

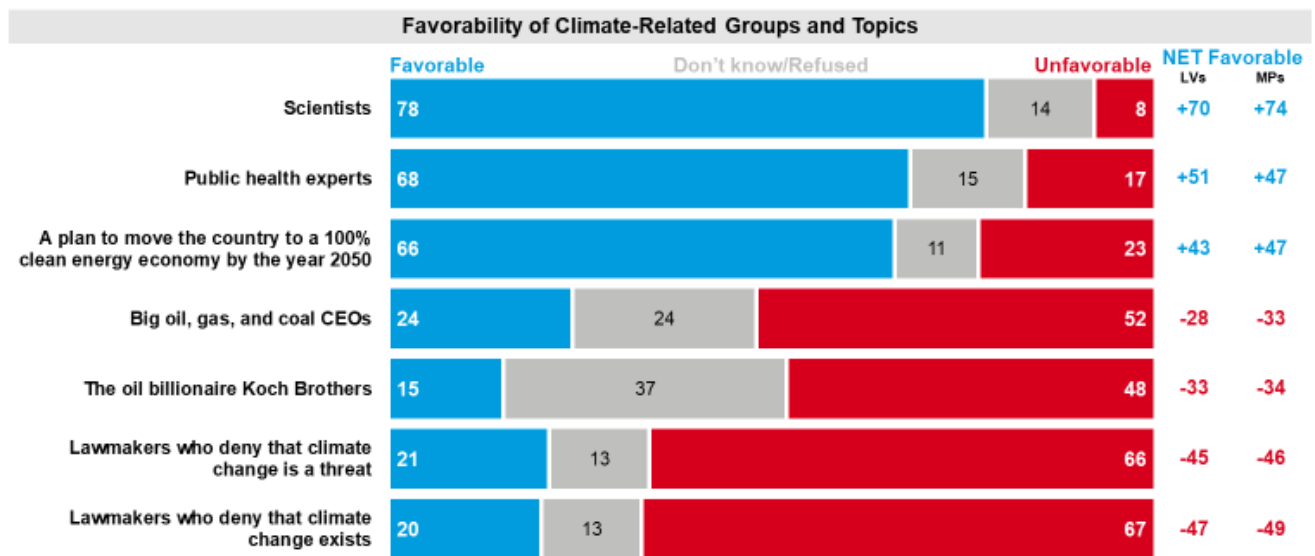
TO: Interested Parties
 FROM: Andrew Baumann and Nicole Jaconetty, Global Strategy Group
 DATE: July 1, 2020
 RE: **NEW POLL: Running on the Environment Helps Pro-Environment Incumbents in House Battleground Districts**

New survey data from research conducted by Global Strategy Group in House battleground districts shows that independent voters and middle partisans have positive impressions of climate change experts and very negative impressions of lawmakers who deny that climate change is a threat, and strongly support pro-environment policies. More important, messaging on climate and the environment is effective at expanding the already impressive lead that incumbent Democrats hold over a generic Republican challenger, particularly with independents and middle partisans and in suburban districts.

The following memo contains key findings from the survey conducted between May 29 and June 8, 2020 among 1,203 general election likely voters (and an additional oversample of 803 middle partisan voters whose party scores fall between the 25th and 75th percentiles, for total of 1,407 interviews with middle partisans) across 37 battleground Congressional districts.

KEY FINDINGS:

- Voters like experts and clean energy and strongly dislike fossil fuel CEOs and climate deniers.** Scientists and public health experts get extremely high marks, and voters overwhelmingly like a plan to move the country to a 100% clean energy economy by 2050. Meanwhile, voters strongly dislike big oil, gas, and coal CEOs and the Koch Brothers. But they reserve particular animosity for lawmakers who deny that climate change is threat and those who deny climate change exists altogether.



- Candidates who support pro-environment proposals benefit, while those who back anti-environment policies are punished.** Water-focused proposals are especially impactful, like forcing polluters to clean up toxic chemicals linked to cancer that are in our drinking water and allowing chemical companies to dump toxic chemicals linked to cancer into drinking water supplies.

