

**FIVE YEARS**  
*of the*  
**GREEN NEW DEAL**

**ED MARKEY**   
UNITED STATES SENATOR FOR MASSACHUSETTS

*Alexandria*  
**OCASIO-CORTEZ**  
REPRESENTING NEW YORK'S 14TH DISTRICT

## **Five years ago, on February 7, 2019, we introduced the Green New Deal resolution in Congress.**

**This resolution grew out of a movement that demanded our government to dream bigger, be bolder, and deliver action that meets the scale, scope, and urgency of the climate crisis. The Green New Deal resolution created a revolution, which supercharged and transformed the way we fought for—and won—federal action to create new union jobs, deliver long-overdue resources toward environmental justice, and cut dangerous climate pollution.**

**We knew that in order to achieve these victories, climate action couldn't stand alone or be set apart. It had to stand with labor, justice leaders, young people, teachers, health care providers, caregivers, farmers, and small business owners. The Green New Deal movement for jobs, justice, and climate action was built on relentless organizing and intersectional solidarity, not solitary work.**

**Since introducing the Green New Deal resolution, our movement has delivered monumental victories, and Green New Deal projects have started to take root in our communities. We have seen billions in new funding and witnessed a decades-delayed sea change in how we prioritize justice and union jobs in our project of building a clean economy.**

**In the last five years we took a major step forward, one that most said was impossible. In the next five, we'll need to take a step that's ten times bigger. We will need to ensure a phase-out of fossil fuels, rebuild our public services, and ensure that the fossil fuel companies and billionaires who got us here are held to account for what they've done.**

**If the past five years of the Green New Deal have shown us we have the power to win a better world, they have also shown us what is at stake. Over the past five years, we have mourned our losses in isolation through a pandemic, we have taken to the streets for racial justice, we have faced unprecedented threats to our democracy, and we've seen climate-fueled disasters decimate our communities.**

**We've also seen record-breaking profits from fossil fuel companies and record-breaking temperatures, with 2023 coming in as the hottest year in recorded history. Black, Brown, Indigenous, and low-income communities are on the frontlines of disaster, but not at the front of the line for help. Families are struggling to stay afloat, and union workers are fighting for fair contracts and the right to make a good living.**

**We know the stakes of this fight. We know the only choice is to win.**

**We know a Green New Deal will deliver a livable future. Five years into the Green New Deal, we can't stop now. Join us.**

**In solidarity,**



**Senator Edward J. Markey**



**Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez**

## Where Have We Been?

The aim of the Green New Deal is to create millions of good, high-wage jobs in the United States, provide economic security for Americans, and counteract systemic injustices – all while addressing the existential challenge of climate change. In the five years since the Green New Deal resolution was introduced, an unrelenting movement for climate, justice, and jobs led to the passage of the *Inflation Reduction Act*, the largest climate legislation to pass in the United States. It also inspired action across all levels of government, in and outside of the United States, it reframed our clean energy future so that it centers Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities, and it recognized that our climate transition can only succeed if it's built by workers, for workers.

### **Building the Movement and Momentum (2018-2019)**

The Green New Deal resolution was drafted and introduced by Senator Markey and Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez in 2019, bringing together a coalition of environmental, labor, racial justice, and health organizations with the aim of tackling intersecting issues around climate, health care, and systemic inequality. This, combined with local organizing, led to the creation of local action through city Green New Deal plans. Organizations like the Green New Deal Network were developed to bring the resolution to life. At a national level, climate change became a key topic in the 2020 presidential elections. Every Democratic presidential candidate either endorsed the Green New Deal or adopted a robust climate action platform, and the 2020 presidential debates included the first question dedicated to climate change in 20 years.

President Biden, while not an explicit supporter of the Green New Deal, eventually adopted key Green New Deal principles and timelines—as well as a pledge for a 100-percent clean energy economy—in his campaign's climate platform. This laid the groundwork for his Build Back Better plan, released following his victory in 2020.

### **Fueling the Moment (2020-2021)**

Following President Biden's election and Senate victories in Georgia, the conversation in Congress shifted to focus on outlining a broad package of infrastructure and economic transformation investments that could be passed through the budget reconciliation process. By setting ambitions high from the onset, locking arms across an intersectional band of supporters, and predicating success on the inclusion of climate justice priorities, the Green New Deal movement enabled and secured a huge legislative victory.

In April 2021, Senator Markey and Rep. Dingell introduced the *THRIVE Act*, which called for \$10 trillion in investments to create good-paying union jobs while drastically cutting carbon pollution by 2030, while also advancing gender, environmental, Indigenous, economic, and racial justice—moving the Overton window outward for what a reconciliation package could tackle and how broad it could be. These numbers were soon supported by Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and the Congressional Progressive Caucus, representing more than 100 Democrats.

Meanwhile, President Biden campaigned for two major new packages—the American Jobs Plan and the American Families Plan—that would invest around \$4 trillion in infrastructure and Democratic priorities. In August 2021, following negotiations with moderate members on the Budget Committee and after pushing for a \$6 trillion budget plan, Senator Sanders introduced and led the Senate in passing a budget that allows for up to \$3.5 trillion in spending under a reconciliation package.

Senator Markey, Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez, Congressional Progressive Caucus Chair Pramila Jayapal, and other progressive leaders led an effort to “hold the line” against passing an infrastructure bill that would leave behind climate, health, and tax fairness, starting the call of “no climate, no deal.” Since any one Democratic senator could have prevented the passage of the reconciliation package, establishing a standard that climate be included protected critical climate justice investments from falling out during negotiations.

In August 2022, after significant additional negotiations and numerous protests, including a notable hunger strike by Sunrise Movement activists, Congress passed the \$739-billion *Inflation Reduction Act*, which included an estimated \$369 billion in targeted investments for energy security and climate change—\$60 billion of which is dedicated for environmental justice priorities. This legislation is projected to reduce carbon emissions by roughly 40 percent by 2030. While the legislation failed to deliver the full scope of investments needed and included some challenging compromises, it represented a significant down payment on the Green New Deal. Thanks to the tireless work of advocates, it met the baseline Green New Deal test of investing in jobs, justice, and emissions reductions. Experts now believe that the *Inflation Reduction Act* may now deploy closer to \$1.2 trillion in public funding for clean energy and climate action.

### **Building and Strengthening the Legacy (2022-present)**

As the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* and the *Inflation Reduction Act* begin to supercharge the clean economy, it is crucial these laws are implemented swiftly and effectively in accordance with Green New Deal principles to address the climate crisis while creating good-paying union jobs and delivering benefits to Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities who have historically been left out. In September 2023, the Green New Deal movement called for and won a victory when the Biden administration announced the historic American Climate Corps, in the model of the Civilian Climate Corps called for by Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez, Senator Markey, and many other Green New Deal advocates.

