

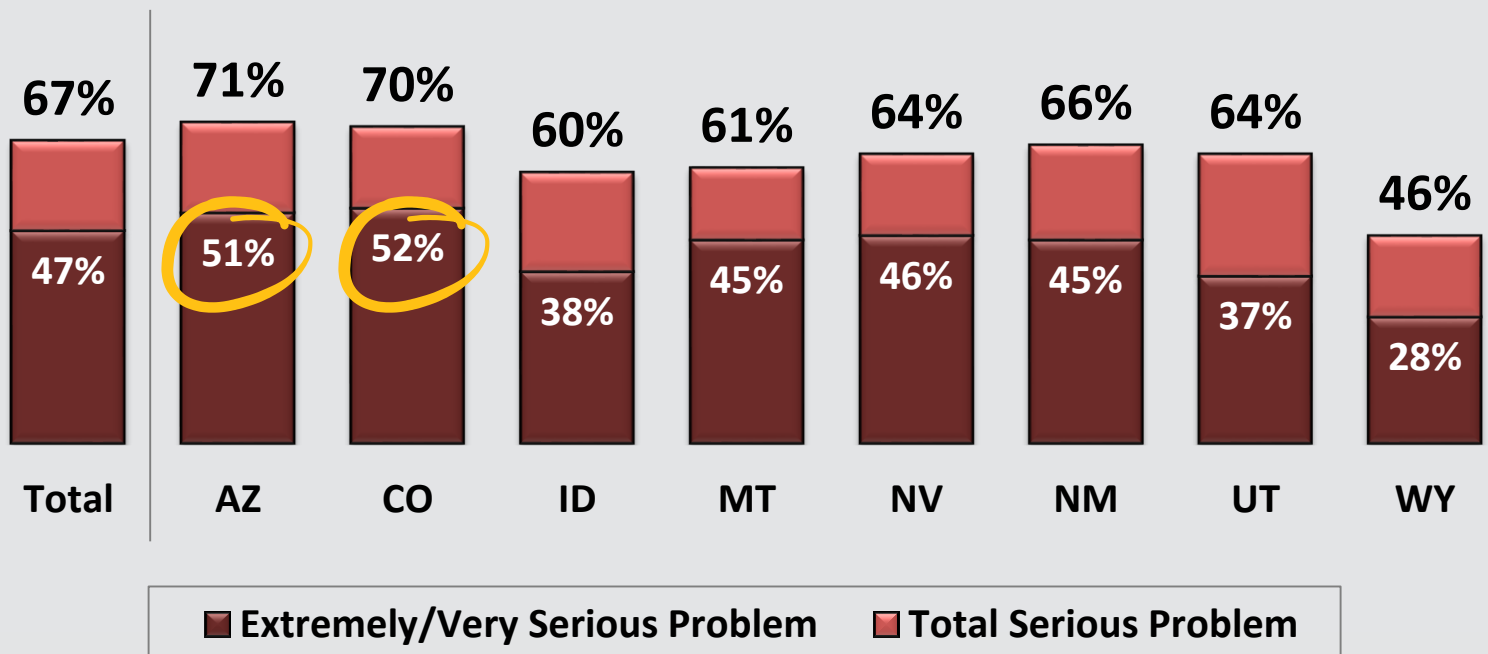
# Climate Change in the West

*A majority of Western voters view climate change as a serious problem, and concerns about the issue have grown substantially over the last decade.*



