

This Washington Post-Stanford University poll was conducted by telephone June 13 to 21, 2012, among a random national sample of 804 adults, including landline and cell phone-only respondents. The results from the full survey have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 4.5 percentage points. Sampling and data collection by Abt-SRBI of New York.

*= less than 0.5 percent

1. Held for release.

2. What in your opinion is the single biggest environmental problem the world faces at this time? (IF AIR POLLUTION OR POLLUTION UNSPECIFIED) What about (air pollution/pollution) do you have in mind?

	6/21/2012	7/28/2008	4/10/2007	3/14/2006
Global warming/Greenhouse effect/Climate change	18	25	33	16
Pollution NET	29	24	26	27
Air pollution	12	12	13	13
Water pollution	7	5	5	6
Pollution (unspecified)	5	4	4	4
Pollution (misc.)	4	3	4	3
Energy problems/dependence on fossil fuels/lack of oil/ oil drilling/oil tankers	7	11	7	10
Toxic substances in environment	5	6	6	7
Destruction/fragmentation/loss of habitat, rain forests, wetlands, forests, open spaces; over-development; logging and mining	4	4	4	7
Waste/landfills/not enough recycling	8	4	3	9
Over-population/over-consumption	4	3	3	4
Saving natural resources	1	2	1	3
Tsunami/tidal wave/earthquake/natural disasters	*	*	*	1
Extinction of species	*	*	1	*
Spread of invasive non-native species	*	*	*	*
None	3	3	1	2
Other	17	9	7	8
Don't know/refused	5	9	8	7

3. How much do you trust the things that scientists say about the environment - completely, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

	6/21/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009	7/28/2008	4/10/2007	3/14/2006
Completely	4	7	5	8	6	5	5
A lot	22	23	26	24	24	27	27
A moderate amount	38	41	40	38	39	43	41
A little	28	22	22	21	23	19	22
Not at all	7	7	7	9	7	5	5
Don't know/Refused	*	*	*	1	1	1	1

4. As far as you know, would you say that weather patterns around the world have been (more stable) in the last three years than before that, (more unstable), or about the same?

	6/21/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009	3/14/2006
More stable	3	3	5	5	3
More unstable	60	63	62	54	70
About the same	36	30	32	38	26
Don't know/Refused	1	4	2	3	1

5. As far as you know, would you say that average temperatures around the world have been (higher) in the last three years than before that, (lower), or about the same?

	6/21/12	11/14/10	6/7/10	11/29/09	7/28/08	4/10/07	3/14/06
Higher	58	46	44	43	58	56	56
Lower	9	9	9	11	8	9	8
About the same	30	38	41	40	31	28	33
Don't know/Refused	3	7	6	5	3	7	3

6. What is your personal opinion? Do you think that the world's temperature probably has been going up (half sample--slowly) over the past 100 years, or do you think this probably has not been happening?

	6/21/2012	9/12/2011	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009	7/28/2008	4/10/2007	3/14/2006
Has been happening	73	83	75	74	75	80	84	85
Has not been happening	25	15	23	24	22	18	13	13
Don't know/Refused	2	3	2	2	3	2	3	2

7. How sure are you that the world's temperature [has/has not] been going up (half sample--slowly) over the past 100 years- extremely sure, very sure, somewhat sure, or not sure at all?

"HAS BEEN HAPPENING"	6/21/12	9/12/11	11/14/10	6/7/10	11/29/09	7/28/08	4/10/07	3/14/06
Extremely sure	22	25	18	20	19	20	17	19
Very sure	31	28	30	27	25	31	32	26
Somewhat sure	39	35	42	41	41	37	40	44
Not sure at all	8	11	10	13	16	10	10	11
Don't know/Refused	1	1	*	*	*	*	1	*

"HAS NOT BEEN HAPPENING"	6/21/12	9/12/11	11/14/10	6/7/10	11/29/09	7/28/08	4/10/07	3/14/06
Extremely sure	15	21	9	12	24	16	10	10
Very sure	21	32	26	27	28	20	23	24
Somewhat sure	43	28	45	40	27	38	48	38
Not sure at all	21	20	20	21	21	26	19	28
Don't know/Refused	1	*	*	*	*	*	1	*

8. (Half sample) Do you think a rise in the world's temperature is being caused mostly by things people do, mostly by natural causes, or about equally by things people do and by natural causes?

