

THE NEW YORK TIMES/ STANFORD UNIVERSITY / RESOURCES FOR THE FUTURE

Poll on Global Warming

Jan. 7-22, 2015

1,006 adults nationwide

All past trends based on Stanford University polls.

Some questions are being held for release at a later date.

[2014-2015] Q14A. If the world's temperature did increase over the past 100 years, do you think this increase was caused mostly by things people did, mostly by natural causes, or about equally by things people did and by natural causes?

Q14B. Assuming it's happening, do you think a rise in the world's temperature would have been caused mostly by things people do, mostly by natural causes, or about equally by things people do and by natural causes?

[2012-2013] Q14A1. Do you think that the increase in the world's temperature over the past 100 years was caused mostly by things people did, mostly by natural causes, or about equally by things people did and by natural causes?

Q14B1. If the world's temperature did increase over the past 100 years, do you think this increase was caused mostly by things people did, mostly by natural causes, or about equally by things people did and by natural causes?

[2006-2011]. 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?

[2006-2011]. 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?

[2006-2011]. Would you lean toward saying it would be caused mostly by things people do or mostly by natural causes?

[1997-8] Now I'd like to ask you what you think might cause global warming. [I realized that you don't expect global warming to happen, but I would like to ask you what you think might cause it. Some people have told us that global warming would be brought about mostly by things people do. Others have said that global warming would be brought about mostly by what nature does itself. Still others think that people and nature would play about equal roles in causing global warming. Which of these views is closest to yours?

Q14A/B	Oct-97	Feb-98	Mar-06	Apr-07	Jul-08	Nov-09	Jun-10	Nov-10	Sep-11	Jun-2012	Dec-2013	6/8/2014	Jan-2015
Things people did	40	42	31	41	34	30	30	31	27	30	32	33	40
Natural causes	18	16	19	17	21	27	25	24	27	22	20	20	18
About equally	41	40	49	42	44	40	45	45	45	47	48	45	41
Don't know/Refused	2	2	1	1	1	3	*	1	2	1	*	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	688	725	1002	1001	1000	901	1000	1001	1134	804	801	1023	1006

- [2015] Q15. If nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how serious of a problem do you think it will be for THE UNITED STATES – very serious, somewhat serious, not so serious, or not serious at all?
- [2012, 2013] Q15A. If nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how serious of a problem do you think it will be for THE UNITED STATES – very serious, somewhat serious, not so serious, or not serious at all?
- Q15B. Assuming it's happening, if nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how serious of a problem do you think it would be for THE UNITED STATES – very serious, somewhat serious, not so serious, or not serious at all?
- Q15C. If nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how serious of a problem do you think it will be for THE UNITED STATES – very serious, somewhat serious, not so serious, or not serious at all?
- [2006-2010]. [Assuming it's happening,] If nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how serious of a problem do you think it will be for THE UNITED STATES – very serious, somewhat serious, not so serious, or not serious at all?

Q15	Mar-06	Nov-09	Jun-10	Nov-10	Jun-2012	Dec-2013	Jan-2015
Very serious	49	42	46	42	40	52	44
Somewhat serious	34	31	32	33	38	29	34
Not so serious	10	13	12	14	12	9	10
Not serious at all	6	13	10	10	8	10	10
Don't know/Refused	2	1	1	1	2	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	1002	1005	1000	1001	804	801	1006

- [2015] Q16. If nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how serious of a problem do you think it will be for THE WORLD – very serious, somewhat serious, not so serious, or not serious at all?
- [2012, 2013] Q16A. If nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how serious of a problem do you think it will be for THE WORLD – very serious, somewhat serious, not so serious, or not serious at all?
- Q16B. Assuming it's happening, if nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how serious of a problem do you think it would be for THE WORLD – very serious, somewhat serious, not so serious, or not serious at all?
- Q16C. If nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how serious of a problem do you think it will be for THE WORLD – very serious, somewhat serious, not so serious, or not serious at all?
- [2006-2010]. [Assuming it's happening,] If nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how serious of a problem do you think it will be for THE WORLD – very serious, somewhat serious, not so serious, or not serious at all?

