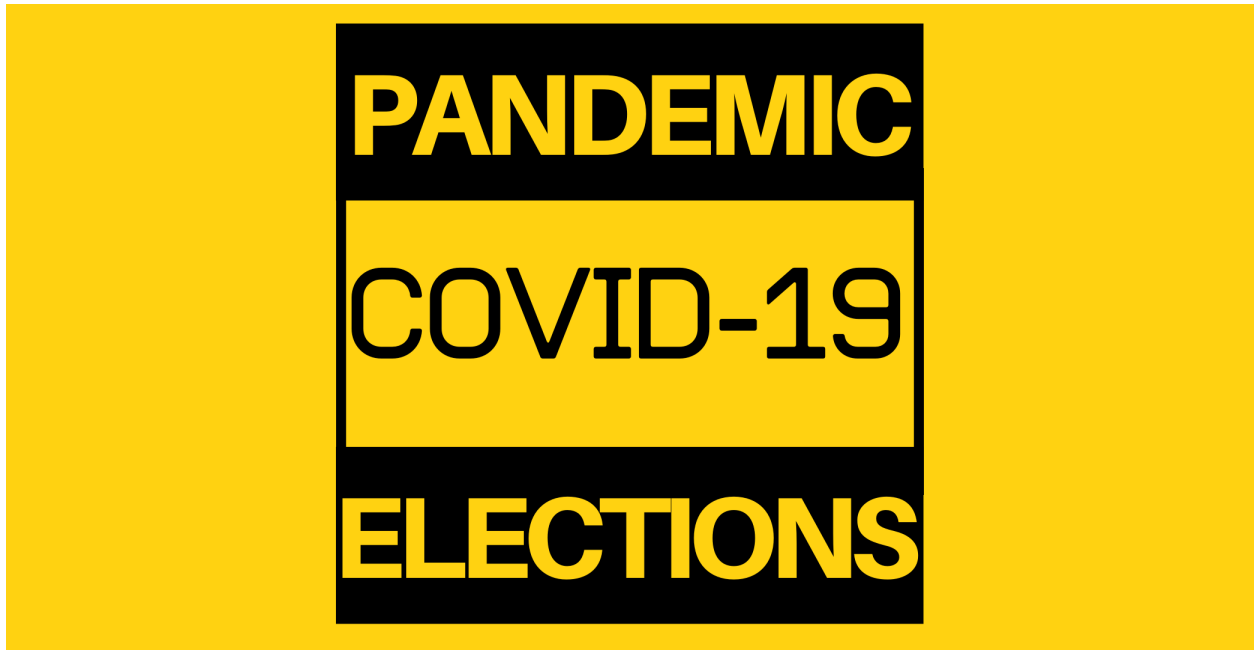


IF TIME GOES BACK WITH NO COVID-19, WILL TRUMP WIN?

Weiwei Song

1/22/2021



Back in February of 2020, the world situation is completely different. At that time, the unemployment rate in the United States was the lowest in decades, the stock market repeatedly hit record highs, and the situation of President Trump's re-election was very good. However, the COVID-19 pandemic changed this situation dramatically. Many people say that Trump's response to Coronavirus is one of the main reason he failed in the election. Is that true? This report is based on the ANES 2020 Exploratory Testing Survey conducted between April 10, 2020 and April 18, 2020. For more information, please visit <https://electionstudies.org/data-center/2020-exploratory-testing-survey/>

My analysis is based on the real situation in the April 2020, assume if the presidential election hold at that time, will Trump be the winner?

Question 1: Is Trump's policy cope with Covid-19 is an important reason why people disapprove his job? Is his job in the past four years really disappoint people?

This questionnaire have two Form in the Trump Job Approval category.

[IF FORM = 1]

[covidpres7]

Do you approve, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling the **coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak**?

- _ Approve extremely strongly [1]
- _ Approve moderately strongly [2]
- _ Approve slightly [3]
- _ Neither approve nor disapprove [4]
- _ Disapprove slightly [5]
- _ Disapprove moderately strongly [6]
- _ Disapprove extremely strongly [7]

[IF FORM = 2]

[healthcarepres7]

