

# navigator\*

Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>

## News Consumption and the Conflict in Iran



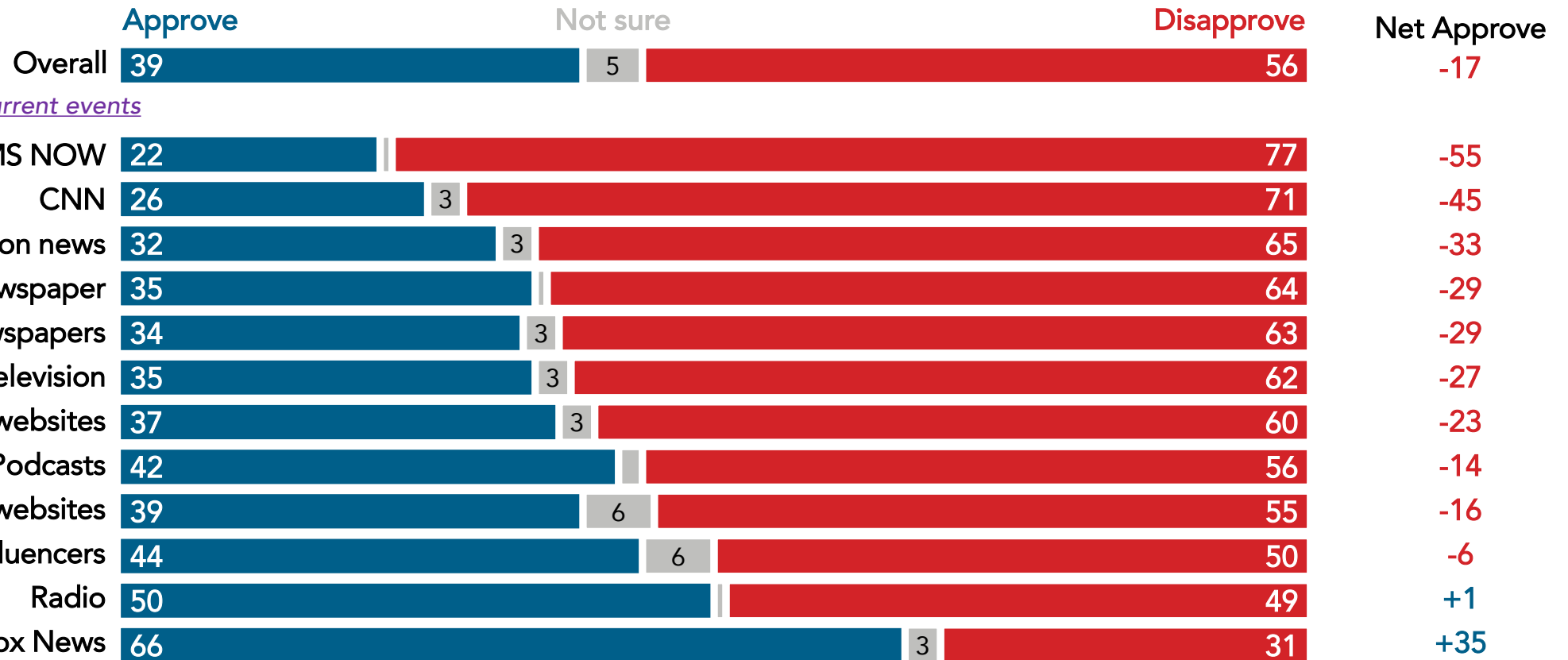
Credit: Shutterstock/macondofotografcisi

## Key Takeaways:

- Americans are net negative on the war with Iran and Trump's handling of foreign policy, but their attitudes are different depending on where they get their news.
- The most negative on the operation against Iran are MSNBC viewers, CNN viewers, and broadcast TV viewers. The most positive are those who get their news from Fox News or the radio. Those who get their news from social media, podcasts, and social media creators and influencers are also more negative than they are positive.
- While Fox News viewers across the board are positive on the president and the war, Republican-leaning Fox News viewers are the most supportive, with nearly nine in ten approving of Trump on foreign policy – just two in three non-Fox News Republicans approve.

