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CHAPTER 13A: U.S. OPINION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Perception of Climate Change as a Problem or Threat

A large majority of Americans say that global warming or climate change is a problem or a threat; however, this majority has been declining over the last few years, so that American concern is now lower than the global average. Large majorities believe that human activity plays a role in climate change. However, Americans do not perceive that there is a scientific consensus on the need for urgent action on climate change and those who do not perceive this consensus are less likely to perceive climate change as a serious threat. A large majority think that they will be personally affected by climate change eventually, but only a minority thinks that they are being affected now, contrary to views in most other countries. Americans tend to underestimate the level of concern among other Americans.

Seven in ten Americans view global warming as a serious problem. In a 2010 Pew poll, 70 percent of U.S. respondents described the problem of global warming as serious, with 37 percent specifically saying it is very serious. Just 13 percent said it is not a problem. However, the intensity of opinion is down from 2007, when 75 percent called it a serious problem and 47 percent called it very serious.¹

Three out of four Americans view climate change as a threat. In 2010, CCGA found that 75 percent of Americans said that climate change would be a threat over the next ten years, with 34 percent saying that it would be a critical threat and 41 percent that it would be important, but not critical. Just 23 percent said it would not be important. The overall finding represents a slight decrease from 2008, when 79 percent said climate change was a critical or important threat. (In 2008, a separate sample was asked the question using the term “global warming” instead and found no significant differences.). In 2006, 85 percent said “global warming” was a threat, with 46 percent calling it critical.²

Asked about the personal importance of global warming as an issue, Americans assign it at least some importance. Roughly three-in-four (76 percent) said it was at least “somewhat important,” with 14 percent saying it was “extremely important” and 32 percent saying it was “very important” (Stanford University, June 2010). Only 12 percent said it was not at all important.³

The decline in concern about climate change follows a period when concern was growing. GlobeScan surveys conducted in 2003 and 2006 documented increasing levels of concern about climate change, both in the United States and abroad. The percentage of U.S. respondents calling it a “very serious” problem increased 18 points, while globally this percentage increased an average of 16 points.⁴

U.S. concern is now lower than in most other countries. While Pew found that that 70 percent of Americans thought that global warming was a threat (37 percent a critical threat), of those polled across twenty-two countries an average of 84 percent said the problem was serious, with 53 percent saying it was very serious. In China—the largest producer of greenhouse gasses—an average of 93 percent of respondents said that climate change was serious, with 41 percent saying it was very serious (Pew 2010).⁵

A WPO poll in 2010 found a very similar result, with 70 percent of Americans saying climate change was a serious problem and 31 percent calling it “very serious.” Thirty percent said it was “not too serious” or “not a problem”. The U.S. finding was lower than the average of all sixteen countries polled, in which 86 percent on average said it was a serious problem and 60 percent called it very serious.⁶

This was less the case in a WPO/CCGA poll in 2006. At that time 85 percent of Americans said that global warming would be a threat over the next ten years, with 46 percent saying that it would be a critical threat. In the average of all ten countries surveyed by WorldPublicOpinion.org (WPO) and CCGA from 2006 to 2008, a similar 81 percent said global warming would be a threat; however a larger percentage (54 percent) identified it as a critical threat.⁷

Self-reported levels of information about climate change are highly varied (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2007). Among Americans, 89 percent said that they have heard at least something about climate change, while 10 percent said they have not heard much or anything. On average across all countries polled, seven in ten had heard a great deal (35 percent) or some (35 percent), with 22 percent saying not very much and 7 percent none at all.⁸

Role of Human Activity

The U.S. public, similar to publics around the world, overwhelmingly rejects the idea that global warming can simply be attributed to nonhuman factors. In a 2007 poll conducted by the British Broadcasting Company (BBC), GlobeScan, and the Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA), a large majority of respondents in the United States (71 percent) believed that “human activity, including industry and transportation, [is] a significant cause of climate change,” while only 24 percent believed that it is not a significant cause of climate change. On average, 79 percent of respondents in twenty-one countries said that human activity is to blame, while 14 percent said it is not.⁹

A similarly robust majority of Americans (82 percent) expressed concern that “the way the world produces and uses energy is causing environmental problems, including climate change,” with 53 percent saying they are very concerned (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006). Just 18 percent said that they are not concerned. Globally, an average of 81 percent of those polled across nineteen countries expressed concern, with 47 percent saying they were very concerned.¹⁰

Large majorities of Americans say they believe the world’s temperature has increased over the past 100 years and that people have contributed to the cause of this phenomenon. Researchers at Stanford University in June 2010 asked a series of question on this issue. They first asked whether there has been a rise in temperature: 74 percent said this probably has been happening and 24 percent said it has not been happening. Both groups of respondents were then asked a similar follow-up question where they were asked to assume that a rise in temperature has been occurring. Three-quarters (75 percent) said that man-made causes were involved, with 30 percent attributing the rise to “things people do” and 45 percent attributing it to both things people do and natural causes equally.¹¹

In May 2011 a Yale poll gave a fuller explanation of global warming and asked respondents whether they thought it is happening or not. Sixty-four percent said global warming is happening and 18 percent said it is not.¹² Asked then to assume global warming is taking place, 47 percent thought it was caused *mostly* by human actions and another 8 percent said it was caused by both human activities and natural changes—thus a total of 55 percent attributed major human causation. Thirty-five percent thought natural changes were *mostly* responsible.¹³

Levels of Information

Americans report relatively high levels of information about climate change. Asked how much they had heard or read about global warming or climate change (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2007), nine in ten said a great deal (59 percent) or some (36 percent).

Americans were among the nations with the highest numbers reporting this level. . On average across all countries polled, seven in ten had heard a great deal (35 percent) or some (35 percent), with 22 percent saying not very much and 7 percent none at all.¹⁴

Perception of Scientific Consensus

Most Americans do not perceive that there is a scientific consensus on the need for action on climate change or global warming. The 2009 WPO poll asked respondents’ impression of the views among the scientists of the world: whether “most scientists think the problem is urgent and enough is known to take action”, “most think the problem is not urgent, and not enough is known yet to take action,” or “views are pretty evenly divided”. Among Americans, just 38 percent

said scientists think the problem is urgent and well enough known to take action. The most common answer (43 percent) was that scientists' views are pretty evenly divided, while 17 percent who said scientists think it is not an urgent problem.

Americans differ significantly from other countries. In the average of all sixteen countries, a majority--51 percent (13 points higher than for Americans)--said that most scientists think the problem is urgent and enough is known to take action, while 24 percent thought that scientists' views that are divided and 16 percent said scientists think the problem is not urgent.¹⁵

Not surprisingly those who do not perceive this consensus are less likely to perceive global warming as a serious threat. Among those who perceive a consensus, 53 percent say that global warming is a very serious problem, while only 18 percent said this among those who thought that views are evenly divided, and 14 percent among those who think that most scientists think the problem is not urgent.

In 2008 ABC/Stanford poll asked, "Do you think most scientists agree with one another about how much of a threat global warming poses, or is there a lot of disagreement among scientists about that?" (ABC/Stanford July 2008) 62 percent said there is a lot of disagreement while just one in three said that most scientists agree.¹⁶

Questions about whether scientists agree that climate change is even occurring elicit strikingly varying responses, ranging from a low of 39 percent to a high of 59 percent saying that there is such agreement.

This highest levels of perceived agreement were found in a 2010 WPO poll, in which 59 percent thought "most scientists believe that climate change is occurring," while 29 percent thought views are evenly divided and 10 percent thought most scientists believe it is not taking place.¹⁷ Similarly, in 2011 Gallup found that 55 percent of respondents thought most scientists believe global warming is occurring, 33 percent thought most scientists are unsure and 8 percent thought most scientists think it is not occurring.¹⁸

The lowest levels were found in a May 2011 Yale poll, in which only 39 percent of respondents thought "most scientists think global warming is happening," (down from 47 percent in 2008); as many respondents (40 percent) thought "there is a lot of disagreement among scientists about whether or not global warming is happening."¹⁹ It should be noted that public perceptions of "a lot of disagreement" among scientists may reflect the amount of publicity given to debate as compared to majority consensus and the conclusions of collective scientific bodies.

Yale went further and asked people their impression of what proportion of climate scientists think global warming is taking place. Only 13 percent said that 81-100 percent of climate scientists believe climate change is occurring, while another 19 percent estimate 61-80 percent.²⁰

Perceptions of the Effect of Climate Change

When asked by the German Marshall Fund (GMF) in 2007, a majority (70 percent) of Americans thought it was likely they would "be personally affected by the effects of global warming." However, concern was even higher among twelve European countries polled: on average 85 percent of respondents said it was likely, and in no European country did less than 77 percent take this view.²¹

Globally, Americans are among the least convinced that climate change is substantially harming people in their country now. In a 2009 WPO poll of sixteen countries, only a third of Americans (34 percent) said that climate change was affecting people in the U.S. at the time, while 27 percent thought this would occur in ten to 25 years and another 12 percent said in 50 years. Thus 73 percent thought there would be substantial harm in the United States sometime over the next half-century. In the average of all sixteen countries polled, 59 percent said that people are being harmed now and 17 percent said people will be harmed by climate change in ten years.²²

In May 2011 Yale asked the same question and found a similar 32 percent who thought harm is already occurring and 69 percent who thought that sometime over the next half century “global warming would start to harm people in the United States.”²³

The 2009 WPO poll asked a series of questions that began: “If climate change is left unchecked worldwide, how much do you think climate change will affect each of the following in our country?” Large majorities believed climate change would affect the following factors “some” or “a lot”: the price of food and other essential goods (76 percent), likelihood of natural disasters, like droughts or floods (73 percent), rainfall and available water resources (73 percent), the coastline (73 percent), the types of animals and plants that can live there (72 percent), and the types of food produced (72 percent). A smaller majority (56 percent) said that peoples’ need to move their homes to different locations would be affected. In the sixteen-country average, majorities larger than those found in the U.S. believed all of these factors would likely be affected.²⁴

The same poll asked about the relative harm to rich and poor countries from climate change. A majority of Americans (69 percent) thought that climate change would be equally harmful to rich and poor countries, while 23 percent said it would be more harmful to poor countries and six percent said it would be more harmful to wealthy countries. In the average of all sixteen countries, 55 percent said the harm would be about equal, with 32 percent saying there would be more harm to poor countries.²⁵

Perceptions of Others’ Level of Concern

A 2009 WPO poll found that, in most nations, people have a tendency to underestimate how much other people in their country want to prioritize climate change. Respondents were asked, “What is your guess on how high a priority the average person in [our country] thinks the government should place on addressing climate change?” Across all nations, there was an average perceived priority of 6.42 for climate change, though the average priority actually placed on climate change is a higher 7.28.

In all but three nations or territories, those rating themselves as “above average” outweighed those who said they were “below average.” For all nations, the percentage saying that they were above average outweighed those saying that they were below average by a two to one ratio (42 percent to 19 percent). The nations with the largest percentages rating themselves above average were China (77 percent), South Korea (75 percent), Great Britain (66 percent), the United States (52 percent), and Germany (52 percent). In just one public, the Palestinian territories, did a majority (52 percent) perceive the average person as more concerned than they were.²⁶

Readiness to Take Action

A large majority of Americans think that addressing climate change should be a priority. However, in most cases less than a majority of Americans give it top priority or place the highest level of urgency on it, and this number also appears to be declining. Readiness to take action is higher among those who have more information about climate change and who perceive a scientific consensus on the need for action. Americans tend to underestimate how ready other Americans are to support taking action.

A large majority of Americans believe that limiting climate change should be an important priority goal. In 2010 CCGA poll, 77 percent of Americans said that limiting climate change was either a very important or somewhat important foreign policy goal. However only 35 percent said it should be a very important priority. This number is also down seven points from 2008.²⁷

Likewise polls consistently find that a large majority favors taking action, but usually less than a majority chooses the option of taking the most urgent form of action. As we will see below, though, even those who choose the more moderate position are ready to accept significant costs.

One case where a majority did choose the most urgent option was a BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA poll of 2007 that asked whether it was necessary to address climate change by taking: 1) “major steps starting very soon;” 2) “modest steps over the coming years;” or whether it was 3) “not necessary to take any steps”. A large majority of Americans (59 percent) favored quick action, while 33 percent preferred modest steps and 6 percent said no action is necessary at all. Overall, among the twenty-one nations polled, on average 65 percent favored major steps, 25 percent modest steps, and 6 percent no steps.²⁸

However when a 2006 CCGA/WPO poll offered a top option that was more demanding this dropped below half. Just 43 percent took the view that: “Global warming is a serious and pressing problem. We should begin taking steps now even if this involves significant costs.” A slightly lower number (37 percent) said that while the problem of global warming should be addressed, “its effects will be gradual, so we can deal with the problem gradually by taking steps that are low in cost.” Yet another 17 percent responded, “Until we are sure that global warming really is a problem, we should not take any steps that would have economic costs.” A similar pattern emerged among all thirteen publics polled (WPO/CCGA 2006-08): on average, 42 percent said that steps should be taken now despite the costs, 33 percent said that modest steps should be taken, and 12 percent said that steps which would have negative economic effects should not be taken yet to combat global warming.²⁹

Also, when CCGA asked this question again in 2010 the number endorsing the most urgent position dropped to 29 percent, the more gradual response rose to 42 percent, and not taking any steps rose to 26 percent.³⁰

When climate change is put into competition with other priorities, fewer Americans than Europeans put it first. GMF asked in 2010 what the top priority should be for the next U.S. president and European leaders among a list of eight issues, and climate change came in fifth among Americans (GMF 2010). However, it was one of the top three for Europeans.³¹

A 2009 WPO poll asked Americans how high a priority the government should place on addressing climate change, using a scale of zero to ten (with zero being no priority at all). Overall, U.S. respondents placed only moderate urgency on this goal, giving a mean response of 4.71. This was the lowest of twenty nations polled and well below the global average of 7.28.³² Similarly, Yale asked in May 2011 what priority global warming should have “for the president and Congress”: very high, high, medium, or low. Forty percent wanted global warming to have a high priority (very high, 13 percent); 61 percent wanted it to have a medium (31 percent) or low (30 percent) priority.³³

Effect of Greater Information and Perception of Scientific Consensus

Not surprisingly, willingness to take action in regard to climate change rises with greater levels of information and greater perception of a scientific consensus on the issue.

In the 2007 BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA poll, those who had more information were more likely to say it is necessary to take major steps starting very soon to address climate change. Among those who said they heard a great deal about climate change, the percentage was 65 percent, dropping to 52 percent among this who had heard some, 50 percent among those who had heard not very much, and 44 percent among this who said they knew nothing at all.

The 2009 WPO poll found that those who perceived a scientific consensus were more likely to agree strongly or somewhat that dealing with climate change should be given priority, even if it causes slower economic growth. Among those who perceived that most scientists think the problem is urgent, an average of 69 percent agreed (27 percent strongly). This was lower among other groups: among those who said most scientists think the problem is not urgent, only 42 percent agreed (6 percent strongly) as did 44 percent (7 percent strongly) of those who saw views as evenly divided.

