

# LATINOS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

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**Latino**  **Decisions**  
Everything Latino Politics

February 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

- Nevada (n=300, margin of error +/-5.7 )
- 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 This Study

- Latinos eligible to vote in Nevada are seeing and feeling the impacts of climate change more than ever before, with 46% of people saying they've personally been impacted within the last year, a 19% increase compared to 2018, and 66% now saying say they've been impacted within the past five years.
- These voters said it is “extremely important” that Congress take steps to aggressively address climate change, increasing from 38% in 2016 to 65% in 2020.

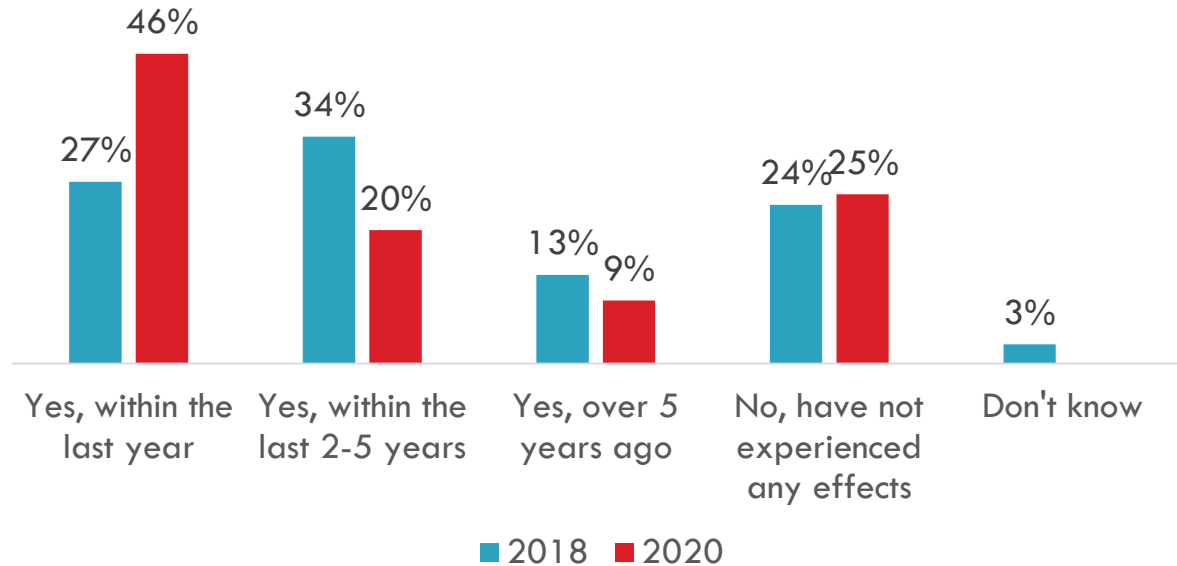
# Take-Aways from This Study

- On air pollution and smog reduction that same upward trend continues, with 39% of voters in 2016 and 62% of voters in 2020 saying it's an “extremely important” issue for Congress to address.
- In 2020, Nevada's Latinos who are eligible to vote made it clear that they're much more likely to support politicians who commit to action to reducing carbon pollution (84%) than those who support increased fossil fuel development, like expanding offshore drilling (11%), when asked to pick between the two.

