American Climate Perspectives Survey 2026

Annual Energy Survey Toplines

Americans See Nuclear, Wind, and Solar as Key to Affordable Power and Clean Data Centers

American Climate Perspectives Survey 2026, Volume II
Fielded, September 1-9, 2026

	National	Rep	Dem	Indep	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Female	Male	White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino
N=	**1,133**	**329**	**396**	**342**	**128**	**196**	**187**	**199**	**191**	**232**	**573**	**554**	**730**	**157**	**211**
Q. How important is it for the United States to use nuclear energy together with wind and solar energy to help provide reliable and affordable electricity?															
Reliable															
Total important	**79%**	**81%**	**82%**	**77%**	**78%**	**84%**	**76%**	**74%**	**78%**	**83%**	**76%**	**83%**	**79%**	**82%**	**80%**
Very important	42%	41%	46%	40%	40%	45%	38%	41%	39%	46%	40%	44%	42%	43%	46%
Somewhat important	37%	40%	36%	38%	38%	38%	39%	33%	39%	37%	36%	39%	37%	39%	34%
Not very important	8%	8%	7%	8%	12%	7%	10%	8%	7%	7%	8%	8%	8%	5%	8%
Not at all important	3%	4%	3%	2%	4%	5%	1%	2%	4%	3%	4%	2%	3%	3%	5%
Not sure	10%	7%	7%	12%	6%	5%	12%	17%	11%	7%	13%	7%	10%	10%	7%
Affordable															
Total important	**81%**	**84%**	**84%**	**79%**	**80%**	**85%**	**79%**	**77%**	**81%**	**85%**	**79%**	**84%**	**83%**	**78%**	**80%**
Very important	51%	51%	53%	49%	43%	58%	48%	52%	50%	51%	49%	52%	52%	47%	52%
Somewhat important	31%	33%	32%	30%	37%	28%	32%	26%	31%	34%	29%	32%	31%	32%	28%
Not very important	6%	6%	6%	8%	11%	7%	7%	6%	5%	4%	5%	8%	5%	6%	9%
Not at all important	3%	4%	3%	2%	3%	3%	1%	2%	4%	4%	3%	2%	3%	4%	3%
Not sure	10%	6%	7%	12%	6%	5%	12%	15%	11%	7%	13%	6%	9%	11%	8%
Q: In the next few years, should the United States be spending more or less on research and development of each of the following energy sources?															
Wind and solar energy															
Total more	**73%**	**65%**	**81%**	**73%**	**67%**	**74%**	**67%**	**72%**	**79%**	**74%**	**69%**	**76%**	**73%**	**72%**	**76%**
Total less	**18%**	**27%**	**11%**	**17%**	**27%**	**16%**	**20%**	**16%**	**12%**	**21%**	**17%**	**19%**	**19%**	**17%**	**17%**
A lot more	39%	28%	51%	38%	33%	41%	35%	39%	41%	44%	36%	42%	39%	36%	41%
More	33%	37%	31%	35%	34%	33%	33%	33%	38%	30%	33%	34%	34%	36%	35%
Less	12%	19%	8%	11%	20%	11%	18%	10%	6%	11%	12%	12%	12%	11%	12%
A lot less	6%	9%	3%	6%	6%	5%	2%	6%	6%	10%	5%	7%	6%	6%	5%
Not sure	9%	7%	8%	11%	6%	9%	12%	13%	9%	6%	13%	5%	8%	11%	8%
