

# Third Way Multi-State Climate Change Research

January 2022

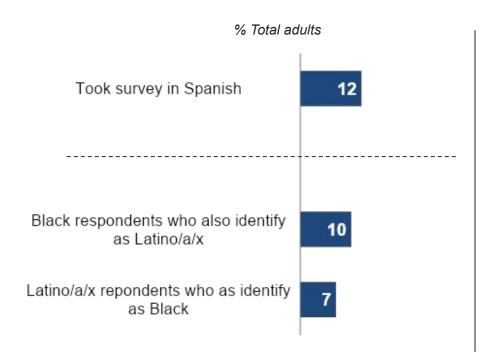
## Methodology

- Conducted September 30 October 13, 2021
- Via landlines, cell phones, and text-to-web
- Six-states
  - TX = 440 adults
  - FL = 369 adults
  - AZ, GA, NV, PA = 250 adults each
- 1,809 Black and Latino/a/x adults
  - 762 Black adults
  - 1,123 Latino/a/x adults
- Overall margin of error : +/-2.3 percentage points

### Black and Latino/a/x Adults

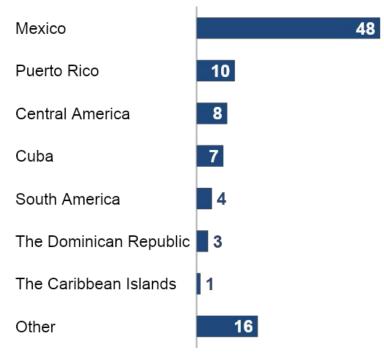


### **Demographic Overview**

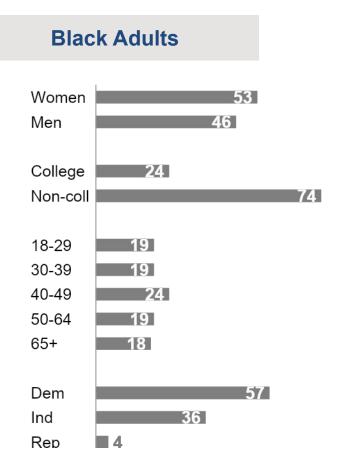


# Heritage: Latino/a/x Adults

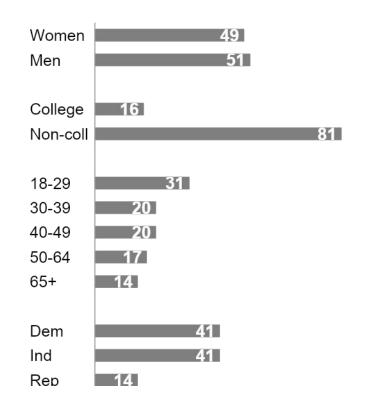
% Total Latino/a/x adults



## **Demographics (Cont.)**



### Latino Adults



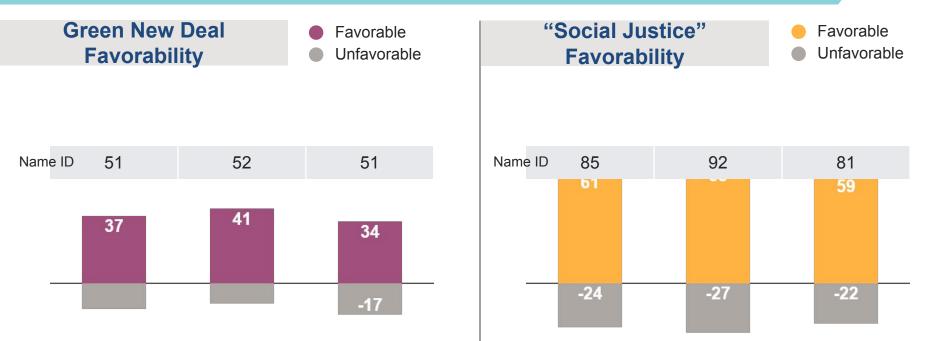
- Black & Brown Americans' views on the environmental movement are
- Black & Brown Americans' views on the environmental movement are positive
- While climate doesn't compare to other current crises, most feel it's urgent and that they're personally feeling the impact.
  - Messages around urgency are the most motivating
- Most feel climate change affects all communities equally.
  - And messages about racial justice and climate are lower-tier
- Messages against taking action are not compelling.
- Democratic elected officials are trusted on climate.