Would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate for office if they support each of the following?		More likely	No difference	Don't know/Refused	Less likely
Pro-Environment Policies					
Forcing polluters to clean up toxic chemicals linked to cancer that are in our drinking water	84 63% much more likely	6	4	6	
Cleaning up water pollution, such as lead and mercury, in low-income communities with higher instances of cancer or birth defects	83 61% much more likely	8	7		
Setting a national goal of protecting 30% of our country's lands and oceans by 2030	72 47% much more likely	13	6	9	
Moving the U.S. to 100% clean energy like wind and solar by the year 2050	62 43% much more likely	11	5	22	
Anti-Environment Policies					
Cutting the budget of the EPA by nearly \$3 billion	26	11	7	45% much less likely	56
Denying the science of climate change even though scientists, NASA, and our military leaders all say it is a threat	25	12	7	45% much less likely	56
Giving big oil companies billions in new tax breaks - which helped allow Chevron to avoid paying ANY federal taxes	15	10	7	52% much less likely	68
Allowing chemical companies to dump toxic chemicals linked to cancer into our rivers, streams, and drinking water supplies	11	7	3	71% much less likely	79

- Incumbent Democrats in battleground districts have an advantage, and environmental critiques of Republicans expand their margin.** Donald Trump won these districts by an average of a single point while these Democratic incumbents won by an average of 5 points in 2018, but they have improved their position since then and now lead a generic Republican challenger by 11 points (51% Democrat/40% Republican - the Democratic incumbent's name was read in each district). After voters read a thematic critique of Republicans based on either their position on opposing climate action or supporting corporate polluters, the Democrat's margin expands to 15 points, with especially strong movement among middle-electorate voters like independents and those in suburban districts.

[SPLIT SAMPLE] We have a basic responsibility to leave a better world to our children, but 97% of climate scientists, NASA, and our military leaders agree that climate change is a threat to the country and our kids' future. Yet, even as we're seeing more strange and severe weather - longer droughts, hotter summers, bigger wildfires - Republican leaders have repeatedly called climate change a "hoax" and supported efforts to allow corporate polluters to release unlimited amounts of the carbon and methane pollution that is disrupting our climate.

[SPLIT SAMPLE] Republicans are putting the health and future of our children at risk, letting corporate polluters who back their campaigns make billions in short-term profits. They want to gut commonsense protections like the Clean Air and Water Acts and allow oil, coal, and chemical companies to spew more toxic pollution like mercury, lead, and arsenic into our air and water, and they supported Donald Trump's tax plan that gave big oil companies and their CEOs billions in new tax breaks, helping allow companies like Chevron to pay no federal taxes at all.

VOTE FOR CONGRESS WITH CLIMATE CHANGE FRAME

	Likely Voters	Dem.	Ind.	GOP	Middle Partisans	Urban/Suburban	Sparsely Suburban
Democrat	53	93	52	9	50	55	54
Republican	38	5	29	85	36	36	34
<i>NET Democrat Post-Message</i>	<i>+15</i>	<i>+88</i>	<i>+23</i>	<i>-76</i>	<i>+14</i>	<i>+19</i>	<i>+20</i>
<i>NET Democrat Initial</i>	<i>+11</i>	<i>+88</i>	<i>+15</i>	<i>-80</i>	<i>+9</i>	<i>+14</i>	<i>+10</i>
<i>Total Lift</i>	<i>+4</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>+8</i>	<i>+4</i>	<i>+5</i>	<i>+5</i>	<i>+10</i>

ABOUT THIS RESEARCH

Global Strategy Group conducted multi-modal survey – on behalf of LCV Victory Fund, EDF Action, House Majority PAC, and NRDC Action Votes – of 1,203 general election likely voters with an oversample of 803 middle partisan voters (middle 50% of party scores) – for a total of 1,407 middle partisans – in 37 House battleground districts between May 29 and June 8, 2020. The survey was conducted via phone and text-to-web methodology, with voters chosen at random from the voter file. The margin of error at the 95% confidence level for general election likely voters is +/- 2.8%, and the margin of error at the same confidence level for middle partisan voters is +/- 2.6%. The 37 districts included in this research are as follows: AZ-01, CA-10, CA-21, CA-39, CA-45, CA-48, CO-06, FL-26, FL-27, GA-06, IA-01, IA-03, IL-14, KS-03, ME-02, MI-08, MI-11, MN-02, NH-01, NJ-03, NJ-07, NJ-11, NM-02, NV-03, NY-11, NY-19, NY-22, OK-05, PA-07, PA-08, SC-01, TX-07, TX-32, UT-04, VA-02, VA-07, and WA-08.