In June 2005, PIPA found that while 76 percent of Americans favored taking some steps to address global warming, only 34 percent favored taking steps with significant costs. PIPA followed up this question by asking respondents to assume that an overwhelming majority of scientists “have concluded that global warming is occurring and poses a significant threat,” and asked what position they would then favor. Under these circumstances, those willing to take steps with significant costs rose 22 points to 56 percent. At the same time those unwilling to take any steps declined from 21 percent to 6 percent.³⁴

Perception of Others’ Support

Americans tend to underestimate the level of concern among their fellow Americans about climate change. Asked to estimate how high a priority the average American thinks the government should place on climate change on a scale of 0-10, respondents offered the mean response of 3.71—substantially lower than the 4.71 they reported for themselves.³⁵ Overall, 52 percent of U.S. respondents reported placing a higher priority on climate change than what they estimated the average American does, while 22 percent perceived themselves as placing the same priority, and 24 percent a lower priority, than the average of their fellow citizens.

Willingness to Accept Increased Energy Costs

To motivate changes in energy usage, Americans are willing to increase the cost of energy that causes climate change. When presented with specific amounts, majorities would accept increased economic costs equal to just under \$20 a month. Majorities also favor requiring increasing fuel efficiency of automobiles and reducing subsidies on private transportation even if this increases the cost to the consumer. The idea of raising taxes on such forms of energy meets with mixed responses; however, support becomes high if respondents are told that the revenues of such a tax will be explicitly earmarked to address the problem of climate change, or will be offset with tax reductions. Most believe that it will be necessary for people to change their lifestyle in order to reduce their production of climate changing gasses. However there is also optimism that there will be economic benefits from the changes that will come with increasing energy efficiency.

A 2009 WPO poll asked respondents in sixteen countries whether they agreed with the following statement: “dealing with the problem of climate change should be given priority, even if it causes slower economic growth and some loss of jobs.” Roughly half (53 percent) of Americans agreed with this statement, while 46 percent disagreed. In the average of all sixteen countries polled, 69 percent of respondents agreed that dealing with the problem of climate change should be given priority even if it causes slower economic growth or job loss, while 26 percent disagreed with this statement.³⁶

Interestingly, when the issue is put more broadly in terms of the environment (rather than climate change) a more substantial majority gives the environment priority. Yale (May 2011) found that “when there is a conflict between environmental protection and economic growth, 64 percent thought protecting the environment was more important, even if it reduces economic growth; about a third (36 percent) thought economic growth was more important, even if it leads to environmental problems.”³⁷

To motivate changes in energy usage, most Americans believe that it will be necessary to increase the cost of energy that causes climate change. In a 2007 BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA poll a large number of Americans (65 percent) believe that it is necessary to “increase the cost of the types of energy that most cause climate change, such as coal and oil, in order to encourage individuals and industry to use less.” Thirty-two percent believe this is not necessary. Globally, an average of 61 percent of respondents in nations polled supported this proposition, while 34 percent disagreed, making U.S. support just slightly higher than the global average.³⁸

A 2009 WPO poll on the subject of climate change asked respondents in sixteen countries if it will be necessary to increase the cost of energy, to encourage individuals and businesses to conserve more and to use alternative forms of energy. Interestingly, in this case Americans were divided on the issue, with 50 percent saying it will be necessary and 50 percent saying it will not. In an average of all 16 countries, 55 percent said it will be necessary and 39 percent said it will not be necessary.³⁹

Despite their divided views, when Americans were asked about raising energy costs, a majority accepted raising their monthly energy bills nearly twenty dollars. Respondents were first asked if they would be willing to pay a specific amount for energy and other products as part of taking steps against climate change. (The cost to the average person was calculated as an increase of 1 percent of GDP per capita prorated per month, amounting, in the case of the United States, to \$38.93 per person). Those who were unwilling were then asked if they would be willing to pay an increase of 0.5 percent, prorated per month (\$19.47). Sixty-two percent of Americans said they would be willing to pay either the higher or lower amount, with 48 percent saying they would pay the higher amount. This was similar to the average response in 16 countries, in which 61 percent were willing to pay either the higher or the lower amount (higher amount: 44 percent), while 34 percent were not willing to pay either amount.⁴⁰

The same poll asked respondents in 16 countries if they favored or opposed their country, as a step to deal with climate change, “gradually increasing the requirements for fuel efficiency in automobiles, even if this raises the cost of cars and bus fares.” A large majority of the U.S. public (71 percent) supported this measure, while 28 percent were opposed. American support was among the highest of all sixteen countries polled, as on average 63 percent favored a gradual increase in requirements for fuel efficiency in automobiles and 32 percent opposed this measure.⁴¹

Respondents were then asked if they would favor or oppose their country “gradually reducing government subsidies that favor private transportation, even if this raises its cost.” Sixty-two percent of Americans favored taking this step and 35 percent were opposed. In the international average, a similar 60 percent of countries favored this step and 33 percent of countries opposed it.⁴²

In May 2011 Yale offered the idea of “requiring electric utilities to produce at least 20 percent of their electricity from wind, solar, or other renewable energy sources, even if it cost the average household an extra \$100 a year. Two thirds (66 percent) of Americans asked supported this proposal. Another idea offered was “paying 5 percent more on your monthly utility bill to get your electricity from renewable energy sources, like wind or solar.” A lesser 51 percent supported this idea. The key difference may be that the first idea included the regulation of electric utilities to shift them toward renewable sources, while the second idea did not.⁴³

A CBS/*New York Times* poll in 2007 simply asked, “In order to help reduce global warming, would you be willing or not willing to pay more for electricity if it were generated by renewable sources like solar or wind energy?” In this case, 75 percent of Americans said they would be willing, while just 20 percent said they would not.⁴⁴

One poll question was an outlier. Pew (2010) asked respondents in twenty-two countries if they agreed that “people should be willing to pay higher prices in order to address global climate change.” The question did not specify what the prices would be for, where the revenues would go or how paying these higher prices would help in addressing climate change. Thus it would be expected to get relatively low levels of agreement. A minority of Americans (38 percent) agreed, while 58 percent disagreed. Overall, in the average of all twenty-two countries, 46 percent of respondents in the twenty-two countries polled agreed with the statement, while 46 percent disagreed.⁴⁵

Support for energy taxes is conditional. Initially, most polls do not find majority support for energy taxes, which is curious since, as shown above, large majorities say they are ready to pay higher prices for energy. A 2010 Stanford University poll found 78 percent rejected the proposal to “increase taxes on electricity so people use less of it.”⁴⁶ Seven-in-ten (71 percent) opposed a proposal to “increase taxes on gasoline so people either drive less, or buy cars that use less gas”. In a BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2007 poll, when pollsters asked whether taxes should be increased on the energy sources that contribute to climate change, so as to encourage people and industry to use less, just 46 percent supported such taxes while 51 percent were opposed. In the global average, however, 50 percent favored raising taxes and 44 percent opposed it.⁴⁷

Nevertheless, U.S. attitudes shifted sharply under certain conditions. Half of those who did not initially support tax increases were asked whether they would do so if the revenues were “devoted only to increasing energy efficiency and developing energy sources that do not produce climate change.” Another half were asked if they would do so if “your

other taxes were reduced by the same amount, keeping your total taxes at the current level.” Under the first condition (earmarked revenues), 28 percent responded that they would support such taxes, while 23 percent opposed. Under the second condition (tax offsets), however, U.S. attitudes did not change as much, with 31 percent saying that they would not support such taxes while 17 percent said that they would. When those who initially favored tax increases are added to those who favored them under these conditions, a majority of Americans would favor energy taxes with earmarks (74 percent) or with tax offsets (63 percent). Globally, an average of 77 percent would favor the measure if revenues were earmarked and 76 percent if the increase were offset (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2007).⁴⁸

Need for Changes in Lifestyle

Consistent with their readiness to accept costs in the service of reducing climate changing forms of energy, there is overwhelming consensus among Americans that it will be necessary for individuals “to make changes in their lifestyle and behavior in order to reduce the amount of climate changing gases they produce.” In a 2007 BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA poll, a large majority of Americans (79 percent) agreed that such changes are necessary, with 48 percent saying they would definitely be necessary and 31 percent saying they would probably be necessary. Just 19 percent said such changes would not be necessary. In the global average of twenty-one countries polled, 83 percent said lifestyle changes are necessary (with 46 percent saying “definitely”), and 13 percent said they are unnecessary.⁴⁹

Optimism about Economic Benefits

One of the reasons that people may be willing to accept the changes and costs associated with mitigating climate change is that there is optimism that these steps may actually also have economic benefits. When Yale asked (May 2011) whether “Overall, do you think protecting the environment improves economic growth and provides new jobs, reduces economic growth and costs jobs, or has no effect either way,” a 54 percent majority thought it improves economic growth. Only 18 percent thought growth is hurt by protecting the environment (no effect, 29 percent).⁵⁰

A June 2005 PIPA/KN poll found a similar sentiment about economic benefits. Respondents were presented with two competing statements and asked to choose which came closer to their opinion: “Efforts in the United States to reduce the release of greenhouse gases will cost too much money and hurt the U.S. economy” or “The U.S. economy will become more competitive because these efforts will result in more efficient energy use, saving money in the long run.” Seventy-one percent chose the second statement that these efforts would save money, while only 23 percent chose the first.⁵¹

Effect of Perceived Scientific Consensus

Those who perceive a scientific consensus on the need for action on climate change show a greater readiness to accept increased energy costs. As discussed above, in 2009, WPO asked Americans whether they would be willing to pay increased costs for energy and other products equal to 0.5 percent (\$19) or 1 percent (\$40) of GDP per capita per month to address climate change. Among Americans who believed there is a scientific consensus on climate change, two in three (67 percent) were willing to pay \$40 per month (67 percent)—rising to 78 percent when those who willing to pay at least \$19 per month are included. However, among those who perceived scientists’ views as divided, only a minority (36 percent) was willing to pay \$40 per month—rising to 53 percent when those willing to pay at least \$19 are included. Lastly, among those who believed most scientists think there is no urgent problem, a majority (53 percent) was *unwilling* to pay any amount (38 percent would pay \$40; 9 percent would pay \$19).

Interestingly, as compared to the responses in the fifteen other countries polled Americans views were considerable more correlated with their views of the scientific consensus.

Reducing Reliance on Oil and Coal

As a means of addressing climate change, a large majority of Americans favor reducing reliance on oil and coal by limiting the construction of coal-fired power plants, creating tax incentives to encourage alternative energy sources, requiring automakers to increase fuel efficiency, requiring more energy efficient home construction and appliances, increasing the availability of public transportation, installing bike lanes and making changes in zoning to reduce the need for transportation.

A 2009 WPO poll asked respondents in 16 countries if they would favor or oppose their country taking the following step to help deal with climate change: “limiting the rate of constructing coal-fired power plants, even if this increases the cost of energy.” Nearly two-thirds (64 percent) of U.S. respondents agreed with the proposal, while 35 percent disagreed. American attitudes were similar to the international average, as 67 percent favored limiting the rate of constructing coal-fired power plants, and 27 percent opposed this measure.⁵²

In the context of addressing climate change, Americans strongly favor reducing reliance on oil and coal. The most popular suggestion out of four proposed by CCGA in 2010 was “creating tax incentives to encourage the development and use of alternative energy sources, such as solar or wind power.” Eighty percent of Americans favored this option. Stanford in 2010 also found a very large majority (84 percent) supported the proposal to “give companies tax breaks to produce more electricity from water, wind, and solar power.”⁵³

In the CCGA poll 67 percent favored “requiring auto-makers to increase fuel efficiency, even if this means the price of cars would go up.” Sixty-five percent favored “building new power plants to reduce reliance on oil and coal,” but only 35 percent favored a tax increase on fuels such as coal and oil to “encourage individuals and businesses to use less” (63 percent opposed). As discussed above, options that do nothing but create a tax in order to reduce energy consumption tend to engender opposition, while those whose revenues are earmarked for specific purposes are supported.⁵⁴

Stanford University presented three options for “building cars that use less gasoline”; 50 percent said the government should encourage this with tax breaks, 31 percent said the government should require this by law, and 19 percent said the government should stay out of this entirely.⁵⁵

Stanford in 2010 found support for requiring more efficient home-building and appliances. Respondents were also presented with similar questions about possible conservation measures, with the following options: “government should require by law”, “government should encourage with tax breaks, but not require”, and “government should stay out of this entirely”. For the construction of new homes and offices that use less energy for heating and cooling, 56 percent favored tax breaks, 24 percent requiring this by law, and 20 percent the government staying out. Results were similar on building appliances that use less electricity: 51 percent favored tax breaks, 29 percent requiring this by law, and 20 percent the government staying out.⁵⁶

Large majorities of Americans support significant changes in transportation infrastructure to reduce the production of climate changing gasses. In a May 2011 Yale poll 80 percent supported increasing the availability of local public transportation and 77 percent supported installing bike lanes on city streets.⁵⁷

A smaller but still substantial majority favored zoning changes to reduce the need for transportation. In the May 2011 Yale study, a 57 percent majority supported “changing your county’s zoning rules to require that neighborhoods have a mix of housing, offices, industry, schools, and stores close together, to encourage walking and decrease the need for a car”; 42 percent opposed this.⁵⁸

Similar findings from more general questions on reducing reliance on oil and coal can be found in the Energy section.

Other Forms of Government Action

To address the problem of climate change majorities of Americans support the government treating carbon dioxide as a pollutant, limiting climate changing gasses from business, and preserving or expanding forested areas.

A very large majority supports the now-established policy of treating carbon dioxide as a pollutant to be regulated. In 2010 Yale found 77 percent supporting the policy, with 24 percent opposed.⁵⁹

Stanford University in June 2010 found 76 percent saying that that U.S. government should limit the amount of climate changing gasses businesses can produce.⁶⁰

In a 2009 WPO poll respondents in 16 countries were asked if they favored or opposed “preserving or expanding forested areas, even if this means less land for agriculture or construction” as a step in dealing with climate change. Three-quarters of Americans (75 percent) favored this step, while 25 percent were opposed. In the average of all sixteen countries, 79 percent favored preserving or expanding forested areas, with 18 percent opposing preservation if it means less land for agriculture and construction.⁶¹

Assessing the U.S. Government

Americans give their government a low rating in terms of how high a priority it places on addressing climate change. A modest majority thinks that the government should give climate change a higher priority than it does.

In 2009, WPO asked respondents in 19 nations to rate how high a priority their government places on addressing climate change on a zero-to-ten scale—with ten being a very high priority. Americans gave a mean rating of 3.84, with 61 percent perceiving it as a low priority (0-4), 21 percent as a high priority, and 17 percent in between (responding with a 5).