# Views On Climate Change



### Green New Deal Not Well Known, While "Social Justice" Seen Favorably

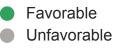
Figure 7



### "Environmental Justice" Concept And Movement Are Popular

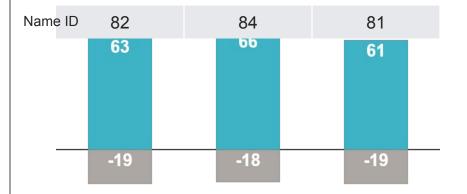
Figure 8

Environmental Justice Favorability (Split)



Environmental Movement Favorability (Split)

FavorableUnfavorable

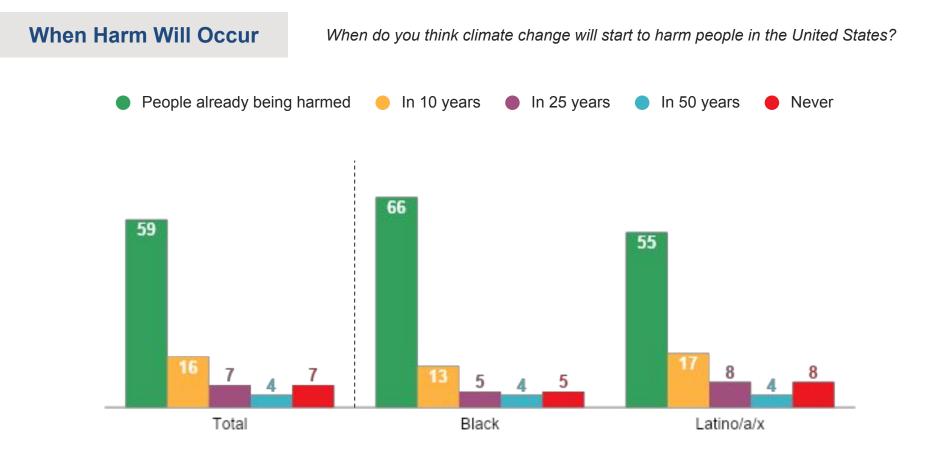


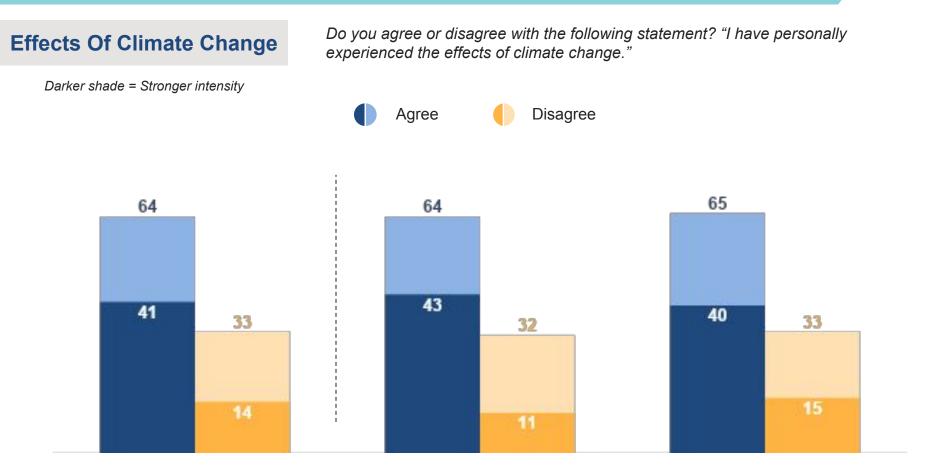


# Climate Change Lower-Tier Priority Compared To Pandemic Response

<b>Top Priorities</b>	Which of the following do you think should be the top priority for the Biden Administration?					
			Black	Latino/a/x		
Improving our economy and cre	ating jobs	23	17	27		
Handling the co	oronavirus	16	18	15		
Addressing systemic ra disc	acism and rimination	12	17	9		
Lowering health of	care costs	10	8	12		
Protecting the rig	ght to vote	10	15	6		
Improving publ	ic schools	10	9	11		
Tackling clima	te change	6	5	7		
Investing in infrastructure and trans	sportation	5	4	6		

