

navigator*

Thursday, January 15th

The Minneapolis ICE
Shooting, Venezuela,
and Greenland



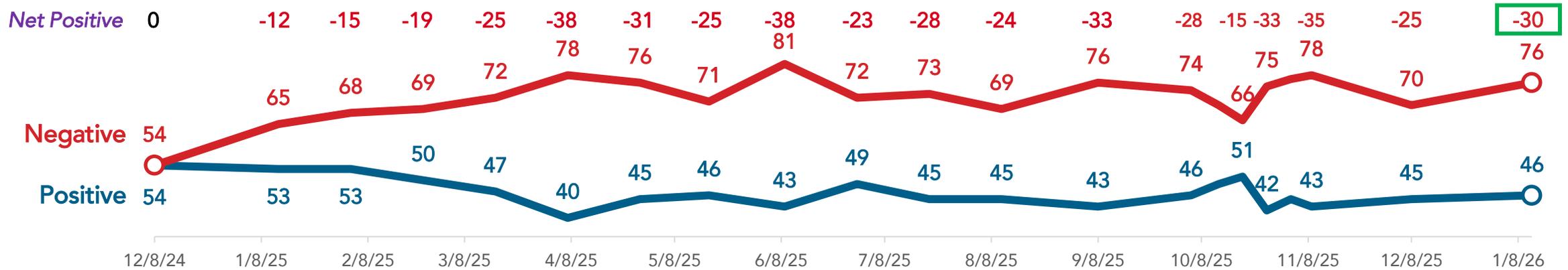
Photo Credit: Lucas Parker/Shutterstock

Key Takeaways:

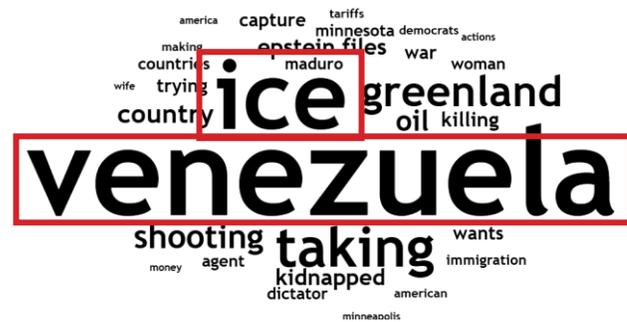
- Americans continue to hear more negative than positive information on Trump, with his actions in Venezuela and his response to the fatal ICE shooting in Minnesota dominating the negative information they're hearing.
- Views of ICE have precipitously declined since last summer, and Americans say they have been too aggressive in the last year.
- A majority of Americans are hearing about Maduro's capture, while views of it are divided. However, majorities oppose the United States taking control of running Venezuela.
- Americans think the U.S. should be cautious using military force abroad, preferring a focus of time and money domestically. They see Trump and Republicans as most focused on immigration, Venezuela, and drug trafficking, while they want a focus on the economy.
- While most Americans oppose Trump taking control of Greenland, a majority say they believe he'll attempt to take it.

Three in Four Are Hearing Negative Information on Trump; His Actions in Venezuela and on ICE Dominate Coverage

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



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



*"Trump **overreaching** his authority to capture the leader of Venezuela, his ICE authorities overstepping their boundaries."*

*"I've heard that his administration's handling of the woman killed by ICE agents has been **abysmal**."*

*"That he has **taken over** Venezuela to get their oil and he wants to **take over** Greenland."*

*"That he **defended** ICE in the shooting in Minneapolis."*

Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted January 8-January 12, 2026. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

