

navigator*

Tuesday, July 8th

Foreign Affairs: A Guide
for Advocates



Credit: Shutterstock/Chip Somodevilla

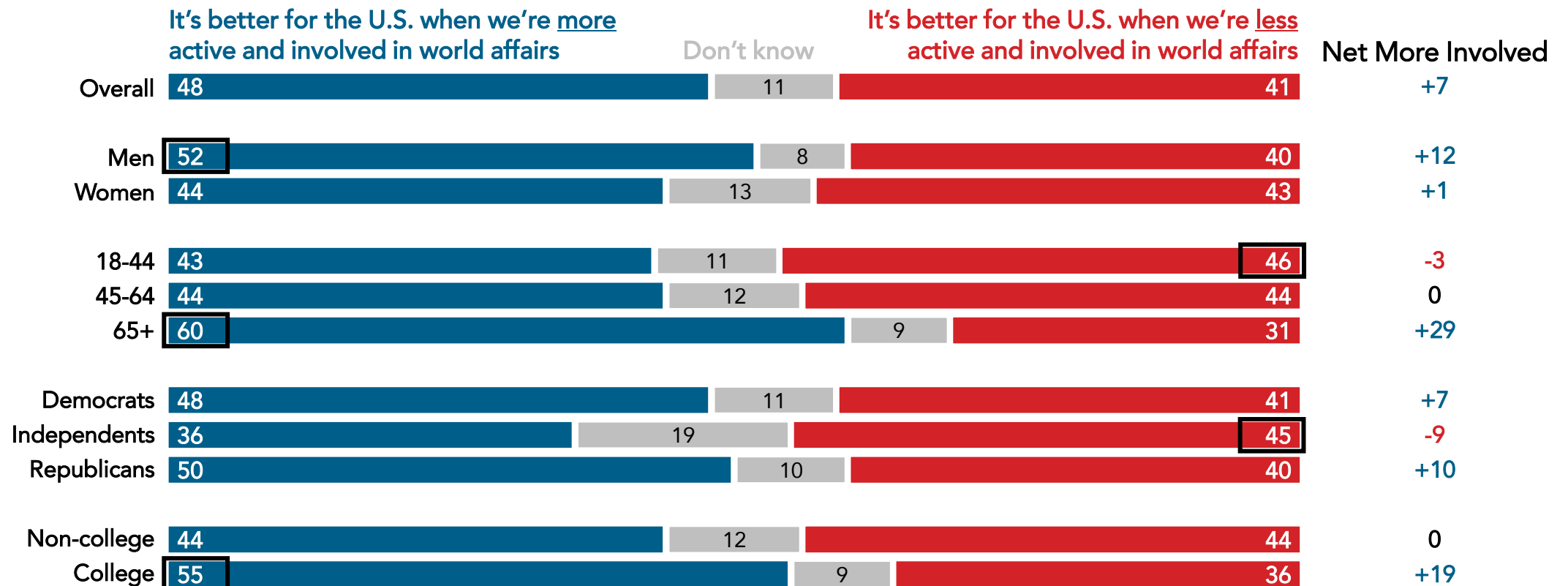
Key Takeaways:

- Americans are divided between more isolationist and more interventionist sentiments broadly. College-educated Americans and seniors across party lines skew more interventionist, while younger Americans are more isolationist.
- Roughly half disapprove of Trump's handling of the conflict in the Middle East and foreign policy more generally, though Trump and Republicans hold notable trust advantages over Democrats to keep Americans safe and handle the conflict in the Middle East.
- Trump bombing Iran dominates what Americans are hearing about in the news, both positively and negatively. Americans are also divided on whether Trump made the right decision in bombing Iran, though nearly half say they want the U.S. to end its military involvement.
- Those who oppose Trump bombing Iran do so because it puts America at future risk. Democrats are uniquely concerned about the lack of Congressional approval for the strike.

Americans Are Divided Between Broad Interventionist and Isolationist Sentiments

Men (52%), seniors (60%), and college-educated Americans (55%) are more interventionist, while independents (45%) and younger Americans (46%) are more isolationist. Unusually, there is little difference between Democrats and Republicans on this metric.

Which statement do you agree with more, even if neither fully represents your view?

