

LATINOS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

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Latino  **Decisions**
Everything Latino Politics

March 2020

Climate Change in Battleground States

- Exit polling has increasingly come under fire for not providing an accurate and representative sample of all voters in a state or district
- Since 2016 we have been working with the Environmental Defense Action Fund and other partners to provide more accurate data on how Latino/a communities and environmental issues

Background: Latinos and the Environment

- ❑ Long-standing assumptions regarding disinterest in environmental issues among working class and communities of color;
- ❑ More recent research suggests just the opposite, that Latinos care deeply about the environment and specifically about experiencing climate change;
- ❑ In this study, we explore the depth of these concerns and support for policy action in battleground states

Data and Methodology

- California (n=800, margin of error +/-3.6), Texas (n=1,000, margin of error +/-3.2)
- Completed interviews by landline, cell and on-line with Latino registered voters in English and Spanish at respondent's discretion; February 2020
- Respondents are extreme-high-propensity voters screened on vote history, or newly registered, and queried self-report of intention to vote (or having voted).
- Randomly drawn from representative statewide sample, and then weighted to match census demographics

Take-Aways from California

- 91% of likely Latino voters say it is extremely important or very important for their elected officials to take steps to pass legislation to aggressively combat climate change.
- When it comes to elected officials taking steps to reduce smog and air pollution, 89% of likely Latino voters say it's extremely important or very important.
- Latinos eligible to vote in California are seeing and feeling the impacts of climate change more than ever before, with 43% of people saying they've personally been impacted within the last year, a 12% increase compared to 2018, and 30% now say they've been impacted within the past five years.
- In 2020, Latino voters made it clear that they're much more likely to support politicians who commit to action to reducing carbon pollution (87%) than those who support increased fossil fuel development, like expanding offshore drilling (11%), when asked to pick between the two.

Take-Aways from Texas

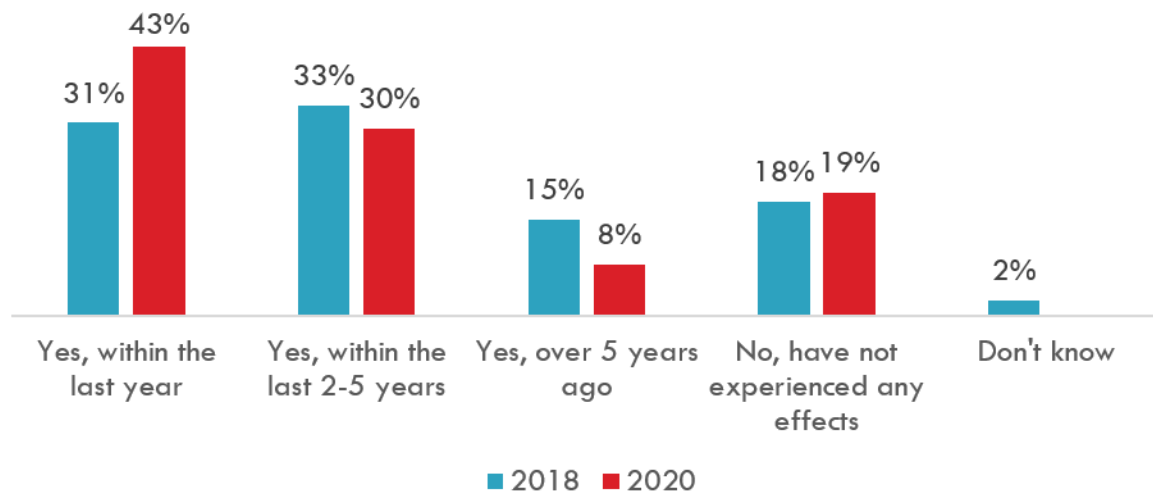
- 82% of likely Latino voters say it is extremely important or very important for their elected officials to take steps to pass comprehensive climate legislation.
- When it comes to elected officials taking steps to reduce smog and air pollution, 88% of likely Latino voters say it's extremely important or very important.
- In 2020, Latino voters made it clear that they're much more likely to support politicians who commit to action to reducing carbon pollution (82%) than those who support increased fossil fuel development, like expanding offshore drilling (15%), when asked to pick between the two.

