CLIMATE POWER

State of Play

Data Centers and the 2026 Midterms

What battleground voters think about AI data centers, energy costs and who they hold responsible

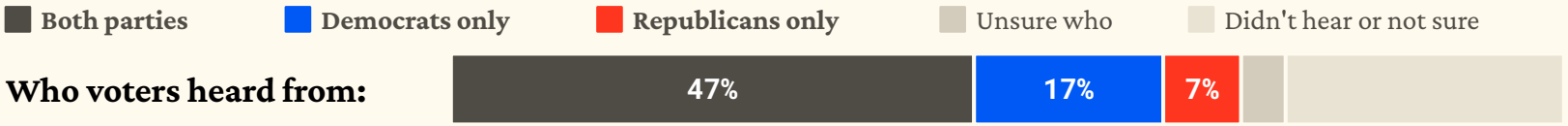
Source:
Hart Research on behalf of Climate Power, EDF Action, LCV, and NRDC Action Fund. 1,778 Voters across 62 House districts which the Cook Political Report rated as Lean D, Toss Up, Lean R, or Likely R. Interviews conducted October 26-November 6, 2026. Credibility interval: ±2.6 percentage points.

Campaigns leaned into data centers to tap backlash against Trump and Republicans in Congress

Heard from the 20206 midterms political campaigns or candidates on each issue

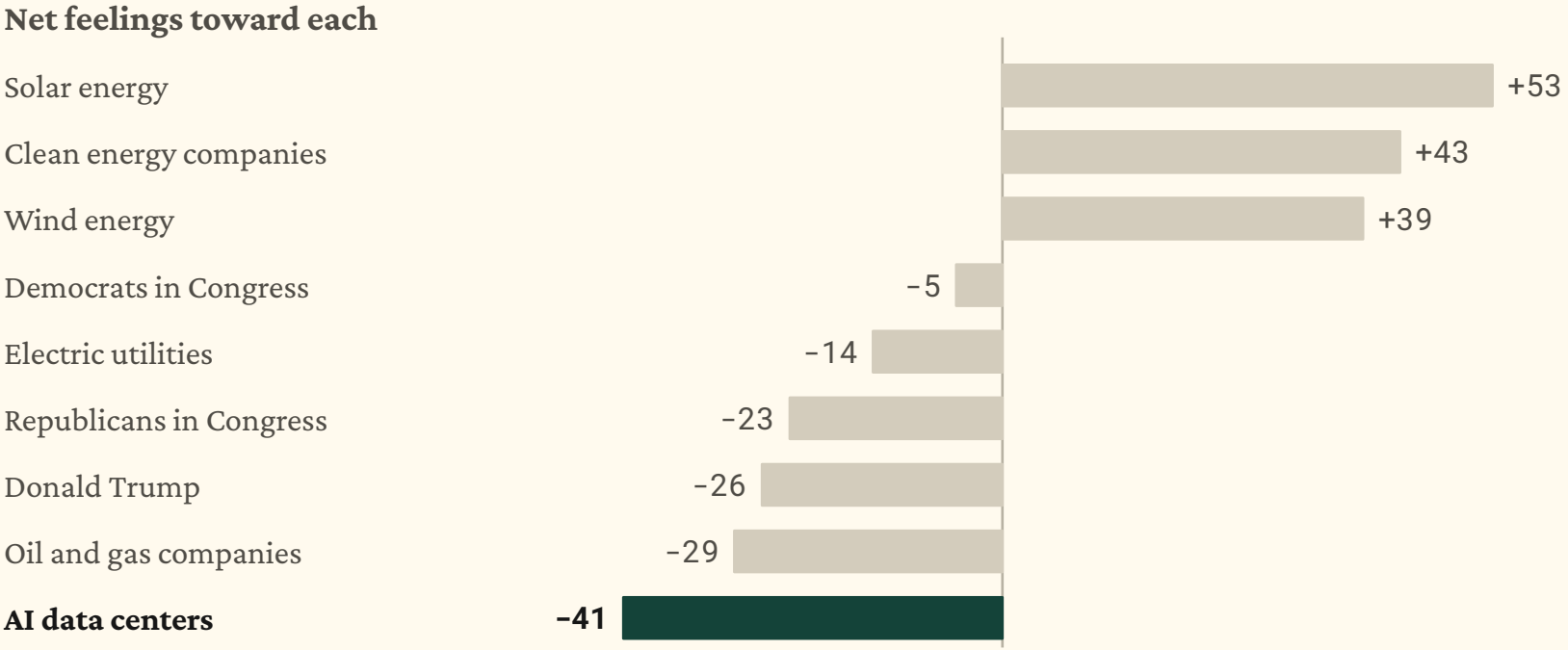
AI data centers

76%



Source: Hart Research, Battleground CD Post-election Survey; 1,778 voters in 62 battleground districts, Oct. 26 to Nov. 6, 2026.