Next generation nuclear energy*															
Total more	**62%**	**68%**	**64%**	**58%**	**58%**	**62%**	**60%**	**60%**	**58%**	**72%**	**53%**	**72%**	**64%**	**58%**	**65%**
Total less	**23%**	**21%**	**22%**	**26%**	**34%**	**28%**	**22%**	**25%**	**23%**	**14%**	**27%**	**19%**	**21%**	**25%**	**27%**
A lot more	24%	23%	26%	23%	21%	21%	25%	26%	23%	26%	21%	26%	24%	18%	24%
More	38%	45%	38%	35%	37%	41%	35%	34%	35%	47%	32%	45%	40%	39%	41%
Less	16%	14%	16%	17%	25%	19%	17%	16%	15%	9%	18%	14%	14%	18%	18%
A lot less	7%	7%	6%	9%	9%	9%	6%	9%	8%	5%	10%	5%	8%	8%	9%
Not sure	14%	11%	13%	16%	9%	10%	18%	16%	19%	14%	20%	9%	15%	17%	8%
Coal															
Total more	**34%**	**39%**	**35%**	**29%**	**39%**	**42%**	**35%**	**36%**	**30%**	**24%**	**31%**	**36%**	**32%**	**44%**	**36%**
Total less	**53%**	**49%**	**54%**	**56%**	**48%**	**48%**	**49%**	**51%**	**52%**	**65%**	**49%**	**57%**	**54%**	**40%**	**53%**
A lot more	12%	12%	15%	8%	10%	15%	14%	15%	9%	8%	13%	10%	12%	15%	11%
More	22%	27%	20%	20%	29%	27%	21%	21%	21%	16%	18%	25%	21%	29%	25%
Less	26%	30%	22%	27%	27%	27%	25%	28%	26%	27%	29%	25%	28%	23%	24%
A lot less	26%	19%	31%	28%	22%	21%	24%	23%	27%	38%	21%	32%	27%	17%	29%
Not sure	13%	12%	11%	16%	13%	10%	16%	14%	17%	12%	19%	8%	13%	16%	11%
Oil															
Total more	**43%**	**52%**	**41%**	**38%**	**50%**	**51%**	**43%**	**41%**	**38%**	**36%**	**41%**	**44%**	**41%**	**56%**	**44%**
Total less	**47%**	**39%**	**51%**	**49%**	**43%**	**41%**	**45%**	**46%**	**48%**	**54%**	**44%**	**49%**	**48%**	**32%**	**47%**
A lot more	16%	16%	17%	14%	17%	21%	19%	19%	12%	11%	16%	17%	14%	22%	20%
More	27%	35%	23%	24%	33%	30%	25%	23%	26%	25%	26%	27%	27%	34%	24%
Less	28%	26%	27%	31%	30%	27%	29%	30%	27%	27%	28%	28%	28%	21%	28%
A lot less	18%	13%	24%	18%	13%	14%	16%	16%	20%	28%	16%	21%	20%	11%	19%
Not sure	11%	9%	8%	13%	7%	8%	12%	13%	15%	9%	15%	7%	12%	11%	9%
Natural gas															
Total more	**57%**	**64%**	**57%**	**53%**	**57%**	**56%**	**52%**	**56%**	**57%**	**62%**	**54%**	**60%**	**58%**	**61%**	**51%**
Total less	**31%**	**26%**	**32%**	**31%**	**34%**	**35%**	**32%**	**29%**	**29%**	**28%**	**30%**	**31%**	**29%**	**29%**	**36%**
A lot more	18%	18%	22%	14%	20%	22%	16%	19%	16%	16%	17%	19%	16%	24%	19%
More	39%	47%	35%	39%	37%	33%	37%	37%	40%	45%	36%	41%	42%	36%	32%
Less	23%	22%	22%	25%	27%	23%	26%	22%	21%	23%	22%	25%	22%	19%	28%
A lot less	7%	5%	11%	6%	7%	12%	6%	7%	8%	5%	9%	6%	7%	10%	8%
Not sure	13%	9%	11%	16%	9%	10%	16%	16%	14%	10%	16%	9%	13%	11%	13%

