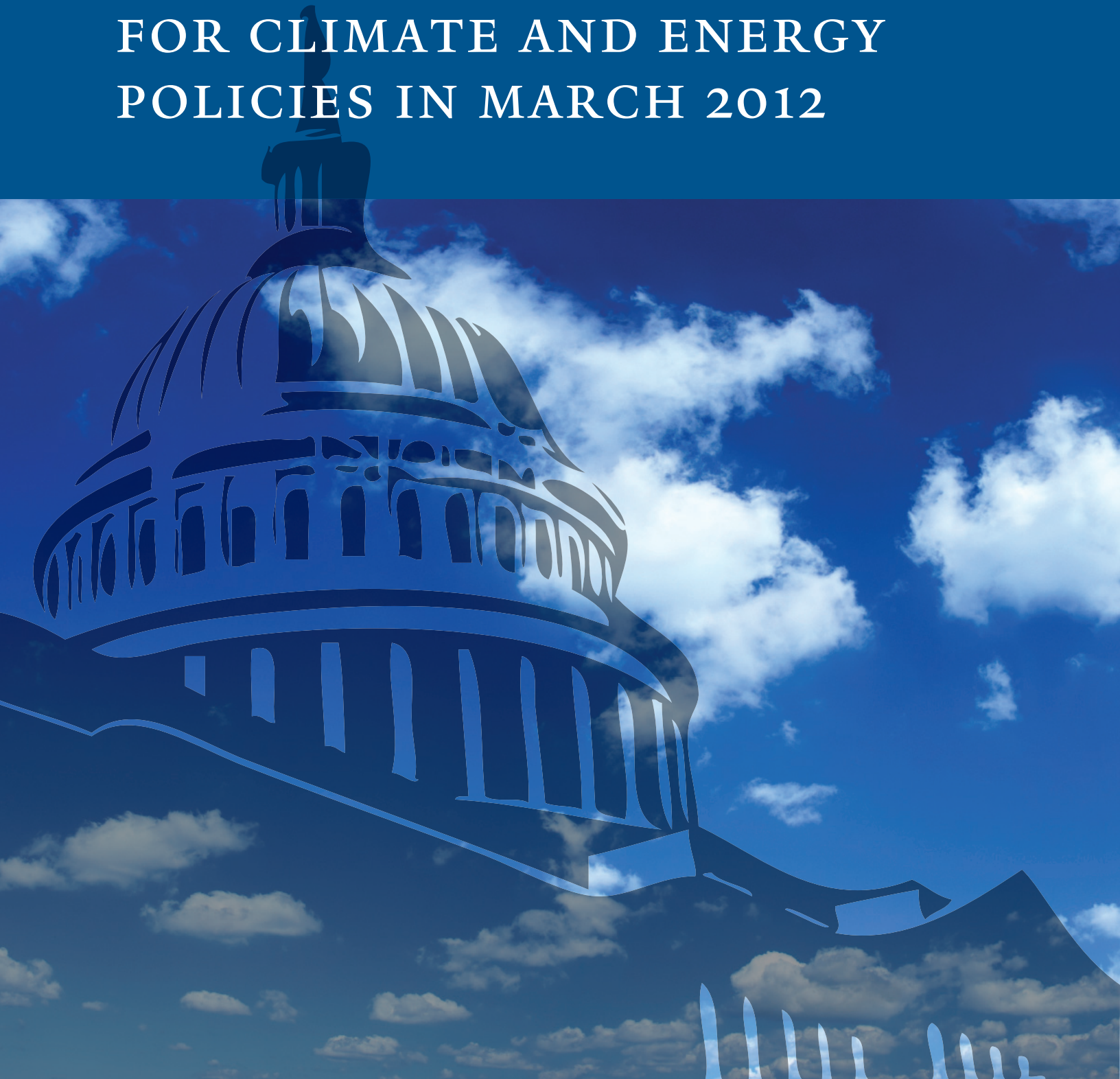


PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR CLIMATE AND ENERGY POLICIES IN MARCH 2012



George Mason University
Center for Climate Change Communication



George Mason University
Center for Climate Change Communication

Climate Change in the American Mind: Public Support for Climate & Energy Policies in March 2012

Interview dates: March 12, 2012 – March 30, 2012. Interviews: 1,008 Adults (18+)

Margin of error: +/- 3 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled. Totals may occasionally sum to more than 100 percent due to rounding.

This study was conducted by the Yale Project on Climate Change Communication and the George Mason University Center for Climate Change Communication, and was funded by the Surdna Foundation, the 11th Hour Project, and the Grantham Foundation for the Protection of the Environment.

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<http://environment.yale.edu/climate/files/Policy-Support-March-2012.pdf>

Executive Summary

Overview

Overall, majorities of Americans say that global warming and clean energy should be among the nation's priorities, want more action by elected officials, corporations and citizens themselves, and support a variety of climate change and energy policies, including holding fossil fuel companies responsible for all the "hidden costs" of their products. A majority also say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supports a "revenue neutral" tax shift from income taxes to fossil fuels, and that global warming will be one of the issues that determines their vote for President this fall.

Issue Priority

- 72 percent of Americans think that global warming should be a very high (12%), high (28%), or medium (32%) priority for the president and Congress. Among registered voters, 84 percent of Democrats, 68 percent of Independents, and 52 percent of Republicans think global warming should be a priority.
- 92 percent of Americans think that developing sources of clean energy should be a very high (31%), high (38%), or medium (23%) priority for the president and Congress. Among registered voters, 96 percent of Democrats and Independents, and 84 percent of Republicans think clean energy should be a priority.
- 83 percent of Americans think that protecting the environment either improves economic growth and provides new jobs (58%) or has no effect on economic growth or jobs (25%). Only 17 percent think it reduces economic growth and costs jobs. When there is a conflict between the two, however, 62 percent of Americans say it is more important to protect the environment, even if it reduces economic growth, while 38 percent say economic growth is more important, even if it leads to economic problems.

Among registered voters, 91 percent of Democrats, 77 percent of Independents, and 70 percent of Republicans think that overall, protecting the environment either improves economic growth and provides new jobs, or has no effect on economic growth or jobs. When there is a conflict between the two, however, 72 percent of Democrats, 63 percent of Independents, and 45 percent of Republicans say it is more important to protect the environment than economic growth.

Who Should Act on Global Warming?

- 70 percent of Americans say that corporations and industry should be doing more to address global warming, which is back up to levels last seen in the fall of 2008.

- 67 percent of Americans also say that citizens themselves should be doing more to address the issue.
- 58 percent of Americans say that Congress should be doing more to address global warming. The proportion that say Congress should be doing “much more” has increased four percentage points since May 2011 (up to 23%).
- 54 percent of Americans say that President Obama should be doing more to address the issue, while 25 percent say he is currently doing the right amount. Only 21 percent say he should do less.

Support for Climate & Energy Policies

- More than two-thirds of Americans (68%) say the U.S. should make either a large-scale or medium-scale effort to reduce global warming, even if this has large or moderate economic costs.
- A large majority of Americans (79%) supports funding more research into renewable energy sources. Among registered voters, 91 percent of Democrats, 80 percent of Independents, and 74 percent of Republicans support this policy. However, perhaps due in part to news stories about Solyndra, “strong support” for more research into renewables fell from 53 percent in the fall of 2008 to 36 percent in March 2012. Meanwhile opposition to renewable energy research more than doubled, from 8 percent in 2008 to 21 percent in 2012.
- 76 percent support providing tax rebates for people who purchase more fuel-efficient vehicles or solar panels. Among registered voters, 89 percent of Democrats, 76 percent of Independents, and 63 percent of Republicans support this policy.
- 75 percent support regulating carbon dioxide as a pollutant. Among registered voters, 84 percent of Democrats, 77 percent of Independents, and 67 percent of Republicans support this policy.
- 65 percent of Americans support an international treaty requiring the U.S. to cut carbon dioxide 90% by the year 2050. Among registered voters, 78 percent of Democrats, 64 percent of Independents, and 42 percent of Republicans support this policy.
- 63 percent support requiring utilities to produce at least 20% of their electricity from renewable energy sources, even if household costs increase by \$100 a year. “Strong support,” however, has decreased from 31 percent in 2008 to 20 percent now. Among registered voters, 74 percent of Democrats, 65 percent of Independents, and 47 percent of Republicans support this policy.
- 63 percent say the U.S. should act on its own to reduce greenhouse gases, regardless of what other nations do.
- 62 percent support expanded offshore drilling for oil and natural gas off the U.S. coast. Likely due to the BP oil spill, however, “strongly support” for expanding offshore drilling for oil and natural gas off the U.S. coast has fallen from 37 percent in 2008 to 24 percent now.