Unions like the United Auto Workers are breaking new ground and showing the power that working people have to demand and win a Green New Deal. The investments from these bills can and must be brought to life by union workers.

At the same time, the health care and home care workforce is struggling with a system that is failing them. Housing is unaffordable for far too many. American schools face decades of disinvestment. Fossil fuel production and exports are at record levels. And billionaires and fossil fuel companies continue to rake in record profits. The fight cannot end here to deliver the full Green New Deal.

# Progress toward the **GREEN NEW DEAL**

**Green New Deal  
Resolution Introduced**

*February*

**Green New Deal  
for Public Housing**

*November*

## 2020

**CARES Act Passed**

*March*

**Green New Deal  
for Maine Proposed**

*January*

**THRIVE Act Introduced**

*April*

**Green New Deal  
for Cities Introduced**

*April*

**Green New Deal Reintroduced**

*April*

**Civilian Climate Corps  
Act Introduced**

*April*

**The Red Deal Published**

*April*

**Green New Deal for  
Public Schools Introduced**

*July*

**IIJA Passes**

*November*

## 2022

**Green New Deal Reintroduced**

*April*

**American Climate  
Corps Announced**

*September*

## 2019

**Seattle Green New Deal**

*September*

**European Green Deal Approved**

*January*

**Boston Green New Deal Proposed**

*August*

## 2021

**American Rescue Plan Act Passed**

*January*

**Red, Black, and Green  
New Deal Initiative Introduced**

*May*

**Global Alliance for  
a Green New Deal Launched**

*July*

**Inflation Reduction Act Passes**

*August*

## 2023

**Cambridge Green New Deal Passed**

*July*

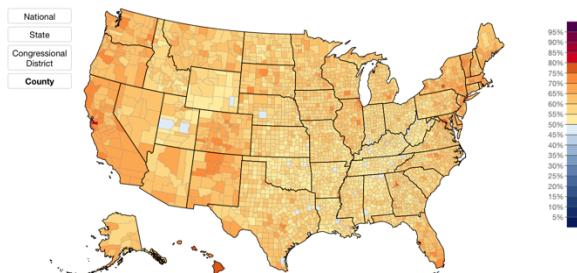
# What Americans Think About the Green New Deal

## Public Views on Climate Change

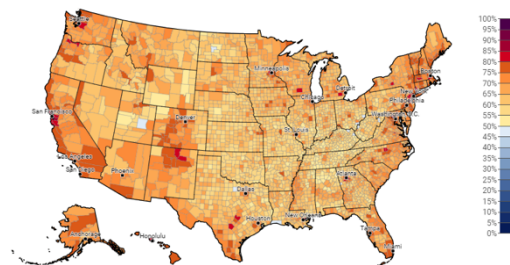
Americans are worried about climate change. The Yale Program on Climate Change Communication found that an overwhelming number of Americans think global warming is happening compared to those who do not, by a ratio of nearly 5 to 1.<sup>1</sup> Additionally, nearly two-thirds of Americans report they are at least “somewhat worried” about global warming, including 29 percent of those who are “very worried.” As for young people, almost 80 percent of 18- to 29-year-olds believe that harm to people due to climate change will worsen over time.<sup>2</sup>

At the local level, the majority of Americans are worried that their local area may be affected by air pollution (73 percent), extreme heat (70 percent), droughts (63 percent), flooding (58 percent) and other effects intensified and made more frequent by climate change.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, 41 percent of Americans think their own community will become a worse place to live over the next 30 years due to the climate crisis.<sup>4</sup>

*Before the Green New Deal  
Estimated percentage of adults who think  
global warming is happening, 2014*



*Five Years after the Green New Deal  
Estimated percentage of adults who think  
global warming is happening, 2023*



<sup>1</sup> *Climate Change in the American Mind: Beliefs and Attitudes*, Yale Program on Climate Change Communication (Jan 11, 2024), <https://climatecommunication.yale.edu/publications/climate-change-in-the-american-mind-beliefs-attitudes-fall-2023/toc/2/>.

<sup>2</sup> Alec Tyson and Brian Kennedy, *How Americans View Future Harms from Climate Change in their Community and Around the U.S.* (Oct 25, 2023), <https://www.pewresearch.org/science/2023/10/25/how-americans-view-future-harms-from-climate-change-in-their-community-and-around-the-u-s/>.

<sup>3</sup> *Climate Change in the American Mind: Beliefs and Attitudes*, Yale Program on Climate Change Communication (Jan 11, 2024), <https://climatecommunication.yale.edu/publications/climate-change-in-the-american-mind-beliefs-attitudes-fall-2023/toc/2/>.

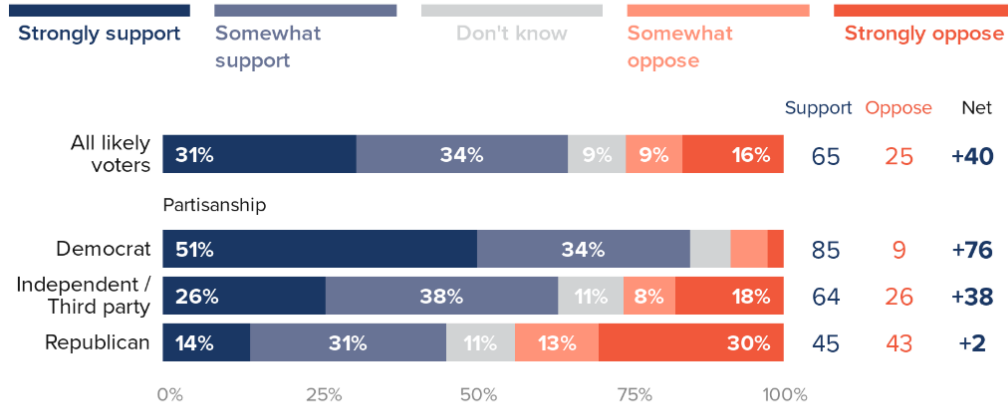
<sup>4</sup> Alec Tyson and Brian Kennedy, *How Americans View Future Harms from Climate Change in their Community and Around the U.S.* (Oct 25, 2023), <https://www.pewresearch.org/science/2023/10/25/how-americans-view-future-harms-from-climate-change-in-their-community-and-around-the-u-s/>.

# A Majority of Voters Support the Green New Deal

Some lawmakers are reintroducing the Green New Deal, a proposal modeled off of the 'New Deal' programs created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt during the Great Depression.

