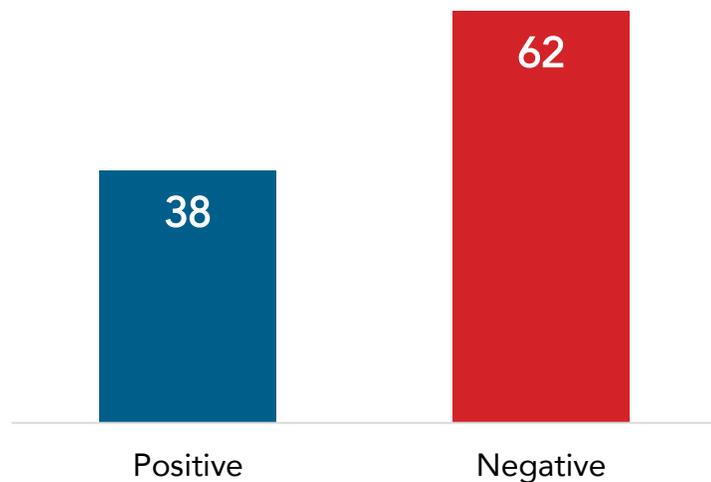# navigator.

Wednesday, February 25

The State of the Union
Dial Test

GBAO

Most Reacted Negatively To The Speech

What was your overall reaction to Trump's speech tonight?

- Positive: 38
- Negative: 62

What stood out most to you about Trump's speech tonight?

"He didn't say a damn thing that was meaningful or useful. All he did was talk shit about Democrats and treat it like an award show."

"Arrogance. Says the same things all the time. Would love it if he would speak from the heart."

"It made me sad and frustrated how he did not take any accountability and ostracized those w/ different opinions.."
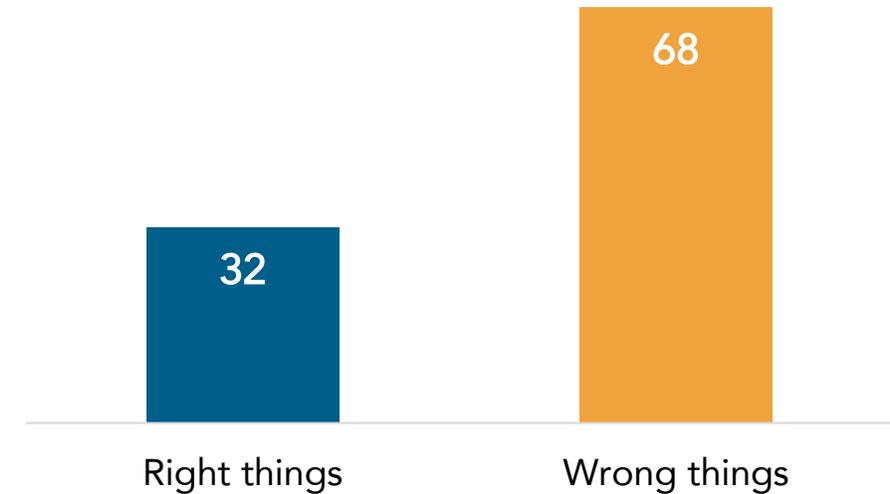
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Trump's Speech Out Of Touch With What Matters To Voters

How well did Donald Trump represent the interests of people like you in tonight's speech?

