Nationwide Study Of Latino Voters & The Environment
Methodology

Myers Research | Strategic Services, LLC designed and administered this telephone survey conducted by professional, bilingual interviewers in the respondent’s language of choice. The survey reached 1000 adults, 18 years of age or older, who indicated they consider themselves to be Latino, Hispanic or Spanish-speaking Americans and indicated that they voted in the 2016 general election. Interviews were conducted November 9-13, 2016.

This survey reflects the proportion of registered Latino voters in each state.

Fifty-one percent of interviews were conducted on landline telephones, 49 percent were conducted on cell phones.

The margin of error associated with these data at a 95 percent confidence level is +/- 3.1. The margin of error for subgroups is higher and varies.
Key Findings

• The economy, jobs, and education remain the top priorities for Latino voters nationwide, but concern over the environment has nearly tripled in the last four years.
  ✓ Notably, concern over pollution of the air and water and climate change are particularly resonant.

• Latino voters view renewable energy as an economic booster and a job creator.
  ✓ Eighty-two percent of Latino voters report that they would prefer the U.S. to invest in clean, renewable energy sources rather than fossil fuels.
  ✓ Just as compelling, 77 percent favor setting a goal for all U.S. energy to be produced from renewable sources by 2050, with a majority (51 percent) STRONGLY favoring it.
    ✓ In fact, those Latino voters who supported Trump in 2016 are split down the middle, with 47 percent favoring the goal and 47 percent opposing this goal.
Key Findings

• 9-in-10 Latino voters are concerned about climate change, reflective of trends 4 years ago, and a solid 71 percent say that it is VERY important for the U.S. to meet its commitments to the 2015 Paris Agreement to fight climate change.

• Latino voters want the next Presidential Administration to be firmly focused on combating air and water pollution and expanding renewables, which not only have environmental and quality of life impacts, but economic ones as well.

• A clear connection remains between health and family - many report that they live near toxic sites, and reported incidents of negative health outcomes (asthma and cancer in particular) continue to prove troubling.
  ✓ Nearly half of Latino voters (45 percent) report that they or someone in their family has faced asthma that could be linked to environmental factors.
  ✓ The number who say the same about cancer (41 percent) remains unchanged from trends observed in 2012.
Connection To The Outdoors & Quality Of Life
Outdoor Activities Remain Very Important To Latino Voters
Nearly All Say They Are Either Very or Somewhat Important to Them and Their Family

How important are outdoor activities, like picnics, fishing, camping or visiting the national parks or monuments, to you and your family - are they very important, somewhat important or not important at all?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Very Important</th>
<th>Somewhat Important</th>
<th>Not Important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Latino Voters Almost Universally Say The Environment And Pollution Impact Their Quality of Life

How much would you say the environment and pollution impact the quality of life of your family - a lot, some, a little or not at all?

- A lot: 41
- Some: 28
- A little: 20
- Not at all: 10

69% A lot/Some
89% A lot/Some/A Little
Perceptions Of Family’s & Public’s Health
Continued Awareness Of Proximity To Toxic Sites

Are you aware of any toxic sites close to your home or place of work, such as a refinery, a chemical plant, an incinerator, an agricultural field, a coal-burning power plant, a major highway, or a factory - yes OR no?
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>California</th>
<th>Texas</th>
<th>Mt. West</th>
<th>Multi-Gen</th>
<th>1st or 2nd Generation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pct Yes</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>40</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pct No</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>59</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Latino Voters In Texas and California Continue To Be Most Likely to Report Awareness Of Proximity To Toxic Sites, As Are Multi-Generational Americans
As you may know, sometimes some people have health concerns that can be caused by environmental factors. I’m going to read you a list of these concerns, and I’d like you to tell me whether you or anyone in your immediate family has faced that health concern.

![Bar chart showing the percentage of Latino voters reporting health concerns](Figure 11)

- **Asthma**: 45% Yes, 54% No
- **Cancer**: 41% Yes, 58% No
- **Chronic bronchitis**: 22% Yes, 77% No
- **Lead poisoning**: 10% Yes, 89% No
- **Mercury poisoning**: 7% Yes, 92% No

As you may know, sometimes some people have health concerns that can be caused by environmental factors. I’m going to read you a list of these concerns, and I’d like you to tell me whether you or anyone in your immediate family has faced that health concern.
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pct Yes Asthma</th>
<th>Pct Yes Cancer</th>
<th>Pct Yes Chronic Bronchitis</th>
<th>Pct Yes Lead Poisoning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rican</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central American</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexican</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South American</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominican</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Attitudes Toward Conservation Point To Continued Support For Renewables To Combat Climate Change And Pollution
Concern Over Pocketbook Issues, Education, and Immigration Remain, But Concern Over The Environment Has Nearly Tripled In The Last Four Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Pct 2012</th>
<th>Pct 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The economy and jobs</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pollution</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Other)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now, I am going to read you a list of concerns that many people have. Please tell me which TWO of these concerns are most important to you and your family.
When It Comes to the Environment Specifically, Pollution And Climate Change Dominate, With Concern Increasing Significantly Since 2012

