

SUMMER 2020 NSEE

FREQUENCY REPORT

Fielding Dates: July 14 - August 4, 2020
Sample Size: 607 Adults in the United States
Method: Telephone (80% Cell and 20 Landline)
Margin of Error: +/- 4.5%
AAPOR Response Rate (II): 9%
Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding

Hello. My name is _____ and I'm a student at Muhlenberg College. We are conducting a research project regarding environmental issues in the United States. Would you be able to help us by answering a few questions?

Yes..... 1
No.....2 (Thank and terminate)
Not sure.....98 (Thank and terminate)
Refused..... .99 (Thank and terminate)

Q1. Thank you. Can you please tell me in which year you were born? (GROUPED INTO CATEGORIES)

18-29.....22%
30-44.....24%
45-64.....31%
65 and Older.... 23%

Q2. What state do you currently reside in? (GROUPED INTO REGIONS)

Northeast,,,,,,,,,,,,,21%.
South.....37%
Midwest.....23%
West.....20%

Q3. Next, I would like to ask you a few questions on the issue of global warming. From what you've read and heard. Is there solid evidence that the average temperature on earth has been getting warmer over the past four decades?

Yes 75%
No14% (SKIP TO Q8)
Not Sure (Volunteered)..... 11% (SKIP TO Q10)

Q4. How confident are you that the average temperature on earth is increasing? Are you very confident, fairly confident, not too confident or not confident at all that the average temperature on earth is increasing?

Very confident..... 67%.
Fairly confident.....27%.
Not too confident..... 4%.
Not confident at all..... 1%.
Not Sure (Volunteered)..... 1%

Q5. Is the earth getting warmer mostly because of human activity such as burning fossil fuels, or mostly because of natural patterns in the earth's environment?

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|--------------|
| Human activity..... | 51% | (SKIP TO Q7) |
| Natural patterns..... | 19% | (SKIP TO Q7) |
| A combination (Volunteered)..... | 23% | (GO TO Q6) |
| Not Sure (Volunteered)..... | 7% | (SKIP TO Q7) |

Q6. I know you say it's a combination, but if you had to choose, would you say that temperatures on earth are rising *mostly* because of human activity or *mostly* because of natural patterns? (N = 127)

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Human activity..... | 50% |
| Natural patterns..... | 14% |
| Equal (Volunteered)..... | 33% |
| Not Sure (Volunteered)..... | 3% |

Q7. What is the primary factor that has caused you to believe that temperatures on earth are increasing?

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Scientific Research..... | 24% |
| Weather Changes..... | 9% |
| Warmer Temperatures Observed..... | 21% |
| Human Activity..... | 18% |
| Melting Glaciers/Polar Ice..... | 11% |
| Media Coverage..... | 4% |
| Natural Patterns..... | 5% |
| Ocean Changes..... | <1% |
| Wildfires..... | <1% |
| Declining Species..... | <1% |
| Not Sure/Other..... | 6% |

ONLY THOSE WHO ANSWERED "NO" IN Q3 (i.e., do not believe temperatures are increasing)

Q8. How confident are you that the average temperatures on earth are NOT increasing? Are you very confident, fairly confident, not too confident or not confident at all that the average temperature on earth is NOT increasing?

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Very confident..... | 53% |
| Fairly confident..... | 33% |
| Not too confident..... | 8% |
| Not confident at all..... | 3% |
| Not Sure (Volunteered)..... | 3% |

Q9. What is the primary factor that makes you believe that temperatures on earth are not increasing?

Natural Patterns/Cycles.....35%.
 Personal Observations.....31%
 Evidence Disproves.....10%.
 Lack of Evidence.....7%.
 Religious Factors.....4%
 Political Factors.....3%
 Media has Mised..... 1%
 Not Sure/Other..... 9%

****ALL RESPONDENTS****

Q10. In your view is global warming a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not a problem?

Very serious.....49%
 Somewhat serious..... 23%
 Not too serious.....11%
 Not a problem.....14%
 Not Sure (Volunteered)..... 3%.