CALIFORNIA



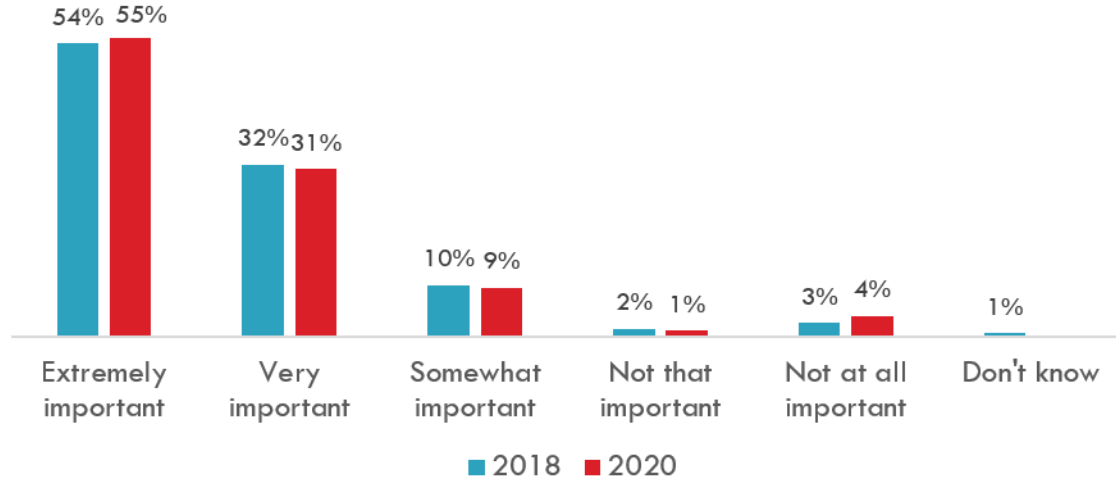
Personal Experiences with Climate Change, CA

Climate change is often associated with extreme weather patterns such as deadly heat waves in some areas and frequent or more intense storms and flooding in other areas. Have you experienced the effects of climate change in your state?



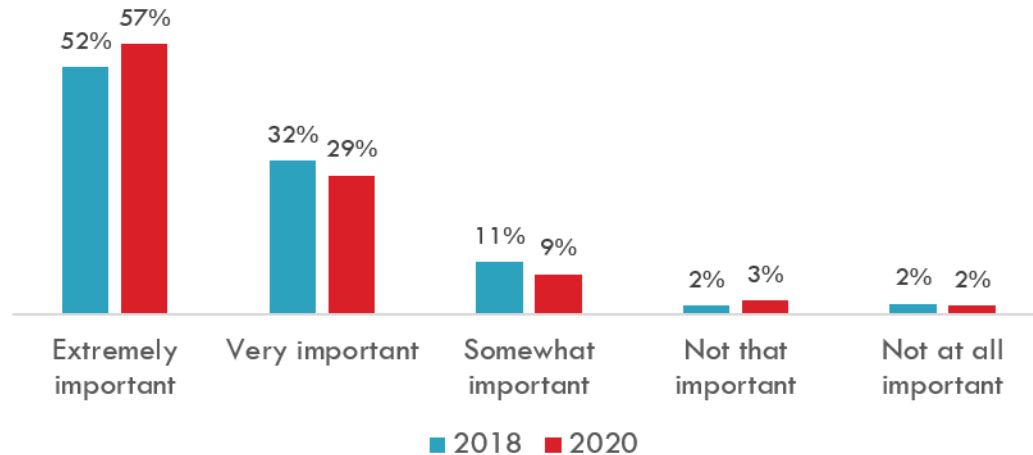
Comparing 2018 vs 2020, CA

How important do you think it is that the new Congress take steps to pass legislation to aggressively combat global warming or climate change?

