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Public attitudes toward climate change: findings from a multi-country poll

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This report presents the findings of a multi-country poll on public attitudes on climate change. Funding was provided by the Trust Fund on Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development (TFESSD), a multi-donor trust fund supported by Finland and Norway. The poll was carried out by WorldPublicOpinion.org, a project managed by the Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA) at the University of Maryland, under the supervision of Andrea Liverani and Rosita Najmi at the World Bank. Marianne Fay provided intellectual and management leadership. Rachel Block, Ricardo Fuentes-Nieva, Alex Lotsch and other members of the 2010 World Development Report on *Development and Climate Change* contributed to the initial poll concept and design. Technical input at design and finalization stage was provided by Kinnon Scott, Sharon Felzer, Merrell Tuck-Primdahl, Kavita Watsa. Edward Cameron and Rasmus Heltberg ensured quality control as peer reviewers.

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I. Executive Summary

The World Bank's World Development Report 2010 on *Climate Change and Development* commissioned an international poll of public attitudes to climate change. The poll is the first to specifically target developing countries and ask a comprehensive set of questions regarding climate policy. The poll aims to a) provide the public in developing countries with an avenue to make their voices heard in a debate often dominated by developed countries' views, and b) provide decision makers with a tool to assess the state of public views on climate change in their countries.

Various World Bank departments contributed to the design of the poll.¹ The polling was conducted among 15,518 respondents in 16 nations— Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, France, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Russia, Senegal, Turkey, the United States, and Vietnam. The surveys were carried out by WorldPublicOpinion.org, a collaborative project involving research centers from around the world, managed by the Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA) at the University of Maryland. The margins of error for each country range from +/-3 to 4 percentage points. The surveys were conducted across the different nations between September and December 2009. The results were released ahead of the COP-15 in Copenhagen, and were covered extensively by different media outfits worldwide (see annex). They also provided the material to a series of blog posts (<http://blogs.worldbank.org/climatechange>).

The poll addresses the following dimensions: a) level of concern, b) beliefs about climate change, c) attitudes toward international cooperation on climate change,; and d) willingness to bear economic costs to support national actions.

Poll Dimension 1: Level of concern

Questions:

- Seriousness of climate change as a problem
- Climate change as a priority
- Effects of climate change on one's country
- Timing of impacts

Results Summary: The publics in all countries polled saw climate change as a serious problem, either very serious or somewhat serious. In low-income countries (Kenya, Senegal, and Vietnam), the numbers who thought climate change is a very serious problem were particularly large. High-income countries (the US, Japan, and France) had somewhat fewer people who saw climate change as a very serious problem; Russia and China also had fewer people who said climate change is very serious.

In ten of 16 countries, the public thought climate change is already doing harm to people in their country; but in six countries, including Russia and the US, only a minority thought climate change is having an effect now. Majorities in all countries thought that there would be widespread adverse effects if climate change were unchecked.

Poll Dimension 2: Beliefs about climate change

Questions:

- Belief about the status of climate change science
- Trajectory of greenhouse gas emissions
- Impact of climate change on wealthy vs. poor countries

¹ WDR team, DECRG, SDV, EXTOC, DECVP, TFESSD secretariat and donors (the poll is TFESSD funded).

- Responsibility and government action

Results summary: The publics in most countries believed that scientists agree that climate change is an urgent problem which is understood well enough that action should be taken. Substantial majorities had this view in low-income countries, while majorities did not perceive this scientific consensus in Russia, the US, and Japan. In all countries, the public thought their greenhouse gas emissions would increase unless their country made changes. A majority of the publics in ten out of 16 countries thought that the effects of climate change would be about equally harmful to wealthy and poor countries; only three countries saw the effects being more harmful to poor countries.

All publics were asked whether they believe their “country does or does not have a responsibility to take steps to deal with climate change.” In all 16 countries, majorities said their country does have such a responsibility. Most majorities were very large and ranged from 90% or more in France, China, Indonesia, Vietnam, Senegal, Bangladesh, and Kenya through the 80% range in the US, Japan, Mexico, Turkey, Iran, Egypt, India and Brazil. In Russia, a more modest but clear majority of 58% said the country had a responsibility to deal with climate change (22% disagreed and 20% did not answer). On average across 16 countries, 87% said their country had this responsibility. In most of the 16 countries, clear majorities thought their national governments were not doing enough.

Poll Dimension 3: Attitudes toward international climate change cooperation

Questions:

- Effect of one country’s example on others
- Willingness to commit to emissions cuts in the context of an agreement
- National responsibility in the absence of an agreement

In all 16 countries, clear majorities in 15 and a plurality in one thought that if their countries act, other countries will be encouraged to act as well. Should an agreement on cutting emissions emerge from the Copenhagen meeting, very large majorities in all 16 countries said their nation should commit to cut emissions as part of the agreement. If such an agreement does not emerge, majorities in 15 countries and a plurality in one still thought their nation would have a responsibility to act.

Poll Dimension 4: Willingness to bear economic costs to support national actions

Questions:

- Necessity of higher energy costs
- Willingness to pay a specified individual amount
- Willingness to support national steps with economic costs
- Assisting poor countries with adaptation to climate change

In 10 of 16 countries, most thought increases in energy costs would be necessary to encourage conservation and alternative forms of energy. Majorities in 14 countries were willing to pay between 1.0% and 0.5% of GDP per capita in higher prices resulting from steps taken against climate change. In nearly all countries, majorities supported key national steps to deal with climate change, even when the steps were described only in terms of costs, not benefits. As very poor countries face crises in adapting to climate change, all 16 publics thought their countries should contribute to international efforts to assist them.

II. INTRODUCTION

Objectives of the Study

The theme of the World Development Report 2010, released in September 2009, is development and climate change. In the report the linkage between success in reducing global poverty and combating climate change is pointedly addressed. Low-income countries, particularly regions in Africa and South Asia, are disproportionately at risk to the ravages of climate change.

The global policy community broadly recognizes that high-income countries need to reduce their carbon emissions and to assist low-income countries financially and technically to develop their economies along a more carbon-efficient path. The support of publics around the world for such steps has been less clear, but it will be crucial for enabling their countries to take such actions against climate change. The goal of the current study is to understand public knowledge, attitudes, and willingness to take action on climate change.

There is a body of public opinion research on attitudes about climate change, though the largest amount of research has been done in OECD countries. The World Bank has a specific interest in assisting low- and medium-income countries, and the development objectives identified for the study are:

- to support client countries in their mitigation and adaptation efforts by providing them with better knowledge on local public attitudes, and
- to inform global climate change negotiations through a better understanding of developing country public attitudes on climate change.

Scope

The multi-national study consisted of surveys in 16 countries:

High-income economies

United States
France
Japan

Upper-middle-income economies

Mexico
Russia
Turkey
Brazil

Lower-middle-income economies

Iran
China
Indonesia
Egypt
India

Low-income economies

Vietnam
Senegal
Kenya
Bangladesh

While the high-income countries and the BRIC countries are often included in multi-country surveys, it is rarer for the other countries to be polled on climate change, and notably rare for Iran, Vietnam, Senegal, Kenya, and Bangladesh to be surveyed on this issue. The high-income and high-emitting countries were part of the study because they have a critical role in limiting greenhouse gases and an important prospective role in assisting less developed countries in adapting to the effects of climate change.

The questionnaire posed 26 substantive climate change questions plus 5 demographic questions to all countries. It covered issues such as the following:

- whether climate change is perceived to be a serious problem
- priority that should be given to addressing climate change
- perceived impact of climate change on one's country in areas such as food production, water resources, natural disasters, coastline, etc
- relative impact of climate change on wealthy and poor countries
- perceptions of the stance on climate change of the scientific community
- a country's responsibility for addressing climate change
- whether one's country should be willing to join others in an agreement at Copenhagen
- the need to increase the cost of energy to encourage conservation and new technologies
- willingness to accept a cost increase of either 1% or 0.5% of GDP to take steps against climate change
- support for various steps to combat climate change entailing costs, such as preserving forests, limiting construction of coal-fired power plants, increasing the required fuel efficiency of autos
- willingness for country to contribute to international efforts to help poor countries adapt to effects of climate change.

Methods Overview

The survey was conducted by experienced survey agencies using indigenous staff in each of the 16 countries. Staff of the Program on International Policy Attitudes managed the field work. Interviewing was conducted between mid-September and late October, 2009 in 15 countries; in Brazil, the interviewing was conducted between October 21 and December 1, 2009.

The questionnaire was designed through the joint efforts of the staff of the World Bank and staff of the Program on International Policy Attitudes, who had conducted several previous multi-country surveys on climate change issues. The final questionnaire was translated into the appropriate languages and back-translated; discrepancies were resolved by discussion with the field agencies.

Surveys were conducted by face-to-face interviews (Bangladesh, Brazil, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Russia, Senegal, Turkey, and Vietnam), by telephone (China, France, Iran, Mexico), and online (Japan and the United States). Sample sizes ranged from a low of 600 completed interviews in France to a high of 1,410 in India. The margin of error for samples of these sizes range from +/- 4 percentage points in France to +/- 2.6 percentage points in India. A detailed description of the Methodology appears at the end of the report.

Relationship to Previous Polling

The present study breaks new ground on many issues and provides far more detail on public attitudes in low-income countries than does previous polling on climate change. A moderate amount of prior survey work on climate change has been done, and the project team consulted much of this work during the design phase. A comprehensive review of multi-national polling on climate change was prepared in late 2009 for the US Council on Foreign Relations by the Program on International Policy Attitudes; the review, findings, and study citations can be found on their website at cfr.org by searching for “World Opinion on the Environment”.

The Pew Global Attitudes Program conducted polling which included a few items on climate change across a large set of countries between 2007 and 2009. They reported in 2009 that majorities in all 25 countries polled said that global warming was either a very serious or somewhat serious problem. It is notable, though, that the two largest carbon emitters, the US and China, had relatively lower proportions of respondents who said global warming was “very serious” than did other countries. These patterns parallel the findings in the current study.

In a study for BBC conducted in 2007, most people felt that it was 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”. Across 21 countries, majorities in 14, and a plurality of 49% in India, said that it would be necessary to increase these energy costs. However, an energy tax increase to achieve these goals was considerably less popular – in only 9 of the 21 countries did a majority or plurality favor an energy tax increase for this purpose.

In the present study we have assessed whether publics think it is necessary to increase the cost of energy to encourage energy savings through a similar question. The study also examines the willingness to pay the cost of taking steps to address climate change, if these actions would increase the cost of energy and other products by either 1% or 0.5% of GDP in each country.

One of the most difficult issues in global climate negotiations is the role of developing countries in limiting the emissions of greenhouse gases. A previous survey for the BBC in 2007 indicated that citizens in countries that are not highly developed felt that “less-wealthy countries... should limit their emissions of climate changing gases.” In the current study the issue of lower-income nations’ role in limiting carbon emissions is explored in a number of different questions. Generally, the publics in low and middle-income countries feel that their nation also has a responsibility to limit greenhouse gases, and this view at times puts them at odds with the positions of their governments.

III. POLL RESULTS

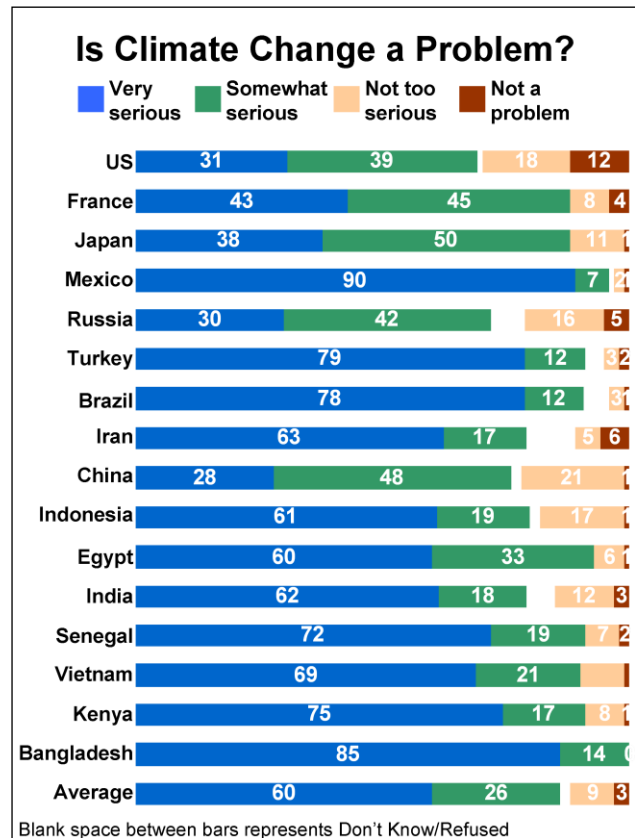
Poll Dimension 1. Level of Concern about Climate Change

Results Summary: The publics in all countries polled saw climate change as a serious problem, either very serious or somewhat serious. In low-income countries (Bangladesh, Kenya, Senegal, and Vietnam), the numbers who thought climate change is a very serious problem are particularly large. High-income countries (the US, Japan, and France) had somewhat fewer people who saw climate change as a very serious problem; Russia and China also had fewer people who said climate change is very serious.

In ten of 16 countries, the public thought climate change is doing harm to people in their country now; but in six countries, including Russia and the US, only a minority thought climate change is having an effect now. Majorities in all countries thought that there would be widespread adverse effects if climate change were unchecked.

1.1 Seriousness of climate change as a problem

There was a belief in all countries polled that climate change is a serious problem. Majorities in every country surveyed called it either a very serious or somewhat serious problem. In all 16 countries, the public seemed comfortable expressing a view on climate change; in only one country (Iran) did as many as 10% not give an opinion; elsewhere, well over 90% of respondents expressed their views on the seriousness of climate change. Notably, large majorities in the low-income countries polled--Bangladesh (85%), Kenya (75%), Senegal (72%), and Vietnam (69%)--saw climate change as a *very* serious problem. In the high-income countries, smaller groups in the US (31%), Japan (38%), and France (43%), saw climate change as *very* serious; Russia (30%) and China (28%) also had relatively fewer who considered climate change to be *very* serious. All of these countries with lower numbers calling climate change a *very* serious problem are also relatively high emitters of CO2 per capita. However, even in these high-emitting countries, large majorities believed that climate change is at least a *somewhat* serious problem.



1.2 Climate change as a priority

A similar concern was revealed when people were asked if “dealing with the problem of climate change should be a priority, even if it causes slower economic growth and some loss of jobs.” Half or more of the public in all 16 countries agreed, either strongly or somewhat, that climate change should be addressed even if there were such economic costs.

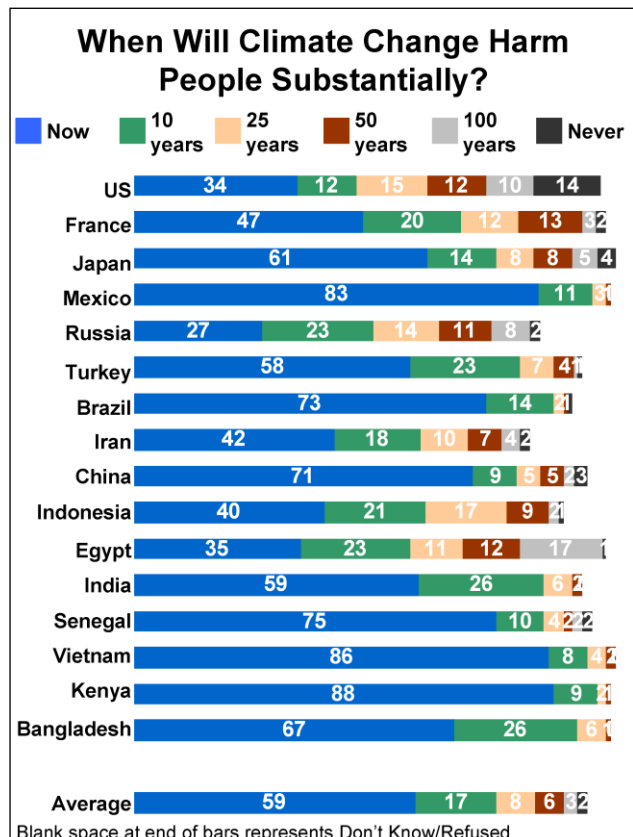
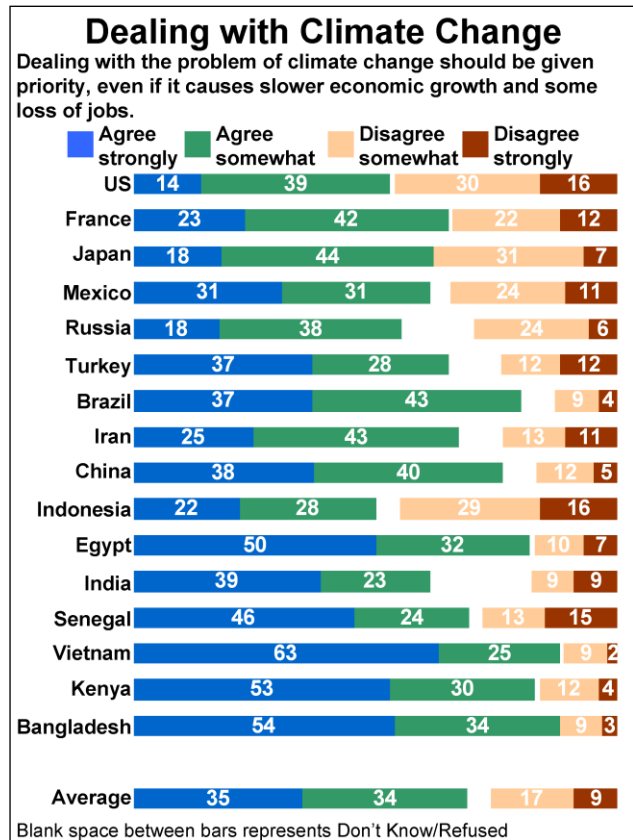
Underlying this support in all countries for dealing with climate change are some clear country differences. Vietnam (63%), Bangladesh (54%), Kenya (53%) and Senegal (46%) were the countries with the highest proportion saying “strongly agree.” The US (14%), Japan (18%) and Russia (18%) were the countries with the lowest proportion saying “strongly agree.” In the US, 46% disagreed that dealing with climate change should be a priority if a consequence would be lower growth or job loss. The pattern of some low-income countries being willing to support addressing the problem, even in the face of economic harm, echoes the findings on seriousness of the problem discussed above.

1.3 Urgency: when the effects of climate change will occur

Views differed across countries about how imminent the damages of climate change are. In ten of the 16 countries, a majority of the public thought climate change is substantially harming their fellow citizens now. Some of the largest majorities on this question appeared among people in the low-income countries: in Kenya (88%) thought people in their country are being harmed now, in Vietnam (86%), Senegal (75%), and in Bangladesh (67%).

In six countries, fewer than half thought the negative impact of climate change on their country is occurring now: Russia (27%), the US (34%), Egypt (35%), Indonesia (39%), Iran (42%), and France (47%).

