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Chapter 13b: U.S. Opinion on Energy Security

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CHAPTER 13B: U.S. OPINION ON ENERGY SECURITY

Concerns about Energy Security

Americans show high levels of concern about energy security. A large majority of the U.S. public believes that energy shortages and higher prices could lead to destabilization of the world economy, that competition for energy could lead to international conflict (and even war), and that the way the world produces energy is causing environmental problems. A large majority favors creating a new international institution to monitor the worldwide energy market.

Many Americans express concerns about a variety of possible scenarios involving energy security. A 2006 British Broadcasting Company (BBC)/GlobeScan/Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA) poll presented three possibilities and asked respondents how concerned they were about each.

On the possibility that **energy shortages and prices will destabilize the world economy**, a majority of U.S. respondents (82 percent) expressed concern, with 44 percent saying that they were very concerned. This level of concern was slightly higher than the global average, where 77 percent of respondents said they were concerned (39 percent very concerned) and 19 percent said they were not concerned.¹

Regarding the possibility that **competition for energy will lead to greater conflict and war between nations**, once again an overwhelming majority of U.S. respondents (79 percent) expressed concern (41 said they were very concerned), while 19 percent said that they were not concerned. The global average was quite similar, with 72 percent concerned (36 percent very) and 22 percent not concerned.²

On the possibility that **the way the world produces and uses energy is causing environmental problems including climate change**, most Americans (82 percent) replied that they are concerned (53 percent very concerned), while 18 percent said that they are not. Globally, 81 percent of respondents were concerned (47 percent very) and 16 percent not concerned.³

The U.S. public is also deeply concerned about the potential for disruption in energy supplies. The Chicago Council on Global Affairs (CCGA) found that roughly half (54 percent) of Americans regarded this threat as a critical one. Another 41 percent regarded it as important but not critical, while only 4 percent regarded it as not important. In previous polling, the number regarding the threat as critical had spiked to 72 percent in 2008 from 59 percent in 2006. The 2006 poll was also asked internationally as part of a poll with WorldPublicOpinion.org (WPO), and on average among all eight countries polled on this question, 51 percent of respondents called it a critical threat, 30 percent said it was important but not critical, and 11 percent said it was not an important threat at all.⁴

CCGA in 2010 also asked a question on the possible threat of “U.S. dependence on foreign oil” and found a slightly higher level of concern. Sixty-two percent of Americans regarded it as a critical threat, 34 percent regarded it as important but not critical, and only three percent regarded it as not important.⁵

People in both the United States and Europe expect that they will be personally affected by “energy dependence” in the next ten years, according to a 2008 poll from the German Marshall Fund (GMF). A large majority of Americans (87 percent) said that they would likely be affected, while 11 percent said that it was not likely. U.S. responses were only slightly higher than the average of twelve European countries polled, where 81 percent said energy dependence would likely affect them and 15 percent said it is not likely that it would affect them.⁶

Americans also overwhelmingly agree that securing adequate supplies of energy should be an important goal for their country (CCGA 2006), with 72 percent regarding this goal as very important, 25 percent as important, and only 2 percent as not important. On average, 65 percent of respondents in seven countries polled said that this goal is very important, 26 percent said it is somewhat important, and 5 percent said it is not important at all.

Americans also overwhelmingly agree that securing adequate supplies of energy should be an important goal for their country (CCGA 2010), with 68 percent regarding this goal as very important, 29 percent as important, and only 2 percent as not important. In 2006 asked as part of an international poll, 72 percent of Americans viewed this goal as very important. On average across seven countries, 65 percent of respondents polled said that this goal is very important, 26 percent said it is somewhat important, and 5 percent said it is not important at all.⁷

A majority (64 percent) of Americans favor creating a new international institution to “monitor the worldwide energy market and predict potential shortages.” Thirty-five percent oppose the idea (CCGA 2010).⁸

Approaches to Energy Supply—Renewable Energy

There is strong U.S. support for a variety of methods to address the problem of energy supply. Americans are in favor of putting greater emphasis on the development of alternative renewable sources such as solar and wind, requiring utilities to use more alternative renewable energy (even if this increases the cost), and providing tax incentives to encourage the development and use of such technologies. There is substantial optimism that investments in alternative energy will pay off economically in the long run. Americans also strongly agree that investing in renewable energy is important for the United States to remain competitive in the global economy.

The U.S. public widely favors putting greater emphasis on installing new wind or solar systems to help meet energy needs. In a 2008 WPO poll, 87 percent of U.S. respondents said that their country should emphasize these systems more than they are now. That number is somewhat higher than the average (77 percent) in twenty-one of the populations polled globally.⁹

In addition, an overwhelming 91 percent of Americans believe “investing in renewable energy” is important for the United States to remain competitive with other countries in the global economy, with 62 percent considering this very important (CCGA 2010).¹⁰

CCGA in 2010 found strong support for tax incentives to encourage alternative energy sources specifically as a way to address dependence on foreign energy sources. Eight-in-ten (80 percent) favored such a step, 47 percent strongly. Only 17 percent were opposed.¹¹

Most Americans also favor the U.S. government requiring utilities to use more alternative energy, such as wind and solar, even if this increases the cost of energy in the short run. Two-thirds (66 percent) of the U.S. public supported this idea, while 28 percent opposed it. On the whole, an average of 69 percent of respondents in twenty-one publics globally favored requiring utilities to use more alternative energy, while 20 percent were opposed (WPO 2008).¹² In an April 2007 poll, 75 percent of Americans agreed they “would be willing to pay more for electricity if it were generated by renewable sources like solar and energy” in order to reduce global warming (CBS News/*New York Times*).¹³

There is also broad U.S. public support for creating tax incentives to encourage the development and use of alternative energy sources, such as solar or wind power. A large majority (85 percent) of Americans favored such tax incentives (59 percent strongly), while 12 percent were opposed (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006). In the average of all nineteen countries polled, 80 percent favored tax incentives (50 percent strongly) while 14 percent were opposed.¹⁴

A large majority of Americans (77 percent) favored the government increasing the “financial support and incentives it gives for producing energy from alternative sources such as wind and solar” (Gallup 2009). Only 8 percent said such support should be decreased, while 13 percent said there should be no change.¹⁵ In a related question, 63 percent said the government “should offer tax breaks for companies to develop alternative energy sources” compared to 32 percent who said it should “leave it to the marketplace” (ABC News 2008).¹⁶

When presented with competing arguments about the costs of making a major shift to alternative energy sources such as wind and solar, the U.S. public favors making such a shift. Most U.S. respondents (79 percent) sided with the argument that, with the rising cost of energy, making a major shift to alternative energy sources would save money in the long run

(WPO 2008). On average among the twenty-one publics surveyed, a lower 66 percent of all respondents said it would save money in the long run.¹⁷

Approaches to Energy Supply—Conservation

In general, the U.S. public strongly favors conservation. Specifically, it favors putting greater emphasis on modifying buildings to make them more energy efficient as well as requiring businesses to use energy more efficiently, even if this might make some products more expensive. Americans are in favor of requiring automakers to increase fuel efficiency, even if this means the price of cars would go up, however a slight majority opposes an extra charge for the purchase of models of appliances or cars that are not energy efficient. American are initially opposed to increasing energy taxes to encourage conservation, but a majority supports higher taxes if the revenues are earmarked for developing alternative energy or if the tax is offset by other tax reductions.