Well: 35

Not Well: 65
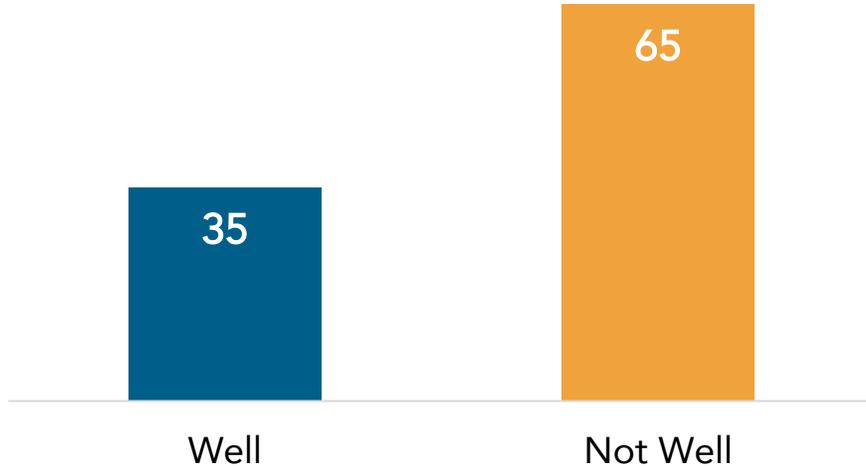
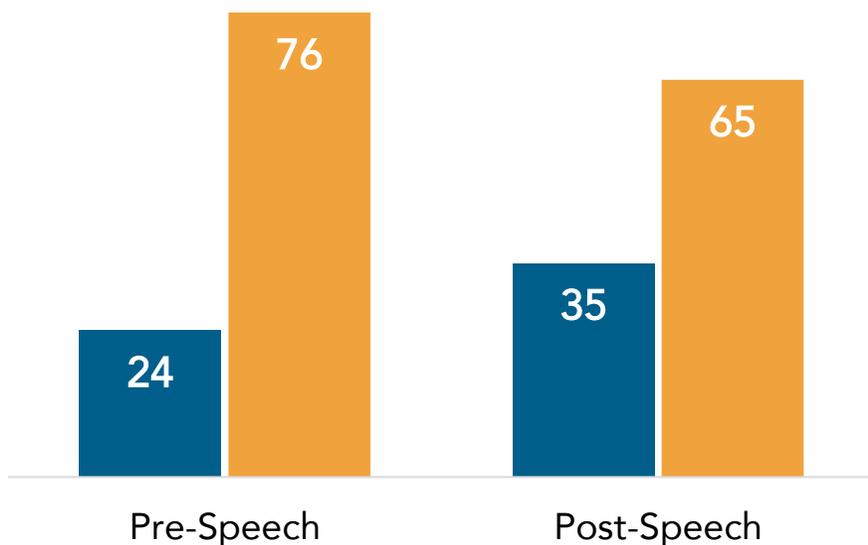Do you think Donald Trump spent this evening focused on the right or wrong things?

Right things: 32

Wrong things: 68

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Voters Remain Widely Pessimistic Post-Speech

Direction of the Country

● Right direction   ● Wrong track

Pre-Speech	Post-Speech
24 / 76	35 / 65

Which of the following best describes the state of the country today? The country is….

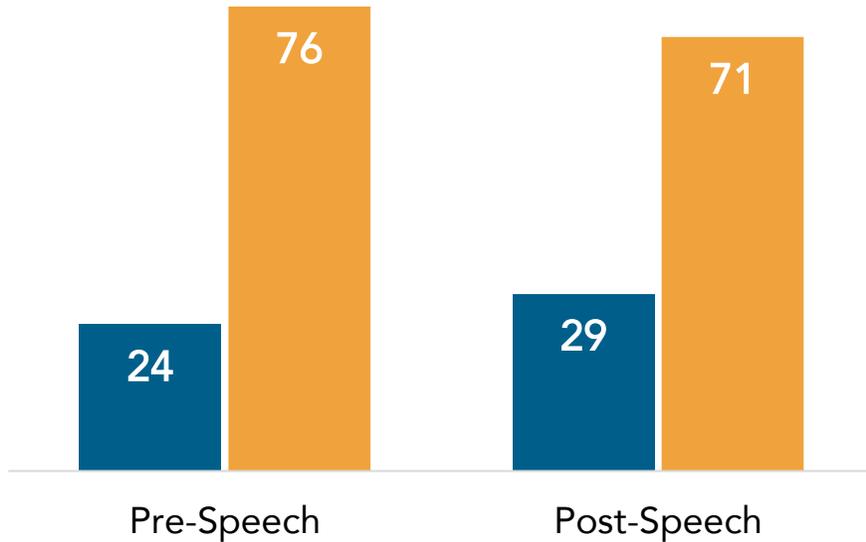● Better off than a year ago   ● Worse off than a year go   ● About the same as a year go
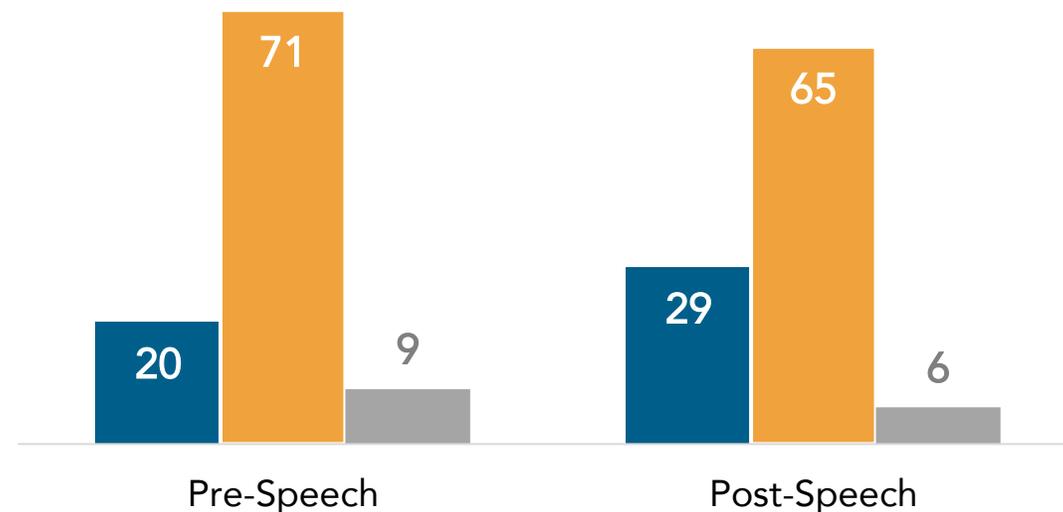
Pre-Speech	Post-Speech
20 / 71 / 9	29 / 65 / 6