There is a substantial difference between the two parties on offshore drilling, however. 89 percent of Republicans support it, compared to 53 percent of Democrats. Among those who “strongly support” offshore drilling, the difference is even greater: 42 percent of Republicans strongly support it vs. 15 percent of Democrats. By contrast, only 2 percent of Republicans “strongly oppose” expanded offshore drilling, while 20 percent of Democrats do.

- 61 percent of Americans support holding the fossil fuel industry (coal, oil and natural gas) responsible for “all the hidden costs we pay for citizens who get sick from polluted air and water, military costs to maintain our access to foreign oil, and the environmental costs of spills and accidents.” Among registered voters, 68 percent of Democrats, 72 percent of Independents, and 54 percent of Republicans support this policy.
- Likely due to the Fukushima nuclear accident, support for building more nuclear power plants has fallen dramatically – from 61 percent who supported it in 2008 to just 42 percent now. Among registered voters, 37 percent of Democrats, 48 percent of Independents, and 53 percent of Republicans support this policy.
- The country is divided about whether to eliminate all federal subsidies for *all* form of energy (oil, gas, coal, nuclear and renewables) – 47 percent of Americans support ending all energy subsidies while 54 percent oppose it.¹ Interestingly, however, there are not substantial political differences, with Democrats, Independents, and Republicans all about equally supportive or opposed.
- Only 50 percent of Americans have heard about the proposed Keystone XL pipeline. Among registered voters, Republicans (66%) and Independents (69%) are more likely to have heard of it, compared to Democrats (48%). Of those Americans who have heard of it, two-thirds (69%) support building the pipeline, including 87 percent of registered Republicans, 68 percent of Independents, and 50 percent of Democrats.

Voting Intentions

- By a margin of 3 to 1, Americans say they would be more likely to vote for a political candidate who supports a “revenue neutral” tax shift. This shift would increase taxes on coal, oil and natural gas, and reduce the federal income tax by an equal amount, while creating jobs and decreasing pollution.² 61 percent of Americans say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supports such a tax shift, while 20 percent say they would be less likely.

Among registered voters, Republicans would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supports such a tax shift by a 2 to 1 margin – 51 percent would be more likely to vote for such a candidate, while 25 percent would be less likely. Independents would be more likely to vote for such a candidate by a nearly 3 to 1 margin – 60 percent vs. 22 percent. Finally, Democrats would

¹ Our survey in November 2011, however, found that a large majority of Americans (69%) supported ending subsidies for the fossil fuel industry, so this result likely reflects a desire by many Americans to maintain (or increase) subsidies for renewable energy.

² Note that a revenue-neutral tax shift might be regressive. For example, the poor (who pay little to no income taxes) might end up paying a greater proportion of their incomes in higher energy costs, depending on how such a policy was implemented.

be more likely to vote for such a candidate by a more than 5 to 1 margin – 74 percent vs. 13 percent.

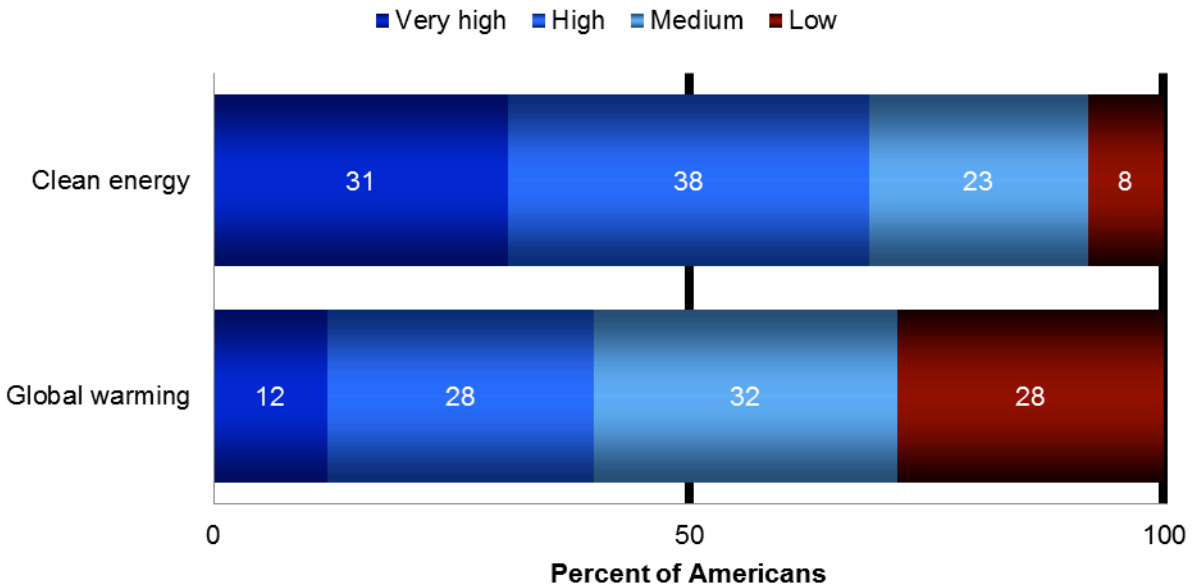
- 55 percent of Americans say that global warming will be either the single most important (3%) or one of several important issues (52%) in determining their vote for president this year. Among registered voters, 63 percent of Democrats say global warming will be either the single most important issue (3%) or one of several important issues (60%) in determining their vote. 59 percent of Independents and 43 percent of Republicans say it will be either the single most important issue (2% respectively) or one of several important issues determining their vote (57% and 41% respectively).

(NOTE: These results are from a nationally representative survey conducted by Knowledge Networks. The survey was fielded March 12 through March 30, 2012 with 1,008 American adults. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percent, with 95 percent confidence.)

Table of Contents

Issue Priority for the President and Congress.....	7
Who Should Act on Global Warming?.....	8
National Policies.....	11
Voting Intentions.....	17
Policy Support by Political Party.....	19
Methodology.....	32

Issue Priority for the President and Congress



Do you think global warming should be a low, medium, high, or very high priority for the president and Congress?³

	March 2012*	Nov 2011*	May 2011*	June 2010*	Jan 2010*	Nov 2008+
Very high	12	12	13	17	13	21
High	28	25	27	27	25	33
Medium	32	33	31	33	31	30
Low	28	30	30	23	31	17

* 2010, 2011 & 2012 Question wording = Do you think global warming should be a low, medium, high, or very high priority for the president and Congress?

+ 2008 Question wording = Here are some issues now being discussed in Washington, D.C. Do you think each of these issues should be a low, medium, high, or very high priority for the next president and Congress?

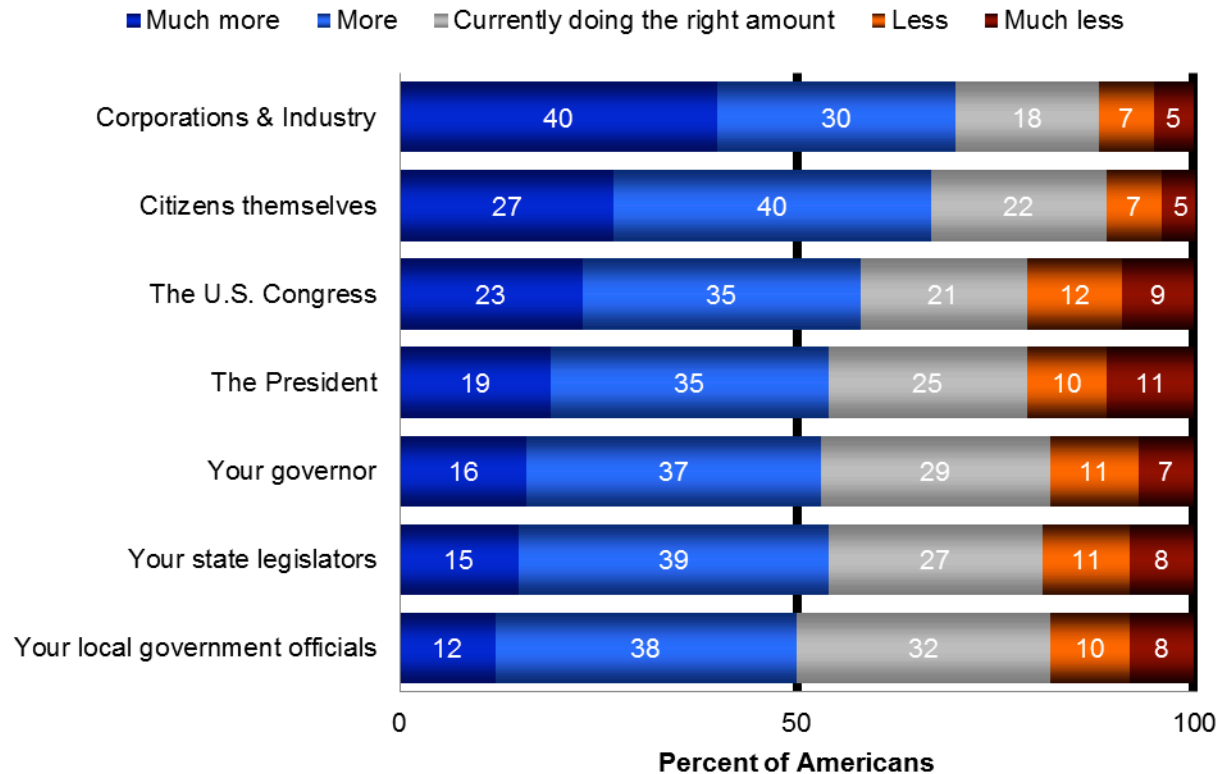
Do you think that developing sources of clean energy should be a low, medium, high, or very high priority for the president and Congress?