Americans generally support conservation as a means to reduce U.S. energy dependence. In an August 2008 George Washington University survey, an overwhelming majority (92 percent) favored “promoting energy conservation practices.”¹⁸

To this end, the U.S. public favors putting greater emphasis on modifying buildings to make them more energy efficient. Asked whether they thought there should be more, less, or the same level of emphasis on modifying buildings for this purpose, 83 percent favored more emphasis, 11 percent wanted no change, and 4 percent desired less emphasis (WPO 2008). U.S. responses were slightly more “green” than the global average, where 74 percent favored more emphasis, 11 percent favored less emphasis, and 8 percent favored the same emphasis.¹⁹

There is also widespread U.S. support for requiring businesses to use energy more efficiently. A majority of Americans (61 percent) favored mandatory energy efficiency standards for businesses, even if this might make some products more expensive (34 percent were opposed) (WPO 2008). Among the twenty-one publics polled, an average of 58 percent of respondents were in favor, while 31 percent were opposed.²⁰

More than two-thirds of Americans (69 percent) support the government creating tax incentives to encourage conservation, while only 23 percent are opposed (Pew 2008).²¹

Asked in the context of dealing with America’s dependence on foreign energy sources, two-thirds of Americans (65 percent) supported “requiring auto-makers to increase fuel efficiency, even if this means the price of cars would go up” (CCGA 2010). Thirty-one percent were opposed.²²

A large majority of the U.S. public favors mandating increased vehicle fuel efficiency, even if this means higher car prices. Seventy-seven percent of U.S. respondents were in favor of this idea, while 21 percent were opposed (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006). This support is somewhat higher than the average of all nineteen countries surveyed on this question, where 67 percent favored higher standards and 26 percent opposed them.²³

However, when asked about the possible conservation measure of adding an extra charge for the purchase of models of appliances or cars that are not energy-efficient, a majority of Americans (52 percent) opposed the measure, while 43 percent were in favor. Across twenty-one publics polled, 48 percent of respondents were in favor of this measure and 39 percent were opposed.²⁴

Americans initially resist energy taxes. In 2006, BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA found that a slight majority of U.S. respondents (51 percent) opposed such a tax increase, while 47 percent were in favor. On average in the nineteen countries polled, there was more opposition, with 59 percent opposing an increase in energy taxes for conservation and 37 percent favoring such taxes.²⁵

In the United States, the public is particularly resistant to the prospect of increased gasoline taxes. In June 2010, when gas prices were higher, *CBS/New York Times* asked Americans if they would favor an increase in tax on gasoline if it would

help pay for “the development of renewable sources of energy and help reduce the United States’ dependence on foreign oil. In response, 45 percent were in favor, and 51 opposed a tax increase. Similarly, in the same poll, when asked a similar question in which gasoline would increase in cost by \$1.00 a gallon, 65 percent of the American public opposed an increase in the cost of gasoline, with 39 percent in favor.²⁶ Asked by CCGA about raising taxes on fossil fuels “to encourage individuals and businesses to use less,” as a means of addressing dependence on foreign energy sources, 64 percent opposed such a step while 33 percent were in favor.²⁷ In an April 2009 poll, Pew found that 74 percent of Americans opposed “increasing taxes on gasoline to encourage carpooling and conservation.”²⁸ Similarly, 83 percent were against “increasing the federal tax on gasoline” and 63 percent were against “rationing gasoline and oil” in a June 2008 Fox News poll.²⁹

However, when energy taxes, including gasoline taxes are earmarked for a specific purpose support is fairly strong. In 2007 Americans were asked if they would be willing to “pay higher taxes on gasoline and other fuels if the money was used for research into renewable sources like solar and wind energy,” nearly two-thirds (64 percent) of were willing, while one-third (33 percent) was not.³⁰ In contrast, when a potential increase in the federal tax on gasoline was described more vaguely as a step to “cut down on energy consumption and reduce global warming,” only 38 percent of U.S. respondents were in favor (CBS News/*New York Times* 2007).³¹

When Americans were asked to evaluate the merits of conservation as compared to increased production of fossil-fuel-based energy, they generally preferred conservation. An April 2007 CBS News/*New York Times* poll found that 68 percent were in favor of “encouraging conservation,” compared to 21 percent who favored “increasing production of petroleum, coal and natural gas.”³² When asked in a CBS News/*New York Times* poll in 2007, 68 percent of Americans favored “encouraging people to conserve energy” over “increasing the production of petroleum, coal, and natural gas”—this was an increase of 19 percentage points from 2005.³³

Until March 2011, Gallup found consistent majority support for placing emphasis on “more conservation by consumers of existing energy sources” rather than “production of more oil, gas, and coal supplies.” Since reaching a peak of 64 percent in March 2007, this number fell to 48 percent in March 2011, with 41 percent favoring production.³⁴

When improving conservation was juxtaposed with the alternative of “finding new energy sources” in July 2008, 64 percent put a higher priority on the latter, while 33 percent considered conservation to be more important (ABC News).³⁵

Approaches to Energy Supply—Fossil Fuels

Americans oppose putting greater emphasis on building coal or oil-fired power plants. Expectations are high that the price of oil will rise dramatically over the next decade and most Americans say that their government should plan under the assumption that oil is running out and that a major effort is necessary to replace it. Americans lean against the idea of using military force to ensure the supply of oil.

Putting greater emphasis on building coal or oil-fired power plants does not win much support among the U.S. public. In a 2008 WPO poll, 49 percent of Americans responded that there should be less emphasis put on building such plants, while 25 percent wanted to emphasize it more, and 22 percent wanted no change. Globally, support for building new coal or oil-fired power plants was much higher, with an average of 40 percent of respondents across twenty-one nations wanting to emphasize this step more, 33 percent wanting to emphasize it less, and 17 percent wanting no change.³⁶

An overwhelming majority (85 percent) of U.S. respondents considered “decreas[ing] American dependence on oil imported from the Middle East” as important, with 67 percent saying it was very important (Pew 2006).³⁷

A large majority of Americans (88 percent) think that the price of oil will be higher within the next decade (63 percent “much higher”) and only 6 percent think the price will be lower (WPO 2008). On average in the sixteen nations polled, 79 percent predicted oil prices would be higher (55 percent much higher).³⁸

Three out of four U.S. respondents say that their governments should be making plans based on the assumption that oil is running out and will need to be replaced as a primary source of energy (WPO 2008). Only 23 percent agreed with the

argument that “enough new oil will be found so that it can remain a primary source of energy for the foreseeable future.” Globally, an average of 70 percent of respondents said governments should plan on oil running out, while 22 percent said that governments should assume enough new oil would be found.³⁹

In a follow-up question, respondents were asked to describe the assumptions they believed were informing their government’s actions. Most U.S. respondents (57 percent) said that the government was operating under the assumption that enough new oil would be found so that it could remain a primary source of energy for the foreseeable future, while 41 percent said the government was assuming that oil was running out (WPO 2008). In other words, there was a widespread perception among Americans that their government was failing to respond to the depletion of oil reserves.