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Trump Fails To Ease Economic Concerns

How would you rate the state of the U.S. economy today?

● Excellent/Good   ● Not so good/Poor
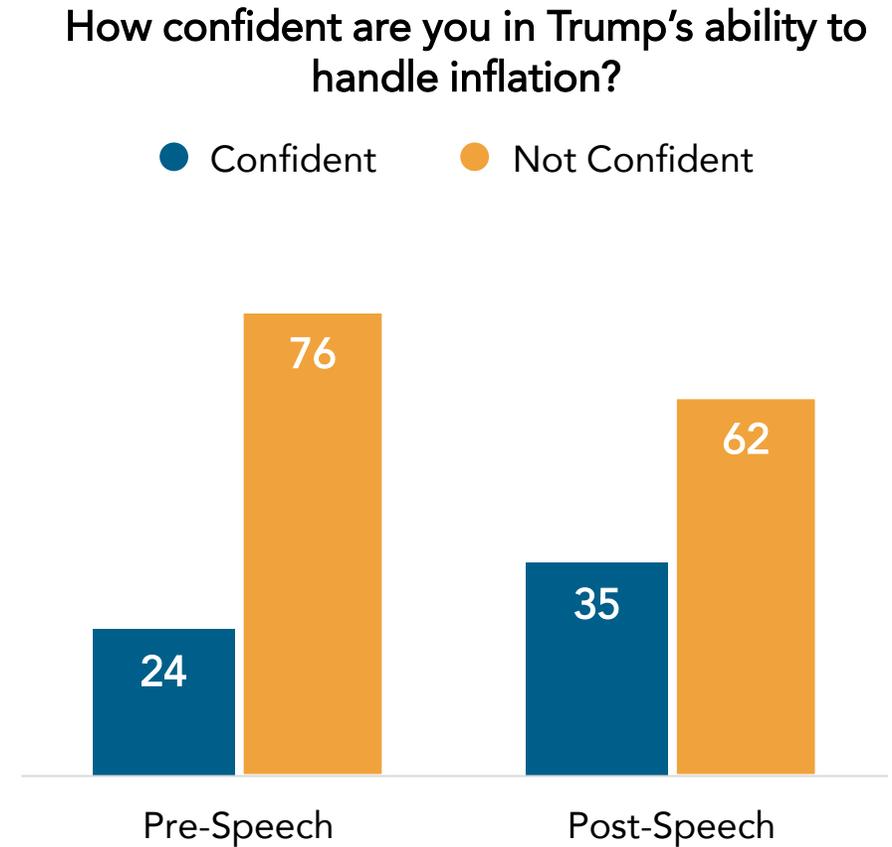
Pre-Speech: 24, 76
Post-Speech: 29, 71

Over the next year, do you think the economy will get better, get worse, or stay the same?