# Majorities Believe Climate Change Is Already Harming People In The United States



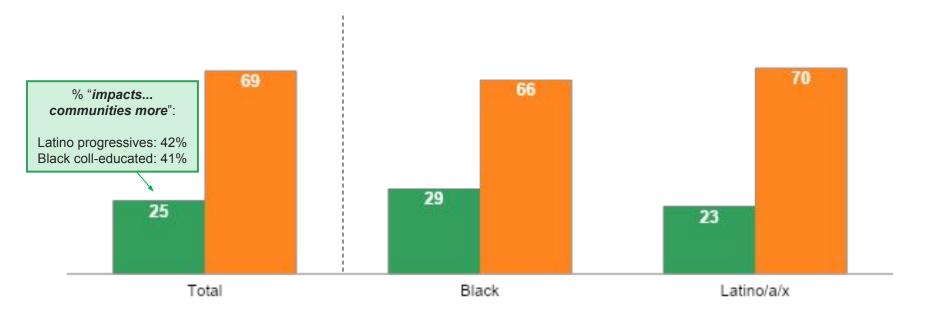


# **Broad Agreement Climate Change Impacts All Communities Equally**

### Impact Of Climate Change

Which of the following statements comes closest to your own view, even if neither is exactly right?

- Climate change impacts Black and Brown communities more than other communities
- Climate change impacts all communities equally



# Messaging To Take Action

\*Split sampled message

Future Generations	We don't own the planet, we borrow it. We need to take better care of our environment and address climate change, so we can leave it clean and healthy for our children, grandchildren, and generations to come.
Same Planet/Protect*	We all live on the <u>same planet</u> , so we all need to work to protect it. Only by coming together and taking action can we make sure climate change doesn't impact us all.
Same Air/Protect*	We all breathe <u>the same air</u> , so we all need to work to protect it. Only by coming together and taking action can we make sure climate change doesn't impact us all.
Good-Paying Jobs*	If we address climate change the right way, with the right policies, we <b>can create millions of</b> <b>good-paying jobs</b> in infrastructure, manufacturing, and transportation that will help underserved communities.
Good-Paying Jobs/Union*	If we address climate change the right way, with the right policies, we <b>can create millions of</b> <b>good-paying</b> , <u>union</u> jobs in infrastructure, manufacturing, and transportation that will help underserved communities.
Warming	The world is experiencing <b>the warmest decade</b> in history, with the temperatures in Antarctica getting close to 70 degrees. Scientists agree we <b>only have about 12 years to act</b> on climate change before the effects will be permanent.
Transportation	Investments in clean infrastructure will lead to <b>safer roads, less traffic, and more pollution-free public transit</b> . And building new mass transit like trains and buses can help people get to work more easily and affordably.

\*Split sampled message

Innovation	If we take action, the federal government could <b>invest in research and development</b> of cleaner, renewable energy sources, and <b>help bring down the costs</b> of solar and wind power and electric vehicles.
Prepared	The pandemic has shown us the <b>importance of using science to prepare for the future</b> . If <b>the Trump</b> <b>Administration had reacted</b> more quickly and effectively, we wouldn't have lost as many lives to COVID-19 as we have. The science is clear that climate change is happening, so now is the time to take action and prepare before it's too late.
(Latino/a/x) Climate/Live and Work	Climate change <b>affects American Latinos</b> because of where we live and work. States like Florida, Texas, and California have experienced drought, fires, heat waves, and flooding. And <b>Latinos are even more likely to work in jobs</b> that feel the effects of climate change, like agriculture, manufacturing, and construction.
Economy/Jobs	We <b>don't need to choose between</b> improving the economy and tackling climate change. Right now, there are over <b>3 million Americans working in clean energy</b> more than 3 times the number working in fossil fuels. Investing more in new technology can reduce energy bills and create new, good-paying manufacturing jobs.
Immigration	Climate change and extreme weather can <b>lead to poverty and political instability around the world</b> . This encourages more people to leave their homes in Latin America to come to the United States for jobs, food, and shelter, and then end up facing economic challenges and discrimination.
Climate/Social Justice	Climate change makes it <b>harder for people of color to succeed</b> . It causes health problems because of worse air and water quality, causes more powerful storms that destroy people's homes, and hurts our economy and national security. Anything <b>that hurts Black and Brown communities more is a social justice issue</b> .