# Personal Experiences with Climate Change

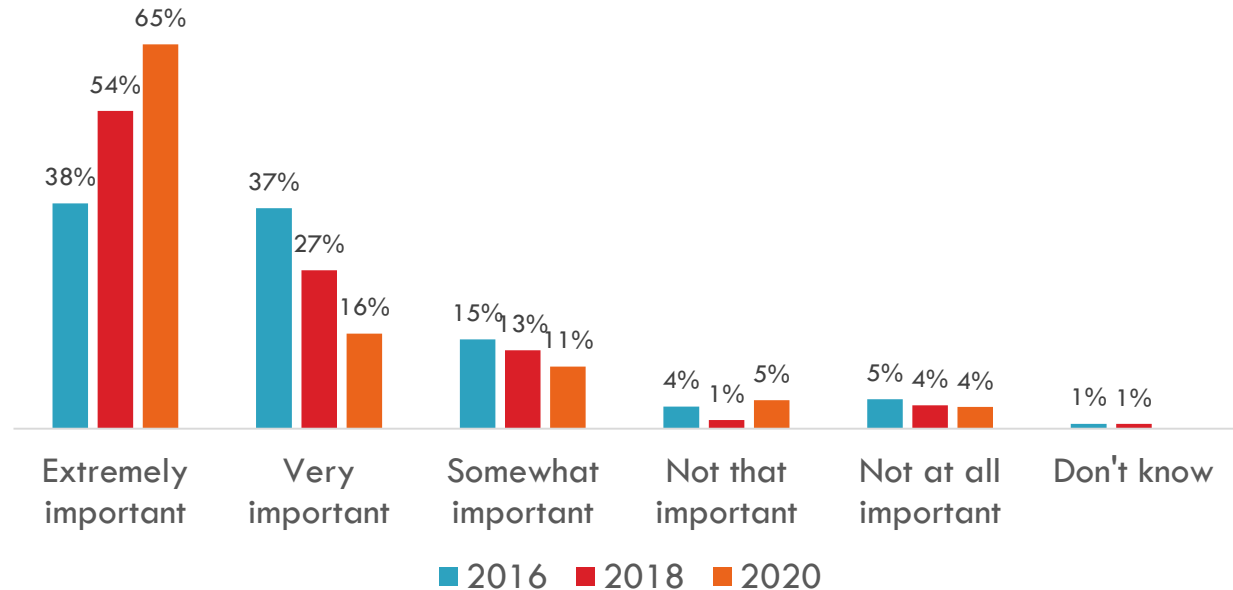
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Climate change is often associated with extreme weather patterns such as deadly heat waves in some areas and frequent or more intense storms and flooding in other areas. Have you experienced the effects of climate change in your state?



# Comparing 2016 vs 2018 vs 2020

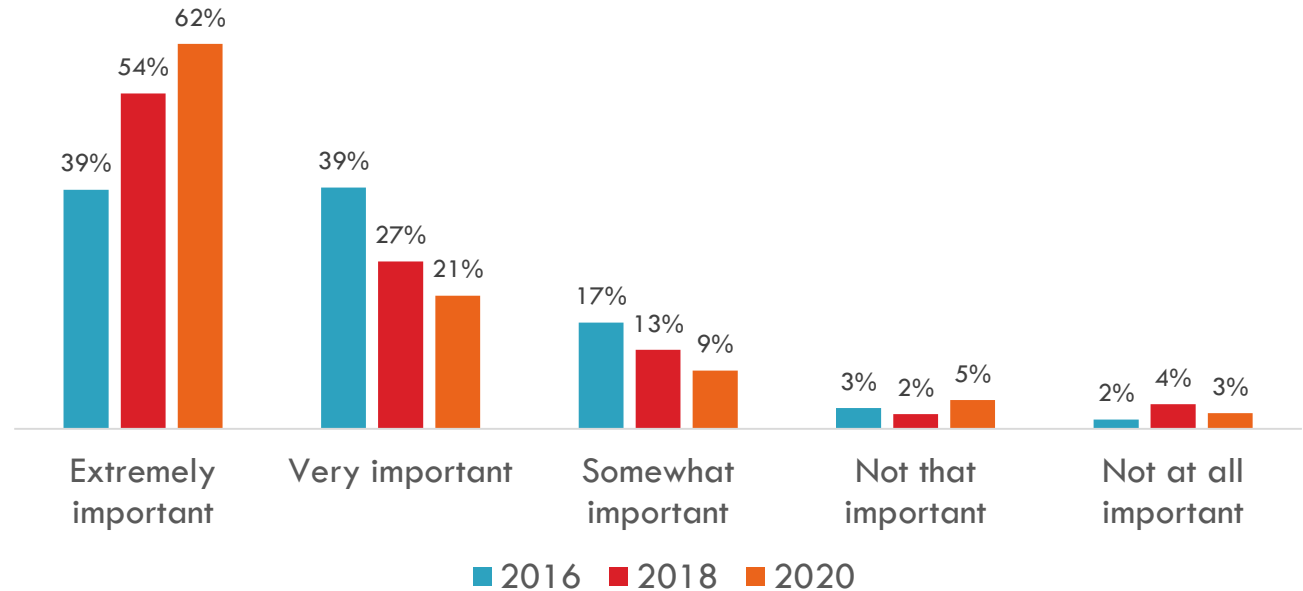
How important do you think it is that the new Congress take steps to pass legislation to aggressively combat global warming or climate change?



