

BELDEN RUSSONELLO & STEWART
RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATIONS

Gas Prices and Energy

Interviewing conducted September 29-October 8, 2008.
N = 800 national general population

Margin of sampling error is ± 3.5 percentage points.
Data are weighted by age to reflect the general population

Percents may add to 99% or 101% due to rounding.
* indicates less than 1% , -- indicates zero.

Hello, my name is ____ and I am an interviewer with BRS - an opinion research firm. We are conducting a public opinion survey and your telephone number was selected at random. We are not selling anything. May I please speak to the person 18 years old or older in your household who had a birthday most recently? (IF NECESSARY ARRANGE FOR A CALL BACK AND RECORD DATE AND TIME. REPEAT INTRO AS NECESSARY)

I'm going to read a list of issues facing the country. For each, please tell me how concerned you are on a one to ten scale where one means not at all concerned and ten means extremely concerned. (RANDOMIZE Q1-6)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	DK	REF
1. Health care	2%	2	3	4	9	5	11	17	7	39	--	--
2. Gas prices	1%	2	1	3	7	6	10	15	10	45	*	--
3. The economy	1%	*	1	1	4	3	6	12	14	59	--	--
4. The war in Iraq	3%	2	2	3	10	6	12	16	10	37	*	*
5. The cost of heat and electricity	2%	1	3	3	11	8	12	20	7	31	*	--
6. Terrorism	3%	3	4	5	12	5	12	15	9	32	--	--

7. Which is the most important goal for government action on energy issues: reducing gas prices, reducing our dependence on foreign countries, or developing clean and renewable sources of energy to replace oil?	REDUCING GAS PRICES	13%
	REDUCING DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN COUNTRIES	43
	DEVELOP CLEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY/REPLACE OIL	43
	DK	*
	REF	*

Now please tell me if you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. The first statement is [READ ITEM] Is that strongly or somewhat [agree/disagree]? [ROTATE 8-9]

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	DK/REF
8. We should be willing to give up some of America's natural areas to oil and gas exploration, to make sure we have the energy we need for our economy.	38%	26	14	20	1
9. Higher gas prices are a sign that we should be moving away from dependence on oil and investing in renewable energy and new energy efficient technology.	61%	23	8	7	1

10. Do you believe that allowing more oil and gas drilling in the U.S. will or will not reduce gas prices in the next two years?	WILL	41%
	WILL NOT	58
	DK/REF	1

11. Which point of view do you agree with more: [ROTATE: Offshore drilling can be done in a way that is safe for people and the environment OR Offshore drilling is likely to cause harmful oil spills that threaten beaches and ocean habitat]? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?	SAFE STRONGLY	44%
	SAFE SOMEWHAT	25
	OIL SPILLS SOMEWHAT	11
	OIL SPILLS STRONGLY	18
	DK/REF	2

12. Please tell me which view you agree with more: Those who say we already have the technology to significantly reduce our dependence on oil but we need to invest in putting the technology in place? Or those who say we do not have the technology to significantly reduce our dependence on oil and we need to do a lot more research and development before it will be ready? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

HAVE TECHNOLOGY STRONGLY	54%
HAVE TECHNOLOGY SOMEWHAT	18
NEED MORE RESEARCH SOMEWHAT	14
NEED MORE RESEARCH STRONGLY	12
DK/REF	2

13. Please tell me which view you agree with more: We will always need a plentiful supply of oil and gas to fuel our economy? Or we can develop alternatives so that our economy will not need to heavily rely on oil and gas? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

ALWAYS NEED OIL STRONGLY	14%
ALWAYS NEED OIL SOMEWHAT	8
CAN DEVELOP ALTERNATIVES SOMEWHAT	18
CAN DEVELOP ALTERNATIVES STRONGLY	59
DK/REF	1

For each of the following, please tell me how much difference you believe it will make in solving our energy problems in the U.S. – a great deal of difference, some difference, not very much difference, or none at all (RANDOMIZE Q14-29):

	A Great Deal of Difference	Some Difference	Not Much Difference	None at all	DK/ REF
14. Improving public transportation such as buses and trains so that people have more choices for how to get around.	57%	31	9	3	*
15. Requiring new cars and trucks to improve their fuel efficiency to an average of fifty miles per gallon.	68%	23	5	3	*
16. Designing communities in ways that require less driving to get from place to place.	43%	36	13	7	1
17. Investing in existing communities instead of building homes and businesses in new areas.	42%	39	11	7	2
18. Investing in renewable energy such as wind, solar, and geothermal energy.	68%	27	3	1	1
19. Requiring oil companies and gas stations to offer alternatives to gasoline such as renewable fuel made from plants.	41%	38	13	7	1
20. Developing more vehicles that run on natural gas fuel.	47%	39	8	5	2
21. Taking energy efficiency regulations that California used to become the nation's most efficient state and putting them in place for the whole country.	34%	41	10	11	6
22. Building more wind farms such as those in Texas that produce enough power for 600,000 homes.	64%	30	4	1	1
23A. Offering tax incentives to people who buy electric or plug-in cars that can run without gasoline. (BASE: N=400)	38%	39	14	8	2
23B. Requiring automakers to build] electric or plug-in cars that can run without gasoline. (BASE: N=400)	50%	37	8	5	*
24. Improving the efficiency of how our homes and offices use electricity and heat.	61%	34	3	1	1
25. Allowing drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.	28%	33	14	23	2
Q26A. Opening areas 3 miles off the shoreline to offshore oil and natural gas drilling.(BASE: N=400)	32%	38	19	9	2

