

navigator*

Wednesday, April 8th

Gas Prices



Credit: Shutterstock/Michaelangeloop

Key Takeaways:

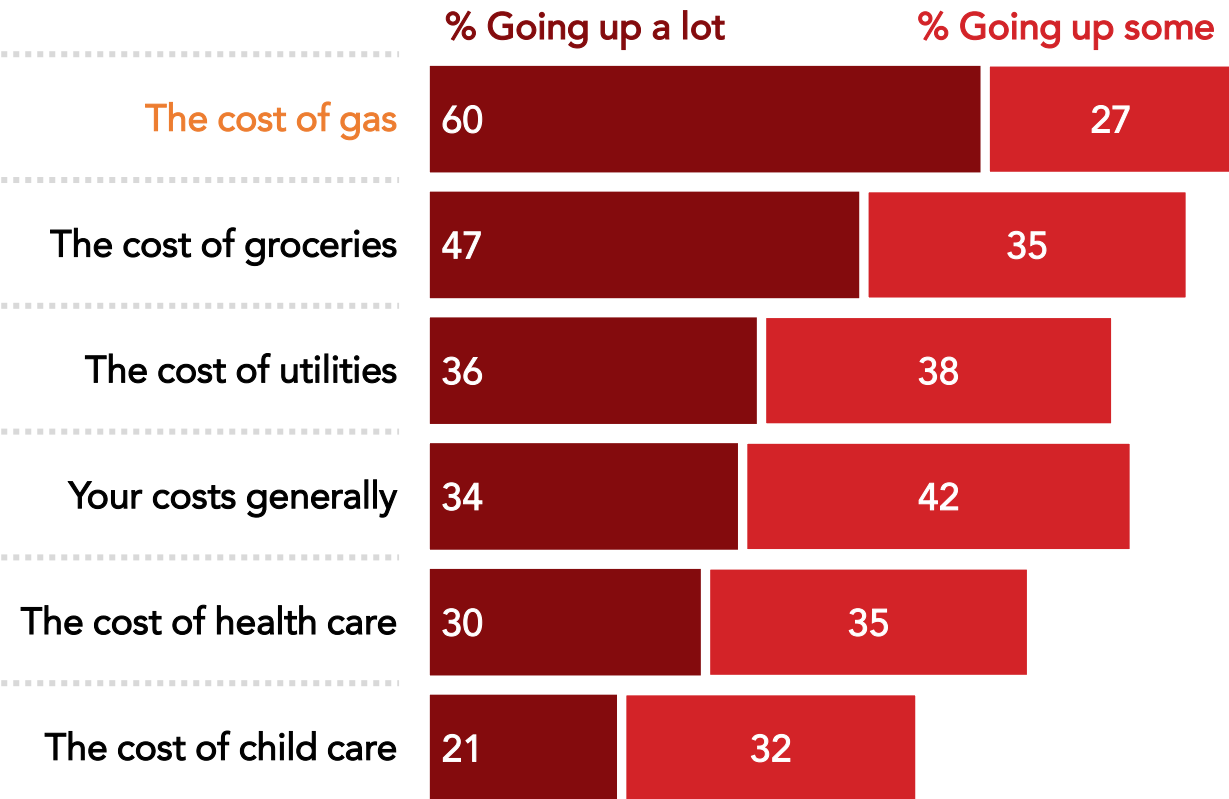
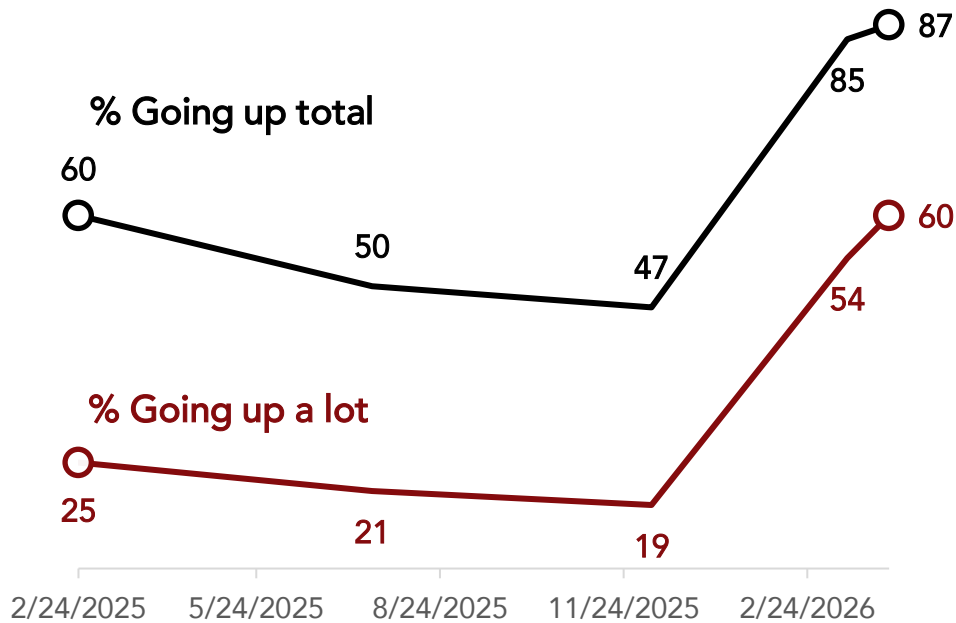
- Americans nearly unanimously see gas prices as rising – and three in five say by “a lot.”
- Nearly two in three Americans disapprove of Trump’s handling of gas prices, including a majority of non-MAGA Republicans.
- Americans blame Trump and Republicans and the war in Iran for high gas prices. That said, they don’t overwhelmingly trust Democrats more on the issue yet, either; many do not trust either party or are unsure.

