

perspective on public opinion

prepared for the Nuclear Energy Institute

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Clear Majority of Americans Agree Nuclear Energy Will Play Important Future Role in Electricity Supply

73 Percent Would Accept a New Reactor at an Existing Plant Site

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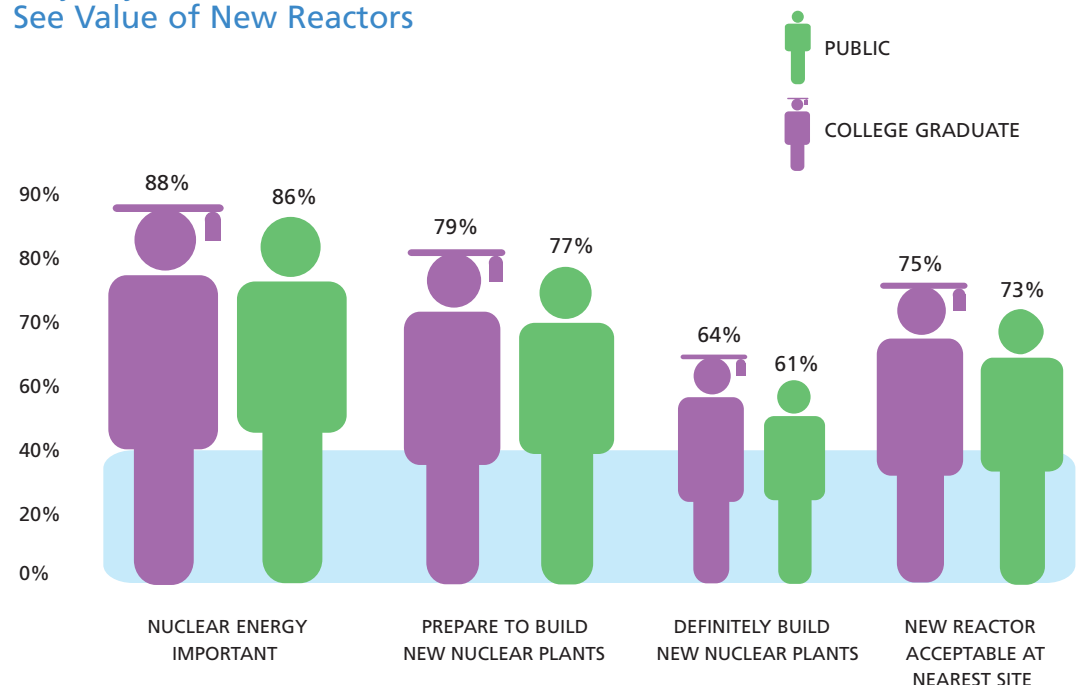
There is a consensus among Americans that nuclear energy will play an important role in meeting the nation's electricity needs in the years ahead, according to two March national public opinion surveys conducted by Bisconti Research Inc. with GfK NOP (formerly NOPWorld and RoperASW).

Eighty-six percent of the public and 88 percent of college graduate voters agree that nuclear energy will play an important role in meeting future electricity demand. Majorities also support license renewal for existing nuclear power plants and "definitely building" new nuclear power plants.

Seventy-three percent of Americans would find it acceptable to add a new reactor at the nearest existing nuclear power plant site.

