

# NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY

PREPARED BY **the polling company**™  
FOR THE COMPETITIVE ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

From December 8 – 11, 1998, *the polling company* conducted a nationwide survey of attitudes on environmental policy of 1,000 registered voters nationwide. The results have a margin of error of +/- 3.1 % at 95 %.

- Approximately 70 percent of registered voters believe that state or local government would do a better at environmental protection than federal government;
- 68 percent believe that state or local government should have primary responsibility for protecting water quality in rivers, lakes and streams;
- 65 percent believe that state or local government should be most responsible for ensuring that communities are aware of the potential risks from industrial facilities;
- 74 percent believe that state and local governments should determine what air pollution control measures are used, and 36 percent believe that state and local governments should be allowed to “set their own air quality standards based on local needs” as well;
- 63 percent support compensation of landowners for the costs of environmental regulations that restrict the use of their land;
- 59 percent support the “private ownership, management and breeding endangered wildlife” to help conserve endangered species;
- 53 percent believe that journalists “blow things out of proportion” in their coverage of environmental issues.

These results are consistent with CEI’s 1996 National Survey of Attitudes on Environmental Policy. Both surveys found that most Americans support environmental protection *and* significant reform of existing environmental laws. *For most Americans, devolution, regulatory reform, and property rights are consistent with environmental protection.*



**COMPETITIVE ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE**

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY**

**OVERVIEW**

Over the past several years, numerous opinion surveys have documented widespread public support for environmental protection. Polls routinely find that over 70 percent of Americans characterize themselves as environmentalists or concerned about the environment. To date, however, there has been relatively little polling to determine which sets of policies Americans believe are most appropriate to address their environmental concerns.

In 1996, the Competitive Enterprise Institute (CEI) commissioned *the polling company* to perform a nationwide survey of 1,000 registered voters nationwide. This survey found both strong support for environmental protection, as well as broad support for decentralized, market-oriented environmental policies.

In December 1998, CEI commissioned a follow-up survey to evaluate whether these attitudes have changed of the past two years, and to assess the support for greater decentralization and the introduction of more market-oriented approaches to environmental policy. The poll was administered December 8-11, 1998 and has a margin of error of +/- 3.1 percent at the 95 percent confidence level.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

*Most Americans support environmental protection, but are not activists.* Nearly 70 percent of respondents consider themselves either “active environmentalists” or “concerned about the environment but not much of an activist,” opting for the latter description 52 percent to 17 percent. 26 percent consider themselves “neutral” on environmental issues, up from 16 percent in 1996. Contrary to common perceptions, older voters were more likely to define themselves as “active environmentalists” than younger voters.

*Environmental issues are of moderate importance to most voters.* While a majority of respondents claim that a candidate’s position on environmental issues is of moderate or high

importance to them, few registered voters (5 percent) rate environmental concerns as “the single most important problem facing the country.” On this scale, environmental concerns ranked eighth, behind crime/drugs (19 percent), taxes (8 percent), and education (8 percent). (By comparison, 8 percent identified President Clinton, and 3 percent identified impeachment or Ken Starr as the “most important problem.”) By a margin of 46 percent to 20 percent, voters believe that the Democratic Party does a better job at handling environmental issues than the Republican Party, but voters are split – 46 percent (excellent/good) to 40 percent (fair/poor) – on Vice President Al Gore’s performance on environmental issues.

*Most Americans support a greater role for state and local governments in environmental policy, and believe that state and local governments are better suited to addressing most environmental concerns.*

- 65 percent of those surveyed identify state or local government as the level of government that does the best job of addressing those issues that concern them.
- 66 percent think that the state or local government would be better at protecting the environment than the federal government. When it comes to “dealing with the environmental concerns in your community,” 75 percent say that state or local government would do a better job than the federal government.
- 68 percent believe that state or local government should have primary responsibility for protecting water quality in rivers, lakes and streams.
- 52 percent believe that state or local government should have primary responsibility for cleaning up hazardous waste sites and preventing their recurrence.
- 65 percent believe that state or local government should be most responsible for ensuring that communities are aware of the potential risks from industrial facilities.
- 74 percent of those surveyed believe that state and local governments should determine what air pollution control measures are used.

*Americans do not support heavy-handed federal efforts to control “urban sprawl.” Most Americans would prefer that state and local governments address this issue, and oppose limitations on their housing and transportation choices.*

- “Urban sprawl” is a major concern to only 23 percent of Americans, and a minor concern to 44 percent of Americans.
- 67 percent of Americans want state or local governments to address “urban sprawl” in those communities where it is concern. 11 percent want no government involvement whatsoever to address “urban sprawl,” while only 8 percent thought that the federal government should be the primary actor in dealing with this issue.
- 55 percent agree that people should be allowed to choose for themselves the size and location of their homes to fit their families’ needs. Only 39 percent want controls on the size of new housing developments to protect farmland and open space.

- 73 percent agree that people should be able to decide for themselves which type of transportation best fits their needs and lifestyle. Only 23 percent want government controls on transportation to reduce congestion and protect the environment.

*Most Americans support private property rights and more Americans support market-based or incentive-driven conservation strategies over the preservation of existing regulations.*

- 63 percent of those surveyed support compensation “when environmental regulations prevent landowners from using their property.”
- 37 percent favor replacing federal land-use regulation to protect wetlands with incentives for restoration and conservation; 29 percent favor a similar policy for endangered species; only 15 percent support the continuation of uncompensated regulation for either program.
- 59 percent support the “private ownership, management and breeding endangered wildlife” to help conserve endangered species. Only 33 percent oppose private management for placing economic concerns ahead of species protection.

*Americans oppose the use of tax dollars to fund international family planning efforts or that support environmental lobbying.*

- 62 percent think that the United States should not provide birth control, abortions and other population control methods as part of its international environmental policy funding. 59 percent say that birth control and other population control methods should not be part of its environmental policy funding.
- 58 percent oppose giving groups that lobby Congress on environmental issues money from the federal government. A plurality, 42 percent, agree that environmental groups should not receive federal tax dollars to support their efforts.

