

League of Conservation Voters Climate-Smart Agriculture WA-03 Survey Findings

Methodology

Quantitative Research

Global Strategy Group conducted a survey of **400 likely 2024 voters in WA-03** between August 22 and August 31, 2023. The survey was conducted on the phone and via text-to-web.

Confidence Interval

The confidence interval at the 95% confidence level is 4.9%.

The confidence interval on sub-samples is greater.

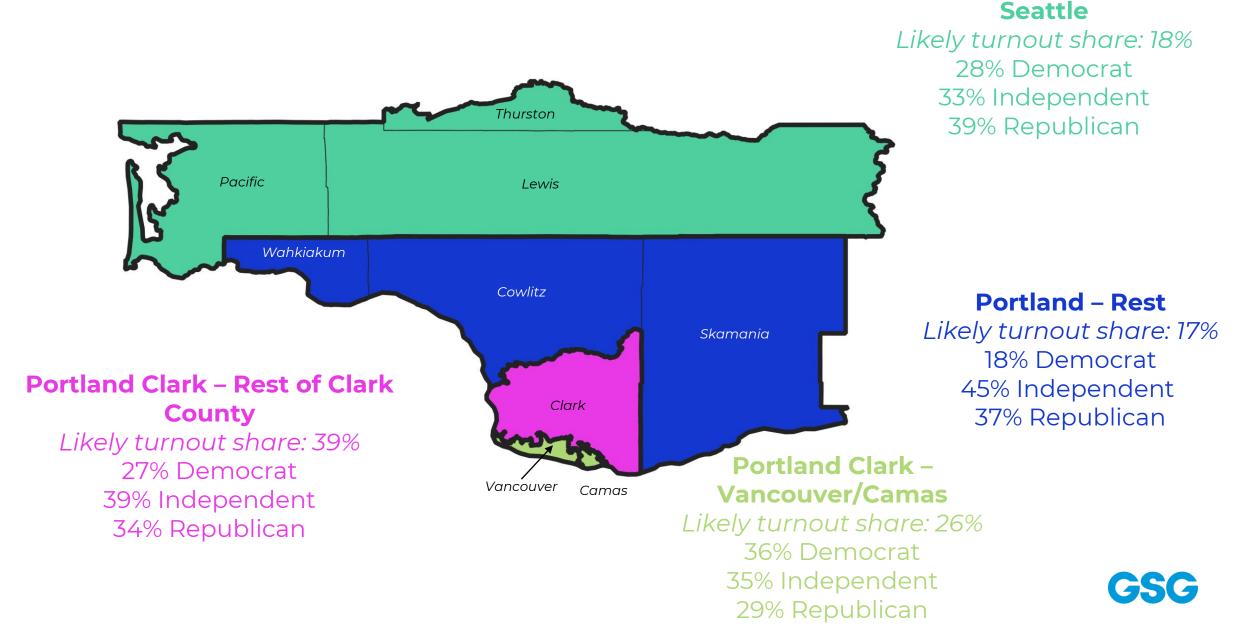


Demographics of WA-03

Gender			Party Self-Identification
	Men	48	Democrats 28
	Women	52	Independents (w/ leaners) 38
Age			Republicans 34
	18-29 year olds	13	Region
	30-44 year olds	24	Portland Clark – Vancouver/Camas 26
	45-54 year olds	16	Portland Clark – Rest of Clark County 39
	55-64 year olds	17	Portland – Rest 17
	Seniors 65+	30	Seattle 18
Race			
	White	94	
	White non-college	70	
	White college	25	
	Black	3	
	Hispanic	6	



Map of WA-03



4

Key Findings

WA-03 constituents want to see action in the Farm Bill to protect drinking water and help farmers and ranchers deal with extreme weather. Constituents reject the idea that we need to choose between supporting American farmers and protecting our environment. Instead, an overwhelming majority agrees: "We can do both." As a result, big majorities agree that Congress should take action in the upcoming Farm Bill to help farmers deal with extreme weather and protect drinking water from pollution.

They strongly support climate-smart ag funding in the IRA – and overwhelmingly oppose using the Farm Bill to repeal or redirect that funding... WA-03 constituents support the \$19.5 billion in the IRA to help farmers reduce pollution and make their farms more resilient to extreme weather, and they support specific programs funded by that \$19.5 billion by even larger margins. Moreover, when we put them to a choice, more than three-in-five want to use the funding as intended rather than repealing it or redirecting it to "other agricultural programs like federal subsidies for crop prices."

... Because they overwhelmingly believe repealing the funding will harm American rural communities, future generations, farmers and ranchers – and even themselves and their families.

