



US Election Research - report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Engineering staffing specialist EPCglobal recently asked engineers in the US to nominate the most important policy areas for them when deciding how to vote for President.

EPCglobal went on to ask about energy policy in detail.

Key result 1 – McCain has significant 18% lead in the area of energy policy

Key result 2 – This is important because energy ranks above economy, health, education etc. as the key candidate policy area

Key result 3 – The candidates claim a clear difference on energy but when each policy is rated on its own merits and unattributed to a candidate, they are neck and neck.

Because of the large sample size we can make a reasonable assumption that the US's 1.5m engineers concur. We can also speculate that McCain's lead on energy is the result of his campaign's emphasis on particular themes which resonate with them, such as supply security.

Respondents: 1,013 from EPCglobal's 100,000 strong database

Home states: All US states represented, except North Dakota and South Dakota

Demographics: Broadly representing US engineer demographics

Dates online survey was open: 22/10/2008 to 27/10/2008

RESULTS IN DETAIL

Available at www.epcglobal.com

What is your home state in the US?		
Alabama	33	3%
Alaska	3	0%
Arizona	26	3%
Arkansas	4	0%
California	83	8%
Colorado	23	2%
Connecticut	5	0%
Delaware	3	0%
Florida	50	5%
Georgia	31	3%
Hawaii	2	0%
Idaho	4	0%
Illinois	28	3%
Indiana	5	0%
Iowa	3	0%
Kansas	9	1%
Kentucky	5	0%
Louisiana	28	3%
Maine	7	1%

Maryland	30	3%
Massachusetts	14	1%
Michigan	15	1%
Minnesota	6	1%
Mississippi	10	1%
Missouri	4	0%
Montana	5	0%
Nebraska	4	0%
Nevada	16	2%
New Hampshire	6	1%
New Jersey	17	2%
New Mexico	7	1%
New York	37	4%
North Carolina	18	2%
North Dakota	0	0%
Ohio	19	2%
Oklahoma	14	1%
Oregon	7	1%
Pennsylvania	19	2%
Rhode Island	1	0%
South Carolina	14	1%
South Dakota	0	0%
Tennessee	21	2%
Texas	306	30%
Utah	4	0%
Vermont	1	0%
Virginia	19	2%
Washington	23	2%
Washington DC	2	0%
West Virginia	3	0%
Wisconsin	16	2%
Wyoming	3	0%
None of the above	0	0%
Total	1013	100%

What is your main field of engineering? Please select one

Rail	1	0%
Oil / Gas	222	22%
Environmental	17	2%
Nuclear	88	9%
Other power & energy	93	9%
Other utilities	9	1%
Telecoms	101	10%
Civil engineering & construction	128	13%
Pharmaceutical	2	0%
Industrial and manufacturing	27	3%
Mining & Minerals	5	0%
Chemical (if across fields)	40	4%
Electrical (if across fields)	90	9%
Mechanical (if across fields)	91	9%
Geotechnical (if across fields)	3	0%

Other	96	9%
Total	1013	100%

What is your age?		
21-25	22	2%
26-30	48	5%
31-35	55	5%
36-40	67	7%
41-45	92	9%
46-50	135	13%
51-55	162	16%
56-60	197	19%
61-65	147	15%
66 or older	88	9%
Total	1013	100%

What is your gender?		
Male	901	89%
Female	112	11%
Total	1013	100%

Please tell us which of the issues, of those listed, will be important or unimportant when you decide how to vote for President.			
Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Very important	Quite important	Not important
Abortion or stem cell research	342 34%	324 32%	347 34%
Crime	518 51%	355 35%	140 14%
Economy / jobs	871 86%	128 13%	14 1%
Education	600 59%	342 34%	71 7%
Energy	867 86%	135 13%	11 1%
Environment	506 50%	387 38%	120 12%
Foreign policy	621 61%	336 33%	56 6%
Guns	392 39%	312 31%	309 31%

Healthcare	591 58%	340 34%	82 8%
Homeland security	558 55%	326 32%	129 13%
Immigration	538 53%	323 32%	152 15%
Taxes	680 67%	278 27%	55 5%

Which candidate offers the most effective suite of energy-related policies to address the chief long and short term energy-related priorities for the US?

Obama	275	27%
McCain	456	45%
Neither	180	18%
Don't know	102	10%
Total	1013	100%

What are the principal issues within energy that require a policy response from the candidates?

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Primary importance	Secondary importance	Not important
The price of oil	501 49%	411 41%	101 10%
The environmental damage caused by our reliance on non-renewable fuel sources	407 40%	468 46%	138 14%
The support our reliance on overseas sources provides to despotic regimes	636 63%	306 30%	71 7%
Energy supply security issues deriving from our reliance on overseas sources	696 69%	269 27%	48 5%
Meeting our future need for more power	858 85%	141 14%	14 1%
The prospect in the long term of the disappearance of fossil fuels	469 46%	411 41%	133 13%
The opportunities presented by 'green collar job' creation	334 33%	441 44%	238 23%
How to curb per capita energy consumption	417 41%	446 44%	150 15%

Leaving aside your party political alignment, do you approve (option 1), are you neutral (2) or do you disapprove (3) of each of these proposed energy-related policies?