*Americans have concerns about media coverage of environmental issues.*

- A minority of Americans, only 19 percent, believe that the media accurately portray risks to the environment without blowing things out of proportion.
- A small majority of Americans, 53 percent, believe that the media blows things out of proportion in its coverage of environmental issues.
- A plurality of voters (46 percent) claim that the media provide “some” balanced and useful information about global warming. Three times as many voters claim that media reports about global warming are likely to be biased (30 percent), than believe that they contain “a great deal” of balanced information (10 percent).

*Most Americans support regulatory reform to restore accountability to the regulatory process.*

- 76 percent of Americans support requiring Congress to approve new regulations before they may take effect.
- 83 percent support “major reforms” (52 percent) or moves to “completely overhaul” (31 percent) of the role of government over the next ten years.

*There is not strong support for federal “community right-to-know” requirements which require industrial facilities to provide information to communities. There is, however, support for community-based requirements.*

- 59 percent of those polled said that merely listing chemicals released into the environment by nearby industrial facilities (as federal law requires) does not help them understand the impacts of such releases and that they would prefer information that helps them better understand the *actual* health impact of such releases on themselves and their families; and they want to know how to respond should an accidental release occur.
- 65 percent contend if government is involved in providing such information, the information should come from local (38 percent) or state government (27 percent).
- 49 percent think local government (30 percent) and local groups, including civic organizations and local environmental groups (19 percent) are best able to provide accurate information about public health risks posed by industrial facilities in their communities. An equal amount trust facility plant managers (14 percent) to provide accurate information as trust national environmental groups (14 percent). Only 8 percent think that the federal government is most suited to provide accurate information.

*There is no clear support for an United Nations global warming treaty, but most Americans believe that such a treaty could impose substantial costs.*

- While majority of voters (56 percent) believe that greenhouse gas emissions are responsible for making the planet warmer, a majority of voters (52 percent) prefers that the government *not* pass new laws and regulations addressing global warming until a scientific consensus is reached that the phenomenon does, in fact, exist. Only 36 percent support action in the face of uncertainty.
- 57 percent of women, age 18-44 oppose enacting global warming regulations until there is a scientific consensus, compared with only 43 percent of men in that age bracket.
- A majority of Americans (55 percent) tends to believe that the Kyoto treaty will be economically damaging, but opinions are not well formed or intensely held.
- By more than a 2:1 ratio, Americans believe that the treaty could raise gas prices and limit our use of automobiles (61 percent to 29 percent) and that the Kyoto Protocol will hurt the poorest Americans by increasing utility and fuel costs (66 percent to 25 percent).

*Most Americans have limited knowledge about federal automobile fuel economy standards, but more information about the safety impacts of such standards could reduce support for these standards.*

- Americans are relatively unfamiliar with federal fuel economy standards for automobiles, with a modest majority claiming to be not very familiar or not at all familiar (53 percent) with federal fuel economy standards.
- Voters are fairly evenly split (44 percent support, 40 percent oppose) between supporting and opposing federal fuel economy standards after learning that they limit the availability of large, crashworthy cars. After learning about the cost in human life, 39 percent of the supporters of the standards are inclined to change their position.

## CONCLUSIONS

These results are consistent with CEI's 1996 National Survey of Attitudes on Environmental Policy. Both surveys found that most Americans support environmental protection *and* significant reform of existing environmental laws. For most Americans, devolution, regulatory reform, and property rights are consistent with environmental protection. For most Americans, there is nothing anti-environment about alternative approaches to environmental policy.

The challenge to those who wish to advance environmental policy reform is to articulate a vision for the future of environmental policy that marries the public's concern for environmental protection with the preference for policy-making close to home. The American people do not accept the conventional wisdom that only centralized, federal regulation is capable of ensuring environmental protection. For most Americans, extensive federal bureaucracies are not necessary to advance environmental protection, and there is nothing anti-environment about pursuing environmental reform.





# NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY

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## SURVEY RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The objective of this national survey of registered voters is to measure the attitudes of the electorate on a variety of public policy issues relating to the proper role of government and environmental regulations.

## SURVEY RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The Competitive Enterprise Institute commissioned **the polling company**™ to conduct a national survey of 1,000 registered voters. This survey was fielded from December 8 - 11, 1998 with a Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) phone facility. The margin of error for this survey is  $\pm 3.1\%$  at the 95% confidence level.

The sample was drawn utilizing a Random Digit-Dialing (RDD) method with the phone numbers generated by a computer to insure that every registered voter in the nation with a telephone had an equal chance to be surveyed in proportion to their representation in the population.

This proportionate to probability sample of 1,000 actual voters was compared against 1998 voter registration information for each state. The number of male to female respondents as well as the number of samples selected from each state were controlled to insure that an accurate and representative number of each demographic group was surveyed.

## **the polling company**™

**the polling company**™ is a public opinion research and consulting firm based in Washington D.C. with offices in San Francisco, California. The authors of this survey, Kellyanne Fitzpatrick and Jason Booms, are the President and Director of Research, respectively, of **the polling company**™. Both have extensive experience in the fields of quantitative and qualitative research, politics and public policy analysis.

## KEY FINDINGS

- The environment is not a top tier issue for most voters. Only 5% cite environmental concerns as the single most important problem facing the county. The same number (5%) say that “protecting the environment” should be the most important priority for their Member of Congress in 1999.
- Most registered voters (83%) support “major reforms” (52%) or moves to “completely overhaul” (31%) of the role of government over the next ten years.
- 65% of voters say that state government (35%) or local government (30%) does the best job of handling the issues that matter most to them.
- Only 16% of the electorate think of themselves as “active environmentalists.”
- 28% think that a candidate’s position on the environment is of “high importance” to them in deciding how to vote.
- By a 46% - 20% margin, voters think that the Democrats do a better job than the Republicans when it comes to handling environmental issues.
- The electorate is divided on Vice President Al Gore’s ability when it comes to environmental issues. 46% give him an excellent or good rating while 40% say he has done a fair or poor job. 13% say he has done a poor job while only 9% think that he has done an excellent job in this area.
- 66% of Americans think that the state or local government would be better at protecting the environment than the federal government. When it comes to “dealing with the environmental concerns in your community,” 75% say that state or local government would do a better job than the federal government.
- 45% of voters say that the state government should have the primary responsibility for protecting water quality. When the focus is shifted to “cleaning up hazardous waste sites and preventing their recurrence,” 35% of voters select state government while another 35% choose the federal government.
- 38% support an air quality standard regime that allows state and local governments to decide which measures should be used to meet federal government standards. 36% support relegating the role of the federal government to a strictly advisory capacity.
- Urban sprawl is a concern to 67% of Americans (44% minor concern, 23% major concern).

