_m\right)} f_m \\ &= \sum_{m=1}^{M} \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(-\gamma_k\hat{\theta}_m\right)} f_m. \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

Note that every x_k will take one of N values that correspond to the N possible values of γ_k. We denote those values: $\hat{x}_1$,..., $\hat{x}_N$ (ranked from lowest to highest). As the number of rounds grows, the probability that we observe each of those values goes to one. Therefore, as $K \to \infty$, the probability that we know the vector $(\hat{x}_1, ..., \hat{x}_N)$ approaches one. (As $K \to \infty$, we also recover the distribution of survey parameters g.)

Once we know $(\hat{x}_1, ..., \hat{x}_N)$, we have a system of $N+1$ linear equations in M unknowns $(f_1,...,f_M)$:

$$\begin{gathered}
\hat{x}_1 = \sum_{m=1}^{M} \frac{1}{1+\exp\left(-\hat{\gamma}_1 \hat{\theta}_m\right)} f_m, \\
\vdots \\
\hat{x}_N = \sum_{m=1}^{M} \frac{1}{1+\exp\left(-\hat{\gamma}_N \hat{\theta}_m\right)} f_m, \\
\sum_{m=1}^{M} f_m = 1.
\end{gathered} \tag{4}$$

Replacing the values of the $\hat{\gamma}$'s and $\hat{\theta}$'s, we obtain:

$$\begin{gathered}
\hat{x}_1 = \sum_{m=1}^{M} \frac{1}{1+\exp\left(-\frac{dmh}{NM}\right)} f_m, \\
\vdots \\
\hat{x}_N = \sum_{m=1}^{M} \frac{1}{1+\exp\left(-\frac{dmh}{M}\right)} f_m, \\
\sum_{m=1}^{M} f_m = 1.
\end{gathered} \tag{5}$$

The vector f is identified if the $(N+1) \times M$ matrix of the coefficients of f in the above system has at least rank M:

$$\begin{bmatrix}
\frac{1}{1+\exp(-dh)} & \cdots & \frac{1}{1+\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)} \\
\vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
\frac{1}{1+\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{N}\right)} & \cdots & \frac{1}{1+\exp\left(-\frac{d}{N}\frac{h}{M}\right)} \\
1 & \cdots & 1
\end{bmatrix}.$$

Recall that we assumed that $N \geq M$. A sufficient condition is that the following matrix has full rank:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix}
\frac{1}{1+\exp(-dh)} & \cdots & \frac{1}{1+\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)} \\
\vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
\frac{1}{1+\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)} & \cdots & \frac{1}{1+\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M^2}\right)}
\end{bmatrix}.$$

E.1.2 Numerical Analysis of the Rank Condition

While we were unable to find a general proof that A has full rank, one can check the condition numerically. For instance, assume that $d = h = M$. The matrix A can be rewritten as:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix}
\frac{1}{1+\exp(-M^2)} & \cdots & \frac{1}{1+\exp(-M)} \\
\vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
\frac{1}{1+\exp(-M)} & \cdots & \frac{1}{1+\exp(-1)}
\end{bmatrix}.$$

For any M between 1 and 100, we show numerically that A has full rank. The Mathematica notebook is available upon request.

E.2 Model with Six Survey Items

In our survey we ask subjects to pick three items out of six. Intuitively, the problem of identifying the discernment parameter becomes easier now that we have three choices per subject rather than one.[4] We can show:

Proposition 3 *Suppose that the number of survey rounds K and the number of subjects per round I go to infinity. The distribution f is identified if the following matrix has full rank:*

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{6}{\left(3+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M^2}\right)\right)\left(2+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M^2}\right)\right)\left(1+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M^2}\right)\right)} & \cdots & \frac{6}{\left(3+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)\right)\left(2+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)\right)\left(1+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)\right)} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{6}{\left(3+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)\right)\left(2+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)\right)\left(1+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)\right)} & \cdots & \frac{6}{(3+3\exp(-dh))(2+3\exp(-dh))(1+3\exp(-dh))} \end{bmatrix}.$$

The proposition is proven below. The intuition for the result is similar to that for the case with two survey items. As the number of surveys goes to infinity, we observe surveys with all possible realizations of the vector $(\gamma_{k1}, \gamma_{k2}, \gamma_{k3}, \gamma_{k4}, \gamma_{k5}, \gamma_{k6})$. We can focus on the realizations of the vector $(\gamma_{k1}, \gamma_{k2}, \gamma_{k3}, \gamma_{k4}, \gamma_{k5}, \gamma_{k6})$ that are such that $\gamma_{k1} = \gamma_{k2} = \gamma_{k3}$ and $\gamma_{k4} = \gamma_{k5} = \gamma_{k6}$, which is a necessary and sufficient condition for items 1, 2, and 3 to have identical aggregate selection shares and for items 4, 5, and 6 to also have identical aggregate selection shares as the number of subjects goes to infinity. Let $\gamma_{k1} = \gamma_{k2} = \gamma_{k3} = -\gamma_{k4} = -\gamma_{k5} = -\gamma_{k6} = \frac{1}{2}\gamma_k$ and suppose the parameter has a discrete distribution g with positive support $\left(\hat{\gamma}_1 = \frac{d}{N}, \hat{\gamma}_2 = \frac{2d}{N}, ..., \hat{\gamma}_N = d\right)$, for some known positive parameters d and N. As the number of rounds goes to infinity, we observe all realizations of γ_k with a probability approaching one. Thus, having an infinite number of subjects for each instance, we observe the value of:

$$p(\gamma_k) = \sum_{m=1}^{M} \frac{6}{\left(3+3\exp\left(-\gamma_k\hat{\theta}_m\right)\right)\left(2+3\exp\left(-\gamma_k\hat{\theta}_m\right)\right)\left(1+3\exp\left(-\gamma_k\hat{\theta}_m\right)\right)} f_m, \tag{6}$$

which is the aggregate share of individuals who identify all three correct items.

Recovering the values f_m from these objects requires solving a linear equation system with at least as many equations as unknowns. The rank condition above is a sufficient condition for the system to have a unique solution.

While we could not determine an analytical approach to verifying the rank condition, we numerically checked that it is true for all values up to $M = 100$.

E.2.1 Proof of the Proposition

As before, we have one degree of freedom with respect to the vector $(\gamma_{k1}, ..., \gamma_{k6})$. Assume that the first three items are correct (with positive values of γ) and last three items are incorrect (with negative values of γ). Focus on the subset of survey rounds that are such (i) each correct item is chosen by the same total number of individuals *and* (ii) each incorrect statement is chosen by the same total number of individuals. Formally, we focus on the subset of observed survey item aggregate shares X with the property that $(x_{k1} = x_{k2} = x_{k3}, x_{k4} = x_{k5} = x_{k6})$. Let us call it $\bar{X}$. As $K \to \infty$, all elements of $\bar{X}$ are observed at least once.

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[4] Since the identification of the α and δ parameters again presents no significant challenge, we proceed without considering them.

We note that any vector in $\bar{X}$ must necessarily be generated by a parameter vector of the form $(\gamma_{k1} = \gamma_{k2} = \gamma_{k3}, \gamma_{k4} = \gamma_{k5} = \gamma_{k6})$. Without loss of generality, let $\gamma_{k1} = -\gamma_{k4} = \frac{1}{2}\gamma_k$. We assume the parameter γ_k has a discrete distribution g with positive support $\left(\hat{\gamma}_1 = \frac{d}{N}, \hat{\gamma}_2 = \frac{2d}{N}, \ldots, \hat{\gamma}_N = d\right)$, for some known positive parameters d and N. The distribution g is unknown and will be recovered too. We assume that $N \geq M$.

The probability that an agent with type θ_i in round k with parameter $\hat{\gamma}_k$ chooses the three true items is:

$$\frac{6}{\left(3 + 3\exp\left(-\gamma_k\theta_i\right)\right)\left(2 + 3\exp\left(-\gamma_k\theta_i\right)\right)\left(1 + 3\exp\left(-\gamma_k\theta_i\right)\right)}, \tag{7}$$

where 6 is the number of possible combinations of items 1, 2, and 3. The share of subjects who choose the three true items is therefore:

$$p\left(\gamma_k\right) = \sum_{m=1}^{M} \frac{6}{\left(3 + 3\exp\left(-\gamma_k\hat{\theta}_m\right)\right)\left(2 + 3\exp\left(-\gamma_k\hat{\theta}_m\right)\right)\left(1 + 3\exp\left(-\gamma_k\hat{\theta}_m\right)\right)} f_m. \tag{8}$$

Note that the function $p\left(\gamma_k\right)$ is strictly increasing in γ_k. Order the elements of $\bar{X}$ by increasing value. Each of them corresponds to a value of $p\left(\gamma_k\right)$, as follows: $p\left(\gamma_1 = \frac{d}{N}\right) = p_1$, $p\left(\gamma_2 = \frac{2d}{N}\right) = p_2, ..., p\left(\gamma_N = d\right) = p_N$. As the number of rounds grows, the probability that we observe each of those values goes to one. Therefore, as $K \to \infty$, the probability that we know the vector $(p_1, ..., p_N)$ approaches one. (As $K \to \infty$, we also recover the distribution of survey parameters g.)

We therefore have $N + 1$ linear equations in M unknowns $(f_1, \ldots, f_M)$:

$$\begin{array}{c} p_1 = \sum_{m=1}^{M} \frac{6}{\left(3+3\exp\left(-\frac{dmh}{NM}\right)\right)\left(2+3\exp\left(-\frac{dmh}{NM}\right)\right)\left(1+3\exp\left(-\frac{dmh}{NM}\right)\right)} f_m, \\ \vdots \\ p_N = \sum_{m=1}^{M} \frac{6}{\left(3+3\exp\left(-\frac{dmh}{M}\right)\right)\left(2+3\exp\left(-\frac{dmh}{M}\right)\right)\left(1+3\exp\left(-\frac{dmh}{M}\right)\right)} f_m, \\ 1 = \sum_{m=1}^{M} f_m. \end{array} \tag{9}$$

The vector f is identified if the $(N+1) \times M$ matrix of the coefficients of f in the above system has at least rank M. Recall that we assumed that $N \geq M$. A sufficient condition is that the following matrix has full rank:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{6}{\left(3+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M^2}\right)\right)\left(2+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M^2}\right)\right)\left(1+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M^2}\right)\right)} & \cdots & \frac{6}{\left(3+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)\right)\left(2+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)\right)\left(1+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)\right)} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{6}{\left(3+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)\right)\left(2+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)\right)\left(1+3\exp\left(-\frac{dh}{M}\right)\right)} & \cdots & \frac{6}{(3+3\exp(-dh))(2+3\exp(-dh))(1+3\exp(-dh))} \end{bmatrix}.$$

E.2.2 Numerical Analysis of the Rank Condition

While we were unable to find a general proof that the matrix A has full rank, one can check the condition numerically. For instance, assume that $d = h = M$. The matrix can be rewritten as:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{6}{(3+3\exp(-1))(2+3\exp(-1))(1+3\exp(-1))} & \cdots & \frac{6}{(3+3\exp(-M))(2+3\exp(-M))(1+3\exp(-M))} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{6}{(3+3\exp(-M))(2+3\exp(-M))(1+3\exp(-M))} & \cdots & \frac{6}{(3+3\exp(-M^2))(2+3\exp(-M^2))(1+3\exp(-M^2))} \end{bmatrix}$$

For any M between 1 and 100, we show numerically that A has full rank. The Mathematica notebook is available upon request.

F Extensions and Robustness Checks

This appendix provides various extensions and robustness checks to our main analysis. Unless explicitly stated, the same methodology used in constructing the tables and figures in our main analysis is employed (please refer to Section A for details).

F.1 Weighting

This section presents a robustness check of our findings by using the individual weights provided by YouGov to weight the observations. We begin by showing the sample's socioeconomic and partisan characteristics after weighting the data, which can be found in Table F.1 below. A comparison of this table with Table 1 in the main article indicates that weighting individual observations has a noticeable but small impact on the sample's characteristics.

To further investigate the impact of these weights, we reproduce the analysis presented in Section 4 of the article using the weighted survey data. Specifically, the estimation of the parameters of the model of news discernment is unaffected, but all of our statistics are produced by aggregating individuals using the individual weights.[5] The results obtained from the weighted data are almost identical to those presented in the main article.

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[5] Because all parameter estimates are identical, this appendix does not reproduce Table 9 of the main article.

(a) Socioeconomic Characteristics

Statistic	YouGov	ACS 2020
Median Age	50	52
% Black	13	10
% White	67	73
% Female	52	52
% 4yr College Degree	30	31
% Married	46	53
% Family Inc $\geq$ 60k	43	67

(b) Party Affiliations

Party Affiliation	YouGov	Pew 2018
% Republican	27	26
% Democrat	36	33
% Independent	28	37
% Other	9	4

Note: These tables show the socioeconomic and partisan characteristics of the full sample of YouGov participants who completed news quizzes about federal politics. Individual observations have been weighted using the individual weights provided by YouGov. For a comparison with the unweighted data, see Table 1 in the main article.

Table F.1: Survey Participants Characteristics

	All	First
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 1 \text{ false})$	0.82	0.85
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 3 \text{ false})$	0.63	0.7

Note: The first row reports the probability that individuals select a true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. The second row reports the corresponding probability when individuals are faced with one typical true news story and three typical fake news stories. In the first column ("All"), the true news story is ranked as either first, second, or third news story of the month by the journalists. In the second column ("First"), the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month. Individual observations have been weighted using the individual weights provided by YouGov. For a comparison with the unweighted data, see Table 3 in the main article.

Table F.2: Probability of Selecting True Story

Odds	Story Rank	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{true}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{false}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{no bet}}$
9:1	All	0.47	0.03	0.5
	First	0.55	0.03	0.42
3:1	All	0.65	0.08	0.27
	First	0.71	0.07	0.22
2:1	All	0.72	0.11	0.17
	First	0.77	0.09	0.14

Note: The table assumes that individuals are given a typical pair of true and fake news stories to read. It reports the probability $\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}(x)$ that individuals assign $x : 1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story, the probability $\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}(x)$ that they assign $x : 1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of the fake news story, and the probability $1-\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}(x)-\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}(x)$ that they do not assign $x : 1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of either news story. Three values of x are considered: 2, 3, and 9. For each value of x, the probabilities are reported assuming (i) a typical pair of true and fake news stories where the true news story is ranked as either first, second, or third news story of the month by the journalists ("All") and (ii) a typical pair of true and fake news stories where the true news story is ranked first news story of the month by the journalists ("First"). Individual observations have been weighted using the individual weights provided by YouGov. For a comparison with the unweighted data, see Table 4 in the main article.

Table F.3: Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story, False Story, or neither Story

(a) Probability of Selecting True Story

	Discernment Tier		
Story Rank	Lower	Middle	Higher
All	0.77	0.83	0.86
First	0.8	0.86	0.89

(b) Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story

	Discernment Tier		
Story Rank	Lower	Middle	Higher
All	0.58	0.66	0.73
First	0.64	0.73	0.79

Note: The top row ("All") of the left table reports the probability that individuals in various tiers of the discernment distribution select a true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. The bottom row ("First") of the left table reports the corresponding probabilities when the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month by the journalists.

The top row ("All") of the right table reports the probability that individuals in various tiers of the discernment distribution assign 3 : 1 or higher odds of truth in favor of a typical true news story, when the alternative is a typical fake news story. The bottom row ("First") of the right table reports the corresponding probabilities when the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month by the journalists.

In both tables, individual observations have been weighted using the individual weights provided by YouGov. For a comparison with the unweighted data, see Tables 5a and 5b in the main article.

Table F.4: Heterogeneity across Discernment Tiers

First Survey Date	Fake Stories	Statement	Share	b	γ	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Jun. 2019	Synthetic	Alabama's governor signed a bill to ban nearly all abortions in the state.	0.9	0.59	1.0	0.9	0.82
		Mexico agreed to take more migrants seeking asylum in the United States while they await adjudication of their cases.	0.7	1.38	0.28	0.71	0.58
		President Trump proposed plan to make U.S. immigration more merit-based.	0.65	1.35	0.14	0.65	0.53
		U.S. Border Patrol facility admitted to measles outbreak among migrant children in custody.	0.42	-0.18	-0.28	0.41	0.11
		Attorney General Barr released text message from Special Counsel prosecutor Robert Mueller: 'We're taking down Trump.'	0.19	-0.26	-0.99	0.19	0.05
		Trump administration to continue to allow U.S. research using fetal tissue from abortions.	0.14	0.16	-1.34	0.14	0.04
Oct. 2019	Synthetic	Whistle-blower report complains of White House cover-up on Trump-Ukraine scandal.	0.89	-1.72	1.0	0.9	0.77
		Supreme Court granted a request by President Trump's administration to fully enforce a new rule that would curtail asylum applications by immigrants at the U.S.-Mexico border.	0.68	0.08	0.18	0.69	0.46
		At a closed-door meeting at the White House, top envoy to China delivered evidence of rising Farm Belt frustration over bio-fuel policy.	0.36	-0.71	-0.48	0.36	0.26
		Vaping case to make its way to Supreme Court.	0.46	0.44	-0.32	0.44	0.16
		President Trump announces he will resume peace talks with Iran at UN General Assembly.	0.39	0.98	-0.47	0.36	0.14
		China blacklists Apple and Microsoft amid escalating trade war.	0.22	-0.73	-0.84	0.24	0.1
Nov. 2019	Synthetic	A whistleblower filed a complaint against President Trump, leading to an impeachment inquiry.	0.91	-1.63	1.0	0.91	0.87
		Republican lawmakers in the House of Representatives condemned President Trump's decision to withdraw troops from Syria.	0.69	0.38	-0.02	0.71	0.58
		The Trump administration credited cooperation from Mexico and Central American countries in cracking down on migrants.	0.61	0.91	-0.17	0.64	0.53
		China and the United States agreed on a new comprehensive trade deal.	0.53	1.73	-0.45	0.49	0.13
		ISIS beheaded three Americans in response to Al-Baghdadi's death.	0.17	-0.94	-1.68	0.17	0.05
		President Trump's Tax Returns showed billions given to various charities.	0.09	0.89	-2.65	0.09	0.03
Feb. 2020	Synthetic	The U.S Senate acquitted Trump of impeachment charges	0.95	0.19	1.0	0.93	0.92
		Attorney General William Barr said that President Trump's attacks on prosecutors, the judge and jurors in the trial of Roger Stone undermined the Justice Department's work	0.83	-0.76	0.05	0.83	0.69
		The House of Representatives passed legislation seeking to rein in President Trump's ability to deploy U.S. forces to fight abroad	0.79	-0.27	-0.07	0.8	0.66
		President Trump took a week-long break from Campaigning to Deal with Coronavirus Outbreak	0.24	0.85	-1.34	0.23	0.05
		Mitt Romney decided to run for president against Trump in the 2020 race after breakout role in impeachment	0.12	-0.33	-2.18	0.12	0.03
		A Tape surfaced of President Trump supporting abortion	0.07	-1.19	-2.72	0.09	0.03
Apr. 2020	Synthetic	President Trump declared coronavirus a national emergency	0.92	1.58	1.0	0.9	0.84
		President Trump notified Congress he is firing the inspector general of U.S. intelligence community	0.77	-1.01	0.37	0.79	0.65
		U.S. Supreme Court allowed President Trump's 'Remain in Mexico' asylum policy	0.64	0.29	0.08	0.67	0.54
		Agriculture trade group marched in Washington to draw attention to export problems	0.3	-0.8	-0.59	0.3	0.08
		Nancy Pelosi under investigation by Justice Department over alleged insider trading during coronavirus outbreak	0.22	0.37	-0.92	0.21	0.06
		President Trump fired coronavirus advisor Dr. Anthony Fauci	0.14	-2.07	-1.43	0.14	0.04
May. 2020	Synthetic	President Trump said he would address national debt if re-elected	0.71	1.18	1.0	0.69	0.57
		In win for President Trump, U.S. Supreme Court made deporting immigrants for crimes easier	0.67	0.79	0.97	0.67	0.56
		Senior U.S. House members vowed to pass major defense bill despite pandemic	0.63	0.37	0.87	0.62	0.53
		President Trump's campaign saw steep rise in donations after press conferences	0.61	1.02	0.92	0.65	0.24
		Around 20% of IRS stimulus checks bounced	0.19	-1.53	-0.25	0.2	0.05
		President Trump announced his tax returns will be released by Mid-May	0.19	0.44	-0.33	0.18	0.04

Note: The table lists, for each quiz separately, all true and fake news stories. For each quiz, the three top statements correspond to the true statements. For each news story, the table reports the share of survey respondents who selected the statement when completing the quiz ("Share"), the standardized average partisan score ("b"), the predicted γ_j parameter ("γ"), the predicted share of respondents who select the statement when completing the quiz ("$\overline{\pi}$"), and the predicted probability that an average respondent assigns 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the statement ("$\overline{\rho}$"). Individual observations have been weighted using the individual weights provided by YouGov. For a comparison with the unweighted data, see Table 6 in the main article.

