

Knowledge of Climate Change Among Visitors to Science & Technology Museums

Interview dates: June 25, 2010 – July 22, 2010

Interviews: 2,030 Adults (18+)

Margin of error: +/- 2 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled. Totals may occasionally sum to more than 100 percent due to rounding. Best or correct answers are indicated with a (✓). Unknown or uncertain answers are indicated with a (*). See the Appendix: Answer Key for citations.

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Executive Summary

Knowledge of Climate Change Among Science & Technology Museum Visitors reports results from a national study of what the American public understands about how the climate system works, and the causes, impacts and potential solutions to global warming.

This report describes how knowledge of climate change varies across Science and Technology Museum visitors. Using a straight grading scale, 38% of both occasional and frequent museum visitors received a passing grade (A, B, or C), compared to 19% of non-visitors. While knowledge levels vary across the groups, these results also indicate that relatively few museum visitors have an in-depth understanding of climate change. Twenty eight percent of frequent museum visitors received a failing grade (F), compared to 36% of occasional visitors and 56% of non-visitors.

Prior research has also identified six distinct audiences within the American public (the Alarmed, Concerned, Cautious, Disengaged, Doubtful, and Dismissive) that each respond to global warming in very different ways. For an introduction to these different “Americas” please see the report *Global Warming’s Six Americas* (2009) available at www.environment.yale.edu/climate/. The table below describes how visitors to science and technology museums break out across these six audiences. For example, 45% of frequent visitors are Alarmed, while 29% are Concerned.

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Alarmed	14	11	19	45
Concerned	31	32	32	29
Cautious	23	24	19	9
Disengaged	10	13	4	2
Doubtful	12	12	13	10
Dismissive	11	10	13	5

Understanding of Climate Change

In general, frequent museum visitors better understand how the climate system works and the causes, consequences, and solutions of climate change than occasional or non-visitors. For example:

- 90% of frequent visitors say that global warming is happening, compared to 67% of occasional visitors and 60% of non-visitors;
- 66% of frequent visitors understand that global warming is caused mostly by human activities compared to 48% of occasional visitors and 50% of non-visitors;
- 65% of frequent visitors understand that most scientists think that global warming is happening, compared to 47% of occasional visitors and 36% of non-visitors;
- 58% of frequent visitors understand that a transition to renewable energy source is an important solution compared to 46% of occasional visitors and 42% of non-visitors.

However, this study also found that for some knowledge questions, occasional museum visitors have as good an understanding, and sometimes better, than frequent museum visitors. For example:

- 65% of frequent visitors correctly understand that the greenhouse gas effect refers to gases in the atmosphere that trap heat, compared to 78% of occasional visitors and 60% of non-visitors;
- 59% of frequent visitors understand that carbon dioxide traps heat from the Earth's surface, compared to 60% of occasional visitors and 40% of non-visitors;
- 88% of frequent visitors correctly identify coal as a fossil fuel, compared to 91% of occasional visitors and 77% of non-visitors.

Knowledge Gaps

This study also identified numerous gaps between expert and public knowledge about climate change across science and technology museum visitors. For example, only:

- 11% of frequent visitors know how much carbon dioxide there is in the atmosphere today (approximately 390 parts per million), compared to 12% of occasional visitors and 5% of non-visitors;
- 51% of frequent visitors have heard of coral bleaching, compared to 37% of occasional visitors and 20% of non-visitors;
- 51% of frequent visitors have heard of ocean acidification, compared to 40% of occasional visitors and 17% of non-visitors.

Common Misconceptions

This study also found important misconceptions leading many to misunderstand the causes and therefore the solutions to climate change. For example, many Americans confuse climate change and the hole in the ozone layer:

- 35% of frequent visitors believe that the hole in the ozone layer is a significant contributor to global warming compared to 29% of occasional visitors and 36% of non-visitors;
- 31% of frequent visitors believe that aerosol spray cans are a significant contributor to global warming compared to 23% of occasional visitors and 25% of non-visitors;
- 26% of frequent visitors believe that stopping rockets from punching holes in the ozone layer would reduce global warming, compared to 10% of occasional visitors and 17% of non-visitors.

This study also found that frequent and occasional museum visitors trust informal science institutions and scientific organisations more than any other source of information about global warming.

Occasional museum visitors and non-visitors also recognize their own limited understanding of the issue. Fewer than 1 in 6 say they are “very well informed” about climate change, compared to approximately 1 in 3 frequent visitors. However 73% or more of all three groups say they would like to learn more about climate change.

Detailed Results¹

Q1. Recently, you may have noticed that global warming has been getting some attention in the news. Global warming refers to the idea that the world's average temperature has been increasing over the past 150 years, may be increasing more in the future, and that the world's climate may change as a result. What do you think? Do you think that global warming is happening?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Yes (✓)	63	60	67	90
No	19	18	19	6
Don't Know	19	22	14	4

People who answered yes to question 1 (i.e. those who believe global warming is happening) were asked the following question.

Q2. How sure are you that global warming is happening?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Extremely sure	21	19	23	51
Very sure	35	37	34	27
Somewhat sure	39	40	38	20
Not at all sure	4	4	4	1
<i>N</i>	1261	832	316	74

¹ Of the total of 1,945 respondents to the survey, 71% ($n = 1,389$) were non-visitors, 24% were occasional visitors ($n = 475$) and 4% were frequent visitors ($n = 81$) to Science and Technology museums. Caution should be used when interpreting the results for the most frequent visitors, as the margin of error for this group is approximately +/- 11 percentage points.

People who answered no to question 1 (i.e. those who do not believe global warming is happening) were asked the following question.

Q3. How sure are you that global warming is not happening?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Extremely sure	18	17	13	20
Very sure	35	26	60	20
Somewhat sure	41	49	26	60
Not at all sure	6	8	1	0
<i>N</i>	366	251	93	5

Q4. Assuming global warming is happening, do you think it is...

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Caused mostly by human activities (✓)	50	50	48	66
Caused by both human activities and natural changes (vol.)	6	6	7	3
Caused mostly by natural changes in the environment	35	35	37	30
None of the above because global warming isn't happening	7	6	7	1
Other	2	2	1	0
Don't know (vol.)	1	1	0	0

Q5. Which comes closer to your own view?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Most scientists think global warming is happening (✓)	39	36	47	65
Most scientists think global warming is not happening	6	5	7	2
There is a lot of disagreement among scientists about whether or not global warming is happening	38	39	40	24
Don't know enough to say	17	21	7	9

Q6. How worried are you about global warming?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Very worried	16	14	19	56
Somewhat worried	39	40	37	24
Not very worried	26	27	25	11
Not at all worried	19	19	19	10

Q7. Personally, how well informed do you feel you are about ...

How the Earth's "climate system" works

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Very well informed	11	9	15	30
Fairly well informed	51	47	62	51
Not very well informed	33	38	20	15
Not at all informed	5	6	3	4

The different causes of global warming

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Very well informed	13	10	19	30
Fairly well informed	52	49	60	54
Not very well informed	31	35	19	11
Not at all informed	5	6	2	4

The different consequences of global warming

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Very well informed	14	11	21	35
Fairly well informed	52	49	61	48
Not very well informed	29	35	16	13
Not at all informed	5	5	3	4

Ways in which we can reduce global warming

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Very well informed	14	11	21	29
Fairly well informed	50	45	59	65
Not very well informed	30	35	19	7
Not at all informed	6	8	2	0

Q8. Have you ever heard of the “greenhouse effect”?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Yes	87	85	95	95
No	13	15	5	5

People who answered yes to question 8 (i.e. those who had heard of the “greenhouse effect”) were asked the following question.

Q9. The “greenhouse effect” refers to: *(items randomized)*

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Gases in the atmosphere that trap heat (√)	66	60	78	65
The Earth’s protective ozone layer	21	24	15	13
Pollution that causes acid rain	1	1	1	3
How plants grow	3	3	1	11
Don’t know	10	12	5	8
<i>N</i>	1738	1170	447	72

Q10. How much can each of the following affect the average global temperature of the Earth? (*items randomized*)

Greenhouse gases in the atmosphere (√)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	38	35	45	59
Some	30	30	32	34
A little	14	15	14	2
Not at all	2	2	2	0
Don't know	16	19	7	5

Changes in the Earth's orbit around the sun (√)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	32	29	35	53
Some	29	28	32	33
A little	13	14	14	1
Not at all	7	7	6	8
Don't know	20	23	13	6

Volcanic eruptions (√)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	28	28	27	41
Some	32	31	37	24
A little	17	16	22	20
Not at all	5	6	4	4
Don't know	17	20	11	11

The amount of dust in the atmosphere (√)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	21	19	22	38
Some	37	34	44	33
A little	17	17	19	17
Not at all	5	5	5	1
Don't know	21	25	9	11

Sunspots (√)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	17	14	21	25
Some	30	29	34	43
A little	16	16	17	16
Not at all	8	8	9	3
Don't know	29	33	19	14

Clouds (√)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	16	15	17	27
Some	32	31	34	33
A little	21	19	27	27
Not at all	11	12	12	4
Don't know	20	23	11	9

Earthquakes

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	15	16	9	21
Some	18	18	18	23
A little	20	17	27	17
Not at all	22	20	27	26
Don't know	26	29	20	13

Whether the Earth's surface is light or dark colored (✓)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	13	12	14	25
Some	24	23	27	26
A little	19	17	24	16
Not at all	12	12	12	16
Don't know	33	36	23	17

