



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Energy and the Environment

- STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, AND NATIONAL -

Field Dates:

State of North Carolina: July 21 - Aug 16, 2026

National: February 11-26, 2026

Sample Sizes:

State of North Carolina: 604

National: 2,509

Confidence Interval:

State of North Carolina: +/- 4.5%

National: +/- 2.9%

Samples Provided by: Multiple online opt-in panels, including Cint, Dynata and Prodege. Sample collection and quality control was managed by QuantifyAI under the direction of the University of Maryland's Program for Public Consultation.

Note: Rows may not add to 100% due to rounding

[Q1-26 and 41-64 withheld for future release; Q37-40 previously released]

Here are questions about proposals related to US energy production and use, and their environmental impacts, including air pollution and greenhouse gases.

Please select how high a priority it should be for the government to:

Q27. work to reduce air pollution that has negative effects on health

	Very high priority	Somewhat high priority	Very - Somewhat high priority	Low priority	Not at all a priority	Low - Not at all a priority	Ref/DK
National	47%	39%	86%	11%	2%	14%	0%
Republicans	35%	44%	79%	17%	3%	21%	0%
Democrats	60%	33%	94%	6%	1%	6%	0%
Independents	45%	39%	85%	11%	4%	15%	1%
North Carolina (statewide)	48%	39%	87%	10%	3%	13%	0%
Republicans	34%	46%	80%	17%	4%	20%	0%

Democrats	61%	34%	94%	3%	2%	6%	0%
-----------	-----	-----	------------	----	----	-----------	----

Q28. work to further reduce greenhouse gases, especially carbon dioxide

	Very high priority	Somewhat high priority	Very - Somewhat high priority	Low priority	Not at all a priority	Low - Not at all a priority	Ref/DK
National	42%	39%	81%	14%	5%	18%	1%
Republicans	29%	40%	69%	22%	8%	30%	1%
Democrats	56%	36%	93%	5%	1%	6%	1%
Independents	38%	41%	79%	13%	6%	19%	2%
North Carolina (statewide)	47%	37%	84%	12%	4%	15%	0%
Republicans	34%	41%	74%	19%	6%	25%	1%
Democrats	61%	34%	95%	3%	2%	5%	0%

Q29. Do you favor or oppose adopting the goal of reducing US greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 2% a year?

	Favor	Oppose	Ref/DK
National	80%	19%	1%
Republicans	72%	27%	1%
Democrats	90%	9%	1%
Independents	75%	25%	0%
North Carolina (statewide)	81%	19%	0%
Republicans	72%	28%	0%
Democrats	91%	9%	0%

One idea for reducing pollution and greenhouse gases is for the government to provide tax credits to encourage businesses and individuals to:

- increase the production and use of energy that do not produce greenhouse gases (solar, wind, geothermal and nuclear)
- improve the energy-efficiency of appliances, homes and buildings

Please select whether you favor or oppose each of the following tax credits:

Q30. Tax credits for the production of energy that has no carbon emissions.

	Favor	Oppose	Ref/DK
National	77%	23%	1%
Republicans	71%	29%	1%
Democrats	86%	14%	1%
Independents	70%	28%	2%
North Carolina (statewide)	79%	20%	1%
Republicans	71%	28%	1%
Democrats	85%	14%	1%

Q31. How about tax credits for improving the energy-efficiency of homes and buildings?

	Favor	Oppose	Ref/DK
National	84%	15%	0%
Republicans	79%	21%	0%
Democrats	91%	9%	0%
Independents	82%	17%	1%
North Carolina (statewide)	85%	15%	0%
Republicans	81%	19%	0%
Democrats	88%	11%	0%

Here are some other proposals:

Q32. Require that new cars and trucks get more miles per gallon.

	Favor	Oppose	Ref/DK
National	80%	19%	1%
Republicans	75%	25%	1%
Democrats	86%	13%	1%
Independents	79%	21%	0%
North Carolina (statewide)	82%	17%	1%
Republicans	75%	24%	1%
Democrats	89%	10%	1%

Q33. Require electric companies to get a minimum portion of their electricity from energy sources that do not produce greenhouse gases (solar, wind, geothermal and nuclear)

	Favor	Oppose	Ref/DK
National	76%	24%	0%
Republicans	67%	33%	0%
Democrats	87%	13%	1%
Independents	73%	27%	1%
North Carolina (statewide)	82%	17%	1%
Republicans	74%	24%	2%
Democrats	88%	11%	1%