In addition to showing fairly divided opinion on the seriousness of climate change, the US public is

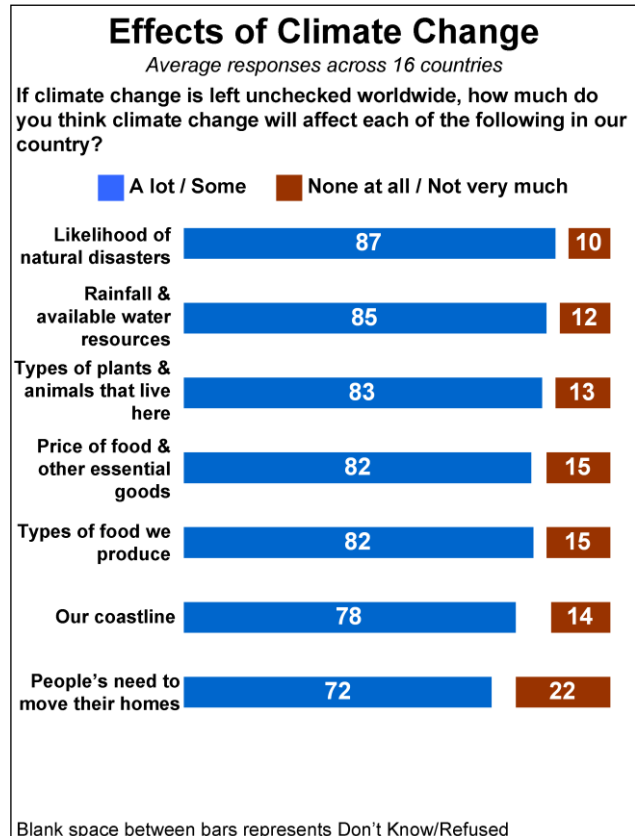


divided on when its effects will start to be felt. Over one-third of the US public said the impact of climate change would not be felt for 50 years or more (50 years – 12%, 100 years – 10%, never – 14%). In Russia, 21% expected the effects of climate change would not be experienced for 50 years or more (an additional 16% did not give an opinion). In Iran, 13% of the public thought Iranians would not be affected for 50 years or more, and an additional 18% did not give an opinion.

1.4 Effects of Climate Change on One’s Country

The poll posed a series of questions like “If climate change is left unchecked worldwide, how much do you think climate change will affect each of the following in our country?” The aspects evaluated were:

- The types of food we produce
- The types of plants and animals that can live here
- Rainfall and other available water resources
- The price of food and other essential goods
- The likelihood of natural disasters, like droughts or floods
- Our coastline
- People’s need to move their homes to different locations



Each country had a clear majority thinking that each of these aspects would be affected either a lot or some; in nearly all cases, the majorities who saw such harmful effects exceeded 70%. On average for the countries polled, only 3% to 6% of respondents said each aspect would not be

affected at all. On average across countries, people said the most common effects on their countries would be with regard to the likelihood of natural disasters like droughts or floods, levels of rainfall and water resources, and the types of animals and plants that can live there. There is a modest relationship with lack of concern about climate change: countries such as the US and Russia, which were lower on their perception of the seriousness of climate change as a problem, also scored somewhat lower in beliefs that their country will be affected. Nonetheless, majorities of Americans and Russians saw climate change affecting their country some or a lot in all these respects.

Poll Dimension 2. Beliefs about climate change

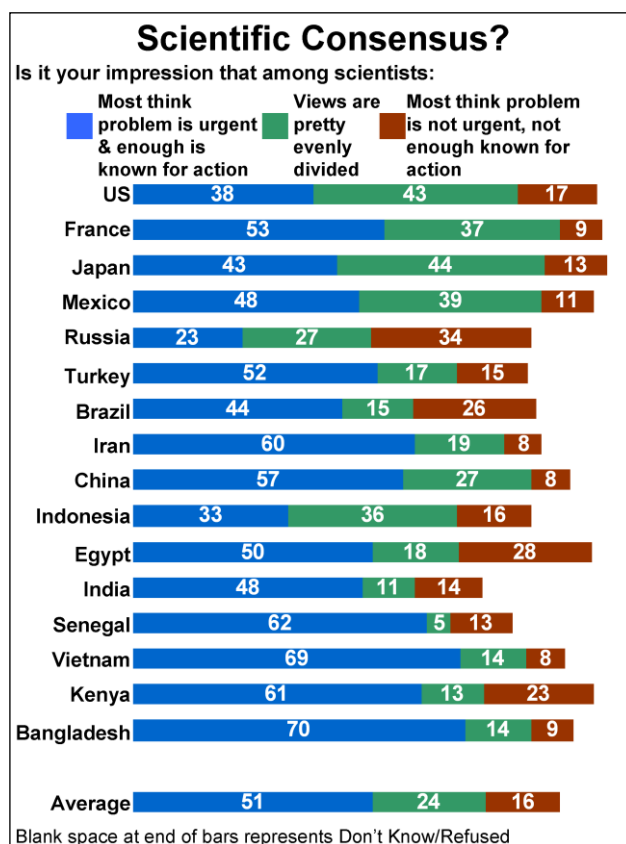
Results summary: In most countries, majorities or pluralities believed that scientists agree that climate change is an urgent problem, one understood well enough that action should be taken. Substantial majorities had this view in low-income countries, while majorities did not perceive this scientific consensus in Russia, the US, and Japan. In all countries, the public thought their greenhouse gas emissions will increase unless their country made changes. Majorities in ten of 16 countries thought that the effects of climate change would be about equally harmful to wealthy and poor countries; only three countries saw the effects as more harmful to poor countries. In most of the 16 countries, clear majorities thought their national governments are not doing enough to address climate change.

All publics were asked whether they believed there was a responsibility for their country to deal with climate change: “Do you think our country does or does not have a responsibility to take steps to deal with climate change?” In all 16 countries, majorities said their country does have such a responsibility.

2.1 Beliefs about the status of climate change science

All participants in the survey were asked what they thought scientists around the world believed about climate change, whether “most scientists think the problem is urgent and enough is known to take action,” or “most think the problem is not urgent, and not enough is known to take action,” or “views are pretty evenly divided.” Of 16 countries, at least half of the public in nine thought that there is a scientific consensus that climate change is an urgent problem and enough is known to take action. Bangladesh (70%), Vietnam (69%), Senegal (62%) and Kenya (61%), all low income countries, had the highest proportions of respondents who saw this scientific agreement.

In four countries--Russia (23%), the US (38%), Japan (43%) and Indonesia (33%)--only minorities thought there is a scientific consensus on the urgent need to address climate change. In Russia, 34% felt that most scientists think climate change is not an urgent problem, and 27% thought views of scientists are divided. In the US, 17% mistakenly thought the scientific view is skeptical about climate change, while 43% thought views of scientists are evenly divided. Japan showed a similar pattern to the US: 13% of Japanese said that most scientists feel climate change is not an urgent issue, and 44% feel that the views of scientists are pretty evenly divided. Among Indonesians, 52% said either most scientists are skeptical or that scientific views are divided. The pattern of understanding of the status of the climate change science across countries suggests that the results are not due principally to variations in education or awareness of the issue. Even in France--seen by many as informed about climate change and supportive of strong action--37% said scientific views are pretty evenly divided.



2.2 Trajectory of Greenhouse Gas Emissions

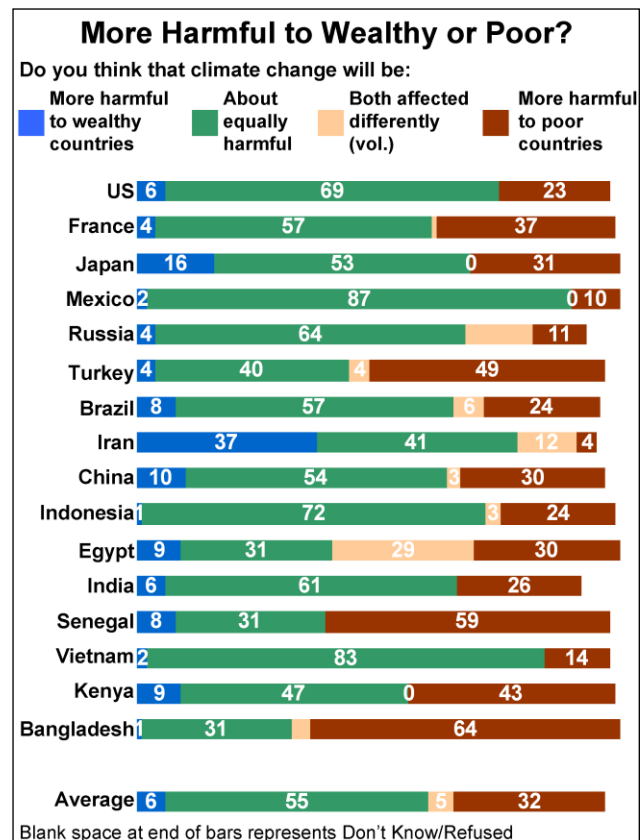
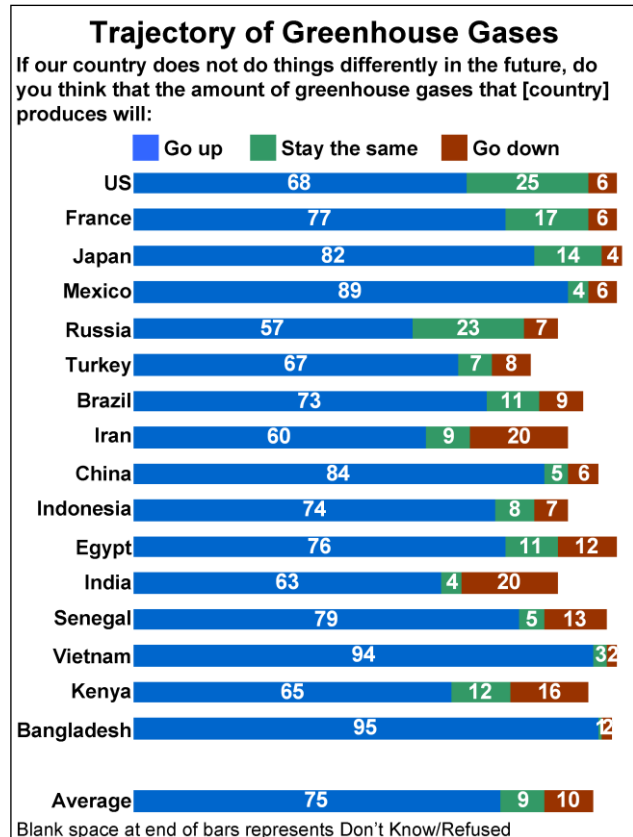
Early in the interview, the concept of greenhouse gases was described as the product of burning coal, gasoline/petrol, or other fossil fuels, in part to ensure that everyone had a similar basic vocabulary for the survey. In this question people were asked, if their “country does not do things differently in the future,” whether they thought the amount of greenhouse gases it produces would go up, stay the same, or go down.

In all countries, a majority of the public thought that the amount of greenhouse gases their country produces would go up if their country did not do things differently. The proportion of those saying their greenhouse gas emissions will rise ranged from a high in Bangladesh of 95% to a relative low in Russia of 57%. While clear majorities everywhere thought that greenhouse gases are on an upward trajectory in their countries unless interventions occur, in a few countries noteworthy minorities had different views. Among Americans, 25% thought greenhouse gases produced by their country would stay the same, and among Russians, 23% felt this about Russian emissions. In two countries, Iran (20%), and India (20%), appreciable numbers said that greenhouse gas emissions from their nation would go down, even in the absence of any actions.

2.3 Impact of Climate Change on Wealthy vs. Poor Countries

Many informed observers have pointed out that climate change will have the most deleterious effects on poor countries, because 1) many poor countries already are adversely affected by climate and are experiencing such effects as droughts, desertification and flooding, and 2) poor countries have fewer resources for adapting to the effects of climate change.

The survey explored public awareness of this issue by asking respondents whether climate change would be more harmful to wealthy countries, more harmful to poor countries, or about equally harmful to poor and wealthy countries. Publics tended to think that climate change would be “about equally harmful to poor and wealthy countries.” Majorities in ten countries out of the



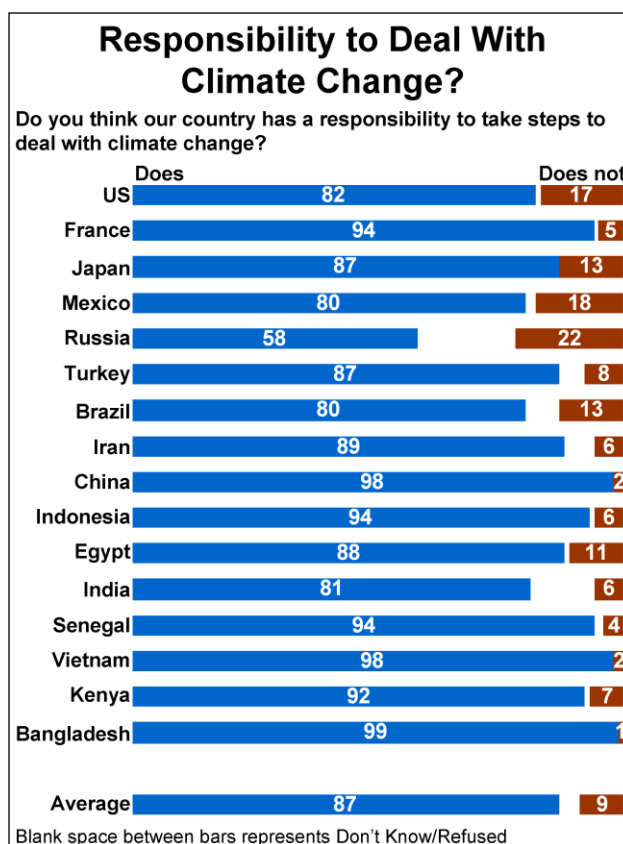
16 saw harm to be distributed about equally between poor and wealthy countries. In only three countries—Bangladesh (64%), Senegal (59%) and Turkey (49%)--was the most common answer “more harmful to poor countries.” Iranians were divided with 41% saying “about equally,” and 37% saying “more harmful to poor countries.” Kenyans were divided, with 47% saying “about equally” and 43% saying “more harmful to poor countries.” Egyptians were divided, with 31% saying “equally harmful,” 30% saying “more harmful to poor countries,” and 29% volunteering that both rich and poor countries will be affected, but in different ways.

Across all countries polled, an average of 55% of respondents said that poor and wealthy countries will be equally harmed, and only 32% said climate change would be more harmful to poor countries. This finding (arguably a misperception) raises interesting issues about what beliefs about the impact of climate change will be more likely to influence policy views: are people more motivated out of a sense of responsibility to poor countries or a sense that all countries together will suffer from climate change? Further survey research would be necessary to examine this question.

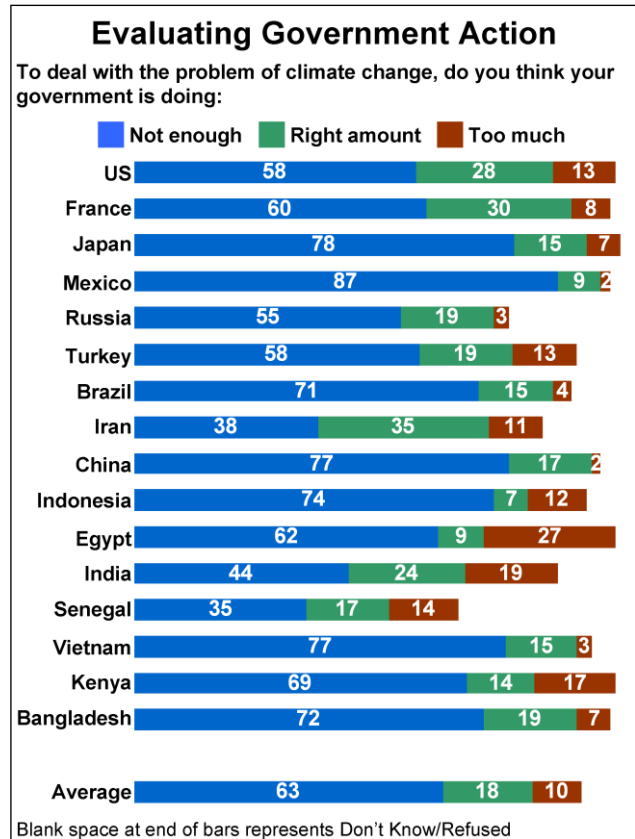
2.4 Responsibility and government action

In all 16 countries, clear majorities thought their country has a responsibility to take steps to deal with climate change, and at the same time clear majorities in most countries thought their national government is not doing enough to address climate change. All publics were asked whether “to deal with the problem of climate change, do you think your government is doing too much, not enough, or about the right amount?” In 13 of 16 countries, majorities thought their government was not doing enough. In one country a plurality thought the government was doing either the right amount or too much; in another, views were divided. On average, 63% thought their government was not doing enough; just 10% thought it was doing too much; and 18% thought it was doing the right amount.

The numbers seeing their government as not doing enough were highest in Mexico (87%), Japan (78%), China and Vietnam (both 77%), and Indonesia (74%). They were also high in Bangladesh (72%), Brazil (71%) Kenya (69%), and Egypt (62%). Among developed countries, France (60%), the United States (58%), and Russia (55%) all had clear majorities thinking their governments were doing too little. This sentiment was lower in Senegal (a 35% plurality, with 33% not answering), and in India, where 44% thought the government was not doing enough but 43% thought it was doing either too much (19%) or the right amount (24%). In Iran, a 46% plurality saw the government as doing the right amount (35%) or too much (11%), while 38% said it was not doing enough.



Views on government action on climate change were broadly distributed up and down the economic spectrum among the 16 countries--with all three of the highly developed countries polled plus most of the developing countries agreeing their governments were doing too little.



Poll Dimension 3. Attitudes on international cooperation on climate change

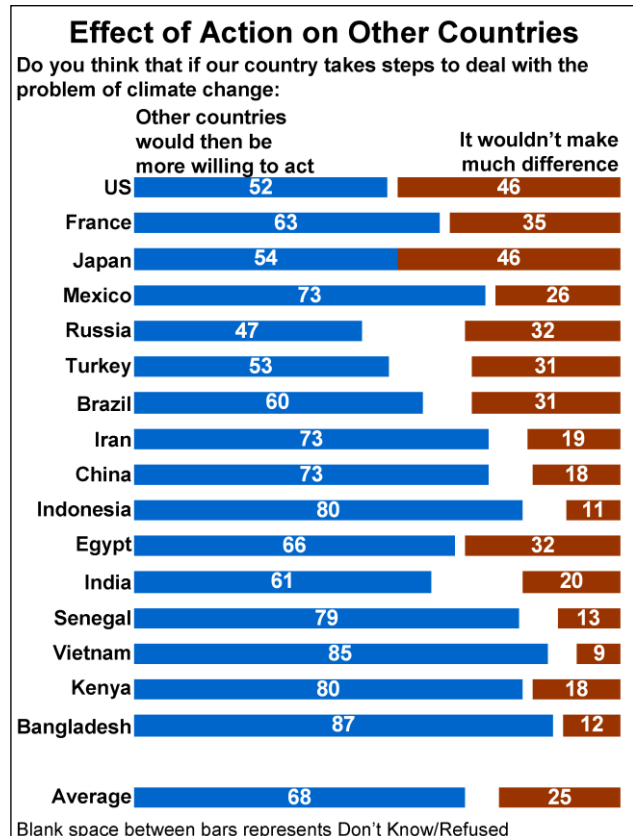
Results Summary: Clear majorities in 15 and a plurality in one thought that if their countries acted, other countries would be encouraged to act as well. Should an agreement on cutting emissions emerge from the Copenhagen meeting, very large majorities in all 16 countries said their nation should commit to cut emissions as part of the agreement. If such an agreement does not emerge, majorities in 15 countries and a plurality in one still thought their nation would have a responsibility to act.

3.1 Effect of One Country’s Example on Others

One overhanging question in the difficult global process of forming measures against climate change is the power of example and mutual efforts: if some nations lead, will others be inclined to follow—not only on a world scale, but also regionally, or among neighboring countries? Respondents were asked whether they thought “that if our country takes steps to deal with the problem of climate change, other countries would then be more willing to act, or do you think it wouldn’t make much difference?”

In 15 of 16 countries, majorities thought the example of their country acting would affect other countries’ willingness positively—and in Russia, a plurality also thought so (47% to 32%). On average, 68% in all 16 countries thought other countries would be affected by their example, and only 25% did not. Developed countries had smaller majorities believing in the power of their example, while many developing countries showed much more confidence in it.

