

August 23, 2022

EDF Action Survey Memo

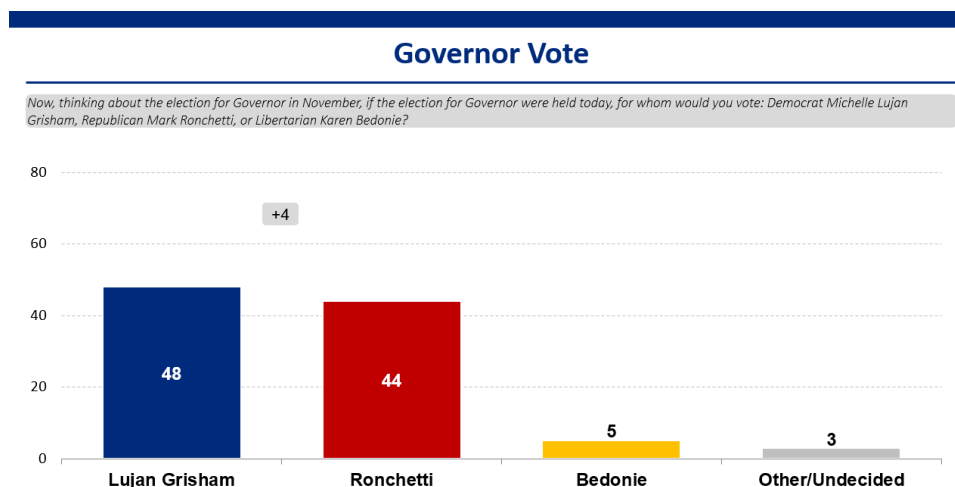
July Survey Findings

To: EDF Action

From: GQR

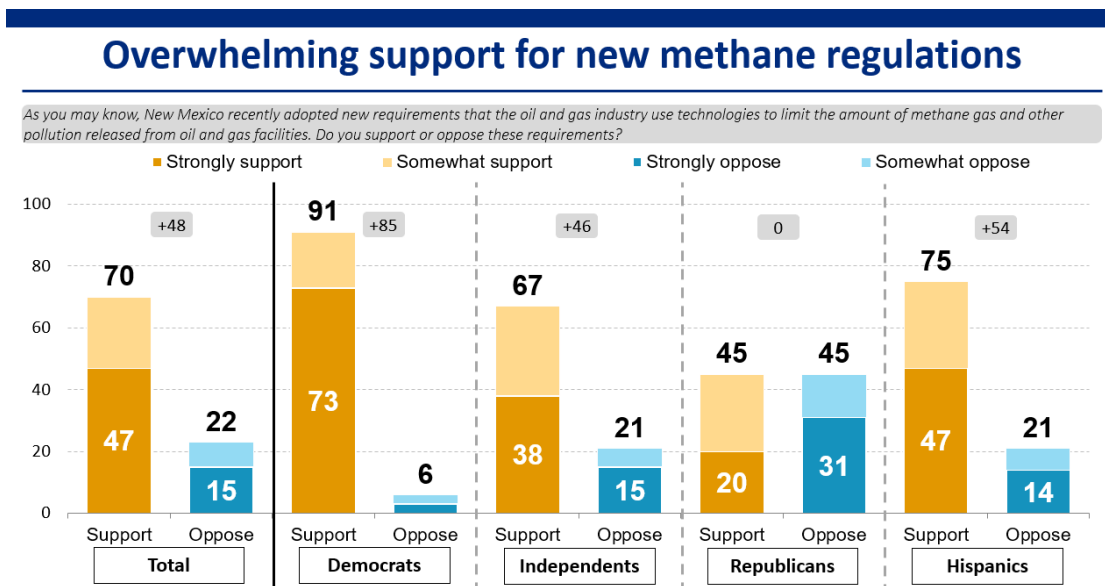
A recent poll of New Mexico voters shows strong support for ambitious drought, climate and methane policies in a highly competitive election year.¹ This poll tested the Governor’s race as well as support for a range of policy proposals to combat drought and climate change in New Mexico. Below we highlight several key findings on the Governor’s race and support for environmental policies.

- Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham is leading in a competitive race for re-election.** She is beating Republican nominee Mark Ronchetti, 48 to 44 percent, with 5 percent for Libertarian Karen Bedonie. She leads among Hispanic voters, 56 to 37 percent, with 4 percent for Bedonie. Lujan Grisham’s margin is built on a strong foundation with 52 percent giving her a favorable rating and only 44 percent unfavorable. This jumps to 61 percent favorable and only 36 percent unfavorable among Hispanics.



¹ These results are based on a survey conducted from July 11-17, 2022, among 500 likely November 2022 voters with an oversample of 100 Hispanic voters. The survey was conducted via landline and cell phones and carries a margin of error of +/- 4.4 percent. The data are statistically weighted to ensure the sample’s regional, age, and gender composition reflects that of the estimated likely November 2022 voters in New Mexico.

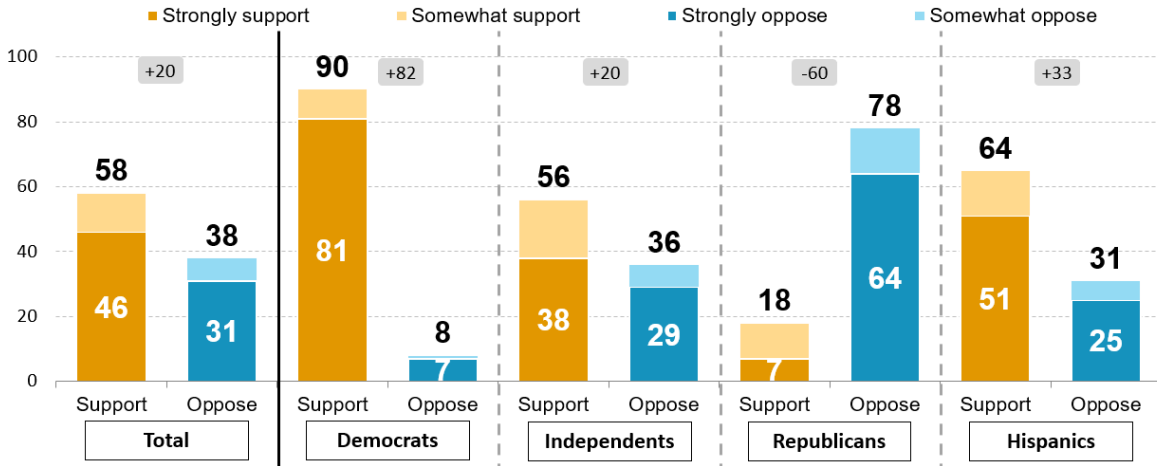
- **Overwhelming support for proposal to direct state funding to protect safe drinking water.** A broad majority (89 percent) support a proposal to provide funding to help rural and tribal communities repair systems that ensure safe drinking water. Support for this proposal cuts across both rural and metropolitan areas.
- **Overwhelming support for new statewide methane regulations.** A broad majority (70 percent) support the recently adopted state methane regulations that require the oil and gas industry use technologies to limit the amount of methane gas and other pollution released from oil and gas facilities. This jumps to 90 percent among Democrats and 75 percent among Hispanics. A 61 percent majority support the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency adopting similar methane requirements that would apply to all states in the country.



- **Strong support for aggressive new state climate change policy.** A 58 percent majority support a new climate change law that would make New Mexico a national leader in the production of renewable energy and require the pollution that causes climate change be reduced by half by 2030 and be net-zero by 2050. This jumps to 90 percent among Democrats and 64 percent among Hispanics.

Strong support for aggressive new state climate change policy

As you may know, the legislature is considering a new climate change law that would significantly reduce the pollution that causes climate change. The law would make New Mexico a national leader in the production of clean, renewable energy and require the pollution that causes climate change be reduced by half by 2030 and be net-zero by 2050. Do you support or oppose this new climate change law?



- **Candidate statements that tie extreme drought conditions and wildfires to climate change and call for action to address them resonate with voters.** This survey tested a series of statements from hypothetical State Legislature candidates on addressing the impact of climate change in New Mexico. Messages on addressing extreme drought conditions and wildfire rose to the top. A 62 percent majority say they would be more likely to support a candidate who calls for passing a comprehensive water plan and reducing greenhouse gas emissions to address extreme drought conditions, and a 60 percent majority say they would be more likely to support a candidate who calls for a plan to improve forest health and reducing greenhouse gas emissions to reduce wildfires.