

America's Hidden Common Ground on Climate Change Results from a Public Agenda/USA Today/Ipsos Snapshot Poll

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Hidden Common Ground 2020 is a major initiative spearheaded by Public Agenda and USA Today, along with the National Issues Forums, the Election 2020: America Amplified Public Media Collaborative, and Ipsos. Through nonpartisan research, robust journalism, "Strange Bedfellows" storytelling, and community dialogue and events, the initiative promotes thoughtful, solutions-oriented public engagement during election season. The present snapshot survey focuses on how Americans think the country should come to terms with climate change.

First, a strong majority of Americans (72%) agree on the importance of "reducing the effects of global climate change," a total that includes 55% of Republicans, 78% of Independents and 86% of Democrats.

More specifically, Republicans and Democrats both tend to support climate change ideas that involve increasing energy efficiencies and modernizing production processes.

- Most Republicans (70%), Democrats (83%) and Independents (81%) support modernizing the U.S. electrical grid to reduce waste in energy production and distribution. Similarly, there is significant support for creating strong energy efficiency standards for all new and existing buildings (63% of Republicans, 82% of Democrats, and 71% of Independents).

Where opinions diverge the most is on government finances.

- While 80% of Democrats support the U.S. government financially assisting US cities and states to fight climate change, just half of Republicans say the same. Taxing pollution like carbon dioxide and investing the resources in renewable energy is also not an ideal solution for Republicans (48%) but is for Democrats (72%).

With regards to infrastructural changes, Americans again converge on policies that introduce efficiencies for the public and begin to diverge on those that explicitly entail government spending or mandate action by business or private citizens:

- Majorities of Republicans (58 percent), Democrats (79 percent) and Independents (75 percent) support creating a nation-wide system of low pollution, high-speed trains. But a weaker plurality of Republicans (46%) support providing government subsidies to increase the number of charging stations for electric cars and trucks, compared to 72 percent of Democrats and 57 percent of Independents. Meanwhile, the proposal to require all new cars and trucks to be energy efficient, such as electric vehicles, is supported by 40 percent of Republicans, 57 percent of Democrats and 50 percent of Independents.

Policies that affect the average American consumer are generally less well-received across all political parties. However, those that received more support, particularly among Republicans, impact narrow segments of the population (e.g. homeowners, electric car owners):

- A majority of Republicans (61%), Democrats (77%), and Independents (69%) support providing tax breaks or incentives to homeowners/building owners who switch to renewable sources.
- Similarly, 59% of support providing tax breaks or incentives to people who buy electric cars or trucks.
- Support is much lower for a policy that impacts the average American: creating a tax on the amount ordinary people pollute (24% of Republicans, 41% of Democrats, and 43% of Independents).



Overall, Americans, regardless of party affiliation, are supportive of policies that mandate recycling:

- 69% support mandating recycling for nearly all American businesses (57% of Republicans, 80% of Democrats, and 76% of Independents).
- 63% support mandating recycling for nearly all American households (53% of Republicans, 70% of Democrats, 72% of Independents)
- 66% support providing government grants and tax incentives for recycling companies (60% of Republicans, 75% of Democrats, and 69% of Independents).

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For full results, please refer to the following annotated questionnaire.

Full Annotated Questionnaire:

1. Would you support or not support the following ideas?

Total Support Summary

	Total (N=1,006)	Republican (N=397)	Democrat (N=407)	Independent (N=102)
Modernizing the U.S. electrical grid to reduce waste in energy production and distribution	76%	70%	83%	81%
Reducing the effects of global climate change	72%	55%	86%	78%
Creating stronger energy efficiency standards for all new and existing buildings	71%	63%	82%	71%
Government investment in technologies to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere to slow climate change	68%	55%	81%	64%
The United States government financially assisting US cities and states to help with their efforts to fight climate change	65%	50%	80%	63%
Shifting all U.S. energy production away from coal and oil, and towards renewable sources like solar, wind, hydroelectric, or nuclear power by 2050	62%	46%	77%	65%
Taxing pollution like carbon dioxide and investing the resources in renewable energy	59%	48%	72%	57%
The government creating a “Green Investment Bank” in order to invest in businesses and technologies that reduce the effects of climate change	59%	46%	67%	63%
The United States government financially assisting developing nations with their efforts to fight climate change	54%	36%	70%	58%