*See p. 4 for next-generation nuclear energy R&D toplines across survey years.

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Annual Energy Survey Toplines

	National	Rep	Dem	Indep	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Female	Male	White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino
N=	**1,133**	**329**	**396**	**342**	**128**	**196**	**187**	**199**	**191**	**232**	**573**	**554**	**730**	**157**	**211**
Q: America's traditional nuclear power plants produce around 20% of our electricity. Which is closest to your opinion?															
Total support nuclear power	**58%**	**67%**	**57%**	**57%**	**52%**	**59%**	**54%**	**53%**	**57%**	**69%**	**49%**	**68%**	**61%**	**50%**	**58%**
Total oppose nuclear power	**26%**	**22%**	**30%**	**25%**	**35%**	**30%**	**26%**	**26%**	**27%**	**18%**	**29%**	**22%**	**23%**	**32%**	**30%**
Strongly support nuclear power	19%	24%	17%	20%	14%	18%	18%	20%	18%	24%	13%	25%	21%	15%	18%
Somewhat support nuclear power	39%	43%	40%	37%	38%	41%	36%	33%	39%	45%	36%	42%	39%	34%	40%
Somewhat oppose nuclear power	18%	16%	20%	17%	24%	19%	19%	17%	20%	11%	21%	14%	17%	20%	18%
Strongly oppose nuclear power	8%	6%	10%	8%	11%	10%	7%	9%	7%	7%	8%	8%	6%	11%	12%
Not sure	16%	11%	14%	18%	13%	11%	20%	22%	16%	14%	22%	10%	16%	18%	12%
Q: What are the most important reasons for supporting nuclear energy?															
Nuclear power plants generate a lot of our electricity, reliably															
Total important	**74%**	**78%**	**73%**	**72%**	**64%**	**72%**	**75%**	**76%**	**71%**	**80%**	**71%**	**76%**	**77%**	**63%**	**70%**
Very important	39%	43%	37%	39%	29%	37%	36%	47%	35%	45%	37%	39%	43%	25%	36%
Somewhat important	35%	36%	35%	34%	36%	35%	38%	29%	37%	35%	33%	37%	35%	38%	34%
A little important	16%	13%	18%	15%	21%	18%	16%	14%	15%	14%	17%	15%	14%	23%	19%
Not at all important	5%	4%	5%	7%	8%	6%	5%	5%	5%	4%	6%	5%	5%	9%	7%
Not sure	5%	4%	4%	5%	6%	4%	4%	4%	9%	3%	6%	4%	5%	6%	4%
Nuclear power plants keep America competitive and energy independent															
Total important	**71%**	**76%**	**70%**	**69%**	**58%**	**64%**	**69%**	**74%**	**73%**	**80%**	**63%**	**78%**	**75%**	**61%**	**67%**
Very important	38%	44%	32%	41%	27%	33%	34%	42%	39%	47%	32%	42%	41%	26%	34%
Somewhat important	33%	32%	38%	29%	31%	31%	35%	33%	35%	33%	31%	35%	34%	35%	34%
A little important	19%	15%	20%	19%	29%	26%	19%	19%	13%	12%	24%	15%	16%	23%	22%
Not at all important	6%	4%	6%	6%	7%	6%	7%	3%	6%	5%	7%	4%	5%	10%	7%
Not sure	5%	4%	4%	5%	6%	4%	5%	4%	7%	4%	6%	3%	5%	6%	4%
We have thousands of years of uranium and thorium for truly sustainable energy															
Total important	**67%**	**72%**	**67%**	**65%**	**60%**	**64%**	**69%**	**72%**	**68%**	**69%**	**62%**	**72%**	**69%**	**63%**	**66%**