- In those communities where urban sprawl is a concern, 67% want local (39%) or state (28%) governments to address these concerns. Only 8% thought that the federal government should be the primary actor in dealing with urban sprawl.
- 55% agree that people should be allowed to choose for themselves the size and location of their homes to fit their families needs.
- 73% agree that people should be able to decide for themselves which type of transportation best fits their needs and lifestyle.
- 63% think that the federal government should compensate landowners for any resulting decline in the value of their land when environmental regulations prevent private landowners from using their property.
- 37% favor replacing federal land-use regulation to protect wetlands with incentives for restoration and conservation; 29% favor a similar policy for endangered species; only 15% support the continuation of uncompensated regulation for either program.
- 59% support allowing the private ownership, management, and breeding of endangered wildlife in their area.
- 58% oppose giving groups that lobby Congress on environmental issues money from the federal government. A plurality, 42%, agree that environmental groups should not receive federal tax dollars to support their efforts.
- 62% think that the United States should not provide birth control, abortions and other population control methods as part of its international environmental policy funding. 59% say that birth control and other population control methods should not be part of its environmental policy funding.
- A majority of voters (53%) believes that the media greatly exaggerate threats to the environment in order to tell a compelling story.
- Over three-quarters of voters (76%) agree that Congress should be required to approve regulations written by federal bureaucrats and administrators before they take effect.
- A majority of voters (59%) believe that merely listing the chemicals released by industrial plants does *not* help residents understand what impact these releases will have on them and their communities.
- A plurality (30%) believes that local government is best suited to providing citizens with timely, accurate information about the risks posed by chemical releases. Furthermore, 38% believe that local government should be most responsible for facilitating the accumulation of information about the risks posed by industrial chemical releases.

- Global warming is most frequently associated with temperature changes (25%), the destruction of the ozone layer (16%), and pollution in general (13%). Tellingly, the second most-common set of responses were “don’t know/ refused” (18%).
- A majority of voters (56%) agree that the emission of greenhouse gases is responsible for making the planet warmer, rejecting the notion that it is part of a much broader series of climatic changes.
- A plurality of voters (46%) claim that the media provide “some” balanced and useful information about global warming. Three times as many voters claim that media reports about global warming are likely to be biased (30%) than believe that they contain “a great deal” of balanced information (10%).
- A slight majority of voters (52%) prefers that the government *not* pass new laws and regulations addressing global warming until a scientific consensus is reached that the phenomenon does, in fact, exist.
- The public tends to believe that the Kyoto treaty will be economically damaging, but opinions are not well formed or intensely held. Furthermore, by more than a 2:1 ratio, they believe that the treaty could raise gas prices and limit our use of automobiles, and that higher gas and utility costs will harm the poorest Americans.
- Americans are relatively unfamiliar with CAFE standards, with a modest majority claiming to be not very familiar or not at all familiar (53%) with federal fuel economy standards.
- 51% of voters support federal fuel economy standards, but a quarter of the electorate does not know or has no opinion. Those voters who do express opinions tend not to hold them strongly (16% strong support).
- Voters are fairly evenly split (44% support, 40% oppose) between supporting and opposing CAFE standards after learning that they limit the availability of large, crashworthy cars. After learning about the cost in human life, 39% of the supporters of the standards are inclined to change their position.

***Most Important Problem/Top Priority***

1. Generally speaking, in your opinion, what is the single most important problem facing the country, that is, the one that you, yourself, are most concerned about? **(PRE-CODED RESPONSES — PUSH FOR A RESPONSE)** (NOTE: IF RESPONSE IS “THE ECONOMY,” “THE ENVIRONMENT” OR “CRIME,” ASK THEM TO BE MORE SPECIFIC.)

<b>54%</b>	<b><u>TOTAL SOCIAL</u></b>
<b>19%</b>	<b><u>CRIME/DRUGS</u></b>
6%	CRIME (NOT SPECIFIC)
6%	DRUGS/ DRUG ABUSE
3%	TEENAGE VIOLENCE/ GANGS
2%	CRIMINALS ON THE STREET/LAWS TOO WEAK
1%	UNSAFE STREETS/NEIGHBORHOODS
1%	GUNS/ RELATED VIOLENCE
8%	EDUCATION
6%	FAMILY VALUES
5%	SOCIAL SECURITY
4%	HEALTH CARE/HEALTH CARE REFORM
2%	RACIAL PROBLEMS
2%	ENVIRONMENT: CLEAN AIR/CLEAN WATER
1%	ABORTION (PRO-LIFE)
1%	MEDICARE
1%	HOUSING
1%	POOR ENVIRONMENT (GENERAL)
1%	ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (GENERAL)
1%	ENVIRONMENT: TOXIC WASTE
1%	WELFARE (TOO MUCH)
*	ABORTION (PRO-CHOICE)
*	AIDS
*	CANCER
*	ROADS/ INFRASTRUCTURE
*	ENVIRONMENT: ENDANGERED SPECIES
*	WELFARE (TOO LITTLE)
0%	MEDICAID
0%	ENVIRONMENT: PROPERTY RIGHTS
0%	AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/QUOTAS AND PREFERENCES
<b>21%</b>	<b><u>TOTAL ECONOMIC</u></b>
5%	POOR ECONOMY (NOT SPECIFIC)
5%	HIGH TAXES (GENERAL)
3%	UNEMPLOYMENT
2%	TAXES - OTHER
2%	TOO MUCH GOVERNMENT SPENDING/ WASTE
1%	HIGH PROPERTY TAXES
1%	BUDGET/ DEFICIT
*	HIGH SALES TAXES
<b>18%</b>	<b><u>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</u></b>
8%	PRESIDENT CLINTON
7%	POLITICIANS/GOVERNMENT
3%	KEN STARR/IMPEACHMENT
1%	CONGRESS
<b>2%</b>	<b><u>TOTAL NATIONAL SECURITY/DEFENSE</u></b>
1%	NATIONAL DEFENSE
1%	IRAQ/SADDAM HUSSEIN
*	TERRORISM
3%	OTHER (PUSH FOR RESPONSE)
2%	DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)
*	NO PROBLEMS (VOLUNTEERED)
0%	REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

