

Appendix B: Measures of source trust

Source trust was measured on a 5-point scale from 1 (“Not at all trustworthy”) to 5 (“Extremely Trustworthy”). This question asked respondents which sources they would trust for information about COVID-19 (“When it comes specifically to information about the coronavirus outbreak, how trustworthy do you consider the following people and news organizations?”). Relevant for our information search results in the main text, there were divides across nearly all the expert sources, with Republicans exhibiting less trust in them than Democrats.

Table B1. Trust in sources on COVID-19.

	Democrats	Republicans	Divide
Donald Trump	1.20	3.41	2.21
Nancy Pelosi	3.53	1.35	2.18
CNN	3.55	1.65	1.90
NY Times	3.66	1.82	1.84
Washington Post	3.60	1.93	1.67
Dr. Anthony Fauci	4.34	2.86	1.48
Fox News	1.70	3.09	1.39
Huffington Post	3.22	1.88	1.34
Johns Hopkins	4.31	3.42	0.89
CDC	3.99	3.12	0.87
Breitbart News	1.74	2.60	0.86
Local News	3.46	2.83	0.63
FDA	3.63	3.07	0.56