National Survey of American Public Opinion on Global Warming

Stanford University with Ipsos and Reuters

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<u>Methodology</u>

Ipsos Public Affairs of Washington, DC, conducted a random digit dial telephone survey between September 8 and September 12, 2011. Live interviewers asked questions of a national probability sample of adults aged 18 and older on landlines and cell phones. Respondents had the option to be interviewed in English or Spanish. The data were weighted to ensure that the sample composition reflects the U.S. population as documented by figures from the U.S. Census Bureau. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate within 3 percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire adult population in the U.S. been polled.

Interviewers were instructed to ask to speak with the youngest household member age 18 or older who was available to be interviewed. The initial request was for the youngest male during 75% of the calls and for the youngest female in the remaining 25%. If the youngest household member was unavailable, interviewers were instructed to speak with anyone else in the household who was willing to participate.

Table 1: Belief that Global Warming Has Been Happening

Response	November 2010	September 2011	Difference
All Respondents			
World's temperature has been going up in the past 100 years	75.07%	82.55%	7.48%
World's temperature has not been going up in the past 100 years	22.68%	14.81%	-7.87%
DK/RF	2.26%	2.63%	.37%
Total	100.00% (N = 1001)	100.00% (N = 1134)	$F(2, 4256) = 6.80$ $p = .001$
Democrats			
World's temperature has been going up	87.21%	91.42%	4.21%
World's temperature has not been going up	11.18%	6.73%	-4.45%
DK/RF	1.61%	1.86%	.25%
Total	100.00% (N = 310)	100.00% (N = 351)	$F(2, 1283) = 1.16$ $p = .312$
Republicans			
World's temperature has been going up	60.63%	66.45%	5.82%
World's temperature has not been going up	37.60%	28.97%	-8.63%
DK/RF	1.77%	4.58%	2.81%
Total	100.00% (N = 246)	100.00% (N = 287)	$F(2, 1061) = 2.41$ $p = .091$
Independents			
World's temperature has been going up	74.68%	84.16%	9.48%
World's temperature has not been going up	22.44%	13.60%	-8.84%
DK/RF	2.88%	2.24%	-.64%
Total	100.00% (N = 445)	100.00% (N = 496)	$F(2, 1844) = 4.27$ $p = .015$

Table 2: Belief about the Causes of Global Warming

Response	November 2010	September 2011	Difference
All Respondents			
Things people do	30.56%	26.60%	-3.96%
Natural causes	23.58%	26.74%	3.16%
Both equally	44.75%	44.92%	.17%
DK/RF	1.11%	1.74%	.63%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	$F(3, 6158) = 1.15$
	(N = 1001)	(N = 1134)	$p = .327$
Global warming is partly or mostly	75.32%	71.52%	-3.80%
caused by things people do	(N = 1001)	(N = 1134)	$F(1, 2134) = 2.38$
			$p = .123$
Democrats			
Things people do	44.44%	37.91%	-6.53%
Natural causes	15.15%	11.95%	-3.20%
Both equally	39.92%	49.82%	9.90%
DK/RF	.49%	.32%	-.17%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	$F(3, 1951) = 1.44$
	(N = 310)	(N = 351)	$p = .231$
Global warming is partly or mostly	84.36%	87.73%	3.37%
caused by things people do	(N = 310)	(N = 351)	$F(1, 660) = .90$
			$p = .343$
Republicans			
Things people do	13.61%	13.93%	.32%
Natural causes	31.32%	42.42%	11.10%
Both equally	53.97%	40.22%	-13.75%
DK/RF	1.09%	3.43%	2.34%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	$F(3, 1578) = 2.91$
	(N = 246)	(N = 287)	$p = .034$
Global warming is partly or mostly	67.59%	54.15%	-13.44%
caused by things people do	(N = 246)	(N = 287)	$F(1, 532) = 6.40$
			$p = .012$
Independents			
Things people do	30.34%	24.90%	-5.44%
Natural causes	24.94%	29.40%	4.46%
Both equally	43.23%	43.80%	.57%
DK/RF	1.49%	1.90%	.41%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	$F(3, 2657) = .76$
	(N = 445)	(N = 496)	$p = .512$
Global warming is partly or mostly	73.57%	68.71%	-4.86%
caused by things people do	(N = 445)	(N = 496)	$F(1, 940) = 1.62$
			$p = .203$

