

## Carbon Pricing

We'd like to get people's overall views about some environmental policies – specifically, "cap and trade" and "carbon taxes" -- which are intended to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and therefore help with climate change.

[NEW SCREEN. DISPLAY TO ALL]

First, under "cap and trade" systems, the government "caps" the amount of permitted greenhouse gas emissions, and then it issues (or auctions) quotas to companies who produce emissions.

The "trade" part comes in when companies who go over their emissions quota need to buy carbon credits from a company who didn't use all of their quota.

The idea is that companies will try to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions so they can make money selling their credits or at least avoid having to buy more. Often, the money raised by the original government-issued carbon permits is spent on environmental projects.

[ASK ALL]

1. This week, the government of Ontario announced it is joining a "cap and trade" system already set-up by Quebec and California.

Regardless of where you live, and based on whatever you've seen, heard or read about this, do you support or oppose [your own province/Canada as a whole] joining or forming a cap and trade system?

[Randomize items:]

Your own province

Canada as a whole

Strongly support

Moderately support

Moderately oppose

Strongly oppose

[DISPLAY TO ALL]

Now, turning to a "carbon tax" -- here, the government sets a price or a tax on carbon, including fossil fuels, such as gasoline, diesel fuel, natural gas, jet fuel, etc. Everyone who buys and burns

these fuels pays the tax. The idea is that people and companies would reduce their own fuel consumption and emissions in order to pay less of this tax.

[ASK ALL]

2 British Columbia introduced a carbon tax in 2008. It came to an extra 7 cents a litre for gasoline (with a similar tax on other fuels as well). The "carbon tax" was to be cancelled out by lower taxes on other things -- so that, overall, taxpayers are not paying more taxes.

Regardless of where you live, and based on whatever you've seen, read or heard, do you support or oppose [your own province/Canada as a whole] adopting a carbon tax?

[Randomize items:]

Your own province

Canada as a whole

Strongly support

Moderately support

Moderately oppose

Strongly oppose

3. Overall, based on whatever you've seen, read or heard and on your own general impressions, how effective do you think these policy approaches would be in reducing greenhouse gas emissions?

[Randomize items:]

Cap and trade system

Carbon tax

Very effective

Quite effective

Not very effective

Not effective at all

4. Thinking generally, what is your overall opinion of the amount of attention [your own provincial government/the federal government] is paying to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change?

[Randomize items:]

Your own provincial government

The federal government

Not enough attention

The right amount of attention

Too much attention

5. How much will climate change and/or climate policy be a factor for you in this year's federal election? (Please use the 1 to 10 scale below; you can choose any number that best reflects how much of a factor this is for you.)

[1-10 Scale]

Left hand label = 1 – Not a factor at all

Right hand label = 10 – It's the deciding factor

6. Regardless of how important it is to you personally, *if* climate policy were to become a defining issue of the upcoming federal campaign, which of the main federal party leaders would you say is best to deal with this issue?

[Randomize first three names]

Stephen Harper

Justin Trudeau

Thomas Mulcair

Mario Beaulieu

Elizabeth May

Don't know