navigating*
coronavirus

Daily Update:
Friday, April 17th, 2020

Communicating in Crisis: Coronavirus

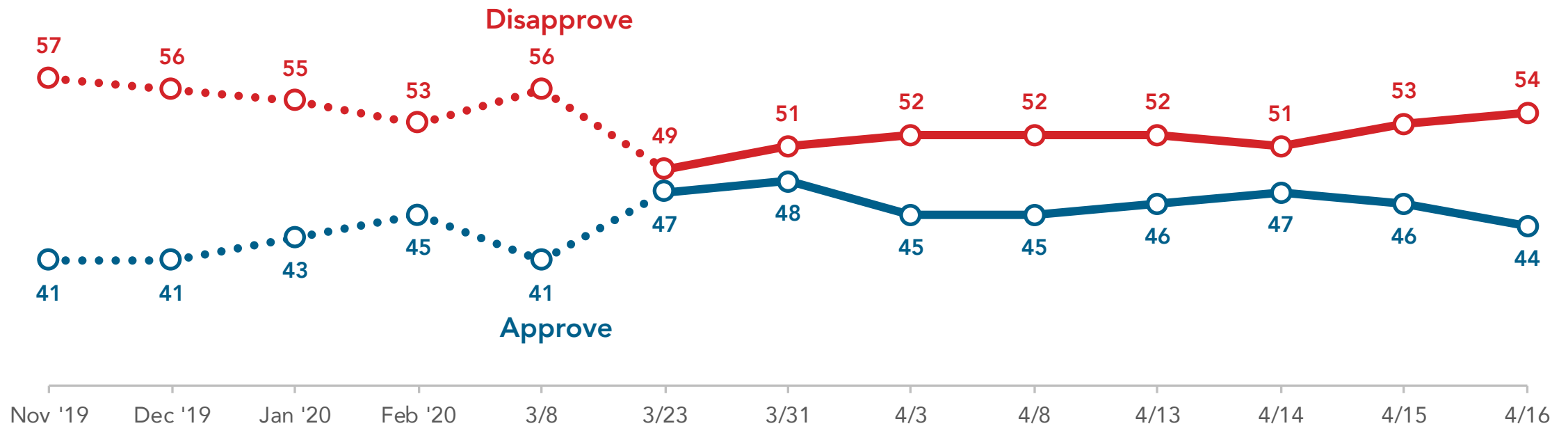GSG GLOBAL STRATEGY GROUP   navigator*   GBAO

Key takeaways:

- Ratings of Trump's overall performance and handling of the pandemic have fallen to lows in our daily tracking, while governors retain high levels of support.

- Although a majority wants Trump to lead a coordinated, national response to the pandemic, most feel that governors and states have taken the lead.

- The vast majority of the public supports the economic relief bills passed by Congress so far, though there's some concern relief will mostly benefit the wealthy.

navigator.

Trump Approval Falling Back to Pre-Crisis Levels

Trump's overall approval rating has dropped to -10, a new low in our daily tracking, and in line with his overall approval rating before the coronavirus pandemic.
- Among independents, Trump is at -37 (25% approve/62% disapprove).

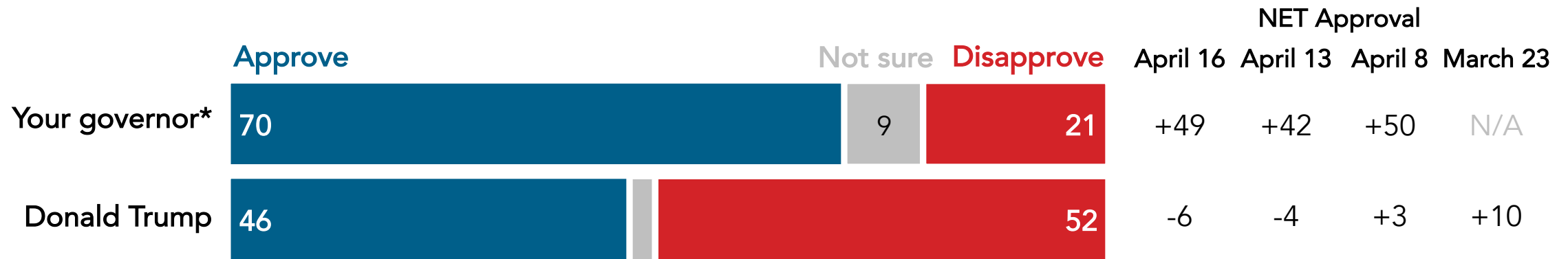**Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?**

Disapprove

57   56   55   53   56   49   51   52   52   52   51   53   54

47   48   45   45   46   47   46   44

41   41   43   45   41

Approve

Nov '19   Dec '19   Jan '20   Feb '20   3/8   3/23   3/31   4/3   4/8   4/13   4/14   4/15   4/16

navigator.