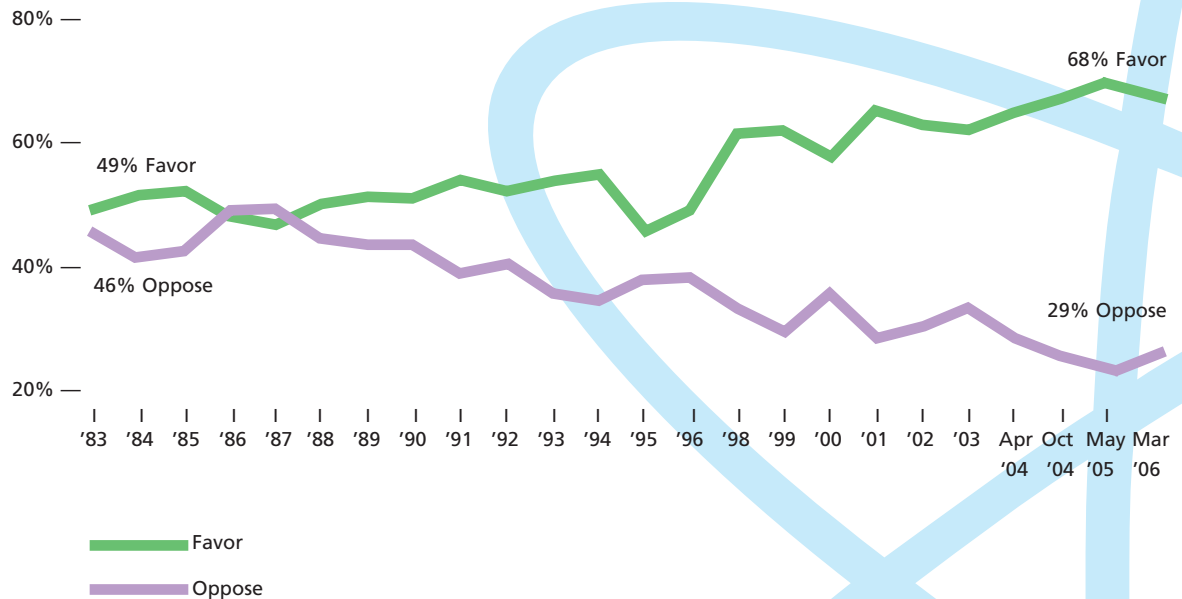
The Nuclear Energy Institute sponsored the two surveys. The general public survey was based on telephone interviews with a nationally representative sample of 1,000 U.S. adults age 18 and older. The margin of error in this survey was plus or minus three percentage points. A national sample of 500 college graduates who are registered to vote also was surveyed, with a margin of error of plus or minus five percentage points.

Majority of Americans See Value of New Reactors



Percent Who Favor, Oppose Nuclear Energy

"OVERALL, DO YOU STRONGLY FAVOR, SOMEWHAT FAVOR, SOMEWHAT OPPOSE OR STRONGLY OPPOSE THE USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY AS ONE OF THE WAYS TO PROVIDE ELECTRICITY IN THE UNITED STATES?"



for more information on public opinion about nuclear energy issues, please visit www.nei.org

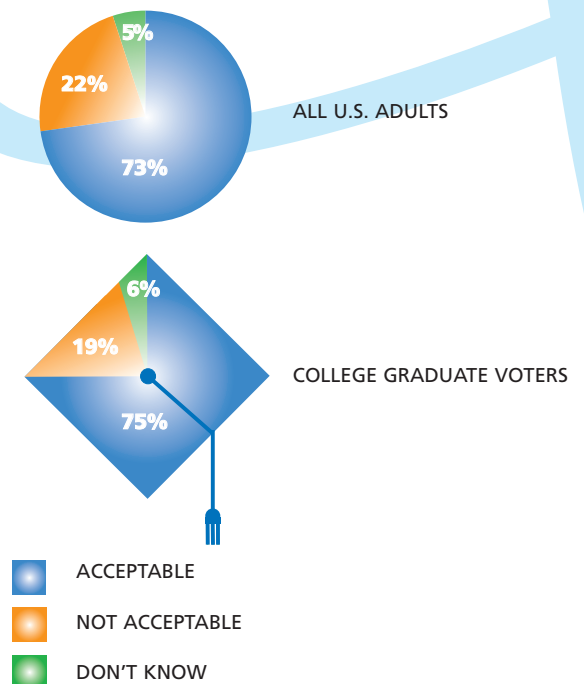
New Reactor Acceptable at Nearest Plant Site

THREE-FOURTHS OF BOTH THE PUBLIC AND COLLEGE GRADUATE VOTERS WOULD FIND IT ACCEPTABLE TO ADD A REACTOR AT THE NEAREST SITE.

A recent Gallup Poll found that 42 percent of the public favors new nuclear power plant construction "in your area"—an increase from 34 percent in 2001. This 42 percent is high considering that "in your area" is not defined and could be interpreted to include areas where industrial facilities are not appropriate. Most new reactors will be added to existing nuclear plant sites.

