

# REPORT

What America Is Thinking On Energy Issues  
Renewable Fuel Standard

April 2016  
Presented by: Harris Poll

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**Interviewing:** March 22 – 29, 2016  
**Respondents:** 1,013 Registered Voters  
**Method:** Telephone  
**Weighting:** Results are weighted to be representative of registered voters nationwide.  
**Sampling Error:** +/- 3% at 95% confidence

**Q1** How important to you is the issue of the nation’s economy?

	Total
Base	1,013
<b>IMPORTANT (NET)</b>	<b>98%</b>
Very important	86%
Somewhat important	12%
<b>NOT IMPORTANT (NET)</b>	<b>1%</b>
Not very important	1%
Not at all important	*
Don’t know/Refused	1%

**Q2** Do you agree or disagree that federal government regulations could contribute to increased costs for gasoline to consumers?

	Total
Base	1,013
<b>AGREE (NET)</b>	<b>76%</b>
Strongly agree	47%
Somewhat agree	29%
<b>DISAGREE (NET)</b>	<b>16%</b>
Somewhat disagree	9%
Strongly disagree	7%
Don’t know/Refused	8%

**Q3** As you may know, much of the gasoline in the U.S. market currently contains up to a 10% ethanol blend. Most auto manufacturers have said they will not cover vehicle damage caused by higher ethanol fuel blends over 10% if the vehicle is not specifically designed for it. Given that situation, how concerned are you about government requirements that would increase the amount of ethanol in gasoline?

	Total
Base	1,013
<b>CONCERNED (NET)</b>	<b>77%</b>
Very concerned	45%
Somewhat concerned	32%
<b>NOT CONCERNED (NET)</b>	<b>20%</b>
Not very concerned	11%
Not at all concerned	9%
Don’t know/Refused	3%

**Q4** Some in Washington are currently considering government regulations that would increase the amount of ethanol required in gasoline to a level that would breach the “blend wall” – that is, the point at which the mandate exceeds the level of 10 percent ethanol in the nation’s fuel supply. A nonpartisan government report concluded that breaching the “blend wall” could increase the price of gasoline by up to 26 cents per gallon, and another third party study projected a reduction in the nation’s fuel supply and economic harm due to fuel shortages. Given that situation, how concerned are you about government requirements that could breach the “blend wall” and exceed the 10 percent level of ethanol in the fuel supply?

	Total
Base	1,013
<b>CONCERNED (NET)</b>	<b>77%</b>
Very concerned	52%
Somewhat concerned	25%
<b>NOT CONCERNED (NET)</b>	<b>19%</b>
Not very concerned	11%
Not at all concerned	8%
Don’t know/Refused	4%

**Q5** Over 40% of U.S. corn production is currently used to produce ethanol for gasoline. This significantly diverts corn away from the global food supply. Given that, how concerned are you that using even more corn for ethanol production could increase food prices here in the U.S. and increase hunger among the world’s poor?

	Total
Base	1,013
<b>CONCERNED (NET)</b>	<b>76%</b>
Very concerned	52%
Somewhat concerned	24%
<b>NOT CONCERNED (NET)</b>	<b>22%</b>
Not very concerned	12%
Not at all concerned	10%
Don’t know/Refused	2%

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Gender

	Total
Base	1,013
Male	48%
Female	52%

### Political Party

	Total
Base	1,013
<b>REPUBLICAN (NET)</b>	<b>33%</b>
Strong Republican	21%
Not-so-strong Republican	12%
<b>INDEPENDENT (NET)</b>	<b>23%</b>
Lean Republican	8%
Lean Democrat	8%
Do not lean either way	6%
<b>DEMOCRAT (NET)</b>	<b>31%</b>
Strong Democrat	19%
Not-so-strong Democrat	11%
Other	8%
Not sure	2%
Decline to answer	3%

### Ideology

	Total
Base	1,013
<b>CONSERVATIVE (NET)</b>	<b>60%</b>
Very conservative	26%
Somewhat conservative	34%
Neither	4%
<b>LIBERAL (NET)</b>	<b>30%</b>
Somewhat liberal	20%
Very liberal	10%
Don't know/Refused	6%

### Age

	Total
Base	1,013
18 – 34	10%
35 – 64	57%
65+	32%
Refused/Don't know	2%

Education

	Total
Base	1,013
<b>HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS (NET)</b>	<b>33%</b>
Less than high school	4%
High school graduate	29%
<b>ATTENDED COLLEGE OR COLLEGE DEGREE (NET)</b>	<b>53%</b>
Some college	22%
Associate's degree	9%
College graduate	22%
Post-graduate	12%
Don't know/Refused	1%

Race/Ethnicity

	Total
Base	1,013
White	71%
Black or African American	12%
Hispanic	8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	3%
Native American or Alaskan Native	1%
Some other race	3%
Don't know/Refused	3%

Household Income

	Total
Base	1,013
Less than \$5,000	2%
\$5,000 but less than \$10,000	1%
\$10,000 but less than \$15,000	4%
\$15,000 but less than \$20,000	3%
\$20,000 but less than \$25,000	4%
\$25,000 but less than \$30,000	4%
\$30,000 but less than \$35,000	3%
\$35,000 but less than \$40,000	4%
\$40,000 but less than \$50,000	7%
\$50,000 but less than \$60,000	7%
\$60,000 but less than \$75,000	7%
\$75,000 but less than \$80,000	4%
\$80,000 but less than \$100,000	7%
\$100,000 or more	21%
Don't know/Refused	21%