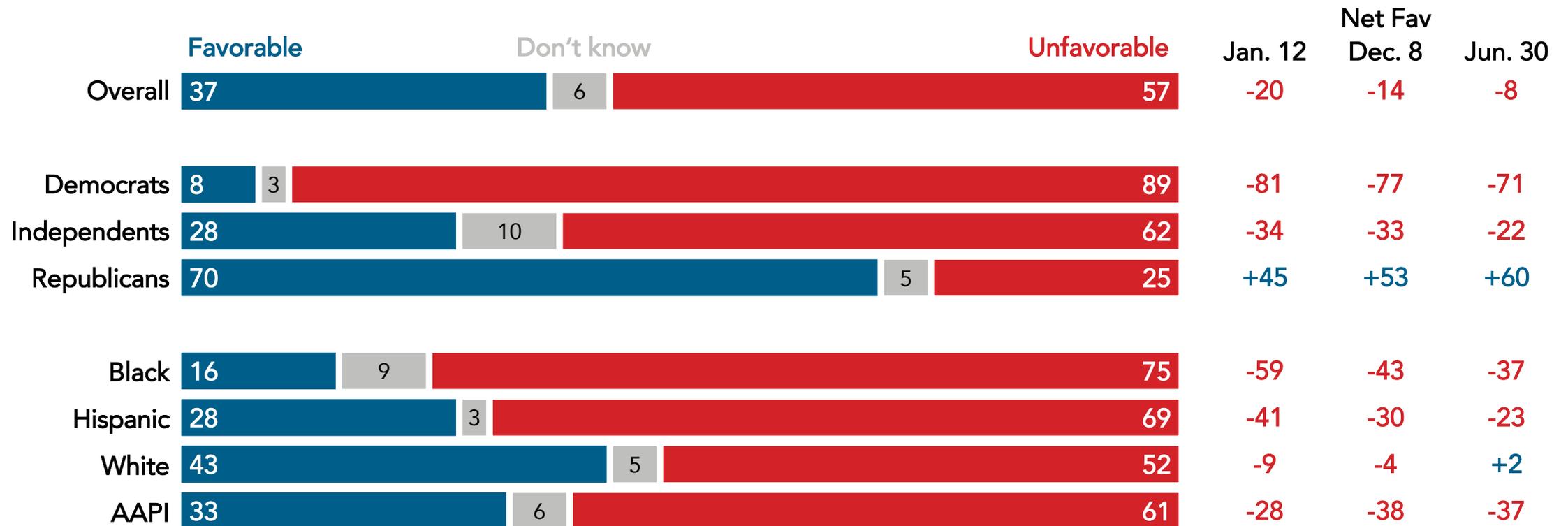
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ICE and the Minneapolis Shooting

Most Americans Now View ICE Negatively

Since June, ratings of ICE have declined broadly: favorability has dropped by a net 10 points among Democrats (from net -71 favorable to net -81), a net 12 points among independents (from net -22 to net -34), and a net 15 points among Republicans (from net +60 to net +45).

Please indicate how favorable or unfavorable you are to: ICE, also known as Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

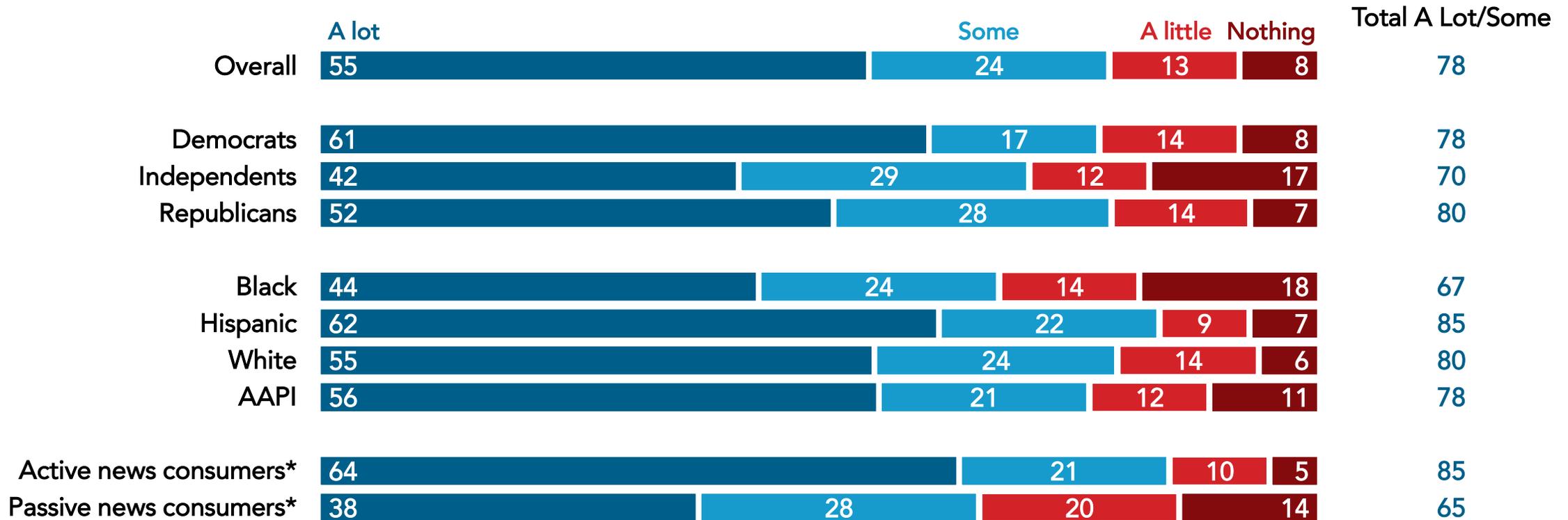


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Nearly Four in Five Are Hearing About the ICE Shooting in MN

Even among passive news consumers*, 65% report hearing “a lot” or “some” about the killing of a woman by an ICE officer in Minneapolis; among active news consumers*, that number jumps to 85%.

