



# Energy Policy in the U.S.

## FINDINGS FROM AN AUGUST 2017 SURVEY OF ADULTS AGE 18 AND OLDER

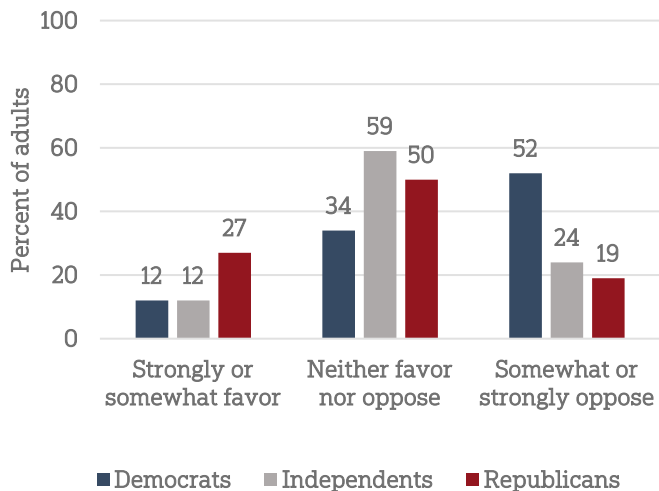
✓ **Most Americans say energy policy is personally important to them.**

- Fifty-four percent of adults say energy policy is important, 29% say it is moderately important, and 16% say it's not important.
- Democrats are more likely than Republicans to say energy policy is important (61% vs. 45%).

✓ **A third oppose the current direction of U.S. energy policy while nearly half neither support nor oppose the current direction.**

- Seventeen percent favor the direction of energy policy in the U.S., 35% oppose it, and 45% neither favor nor oppose its direction.
- Republicans are more likely than Democrats to favor the direction of energy policy, but they are also most likely to say they neither favor nor oppose current policy.

**A majority of Democrats oppose the direction of U.S. energy policy, while many Republicans and independents remain neutral.**



Question: In general, do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose the direction of U.S. energy policy?

✓ **More than 4 in 10 incorrectly believe the coal industry employs more people than the solar industry.**

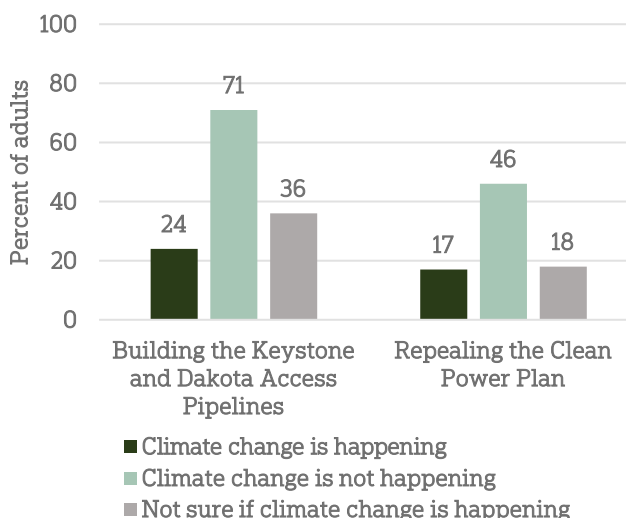
- The solar industry employed more than twice as many people as the coal industry in 2016, though 44% believe the opposite.
- Forty-eight percent correctly say the solar industry employs more people than the coal industry.
- Republicans are more likely than Democrats to incorrectly believe the coal industry employs more people (53% vs. 41%).

✓ **About a third of Americans lack opinions on the Keystone and Dakota Access Pipelines or the repeal of the Clean Power Plan.**

- Roughly equal numbers of Americans favor, oppose, and neither favor nor oppose the construction of the Keystone and Dakota Access Pipelines.
- While the Trump administration reviews the Clean Power Plan, 20% of Americans favor its repeal, 40% oppose repeal, and 37% neither favor nor oppose repeal.
- Views toward climate change influence support for each policy.

**Attitudes about whether climate change is happening shape attitudes toward major U.S. energy policies.**

% who favor...



Question: Do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose each of the following? Building the Keystone and Dakota Access Pipelines; Repealing the Clean Power Plan