

Poll Findings About Direct Air Capture & Carbon Dioxide Removal

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Attitudes

Americans have limited familiarity with carbon removal technologies, but are inclined to support them.

- Roughly two in five voters (41%) say that they have heard “some” or “a lot” about carbon removal technologies. [[Data for Progress](#), May 2021]
- Voters are much more likely to say that they have favorable impressions of carbon removal technologies (44%) than to say that they have unfavorable impressions (13%), though a large percentage (44%) don’t know enough to offer an opinion. [[Data for Progress](#), May 2021]
- Nearly half of Americans (48%) support expanding the use of carbon removal practices and technologies. While few oppose the expansion of carbon removal (9%), many (42%) don’t know enough to say whether they support or oppose expanding it. [[Morning Consult](#), Oct. 2020]

With a bit of explanation, voters are widely inclined to support legislation that would accelerate carbon dioxide removal.

- Roughly seven in ten voters (71%) say that they would support federal legislation to accelerate the development of carbon removal technologies after reading that carbon dioxide “is a greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change” and that “scientists and researchers have invented new technologies to remove carbon dioxide from the air.” [\[Data for Progress, May 2022\]](#)
 - This legislation attracts bipartisan support from voters, though Democrats (85%) are more likely to support it than independents (69%) or Republicans (59%).

Natural carbon dioxide removal techniques and industrial technologies both have intuitive appeal.

- While techniques that utilize natural processes tend to attract the greatest support, Americans are much more likely to support than oppose each of the following practices for removing and storing carbon. [\[Morning Consult, Oct. 2020\]](#)
 - Managing forests to increase carbon storage (72% support / 8% oppose)
 - Cultivating seaweed and/or using industrial technology to capture carbon from seawater (61% support / 8% oppose)
 - Using industrial technology to capture carbon from heavy industry to be stored underground, i.e. carbon capture and storage (50% support / 14% oppose)
 - Capturing carbon directly from bioenergy production to be stored underground (50% support / 14% oppose)
 - Using industrial technology to capture carbon from the atmosphere to be stored underground (48% support / 13% oppose)
 - Speeding up the natural reactions between carbon and rock formations to store carbon (43% support / 15% oppose)

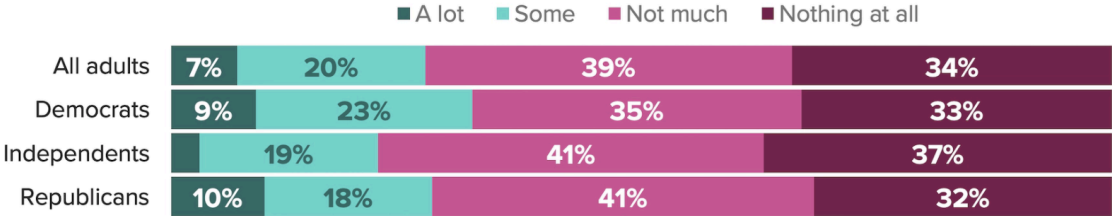
Americans widely support the construction of direct air capture (DAC) facilities after learning about them.

- After reading a multi-paragraph description of DAC technology, two-thirds of Americans (68%) say that they would support building DAC facilities in the United States [\[Data for Progress, Jan. 2023\]](#)
 - Majorities of Democrats (77%), independents (65%), and Republicans (60%) all say that they support building DAC facilities after reading about the technology.

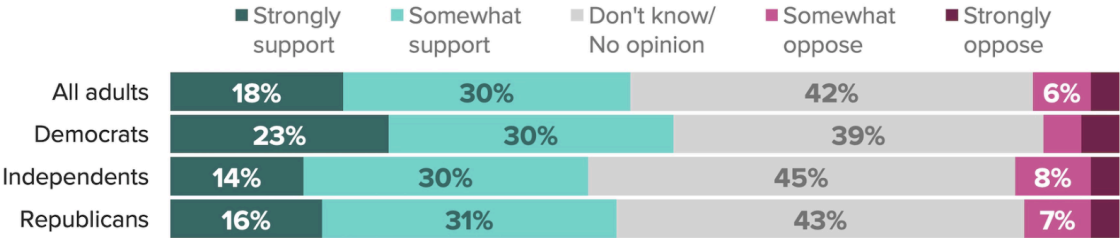
Charts

Despite Low Awareness, Nearly Half of Public Supports Expanding Carbon Removal

Share of adults who have **seen, read or heard** about carbon removal practices and technologies



