

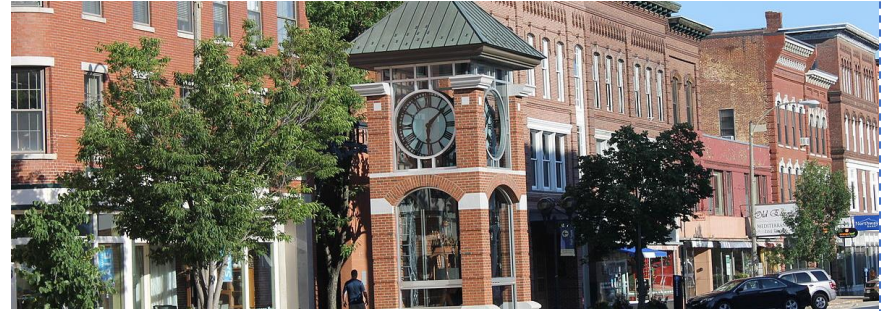
Developing a Voluntary Comprehensive Climate Action Plan for NH

NH Listens has worked on behalf of the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to design and facilitate community engagement to support the development of a voluntary Climate Action Plan for NH.

A part of the engagement design for NHDES is to survey the public through the UNH Survey Center's Granite State Poll and Panel. The following slides provide an overview of findings through July 2026.

Full summary reports of all three surveys are linked here:
<https://carsey.unh.edu/new-hampshire-listens/engage-ccap-process>.

This summary was updated in July 2026.



Opinions about climate change across inputs

	Granite State Poll Jan 2024	Climate & Air Pollution Survey Oct 2024	Granite State Poll Feb 2025	Granite State Poll Jan 2026	Climate & Air Pollution Survey Jun 2026
 % of NH residents that believe climate change is happening now, <u>caused mainly by human activities</u>	60%	60%	55%	57%	59%
 % of NH residents that believe climate change is happening now but is <u>caused mainly by natural forces</u>	27%	28%	34%	31%	30%
 % of NH residents that believe climate change is <u>not happening now</u>	7%	8%	8%	9%	7%

Opinions on prioritizing air pollution reductions to help address climate change across inputs

	Granite State Poll Jan 2024	Climate & Air Pollution Survey Oct 2024	Granite State Poll Feb 2025	Granite State Poll Jan 2026	Climate & Air Pollution Survey Jun 2026
 % of NH residents that think it should be a <u>very high or high priority</u> for New Hampshire to reduce air pollution to address climate change	52%	48%	48%	47%	47%
 % of NH residents that think it should be a <u>medium priority</u> for New Hampshire to reduce air pollution	19%	18%	24%	22%	18%
 % of NH residents that think it should be a <u>low or very low priority</u> for New Hampshire to reduce air pollution	27%	33%	28%	29%	31%

Granite State Poll



Aim of the two poll questions:

To better understand NH residents' experiences and attitudes concerning transportation, their home, and the environment.



Two questions per year

The questions are included each year of the grant, 4 years total.
The questions are also included in both distributions of standalone Climate and Air Pollution survey.



A representative group of NH residents answered the two questions.

2,239 Granite State Panel members completed the poll questions online in January 2026. Previously, 1,444 completed the poll in February 2025 and 1,864 in January 2024.
The response rate was 35%.
The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 2.1 percent in January 2026.



Survey insights that the data provides include:

Who in NH supports or opposes efforts to reduce air pollution as it relates to beliefs around climate change.
How the public perceives air pollution as a problem in NH.
How perceptions around climate change and air pollution are shifting over time.

Climate Change Opinions – January 2024 Findings



60% of NH residents believe climate change is happening now, caused mainly by human activities.

Self-described progressives, socialists, liberals, moderates, those with a college degree or more education, and those who have lived in NH for 20 years or less are more likely to believe this.



27% believe climate change is happening now but is caused mainly by natural forces.