● Get better   ● Get worse   ● Stay the same
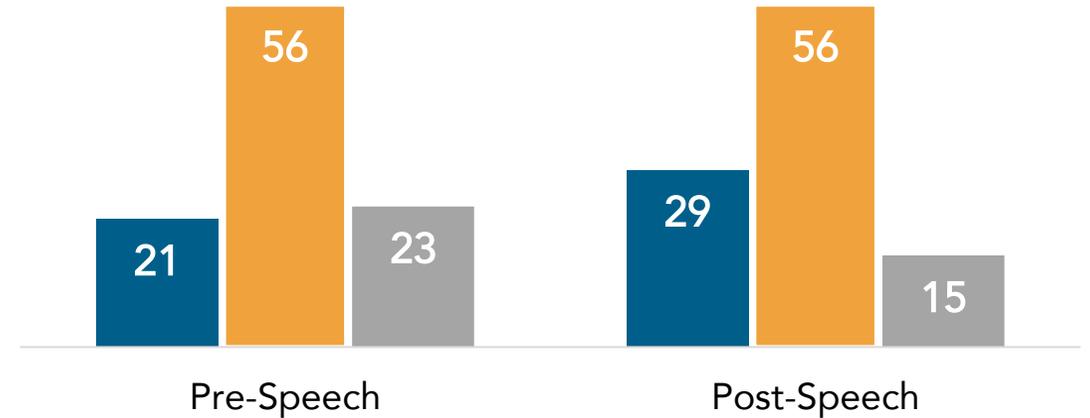
Pre-Speech: 21, 56, 23
Post-Speech: 29, 56, 15

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Trump Struggles To Convince He Has A Plan On The Economy
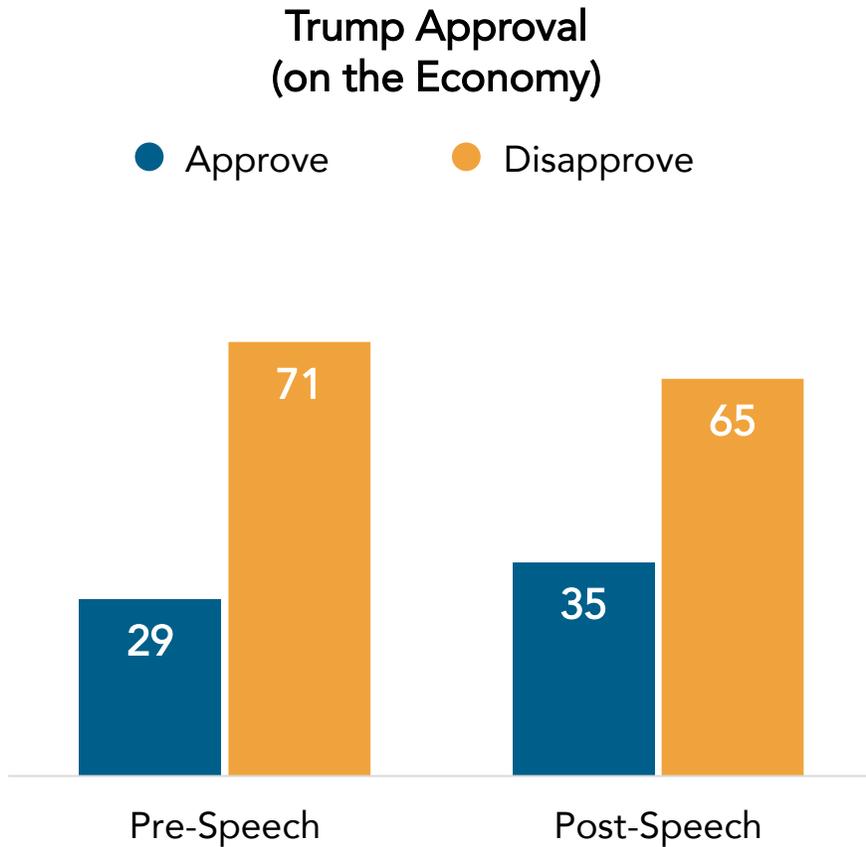
Trump Approval
(on the Economy)

● Approve   ● Disapprove

Pre-Speech: Approve 29, Disapprove 71
Post-Speech: Approve 35, Disapprove 65

Pre-Speech   Post-Speech

How confident are you in Trump's ability to handle inflation?