# Fox News Viewers and Radio Listeners Most Approve of Trump on Foreign Policy; MSNBC, CNN, Broadcast Most Disapproving

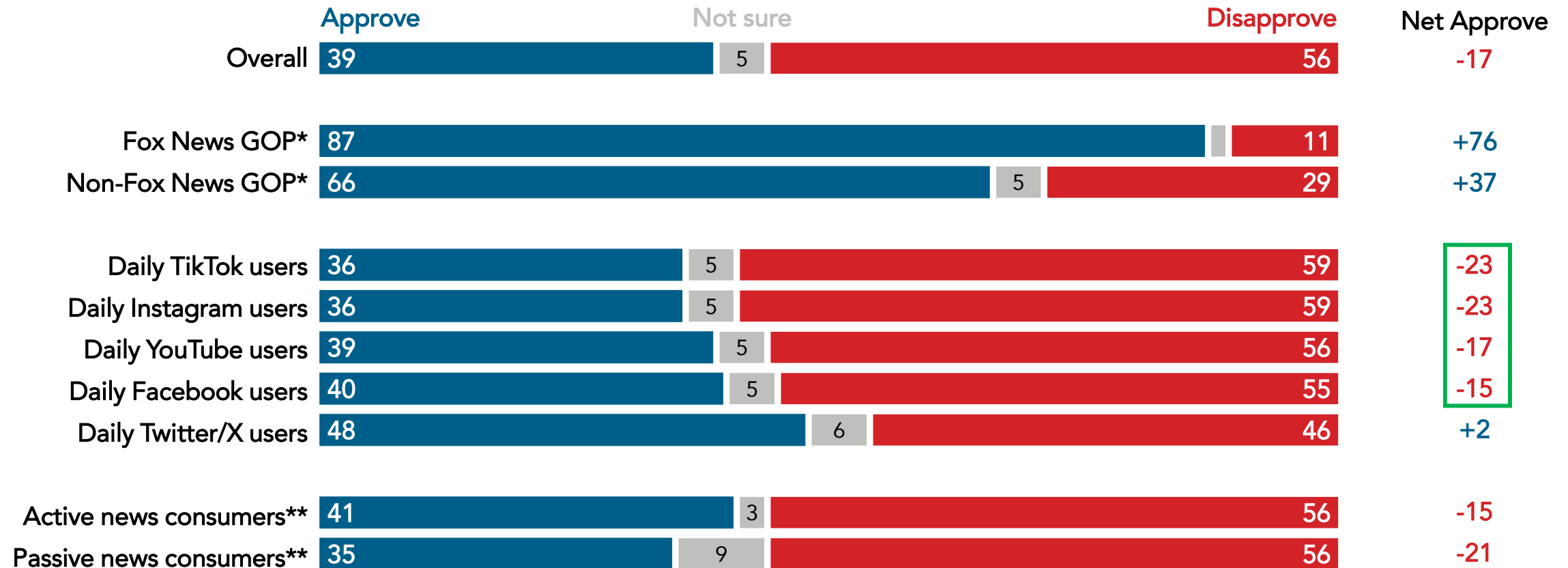
Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling foreign policy?



Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted March 12-March 16, 2026.  
For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](https://navigatorresearch.org).