(QUESTIONS Q11 to Q20 ROTATED)

Please identify your level of agreement with the following statements. For each statement please indicate if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree. First,

| | Strongly Agree | Somewhat Agree | Somewhat Disagree | Strongly Disagree | Not Sure (Vol) |
|---|----------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| NOTE: Q11 IS A SPLIT SAMPLE EXPERIMENT | 21% | 25% | 10% | 31% | 13% |
| Q11A. As a rich country, the United States has an obligation to take in more climate refugees. | | | | | |
| Q11B. As a rich country, the United States has an obligation to take in more climate displaced peoples. | 13% | 26% | 18% | 26% | 17% |
| Q12: The response of scientists to the COVID 19 pandemic makes me more confident that projections of global warming are accurate. | 13% | 17% | 10% | 29% | 31% |
| Q18. I have personally felt the effects of climate change. | 26% | 32% | 15% | 23% | 4% |
| Q19: If global warming does take place I have confidence that scientists would be able to find ways to alter the climate in a way that limits problems. | 12% | 29% | 13% | 33% | 14% |

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Q20: Attempts to reduce global warming by adding materials to the atmosphere will cause more harm than good for the environment. | 36% | 23% | 6% | 9% | 27% |
| Q21: If human activity leads to global warming then humans will also be able to find ways to reduce temperatures on the planet through atmospheric engineering methods. | 10% | 28% | 14% | 24% | 24% |
| Q22: Instead of trying to stop global warming from occurring we should focus on adapting to a warmer climate. | 9% | 20% | 21% | 39% | 12% |
| Q23: Humans will be able to adapt to a hotter climate without making significant changes to their lifestyles. | 11% | 24% | 22% | 37% | 7% |
| Q19: The United States takes in too many immigrants and refugees | 20% | 16% | 21% | 32% | 12% |
| Q20: Free trade has hurt jobs while benefiting only the rich | 16% | 22% | 18% | 21% | 23% |

Q21. In general, do you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove or strongly disapprove of the way that President Donald Trump is handling the issue of global warming.

Strongly Approve 22%
Somewhat Approve 11%
Somewhat Disapprove 10%
Strongly Disapprove 44%
Not Sure 13%

Q22. If it required you to pay extra money each year in order for more renewable energy to be produced, how much would you be willing to pay? Would you be willing to pay... **[READ LIST]**

Nothing each year 37%
1 to 50 dollars per year 11%
50 to 100 dollars a year 13%
100 to 250 dollars a year 10%
250 to 500 dollars a year 7%
Over 500 dollars a year 13%
Not Sure (Volunteered) 10%

Q23: Scientist are exploring new – but largely untested engineering strategies for addressing global climate change. One category is **Solar Radiation Management** or SRM. Another category is **Carbon Dioxide Removal** or CDR. SRM techniques aim to reflect a small proportion of the Sun’s energy back into space, counteracting the temperature rise from increasing levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. These methods are likely effective but do not reduce greenhouse gas levels, only reflect heat back into space.

Two proposed techniques include: Blocking a small proportion of sunlight before it reaches the Earth using **Space Mirrors** They may affect weather patterns without known consequences, but would be effective. How much do you support or oppose the use of space mirrors as a way to address climate change: **[READ LIST]**

- 1. Strongly Support..... 4%
- 2. Somewhat Support..... 8%
- 3. Somewhat Oppose..... 16%
- 4. Strongly Oppose..... 37%
- 98. Not Sure (VOLUNTEERED).... 36%

Q24: Next, introducing small, reflective particles into the upper atmosphere to reflect some sunlight before it reaches the surface of the Earth. It may change global rain patterns without fully known consequences, and reduce clear blue skies, but would be effective with continuous treatment. How much do you support or oppose **introducing small, reflective particles into the upper atmosphere** to reflect some sunlight as a way to address climate change? **(READ LIST)**

- 1. Strongly Support..... 2%
- 2. Somewhat Support..... 8%
- 3. Somewhat Oppose..... 15%
- 4. Strongly Oppose..... 47%
- 98. Not Sure (VOLUNTEERED).... 29%

Q25: Carbon Dioxide Removal techniques remove carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases from the atmosphere, directly countering the greenhouse effect and ocean acidification. They require global implementation. Some proposed techniques include constructing large machines to remove carbon dioxide directly from the air in a process known as **Ambient Air Capture**, and store it elsewhere including underground. Currently, this would be very energy intensive and expensive but would be effective with continuous treatment. How much do you support or oppose **Ambient Air Capture** as a way to address climate change? **[READ LIST]**

- 1. Strongly Support..... 6%
- 2. Somewhat Support..... 19%
- 3. Somewhat Oppose..... 11%
- 4. Strongly Oppose..... 35%
- 98. Not Sure (VOLUNTEERED).... 29%