Thus Bangladesh, Senegal, Kenya, Indonesia and Vietnam all had majorities of 79% or higher who thought that if their country took such steps, other countries would be then more willing to act. Mexico, Iran and China were almost as confident (all at 73%). Egypt (66%), India (61%) and Brazil (60%) had substantial majorities thinking so; France was similar at 63%. However, Japan, the United States and Russia were all significantly less confident that their example would make any difference. In Japan, 54% thought their example would encourage other countries, while 46% did not; in the US 52% thought it would make a difference, while 46% did not; and in Russia 47% thought it would, and 32% that it would not.



3.2 Willingness to Commit to Emissions Cuts in the Context of an Agreement

There was an extraordinary level of support across high-, middle- and low-income countries for responding to an agreement at Copenhagen by committing to emissions cuts. Very large majorities—none below 70%--agreed to this proposition across 16 countries. Respondents were asked:

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

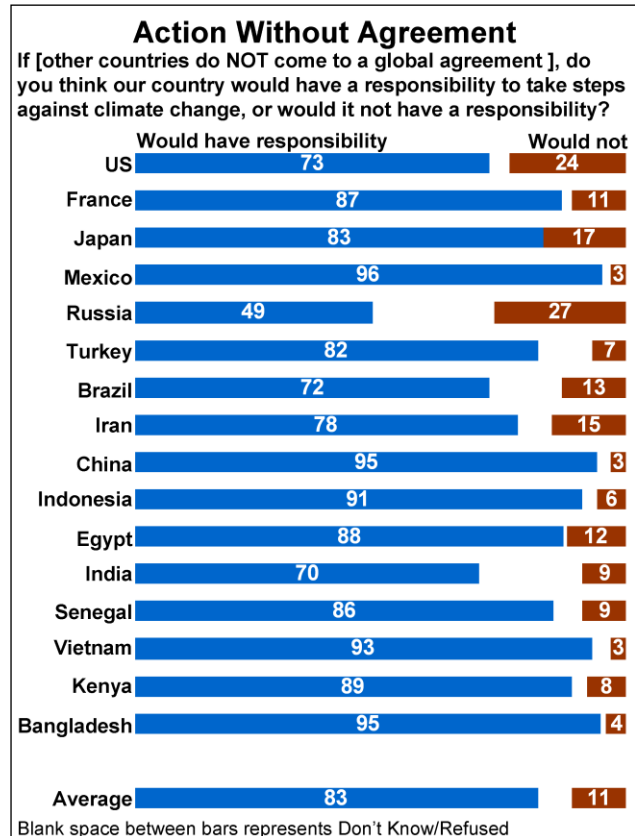
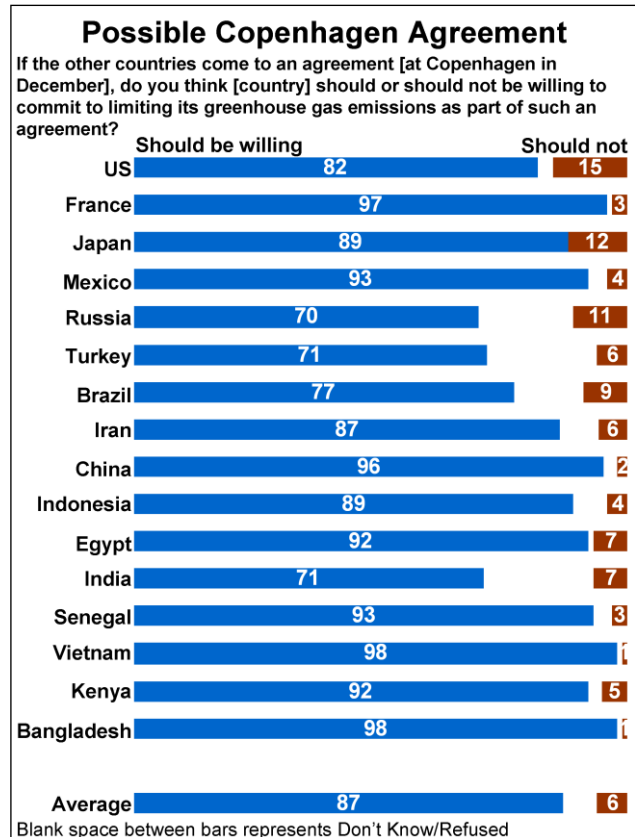
On average across 16 countries, an overwhelming 87% supported making this commitment in the context of an international agreement. Only 6% were opposed. Countries with support above 90% included France, Vietnam, Bangladesh, China, Kenya, Senegal, Egypt, and Mexico. In the 80% range were Indonesia, Iran, Japan and the United States. In the 70% range were Russia, India, Brazil and Turkey.

3.3 National Responsibility in the Absence of an Agreement

A strong test of a sense of national responsibility in regard to climate change is the willingness to soldier on even if there is no international agreement. Respondents were put to this test in the following way:

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

Fifteen of 16 countries had very large majorities saying that their country’s responsibility to act would remain, in spite of an international failure to come to agreement. On average across 16



countries, 83% thought this; only 11% thought their country would not have a responsibility. Countries with majorities in the 90% range included Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Vietnam and Mexico; in the 80% range, Kenya, Senegal, Egypt, Turkey, France and Japan; and in the 70% range, Brazil, India, Iran and the United States. In Russia, a 49% plurality saw an ongoing national responsibility, while 27% did not.

Poll Dimension 4. Costs of Mitigation and Adaptation

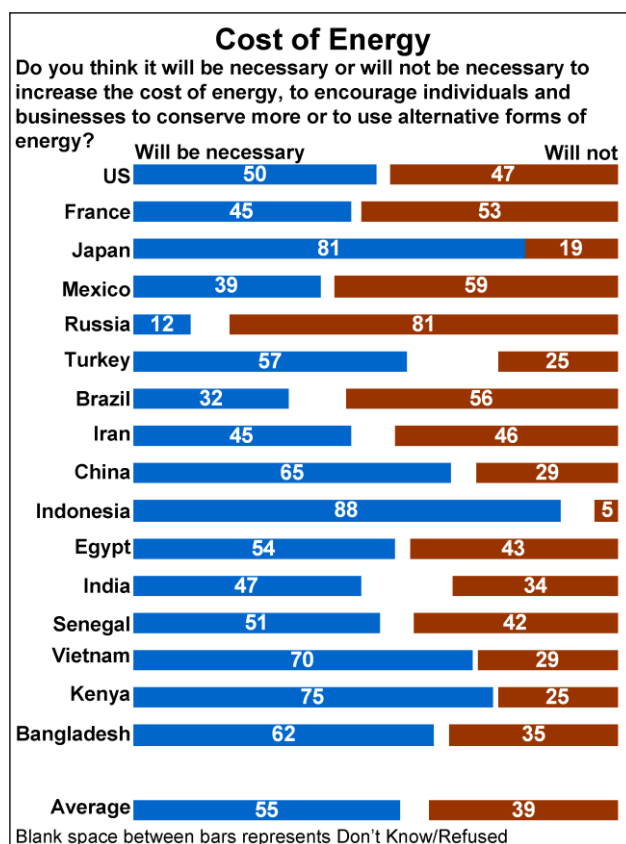
In 10 of 16 countries, most thought increases in energy costs would be necessary to encourage conservation and alternative forms of energy. Majorities in 14 countries were willing to pay between 1.0% and 0.5% of GDP per capita in higher prices resulting from steps taken against climate change. In nearly all countries, majorities supported key national steps to deal with climate change, even when the steps were described only in terms of costs, not benefits. As very poor countries face crises in adapting to climate change, all 16 publics thought their countries should contribute to international efforts to assist them.

4.1 Necessity of higher energy costs

Asked whether it will or will not “be necessary to increase the cost of energy, to encourage individuals and businesses to conserve more or to use alternative forms of energy,” across 16 countries polled, nine majorities and one plurality thought this would be necessary. In four countries, majorities thought cost increases would not be necessary, and two countries were divided. On average across the 16 countries, 55% thought this would be necessary and 39% did not.

The countries where more thought it would be necessary to increase the cost of energy included several less-developed countries—Indonesia (88%), Kenya (75%), Vietnam (70%), Bangladesh (62%), Egypt (54%), Senegal (51%)—and also some rapidly developing countries—China (65%) and India (a plurality, 47% to 34%). One middle-tier country, Turkey, also agreed (57%), as did one of the three highly developed countries, Japan (81%).

The four countries where more disagreed with this proposition were three middle-tier nations, Russia (81%), Mexico (59%) and Brazil (56%), plus a high-income country, France (53%). Two countries were divided: Iran (45% will, 46% will not) and the USA (50% will, 47% will not). Interestingly, among the publics opposed or divided, all but France are oil producers.



4.2 Willingness to pay for climate action

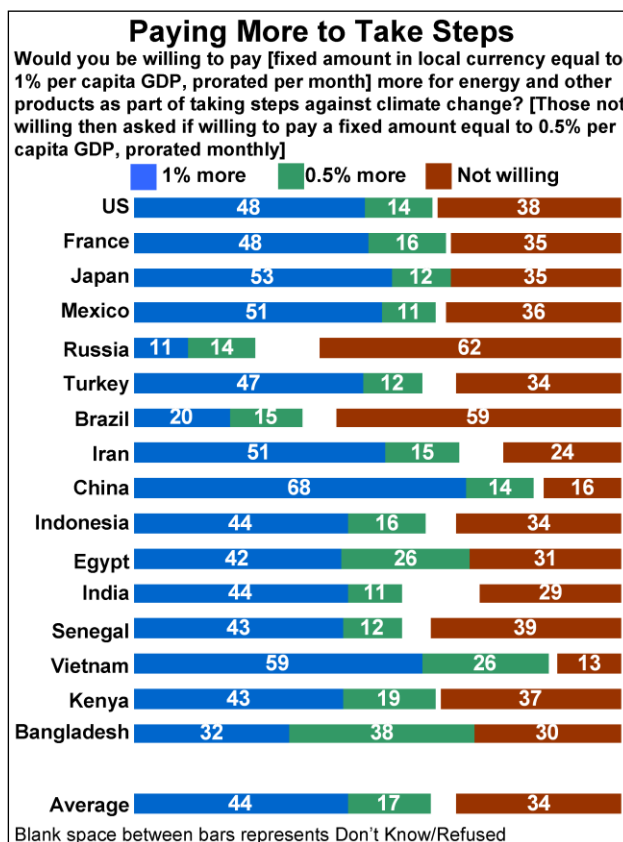
The question above--about the need for cost increases to encourage conservation—interestingly enough, does not provide a reliable guide to how publics respond to specific cost increases. In the question that followed, respondents were offered a specific monthly price that had been scaled to their national economy. In each country, respondents were asked about an amount that equaled 1% of their country’s annual per capita GDP, prorated on a monthly basis, and told to “Imagine that taking steps against climate change would increase costs to the average person for energy and other products by [local currency amount] per month.” They were then asked, “Would you be willing or not willing to pay this cost as part

of taking steps against climate change?” Those who said they were *not* willing were then asked if they would pay half of the amount (0.5% of per capita GDP, prorated to a monthly amount).

Broadly, in 14 of the 16 countries, majorities said they would be willing to pay either the higher or lower amount; in only two countries (Russia and Brazil) did a majority decline both amounts. Six countries had a majority (5) or a plurality (1) willing to pay the higher amount; in 6 countries a majority (5) or a plurality (1) declined the higher amount. Three countries were evenly divided, with about half willing to pay the higher amount. On average across 16 countries, 61 percent were willing to pay, and 44% were willing to pay the higher amount; 34% were unwilling to pay either amount.

By far the most common pattern was that roughly half were willing to pay the higher amount, and between about 10% and 38% more were willing to pay the lower amount. This pattern reappeared in countries as economically disparate as the United States and India.

The countries where most were willing to pay the higher amount included China (68%), Vietnam (59%), Japan (53%), Iran and Mexico (both 51%), and a plurality in India (44% yes, 39% no). Most declined the higher amount in seven countries: Russia (81%), Brazil (75%), Bangladesh (67%), Egypt (57%), Kenya (56%), Indonesia (53%), and Senegal (49% to 43%). In the second stage, those who declined the higher amount were asked about paying half that amount. Groups willing to pay the smaller amount ranged from 38% of the full sample (in Bangladesh) down to 11% (India and Mexico). Overall, majorities in 14 of 16 countries were willing to pay one or the other amount to take steps against climate change. Majorities were highest in Vietnam (85%) and China (82%), but also substantial in Bangladesh (70%), Egypt (69%), Iran (66%), Japan (65%), France (64%), and the US, Mexico, and Kenya (all 62%).



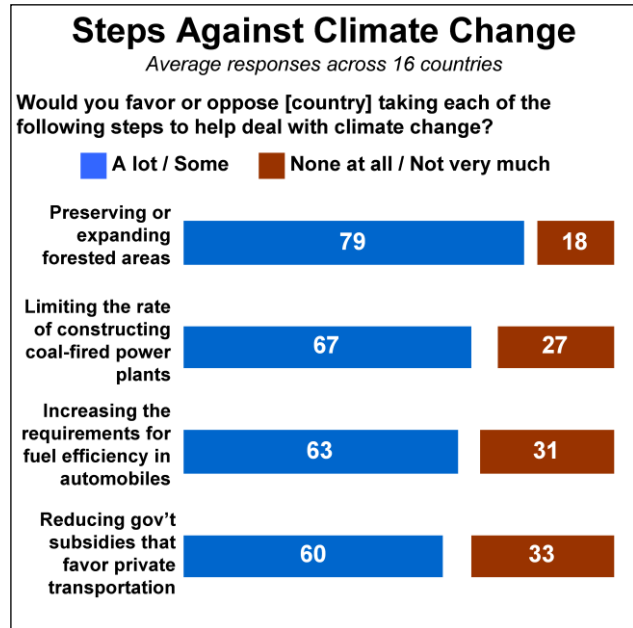
One would naturally expect those with higher income (in accordance with their national scale) to be more willing to pay an amount to take steps against climate change than those with lower income. This expected relationship is borne out, but it is milder than might have been assumed. In the aggregate of all countries polled, 40-43% of those with very low or low incomes are willing to pay the higher amount, while 51-54% of those with middle incomes or above are willing to do so. After the lower amount has been offered as well, 56% of those with very low incomes and 64% of those with low incomes are willing to pay some amount. This rises to 68-70% of those with medium and high incomes.

To check whether these aggregate figures disguised some national anomalies, five countries were examined in detail: China (the second most willing to pay among 13 countries), France and Turkey (countries near the average in willingness to pay), and Russia (the least willing). Lower- and higher-income respondents in all five countries answered in accord with the patterns shown in the aggregate results just discussed.

4.3 Willingness to Support National Steps with Economic Costs

Publics in virtually all countries expressed majority support for a range of policy changes that countries could make as steps to deal with climate change. Though each policy was described as having a cost, and no corresponding benefit was mentioned, support for each was quite widespread.

Majorities in 14 countries and a 50% plurality in Russia supported “limiting the rate of constructing coal-fired power plants, even if this increases the cost of energy.” Brazil was divided. This step was strongly favored in Vietnam (91%, 54% strongly), Turkey (81%, 54% strongly), and Egypt (80%). There were also about two-thirds majorities in China, India and Kenya (all 67%), Bangladesh and the United States (both 64%). On average across all countries polled, 68% supported the measure (31% strongly) and 26% opposed it (8% strongly).



Majorities in 14 countries and a plurality in one supported “gradually increasing the requirements for fuel efficiency in automobiles, even if this raises the cost of cars and bus fares.” Brazil was once again divided (43% to 46%). Highest overall support was in Vietnam (87%, 45% strongly), Japan (78%), the United States (71%), Turkey (70%, 44% strongly), and France (69%). The lowest support was in Mexico, where a 50% plurality favored the measure and 44% were opposed, and Iran, with 52% in favor.

Majorities in 12 of 16 countries also supported “gradually reducing government subsidies that favor private transportation, even if this raises its cost.” One country (Russia) had plurality support, another (Iran) had plurality opposition, and two (Brazil and Mexico) were divided. Support was highest in Vietnam (86%), Kenya (71%), and Turkey (68%), while support was also in the 60% range in the United States, France, Egypt, China, Bangladesh and Indonesia. In India, whose expanding market for cars has garnered much media attention, 57% supported reducing relevant subsidies, with 25% opposed. On average across all countries polled, 61% favored the measure while 32% did not.

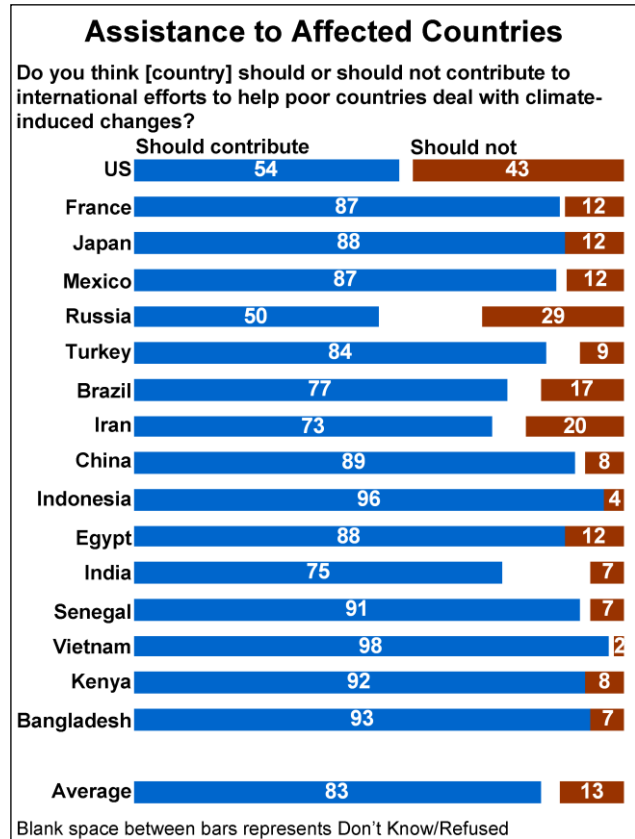
Finally, majorities in all countries supported environmental policies that could help to deal with climate change: “preserving or expanding forested areas, even if this means less land for agriculture or construction.” The highest majorities in support were in Vietnam (97%), Turkey (89%, 68% strongly), China (88%, 53% strongly), France (86%), and Russia (80%). Also noteworthy was India at 75% (52% strongly). No country’s support for this measure was below 68%. On average across all countries polled, 79% favored the measure, with 18% opposed.

4.4 Assisting Poor Countries with Adaptation to Climate Change

Publics in all countries (whatever their level of income) were asked about helping poor countries adapt to the effects of climate change. Of 16 countries, 15 majorities and 1 plurality were positive about doing so. Adaptation—as distinct from mitigation—is an aspect of the climate change issue that is less discussed by media and less well known to publics. All respondents heard:

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

Most countries had very large majorities supportive of contributing to international efforts to aid poor countries’ adaptation processes. This included many developing countries that might well have seen themselves in the description that the question supplied.



Support in the 90% range came from Vietnam, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Kenya and Senegal. Support in the 80% range came from two highly developed countries—Japan and France—and four middle-tier countries, China, Egypt, Turkey, and Mexico. Support in the 70% range came from Brazil, India and Iran. The lowest support came from the United States (54%) and Russia (50% to 29%).

Especially noteworthy was the high level of public support in less developed countries to act in solidarity, aiding other countries that are not unlike themselves.

IV. Policy Attitudes in Countries with High and Low Per Capita Emissions

A perusal of the survey findings presented in this study suggests the hypotheses that (1) countries with higher per capita CO₂ emissions may tend toward a less urgent view of climate change in general than countries whose per capita emissions are lower; and (2) that countries with higher per capita CO₂ emissions may show more reluctance to assume costs in order to deal with the problem of climate change. These hypotheses also seem worth testing by viewing the same countries on the scale of per capita gross national income (GNI).

