

CLIMATE CHANGE

The Facts

[1 in 2 Latinos](#) in California live in communities that have elevated levels of environmental pollution exposure and vulnerability.

According to public opinion polling, [9 in 10 Latinos want our policy makers to take action on climate change](#).

California is home to **four of the top five most polluted urban areas in the United States**. They include Los Angeles, Bakersfield, Visalia-Porterville, and Fresno. **One in 2 residents in these four urban areas are Latino.**

There are 1 million people in California without access to safe drinking water. [1 in 4 schools](#) in the Central Valley have been impacted by unsafe drinking water.

Fresno is the #1 agricultural producer in the nation. Over 96% of agricultural workers are Latino. [Extreme temperatures](#) and longer heat waves, linked to the effects of climate change, have led to heat-related illnesses for farmworkers.

California's climate change policies have created nearly 500,000 jobs in the green economy. [Over 1 in 5 solar workers](#) in California is Latino. [87% of California's Latinos](#) want green jobs in the community.

Current Climate Change News in California

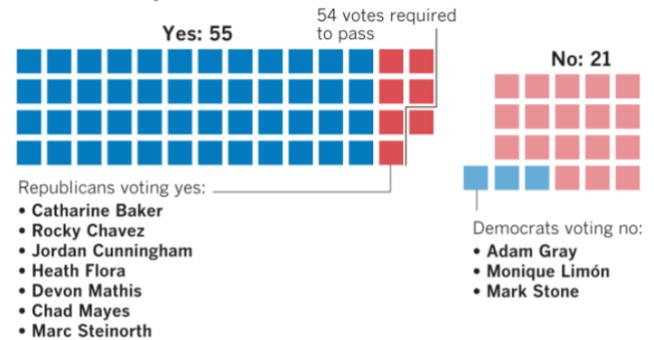
- ▶ The Trump Administration announced that it will withdraw the United States from the Paris Climate Agreement, an international accord that aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prevent average global temperatures from rising 2 degrees Celsius.
- ▶ In July 2017, California extended its cap-and-trade program until 2030, the only cap and trade system in the country. This program requires firms to cut their emissions and/or buy permits to pollute. The legislation to extend cap and trade passed with bipartisan support.

- ▶ According to 2017 research from UC Berkeley, net economic impact from cap-and-trade included [\\$4.7 million](#) in state and local tax revenue and the creation of 1,612 jobs in the San Joaquin Valley. In the Inland Empire, the net effects of climate programs included [\\$9.1 billion](#) in economic activity and the creation of 41,000 jobs.
- ▶ There is currently [controversy](#) surrounding Governor Jerry Brown's Delta Tunnels Project which would improve water delivery across California. The cost is \$17.1 billion and it does not appear that the Trump Administration is willing to fund it. Environmental groups have also criticized the project, noting that possible environmental degradation and concerns over water rights.
- ▶ In November 2018, Governor Jerry Brown will host the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco, CA.

A bipartisan vote for climate action

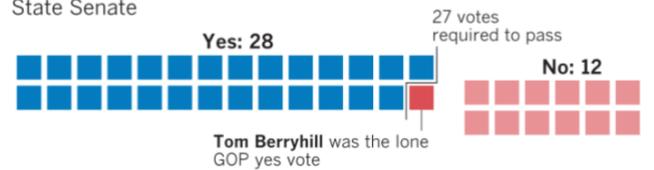
With Assembly Bill 398, Gov. Jerry Brown knitted together a coalition of Democrats and Republicans to extend California's cap-and-trade program, a major step in broadening political support for climate policies.

State Assembly



2 Democrats abstained, one Democrat was absent and one Assembly seat is vacant.

State Senate



Source: Times reporting

Joe Fox / @latimesgraphics

Further Reading

- National Resources Defense Council, "[Nuestro Futuro: Climate Changes and U.S. Latinos.](#)"
- American Lung Association, "[State of the Air 2016.](#)"
- FM3, "[California Voter Concerns About Drinking Water Quality.](#)"