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## **Nearly Half of Americans Oppose AI Data Centers in Their Neighborhoods, While 38% Support Them**

- *Young Americans are more likely than older generations to support data centers in their backyards, according to a Redfin survey.*
- *AI data centers face more pushback than other proposed building types in neighborhoods, namely new apartments and multi-use complexes.*
- *AI data centers are viewed as controversial partly because some Americans believe they strain electricity and water resources in communities where they're built.*

SEATTLE — May 4, 2026 — Nearly half (47%) of U.S. residents oppose the construction of an artificial intelligence data center in their neighborhood, while 38% support it. This is according to a [survey](#) fielded by Ipsos and commissioned by [Redfin](#), the real estate brokerage powered by Rocket.

The U.S. has more than 3,000 AI data centers, with thousands more in development as demand for AI surges. They're controversial largely because they strain electricity and water resources, which increases energy costs, sparks environmental concerns and disrupts nearby communities with noise and large, industrial structures. They also tap into broader fears about AI: Roughly three in five U.S. residents believe AI will eliminate jobs, according to the [same Redfin survey](#) fielded by Ipsos.

At the same time, AI data centers can create well-paying jobs in fields like IT and security, support local construction employment and spur investment in energy and water infrastructure—potentially boosting struggling areas.

“A lot of local residents are frustrated about the surge in data centers in our community,” said [Hazel Shakur](#), a Redfin [Premier](#) agent who sells homes primarily in Prince George’s County, MD. “There are already five data centers in our county, with another one planned at the site of what was once a popular mall. People are questioning whether county officials are trading long-term community vision and quality of life for projects that may not directly benefit the people who live here.”

### **Younger Americans More Likely to Support AI Data Centers in Their Backyards**

Gen Zers (48%) and millennials (50%) are more likely than Gen Xers (38%) and baby boomers (22%) to support data centers in their backyard.

Broken down by political preference, roughly half (49%) of Republicans support the construction of an AI data center in their neighborhood, compared with 36% of Democrats.

### **AI Data Centers Face More Neighborhood Pushback Than Apartment Complexes**

Americans are slightly more likely to oppose data centers in their neighborhood than any other type of building Redfin asked about. Nearly half (47%) of U.S. residents oppose construction of a data center near their home; almost as many (46%) oppose converting single-family homes into smaller, multi-unit dwellings to increase housing supply.

Just over one-third (37%) of respondents oppose building a new apartment complex in their neighborhood, while 31% oppose a new mixed-use development nearby.

To view the full report, including charts and a methodology with the survey questionnaire, please visit: [redfin.com/news/survey-ai-data-center-neighborhoods](https://redfin.com/news/survey-ai-data-center-neighborhoods)

### **About Redfin**

Redfin is a technology-driven real estate company with the country's most-visited real estate brokerage website. As part of Rocket Companies (NYSE: RKT), Redfin is creating an integrated homeownership platform from search to close to make the dream of homeownership more affordable and accessible for everyone. Redfin's clients can see homes first with on-demand tours, easily apply for a home loan with Rocket Mortgage, and save thousands in fees while working with a top local agent.

You can find more information about Redfin and get the latest housing market data and research at <https://www.redfin.com/news>. For more information about Rocket Companies, visit <https://www.rocketcompanies.com>.

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