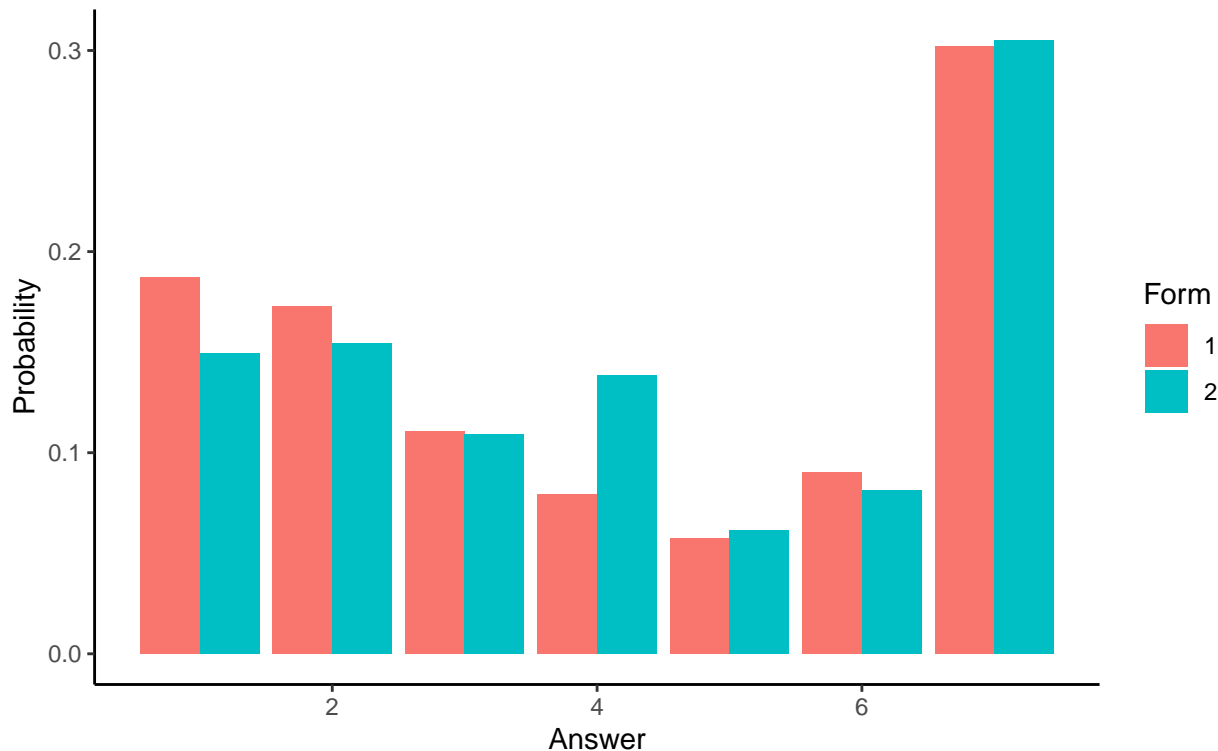
Do you approve, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling **health care**?

- _ Approve extremely strongly [1]
- _ Approve moderately strongly [2]
- _ Approve slightly [3]
- _ Neither approve nor disapprove [4]
- _ Disapprove slightly [5]
- _ Disapprove moderately strongly [6]
- _ Disapprove extremely strongly [7]

Should health care and coronavirus(COVID-19) be merged as one variable? Let's see the distribution of people's answers in terms of this question.

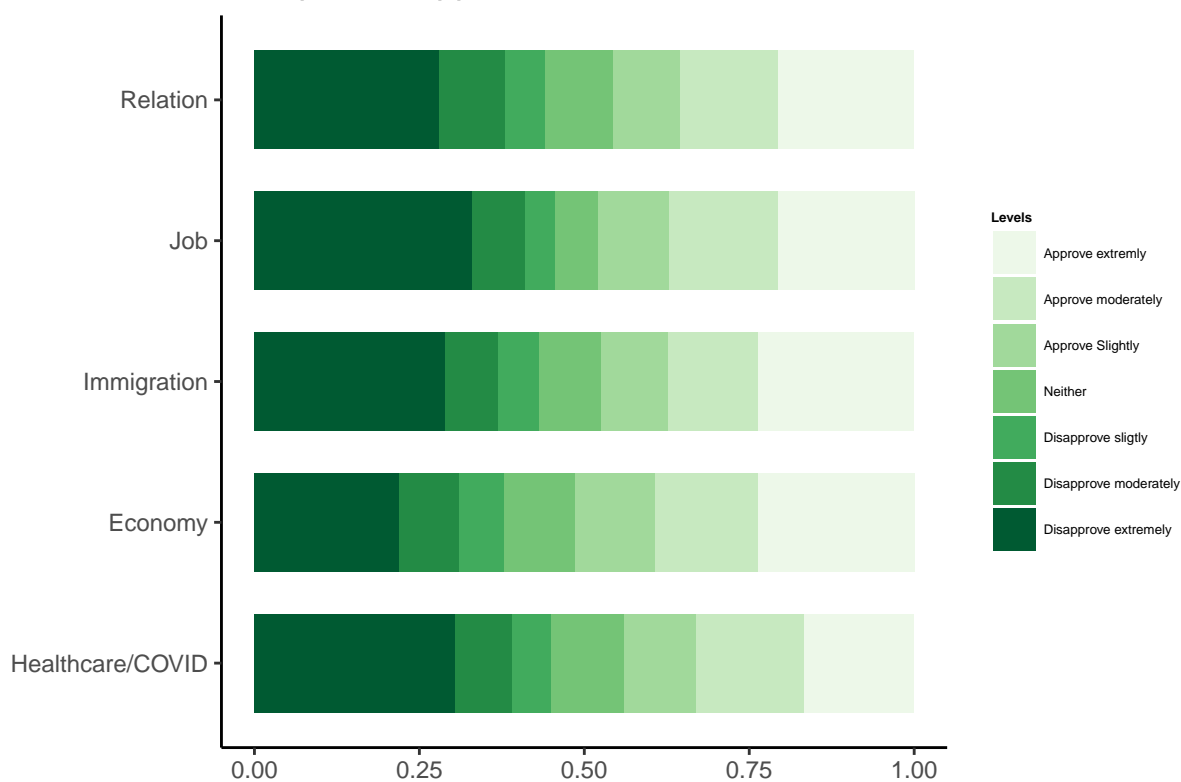
Distribution of answers of two forms of questions

