

NUCLEAR ENERGY

Views on Expansion of Nuclear Energy Hold Steady in Britain

Half of respondents would support building more nuclear power stations, but concerns over waste management remain high.

[LONDON – Jul. 8, 2010] – Many people in Britain remain open to an expansion of nuclear power in the country, but a large proportion of respondents are worried about issues such as nuclear waste management, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

In the online survey of a representative national sample, of 2,011 British adults, 51 per cent of respondents support building more nuclear power stations in the UK, while 31 per cent are opposed.

Residents of the South (56%) and the North (54%) are slightly more open to an expansion of nuclear energy than those in London (48%), Midlands and Wales (46%) and Scotland (45%).

Across Britain, 44 per cent of respondents believe the UK should further pursue its nuclear energy capabilities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while 37 per cent would focus on other carbon-free sources of energy.

Three-in-five Britons (75%) are "very concerned" or "moderately concerned" about nuclear waste management, while two-thirds are worried about health risks for communities that are close to a nuclear power station (68%), nuclear technology falling into the hands of extremists (67%) and an accident at a nuclear power plant (67%).

KEY FINDINGS

- **51% support building more nuclear power stations in the UK; 31% are opposed**
- **75% are "very concerned" or "moderately concerned" about nuclear waste management**

Full topline results are at the end of this release.

From July 1 to July 3, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 2,011 randomly selected British adults who are Springboard UK panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 2.2% for the entire sample. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Great Britain. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

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Since the last Angus Reid Public Opinion survey conducted in November 2009, the level of support for building new nuclear power stations has dropped by four points. However, opposition to this course of action is stable (32% in November 2009, 31% this month).

Download Full Tables

http://www.visioncritical.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/07/table_nuclear_july2010.pdf

Download Full Methodology Statement

http://www.visioncritical.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/07/2010-07-03_UK_Method.pdf

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Nuclear Energy

Next, we want to ask you some questions about nuclear energy. Would you support or oppose building more nuclear power stations in the UK?

	Region					
	Great Britain	London	South of England	Midlands and Wales	North	Scotland
Support	51%	48%	56%	46%	54%	45%
Oppose	31%	33%	28%	33%	31%	37%
Not sure	18%	19%	17%	20%	15%	18%

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	July 2010	November 2009
Support	51%	55%
Oppose	31%	32%
Not sure	18%	13%

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Which of the following statements comes closest to your own point of view?

	Region					
	Great Britain	London	South of England	Midlands and Wales	North	Scotland
The UK should avoid nuclear energy and focus on other carbon-free sources of energy	37%	42%	34%	39%	35%	38%
The UK should further pursue its nuclear energy capabilities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions	44%	38%	49%	40%	47%	39%
Not sure	19%	21%	17%	20%	18%	23%

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	July 2010	November 2009
The UK should avoid nuclear energy and focus on other carbon-free sources of energy	37%	38%
The UK should further pursue its nuclear energy capabilities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions	44%	47%
Not sure	19%	15%

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Nuclear Energy			
Again thinking about nuclear energy in the UK, how concerned are you about each of the following?			
	Very concerned / Moderately concerned	Not too concerned / Not concerned at all	Not sure
Nuclear waste management	75%	19%	6%
Health risks for communities that are close to a nuclear power station	68%	26%	6%
Nuclear technology falling into the hands of extremists	67%	27%	6%
An accident at a nuclear power plant	67%	28%	5%

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Angus Reid Public Opinion is a practice of Vision Critical—a global research and technology company specialising in custom online panels, private communities, and innovative online methods. Vision Critical is a leader in the use of the Internet and rich media technology to collect high-quality, in-depth insights for a wide array of clients. Dr. Angus Reid and the Angus Reid Public Opinion team are pioneers in online research methodologies, and have been conducting online surveys since 1995

Vision Critical is now one of the largest market research enterprises in the world. In addition to its five offices in Canada—located in Vancouver, Calgary, Regina, Toronto, and Montreal—the firm also has offices in San Francisco, Chicago, New York, London, Paris and Sydney. Its team of specialists provides solutions across every type and sector of research, and currently serves over 200 international clients.

Angus Reid Public Opinion polls are conducted using the Angus Reid Forum (www.angusreidforum.com), Springboard America (www.springboardamerica.com) and Springboard UK (www.springboarduk.com) online panels, which are carefully recruited to ensure representation across all demographic and psychographic segments of these populations. Panel members pass through rigorous screening and a double opt-in process ensuring highly motivated and responsive members. These premier online survey platforms present respondents with highly visual, interactive, and engaging surveys, ensuring that panel members provide thoughtful and reliable responses. Each survey is actively sampled and weighted to model that characteristics of the universe required and employs the latest in quality control techniques to ensure data validity.

Since 2006, Angus Reid has covered eight provincial elections in Canada—more than any other pollster in the country—and the results have accurately predicted the outcome of each of these democratic processes.

Angus Reid, the only public opinion firm to exclusively use online methods to follow the views of the electorate during the 2008 federal campaign, offered the most accurate prediction of the results of Canada's 40th election. More information on our electoral record can be found at:
<http://www.visioncritical.com/record-of-accuracy>

More information on the way Angus Reid conducts public opinion research can be found at
<http://www.visioncritical.com/what-we-do/practices/angus-reid-public-opinion/>

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**For more information, please contact
our spokesperson listed in the footnote.**

**Copies of this poll are available on our website:
<http://www.visioncritical.com/category/global-opinions-and-trends>**

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