Q16	Mar-06	Nov-09	Jun-10	Nov-10	Jun-2012	Dec-2013	Jan-2015
Very serious	57	51	55	51	50	59	57
Somewhat serious	28	25	26	27	31	24	26
Not so serious	8	11	11	12	10	8	7
Not serious at all	5	13	8	9	7	9	9
Don't know/Refused	2	*	1	1	1	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	1002	1005	1000	1001	804	801	1006

Q17A. [Assuming it's happening,] How much do you think global warming has hurt you personally – a great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little or not at all?

Q17A	Jan-2015
A great deal	6
A lot	7
A moderate amount	21
A little	22
Not at all	44
Don't know/Refused	*
Total	100
N	1006

Q17A1. [Assuming it's happening,] How much do you think global warming has helped you personally – a great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little or not at all?

Q17A1	Jan-2015
A great deal	2
A lot	2
A moderate amount	6
A little	12
Not at all	78
Don't know/Refused	*
Total	100
N	1006

Q17B. [Assuming it's happening,] If nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how much do you think it will hurt you personally—a great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little or not at all?

Q17B	Nov-09	Jun-10	Nov-10	Dec-2013	Jan-2015
A great deal	19	18	17	18	18
A lot	15	17	14	14	16
A moderate amount	26	27	24	30	20
A little	15	17	20	17	17
Not at all	24	20	25	21	28
Don't know/Refused	*	1	1	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100
N	1005	1000	1001	801	1006

Q17B1. [Assuming it's happening] If nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how much do you think it will help you personally—a great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little or not at all?

17B1	Jan-2015
A great deal	3
A lot	3
A moderate amount	9
A little	12
Not at all	72
Don't know/Refused	1
Total	100
N	1006

Q18A. [Assuming it's happening,] If nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how much do you think it will hurt future generations—a great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Q18A	Nov-09	Jun-10	Nov-10	Dec-2013	Jan-2015
A great deal	42	43	38	48	43
A lot	21	21	21	19	16
A moderate amount	13	16	16	13	15
A little	8	11	11	9	11
Not at all	15	9	12	10	14
Don't know/Refused	1	*	1	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100
N	1005	1000	1001	801	1006

Q18A1. [Assuming it's happening,] If nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how much do you think it will help future generations—a great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

18A1	Jan-2015
A great deal	5
A lot	4
A moderate amount	9
A little	11
Not at all	69
Don't know/Refused	2
Total	100
N	1006

Q19A. 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?

Q19A	Oct-97	Feb-98	Mar-06	Apr-07	Jul-08	Nov-09	Jun-10	Nov-10	Jul-05	Jun-2012	Dec-2013	Jan-2015
Extremely important	9	11	17	18	16	16	14	16	15	10	18	13
Very important	22	21	32	34	30	25	32	29	27	28	27	29
Somewhat important	44	48	32	30	31	30	30	30	28	39	29	27
Not too important	19	14	10	8	13	13	12	16	15	13	12	16
Not at all important	6	6	8	9	9	16	12	9	14	10	14	15
Don't know/Refused	0	0	*	*	*	1	*	*	1	*	*	*
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	688	725	1002	1001	1000	1005	1000	1001	1134	804	801	1006

Q19B. How strong are your opinions on the issue of global warming – extremely strong, very strong, somewhat strong, not too strong, or not strong at all?

Q19B	Jun-10	Nov-10	Jun-2012	Dec-2013	Jan-2015
Extremely strong	13	14	11	17	15
Very strong	28	30	28	29	30
Somewhat strong	34	35	36	32	30
Not too strong	15	14	18	13	15
Not at all strong	9	7	7	9	10
Don't know/Refused	1	*	1	*	*
Total	100	100	100	100	100
N	1000	1001	804	801	1006

Q20. How much do you feel you know about global warming - a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or nothing?

