

navigating.* CORONAVIRUS

Daily Update:
Wednesday, April 29, 2020

Communicating in
Crisis: Coronavirus



Key takeaways:

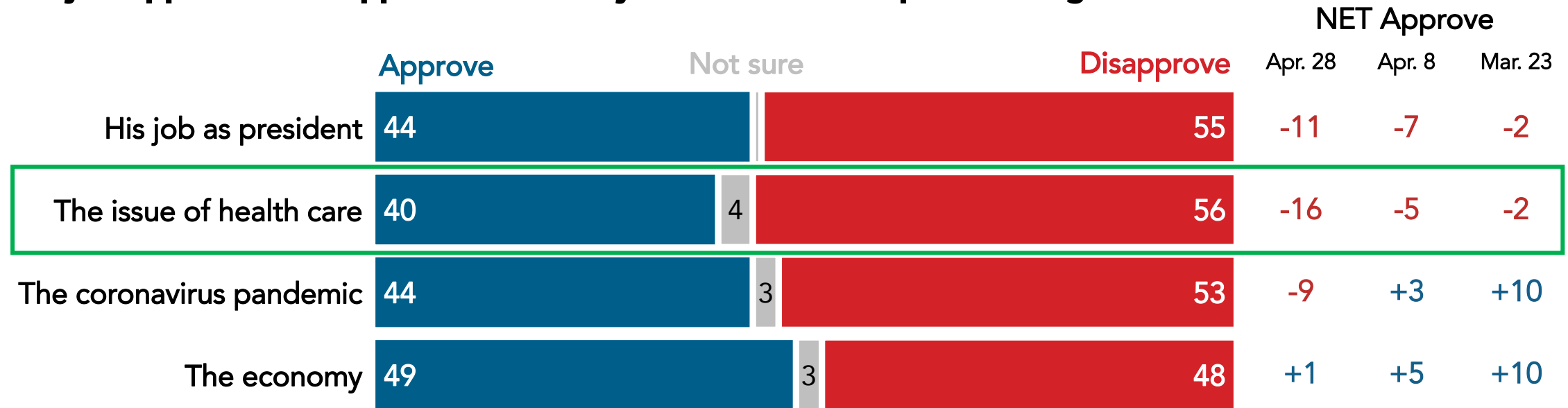
- As Trump's approval ratings remain underwater, governors maintain high ratings.
- The public continues to hear more negative things about Trump's response than positive and his recent comments about injecting disinfectant got significant attention.
- Congressional Democrats are now more trusted than Trump to handle the pandemic.

The Trump Slump Continues

Trump's ratings on handling his job as president and the coronavirus pandemic remain negative, while his net approval on the issue of health care hit a new low in our daily tracking.

- Among independents, Trump's approval ratings averaged at -25 on overall job approval (32% approve/57% disapprove), at -28 on health care (30% approve/58% disapprove), at -15 on handling coronavirus (36% approve/51% disapprove), and at -7 on the economy (41% approve/48% disapprove) over the past week.

Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Donald Trump is handling...



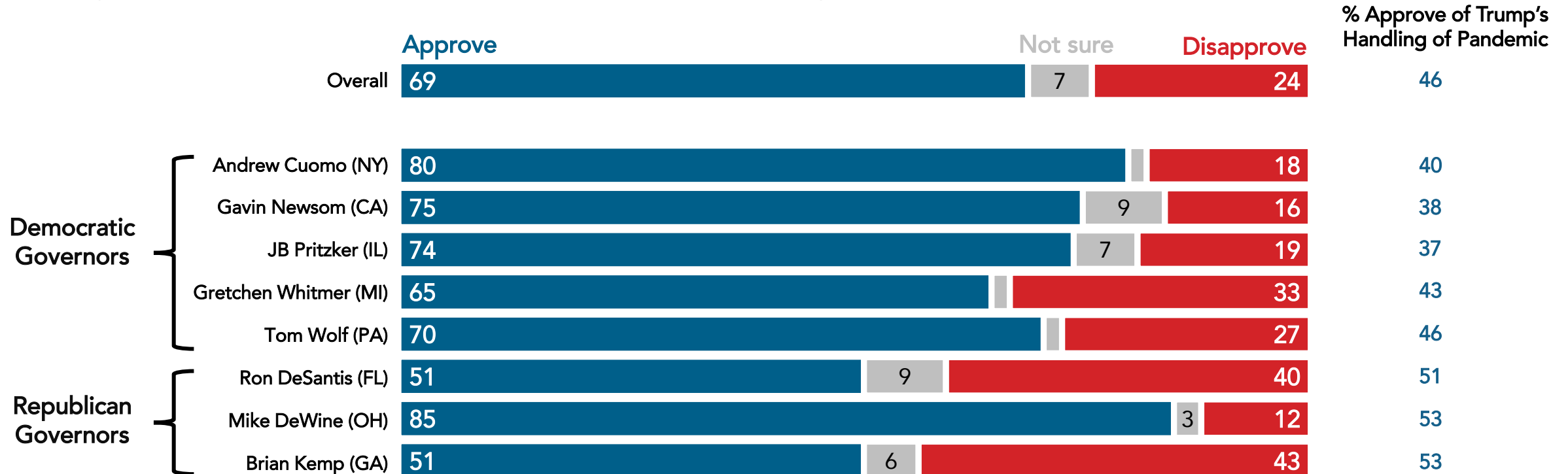
Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three days. Latest wave conducted April 23-28, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Most Governors Retain High Approval Ratings

