

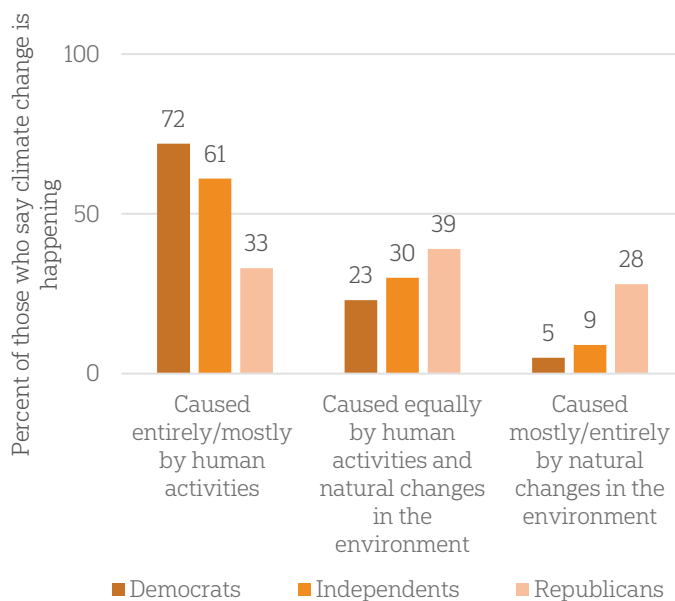
Is the Public Willing to Pay to Help Fix Climate Change?

FINDINGS FROM A NOVEMBER 2018 SURVEY OF ADULTS AGE 18 AND OLDER

✓ Seven in 10 Americans say climate change is a reality, and most think human activity is primarily responsible.

- Seventy-one percent say climate change is happening, while only 9 percent say it is not. Nineteen percent are unsure.
- Eighty-six percent of Democrats believe that climate change is happening, compared to 70 percent of independents and 52 percent of Republicans.
- Among those who say climate change is happening, 60 percent think it is primarily caused by human activities. Just 12 percent say climate change is mostly or entirely caused by natural environmental changes.

Among those who say climate change is happening, most believe it is caused by human activities.



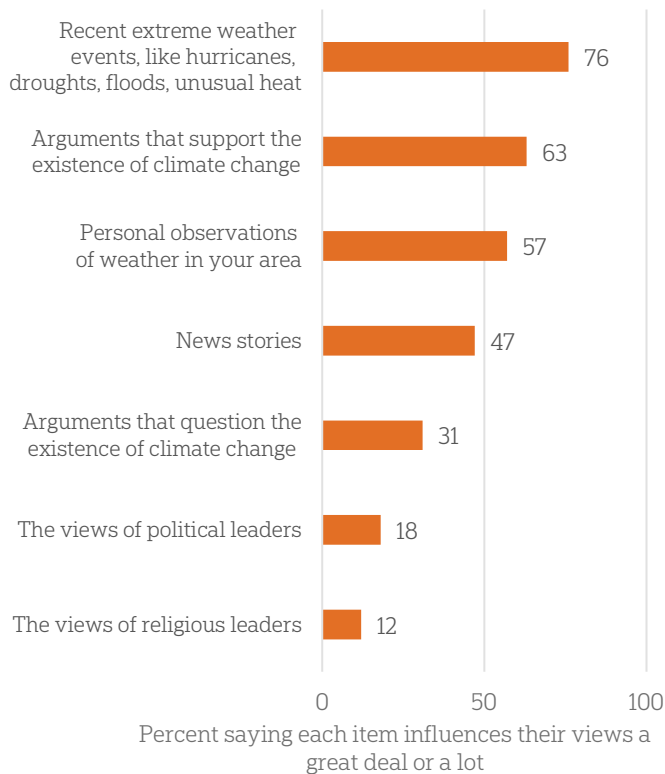
Question: Do you think climate change is caused entirely by human activities, caused mostly by human activities, caused about equally by human activities and natural changes in the environment, caused mostly by natural changes in the environment, or caused entirely by natural changes in the environment?

This survey was conducted by the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (EPIC) and The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research, with funding from EPIC. Interviews were conducted on the AmeriSpeak® Omnibus with a nationally representative sample of 1,202 adults age 18 and over online and using landlines and cell phones from November 14-19, 2018. Fifty percent identified as Democrats, 36 percent as Republicans, and 14 percent identified as independents. Total results have a margin of sampling error of +/- 3.9 percentage points. A full topline is available at www.apnorc.org.