Table F.5: News Quizzes June, 2019 - May, 2020

First Survey Date	Fake Stories	Statement	Share	b	γ	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Oct. 2020	Synthetic	Trump Supreme Court pick Amy Coney Barrett pledged to follow law, not personal views	0.89	1.32	1.0	0.88	0.76
		Second U.S. presidential debate officially canceled after Trump balked	0.63	-1.35	0.19	0.65	0.46
		Mitch McConnell avoided White House, citing laxity on masks, COVID-19 precautions	0.5	-0.69	-0.08	0.5	0.37
		White House to host election night viewing party, Fauci calls it 'potential disaster'	0.47	-1.56	-0.18	0.45	0.15
		President Trump tweeted about Black Lives Matters protests taking place in front of Mar-a-Lago	0.35	-0.89	-0.38	0.35	0.12
		Kanye West called for special prosecutor if Biden elected	0.15	-0.68	-1.11	0.17	0.06
	Actual	Trump Supreme Court pick Amy Coney Barrett pledged to follow law, not personal views	0.86	1.32	1.0	0.88	0.73
		Second U.S. presidential debate officially canceled after Trump balked	0.59	-1.35	0.19	0.61	0.41
		Mitch McConnell avoided White House, citing laxity on masks, COVID-19 precautions	0.47	-0.69	-0.08	0.47	0.32
		While speaking about Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, Joe Biden referred to Black Americans as 'superpredators.'	0.44	0.9	-0.15	0.43	0.15
		President Trump said: 'The doctors said they've never seen a body kill the Coronavirus like my body. They tested my DNA and it wasn't DNA. It was USA.'	0.37	-1.07	-0.35	0.34	0.12
		Democratic U.S. presidential nominee Joe Biden said that he grew up in section 8 housing during town hall debate.	0.28	0.22	-0.57	0.26	0.1
Feb. 2021	Synthetic	Joe Biden sworn in as U.S. president	0.93	-1.89	1.0	0.94	0.89
		U.S. Senate Republican leader McConnell said Trump 'provoked' Jan. 6 riot	0.74	-0.97	-0.14	0.76	0.58
		Joe Biden said U.S. coronavirus death toll to probably top 500,000 by end of February	0.71	0.34	-0.23	0.72	0.56
		Biden in favor of temporarily barring guests from Capitol and other federal buildings	0.4	0.38	-0.78	0.39	0.1
		Mike Pence Revealed Bombshell Allegations in Impeachment Trial	0.13	-0.66	-1.93	0.13	0.05
		Biden team's Twitter handle under fire after mistakenly reposting anti-Trump tweets	0.08	1.71	-2.71	0.07	0.03
	Actual	Joe Biden sworn in as U.S. president	0.96	-1.89	1.0	0.95	0.9
		U.S. Senate Republican leader McConnell said Trump 'provoked' Jan. 6 riot	0.8	-0.97	-0.14	0.78	0.59
		Joe Biden said U.S. coronavirus death toll to probably top 500,000 by end of February	0.71	0.34	-0.23	0.75	0.56
		U.S. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene said 'If English was good enough for Jesus, it's good enough for us.'	0.2	0.01	-1.39	0.2	0.06
		As of late January 2021, Donald Trump had started a new U.S. political party called the 'Patriot Party.'	0.15	0.21	-1.57	0.17	0.05
		CNN issued a correction that read, 'Sen. Ted Cruz was seen wearing a pin featuring a QAnon symbol. It was later discovered that this was not a QAnon pin, but a Doritos snack chip stuck to his suit.'	0.17	0.8	-1.67	0.15	0.05
Mar. 2022	Synthetic	Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court.	0.9	-1.34	1.0	0.91	0.85
		Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need you right now'.	0.81	0.14	0.58	0.85	0.73
		New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation.	0.64	-0.77	-0.06	0.62	0.51
		Harris celebrated Women's History Month with girls at US/Mexico Border.	0.29	0.01	-0.6	0.31	0.08
		January 6 trials come to a halt amid Ukraine crisis	0.2	0.9	-1.08	0.18	0.05
		Biden signed bill to mandate climate change curriculum in all K-8 classrooms.	0.15	0.06	-1.46	0.13	0.04
	Actual	Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court.	0.89	-1.34	1.0	0.9	0.83
		Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need you right now'.	0.82	0.14	0.58	0.83	0.7
		New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation.	0.59	-0.77	-0.06	0.58	0.47
		Congress members awarded themselves a pay raise in 2022.	0.32	2.21	-0.53	0.32	0.08
		In March 2022, U.S. Representative Paul Gosar defended himself from criticism with a tweet in which he indicated he had been called 'stupid' for his whole life.	0.21	0.51	-0.92	0.2	0.05
		Former President Donald Trump's 'Truth Social' platform will cost users $4.99 a week.	0.17	0.3	-1.11	0.17	0.05

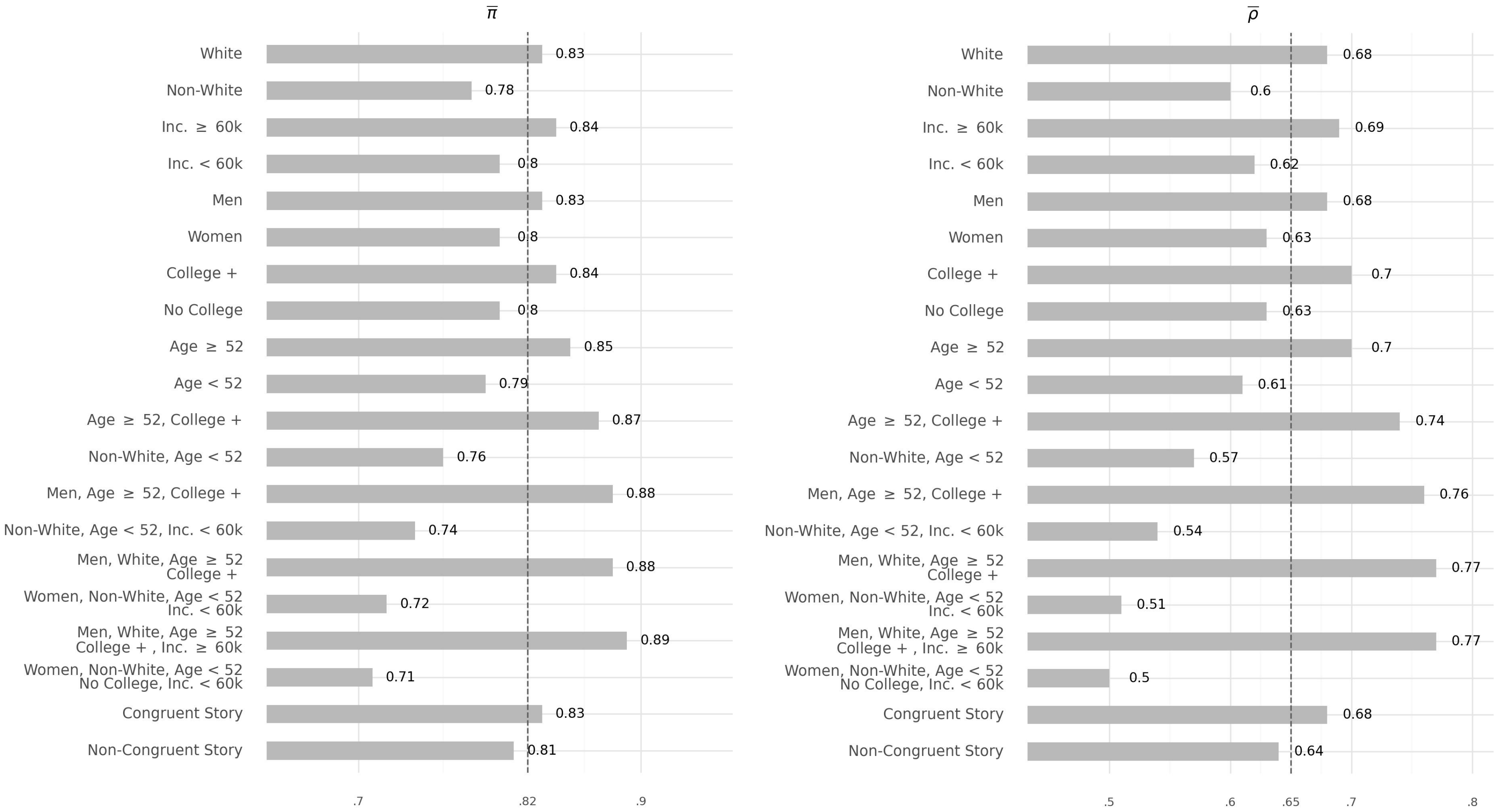
Note: The table lists, for each quiz separately, all the true and fake news stories. For each quiz, the three top statements correspond to the true statements. For each news story, the table reports the share of survey respondents who selected the statement when completing the quiz ("Share"), the standardized average partisan score ("b"), the predicted γ_j parameter ("γ"), the predicted share of respondents who select the statement when completing the quiz ("$\overline{\pi}$"), and the predicted probability that an average respondent assigns 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the statement ("$\overline{\rho}$"). Individual observations have been weighted using the individual weights provided by YouGov. For a comparison with the unweighted data, see Table 7 in the main article.

Table F.6: News Quizzes October, 2020 - March, 2022

	Months Passed					
	(a) $t = 0$		(b) $t = 1$		(c) $t = 2$	
Story Favorability	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Very Unfavorable	0.79	0.62	0.77	0.58	0.74	0.54
Unfavorable	0.81	0.64	0.78	0.6	0.76	0.56
Neutral	0.82	0.66	0.8	0.62	0.77	0.58
Favorable	0.83	0.68	0.81	0.64	0.79	0.6
Very Favorable	0.84	0.69	0.82	0.65	0.8	0.62

Note: The first column ("$t = 0$") of the table reports the average probability $\overline{\pi}$ that a partisan individual selects the true statement when faced with 1 true and 1 false statement (both less than one month old) by varying the favorability toward the individual's preferred party of the true statement and assuming a neutral false statement. The first column also reports the corresponding probabilities $\overline{\rho}\,(3)$ of assigning 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true statement. The second ("$t = 1$") and third ("$t = 2$") columns report the same probabilities when the news stories are 5 to 8 weeks old and 9 to 12 weeks old, respectively. Individual observations have been weighted using the individual weights provided by YouGov. For a comparison with the unweighted data, see Table 8 in the main article.

Table F.7: Partisan Congruence and Time Passing



(a) Probability of Selecting True Story

(b) Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story

Note: Figure 1a reports the probability that individuals belonging to various subgroups of the population select the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. It also reports the probability that partisan individuals select the true news story when it is politically congruent and when it is politically non-congruent. Figure 1b reports the probability that individuals belonging to various subgroups of the population assign 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. It also reports the probability that partisan individuals assign 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when it is politically congruent and when it is politically non-congruent. In both figures, the vertical bar corresponds to the population average. In both figures, individual observations have been weighted using the individual weights provided by YouGov. For a comparison with the unweighted data, see Figures 1a and 1b in the main article.

Figure F.1: Socioeconomic Inequality and Partisan Congruence

F.2 Sports and Entertainment

In both the November, 2020 and February, 2021 YouGov surveys, we included a news quiz about sports and another about entertainment. In total, 2,600 individuals completed one of these quizzes. Please refer to Tables H.13 and H.15 for detailed descriptions of these quizzes. We relied on the same panel of journalists and the same protocol to select the true news stories as we did for our quizzes about federal politics.[6] Further, we used synthetic fake news exclusively (written by the same journalists).

In this appendix, we present the aggregate results obtained when estimating the model of news discernment combining the quizzes about sports and the quizzes about entertainment. To that end, we suppose that all true and fake news stories about sports and entertainment are politically neutral and we also ignore the effect of time passing.[7] In order to provide a useful point of comparison, we also estimate the model using the news quizzes about federal politics that were administered in the same two surveys. The results indicate that the average person has a similar level of discernment when it comes to federal politics as they do with sports and entertainment.

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[6] Due to the limited coverage of sports and entertainment news by Reuters, journalists were permitted to use mainstream sources of their choice to make their selections.

[7] We are unable to estimate the effect of time passing because all quizzes about sports and entertainment were administered only once.

	Federal Govt.	Sports/Entertainment
$\overline{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 1 \text{ false})$	0.78	0.78
$\overline{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 3 \text{ false})$	0.58	0.57
$\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}$	0.59	0.58

Note: The first row reports the probability that individuals select a true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories about (i) federal politics ("Federal Govt.") and (ii) sports and entertainment ("Sports/Entertainment"). The second row reports the corresponding probabilities when individuals are faced with one typical true news story and three typical fake news stories. The third row reports the probability that individuals assign $3:1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories about (i) federal politics ("Federal Govt.") and (ii) sports and entertainment ("Sports/Entertainment").

Table F.8: Probability of Selecting True Story and Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story

F.3 Democratic Party Presidential Primaries

Over a period of eight months, from October, 2019 to May, 2020, we conducted five surveys that included news quizzes focused on the Democratic Party presidential primaries. Prior to each survey, our journalists ranked the most significant news stories related to the primaries. Specifically, we asked our panel to rank the subset of news stories about the primaries amongst all the news stories that had been selected during the preceding four weeks of news about federal politics (see Section 2 for details about our protocol to select true news stories). We also asked the journalists to write synthetic fake news stories about the Democratic Party primaries, and all the quizzes about the primaries included exclusively synthetic fake news. Detailed descriptions of each quiz can be found in Tables H.5-H.9. Altogether, 5,250 participants completed one of the five quizzes about the primaries, and two of these five quizzes were included in multiple surveys to study the effect of time passing on news discernment.

In this appendix, we present our findings when we estimate our model of news discernment on quizzes related to the Democratic Party primaries administered through YouGov.[8] Aggregate levels of news discernment are similar to those we uncovered for news about the Federal Government, and our results again suggest significant information inequalities across socioeconomic lines. However, we find that partisan congruence has a relatively smaller impact on news discernment in comparison. It is perhaps not unexpected that partisan congruence has a smaller impact on news discernment when it comes to news about the Democratic Party primaries, as such news coverage tends to be highly focused on a single political party.

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[8] As in the main analysis, we use the average partisan scores b_j for each statement j, utilizing the complete sample of YouGov participants who completed the news quizzes about the primaries. We standardize these scores using the mean and standard deviation derived from the b_j parameters of all true and all fake news stories included in the five news quizzes about the Democratic Party primaries.

	All	First
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1\text{ true}, 1\text{ false})$	0.85	0.86
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1\text{ true}, 3\text{ false})$	0.69	0.71

Note: The first row reports the probability that individuals select a true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories about the Democratic Party primaries. The second row reports the corresponding probability when individuals are faced with one typical true news story and three typical fake news stories. In the first column ("All"), the true news story is ranked as either first, second, or third news story of the month by the journalists. In the second column ("First"), the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month.

Table F.9: Probability of Selecting True Story

Odds	Story Rank	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{true}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{false}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{no bet}}$
9:1	All	0.51	0.02	0.47
	First	0.52	0.02	0.46
3:1	All	0.7	0.06	0.24
	First	0.72	0.06	0.23
2:1	All	0.76	0.09	0.15
	First	0.78	0.08	0.14

Note: The table assumes that individuals are given a typical pair of true and fake news stories about the Democratic Party primaries to read. It reports the probability $\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}(x)$ that individuals assign $x:1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story, the probability $\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}(x)$ that they assign $x:1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of the fake news story, and the probability $1-\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}(x)-\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}(x)$ that they do not assign $x:1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of either news story. Three values of x are considered: 2, 3, and 9. For each value of x, the probabilities are reported assuming (i) a typical pair of true and fake news stories where the true news story is ranked as either first, second, or third news story of the month by the journalists ("All") and (ii) a typical pair of true and fake news stories where the true news story is ranked first news story of the month by the journalists ("First").

Table F.10: Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story, False Story, or neither Story

(a) Probability of Selecting True Story

	Discernment Tier		
Story Rank	Lower	Middle	Higher
All	0.81	0.86	0.9
First	0.82	0.88	0.91

(b) Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story

	Discernment Tier		
Story Rank	Lower	Middle	Higher
All	0.63	0.72	0.79
First	0.65	0.74	0.8

Note: The top row ("All") of the left table reports the probability that individuals in various tiers of the discernment distribution select a true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories about the Democratic Party primaries. The bottom row ("First") of the left table reports the corresponding probabilities when the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month by the journalists.
The top row ("All") of the right table reports the probability that individuals in various tiers of the discernment distribution assign 3 : 1 or higher odds of truth in favor of a typical true news story about the Democratic Party primaries, when the alternative is a typical fake news story about the Democratic Party primaries. The bottom row ("First") of the right table reports the corresponding probabilities when the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month by the journalists.

Table F.11: Heterogeneity across Discernment Tiers

First Survey Date	Statement	Share	b	γ	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Oct. 2019	Elizabeth Warren catches up with Joe Biden in a national opinion poll.	0.84	-0.76	1.0	0.84	0.68
	In a recent debate, all of the Democratic presidential candidates agreed universal healthcare is a top priority.	0.78	-1.35	0.76	0.77	0.59
	Democrats in Presidential debate hint at no swift end to China tariffs.	0.45	-0.07	0.0	0.45	0.36
	Kamala Harris attacks Cory Booker over Newark's water problem.	0.41	0.43	-0.09	0.41	0.13
	Elizabeth Warren plan would slash 70% of mining jobs.	0.37	1.11	-0.17	0.37	0.12
	Black face photo shows up in Joe Biden's past.	0.16	1.56	-1.03	0.16	0.05
Nov. 2019	Presidential candidate Elizabeth Warren proposed a Medicare for All plan that she said would not require raising middle-class taxes.	0.87	-0.68	1.0	0.86	0.77
	Former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg has been considering whether to run for president.	0.78	0.27	0.66	0.79	0.68
	Democratic groups launched a multi-million digital ad effort to fight President Trump.	0.61	-0.53	0.08	0.59	0.51
	Pete Buttigieg received a significant donation, pushing him to the front of the fundraising race among all Democratic candidates as of early November.	0.38	-0.17	-0.36	0.39	0.1
	Voting Intentions Poll showed Bloomberg above Biden with white, working class voters.	0.25	0.08	-0.87	0.25	0.06
	Hillary Clinton endorsed presidential candidate Tulsi Gabbard despite previous spat.	0.12	0.33	-1.81	0.12	0.03
Feb. 2020	The Democratic presidential nominating race got off to a chaotic start in Iowa, as the results of the state's caucuses were delayed for hours	0.88	2.06	1.0	0.88	0.84
	Two billionaire Democratic presidential hopefuls, Michael Bloomberg and Tom Steyer, collectively spent more in 2019 than the rest of the Democratic candidates combined	0.86	1.14	0.84	0.85	0.81
	Bernie Sanders won New Hampshire's Democratic presidential primary	0.82	-0.41	0.69	0.82	0.77
	Andrew Yang Endorsed Amy Klobuchar, saying she is 'Most Honest in the Race'	0.21	-0.29	-0.86	0.22	0.04
	Bernie Sanders admitted to taking Wall Street campaign contributions	0.13	1.59	-1.49	0.13	0.02
	Pete Buttigieg chose Kamala Harris as his Vice-Presidential pick	0.1	0.07	-1.91	0.1	0.02
Apr. 2020	Several states postponed Democratic Party primaries amid coronavirus outbreak	0.92	-1.61	1.0	0.91	0.86
	Elizabeth Warren ended White House bid	0.88	-0.84	0.84	0.89	0.83
	Joe Biden announced he will pick a woman to be his vice presidential running mate	0.8	-1.33	0.44	0.8	0.74
	Kamala Harris ruled out possible role as vice presidential candidate	0.22	-0.56	-0.82	0.22	0.05
	Bernie Sanders ended White House bid	0.11	-0.75	-1.72	0.1	0.02
	Joe Biden announced he would not release tax returns	0.07	1.68	-2.2	0.07	0.01
May. 2020	Joe Biden denied alleged sexual assault	0.95	0.44	1.0	0.95	0.89
	Bernie Sanders dropped out of U.S. presidential race	0.94	-0.24	0.73	0.93	0.84
	Joe Biden raised more money than Donald Trump in March	0.46	-1.65	-1.04	0.48	0.4
	Joe Biden announced he would consider Anthony Fauci for Surgeon General	0.35	-0.85	-1.34	0.34	0.08
	George Soros refused to donate money to Biden campaign	0.21	0.44	-1.76	0.21	0.06
	Hilary Clinton withdrew endorsement for Joe Biden	0.09	0.89	-2.68	0.09	0.04

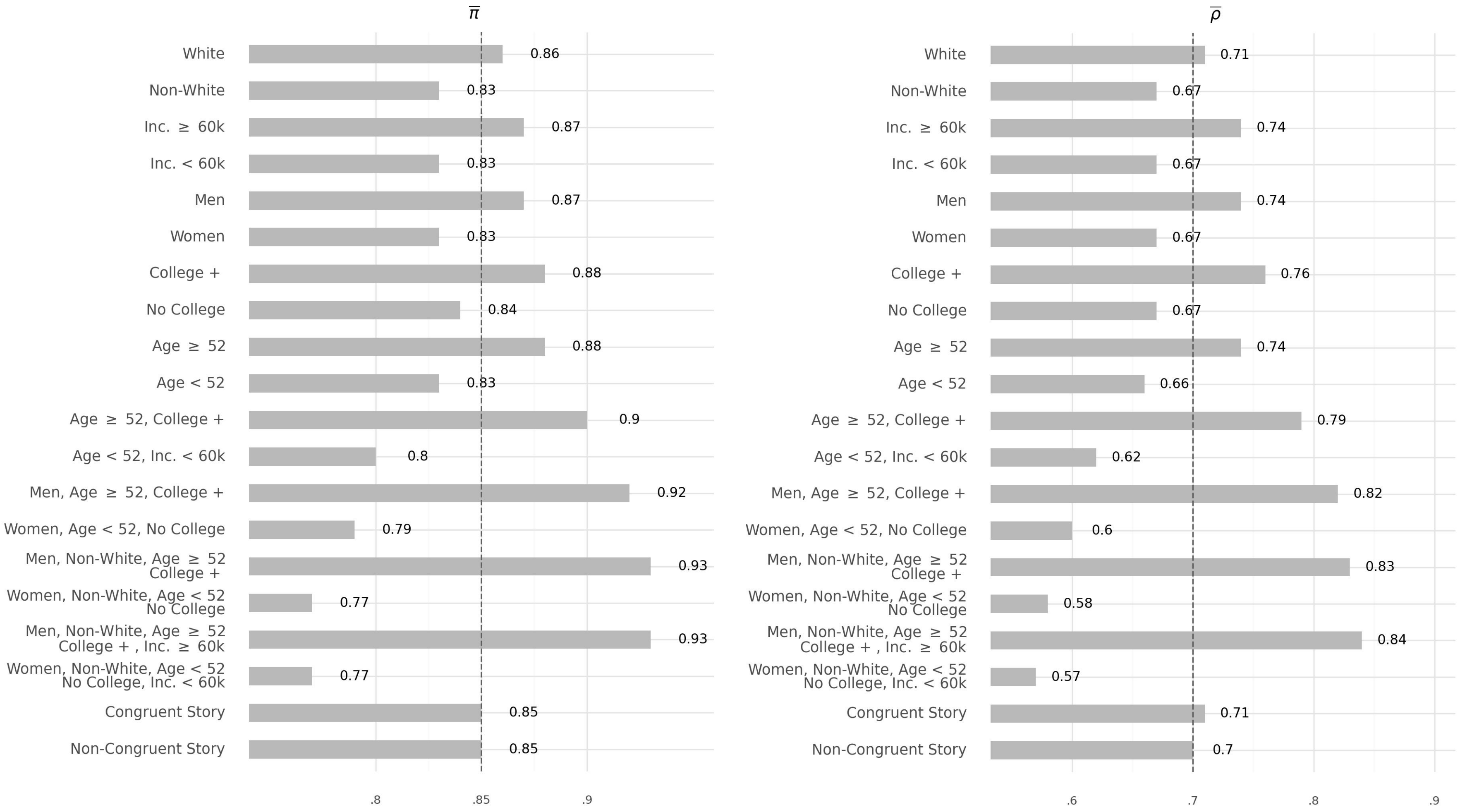
Note: The table lists, for each quiz separately, all true and fake news stories. For each quiz, the three top statements correspond to the true statements. For each news story, the table reports the share of survey respondents who selected the statement when completing the quiz ("Share"), the standardized average partisan score ("b"), the predicted γ_j parameter ("γ"), the predicted share of respondents who select the statement when completing the quiz ("$\overline{\pi}$"), and the predicted probability that an average respondent assigns 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the statement ("$\overline{\rho}$").

Table F.12: Democratic Primaries News Quizzes

	Months Passed					
	(a) $t = 0$		(b) $t = 1$		(c) $t = 2$	
Story Favorability	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Very Unfavorable	0.85	0.7	0.84	0.68	0.82	0.65
Unfavorable	0.85	0.7	0.84	0.68	0.82	0.65
Neutral	0.85	0.71	0.84	0.68	0.83	0.65
Favorable	0.85	0.71	0.84	0.68	0.83	0.65
Very Favorable	0.86	0.71	0.84	0.68	0.83	0.66

Note: The first column ("$t = 0$") of the table reports the average probability $\overline{\pi}$ that a partisan individual selects the true statement when faced with 1 true and 1 false statement (both less than one month old) by varying the favorability toward the individual's preferred party of the true statement and assuming a neutral false statement. The first column also reports the corresponding probabilities $\overline{\rho}\,(3)$ of assigning 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true statement. The second ("$t = 1$") and third ("$t = 2$") columns report the same probabilities when the news stories are 5 to 8 weeks old and 9 to 12 weeks old, respectively.

Table F.13: Partisan Congruence and Time Passing, Democratic Party Primaries



(a) Probability of Selecting True Story

(b) Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story

Note: Figure F.2a reports the probability that individuals belonging to various subgroups of the population select the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. It also reports the probability that partisan individuals select the true news story when it is politically congruent and when it is politically non-congruent. Figure F.2b reports the probability that individuals belonging to various subgroups of the population assign 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. It also reports the probability that partisan individuals assign 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when it is politically congruent and when it is politically non-congruent. In both figures, the vertical bar corresponds to the population average.

Figure F.2: Socioeconomic Inequality and Partisan Congruence, Democratic Party Primaries

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Democrat		0.132	-0.001	0.22	0.1	0.169	0.227	0.24
		(0.131, 0.133)	(-0.003, 0.0)	(0.218, 0.222)	(0.098, 0.102)	(0.166, 0.172)	(0.222, 0.233)	(0.235, 0.245)
Republican		-0.01	-0.144	-0.107	-0.222	-0.232	-0.235	-0.135
		(-0.011, -0.009)	(-0.146, -0.143)	(-0.108, -0.105)	(-0.224, -0.22)	(-0.234, -0.229)	(-0.24, -0.23)	(-0.14, -0.13)
Strong Partisan			0.201		0.179	0.117	0.083	-0.096
			(0.199, 0.203)		(0.177, 0.181)	(0.114, 0.119)	(0.078, 0.087)	(-0.101, -0.092)
News Interest								0.68
								(0.674, 0.686)
Age $\geq$ 52	0.274			0.302	0.29	0.218	0.281	0.203
	(0.273, 0.276)			(0.301, 0.304)	(0.289, 0.292)	(0.216, 0.221)	(0.277, 0.285)	(0.2, 0.207)
Inc. $\geq$ 60k	0.177			0.191	0.186	0.23	0.355	0.294
	(0.176, 0.179)			(0.189, 0.192)	(0.184, 0.187)	(0.228, 0.233)	(0.35, 0.359)	(0.29, 0.299)
College+	0.248			0.271	0.271	0.251	0.295	0.236
	(0.246, 0.25)			(0.269, 0.273)	(0.269, 0.273)	(0.249, 0.253)	(0.291, 0.3)	(0.232, 0.24)
Female	-0.239			-0.297	-0.294	-0.337	-0.475	-0.347
	(-0.24, -0.238)			(-0.299, -0.296)	(-0.296, -0.293)	(-0.339, -0.335)	(-0.478, -0.472)	(-0.351, -0.344)
White	0.076			0.127	0.124	0.138	0.074	0.04
	(0.075, 0.078)			(0.125, 0.129)	(0.122, 0.126)	(0.136, 0.141)	(0.07, 0.078)	(0.036, 0.043)
Sources 3+						0.383	0.812	0.596
						(0.381, 0.386)	(0.804, 0.82)	(0.589, 0.604)
Total Time (hrs)						0.028	0.04	0.026
						(0.028, 0.028)	(0.04, 0.04)	(0.026, 0.026)
N	3062	3519	3519	3062	3062	2722	2722	2661
Extra Media Controls							X	X

Note: The table reports the estimated β parameters as well as their associated 95% confidence intervals. Column (1) corresponds to the estimates obtained in the main model. The remaining columns correspond to variants of the model in which individuals' discernment parameter θ is allowed to depend on various socioeconomic, partisan, and news consumption characteristics. See Online Appendix A for a description of how confidence intervals are constructed. Strong Partisan is a dummy variable taking value 1 if individual i reports being either a Strong Republican or a Strong Democrat. Sources 3+ is a dummy variable taking value 1 if individual i reports relying on 3 or more news media outlets during previous 7 days. Total Time is the number of hours dedicated to consuming national news during previous 7 days reported by individual i. News Interest is a dummy variable taking value 1 if individual i reports being interested in general politics. Extra media controls include: voter registration, Indicators for using tv, print, online and radio as a news source, as well as dummies for 10 biggest news sources interacted with using at least 3 sources. Media consumption questions were not included in every survey. See Online Appendix B.1 for a description of news media consumption variables.

