

2020
Rethink Energy NJ
“Attitudes on Clean Energy”
Survey



October 2020

Table of Contents

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY3

II. DETAILED RESEARCH RESULTS6

III. DETAILED RESEARCH RESULTS - SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS35

APPENDIX A
QUESTIONNAIRE37



I. Executive Summary

About this study

The Fairleigh Dickinson University Poll (FDU) conducted a telephone survey of randomly selected registered voters in New Jersey on behalf of the New Jersey Conservation Foundation as part of the ReThink Energy NJ campaign. The study's main objective was to measure the awareness of, and attitudes toward, various energy sources. In addition, the study measured the perceptions of natural gas pipelines proposed to run within the state.

Respondents were contacted randomly using a registered voter list. In total, 712 interviews were conducted with adult registered voters in New Jersey. Random digit dialing was used and 30 percent of the interviews were conducted on landlines and 70 percent were conducted on cell phones. Once all surveys were completed, the data were weighted to be representative of New Jersey registered voters. The weighting balanced sample demographics to target population parameters. The sample is balanced to match parameters for sex, age, education, region, race/ethnicity, phone use and number of adults in household.

The margin of error for the total sample is ± 4.6 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence interval. This means that in 95 out every 100 samples using the same methodology, estimated proportions based on the entire sample will be no more than 4.6 percentage points away from their true values in the population.

All surveys were completed between October 1st and October 10nd, 2020 and averaged approximately 11 minutes in length. The results are summarized below.

In general, registered voters in this study are very supportive of renewable energy initiatives, and support the state moving toward 100 percent energy from clean sources by 2050. As a general statement, across the issues, women, as well as self-identified Democrats are more supportive than their respective cohorts, although support for renewable energy was strong among all demographic groups. These demographic differences are consistent with the general trend in public opinion on environmental issues.

Overall, more believe solar (47%) is the most important energy source to New Jersey's future, statistically unchanged from 45% last year. This belief was held across a host of demographic categories. Natural gas was the second most frequently cited source at 21 percent.

Overall, 9 in 10 (87%) believe investing in renewable energy sources is very or somewhat important to the overall health of New Jersey, unchanged from 87 percent last year.



To help recover from economic damage caused by COVID-19, 62 percent prefer that New Jersey create new jobs through renewable energy sources rather than pipelines (30%).

Voters understand that solar (79%) and wind (76%) are clean, virtually unchanged from 82 percent and 77 percent in the previous study. However, fewer registered voters consider natural gas (37%) or nuclear energy (19%) to be clean energy sources. Nuclear energy has dropped from 26 percent in the last study. Fewer than 1 in 10 believe oil (8%) or coal (8%) are clean.

About half (50%) say a candidate's support for moving to renewable energy would make them more likely to vote for that candidate, unchanged from 2019. Democrats (68%) are more likely than either Republicans (25%) or Independents (42%) to be more likely to vote for a candidate on the basis of their energy policy positions. Overall, a third (34%) say it would have no impact on how they voted.

To meet the state's growing energy needs, most (81%) believe the state should invest more in developing clean energy sources such as wind and solar rather than fossil fuels and pipelines (19%). Both are unchanged from the last study.

Overall, 9 in 10 (92%) now favor New Jersey's goal of achieving 100% energy dependence on renewable sources by 2050, while only 8 percent oppose it. Support has grown considerably since 2019, when 79 percent favored the goal and 16 percent opposed it.

Half (49%) believe the state is moving too slowly to reduce emissions that cause global warming, while 27 percent believe the pace is just right.

Three in five (60%) disagree with the federal government's move toward greater development of oil and gas energy, with 36 percent in agreement. Attitudes on this issue are virtually unchanged from 2019.

Three in four (77%) are very or somewhat concerned with climate change, unchanged from 74 percent in 2019.

Four in five (77%) favor the development wind energy off the coast of New Jersey, unchanged from 80 percent last year.

A majority (70%) expressed some concern with proposed pipelines. However, when asked about specific potential risks linked to pipeline development in the state, numbers increase. Respondents report being "very" or "somewhat concerned" in numbers that are on par with what was observed in 2019.

The seizure of private property for private companies	86%
The impact to natural areas and wildlife habitats	85%
Greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change	81%



The safety risks associated with ruptures, leaks, or explosions	81%
The use of taxpayers preserved open spaces	80%
The risks to air and water quality	79%

A strong majority (76%) believe it is better to develop solar energy on marginal land while avoiding putting solar fields on farmland or forests.

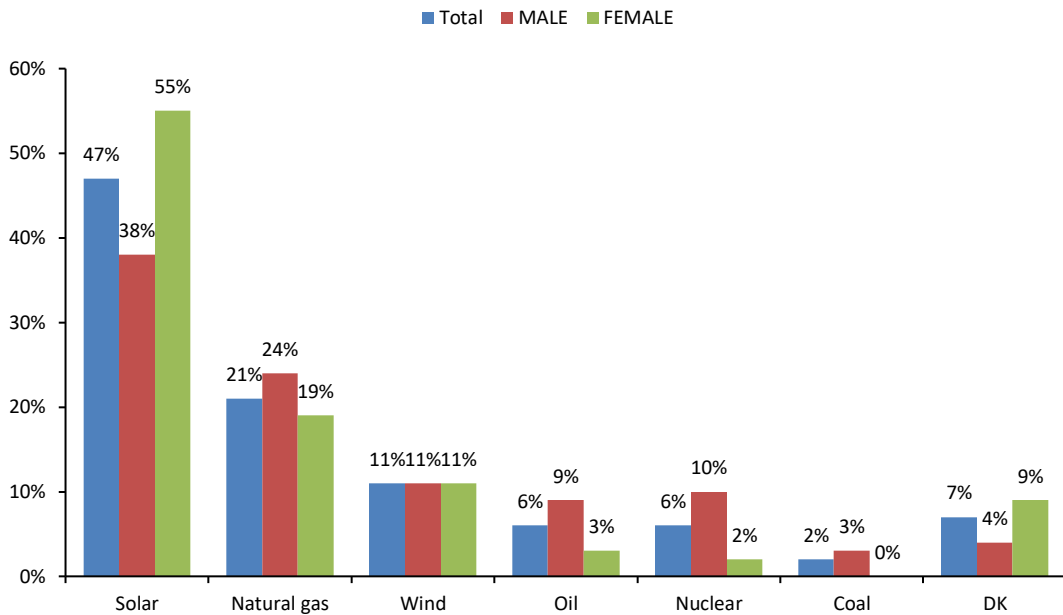


II. Detailed Results –

Q1. Which source do you think is most important to New Jersey’s energy future?

A plurality (47%) say solar is the most important source of New Jersey’s energy future. This holds true across virtually all measured demographics. Republicans are the exception and view natural gas (32%) as the most important. Those from the coast (27%) are more likely than those from the south (15%) to say natural gas. Overall, natural gas (21%) ranks second, while wind (11%) is the third most cited source. More men (10%) than women (2%) selected nuclear as most important.

Chart 1



	Region						Age		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Solar	47%	41%	49%	53%	50%	44%	50%	50%	42%
Natural gas	24%	25%	18%	15%	15%	27%	17%	20%	25%
Wind	6%	16%	13%	10%	9%	8%	7%	13%	11%
Nuclear	7%	8%	3%	11%	4%	9%	10%	6%	4%
Oil	9%	3%	4%	12%	8%	6%	8%	4%	5%
Coal	2%	2%	1%	0%	2%	3%	2%	0%	3%
Unsure	4%	4%	10%	0%	10%	3%	6%	5%	9%



	<i>Party ID</i>		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Solar	57%	41%	29%
Natural gas	15%	22%	32%
Wind	11%	16%	7%
Nuclear	4%	6%	9%
Oil	3%	5%	10%
Coal	1%	1%	4%
Unsure	7%	6%	7%

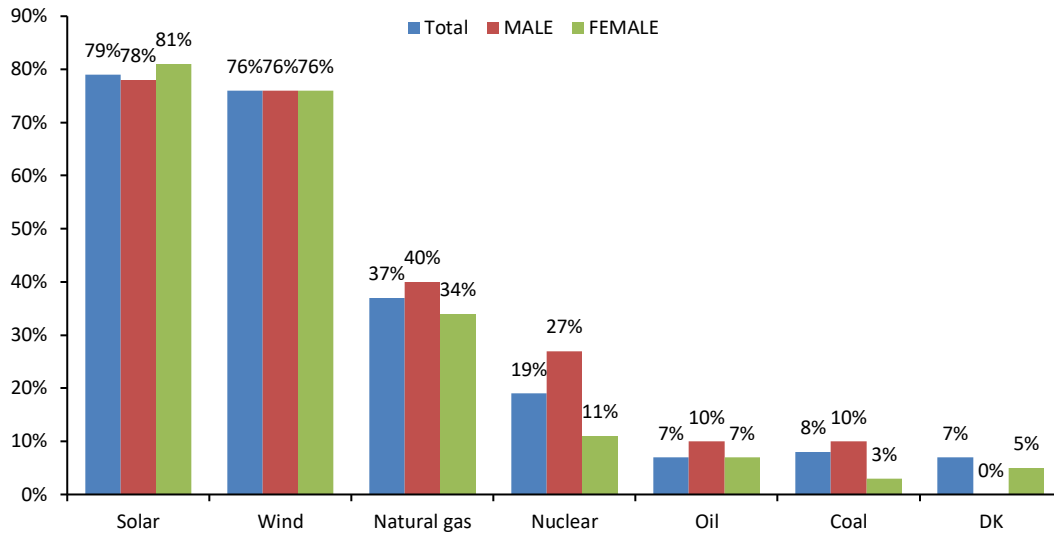
¹ **Northwest:** Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties
Northeast: Bergen and Passaic Counties
Urban Core: Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, and Union Counties
PennEast: Hunterdon, and Mercer Counties
South: Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties
Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



Q2. Which of the following do you believe are considered clean energy sources?