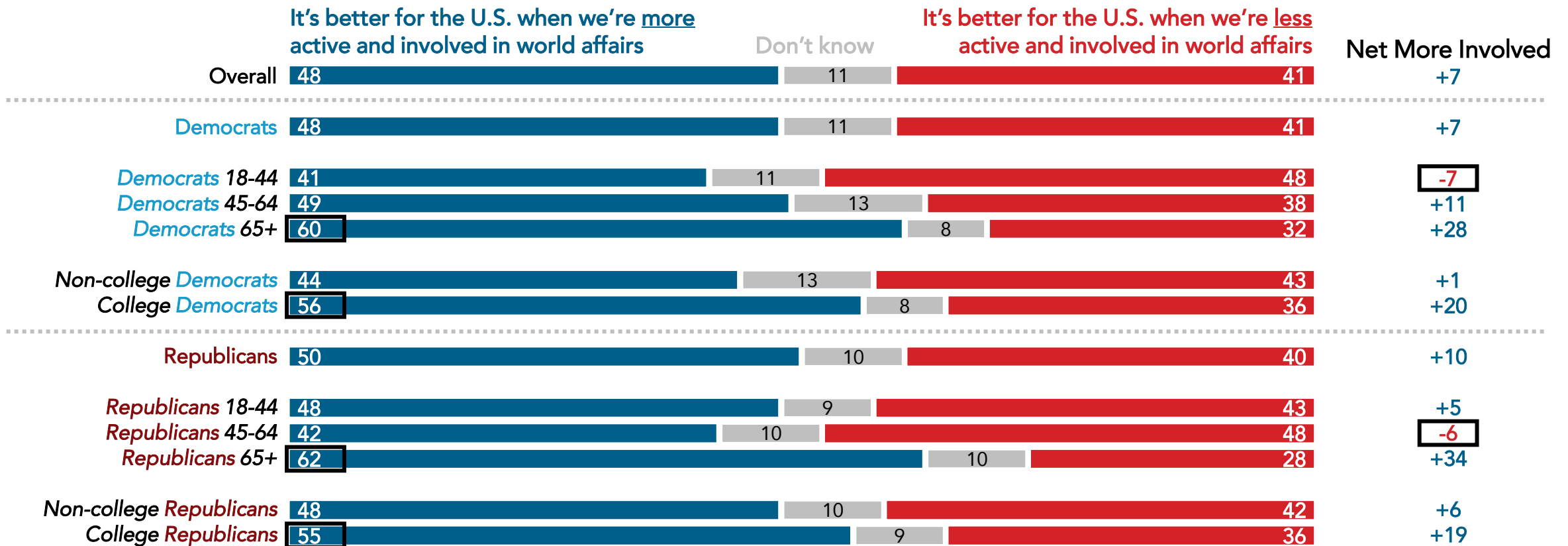


Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted June 26-June 30, 2025.
For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Within Both Parties, Seniors and College-Educated Americans Skew More Interventionist

Senior (60%) and college (56%) Democrats hold more interventionist views, as do senior (62%) and college Republicans (55%).

Which statement do you agree with more, even if neither fully represents your view?



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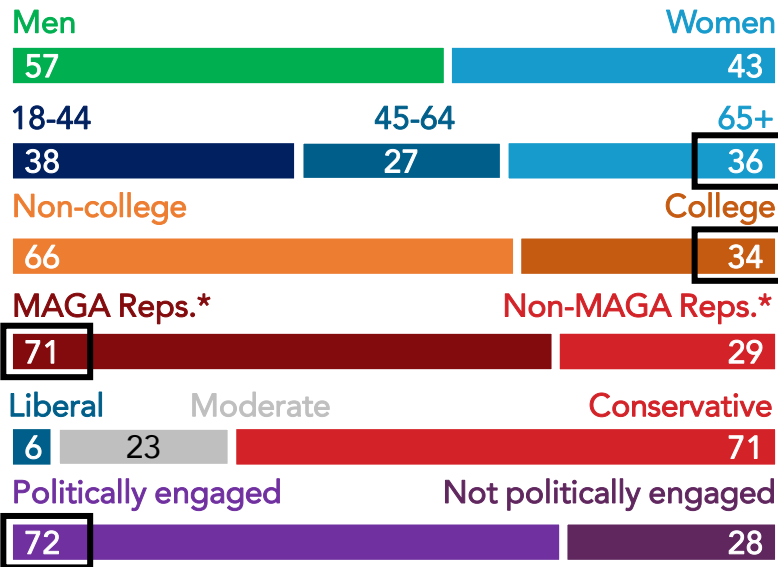
Isolationist Republicans Tend to Be Younger, More Non-College, Less MAGA, Less Politically Engaged

Interventionist vs. Isolationist Republicans

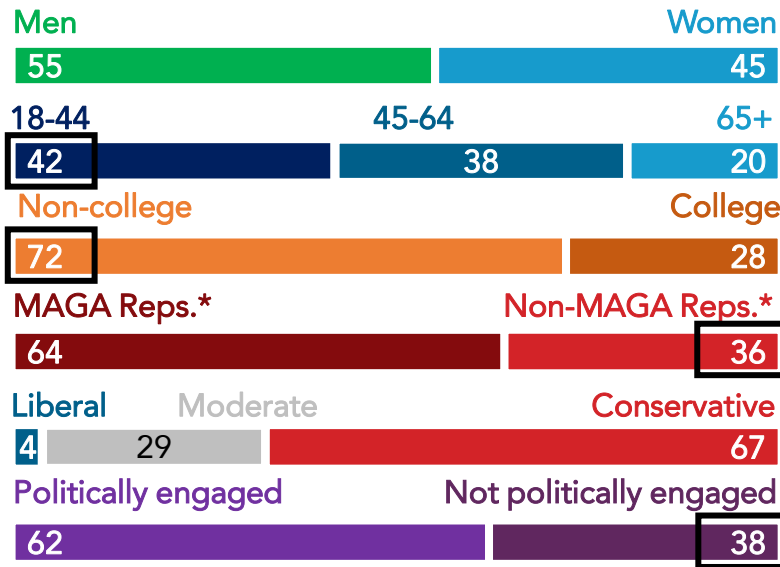
Interventionist Republicans: Republicans who say it's better for the U.S. to be more active and involved in world affairs (50% of GOP)