A Green New Deal would put tens of millions of people to work in good-paying, union jobs modernizing our infrastructure making it more resilient to extreme weather and slowing the pace of climate change. The Green New Deal would also center frontline communities who have been disproportionately impacted by climate change and pollution in decision-making and resource allocation.

Do you support or oppose the Green New Deal?

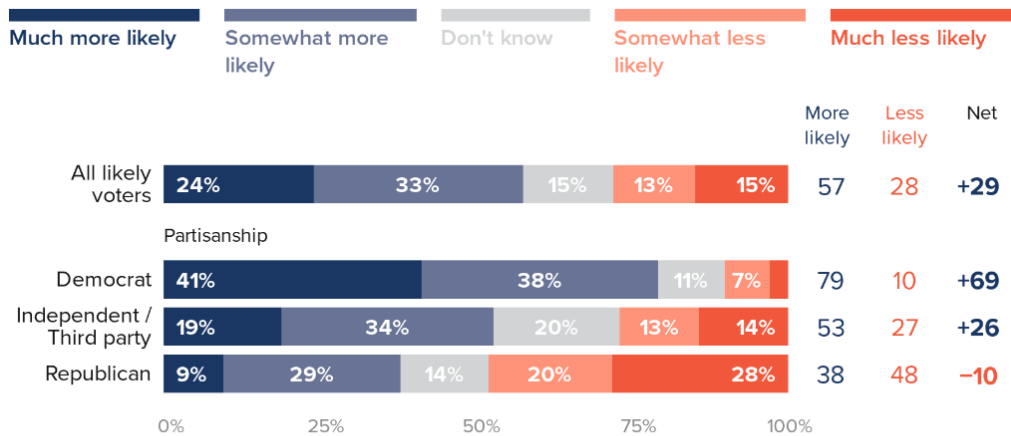


January 26–27, 2024 survey of 1,216 likely voters

DATA FOR PROGRESS

# Voters Say That They Are More Likely to Vote for Members of Congress Who Support the Green New Deal

If your member of Congress cosponsors the Green New Deal when it is reintroduced in this session of Congress, would you be more or less likely to vote for them when they are up for reelection in November 2024?



January 26–27, 2024 survey of 1,216 likely voters

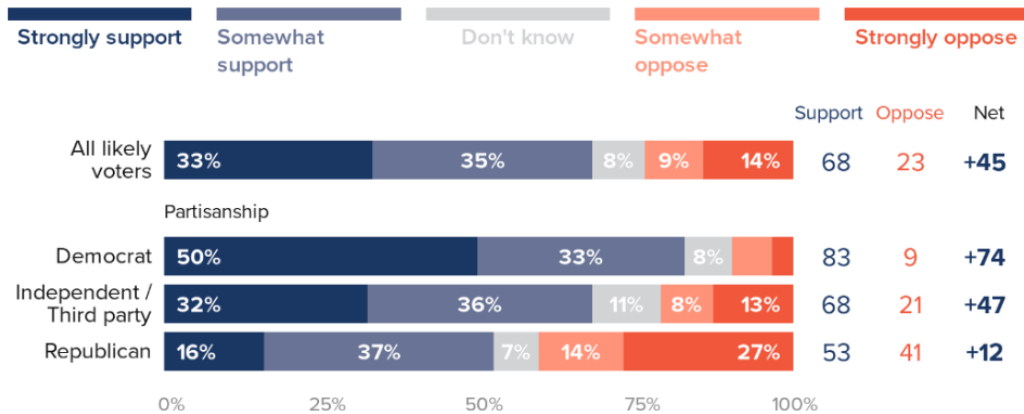
DATA FOR PROGRESS

<sup>5</sup> Data For Progress (2024), [https://www.filesforprogress.org/datasets/2024/2/dfp\\_green\\_new\\_deal\\_anniversary\\_tabs.pdf](https://www.filesforprogress.org/datasets/2024/2/dfp_green_new_deal_anniversary_tabs.pdf)

## The Green New Deal for Health Is Supported by a Bipartisan Majority of Voters

Some lawmakers have proposed a Green New Deal for Health that would invest \$130 billion in community health centers. It would also authorize \$100 billion in grants for public and nonprofit medical facilities to improve their climate resilience and disaster mitigation efforts in order to ensure people have uninterrupted access to care throughout extreme weather events.

Do you support or oppose the Green New Deal for Health?



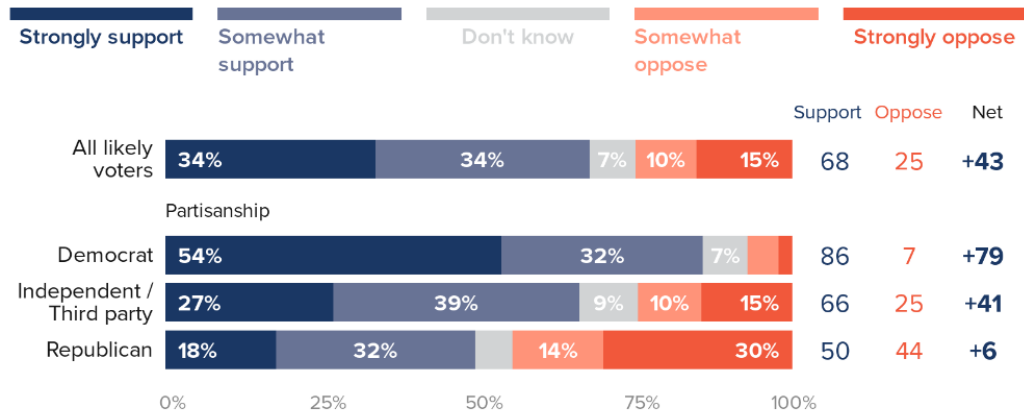
January 26–27, 2024 survey of 1,216 likely voters

DATA FOR PROGRESS

## A Strong Majority of Voters Support the Green New Deal for Public Schools

Some lawmakers have proposed a Green New Deal for Public Schools to invest over \$1 trillion over the next 10 years upgrading every public school building in the country to improve energy efficiency and eliminate indoor air and water pollution. The bill would also provide funding to hire additional staff and expand services for high-need schools.

Do you support or oppose the Green New Deal for Public Schools?