The majority believe solar (79%) and wind (76%) are clean energy sources. About 2 in 5 (37%) identify natural gas with 19 percent who regard nuclear as a clean energy source. Fewer say oil (7%) or coal (8%) is clean.

Chart 2



	Region ¹						Age		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Solar	81%	72%	79%	79%	82%	82%	77%	81%	79%
Wind	81%	72%	76%	64%	78%	75%	71%	76%	78%
Natural gas	44%	37%	34%	38%	38%	35%	29%	33%	44%
Nuclear	9%	5%	10%	3%	6%	11%	10%	5%	10%
Oil	23%	25%	14%	12%	14%	23%	17%	21%	18%
Coal	5%	11%	6%	4%	4%	14%	7%	8%	8%

	Party ID		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Solar	84%	78%	71%
Wind	81%	70%	69%
Natural gas	32%	29%	51%
Nuclear	8%	2%	13%
Oil	16%	15%	26%
Coal	4%	5%	16%

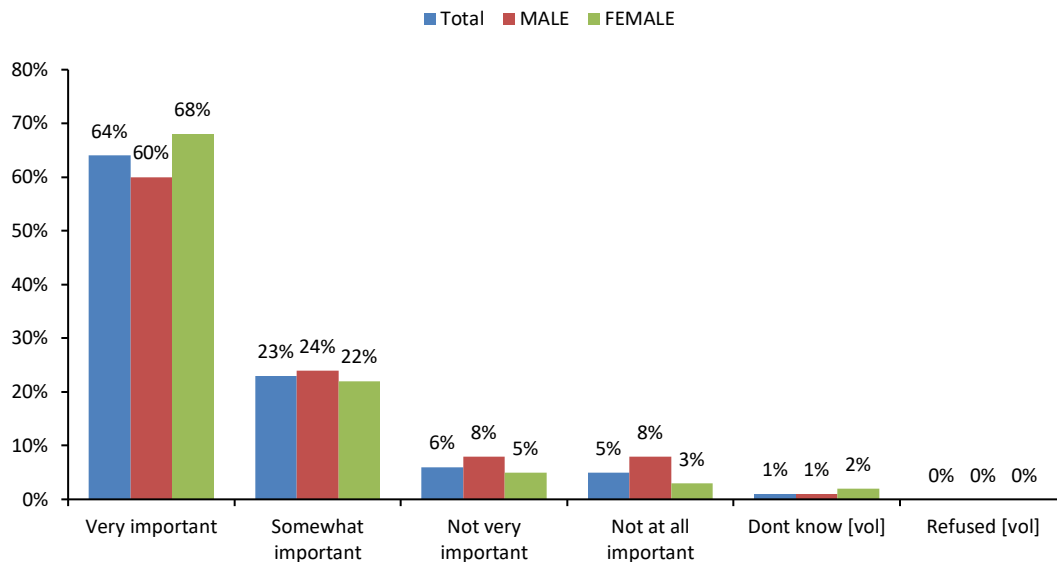
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Q3. How important, if at all, do you believe investing in renewable energy sources, like wind and solar, is to the overall health of the state of New Jersey?

Overall, 87 percent believe investing in renewable energy is very or somewhat important. Importance is higher among younger voters (94%) than older voters. Ninety-seven percent of those living in PennEast believe it is very or somewhat important, while more Democrats (95%) than Republicans (71%) believe it to be important.

Chart 3



	<i>Region¹</i>						<i>Age</i>		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Very important	63%	62%	67%	75%	63%	61%	73%	60%	63%
Somewhat important	15%	27%	22%	23%	27%	21%	21%	27%	20%
Not very important	11%	5%	5%	0%	5%	9%	4%	8%	7%
Not at all important	9%	5%	3%	3%	4%	7%	2%	4%	8%

	<i>Party ID</i>		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Very important	77%	65%	41%
Somewhat important	18%	26%	30%
Not very important	2%	1%	17%
Not at all important	1%	7%	12%

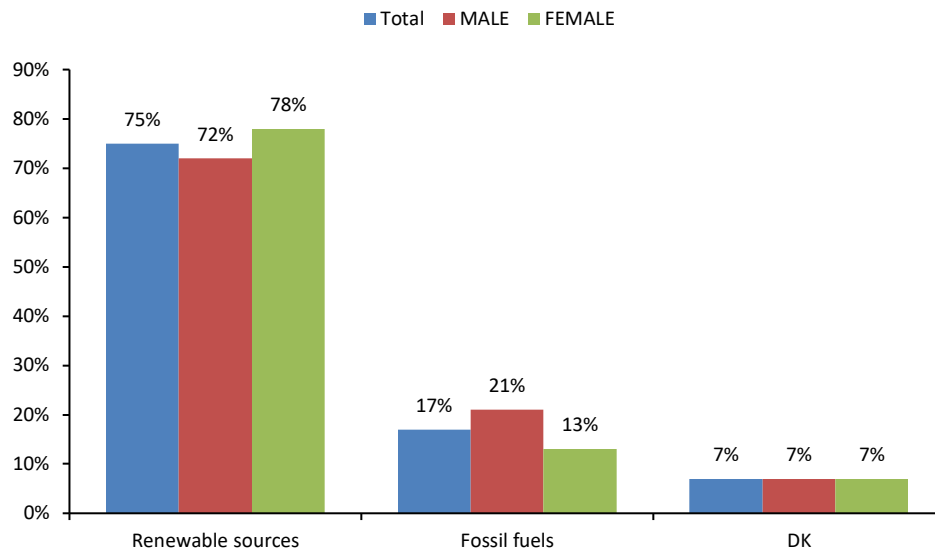
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Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



Q4. In order to meet New Jersey's energy needs, do you believe the state should invest more in renewable energy sources, like wind and solar, or more in fossil fuels, like oil and natural gas, through the construction of additional pipelines?

Three-quarters (75%) believe the state should invest more in renewable energy sources than in fossil fuels. While differences are seen across most measured demographics, in all cases renewable energy is the favored choice.

Chart 4



	<i>Region¹</i>						<i>Age</i>		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Renewable sources	58%	78%	82%	81%	83%	65%	77%	77%	73%
Fossil fuels	25%	15%	11%	19%	12%	26%	16%	16%	18%
Unsure	17%	4%	6%	0%	5%	8%	5%	7%	8%

	<i>Party ID</i>		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Renewable sources	89%	70%	55%
Fossil fuels	6%	16%	34%
Unsure	5%	9%	10%

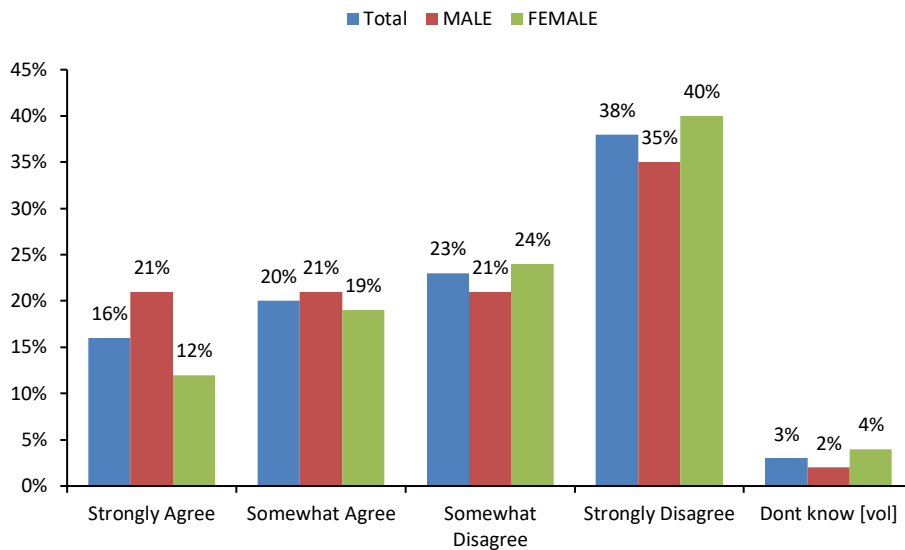
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South: Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties
Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



Q5. The federal government has recently been pushing for greater fossil fuel development, like oil and gas. Do you agree or disagree [rotate] with this energy policy?

Overall, 60 percent disagree with the federal government’s strategy for more oil and gas development. Women (64%) are more likely than men (56%) to disagree with the policy. Republicans (62%) are more likely than Democrats (22%) or Independents (35%) to agree with the policy.

