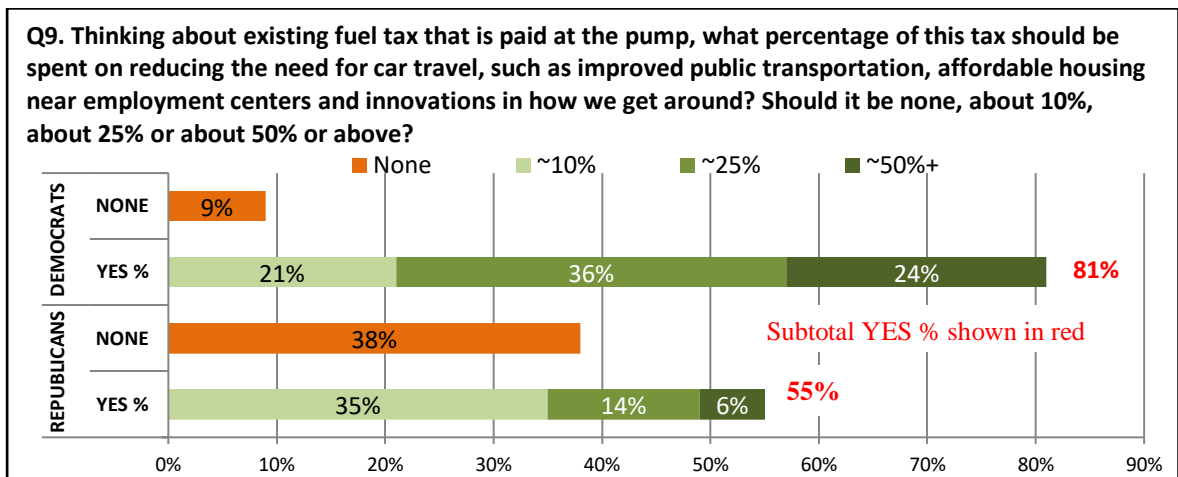


Climate Focus Survey 2017 -- Registered & Probable Voters

Quick-takes Summary

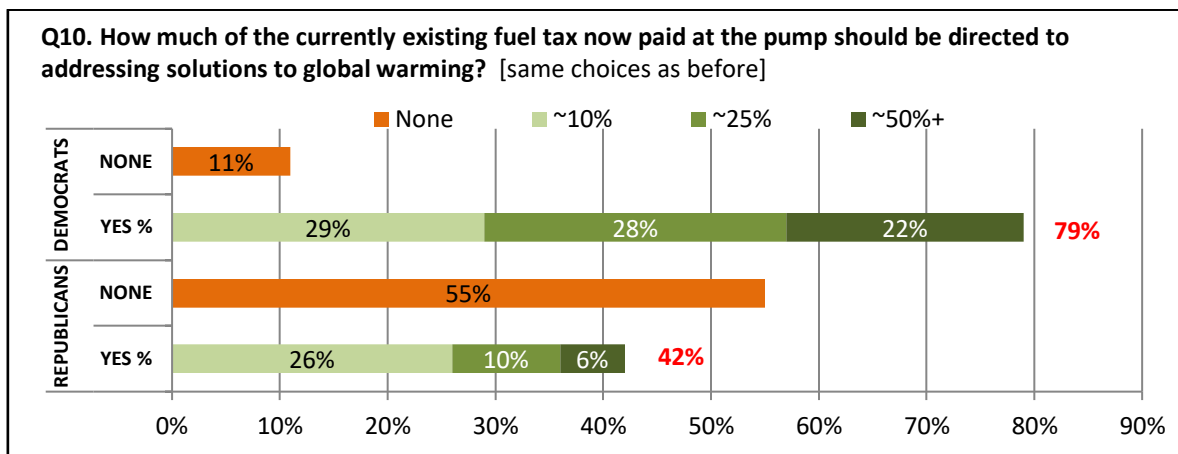
PolicyInteractive Oregon Survey September 2017 N=860 (land/cell n=400 + internet n=460)