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Very high	31	30	31	34	24	-
High	38	35	35	37	36	-
Medium	23	25	25	23	29	-
Low	8	10	9	6	11	-

³ Items are listed in the order they were asked. Items not shown in this report are being released separately.

Do you think each of the following should be doing more or less to address global warming?

Desired Level of Response by Various Societal Actors



Your local government officials

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Much more	12	13	13	14	12	13
More	38	35	39	36	34	45
Currently doing the right amount	32	35	28	36	35	29
Less	10	9	9	8	8	7
Much less	8	8	10	7	10	6

Your state legislators

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Much more	15	16	15	15	14	16
More	39	36	39	36	36	47
Currently doing the right amount	27	31	26	33	30	25
Less	11	10	10	8	10	6
Much less	8	8	10	8	10	6

Your governor

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Much more	16	16	16	16	15	16
More	37	36	38	35	34	46
Currently doing the right amount	29	31	27	33	30	26
Less	11	10	9	9	10	6
Much less	7	8	10	8	11	6

The U.S. Congress

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Much more	23	20	19	19	19	26
More	35	35	38	35	35	41
Currently doing the right amount	21	25	20	26	23	20
Less	12	11	11	10	10	6
Much less	9	8	12	9	15	7

The President

	March 2012*	Nov 2011*	May 2011*	June 2010*	Jan 2010*	Nov 2008+
Much more	19	19	19	20	17	28
More	35	33	35	32	33	38
Currently doing the right amount	25	28	22	30	26	21
Less	10	10	10	9	9	6
Much less	11	11	14	10	15	7

*President Barack Obama

+President George W. Bush

Corporations and industry

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Much more	40	37	34	38	33	41
More	30	30	31	28	31	32
Currently doing the right amount	18	20	18	22	21	17
Less	7	6	8	7	7	5
Much less	5	6	9	6	9	6

Citizens themselves

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Much more	27	26	28	31	27	30
More	40	39	35	33	36	42
Currently doing the right amount	22	24	21	24	23	20
Less	7	6	9	7	7	5
Much less	5	6	7	5	8	5

People disagree whether the United States should reduce greenhouse gas emissions on its own, or make reductions only if other countries do too. Which of the following statements comes closest to your own point of view? The United States should reduce its greenhouse gas emissions...

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Regardless of what other countries do	63	60	61	65	57	67
Only if other industrialized countries (such as England, Germany and Japan) reduce their emissions	3	3	3	3	3	2
Only if other industrialized countries and developing countries (such as China, India and Brazil) reduce their emissions	8	7	8	8	7	7
The US should not reduce its emissions	5	5	6	5	7	4
Don't know	21	25	23	19	25	20

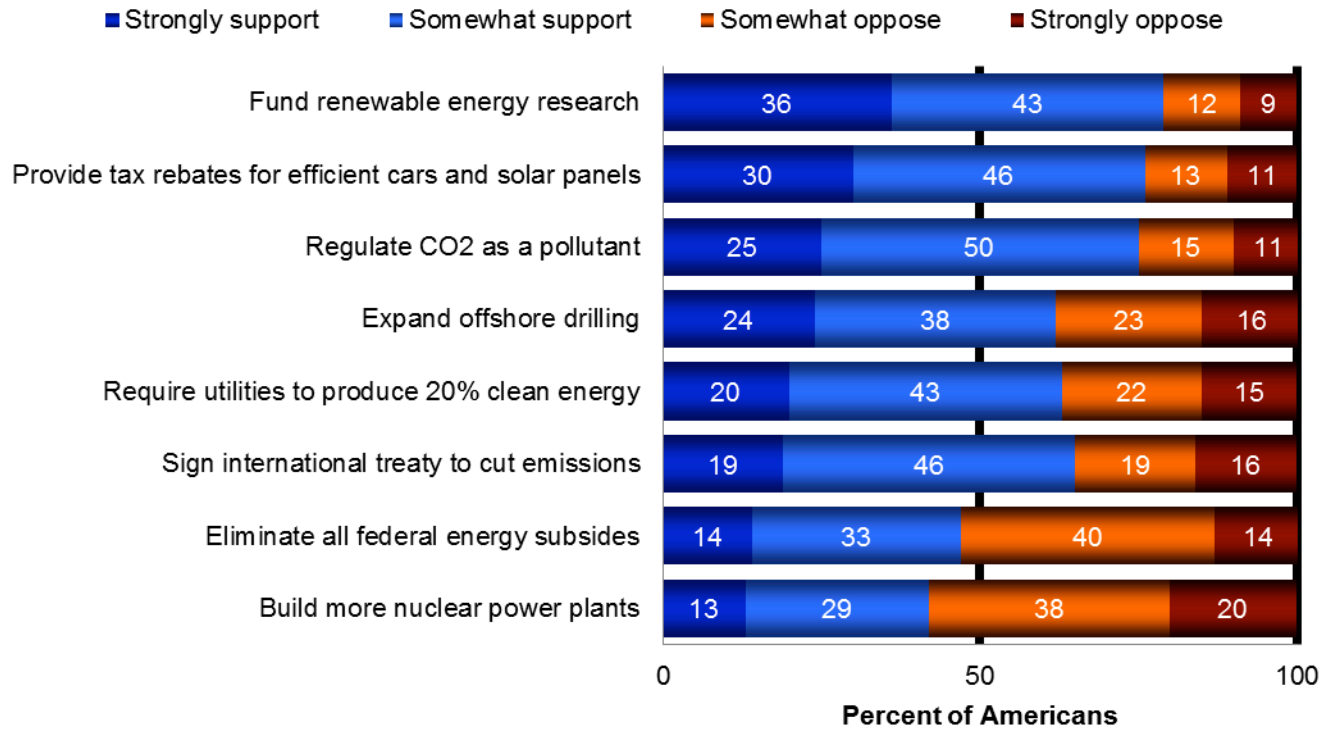
How big of an effort should the United States make to reduce global warming?

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
A large-scale effort, even if it has large economic costs	26	26	29	28	26	34
A medium-scale effort, even if it has moderate economic costs	42	40	38	41	36	40
A small-scale effort, even if it has small economic costs	19	23	19	18	21	17
No effort	13	12	14	13	18	9

National Policies

For specific question text, see the tables below this chart.

National Policy Support



How much do you support or oppose requiring electric utilities to produce at least 20% of their electricity from wind, solar, or other renewable energy sources, even if it cost the average household an extra \$100 a year?

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Strongly support	20	22	23	22	18	31
Somewhat support	43	41	43	39	40	41
Somewhat oppose	22	24	18	22	21	17
Strongly oppose	15	14	16	18	21	11

How much do you support or oppose signing an international treaty that requires the United States to cut its emissions of carbon dioxide 90% by the year 2050?

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Strongly support	19	21	23	21	17	25
Somewhat support	46	45	43	44	44	44
Somewhat oppose	19	23	17	19	20	19
Strongly oppose	16	11	17	16	19	13

How much do you support or oppose expanding offshore drilling for oil and natural gas off the U.S. coast?