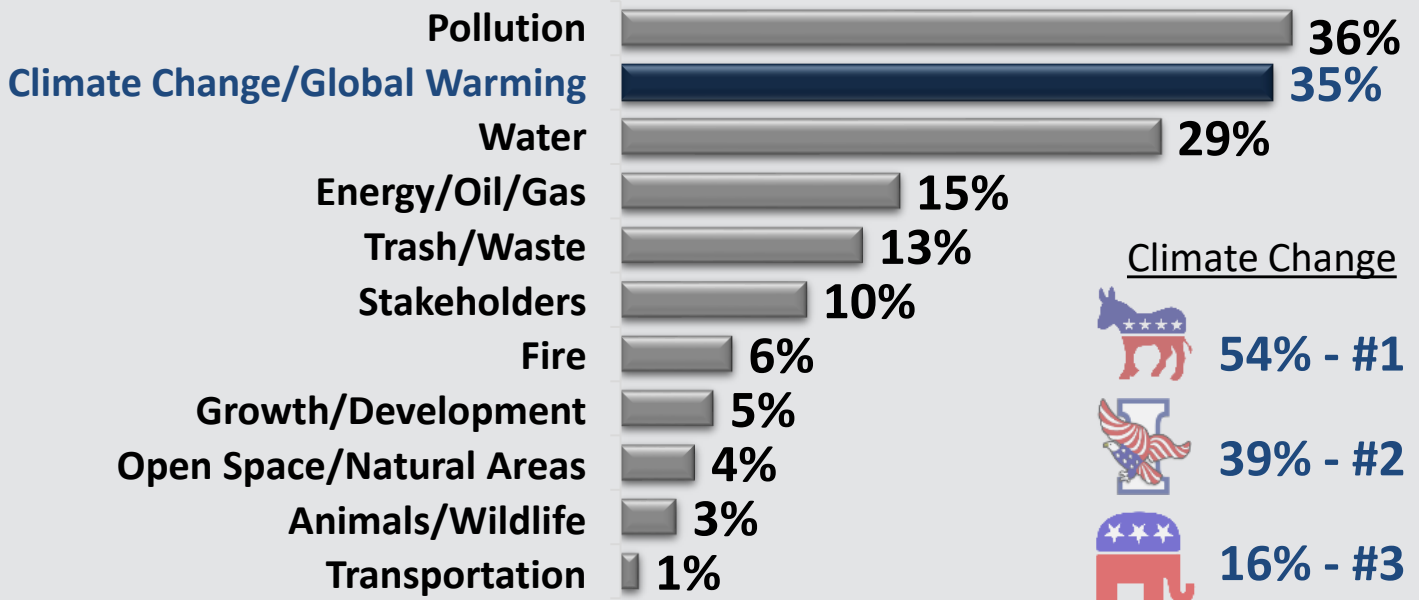
Overall, two-thirds of Western voters say climate change is a serious problem. In virtually all states interviewed, at least six-in-ten voters say it is a serious issue, with Arizonans and Coloradans expressing the most concern.

## Seriousness of Climate Change



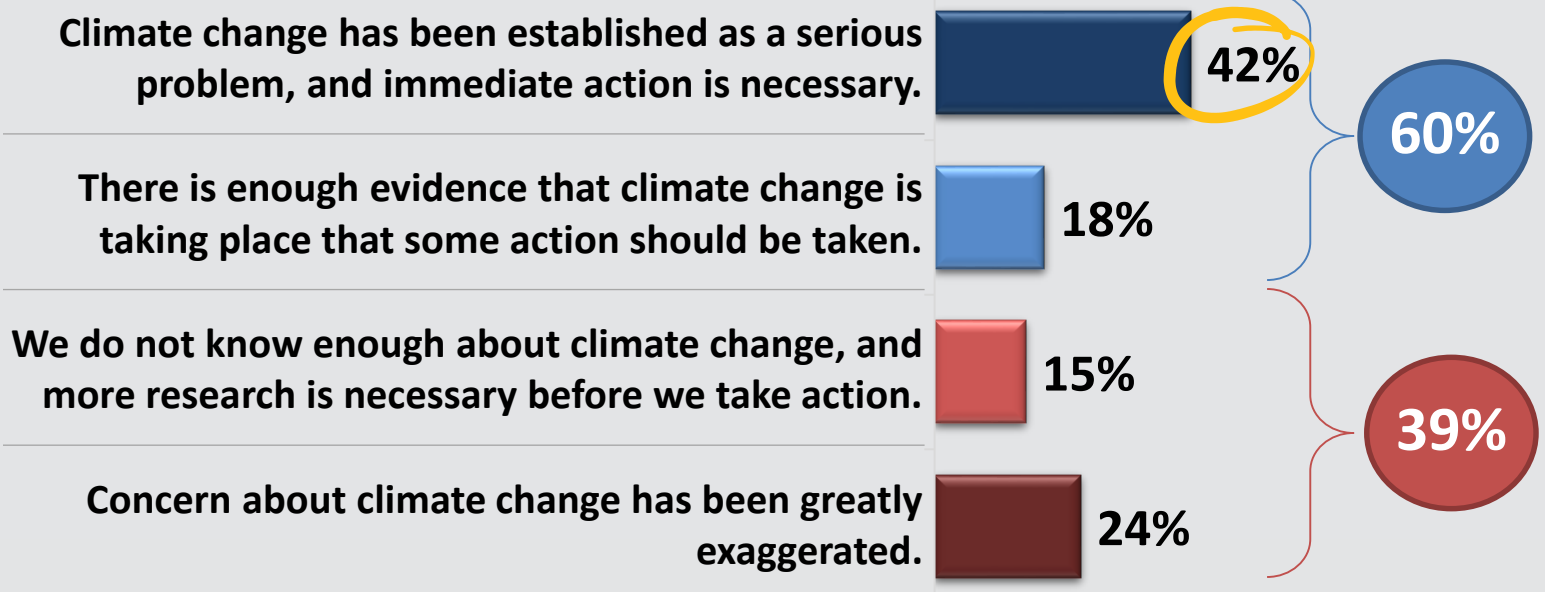
Climate change is also volunteered as one of the most important environmental problems we face today. Although there is partisan agreement on the top three pressing issues, Democrats and Independents place more emphasis on climate change than Republicans.