Q20	Oct-97	Feb-98	Mar-06	Apr-07	Jul-08	Nov-09	Jun-10	Nov-10	Jun-2012	Dec-2013	Jan-2015
A lot	7	6	10	11	13	17	15	13	11	19	15
A moderate amount	35	38	47	51	49	49	53	53	44	50	51
A little	49	47	36	33	33	29	27	29	37	27	30
Nothing	9	9	6	4	4	5	5	4	9	4	4
Don't know/Refused	0	0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	688	725	1002	1002	1000	1005	1000	1001	804	801	1006

Q32D. Do you think President Obama did more about global warming during the past year than during the two years before that, did less, or did about the same amount?

Q32D	Jan-2015
Did more	16
Did less	14
Did about the same	60
Don't know/Refused	10
Total	100
N	1006

Q32E. Do you think the United States Congress did more about global warming during the past year than during the two years before that, did less, or did about the same amount?

Q32E	Jan-2015
Did more	6
Did less	25
Did about the same	61
Don't know/Refused	8
Total	100
N	1006

Q39A. How important do you think the issue of global warming should be personally to President Obama– extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Q39A	Jan-2015
Extremely important	21
Very important	31
Moderately important	23
Slightly important	14
Not important at all	10
Don't know/Refused	0
Total	100
N	1006

Q39B. How important do you think the issue of global warming is personally to President Obama – extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Q39B	Jan-2015
Extremely important	12
Very important	24
Moderately important	30
Slightly important	19
Not important at all	12
Don't know/Refused	4
Total	100
N	1006

Q39C. How important do you think the issue of global warming should be personally to the Democrats in the United States Congress – extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Q39C	Jan-2015
Extremely important	24
Very important	28
Moderately important	24
Slightly important	15
Not important at all	8
Don't know/Refused	1
Total	100
N	1006

Q39D. How important do you think the issue of global warming is personally to the Democrats in the United States Congress– extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Q39D	Jan-2015
Extremely important	8
Very important	17
Moderately important	37
Slightly important	23
Not important at all	12
Don't know/Refused	3
Total	100
N	1006

Q39E. How important do you think the issue of global warming should be personally to the Republicans in the United States Congress—extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Q39E	Jan-2015
Extremely important	22
Very important	30
Moderately important	24
Slightly important	13
Not important at all	10
Don't know/Refused	1
Total	100
N	1006

Q39F. How important do you think the issue of global warming is personally to the Republicans in the United States Congress—extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Q39F	Jan-2015
Extremely important	3
Very important	8
Moderately important	25
Slightly important	33
Not important at all	28
Don't know/Refused	3
Total	100
N	1006

[Nov-2010, 2012, 2013, 2015] Q33. As you may have heard, greenhouse gases are thought to cause global warming. In your opinion do you think the government should or should not limit the amount of greenhouse gasses that U.S. businesses put out?

[Nov. 2010, Jun. 2010]

[Jun-2010] Q33A. Some people believe that the United States government should limit the amount of air pollution that U.S. businesses can produce. Other people believe that the government should not limit air pollution from U.S. businesses. What about you? Do you think the government should or should not limit air pollution from U.S. businesses?

Q33B. Some people believe that the United States government should limit the amount of greenhouse gasses thought to cause global warming that U.S. businesses can produce. Other people believe that the government should not limit the amount of greenhouse gasses that U.S. businesses put out. What about you? Do you think the government should or should not limit the amount of greenhouse gasses that U.S. businesses put out?

[2009] Some people believe that the United States government should limit the amount of air pollution that U.S. businesses can produce. Other people believe that the government should not limit air pollution from U.S. businesses. What about you? Do you think the government should or should not limit air pollution from U.S. businesses?