Respondents were also asked to say how high a priority their government should give climate change (on the scale discussed above). Comparing the two measures, a modest majority (52 percent) said the U.S. government should place a higher priority, 24 percent said the government was already placing the right priority, and 21 percent said the government should place a lower priority. On average across all nations polled, 60 percent wanted climate change to get a higher priority, 12 percent wanted a lower priority, and 18 percent thought the current priority is about right.⁶²

A 2009 WPO poll asked respondents in sixteen countries about how much their government is doing to deal with the problem of climate change. A majority of Americans (58 percent) said the government was not doing enough to deal with the problem of climate change, while 28 percent said the government was doing about the right amount and 13 percent said it was doing too much. In the average of all countries polled, 63 percent of countries said their countries were not doing enough to deal with climate change and 18 percent said their government was doing about the right amount.⁶³

CCGA asked the same question in 2010 and found fewer thinking the government was not doing enough: 48 percent (down from 58 percent), while about as many (30 percent) thought it was doing the right amount and 20 percent (up from 13 percent) thought it was doing too much.⁶⁴

In May 2011 Yale asked whether the president should be doing more or less to reduce global warming, or whether he was currently doing the right amount. A 54 percent majority said the president should be doing more. Asked again about Congress, 57 percent said it should be doing more.⁶⁵

When it comes to how the United States is handling global warming or climate change, opinion polls suggest that most Americans share the same negative view as the rest of the world. According to a 2006 BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA poll, 54 percent of Americans disapprove of how their own nation has handled the problem, while 39 percent approve. In the average of all twenty-five nations polled, 56 percent disapproved and only 27 percent approved of U.S. handling of climate change.⁶⁶

Support for Multilateral Action

Large majorities support participation in an international treaty to limit climate change. Americans say that multilateral cooperation on climate change is very important, but give the United States a mediocre rating in advancing this objective. A large majority believes there should be a new international institution to monitor compliance with climate treaty obligations.

Asked how important it is for the United States to cooperate with other countries on reducing global warming, 87 percent of Americans said it was important, with 61 percent saying it was very important (Public Agenda 2008). However, when the same poll asked respondents to give the United States a grade for how well it is working with other countries to reduce global warming, the average grade was a C minus. Just 30 percent gave the United States an A or B, while 25 percent gave a C and 33 percent gave a D or F.⁶⁷

A GlobeScan poll in 2008 found that Americans gave poor ratings for cooperation between Europe and North America on climate change. A majority of Americans (58 percent) said that transatlantic cooperation was below average, while only 19 percent and 17 percent said that cooperation was average and above average, respectively. Among the other nine nations (composed of European nations and Canada) polled, an average of 58 percent of respondents said that transatlantic cooperation was below average, only 19 percent said it was above average, and 16 percent said it was average.⁶⁸

The 2009 WPO poll asked respondents whether, if “their country takes steps to deal with the problem of climate change, other countries would then be more willing to act, or if it wouldn’t make much difference.” A slim majority of respondents in the United States (52 percent) were optimistic that other countries would be more willing to act, while 46 percent said it wouldn’t make a difference. In the average of all sixteen countries polled, a much higher 68 percent of respondents said other countries would then be more willing to act and 25 percent said it wouldn’t make much difference.⁶⁹

Participation in Climate Change Treaty

Large majorities of Americans believe the United States should take part in an international treaty to combat climate change. In 2010, CCGA found 67 percent who favored U.S. participation in “a new international treaty to address climate change by reducing greenhouse-gas emissions” (this was after the unsuccessful world conference in Copenhagen in December 2009). In an earlier 2008 poll, 76 percent favored the United States participating in a new treaty. Americans were asked previously in 2006 if their country should participate specifically in the Kyoto agreement to reduce global warming. Seven out of ten Americans said that it should.⁷⁰

In May 2011, 66 percent supported “signing an international treaty that requires the United States to cut its emissions of carbon dioxide 90 percent by the year 2050”; 34 percent were opposed (Yale).⁷¹

A 2009 WPO poll asked respondents in sixteen countries, just before the 2009 Copenhagen meeting to develop a new agreement to limit greenhouse gas emissions, if they thought their country “should or should not be willing to commit to limiting its greenhouse gas emissions as part of such an agreement.” Eight-in-ten (82 percent) Americans said the U.S. should be willing to take part in such an agreement. In the average of all countries polled, 87 percent said their country should be willing to limit its greenhouse gas emissions as part of this agreement, with only 6 percent saying their country should not be willing.⁷²

As a follow-up question, respondents were asked to imagine that at this meeting the other countries do not come to a global agreement on taking steps against climate change. They were asked whether, if this were to happen, their country would or would not have a responsibility to take steps against climate change. Seventy-three percent of Americans said the U.S. should take action even without an agreement. In the international average, a slightly higher 83 percent of countries said their country would have a responsibility, with 11 percent saying their country would not have a responsibility.⁷³

A majority (62 percent) of Americans said that there should be a “new international institution or agency” to “monitor whether countries are meeting their treaty obligations to limit their greenhouse-gas emissions that contribute to climate change.” (CCGA 2010). Support was six points higher in a 2008 poll (68 percent).⁷⁴

Role of Developing Countries

A majority of Americans—along with most people in developing and developed countries alike—think that developing countries have a responsibility to limit their greenhouse-gas emissions in an effort to deal with climate change. There is also a consensus that developed countries should provide aid as part of a deal to help developing countries commit to limiting their emissions. If developing countries refuse to limit their emissions, most Americans think the United States should nonetheless proceed to limit its own emissions.

A major controversy in addressing climate change is whether developing countries should be required to limit their greenhouse-gas emissions. A BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA poll (2007) introduced respondents to this debate by presenting the two positions. The first position was one taken by the governments of many developing countries: “Because countries that are less wealthy produce relatively low emissions per person, they should not be expected to limit their emissions of climate changing gases.” The second was one advocated by governments of some developed nations: “Because total emissions from less-wealthy countries are substantial and growing, these countries should limit their emissions of climate changing gases.”

Seventy-five percent of U.S. respondents agreed with the second position saying that developing countries should limit their emissions. A smaller 18 percent of Americans disagreed, saying that they should not be expected to limit emissions. On average among the twenty-one countries polled, 59 percent said that these countries should be expected to lower emissions, while 29 percent said that they should not.⁷⁵

At the same time, there is a consensus in the United States that developed countries should provide aid to developing countries as part of a deal whereby developing countries agree to limit their greenhouse-gas emissions.

The same poll asked about a possible bargain in which “wealthy countries agree to provide less-wealthy countries with financial assistance and technology, while less-wealthy countries agree to limit their emissions of climate changing gases along with wealthy countries.” A majority of Americans (70 percent) supported this idea. However, this was the lowest show of support by a developed nation. On average across both developed and developing nations, 73 percent of respondents were in favor of the idea while 18 percent were opposed.⁷⁶

Similarly, a CCGA poll from 2006 asked whether developed countries should provide “substantial aid” to less developed countries that “make a commitment to limit their greenhouse-gas emissions.” A majority of respondents in the United States (64 percent) agreed with this idea, while 32 percent disagreed. When asked in 2010, the number of Americans who agreed with this idea decreased slightly to 56 percent, perhaps an effect of the economic downturn.⁷⁷

However, when a 2008 CCGA poll asked specifically about providing technological and financial aid to China and India, views were almost evenly divided, with 48 percent in favor and 52 percent opposed.⁷⁸ It may be that the amount of talk in the press about China’s economic growth may lead some Americans to view China as not needing such help.

A modest majority of Americans also shows a readiness to help poor countries adapt to the negative changes resulting from climate change, even when it is not linked to a performance commitment on the part of the developing country. In 2009 a WPO poll asked respondents in 16 countries if their country should contribute to international efforts to help poor countries deal with climate-induced changes such as widespread flooding. A modest majority of Americans (54 percent) said the United States should be willing to contribute to such efforts, while 43 percent said it should not. This was much lower than the average of all countries polled, including potential donor countries such as France and Japan.⁷⁹

A key issue in U.S. debates on climate change is whether the United States should make commitments to limiting climate changing gasses if developing countries do not make such a commitment. The U.S. Senate has taken the position that the United States should not do so.

Americans favor the U.S. taking action on global warming even if major developing economies do less. Two-thirds (68 percent) of respondents polled by Stanford University in June 2010 said the United States should take action even if other countries such as China and India do less. Of the other two options presented, 18 percent said the United States should not take action at all and 14 percent said the United States should take action only if other countries do. This was an even more emphatic result than in June 2009, when only 59 percent said the United States should take steps in the absence of action by other major industrial countries.⁸⁰

Assessments of Other Leading Countries' Role

Most Americans regard China as the worst offender in harming the global environment, while most other nations blame the United States. Americans retain a large amount of trust in their own country to protect the environment, while Germany has the best ratings globally.

While most Americans see China as having the most negative effect on the world's environment, global opinions put more of the blame on the United States. In a 2008 Pew poll, when asked which country is "hurting the world's environment the most," 40 percent of Americans said "China", while 22 percent indicated their own country.⁸¹ This is a notable change from a Pew poll conducted a year earlier in 2007, when more Americans (33 percent) said that the United States was hurting the environment the most, and only 22 percent indicated that China was.⁸²

The German Marshall Fund surveyed 12 European countries and the United States in June 2010 on China's role in "fighting climate change". Three-quarters (74 percent) of Americans thought China was playing a negative role. Europeans were less negative on average, as 51 percent gave China's role in combating climate change a negative evaluation, 16 percent gave a positive evaluation, and 21 percent chose neither.⁸³

In the 2008 Pew poll, respondents were also asked which country they would "trust most to do the right thing in protecting the world's environment." A majority of Americans (57 percent) said that they trust their own country the most, while 15 percent said Germany. The largest number of respondents (24 percent on average) in the twenty-four countries surveyed, however, said that they trusted Germany the most, while 15 percent indicated their trust in the United States.⁸⁴

¹ **Pew Global Attitudes Project 2010**

In your view, is global warming a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not a problem?

	Very serious	Somewhat serious	Not too serious	Not a problem	DK/Refused
United States	37	33	15	13	3
Britain	40	35	16	8	1
France	46	39	9	5	0
Germany	52	33	9	5	0
Spain	50	37	7	5	1
Poland	31	51	11	3	4
Russia	43	35	14	4	4
Turkey	74	12	3	3	8
Egypt	44	32	14	3	6
Jordan	47	37	7	2	7
Lebanon	71	25	2	2	0
China	41	52	6	0	1
India	62	32	2	1	4
Indonesia	47	39	11	2	2
Japan	58	31	9	2	0
Pakistan	22	28	14	11	25
South Korea	68	29	2	0	1
Argentina	66	27	3	2	2
Brazil	85	10	2	1	2
Mexico	68	25	3	2	2
Kenya	66	21	8	2	3
Nigeria	43	29	14	5	9
Average	53	31	8	4	4

Pew Global Attitudes Project 2009

In your view, is global warming a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not a problem?

	Very serious	Somewhat serious	Not too serious	Not a problem	Serious	Not Serious	DK/R
United States	44	30	14	11	74	25	2
Canada	47	37	7	8	84	15	1
Britain	50	34	10	5	84	15	2
France	68	28	3	1	96	4	0
Germany	60	30	6	2	90	8	1
Spain	61	29	4	2	90	6	3
Poland	36	47	10	2	83	12	5
Russia	44	34	14	4	78	18	4
Turkey	65	19	4	3	84	7	9
Egypt	54	23	11	6	77	17	6
Jordan	54	24	11	5	78	16	6
Lebanon	53	30	14	1	83	15	2
Palestinian Territories	59	29	5	5	88	10	2
Israel	48	41	6	3	89	9	2

China	30	54	12	1	84	13	3
India	67	26	2	0	93	2	5
Indonesia	46	35	9	2	81	11	7
Japan	65	25	7	2	90	9	0
Pakistan	50	16	3	2	66	5	29
South Korea	68	29	2	0	97	2	1
Argentina	69	25	3	1	94	4	2
Brazil	90	4	2	1	94	3	3
Mexico	65	25	3	1	90	4	7
Kenya	48	30	9	4	78	13	10
Nigeria	57	29	6	3	86	9	5
Average	56	29	7	3	85	10	5

Pew Global Attitudes Project Spring 2008

	Very serious	Somewhat serious	Not too serious	Not a problem	Don't know/Refused
United States	42	30	13	11	3
Britain	56	28	10	5	1
France	72	24	3	1	0
Germany	61	29	7	2	1
Spain	67	28	2	2	1
Poland	51	35	8	1	4
Russia	49	25	14	7	4
Turkey	82	7	3	2	5
Egypt	38	38	16	6	3
Jordan	41	35	20	4	1
Lebanon	43	35	19	2	1
Australia	62	27	6	3	1
China	24	51	17	1	7
India	66	22	5	1	5
Indonesia	46	32	9	3	10
Japan	73	22	4	1	0
Pakistan	48	12	5	3	31
South Korea	68	29	3	1	0
Argentina	70	24	3	1	3
Brazil	92	4	1	1	1
Mexico	70	18	6	1	4
Nigeria	45	25	11	6	13
South Africa	47	19	10	4	20
Tanzania	75	14	6	3	2

Pew Global Attitudes Project Spring 2007

	Very serious	Somewhat serious	Not too serious	Not a problem	Don't know/Refused
United States	47	28	13	9	2
Canada	58	29	8	4	2
Argentina	69	21	2	1	7
Bolivia	68	24	4	1	3
Brazil	88	8	1	2	2
Chile	75	17	2	1	5

Mexico	57	24	10	2	7
Peru	66	20	4	1	9
Venezuela	78	17	1	2	1
Britain	45	37	10	5	3
France	68	27	4	1	0
Germany	60	26	8	4	2
Italy	57	35	2	1	6
Spain	70	25	2	0	3
Sweden	64	25	5	2	4
Bulgaria	66	19	5	1	8
Czech Republic	61	29	8	3	0
Poland	40	47	8	2	4
Russia	40	33	19	6	3
Slovakia	65	28	5	1	1
Ukraine	59	30	7	1	2
Turkey	70	18	3	1	8
Egypt	32	37	18	8	6
Jordan	32	32	25	8	3
Kuwait	69	19	6	6	1
Lebanon	41	42	15	2	1
Morocco	69	13	6	3	10
Palestinian Territories	59	22	5	7	7
Israel	48	37	11	2	2
Pakistan	41	21	5	3	30
Bangladesh	85	12	2	0	1
Indonesia	43	32	9	3	12
Malaysia	46	32	10	2	10
China	42	46	7	1	4
India	57	28	4	1	10
Japan	78	19	2	1	1
South Korea	75	22	2	0	0

² Chicago Council on Global Affairs

Below is a list of possible threats to the vital interest of the United States in the next 10 years. For each one, please select whether you see this as a critical threat, an important but not critical threat, or not an important threat at all.

Climate Change

	Critical	Important but not critical	Not important	Not sure/ Decline
2008	39	40	20	1

2010 34 41 23 2

WorldPublicOpinion.org/Chicago Council on Global Affairs 2006

Below is a list of possible threats to the vital interest of [survey country] in the next ten years. For each one, please select whether you see this as a critical threat, an important but not critical threat, or not an important threat at all:

Global Warming

	Critical	Important but not Critical	Not Important	DK/NS
United States	46	39	13	2
Armenia	47	26	16	11
Australia	69	26	5	0
China	47	33	12	8
India	51	27	10	12
Iran	61	16	9	14
Israel	52	25	15	7
Mexico	70	18	7	5
South Korea	67	29	4	0
Ukraine	33	33	11	23

³ Stanford University Global Warming Poll June 2010

How important is the issue of global warming to you personally--extremely important, very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

14%	Extremely important
32	Very important
30	Somewhat important
12	Not too important
12	Not at all important

⁴ GlobeScan 2003 and 2006

How serious a problem do you consider each of the following issues to be? Is it a very serious problem, somewhat serious problem, not very serious problem or not a serious problem at all? What about [...]?