However, on average globally, 53 percent said their government was assuming oil was running out and would need to be replaced, consistent with the majority assumption among the public.⁴⁰

The U.S. public leans against the idea of their country using force to ensure the supply of oil. When asked whether they approved of this, 50 percent of Americans said no, while 44 percent approved (GMF 2004). In ten European countries polled, an average of 42 percent approved of using force to ensure the supply of oil and 51 percent disapproved.⁴¹

Approaches to Energy Supply—Nuclear Energy

Fewer than half of Americans want to put a greater emphasis on building nuclear power plants, and since the Fukushima nuclear disaster a clear majority is opposed to building new nuclear power plants. However, most Americans do not want to abandon nuclear energy, and when building nuclear plants has been presented as being part of an effort to reduce reliance on oil and coal, or mitigate climate change, a majority has supported it.

Americans are not enthusiastic about nuclear energy. In a 2008 WPO poll, only 42 percent wanted the United States to put more emphasis on building nuclear power plants than it already does, a result similar to the 40 percent average support for this idea among the twenty-one nations polled.⁴²

A 2005 GlobeScan poll found that just 40 percent of Americans favored building new nuclear plants, slightly more than the average of 28 percent among all eighteen countries polled.⁴³

In the ongoing aftermath of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster following the earthquake and tsunami in Northern Japan in March 2011, American opinion on nuclear power grew more negative. An ABC News/Washington Post Poll found 64 percent were opposed to “building more nuclear power plants at this time.” This represents an 11 point increase from 2008’s 53% majority opposition.⁴⁴ It is unclear how long this spike in opposition will last.

Earlier polls have shown that Americans do not want to abandon nuclear energy altogether. In the 2008 WPO poll, only 31 percent of respondents thought there should be less emphasis on building nuclear power plants (similar to the global average of 30 percent), and in the 2005 GlobeScan poll, just 20 percent supported closing all nuclear power plants.

A 2009 Gallup poll also found that 59 percent of Americans favored “the use of nuclear energy as one of the ways to provide electricity for the United States.” This number is up from a low of 46 percent in 2001.⁴⁵

Furthermore, when poll questions have placed the building of nuclear power plants in the context of an effort to reduce reliance on oil and coal, a majority of Americans favor doing so. Apparently, in the eyes of U.S. respondents, nuclear energy is not an attractive option, but it is not as unattractive as oil and coal. When asked in 2006 about “building new nuclear power plants, to reduce reliance on oil and coal,” a large majority (63 percent) favored the idea (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006), as did an average of 49 percent of respondents in nineteen countries.⁴⁶ Asked a similar question by CCGA in 2010, 69 percent of Americans were in favor.⁴⁷ In 2008, Fox News also found a more modest majority of 51 percent that endorsed building more nuclear power plants as a way “to reduce the country’s dependence on foreign oil and make the United States more energy-independent.”⁴⁸

Support for mitigating the effects of global warming has also elicited support. Similarly, in an August 2006 *Los Angeles Times*/Bloomberg poll, 61 percent supported “the increased use of nuclear power as a source of energy in order to prevent global warming.”⁴⁹

Dealing With Energy-Producing Countries

Americans express strong support for reducing reliance on undemocratic countries in general and on Middle East countries in particular. While Americans are very concerned about dependence on Russian energy, they continue to have some faith in that nation as an energy supplier. When it comes to other energy-providing countries, such confidence is moderately low for Saudi Arabia, quite low for Venezuela, very low for Iran, and very high for Canada.

In a 2008 GMF poll, respondents were presented with three options for ensuring a stable supply of energy: increasing cooperation with energy-producing countries “even if their governments are undemocratic,” reducing energy dependence on other countries “even if energy prices would rise sharply,” or applying diplomatic pressure “even if this increases tensions with oil producing countries.” A plurality of Americans (48 percent) said that dependence on those countries should be reduced, even with sharp economic costs, 23 percent favored increased cooperation with energy suppliers, and 15 percent wanted to apply diplomatic pressure. Global attitudes were more split, and on average among twelve European countries polled, 35 percent favored increased cooperation, 35 percent favored reduced dependence, and 18 percent favored diplomatic pressure.⁵⁰

Americans also place great importance on reducing U.S. dependence on Middle Eastern countries as oil suppliers. An August 2006 Pew poll found 85 percent saying “decreas[ing] U.S. dependence on oil imported from the Middle East” was “very important” (67 percent) or “fairly important” (18 percent), compared to 10 percent saying it was “not at all important” (5 percent) or “not too important” (5 percent).⁵¹

Russia as an Energy Provider

Findings from a 2008 GMF poll reveal worries both in the United States and Europe about reliance on Russia as provider of energy. When asked about the extent to which they were concerned with Russia’s role as an energy provider, 61 percent of Americans said they were concerned (24 percent very concerned), while 33 percent said they were not concerned. On average in twelve European countries surveyed, 62 percent said they were concerned with Russia’s role and 31 percent said they were not concerned.⁵²

Overall, publics are divided on whether Russia can be trusted to fulfill its commitment to deliver energy to other countries. A slight majority (54 percent) of Americans said that they have a lot of trust (5 percent) or some trust (49 percent) in Russia to follow through on their commitment to deliver energy, while 43 percent said that they do not (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006). U.S. faith in Russia was higher than international trust in that nation: in the global average, 45 percent of respondents thought Russia could be trusted while 45 percent thought Russia could not be trusted.⁵³

Other Energy-Providing Countries

Trust in other energy suppliers varies significantly, depending on the country. When publics in nineteen countries were asked about their confidence that several energy-exporting nations would follow through on their commitments to deliver energy to other countries, overall trust was moderately low for Saudi Arabia, very low for Iran, quite low for Venezuela, and very high for Canada (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006).

There is some skepticism in the United States about Saudi Arabia’s reliability to meet its commitments as an energy supplier. Fifty-six percent of Americans said they do not trust Saudi Arabia to deliver on its energy commitments, while 41 percent said they do. Globally, an average of 46 percent of respondents said they do not trust Saudi Arabia on energy delivery, and 42 percent said they do (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006).⁵⁴

While confidence in Venezuela as an energy supplier is somewhat low, most Americans still trust the South American nation. A plurality of U.S. respondents (49 percent) said that they trust Venezuela to fulfill its energy commitments, while 42 percent said that they do not. A plurality (43 percent) of respondents globally, however, lack trust in the nation, while 35 percent have trust in it (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006).⁵⁵

Trust in Iran to deliver on its energy commitments is the lowest out of all suppliers evaluated. Eighty-three percent of Americans lack faith in the Islamic Republic, while only 14 percent said they trust Iran to fulfill its commitments. Globally, 62 percent said they do not trust Iran while 26 percent said they do (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006).⁵⁶

Canada is the energy supplier most widely trusted by the United States, as well as by other nations. Eighty-nine percent of Americans trust Canada to fulfill its energy commitments, while only 9 percent do not. On average globally, 60 percent said they trusted Canada as an energy supplier and 25 percent said they did not (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006).⁵⁷

¹ BBC July 2006

Please tell me if you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned or not at all concerned about each of the following possibilities related to energy issues.

That energy shortages and prices will destabilize the world economy.

	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not very concerned	Not at all concerned	DK / NA
Australia	43	42	11	4	1
Brazil	51	24	13	10	1
Canada	45	40	9	4	2
Chile	40	33	12	7	8
Egypt	47	32	13	7	1
France	29	50	13	5	2
Germany	31	42	20	7	1
Great Britain	49	35	9	4	3
India	42	26	11	10	12
Israel	29	38	14	16	3
Italy	40	44	10	4	1
Kenya	54	28	11	3	5
Mexico	46	37	11	4	2
Philippines	60	35	3	1	1
Poland	20	43	21	7	9
Russia	10	38	32	9	10
South Korea	43	50	6	*	1
Ukraine	26	39	21	5	9
United States	44	38	12	4	2
Average	39	38	13	6	4

² BBC July 2006

That competition for energy will lead to greater conflict and war between nations.

