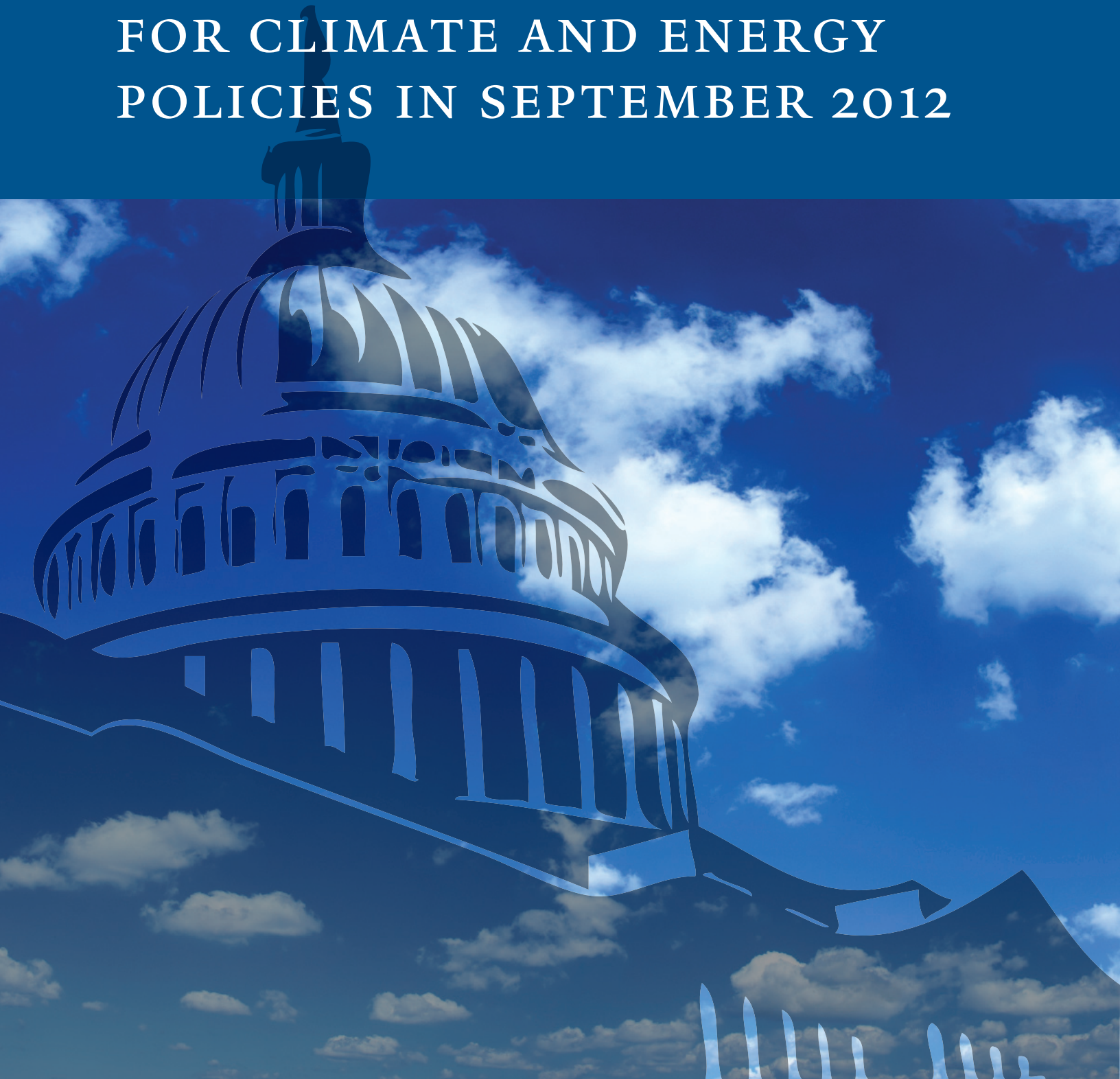


PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR CLIMATE AND ENERGY POLICIES IN SEPTEMBER 2012



This report is based on findings from a nationally representative survey – *Climate Change in the American Mind* – conducted by the Yale Project on Climate Change Communication and the George Mason University Center for Climate Change Communication. Interview dates: August 31, 2012 – September 12, 2012. Interviews: 1,061 Adults (18+). Total average margin of error: +/- 3 percentage points at the 95% confidence level. The study was funded by the Surdna Foundation, the 11th Hour Project, the Grantham Foundation, and the V.K. Rasmussen Foundation.

Principal Investigators:

Anthony Leiserowitz, PhD
Yale Project on Climate Change Communication
School of Forestry & Environmental Studies
Yale University
(203) 432-4865
anthony.leiserowitz@yale.edu

Edward Maibach, MPH, PhD
Center for Climate Change Communication
Department of Communication
George Mason University
(703) 993-1587
emaibach@gmu.edu

Connie Roser-Renouf, PhD
Center for Climate Change Communication
Department of Communication
George Mason University
croserre@gmu.edu

Geoff Feinberg
Yale Project on Climate Change Communication
School of Forestry & Environmental Studies
Yale University
(203) 432-7438
geoffrey.feinberg@yale.edu

Peter Howe, PhD
Yale Project on Climate Change Communication
School of Forestry & Environmental Studies
Yale University
peter.howe@yale.edu

Cite as: Leiserowitz, A., Maibach, E., Roser-Renouf, C., Feinberg, G., & Howe, P. (2012) *Public support for climate and energy policies in September, 2012*. Yale University and George Mason University. New Haven, CT: Yale Project on Climate Change Communication.
<http://environment.yale.edu/climate/publications/Policy-Support-September-2012/>

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Executive Summary

- Nearly all Americans (92%) say the president and the Congress should make developing sources of clean energy a “very high” (31%), “high” (38%), or “medium” priority (23%). Very few say it should be a low priority (8%).
- A large majority (77%) say global warming should be a “very high” (18%), “high” (25%), or “medium” priority (34%) for the president and Congress. One in four (23%) say it should be a low priority.
- Six in ten Americans (61%) say the U.S. should reduce its own greenhouse gas emissions regardless of what other countries do.
- A large majority of Americans (88%) say the U.S. should make an effort to reduce global warming, even if it has economic costs. A plurality (44%) favors a medium-scale effort, even if it has moderate economic costs. One in four (24%) supports a large-scale effort even if there are large economic costs. And one in five (19%) supports a small-scale effort, even if it has small economic costs.
- Americans say that corporations and industry (71%), citizens themselves (66%), the U.S. Congress (60%), and the President (53%) should be doing more to address global warming.
- Majorities also support funding more research into renewable energy sources (73%), providing tax rebates for people who purchase energy-efficient vehicles or solar panels (73%), regulating CO₂ as a pollutant (66%), eliminating all subsidies for the fossil-fuel industry (59%), and expanding drilling for oil and natural gas off the U.S. coast (58%)
- These policies, however, have seen declining support over the past several years. Since 2008, support for funding research on renewable energy sources is down 19 percentage points, expanding offshore drilling is down 17 points, regulating CO₂ as a pollutant is down 14 points, and tax rebates for the purchase of energy-efficient vehicles or solar panels is down 12 points.
- Eight in ten (78%) say that in the future, the United States should use renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and geothermal much more or somewhat more than we do today.
- Over half (54%) also say that in the future, the U.S. should use much less (26%) or somewhat less (28%) fossil fuels than we do today.
- At least half of Americans say they would vote for a candidate who supports a revenue neutral carbon tax, if it created more American jobs in the renewable energy and energy efficiency industries (61% would support such a candidate), decreased pollution by encouraging companies to find less polluting alternatives (58%), or was used to pay down the national debt (52%).

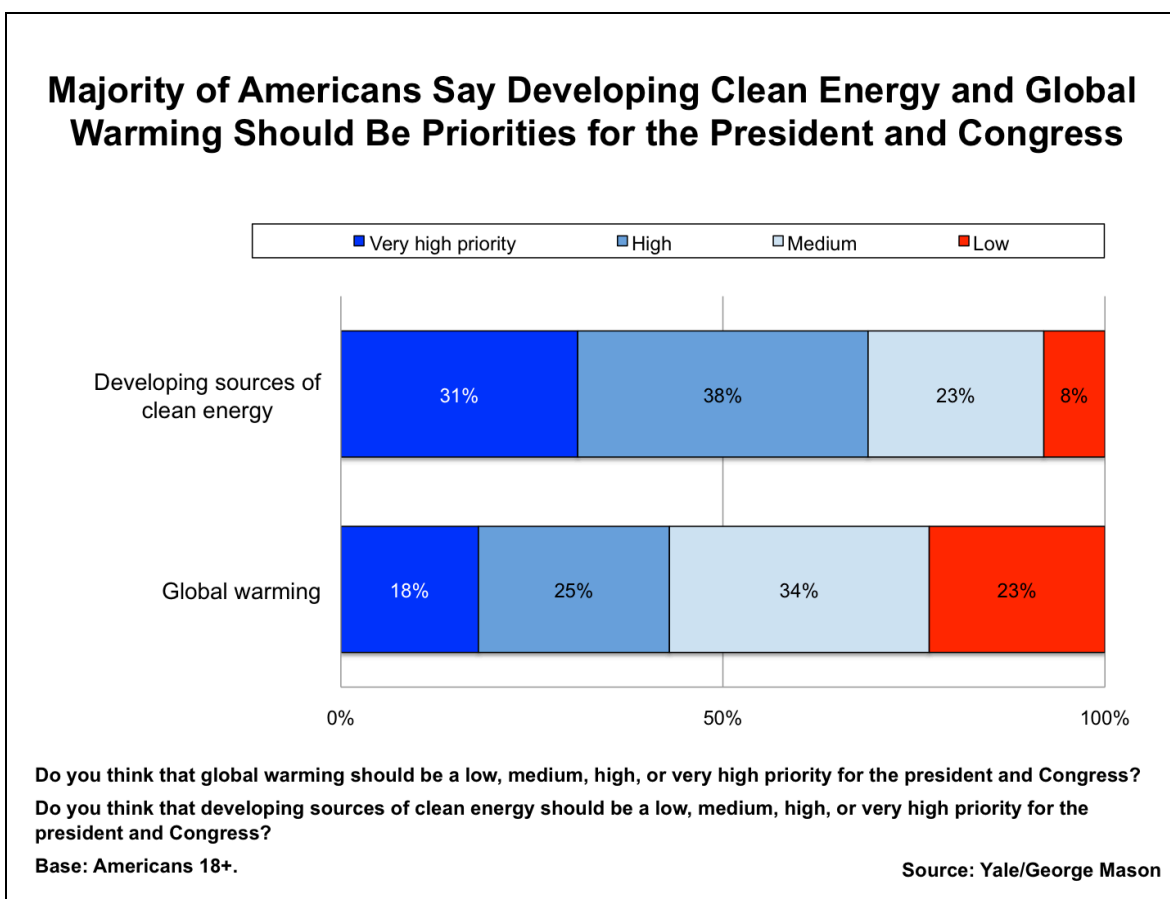
- Asked who has influence on elected officials' decisions about global warming, Americans think the big players are large campaign contributors (50% say they have “a lot” of influence) and fossil-fuel companies (42%). Fewer think renewable energy companies (23%), environmentalists (22%), or climate scientists (20%) have a lot of influence on elected officials.
- Large majorities of Democrats (81%) and Independents (77%) say the president and Congress should make the development of clean energy sources a high or very high priority; nearly half of Republicans agree (46%).
- Most Democrats (61%) and Independents (61%) say the United States should use less fossil fuel in the future. By contrast, only 38 percent of Republicans say the United States should use less fossil fuel in the future.
- Democrats are more likely to “strongly support” funding more research into renewables (41%), offering tax rebates to those who purchase energy-efficient vehicles or solar panels (40%), and regulating carbon dioxide as a pollutant (33%) than Republicans.
- Republicans are most likely to “strongly support” the expansion of drilling off the U.S. coast (41%). Relatively few Democrats (10%) strongly support offshore drilling.
- Across party lines, Democrats (83%), Independents (85%), and Republicans (71%) say the U.S. should use more renewable energy sources (solar, wind, and geothermal) than we do today.

1. Issue Priority for the President and Congress

A majority of Americans say developing sources of clean energy and global warming should be priorities for the president and Congress.

A very large majority of Americans (92%) say the president and the Congress should make developing sources of clean energy a “very high” (31%), “high” (38%), or medium priority (23%). Few say it should be a low priority (8%).

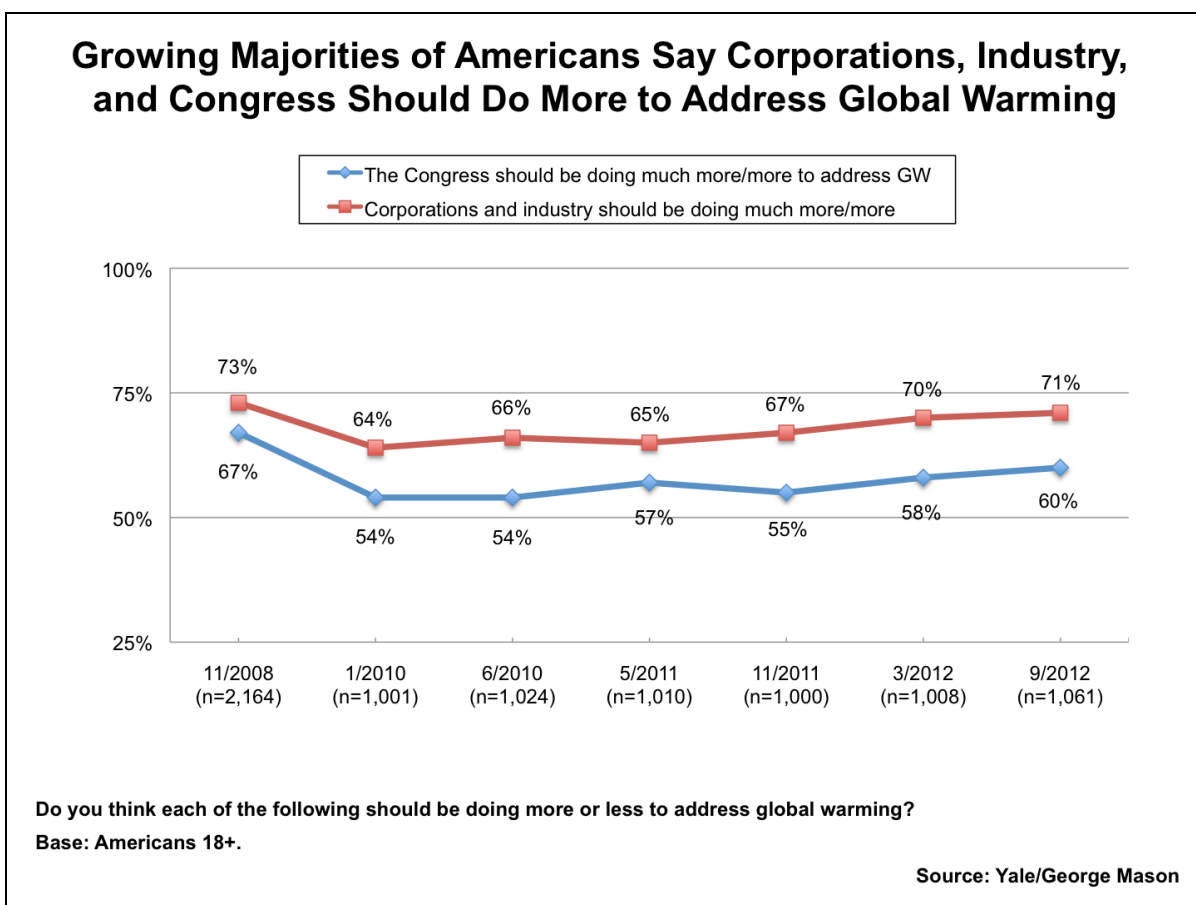
A majority of Americans (77%) say global warming should be a “very high” (18%), “high” (25%), or medium priority (34%) for the president and Congress. One in four (23%) say it should be a low priority.



Trend: Growing majorities of Americans say corporations, industry, and Congress should do more to address global warming.

Since January, 2010, the number of Americans who say corporations and industry should be doing more has increased 7 percentage points, from 64 percent to 71 percent.