Climate change or global warming, due to the Greenhouse Effect

	Very serious		Somewhat serious		Not very serious		Not at all serious	
	2006	2003	2006	2003	2006	2003	2006	2003
Argentina	80	64	14	21	2	7	*	1
Brazil	78	74	15	18	4	5	1	2
Canada	57	40	33	41	6	11	3	5
China	39	37	41	42	15	17	2	1
France	70	46	24	43	3	8	1	1
Germany	73	54	20	33	5	10	1	2
Great Britain	70	50	21	35	6	9	2	3
India	65	67	25	24	8	5	1	1
Indonesia	44	36	37	43	14	16	2	1
Italy	68	63	26	30	4	5	1	1

Mexico	67	71	21	23	4	3	4	1
Nigeria	47	35	33	32	13	18	3	8
Russia	59	43	29	34	7	15	1	1
South Africa	44	30	28	32	9	18	5	6
Turkey	64	37	34	40	2	16	*	1
United States	49	31	27	40	12	13	9	11
Average	65	49	25	33	3	11	2	3

⁵ **Pew Global Attitudes Project 2010**

In your view, is global warming a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not a problem?

	Very serious	Somewhat serious	Not too serious	Not a problem	DK/Refused
United States	37	33	15	13	3
Britain	40	35	16	8	1
France	46	39	9	5	0
Germany	52	33	9	5	0
Spain	50	37	7	5	1
Poland	31	51	11	3	4
Russia	43	35	14	4	4
Turkey	74	12	3	3	8
Egypt	44	32	14	3	6
Jordan	47	37	7	2	7
Lebanon	71	25	2	2	0
China	41	52	6	0	1
India	62	32	2	1	4
Indonesia	47	39	11	2	2
Japan	58	31	9	2	0
Pakistan	22	28	14	11	25
South Korea	68	29	2	0	1
Argentina	66	27	3	2	2
Brazil	85	10	2	1	2
Mexico	68	25	3	2	2
Kenya	66	21	8	2	3
Nigeria	43	29	14	5	9
Average	53	31	8	4	4

Pew Global Attitudes Project 2009

In your view, is global warming a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not a problem?

	Very serious	Somewhat serious	Not too serious	Not a problem	Serious	Not Serious	DK/R
United States	44	30	14	11	74	25	2
Canada	47	37	7	8	84	15	1
Britain	50	34	10	5	84	15	2
France	68	28	3	1	96	4	0
Germany	60	30	6	2	90	8	1
Spain	61	29	4	2	90	6	3

Poland	36	47	10	2	83	12	5
Russia	44	34	14	4	78	18	4
Turkey	65	19	4	3	84	7	9
Egypt	54	23	11	6	77	17	6
Jordan	54	24	11	5	78	16	6
Lebanon	53	30	14	1	83	15	2
Palestinian Territories	59	29	5	5	88	10	2
Israel	48	41	6	3	89	9	2
China	30	54	12	1	84	13	3
India	67	26	2	0	93	2	5
Indonesia	46	35	9	2	81	11	7
Japan	65	25	7	2	90	9	0
Pakistan	50	16	3	2	66	5	29
South Korea	68	29	2	0	97	2	1
Argentina	69	25	3	1	94	4	2
Brazil	90	4	2	1	94	3	3
Mexico	65	25	3	1	90	4	7
Kenya	48	30	9	4	78	13	10
Nigeria	57	29	6	3	86	9	5
Average	56	29	7	3	85	10	5

Pew Global Attitudes Project Spring 2008

	Very serious	Somewhat serious	Not too serious	Not a problem	Don't know/Refused
United States	42	30	13	11	3
Britain	56	28	10	5	1
France	72	24	3	1	0
Germany	61	29	7	2	1
Spain	67	28	2	2	1
Poland	51	35	8	1	4
Russia	49	25	14	7	4
Turkey	82	7	3	2	5
Egypt	38	38	16	6	3
Jordan	41	35	20	4	1
Lebanon	43	35	19	2	1
Australia	62	27	6	3	1
China	24	51	17	1	7
India	66	22	5	1	5
Indonesia	46	32	9	3	10
Japan	73	22	4	1	0
Pakistan	48	12	5	3	31
South Korea	68	29	3	1	0
Argentina	70	24	3	1	3
Brazil	92	4	1	1	1
Mexico	70	18	6	1	4
Nigeria	45	25	11	6	13
South Africa	47	19	10	4	20
Tanzania	75	14	6	3	2

Pew Global Attitudes Project Spring 2007

	Very serious	Somewhat serious	Not too serious	Not a problem	Don't know/ Refused
United States	47	28	13	9	2
Canada	58	29	8	4	2
Argentina	69	21	2	1	7
Bolivia	68	24	4	1	3
Brazil	88	8	1	2	2
Chile	75	17	2	1	5
Mexico	57	24	10	2	7
Peru	66	20	4	1	9
Venezuela	78	17	1	2	1
Britain	45	37	10	5	3
France	68	27	4	1	0
Germany	60	26	8	4	2
Italy	57	35	2	1	6
Spain	70	25	2	0	3
Sweden	64	25	5	2	4
Bulgaria	66	19	5	1	8
Czech Republic	61	29	8	3	0
Poland	40	47	8	2	4
Russia	40	33	19	6	3
Slovakia	65	28	5	1	1
Ukraine	59	30	7	1	2
Turkey	70	18	3	1	8
Egypt	32	37	18	8	6
Jordan	32	32	25	8	3
Kuwait	69	19	6	6	1
Lebanon	41	42	15	2	1
Morocco	69	13	6	3	10
Palestinian Territories	59	22	5	7	7
Israel	48	37	11	2	2
Pakistan	41	21	5	3	30
Bangladesh	85	12	2	0	1
Indonesia	43	32	9	3	12
Malaysia	46	32	10	2	10
China	42	46	7	1	4
India	57	28	4	1	10
Japan	78	19	2	1	1
South Korea	75	22	2	0	0

⁶ WorldPublicOpinion.org 2009

In your view, is climate change, also known as global warming, a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not a problem?

	Very serious problem	Somewhat serious	Not too serious	Not a problem	DK/R
United States	31	39	18	12	1
France	43	45	8	4	0
Japan	38	50	11	1	0
Mexico	90	7	2	1	1
Russia	30	42	16	5	7
Turkey	79	12	3	2	4
Brazil	78	12	3	1	5
Iran	63	17	5	6	10
China	28	48	21	1	2
Indonesia	61	19	17	1	2
Egypt	60	33	6	1	0
India	62	18	12	3	6
Senegal	72	19	7	2	0
Vietnam	69	21	9	1	0
Kenya	75	17	8	1	0
Bangladesh	85	14	0	0	0
Average	60	26	9	3	2

⁷ WorldPublicOpinion.org/Chicago Council on Global Affairs 2006

Below is a list of possible threats to the vital interest of [survey country] in the next ten years. For each one, please select whether you see this as a critical threat, an important but not critical threat, or not an important threat at all:

Global Warming

	Critical	Important but not Critical	Not Important	DK/NS
United States	46	39	13	2
Armenia	47	26	16	11
Australia	69	26	5	0
China	47	33	12	8
India	51	27	10	12
Iran	61	16	9	14
Israel	52	25	15	7
Mexico	70	18	7	5
South Korea	67	29	4	0
Ukraine	33	33	11	23

⁸ BBC July 2007

How much have you heard or read about global warming or climate change?

	A great deal	Some	Not very much	Nothing at all	DK/NA
Australia	54	36	9	2	*
Brazil	43	35	13	10	-
Canada	56	33	8	2	*

Chile	23	39	27	8	2
China	30	42	24	3	*
Egypt	17	41	25	16	-
France	62	30	5	3	*
Germany	28	48	22	2	*
Britain	61	29	6	3	1
India	15	33	33	3	16
Indonesia	8	20	47	18	7
Italy	51	36	11	1	*
Kenya	15	29	31	22	4
Mexico	43	30	23	4	-
Nigeria	20	30	38	10	2
Philippines	38	25	31	5	1
Russia	5	30	55	9	1
South Korea	43	51	4	1	1
Spain	32	45	19	3	-
Turkey	22	50	17	9	2
United States	59	30	8	2	*
Average	35	35	22	7	2

⁹ BBC July 2007

As you may know there has been an increase in the temperature of the earth-Do you believe that human activity, including industry and transportation, is or is not a significant cause of climate change?

	Human activity IS a significant cause	Human activity IS NOT a significant cause	DK / NA
Australia	81	16	3
Brazil	88	8	4
Canada	77	21	2
Chile	85	9	6
China	87	11	2
Egypt	66	33	1
France	89	8	4
Germany	87	11	2
Britain	78	17	5
India	47	21	33
Indonesia	71	17	11
Italy	92	7	1
Kenya	72	20	8
Mexico	94	4	2
Nigeria	72	18	9
Philippines	76	20	4
Russia	79	12	9
South Korea	91	7	2
Spain	93	5	1
Turkey	70	14	16
United States	71	24	5
Average	79	14	6

¹⁰ BBC July 2006

Please tell me if you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned or not at all concerned about each of the following possibilities related to energy issues:

That the way the world produces and uses energy is causing environmental problems including climate change.

	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not very concerned	Not at all concerned	DK / NA
Australia	69	25	5	1	*
Brazil	61	20	10	8	1
Canada	62	29	4	4	1
Chile	50	28	10	6	6
Egypt	41	36	15	7	1
France	45	45	7	3	1
Germany	43	40	13	3	1
Britain	66	27	4	2	1
India	41	20	13	8	18
Israel	42	33	12	10	2
Italy	60	31	7	2	1
Kenya	55	24	11	5	5
Mexico	35	39	18	5	3
Philippines	47	41	8	2	2
Poland	17	41	23	8	12
Russia	20	46	20	4	9
South Korea	43	47	7	1	2
Ukraine	35	38	14	3	10
United States	53	29	10	8	1
Average	47	34	11	5	4

¹¹ Stanford University Global Warming Poll June 2010

You may have heard about the idea that the world's temperature may have been going up slowly over the past 100 years. What is your personal opinion on this--do you think this has probably been happening, or do you think it probably has not been happening?

74%	Probably has been happening
24	Probably has not been happening
2	Don't know

Stanford University Global Warming Poll June 2010

(If Think it probably has not been happening that the world's temperature has been going up slowly over the past 100 years, ask:) Assuming it's happening, do you think a rise in the world's temperature would be caused mostly by things people do, mostly by natural causes, or about equally by things people do and by natural causes? (If Think it probably has been happening that the world's temperature has been going up slowly over the past 100 years, ask:) Assuming it's happening, do you think a rise in the world's temperature is being caused mostly by things people do, mostly by natural causes, or about equally by things people do and by natural causes?

30%	Things people do
25	Natural causes
45	Both equally
*	Don't know

¹² **Yale May 2011**

Recently, you may have noticed that global warming has been getting some attention in the news. Global warming refers to the idea that the world's average temperature has been increasing over the past 150 years, may be increasing more in the future, and that the world's climate may change as a result. What do you think? Do you think that global warming is happening?

64% Yes
18 No
18 Don't know

¹³ **Yale May 2011**

Assuming global warming is happening, do you think it is...

47% Caused mostly by human activities
35 Caused mostly by natural changes in the environment
8 None of the above because global warming isn't happening
8 Caused by both human activities and natural changes (vol.)
1 Other
1 Don't know

¹⁴ **BBC July 2007**

How much have you heard or read about global warming or climate change?

	A great deal	Some	Not very much	Nothing at all	DK/NA
Australia	54	36	9	2	*
Brazil	43	35	13	10	-
Canada	56	33	8	2	*
Chile	23	39	27	8	2
China	30	42	24	3	*
Egypt	17	41	25	16	-
France	62	30	5	3	*
Germany	28	48	22	2	*
Britain	61	29	6	3	1
India	15	33	33	3	16
Indonesia	8	20	47	18	7
Italy	51	36	11	1	*
Kenya	15	29	31	22	4
Mexico	43	30	23	4	-
Nigeria	20	30	38	10	2
Philippines	38	25	31	5	1
Russia	5	30	55	9	1
South Korea	43	51	4	1	1
Spain	32	45	19	3	-
Turkey	22	50	17	9	2
United States	59	30	8	2	*
Average	35	35	22	7	2

¹⁵ **WorldPublicOpinion.org December 2009**

On the subject of climate change, is it your impression that among the scientists of the world:

	Most scientists think the problem is urgent and enough is known to take action	Most think the problem is not urgent, and not enough is known yet to take action	Views are pretty evenly divided	DK/R
United States	38	17	43	2
France	53	9	37	1
Japan	43	13	44	0
Mexico	48	11	39	3
Russia	23	34	27	16
Turkey	52	15	17	17
Brazil	44	26	15	15
Iran	60	8	19	14
China	57	8	27	8
Indonesia	33	16	36	16
Egypt	50	28	18	3
India	48	14	11	26
Senegal	62	13	5	20
Vietnam	69	8	14	9
Kenya	61	23	13	3
Bangladesh	70	9	14	7
Average	51	16	24	10

¹⁶ ABC News/Planet Green/Stanford Poll, July 2008

Do you think most scientists agree with one another about how much of a threat global warming poses, or is there a lot of disagreement among scientists about that?

33%	Most agree
62	A lot of disagreement
5	No opinion

¹⁷ World Public Opinion, November 2010

Do you think that most scientists believe that:

- 59% Climate change is occurring
- 10 Climate change is not occurring
- 29 Views are evenly divided
- 1 Don't know/Refused

¹⁸ **Gallup Poll, March 2011**

Just your impression, which one of the following statements do you think is most accurate--most scientists believe that global warming is occurring, most scientists believe that global warming is not occurring, or most scientists are unsure about whether global warming is occurring or not?

- 55% Is occurring
- 8 Not occurring
- 33 Unsure
- 4 No opinion

¹⁹ **Yale**

Which comes closer to your own view?

	Most scientists think global warming is happening	Most scientists think global warming is not happening	There is a lot of disagreement among scientists about whether or not global warming is happening	Don't know enough to say
Nov 2008	47	3	33	18
Jan 2010	34	5	40	22
June 2010	34	4	45	17
May 2011	39	4	40	18

²⁰ **Yale May 2011**

To the best of your knowledge, what proportion of climate scientists think that global warming is happening?

- 13% 81 to 100%
- 19 61 to 80%
- 23 41 to 60%
- 12 21 to 40%
- 3 0 to 20%
- 31 Don't know enough to say

²¹ **German Marshall Fund Transatlantic Trends 2007**

And in the next ten years, please tell me how likely you are to be personally affected by each of the following threats:

The effects of global warming

	Likely	Not Likely	DK/R
European Average	85	13	3
United States	70	28	2

France	89	10	1
Germany	82	17	*
United Kingdom	80	20	1
Italy	87	12	1
Netherlands	77	23	1
Poland	83	13	3
Portugal	91	6	4
Spain	93	7	1
Slovakia	77	18	5
Turkey	84	7	9
Bulgaria	79	12	9
Romania	81	10	9

²² WorldPublicOpinion.org 2009

When do you think climate change will start to substantially harm people in [country]?