[1997-8] Some people believe that the United States government should limit the amount of air pollution that U.S. businesses can produce. Other people believe that the government should not limit air pollution from U.S. businesses. What about you? Do you think the government should or should not limit air pollution from U.S. businesses?

Q33	Oct-97	Feb-98	Nov-09	Jun-10	Nov-10	Jun-2012	Dec-2013	Jan-2015
Government should limit	88	91	83	81	80	77	81	78
Government should not limit	11	8	16	16	17	20	18	19
Don't know/Refused	2	1	1	3	3	3	1	3
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	688	725	1005	1000	1001	804	801	1006

Q36B .Do you think that the United States doing things to reduce global warming in the future would hurt the U.S. economy, would help the economy, or would have no effect on the U.S. economy?

36C: Do you think that the United States doing things to reduce global warming in the future would help the U.S. economy, would hurt the economy, or would have no effect on the U.S. economy?

Q36B/Q38C	Nov-09	Jun-10	Nov-10	Dec-13	6/8/2014	Jan-2015
Hurt the U.S. economy	27	20	23	30	27	30
Help the U.S. economy	46	56	53	44	46	42
Would not affect	24	23	22	23	23	24
Don't know/Refused	3	2	3	3	4	3
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	1005	1000	1001	801	1023	1006

[2015] Q35. [BEFORE THE FIRST ITEM ONLY READ THIS]: 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. Each of these changes would increase the amount of money that you pay for things you buy.

[2012] Q35. [BEFORE THE FIRST ITEM ONLY READ THIS]: 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 ASK SUBSAMPLE2: Each of these changes would increase the amount of money that you pay for things you buy.]

[2006-2011]. For each of the following, please tell me whether you favor or oppose it as a way for the federal government [HALF SAMPLE , doing it/HALF SAMPLE, to try to reduce future global warming].

Q35a. Increasing taxes on electricity so people use less of it?

Q35_1	3/14/2006	4/10/2007	11/29/2009	6/7/2010	11/14/2010	3/11/2012	Jun-2012	Jan-2015
Favor	19	20	21	22	24	18	25	25
Oppose	80	79	77	77	76	80	74	74
Don't know/Refused	0	1	2	1	1	2	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	1002	1002	1005	1000	1001	1428	804	1006

Q35b. Increasing taxes on gasoline so people either drive less, or buy cars that use less gas

Q35_2	3/14/2006	4/10/2007	11/29/2009	6/7/2010	11/14/2010	3/11/2012	Jun-2012	Jan-2015
Favor	31	32	32	28	33	26	28	36
Oppose	68	67	67	71	67	73	71	63
Don't know/Refused	1	1	1	1	0	2	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	1002	1002	1005	1000	1001	1428	804	1006

Q35c. Giving companies tax breaks to build nuclear power plants

Q35c	Nov-09	Jun-10	Nov-10	Dec-2013	Jan-2015
Favor	54	48	47	37	36
Oppose	43	48	49	62	61
Don't know/Refused	3	4	4	1	3
Total	100	100	100	100	100
N	1003	1000	1001	801	1006

Q35d. Giving companies tax breaks to produce more electricity from water, wind, and solar power

Q35d	Mar-06	Nov-09	Jun-10	Nov-10	3/11/2012	Jun-2012	Dec-2013	Jan-2015
Favor	87	88	84	86	73	77	75	80
Oppose	12	12	15	13	25	22	24	19
Don't know/Refused	1	1	*	1	2	1	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	1002	1005	1000	1001	1428	804	801	1006

Q35e. Giving tax breaks to companies that burn coal to make electricity if they use new methods to reduce the air pollution being released from their smokestacks

Q35_5	JUN-2012	Jan-2015
Favor	66	68
Oppose	33	29
Don't know/Refused	1	2
Total	100	100
N	804	1006

Q1A1. How much do you trust the things that Democrats in the U.S. Congress say about global warming - completely, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Q1A1	Jan-2015
Completely	3
A lot	14
A moderate amount	30
A little	27
Not at all	24
Don't know/Refused	1
Total	100
N	1006