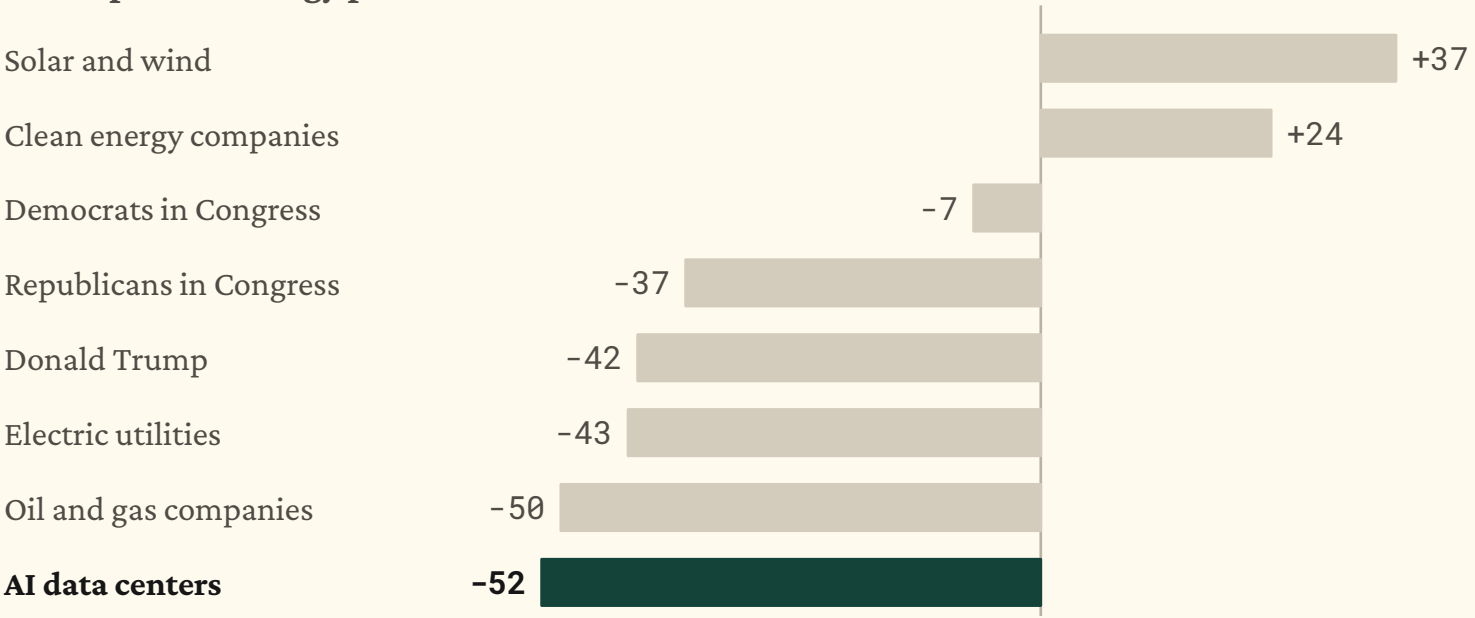
Data centers are one of the least popular item tested in our exit poll



Source: Hart Research, Battleground CD Post-election Survey; 1,778 voters in 62 battleground districts, Oct. 26 to Nov. 6, 2026.

Voters say AI data centers are making energy prices worse, more than any other actor