To test these hypotheses, a number of variables were correlated with per capita emissions of CO₂, and then with per capita GNI. For *the general view of climate change* and the degree of urgency about it, we used the following questions:

- Q1. Whether climate change is a serious problem or not
- Q2. Whether the country's greenhouse gas emissions will increase if it does not do things differently in the future
- Q3. Whether or not dealing with climate change is a problem that should be given priority, even if this slows the economy
- Q5. Whether climate change will harm poor countries more, rich countries more, or both about equally
- Q6. Whether there is consensus among scientists that climate change is an urgent problem; or, consensus that it is *not* an urgent problem; or, scientists are divided
- Q7. When climate change will harm people in our country (already, in a given time frame, or never)

For *the willingness to assume costs* in order to deal with the problem of climate change, we used the following questions:

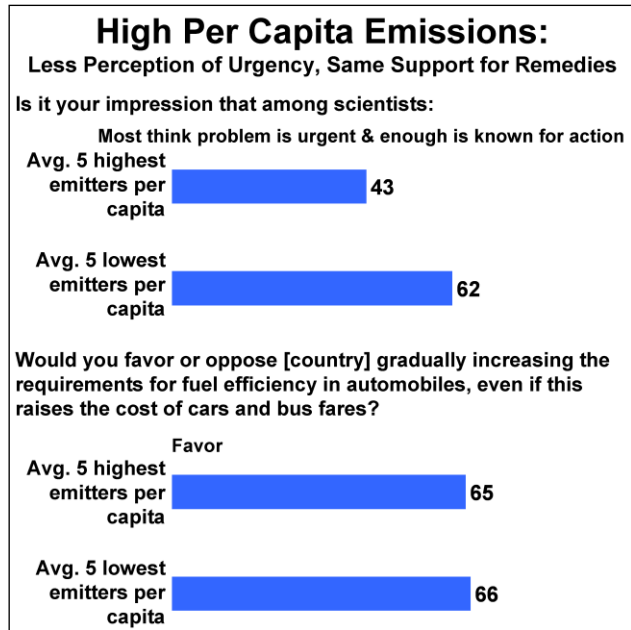
- Q13. Whether it will be necessary to increase the cost of energy to encourage conservation and alternative forms of energy
- Q14. Whether respondents were willing to personally pay a stated amount, corresponding to either 0.5% or 1% of GDP per capita prorated monthly, to help deal with climate change
- Q15c. Whether or not there should be higher fuel efficiency requirements for automobiles and buses, which would raise costs to consumers
- Q15d. Whether or not to reduce government subsidies that favor private transportation, which would raise costs to consumers

The analyses found that countries with higher per capita CO₂ emissions are *less likely* than those with lower emissions to view climate change as a very serious problem; to perceive a scientific consensus that climate change is an urgent issue; and to think that people are already being harmed in their country by climate change. Thus the first hypothesis finds confirmation in this study's data.

However—most interestingly--the second hypothesis is *not* sustained. Countries with higher per capita CO₂ emissions are *about as likely* as those with lower emissions to see a rise in energy costs as necessary; to be willing to personally pay a stated amount to help deal with climate change; to favor higher fuel efficiency requirements; and to support reducing government subsidies that favor private transportation. Thus though people in countries with high per capita

emissions tend to be less sure about the importance and effects of climate change, they are *just as willing* to assume costs and support specific measures as are people in low-emitting countries.²

All the same tests were repeated by comparing countries with high per capita gross national income against those with low per capita GNI. (It should be noted that Russia, Iran and China rank lower when countries are arrayed by per capita GNI, and rank higher when arrayed by per capita emissions. On the other hand, France, Mexico, and Brazil rank higher when countries are arrayed by per capita GNI, and lower when arrayed by per capita emissions. Other countries are different by just one or two rungs, or occupy the same rung in each array.)



The patterns of correlation and non-correlation were generally repeated, with the difference that relationships were less robust than those regarding per capita emissions. Again, publics in countries with high per capita GNI are more likely to view climate change in a less urgent way than do publics in low per capita GNI countries. However, publics in the richer countries are no less willing to accept specific costs to deal with climate change than are publics in the poorer countries.

Why might this be so? Past survey research on attitudes toward climate change—most of it conducted in high-income countries—has largely shown a willingness to accept costs to deal with climate change, consistent with that found in this study. What has changed in the last few years in high-income countries is people’s confidence in their *understanding* of climate change. To take an example from the United States, where Yale University has conducted an excellent series of surveys of Americans on climate change, its researchers pointed out in January 2010: “This report finds that, despite the recent drops in public beliefs and concern about global warming, a large majority of Americans—regardless of political affiliation—support the passage of federal climate and energy policies...” While Yale found a marked decline in attitudes on general questions, it found stability in attitudes toward remedies.³

One possible explanation worth investigating is that people in high-income countries live in a very complex media environment which allows great play for competing claims and counterclaims. To economize their information parsing, people may accept *relative probabilities* for many of the claims they hear, given that they have no time to sift through the claims’ evidentiary bases. Nonetheless, apparently they are not swayed off their ‘executive decision’ that

² The inverse correlations regarding general views of climate change in countries with high per capita CO2 emissions ranged from -0.574 to -0.705, with significance (2-tailed) between .002 and .019. The tests regarding willingness to assume costs did not show even weak correlations.

³ All reports and full questionnaires from Yale’s polls are available at <http://environment.yale.edu/climate/>.

it is necessary to invest resources in dealing with climate change—a decision that past surveys show was present from the late 1990s to today.

V. Analysis of Demographic Dimensions

Education

Education is one of the few demographics that demonstrate significant differences in many national publics. Yet these differences often do not cut the same way in high-income countries and in less wealthy countries.

Across 12 of the 16 countries polled, those with more education were more likely to think there is a scientific consensus that climate change is an urgent problem requiring action.

In high-income countries, the better educated were less likely to think that people in their country were already being harmed by climate change. However, in many low- to middle-income countries the better educated were *more* likely to think people were already being harmed.

Consistent with this, in the high-income countries the better educated were more likely to think that poor countries would suffer more than rich countries from the effects of climate change. However, in lower-income countries there was usually no difference on this point: instead, better educated and less educated in poorer countries both thought poor countries and rich countries would suffer equally.

In addition, in most countries, the better educated were more willing to pay higher costs associated with efforts against climate change. Since higher education generally accompanies higher incomes, this is probably driven in part by educated people's greater ability to pay the specified amounts.

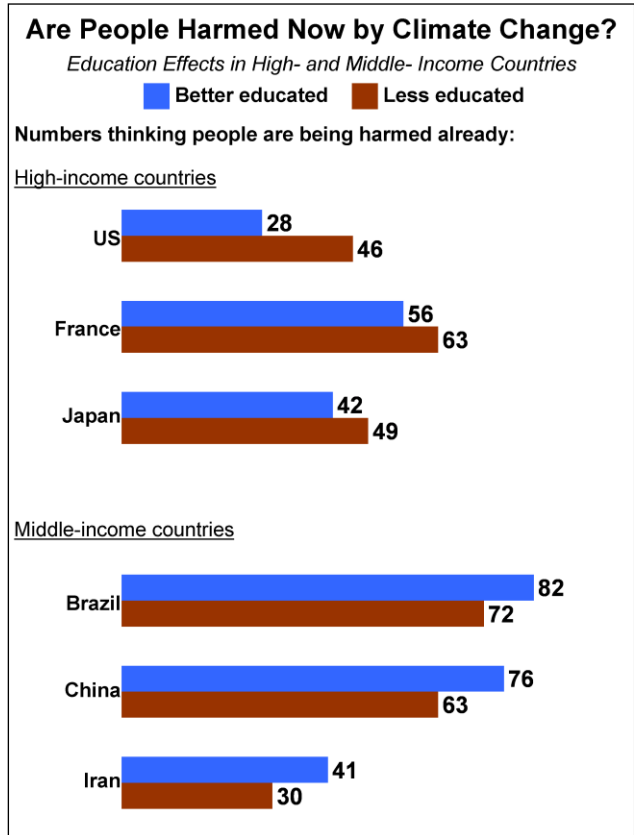
Among the high-income countries, those with some college education or above were more likely to think most scientists see climate change as an urgent problem in the **United States** (48%, as compared to 29% of the less educated), and **France** (60 to 52%). Among middle-income countries, this was true in **Brazil** (61 to 41%), **Iran** (71 to 42%), **Mexico** (59 to 46%), and **Turkey** (62 to 50%). Among lower income-countries, the same pattern held in **China** (53 to 47%), **India** (63 to 27%), **Senegal** (79 to 60%), **Kenya** (67 to 48%), **Indonesia** (48 to 30%), and **Bangladesh** (80 to 67%)

Russia was a special case, in that those with higher education were more likely to say most scientists think climate change is *not* an urgent problem (37 to 26%).

In the high-income countries, the better educated are *less* likely to think that people in their country are already being harmed by climate change, and more likely to think that such harm lies some years off in the future. In the **United States**, only 28% of the better educated thought some Americans are being harmed now, but 46% of the less educated thought this. This same pattern was present to a lesser degree in **Japan** (56%, compared to 63% among the less educated) and **France** (42%, compared to 49%).

In some middle-income countries, the better educated are *more* likely to think people in their country are already being harmed by climate change. This was true in **Brazil** (82%, compared to 72% among the less educated); **China** (76 to 63%); and **Iran** (41 to 30%). Among lower-income countries the same pattern held in **Egypt** (37 to 30%) and **Indonesia** (64 to 28%). Other countries showed no meaningful differences by education.

In the high-income countries, the better educated show more awareness of poor countries' higher vulnerability to climate change. Those with a bachelors' degree or equivalent (or higher) in the **United States** are more inclined to say poor countries will be hurt more (34 to 16% among the less educated). This is also true in **France** (51 to 33%) and **Japan** (38 to 26%). **China** was the only other country to exhibit this pattern (47% among those with a high school education, vs. 25% among those with less).



Among countries outside the high-income group, in three the *less* educated are more likely to think poor countries will be more affected: **Turkey** (53 to 36% among the better educated), **Senegal** (66 to 53%), and **Bangladesh** (68 to 57%). Broadly, though, in middle and lower-income countries people did not differ by education in their views of who would be most affected.

Finally, when offered specific amounts and asked whether they would be willing to pay increased costs to help deal with climate change, those with less education were more likely to refuse to pay either amount than were those with more education. In high-income countries the differences were modest: in the **United States**, 42% with less education refused, compared to 30% of the better educated; and in **France**, 38% with less education refused, compared to 30% of the better educated.

This pattern was present in some middle-income countries as well: **Russia** (69% of less educated, 44% of more educated), and **Turkey** (41 to 24%). Among lower-middle income countries, the pattern was found in **Egypt** (38 to 23%) and **China** (23% to 14%).

Among low-income countries, the pattern was evident in **India** (43 to 19%), **Kenya** (53 to 22%), **Vietnam** (34 to 6%), and **Bangladesh** (33 to 25%). Breaking the pattern, **Indonesia** was unusual: there the better educated were *less* likely to accept costs (51 to 36%).

Income

Where differences by individuals' income are found, they tend to demonstrate the same patterns found with differences by education. To develop the following account, a five-point income scale was collapsed, so that respondents with high or very high incomes were compared to respondents with low or very low incomes; respondents in the middle income category were not referenced.

In middle-income countries and some lower-income countries, respondents with higher incomes were more likely to say that climate change should be given priority, even if this slows the economy. However, it should be noted that only in one country (**Indonesia**) did these differences result in different majority positions. Better-off respondents were more likely than poorer respondents to prioritize climate change in **Iran** (80% to 59%), **Mexico** (75% to 59%), **Russia** (64% to 53%), **Turkey** (73% to 64%), and **Brazil** (84% to 76%). Among lower-income countries, this was also true in **Senegal** (82% to 65%), **India** (74% to 59%) and **Kenya** (90% to 82%). This difference was not found, however, in any of the high-income countries. In **Indonesia's** unique case, 41% of the better off wanted to prioritize climate change compared to a higher 50% of poor respondents.

In middle-income and lower-income countries, better-off respondents were more likely than poor respondents to think most scientists see climate change as an urgent problem. Middle-income countries exhibiting this pattern included **Iran** (70% to 52%), **Turkey** (62% to 51%), **Mexico** (51 to 43%), and **Brazil** (47 to 39%). Among low-income countries, the pattern also held in **Vietnam** (76% to 69%), **India** (55% to 37%), **Kenya** (73% to 56%), **Bangladesh** (76% to 65%), and **Egypt** (55% to 45%).

Russia was unique in that those with higher incomes were more likely to say scientists believe climate change is *not* an urgent problem (40 to 30%). There was no pattern either way in any of the high-income countries.

In high-income countries, better-off individuals were more likely to think climate change is more harmful to poor countries. This pattern was visible in **France** (43 to 34%), **Japan** (37 to 27%) and the **United States** (26 to 19%). Across countries in other income tiers, however, there were few significant differences.

In some countries with high CO2 emissions per capita, those with low incomes were more likely to say that people are already being harmed in their country by climate change. This was true in the **United States** (45% low income to 24% high income), **France** (52 to 43%), and **Russia** (32 to 24%).

However, in some countries with lower per capita emissions, those with *high* incomes were more likely to say people are already being harmed in their country. This was true in **Indonesia** (69 to 33%), **Senegal** (78 to 58%), **Kenya** (95 to 83%), **Brazil** (80 to 67%), and **Turkey** (62 to 54%). This complexity mirrors a pattern found in differences by education. In high-income countries, the better educated were less likely to think that people in their country were already being harmed by climate change. However, in many low- to middle-income countries the better educated were *more* likely to think people were already being harmed.

Lastly, when asked whether they were willing to accept costs corresponding to 1.0% or 0.5% of GDP to deal with climate change, most countries followed a consistent pattern. Those with high incomes were (logically enough) much more likely to say they would pay the stated amount than

those with low incomes. Proceeding from high-income to low-income countries, this was true in **France** (67 to 61%), **Japan** (72 to 58%), **Mexico** (69 to 61%), **Russia** (37 to 21%), **Turkey** (67 to 48%), **Iran** (83 to 59%), **Egypt** (76 to 60%), **India** (61 to 47%), **Senegal** (67 to 55%), **Vietnam** (91 to 76%), **Kenya** (73 to 56%), and **Bangladesh** (77 to 60%). Interestingly, there were no significant differences by income in the **United States** or **Brazil**.

Rural and Urban Residents

Little is known about whether there are important differences between rural and urban populations on issues related to climate change, particularly in the developing world. Nearly all countries are undergoing urbanization and many current city dwellers have roots in the countryside. This study has the opportunity to cast light on these differences, if and where they are appreciable. It should be noted that countries have differing official systems for classifying communities as rural or urban, and that survey methodologies have to be somewhat subordinated to national census methods. Still, it is possible to classify respondents' locations into ordinal categories: rural area/small town; town/small city; medium-sized city; and large city. Most countries were categorized into four or three such groups (in Egypt only two groups were used, small towns/cities and large cities).

Overall, there were no sweeping patterns of rural-urban differences that reappeared across multiple questions. The most frequently noted differences regarded respondents' willingness to personally pay stated amounts to help deal with climate change. Where these differences appeared, urban residents were typically more willing to pay than were rural residents. This evidently suggests the hypothesis that personal income differentials between city and country may have been an important factor behind people's responses to this question.

Among the high-income countries studied, rural-urban effects were few. In **France**, the rural public was more likely to say (54%) that that people in France were being harmed now by climate change than were the French in the largest cities (37%).

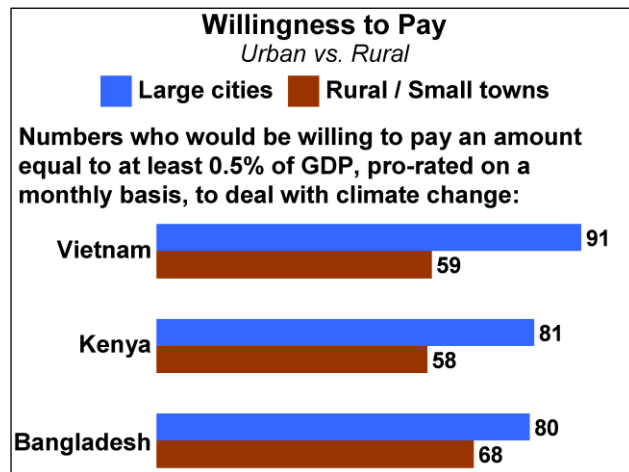
The other differences between rural and urban responses in high-income countries involved whether people felt it would be necessary to raise the cost of energy to encourage conservation, and whether they were willing to personally pay a stated amount to combat climate change. In both the **United States** (55 to 47%) and **France** (51 to 36%), there was a greater tendency for people in large cities to feel energy costs will have to increase, compared to people in rural areas; similarly, those in large cities in both countries were more willing to pay an amount corresponding to at least 0.5% of GDP than were rural residents (US, 70 to 54%; France, 67 to 62%).

Among upper-middle-income countries, in **Mexico** urban dwellers were more willing to pay a stated amount than rural dwellers (67 to 36%). However, in **Brazil**, rural residents were more likely than large-city residents to think it will be necessary to increase the cost of energy to promote conservation (70 to 28%). Rural Brazilians were also more willing to pay a stated amount to help deal with climate change than were urban residents (61 to 31%). There were no meaningful rural-urban differences in other countries in this income tier.

Among lower-middle-income countries, only **Indonesia** showed a meaningful pattern of differences. Large-city residents were more likely than rural residents to think climate change should be a priority even if it slows economic growth (63 to 50%). Likewise, large-city residents

were more likely to say climate change was already harming people in Indonesia (51 to 35%), and were more willing to pay to help deal with the problem than were rural residents (84 to 61%).

Among low-income countries, some had urban residents more willing than rural residents to pay an amount corresponding to at least 0.5% of GDP to help deal with climate change. This was true in **Kenya** (81% of urban residents, 58% of rural residents); in **Bangladesh** (80 to 68%); and in **Vietnam** (91%, to 59% of small-town dwellers). In the latter two countries, urban residents were more likely than rural residents to think that increasing energy costs to promote conservation would be necessary (Bangladesh, 73 to 60%; Vietnam, 83 to 24%).



Senegal was unusual in that only 42% of urban residents—compared to a higher 56% of rural residents—were willing to pay to help deal with climate change. However, there was no wider pattern of meaningful rural-urban differences in Senegal.

This examination of rural–urban differences also speaks to a potential methodological issue. Among the 16 countries surveyed, there were 6 where rural respondents were under-represented in the sample, or potentially under-represented: Egypt, India, Vietnam, China, Mexico, and Japan. In Egypt, India, and Vietnam, the sample design of the in-home interviewing was anticipated to under-represent rural areas. In China and Mexico, telephone interviewing was employed, but the penetration of telephones in rural areas is lower than in urban areas. In Japan, an online survey procedure was used, and potentially the rural population was under-represented.

This analysis of rural-urban differences suggests that these sample gaps in six countries had relatively little effect on overall estimates of public opinion. The only one of the six countries to have rural-urban differences on more than one key item was Vietnam. Urban respondents in Vietnam were more willing to pay the 1% of GDP than were rural respondents; urban residents also felt that it was more likely that the cost of energy would need to be increased to encourage conservation. On most other items aside from these cost-related questions, rural and urban Vietnamese did not differ.

Only in Mexico among the other six countries where rural respondents were potentially under-represented was an effect observed. In Mexico, urban dwellers also were more willing than rural respondents to endorse an increase in costs of 1% of GDP to take action against climate change. Rural-urban differences did not appear on other items.

