

GREENBERG QUINLAN ROSNER RESEARCH

April 3, 2008

National Security and the 2008 Election

Democracy Corps and Greenberg Quinlan Rosner

March 25-27, 2008

1000 likely voters nationwide



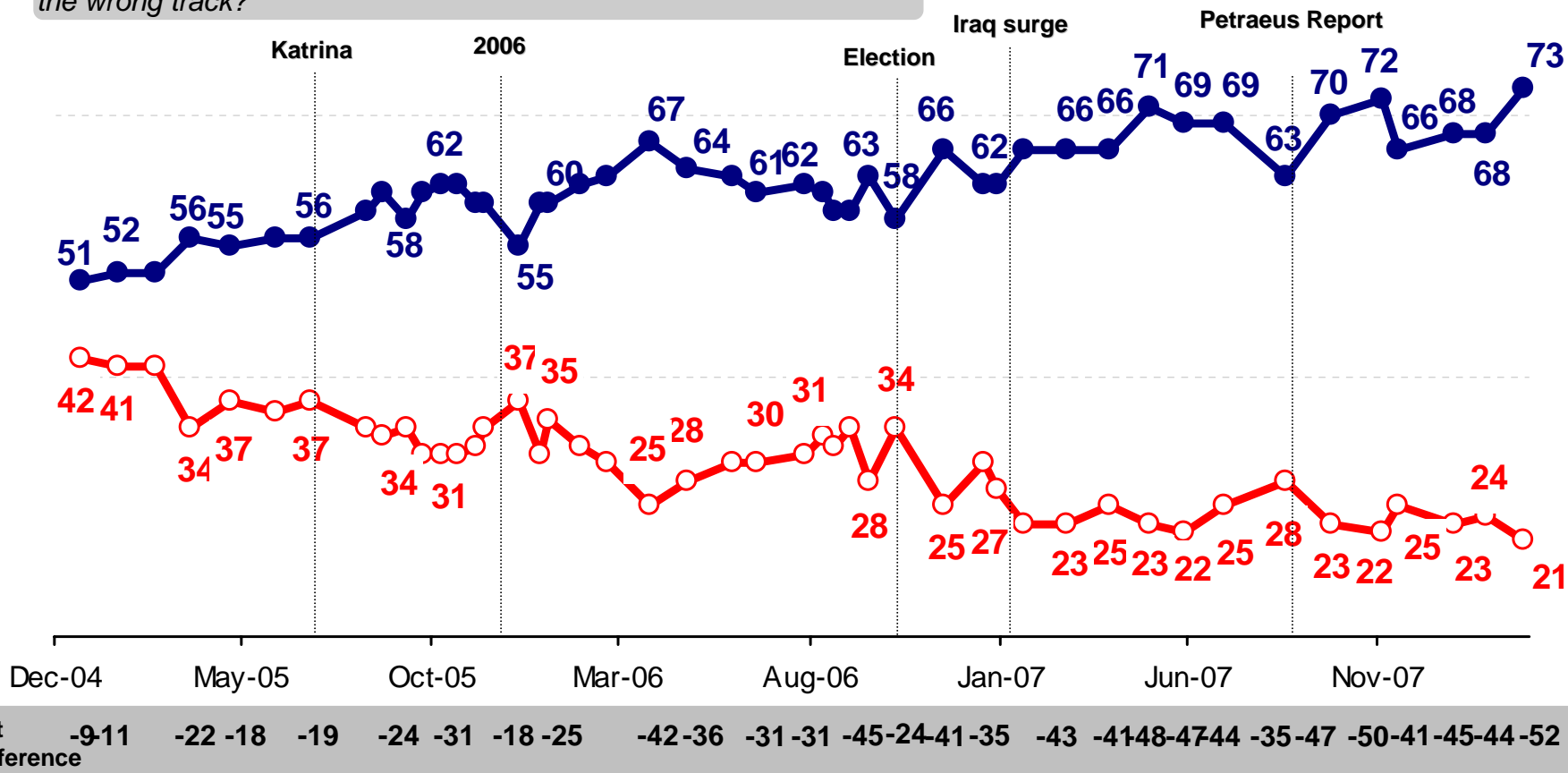
DEMOCRACY CORPS
CARVILLE ♦ GREENBERG

Country Ready for Change

Nearly three quarters think country headed in wrong direction

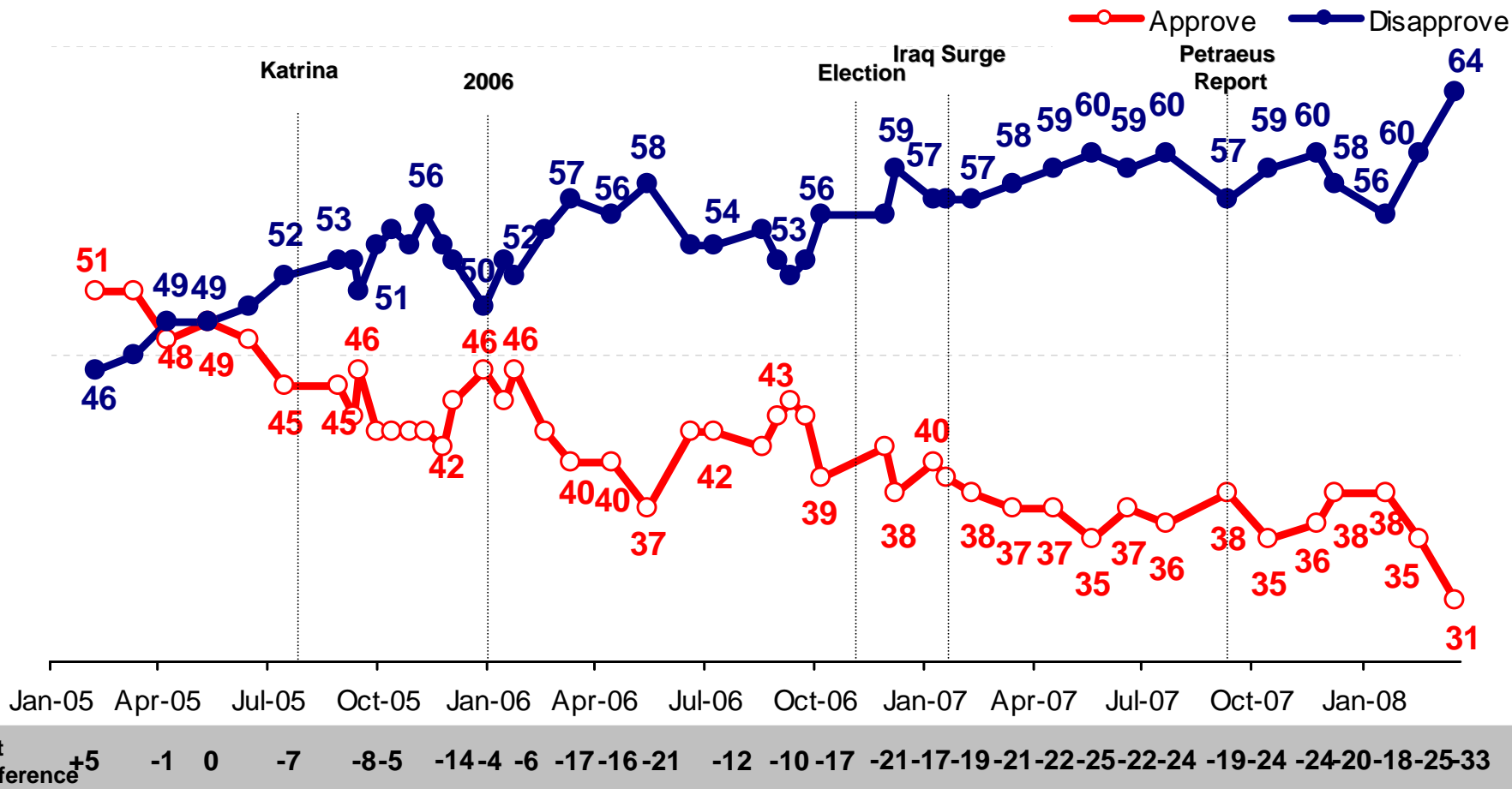
Generally speaking, do you think things in the country are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

○ Right direction ● Wrong direction



Bush job approval – disapproval worsens to highest ever

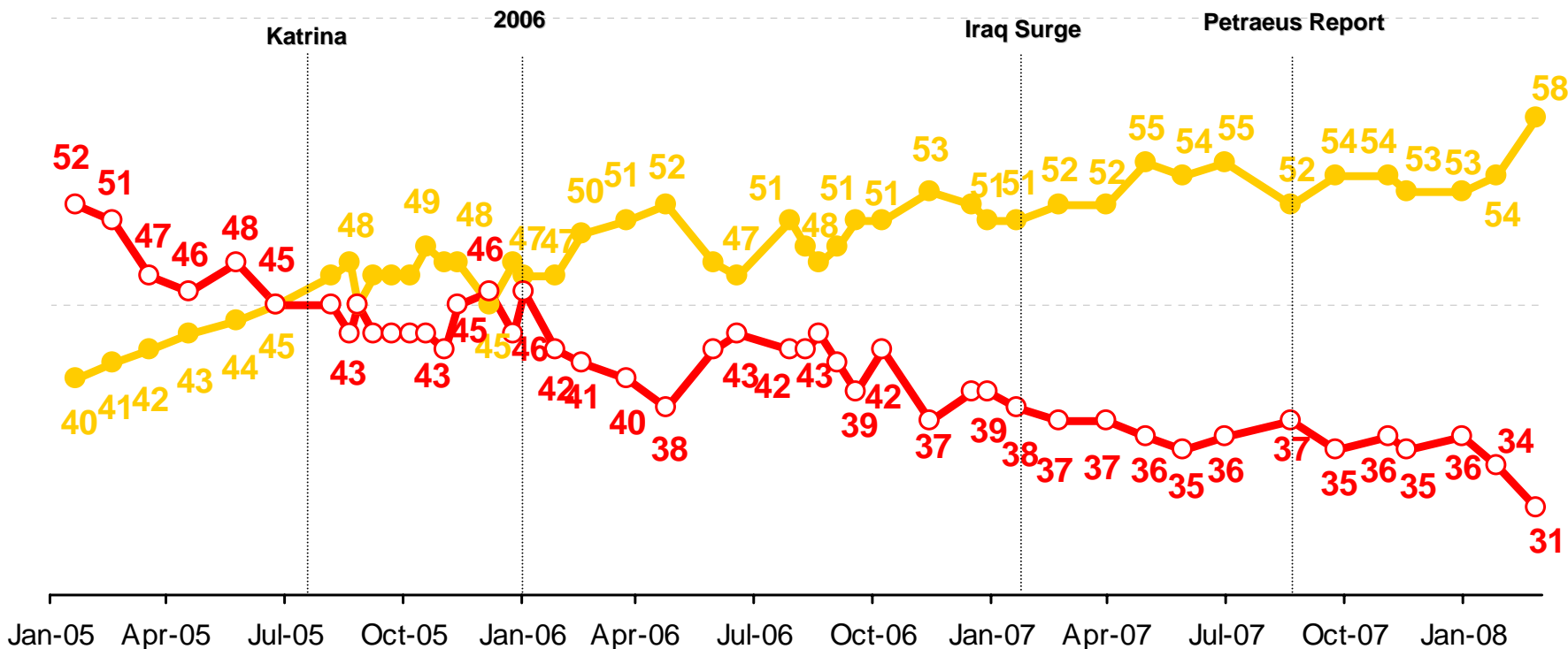
Do you approve or disapprove of the way George Bush is handling his job as president?