Here are some other proposals:

Q34. The US making a commitment, together with other countries, to reduce their emission of greenhouse gases

	Favor	Oppose	Ref/DK
National	82%	18%	0%
Republicans	75%	25%	1%
Democrats	91%	9%	0%

Independents	78%	22%	0%
North Carolina (statewide)	83%	16%	0%
Republicans	74%	26%	0%
Democrats	92%	7%	0%

Q35. The US government working with other countries to study and share data about energy use and greenhouse gases, and their effect on the climate

	Favor	Oppose	Ref/DK
National	82%	18%	0%
Republicans	76%	23%	0%
Democrats	89%	11%	0%
Independents	78%	22%	1%
North Carolina (statewide)	83%	16%	2%
Republicans	76%	21%	3%
Democrats	90%	9%	1%

Q36. Do you favor or oppose the federal government providing financial assistance and job training to workers who lose their job in the coal, oil, and gas industries as a result of the transition to cleaner forms of energy, to help them transition to other employment?

	Favor	Oppose	Ref/DK
National	85%	15%	0%
Republicans	82%	18%	0%
Democrats	89%	11%	0%
Independents	79%	21%	0%
North Carolina (statewide)	86%	13%	1%
Republicans	85%	15%	0%
Democrats	87%	12%	1%

Methodology

Fielding and Sample Size: The surveys were fielded by the Program for Public Consultation (PPC) at the University of Maryland's Civic Innovation Center, with representative non-probability samples obtained from multiple online panels, including Cint, Dynata and Prodege.

National

Field Dates: February 11-26, 2026 Total Sample Size: 2509 Response Rate: 7.6%
Four-fifth Sample Sizes: 1991 to 2020

State of North Carolina

Field Dates: July 21 - Aug 16, 2026 Sample Size: 604 Response Rate: 8.2%

Pre-Stratification and Weighting: The samples were pre-stratified and weighted by age, race, ethnicity, gender, educational attainment, household income, and home ownership. Benchmarks were obtained from the Census Bureau's 2024 and 2025 American Community Surveys, as well as the 2024 Current Population Survey's Annual Social and Economic Supplement.

The national sample was also weighted by Census region and partisan affiliation. In the North Carolina sample, the distribution of partisan affiliation was weighted to be within expectations, based on voter registration data for non-leaners and/or Cook's Partisan Voting Index for leaners.

National

Confidence Interval of Four-fifth Samples: +/-2.9% Min Weight: 0.25 Max Weight: 2.51 Mean Weight: 1.0

State of North Carolina

Confidence Interval: +/-4.5% Min Weight: 0.3 Max Weight: 4 Mean Weight: 1.0

Confidence Intervals were calculated using the sample variance of the weights using the following formula:

CI = Square root ((1+variance)/sample size)

Sample Collection: Sample collection was managed by Quant-E with oversight from PPC. Samples were drawn from multiple large online panels, including Cint, Prodege, and Dynata, whose members are recruited using non-probability sampling methods. The selected sample was invited to participate via email invitation, push notification, or SMS for cell phone users. Respondents were offered cash or cash-equivalent incentives to participate in the survey.

Data Collection and Privacy: Survey responses were collected directly on the Qualtrics platform. Only respondents with a provided link could take the survey, using their computer, laptop, tablet, or mobile phone.

Privacy and security measures were taken to ensure that data was collected in adherence to the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation policies for data privacy and security, as well as the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA).

Quality Control: Quality control measures in the sample collection process to disqualify duplicate respondents and survey bots included:

- checking respondents' IP addresses to determine if there are duplicate respondents
- employing an "operating system & Web browser check" to determine if there are any cross-panel duplicates
- using hCaptcha to detect and disqualify survey bots.

Quality control measures within the survey to disqualify dishonest or mischievous respondents, as well as survey bots, included:

- an attention-check question, e.g. Select the word that does not belong. [Tuesday]; [Friday]; [April]; [Wednesday]
- an honesty question, e.g. What have you done in the past week? Select all that apply. [Won a gold medal at the Olympics]; [Watched TV]; [Got a license to operate a Class SSGN submarine]; [Read a book]

- a speed limit, which disqualified respondents who moved through the first quarter of the survey at a pace roughly triple the average reading speed.

Lastly, respondents were removed from the sample who answered less than half the substantive questions, or who engaged in straight-lining.