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Strongly support	24	24	28	23	21	37
Somewhat support	38	39	38	39	46	38
Somewhat oppose	23	22	20	21	21	14
Strongly oppose	16	16	14	17	12	11

How much do you support or oppose building more nuclear power plants?

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Strongly support	13	11	16	16	17	23
Somewhat support	29	31	31	37	32	38
Somewhat oppose	38	37	30	30	31	24
Strongly oppose	20	21	23	17	20	15

How much do you support or oppose funding more research into renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power?

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Strongly support	36	36	47	42	41	53
Somewhat support	43	42	37	45	44	39
Somewhat oppose	12	17	11	10	11	6
Strongly oppose	9	6	6	3	4	2

How much do you support or oppose providing tax rebates for people who purchase energy-efficient vehicles or solar panels?

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Strongly support	30	30	41	41	32	38
Somewhat support	46	48	41	42	50	47
Somewhat oppose	13	14	10	12	10	11
Strongly oppose	11	7	9	5	7	4

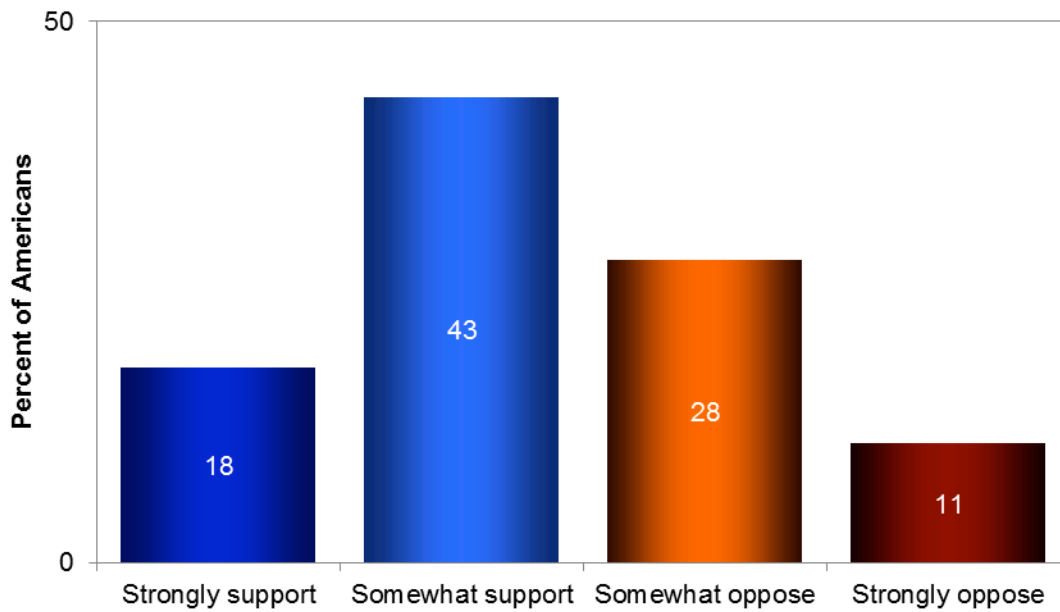
How much do you support or oppose regulating carbon dioxide (the primary greenhouse gas) as a pollutant?

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Strongly support	25	25	-	26	24	30
Somewhat support	50	48	-	51	47	50
Somewhat oppose	15	20	-	13	14	13
Strongly oppose	11	7	-	11	15	7

Eliminate all federal subsidies from all forms of energy production -- including oil, gas, coal, nuclear, corn ethanol, solar, and wind.

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Strongly support	14	-	-	-	-	-
Somewhat support	33	-	-	-	-	-
Somewhat oppose	40	-	-	-	-	-
Strongly oppose	14	-	-	-	-	-

Holding the Fossil Fuel Industry Responsible for All Hidden Costs



Some people say that burning fossil fuels seems cheap until you include all the “hidden costs” we pay for citizens who get sick from polluted air and water, military costs to maintain our access to foreign oil, and the environmental costs of spills and accidents. How much do you support or oppose holding the fossil fuel industry (coal, oil, and natural gas) responsible for all the hidden costs of their products?

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Strongly support	18	-	-	-	-	-
Somewhat support	43	-	-	-	-	-
Somewhat oppose	28	-	-	-	-	-
Strongly oppose	11	-	-	-	-	-

Have you heard anything in the news about the proposed Keystone XL pipeline that would transport crude oil from the Canada tar sands to Texas?

March 2012	
Yes	50
No	37
I don't know	13

Respondents who said they had heard about the Keystone XL pipeline were then asked...

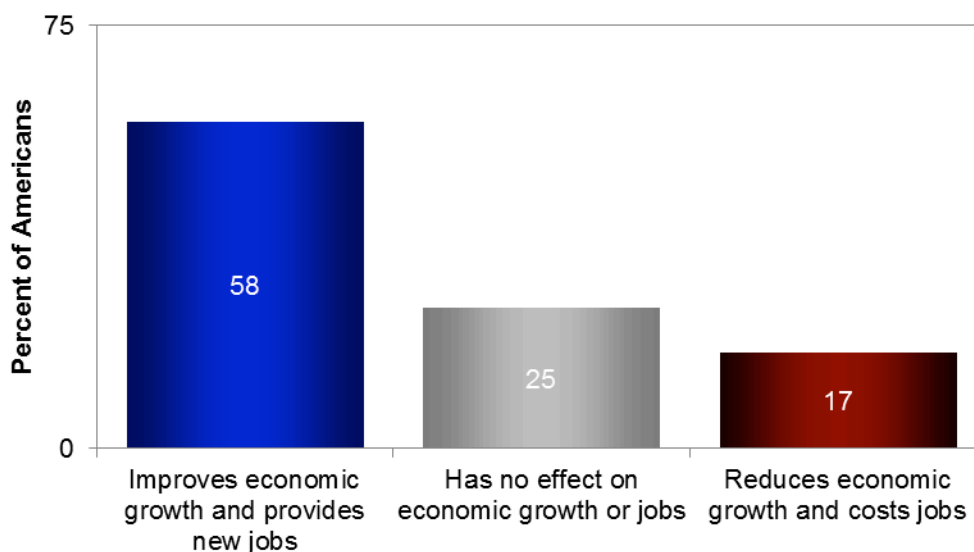
How closely have you followed the news stories about the Keystone XL pipeline?

March 2012	
Very closely	17
Somewhat closely	29
A little	43
Not at all	11

How much do you support or oppose the building of the Keystone XL pipeline?

March 2012	
Strongly support	36
Somewhat support	33
Somewhat oppose	18
Strongly oppose	13

Impact of Environmental Protection on Economic Growth



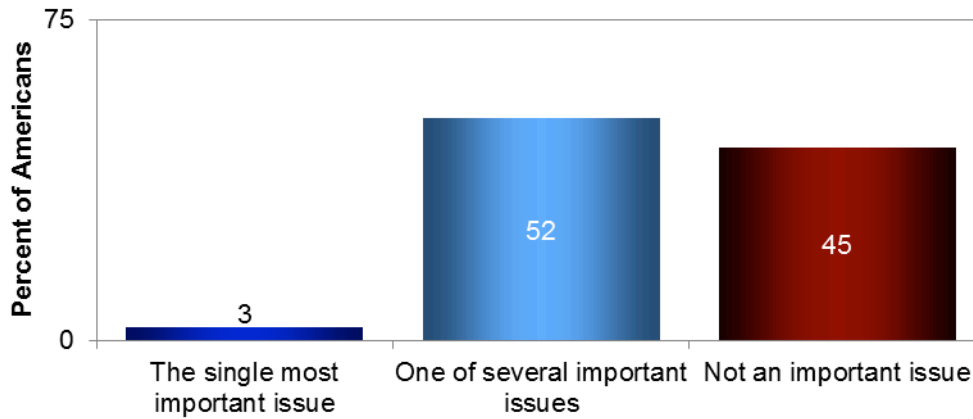
Overall, do you think that protecting the environment...

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010
Improves economic growth and provides new jobs	58	54	54	56
Has no effect on economic growth or jobs	25	31	29	25
Reduces economic growth and costs jobs	17	15	18	18

When there is a conflict between environmental protection and economic growth, which do you think is more important?