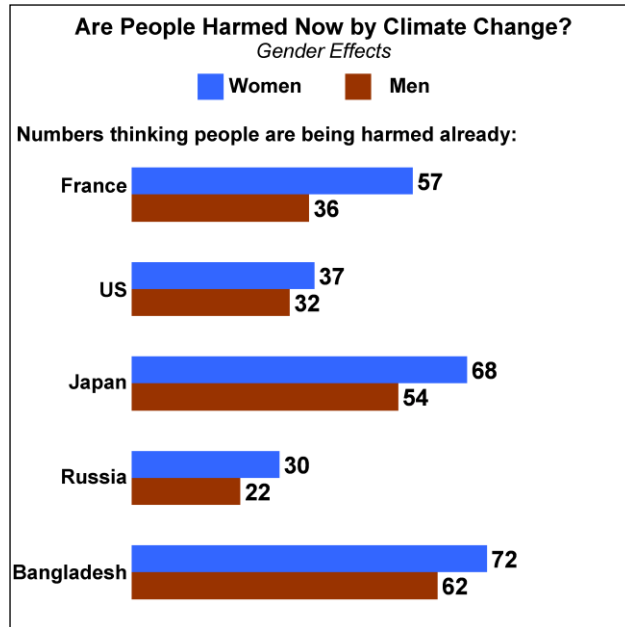
Accordingly, rural-urban sample imperfections may have had an effect on a few items in Vietnam and Mexico in country-level estimates. Each of these countries, however, tended to have very strong views expressing concern about most climate change issues; their publics were usually less divided on climate change questions than the publics in many other countries.

Gender

Overall, there are few differences between men and women on questions regarding climate change. The gender differences that exist appear more frequently in countries with high gross national incomes and high per capita CO2 emissions.

In high-income countries, women tend to express slightly more concern about climate change on some questions. In low-income countries, however, *men* tend to express slightly more concern than women. Broadly, though, such gender differences are rare, and climate change does not seem to shape up as an issue perceived along gender lines.

The most common effect of gender was evident on views about when climate change will start to harm people. In five countries, women were more likely than men to think that people are being harmed already. In **France**, 57% of women said that people are being harmed now by climate change; only 36% of men in **France** held this view. Women were also more likely than men to say that people are being harmed now in **Russia** (30 to 22%), in **Japan** (68 to 54%), in the **United States** (37 to 32%), and in **Bangladesh** (72 to 62%). Iran was the sole nation polled which showed the opposite gender effect; 46% of men felt people were being harmed now, and 39% of women.



It may be noteworthy that gender effects appeared in the five top per capita CO2 emitting countries polled – the **US**, **Russia**, **Japan**, **Iran**, and **France**. In each case except for **Iran**, women were more likely than men to perceive climate change as harming people now.

In all the high-income countries women were more likely than men to view climate change as a serious problem (**Japan**, 94 to 82%; **US**, 74 to 65%; and **France**, 91 to 85%). This was also true in **Indonesia** (83 to 76%). Among the low-income countries, only **India** showed a gender difference on this question, and it ran the opposite direction from that in high-income countries. Men in **India** were much more likely to be concerned about climate change than women (91 to 68%).

Among the countries polled, **Japan**, the **United States**, **Iran**, **India** and **Indonesia** showed gender differences more frequently than others, with effects appearing in multiple questions.

In **Japan**, women were more likely than men (48 to 39%) to say scientists believe climate change is an urgent problem. Women were also much more likely than men (47 to 29%) to call climate change a “very serious problem.” Women were also more likely to say people in Japan are being harmed now (68 to 54%).

In the **United States**, women were more likely than men (55 to 45%) to say it will be necessary to increase the cost of energy to encourage conservation and alternative energy sources. Women were slightly more likely than men (37 to 32%) to say people are being harmed now.

In **Iran**, men were slightly more likely than women (46 to 39%) to say people are being harmed now by climate change. Iranian men were divided on whether it would be necessary to increase the cost of energy (48% necessary, 45% not), while women were more likely to disagree (47% not necessary, 42% necessary).

In **India**, men were significantly more likely than women to say climate change is a very serious problem (76 to 47%) and to say dealing with climate change should be given priority, even if this means slowing economic growth (71 to 52%).

In **Indonesia**, men were slightly more likely than women (53 to 47%) to say climate change should be given priority, even if there are economic costs. Men were also more likely than women (40 to 26%) to say there is scientific consensus that climate change is an urgent problem that requires action. However, women were slightly more likely than men (64 to 57%) to say climate change is a very serious problem.

Age

There are few differences overall between age groups on most climate change questions. As with gender, most differences are relative differences in intensity, not substantive differences in beliefs.

In two high-income countries (France and Japan) older respondents, aged 50 and older, showed some signs of greater concern about climate change than did younger respondents, aged 29 or younger. (There were no significant age differences in the United States.) A few mid-income and lower-income countries also exhibit some differences: notably, in Mexico and Iran younger people are more concerned about climate change than are older people. Across the various strata of mid- to lower-income countries, however, there is no consistent pattern of difference by age.

Among countries in the high income tier, only **Japan** consistently demonstrates significant differences by age. Older Japanese are more concerned about climate change and willing to act than are younger Japanese. Older Japanese are more likely to view climate change as a very serious problem than younger Japanese (42 to 32%). Older Japanese are more likely to believe that scientists agree it is an urgent problem that requires immediate action (51 to 36%), say that it should be dealt with even if there are economic costs (71 to 51%) and that increasing the costs of energy will be necessary (83 to 75%). Older Japanese are also more willing to accept economic costs to deal with climate change than younger Japanese (75 to 59%).

In **France**, older age groups are more attuned to the problem of climate change on a few important questions. Like the Japanese, older French are more likely to say scientists agree it is an urgent problem (55 to 43%); that increasing the costs of energy will be necessary (50 to 40%); and that poor countries are more likely to be harmed by climate change (43 to 31%).

Turning to upper middle-income countries, a few differences by age were evident. In **Mexico**, younger Mexicans were more likely to view climate change as a problem that should receive

priority even if it slows the economy (67 to 55%), and were more willing to pay a stated amount of costs than older Mexicans (70 to 56%).

In **Turkey**, older Turks were more likely to say climate change is more harmful to poor countries (59 to 46%) and that people are being harmed now (62 to 53%), though younger Turks (62 to 56%) were slightly more willing to accept costs to deal with the problem.

In **Russia** and **Brazil** the only significant differences were people's unwillingness to pay economic costs, with older Russians (69 to 52%) and older Brazilians (65 to 56%) being less willing to pay a stated amount of costs. (Russia and Brazil were the two countries where majorities declined to pay.)

Among lower middle-income countries, in **Iran** younger Iranians are more likely to believe that scientists agree climate change is an urgent problem that requires immediate action (62 to 46%), say that it should be dealt with even if there are economic costs (73 to 58%) and that both rich and poor countries are being harmed by climate change (58 to 42%).

In **China**, younger Chinese are more likely to say the costs of energy will not need to be increased (36 to 22%), even though they are about as willing to personally pay increased costs to deal with the problem. Otherwise there were no meaningful differences between younger and older Chinese.

Younger **Indonesians** are more likely to say there is scientific consensus (36 to 24%) and that people are being harmed now (47 to 29%). They are also slightly more likely to say increasing the costs of energy will be necessary (90 to 82%), but are significantly less willing to personally pay a stated amount (45 to 70%) than older Indonesians.

Survey Methods

The methods for conducting the surveys in each country were developed to accomplish a balance between methodological strength, coverage of as many countries as possible, and cost. For each country, the survey method, sample size, sample design, and local survey agency are given at the end of this section.

Face-to-face interviews were conducted in 10 countries (Bangladesh, Brazil, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Russia, Senegal, Turkey, and Vietnam). In developing countries with relatively low penetration of landline telephones, as well as in some middle-income countries, interviews conducted in people's homes are typically the most effective way of obtaining a representative sample.

In four countries, China, France, Iran, and Mexico, telephone interviewing was conducted. The penetration of telephones in households in France (98%) and in Iran (80-85%) is quite high and all segments of the population should be well represented. In Mexico and in China, telephone interviewing for surveys of the public has become quite common, even though the penetration of telephones is lower outside urban areas. In China, the survey was a national probability sample of households with landline telephones, currently about 60% of the population. In Mexico, the telephone survey was conducted in all 31 states and the Federal District, but telephone penetration is about 55% in Mexican households, with higher penetration in urban than rural areas.

In the United States an online survey procedure using Knowledge Networks' online panel was employed. The recruitment of this sample is probability-based, and it has been shown to produce high quality national samples that are equivalent or superior to random telephone interviewing. Comparative studies documenting the representativeness of the Knowledge Networks online panel can be found in the academic social science literature.

In Japan, an online panel was also employed. The panel in Japan uses recruitment procedures in which people volunteer to participate and the statistical characteristics are less certain. Internet penetration is very high in Japan, and random telephone interviewing is a less common survey tool in Japan than in Western countries in part for cultural reasons.

Developing and Evaluating the Questionnaire Items

The current survey seems to be the most extensive study of public attitudes about climate change issues that has been conducted in a substantial number of low and middle income countries. Since the survey touches upon both scientific and policy questions related to climate change, it is important to try to gauge whether respondents across countries seemed to understand the questions.

Considerable attention was given to designing a questionnaire that would be workable across countries of varying education and income. The first question in the survey--"In your view is climate change, also known as global warming, a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not a problem?"--was taken from the Pew Global Attitudes Program questionnaire. It has been administered in many countries around the world in 2007, 2008, and 2009. It was selected in part as a straightforward, tested item that could help set the agenda for the survey.

The second question was intended to establish further a common information base which would prepare respondents for later questions. It reads: “As you may know, when coal, [petrol/gasoline], or other fossil fuels are burned for energy, this releases gases that stay in the atmosphere and trap heat, making the world hotter on average. If our country does not do things differently in the future do you think that the amount of greenhouse gases that [country] produces will go up, stay the same, or go down?”

Examining the patterns of non-response to items, or DK/R’s (Don’t know/Refused to answer), can provide some insight into the capacity of respondents to answer the questions. The table on the next page summarizes the percent of DK/R’s for each question by each country.

The all-country *average* rate of non-response per item ranged from a low of 2% to a high of 10%. The three items with the highest average non-response were:

- Q6. Views of what “scientists of the world” think about climate change—DK/R 10%
- Q8. Whether respondents think their government is doing too much, not enough, or about the right amount to deal with the problem of climate change—DK/R 8%
- Q4f. Whether or not climate change will affect our country’s coastline—DK/R 8%

Q6 and Q8 pose questions about remote external facts that some respondents may feel is simply beyond their knowledge, the views of scientists of the world or the sufficiency of government policies with respect to climate change. It is likely that non-responses will be higher on such factual, but remote issues than on questions about more individual feelings or beliefs.

Q4f which asks about the potential effect of climate change on a country’s coastline seems uncomplicated (though it is possible that respondents living farther from the sea may find it cognitively more difficult). The other parallel questions in the 4a-4g sequence ask about similar effects such as water resources, plants and animals, and droughts or floods, but have slightly lower non-response.

The countries with the highest average non-response across items were Russia (14%), India (14%) and Iran (10%). This may reflect in part a form of national or cultural disposition in these countries, rather than an inability to answer the questions. For example, respondents in Russia and India gave more DK/R responses than the 16-country average on every single question. Iranians did so for every question except Q12. In previous studies by WorldPublicOpinion.org, we have also found that Russians and Indians tend to give more item non-response than citizens of most other nations.

In this study, and in most surveys on policy issues, there is a tendency for people with less education to answer “don’t know” more frequently. This unsurprising effect is apparent within the countries polled. However, *across* countries, there is not a strong relationship between the educational levels in a country and the item non-response of that country. Thus, France and the US as well as Bangladesh, Kenya, and Vietnam all had low levels of item non-response. Russia and Iran had high levels of item non-response, but the educational levels of their populations put them in the middle or upper range of the countries polled.

Percentage of Respondents who respond “Don’t Know/Refused”

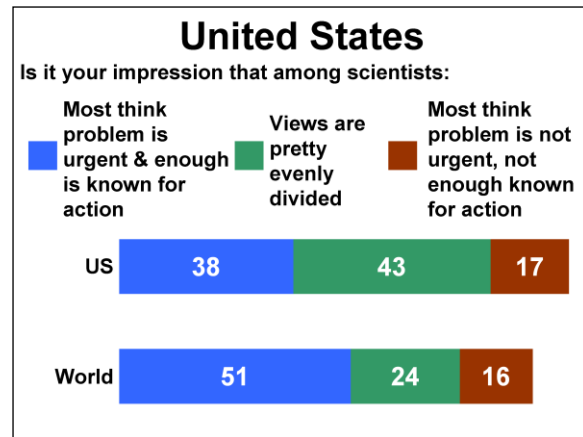
Question Number

Country	Question Number																										
	1	2	3	4a	4b	4c	4d	4e	4f	4g	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	14a	15a	15b	15c	15d	16	Avg.
USA	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	1	1	2	3	4	3	2	1	1	2	1	2	3	2
France	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	4	3	4	1	2
Japan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mexico	1	1	4	5	6	6	6	6	8	7	0	3	1	2	2	2	4	2	3	3	2	3	8	6	7	2	4
Russia	7	13	15	11	8	7	12	6	10	17	7	16	16	23	20	21	19	25	8	8	13	8	16	14	23	21	14
Turkey	4	19	11	3	4	4	3	4	7	5	3	17	7	9	5	17	22	11	19	9	7	7	12	12	14	7	9
Brazil	5	8	7	3	3	3	3	3	7	4	4	15	9	10	7	10	14	15	12	5	7	9	11	12	12	7	8
Iran	10	11	9	10	7	6	7	9	13	12	5	14	18	16	6	8	8	7	9	8	10	7	14	8	10	7	10
China	2	5	7	1	1	4	7	3	16	9	3	8	6	4	0	9	3	3	5	2	3	3	9	6	8	2	5
Indonesia	2	11	5	1	2	1	1	0	15	7	1	16	11	7	1	9	7	3	7	4	6	0	4	2	4	1	5
Egypt	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	1	2	1	0	3	2	1	1	2	1	1	3	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
India	6	13	21	7	8	8	8	11	18	16	8	26	7	13	13	19	22	21	19	17	16	9	13	15	17	18	14
Senegal	0	3	3	5	5	6	8	6	15	8	2	20	5	33	2	8	4	6	7	9	6	1	3	5	8	2	7
Vietnam	0	1	1	1	0	1	2	0	4	2	2	9	0	6	0	6	1	4	1	3	2	1	2	2	3	1	2
Kenya	0	7	1	0	0	0	0	3	10	1	1	3	1	1	1	2	3	3	1	1	1	0	1	1	4	0	2
Bangladesh	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	4	1	0	7	1	2	0	2	1	1	3	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
Average	2	6	5	3	3	3	4	4	8	6	2	10	5	8	4	6	7	6	6	4	5	3	6	5	7	4	5

SUMMARY OF ATTITUDES BY COUNTRY

UNITED STATES

Americans offered relatively tepid responses on the severity of climate change and the necessity of action. While still a majority, the number of Americans who said climate change is a serious problem was the smallest of all countries polled. Similarly, the majority who called for giving climate change priority was lower than any of the other 15 countries polled. Also of note, Americans were the second least likely to say climate change is harming people now (after Russia) and the second most likely to say views of scientists are divided on climate change (after Japan).

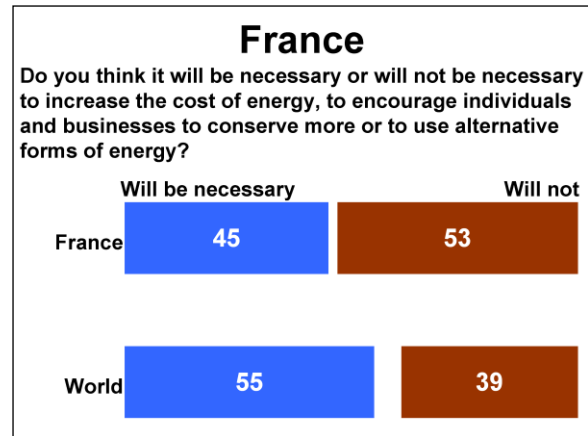


- Still, three-fifths (62%) would be willing to personally pay an amount equal to at least 0.5 percent of GDP, pro-rated on a monthly basis, to deal with climate change. Forty-eight percent say they would pay an amount corresponding to one percent of GDP.
- A 58% majority thinks the government is not doing enough to deal with the problem of climate change.
- Seven-in-ten Americans believe climate change is a “very serious” (31%) or “somewhat serious” (39%) problem.
- A slight majority (53%) agree with prioritizing dealing with climate change even if it slows economic growth; however, only 14 percent agree strongly.
- One-third (34%) believe that climate change is currently causing harm in their country.
- A minority (38%) feel that most scientists think climate change is an urgent problem and that action should be taken; however, 43 percent feel that views are divided and 17 percent feel that scientists think the problem is not urgent.
- Sixty-nine percent say the negative effects of climate change will be felt equally by wealthy and poor countries, 23 percent say they will be felt more by poor countries and six percent say more by wealthy countries.
- Americans were divided on whether energy costs will need to rise to encourage conservation in order to combat climate change (50% will, 47% will not).

Americans also had the largest minority (31%) of any country saying that if the country does not do things differently in the future, the amount of greenhouse gases the US produces will nonetheless stay the same (25%) or go down (6%). Along with Japan, Americans were unusual in the high 46% who thought that if their country took steps to deal with climate change, its example would make little difference to other countries. Only a modest majority (52%) disagreed.

FRANCE

The French public is one of only four countries surveyed (along with Mexico, Brazil and Russia) who do not believe that energy prices will need to rise to encourage conservation. However, on other subjects related to climate change they offer more typical attitudes of concern and support for dealing with the problem as a priority.

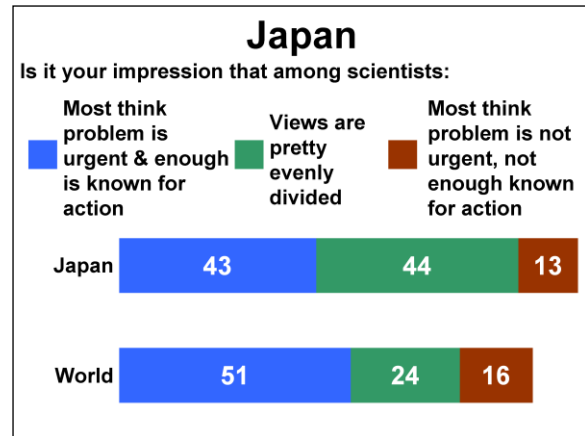


- Sixty-four percent would be willing to personally pay an amount equal to at least 0.5 percent of GDP, pro-rated on a monthly basis, to deal with climate change. Forty-eight percent say they would pay an amount corresponding to one percent of GDP.
- Three in five (60%) think the government is not doing enough to deal with the problem of climate change.
- A very large majority (88%) judge climate change to be a “very serious” (43%) or “somewhat serious” (45%) problem.
- Two-thirds (65%) favor addressing climate change as a priority even if this has negative effects on the economy.
- Nearly half (47%) say that climate change is already negatively affecting people in France.
- A small majority (53%) believe that there is a scientific consensus that climate change is a critical issue and that steps should be taken, while 37 percent believe views are divided and nine percent believe the consensus is that climate change is not a critical issue.
- Most French people (57%) think that climate change will cause harm at the same level in wealthy and poor countries, while 37 percent think it will cause more harm to poor countries and four percent think wealthy countries will be harmed the most.
- Roughly half (53%) disagree with the proposition that energy costs will need to be increased so that people conserve more energy and help deal with climate change.

France had the greatest number among the high-income countries thinking that climate change, left unchecked, would affect the risk of natural disasters “a lot” (73%) as well as the country’s coastline (59%).