January 26–27, 2024 survey of 1,216 likely voters

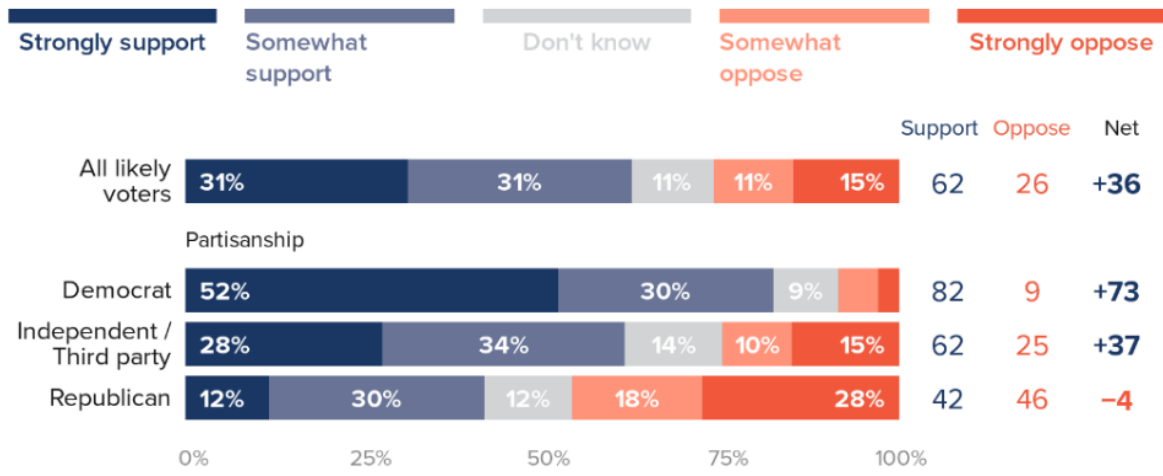
DATA FOR PROGRESS



# Voters Would Support Their Members of Congress Co-Sponsoring the Green New Deal

In 2021 during the 117th session of Congress, over 100 lawmakers cosponsored the Green New Deal resolution.

Would you support or oppose your member of Congress cosponsoring the Green New Deal resolution when it is reintroduced in this session of Congress?



January 26–27, 2024 survey of 1,216 likely voters

DATA FOR PROGRESS

## Many Americans support the core principles of the Green New Deal

**89%** of Americans support lowering utility costs.

**84%** of Americans support reducing pollution to improve public health and ensure access to clean air and clean water

**81%** of Americans support working with small and family farmers to use sustainable farming and land-use practices

**80%** of Americans support modernizing infrastructure to be more energy-efficient.

**78%** of Americans support building new sustainable, affordable housing.

**77%** of Americans support making our communities more resilient to extreme weather.

**72%** of Americans support making investments in low-income communities, communities of color, and other disadvantaged communities to address income and public health disparities.

**68%** of Americans support investing in research and development and working with global partners to advance technologies to fight climate change.

# A Green New Deal Progress Report

## CLIMATE

Since 2005, United States emissions have fallen by an estimated 17 percent, almost half of what is needed to meet President Biden’s emission target of reducing 50 to 52 percent of emissions by 2030 from 2005 levels. Thanks to the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* and the *Inflation Reduction Act*, trillions in new public and private investments are expected to supercharge clean energy and climate projects, which will help us on our path to meeting 100 percent of the power demand in the United States through clean, renewable, and zero-emission energy sources, as called for in the Green New Deal.

U.S. investments in clean energy and climate have seen a significant increase since the introduction of the Green New Deal.

### 2018 vs. 2023

**In the first quarter of 2018, the U.S. saw \$15 billion in clean energy investments, which has since jumped to more than \$50 billion in the first quarter of 2023.<sup>6</sup>**

## Electricity Generation

A just transition to net-zero power generation is not just climate-smart, but also a sustainable economic opportunity. The statistics are clear: building new wind and solar projects is cheaper than running existing coal plants.<sup>7</sup> For the first time, in 2022, electricity generation from renewable sources surpassed coal-fired and nuclear generation in the electric power sector.<sup>89</sup>

---

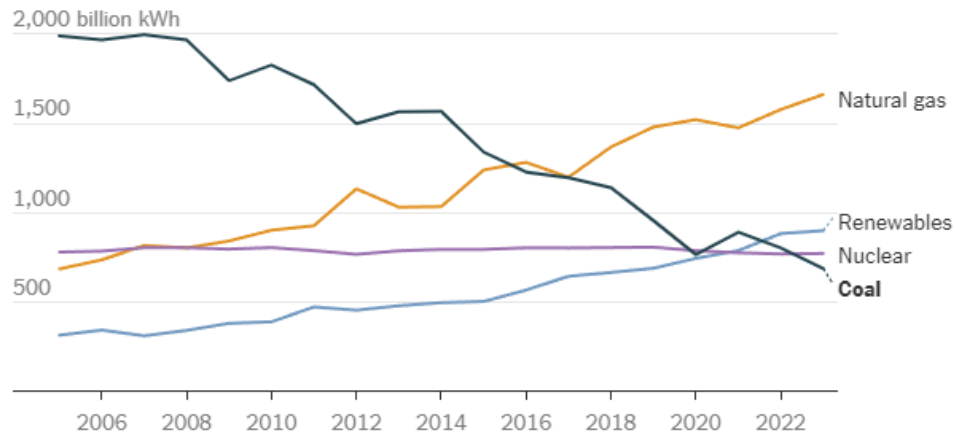
<sup>6</sup> Rhodium Group Climate Deck, <https://climatedeck.rhg.com/app/main/dashboards/64e4127545c8dd0033460781> (last visited Feb. 2, 2024).

<sup>7</sup> Michelle Solomon et al, Coal Cost Crossover 3.0: Local Renewables Plus Storage Create New Opportunities for Customer Savings and Community Reinvestment (Jan. 2023), <https://energyinnovation.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Coal-Cost-Crossover-3.0.pdf>.

<sup>8</sup> Energy Information Administration, *Solar and wind to lead growth of U.S. power generation for the next two years* (Jan. 16, 2024), <https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=61242#:~:text=Renewable%20sources%E2%80%9494wind%2C%20solar%2C,the%20first%20time%20in%202022>.

<sup>9</sup> Benjamin Storrow, *The US Energy Transition in 8 Numbers*, ClimateWire (January 8, 2024) <https://subscriber.politicopro.com/article/eenews/2024/01/08/americas-power-sector-by-the-number-plummeting-coal-surging-solar-king-gas-00134028>

## U.S. electricity generation by source



Note: Renewables include wind, solar, hydropower, geothermal and biomass. • Source: Rhodium Group • By The New York Times

Electricity generation accounts for a quarter of total greenhouse gas emissions. As of June 2023, the U.S. has invested \$559.54 billion in clean energy deployment and consumer energy affordability with the highest area of investment in low-carbon electricity. Solar power continues to dominate overall renewable energy expansion.