1. **Oregonians are dissatisfied with the way things are going in the U.S.; 18% satisfied, 75% dissatisfied;** close to but less satisfied than reported by [Gallup's national polls](#). More locally, our sample of 860 registered voters are more satisfied with Oregon's Governor and Legislature, at nearly 50% satisfied; respondents rate themselves as **38% satisfied and 41% dissatisfied with Governor Kate Brown**. Respondent ranking of the **Oregon Legislature is 28% satisfied and 41% dissatisfied**.
2. **Climate Change Beliefs Little Changed:** Results to the same question run in September 2015 show a very modest increase in belief in human-caused climate impact from the same question asked in September 2015 with **4% responding "Hoax, it's just not happening," 54% responding "Yes, there is solid evidence...of human activity such as burning fossil fuels,"** which is up 7% from the same question asked in 2015. **Twenty-three percent responded "Yes, there is solid evidence, mostly because of natural patterns in Earth's environment."** Seven percent were unsure.
3. **Oregon voters support climate action now at 5:1 ratio:** In a forced choice question, **77% chose the statement "Climate change requires us to change our way of life such as driving less or living more simply," 14% chose "If climate change becomes a problem we can deal with it later,"** and 9% were undecided.
4. **Evidence of climate change in three impacts found 78% agreeing that Oregon's decreasing glaciers and snowpack is caused by climate change,** with lower but strong majorities for the recent hurricanes and forest fires.
5. **Attitudes about vehicle fuel tax spending is shifting, with 67% of sampled voters support redirecting fuel tax revenue toward public transport and vehicle-use reduction measures.** In May 1980, voters approved a constitutional amendment that locked fuel tax spending exclusively to highways; a campaign that was funded by well above a hundred businesses likely to benefit from the money the amendment would guarantee to their economic self-interest (there was no discernible campaign opposition at the time). Voter majority now appears receptive to broadening fuel tax expenditures to include funding public transportation, affordable housing near employment centers and other innovations, with total registered voter support at 66%, 23% opposed and 10% undecided. Notably, the sampled Republican voter majority also favors redirecting some measure of highway funds at a 55% rate of support (see chart below).



Testing receptivity to fuel tax policy change at the constitutional level should include the degree of innate resistance to "tinkering with our Constitution," even though Oregon's constitution is noteworthy for being loaded down with non-constitutional style language.

Redirecting some fuel tax revenue to address solutions to climate change is also favored by a majority of these likely voters, although by a lesser amount than the aforementioned Question 9, at 61% total support, 30% opposed and 9% undecided. Most of the decline from Q9 to Q10 is from the Republican sector. The lesser support for Q10 than Q9 deserves deeper testing and analysis, however it is anticipated that the difference is mostly tied to several decades of ideological messaging of the two parties.



6. **Oregon voters support a cap and trade program** similar to those enacted by California and Canadian Provinces **more than 3:1**, with **61% in support, 18% opposed, and 22% undecided**. This question reflects political party differences, with support from over 80% of Democrats, as compared to 35% support and 38% opposition from Republicans, and over 50% support from those registered as non-affiliated or with another party. These results are virtually unchanged from a similar question asked in 2015.

7. **Reinvesting cap and trade policy revenue support at nearly 3:1** over refunding revenue to citizens; **70% chose "Reinvestment in statewide programs to lower greenhouse gas emissions..." while 26% chose "Refunded to all taxpayers equally."** The refund option is being tested because it is a policy preference of the national group Citizens Climate Lobby, which has an active Oregon presence. These results are very close to the same question asked in 2015.

8. **Seventy four percent of likely voters support putting Oregon on a 100% renewable energy track by 2050**, while 24% oppose this and only 3% are undecided.

9. **Voters mostly oppose big fossil fuel projects like coal or gas terminals, with 54% opposed, 33% in support, and 13% undecided.**

10. Demographically, the survey was balanced geographically among Oregon's five congressional districts, sampled to favor older ages to match voter participation, close to census gender balance, matched Oregon Republican voter registration but skewed slightly down on independent and high on Democrat registration, income cohort brackets skew low on low income, high on middle and high income but which trends toward voter participation characteristics, and education levels of participants also skews low on lower education attainment and higher on upper education which also aligns with voter participation. See [full unabridged results](#) for all questions and demographics.

Brief methodology: Survey designed and conducted by PolicyInteractive Research, Eugene, Oregon. Three primary respondent sources were used for this survey: 1) statistical sample random digit telephone drawn from voter registration records split 50/50 land and mobile phones, completed by Information Alliance based in Logan, UT; 2) internet non-statistical sample administered survey with addresses pre-screened for registered voters was provided by Research Now, a full service marketing and research company based in Dallas, TX; and 3) a national panel maintained by Amazon.com, used for comparative analysis, which was not included in this Oregon opinion sample. Telephone and internet sampling were both employed because telephone survey response rates have fallen precipitously in recent years and telephone respondents are known to be disproportionately older and more conservative than the general population, while internet sampling tends toward younger and more liberal respondents, providing a more accurate cross section of the general population. PolicyInteractive adheres to the Standards of Practice of the American Association of Public

Opinion Research and is a member of AAPOR's Transparency Initiative, a benchmark best practice standard of practice. Full methodology available on request.

Unabridged survey results: goo.gl/HfG3Mn Comments, questions, inquiries: info@policyinteractive.org