✓ Nearly half of Americans say the science on climate change is more convincing than five years ago, with extreme weather driving their views.

- Forty-eight percent of Americans find the science on climate change to be more persuasive than it was five years ago, while 36 percent say their views are unchanged. Fourteen percent say the science has become less convincing.
- Three-quarters of those who think the science of climate change has become more convincing credit recent extreme weather events for changing their views. The survey was conducted while wildfires were burning out of control in California, though there were no significant regional differences in responses.
- Eighty-one percent of Democrats and 57 percent of Republicans who are more convinced now of climate change than five years ago cite recent weather changes as having a large influence on these views.
- Of those who say their views on the science are unchanged, 59 percent say climate change is real, 31 percent are unsure, and 10 percent do not believe climate change is actually occurring.

Among those who have become more convinced by the science of climate change in the last five years, extreme weather events are most often cited as an influential factor in their views.

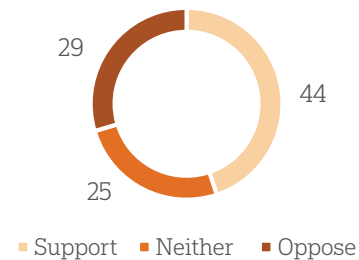


Questions: Do you find the science on climate change more convincing than five years ago, just about the same, or less convincing? In the past five years, how much influence, if any, have the following had on your views about the science on climate change?

- ✓ **Americans who accept that climate change is happening want the government to address it.**
 - Eighty-three percent of those who believe climate change is happening say the federal government should take steps to address climate change.
 - Eighty percent say the state government should take steps to fight climate change, and 76 percent say the same about their local government or community.
 - Republicans are less likely than Democrats to support government intervention.
- ✓ **Nearly half support a carbon tax, with that support generally rising once told how the funds would be used.**
 - Forty-four percent support and 29 percent oppose a policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by taxing the use of carbon-based fuels based on how much they contribute to climate change, irrespective of how the funds would be used. Twenty-five percent say they neither support nor oppose a carbon tax.

In general, nearly half of Americans support a carbon tax.

Percent of total

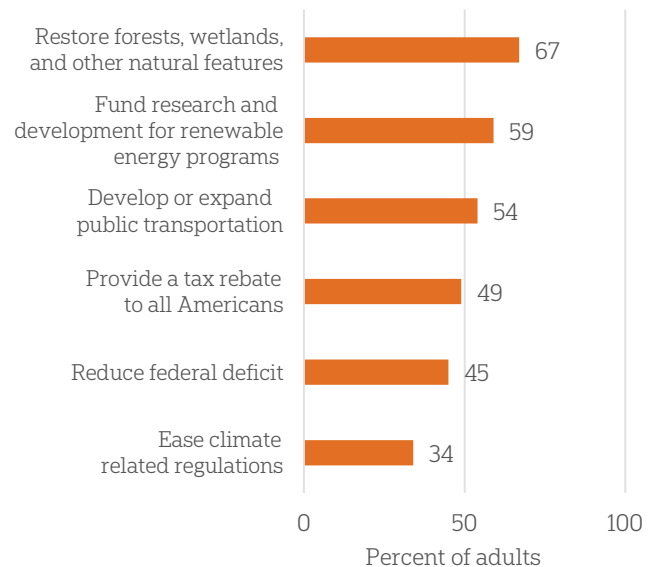


Question: Would you support, oppose, or neither support nor oppose a policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by taxing the use of carbon-based fuels such as coal, oil, and natural gas based on how much they contribute to climate change?

- Fifty-eight percent of those who think climate change is happening support a carbon tax, while 62 percent of those who do not accept that climate change is taking place oppose a carbon tax.
- Support for a carbon tax is generally higher once told how the funds would be used.
- Two-thirds support a carbon tax if the proceeds were used for environmental restoration and more than half support it if the funds were used towards research and development for renewable energy programs and public transportation.

Most Americans support a carbon tax used for renewable energy research or natural environment restoration, renewable energy research and public transportation.

% who would support a carbon tax if it was used to ...



