

navigator*

navigating
the vote*



Update:
Friday, November 20

2020 Election Poll Results

What we did

The slides in this presentation are based on interviews with 3,003 registered voters who had already voted or planned to vote in the November election, with interviews conducted October 30th to November 3rd, 2020.

Support for Joe Biden and Donald Trump in the presidential election has been adjusted to reflect the actual expected popular vote as of November 16th. The analysis aims to provide a new tool for Americans to understand what happened in the 2020 election, why it happened...and what's next.

Key Takeaways:

A majority of voters approved of President Trump's handling of the economy – long considered the most important issue in presidential campaigns. This analysis explores some reasons why, despite this advantage, the president lost his bid for re-election anyway.

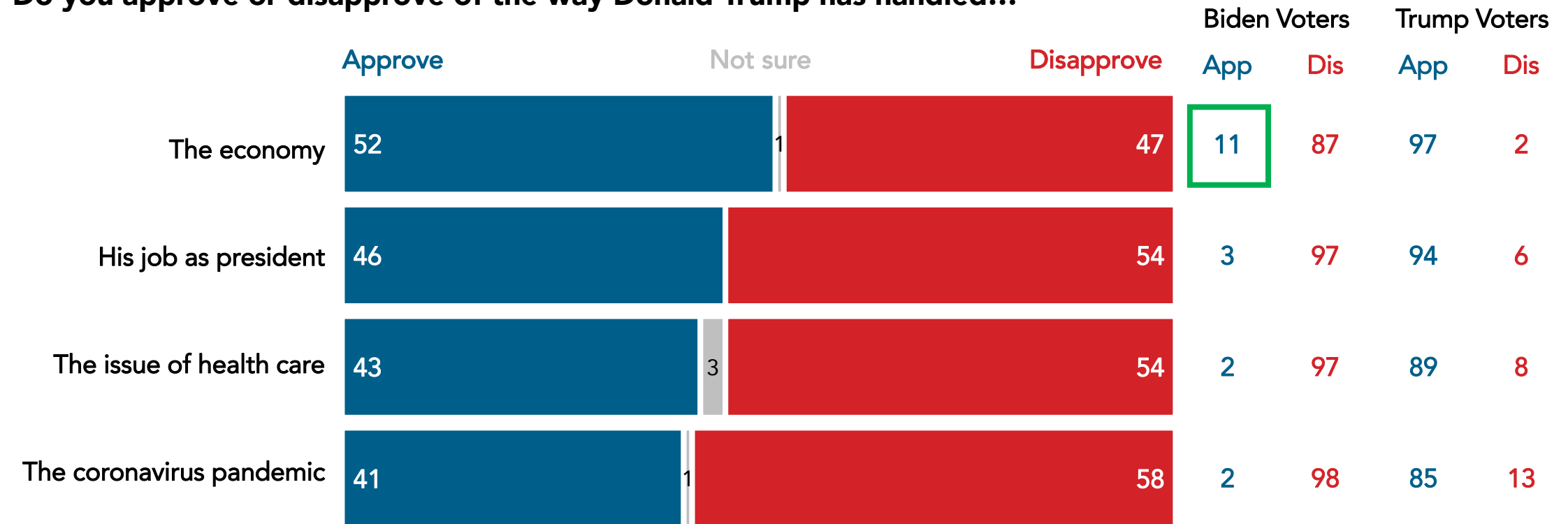
Specifically, we look closely at "**Conflicted**" **Biden voters**. This relatively small group of voters (6% of the sample) approved of the job Trump did in handling the economy as president, but ultimately voted for Biden in 2020.

As the analysis shows, this was a politically moderate group who liked some aspects of how the president approached the economy but never bought into Trump or Trumpism. Most importantly, they felt he did too little to control the coronavirus pandemic, they rejected his divisive approach, and they were repelled by his personal behavior – especially his self-absorption and dishonesty.

Trump Lost the Election Despite Net Positive Approval on the Economy

While the vast majority of Biden voters disapproved of Trump’s handling of the economy, his job overall, health care, and coronavirus, the issue on which he had the highest ratings among Biden voters was the economy (11% approve).

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump has handled...



