

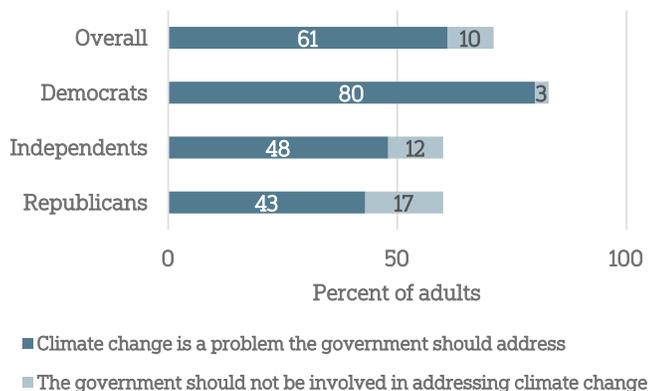
Reducing Carbon Emissions

FINDINGS FROM AN AUGUST 2017 SURVEY OF ADULTS AGE 18 AND OLDER

✓ Sixty-one percent of Americans say climate change is a problem the U.S. government should address.

- Seventy-two percent say climate change is happening, 9% say it is not happening, and 19% are unsure.
- Among just those who believe climate change is happening, 85% believe the government should take steps to address it while 14% do not, including 95% of Democrats, 80% of independents, and 71% of Republicans.
- Among all adults, not just those who believe climate change is happening, 61% percent say the government should take steps to address climate change and 10% see climate change as a problem but not something the government should be involved with addressing.

Eight in 10 Democrats say the government should take a role in addressing climate change. Fewer than half of Republicans and independents say the same.



Full question wording is available at www.apnorc.org.

✓ Majorities support state and local governments taking action to reduce emissions.

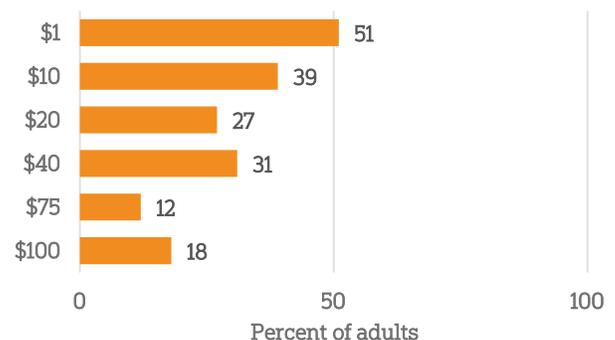
- Fifty-seven percent support actions taken by some mayors and governors to honor the goals of the Paris Agreement despite U.S. withdrawal. Ten percent oppose it, and 32% neither support nor oppose.
- Based on what they've seen, 55% think their state and local government should do more to address climate change, 10% say they should do less, and 33% say they should stick to the status quo.
- As with other policies to reduce emissions, support is largely driven by people's party identification and belief in climate change.

✓ To combat climate change, half of Americans would support a modest monthly fee on their electricity bill.

- Thirty-one percent would vote for a monthly fee of \$40, which is up from the 17% willing to pay that fee in 2016.
- Half of Americans are willing to pay a \$1 monthly fee.
- Political party and belief in climate change are the main determinants of whether people are willing to pay.
- Just 1 in 10 of those who either don't believe climate change is happening or who aren't sure would be willing to pay \$1.
- Just as in 2016, no differences emerge based on educational attainment or living in a coastal state.
- Forty-six percent of those with household incomes of \$100,000 or more would be willing to pay \$20 a month compared with 20% of those with household incomes of less than \$50,000. For other monthly fee amounts, there are no differences based on income.

Americans' willingness to pay to combat climate change varies, leveling off at steeper fees.

% who would support a monthly fee of...



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 or \$100] every month. Would you vote in favor of this monthly fee to combat change, or would you vote against this monthly fee?

✓ Climate change and energy are not top policy priorities for many Americans.

- Forty-eight percent say climate change is very or extremely important to them and 54% say the same about energy policy.
- In comparison, at least two-thirds say health care, the economy, and terrorism are important policy priorities.

Energy Policy in the U.S.

FINDINGS FROM AN AUGUST 2017 SURVEY OF ADULTS AGE 18 AND OLDER

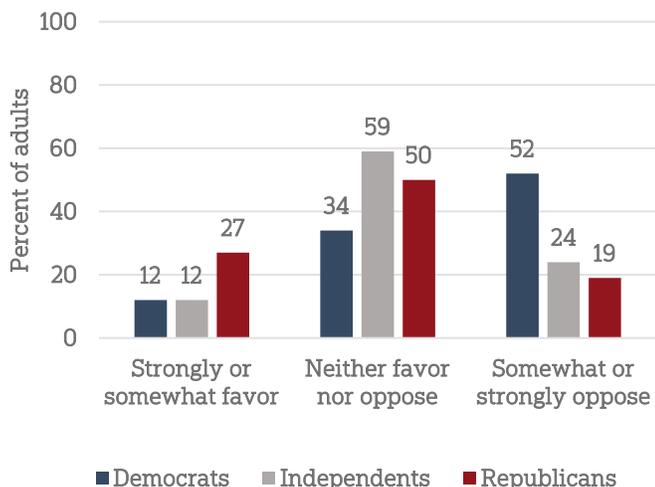
✓ **Most Americans say energy policy is personally important to them.**

- Fifty-four percent of adults say energy policy is important, 29% say it is moderately important, and 16% say it's not important.
- Democrats are more likely than Republicans to say energy policy is important (61% vs. 45%).