Form=1:COVID-19 Form=2: health care



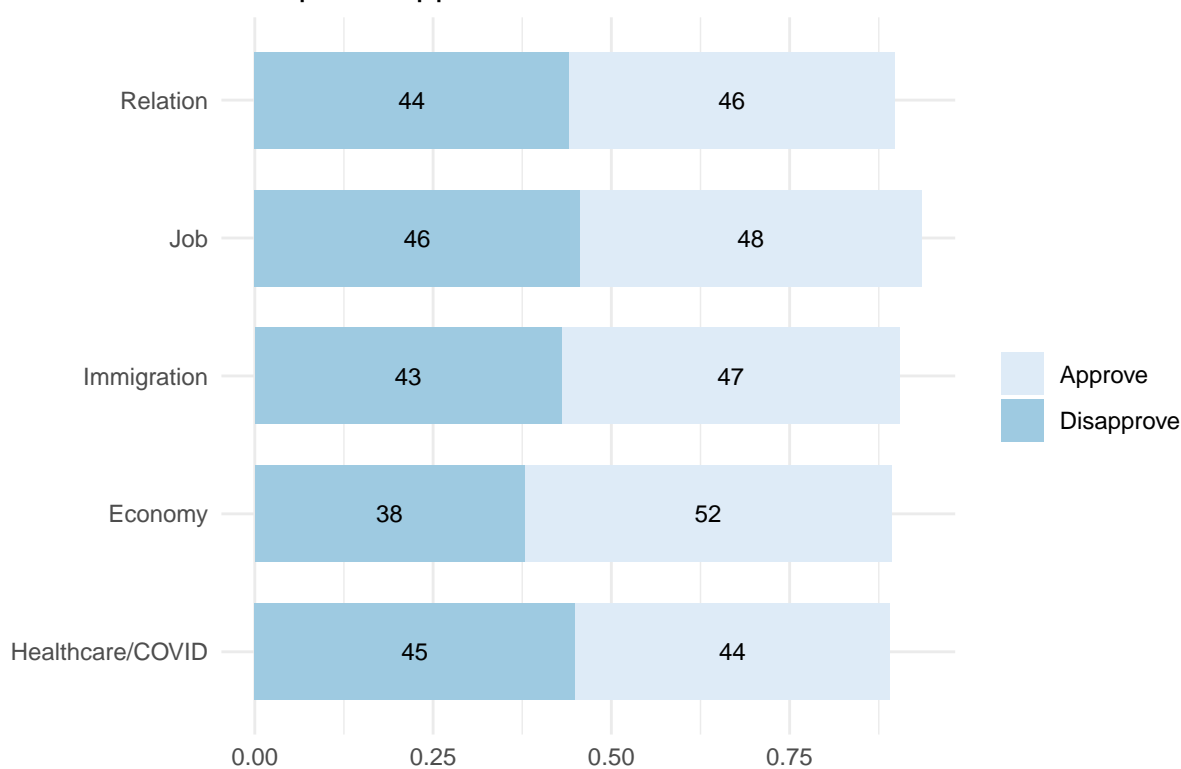
From the plot, people are more likely to hold an approval attitude towards Trump's job handling COVID-19 than health care. Overall, difference is not big, except for the case that answer is "Neither approve or Disapprove".

Trump's Job approval in seven levels



People who disapprove are mostly extremely disapprove.