Isolationist Republicans: Republicans who say it's better for the U.S. to be less active and involved in world affairs (40% of GOP)

Demographic Composition of Interventionist Republicans:



Demographic Composition of Isolationist Republicans:

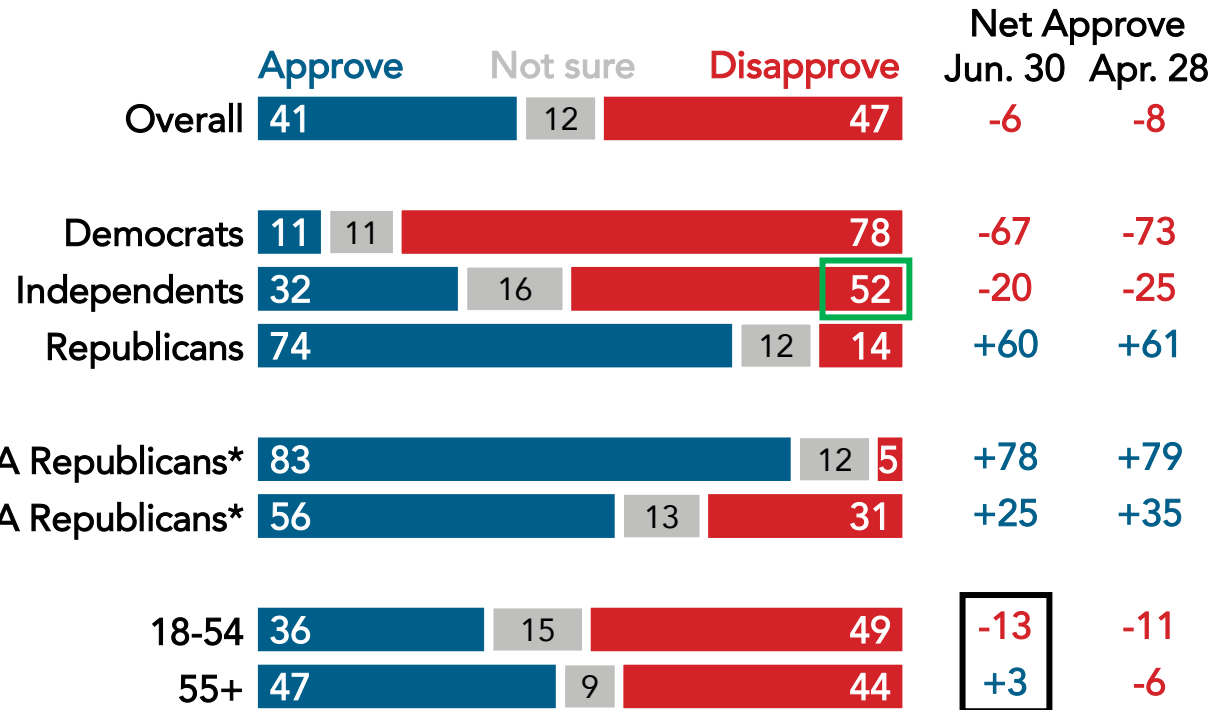


*"MAGA Republicans" are Republicans who identify as "a supporter of the MAGA movement" on a separate question, while "non-MAGA Republicans" are Republicans who do not consider themselves supporters of the MAGA movement or are not sure.
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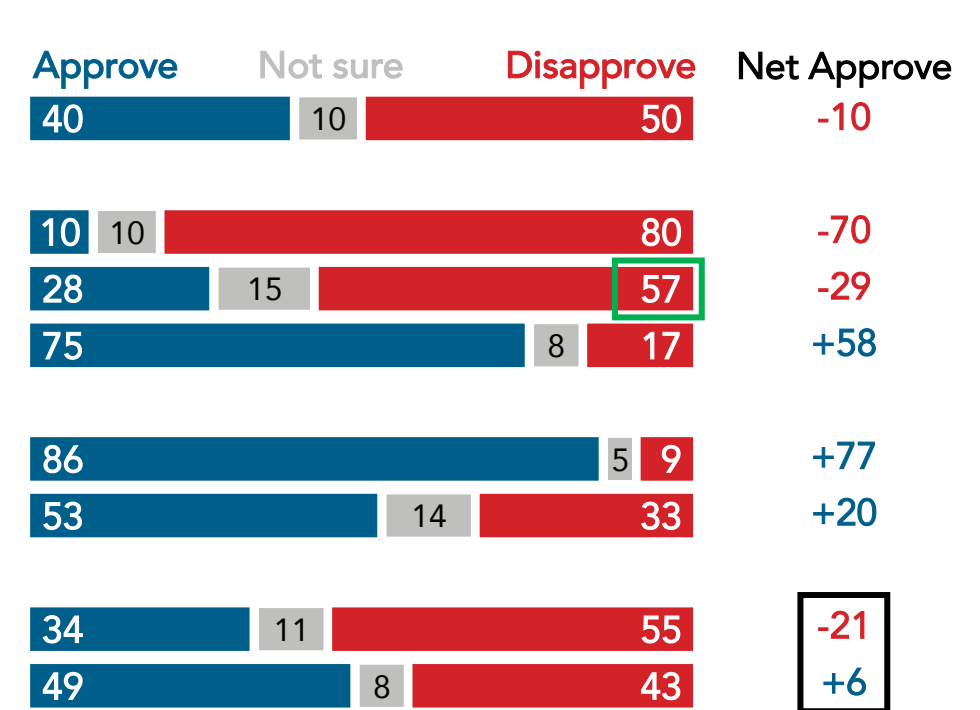
Roughly Half Disapprove of Trump's Handling of the Conflict in the Middle East and Foreign Policy More Generally

- A majority of independents disapprove of both Trump's handling of foreign policy (52%) and the conflict in the Middle East (57%).
- Younger Americans ages 18-54 are more disapproving on both foreign policy (net -13 approve) and the Middle East conflict (net -21).