Chart 5



	<i>Region¹</i>						<i>Age</i>		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Strongly Agree	22%	16%	10%	21%	16%	21%	16%	13%	19%
Somewhat Agree	15%	20%	24%	14%	16%	21%	22%	16%	22%
Somewhat Disagree	19%	22%	26%	31%	20%	20%	22%	24%	22%
Strongly Disagree	42%	36%	36%	32%	45%	33%	37%	42%	34%
Unsure	1%	6%	4%	0%	2%	3%	3%	4%	3%

	<i>Party ID</i>		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Strongly Agree	8%	7%	36%
Somewhat Agree	14%	28%	27%
Somewhat Disagree	24%	25%	20%
Strongly Disagree	52%	37%	13%
Unsure	3%	3%	4%

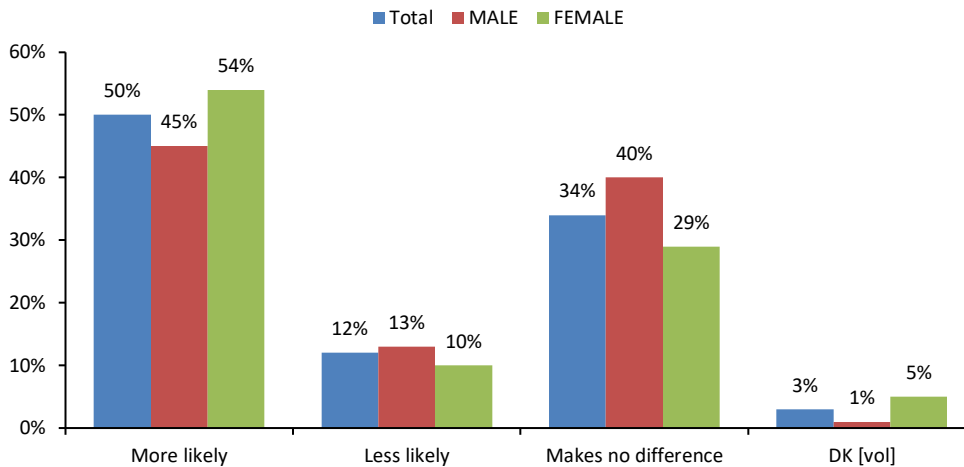
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PennEast: Hunterdon, and Mercer Counties
South: Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties
Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



Q6. Does a political candidate’s support for moving from fossil fuels to renewable energy like solar or wind make you [Rotate more or less likely] more likely or less likely to vote for them, or does their support for renewable energy make no difference to you?

Half (50%) say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supported moving from fossil fuels to renewable energy. Thirty-four percent say it would have no impact, while 12 percent say it would make them less likely to vote for a candidate. Younger voters are more likely (61%) than older cohorts to vote for a candidate who supports moving to renewables. More Democrats (68%) than Republicans (25%) or Independents (42%) say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate based on his or her policy positions.

Chart 6



	Region ¹						Age		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
More likely	46%	51%	47%	66%	58%	46%	61%	53%	41%
Less likely	13%	14%	9%	10%	13%	13%	13%	10%	13%
Makes no difference	36%	30%	39%	24%	25%	36%	21%	32%	43%
Unsure	4%	5%	2%	0%	2%	3%	3%	5%	1%

	Party ID		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
More likely	68%	42%	25%
Less likely	4%	15%	24%
Makes no difference	24%	36%	48%
Unsure	3%	5%	1%

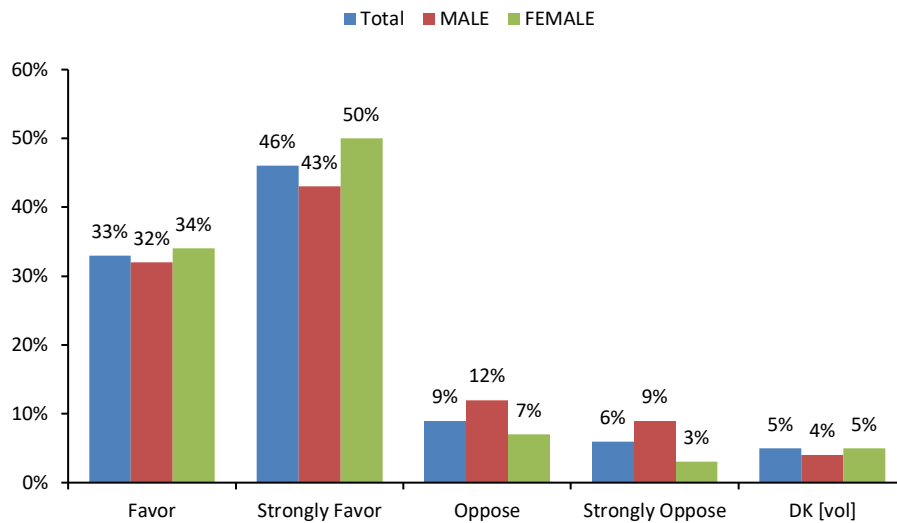
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South: Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties
Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



Q7. Do you favor or oppose New Jersey's goal of achieving 100% clean energy by 2050?

Four in five (80%) registered voters favor New Jersey’s goal of becoming 100 percent reliant on clean energy sources by 2050. Women (84%) are more likely than men (75%) to favor this goal. Those aged 55+ (75%) and Republicans (59%) are among those who are the least likely to favor this goal. Ninety-two percent of those from the PennEast area of the state favor this goal.

Chart 7



	Region ¹						Age		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Strongly Favor	32%	33%	35%	43%	32%	31%	33%	31%	36%
Favor	41%	45%	49%	49%	46%	48%	54%	49%	39%
Oppose	13%	10%	6%	1%	12%	11%	6%	9%	11%
Strongly Oppose	9%	7%	3%	7%	6%	7%	5%	4%	8%
Unsure	4%	5%	6%	0%	5%	2%	1%	6%	5%

	Party ID		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Strongly Favor	32%	37%	33%
Favor	59%	43%	26%
Oppose	3%	9%	21%
Strongly Oppose	2%	5%	14%
Unsure	3%	5%	7%

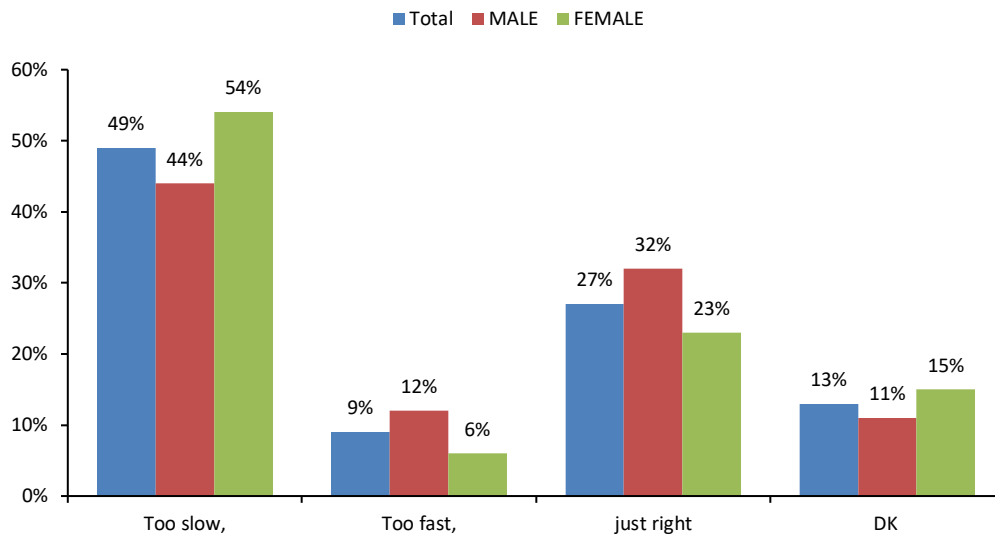
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South: Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties
Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



Q8. How do you rate the pace at which our state is developing and adopting renewable energy alternatives?

About half (49%) say New Jersey is moving too slowly in its efforts toward developing clean energy alternatives. A quarter (27%) believe the state is moving at the correct pace. Democrats (56%) and independents (58%) are more likely than Republicans (31%) to say New Jersey is moving too slowly.