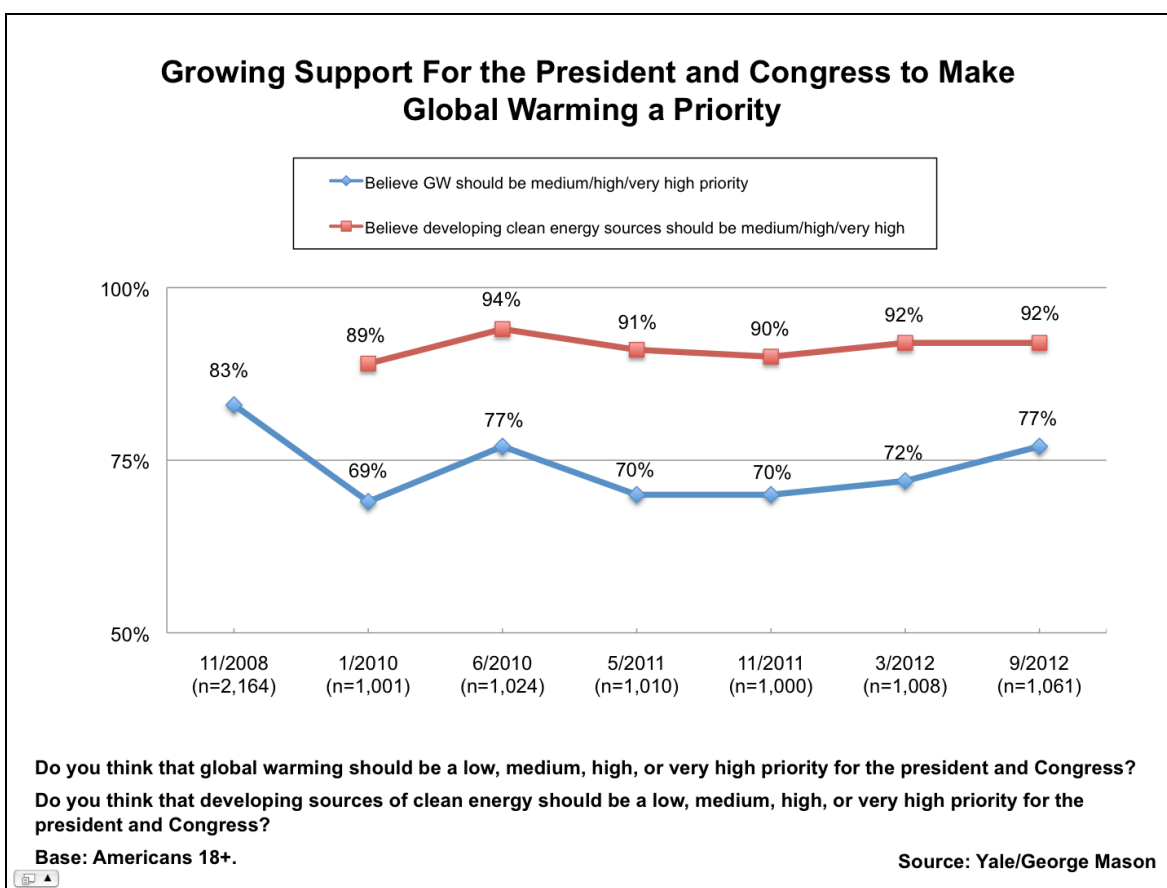
Similarly, in the same time span, more Americans say Congress should do more to address global warming – from 54 percent to 60 percent today.



Trend: Growing support for the president and Congress to make global warming a priority.

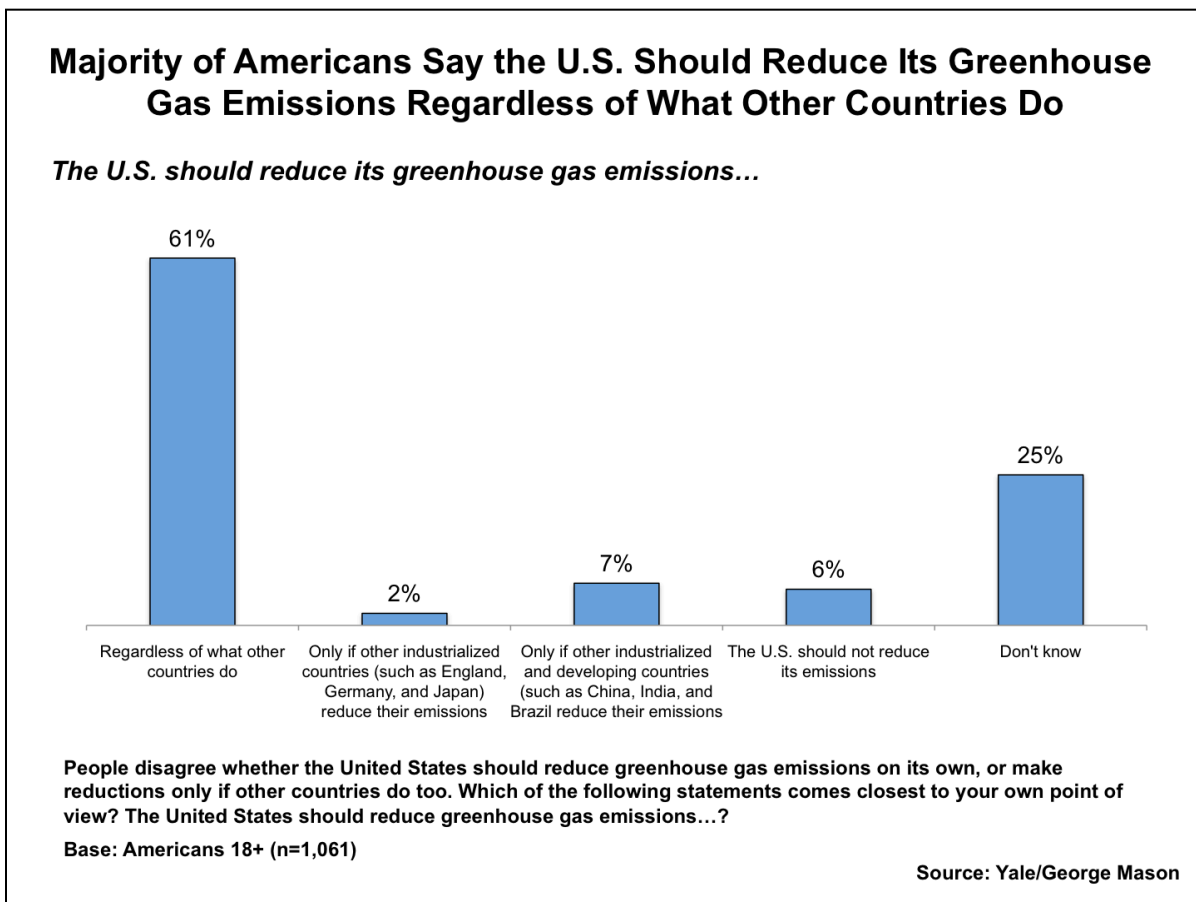
A growing majority of Americans say global warming should be a medium, high, or very high priority for the president and Congress (77% in September 2012, up 5 points since March 2012).

Public support for the development of clean energy has remained high and steady since 2010.



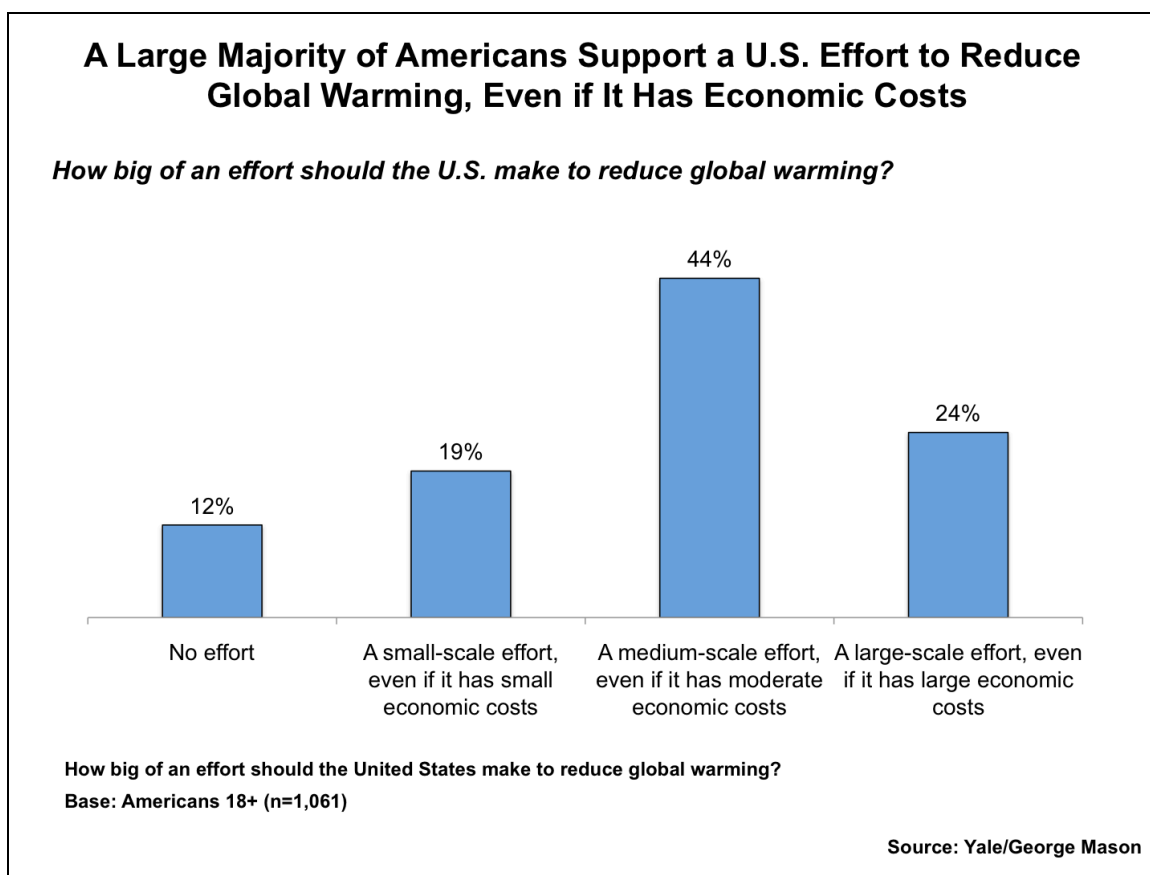
A majority of Americans say the U.S. should reduce its greenhouse gas emissions regardless of what other countries do.

Six in ten Americans (61%) say the U.S. should reduce its own greenhouse gas emissions regardless of what other countries do. Relatively few (9%) say the U.S. should reduce its emissions only if other industrialized and/or developing countries do – and only 6 percent of Americans say the U.S. should *not* reduce its greenhouse gas emissions.



A large majority of Americans support a U.S. effort to reduce global warming, even if it has economic costs.

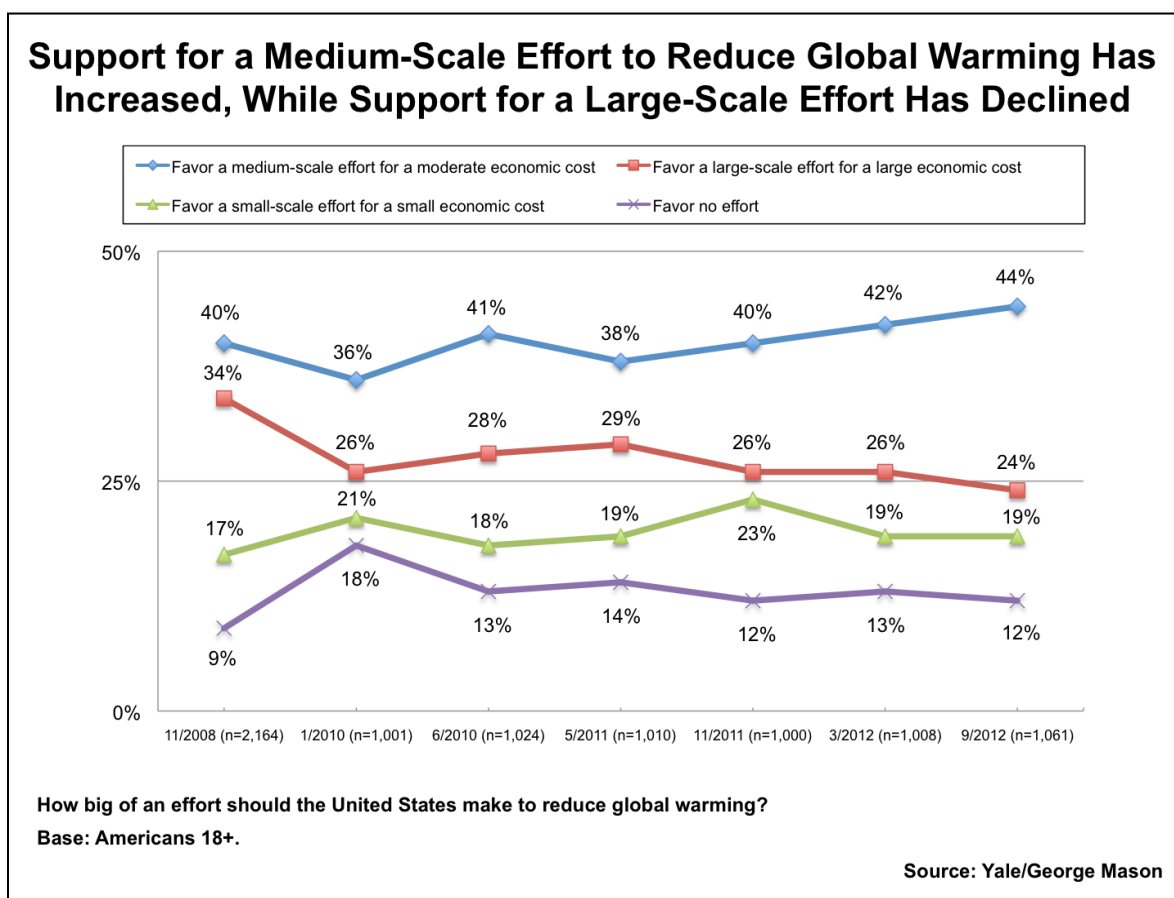
In general, a large majority of Americans (88%) say the U.S. should make an effort to reduce global warming, even if it has economic costs. A plurality (44%) favors a medium-scale effort, even if it has moderate economic costs. One in four (24%) supports a large-scale effort even if there are large economic costs. And one in five (19%) supports a small-scale effort, even if it has small economic costs. Relatively few (12%) say the United States should make no effort to reduce global warming at all. Some of our previous work has tried to assess more precisely how much Americans are willing to pay for specific policies, such as a national renewable portfolio standard (see Aldy, J., Kotchen, M., & Leiserowitz, A., 2012, [Willingness to pay and political support for a U.S. national clean energy standard](#). *Nature Climate Change*)



Trend: Support for a medium-scale effort to reduce global warming has increased, while support for a large-scale effort has declined.

Since 2008, Americans have been most likely to support a medium-scale approach to reducing global warming, with growing support since 2011.

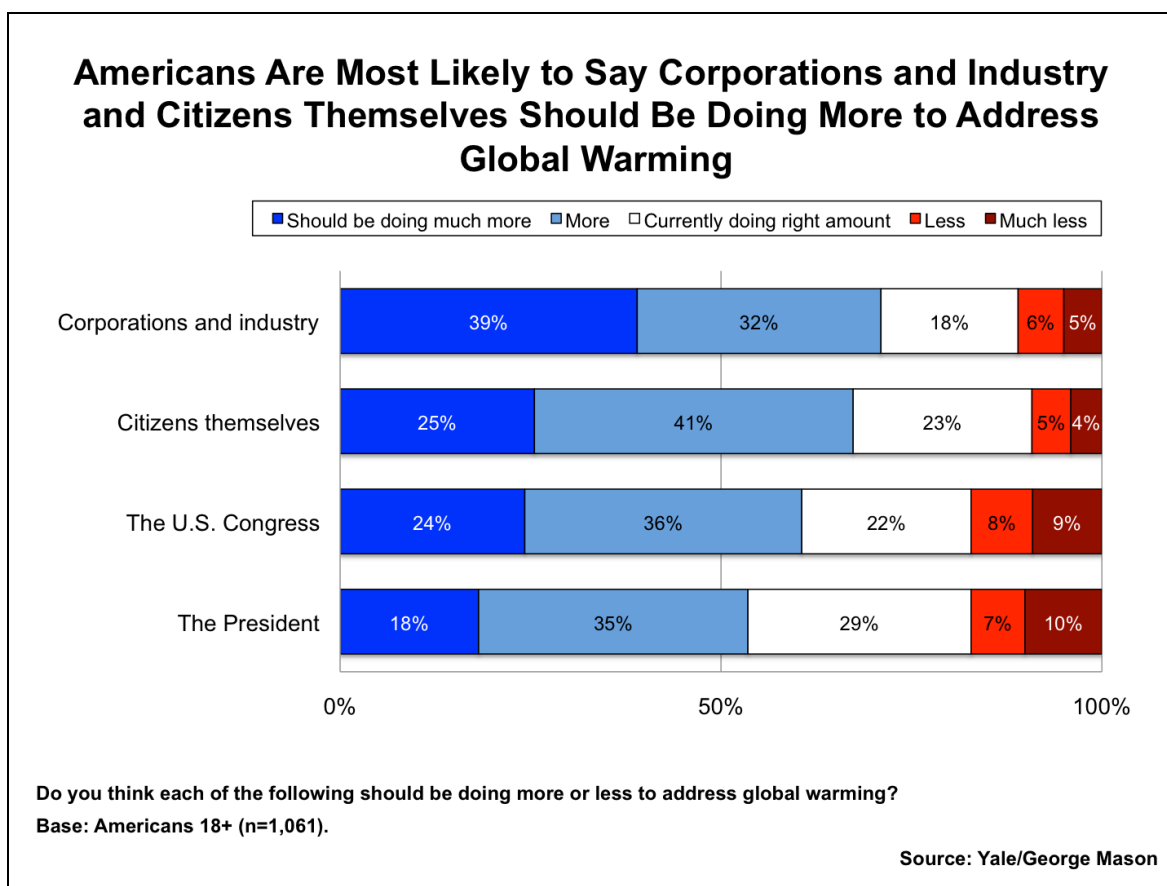
At the same time, public support for a large-scale effort has declined from 2011 to today, from 34 percent to 24 percent respectively.