The phases of the moon

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	8	6	9	19
Some	18	18	15	22
A little	18	17	21	16
Not at all	27	25	35	31
Don't know	30	34	20	12

Q11. Which of the following gases in the atmosphere are good at trapping heat from the Earth's surface? (*items randomized*)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Carbon dioxide (✓)	45	40	60	59
Methane (✓)	25	22	36	30
Water vapor (✓)	12	10	18	27
Hydrogen	7	7	8	17
Oxygen	7	7	5	26
Don't know	42	48	27	18

Q12. Are each of the following statements definitely true, probably true, probably false, definitely false, or you do not know? (*items randomized*)

Weather often changes from year to year. (T)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	46	45	52	40
Probably true	37	37	37	39
Probably false	7	7	6	16
Definitely false	3	3	2	0
Don't know	7	9	4	5

Climate means the average weather conditions in a region. (T)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	34	34	38	30
Probably true	40	40	40	46
Probably false	9	8	8	14
Definitely false	4	4	5	5
Don't know	14	16	9	6

Climate often changes from year to year. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	26	28	21	28
Probably true	36	37	31	31
Probably false	19	17	26	15
Definitely false	12	9	18	21
Don't know	8	10	4	6

Ocean currents carry heat from the equator toward the north and south poles. (T)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	20	18	24	36
Probably true	34	34	37	33
Probably false	9	8	10	10
Definitely false	3	3	4	0
Don't know	34	38	25	21

Weather means the average climate conditions in a region. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	18	20	14	15
Probably true	33	33	30	33
Probably false	16	15	18	17
Definitely false	18	14	28	21
Don't know	16	18	11	15

Climate and weather mean pretty much the same thing. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	9	10	5	11
Probably true	24	27	18	16
Probably false	26	24	31	29
Definitely false	28	24	38	38
Don't know	12	14	7	6

The atmosphere carries heat from the north and south poles toward the equator. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	6	6	6	16
Probably true	21	21	20	21
Probably false	17	16	18	23
Definitely false	16	14	24	18
Don't know	40	43	32	22

Q13. Are each of the following statements definitely true, probably true, probably false, definitely false or you do not know? (*items randomized*)

In the past, the Earth's climate always shifted gradually between warm and cold periods. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	21	19	25	35
Probably true	46	47	48	36
Probably false	8	6	10	21
Definitely false	4	3	7	1
Don't know	21	25	11	7

Climate changes have played an important role in the advance or collapse of some past human civilizations. (T)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	20	19	22	29
Probably true	43	40	52	33
Probably false	10	10	10	15
Definitely false	4	4	3	7
Don't know	23	27	13	16

The Earth's climate is warmer now than it has ever been before. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	18	19	14	24
Probably true	37	37	36	35
Probably false	17	17	18	13
Definitely false	14	12	21	18
Don't know	15	16	11	9

In the past, rising levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere have caused global temperatures to increase. (T)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	14	13	17	25
Probably true	43	42	47	37
Probably false	11	11	12	15
Definitely false	3	2	5	3
Don't know	30	33	20	21

In the past, rising global temperatures have caused carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere to increase. (T)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	9	8	8	20
Probably true	30	31	29	20
Probably false	18	16	23	32
Definitely false	6	4	11	1
Don't know	37	41	29	27

Compared to the climate of the past million years, the last 10,000 have been unusually warm and stable. (T)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	8	7	10	22
Probably true	33	31	37	41
Probably false	17	16	18	17
Definitely false	6	6	7	5
Don't know	37	40	29	15

The Earth's climate has been pretty much the same for millions of years. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	4	3	4	10
Probably true	17	18	13	16
Probably false	29	28	33	16
Definitely false	38	35	42	52
Don't know	13	16	8	6

The Earth's climate is colder now than it has ever been before. (F)

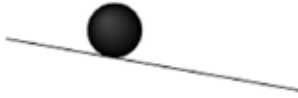
	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	2	3	1	10
Probably true	8	8	8	16
Probably false	34	37	29	27
Definitely false	39	36	49	38
Don't know	16	17	14	9

Q14. The average temperature of the Earth's surface is currently about 58 degrees Fahrenheit. What do you think the average temperature of the Earth's surface was during the last ice age?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Median	32	32	38	29
Std. Dev	29	29	28	32

Q15. People disagree about how the climate system works. The five pictures below illustrate five different perspectives. Each picture depicts the Earth's climate system as a ball balanced on a line, yet each one has a different ability to withstand human-caused global warming. Which one of the five pictures best represents your understanding of how the climate system works? (*images randomized*)

Gradual



Earth's climate is slow to change. Global warming will gradually lead to dangerous effects.

Fragile



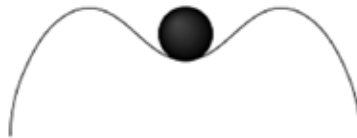
Earth's climate is delicately balanced. Small amounts of global warming will have abrupt and catastrophic effects.

Stable



Earth's climate is very stable. Global warming will have little to no effects.

Threshold



Earth's climate is stable within certain limits. If global warming is small, climate will return to a stable balance. If it is large, there will be dangerous effects.

Random



Earth's climate is random and unpredictable. We do not know what will happen.

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Gradual	24	24	25	19
Fragile	11	12	7	11
Stable	10	9	13	6
Threshold (✓)	34	31	41	46
Random	21	24	14	19

Q16. Which of the following are “fossil fuels”? (*items randomized*)

Coal (✓)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Yes	80	77	91	88
No	5	5	5	5
Don't know	15	18	4	7

Oil (✓)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Yes	76	73	87	91
No	7	7	7	1
Don't know	17	20	6	7

Natural gas (✓)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Yes	60	56	72	65
No	17	18	16	25
Don't know	23	26	12	10

Wood

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Yes	28	28	28	38
No	51	48	61	55
Don't know	21	25	11	7

Hydrogen

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Yes	11	10	14	21
No	58	55	71	58
Don't know	31	35	16	21

Solar energy

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Yes	7	8	4	19
No	74	70	87	75
Don't know	19	22	10	6

Q17. The energy in fossil fuels originally came from: *(items randomized)*

The fossilized remains of dinosaurs (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	23	21	27	50
Probably true	24	25	22	23
Probably false	12	11	15	10
Definitely false	16	14	24	5
Don't know	25	29	13	13

Photosynthesis by plants over millions of years (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	20	18	23	46
Probably true	32	31	34	23
Probably false	9	10	9	10
Definitely false	11	9	17	7
Don't know	28	32	17	13

The sun (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	11	8	15	25
Probably true	18	18	20	16
Probably false	18	19	16	15
Definitely false	23	21	31	20
Don't know	31	35	18	24

Uranium in the Earth (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	3	3	4	11
Probably true	17	17	16	24
Probably false	19	20	20	18
Definitely false	24	20	36	31
Don't know	36	40	25	16

Q18. What gas is produced by the burning of fossil fuels? (*items randomized*)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Oxygen	2	2	2	4
Hydrogen	4	4	3	4
Helium	1	1	1	0
Carbon dioxide (✓)	67	65	78	83
Don't know	26	29	16	10

Q19. To the best of your knowledge, roughly how much carbon dioxide was in the atmosphere in the year 1850?

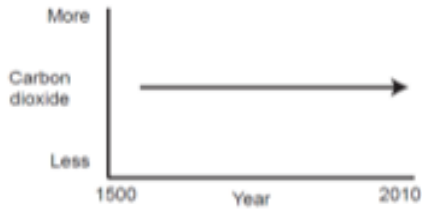
	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
150 parts per million	10	9	10	17
290 parts per million (✓)	6	5	11	1
350 parts per million	4	3	6	3
390 parts per million	2	2	1	0
450 parts per million	1	1	0	3
Don't know	78	79	73	77

Q20. Roughly how much carbon dioxide is in the atmosphere today?

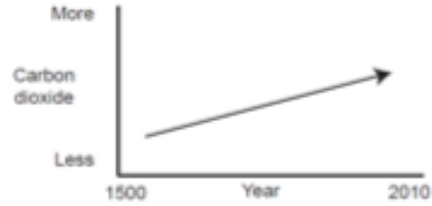
	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
150 parts per million	2	1	2	7
290 parts per million	3	3	4	1
350 parts per million	6	6	8	1
390 parts per million (✓)	7	5	12	11
450 parts per million	6	7	7	5
Don't know	76	79	67	74

Q21. Which picture best represents your understanding of how the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has changed over the past 500 years?²

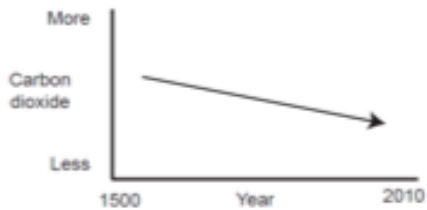
a) No change



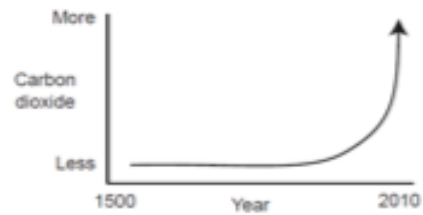
b) Linear increase



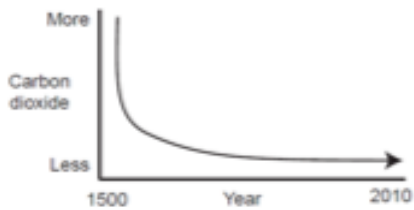
c) Linear decrease



d) Exponential increase



e) Exponential decrease



	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
No change	8	9	8	8
Linear increase	41	42	42	28
Linear decrease	7	8	2	0
Exponential increase (√)	40	37	45	51
Exponential decrease	5	4	3	14