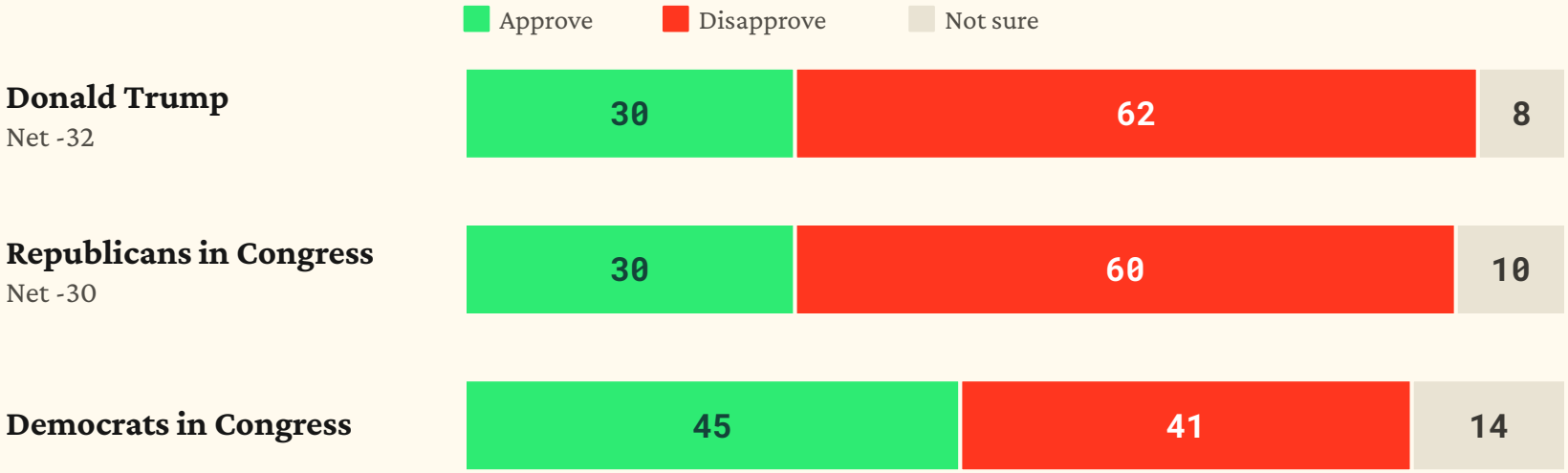
Net impact on energy prices for consumers



Source: Hart Research, Battleground CD Post-election Survey; 1,778 voters in 62 battleground districts, Oct. 26 to Nov. 6, 2026.

Voters clearly rejected the Trump administration's current approach to data centers

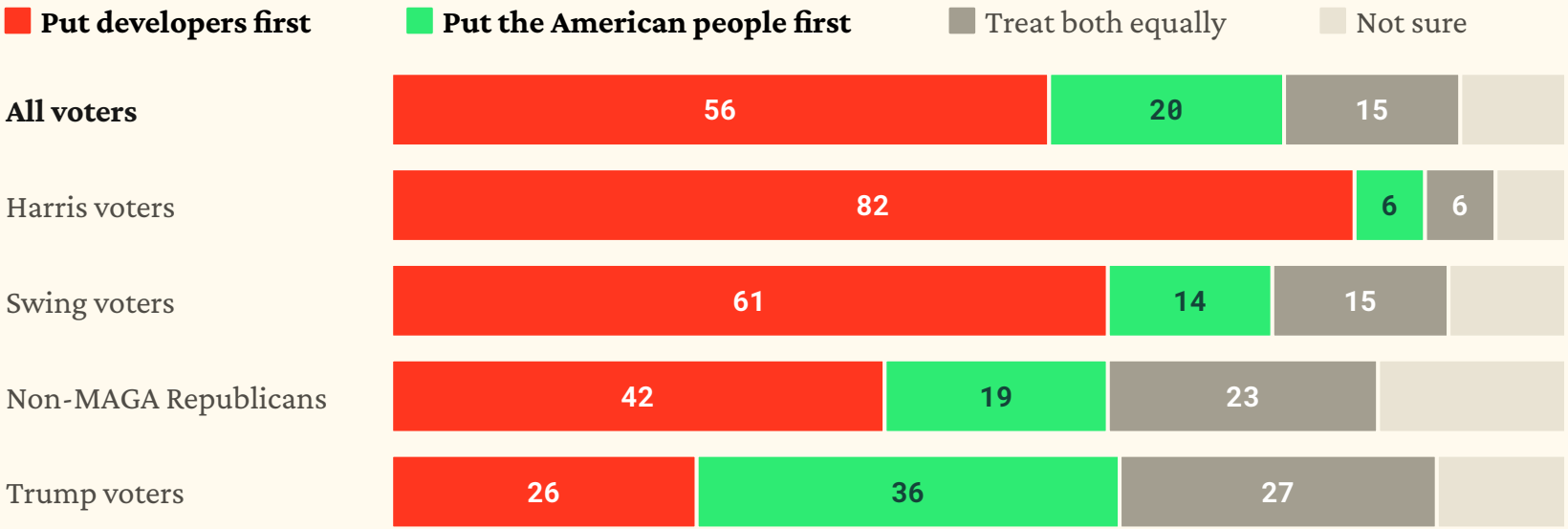
Approval of each when it comes to their policies and positions on AI data centers



Source: Hart Research, Battleground CD Post-election Survey; 1,778 voters in 62 battleground districts, Oct. 26 to Nov. 6, 2026.

Most say Trump and Republicans put data center developers ahead of the American people

Do you think the policies of Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress...



Source: Hart Research, Battleground CD Post-election Survey; 1,778 voters in 62 battleground districts, Oct. 26 to Nov. 6, 2026.