Fuel for Thought

**Do you think the United States is in an energy crisis now, or not?**

- Yes: 39%
- No: 60%
- No opinion: 1%


**Do you think the United States is heading into an energy crisis, or not?**

- Yes: 61%
- No: 36%
- No opinion: 3%


**Do you think the country is currently in an energy crisis, experiencing energy problems that may become a crisis, or experiencing temporary energy problems that will not become a crisis?**

- Currently in an energy crisis: 23%
- Experiencing energy problems that may become a crisis: 38%
- Experiencing temporary energy problems that will not become a crisis: 31%

**Note:** Asked of registered voters.

**Source:** Survey by Opinion Dynamics for Fox News, June 6-7, 2001.

**Do you think the country is currently in an energy crisis, experiencing energy problems that may become a crisis, or experiencing temporary energy problems that will not become a crisis?**

- Currently in an energy crisis: 38%
- Experiencing energy problems that may become a crisis: 23%
- Experiencing temporary energy problems that will not become a crisis: 31%

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization, March 5-7, 2001.

Looks Worse Each Time

**How serious would you say the energy situation is in the United States—very serious, fairly serious, or not at all serious?**

- Very serious: 43%
- Fairly serious: 42%
- Not at all serious: 13%

**1979**
- February 23-26: 43%
- April 27-May 4: 44%
- June 1-4: 37%
- August 3-6: 47%

**1990**
- August 9-12: 28%
- September 10-11: 28%
- September 27-30: 32%

**1991**
- February 7-10: 40%
- March 5-7: 31%
- May 7-9: 58%
- June 28-July 1: 47%

**2001**
- March 5-7: 31%
- May 7-9: 58%
- June 28-July 1: 47%

**Source:** Surveys by the Gallup Organization, latest of June 28-July 1, 2001.
Big, Bad Oil

Question:

Please tell me whether you think each of the following deserves a great deal of blame, some blame, not much blame, or no blame at all for the country’s current energy problems. How about...

**Percent Responding Great Deal of Blame**

- US oil companies: 52%
- Foreign countries that produce oil: 44%
- US electric companies: 42%
- Congress: 31%
- Clinton Administration: 28%
- Environmental laws and regulations: 23%
- American consumers: 22%
- The current Bush administration: 20%

*Source: Survey by Gallup/CNN/USA Today, May 18-20, 2001*

Question:

In general, do you think... [the following industries]... make too much profit, not enough profit, or about the right amount of profit?

**Percent Responding Too Much Profit**

- Tobacco companies: 76%
- Oil companies: 75%
- Drug companies: 73%
- Health insurance: 68%
- HMOs: 57%
- Banks: 50%
- Hospitals: 46%
- Airlines: 33%

*Source: Survey by The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer/Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health, July 26-September 5, 2000*

Question:

Who do you think is most to blame for rising gasoline prices?

**Top Mentions**

- Domestic oil producers/Big oil companies: 32%
- OPEC/Middle east: 19%
- Bush administration: 9%
- Congress: 6%
- Consumers: 6%

*Note: Asked of registered voters. Source: Survey by Opinion Dynamics for Fox News, May 9-10, 2001*

Question:

Would you say your overall opinion of... oil companies is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

**Percent Responding Good Job**

- Computer software companies: 80%
- Car manufacturers: 67%
- Pharmaceutical companies: 57%
- Tobacco companies: 28%
- Oil companies: 27%

*Source: Survey by Harris Interactive, April 26-May 5, 2001*

Question:

Do you think [the following industries] generally do a good or a bad job serving their consumers?

*Source: Surveys by Harris Interactive, latest that of April 26-May 5, 2001.*
**Influence**

**Question:** Do you think the oil industry has too much influence, too little influence, or the right amount of influence on the Bush administration’s energy policies?

- Too much: 62%
- Right amount: 16%
- Too little: 5%
- Don’t know/No answer: 17%


**Question:** Do you think energy companies do or do not have too much influence over the Bush administration’s energy policies?

- Yes, too much: 61%
- No, not too much: 32%
- No opinion: 7%


**Question:** Which statement comes closer to your point of view? Large energy producers and other corporate special interests have too much influence over President Bush’s energy policies or President Bush’s energy policies balance the interests of energy producers, consumers, and environmentalists.

- Corporate interests have too much influence: 56%
- Interests are balanced: 32%
- Some of both (vol.): 4%


**Question:** Do you think the Bush energy plan is designed more to further the energy companies’ interests, or further the country’s interests?