Table F.14: Socioeconomic Factors , Democratic Party Primaries

F.4 Imputing Answers

The results presented in the main analysis were computed excluding the respondents who selected either fewer than or more than 3 statements when completing the news quizzes (see Section 2 in the main text). In total, 17% of survey participants selected a number of statements different from 3, with the vast majority of them selecting fewer than 3 statements. If the tendency to select either fewer than or more than 3 statements is correlated with discernment, one may worry that excluding these respondents may bias our results.

In this appendix, we replicate our main analysis about the Federal Government by estimating the news discernment model using all respondents. For the respondents who selected fewer than 3 statements, we choose uniformly at random the missing statements from the remaining unselected items. This approach amounts to assuming that these respondents were indifferent between the remaining choices and this is the reason why they did not select 3 statements in total. Instead, for the respondents who selected more than 3 statements, we remove statements uniformly at random until we arrive at 3 statements.

Although, as expected, aggregate discernment levels fall somewhat, our main conclusions seem unaffected by the inclusion of these additional respondents, with the exception of socioeconomic inequalities which appear even larger once we include the respondents who selected fewer than or more than three statements when completing the news quizzes.

	All	First
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 1 \text{ false})$	0.78	0.81
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 3 \text{ false})$	0.58	0.64

Note: The first row reports the probability that individuals select a true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. The second row reports the corresponding probability when individuals are faced with one typical true news story and three typical fake news stories. In the first column ("All"), the true news story is ranked as either first, second, or third news story of the month by the journalists. In the second column ("First"), the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month. All predicted probabilities are computed by estimating the model of news discernment on the full sample of YouGov respondents. For a comparison with the main analysis in which attention is restricted to respondents who selected exactly 3 statements, see Table 3 in the main article.

Table F.15: Probability of Selecting True Story

Odds	Story Rank	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{true}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{false}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{no bet}}$
9:1	All	0.4	0.04	0.56
	First	0.48	0.03	0.49
3:1	All	0.6	0.1	0.3
	First	0.66	0.09	0.26
2:1	All	0.67	0.14	0.19
	First	0.72	0.12	0.17

Note: The table assumes that individuals are given a typical pair of true and fake news stories to read. It reports the probability $\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}(x)$ that individuals assign $x:1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story, the probability $\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}(x)$ that they assign $x:1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of the fake news story, and the probability $1-\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}(x)-\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}(x)$ that they do not assign $x:1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of either news story. Three values of x are considered: 2, 3, and 9. For each value of x, the probabilities are reported assuming (i) a typical pair of true and fake news stories where the true news story is ranked as either first, second, or third news story of the month by the journalists ("All") and (ii) a typical pair of true and fake news stories where the true news story is ranked first news story of the month by the journalists ("First"). All predicted probabilities are computed by estimating the model of news discernment on the full sample of YouGov respondents. For a comparison with the main analysis in which attention is restricted to respondents who selected exactly 3 statements, see Table 4 in the main article.

Table F.16: Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story, False Story, or neither Story

	Discernment Tier		
Story Rank	Lower	Middle	Higher
All	0.71	0.79	0.84
First	0.74	0.83	0.87

(a) Probability of Selecting True Story

	Discernment Tier		
Story Rank	Lower	Middle	Higher
All	0.5	0.61	0.69
First	0.55	0.67	0.75

(b) Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story

Note: The top row ("All") of the left table reports the probability that individuals in various tiers of the discernment distribution select a true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. The bottom row ("First") of the left table reports the corresponding probabilities when the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month by the journalists.

The top row ("All") of the right table reports the probability that individuals in various tiers of the discernment distribution assign 3 : 1 or higher odds of truth in favor of a typical true news story, when the alternative is a typical fake news story. The bottom row ("First") of the right table reports the corresponding probabilities when the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month by the journalists.

All predicted probabilities are computed by estimating the model of news discernment on the full sample of YouGov respondents. For a comparison with the main analysis in which attention is restricted to respondents who selected exactly 3 statements, see Tables 5a and 5b in the main article.

Table F.17: Heterogeneity across Discernment Tiers

First Survey Date	Fake Stories	Statement	Share	b	γ	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Jun. 2019	Synthetic	Alabama's governor signed a bill to ban nearly all abortions in the state.	0.83	0.59	1.0	0.84	0.8
		Mexico agreed to take more migrants seeking asylum in the United States while they await adjudication of their cases.	0.67	1.38	0.55	0.67	0.57
		President Trump proposed plan to make U.S. immigration more merit-based.	0.62	1.35	0.47	0.62	0.53
		U.S. Border Patrol facility admitted to measles outbreak among migrant children in custody.	0.43	-0.18	0.17	0.43	0.11
		Attorney General Barr released text message from Special Counsel prosecutor Robert Mueller: 'We're taking down Trump.'	0.24	-0.26	-0.31	0.23	0.05
		Trump administration to continue to allow U.S. research using fetal tissue from abortions.	0.2	0.16	-0.47	0.2	0.04
Oct. 2019	Synthetic	Whistle-blower report complains of White House cover-up on Trump-Ukraine scandal.	0.86	-1.72	1.0	0.86	0.77
		Supreme Court granted a request by President Trump's administration to fully enforce a new rule that would curtail asylum applications by immigrants at the U.S.-Mexico border.	0.64	0.08	0.42	0.65	0.44
		At a closed-door meeting at the White House, top envoy to China delivered evidence of rising Farm Belt frustration over bio-fuel policy.	0.37	-0.71	-0.02	0.37	0.25
		Vaping case to make its way to Supreme Court.	0.47	0.44	0.13	0.45	0.17
		President Trump announces he will resume peace talks with Iran at UN General Assembly.	0.39	0.98	0.02	0.39	0.14
		China blacklists Apple and Microsoft amid escalating trade war.	0.27	-0.73	-0.22	0.28	0.1
Nov. 2019	Synthetic	A whistleblower filed a complaint against President Trump, leading to an impeachment inquiry.	0.89	-1.63	1.0	0.89	0.88
		Republican lawmakers in the House of Representatives condemned President Trump's decision to withdraw troops from Syria.	0.67	0.38	0.25	0.68	0.56
		The Trump administration credited cooperation from Mexico and Central American countries in cracking down on migrants.	0.6	0.91	0.14	0.62	0.51
		China and the United States agreed on a new comprehensive trade deal.	0.51	1.73	-0.06	0.49	0.13
		ISIS beheaded three Americans in response to Al-Baghdadi's death.	0.2	-0.94	-0.92	0.19	0.05
		President Trump's Tax Returns showed billions given to various charities.	0.13	0.89	-1.42	0.13	0.04
Feb. 2020	Synthetic	The U.S Senate acquitted Trump of impeachment charges	0.92	0.19	1.0	0.9	0.92
		Attorney General William Barr said that President Trump's attacks on prosecutors, the judge and jurors in the trial of Roger Stone undermined the Justice Department's work	0.79	-0.76	0.32	0.79	0.68
		The House of Representatives passed legislation seeking to rein in President Trump's ability to deploy U.S. forces to fight abroad	0.76	-0.27	0.26	0.77	0.65
		President Trump took a week-long break from Campaigning to Deal with Coronavirus Outbreak	0.27	0.85	-0.64	0.25	0.05
		Mitt Romney decided to run for president against Trump in the 2020 race after breakout role in impeachment	0.16	-0.33	-1.2	0.15	0.03
		A Tape surfaced of President Trump supporting abortion	0.11	-1.19	-1.48	0.13	0.03
Apr. 2020	Synthetic	President Trump declared coronavirus a national emergency	0.88	1.58	1.0	0.86	0.84
		President Trump notified Congress he is firing the inspector general of U.S. intelligence community	0.75	-1.01	0.62	0.76	0.66
		U.S. Supreme Court allowed President Trump's 'Remain in Mexico' asylum policy	0.61	0.29	0.39	0.64	0.54
		Agriculture trade group marched in Washington to draw attention to export problems	0.33	-0.8	-0.08	0.33	0.07
		Nancy Pelosi under investigation by Justice Department over alleged insider trading during coronavirus outbreak	0.25	0.37	-0.32	0.24	0.05
		President Trump fired coronavirus advisor Dr. Anthony Fauci	0.18	-2.07	-0.65	0.17	0.04
May. 2020	Synthetic	President Trump said he would address national debt if re-elected	0.67	1.18	1.0	0.65	0.56
		In win for President Trump, U.S. Supreme Court made deporting immigrants for crimes easier	0.62	0.79	0.96	0.63	0.53
		Senior U.S. House members vowed to pass major defense bill despite pandemic	0.64	0.37	0.94	0.61	0.52
		President Trump's campaign saw steep rise in donations after press conferences	0.61	1.02	0.95	0.62	0.24
		President Trump announced his tax returns will be released by Mid-May	0.23	0.44	0.2	0.24	0.05
		Around 20% of IRS stimulus checks bounced	0.23	-1.53	0.2	0.24	0.05

Note: The table lists, for each quiz separately, all true and fake news stories. For each quiz, the three top statements correspond to the true statements. For each news story, the table reports the share of survey respondents who selected the statement when completing the quiz ("Share"), the standardized average partisan score ("b"), the predicted γ_j parameter ("γ"), the predicted share of respondents who select the statement when completing the quiz ("$\overline{\pi}$"), and the predicted probability that an average respondent assigns 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the statement ("$\overline{\rho}$"). All predicted probabilities are computed by estimating the model of news discernment on the full sample of YouGov respondents. For a comparison with the main analysis in which attention is restricted to respondents who selected exactly 3 statements, see Table 6 in the main article.

Table F.18: News Quizzes June, 2019 - May, 2020

First Survey Date	Fake Stories	Statement	Share	b	γ	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Oct. 2020	Synthetic	Trump Supreme Court pick Amy Coney Barrett pledged to follow law, not personal views	0.85	1.32	1.0	0.84	0.76
		Second U.S. presidential debate officially canceled after Trump balked	0.59	-1.35	0.46	0.62	0.46
		Mitch McConnell avoided White House, citing laxity on masks, COVID-19 precautions	0.5	-0.69	0.28	0.5	0.37
		White House to host election night viewing party, Fauci calls it 'potential disaster'	0.48	-1.56	0.22	0.46	0.15
		President Trump tweeted about Black Lives Matters protests taking place in front of Mar-a-Lago	0.38	-0.89	0.08	0.38	0.12
		Kanye West called for special prosecutor if Biden elected	0.2	-0.68	-0.39	0.21	0.06
	Actual	Trump Supreme Court pick Amy Coney Barrett pledged to follow law, not personal views	0.82	1.32	1.0	0.83	0.73
		Second U.S. presidential debate officially canceled after Trump balked	0.6	-1.35	0.46	0.6	0.42
		Mitch McConnell avoided White House, citing laxity on masks, COVID-19 precautions	0.48	-0.69	0.28	0.47	0.33
		While speaking about Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, Joe Biden referred to Black Americans as 'superpredators.'	0.44	0.9	0.24	0.45	0.15
		President Trump said: 'The doctors said they've never seen a body kill the Coronavirus like my body. They tested my DNA and it wasn't DNA. It was USA.'	0.38	-1.07	0.1	0.37	0.12
		Democratic U.S. presidential nominee Joe Biden said that he grew up in section 8 housing during town hall debate.	0.28	0.22	-0.08	0.28	0.09
Feb. 2021	Synthetic	Joe Biden sworn in as U.S. president	0.9	-1.89	1.0	0.91	0.88
		U.S. Senate Republican leader McConnell said Trump 'provoked' Jan. 6 riot	0.72	-0.97	0.27	0.73	0.59
		Joe Biden said U.S. coronavirus death toll to probably top 500,000 by end of February	0.69	0.34	0.22	0.69	0.57
		Biden in favor of temporarily barring guests from Capitol and other federal buildings	0.39	0.38	-0.2	0.4	0.1
		Mike Pence Revealed Bombshell Allegations in Impeachment Trial	0.18	-0.66	-0.95	0.17	0.04
		Biden team's Twitter handle under fire after mistakenly reposting anti-Trump tweets	0.11	1.71	-1.51	0.1	0.04
	Actual	Joe Biden sworn in as U.S. president	0.92	-1.89	1.0	0.9	0.89
		U.S. Senate Republican leader McConnell said Trump 'provoked' Jan. 6 riot	0.73	-0.97	0.27	0.73	0.57
		Joe Biden said U.S. coronavirus death toll to probably top 500,000 by end of February	0.68	0.34	0.22	0.69	0.55
		U.S. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene said 'If English was good enough for Jesus, it's good enough for us.'	0.25	0.01	-0.54	0.25	0.06
		As of late January 2021, Donald Trump had started a new U.S. political party called the 'Patriot Party.'	0.21	0.21	-0.65	0.22	0.06
		CNN issued a correction that read, 'Sen. Ted Cruz was seen wearing a pin featuring a QAnon symbol. It was later discovered that this was not a QAnon pin, but a Doritos snack chip stuck to his suit.'	0.21	0.8	-0.71	0.21	0.05
Mar. 2022	Synthetic	Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court.	0.86	-1.34	1.0	0.87	0.84
		Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need you right now'.	0.79	0.14	0.76	0.81	0.74
		New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation.	0.62	-0.77	0.33	0.61	0.52
		Harris celebrated Women's History Month with girls at US/Mexico Border.	0.33	0.01	-0.06	0.33	0.07
		January 6 trials come to a halt amid Ukraine crisis	0.22	0.9	-0.37	0.22	0.05
		Biden signed bill to mandate climate change curriculum in all K-8 classrooms.	0.18	0.06	-0.58	0.17	0.04
	Actual	Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court.	0.86	-1.34	1.0	0.87	0.83
		Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need you right now'.	0.81	0.14	0.76	0.8	0.72
		New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation.	0.57	-0.77	0.33	0.57	0.48
		Congress members awarded themselves a pay raise in 2022.	0.34	2.21	-0.01	0.33	0.08
		In March 2022, U.S. Representative Paul Gosar defended himself from criticism with a tweet in which he indicated he had been called 'stupid' for his whole life.	0.23	0.51	-0.3	0.23	0.05
		Former President Donald Trump's 'Truth Social' platform will cost users $4.99 a week.	0.2	0.3	-0.37	0.21	0.05

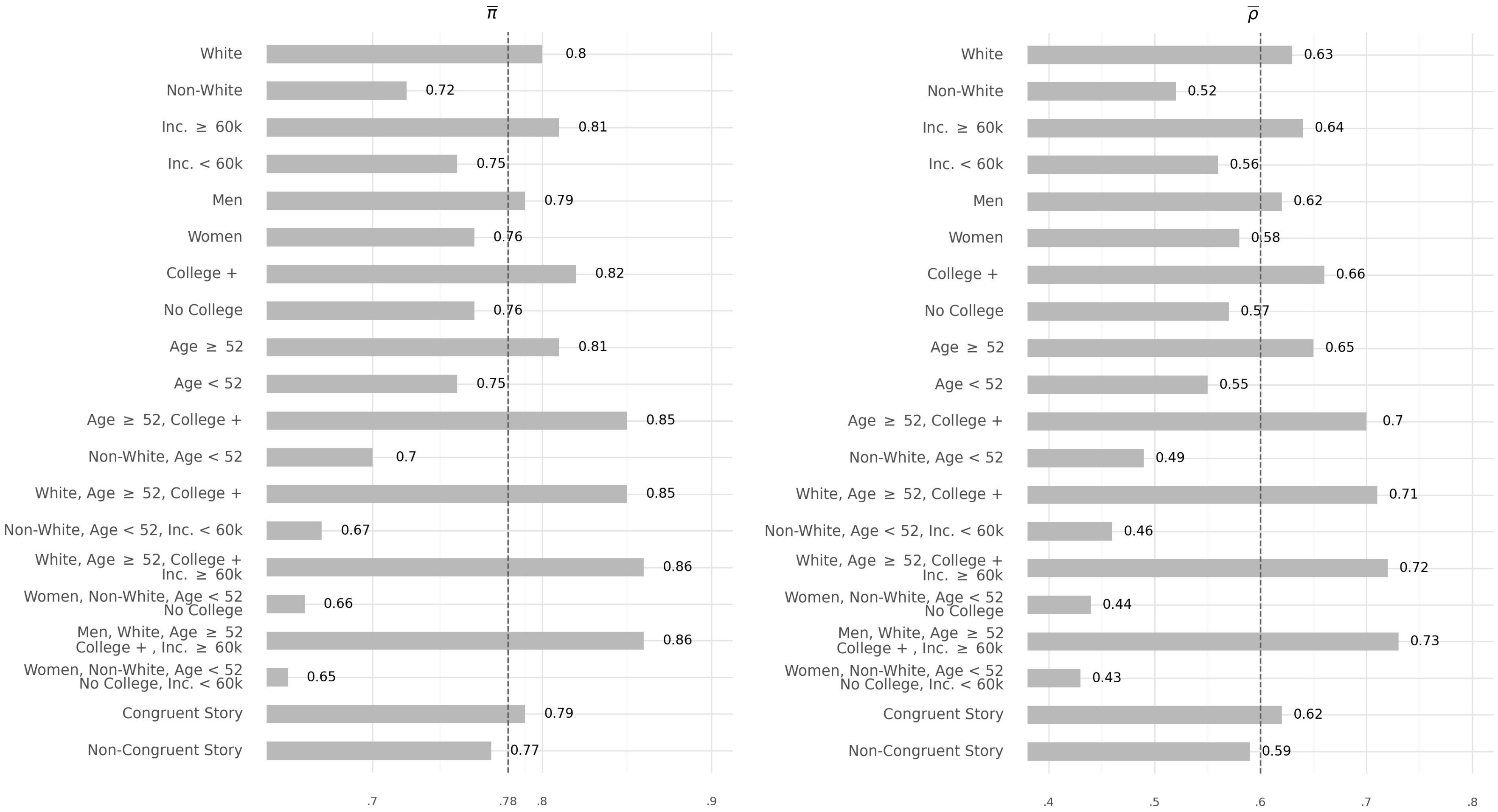
Note: The table lists, for each quiz separately, all true and fake news stories. For each quiz, the three top statements correspond to the true statements. For each news story, the table reports the share of survey respondents who selected the statement when completing the quiz ("Share"), the standardized average partisan score ("b"), the predicted γ_j parameter ("γ"), the predicted share of respondents who select the statement when completing the quiz ("$\overline{\pi}$"), and the predicted probability that an average respondent assigns 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the statement ("$\overline{\rho}$"). All predicted probabilities are computed by estimating the model of news discernment on the full sample of YouGov respondents. For a comparison with the main analysis in which attention is restricted to respondents who selected exactly 3 statements, see Table 7 in the main article.

Table F.19: News Quizzes October, 2020 - March, 2022

	Months Passed					
	(a) $t = 0$		(b) $t = 1$		(c) $t = 2$	
Story Favorability	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Very Unfavorable	0.76	0.57	0.74	0.54	0.72	0.51
Unfavorable	0.77	0.59	0.75	0.56	0.73	0.53
Neutral	0.78	0.6	0.76	0.57	0.75	0.54
Favorable	0.79	0.62	0.78	0.59	0.76	0.56
Very Favorable	0.8	0.63	0.79	0.6	0.77	0.57

Note: The first column ("$t = 0$") of the table reports the average probability $\overline{\pi}$ that a partisan individual selects the true statement when faced with 1 true and 1 false statement (both less than one month old) by varying the favorability toward the individual's preferred party of the true statement and assuming a neutral false statement. The first column also reports the corresponding probabilities $\overline{\rho}\,(3)$ of assigning 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true statement. The second ("$t = 1$") and third ("$t = 2$") columns report the same probabilities when the news stories are 5 to 8 weeks old and 9 to 12 weeks old, respectively. All predicted probabilities are computed by estimating the model of news discernment on the full sample of YouGov respondents. For a comparison with the main analysis in which attention is restricted to respondents who selected exactly 3 statements, see Table 8 in the main article.

Table F.20: Partisan Congruence and Time Passing



(a) Probability of Selecting True Story

(b) Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story

Note: Figure F.3a reports the probability that individuals belonging to various subgroups of the population select the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. It also reports the probability that partisan individuals select the true news story when it is politically congruent and when it is politically non-congruent. Figure F.3b reports the probability that individuals belonging to various subgroups of the population assign 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. It also reports the probability that partisan individuals assign 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when it is politically congruent and when it is politically non-congruent. In both figures, the vertical bar corresponds to the population average. All predicted probabilities are computed by estimating the model of news discernment on the full sample of YouGov respondents. For a comparison with the main analysis in which attention is restricted to respondents who selected exactly 3 statements, see Figures 1a and 1b in the main article.

Figure F.3: Socioeconomic Inequality and Partisan Congruence

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Democrat		0.094	-0.008	0.156	0.017	-0.028	-0.052	0.039
		(0.093, 0.095)	(-0.009, -0.007)	(0.155, 0.158)	(0.015, 0.019)	(-0.031, -0.025)	(-0.058, -0.047)	(0.034, 0.044)
Republican		0.016	-0.099	-0.283	-0.411	-0.512	-0.781	-0.603
		(0.015, 0.017)	(-0.1, -0.098)	(-0.285, -0.281)	(-0.413, -0.409)	(-0.515, -0.509)	(-0.788, -0.773)	(-0.608, -0.597)
Strong Partisan			0.172		0.202	0.169	0.154	-0.054
			(0.17, 0.173)		(0.2, 0.204)	(0.166, 0.172)	(0.149, 0.159)	(-0.058, -0.05)
News Interest								1.179
								(1.172, 1.186)
Age $\geq$ 52	0.529			0.571	0.56	0.566	0.84	0.5
	(0.527, 0.53)			(0.57, 0.573)	(0.558, 0.562)	(0.563, 0.569)	(0.832, 0.848)	(0.495, 0.505)
Inc. $\geq$ 60k	0.306			0.328	0.323	0.357	0.622	0.472
	(0.304, 0.307)			(0.326, 0.33)	(0.321, 0.324)	(0.355, 0.36)	(0.615, 0.628)	(0.467, 0.476)
College+	0.424			0.418	0.418	0.494	0.716	0.426
	(0.422, 0.426)			(0.416, 0.42)	(0.416, 0.42)	(0.491, 0.497)	(0.709, 0.723)	(0.421, 0.43)
Female	-0.204			-0.233	-0.23	-0.228	-0.428	-0.254
	(-0.206, -0.203)			(-0.234, -0.232)	(-0.231, -0.229)	(-0.23, -0.227)	(-0.431, -0.424)	(-0.257, -0.251)
White	0.504			0.601	0.596	0.798	1.263	0.927
	(0.502, 0.506)			(0.598, 0.603)	(0.594, 0.598)	(0.794, 0.801)	(1.253, 1.274)	(0.92, 0.933)
Sources 3+						0.69	1.413	1.057
						(0.687, 0.694)	(1.402, 1.424)	(1.049, 1.065)
Total Time (hrs)						0.034	0.061	0.046
						(0.034, 0.034)	(0.06, 0.061)	(0.046, 0.046)
N	7355	8437	8437	7355	7355	6917	6917	6673
Extra Media Controls							X	X

Note: The table reports the estimated β parameters as well as their associated 95% confidence intervals. Column (1) corresponds to the estimates obtained in the main model. The remaining columns correspond to variants of the model in which individuals' discernment parameter θ is allowed to depend on various socioeconomic, partisan, and news consumption characteristics. See Online Appendix A for a description of how confidence intervals are constructed. Strong Partisan is a dummy variable taking value 1 if individual i reports being either a Strong Republican or a Strong Democrat. Sources 3+ is a dummy variable taking value 1 if individual i reports relying on 3 or more news media outlets during previous 7 days. Total Time is the number of hours dedicated to consuming national news during previous 7 days reported by individual i. News Interest is a dummy variable taking value 1 if individual i reports being interested in general politics. Extra media controls include: voter registration, Indicators for using tv, print, online and radio as a news source, as well as dummies for 10 biggest news sources interacted with using at least 3 sources. Media consumption questions were not included in every survey. See Online Appendix B.1 for a description of news media consumption variables. All parameters are estimated using the full sample of YouGov respondents. For a comparison with the main analysis in which attention is restricted to respondents who selected exactly 3 statements, see Table 9.

