

Topline questionnaire

**2020 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
WAVE 67 TOPLINE
April 29-May 5
TOTAL N=10,957**

OTHER QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

ENV2 Do you favor or oppose EXPANDING each of the following sources of energy in our country? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No Answer</u>
a. More offshore oil and gas drilling in U.S. waters			
April 29-May 5, 2020	40	58	2
Oct 1-13, 2019	42	56	1
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	39	60	1
May 10-Jun 6, 2016	45	52	3
b. More nuclear power plants to generate electricity			
April 29-May 5, 2020	43	55	2
Oct 1-13, 2019	49	49	2
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	44	54	2
May 10-Jun 6, 2016	43	54	3
c. More coal mining			
April 29-May 5, 2020	33	65	2
Oct 1-13, 2019	35	63	2
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	37	61	2
May 10-Jun 6, 2016	41	57	3
d. More solar panel "farms"			
April 29-May 5, 2020	90	9	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	92	8	1
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	89	10	1
May 10-Jun 6, 2016	89	9	2
e. More hydraulic fracturing, sometimes called "fracking," for oil and natural gas			
April 29-May 5, 2020	37	60	3
Oct 1-13, 2019	38	60	2
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	39	58	2
May 10-Jun 6, 2016	42	53	5
f. More wind turbine "farms"			
April 29-May 5, 2020	83	16	2
Oct 1-13, 2019	85	14	1
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	85	13	2
May 10-Jun 6, 2016	83	14	3

TRENDS FOR COMPARISON

Pew Research Center survey conducted by telephone: Would you favor or oppose allowing more offshore oil and gas drilling in U.S. waters?

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Jan 10-15, 2018	41	57	12
Aug 15-25, 2014 ²	39	51	10

Pew Research Center survey conducted by telephone: As I read some possible government policies, tell me whether you would favor or oppose. Would you favor or oppose the government allowing more offshore oil and gas drilling in U.S. waters?

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Mar 7-11, 2012	65	31	4
Oct 13-18, 2010	57	37	6
Jun 16-20, 2010	44	52	4
May 6-9, 2010	54	38	8
Feb 3-9, 2019	63	31	6
April 2009	68	27	5
September 2008	67	28	5

Pew Research Center survey conducted by telephone: All in all, do you favor or oppose building more nuclear power plants to generate electricity?

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Aug 15-25, 2014	45	51	4
Apr 28-May 12, 2009	51	42	7

Pew Research Center survey conducted by telephone: As I read some possible government policies, tell me whether you would favor or oppose. Would you favor or oppose the government promoting the increased use of nuclear power?

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Mar 7-11, 2012	44	49	7
Nov 3-6, 2011	39	53	8
Mar 17-20, 2011	39	52	8
Oct 13-18, 2010	45	44	11
Jun 16-20, 2010	47	47	6
May 6-9, 2010	45	44	11
Feb 3-9, 2019	52	41	7
April 2009	45	46	7
September 2008	50	43	7
Late February, 2008	44	48	8
February, 2006	44	49	7
Mid-September 2005	39	53	8

² In August 2014 respondents were asked, "All in all, do you favor or opposed allowing more offshore oil and gas drilling in U.S. waters?"

Pew Research Center survey conducted by telephone: Do you favor or oppose increased use of fracking, a drilling method that uses high-pressure water and chemicals to extract oil and natural gas from underground rock formations?

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Nov 6-9, 2014	41	57	12
Aug 15-25, 2014	39	51	10
Sep 4-8, 2013	44	49	7
Mar 13-17, 2013	48	38	14

ASK ALL:

EN1

Right now, which ONE of the following do you think should be the more important priority for addressing America's energy supply? **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS]**

Apr 29- May 5 2020		Oct 1-13 2019
79	Developing alternative sources, such as wind, solar and hydrogen technology	77
20	Expanding exploration and production of oil, coal and natural gas	22
1	No answer	1

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

Pew Research Center survey conducted by telephone: Right now, which ONE of the following do you think should be the more important priority for addressing America's energy supply **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**?

