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Chapter 13a: U.S. Opinion on the Environment

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

Perception of Climate Change as a Problem or Threat

Most Americans say that global warming is a problem or a threat. Only small minorities say it is not a problem. Concern about climate change, while increasing for some years, may be leveling out. Large majorities believe that human activity plays a role in climate change.

In a 2009 Pew poll, 74 percent of U.S. respondents described the problem of global warming as serious, with 44 percent specifically saying it is very serious. Just 11 percent said it is not a problem. These numbers are consistent with the 2008 poll in which 72 percent said it was a serious problem.

This strong U.S. concern was nonetheless lower than in most other countries. On average, 85 percent of those polled across twenty-five countries said the problem was serious, with 56 percent saying it was very serious. In China—the largest producer of greenhouse gasses—an average of 84 percent said that climate change was serious, with 30 percent saying it was very serious (Pew 2009).¹

In a Chicago Council on Global Affairs (CGA) poll conducted in 2006, 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 and 39 percent saying it would be an important, but not critical threat. Just 13 percent said it would not be an important 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.²

In 2008, 81 percent of Americans said that global warming would be a threat over the next ten years, with 44 percent saying that it would be a critical threat and 37 percent said it would be important, but not critical (CCGA 2008). Just 18 percent said it would not be important. A separate sample asked the question using the term “climate change” instead and found no significant differences.³

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.⁴

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.⁵ However, this growth in concern may be topping out, as Pew did not find significant changes in U.S. views between 2007 and 2009.⁶

Role of Human Activity

The U.S. public, similar to publics around the world, appears to overwhelmingly reject 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.⁷

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.⁸

Readiness to Take Action

A large majority of Americans support taking action to address the problem of climate change. More often than not majorities favor taking major steps, urgently. A modest majority thinks that the U.S. government should do more than it is currently doing to address climate change. Americans tend to underestimate how ready other Americans are to support taking action, however. There is strong support for participation in an international treaty to limit climate change. Most Americans believe that it will be necessary for people to change their lifestyle in order to reduce their production of climate-changing gasses. Readiness to take action is highly related to levels of information regarding climate change and the perception that there is scientific consensus on the reality of climate change.

Support for taking action to address climate change is quite robust. Respondents were 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” (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2007). 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.⁹

Another poll offered three options for responding to climate change, but put greater emphasis on the potential costs of each (CCGA 2006). In this case the highest level of commitment failed to garner majority support, but it remained the most common response. A plurality of Americans (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 of Americans 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.¹⁰

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 7.28.¹¹

Similarly, GMF asked Americans and Europeans in 2008 what the top priority should be for the next U.S. president and European leaders. Given a list of eight issues, Americans rated climate change as the fifth most pressing issue, while Europeans rated it as one of the top two (GMF 2008).¹²

However, a majority of Americans do think that their government should place a higher priority on climate change than it does. When WPO asked how high a priority their government places on addressing climate change, using the same zero-to-ten scale, the mean estimate from U.S. respondents was 3.84—one of the lowest of all nations polled (average 5.06). A modest majority of Americans (52 percent) argued that their government should make combating climate change a higher level priority, whereas 24 percent approved of the current level and 21 percent favored a lower level. Across the twenty-two countries, an average of 60 percent called for their government to give climate change a higher priority.¹³

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, respondents offered the mean response of 3.71—substantially lower than the 4.71 they reported for themselves.¹⁴ 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 placing the same priority, and 24 percent a lower priority, than the average of their fellow citizens.

Participation in Climate Change Treaty

Large majorities of Americans believe the United States should take part in an international treaty to combat climate change. CCGA found that 76 percent favoring favored the United States participating in “a new international treaty to address climate change by reducing greenhouse-gas emissions” (CCGA 2008).¹⁵ 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.¹⁶

Poll questions that presented the arguments for and against the Kyoto treaty elicited a similar response in an April 2001 ABC News poll, which presented both sides of the argument with the following question: “An international treaty calls on the United States and other industrialized nations to cut back on their emissions from power plants and cars in order to reduce global warming, also known as the greenhouse effect. Some people say this would hurt the U.S. economy and is based on uncertain science. Others say this is needed to protect the environment and could create new business opportunities. What's your view: do you think the United States should or should not join this treaty requiring less emissions from U.S. power plants and cars?”

A majority of 61 percent expressed support for joining the treaty. In June 2002, the Chicago Council on Global Affairs asked the same question again and found 70-percent support for joining the treaty.¹⁷

Need for Changes in Lifestyle

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.¹⁸

Effect of Greater Information

Not surprisingly, willingness to take action in regard to climate change rises with greater awareness.

