



Congressional Insiders Poll



Do you think it's been proven beyond a reasonable doubt that the Earth is warming because of man-made problems?

■ Democrats (41 votes)

	(Now)	(April 2006)
Yes	95 percent	98 percent
No	2 percent	2 percent
Scientific consensus (volunteered)	2 percent	

■ Yes

"Global warming is real. It's happening now, and human pollution is to blame. For 12 years, the Republicans ignored this looming threat. Democrats will not make that same mistake."

"All the reputable scientists agree on this in their peer-reviewed studies, but what we don't know is whether and how our efforts to combat climate change will be effective."

"The only remaining doubt is whether we have the political will and leadership to face the challenge and responsibility of global warming. Every day that we wait is a day that we waste. And if we are not careful, we will run out of days to save the planet."

"Biggest challenge of the 21st century."

"It's the carbon dioxide, stupid!"

"Yes, not exclusively man-made, but sufficient for us to take action."

"Of course, unless Mother Nature thinks that summer should be in December."

"If the president says so, it must be true."

■ Other comments

"There is an overwhelming scientific consensus that the Earth is warming because of man-made pollution. I do not think that any scientific pronouncement meets the test of 'beyond a reasonable doubt.' The scientific method always looks to see whether the evidence continues to support the premise."

■ Republicans (31 votes)

	(Now)	(April 2006)
Yes	13 percent	23 percent
No	84 percent	77 percent
Only part of the cause (volunteered)	3 percent	

■ Yes

"Yes, but there is also a natural component to the current warming trend."

■ No

"The only *Inconvenient Truth* here is that anyone can be a movie star, even someone as boring as Al Gore."

"Check with MIT."

"The Earth is in a warming trend, but the link to man's activity is weak."

"The key phrase is 'beyond a reasonable doubt.' "

"There is the possibility that man's activity, while certainly part of the problem, is not the sole reason for global warming."

"Not beyond a reasonable doubt, but all scientific studies are leaning that way."

"It doesn't matter.... Improving the environment is important anyway."

■ Other comments

"There is scientific evidence that global warming is taking place due to carbon emissions as well as natural cyclical warming patterns."

—RICHARD E. COHEN AND PETER BELL

National Journal Insiders

■ *National Journal's* Congressional Insiders Poll includes 113 members of Congress—10 Senate Democrats, 48 House Democrats, 10 Senate Republicans, and 45 House Republicans.

■ **Democratic Congressional Insiders** Sens. Sherrod Brown, Ben Cardin, Thomas Carper, Christopher Dodd, Edward Kennedy, Frank Lautenberg, Barbara Mikulski, Mark Pryor, Ken Salazar, Jon Tester; Reps. Tom Allen, Robert Andrews, Michael Arcuri, Tammy Baldwin, Melissa Bean, Xavier Becerra, Howard Berman, Marion Berry, Rick Boucher, Michael Capuano, Christopher Carney, James Clyburn, Jim Cooper, Joseph Crowley, Elijah Cummings, Artur Davis, Diana DeGette, Rosa DeLauro, Eliot Engel, Anna Eshoo, Sam Farr, Chaka Fattah, Bob Filner, Kirsten Gillibrand, Alcee Hastings, Mike Honda, Steve Israel, Jim Langevin, John Lewis, Zoe Lofgren, Nita Lowey, Ed Markey, Jim McDermott, Jim McGovern, Jim Moran, David Price, Silvestre Reyes, Jan Schakowsky, Jose Serrano, Adam Smith, John Spratt, Pete Stark, John Tanner, Ellen Tauscher, Bennie Thompson, Chris Van Hollen, Debbie Wasserman Schultz, and Henry Waxman.