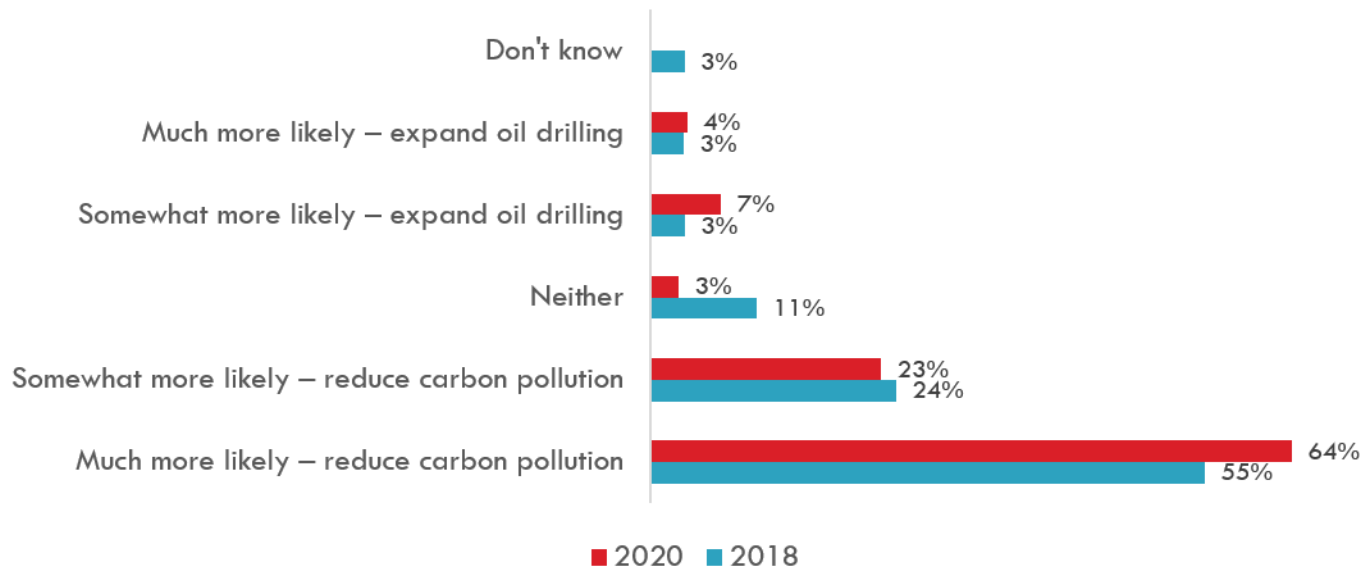


Comparing 2018 vs 2020, CA

How important do you think it is that the new Congress take steps to reduce smog and air pollution?



Thinking about elections for the U.S. Congress, are you more likely to support: A candidate who wants to reduce carbon pollution and invest money in clean energy sources, OR A candidate who wants to expand oil drilling, shale fracking and coal mining?