	People are being harmed now	In 10 years	In 25 years	In 50 years	In 100 years	Never	DK/R
United States	34	12	15	12	10	14	3
France	47	20	12	13	3	2	2
Japan	61	14	8	8	5	4	0
Mexico	83	11	3	1	0	1	1
Russia	27	23	14	11	8	2	16
Turkey	58	23	7	4	1	1	7
Brazil	73	14	2	1	0	1	9
Iran	42	18	10	7	4	2	18
China	71	9	5	5	2	3	6
Indonesia	40	21	17	9	2	1	11
Egypt	35	23	11	12	17	1	2
India	59	26	6	2	0	0	7
Senegal	75	10	4	2	2	2	5
Vietnam	86	8	4	2	0	0	0
Kenya	88	9	2	1	0	0	1
Bangladesh	67	26	6	1	0	0	1
Average	59	17	8	6	3	2	6

²³ Yale May 2011

When do you think global warming will start to harm people in the United States?

32%	They are being harmed now
12	In 10 years
13	In 25 years
12	In 50 years
11	In 100 years
20	Never

²⁴ WorldPublicOpinion.org 2009

If climate change is left unchecked worldwide, how much do you think climate change will affect each of the following in our country?

The types of food we produce

	None at all	Not very much	Some	A lot	DK/R
United States	9	19	45	27	1
France	4	7	38	51	1
Japan	2	11	45	42	0
Mexico	2	5	19	69	5
Russia	7	25	41	17	11
Turkey	4	4	27	62	3
Brazil	3	7	29	59	3
Iran	4	7	37	42	10
China	1	8	41	49	1
Indonesia	4	17	53	26	1
Egypt	9	20	33	38	0
India	7	14	18	54	7
Senegal	6	18	27	43	5
Vietnam	1	7	35	55	1
Kenya	1	7	18	75	0
Bangladesh	1	8	23	68	0
Average	4	11	33	49	3

The types of plants and animals that can live here

	None at all	Not very much	Some	A lot	DK/R
United States	9	18	42	30	1
France	4	4	25	65	2
Japan	2	7	36	55	0
Mexico	2	5	14	74	6
Russia	4	18	38	31	8
Turkey	3	5	25	64	4
Brazil	2	8	26	61	3
Iran	3	2	30	58	7
China	2	8	39	51	1
Indonesia	5	15	48	30	2
Egypt	8	22	36	34	1
India	5	15	20	53	8
Senegal	4	11	32	49	5
Vietnam	2	5	29	64	0

Kenya	1	7	21	72	0
Bangladesh	1	7	43	49	1
Average	3	10	31	52	3

Rainfall and available water resources

	None at all	Not very much	Some	A lot	DK/R
United States	9	18	40	33	1
France	4	6	21	67	2
Japan	2	7	33	58	0
Mexico	2	5	14	73	6
Russia	4	11	40	39	7
Turkey	3	2	21	70	4
Brazil	2	6	27	62	3
Iran	2	2	23	67	6
China	3	7	36	52	4
Indonesia	3	12	37	47	1
Egypt	8	17	40	32	2
India	5	14	19	55	8
Senegal	6	16	32	40	6
Vietnam	2	9	35	53	1
Kenya	0	6	22	72	0
Bangladesh	1	3	42	54	1
Average	3	9	30	55	3

The price of food and other essential goods

	None at all	Not very much	Some	A lot	DK/R
United States	8	15	44	32	1
France	7	6	27	59	2
Japan	2	9	46	44	0
Mexico	2	4	12	77	6
Russia	5	21	38	24	12
Turkey	3	3	24	67	3
Brazil	1	7	24	64	3
Iran	4	4	29	57	7
China	3	13	43	34	7
Indonesia	4	18	46	31	1
Egypt	9	22	38	31	0
India	7	14	18	54	8
Senegal	6	17	27	43	8
Vietnam	2	9	35	53	2
Kenya	1	6	25	68	0

Bangladesh	2	5	34	59	0
Average	4	11	32	50	4

The likelihood of natural disasters, like droughts or floods

	None at all	Not very much	Some	A lot	DK/R
United States	9	17	39	34	1
France	4	4	18	73	2
Japan	2	7	33	59	0
Mexico	1	2	9	84	6
Russia	3	9	35	48	6
Turkey	3	3	23	68	4
Brazil	2	4	24	67	3
Iran	4	3	24	60	9
China	2	5	30	61	3
Indonesia	1	6	36	57	0
Egypt	10	16	31	41	1
India	5	13	16	54	11
Senegal	6	7	24	58	6
Vietnam	0	1	15	84	0
Kenya	2	10	24	62	3
Bangladesh	0	2	29	68	1
Average	3	7	26	61	3

Our coastline

	None at all	Not very much	Some	A lot	DK/R
USA	9	17	39	34	2
France	4	5	30	59	2
Japan	2	11	47	41	0
Mexico	1	4	15	72	8
Russia	3	11	38	38	10
Turkey	5	6	29	53	7
Brazil	2	6	25	61	7
Iran	4	4	33	46	13
China	2	6	37	39	16
Indonesia	3	24	41	17	15
Egypt	9	18	36	36	2
India	5	14	18	45	18
Senegal	7	12	28	39	15
Vietnam	1	8	38	49	4
Kenya	3	18	27	42	10
Bangladesh	1	4	43	49	4

Average	4	10	33	45	8
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The likelihood of natural disasters, like droughts or floods

	None at all	Not very much	Some	A lot	DK/R
United States	9	17	39	34	1
France	4	4	18	73	2
Japan	2	7	33	59	0
Mexico	1	2	9	84	6
Russia	3	9	35	48	6
Turkey	3	3	23	68	4
Brazil	2	4	24	67	3
Iran	4	3	24	60	9
China	2	5	30	61	3
Indonesia	1	6	36	57	0
Egypt	10	16	31	41	1
India	5	13	16	54	11
Senegal	6	7	24	58	6
Vietnam	0	1	15	84	0
Kenya	2	10	24	62	3
Bangladesh	0	2	29	68	1
Average	3	7	26	61	3

Our coastline

	None at all	Not very much	Some	A lot	DK/R
United States	9	17	39	34	2
France	4	5	30	59	2
Japan	2	11	47	41	0
Mexico	1	4	15	72	8
Russia	3	11	38	38	10
Turkey	5	6	29	53	7
Brazil	2	6	25	61	7
Iran	4	4	33	46	13
China	2	6	37	39	16
Indonesia	3	24	41	17	15
Egypt	9	18	36	36	2
India	5	14	18	45	18
Senegal	7	12	28	39	15
Vietnam	1	8	38	49	4
Kenya	3	18	27	42	10
Bangladesh	1	4	43	49	4

Average	4	10	33	45	8
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People's need to move their homes to different locations

	None at all	Not very much	Some	A lot	DK/R
United States	14	28	40	16	2
France	13	9	36	39	3
Japan	7	36	45	12	0
Mexico	4	5	20	64	7
Russia	4	17	36	27	17
Turkey	6	8	25	56	5
Brazil	3	11	26	56	4
Iran	5	5	35	43	12
China	6	16	43	26	9
Indonesia	11	34	39	9	7
Egypt	10	23	36	31	1
India	8	17	19	41	16
Senegal	4	12	33	45	8
Vietnam	6	10	39	42	2
Kenya	3	15	31	50	1
Bangladesh	1	4	40	54	1
Average	6	16	34	38	6

²⁵ WorldPublicOpinion.org December 2009

Do you think that climate change will be:

	More harmful to wealthy countries	More harmful to poor countries	About equally harmful to poor and wealthy countries	Both will be affected, but in different ways (vol.)	DK/R
United States	6	23	69	0	2
France	4	37	57	1	1
Japan	16	31	53	0	0
Mexico	2	10	87	0	0
Russia	4	11	64	14	7
Turkey	4	49	40	4	3
Brazil	8	24	57	6	4
Iran	4	37	41	12	5
China	10	30	54	3	3
Indonesia	1	24	72	3	1

Egypt	9	30	31	29	0
India	6	26	61	0	8
Senegal	8	59	31	0	2
Vietnam	2	14	83	0	2
Kenya	9	43	47	0	1
Bangladesh	1	64	31	4	0
Average	6	32	55	5	2

²⁶ WorldPublicOpinion.org 2009

What is your guess on how high a priority the average person in [Country] thinks the government should place on addressing climate change?

	0 - 4 (Low priority)	5	6 - 10 (High Priority)	DK/ refused	Mean	Median
Mexico	8	11	76	5	7.98	9
United States	67	14	18	0	3.71	3
France	9	16	66	9	6.77	7
Germany	10	24	66	0	6.47	6
Great Britain	10	23	65	3	6.52	7
Poland	22	18	51	10	6.25	6
Russia	7	11	59	23	7.22	8
Ukraine	8	7	64	21	7.76	8
Egypt	19	10	71	1	6.65	7
Iraq	32	15	32	22	5.05	5
Palestinian Territories	19	12	60	9	6.21	6
Turkey	13	15	60	12	6.98	7
Kenya	23	13	61	3	6.31	6
Nigeria	8	8	82	3	7.49	8
China	23	23	52	2	6.05	6
Macau	13	17	53	17	6.57	7
India	18	11	61	11	6.76	8
Indonesia	11	14	62	14	6.34	6
South Korea	36	31	32	1	4.98	5
Taiwan	10	16	67	6	6.88	7
Average	19	15	58	8	6.42	6.56

Does individual perceive themselves differently from the public on how high a priority climate change should be?

	Individuals think they have a higher priority	Has the same priority as the public	Individuals think they have a lower priority	DK/Ref
Chile	42	29	11	19
Mexico	38	45	12	6
United States	52	22	24	1
France	49	29	13	9
Germany	52	38	10	0
Great Britain	66	18	13	3
Poland	49	27	14	10
Russia	22	35	16	26
Ukraine	15	50	12	22

Egypt	37	39	23	1
Iraq	28	20	29	22
Palestinian Territories	18	15	52	15
Turkey	40	37	10	13
Kenya	40	19	39	3
Nigeria	36	30	30	3
China	77	16	5	3
Hong Kong*	38	40	14	8
Macau*	26	36	14	24
Taiwan*	35	47	18	0
India	23	29	33	16
Indonesia	47	27	12	14
South Korea	75	16	8	1
Average	42	28	19	10

²⁷ **Chicago Council on Global Affairs**

Below is a list of possible foreign policy goals that the United States might have. For each one please select whether you think that it should be a very important foreign policy goal of the United States, a somewhat important foreign policy goal, or not an important goal at all?

Limiting climate change

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Not sure/ Decline
2008	42	40	18	1
2010	35	42	22	1

²⁸ **BBC July 2007**

As you may know there is some discussion these days about whether it is necessary to take steps to reduce the impact of human activities that are thought to cause global warming or climate change. Would you say that you believe that:

	It is not necessary to take any steps	It is necessary to take modest steps over the coming years	It is necessary to take major steps starting very soon	DK / NA
Australia	3	25	70	1
Brazil	4	16	76	4
Canada	7	20	72	2
Chile	2	16	78	5
China	4	25	70	2
Egypt	14	43	43	*
France	1	13	85	1
Germany	4	45	50	1
Britain	3	25	70	2
India	12	26	37	26
Indonesia	4	22	64	10
Italy	1	13	86	*
Kenya	12	31	53	4

Mexico	1	13	83	3
Nigeria	16	27	50	7
Philippines	7	19	70	4
Russia	6	44	43	8
South Korea	5	45	48	2
Spain	2	6	91	1
Turkey	11	19	59	11
United States	6	33	59	2
Average	6	25	65	5

²⁹ **WorldPublicOpinion.org/Chicago Council on Global Affairs 2006-2007**

There is a controversy over what the countries of the world, including [survey country], should do about the problem of global warming. Here are three statements. Please tell me which statement comes closest to your own point of view.

	Until we are sure that global warming really is a problem, we should not take any steps that would have economic costs	The problem of global warming should be addressed, but its effects will be gradual, so we can deal with the problem gradually by taking steps that are low in cost	Global warming is a serious and pressing problem. We should begin taking steps now even if this involves significant costs	DK/NS
United States	17	37	43	3
Argentina	3	19	63	16
Armenia	19	32	37	12
Australia	8	23	69	0
China	8	41	42	9
France	2	20	78	*
India	24	30	19	26
Israel	10	29	54	7
Philippines	18	49	27	7
Poland	11	39	30	20
Russia	22	34	32	12
Thailand	7	41	27	24
Ukraine	14	37	30	19

³⁰ **Chicago Council on Global Affairs**

	Until we are sure that climate change is really a problem, we should not take any steps that would have economic costs	The problem of climate change should be addressed, but its effects will be gradual, so we can deal with the problem gradually by taking steps that are low in cost	Climate change is a serious and pressing problem. We should begin taking steps now even if this involves significant costs	Not sure/Decline
2006*	17	37	43	3
2010	26	42	29	3

* The 2006 poll asked respondents about “global warming” instead of “climate change.”

³¹ **German Marshall Fund 2010**

Which among the following tasks should be the top priority for the American president and European leaders?

	Fighting international terrorism	Managing international economic problems	Managing relations with Russia	Stabilizing Afghanistan	Fighting climate change	Managing relations with Iran	Ease tensions in the Middle East	Other	None of the above	DK/R
United States	23	55	1	7	6	6	1			
France	21	39		4	19	4	12	1		
Germany	12	34	1	5	31	3	12	1		
United Kingdom	19	33	1	13	15	3	14		1	
Italy	23	32		3	23	3	14	1		
Netherlands	17	34	1	4	21	2	17	1		
Poland	25	30	6	11	6	3	10	1		
Portugal	21	32	1	2	29	3	8	1	1	
Spain	21	47	1	2	16	1	10	1		
Slovakia	26	34	5	4	14	4	9	1	1	
Turkey	38	21	3	2	4	2	15	1	2	
Bulgaria	26	51	2	2	7	2	7			
Romania	30	37	5	5	7	2	6	1	1	
European Average	22	34	2	5	17	3	12	1	1	

German Marshall Fund Transatlantic Trend 2008

Which among these should be the top priority for the next American president and European leaders?

	Climate change	Int'l terrorism	Int'l economic problems	Managing relations with Russia	Spread of nuclear weapons	Stabilizing Afghanistan	Managing relations with china	Easing tensions in the Middle East
European Average	24	25	19	3	6	4	3	15
United States	8	26	21	1	9	7	5	18
France	30	18	19	*	6	2	4	17
Germany	42	13	12	4	7	4	4	18
United Kingdom	21	22	16	2	7	9	5	19
Italy	25	25	19	2	7	2	3	14
Netherlands	28	21	14	2	6	5	3	19
Poland	9	25	23	10	9	6	2	12
Portugal	29	17	19	2	7	5	3	13
Spain	30	28	21	1	3	2	1	13
Slovakia	9	33	29	6	9	2	1	10
Turkey	8	47	22	2	5	1	*	9
Bulgaria	7	38	33	4	8	1	*	14
Romania	9	35	27	7	7	4	1	13

³² WorldPublicOpinion.org 2009

Using the same scale, how high a priority do you think the government SHOULD place on addressing climate change?

