

## **Six in 10 Say U.S. Should Join Kyoto**

Six in 10 Americans say the United States should join the Kyoto treaty on global warming, rejecting George W. Bush's economic arguments against the accord.

Bush, saying it "makes no economic sense," has declared that the United States will not participate in the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, which calls on the United States and other industrialized nations to reduce emissions associated with global warming by 2012.

However, in this ABC News poll, conducted a week ahead of Earth Day, 61 percent said the United States should join the treaty, while just 26 percent opposed it.

The poll gauged opinion by summarizing the debate, noting that one side says the accord "would hurt the U.S. economy and is based on uncertain science," while the other says it "is needed to protect the environment and could create new business opportunities." Bush wasn't mentioned, in order to make the result a measure of the Kyoto debate, not of his personal popularity.

	Join the Kyoto treaty?		
	Yes	No	No opin.
4/15/01	61%	26	13

The result echoes an ABC News/Washington Post poll in January, when Americans by a 17-point margin, 56-39 percent, said protecting the environment was more important to them than encouraging economic growth. Last month an ABC/Post poll found just 46 percent approval for Bush's handling of environmental issues.

**GROUPS** – Bush doesn't have the support of most members of his party on Kyoto: A slight majority of Republicans supports the international treaty, joined by two-thirds of Democrats and independents.

In other groups, support for joining the treaty is higher among younger, higher-income and better-educated Americans.

	Should the U.S. join the treaty?	
	Yes	No
Democrats	68	19
Independents	66	25
Republicans	52	37

Age :

18-34	68	22
65+	45	36
Income:		
<\$25K	54	27
\$100K+	71	20
Education:		
<High school	47	33
Some college+	67	24

METHODOLOGY - This ABC News.com survey was conducted by telephone April 11-15, 2001, among a random national sample of 1,022 adults. The results have a three-point error margin. Sampling, data collection and tabulation by TNS Intersearch of Horsham, Pa.

Analysis by Dalia Sussman.

ABC News polls can be found at ABCNEWS.com on the Internet at:  
<http://www.abcnews.com/sections/us/PollVault/PollVault.html>

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Here are the full results:

86. An international treaty calls on the U.S. and other industrialized nations to cut back on their emissions from power plants and cars in order to reduce global warming, also known as the greenhouse effect. Some people say this would hurt the U.S. economy, and is based on uncertain science. Others say this is needed to protect the environment, and could create new business opportunities. What's your view -- do you think the United States should or should not join this treaty requiring less emissions from U.S. power plants and cars?

	Should	Should not	No opinion
4/15/01	61	26	13

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