

## Survey question wording and topline

2022 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL  
WAVE 102 JANUARY 2022  
JANUARY 24-30, 2022  
N=10,237

### ASK ALL:

ENVIR4

How would you rate each of the following priorities for America's energy policies?  
**[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

	Should be a top priority	Should be an important but lower priority	Should not be too important	Should not be done	No answer
a. Reducing our dependence on foreign energy sources					
Jan 24-30, 2022	61	31	6	1	1
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	69	24	5	1	1
b. Creating jobs within the energy sector					
Jan 24-30, 2022	43	47	8	1	1
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	58	33	8	1	1
c. Protecting the environment from the effects of energy development and use					
Jan 24-30, 2022	53	38	7	1	1
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	72	24	3	1	1
d. Keeping consumer energy prices low					
Jan 24-30, 2022	61	35	3	1	<1
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	66	30	3	1	1
e. Increasing reliance on renewable energy sources					
Jan 24-30, 2022	51	37	9	2	1
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	71	24	4	1	1

### TREND FOR COMPARISON

Pew Research Center survey conducted by telephone: Right now, how would you rate each of the following priorities for America's energy policies? First, do you think **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** should be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done? **[NEXT ITEM]**? **[IF NECESSARY: Do you think [ITEM] should be a top priority for America's energy policies, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done?**

	<u>Top priority</u>	<u>Important but lower priority</u>	<u>Not too important</u>	<u>Should not be done</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Reducing our dependence on foreign energy sources May 3-7, 2017	48	32	10	6	4
b. Creating jobs within the energy sector May 3-7, 2017	49	36	7	3	5
c. Protecting the environment from the effects of energy development and use May 3-7, 2017	53	33	8	3	3
d. Keeping consumer energy prices low May 3-7, 2017	49	39	6	3	1
e. Increasing reliance on renewable energy sources May 3-7, 2017	52	32	9	3	4

**ASK ALL:**

NRGENCTV What role should the federal government play in each of the following activities?  
[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

	<u>Encourage this activity</u>	<u>Discourage this activity</u>	<u>Neither encourage nor discourage</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. The use of electric vehicles Jan 24-30, 2022	51	10	39	1
b. The production of wind and solar power Jan 24-30, 2022	72	5	22	1
c. Oil and gas drilling Jan 24-30, 2022	33	33	33	1
d. Coal mining Jan 24-30, 2022	20	44	35	1
e. The production of nuclear power Jan 24-30, 2022	35	26	37	2

**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 ORDER OF RESPONSE 1 AND 2]**

	Developing alternative sources, such as wind, solar and <u>hydrogen technology</u>	Expanding exploration and production of oil, <u>coal and natural gas</u>	No answer
Jan 24-30, 2022	69	30	1
Apr 20-29, 2021	71	27	1
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	79	20	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	77	22	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]**?

	Developing alternative sources such as wind, solar and <u>hydrogen technology</u>	Expanding exploration and production of oil, <u>coal and natural gas</u>	(VOL.) Both should be given equal priority	(VOL.) DK/Ref
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:**

EN2

Thinking about the country's energy supply, do you think the U.S. should... **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF RESPONSE 1 AND 2]**

	Phase out the use of oil, coal and natural gas completely, relying instead on renewable energy sources such as wind and <u>solar power only</u>	Use a mix of energy sources including oil, coal and natural gas along with renewable <u>energy sources</u>	No answer
Jan 24-30, 2022	31	67	2
Apr 20-29, 2021	33	64	2

**ASK RANDOM 30% OF RESPONDENTS ON FORM 1 [N=1,498]:**

PHASEBENE Regardless of your overall views on energy, what do you think would be the main benefit to the U.S. phasing out the use of oil, coal and natural gas completely?<sup>2</sup>

