

Table A1. Sample Demographics

Variable	Question / Distribution
Female	Are you male (43.86) or female (56.14%)
Ethnicity	Which of the following do you consider to be your primary racial or ethnic group? White (1) = 84.25%; African American (2) = 3.76%; Asian American (3) = 7.80%; Hispanic (4) = 1.09%; Native American (5) = .87%; Other (6) = 2.24%
Age	What is your age? under 18 (1) = .06%; 18-24 (2) = 4.46%; 25-34 (3) = 13.31%; 35-50 (4) = 23.99%; 51-65 (5) = 33.36%; over 65 (6) = 24.82%
Education	What is the highest level of education you have completed? less than high school (1) = .59%; high school graduate (2) = 9.10%; some college = 28.67%; 4 year college degree (4) = 32.94%; advanced degree (5) = 28.70%.
Income	What is your estimate of your family's annual household income (before taxes)? < \$30,000 (1) = 16.63%; \$30,000 – \$69,999 (2) = 35.76%; \$70,000 – \$99,999 (3) = 21.91%; \$100,000 - \$200,000 (4) = 21.47%; > 200,000 (5) = 4.24%
Party Identification*	Generally speaking, which of the options on the scale below best describes your party identification? strong Democrat (1) = 16.41%; weak Democrat (2) = 8.82%; lean Democrat (3) = 11.92%; Independent (4) = 31.58%; lean Republican (5) = 10.51%; weak Republican (6) = 7.00%; strong Republican (7) = 13.76%
Ideology	Which point on this scale best describes your political views? very liberal (1) = 6.21%; mostly liberal (2) = 15.16%; somewhat liberal (3) = 12.91%; moderate (4) = 29.48%; somewhat conservative (5) = 14.05%; mostly conservative (6) = 15.80%; very conservative (7) = 6.39%;
Interest in Politics	In general, how interested are you in politics? not at all interested (1) = 8.07%; not to interested (2) = 19.47%; somewhat interested (3) = 40.33%; very interested (4) = 25.12%; extremely interested (5) = 7.01%
Political Participation	How often do you participate in political activities (e.g. working on a campaign, attending a rally)? never (1) = 60.30%; 2 = 22.67%; 3 = 6.68%; a few times a year (4) = 7.98; 5 = 1.39%; 6 = .49%; weekly (7) = .49%
Discuss Politics	About how many days a week, on average, do you talk about politics with your family and/or friends? never (1) = 21.98%; 1 day/week (2) = 34.23%; 2 days/week (3) = 13.55%; 3 days/week (4) = 10.37%; 4 days/week (5) = 6.08%; 5 days/week (6) = 4.85%; 6 days/week (7) = 1.54%; every day (8) = 7.41%

Economy versus Environment Value	In general, what do you think is more important: protecting the environment, even at the risk of curbing economic growth, OR maintaining a prosperous economy, even if the environment suffers to some extent? definitely protect environment (1) = 15.53%; very likely protect environment (2) = 16.08%; probably protect environment (3) = 13.34% equally important (4) = 38.42%; probably maintain prosperous economy (5) = 8.68%; very likely maintain prosperous economy (6) = 5.18%; definitely maintain prosperous economy (7) = 2.77%.
Trust in Government	How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right? never (1) = 19.77%; only some of the time (2) = 69.50%; most of the time (3) = 10.30 %; just about always (4) = .43%
Who Runs Government	Would you say the government is pretty much run by a few big interests looking out for themselves, or that it is run for the benefit of all the people? for the benefit of all (1) = 11.37%; few big interests (2) = 88.63%
Trust in Science	Do you think that science enables us to overcome almost any problem, or that science creates unintended consequences and replaces older problems with new ones? definitely overcomes problems (1) = 6.89%; 2 = 16.57%; 3 = 22.43%; not sure (4) = 29.79%; 5 = 17.08%; 6 = 4.18%; definitely creates new problems (7) = 3.06%
Political Knowledge	Four questions, multiple choice other than the last question regarding the Secretary of State: Know majority required to over-ride a Presidential veto Know which party has majority in U.S. House Know whose responsibility it is to declare law unconstitutional Know current U.S. Sec. of State 0 correct = 9.44%; 1 correct = 11.01%; 2 correct = 16.38%; 3 correct = 25.55%; 4 correct = 37.62%
Energy Knowledge	Four questions, multiple choice: Know whether most of the oil imported to the US comes from the Middle East Know whether there is currently a ban on drilling for oil and gas off the Atlantic Coast and in the eastern Gulf of Mexico Know what country is the world's largest exporter of crude oil Know which of the following is not a renewable energy source 0 correct = 14.93%; 1 correct = 24.09%; 2 correct = 34.25%; 3 correct = 21.94%; 4 correct = 4.79%
Science Knowledge	Two questions, multiple choice: Is it true or false that lasers work by focusing sound waves? Which travels faster: light or sound? 0 correct = 15.81%; 1 correct = 36.53%; 2 correct = 47.66%
Interest in	How interested are you in the politics of energy?

Energy Politics	not at all interested (1) = 8.92%; not too interested (2) = 20.72%; somewhat interested (3) = 44.07%; very interested (4) = 21.01%; extremely interested (5) = 5.28%
Following Fracking News	How closely have you been following recent news about fracking? not closely (1) = 28.29%; 2 = 17.07%; 3 = 13.92%; moderately closely (4) = 23.58%; 5 = 8.76%; 6 = 5.61%; very closely (7) = 2.77%
Following CNT News	How closely have you been following recent news about CNTs? not closely (1) = 73.30%; 2 = 11.59%; 3 = 6.98%; moderately closely (4) = 6.47%; 5 = 1.09%; 6 = .51%; very closely (7) = .06%

* As with many other Internet samples, the percentage of respondents who identify as a pure Independent is larger than that found in non-Internet samples (see Chang & Krosnick, 2010, Malhotra & Krosnick, 2007).