New Yorkers believe in and are concerned about climate change at notably higher than national averages. They are more likely to attribute climate change to human activity than other U.S. citizens.
New Yorkers believe climate change is happening:

- **88%**
  - New York City
  - 2016

- **83%**
  - United States
  - 2016

American Climate Metrics Survey 2016 New York City | 3
84% of respondents in New York City believe climate change is happening due to either human activities or a combination of human and natural causes. 48% believe it is happening due to a combination of both human activities and natural causes, compared to 55% in the U.S. 36% believe it is mainly due to human activity, compared to 26% in the U.S.
New Yorkers are personally concerned about climate change:

- **85%**
  - **N.Y.C. 2016**
  - are concerned about climate change

- **76%**
  - **U.S. 2016**

- **50%**
  - **N.Y.C. 2016**
  - very concerned

- **35%**
  - concerned

- **15%**
  - not concerned

- **38%**
  - **U.S. 2016**
New Yorkers feel climate impacts more than the U.S. population as a whole.
New Yorkers notice climate impacts:

87%  
N.Y.C. 2016

notice more severe weather and changing seasonal weather patterns where they live

vs.

78%  
U.S. 2016
New Yorkers feel personally affected by:

- Record heat waves during summer: 77% (N.Y.C. 2016) vs. 67% (U.S. 2016)
- Increased cost of food: 75% (N.Y.C. 2016) vs. 74% (U.S. 2016)
- More damage and harm from extreme weather: 66% (N.Y.C. 2016) vs. 53% (U.S. 2016)
- Increased rates of breathing problems: 56% (N.Y.C. 2016) vs. 48% (U.S. 2016)
- Increased flooding: 48% (N.Y.C. 2016) vs. 42% (U.S. 2016)
New Yorkers' climate values top the charts.
New Yorkers' climate values:

- **90%**
  - N.Y.C. 2016
  - Say clean water is a critical right for all people
  - vs.
  - 90%
  - U.S. 2016

- **88%**
  - N.Y.C. 2016
  - Say we have a moral responsibility to create a safe and healthy climate for ourselves and our children
  - vs.
  - 87%
  - U.S. 2016
New Yorkers are hopeful we can reduce the pollution that causes climate change, but pessimistic about government's ability to agree on how to do it.
New Yorkers believe we can address climate change:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>81%</td>
<td>are hopeful that we can reduce the pollution that is causing climate change</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70%</td>
<td>say we could address climate change effectively, but that our government is broken and can’t agree on how to do it</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
New Yorkers strongly support clean energy and a pollution fee on companies responsible for greenhouse gas emissions.
How much more should the United States be producing energy from each source than it is today?

- **Wind and Solar**
  - N.Y.C. 2016: 89%
  - U.S. 2016: 88%

- **Natural gas**
  - N.Y.C. 2016: 64%
  - U.S. 2016: 61%

- **Oil**
  - N.Y.C. 2016: 42%
  - U.S. 2016: 42%

- **Nuclear**
  - N.Y.C. 2016: 37%
  - U.S. 2016: 37%

- **Coal**
  - N.Y.C. 2016: 31%
  - U.S. 2016: 30%
favor a proposal to reduce climate change pollution by charging large companies a fee for the pollution they create

83%  
N.Y.C. 2016  

77%  
U.S. 2016  

vs.
New Yorkers recognize the benefits climate solutions will bring to their health, the economy, and jobs.
If the United States took steps to prevent future climate change, it would:

- Improve health: 77% (N.Y.C. 2016) vs. 67% (U.S. 2016)
- Improve the economy: 70% (N.Y.C. 2016) vs. 66% (U.S. 2016)
- Increase jobs: 64% (N.Y.C. 2016) vs. 56% (U.S. 2016)
New Yorkers want their city to prepare for climate change, and there is room for improvement in educating them how New York is already addressing climate change.
New Yorkers agree:

I want my city to prepare for the impacts of climate change

83% vs. 74%

New Yorkers believe their city:

- 38% is taking action to conserve energy (N.Y.C. 2016 vs. 32% U.S. 2016)
- 35% is preparing for the impacts of climate change (N.Y.C. 2016 vs. 21% U.S. 2016)
- 32% has a program to increase environmental sustainability (N.Y.C. 2016 vs. 28% U.S. 2016)
New Yorkers believe they personally, and we collectively, can and must act on climate today.
82% believe *we* can reduce the pollution that is causing climate change

76% believe *I* can reduce the pollution that is causing climate change

N.Y.C. 2016 vs. 78% U.S. 2016

52% Strongly agree N.Y.C. 2016

52% Strongly agree U.S. 2016

40% Strongly agree N.Y.C. 2016

36% Strongly agree U.S. 2016
agree we need to take action now to reduce the pollution that is causing climate change

86%  
N.Y.C. 2016  

vs. 80%  
U.S. 2016

58%  
Strongly agree  
N.Y.C. 2016

59%  
Strongly agree  
U.S. 2016

Agree I need to take action now to reduce the pollution that is causing climate change

76%  
N.Y.C. 2016

vs. 73%  
U.S. 2016

45%  
Strongly agree  
N.Y.C. 2016

41%  
Strongly agree  
U.S. 2016
New Yorkers are increasingly aware of their city's efforts to engage citizens on climate. And they do their part personally, with strong climate-friendly behaviors.
Does New York City engage on climate?

- **24%**
  - N.Y.C. 2016
  - say the city is educating others in the city about climate change
  - vs.
  - 16% U.S. 2016

- **25%**
  - N.Y.C. 2016
  - has a program to engage people and talk about climate change
  - vs.
  - 12% U.S. 2016

- **26%**
  - N.Y.C. 2016
  - has a program to address climate change
  - vs.
  - 12% U.S. 2016
New Yorkers have strong climate-friendly behaviors:

73% have discussed climate change with family or friends

52% have shifted toward a more energy efficient form of transportation like public transport, hybrid cars, bikes or walking

68% U.S. 2016

35% U.S. 2016
New Yorkers have strong climate-friendly behaviors:

- **51%**
  - **N.Y.C. 2016**
  - discussed climate change at work with colleagues
  - **38%**
    - U.S. 2016

- **45%**
  - **N.Y.C. 2016**
  - voted for a candidate based on his/her support for taking action on climate change
  - **34%**
    - U.S. 2016

- **23%**
  - **N.Y.C. 2016**
  - discussed climate change at their place of worship
  - **14%**
    - U.S. 2016
New Yorkers have strong climate-friendly behaviors:

- **18%**
  - **N.Y.C. 2016**
  - contacted an elected official about the impacts of climate change

- **15%**
  - **N.Y.C. 2016**
  - Spoke at a public gathering about the importance of doing something about climate change

- **12%**
  - **U.S. 2016**

- **8%**
  - **U.S. 2016**
New Yorkers trust many messengers for climate information - but they trust scientists and health professionals the most.
New Yorkers have recently encountered information about climate change from:

- 69% News and media in N.Y.C. 2016 compared to 65% U.S. 2016
- 34% Friends and family in N.Y.C. 2016 compared to 27% U.S. 2016
- 26% Health professionals in N.Y.C. 2016 compared to 18% U.S. 2016
- 19% Local community leaders in N.Y.C. 2016 compared to 14% U.S. 2016
- 12% Church and faith leaders in N.Y.C. 2016 compared to 7% U.S. 2016
New Yorkers trust climate change messengers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>N.Y.C. 2016 (%)</th>
<th>U.S. 2016 (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scientists</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental organizations</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health professionals</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President Obama</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media, TV news and internet</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celebrities</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congress</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you!

ecoAmerica builds a critical mass of institutional leadership, public support and political will for definitive climate solutions in the United States.

Learn more at ecoAmerica.org