### 2018 vs 2023

**In 2018, 101.7 gigawatts of solar capacity was added to the United States grid, compared to 405.5 gigawatts in 2023.<sup>10</sup>**

## Transportation

Transportation accounts for the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors, with light and heavy-duty vehicles making up the majority of total emissions. Widespread electrification of the transportation sector allows the United States to deliver on its decarbonization goals, and mass adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) is a critical part of this effort.

Echoing a roadmap laid out in the Green New Deal, the Biden administration recognizes the importance of a decarbonized vehicle fleet in transitioning to a net-zero economy and has set a goal of ensuring half of all new vehicles on the road are electric by 2030. Through the passage of the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* and the *Inflation Reduction Act*, the production and purchase of electric vehicles is more cost-effective through billions of dollars in manufacturing incentives, tax credits for purchasing electric vehicles, and investments in charging infrastructure.

<sup>10</sup> *Renewables 2023*, International Energy Agency (2023), <https://www.iea.org/reports/renewables-2023/electricity>.

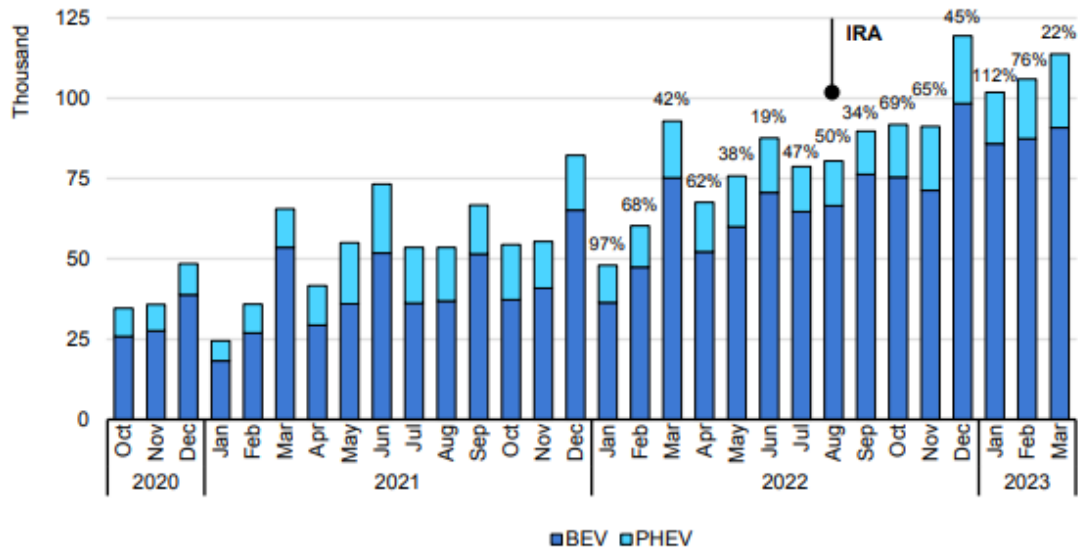
## 2018 vs. 2023

**Retail investments in zero emission vehicles rose from \$3.39 billion in Q1 of 2018 to \$20.58 billion in Q3 of 2023, and electric vehicle car sales increased from 400,000 units in 2018 to 1.6 million in 2023.<sup>11</sup>**

In the first six months following the passage of the IRA, a total of \$52 billion in investments were announced by major EV and EV battery producers.<sup>12</sup>

This is only the beginning—the outlook for EV expansion in America is bright. Cumulative EV sales are expected to reach up to 26 million by 2030, and price parity between 150-mile and 200-mile battery EVs and conventional vehicles is expected between 2024-2026.<sup>13</sup>

**Figure 1.4 Monthly new electric car registrations in the United States, 2020-2023**



## JOBS

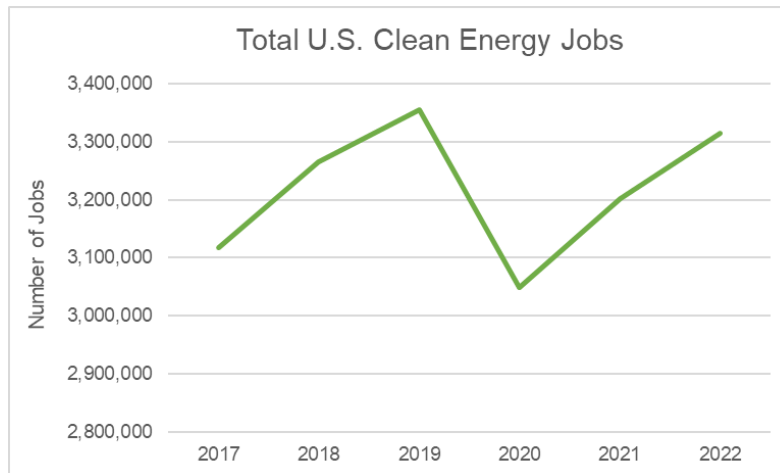
Year after year, the clean energy workforce continues to grow, except in the aftermath of the pandemic. In 2022, clean energy jobs by grew nearly 4 percent, surpassing 3.1 million workers and making up 40 percent of all energy sector jobs in the country.<sup>14</sup> This increase will only be further compounded as investments from the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* and the *Inflation Reduction Act* continue to be rolled out.

<sup>11</sup> Clean Investment Monitor, <https://www.cleaninvestmentmonitor.org/> (last visited Jan. 24, 2024).

<sup>12</sup> *Global EV Outlook 2023*, International Energy Agency (2023), <https://iea.blob.core.windows.net/assets/dacf14d2-eabc-498a-8263-9f97fd5dc327/GEVO2023.pdf>.

<sup>13</sup> Oskaras Alsauskas *Global EV Outlook 2023*, International Energy Agency (2023) <https://iea.blob.core.windows.net/assets/dacf14d2-eabc-498a-8263-9f97fd5dc327/GEVO2023.pdf>

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Department of Energy, *United States Energy and Employment Report 2023* (2023), <https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2023-06/2023%20USEER%20REPORT-v2.pdf>.



<https://e2.org/reports/clean-jobs-america-2023>

In the first year of the *Inflation Reduction Act*, 210 major projects spurred by the legislation are expected to create 303,500 jobs during construction with another 99,600 jobs created after construction. This will add \$156 billion to the US GDP during construction and \$13 billion annually to the GDP over their operational lifetime.

The organized labor movement plays an instrumental role in securing a just transition to a clean energy economy, ensuring that national investments through the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* and the *Inflation Reduction Act* included strong requirements for high quality, union jobs in the growing clean energy and clean transportation sectors.

