

From August 15 to 17, 2024, Data for Progress and the Center for Climate Integrity conducted a survey of 1,231 U.S. likely voters nationally using web panel respondents. The sample was weighted to be representative of likely voters by age, gender, education, race, geography, and 2020 recalled vote. The survey was conducted in English. The margin of error associated with the sample size is ± 3 percentage points. Results for subgroups of the sample are subject to increased margins of error. Partisanship reflected in tabulations is based on self-identified party affiliation, not partisan registration. For more information please visit dataforprogress.org/our-methodology.

NB: subgroups with a n-size less than 50 (<50) are not shown on these cross-tabs. We choose not to display N<50 subgroups because the sample is too small to have statistical significance. We did, however, take samples of these subgroups for representational and weighting purposes to accurately reflect the electorate makeup. Some values may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

N=1,231 unless otherwise specified.

[1] How concerned, if at all, are you about each of the following?

— Plastic waste in the ocean, rivers, and other waterways

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Very concerned	63	73	60	53	67	57	60	64	61	65	59	62	68
Somewhat concerned	30	24	32	36	27	34	31	30	31	30	32	32	22
Not very concerned	6	3	7	8	4	7	7	5	6	4	7	5	8
Not concerned at all	1	0	1	2	1	2	3	1	2	0	2	1	2
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[2] How concerned, if at all, are you about each of the following?

— Plastic litter in your community

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Very concerned	41	50	35	36	44	38	43	40	42	39	52	39	46
Somewhat concerned	43	38	47	44	42	43	39	44	42	44	29	44	38
Not very concerned	13	9	15	17	11	16	14	13	12	15	15	14	13
Not concerned at all	3	2	3	4	2	4	4	2	4	2	4	3	3
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[3] How concerned, if at all, are you about each of the following?

— Plastic waste in landfills

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Very concerned	42	53	35	35	47	36	43	41	40	46	47	40	45
Somewhat concerned	41	37	44	43	41	40	37	42	41	40	33	43	39
Not very concerned	13	8	17	17	9	19	15	13	14	13	15	14	15
Not concerned at all	4	2	4	5	3	5	5	3	5	1	5	4	1
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[4] How concerned, if at all, are you about each of the following?

— Microplastics in the human body

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Very concerned	46	50	41	46	45	47	44	47	46	47	51	46	49
Somewhat concerned	35	39	39	29	38	32	37	35	35	36	33	36	39
Not very concerned	15	9	16	21	13	17	16	15	15	15	11	15	12
Not concerned at all	3	2	4	5	3	4	4	3	5	1	4	3	1
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[5] Officials in some states have recently proposed taking legal action against the plastics and fossil fuel industries to hold them accountable for their role in plastic pollution. The officials cite evidence that the plastics and fossil fuel industries deceived the public about the viability of plastics recycling.

Would you support or oppose officials **in your state** taking similar legal action against the plastics and fossil fuel industries?

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Strongly support	35	52	29	22	36	34	37	35	33	39	44	34	37
Somewhat support	35	36	37	32	37	32	41	32	37	32	37	33	39
Somewhat oppose	13	7	14	19	10	17	11	14	12	15	11	14	14
Strongly oppose	9	2	8	17	7	11	5	11	9	9	5	10	4
Don't know	7	3	12	9	10	5	7	8	9	5	3	8	6
SUPPORT (TOTAL)	70	88	66	54	73	66	78	67	70	71	81	67	76
OPPOSE (TOTAL)	22	9	22	36	17	28	16	25	21	24	16	24	18
SUPPORT (NET)	+48	+79	+44	+18	+56	+38	+62	+42	+49	+47	+65	+43	+58
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[6] What **percent** of plastics in the United States do you think are recycled? If you're not sure, that's fine, just select your best guess.

Drag the slider button to select the number that matches your guess.

— Percent of plastics recycled in the United States

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Average	42.7	44.6	39.2	43.2	43.6	41.7	47.2	40.6	45.1	38.4	49.4	40.6	50.8
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[7] Despite the widespread adoption of recycling, in the end only about **5% of plastics** in the United States are recycled in any given year.

Knowing this, how concerned, if at all, are you about each of the following?

— Plastic waste in the ocean, rivers, and other waterways

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Very concerned	66	74	65	59	70	63	61	69	64	71	65	68	62
Somewhat concerned	27	21	29	31	26	28	29	26	28	24	25	26	31
Not very concerned	5	3	5	7	2	7	7	4	5	5	7	4	6
Not concerned at all	2	2	1	3	2	2	3	2	3	1	3	2	1
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[8] Despite the widespread adoption of recycling, in the end only about **5% of plastics** in the United States are recycled in any given year.