With 5,400 interviews asking respondents to rate the job their governor is doing handling the pandemic, we looked at some states individually. The vast majority approve of the job their governor is doing handling the crisis.

- Most governors have sky-high, 65%+ approval ratings, with two exceptions – Ron DeSantis (51%) and Brian Kemp (51%).

Do you approve or disapprove that [Governor]* is handling the coronavirus pandemic?



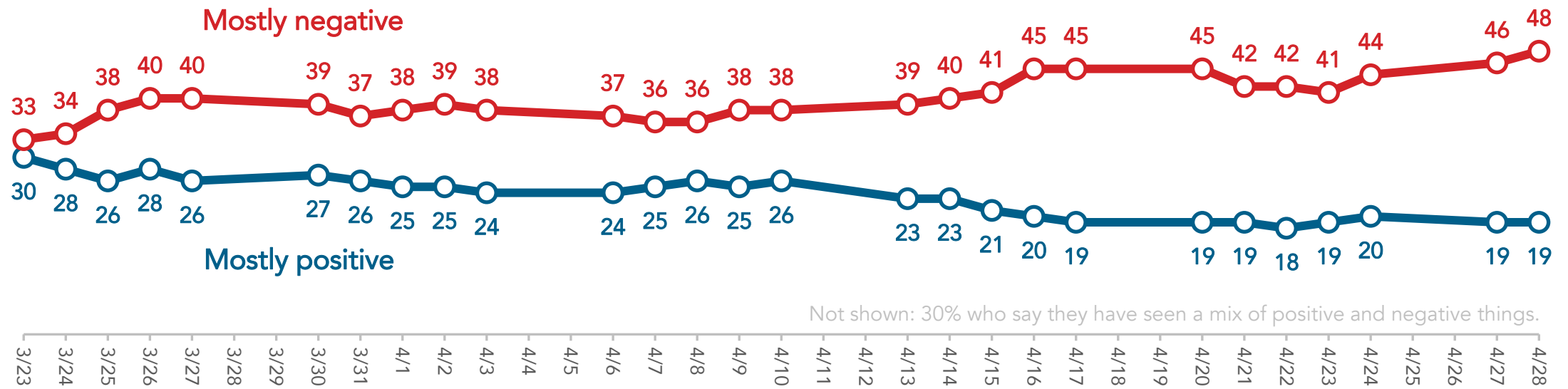
*Governor refers to respondents' state-specific governor.
 Nationwide survey of 300-400 registered voters in FL and CA; April 3-27, 2020.
 Nationwide survey of 192-300 registered voters in NY, OH, GA, IL, MI and PA; April 3-27, 2020.
 For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Public Continues to Hear More Negative About Trump Response

Nearly half of Americans now report that they are exposed to mostly negative things about Trump's response to coronavirus, while less than one in five report hearing mostly positive.

- Among Republicans, less than two in five (39%) are hearing mostly positive things about his response.
- Even among Republicans who watch Fox News, less than half (43%) report hearing mostly positive things, while only a third (32%) of Republicans who do not watch Fox News say they hear mostly positive things.

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



"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 23-28, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Trump's Disinfectant Comments Spread Widely

Among those that have heard "mostly negative" things about Trump's handling of the coronavirus pandemic recently, commentary from recent press briefings, specifically his idea of injecting or drinking disinfectants, are widely mentioned.