(Split Sample) How much have you seen, read, or heard about the fatal shooting of a woman by an ICE officer in Minneapolis?

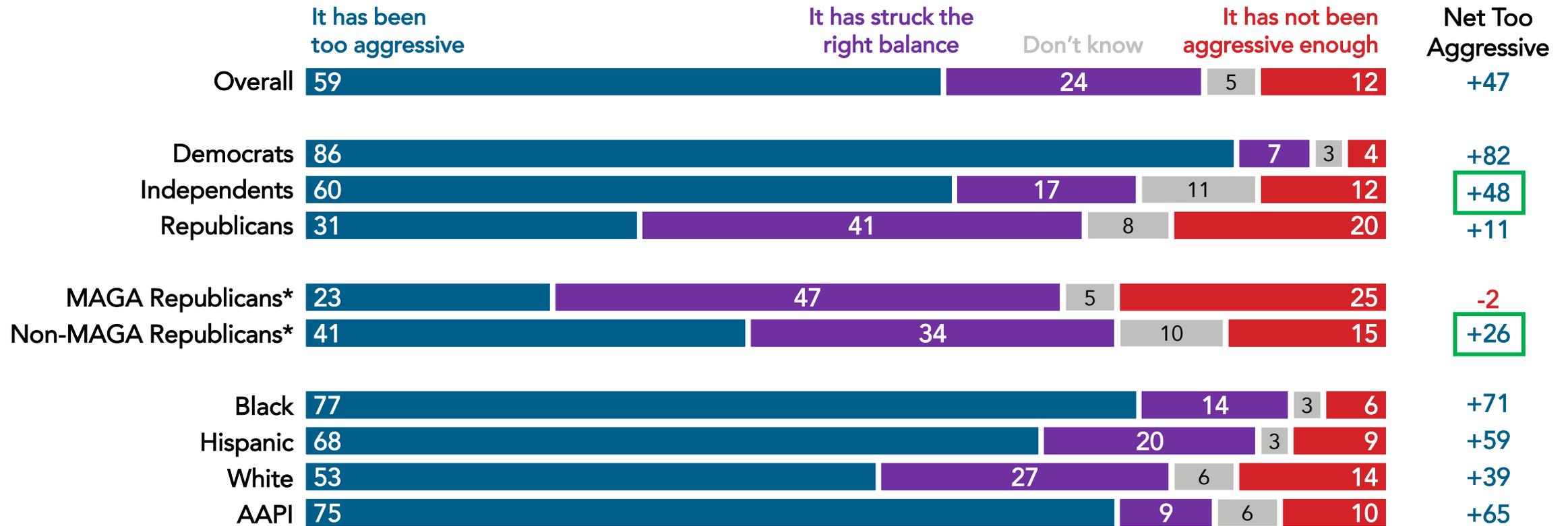


*“Passive news consumers” are those who say, “News comes to me,” while “active news consumers” say, “I seek out news.”
 Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted January 8-January 12, 2026.
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Majorities Say ICE Has Been Too Aggressive

Two in five non-MAGA Republicans* say ICE has been too aggressive (41%), as do a majority of independents (60%).

(Split Sample) In thinking about how ICE has conducted itself over the last year, which do you agree with most?



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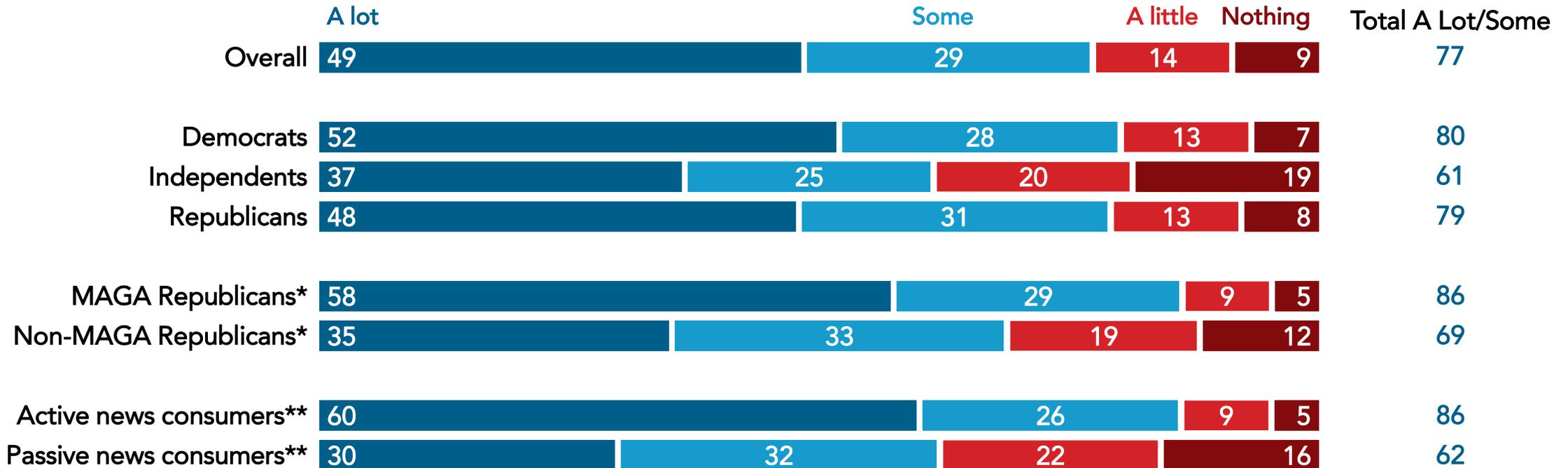
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Venezuela and Greenland

