

# Latino Voters Support Holding Oil and Gas Companies Accountable for High Prices and Taking Action on Climate Change

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July 2022



# Introduction

Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine, global energy prices have skyrocketed. Now, from coast to coast, Americans are feeling pain at the pump as gas prices soar to record highs while executives collect record profits. Meanwhile, the growing impacts of climate change such as heatwaves, wildfires, and extreme rainfall have become the new normal for millions of Americans. The dueling crises of high gas prices and the climate crisis acutely impact Latinos, many of whom are on the front lines of pollution and climate change.

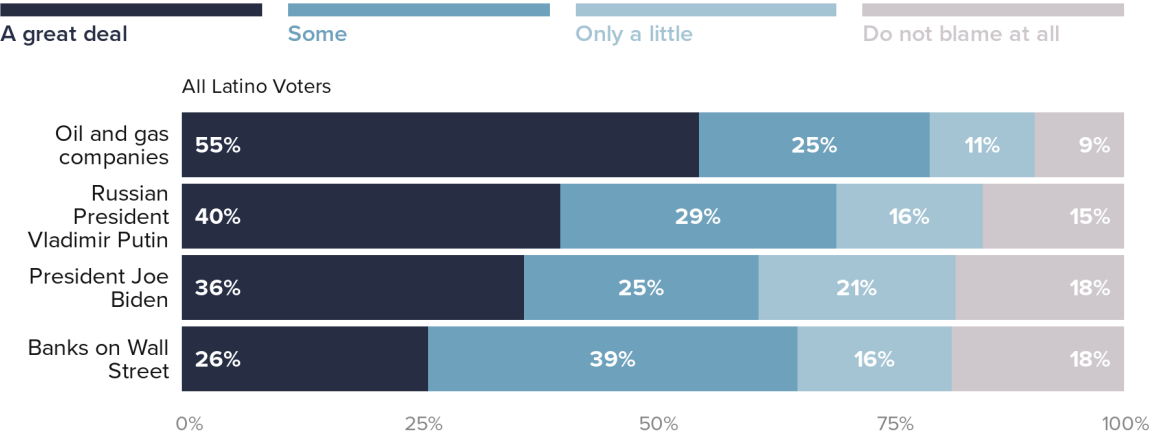
In a June 2022 survey, Data for Progress asked Latino voters nationwide about their attitudes toward climate change, high gas prices, and the role of oil and gas companies in causing those high prices. We find that Latino voters blame oil and gas companies — not President Biden — for causing high gas prices and support policies to curb their excess profits. Moreover, we find that Latino voters are overwhelmingly concerned about climate change and support actions to expand clean energy production in America.

## Latino Voters Want to Hold the Oil and Gas Industry Accountable

Though Latino voters are paying more to fill up their cars, they don't blame Biden for higher gas prices. Rather, 80 percent of Latino voters place “a great deal” or “some” blame on oil and gas companies for higher gas prices. The sentiment against oil and gas companies is especially strong, with over half (55 percent) of Latino voters placing “a great deal” of blame on oil and gas companies. By contrast, only 36 percent place “a great deal” of blame on Biden.

### Latino Voters Blame Oil and Gas Companies for High Gas Prices

How much do you blame each of the following for higher energy prices:



June 12-19, 2022 survey of 1,011 likely Latino voters



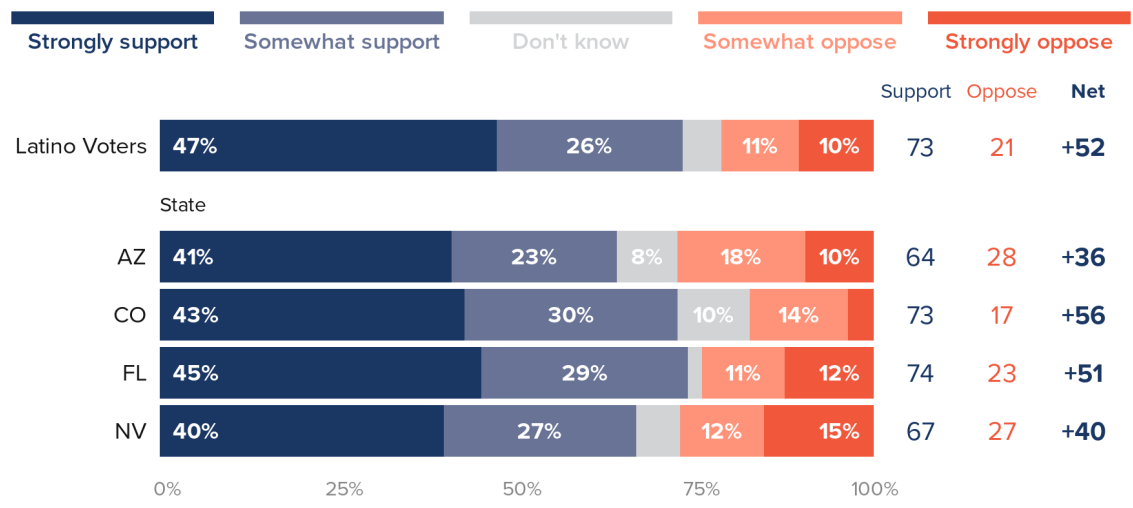
To combat high prices and hold these oil and gas companies accountable, Latino voters support a tax on excess oil and gas company profits by a +52-point margin (73 percent support, 21 percent oppose). This includes majorities of Latinos in states with significant Latino populations, including Arizona (+36-point margin), Colorado (+56-point margin), Florida (+51-point margin), and Nevada (+40-point margin).

## Latino Voters Support a Tax on Excess Oil and Gas Profits

In recent months, oil and gas companies have achieved record profits due to high energy prices worldwide.

Now, some lawmakers in Congress have proposed that oil and gas companies pay a tax on their excess profits.

Would you support or oppose oil and gas companies paying a tax on their excess profits?



June 12–19, 2022 survey of 1,011 likely voters

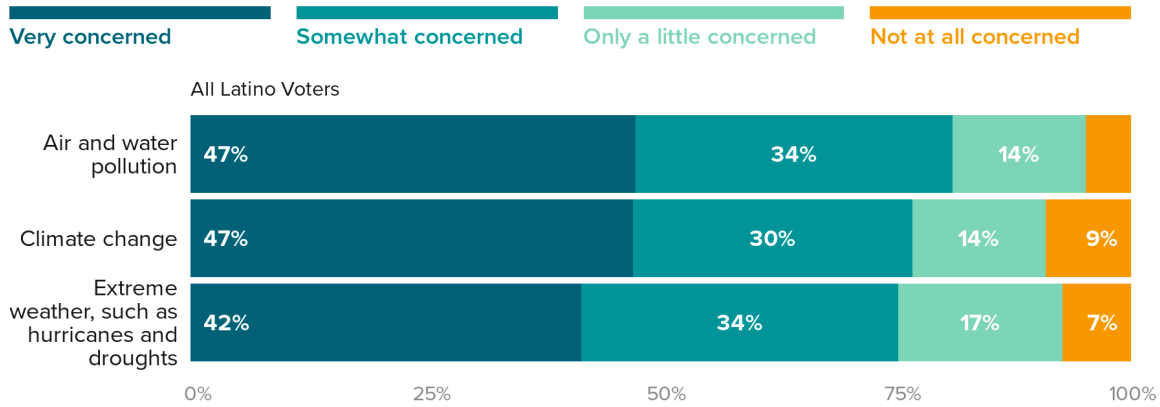


## Latino Voters Support Expanding Clean Energy Production

We find that majorities of Latino voters are “very” or “somewhat” concerned about air and water pollution, climate change, and extreme weather events. Notably, 81 percent of Latino voters are “very” or “somewhat” concerned about air and water pollution.