[Among those that have heard "mostly negative" things recently] In a few words, what negative things have you seen, read, or heard recently about Donald Trump's handling of the coronavirus pandemic?

"He says to drink bleach so it will kill the coronavirus germs."

"His briefings where he rambles on and interrupts the doctors and scientists with **inaccurate information like bringing the light inside your body or using disinfectant** to kill the virus in your lungs."



"He has advised people to **drink or inject cleaning fluid**. He advised people to **open government early** until he told them to stop."

"He **doesn't listen to the doctors** and medical experts."

Fauci Overwhelmingly More Trusted than Trump

A vast majority of Americans across the partisan spectrum continue to trust Dr. Anthony Fauci, while trust in Trump remains negative when it comes to his ability to tell the truth about the pandemic.

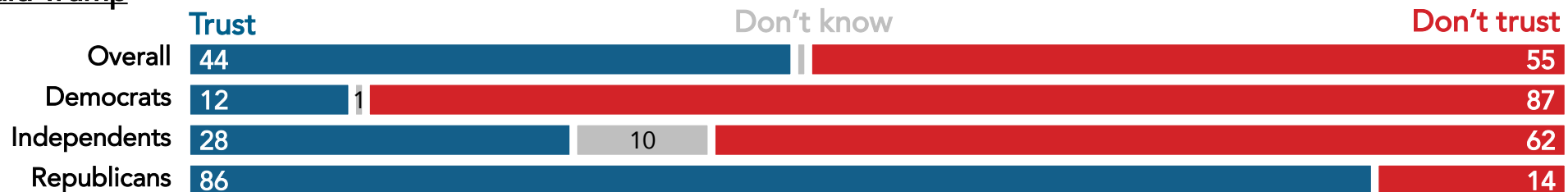
- Since April 8th, trust in Fauci has increased 5 points, while trust in Trump has decreased 8 points.
- Among independents, 62% trust Fauci to tell the truth, while only 28% trust the president to do the same.

Please indicate how much you trust each public figure to tell the truth when it comes to the coronavirus pandemic.

Dr. Anthony Fauci



Donald Trump

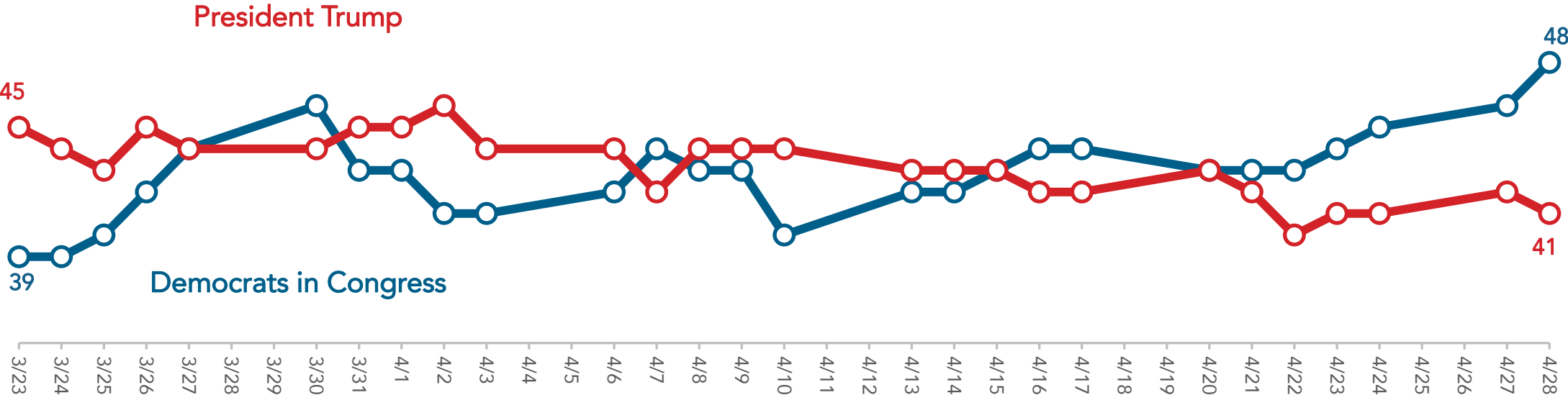


Democrats More Trusted to Handle Pandemic

While Trump began with an initial advantage over Democrats in Congress on responding to the coronavirus outbreak, Democrats have now gained a lead over Trump.