Q26B. Opening areas 50 miles off the shoreline to offshore oil and natural gas drilling.(BASE: N=400) 32% 42 13 11 1

For each of the following, please tell me how much difference you believe it will make in solving our energy problems in the U.S. – a great deal of difference, some difference, not very much difference, or none at all (RANDOMIZE Q14-29):

	A Great Deal of Difference	Some Difference	Not Much Difference	None at all	DK/ REF
27. Building more nuclear power plants.	31%	39	13	15	2
28. Building more coal-fired power plants.	19%	43	20	15	3
29A. Eliminating tax breaks for the oil companies and using the money to provide tax incentives for people to buy renewable or efficient technology such as solar panels or hybrid cars. (BASE: N=400)	55%	26	11	8	*
29B. Eliminating tax breaks for the oil companies and using the money to provide tax incentives for businesses who develop or manufacture energy efficient technology or renewable energy. (BASE: N=400)	52%	32	7	8	1

30. Please tell me which view you agree with more (ROTATE): those who say we will continue to need to use gasoline to fuel our cars for at least the next ten years; OR those who say that electric or plug-in cars and renewable fuels made from plants will enable us to stop using gasoline to fuel our cars within the next ten years? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?	WILL NEED GAS STRONGLY	42%
	WILL NEED GAS SOMEWHAT	21
	STOP USING GAS SOMEWHAT	15
	STOP USING GAS STRONGLY	21
	DK/REF	1

31. Which should be a higher priority for government spending: ROTATE: building new roads and highways OR increasing investments in public transportation such as trains, buses, and light rail? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?	NEW ROADS STRONGLY	21%
	NEW ROADS SOMEWHAT	10
	PUBLIC TRANS SOMEWHAT	25
	PUBLIC TRANS STRONGLY	42
	DK/REF	3

April 1999: Which do you support more: for your state government to spend more taxpayer money on public transportation, such as trains, buses and light rail, or spend more taxpayer money on new roads and highways?	NEW ROADS	56%
	PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION	42
	DK/REF	2

32. Which of the following is the best long-term solution to reducing traffic in your area? ROTATE: a) Improve public transportation such as trains, buses, and light rail, b) develop communities where people do not have to drive long distances to work or shop, or c) build new roads?		PUBLIC TRANS	DEVELOP SO LESS DRIVING	BUILD NEW ROAD	DK/REF
2008	49%	26	24	2	
2004	50%	31	18	1	
2002	35%	31	25	8	
2000	47%	28	21	5	

D1. What was the last grade of school you completed? (READ LIST ONLY IF NEEDED)	LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL	5%
	HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE	29
	SOME COLLEGE	26
	COLLEGE GRADUATE / BA OR BS / 4 YR	23
	POSTGRADUATEWORK	16
	DK/REF	1

D2. Which of the following best describes the place where you live: a large city, a small city, a suburb of a city, a town, or a rural area?	LARGE CITY	21%
	SMALL CITY	16
	SUBURB	25
	TOWN	18
	RURAL AREA	20
	DK/REF	1

D3. Did you happen to have a chance to vote in the 2006 Congressional election?	YES	70%
	NO	28
	DK/REF	2

D4. Are you registered to vote at your current address?	YES	89%
	NO	11
	DK/REF	1

D5. In terms of your political outlook, do you usually think of yourself as: [READ LIST; REVERSE ORDER]	VERY CONSERVATIVE	17%
	SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE	25
	MIDDLE OF THE ROAD	30
	SOMEWHAT LIBERAL	17
	VERY LIBERAL	8
	DK/REF	3

D6. Do you consider yourself to be [RORATE: a Democrat, a Republican], an independent, or something else?	DEMOCRAT	36%
	REPUBLICAN	26
	INDEPENDENT	27
	SOMETHING ELSE (SPECIFY)	5
	DK/REF	6

D7. In what year were you born?	18-24	12%
D7a. [IF DON'T KNOW/REFUSED in QD7]	25-34	19
Are you between:	35-44	20
	45-54	19
	54-65	13
	65+	16
	DK/REF	1

D8A. Are you of Hispanic or Latino descent? [IF YES, SKIP TO QD9] D8B. [IF NO, DK, REF D8A] Would you say you are white, black or African American, Asian or Pacific Islander, or something else?	WHITE	71%
	LATINO/HISPANIC	12%
	BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN	13
	ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER	*
	OTHER	3
	DK/REF	1

D9. Stop me when I come to the category in which your total HOUSEHOLD income fell before taxes last year. Your best estimate is fine.	LESS THAN \$25,000	15%
	\$25,000 UP TO \$50,000	25
	\$50,000 UP TO \$75,000	20
	\$75,000 UP TO \$100,000	15
	\$100,000 OR MORE	18
	DK/REF	7

GENDER (DO NOT ASK)	MALE	51%
	FEMALE	49

REGION	NORTHEAST	18%
	MIDWEST	23
	SOUTH	36
	WEST	23