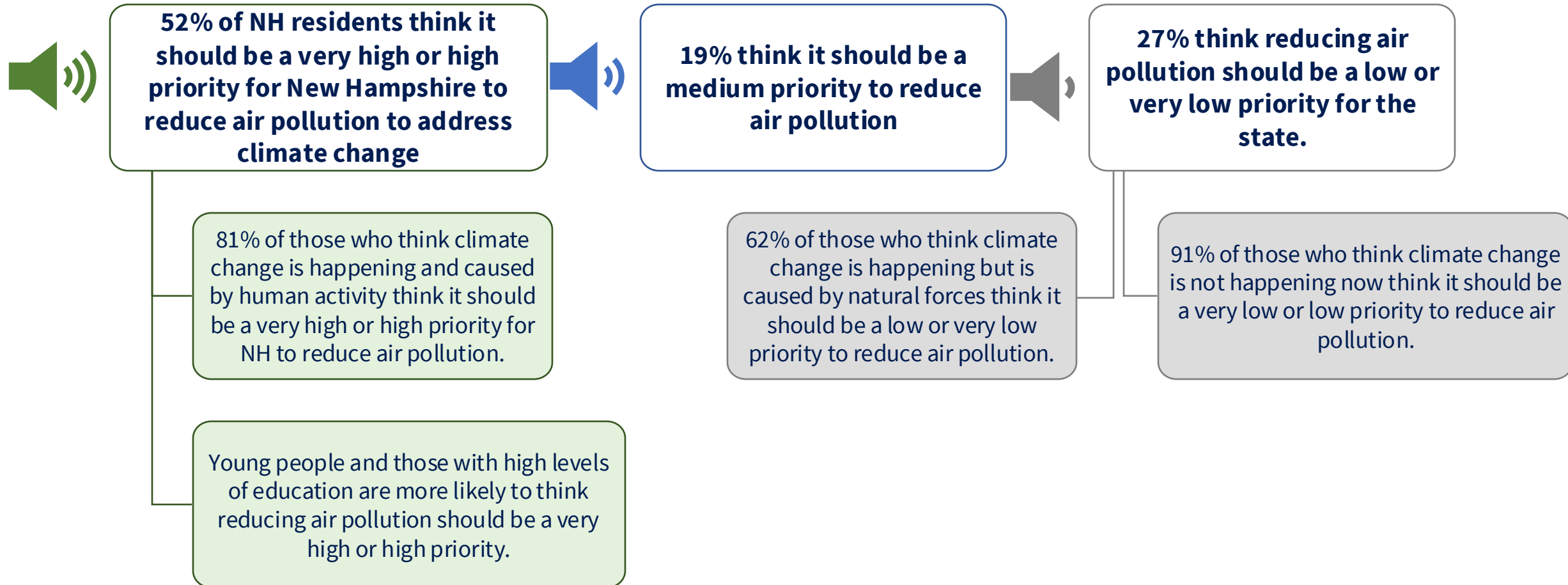
Self-described conservatives, libertarians, and men are most likely to believe this.



7% believe climate change is not happening now.

Self-described conservatives are more likely to believe this.

Opinions on prioritizing air pollution reductions to help address climate change - January 2024 Findings



Climate Change Opinions – February 2025 Findings



55% of NH residents believe climate change is happening now, caused mainly by human activities.

Harris 2024 voters, self-described Democrats, Seacoast residents, NHPR listeners, those with a college degree or more education, CNN and MSNBC viewers, those with a household income below \$45,000, and women are more likely to believe this.



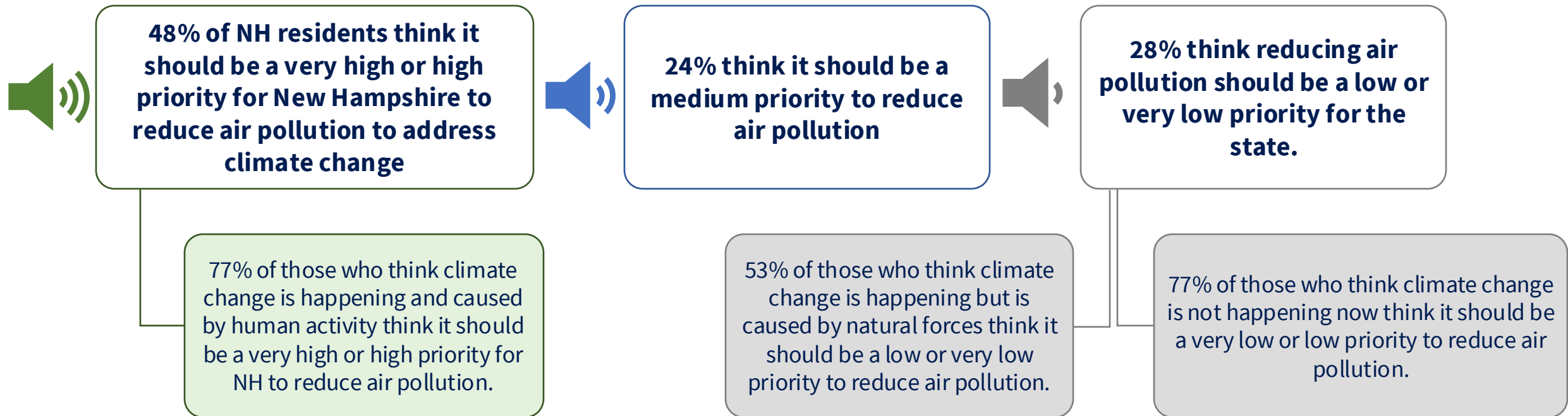
34% believe climate change is happening now but is caused mainly by natural forces.