Most Americans Are Hearing About the U.S. Capture of Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro and His Wife

Similar shares report hearing about the ICE shooting in Minneapolis (78%), with Americans hearing more about each than about other recent events including the Trump administration’s handling of the Epstein files (71% “a lot”/“some” in early December), health care costs rising (72%), and cuts to Medicaid (69%).

How much have you seen, read, or heard about the U.S. carrying out a military operation in Venezuela and capturing Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro and his wife?



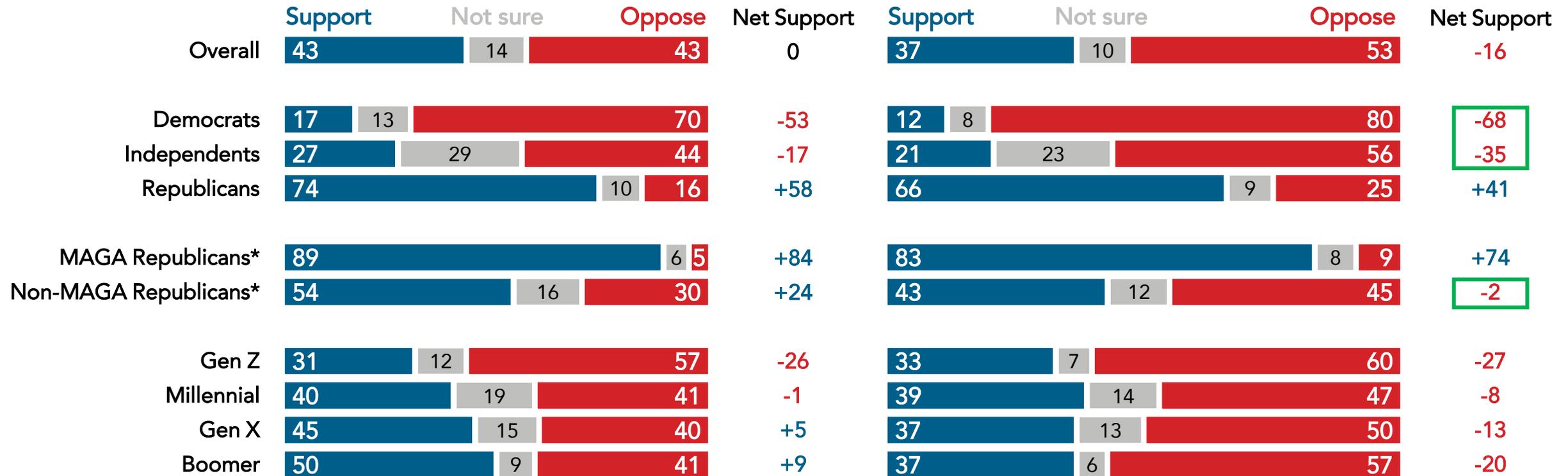
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Americans Are Divided on the Capture of Maduro But Majorities Oppose the U.S. Taking Control of and Running Venezuela

A plurality of independents oppose capturing Maduro (net -17 support) and a majority oppose the U.S. running Venezuela (net -35).

Do you support or oppose the U.S. military operation in Venezuela that captured Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro and his wife?

Regardless of how you feel about the recent military operation in Venezuela, do you support or oppose the U.S. taking control of Venezuela and running the country?