(Half sample) Do you think that the increase in the world's temperature over the past 100 years was caused mostly by things people did, mostly by natural causes, or about equally by things people did and by natural causes? *

**If respondent says not happening in Q6, "Assuming its happening/If the world's temperature did increase..." and "would be" or "could be" were asked.*

	6/21/12	9/12/11	11/14/10	6/7/10	11/29/09	7/28/08	4/10/07	3/14/06
Things people do	30	27	31	30	30	34	41	31
Natural causes	22	27	24	25	27	21	17	19
Both equally	47	45	45	45	40	44	42	49
Don't know/Refused	1	2	1	*	3	1	1	1

9. Held for release.

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

	6/21/2012	9/12/2011	11/14/2010
Will go up	72	72	75
Will not go up	24	24	20
Don't know/Refused	4	4	5

11. (IF PROBABLY WILL/WILL NOT GO UP) How sure are you that, if nothing is done to stop it, the world's temperature probably (will/ will not) go up (half sample--slowly) over the next 100 years, extremely sure, very sure, somewhat sure, or not sure at all?

	6/21/2012	11/14/2010
Extremely sure	25	23
Very sure	27	29
Somewhat sure	36	37
Not sure at all	11	11
Don't know/Refused	*	*

12. Held for release.

13. How much do you feel you know about global warming - a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or nothing?

	6/21/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009	7/28/2008	4/10/2007	3/14/2006
A lot	11	13	15	17	13	11	10
A moderate amount	44	53	53	49	49	51	47
A little	37	29	27	29	33	33	36
Nothing	9	4	5	5	4	4	6
Don't know/Refused	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

14. If nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how serious of a problem do you think it will be for THE UNITED STATES – very serious, somewhat serious, not so serious, or not serious at all?*

**If respondent says not happening in Q6, "Assuming it's happening..." and "would be" asked.*

	6/21/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009	3/14/2006
Very serious	40	42	46	42	49
Somewhat serious	38	33	32	31	34
Not so serious	12	14	12	13	10
Not serious at all	8	10	10	13	6
Don't know/Refused	2	1	1	1	2

15. If nothing is done to reduce global warming in the future, how serious of a problem do you think it will be for THE WORLD – very serious, somewhat serious, not so serious, or not serious at all?

**If respondent says not happening in Q6, "Assuming it's happening..." and "would be" asked.*

	6/21/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009	3/14/2006
Very serious	50	51	55	51	57
Somewhat serious	31	27	26	25	28
Not so serious	10	12	11	11	8
Not serious at all	7	9	8	13	5
Don't know/Refused	1	1	1	*	2

16. How important is the issue of global warming to you personally – extremely important, very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

	6/21/2012	2011	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009	7/28/2008	4/10/2007	3/14/2006
Extremely important	10	15	16	14	16	16	18	17
Very important	28	27	29	32	25	30	34	32
Somewhat important	39	28	30	30	30	31	30	32
Not too important	13	15	16	12	13	13	8	10
Not important at all	10	14	9	12	16	9	9	8
Don't know/Refused	*	1	*	*	1	*	*	*

17. How strong are your opinions on the issue of global warming – extremely strong, very strong, somewhat strong, not too strong, or not strong at all?

	6/21/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010
Extremely strong	11	14	13
Very strong	28	30	28
Somewhat strong	36	35	34
Not too strong	18	14	15
Not strong at all	7	7	9
Don't know/Refused	1	*	1

18. How much do you trust the things that scientists say about global warming - completely, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

	6/21/2012
Completely	6
A lot	22
A moderate amount	33
A little	26
Not at all	11
Don't know/Refused	1

19-20 held for release.

21. Do you think scientists who report that global warming is happening AND is caused by human activity make conclusions (mainly on the basis of scientific evidence) or (mainly on the basis of their own economic or political interests)?

	6/21/2012
Mainly on the basis of scientific evidence	53
Mainly on the basis of their own economic or political interests	35
Both (VOL.)	9
Neither (VOL.)	2
Don't know/Refused	1

22. Do you think scientists who report that global warming is NOT happening OR NOT caused by human activity make conclusions (mainly on the basis of scientific evidence) or (mainly on the basis of their own economic or political interests)?

	6/21/2012
Mainly on the basis of scientific evidence	44
Mainly on the basis of their own economic or political interests	49
Both (VOL.)	3
Neither (VOL.)	1
Don't know/Refused	2

23. How much do you think the U.S. government should do about global warming? A great deal, quite a bit, some, a little, or nothing?