Please indicate whether you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling: Foreign policy.



Please indicate whether you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling: The conflict in the Middle East.



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Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days.
Latest wave conducted June 26-June 30, 2025. For more info, visit navigatortresearch.org.

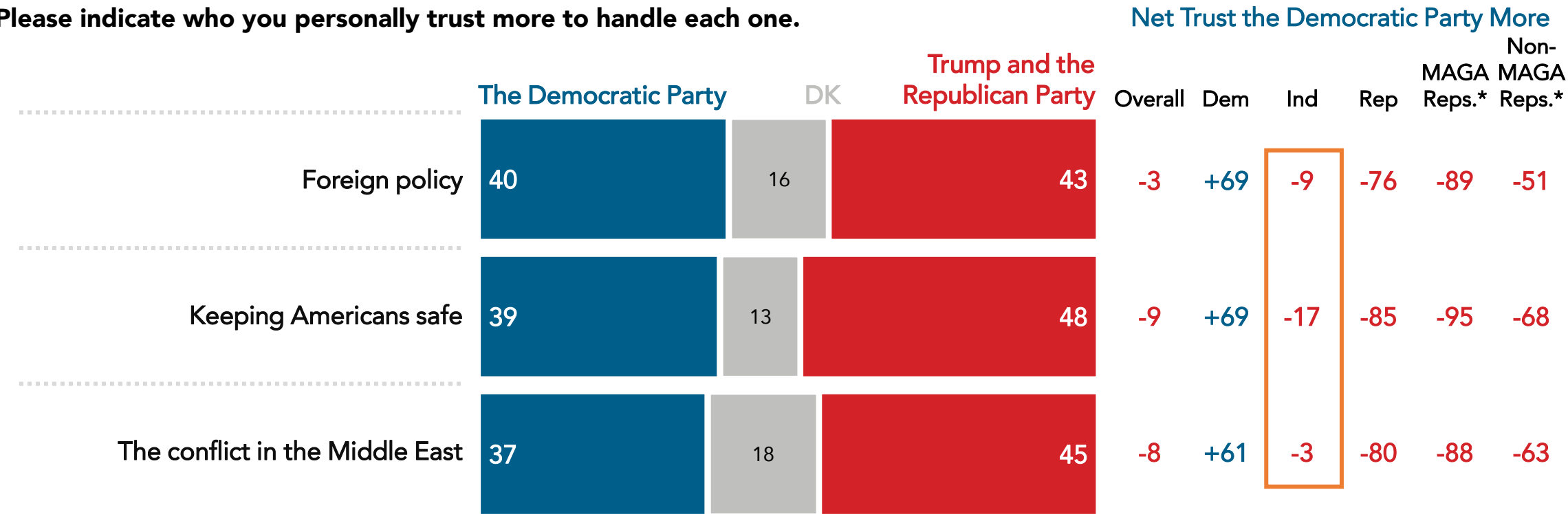
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Despite Low Ratings for Trump on Foreign Policy, the GOP Hold Small Advantages on Americans' Safety, the Middle East Conflict

Americans are divided on who they trust to handle foreign policy more generally (net +3 trust Trump and the Republican party more).

- Independents trust Trump and Republicans more to handle foreign policy (net +9 trust Trump and the Republican party more), to keep Americans safe (net +17), and to handle the conflict in the Middle East (net +3).

Please indicate who you personally trust more to handle each one.