- a. Shifting all U.S. energy production away from coal and oil, and towards renewable sources like solar, wind, hydroelectric, or nuclear power by 2050

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	34%	20%	49%	31%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	28%	26%	27%	34%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	12%	15%	10%	8%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	11%	24%	1%	9%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	15%	14%	12%	17%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	62%	46%	77%	65%
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	23%	39%	11%	18%

- b. Modernizing the U.S. electrical grid to reduce waste in energy production and distribution

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	41%	32%	54%	34%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	35%	37%	28%	47%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	7%	11%	5%	3%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	3%	7%	2%	*
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	14%	13%	11%	16%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	76%	70%	83%	81%
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	11%	17%	6%	3%

c. Taxing pollution like carbon dioxide and investing the resources in renewable energy

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	27%	17%	37%	25%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	32%	31%	34%	32%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	14%	16%	12%	18%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	11%	23%	3%	5%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	16%	13%	13%	19%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	59%	48%	72%	57%
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	24%	39%	15%	24%

d. Government investment in technologies to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere to slow climate change

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	36%	24%	53%	20%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	32%	31%	28%	44%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	10%	15%	5%	14%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	6%	15%	*	3%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	16%	15%	13%	19%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	68%	55%	81%	64%
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	17%	30%	6%	16%

e. Creating stronger energy efficiency standards for all new and existing buildings

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	36%	23%	49%	30%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	35%	40%	33%	41%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	9%	12%	5%	8%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	7%	11%	3%	9%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	14%	15%	10%	13%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	71%	63%	82%	71%
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	15%	22%	8%	17%

f. The government creating a "Green Investment Bank" in order to invest in businesses and technologies that reduce the effects of climate change

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	29%	19%	39%	19%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	30%	27%	28%	44%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	15%	20%	13%	14%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	9%	18%	2%	8%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	18%	16%	18%	15%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	59%	46%	67%	63%
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	23%	38%	15%	22%

g. The United States government financially assisting developing nations with their efforts to fight climate change

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	23%	13%	31%	21%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	32%	22%	38%	37%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	15%	22%	11%	13%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	14%	28%	3%	9%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	16%	14%	17%	20%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>54%</i>	<i>36%</i>	<i>70%</i>	<i>58%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>29%</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>14%</i>	<i>22%</i>

h. The United States government financially assisting US cities and states to help with their efforts to fight climate change

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	34%	20%	49%	22%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	31%	30%	31%	40%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	11%	17%	7%	11%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	10%	21%	1%	7%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	14%	12%	12%	19%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>65%</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>80%</i>	<i>63%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>21%</i>	<i>38%</i>	<i>8%</i>	<i>18%</i>

i. Reducing the effects of global climate change

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	44%	24%	64%	42%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	28%	31%	22%	36%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	8%	13%	5%	4%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	6%	15%	1%	*
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	14%	16%	8%	17%
Support (Net)	72%	55%	86%	78%
Not support (Net)	14%	28%	6%	5%

2. Would you support or not support the following policies or ideas about U.S. land and environment protection?

Total Support Summary

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Expanding reforestation efforts, protection of sensitive lands, restoration of wetlands	77%	73%	83%	77%
Expanding government programs to clean up severely polluted sites and strengthen regulations that discourage excessive pollution in the future	74%	64%	82%	81%
Banning drilling for oil and gas in the Arctic and other sensitive areas	52%	34%	69%	58%
Banning drilling for oil and gas off the East and West Coasts of the continental United States	46%	31%	62%	41%

a. Expanding reforestation efforts, protection of sensitive lands, restoration of wetlands