Q26: Another option is to add nutrients to the ocean in selected locations to stimulate life to draw down carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. This technique known as **ocean fertilization** will have unknown effect on the ocean ecosystem, but would likely be effective with continuous treatment. How much do you support or oppose the use of **ocean fertilization** as a way to address climate change? **[READ LIST]**

- 1. Strongly Support..... 4%
- 2. Somewhat Support.....14%
- 3. Somewhat Oppose..... 12%
- 4. Strongly Oppose..... 40%
- 98. Not Sure (VOLUNTEERED).... 30%

Q27: Next I'm going to read you a list of four major actions that we as a society might take to address climate change in the US. Which of the actions to you believe is the **MOST** important to address climate change in the US? **[READ LIST]**

- 1. Promote greenhouse gas reduction..... 19%
- 2. Learn to adjust our lives to a warmer world 10%
- 3. Promote geoengineering and scientific fixes to address climate change10%
- 4. Change our lifestyles and reduce our consumption 41%
- 5. All equally important (VOLUNTEERED)..... 9%
- 6. None are important (VOLUNTEERED).....5%
- 98. Not Sure (VOLUNTEERED).....6%
- 99. Refused (VOLUNTEERED)

Q28: Which of the actions to you believe is **LEAST** important to address climate change in the US? **[READ LIST]**

- 1. Promote greenhouse gas reduction..... 9%
- 2. Learn to adjust our lives to a warmer world 42%
- 3. Promote geoengineering and scientific fixes to address climate change 15%
- 4. Change our lifestyles and reduce our consumption 10%
- 5. All equally important (VOLUNTEERED)..... 8%
- 6. None are important (VOLUNTEERED)..... 6%
- 98. Not Sure (VOLUNTEERED).....11%
- 99. Refused (VOLUNTEERED)

Q29. Finally a few questions about yourself. Which of the following categories best describes your racial identity? Are you... **[READ LIST]**

- White/Caucasian.....60%
- African-American.....12%
- Hispanic/Latino..... 17%
- Asian..... 5%
- Native American.....<1%
- Mixed race..... 4%
- Other 3%

Q30. Which of the following categories best describes your religious affiliation? Are you... **[READ LIST]**

| | |
|--|-----|
| Protestant..... | 37% |
| Catholic..... | 22% |
| Jewish..... | 3% |
| Muslim..... | 1% |
| Hindu..... | <1% |
| Other religion (including agnostic)..... | 26% |
| Atheist..... | 7% |
| Not Sure (Volunteered)..... | 4% |

Q31. Which of these statements comes closest to describing your feelings about the Bible? **[READ LIST]**

| | |
|--|-----|
| The Bible is the actual word of God and is to be taken literally, word for word..... | 24% |
| The Bible is the inspired word of God but not everything in it should be taken literally, word for word..... | 46% |
| The Bible is an ancient book of fables, legends, history, and moral precepts recorded by men..... | 22% |
| Not Sure (Volunteered)..... | 9% |

Q32. What is your highest level of education? **[READ LIST]**

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Less than High School Graduate..... | 5% |
| High School Graduate..... | 28% |
| Some college or technical school..... | 28% |
| College graduate..... | 24% |
| Graduate or professional degree..... | 14% |

Q33. Which of the following best describes your political party affiliation? **[READ LIST]**

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Democrat..... | 31% |
| Republican..... | 30% |
| Other party..... | 7% |
| Independent..... | 29% |
| Not Sure (Volunteered)..... | 4% |

Q34. Which of the following best describes your political beliefs? **[READ LIST]**

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Very Conservative..... | 13% |
| Somewhat Conservative..... | 24% |
| Moderate..... | 33% |
| Somewhat Liberal..... | 19% |
| Very Liberal..... | 10% |
| Not sure (Volunteered)..... | 1% |

Q35. Which of the following categories best describes your family income? Is it... **[READ LIST]**

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Less than 20,000..... | 13% |
| 20,000-40,000..... | 18% |
| 40,000-60,000..... | 18% |
| 60,000-80,000..... | 13% |
| 80,000-100,000..... | 10% |
| Over 100,000..... | 24% |
| Not Sure (Volunteered) | .3% |

Q36. What is the zip code of your current residence?

(Response) _____

Q37. Finally, to which gender identity do you most identify? (READ LIST)

| | |
|--|-----|
| Male..... | 49% |
| Female..... | 50% |
| Transgender Male..... | <1% |
| Transgender Female | 0% |
| Or you do not identify as male or female | 1% |