JAPAN

Japanese have the largest number of respondents among all countries surveyed who believe the views of scientists are divided on whether climate change is an urgent problem. However, this was not a majority position. Despite these mixed views, they have the second largest majority (after Indonesians) who say it will be necessary for energy prices to rise so that people conserve more or switch to alternative forms of energy.



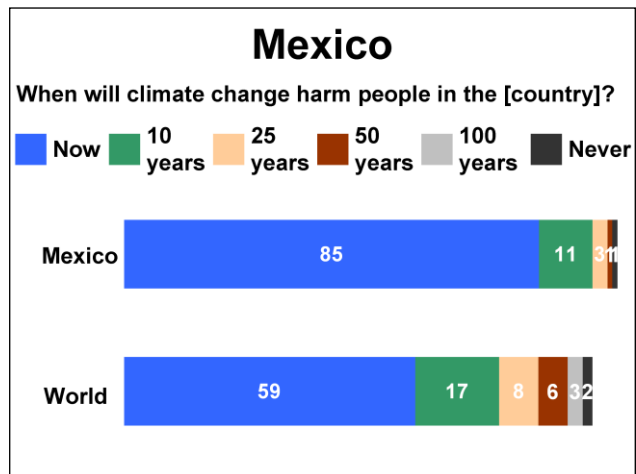
- Sixty-five percent would be willing to personally pay an amount equal to at least 0.5 percent of GDP, pro-rated on a monthly basis, to deal with climate change. Fifty-three percent say they would pay an amount corresponding to one percent of GDP.
- Seventy-eight percent think the government is not doing enough to deal with the problem of climate change.
- An overwhelming majority (88%) say that climate change is either a “very serious” (38%) or “somewhat serious” (50%) problem.
- Three-fifths (62%) of Japanese support giving priority to dealing with climate change, even if it hurts the economy.
- Six-in-ten (61%) believe that people are already being harmed by climate change in their country.
- Forty-four percent think that views of scientists are divided on climate change, 43 percent think that most scientists believe it is an urgent problem, and 13 percent think scientists believe it is not an urgent problem.
- A small majority (53%) predict that climate change will be equally harmful in wealthy and poor countries, while 31 percent predict it will be more harmful in poor countries and 16 percent predict it will be more harmful in wealthy countries.
- Four-fifths (81%) think it will be necessary for the cost of energy to rise in order to increase conservation and address climate change.

A high 91% of Japanese think that climate change, left unchecked, will affect Japan’s rainfall and available water resources (58% a lot); 92% think it will affect the likelihood of natural disasters (59% a lot) and 88% think it will affect Japan’s coastline (41% a lot).

Along with the United States, Japanese were unusual in the high 46% who thought that if their country took steps to deal with climate change, its example would make little difference to other countries. Only a modest majority (54%) disagreed.

MEXICO

Mexicans, after Bangladesh, are the second most concerned about climate change among surveyed countries. They are also the third largest majority, behind only Kenya and Vietnam, who say people are being harmed now in their country by the phenomenon. As a public, they are the most convinced that the damage done by climate change will be the same in wealthy and poor countries. Even with these concerns, Mexicans also are the second most convinced that the cost of energy will not need to rise in order to promote conservation, behind only Russia. They are the highest of all countries polled in thinking their government is doing too little about the problem.



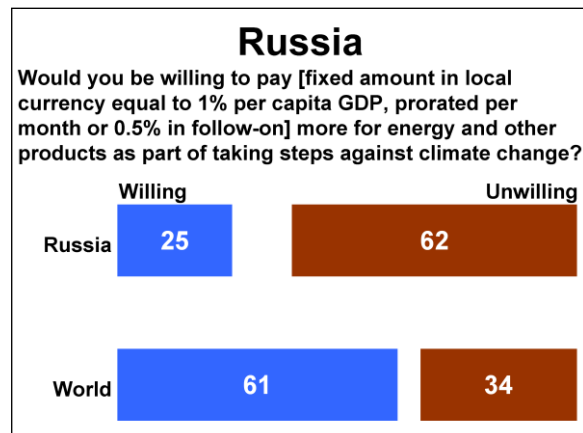
- Three-fifths (62%) of Mexicans would be willing to personally pay an amount equal to at least 0.5 percent of GDP, pro-rated on a monthly basis, to deal with climate change. Fifty-one percent say they would pay an amount corresponding to one percent of GDP.
- Eighty-seven percent—highest of all countries polled—think the government is not doing enough to deal with the problem of climate change.
- Nearly all (97%) judge climate change to be a “very serious” (90%) or “somewhat serious” (7%) problem.
- Six-in-ten (62%) agree with prioritizing addressing climate change, even if it slows economic growth.
- A very large majority (83%) say that climate change is currently doing harm to people in Mexico.
- Forty-eight percent believe the scientific consensus is that climate change is an urgent problem that requires steps, 39 percent believe views are evenly divided, and 11 percent believe the consensus is that it is not an urgent problem.
- Roughly nine-tenths (87%) say the negative effects of climate change will be felt equally by wealthy and poor countries, 10 percent say they will be felt more by poor countries, and two percent say they will be felt more by rich countries.
- A majority (59%) do not think energy prices will need to increase to encourage conservation and a shift to alternative energy.

Mexicans tend to be more reluctant than other publics to see higher transportation costs passed on to them as part of the process of dealing with climate change. A narrow plurality (50% to 44%) favor increasing fuel efficiency requirements, even if this raises the cost of cars and bus fares, and reducing government subsidies that favor private transportation.

RUSSIA

The Russian public is more skeptical about the gravity of the threat posed by climate change and less ready to take action than publics in other countries surveyed. It is second lowest, after the US, in both the number who say climate change is a very or somewhat serious problem and the number who favor addressing the issue as a priority.

Fewer Russians than respondents in any other country polled think that climate change is currently causing harm. Unique among all countries polled, the most common response in Russia was that most scientists do not think of climate change as an urgent problem. Russians also have the largest majority saying that increased energy prices to encourage conservation will not be necessary. Finally, they are the least willing to pay more to address climate change among countries in the poll.



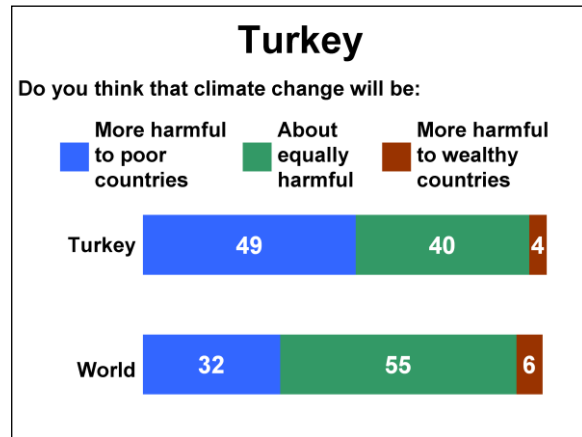
- Only one quarter (25%) of Russians would be willing to personally pay an amount equal to at least 0.5 percent of GDP, pro-rated on a monthly basis, to deal with climate change. Just 11% say they would pay an amount corresponding to one percent of GDP. Sixty-two percent rejected both amounts.
- A modest 55% majority thinks the government is not doing enough to deal with the problem of climate change.
- Seventy-two percent say that climate change is a “very serious” (30%) or “somewhat serious” (42%) problem.
- A modest majority (56%) favor giving priority to dealing with climate change, even if it negatively affects the economy.
- Only a small minority (27%) believe climate change is harming people in their country at this time.
- One-third (34%) say that most scientists think climate change is not an urgent problem that requires action, while 27 percent say that views are evenly divided and 23 percent say most scientists think it is an urgent problem.
- A majority (64%) think that wealthy and poor countries both will be harmed at the same level by climate change, 11 percent think that poor countries will be harmed more, and four percent think that wealthy countries will receive more harm.
- Eight-in-ten (81%) Russians believe it will not be necessary for the cost of energy to rise in order to encourage conservation.

A majority of 58%—lowest among all countries polled—sees Russia as having a responsibility to take steps to deal with climate change. While a 47% plurality thinks that steps taken by Russia would tend to make other countries more willing to act, this is the lowest among all countries polled (wouldn’t make much difference, 32%). Seven in ten (70%) think Russia should limit its emissions if other countries agree to do so, but only 49% think that in the absence of an agreement, Russia would still have a responsibility to take steps against climate change (would not, 27%).

Nonetheless, Russians do support taking certain steps against climate change. A large 80% majority favors preserving or expanding forested areas, and a 59% majority favor increasing requirements for fuel efficiency in automobiles; a 50% plurality would limit the rate of constructing coal-fired power plants.

TURKEY

Turks are more likely than the average of all countries surveyed to believe climate change is a serious problem, though slightly less likely to call for addressing the problem as a priority when it may harm the economy. They believe climate change will harm poor countries more than wealthy ones by the third largest margin, behind only Bangladesh and Senegal.

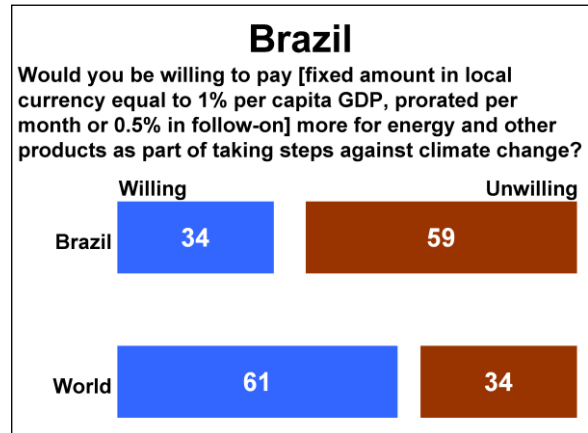


- Six in ten (59%) say they would be willing to personally pay an amount equal to at least 0.5 percent of GDP, pro-rated on a monthly basis, to deal with climate change. Forty-seven percent say they say they would pay an amount corresponding to one percent of GDP.
- A 58% majority think the government is not doing enough to deal with the problem of climate change.
- Nine-in-ten (91%) Turks judge climate change to be a “very serious” (79%) or “somewhat serious” (12%) problem.
- Sixty-five percent favor placing priority on dealing with climate, even at the cost of slower economic growth and job loss.
- A majority (58%) say that people are already being harmed by climate change in their country.
- Slightly more than half (52%) believe that most scientists think climate change is an urgent problem, 17 percent believe views are divided, and 15 percent believe most think it is not an urgent problem.
- Forty-nine percent predict that climate change will harm poor countries the most, while 40 percent predict that wealthy and poor countries will be harmed equally and four percent predict wealthy countries will be harmed more.
- A majority (57%) think that energy prices need to be increased so that people conserve more energy or consider alternative sources.

A high 91% think that climate change, left unchecked, will affect Turkey’s rainfall and water resources (a lot, 70%). Eighty-nine percent (68% strongly) favor preserving or expanding forested areas; 81% (54% strongly) favor limiting the rate of constructing coal-fired power plants; 70% (44% strongly) favor increasing fuel efficiency requirements; and 68% (42% strongly) favor reducing government subsidies that favor private transportation.

BRAZIL

Brazilians are the second least willing (after Russians) to pay more to help fight climate change and the third most likely public (after Russians and Mexicans) to believe energy prices will not need to increase to encourage conservation. Despite these views, they are among the publics most supportive of giving priority to dealing with climate change, along with Vietnam, Bangladesh, Egypt, and Kenya.

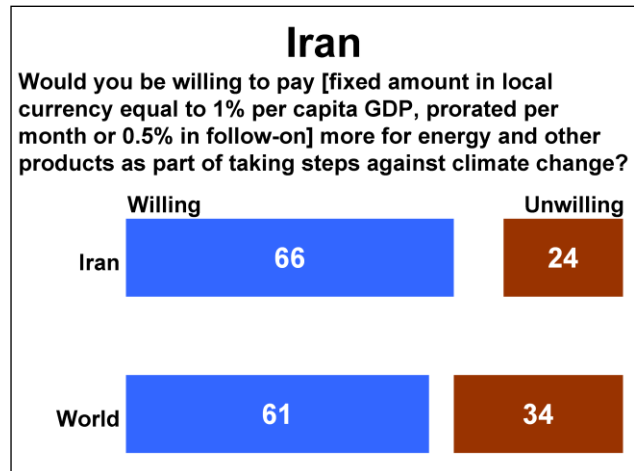


- Only one third (35%) would be willing to personally pay an amount equal to at least 0.5 percent of GDP, pro-rated on a monthly basis, to deal with climate change. Twenty percent say they would pay an amount corresponding to one percent of GDP.
- At the same time, though, a 71% majority think the government is not doing enough to deal with the problem of climate change.
- An overwhelming majority (90%) consider climate change a “very serious” (78%) or “somewhat serious” (12%) problem.
- Eight-in-ten (80%) support prioritizing addressing climate change, even if it hurts economic growth.
- Three-fourths (73%) believe Brazilians are currently being negatively affected by climate change.
- Forty-four percent say that most scientists agree climate change is an urgent issue to be addressed, while 26 percent say most scientists agree it is not an urgent issue and 15 percent say views are evenly divided.
- A majority (57%) think climate change will be equally harmful to wealthy and poor countries, while 24 percent think it will be more harmful for poor countries and eight percent think more harm will be done to wealthy countries.
- More than half (56%) say it will not be necessary for the cost of energy to rise to encourage people to conserve more.

Large majorities think that climate change, left unchecked, will seriously affect Brazil, including its food prices (88%, a lot 64%), and the likelihood of natural disasters (91%, 67% a lot). However, preserving and expanding forested areas is the only specific national measure that gains majority support, with 68% in favor. Views are divided on limiting the construction of coal-fired power plants, raising fuel efficiency standards, and reducing government subsidies that favor private transportation.

IRAN

Unlike the rest of the countries polled, Iran believes that climate change will do the most harm to wealthy nations. Also, they are among the five countries with majorities willing to personally pay amounts corresponding to 1.0 percent GDP to manage climate change, along with Japan, Mexico, China, and Vietnam. However, Iranians are divided on whether it is necessary to increase energy costs.

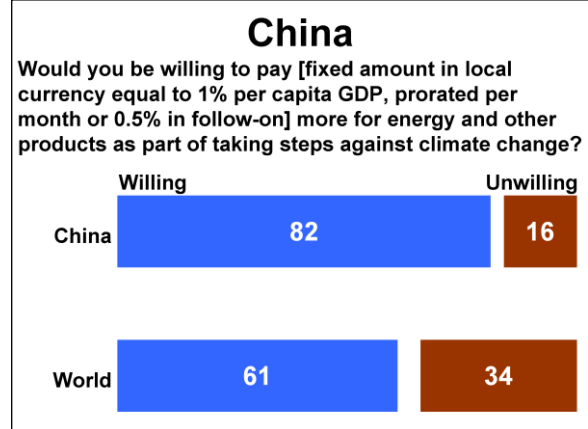


- Two-thirds (66%) would be willing to personally pay an amount equal to at least 0.5 percent of GDP, pro-rated on a monthly basis, to deal with climate change. A majority (51%) would pay an amount corresponding to one percent of GDP.
- On whether the government is doing enough to deal with the problem of climate change, the most common answer was “not enough” (38%) followed by “the right amount” (35%). Only 11% thought the government was doing too much.
- Eight in ten (80%) believe climate change to be a “very serious” (63%) or “somewhat serious” (17%) problem.
- Sixty-eight percent favor addressing climate change as a priority, even if this will have negative effects on the economy and may cause some job loss.
- Slightly less than half (42%) think that climate change is already harming the Iranian people.
- Three-fifths (60%) judge that most scientists believe climate change to be an urgent problem and that enough evidence is known to take action, whereas 19 percent judge that climate change is not an urgent problem and eight percent judge that views are evenly divided.
- Four in ten (41%) believe climate change to be either equally harmful to both wealthy and poor countries, almost as many (37%) believe it to be more harmful to poor countries, and four percent believe poor countries will be affected more.
- Iranians are divided on whether it will be necessary for the price of energy to rise in order to encourage conservation (46% it will be, 45% it will not be).

Large majorities expect that climate change, left unchecked, will impact Iran. Ninety percent think it will affect rainfall and water resources (67% a lot); 84% think it will affect the likelihood of natural disasters (60% a lot); and 88% think it will affect what flora and fauna can live in Iran (58% a lot). A slim majority (52%) supports increasing fuel efficiency requirements for automobiles, but on fuel-related subsidies—a sensitive issue in Iran—a narrow plurality of 47% to 43% opposes reducing government subsidies that favor private transportation.

CHINA

Chinese people are the third least concerned about climate change (after the United States and Russia), though concern is still a majority position. However, they are the second most willing to pay more each month to help deal with climate change, behind only Vietnam. Also, above average numbers of Chinese believe that climate change deserves priority, that it is already harming people in their country, and that energy costs will need to increase in order to further conservation.

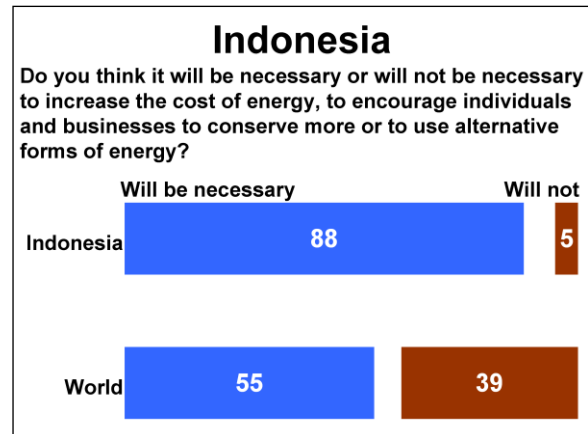


- Eighty-two percent would be willing to personally pay an amount equal to at least 0.5 percent of GDP, pro-rated on a monthly basis, to deal with climate change; 68 percent would pay an amount corresponding to one percent of GDP.
- About eight in ten Chinese (77%) think the government is not doing enough to deal with the problem of climate change.
- Three-fourths (76%) believe climate change to be a “very serious” (28%) or a “somewhat serious” (48%) problem.
- Seventy-eight percent favor addressing climate change as a priority even if this will have negative effects on the economy.
- A clear majority (71%) state that climate change is already harming people in China.
- A majority (57%) think that most scientists understand climate control to be an urgent problem and that enough is known to take action, whereas 27 percent think that views are fairly evenly divided and eight percent think that climate change is not urgent.
- Roughly half (54%) consider climate change to be equally harmful to both poor and wealthy countries, while 30 percent consider climate change more harmful for poorer countries and 10 percent consider climate change more harmful for wealthier countries.
- Two-thirds (65%) agree with the suggestion that energy costs will need to be increased so that people conserve more energy and help deal with climate change.

Nine in ten (91%) of Chinese think that climate change, left unchecked, will increase the likelihood of natural disasters in China (61% a lot). A very high 95% say China would have a responsibility to take steps against climate change even if other countries do not come to an agreement to do so—only two other countries, Bangladesh and Mexico, are at the same level. To this end, 88% favor preserving or expanding forested areas (53% strongly); 67% favor limiting the rate of constructing coal-fired power plants; 62% favor increasing fuel efficiency requirements; and 68% favor reducing government subsidies that favor private transportation.

INDONESIA

Indonesians represent the highest percentage of people who believe that increased costs in energy are necessary to conserve more energy. However, Indonesians also are the fourth least likely (behind Egypt, Russia, and the United States) likely to say that climate change is already hurting people in their country. Also, Indonesia has the fourth lowest percentage of people who “strongly agree” that climate change should be given a high priority, after Russia, Japan, and the United States.