Governors Retain High Approval; Trump Dropping

Donald Trump's approval rating on handling the coronavirus pandemic dropped to a new low, while state governors maintain significantly higher approval ratings.
- The majority of Americans (52%) say they disapprove of Trump's handling, the highest yet in our daily tracking.
- Independents are substantially more likely approve of their governor's handling (56% approve/17% disapprove) than Donald Trump's handling (30% approve/55% approve).

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that _____ is handling the coronavirus pandemic?

	Approve	Not sure	Disapprove	NET Approval			
				April 16	April 13	April 8	March 23
Your governor*	70	9	21	+49	+42	+50	N/A
Donald Trump	46		52	-6	-4	+3	+10

navigator.

Public Hearing More Bad Than Good on Trump's Handling

Americans are increasingly learning more negative things about Trump's handling of the coronavirus pandemic.

- Republicans who watch Fox News are driving the small share that still says they see mostly positive coverage – 44% of Fox News Republicans report hearing mostly positive, compared to 23% of Republicans who don't watch Fox News, 11% of independents, and 7% of Democrats.

Has what you have seen, read, or heard recently about Donald Trump's handling of the coronavirus pandemic been...?

Mostly negative

33 34 38 40 40 39 37 38 39 38 37 36 36 38 38 39 40 41 45

Mostly positive

30 28 26 28 26 27 26 25 25 24 24 25 26 25 26 23 23 21 20

Not shown: 34% who report a mix of positive and negative in our latest update.

3/23 3/24 3/25 3/26 3/27 3/30 3/31 4/1 4/2 4/3 4/6 4/7 4/8 4/9 4/10 4/13 4/14 4/15 4/16

"Republicans who watch Fox news" are Republicans who report watching Fox News at least a few times a month.
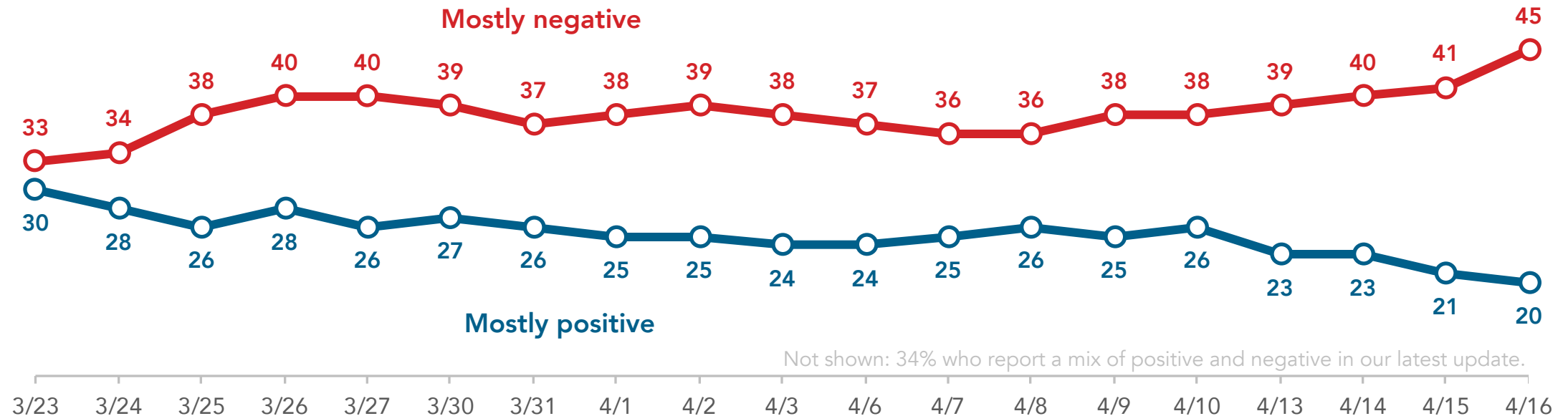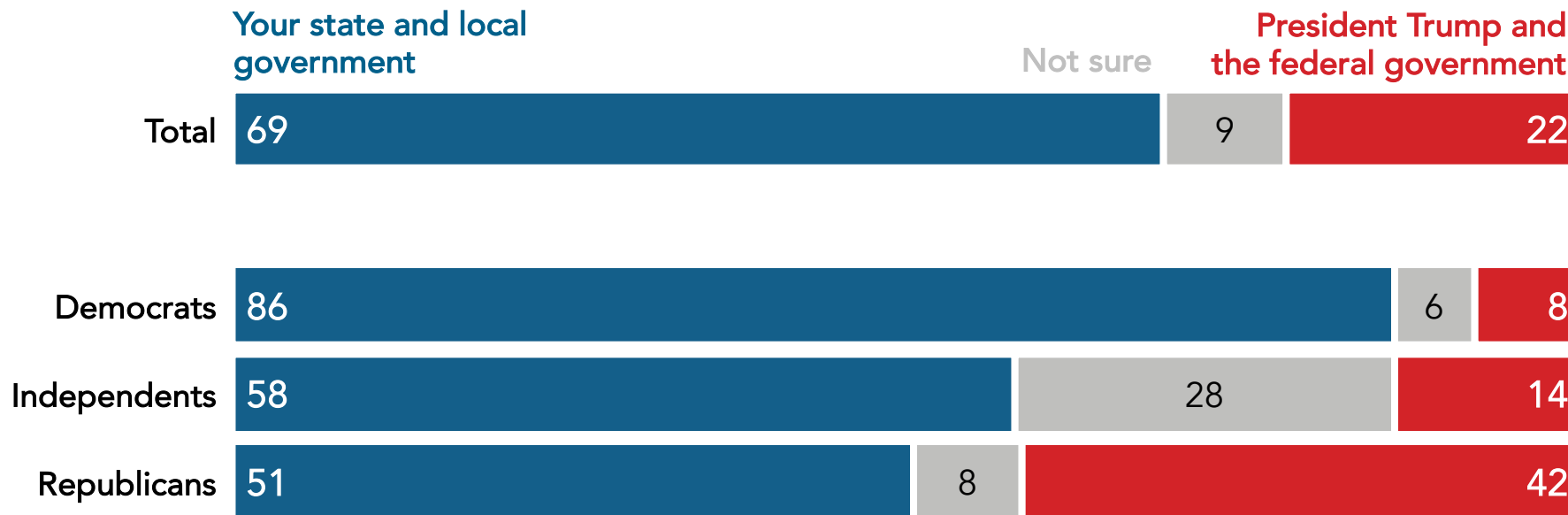Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three days.
Latest wave conducted April 13-16, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