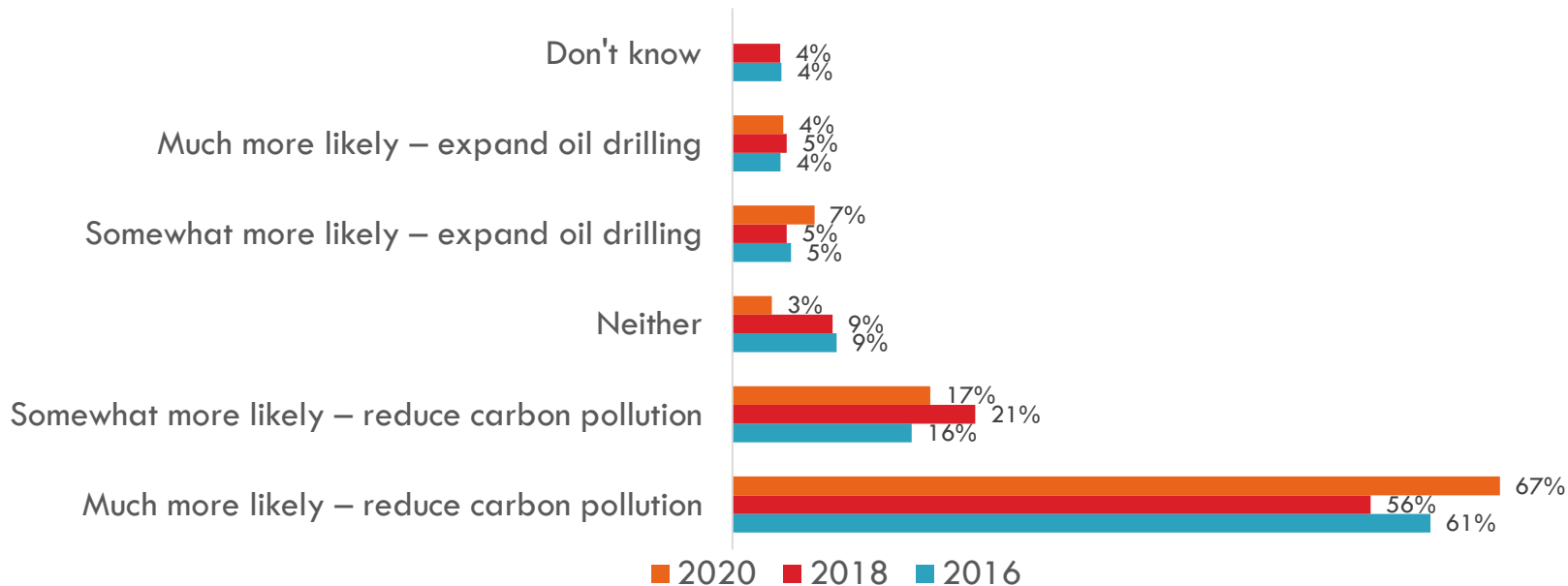


# Comparing 2016 vs 2018 vs 2020

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

- The intensity of climate change has increased immensely over the years.
- Voters care deeply about climate change, and it's here, with nearly half of all respondents saying they have been personally impacted in the last year.