Table F.21: Socioeconomic Factors

F.5 Estimating the Model Separately on Actual and Synthetic Fake news

In our main analysis of news about the Federal Government, we estimated the model of news discernment by combining quizzes containing synthetic fake news stories with those containing actual fake news stories. We opted for this approach due to its simplicity, and because our findings are not influenced by the type of fake news stories used.

In this appendix, we present our findings from estimating the model of news discernment solely on quizzes containing actual fake news stories.[9] Additionally, we estimate the model using the quizzes that included synthetic fake news stories which were administered concurrently with those containing actual fake news. This allows for an additional point of comparison.[10]

We find that our conclusions are virtually identical regardless of the type of fake news employed.[11]

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[9] We are unable to estimate the effect of time passing because the news quizzes with actual fake news were administered only once. We thus set $\delta = 1$ when estimating the model of news discernment.

[10] In performing these two estimation exercises, we utilize the same partisan scores of the statements as used in the main analysis. However, another approach could involve standardizing the average partisan scores utilizing the mean and standard deviation derived from the b_j parameters of exclusively the true and fake news stories included in this extension. Nevertheless, this choice is irrelevant for our objectives since the scale of the b_j parameters is inconsequential (any modifications to the scale of the b_j parameters will cause the estimated α parameter to change to keep the magnitude of the partisan congruence effect constant) and because solely the difference between b_j parameters matters in determining the choice probabilities.

[11] As it turns out, when restricting our attention to the monthly surveys that included quizzes with actual fake news, the ranking of news stories by our journalist is not fully reflected in the statements' selection shares (see, for instance, Table F.22 in which the first news story of the month is predicted to be less likely to be chosen by respondents compared to the average top 3 news story. Indeed, in February 2021, the most important news story according to the panel of journalists was "*U.S. Senate Republican leader McConnell said Trump 'provoked' Jan. 6 riot*," yet the most widely selected true news story was "*Joe Biden sworn in as U.S. president.*" Similarly, in March 2022, the panel of journalists selected "*Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court*" as the most important news story, but the most selected news story was "*Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need your help now'.*"

	All	First
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 1 \text{ false})$	0.79	0.77
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 3 \text{ false})$	0.6	0.59

(a) Actual Fake News

	All	First
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 1 \text{ false})$	0.8	0.78
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 3 \text{ false})$	0.61	0.58

(b) Comparable Synthetic Fake News

Note: In both tables, the first row reports the probability that individuals select a true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. The second row reports the corresponding probability when individuals are faced with one typical true news story and three typical fake news stories. In the first column ("All"), the true news story is ranked as either first, second, or third news story of the month by the journalists. In the second column ("First"), the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month. In Table F.22a, predicted probabilities are estimated using the news quizzes with actual fake news stories exclusively. In Table F.22b, predicted probabilities are estimated using the news quizzes with synthetic fake news stories which were administered concurrently with those containing actual fake news stories.

Table F.22: Probability of Selecting True Story

Odds	Story Rank	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{true}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{false}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{no bet}}$
9:1	All	0.41	0.03	0.56
	First	0.43	0.04	0.53
3:1	All	0.61	0.09	0.3
	First	0.6	0.1	0.3
2:1	All	0.68	0.13	0.19
	First	0.66	0.14	0.19

(a) Actual Fake News

Odds	Story Rank	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{true}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{false}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{no bet}}$
9:1	All	0.45	0.03	0.52
	First	0.43	0.04	0.53
3:1	All	0.63	0.09	0.28
	First	0.61	0.1	0.29
2:1	All	0.7	0.12	0.18
	First	0.67	0.14	0.19

(b) Comparable Synthetic Fake News

Note: Both tables assume that individuals are given a typical pair of true and fake news stories to read. The tables report the probability $\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}(x)$ that individuals assign $x:1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story, the probability $\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}(x)$ that they assign $x:1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of the fake news story, and the probability $1-\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}(x)-\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}(x)$ that they do not assign $x:1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of either news story. Three values of x are considered: 2, 3, and 9. For each value of x, the probabilities are reported assuming (i) a typical pair of true and fake news stories where the true news story is ranked as either first, second, or third news story of the month by the journalists ("All") and (ii) a typical pair of true and fake news stories where the true news story is ranked first news story of the month by the journalists ("First"). In Table F.23a, predicted probabilities are estimated using the news quizzes with actual fake news stories exclusively. In Table F.23b, predicted probabilities are estimated using the news quizzes with synthetic fake news stories which were administered concurrently with those containing actual fake news stories.

Table F.23: Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story, False Story, or neither Story

Story Favorability	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Very Unfavorable	0.76	0.57
Unfavorable	0.77	0.59
Neutral	0.8	0.62
Favorable	0.82	0.65
Very Favorable	0.83	0.66

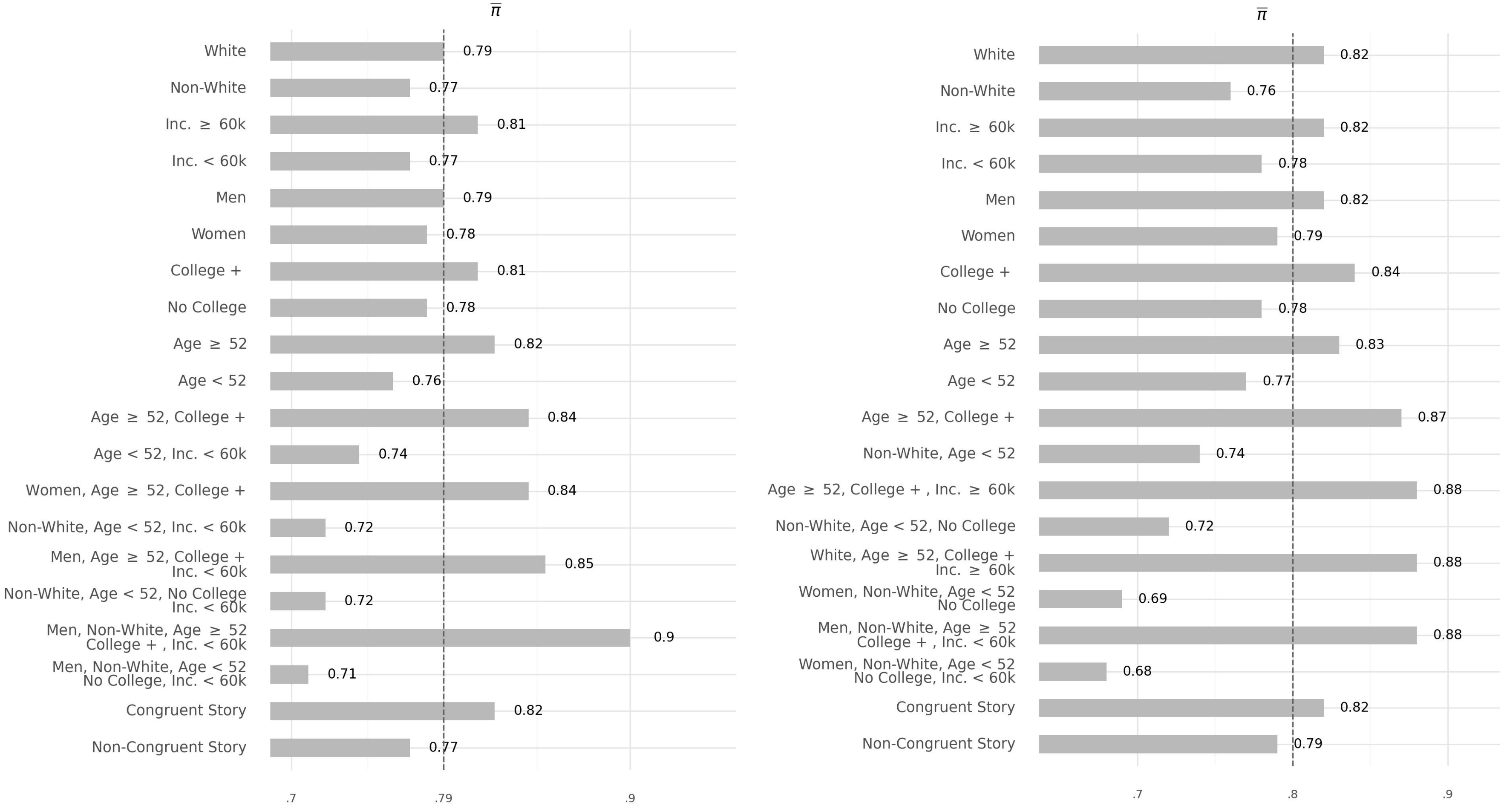
(a) Actual Fake News

Story Favorability	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Very Unfavorable	0.78	0.61
Unfavorable	0.79	0.62
Neutral	0.81	0.64
Favorable	0.82	0.67
Very Favorable	0.83	0.67

(b) Comparable Synthetic Fake News

Note: Both tables report the average probability $\overline{\pi}$ that a partisan individual selects the true statement when faced with 1 true and 1 false statement (both less than one month old) by varying the favorability toward the individual's preferred party of the true statement and assuming a neutral false statement. The first column also reports the corresponding probabilities $\overline{\rho}\,(3)$ of assigning 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true statement. In Table F.24a, predicted probabilities are estimated using the news quizzes with actual fake news stories exclusively. In Table F.24b, predicted probabilities are estimated using the news quizzes with synthetic fake news stories which were administered concurrently with those containing actual fake news stories.

Table F.24: Partisan Congruence

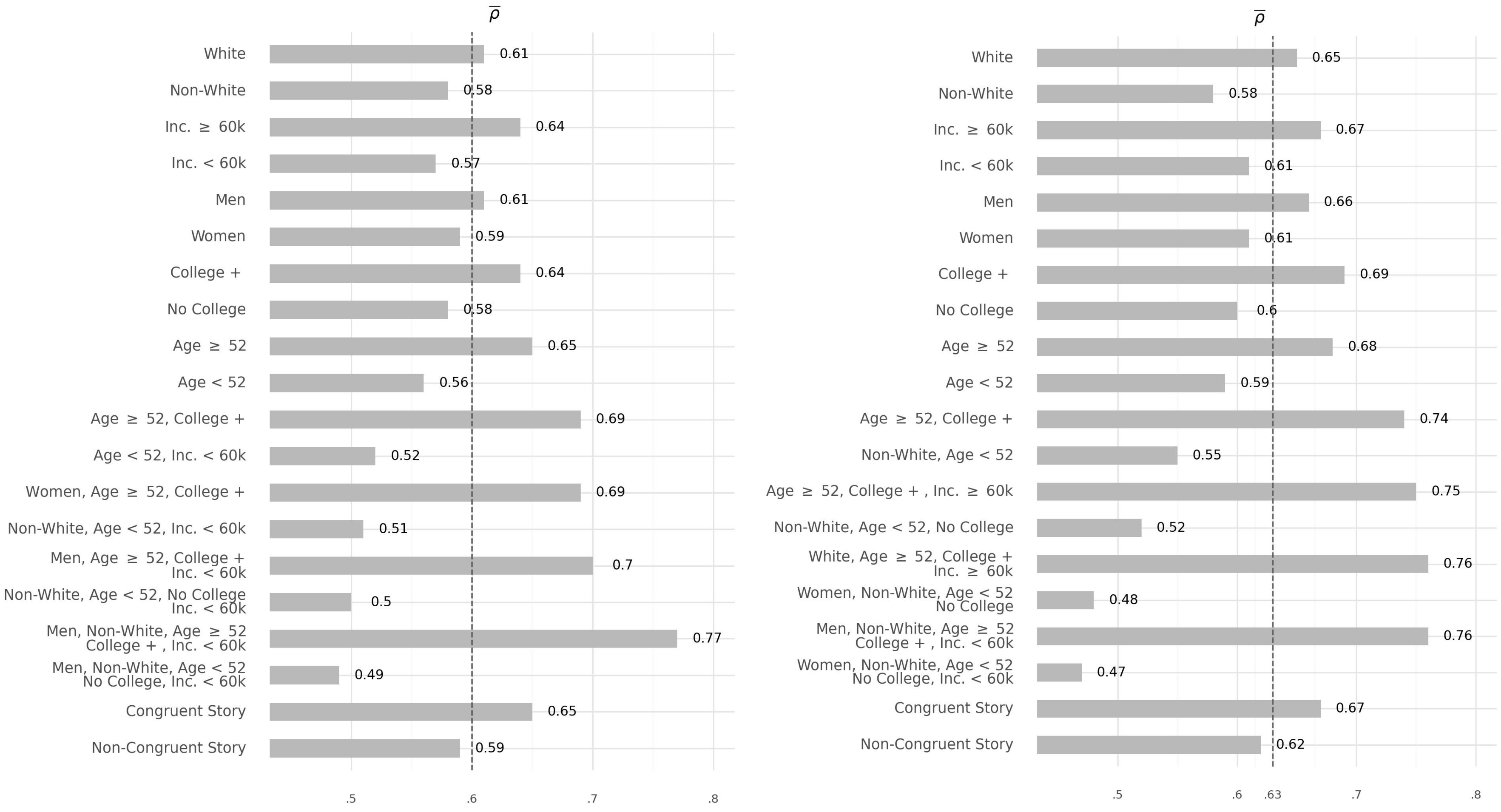


(a) Actual Fake News

(b) Comparable Synthetic Fake News

Note: Both figures report the probability that individuals belonging to various subgroups of the population select the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. The figures also report the probability that partisan individuals select the true news story when it is politically congruent and when it is politically non-congruent. In both figures, the vertical bar corresponds to the population average. In Figure F.4a, predicted probabilities are estimated using the news quizzes with actual fake news stories exclusively. In Figure F.4b, predicted probabilities are estimated using the news quizzes with synthetic fake news stories which were administered concurrently with those containing actual fake news stories.

Figure F.4: Probability of Selecting True Story



(a) Actual Fake News

(b) Comparable Synthetic Fake News

Note: Both figures report the probability that individuals belonging to various subgroups of the population assign 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. The figures also report the probability that partisan individuals assign 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when it is politically congruent and when it is politically non-congruent. In both figures, the vertical bar corresponds to the population average. In Figure F.5a, predicted probabilities are estimated using the news quizzes with actual fake news stories exclusively. In Figure F.5b, predicted probabilities are estimated using the news quizzes with synthetic fake news stories which were administered concurrently with those containing actual fake news stories.

Figure F.5: Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Democrat		0.245	0.206	0.256	0.238
		(0.243, 0.248)	(0.202, 0.209)	(0.253, 0.26)	(0.233, 0.243)
Republican		0.188	0.15	0.099	0.081
		(0.186, 0.191)	(0.147, 0.154)	(0.095, 0.103)	(0.076, 0.087)
Strong Partisan			0.055		0.026
			(0.052, 0.058)		(0.022, 0.03)
Age $\geq$ 52	0.41			0.419	0.417
	(0.406, 0.413)			(0.415, 0.423)	(0.414, 0.421)
Inc. $\geq$ 60k	0.236			0.262	0.261
	(0.233, 0.239)			(0.258, 0.265)	(0.257, 0.264)
College+	0.224			0.213	0.213
	(0.221, 0.228)			(0.209, 0.216)	(0.209, 0.217)
Female	-0.073			-0.1	-0.1
	(-0.075, -0.07)			(-0.103, -0.097)	(-0.103, -0.097)
White	0.178			0.205	0.205
	(0.175, 0.181)			(0.201, 0.209)	(0.201, 0.208)
N	1261	1423	1423	1261	1261

Note: The table reports the estimated β parameters as well as their associated 95% confidence intervals when using the news quizzes with actual fake news stories exclusively. Column (1) corresponds to the estimates obtained in the main model. The remaining columns correspond to variants of the model in which individuals' discernment parameter θ is allowed to depend on various socioeconomic, partisan, and news consumption characteristics. See Online Appendix A for a description of how confidence intervals are constructed. Strong Partisan is a dummy variable taking value 1 if individual i reports being either a Strong Republican or a Strong Democrat. We do not estimate variants of the model with news consumption variables because of limited sample size.

Table F.25: Socioeconomic Factors (Actual Fake News)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Democrat		0.125	0.015	0.274	0.135
		(0.123, 0.127)	(0.012, 0.017)	(0.27, 0.278)	(0.131, 0.139)
Republican		-0.172	-0.275	-0.423	-0.55
		(-0.174, -0.17)	(-0.277, -0.273)	(-0.427, -0.42)	(-0.554, -0.546)
Strong Partisan			0.165		0.207
			(0.163, 0.167)		(0.204, 0.211)
Age $\geq$ 52	0.364			0.413	0.401
	(0.361, 0.367)			(0.41, 0.417)	(0.398, 0.405)
Inc. $\geq$ 60k	0.113			0.132	0.139
	(0.11, 0.116)			(0.129, 0.135)	(0.136, 0.142)
College+	0.396			0.402	0.408
	(0.393, 0.4)			(0.399, 0.406)	(0.404, 0.411)
Female	-0.234			-0.261	-0.257
	(-0.236, -0.231)			(-0.264, -0.258)	(-0.259, -0.254)
White	0.311			0.443	0.447
	(0.307, 0.314)			(0.439, 0.447)	(0.444, 0.451)
N	1318	1509	1509	1318	1318

Note: The table reports the estimated β parameters as well as their associated 95% confidence intervals when using the news quizzes with synthetic fake news stories which were administered concurrently with those containing actual fake news stories. Column (1) corresponds to the estimates obtained in the main model. The remaining columns correspond to variants of the model in which individuals' discernment parameter θ is allowed to depend on various socioeconomic, partisan, and news consumption characteristics. See Online Appendix A for a description of how confidence intervals are constructed. Strong Partisan is a dummy variable taking value 1 if individual i reports being either a Strong Republican or a Strong Democrat. We do not estimate variants of the model with news consumption variables because of limited sample size.

Table F.26: Socioeconomic Factors (Comparable Synthetic Fake News)

F.6 MTurk Sample

Although the YouGov sample of U.S. adult citizens is of high quality, one may wonder whether some unobservable traits correlated with YouGov membership may drive our results. To partly address this concern, we ran four of our surveys on MTurk (in February, 2020, August, 2020, October, 2020, and March, 2022).[12] Table F.27 provides summary statistics for our sample of 4,290 MTurk participants. It also reports the corresponding statistics for the population of U.S. adult citizens according to the 2020 American Community Survey of the Census Bureau (ACS) and Pew (2018). For a comparison with the YouGov sample of responses, please see Table 1 in the main article. Compared to the YouGov sample of respondents, the MTurk sample is significantly younger, better educated, and poorer. It also contains fewer nonwhite individuals and more Democrats. Further, F.28 provides news media consumption descriptive statistics for the full sample of MTurk survey participants.

We replicate our analysis by using the sample of MTurk respondents exclusively, and by combining quizzes with synthetic fake news and quizzes with actual fake news.[13] Despite the differences in terms of sample selection mentioned above, the results we obtain when using the MTurk data broadly line up with those presented in the main analysis using the YouGov data. Both partisan and socioeconomic differences are somewhat smaller when using the MTurk sample of respondents, but our main conclusions remain unaffected: a majority of people seem able to confidently distinguish true from fake news stories and socioeconomic inequalities seem to play an even large role than partisanship in determining discernment about mainstream journalistic truth.

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[12] Two of these surveys (August, 2020 and October, 2020) were ran exclusively on MTurk.

[13] This precludes us from estimating δ, which we set equal to 1. Further, we use the average partisan score b_j for each statement j, computed utilizing the full sample of MTurk survey participants. As in the main analysis, we standardize these scores using the mean and standard deviation derived from the b_j parameters of all true and all fake news stories included in the MTurk news quizzes about the Federal Government.

(a) Socioeconomic Characteristics

Statistic	MTurk	ACS 2020
Median Age	36	52
% Black	9	10
% White	75	73
% Female	50	52
% 4yr College Degree	67	31
% Married	55	53
% Family Inc $\geq$ 60k	42	67

(b) Party Affiliations

Party Affiliation	MTurk	Pew 2018
% Republican	27	26
% Democrat	46	33
% Independent	19	37
% Other	8	4

Note: This table provides descriptive statistics for our full sample of MTurk participants. For a comparison with the full sample of YouGov participants, see Table 1 in the main article.

Table F.27: MTurk Survey Participants Characteristics

Media	2.05
Television, %	0.67
Print, %	0.3
Radio, %	0.26
Online, %	0.82
News Sources	7.79
Total Time (minutes), mean	317.36
Total Time (minutes), median	180

Note: Full sample of MTurk survey respondents. *Media* is the number of media (television, print newspaper, radio, internet) relied upon to consume national news during 7 previous days. *Television, %*, *Print, %*, *Radio, %*, and *Online, %* are the share of respondents relying on each these media to consume nationals during 7 previous days. *News Sources* is the number of news sources relied upon to consume national news during 7 previous days. *Total Time* is the number of minutes spent consuming national news during 7 previous day. For a comparison with the full sample of YouGov participants, see Table B.1.

Table F.28: MTurk Media Consumption Summary Statistics

	All	First
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 1 \text{ false})$	0.84	0.85
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 3 \text{ false})$	0.68	0.71

Note: The first row reports the probability that individuals select a true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. The second row reports the corresponding probability when individuals are faced with one typical true news story and three typical fake news stories. In the first column ("All"), the true news story is ranked as either first, second, or third news story of the month by the journalists. In the second column ("First"), the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month. Predicted probabilities are estimated using the sample of MTurk survey participants. For a comparison with the main analysis on the sample of YouGov respondents, see Table 3 in the main article.

Table F.29: Probability of Selecting True Story

Odds	Story Rank	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{true}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{false}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{no bet}}$
9:1	All	0.51	0.03	0.46
	First	0.54	0.03	0.43
3:1	All	0.69	0.07	0.24
	First	0.71	0.07	0.22
2:1	All	0.75	0.1	0.15
	First	0.77	0.09	0.14

Note: The table assumes that individuals are given a typical pair of true and fake news stories to read. It reports the probability $\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}(x)$ that individuals assign $x:1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story, the probability $\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}(x)$ that they assign $x:1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of the fake news story, and the probability $1-\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}(x)-\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}(x)$ that they do not assign $x:1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of either news story. Three values of x are considered: 2, 3, and 9. For each value of x, the probabilities are reported assuming (i) a typical pair of true and fake news stories where the true news story is ranked as either first, second, or third news story of the month by the journalists ("All") and (ii) a typical pair of true and fake news stories where the true news story is ranked first news story of the month by the journalists ("First"). Predicted probabilities are estimated using the sample of MTurk survey participants. For a comparison with the main analysis on the sample of YouGov respondents, see Table 4 in the main article.

Table F.30: Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story, False Story, or neither Story

(a) Probability of Selecting True Story

	Discernment Tier		
Story Rank	Lower	Middle	Higher
All	0.81	0.84	0.87
First	0.82	0.85	0.88

(b) Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story

	Discernment Tier		
Story Rank	Lower	Middle	Higher
All	0.64	0.69	0.74
First	0.66	0.72	0.76

Note: The top row ("All") of the left table reports the probability that individuals in various tiers of the discernment distribution select a true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. The bottom row ("First") of the left table reports the corresponding probabilities when the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month by the journalists.