A 2005 national survey of neighbors living near the 64 U.S. nuclear power plant sites found that 76 percent would find it acceptable to add a new reactor at a nearby nuclear power plant site. That number surpassed 80 percent in the Southeast, where companies are planning to build new nuclear plants. About a dozen states and communities have passed resolutions or legislation in support of steps toward new nuclear power plant construction.

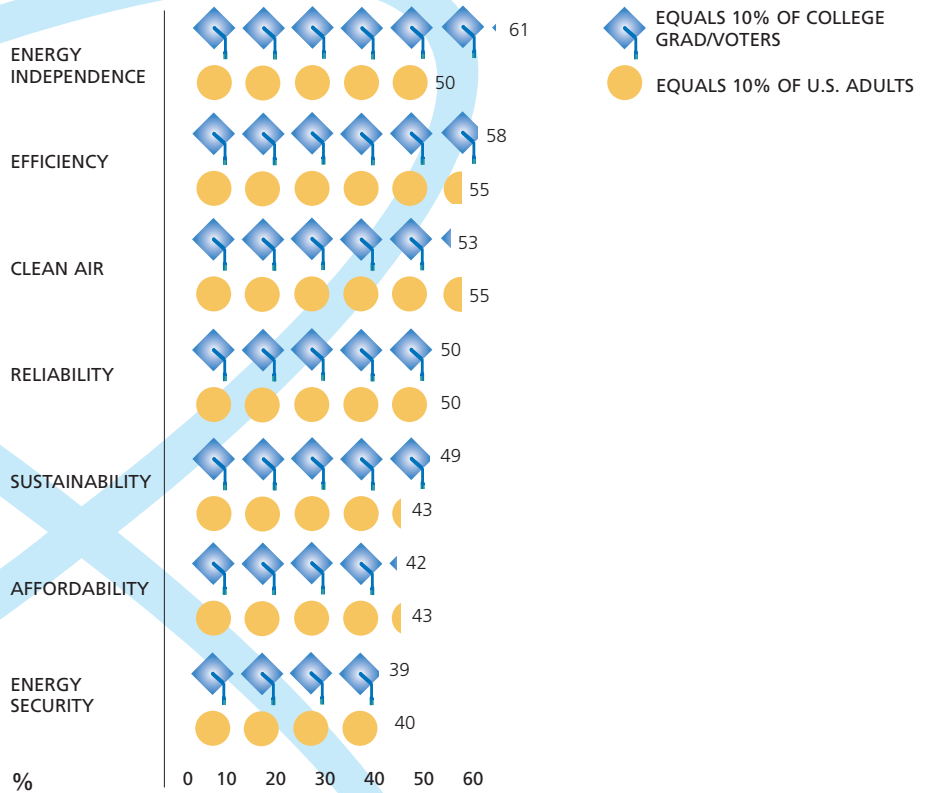
"IF A NEW POWER PLANT WERE NEEDED TO SUPPLY ELECTRICITY, WOULD IT BE ACCEPTABLE TO YOU OR NOT ACCEPTABLE TO YOU TO ADD A NEW REACTOR AT THE SITE OF THE NEAREST NUCLEAR POWER PLANT THAT ALREADY IS OPERATING?"



- ACCEPTABLE
- NOT ACCEPTABLE
- DON'T KNOW

Percent Who Associate Nuclear Energy "A Lot" With Energy Independence, Efficiency and Clean Air

"DO YOU ASSOCIATE NUCLEAR ENERGY A LOT, A LITTLE OR NOT AT ALL WITH ... ?"