"Conflicted" Biden voters report voting for Biden in 2020 and approve of how Trump has handled the economy (n=179). Nationwide survey of 3,003 self-reported 2020 voters conducted October 30-November 3, 2020. Vote shares for Biden and Trump are adjusted to reflect estimates of the popular vote as of 11/16/2020.

"Conflicted" Biden Voters Were Mostly Democratic-Leaning But Relatively Moderate

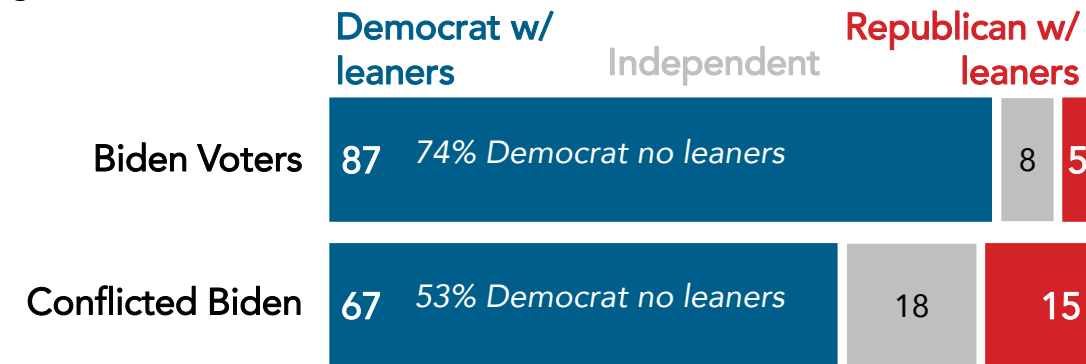
Among the 11% of Biden voters who gave Donald Trump positive marks on his handling of the economy, two in three identify (67%) as Democrats and nearly half (49%) identify as moderate.

- Demographically, these voters are similar to the average Biden voter, at 67% white and 36% college educated, but 54% are men (compared to 43% for Biden voters overall).

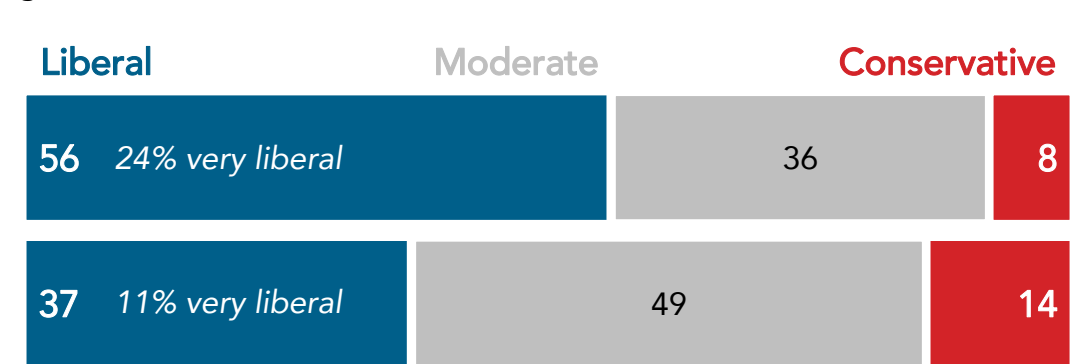
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When it comes to politics, do you generally think of yourself as a...