	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not very concerned	Not at all concerned	DK / NA
Australia	40	42	11	6	1
Brazil	47	26	14	12	1
Canada	42	40	11	6	1
Chile	39	32	14	7	8
Egypt	41	38	17	4	*
France	28	43	17	9	3
Germany	37	38	18	6	1
Great Britain	46	37	9	6	2
India	35	24	16	9	15
Israel	29	33	16	18	4
Italy	42	35	16	5	2
Kenya	49	27	11	6	7
Mexico	33	27	23	14	4
Philippines	50	38	8	2	2
Poland	16	36	25	11	12

Russia	14	42	27	7	11
South Korea	34	56	9	1	1
Ukraine	31	40	17	4	9
United States	41	38	12	7	1
Average	36	36	15	7	4

³ BBC July 2006

That the way the world produces and uses energy is causing environmental problems including climate change.

	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not very concerned	Not at all concerned	DK / NA
Australia	69	25	5	1	*
Brazil	61	20	10	8	1
Canada	62	29	4	4	1
Chile	50	28	10	6	6
Egypt	41	36	15	7	1
France	45	45	7	3	1
Germany	43	40	13	3	1
Great Britain	66	27	4	2	1
India	41	20	13	8	18
Israel	42	33	12	10	2
Italy	60	31	7	2	1
Kenya	55	24	11	5	5
Mexico	35	39	18	5	3
Philippines	47	41	8	2	2
Poland	17	41	23	8	12
Russia	20	46	20	4	9
South Korea	43	47	7	1	2
Ukraine	35	38	14	3	10
United States	53	29	10	8	1
Average	47	34	11	5	4

⁴ Chicago Council on Global Affairs

Below is a list of possible threats to the vital interest of the United States in the next 10 years. For each one, please select whether you see this as a critical threat, an important but not critical threat, or not an important threat at all.

Disruption in energy supply

	Critical	Important but not critical	Not important	Not sure/ Decline
2006	59	37	3	1
2008	72	25	3	1
2010	54	41	4	1

WorldPublicOpinion.org/Chicago Council on Global Affairs 2006

Below is a list of possible threats to the vital interest of [survey country] in the next 10 years. For each one, please select whether you see this as a critical threat, an important but not critical threat, or not an important threat at all.

Disruption in energy supply

	Critical	Important but not Critical	Not Important	NS/Decline
United States	59	37	3	1
Armenia	58	23	8	10
Australia	52	40	8	0
China	53	29	9	8
India	43	32	13	11
Iran	47	12	27	14
Israel	33	37	19	10
South Korea	64	31	4	0

⁵ **Chicago Council on Global Affairs 2010**

Below is a list of possible threats to the vital interest of the United States in the next 10 years. For each one, please select whether you see this as a critical threat, an important but not critical threat, or not an important threat at all.

U.S. dependence on foreign oil

62%	Critical
34	Important but not critical
3	Not important
1	Not sure/Decline

⁶ **German Marshall Fund Transatlantic Trends 2008**

And in the next 10 years, please tell me how likely you are to be personally affected by each of the following threats.

Energy dependence

	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Not too likely	Not likely at all	DK/ Refused	Likely	Not likely
United States	63	24	6	5	2	87	11
France	47	37	12	3	1	84	15
Germany	69	23	5	2	1	92	7
Great Britain	49	32	11	6	3	80	17
Italy	48	41	8	2	1	89	11
Netherlands	33	41	18	6	3	73	24
Poland	34	49	10	2	5	83	12
Portugal	45	34	10	5	6	79	15
Spain	60	31	5	3	1	91	8
Slovakia	30	46	15	4	6	75	18
Turkey	36	24	13	9	19	59	22
Bulgaria	43	37	7	4	9	81	11
Romania	29	44	14	5	6	73	20
European Average	44	37	11	4	5	81	15

⁷ **Chicago Council on Global Affairs**

Below is a list of possible foreign policy goals that the United States might have. For each one please select whether you think that it should be a very important foreign policy goal of the United States, a somewhat important foreign policy goal, or not an important goal at all?

Securing adequate supplies of energy

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Not sure/ Decline
1974	75	18	2	5
1978	78	15	2	5
1982	70	23	3	4
1986	69	25	3	3
1990	61	20	1	3
1994	62	30	5	3
1998	64	30	2	4
2002	70	27	3	1
2004	69	27	2	2
2006	72	25	2	2
2008	80	18	2	1
2010	68	29	2	1

WorldPublicOpinion.org/Chicago Council on Global Affairs 2006

Below is a list of possible foreign policy goals that [survey country] might have. For each one please select whether you think that it should be a very important foreign policy goal of [survey country], a somewhat important foreign policy goal, or not an important goal at all?

Securing adequate supplies of energy

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	NS/Decline
United States	72	25	2	2
Armenia	73	19	4	4
Australia	72	23	4	1
China	61	29	5	5
India	52	28	12	8
South Korea	63	33	3	
Thailand	59	23	3	15

⁸ **Chicago Council on Global Affairs**

Some people say that the world is facing some new problems that require some new international institutions or agencies to deal with them. Do you think that there should or should not be new international institutions to:

Monitor the worldwide energy market and predict potential shortages

	Should be	Should not be	Not sure/ Decline
2008	69	30	2
2010	64	35	1

⁹ WorldPublicOpinion.org September 2008

I would like you to consider different ways to deal with the problem of energy. For each one please tell me if you think our country should emphasize it more, less, or the same as now

Installing solar or wind energy systems

	Emphasize more	Emphasize less	Same as now	DK/NS
Argentina	82	4	6	8
Mexico	86	4	6	3
United States	87	5	6	3
France	88	3	9	0
Germany	82	5	12	2
Great Britain	81	6	10	4
Italy	88	7	4	2
Poland	85	7	1	7
Russia	50	4	12	35
Ukraine	67	6	7	20
Azerbaijan	64	10	13	14
Jordan	76	11	3	10
Palestinian Territories	59	30	8	4
Turkey	84	4	3	9
Kenya	88	11	0	1
Nigeria	77	17	4	3
China	84	4	4	8
Hong Kong	59	16	18	8
Macau	64	9	15	12
India	62	13	16	10
Indonesia	64	16	8	13
South Korea	89	2	9	1
Taiwan	82	2	10	5
Thailand	75	7	5	13
Average	77	8	7	8

* Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan not included in average

¹⁰ Chicago Council on Global Affairs

Please indicate how important the following factors are to the United States remaining competitive with other countries in the global economy?