² Labels not provided

Q22a. If we were to stop burning fossil fuels today, the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere would decrease almost immediately. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	5	5	4	12
Probably true	32	32	31	35
Probably false	30	29	36	27
Definitely false	13	12	19	9
Don't know	20	23	11	17

Q22b. If we were to stop burning fossil fuels today, global warming would stop almost immediately. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	2	1	1	10
Probably true	14	14	13	8
Probably false	37	36	41	38
Definitely false	25	22	34	24
Don't know	23	26	11	20

Q23. On average, how long does carbon dioxide stay in the atmosphere once it has been emitted?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A few days	4	5	2	10
A few years	13	11	19	7
A hundred years (✓)	13	11	19	13
A thousand years (✓)	6	6	5	13
Don't know	64	67	55	56

Q24. Which of the following countries emits the largest total amount of carbon dioxide? (*items randomized*)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
United States	34	32	39	43
China (✓)	36	35	42	35
India	2	2	1	0
Germany	1	1	0	4
Japan	4	4	4	9
Don't know	24	27	14	10

Q25. Which of the following countries emits the most carbon dioxide **per person**? (*items randomized*)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
United States (✓)	42	38	51	51
China	18	18	17	21
India	4	4	4	6
Germany	1	1	3	3
Japan	5	4	6	6
Don't know	31	35	20	14

Q26. How much does each of the following contribute to global warming? (*items randomized*)

Cars and trucks (✓)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	49	48	49	52
Some	24	24	26	21
A little	12	12	15	11
Not at all	3	3	4	1
Don't know	12	13	6	15

Burning fossil fuels for heat and electricity (✓)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	41	41	39	54
Some	28	27	35	17
A little	11	11	14	15
Not at all	4	4	4	0
Don't know	16	18	8	15

Deforestation (✓)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	38	37	39	54
Some	25	23	33	14
A little	11	11	13	10
Not at all	4	5	5	0
Don't know	22	25	10	22

The hole in the ozone layer

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	34	36	29	35
Some	27	26	30	26
A little	12	12	14	11
Not at all	8	7	13	8
Don't know	19	19	14	20

Toxic wastes

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	32	33	27	42
Some	22	23	22	20
A little	12	11	16	11
Not at all	15	12	23	10
Don't know	19	21	13	17

Aerosol spray cans

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	25	25	23	31
Some	29	30	30	29
A little	22	22	23	21
Not at all	10	8	16	5
Don't know	14	16	8	15

Nuclear power plants (*)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	23	24	17	28
Some	21	22	17	19
A little	15	12	22	25
Not at all	22	19	34	8
Don't know	20	22	10	21

Volcanic eruptions

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	20	21	17	25
Some	34	34	38	20
A little	21	19	25	32
Not at all	6	6	8	1
Don't know	19	21	12	22

The sun

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	19	17	25	21
Some	24	26	21	17
A little	20	17	28	20
Not at all	15	16	12	16
Don't know	23	24	15	27

Acid rain

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	18	18	17	28
Some	23	23	22	30
A little	15	15	17	5
Not at all	17	15	27	14
Don't know	27	29	18	24

The space program

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	10	11	6	15
Some	15	15	17	8
A little	24	20	33	41
Not at all	24	24	27	18
Don't know	27	30	18	19

Cows (✓)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	9	7	13	24
Some	21	21	24	12
A little	25	24	29	30
Not at all	24	25	24	19
Don't know	21	23	11	16

People who answered “a lot” or “some” to more than one item in question 26 were asked the following question.

Q27. Of the following, which one do you think contributes most to global warming?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Burning fossil fuels (✓)	25	23	31	30
Cars and trucks	20	20	18	25
The hole in the ozone layer	13	15	11	2
Deforestation	11	12	11	4
Toxic wastes (nuclear, chemical)	8	8	6	14
The sun	7	6	10	2
Nuclear power plants	5	5	3	13
Volcanic eruptions	3	3	1	2
Cows	3	3	6	4
Aerosol spray cans (hair spray, deodorant)	2	2	3	4
The space program	2	2	1	2
Acid rain	1	1	0	0
<i>N</i>	<i>1451</i>	<i>1002</i>	<i>361</i>	<i>56</i>

Q28. The average temperature of the Earth’s surface is currently 58 degrees Fahrenheit. What temperature do you think it was **150 years ago?**

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Median	54	53	55	53
Std. Dev	17	16	16	19

Q29. The average temperature of the Earth's surface is currently 58 degrees Fahrenheit. If no additional actions are taken to reduce global warming, what temperature do you think it will be by the year 2020?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Median	60	60	60	61
Std. Dev	17	17	14	30

Q30. The average temperature of the Earth's surface is currently 58 degrees Fahrenheit. If no additional actions are taken to reduce global warming, what temperature do you think it will be by the year 2050?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Median	62	62	61	65
Std. Dev	21	22	19	20

Q31. Are each of the following statements definitely true, probably true, probably false, definitely false, or do you not know? (*items randomized*)

Global warming will cause some places to get wetter, while others will get drier. (T)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	18	16	24	27
Probably true	50	52	50	38
Probably false	7	7	6	2
Definitely false	3	2	1	15
Don't know	22	23	19	18

The decade from 2000 to 2009 was warmer than any other decade since 1850. (T)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	12	11	11	22
Probably true	39	38	44	37
Probably false	14	13	17	7
Definitely false	5	5	5	9
Don't know	31	33	24	25

Scientists can't predict the weather more than a few days in advance – they can't possibly predict the climate of the future. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	12	13	10	16
Probably true	30	31	31	16
Probably false	26	25	30	25
Definitely false	13	11	17	30
Don't know	19	21	12	14

Global warming will increase crop yields in some places, and decrease it in others. (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	11	9	14	22
Probably true	47	47	51	46
Probably false	12	12	15	4
Definitely false	5	5	3	13
Don't know	25	28	18	15

Scientists' computer models are too unreliable to predict the climate of the future. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	11	10	12	16
Probably true	30	30	32	24
Probably false	26	25	27	20
Definitely false	11	10	10	21
Don't know	23	25	19	20

In the 1970s, most scientists were predicting an ice age. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	10	9	12	12
Probably true	25	24	30	23
Probably false	14	13	17	12
Definitely false	4	3	3	9
Don't know	47	50	38	44

The Earth's climate has changed naturally in the past, therefore humans are not the cause of global warming. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	9	9	9	13
Probably true	24	23	28	18
Probably false	29	29	27	19
Definitely false	20	19	20	40
Don't know	18	19	16	11

Global warming will cause temperatures to increase by roughly the same amount in all countries. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	5	5	3	10
Probably true	27	29	22	20
Probably false	32	31	37	21
Definitely false	12	9	20	25
Don't know	25	27	18	24

Any recent global warming is caused by the sun. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	4	3	6	11
Probably true	15	16	14	6
Probably false	34	33	40	25
Definitely false	19	17	20	36
Don't know	28	31	21	22

The record snowstorms this winter in the eastern United States prove that global warming is not happening. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	3	3	1	10
Probably true	15	16	18	6
Probably false	32	31	33	28
Definitely false	26	23	32	41
Don't know	24	27	16	15

The Earth is actually cooling, not warming. (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	3	3	3	12
Probably true	12	11	16	9
Probably false	31	30	33	28
Definitely false	21	20	21	27
Don't know	33	35	27	24

Global warming is happening, but will be more beneficial than harmful.

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	2	2	0	11
Probably true	10	11	10	3
Probably false	31	30	35	26
Definitely false	31	30	33	40
Don't know	26	27	22	21

Q32. Which of the following statements is correct?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
All of the glaciers on Earth are melting away	11	10	11	25
Most of the glaciers on Earth are melting away (√)	21	18	29	30
Some of the glaciers on Earth are melting away	48	50	47	38
None of the glaciers on Earth are melting away	4	3	4	3
Don't know	16	19	9	5

People who answered “all”, “most”, or “some of the glaciers on Earth are melting away” to question 32 were asked the following question.

Q33. Over the past 100 years, has the speed of glacier melting increased, decreased, or stayed the same?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Increased (√)	84	85	82	91
Stayed the same	14	14	16	4
Decreased	2	1	2	5
<i>N</i>	<i>1600</i>	<i>1067</i>	<i>413</i>	<i>75</i>

Q34. Which of the following can cause global sea levels to rise? (*items randomized*)

Melting of land ice in Antarctica (T)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	37	34	44	59
Probably true	39	41	38	25
Probably false	5	5	7	1
Definitely false	2	2	0	0
Don't know	17	19	11	15

Melting of sea ice on the Arctic Ocean (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	36	34	38	53
Probably true	40	42	38	29
Probably false	6	5	9	4
Definitely false	3	3	4	0
Don't know	16	17	11	15

Melting of mountain glaciers (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	32	30	35	55
Probably true	41	42	40	24
Probably false	9	8	12	5
Definitely false	2	3	1	0
Don't know	16	17	13	16

Warmer ocean temperatures (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	24	21	34	37
Probably true	36	35	38	33
Probably false	15	16	11	14
Definitely false	4	4	3	0
Don't know	22	24	14	16

Increased evaporation (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Definitely true	9	9	9	20
Probably true	17	19	14	16
Probably false	28	25	34	27
Definitely false	19	18	22	12
Don't know	28	30	21	26

People who answered “definitely” or “probably true” to more than one cause in question 34 were asked the following question.