Opposition to repealing or redirecting funding holds strong after a simulated debate. After hearing a balanced debate with messaging from both sides, opposition to repealing or redirecting the climate-smart ag funding remains robust – with nearly three-in-five in WA-03 continuing to favor using the funding as intended.

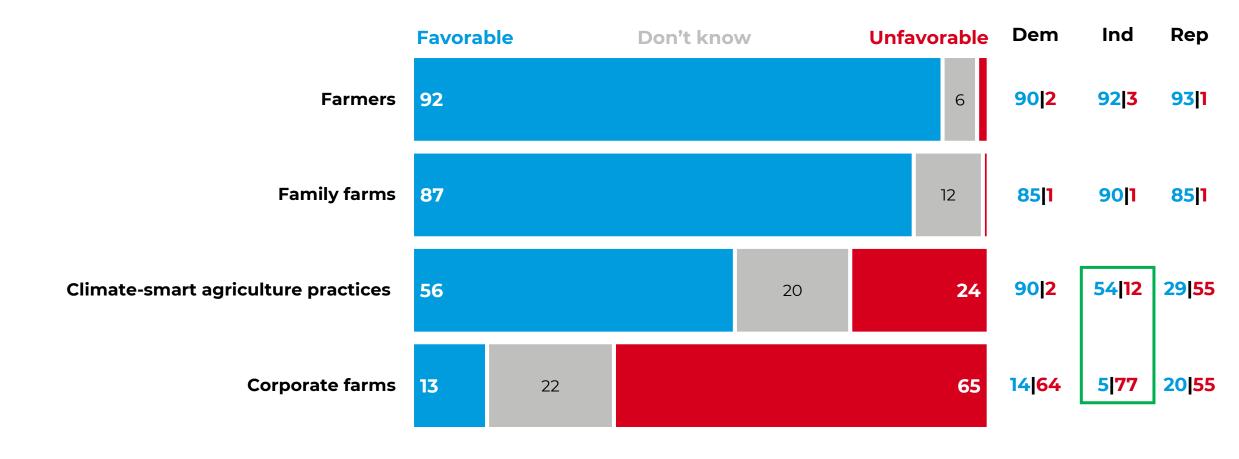


Landscape

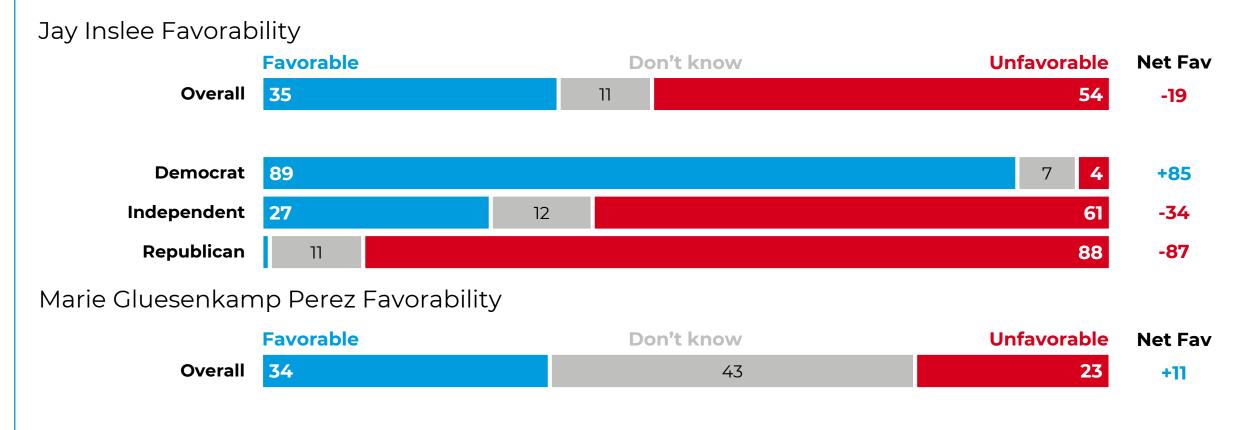


Constituents in WA-03 are intensely favorable of farmers and family farms and view climate-smart agriculture quite positively. Corporate farms are underwater

Favorability of Groups and Concepts



Governor Inslee's strength among Democrats does not translate to the rest of voters in this district. Representative Gluesenkamp Perez is unknown to a plurality, but tends to be viewed favorably by those familiar





Constituents across the aisle agree we need to protect America's farms from extreme weather and that we do not need to choose between supporting farmers and protecting the environment

