



There are many ways to tell stories. We can write, speak, or even use art to tell a story. Data can tell a story, too. In this activity, you will draw connections between a [Yale Climate Connections](#) radio story and data from the [Yale Climate Opinion Maps](#).

## INSTRUCTIONS

Below is an example of what it looks like to make connections between data and a story using a Claim, Evidence, Reasoning framework. Notice that the Evidence provided is specific—it uses numbers and cites text. Read through the example and then try it out on your own.

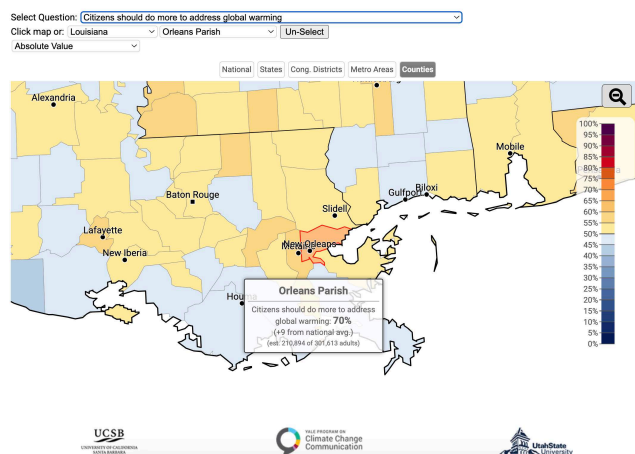
- YALE CLIMATE CONNECTIONS RADIO STORY:**

Nuns agree to convert damaged convent into flood prevention project

- YALE CLIMATE OPINION MAPS QUESTION:**

Citizens should do more to address global warming.

Estimated % of adults who think citizens should do more to address global warming (nat'l avg. 61%), 2024



- CLAIM:** Citizens of Orleans Parish, Louisiana are more likely than the average American to think that citizens should do more to address climate change.
- EVIDENCE 1:** According to the 2024 Yale Climate Opinion Maps, 70% of people in Orleans Parish believe that citizens should take action to address climate change. This is 9% higher than the national average of people who think this.

1. Find the most recent Yale Climate Opinion Map data in YPCCC's Visualizations and Data tab.

- **EVIDENCE 2:** According to Yale Climate Connections, New Orleans nuns decided to turn their damaged convent into a flood prevention site. This is an example of citizens taking action to address climate change.
- **REASONING:** Citizens like the nuns might be more likely to take action against climate change because Orleans Parish has experienced a lot of flooding due to climate change (as the radio story said, New Orleans is a “flood-prone” city). Citizens who experience the effects of climate change first-hand might be more inclined to do something about it than citizens who have not yet experienced the effects of climate change. They might also be more likely to think that other citizens should take action to address climate change too.

## NOW IT'S YOUR TURN:

**1**

Select your radio story from the list below or choose your own. To listen to the radio stories, click on the links below or go to [www.yaleclimateconnections.org](http://www.yaleclimateconnections.org) and type in the name of the story you would like to listen to in the upper right hand corner of the screen (click on the magnifying glass to start typing!).

- a. Wildfire survivor says it should be easier for the public to access satellite information
  - b. Mushroom grower finds new purpose for New York's food scraps
  - c. San Diego neighborhood wins protections from new industrial development
  - d. Vermont resident quits traveling by plane
  - e. A 'scavenger hunt' that could help preserve Rocky Mountain alpine plants
  - f. Landscapes charred by wildfire can become ground zero for floods and mudslides
  - g. Long-term whitebark pine restoration project aims to save the trees for future generations
  - h. Upstate New York development features fossil-fuel-free homes
  - i. Seattle summers are no longer reliably mild
  - k. Choose your own radio story:
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If you decide to choose your own radio story, go to the Yale Climate Connections website at [www.yaleclimateconnections.org](http://www.yaleclimateconnections.org) where you can use our menu to search for stories by topic or simply click the magnifying glass in the upper right hand corner of the screen to search by keywords.

You may also navigate to Story Locations under the Radio Program tab in order to search stories by location.

**2**

In 2-3 sentences, describe what the radio story you selected is about. What are the main ideas of the radio story?

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**3**

Next, go to the Yale Climate Opinion Maps page, at <https://climatecommunication.yale.edu/visualizations-data/ycom-us/>. Use the “Select Question” feature (pictured in the next page) to find the question most closely related to your radio story. We recommend choosing one of these questions:

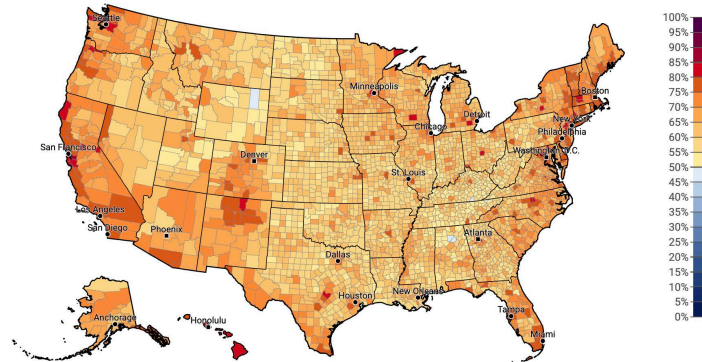
- a. Global warming is happening.
- b. Global warming will harm plants and animals.
- c. Global warming is already harming people in the US.
- d. Fund research into renewable energy sources.
- e. Citizens should do more to address global warming.
- f. Choose your own question from the “Select Question” list.