2. Who Should Act on Global Warming?

Americans are most likely to say corporations and industry and citizens themselves should be doing more to address global warming.

Americans say that corporations and industry (71%), citizens themselves (66%), the U.S. Congress (60%), and the President (53%) should be doing more to address global warming.



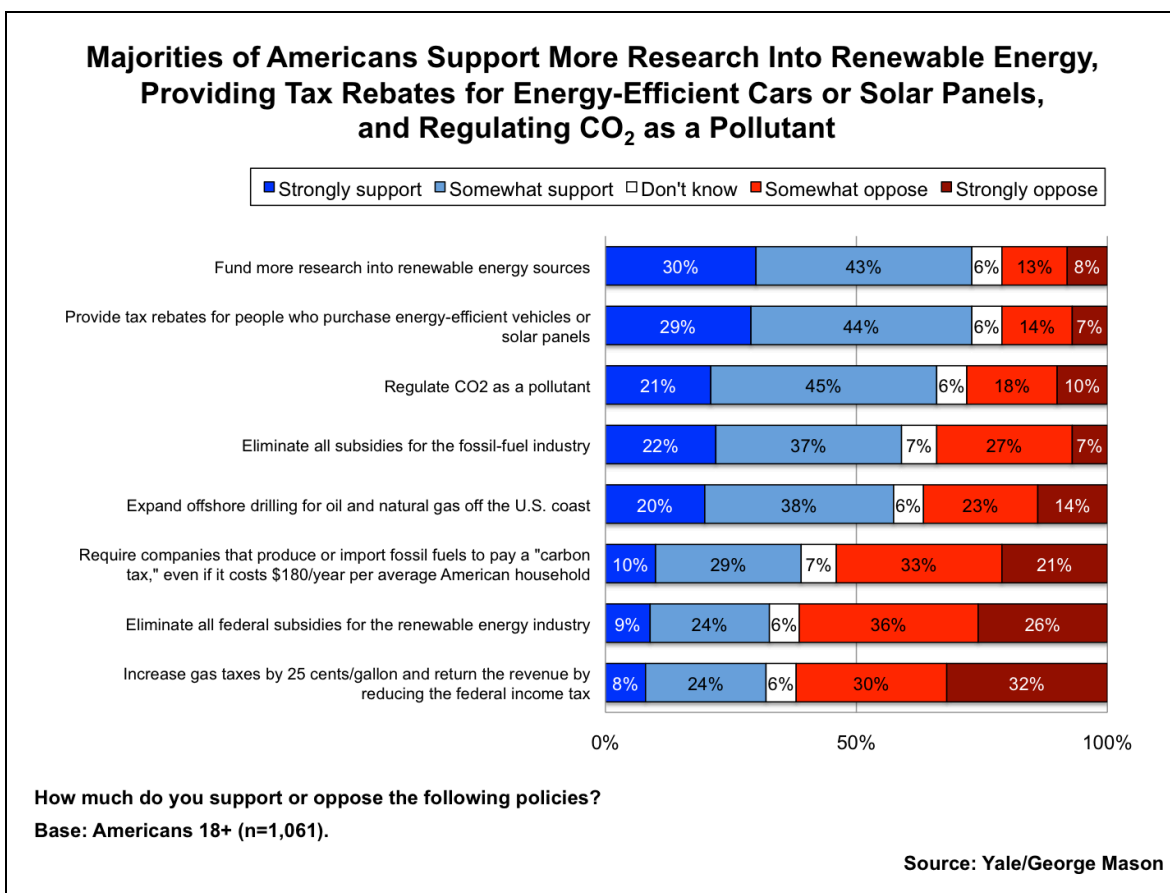
3. Support for National Policies

Majorities of Americans support more research into renewable energy, providing tax rebates for energy-efficient cars or solar panels, and regulating CO₂ as a pollutant.

Majorities of Americans support:

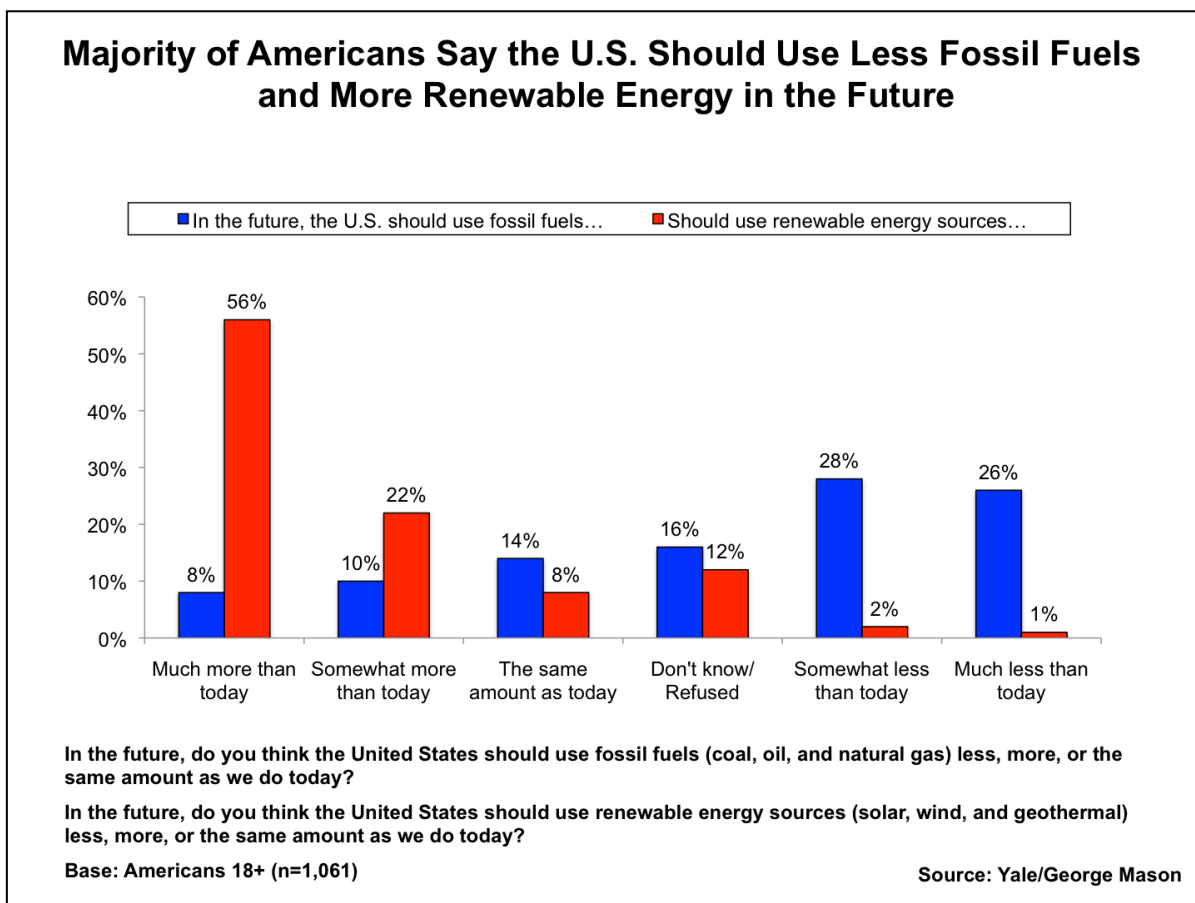
- Funding more research into renewable energy sources (73% support; 30% strongly)
- Providing tax rebates for people who purchase energy-efficient vehicles or solar panels (73% support, 29% strongly)
- Regulating CO₂ as a pollutant (66% support, 21% strongly)
- Eliminating all subsidies for the fossil-fuel industry (59% support, 22% strongly)
- Expanding offshore drilling for oil and natural gas off the U.S. coast (58% support, 20% strongly)

However, majorities of Americans oppose the elimination of federal subsidies for the renewable energy industry (62% oppose, 26% strongly), increasing gas taxes by 25 cents a gallon (even if it is returned by reducing the federal income tax) (62% oppose, 32% strongly), and requiring companies that produce or import fossil fuels to pay a carbon tax that would cost the average American household \$180 a year (54% oppose, 21% strongly).



A large majority of Americans say the United States should use less fossil fuels and more renewable energy in the future.

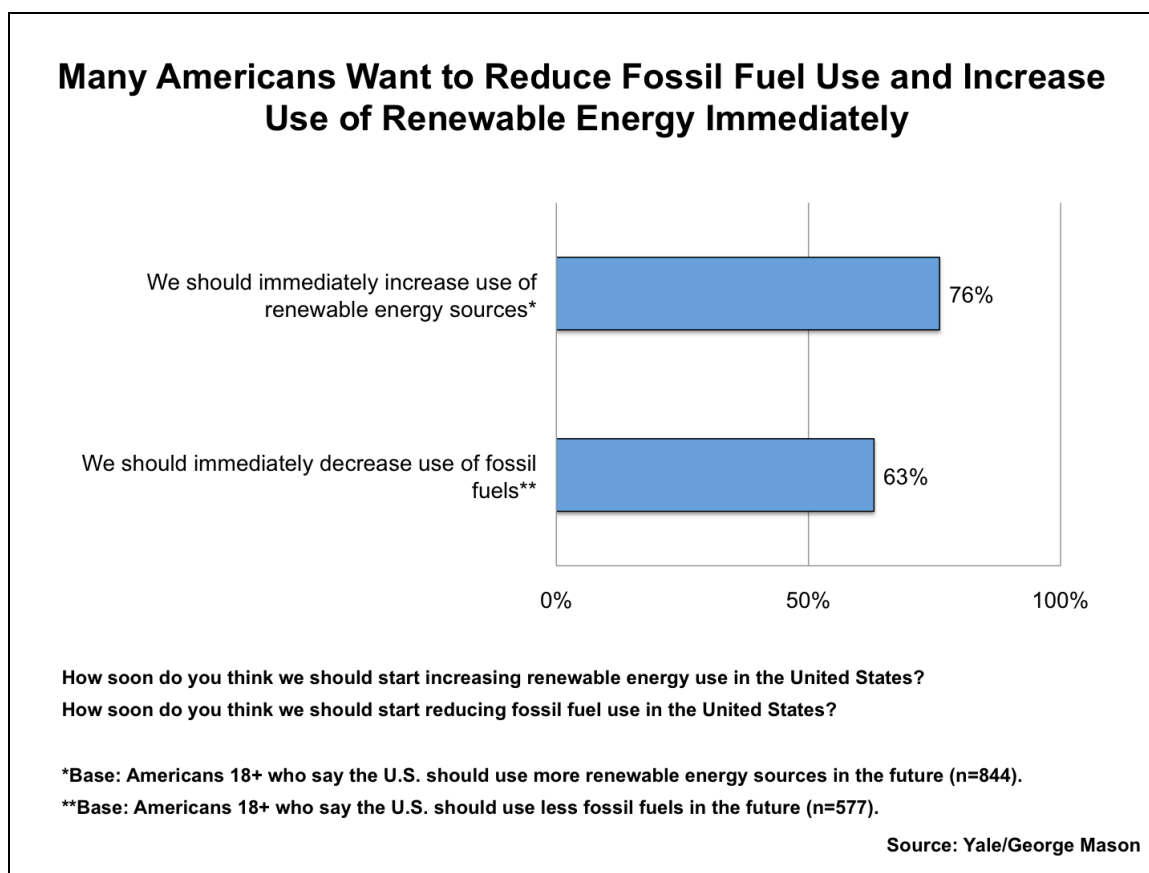
A large majority of Americans (78%) say that in the future, the United States should use renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and geothermal much more (56%) or somewhat more (22%) than we do today. A majority (54%), however, also says that in the future, the U.S. should use much less (26%) or somewhat less (28%) fossil fuels than we do today.



Many Americans want to reduce fossil fuel use and increase the use of renewable energy immediately.

Of those Americans who say the United States should use more renewables in the future, most think we should start increasing renewable energy use in the U.S. immediately (76%).

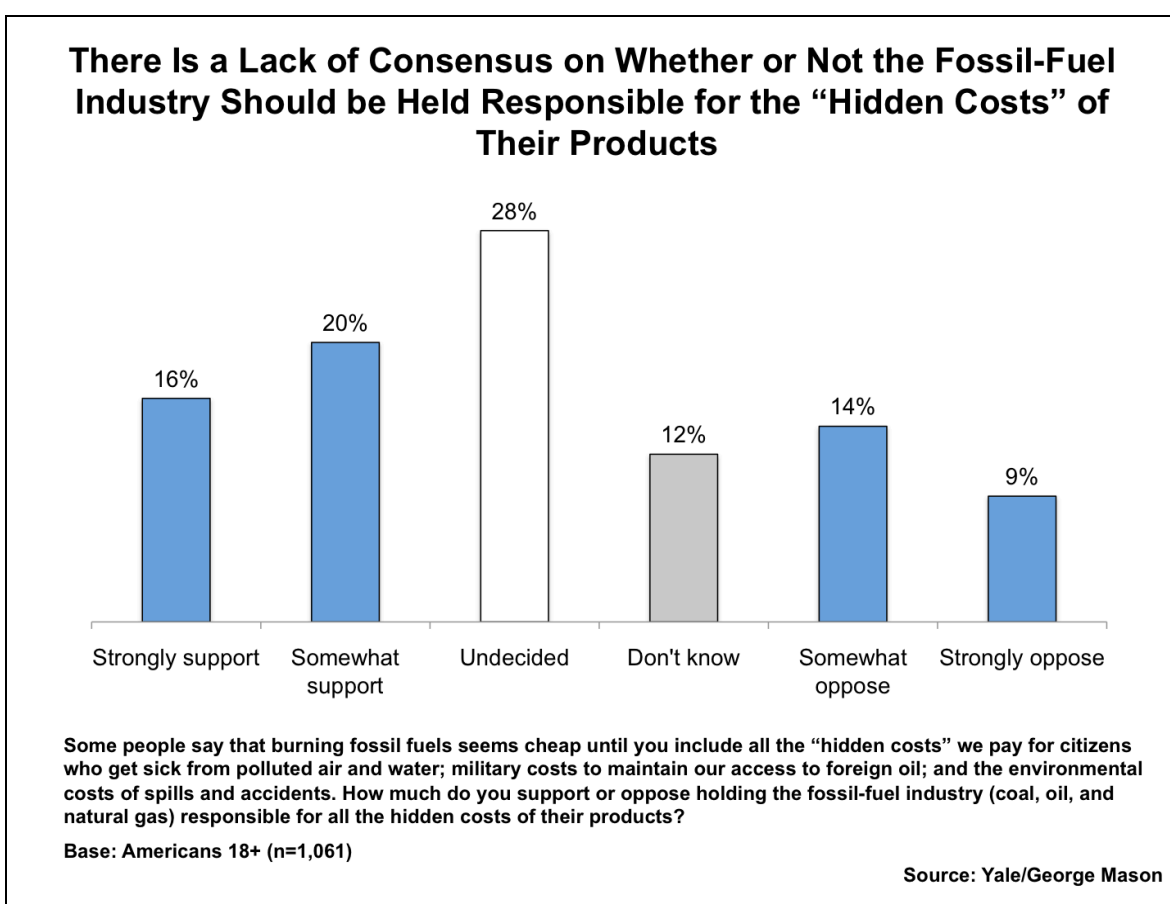
Similarly, of those who say the United States should use fewer fossil fuels in the future, most think we should start decreasing fossil fuel use immediately (63%).



There is a lack of consensus on whether or not the fossil-fuel industry should be held responsible for the “hidden costs” of their products.

Asked whether or not fossil-fuel companies should be held responsible for the “hidden costs” of their products – including the costs 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 – Americans are either unsure or divided.

