

# Poll: 66% of Oregonians predict unstoppable climate change

By ZANE SPARLING  
Pamplin Media Group

SALEM — We're doomed. That's the pessimistic point of view espoused by the two-thirds of Oregonians who believe there's a slight chance, or no chance at all, that humans can solve climate change in time to stave off the worst of its effects, according to a new poll.

The data comes from the nonprofit Oregon Values and Beliefs Center, which surveyed 1,154 adult state residents in mid-August to map Oregonians' perception of climate change. Survey respondents were selected to match state demographics. The margin of error ranges from 1.7% to 2.9% per question.

A majority of residents think there's only a small chance (45%)

— or no hope at all (21%) — of stopping climate change, the results show, or about 66% total.

Interestingly, a similar slice of the state says human-caused climate change is fact (64%), compared to just 8% who believe that carbon emissions' role in global climate is fiction. Democrats (85%) far outpace Republicans (27%) in describing climate change as reality, a trend also seen comparing college graduates (77%) to those with a high school diploma or less (57%).

"People are more pessimistic about forest fires and the climate crisis than about solving communicable diseases like COVID-19 (33%), voting rights and secure elections (40%), racial discrimination (58%), or population growth (62%," pollsters said in a briefing memo. Here are a few more highlights

from the survey:

- Despite the dramatic photos of wildfires and flooding that inundate social media, a majority of Oregonians say climate change has had no (22%) or little (40%) impact on their life. That said, the impact has been significant (27%) or dramatic (11%) for the remainder.

- Oregonians aren't eager to pay more at the pump, either. A third (35%) wouldn't support any sort of fossil fuel tax, and another 13% wouldn't want to pay more than a quarter per gallon in tax. A skimpy majority (51%) would pay as much as 50 cents. Only 15% would OK a tax of \$4 or more, if that's what it takes to halt climate change.

- While research shows that Americans generate, on average, 15 to 25 tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually — compared to a

global average of four tons per year — most Oregonians think their own lifestyle is below the mean. Some 42% of respondents said their emissions are extremely low, 40% said their emissions are low, while just 3% admitted to average levels of pollution.

What about the solutions? Oregonians largely favor government interventions that promote tree planting (81%) and incentivize renewable energy sources (80%), pollsters wrote. A healthy majority also approve of strengthening regulations on industrial emissions (73%), as well as implementing tougher fuel efficiency standards (69%).

"Nearly half of Oregonians say they aren't sure about geoengineering strategies, like reflective artificial clouds (47%)," pollsters say.

## MORE INFORMATION

The Oregon Values and Beliefs Center is committed to the highest level of public opinion research.

To obtain that, the nonprofit is building the largest online research panel of Oregonians in history to ensure that all voices are represented in discussions of public policy in a valid and statistically reliable way.

Selected panelists earn points for their participation, which can be redeemed for cash or donated to a charity. To learn more, visit [oregonvbc.org/about-the-panel](http://oregonvbc.org/about-the-panel) and join the panel.

"Strategies like this will need more media attention before people have strong opinions."

## Tainted CBD drops causing paranoia

OLCC orders recall of 1,000-milligram bottles of 'Broad Spectrum'

By MIKE ROGOWAY  
The Oregonian

SALEM — Oregon regulators have fielded eight complaints from people who bought CBD drops apparently tainted by THC, the psychoactive ingredient in recreational marijuana.

The buyers reported "paranoia," "mind fog" and feeling "extremely high," according to the commission, symptoms not usually associated with CBD.

The Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission this week ordered a recall of the CBD drops, from Portland manufacturer Select, and is investigating whether the issue was caused by contamination, mislabeling or something else.

"We're tracing backwards to find the needle in the haystack to find why and how this happened," said Mark Pettinger, spokesman for the commission's marijuana program. "There's a lot of detective work that's really going on right now."

It's apparently the first case of THC contamination in any Oregon consumer product.

"I can't think of anything similar to this happening in the past," Pettinger said. Recreational marijuana has been legal in Oregon since 2015, but products containing THC are subject to strict regulation that govern its sale and licensing.

CBD, or cannabidiol, is made from hemp but typically doesn't include THC. Enthusiasts use CBD as a general wellness product, and it's widely available in groceries and health food stores.

Oregon ordered a recall of 1,000-milligram bottles of unflavored Select CBD Drops, labeled as "Broad Spectrum." Pettinger said the state received its first report of a problem with the drops on Sept. 9 from a customer in Idaho who had purchased the drops in Oregon.

"It was one purchaser, who tried the product and had a reaction. And then they shared it with somebody," Pettinger said. "A second person associated with that party tried it and had a similar physical reaction."

Because the initial complaint came from Idaho, Pettinger said it took a few days for regulators to retrieve a sample from that bottle and test it. That came back "hot," Pettinger said, testing positive for high levels of THC. So he said Oregon regulators purchased two more bottles and found they also contained THC.

The OLCC has now found five bottles that tested positive. The recall affects 500 products sold beginning June 19. Stores still had 200 of the recalled bottles on their shelves when the OLCC issued its order this week.



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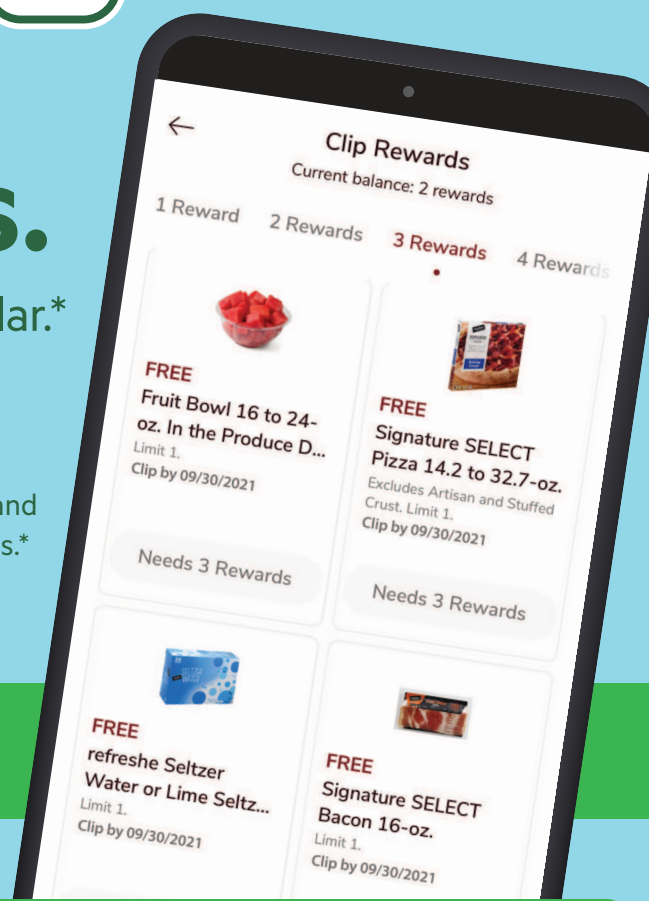
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