Table 3: Belief that Global Warming Will Continue in the Future

Response	November 2010	September 2011	Difference
All Respondents			
World's temperature will go up in the next 100 years	74.83%	72.29%	-2.54%
World's temperature will not go up in the next 100 years	20.39%	23.55%	3.16%
DK/RF	4.77%	4.15%	-.62%
Total	100.00% (N = 1001)	100.00% (N = 1134)	$F(2, 4235) = 1.13$ $p = .322$
Democrats			
World's temperature will go up	86.57%	88.30%	1.73%
World's temperature will not go up	11.20%	9.85%	-1.35%
DK/RF	2.23%	1.85%	-.38%
Total	100.00% (N = 310)	100.00% (N = 351)	$F(2, 1284) = .17$ $p = .838$
Republicans			
World's temperature will go up	56.28%	52.83%	-3.45%
World's temperature will not go up	36.52%	40.91%	4.39%
DK/RF	7.20%	6.26%	-.94%
Total	100.00% (N = 246)	100.00% (N = 287)	$F(2, 1059) = .37$ $p = .687$
Independents			
World's temperature will go up	76.69%	70.61%	-6.08%
World's temperature will not go up	18.17%	24.67%	6.50%
DK/RF	5.15%	4.72%	-.43%
Total	100.00% (N = 445)	100.00% (N = 496)	$F(2, 1863) = 1.92$ $p = .148$

Table 4: Certainty of Beliefs about the Existence of Global Warming

Response	November 2010	September 2011	Difference
Certainty that the world's temperature has been going up			
Extremely sure	17.90%	24.62%	6.72%
Very sure	29.96%	28.12%	-1.84%
Somewhat sure	42.00%	35.25%	-6.75%
Not sure at all	9.74%	10.84%	1.10%
DK/RF	.41%	1.17%	.76%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	$F(4, 6538) = 2.87$
	(N = 764)	(N = 927)	$p =.023$
Extremely sure or very sure that the world's temperature has been going up	47.86%	52.74%	4.88%
	(N = 764)	(N = 927)	$F(1, 1690) = 2.43$
			$p =.119$
Certainty that the world's temperature has not been going up			
Extremely sure	9.31%	21.04%	11.73%
Very sure	25.52%	31.62%	6.10%
Somewhat sure	44.74%	27.53%	-17.21%
Not sure at all	19.97%	19.80%	-.17%
DK/RF	.46%	.00%	-.46%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	$F(4, 1378) = 3.42$
	(N = 207)	(N = 181)	$p =.012$
Extremely sure or very sure that the world's temperature has not been going up	34.83%	52.66%	17.83%
	(N = 207)	(N = 181)	$F(1, 387) = 7.40$
			$p =.007$
All Respondents			
Extremely sure	15.91%	24.07%	8.16%
Very sure	28.93%	28.66%	-.27%
Somewhat sure	42.64%	34.07%	-8.57%
Not sure at all	12.11%	12.20%	.09%
DK/RF	.41%	.99%	.58%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	$F(4, 8063) = 4.79$
	(N = 971)	(N = 1108)	$p =.001$

Response	November 2010	September 2011	Difference
Extremely sure or very sure the world's temperature has or has not been going up	44.83% (N = 971)	52.73% (N = 1108)	7.90% $F(1, 2078) = 7.76$ $p = .005$
Democrats			
Extremely sure	24.61%	30.32%	5.71%
Very sure	34.33%	30.27%	-4.06%
Somewhat sure	34.91%	30.04%	-4.87%
Not sure at all	5.73%	8.72%	2.99%
DK/RF	.42%	.66%	.24%
Total	100.00% (N = 303)	100.00% (N = 345)	$F(4, 2551) = .99$ $p = .411$
Extremely sure or very sure the world's temperature has or has not been going up	58.94% (N = 303)	60.59% (N = 345)	1.65% $F(1, 647) = .11$ $p = .738$
Republicans			
Extremely sure	6.09%	15.16%	9.07%
Very sure	29.62%	24.01%	-5.61%
Somewhat sure	47.93%	46.01%	-1.92%
Not sure at all	15.43%	14.66%	-.77%
DK/RF	.93%	.16%	-.77%
Total	100.00% (N = 240)	100.00% (N = 279)	$F(3, 1801) = 2.67$ $p = .038$
Extremely sure or very sure the world's temperature has or has not been going up	35.70% (N = 240)	39.18% (N = 279)	3.48% $F(1, 518) = .42$ $p = .518$
Independents			
Extremely sure	15.37%	23.93%	8.56%
Very sure	25.28%	29.72%	4.44%
Somewhat sure	44.78%	31.28%	-13.50%
Not sure at all	14.40%	13.46%	-.94%
DK/RF	.17%	1.62%	1.45%
Total	100.00% (N = 428)	100.00% (N = 484)	$F(4, 3285) = 4.57$ $p = .002$

Response	November 2010	September 2011	Difference
Extremely sure or very sure the world's temperature has or has not been going up	40.65% (N = 428)	53.65% (N = 484)	13.00% $F(1, 911) = 9.16$ $p = .003$

Table 5: Personal Importance of Global Warming Issue Public

Response	November 2010	September 2011	Difference
Personal importance of global warming			
Extremely important	15.58%	14.92%	-.66%
Very important	28.59%	26.71%	-1.88%
Somewhat important	29.95%	28.37%	-1.58%
Not too important	16.32%	15.17%	-1.15%
Not important at all	9.39%	14.34%	4.95%
DK/RF	.17%	.50%	.33%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	$F(5, 10542) = 1.82$
	(N = 1001)	(N = 1134)	$p = .106$

Q12.   You may have heard about the idea that the world's temperature may have been going up slowly over the past 100 years. What is your personal opinion on this - do you think this has probably been happening, or do you think it probably has not been happening?