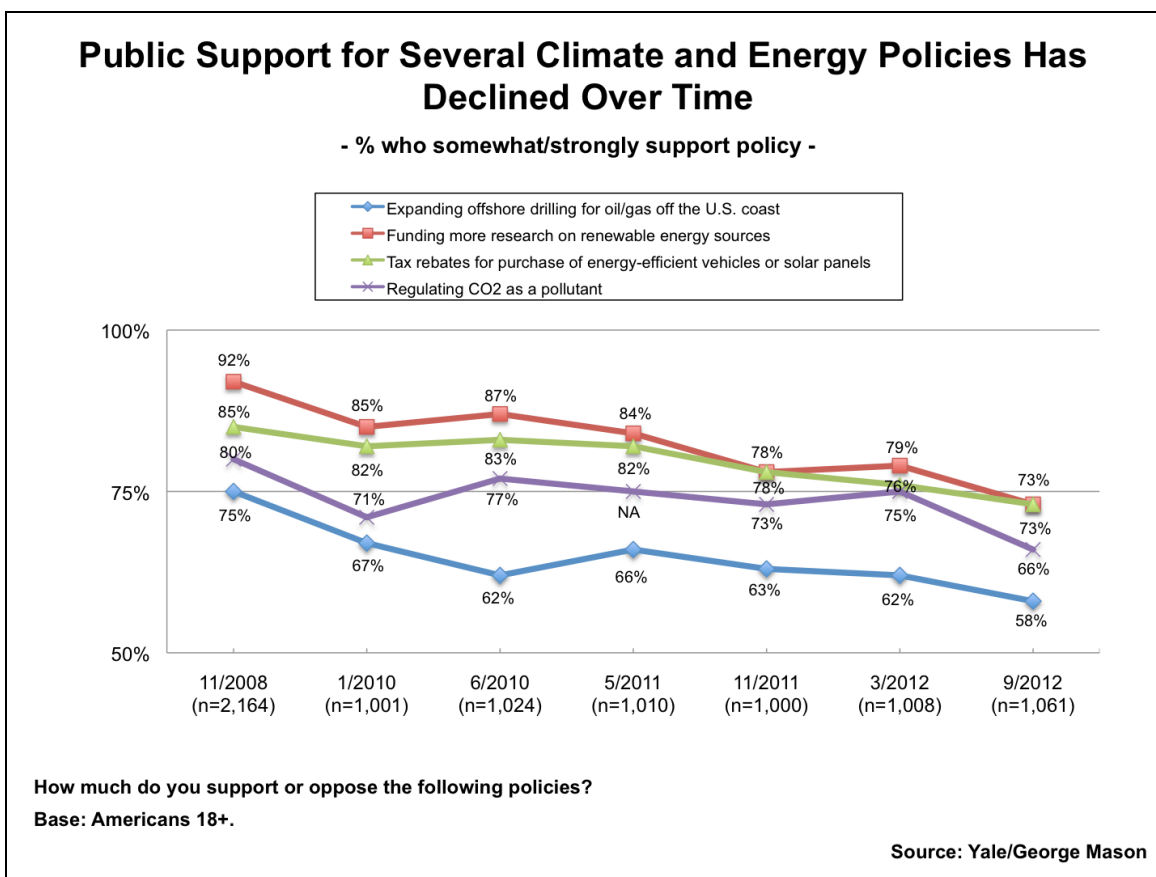
About one in three (36%) supports holding the fossil fuel industry (coal, oil, and natural gas) responsible for all the hidden costs of their products, while 23 percent oppose the idea. 40 percent say they are undecided or don’t know.



Public support for several climate and energy policies has declined over time.

Though majorities of Americans still support these policies, each of the following have lost some public support since 2008:

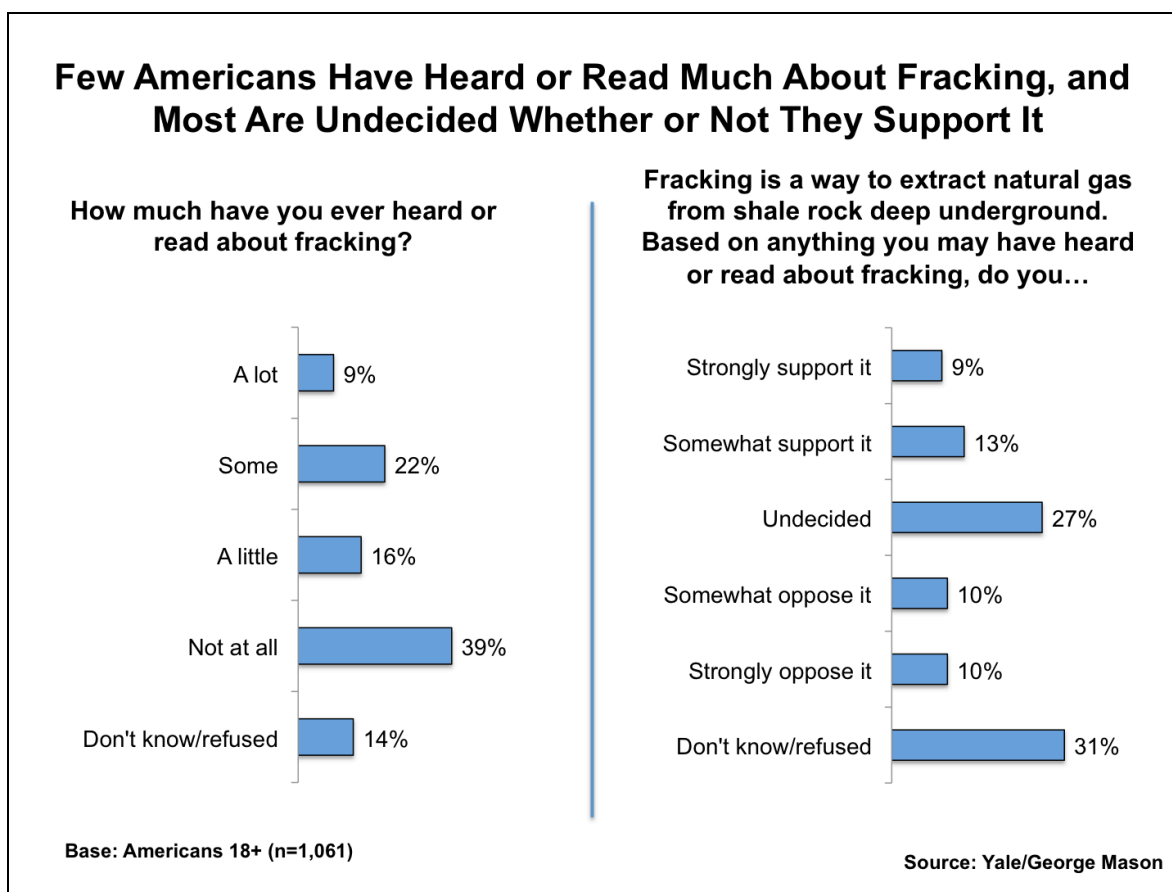
- Funding research on renewable energy sources (down 19 percentage points)
- Expanding offshore drilling (down 17 points)
- Regulating CO₂ as a pollutant (down 14 points)
- Tax rebates for the purchase of energy-efficient vehicles or solar panels (down 12 points)



Few Americans have heard or read much about fracking, and most are undecided whether or not they support it.

Most Americans are unfamiliar with the concept of “fracking.” Only 9 percent say they have heard or read “a lot” about fracking, while 22 percent and 16 percent say they have heard or read “some” or “a little” about it, respectively. Meanwhile a majority of Americans (53%) say they have never heard or read about fracking (39%) or don’t know (14%).

When provided a simple definition – “a way to extract natural gas from shale rock deep underground” – and then asked if they support or oppose the practice, Americans are either undecided or divided: 22 percent support fracking while 20 percent oppose it. A majority (58%) says they are either undecided (27%) or “don’t know” (31%).

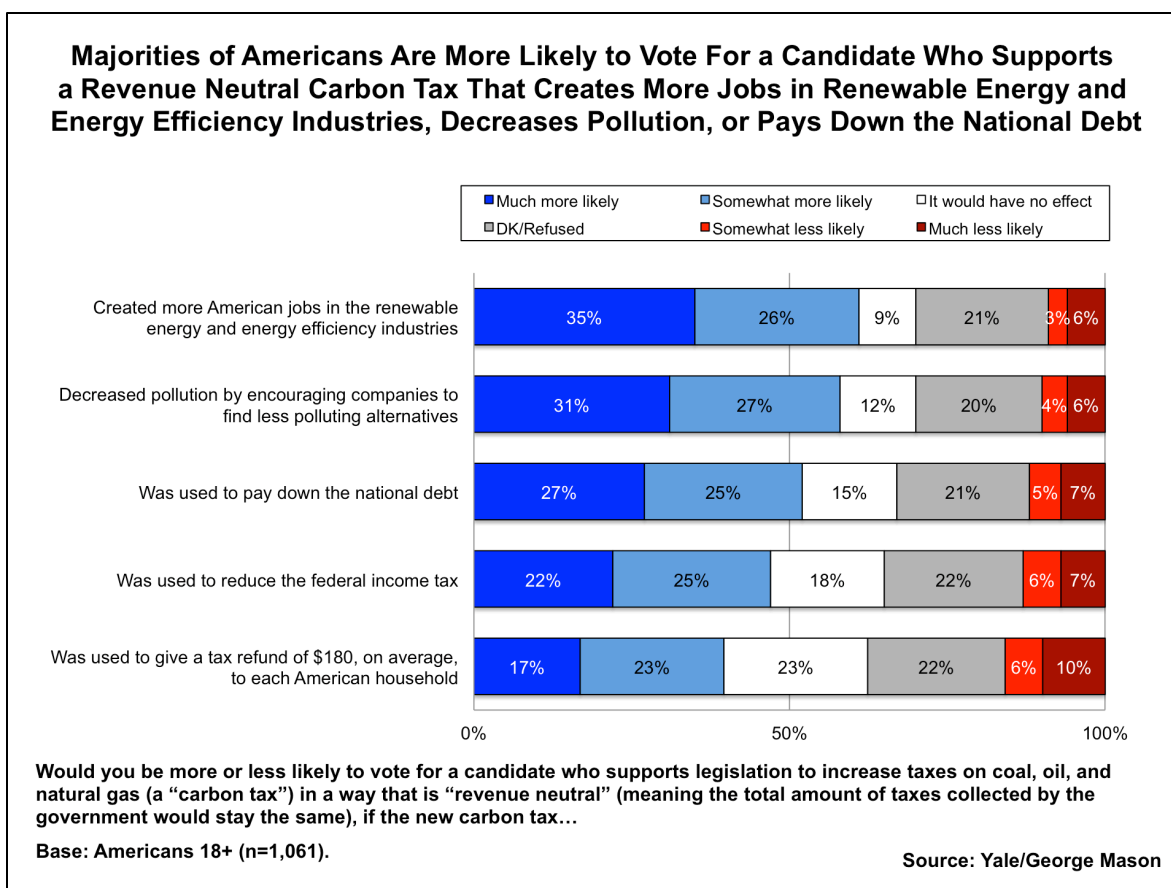


4. Willingness to Vote for a Candidate Who Supports a Revenue Neutral Carbon Tax

Majorities of Americans are more likely to vote for a candidate who supports a revenue neutral carbon tax that creates more jobs in renewable energy and energy efficiency industries, decreases pollution, or pays down the national debt.

Majorities of Americans say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supports a revenue neutral carbon tax that creates more American jobs in the renewable energy and energy efficiency industries (61% would be more likely to support such a candidate), decreases pollution by encouraging companies to find less polluting alternatives (58%), or was used to pay down the national debt (52%).

Fewer than half of Americans would be likely to vote for a candidate who supports a carbon tax used to reduce the federal income tax (47% support) or to give a tax refund of \$180 dollars a year to the average American household (39% support).

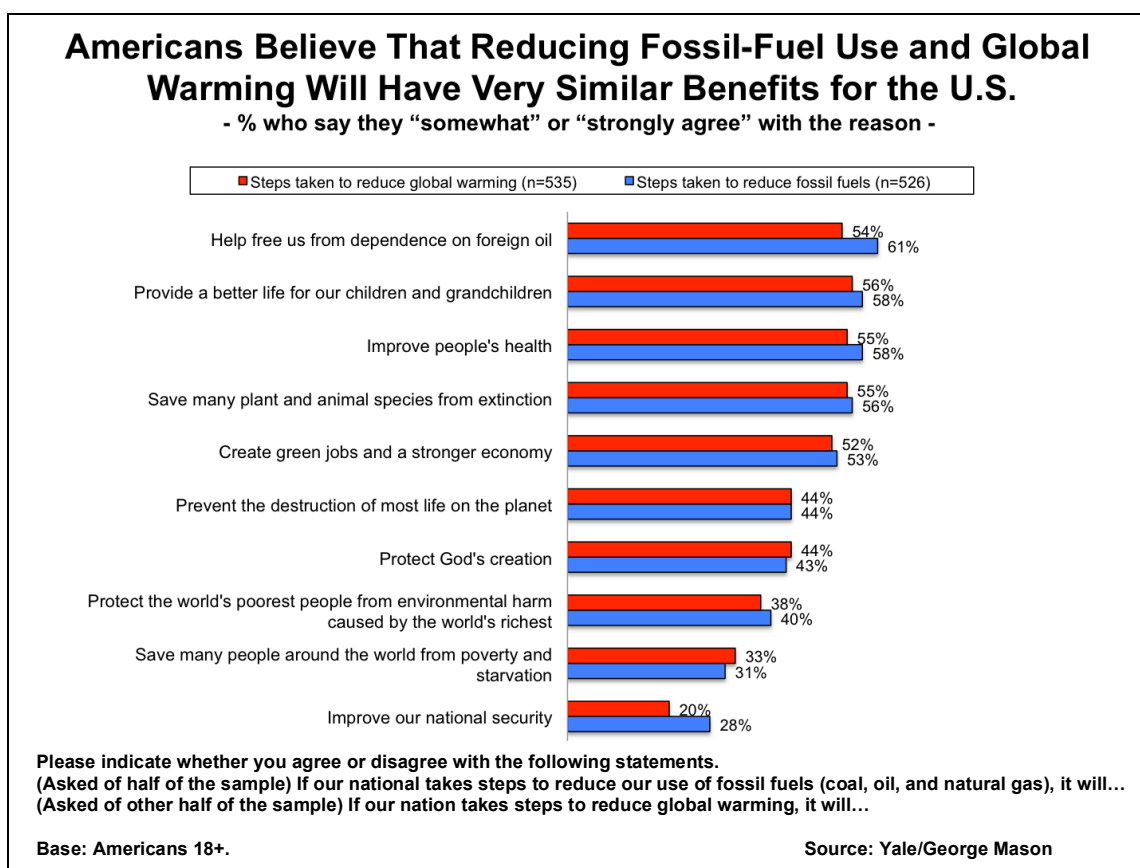


5. Perceived Benefits and Costs of Reducing Fossil-Fuel Use and Global Warming

Americans believe that reducing fossil-fuel use and global warming will have very similar benefits for the United States.

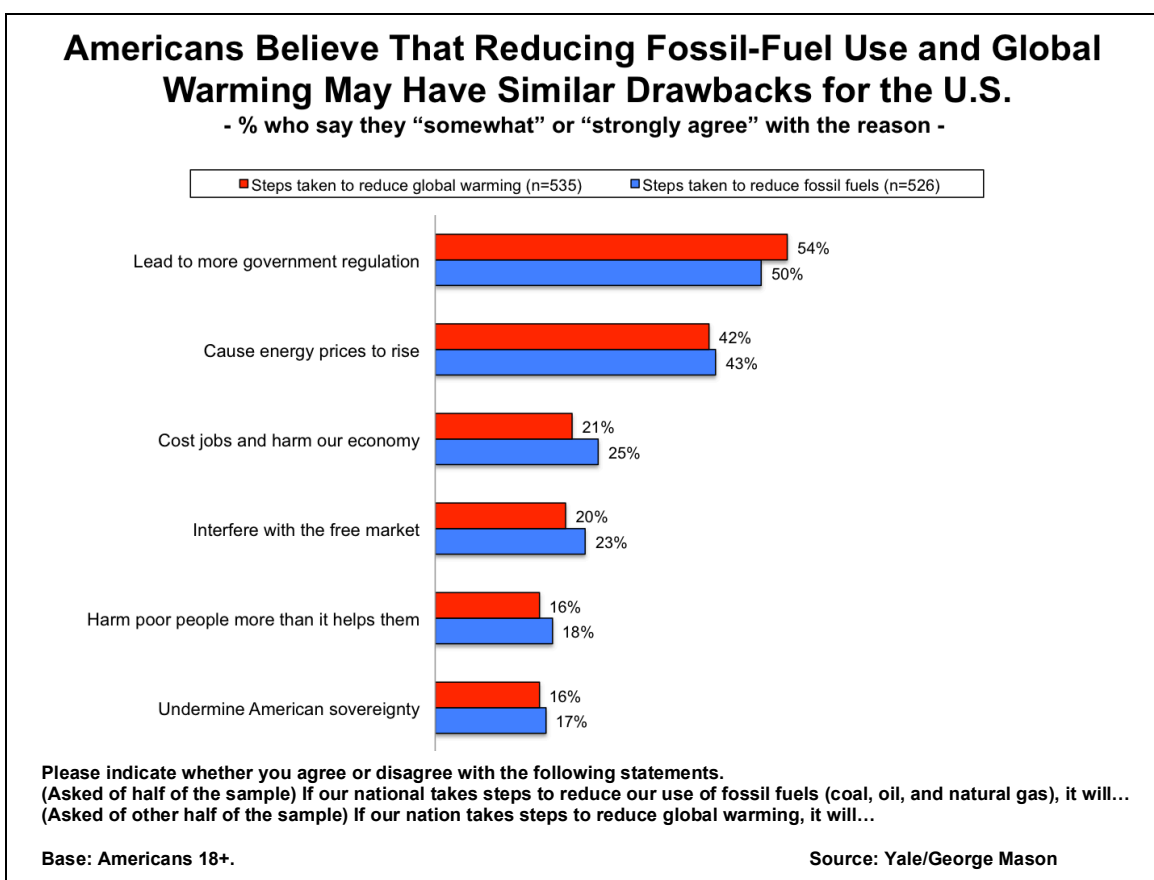
Majorities say they want to take steps to reduce fossil fuel use and global warming to:

- Help free us from dependence on foreign oil (61% and 54% respectively)
- Provide a better life for our children and grandchildren (58% and 56%)
- Improve people's health (58% and 55%)
- Save many plant and animal species from extinction (56% and 55%)
- Create green jobs and a stronger economy (53% and 52%)



Americans also believe that reducing fossil fuel use and global warming may have similar drawbacks for the United States.