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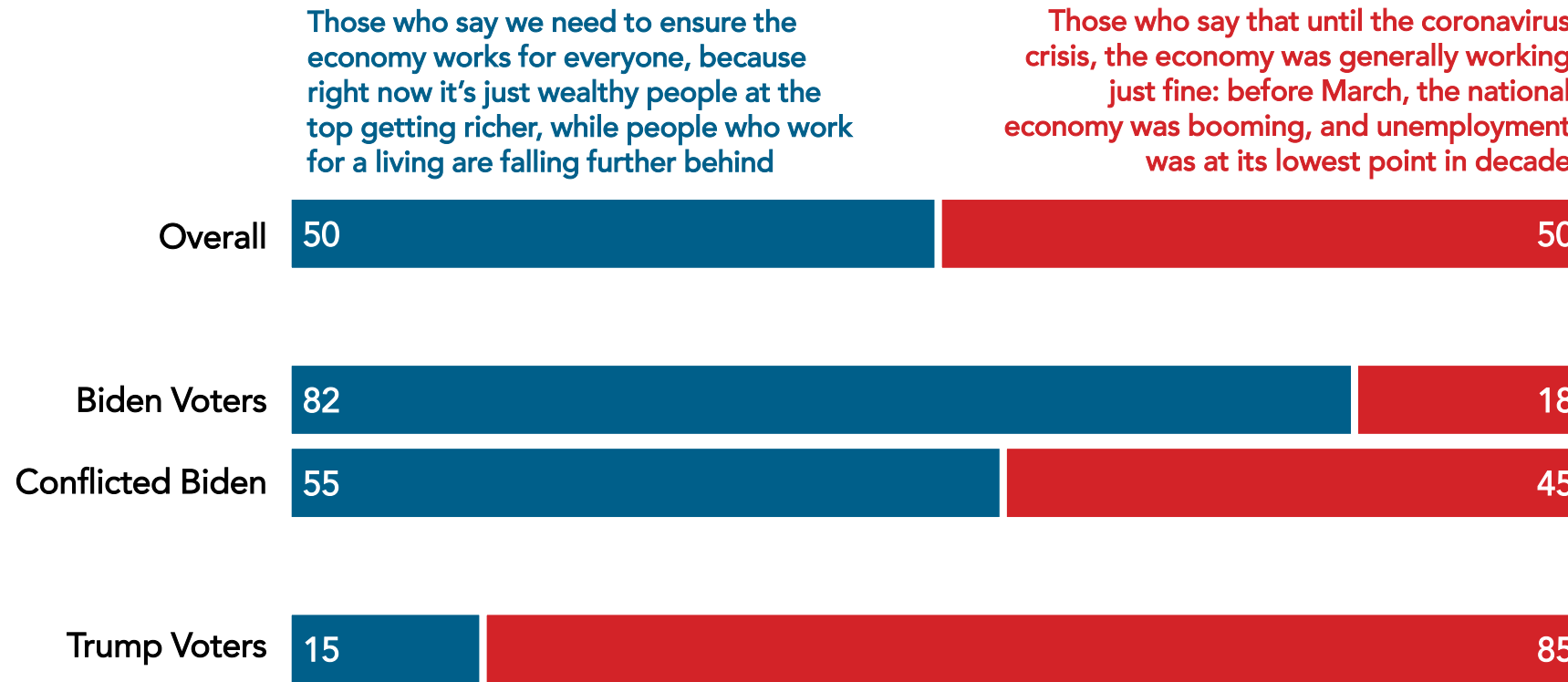


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Nearly Half of "Conflicted" Biden Voters Gave Trump Credit for the Pre-Pandemic Economy

More "Conflicted" Biden voters than Biden voters overall said the economy was working before the pandemic.

Even if you don't agree with either side completely, who do you find more convincing?