Very important	33%	34%	34%	34%	24%	33%	33%	40%	28%	38%	30%	36%	34%	33%	32%
Somewhat important	34%	38%	33%	31%	36%	30%	36%	31%	40%	31%	32%	36%	35%	30%	34%
A little important	18%	16%	17%	19%	26%	23%	18%	19%	11%	14%	20%	16%	17%	23%	19%
Not at all important	6%	4%	7%	6%	5%	9%	5%	4%	6%	6%	6%	6%	5%	9%	8%
Not sure	9%	9%	9%	10%	9%	5%	8%	6%	16%	12%	13%	6%	9%	6%	8%
Nuclear power plants should be kept running as long as they are cost effective in the long term															
Total important	**72%**	**80%**	**71%**	**68%**	**63%**	**74%**	**72%**	**73%**	**68%**	**78%**	**66%**	**77%**	**75%**	**64%**	**70%**
Very important	37%	42%	35%	35%	26%	39%	34%	37%	35%	45%	32%	40%	40%	27%	36%
Somewhat important	35%	38%	36%	33%	37%	35%	39%	37%	33%	33%	34%	37%	35%	37%	34%
A little important	15%	10%	16%	19%	21%	16%	18%	15%	14%	12%	18%	13%	14%	18%	16%
Not at all important	7%	6%	8%	8%	12%	7%	5%	9%	7%	5%	8%	7%	6%	11%	10%
Not sure	5%	4%	6%	6%	4%	3%	5%	3%	11%	6%	8%	3%	5%	7%	5%
Nuclear power plants should be kept running until lower cost renewable energy becomes available															
Total important	**72%**	**76%**	**74%**	**69%**	**67%**	**75%**	**72%**	**72%**	**68%**	**75%**	**70%**	**74%**	**76%**	**62%**	**71%**
Very important	37%	42%	36%	35%	31%	37%	34%	42%	34%	41%	36%	38%	40%	28%	36%
Somewhat important	35%	34%	38%	34%	36%	38%	39%	30%	34%	34%	34%	36%	36%	34%	35%
A little important	17%	12%	18%	19%	20%	18%	18%	18%	17%	14%	18%	17%	15%	23%	19%
Not at all important	6%	6%	4%	8%	7%	5%	5%	5%	6%	8%	6%	6%	5%	9%	6%
Not sure	5%	6%	5%	4%	6%	2%	5%	5%	9%	4%	7%	3%	5%	6%	4%
Nuclear power plants do not emit pollutants that harm our health or our climate compared to alternatives															
Total important	**71%**	**74%**	**74%**	**69%**	**63%**	**72%**	**74%**	**75%**	**66%**	**76%**	**69%**	**73%**	**73%**	**69%**	**68%**
Very important	39%	37%	43%	36%	30%	37%	35%	47%	35%	43%	35%	41%	40%	33%	39%
Somewhat important	33%	36%	30%	33%	32%	34%	39%	28%	30%	33%	34%	32%	33%	36%	29%
A little important	16%	15%	15%	16%	20%	19%	15%	13%	15%	14%	16%	15%	14%	14%	19%
Not at all important	5%	3%	5%	6%	11%	3%	5%	5%	4%	4%	5%	5%	4%	9%	5%
Not sure	8%	9%	7%	9%	7%	6%	7%	7%	15%	8%	10%	6%	9%	8%	8%
Nuclear power helps us grow our economy while reducing pollution to our climate and health															
Total important	**73%**	**78%**	**74%**	**71%**	**63%**	**74%**	**75%**	**77%**	**69%**	**79%**	**70%**	**76%**	**78%**	**64%**	**65%**
Very important	40%	43%	40%	38%	29%	39%	36%	45%	39%	47%	37%	42%	42%	28%	39%
Somewhat important	34%	34%	34%	33%	34%	35%	39%	32%	30%	33%	33%	34%	36%	36%	26%
A little important	16%	13%	16%	17%	22%	17%	14%	15%	17%	13%	17%	15%	13%	20%	22%
Not at all important	5%	5%	4%	6%	7%	4%	5%	3%	6%	5%	4%	5%	4%	9%	7%
Not sure	6%	5%	5%	6%	8%	5%	6%	4%	9%	4%	9%	3%	5%	7%	5%