- Pollution: 32 (14% increase from 2012)
- Climate change/global warming: 27 (10% increase from 2012)
- Protect animals: 9
- Energy/sources of energy: 8
- Clean water: 7
- Fracking/oil pipeline: 6
- Clean air: 5
- Recycling: 3
- Garbage/too much trash: 3
- Carbon emissions: 2
- Use of natural resources: 2
- Safety: 2
- People don't care about environment: 2
- Environmental regulations: 2
- Energy conservation: 2
- Other: 17

And when you are asked about the environment, what comes to mind first?
Near Unanimity Behind Beliefs In Moral Responsibility To Take Care Of The Earth & The Outdoors Being A Way Of Life

Switching gears a bit, now I’m going to read you some statements. For each please tell me whether you agree or disagree with that statement.

I have a moral responsibility to take care of the earth - the wilderness and forests, the oceans, lakes, and rivers.

- 97% Total Agree
- 81% Strongly Agree
- 3% Total Disagree

Hiking, camping, fishing, and other outdoor activities are part of my community’s way of life; protecting land and water protects my culture, my family, and my community.

- 94% Total Agree
- 70% Strongly Agree
- 5% Total Disagree
Switching gears a bit, now I’m going to read you some statements. For each please tell me whether you agree or disagree with that statement.

Latino Voters See Positive Economic Impact of Protecting Land And Water, Parks And Monuments, And Clean Energy

Protecting our land and water is critical to our economy and the ability to maintain and create jobs now and in the future.

- **94% Total Agree**
- **77% Strongly Agree**
- **5% Total Disagree**

Parks and monuments support millions of jobs across the United States. Protecting our public lands benefits the economy and creates jobs.

- **91% Total Agree**
- **61% Strongly Agree**
- **7% Total Disagree**

Developing a clean energy economy will spur economic growth and create jobs that can't be outsourced.

- **85% Total Agree**
- **61% Strongly Agree**
- **13% Total Disagree**

2012

- **90% Agree – 9% Disagree**
- **86% Agree – 12% Disagree**
- **79% Agree – 18% Disagree**
8-in-10 Latino Voters Prefer That the United States Invest More In Clean, Renewable Energy Sources Over Fossil Fuels

As you may know, the United States gets its energy from many different sources. If the United States invested in clean renewable energy sources, like solar and wind, OR invested in fossil fuels, like coal, oil, and gas which would you prefer?
As you may know, as part of President Obama’s Clean Power Plan, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has proposed the first-ever limits on the amount of carbon pollution that power plants can release. Thinking about this, do you favor or oppose the next Presidential Administration continuing to implement the Clean Power Plan?
Some have proposed setting a goal for the United States to transition away from fossil fuels like coal, oil, and gas and get one hundred percent of our energy from clean and renewable sources, like solar and wind, by the year 2050. Thinking about this, do you favor or oppose the next Presidential Administration setting this goal to fully transition away from fossil fuels by 2050?
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Global Climate Change
Depth Of Latino Voters’ Concern About Global Climate Change Has Grown By Double Digits Since 2012

How concerned are you about global climate change - are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, a little concerned, or not at all concerned about global climate change?

2012: 90% Total Concerned

2016: 88% Total Concerned

Figure 23
As you may know, nearly 200 countries agreed to work to reduce emissions linked to climate change at the United Nations talks last year. Thinking about this, how important do you think it is for the United States to meet this commitment – is it very important, somewhat important, a little important or not at all important?
Three Quarters Of Latino Voters Who Backed Trump Believe The Paris Agreement Is Important

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Importance Level</th>
<th>Pct Total</th>
<th>Pct Clinton Supporters</th>
<th>Pct Trump Supporters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very Important</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat Important</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Little Important</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Important</strong></td>
<td><strong>93</strong></td>
<td><strong>98</strong></td>
<td><strong>75</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not At All Important</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
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Priorities For The Next Administration
Now, I am going to read you a list of policies that the next President could address. For each, please rate it on a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 means it should not be a priority of the next Administration and 5 means that it should be an important priority for the next President. You can choose any number between 1 and 5.

Fully implement and enforce strong water pollution rules for power plants, including limiting coal ash and other water toxins.

Fully implement and enforce strong air pollution rules for power plants, including limiting haze and smog.

Provide more incentives to expand renewable energy use and production.
Broad Majorities Of Latino Voters Want To Increase Energy Efficiency Standards, Invest In Public Transportation, And End Fossil Fuel Leases On Public Lands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Mean on a 1-5 Scale</th>
<th>% Rate 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Issue strong, new energy efficiency standards for appliances to spur innovation and technology.</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase investment in public transportation, electric cars and buses, and walk-able communities without displacing local residents.</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End fossil fuel leases on public lands and along the coast, including those for coal and gas drilling.</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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