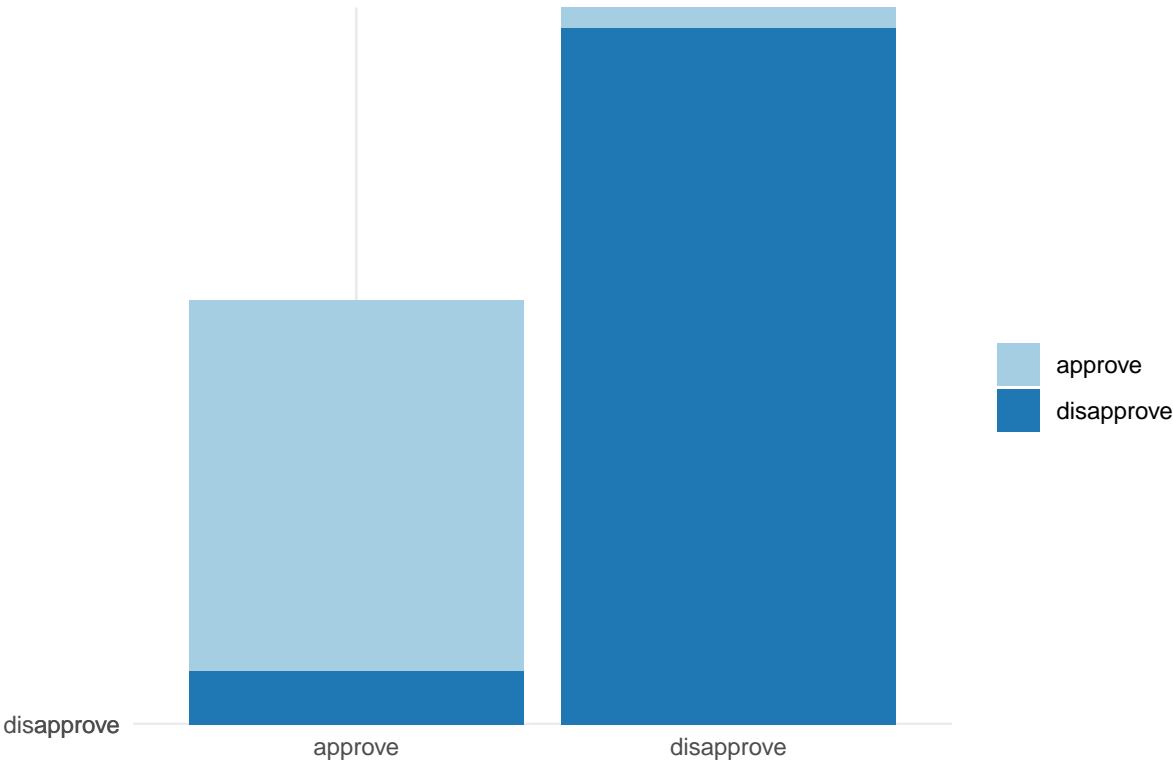
Trump Job Approval in two levels



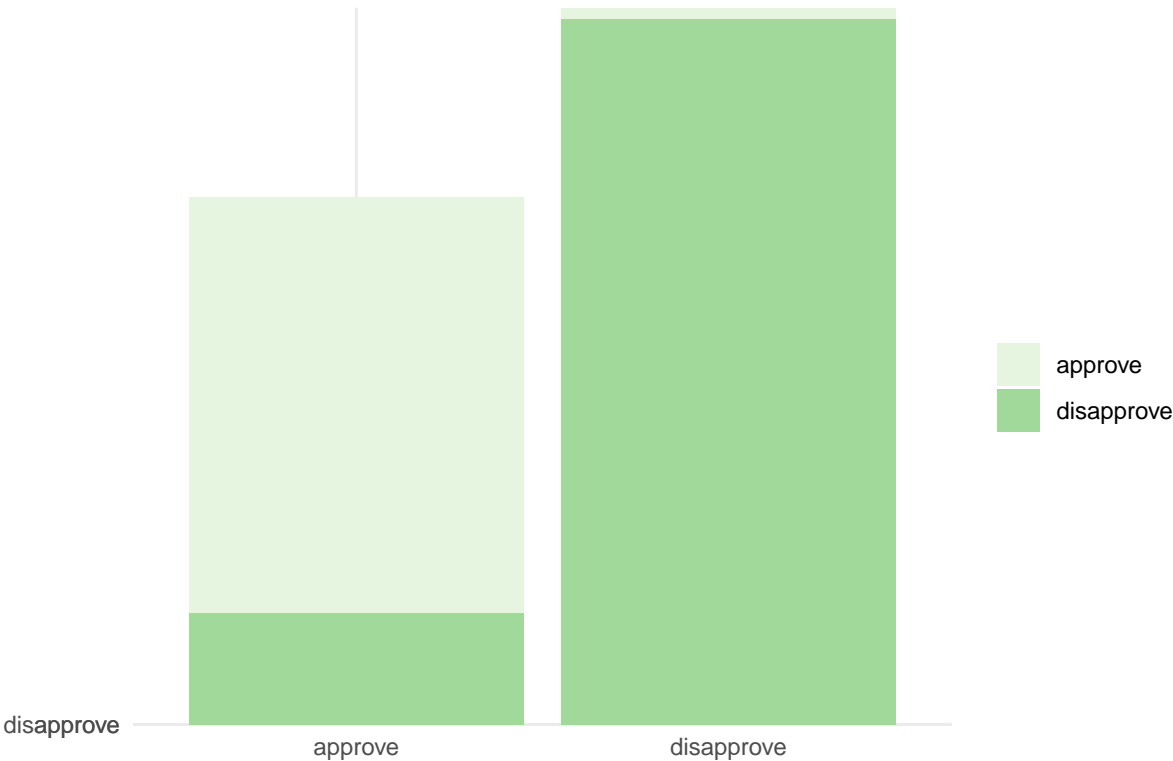
The approval rate of Trump's Job in the field of economy is really high. But look at the bar of Health-care/COVID, the difference actually really small.

Question 2: If the economy quickly declines as one of the common effects of the pandemic, will the disapproval ratio in the COVID/HEALTHCARE increase? How about the job approval rate?