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	46%	34%	60%	40%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	30%	39%	23%	37%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	7%	8%	6%	3%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	4%	7%	*	8%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	13%	12%	11%	12%
Support (Net)	77%	73%	83%	77%
Not support (Net)	10%	15%	6%	11%

b. Expanding government programs to clean up severely polluted sites and strengthen regulations that discourage excessive pollution in the future

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	42%	28%	55%	39%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	32%	36%	27%	42%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	8%	10%	8%	6%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	6%	13%	1%	2%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	13%	13%	9%	10%
Support (Net)	74%	64%	82%	81%
Not support (Net)	13%	23%	8%	9%

c. Banning drilling for oil and gas in the Arctic and other sensitive areas

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	30%	15%	44%	24%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	23%	19%	24%	33%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	14%	19%	10%	9%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	14%	30%	3%	9%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	20%	17%	19%	25%
Support (Net)	52%	34%	69%	58%
Not support (Net)	28%	50%	13%	17%

d. Banning drilling for oil and gas off the East and West Coasts of the continental United States

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	24%	12%	37%	17%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	23%	19%	26%	24%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	18%	21%	13%	23%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	15%	32%	3%	9%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	21%	16%	21%	27%
Support (Net)	46%	31%	62%	41%
Not support (Net)	32%	53%	16%	32%

3. Would you support or not support the following policies or ideas about the U.S. transportation system?

Total Support Summary

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Creating a nation-wide system of low pollution, high-speed trains	69%	58%	79%	75%
Requiring all new mass transit vehicles (planes, buses, trains, and boats) to be energy-efficient such as electric vehicles	63%	52%	73%	65%
Creating more dedicated high-speed bus lanes in urban and suburban areas	60%	53%	70%	62%
Providing government subsidies to increase the number of charging stations for electric cars and trucks.	59%	46%	72%	57%
Requiring all new cars and trucks to be energy efficient such as electric vehicles.	54%	40%	67%	50%

a. Requiring all new mass transit vehicles (planes, buses, trains, and boats) to be energy-efficient such as electric vehicles

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	29%	18%	39%	32%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	35%	35%	34%	34%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	14%	17%	11%	20%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	8%	17%	1%	2%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	15%	14%	14%	13%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>63%</i>	<i>52%</i>	<i>73%</i>	<i>65%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>22%</i>	<i>34%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>22%</i>

b. Requiring all new cars and trucks to be energy efficient such as electric vehicles.

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	26%	15%	36%	27%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	29%	25%	31%	23%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	18%	21%	16%	22%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	11%	25%	3%	6%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	16%	15%	14%	22%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	54%	40%	67%	50%
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	29%	45%	19%	28%

c. Creating a nation-wide system of low pollution, high-speed trains

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	32%	21%	44%	24%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	37%	36%	36%	51%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	10%	15%	8%	7%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	7%	15%	1%	2%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	14%	12%	12%	15%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	69%	58%	79%	75%
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	16%	30%	9%	10%

d. Creating more dedicated high-speed bus lanes in urban and suburban areas

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	25%	16%	32%	32%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	35%	36%	38%	30%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	14%	18%	12%	10%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	8%	14%	3%	5%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	17%	15%	14%	23%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	60%	53%	70%	62%
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	23%	33%	15%	15%

e. Providing government subsidies to increase the number of charging stations for electric cars and trucks.

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	24%	14%	33%	24%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	35%	32%	39%	33%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	13%	19%	8%	12%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	11%	20%	3%	13%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	17%	14%	17%	17%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	59%	46%	72%	57%
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	24%	39%	11%	25%

4. Would you support or not support the following policies or ideas about American consumers?

Total Support Summary

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Providing tax breaks or incentives to homeowners or building owners who switch to renewable energy such as solar or wind power	69%	61%	77%	69%
Mandating recycling for nearly all American households	63%	53%	70%	72%
Becoming as “carbon neutral” as possible by, for example, offsetting your air travel and the climate-polluting gases it creates by supporting organizations that plant trees to absorb such pollution.	60%	50%	69%	61%
Providing tax breaks or incentives to people who buy electric cars or trucks	59%	49%	70%	62%
Joining a consumer movement to boycott high-polluting companies and reward low-polluting ones.	49%	34%	63%	53%
Creating a tax on the amount ordinary people pollute.	33%	24%	41%	43%

a. Providing tax breaks or incentives to people who buy electric cars or trucks

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	25%	17%	33%	28%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	33%	32%	38%	34%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	15%	17%	12%	16%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	10%	20%	3%	8%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	16%	14%	15%	15%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	59%	49%	70%	62%
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	25%	37%	15%	24%

b. Providing tax breaks or incentives to homeowners or building owners who switch to renewable energy such as solar or wind power