navigator.

Americans Trust State & Local Government on Social Distancing Decisions

A majority of Americans trust state and local government more than Trump to decide when social distancing measures should end.

- State and local government is more trusted than President Trump and the federal government by 47 points overall, 44 points among independents, and even 9 points among Republicans.
- Among those who are "mixed on Trump," 69% trust state and local government more.

Who do you trust more to decide when social distancing measures in your state should end?

	Your state and local government	Not sure	President Trump and the federal government
Total	69	9	22
Democrats	86	6	8
Independents	58	28	14
Republicans	51	8	42

"Mixed on Trump" refers to Americans who don't always approve or don't always disapprove of Trump's overall job performance, his handling of the economy, his handling the coronavirus pandemic, and his handling of health care. Nationwide survey of 1,015 registered voters; April 10-15, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

navigator.

Public Wants Trump to Lead, But Don't Think He's Leading

A majority of Americans believe that Trump should be leading the national response on distributing medical supplies, but nearly half think that he has been doing the opposite.

Which of the following do you think President Trump <u>should be doing</u> when it comes to the coronavirus response and distributing medical supplies across the country?

Leading a coordinated, national response to distribute medical supplies where there is the most need

Don't know

Allowing governors and states to take on the leadership role in finding the medical supplies they need

Overall	59	10	31

Which of the following do you think President Trump <u>has been doing</u> when it comes to the coronavirus response and distributing medical supplies across the country?
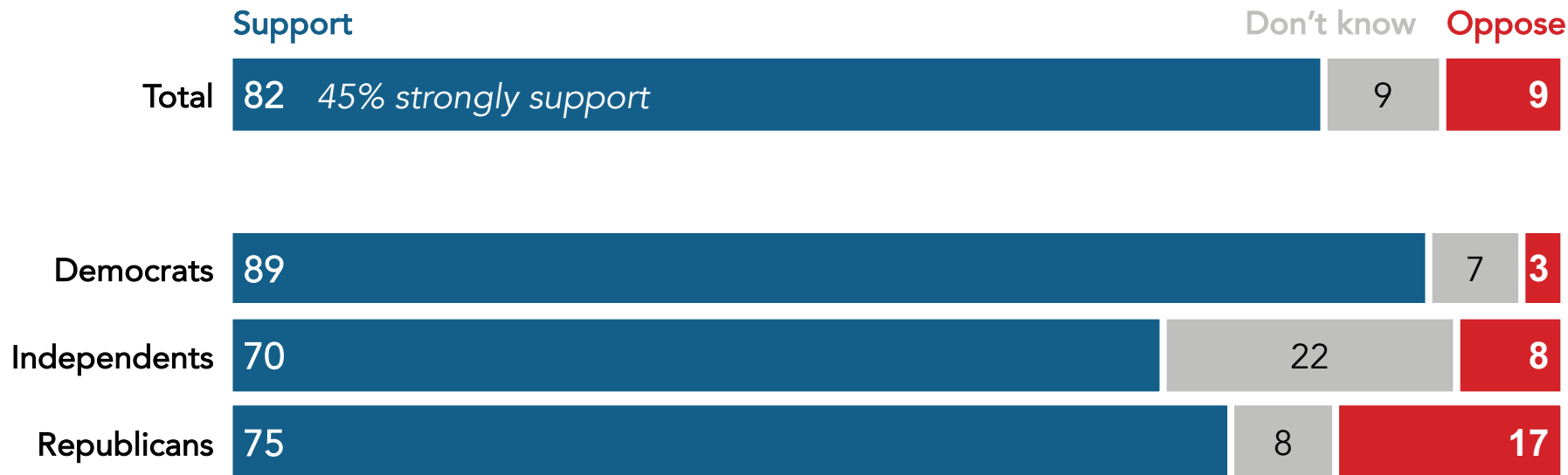
Leading a coordinated, national response to distribute medical supplies where there is the most need

Don't know

Allowing governors and states to take on the leadership role in finding the medical supplies they need

Overall	34	18	48

navigator.

Vast Majority Supports the Pandemic Relief Bills

More than eight in ten Americans support the pandemic relief bills that have been passed so far.
- A majority of Americans (62%) believe that the government will "mostly" or "somewhat" succeed in getting economic help to where it is needed most, though only 37% of independents say the same.

As you may know, Congress has passed a series of bills to provide economic relief for individuals and businesses impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Do you support or oppose the bills passed by Congress so far?

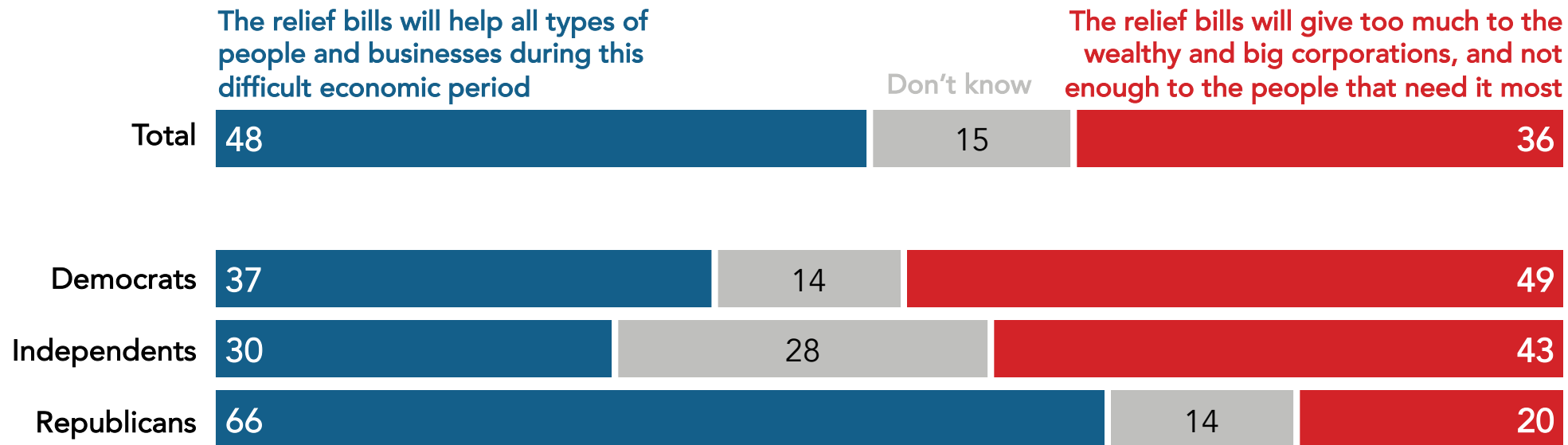|	Support	Don't know	Oppose
Total	82 *45% strongly support*	9	9
Democrats	89	7	3
Independents	70	22	8
Republicans	75	8	17

navigator.