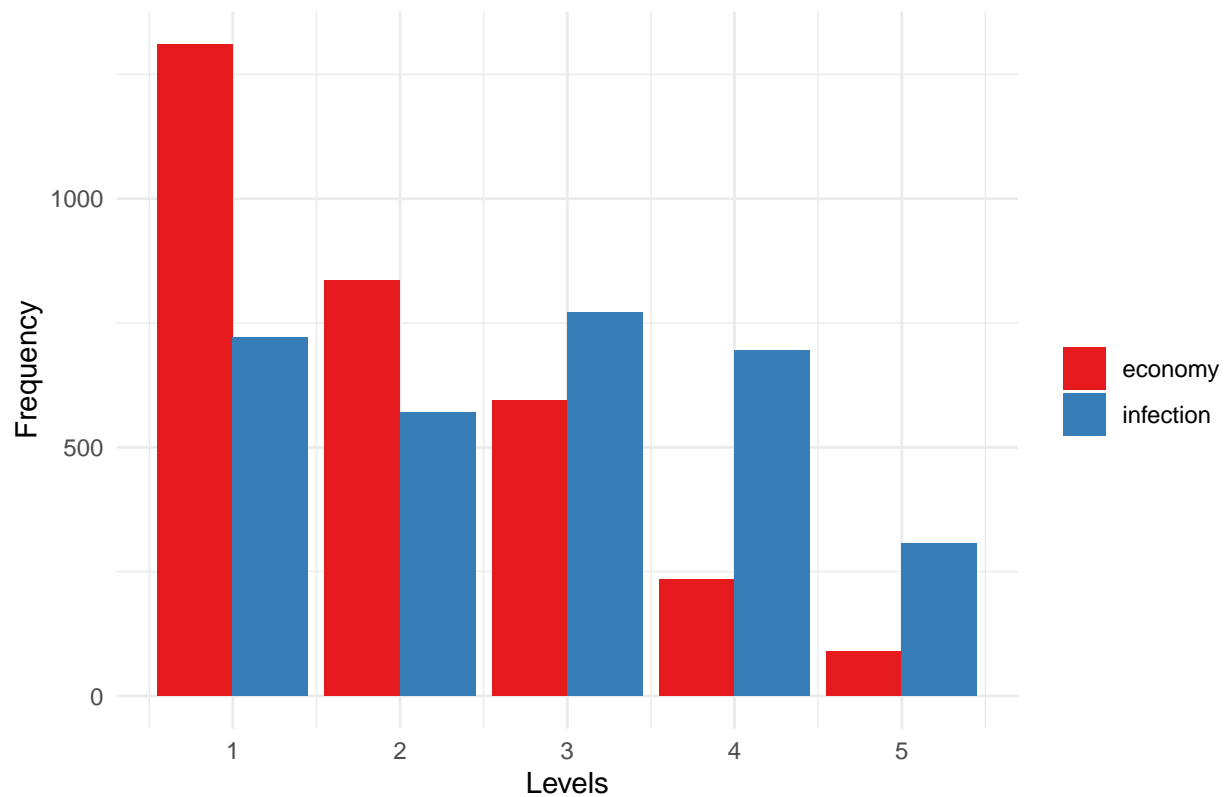
The distribution of Trump's rating in Job and Covid



The distribution of Trump's rating in economy and Covid



Are people more worried about infection or economic lose of COVID-19?



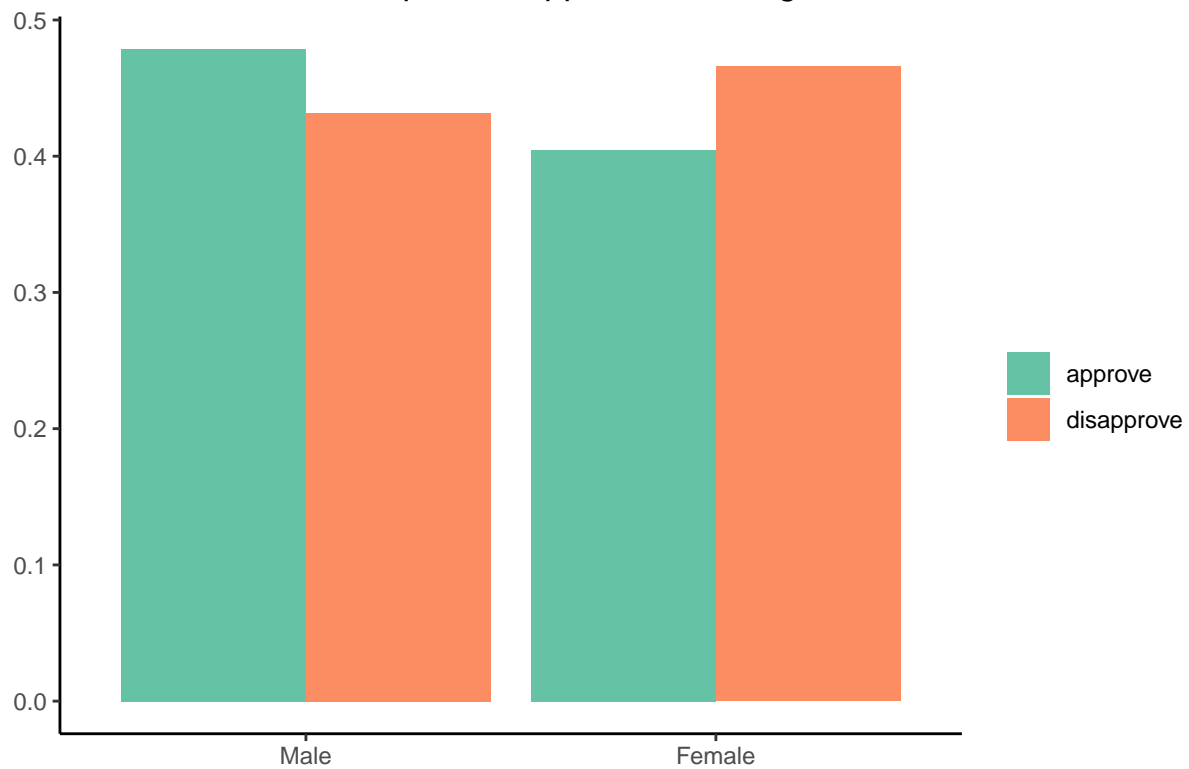
High consistency in the people's view in the Job approval rating and healthcare/covid approval rating

People are more concerned about the economy decline as an important effect of pandemic.

It is possible if the outbreak of COVID-19 can't get controlled, TRUMP's disapproval rate will be increasing.