Knowing this, how concerned, if at all, are you about each of the following?

— Plastic litter in your community

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Very concerned	50	55	49	45	52	47	46	51	51	49	56	50	51
Somewhat concerned	35	34	32	39	34	36	37	34	34	38	30	36	31
Not very concerned	12	9	17	13	11	13	13	12	12	12	10	11	17
Not concerned at all	3	2	3	4	2	3	4	2	3	2	4	3	1
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[9] Despite the widespread adoption of recycling, in the end only about **5% of plastics** in the United States are recycled in any given year.

Knowing this, how concerned, if at all, are you about each of the following?

— Plastic waste in landfills

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Very concerned	54	62	49	47	59	47	53	54	54	54	51	54	58
Somewhat concerned	35	32	36	37	33	37	35	35	34	37	38	34	34
Not very concerned	9	4	12	12	5	12	9	9	9	8	8	9	7
Not concerned at all	3	2	3	4	2	4	3	3	4	1	3	3	1
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[10] Despite the widespread adoption of recycling, in the end only about **5% of plastics** in the United States are recycled in any given year.

Knowing this, how concerned, if at all, are you about each of the following?

— Microplastics in the human body

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Very concerned	54	58	53	50	54	54	49	57	53	56	56	55	51
Somewhat concerned	31	33	28	30	32	30	34	29	30	31	32	29	38
Not very concerned	12	7	16	15	12	13	13	12	13	11	8	12	10
Not concerned at all	3	2	3	5	3	4	4	3	4	2	3	3	1
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[11] As you may know, the use of the "chasing arrows" symbol is **not** regulated, meaning that no agency or group is responsible for protecting the use of the symbol and ensuring it has a clear definition.



Knowing this, please indicate if you agree or disagree with the following statements about the "chasing arrows" symbol and plastics recycling.

— It is deceptive to put this symbol on a plastic product that cannot be recycled.

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Strongly agree	62	64	65	57	62	62	55	65	59	66	54	65	50
Somewhat agree	23	22	20	26	22	24	27	21	23	22	25	22	33
Somewhat disagree	5	6	4	5	5	4	7	4	6	3	7	4	5
Strongly disagree	4	4	2	6	4	5	6	4	5	3	8	3	9
Don't know	6	4	9	6	7	5	5	7	6	6	6	6	3
AGREE (TOTAL)	85	86	85	83	84	86	82	86	82	88	79	87	83
DISAGREE (TOTAL)	9	10	6	11	9	9	13	8	11	6	15	7	14
AGREE (NET)	+76	+76	+79	+72	+75	+77	+69	+78	+71	+82	+64	+80	+69
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[12] As you may know, the use of the "chasing arrows" symbol is **not** regulated, meaning that no agency or group is responsible for protecting the use of the symbol and ensuring it has a clear definition.



Knowing this, please indicate if you agree or disagree with the following statements about the "chasing arrows" symbol and plastics recycling.

— It is deceptive to put this symbol on a plastic product that can 'technically' be recycled, but is not able to be recycled in practice.

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Strongly agree	50	49	54	47	51	49	42	54	48	54	45	52	39
Somewhat agree	29	32	24	30	27	32	35	27	29	29	29	28	38
Somewhat disagree	7	8	6	8	8	7	11	6	9	5	12	7	11
Strongly disagree	4	5	4	4	4	5	4	4	5	3	8	3	5
Don't know	9	6	12	10	11	7	7	10	10	8	6	10	8
AGREE (TOTAL)	79	81	78	77	78	81	77	81	77	83	74	80	77
DISAGREE (TOTAL)	11	13	10	12	12	12	15	10	14	8	20	10	16
AGREE (NET)	+68	+68	+68	+65	+66	+69	+62	+71	+63	+75	+54	+70	+61
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[13] As you may know, the use of the "chasing arrows" symbol is **not** regulated, meaning that no agency or group is responsible for protecting the use of the symbol and ensuring it has a clear definition.



Knowing this, please indicate if you agree or disagree with the following statements about the "chasing arrows" symbol and plastics recycling.

— If the symbol is not regulated, companies should be allowed to use this symbol however they want.