Bush personal favorability – favorable feelings lowest ever

Now, I'd like to rate your feelings toward some people and organizations, with 100 meaning a VERY WARM, FAVORABLE feeling; zero meaning a VERY COLD, UNFAVORABLE feeling; and 50 meaning not particularly warm or cold.

Cool Warm



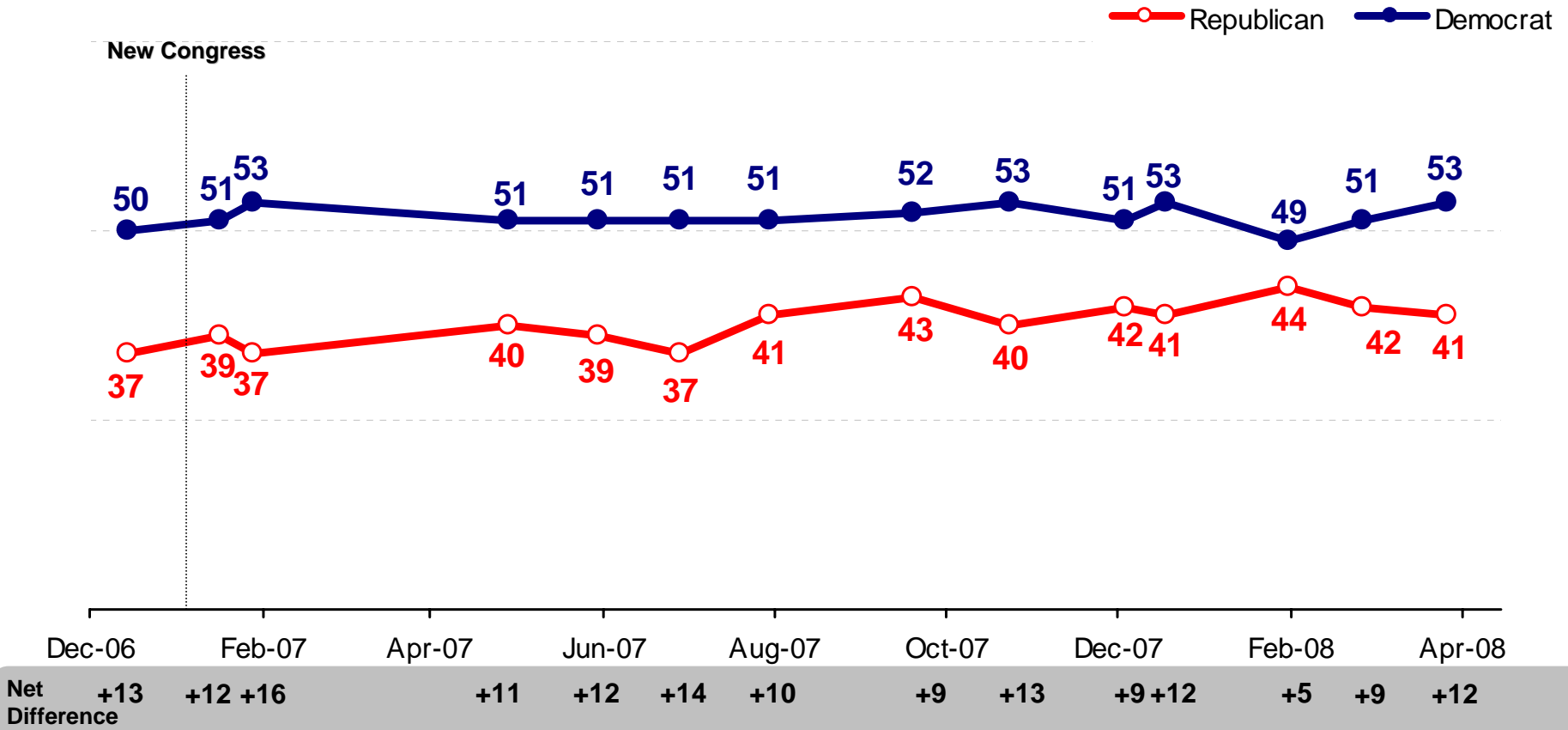
Net Difference	+12	+10	+5	+3	+4	0	-5	-6	-3	-1	-1	-5	-9	-11	-14	-4	-9	-5	-12	-9	-16	-12	-13	-15	-15	-19	-19	-19	-15	-19	-18	-18	-17	-20	-27
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*Note: From Democracy Corps surveys conducted over the last several months.

The Presidential Election

The presidential vote: generic contest

I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the election in 2008, if the election for president were held today, for whom would you vote – the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate?

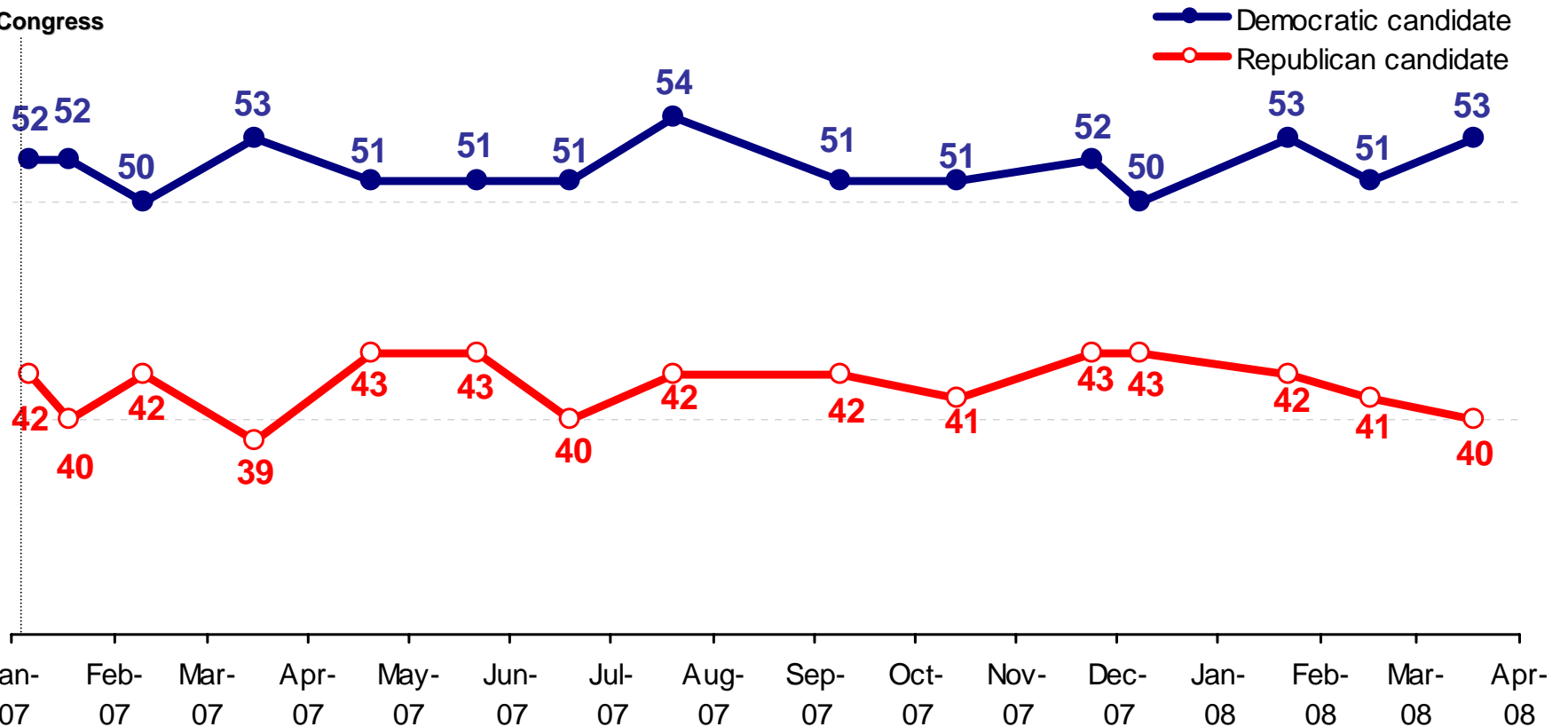


The Congressional Race

Democrats hold steady lead in named congressional vote

Thinking about the election for Congress in 2008, if the election for U.S. Congress were held today, would you be voting for the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate*?