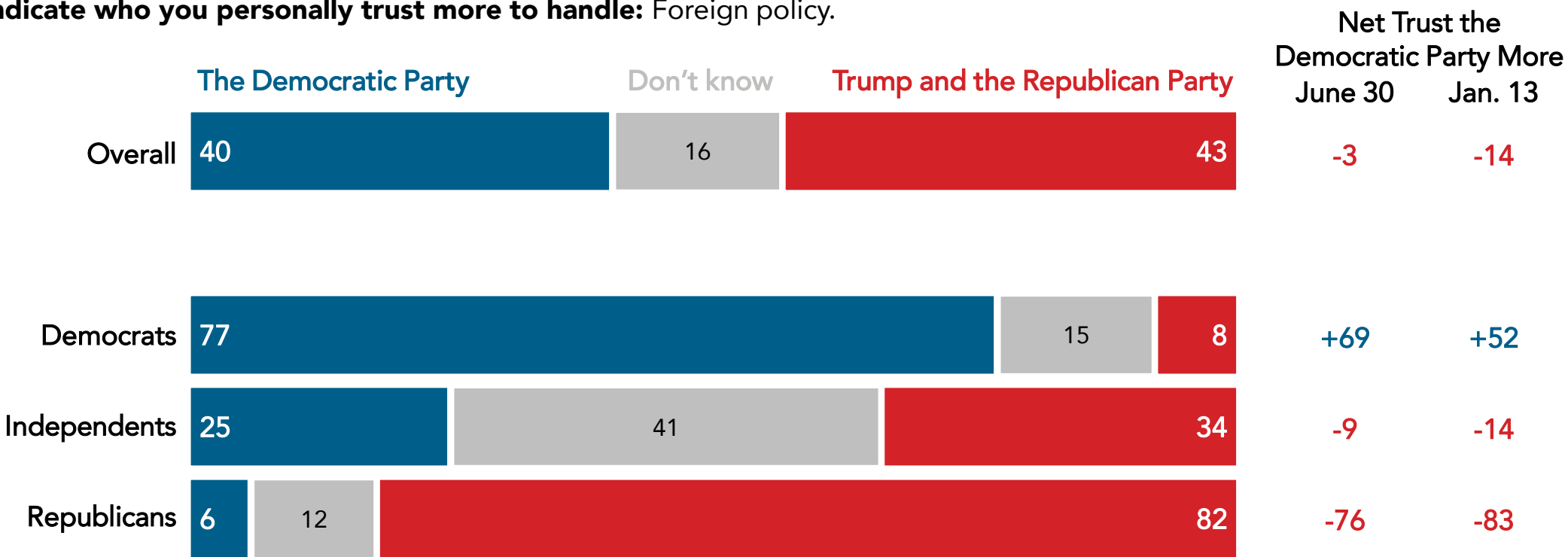


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Trump and Republicans' Trust Advantage Over Democrats on Foreign Policy Is Waning in Light of Trump's Recent Decisions

Trump and Republicans' trust advantage has declined by a net 11 points overall since pre-inauguration in early January (from net -14 trust the Democratic Party more to net -3), including a 17-point net shift among Democrats (from net +52 to net +69), a 5-point net shift among independents (from net -14 to net -9), and even a 7-point net shift among Republicans (from net -83 to net -76).

Please indicate who you personally trust more to handle: Foreign policy.



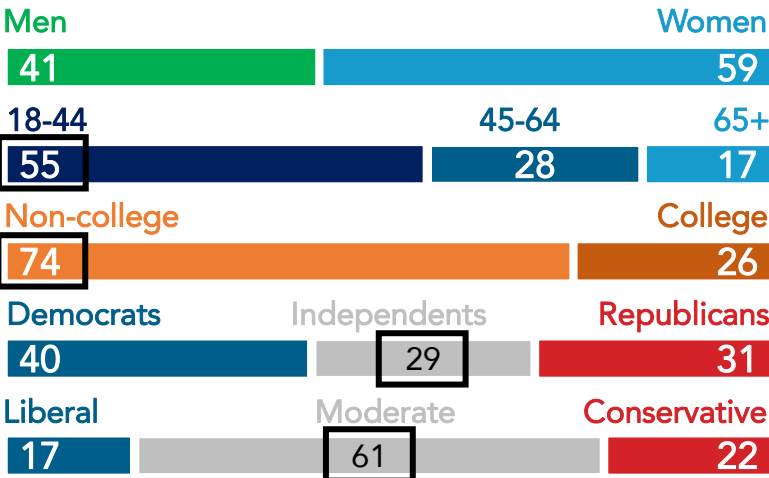
Nearly One in Five Americans Are Unsure of Who to Trust More on Foreign Policy: Democrats or Trump and Republicans

High shares of independents (41% are unsure), those unfavorable to both parties (30%), non-conservative independents and Republicans (30%), moderates (29%), and passive news consumers (24%) say they don't know which party to trust more on foreign policy.

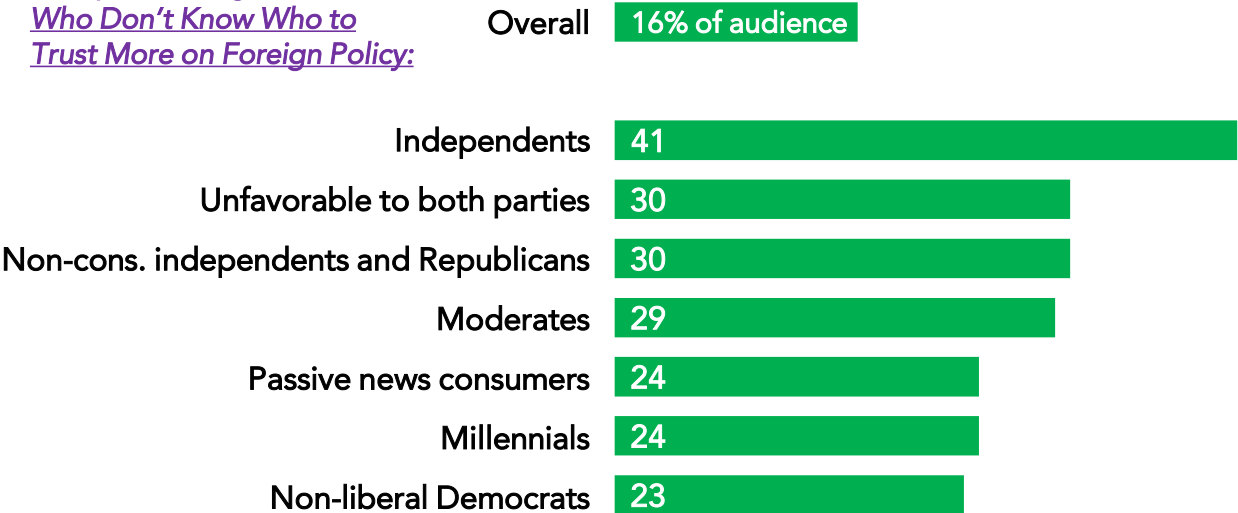
Foreign Policy Conflicted: Don't know whether to trust the Democratic Party or Trump and the Republican Party more on foreign policy (16% of Americans)