Chart 8



	<i>Region¹</i>						<i>Age</i>		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Too slow	52%	41%	57%	48%	44%	48%	53%	47%	49%
Too fast	8%	9%	8%	14%	8%	10%	10%	9%	8%
Just right	24%	30%	24%	34%	27%	31%	16%	31%	31%
Unsure	13%	19%	10%	4%	20%	10%	20%	12%	10%

	<i>Party ID</i>		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Too slow	56%	58%	31%
Too fast	4%	8%	18%
Just right	27%	17%	35%
Unsure	12%	16%	13%

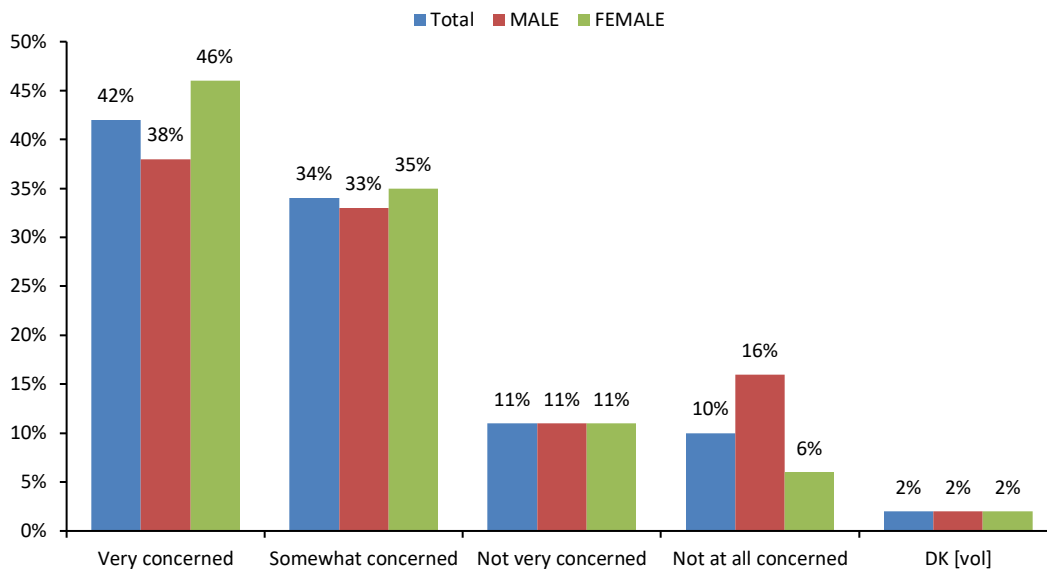
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Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



Q9. How would you describe your feelings toward the effects of climate change in NJ?

Overall, three-quarters (77%) are very or somewhat concerned about the effects of climate change in New Jersey. Although concerns can be seen among all groups considered, differences remain consistent with years past between Democrats (89%) versus independents (75%) and Republicans (55%). Voters 55 and older are among those who are the least likely to express concern.

Chart 9



	<i>Region¹</i>						<i>Age</i>		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Very concerned	34%	43%	44%	43%	43%	44%	36%	48%	41%
Somewhat concerned	32%	30%	37%	49%	31%	35%	44%	30%	33%
Not very concerned	15%	10%	12%	4%	12%	8%	6%	13%	12%
Not at all concerned	19%	11%	5%	3%	10%	13%	7%	8%	14%

	<i>Party ID</i>		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Very concerned	60%	30%	18%
Somewhat concerned	29%	45%	37%
Not very concerned	6%	13%	20%
Not at all concerned	3%	9%	23%

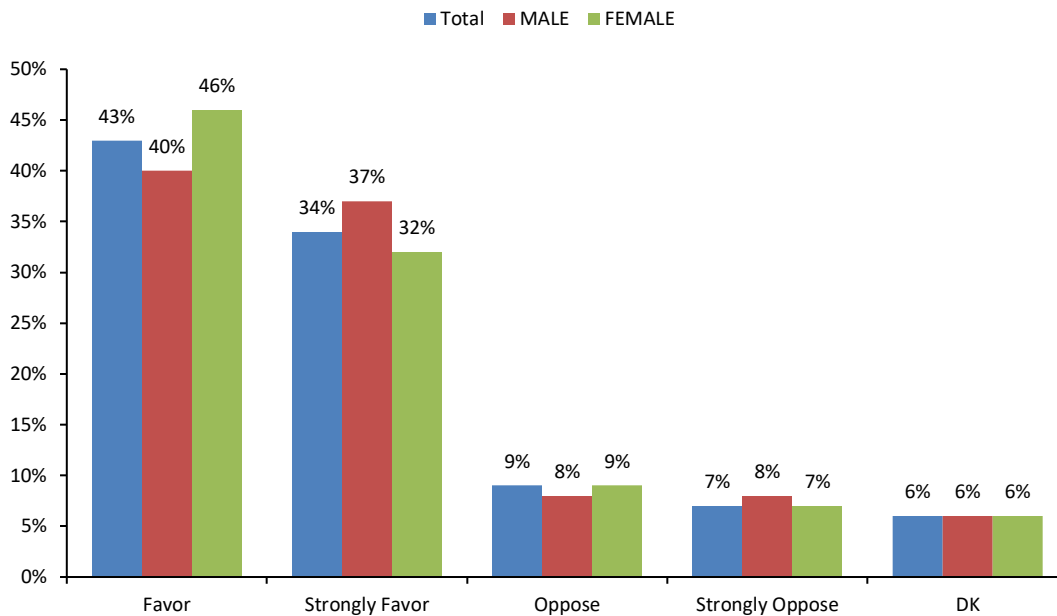
¹ **Northwest:** Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties
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Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



Q10. Do you favor or oppose the development of wind energy off the coast of NJ?

Overall, 77 percent favor the development of offshore wind energy stations off the coast of New Jersey. This is similar to what was observed in 2019 (81%). Once again Democrats (89%) are more supportive than are Republicans (55%) or independents (75%).

Chart 10



	<i>Region¹</i>						<i>Age</i>		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Strongly Favor	29%	31%	36%	44%	35%	35%	35%	38%	30%
Favor	46%	42%	41%	37%	47%	45%	42%	44%	44%
Oppose	14%	9%	8%	14%	7%	7%	10%	6%	10%
Strongly Oppose	5%	10%	7%	6%	7%	8%	6%	6%	10%
Unsure	5%	7%	8%	0%	4%	5%	7%	5%	6%

	<i>Party ID</i>		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Strongly Favor	36%	36%	28%
Favor	52%	37%	33%
Oppose	4%	13%	15%
Strongly Oppose	2%	8%	16%

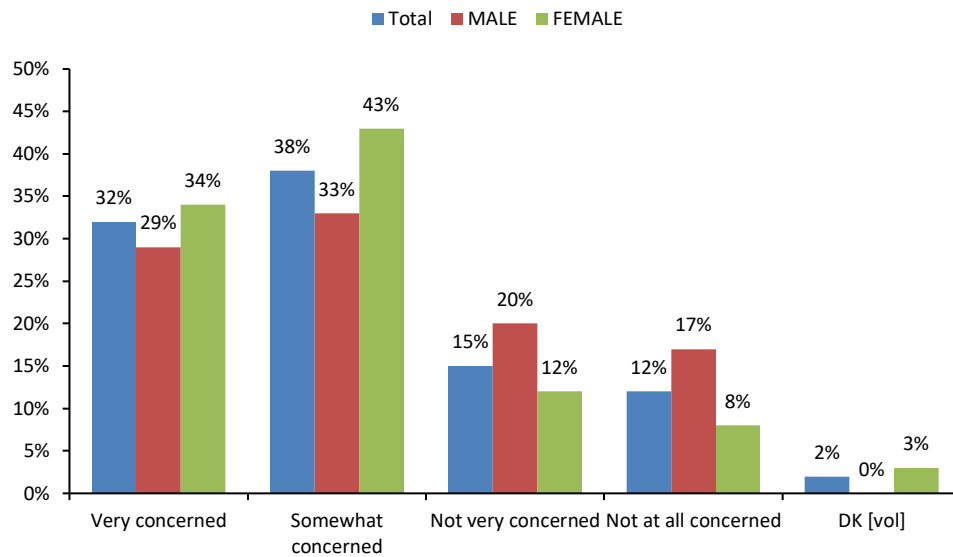
¹ **Northwest:** Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties
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Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



Q11. There are several new gas and oil pipelines proposed across the state. How concerned are you, if at all, about their potential effect on New Jersey?

When asked a general question about pipeline impact in New Jersey, 70 percent say they are somewhat or very concerned. Women (77%) are more concerned than men (63%), and those under 35 (79%) are more concerned than those 55 and older (61%). Democrats (83%) are more concerned than Republicans (50%) or independents (70%). Those from the Northeast (57%) are among those who are the least likely to be concerned.

Chart 11



	<i>Region¹</i>						<i>Age</i>		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Very concerned	30%	35%	32%	36%	30%	31%	30%	32%	32%
Somewhat concerned	27%	39%	42%	51%	38%	38%	49%	42%	29%
Not very concerned	20%	11%	14%	8%	20%	16%	12%	12%	20%
Not at all concerned	19%	15%	8%	4%	12%	15%	5%	12%	17%
Unsure	4%	1%	3%	0%	0%	1%	3%	2%	1%



	<i>Party ID</i>		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Very concerned	41%	24%	20%
Somewhat concerned	41%	46%	29%
Not very concerned	11%	13%	23%
Not at all concerned	4%	14%	26%
Unsure	2%	3%	1%