● Confident   ● Not Confident

Pre-Speech: Confident 24, Not Confident 76
Post-Speech: Confident 35, Not Confident 62

Pre-Speech   Post-Speech

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Trump Underwater Even On Immigration
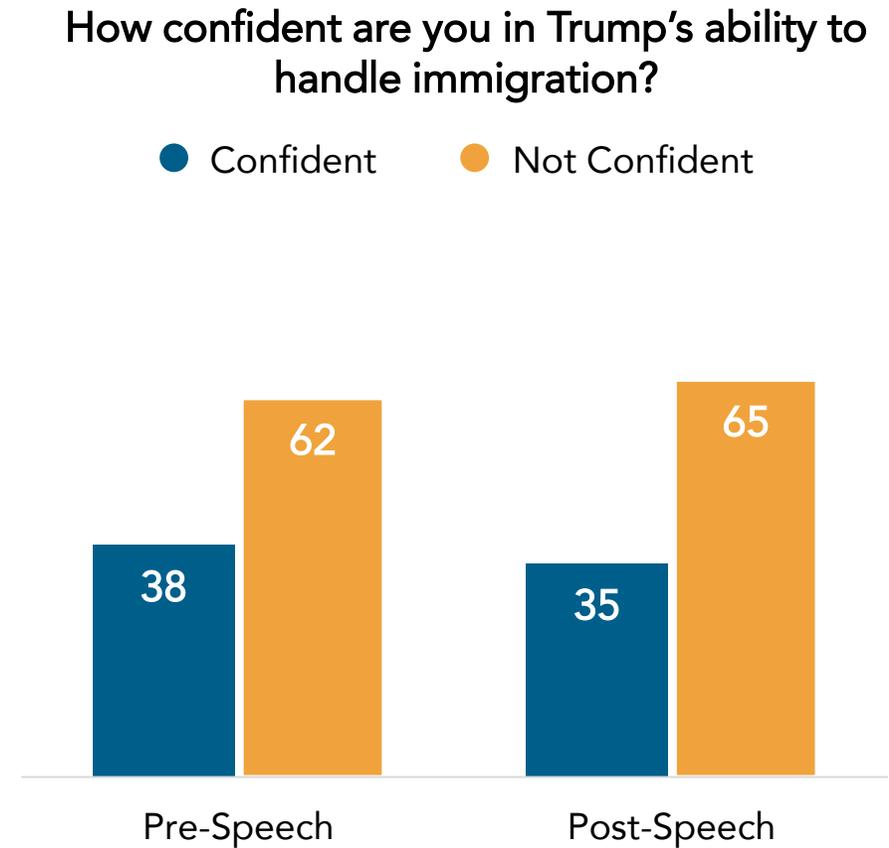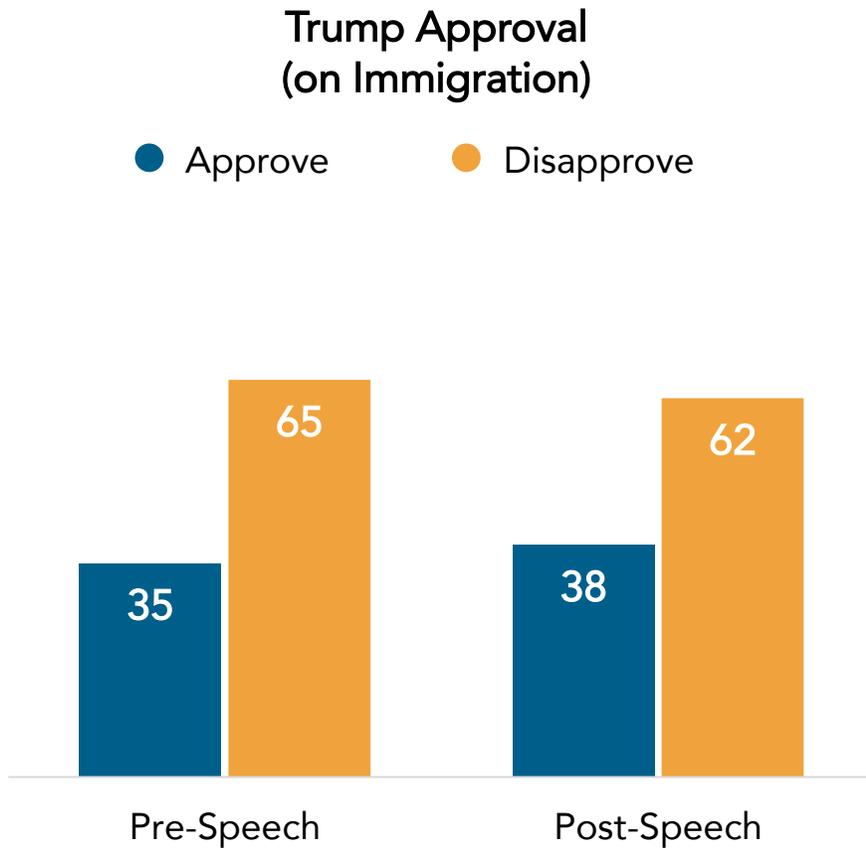
Trump Approval (on Immigration)