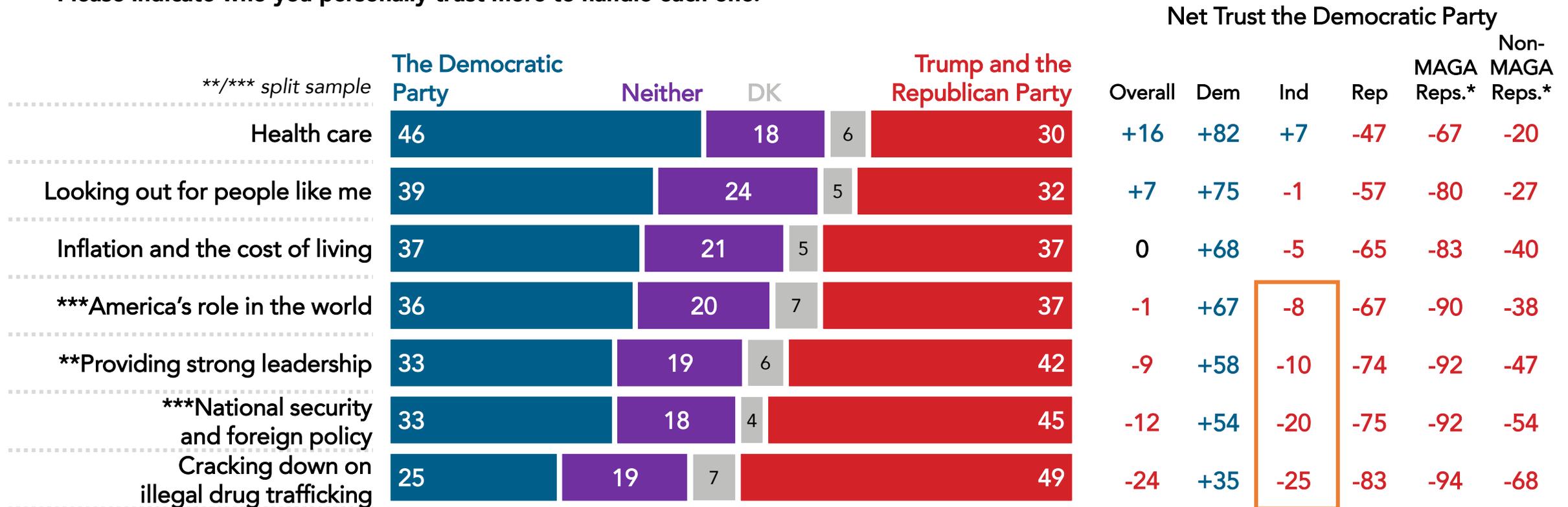


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Democrats Better Positioned on Domestic Debates; Trump and GOP Have Advantage on Foreign Policy and Strong Leadership

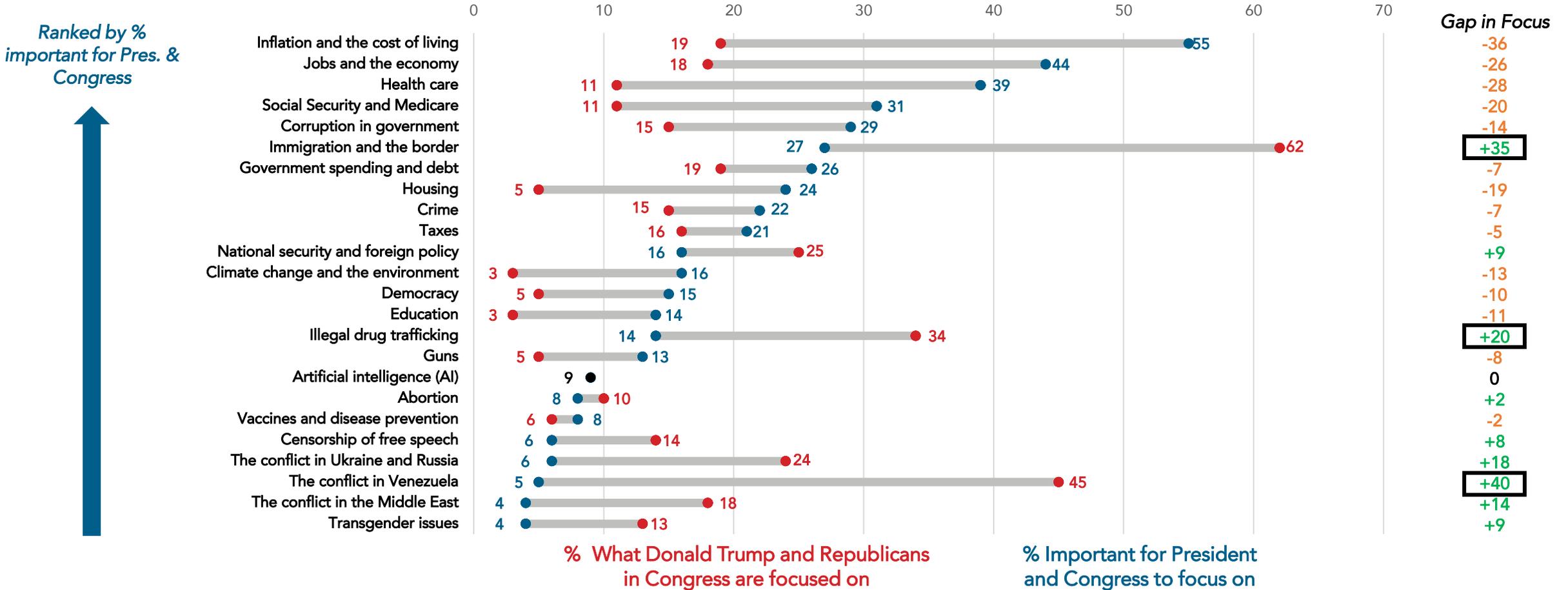
Independents trust Trump and Republicans more by 25 points on “cracking down on illegal drug trafficking,” by 20 points on “national security and foreign policy,” by 10 points on “providing strong leadership,” and by 8 points on “America’s role in the world.”