The top row ("All") of the right table reports the probability that individuals in various tiers of the discernment distribution assign 3 : 1 or higher odds of truth in favor of a typical true news story, when the alternative is a typical fake news story. The bottom row ("First") of the right table reports the corresponding probabilities when the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month by the journalists.

Predicted probabilities are estimated using the sample of MTurk survey participants. For a comparison with the main analysis on the sample of YouGov respondents, see Tables 5a and 5b in the main article.

Table F.31: Heterogeneity across Discernment Tiers

First Survey Date	Fake Stories	Statement	Share	b	γ	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Feb. 2020	Synthetic	The U.S Senate acquitted Trump of impeachment charges	0.95	-0.14	1.0	0.93	0.81
		Attorney General William Barr said that President Trump's attacks on prosecutors, the judge and jurors in the trial of Roger Stone undermined the Justice Department's work	0.88	-1.2	-0.33	0.86	0.48
		The House of Representatives passed legislation seeking to rein in President Trump's ability to deploy U.S. forces to fight abroad	0.85	0.3	-0.53	0.83	0.44
		Trump took a week-long break from campaigning to deal with the coronavirus outbreak	0.13	1.91	-2.88	0.15	0.08
		Mitt Romney decided to run for president against Trump in the 2020 race after breakout role in impeachment	0.12	0.15	-3.09	0.14	0.08
		A tape surfaced of Trump supporting abortion	0.07	-1.55	-4.29	0.09	0.1
Aug. 2020	Synthetic	In a first, President Trump donned a mask in visit to a military medical facility	0.83	0.87	1.0	0.83	0.74
		President Trump announced plan to send federal agents to the cities of Chicago and Albuquerque to crack down on violent crime	0.83	-0.21	0.91	0.82	0.72
		President Trump attacked 'left-wing cultural revolution' in Mount Rushmore address	0.68	-0.84	0.39	0.7	0.57
		Joe Biden called for 'defunding the police' in first 100 days as president	0.34	0.78	-0.44	0.35	0.08
		President Trump Publicly Considered New Running Mate Amid Pence Disagreement	0.17	-0.94	-1.66	0.16	0.04
		Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez admitted to fabricating exchange with GOP lawmaker	0.15	1.45	-1.83	0.15	0.04
	Actual	In a first, President Trump donned a mask in visit to a military medical facility	0.8	0.87	1.0	0.8	0.69
		President Trump announced plan to send federal agents to the cities of Chicago and Albuquerque to crack down on violent crime	0.77	-0.21	0.91	0.78	0.66
		President Trump attacked 'left-wing cultural revolution' in Mount Rushmore address	0.65	-0.84	0.39	0.64	0.51
		U.S. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez tweeted that businesses should be kept closed until after the 2020 presidential election.	0.38	0.86	-0.24	0.37	0.1
		President Trump tweeted that the Confederate flag is a 'symbol of love'.	0.23	-1.68	-0.96	0.23	0.06
		A photograph shows President Obama, Dr. Anthony Fauci, and Melinda Gates at a laboratory in Wuhan, China, in 2015.	0.17	1.04	-1.33	0.18	0.05
Oct. 2020	Synthetic	President Trump nominated Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court	0.87	0.71	1.0	0.89	0.81
		President Trump suggested 2020 election result could never be accurate	0.87	-1.07	0.6	0.85	0.72
		President Trump moved to military hospital after COVID-19 diagnosis	0.83	-0.1	0.38	0.83	0.66
		Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez pinpointed Mnuchin in stock market manipulation	0.22	-1.2	-1.49	0.21	0.05
		Dr. Anthony Fauci said it was "totally safe to play" to the NFL	0.12	0.79	-2.67	0.12	0.04
		Michael Bloomberg rejoined presidential race as independent candidate	0.1	0.13	-3.09	0.1	0.04
	Actual	President Trump nominated Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court	0.89	0.71	1.0	0.89	0.79
		President Trump suggested 2020 election result could never be accurate	0.85	-1.07	0.6	0.86	0.69
		President Trump moved to military hospital after COVID-19 diagnosis	0.84	-0.1	0.38	0.83	0.63
		Kentucky Attorney General Daniel Cameron is married to U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell's granddaughter	0.2	0.11	-1.53	0.21	0.05
		'Antifa' arsonists have been setting wildfires raging on the West Coast in September 2020	0.14	1.11	-2.2	0.15	0.04
		Ruth Bader Ginsburg said that pedophilia was good for children	0.08	0.57	-4.82	0.07	0.05
Mar. 2022	Synthetic	Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court.	0.79	-1.83	1.0	0.8	0.7
		Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need you right now'.	0.74	0.03	0.88	0.77	0.66
		New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation.	0.73	-1.22	0.61	0.71	0.58
		Harris celebrated Women's History Month with girls at US/Mexico Border.	0.27	-0.64	-0.61	0.27	0.07
		January 6 trials come to a halt amid Ukraine crisis.	0.25	0.68	-0.79	0.24	0.06
		Biden signed bill to mandate climate change curriculum in all K-8 classrooms.	0.22	-0.79	-1.03	0.21	0.05
	Actual	Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court.	0.77	-1.83	1.0	0.79	0.66
		Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need you right now'.	0.75	0.03	0.88	0.75	0.62
		New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation.	0.67	-1.22	0.61	0.68	0.54
		Congress members awarded themselves a pay raise in 2022.	0.28	1.65	-0.49	0.28	0.07
		Former President Donald Trump's 'Truth Social' platform will cost users $4.99 a week.	0.27	-0.21	-0.61	0.26	0.07
		In March 2022, U.S. Representative Paul Gosar defended himself from criticism with a tweet in which he indicated he had been called stupid for his whole life	0.26	0.47	-0.73	0.24	0.06

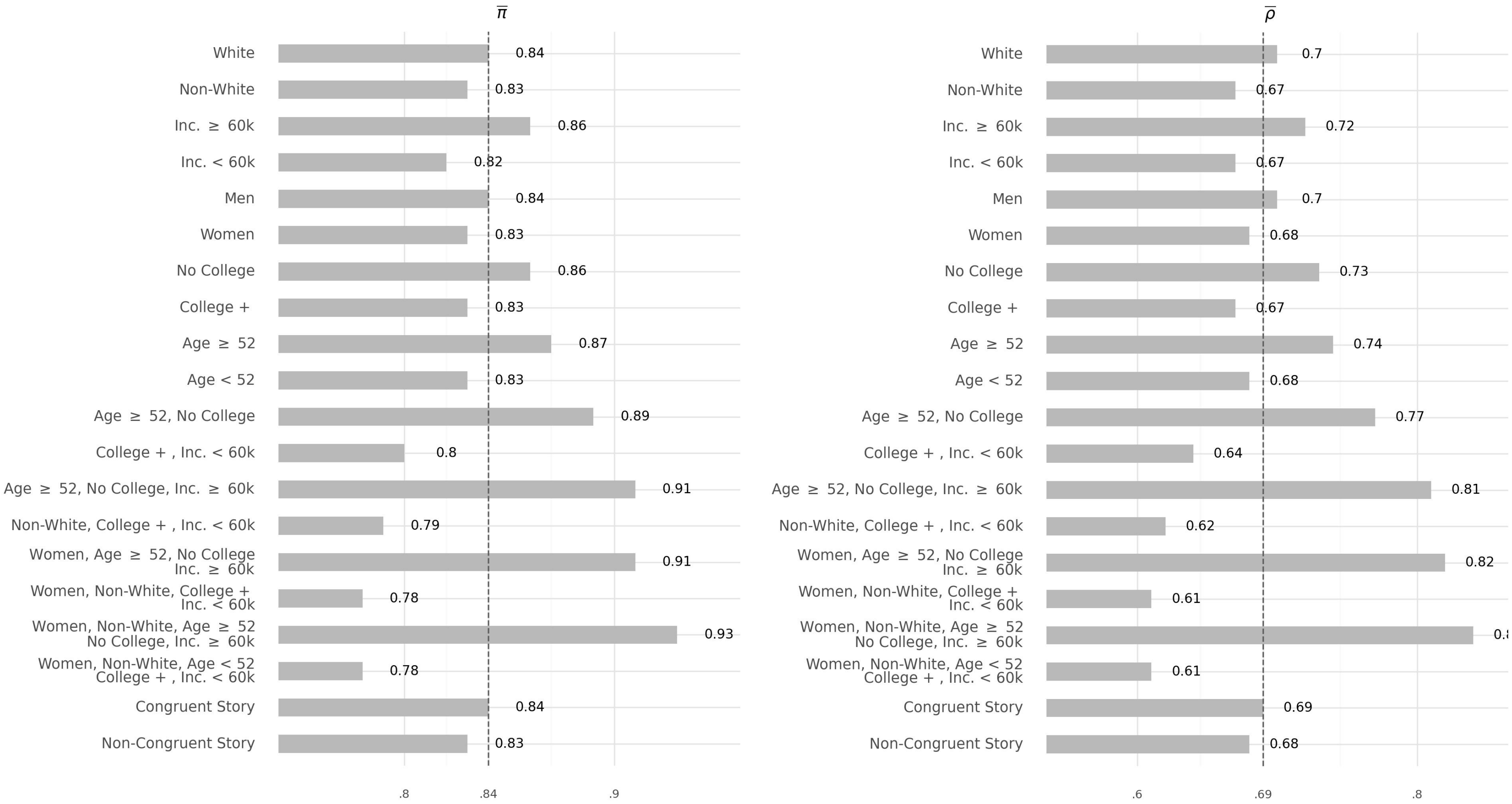
Note: The table lists, for each quiz administered through MTurk separately, all the true and fake news stories. For each quiz, the three top statements correspond to the true statements. For each news story, the table reports the share of survey respondents who selected the statement when completing the quiz ("Share"), the standardized average partisan score ("b"), the predicted γ_j parameter ("γ"), the predicted share of respondents who select the statement when completing the quiz ("$\overline{\pi}$"), and the predicted probability that an average respondent assigns 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the statement ("$\overline{\rho}$").

Table F.32: News Quizzes August, 2020 - March, 2022

Story Favorability	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Very Unfavorable	0.83	0.68
Unfavorable	0.83	0.68
Neutral	0.84	0.69
Favorable	0.84	0.69
Very Favorable	0.84	0.7

Note: The first column ("$\overline{\pi}$") of the table reports the average probability $\overline{\pi}$ that a partisan individual selects the true statement when faced with 1 true and 1 false statement (both less than one month old) by varying the favorability toward the individual's preferred party of the true statement and assuming a neutral false statement. The second column ("$\overline{\rho}$") reports the corresponding probabilities $\overline{\rho}\,(3)$ of assigning 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true statement. Predicted probabilities are estimated using the sample of MTurk survey participants. For a comparison with the main analysis on the sample of YouGov respondents, see Table 8 in the main article.

Table F.33: Partisan Congruence



(a) Probability of Selecting True Story

(b) Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story

Note: Figure 1a reports the probability that individuals belonging to various subgroups of the population select the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. It also reports the probability that partisan individuals select the true news story when it is politically congruent and when it is politically non-congruent. Figure 1b reports the probability that individuals belonging to various subgroups of the population assign 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. It also reports the probability that partisan individuals assign 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when it is politically congruent and when it is politically non-congruent. In both figures, the vertical bar corresponds to the population average. Predicted probabilities are estimated using the sample of MTurk survey participants. For a comparison with the main analysis on the sample of YouGov respondents, see Figures 1a and 1b in the main article.

Figure F.6: Socioeconomic Inequality and Partisan Congruence

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Democrat		0.056	0.116	0.08	0.142	0.121	-0.078	-0.101
		(0.054, 0.057)	(0.114, 0.118)	(0.079, 0.082)	(0.14, 0.144)	(0.117, 0.125)	(-0.842, 0.686)	(-0.107, -0.096)
Republican		-0.177	-0.116	-0.19	-0.132	-0.181	-0.121	-0.072
		(-0.178, -0.175)	(-0.117, -0.115)	(-0.191, -0.188)	(-0.133, -0.13)	(-0.183, -0.179)	(-1.622, 1.38)	(-0.075, -0.069)
Strong Partisan			-0.13		-0.135	-0.156	-0.086	-0.049
			(-0.131, -0.129)		(-0.136, -0.133)	(-0.158, -0.154)	(-0.211, 0.038)	(-0.053, -0.045)
News Interest								0.208
								(0.204, 0.212)
Age $\geq$ 52	0.162			0.179	0.192	0.158	0.124	0.008
	(0.16, 0.164)			(0.177, 0.181)	(0.19, 0.194)	(0.155, 0.161)	(-0.006, 0.254)	(0.003, 0.014)
Inc. $\geq$ 60k	0.175			0.178	0.175	0.2	0.141	0.081
	(0.174, 0.177)			(0.177, 0.179)	(0.173, 0.176)	(0.198, 0.202)	(0.071, 0.211)	(0.078, 0.084)
College+	-0.144			-0.143	-0.132	-0.18	-0.223	-0.252
	(-0.146, -0.143)			(-0.144, -0.141)	(-0.134, -0.131)	(-0.182, -0.178)	(-0.647, 0.201)	(-0.254, -0.249)
Female	-0.034			-0.039	-0.036	-0.012	-0.048	-0.042
	(-0.035, -0.033)			(-0.04, -0.038)	(-0.037, -0.035)	(-0.014, -0.011)	(-0.158, 0.062)	(-0.044, -0.04)
White	0.057			0.071	0.082	0.084	0.067	-0.065
	(0.056, 0.059)			(0.069, 0.072)	(0.08, 0.083)	(0.081, 0.086)	(-0.034, 0.167)	(-0.069, -0.061)
Sources 3+						0.093	0.261	0.209
						(0.09, 0.095)	(0.126, 0.396)	(0.206, 0.213)
Total Time (hrs)						0.015	-0.001	-0.019
						(0.015, 0.016)	(-0.037, 0.035)	(-0.02, -0.018)
N	3671	3722	3722	3671	3671	3207	3207	3206
Extra Media Controls							X	X

Note: The table reports the estimated β parameters as well as their associated 95% confidence intervals. Column (1) corresponds to the estimates obtained in the main model. The remaining columns correspond to variants of the model in which individuals' discernment parameter θ is allowed to depend on various socioeconomic, partisan, and news consumption characteristics. See Online Appendix A for a description of how confidence intervals are constructed. Strong Partisan is a dummy variable taking value 1 if individual i reports being either a Strong Republican or a Strong Democrat. Sources 3+ is a dummy variable taking value 1 if individual i reports relying on 3 or more news media outlets during previous 7 days. Total Time is the number of hours dedicated to consuming national news during previous 7 days reported by individual i. News Interest is a dummy variable taking value 1 if individual i reports being interested in general politics. Extra media controls include: voter registration, Indicators for using tv, print, online and radio as a news source, as well as dummies for 10 biggest news sources interacted with using at least 3 sources. Media consumption questions were not included in every survey. See Online Appendix B.1 for a description of news media consumption variables. All parameters are estimated using the sample of MTurk respondents. For a comparison with the main analysis on the sample of YouGov respondents see Table 9 in the main article.
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It should be noted that the precision of the estimated β parameters displayed in Column (7) and the signs of several of the estimated β parameters displayed in Column (8) diverge from those observed in other specifications and samples. We believe this deviation is to be attributed to the MTurk sample's relatively small size and demographic homogeneity, and the correlation among many of the socioeconomic, partisan, and news media consumption variables included in these columns' corresponding specifications.

Table F.34: Socioeconomic Factors

F.7 Ipsos

The survey we ran in March, 2022 was administered through YouGov, MTurk, and Ipsos (see Table H.16 for a description of the corresponding news quizzes). This section replicates our main analysis using exclusively the data collected with Ipsos. For ease of comparison, we also replicate our main analysis by using the data collected with YouGov in March, 2022 only.[14]

YouGov's pool of survey respondents is built on an "opt-in" basis (i.e., respondents are not contacted, they spontaneously choose to join YouGov's pool of potential respondents). By contrast, Ipsos relies on an address-based sampling method that uses the latest Delivery Sequence File of the USPS (a database with full coverage of all delivery points in the U.S.) to assemble its pool of survey respondents.[15] An advantage of running surveys with YouGov is that accessing its pool of respondents is more economical, which made it possible for us to run our survey repeatedly over time. In principle, the advantage of running surveys with Ipsos is that the probability-based sampling method it uses facilitates the inclusion of harder-to-reach segments of society (e.g., minorities) and, more generally, leads to samples of respondents that are more representative of the target population based on unobservable characteristics. Another advantage of relying on Ipsos is that the share of respondents who select either fewer than or more than three statements when completing the news quizzes is lower than that with YouGov.

The results presented in this section show that our findings are very similar regardless of the polling company we rely on.

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[14] We are unable to estimate the effect of time passing because the March, 2022 news quizzes were administered only once. Further, for the analysis that uses the March, 2022 YouGov data, we use the same values for the statements' partisan scores as in the main analysis. For the analysis that uses the March, 2022 Ipsos data, we use the average partisan score b_j for each statement j, computed utilizing the full sample of Ipsos respondents (and we standardize these scores using the mean and standard deviation derived from the b_j parameters of all the true and false statements included in the March, 2022 Ipsos news quizzes). For these reasons, a direct comparison of the average partisan scores shown in Tables F.41 and F.42 is not possible.

[15] For additional details go to https://www.ipsos.com/en-us/solutions/public-affairs/knowledgepanel.

(a) Socioeconomic Characteristics

Statistic	Ipsos	ACS 2020
Median Age	53	52
% Black	9	10
% White	71	73
% Female	50	52
% 4yr College Degree	43	31
% Married	60	53
% Family Inc $\geq$ 50k	52	74

(b) Party Affiliations

Party Affiliation	Ipsos	Pew 2018
% Republican	29	26
% Democrat	30	33
% Independent	31	37
% Other	10	4

Note: This table provides descriptive statistics for our full sample of Ipsos participants. For a comparison with the full sample of YouGov participants, see Table 1 in the main article.

Table F.35: Survey Participants Characteristics

Media	1.69
Television, %	0.62
Print, %	0.17
Radio, %	0.25
Online, %	0.66
News Sources	4.84
Total Time (minutes), mean	314.14
Total Time (minutes), median	120

Note: Full sample of Ipsos survey respondents. *Media* is the number of media (television, print newspaper, radio, internet) relied upon to consume national news during 7 previous days. *Television, %*, *Print, %*, *Radio, %*, and *Online, %* are the share of respondents relying on each these media to consume nationals during 7 previous days. *News Sources* is the number of news sources relied upon to consume national news during 7 previous days. *Total Time* is the number of minutes spent consuming national news during 7 previous day. For a comparison with the full sample of YouGov survey respondents, see Table B.1.

Table F.36: Media Consumption Summary Statistics

	All	First
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 1 \text{ false})$	0.83	0.85
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 3 \text{ false})$	0.65	0.69

(a) Probability of Selecting True Story (Ipsos)

	All	First
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 1 \text{ false})$	0.84	0.86
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 3 \text{ false})$	0.67	0.7

(b) Probability of Selecting True Story (YouGov)

Note: For each table, the first row reports the probability that individuals select a true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. The second row reports the corresponding probability when individuals are faced with one typical true news story and three typical fake news stories. For each table, in the first column ("All"), the true news story is ranked as either first, second, or third news story of the month by the journalists. In the second column ("First"), the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month. Table F.37a relies on data collected with Ipsos in March, 2022. Table F.37b relies on data collected with YouGov in March, 2022.

Table F.37: Probability of Selecting True Story

Odds	Story Rank	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{true}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{false}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{no bet}}$
9:1	All	0.47	0.03	0.51
	First	0.49	0.02	0.48
3:1	All	0.67	0.07	0.26
	First	0.7	0.06	0.24
2:1	All	0.73	0.1	0.17
	First	0.76	0.09	0.15

(a) Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story, False Story, or neither Story (Ipsos)

Odds	Story Rank	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{true}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{false}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{no bet}}$
9:1	All	0.48	0.03	0.49
	First	0.5	0.02	0.48
3:1	All	0.68	0.07	0.25
	First	0.71	0.06	0.23
2:1	All	0.75	0.09	0.16
	First	0.77	0.08	0.15

(b) Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story, False Story, or neither Story (YouGov)

Note: Both tables assume that individuals are given a typical pair of true and fake news stories to read. They report the probability $\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}(x)$ that individuals assign $x:1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story, the probability $\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}(x)$ that they assign $x:1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of the fake news story, and the probability $1-\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}(x)-\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}(x)$ that they do not assign $x:1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of either news story. Three values of x are considered: 2, 3, and 9. For each value of x, the probabilities are reported assuming (i) a typical pair of true and fake news stories where the true news story is ranked as either first, second, or third news story of the month by the journalists ("All") and (ii) a typical pair of true and fake news stories where the true news story is ranked first news story of the month by the journalists ("First"). Table F.38a relies on data collected with Ipsos in March, 2022. Table F.38b relies on data collected with YouGov in March, 2022.

Table F.38: Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story, False Story, or neither Story

(a) Average Probability of Selection

Story Rank	Discernment Tier Lower	Middle	Higher
All	0.75	0.84	0.91
First	0.76	0.86	0.93

(b) Average Probability of Assigning Odds

Story Rank	Discernment Tier Lower	Middle	Higher
All	0.54	0.68	0.79
First	0.56	0.71	0.83

Note: The top row ("All") of the left table reports the probability that individuals in various tiers of the discernment distribution select a true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. The bottom row ("First") of the left table reports the corresponding probabilities when the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month by the journalists.

The top row ("All") of the right table reports the probability that individuals in various tiers of the discernment distribution assign 3 : 1 or higher odds of truth in favor of a typical true news story, when the alternative is a typical fake news story. The bottom row ("First") of the right table reports the corresponding probabilities when the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month by the journalists.

Both tables rely on data collected with Ipsos in March, 2022.

Table F.39: Heterogeneity across Discernment Tiers (Ipsos)

(a) Average Probability of Selection

Story Rank	Discernment Tier Lower	Middle	Higher
All	0.77	0.85	0.9
First	0.78	0.87	0.92

(b) Average Probability of Assigning Odds

Story Rank	Discernment Tier Lower	Middle	Higher
All	0.56	0.69	0.78
First	0.59	0.72	0.82

Note: The top row ("All") of the left table reports the probability that individuals in various tiers of the discernment distribution select a true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. The bottom row ("First") of the left table reports the corresponding probabilities when the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month by the journalists.

The top row ("All") of the right table reports the probability that individuals in various tiers of the discernment distribution assign 3 : 1 or higher odds of truth in favor of a typical true news story, when the alternative is a typical fake news story. The bottom row ("First") of the right table reports the corresponding probabilities when the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month by the journalists.

Both tables rely on data collected with YouGov in March, 2022.

Table F.40: Heterogeneity across Discernment Tiers (YouGov)

First Survey Date	Fake Stories	Statement	Share	b	γ	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Mar. 2022	Synthetic	Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court.	0.88	-1.58	1.0	0.89	0.85
		Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need you right now'.	0.81	0.03	0.69	0.83	0.74
		New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation.	0.61	-0.67	0.17	0.59	0.51
		Harris celebrated Women's History Month with girls at US/Mexico Border.	0.36	-0.38	-0.17	0.36	0.08
		January 6 trials come to a halt amid Ukraine crisis.	0.2	0.65	-0.64	0.2	0.05
		Biden signed bill to mandate climate change curriculum in all K-8 classrooms.	0.14	-0.25	-1.08	0.13	0.03
	Actual	Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court.	0.9	-1.58	1.0	0.89	0.86
		Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need you right now'.	0.83	0.03	0.69	0.83	0.75
		New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation.	0.64	-0.67	0.17	0.62	0.52
		Congress members awarded themselves a pay raise in 2022.	0.26	2.08	-0.44	0.27	0.06
		In March 2022, U.S. Representative Paul Gosar defended himself from criticism with a tweet in which he indicated he had been called 'stupid' for his whole life.	0.22	0.3	-0.58	0.22	0.05
		Former President Donald Trump's 'Truth Social' platform will cost users $4.99 a week.	0.15	-0.16	-0.85	0.17	0.04

Note: The table lists, for each variant of the March, 2022 quiz separately, all the true and fake news stories. For each quiz, the three top statements correspond to the true statements. For each news story, the table reports the share of survey respondents who selected the statement when completing the quiz ("Share"), the standardized average partisan score ("b"), the predicted γ_j parameter ("γ"), the predicted share of respondents who select the statement when completing the quiz ("$\overline{\pi}$"), and the predicted probability that an average respondent assigns 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the statement ("$\overline{\rho}$").