New Congress

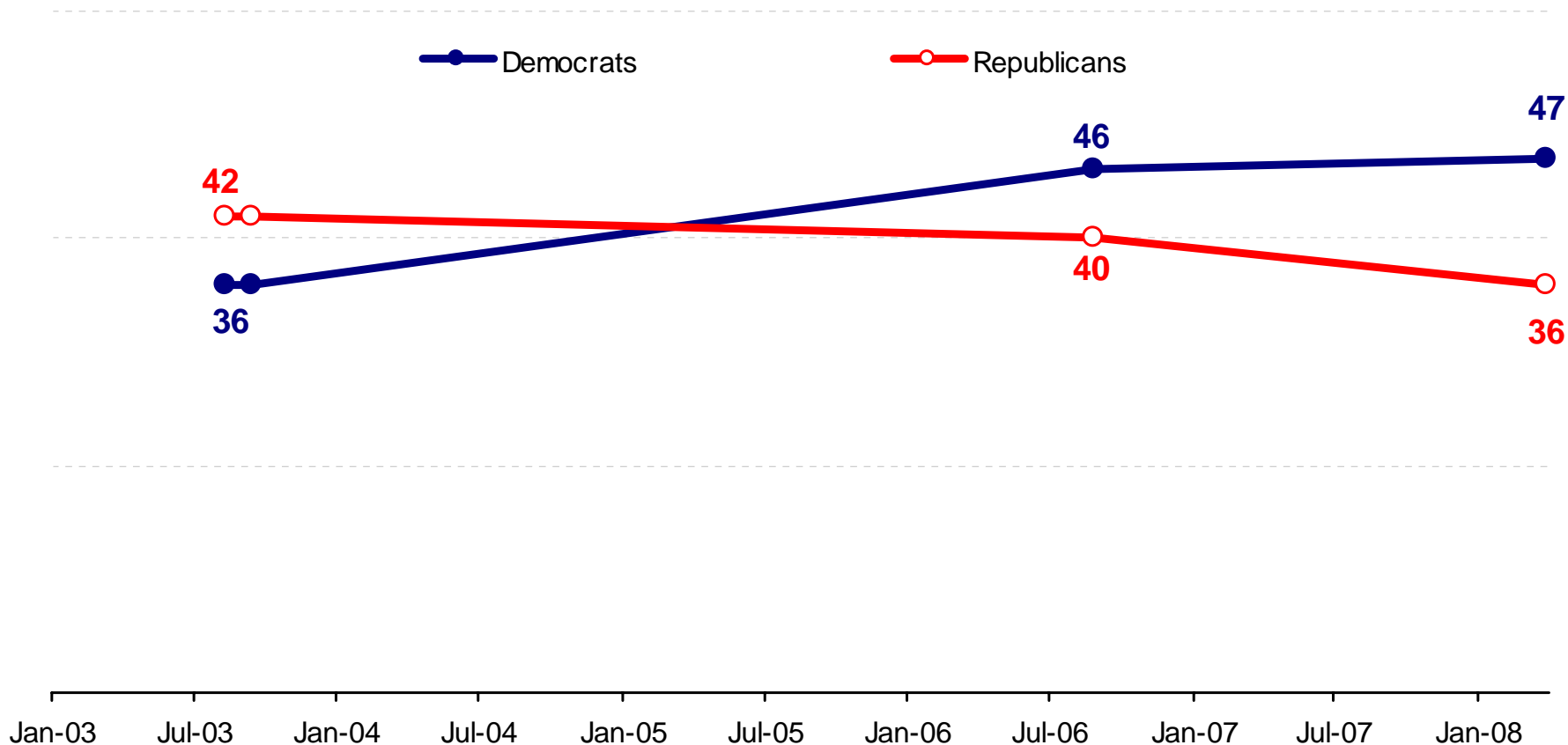


Net Difference: +10, +12, +8, +14, +8, +8, +11, +12, +9, +10, +9, +7, +11, +10, +13

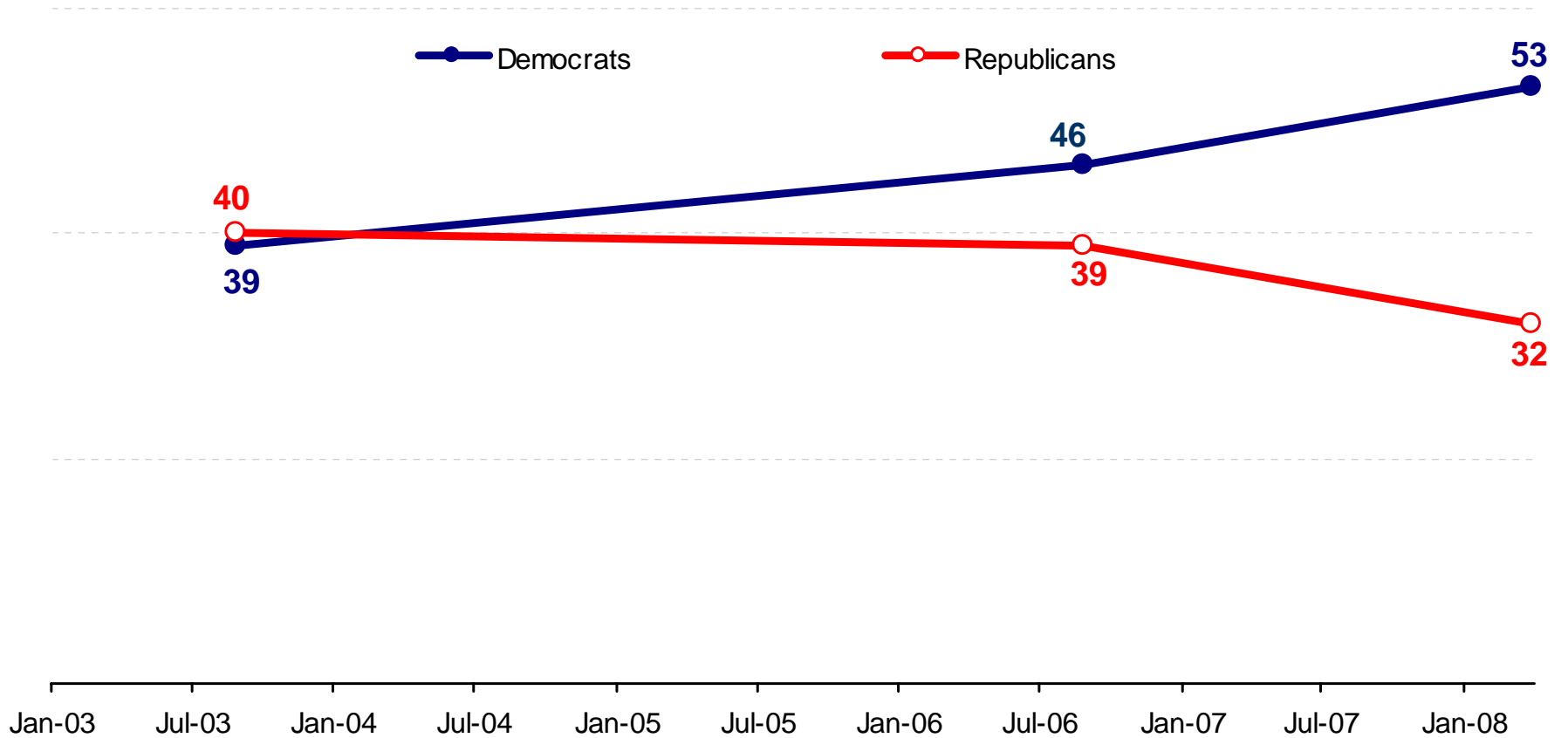
*Note: Actual names of incumbents inserted, and a generic candidate was inserted for the opposing party

National Security

Which party better on “foreign policy”

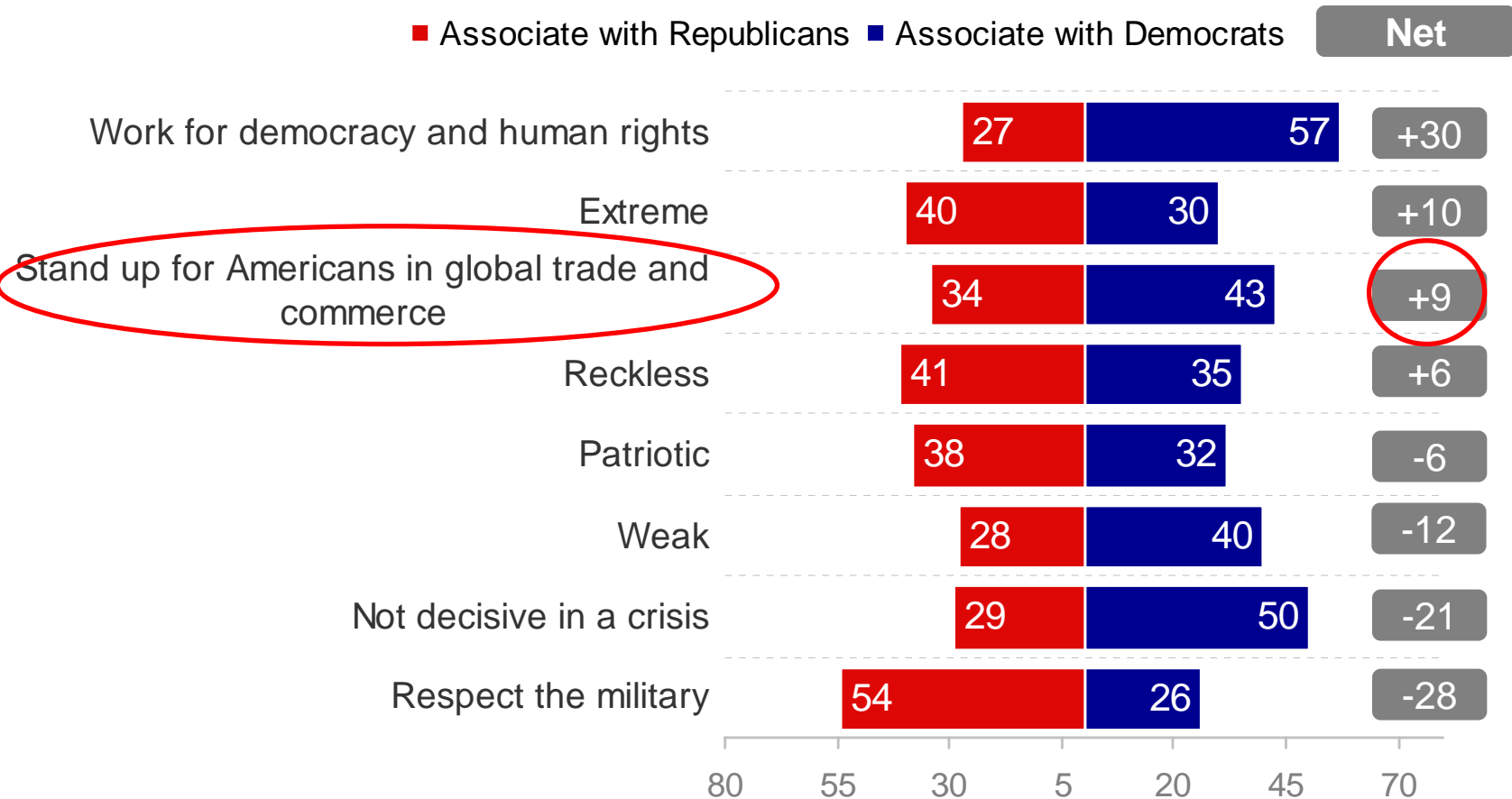


Which party better on “striking right balance on foreign/domestic policy”



Which party associated with the phrase...

