

Polling News & Notes

Overlooked Recent Polling and Insights • January 8, 2015

Keystone XL Veto Threat Despite Bipartisan Support: It is still the first week of the new Congressional session, and President Barack Obama has already threatened to veto one of the first and best opportunities for bipartisan legislation, the Keystone XL pipeline (KXL). His threat puts him at odds with not only Republicans, but many other Democrats as well.

A November 6-9, 2014 Pew Research [poll](#) found that 59% of Americans favor building KXL (31% oppose), with this support stretching across demographic, educational, regional, and political lines. Sixty-six percent of men and 52% of women favor KXL. Measured by age cohorts, 66% of 50-64 year olds, 64% of those older than 65, 57% of those 30-49 years old, and 51% of 18-29 year olds favor KXL. Sixty-two percent of those with high school or less education, 61% of those with some college, 55% of college graduates, and 49% of those with post-graduate education favor KXL. A majority in every region supports construction: 63% of Southerners, 62% of Midwesterners, 55% of Northerners, and 54% of Westerners favor building KXL.

Almost all (83%) Republicans favor KXL, including conservative (85%) and moderate/liberal (77%) Republicans, while Democrats are split (43% favor; 45% opposed), with 51% of Democrats who describe themselves as conservative/moderate Democrats and 32% of those who are liberal supporting it. In the House of Representatives, 19 Democrats voted in favor of KXL in May 2013, while at least nine Senate Democrats have indicated they will vote for it now.

Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) said he was disappointed "that the president will not allow this Congress to turn over a new leaf and engage in the legislative process to improve an important piece of legislation." Many on both sides of the aisle and around the country apparently agree.

<i>Favor/oppose building Keystone XL pipeline?</i>			
	Favor	Oppose	DK
	%	%	%
Total	59	31	10=100
Men	66	27	7=100
Women	52	34	14=100
18-29	51	39	10=100
30-49	57	33	10=100
50-64	66	25	9=100
65+	64	24	12=100
Post-graduate	49	38	12=100
College grad	55	32	12=100
Some college	61	31	8=100
HS or less	62	27	10=100
Northeast	55	34	12=100
Midwest	62	30	8=100
South	63	26	11=100
West	54	37	10=100
Republican	83	11	6=100
Conservative Rep	85	8	6=100
Moderate/Liberal Rep	77	18	5=100
Independent	58	33	9=100
Democrat	43	45	12=100
Conserv/Mod Dem	51	37	11=100
Liberal Dem	32	56	12=100

Survey conducted Nov. 6-9, 2014. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

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