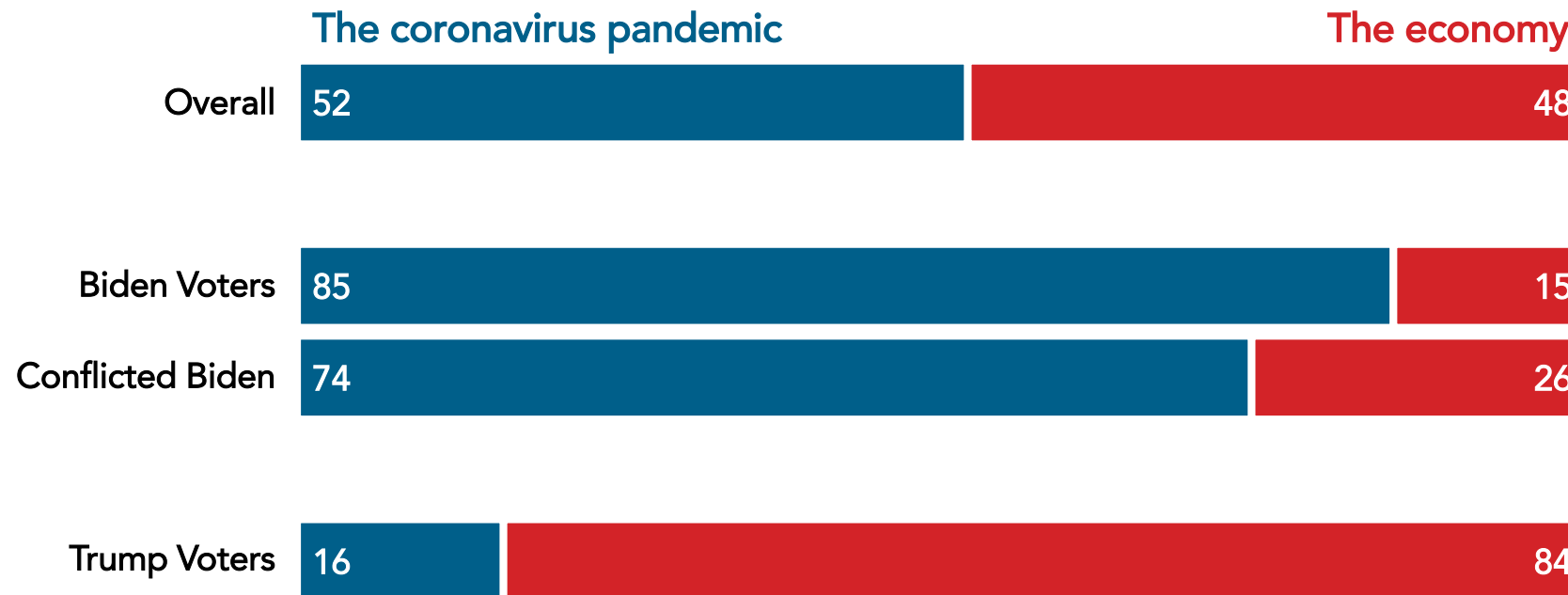


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The Vast Majority of "Conflicted" Biden Voters Prioritized the Pandemic Over the Economy

Three in four (74%) "Conflicted" Biden voters said the pandemic was more important to their vote than the economy.

And if you had to choose between these two issues, which was more important to your vote for President?

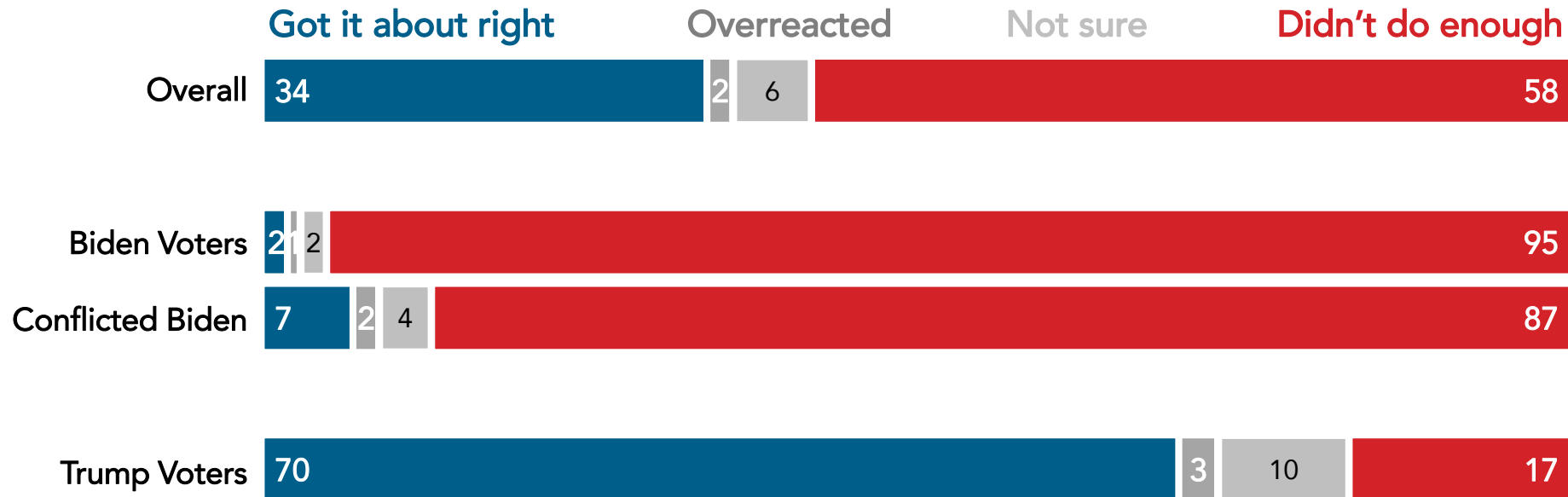


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Nearly Nine in Ten "Conflicted" Biden Voters Felt Trump Did Not Do Enough to Respond to the Pandemic

While seven in ten Trump voters feel Trump and his administration got their response to coronavirus "about right," more than nine in ten Biden voters and nearly the same share of "Conflicted" voters say they "didn't do enough."