Q1B1. How much do you trust the things that Republicans in the U.S. Congress say about global warming - completely, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Q1B1	Jan-2015
Completely	3
A lot	5
A moderate amount	27
A little	29
Not at all	35
Don't know/Refused	1
Total	100
N	1006

Q69. Next, I will read you a statement that could be made by someone who wants to be a United States Senator or President of the United States. Here is the statement:

"I believe that global warming has been happening for the past 100 years, mainly because we have been burning fossil fuels and putting out greenhouse gasses. Now is the time for us to be using new forms of energy that are made in America and will be renewable forever. We can manufacture better cars that use less gasoline and build better appliances that use less electricity. We need to transform the outdated ways of generating energy into new ones that create jobs and entire industries, and stop the damage we've been doing to the environment."

If a candidate says this, would this make you more likely to vote for this candidate, less likely to vote for this candidate, or would it not affect how likely you would be to vote for this candidate?

Q69	Jan-2015
More likely	66
Less likely	12
Has no effect	21
Don't know/Refused	1
Total	100
N	1006

Q70. Next, I will read you a statement that could be made by someone who wants to be a United States Senator or President of the United States. Here is the statement:

“The science on global warming is a hoax and is an attempt to perpetrate a fraud on the American people. I don’t buy into the whole man-caused global warming mantra. We must spend no effort to deal with something that is not a problem at all. We should not invest in windmills and solar panels as alternative energy sources. Instead we should continue to focus on our traditional sources of energy: coal, oil, and natural gas. We should expand energy production in our country, including continuing to mine our coal and doing more drilling for oil here at home.”

If a candidate says this, would this make you more likely to vote for this candidate, less likely to vote for this candidate, or would it not affect how likely you would be to vote for this candidate?

Q70	Jan-2015
More likely	13
Less likely	67
Has no effect	19
Don’t know/Refused	1
Total	100
N	1006

Q71. Next, I will read you a statement that could be made by someone who wants to be a United States Senator or President of the United States. Here is the statement:

“When people ask me if I believe global warming has been happening, I’m not qualified to debate the science over climate change, because I am not a scientist. When people ask me if I believe human activity causes global warming, I don’t know. There is significant scientific dispute about that. We can debate this forever. I am not qualified to make this decision. But I am astute enough to understand that every proposal to deal with climate change involves hurting our economy and killing American jobs.”

If a candidate says this, would this make you more likely to vote for this candidate, less likely to vote for this candidate, or would it not affect how likely you would be to vote for this candidate?

Q71	Jan-2015
More likely	27
Less likely	44
Has no effect	27
Don’t know/Refused	2
Total	100
N	1006

[2013-2015] Q901. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as: a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or what?
 Q901A. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as: a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or what?

Q904. Do you lean towards the Democratic Party or Republican Party?
 Q904A. Do you lean towards the Republican Party or Democratic Party?

Q901A1. Would you call yourself a strong Democrat or not a very strong Democrat?
 Q901B1. Would you call yourself a strong Republican or not a very strong Republican?

Q901/Q901A	Oct-97	Feb-98	Mar-06	Apr-07	Jul-08	Nov-09	Jun-10	Nov-10	Jun-2012	Dec-2013	6/8/2014	Jan-2015
Democrat	36	31	30	34	34	29	32	29	32	31	34	29
Republican	27	27	30	22	24	23	19	23	18	21	23	22
Independent	30	33	28	32	31	24	26	29	38	37	39	40
Other	4	5	7	7	8	21	22	17	9	9	1	7
Don't know/Refused	3	5	4	5	3	2	1	2	3	2	3	3
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
N	688	725	1002	1002	1000	1005	1000	1001	804	801	1023	1006

QTEA. Do you consider yourself to be a supporter of the Tea Party movement, or not?

QTEA	Jan-2015
Yes	18
No	72
Don't know/Refused	9
Total	100
N	1006