Nearly All Americans Feel Gas Prices Going Up

Nearly all Americans say the cost of gas is going up (87% going up), with now 60% saying it is going up “a lot.” This is higher than feelings of rising grocery (47% “a lot”), utility (36%), or health care costs (30%).

Please indicate, for each one, whether you feel like those costs are going up, going down, or staying the same.

Perceptions of the cost of gas

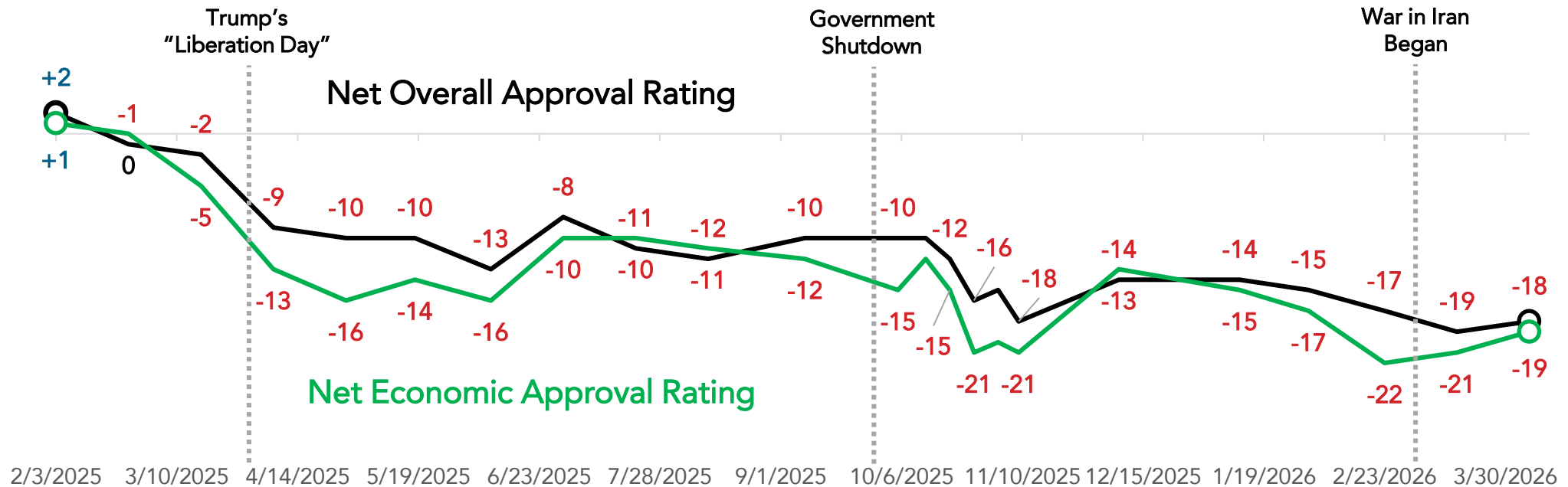


Nationwide surveys of registered voters; Each wave represents approximately 1,000 interviews taken over the prior three-five days. Latest wave conducted April 2-April 6, 2026. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Trump's Overall and Economic Approval Ratings Remain Deeply Negative

Trump's overall (net -18 approve) and economic (net -19 approve) approval ratings are both in the negative by nearly 20 points.