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	35%	25%	43%	30%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	34%	36%	34%	39%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	10%	13%	7%	9%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	8%	13%	4%	8%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	14%	12%	12%	15%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	69%	61%	77%	69%
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	18%	27%	11%	16%

c. Creating a tax on the amount ordinary people pollute.

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	12%	7%	15%	17%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	22%	16%	26%	26%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	21%	22%	21%	21%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	27%	40%	19%	15%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	18%	14%	19%	20%
Support (Net)	33%	24%	41%	43%
Not support (Net)	48%	62%	40%	37%

d. Mandating recycling for nearly all American households

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	32%	23%	38%	42%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	31%	30%	32%	30%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	14%	19%	12%	11%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	11%	19%	5%	6%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	12%	9%	13%	11%
Support (Net)	63%	53%	70%	72%
Not support (Net)	25%	38%	17%	17%

- e. Becoming as “carbon neutral” as possible by, for example, offsetting your air travel and the climate-polluting gases it creates by supporting organizations that plant trees to absorb such pollution.

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	25%	16%	36%	15%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	35%	34%	33%	45%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	11%	16%	8%	10%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	9%	19%	4%	5%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	20%	15%	19%	25%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>69%</i>	<i>61%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>21%</i>	<i>35%</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>15%</i>

- f. Joining a consumer movement to boycott high-polluting companies and reward low-polluting ones.

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	21%	14%	28%	22%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	28%	20%	35%	31%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	18%	22%	15%	15%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	15%	29%	5%	7%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	19%	15%	17%	25%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>49%</i>	<i>34%</i>	<i>63%</i>	<i>53%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>32%</i>	<i>51%</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>22%</i>

5. Would you support or not support the following policies or ideas about American businesses?

Total Support Summary

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Mandating recycling for nearly all Americans businesses	69%	57%	80%	76%
Providing tax breaks or incentives to businesses that switch to or use renewable energy such as solar or wind power	68%	59%	76%	73%
Providing government grants and tax incentives for recycling companies	66%	60%	75%	69%
Providing tax breaks and other supports for oil, gas, and coal workers to help them retrain and find jobs in the green-energy economy	64%	57%	74%	59%
Creating a tax on the amount businesses pollute to discourage them from polluting and encourage them to switch to clean, renewable energy sources	62%	50%	73%	65%
Providing tax breaks or incentives to businesses that to switch to or use electric cars or trucks.	59%	49%	70%	64%

a. Providing tax breaks or incentives to businesses that to switch to or use electric cars or trucks.

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	24%	19%	31%	24%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	35%	30%	39%	41%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	13%	18%	8%	13%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	11%	18%	6%	12%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	17%	15%	16%	10%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>59%</i>	<i>49%</i>	<i>70%</i>	<i>64%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>24%</i>	<i>36%</i>	<i>14%</i>	<i>25%</i>

b. Providing tax breaks or incentives to businesses that switch to or use renewable energy such as solar or wind power

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	31%	23%	40%	27%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	38%	36%	37%	46%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	10%	15%	7%	12%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	7%	14%	2%	6%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	15%	13%	14%	8%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>68%</i>	<i>59%</i>	<i>76%</i>	<i>73%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>17%</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>19%</i>

c. Creating a tax on the amount businesses pollute to discourage them from polluting and encourage them to switch to clean, renewable energy sources