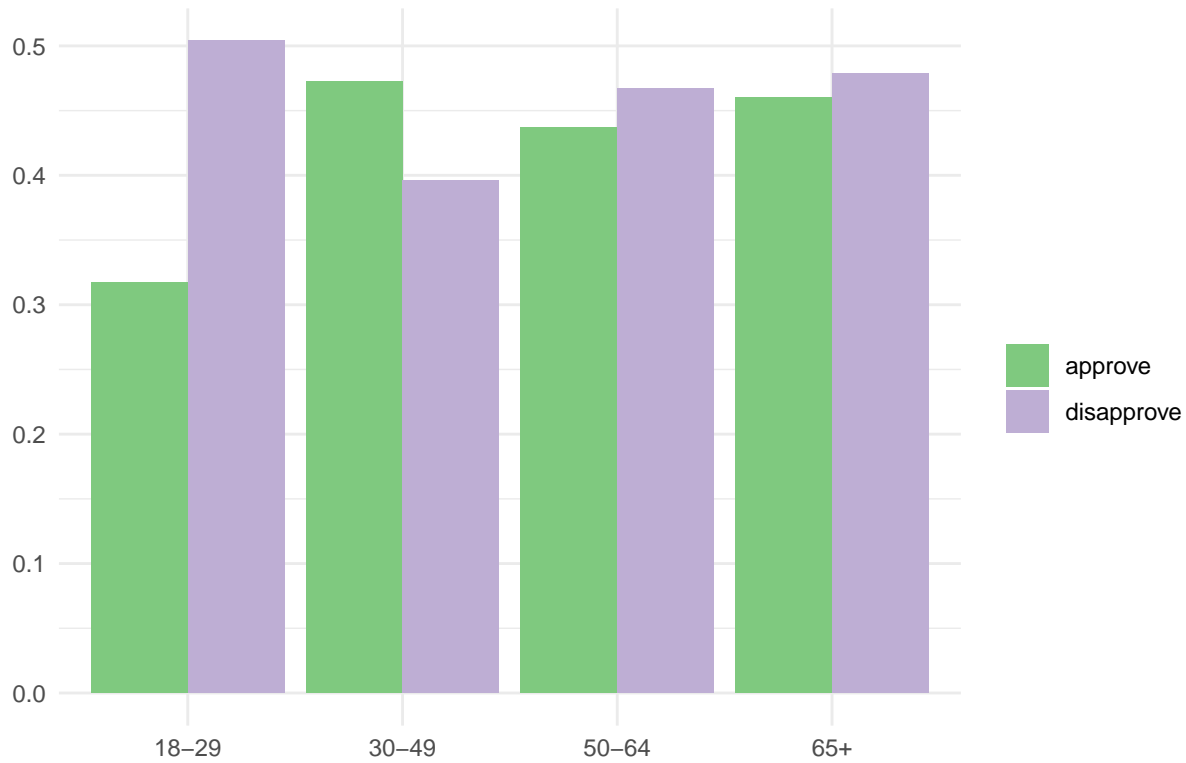
Question 3: Gender, Age, Education difference in Trump's Job Approval handling COVID-19. Who is the ideal candidate (Trump or Biden) in April 2020 for those people concerned about the coronavirus?

Sex difference in Trump's Job Approval handling COVID-19



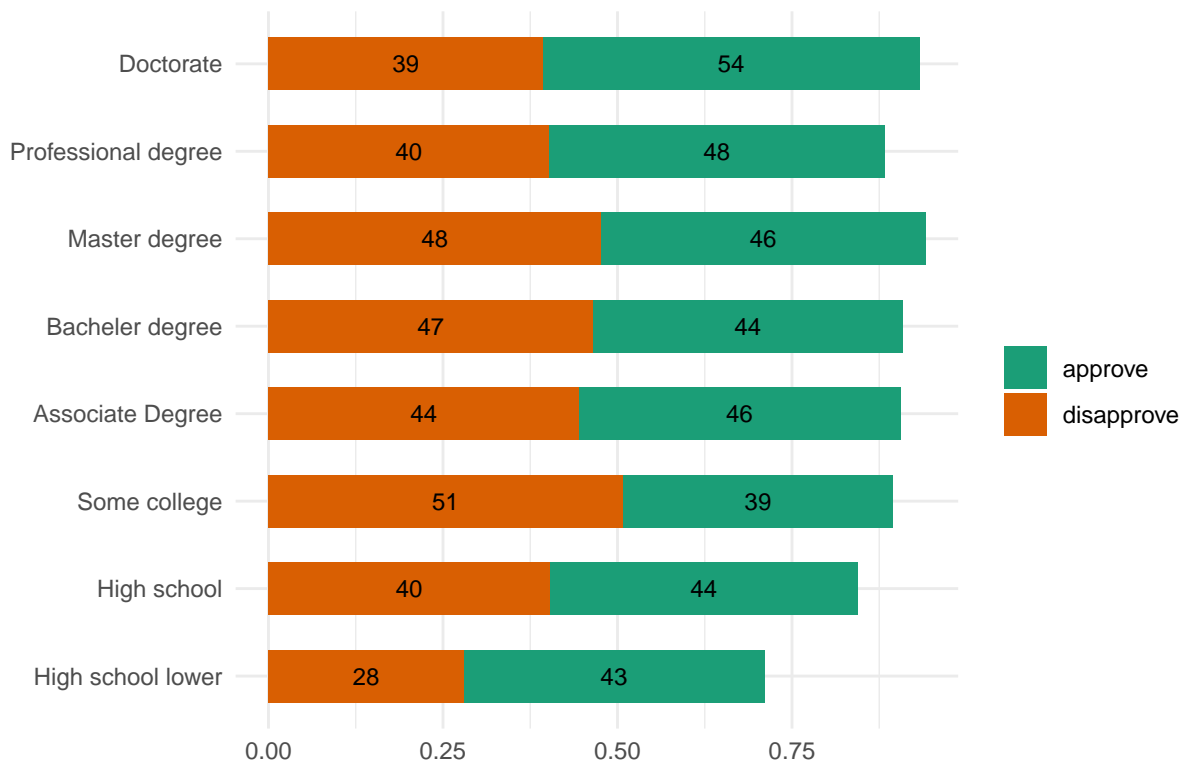
Clearly, women generally disapprove with Trump's response.