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.¹⁹

Effect of Perceived Scientific Consensus

Most Americans do not perceive that there is a scientific consensus on the reality of climate change. When 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.²⁰

A June 2005 PIPA poll found a slight majority of 52 percent saying “there is a consensus among the great majority of scientists that global warming exists and could do significant damage,” while 39 percent said that scientists are divided on the existence of global warming and its impact.²¹

In June 2005, PIPA found that while 76 percent favored taking some steps to address global warming, only 34 percent favored taking steps with significant costs. PIPA also followed 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.²²

Changing Energy Usage

To motivate changes in energy usage, most Americans believe that it will be necessary to increase the cost of energy that causes climate change. The idea of raising taxes on such forms of energy meets with mixed responses. But if the revenues of such a tax are earmarked to address the problem of climate change or are offset with tax reductions, support becomes much higher. Also, a large majority of Americans say that in order to address climate change they would be willing to pay more for renewable energy.

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” (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2007). 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.²³

U.S. support plummeted, however, 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 (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2007).²⁴

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).²⁵

It may be that using the term “taxes” diminishes support for adjusting cost structures to encourage more renewable energy. 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.²⁶

Pew asked Americans in 2009 whether 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. Only 41 percent agreed and 55 percent disagreed.²⁷

Reducing Reliance on Oil and Coal

To reduce reliance on oil and coal, a large majority of Americans favor creating tax incentives to encourage alternative energy sources, requiring automakers to increase fuel efficiency, and building new nuclear power plants.

Respondents were asked whether they favored a number of methods for reducing reliance on oil and coal, without specifically mentioning the purpose (BBC/GlobeScan/PIPA 2006). The most popular of the four proposed measures proved to be “creating tax incentives that would encourage the development and use of alternative energy sources, such as solar or wind power.” A majority of Americans (85 percent) supported this measure while 12 percent opposed. Across all nineteen countries an average of 80 percent of respondents said they would support such incentives.²⁸

The next most popular measure was to require “auto makers to increase fuel efficiency, even if this means the price of cars would go up.” Seventy-seven percent of Americans (and 67 percent of respondents globally) supported this measure, while 21 percent of Americans (and 26 percent of those globally) opposed it.²⁹

A majority of Americans (63 percent) also supported “building new nuclear power plants, to reduce reliance on oil and coal.” Global support was far weaker, with 49 percent endorsing and 44 percent opposing the proposal.³⁰

The least popular measure was “increasing energy taxes to encourage conservation.” A bare majority of Americans (51 percent) opposed the measure, while 47 percent were in support of it. On average, 59 percent of global respondents opposed the tax increase, while 37 percent supported it.³¹

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 government 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.³²

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.³³

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.³⁴

However, when a more recent 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.³⁵

Americans also say that U.S. action on climate change should not be contingent on the actions of developing countries. Given three options, only 20 percent said that 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.” Fifty-nine percent said the United States “should take action even if these other countries do less.” Eighteen percent said the United States should not take action at all (ABC News/Stanford 2009).³⁶

Multilateral Efforts to Address 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.³⁷

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.³⁸

A large majority (68 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 2008)³⁹

Assessments of Leading Country’s Role in Addressing Problem

A majority of Americans disapprove of how the United States has handled the problem of climate change. Most Americans regarded 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.

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.⁴⁰

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.⁴¹ This is a notable change from a Pew poll conducted a year earlier in 2007, when most Americans (33 percent) said that the United States was hurting the environment the most, and only 22 percent indicated that China was.⁴²

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.⁴³

¹ 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 [WorldPublicOpinion.org/Chicago Council on Global Affairs 2006](http://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 [WorldPublicOpinion.org/Chicago Council on Global Affairs 2008](http://WorldPublicOpinion.org/Chicago_Council_on_Global_Affairs_2008)

Below is a list of possible threats to the vital interest of the United States 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	Not sure/ Decline	Total
1998	43	38	12	7	100
2002 (telephone)	46	33	17	4	100
2004 (telephone)	37	42	17	5	100
2004 (internet)	37	47	14	2	100
2006 (internet)	46	39	13	2	100
2008 (internet)	44	37	18	1	100

Climate Change

	Critical	Important but not critical	Not important	Not sure/ Decline	Total
2008 (internet)	39	40	20	1	100

⁴ [German Marshall Fund Transatlantic Trends 2007](http://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

⁵ 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

6 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

⁷ 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

⁸ 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

⁹ 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

¹⁰ 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

¹¹ 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

¹² 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

¹³ 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

¹⁴ 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

15 Chicago Council on Global Affairs 2008

Based on what you know, do you think the United States 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	Total
2008 (internet)	76	23	2	100

16 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

17 ABC News Poll, April 2001

An international treaty calls on the United States and other industrialized nations to cut back on their emissions from power plants and cars in order to reduce global warming, also known as the greenhouse effect. Some people say this would hurt the U.S. economy and is based on uncertain science. Others say this is needed to protect the environment and could create new business opportunities. What's your view-do you think the United States should or should not join this treaty requiring less emissions from U.S. power plants and cars?