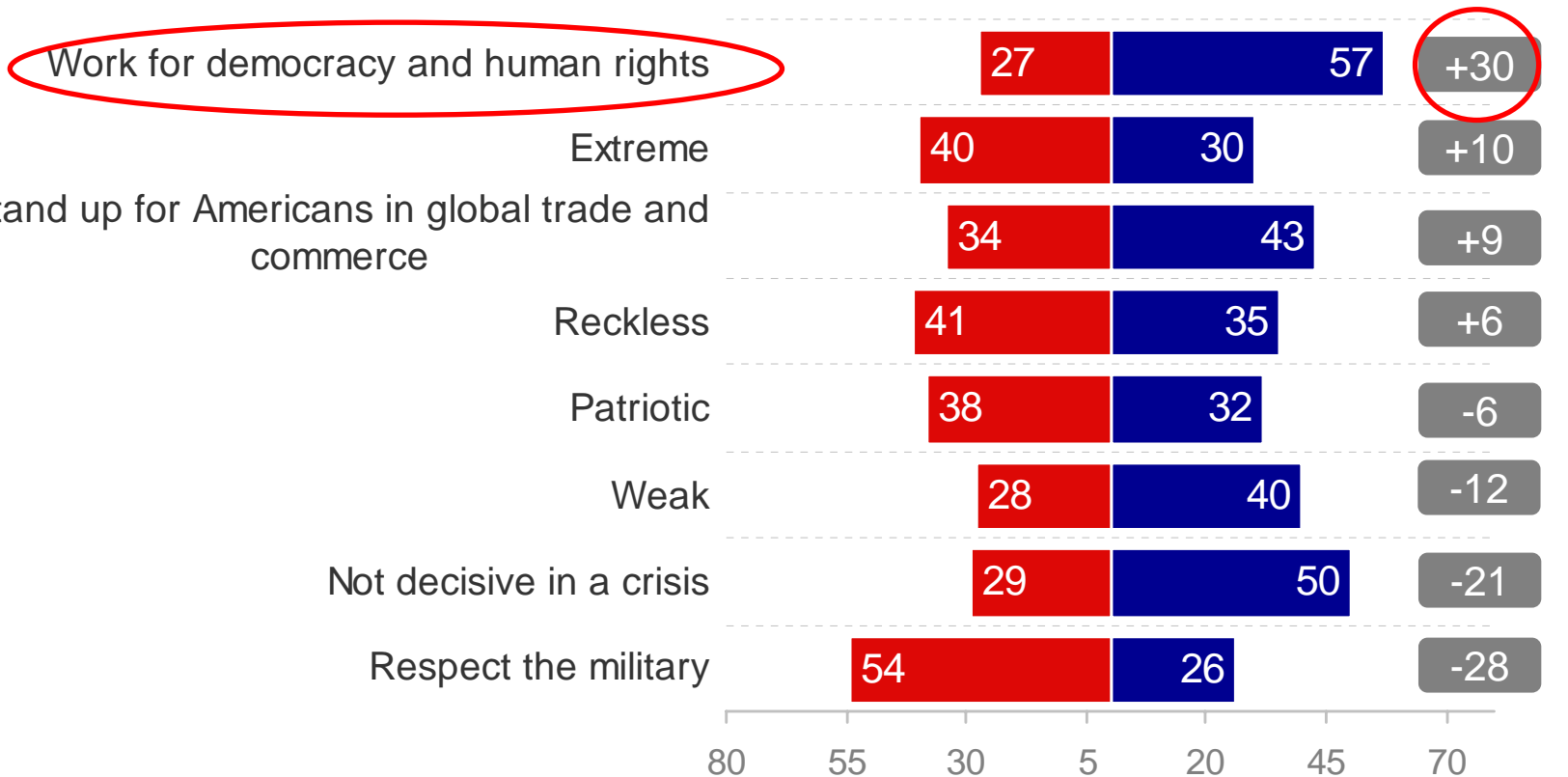
Now I'd like to ask you which party you associate more with these terms when it comes to national security – the Democrats or the Republicans.



Which party associated with the phrase...

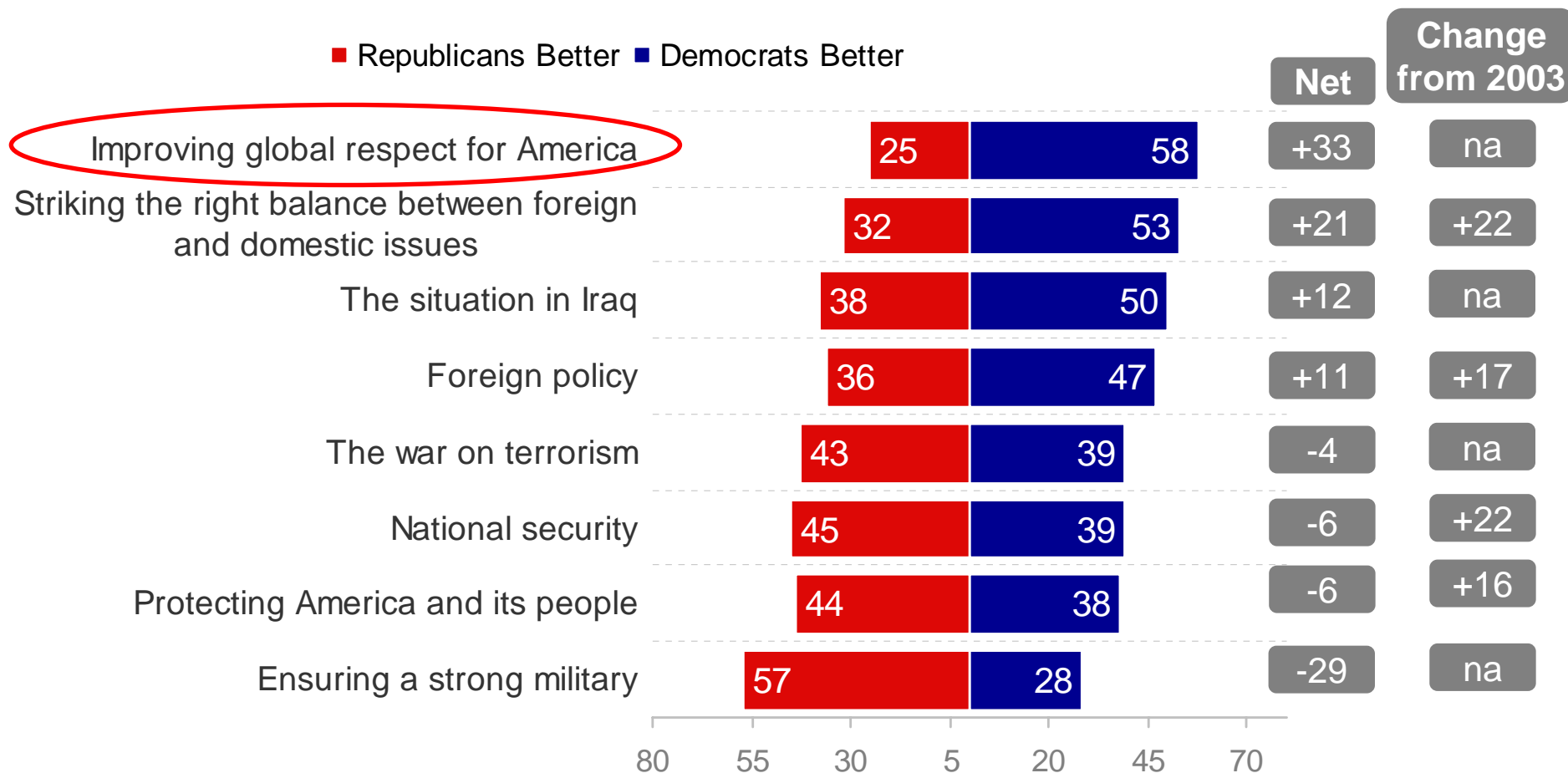
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■ Associate with Republicans ■ Associate with Democrats **Net**