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president/**the economy**?



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Trump Is Most Underwater on Gas Prices, Dragged Down By Net-Negative Non-MAGA Republican Ratings

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling **gas prices**?



Overall	Net Approve			MAGA Reps.*
	Dem	Ind	Non-MAGA Reps.*	
-37	-85	-57	-21	+51

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



-20	-80	-50	+17	+78
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Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling **the economy**?



-19	-81	-51	+20	+81
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Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?



-18	-79	-45	+21	+79
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*"MAGA Republicans" are Republicans who identify as "a supporter of the MAGA movement" on a separate question, while "non-MAGA Republicans" are Republicans who do not consider themselves supporters of the MAGA movement or are not sure. Nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted April 2-April 6, 2026. For more info, visit navigatorresearch.org.

Americans Blame the War in Iran and Trump/GOP for Gas Prices

Seven in ten Americans blame the war in Iran as one of the top three reasons for the rise in gas prices (71%), and nearly half say the same of Trump and Republicans in Congress (48%). "Iran," "war," and "Trump" dominate top reasons in Americans' own words.

(Split Sample) Below is a list of people and things that some blame for the recent rise in gas prices. Which of the following do you blame the most, if any?

(Split Sample) Who or what do you blame the most for the recent rise in gas prices, if anyone/anything? (Open end)

	% top three blame the most	Dems	Ind + Non-MAGA Reps.*
The war with Iran	71	73	71
Trump and Republicans in Congress	48	76	33
Oil and gas companies	36	34	38
Insufficient oil and natural gas production	19	15	20
Democrats in Congress	15	7	10
Seasonal changes like more people driving in the spring and summer	11	11	12
Environmental regulations	10	7	9



"The closure of the Strait of Hormuz. *In shorter terms, though, Trump.*"

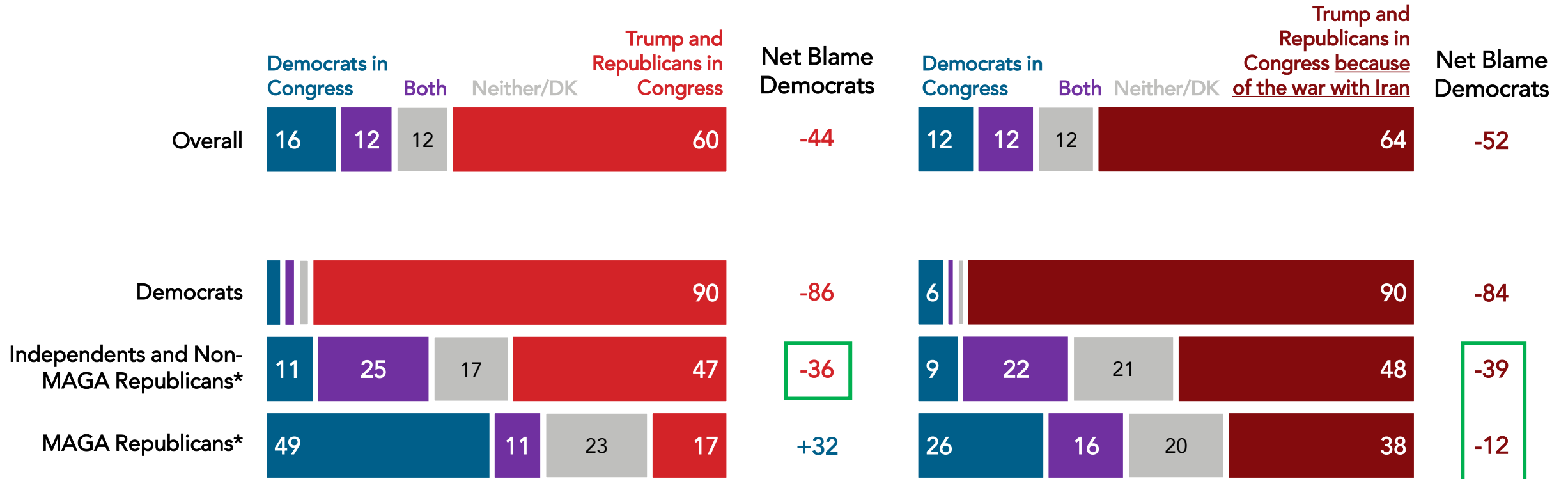
"Gas prices are mainly because of *the conflict currently in Iran* and I do think Trump has played a major part of this because he initiated the conflict."