2. Which of the following do you think should be the MOST important priority for your Member of Congress in 1999? (READ CHOICES) (ROTATE)

30% PRESERVE SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE  
17% CUT TAXES ON MIDDLE-CLASS FAMILIES  
12% FIGHT CRIME AND ILLEGAL DRUG USE  
12% PROMOTE TRADITIONAL FAMILY AND MORAL VALUES  
11% BALANCE THE BUDGET/CUT GOVERNMENT SPENDING  
8% COMBINATION/ALL OF THE ABOVE (VOLUNTEERED)  
5% PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT  
3% OTHER\_\_\_\_\_ (SPECIFY) (VOLUNTEERED)  
1% NONE OF THE ABOVE (VOLUNTEERED)  
1% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
0% REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

***Role of Government***

3. Thinking for a moment about the government, which of the following statements comes closest to your view of what the role of government should be for the next ten years? (ROTATE AND ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE)

52% THE GOVERNMENT DOES NEED SOME MAJOR REFORMS,  
BUT NOT A COMPLETE OVERHAUL  
31% GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO BE COMPLETELY  
OVERHAULED AND REDUCED IN SIZE  
9% THE GOVERNMENT DOES THINGS ABOUT RIGHT AND  
DOES NOT NEED TO BE CHANGED  
5% GOVERNMENT DOES TOO LITTLE AND NEEDS TO BE  
EXPANDED  
2% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
\* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

4. Suppose you could pick the single most important principle that most government regulations should be based upon. Which of the following would it be?

(ROTATE — ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE)

**1996**

45%	Government regulations should respect individual rights.	55%
23%	Government regulations should help the most needy in society.	21%
14%	Government regulations should be based on expert advice.	16%
14%	COMBINATION/ALL OF THE ABOVE (VOLUNTEERED)	0%
1%	NONE OF THE ABOVE (VOLUNTEERED)	3%
1%	OTHER_____ (VOLUNTEERED)	0%
1%	DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)	5%
0%	REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)	*

5. Which level of government does the best job of addressing the issues that most concern you? Is it the.....

(ROTATE AND ACCEPT ONLY ONE ANSWER)

**1996**

35%	STATE GOVERNMENT	30%
30%	LOCAL GOVERNMENT	34%
17%	FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	20%
7%	NONE OF THE ABOVE (VOLUNTEERED)	10%
6%	COMBINATION/ALL OF THE ABOVE (VOLUNTEERED)	0%
3%	DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)	6%
0%	REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)	1%

***Importance of the Environment***

6. Do you personally think of yourself as (ROTATE) an active environmentalist, concerned about the environment but not much of an activist on the issue, pretty much neutral on environmental issues or generally unconcerned about environmental issues? (ROTATE)

**1996**

52%	CONCERNED BUT NOT ACTIVE	63%
26%	NEUTRAL	16%
16%	ACTIVE ENVIRONMENTALIST	17%
5%	UNCONCERNED	3%
1%	DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)	1%
*	OTHER (VOLUNTEERED)	*
*	REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)	*

7. Thinking about all the things that you consider before voting, on a scale of zero to ten, with “zero” being not at all important, and “ten” being extremely important, how important is a candidate’s position on environmental issues to you in deciding how to vote?

Not At All Important	Extremely Important
3%    3%    5%    7%    8%    19%    12%    13%	13%    5%    10%

**26% TOTAL LOW IMPORTANCE (0-3)**

3% “0” NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT  
 3% “1”  
 5% “2”  
 7% “3”

**52% TOTAL MODERATE IMPORTANCE (4-7)**

8% “4”  
 19% “5”  
 12% “6”  
 13% “7”

**28% HIGH IMPORTANCE (8-10)**

13% “8”  
 5% “9”  
 10% “10” EXTREMELY IMPORTANT

\* DON’T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
 1% REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)



***Role of Government - Environment***

8. [SPLIT SAMPLE] Thinking about the environment for a moment, would your state or local government be better or worse than the federal government at (SPLIT: protecting the environment/ dealing with the environmental concerns in your community)? And would that be much [RESTORE RESPONSE] or only somewhat [RESTORE RESPONSE]?

A: "PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT" (N = 497)

**1996**

**66% TOTAL BETTER**

**62%**

20% MUCH BETTER

30%

46% SOMEWHAT BETTER

32%

**19% TOTAL WORSE**

**21%**

16% SOMEWHAT WORSE

13%

3% MUCH WORSE

8%

10% NO DIFFERENCE (VOLUNTEERED)

4%

4% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)

12%

0% REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

\*

B: "DEALING WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS IN YOUR COMMUNITY" (N = 503)

**1996**

**75% TOTAL BETTER**

**67%**

33% MUCH BETTER

34%

42% SOMEWHAT BETTER

33%

**13% TOTAL WORSE**

**19%**

7% SOMEWHAT WORSE

11%

6% MUCH WORSE

8%

7% NO DIFFERENCE (VOLUNTEERED)

3%

4% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)

10%

\* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

1%

9. Please tell me, in your opinion, which political party, the Republicans or the Democrats, you think does a better job at handling environmental issues...

- 46% DEMOCRATS
- 20% REPUBLICANS
- 12% BOTH (VOLUNTEERED)
- 12% NEITHER (VOLUNTEERED)
- 9% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)
- \* OTHER \_\_\_\_\_ (VOLUNTEERED)
- \* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

9A. Based on what you know, do you think that Vice President Al Gore has done an excellent, good, fair, or poor job when it comes to environmental issues?

**46% TOTAL EXCELLENT/GOOD**

- 9% EXCELLENT
- 37% GOOD

**40% TOTAL FAIR/POOR**

- 27% FAIR
- 13% POOR

- 4% DEPENDS/NEED TO KNOW MORE (VOLUNTEERED)
- 9% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)
- \* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

***Areas of Environmental Protection***

For each of the following areas of environmental protection, please tell me which level of government you think should have the primary responsibility over that part of the environment — the local government, the state government or the federal government:

**(ROTATE Q. 10 and Q. 11)**

10. Protecting water quality in rivers, lakes and streams. Which level of government should have primary responsibility....