Americans also have similar concerns about potential negative consequences of reducing global warming and fossil fuel use, including more government regulation (54% and 50% respectively), a rise in energy prices (42% and 43%), and loss of jobs and harm to the economy (21% and 25%).



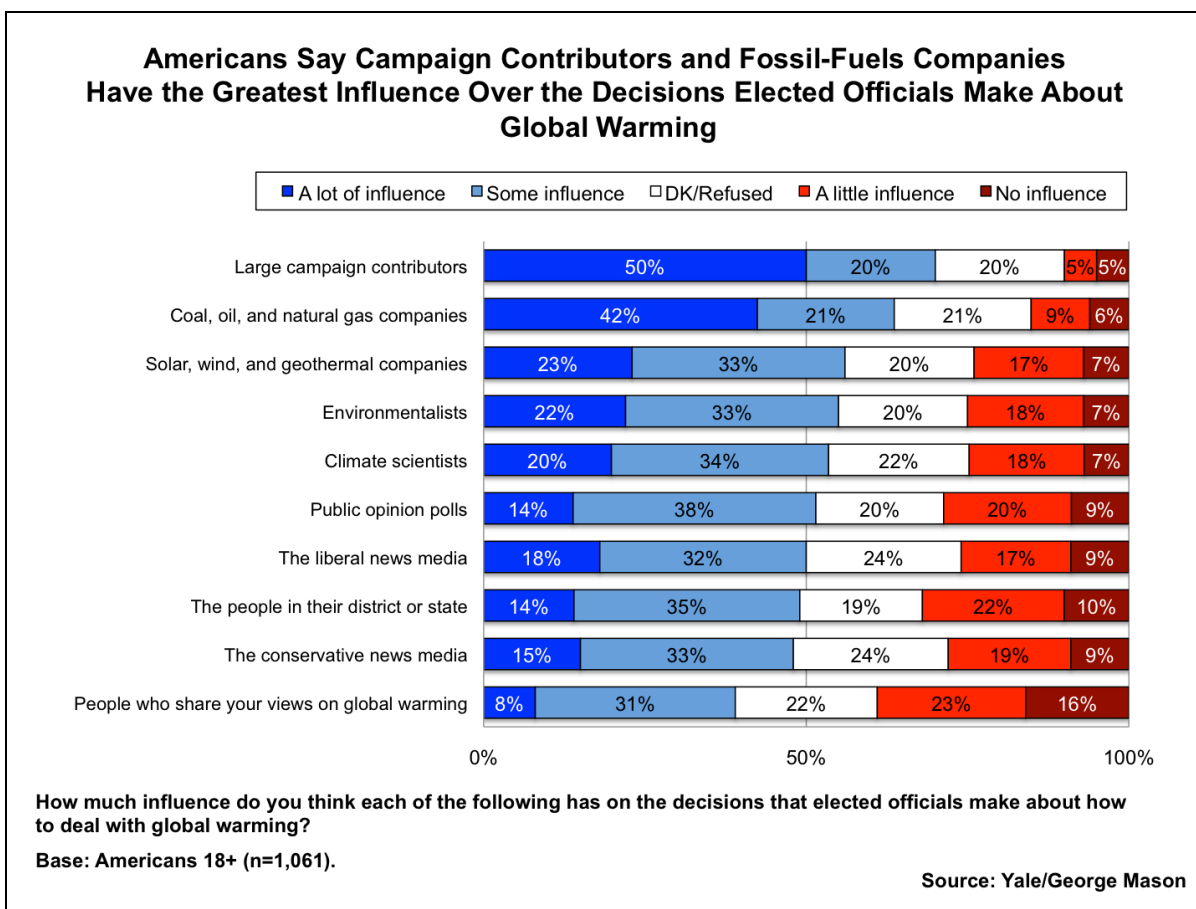
6. Who Influences Elected Officials' Decisions about Global Warming?

Americans say that campaign contributors and fossil fuels companies have the greatest influence over the decisions elected officials make about global warming.

Asked who has influence on elected officials' decisions about global warming, Americans think the big players are large campaign contributors (50% say they have “a lot” of influence) or fossil-fuel companies (42%).

Only about half as many think renewable energy companies (23%), environmentalists (22%), or climate scientists (20%) have a lot of influence on elected officials.

Fewer think that “the liberal news media” (18%), “the conservative news media” (15%), public opinion polls (14%), or the citizens in elected officials' district or state have a lot of influence. At the bottom of the list – only 8 percent of Americans think people who share their own views on global warming have a lot of influence on elected officials.

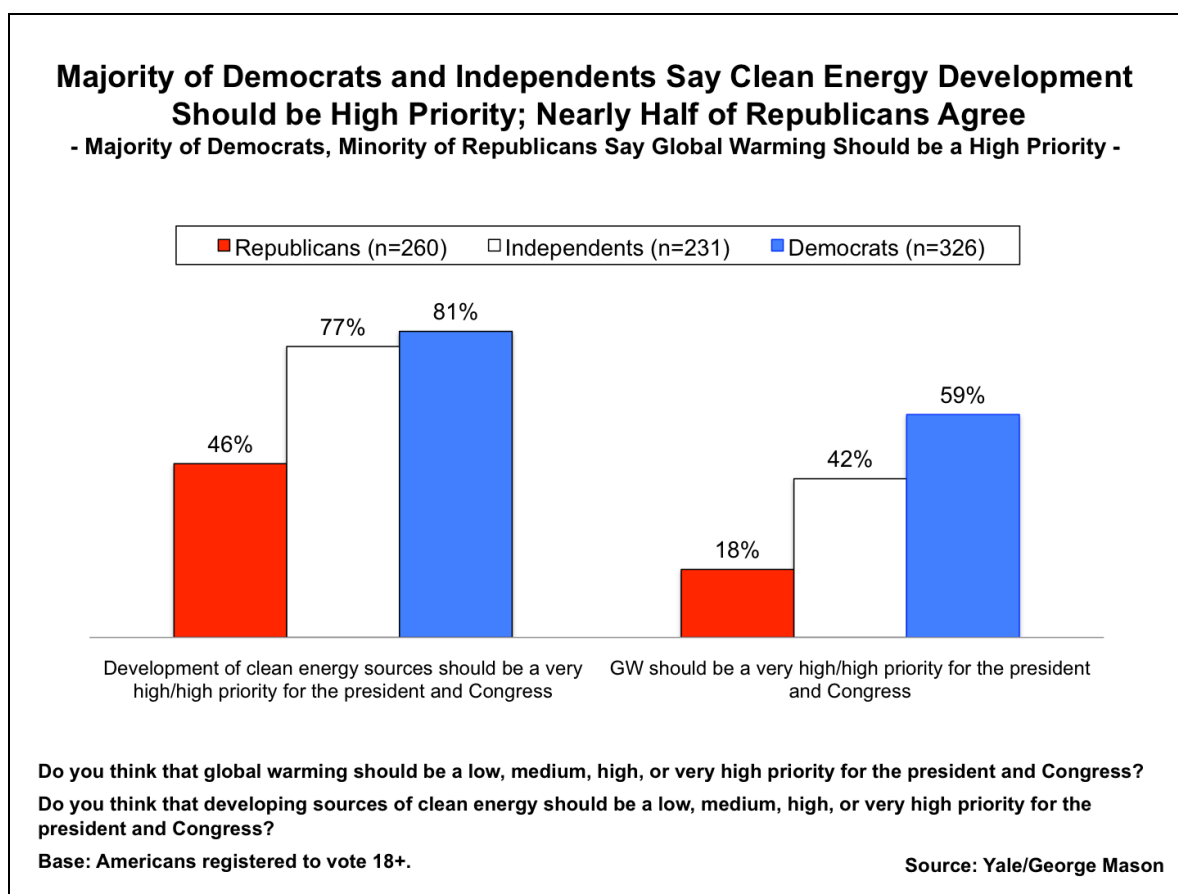


7. Policy Support by Political Party

A majority of Democrats and Independents say clean energy should be a high priority; nearly half of Republicans agree.

Large majorities of Democrats (81%) and Independents (77%) say the president and Congress should make the development of clean energy sources a high or very high priority. Just under half of Republicans agree (46%).

By a three to one margin over Republicans, Democrats say global warming should be a high or very high priority (59% versus 18% of Republicans). Independents fall in the middle (42%).

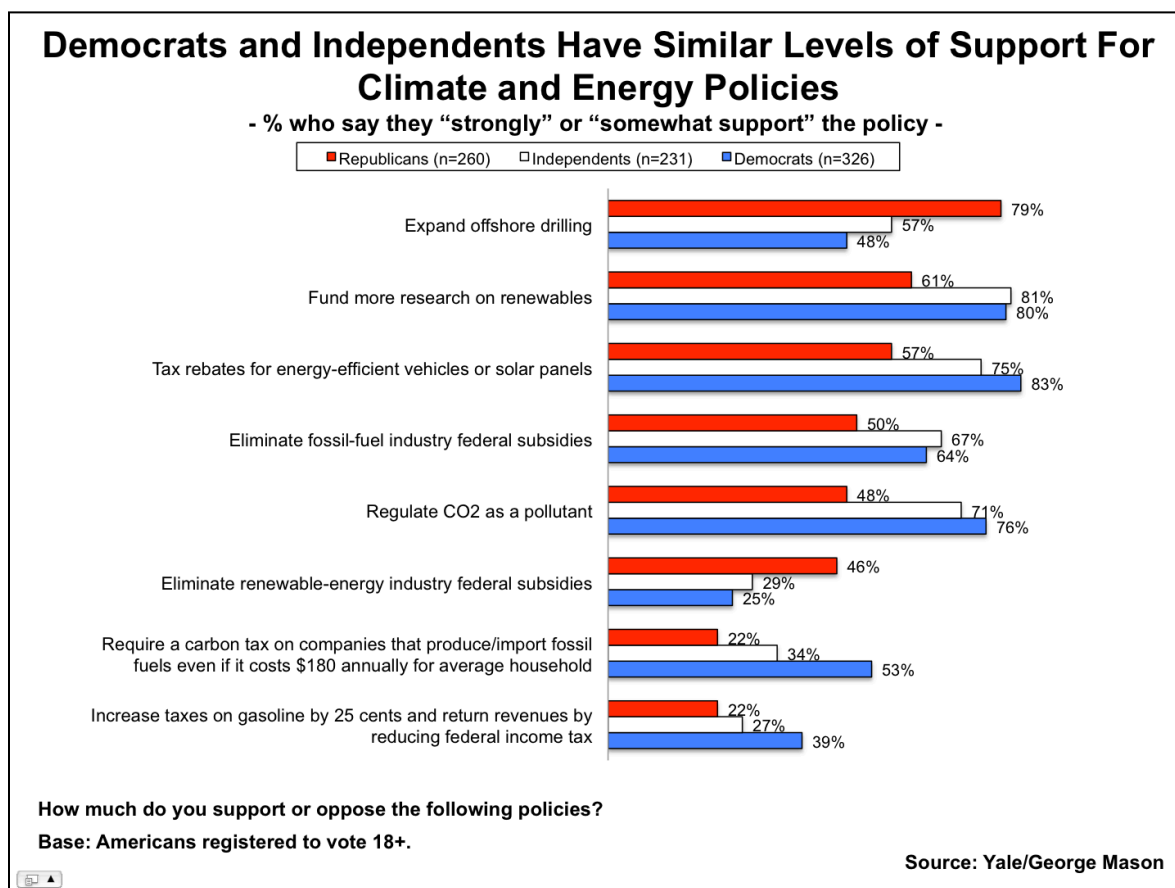


Democrats and Independents have similar levels of support for climate and energy policies.

Majorities of Democrats and Independents say they “strongly” or “somewhat support” the following policies:

- Tax rebates for energy-efficient vehicles or solar panels (83% of Democrats and 75% of Independents)
- Funding more research on renewable energy sources (80% and 81% respectively)
- Regulating carbon dioxide as a pollutant (76% and 71% respectively)
- Eliminating fossil-fuel industry federal subsidies (64% and 67% respectively)

In general, Republicans are less likely to say they support these policies (not including the expansion of offshore drilling, which a large majority – 79 percent – of Republicans support). However, a majority of Republicans do support several climate and energy policies, albeit not as strongly as Democrats and Independents.

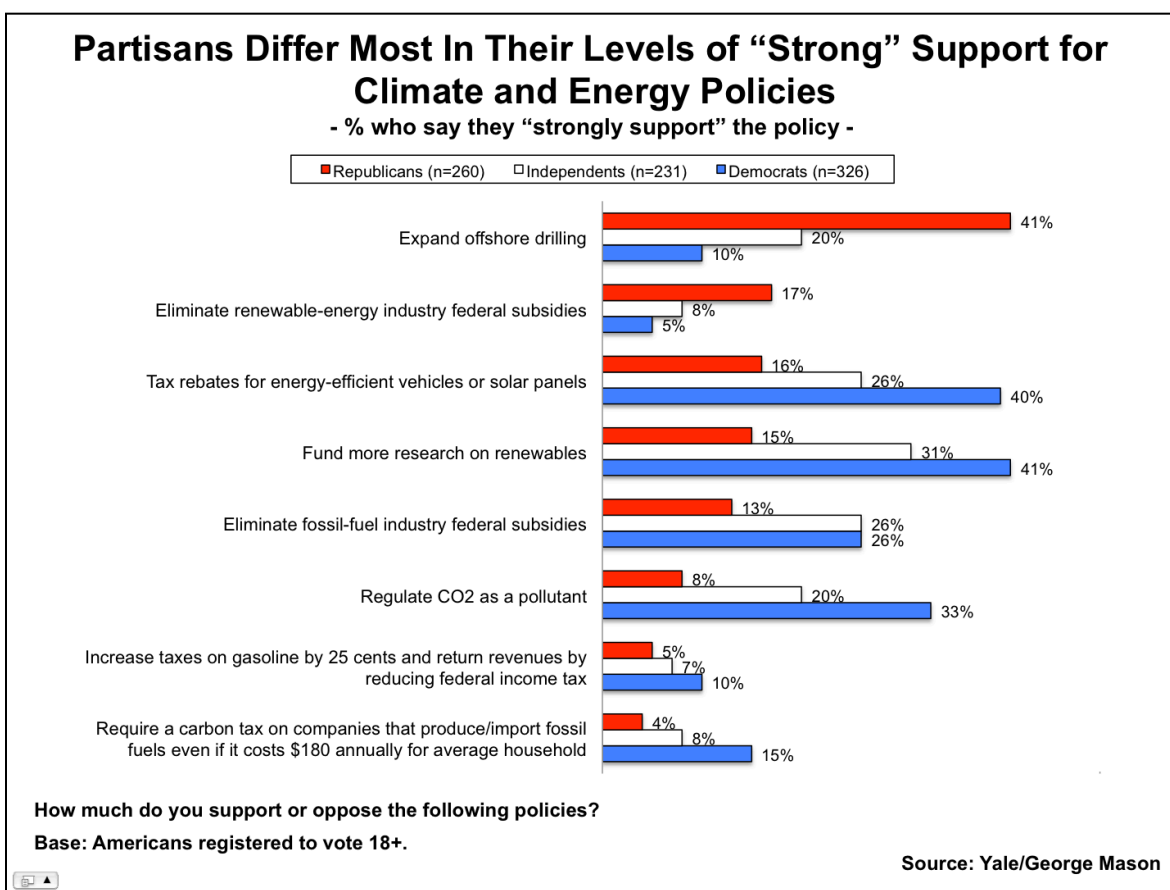


Partisans differ most in their levels of “strong support” for climate and energy policies.

Democrats are more likely to “strongly support” funding more research into renewables (41%), offering tax rebates to those who purchase energy-efficient vehicles or solar panels (40%), and regulating carbon dioxide as a pollutant (33%) than Republicans.

By contrast, the one issue Republicans are most likely to “strongly support” is the expansion of drilling off the U.S. coast (41%). Relatively few Democrats (10%) strongly support offshore drilling.