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Annual Energy Survey Toplines

	National	Rep	Dem	Indep	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Female	Male	White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino
N=	**1,133**	**329**	**396**	**342**	**128**	**196**	**187**	**199**	**191**	**232**	**573**	**554**	**730**	**157**	**211**
Q: How much would you support or oppose converting retired coal-fired power plants into nuclear power plants, if it could help provide cleaner and more reliable energy?															
Total support	**72%**	**78%**	**74%**	**70%**	**63%**	**72%**	**71%**	**71%**	**71%**	**77%**	**68%**	**76%**	**75%**	**68%**	**70%**
Total oppose	**15%**	**12%**	**16%**	**13%**	**22%**	**18%**	**12%**	**14%**	**14%**	**13%**	**15%**	**15%**	**12%**	**18%**	**21%**
Strongly support	31%	29%	35%	33%	32%	32%	28%	32%	25%	38%	28%	35%	33%	29%	33%
Somewhat support	40%	48%	39%	37%	31%	40%	43%	40%	46%	40%	40%	41%	42%	39%	37%
Somewhat oppose	10%	9%	10%	8%	20%	12%	8%	8%	7%	8%	10%	10%	8%	11%	15%
Strongly oppose	5%	4%	6%	5%	2%	6%	4%	6%	7%	5%	5%	5%	4%	7%	6%
Not sure	13%	10%	10%	17%	15%	10%	17%	15%	15%	10%	17%	9%	13%	13%	9%
Q: As demand for data centers grows, should data center operators be required to use clean energy, such as wind, solar, and nuclear, to meet their electricity needs?															
Yes	70%	70%	76%	69%	59%	71%	66%	70%	73%	76%	69%	71%	72%	68%	68%
No	13%	14%	11%	14%	24%	15%	17%	8%	10%	8%	13%	13%	12%	12%	14%
Not sure	17%	16%	14%	17%	17%	14%	17%	23%	17%	16%	19%	16%	16%	20%	18%
Q: If data centers install and use clean energy on-site, how important is it for the government to set and enforce rules that protect surrounding communities from possible impacts, such as air, water, and soil pollution?															
Total important	**82%**	**87%**	**85%**	**79%**	**77%**	**82%**	**74%**	**81%**	**84%**	**88%**	**79%**	**84%**	**84%**	**81%**	**82%**
Very important	59%	60%	66%	55%	45%	54%	49%	63%	65%	73%	60%	59%	65%	49%	57%
Somewhat important	22%	27%	18%	24%	31%	28%	25%	18%	19%	15%	19%	25%	19%	32%	25%
Not very important	7%	7%	6%	8%	12%	8%	7%	5%	5%	5%	6%	7%	6%	7%	9%
Not important at all	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	5%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%
Not sure	10%	5%	8%	12%	11%	9%	13%	13%	10%	6%	13%	7%	9%	10%	9%
Q: People have concerns about upgrading nuclear energy. Which of the following makes you concerned?															
Health and safety															
Total "A lot" and "Some"	**73%**	**74%**	**78%**	**69%**	**66%**	**74%**	**70%**	**77%**	**78%**	**72%**	**74%**	**73%**	**73%**	**73%**	**75%**
A lot	48%	50%	52%	44%	44%	48%	44%	52%	53%	47%	51%	46%	48%	50%	52%
Some	25%	24%	27%	25%	22%	26%	26%	25%	25%	25%	23%	27%	25%	24%	24%
A little	16%	16%	15%	18%	21%	20%	18%	11%	12%	19%	15%	18%	16%	17%	16%
Not at all	5%	6%	3%	5%	7%	3%	3%	6%	4%	6%	4%	5%	5%	2%	4%
Not sure	6%	4%	4%	8%	6%	4%	9%	7%	6%	3%	8%	4%	5%	8%	5%
Cost															
Total "A lot" and "Some"	**70%**	**71%**	**73%**	**67%**	**62%**	**72%**	**69%**	**72%**	**72%**	**69%**	**71%**	**69%**	**69%**	**72%**	**73%**
A lot	40%	40%	44%	35%	32%	45%	39%	42%	43%	37%	45%	35%	39%	41%	46%
Some	30%	31%	29%	32%	30%	27%	30%	30%	29%	32%	26%	34%	31%	31%	28%
A little	18%	18%	18%	18%	21%	19%	19%	16%	16%	19%	17%	19%	18%	17%	16%
Not at all	5%	7%	4%	6%	9%	6%	2%	5%	5%	7%	4%	7%	6%	4%	5%
Not sure	7%	4%	5%	8%	9%	4%	10%	7%	7%	5%	8%	5%	7%	6%	6%
Waste disposal															
Total "A lot" and "Some"	**72%**	**71%**	**79%**	**66%**	**63%**	**74%**	**70%**	**72%**	**70%**	**78%**	**71%**	**73%**	**71%**	**73%**	**71%**
A lot	44%	41%	49%	43%	35%	44%	39%	43%	49%	52%	45%	44%	44%	44%	45%
Some	28%	31%	29%	23%	28%	30%	30%	29%	21%	27%	26%	29%	27%	29%	26%
A little	16%	18%	14%	18%	20%	19%	18%	13%	18%	13%	15%	18%	17%	16%	16%
Not at all	5%	6%	2%	6%	10%	3%	3%	5%	4%	4%	4%	5%	5%	3%	6%
Not sure	7%	4%	6%	9%	7%	4%	10%	10%	8%	4%	9%	5%	7%	8%	7%
Security, weaponization															
Total "A lot" and "Some"	**65%**	**65%**	**68%**	**61%**	**58%**	**63%**	**63%**	**70%**	**69%**	**63%**	**64%**	**65%**	**64%**	**68%**	**65%**
A lot	38%	35%	43%	36%	31%	35%	33%	46%	41%	40%	37%	39%	37%	41%	42%
Some	26%	29%	25%	25%	27%	28%	30%	24%	28%	23%	27%	26%	27%	26%	24%
A little	20%	20%	22%	20%	27%	25%	19%	14%	17%	22%	19%	22%	20%	21%	20%
Not at all	7%	10%	4%	8%	5%	6%	8%	7%	7%	9%	7%	7%	9%	3%	7%
Not sure	8%	5%	6%	11%	10%	6%	10%	9%	7%	6%	10%	6%	7%	8%	8%
Overpopulation, overdevelopment, leading to natural habitat loss															
Total "A lot" and "Some"	**65%**	**62%**	**70%**	**63%**	**63%**	**66%**	**65%**	**68%**	**68%**	**61%**	**66%**	**64%**	**64%**	**72%**	**66%**
A lot	36%	29%	44%	34%	34%	34%	36%	41%	39%	33%	40%	32%	35%	43%	37%
Some	29%	33%	26%	30%	30%	32%	28%	27%	29%	28%	26%	32%	29%	29%	29%
A little	18%	22%	15%	18%	23%	18%	16%	16%	16%	22%	16%	20%	19%	13%	16%
Not at all	9%	11%	8%	10%	7%	11%	10%	8%	9%	10%	9%	10%	10%	6%	12%
Not sure	7%	5%	7%	8%	7%	6%	10%	8%	7%	7%	10%	5%	8%	8%	6%