Please indicate who you personally trust more to handle each one: Foreign policy. Don't know

Demographic
Composition of
Those Who Don't
Know Who to
Trust More on
Foreign Policy:



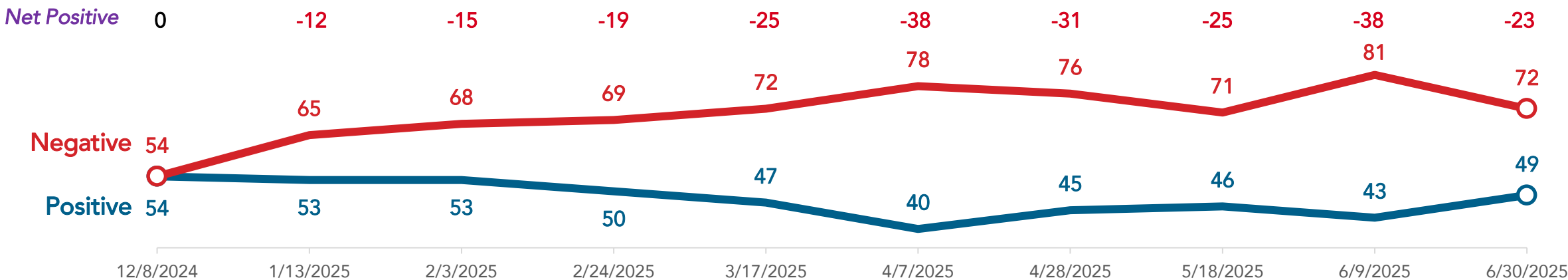
Groups With High Shares
Who Don't Know Who to
Trust More on Foreign Policy:



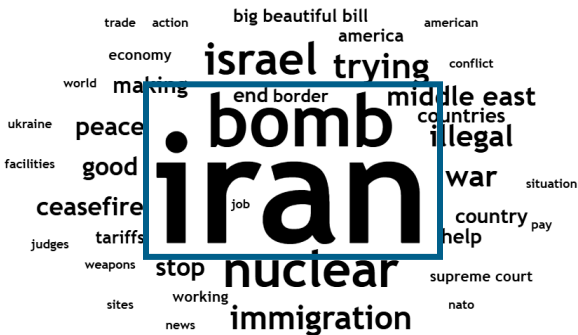
Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted June 26-June 30, 2025.
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News Around Trump Remains More Negative; Information on Bombing Iran Dominates, But Views of It Are Mixed

Over the past few days, has what you have seen, read, or heard recently about Donald Trump been:



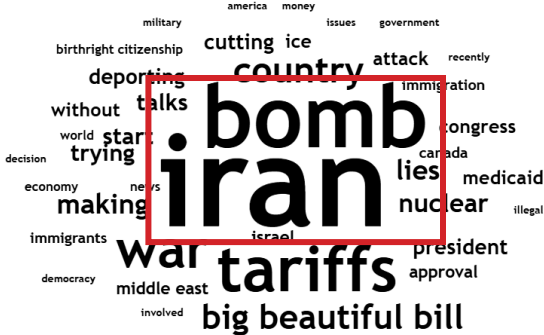
[If hearing any positive] In a few words, what **positive** things have you seen, read, or heard recently about Donald Trump?



"Stopped Iran's nuclear ambitions."

"He got a ceasefire between Israel and Iran."

[If hearing any negative] In a few words, what **negative** things have you seen, read, or heard recently about Donald Trump?



"Getting involved with the Israel-Iran war without the consent of Congress."

"That he failed to stop nuclear weapons in Iran."

Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted June 26-June 30, 2025. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

A Majority of Americans Are Hearing “A Lot” About the Middle East Conflict, and Three in Four Are Concerned About It

Below are some recent events. Regardless of how much you have heard about each one, please indicate how concerned you are about it.

