

New Hope for Action: Key Republican Climate Attitudes Shift

January American Climate Metrics Survey - Toplines

Fielded September 14-18th, 2018

	U.S. 2015 N= 800	U.S. 2016 800	U.S. 2017 802	U.S. 2018 800	Dem 2015 329	Dem 2016 393	Dem 2017 336	Dem 2018 350	Ind 2015 122	Ind 2016 110	Ind 2017 132	Ind 2018 98	Rep 2015 279	Rep 2016 261	Rep 2017 302	Rep 2018 275
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Introduction

Q1. Climate change refers to the idea that the world’s average temperature is increasing, may increase more in the future, and that the world’s climate may change as a result. What do you think?

Yes, climate change is happening.....	78	83	80	80	92	93	96	94	83	87	77	71	58	66	63	64
No, climate change is not happening.....	13	9	11	9	3	2	2	1	7	6	12	14	30	20	21	19
Not sure.....	9	8	9	11	5	5	2	6	11	6	11	15	12	14	16	17

Q2. How personally concerned are you about climate change?

Very concerned.....	31	38	44	40	44	49	59	59	33	36	33	28	15	23	33	21
Somewhat concerned.....	38	38	32	32	39	41	33	30	41	35	41	39	30	34	27	34
A little concerned.....	18	14	12	14	11	7	6	8	19	20	13	14	26	20	18	20
Not concerned at all.....	14	11	12	13	6	3	2	2	8	9	12	20	29	23	22	26
Concerned.....	68	76	76	73	83	90	91	90	74	71	74	66	45	57	59	54
Not concerned.....	32	24	24	27	17	10	9	10	26	29	26	34	55	43	41	46

Q3. Now you are going to see a series of statements. Please indicate if you agree or disagree with each one.

I’m hopeful that we can reduce the pollution that is causing climate change.

Strongly agree.....	47	51	51	52	58	63	58	62	52	40	46	55	34	37	43	38
Not so strongly agree.....	30	30	25	26	26	26	27	23	32	35	22	20	35	34	26	31
Not so strongly disagree.....	10	11	10	10	9	8	7	8	7	15	10	8	12	14	12	13
Strongly disagree.....	6	4	7	7	3	2	3	2	3	3	7	12	11	8	11	11
Not sure.....	6	4	8	5	4	1	5	4	5	8	15	5	7	7	7	7
Agree.....	78	81	76	78	84	89	86	86	84	75	68	75	69	71	69	69
Disagree.....	16	15	17	17	12	10	10	10	10	17	17	20	24	22	24	24

	U.S. 2015	U.S. 2016	U.S. 2017	U.S. 2018	Dem 2015	Dem 2016	Dem 2017	Dem 2018	Ind 2015	Ind 2016	Ind 2017	Ind 2018	Rep 2015	Rep 2016	Rep 2017	Rep 2018
N=	800	800	802	800	329	393	336	350	122	110	132	98	279	261	302	275

A Majority Believe Climate and Weather Change is Happening

Q4. Climate change refers to the idea that the world’s average temperature is increasing, may increase more in the future, and that the world’s climate may change as a result. What do you think?

Yes, climate change is happening.....	78	83	80	80	92	93	96	94	83	87	77	71	58	66	63	64
No, climate change is not happening.....	13	9	11	9	3	2	2	1	7	6	12	14	30	20	21	19
Not sure	9	8	9	11	5	5	2	6	11	6	11	15	12	14	16	17

Q5. Have you noticed more severe weather or changing seasonal weather patterns over the last several years, or not?

Yes.....	71	78	78	81	83	88	89	95	79	85	73	75	52	61	67	66
No.....	24	16	16	15	12	6	6	4	16	11	17	19	43	33	28	27
Not sure	5	6	6	5	5	6	5	1	5	4	10	6	5	6	5	7

Americans are Concerned about Climate. Think Few Others are Concerned

Q6. How personally concerned are you about climate change?

Very concerned	31	38	44	40	44	49	59	59	33	36	33	28	15	23	33	21
Somewhat concerned.....	38	38	32	32	39	41	33	30	41	35	41	39	30	34	27	34
A little concerned	18	14	12	14	11	7	6	8	19	20	13	14	26	20	18	20
Not concerned at all.....	14	11	12	13	6	3	2	2	8	9	12	20	29	23	22	26
Concerned	68	76	76	73	83	90	91	90	74	71	74	66	45	57	59	54
Not concerned	32	24	24	27	17	10	9	10	26	29	26	34	55	43	41	46

Q7. How concerned do you think other people around you are about climate change?

