

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
OCTOBER 2010 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
October 13-18, 2010
N=2251

THOUGHT THROUGH Q.47 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

ASK ALL:

Q.48 As I read some possible government policies to address America's energy supply, tell me whether you would favor or oppose each. First, would you favor or oppose the government **[INSERT FIRST ITEM, RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**? Would you favor or oppose the government **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]**?

		(VOL.)		
		<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Allowing more offshore oil and gas drilling in U.S. waters			
	Oct 13-18, 2010	51	41	7
	Jun 16-20, 2010	44	52	4
	May 6-9, 2010	54	38	8
	Feb 3-9, 2010	63	31	6
	Apr 14-21, 2009	68	27	5
	September, 2008	67	28	5
b.	Promoting the increased use of nuclear power			
	Oct 13-18, 2010	45	44	11
	Jun 16-20, 2010	47	47	6
	May 6-9, 2010	45	44	11
	Feb 3-9, 2010	52	41	7
	Apr 14-21, 2009	45	48	7
	September, 2008	50	43	7
	Late-February, 2008	44	48	8
	February, 2006	44	49	7
	Mid-September, 2005	39	53	8
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1110]:				
c.F1	Increasing federal funding for research on wind, solar and hydrogen technology			
	Oct 13-18, 2010	74	21	6
	Jun 16-20, 2010	75	21	3
	May 6-9, 2010	73	22	5
	Feb 3-9, 2010	78	17	5
	Apr 14-21, 2009	82	15	3
	September, 2008	82	14	4
	Late-February, 2008	81	14	5
	February, 2006	82	14	4
d.F1	Requiring better fuel efficiency for cars, trucks and SUVs			
	Oct 13-18, 2010	79	17	4
	September, 2008	88	10	2
	February, 2008	90	8	2
	February, 2006	86	12	2
	Mid-September, 2005	86	12	2

Q.48 CONTINUED ...

		(VOL.)		
		<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1141]:				
e.F2	Spending more on subway, rail and bus systems			
	Oct 13-18, 2010	63	29	8
	Jun 16-20, 2010	64	31	5
	May 6-9, 2010	65	28	7
	Feb 3-9, 2010	70	25	4
	Apr 14-21, 2009	70	25	5
	Late-February, 2008	72	23	5
	February, 2006	68	26	6
	Mid-September, 2005	68	27	5
f.F2	Providing tax incentives for those who buy hybrid or electric cars, trucks and SUVs			
	Oct 13-18, 2010	60	34	7

NO QUESTION 49**QUESTIONS 50 THROUGH 53 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****NO QUESTIONS 54-59****ASK ALL:**

On a different subject...

Q.60 From what you've read and heard, is there solid evidence that the average temperature on earth has been getting warmer over the past few decades, or not?

ASK IF EARTH IS GETTING WARMER (Q.60=1):

Q.61 Do you believe that the earth is getting warmer [**READ AND RANDOMIZE**]?

BASED ON TOTAL:

Oct 13-18 <u>2010</u>		Sep 30-Oct 4 <u>2009</u>	April <u>2008</u>	Jan <u>2007</u>	Aug <u>2006</u>	July <u>2006</u>	June <u>2006</u>
59	Yes	57	71	77	77	79	70
34	Mostly because of human activity such as burning fossil fuels, [OR]	36	47	47	47	50	41
18	Mostly because of natural patterns in the earth's environment	16	18	20	20	23	21
6	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	6	6	10	10	6	8
32	No	33	21	16	17	17	20
1	Mixed/some evidence (VOL.)	2	3	1	1	1	1
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	8	5	6	5	3	9

ASK ALL:

Q.62 In your view, is global warming a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not a problem?

Oct 13-18 <u>2010</u>		Sep 30-Oct 4 <u>2009</u>	April <u>2008</u>	Jan <u>2007</u>	July <u>2006</u>	June <u>2006</u>	<i>Trend for Comparison</i> Apr 28-May 12 ¹ <u>2009</u>
32	Very serious	35	44	45	43	41	47
31	Somewhat serious	30	29	32	36	33	26
16	Not too serious	15	13	12	11	13	11
18	Not a problem	17	11	8	9	11	13
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	3	3	3	1	2	2

¹ In April 28-May 12, 2009 the question was asked in a different context and is presented here as a trend for comparison.