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Approve	Neutral	Disapprove
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A Windfall Profits Tax to Provide a \$1,000 Emergency Energy Rebate to American Families.	327 32%	334 33%	352 35%
A Crack Down on Excessive Energy Speculation.	588 58%	303 30%	122 12%
Swap Oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to Cut Prices	195 19%	342 34%	476 47%
Increase Fuel Economy Standards.	662 65%	258 25%	93 9%
Get 1 Million Plug-In Hybrid Cars on the Road by 2015.	375 37%	430 42%	208 21%
Create a New \$7,000 Tax Credit for Purchasing Advanced Vehicles.	389 38%	362 36%	262 26%
Establish a National Low Carbon Fuel Standard.	412 41%	405 40%	196 19%
A "Use it or Lose It" Approach to Existing Oil and Gas Leases.	418 41%	393 39%	202 20%
Promote the Responsible Domestic Production of Oil and Natural Gas	763 75%	202 20%	48 5%
Ensure 10 percent of Our Electricity Comes from Renewable Sources by 2012, and 25 percent by 2025.	639 63%	283 28%	91 9%
Deploy the Cheapest, Cleanest, Fastest Energy Source - Energy Efficiency.	687 68%	276 27%	50 5%
Weatherize One Million Homes Annually.	436 43%	441 44%	136 13%
Develop and Deploy Clean Coal Technology.	681 67%	261 26%	71 7%
Prioritize the Construction of the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline.	610 60%	304 30%	99 10%
Implement an economy-wide cap-and-trade program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80 percent by 2050.	409 40%	383 38%	221 22%
Make the U.S. a Leader on Climate Change.	432 43%	367 36%	214 21%

Leaving aside your political alignment, do you approve (option 1), are you neutral (2) or do you disapprove (3) of each of these proposed energy-related policies?

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Approve	Neutral	Disapprove
Expanding Domestic Oil Exploration	718 71%	206 20%	89 9%
Promoting And Expanding The Use Of Our Domestic Supplies Of Natural Gas	757 75%	214 21%	42 4%
A \$5,000 tax credit for each and every customer who buys a zero carbon emission car	421 42%	335 33%	257 25%
A \$300 Million Prize To Improve Battery Technology For Full Commercial Development Of Plug-In Hybrid And Fully Electric Automobiles.	418 41%	401 40%	194 19%
A more rapid and complete switch to FFVs (Flex-Fuel Vehicles)	354 35%	484 48%	175 17%
The promotion of Alcohol-Based Fuels as Both An Alternative To Gasoline And As A Means of Expanding Consumers' Choices	364 36%	405 40%	244 24%
Eliminate mandates, subsidies, tariffs and price supports that focus exclusively on corn-based ethanol	540 53%	340 34%	133 13%

Enforce Existing CAFE Standards - the mileage requirements that automobile manufacturers' cars must meet	580 57%	325 32%	108 11%
Become A Leader In A New International Green Economy.	453 45%	378 37%	182 18%
Commit \$2 Billion Annually To Advancing Clean Coal Technologies	474 47%	373 37%	166 16%
Construct 45 New Nuclear Power Plants By 2030 with The Ultimate Goal Of Eventually Constructing 100 New Plants	709 70%	207 20%	97 10%
A Permanent Tax Credit Equal To 10 Percent Of Wages Spent On R&D.	413 41%	447 44%	153 15%
Encourage The Market For Alternative, Low Carbon Fuels Such As Wind, Hydro And Solar Power with tax credits	740 73%	198 20%	75 7%
A Cap-And-Trade System That Would Set Limits On Greenhouse Gas Emissions.	329 32%	450 44%	234 23%
Greening The Federal Government	428 42%	396 39%	189 19%
Electricity Grid And Metering Improvements To Save Energy	724 71%	259 26%	30 3%
Understand The Role Speculation Is Playing In Our Soaring Energy Prices	644 64%	293 29%	76 8%
No Windfall Profits Tax.	412 41%	389 38%	212 21%
Greenhouse Gas Emission Targets And Timetables: 2050: 60 Percent Below 1990 Levels (66 Percent Below 2005 Levels)	390 38%	435 43%	188 19%

Do you agree with the Governor of Colorado who supports his state's proposed Amendment 58, designed to repeal a \$300m tax credit for its oil and gas industry (with the proceeds to be directed to "colleges, land and water protection measures and investment in renewable energy").?

Yes	446	44%
No	333	33%
Don't know	234	23%
Total	1013	100%

The states below comprise Forbes magazine's top 15 'greenest'. In your opinion which one state has the best reputation as the 'greenest' in terms of association with environmental good practice and investment in the alternative energy industry?

Vermont	61	6%
Oregon	91	9%
Washington	45	4%
Hawaii	50	5%
Maryland	13	1%
Connecticut	5	0%
New Jersey	7	1%
Rhode Island	8	1%
New York	11	1%
Arizona	27	3%
Massachusetts	8	1%
Idaho	19	2%
Colorado	79	8%

California	176	17%
Minnesota	17	2%
Don't know	396	39%
Total	1013	100%