Table F.41: Ipsos News Quizzes March 2022

First Survey Date	Fake Stories	Statement	Share	b	γ	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Mar. 2022	Synthetic	Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court.	0.92	-1.34	1.0	0.91	0.89
		Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need you right now'.	0.82	0.14	0.67	0.84	0.78
		New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation.	0.65	-0.77	0.19	0.62	0.54
		Harris celebrated Women's History Month with girls at US/Mexico Border.	0.3	0.01	-0.2	0.31	0.07
		January 6 trials come to a halt amid Ukraine crisis	0.18	0.9	-0.56	0.18	0.04
		Biden signed bill to mandate climate change curriculum in all K-8 classrooms.	0.13	0.06	-0.84	0.13	0.03
	Actual	Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court.	0.9	-1.34	1.0	0.91	0.88
		Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need you right now'.	0.85	0.14	0.67	0.83	0.75
		New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation.	0.58	-0.77	0.19	0.59	0.5
		Congress members awarded themselves a pay raise in 2022.	0.31	2.21	-0.16	0.31	0.07
		In March 2022, U.S. Representative Paul Gosar defended himself from criticism with a tweet in which he indicated he had been called 'stupid' for his whole life.	0.2	0.51	-0.46	0.2	0.05
		Former President Donald Trump's 'Truth Social' platform will cost users $4.99 a week.	0.16	0.3	-0.59	0.17	0.04

Note: The table lists, for each variant of the March, 2022 quiz separately, all the true and fake news stories. For each quiz, the three top statements correspond to the true statements. For each news story, the table reports the share of survey respondents who selected the statement when completing the quiz ("Share"), the standardized average partisan score ("b") used in the main analysis, the predicted γ_j parameter ("γ"), the predicted share of respondents who select the statement when completing the quiz ("$\overline{\pi}$"), as well as the predicted probability that an average respondent assigns 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the statement ("$\overline{\rho}$").

Table F.42: YouGov News Quizzes March 2022

Story Favorability	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Very Unfavorable	0.82	0.65
Unfavorable	0.82	0.66
Neutral	0.83	0.67
Favorable	0.84	0.68
Very Favorable	0.84	0.68

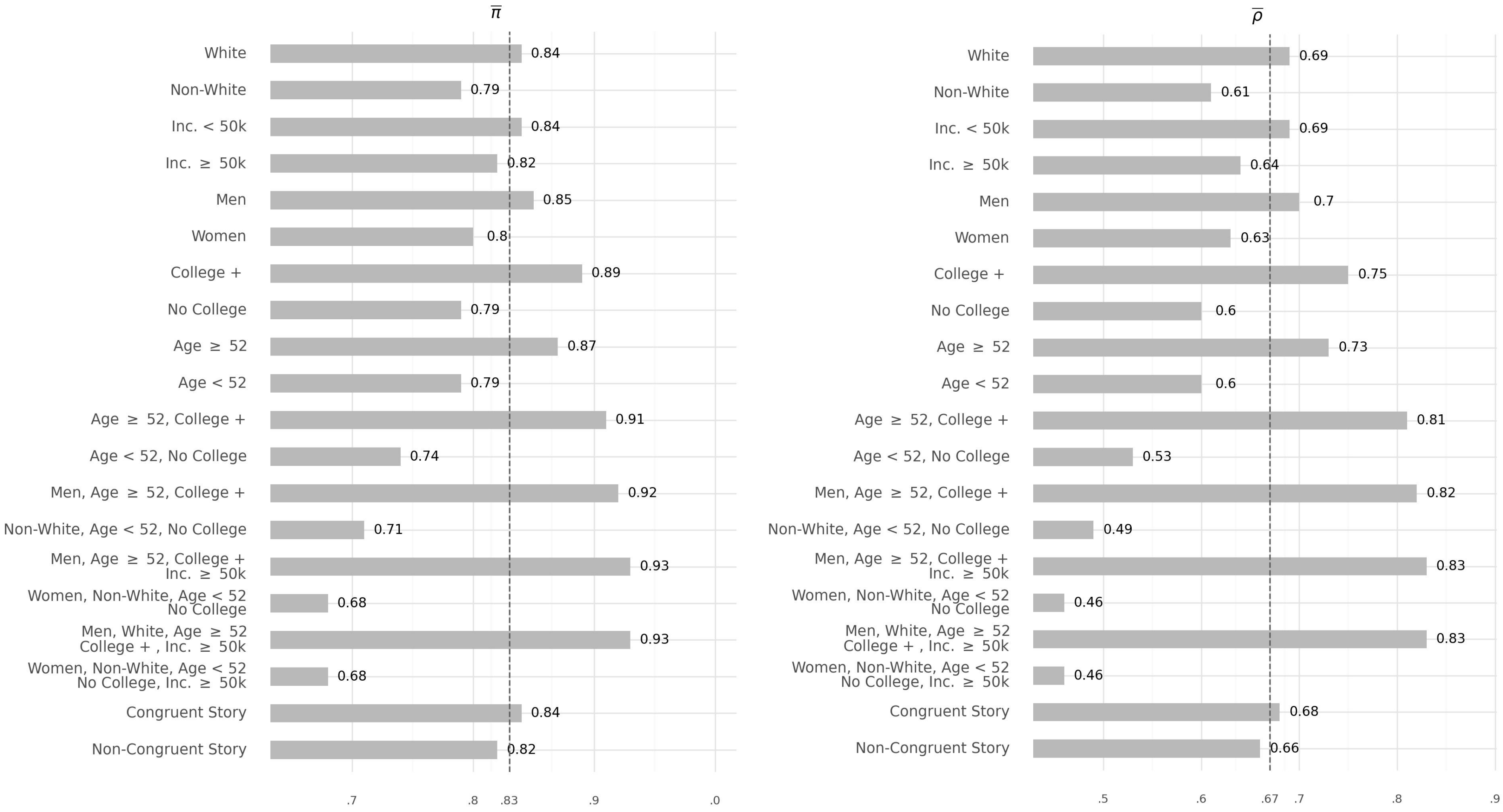
Note: The first column ("$\overline{\pi}$") of the table reports the average probability $\overline{\pi}$ that a partisan individual selects the true statement when faced with 1 true and 1 false statement (both less than one month old) by varying the favorability toward the individual's preferred party of the true statement (i.e., by setting the true statement's partisan score b equal to the 10th, 25th, 50th, 75th, and 90th percentiles of the distribution of b_j) and assuming a neutral false statement. The second column ("$\overline{\rho}$") also reports the corresponding probabilities $\overline{\rho}(3)$ of assigning 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true statement. The table relies on data collected with Ipsos in March, 2022.

Table F.43: Partisan Congruence (Ipsos)

Story Favorability	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Very Unfavorable	0.83	0.66
Unfavorable	0.83	0.67
Neutral	0.85	0.69
Favorable	0.86	0.71
Very Favorable	0.86	0.71

Note: The first column ("$\overline{\pi}$") of the table reports the average probability $\overline{\pi}$ that a partisan individual selects the true statement when faced with 1 true and 1 false statement (both less than one month old) by varying the favorability toward the individual's preferred party of the true statement (i.e., by setting the true statement's partisan score b equal to the 10th, 25th, 50th, 75th, and 90th percentiles of the distribution of b_j) and assuming a neutral false statement. The second column ("$\overline{\rho}$") also reports the corresponding probabilities $\overline{\rho}(3)$ of assigning 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true statement. The table relies on data collected with YouGov in March, 2022.

Table F.44: Partisan Congruence (YouGov)



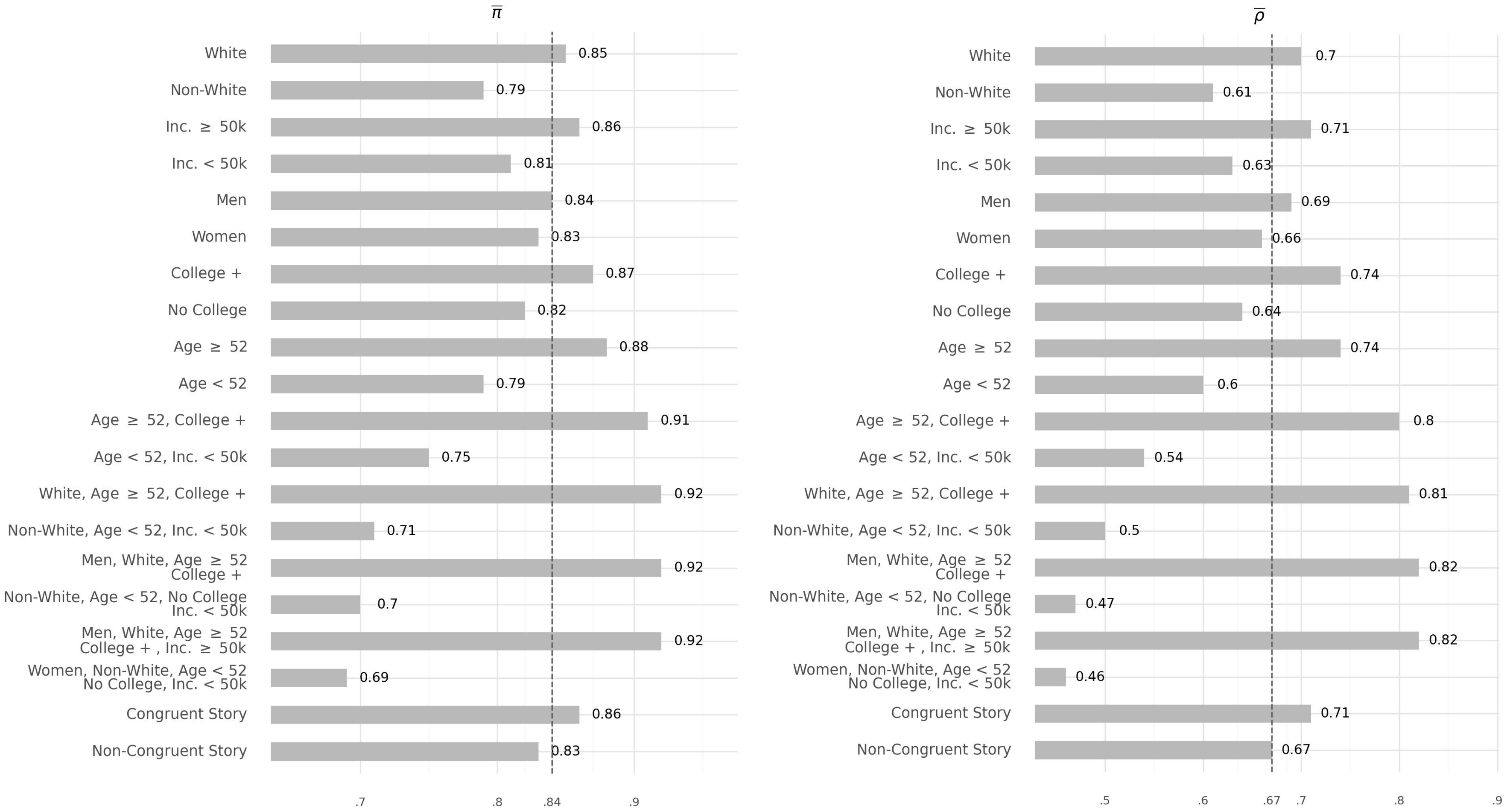
(a) Probability of Selecting True Story

(b) Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story

Note: The left figure reports the probability that individuals belonging to various subgroups of the population select the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. It also reports the probability that partisan individuals select the true news story when it is politically congruent and when it is politically non-congruent.

The right figure reports the probability that individuals belonging to various subgroups of the population assign 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. It also reports the probability that partisan individuals assign 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when it is politically congruent and when it is politically non-congruent. In both figures, the vertical bar corresponds to the population average. The figures rely on data collected with Ipsos in March, 2022.

Figure F.7: Socioeconomic Inequality and Partisan Congruence (Ipsos)



(a) Probability of Selecting True Story

(b) Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story

Note: The left figure reports the probability that individuals belonging to various subgroups of the population select the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. It also reports the probability that partisan individuals select the true news story when it is politically congruent and when it is politically non-congruent.

The right figure reports the probability that individuals belonging to various subgroups of the population assign 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. It also reports the probability that partisan individuals assign 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when it is politically congruent and when it is politically non-congruent. In both figures, the vertical bar corresponds to the population average. The figures rely on data collected with YouGov in March, 2022.

Figure F.8: Socioeconomic Inequality and Partisan Congruence (YouGov)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Democrat		0.184	0.13	0.266	0.207
		(0.181, 0.187)	(0.126, 0.133)	(0.261, 0.271)	(0.201, 0.213)
Republican		-0.052	-0.108	-0.165	-0.222
		(-0.054, -0.049)	(-0.111, -0.105)	(-0.169, -0.161)	(-0.227, -0.218)
Strong Partisan			0.09		0.095
			(0.087, 0.093)		(0.091, 0.1)
Age $\geq$ 52	0.608			0.636	0.628
	(0.604, 0.612)			(0.631, 0.641)	(0.623, 0.632)
Inc. $\geq$ 60k	1.278			0.101	-0.582
	(1.278, 1.278)			(0.101, 0.101)	(-0.582, -0.582)
College+	0.753			0.746	0.743
	(0.748, 0.758)			(0.74, 0.752)	(0.737, 0.749)
Female	-0.283			-0.326	-0.329
	(-0.286, -0.28)			(-0.329, -0.323)	(-0.332, -0.326)
White	0.224			0.32	0.318
	(0.22, 0.228)			(0.316, 0.325)	(0.313, 0.322)
N	968	968	968	968	968

Note: The table reports the estimated β parameters as well as their associated 95% confidence intervals. Column (1) corresponds to the estimates obtained in the main model. The remaining columns correspond to variants of the model in which individuals' discernment parameter θ is allowed to depend on various socioeconomic, partisan, and news consumption characteristics. See Online Appendix A for a description of how confidence intervals are constructed. Strong Partisan is a dummy variable taking value 1 if individual i reports being either a Strong Republican or a Strong Democrat. All parameters are estimated using the sample of March, 2022 Ipsos respondents. We do not estimate variants of the model with news consumption variables because of limited sample size.

Table F.45: Socioeconomic Factors (Ipsos)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Democrat		0.183	0.076	0.236	0.08
		(0.18, 0.186)	(0.072, 0.079)	(0.229, 0.243)	(0.072, 0.087)
Republican		0.07	-0.033	-0.085	-0.231
		(0.067, 0.073)	(-0.036, -0.029)	(-0.091, -0.079)	(-0.238, -0.223)
Strong Partisan			0.158		0.228
			(0.155, 0.161)		(0.222, 0.235)
Age $\geq$ 52	0.788			0.835	0.82
	(0.78, 0.795)			(0.826, 0.844)	(0.812, 0.829)
Inc. $\geq$ 60k	0.313			0.331	0.323
	(0.308, 0.318)			(0.325, 0.337)	(0.317, 0.329)
College+	0.489			0.488	0.493
	(0.483, 0.495)			(0.481, 0.494)	(0.487, 0.5)
Female	-0.132			-0.161	-0.16
	(-0.136, -0.128)			(-0.165, -0.157)	(-0.165, -0.156)
White	0.336			0.404	0.409
	(0.331, 0.342)			(0.397, 0.411)	(0.402, 0.415)
N	728	830	830	728	728

Note: The table reports the estimated β parameters as well as their associated 95% confidence intervals. Column (1) corresponds to the estimates obtained in the main model. The remaining columns correspond to variants of the model in which individuals' discernment parameter θ is allowed to depend on various socioeconomic, partisan, and news consumption characteristics. See Online Appendix A for a description of how confidence intervals are constructed. Strong Partisan is a dummy variable taking value 1 if individual i reports being either a Strong Republican or a Strong Democrat. All parameters are estimated using the sample of March, 2022 YouGov respondents. We do not estimate variants of the model with news consumption variables because of limited sample size.

Table F.46: Socioeconomic Factors (YouGov)

F.8 Ipsos Weighted

This section reproduces the analysis that uses the March 2022 Ipsos survey data presented in Section F.7 by weighing individual observations with the weights provided by Ipsos. We begin by showing the sample's socioeconomic and partisan characteristics after weighting the data, which can be found in Table F.47 below. A comparison of this table with Table F.35 indicates that weighting individual observations has a somewhat large impact on the sample's characteristics. For example, the median age experiences a decline of 6 years, and the proportion of white respondents drops by 9 percentage points.

The rest of the section reproduces the analysis presented in Section F.7 using the weighted Ipsos survey data. The estimation of the parameters of the model of news discernment is unaffected, but all of our statistics are produced by aggregating individuals using the individual weights.[16] Weighting the data reduces somewhat aggregate levels of discernment. However, socioeconomic inequality and partisan congruence effect magnitudes appear broadly unaffected.

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[16] Because all parameter estimates are identical, this appendix does not reproduce Table F.45.

(a) Socioeconomic Characteristics

Statistic	Ipsos	ACS 2020
Median Age	47	52
% Black	12	10
% White	62	73
% Female	52	52
% 4yr College Degree	35	31
% Married	56	53
% Family Inc $\geq$ 50k	52	74

(b) Party Affiliations

Party Affiliation	Ipsos	Pew 2018
% Republican	27	26
% Democrat	32	33
% Independent	30	37
% Other	11	4

Note: This table provides weighted descriptive statistics for our full sample of Ipsos participants.

Table F.47: Ipsos Weighted Survey Participants Characteristics

	All	First
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 1 \text{ false})$	0.81	0.83
$\bar{\pi}(\text{true} \mid 1 \text{ true, } 3 \text{ false})$	0.63	0.66

Note: The first row reports the probability that individuals select a true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. The second row reports the corresponding probability when individuals are faced with one typical true news story and three typical fake news stories. In the first column ("All"), the true news story is ranked as either first, second, or third news story of the month by the journalists. In the second column ("First"), the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month. Individual observations have been weighted using the individual weights provided by Ipsos. For a comparison with the unweighted data, see Table F.37a.

Table F.48: Probability of Selecting True Story

Odds	Story Rank	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{true}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{false}}$	$\bar{\rho}_{\text{no bet}}$
9:1	All	0.44	0.03	0.53
	First	0.46	0.03	0.51
3:1	All	0.64	0.08	0.28
	First	0.67	0.07	0.26
2:1	All	0.71	0.11	0.18
	First	0.74	0.1	0.16

Note: The table assumes that individuals are given a typical pair of true and fake news stories to read. It reports the probability $\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}(x)$ that individuals assign $x : 1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story, the probability $\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}(x)$ that they assign $x : 1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of the fake news story, and the probability $1-\overline{\rho}_{\text{true}}(x)-\overline{\rho}_{\text{false}}(x)$ that they do not assign $x : 1$ or higher odds of truth in favor of either news story. Three values of x are considered: 2, 3, and 9. For each value of x, the probabilities are reported assuming (i) a typical pair of true and fake news stories where the true news story is ranked as either first, second, or third news story of the month by the journalists ("All") and (ii) a typical pair of true and fake news stories where the true news story is ranked first news story of the month by the journalists ("First"). Individual observations have been weighted using the individual weights provided by Ipsos. For a comparison with the unweighted data, see Table F.38a

Table F.49: Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story, False Story, or neither Story

(a) Probability of Selecting True Story

	Discernment Tier		
Story Rank	Lower	Middle	Higher
All	0.73	0.83	0.89
First	0.75	0.85	0.91

(b) Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story

	Discernment Tier		
Story Rank	Lower	Middle	Higher
All	0.52	0.65	0.77
First	0.54	0.68	0.8

Note: The top row ("All") of the left table reports the probability that individuals in various tiers of the discernment distribution select a true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. The bottom row ("First") of the left table reports the corresponding probabilities when the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month by the journalists.

The top row ("All") of the right table reports the probability that individuals in various tiers of the discernment distribution assign 3 : 1 or higher odds of truth in favor of a typical true news story, when the alternative is a typical fake news story. The bottom row ("First") of the right table reports the corresponding probabilities when the true news story is ranked as first news story of the month by the journalists.

Individual observations have been weighted using the individual weights provided by Ipsos. For a comparison with the unweighted data, see Tables F.39a and F.39b.

Table F.50: Heterogeneity across Discernment Tiers

First Survey Date	Fake Stories	Statement	Share	b	γ	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Mar. 2022	Synthetic	Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court.	0.86	-1.58	1.0	0.87	0.83
		Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need you right now'.	0.77	0.03	0.69	0.81	0.71
		New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation.	0.62	-0.67	0.17	0.59	0.49
		Harris celebrated Women's History Month with girls at US/Mexico Border.	0.36	-0.38	-0.17	0.37	0.09
		January 6 trials come to a halt amid Ukraine crisis.	0.24	0.65	-0.64	0.22	0.05
		Biden signed bill to mandate climate change curriculum in all K-8 classrooms.	0.16	-0.25	-1.08	0.15	0.04
	Actual	Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court.	0.88	-1.58	1.0	0.87	0.84
		Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need you right now'.	0.8	0.03	0.69	0.81	0.72
		New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation.	0.64	-0.67	0.17	0.61	0.49
		Congress members awarded themselves a pay raise in 2022.	0.27	2.08	-0.44	0.28	0.07
		In March 2022, U.S. Representative Paul Gosar defended himself from criticism with a tweet in which he indicated he had been called 'stupid' for his whole life.	0.25	0.3	-0.58	0.24	0.06
		Former President Donald Trump's 'Truth Social' platform will cost users $4.99 a week.	0.16	-0.16	-0.85	0.18	0.04

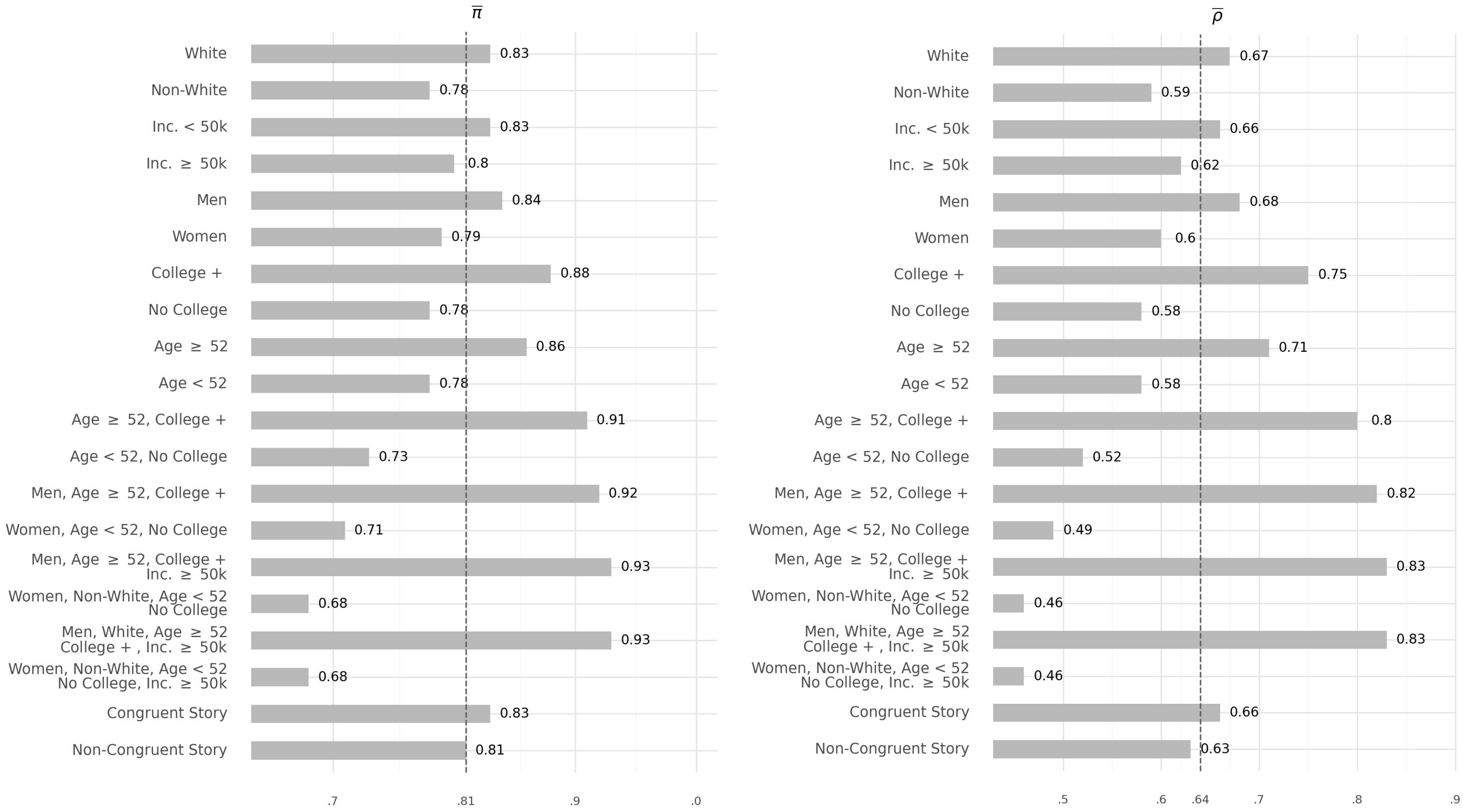
Note: The table lists, for each variant of the March, 2022 quiz, all the true and fake news stories. For each quiz, the three top statements correspond to the true statements. For each news story, the table reports the share of survey respondents who selected the statement when completing the quiz ("Share"), the standardized average partisan score ("b"), the predicted γ_j parameter ("γ"), the predicted share of respondents who select the statement when completing the quiz ("$\overline{\pi}$"), and the predicted probability that an average respondent assigns 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the statement ("$\overline{\rho}$"). Individual observations have been weighted using the individual weights provided by Ipsos. For a comparison with the unweighted data, see Table F.41

Table F.51: Ipsos News Quizzes March 2022

Story Favorability	$\overline{\pi}$	$\overline{\rho}$
Very Unfavorable	0.8	0.63
Unfavorable	0.81	0.63
Neutral	0.82	0.65
Favorable	0.83	0.66
Very Favorable	0.83	0.66

Note: The first column ("$t = 0$") of the table reports the average probability $\overline{\pi}$ that a partisan individual selects the true statement when faced with 1 true and 1 false statement (both less than one month old) by varying the favorability toward the individual's preferred party of the true statement and assuming a neutral false statement. The first column also reports the corresponding probabilities $\overline{\rho}(3)$ of assigning 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true statement. The second ("$t = 1$") and third ("$t = 2$") columns report the same probabilities when the news stories are 5 to 8 weeks old and 9 to 12 weeks old, respectively.
Individual observations have been weighted using the individual weights provided by Ipsos. For a comparison with the unweighted data, see Table F.43.