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Protecting the environment, even if it reduces economic growth	62	63	64	65	63	-
Economic growth, even if it leads to environmental problems	38	37	36	35	37	-

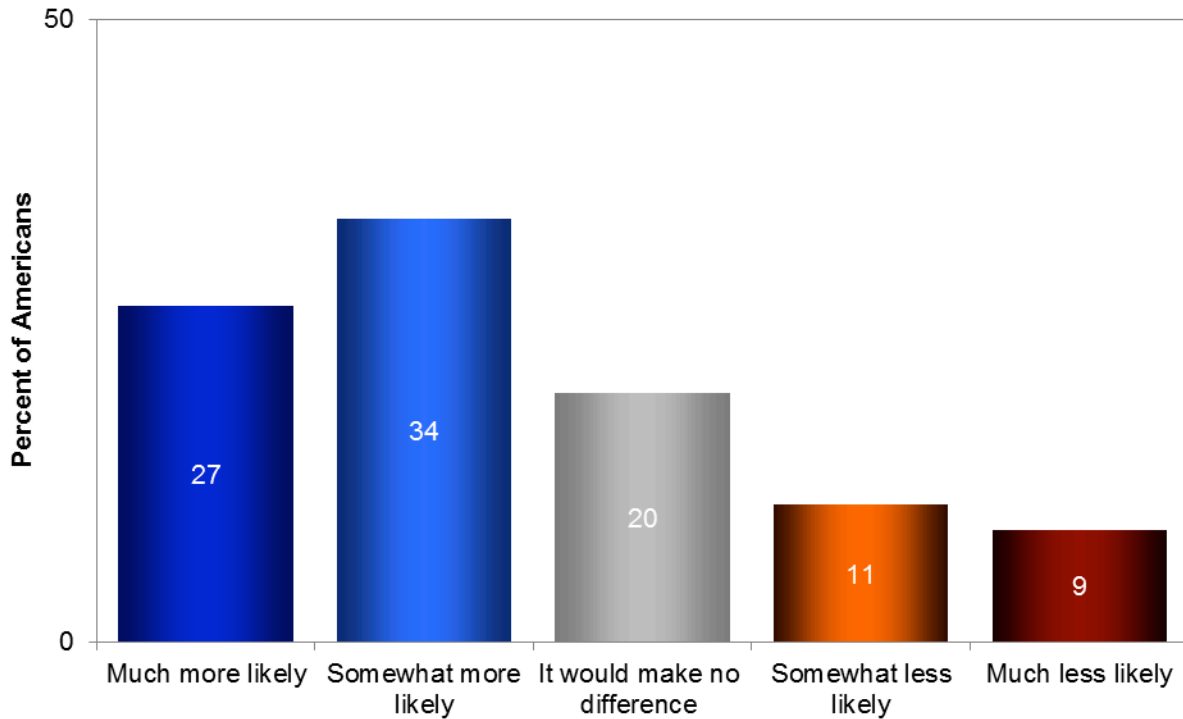
How Important will a Candidate's Views on Global Warming be in Determining your Vote for President Next Year?



How important will a candidate's views on global warming be in determining your vote for President next year? Will it be the single most important issue, one of several important issues, or not important in determining your vote?

	March 2012	Nov 2011	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
The single most important issue	3	2	-	-	-	2
One of several important issues	52	52	-	-	-	60
Not an important issue	45	46	-	-	-	38

Vote for a Candidate Who Supports Legislation to Reduce the Federal Income Tax, but Increase Taxes on Fossil Fuels



Would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate who supports legislation to reduce the federal income tax that Americans pay each year, but increase taxes on coal, oil, and natural gas by an equal amount? This tax shift would be "revenue neutral" (meaning the total amount of taxes collected by the government would stay the same), and would create jobs and decrease pollution.

March 2012	
Much more likely	27
Somewhat more likely	34
It would make no difference in my vote	20
Somewhat less likely	11
Much less likely	9

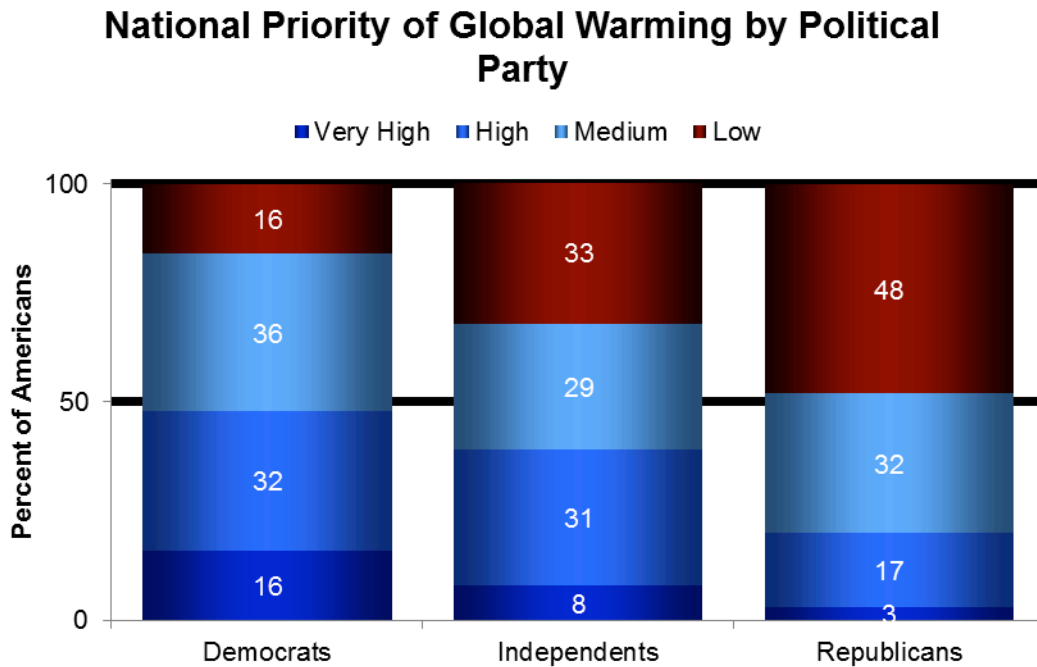
The sample was randomly split in half, with half of respondents assigned to answer the following question (n=436):

If the 2012 presidential election were being held today, who would you vote for?

March 2012	
Barack Obama	54
Mitt Romney	46

Policy Support by Political Party

Registered Voters

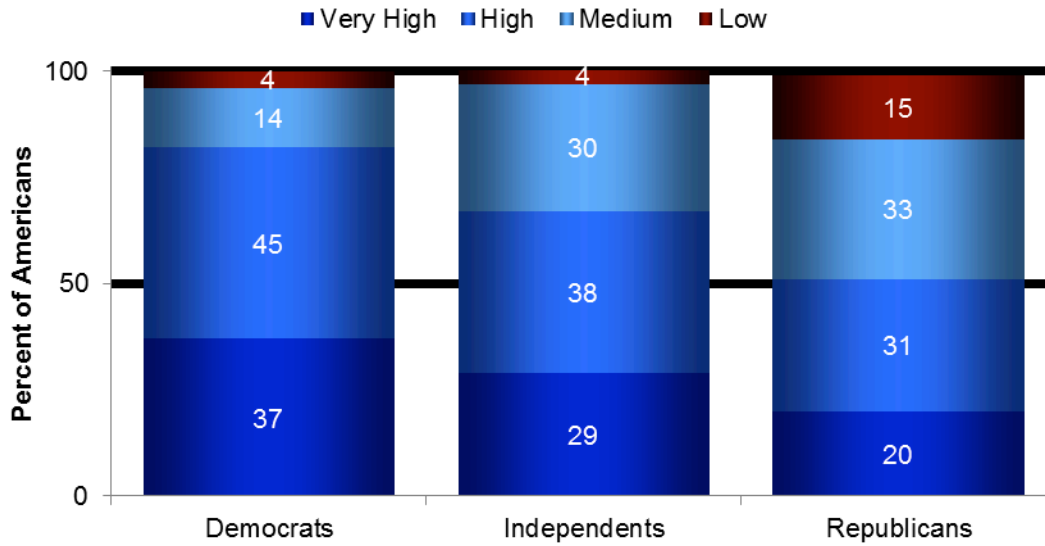


Do you think global warming should be a low, medium, high, or very high priority for the president and Congress?

	Nat'l Avg ⁴	Dem	Ind	Rep	N/P
Very High	11	16	8	3	23
High	27	32	31	17	28
Medium	32	36	29	32	32
Low	30	16	33	48	17

⁴ National average of registered voters. N/P refers to respondents with No Party preference.