**1996**

45%	STATE GOVERNMENT	46%
23%	LOCAL GOVERNMENT	19%
20%	FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	27%
10%	ALL/ COMBINATION (VOLUNTEERED)	5%
1%	DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)	1%
*	NONE (VOLUNTEERED)	1%
0%	REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)	1%

11. Cleaning up hazardous waste sites and preventing their recurrence. Which level of government should have primary responsibility...

**1996**

35%	STATE GOVERNMENT	34%
35%	FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	38%
17%	LOCAL GOVERNMENT	21%
12%	ALL/ COMBINATION (VOLUNTEERED)	5%
1%	NONE (VOLUNTEERED)	1%
1%	DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)	2%
0%	REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)	*

12. There is currently much debate on how to address air pollution in America's largest cities. In order to ensure sensible approaches to air pollution and continued environmental improvements, which of the following policy approaches makes the most sense to you?

- 38% Have the federal government set air quality standards but allow state and local governments to decide which measures should be used to meet the standards; OR . . .
- 36% Allow state and local governments to set their own air quality standards and pollution control policies based on local needs, with the federal government playing only an advisory role; OR . . .
- 21% Have the federal government set BOTH air quality standards AND specific measures to meet those standards.
- 5% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)
- \* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

***Urban Sprawl***

13. A higher standard of living has enabled many Americans to move to the suburbs in search of less dense communities, more open space, and other amenities. The result has been extensive suburban development. News reports often call this "urban sprawl." Thinking about the community in which you live, do you think that urban sprawl is a (READ CHOICES) in your area?

- 44% MINOR CONCERN
- 30% NOT A CONCERN AT ALL
- 23% MAJOR CONCERN
- 3% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)
- \* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

14. News reports suggest that suburban development or “urban sprawl” is a concern in some communities. In those communities where “urban sprawl” is a concern, who should address these concerns? (READ CHOICES)

39% LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
28% STATE GOVERNMENT  
11% PRIVATE GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS; THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT GET INVOLVED  
8% FEDERAL GOVERNMENT  
8% ALL/COMBINATION OF GOVERNMENT (VOLUNTEERED)  
2% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
1% NONE OF THE ABOVE (VOLUNTEERED)  
1% DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)  
\* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

15. There are many opinions surrounding urban and suburban development today. I will read you the opinions of two citizens on the role of government and development; please tell me which comes closest to your own...

Citizen A says that government should step in and control the size of new housing developments and prevent the development of farmland and other open spaces.

Citizen B says that people should be allowed to choose for themselves the size and location of their homes to fit their family's needs.

(Read A/B, and would you say that you Strongly or Somewhat agree with Citizen A/B?)

**39% TOTAL AGREE CITIZEN A**  
18% STRONGLY AGREE CITIZEN A  
22% SOMEWHAT AGREE CITIZEN A

**55% TOTAL AGREE CITIZEN B**  
23% SOMEWHAT AGREE CITIZEN B  
32% STRONGLY AGREE CITIZEN B

3% DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)  
2% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
\* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

16. Thinking about transportation for a moment, which opinion comes closest to your own...

Citizen A says that people should be able to decide which type of transportation best fits their needs and lifestyle.

Citizen B says that government should require people to use public transportation and carpool lanes to reduce congestion on roads and improve the environment.

(Read A/B, and would you say that you Strongly or Somewhat agree with Citizen A/B?)

**73% TOTAL AGREE CITIZEN A**

49% STRONGLY AGREE CITIZEN A

24% SOMEWHAT AGREE CITIZEN A

**23% TOTAL AGREE CITIZEN B**

14% SOMEWHAT AGREE CITIZEN B

8% STRONGLY AGREE CITIZEN B

3% DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)

1% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)

\* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

***Land Use***

17. Some environmental laws currently on the books result in regulations that restrict the use of private land. When environmental regulations prevent private land owners from using their own property, should the federal government compensate the land owner for any resulting decline in the value of that land?

**1996**

63% YES

64%

24% NO

28%

9% DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)

4%

3% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)

4%

1% REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

\*

*Endangered Species/Wetlands*

**[Q. 18 — SPLIT SAMPLE]**

18A. [SPLIT SAMPLE] Most Americans agree that saving endangered species of plants and animals is an important public goal, but they disagree on how to best go about achieving it. Which of the following proposals to *protect endangered species* makes the most sense to you: (N = 497)

		<u>1996</u>
51%	To allow the federal government to continue restricting the use of private land, but require that the federal government compensate the landowner for the resulting loss; OR ...	33%
29%	To do away with the federal government regulation in this area and instead have the government offer incentives to landowners to keep endangered species on their property; OR . . .	49%
15%	To continue restricting private landowners from using their land where endangered species are found on that land, without compensating them for the losses incurred from such land-use regulation.	11%
6%	DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)	6%
*	REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)	1%

18B. [SPLIT SAMPLE] Many Americans agree that protecting ecologically important wetlands is an important public goal, but they disagree on how to best go about it. Which of the following proposals to *protect wetlands* makes the most sense to you? (N = 503)

45%	To allow the federal government to continue restricting the use of private lands that are classified as wetlands, but require that the federal government compensate the landowner for the resulting loss caused to the value of their land; OR....	
37%	To do away with the federal regulation in this area and instead, have the government offer incentives to landowners to conserve and restore wetlands; OR . . .	
10%	To continue preventing landowners from using land that is classified by the government as a wetland, without compensating the landowners for the losses incurred from such land-use regulation.	
9%	DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)	
0%	REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)	

19. Several states allow people to privately own, manage, and breed endangered wildlife for profit. Supporters of this policy note that private ownership has increased the populations of species that might otherwise face extinction. Opponents argue that managing wildlife for profit puts economic concerns over the well-being of endangered species. From what you know, would you support or oppose allowing the private ownership, management, and breeding of endangered wildlife in your area?

(Would you say you Strongly or just Somewhat support/oppose this proposal?)