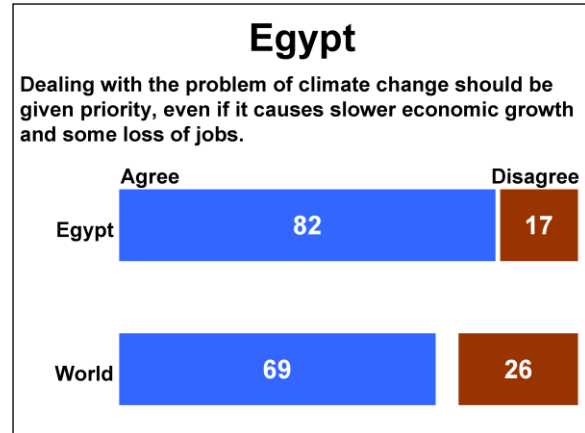


- Sixty percent would be willing to personally pay an amount equal to at least 0.5 percent of GDP, pro-rated on a monthly basis, to deal with climate change; 44 percent would pay an amount corresponding to one percent of GDP.
- Three in four (74%) think the government is not doing enough to deal with the problem of climate change.
- A clear majority (80%) believe climate change to be a serious problem with 61 percent stating it is “very serious” and 19 percent stating it is “somewhat serious.”
- A narrow plurality (50% to 45%) supports dealing with climate change as a priority even if it will have negative effects on the economy.
- Forty percent think climate change is already harming people in Indonesia, but 49% think this will not happen until a later period.
- Thirty-six percent believe the views of scientists are evenly divided on climate change, while 33 percent believe scientists think climate change is a problem and that there is enough knowledge to take action, whereas 16 percent believe that scientists think climate change is not urgent.
- Three-fourths (72%) say climate change will be equally harmful to both poor and wealthy countries, 24 percent say it will be more harmful to poor countries, and just one percent think it will be more harmful for wealthy countries.
- A very large majority (88%) agree with the suggestion that energy costs will need to be increased so that people will conserve more energy and help deal with climate change.

Almost all Indonesians (93%) think that climate change, left unchecked, will increase the likelihood of natural disasters in their country (57% a lot). Three in four (77%) favor preserving or expanding forested areas in Indonesia--a country rich in rainforest but plagued by illegal logging and firesetting. Finally, Indonesia is second highest among all countries polled (96%) in its willingness to contribute to international efforts to aid poor countries adapt to climate change.

EGYPT

Egypt's public has the fourth highest percentage (behind Vietnam, Bangladesh, and Kenya) of people who "strongly agree" climate change should be given a high priority. They are also the fourth most willing to pay a small percentage more monthly to manage climate change, after China, Bangladesh, and Vietnam. Despite this, Egyptians are the third least likely (behind Russia and the United States) to believe climate change is harming their fellow citizens now.

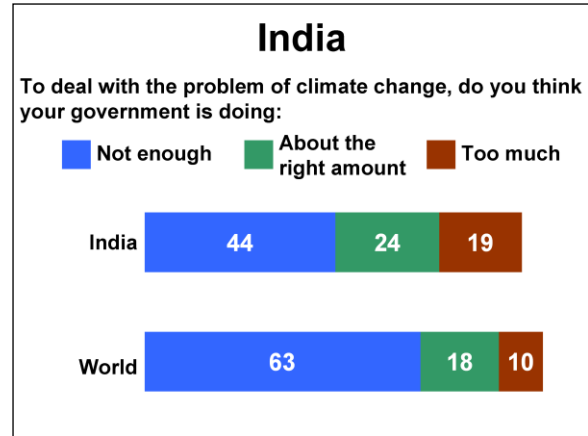


- Two thirds (68%) would be willing to personally pay an amount equal to at least 0.5 percent of GDP, pro-rated on a monthly basis, to deal with climate change; 42 percent would pay an amount corresponding to one percent of GDP.
- Three in five (62%) think the government is not doing enough to deal with the problem of climate change.
- A very large majority (93%) believe climate change to be a "very serious" (60%) or "somewhat serious" (33%) problem.
- Eighty-two percent favor addressing climate change as a priority even if this will have negative effects on the economy.
- Thirty-five percent of Egyptians believe climate change is already negatively affecting the people in their country; another 23% think there will be harmful effects in Egypt in ten years.
- Half (50%) think scientists believe climate change is an urgent problem, while 28 percent think they do not; 18 percent think views are evenly divided.
- Thirty-one percent believe climate change is equally harmful to both poor and wealthy nations, whereas 30 percent believe it is more harmful for the poorer nations and nine percent believe it is more harmful for the wealthy nations. Another 29% however, volunteered that both rich and poor countries will be affected, but in different ways.
- A majority (54%) say energy costs will need to increase to encourage people to conserve more energy and help deal with climate change.

Eighty percent of Egyptians favor limiting construction of coal-fired power plants (39% strongly). Coal is a possible future resource for Egypt, due to little-mined reserves in the Sinai Peninsula.

INDIA

The Indian public's attitudes are generally in agreement with the most common responses among countries surveyed. Majorities see climate change as a serious problem and favor prioritizing a response to it, while a plurality believes most scientists think it is an urgent issue to be addressed. More than half say they would be ready to pay more each month to help deal with climate change.

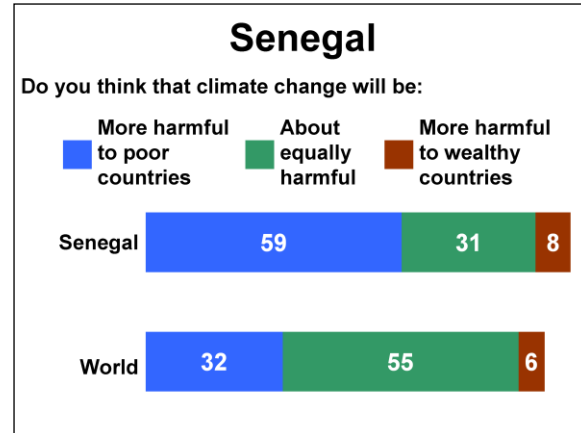


- A majority (55%) would be willing to personally pay an amount equal to at least 0.5 percent of GDP, pro-rated on a monthly basis, to deal with climate change; 44 percent would pay an amount corresponding to one percent of GDP.
- Forty-four percent think the government is not doing enough to deal with climate change; 19% think the government is doing too much and 24% think it is doing about the right amount.
- Eight in ten (80%) Indians believe climate change to be a “very serious” (62%) or “somewhat serious” (18%).
- Sixty-two percent favor addressing climate change as a priority even if this will have negative effects on the economy.
- A majority (59%) think that climate change is already harming the people in India.
- Roughly half (48%) judge that most scientists believe climate change to be an urgent problem and that enough is known to take action. Only 14 percent think most scientists believe climate change is not a problem; 11 percent think scientists are divided.
- Sixty-one percent think climate change is equally harmful for poor and wealthy nations, 26 percent think climate change is more harmful for poor nations, and six percent think it is more harmful for wealthy nations.
- A plurality (47%) thinks it will be necessary to increase energy costs so that people will conserve more energy and help deal with climate change.

Large majorities (70-73%) see India as vulnerable, if climate change is left unchecked, on the types of food the country produces, its flora and fauna, and the likelihood of natural disasters, with 53-54% saying India will be affected “a lot.” Clear majorities of Indians favor the specific steps of preserving and expanding forested areas (75%), limiting the rate of constructing coal-fired plants (67%), increasing fuel efficiency requirements for transport (61%), and reducing government subsidies that favor private transportation (57%).

SENEGAL

The Senegalese are second highest among countries polled in thinking that climate change is more harmful to poor countries than to rich countries, after only Bangladesh. They also have the third largest majority thinking there is a scientific consensus regarding climate change and that action should be taken, trailing only Bangladesh and Vietnam.

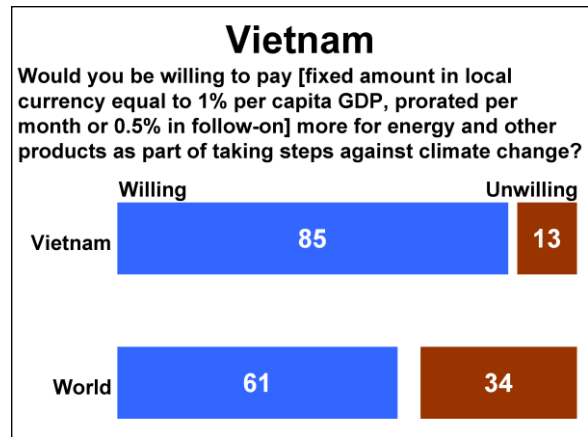


- A modest majority (55%) would be willing to personally pay an amount equal to at least 0.5 percent of GDP, pro-rated on a monthly basis, to deal with climate change; 43 percent would pay an amount corresponding to one percent of GDP.
- Senegalese opinion does not have a fixed view regarding the government’s performance on climate change. One in three (35%) think the government is not doing enough; 14% say it is doing too much, and 17% say it is doing about the right amount. One in three (33%) have no opinion.
- Ninety-one percent of Senegalese believe that climate change is a serious issue, with 72 percent believing that it is a “very serious” and 19 percent believing it is “somewhat serious.”
- Seven-in-ten (70%) think climate change should be dealt with even if there is slower growth and a loss of jobs.
- Three-quarters (75%) think that climate change is substantially affecting people now.
- A large majority (62%) believe that the scientists of the world think that climate change is an urgent issue and action needs to be taken. Just 13% believe scientists think it is not an urgent issue; 5% believe that scientists are divided on the issue.
- Fifty-nine percent feel that climate change will affect poorer countries more than richer countries, while 31 percent believe it will affect both in the same way and 8% believe it will affect the rich countries more.
- A slight majority (51%) think it will be necessary to increase the price of energy to encourage conservation; 42% disagree.

Senegal is among the five highest countries in its willingness to contribute to international efforts to help poor countries adapt to climate change (91%).

VIETNAM

The Vietnamese represent the largest majority among countries polled that agrees that action should be taken against climate change, even if it means that economic growth is slowed and some jobs are lost. They are also most likely to believe that climate change will affect rich countries and poor countries equally. They say, by the second largest margin (after Bangladesh), that there is a scientific consensus that climate change is an urgent problem. Finally, they have the largest majority of all countries willing to pay some stated amount to help deal with climate change.



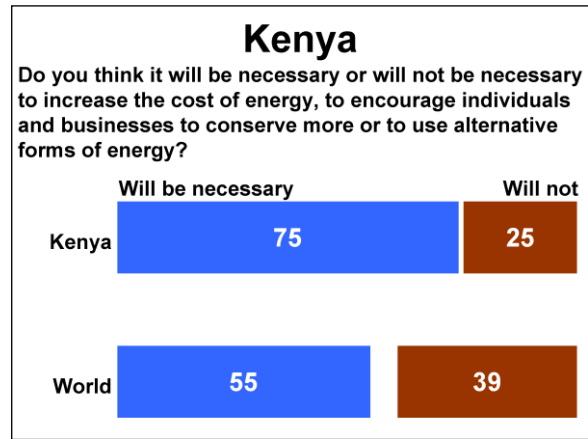
- A very large majority—85%-- would be willing to personally pay an amount equal to at least 0.5 percent of GDP, pro-rated on a monthly basis, to deal with climate change; 13 percent would pay an amount corresponding to one percent of GDP.
- Three in four (77%) think the government is not doing enough to deal with the problem of climate change.
- Nine in ten (90%) think that climate change is a serious problem, with 69 percent calling it very serious.
- Eighty-eight percent (63% strongly) believe that the issue of climate change should be given priority even if this slows economic growth.
- An overwhelming majority (86%) believes that climate change is already harming people in Vietnam.
- Seven in ten (70%) think that scientists are in agreement that climate change is an urgent issue and that steps need to be taken now. Only 14% think that scientists are divided on the issue, and just 8 percent think that scientists agree that is not an urgent issue.
- A very large majority (83%) of Vietnamese say that climate change will affect poorer and richer countries equally, while just 14% say that it will be more harmful to poorer countries and 2% believe it will be more harmful to richer countries.
- Seventy percent judge that it will be necessary to raise the price of energy in order to conserve more energy or encourage the use of alternative resources.

An extremely high 84% (matched only by Mexico) think that climate change, left unchecked, will increase the likelihood of natural disasters “a lot” in Vietnam. Vietnamese are nearly unanimous (98%) in offering their help to international efforts in solidarity with poor countries trying to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

While majorities over 85% favor all the specific measures proposed to deal with climate change, there is a little less enthusiasm about fuel efficiency requirements and government subsidies that favor private transportation, with only 40-45% *strongly* favoring these.

KENYA

Of all countries surveyed, Kenyans are the most vocal in saying that climate change is currently having negative effects for the people of their country. Accordingly, they have the third largest majority (after Bangladesh and Vietnam) calling for climate change being given priority--and also thinking energy prices will need to rise to encourage conservation (after Indonesia and Japan). More generally, Kenyans are the fourth most likely to characterize climate change as a serious problem, after Bangladesh, Mexico, and Egypt.

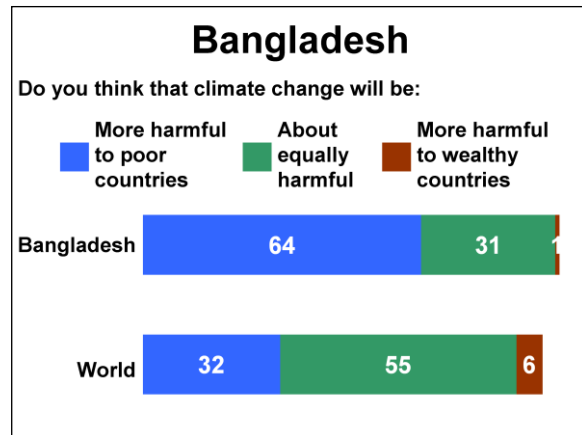


- Three in five—62%-- would be willing to personally pay an amount equal to at least 0.5 percent of GDP, pro-rated on a monthly basis, to deal with climate change; 43 percent would pay an amount corresponding to one percent of GDP.
- Seven in ten (69%) think the government is not doing enough to deal with climate change.
- Ninety-two percent believe climate change is a “very serious” (75%) or “somewhat serious” (17%) problem.
- A very large majority (83%) agree that climate change should be addressed as a priority, even at the cost of slower economic growth.
- Roughly nine-in-ten (88%) say that climate change is already harming people in Kenya.
- A majority (61%) think that most scientists believe climate change is an urgent problem and that action should be taken, while 23 percent think most scientists believe it is not an urgent problem and 13 percent think views are evenly divided.
- Slightly fewer than half (47%) predict that climate change will do the same amount of harm in wealthy and poor countries, 43 percent predict it will do more harm in poor countries, and nine percent believe it will do more harm in wealthy countries.
- Three in four Kenyans (75%) agree that energy prices will need to increase so that people and businesses will conserve or switch to alternative sources.

Very large majorities (72-75%) think that climate change, left unchecked, will affect Kenya “a lot” where the food it can produce, its flora and fauna, and its rainfall and water resources are concerned. Majorities support preserving and expanding forested areas (81%), limiting construction of coal-fired plants (67%), increasing fuel efficiency requirements (61%), and reducing government subsidies that favor private transportation (71%).

BANGLADESH

Bangladeshis express high levels of concern about climate change and of readiness to take action. They offer the largest majorities who say climate change is a serious problem and that scientists are in consensus that the phenomenon is an urgent issue. The Bangladeshi public are also the most likely to predict that climate change will cause more harm to people in poor countries than wealthy ones. Bangladeshis are, along with Vietnam, the most supportive of prioritizing dealing with climate change even if it slows economic growth. Also, despite being a low-income country, they are the third most willing to spend more on a monthly basis to address the problem, behind Vietnam and China.



- Seven in ten (70%) would be willing to personally pay an amount equal to at least 0.5 percent of GDP, pro-rated on a monthly basis, to deal with climate change; 32 percent would pay an amount corresponding to one percent of GDP.
- Seventy-two percent think the government is not doing enough to deal with the problem of climate change.
- Nearly all (99%) Bangladeshis view climate change as a “very serious” (85%) or “somewhat serious” (14%) problem.
- An overwhelming majority (88%) support giving priority to dealing with climate change, even if it hurts the economy.
- Two-thirds (67%) think that climate change is currently causing harm to people in their country.
- Seven in ten (70%) say that most scientists think climate change is an urgent problem and that action should be taken, while 14 percent say views are divided and nine percent say most scientists think it is not an urgent problem.
- A majority (64%) believe that poor countries will be harmed by climate change more than wealthy countries, 31 percent believe they will be harmed equally, and one percent believe wealthy countries will be harmed more.
- Sixty-two percent agree that it will be necessary for the cost of energy to rise in order to encourage conservation and development of alternative sources.

Virtually all Bangladeshis (94%) think that climate change, left unchecked, will affect people’s need to leave their homes and move to different parts of the country (affect a lot, 54%). Bangladesh is highest of any country polled (87%) in thinking that the example of Bangladesh acting against climate change would make other countries more willing to act.

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International Poll on Public Attitudes toward Climate Change

Polling Dates: September 18-December 1, 2009

Q1. In your view, is climate change, also known as global warming, a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not a problem?

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

Q2. As you may know, when coal, [petrol/gasoline], or other fossil fuels are burned for energy, this releases gases that stay in the atmosphere and trap heat, making the world hotter on average. If our country does not do things differently in the future, do you think that the amount of greenhouse gases that [country] produces will:

	Go up	Stay the same	Go down	DK/R
USA	68	25	6	1
France	77	17	6	1
Japan	82	14	4	0
Mexico	89	4	6	1
Russia	57	23	7	13
Turkey	67	7	8	19
Brazil	73	11	9	8
Iran	60	9	20	11
China	84	5	6	5
Indonesia	74	8	7	11
Egypt	76	11	12	1
India	63	4	20	13
Senegal	79	5	13	3
Vietnam	94	3	2	1
Kenya	65	12	16	7
Bangladesh	95	1	2	2
Average	75	9	10	6

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

	Agree strongly	Agree somewhat	Disagree somewhat	Disagree strongly	DK/R
USA	14	39	30	16	1
France	23	42	22	12	1
Japan	18	44	31	7	0
Mexico	31	31	24	11	4
Russia	18	38	24	6	15
Turkey	37	28	12	12	11
Brazil	37	43	9	4	7
Iran	25	43	13	11	9
China	38	40	12	5	7
Indonesia	22	28	29	16	5
Egypt	50	32	10	7	1
India	39	23	9	9	21
Senegal	46	24	13	15	3
Vietnam	63	25	9	2	1
Kenya	53	30	12	4	1
Bangladesh	54	34	9	3	0
Average	35	34	17	9	5

Q4. If climate change is left unchecked worldwide, how much do you think climate change will affect each of the following in our country?

Q4a. The types of food we produce

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

Q4b. The types of plants and animals that can live here

	None at all	Not very much	Some	A lot	DK/R
USA	9	18	42	30	1
France	4	4	25	65	2
Japan	2	7	36	55	0
Mexico	2	5	14	74	6
Russia	4	18	38	31	8
Turkey	3	5	25	64	4
Brazil	2	8	26	61	3
Iran	3	2	30	58	7
China	2	8	39	51	1
Indonesia	5	15	48	30	2
Egypt	8	22	36	34	1
India	5	15	20	53	8
Senegal	4	11	32	49	5
Vietnam	2	5	29	64	0
Kenya	1	7	21	72	0
Bangladesh	1	7	43	49	1
Average	3	10	31	52	3

Q4c. Rainfall and available water resources

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

Q4d. The price of food and other essential goods

	None at all	Not very much	Some	A lot	DK/R
USA	8	15	44	32	1
France	7	6	27	59	2
Japan	2	9	46	44	0
Mexico	2	4	12	77	6
Russia	5	21	38	24	12
Turkey	3	3	24	67	3
Brazil	1	7	24	64	3
Iran	4	4	29	57	7
China	3	13	43	34	7
Indonesia	4	18	46	31	1
Egypt	9	22	38	31	0
India	7	14	18	54	8
Senegal	6	17	27	43	8
Vietnam	2	9	35	53	2
Kenya	1	6	25	68	0
Bangladesh	2	5	34	59	0
Average	4	11	32	50	4

Q4e. The likelihood of natural disasters, like droughts or floods

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

Q4f. Our coastline

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

Q4g. People's need to move their homes to different locations

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

Q5. Do you think that climate change will be:

	More harmful to wealthy countries	More harmful to poor countries	About equally harmful to poor and wealthy countries	Both will be affected, but in different ways (vol.)	DK/R
USA	6	23	69	0	2
France	4	37	57	1	1
Japan	16	31	53	0	0
Mexico	2	10	87	0	0
Russia	4	11	64	14	7
Turkey	4	49	40	4	3
Brazil	8	24	57	6	4
Iran	4	37	41	12	5
China	10	30	54	3	3
Indonesia	1	24	72	3	1
Egypt	9	30	31	29	0
India	6	26	61	0	8
Senegal	8	59	31	0	2
Vietnam	2	14	83	0	2
Kenya	9	43	47	0	1
Bangladesh	1	64	31	4	0
Average	6	32	55	5	2

Q6. On the subject of climate change, is it your impression that among the scientists of the world:

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

Q7. When do you think climate change will start to substantially harm people in [country]?