	0 - 4 (Low priority)	5	6 - 10 (High Priority)	DK/ refused	Mean	Median
Mexico	2	4	90	4	9.09	10
United States	42	13	44	1	4.71	5
France	3	6	89	3	8.03	8
Germany	5	12	83	0	7.57	8
Great Britain	4	6	89	1	8.20	8
Poland	8	9	77	6	7.88	8
Russia	8	12	65	15	7.39	8
Ukraine	7	6	72	16	7.95	8
Egypt	12	6	82	0	7.18	8
Iraq	37	9	35	19	5.14	5
Palestinian Territories	43	14	34	9	4.91	5
Turkey	5	5	83	8	8.34	9
Kenya	20	15	63	2	6.48	6
Nigeria	3	6	89	2	7.81	8
China	1	3	94	2	8.86	9
Macau	8	14	60	18	7.00	7
India	16	14	59	11	6.73	7
Indonesia	7	6	75	12	7.38	7
South Korea	6	12	82	0	7.42	8
Taiwan	5	9	82	4	7.52	8
Average	13	9	73	6	7.28	7.50

³³ Yale, May 2011

Do you think global warming should be a low, medium, high, or very high priority for the president and Congress?

	Very high	High	Medium	Low
November 2008	21	33	30	17
January 2010	13	25	31	31
June 2010	17	27	33	23
May 2011	13	27	31	30

³⁴ Program on International Policy Attitudes June 2005

There is a controversy over what the countries of the world, including the United States, should do about the problem of global warming. I'm going to read you three statements. Please tell me which statement comes closest to your own point of view. [ARO]

Until we are sure that global warming is really a problem, we should not take any steps that would have economic costs	The problem of global warming should be addressed, but its effects will be gradual, so we can deal with the problem gradually by taking steps that are low in cost	Global warming is a serious and pressing problem. We should begin taking steps now even if this involves significant costs	(No answer)
---	---	---	--------------------

June 2005	21%	42	34	2
June 2004	23	45	31	1
October 1998	15	44	39	2

Suppose there were a survey of scientists that found that an overwhelming majority have concluded that global warming is occurring and poses a significant threat. If this were the case, do you think the United States should:

6%	Not take any steps to reduce greenhouse gases that would have economic costs
35	Take steps to reduce greenhouse gases, but only those that are low in cost
56	Take steps to reduce greenhouse gases even if this involves significant costs
3	(No answer)

³⁵ **WorldPublicOpinion.org 2009**

What is your guess on how high a priority the average person in [Country] thinks the government should place on addressing climate change?

	0 - 4 (Low priority)	5	6 - 10 (High Priority)	DK/ refused	Mean	Median
Mexico	8	11	76	5	7.98	9
United States	67	14	18	0	3.71	3
France	9	16	66	9	6.77	7
Germany	10	24	66	0	6.47	6
Great Britain	10	23	65	3	6.52	7
Poland	22	18	51	10	6.25	6
Russia	7	11	59	23	7.22	8
Ukraine	8	7	64	21	7.76	8
Egypt	19	10	71	1	6.65	7
Iraq	32	15	32	22	5.05	5
Palestinian Territories	19	12	60	9	6.21	6
Turkey	13	15	60	12	6.98	7
Kenya	23	13	61	3	6.31	6
Nigeria	8	8	82	3	7.49	8
China	23	23	52	2	6.05	6
Macau	13	17	53	17	6.57	7
India	18	11	61	11	6.76	8
Indonesia	11	14	62	14	6.34	6
South Korea	36	31	32	1	4.98	5
Taiwan	10	16	67	6	6.88	7
Average	19	15	58	8	6.42	6.56

Does individual perceive themselves differently from the public on how high a priority climate change should be?

	Individuals think they have a higher priority	Has the same priority as the public	Individuals think they have a lower priority	DK/Ref
Chile	42	29	11	19
Mexico	38	45	12	6
United States	52	22	24	1
France	49	29	13	9
Germany	52	38	10	0

Great Britain	66	18	13	3
Poland	49	27	14	10
Russia	22	35	16	26
Ukraine	15	50	12	22
Egypt	37	39	23	1
Iraq	28	20	29	22
Palestinian Territories	18	15	52	15
Turkey	40	37	10	13
Kenya	40	19	39	3
Nigeria	36	30	30	3
China	77	16	5	3
Hong Kong*	38	40	14	8
Macau*	26	36	14	24
Taiwan*	35	47	18	0
India	23	29	33	16
Indonesia	47	27	12	14
South Korea	75	16	8	1
Average	42	28	19	10

³⁶ WorldPublicOpinion.org December 2009

Q3. Do you agree strongly, agree somewhat, disagree somewhat or disagree strongly with the following statement: Dealing with the problem of climate change should be given priority, even if it causes slower economic growth and some loss of jobs.

	Agree strongly	Agree somewhat	Disagree somewhat	Disagree strongly	DK/R
United States	14	39	30	16	1
France	23	42	22	12	1
Japan	18	44	31	7	0
Mexico	31	31	24	11	4
Russia	18	38	24	6	15
Turkey	37	28	12	12	11
Brazil	37	43	9	4	7
Iran	25	43	13	11	9
China	38	40	12	5	7
Indonesia	22	28	29	16	5
Egypt	50	32	10	7	1
India	39	23	9	9	21
Senegal	46	24	13	15	3
Vietnam	63	25	9	2	1
Kenya	53	30	12	4	1
Bangladesh	54	34	9	3	0

Average 35 34 17 9 5

³⁷ **Yale, May 2011**

When there is a conflict between environmental protection and economic growth, which do you think is more important?

64% Protecting the environment, even if it reduces economic growth
 36% Economic growth, even if it leads to environmental problems

³⁸ **BBC July 2007**

Please tell me how necessary you think it is:

To increase the cost of the types of energy that most cause climate change, such as coal and oil/petrol, in order to encourage individuals and industry to use less.

	Will definitely be necessary	Probably be necessary	Necessary	Probably not be necessary	Definitely not be necessary	Not Necessary	DK / NA
Australia	42	38	80	10	7	17	2
Brazil	28	36	64	14	18	32	4
Canada	39	33	72	12	12	24	3
Chile	38	41	79	8	4	12	9
China	57	26	83	10	4	14	3
Egypt	24	37	61	25	13	38	1
France	25	36	61	20	16	36	4
Germany	19	52	71	20	8	28	2
Britain	35	41	76	11	9	20	3
India	25	24	49	18	10	28	23
Indonesia	36	47	83	8	2	10	8
Italy	24	23	47	26	24	50	3
Kenya	25	28	53	23	19	42	4
Mexico	31	30	61	10	23	33	6
Nigeria	17	30	47	28	23	51	1
Philippines	16	32	48	29	21	50	3
Russia	12	24	36	30	20	50	15
South Korea	5	44	49	37	12	49	2
Spain	33	19	52	29	13	42	4
Turkey	13	28	41	30	14	44	15
United States	29	36	65	17	15	32	3
Average	27	34	61	20	14	34	6

³⁹ **WorldPublicOpinion.org, 2009**

Do you think it will be necessary or will not be necessary to increase the cost of energy, to encourage individuals and businesses to conserve more or to use alternative forms of energy?

	Will be necessary	Will not be necessary	DK/R
United States	50	47	3
France	45	53	2
Japan	81	19	0
Mexico	39	59	3
Russia	12	81	8
Turkey	57	25	19

Brazil	32	56	12
Iran	45	46	9
China	65	29	5
Indonesia	88	5	7
Egypt	54	43	3
India	47	34	19
Senegal	51	42	7
Vietnam	70	29	1
Kenya	75	25	1
Bangladesh	62	35	3
Average	55	39	6

⁴⁰ WorldPublicOpinion.org 2009

Q1. Imagine that taking steps against climate change would increase costs to the average person for energy and other products by [1 percent of GDP per capita, prorated per month – [see chart below] per month? Would you be willing or not willing to pay this cost as part of taking steps against climate change?

	Would be willing	Would not be willing	DK/R
United States	48	51	2
France	48	51	1
Japan	53	47	0
Mexico	51	46	3
Russia	11	81	8
Turkey	47	44	9
Brazil	20	75	5
Iran	51	41	8
China	68	29	2
Indonesia	44	53	4
Egypt	42	57	0
India	44	39	17
Senegal	43	49	9
Vietnam	59	38	3
Kenya	43	56	1
Bangladesh	32	67	1
Average	44	51	5

[ASK ONLY THOSE WHO SAY “NO” OR “DON’T KNOW” (99)]

Q2. How about an increase of [0.5 percent of GDP, prorated per month – see chartbelow]-- per month?

	Would be willing	Would not be willing	Would be willing on Q1	DK/R
United States	14	38	48	1
France	16	35	48	1
Japan	12	35	53	0
Mexico	11	36	51	2
Russia	14	62	11	13
Turkey	12	34	47	7
Brazil	15	59	20	7
Iran *	15	24	51	10
China	14	16	68	3
Indonesia	16	34	44	6

Egypt	26	31	43	0
India	11	29	44	16
Senegal	12	39	43	6
Vietnam	26	13	59	2
Kenya	19	37	43	1
Bangladesh	38	30	32	0
Average	17	34	44	5

Country	US\$	1% of per capita income	0.5% of per capita income	1% monthly	Amount in local currency (Q1)	0.5 % monthly	Amount in local currency (Q2)
Bangladesh	494	5	2.47	0.41	28	0.21	14
Brazil	8,400	84	42.00	7.00	13	3.50	6.6
China	2,912	29	14.56	2.43	17	1.21	8.3
Egypt	1,997	20	9.99	1.66	9	0.83	4.6
France	45,982	460	229.91	38.32	27	19.16	13.5
India	1,068	11	5.34	0.89	43	0.45	22
Indonesia	2,254	23	11.27	1.88	19046	0.94	9523
Iran	5,352	54	26.76	4.46	44366	2.23	22183
Japan	38,443	384	192.22	32.04	2978	16.02	1489
Kenya	895	9	4.48	0.75	57	0.37	28
Mexico	10,211	102	51.06	8.51	114	4.25	57
Russia	11,339	113	56.70	9.45	300	4.72	150
Senegal	1,082	11	5.41	0.90	407	0.45	204
Turkey	10,745	107	53.73	8.95	13	4.48	6.7
Vietnam	1,051	11	5.26	0.88	15697	0.44	7849
United States	46,716	467	233.58	38.93		19.47	

⁴¹ **WorldPublicOpinion.org 2009**

Would you favor or oppose [country] taking each of the following steps to help deal with climate change:

Gradually increasing the requirements for fuel efficiency in automobiles, even if this raises the cost of cars and bus fares

	Favor strongly	Favor somewhat	Oppose somewhat	Oppose strongly	DK/R
United States	27	44	18	10	1
France	33	36	19	10	3
Japan	25	53	19	3	0
Mexico	21	29	25	19	6
Russia	23	36	22	6	14
Turkey	44	26	10	8	12

Brazil	11	32	22	24	12
Iran	21	31	18	22	8
China	24	38	25	7	6
Indonesia	22	43	27	5	2
Egypt	27	35	27	11	1
India	34	27	14	11	15
Senegal	24	38	21	13	5
Vietnam	45	42	9	2	2
Kenya	28	33	24	14	1
Bangladesh	21	40	27	13	0
Average	27	36	20	11	5

⁴² **WorldPublicOpinion.org, 2009**

Would you favor or oppose [country] taking each of the following steps to help deal with climate change

Gradually reducing government subsidies that favor private transportation, even if this raises its cost.

	Favor strongly	Favor somewhat	Oppose somewhat	Oppose strongly	DK/R
United States	17	45	25	10	2
France	24	36	21	15	4
Japan	12	42	40	6	0
Mexico	20	26	25	21	7
Russia	14	27	27	10	23
Turkey	42	26	11	8	14
Brazil	12	32	22	21	12
Iran	13	30	23	24	10
China	29	39	19	5	8
Indonesia	26	37	28	5	4
Egypt	34	28	23	13	1
India	31	26	13	12	17
Senegal	26	33	19	15	8
Vietnam	40	46	9	2	3
Kenya	43	28	14	10	4
Bangladesh	28	38	21	12	1
Average	26	34	21	12	7

⁴³ **Yale May 2011**

How much do you support or oppose requiring electric utilities to produce at least 20% of their electricity from wind, solar, or other renewable energy sources, even if it cost the average household an extra \$100 a year?

- 23% Strongly support
- 43 Somewhat support
- 18 Somewhat oppose
- 16 Strongly oppose

How much do you support or oppose paying 5% more on your monthly utility bill to get your electricity from renewable energy sources, like wind or solar?

- 14% Strongly support
- 37 Somewhat support
- 24 Somewhat oppose
- 25 Strongly oppose

⁴⁴ **CBS News/New York Times Poll , April 2007**

In order to help reduce global warming, would you be willing or not willing to pay more for electricity if it were generated by renewable sources like solar or wind energy?

- 75% Willing
- 20 Not willing
- 5 Don't know/No answer

⁴⁵ **Pew Global Attitudes Project 2010**

Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: People should be willing to pay higher prices in order to address global climate change?

	Agree	Disagree	DK/Refused
United States	38	58	4
Britain	50	46	4
France	39	61	0
Germany	56	41	3
Spain	51	47	2
Poland	48	42	9
Russia	25	57	18
Turkey	64	19	17

Egypt	20	68	12
Jordan	21	73	6
Lebanon	45	50	5
China	91	7	2
India	73	18	8
Indonesia	32	63	4
Japan	61	34	5
Pakistan	20	46	35
South Korea	71	23	6
Argentina	38	49	12
Brazil	49	45	6
Mexico	32	60	8
Kenya	50	46	4
Nigeria	32	57	11
Average	46	46	8

Pew Global Attitudes Project 2009

Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: People should be willing to pay higher prices in order to address global climate change?

	Agree	Disagree	DK/R
United States	41	55	4
Canada	54	44	3
Britain	53	43	4
France	51	49	0
Germany	54	43	3
Spain	49	48	4
Poland	44	45	11
Russia	32	52	16
Turkey	61	23	16
Egypt	18	69	13
Jordan	15	73	13
Lebanon	46	45	9
Palestinian Territories	44	49	7
Israel	58	33	9
China	88	8	4
India	85	11	5
Indonesia	33	64	3
Japan	68	28	4
Pakistan	36	35	29
South Korea	69	26	5
Argentina	34	54	13
Brazil	48	41	11
Mexico	28	61	11
Kenya	45	48	7
Nigeria	42	54	4
Average	48	44	9

⁴⁶ **Stanford University Global Warming Poll June 2010**

((If Form A half sample, ask:) For each of the following, please tell me whether you favor or oppose it as a way for the federal government to try to reduce future global warming. (If Form B half sample, ask:) For each of the following, please tell me whether you favor or oppose the federal government doing it.)...Give companies tax breaks to produce more electricity from water, wind, and solar power

84% Favor
15 Oppose
1 Don't know

Stanford University Global Warming Poll June 2010

(If Form A half sample, ask:) For each of the following, please tell me whether you favor or oppose it as a way for the federal government to try to reduce future global warming. (If Form B half sample, ask:) For each of the following, please tell me whether you favor or oppose the federal government doing it....Increase taxes on electricity so people use less of it

22% Favor
78 Oppose
* Don't know

⁴⁷ **BBC July 2007**

Would you favor or oppose raising taxes on the types of energy, such as coal and oil/petrol, that most cause climate change in order to encourage individuals and businesses to use less of these?