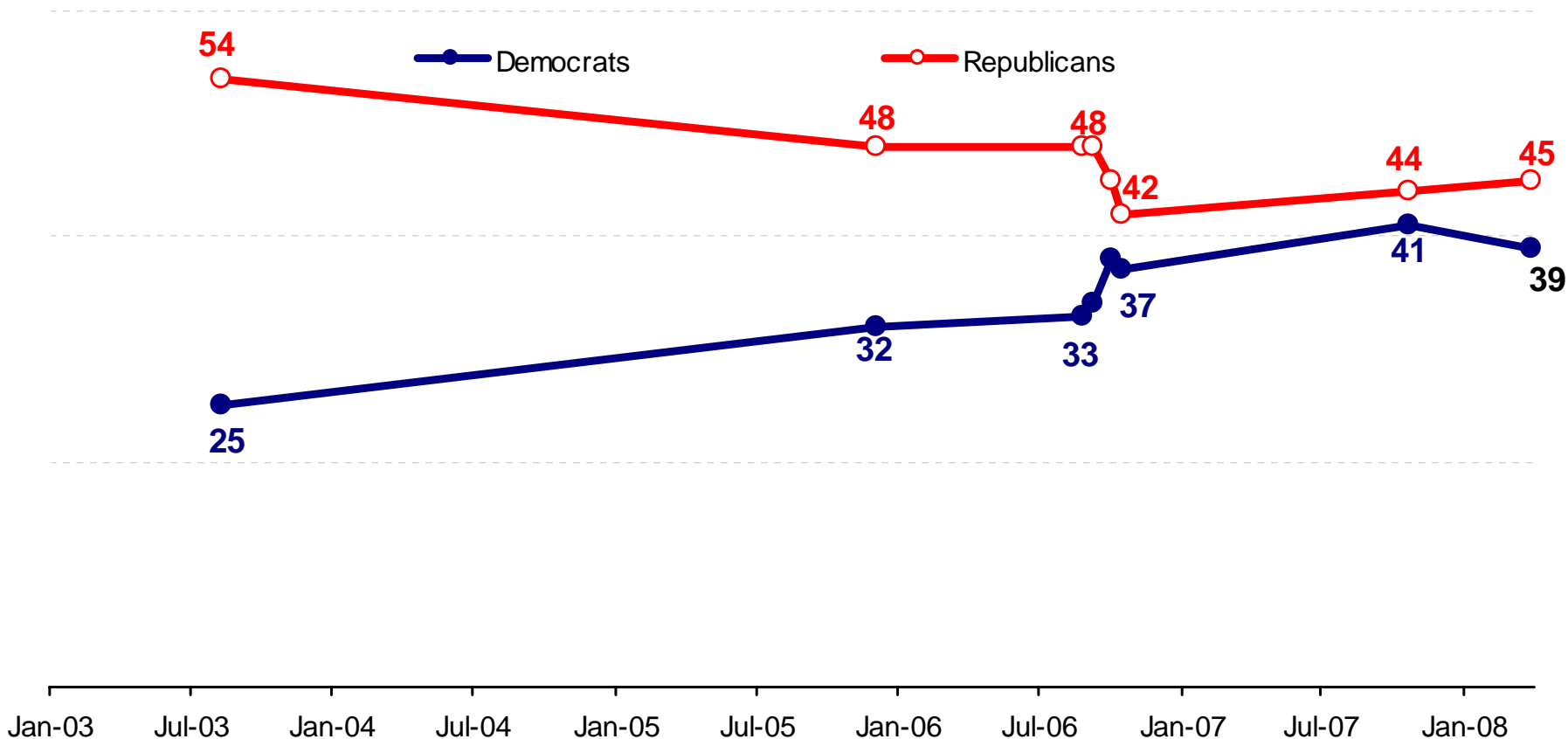


Democrats improved on National Security measures

Now I am going to ask you something different. I am going to read a list of issues and I want you to tell me whether, overall, you think the Democrats or the Republicans would do a better job with this issue.

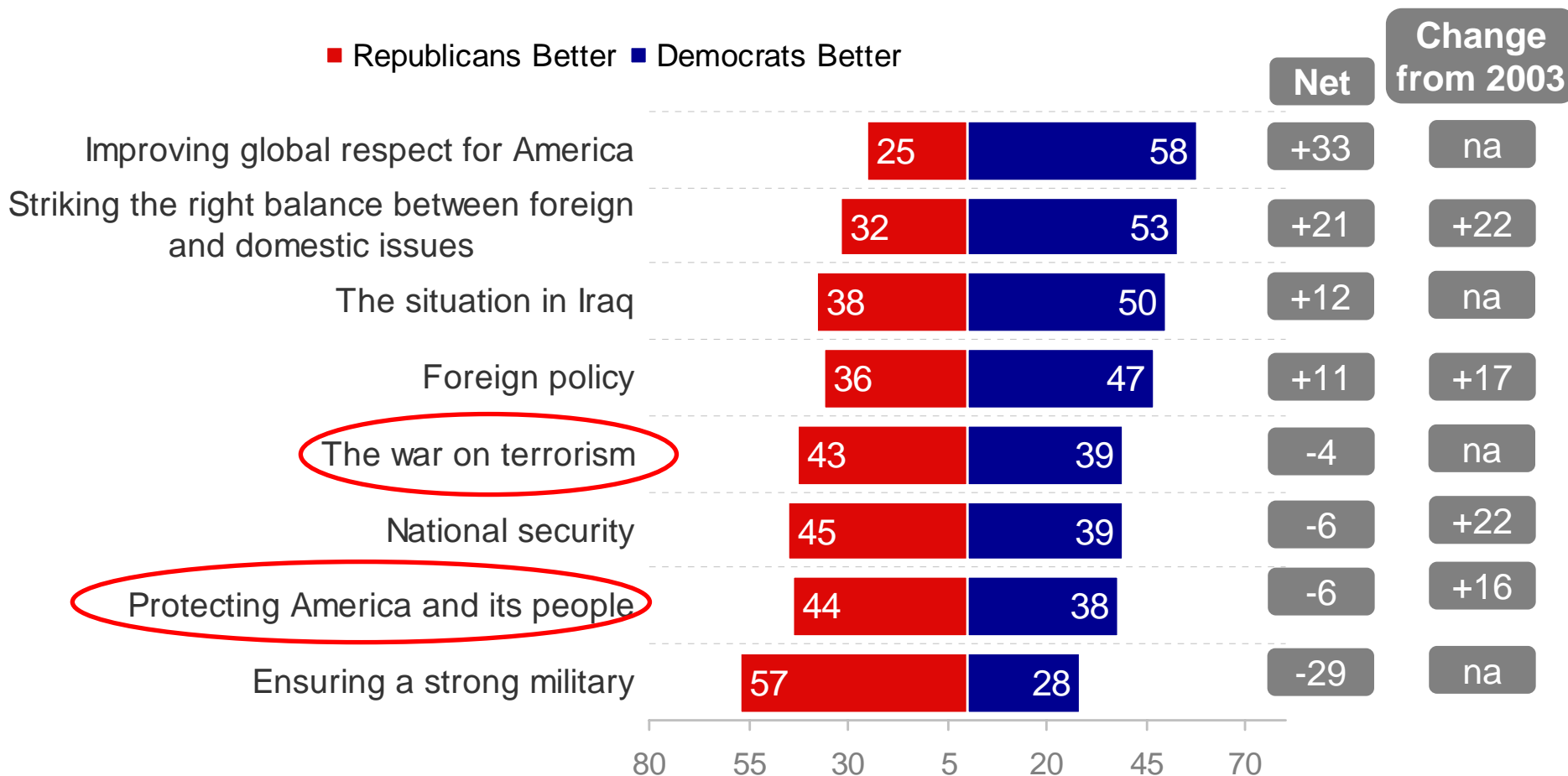


Which party better on “national security”



Democrats improved on National Security measures

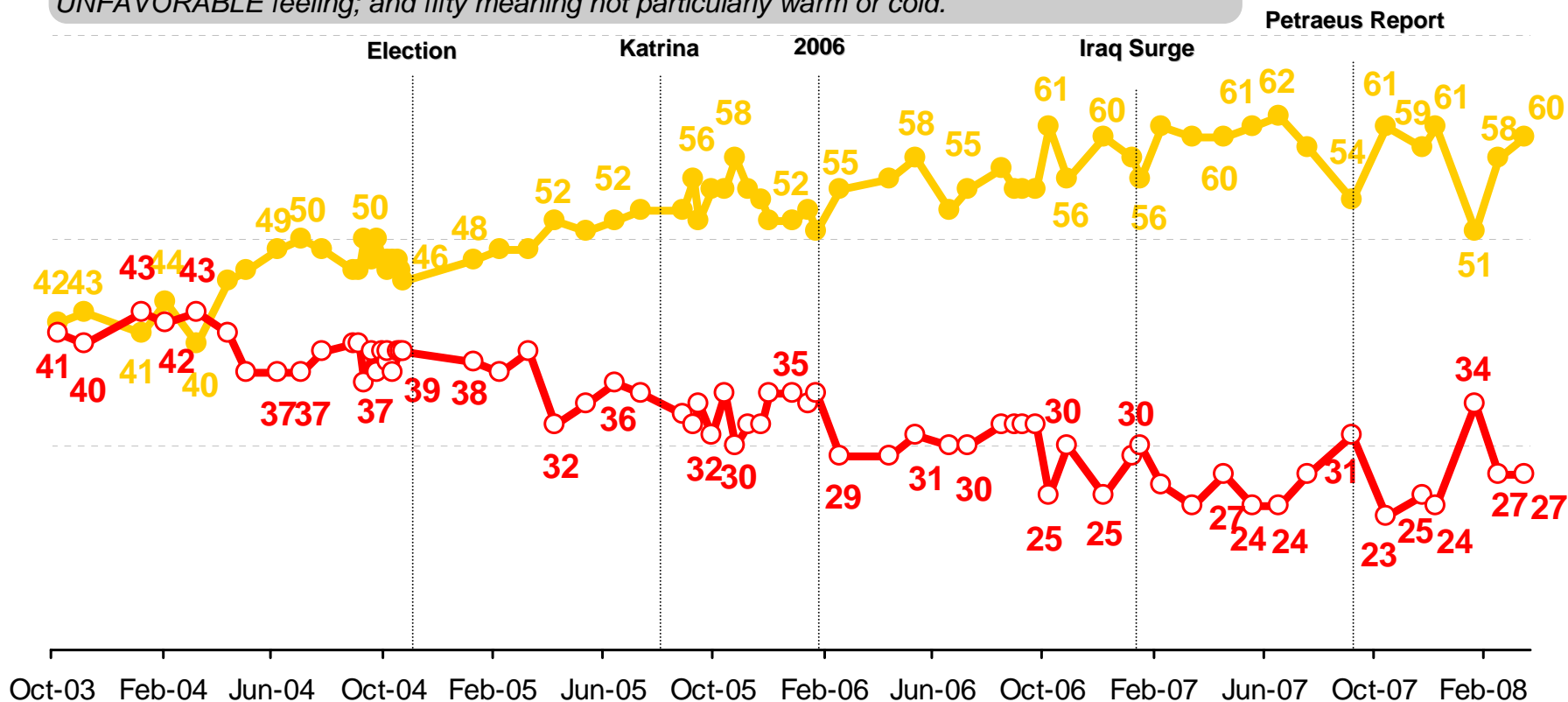
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Six in ten Americans hold unfavorable feelings toward war