Very concerned	17	21	12	14
Somewhat concerned.....	40	38	43	42
A little concerned	30	30	25	30
Not concerned at all.....	14	10	21	15
Concerned	57	60	54	55
Not concerned	43	40	46	45

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So, If Republicans are Ready to Engage, Who do They Trust For Information?

Q9. As a source of information about climate change, how much do you trust each of the following?

Environmental organizations

A lot	24	27	31	33	32	39	45	54	23	21	18	15	12	14	22	17
Some	31	35	30	29	41	39	32	31	30	34	32	31	22	29	27	26
A little	28	20	19	17	21	16	12	11	33	25	26	27	31	25	22	21
Not at all	15	14	15	17	4	4	6	4	10	17	10	20	31	27	26	29
Not sure	3	4	6	4	3	2	4	1	4	3	14	7	4	4	3	7
A lot/Some	54	62	61	62	72	78	77	84	52	55	50	46	34	43	48	44
A little/Not at all	42	34	34	34	25	20	19	15	43	41	36	47	62	52	48	50

The President

A lot	13	15	12	8	23	24	7	4	9	8	8	8	3	5	20	14
Some	22	26	19	17	34	35	13	13	18	24	18	8	9	14	26	28
A little	23	24	19	16	25	25	12	7	25	27	17	10	22	20	27	29
Not at all	39	31	42	54	15	10	64	73	44	36	38	67	64	59	21	22
Not sure	3	5	7	5	4	5	4	3	4	5	19	7	2	2	6	7
A lot/Some	34	41	31	24	57	60	20	17	27	32	26	15	12	19	46	42
A little/Not at all	62	54	61	71	39	35	75	80	68	63	55	77	86	79	48	51

Local community leaders

A lot	3	6	12	8	3	6	14	12	3	7	9	9	2	6	11	5
Some	22	28	28	29	30	35	31	43	20	21	29	3	16	22	24	25
A little	46	37	31	26	45	36	33	23	49	41	26	22	48	38	30	31
Not at all	23	22	21	28	16	17	14	17	20	25	19	53	31	27	28	29
Not sure	6	7	9	9	6	7	8	6	8	7	17	12	3	7	6	10
A lot/Some	25	34	40	38	34	40	45	55	23	28	38	13	18	27	35	30
A little/Not at all	69	59	52	54	61	53	48	39	69	66	45	75	79	65	59	60

Media such as newspapers, TV news, and internet news sites

A lot	10	8	17	10	13	8	20	16	10	11	14	9	4	6	15	6
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American Climate Perspective Survey 2019 – Vol. I

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Some	28	30	29	28	36	39	40	40	25	27	29	19	20	21	18	16
A little	36	35	26	28	37	38	26	27	42	35	27	37	34	33	25	25
Not at all	23	23	22	29	10	11	9	13	19	23	18	34	40	39	37	46
Not sure	3	3	6	5	4	4	5	4	4	3	12	1	2	1	4	8
A lot/Some	38	38	46	38	49	47	60	56	35	38	43	28	24	27	33	21
A little/Not at all	59	58	48	57	47	49	35	40	61	58	45	71	74	72	63	71

Congress

A lot	2	3	8	4	3	3	7	5	2	4	5	4	1	3	12	4
Some	13	13	16	13	16	15	17	16	6	18	18	6	10	9	15	12
A little	29	30	26	26	29	34	30	26	31	23	24	23	31	27	23	31
Not at all	51	49	42	52	44	42	39	48	55	50	42	65	56	58	46	48
Not sure	5	5	7	5	8	5	7	5	6	5	11	2	2	3	5	5
A lot/Some	15	16	25	17	19	18	24	21	9	22	23	10	11	12	26	16
A little/Not at all	80	79	68	78	73	77	68	74	86	73	66	87	87	85	69	78

Federal elected officials

A lot	3	4	10	6	5	5	10	9	4	6	4	5	2	3	13	4
Some	15	16	17	16	18	21	19	20	11	14	18	6	9	9	15	15
A little	33	32	28	27	38	37	33	25	31	31	25	32	32	25	26	29
Not at all	44	43	37	45	32	31	32	40	43	44	38	54	55	59	41	43
Not sure	6	6	8	6	6	6	7	5	11	5	15	2	2	4	6	9
A lot/Some	18	20	27	22	24	26	28	29	15	20	22	11	11	12	27	19
A little/Not at all	76	74	65	72	70	68	65	65	75	75	63	86	87	84	67	72

Republican Support for Natural Gas and Oil Production is Dwindling...

