



# Where Americans Stand On Energy & Climate



✓ Most Americans believe climate change is happening and that the **government should do something about it**. Nearly half say the science is more convincing than five years ago.

✓ Nearly half of Americans **support a carbon tax**. That share is higher when told that the tax would go toward environmental restoration or renewable energy R&D.

✓ Greenhouse gas emissions are **more important than vehicle prices** in shaping American's views on fuel-efficiency standards.

## The Climate Change Reality



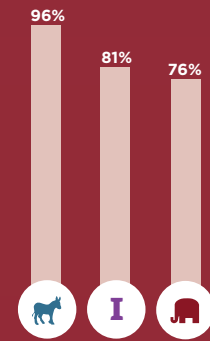
7 in 10 Americans say **climate change is a reality** and most think human activity has at least something to do with it.

## Government's Role



Eighty percent say their state government should address climate change, and 76 percent say their local government or community should address it.

## A Large Majority



Among those who believe climate change is happening, substantial majorities of both major parties want the government to take steps to address it.

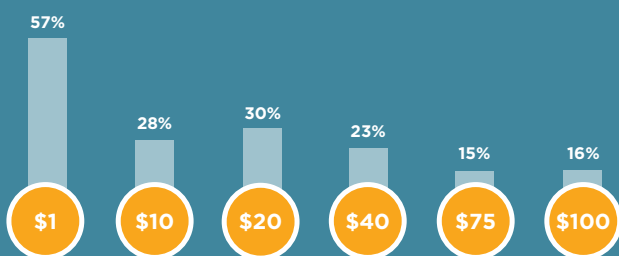
## Extreme Weather is Changing Views

**Forty-eight percent** of Americans say the science on climate change is more convincing than five years ago, with extreme weather driving their views.



## Climate Policy

### Willingness to Pay a Modest Fee to Combat Climate Change



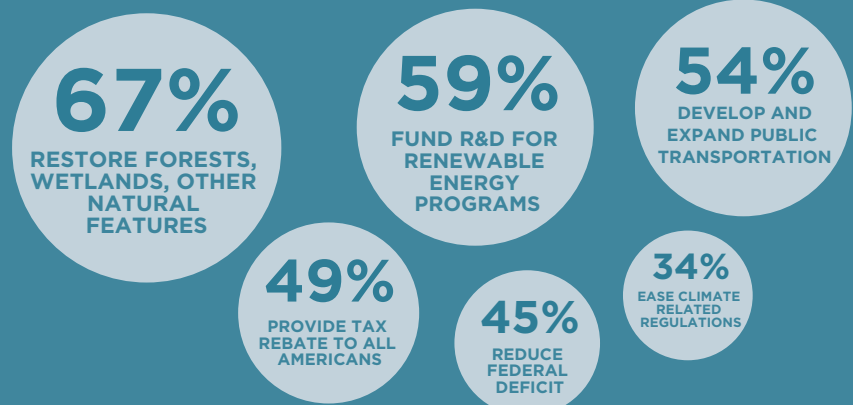
% who would support a monthly fee of at least...

When asked whether they would support a monthly fee on their electricity bill to combat climate change, 16 percent are willing to pay at least \$100 per month. Twenty-three percent indicate they are willing to pay at least \$40 per month. Party identification and acceptance of climate change are the main correlates of whether or not people are willing to pay, not education or geographic location. Democrats are consistently willing to pay more than Republicans and independents.

## Strong Carbon Tax Support

**Forty-four percent** support a policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by taxing the use of carbon-based fuels based on how much they contribute to climate change. That support is generally higher once told how the funds would be used.

% that would support a carbon tax when used for...



## Policy Spotlight: Vehicle Fuel-Efficiency Standards

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 those surveyed were told the proposed freeze could lead to reduced prices for cars. The other half were told the proposed freeze could mean that greenhouse gas emissions would not be reduced.