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Strongly agree	18	19	14	19	18	17	26	13	18	17	23	16	23
Somewhat agree	20	19	19	20	18	21	27	16	21	17	23	17	29
Somewhat disagree	17	18	16	16	18	16	17	17	18	14	25	16	16
Strongly disagree	36	37	40	32	34	38	23	43	32	43	25	40	25
Don't know	10	7	10	13	12	7	7	11	11	8	5	11	7
AGREE (TOTAL)	38	38	33	39	36	38	53	29	39	34	46	33	52
DISAGREE (TOTAL)	53	55	56	48	52	54	40	60	50	57	50	56	41
AGREE (NET)	-15	-17	-23	-9	-16	-16	+13	-31	-11	-23	-4	-23	+11
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[14] More than 99% of plastics are produced from fossil fuels such as oil and gas.

Knowing this, how responsible do you think the fossil fuel industry is for each of the following?

— The amount of plastic pollution in the United States today

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Very responsible	41	53	37	29	42	39	39	42	40	42	49	39	43
Somewhat responsible	36	32	37	40	38	34	40	33	36	35	36	35	39
Not very responsible	16	11	17	21	14	19	16	16	16	15	11	17	15
Not responsible at all	8	4	9	10	6	9	5	9	8	8	4	10	2
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[15] More than 99% of plastics are produced from fossil fuels such as oil and gas.

Knowing this, how responsible do you think the fossil fuel industry is for each of the following?

— The general state of plastic recycling in the United States today

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Very responsible	35	46	30	28	37	34	37	35	34	38	43	35	32
Somewhat responsible	37	37	41	36	39	35	43	35	39	35	42	34	50
Not very responsible	20	14	20	25	18	22	15	22	20	19	9	22	16
Not responsible at all	8	3	9	11	7	9	5	9	7	8	6	9	2
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[16] Now, you'll read a few quotes from internal documents of plastics and fossil fuel industry groups about plastics recycling.

For each, please indicate how concerned, if at all, that quote makes you feel about the state of plastics recycling in the United States today.

— "Nevertheless, recycling cannot be considered a permanent solid waste solution, as it merely prolongs the time until an item is disposed of." (Quote from a document from the Vinyl Institute, a plastics industry group, 1986)

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Very concerned	38	47	34	30	40	36	37	38	36	41	46	36	45
Somewhat concerned	45	42	49	47	45	45	46	45	46	44	38	47	39
Not very concerned	12	7	13	17	11	14	12	12	12	12	11	13	11
Not concerned at all	5	4	5	6	4	5	5	4	6	3	6	4	5
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[17] Now, you'll read a few quotes from internal documents of plastics and fossil fuel industry groups about plastics recycling.

For each, please indicate how concerned, if at all, that quote makes you feel about the state of plastics recycling in the United States today.

— "Recycling cannot go on indefinitely, and does not solve the solid waste problem." (Quote from the Executive Director of the Vinyl Institute, a plastics industry group, 1989)

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Very concerned	41	49	37	34	41	40	37	42	39	43	46	39	43
Somewhat concerned	43	42	43	43	46	40	47	41	43	42	40	44	42
Not very concerned	12	7	14	16	10	14	12	12	12	11	12	11	12
Not concerned at all	5	2	6	7	4	6	4	5	5	3	2	5	3
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[18] Now, you'll read a few quotes from internal documents of plastics and fossil fuel industry groups about plastics recycling.

For each, please indicate how concerned, if at all, that quote makes you feel about the state of plastics recycling in the United States today.

— "...it is more likely that we will wake up and realize that we are not going to recycle our way out of the solid waste issue." (Quote from an Eastman Chemical Company employee, 1992)

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Very concerned	41	51	38	32	42	40	39	42	41	41	53	39	46
Somewhat concerned	44	41	44	48	47	42	45	44	43	46	35	47	38
Not very concerned	11	7	13	14	8	14	12	10	12	10	10	10	14
Not concerned at all	4	2	4	6	3	4	4	4	4	3	2	4	3
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[19] Now, you'll read a few quotes from internal documents of plastics and fossil fuel industry groups about plastics recycling.

For each, please indicate how concerned, if at all, that quote makes you feel about the state of plastics recycling in the United States today.

— "We are committed to the activities [of recycling], but not committed to the results." (Quote from an Exxon employee speaking at an American Plastics Council meeting, 1994)

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
Very concerned	40	50	37	32	42	38	37	42	38	43	45	40	42
Somewhat concerned	43	39	47	45	45	40	45	42	43	43	33	44	43
Not very concerned	13	10	13	18	10	17	15	12	14	11	18	13	13
Not concerned at all	4	2	4	6	3	5	3	4	4	3	4	4	1
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[20] Some have compared the plastics and fossil fuel industries' promotion of plastics recycling to the opioid and tobacco industries' attempts to downplay or outright deny and lie to the public about the harmful effects of their products.

