

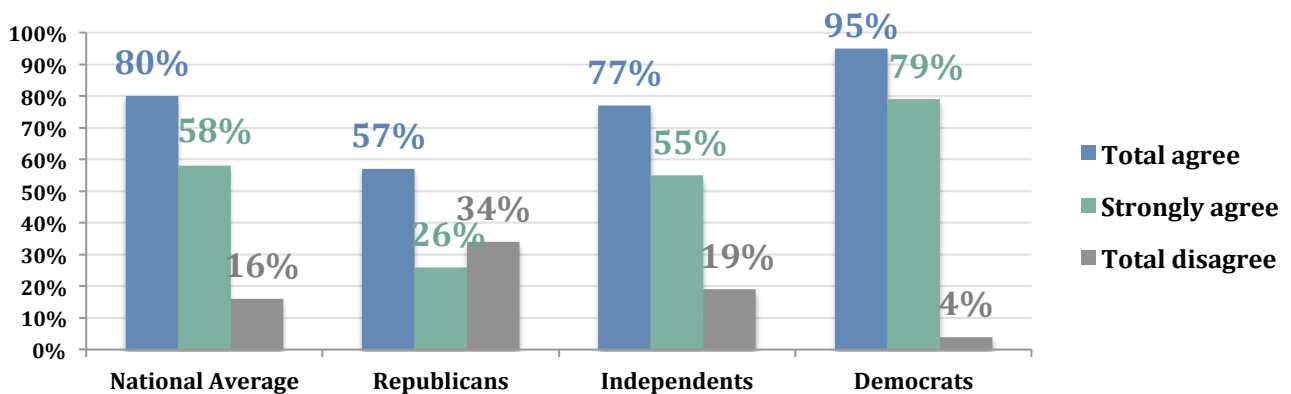
8 out of 10 Americans Agree: Local Communities Should Take Up the Mantle on Climate Solutions

Mayors across the country are stepping forward to lead on climate in the wake of federal backsliding on the Paris Climate Accords. This leadership is strongly supported by the people in their communities, according to non-profit ecoAmerica.

In the **July 2017 American Climate Perspectives Survey** ecoAmerica found that eight in ten Americans would like to see their community take steps to address climate change and prepare for its impacts. Democrats reported the highest agreement at 95% (79% strongly agree), followed by Independents at 77% (55% strongly) and Republicans at 57% (26% strongly).

I'd like to see my community take steps to address climate change and prepare for its impacts.

828 respondent(s). select one, % Total Agree vs. Strongly agree vs. Total Disagree



ecoAmerica also found that Americans ranked climate solutions, such as clean, renewable energy (89% favor) and green spaces (92% favor), nearly as high as building a prosperous economy with good jobs (96% favor).

What are the best ways to ensure our community is strong and healthy?

% Total Agree vs. % Strongly Agree

	Total Agree	Strongly Agree
Build up a prosperous local economy with good jobs	96%	75%
Improve infrastructure like roads and public transportation	94%	68%
Ensure first responders and city services are prepared for extreme weather	93%	64%
Ensure easy access to clean and safe green spaces like parks	92%	59%
Reduce pollution with more clean, renewable energy	89%	64%

A strong majority of Americans also believe their communities should be doing more to provide and protect green spaces like parks and walking trails, conserve energy, reduce air and water pollution, enhance walkability, provide clean energy like wind and solar, and educate citizens on climate change. There are only minor variances among political parties, indicating broad support for the kinds of actions, programs, and improvements that enhance quality of life while also prepare for and help to prevent further climate change.

My community should do more to:

% Total agree

	Republican	Independent	Democrat	Other
Provide and protect green spaces like parks and trails	87%	92%	97%	88%
Conserve energy	82%	91%	97%	87%
Reduce air and water pollution	84%	88%	97%	85%
Enhance walkability	84%	88%	94%	83%
Provide clean energy like wind and solar energy	75%	84%	96%	85%
Educate citizens about climate impacts and solution	62%	80%	94%	81%
Expand public transportation	74%	79%	90%	75%

Support for climate solutions mounts and partisan gaps begin to diminish when Americans are presented with specific climate solutions their community can act on. While the federal government bypasses climate solutions in hopes of putting America and the economy first, a majority of Americans agree we should steer our local communities towards climate solutions to help create safe, healthy, and vibrant places we all want to call home.

Methodology

ecoAmerica designed and fielded this survey. It was conducted online from June 16 – June 18, 2017 using Survey Monkey. The nationally representative sample of 828 adults was drawn from an online panel and respondents were screened to be over the age of 18 residing in the United States. The margin of error for the sample is +/-3.5%. In interpreting survey results, all sample surveys are subject to possible sampling error; that is, the results of a survey may differ from those, which would be obtained if the entire population were interviewed. The size of the sampling error depends upon both the total number of respondents in the survey and the percentage distribution of responses to a particular question. For example, if 50% of respondents in a sample of 900 respondents answered, “Yes” to a particular question, we can be 95% confident that the true percentage will fall within 3.5 points, or from 46.5% to 53.5%.

Suggested Citation

Speiser, M., and Fery, P. (2017). ecoAmerica, American Climate Perspectives: July 2017. 8 Out of 10 Americans Agree: Local Communities Should Take Up the Mantle On Climate Solutions. *ecoAmerica*. Washington, D.C.

For more information contact Meighen Speiser, ecoAmerica Chief Engagement Officer at meighen@ecoAmerica.org