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



/ split sample
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Americans Want a Focus on the Economy But Say Trump and Republicans Are More Focused on Other Issues

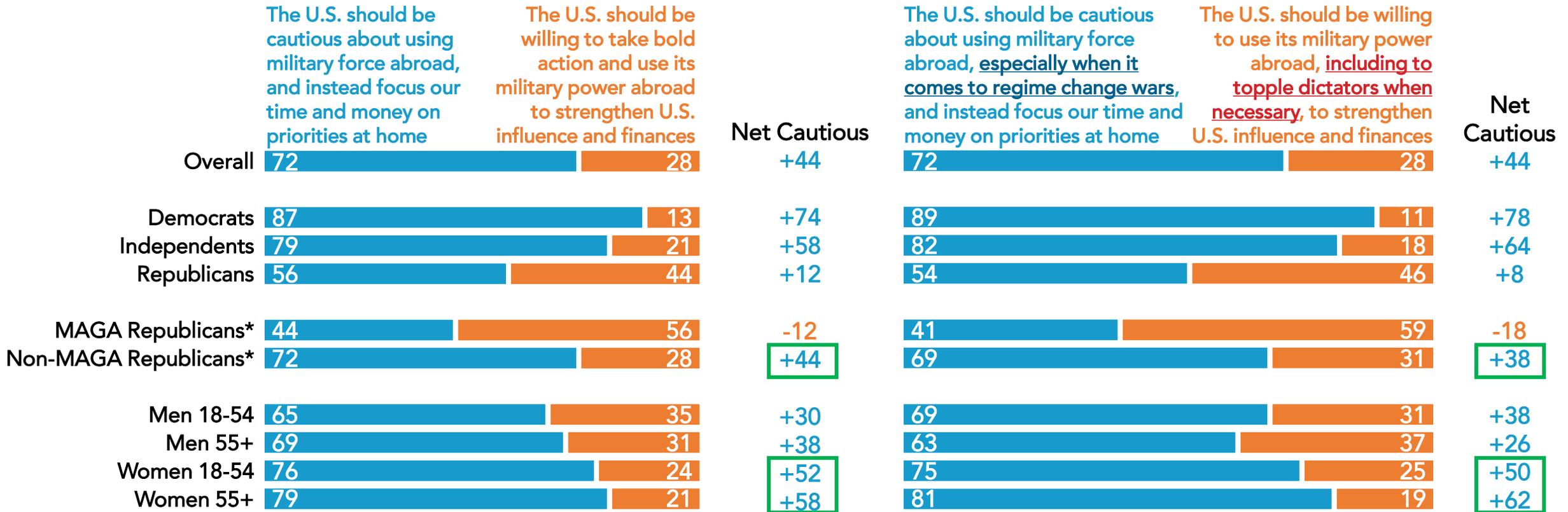


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Americans Overwhelmingly Agree U.S. Should Be Cautious With Military Force and Focus on Domestic Issues Instead

Majorities of non-MAGA Republicans* prefer caution overall (net +44) and with a context of regime change (net +38).

(Split Sample) Which statement do you agree with more about America’s role in the world, even if neither fully represents your view?