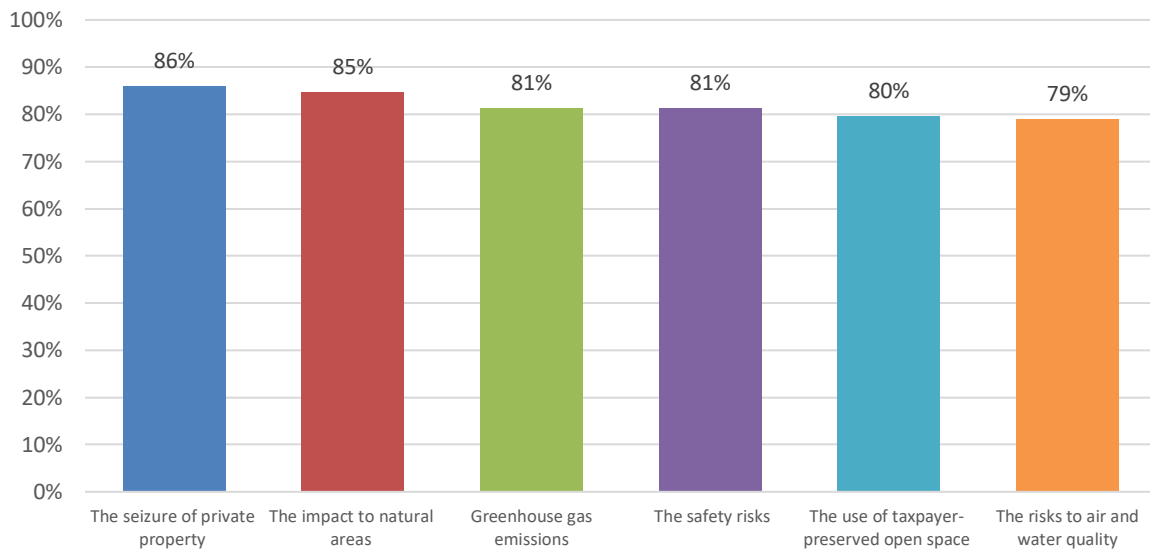
- ¹ **Northwest:** Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties
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Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



Q12. Concern about the pipeline SUMMARY

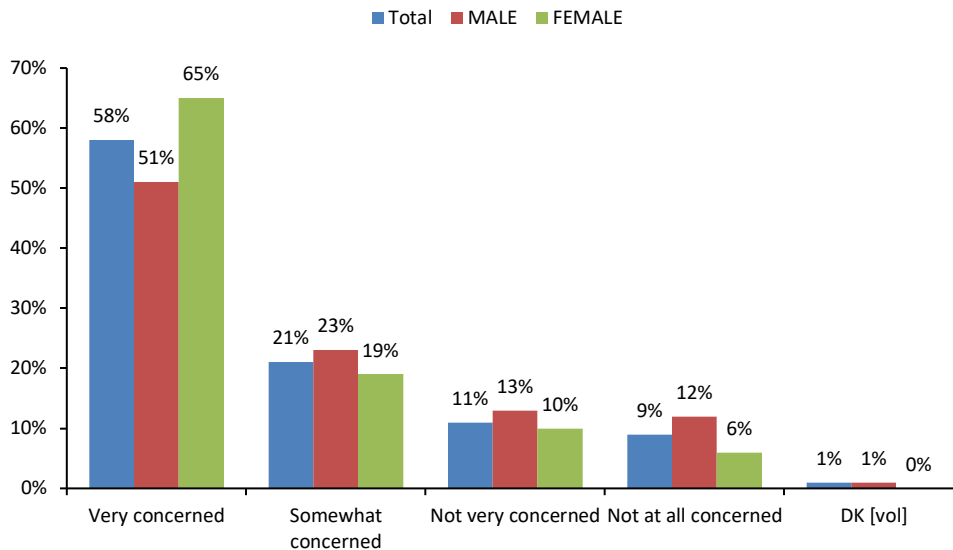
Overall, 4 in 5 or more New Jerseyans are at least somewhat concerned with each of the 6 specific potential issues tested regarding the proposed pipelines. The seizure of private property by big energy companies (86%) is now the top concern and the impact to natural areas and wildlife habitats (85%) drops top second. The concern over greenhouse gas emissions (81%) and safety risks (81%) follow. The use of taxpayer preserved open spaces, such as the pinelands (80%), and the risks to air and water quality (79%) rate just behind private property seizures and wildlife impact. While the order this year shifted a bit from last year, there were no significant changes in any rating. Once again, this year more women than men are more likely to be very concerned about all potential effects. Similarly, Democrats continue to be more concerned than Republicans or independents across all items.

Chart 12



12a. Concern about the pipeline development to: The risks to air and water quality

Chart 13



	<i>Region¹</i>						<i>Age</i>		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Very Concerned	57%	53%	62%	75%	60%	53%	54%	61%	58%
Somewhat Concerned	23%	25%	20%	9%	17%	22%	26%	23%	16%
Not Very Concerned	7%	7%	13%	9%	14%	12%	11%	10%	12%
Not at all Concerned	13%	13%	5%	0%	9%	12%	7%	6%	13%
DK	0%	3%	0%	7%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%

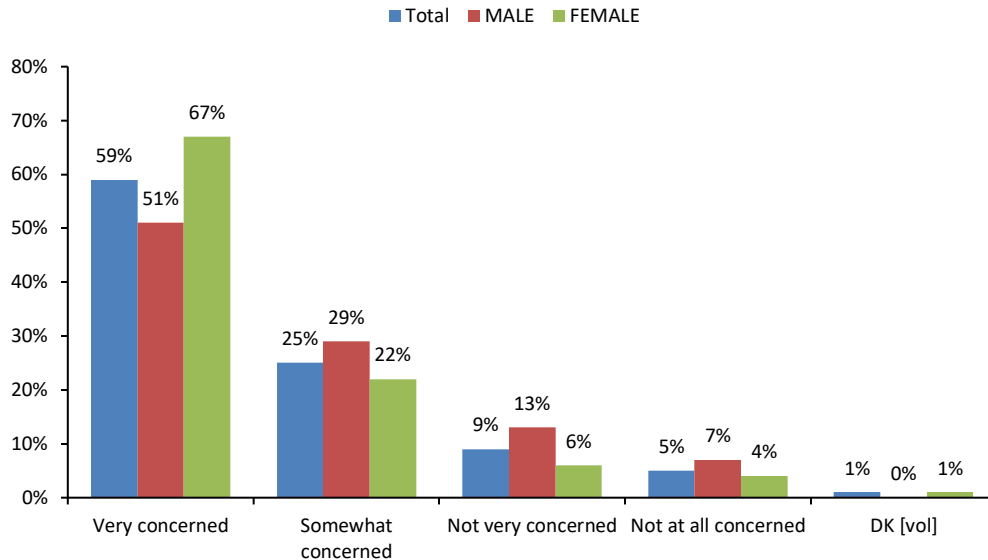
	<i>Party ID</i>		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Very Concerned	71%	51%	40%
Somewhat Concerned	17%	24%	26%
Not Very Concerned	8%	8%	18%
Not at all Concerned	4%	12%	15%
DK	0%	3%	0%

¹ **Northwest:** Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties
Northeast: Bergen and Passaic Counties
Urban Core: Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, and Union Counties
PennEast: Hunterdon, and Mercer Counties
South: Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties
Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



12b. Concern about the pipeline development to: The impact to natural areas and wildlife habitats?

Chart 14



	Region ¹						Age		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Very Concerned	61%	52%	62%	80%	57%	58%	61%	61%	57%
Somewhat Concerned	20%	31%	23%	9%	29%	27%	25%	27%	23%
Not Very Concerned	13%	9%	8%	6%	9%	10%	7%	7%	13%
Not at all Concerned	6%	8%	5%	4%	2%	5%	5%	4%	6%
DK	1%	0%	1%	0%	3%	0%	2%	1%	0%

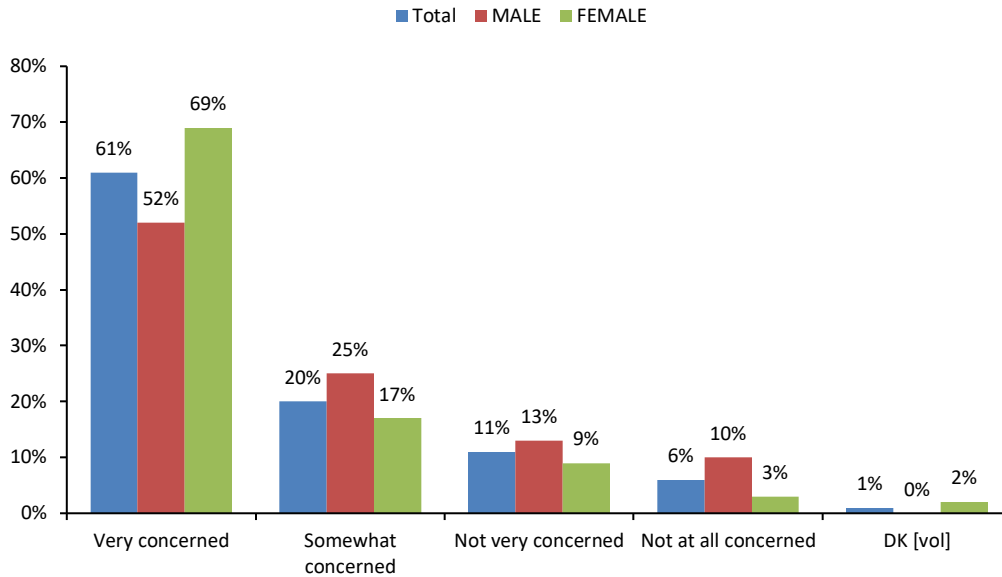
	Party ID		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Very Concerned	70%	58%	42%
Somewhat Concerned	21%	26%	33%
Not Very Concerned	6%	8%	17%
Not at all Concerned	2%	7%	9%
DK	1%	2%	0%

¹ **Northwest:** Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties
Northeast: Bergen and Passaic Counties
Urban Core: Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, and Union Counties
PennEast: Hunterdon, and Mercer Counties
South: Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties
Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



12c. Concern about the pipeline development to: The safety risks associated with ruptures, leaks, or explosions?