### Most Important Environmental Problem



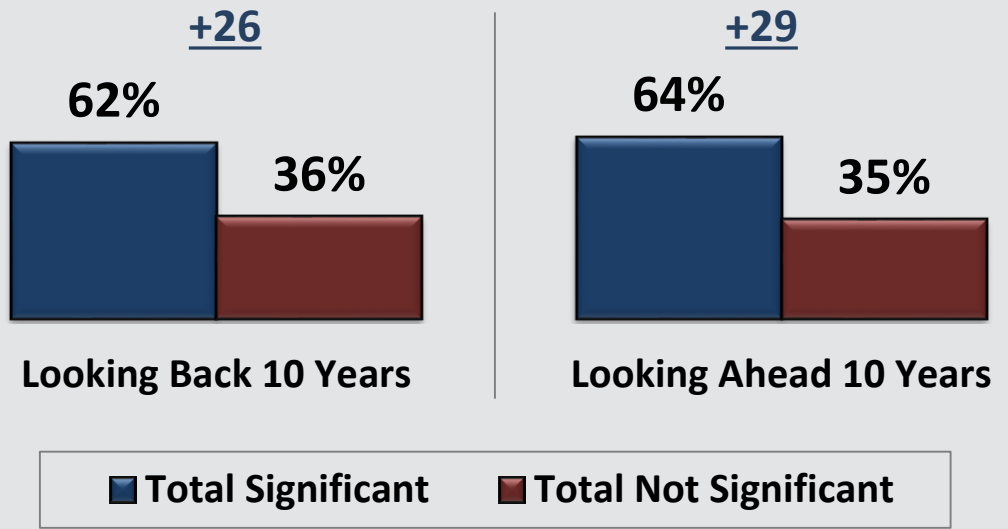
The majority of Western voters are in favor of action on climate change, with more than four-in-ten saying it needs to happen *immediately*.

### View of Climate Change Reality



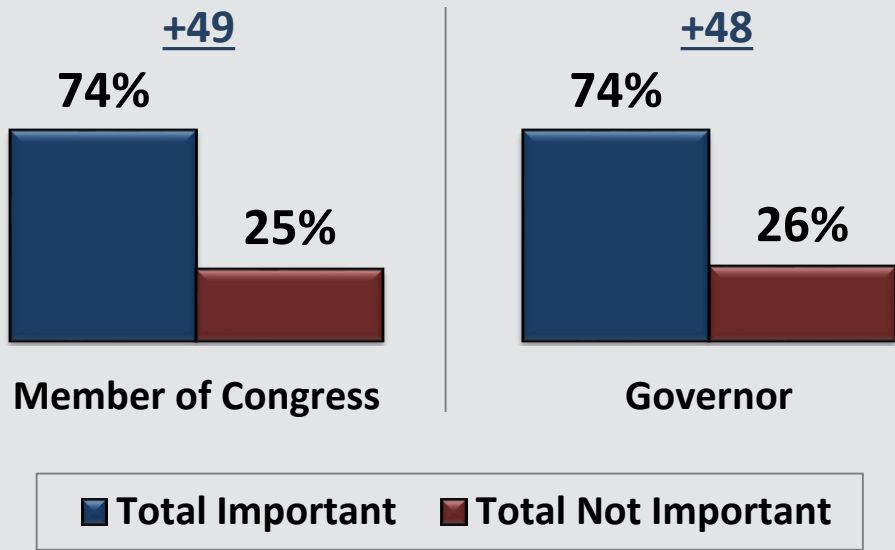
Almost two-thirds of Western voters say the effects of climate change have been significant over the last 10 years, and they will be significant over the next decade.

