



YALE PROGRAM ON
Climate Change
Communication



GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
CENTER for CLIMATE CHANGE
COMMUNICATION

National Survey Results on the Baker-Shultz Carbon Dividends Plan October 2018

Americans support carbon dividends plan by a 2.5 to 1 margin

By a 58%-23% margin, registered voters support taxing carbon emissions with the revenue rebated directly to all Americans.

[Survey question] As you may know, some Republican party leaders have proposed requiring fossil fuel companies (coal, oil, and natural gas) to pay a tax on their carbon emissions and rebating all the money collected directly to all Americans through a monthly check. This proposed policy is called a “carbon dividend” because all households would receive a monthly cash dividend as part of an effort to combat climate change. Do you support or oppose this plan?

Favor: 58% (Strongly: 24%, Somewhat: 34%)
Oppose: 23% (Strongly: 12%, Somewhat: 11%)
Unsure: 21%

Republicans support carbon dividends plan by a 3 to 1 margin

Republicans: 62% favor, 20% oppose

Support for carbon dividends plan extends across party lines

Democrats: 55% favor, 23% oppose
Independents: 49% favor, 24% oppose

Trump supporters favor carbon dividends plan by a 43-point margin

Trump Supporters: 63% favor, 20% oppose

Voters favor direct cash rebates over all other uses of carbon tax revenue

Carbon dividends favored over: a) promoting renewable energy, b) paying down national debt, c) infrastructure improvements, d) reducing income or payroll taxes, e) assisting low-income communities, f) climate adaptation, and g) reducing corporate income tax.

Survey Details:

The Yale Program on Climate Change Communication and George Mason University Center for Climate Change Communication, in conjunction with Nexus Polling, conducted an online survey of 1,876 registered voters August 29-30, 2018.