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

Q8. To deal with the problem of climate change, do you think your government is doing:

	Too much	Not enough	About the right amount	DK/R
USA	13	58	28	1
France	8	60	30	2
Japan	7	78	15	0
Mexico	2	87	9	2
Russia	3	55	19	23
Turkey	13	58	19	9
Brazil	4	71	15	10
Iran	11	38	35	16
China	2	77	17	4
Indonesia	12	74	7	7
Egypt	27	62	9	1
India	19	44	24	13
Senegal	14	35	17	33
Vietnam	3	77	15	6
Kenya	17	69	14	1
Bangladesh	7	72	19	2
Average	10	63	18	8

Q9. Do you think our country does or does not have a responsibility to take steps to deal with climate change?

	Does have a responsibility	Does not have a responsibility	DK/R
USA	82	17	1
France	94	5	1
Japan	87	13	0
Mexico	80	18	2
Russia	58	22	20
Turkey	87	8	5
Brazil	80	13	7
Iran	89	6	6
China	98	2	0
Indonesia	94	6	1
Egypt	88	11	1
India	81	6	13
Senegal	94	4	2
Vietnam	98	2	0
Kenya	92	7	1
Bangladesh	99	1	0
Average	87	9	4

Q10. Do you think that if our country takes steps to deal with the problem of climate change, other countries would then be more willing to act, or do you think it wouldn't make much difference?

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

Q11. As you may know, [country] and other countries from around the world will be meeting in December in Copenhagen to develop a new agreement to take steps against climate change by limiting greenhouse gas emissions. If the other countries come to an agreement, do you think [country] should or should not be willing to commit to limiting its greenhouse gas emissions as part of such an agreement?

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

Q12. Imagine that at the meeting, the other countries do NOT come to a global agreement on taking steps against climate change. If this happens, do you think our country would have a responsibility to take steps against climate change, or would it not have a responsibility?

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

Q13. Do you think it will be necessary or will not be necessary to increase the cost of energy, to encourage individuals and businesses to conserve more or to use alternative forms of energy?

	Will be necessary	Will not be necessary	DK/R
USA	50	47	3
France	45	53	2
Japan	81	19	0
Mexico	39	59	3
Russia	12	81	8
Turkey	57	25	19
Brazil	32	56	12
Iran	45	46	9
China	65	29	5
Indonesia	88	5	7
Egypt	54	43	3
India	47	34	19
Senegal	51	42	7
Vietnam	70	29	1
Kenya	75	25	1
Bangladesh	62	35	3
Average	55	39	6

Q14. Imagine that taking steps against climate change would increase costs to the average person for energy and other products by [1 percent of GDP, prorated per month – see chart on page 35] per month? Would you be willing or not willing to pay this cost as part of taking steps against climate change?

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

[ASK ONLY THOSE WHO SAY “NO” (02) OR “DON’T KNOW” (99)]

Q14a. How about an increase of [0.5 percent of GDP, prorated per month – see chart on page 35]-- per month?

	Would be willing	Would not be willing	Would be willing on Q14	DK/R
USA	14	38	48	1
France	16	35	48	1
Japan	12	35	53	0
Mexico	11	36	51	2
Russia	14	62	11	13
Turkey	12	34	47	7
Brazil	15	59	20	7
Iran *	15	24	51	10
China	14	16	68	3
Indonesia	16	34	44	6
Egypt	26	31	43	0
India	11	29	44	16
Senegal	12	39	43	6
Vietnam	26	13	59	2
Kenya	19	37	43	1
Bangladesh	38	30	32	0
Average	17	34	44	5

Q15. Would you favor or oppose [country] taking each of the following steps to help deal with climate change?

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

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

b. Limiting the rate of constructing coal-fired power plants, even if this increases the cost of energy

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

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

	Favor strongly	Favor somewhat	Oppose somewhat	Oppose strongly	DK/R
USA	27	44	18	10	1
France	33	36	19	10	3
Japan	25	53	19	3	0
Mexico	21	29	25	19	6
Russia	23	36	22	6	14
Turkey	44	26	10	8	12
Brazil	11	32	22	24	12
Iran	21	31	18	22	8
China	24	38	25	7	6
Indonesia	22	43	27	5	2
Egypt	27	35	27	11	1
India	34	27	14	11	15
Senegal	24	38	21	13	5
Vietnam	45	42	9	2	2
Kenya	28	33	24	14	1
Bangladesh	21	40	27	13	0
Average	27	36	20	11	5

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

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

Q16. Climate change will probably harm some countries more than others. For example, poor countries with low lying coastal areas will likely have widespread flooding and will not have the resources needed to assist their people. Do you think [country] should or should not contribute to international efforts to help poor countries deal with these climate-induced changes?

	Should	Should not	DK/R
USA	54	43	3
France	87	12	1
Japan	88	12	0
Mexico	87	12	2
Russia	50	29	21
Turkey	84	9	7
Brazil	77	17	7
Iran	73	20	7
China	89	8	2
Indonesia	96	4	1
Egypt	88	12	0
India	75	7	18
Senegal	91	7	2
Vietnam	98	2	1
Kenya	92	8	0
Bangladesh	93	7	0
Average	83	13	4

APPENDIX

Chart for Q14 and Q14A

Country	US\$	1% of per capita income	0.5% of per capita income	1% monthly	Amount in local currency (Q14)	0.5 % monthly	Amount in local currency (Q14a)
Bangladesh	494	5	2.47	0.41	28	0.21	14
Brazil	8,400	84	42.00	7.00	13	3.50	6.6
China	2,912	29	14.56	2.43	17	1.21	8.3
Egypt	1,997	20	9.99	1.66	9	0.83	4.6
France	45,982	460	229.91	38.32	27	19.16	13.5
India	1,068	11	5.34	0.89	43	0.45	22
Indonesia	2,254	23	11.27	1.88	19046	0.94	9523
Iran	5,352	54	26.76	4.46	44366	2.23	22183
Japan	38,443	384	192.22	32.04	2978	16.02	1489
Kenya	895	9	4.48	0.75	57	0.37	28
Mexico	10,211	102	51.06	8.51	114	4.25	57
Russia	11,339	113	56.70	9.45	300	4.72	150
Senegal	1,082	11	5.41	0.90	407	0.45	204
Turkey	10,745	107	53.73	8.95	13	4.48	6.7
Vietnam	1,051	11	5.26	0.88	15697	0.44	7849
United States	46,716	467	233.58	38.93		19.47	

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METHODOLOGY

Country	Sample Size (unweighted)	MoE (%)	Field dates	Survey methodology	Type of sample
Bangladesh	1000	3.1	Oct 6-14, 2009	Face-to-face	National
Brazil	1000 1000	3.1 3.1	Oct 21-29 Nov 20 – Dec 1, 2009	Face-to-face	National
China	1010	3.1	Oct 11-29, 2009	Telephone	National ¹
Egypt	701	3.7	Oct 1-14, 2009	Face-to-face	Urban and Rural ²
France	600	4	Sep 24-26, 2009	Telephone	National
India	1410	2.6	Oct 3-6, 2009	Face-to-face	National ³
Indonesia	716	3.7	Oct 11-29, 2009	Face-to-face	National ⁴
Iran	811	3.4	Oct 13-18, 2009	Telephone	National
Japan	1000	3.1	Oct 2-5, 2009	Internet	National ⁵
Kenya	1000	3.1	Oct 24-30, 2009	Face-to-face	National
Mexico	811	3.4	Oct 1-13, 2009	Telephone	National ⁶
Russia	796	3.5	Sep 18-22, 2009	Face-to-Face	National
Senegal	1000	3.1	Oct 2-7, 2009	Face-to-Face	National
Turkey	731	3.6	Sep 29-Oct 15, 2009	Face-to-face	National
United States	1132	2.9	Sep 24-26, 2009	Internet	National ⁷
Vietnam	800	3.5	Oct 2-9, 2009	Face-to-Face	National ⁸

¹ In China, the survey was a probability sample of urban and rural households with land-line telephones in the provinces of Anhui, Hebei, Heilongjiang, Hubei, Jiangsu, Shanxi, Shanghai, Sichuan, and Yunnan—representing approximately 60 percent of the

mainland Chinese population. The sample was 40 percent rural, 60 percent urban (rural households make up approximately 55 percent of the Chinese population).

² In Egypt, the survey was conducted in the seven governorates which included the major urban areas of Cairo, Alexandria, Giza, and Subra and urban/rural governorates in northern and southern Egypt. Approximately 42 percent of Egypt's population is urban; the sample has 57% of the cases drawn from large cities and 43% from small cities and towns.

³ In India, a face-to-face survey was conducted in urban and rural areas in 14 of the largest Indian states; these states comprise 77 percent of India's population. The sample is 50 percent urban, India's population is approximately 30 percent urban.

⁴ In Indonesia, a national probability sample was conducted in both urban and rural areas and covering approximately 87 percent of Indonesia's population.

⁵ In Japan a demographically stratified sample of members of the research agency's online panel was drawn and invited to respond to the survey.

⁶ In Mexico, a random telephone sample of adults who had landline telephones was conducted in all 31 states and the Federal District. Telephone penetration in Mexico is 55 percent.

⁷ In the United States, the poll was an online survey drawn from a nationally representative sample of the Knowledge Networks' probability-based online panel. Participants are chosen scientifically by a random selection among US households; households without an Internet connection are provided a laptop and ISP connection.

⁸ In Vietnam, the survey was conducted in four major regions: Red River Delta (Hanoi), Central Coast (Danang), Southeast (Ho Chi Minh City) and Mekong Delta (Can Tho). Both urban and outlying areas were sampled, though the final sample was predominantly urban.

Annex

Dissemination

In the few days following the release, the poll was cited more than 108 times by media outlets in countries around the world, including Belgium, Canada, China, Egypt, France, India, Italy, Japan, Romania, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom. Besides English, it was published in Chinese, Dutch, French, German, Japanese, Romanian and Spanish languages. The poll was also mentioned on the websites of prominent institutions such as the Center for American Progress and the Century Foundation, as well as the Chinese Ministry of Water Resources.

This annex contains information concerning media coverage through both online and traditional media. The last section contains information on internet hits on World Bank sites.

A. International Newswires

[PR Newswire](#) - "Multi-Country Poll Reveals that Majority of People Want Action on Climate Change, Even If It Entails Costs"

[IPS](#) - "CLIMATE CHANGE-US: Citizens Back Action, Despite Lobbying Surge"

AFP - "Strong global support for climate action: poll"

B. Notable Press

[The Independent \(UK\)](#) - "Strong global support for climate action: poll"

The screenshot shows the homepage of The Independent website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the site's name 'THE INDEPENDENT' and the section 'ENVIRONMENT'. A search bar is visible with the text 'Search The Independent with Google Go'. Below the navigation bar, there are several advertisements, including one for HSBC Premier. The main content area features a large headline: 'Strong global support for climate action: poll'. Below the headline, there is a sub-headline 'Relax News' and the date 'Friday, 4 December 2009'. The article text begins with 'Strong majorities around the world back action to fight climate change, with enthusiasm especially strong in developing nations, a World Bank survey said Thursday.' A large, blue, wireframe globe is positioned to the right of the text. On the right side of the page, there is an 'EDITOR'S CHOICE' section with four small images and headlines: 'Shakti Mat: The sharp end of a bed of nails', 'Building for diplomacy: Our men in a mess', 'Anti-US? Clinton offers hope for Knox', and 'Greenhouse gas cuts just 'taken gestures''. At the bottom of the page, there is another advertisement for HSBC Premier.

[Center for American Progress](#) - "Public Opinion Snapshot: Public Says Go Green With or Without a Climate Agreement"

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ISSUES > Media & Progressive Values > Public Opinion

Public Opinion Snapshot: Public Says Go Green With or Without a Climate Agreement

By **Ruy Teixeira** | December 14, 2009

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Debate has been vigorous at the Copenhagen climate summit, which continues all this week. We shall see if this debate leads to a meaningful global agreement on combating climate change. But it's worth stressing that the American public wishes to see steps against climate change by our country regardless of Copenhagen's result.

In a multicountry survey conducted by WorldPublicOpinion.org for the World Bank, U.S. respondents said, by 73-24, that our country has a responsibility to take action against climate change even if the other countries at the conference can't come to an agreement.

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The Snapshot: Public Supports Action on Climate Change

Ruy Teixeira, The Century Foundation, 12/10/2009

The Copenhagen summit on climate change is coming up and everyone agrees that forging a solid agreement at this summit will not be easy. And the political fate of the climate bill that passed the House and is now languishing in the Senate is far from clear. But these political uncertainties should not blind us to the fact that the American public remains fundamentally supportive of taking action to stop climate change.

Consider these just-released data from a multicountry survey conducted by WorldPublicOpinion.org for the World Bank. In the U.S. component of this survey, conducted in late September, 58 percent of the public said we had not done enough to deal with the problem of climate change compared to 28 percent who thought we'd done the right amount and just 13 percent who thought we'd done too much.

To deal with the problem of climate change, do you think the U.S. government is doing too much, not enough, or about the right amount?

Response	Percentage
Not enough	58%
Right amount	28%
Too much	13%

[The Economist](#) - "Costing the Earth"

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Daily chart

Climate change

Costing the earth

Dec 7th 2009
From Economist.com

Who would pay more to tackle climate change?

AROUND 100 world leaders are set to attend the UN climate-change summit in Copenhagen to discuss a global deal to replace the Kyoto protocol. This will be tough. Scientists estimate that greenhouse-gas emissions from rich countries need to be cut by 25%-40% to keep global warming to a 2°C rise above pre-industrial levels. The offers at Copenhagen add up to around 15%, with America offering only around 4%. The cost of averting an even bigger rise in temperature is put at a relatively small 1% of global output—a price, it seems, that many people are happy to pay. In a poll for the World Bank, over 40% of people in 13 countries said they would be willing to pay this extra amount for energy and other goods to help tackle

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Thursday, December 03, 2009

Multi-Country Poll Reveals That Majority of People Want Action on Climate Change, Even if it Entails Costs

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WASHINGTON, Dec 03, 2009 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ ---A new poll of 15 nations, most of them in the developing world, finds that majorities of the people canvassed want their governments to take steps to fight climate change, even if that entails costs. People signaled they would support public measures to limit greenhouse gas emissions and step up adaptation measures. For example, respondents would support higher fuel efficiency standards for cars, preserving or expanding forests, and extending funding to vulnerable countries so they can develop hardier crops suited to more severe climates.

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04 DECEMBRE 2009 - 00H00

Fort soutien de l'opinion mondiale à une action contre le réchauffement

AFP - La lutte contre le réchauffement climatique est largement soutenue par l'opinion publique au niveau mondial, et avec un enthousiasme particulièrement marqué dans les pays en développement, selon un sondage de la Banque mondiale publié jeudi.

Ce sondage réalisé dans 15 pays et dont la publication intervient quatre jours avant l'ouverture du sommet de Copenhague sur le climat met en évidence une inquiétude largement répandue selon laquelle le réchauffement de la planète finira par nuire aux populations.



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L'opinion plébiscite une action sur le climat

La lutte contre le réchauffement climatique est largement soutenue par l'opinion publique au niveau mondial, et avec un enthousiasme particulièrement marqué dans les pays en développement, selon un sondage de la Banque mondiale publié jeudi.

Ce sondage réalisé dans 15 pays et dont la publication intervient quatre jours avant l'ouverture du sommet de Copenhague sur le climat met en évidence une



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Battle climate change

2009-12-07

During a multi-country poll commissioned by the World Bank and carried out by World-PublicOpinion.org, nearly 68 per cent of Chinese respondents said they were willing to contribute in efforts to fight global warming, the highest percentage among countries involved in the survey.

That is obviously something we should be proud of, yet have reasons to worry about. If such a high percentage of Chinese citizens are willing to shoulder a 1-percent price increase for efforts to combat climate change, then it is undoubtedly good news, both nominally and practically. This is especially so since it has come just days before the United Nations' Climate Change conference in Copenhagen next week.

Apart from China, more people from developing countries were also willing to do their bit. In fact, the percentage was high

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The New Republic: The Ungreening Of America

by ED KILGORE



December 14, 2009 text size A A A

If you've been following the Copenhagen process this week, you may have noticed that the "debate" over climate change and what to do about it has regressed. Whereas, just a few years ago, George W. Bush acknowledged the human role in global warming and John McCain was a leading proponent of climate-change legislation, know-nothingism is now resurgent. The GOP pins its electoral hopes on slogans like "drill, baby drill" and "cap-and-tax"; McCain has soured on cap-and-trade; and on the

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Battle climate change

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BEIJING, Dec. 5 -- During a multi-country poll commissioned by the World Bank and carried out by World-PublicOpinion.org, nearly 68 percent of Chinese respondents said they were willing to contribute in efforts to fight global warming, the highest percentage among 15 countries involved in the survey.

That is obviously something we should be proud of, yet have reasons to worry about. If such a high percentage of Chinese citizens are willing to shoulder a 1-percent price increase for efforts to combat climate change, then it is undoubtedly good news, both nominally and practically. This is especially so since it has come just days before the United Nations' Climate Change conference in Copenhagen next week.

Apart from China, more people from developing countries were also willing to do their bit. In fact, the percentage was higher than those willing to do the same in developed countries.

Developed countries have higher living standards than developing countries. Then, why are people in these nations less willing to contribute to the fight?

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CLIMATE CHANGE-US: Citizens Back Action, Despite Lobbying Surge

Source: Inter Press Service
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By Matthew Berger

WASHINGTON, Dec 3 (IPS) - As both Washington and the international community come gradually closer to taking substantive action on climate change at a high-level conference in Copenhagen, a side effect of this progress has been a parallel increase in the intensity of campaigns opposing such action – which may be a factor in the slight dip in the U.S. public's concern about climate change. The number of U.S. respondents who believe greenhouse gas emissions will lead to global warming dropped from 71 to 51 percent between 2007 and 2009, according to a poll released by Harris Interactive Wednesday. This drop is deeper, though similar, to the results of other polls released in the past several weeks.

Despite the decrease, a majority of the U.S. public still remains staunchly behind efforts to combat climate change. A poll released Thursday by WorldPublicOpinion.org, and commissioned by the World Bank, found a majority in the U.S. – and 13 of the other 14 countries surveyed – are willing to pay more for energy and other products as part of this effort.

A large reason for the decline that recent U.S. polls have found in the size of this majority may be the increasing political polarisation that has swept Washington

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D. Other internet coverage

2-Dec-09 **Climate-L.org**

"World Bank Poll Shows Support for Mitigation Efforts, Even at a Cost"

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"Multi-Country Poll Reveals that Majority of People Want Action on Climate Change, Even If It Entails Costs"

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