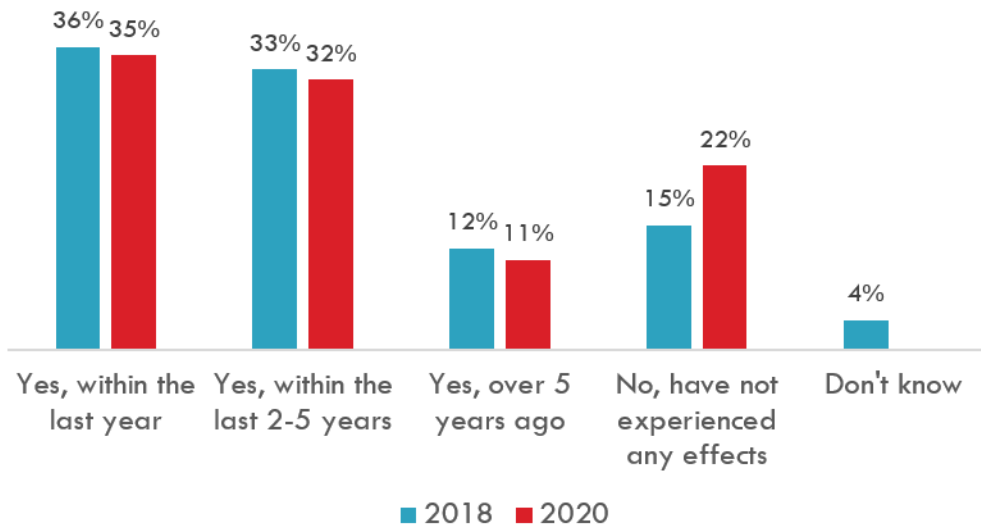


TEXAS



Personal Experiences with Climate Change, TX

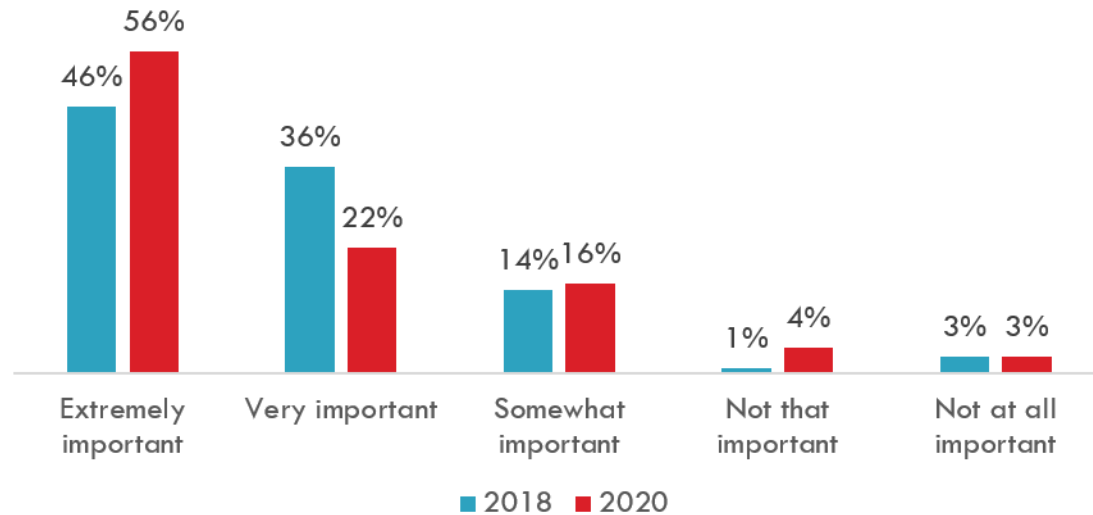
Climate change is often associated with extreme weather patterns such as deadly heat waves in some areas and frequent or more intense storms and flooding in other areas. Have you experienced the effects of climate change in your state?



Nov 1-5, 2018, margin of error +/-5.65 percentage points; n=300;
February 2020, margin of error +/-3.2 percentage points; n=1000

