

Energy and Environment

THE SWING SIX ISSUE SURVEYS

Majorities of Republicans and Democrats in Swing States Support Keeping Tax Credits for EVs and Clean Energy, Limits on Offshore Drilling

Amid much discussion about whether to roll back current laws and regulations that aim to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gasses and to expand offshore drilling, a new survey in six swing states and nationally finds bipartisan majorities support keeping:

- tax credits for electric vehicles and charging stations
- current limits on offshore drilling
- tax credits for clean energy and energy efficiency,
- mandates to gradually raise fuel efficiency in cars and light trucks

This survey by the University of Maryland's Program for Public Consultation (PPC) is the third in a series – the **Swing Six Issue Surveys** – being conducted in the run-up to the November election in six swing states and nationally on major policies. Unlike traditional polls, respondents in a public consultation survey go through an online “policymaking simulation” in which they are provided briefings and arguments for and against each policy. Content is reviewed by experts on different sides of the issues to ensure accuracy and balance.

TAX CREDITS FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES & CHARGING STATIONS

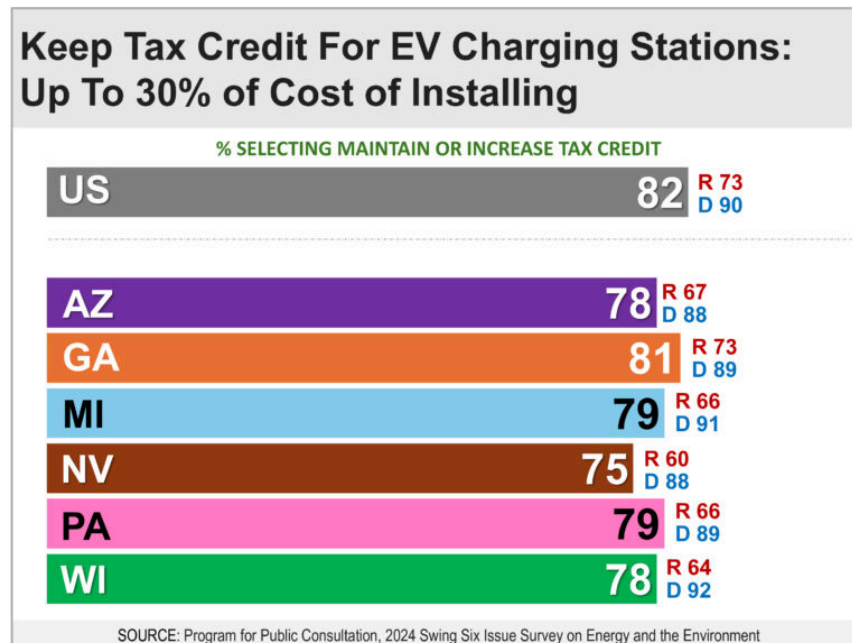
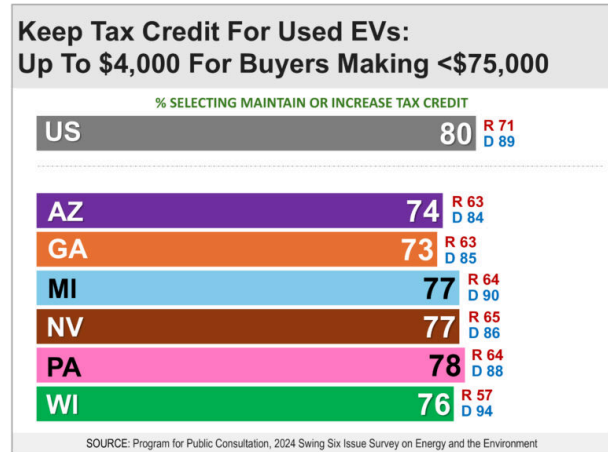
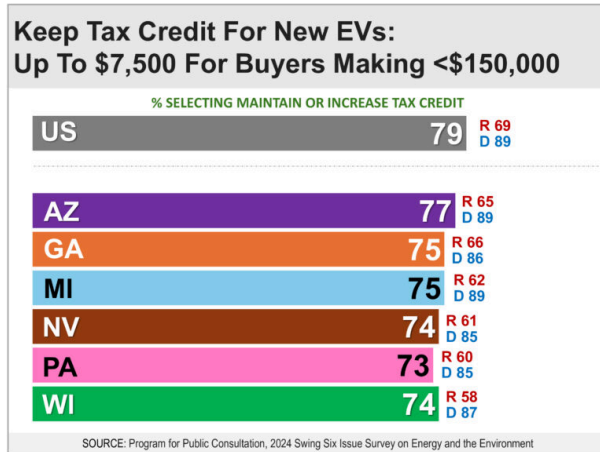
Given the options to increase, maintain or repeal a list of tax credits, bipartisan majorities of 73% to 81% in every swing state favor maintaining or increasing tax credits for electric vehicles

and public charging stations, as do 79% to 82% nationally. The tax credits for new and used EVs, and charging stations, are in the Inflation Reduction Act which became law in 2022.