Q35. Of the causes you selected, which **one** has contributed the most to sea level rise so far?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Melting of mountain glaciers	19	22	11	13
Melting of sea ice on the Arctic Ocean	34	33	31	48
Melting of land ice in Antarctica	24	23	29	22
Warmer ocean temperatures (√)	22	22	27	13
Increased evaporation	2	1	2	5
<i>N</i>	1482	<i>1016</i>	<i>371</i>	<i>63</i>

Q36. How much do scientists estimate that global sea levels rose from 1900 to 2000?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
10-12 feet	3	3	2	9
3-4 feet	11	10	12	20
6-9 inches (√)	26	22	39	28
Zero	4	3	5	5
Don't know	57	62	43	38

Q37. If no additional actions are taken to reduce global warming, how much do you think global sea levels will rise by the year 2100?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
10-12 feet	13	12	15	28
3-4 feet (✓)	17	16	21	16
6-9 inches (✓)	16	13	23	17
Zero	6	5	7	5
Don't know	48	53	34	33

Q38. How much, if anything, have you read or heard about coral bleaching?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	1	1	1	7
Some	9	6	16	20
A little	15	13	20	24
Nothing	75	80	63	49

People who answered "a lot," "some," or "a little" to question 38 were asked the following question.

Q39. Which of the following causes coral bleaching? (*items randomized*)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Warmer ocean temperatures (✓)	54	49	62	56
Chemical spills in the ocean	11	14	8	10
Acid rain	8	5	13	2
Overfishing	3	3	4	5
Don't know	24	30	14	27
<i>N</i>	491	272	172	41

Q40. How much, if anything, have you read or heard about ocean acidification?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	1	0	2	9
Some	6	3	14	12
A little	17	14	24	30
Nothing	77	83	61	50

People who answered “a lot”, “some”, or “a little” to question 40 were asked the following question.

Q41. Which of the following causes ocean acidification? (*items randomized*)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Absorption of carbon dioxide by the ocean (√)	32	21	40	48
Chemical spills in the ocean	16	20	10	20
Acid rain	19	24	16	10
Warmer ocean temperatures	13	13	12	15
Don't know	21	22	23	8
<i>N</i>	467	234	182	40

Q42. How much do you think each of the following actions would reduce global warming if they were done **worldwide**? (*items randomized*)

Switching from fossil fuels to renewable energy (wind, solar, geothermal) (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	43	42	46	58
Some	20	20	22	14
A little	12	12	14	6
Not at all	8	7	9	8
Don't know	16	19	9	14

Planting trees (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	40	39	41	46
Some	25	24	29	21
A little	16	16	15	13
Not at all	6	6	6	4
Don't know	13	15	8	17

Reducing tropical deforestation (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	37	36	38	58
Some	22	21	28	15
A little	14	13	15	5
Not at all	6	6	7	8
Don't know	21	24	12	15

Reducing toxic waste (nuclear, chemical) (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	30	32	21	43
Some	20	19	23	13
A little	17	16	20	11
Not at all	16	13	24	17
Don't know	18	20	12	16

Switching from gasoline to electric cars (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	28	29	24	38
Some	28	28	31	21
A little	19	17	25	14
Not at all	10	10	11	12
Don't know	15	17	9	16

Driving less (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	27	27	25	37
Some	28	26	36	27
A little	21	22	20	15
Not at all	9	9	12	5
Don't know	14	16	7	17

Increasing public transportation (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	18	18	19	33
Some	29	28	36	25
A little	20	21	17	15
Not at all	16	16	18	10
Don't know	16	18	9	17

Switching from regular (incandescent) to compact fluorescent light bulbs (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	16	16	14	20
Some	28	27	33	30
A little	25	25	27	27
Not at all	14	14	18	9
Don't know	16	18	9	14

Insulating buildings (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	16	15	17	37
Some	27	27	28	25
A little	22	19	32	18
Not at all	15	16	14	6
Don't know	20	24	10	14

Switching from fossil fuels to nuclear power (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	16	15	17	24
Some	26	23	32	26
A little	17	16	21	17
Not at all	13	14	11	13
Don't know	29	32	19	21

Banning aerosol spray cans (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	16	16	16	18
Some	25	26	22	36
A little	28	26	33	23
Not at all	15	14	21	9
Don't know	17	18	9	15

Stop punching holes in the ozone layer with rockets (F)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	16	17	10	26
Some	13	13	13	13
A little	14	13	16	14
Not at all	32	29	44	31
Don't know	26	29	17	17

Placing a large tax on all fossil fuels (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	10	9	11	24
Some	19	17	25	25
A little	19	19	21	11
Not at all	29	29	30	22
Don't know	24	27	13	18

Having at most 2 children per family (I)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	10	9	11	17
Some	15	13	17	28
A little	16	15	18	23
Not at all	36	37	35	11
Don't know	24	26	19	22

Fertilizing the ocean to make algae grow faster (*)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	7	6	8	19
Some	14	12	17	15
A little	15	15	15	19
Not at all	21	21	24	14
Don't know	43	45	35	33

Stop eating beef (T)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	4	2	6	17
Some	10	9	13	14
A little	18	15	23	33
Not at all	47	50	42	23
Don't know	22	23	16	14

Using airplanes to scatter dust high in the atmosphere (*)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	2	2	2	12
Some	7	7	7	9
A little	10	9	12	10
Not at all	37	37	42	27
Don't know	44	46	37	42

People who answered “a lot,” “some” or “a little” for more than one action in question 42 were asked the following question.

Q43. Of the following actions, which **one** do you think would reduce global warming the most?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Switching from fossil fuels to renewable energy (wind, solar, geothermal)	36	36	34	51
Reducing tropical deforestation	13	12	15	20
Switching from gasoline to electric cars	10	11	6	2
Planting trees	9	9	9	3
Reducing toxic waste (nuclear, chemical)	8	8	5	3
Stop punching holes in the ozone layer with rockets	6	6	5	0
Switching from fossil fuels to nuclear power	6	5	9	3
Driving less	5	5	4	3
Banning aerosol spray cans	2	2	3	0
Increasing public transportation	1	1	1	0
Switching from regular (incandescent) to compact fluorescent light bulbs	1	1	2	9
Insulating buildings	1	1	1	0
Having at most 2 children per family	1	1	1	0
Placing a large tax on all fossil fuels	1	0	2	0
Fertilizing the ocean to make algae grow faster	1	0	0	5
Stop eating beef	1	0	2	0
Using airplanes to scatter dust high in the atmosphere	0	0	1	0
<i>N</i>	1470	1007	381	59

44. How much do you trust or distrust the following as a source of information about global warming? (*items randomized*)

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly trust	19	17	22	49
Somewhat trust	59	62	54	40
Somewhat distrust	16	16	20	5
Strongly distrust	5	6	4	6

Science programs on television (PBS, Discovery Channel)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly trust	16	13	21	51
Somewhat trust	56	59	46	35
Somewhat distrust	21	20	26	10
Strongly distrust	7	8	7	4

The National Science Foundation (NSF)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly trust	15	13	16	38
Somewhat trust	59	60	57	45
Somewhat distrust	20	20	23	11
Strongly distrust	6	7	4	6

Scientists

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly trust	15	12	22	38
Somewhat trust	57	60	50	41
Somewhat distrust	21	21	23	18
Strongly distrust	6	7	5	4

Natural history museums

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly trust	12	9	18	46
Somewhat trust	61	63	58	40
Somewhat distrust	22	23	20	14
Strongly distrust	5	6	4	0

Science museums

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly trust	12	9	17	47
Somewhat trust	60	61	59	43
Somewhat distrust	23	24	22	6
Strongly distrust	6	6	3	4

Family and friends

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly trust	12	9	16	24
Somewhat trust	58	59	56	58
Somewhat distrust	23	23	23	17
Strongly distrust	8	9	6	1

Environmental organizations

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly trust	12	11	11	37
Somewhat trust	46	47	43	38
Somewhat distrust	26	27	28	11
Strongly distrust	16	16	18	14

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly trust	11	9	12	40
Somewhat trust	58	58	59	43
Somewhat distrust	24	25	24	10
Strongly distrust	7	8	6	7

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly trust	11	11	9	28
Somewhat trust	50	51	46	49
Somewhat distrust	25	25	28	10
Strongly distrust	14	13	18	12

University professors

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly trust	10	8	11	38
Somewhat trust	54	55	51	44
Somewhat distrust	25	25	26	10
Strongly distrust	11	11	12	7

Zoos and aquariums

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly trust	9	6	15	39
Somewhat trust	58	59	55	51
Somewhat distrust	26	28	25	9
Strongly distrust	7	7	5	1

School teachers

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly trust	6	5	8	20
Somewhat trust	53	55	48	57
Somewhat distrust	29	30	31	18
Strongly distrust	12	11	13	5

Television weather reporters

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly trust	4	4	1	20
Somewhat trust	46	49	40	38
Somewhat distrust	38	35	48	35
Strongly distrust	12	12	11	7

Military leaders (generals and admirals)

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly trust	3	2	2	19
Somewhat trust	39	38	40	40
Somewhat distrust	42	43	41	26
Strongly distrust	16	16	18	15

The mainstream news media

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly trust	2	2	1	15
Somewhat trust	33	34	27	32
Somewhat distrust	40	40	42	24
Strongly distrust	26	24	30	29

Q45. Over the past 12 months, how many times have you visited each of the following?