Age difference in Trump's Job Approval handling COVID-19

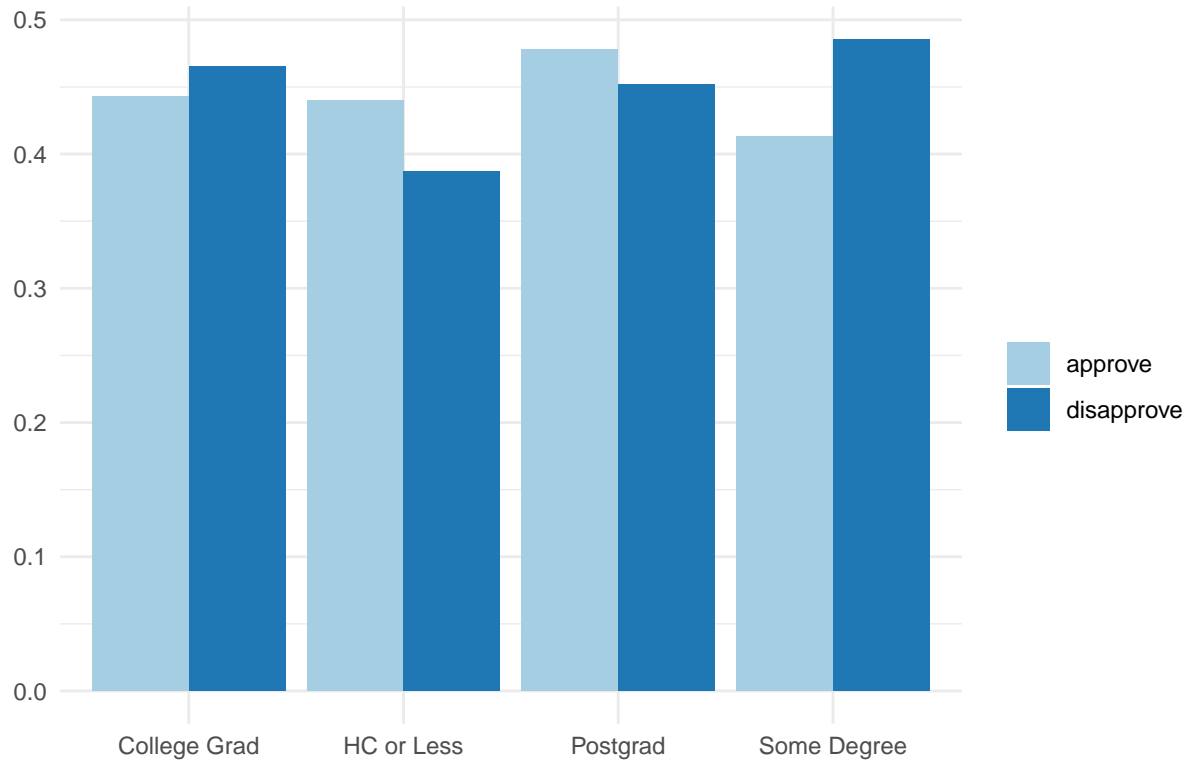


Young generation seems to disapprove it more, maybe the use of social media.