In the swing states, Republican support for maintaining or increasing these tax credits ranged from 57% to 73% in the swing states, while Democrats' support ranged from 84% to 94%.

Support for repealing the EV tax credits ranged from just 19% to 26% in the swing states, including 27% to 42% of Republicans and 6% to 15% of Democrats, as well as just 17% to 20% nationally.

At the same time, support for increasing the tax credits ranged from just 28% to 37% in the swing states, and 29% to 37% nationally.



+ Responses to Pro and Con Arguments

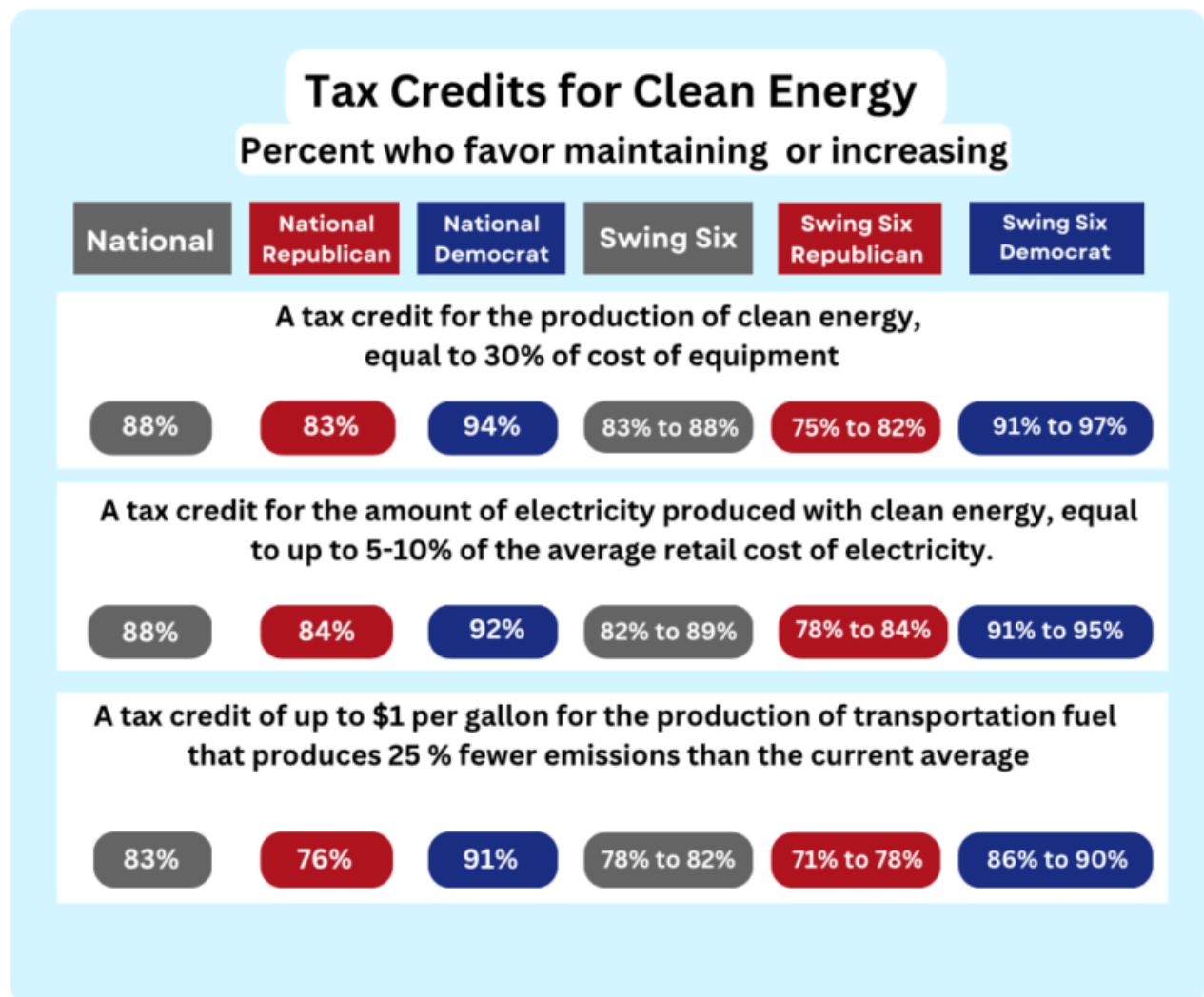
+ Aggregated Demographics of Swing Six States

TAX CREDITS FOR CLEAN ENERGY & ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Keeping tax credits for clean energy production and energy-efficiency improvements is supported by bipartisan majorities. Presented a list of eight such tax credits and informed that they reduce federal revenues by about \$100 billion a year, bipartisan majorities in every swing state (76% to 91%) favor maintaining or increasing each one, as well as 83% to 89% nationally. In the swing states, Republican support ranges from 70% to 87% and among Democrats 83% to 97%. These tax credits are in the Inflation Reduction Act which became law in 2022.