Investing in renewable energy

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not important at all	Not sure/Decline
2008	74	19	4	2	2
2010	62	29	6	2	2

¹¹ Chicago Council on Global Affairs

Thinking about how to address America's dependence on foreign energy sources, please indicate whether you favor or oppose each of the following:

Creating tax incentives to encourage the development and use of alternative energy sources, such as solar or wind power

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Not sure/ Decline
2010	47	33	11	6	3

¹² **WorldPublicOpinion.org September 2008**

Do you favor or oppose the government doing each of the following:

Requiring utilities to use more alternative energy, such as wind and solar, even if this increases the cost of energy in the short run

	Favor	Oppose	DK / NS
Argentina	70	17	13
Mexico	58	38	5
United States	66	28	6
France	88	10	3
Germany	62	36	2
Great Britain	75	19	6
Italy	67	29	4
Poland	66	15	19
Russia	36	36	28
Ukraine	56	11	33
Azerbaijan	48	43	8
Jordan	77	13	10
Palestinian Territories	71	27	2
Turkey	71	12	17
Kenya	87	13	1
Nigeria	71	26	4
China	75	11	14
Hong Kong	78	15	7
Macau	76	13	11
India	63	20	17
Indonesia	65	13	22
South Korea	96	4	1
Taiwan	88	9	3
Thailand	73	9	17
Average	69	20	11

* Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan not included in average

¹³ **CBS News/New York Times Poll April 2007**

In order to help reduce global warming, would you be willing or not willing to pay more for electricity if it were generated by renewable sources like solar or wind energy?

75%	Willing
20	Not willing
5	Unsure

¹⁴ **BBC July 2006**

Please tell me if you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose each of the following.

Creating tax incentives to encourage the development and use of alternative energy sources, such as solar or wind power.

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK / NA
Australia	74	18	5	2	1
Brazil	65	22	4	6	3
Canada	66	25	4	4	1
Chile	31	31	13	12	13
Egypt	32	34	24	8	2
France	63	28	4	3	2
Germany	50	35	9	4	2
Great Britain	62	24	5	6	2
India	49	19	14	5	13
Israel	59	25	7	4	6
Italy	75	20	2	2	1
Kenya	48	29	11	8	5
Mexico	32	35	13	11	9
Philippines	31	39	19	8	2
Poland	55	31	4	3	7
Russia	30	44	9	4	13
South Korea	31	51	14	3	2
Ukraine	42	36	9	4	9
United States	59	26	6	6	2
Average	50	30	9	5	5

¹⁵ **Gallup Poll March 2009**

Would you prefer the government to increase, decrease, or not change the financial support and incentives it gives for producing energy from alternative sources such as wind and solar?

77%	Increase
8	Decrease
13	Not change
3	No opinion

¹⁶ **ABC News Washington Post Poll June 2008**

Do you think the government should offer tax breaks for companies to develop alternative energy sources, or should it leave it to the marketplace to develop alternative energy sources, without tax breaks?

63%	Offer tax breaks
32	Leave it to marketplace
4	No opinion

¹⁷ **WorldPublicOpinion.org September 2008**

As you may know there is some controversy about the possibility of making a major shift to alternative energy sources, such as wind and solar. Which view is closer to yours?

	This would cost so much money that it would hurt the economy	With the rising cost of energy, it would save money in the long run	DK / NS
Argentina	21	66	13
Mexico	18	73	10
United States	18	79	3
France	12	83	5
Germany	31	65	4
Great Britain	13	79	8
Italy	18	74	8
Poland	6	77	17
Russia	27	45	29
Ukraine	14	54	33
Azerbaijan	33	52	15
Jordan	21	61	18
Palestinian Territories	40	55	4
Turkey	19	57	24
Kenya	34	64	2
Nigeria	32	63	6
China	8	78	14
Hong Kong	10	83	7
Macau	9	79	12
India	29	51	19
Indonesia	15	59	27
South Korea	12	86	2
Taiwan	7	84	9
Thailand	13	59	28
Average	21	66	14

* Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan not included in average

¹⁸ George Washington University Battleground 2008 Survey August 2008

(Now, thinking about the issue of energy and finding new sources of domestic energy. I would like to read you a list of proposals regarding finding new domestic sources for energy. Please listen carefully as I read each statement and tell me if you would favor or oppose each of these proposals.)...Promoting energy conservation practices...(If Favor/Oppose, ask:) Is that strongly favor/oppose or somewhat favor/oppose?

71% Favor strongly
21 Favor somewhat
4 Oppose somewhat
3 Oppose strongly
2 Unsure

¹⁹ WorldPublicOpinion.org September 2008

I would like you to consider different ways to deal with the problem of energy. For each one please tell me if you think our country should emphasize it more, less, or the same as now

Modifying buildings to make them more energy efficient

	Emphasize more	Emphasize less	Same as now	DK/NS
Argentina	80	4	8	8

Mexico	83	7	7	3
United States	83	4	11	2
France	89	2	9	1
Germany	85	6	7	1
Great Britain	89	2	8	2
Italy	88	8	3	1
Poland	83	9	1	7
Russia	58	8	14	20
Ukraine	66	6	7	21
Azerbaijan	60	17	17	6
Jordan	69	16	6	10
Palestinian Territories	54	31	10	4
Turkey	83	6	2	9
Kenya	75	23	2	1
Nigeria	55	28	12	5
China	80	6	4	10
Hong Kong	51	16	23	11
Macau	56	10	18	15
India	54	17	19	11
Indonesia	55	24	8	12
South Korea	85	3	10	2
Taiwan	73	4	16	8
Thailand	73	8	6	13
Average	74	11	8	7

* Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan not included in average

²⁰ WorldPublicOpinion.org September 2008

Do you favor or oppose the government doing each of the following:

Requiring businesses to use energy more efficiently, even if this might make some products more expensive

	Favor	Oppose	DK / NS
Argentina	63	24	13
Mexico	47	49	4
United States	61	34	5
France	72	25	3
Germany	57	40	3
Great Britain	79	17	5
Italy	69	27	4
Poland	50	26	24
Russia	28	43	29
Ukraine	46	17	38
Azerbaijan	38	55	7
Jordan	62	27	11
Palestinian Territories	53	44	2
Turkey	63	18	19
Kenya	71	28	1
Nigeria	49	46	5
China	66	16	18
Hong Kong	71	18	10

Macau	71	18	12
India	62	25	14
Indonesia	37	47	16
South Korea	74	24	3
Taiwan	80	15	5
Thailand	65	17	18
Average	58	31	11

* Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan not included in average

²¹ **Pew Research Center for the People & the Press Political/Foreign Policy Poll September 2008**

(As I read some possible government policies to address America's energy supply, tell me whether you would favor or oppose each.)
Would you favor or oppose the government...establishing tax incentives to encourage conservation?

69% Favor
23 Oppose
8 Don't know/Refused

²² **Chicago Council on Global Affairs**

Question 320 (1-4): Thinking about how to address America's dependence on foreign energy sources, please indicate whether you favor or oppose each of the following:

Requiring auto-makers to increase fuel efficiency, even if this means the price of cars would go up

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Not sure/ Decline
2010	31	34	21	10	4

²³ **BBC July 2006**

Please tell me if you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose each of the following.

Requiring auto makers to increase fuel efficiency, even if this means the price of cars would go up.