Education difference in Trump's Job Approval handling COVID-

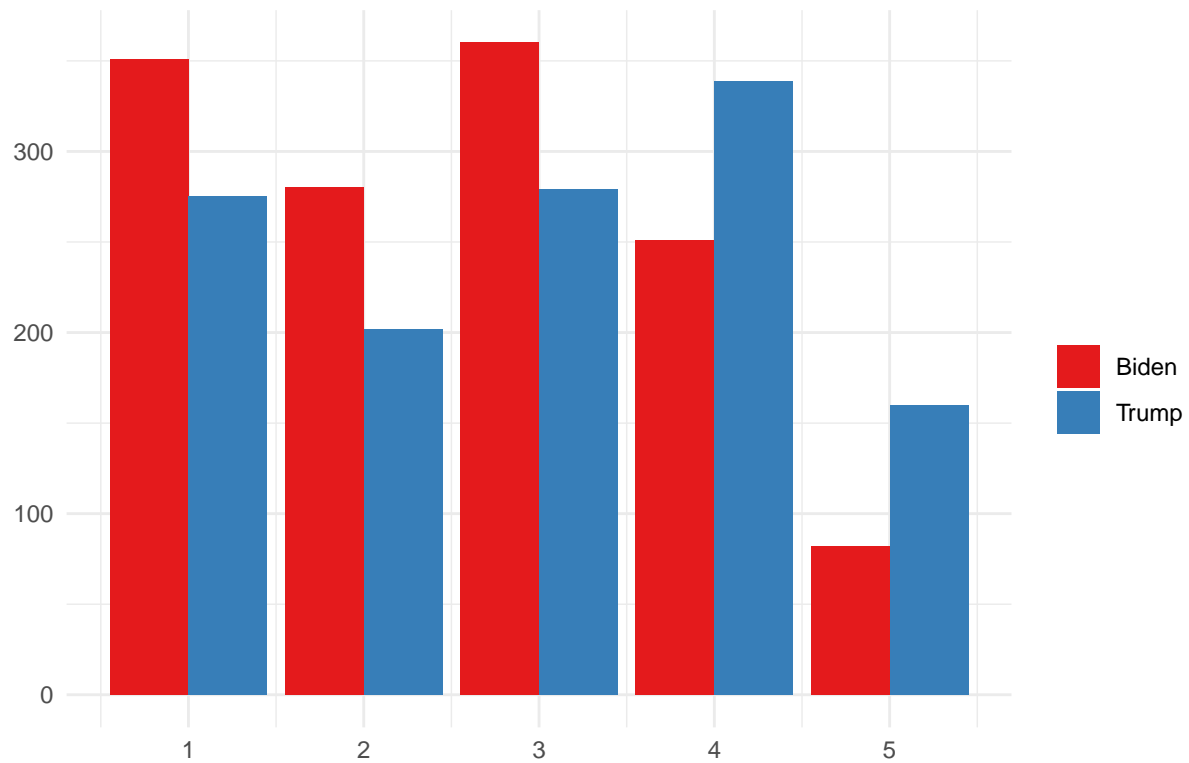


Education difference in Trump's Job Approval handling COVID-19

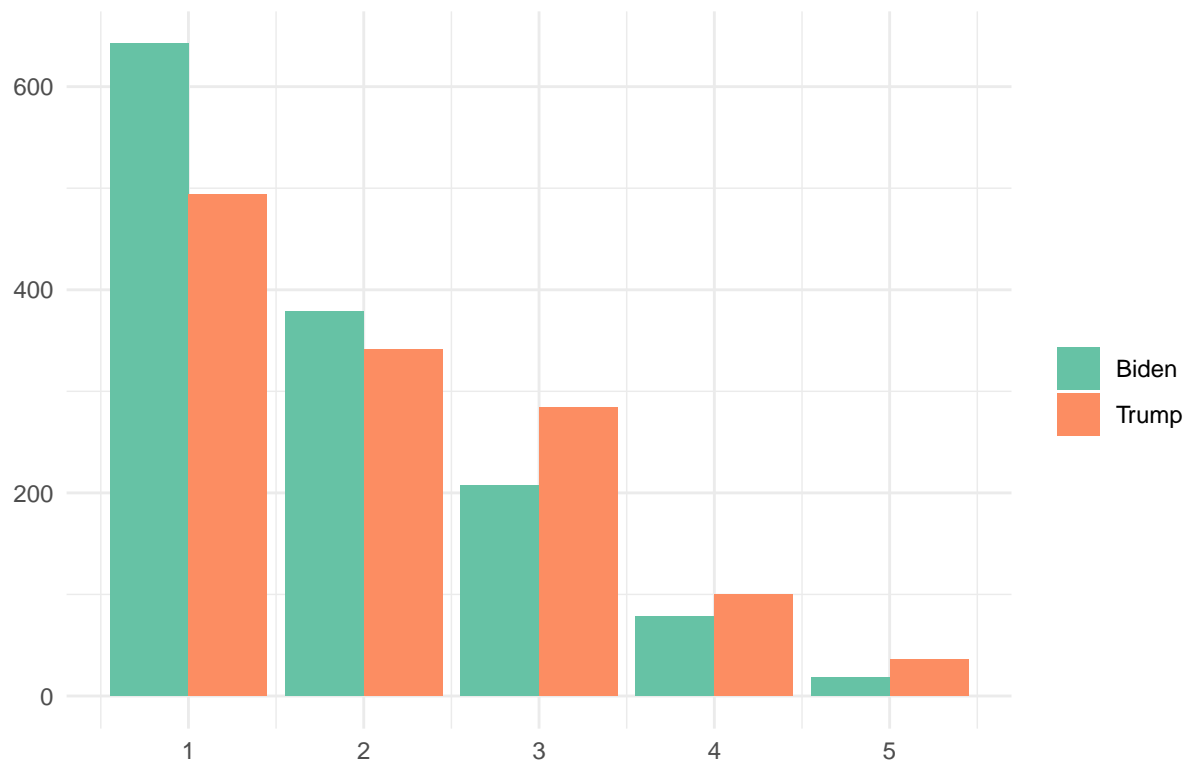


The differences is not so clear in the education level.

People(cares about infection) choose who?



People(cares about economy impact about Covid) choose who?



Degree=1 indicates extremely worried. The trend is obvious, the more people getting worried, the more they will choose Biden instead Trump. And this is unavoidable because American lose the leader role at the beginning of the outbreak. When people see the number of increase and death getting bigger and bigger in the news everyday, they begin to worry about this pandemic more.

Conclusion

1. In April 2020, Trump's job approval actually is not as bad now. The outbreak of COVID-19 hasn't make people to be very disappointed with Trump at that time. On the other side, Trump earned some supports in the approval rating because of economic growth.
2. On the whole, there is high consistency in people's choice in the Economy, Covid and Job approval ratings. Compared with the potential danger of getting infected, people are more concerned about economic impact of the coronavirus. It is possible if the outbreak of COVID-19 couldn't get controlled, Trump's disapproval rate will be increasing at least in the economy and health care fields.
3. The more people worried about COVID-19, the more likely Trump will lose.