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Estimated % of adults who think that global warming is happening (nat'l avg. 72%), 2024

Select Question:  ←

Click map or:



UCSB  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
SANTA BARBARA

YALE PROGRAM ON  
Climate Change  
Communication

UtahState  
University

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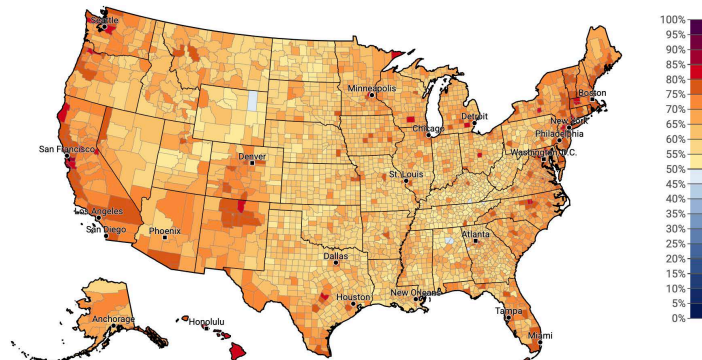
Where does your radio story take place? Find the answer to the question you selected for that location (e.g., If your radio story takes place in New Orleans, select “Louisiana” for the state and “Orleans Parish” for the county. If your story is about the state of Michigan more broadly, just select “Michigan” for the state and do not select anything for the county).

Estimated % of adults who think that global warming is happening (nat'l avg. 72%), 2024

Select Question:  ←

Click map or:

←



UCSB  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
SANTA BARBARA

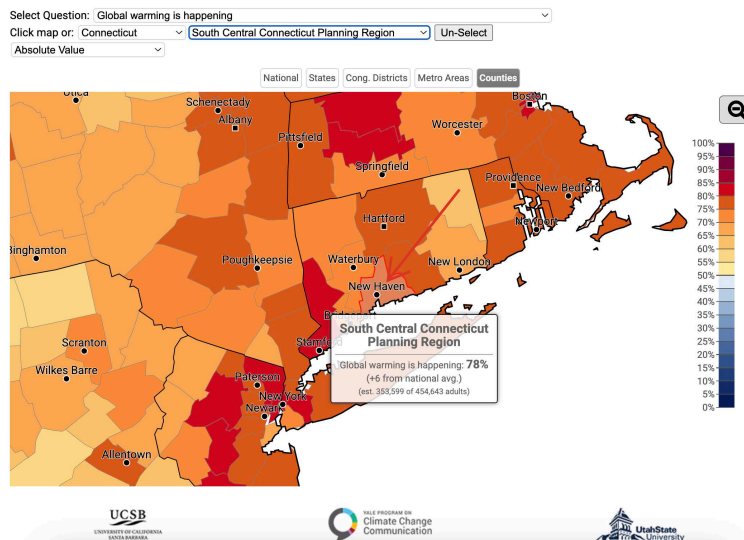
YALE PROGRAM ON  
Climate Change  
Communication

UtahState  
University

5

Once you select the state and/or county, you'll see the state/county outlined in red. If you click or hover your mouse over the state/county, you will see the percentage of people in the state/county who agree with the question, as well as how that percentage compares to the national average.

Estimated % of adults who think that global warming is happening (nat'l avg. 72%), 2024



a. What percentage of people in your state/county agree with the question?

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b. How does this percentage compare to the national average?

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6

Let's put it all together! What claim can you make based on the radio story you selected and the data you found in the map?

Claim: 

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- 7** How does your evidence from the radio story and the map support your claim? Remember, make sure the evidence you provide is specific—use numbers and cite text.

Evidence 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Evidence 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 8** Explain your reasoning. In other words, how does your evidence support your claim?

Reasoning: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 9** Just because you found 2 pieces of evidence to support your claim, does that automatically mean your claim is correct? Could there be other explanations for your claim (In thinking about the New Orleans example, for instance, people could be more likely to think that citizens should do more to address climate change not only because they have directly experienced the effects of climate change, but also because New Orleans Parish is a more politically liberal, Democratic location.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## EXTENSION SUGGESTIONS

- Come up with your own claim(s) and find Yale Climate Connections radio stories and Yale Climate Opinion Maps data to support those claim(s).
- Draw connections between multiple radio stories or several YCOM questions. For the New Orleans convent example, we could find 2-3 more radio stories from Orleans Parish or Louisianas a whole to further support the YCOM data that shows that 70% of people in Orleans Parish believe that citizens should take action to address climate change.
- Based on the claim, evidence, and reasoning you developed, what should people in that state or county do next to address the climate change issue(s) they face? Design a climate change solution to minimize human impact on the environment.

