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Data for Climate Progress Presents Your 2024 Climate Wrapped

The climate movement achieved many wins this year, including the first American Climate Corps members beginning their service and a historic pause on liquefied natural gas exports.

Meanwhile, the movement continued to work to hold companies accountable for pollution caused by the record-setting extraction of oil and gas, and make climate a key issue in a political cycle dominated by the economy and costs.

The Data for Progress Climate Team is taking a moment to reflect on 2024. This was a breakout year for deploying new climate infrastructure – with Data for Progress' efforts largely focused on implementing record investments in all sorts of climate infrastructure, from <u>direct air capture</u> and <u>transmission</u>, to <u>rooftop solar</u> and <u>battery storage</u>, equitably and effectively.

We've personally seen our team grow and change, bringing in two brilliant interns who've supported our ambitious work and collaborating more closely with cherished partners, like World Resources Institute, while also watching our qualitative research manager move on to begin her PhD (though we're grateful she still works with us on projects from time to time!). There is so much to be proud of and many people to whom we owe our thanks — including you! Thank you for subscribing to our newsletter and for consistently supporting our work!

- With gratitude, Catherine Fraser and Grace Adcox

Now, we proudly present your 2024 Data for Climate Progress Wrapped - 24 of our top findings from this past year:

Slide 1:

- 1. With **Sen. Markey**, we <u>found</u> that the **American Climate Corps is overwhelmingly popular** across age and political party, and supported by 71% of voters.
- In polling and focus groups with Service Year Alliance, young Americans said that gaining general work experience, earning a living wage, and protecting the planet for future generations are some of the top reasons why they would be interested in joining the American Climate Corps.
- 3. **Two years after the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act**, 71% of voters continued to say they **support the law**.

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4. With Climate Power, we found that 65% of Latino voters <u>agree</u> with a statement saying the U.S. needs a president committed to addressing climate change and extreme weather.

Slide 2:

- 5. To ensure landowners and community members would benefit from CO2 pipeline development and reduce community opposition to the project, Tallgrass <u>entered</u> a **community benefits agreement** to offer more options for easement payment to landowners hosting the pipeline.
- 6. Through expert interviews and document analysis with **World Resources Institute**, we found **Detroit's community benefits ordinance** <u>has started</u> to level the playing field between communities and developers by giving community members a seat at the table in conversations on development.
- With the World Resources Institute, we <u>launched</u> a new database that catalogues publicly available project agreements, like community benefits, host community, and project workforce agreements.

Slide 3:

- 8. Voters <u>viewed</u> big corporations generally (30%) and oil and gas companies specifically (28%) as the actors most responsible for causing climate change in the U.S.
- 9. 68% of Democrats said they'd <u>support</u> criminal charges against the fossil fuel industry to hold it accountable for deaths caused by its contributions to climate change.
- 10. Voters <u>reported</u> that they support lawmakers taking a number of proposed actions to **prevent oil and gas companies from polluting fenceline communities**.
- 11. Two-thirds of likely voters said they <u>support</u> a bill to **make polluters pay to confront the climate crisis**, including half of Republican voters (50%).
- 12. With **Farm Forward**, we found three-quarters of **Michigan voters** (73%) <u>support</u> **making polluters pay** for damages from climate disasters, like wildfires, droughts, and floods.

Slide 4:

- 13. With the **National Wildlife Federation**, we <u>found</u> strong majorities of **Wyoming** (68%), **Texas** (78%), **Louisiana** (75%), and **Colorado** (78%) voters support **building carbon removal** in their respective states.
- 14. In community workshops across the state, **Californians** voiced a desire for their community to have a say in the **scoping and siting** of a **potential climate infrastructure project**.

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15. Two-thirds of Californians (66%) <u>agreed</u> that fossil fuel companies should be required to pay for carbon removal projects because their industry created excess carbon pollution in the atmosphere while misleading the public about it for decades.

Slide 5:

- 16. With **Lead Locally**, we <u>found</u> that over two-thirds of **Portland (OR) voters** were more likely to **vote for a candidate** with a reputation as a **climate leader**.
- 17. Most voters (58%) said they <u>prefer</u> a **publicly owned and operated transmission system**, compared with just 24% who said they support private ownership.
- 18. A strong majority of voters (75%) <u>supported</u> banning utility junk fees and banning using ratepayer funds for political activities.
- 19. We found that voters who are not considering installing **rooftop solar panels** most often say that the **high upfront cost** is the **primary barrier**.
- 20. Three-quarters (75%) of voters <u>said</u> they support the EPA's **new PFAS drinking water** standards.

Slide 6:

- 21. 90% of voters <u>said</u> they support the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's proposed rule to **protect workers from extreme heat**.
- 22. An overwhelming majority of voters (80%) <u>supported</u> expanding disaster relief eligibility to cover extreme heat and wildfire events.
- 23. Half of voters under 45 <u>agreed</u> that climate change will impact their decision to have children.
- 24. In research with the **Center for Climate Integrity**, we found voters <u>reported</u> being very concerned about **plastic waste in waterways**, the environment, and the human body, and expressed support for taking action to hold plastics producers accountable for their pollution.

You can find the original version of this newsletter on our Substack here.