# Daily Twitter/X Users and Republicans – Especially Fox News-Viewing Republicans – Are Most Supportive of Trump

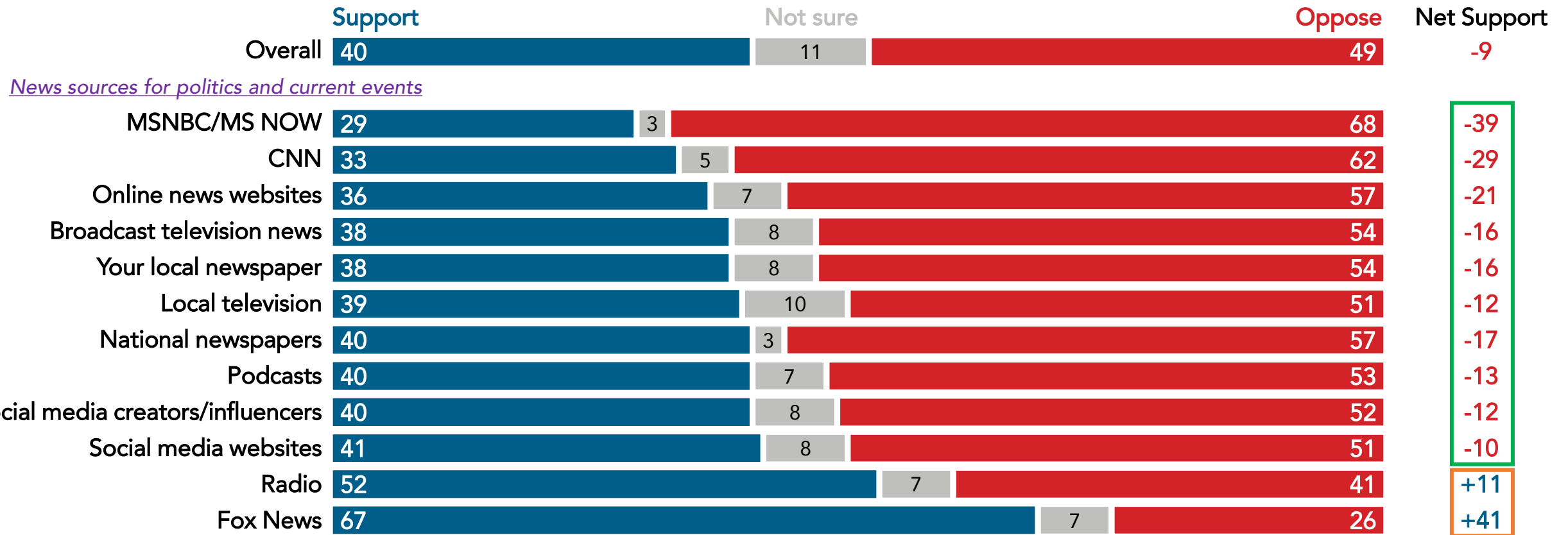
Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling foreign policy?



\*\*Fox News GOP\* are Republicans who say Fox News is one of their main sources of news about politics and current events. \*Non-Fox News GOP\* are Republicans who say Fox News is not one of their main sources of news about politics and current events. \*\*Active news consumers say they "seek news out" while passive news consumers say "news come to me." Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted March 12-March 16, 2026. For more info, visit [navigatorresearch.org](http://navigatorresearch.org).

# From MSNBC Viewers to Those Who Get Their News from Podcasts & Creators, Many Oppose the U.S. Action Against Iran

Do you support or oppose the U.S. conducting a military operation against Iran?