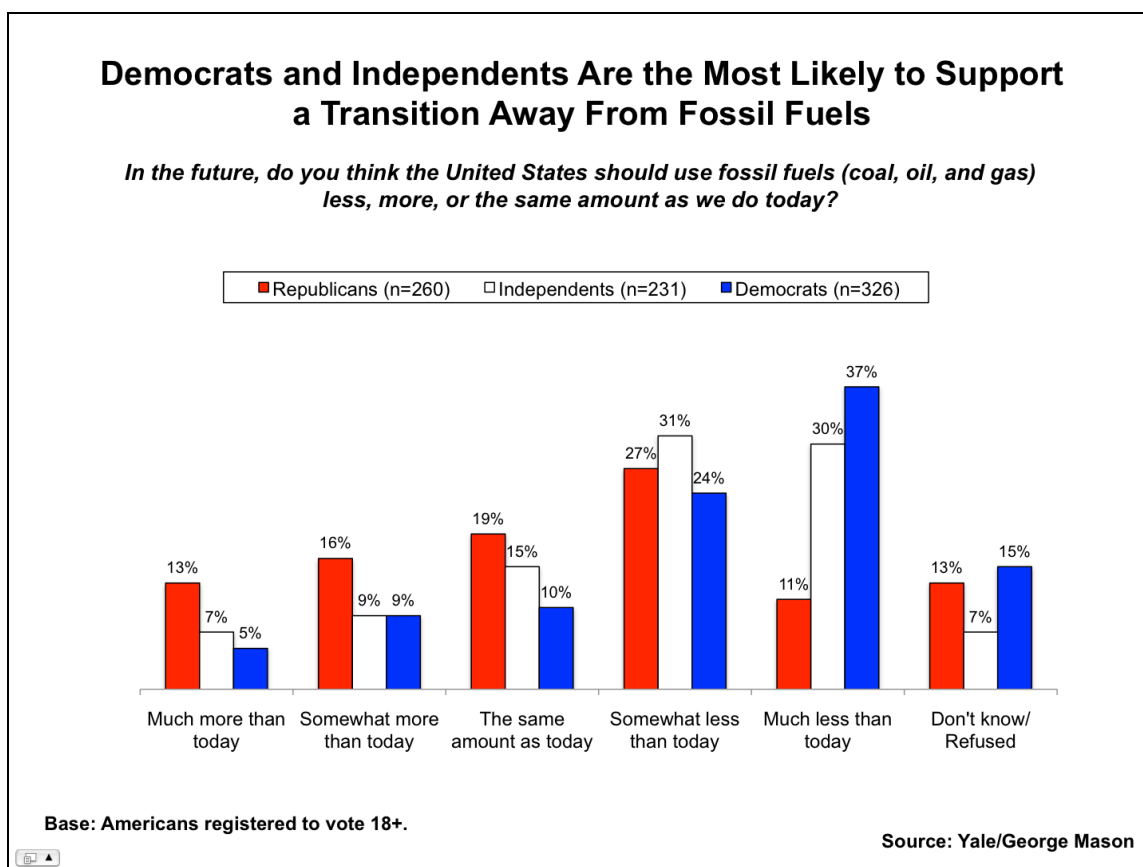
Generally speaking, Independents’ “strong support” for climate and energy policies falls between Democrats and Republicans. One exception is the proposed elimination of subsidies for the fossil-fuel industry: Democrats (26%) and Independents (26%) are twice as likely as Republicans (13%) to strongly support this policy.



Democrats and Independents are the most likely to support a transition away from fossil fuels.

Most Democrats (61%) say the United States should use less fossil fuels in the future. Independents agree – six in ten (61%) also say we should use less fossil fuels in the future.

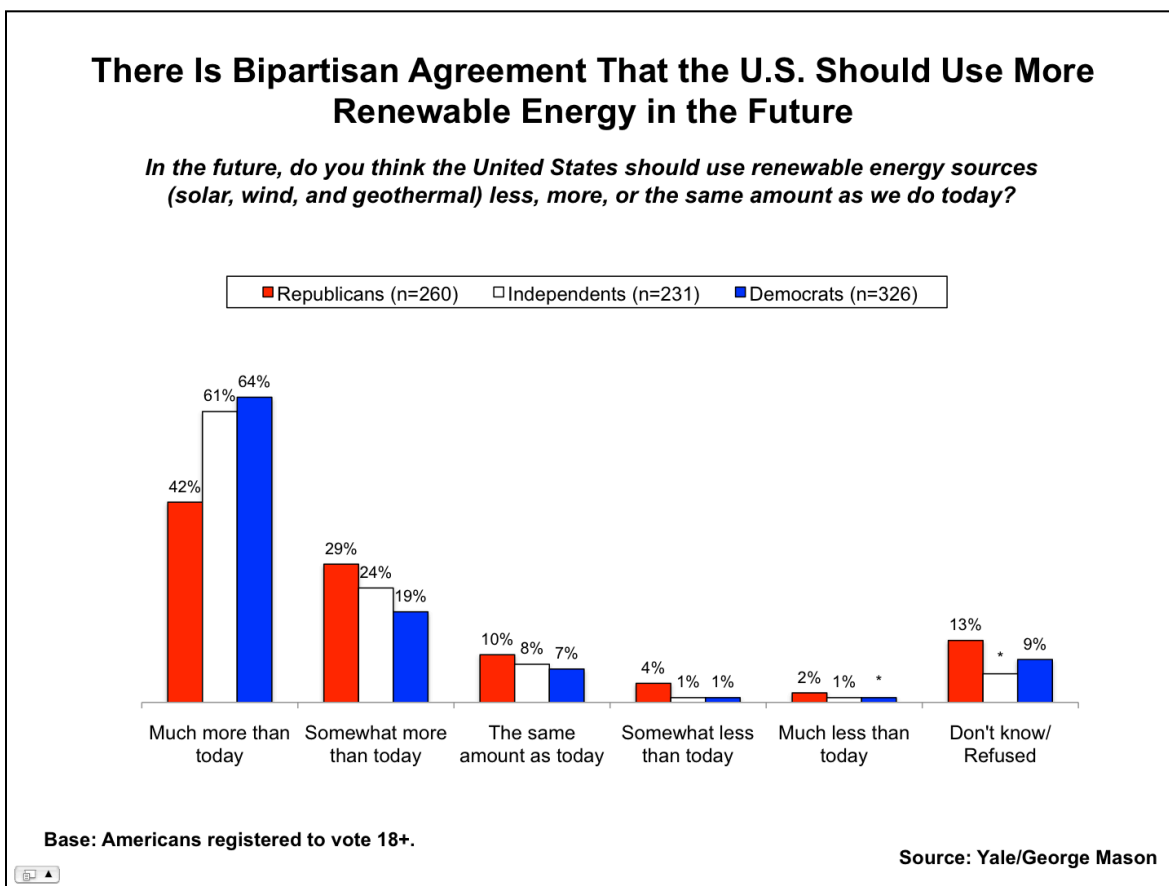
By contrast, only 38 percent of Republicans say the United States should use less fossil fuels in the future.



There is bipartisan agreement that the United States should use more renewable energy in the future.

Across party lines, Americans agree: Democrats (83%), Independents (85%), and Republicans (71%) say the U.S. should use more renewable energy sources (solar, wind, and geothermal) than we do today.

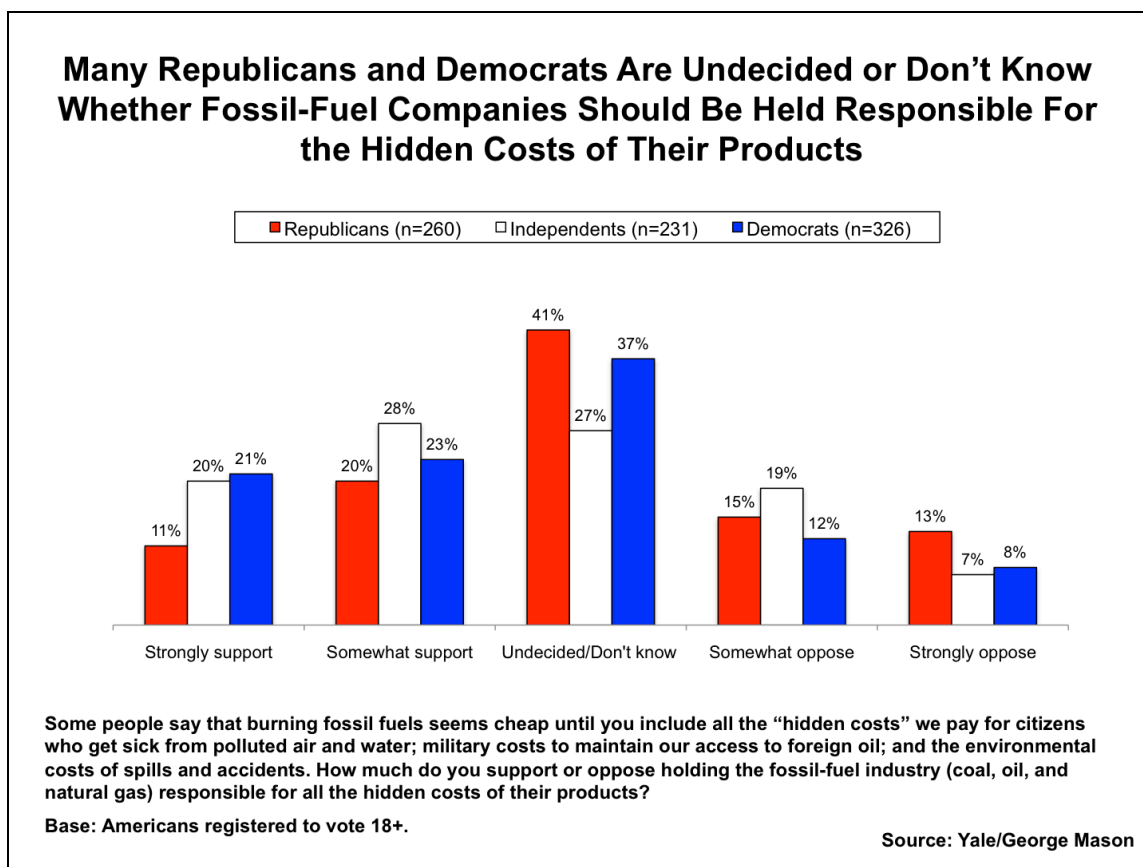
Very few in either party say we should use less renewable energy than today.



Many Republicans and Democrats are undecided or don't know whether fossil-fuel companies should be held responsible for the hidden costs of their products.

Should fossil-fuel companies be held responsible for the “hidden costs” of their products, including the costs we pay for citizens who become sick from polluted air and water, military costs to maintain our access to foreign oil, and the environmental costs of spills and accidents?

This concept is likely still unfamiliar to many Americans: substantial numbers of Republicans, Democrats, and Independents say they either “don't know” or are undecided. Republicans (31%) are less likely than either Independents (48%) or Democrats (44%) to support the idea.

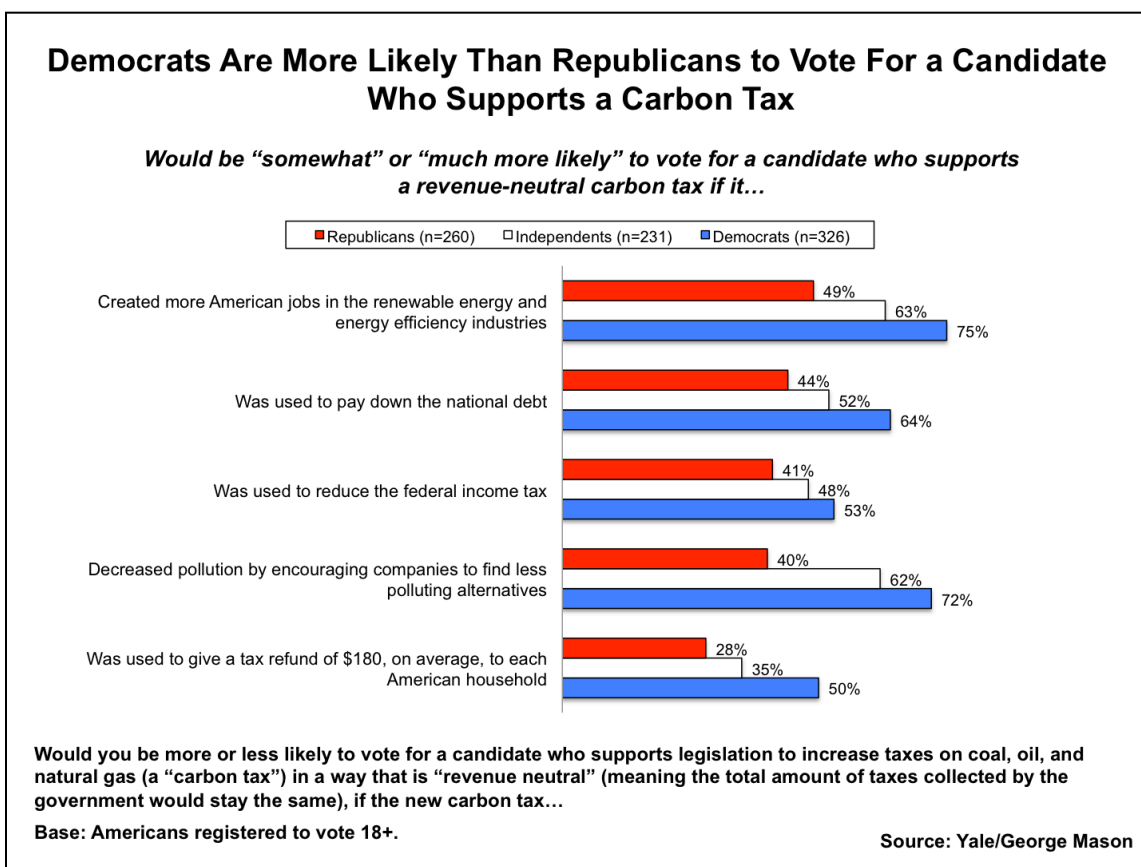


Democrats are more likely than Republicans to vote for a candidate who supports a revenue neutral carbon tax.

Democrats are more likely than Republicans to vote for a candidate who supports a revenue neutral carbon tax, if it:

- Created more American jobs in the renewable energy or energy efficiency industries (75% versus 49% of Republicans)
- Decreased pollution (72% versus 40% respectively)
- Was used to pay down the national debt (64% versus 44%)
- Was used to reduce the federal income tax (53% versus 41%)
- Was used to give a tax refund of \$180 to the average American household (50% versus 28%)

For most reasons asked about, however, at least four out of ten Republicans would support a revenue neutral carbon tax, increasing to nearly half (49%) if the carbon tax created more American jobs in the renewable energy or energy efficiency industries.



Appendix I: Data Tables

General Public

(Base: Americans 18+)

Do you think...

Global warming should be a low, medium, high, or very high priority for the president and Congress?

| | Sept 2012 | March 2012 | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) % | (1,008) % | (1,000) % | (1,010) % | (1,024) % | (1,001) % | (2,164) % |
| Very high | 18 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 17 | 13 | 21 |
| High | 25 | 28 | 25 | 27 | 27 | 25 | 33 |
| Medium | 34 | 32 | 33 | 31 | 33 | 31 | 30 |
| Low | 23 | 28 | 30 | 30 | 23 | 31 | 17 |

Developing sources of clean energy should be a low, medium, high, or very high priority for the president and Congress?

| | Sept 2012 | March 2012 | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) % | (1,008) % | (1,000) % | (1,010) % | (1,024) % | (1,001) % | (2,164) % |
| Very high | 31 | 31 | 30 | 31 | 34 | 24 | - |
| High | 38 | 38 | 35 | 35 | 37 | 36 | - |
| Medium | 23 | 23 | 25 | 25 | 23 | 29 | - |
| Low | 8 | 8 | 10 | 9 | 6 | 11 | - |

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

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

| | Sept 2012 | March 2012 | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|---|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) % | (1,008) % | (1,000) % | (1,010) % | (1,024) % | (1,001) % | (2,164) % |
| Regardless of what other countries do | 61 | 63 | 60 | 61 | 65 | 57 | 67 |
| Only if other industrialized countries (such as England, Germany, and Japan) reduce their emissions | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| Only if other industrialized countries and developing countries (such as China, India, and Brazil) reduce their emissions | 7 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 7 |
| The U.S. should not reduce its emissions | 6 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 4 |
| Don't know | 25 | 21 | 25 | 23 | 19 | 25 | 20 |

(Base: Americans 18+)

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

| | Sept 2012 | March 2012 | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|---|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) % | (1,008) % | (1,000) % | (1,010) % | (1,024) % | (1,001) % | (2,164) % |
| A large-scale effort, even if it has large economic costs | 24 | 26 | 26 | 29 | 28 | 26 | 34 |
| A medium-scale effort, even if it has moderate economic costs | 44 | 42 | 40 | 38 | 41 | 36 | 40 |
| A small-scale effort, even if it has small economic costs | 19 | 19 | 23 | 19 | 18 | 21 | 17 |
| No effort | 12 | 13 | 12 | 14 | 13 | 18 | 9 |

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)**Do you think each of the following should be doing more or less to address global warming?****The U.S. Congress**

| | Sept 2012 | March 2012 | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| | (1,061) | (1,008) | (1,000) | (1,010) | (1,024) | (1,001) | (2,164) |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Much more | 24 | 23 | 20 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 26 |
| More | 36 | 35 | 35 | 38 | 35 | 35 | 41 |
| Currently doing the right amount | 22 | 21 | 25 | 20 | 26 | 23 | 20 |
| Less | 8 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 6 |
| Much less | 9 | 9 | 8 | 12 | 9 | 15 | 7 |