Conservative radio listeners, Trump 2024 voters, those who did not vote in 2024, self-identified Republicans, Fox News viewers, those who do not identify as White/Caucasian only, those with a household income of \$45,000 to \$74,999, Central/Lakes Region residents, and men are more likely to believe this.



8% believe climate change is not happening now.

Opinions on prioritizing air pollution reductions to help address climate change across - February 2025 Findings



Climate Change Opinions – January 2026 Findings



57% of NH residents believe climate change is happening now, caused mainly by human activities.

Self-identified Democrats, self-described liberals and progressives, Seacoast residents, those who have completed postgraduate work, those who have lived in New Hampshire for 10 years or less, and those who have never been married are more likely to believe this.



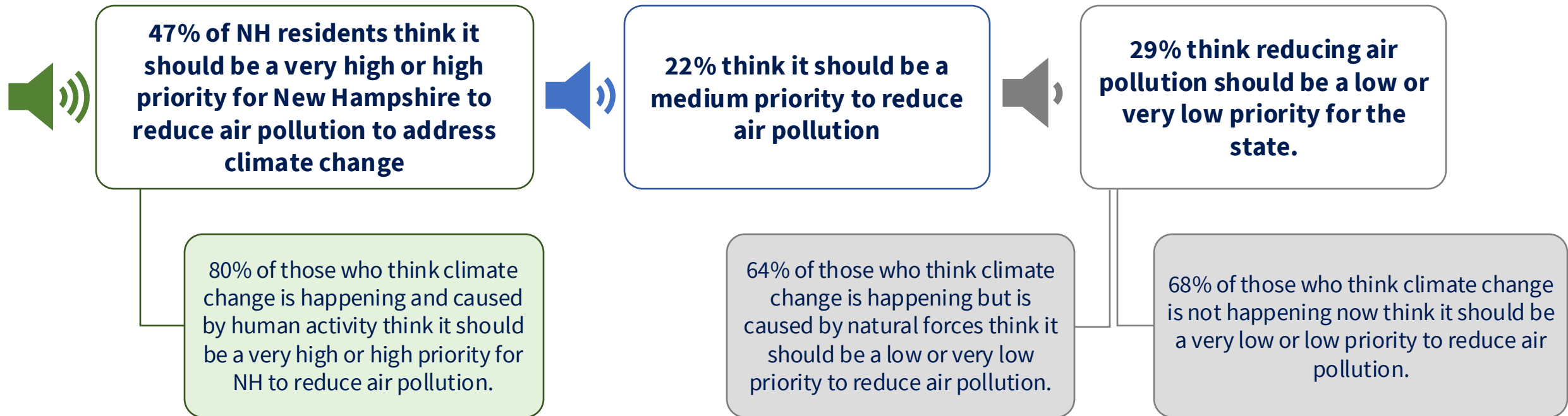
31% believe climate change is happening now but is caused mainly by natural forces.

Self-described conservatives and libertarians, self-identified Republicans, those who are divorced, separated or widowed, Connecticut Valley residents, and those aged 50 to 64 are more likely to believe this.



9% believe climate change is not happening now.

Opinions on prioritizing air pollution reductions to help address climate change across -January 2026 Findings



Climate & Air Pollution Survey



Aim of the survey:

To better understand NH residents' experiences and attitudes concerning transportation, their home, and the environment.



A representative group of NH residents received the survey.

UNH Survey Center distributed this standalone survey to Granite State Panel members in October 2024 and June 2026. The survey included the two Granite State Poll Questions.



Respondents and response rate

1,130 Granite State Panel members completed the survey online in June 2026. Previously, 1,278 completed the poll in October 2024. The response rate for this survey was 30%. The margin of sampling error was +/- 2.9 percent in June 2026.



Greenhouse gas (GHG) economic sectors informed by findings:

Transportation
Buildings (Residential)
Electricity Generation and Use



Survey insights that the data provides

NH Residents' attitudes, behaviors, and values related to potential CCAP measures.