Chart 15



	<i>Region¹</i>						<i>Age</i>		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Very Concerned	60%	59%	66%	61%	59%	56%	55%	63%	62%
Somewhat Concerned	19%	21%	19%	19%	19%	26%	27%	17%	20%
Not Very Concerned	15%	8%	8%	19%	13%	12%	9%	13%	10%
Not at all Concerned	6%	13%	3%	0%	8%	6%	4%	6%	8%
DK	0%	0%	3%	0%	2%	0%	4%	1%	0%

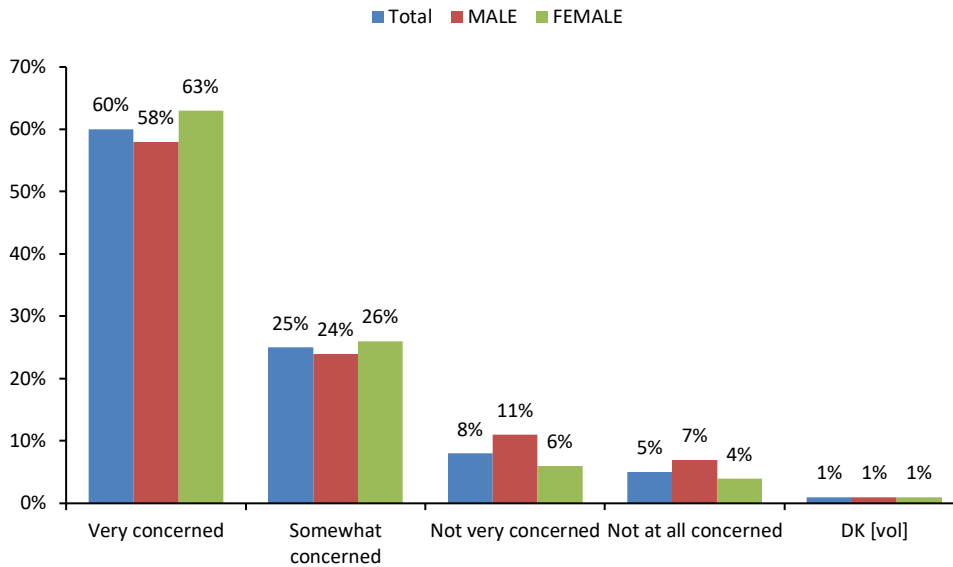
	<i>Party ID</i>		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Very Concerned	70%	61%	42%
Somewhat Concerned	19%	15%	28%
Not Very Concerned	8%	11%	17%
Not at all Concerned	2%	7%	13%
DK	1%	6%	0%

¹ **Northwest:** Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties
Northeast: Bergen and Passaic Counties
Urban Core: Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, and Union Counties
PennEast: Hunterdon, and Mercer Counties
South: Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties
Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



12d. Concern about the pipeline development to: The seizure of private property for big energy companies?

Chart 16



	<i>Region¹</i>						<i>Age</i>		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Very Concerned	62%	58%	62%	66%	56%	63%	57%	58%	65%
Somewhat Concerned	25%	21%	24%	19%	29%	29%	29%	28%	21%
Not Very Concerned	12%	10%	7%	12%	8%	5%	10%	8%	7%
Not at all Concerned	1%	11%	5%	2%	5%	3%	3%	5%	6%
DK	0%	0%	2%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%

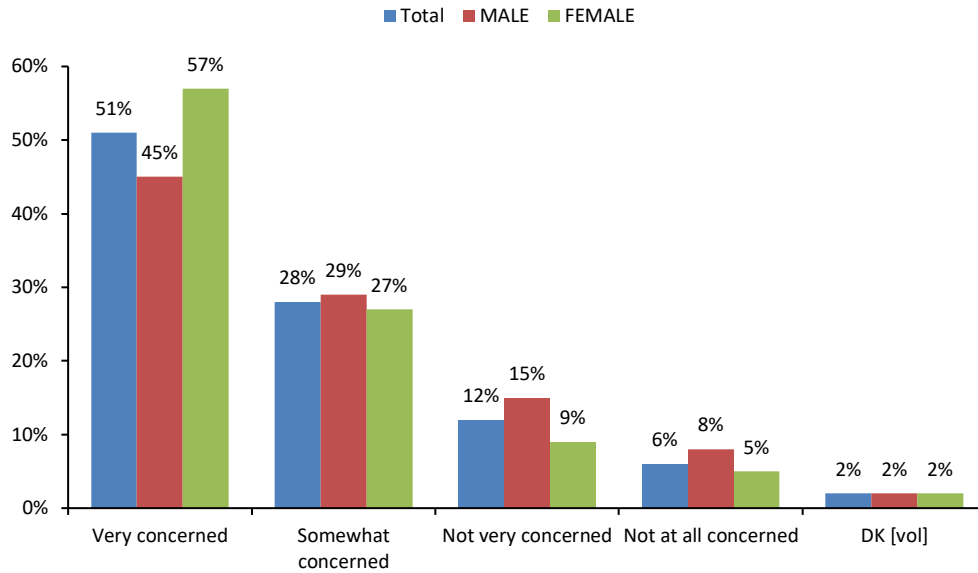
	<i>Party ID</i>		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Very Concerned	66%	51%	55%
Somewhat Concerned	24%	24%	30%
Not Very Concerned	6%	15%	9%
Not at all Concerned	3%	9%	6%
DK	1%	2%	0%

¹ **Northwest:** Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties
Northeast: Bergen and Passaic Counties
Urban Core: Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, and Union Counties
PennEast: Hunterdon, and Mercer Counties
South: Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties
Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



12e. Concern about the pipeline development to: The use of taxpayer-preserved open space for construction of pipelines?

Chart 17



	Region ¹						Age		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Very Concerned	50%	48%	50%	45%	55%	55%	45%	53%	54%
Somewhat Concerned	34%	27%	30%	46%	26%	22%	31%	30%	25%
Not Very Concerned	5%	14%	13%	5%	12%	12%	14%	10%	11%
Not at all Concerned	8%	9%	5%	3%	6%	8%	7%	5%	8%
DK	3%	2%	2%	2%	1%	3%	3%	1%	2%

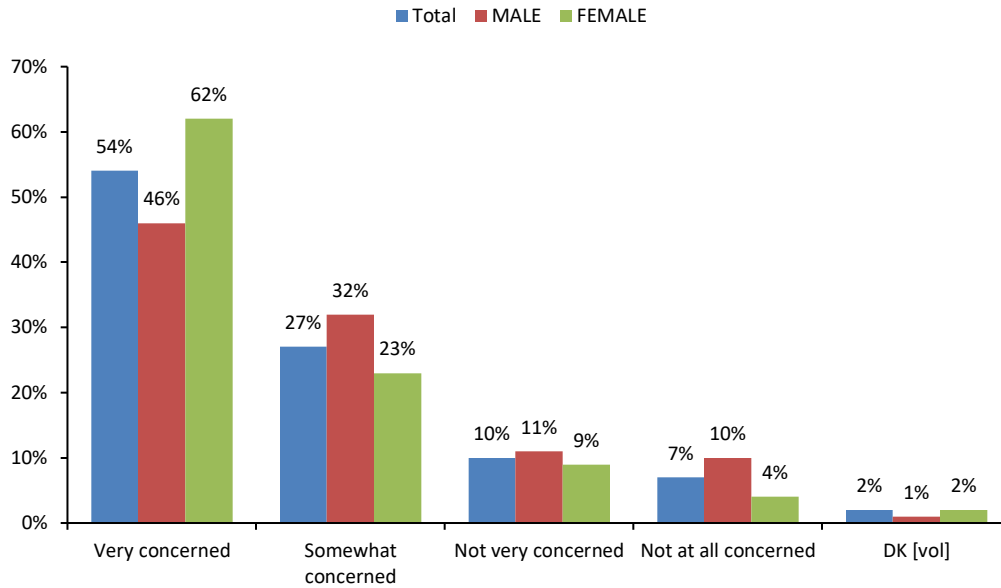
	Party ID		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Very Concerned	64%	40%	35%
Somewhat Concerned	25%	33%	32%
Not Very Concerned	7%	13%	18%
Not at all Concerned	2%	11%	12%
DK	2%	3%	2%

¹ **Northwest:** Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties
Northeast: Bergen and Passaic Counties
Urban Core: Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, and Union Counties
PennEast: Hunterdon, and Mercer Counties
South: Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties
Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



12f. Concern about the pipeline development to: Greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change?