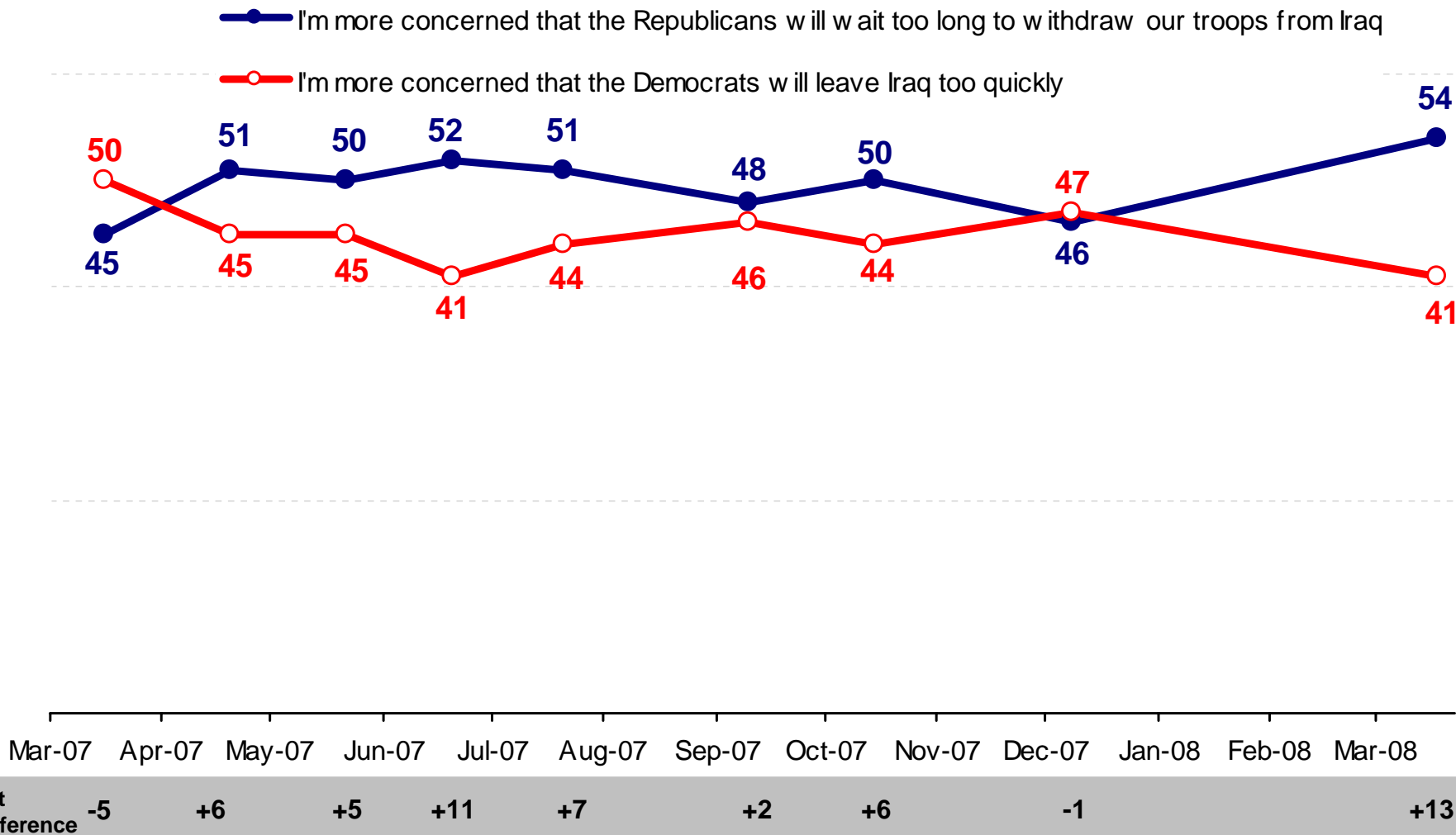
Now, I'd like to rate your feelings toward some people and organizations, with one hundred meaning a VERY WARM, FAVORABLE feeling; zero meaning a VERY COLD, UNFAVORABLE feeling; and fifty meaning not particularly warm or cold.

● Cool ● Warm



Net Difference	-1	-3	+2	-2	+3	-12	-13	-13	-7	-10	-20	-16	-24	-28	-17	-26	-27	-25	-36	-26	-35	-26	-33	-37	-38	-23	-38	-34	-37	-17	-31	-33
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More worry Republicans will stay too long in Iraq

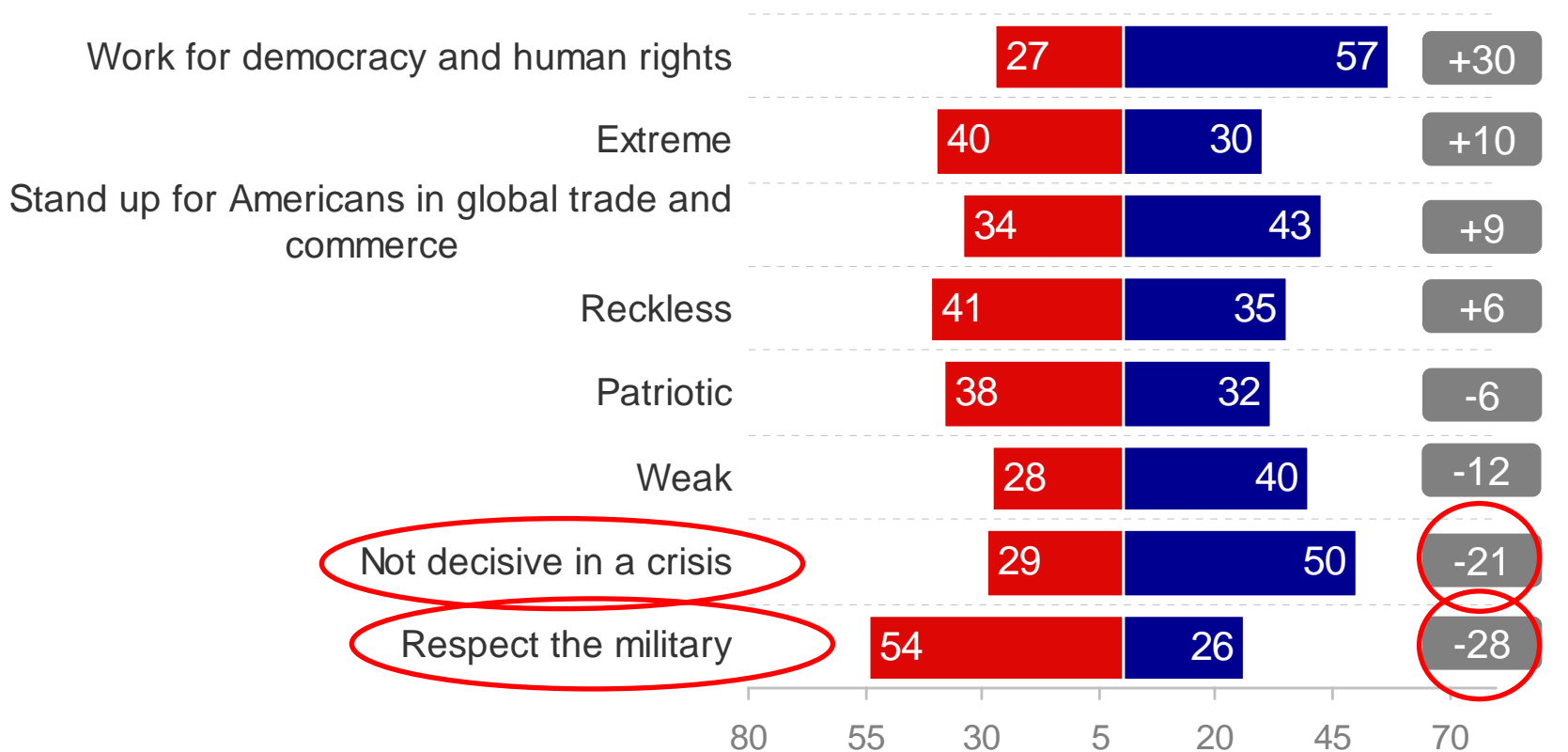


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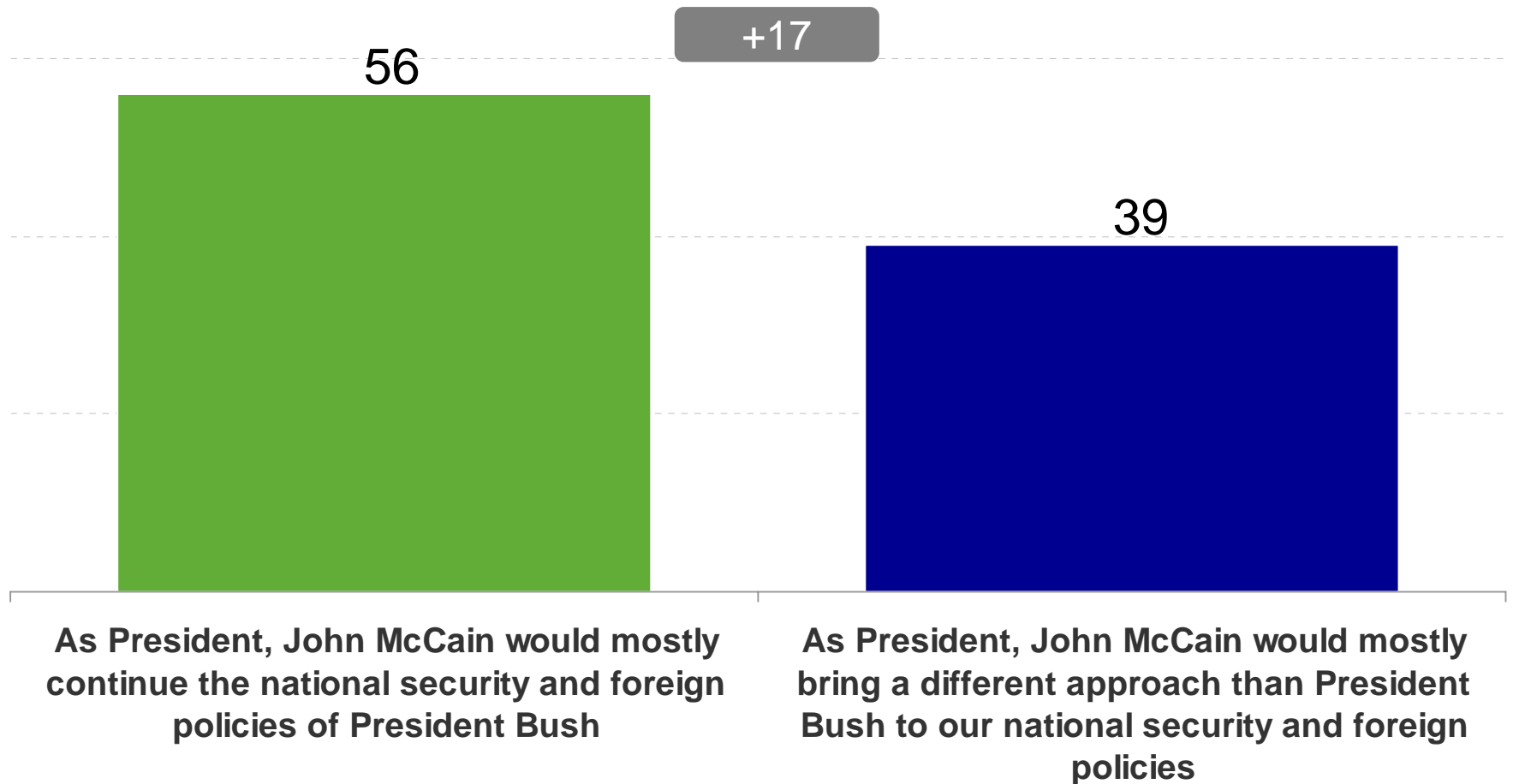
1. Take the Offensive

John McCain on national security

John McCain says: I have been involved in every national security issue over the past 20 years, and having served this country, I know how important our security is. Hillary Clinton has flip-flopped on Iraq, and now would run up the white flag of surrender in Iraq, pulling out our troops, handing al Qaeda a victory, and endangering our vital interests. I was the leading supporter of the surge, which is now succeeding, and I will press for victory in Iraq. I will also strengthen our military, restructure our intelligence agencies, and build missile defenses to protect us from rogue regimes like Iran.