In evaluating Trump and his administration's overall response to the pandemic, do you think they...

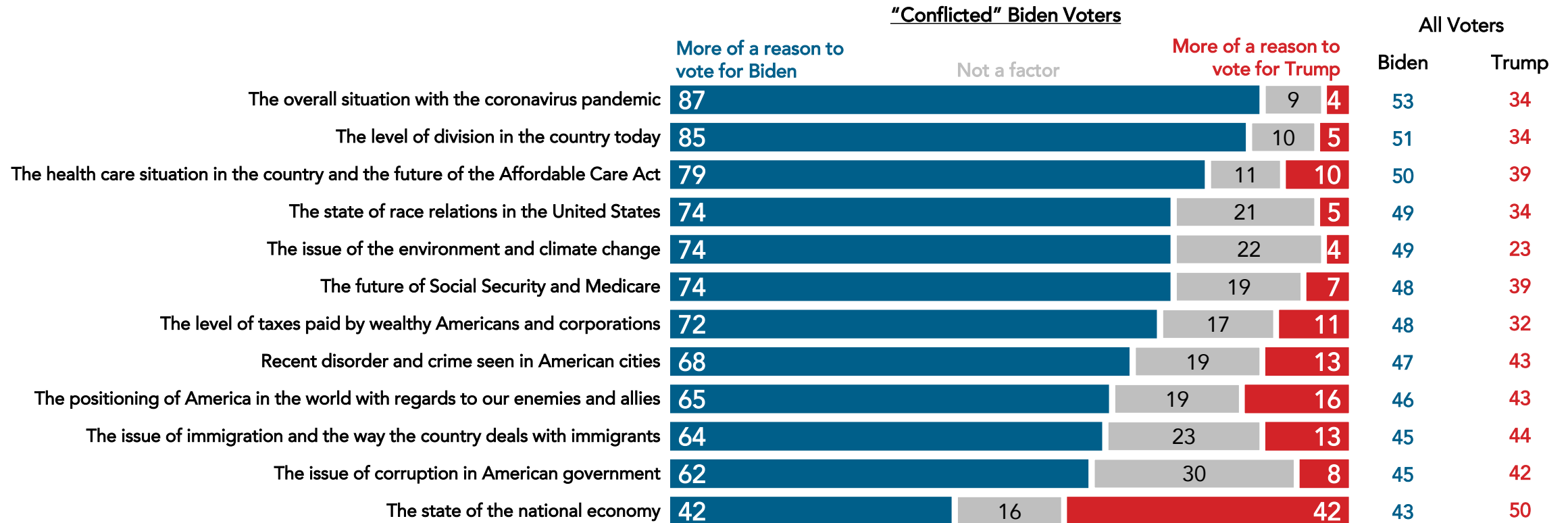


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Some "Conflicted" Biden Voters Said The Economy Pulled Them Towards Trump, But All Other Issues Pushed the Other Way

As many "Conflicted" Biden voters said the economy was a reason to vote for Biden as it was for Trump (42%).

For each of the following, please indicate whether it is more of a reason to support Trump, more of a reason to support Biden, or whether it is not a factor in your vote.