Proceed to next page for longitudinal toplines.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Q: In the next few years, should the United States be spending more or less on research and development of each of the following energy sources?									
Next generation nuclear energy*									
Total more	**54%**	**56%**	**57%**	**57%**	**61%**	**53%**	**56%**	**58%**	**62%**
Total less	**30%**	**28%**	**27%**	**25%**	**25%**	**30%**	**30%**	**27%**	**23%**
A lot more	20%	22%	23%	23%	27%	22%	22%	24%	24%
More	34%	34%	34%	34%	34%	31%	35%	35%	38%
Less	17%	18%	16%	16%	17%	20%	19%	19%	16%
A lot less	13%	10%	11%	9%	8%	10%	11%	8%	7%
Not sure	16%	15%	16%	18%	14%	17%	14%	15%	14%
Q: America's traditional nuclear power plants produce around 20% of our electricity. Which is closest to your opinion?									
Total support nuclear power	**49%**	**55%**	**56%**	**59%**	**61%**	**52%**	**55%**	**58%**	**58%**
Total oppose nuclear power	**33%**	**33%**	**30%**	**27%**	**26%**	**31%**	**30%**	**28%**	**26%**
Strongly support nuclear power	16%	20%	19%	20%	23%	17%	18%	21%	19%
Somewhat support nuclear power	33%	35%	37%	39%	38%	35%	37%	37%	39%
Somewhat oppose nuclear power	22%	22%	21%	20%	20%	22%	22%	19%	18%
Strongly oppose nuclear power	11%	11%	9%	7%	6%	8%	7%	8%	8%
Not sure	13%	13%	14%	14%	13%	18%	16%	15%	16%
Q: What are the most important reasons for supporting nuclear energy?									
Nuclear power plants generate a lot of our electricity, reliably									
Total important	**64%**	**69%**	**70%**	**71%**	**70%**	**71%**	**69%**	**74%**	**74%**
Very important	34%	36%	37%	36%	38%	35%	35%	38%	39%
Somewhat important	30%	33%	33%	35%	32%	36%	35%	36%	35%
A little important	18%	16%	18%	17%	19%	19%	19%	18%	16%
Not at all important	10%	8%	7%	6%	6%	5%	7%	4%	5%
Not sure	8%	7%	6%	6%	5%	4%	4%	4%	5%
Nuclear power plants keep America competitive and energy independent									
Total important	**61%**	**65%**	**64%**	**64%**	**70%**	**69%**	**68%**	**72%**	**71%**
Very important	30%	34%	32%	32%	40%	35%	34%	40%	38%
Somewhat important	31%	31%	32%	32%	30%	35%	34%	32%	33%
A little important	17%	18%	20%	19%	19%	18%	19%	17%	19%
Not at all important	13%	10%	10%	10%	5%	8%	8%	6%	6%
Not sure	8%	7%	5%	7%	6%	5%	4%	5%	5%
We have thousands of years of uranium and thorium for truly sustainable energy									
Total important	**54%**	**59%**	**58%**	**57%**	**59%**	**60%**	**59%**	**67%**	**67%**
Very important	25%	30%	27%	26%	31%	28%	28%	33%	33%
Somewhat important	29%	29%	31%	31%	28%	32%	31%	33%	34%
A little important	15%	17%	18%	21%	18%	20%	21%	16%	18%
Not at all important	13%	11%	10%	8%	8%	8%	8%	7%	6%
Not sure	17%	13%	13%	13%	15%	12%	12%	10%	9%
Nuclear power plants should be kept running as long as they are cost effective in the long term									
Total important	**57%**	**60%**	**62%**	**62%**	**64%**	**68%**	**68%**	**71%**	**72%**
Very important	27%	29%	28%	28%	32%	32%	30%	35%	37%
Somewhat important	30%	31%	34%	34%	32%	35%	38%	36%	35%
A little important	19%	21%	20%	22%	22%	19%	20%	18%	15%
Not at all important	16%	13%	12%	10%	10%	8%	9%	7%	7%
Not sure	8%	6%	6%	6%	5%	5%	4%	4%	5%
Nuclear power plants should be kept running until lower cost renewable energy becomes available									
Total important	**63%**	**66%**	**69%**	**67%**	**69%**	**69%**	**70%**	**73%**	**72%**
Very important	32%	33%	29%	30%	33%	35%	32%	37%	37%
Somewhat important	31%	33%	40%	37%	36%	34%	38%	37%	35%
A little important	19%	19%	18%	20%	20%	20%	19%	16%	17%
Not at all important	10%	8%	8%	8%	7%	6%	8%	7%	6%
Not sure	8%	6%	5%	6%	5%	5%	3%	4%	5%