Jan 24-30,  
2022

43	Environment/climate benefits NET
14	<i>Improves environment, general</i>
11	<i>Lowers pollution/helps with other environmental problems</i>
11	<i>Reduces carbon emissions/climate change impacts</i>
10	<i>Saves planet for future generations</i>
8	Reduces dependence on other countries for energy
8	Economic benefits NET
5	<i>Lowers energy costs</i>
2	<i>Creates jobs/higher paying jobs</i>
1	<i>Improves economy, general</i>
3	Renewable energy is more sustainable; fossil fuels could run out
1	Improves peoples' health
13	There would be no benefit
1	Should reduce use of fossil fuels, not phase out
7	Other responses/unclear
1	Don't know
25	No answer

**ASK RANDOM 30% OF RESPONDENTS ON FORM 2 [N=1,508]:**

PHASEDWNS Regardless of your overall views on energy, what do you think would be the main downside to the U.S. phasing out the use of oil, coal and natural gas completely?<sup>3</sup>

Jan 24-30,  
2022

35	Economic downsides NET
18	<i>Higher energy costs</i>
18	<i>Job loss/need for worker retraining</i>
3	<i>Hurts the economy, general</i>
21	Not ready to phase out fossil fuels/switch to renewable energy NET
12	<i>Renewable energy is not reliable</i>
5	<i>Renewable energy would not meet demand</i>
5	<i>Not ready to completely phase out fossil fuels, general</i>
3	Politicians, corporations, lobbyists would not allow this to happen
3	Should not phase out fossil fuels
2	Would need to continue or increase reliance on other countries for energy
4	There would be no downside
7	Other responses/unclear
2	Don't know
28	No answer

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

<sup>3</sup> Verbatim responses have been coded into categories. Figures add to more than 100% because multiple responses were accepted.

**ASK ALL:**

NRGPAGE

If the U.S. greatly reduces energy production from fossil fuel sources such as oil, coal and natural gas, and increases energy production from renewable sources such as wind and solar, how likely do you think it is that this transition... **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

	<u>Very likely</u>	<u>Somewhat likely</u>	<u>Not too likely</u>	<u>Not at all likely</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Would lead to unexpected problems for the country Jan 24-30, 2022	30	40	25	4	1
b. Would not happen fast enough to prevent severe problems from climate change Jan 24-30, 2022	30	42	18	8	1

**ASK ALL:**

Thinking about life in this country over the next 30 years...

NRGTRNST

If the U.S. greatly reduces energy production from fossil fuel sources such as oil, coal and natural gas, and increases production from renewable sources such as wind and solar, how do you think it would impact each of the following in your local area? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

	<u>Make better</u>	<u>Make worse</u>	<u>Not have much of an effect</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. The reliability of the electrical grid Jan 24-30, 2022	38	31	29	2
b. Job opportunities in the energy sector Jan 24-30, 2022	56	20	23	1
c. The prices you pay to heat and cool your home Jan 24-30, 2022	39	39	20	1
d. The prices you pay for everyday goods Jan 24-30, 2022	29	40	30	1
e. Air and water quality Jan 24-30, 2022	63	8	28	1
f. The frequency of extreme weather events Jan 24-30, 2022	37	11	50	1

**ASK ALL:**

As you may know, the Biden administration has set a goal for the U.S. to become carbon neutral by 2050, meaning the country would release no more carbon dioxide into the atmosphere than it removes.

CARBNEUT Do you favor or oppose the U.S. taking steps to become carbon neutral by 2050?

Jan 24-30, <u>2022</u>	
69	Favor
28	Oppose
3	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

EN7 How much do you think human activity, such as the burning of fossil fuels, contributes to global climate change?

	<u>A great deal</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Not too much</u>	<u>Not at all</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Jan 24-30, 2022	46	29	17	6	1
Apr 20-29, 2021	44	33	15	6	1
Apr 29-May 5, 2020	49	32	13	6	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	49	30	14	5	2

**RANDOMIZE ORDER OF CLIM5 AND CLIM6****ASK ALL:**

CLIM5 Do you think policies aimed at reducing the effects of global climate change generally...  
[RANDOMIZE AND RECORD RESPONSE 1 AND 2 ORDER. SHOW IN SAME ORDER AS CLIM6]

	<u>Help the U.S. economy</u>	<u>Hurt the U.S. economy</u>	<u>Make no difference for the U.S. economy</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Jan 24-30, 2022	37	35	27	2
Oct 1-13, 2019	33	30	35	2
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	30	31	36	2