Historic victories secured by the United Auto Workers (UAW) in a 2023 agreement with Ford, Stellantis, and General Motors will provide job security for tens of thousands of autoworkers in the transition to electric vehicles. This will ensure that the growth of the clean energy economy is accompanied by the creation of life-sustaining, union jobs for American workers across all green sectors.

## JUSTICE

In his first week in office, President Biden issued Executive Order 14008, Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, establishing the administration’s Justice40 initiative. The Justice40 initiative represents a whole-of-government approach to ensuring that federal investments in clean energy, climate, infrastructure, housing, and workforce development benefit the nation’s most vulnerable communities. Under Justice40, federal agencies are required to deliver 40% of overall benefits of covered federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities.

As of November 2023, there are over 16 federal agencies and over 500 programs that must adhere to the requirements under the Justice40 initiative. A major portion of programs launched as a result of the IIJA and IRA are included as “covered programs” under the initiative, which will direct significant federal dollars and resources towards the communities and families that need it most.

## Green New Deal Victories

Since 2020, the United States has passed historic investments in response to multiple crises: public health pandemics, economic injustice, infrastructural decline, and climate change. Elements of the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act*, the *American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)*, the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* (also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law), and the *Inflation Reduction Act* exemplify Green New Deal principles by providing direct public investments toward efforts that can create good-paying jobs; address economic, racial, and social injustices; and tackle the climate crisis.

**Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act** – The *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020* provided \$2.2 trillion in economic aid towards combatting the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, including \$150 billion in direct to across all levels of government. Other important investments include \$45 billion for the Disaster Relief Fund to ensure the Federal Emergency Management Agency was adequately prepared for emergencies, and \$25 billion in domestic food assistance programs.

**American Rescue Plan Act** – The *American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021* provided \$1.9 trillion in economic aid to state, local, tribal and territorial governments as well as direct assistance to American families. Key investments in support of community development and resilience include \$11.8 billion for public health projects, \$15.9 billion for 2,100 housing-related projects and assistance, \$10.9 billion to support over 3,500 workforce development, \$4.4 billion for small business support, and \$24.3 billion for critical infrastructure.

Recognizing that community relief and rebuilding cannot be well executed with a one size fits all approach, ARPA included flexible, swiftly deployed funding programs that allowed 30,000 state, local, tribal and territorial governments to make investments and distribute resources in a manner that best suited the needs of their communities, including a \$20 billion set aside for tribal communities. ARPA aid fulfills the Green New Deal criteria of grassroots, community-led solutions for pressing economic, health, justice, and climate crises.

### GND Project Example

From New York to Texas, communities were able to invest in projects that fit local needs. In the city of Rochester, flexible State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Program were invested \$13 million to create homeownership opportunities for low-income residents. In Austin, \$93.5 million was invested to address homelessness as part of the Finding Home ATX initiative through permanent housing assistance, emergency shelter and crisis services, landlord engagement, and more. In March 2022, the City of Boston launched a Fare Free Program for three bus routes, providing residents in particularly economically disadvantaged communities while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

**Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act** – The *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021*, also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, provided \$550 billion in federal investment in roads, bridges, broadband, energy and water infrastructure, and resiliency. Significant investments included \$89.9 billion on public transit improvements, \$65 billion in clean energy transmission, \$21 billion in environmental remediation, \$7.5 billion in electric vehicle infrastructure, \$5 billion for clean buses, and more.

### **GND Project Example**

The *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* included \$1 billion in funding aimed to reconnect communities that were historically separated by transportation infrastructure. The city of Kalamazoo in Michigan was awarded more than \$12 million to redesign a one-way road built 60 years ago, which created a physical barrier between the business district with the City’s Northside, a predominantly Black neighborhood. The project will make the area more pedestrian and bike accessible and improve community safety and connectivity.

**Inflation Reduction Act.** The *Inflation Reduction Act* provided an estimated \$369 billion in energy security and climate change investments, \$60 billion of which is dedicated to environmental justice priorities. Critical investments include a \$27 billion climate bank, \$3 billion in block grants for climate and environmental justice, \$1 billion for improving energy and water efficiency for affordable housing, and uncapped tax incentives with direct pay, allowing for tax-exempt entities including state, local, and Tribal governments to invest in solar, heat pumps, electric vehicle and charging infrastructure and more. Analysts now predict, due to the uncapped nature of the clean energy tax credits, that the bill may actually provide closer to \$1.2 trillion in public incentives, spurring \$3 trillion in total spending.<sup>15</sup>

In the one year since the *Inflation Reduction Act* was passed in August 2022, there has been \$278 billion announced in new private clean energy investments, creating 170,000 jobs.<sup>16</sup> Globally, the *Inflation Reduction Act* represents a quarter of all clean energy investments since 2020.<sup>17</sup>

---

<sup>15</sup> *The US is poised for an energy revolution*, Goldman Sachs (April 17, 2023), <https://www.goldmansachs.com/intelligence/pages/the-us-is-poised-for-an-energy-revolution.html>

<sup>16</sup> Hannah Perkins, Adam Aston & Vindhya Tripathi, *It’s the IRA’s First Birthday. Here Are Five Areas Where Progress Is Piling Up*, Rocky Mountain Institute (August 16, 2023), <https://rmi.org/its-the-iras-first-birthday-here-are-five-areas-where-progress-is-piling-up/>  
IEA (2023), *Government Energy Spending Tracker*, IEA, Paris <https://www.iea.org/reports/government-energy-spending-tracker-2>

### GND Project Example

Through *Inflation Reduction Act* funding, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency awarded a total of \$84.1 million to 88 projects under the Environmental Justice Government to Government (EJG2G) program. EJG2G provides flexible support to state, local, tribal and territorial governments in efforts to pursue environmental justice and public health-oriented goals through community-driven solutions. 2023 EJG2G selections range from projects addressing the prevalence of asthma in communities with air quality concerns to mitigation of lead contamination in soil.