A movie theater

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
More than 5	15	12	21	36
3-5	17	12	32	25
1-2	32	31	36	26
0	36	46	11	14

A nature center

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
More than 5	3	1	4	27
3-5	5	2	11	18
1-2	29	19	55	43
0	63	78	30	12

A zoo or aquarium

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
More than 5	2	0	1	27
3-5	4	1	10	32
1-2	37	25	71	35
0	57	74	19	6

A natural history museum

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
More than 5	1	0	1	25
3-5	3	0	4	33
1-2	23	9	63	37
0	73	91	32	5

Q46. Have you ever attended the following at a science center or museum?

A lecture about global warming

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Yes	8	4	12	46
No	92	96	88	54

An exhibit about global warming

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Yes	14	7	31	56
No	86	94	69	44

An event with hands-on activities for children and families about global warming

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Yes	8	4	16	36
No	92	96	84	64

Q47. How much have you learned about global warming from each of the following sources?

Television

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	17	16	19	23
Some	45	44	48	39
A little	26	26	27	28
Nothing	12	13	7	10

Internet

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	12	9	17	36
Some	32	28	46	23
A little	21	21	18	32
Nothing	36	42	18	9

Books or magazines

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	9	6	14	33
Some	30	27	38	29
A little	29	28	34	26
Nothing	33	39	14	13

Newspapers

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	6	6	7	17
Some	36	35	41	40
A little	29	28	34	27
Nothing	28	31	18	17

Family and friends

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	6	5	7	17
Some	24	21	34	30
A little	39	37	43	39
Nothing	31	37	17	14

Schools

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	6	4	7	29
Some	17	13	26	27
A little	22	20	27	24
Nothing	55	63	39	20

Radio

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	5	4	7	12
Some	20	17	30	32
A little	30	29	34	30
Nothing	44	49	29	26

Museums, zoos or aquariums

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	5	3	7	40
Some	16	12	29	22
A little	25	20	38	28
Nothing	54	66	26	11

Movies

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	4	3	4	13
Some	15	14	19	23
A little	23	21	26	35
Nothing	58	63	50	30

Government agencies

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	3	2	5	14
Some	22	18	33	38
A little	33	32	38	34
Nothing	41	48	25	14

Q48. How closely do you follow news about the environment?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Very closely	7	5	11	15
Somewhat closely	32	27	44	60
A little	45	49	37	22
Not at all	16	19	8	4

Q49. How closely do you follow news about the local weather forecast?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Very closely	32	33	31	30
Somewhat closely	39	38	42	38
A little	22	23	21	25
Not at all	7	7	6	6

Q50. How much had you thought about global warming before today?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
A lot	17	12	25	51
Some	35	34	37	37
A little	33	35	33	9
Not at all	15	18	5	4

Q51. How important is the issue of global warming to you personally?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Extremely important	7	6	9	29
Very important	20	18	23	40
Somewhat important	38	41	34	19
Not too important	21	22	22	4
Not at all important	14	14	13	9

Q52. On some issues people feel that they have all the information they need in order to form a firm opinion, while on other issues they would like more information before making up their mind. For global warming, where would you place yourself?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
I need a lot more information	25	27	21	29
I need some more information	26	25	30	18
I need a little more information	25	24	26	26
I do not need any more information	24	24	23	28

Q53. If you wanted to learn more about global warming, where would you go to get more information?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Internet	61	60	70	69
Television programs	44	46	41	39
Books or magazines	37	35	45	52
Websites of gov't offices like NASA & NOAA	34	33	39	49
Environmental groups	28	27	32	42
Newspapers	25	26	24	30
Your local weather forecast	21	23	15	20
Your family and friends	16	15	20	21
Museums, zoos or aquariums	15	10	24	51
Radio programs	13	11	18	21
Schools	10	8	12	27
Movies	5	4	6	25

People who selected at least one information source in question 53 were shown just their selections and asked the following question.

Q54. Of the following, which one would you go to first to learn more about global warming?

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Internet	38	36	48	29
Television programs	16	18	10	16
Websites of gov't offices like NASA and NOAA	12	12	13	20
Environmental groups	9	9	8	7
Books or magazines	8	8	9	9
Your local weather forecast	4	6	0	4
Newspapers	3	3	3	1
Your family and friends	3	3	4	0
Museums, zoos or aquariums	2	2	1	7
Radio programs	2	2	3	0
Schools	1	2	1	0
Movies	1	0	1	9
<i>N</i>	1920	1332	473	77

Q55A. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

“I could easily change my mind about global warming.”

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly agree	5	5	1	15
Somewhat agree	32	35	25	18
Somewhat disagree	36	34	44	21
Strongly disagree	28	27	30	46

Q55B. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

“Schools should teach our children about the causes, consequences and potential solutions to global warming.”

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly agree	35	35	31	63
Somewhat agree	40	41	39	20
Somewhat disagree	14	14	17	8
Strongly disagree	11	10	14	9

Q55C. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

“Our government should establish programs to teach Americans about global warming.”

	<i>Nat'l Average</i>	<i>Non-visitors</i>	<i>Occasional visitors</i>	<i>Frequent visitors</i>
Strongly agree	27	28	24	49
Somewhat agree	41	43	40	30
Somewhat disagree	17	16	21	9
Strongly disagree	14	14	15	13

Appendix: Answer Key

Q1. Recently, you may have noticed that global warming has been getting some attention in the news. Global warming refers to the idea that the world's average temperature has been increasing over the past 150 years, may be increasing more in the future, and that the world's climate may change as a result. What do you think? Do you think that global warming is happening? [Correct answer: Yes]

For example, see: U.S. Global Change Research Program (2009) *Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States*. p. 9; IPCC, 2007: *Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Core Writing Team, Pachauri, R.K and Reisinger, A. (eds.)]. IPCC, Geneva, Switzerland, p. 30; Matson, P.A., Dietz, T., Abdalati, W., Busalacchi, Jr., A.J., Caldeira, K., Corell, R.W., DeFries, R.S., Fung, I.Y., Gaines, S., Hornberger, G.M., Lemos, M.C., Moser, S.C., Moss, R.H., Parson, E.A., Ravishankara, A.R., Schmitt, R.W., Turner, II, B.L., Washington, W.M., Weyant, J.P., Whelan, D.A. (2010) *Advancing the science of climate change*. National Academies Press, Washington, D.C., p. 506.

Q4. Assuming global warming is happening, do you think it is... [Correct answer: caused mostly by human activities]

For example, see: U.S. Global Change Research Program (2009) *Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States*. p. 13; IPCC, 2007: *Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Core Writing Team, Pachauri, R.K and Reisinger, A. (eds.)]. IPCC, Geneva, Switzerland, p. 39; Modern Global Climate Change. Karl, Thomas R. and Trenberth, Kevin E. (5 December 2003) *Science* **302** (5651) 1719-1723.

Q5. Which comes closer to your own view? [Best answer: most scientists think global warming is happening]

For example, see: Anderegg, W., Prall, J., Harold, J. and Schneider, S. (2010) Expert credibility in climate change. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, p. 1; Oreskes, N. (2004) The Scientific Consensus on Climate Change *Science* **306** (5702), 1686.

Q9. The “greenhouse effect” refers to: (order of items randomized) [Correct answer: gases in the atmosphere that trap heat]

For example, see: U.S. Global Change Research Program (2009) *Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States*. p. 14; Le Treut, H., R. Somerville, U. Cubasch, Y. Ding, C. Mauritzen, A. Mokssit, T. Peterson and M. Prather, 2007: Historical Overview of Climate Change. In: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, pp. 115-116.

Q10. How much can each of the following affect the average global temperature of the Earth? (order of items randomized) [Correct answers: greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, changes in the Earth's orbit around the sun, volcanic eruptions, the amount of dust in the atmosphere, clouds, sunspots, and whether the Earth's surface is light or dark colored. Incorrect answers: earthquakes and the phases of the moon.]

For example, U.S. Global Change Research Program (2009) Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States. p. 14-16; see: Le Treut, H., R. Somerville, U. Cubasch, Y. Ding, C. Mauritzen, A. Mokssit, T. Peterson and M. Prather, 2007: Historical Overview of Climate Change. In: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, pp. 96-97; 107-108; Lean, Judith L. 2010. Cycles and trends in solar irradiance and climate. *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Climate Change*. Vol 1, Issue 1. pp 111-122. Dec 22, 2009. doi:10.1002/wcc.018.

Q11. Which of the following gases in the atmosphere are good at trapping heat from the Earth's surface? (order of items randomized) [Correct answers: carbon dioxide, methane, and water vapor. Incorrect answers: oxygen and hydrogen.]

For example, see: U.S. Global Change Research Program (2009) Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States. p. 14-16; Le Treut, H., R. Somerville, U. Cubasch, Y. Ding, C. Mauritzen, A. Mokssit, T. Peterson and M. Prather, 2007: Historical Overview of Climate Change. In: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, pp. 115-116.

Q12. Are each of the following statements definitely true, probably true, probably false, definitely false, or you do not know? (order of items randomized)

For the following 5 items, for example, see: Le Treut, H., R. Somerville, U. Cubasch, Y. Ding, C. Mauritzen, A. Mokssit, T. Peterson and M. Prather, 2007: Historical Overview of Climate Change. In: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, pp. 104-105.