Chart 18



	Region ¹						Age		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Very Concerned	51%	49%	61%	59%	52%	52%	61%	53%	52%
Somewhat Concerned	27%	30%	23%	29%	29%	29%	25%	29%	27%
Not Very Concerned	14%	11%	10%	0%	11%	8%	6%	12%	11%
Not at all Concerned	8%	9%	4%	4%	8%	10%	5%	6%	10%
DK	1%	1%	2%	7%	0%	2%	4%	1%	1%

	Party ID		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Very Concerned	71%	49%	28%
Somewhat Concerned	21%	29%	36%
Not Very Concerned	4%	12%	21%
Not at all Concerned	3%	8%	14%
DK	2%	3%	1%

¹ **Northwest:** Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties
Northeast: Bergen and Passaic Counties
Urban Core: Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, and Union Counties
PennEast: Hunterdon, and Mercer Counties
South: Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties
Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties

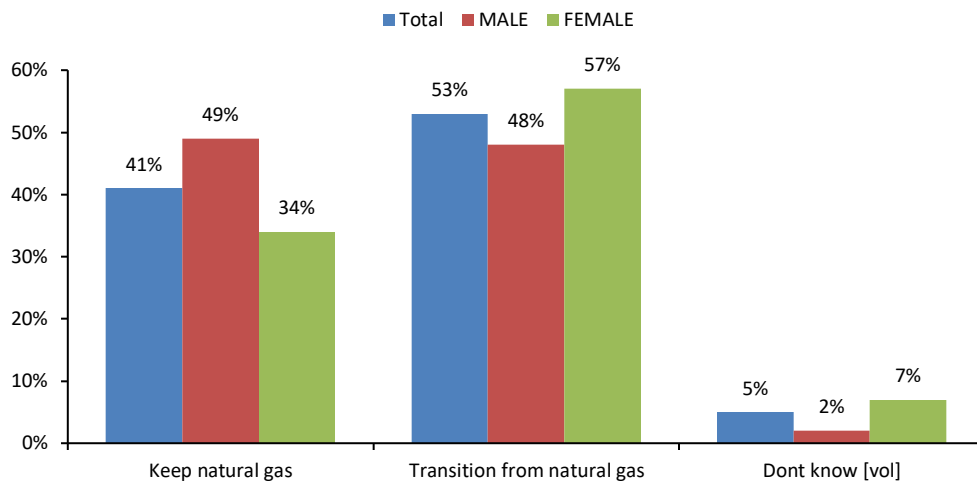


Q13. If you had to choose from the following statements, which comes closest to your view?

The use of natural gas is important in keeping energy costs low as we transition to renewable energy like wind and solar OR Natural gas is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions and we must rapidly move to truly clean sources of energy like wind and solar.

Overall, more than half (53%) believe New Jersey should move to clean energy, with 41 percent favoring the continuation of natural gas. Men (49%) are more likely than women (34%) to want to continue with natural gas. Older voters (55+) prefer to continue with natural gas (51%), as compared with less support for this possibility among younger voters. Democrats and Republicans differ on their attitudes toward the use of natural gas. More Democrats prefer a transition from natural gas (66%) over maintaining its use (29%). Republicans would prefer to keep natural gas rather than transition to renewables (65%, 38%, respectively).

Chart 19



	<i>Region¹</i>						<i>Age</i>		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Keep Natural Gas	39%	45%	35%	45%	41%	49%	31%	37%	51%
Transition from Natural Gas	54%	47%	59%	55%	56%	43%	64%	55%	44%
DK	3%	5%	6%	0%	2%	7%	5%	5%	4%

¹ **Northwest:** Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties
Northeast: Bergen and Passaic Counties
Urban Core: Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, and Union Counties
PennEast: Hunterdon, and Mercer Counties
South: Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties
Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



	<i>Party ID</i>		
	<i>Dem</i>	<i>Ind</i>	<i>Rep</i>
N=	371	119	209
Keep Natural Gas	29%	39%	65%
Transition from Natural Gas	66%	56%	28%
DK	4%	3%	5%

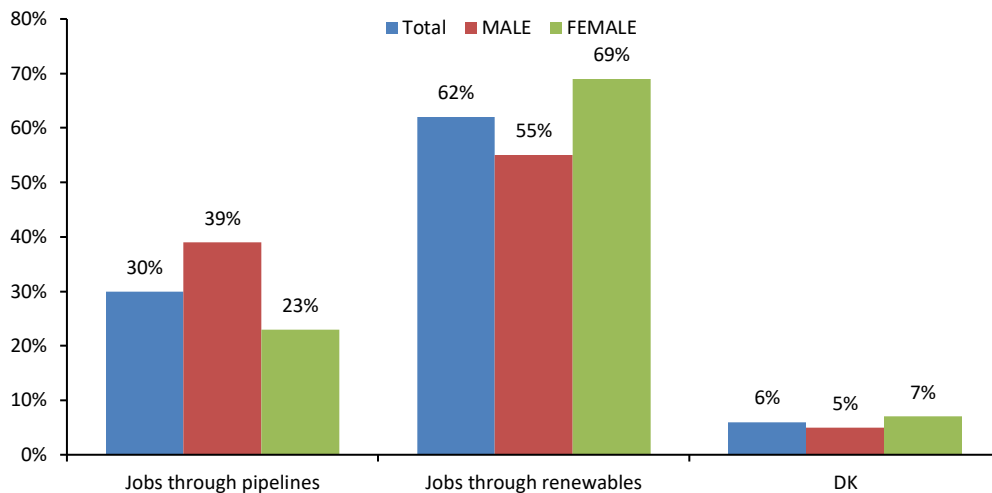


Q14. If you had to choose from the following statements, which comes closest to your view?

To recover from the economic damage resulting from COVID-19, NJ should invest in renewable energy projects like wind and solar that will create jobs, improve our health by reducing polluting, and ultimately save consumers money OR To recover from the economic damage resulting from COVID-19, NJ should move forward with gas pipeline projects that will create local jobs while ensuring a reliable supply of inexpensive natural gas to consumers and businesses.

Overall, by a 2 to 1 margin, New Jerseyans prefer job creation through renewable energy sources than through pipelines (62%, 30%, respectively) to help recover from COVID-19 economic damage. More women (69%) than men (55%) prefer creating jobs through renewable energy sources. While 50 percent of Republicans agree that jobs through renewables is better, they still lag behind Democrats (69%) or independents (64%).

Chart 20



	Region ¹						Age		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Jobs through Pipelines	30%	32%	26%	42%	34%	32%	26%	34%	31%
Jobs through Renewables	54%	63%	64%	58%	65%	62%	64%	60%	63%
DK	13%	2%	9%	0%	1%	5%	11%	4%	5%

¹ **Northwest:** Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties
Northeast: Bergen and Passaic Counties
Urban Core: Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, and Union Counties
PennEast: Hunterdon, and Mercer Counties
South: Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties
Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties



	<i>Party ID</i>		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Jobs through Pipelines	26%	26%	41%
Jobs through Renewables	69%	64%	50%
DK	4%	10%	6%

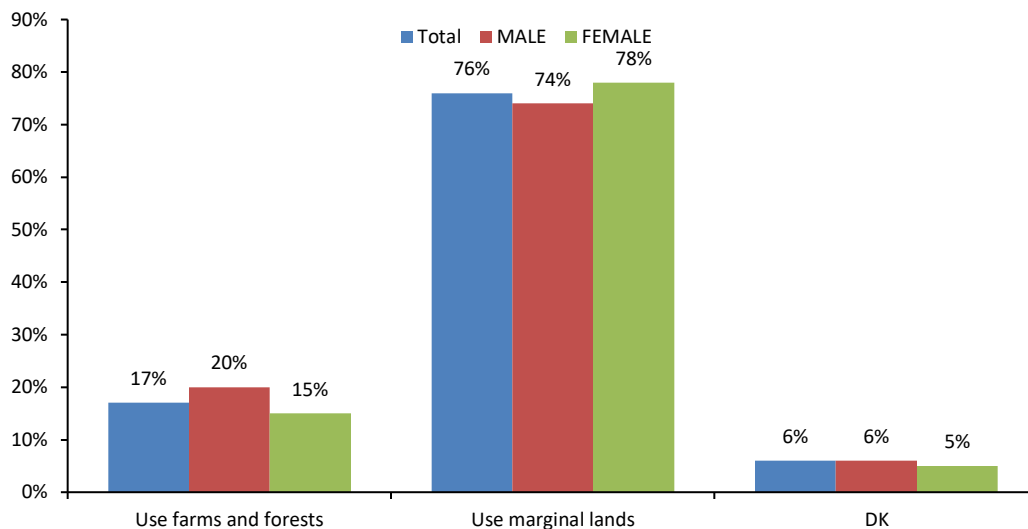


Q15. If you had to choose from the following statements, which comes closest to your view?

In order to develop more solar energy, the state should use places like farms and forests for solar panel installations OR In order to develop more solar energy, the state should use parking lots, landfills, rooftops and avoid forests and our best farmland.

Overall, 3 in 4 (76%) believe it is better to develop solar energy on land in marginal areas while avoiding farm land. This strong preference is true across all demographics, with no group falling below 70 percent who chose this option.