The President

| | Sept 2012* | March 2012* | Nov 2011* | May 2011* | June 2010* | Jan 2010* | Nov 2008+ |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| | (1,061) | (1,008) | (1,000) | (1,010) | (1,024) | (1,001) | (2,164) |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Much more | 18 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 20 | 17 | 28 |
| More | 35 | 35 | 33 | 35 | 32 | 33 | 38 |
| Currently doing the right amount | 29 | 25 | 28 | 22 | 30 | 26 | 21 |
| Less | 7 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 6 |
| Much less | 10 | 11 | 11 | 14 | 10 | 15 | 7 |

*President Barack Obama

+President George W. Bush

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)**Do you think each of the following should be doing more or less to address global warming?
(Cont'd.)****Corporations and industry**

| | Sept 2012 | March 2012 | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| | (1,061) | (1,008) | (1,000) | (1,010) | (1,024) | (1,001) | (2,164) |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Much more | 39 | 40 | 37 | 34 | 38 | 33 | 41 |
| More | 32 | 30 | 30 | 31 | 28 | 31 | 32 |
| Currently doing the right amount | 18 | 18 | 20 | 18 | 22 | 21 | 17 |
| Less | 6 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 5 |
| Much less | 5 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 6 | 9 | 6 |

Citizens themselves

| | Sept 2012 | March 2012 | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| | (1,061) | (1,008) | (1,000) | (1,010) | (1,024) | (1,001) | (2,164) |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Much more | 25 | 27 | 26 | 28 | 31 | 27 | 30 |
| More | 41 | 40 | 39 | 35 | 33 | 36 | 42 |
| Currently doing the right amount | 23 | 22 | 24 | 21 | 24 | 23 | 20 |
| Less | 5 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 7 | 5 |
| Much less | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 5 |

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)**How much do you support or oppose the following policies?****Expand offshore drilling for oil and natural gas off the U.S. coast**

| | Sept 2012 | March 2012 | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) | (1,008) | (1,000) | (1,010) | (1,024) | (1,001) | (2,164) |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Strongly support | 20 | 24 | 24 | 28 | 23 | 21 | 37 |
| Somewhat support | 38 | 38 | 39 | 38 | 39 | 46 | 38 |
| Somewhat oppose | 23 | 23 | 22 | 20 | 21 | 21 | 14 |
| Strongly oppose | 14 | 16 | 16 | 14 | 17 | 12 | 11 |

Fund more research into renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power

| | Sept 2012 | March 2012 | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) | (1,008) | (1,000) | (1,010) | (1,024) | (1,001) | (2,164) |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Strongly support | 30 | 36 | 36 | 47 | 42 | 41 | 53 |
| Somewhat support | 43 | 43 | 42 | 37 | 45 | 44 | 39 |
| Somewhat oppose | 13 | 12 | 17 | 11 | 10 | 11 | 6 |
| Strongly oppose | 8 | 9 | 6 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 2 |

Provide tax rebates for people who purchase energy-efficient vehicles or solar panels

| | Sept 2012 | March 2012 | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) | (1,008) | (1,000) | (1,010) | (1,024) | (1,001) | (2,164) |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Strongly support | 29 | 30 | 30 | 41 | 41 | 32 | 38 |
| Somewhat support | 44 | 46 | 48 | 41 | 42 | 50 | 47 |
| Somewhat oppose | 14 | 13 | 14 | 10 | 12 | 10 | 11 |
| Strongly oppose | 7 | 11 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 7 | 4 |

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)**How much do you support or oppose the following policies? (Cont'd.)****Regulate carbon dioxide (the primary greenhouse gas) as a pollutant**

| | Sept 2012 | March 2012 | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) | (1,008) | (1,000) | (1,010) | (1,024) | (1,001) | (2,164) |
| | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| Strongly support | 21 | 25 | 25 | - | 26 | 24 | 30 |
| Somewhat support | 45 | 50 | 48 | - | 51 | 47 | 50 |
| Somewhat oppose | 18 | 15 | 20 | - | 13 | 14 | 13 |
| Strongly oppose | 10 | 11 | 7 | - | 11 | 15 | 7 |

Eliminate all federal subsidies for the fossil fuel industry (oil, and natural gas), which currently total an estimated \$10.4 billion a year

| | Sept 2012 |
|-------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| Strongly support | 22 |
| Somewhat support | 37 |
| Somewhat oppose | 27 |
| Strongly oppose | 7 |

Eliminate all federal subsidies for the renewable energy industry (solar, wind, and geothermal), which currently total an estimated \$1.7 billion a year

| | Sept 2012 |
|-------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| Strongly support | 9 |
| Somewhat support | 24 |
| Somewhat oppose | 36 |
| Strongly oppose | 26 |

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)**How much do you support or oppose the following policies? (Cont'd.)****Increase taxes on gasoline by 25 cents per gallon and return the revenues to taxpayers by reducing the Federal income tax**

| | Sept 2012 |
|-------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| Strongly support | 8 |
| Somewhat support | 24 |
| Somewhat oppose | 30 |
| Strongly oppose | 32 |

Require companies that produce or import fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas) to pay a tax (a “carbon tax”) even if it costs the average household an average of \$180 per year

| | Sept 2012 |
|-------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| Strongly support | 10 |
| Somewhat support | 29 |
| Somewhat oppose | 33 |
| Strongly oppose | 21 |

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

In the future, do you think the United States should use fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas) less, more, or the same amount as we do today?

| | Sept 2012 |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| Much more than today | 8 |
| Somewhat more than today | 10 |
| Same amount as today | 14 |
| Somewhat less than today | 28 |
| Much less than today | 14 |
| Don't know | 14 |
| Prefer not to answer | 1 |

(Base: Americans 18+ who say U.S. should use less fossil fuels in the future)

How soon do you think we should start reducing fossil fuel use in the United States?

| | Sept 2012 |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (565) |
| | % |
| Immediately | 63 |
| Some time in the future | 24 |
| Never | 1 |
| Don't know | 11 |
| Prefer not to answer | 1 |

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

In the future, do you think the United States should use renewable energy sources (solar, wind and geothermal) less, more, or the same amount as we do today?

| | Sept 2012 |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| Much more than today | 56 |
| Somewhat more than today | 22 |
| Same amount as today | 8 |
| Somewhat less than today | 2 |
| Much less than today | 1 |
| Don't know | 11 |
| Prefer not to answer | 1 |

(Base: Americans 18+ who say U.S. should use more renewable energy in the future)

How soon do you think we should start increasing renewable energy use in the United States?

| | Sept 2012 |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (824) |
| | % |
| Immediately | 76 |
| Some time in the future | 14 |
| Never | * |
| Don't know | 9 |
| Prefer not to answer | 1 |

- = 0%
* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

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?

| | Sept 2012 |
|----------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| Strongly support | 16 |
| Somewhat support | 20 |
| Undecided | 28 |
| Somewhat oppose | 14 |
| Strongly oppose | 9 |
| Don't know | 12 |
| Prefer not to answer | * |

- = 0%
 * = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

Now we'd like to ask you some questions about "fracking." How much have you ever heard or read about fracking?

| | Sept 2012 |
|----------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| A lot | 9 |
| Some | 22 |
| A little | 16 |
| Not at all | 39 |
| Don't know | 13 |
| Prefer not to answer | 1 |

(Base: Americans 18+)

"Fracking" is a way to extract natural gas from shale rock deep underground. Based on anything you may have heard or read about fracking, do you...

| | Sept 2012 |
|----------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| Strongly support | 9 |
| Somewhat support | 13 |
| Undecided | 27 |
| Somewhat oppose | 10 |
| Strongly oppose | 10 |
| Don't know | 30 |
| Prefer not to answer | 1 |

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

Would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate who supports legislation to increase taxes on coal, oil, and natural gas (a “carbon tax”) in a way that is “revenue neutral” (meaning the total amount of taxes collected by the government would stay the same), if the new carbon tax...

Was used to pay down the national debt

| | Sept 2012 |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| Much more likely | 27 |
| Somewhat more likely | 25 |
| It would have no effect | 15 |
| Somewhat less likely | 5 |
| Much less likely | 7 |
| Don't know | 15 |
| Prefer not to answer | 6 |

Was used to reduce the Federal income tax rate

| | Sept 2012 |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| Much more likely | 22 |
| Somewhat more likely | 25 |
| It would have no effect | 18 |
| Somewhat less likely | 6 |
| Much less likely | 7 |
| Don't know | 16 |
| Prefer not to answer | 6 |

- = 0%
 * = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

Would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate who supports legislation to increase taxes on coal, oil, and natural gas (a “carbon tax”) in a way that is “revenue neutral” (meaning the total amount of taxes collected by the government would stay the same), if the new carbon tax... (Cont’d.)

Was used to give a tax refund of \$180, on average, to each American household

| | Sept 2012 |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| Much more likely | 17 |
| Somewhat more likely | 23 |
| It would have no effect | 23 |
| Somewhat less likely | 6 |
| Much less likely | 10 |
| Don’t know | 16 |
| Prefer not to answer | 6 |

Created more American jobs in the renewable energy and energy efficiency industries

| | Sept 2012 |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| Much more likely | 35 |
| Somewhat more likely | 26 |
| It would have no effect | 9 |
| Somewhat less likely | 3 |
| Much less likely | 6 |
| Don’t know | 15 |
| Prefer not to answer | 6 |

- = 0%
* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

Would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate who supports legislation to increase taxes on coal, oil, and natural gas (a “carbon tax”) in a way that is “revenue neutral” (meaning the total amount of taxes collected by the government would stay the same), if the new carbon tax... (Cont’d.)

Decreased pollution by encouraging companies to find less polluting alternatives

| | Sept 2012 |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| Much more likely | 31 |
| Somewhat more likely | 27 |
| It would have no effect | 12 |
| Somewhat less likely | 4 |
| Much less likely | 6 |
| Don’t know | 15 |
| Prefer not to answer | 5 |

- = 0%
* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.

(Ask half of sample) If our nation takes steps to reduce our use of fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas), it will...

(Ask other half of sample) If our nation takes steps to reduce global warming, it will...

Help free us from dependence on foreign oil

| | Fossil fuels | Global warming |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (526) | (535) |
| | % | % |
| Strongly agree | 26 | 22 |
| Somewhat agree | 36 | 32 |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 26 | 31 |
| Somewhat disagree | 4 | 5 |
| Strongly disagree | 5 | 6 |
| Prefer not to answer | 4 | 4 |

Improve people's health

| | Fossil fuels | Global warming |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (526) | (535) |
| | % | % |
| Strongly agree | 23 | 19 |
| Somewhat agree | 35 | 36 |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 31 | 30 |
| Somewhat disagree | 5 | 5 |
| Strongly disagree | 4 | 6 |
| Prefer not to answer | 3 | 4 |

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. (Cont'd.)

(Ask half of sample) If our nation takes steps to reduce our use of fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas), it will...

(Ask other half of sample) If our nation takes steps to reduce global warming, it will...

Improve our national security

| | Fossil fuels | Global warming |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (526) | (535) |
| | % | % |
| Strongly agree | 10 | 7 |
| Somewhat agree | 18 | 13 |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 48 | 50 |
| Somewhat disagree | 10 | 14 |
| Strongly disagree | 11 | 13 |
| Prefer not to answer | 3 | 4 |

Create green jobs and a stronger economy

| | Fossil fuels | Global warming |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (526) | (535) |
| | % | % |
| Strongly agree | 18 | 21 |
| Somewhat agree | 35 | 31 |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 33 | 31 |
| Somewhat disagree | 6 | 5 |
| Strongly disagree | 5 | 8 |
| Prefer not to answer | 3 | 4 |

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. (Cont'd.)

(Ask half of sample) If our nation takes steps to reduce our use of fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas), it will...

(Ask other half of sample) If our nation takes steps to reduce global warming, it will...

Save many plant and animal species from extinction

| | Fossil fuels | Global warming |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (526) | (535) |
| | % | % |
| Strongly agree | 21 | 23 |
| Somewhat agree | 34 | 32 |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 32 | 31 |
| Somewhat disagree | 5 | 4 |
| Strongly disagree | 5 | 7 |
| Prefer not to answer | 3 | 3 |

Protect God's creation

| | Fossil fuels | Global warming |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (526) | (535) |
| | % | % |
| Strongly agree | 20 | 20 |
| Somewhat agree | 23 | 24 |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 43 | 40 |
| Somewhat disagree | 2 | 2 |
| Strongly disagree | 8 | 11 |
| Prefer not to answer | 4 | 3 |

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. (Cont'd.)

(Ask half of sample) If our nation takes steps to reduce our use of fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas), it will...

(Ask other half of sample) If our nation takes steps to reduce global warming, it will...

Save many people around the world from poverty and starvation

| | Fossil fuels | Global warming |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (526) | (535) |
| | % | % |
| Strongly agree | 10 | 10 |
| Somewhat agree | 21 | 23 |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 44 | 43 |
| Somewhat disagree | 11 | 12 |
| Strongly disagree | 10 | 9 |
| Prefer not to answer | 3 | 3 |

Provide a better life for our children and grandchildren

| | Fossil fuels | Global warming |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (526) | (535) |
| | % | % |
| Strongly agree | 27 | 29 |
| Somewhat agree | 31 | 28 |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 30 | 31 |
| Somewhat disagree | 5 | 3 |
| Strongly disagree | 5 | 7 |
| Prefer not to answer | 3 | 3 |

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. (Cont'd.)

(Ask half of sample) If our nation takes steps to reduce our use of fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas), it will...

(Ask other half of sample) If our nation takes steps to reduce global warming, it will...

Prevent the destruction of most life on the planet

| | Fossil fuels | Global warming |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (526) | (535) |
| | % | % |
| Strongly agree | 18 | 15 |
| Somewhat agree | 27 | 30 |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 37 | 33 |
| Somewhat disagree | 8 | 10 |
| Strongly disagree | 9 | 10 |
| Prefer not to answer | 3 | 3 |

Protect the world's poorest people from environmental harm caused by the world's richest people

| | Fossil fuels | Global warming |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (526) | (535) |
| | % | % |
| Strongly agree | 15 | 14 |
| Somewhat agree | 24 | 24 |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 42 | 41 |
| Somewhat disagree | 7 | 9 |
| Strongly disagree | 9 | 9 |
| Prefer not to answer | 3 | 3 |

- = 0%
* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. (Cont'd.)

(Ask half of sample) If our nation takes steps to reduce our use of fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas), it will...

(Ask other half of sample) If our nation takes steps to reduce global warming, it will...

Lead to more government regulation

| | Fossil fuels | Global warming |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (526) | (535) |
| | % | % |
| Strongly agree | 17 | 21 |
| Somewhat agree | 32 | 33 |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 38 | 35 |
| Somewhat disagree | 5 | 4 |
| Strongly disagree | 5 | 3 |
| Prefer not to answer | 4 | 4 |

Cost jobs and harm our economy

| | Fossil fuels | Global warming |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (526) | (535) |
| | % | % |
| Strongly agree | 9 | 9 |
| Somewhat agree | 17 | 12 |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 40 | 39 |
| Somewhat disagree | 22 | 24 |
| Strongly disagree | 10 | 14 |
| Prefer not to answer | 3 | 3 |

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. (Cont'd.)

(Ask half of sample) If our nation takes steps to reduce our use of fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas), it will...

(Ask other half of sample) If our nation takes steps to reduce global warming, it will...

Undermine American sovereignty

| | Fossil fuels | Global warming |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (526) | (535) |
| | % | % |
| Strongly agree | 7 | 8 |
| Somewhat agree | 11 | 8 |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 51 | 43 |
| Somewhat disagree | 11 | 18 |
| Strongly disagree | 17 | 20 |
| Prefer not to answer | 4 | 3 |

Cause energy prices to rise

| | Fossil fuels | Global warming |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (526) | (535) |
| | % | % |
| Strongly agree | 15 | 14 |
| Somewhat agree | 28 | 29 |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 38 | 40 |
| Somewhat disagree | 11 | 8 |
| Strongly disagree | 4 | 6 |
| Prefer not to answer | 4 | 3 |

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. (Cont'd.)

(Ask half of sample) If our nation takes steps to reduce our use of fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas), it will...

(Ask other half of sample) If our nation takes steps to reduce global warming, it will...