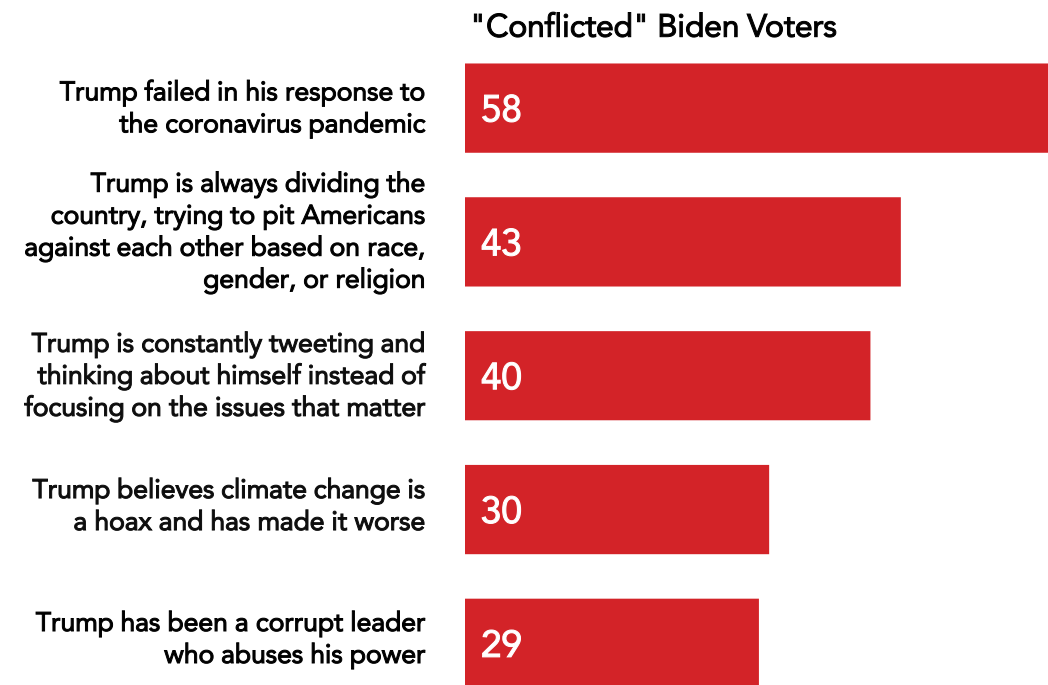


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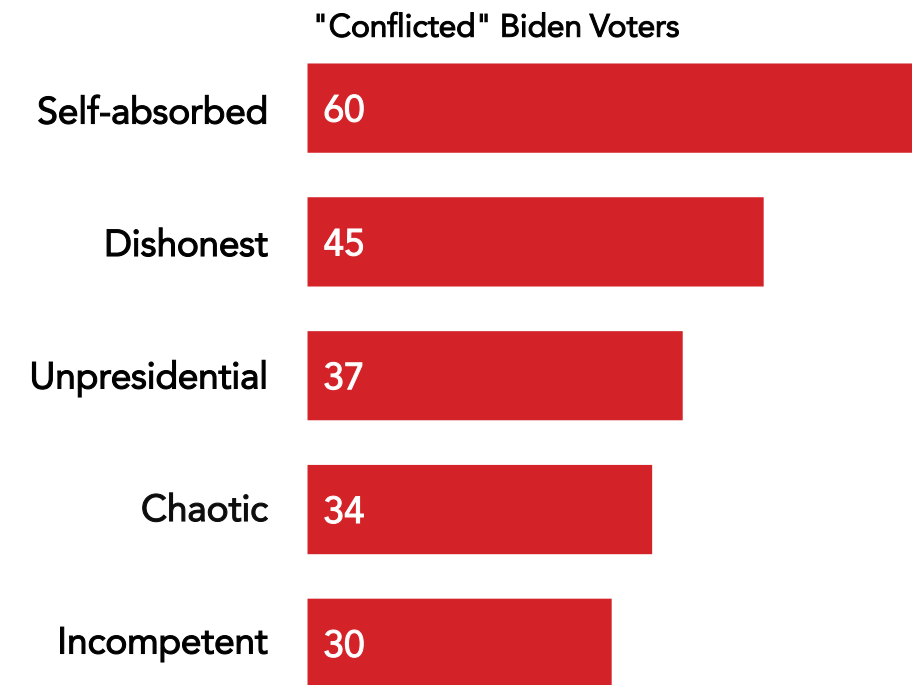
On Top of Leadership Failures, "Conflicted" Voters Were Put Off By Trump Himself – Especially His Self-Absorption

Top reasons "Conflicted" Biden voters gave to vote against Trump include his failed pandemic response, attempts to divide Americans, and constant tweeting, while three in five say "self-absorbed" best describes what bothered them.