- Energy companies’ interests: 43%
- Country’s interests: 44%
- No opinion: 8%


**Question:** Overall, do you think President Bush is or is not doing enough to solve the country’s energy problems?

- Not doing enough: 55%
- Doing enough: 38%
- No opinion: 6%


**Question:** Do you think the price of gasoline is something an effective president can do a lot about, do a little about, or is that mostly beyond any president’s control?

- President can do a lot about: 32%
- Can do a little about: 40%
- Mostly beyond control: 26%
- Don’t know: 2%

**Hard Choice**

**Question:**
Right now, which one of the following do you think should be a more important priority for this country... protecting the environment or developing new sources of energy?

- Protecting the environment: 42%
- Developing new sources of energy: 49%
- Don't know/Refused: 9%


**Question:**
[Which statement] comes closer to your point of view? ...Our first priority should be protecting the environment, even if it means that energy supplies would be more limited [or] ...Our first priority should be developing energy supplies in the United States, even if it means making some compromises on the environment.

- Priority on environment: 43%
- Priority on energy supplies: 48%
- Not sure: 3%
- Some of both (vol.): 6%


**Question:**
Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? We must protect the environment even if it means paying higher prices for electricity and gasoline because of it.

- Agree: 55%
- Disagree: 38%
- Don't know/No answer: 7%

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, May 10-12, 2001.

**Question:**
What do you think George W. Bush thinks is more important—producing energy or protecting the environment?

- Producing energy: 58%
- Protecting the environment: 32%
- Don't know/No answer: 10%

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, May 10-12, 2001.

**Question:**
What do you think is more important—producing energy or protecting the environment?

- Producing energy: 58%
- Protecting the environment: 32%
- Don't know/No answer: 10%


**Question:**
Do you personally believe there is an actual shortage of electricity in California, or not?

- Yes, there is a shortage: 36%
- No, there is no shortage: 54%

**Source:** Survey by Los Angeles Times, January 4-5, 2001.

**Question:**
Do you think the shortage of energy we hear about is real or are we just being told there are shortages?

- Shortage is real: 46%
- Just being told there is shortage: 44%

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, May 10-12, 2001.
Crazy Love

Question:

Should the federal government require improvements in fuel efficiency for cars and trucks even if this means higher prices and smaller vehicles, or don’t you think it should do so?

**Source:** Survey by Harris Interactive/Time/CNN, March 21, 2001.

**Question:**

...[W]ith respect to sport utility vehicles... would you say that you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned or not at all concerned [about] the effect that their low fuel economy has on the environment?

Very concerned: 38%
Somewhat concerned: 30%
Not very concerned: 14%
Not at all concerned: 14%

**Source:** Survey by Harris Interactive/Time/CNN, May 23-24, 2001.

**Question:**

**...[W]ith respect to sport utility vehicles... would you say that you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned or not at all concerned [about] the possibility that [their] low fuel economy... has contributed to recent increases in gasoline prices?**

Very concerned: 35%
Somewhat concerned: 24%
Not very concerned: 16%
Not at all concerned: 20%

**Source:** Survey by Harris Interactive/Time/CNN, May 23-24, 2001.

**Question:**

...Have you... thought about buying a car that gets better gas mileage?

Yes: 55%
No: 36%
Not sure: 9%


**Question:**

...[W]ith respect to sport utility vehicles... would you say that you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned or not at all concerned [about] the effect that their low fuel economy has on the environment?

Very concerned: 38%
Somewhat concerned: 30%
Not very concerned: 14%
Not at all concerned: 14%

**Source:** Survey by Harris Interactive/Time/CNN, May 23-24, 2001.

**Question:**

...Have you... thought about buying a car that gets better gas mileage?

Yes: 55%
No: 36%
Not sure: 9%


**Question:**

Do you think most Americans think about trying to conserve energy, or do they pretty much take energy supplies for granted?

Think about trying to conserve: 20%
Take energy supplies for granted: 75%
Not sure: 5%

**Source:** Survey by Opinion Dynamics for Fox News, June 6-7, 2001.

**Question:**

Which comes closer to your view? Americans can retain their lifestyle and the country’s current energy problems can still be solved, or Americans must make real changes in their lifestyle in order for the country’s current energy problems to be solved.

Can retain lifestyle: 67%
Must change lifestyle: 30%
No opinion: 3%

**Source:** Survey by Gallup/CNN/USA Today, May 18-20, 2001.

**The Bottom Line**

Note: Asked of registered voters.