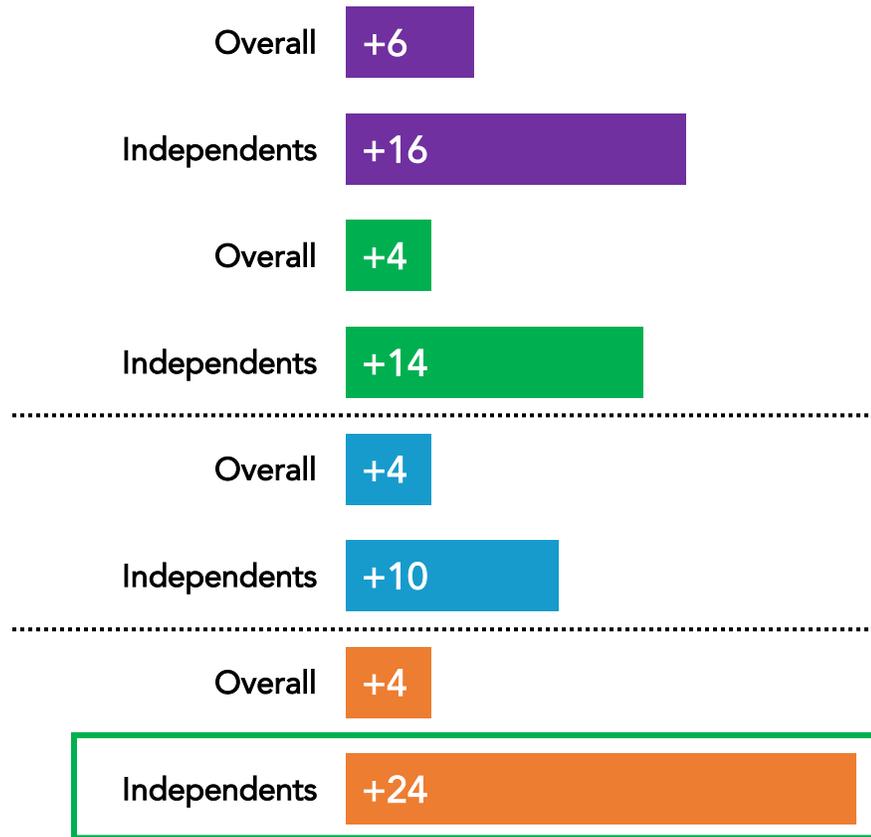
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Focusing on Issues at Home Instead of Wasting Money on Foreign Conflicts Resonates Most With Independents

Which side do you agree with more?

Net Agree With Anti-Trump Statement

Statement 1: Trump and Republicans who say Maduro was a brutal dictator and narco-terrorist who stole U.S. oil and assets, and that President Trump was right to use U.S. military force to capture him, remove him from power, and hold him accountable.



Statement 2: Democrats who say Maduro was a brutal dictator, but **Trump's actions are really about oil and enriching big corporations and billionaires:** Trump wants U.S. access to Venezuela's vast oil reserves and has openly talked about working with big oil companies to get the "oil flowing."

Statement 3: Democrats who say Maduro was a brutal dictator, but what Trump did is illegal: **the President does not have the authority to use U.S. military force without approval from Congress, and this action violates both U.S. and international law.**

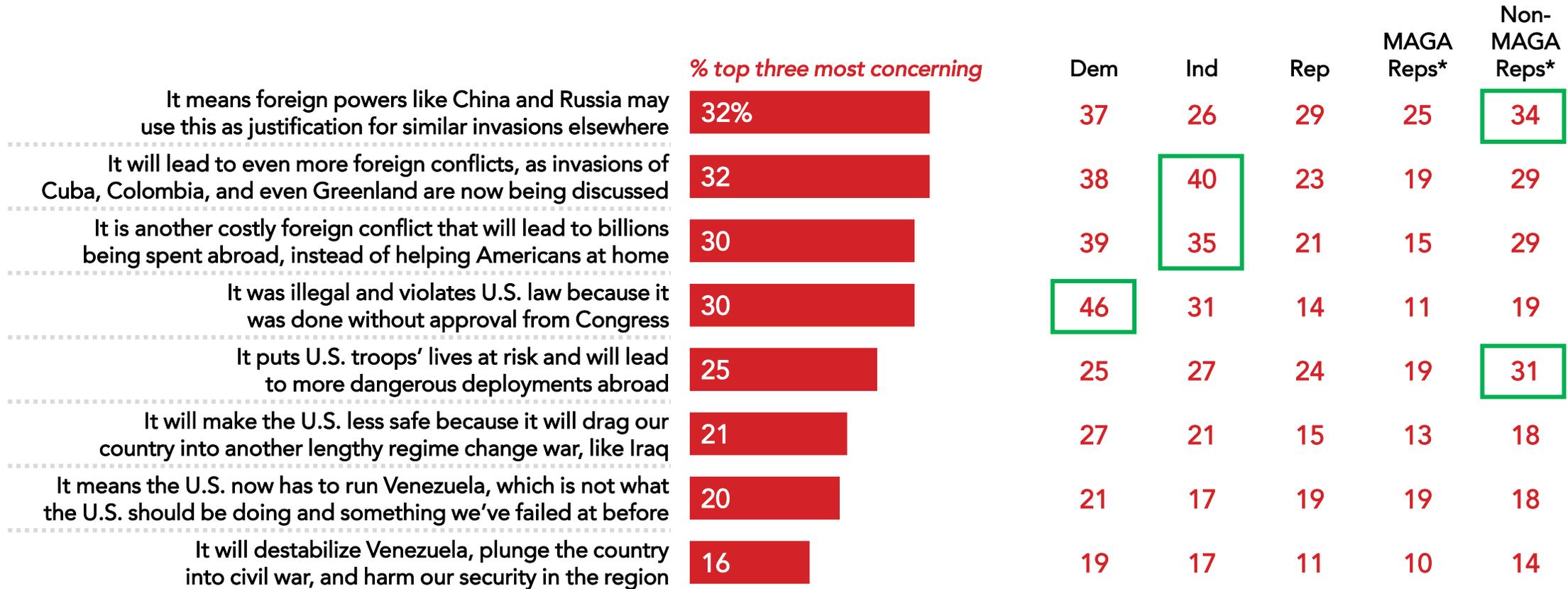
Statement 4: Democrats who say Maduro was a brutal dictator, but **Trump's reckless decision-making makes the U.S. less safe.** This attack puts U.S. troops at risk and risks dragging our country into another regime-change war that will create more enemies.