**59% TOTAL SUPPORT**

21% STRONGLY SUPPORT

37% SOMEWHAT SUPPORT

**33% TOTAL OPPOSE**

16% SOMEWHAT OPPOSE

17% STRONGLY OPPOSE

4% NO OPINION (VOLUNTEERED)

4% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)

\* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

***Environmental Organizations and Lobbying***

20. [SPLIT SAMPLE] Do you think (SPLIT: groups that lobby Congress on environmental issues/ environmental groups) should receive money from the federal government?

A: "GROUPS THAT LOBBY CONGRESS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES" (N = 497)

		<b><u>1996</u></b>
58%	NO	64%
26%	YES	25%
11%	DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)	5%
4%	DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)	6%
1%	REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)	*



B: “ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS” (N = 503)

**1996**

42%	NO	41%
39%	YES	45%
15%	DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)	8%
3%	DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)	4%
0%	REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)	1%

***International Family Planning***

21. [SPLIT SAMPLE] Some people have suggested that international family planning assistance — which provides money to foreign countries for (SPLIT: birth control, abortions and other population control methods/ birth control and other population control methods) — should be considered a vital part of our nation’s environmental policy. Do you think it is a proper role for the United States government to provide international family planning assistance to foreign countries as part of its environmental policy funding?

A: “BIRTH CONTROL, ABORTIONS AND OTHER POPULATION CONTROL METHODS” (N = 497)

**1996**

62%	NO	69%
24%	YES	28%
10%	DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)	1%
4%	DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)	2%
1%	REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)	1%

B: “BIRTH CONTROL AND OTHER POPULATION CONTROL METHODS” (N = 503)

**1996**

59%	NO	66%
29%	YES	29%
9%	DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)	1%
3%	DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)	3%
1%	REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)	1%

***The Environment and the Media***

22. Thinking for a moment about the media and news stories about the environment, on balance, do the media (ROTATE) accurately portray potential risks to the environment, or do they blow things out of proportion to make a good story?

(ROTATE)		<b><u>1996</u></b>
53%	BLOWS THINGS OUT OF PROPORTION	68%
20%	BOTH (VOLUNTEERED)	8%
19%	ACCURATELY PORTRAYS RISKS TO ENVIRONMENT	18%
3%	NEITHER (VOLUNTEERED)	2%
3%	DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)	0%
2%	DON'T KNOW/ REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)	4%

***Regulation without Representation***

23. Once Congress passes a new law, employees of federal agencies must write regulations that tell individuals, companies and local governments what they must do to comply with that law. Congress is not required to review these regulations. Would you support or oppose a proposal which would require that Congress must approve newly written regulations before they are enacted? (WAIT FOR RESPONSE) And would that be strongly (INSERT RESPONSE) or only somewhat (INSERT RESPONSE)?

		<b><u>1996</u></b>
<b><u>76%</u></b>	<b><u>TOTAL SUPPORT</u></b>	<b><u>75%</u></b>
38%	STRONGLY SUPPORT	50%
37%	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	25%
<b><u>17%</u></b>	<b><u>TOTAL OPPOSE</u></b>	<b><u>18%</u></b>
11%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	8%
6%	STRONGLY OPPOSE	10%
7%	DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)	6%
0%	REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)	1%

***Community Right to Know Questions***

24. Some people are concerned about risks to their public health because of chemicals that various industrial plants release into the air, water, and land. Most releases are a byproduct of a facility's day to day operations, and some releases occur accidentally. Federal law requires that facilities report such releases for public information. Which of the following statements best depicts your opinion about chemical releases in your community? (READ CHOICES)

- 59% Knowing what chemicals are released and how much is useful, but does not help me understand the impact of such releases. What is really important to me is understanding whether such releases actually affect the health of me and my family and information on how to respond should an accidental release occur; OR . . .
- 22% Knowing what chemicals facilities release in my neighborhood and how much they release provides me with valuable information upon which I can make decisions; OR . . .
- 7% I am not interested in information about chemical releases in my community and how they might affect my health.
  
- 7% COMBINATION (VOLUNTEERED)
- 2% NONE OF THE ABOVE (VOLUNTEERED)
- 1% DEPENDS/NO OPINION (VOLUNTEERED)
  
- 2% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)
- \* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

25. Which of the following do you think could best provide you with accurate information about the public health impact of chemical releases from facilities in your community...(READ CHOICES)

- 30% Local government
- 19% Private, local groups like civic clubs and local environmental groups
- 14% Each facility's plant manager
- 14% National environmental groups
- 12% ALL/COMBINATION (VOLUNTEERED)
- 8% Federal government
- 2% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)
- 1% NONE OF THE ABOVE (VOLUNTEERED)
- \* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

26. What level of government should be MOST responsible in helping facilitate information gathering and sharing about risks related to routine and accidental chemical releases in your community? (READ CHOICES)

- 38% LOCAL
- 27% STATE
- 16% FEDERAL
- 16% ALL/COMBINATION (VOLUNTEERED)
- 1% NONE OF THE ABOVE (VOLUNTEERED)
- 1% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)
- \* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

## *Global Warming Treaty Questions*

Thinking about global warming for a moment...

27. What are the first one or two things that come in mind when I say, "global warming?"(OPEN-ENDED) Anything else? (PROBE)

25%	CLIMATE GETTING WARMER
18%	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED/NO RESPONSE
16%	DESTRUCTION OF OZONE LAYER
13%	ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION
5%	GREENHOUSE EFFECT
3%	ICE AGE/ICE CAPS MELTING
2%	I DON'T UNDERSTAND/DON'T BELIEVE IT
2%	ATMOSPHERE CHANGING
2%	CHEMICALS IN ATMOSPHERE
2%	IT IS EXAGGERATED/OVER-REACTION
2%	EFFECT ON WEATHER IN GENERAL
2%	OVER USE OF OIL, GAS AND OTHER CHEMICALS
1%	END OF THE WORLD/ARMAGEDDON
1%	I WONDER IF PEOPLE KNOW/VERY SERIOUS/MUST BE STOPPED
1%	EL NINO
1%	LOSS OF RAIN FORESTS
1%	NATURAL EARTH CYCLE
1%	WINTER
1%	IS NOT ACCURATE
1%	ARGUING SCIENTISTS/DIFFERENT OPINIONS
1%	DEATH/IT'S SCARY
1%	HIGHER SEA LEVELS
1%	SKIN CANCER AND OTHER DISEASES
*	POLITICAL ISSUE
*	GREAT FLOODS
*	NATURE'S WAY
*	AGRICULTURAL ISSUES
*	UV RAYS
*	FUTURE FOR OUR CHILDREN
*	MEDIA
*	NUCLEAR WAR
*	OVER POPULATION
*	LESS OXYGEN
*	NAFTA
*	SEVERE DROUGHTS

28. I am now going to read you two opinions, please tell me which comes closest to your own:

Voter A agrees with those scientists who say that global warming is taking place primarily because industries are emitting gases into the atmosphere which trap heat that would normally escape into space, creating a greenhouse effect that is making the Earth warmer.

