



PUBLIC RELATIONS RESEARCH

*The Harris Poll*® PEOPLE

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# A Study About Biofuels

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Prepared For:

**Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO)**

Prepared By:

**Harris Interactive Inc.  
Public Relations Research**

## ***INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY***

Harris Interactive conducted the survey on behalf of the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) by telephone within the United States between October 5 and October 8, 2006 among 1,031 adults (aged 18 and over). Figures for age, sex, geographic region, and race were weighted where necessary to bring them into line with their actual proportions in the population. With a pure probability sample of 1,031 one could say with a ninety-five percent probability that the overall results have a sampling error of +/- 3 percentage points. However that does not take other sources of error into account.

## **HOW TO READ THE TABLES**

The following pages present the detailed tabulations of survey results. The data are percentaged vertically and, therefore, should be read from top-to-bottom. The total number of interviews, both weighted and unweighted, appears at the top of each column. Percentages are calculated on the weighted bases. Percentages may not add to 100% due to weighting factors or multiple responses. Where an asterisk (\*) appears, it signifies any value of less than one-half percent.

### **Definition of Classification Terms**

The following definitions are provided for some of the standard demographics by which the results are tabulated. Other demographics are self-explanatory.

#### **Income**

The income groupings refer to the total household income for 2005 before taxes.

#### **Metro Size**

Metro --                    In Center City of Metropolitan Area  
                                  Outside Center City, Inside Center City County  
                                  Inside Suburban County of Metropolitan Area  
                                  In Metropolitan Area with No Center City

Non-Metro --            In Non-Metropolitan Area

#### **Children in Household**

None --                    No children under 18 years of age living in household  
Total --                    Have children under 18 years of age living in household  
Under 12 --                Have children under 12 years of age living in household  
12 - 17 --                 Have children ages 12 to 17 living in household

#### **Geographic Region**

The continental states are contained in four geographic regions as follows:

##### North East

New England: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut

Middle Atlantic: New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania

##### North Central

East North Central: Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin

West North Central: Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas

## South

South Atlantic: Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

East South Central: Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi

West South Central: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas

## West

Mountain: Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada

Pacific: Washington, Oregon, California

## **Occupation (Optional)**

The occupation classification refers to the occupation of the respondent. The types of positions included in each category are:

Professional/Manager/Owner	-	Executives, Professionals, Technical and Kindred Workers, Managers, Officials, and Proprietors
White Collar - Sales/Clerical	-	Clerical, Office and Secretarial Workers, and Sales Agents and Workers
Blue Collar - Craftsmen/Foremen	-	Craftsmen, Foremen, Kindred Workers, Carpenters, Plumbers, Electricians, Mechanics, and Bakers
Blue Collar - Semi-Skilled/Unskilled	-	Apprentices, Laborers, Assembly Line Workers, Motormen and Fishermen
Service Workers	-	Housekeepers in Private Households, Police, Beauticians, Barbers, Security Guards, Waitresses and Waiter

## Significance Testing

When results from sub-groups of a sample appear in the detailed tabulations, an indicator of statistically significant differences is added to the tables run on our standard demographic banners. The test is performed on percentages as well as mean values. Each sub-sample is assigned a letter. When the percentage of one sub-sample is significantly different from the percentage of another sub-sample, the letter representing one of the two samples appears next to the percentage (or mean) of the other sample.

For instance the percentage of males answering yes to a particular question may be compared to the percentage of females answering yes to the same question. In the example below, the male sample is assigned the letter B, and the female sample is assigned the letter C. Here, respondents were asked whether a certain business practice is acceptable. 67% of women said that it was -- a proportion significantly greater than the 57% of males who believe that the practice is acceptable. To indicate that women are significantly more likely to find the practice acceptable than are men, the letter B -- the letter assigned to the male sub-sample -- appears next to the "67%" in the female column. Similarly, the 37% of men that find the practice unacceptable is significantly greater than the 29% of women who do so and, therefore, the letter C -- the letter assigned to the female sub-sample -- appears next to the "37%" in the male column.

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	Total <b>(A)</b>	Sex	
		Male <b>(B)</b>	Fe- male <b>(C)</b>
Unweighted Total	977	488	489
Weighted Total	967	464	503
Acceptable	611 63%	274 57%	337 67%B
Not Acceptable	319 33%	171 37%C	148 29%
Don't Know	37 4%	18 4%	19 4%

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Significance testing is done to the 95% confidence level. The columns compared are listed at the bottom of each table.

## Posted Topline Data

**Question:**

Total  
%

**As far as you know, what is a “biofuel”?**

**Base: All  
respondents  
(n= 1,031)**

Fuel made from agricultural crops or plant matter	57
Fuel made from petroleum	16
Hydrogen fuel cells	10
Don't know/None of these	16

**Question:**

Total  
%

**Do you think the production and availability of biofuels should be encouraged by national and state governments providing financial incentives to biofuel producers?**

**Base: All respondents (n= 1,031)**

Yes

82

No

13

Don't know

5

**Question:**

Total  
%

**How likely would you be to support federal and state political candidates who are in favor of providing incentives to promote increased production and availability of biofuels in America?**

**Base: All respondents (n= 1,031)**

<b><i>Very likely/Likely/Somewhat likely (Net)</i></b>	84
<b><i>Very likely/Likely (Sub-Net)</i></b>	58
Very likely	39
Likely	19
Somewhat likely	26
Not at all likely	13
Don't know	2

**Question:**

Total  
%

**How important is it to you that biofuel production in America helps to accomplish each of the following goals? Is it very important, important, somewhat important, or not at all important?**

**Base: All respondents (n= 1,031)**

***Very Important/Important Summary***

Making America less dependent on foreign oil	81
Decreasing gas prices	73
Creating jobs in rural areas	68

**Question:**

Total  
%

**How strongly do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about biofuels? Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree?**

**Base: All respondents (n= 1,031)**

***Strongly/Somewhat Agree Summary***

Federal and state governments are not doing enough to promote the production of biofuels.	80
I would use biofuels made in America even if they cost slightly more than conventional gasoline.	69
Our national security does not depend on domestic production of biofuels.	64

**Question:**

Total  
%

**Do you think America's reliance on foreign oil negatively impacts, positively impacts or has no impact on our national security?**

**Base: All respondents (n= 1,031)**

Negatively impacts

53

Positively impacts

27

No impact

16

Don't know

4