Total Agree

Climate and Farm Bill Statements

		jree	DK/Ref	Disagree	Dem	Total Agree Ind	Rep
In the upcoming Farm Bill, Congress should include programs that help farmers deal with extreme weather like droughts and floods	88	53% stro	ongly agree	10	98	88	80
We don't have to choose between supporting American farmers and protecting our environment. We can do both	87	61% stro	ongly agree	n	97	87	81
In the upcoming Farm Bill, Congress should include programs that help conserve water and protect our drinking water from pollution	80	57% stro	ongly agree	19	100	73	71
Washington farmers and ranchers need more tools to prepare for extreme weather	80	43% stro	ongly agree	4 16	93	86	63
As extreme weather events continue to become more frequent and more severe, we need to take steps that will make America's farms and food systems more resilient and reliable	70	52% stro	ongly agree	28	98	68	50
The federal government should enact agricultural policies that reduce pollution	63	37% stro	ongly agree	35	94	58	45

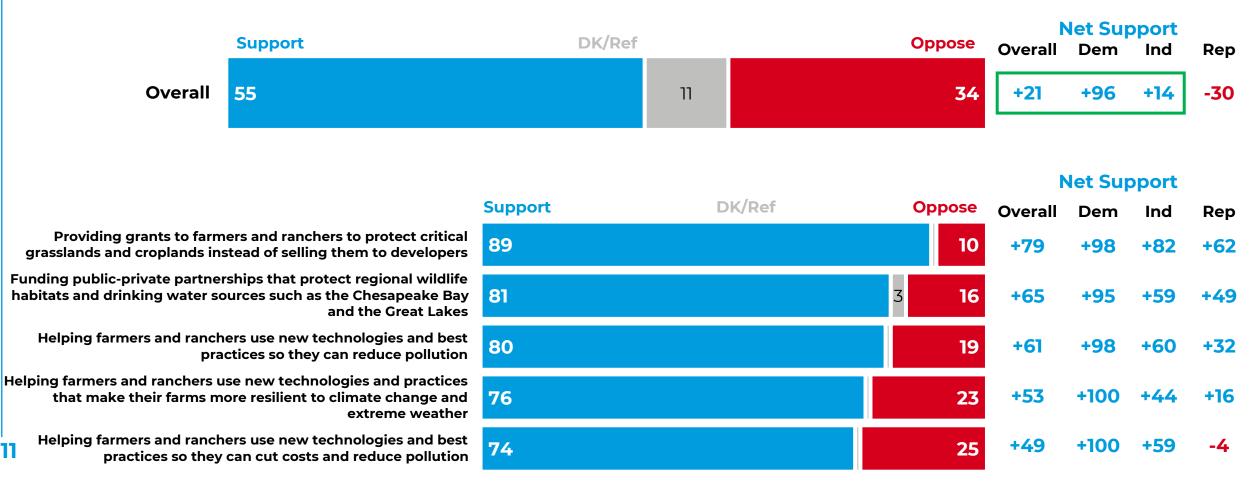


Climate-Smart Agriculture Funding



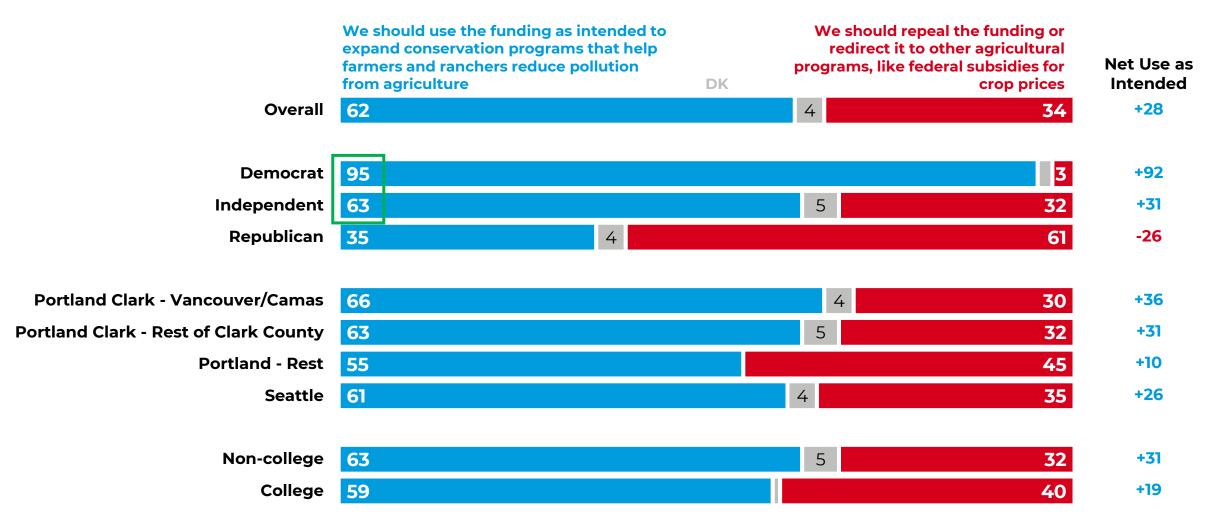
Majorities in WA-03, including independents, support the IRA's funding for climate-smart agricultural programs. Specific policies enjoy high levels of support

As you may know, last year, Democrats in Congress passed the Inflation Reduction Act, which included \$19.5 billion in new funding to expand existing programs that help farmers and ranchers use practices that reduce their pollution and make their farms more resilient to extreme weather. Just based on what you know, do you support or oppose this funding?