■ **GOP Congressional Insiders** Sens. Lamar Alexander, Jim Bunning, John Cornyn, Lindsey Graham, Johnny Isakson, Mel Martinez, Lisa Murkowski, Olympia Snowe, John Sununu, John Thune; Reps. Marsha Blackburn, John Boehner, Kevin Brady, John Campbell, Chris Cannon, Eric Cantor, Michael Castle, Tom Cole, Mike Conaway, Tom Davis, John Doolittle, David Dreier, Phil English, Jeff Flake, Bob Goodlatte, Kay Granger, Doc Hastings, Pete Hoekstra, Bobby Jindal, Peter King, Jack Kingston, Mark Kirk, Ray LaHood, Dan Lungren, Kenny Marchant, Jim McCrery, Patrick McHenry, Cathy McMorris, John Mica, Marilyn Musgrave, Sue Myrick, Mike Pence, Tom Price, Deborah Pryce, Adam Putnam, Dave Reichert, Tom Reynolds, Mike Rogers of Michigan, Paul Ryan, Pete Sessions, John Shadegg, Christopher Shays, Adrian Smith, Zach Wamp, and Joe Wilson.



Which of these **actions to reduce global warming** could you possibly support?

■ Democrats (40 votes)

A. Mandatory limits on carbon dioxide emissions	88 percent
B. Increased spending on alternative fuels	95 percent
C. Greater reliance on nuclear energy	58 percent
D. Higher fuel-efficiency standards for automobiles	90 percent
E. A “cap-and-trade” carbon dioxide emissions-reduction program	83 percent
F. A carbon tax	50 percent

■ General comments

“I support all of these actions. The social and economic chaos that will accompany the rapid changes in our world that climate change will bring will make these measures seem puny.”

“All of the above are possibly effective responses to global warming, but some make other problems worse and thus unlikely to get broad support. Nuclear is already subsidized up to its ears.”

“All of the above. We need a multipronged approach built with bipartisan American support to fight global warming, ensure a reliable energy supply, and continue American economic growth. Parts of all these issues are the right ‘blend’ to make this happen.”

■ Increased spending on alternative fuels

“We have to start thinking beyond a fossil fuel-based energy economy.”

“Specifically, funds for incentives to create and use alternative fuels.”

■ Greater reliance on nuclear energy

“Willing to look at this option, with more information.”

“*Only* if short term and tied directly to other incentives, not as a stand-alone approach.”

“Everything must be put on the table to reduce global warming. There are no sacred cows.”

■ Higher fuel-efficiency standards

“Very strong support for this option.”

■ A “cap-and-trade” program

“Carbonation without taxation.”

“*Only* as a fallback compromise.”

■ A carbon tax

“Not regressive; industry-specific perhaps.”

■ Republicans (31 votes)

A. Mandatory limits on carbon dioxide emissions	19 percent
B. Increased spending on alternative fuels	71 percent
C. Greater reliance on nuclear energy	90 percent
D. Higher fuel-efficiency standards for automobiles	45 percent
E. A “cap-and-trade” carbon dioxide emissions-reduction program	42 percent
F. A carbon tax	3 percent
G. Other actions (volunteered)	6 percent

■ Mandatory limits on carbon dioxide emissions

“Limits on U.S. emissions will be ineffective as long as China and India continue to burn coal in traditional ways.”

■ Increased spending on alternative fuels

“Reducing global warming is certainly an admirable goal, but our overall goal should be focused more on national security as it relates to our energy policy—which would reduce our reliance on certain foreign fossil fuels and, as a positive side effect, cut back on carbon emissions and potentially slow global warming.”

■ Greater reliance on nuclear energy

“[Nuclear energy] and hydropower is our nation’s largest source of renewable power and should be embraced.”

“Our increasing dependence on foreign sources of energy must be addressed. We should be doing more to help boost American energy production and encourage private development of alternative sources of fuel.”

■ A “cap-and-trade” carbon dioxide program

“We need a comprehensive approach to climate change, and carbon dioxide must be part of that discussion.”

■ Other comments

“We should also explore innovative market solutions, such as ‘carbon sinks.’ ”

“A reward for the development of the first vehicle to get 200 mpg and cost less than \$30,000.”

—RICHARD E. COHEN AND PETER BELL