

**What do Americans think is the greatest threat from global warming?  
Coding instructions and category definitions**

For the question, “What do you think is the greatest threat that global warming poses to the United States, if any?” code each survey response using the following categories listed below. The order in which the categories are mentioned in the survey response does not matter for the purposes of coding. Choose up to 2 categories per respondent.

**WEATHER EXTREMES AND CHANGES** – This category includes any references to weather events, weather changes, extreme weather, and natural disasters or environmental hazards, including storms, heatwaves, rising temperatures, flooding, droughts, wildfires, tornadoes, and hurricanes.

**ACTION ON GLOBAL WARMING** – This category includes any response that opposes climate action and/or references people or groups taking action on global warming, including environmentalists and climate activists, political groups (e.g., “Democrats” or “liberals”) and political leaders (e.g., “President Biden”), the media, governments, corporations, countries, climate and energy policies, and other people or groups who are identified as acting on (or “overreacting to”) global warming.

**INACTION ON GLOBAL WARMING** – This category includes any references to people or groups *not* taking action on global warming, opposing action, or ignoring climate problems, including political groups (e.g., “Republicans” or “conservatives”) and political leaders (e.g., “President Trump”), governments, corporations, countries, and other people or groups who are identified as averse to climate solutions or not doing enough to address global warming.

**GLOBAL WARMING IS NOT A THREAT** – This category includes any reference to the respondent’s personal skepticism or dismissiveness of global warming or science more generally. Examples include stating that global warming is not happening or is natural (e.g., “it is not real” or “it has been happening for thousands of years”), expressing suspicion about the science of climate change or science more generally, and stating that there is no threat from global warming (e.g., “nothing,” “none,” or “there is no threat”).

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHANGES** – This category includes any reference to economic and social systems being affected as a result of global warming. Examples include references to economic changes (e.g., inflation, higher costs, higher taxes, changes in jobs), infrastructure changes, supply chain changes, migration and displacement, population changes, changes in development (e.g., consumer goods), property damage, and reduced standards of living or quality of life.

**POLLUTION** – This category includes any reference to air pollution, water pollution, plastic waste or pollution, or carbon pollution (e.g., fossil fuels, emissions, gas fumes, coal, factories, the oil industry, ozone).

**HEALTH HARMS** – This category includes any reference to physical or mental health harms to humans, including wellbeing, loss of human life, death/mortality, infectious diseases, illnesses, and allergies.

**FOOD AND WATER SHORTAGES** – This category includes any reference to threats to food and water supplies, including famines, effects on agriculture, crop production, farming and farmers, and access to clean water.

**ENVIRONMENTAL HARMS** – This category includes any reference to damages to areas/places and plants and animal species (excluding humans), including coastal erosion, sea-level rise, ice melting, biodiversity loss, reduced vegetation, loss of land, and extinctions of animals.

**DON'T KNOW** – This category is exclusively selected if the respondent says or implies that they don't know or are not sure if there is a threat (e.g., “don't know,” “not sure,” and “?”)

**OTHER** – This category is exclusively selected if the response cannot be categorized with any of the above codes, including if the response does not contain enough information (e.g., simply naming a topic or concept like “government,” “industrialization,” “greed,” and “national security”) or if the response is too vague/general to fit into any category (e.g., “it affects everything” and “I think global warming is very real”).

**NO RESPONSE** – This category is exclusively selected if the respondent did not answer the question or left the question blank.