Considering this and what you've read about recycling plastics, which of the following comes *closest* to your view on this comparison?

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
The plastics and fossil fuel industries' misleading promotion of recycling as a viable solution to the plastic waste crisis is yet another example of big companies lying to their consumers.	54	68	49	42	59	49	53	55	53	57	67	52	56
The plastics and fossil fuel industries advertising to the public about recycling as a way to address the plastic waste crisis, even if it isn't effective, is not similar to what the opioid and tobacco industries did.	34	26	33	43	28	41	36	33	34	34	25	36	33
Don't know	12	6	18	15	13	11	11	13	13	10	8	12	11
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[21] Knowing what you know now, for each of the following groups, please say how much responsibility, if any, you think they should have for addressing the plastic waste crisis:

— The plastics industry

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
A great deal of responsibility	68	76	67	59	67	68	60	72	65	73	64	69	58
Some responsibility	25	19	26	32	25	26	30	23	27	23	26	24	35
Not much responsibility	5	4	5	7	6	5	8	4	7	3	8	5	5
No responsibility at all	2	1	2	2	2	1	3	1	2	1	2	2	2
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[22] Knowing what you know now, for each of the following groups, please say how much responsibility, if any, you think they should have for addressing the plastic waste crisis:

— The fossil fuel industry

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
A great deal of responsibility	59	72	57	44	62	55	56	60	57	62	55	60	55
Some responsibility	30	21	29	39	28	32	30	30	31	28	33	29	32
Not much responsibility	8	5	11	10	7	9	11	7	8	8	10	8	9
No responsibility at all	3	2	2	6	3	4	3	3	4	2	3	3	3
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[23] Knowing what you know now, for each of the following groups, please say how much responsibility, if any, you think they should have for addressing the plastic waste crisis:

— The clean energy industry

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
A great deal of responsibility	45	51	40	42	49	40	42	46	45	45	50	43	47
Some responsibility	40	35	45	40	40	39	44	38	39	40	36	40	41
Not much responsibility	11	10	10	13	8	14	9	12	11	11	11	12	7
No responsibility at all	5	4	5	5	4	6	5	4	5	3	4	5	6
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[24] Knowing what you know now, for each of the following groups, please say how much responsibility, if any, you think they should have for addressing the plastic waste crisis:

— The waste management industry

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
A great deal of responsibility	54	62	55	46	59	50	56	54	53	57	53	52	55
Some responsibility	36	31	36	41	33	39	32	38	36	37	36	38	36
Not much responsibility	8	6	8	10	7	9	10	7	9	5	9	8	7
No responsibility at all	2	1	1	3	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	2
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[25] Knowing what you know now, for each of the following groups, please say how much responsibility, if any, you think they should have for addressing the plastic waste crisis:

— The federal government

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
A great deal of responsibility	54	61	53	46	55	52	53	54	52	56	54	54	46
Some responsibility	37	32	38	41	35	38	33	38	37	36	33	37	39
Not much responsibility	8	7	7	9	8	8	11	6	9	6	10	6	13
No responsibility at all	2	0	2	4	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[26] Knowing what you know now, for each of the following groups, please say how much responsibility, if any, you think they should have for addressing the plastic waste crisis:

— State governments

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
A great deal of responsibility	45	51	42	42	47	43	44	46	45	46	49	45	36
Some responsibility	44	42	47	45	43	46	43	45	44	45	38	44	51
Not much responsibility	8	6	8	11	7	9	9	8	9	7	11	8	9
No responsibility at all	2	1	3	3	3	2	4	1	2	2	2	2	4
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167

[27] Knowing what you know now, for each of the following groups, please say how much responsibility, if any, you think they should have for addressing the plastic waste crisis:

— Municipal governments

Response	Topline	Democrat	Independent / Third party	Republican	Female	Male	Under 45	45+	No College	College	Black or African American	White	Latino
A great deal of responsibility	37	43	35	32	39	35	37	37	37	38	45	35	40
Some responsibility	48	48	48	48	47	49	47	49	47	51	42	50	46
Not much responsibility	12	8	15	15	11	13	13	12	14	9	12	12	11
No responsibility at all	3	2	2	4	2	3	4	2	3	2	1	3	3
Weighted N	1,231	483	320	428	657	574	402	829	793	438	134	877	167