● Approve   ● Disapprove

Pre-Speech: Approve 35, Disapprove 65
Post-Speech: Approve 38, Disapprove 62

How confident are you in Trump's ability to handle immigration?

● Confident   ● Not Confident

Pre-Speech: Confident 38, Not Confident 62
Post-Speech: Confident 35, Not Confident 65

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Despite Small Improvements, Trump Remains In Negative Territory On A Range of Issues Addressed In The Speech

How confident are you in Donald Trump's ability to handle each of the following issues?
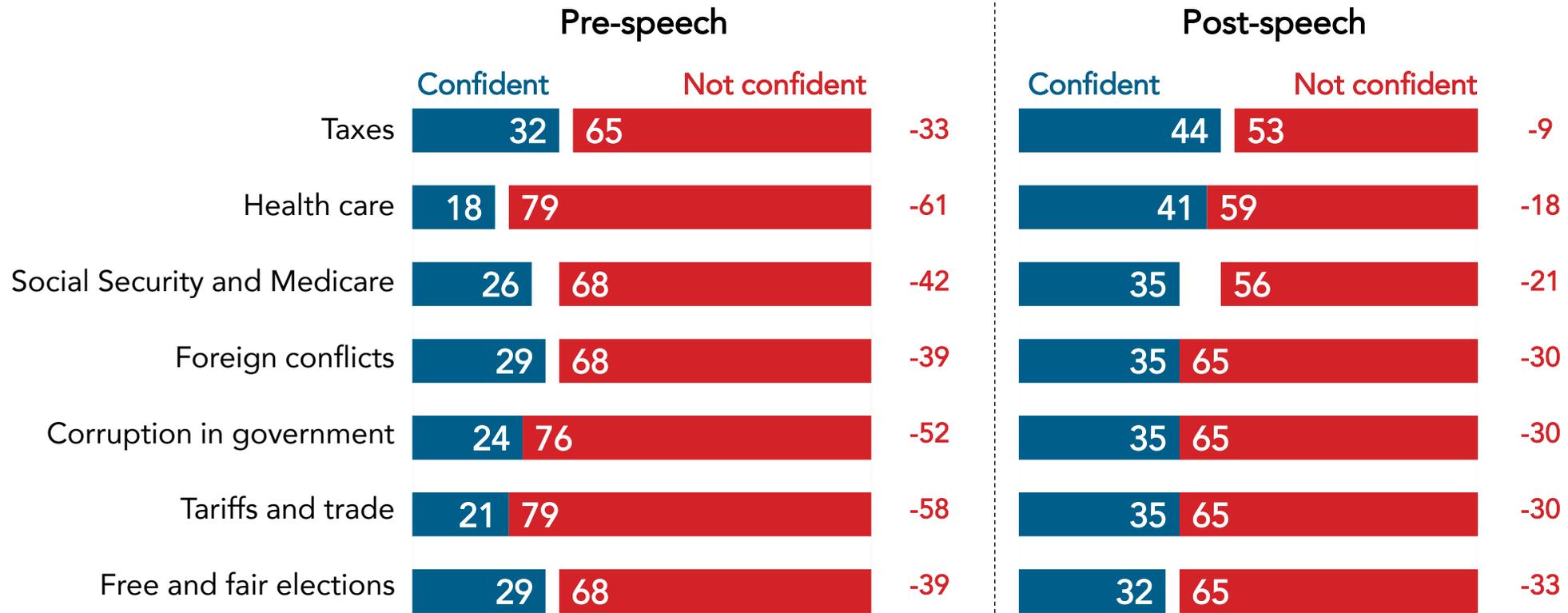
	Pre-speech			Post-speech		
	Confident	Not confident		Confident	Not confident	
Taxes	32	65	-33	44	53	-9
Health care	18	79	-61	41	59	-18
Social Security and Medicare	26	68	-42	35	56	-21
Foreign conflicts	29	68	-39	35	65	-30
Corruption in government	24	76	-52	35	65	-30
Tariffs and trade	21	79	-58	35	65	-30
Free and fair elections	29	68	-39	32	65	-33