Which of the following are the biggest reasons for you to vote against Trump?



Which three of the following best describes what bothers you the most about Donald Trump?

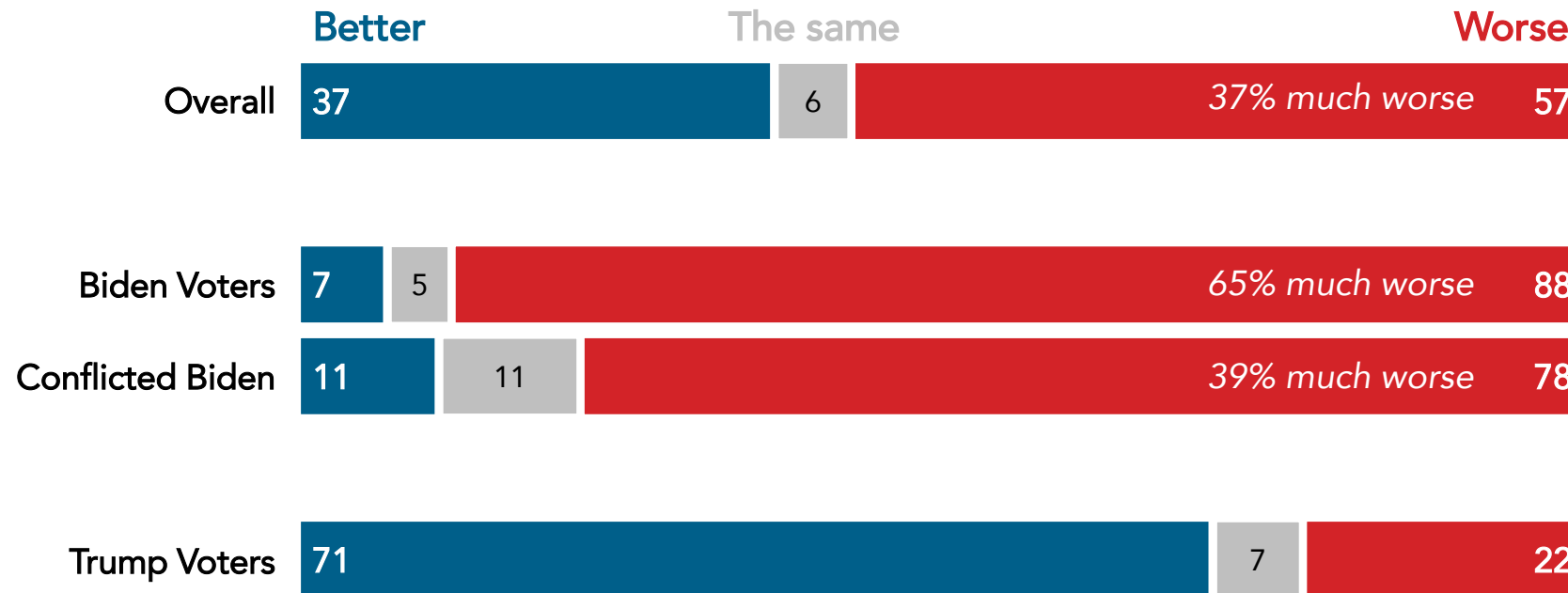


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“Conflicted” Voters Overwhelmingly Said the Country Is Worse Off Than It Was Before Trump Came Into Office

Despite more positivity toward Trump’s economic handling, “Conflicted” Biden voters were almost as pessimistic about the state of the country compared to five years ago (78% worse) as Biden voters overall (88% worse).

In comparing the way things are going in the United States to the way they were going five years ago, generally, would you say things are going better today, worse today, or about the same today as they were going five years ago?



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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; Joel Payne, 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 an online survey of 3,003 registered voters from October 30-November 3, 2020, with respondents recruited from opt-in online panel vendors. Respondents were verified against a voter file and special care was taken to ensure the demographic composition of the sample reflected that of the expected 2020 electorate. The vote shares for Joe Biden and Donald Trump among self-reported 2020 voters were also adjusted to reflect a preliminary estimate of the national popular vote in the 2020 presidential election.

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<http://navigatorresearch.org>

@NavigatorSurvey on Twitter

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