Q12.   Es probable que haya oído que la temperatura mundial puede haber estado subiendo lentamente durante los últimos 100 años. ¿Cuál es su opinión personal sobre este punto? ¿Cree que probablemente haya estado sucediendo o no?

Probably has been happening

Probablemente haya estado sucediendo

Probably has not been happening

Probablemente no haya estado sucediendo

Don't know (DO NOT READ) - INTERVIEWER: IF DK PROBE: I'll record that, but if you had to choose, what would you say?

No sabe (NO LEER) - ENCUESTADOR SI LA RESPUESTA ES "NO SABE", INTENTAR: Registraré su respuesta, pero si tuviera que elegir, ¿qué diría?

Refused (DO NOT READ) - INTERVIEWER: IF DK PROBE: I'll record that, but if you had to choose, what would you say?

No contesta (NO LEER) – ENCUESTADOR: SI LA RESPUESTA ES "NO SABE", INTENTAR: Registraré su respuesta, pero si tuviera que elegir, ¿qué diría?

[ASK IF Q12 = (PUNCH 1) "PROBABLY HAS BEEN HAPPENING"]

Q13A. How sure are you that the world's temperature has been going up - extremely sure, very sure, somewhat sure, or not sure at all?

Q13A. ¿En qué medida está seguro de que la temperatura mundial ha estado subiendo: extremadamente seguro, muy seguro, algo seguro, o para nada seguro?

Extremely sure

Extremadamente seguro

Very sure

Muy seguro

Somewhat sure

Algo seguro

Not sure at all

Para nada seguro

Don't know (DO NOT READ) - INTERVIEWER: IF DK PROBE: I'll record that, but if you had to choose, what would you say?

No sabe (NO LEER) – ENCUESTADOR: SI LA RESPUESTA ES "NO SABE", INTENTAR: Registraré esa respuesta, pero si tuviera que elegir, ¿qué diría?

Refused (DO NOT READ) - INTERVIEWER: IF DK PROBE: I'll record that, but if you had to choose, what would you say?

No contesta (NO LEER) – ENCUESTADOR: SI LA RESPUESTA ES "NO SABE", INTENTAR: Registraré esa respuesta, pero si tuviera que elegir, ¿qué diría?

[ASK IF Q12 = (PUNCH 2) HAS NOT BEEN HAPPENING]

Q13B. How sure are you that the world's temperature has not been going up - extremely sure, very sure, somewhat sure, or not sure at all?

Q13B. ¿En qué medida está seguro de que la temperatura mundial no ha estado subiendo: extremadamente seguro, muy seguro, algo seguro o para nada seguro?

Extremely sure

Extremadamente seguro

Very sure

Muy seguro

Somewhat sure

Algo seguro

Don't know (DO NOT READ) - INTERVIEWER: IF DK PROBE: I'll record that, but if you had to choose, what would you say?

No sabe (NO LEER) – ENCUESTADOR: SI LA RESPUESTA ES "NO SABE", INTENTAR: Registraré esa respuesta, pero si tuviera que elegir, ¿qué diría?

Refused (DO NOT READ) - INTERVIEWER: IF DK PROBE: I'll record that, but if you had to choose, what would you say?

No contesta (NO LEER) – ENCUESTADOR: SI LA RESPUESTA ES "NO SABE", INTENTAR: Registraré esa respuesta, pero si tuviera que elegir, ¿qué diría?

[ASK IF Q12 = (PUNCH 1) "PROBABLY HAS BEEN HAPPENING"]

Q14. 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?

Q14. ¿Cree que el aumento en la temperatura mundial está siendo causado principalmente por lo que la gente hace, principalmente por causas naturales o casi en la misma proporción por lo la gente hace y por causas naturales?

Things people do

Por lo que hace la gente

Natural causes

Por causas naturales

Both equally

En la misma proporción por ambos factores

Don't know (DO NOT READ) - INTERVIEWER: IF DK PROBE: I'll record that, but if you had to choose, what would you say?

No sabe (NO LEER) – ENCUESTADOR: SI LA RESPUESTA ES "NO SABE", INTENTAR: Registraré esa respuesta, pero si tuviera que elegir, ¿qué diría?