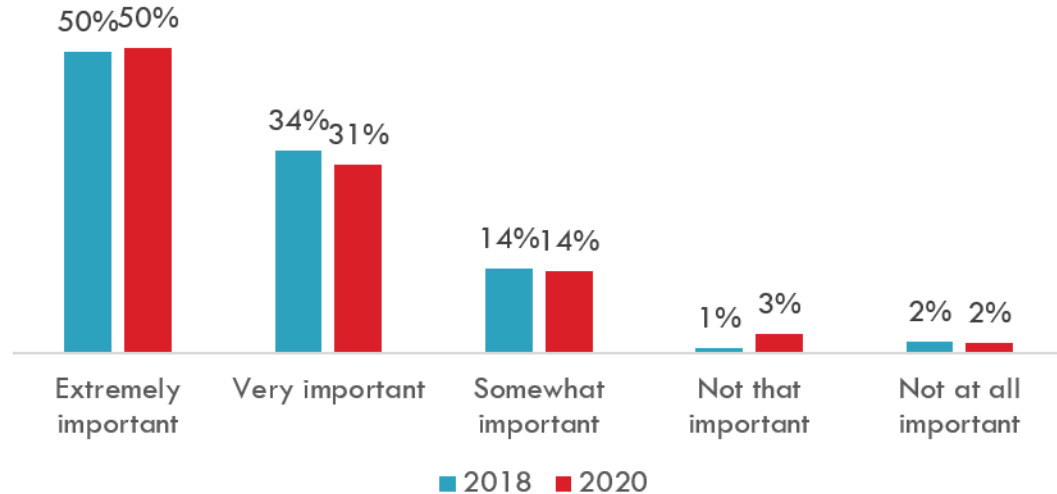
Comparing 2018 vs 2020, TX

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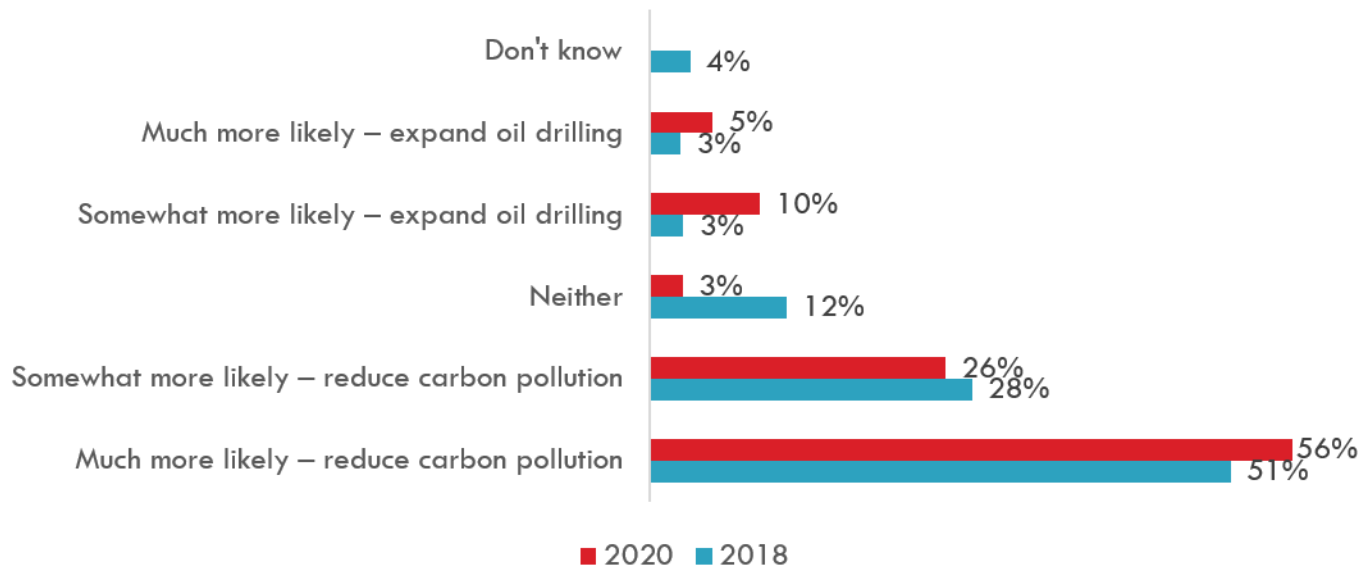


Comparing 2018 vs 2020, TX

How important do you think it is that the new Congress take steps to reduce smog and air pollution?



Thinking about elections for the U.S. Congress, are you more likely to support: A candidate who wants to reduce carbon pollution and invest money in clean energy sources, OR A candidate who wants to expand oil drilling, shale fracking and coal mining?



Final Take-Aways

- Latino voters and likely Latino voters in California and Texas are seeing and feeling the impacts of climate change, and this has resulted in strong support for climate action, including reducing carbon pollution.
- This trend of voter support for climate action in both California and Texas has either stayed consistent or risen in popularity among Latino voters.