Along with the passage of the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act*, the *Inflation Reduction Act* is estimated to cut annual emissions at double the rate and put the United States on track to cut up to 41 percent of emissions by 2030, compared to 2005 levels.<sup>18</sup> These laws are estimated to spur more than \$2.4 trillion dollars of additional capital investment in energy infrastructure through 2030, four-fifths of which is expected to be directed to wind, solar, battery storage, and related grid updates.<sup>19</sup>

Green New Deal Goal	IIJA	IRA	Total
1. Building Resiliency Against Climate Change	\$10.43B	\$312M	\$10.7B
2. Repairing and Upgrading Infrastructure	\$104.54B	\$550M	\$10B
3. Expanding Renewable Power Sources to Meet Demand	\$220M	\$15.7B + uncapped credits	\$15.9B + uncapped credits
4. Building Renewable Energy-Efficient, Distributed Power Grids	\$11.125B	\$4.99B	\$16.1B
5. Upgrading Existing Buildings and Maximizing Efficiency for New Buildings	\$5.64B	\$10B + uncapped credits	\$15.6B
6. Spurring Clean Manufacturing	\$8.66B	\$15.83B + uncapped credits	\$24.5B + uncapped credits
7. Building Sustainable Food Systems and Land Use Practices		\$22.2B	\$22.2B
8. Transforming Transportation Systems	\$186.88B	\$9.26B + uncapped credits	\$9.4B

<sup>18</sup> *Climate Progress and the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress: The Impacts of the Inflation Reduction Act and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act*, Rapid Energy Policy Evaluation and Analysis Toolkit (July 2023), [https://repeatproject.org/docs/REPEAT\\_Climate\\_Progress\\_and\\_the\\_117th\\_Congress.pdf](https://repeatproject.org/docs/REPEAT_Climate_Progress_and_the_117th_Congress.pdf)

<sup>19</sup> *Climate Progress and the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress: The Impacts of the Inflation Reduction Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act*, Princeton University Zero Lab (July 2023), [https://repeatproject.org/docs/REPEAT\\_Climate\\_Progress\\_and\\_the\\_117th\\_Congress.pdf](https://repeatproject.org/docs/REPEAT_Climate_Progress_and_the_117th_Congress.pdf).



9. Mitigating Long-Term Effects from Climate Change		\$38.3B	\$38.3B
10. Reducing pollution and greenhouse gases through proven methods like afforestation		\$2.4B	\$2.4B
11. Restoring and Protecting Natural Ecosystems	\$5.69B	\$5.5B	\$11.2B
12. Cleaning up Hazardous Waste	\$21.6B		\$21.6B

**American Climate Corps**

Delivering on the goals of a Green New Deal would not be possible without the well-paid, well-trained workforce of the future. Senator Markey and Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez's *Civilian Climate Corps for Jobs and Justice Act* would update, modernize, and expand the concept of the New Deal-era Civilian Conservation Corps in support of a domestic clean economy workforce that provides 21<sup>st</sup> century health and education benefits, strong partnerships with organized labor, and deeply respects tribal sovereignty.

Following the introduction of this legislation, accompanied by a letter to President Biden urging executive action to develop a climate corps, the Biden administration announced the creation of a new American Climate Corps program in December 2023.<sup>20</sup> The American Climate Corps will mobilize and train a diverse generation of 20,000 service members for the clean energy and climate resilience economy.



*American Climate Corps Celebration Press Conference, September 2023*

<sup>20</sup> Press Release, White House Briefing Room, FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Announces American Climate Corps Listening Sessions, New Actions to Mobilize the Next Generation of Clean Energy, Conservation, and Resilience Workers (Dec. 19, 2023)

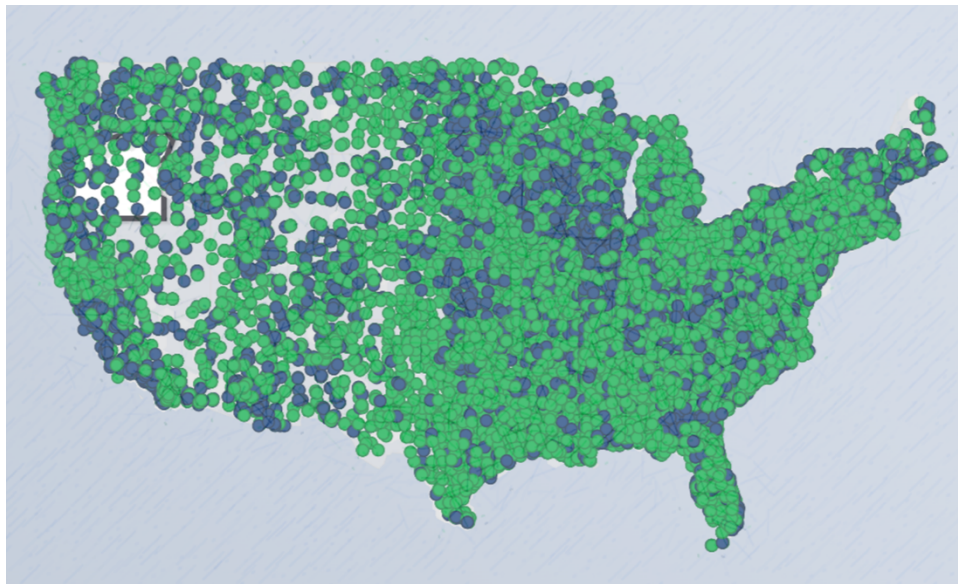
## What the Green New Deal Means for Communities

Investments in public infrastructure, clean energy, and communities from the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* and the *Inflation Reduction Act* are funding projects across the country that are bringing the Green New Deal to life—projects designed to fit local needs with jobs, justice, and climate action at their heart. Below is just a snapshot of what the Green New Deal can mean for communities across the United States.

### Midwest

In Chicago, Illinois, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Green and Resilient Retrofit Program created by the *Inflation Reduction Act* will deliver \$750,000 in grant funding to preserve and expand affordable housing for a 21 story, 240-unit building. This will be the first comprehensive renovation since it was built 500 years ago and ensure that low-income families will have affordable safe housing for at least the next 30 years. Meanwhile, in Missouri, the U.S Department of Agriculture’s Regional Conservation Partnership Program is providing more than \$6 million to provide the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to help livestock farmers become more resilient to extreme weather events, such as droughts and floods, using conservation practices, capital improvements, and best management practices for soil erosion and water quality.

### *Public Investments from the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act and the Inflation Reduction Act*



*Note: Investments from the IIJA as of September 2023 and IRA funding as of November 2023.*

## Southeast

In San Antonio, \$30 million from the U.S. Department of Energy's Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships Smart Grid Grant program from the *Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act* will help fund community energy resiliency. This project aims to increase grid modernization and improve resiliency through microgrids, solar, and battery storage, with 60 percent benefits designated for disadvantaged communities. This work will include union jobs in partnership with IBEW and support pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship training, which will aim to advance a diverse and equitable workforce through anti-bias training. And in Mississippi, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program from the *Inflation Reduction Act* is providing \$10 million for Jackson State University, a historically Black university, to increase access to tree canopy, reduce stormwater runoff, and increase green spaces in disadvantaged communities in Jackson.