- Weather often changes from year to year [true]
- Climate is the average weather conditions of a region [true]
- Climate often changes from year to year [false]
- Weather means the average climate conditions for a region [false]

- **Climate and weather mean pretty much the same thing [false]**
- **Ocean currents carry heat from the equator to the north and south poles [true]**

For example, see: Trenberth, K. E. and J. M. Caron, 2001 Estimates of meridional atmosphere and ocean heat transports *Journal of Climate*, **14**, 3433-3443; Morgan, G. and Smuts, T. (1994) Global warming and climate change: More on 'What is climate change?'. Carnegie Mellon University, Department of Engineering and Public Policy. <http://www.gcrio.org/gwcc/booklet1.html>

- **The atmosphere carries heat from the north and south poles toward the equator [false]**

For example, see: Barry, L., Craig, G. C., & Thurnburn, J. (2002). Poleward heat transport by the atmospheric heat engine. *Nature*, *415*(6873), 774-777; Trenberth, K. E. and J. M. Caron, 2001 Estimates of meridional atmosphere and ocean heat transports *Journal of Climate*, **14**, 3433-3443.

Q13. Are each of the following statements definitely true, probably true, probably false, definitely false or you do not know? (order of items randomized)

- **In the past, the Earth's climate always shifted gradually between warm and cold periods [false]**

For example, see: U.S. Global Change Research Program (2009) Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States. p. 26; Committee on Abrupt Climate Change, National Research Council (2002) Abrupt climate change: Inevitable surprises, National Academies Press, 244 p.; Alley, R.B., Marotzke, J., Nordhaus, W.D., Overpeck, J.T., Peteet, D.M., Pielke Jr., R.A., Pierrehumbert, R.T., Rhines, P.B., Stocker, T.F., Talley, L.D., Wallace, J.M. (2003) Abrupt climate change. *Science* **299**, 2005-2010.

- **Climate changes have played an important role in the advance or collapse of some past human civilizations [true]**

For example, see: Weiss, H. and Bradley, R. S. (2001) Archaeology-what drives societal collapse? *Science* **291**, 609-610; deMenocal, P.B. (2001) Cultural responses to climate change during the late Holocene. *Science* **292**, p. 667-673.

- **The Earth's climate is warmer now than it has ever been before [false]**

For example, see: Zachos, J., Pagani, M., Sloan, L., Thomas, E., Billups, K. (2001) Trends, Rhythms, and Aberrations in Global Climate 65 Ma to Present. *Science* **292**(5517) p. 686-693; IPCC (2007) *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)], p. 449.

- **In the past, rising levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere have caused global temperatures to increase [true]**

For example, see: U.S. Global Change Research Program (2009) *Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States*. p.16; Caillon, N., Severinghaus, J.P., Jouzel, J., Barnola, J.-M., Kang, J., Lipenkov, V.Y. (2003) Timing of Atmospheric CO₂ and Antarctic Temperature Changes Across Termination III. *Science* **299**, p. 1728-1731; Monnin, E., Indermühle, A., Dällenbach, A., Flückiger, J., Stauffer, B., Stocker, T.F., Raynaud, D., Barnola, J.-M., (2001) Atmospheric CO₂ concentrations over the Last Glacial Termination. *Science* **291**(5501), p. 112-114; Lorius, C., Jouzel, J., Raynaude, D., Hansen, J., Le Treut, H. (1990) The ice-core record: Climate sensitivity and future greenhouse warming. *Nature* **347**, p. 139-145.

- **In the past, rising global temperatures have caused carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere to increase [true]**

For example, see: U.S. Global Change Research Program (2009) *Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States*. p.16; Stott, L., Timmermann, A., Thunell, R. (2007) Southern Hemisphere and Deep-Sea Warming Led Deglacial Atmospheric CO₂ Rise and Tropical Warming. *Science* **319**(5849) p. 435-438; Siegenthaler, U., Stocker, T. F., Monnin, E., Luthi, D., Schwander, J., Stauffer, B., et al. (2005). Stable carbon cycle-climate relationship during the late Pleistocene. *Science*, **310**(5752), 1313-1317; Caillon, N., Severinghaus, J.P., Jouzel, J., Barnola, J.-M., Kang, J., Lipenkov, V.Y. (2003) Timing of Atmospheric CO₂ and Antarctic Temperature Changes Across Termination III. *Science* **299**, p. 1728-1731; Monnin, E., Indermühle, A., Dällenbach, A., Flückiger, J., Stauffer, B., Stocker, T.F., Raynaud, D., Barnola, J.-M., (2001) Atmospheric CO₂ concentrations over the Last Glacial Termination. *Science* **291**(5501), p. 112-114.

- **Compared to the climate of the past million years, the last 10,000 have been unusually warm and stable [true]**

For example, see: Petit, J. R., Jouzel, J., Raynaud, D., Barkov, N.I., Barnola, J.-M., Basile, I., Bender, M., Chappellaz, J., Davisk, M., Delaygue, G., Delmotte, M., Kotlyakov, V.M., Legrand, M., Lipenkov, V.Y., Lorius, C., Pepin, L., Ritz, C., Saltzmann, E., Stievenard, M. (1999) Climate and atmospheric history of the past 420,000 years from the Vostok ice core, Antarctica. *Nature* **399**, p. 429-436; Siegenthaler, U., Stocker, T. F., Monnin, E., Luthi, D., Schwander, J., Stauffer, B., et al. (2005). Stable carbon cycle-climate relationship during the late Pleistocene. *Science*, **310**(5752), 1313-1317.

- **The Earth's climate has been pretty much the same for millions of years [false]**

For example, see: Matson, P.A., Dietz, T., Abdalati, W., Busalacchi, Jr., A.J., Caldeira, K., Corell, R.W., DeFries, R.S., Fung, I.Y., Gaines, S., Hornberger, G.M., Lemos, M.C., Moser, S.C., Moss, R.H., Parson, E.A., Ravishankara, A.R., Schmitt, R.W., Turner, II, B.L., Washington, W.M., Weyant, J.P., Whelan, D.A. (2010) Advancing the science of climate change. National Academies Press, Washington, D.C., p. 157; Zachos, J., Pagani, M., Sloan, L., Thomas, E., Billups, K. (2001) Trends, Rhythms, and Aberrations in Global Climate 65 Ma to Present. *Science* **292**(5517) 686-693; IPCC (2007) *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)], p. 449.

- **The Earth's climate is colder now than it has ever been before [false]**

For example, see: Matson, P.A., Dietz, T., Abdalati, W., Busalacchi, Jr., A.J., Caldeira, K., Corell, R.W., DeFries, R.S., Fung, I.Y., Gaines, S., Hornberger, G.M., Lemos, M.C., Moser, S.C., Moss, R.H., Parson, E.A., Ravishankara, A.R., Schmitt, R.W., Turner, II, B.L., Washington, W.M., Weyant, J.P., Whelan, D.A. (2010) Advancing the science of climate change. National Academies Press, Washington, D.C., p. 157; IPCC (2007) *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)], p. 449.

Q14. The average temperature of the Earth's surface is currently about 58 degrees Fahrenheit. What do you think the average temperature of the Earth's surface was during the last ice age? [Best answer: between 46 and 51 degrees Fahrenheit]

For example, see: NOAA (2009) State of the climate: Global analysis, Annual 2009. <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/?report=global&year=2009&month=13>; Jansen, E., J. Overpeck, K.R. Briffa, J.-C. Duplessy, F. Joos, V. Masson-Delmotte, D. Olago, B. Otto-Bliesner, W.R. Peltier, S. Rahmstorf, R. Ramesh, D. Raynaud, D. Rind, O. Solomina, R. Villalba and D. Zhang, 2007: Palaeoclimate. In: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, p. 451.

Q15. People disagree about how the climate system works. The five pictures below illustrate five different perspectives. Each picture depicts the Earth's climate system as a ball balanced on a line, yet each one has a different ability to withstand human-caused global warming. Which one of the five pictures best represents your understanding of how the climate system works? (*images randomized*) [Best answer: Threshold]

At different times or spatial scales the climate system can exhibit each of these behaviors, but the best of these five options is probably the Threshold model. For example, see: National Research Council (U.S.). Committee on Abrupt Climate Change. (2002). Abrupt climate change: Inevitable surprises, p. 12.

Q16. Which of the following are "fossil fuels"? (*order of items randomized*) [Correct answers: coal, oil, and natural gas. Incorrect answers: wood, solar energy, and hydrogen.]

For example, see: U.S. Department of Energy (2008) How fossil fuels were formed. http://www.fossil.energy.gov/education/energylessons/coal/gen_howformed.html

Q17. The energy in fossil fuels originally came from: (*order of items randomized*) [Correct answers: photosynthesis by plants over millions of years and the sun. Incorrect answers: the fossilized remains of dinosaurs and uranium in the earth.]

For example, see: U.S. Department of Energy (2008) How fossil fuels were formed. http://www.fossil.energy.gov/education/energylessons/coal/gen_howformed.html

Q18. What gas is produced by the burning of fossil fuels? (order of items randomized)
[Correct answer: carbon dioxide]

For example, see: Forster, P., V. Ramaswamy, P. Artaxo, T. Berntsen, R. Betts, D.W. Fahey, J. Haywood, J. Lean, D.C. Lowe, G. Myhre, J. Nganga, R. Prinn, G. Raga, M. Schulz and R. Van Dorland, 2007: Changes in Atmospheric Constituents and in Radiative Forcing. *In: Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M.Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, p. 135.

Q19. To the best of your knowledge, roughly how much carbon dioxide was in the atmosphere in the year 1850? [Correct answer: 290 parts per million]

For example, see: Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center. Frequently asked global change questions. <http://cdiac.ornl.gov/pns/faq.html>

Q20. Roughly how much carbon dioxide is in the atmosphere today? [Correct answer: 390 parts per million]

For example, see: Tans, P. (2010) Recent Global CO₂. NOAA/ESRL, www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/ccgg/trends.

