The Search for the Solutions Voter

Key findings from an online survey among 1,200 registered voters*
Conducted August, 2016

Builds upon data from Fall 2014, 2015, and August 2016

Voters were used in this survey because participation in the voting process is essential to civil society.
Top Takeaways

Even in a divisive election year, a majority of American voters have high expectations that change will occur moving the country forward on four issues where voters say solutions exist and progress is possible:

• terrorism/national security,
• energy and the environment and
• law enforcement / criminal justice
• jobs.

Political leaders would be wise to quickly move forward on these issues.

Renewable energy, in particular, is an opportunity for a breakthrough in bipartisan cooperation. It is supported by a majority of Americans, including Republicans, Democrats, Independents, liberals, moderates, and conservatives.
The Solutions Voter

- Pessimistic Left: 15%
- Pessimistic Right: 30%
- Solutions Voter: 55%
Demographic Description of the Solutions Voter

- 53% 18-49 YEARS OLD
- 47% 50+ YEARS OLD

Employed: 23%
Retired: 20%
Other: 7%

White: 63%
Hispanic: 7%
Asian: 11%
African American/Black: 12%

19% 44-64 YEARS OLD
1% 65+ YEARS OLD

44% 18-49 YEARS OLD
56% 50+

56% INDEPENDENT
19% REPUBLICAN
42% DEMOCRAT

56% EMPLOYED
23% RETIRED
20% OTHER

37% HIGH SCHOOL GRAD OR LESS
29% SOME COLLEGE
25% 4 YEAR COLLEGE
14% POST GRAD

55% MARRIED
45% SINGLE

84% are not the parent of a child under age 8 or the primary caretaker for an older or disabled person

33%: 1 or more/week
15%: occasionally/month
21%: occasionally/year
30%: never

20% < 30K
20% 30-50K
40% 50-100K
20% >100K

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Traits of the Solutions Voter 2016

- 63% express strong optimism that real progress can be made to solve energy and environmental problems; criminal justice challenges; terrorism; and jobs.

- 61% trust small business, 54% the religious community and 54% trust civic organizations.

- 54% believe the American people prefer negotiated compromises on difficult issues, even if they personally don’t totally agree with the compromise; 44% are more likely than others to respect and care for those who are different, and 44% are willing to make sacrifices for refugees.

- 72% agree that Americans have more beliefs in common with each other than the media and politicians tell us; 67% say the creativity and ingenuity of the American people can lead to real, practical progress on issues that matter to us; and 65% believe the racial, economic, and other differences among us should be used to open up debate and dialogue, not close it down.

- The solutions voter identify themselves as partisan Republicans and Democrats in numbers similar to all voters but lean conservative on the ideological spectrum.
Key Demographics

15% PESSIMISTIC LEFT

- 58% Attend One or More Religious Services / Week
- 16% Republican
- 62% Democrat
- 17% Attend One or More Religious Services / Week

55% SOLUTIONS VOTER

- 44% Attend One or More Religious Services / Week
- 37% Republican
- 45% Democrat
- 33% Attend One or More Religious Services / Week

30% PESSIMISTIC RIGHT

- 50% Attend One or More Religious Services / Week
- 52% Republican
- 28% Democrat
- 26% Attend One or More Religious Services / Week
## Solutions Voters Compared to Other Voters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pessimistic Left</th>
<th>Solutions Voter</th>
<th>Pessimistic Right</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>OPTIMISTIC - PROGRESS ON ISSUES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy &amp; Environment</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime &amp; Law Enforcement</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TRUST IN INSTITUTIONS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Government</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Big Business</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious Community</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>42%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ATTITUDES TOWARD AMERICA</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>All should be free to voice their opinions even if some are troubled</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer negotiated compromises even if they don't totally agree</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>45%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PERCEPTION OF ROLE OF GOVERNMENT</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Govt spending almost always wasteful/inefficient</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>88%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Govt leaders care little about people like me</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>94%</td>
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Methodology

- The 2016 CSI national survey was conducted in August, 2016.
- A national cross-sectional sample of 1200 registered voters completed an extensive on-line survey approximately 20 minutes in length.
- These data have been weighted to reflect the population parameters of all registered voters.