Refused (DO NOT READ) - INTERVIEWER: IF DK PROBE: I'll record that, but if you had to choose, what would you say?

No contesta (NO LEER) – ENCUESTADOR: SI LA RESPUESTA ES "NO SABE", INTENTAR: Registraré esa respuesta, pero si tuviera que elegir, ¿qué diría?

[ASK IF (Q12 = DK OR REF OR (PUNCH 2) "PROBABLY HAS NOT BEEN HAPPENING"]

Q14B. 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?

Q14B. Suponiendo que esté sucediendo, ¿cree que el aumento en la temperatura mundial estaría causado principalmente por lo que hace la gente, principalmente por causas naturales o casi en la misma proporción por lo que la gente hace y por causas naturales?

Things people do

Por lo que hace la gente

Natural causes

Por causas naturales

Both equally

En la misma proporción por ambos factores

Don't know (DO NOT READ) - INTERVIEWER: IF DK PROBE: I'll record that, but if you had to choose, what would you say?

No sabe (NO LEER) – ENCUESTADOR: SI LA RESPUESTA ES "NO SABE", INTENTE: Registraré esa respuesta, pero si tuviera que elegir, ¿qué diría?

Refused (DO NOT READ) - INTERVIEWER: IF DK PROBE: I'll record that, but if you had to choose, what would you say?

No contesta (NO LEER) – ENCUESTADOR: SI LA RESPUESTA ES "NO SABE", INTENTE: Registraré esa respuesta, pero si tuviera que elegir, ¿qué diría?

Q14D. If nothing is done to prevent it, do you think the world's temperature probably will go up slowly over the next 100 years, or do you think the world's temperature probably will not go up slowly over the next 100 years?

Q14D. Si no se hiciera nada para evitarlo, ¿cree que la temperatura mundial probablemente subirá o bajará de manera lenta en los próximos 100 años?

Probably will go up

Probablemente subirá

Probably will not go up

Probablemente no subirá

Don't know (DO NOT READ) - INTERVIEWER: IF DK PROBE: I'll record that, but if you had to choose, what would you say?

No sabe (NO LEER) – ENCUESTADOR: SI LA RESPUESTA ES "NO SABE", INTENTAR: Registraré esa respuesta, pero si tuviera que elegir, ¿qué diría?

Refused (DO NOT READ) - INTERVIEWER: IF DK PROBE: I'll record that, but if you had to choose, what would you say?

No contesta (NO LEER) – ENCUESTADOR: SI LA RESPUESTA ES "NO SABE", INTENTAR: Registraré esa respuesta, pero si tuviera que elegir, ¿qué diría?

[ASK ALL]

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. ¿Qué tan importante es para usted a título personal la cuestión del calentamiento global: extremadamente importante, muy importante, algo importante, no demasiado importante o para nada importante?

Extremely important

Extremadamente importante

Very important

Muy importante

Somewhat important

Algo importante

Not too important

No demasiado importante

Not at all important

Para nada importante

Don't know (DO NOT READ) - INTERVIEWER: IF DK PROBE: I'll record that, but if you had to choose, what would you say?

No sabe (NO LEER) – ENCUESTADOR: SI LA RESPUESTA ES "NO SABE", INTENTE: Registraré esa respuesta, pero si tuviera que elegir, ¿qué diría?

Refused (DO NOT READ) - INTERVIEWER: IF DK PROBE: I'll record that, but if you had to choose, what would you say?

No contesta (NO LEER) – ENCUESTADOR: SI LA RESPUESTA ES "NO SABE", INTENTAR: Registraré esa respuesta, pero si tuviera que elegir, ¿qué diría?

2a. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or none of these?
 (ENTER SINGLE RESPONSE. IF UNSURE, ENCOURAGE BEST GUESS.)

2a. ¿ Se considera Usted Demócrata, Republicano(a), Independiente o ninguno de estos?
 (ESCRIBIR SÓLO UNA RESPUESTA. SI ESTÁ INSEGURO(A), INCENTIVAR LA MEJOR ESTIMACIÓN.)

Democrat

Demócrata

Republican

Republicano(a)

Independent

Independiente

None of these

Ninguno de estos

(DK / REF)

(NO SABE/RECHAZA)

[IF "DEMOCRAT" TO 2a, ASK 2b.]

[SI "DEMÓCRATA" EN 2a, PREGUNTAR 2b.]

[IF "REPUBLICAN" TO 2a, ASK 2c.]

[SI "REPUBLICANO(A)" EN 2a, PREGUNTAR 2c.]

[IF "INDEPENDENT" or "NONE OF THESE" TO 2a, ASK 2d.]

[SI "INDEPENDIENTE" o "NINGUNO DE ESTOS" EN 2a, PREGUNTAR 2d.]