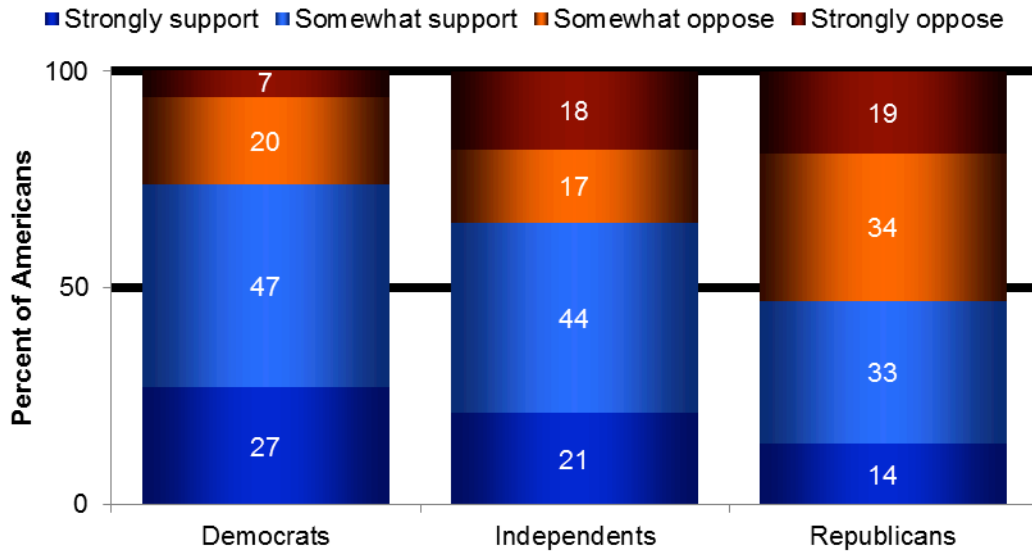
National Priority of Clean Energy by Political Party



Do you think that developing sources of clean energy should be a low, medium, high, or very high priority for the president and Congress?

	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep	N/P
Very High	31	37	29	20	35
High	38	45	38	31	37
Medium	24	14	30	33	23
Low	8	4	4	15	6

Require Utilities to Produce 20% Renewable Energy by Political Party



How much do you support or oppose requiring electric utilities to produce at least 20% of their electricity from wind, solar, or other renewable energy sources, even if it cost the average household an extra \$100 a year?

	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep	N/P
Strongly support	21	27	21	14	17
Somewhat support	42	47	44	33	52
Somewhat oppose	23	20	17	34	20
Strongly oppose	14	7	18	19	11

How much do you support or oppose signing an international treaty that requires the United States to cut its emissions of carbon dioxide 90% by the year 2050?

	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep	N/P
Strongly support	18	25	18	10	19
Somewhat support	45	53	46	32	53
Somewhat oppose	20	15	15	32	19
Strongly oppose	17	7	22	26	8

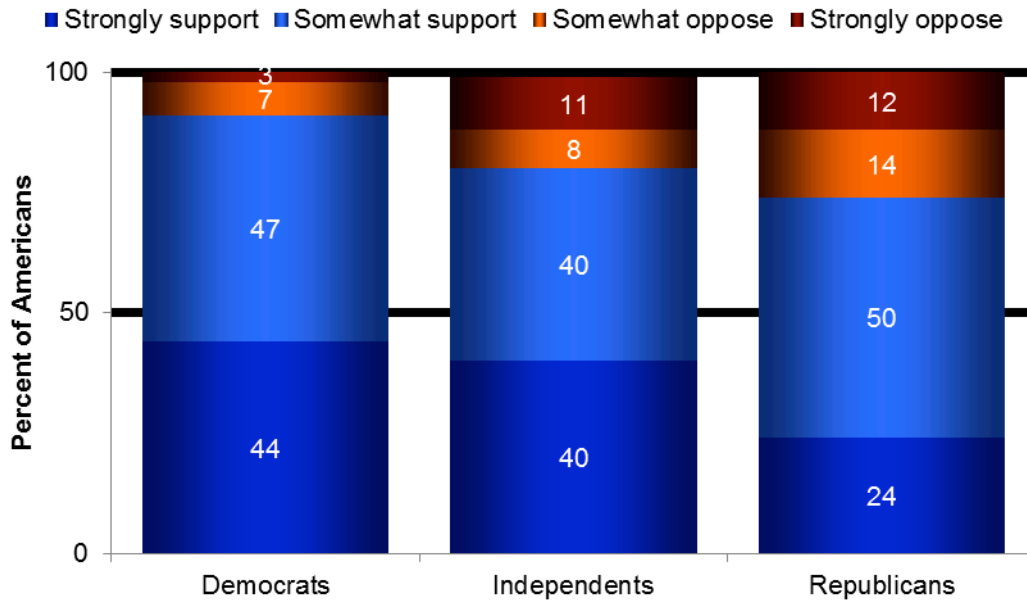
How much do you support or oppose expanding offshore drilling for oil and natural gas off the U.S. coast?

	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep	N/P
Strongly support	27	15	29	42	13
Somewhat support	38	38	31	47	43
Somewhat oppose	22	27	27	9	24
Strongly oppose	13	20	13	2	20

How much do you support or oppose building more nuclear power plants?

	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep	N/P
Strongly support	14	9	19	19	6
Somewhat support	29	28	29	34	21
Somewhat oppose	38	44	30	37	50
Strongly oppose	19	19	23	11	24

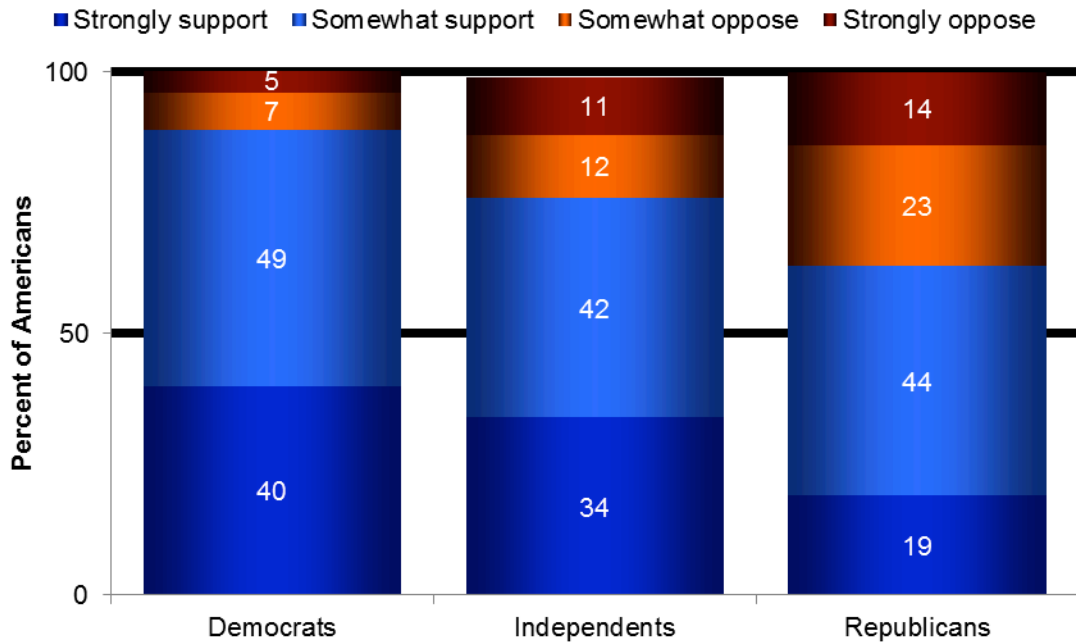
Renewable Energy Research by Political Party



How much do you support or oppose funding more research into renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power?