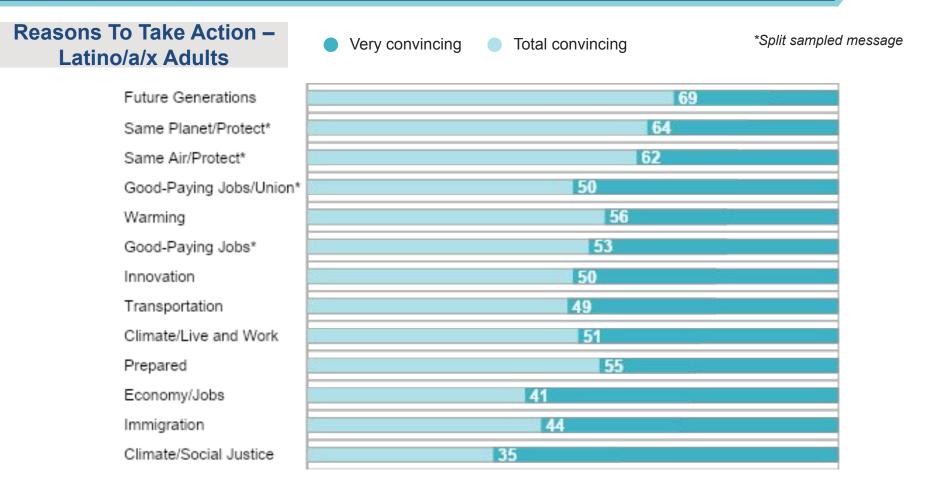
# Protecting Future Generations, Responsibility To Others, And Jobs Top Messages With Black Adults, Though All Perform Well

Figure 16

Reasons To Take Action – \*Split sampled message Very convincing Total convincing **Black Adults** Future Generations 73 69 Same Planet/Protect\* Same Air/Protect\* 63 54 Good-Paying Jobs\* Good-Paying Jobs/Union\* 53 49 Transportation 63 Prepared 55 Warming 49 Innovation 38 Economy/Jobs 43 Immigration Climate/Social Justice 39

# Similarly, Future Generations, Sense Of Responsibility, And Jobs Are Most Convincing Among Latino/a/x Adults

Figure 17



\*Split sampled message

### Reasons To Take Action – Black Adults

% Total convincing	Black women	Black men	Black College	Black Non-coll	Black Strong Dem	Black Weak Dem	Black Non-Dem
Future Generations	88	90	91	89	93	92	78
Same Planet/Protect*	88	88	87	89	92	93	73
Same Air/Protect*	85	82	85	83	85	89	75
Good-Paying Jobs*	84	83	84	83	93	84	68
Good-Paying Jobs/Union*	81	80	84	79	83	81	73
Warming	78	79	82	77	84	84	61
Transportation	81	79	82	80	85	84	70
Innovation	77	79	82	77	84	84	62
Prepared	81	78	81	78	90	83	56
(Latino/a/x) Climate/Live and Work	83	80	79	82	95	89	68
Economy/Jobs	69	76	74	71	74	71	70
Immigration	68	69	69	68	71	77	55
Climate/Social Justice	72	65	71	67	79	67	53

# Reasons To Take Action On Climate Change By Latino/a/x Demographic Groups

Figure 19

### Reasons To Take Action – Latino/a/x Adults

\*Split sampled message

% Total convincing	Latinas	Latinos	Latino/a/x College	Latino/a/x Non-coll	Latino/a/x Strong Dem	Latino/a/x Weak Dem	Latino/a/x Non-Dem
Future Generations	91	84	81	89	95	94	79
Same Planet/Protect*	85	80	76	84	89	93	71
Same Air/Protect*	83	80	74	83	89	84	75
Good-Paying Jobs*	80	78	78	79	90	86	65
Good-Paying Jobs/Union*	80	81	76	82	91	89	68
Warming	82	76	70	81	90	89	65
Transportation	80	74	75	78	89	83	66
Innovation	77	76	72	78	90	85	62
Prepared	78	67	64	74	91	87	51
(Latino/a/x) Climate/Live and Work	80	68	66	76	84	87	57
Economy/Jobs	69	74	70	72	81	77	63
Immigration	75	65	61	72	81	79	56
Climate/Social Justice	63	55	55	60	77	69	40