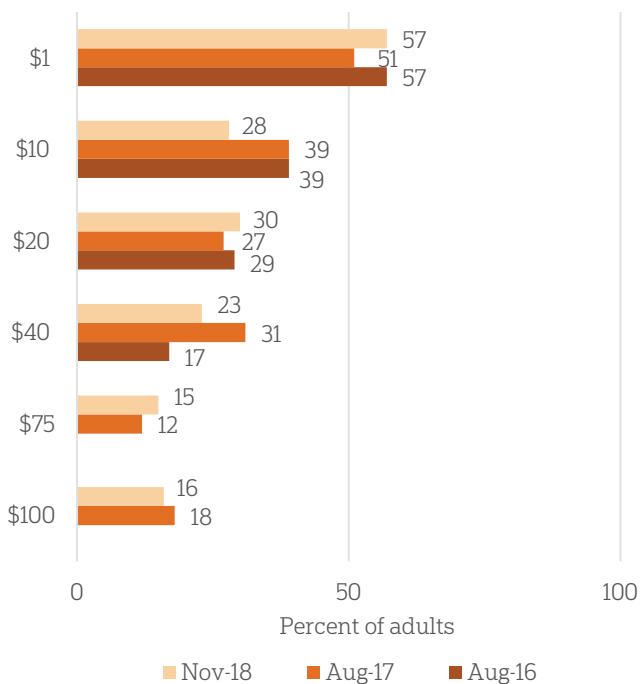
Question: Would you support, oppose, or neither support nor oppose taxing the emissions of carbon based fuels such as coal, oil, and natural gas if the tax revenue was used to:

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- ✓ **To combat climate change, about half of Americans would support a modest monthly fee on their electricity bill.**
 - Fifty-seven percent of Americans are willing to pay a monthly fee of at least \$1.
 - Twenty-three percent are willing to pay a monthly fee of at least \$40.

Support for a \$1 fee to combat climate change has remained fairly steady over time.

% who would vote in favor of each monthly amount to combat climate change

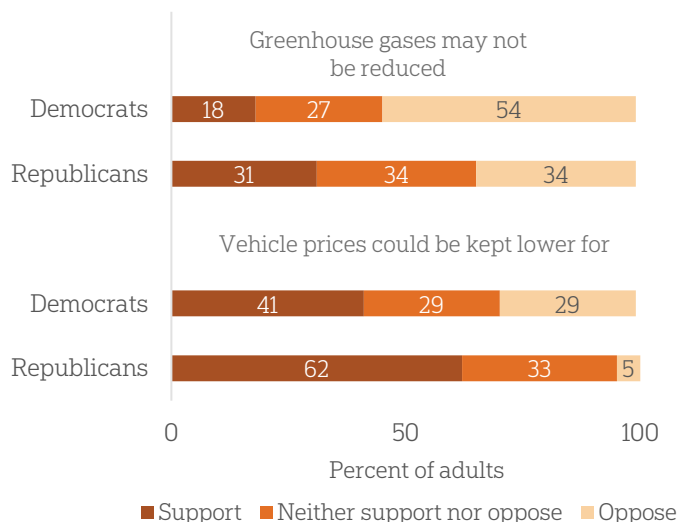


Question: Suppose a proposal was on the ballot next year to add a monthly fee to consumers' monthly electricity bill to combat climate change. If this proposal passes, it would cost your household (\$1, \$10, \$20, \$40, \$75, \$100) every month. Would you vote in favor of this monthly fee to combat climate change, or would you vote against this monthly fee?

- Party identification and acceptance of climate change are the main correlates of whether or not people are willing to pay, with Democrats being consistently more inclined to pay a fee.
- Just as in 2017, no differences emerge based on educational attainment or living in a coastal state.
- Those with household incomes of \$100,000 or higher are more likely than those who are less affluent to support a monthly utility fee in order to combat climate change.

- ✓ **Only 21 percent support freezing vehicle fuel efficiency standards when told greenhouse gas emissions would not be reduced.**
 - Last summer, the Trump administration proposed a freeze on fuel efficiency standards for cars, rolling back an Obama administration rule that requires automakers to nearly double the fuel economy of passenger vehicles to an average of about 54 miles per gallon by 2025.
 - Half of the survey respondents were told the proposed freeze could mean that greenhouse gas emissions would not be reduced. Only 21 percent support the freeze when they are given that argument.
 - The other half were told the proposed freeze could lead to reduced prices for vehicles. Of those, 49 percent support the freeze.

Support for a fuel efficiency freeze is dramatically lower when people are told it will mean greenhouse gas emissions are not reduced.



Question: Currently, the mile-per-gallon fuel standards for cars and light trucks are set to increase through the year 2025. The federal government is proposing to freeze these standards at 2020 levels. (This could keep vehicle prices lower for consumers/This could mean that greenhouse gas emissions are not reduced.) Do you support, neither support nor oppose, or oppose this proposal?

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