Public support for incentives and GHG mitigation strategies

Focus on Home Heating and Shifting to New Systems



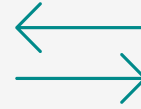
About the respondents:

Homeownership:
74% - NH residents own their home
15% - Rent their home
Primary Fuel Sources for Home Heating:
40% - Heating oil
24% - Propane
13% - Natural gas
12% - Wood
6% - Wood pellets
5% - Electric



Homeowner plans to change heating systems:

52% - No timeframe for installing a new primary home heating system
52% - Plan to install the same type of system they have now
31% - Plan to change to a new type of system; higher for those with:
62% - Wood
45% - Electric



Reasons to change:

68% - To lower energy costs
60% - To modernize heating system
58% - To increase energy efficiency
44% - To get away from fossil fuels



Incentives to speed up adoption of new heating systems:

49% - Rebates
38% - Tax credits
19% - Easily accessible information on cost and operation of heating systems
10% - Easily accessible information on installers of heating systems
38% - None of these

Residential Solar Use and Going Solar



About the respondents:

10% of homeowners have solar panels installed at their home.



Who has plans to go solar?

25% of homeowners without solar panels say they will likely install them within 10 years.

This is up from 20% in October 2024.

Home purchasing:

41% of homeowners would be more likely to purchase a home if solar panels were already installed.

This is up from 36% in October 2024.



Who doesn't?

70% are unlikely to install solar panels within the next 10 years.

Self-described conservatives, those aged 65+, and those with a \$45,000-74,999 income are more likely to say this.

Reasons against installing:

36% - Can't afford the installation costs

21% - Don't feel solar panels will save money

19% - Don't feel the need



What would incentivize people to go solar?

40% - Rebates

36% - Tax credits

34% - Incentives for manufacturers/distributors to lower homeowner costs

Need accessible information on:

15% - Cost & operation of solar panels

12% - Solar panel installers

Personal Vehicle Usage and Opinions about Shifting to Electric



About the respondents:

- 81% - Say their primary personal vehicle is powered by gasoline.
- 10% - Have a hybrid, electric, or plug-in hybrid vehicle.



What would incentivize them?

- 20% - Rebates
- 17% - Incentives to install home chargers
- 16% - Public charging along highways
- 15% - Public charging at recreation sites
- 15% - Public charging in downtown areas
- 13% - Tax credits for vehicle purchasing
- 60% - None of these



Support for policies/funding:

- 57% - Think incentives for EVs should be available to all consumers.
- 49% - Think that NH should invest in public charging stations.

Transportation options and reasons against public or active alternatives



About the respondents:

94% - Used a personal vehicle to get around NH in the past year.

Alternative Transportation use in the past year:

49% - Walking

13% - Regional bus service

12% - Taxi or ride-share program

8% - Biking

7% - Moped or motorcycle

6% - Train

1% - Public bus



Reason against public transit:

61% - Public transit unavailable near home

40% - Personal transportation meets needs

31% - Transit routes don't go to needed destinations

23% - Enjoy driving

19% - Transit schedules don't meet needs

13% - Takes too much time

7% - Don't feel comfortable using public transit



Reasons against active transit:

60% - Live too far from destinations

31% - Personal transportation meets needs

26% - Roads are too dangerous

18% - Enjoy driving

18% - Takes too much time

17% - Physical limitations

15% - Lack of dedicated walking/biking paths

Transport options and expanding alternative modes



Would people use public transit more if it were expanded?

	Oct 2024	Jun 2026
<i>Would definitely or probably use:</i>		
<i>Trains</i>	53%	51%
<i>Buses</i>	35%	36%
<i>Public buses</i>	28%	24%
<i>Taxis/ride-shares</i>	21%	18%



A majority support expanding alternative transit options.

	Oct 2024	Jun 2026
<i>Public transit should be a:</i>		
<i>Viable option all over the state, even in rural communities</i>	48%	42%
<i>Viable option for urban areas to support people without a car</i>	27%	26%
<i>Social service so people who cannot drive can meet their needs</i>	18%	18%



A majority support state investments in alternative transit options.

	Oct 2024	Jun 2026
<i>Expanding public transit supports economic growth in NH</i>	66%	64%
<i>The state should invest money to increase public transit</i>	66%	63%
<i>The state should invest in expanding walking and biking paths</i>	60%	59%

Further Opportunities to Learn and Engage

Send comments and ideas to the NHDES CPRG team:
cprg@des.nh.gov

Learn about the CCAP process and other CPRG work at NHDES:
<https://www.des.nh.gov/comprehensive-climate-action-plan>

Summary reports of the CCAP Technical Input Sessions and Survey Findings are linked here:
<https://carsey.unh.edu/new-hampshire-listens/engage-ccap-process>

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