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Q: In the next few years, should the United States be spending more or less on research and development of each of the following energy sources? (c'td)									
Nuclear power plants do not emit pollutants that harm our health or our climate compared to alternatives									
Total important	**64%**	**69%**	**68%**	**67%**	**68%**	**68%**	**67%**	**69%**	**71%**
Very important	38%	44%	41%	38%	39%	36%	36%	42%	39%
Somewhat important	26%	25%	27%	29%	29%	32%	31%	28%	33%
A little important	14%	14%	17%	16%	16%	18%	19%	18%	16%
Not at all important	9%	7%	7%	7%	7%	6%	7%	6%	5%
Not sure	12%	9%	9%	10%	10%	8%	8%	7%	8%
Nuclear power helps us grow our economy while reducing pollution to our climate and health									
Total important	**62%**	**67%**	**67%**	**68%**	**69%**	**71%**	**70%**	**72%**	**73%**
Very important	35%	39%	35%	35%	38%	38%	32%	41%	40%
Somewhat important	27%	28%	32%	33%	31%	34%	37%	31%	34%
A little important	16%	18%	18%	17%	17%	18%	18%	16%	16%
Not at all important	12%	8%	8%	7%	6%	5%	7%	7%	5%
Not sure	10%	7%	7%	7%	7%	6%	5%	4%	6%
Q: People have concerns about upgrading nuclear energy. Which of the following makes you concerned?									
Health and safety									
Total "A lot" and "Some"	**80%**	**78%**	**76%**	**73%**	**73%**	**74%**	**74%**	**75%**	**73%**
A lot	60%	58%	54%	50%	49%	49%	47%	48%	48%
Some	20%	20%	22%	23%	24%	25%	27%	27%	25%
A little	10%	12%	14%	16%	15%	16%	16%	16%	16%
Not at all	5%	6%	6%	6%	8%	5%	6%	5%	5%
Not sure	5%	4%	5%	5%	4%	5%	3%	4%	6%
Cost									
Total "A lot" and "Some"	**65%**	**58%**	**60%**	**58%**	**57%**	**63%**	**68%**	**66%**	**70%**
A lot	30%	27%	26%	24%	25%	32%	35%	33%	40%
Some	35%	31%	34%	34%	32%	31%	33%	34%	30%
A little	20%	26%	22%	24%	26%	21%	19%	20%	18%
Not at all	8%	10%	11%	11%	11%	9%	9%	8%	5%
Not sure	6%	6%	6%	8%	6%	7%	4%	6%	7%
Waste disposal									
Total "A lot" and "Some"	**84%**	**81%**	**78%**	**75%**	**73%**	**73%**	**72%**	**73%**	**72%**
A lot	65%	62%	53%	50%	49%	44%	42%	43%	44%
Some	19%	19%	25%	25%	24%	29%	30%	30%	28%
A little	8%	12%	12%	14%	16%	16%	19%	16%	16%
Not at all	2%	3%	5%	4%	6%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Not sure	5%	5%	5%	7%	4%	6%	5%	6%	7%
Security, weaponization									
Total "A lot" and "Some"	**74%**	**70%**	**68%**	**68%**	**66%**	**68%**	**68%**	**69%**	**65%**
A lot	49%	46%	41%	40%	38%	40%	40%	38%	38%
Some	25%	24%	27%	28%	28%	28%	28%	31%	26%
A little	13%	18%	17%	18%	19%	19%	20%	18%	20%
Not at all	7%	7%	8%	7%	10%	7%	7%	7%	7%
Not sure	6%	6%	7%	7%	6%	6%	5%	6%	8%
Overpopulation, overdevelopment, leading to natural habitat loss									
Total "A lot" and "Some"	**74%**	**72%**	**66%**	**63%**	**61%**	**65%**	**64%**	**66%**	**65%**
A lot	48%	47%	38%	37%	35%	35%	34%	32%	36%
Some	26%	25%	28%	26%	26%	31%	30%	34%	29%
A little	12%	15%	18%	19%	22%	18%	21%	19%	18%
Not at all	8%	11%	9%	9%	12%	9%	10%	9%	9%
Not sure	7%	2%	6%	9%	6%	8%	5%	6%	7%