# Latino Voters Are Extremely Concerned About Climate Change, Pollution, and Natural Disasters

How concerned or not concerned are you about each of the following:



June 12-19, 2022 survey of 1,011 likely Latino voters

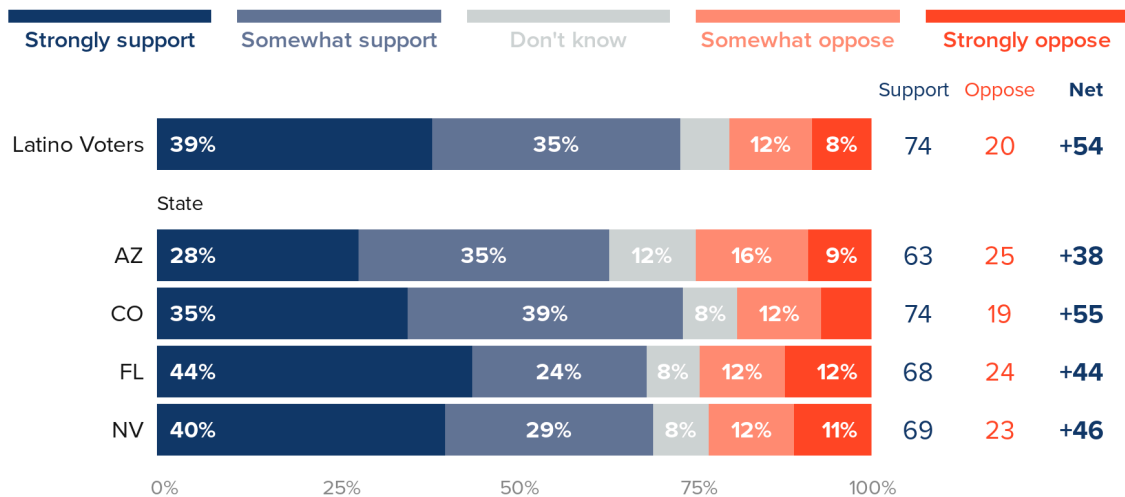
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An investment to expand clean energy production in America enjoys support from nearly three-quarters (74 percent) of Latino voters. This includes 63 percent of Latino voters in Arizona, 74 percent in Colorado, 68 percent in Florida, and 69 percent in Nevada.

## Latino Voters Support a National Investment to Expand Clean Energy Production

Some lawmakers in Congress are considering an investment to expand clean energy production in America. This investment would provide financial incentives for power producers who use clean energy, such as wind and solar energy.

Would you support or oppose Congress making this investment to expand clean energy production in America?



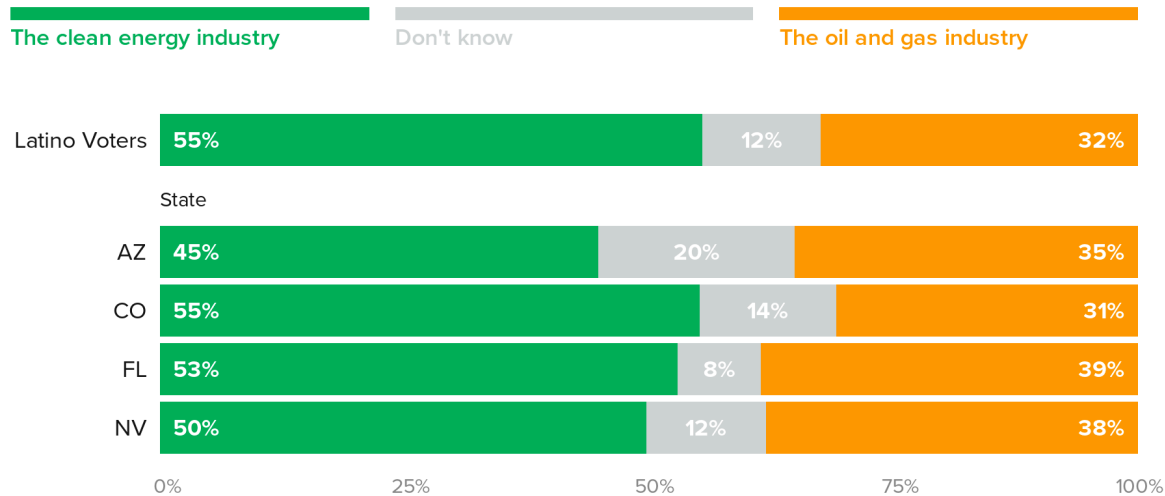
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Moreover, over half of Latino voters (55 percent) say that the clean energy industry will create more jobs in the future, while only 32 percent say the oil and gas industry will. A plurality of Latino voters in Arizona (45 percent) and Nevada (50 percent), as well as majorities in Colorado (55 percent) and Florida (53 percent), agree that the clean energy industry has more potential to create American jobs.