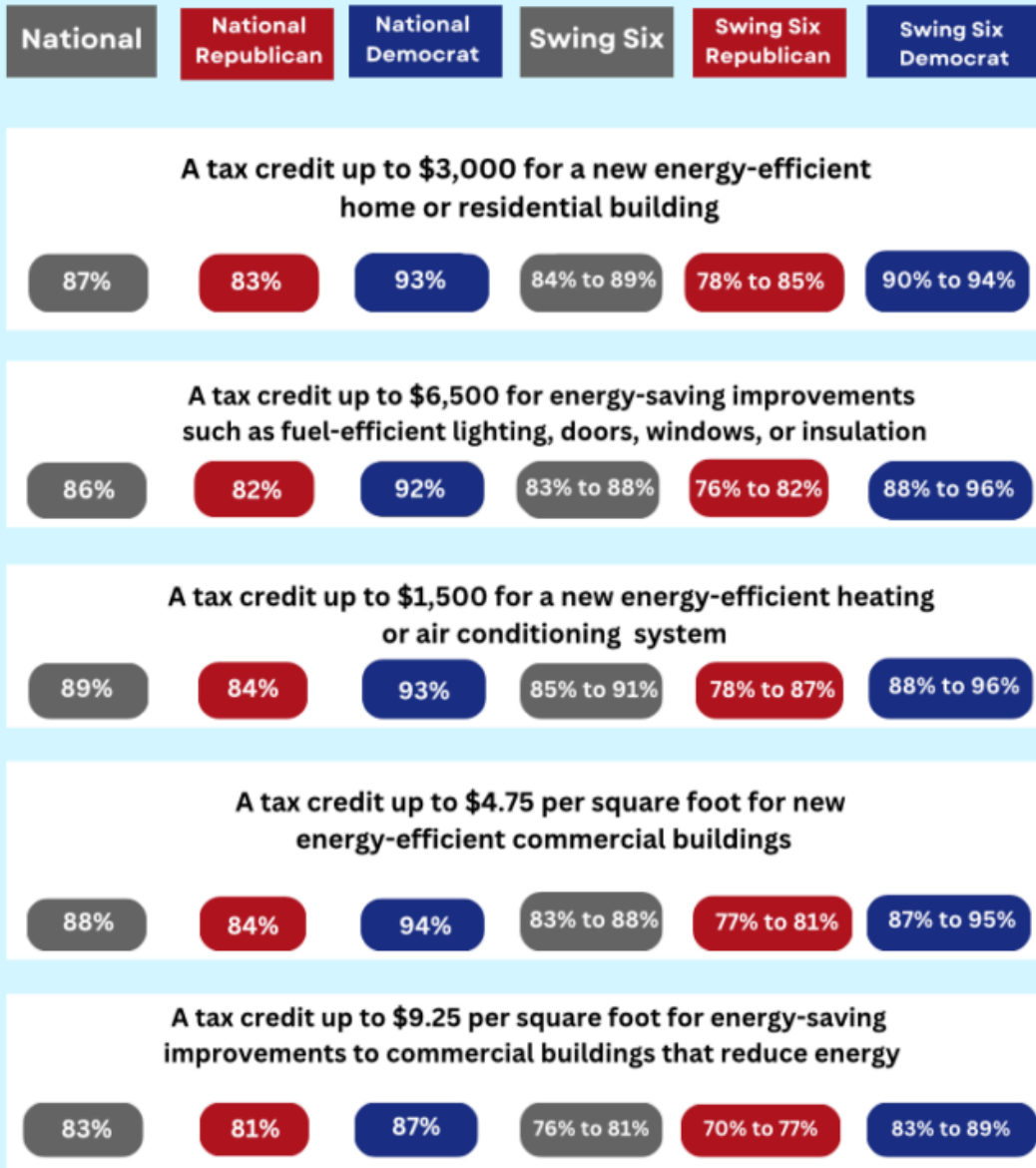
In the swing states, just 9% to 24% favor repealing each tax credit, including 13% to 30% of Republicans and 3% to 16% of Democrats.

At the same time, just 21% to 41% favor increasing them, including 14% to 36% of Republicans and 25% to 53% of Democrats.



Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency

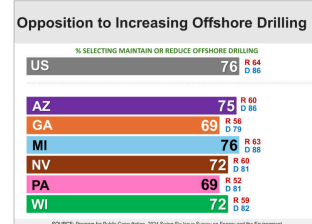
Percent who favor maintaining or increasing



+ Responses to Pro and Con Arguments

OFFSHORE DRILLING

Large bipartisan majorities oppose increasing offshore drilling for oil and gas. Respondents were asked whether the government should seek to maintain, increase or decrease offshore drilling. In the swing states, 69% to 76% favor maintaining or decreasing the levels of drilling, including 52% to 63% of Republicans and 79% to 88% of Democrats, as well as 76% nationally.



Increasing drilling is favored by just 23% to 30% in the swing states, including 36% to 47% of Republicans and 12% to 21% of Democrats, as well as 23% nationally.

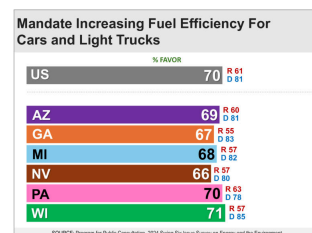
At the same time, decreasing the amount of offshore drilling is favored by just 24% to 30% in the swing states and 29% nationally.

+ [Icon] Arguments for Increasing, Maintaining and Decreasing Offshore Drilling

+ [Icon] Aggregated Demographics of Swing Six States

FUEL EFFICIENCY MANDATES FOR NEW CARS

Respondents were asked about the Environmental Protection Agency's regulation requiring new cars and light trucks to get 20-30% more miles per gallon by 2027 and told that this increases the price of new cars, but saves new car owners money in the long run. This regulation is favored in every swing state by 66% to 71%, including 55% to 63% of Republicans and 78% to 85% of Democrats, as well as 70% nationally.

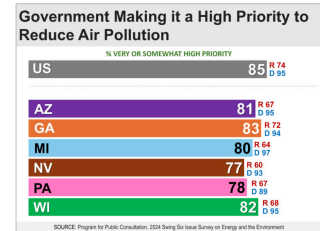


+ [Icon] Responses to Pro and Con Arguments

+ [Icon] Aggregated Demographics of Swing Six States

PRIORITY TO REDUCE AIR POLLUTION

Respondents were given a briefing on the health effects of air pollution from burning fossil fuels, and the actions the government has taken to reduce air pollution. They then evaluated arguments for and against the government making it a priority to reduce air pollution from energy production, which has negative health effects. In the swing states, 77% to 83% said it should be a very or somewhat high priority, including 60% to 72% of Republicans and 89% to 97% of Democrats, as well as 85% nationally.

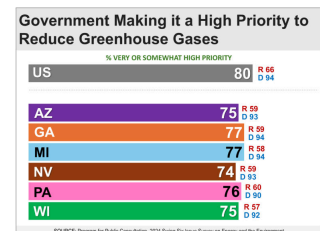


+ [Responses to Pro and Con Arguments](#)

+ [Aggregated Demographics of Swing Six States](#)

PRIORITY TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GASSES

Respondents were given a briefing on how burning fossil fuels for energy results in greenhouse gases and how the scientific consensus is that greenhouse gases have been causing climate change. They then evaluated arguments for and against the government making it a priority to reduce greenhouse gasses, including an argument that challenged the scientific consensus and highlighted that reducing greenhouse gases would hurt workers in the fossil fuel industry. The government reducing greenhouse gases was rated as a high priority by 74% to 77% in the swing states, including 57% to 60% Republicans and 90% to 94% of Democrats, as well as 80% nationally.



+ [Responses to Pro and Con Arguments](#)

+  **Aggregated Demographics of Swing Six States**


“Bipartisan majorities favor keeping recently enacted policies to reduce carbon emissions and to limit offshore drilling. On the other hand, there is also little support for going further.”

— *Steven Kull, Director of the Program for Public Consultation*

**Energy and Environment
Questionnaire with Toplines,
Crosstabs, and Methodology**

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STATE SURVEY REPORTS

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+  **Nevada**

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ABOUT THE SURVEY

The survey was fielded July 10-19, 2024 to a representative non-probability sample of 4,647 adults by the [Program for Public Consultation](#) at the University of Maryland's School of Public Policy, including approximately 600 adults in each state of Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, and 1,195 nationally. Samples were obtained from multiple online non-probability panels, including Cint, Dynata and Prodege. Sample collection and quality control was managed by QuantifyAI under the direction of the Program for Public Consultation.

Samples were pre-stratified and weighted by age, race, ethnicity, gender, education, income, metro/non-metro, marital status, home ownership, and partisan affiliation to match the general adult population. The survey was offered in both English and Spanish. The confidence interval for the national sample is +/-3.2%, and for the state samples it ranges from +/-4.4% to 4.6%.

Methodology

Sources of Proposals

Links to Past Surveys:

- [Health Care Costs](#)
 - [Stock Trading](#)
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