Q21. Which picture best represents your understanding of how the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has changed over the past 500 years? [Correct answer: an exponential increase]

For example, see: U.S. Global Change Research Program (2009) Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States. p. 14; Forster, P., V. Ramaswamy, P. Artaxo, T. Berntsen, R. Betts, D.W. Fahey, J. Haywood, J. Lean, D.C. Lowe, G. Myhre, J. Nganga, R. Prinn, G. Raga, M. Schulz and R. Van Dorland, 2007: Changes in Atmospheric Constituents and in Radiative Forcing. *In: Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M.Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, p. 135.

Q22a. If we were to stop burning fossil fuels today, the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere would decrease almost immediately. [false]

For example, see: U.S. Global Change Research Program (2009) Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States. p. 15; IPCC, 2007: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)], p. 824-825; Solomon S, Plattner G-K, Knutti R, Friedlingstein P. 2009. Irreversible climate change due to carbon dioxide emissions. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 106: 1704–1709.

Q22b. If we were to stop burning fossil fuels today, global warming would stop almost immediately. [false]

For example, see: IPCC Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report, p. 46; U.S. Global Change Research Program (2009) Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States. p. 15.

Q23. On average, how long does carbon dioxide stay in the atmosphere once it has been emitted? [Best answers: a hundred years or a thousand years]

For example, see: Archer, D., Eby, M., Brovkin, V., Ridgwell, A., Cao, L., Mikolajewicz, U., et al. (2009). Atmospheric Lifetime of Fossil Fuel Carbon Dioxide. *Annual Review of Earth and Planetary Sciences*, 37, 117-134; IPCC, 2007: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)], p. 824-825; Solomon S, Plattner G-K, Knutti R, Friedlingstein P. 2009. Irreversible climate change due to carbon dioxide emissions. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 106: 1704–1709.

Q24. Which of the following countries emits the largest total amount of carbon dioxide? (order of items randomized) [Correct answer: China]

For example, see: Boden, T.A., G. Marland, and R.J. Andres. 2010. Global, Regional, and National Fossil-Fuel CO₂ Emissions. Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, U.S. Department of Energy, Oak Ridge, Tenn., U.S.A. doi 10.3334/CDIAC/00001_V2010.

Q25. Which of the following countries emits the most carbon dioxide per person? (order of items randomized) [Correct answer: the United States]

For example, see: Boden, T.A., G. Marland, and R.J. Andres. 2010. Global, Regional, and National Fossil-Fuel CO₂ Emissions. Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, U.S. Department of Energy, Oak Ridge, Tenn., U.S.A. doi 10.3334/CDIAC/00001_V2010.

Q26. How much does each of the following contribute to global warming? (order of items randomized) [Significant contributors to global warming: cars and trucks, burning fossil fuels for heat and electricity, deforestation, cows. Minor or non-contributors to global warming: the hole in the ozone layer, toxic wastes, aerosol spray cans, nuclear power plants³, volcanic eruptions, the sun, acid rain, the space program]

For example, see: Hegerl, G.C., F. W. Zwiers, P. Braconnot, N.P. Gillett, Y. Luo, J.A. Marengo Orsini, N. Nicholls, J.E. Penner and P.A. Stott, 2007: Understanding and

³ Although nuclear power generation does not emit carbon dioxide, there are fossil fuel intensive activities associated with the full lifecycle of nuclear power plants, including nuclear power plant construction, operation, the mining and milling of uranium, and power plant decommissioning. For example, see: Sovacool, B.K. (2008). Valuing the greenhouse gas emissions from nuclear power: A critical survey. *Energy Policy*, 36, 2940–2953.

Attributing Climate Change. In: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, pp. 702-703; Contribution of Working Group III to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2007). B. Metz, O.R. Davidson, P.R. Bosch, R. Dave, L.A. Meyer (eds) Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA; Steinfeld, H., Gerber, P. (2006). Livestock's long shadow: environmental issues and options. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; Morgan, G. and Smuts, T. (1994) Global warming and climate change: Common misconceptions about climate change. Carnegie Mellon University, Department of Engineering and Public Policy. <http://www.gcrio.org/gwcc/misconceptions.html>; Lean, Judith L. 2010. Cycles and trends in solar irradiance and climate. *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Climate Change*. Vol 1, Issue 1. pp 111-122. Dec 22, 2009. doi:10.1002/wcc.018; Kempton, W. (1991). Lay Perspectives on Global Climate Change. *Global Environmental Change-Human and Policy Dimensions*, 1, 183-208; Bostrom, A., Morgan, M. G., Fischhoff, B., & Read, D. (1994). What do People Know About Global Climate-Change. 1. Mental Models. *Risk Analysis*, 14, 959-970; Read, D., Bostrom, A., Morgan, M. G., Fischhoff, B., & Smuts, T. (1994). What do People Know About Global Climate-Change. 2. Survey Studies of Educated Laypeople. *Risk Analysis*, 14, 971-982.

**Q27. Of the following, which one do you think contributes most to global warming?
[Correct answer: burning fossil fuels for heat and electricity]**

For example, see: IPCC, 2007: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)], p. 36.

Q28. The average temperature of the Earth's surface is currently 58 degrees Fahrenheit. What temperature do you think it was 150 years ago? [Correct answer: between 56 to 57 degrees Fahrenheit]

For example, see: U.S. Global Change Research Program (2009) Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States. p. 17; IPCC, 2007: Summary for Policymakers. In: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, p. 5; Jones, P., New, M. Parker, D., Martin, S., and Rigor I., (1999) Surface air temperature and its changes over the past 150 years. *Reviews of Geophysics*, **37(2)**, 173-199.

Q29. The average temperature of the Earth's surface is currently 58 degrees Fahrenheit. If no additional actions are taken to reduce global warming, what temperature do you think it will be by the year 2020? [Unknown as it depends on future choices and events, but IPCC estimates approximately 58.4° F]

For example, see: IPCC, 2007: Summary for Policymakers. In: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, p. 12.

Q30. The average temperature of the Earth's surface is currently 58 degrees Fahrenheit. If no additional actions are taken to reduce global warming, what temperature do you think it will be by the year 2050? [Unknown as it depends on future choices and events, but IPCC estimates between 60 and 61° F]

Meehl, G.A., T.F. Stocker, W.D. Collins, P. Friedlingstein, A.T. Gaye, J.M. Gregory, A. Kitoh, R. Knutti, J.M. Murphy, A. Noda, S.C.B. Raper, I.G. Watterson, A.J. Weaver and Z.-C. Zhao, 2007: Global Climate Projections. In: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, p. 749.

Q31. Are each of the following statements definitely true, probably true, probably false, definitely false, or do you not know? (order of items randomized)

- **Global warming will cause some places to get wetter, while others get drier [true]**

For example, see: Trenberth et al (2007). Observations: Surface and Atmospheric Climate Change. In: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon et al (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, p. 238.

- **The decade from 2000 to 2009 was warmer than any other decade since 1850 [true]**

For example, see: Willett et al (2009). State of the Climate in 2009: Global Climate. *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, 91 (7), S19.

- **Scientists can't predict the weather more than a few days in advance – they can't possibly predict the climate of the future [false]**

For example, see: Hansen et al (2006). Global temperature change. *PNAS*, 103, (39), 14288–14293; Hansen et al (2007). Climate simulations for 1880–2003 with GISS modelE. *Climate Dynamics*, 29, 661–696.

- **Global warming will increase crop yields in some places, and decrease it in others [true]**

For example, see: Easterling et al (2007) Food, fibre and forest products. *Climate Change 2007: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*, M.L. Parry, O.F. Canziani, J.P. Palutikof, P.J. van der Linden and C.E. Hanson, Eds., Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, p. 275.

- **Scientists' computer models are too unreliable to predict the climate of the future [false]**

For example, see: Hansen et al (2006). Global temperature change. *PNAS*, 103, (39), 14288–14293; Hansen et al (2007). Climate simulations for 1880–2003 with GISS modelE. *Climate Dynamics*, 29, 661-696.

- **In the 1970s, most scientists were predicting an ice age [false]**

For example, see: Peterson et al (2008). The Myth Of The 1970s Global Cooling Scientific Consensus. *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, 89, 1325-1337.

- **The Earth's climate has changed naturally in the past, therefore humans are not the cause of global warming [false]**

For example, see: Forster et al (2007). Changes in Atmospheric Constituents and in Radiative Forcing. In: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, p. 135.

- **Global warming will cause temperatures to increase by roughly the same amount in all countries [false]**

For example, see: Christensen et al (2007). Regional Climate Projections. In: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, pp. 850-851.

- **Any recent global warming is caused by the sun [false]**

For example, see: U.S. Global Change Research Program (2009) Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States. p. 20; Lockwood (2008). Recent changes in solar outputs and the global mean surface temperature. III. Analysis of contributions to global mean air surface temperature rise. *Proceedings of the Royal Society A*, 464, p. 1387.

- **The record snowstorms this winter in the eastern United States prove global warming is not happening [false]**

For example, see: Masters, J. (2010). Heavy snowfall in a warming world. *The Weather Underground*, <http://www.wunderground.com/blog/JeffMasters/comment.html?entrynum=1427>; Ritter, M. (2010) Experts: Cold snap doesn't disprove global warming. Associated Press, January 6, <http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory?id=9495864>; Chang, K. (2010) Feeling that cold wind? Here's why. *New York Times*, January 9, <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/10/weekinreview/10chang.html>; Herring, D., Higgins, W., and Halpert, M. (2010) Can record snowstorms and global warming co-exist? *NOAA ClimateWatch Magazine*, <http://www.climatewatch.noaa.gov/2010/articles/can-record-snowstorms-global-warming-coexist>; Hoerling, M., Human, K., and Deluisi, B. (2010) Forensic meteorology solves the mystery of record snows, <http://www.climatewatch.noaa.gov/authors/martin-hoerling-katy-human-barb-deluisi-noaa-earth-system-research-laboratory>.

