



**Interviews with 1,023 adult Americans conducted by telephone by Opinion Research Corporation on May 21-23, 2010. The margin of sampling error for results based on the total sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points.**

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**FOR RELEASE: MONDAY, MAY 24 AT 1 PM**

39. How do you feel about increased drilling for oil and natural gas offshore in U.S. waters -- do you strongly favor, mildly favor, mildly oppose or strongly oppose increased offshore drilling? (ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE. RESULTS BASED ON 524 INTERVIEWS IN VERSION A -- SAMPLING ERROR: +/- 4.5% PTS.)

	May 21-23 <u>2010</u>	Aug. 29-31 <u>2008*</u>	July 27-29 <u>2008</u>	Jun. 26-29 <u>2008</u>
Strongly favor	27%	52%	46%	48%
Mildly favor	30%	22%	23%	25%
Mildly oppose	16%	11%	12%	15%
Strongly oppose	25%	13%	18%	12%
No opinion	1%	1%	*	1%

\*Asked of half sample

ORC PUBLIC OPINION INDEX TRENDS

	<u>Strongly favor</u>	<u>Mildly favor</u>	<u>Mildly oppose</u>	<u>Strongly oppose</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
1983 Aug 12-15	37	33	10	12	8

40. In your opinion, how serious is the problem of possible damage to the environment as a result of offshore drilling for oil and natural gas -- is it very serious, somewhat serious, not too serious or not at all serious? (ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE. RESULTS BASED ON 499 INTERVIEWS IN VERSION B -- SAMPLING ERROR: +/- 4.5% PTS.)

	May 21-23 <u>2010</u>
Very serious	55%
Somewhat serious	28%
Not too serious	11%
Not at all serious	6%
No opinion	*

ORC PUBLIC INDEX TRENDS

	<u>Very serious</u>	<u>Somewhat serious</u>	<u>Not too serious</u>	<u>Not at all serious</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
1983 Jan 3-8	23	43	23	7	4

41. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Barack Obama has handled the oil spill off the coast of Louisiana in the Gulf of Mexico?

May 21-23  
2010

Approve	46%
Disapprove	51%
No opinion	3%

42. Do you approve or disapprove of the way that the oil company called BP has handled the oil spill off the coast of Louisiana in the Gulf of Mexico?

May 21-23  
2010

Approve	24%
Disapprove	76%
No opinion	1%

43. From what you have seen and heard, do you think the efforts to control the spill and prevent it from spreading further will be successful or unsuccessful?

May 21-23  
2010

Successful	46%
Unsuccessful	53%
No opinion	1%

PEW RESEARCH CENTER TRENDS

	<u>Successful</u>	<u>Unsuccessful</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
2010 May 6-9	51	29	20

44. Do you think the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico will directly affect you and your family, indirectly affect you and your family, or not affect you and your family at all?

May 21-23  
2010

Direct effect	31%
Indirect effect	53%
No effect	16%
No opinion	*

45. As a result of the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, are you less likely to buy gasoline from a BP station, or has the oil spill not affected your decision about which gas station you will use when you buy gasoline?

May 21-23  
2010

Less likely	28%
Has not affected	70%
More likely (vol.)	2%
No opinion	*

46. How confident are you that the federal government can prevent another oil spill as big as the one in the Gulf of Mexico -- very confident, somewhat confident, not very confident, or not confident at all?

May 21-23  
2010

Very confident	7%
Somewhat confident	30%
Not very confident	31%
Not confident at all	31%
No opinion	1%