More than three-in-five support using the climate-smart ag funding as intended, including independents

Some members of Congress have said that as part of the Farm Bill, they want to repeal the \$19.5 billion that was provided to help farmers and ranchers reduce the amount of pollution they create by expanding conservation programs and other climate-smart agricultural practices. Which of the following statements do you agree with more, even if neither is exactly right?



12

WA-03 constituents believe repealing this funding would have a negative impact on all metrics tested – especially America's rural communities and farmers and ranchers

Impact of Repealing Funding for Climate-Smart Agricultural Programs

		Positive		Nega			t Negative Impa		act
		impact	No impact	DK	impact	Overall	Dem	Ind	Rep
	Climate change	13	35		51	-38	-81	-20	-20
	America's farmers and ranchers	23	15 3		59	-36	-84	-23	-12
	America's rural communities	20	23		56	-36	-79	-26	-16
	Future generations of Americans	20	25		53	-33	-85	-13	-16
	You and your family	19	28		51	-32	-76	-29	0
	America's lakes, rivers, streams, and drinking water	18	30	3	49	-31	-84	-11	-12
٦	The security of America's food system	22	24		52	-30	-72	-27	+1
	The cost of food and groceries	24	20 4		52	-28	-62	-22	-5
	The American economy	24	21 3		52	-28	-67	-26	+2

Each half of the sample heard a different statement from supporters, while the full sample heard the same opposition statement. Each supporter framing yielded nearly identical results

Full Text of Supporter and Opposition Messaging: Thinking again about the \$19.5 billion that was provided to help farmers and ranchers reduce the amount of pollution they create by expanding conservation programs and other climate-smart agricultural practices...

Supporters of these policies say:

14

[SPLIT A – FOOD SECURITY] Supporters say this funding will be used for programs that not only help farmers and ranchers, but also provide crucial protections to ensure the U.S. food system remains safe and reliable. Extreme weather associated with climate change, like droughts and floods, wreak havoc on farmers and endanger our country's food security. These conservation programs are an important investment in maintaining our country's food security and the wellbeing of our farmers, and they will provide a much-needed boost to America's rural communities, adding 90,000 new jobs in rural areas across America.

[SPLIT B – POLLUTION] Supporters say that the agricultural industry creates 10% of all climate pollution in America as well as a significant amount of toxic pollution that makes its way into our lakes, rivers, streams, and drinking water. These programs have a proven track record of reducing climate and water pollution to make sure everyone has clean water to drink and to make farms more resilient to extreme weather like droughts and floods. However, these programs are underfunded and can't meet the demand from all the farmers who want to participate. We should listen to farmers and expand these valuable programs that protect our farmers, our food supply, and our environment.

Opponents of these policies say:

[FULL SAMPLE] Opponents say that this funding is just another example of **runaway government spending that is driving up inflation, the price of food and groceries**, and the national debt. **The link between climate change and farming is being wildly exaggerated by radical politicians** who are pushing their own agenda. Congress should take this opportunity to cut this wasteful spending and, instead, invest in programs that will actually help our farmers who are still struggling to recover from the effects of the pandemic – **programs like crop subsidies and insurance** and other forms of financial assistance.



After hearing a balanced debate, an overwhelming majority still wants to use the IRA funding as intended – Republicans stand alone in favoring repeal

Vote Movement: Use Funding as Intended vs. Repealing/Redirecting Funding

		Initial Ask			Informed Ask	ζ.
	Use as Intended	Repeal/ Redirect	NET Use as Intended	Use as Intended	Repeal/ Redirect	NET Use as Intended
Overall	62	34	+28	59	38	+21
Democrat	95	3	+92	96	2	+94
Independent	63	32	+31	57	40	+17
Republican	35	61	-26	32	66	-34
Portland Clark – Vancouver/Camas	66	30	+36	68	31	+37
Portland Clark – Rest of Clark County	63	32	+31	58	39	+19
Portland – Rest	55	45	+10	51	49	+2
Seattle	61	35	+26	58	38	+20
Non-college	63	32	+31	61	37	+24
College	59	40	+19	55	44	+11

Thank You

New York

Washington, DC

Hartford

Chicago

Denver

Seattle