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	31%	21%	40%	31%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	31%	29%	33%	34%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	13%	18%	9%	13%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	10%	19%	4%	6%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	16%	13%	14%	17%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>62%</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>73%</i>	<i>65%</i>
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	<i>23%</i>	<i>37%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>18%</i>

d. Providing government grants and tax incentives for recycling companies

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	28%	22%	35%	26%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	38%	37%	40%	43%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	10%	14%	8%	10%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	8%	14%	2%	10%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	15%	13%	14%	11%
Support (Net)	66%	60%	75%	69%
Not support (Net)	18%	28%	11%	20%

e. Mandating recycling for nearly all Americans businesses

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	36%	27%	45%	39%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	33%	30%	35%	38%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	10%	15%	6%	10%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	8%	17%	2%	5%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	13%	11%	12%	9%
Support (Net)	69%	57%	80%	76%
Not support (Net)	18%	32%	8%	15%

- f. Providing tax breaks and other supports for oil, gas, and coal workers to help them retrain and find jobs in the green-energy economy

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It sounds very good to me, and I would support it	29%	23%	38%	22%
It sounds somewhat good to me, and I would probably support it	35%	34%	35%	37%
It does not sound very good to me, and I would probably not support it	10%	13%	7%	10%
It does not sound good at all, and I would not support it	9%	16%	4%	11%
Don't know/Don't have enough information to say	17%	14%	15%	20%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	64%	57%	74%	59%
<i>Not support (Net)</i>	20%	29%	11%	21%

6. Earlier you said you [Q1A response: would support/would not support/don't know] the goal of shifting all American energy production to renewable sources by 2050. Do the following pieces of information make you more or less likely to support the U.S. going carbon neutral by 2050?

Total More Likely to Support Summary

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Many economists believe that investing in technologies and businesses to reduce climate change will create jobs.	54%	41%	68%	56%
Most scientists calculate that unless the world seriously reduces climate pollution by 2050, the climate impacts are likely to lead to more extreme storms, floods and famines, as well as mass migration, millions of deaths, and dangerously unstable economic conditions.	52%	37%	69%	46%
The changing climate has increased the frequency of record heat and rain events by 75% in North America and increased the frequency of drought by 50%.	52%	36%	70%	42%
In order to stop emitting carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, ordinary Americans will have to significantly change their lifestyles.	45%	34%	57%	41%
The people most hurt by climate change are the poor, elderly, and ill.	44%	28%	62%	34%
Shifting to a climate-friendly economy will require major reductions or changes to several major industries including coal, oil, manufacturing, transportation, and agriculture.	42%	30%	54%	41%
People currently employed in today's energy industries like coal and oil will have to find new jobs.	38%	30%	48%	33%

Total Less Likely to Support Summary

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
People currently employed in today's energy industries like coal and oil will have to find new jobs.	19%	27%	12%	19%
Shifting to a climate-friendly economy will require major reductions or changes to several major industries including coal, oil, manufacturing, transportation, and agriculture	15%	25%	8%	10%
In order to stop emitting carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, ordinary Americans will have to significantly change their lifestyles	15%	24%	8%	17%
The people most hurt by climate change are the poor, elderly, and ill	13%	20%	7%	14%
Most scientists calculate that unless the world seriously reduces climate pollution by 2050, the climate impacts are likely to lead to more extreme storms, floods and famines, as well as mass migration, millions of deaths, and dangerously unstable economic conditions	12%	22%	7%	6%
The changing climate has increased the frequency of record heat and rain events by 75% in North America and increased the frequency of drought by 50%	9%	15%	3%	14%
Many economists believe that investing in technologies and businesses to reduce climate change will create jobs	9%	16%	3%	10%

- a. Most scientists calculate that unless the world seriously reduces climate pollution by 2050, the climate impacts are likely to lead to more extreme storms, floods and famines, as well as mass migration, millions of deaths, and dangerously unstable economic conditions.

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Much more likely	27%	14%	41%	20%
Somewhat more likely	25%	22%	28%	26%
No different	23%	30%	15%	25%
Somewhat less likely	5%	8%	5%	2%
Much less likely	7%	14%	2%	4%
Don't know	13%	11%	9%	23%
<i>More likely to support (Net)</i>	52%	37%	69%	46%
<i>Less likely to support (Net)</i>	12%	22%	7%	6%

- b. The changing climate has increased the frequency of record heat and rain events by 75% in North America and increased the frequency of drought by 50%.