Voter B agrees with those scientists who say that there is no solid evidence that proves that man-made global warming is taking place. The Earth goes through natural heating and cooling cycles, for example, Ice Ages have occurred every 20,000 years or so during “cool periods.” We are now in a “warm period” that has much more to do with nature than any man-made emissions.

**56% TOTAL AGREE VOTER A**  
26% STRONGLY AGREE VOTER A  
30% SOMEWHAT AGREE VOTER A

**30% TOTAL AGREE VOTER B**  
17% SOMEWHAT AGREE VOTER B  
13% STRONGLY AGREE VOTER B

5% DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)  
9% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
\* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

29. Would you say that the media in general provides a great deal of balanced and useful information about global warming, some balanced and useful information about global warming, or do you think the media generally exaggerates the issue and presents information about global warming in a biased, unbalanced way?

46% SOME  
30% BIASED, UNBALANCED  
10% A GREAT DEAL  
7% DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)  
6% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
1% REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

30. Which of the following opinions comes closest to your own:

Voter A says: “I don’t think the government should pass new laws and regulations dealing with global warming until the scientific community can agree that man-made global warming actually exists. We might be hurting our economy and standard of living by enacting strict new environmental laws that provide no environmental benefit.”

Voter B says: “I think the government should pass new laws and regulations dealing with global warming, even if agreement on what causes of global warming isn’t reached by the vast majority of scientists. It is better to pass strict environmental laws even if these restrictions hurt our economy and standard of living in order to protect against the possibility that pollution is causing global warming.”

**52% TOTAL AGREE VOTER A**

26% STRONGLY AGREE VOTER A

27% SOMEWHAT AGREE VOTER A

**36% TOTAL AGREE VOTER B**

21% SOMEWHAT AGREE VOTER B

16% STRONGLY AGREE VOTER B

3% DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)

8% DON’T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)

\* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

Currently, there is debate going on over the signing of a treaty, known as the Kyoto (PRONOUNCED KEY-O-TOE) Protocol, that deals with global warming and reducing the amount of air emissions that Americans can produce. Supporters say that signing the Protocol would improve the environment globally, nationally and, in many cases, locally. The opponents of a global warming protocol base their position on several reasons. How believable are the following arguments...

31. Such a treaty would hurt this country economically, because it will impose substantial costs on American industries that rely on energy use.

**55% TOTAL BELIEVABLE**

14% VERY BELIEVABLE  
41% SOMEWHAT BELIEVABLE

**31% TOTAL NOT BELIEVABLE**

24% NOT VERY BELIEVABLE  
7% NOT AT ALL BELIEVABLE

7% NO OPINION/DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)  
7% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
1% REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

32. Such a treaty would make gasoline more expensive and could restrict our use of cars.

**61% TOTAL BELIEVABLE**

20% VERY BELIEVABLE  
41% SOMEWHAT BELIEVABLE

**29% TOTAL NOT BELIEVABLE**

20% NOT VERY BELIEVABLE  
9% NOT AT ALL BELIEVABLE

4% NO OPINION/DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)  
7% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
\* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)



33. Such a treaty would hurt poor Americans the most because they can not afford to pay more for electricity and fuel.

**66% TOTAL BELIEVABLE**  
24% VERY BELIEVABLE  
42% SOMEWHAT BELIEVABLE

**25% TOTAL NOT BELIEVABLE**  
19% NOT VERY BELIEVABLE  
5% NOT AT ALL BELIEVABLE

3% NO OPINION/DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)  
6% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
\* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

***CAFE standards***

34. A federal law requires new cars to meet a specified fuel economy standard. Supporters of federal fuel economy standards for automobiles say that such standards are needed to conserve gasoline and to reduce the threat of global warming. Opponents of federal fuel economy standards say that such standards raise car prices and restrict consumer choice in the types of automobiles they purchase.

Would you say that you are very familiar, somewhat familiar, not very familiar or not at all familiar with federal fuel economy standards for automobiles?

**44% TOTAL FAMILIAR**  
11% VERY FAMILIAR  
33% SOMEWHAT FAMILIAR

**53% TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR**  
29% NOT VERY FAMILIAR  
23% NOT AT ALL FAMILIAR

3% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
\* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

35. Based on what you know about federal fuel economy standards for automobiles, would you say that you support or oppose these standards?

(And would you say that you strongly or somewhat support/oppose these standards?)

**51% TOTAL SUPPORT**

16% STRONGLY SUPPORT  
36% SOMEWHAT SUPPORT

**23% TOTAL OPPOSE**

16% SOMEWHAT OPPOSE  
7% STRONGLY OPPOSE

12% NO OPINION/DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)  
14% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
\* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

36. Opponents of federal fuel economy standards for cars say that such standards reduce traffic safety by restricting the sale of large cars. Traffic research demonstrates that, in general, larger cars are more crashworthy than smaller cars in practically all types of collisions, including both single-car crashes and accidents involving two or more cars. Based on this information, would you say that you support or oppose federal fuel economy standards for automobiles?

(And would you say that you strongly or somewhat support/oppose these standards?)