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK / NA
Australia	59	29	6	5	1
Brazil	35	23	16	23	3
Canada	47	30	10	10	2
Chile	24	34	17	10	15
Egypt	20	27	26	25	2
France	24	31	18	23	4
Germany	38	42	14	4	2
Great Britain	45	29	12	11	3
India	36	19	7	13	24
Israel	35	30	15	13	7
Italy	47	38	7	4	3

Kenya	33	28	18	13	7
Mexico	25	44	11	13	8
Philippines	20	29	29	21	1
Poland	18	30	21	13	18
Russia	36	41	11	1	11
South Korea	23	51	20	3	3
Ukraine	38	43	8	2	10
United States	50	27	10	11	1
Average	34	33	15	11	7

²⁴ **WorldPublicOpinion.org September 2008**

Do you favor or oppose the government doing each of the following:

Having an extra charge for the purchase of models of appliances and cars that are NOT energy efficient

	Favor	Oppose	DK / NS
Argentina	62	25	13
Mexico	39	57	4
United States	43	52	5
France	60	38	2
Germany	43	54	3
Britain	59	36	5
Italy	69	28	3
Poland	37	36	26
Russia	37	33	30
Ukraine	32	22	47
Azerbaijan	43	47	10
Jordan	37	52	11
Palestinian Territories	38	58	4
Turkey	56	26	19
Kenya	74	25	2
Nigeria	44	46	11
China	48	33	19
Hong Kong	55	36	9
Macau	53	35	12
India	47	27	26
Indonesia	61	21	18
South Korea	53	43	4
Taiwan	55	40	5
Thailand	19	64	17
Average	48	39	13

* Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan not included in average

²⁵ **BBC July 2006**

Please tell me if you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose each of the following.

Increasing energy taxes to encourage conservation

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK / NA
Australia	30	39	18	12	1
Brazil	6	7	13	73	*
Canada	18	29	21	30	2
Chile	14	27	23	25	13
Egypt	20	26	23	28	2
France	7	23	24	41	5
Germany	12	35	26	26	1
Great Britain	31	31	16	18	4
India	25	27	14	22	13
Israel	14	22	26	31	6
Italy	5	17	34	42	2
Kenya	32	28	18	17	5
Mexico	7	19	27	43	3
Philippines	20	18	22	38	1
Poland	2	5	34	53	5
Russia	2	11	39	45	4
South Korea	6	35	45	12	1
Ukraine	3	9	31	55	2
United States	19	28	22	29	2
Average	14	23	25	34	4

²⁶ **CBS News/New York Times Poll, Jun, 2010**

If an increased tax on gasoline would help pay for the development of renewable sources of energy, such as wind and solar, and help reduce the United States' dependence on foreign oil, would you favor or oppose an increased federal tax on gasoline?

45% Favor
51 Oppose
4 Don't Know/No Answer

CBS News/New York Times Poll, Jun, 2010

What if the tax increased the cost of gasoline by \$1.00 a gallon, then would you favor or oppose an increased federal tax on gasoline to help pay for the development of renewable sources of energy and help reduce US (United States) dependence on foreign oil?

32% Favor
65 Oppose
3 Don't Know/No Answer

²⁷ **Chicago Council on Global Affairs**

Thinking about how to address America's dependence on foreign energy sources, please indicate whether you favor or oppose each of the following:

Raising taxes on fuels such as coal and oil to encourage individuals and businesses to use less

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Not sure/ Decline
2010	10	23	34	30	3

²⁸ **Pew Research Center for the People & the Press Values Survey April 2009**

(As I read some possible government policies to address America's energy supply, tell me whether you would favor or oppose each.)
Would you favor or oppose the government...increasing taxes on gasoline to encourage carpooling and conservation?

24%	Favor
74	Oppose
2	Don't know/Refused

²⁹ **FOX News/Opinion Dynamics Poll June 2008**

Thinking now about the energy situation, please tell me if you favor or oppose the following ways to reduce the country's dependence on foreign oil and make the United States more energy independent. . . .

Rationing gasoline and oil

30%	Favor
63	Oppose
7	Don't know/Refused

Increasing the federal tax on gasoline

13%	Favor
83	Oppose
7	Don't know/Refused

³⁰ **CBS News/New York Times Poll April 2007**

Would you be willing or not willing to pay higher taxes on gasoline and other fuels if the money was used for research into renewable sources like solar and wind energy?

64%	Willing
33	Not willing
3	Unsure

³¹ **CBS News/New York Times Poll April 2007**

In order to cut down on energy consumption and reduce global-warming, would you favor or oppose an increased federal tax on gasoline?

38%	Favor
58	Oppose
4	Unsure

³² **CBS News/New York Times Poll April 2007**

Which do you think should be a higher priority for the government--increasing the production of petroleum, coal and natural gas, or encouraging people to conserve energy?

21%	Increasing production
68	Encouraging conservation
9	Both (Vol.)
2	Don't know/No answer

³³ **CBS News/New York Times Poll April 2007**

Which do you think should be a higher priority for the government: increasing the production of petroleum, coal and natural gas, or encouraging people to conserve energy?

	Increasing Production	Encouraging Conservation	Both (vol.)	Neither (vol.)	Unsure
April 2007	21	68	9	0	2
October 2005	37	49	10	2	2

³⁴ **Gallup Poll March 2011**

Which of the following approaches to solving the nation's energy problems do you think the U.S. should follow right now: emphasize production of more oil, gas and coal supplies, or emphasize more conservation by consumers of existing energy supplies?

	Production	Conservation	Both/ Equally (vol.)	Neither/ Other (vol.)	Unsure
March 2011	41	48	6	1	3
March 2010	36	52	6	3	2
March 2008	29	61	5	3	2
March 2007	26	64	5	1	3
March 2006	35	55	6	1	2
March 2005	28	61	7	2	2
March 2004	31	59	6	2	2
March 2003	29	60	7	2	2

³⁵ **ABC News/Planet Green/Stanford University poll July 2008**

What do you think is more important: finding new energy sources, or improving energy conservation?

64%	New energy sources
33	Improving conservation
3	Unsure

³⁶ **WorldPublicOpinion.org September 2008**

I would like you to consider different ways to deal with the problem of energy. For each one please tell me if you think our country should emphasize it more, less, or the same as now

Building coal or oil-fired power plants

	Emphasize more	Emphasize less	Same as now	DK/NS
Argentina	60	14	14	13
Mexico	46	39	12	5
United States	25	49	22	4
France	28	46	21	4
Germany	9	62	27	2
Great Britain	28	40	24	8
Italy	38	46	11	5
Poland	27	28	28	17
Russia	19	38	23	21
Ukraine	30	27	22	22
Azerbaijan	45	31	15	9
Jordan	63	19	7	11
Palestinian Territories	46	35	14	5
Turkey	52	26	11	11
Kenya	69	23	5	4
Nigeria	56	28	11	6
China	42	36	11	11
Hong Kong	23	30	34	12
Macau	30	28	25	16
India	36	27	24	13
Indonesia	50	24	10	15
South Korea	31	33	32	4
Taiwan	29	34	27	10
Thailand	41	19	13	28
Average	40	33	17	10

* Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan not included in average

³⁷ **Pew News Interest Index Poll August 2006**

As I read from a list tell me how important each of the following is a way to reduce terrorism in the future....Decrease American dependence on oil imported from the Middle East...Is this very important, fairly important, not too important, or not at all important as a way to reduce terrorism in the future?

67% Very important
 18 Fairly important
 5 Not too important
 5 Not at all important
 5 Don't know/Refused

³⁸ **WorldPublicOpinion.org February 2008**

Do you think that ten years from now, the cost of oil will be higher, lower or about the same as it is now?