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Much more likely	24%	13%	38%	11%
Somewhat more likely	28%	23%	32%	31%
No different	25%	35%	17%	20%
Somewhat less likely	4%	4%	2%	13%
Much less likely	5%	11%	1%	1%
Don't know	14%	13%	10%	24%
<i>More likely to support (Net)</i>	52%	36%	70%	42%
<i>Less likely to support (Net)</i>	9%	15%	3%	14%

- c. Many economists believe that investing in technologies and businesses to reduce climate change will create jobs.

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Much more likely	23%	16%	31%	15%
Somewhat more likely	31%	25%	37%	41%
No different	25%	33%	20%	15%
Somewhat less likely	4%	7%	2%	7%
Much less likely	4%	9%	1%	3%
Don't know	12%	10%	9%	19%
<i>More likely to support (Net)</i>	54%	41%	68%	56%
<i>Less likely to support (Net)</i>	9%	16%	3%	10%

d. People currently employed in today's energy industries like coal and oil will have to find new jobs.

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Much more likely	18%	12%	24%	13%
Somewhat more likely	20%	18%	24%	20%
No different	30%	33%	30%	27%
Somewhat less likely	12%	13%	9%	16%
Much less likely	7%	14%	3%	3%
Don't know	13%	10%	10%	21%
<i>More likely to support (Net)</i>	38%	30%	48%	33%
<i>Less likely to support (Net)</i>	19%	27%	12%	19%

e. The people most hurt by climate change are the poor, elderly, and ill.

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Much more likely	21%	14%	32%	9%
Somewhat more likely	23%	15%	30%	25%
No different	29%	38%	21%	27%
Somewhat less likely	6%	9%	4%	10%
Much less likely	6%	11%	3%	4%
Don't know	14%	13%	9%	25%
<i>More likely to support (Net)</i>	44%	28%	62%	34%
<i>Less likely to support (Net)</i>	13%	20%	7%	14%

f. Shifting to a climate-friendly economy will require major reductions or changes to several major industries including coal, oil, manufacturing, transportation, and agriculture.

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Much more likely	19%	13%	26%	11%
Somewhat more likely	23%	17%	28%	30%
No different	30%	34%	29%	27%
Somewhat less likely	8%	12%	5%	8%
Much less likely	7%	13%	2%	2%
Don't know	13%	12%	10%	22%
<i>More likely to support (Net)</i>	42%	30%	54%	41%
<i>Less likely to support (Net)</i>	15%	25%	8%	10%

g. In order to stop emitting carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, ordinary Americans will have to significantly change their lifestyles.

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Much more likely	17%	10%	21%	20%
Somewhat more likely	28%	24%	35%	21%
No different	28%	32%	25%	23%
Somewhat less likely	9%	12%	5%	13%
Much less likely	6%	12%	3%	4%
Don't know	12%	10%	10%	20%
<i>More likely to support (Net)</i>	45%	34%	57%	41%
<i>Less likely to support (Net)</i>	15%	24%	8%	17%

7. What is your opinion of the following:

Total Favorable Summary

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Climate scientists	59%	42%	78%	61%
Climate activists	51%	31%	75%	53%
Green New Deal	44%	28%	61%	42%
Paris Climate Agreement	43%	27%	63%	34%
The oil and gas industry	41%	57%	31%	42%

a. Paris Climate Agreement

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Very favorable	18%	6%	34%	9%
Somewhat favorable	25%	22%	29%	25%
Not very favorable	11%	17%	7%	8%
Not at all favorable	12%	25%	2%	10%
Don't know	35%	31%	28%	48%
<i>Favorable (Net)</i>	43%	27%	63%	34%
<i>Not favorable (Net)</i>	23%	42%	9%	18%

