



KEY FACTS

California's Clean Energy Future: What's at Stake

California is moving toward a clean energy future to reduce pollution, create jobs, lower energy costs, and save lives. Climate change is already harming Californians while oil and gas industry executives and lobbyists work to rig the system and slow the progress of clean energy – all to boost their profits.

We're at a key moment in this fight. These are the stakes.



Californians want clean energy
to power our electric grid, cars,
homes and economy.

70 percent

of Californians and 90 percent of Democrats say they want the electricity grid to run on 100 percent renewable energy by 2035.

69 percent

of Californians support promoting the transition to clean energy with buildings that run entirely on electricity.

65 percent

of Californians say that by the year 2035, all new vehicles sold in California should be required to produce no polluting emissions.



California statewide survey, 805 interviews, December 2021



Common sense clean energy policies will improve public health and save tens of thousands lives.

More than 90 percent of Californians live in areas that experience unhealthy air at some point during the year (*American Lung Association*).

By transitioning to **electric-powered vehicles**, California would **save more than 7,000 lives** by 2050 (*Environmental Defense Fund*).

The smoke from extreme wildfires driven by climate change is **increasing hospitalizations and health issues** like stroke and asthma (*Nature*).

By **switching to clean energy** and eliminating key sources of oil and gas pollution, California could **save 68,332 lives** (*Yale Climate Connections*).

People of color are **61 percent** more likely than white people to live with **unhealthy levels of air pollution** (*American Lung Association*).

34,000 Californians have died from **fossil fuel pollution** (*Desert Sun*).

Seven of the nation's ten most **ozone-polluted cities** in the United States are in California (*American Lung Association*).

By powering our buildings and homes with **clean electricity**, California could **save 1,227 lives** per year (*Rewiring America*).



Clean, renewable energy will reduce costs for everyday Californians. That's why oil and gas executives want to slow our transition.

California would cut electricity costs by nearly **20 percent** by achieving 100 percent renewables by 2040 (*Renewable Energy Magazine*).



Californians who drive **electric vehicles** can save up to **\$14,500** on fuel costs over 15 years (*ScienceDaily*).

98 percent of California households could save **\$3.5 billion** a year on energy bills by switching from gas to **electric furnaces and water heaters** (*Rewiring America*).

California could save **\$607 billion** in health damages caused by oil and gas pollution by 2050 by switching to **clean energy** (*Yale Climate Connections*).



Clean energy is creating hundreds of thousands of good paying jobs.

484,980 Californians were employed in the clean energy sector in 2020, five times as many workers as the oil and gas industry ([e2](#)).


1 in 6 clean energy jobs in the United States was in California in 2019 ([e2](#)).

1 in 3 solar industry jobs was in California in 2019 ([Next 10](#)).

Clean energy jobs are high-quality and pay **25 percent** more than the national median wage ([Solar Power World](#)).

Transitioning to buildings that run entirely on clean electricity would create over **100,000** jobs by 2045 ([RMI](#)).

Southern California's electric vehicle industry has grown dramatically, creating **276,000 jobs** in the state ([Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation](#)).

A dramatic photograph of a wildfire. A helicopter is seen in the upper right, dropping a bucket of water onto the fire. The fire is a massive wall of orange and yellow flames, with a line of trees silhouetted against it. The sky is filled with thick, orange smoke. The overall scene is one of intense heat and destruction.

California's future
depends on protecting
and strengthening our
clean energy policies.