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Oppose	DK / NA
Australia	25	36	61	17	20	37	3
Brazil	14	28	42	16	39	55	4
Canada	31	26	57	18	22	40	2
Chile	24	37	61	17	13	30	9
China	50	35	85	10	4	14	2
Egypt	16	32	48	25	27	52	0
France	18	29	47	26	22	48	4
Germany	17	43	60	25	13	38	2
Britain	20	34	54	17	26	43	4
India	18	20	38	13	23	36	26
Indonesia	24	33	57	25	11	36	8
Italy	17	18	35	22	40	62	3
Kenya	19	30	49	23	25	48	2
Mexico	31	19	50	16	30	46	4
Nigeria	22	30	52	23	23	46	2
Philippines	14	22	36	30	28	58	5
Russia	13	28	41	32	12	44	16
South Korea	4	35	39	44	15	59	3
Spain	25	24	49	32	15	47	4
Turkey	11	32	43	31	11	42	15
United States	20	26	46	19	32	51	3
Average	21	29	50	23	21	44	6

⁴⁸ **BBC July 2007**

What if the revenues of this energy tax were devoted only to increasing energy efficiency and developing energy sources that do not produce climate change?

	Somewhat or strongly favor	Somewhat or strongly oppose	DK / NA
Australia	26	11	2
Brazil	24	29	5
Canada	23	17	3
Chile	20	9	10
China	12	2	1
Egypt	25	27	0
France	32	15	5
Germany	20	20	1
Britain	22	18	6
India	22	16	24
Indonesia	23	12	9
Italy	43	18	4
Kenya	31	14	5
Mexico	24	11	15
Nigeria	24	21	3
Philippines	32	27	4
Russia	31	13	15
South Korea	31	30	1
Spain	37	12	3
Turkey	33	14	11
United States	28	23	3
Average	27	17	6

What if this energy tax was introduced at the same time as your other taxes were reduced by the same amount, keeping your total taxes at the current level even with the energy tax?

	Somewhat or strongly favor	Somewhat or strongly oppose	DK / NA
Australia	17	19	3
Brazil	24	30	4
Canada	24	16	2
Chile	17	11	12
China	8	6	1
Egypt	34	19	0
France	32	16	4
Germany	30	11	0
Britain	23	20	3
India	28	13	21
Indonesia	28	9	6
Italy	34	24	7
Kenya	28	17	6
Mexico	14	27	8
Nigeria	22	23	3
Philippines	29	21	13
Russia	34	12	13
South Korea	31	27	4
Spain	24	22	6
Turkey	36	13	9

United States	17	31	5
Average	26	18	6

⁴⁹ **BBC July 2007**

Please tell me how necessary it is: For individuals in [country] to make changes in their life style and behavior in order to reduce the amount of climate changing gases they produce.

	Will definitely be necessary	Probably be necessary	Necessary	Probably not be necessary	Definitely not be necessary	Not necessary	DK / NA
Australia	55	32	87	7	5	11	2
Brazil	50	38	89	5	2	7	4
Canada	63	28	91	4	3	7	1
Chile	49	41	90	5	1	5	5
China	59	28	86	6	5	12	2
Egypt	31	41	71	16	12	29	0
France	49	42	91	5	3	8	1
Germany	36	52	87	10	2	12	1
Britain	53	33	87	9	3	12	1
India	34	27	61	12	6	18	21
Indonesia	46	38	84	8	2	10	6
Italy	62	31	93	5	2	6	1
Kenya	36	34	70	16	9	25	5
Mexico	64	28	92	3	4	7	1
Nigeria	30	35	65	22	11	33	2
Philippines	46	41	87	8	3	11	2
Russia	27	49	76	10	3	13	11
South Korea	28	58	86	13	1	13	1
Spain	68	24	93	4	2	7	1
Turkey	22	55	77	9	2	11	12
United States	48	31	79	10	9	19	2
Average	46	37	83	9	4	13	4

⁵⁰ **Yale May 2011**

Overall, do you think that protecting the environment...

54%	Improves economic growth and provides new jobs
29	Has no effect on economic growth or jobs
18	Reduces economic growth and costs jobs

⁵¹ **Program on International Policy Attitudes/Knowledge Networks, June 2005**

Which comes closer to your opinion?

- 23% a. Efforts in the United States to reduce the release of greenhouse gases will cost too much money and hurt the US economy
- 71 b. The US economy will become more competitive because these efforts will result in more efficient energy use, saving money in the long run
- 7 (No answer)

⁵² **WorldPublicOpinion.org 2009**

Would you favor or oppose [country] taking each of the following steps to help deal with climate change?

	Favor strongly	Favor somewhat	Oppose somewhat	Oppose strongly	DK/R
United States	21	43	22	13	2
France	37	39	14	7	4
Japan	20	58	19	3	0
Mexico	24	33	19	17	8
Russia	16	34	28	6	16
Turkey	54	27	4	4	12
Brazil	16	29	23	22	11
Iran	18	36	20	12	14
China	30	37	18	5	9
Indonesia	22	42	28	5	4
Egypt	39	41	13	7	0
India	38	29	12	8	13
Senegal	35	33	17	11	3
Vietnam	55	37	6	1	2
Kenya	35	32	22	10	1
Bangladesh	26	38	24	11	1
Average	30	37	18	9	6

⁵³ **Stanford University Global Warming Poll June 2010**

((If Form A half sample, ask:) For each of the following, please tell me whether you favor or oppose it as a way for the federal government to try to reduce future global warming.(If Form B half sample, ask:) For each of the following, please tell me whether you favor or oppose the federal government doing it.)...Give companies tax breaks to produce more electricity from water, wind, and solar power

84% Favor
 15 Oppose
 1 Don't know

⁵⁴ **Chicago Council on Global Affairs, June 2010**

Thinking about how to address climate change, please indicate whether you favor or oppose each of the following:

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Not sure/Decline
Creating tax incentives to encourage the development and use of alternative energy sources, such as solar or wind power	47	33	9	8	3
Requiring auto-makers to increase fuel efficiency, even if this means the price of cars would go up	28	39	18	12	3
Building new nuclear power plants to reduce reliance on oil and coal	25	40	22	10	3
Raising taxes on fuels such as coal and oil to encourage individuals and businesses to use less	12	23	32	31	3

⁵⁵ **Stanford University Global Warming Poll June 2010**

((If Form A half sample, ask:) For each of the following, please tell me whether you favor or oppose it as a way for the federal government to try to reduce future global warming. (If Form B half sample, ask:) For each of the following, please tell me whether you favor or oppose the federal government doing it.)...Increase taxes on gasoline so people either drive less, or buy cars that use less gas

28% Favor
 71 Oppose
 1 Don't know

Stanford University Global Warming Poll June 2010

For the next items, please tell me for each one whether it's something the government should require by law, encourage with tax breaks but not require, or stay out of entirely....Building cars that use less gasoline

31% Government should require by law
 50 Government should encourage with tax breaks, but not require
 19 Government should stay out of entirely
 1 Don't know
 * Refused

⁵⁶ **Stanford University Global Warming Poll June 2010**

(For the next items, please tell me for each one whether it's something the government should require by law, encourage with tax breaks but not require, or stay out of entirely.)...Building new homes and offices that use less energy for heating and cooling

- 24% Government should require by law
- 56 Government should encourage with tax breaks, but not require
- 20 Government should stay out of entirely
- * Refused

Stanford University Global Warming Poll June 2010

(For the next items, please tell me for each one whether it's something the government should require by law, encourage with tax breaks but not require, or stay out of entirely.)...Building air conditioners, refrigerators, and other appliances that use less electricity

- 29% Government should require by law
- 51 Government should encourage with tax breaks, but not require
- 20 Government should stay out of entirely
- * Don't know
- * Refused

⁵⁷ **Yale May 2011**

How much do you support or oppose constructing bike paths and installing bike lanes on city streets?

- 30% Strongly support
- 47 Somewhat support
- 14 Somewhat oppose
- 9 Strongly oppose

How much do you support or oppose increasing the availability of public transportation in your country?

- 29% Strongly support
- 51 Somewhat support
- 13 Somewhat oppose
- 8 Strongly oppose

⁵⁸ **Yale May 2011**

How much do you support or oppose changing your country's zoning rules to require that neighborhoods have a mix of housing, offices, industry, schools, and stores close together, to encourage walking and decrease the need for a car?

- 17% Strongly support
- 40 Somewhat support
- 24 Somewhat oppose
- 18 Strongly oppose

⁵⁹ **Yale June 2010**

How much do you support or oppose regulating carbon dioxide (the primary greenhouse gas) as a pollutant?

- 26% Strongly support

51	Somewhat support
13	Somewhat oppose
11	Strongly oppose

⁶⁰ **Stanford University Global Warming Poll June 2010**

Some people believe that the United States government should limit the amount of greenhouse gases thought to cause global warming that US businesses can produce. Other people believe that the government should not limit the amount of greenhouse gases that US businesses put out. What about you? Do you think the government should or should not limit the amount of greenhouse gases that US businesses put out?

76%	Government should limit greenhouse gases from US businesses
20	Government should not limit greenhouse gases from US businesses
3	Don't know
1	Refused

⁶¹ **WorldPublicOpinion.org 2009**

Would you favor or oppose [country] taking each of the following steps to help deal with climate change?

Preserving or expanding forested areas, even if this means less land for agriculture or construction

	Favor strongly	Favor somewhat	Oppose somewhat	Oppose strongly	DK/R
United States	35	40	16	9	1
France	41	45	9	3	2
Japan	19	58	20	3	0
Mexico	43	36	10	8	3
Russia	38	42	11	1	8
Turkey	68	21	2	2	7
Brazil	29	39	16	7	9
Iran	34	39	11	9	7
China	53	35	7	2	3
Indonesia	43	34	18	5	0
Egypt	42	34	16	8	1
India	52	23	7	8	9
Senegal	40	29	12	17	1
Vietnam	76	21	2	0	1
Kenya	56	25	13	7	0
Bangladesh	32	36	21	11	0
Average	44	35	12	6	3

⁶² **WorldPublicOpinion.org 2009**

How high a priority does the government place on addressing climate change? Please answer on a scale of 0-10 with 0 meaning “not a priority at all” and 10 meaning a “very high priority”.

	Mean	Median	0 - 4	5	6 - 10	DK/ refused
Chile	5.07	5	34	15	34	17
Mexico	5.51	5	25	26	45	5
United States	3.84	4	61	17	21	1
France	5.42	5	27	27	44	2
Germany	7.02	7	9	13	78	0
Great Britain	5.92	6	20	21	58	1
Poland	5.89	5	25	21	44	10
Russia	4.57	5	35	18	26	20
Ukraine	2.18	2	65	6	7	21
Egypt	5.23	5	41	18	40	2
Iraq	3.65	4	50	13	17	19
Palestinian Territories	4.18	4	44	10	17	29
Turkey	4.69	5	40	15	33	11
Kenya	4.29	4	56	16	26	3
Nigeria	5.43	6	37	11	49	3
China	7.31	8	8	13	78	2
Hong Kong*	4.67	5	39	28	29	4
Macau*	4.60	5	37	22	28	13
India	5.41	5	32	15	43	10
Indonesia	5.85	6	16	18	50	15
South Korea	4.61	5	46	24	30	1
Taiwan*	4.80	5	37	25	34	4
Average	5.06	5	35	17	39	9

Should your government place a higher priority on addressing climate change than it does?

	Should have a higher priority	Has placed the right priority	Should have lower priority	DK/Ref
Chile	62	13	8	18
Mexico	79	13	3	5
United States	52	24	21	2
France	76	18	4	3
Germany	46	27	27	0
Great Britain	77	14	8	1
Poland	54	25	10	10
Russia	56	16	4	23
Ukraine	68	5	2	24
Egypt	60	27	13	2
Iraq	39	23	17	20

Palestinian Territories	29	17	20	34
Turkey	65	16	8	11
Kenya	71	8	19	3
Nigeria	70	10	16	4
China	62	30	6	2
Hong Kong*	67	21	5	6
Macau*	52	20	6	23
Taiwan*	77	16	7	0
India	43	24	18	16
Indonesia	53	23	8	16
South Korea	81	13	6	1
Average	60	18	12	10

⁶³ WorldPublicOpinion.org December 2009

To deal with the problem of climate change, do you think your government is doing:

	Too much	Not enough	About the right amount	DK/R
United States	13	58	28	1
France	8	60	30	2

Japan	7	78	15	0
Mexico	2	87	9	2
Russia	3	55	19	23
Turkey	13	58	19	9
Brazil	4	71	15	10
Iran	11	38	35	16
China	2	77	17	4
Indonesia	12	74	7	7
Egypt	27	62	9	1
India	19	44	24	13
Senegal	14	35	17	33
Vietnam	3	77	15	6
Kenya	17	69	14	1
Bangladesh	7	72	19	2
Average	10	63	18	8

⁶⁴ **Chicago Council on Global Affairs 2010**

To deal with the problem of climate change, do you think your government is doing:

	Too much	Not enough	About the right amount	Not sure/ Decline
2010	20	48	30	2

⁶⁵ **Yale May 2011**

Do you think each of the following should be doing more or less to address global warming?

The President

19%	Much more
35	More
22	Currently doing the right amount
10	Less
14	Much less

The U.S. Congress

19%	Much more
38	More
20	Currently doing the right amount
11	Less
12	Much less

⁶⁶ **BBC December 2006**

Thinking about the last year, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of how the United States government has dealt with each of the following:

The U.S. handling of global warming or climate change

Approve	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Disapprove	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly Disapprove	DK
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Argentina	6	2	4	79	6	73	16
Australia	25	7	18	68	23	45	7
Brazil	17	5	12	73	17	56	10
Chile	17	5	12	63	16	47	20
China	39	13	26	35	14	21	26
Egypt	9	1	8	59	23	36	32
France	8	2	6	86	12	74	6
Germany	10	3	7	84	18	66	7
Britain	15	5	10	79	18	61	6
Hungary	17	4	13	53	19	34	31
India	48	25	23	23	13	10	30
Indonesia	38	15	23	52	25	27	10
Italy	13	3	11	74	18	56	13
Kenya	56	38	18	21	9	12	22
Lebanon	19	11	8	68	12	56	14
Mexico	10	1	9	67	40	27	24
Nigeria	67	35	32	25	17	8	9
Philippines	60	25	35	22	9	13	19
Poland	20	5	15	31	16	15	49
Portugal	14	5	9	79	14	65	8
Russia	27	3	24	36	20	16	38
South Korea	50	8	42	45	28	17	5
Turkey	11	3	8	65	20	45	24
United Arab Emirates	30	11	19	55	18	37	15
United States	39	12	27	54	17	37	7
Average	27	10	17	56	18	38	18

⁶⁷ **Public Agenda Confidence in U.S. Foreign Policy Index Poll , March 2008**

How important to our foreign policy should each of the following be? Should this be very important, somewhat important, not very important or not at all important? Cooperating with other countries on reducing global warming

61%	Very important
26	Somewhat important
6	Not very important
6	Not at all important
1	Don't know

Public Agenda Confidence in U.S. Foreign Policy Index Poll , March 2008

What grade would you give the United States when it comes to achieving the following goals?