	Much Higher	Somewhat Higher	About the same as it is now	Somewhat lower	Much lower	DK / NS
Mexico	54	29	7	5	1	4
United States	63	25	6	4	2	0
France	81	5	9	2	2	1
Great Britain	58	27	7	3	2	3
Russia	35	26	12	5	2	20

Ukraine	55	23	6	2	0	13
Azerbaijan	45	25	12	6	1	12
Egypt	67	28	5	1	0	-
Iran	55	20	5	3	1	17
Palestinian Territories	46	26	14	6	3	6
Turkey	58	20	5	4	3	11
Nigeria	42	22	12	14	7	4
China	29	46	11	6	1	7
India	54	20	10	7	4	4
Indonesia	74	22	1	2	0	1
South Korea	56	31	7	5	2	0
Average	55	24	8	5	2	7

³⁹ WorldPublicOpinion.org February 2008

Do you think that governments should make long-term plans based on the assumption that:

	Enough new oil will be found so that it can remain a primary source of energy for the foreseeable future	Oil is running out and it is necessary to make a major effort to replace oil as a primary source of energy	DK / NS
Mexico	13	83	5
United States	23	76	2
France	8	91	1
Great Britain	13	85	3
Russia	27	53	20
Ukraine	18	63	19
Azerbaijan	29	58	12
Egypt	21	79	-
Iran	9	68	23
Palestinian Territories	29	68	4
Turkey	28	57	16
Nigeria	53	45	2
China	16	80	4
India	28	54	18
Indonesia	37	59	4
South Korea	4	97	-
Average	22	70	8

⁴⁰ WorldPublicOpinion.org February 2008

Which assumption do you think the [Survey country] government is acting on now:

	Enough new oil will be found so that it can remain a primary source of energy for the foreseeable future	Oil is running out and it is necessary to make a major effort to replace oil as a primary source of energy	DK / NS
Mexico	41	49	10
United States	57	41	3
France	36	55	10
Great Britain	34	56	10

Russia	37	34	29
Ukraine	28	44	28
Azerbaijan	50	31	18
Egypt	33	67	-
Iran	12	63	26
Palestinian Territories	30	61	9
Turkey	28	53	18
Nigeria	63	32	6
China	21	70	9
India	30	48	23
Indonesia	34	61	5
South Korea	20	79	1
Average	35	53	13

⁴¹ **German Marshall Fund Transatlantic Trends 2004**

Now I would like to ask you some questions about when [country] should use its military force. For each of the following reasons, would you approve or disapprove the use of [survey country] military force?

To ensure the supply of oil

	Approve	Disapprove	DK/ Ref
United States	44	50	6
France	50	45	5
Germany	37	61	3
Great Britain	52	41	7
Italy	38	56	6
Netherlands	48	47	4
Poland	33	53	14
Portugal	57	27	16
Spain	43	49	8
Slovakia	30	43	27
Turkey	69	21	11
European Average	42	51	7

⁴² **WorldPublicOpinion.org September 2008**

I would like you to consider different ways to deal with the problem of energy. For each one please tell me if you think our country should emphasize it more, less, or the same as now

Building nuclear energy power plants

	Emphasize more	Emphasize less	Same as now	DK/NS
Argentina	55	21	12	12
Mexico	32	50	12	7
United States	42	31	24	3
France	26	41	32	1
Germany	14	63	22	1

Great Britain	41	29	22	8
Italy	52	33	8	6
Poland	32	12	37	18
Russia	27	33	22	18
Ukraine	9	49	20	22
Azerbaijan	36	32	16	17
Jordan	58	21	9	12
Palestinian Territories	41	34	18	7
Turkey	48	26	12	14
Kenya	57	29	8	6
Nigeria	56	25	9	11
China	63	10	6	20
Hong Kong	22	35	32	11
Macau	23	44	17	15
India	51	16	17	17
Indonesia	23	40	10	27
South Korea	55	13	28	5
Taiwan	40	21	30	9
Thailand	22	31	10	37
Average	40	30	17	13

* Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan not included in average

⁴³ **GlobeScan July 2005**

Support for Nuclear Power

	Nuclear is safe; build more plants	Use what's there; don't build new	Nuclear dangerous; close all plants	DK/NA
South Korea	52	34	12	2
United States	40	29	20	11
Jordan	35	18	41	6
Australia	34	37	23	6
Canada	34	35	22	9
Indonesia	33	31	28	8
Great Britain	33	37	23	7
India	33	23	22	22
Mexico	32	28	23	17
France	25	50	16	9
Germany	22	47	26	5
Russia	22	41	20	17
Cameroon	21	21	27	31
Japan	21	61	15	3
Hungary	19	55	19	7
Saudi Arabia	16	25	36	23
Argentina	14	32	23	31
Morocco	13	4	49	34
Average	28	34	25	13

⁴⁴ **ABC News/Washington Post Poll April 2011**

In general, would you favor or oppose building more nuclear power plants at this time? (If Favor/Oppose, ask:) Do you favor/oppose this strongly or somewhat?

20%	Favor strongly
13	Favor somewhat
17	Oppose somewhat
47	Oppose strongly
3	No opinion

ABC News/Planet Green/Stanford Poll July 2008

In general, would you favor or oppose building more nuclear power plants at this time? (If Favor/Oppose, ask:) Do you favor/oppose this strongly or somewhat?

25%	Strongly favor
19	Somewhat favor
23	Strongly oppose
30	Somewhat oppose
3	No opinion

⁴⁵ **Gallup Poll March 2009**

Thinking now about nuclear energy: Overall, do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the use of nuclear energy as one of the ways to provide electricity for the United States?

27%	Strongly favor
32	Somewhat favor
23	Somewhat oppose
20	Strongly oppose
6	Unsure

Gallup Poll March 2001

Overall, do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the use of nuclear energy as one of the ways to provide electricity for the United States?

20%	Strongly favor
26	Somewhat favor
28	Somewhat oppose
20	Strongly oppose
6	No opinion

⁴⁶ **BBC July 2006**

Please tell me if you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose each of the following.

Building new nuclear power plants, to reduce reliance on oil and coal.

Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK/NA
-----------------------	-----------------------	------------------------	------------------------	--------------

Australia	19	34	20	24	3
Brazil	23	24	15	35	3
Canada	22	30	18	25	6
Chile	18	24	20	24	15
Egypt	30	39	21	9	1
France	10	28	23	34	5
Germany	9	26	26	36	3
Great Britain	21	29	17	26	7
India	36	30	11	10	13
Israel	20	29	18	23	10
Italy	26	27	18	25	5
Kenya	36	30	12	15	8
Mexico	19	35	20	13	13
Philippines	27	33	20	18	2
Poland	13	18	26	30	14
Russia	5	23	36	24	12
South Korea	15	50	27	4	4
Ukraine	6	18	31	36	9
United States	29	34	15	18	4
Average	20	29	21	23	7

⁴⁷ **Chicago Council on Global Affairs**

Thinking about how to address America's dependence on foreign energy sources, please indicate whether you favor or oppose each of the following:

Building new nuclear power plants to reduce reliance on oil and coal

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Not sure/Decline
2010	31	38	19	8	4

⁴⁸ **Fox News/Opinion Dynamics Poll June 2008**

"Thinking now about the energy situation, please tell me if you favor or oppose the following ways to reduce the country's dependence on foreign oil and make the United States more energy independent. . . ."

Building more nuclear power plants

51%	Favor
41	Oppose
9	Unsure

⁴⁹ **Los Angeles Times/Bloomberg Poll August 2006**

One suggestion for reducing the problem of global warming is to increase the use of nuclear power as a source of energy and to decrease the use of fossil fuels, such as oil and natural gas. Would you, personally, support or oppose the increased use of nuclear power as a source of energy in order to prevent global warming?