	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep	N/P
Strongly support	37	44	40	24	34
Somewhat support	45	47	40	50	41
Somewhat oppose	10	7	8	14	16
Strongly oppose	9	3	11	12	10

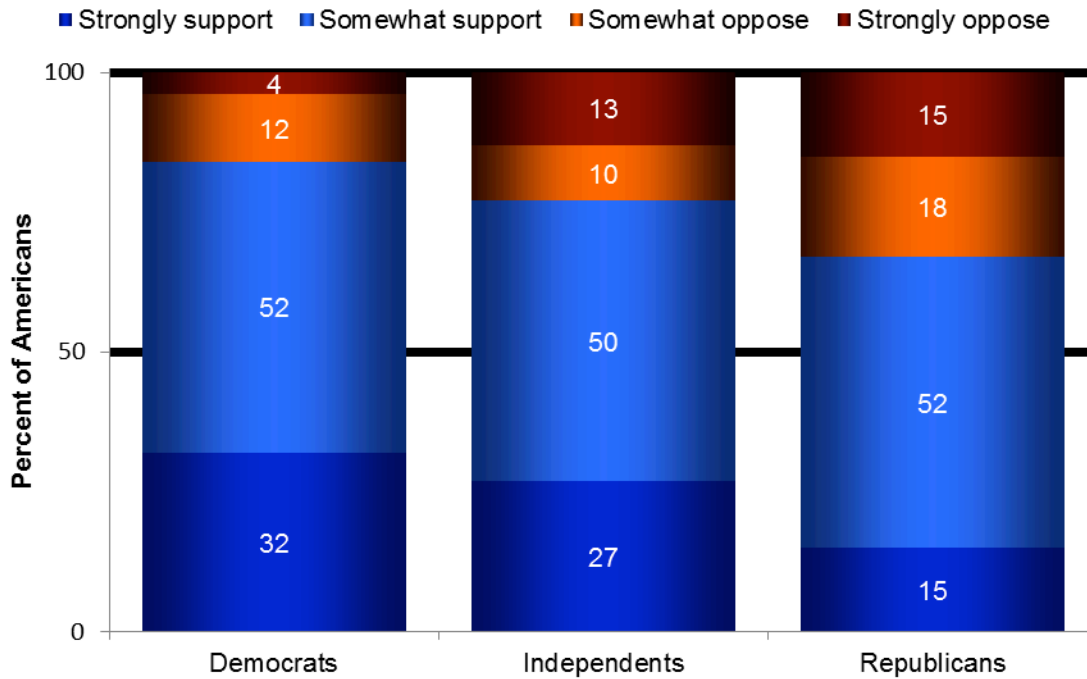
Tax Rebates for EE Vehicles and Solar Panels by Political Party



How much do you support or oppose providing tax rebates for people who purchase energy-efficient vehicles or solar panels?

	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep	N/P
Strongly support	32	40	34	19	26
Somewhat support	45	49	42	44	50
Somewhat oppose	13	7	12	23	15
Strongly oppose	10	5	11	14	8

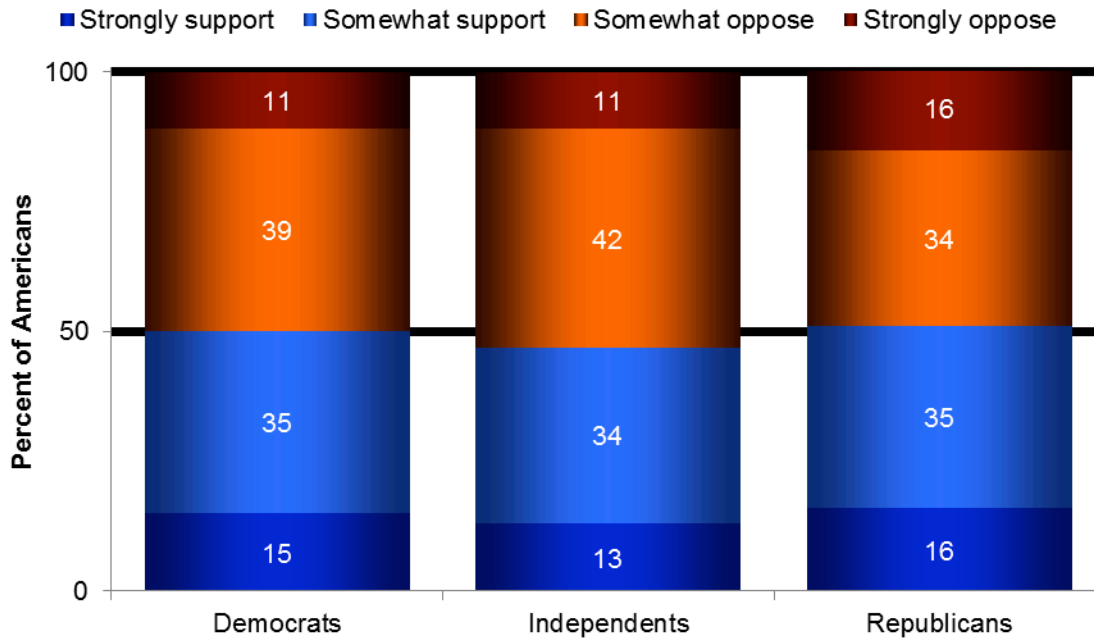
Regulating Carbon Dioxide as a Pollutant by Political Party



How much do you support or oppose regulating carbon dioxide (the primary greenhouse gas) as a pollutant?

	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep	N/P
Strongly support	26	32	27	15	31
Somewhat support	50	52	50	52	47
Somewhat oppose	14	12	10	18	16
Strongly oppose	10	4	13	15	7

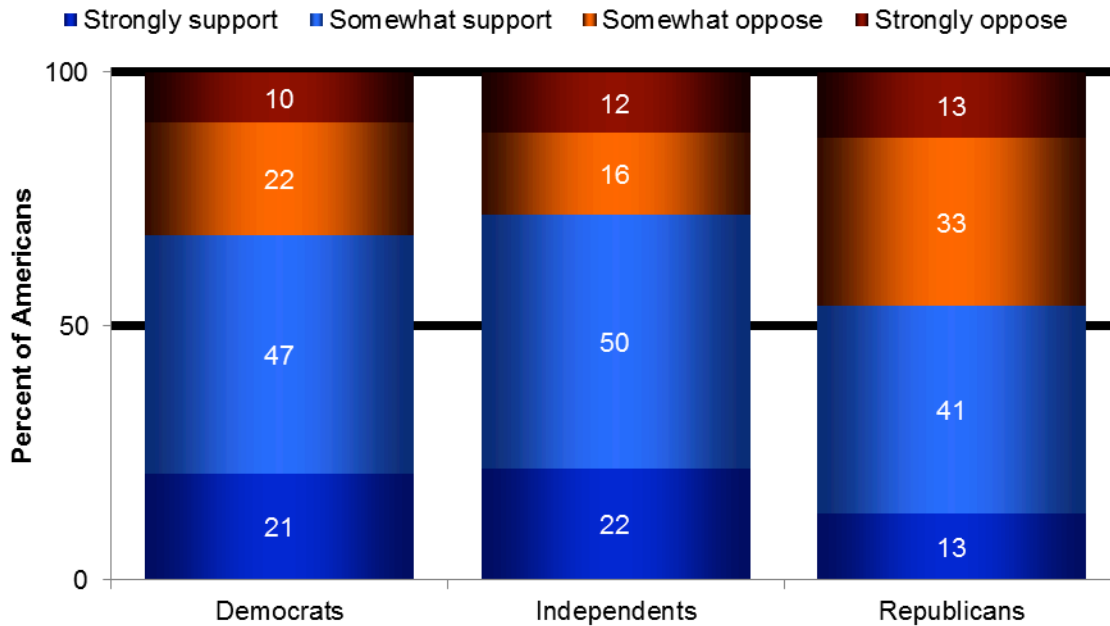
Eliminate all Federal Subsidies from all forms of Energy Production by Political Party



How much do you support or oppose eliminating all federal subsidies from all forms of energy production -- including oil, gas, coal, nuclear, corn ethanol, solar, and wind?

	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep	N/P
Strongly support	15	15	13	16	8
Somewhat support	34	35	34	35	39
Somewhat oppose	39	39	42	34	43
Strongly oppose	12	11	11	16	10