Americans Split on Who Stands to Benefit from Relief

Americans are split on whether the relief bills will help all types of people or benefit wealthy and big corporations.
- While a plurality of Americans (48%) believe that the relief bills will help all types of people and businesses, this sentiment is being largely driven by Republicans (66%).
- On the other hand, a plurality of independents (43%) and Democrats (49%) believe that the relief bills will give too much to the wealthy and big corporations.

Based on what you know, which of the following do you agree with more about the economic relief bills passed by Congress?
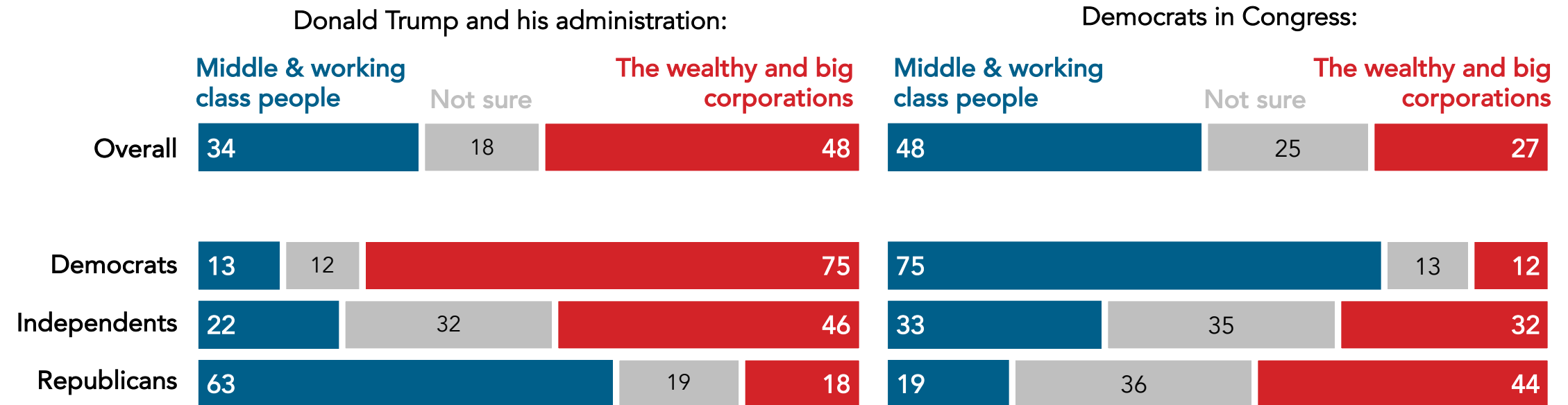
The relief bills will help all types of people and businesses during this difficult economic period

Don't know

The relief bills will give too much to the wealthy and big corporations, and not enough to the people that need it most

	Help all types	Don't know	Give too much to wealthy
Total	48	15	36
Democrats	37	14	49
Independents	30	28	43
Republicans	66	14	20

navigator.

Democrats Leading on Perceived Support for Middle Class

A plurality of Americans feel Donald Trump's economic response favors the wealthy and big corporations, while a plurality feel congressional Democrats' policies favor middle and working class people.
- Independents are 11 points more likely to say that Democrats' policies favor the middle class than Donald Trump's.

Thinking more about how _____ are responding to the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic, who do you think _____'s policies favor most?

Donald Trump and his administration:

	Middle & working class people	Not sure	The wealthy and big corporations
Overall	34	18	48
Democrats	13	12	75
Independents	22	32	46
Republicans	63	19	18

Democrats in Congress:

	Middle & working class people	Not sure	The wealthy and big corporations
Overall	48	25	27
Democrats	75	13	12
Independents	33	35	32
Republicans	19	36	44

navigator.

navigating* coronavirus

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: Andrea Purse, progressive strategist; Arkadi Gerney, The Hub Project; Christina Reynolds, EMILY's List; Delvone Michael, Working Families; Felicia Wong, Roosevelt Institute; Mike Podhorzer, AFL-CIO; Jesse Ferguson, progressive strategist; Navin Nayak, Center for American Progress Action Fund; 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 1,011 registered voters conducted April 13-16, 2020. The survey was conducted online, recruiting respondents from multiple opt-in online panel vendors. 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.

navigator*