Working with other countries to reduce global warming

10%	A
20	B
25	C
17	D
16	F
12	Don't know

⁶⁸ **GlobeScan 2008**

Effectiveness of current cooperation between Europe and North America in combating climate change, rated on 0 to 100 scale: Above average (6-10), average (5), below average (0-4)

	Above average	Average	Below average	DK/NR
Average	19	16	58	7
United Kingdom	16	15	66	4
United States	17	19	58	6
Canada	17	16	60	6
France	24	20	44	11
Germany	12	14	71	3
Spain	15	11	70	4
Ireland	17	16	64	3
Turkey	27	15	38	20
Poland	22	19	52	7

⁶⁹ **WorldPublicOpinion.org 2009**

Do you think that if our country takes steps to deal with the problem of climate change, other countries would then be more willing to act, or do you think it wouldn't make much difference?

	Other countries would then be more willing to act	It wouldn't make much difference	DK/R
United States	52	46	2
France	63	35	2
Japan	54	46	0
Mexico	73	26	2
Russia	47	32	21
Turkey	53	31	17
Brazil	60	31	10
Iran	73	19	8
China	73	18	9
Indonesia	80	11	9
Egypt	66	32	2
India	61	20	19
Senegal	79	13	8
Vietnam	85	9	6
Kenya	80	18	2
Bangladesh	87	12	2
Average	68	25	7

⁷⁰ **Chicago Council on Global Affairs**

Based on what you know, do you think the U.S. should or should not participate in the following treaties and agreements?

A new international treaty to address climate change by reducing green house gas emissions

	Should participate	Should not participate	Not sure/ Decline
2008	76	23	2
2010	67	30	3

Chicago Council on Global Affairs 2006

Based on what you know, do you think [survey country] should or should not participate in the following treaties and agreements?

The Kyoto agreement to reduce global warming

	Should Participate	Should not participate	NS/Decline
United States	70	23	7
South Korea	88	11	2

⁷¹ Yale May 2011

Q174. How much do you support or oppose signing an international treaty that requires the United States to cut its emissions of carbon dioxide 90% by the year 2050?

	May 2011	June 2010	Jan 2010	Nov 2008
Strongly support	23	21	17	25
Somewhat support	43	44	44	44
Somewhat oppose	17	19	20	19
Strongly oppose	17	16	19	13

⁷² WorldPublicOpinion.org 2009

As you may know, [country] and other countries from around the world will be meeting in December in Copenhagen to develop a new agreement to take steps against climate change by limiting greenhouse gas emissions. If the other countries come to an agreement, do you think [country] should or should not be willing to commit to limiting its greenhouse gas emissions as part of such an agreement?

	Should be willing	Should not be willing	DK/R
United States	82	15	3
France	97	3	1
Japan	89	12	0
Mexico	93	4	4
Russia	70	11	19
Turkey	71	6	22
Brazil	77	9	14
Iran	87	6	8
China	96	2	3
Indonesia	89	4	7
Egypt	92	7	1
India	71	7	22
Senegal	93	3	4
Vietnam	98	1	1
Kenya	92	5	3
Bangladesh	98	1	1
Average	87	6	7

⁷³ **WorldPublicOpinion.org 2009**

Imagine that at the meeting, the other countries do NOT come to a global agreement on taking steps against climate change. If this happens, do you think our country would have a responsibility to take steps against climate change, or would it not have a responsibility?

	Would have a responsibility	Would not have a responsibility	DK/R
United States	73	24	4
France	87	11	2
Japan	83	17	0
Mexico	96	3	2
Russia	49	27	25
Turkey	82	7	11
Brazil	72	13	15
Iran	78	15	7
China	95	3	3
Indonesia	91	6	3
Egypt	88	12	1
India	70	9	21
Senegal	86	9	6
Vietnam	93	3	4
Kenya	89	8	3
Bangladesh	95	4	1
Average	83	11	7

⁷⁴ **Chicago Council on Global Affairs**

Some people say that the world is facing some new problems that require some new international institutions or agencies to deal with them. Do you think that there should or should not be new international institutions to:

Monitor whether countries are meeting their treaty obligations to limit their greenhouse-gas emissions that contribute to climate change

	Should be	Should not be	Not sure/ Decline
2008	68	30	2
2010	62	37	2

⁷⁵ **BBC July 2007**

Which of the following points of view is closer to your own?

	Because countries that are less wealthy produce relatively low emissions per person they SHOULD NOT be expected to limit their emissions of climate change gases along with wealthy countries.	Because total emissions from less wealthy countries are substantial and growing, these countries SHOULD limit their emissions of climate change gases along with wealthy countries.	DK / NA
Australia	23	71	5
Brazil	26	63	11
Canada	27	68	5
Chile	19	63	18
China	27	68	4
Egypt	53	47	*
France	31	61	8
Germany	34	61	5
Britain	25	70	5
India	24	33	43
Indonesia	24	54	22
Italy	49	42	9
Kenya	31	64	5
Mexico	14	75	11
Nigeria	50	42	8
Philippines	37	49	14
Russia	20	58	22
South Korea	39	56	5
Spain	20	72	8
Turkey	23	41	36
United States	18	75	7
Average	29	59	12

⁷⁶ BBC July 2007

Would you support or oppose the following deal:

Wealthy countries agree to provide less wealthy countries with financial assistance and technology, while less wealthy countries agree to limit their emissions of climate changing gases along with wealthy countries.

	Support	Oppose	DK / NA
Australia	84	12	5
Brazil	73	17	10
Canada	84	12	4
Chile	68	16	16
China	90	7	3
Egypt	77	23	
France	78	14	8
Germany	75	22	3
Britain	81	13	5
India	47	19	34
Indonesia	78	12	10
Italy	77	18	5
Kenya	76	19	5

Mexico	57	29	14
Nigeria	50	46	4
Philippines	71	17	12
Russia	77	6	18
South Korea	72	23	5
Spain	76	17	7
Turkey	65	12	23
United States	70	21	9
Average	73	18	10

⁷⁷ **WorldPublicOpinion.org/Chicago Council on Global Affairs 2006**

If the less developed countries make a commitment to limit their greenhouse-gas emissions, do you think the developed countries should provide substantial aid to help them?

	Yes, should help less developed countries	No, should not provide aid	NS/DK/Depends
United States	64	32	4
Poland	84	1	14
Ukraine	72	4	24

If the developed countries are willing to provide substantial aid, do you think the less developed countries should make a commitment to limit their greenhouse-gas emissions?

	Yes, should make a commitment	No, should not make a commitment	NS/Decline
Argentina	68	7	25
Armenia	63	21	16
China	79	8	13
India	48	29	23
Thailand	49	9	43

⁷⁸ **Chicago Council on Global Affairs 2008**

In thinking about a new agreement on climate change, do you favor or oppose the U.S. providing technological and financial aid to developing countries like China and India to help them limit the growth of their emissions, if they agree to make efforts to reach this goal.

U.S. providing technological and financial aid to developing countries to limit growth of emissions

48%	Favor
52	Oppose
1	Not sure/Decline

⁷⁹ **WorldPublicOpinion.org 2009**

Climate change will probably harm some countries more than others. For example, poor countries with low lying coastal areas will likely have widespread flooding and will not have the resources needed to assist their people. Do you think [country] should or should not contribute to international efforts to help poor countries deal with these climate-induced changes?

	Should	Should not	DK/R
United States	54	43	3

France	87	12	1
Japan	88	12	0
Mexico	87	12	2
Russia	50	29	21
Turkey	84	9	7
Brazil	77	17	7
Iran	73	20	7
China	89	8	2
Indonesia	96	4	1
Egypt	88	12	0
India	75	7	18
Senegal	91	7	2
Vietnam	98	2	1
Kenya	92	8	0
Bangladesh	93	7	0
Average	83	13	4

⁸⁰ **Stanford University Global Warming Poll, June 2010**

Do you think the United States should take action on global warming only if other major industrial countries such as China and India agree to do equally effective things, that the United States should take action even if these other countries do less, or that the United States should not take action on this at all?

14%	Take action only if other countries do
68	Take action even if other countries do less
18	Not take action at all
1	Don't know
*	Refused

Stanford University Global Warming Poll, June 2009

Do you think the United States should take action on global warming only if other major industrial countries such as China and India agree to do equally effective things, or that the United States should take action even if these other countries do less, or that the United States should not take action on this at all?

20%	Take action only if other countries do equally effective things
59	Take action even if other countries do less effective things
18	Should not take action at all
3	No opinion

⁸¹ **Pew Global Attitudes Project March 2008**

Which one of the following, if any, is hurting the world's environment the most?

	India	Germany	China	Brazil	Japan	United States	Russia	None (vol.)	Other (vol.)	DK/NR
United States	4	0	40	3	5	22	7	0	1	18

Britain	4	3	40	2	2	36	4	1	0	10
France	10	1	34	3	3	35	12	0	0	0
Germany	6	1	39	3	2	34	9	0	0	6
Spain	4	2	17	2	3	51	7	0	1	13
Poland	2	3	23	2	2	26	25	0	1	17
Russia	6	1	18	3	4	28	16	0	2	18
Turkey	3	1	6	1	1	46	5	0	3	34
Egypt	6	5	20	9	18	22	13	0	4	4
Jordan	7	7	19	8	15	24	15	0	6	1
Lebanon	18	4	18	4	3	36	8	0	8	1
Australia	9	1	46	4	3	24	4	0	1	8
China	11	5	9	4	9	26	4	0	1	31
India	19	6	21	4	7	21	4	0	2	15
Indonesia	7	3	11	1	5	42	11	0	1	19
Japan	2	1	67	1	3	17	2	0	1	7
Pakistan	23	1	1	0	0	51	2	0	1	19
South Korea	4	0	64	1	2	19	1	0	2	6
Argentina	1	2	7	4	5	54	4	0	5	15
Brazil	5	3	11	14	6	44	5	0	0	13
Mexico	2	4	13	3	6	38	7	0	4	24
Nigeria	6	5	11	2	7	24	8	0	6	31
South Africa	7	4	16	2	6	11	6	0	2	44
Tanzania	11	3	5	2	8	27	9	0	1	32

⁸² Pew Global Attitudes Project May 2007

Which one of the following, if any, is hurting the world's environment the most?

	India	Germany	China	Brazil	Japan	United States	Russia	Other	DK/Refused
United States	5	0	22	2	3	33	10	4	22
Canada	6	1	31	1	2	36	4	2	16
Argentina	1	1	3	3	4	49	1	4	35
Bolivia	2	3	10	1	7	47	5	1	23
Brazil	3	1	6	16	3	49	4	1	16
Chile	3	2	9	2	6	42	10	2	24
Mexico	5	6	11	3	5	39	6	2	22
Peru	4	3	8	1	7	46	10	2	20
Venezuela	6	1	9	1	5	55	8	2	12
Britain	5	1	31	3	1	41	4	3	13
France	9	1	23	1	2	53	9	0	2
Germany	4	1	33	1	1	45	8	1	8
Italy	4	1	22	1	4	31	4	1	32
Spain	7	0	7	2	4	56	2	0	22
Sweden	2	1	18	1	2	42	16	3	15
Bulgaria	1	0	3	2	1	41	4	1	48
Czech Rep.	4	3	19	2	1	48	12	0	11
Poland	3	4	11	2	3	29	19	0	29
Russia	2	2	14	2	3	26	16	2	33
Slovakia	4	2	13	3	2	55	8	1	12
Ukraine	1	0	6	1	4	37	8	4	38

Turkey	2	1	3	0	2	61	4	2	25
Egypt	6	8	19	6	19	27	6	3	7
Jordan	5	6	19	6	19	22	6	2	14
Kuwait	8	3	5	1	4	29	5	5	40
Lebanon	5	5	19	5	7	37	7	7	9
Morocco	4	3	7	2	2	31	2	2	47
Palestinian Territories	3	3	11	3	4	41	4	2	28
Israel	13	5	21	5	6	20	9	1	20
Pakistan	24	0	1	0	0	41	1	1	31
Bangladesh	13	2	3	1	4	61	3	0	14
Indonesia	3	2	6	1	4	52	4	2	27
Malaysia	6	1	3	0	1	38	2	4	44
China	7	1	11	2	9	38	2	3	29
India	29	4	10	5	4	25	3	2	17
Japan	1	1	34	0	7	36	1	1	18
South Korea	1	0	56	1	2	30	0	1	9

⁸³ **German Marshall Fund June 2010**

In your opinion, would you say that China tends to play a positive role, a negative role, or neither a positive nor a negative role in the following....Fighting climate change

	Positive role	Negative role	Neither	DK/Refusal
United States	10	74	14	1
France	12	71	14	3
Germany	13	68	16	2
United Kingdom	17	55	24	4
Italy	12	63	16	10
Netherlands	23	54	18	5
Poland	11	39	33	18
Portugal	26	48	19	7
Spain	23	50	20	6
Slovakia	16	27	36	22
Turkey	16	22	25	37
Bulgaria	14	13	35	38
Romania	28	10	35	26
European Average	16	51	21	12

⁸⁴ **Pew Global Attitudes Project March 2008**

Which of the following countries would you trust most to do the right thing in protecting the world's environment?

	India	Germany	China	Brazil	Japan	United States	Russia	None (vol.)	Other (vol.)	DK/NR
United States	3	15	2	4	7	57	1	0	2	9
Britain	3	45	4	3	8	12	1	6	0	19
France	3	71	2	6	6	6	3	0	2	1
Germany	2	80	1	2	2	3	2	0	1	6
Spain	7	36	4	5	7	9	1	5	3	20

Poland	1	25	2	6	16	24	1	0	3	21
Russia	3	26	3	3	19	5	15	0	2	20
Turkey	3	19	2	1	10	4	1	2	6	51
Egypt	7	14	13	5	18	7	2	17	8	9
Jordan	7	12	14	6	15	8	4	20	8	6
Lebanon	2	25	6	8	9	7	4	16	15	7
Australia	1	43	2	5	7	21	1	0	5	14
China	2	8	42	2	6	7	2	0	1	29
India	54	3	3	3	7	16	3	0	1	10
Indonesia	3	8	10	5	32	16	2	0	3	22
Japan	5	36	2	2	34	4	2	0	4	13
Pakistan	4	2	44	1	7	7	0	0	10	26
South Korea	3	33	1	5	23	13	1	0	6	16
Argentina	3	18	6	8	13	9	2	7	2	33
Brazil	3	11	5	43	12	14	0	1	0	10
Mexico	7	11	13	5	9	19	5	0	4	28
Nigeria	2	6	22	2	4	48	2	0	1	12
South Africa	4	12	8	6	5	26	2	0	4	32
Tanzania	5	11	7	11	6	18	4	0	7	32
Average	6	24	9	6	12	15	3	3	4	19

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