

2021 Public Polling Results

Individual Question Results

About this Research

AOPL commissioned this research to gauge the sentiment of the American public towards liquids pipelines, climate change, and actions to address climate change. The independent polling firm Wakefield Research conducted an online quantitative survey of 3,000 U.S. consumers between February 11 and February 24, 2021 using an email invitation and online survey. The margin of error for this study is +/- 1.8 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for the total sample. The survey included at least 200 persons in each of the following eight audiences: Gen Z, STEM professionals, rural landowners, urban renters, millennial moms, blue-collar, seniors, and older millennials.

About the Association of Oil Pipe Lines

The Association of Oil Pipe Lines (AOPL) represents liquids pipeline owners and operators transporting crude oil, petroleum products like gasoline and diesel, jet fuel, home heating oil, propane and industry raw materials like propane.

Based on what you know today, what is your current impression of pipelines?

Response	2021	2020	2019
Completely positive	17%	9%	10%
Very positive	19%	16%	16%
Somewhat positive	33%	42%	39%
Somewhat negative	20%	22%	23%
Very negative	6%	6%	6%
Completely negative	4%	5%	5%

Please explain why you have a favorable opinion toward oil pipelines (among those who have a positive impression of pipelines).

Response	2021	2020	2019
Necessary / helpful	16%	14%	8%
Safely transports oil / other resources	14%	13%	18%
Creates jobs	12%	8%	12%
Good (non-specific)	10%	7%	-
Lowers prices	9%	4%	7%
Provides energy	9%	3%	3%
US being self-sufficient / independent	8%	5%	6%
Benefits economy	4%	6%	7%
Environmental benefits	3%	1%	1%
Oil / gas demand	3%	7%	6%
I am neutral on pipelines / I don't know enough about them	3%	7%	4%
Provides valuable resources	2%	3%	4%
Benefits country	2%	3%	3%
I know someone who has worked with them	1%	1%	1%
Safe if properly maintained	1%	2%	4%
Good for businesses / industries	1%	1%	1%
I haven't heard negative things about it	0%	2%	3%
Other	4%	6%	3%
I don't know	14%	11%	18%

How worried are you about the impacts of climate change?

Response	2021	2020
Extremely worried	22%	20%
Very worried	19%	21%
Somewhat worried	26%	27%
Unsure / might or might not be	14%	14%
Not very worried	10%	10%
Not at all worried	9%	7%

Which of the following best describes how much more you would be willing to pay per month in higher energy fees to combat climate change?

Response	2021	2020
A great deal / whatever it takes	10%	8%
Quite a bit	13%	11%
Somewhat more	31%	30%
Very little	25%	27%
Nothing at all	22%	24%

How much more per month would you be willing to pay in higher energy fees to combat climate change?

Response	2021	2020
Under \$20	42%	45%
\$20-\$50	26%	30%
\$51-\$100	12%	12%
\$101-\$150	10%	6%
\$151-\$200	4%	3%
\$201-\$250	3%	2%
Over \$250	3%	2%

You indicated that you would be willing to pay extra per month to combat climate change. Which of the following actions would you personally consider supporting, even if it costs you more money personally?

Response	%
Requirements for electricity to come from wind or solar	39%
Requirements to buy more fuel efficient vehicle	32%
Requirements to switch from gas to electric at home	24%
Paying energy or carbon taxes	22%
Requirements to buy electric or alternative fuel vehicle	21%
Use public transportation instead of a personal vehicle	19%
Other	3%

Thinking about the different aspects of energy, how important is each of the following to you?

(Top ranked response)

Response	%
Safety	26%
Affordability	23%
Reliability	17%
Clean Emissions	14%
Renewability	12%
Abundance	8%

(Top two ranked responses)

Response	%
Affordability	43%
Safety	43%
Reliability	39%
Clean Emissions	30%
Renewability	25%
Abundance	21%

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(Top three ranked responses)

Response	%
Safety	62%
Affordability	61%
Reliability	58%
Clean Emissions	45%
Renewability	38%
Abundance	36%

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Statement	Agree completely / 100%	Agree strongly	Agree somewhat	Disagree somewhat	Disagree strongly	Disagree completely / 100%
We should avoid options for addressing climate change that would increase energy costs.	26%	17%	26%	18%	6%	6%
We should avoid options for addressing climate change that would increase the cost of heating or cooling my home.	28%	17%	26%	17%	6%	7%
We should avoid options for addressing climate change that would make me have to replace my gas stove, furnace or water heater.	28%	15%	26%	18%	6%	7%
We should avoid options for addressing climate change that would increase the cost of gasoline.	28%	17%	23%	18%	7%	7%
We should avoid options for addressing climate change that would add a carbon tax to the price of gasoline.	27%	17%	24%	18%	6%	7%
We should avoid options for addressing climate change that would make me have to buy a smaller vehicle to meet gas mileage requirements.	26%	17%	26%	18%	7%	7%
We should avoid options for addressing climate change that would make me have to buy an expensive hybrid or all-electric vehicle.	31%	17%	24%	15%	6%	7%
We should avoid options for addressing climate change that would make me have to install an expensive electric vehicle charging station.	32%	17%	24%	15%	5%	6%
We should avoid options for addressing climate change that result in me traveling farther or out of the way to recharge an electric vehicle.	29%	18%	26%	16%	6%	6%
We should avoid options for addressing climate change that might lead to temporary delivery disruptions or shortages of supply.	27%	21%	26%	15%	6%	5%
We should avoid options for addressing climate change that force oil and gas workers out of work before new green jobs are even available.	32%	17%	25%	14%	5%	7%
We should avoid options for addressing climate change that force oil and gas workers to take a pay cut in shifting to a green job.	28%	18%	25%	15%	6%	8%
Canceling a new pipeline project is a good way to address global climate change.	11%	12%	24%	20%	10%	23%