61%	Should join
26	Should not join
13	Not sure/Decline

Chicago Council on Global Affairs/ German Marshall Fund 2002

An international treaty calls on the United States and other industrialized nations to cut back on their emissions from power plants and cars in order to reduce global warming, also known as the greenhouse effect. Some people say this would hurt the U.S. economy and is based on uncertain science. Others say this is needed to protect the environment and could create new business opportunities. What's your view--do you think the United States should or should not join this treaty requiring less emissions from U.S. power plants and cars?

70%	Should join
25	Should not join
5	Not sure/Decline

¹⁸ **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

¹⁹ **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

²⁰ 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

²¹ Program on International Policy Attitudes June 2005

Which of the following statements is closest to your own opinion?

	a. There is a consensus among the great majority of scientists that global warming exists and could do significant damage	b. There is a consensus among the great majority of scientists that global warming does not exist and therefore poses no significant threat	c. Scientists are divided on the existence of global warming and its impact	(No answer)
June 2005	52	5	39	4
June 2004	43	4	50	4
September 1994	28	8	58	6

²² 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)

²³ 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

²⁴ 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

²⁵ 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

²⁶ 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

²⁷ 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

²⁸ BBC July 2006

Creating tax incentives to encourage the development and use of alternative energy sources, such as solar or wind power.

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK / NA
Australia	74	18	5	2	1
Brazil	65	22	4	6	3
Canada	66	25	4	4	1
Chile	31	31	13	12	13
Egypt	32	34	24	8	2
France	63	28	4	3	2
Germany	50	35	9	4	2
Britain	62	24	5	6	2

India	49	19	14	5	13
Israel	59	25	7	4	6
Italy	75	20	2	2	1
Kenya	48	29	11	8	5
Mexico	32	35	13	11	9
Philippines	31	39	19	8	2
Poland	55	31	4	3	7
Russia	30	44	9	4	13
South Korea	31	51	14	3	2
Ukraine	42	36	9	4	9
United States	59	26	6	6	2
Average	50	30	9	5	5

²⁹ BBC July 2006

Requiring auto makers to increase fuel efficiency, even if this means the price of cars would go up.

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK / NA
Australia	59	29	6	5	1
Brazil	35	23	16	23	3
Canada	47	30	10	10	2
Chile	24	34	17	10	15
Egypt	20	27	26	25	2
France	24	31	18	23	4
Germany	38	42	14	4	2
Great Britain	45	29	12	11	3
India	36	19	7	13	24
Israel	35	30	15	13	7
Italy	47	38	7	4	3
Kenya	33	28	18	13	7
Mexico	25	44	11	13	8
Philippines	20	29	29	21	1
Poland	18	30	21	13	18
Russia	36	41	11	1	11
South Korea	23	51	20	3	3
Ukraine	38	43	8	2	10
United States	50	27	10	11	1
Average	34	33	15	11	7

³⁰ BBC July 2006

Building new nuclear power plants to reduce reliance on oil and coal

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	DK / NA
Australia	19	34	20	24	3
Brazil	23	24	15	35	3
Canada	22	30	18	25	6
Chile	18	24	20	24	15

Egypt	30	39	21	9	1
France	10	28	23	34	5
Germany	9	26	26	36	3
Britain	21	29	17	26	7
India	36	30	11	10	13
Israel	20	29	18	23	10
Italy	26	27	18	25	5
Kenya	36	30	12	15	8
Mexico	19	35	20	13	13
Philippines	27	33	20	18	2
Poland	13	18	26	30	14
Russia	5	23	36	24	12
South Korea	15	50	27	4	4
Ukraine	6	18	31	36	9
United States	29	34	15	18	4
Average	20	29	21	23	7

³¹ BBC July 2006

Increasing energy taxes to encourage conservation

	Strongly favor	Somewhat favor	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know / No answer
Australia	30	39	18	12	1
Brazil	6	7	13	73	*
Canada	18	29	21	30	2
Chile	14	27	23	25	13
Egypt	20	26	23	28	2
France	7	23	24	41	5
Germany	12	35	26	26	1
Britain	31	31	16	18	4
India	25	27	14	22	13
Israel	14	22	26	31	6
Italy	5	17	34	42	2
Kenya	32	28	18	17	5
Mexico	7	19	27	43	3
Philippines	20	18	22	38	1
Poland	2	5	34	53	5
Russia	2	11	39	45	4
South Korea	6	35	45	12	1
Ukraine	3	9	31	55	2
United States	19	28	22	29	2
Average	14	23	25	34	4

³² 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

³³ 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

³⁴ **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

³⁵ **Chicago Council on Global Affairs**

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

³⁶ **ABC News/Washington Post 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

³⁷ 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

³⁸ 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
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³⁹ **Chicago Council on Global Affairs 2008**

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

68%	Should be
30	Should not be
2	Not sure/Decline

⁴⁰ **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
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
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⁴¹ **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

⁴² **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

⁴³ 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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