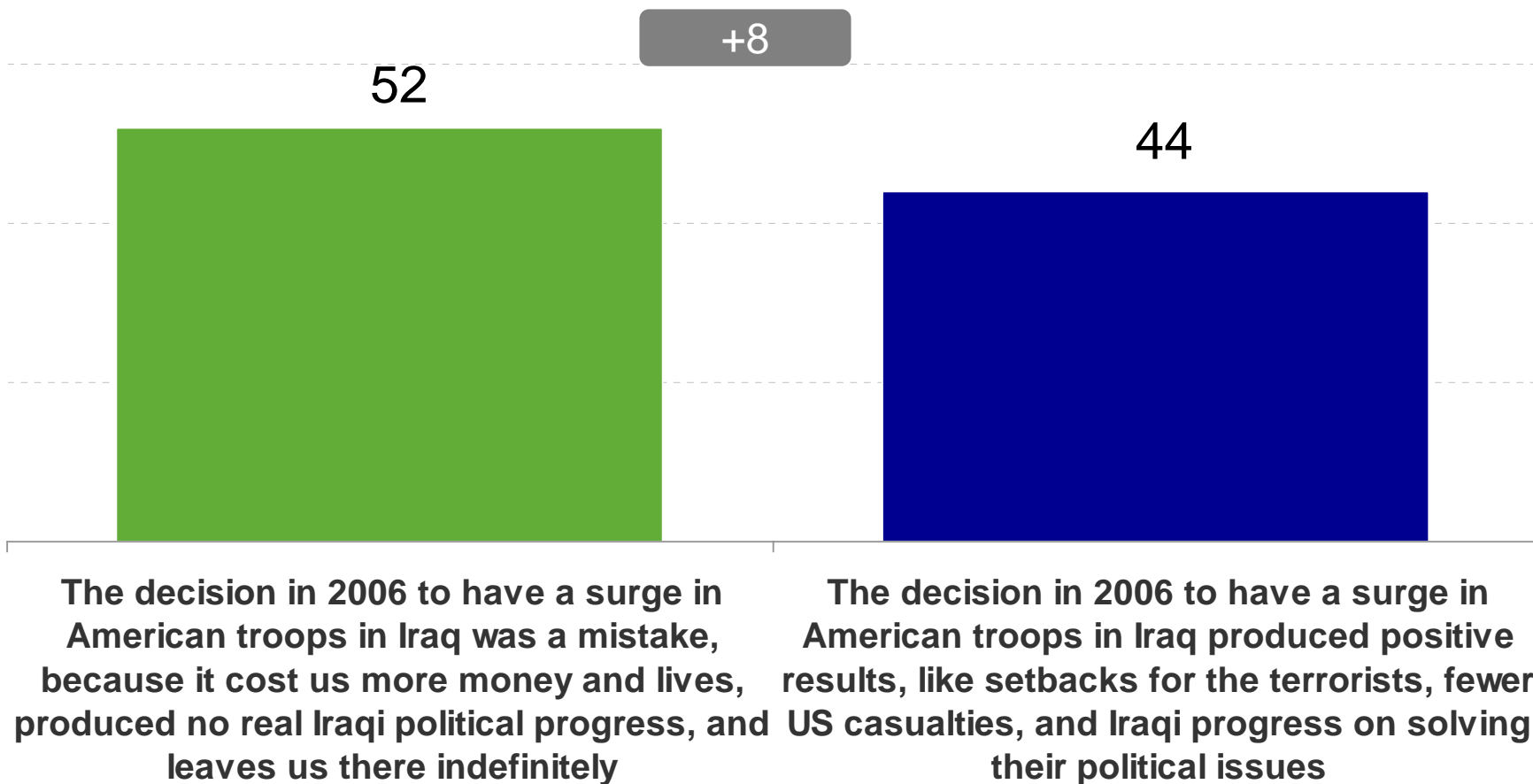
2. Tie McCain to Bush's Policies

McCain seen as a continuation of Bush's foreign policy

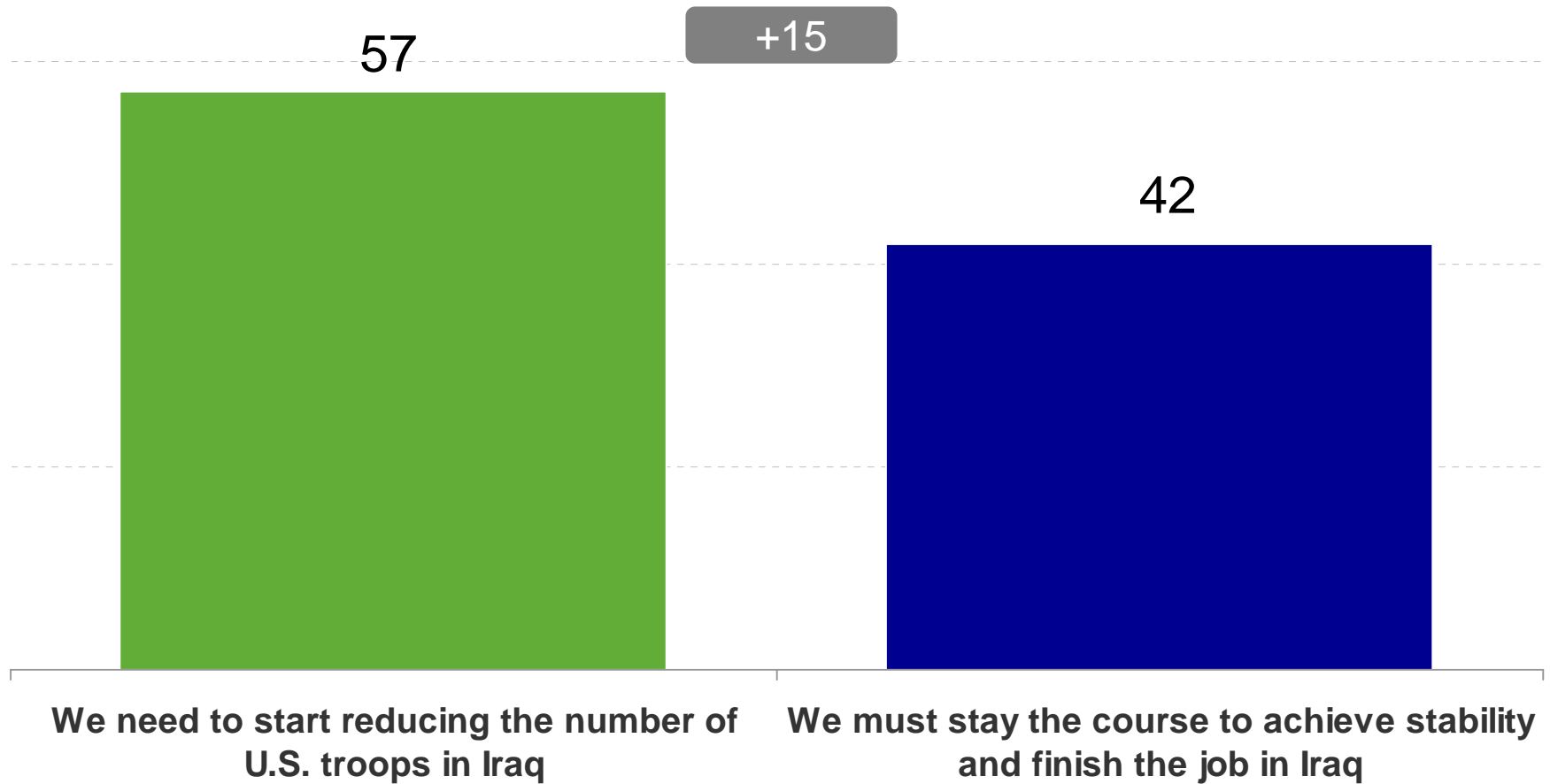


3. Stress Iraq

Surge viewed as a mistake

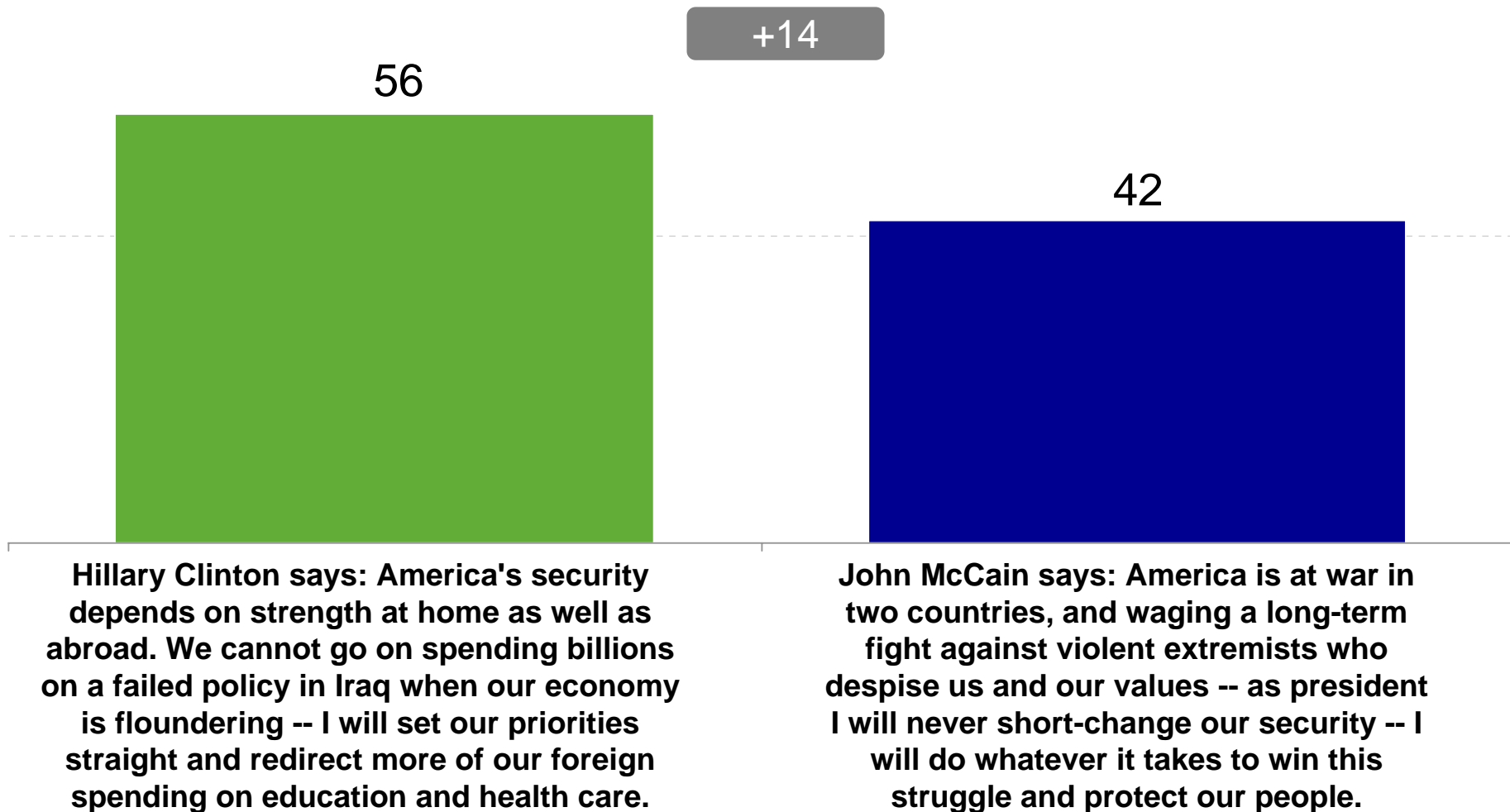


Need to start reducing troops in Iraq



4. Stress the Economic Dimension

Priorities argument



+14

56

42

Hillary Clinton says: America's security depends on strength at home as well as abroad. We cannot go on spending billions on a failed policy in Iraq when our economy is floundering -- I will set our priorities straight and redirect more of our foreign spending on education and health care.

John McCain says: America is at war in two countries, and waging a long-term fight against violent extremists who despise us and our values -- as president I will never short-change our security -- I will do whatever it takes to win this struggle and protect our people.

5. Stress Energy

Dependence on foreign oil, nuclear weapons in hands of terrorists seen as greatest security threats

Now I am going to read you a list of threats that some people say America faces. Please tell me which TWO of these you personally consider to be the biggest threats to America's security?



6. The Frame: Strengthening Security

Clinton and Obama: “Priorities”

Hillary Clinton/Barack Obama says: We need a change of priorities in our policies abroad. George Bush failed to stand up for American workers on trade and oil, and his failed policies in Iraq cost us trillions of dollars and thousands of lives. John McCain was Bush's biggest supporter on Iraq, and would keep our troops there for 100 years. As president, I will start bringing our troops home from Iraq during my first 60 days, direct more of that spending to our needs at home, insist on labor protections in our trade agreements, and support alternative energy to reduce our dependence on oil from dangerous regimes.

John McCain says: I have been involved in every national security issue over the past 20 years, and having served this country, I know how important our security is. Barack Obama seems hesitant to stand up for America, and would run up the white flag of surrender in Iraq, pulling out our troops, handing al Qaeda a victory, and endangering our vital interests. I was the leading supporter of the surge, which is now succeeding, and I will press for victory in Iraq. I will also strengthen our military, restructure our intelligence agencies, and build missile defenses to protect us from rogue regimes like Iran.