Interfere with the free market

| | Fossil fuels | Global warming |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (526) | (535) |
| | % | % |
| Strongly agree | 8 | 9 |
| Somewhat agree | 15 | 12 |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 49 | 49 |
| Somewhat disagree | 14 | 17 |
| Strongly disagree | 10 | 11 |
| Prefer not to answer | 4 | 3 |

Harm poor people more than it helps them

| | Fossil fuels | Global warming |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (526) | (535) |
| | % | % |
| Strongly agree | 7 | 7 |
| Somewhat agree | 11 | 9 |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 44 | 39 |
| Somewhat disagree | 19 | 23 |
| Strongly disagree | 17 | 18 |
| Prefer not to answer | 3 | 3 |

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)**How much influence do you think each of the following has on the decisions that elected officials make about how to deal with global warming?****Large campaign contributors**

| | Sept 2012 |
|----------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| A lot of influence | 50 |
| Some influence | 20 |
| A little influence | 5 |
| No influence | 5 |
| Don't know | 15 |
| Prefer not to answer | 5 |

Coal, oil, and natural gas companies

| | Sept 2012 |
|----------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| A lot of influence | 42 |
| Some influence | 21 |
| A little influence | 9 |
| No influence | 6 |
| Don't know | 16 |
| Prefer not to answer | 5 |

- = 0%
 * = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)**How much influence do you think each of the following has on the decisions that elected officials make about how to deal with global warming? (Cont'd.)****Solar, wind, and geothermal companies**

| | Sept 2012 |
|----------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| A lot of influence | 23 |
| Some influence | 33 |
| A little influence | 17 |
| No influence | 7 |
| Don't know | 15 |
| Prefer not to answer | 5 |

Environmentalists

| | Sept 2012 |
|----------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| A lot of influence | 22 |
| Some influence | 33 |
| A little influence | 18 |
| No influence | 7 |
| Don't know | 15 |
| Prefer not to answer | 5 |

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)**How much influence do you think each of the following has on the decisions that elected officials make about how to deal with global warming? (Cont'd.)****Public opinion polls**

| | Sept 2012 |
|----------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| A lot of influence | 14 |
| Some influence | 38 |
| A little influence | 20 |
| No influence | 9 |
| Don't know | 14 |
| Prefer not to answer | 5 |

Climate scientists

| | Sept 2012 |
|----------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| A lot of influence | 20 |
| Some influence | 34 |
| A little influence | 18 |
| No influence | 7 |
| Don't know | 16 |
| Prefer not to answer | 6 |

- = 0%
 * = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

How much influence do you think each of the following has on the decisions that elected officials make about how to deal with global warming? (Cont'd.)

The liberal news media

| | Sept 2012 |
|----------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| A lot of influence | 18 |
| Some influence | 32 |
| A little influence | 17 |
| No influence | 9 |
| Don't know | 18 |
| Prefer not to answer | 6 |

The conservative news media

| | Sept 2012 |
|----------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| A lot of influence | 15 |
| Some influence | 33 |
| A little influence | 19 |
| No influence | 9 |
| Don't know | 18 |
| Prefer not to answer | 6 |

- = 0%
* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

How much influence do you think each of the following has on the decisions that elected officials make about how to deal with global warming? (Cont'd.)

People who share your views on global warming

| | Sept 2012 |
|----------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| A lot of influence | 8 |
| Some influence | 31 |
| A little influence | 23 |
| No influence | 16 |
| Don't know | 17 |
| Prefer not to answer | 5 |

The people in their district or state

| | Sept 2012 |
|----------------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (1,061) |
| | % |
| A lot of influence | 14 |
| Some influence | 35 |
| A little influence | 22 |
| No influence | 10 |
| Don't know | 14 |
| Prefer not to answer | 5 |

- = 0%
 * = <1%

By Political Party (Registered to Vote)**(Base: Americans who are registered to vote 18+)****Do you think...****Global warming should be a low, medium, high, or very high priority for the president and Congress?**

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|----------------------|-------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Very high | 18 | 6 | 26 ^{ac} | 18 ^a |
| High | 25 | 13 | 33 ^a | 25 ^a |
| Medium | 33 | 32 | 34 | 33 |
| Low | 25 | 49 ^{bc} | 7 | 25 ^b |
| Don't know/no answer | | | | |

Developing sources of clean energy should be a low, medium, high, or very high priority for the president and Congress?

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|----------------------|-------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Very high | 31 | 13 | 43 ^a | 33 ^a |
| High | 38 | 33 | 38 | 44 ^a |
| Medium | 21 | 32 ^{bc} | 16 | 16 |
| Low | 9 | 22 ^{bc} | 2 | 7 ^b |
| Don't know/no answer | | | | |

Superscripts following a statistic indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the adjacent column denoted in the superscript (95% confidence level).

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans who are registered to vote 18+)

How much do you support or oppose the following policies?

Expand offshore drilling for oil and natural gas off the U.S. coast

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|-------------------|-------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Strongly support | 22 | 41 ^{bc} | 10 | 20 ^b |
| Somewhat support | 38 | 38 | 38 | 38 |
| Somewhat oppose | 22 | 9 | 28 ^a | 25 ^a |
| Strongly oppose | 15 | 8 | 21 ^a | 13 |
| Don't know | 4 | 5 | 3 | 5 |

Fund more research into renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|-------------------|-------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Strongly support | 31 | 15 | 41 ^a | 31 ^a |
| Somewhat support | 44 | 46 | 38 | 49 ^b |
| Somewhat oppose | 13 | 17 | 11 | 11 |
| Strongly oppose | 9 | 18 ^{bc} | 5 | 6 |
| Don't know | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 |

Superscripts following a statistic indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the adjacent column denoted in the superscript (95% confidence level).

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans who are registered to vote 18+)

How much do you support or oppose the following policies? (Cont'd.)

Provide tax rebates for people who purchase energy-efficient vehicles or solar panels

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|-------------------|-------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Strongly support | 29 | 16 | 40 ^{ac} | 26 ^a |
| Somewhat support | 44 | 42 | 42 | 49 |
| Somewhat oppose | 14 | 20 ^b | 10 | 15 |
| Strongly oppose | 8 | 17 ^{bc} | 3 | 7 |
| Don't know | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 |

Regulate carbon dioxide (the primary greenhouse gas) as a pollutant

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|-------------------|-------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Strongly support | 22 | 8 | 33 ^{ac} | 20 ^a |
| Somewhat support | 45 | 40 | 43 | 51 ^a |
| Somewhat oppose | 18 | 24 ^b | 15 | 15 |
| Strongly oppose | 12 | 24 ^{bc} | 4 | 10 ^b |
| Don't know | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 |

Superscripts following a statistic indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the adjacent column denoted in the superscript (95% confidence level).

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans who are registered to vote 18+)

How much do you support or oppose the following policies? (Cont'd.)

Eliminate all federal subsidies for the fossil fuel industry (oil, and natural gas), which currently total an estimated \$10.4 billion a year

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|-------------------|-------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Strongly support | 22 | 13 | 26 ^a | 26 ^a |
| Somewhat support | 39 | 37 | 38 | 41 |
| Somewhat oppose | 26 | 30 | 26 | 24 |
| Strongly oppose | 8 | 15 ^{bc} | 5 | 6 |
| Don't know | 5 | 6 | 5 | 3 |

Eliminate all federal subsidies for the renewable energy industry (solar, wind, and geothermal), which currently total an estimated \$1.7 billion a year

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|-------------------|-------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Strongly support | 9 | 17 ^{bc} | 5 | 8 |
| Somewhat support | 23 | 29 ^b | 20 | 21 |
| Somewhat oppose | 36 | 31 | 37 | 41 |
| Strongly oppose | 28 | 19 | 35 ^a | 28 |
| Don't know | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 |

Superscripts following a statistic indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the adjacent column denoted in the superscript (95% confidence level).

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans who are registered to vote 18+)

How much do you support or oppose the following policies? (Cont'd.)

Increase taxes on gasoline by 25 cents per gallon and return the revenues to taxpayers by reducing the Federal income tax

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|-------------------|-------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Strongly support | 8 | 5 | 10 | 7 |
| Somewhat support | 23 | 17 | 29 ^{ac} | 19 |
| Somewhat oppose | 30 | 23 | 33 ^a | 34 ^a |
| Strongly oppose | 35 | 52 ^{bc} | 24 | 35 ^b |
| Don't know | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |

Require companies that produce or import fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas) to pay a tax (a “carbon tax”) even if it costs the average household an average of \$180 per year

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|-------------------|-------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Strongly support | 10 | 4 | 15 ^{ac} | 8 |
| Somewhat support | 29 | 18 | 38 ^{ac} | 25 |
| Somewhat oppose | 33 | 34 | 31 | 36 |
| Strongly oppose | 24 | 39 ^{bc} | 12 | 27 ^b |
| Don't know | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 |

Superscripts following a statistic indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the adjacent column denoted in the superscript (95% confidence level).

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans who are registered to vote 18+)

In the future, do you think the United States should use fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas) less, more, or the same amount as we do today?

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|--------------------------|-------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Much more than today | 8 | 13 ^b | 5 | 7 |
| Somewhat more than today | 11 | 16 ^{bc} | 9 | 9 |
| Same amount as today | 14 | 19 ^b | 10 | 15 |
| Somewhat less than today | 27 | 27 | 24 | 31 |
| Much less than today | 27 | 11 | 37 ^a | 30 ^a |
| Don't know | 11 | 11 | 15 ^c | 6 |
| Prefer not to answer | 1 | 2 | * | 1 |

(Base: Americans who are registered to vote 18+)

In the future, do you think the United States should use renewable energy sources (solar, wind and geothermal) less, more, or the same amount as we do today?

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|--------------------------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Much more than today | 57 | 42 | 64 ^a | 61 ^a |
| Somewhat more than today | 23 | 29 ^b | 19 | 24 |
| Same amount as today | 8 | 10 | 7 | 8 |
| Somewhat less than today | 2 | 4 ^b | * | 1 |
| Much less than today | 1 | 2 | 1 | * |
| Don't know | 9 | 12 | 8 | 6 |
| Prefer not to answer | 1 | 1 | 1 | * |

Superscripts following a statistic indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the adjacent column denoted in the superscript (95% confidence level).

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans who are registered to vote 18+)

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?

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|----------------------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Strongly support | 18 | 11 | 21 ^a | 20 ^a |
| Somewhat support | 23 | 20 | 23 | 28 |
| Undecided | 25 | 27 | 26 | 23 |
| Somewhat oppose | 15 | 15 | 12 | 19 |
| Strongly oppose | 9 | 13 | 8 | 7 |
| Don't know | 10 | 14 ^c | 11 ^c | 4 |
| Prefer not to answer | * | * | - | - |

Superscripts following a statistic indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the adjacent column denoted in the superscript (95% confidence level).

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

Would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate who supports legislation to increase taxes on coal, oil, and natural gas (a “carbon tax”) in a way that is “revenue neutral” (meaning the total amount of taxes collected by the government would stay the same), if the new carbon tax...

Was used to pay down the national debt

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|-------------------------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Much more likely | 28 | 22 | 33 ^a | 27 |
| Somewhat more likely | 27 | 22 | 31 | 25 |
| It would have no effect | 15 | 14 | 15 | 17 |
| Somewhat less likely | 5 | 6 | 2 | 8 ^b |
| Much less likely | 8 | 16 ^b | 2 | 11 ^b |
| Don't know | 13 | 17 | 13 | 10 |
| Prefer not to answer | 3 | 3 | 4 | 2 |

Was used to reduce the Federal income tax rate

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|-------------------------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Much more likely | 24 | 18 | 29 ^a | 22 |
| Somewhat more likely | 25 | 23 | 24 | 26 |
| It would have no effect | 20 | 19 | 23 | 17 |
| Somewhat less likely | 6 | 7 | 3 | 8 |
| Much less likely | 9 | 16 ^b | 3 | 12 ^b |
| Don't know | 13 | 13 | 13 | 14 |
| Prefer not to answer | 3 | 4 | 4 | 2 |

Superscripts following a statistic indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the adjacent column denoted in the superscript (95% confidence level).

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

Would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate who supports legislation to increase taxes on coal, oil, and natural gas (a “carbon tax”) in a way that is “revenue neutral” (meaning the total amount of taxes collected by the government would stay the same), if the new carbon tax... (Cont’d.)

Was used to give a tax refund of \$180, on average, to each American household

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|-------------------------|-------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Much more likely | 16 | 10 | 22 ^{ac} | 13 |
| Somewhat more likely | 23 | 17 | 28 ^a | 21 |
| It would have no effect | 26 | 25 | 25 | 29 |
| Somewhat less likely | 6 | 8 ^b | 3 | 6 |
| Much less likely | 11 | 20 ^b | 4 | 14 ^b |
| Don’t know | 15 | 16 | 14 | 14 |
| Prefer not to answer | 3 | 3 | 4 | 2 |

Created more American jobs in the renewable energy and energy efficiency industries

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|-------------------------|-------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Much more likely | 37 | 24 | 47 ^{ac} | 36 ^a |
| Somewhat more likely | 27 | 26 | 28 | 28 |
| It would have no effect | 9 | 9 | 8 | 11 |
| Somewhat less likely | 4 | 7 ^{bc} | 2 | 2 |
| Much less likely | 7 | 13 ^b | 1 | 9 ^b |
| Don’t know | 13 | 18 ^a | 10 | 12 |
| Prefer not to answer | 3 | 4 | 3 | 1 |

Superscripts following a statistic indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the adjacent column denoted in the superscript (95% confidence level).

- = 0%

* = <1%

(Base: Americans 18+)

Would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate who supports legislation to increase taxes on coal, oil, and natural gas (a “carbon tax”) in a way that is “revenue neutral” (meaning the total amount of taxes collected by the government would stay the same), if the new carbon tax... (Cont’d.)

Decreased pollution by encouraging companies to find less polluting alternatives

| | Total | Republicans | Democrats | Independents |
|-------------------------|-------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| (Unweighted base) | (817) | (260) | (326) | (231) |
| | % | % | % | % |
| | | a | b | c |
| Much more likely | 32 | 15 | 45 ^{ac} | 29 ^a |
| Somewhat more likely | 28 | 25 | 28 | 32 |
| It would have no effect | 14 | 22 ^{bc} | 10 | 11 |
| Somewhat less likely | 5 | 8 ^b | 2 | 5 |
| Much less likely | 7 | 11 ^b | 1 | 10 ^b |
| Don’t know | 13 | 16 | 12 | 12 |
| Prefer not to answer | 3 | 4 | 3 | 1 |

Superscripts following a statistic indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the adjacent column denoted in the superscript (95% confidence level).

- = 0%

* = <1%

Appendix II: Survey Method

The data in this report are based on a nationally representative survey of 1,061 American adults, aged 18 and older, conducted from August 31 – September 12, 2012. All questionnaires were self-administered by respondents in a web-based environment. The survey took, on average, about 25 minutes to complete.

The sample was drawn from Knowledge Networks's KnowledgePanel[®], an online panel of members drawn using probability sampling methods. Prospective members are recruited using a combination of random digit dial and address-based sampling techniques that cover virtually all (non-institutional) resident phone numbers and addresses in the United States. Those contacted who would choose to join the panel but do not have access to the Internet are loaned computers and given Internet access so they may participate.

The sample therefore includes a representative cross-section of American adults – irrespective of whether they have Internet access, use only a cell phone, etc. Key demographic variables were weighted, post survey, to match US Census Bureau norms.

The survey instrument was designed by Anthony Leiserowitz and Geoff Feinberg of Yale University, and Edward Maibach and Connie Roser-Renouf of George Mason University.

Margins of error

All samples are subject to some degree of sampling error—that is, statistical results obtained from a sample can be expected to differ somewhat from results that would be obtained if every member of the target population was interviewed. Average margins of error, at the 95% confidence level, are as follows:

- September 2012: Fielded August 31 through September 12, 2012 with 1,061 American adults. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percentage points.
- March 2012: Fielded March 12 through March 30, 2012 with 1,008 American adults. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 points.
- November 2011: Fielded October 20 through November 16 with 1,000 American adults. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 points.
- May 2011: Fielded April 23 through May 12 with 1,010 American adults. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 points.
- June 2010: Fielded May 14 through June 1 with 1,024 American adults. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 points.
- 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 points.
- 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 points.
- For political parties, margins of error are: Democrats (plus or minus 6 points); Independents (plus or minus 5 points); Republicans (plus or minus 5 points).

Appendix III: Sample Demographics

| | N (unweighted) 1,061 | % (weighted) 100 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Total | | |
| Sex | | |
| Men | 547 | 48 |
| Women | 514 | 52 |
| Age | | |
| Generation Y (18-29) | 165 | 21 |
| Generation X (30-47) | 285 | 30 |
| Baby Boomers (48-66) | 420 | 35 |
| WWII (67+) | 10 | 15 |
| Education | | |
| Less than high school | 73 | 12 |
| High school graduate | 302 | 30 |
| Some college/tech | 319 | 29 |
| College graduate | 219 | 18 |
| Post graduate | 148 | 11 |
| Household Income | | |
| <\$25K | 163 | 19 |
| \$25K - <\$50K | 245 | 23 |
| \$50K - <\$75K | 217 | 19 |
| \$75K - <\$100K | 165 | 15 |
| \$100K - <\$175K | 226 | 19 |
| \$175K+ | 45 | 4 |
| Hispanic | | |
| Yes | 152 | 14 |
| Race/Ethnicity | | |
| White, non-Hispanic | 707 | 67 |
| Black, African-American non-Hispanic | 123 | 12 |
| Other non-Hispanic | 65 | 6 |
| Region | | |
| Northeast | 194 | 18 |
| Midwest | 239 | 21 |
| South | 380 | 36 |
| West | 248 | 23 |