ASK IF VIEW GLOBAL WARMING AS PROBLEM (Q.62=1,2,3):

Q.63 Do you think global warming is a problem that requires immediate government action, or don't you think it requires immediate government action?

BASED ON TOTAL:

Oct 13-18 <u>2010</u>		Jan <u>2007</u>	July <u>2006</u>
46	Yes, it is a problem that requires immediate government action	55	61
29	No, don't think it requires immediate government action	31	26
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	3	3
21	<i>Global warming not a problem/Don't know</i>	11	10

ASK ALL:

Q.64 From what you've heard or read, do scientists generally agree that the earth is getting warmer because of human activity, or do they not generally agree about this?

Oct 13-18 <u>2010</u>		July <u>2006</u> ²	<i>Trend for Comparison</i> Apr 28- May 12 <u>2009</u> ³
44	Yes, scientists generally agree that the earth is getting warmer because of human activity	59	56
44	No, scientists do not generally agree that the earth is getting warmer because of human activity	29	35
12	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	12	9

NO QUESTIONS 65-69**Q.70F1 THROUGH PVOTE08B PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ASK ALL:**

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or independent?

ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	(VOL.) No preference	(VOL.) Other party	(VOL.) DK/Ref	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
Oct 13-18, 2010	25	31	36	4	*	3	16	13
Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010	24	32	39	2	*	2	15	17
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	26	33	34	4	*	3	14	14
Jun 16-20, 2010	27	34	34	3	1	2	15	15
Apr 21-26, 2010	26	33	36	3	1	3	16	13
Mar 11-21, 2010	28	34	32	3	*	3	13	12
Mar 10-14, 2010	22	33	37	6	*	3	14	13
Feb 3-9, 2010	26	31	37	3	*	3	14	17
Jan 6-10, 2010	22	33	42	2	1	2	17	16
Yearly Totals								
2009	23.9	34.4	35.1	3.4	.4	2.8	13.1	15.7
2008	25.3	35.8	31.7	3.8	.3	3.1	10.5	15.4
2007	25.4	32.9	33.7	4.6	.4	3.1	10.7	16.7
2006	27.6	32.8	30.3	5.0	.4	3.9	10.2	14.5
2005	29.2	32.8	30.3	4.5	.3	2.8	10.2	14.9
2004	29.7	33.4	29.8	3.9	.4	2.9	11.7	13.4
2003	29.8	31.4	31.2	4.7	.5	2.5	12.1	13.0
2002	30.3	31.2	30.1	5.1	.7	2.7	12.6	11.6

² Question was worded "From what you've heard or read, is there general agreement among scientists that the earth is getting warmer because of human activity, or not."

³ In April 28-May 12, 2009 the question was asked in a different context and is presented here as a trend for comparison.

PARTY/PARYLN CONTINUED ...

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)	Lean	Lean
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	No	Other	DK/Ref	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>
				preference	party			
2001	29.2	33.6	28.9	5.1	.5	2.7	11.7	11.4
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28.2	34.6	29.5	5.0	.5	2.1	11.7	12.5
2000	27.5	32.5	29.5	5.9	.5	4.0	11.6	11.6
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.5	33.2	31.9	4.6	.4	2.4	11.8	13.5
1997	28.2	33.3	31.9	4.0	.4	2.3	12.3	13.8
1996	29.2	32.7	33.0	5.2	--	--	12.7	15.6
1995	31.4	29.7	33.4	5.4	--	--	14.4	12.9
1994	29.8	31.8	33.8	4.6	--	--	14.3	12.6
1993	27.4	33.8	34.0	4.8	--	--	11.8	14.7
1992	27.7	32.7	35.7	3.9	--	--	13.8	15.8
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	4.5	--	--	14.6	10.8
1990	31.0	33.1	29.1	6.8	--	--	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--