Table F.52: Partisan Congruence



(a) Probability of Selecting True Story

(b) Probability of Assigning Favorable Odds to True Story

Note: Figure 1a reports the probability that individuals belonging to various subgroups of the population select the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. It also reports the probability that partisan individuals select the true news story when it is politically congruent and when it is politically non-congruent. Figure 1b reports the probability that individuals belonging to various subgroups of the population assign 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when faced with a typical pair of true and fake news stories. It also reports the probability that partisan individuals assign 3:1 or higher odds of truth in favor of the true news story when it is politically congruent and when it is politically non-congruent. In both figures, the vertical bar corresponds to the population average. Individual observations have been weighted using the individual weights provided by Ipsos. For a comparison with the unweighted data, see Figures F.7a and F.7b.

Figure F.9: Socioeconomic Inequality and Partisan Congruence

G Discussion of Quiz Design

Under our quiz design, respondents are given 6 statements to read and they are informed that exactly 3 statements are true. Telling respondents that exactly 3 statements are true creates an interdependency between the 6 statements: respondents have incentives to rule in and rule out statements. This feature, in turn, means that we can only learn about relative probabilities: for instance, with what probability will individuals believe one statement to be more likely to be true than another statement, or, how much larger is the probability of truth that individuals assign to a given statement versus another. We cannot learn about the absolute probabilities of truth individuals assign to the statements they are given to read.

An alternative to our quiz design consists of asking respondents to indicate, for each statement, whether they think the statement is true or false, and to remain silent about the share of true statements. To avoid interdependencies across statements, the probability that each statement is true would have to be independent from the probability that any other statement is true (and this feature would have to be communicated to the respondents). In principle, an advantage of this alternative design is that we could hope to learn, for example, whether an individual believes a statement to be true with a probability higher or lower than 0.5. We now argue that difficulties exist under this alternative design, and that our approach is robust to these difficulties. We illustrate the logic within our model. Suppose an individual with parameter θ_i faces 2 statements j and j' with parameters, respectively, γ_j and $\gamma_{j'}$. Suppose, moreover, that j is a true statement and j' is a false statement and recall also that the λ_i parameter captures respondents' prior beliefs about the truth of the statements they are about to read. The individual is told to treat each statement independently and she is asked to indicate which statements she thinks are true. She is not informed about the share of true statements (or the probability with which each statement is true). Under our functional form assumption, this individual will correctly classify statement j as true with probability:

$$1 - e^{-e^{\theta_i \gamma_j + \lambda_i}} \tag{10}$$

This is simply the probability that her posterior belief q_{ij} that statement j is true lies above the cutoff $\frac{1}{2}$. Similarly, this individual will mistakenly classify statement j' as true with probability:

$$1 - e^{-e^{\theta_i \gamma_{j'} + \lambda_i}} \tag{11}$$

Both probabilities remain unchanged if we add a constant c to both γ's (i.e., if we make the true statement "easier to identify as true" and the false statement "harder to identify as false") and subtract $c\theta_i$ from λ_i (i.e., we make individual i more skeptical). This observation remains valid if we add individuals or statements.

Note that, for the sake of clarity, we relied on our model to illustrate the difficulty that exists when trying to separate individuals' prior beliefs from the statements' inherent plausibility. However, this conceptual difficulty exists independently of the exact model one assumes and even if one does not rely on a model to interpret the raw response rates. Suppose that after administering a quiz with a balanced mix of true and false headlines, we see that many respondents stated that all or close to all headlines are true; are they poorly informed? Did they somehow think that the quiz would include many true statements a priori? Were the headlines very plausible? Or is their relatively poor performance explained by a combination of all three factors? One cannot hope to separate these effects when interpreting the data without fixing respondents' prior beliefs.

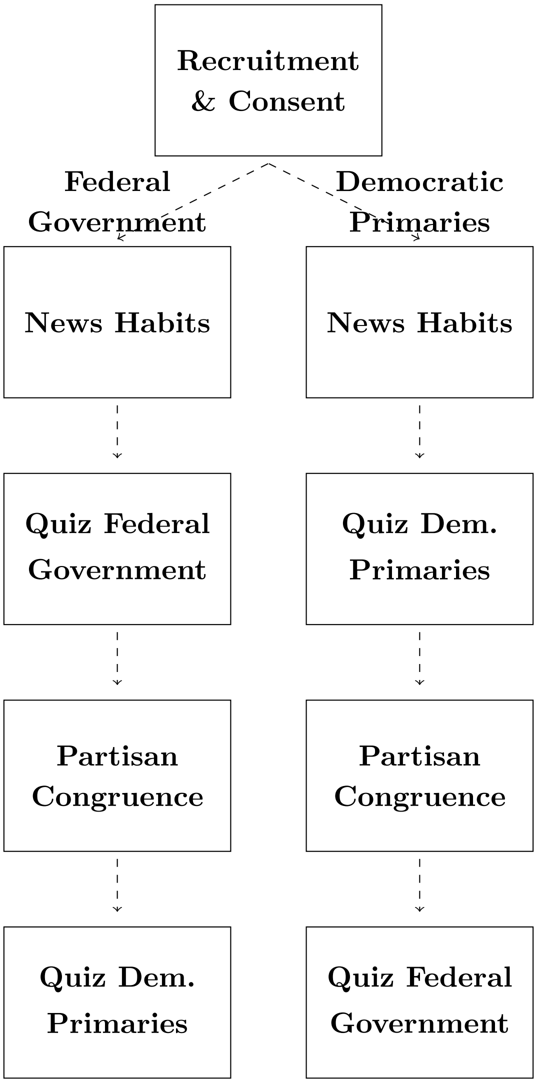
These issues are absent under our quiz design in which individuals are told that exactly 3 out of 6 statements are true, and in which they are asked to select the 3 statements they think are most likely to be true. Under this design, individuals' prior beliefs or degree of skepticism or credulity towards the statements is irrelevant (see equation (2) on page 14 of the main article, where the λ parameter is absent). All individuals need to do is to rank the statements according to their plausibility and this, in turn, means that we can separately identify individual-level parameters from statement-level parameters.

Another intriguing alternative to our quiz design consists of eliciting the probability of truth individuals assign to the statements they are given to read directly, by relying on scoring rules. In practice, implementing scoring rules in the context of a short online survey which many participants complete on their mobile devices is challenging. Even ignoring the fact that many people might find it difficult to report exact probabilities (and that this problem might be exacerbated in the presence of partisan tendencies, as in our setting), it is for example unclear whether respondents should be communicated the properties of the monetary incentives they are facing or whether they should instead simply be told that it is in their best interest to tell the truth (Danz et al., 2022). Under our design, individuals are asked to complete a very simple task: to pick the three statements they believe to be the most plausible. While this approach has its own limitations (i.e., we cannot learn about the absolute probabilities of truth individuals assign to the statements they are given to read), we believe its relative simplicity might be a strength in our context.

Arguably, another advantage of our quizzes relative to standard scoring rules stems from the relatively high-powered incentives they offer. This feature is advantageous because it means that we are able to obtain high-quality data at a comparatively low cost, which, in turn, is important to enable us to insert multiple quizzes within surveys that are repeated over time. To see why incentives are high-powered under our quiz design, note that in our data, on average, a respondent has roughly a 0.35 probability of earning \$1 when completing one of our quizzes. The same individual would earn the dollar only with probability 0.05 if she was to guess at random. In other words, under our quiz design, an average individual increases her expected earnings sevenfold by entering thoughtful responses. Monetary incentives are not nearly as high-powered when relying on scoring rules to elicit beliefs. To see this, suppose survey participants are given 6 statements to read and informed that the number of true statements was generated uniformly at random. For each statement, they are asked to report their subjective probability of truth, denoted p_{ij}, and rewards are determined according to a standard quadratic scoring rule. Specifically, if statement j is true, individual i receives a prize worth one sixth of a dollar (for sake of comparison) with probability $\left(1-(1-p_{ij})^2\right)$. Conversely, if statement j is false, individual i receives one sixth of a dollar with probability $\left(1-p_{ij}^2\right)$. Under this incentive structure, an individual who does not take the trouble to read the statements and simply submits probabilities equal to 0.5 for all six statements is guaranteed an expected payoff equal to 0.75 dollars. In other words, the increase in her expected payoff a respondent can hope to enjoy when reporting accurate subjective probabilities is capped at one-third and likely much lower for most individuals. To summarize, to the extent that survey data quality is increasing in the strength of the monetary incentives offered to participants, one advantage of our quiz design is that it enables us to design relatively high-powered incentives without the need to offer large rewards.

H Survey

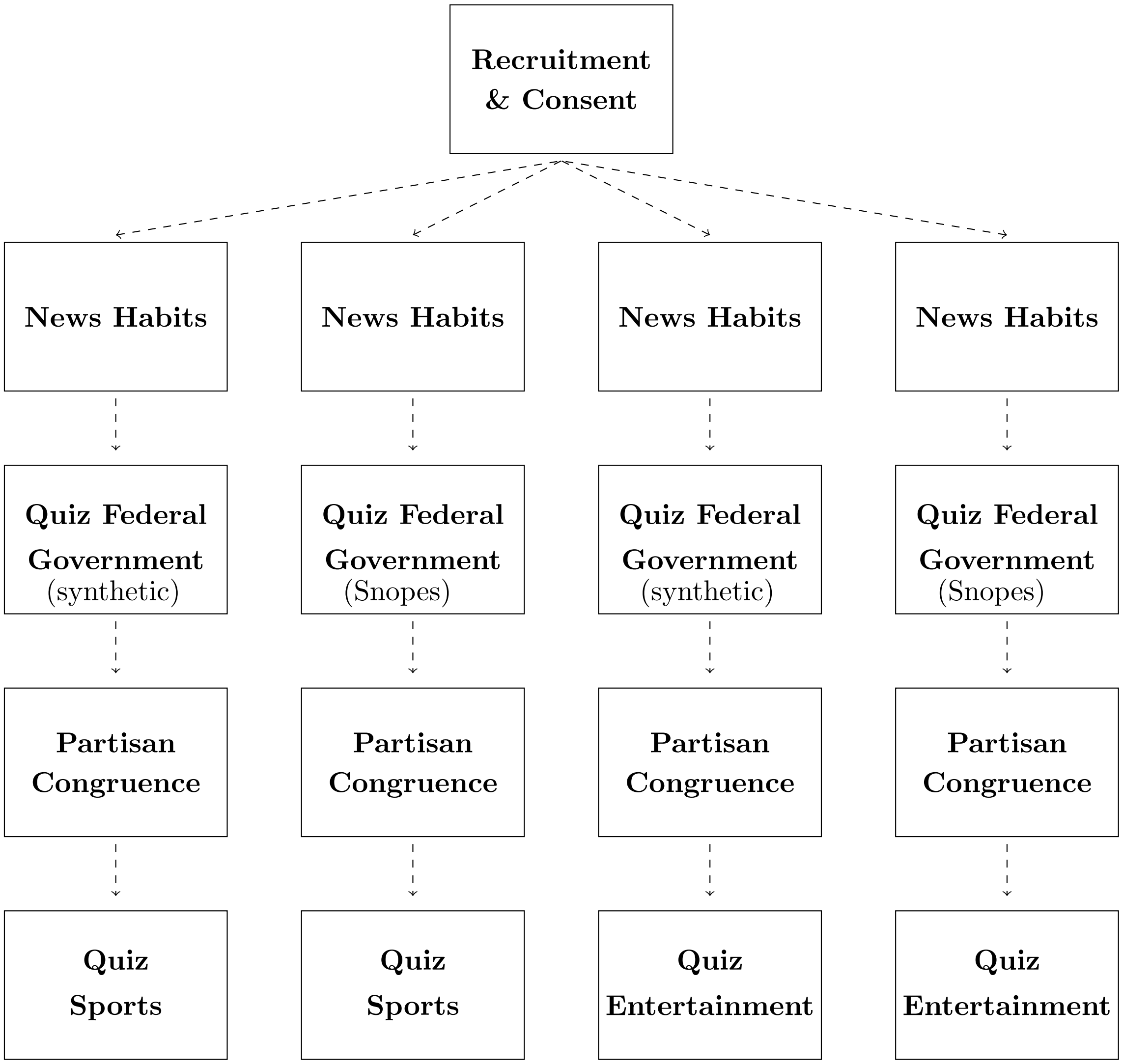
H.1 Survey Design: Surveys with Quizzes about Democratic Party Primaries


Recruitment & Consent
Federal Government
Democratic Primaries
News Habits
News Habits
Quiz Federal Government
Quiz Dem. Primaries
Partisan Congruence
Partisan Congruence
Quiz Dem. Primaries
Quiz Federal Government

Note: Respondents were randomly allocated to two groups: the "Federal Government" group and the "Democratic Primaries" group. Regardless of the group they were allocated to, respondents took both the news quiz about the Federal Government and the news quiz about the Democratic Party presidential primaries. Similarly, all respondents answered the media consumption questions. Respondents who were allocated to the "Federal Government" group reported how favorable to the Republican Party, in their opinion, each statement included in the Federal Government quiz was. Similarly, respondents who were allocated to the "Democratic Primaries" group reported how favorable to the Democratic Party, in their opinion, each statement included in the Democratic Primaries quiz was.

Figure H.1: **Survey Design 1**

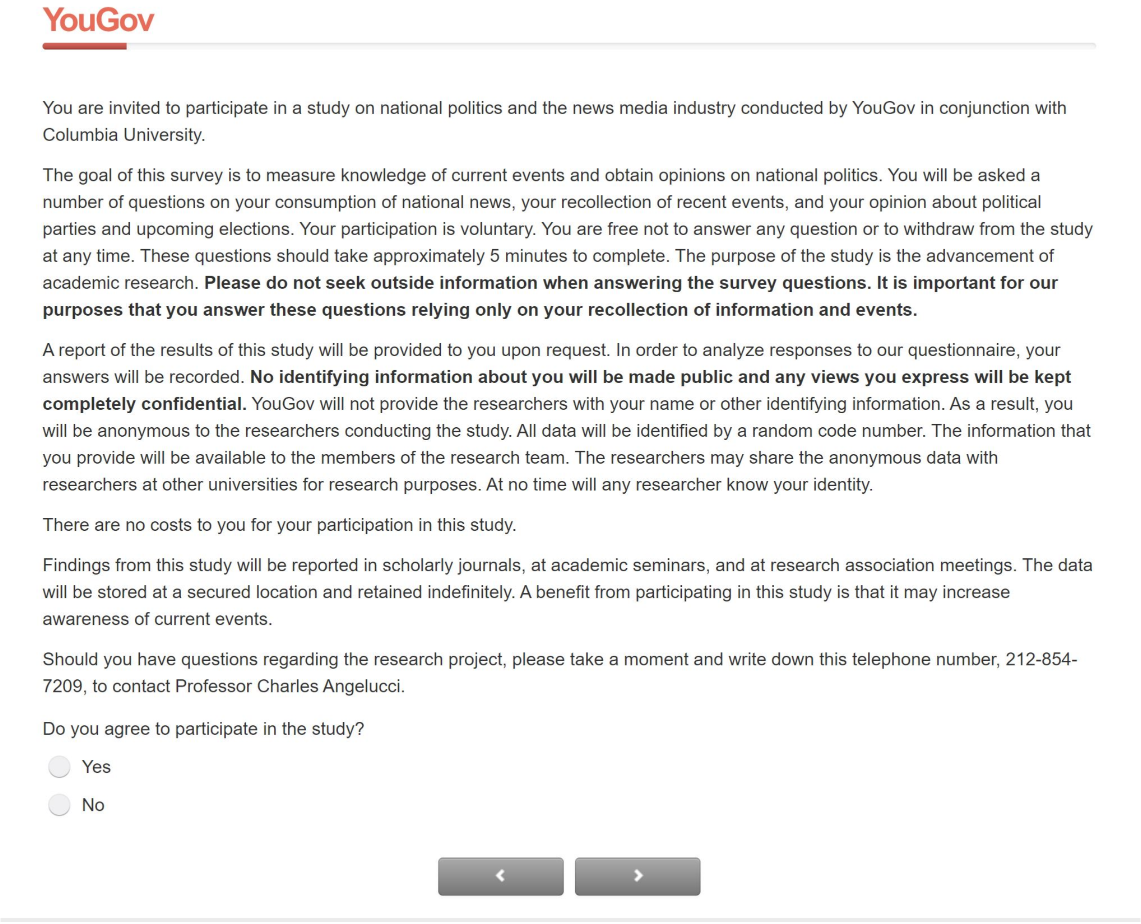
H.2 Survey Design: Surveys with Quizzes with actual fake news and Quizzes about Sports and Entertainment


Recruitment & Consent
News Habits
News Habits
News Habits
News Habits
Quiz Federal Government (synthetic)
Quiz Federal Government (Snopes)
Quiz Federal Government (synthetic)
Quiz Federal Government (Snopes)
Partisan Congruence
Partisan Congruence
Partisan Congruence
Partisan Congruence
Quiz Sports
Quiz Sports
Quiz Entertainment
Quiz Entertainment

Note: Respondents were randomly allocated to the two variants of the news quizzes about the Federal Government: the quiz with synthetic fake news stories and the quiz with actual fake news stories. Similarly, respondents were randomly allocated to complete either a quiz about sports news stories or a quiz about entertainment news stories.

Figure H.2: **Survey Design 2**

H.3 Consent Form



You are invited to participate in a study on national politics and the news media industry conducted by YouGov in conjunction with Columbia University.

The goal of this survey is to measure knowledge of current events and obtain opinions on national politics. You will be asked a number of questions on your consumption of national news, your recollection of recent events, and your opinion about political parties and upcoming elections. Your participation is voluntary. You are free not to answer any question or to withdraw from the study at any time. These questions should take approximately 5 minutes to complete. The purpose of the study is the advancement of academic research. **Please do not seek outside information when answering the survey questions. It is important for our purposes that you answer these questions relying only on your recollection of information and events.**

A report of the results of this study will be provided to you upon request. In order to analyze responses to our questionnaire, your answers will be recorded. **No identifying information about you will be made public and any views you express will be kept completely confidential.** YouGov will not provide the researchers with your name or other identifying information. As a result, you will be anonymous to the researchers conducting the study. All data will be identified by a random code number. The information that you provide will be available to the members of the research team. The researchers may share the anonymous data with researchers at other universities for research purposes. At no time will any researcher know your identity.

There are no costs to you for your participation in this study.

Findings from this study will be reported in scholarly journals, at academic seminars, and at research association meetings. The data will be stored at a secured location and retained indefinitely. A benefit from participating in this study is that it may increase awareness of current events.

Should you have questions regarding the research project, please take a moment and write down this telephone number, 212-854-7209, to contact Professor Charles Angelucci.

Do you agree to participate in the study?

○ Yes

○ No

Figure H.3: Consent Form

H.4 Questions

H.4.1 Media Consumption Questions

Variable Name	**Question Text**
Total Media	We are interested in where you get your national news. In the past seven days, have you... (check all that apply) Watched national news on television Read about national news in a print newspaper Read about national news online, including social media (website and/or mobile apps) Listened to national news on the radio None of the above
Television Sources	In the past seven days, which television station or network did you watch to learn about national news? (check all that apply) CNN, Fox, MSNBC, C-Span, CBS, ABC, NBC, PBS One America News, Local TV Station, Other (please specify)
Print Sources	In the past seven days, which print newspapers did you read to learn national news? (check all that apply) Arizona Republic, Chicago Tribune, Houston Chronicle, Los Angeles Times, New York Times, New York Daily News New York Post, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post Boston Globe, Miami Herald, USA Today, Local Newspaper, Other (please Specify)

Table H.1: News Consumption 1/2

Variable Name	**Question Text**
Online Sources	In the past seven days, which online sources did you use to learn about national news. (check all that apply) MSN News, ABC, Yahoo News, Google News, Huffington Post, CNN, NYTimes, Fox, NBC, Washington Post, Washington Times, Guardian, WSJ, USA Today, LA Times, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, Vox, InfoWars, The Daily Signal, The National Review, Buzzfeed, Slate, BBC, The Hill, Breitbart, Other (please specify)
Radio Sources	In the past seven days, which radio station did you listen to learn about national news? (check all that apply) NPR, Local Radio Station, Internet-only Radio station, Other (please Specify)
Media Exposure	In the past seven days, have you spent time reading about, watching, or listening to news about current national events (newspapers, TV, radio, internet, and so on)?
Total Time	How much time have you spent reading about, watching, or listening to news about current national events (newspapers, TV, radio, internet, and so on)?

Table H.2: News Consumption 2/2

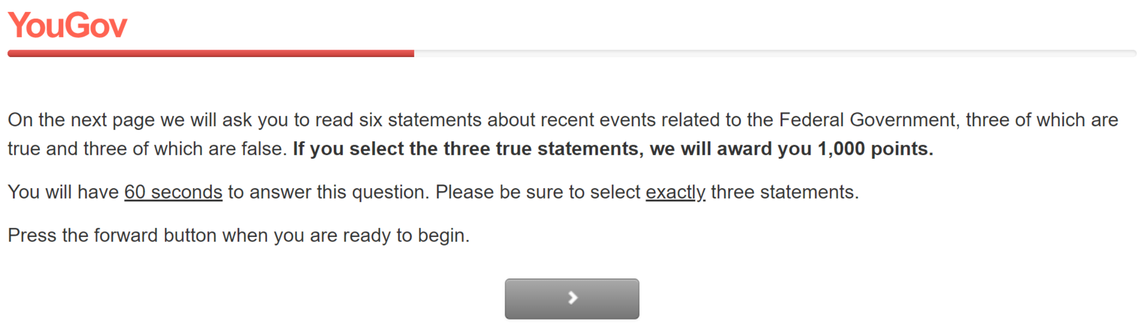
H.4.2 Voting Intentions

Variable Name	**Question Text**
Turnout	How likely is it that you will vote? I have already voted in person I have already voted by mail I definitely will vote I probably will vote I maybe will vote I probably will not vote I definitely will not vote I don’t know if I will vote
Voting Intentions	Which candidate would you vote for? Donald Trump (Republican) Joe Biden (Democrat) Jo Jorgensen (Libertarian) Howie Hawkins (Green) Not sure

Note: The table reports the voting intentions questions inserted in the October-November, 2020 survey.