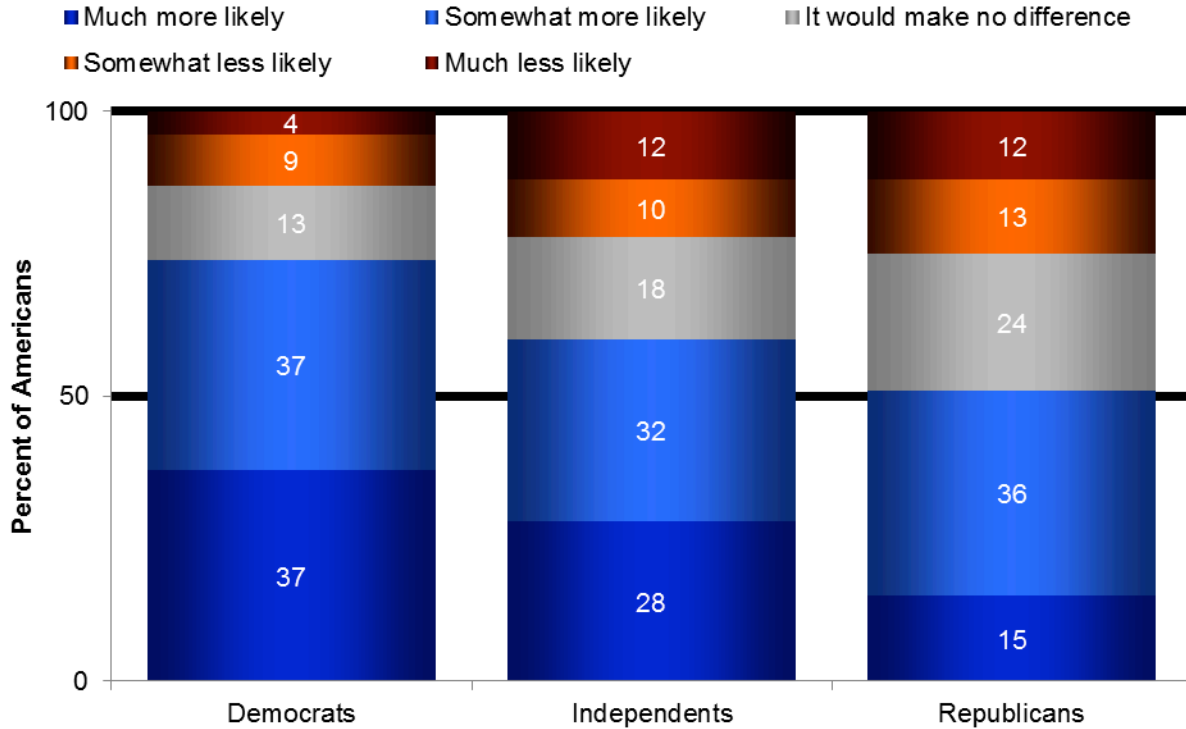
Holding the Fossil Fuel Industry Responsible for All Hidden Costs by Political Party



Some people say that burning fossil fuels seems cheap until you include all the “hidden costs” we pay for citizens who get sick from polluted air and water, military costs to maintain our access to foreign oil, and the environmental costs of spills and accidents. How much do you support or oppose holding the fossil fuel industry (coal, oil, and natural gas) responsible for all the hidden costs of their products?

	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep	N/P
Strongly support	19	21	22	13	21
Somewhat support	44	47	50	41	33
Somewhat oppose	26	22	16	33	41
Strongly oppose	11	10	12	13	4

Vote for a Candidate Who Supports Legislation to Reduce the Federal Income Tax, but Increase Taxes on Fossil Fuels by Political Party



Would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate who supports legislation to reduce the federal income tax that Americans pay each year, but increase taxes on coal, oil, and natural gas by an equal amount? This tax shift would be "revenue neutral" (meaning the total amount of taxes collected by the government would stay the same), and would create jobs and decrease pollution.

	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep	N/P
Much more likely	28	37	28	15	31
Somewhat more likely	33	37	32	36	21
It would make no difference in my vote	20	13	18	24	31
Somewhat less likely	10	9	10	13	12
Much less likely	9	4	12	12	5

Have you heard anything in the news about the proposed Keystone XL pipeline that would transport crude oil from the Canada tar sands to Texas?

	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep	N/P
Yes	56	48	69	66	17
No	35	43	22	26	62
I don't know	9	8	9	8	21

Respondents who said they had heard about the Keystone XL pipeline were then asked...

How closely have you followed the news stories about the Keystone XL pipeline?

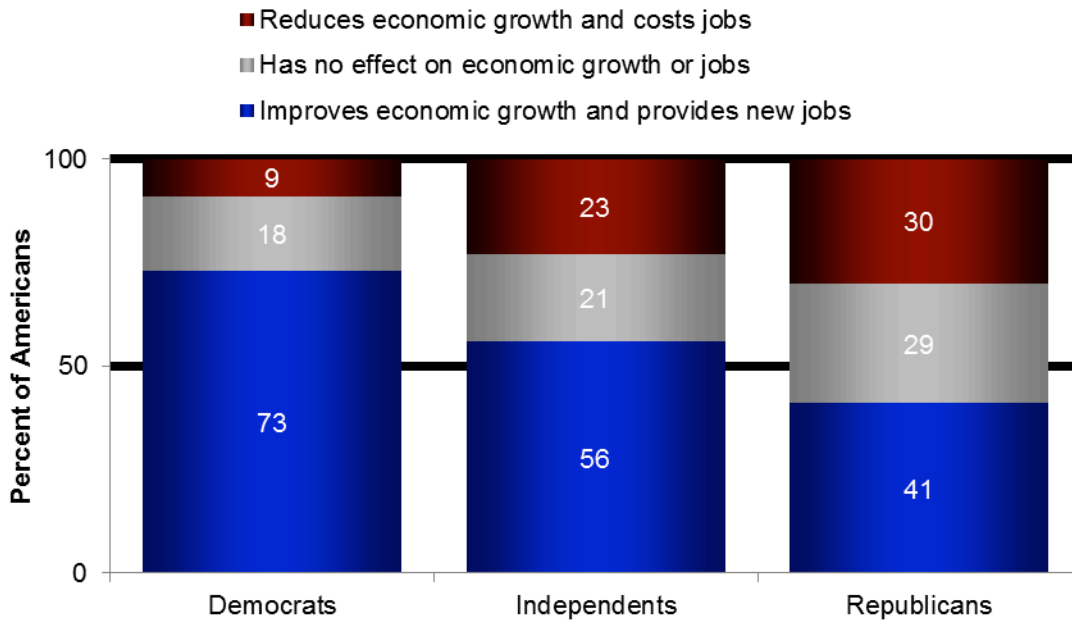
	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep
Very closely	18	14	22	18
Somewhat closely	30	29	28	33
A little	42	47	44	37
Not at all	10	10	7	11
<i>Number of respondents</i>	440⁵	<i>143</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>123</i>

How much do you support or oppose the building of the Keystone XL pipeline?

	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep
Strongly support	36	18	35	56
Somewhat support	32	32	33	31
Somewhat oppose	18	28	20	6
Strongly oppose	14	22	13	7
<i>Number of respondents</i>	438	<i>142</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>121</i>

⁵ N/P responses are not reported due to their small sample size.

Impact of Environmental Protection on Economic Growth by Political Party



Overall, do you think that protecting the environment:

	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep	N/P
Improves economic growth and provides new jobs	60	73	56	41	61
Has no effect on economic growth or jobs	23	18	21	29	33
Reduces economic growth and costs jobs	18	9	23	30	6

When there is a conflict between environmental protection and economic growth, which do you think is more important?

	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep	N/P
Protecting the environment, even if it reduces economic growth	62	72	63	45	67
Economic growth, even if it leads to environmental problems	38	28	37	55	33

How important will a candidate's views on global warming be in determining your vote for President this year? Will it be the single most important issue, one of several important issues, or not important in determining your vote?

	Nat'l Avg	Dem	Ind	Rep	N/P
The single most important issue	2	3	2	2	0
One of several important issues	53	60	57	41	53
Not an important issue	45	37	42	57	47

Registered Voters: Political Party

Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a...

	Percent	Sample size
Democrat	38	298
Independent	26	207
Republican	23	186
Other ⁶	4	33
No party/not interested in politics ⁷	9	71
Total	100	795

⁶ "Other" responses are not reported due to their small sample size.

⁷ Labeled "N/P" above.

Methodology

These results come from nationally representative surveys of American adults, aged 18 and older. The samples were weighted to correspond with US Census Bureau parameters for the United States. The surveys were designed by Anthony Leiserowitz of Yale University and Edward Maibach and Connie Roser-Renouf of George Mason University and conducted by Knowledge Networks, using an online research panel of American adults.

- March 2012: Fielded March 12 through March 30, 2012 with 1,008 American adults. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percent, with 95 percent confidence.
- November 2011: Fielded October 20 through November 16 with 1,000 American adults. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percent, with 95 percent confidence.
- May 2011: Fielded April 23 through May 12 with 1,010 American adults. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percent, with 95 percent confidence.
- June 2010: Fielded May 14 through June 1 with 1,024 American adults. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percent, with 95 percent confidence.
- January 2010: Fielded December 24, 2009 through January 3, 2010 with 1,001 American adults. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percent, with 95 percent confidence.
- November 2008: Fielded October 7 through November 12 with 2,164 American adults. Data was collected in two waves: wave 1 from October 7 through October 20 and wave 2 from October 24 through November 12. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 2 percent, with 95 percent confidence.