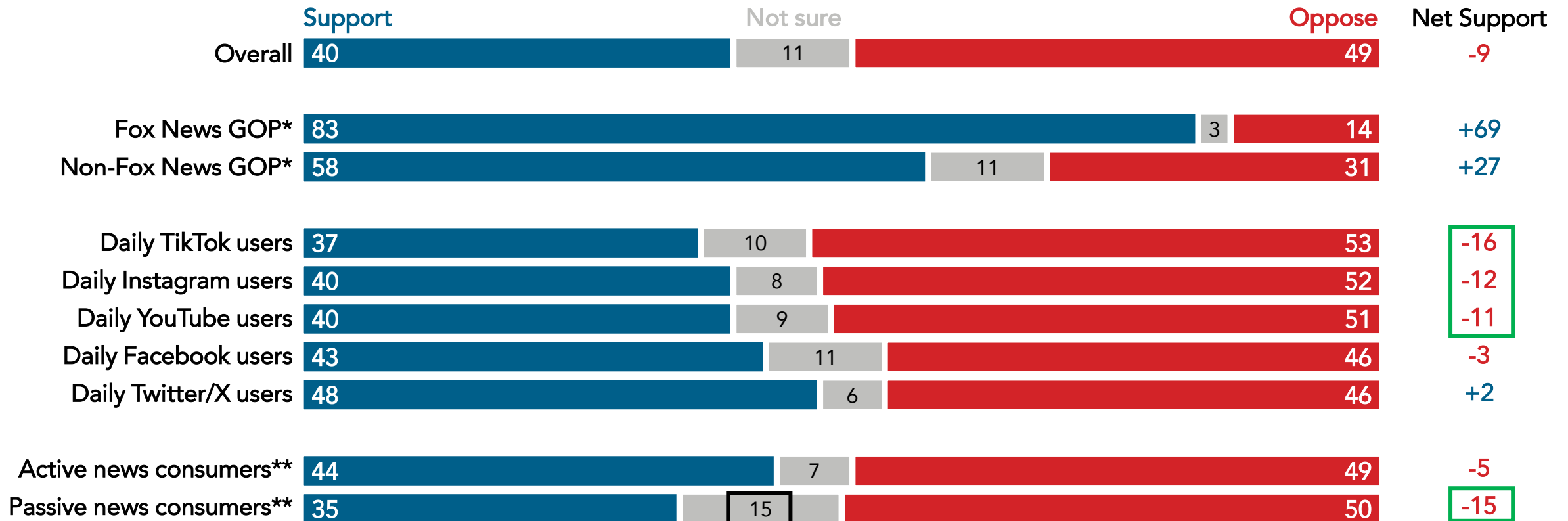


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# Daily TikTok, Instagram, YouTube Users and Passive News Consumers All Oppose Trump's Operation Against Iran

Non-Fox News GOP\* are far less supportive of the military operation against Iran (net +27 support) than Fox News GOP\* (net +69), while many passive news consumers\*\* (15%) say they are not sure how they feel about it.

Do you support or oppose the U.S. conducting a military operation against Iran?



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# MSNBC, CNN, Social Media News Getters Say Trump's Military Operation in Iran Is a Distraction from Epstein Files

Below is a list of reasons some say Trump decided to conduct a military operation against Iran. Please indicate which three you think are the main reasons he decided to conduct a military operation against Iran.

	<i>% top three best describes</i>	Nat'l Newspapers	Fox News GOP*	Non-Fox News GOP*	MSNBC	CNN	News from Social Media	News from Influencers	Daily TikTok Users	Daily Twitter/X Users	Daily Facebook Users
He wants to get access to oil and other resources in the region	40%	47	21	29	47	49	44	42	42	39	40
He wants to use the conflict to distract from other issues, like the Epstein files	40	58	12	23	63	50	44	42	40	35	38
He felt Iran's nuclear and missile programs posed an imminent threat	38	36	73	47	28	32	36	35	31	39	40
He wants regime change in Iran	33	32	55	40	29	29	31	31	30	45	33
He wants to liberate the Iranian people from an oppressive regime	31	26	66	40	17	24	29	32	31	38	32
He was pushed to take action by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu	26	41	12	22	43	35	31	29	26	28	24
He wants revenge on Iran for attempting to assassinate him	16	17	10	10	22	23	19	22	17	16	17

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# Across Media Habits, Americans' Concerns Focus on Gas Prices (Even Before Latest Spike), Spending Money Abroad

Below are concerns some have about the recent U.S. military operation against Iran. Which of the following raise the most concerns for you, if any?

	<i>% top three most concerning</i>	Nat'l Newspapers	Fox News GOP*	Non-Fox News GOP*	MSNBC	CNN	News from Social Media	News from Influencers	Daily TikTok Users	Daily Twitter/X Users	Daily Facebook Users
It will raise oil and gas prices and hurt the global economy	34%	35	29	35	40	37	35	32	32	30	35
It is another conflict that will lead to billions being spent abroad instead of helping Americans at home	29	40	25	26	39	34	30	29	28	31	26
It has resulted in the deaths of innocent civilians, including children	27	32	21	21	32	32	31	28	26	28	27
It puts U.S. troops unnecessarily in harm's way, with 13 troops already killed	27	28	21	25	32	31	26	27	27	27	25
It will make the U.S. less safe because it will drag our country into another forever war	24	34	16	14	35	34	30	31	28	21	22
It will lead to conflict spreading across the Middle East and around the world	22	29	15	24	26	29	23	22	24	20	24
It means foreign powers like China and Russia may use this as justification for similar invasions elsewhere	20	23	21	24	25	20	22	19	20	18	21
It was illegal because it was done without approval from Congress	19	28	6	10	29	27	20	23	18	19	18
It is not aligned with American values	10	9	6	9	8	9	12	17	14	14	11

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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

Global Strategy Group conducted a public opinion survey among a sample of 1,000 registered voters from March 12-March 16, 2026. 100 additional interviews were conducted among Hispanic voters. 101 additional interviews were conducted among African American voters. 82 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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