✓ **A third oppose the current direction of U.S. energy policy while nearly half neither support nor oppose the current direction.**

- Seventeen percent favor the direction of energy policy in the U.S., 35% oppose it, and 45% neither favor nor oppose its direction.
- Republicans are more likely than Democrats to favor the direction of energy policy, but they are also most likely to say they neither favor nor oppose current policy.

A majority of Democrats oppose the direction of U.S. energy policy, while many Republicans and independents remain neutral.



Question: In general, do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose the direction of U.S. energy policy?

✓ **More than 4 in 10 incorrectly believe the coal industry employs more people than the solar industry.**

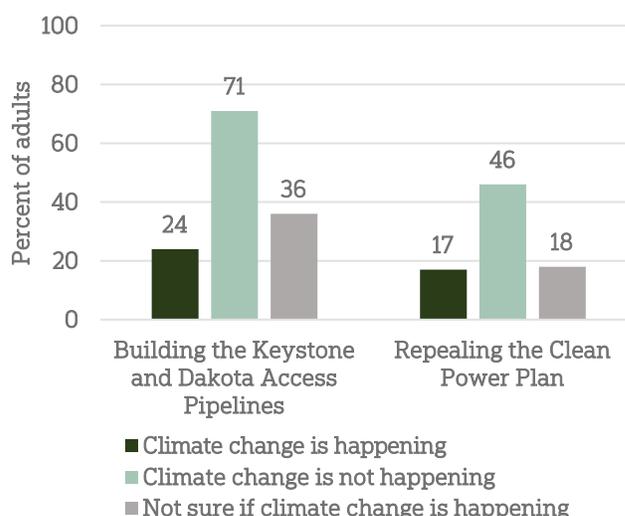
- The solar industry employed more than twice as many people as the coal industry in 2016, though 44% believe the opposite.
- Forty-eight percent correctly say the solar industry employs more people than the coal industry.
- Republicans are more likely than Democrats to incorrectly believe the coal industry employs more people (53% vs. 41%).

✓ **About a third of Americans lack opinions on the Keystone and Dakota Access Pipelines or the repeal of the Clean Power Plan.**

- Roughly equal numbers of Americans favor, oppose, and neither favor nor oppose the construction of the Keystone and Dakota Access Pipelines.
- While the Trump administration reviews the Clean Power Plan, 20% of Americans favor its repeal, 40% oppose repeal, and 37% neither favor nor oppose repeal.
- Views toward climate change influence support for each policy.

Attitudes about whether climate change is happening shape attitudes toward major U.S. energy policies.

% who favor...



Question: Do you favor, oppose, or neither favor nor oppose each of the following? Building the Keystone and Dakota Access Pipelines; Repealing the Clean Power Plan

The Paris Agreement

FINDINGS FROM AN AUGUST 2017 SURVEY OF ADULTS AGE 18 AND OLDER

- ✓ **More Americans oppose withdrawal from the Paris Agreement than support it, but 3 in 10 don't have an opinion.**
 - Twenty-eight percent say they support withdrawal, 42% oppose it, and 28% neither support nor oppose withdrawal.
 - Opinion remains unchanged since June 2017.
- ✓ **Half of those who support withdrawal say the agreement was too costly for the U.S.**
 - Among those who support withdrawal, 52% say a major reason why is because the agreement was too costly for the U.S.
 - Not believing other countries would stick to the agreement is a major reason why 44% support withdrawal.
 - Seven in 10 under age 45 are concerned that other countries won't stick to the agreement, compared with 84% of adults age 45 and older.
 - Fewer support withdrawal because they believe climate change is not a serious threat.

Support for U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Agreement has more to do with economics than attitudes toward climate change.

% who say a major or minor reason why they support withdrawal is because they...



Question: There are many reasons why someone might support U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Agreement. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major reason, minor reason, or not a reason at all that you support U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Agreement.

- ✓ **Those who oppose withdrawal feel strongly that climate change is a serious threat, the U.S. should meet its commitments, and the U.S. should be a leader on climate change.**
 - Eight in 10 who oppose U.S. withdrawal say a major reason why is that they believe climate change is a serious threat.
 - More than 7 in 10 say major reasons for their opposition are that the U.S. should make good on its commitments and that the U.S. should be a global leader on climate change.

Opposition to U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Agreement is motivated by several concerns.

% who say a major or minor reason why they oppose withdrawal is because they...



Questions: There are many reasons why someone might oppose U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Agreement. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major reason, minor reason, or not a reason at all that you oppose U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Agreement.

- ✓ **Four in 10 Americans believe U.S. withdrawal will have a demotivating effect on other countries in the agreement.**
 - Thirty-seven percent say U.S. withdrawal from the agreement will make other countries less likely to meet their obligations.
 - Twenty-one percent think U.S. withdrawal from the agreement will make other countries more likely to meet their obligations, while 38% don't think it will make a difference.
 - Older adults are more likely than younger adults to say other countries will be less likely to meet their obligations (44% of adults age 45 and older vs. 29% of adults age 18 to 44).