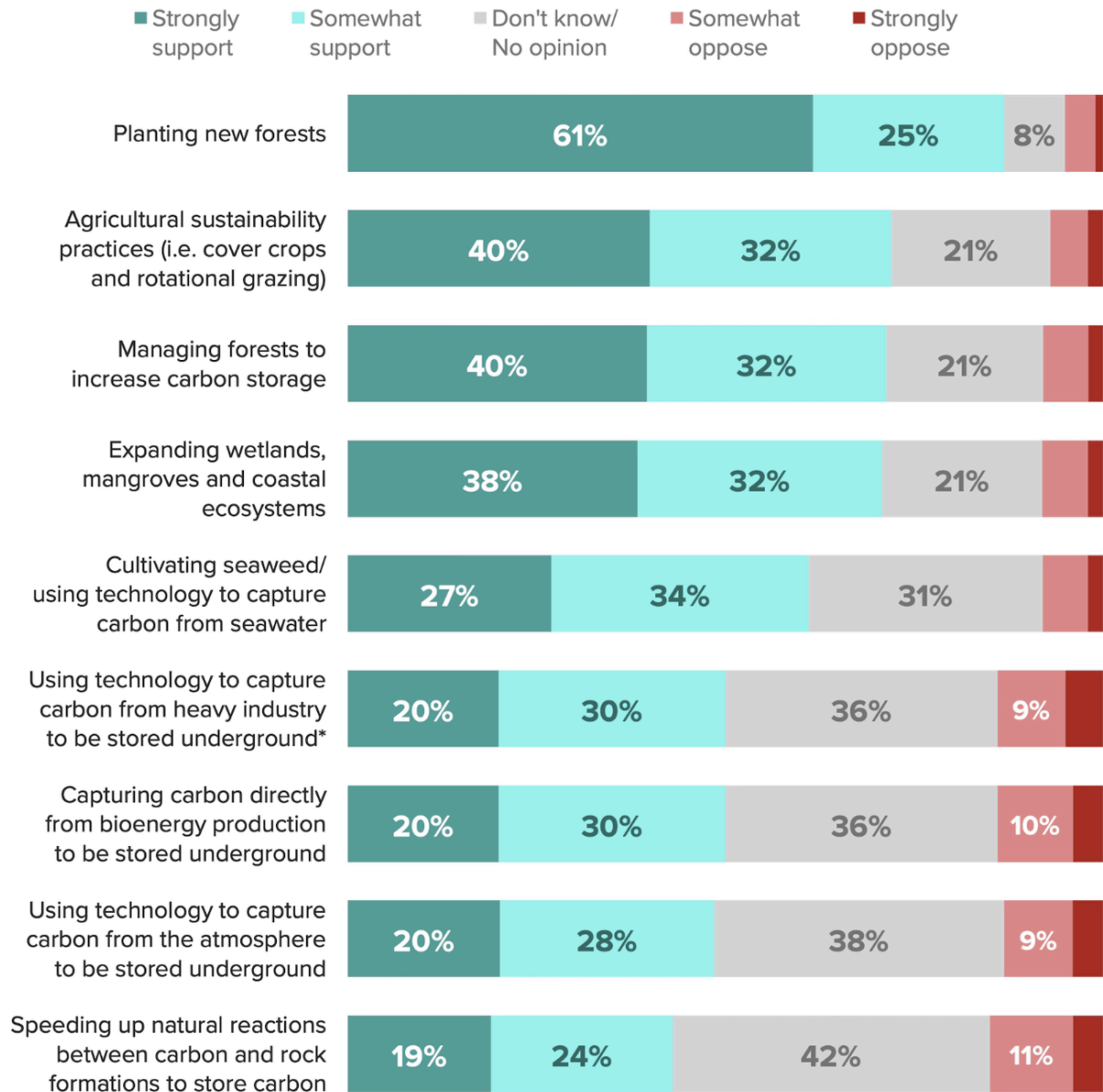
Share of adults who **support or oppose** expanding the use of carbon removal practices and technologies



[Morning Consult](#), Oct. 2020

Majority of Public Supports Agriculture and Forest Management Practices to Remove Carbon

Would you support or oppose expanding the use of the following carbon removal practices?



[Morning Consult](#), Oct. 2020

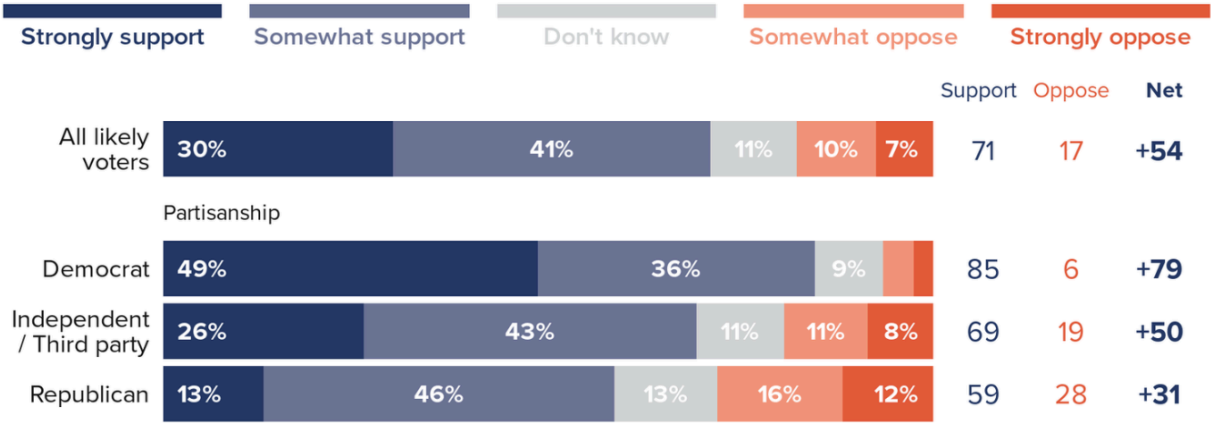
The CDR Leadership Act Enjoys Bipartisan Support

Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change. There is a significant amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere from decades of using oil, gas, and coal.

Scientists and researchers have invented new technologies to remove carbon dioxide from the air, but they are still in the early stages of development.

To accelerate the development of carbon removal technologies across the country, Congress has introduced a bill called the Federal Carbon Dioxide Removal Leadership Act.

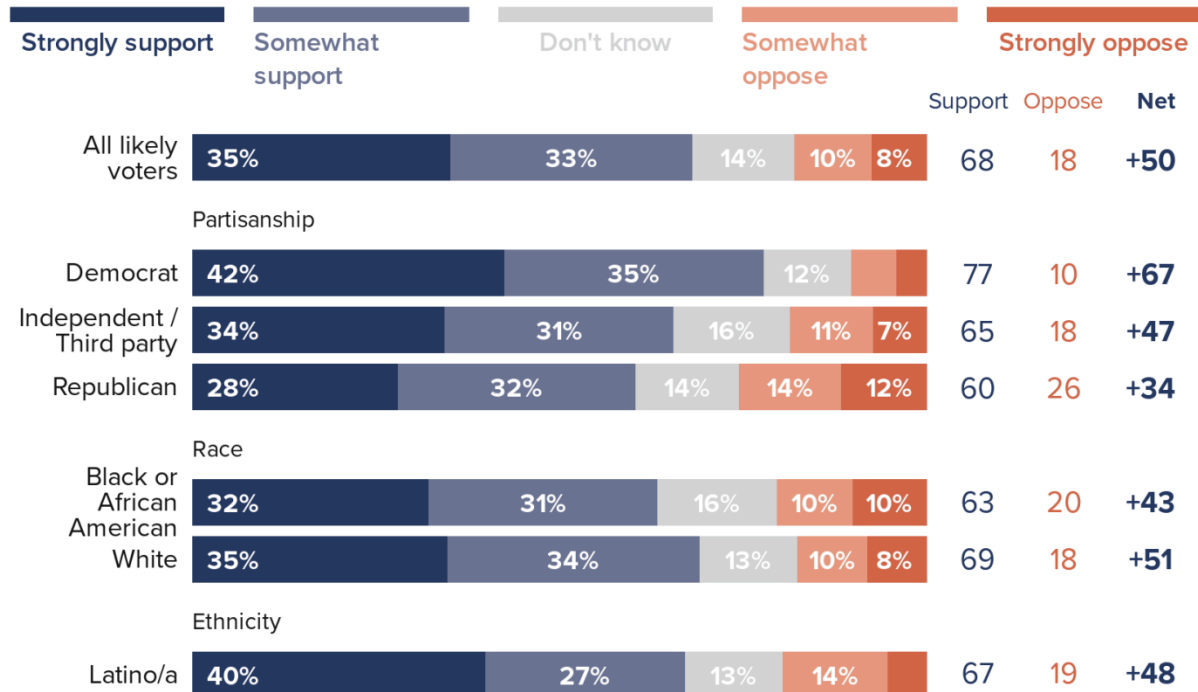
Do you support or oppose this bill?



[Data for Progress](#), May 2022

A Majority of National Adults Would Support Building Direct Air Capture Facilities in the U.S.

Based on what you now know, to what extent would you support or oppose building direct air capture (DAC) facilities in the United States?



[Data for Progress](#), Jan. 2023

Additional Resources

[Advancing Equitable Deployment of Regional DAC Hubs \(Data for Progress, May 2023\)](#)

[Voters Want State and Federal Lawmakers to Lead on Carbon Dioxide Removal \(Data for Progress, May 2022\)](#)

[Coastal Americans Overwhelmingly Support Ocean-Based Carbon Dioxide Removal & Are Alarmed About Climate Change Impacts \(Climate Nexus, Mar. 2022\)](#)

[Voters Support Investments in Carbon Removal Innovation \(Data for Progress, July 2021\)](#)

[Carbon Removal Advocates Face Opportunity and Challenge: Public Support, if Not Understanding \(Morning Consult, Dec. 2020\)](#)