Chart 21



	<i>Region¹</i>						<i>Age</i>		
	Northwest	Northeast	Urban Core	PennEast	South	Coast	18-34	35-54	55+
N=	90	116	228	25	120	133	171	251	289
Use Farms & Forests	15%	18%	16%	17%	20%	17%	26%	14%	14%
Use Marginal Lands	72%	71%	79%	78%	77%	76%	70%	81%	76%
DK	10%	8%	4%	3%	3%	6%	4%	3%	9%

	<i>Party ID</i>		
	Dem	Ind	Rep
N=	371	119	209
Use Farms & Forests	16%	21%	17%
Use Marginal Lands	79%	71%	74%
DK	4%	8%	7%



III. Sample Characteristics

Gender

Male	47%
Female	53%

Age

18-34	24%
35-54	35%
55+	41%
Refused	1%

Party ID

Democrat	53%
Republican	30%
Independent	17%

Region¹

Northwest	13%
Northeast	16%
Urban Core	32%
PennEast	4%
South	17%
Coast	19%

- ¹ **Northwest:** Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties
Northeast: Bergen and Passaic Counties
Urban Core: Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, and Union Counties
PennEast: Hunterdon, and Mercer Counties
South: Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties
Coast: Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties

Education

Some HS	2%
High school	26%
Some college or Community college	27%
Graduated from a 4 year college	25%
Graduate school	20%

Employment

Full-time	51%
Part-time	11%
Retired	23%
Not employed outside the home	16%

Ethnicity

White	62%
African American	10%
Hispanic/Latino	17%
Asian	7%
Other/ Refused	11%

Interview Completed Via:

Land-line phone	30%
Cell phone	70%

APPENDIX A

Questionnaire

2020 ReThink Energy NJ Survey

Q3 And what county do you currently live in?

[Choose from list of NJ Counties]

IF NOT NEW JERSEY BASED ON COUNTY, TERMINATE: Thank you, we are only talking to New Jersey residents today.

[CODE GENDER BY OBSERVATION]

Q4 Respondent Gender

- 1 Male
- 2 Female

NJC1 Which source do you think is most important to New Jersey's energy future?

- 1 Solar
- 2 Wind
- 3 Natural gas
- 4 Oil
- 5 Nuclear
- 6 Coal
- 7 Other (vol) [specify]
- 8 DK (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)

NJC2 Which of the following, if any, do you believe are clean energy sources? **(Read List and rotate order) [Check all that apply]**

- 1 Solar
- 2 Wind
- 3 Natural gas
- 4 Oil
- 5 Nuclear
- 6 Coal
- 8 Don't know (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)

NJC3 How important, if at all, do you believe investing in renewable energy sources, like wind and solar, is to the overall health of New Jersey?

- 1 Very important
- 2 Somewhat important
- 3 Not very important



- 4 Not at all important
- 8 Don't know (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)

NJC4 In order to meet New Jersey's energy needs, do you believe the state should invest more in renewable energy sources, like wind and solar, or more in fossil fuels, like oil and natural gas, through the construction of additional pipelines? (**Rotate**)

- 1 Renewable sources
- 2 Fossil fuels
- 8 Don't know (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)

NJC5 The federal government has recently been pushing for greater fossil fuel development, like oil and gas. Do you agree or disagree [**rotate**] with this energy policy? Would that be...

- 1 Strongly Agree
- 2 Somewhat Agree
- 3 Somewhat Disagree
- 4 Strongly Disagree
- 8 Don't know (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)

NJC6 Does a political candidate's support for moving from fossil fuels to renewable energy like solar or wind make you [**Rotate more or less likely**] more likely or less likely to vote for them, or does their support for renewable energy make no difference to you?

- 1 More likely
- 2 Less likely
- 3 Makes no difference
- 8 DK (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)

NJC7 Do you favor or oppose [**rotate**] New Jersey's goal of achieving 100% clean energy by 2050? I would put this after Q8

- 1 Favor
- 2 Strongly Favor
- 3 Oppose
- 4 Strongly Oppose
- 8 DK (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)

[RANDOMIZE NJC8 AND NJC9]



NJC8 How do you rate the pace at which our state is working to reduce emissions that cause global warming? Would you say it is...

- 1 Too slow,
- 2 Too fast,
- 3 just right
- 8 DK (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)

NJC9 How would you describe your feelings toward the effects of climate change on New Jersey? Are you

- 1 Very concerned
- 2 Somewhat concerned
- 3 Not very concerned
- 4 Not at all concerned
- 8 DK (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)

NJC10 Do you favor or oppose the development of wind energy off the coast of New Jersey?

- 1 Favor
- 2 Strongly Favor
- 3 Oppose
- 4 Strongly Oppose
- 8 DK (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)

NJC11 There are several new natural gas pipelines proposed across the state. How concerned are you, if at all, about their potential environmental effect on New Jersey Are you...

- 1 Very concerned
- 2 Somewhat concerned
- 3 Not very concerned
- 4 Not at all concerned
- 8 DK (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)



NJC12 And, in general, how would you describe your feelings toward each of the following potential consequences of pipeline development in New Jersey? [Rotate Q12A through Q12F]

- NJC12A The risks to air and water quality
- NJC12B The impact to natural areas and wildlife habitats
- NJC12C The safety risks associated with ruptures, leaks, or explosions
- NJC12D The seizure of private property by big energy companies for gas pipeline projects.
- NJC12E The use of taxpayer-preserved open space for construction of pipelines
- NJC12F Greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change

- 1 Very concerned
- 2 Somewhat concerned
- 3 Not very concerned
- 4 Not at all concerned
- 8 DK (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)

I'm going to read you some statements. Please tell me which one best describes what you believe, even if neither statement is perfect. [ROTATE ORDER OF RESPONSE OPTIONS]

Q13 The use of natural gas is important in keeping energy costs low as we transition to renewable energy like wind and solar OR Natural gas is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions and we must rapidly move to truly clean sources of energy like wind and solar

- 1 Keep natural gas
- 2 Transition from natural gas
- 8 Don't know (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)

Q14. To recover from the economic damage resulting from COVID-19, NJ should invest in renewable energy projects like wind and solar that will create jobs, improve our health by reducing polluting, and ultimately save consumers money OR To recover from the economic damage resulting from COVID-19, NJ should move forward with gas pipeline projects that will create local jobs while ensuring a reliable supply of inexpensive natural gas to consumers and businesses.

- 1 Jobs through pipelines
- 2 Jobs through renewables
- 8 Don't know (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)

Q15. In order to develop more solar energy, the state should use places like farms and forests for solar panel installations OR In order to develop more solar energy, the state should use parking lots, landfills, rooftops and avoid forests and our best farmland

- 1 Use farms and forests
- 2 Use marginal lands
- 8 Don't know (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)



Finally, just some questions about yourself...

D1 Regardless of who you might vote for, do you consider yourself a....**ROTATE...**
Democrat, a Republican, or an Independent?

- 1 Democrat
- 2 Republican
- 3 Independent [**If Independent, ask D1b**]
- 4 Other [DON'T READ]
- 8 Don't Know [DON'T READ]
- 9 Ref [DON'T READ]

D1b Which way do you lean?

- 1 Democrat
- 2 Republican
- 3 Neither
- 8 DK (Vol)

D2. And what's the highest level of education you've completed so far...**PROMPT UNTIL ANSWERED ?**

- 1 Some high school
- 2 High school
- 3 Some college or graduated from a community college
- 4 Graduated from a four-year college
- 5 Graduate school
- 8 DK (vol)
- 9 Ref (vol)

D3 Are you currently employed full time, part time, or are you retired or not employed?
outside the home?

- 1 FT
- 2 PT
- 3 Retired
- 4 Not employed outside the home
- 8 DK (vol)
- 9 Ref (vol)

D4 To ensure we are reaching people of all ages, would you please tell me your age?

_____ (ENTER AGE: 98=98+, 99 = REFUSED)

[IF Don't Know/REFUSED IN D4, ASK:]

D5 Would you be willing to tell us whether it's between...?



- 1 18 - 20
- 2 21 - 24
- 3 25 - 29
- 4 30 - 34
- 5 35 - 44
- 6 45 - 49
- 7 50 - 54
- 8 55 - 64
- 9 65 OR OVER
- 99 Refused (VOL)

D6 Are you of Latino or Hispanic origin, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or some other Spanish background?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 DK (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)

D7 Are you white, black or of Asian origin, or are you some other race, or multi-racial?

- 1 White (includes Caucasian, European, Middle Eastern)
- 2 Black (includes African American)
- 3 Asian (includes Asian-Indian, South Asian, East Asian, Chinese, Japanese)
- 4 Hispanic/Latino/a/Spanish (vol)
- 5 Other, specify: _____
- 6 Multi-racial
- 8 DK (vol)
- 9 Refused (vol)

[IF REACHED ON CELL PHONE ASK:]

C. Do you have any landline phones in your household, or do you only use cell phones?

- 1 Landline in Household
- 2 Only use Cell
- 9 Refused

[IF REACHED ON LANDLINE PHONE ASK:]

L1. Now thinking about your telephone use, do you have a working cell phone?

- 1 Yes, have cell phone
- 2 No, do not
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused



[ASK IF DO NOT PERSONALLY HAVE CELL PHONE/DK (L1=2,9)]

L2. Does anyone else in your household have a working cell phone?

1 Yes, someone in household has cell phone

2 No

9 **(VOL.)** Don't know/Refused

[ASK ALL]

HHA. Including, yourself, how many adults – that is, people 18 years or older – live in your household; that is, who live with you at least half the time?

_____ **[ENTER NUMBER: 99= REFUSED]**