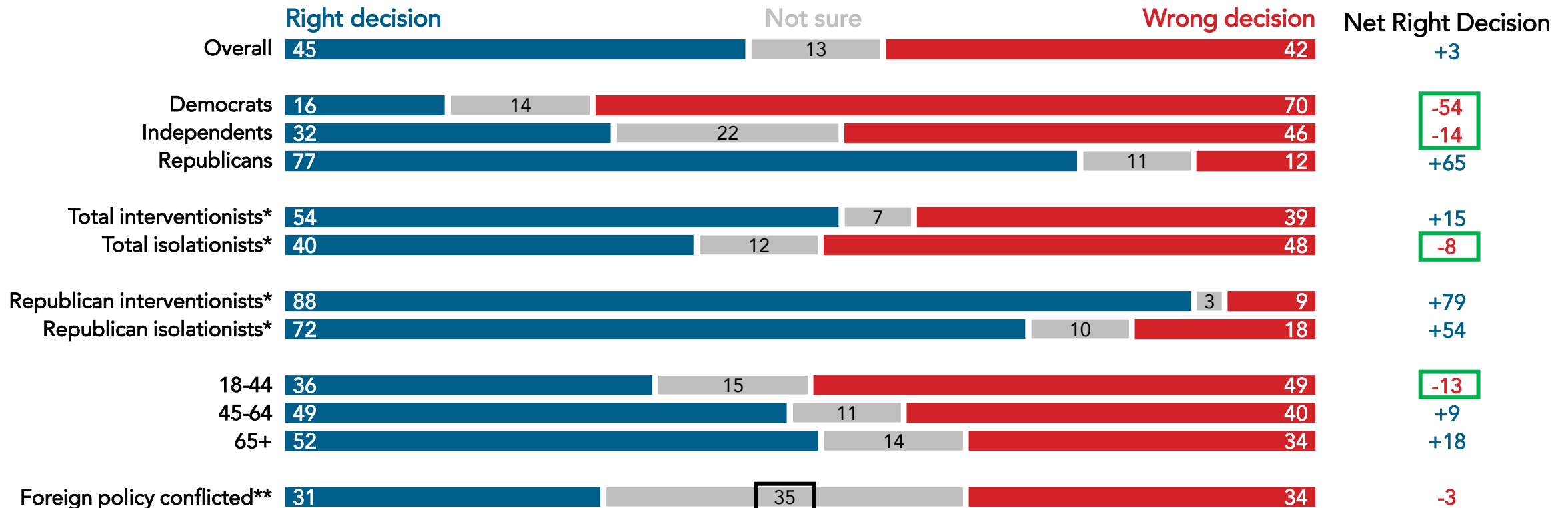
	Very concerning	Somewhat concerning	Total Concerning				% Hearing A Lot
			Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep	
Trump and Republicans' proposed cuts to Medicaid in the budget	48	21	69	92	74	45	34
Two Minnesota lawmakers being shot by a gunman	46	26	73	82	70	64	34
The escalating conflict in the Middle East, including the U.S. bombing Iran	46	28	74	90	75	57	54
Trump's use of tariffs	41	22	63	88	63	37	51
Trump's use of ICE raids to deport immigrants	40	17	57	89	55	26	57
Trump deploying the National Guard and Marines in Los Angeles in response to protests	40	23	62	90	58	35	50
A significant portion of the U.S. experiencing a dangerous heat wave	34	37	71	84	68	58	42

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Americans Are Divided on Whether Trump Made the Right Decision in Bombing Iran

Democrats (net -54 right decision), independents (net -14), isolationist Americans* (net -8), and younger Americans (net -13) say Trump made the wrong choice. Foreign policy conflicted Americans** are largely unsure (35% not sure).

Do you think Donald Trump made the right decision or wrong decision to bomb Iran, targeting their nuclear program?

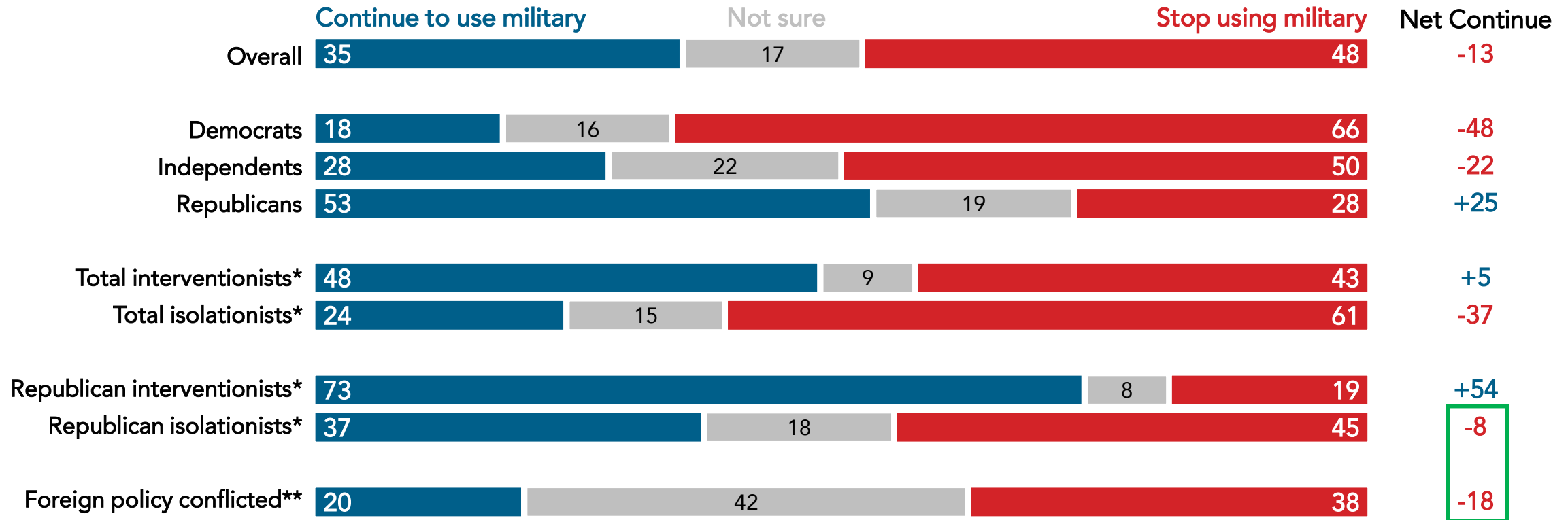


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Nearly Half Say the U.S. Should Stop Its Military Involvement In the Iran-Israel Conflict

Pluralities of Republican isolationists* (net -8 should continue) and foreign policy conflicted Americans** (net -18) think the U.S. should stop using its military in the Iran-Israel conflict.