Figure	20
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(Black and Latino/a/x) Other Issues/Discrim/Immigration**	Climate change is important, but I tend to focus on the issues impacting me at the moment, <b>like health care</b> , <b>the cost of living, education, racial discrimination, and immigration</b> .
(Non-Latino/a/x Black) Other Issues/Discrimination	Climate change is important, but I tend to focus on the issues impacting me at the moment, <b>like health care, the cost of living, education, and racial discrimination</b> .
(Non-Black Latino/a/x) Other Issues/Immigration	Climate change is important, but I tend to focus on the issues impacting me at the moment, <b>like health care</b> , <b>the cost of living, education, and immigration</b> .
Cost	Between solar panels, electric cars, and higher utility bills, <b>it's expensive to take action</b> on climate change. It's already hard enough to make ends meet. Until taking action is more affordable, I need to put my money toward the basics.
Not Included	The environmental movement <b>doesn't spend much time reaching out to the Black and Brown</b> communities or to people like me. I don't really feel my points of view are welcome or included.
One person/ Ineffective	There's <b>not much I can do as one person</b> to take action on climate change. The whole world is filled with pollution, factories, and cars. Any action I would take would be just a drop in the bucket.
COVID/Not the Time	Right now we're in the middle of a global pandemic that is ending lives, costing people jobs, and disproportionately affecting Black and Brown communities. <b>This is not the time to take action</b> on something like climate change that is a long way off.
Clean Energy/Won't Benefit	Clean energy might create economic and technological benefits, but <b>just for wealthy and white communities</b> , and not for communities like mine.
Clean Energy/Not Diverse	Even if more clean energy creates jobs, <b>I do not know any person who looks like me with a clean energy job</b> . I don't think clean energy will create jobs for me or others who look like me.

\*\* Respondents who are both Latino/a/x and Black

# Other Issue Priorities And Cost Most Convincing Reasons Not To Take Action On Climate Change For Black Adults

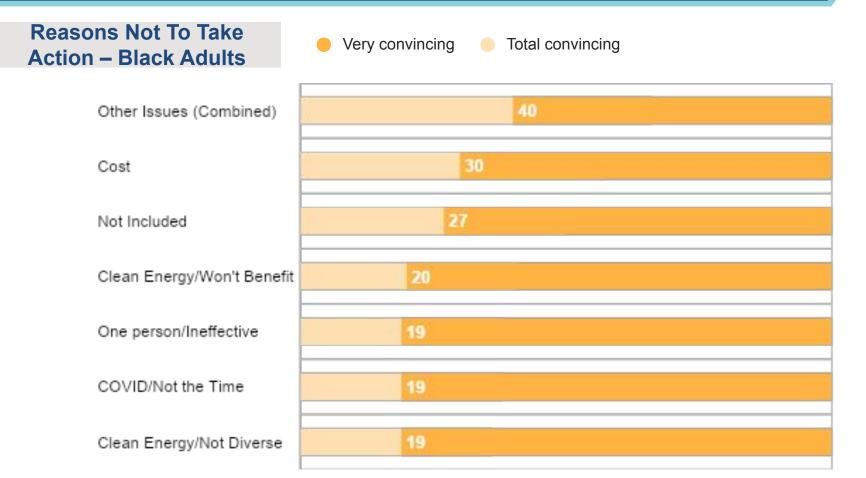
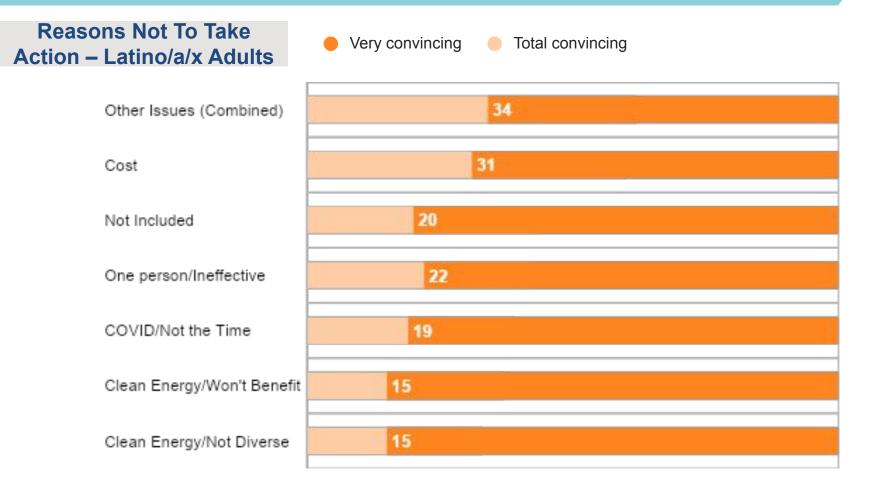


Figure 21

# Addressing Other Important Issues, Cost Most Convincing Factors For Latino/a/x Adults

#### Figure 22



# Reasons Not To Take Action On Climate Change By Black Demographic Groups

### Reasons Not To Take Action – Black Adults

% Total convincing	Black women	Black men	Black College	Black Non-coll	Black Strong Dem	Black Weak Dem	Black Non-Dem
Other Issues (Combined)	67	65	62	68	69	66	62
Cost	60	53	51	59	58	56	57
Not Included	54	46	44	53	56	50	43
One person/Ineffective	39	37	27	41	41	35	36
COVID/Not the Time	40	37	31	41	39	35	43
Clean Energy/Won't Benefit	43	39	37	42	43	42	38
Clean Energy/Not Diverse	39	34	28	39	40	33	36