Statement 5: Democrats who say Maduro was a brutal dictator, but **we can't afford to get rid of every evil leader in the world.** Instead of wasting billions on multiple foreign conflicts across the globe, we should be focusing our time and money on helping Americans here at home.

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Americans Are Troubled By Trump's Actions in Venezuela Due to Its Repercussions Around the World, Implications, Costs

Democrats are uniquely concerned that Trump's actions in Venezuela violate U.S. law by acting without Congressional approval (46%). Below are concerns some have about the recent military action in Venezuela. Which of the following raise the most concerns for you, if any?



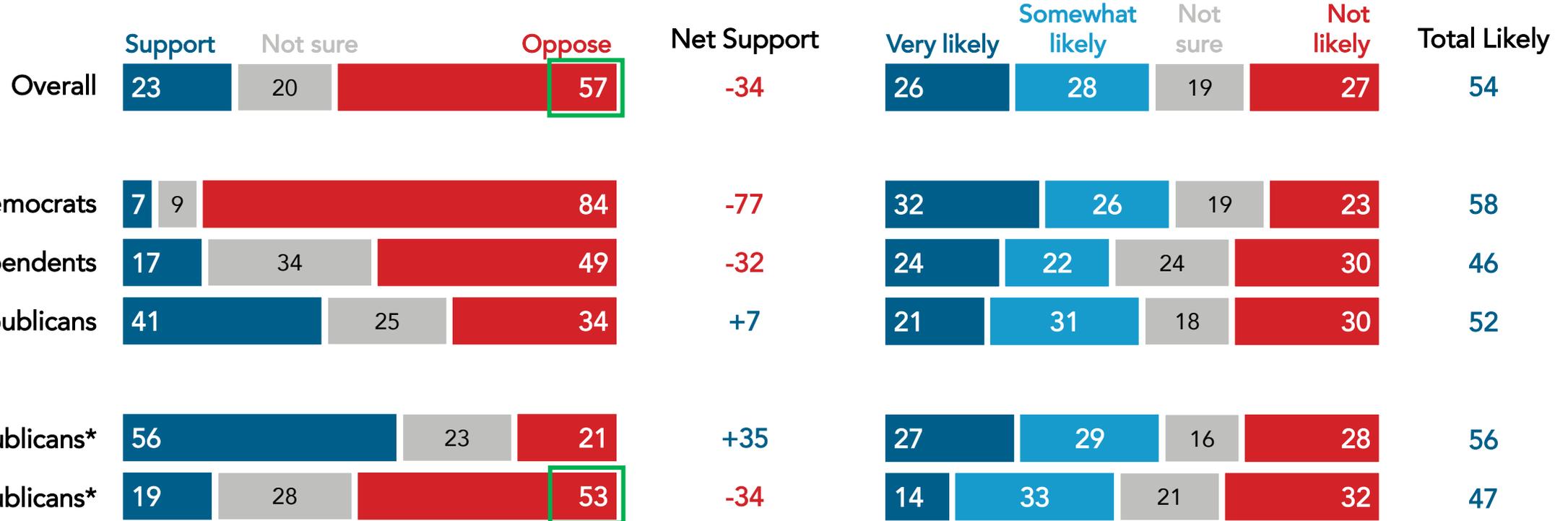
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Americans Overwhelmingly Oppose the U.S. Taking Control of Greenland, Though Majorities Think Trump Will Likely Try

A majority of Americans oppose the U.S. taking control of Greenland (57% oppose), including 53% of non-MAGA Republicans*. A majority also say it's likely Trump will attempt to take control (54% likely), including 47% of non-MAGA Republicans*.

(Split Sample) Do you support or oppose the U.S. taking control of Greenland?

(Split Sample) How likely do you think it is that Trump will attempt to take control of Greenland?



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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 January 8-January 12, 2026. 100 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 100 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 75 additional interviews were conducted among Asian American and Pacific Islander 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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