Q10. For each of the following, please indicate if you think the United States should be producing much more, somewhat more, somewhat less, much less, or the same amount of energy from each source as it is today.

Natural gas

Much more	28	25	29	28	27	19	24	27	23	27	32	16	34	33	35	33
Somewhat more	39	36	33	33	36	33	33	29	30	40	30	40	47	38	34	34

American Climate Perspective Survey 2019 – Vol. I

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Somewhat less	15	19	15	19	19	24	18	21	17	19	18	25	10	13	11	14
Much less	7	10	9	9	9	13	14	9	16	8	6	10	2	5	6	7
Same as today	10	10	13	12	9	11	11	14	15	6	14	10	7	11	14	12
More.....	68	61	63	60	63	52	56	56	52	66	62	55	81	71	70	67
Less.....	23	29	25	28	28	37	32	30	33	27	23	35	12	18	16	21

Oil

Much more	23	17	23	17	18	11	19	16	11	16	20	13	35	27	29	21
Somewhat more.....	25	25	24	22	19	21	20	15	21	29	32	23	32	27	26	31
Somewhat less	24	23	20	22	29	25	22	21	24	20	15	32	20	22	21	19
Much less	20	25	21	26	25	33	29	37	37	25	21	22	7	12	11	12
Same as today	8	10	12	13	9	10	9	12	7	9	12	10	6	11	13	16
More.....	48	42	47	39	37	32	39	30	32	45	52	36	67	54	55	52
Less.....	44	48	42	48	54	59	51	58	62	45	36	54	27	35	32	32

...While Republican Support for Local Climate Action Increases

Q11. What actions do you wish your city or town were taking on climate change? Select all that apply.

Conserving energy.....	29	27	41	47	29	25	43	49	29	28	38	40	34	31	40	48
Developing clean energy like wind and solar energy.....	27	30	37	49	30	29	40	50	31	32	31	45	24	31	36	46
Educating the public about climate change.....	16	20	29	39	17	24	35	45	18	16	24	28	15	16	24	36

Americans Support a Spectrum of Climate Solutions

Q12. Below are proposals to reduce climate change pollution. Please indicate if you strongly favor, not so strongly favor, not so strongly oppose or strongly oppose each one.

Charging corporate polluters a fee

Strongly favor	50	55	53	57	62	71	63	68	64	49	49	58	27	35	45	43
Somewhat favor.....	25	23	28	26	22	18	26	21	13	27	32	25	32	28	30	32
Somewhat oppose.....	10	10	8	8	7	6	6	5	8	11	5	10	14	14	11	11
Strongly oppose.....	8	6	4	4	2	1	0	1	6	6	2	3	20	14	9	9

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Not sure	7	7	7	5	7	4	5	5	9	7	12	5	7	9	6	6
Favor	75	77	81	83	85	89	89	89	77	75	81	83	59	63	75	75
Oppose	18	16	12	12	8	7	7	7	14	18	7	12	34	28	19	19

Modernizing America’s electric grid

Strongly favor			52	54			52	59			47	54			57	50
Somewhat favor			31	33			31	29			32	26			30	39
Somewhat oppose.....			6	3			6	2			5	8			4	2
Strongly oppose.....			2	1			2	1			1	2			2	2
Not sure			9	9			8	9			15	10			7	7
Favor			83	87			83	88			79	80			87	89
Oppose			8	4			8	3			6	10			7	4

Passing laws for more efficient buildings and cars

Strongly favor			46	45			55	60			40	37			40	30
Somewhat favor			30	35			30	30			31	41			31	39
Somewhat oppose.....			9	8			7	3			11	10			10	13
Strongly oppose.....			7	6			3	1			4	8			13	12
Not sure			7	6			5	6			14	4			6	7
Favor			77	81			85	90			71	78			70	69
Oppose			16	14			10	4			15	18			23	25

Expanding public transit like buses and trains

Strongly favor			42	46			51	59			30	42			35	32
Somewhat favor			34	34			33	29			39	28			36	42
Somewhat oppose.....			9	7			7	4			7	14			13	9
Strongly oppose.....			6	5			3	3			7	6			7	6
Not sure			9	8			7	5			17	10			8	11
Favor			76	80			84	88			69	70			71	75
Oppose			15	12			10	6			14	20			21	15