Table H.3: Voting Intentions

H.4.3 News Quizzes



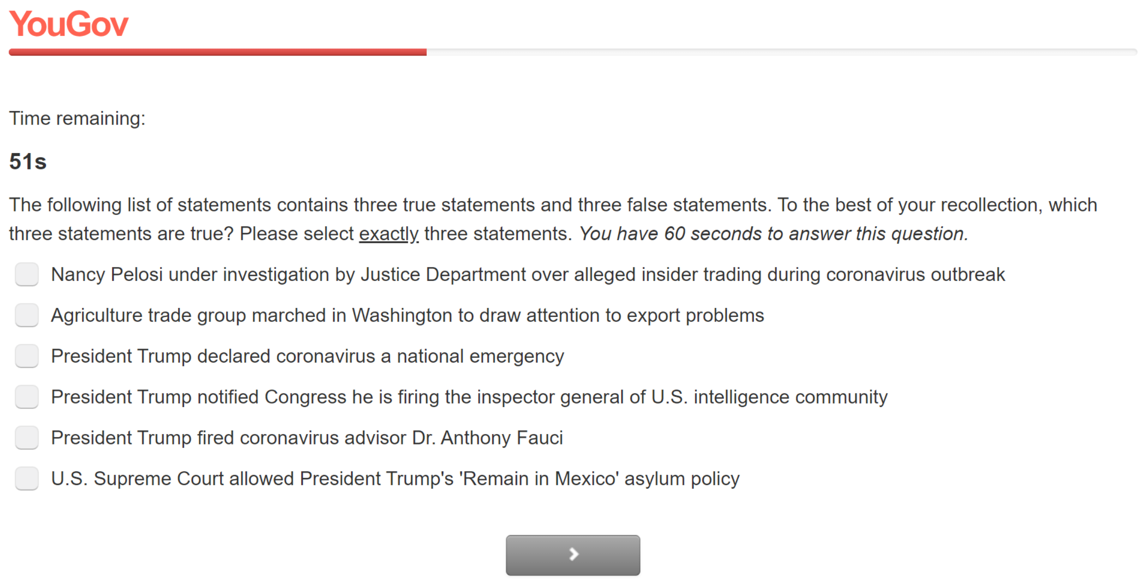
On the next page we will ask you to read six statements about recent events related to the Federal Government, three of which are true and three of which are false. **If you select the three true statements, we will award you 1,000 points.**

You will have 60 seconds to answer this question. Please be sure to select exactly three statements.

Press the forward button when you are ready to begin.

Note: 1,000 points correspond to $1.

Figure H.4: Quiz Example (April, 2020), Step 1



Time remaining:

51s

The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. *You have 60 seconds to answer this question.*

☐ Nancy Pelosi under investigation by Justice Department over alleged insider trading during coronavirus outbreak
☐ Agriculture trade group marched in Washington to draw attention to export problems
☐ President Trump declared coronavirus a national emergency
☐ President Trump notified Congress he is firing the inspector general of U.S. intelligence community
☐ President Trump fired coronavirus advisor Dr. Anthony Fauci
☐ U.S. Supreme Court allowed President Trump's 'Remain in Mexico' asylum policy

Note: The order of the statements was randomized across respondents. A timer was added to help respondents select 3 statements within 60 seconds.

Figure H.5: Quiz Example (April, 2020), Step 2

Variable Name	**Question Text**
	News Stories from May, 2019. Survey administered in June, 2019.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Mexico agreed to take more migrants seeking asylum in the United States while they await adjudication of their cases. • Alabama's governor signed a bill to ban nearly all abortions in the state. • President Trump proposed plan to make U.S. immigration more merit-based. • Attorney General Barr released text message from Special Counsel prosecutor Robert Mueller text: 'We're taking down Trump'. • US Border Patrol facility admitted to measles outbreak among migrant children in custody. • Trump administration to continue to allow U.S. research using fetal tissue from abortions.

Note: The quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The quiz was administered through YouGov (N=673). The first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Table H.4: Quiz Federal Government 1

Variable Name	**Question Text**
	News Stories from September, 2019. Survey administered in October, 2019.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Whistle-blower report complains of White House cover-up on Trump-Ukraine scandal. • Supreme Court granted a request by President Trump's administration to fully enforce a new rule that would curtail asylum applications by immigrants at the U.S. - Mexico border. • At a closed-door meeting at the White House, top envoy to China delivered evidence of rising Farm Belt frustration over bio-fuel policy. • President Trump announces he will resume peace talks with Iran at UN General Assembly. • China blacklists Apple, Microsoft amid escalating trade war. • Vaping case to make its way to Supreme Court.
	News Stories from September, 2019. Survey administered in October, 2019.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Elizabeth Warren catches up with Biden in national opinion poll. • Democrats in presidential debate hint at no swift end to China tariffs. • In a recent debate, all of the Democratic presidential candidates agreed universal healthcare is a top priority. • Elizabeth Warren plan would slash 70% of mining jobs. • Kamala Harris attacks Cory Booker over Newark's water problem. • Black face photo shows up in Biden's past.

Note: The top quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The bottom quiz deals with the Democratic Party presidential primaries and includes synthetic fake news stories. Both quizzes were administered through YouGov (N=750 for each quiz). For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Table H.5: Quiz Federal Government 2 & Quiz Democratic Party primaries 1

Variable Name	**Question Text**
	News Stories from Oct./Nov., 2019. Survey administered in November, 2019 and February, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • A whistleblower filed a complaint against President Trump, leading to an impeachment inquiry. • Republican lawmakers in the House of Representatives condemned President Trump's decision to withdraw troops from Syria. • The Trump administration credited cooperation from Mexico and Central American countries in cracking down on migrants. • President Trump's Tax Returns showed billions given to various charities. • China and the United States agreed on a new comprehensive trade deal. • Isis beheaded three Americans in response to Al-Baghdadi's death.
	News Stories from Oct./Nov., 2019. Survey administered in November, 2019 and February, 2020
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Presidential candidate Elizabeth Warren proposed a Medicare for All plan that she said would not require raising middle-class taxes. • Former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg has been considering whether to run for president. • Democratic groups launched a multi-million digital ad effort to fight President Trump. • Voting Intentions Poll showed Bloomberg above Biden with white, working class voters. • Pete Buttigieg received a significant donation, pushing him to the front of the fundraising race among all Democratic candidates as of early November. • Hilary Clinton endorsed presidential candidate Tulsi Gabbard despite previous spat.

Note: The top quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The bottom quiz deals with the Democratic Party presidential primaries and includes synthetic fake news stories. Both quizzes were administered through YouGov in November 2019 (N=1,000 for each quiz) and February, 2020 (N=501 for the top quiz and N=499 for the bottom quiz). For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Table H.6: Quiz Federal Government 3 & Quiz Democratic Party primaries 2

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from Jan./Feb., 2020. Survey administered in February, 2020 and in April, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • The U.S. Senate acquitted Trump of impeachment charges. • Attorney General William Barr said that President Trump's attacks on prosecutors, the judge and jurors in the trial of Roger Stone undermined the Justice Department's work. • The House of Representatives passed legislation seeking to rein in President Trump's ability to deploy U.S. forces to fight abroad. • A Tape surfaced of President Trump supporting abortion. • Mitt Romney decided to run for president against Trump in the 2020 race after breakout role in impeachment. • President Trump took a week-long break from Campaigning to Deal with Coronavirus Outbreak.
	News Stories from Jan./Feb., 2020. Survey administered in February, 2020 and in April, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Two billionaire Democratic presidential hopefuls, Michael Bloomberg and Tom Steyer, collectively spent more in 2019 than the rest of the Democratic candidates combined. • Bernie Sanders won New Hampshire's Democratic presidential primary. • The Democratic presidential nominating race got off to a chaotic start in Iowa, as the results of the state's caucuses were delayed for hours. • Pete Buttigieg chose Kamala Harris as Vice-Presidential pick. • Bernie Sanders admitted to taking Wall Street campaign contributions. • Andrew Yang Endorsed Amy Klobuchar, saying she is 'Most Honest in the Race.'

Note: The top quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The bottom quiz deals with the Democratic Party presidential primaries and includes synthetic fake news stories. Both quizzes were administered through YouGov (N=1000 for each quiz) and MTurk (N=784 for the top quiz and N=785 for the bottom quiz) in February, 2020 and again in April, 2020 through YouGov only (N=500 for each quiz). For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Table H.7: Quiz Federal Government 4 & Quiz Democratic Party primaries 3

Variable Name	**Question Text**
	News Stories from March, 2020. Survey administered in April, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • U.S. Supreme Court allowed President Trump's 'Remain in Mexico' asylum policy. • President Trump declared coronavirus a national emergency. • President Trump notified Congress he is firing the inspector general of U.S. intelligence community. • President Trump fired coronavirus advisor Dr. Anthony Fauci. • Nancy Pelosi under investigation by Justice Department over alleged insider trading during coronavirus outbreak. • Agriculture trade group marched in Washington to draw attention to export problems.
	News Stories from March, 2020. Survey administered in April, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Elizabeth Warren ended White House bid. • Several states postponed Democratic Party primaries amid coronavirus outbreak. • Joe Biden announced he will pick woman to be his vice presidential running mate. • Kamala Harris ruled out possible role as vice presidential candidate. • Bernie Sanders ended White House bid. • Joe Biden announced he would not release tax returns.

Note: The top quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The bottom quiz deals with the Democratic Party presidential primaries and includes synthetic fake news. Both quizzes were administered through YouGov (N=1,000 each). For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Table H.8: Quiz Federal Government 5 & Quiz Democratic Party primaries 4

Variable Name	**Question Text**
	News Stories from April, 2020. Survey administered in May, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • President Trump said he would address national debt if re-elected. • In win for President Trump, U.S. Supreme Court made deporting immigrants for crimes easier. • Senior U.S. House members vowed to pass major defense bill despite pandemic. • President Trump's campaign saw steep rise in donations after press conferences. • President Trump announced tax returns to be released by Mid-May. • Around 20% of IRS stimulus checks bounced.
	News Stories April, 2020. Survey administered in May, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Joe Biden raised more money than Donald Trump in March. • Joe Biden denied alleged sexual assault. • Bernie Sanders dropped out of U.S. presidential race. • George Soros refused to donate money to Biden campaign. • Joe Biden announced he would consider Anthony Fauci for Surgeon General. • Hilary Clinton dropped endorsement for Joe Biden.

Note: The top quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The bottom quiz deals with the Democratic Party presidential primaries and includes synthetic fake news stories. Both quizzes were administered through YouGov (N=500). For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Table H.9: Quiz Federal Government 6 & Quiz Democratic Party presidential primaries 5

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from July, 2020. Survey administered in August, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • In a first, President Trump donned a mask in visit to a military medical facility. • President Trump announced plan to send federal agents to the cities of Chicago and Albuquerque to crack down on violent crime. • President Trump attacked 'left-wing cultural revolution' in Mount Rushmore address. • Joe Biden called for 'defunding the police' in first 100 days as president. • Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez admitted to fabricating exchange with GOP lawmaker. • President Trump Publicly Considered New Running Mate Amid Pence Disagreement.
	News Stories July, 2020. Survey administered in August, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • In a first, President Trump donned a mask in visit to a military medical facility. • President Trump announced plan to send federal agents to the cities of Chicago and Albuquerque to crack down on violent crime. • President Trump attacked 'left-wing cultural revolution' in Mount Rushmore address. • A photograph shows President Obama, Dr. Anthony Fauci, and Melinda Gates at a laboratory in Wuhan, China, in 2015. • U.S. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez tweeted that businesses should be kept closed until after the 2020 presidential election. • President Trump tweeted that the Confederate flag is a 'symbol of love.'

Note: The top quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories (N=499). The bottom quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes fake news stories from Snopes (N=503). Both quizzes were administered through MTurk. For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Table H.10: Quiz Federal Government 7 & Quiz Federal Government 8

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from September/October, 2020. Survey administered in October, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • President Trump suggested 2020 election result could never be accurate. • President Trump nominated Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court. • President Trump moved to military hospital after COVID-19 diagnosis. • Michael Bloomberg rejoined presidential race as independent candidate. • Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez pinpointed Mnuchin in stock market manipulation. • Dr. Anthony Fauci said it was 'totally safe to play' to the NFL.
	News Stories September/October, 2020. Survey administered in October, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • President Trump suggested 2020 election result could never be accurate. • President Trump nominated Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court. • President Trump moved to military hospital after COVID-19 diagnosis. • 'Antifa' arsonists have been setting wildfires raging on the West Coast in September 2020. • Ruth Bader Ginsburg said that pedophilia was good for children. • Kentucky Attorney General Daniel Cameron is married to U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell's granddaughter.

Note: The top quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The bottom quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes fake news stories from Snopes. Both quizzes were administered through MTurk (top N=502 , bottom N=493). For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Table H.11: Quiz Federal Government 9 & Quiz Federal Government 10

Variable Name	**Question Text**
	News Stories from October, 2020. Survey administered in October/November, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • McConnell avoided White House, citing laxity on masks, COVID-19 precautions. • Second U.S. presidential debate officially canceled after Trump balked. • Trump Supreme Court pick Barrett pledged to follow law, not personal views. • White House to host election night viewing party, Fauci calls it "potential disaster." • Kanye West called for special prosecutor if Biden elected. • President Trump tweeted about Black Lives Matters protests taking place in front of Mar-a-Lago.
	News Stories October, 2020. Survey administered in October/November, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Mitch McConnell avoided White House, citing laxity on masks, COVID-19 precautions. • Second U.S. presidential debate officially canceled after Trump balked. • Trump Supreme Court pick Barrett pledged to follow law, not personal views. • Democratic U.S. presidential nominee Joe Biden said that he grew up in section 8 housing during a town hall debate. • While speaking of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, Joe Biden referred to Black Americans as "super-predators." • President Trump said: "The doctors said they've never seen a body kill the Coronavirus like my body. They tested my DNA and it wasn't DNA. It was USA."

Note: The top quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The bottom quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes fake news stories from Snopes. Both quizzes were administered through YouGov (each N=800). For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Table H.12: Quiz Federal Government 9 & Quiz Federal Government 10

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from October, 2020. Survey administered in November, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Lakers return to glory, claim record-tying 17th NBA title. • Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Rays 4-2 in Game Five of the World Series. • Cleveland Browns wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. suffered a season-ending knee injury. • Lebron James Retires, Becomes Cavaliers new coach. • Miami Marlins trade for First Pick in 2021 MLB Draft. • New England Patriots undefeated going into Week 8.
	News Stories October, 2020. Survey administered in November, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Rudy Giuliani shown in hotel bedroom scene in new 'Borat' film. • Guitar rock legend Eddie Van Halen dies of cancer at 65. • World Series draws record-low audience for 2nd night. • NFL pushes off Super Bowl until Fall in hopes of drawing larger crowd. • Disney cancels season 3 of The Mandalorian. • Natalie Portman to star in next Woody Allen movie.

Note: The top quiz deals with sports and includes synthetic fake news stories. The bottom quiz deals with entertainment and includes synthetic fake news stories. Both quizzes were administered through YouGov (top N=789 bottom N=811). For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Table H.13: Quiz Sports 1 & Quiz Entertainment 1

Variable Name	**Question Text**
	News Stories from January, 2021. Survey administered in February, 2021.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • U.S. Senate Republican leader McConnell said Trump 'provoked' Jan. 6 riot. • Joe Biden sworn in as U.S. president. • Joe Biden said U.S. coronavirus death toll to probably top 500,000 by end of February. • Mike Pence Revealed Bombshell Allegations in Impeachment Trial. • Biden signed executive order temporarily barring guests from Capitol and other federal buildings after riots. • Biden transition team's Twitter handle under fire after mistakenly reposting anti-Trump meme.
	News Stories January, 2021. Survey administered in February, 2021.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • U.S. Senate Republican leader McConnell said Trump 'provoked' Jan. 6 riot. • Biden sworn in as U.S. president. • Biden said U.S. coronavirus death toll to probably top 500,000 by end of February. • CNN issued a correction that read, 'Sen. Ted Cruz was seen wearing a pin featuring a QAnon symbol. It was later discovered that this was not a QAnon pin, but a Doritos snack chip stuck to his suit.' • U.S. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene said "If English was good enough for Jesus, it's good enough for us." • As of late January 2021, former U.S. President Donald Trump had started a new U.S. political party called the "Patriot Party."

Note: The top quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The bottom quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes fake news stories from Snopes. Both quizzes were administered through YouGov (top= 497, bottom 503). For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Table H.14: Quiz Federal Government 11 & Quiz Federal Government 12

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from January, 2021. Survey administered in February, 2021.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Brady leads Buccaneers to Super Bowl win on home field. • Mavs stop playing anthem, per Cuban's decision. • Olympics-Tokyo 2020 president says will hold Games regardless of pandemic situation. • Barcelona's Lionel Messi out 7-8 weeks after injury. • Duke Fires Krzyzewski for Illegal Recruitment Scheme. • Lebron on Trading Block for Future First Round Picks.
	News Stories January, 2021. Survey administered in February, 2021.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Budweiser Skips Super Bowl Ad, Promises Vaccine Education Instead. • Armie Hammer Dropped by WME In Wake of Social Media Allegations. • Streaming services, including Netflix and Amazon, dominated the list of Golden Globe nominees. • ABC's "The Bachelor" to cancel upcoming season after allegations of bullying on set. • Netflix offers healthcare workers discount on streaming service following months of petitioning. • Disney announced Marvel Star Wars crossover.

Note: The top quiz deals with sports and includes synthetic fake news stories. The bottom quiz deals with entertainment and includes synthetic fake news stories. Both quizzes were administered through YouGov (top N=507, bottom N=493). For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

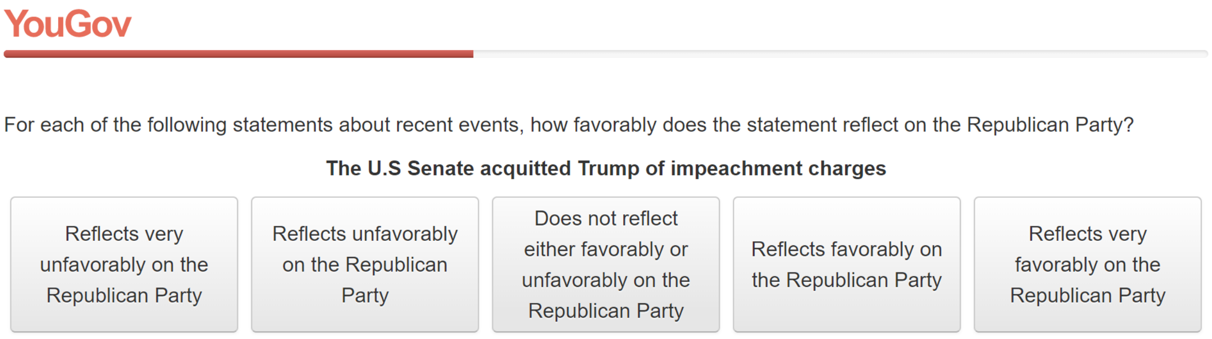
Table H.15: Quiz Sports 2 & Quiz Entertainment 2

Variable Name	**Question Text**
	News Stories from February/March, 2022. Survey administered in March, 2022.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need you right now'. • Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court. • New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation. • January 6 trials come to a halt amid Ukraine crisis. • Biden signed bill to mandate climate change curriculum in all K-8. • Harris celebrated Women's History Month with girls at US/Mexico.
	News Stories February/March, 2022. Survey administered in March, 2022.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need you right now'. • Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court. • New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation. • Congress members awarded themselves a pay raise in 2022. • Former President Donald Trump's 'Truth Social' platform will cost users $4.99 a week. • New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation.

Note: The top quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stores. The bottom quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes fake news stories from Snopes. Both quizzes were administered through YouGov (top N=501, bottom, N=499), Ipsos (top N=507, bottom, N=516), and MTurk (top N=741, bottom, N=735). For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Table H.16: Quiz Federal Government 13 & Quiz Federal Government 14

H.4.4 News Story Partisan Congruence

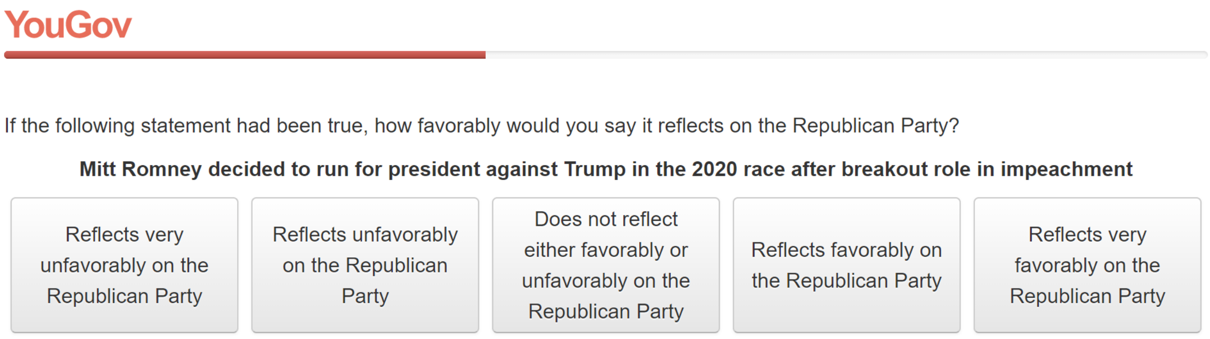

For each of the following statements about recent events, how favorably does the statement reflect on the Republican Party?

The U.S Senate acquitted Trump of impeachment charges

YouGov
Reflects very unfavorably on the Republican Party
Reflects unfavorably on the Republican Party
Does not reflect either favorably or unfavorably on the Republican Party
Reflects favorably on the Republican Party
Reflects very favorably on the Republican Party

Note: After completing a news quiz, respondents are revealed which statements are true and which statements are false. Respondents are asked to state how favorable to the Republican Party, in their opinion, each true statement is.

Figure H.6: News Story Partisan Congruence, Example True Statement


If the following statement had been true, how favorably would you say it reflects on the Republican Party?

Mitt Romney decided to run for president against Trump in the 2020 race after breakout role in impeachment

YouGov
Reflects very unfavorably on the Republican Party
Reflects unfavorably on the Republican Party
Does not reflect either favorably or unfavorably on the Republican Party
Reflects favorably on the Republican Party
Reflects very favorably on the Republican Party

Note: After completing a news quiz, respondents are shown which statements are true and which statements are false. Respondents are asked to state how favorable to the Republican Party, in their opinion, each false statement would have been had it been true.

Figure H.7: News Story Partisan Congruence, Example False Statement

Variable Name	**Question Text**
Congruence	For each of the following statements about recent events, how favorably does the statement reflect on the Republican Party? Reflects very unfavorably on the Republican Party Reflects unfavorably on the Republican Party Does not reflect either favorably or unfavorably on the Republican Party Reflects favorably on the Republican Party Reflects very favorably on the Republican Party
Congruence	If the following statement had been true, how favorably would you say it reflects on the Republican Party? Reflects very unfavorably on the Republican Party Reflects unfavorably on the Republican Party Does not reflect either favorably or unfavorably on the Republican Party Reflects favorably on the Republican Party Reflects very favorably on the Republican Party

Note: After completing news quizzes about the Federal Government, respondents are asked to state how favorable to the Republican Party, in their opinion, each true and false statement is (see Figures H.1 and H.2).

Table H.17: News Story Partisan Congruence 1/2

Variable Name	**Question Text**
Congruence	For each of the following statements about recent events, how favorably does the statement reflect on the Democratic Party? Reflects very unfavorably on the Democratic Party Reflects unfavorably on the Democratic Party Does not reflect either favorably or unfavorably on the Democratic Party Reflects favorably on the Democratic Party Reflects very favorably on the Democratic Party
Congruence	If the following statement had been true, how favorably does the statement reflect on the Democratic Party? Reflects very unfavorably on the Democratic Party Reflects unfavorably on the Democratic Party Does not reflect either favorably or unfavorably on the Democratic Party Reflects favorably on the Democratic Party Reflects very favorably on the Democratic Party
Importance	We are interested in your opinion about the importance of recent events related to the Republican Party. For each of the following statements about recent events, please tell us how important you view each. Not important Slightly important Moderately important Important Very Important
Importance	We are interested in your opinion about the importance of recent events related to the Democratic Party. For each of the following statements about recent events, please tell us how important you view each. Not important Slightly important Moderately important Important Very Important

Note: After completing news quizzes about the Democratic Party presidential primaries, respondents are asked to state how favorable to the Democratic Party, in their opinion, each true and false statement is (see Figures H.1 and H.2). In a number of surveys, respondents are also asked to report how important, they feel, each true statement is.

Table H.18: News Story Partisan Congruence 2/2

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