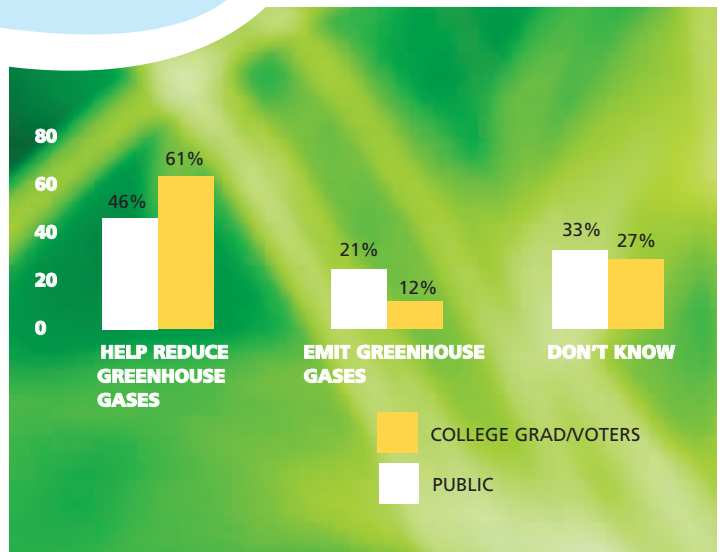


Awareness That Nuclear Power Plants Reduce Greenhouse Gases

"TO THE BEST OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE, DO NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS **EMIT GREENHOUSE GASES**, OR ARE THEY A WAY TO **REDUCE GREENHOUSE GASES**?"

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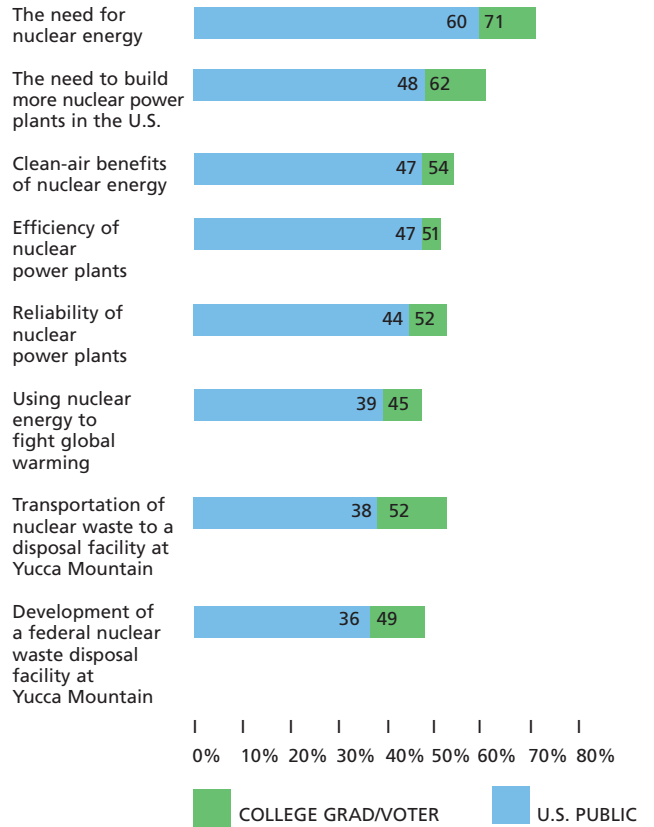
The surveys show that college graduate voters are more aware than the general public of nuclear energy's role in preventing greenhouse gas emissions: 61 percent of graduates, compared with 46 percent of the general public, are aware that nuclear power plants help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



Energy and Environment High on Public Agenda

Exceptionally large numbers of college graduate voters reported hearing or reading about the need to reduce America's dependence on energy from unstable parts of the world, the need for nuclear energy and the need to build more nuclear power plants in the United States.

"I'LL READ YOU SOME TOPICS ABOUT NUCLEAR ENERGY. PLEASE TELL ME IF YOU HAVE HEARD OR READ ANY INFORMATION ON THE TOPIC IN THE PAST YEAR."



International Recycling of Used Nuclear Fuel Appeals to Public

In a May 2005 tracking survey, 71 percent of the public agreed that the federal government should continue to develop the Yucca Mountain facility as a national nuclear waste disposal facility, as long as it meets U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations.

New questions in the current surveys found the concept of recycling used nuclear fuel appealing. Recycling could reduce the toxicity and volume of used nuclear fuel that would be stored at Yucca Mountain. A federal initiative, the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership, has renewed interest in recycling.