Proceed to next page for demographic mix.

DEMOGRAPHICS

	National
N=	**1,133**
Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or something else?	
Republican	29%
Democrat	35%
Independent	30%
Something else	6%
What is your age?	
18-24	11%
25-34	17%
35-44	17%
45-54	18%
55-64	17%
65+	20%
What is your sex?	
Female	51%
Male	49%
Other (please specify)	1%
What is your racial or ethnic identity? Please select all that apply.	
White	64%
Black or African American	14%
Hispanic or Latino	19%
Asian or Asian American	8%
American Indian or Alaska Native	3%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	1%
Another race	2%
What is your total household income?	
Under $15,000	15%
Between $15,000 and $29,999	19%
Between $30,000 and $49,999	20%
Between $50,000 and $74,999	21%
Between $75,000 and $99,999	11%
Between $100,000 and $150,000	10%
Over $150,000	5%
In which region of the United States do you live?	
New England (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut)	5%
Middle Atlantic (New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania)	12%
East North Central (Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin)	15%
West North Central (Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas)	6%
South Atlantic (Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida)	20%
East South Central (Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi)	7%
West South Central (Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas)	12%
Mountain (Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada)	9%
Pacific (Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska, Hawaii)	14%

Methodology

ecoAmerica, a nonprofit organization, designed and administered this survey, which was conducted online from September 1–9, 2026, using SurveyMonkey. The survey yielded a total of 1,133 complete adult responses. It used the Census Bureau's American Community Survey to weight the national general population and reflect the demographic composition of the US. The sample was drawn from an online panel, and respondents were screened to ensure they were over 18. The margin of error for the sample is +/-3%. When interpreting survey results, it is important to note that all sample surveys are subject to possible sampling error. Thus, the results of a survey may differ from those obtained if the entire population was interviewed. The size of the sampling error depends upon both the total number of respondents in the survey and the percentage distribution of the responses to a particular question. For example, if 50% of the 1,133 respondents in a sample answered "Yes" to a particular question, we can be 95% confident that the true percentage falls within 3 percentage points, or ranges from 47% to 53%.

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ecoAmerica does not hold a formal position on nuclear energy.

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