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With or Without Explicitly Mentioning the War, Trump and GOP Overwhelmingly More Blamed for Gas Prices

Among MAGA Republicans*, without mention of the war, Democrats in Congress are blamed by 32 points; when introducing the context of the war, they blame Trump and Republicans by 12 points.

(Split Sample) And out of the following options, who do you blame most for the recent rise in gas prices?

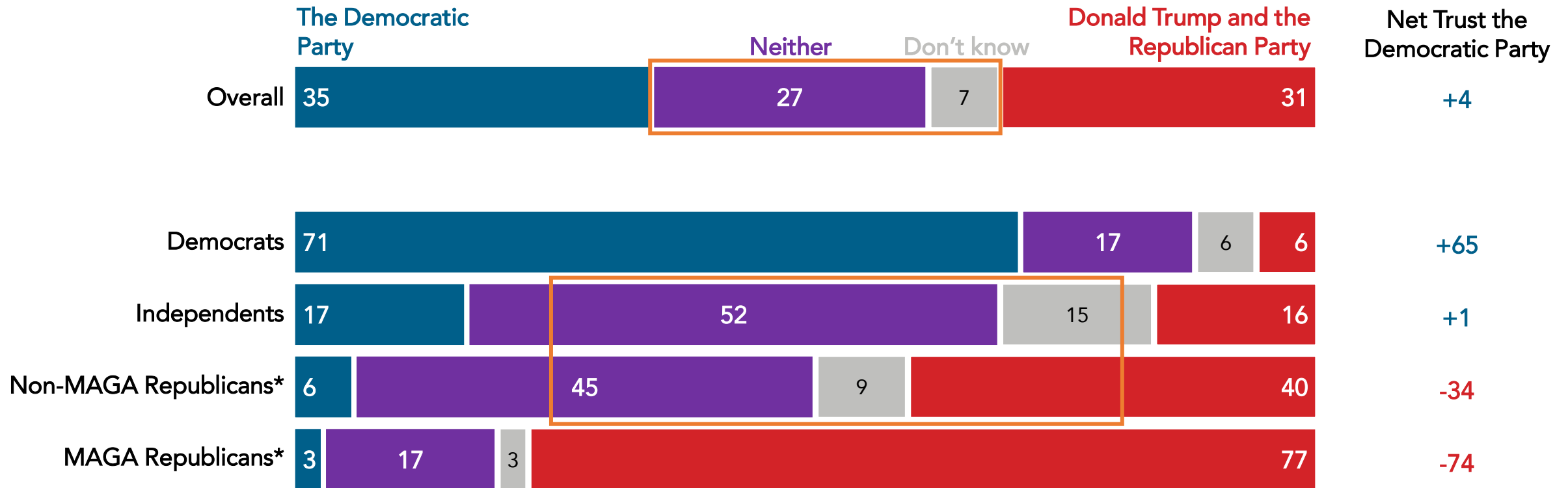


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Democrats Are Slightly More Trusted Than Trump/GOP on Gas Prices; Many Trust Neither Party or Are Unsure

Democrats have a slight advantage on gas prices (net +4 trust Democrats more), though a majority of independents (67%) and non-MAGA Republicans* (54%) trust neither party or are not sure who to trust.

Please indicate who you personally trust more to handle: Gas prices.



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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 April 2-April 6, 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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<http://navigatorresearch.org>

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