	<u>Developing alternative sources such as, wind, solar and hydrogen technology</u>	<u>Expanding exploration and production of oil, coal and natural gas</u>	<u>(VOL.) Both should be given equal priority</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
Jan 4-9, 2017	65	27	5	3
Dec 3-7, 2014	60	30	5	4
Feb 12-26, 2014	65	28	5	2
Sep 4-8, 2013	58	34	6	3
Feb 13-18, 2013	54	34	7	4
Oct 24-28, 2012	47	39	9	5
Mar 7-11, 2012	52	39	5	4
Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011	63	29	6	2

ASK ALL:

ENVIR6

Which of these statements comes closest to your own view about the MOST EFFECTIVE WAY to increase reliance on renewable energy sources, even if neither is exactly right?
[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS]

Apr 29– May 5 <u>2020</u>		Mar 27– Apr 9 <u>2018</u>
58	Government regulations are necessary to encourage businesses and consumers to rely more on renewable energy sources	56
39	The private marketplace will ensure that businesses and consumers rely more on renewable energy sources, even without government regulations	42
2	No Answer	1

TREND FOR COMPARISON

Pew Research Center survey conducted by telephone: Which of these statements come closest to your own view about the MOST EFFECTIVE WAY to increase reliance on renewable energy sources, even if neither is exactly right? [READ AND RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]

<i>May 3-7 <u>2017</u></i>	
<i>54</i>	<i>Government regulations are necessary to encourage businesses and consumers to rely more on renewable energy sources</i>
<i>38</i>	<i>The private marketplace will ensure that businesses and consumers rely more on renewable energy sources, even without government regulations</i>
<i>8</i>	<i>No answer</i>

ASK ALL:

ENVIR8 How much do you think the federal government is doing to... **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; show on same screen]**

	<u>Too much</u>	<u>Too little</u>	<u>About the right amount</u>	<u>No Answer</u>
a. Protect air quality				
April 29-May 5, 2020	4	65	30	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	4	67	28	1
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	8	64	27	1
b. Protect water quality of lakes, rivers and streams				
April 29-May 5, 2020	3	67	29	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	4	68	27	1
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	6	69	24	1
c. Protect animals and their habitats				
April 29-May 5, 2020	6	62	32	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	7	62	31	1
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	9	63	27	1
d. Protect open lands in national parks and nature preserves				
April 29-May 5, 2020	5	54	40	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	5	55	39	1
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	8	57	34	1
e. Reduce the effects of global climate change				
April 29-May 5, 2020	9	65	25	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	10	67	23	1
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	13	67	19	1

ASK ALL:

EN7

How much do you think human activity, such as the burning of fossil fuels, contributes to global climate change?

Apr 29- May 5 <u>2020</u>		Oct 1-13 <u>2019</u>
49	A great deal	49
32	Some	30
13	Not too much	14
6	Not at all	5
1	No answer	2

ASK ALL:

CCPOLICY

Do you favor or oppose the following proposals to reduce the effects of global climate change? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; show on same screen]**

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No Answer</u>
a. Planting about a trillion trees around the world to absorb carbon emissions in the atmosphere Apr 29-May 5, 2020	90	9	1
b. Taxing corporations based on the amount of carbon emissions they produce Apr 29-May 5, 2020	73	25	1
c. Providing a tax credit to encourage businesses to develop technology which captures and stores carbon emissions so they do not enter the atmosphere Apr 29-May 5, 2020	84	15	1
d. Tougher restrictions on power plant carbon emissions Apr 29-May 5, 2020	80	19	1
e. Tougher fuel-efficiency standards for automobiles and trucks Apr 29-May 5, 2020	71	28	1

ASK ALL:

CLIM9 How much, if at all, do you think global climate change is currently affecting your local community?

	A great <u>deal</u>	<u>Some</u>	Not too <u>much</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>No Answer</u>
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	24	39	25	12	<1
Oct 1-13, 2019 ³	22	39	24	13	1
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018 ⁴	22	37	25	15	<1

ASK IF CLIM9=1,2 (LOCAL COMMUNITY AFFECTED A GREAT DEAL OR SOME) [N=7,384]:

CLIM10 Would you say each of the following is a MAJOR way that global climate change is currently affecting your local community, or not? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=7,384]

	<u>Yes, a major way</u>	<u>No, not a major way</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Droughts or water shortages			
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	60	39	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	64	35	1
b. Long periods of unusually hot weather			
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	73	26	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	79	21	1
c. Severe weather, like floods or intense storms			
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	70	29	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	70	29	<1
d. Rising sea levels that erode beaches and shore lines			
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	58	41	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	56	43	1
e. Damage to forests and plant life			
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	67	32	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	67	32	1
f. Harm to animal wildlife and their habitats			
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	69	30	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	69	30	1
g. More frequent wildfires			
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	59	41	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	56	43	1

³ October 2019 survey combines those asked in a series and those asked as the question is shown here.

⁴ Spring 2018 survey asked about climate change affecting your local community as part of a series.

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