## Latino Voters Think the Clean Energy Industry Will Create More Jobs Than the Fossil Fuel Industry

Over the next several decades, which industry do you think will create more jobs in America:



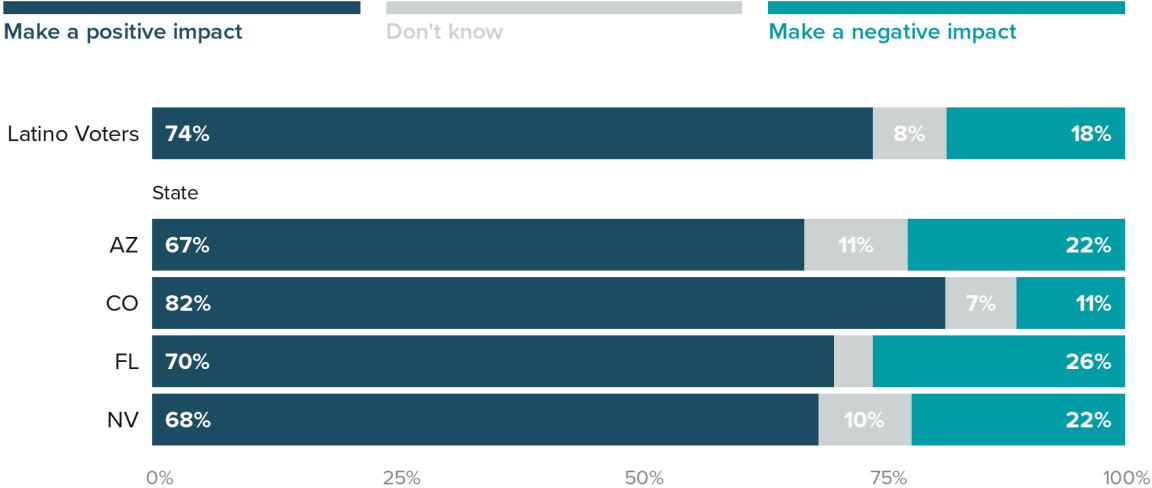
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Finally, nearly three-quarters of Latino voters (74 percent) say that expanding clean energy production in America will have a positive impact on our economy. This sentiment is shared by majorities of Latino voters in Arizona (67 percent), Colorado (82 percent), Florida (70 percent), and Nevada (68 percent).

# Latino Voters Say Expanding Clean Energy Production Will Make a Positive Impact on America

Do you think expanding clean energy production in America will have a positive or negative impact on our economy:



June 12-19, 2022 survey of 1,011 likely Latino voters



## Conclusion

To Latino voters, it is clear that oil and gas companies are playing a key role in driving up energy prices while they continue carrying on with their polluting business as usual. As such, they support holding these companies accountable through a tax on excess profits. Furthermore, Latino voters support an investment in clean energy and see it as both a job creator and a way to combat climate change. This new poll builds upon [previous surveys](#) that have found Latino voters are widely concerned about the impacts of climate change and air pollution on their communities. As lawmakers consider ways to address both high prices and climate change, it is clear that Latino voters strongly back investments in clean energy.

## Survey Methodology

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From June 12 to 19, 2022, Data for Progress conducted a survey of 1,011 likely Hispanic and Latino voters nationally with oversamples in Arizona, Colorado, Florida, and Nevada using web panel respondents. The sample was weighted to be representative of likely voters by age, gender, education, and voting history. The survey was conducted in English. The margin of error is  $\pm 3$  percentage points.