



**PUBLIC OPINION**  
**STRATEGIES**

*Turning Questions Into Answers.*

**ARIZONA: GLOBAL WARMING AND PUBLIC OPINION**

*Public Opinion Strategies conducted this survey of 600 registered voters throughout the state of Arizona on February 20-22, 2007. The margin of error associated with a sample of this type is  $\pm 4.0\%$ .*

**KEY FINDINGS**

**Two-thirds of Arizona voters say that global warming is taking place and action should be taken.**

- Arizona voters reflect similar trends seen nationwide as concern about global warming mounts. Fully 66% of the state's electorate calls for at least some actions to be taken to curb global warming, with a plurality of over one-third calling for strong and immediate measures. At the other end of the spectrum, just 15% view concern about the issue as exaggerated. Voters were asked to choose the statement closest to their opinion:

38% Global warming has been established as a very serious problem, and strong, immediate measures are necessary.

29% There is enough evidence that global warming is taking place and some action should be taken.

18% We don't know enough about global warming, and more research is necessary before we take strong actions.

15% Concern about global warming has been greatly exaggerated.

More than six-in-ten voters in every region of the state believe that action should be taken (choosing one of the top two responses above). The view that action should be taken increases with the education level of the respondent, so that fully 70% of those with a college or post-graduate education believe action should be taken.

- Similarly, three-quarters (73%) of voters agree that "even if global warming won't affect me in my lifetime, we need to take action now in order to protect our children and grandchildren." Overwhelming majorities of voters across the state and of every demographic and partisan group want to take action to protect future generations from the impact of this phenomenon. In fact, 60% of Republicans, 80% of Democrats and 87% of Independents share the view that action should be taken to protect our children and grandchildren. Moreover, this sentiment is especially strong among such key voter groups as women (80% agree), Hispanics (81%) and religious conservatives (70%).

**A majority of Arizonans call on the state and federal government to do more to address global warming.**

- Currently, 64% say that the state should “do more to reduce the emissions that cause global warming.” This view is held by a majority of every partisan voter sub-group and by more than 60% in every region of the state.
- A similar 61% agree that “the United States government is not doing enough to address the issue of global warming.”

**Voters’ desire for action is not surprising given that most believe global warming will affect them personally.**

- A mere 25% agree with the idea that “even if global warming is happening it won’t really affect me in my lifetime.” This view strongly correlates to the age of the voter, predictably. Among those under age 45, a mere 12% think global warming won’t affect them during their lifetime.

**The concerns and priorities of Arizona voters reflect the change in attitudes on global warming we have seen nationally. Just for example, several public polls conducted in January 2007 show that...**

- 82% of American voters in a Fox News poll say that global warming exists;
- Seven-in-ten (70%) queried nationally by CBS/*New York Times* say that global warming is an environmental problem that is causing a serious impact now; and
- Fully 59% say that the President and Congress should deal with global warming this year in a CNN poll.

*In summary, Arizona voters clearly express concerns about global warming and call for action at the state and federal level. They perceive the phenomenon as something that will affect them in their lifetime, and that action is needed to protect future generations from the potentially harmful effects. These views are widely held in the state, and are reflective of a broader shift in opinion on this issue witnessed at the national level.*

The survey was conducted by Lori Weigel, a partner with Public Opinion Strategies, the largest Republican polling firm in the nation with offices in Washington, Denver and Los Angeles. Public Opinion Strategies’ clients include 55 Republican Members of Congress, 8 Governors, 18 U.S. Senators and numerous Fortune 500 companies. Weigel serves as the political pollster for *Rocky Mountain News* and News4 in Denver. The firm is the GOP partner on both the NBC/*Wall Street Journal* and National Public Radio media polls.