**ASK ALL:**

CLIM6

Do you think policies aimed at reducing the effects of global climate change generally...  
**[RANDOMIZE AND RECORD RESPONSE 1 AND 2 ORDER. SHOW IN SAME ORDER AS CLIM5]**

	Do more GOOD than harm for the <u>environment</u>	Do more HARM than good for the <u>environment</u>	Make no difference for the <u>environment</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Jan 24-30, 2022	56	18	24	2
Oct 1-13, 2019	54	15	29	2
Mar 27-Apr 9, 2018	49	19	30	2

**ASK ALL:**

CCINTL

Do you support or oppose the U.S. participating in international efforts to help reduce the effects of global climate change?

Jan 24-30,  
2022

43	Strongly support
32	Somewhat support
14	Somewhat oppose
10	Strongly oppose
1	No answer

**ASK FORM 1 [N=5,124]:**

CLIMCOMP1

Compared to other countries with large economies, how much do you think the U.S. is doing to help reduce the effects of global climate change?

Jan 24-30,  
2022

32	More than other countries with large economies
36	Less than other countries with large economies
31	About as much as other countries with large economies
2	No answer

**ASK FORM 2 [N=5,113]:**

CLIMCOMP2

Compared to other countries with large economies, how much do you think the U.S. should be doing to help reduce the effects of global climate change?

Jan 24-30,  
2022

31	More than other countries with large economies
14	Less than other countries with large economies
54	About as much as other countries with large economies
1	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

CCEFFC

How likely is it that countries around the world, including the U.S., will collectively do enough to avoid the worst impacts from climate change?

Jan 24-30,

2022

6	Will definitely happen
30	Will probably happen
45	Will probably NOT happen
8	Will definitely NOT happen
10	Climate change impacts are not a problem
1	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

As part of international efforts to reduce the effects of global climate change...

CCINTL2

Do you think the U.S. has a responsibility to provide financial assistance to developing countries to help build renewable energy sources and move away from fossil fuels?

Jan 24-30,

2022

39	Yes, the U.S. has this responsibility
59	No, the U.S. does not have this responsibility
2	No answer

**ASK IF HOMEOWNER (XOWNRENTMOD=1) [N=7,578]:**

ENV4

Have you given serious thought to installing solar panels to generate electricity for your home within the past 12 months, or haven't you done this?

	I have given serious thought to installing solar panels <u>at home</u>	I have already installed solar panels at <u>home</u>	I have not installed nor given serious thought to installing <u>solar panels</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Jan 24-30, 2022	39	8	52	1
Oct 1-13, 2019 <sup>4</sup>	46	6	47	1
May 10-Jun 6, 2016	40	4	54	1

<sup>4</sup> In 2016 and 2019, ENV4 was asked without the homeowner filter. The 2016 and 2019 numbers here for ENV4 and ENV5 were filtered by homeowner status so that they could be compared with the 2022 data.



**ASK IF ENV4=1,2 [N=3,452]:**

ENV5 **[ASK IF ENV4=1]:** Is each of the following a reason you would install solar panels at your home?

**[ASK IF ENV4=2]:** Is each of the following a reason that you have installed solar panels at your home? **[RANDOMIZE]**

	<u>Yes, a reason</u>	<u>No, not a reason</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. To save money on utility bills			
Jan 24-30, 2022	92	8	<1
Oct 1-13, 2019	96	4	<1
May 10-June 6, 2016	90	7	3
b. To help the environment			
Jan 24-30, 2022	81	18	<1
Oct 1-13, 2019	87	12	1
May 10-June 6, 2016	87	12	<1
c. Because it would be better for my own health and my family's health			
Jan 24-30, 2022	59	40	<1
Oct 1-13, 2019	60	40	<1
May 10-June 6, 2016	62	37	1
d. To get a solar investment tax credit			
Jan 24-30, 2022	64	34	1
Oct 1-13, 2019	67	32	1
May 10-June 6, 2016	60	38	2

**OTHER QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**