**44% TOTAL SUPPORT**

14% STRONGLY SUPPORT  
30% SOMEWHAT SUPPORT

**40% TOTAL OPPOSE**

25% SOMEWHAT OPPOSE  
15% STRONGLY OPPOSE

9% NO OPINION/DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)  
7% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
0% REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

37. [ASK IF "SUPPORT" ON Q. 36] If the current federal fuel economy standards for automobiles were shown to cause 2,000 to 4,000 traffic deaths per year, would this change your position on them? (N = 442)

- 44% NO
- 39% YES
- 15% DEPENDS (VOLUNTEERED)
- 2% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)
- 1% REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

*S.U.V. Questions*

38. Do you own or operate a sport utility vehicle?

- 80% NO
- 17% YES
- 2% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)
- 1% REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

39. [ASK IF "YES" ON Q. 38] Which of the following reasons was the MOST important reason in your decision to own/operate a sport utility vehicle? (READ CHOICES) (N = 168)

- 23% ABILITY TO TRAVEL IN SNOW OR ON ROUGH ROADS
- 22% MORE SPACE FOR PASSENGERS AND CARGO
- 17% GREATER SAFETY/RELIABILITY/REPUTATION
- 16% FUN/LEISURE
- 11% COMBINATION/ALL OF THE ABOVE (VOLUNTEERED)
- 6% COST/REBATE/GOOD DEAL ECONOMICALLY
- 3% OTHER \_\_\_\_\_ (SPECIFY) (VOLUNTEERED)
- 1% NONE OF THE ABOVE (VOLUNTEERED)
- 1% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)
- 0% REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

## *Demographics*

I now have just a few more questions for statistical purposes.....

40. What is your age please?

12%	18-24
9%	25-29
8%	30-34
11%	35-39
12%	40-44
9%	45-49
9%	50-54
7%	55-59
5%	60-64
18%	65+

41. Are you currently....

(CODE ENGAGED AS SINGLE)

54%	MARRIED
27%	SINGLE
7%	DIVORCED
1%	SEPARATED
1%	DIVORCED
9%	WIDOWED
1%	REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

42. Do you have any children living at home with you? [IF YES:] How many?

**35% TOTAL HAS CHILDREN**

16%	YES — 1
12%	YES — 2
8%	YES — 3 OR MORE

**64% NO**

1%	REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)
----	-----------------------

43. And what do you consider to be your main racial or ethnic heritage: white, African-American, Hispanic, Asian-American, Native-American or something other than what I have read?

81% WHITE  
10% AFRICAN-AMERICAN  
3% HISPANIC  
1% ASIAN-AMERICAN  
2% NATIVE-AMERICAN  
2% OTHER  
1% DON'T KNOW/REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

44. Do you consider yourself to be .....

(ROTATE AND ACCEPT ONLY ONE)

48% PROTESTANT  
28% CATHOLIC  
2% JEWISH  
2% MORMON  
1% MUSLIM  
2% NEW AGE/ TRANSCENDENTAL (VOLUNTEERED)  
10% OTHER (VOLUNTEERED)  
5% NO RELIGION (VOLUNTEERED)  
1% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
3% REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

45. What was the last grade of formal education you completed?

6% LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL  
36% HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE  
25% SOME COLLEGE/ VOCATIONAL SCHOOL  
24% COLLEGE GRADUATE  
8% POST-GRADUATE  
\* DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
1% REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

46. In politics today, do you consider yourself to be a...(ROTATE) Republican, Independent, or Democrat? (If Republican or Democrat, ask: "Are you a strong (Republican/Democrat) or a not-so-strong (Republican/Democrat)?" (If Independent ask: "Which way do you lean, towards the Democratic or Republican party?")

**33% TOTAL REPUBLICAN**  
 13% STRONG REPUBLICAN  
 14% NOT-SO-STRONG REPUBLICAN  
 6% INDEPENDENT LEANING REPUBLICAN

**26% INDEPENDENT**

**37% TOTAL DEMOCRAT**  
 8 % INDEPENDENT LEANING DEMOCRAT  
 15% NOT-SO-STRONG DEMOCRAT  
 14% STRONG DEMOCRAT

1% OTHER \_\_\_\_\_ (VOLUNTEERED)  
 2% DON'T KNOW/REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

47. Thinking for a moment about your social and political views... Do you consider yourself to be (ROTATE) conservative, moderate, liberal or a libertarian?

[IF CONSERVATIVE/ LIBERAL, ASK:] And, would you consider yourself to be VERY (conservative/liberal) or just SOMEWHAT (conservative/ liberal)?

**35% TOTAL CONSERVATIVE**  
 13% VERY CONSERVATIVE  
 23% SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE

**39% MODERATE**

**21% TOTAL LIBERAL**  
 15% SOMEWHAT LIBERAL  
 6% VERY LIBERAL

**2% LIBERTARIAN**

2% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
 \* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

Switching gears for a moment...

48. Would you say that you live in an urban, suburban, or rural community?

34% URBAN  
38% SUBURBAN  
26% RURAL  
2% DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)  
\* REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

49. Gender (BY OBSERVATION)

48% MALE  
52% FEMALE

50. Are you currently employed outside the house full-time, outside the house part-time, work from your home, a full-time homemaker or are you retired?

28% MALE/ OUTSIDE FULL TIME  
3% MALE/ OUTSIDE PART TIME  
2% MALE/ WORK FROM HOME  
9% MALE/ RETIRED  
2% MALE/ NOT IN LABOR FORCE  
1% MALE/ MULTIPLE JOBS  
20% FEMALE/ OUTSIDE FULL TIME  
8% FEMALE/ OUTSIDE PART TIME  
1% FEMALE/ WORK FROM HOME  
7% FEMALE/ HOMEMAKER  
14% FEMALE/ RETIRED  
1% FEMALE/ NOT IN LABOR FORCE  
1% FEMALE/ MULTIPLE JOBS  
\* MALE/ REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)  
1% FEMALE/ REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

51. And what is your *household's* annual income before taxes? You do not need to tell me the amount, just please stop me when I reach the right category:

11%	BELOW \$15,000
14%	\$15,000 to \$24,999
11%	\$25,000 to \$29,999
14%	\$30,000 to \$39,999
10%	\$40,000 to \$49,999
8%	\$50,000 to \$59,999
5%	\$60,000 to \$69,999
2%	\$70,000 to \$79,999
3%	\$80,000 to \$89,999
4%	\$90,000 AND ABOVE
4%	DON'T KNOW (VOLUNTEERED)
14%	REFUSED (VOLUNTEERED)

52. Region

21%	EAST
22%	INDUSTRIAL MIDWEST
18%	MIDWEST/WEST
14%	PACIFIC
25%	SOUTH