b. Green New Deal

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Very favorable	17%	8%	27%	5%
Somewhat favorable	27%	20%	34%	37%
Not very favorable	9%	13%	7%	5%
Not at all favorable	14%	33%	2%	9%
Don't know	33%	26%	30%	44%
<i>Favorable (Net)</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>61%</i>	<i>42%</i>
<i>Not favorable (Net)</i>	<i>23%</i>	<i>46%</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>14%</i>

c. Climate scientists

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Very favorable	30%	18%	45%	20%
Somewhat favorable	29%	23%	33%	41%
Not very favorable	12%	22%	5%	7%
Not at all favorable	9%	21%	1%	10%
Don't know	20%	15%	16%	22%
<i>Favorable (Net)</i>	<i>59%</i>	<i>42%</i>	<i>78%</i>	<i>61%</i>
<i>Not favorable (Net)</i>	<i>21%</i>	<i>43%</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>17%</i>

d. Climate activists

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Very favorable	18%	8%	29%	17%
Somewhat favorable	33%	22%	46%	36%
Not very favorable	15%	24%	7%	11%
Not at all favorable	14%	32%	3%	8%
Don't know	20%	13%	15%	27%
<i>Favorable (Net)</i>	<i>51%</i>	<i>31%</i>	<i>75%</i>	<i>53%</i>
<i>Not favorable (Net)</i>	<i>29%</i>	<i>56%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>20%</i>

e. The oil and gas industry

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Very favorable	10%	18%	7%	4%
Somewhat favorable	31%	39%	24%	38%
Not very favorable	29%	23%	35%	31%
Not at all favorable	14%	8%	22%	9%
Don't know	16%	12%	13%	19%
<i>Favorable (Net)</i>	<i>41%</i>	<i>57%</i>	<i>31%</i>	<i>42%</i>
<i>Not favorable (Net)</i>	<i>43%</i>	<i>31%</i>	<i>56%</i>	<i>39%</i>

8. To what extent, if at all, will a candidate's position on climate change factor into who you decide to support?

	Total	Republican	Democrat	Independent
It is my number one issue	4%	4%	4%	2%
It is one of my top issues	16%	7%	28%	7%
It is one of many issues I care about	31%	27%	36%	47%
It is important, but a lower priority	17%	24%	12%	14%
It is not an issue for me	17%	27%	9%	9%
Don't know	15%	10%	11%	22%
<i>Top issue (Net)</i>	19%	11%	32%	8%
<i>Issue (Net)</i>	48%	51%	48%	61%



About the Study

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between January 10-13, 2020 on behalf of USA Today and Public Agenda. For this survey, a sample of roughly 1,006 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S. Alaska and Hawaii was interviewed online in English. The sample includes 407 Democrats, 397 Republicans, and 102 Independents.

The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos' online panel (see link below for more info on "Access Panels and Recruitment"), partner online panel sources, and "river" sampling (see link below for more info on the Ipsos "Ampario Overview" sample method) and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing a sample. After a sample has been obtained from the Ipsos panel, Ipsos calibrates respondent characteristics to be representative of the U.S. Population using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2016 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics. Post-hoc weights were made to the population characteristics on gender, age, race/ethnicity, region, and education.

Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online non-probability polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points for all respondents. Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following ($n=1,006$, $DEFF=1.5$, adjusted Confidence Interval= ± 5.0 percentage points).

The poll also has a credibility interval plus or minus 5.5 percentage points for Democrats, plus or minus 5.6 percentage points for Republicans, and plus or minus 11.1 percentage points for Independents.

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About Ipsos

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About The Hidden Common Ground Initiative

The Hidden Common Ground Initiative focuses on underappreciated and under-leveraged areas of agreement among the public on solutions to tough public problems, like health care and criminal justice. HCG 2020 is the election-year iteration of the initiative, spearheaded by Public Agenda and USA Today, with The National Issues Forums (NIF), Ipsos, and the Election 2020 America Amplified Public Media Collaborative. It applies the HCG mission to an array of election year issues via nonpartisan research, national and local journalism, community-based and online deliberative forums, and "Strange Bedfellows" storytelling and events.