- On March 23rd, Trump held a 6-point advantage over Democrats in Congress on responding to the coronavirus outbreak. Now, Democrats hold a 7-point advantage over Trump.

Please indicate who you trust more to respond to the coronavirus outbreak.



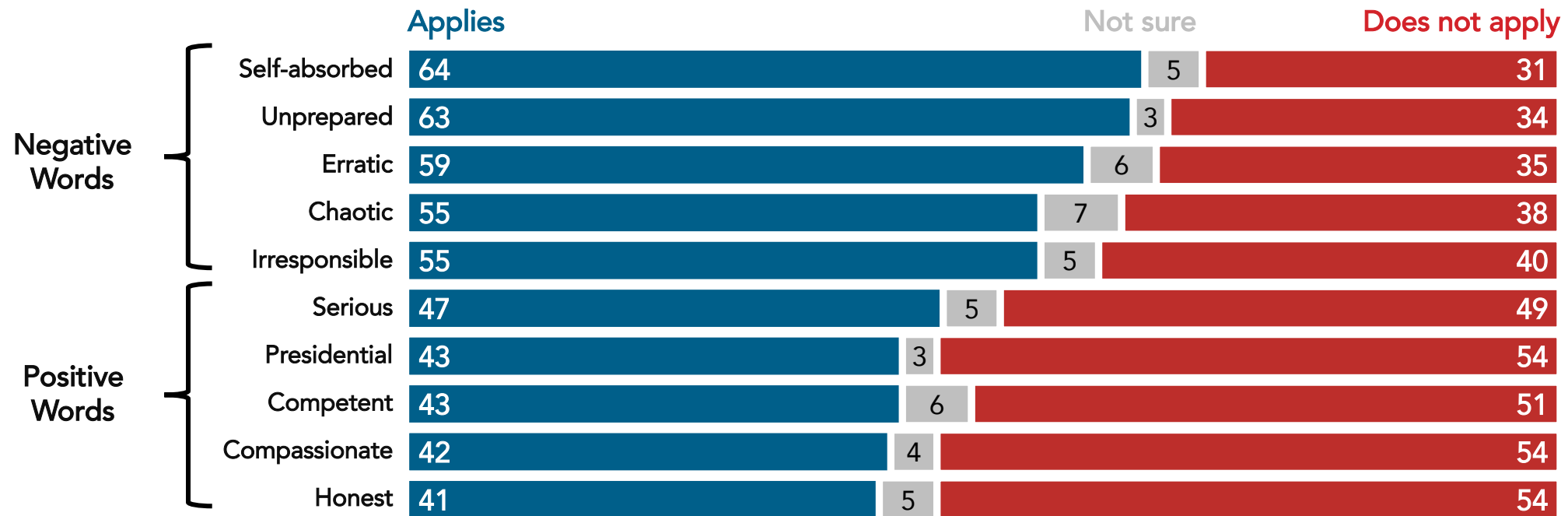
Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three days. Latest wave conducted April 23-28, 2020. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Majority Says Trump Self-Absorbed, Unprepared, Erratic

When asked whether a series of words apply or don't apply to Trump's coronavirus response, every negative description rises above positive descriptions, with "self-absorbed" and "unprepared" topping the list.

- Following Trump's disinfectant comments, the share of Americans describing Trump as "irresponsible" peaked at 56% on April 24th, an increase of 9 points since our first update on March 23rd.

Please indicate whether each word does or does not apply to Trump's coronavirus response.



Nationwide survey of 1,012 registered voters; April 23-28, 2020.
For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org

Those Who Know Someone Sick More Concerned by Downplaying

A majority of Americans say that Trump’s downplaying of the coronavirus threat early on raises serious concerns for them. That rises to two-thirds among Americans who know someone who has been infected.

- Those who know someone who has been infected are 9 points more likely to say that Trump’s early downplaying raises serious concerns than those who do not know someone who has been infected.

Please indicate whether this statement raises concerns for you about Trump’s handing of the pandemic:

Donald Trump downplayed the threat of the coronavirus early on, letting it get worse when we should have been preparing.



Nationwide survey of 9,433 registered voters; March 20-April 27, 2020.
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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: 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 1,012 registered voters conducted April 23-28, 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.

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