

**2025 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
W169 - SCIENCE TOPLINE
APR 28-MAY 4, 2025
N=5,085**

Note: All numbers are percentages unless otherwise noted. Rows/columns may not total 100% due to rounding. The questions presented below are part of a larger survey conducted on the American Trends Panel.

"No answer" includes web respondents who do not answer the question as well as telephone respondents who refuse to answer or who say they don't know how to answer. In cases where "Not sure" was offered as an explicit option to web and telephone respondents, the "no answer" category includes only web skips and telephone refusals.

This survey was conducted primarily online, with some interviews conducted by live telephone. This topline shows the programming language for online administration. For details on how questions were slightly modified for phone administration, visit the questionnaire.

American Trends Panel surveys conducted between October 2016 and June 2024 were conducted fully online (with tablets and data plans provided to adults without home internet). American Trends Panel surveys conducted prior to October 2016 were conducted primarily online, with some respondents completing by mail. For additional details, visit the methodology.

PN = Programming note

	Sample size	Margin of error at 95% confidence level
U.S. adults	5,085	+/- 1.6 percentage points

OTHER QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED.**ENV2****ASK ALL:****[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS.]**Do you favor or oppose expanding each of the following sources of energy in our country?

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. More offshore oil and gas drilling in U.S. waters			
Apr 28-May 4, 2025	48	50	2
May 13-19, 2024	48	49	3
May 30-Jun 4, 2023	47	50	2
May 2-8, 2022	48	50	2
Apr 20-29, 2021	43	55	3
Apr 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			
Apr 28-May 4, 2025	59	39	2
May 13-19, 2024	56	41	3
May 30-Jun 4, 2023	57	41	2
May 2-8, 2022	54	44	2
Apr 20-29, 2021	50	47	3
Apr 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			
Apr 28-May 4, 2025	41	57	2
May 13-19, 2024	39	58	3
May 30-Jun 4, 2023	38	60	2
May 2-8, 2022	36	62	2
Apr 20-29, 2021	36	61	3
Apr 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"			
Apr 28-May 4, 2025	77	22	1
May 13-19, 2024	78	20	2
May 30-Jun 4, 2023	82	17	1
May 2-8, 2022	86	13	1
Apr 20-29, 2021	84	14	2

ENV2 CONTINUED...

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Apr 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			
Apr 28-May 4, 2025	45	51	3
May 13-19, 2024	44	53	3
May 30-Jun 4, 2023	44	53	2
May 2-8, 2022	45	53	3
Apr 20-29, 2021	41	56	3
Apr 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
ASK FORM 1 [N=2,538]:			
f. More wind turbine "farms"			
Apr 28-May 4, 2025	68	31	1
May 13-19, 2024	72	26	2
May 30-Jun 4, 2023	75	23	1
May 2-8, 2022	79	19	1
Apr 20-29, 2021	77	20	2
Apr 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
ASK FORM 2 [N=2,547]:			
g. More offshore wind turbine "farms"			
Apr 28-May 4, 2025	69	30	2
Apr 20-29, 2021	75	23	3

FAVNUCOE**ASK IF FORM 1 AND FAVOR MORE NUCLEAR POWER (X_FORM=1 AND ENV2_b=1) [N=1,495]:**

What is the main reason you favor more nuclear power plants to generate electricity?¹

	April 28-May 4, 2025
Clean/low-carbon energy source	40
Nuclear is efficient	20
Nuclear is safe, well-regulated, and well-staffed	13
Economic benefits NET	13
<i>It is cost effective</i>	9
<i>It can reduce the cost of electricity</i>	3
<i>Will create jobs</i>	1
Nuclear is reliable/dependable	10
Need varied energy sources/Have to keep up with increased energy demand	9
Better than other energy sources/Is the best source of energy NET	8
<i>Better than fossil fuels</i>	3
<i>Better in general/The best source of energy</i>	3
<i>Better than renewables</i>	2
The technology has improved	5
If managed correctly it is safe	5
Mentions drawbacks/concerns as well as benefits	3
Overall support, good source of energy	2
We only don't like nuclear because of cultural fear or stigma	2
Unclear	3
Other	5
Don't know	1
No answer	15

¹ Verbatim responses have been coded into categories. Figures add to more than 100% because multiple responses were accepted.

OPPNUCOE**ASK IF FORM 1 AND OPPOSE MORE NUCLEAR POWER (X_FORM=1 AND ENV2_b=2) [N=983]:**

What is the main reason you oppose more nuclear power plants to generate electricity?²

	April 28-May 4, 2025
Safety concerns NET	44
<i>General mentions of not being safe</i>	23
<i>Risk of failure/catastrophe (includes references to specific disasters)</i>	16
<i>Risk to human health specifically</i>	5
<i>Risk to local community generally</i>	3
<i>War or terrorism risk</i>	2
General environmental concerns	14
Concerns about toxic waste	14
Other sources are better NET	6
<i>Renewables are better</i>	3
<i>Other sources of energy are better, nonspecific</i>	2
Don't have confidence in plant regulation, management or development	2
Nuclear infrastructure is expensive, slow, and resource heavy	2
Mentions benefits as well as risks	1
Risks outweigh the benefits	1
We don't need nuclear power	1
Don't know enough about nuclear power	4
Other	5
Unclear	4
Don't know	1
No answer	20

OTHER QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED.

² Verbatim responses have been coded into categories. Figures add to more than 100% because multiple responses were accepted.