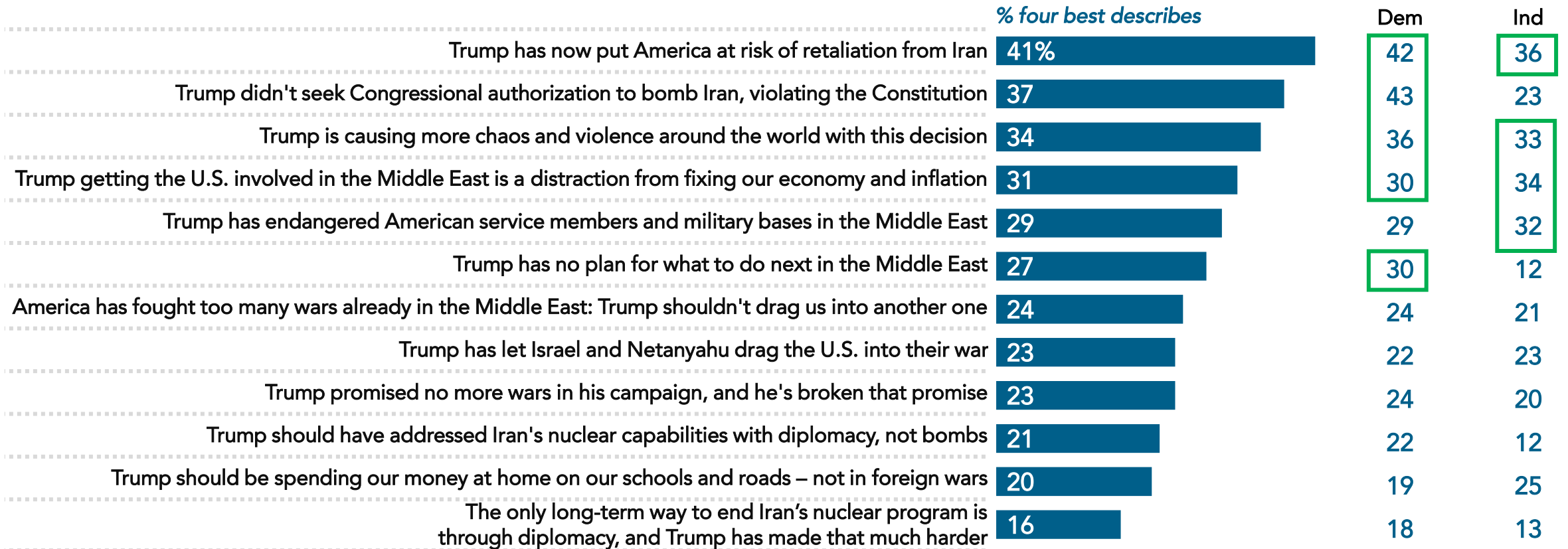
Regardless of how you feel about the U.S. bombing Iran, do you think the U.S. should continue to use its military in the Iran-Israel conflict or stop using its military in the Iran-Israel conflict?



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Top Concern on Iran Bombing Is American Being Put At Risk; Democrats Concerned About Lack Of Congressional Approval

[If think Trump made wrong decision bombing Iran] You indicated you think Trump made the wrong decision in bombing Iran. Please indicate which statements best describe why you think this was the wrong decision.



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About Navigator

In a world where the news cycle is the length of a tweet, our leaders often lack the real-time public-sentiment analysis to shape the best approaches to talking about the issues that matter the most. Navigator is designed to act as a consistent, flexible, responsive tool to inform policy debates by conducting research and reliable guidance to inform allies, elected leaders, and the press. Navigator is a project led by pollsters from Global Strategy Group and GBAO along with an advisory committee, including: Jessica Floyd, The Hub Project; Christina Reynolds; Mike Podhorzer; Jesse Ferguson, progressive strategist; Navin Nayak; Stephanie Valencia, EquisLabs; and Melanie Newman, Planned Parenthood Action Fund.

About the Study

Global Strategy Group conducted a public opinion survey among a sample of 1,000 registered voters from June 26-June 30, 2025. 100 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 75 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. 100 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 100 additional interviews were conducted among independent voters. The survey was conducted online, recruiting respondents from an opt-in online panel vendor. Respondents were verified against a voter file and special care was taken to ensure the demographic composition of our sample matched that of the national registered voter population across a variety of demographic variables. The margin of error for the full sample at the 95 percent level of confidence is +/- 3.1 percentage points. The margin of error for subgroups varies and is higher.

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To learn more about Navigator:

<http://navigatorresearch.org>

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