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Deep Negatives Still Define His Image After The Speech

How well does each phrase describe Donald Trump?
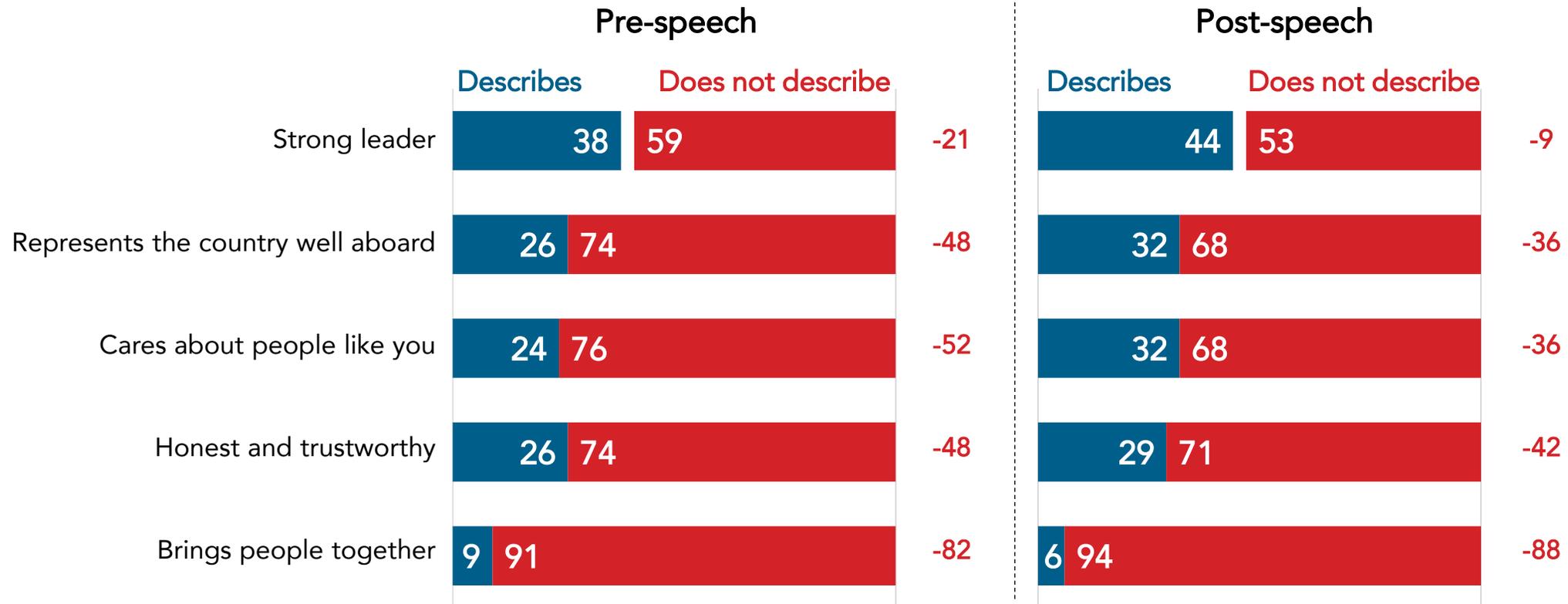
Pre-speech

	Describes	Does not describe	
Strong leader	38	59	-21
Represents the country well aboard	26	74	-48
Cares about people like you	24	76	-52
Honest and trustworthy	26	74	-48
Brings people together	9	91	-82

Post-speech

	Describes	Does not describe	
Strong leader	44	53	-9
Represents the country well aboard	32	68	-36
Cares about people like you	32	68	-36
Honest and trustworthy	29	71	-42
Brings people together	6	94	-88

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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.

About the Study

GBAO conducted an in-person dial group with 34 respondents in Phoenix, AZ on February 24, 2026. Participants came from a range of political and demographic backgrounds.

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