# Reasons Not To Take Action On Climate Change By Latino/a/x Demographic Groups

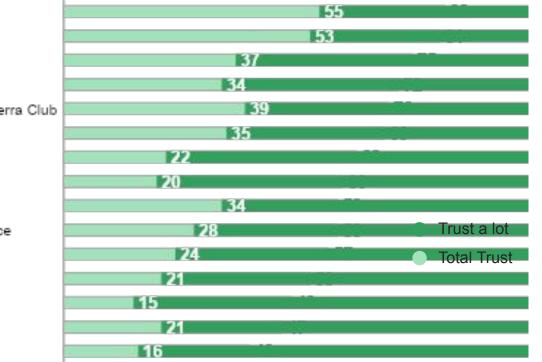
### Reasons Not To Take Action – Latino/a/x Adults

% Total convincing	Latinas	Latinos	Latino/a/x College	Latino/a/x Non-coll	Latino/a/x Strong Dem	Latino/a/x Weak Dem	Latino/a/x Non-Dem
Other Issues (Combined)	65	60	56	64	63	59	66
Cost	62	59	53	62	53	61	64
Not Included	48	41	40	45	57	48	35
One person/Ineffective	41	43	35	43	47	42	39
COVID/Not the Time	40	38	32	40	39	36	40
Clean Energy/Won't Benefit	41	33	27	39	36	44	31
Clean Energy/Not Diverse	35	31	28	33	39	31	29

# The Obamas Most Trusted Messengers On Climate Change Among Black Adults

### Trust On Climate Change – Black Adults

I am going to read you the names of some people and groups who might speak about climate change. After I read each one, please tell me how much you would trust this person or group about climate change.



Michelle Obama\*

Barack Obama\*

Joe Biden

Health care professionals

Environmental orgs such as Greenpeace or the Sierra Club

Kamala Harris

A civil rights leader

A church or faith leader in your community

Al Gore

The organization WE ACT for Environmental Justice

The Black Lives Matter Movement

The organization Green Latinos\*\*

Your member of Congress

\*Split sampleria Ocasio-Cortez

\*\* Respondents who are both Black and Latino/a/x

# The Obamas, Health Care Professionals, And Environmental Orgs Most Trusted Messengers Among Latino/a/x Adults

### Trust On Climate Change – Latino/a/x Adults

I am going to read you the names of some people and groups who might speak about climate change. After I read each one, please tell me how much you would trust this person or group about climate change.

Michelle Obama\*

Health care professionals

Environmental orgs such as Greenpeace or the Sierra Club

Barack Obama\*

Joe Biden

The organization WE ACT for Environmental Justice

The organization Green Latinos

A civil rights leader

The Black Lives Matter Movement\*\*

Kamala Harris

Your member of Congress

A church or faith leader in your community

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez

#### \*Split sampte

\*\* Respondents who are both Latino/a/x and Black

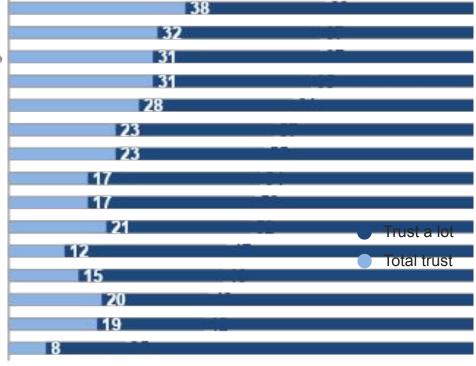


Figure 26

# Recommendations

- ✔ Focus on urgency. Urgency is a top motivator on climate, along with maintaining the earth for future generations.
  - Importantly, connecting climate to racial justice and equity is a bigger lift compared to current views.
- Connect climate to other issues. The biggest obstacle for the movement is a wide range of other urgent crises around COVID, the economy, health care, and discrimination.
  - And connecting climate to jobs can be a top motivator.
- ✓ Bring in allies. Alienation from the movement is a smaller, but not negligible, obstacle.
  - In fact climate or "environmental" activists—whether as a group or specified—can be compelling, rather than alienating.



RESEARCH + STRATEG Y