## Southwest

Thanks to the *Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act*, the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Tribal Climate Resilience Program unleashed \$143 million in federal funding in 2022 to the White Mountain Apache Tribe (WMAT) in Arizona, which will use Tribal community input to improve the Tribe's capacity to monitor and adapt to climate impacts. The WMAT natural resource program will evaluate appropriate data to identify and evaluate climate change impacts on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, while engaging with local Traditional Ecological Knowledge holders, as well as federal and state agencies, to develop varying type of media to educate the Tribal community about climate change impacts.

## Northwest

In Seattle, the U.S. Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program, which received \$3.5 billion in the *Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act*, distributed \$1.8 million to the Seattle Office of Housing to provide retrofits to up to five multi-family affordable housing buildings for low-income tenants. Housing improvements will include replacing gas heating systems to electric ones, which will cut energy costs and reduce air pollution in homes. Estimated benefits include lowering greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent and improving energy efficiency by 30 percent.

In Oregon, the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act has delivered more than \$24 million in federal investment to the Portland Airport (PDX). These investments included a \$6 million U.S. Department of Transportation grant award to the Port of Portland to add a ground source heat pump system. The new system will help PDX reduce its reliance on fossil fuels and reduce the energy required to heat and cool PDX by 83 percent.

## West Coast

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grants, which received \$8 billion from the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act, allocated \$25 million to the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority. This

funding will construct two intercity passenger rail stations on the Brightline West high-speed corridor, improving connectivity and community mobility in the region. The stations will be designed to provide a smooth travel experience for any transfers to non-rail modes of transportation. The Brightline West high-speed rail system will be fully electric, and it is expected to create 35,000 good-paying jobs and reduce carbon pollution by more than 400,000 tons per year.

### Mid-Atlantic

Thanks to the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act*, the Maryland Equitable Charging Infrastructure Partnership received \$15 million from the U.S Department of Energy's Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Program to deploy 58 charging stations across the state and invest in workforce development initiatives. The charging stations will be implemented in 34 multifamily housing sites, faith-based sites, municipal sites, and environmental justice communities. The funding will also support workers from historically underrepresented backgrounds to enter the electric vehicle industry. Additionally, the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* is providing \$100 million to Philadelphia through the U.S. Department of Energy's Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships Program, which will enable PECO Energy Company to develop a plan that improves grid resiliency and reliability in southeastern Pennsylvania. This effort will include the creation of a new environmental justice advisory committee with community-based leaders for project engagement, as well as close collaboration with the Philadelphia Building Trades Council. The project will also support the Clean and Resilient Community Schools partnership and work with diverse vendors and contractors, including women- and minority-owned businesses.

### New England

The Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program, established by the *Inflation Reduction Act*, provided \$50 million to Boston-based Health Resources in Action (HRIA), to improve access to funding for environmental justice communities. HRIA, in partnership with the Alternatives for Community and Environment and the New England Grassroots Environment Fund, will work with six community-based organizations to break down barriers to federal funds and provide subgrants for projects like local clean ups, environmental workforce development, and disaster resiliency. *Inflation Reduction Act*, provided \$50 million to Boston-based Health Resources in Action (HRIA), to improve access to funding for environmental justice communities. HRIA, in partnership with the Alternatives for Community and Environment and the New England Grassroots Environment Fund, will work with six community-based organizations to break down barriers to federal funds and provide subgrants for projects like local clean ups, environmental workforce development, and disaster resiliency.

## What's Next for the Green New Deal

While the past five years have seen unprecedented investments and down payments toward a Green New Deal, we still have much to do. Over the next five years, executive agencies will need to take action to ensure environmental justice is at the heart of every program and all new investments. New legislation will have to be passed to secure public investments on the scale and scope needed to address intersecting health, justice, economic, and climate crises. The United States must commit to phase out fossil fuels. Billionaires must be made to pay their fair share. And additional solidarity with labor will be critical to ensure that new jobs in the clean economy are well-paid and well-trained—not undercut by outsourcing or non-unionized contractors.

### Implementation

As investments from the *Inflation Reduction Act* and the *Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act* continue to roll out, it is critical that these once-in-a-generation resources are directed to disadvantaged and frontline communities. The Biden administration started on a strong path to integrate environmental justice as a core tenet of all federal government operations, including through the development of the Justice40 initiative, and must deliver on its commitments by promoting government transparency, accountability and accessibility.

President Biden's EO 14008 mandated the creation of an Environmental Justice (EJ) Scorecard to measure and monitor federal agency progress in implementing the Justice40 initiative. Phase One of the EJ Scorecard was launched in June of 2023. The launch of the first EJ Scorecard represented a major milestone in the administration's environmental justice agenda. The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is currently developing Phase Two of the EJ Scorecard—in order to maximize the transparency and accessibility of this tool, further iterations must include more detailed reporting on agency actions in pursuit of Justice40 compliance.

President Biden's EO 14008 also required the creation of the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) in pursuit of Justice40 and larger administration environmental justice goals. First launched in November of 2022, the CEJST is a critical tool for federal agencies to identify areas facing elevated levels of risk and need. The CEJST leverages data on a wide range of environmental, socioeconomic and historical indicators to map intersectional burden at a local level. The *Inflation Reduction Act* included \$32.5 million for the development of this screening tool.

### Legislation

The support for intersectional, Green New Deal-style legislation continues to grow in Congress. Innovative bills to create good-paying jobs, address historic injustice, and address the climate crisis have been introduced for sectors throughout the economy, including health care (the *Green New Deal for Health*), housing (the *Green New Deal for Public Housing*), schools (the *Green New Deal for Public Housing*), workforce development (the *Civilian Climate Corps for Jobs and Justice Act*), agriculture (the *Farm System Reform Act*), addressing fossil fuels (the *End Polluter Welfare Act*), and labor (the *Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act*).

As the largest investment in climate action in history, the *Inflation Reduction Act* took key steps forward on investing in clean energy, environmental justice, and emissions reduction. It also provided relief on soaring prescription drug prices and ensured that big corporations and the super-rich pay more of their fair share toward building a livable future. The *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* created new programs to support clean transportation and invest more fairly in our infrastructure, including through reconnecting communities.

However, the original scope of President Biden’s Build Back Better was much more robust—it included proposals to address soaring health care costs, expand public health insurance, fund our educational system, invest in care for older Americans and children, and develop a clean energy workforce in solidarity with unions. These key elements of a Green New Deal future cannot be left behind or forgotten. In the next five years, the Green New Deal movement will continue to fight for intersectional victories.