Providing corporate tax credits to expand clean energy

American Climate Perspective Survey 2019 – Vol. I

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Strongly favor			37	42			41	51			26	37			37	35
Somewhat favor			36	37			36	34			40	36			35	42
Somewhat oppose.....			12	7			10	7			9	15			15	5
Strongly oppose.....			6	6			4	3			8	7			8	8
Not sure.....			9	8			9	5			18	5			6	10
Favor.....			73	79			77	85			66	73			71	78
Oppose.....			18	13			14	10			16	22			23	13

Providing personal tax credits for electrics or hybrid cars

Strongly favor			38	43			44	53			27	40			38	35
Somewhat favor			34	33			38	32			40	29			28	35
Somewhat oppose.....			11	9			8	5			11	16			12	8
Strongly oppose.....			9	6			3	3			8	4			15	11
Not sure.....			9	9			7	7			14	11			7	11
Favor.....			72	76			81	85			67	69			66	71
Oppose.....			19	15			12	8			19	20			27	19

DEMOGRAPHICS

Political Party

Republican	35	33	38	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	100	100	100
Independent.....	15	14	14	12	0	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0
Democrat.....	41	49	42	44	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other.....	9	4	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Age

18 - 24.....	11	10	10	12		12	10	15		12	18	7		4	4	8
25 - 29.....	10	12	12	10		12	12	10		15	12	12		10	11	8
30 - 34.....	10	10	10	9		11	10	12		14	11	5		8	7	6
35 - 39.....	7	6	7	8		7	9	7		9	7	11		5	6	9
40 - 44.....	8	9	9	8		9	11	9		6	8	8		9	7	8

American Climate Perspective Survey 2019 – Vol. I

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45 – 49.....	9	8	8	8		7	6	6		11	6	8		8	11	9
50 – 54.....	8	10	8	7		8	8	7		9	9	7		13	10	6
55 – 59.....	9	8	11	10		10	11	6		3	10	8		7	11	16
60 – 64.....	9	8	7	9		8	7	7		4	4	13		9	8	12
65 – 69.....	9	12	10	10		10	9	12		11	10	12		17	12	7
70 – 74.....	5	4	5	5		3	3	6		5	3	9		3	8	6
Over 75	4	3	3	3		3	3	3		1	2	1		5	4	4

Gender

Male.....	48	48	48	49	44	46	46	46	44	43	51	55	57	55	51	54
Female.....	52	52	52	51	56	54	54	54	56	57	49	45	43	45	49	46

Region

New England	5	5	5	5	6	4	5	6	7	9	10	5	3	4	3	4
Middle Atlantic.....	13	13	13	13	17	15	15	13	8	13	12	13	11	11	11	13
East North Central.....	15	15	15	14	15	16	16	16	13	13	15	6	15	14	13	14
West North Central.....	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	6	9	11	12	10	7	6	6	7
South Atlantic.....	19	19	20	20	22	18	19	18	19	19	15	22	15	21	24	22
East South Central.....	6	6	6	6	4	4	5	5	4	7	6	8	9	9	7	7
West South Central.....	12	12	12	12	7	12	10	12	13	7	14	10	17	14	12	12
Mountain.....	7	7	7	7	5	5	6	4	11	8	7	12	7	9	8	10
Pacific.....	16	16	16	16	17	19	17	19	14	13	7	15	18	12	17	11

Race or Ethnicity

White/Caucasian.....	70	70	65	65	56	60	53	50	74	72	62	72	84	85	80	84
Black/African American.....	12	12	12	12	24	18	18	20	4	14	13	9	3	2	4	4
Hispanic/Latino.....	11	13	15	16	13	16	20	22	14	10	13	12	7	10	10	9
Asian/Pacific Islander.....	4	3	5	5	3	5	6	6	2	2	6	3	4	1	4	3
Native American/American Indian.....	1	1	1	3	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	12	1	1	1	2
Other.....	2	1	1	3	2	1	2	4	5	2	3	3	1	1	0	1
Prefer not to answer.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0

Methodology

ecoAmerica and Lake Research Partners designed and administered this survey, which was conducted online September 14-16, 2018. The survey yielded a total of 800 adult responses. The sample was drawn from an online panel and the respondents were screened to ensure that they were over the age of 18. The margin of error for the sample is +/-3.5%. In interpreting the survey results, it is important to note that all sample surveys are subject to possible sampling error. Thus, the results of a survey may differ from the results that would be obtained if the entire population was interviewed. The size of the sampling error depends upon both the total number of respondents in the survey and the percentage distribution of the responses to a particular question. For example, if 50% of the respondents in a sample of 802 respondents answered, "Yes" to a particular question, we can be 95% confident that the true percentage would fall within 3.5 points, or range from 46.5% to 53.5%.

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