- **The Earth is actually cooling, not warming [false]**

For example, see: Trenberth et al (2007). Observations: Surface and Atmospheric Climate Change. In: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis*. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Solomon et al (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, p. 237.

- **Global warming is happening, but will be more beneficial than harmful**

Ultimately a value judgment. But see: *Climate Change 2007: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, 982pp.; Stern, N. H., & Great Britain. Treasury. (2007). *The economics of climate change: the Stern review*. Cambridge, UK; New York: Cambridge University Press.

Q32. Which of the following statements is correct? [Correct answer: Most of the glaciers on Earth are melting away]

For example, see: IPCC, 2007: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)], p. 30; Pritchard, H. D., Arthern, R. J., Vaughan, D. G., & Edwards, L. A. (2009). Extensive dynamic thinning on the margins of the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets. *Nature*, 461(7266), 971-975; Dyurgerov, M.B. and Meier, M.F. 2000. Twentieth century climate change: Evidence from small glaciers. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 97(4):1406-1411; Williams, R.S., Jr., and Ferrigno, J.G., eds., 2010, *Glaciers of Asia*: U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 1386-F.

Q33. Over the past 100 years, has the speed of glacier melting increased, decreased, or stayed the same? [Correct answer: Increased]

For example, see: IPCC, 2007: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)], p. 109; Pritchard, H. D., Arthern, R. J., Vaughan, D. G., & Edwards, L. A. (2009). Extensive dynamic thinning on the margins of the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets. *Nature*, 461(7266), 971-975; Rignot, E., & Kanagaratnam, P. (2006). Changes in the velocity structure of the Greenland ice sheet. *Science*, 311(5763), 986-990.

Q34. Which of the following can cause global sea levels to rise?

For the following five items, see: Bindoff, N.L., J. Willebrand, V. Artale, A. Cazenave, J. Gregory, S. Gulev, K. Hanawa, C. Le Quéré, S. Levitus, Y. Nojiri, C.K. Shum, L.D. Talley and A. Unnikrishnan, 2007: Observations: Oceanic Climate Change and Sea Level. In: *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, p. 409; National Snow and Ice Data Center (2009). The Contribution of the Cryosphere to Changes in Sea Level. http://nsidc.org/sotc/sea_level.html; Shepherd, A., Wingham, D., Wallis, D., Giles, K., Laxon, S., & Sundal, A. V. (2010). Recent loss of floating ice and the consequent sea level contribution. *Geophysical research letters*, 37.

- Melting of land ice in Antarctica [true]
- Melting of sea ice on the Arctic Ocean [true]
- Melting of mountain glaciers [true]
- Warmer ocean temperatures [true]
- Increased evaporation [false]

Q35. Of the causes you selected, which one has contributed the most to sea level rise so far? [Best answer among all causes: Warmer ocean temperatures]

For example, see: National Snow and Ice Data Center (2009). The Contribution of the Cryosphere to Changes in Sea Level. http://nsidc.org/sotc/sea_level.html

Q36. How much do scientists estimate that global sea levels rose from 1900 to 2000? [Correct answer: 6-9 inches]

For example, see: .U.S. Global Change Research Program (2009) Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States. p.18; Bindoff, N.L., J. Willebrand, V. Artale, A. Cazenave, J. Gregory, S. Gulev, K. Hanawa, C. Le Quéré, S. Levitus, Y. Nojiri, C.K. Shum, L.D. Talley and A. Unnikrishnan, 2007: Observations: Oceanic Climate Change and Sea Level. In:

Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, p. 409; Church, J.A. & White, N.J. (2006). A 20th century acceleration in global sea-level rise. *Geophysical Research Letters*, 33, L01602 .

Q37. If no additional actions are taken to reduce global warming, how much do you think global sea levels will rise by the year 2100? [Unknown answer, but IPCC 2007 estimated between 8 inches and 2 feet; newer estimates 3 to 4 feet]

For example, see: U.S. Global Change Research Program (2009) Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States. p. 25; Meehl, G. A. *et al.* in *IPCC Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis* (eds Solomon, S. *et al.*) 747–845 (Cambridge Univ. Press, 2007); Rahmstorf, S. A semi-empirical approach to projecting future sea-level rise. *Science* **315**, 368–370 (2007); Pfeffer, W. T., Harper, J. T. & O'Neel, S. Kinematic constraints on glacier contributions to 21st century sea-level rise. *Science* **321**, 1340–1343 (2008).

Q39. Which of the following causes coral bleaching? (order of items randomized) [Correct answer: Warmer ocean temperatures]

For example, see: Hoegh-Guldberg O, Mumby PJ, Hooten AJ, Steneck RS and others (2007) Coral reefs under rapid climate change and ocean acidification. *Science* 318:1737–1742; Douglas AE (2003) *Marine Pollution Bulletin* 46:385–392.

Q41. Which of the following causes ocean acidification? (order of items randomized) [Correct answer: Absorption of carbon dioxide by the ocean]

For example, see: U.S. Global Change Research Program (2009) Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States. p.17; Caldeira, K.; Wickett, M.E. (2003). "Anthropogenic carbon and ocean pH". *Nature* **425** (6956): 365–365. doi:10.1038/425365a; Orr, James C.; *et al.* (2005). "Anthropogenic ocean acidification over the twenty-first century and its impact on calcifying organisms". *Nature* **437** (7059): 681–686. doi:10.1038/nature04095; Hoegh-Guldberg O, Mumby PJ, Hooten AJ, Steneck RS and others (2007) Coral reefs under rapid climate change and ocean acidification.

Q42. How much do you think each of the following actions would reduce global warming if they were done worldwide? (order of items randomized)

For the following ten items, for example, see: IPCC, 2007: *Climate Change 2007: Mitigation of Climate Change: Contribution of Working Group III to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [B. Metz, O.R. Davidson, P.R. Bosch, R. Dave, L.A. Meyer (eds.)]; America's Climate Choices: National Research Council (2010) Limiting the Magnitude of Future Climate Change, http://books.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=12785&page=R1; Stern, N. H., & Great Britain. Treasury. (2007). *The economics of climate change: the Stern review*. Cambridge, UK; New York: Cambridge University Press.

- **Switching from fossil fuels to renewable energy [true]**
- **Planting trees [true]**
- **Reducing tropical deforestation [true]**
- **Switching from gasoline to electric cars [true]**
- **Driving less [true]**
- **Increasing public transportation [true]**
- **Switching from regular to compact fluorescent light bulbs [true]**
- **Insulating buildings [true]**
- **Switching from fossil fuels to nuclear power [true]**
- **Placing a large tax on all fossil fuels [true]**
- **Having at most 2 children per family [true]**

For example, see: Murtaugh, P.A. & Schlax, M.G. (2009). Reproduction and the carbon legacies of individuals. *Global Environmental Change*, 19, 14-20.

- **Stop eating beef [true]**

For example, see: Stehfest, E. et al (2009). Climate benefits of changing diet. *Climatic Change*, 95, 83-102; Friel, S. et al (2009). Public health benefits of strategies to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions: food and agriculture. *The Lancet*, 374, 2016-2025.

- **Reducing toxic waste [false]**

For example, see: Bostrom, A., Morgan, M.G., Fischhoff, B., & Read, D. (1994). What do people know about global climate change? *Risk Analysis*, 14(6), 959-970.

- **Banning aerosol spray cans [false]**
- **Stop punching holes in the ozone layer with rockets [false]**

For example, see: Kempton, W. (1991). Lay Perspectives on Global Climate Change. *Global Environmental Change-Human and Policy Dimensions*, 1, 183-208. Bostrom, A., Morgan, M. G., Fischhoff, B., & Read, D. (1994). What do People Know About Global Climate-Change. 1. Mental Models. *Risk Analysis*, 14, 959-970. Read, D., Bostrom, A., Morgan, M. G., Fischhoff, B., & Smuts, T. (1994). What do People Know About Global Climate-Change. 2. Survey Studies of Educated Laypeople. *Risk Analysis*, 14, 971-982.

- **Fertilizing the ocean to make algae grow faster [uncertain]**

For example, see: Buesseler, K.O (2008). Ocean Iron Fertilization--Moving Forward in a Sea of Uncertainty. *Science*, 319, 162; Boyd, P. W., Jickells, T., Law, C. S., Blain, S., Boyle, E. A., Buesseler, K. O., et al. (2007). Mesoscale iron enrichment experiments 1993-2005: Synthesis and future directions. *Science*, 315(5812), 612-617.

- **Using airplanes to scatter dust high in the atmosphere [uncertain]**

For example, see: The Royal Society (2009). Geoengineering the climate: Science, governance and uncertainty. Available at: <http://royalsociety.org/geoengineering-the-climate/>; Crutzen, P. J. (2006). Albedo enhancement by stratospheric sulfur injections: A contribution to resolve a policy dilemma? *Climatic Change*, 77(3-4), 211-219; Robock, A., A. Marquardt, B. Kravitz, and G. Stenchikov (2009), Benefits, risks, and costs of stratospheric geoengineering, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 36, L19703, doi:10.1029/2009GL039209.