### Effect of Climate Change



Roughly, three-quarters of Western voters say it is important for their Member of Congress or Governor to have a plan to reduce carbon pollution that contributes to climate change. Indeed, a majority of voters across the political spectrum say it is important for elected officials to have a plan for this issue.

### Importance of Politician Having Plan to Reduce Carbon Pollution



% Total Important	
Congressman	Governor
96%	94%
75%	79%
55%	53%

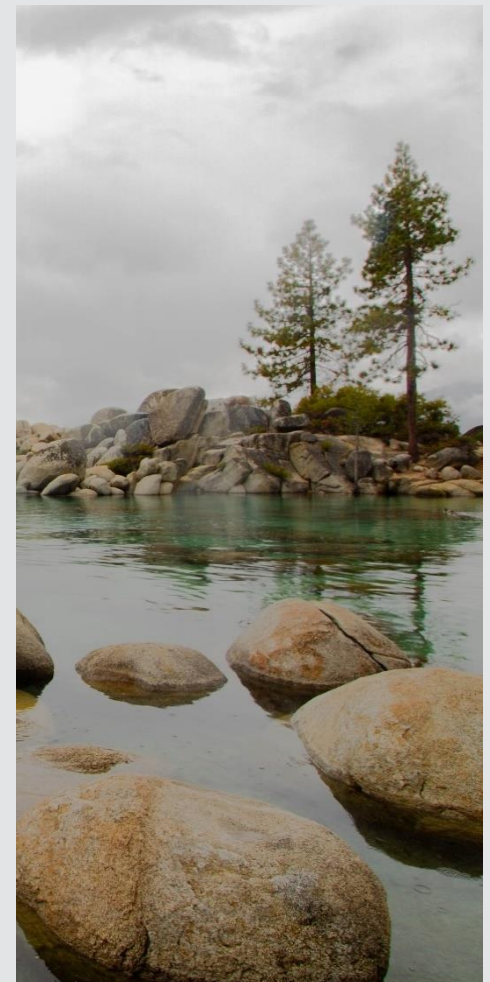
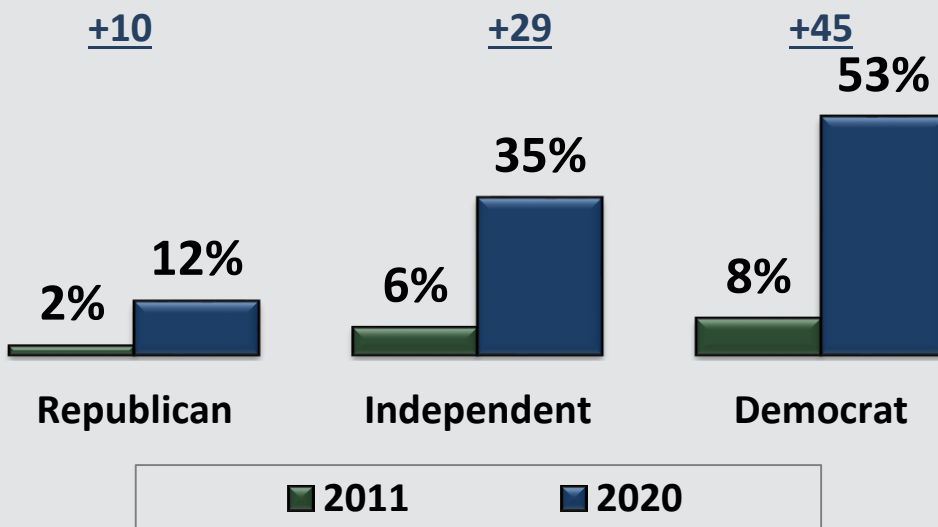
**Concern about climate change has increased substantially over the last decade.**

A comparison of the five states that were interviewed in both 2011 and 2020 (CO, MT, NM, UT, & WY), reveals that **today voters see climate change as a more serious problem that needs immediate action.**

Climate Change...	2011	2020	2020-2011
as most important environmental problem	5%	32%	+27
is a serious problem	55%	66%	+11
is a problem that needs action	48%	59%	+11

The 27-point increase from 2011 to 2020 in citing climate change as one of the most important environmental problems is **largely due to Independents and Democrats, although Republicans also increased 10-points** on this issue over the last decade.

**Climate Change As Most Important Environmental Problem**



Similarly, a substantial increase among Independents and Democrats over the last decade has bolstered support for action to address climate change. Additionally, female voters have shifted significantly on this point.

### Climate Change is a Problem that Needs Action