Clinton/Obama statement beats McCain statement by average of +8

Clinton and Obama: “Strengthen America’s Security”

Barack Obama says: We cannot afford more of the reckless, extreme national security policies of the Bush years that lost us trillions of dollars and thousands of lives in Iraq. But John McCain was Bush's biggest supporter on Iraq and says he is willing to keep our troops there for 100 years. I would strengthen America's security by bringing home our troops from Iraq during 2009, doing what we need to win in Afghanistan, rebuilding our alliances, and pursuing a new alternative energy policy, including alternative sources, to reduce our dependence on oil from dangerous regimes.

Hillary Clinton says: We cannot afford more of the reckless, extreme national security policies of the Bush years that lost us trillions of dollars and thousands of lives in Iraq. But John McCain was Bush's biggest supporter on Iraq and says he is willing to keep our troops there for 100 years. I would strengthen America's security by starting to bring our troops home from Iraq during my first 60 days, doing what we need to win in Afghanistan, rebuilding our alliances, and pursuing a new alternative energy policy, including alternative sources, to reduce our dependence on oil from dangerous regimes.

Clinton/Obama statement beats McCain statement by average of +9

Which party associated with the phrase...

Now I'd like to ask you which party you associate more with these terms when it comes to national security – the Democrats or the Republicans.

■ Associate with Republicans ■ Associate with Democrats **Net**

Work for democracy and human rights 27 57 +30

Extreme 40 30 +10

Stand up for Americans in global trade and commerce 34 43 +9

Reckless 41 35 +6

Patriotic 38 32 -6

Weak 28 40 -12

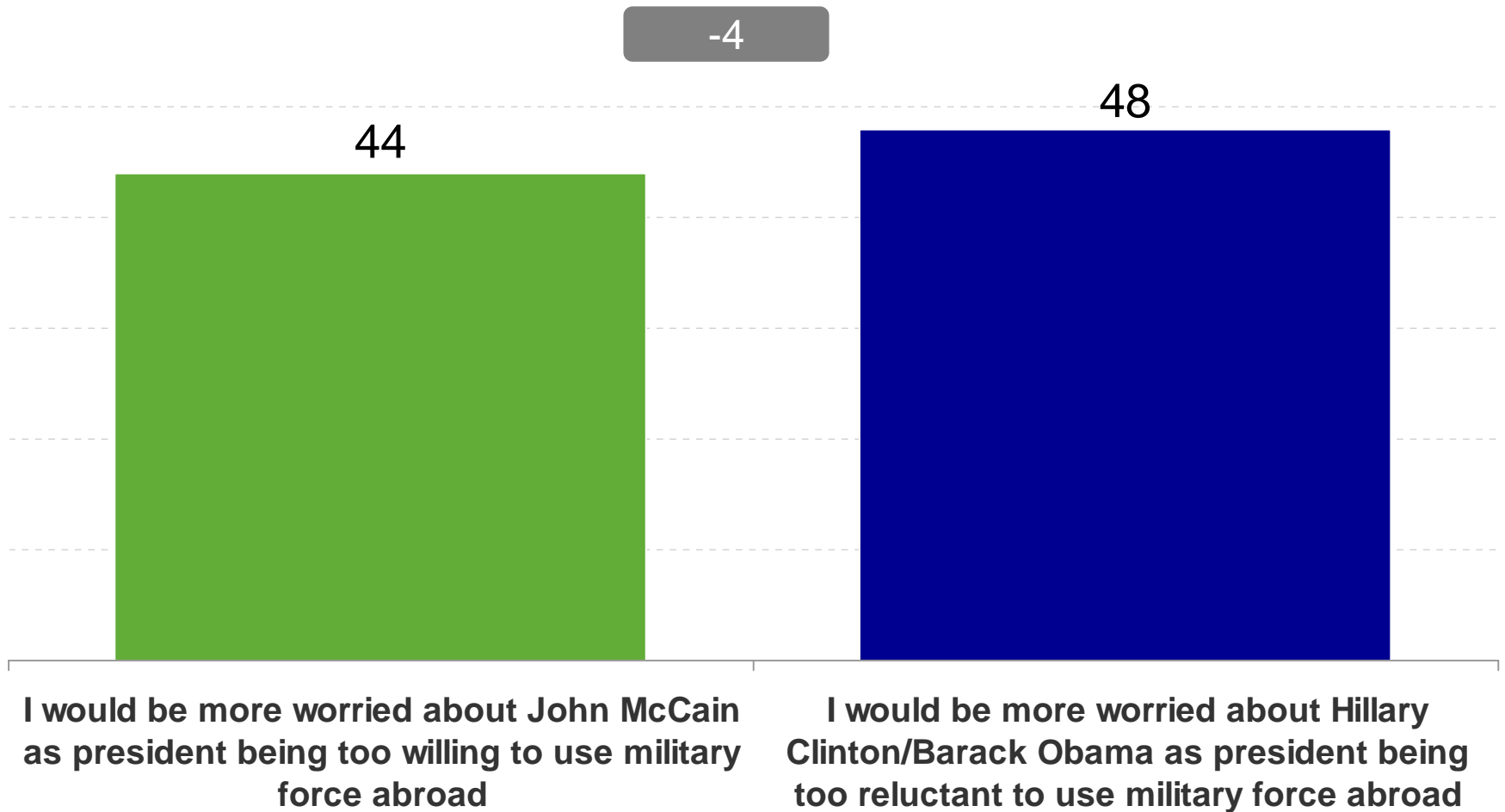
Not decisive in a crisis 29 50 -21

Respect the military 54 26 -28

80 55 30 5 20 45 70

7. Strengthen the Military Connection

Concern about Democrats' reluctance to use force



GREENBERG QUINLAN ROSNER RESEARCH

www.greenbergresearch.com

Washington, DC

10 G Street NE,
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20002

Ph: +1 202 478 8300
Fax: +1 202 478 8301

California

50 California Street,
Suite 1500
San Francisco, CA 94111

Ph: +1 415 277 5403
Fax: +1 415 358 9599

London, UK

405 Carrington House,
6 Hertford Street
London, UK W1J 7SU

Ph: +44 (0) 207 499 5204
Fax: +44 (0) 207 499 5284