61%	Support
30	Oppose
9	Unsure

⁵⁰ German Marshall Fund Transatlantic Trends 2008

As you may know, we depend on other countries for much of our energy needs. Which of the following approaches do you favor the most for ensuring a stable supply of energy?

	We should increase cooperation with energy producing countries even if their governments are undemocratic	We should reduce our energy dependence on other countries, even if energy prices would rise sharply at home as a result	We should apply diplomatic pressure, even if this increases tensions with energy producing countries	None of the above	DK/Refused
United States	23	48	15	9	5
France	33	39	22	5	2
Germany	38	35	22	2	2
United Kingdom	25	47	20	3	6
Italy	35	43	13	7	2
Netherlands	36	43	16	3	3
Poland	51	16	15	5	12
Portugal	41	26	16	8	10
Spain	30	40	22	5	3
Slovakia	42	23	12	12	10
Turkey	20	32	12	7	20
Bulgaria	48	12	14	12	14
Romania	54	21	7	8	11
European Average	35	35	18	5	7

⁵¹ Pew News Interest Index Poll August 2006

As I read from a list tell me how important each of the following is a way to reduce terrorism in the future....Decrease American dependence on oil imported from the Middle East...Is this very important, fairly important, not too important, or not at all important as a way to reduce terrorism in the future?

67%	Very important
18	Fairly important
5	Not too important
5	Not at all important
5	Don't know/Refused

⁵² German Marshall Fund Transatlantic Trends 2008

As you may know, some people are concerned about recent developments in Russia. Those who are concerned give a number of reasons. To what extent are you concerned or not about each of the following items:

Russia's role as an energy provider

	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not very concerned	Not concerned at all	DK/Refused	Concerned	Not concerned
United States	24	37	19	14	6	61	33
France	17	37	32	12	1	55	44
Germany	36	42	15	6	1	78	21
United Kingdom	35	37	16	8	4	72	24
Italy	27	47	19	5	2	74	24
Netherlands	19	46	25	8	3	65	33

Poland	30	51	11	2	6	81	13
Portugal	25	35	18	11	11	60	30
Spain	15	36	33	12	4	51	45
Slovakia	16	44	27	7	6	60	34
Turkey	14	21	13	13	40	35	26
Bulgaria	13	31	22	24	10	44	46
Romania	30	38	16	8	8	69	23
European Average	23	39	21	10	8	62	30

⁵³ BBC July 2006

For each of the following large energy exporting countries, please tell me how much you trust them to follow through on their commitments to deliver energy to other countries? Would you say you have a lot of trust, some trust, not much trust, or no trust at all in?

Russia

	A lot of trust	Some trust	Not much trust	No trust at all in	DK / NA
Australia	10	52	25	10	3
Brazil	3	11	21	55	11
Canada	8	44	21	19	8
Chile	9	33	20	12	26
Egypt	22	28	21	24	5
France	5	30	33	22	11
Germany	11	36	37	13	2
Great Britain	5	37	31	22	5
India	32	29	8	5	25
Israel	11	31	21	29	8
Italy	6	39	37	11	8
Kenya	17	26	21	16	19
Mexico	17	20	24	31	8
Philippines	9	34	28	17	11
Poland	2	25	32	29	12
Russia	40	39	10	2	9
South Korea	1	17	62	5	15
Ukraine	24	35	21	13	7
United States	5	49	23	20	3
Average	13	32	26	19	10

⁵⁴ BBC July 2006

For each of the following large energy exporting countries, please tell me how much you trust them to follow through on their commitments to deliver energy to other countries? Would you say you have a lot of trust, some trust, not much trust, or no trust at all in?

Saudi Arabia

	A lot of trust	Some trust	Not much trust	No trust at all in	DK / NA
Australia	11	47	26	14	2
Brazil	1	7	20	61	10
Canada	6	36	24	27	7
Chile	7	27	25	14	26
Egypt	56	27	10	7	1

France	5	29	28	28	10
Germany	13	35	34	15	3
Great Britain	8	38	30	20	5
India	19	29	22	12	19
Israel	12	20	16	45	7
Italy	6	30	38	19	7
Kenya	24	31	18	14	13
Mexico	20	24	27	22	7
Philippines	27	36	21	11	5
Poland	6	34	24	13	23
Russia	5	19	29	13	34
South Korea	3	34	51	4	8
Ukraine	2	20	24	21	33
United States	5	36	26	30	3
Average	12	29	26	20	12

⁵⁵ BBC July 2006

For each of the following large energy exporting countries, please tell me how much you trust them to follow through on their commitments to deliver energy to other countries? Would you say you have a lot of trust, some trust, not much trust, or no trust at all in?

Venezuela

	A lot of trust	Some trust	Not much trust	No trust at all in	DK / NA
Australia	7	48	22	7	17
Brazil	1	12	18	59	10
Canada	7	41	22	14	16
Chile	7	32	26	13	23
Egypt	10	26	29	24	10
France	3	36	23	15	24
Germany	7	35	38	11	10
Great Britain	5	37	27	15	16
India	9	21	16	22	33
Israel	10	26	19	23	22
Italy	5	29	38	9	19
Kenya	10	23	21	15	30
Mexico	22	31	31	11	5
Philippines	6	29	33	17	16
Poland	5	30	18	9	37
Russia	2	15	25	13	44
South Korea	1	14	39	5	42
Ukraine	2	14	23	19	43
United States	5	44	19	23	9
Average	7	28	26	17	22

⁵⁶ BBC July 2006

For each of the following large energy exporting countries, please tell me how much you trust them to follow through on their commitments to deliver energy to other countries? Would you say you have a lot of trust, some trust, not much trust, or no trust at all in?

Iran

	A lot of trust	Some trust	Not much trust	No trust at all in	DK / NA
Australia	4	30	38	26	2
Brazil	1	5	16	68	10
Canada	3	20	29	42	6
Chile	5	21	30	19	25
Egypt	40	33	18	8	2
France	1	16	27	45	11
Germany	2	11	41	45	1
Great Britain	3	24	32	36	5
India	22	29	16	12	20
Israel	7	7	11	69	6
Italy	2	11	43	37	8
Kenya	18	20	24	26	12
Mexico	18	22	25	25	10
Philippines	11	27	32	22	8
Poland	2	20	29	26	23
Russia	2	12	33	23	30
South Korea	1	16	61	9	13
Ukraine	2	12	30	27	29
United States	2	12	27	56	2
Average	8	18	29	33	12

⁵⁷ BBC July 2006

For each of the following large energy exporting countries, please tell me how much you trust them to follow through on their commitments to deliver energy to other countries? Would you say you have a lot of trust, some trust, not much trust, or no trust at all in?

Canada

	A lot of trust	Some trust	Not much trust	No trust at all in	DK / NA
Australia	54	40	3	1	2
Brazil	7	16	19	49	11
Canada	45	41	7	5	2
Chile	15	37	15	8	26
Egypt	14	25	27	26	8
France	20	55	7	5	14
Germany	41	44	8	3	4
Great Britain	32	47	11	4	5
India	18	23	13	16	31
Israel	37	32	9	10	11
Italy	24	43	14	5	13
Kenya	21	28	14	13	23
Mexico	24	32	32	7	6
Philippines	27	40	16	9	8

Poland	20	36	10	5	29
Russia	7	30	19	12	32
South Korea	3	41	28	2	25
Ukraine	8	30	17	17	29
United States	47	42	5	4	1
Average	24	36	14	10	15

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