	6/21/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009
A great deal	32	41	34	31
Quite a bit	23	18	22	21
Some	26	21	22	23
A little	8	11	11	10
Nothing	10	9	11	15
Don't know/Refused	1	*	*	*

24. How much should U.S. businesses do about global warming? A great deal, quite a bit, some, a little, or nothing?

	6/21/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009
A great deal	39	38	35	35
Quite a bit	22	20	22	16
Some	23	22	22	25
A little	8	10	11	11
Nothing	8	8	9	13
Don't know/Refused	*	1	*	1

25. How much do you think the U.S. government is doing now to deal with global warming? A great deal, quite a bit, some, a little, or nothing?

	6/21/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009
A great deal	7	6	7	9
Quite a bit	11	10	13	12
Some	44	48	45	41
A little	29	26	25	27
Nothing	8	8	9	9
Don't know/Refused	1	2	1	2

26. How much do you think U.S. businesses are doing now to deal with global warming? A great deal, quite a bit, some, a little, or nothing?

	6/21/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009
A great deal	3	4	5	6
Quite a bit	10	7	11	7
Some	34	39	35	38
A little	40	35	35	34
Nothing	13	12	13	13
Don't know/Refused	1	3	*	2

27. As you may have heard, greenhouse gases are thought to cause global warming. In your opinion do you think the government should or should not limit the amount of greenhouse gasses that U.S. businesses put out?

	6/21/2012
Government should limit	77
Government should not limit	20
Don't know/Refused	3

28. For each of the following, please tell me whether you favor or oppose it as a way for the federal government to try to reduce future global warming. [Half sample asked: Each of these changes would increase the amount of money that you pay for things you buy...]

a. do you favor or oppose the federal government increasing taxes on electricity so people use less of it?

	6/21/2012	3/11/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009	4/10/2007	3/14/2006
Favor	25	18	24	22	21	20	19
Oppose	74	80	76	77	77	79	80
Don't know/Ref.	1	2	1	1	2	1	*

b. do you favor or oppose the federal government increasing taxes on gasoline so people either drive less, or buy cars that use less gas

	6/21/2012	3/11/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009	4/10/2007	3/14/2006
Favor	28	26	33	28	32	32	31
Oppose	71	73	67	71	67	67	68
Don't know/Ref.	1	2	*	1	1	1	1

c. do you favor or oppose the federal government giving companies tax breaks to produce more electricity from water, wind, and solar power?

	6/21/2012	3/11/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009	3/14/2006
Favor	77	73	86	84	88	87
Oppose	22	25	13	15	12	12
Don't know/Ref.	1	2	1	*	1	1

d. Do you favor or oppose the federal government giving tax breaks to companies that burn coal to make electricity if they use new methods to reduce the air pollution being released from their smokestacks?

	6/21/2012
Favor	66
Oppose	33
Don't know/Refused	1

29. For the next items, please tell me for each one whether it's something the government should require by law, encourage with tax breaks but not require, or stay out of entirely. [Half sample asked: Each of these changes would increase the amount of money that you pay for things you buy...]

a. Building cars that use less gasoline?

	6/21/2012	3/11/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009	4/10/2007	3/14/2006
Require by law	23	26	31	31	31	42	44
Encourage by tax breaks	49	39	48	49	47	44	40
Stay out of way entirely	27	33	22	19	22	14	15
Don't know/Refused	*	2	*	1	*	1	1

b. Building cars that run completely on electricity?

	6/21/2012	3/11/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009
Require by law	8	9	11	12	11
Encourage by tax breaks	50	44	54	55	53
Stay out of way entirely	41	45	34	32	34
Don't know/Refused	1	2	1	1	1

c. Building air conditioners, refrigerators, and other appliances that use less electricity?

	6/21/2012	3/11/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009	4/10/2007	3/14/2006
Require by law	21	24	30	29	30	36	41
Encourage by tax breaks	52	40	47	51	47	43	40
Stay out of way entirely	27	33	22	20	23	19	17
Don't know/Refused	*	2	1	*	*	2	1

d. Building new homes and offices that use less energy for heating and cooling?

	6/21/2012	3/11/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009	4/10/2007	3/14/2006
Require by law	18	21	24	24	22	30	33
Encourage by tax breaks	56	46	54	56	57	51	50
Stay out of way entirely	26	30	22	20	21	17	15
Don't know/Refused	*	2	*	*	*	1	1

e. Lowering the amount of greenhouse gases that power plants are allowed to release into the air?

	6/21/2012	3/11/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	11/29/2009	4/10/2007	3/14/2006
Require by law	41	42	44	42	42	62	61
Encourage by tax breaks	37	28	33	38	34	26	26
Stay out of way entirely	21	27	20	19	22	10	11
Don't know/Refused	1	3	2	1	1	3	2

30. (Assuming it's happening, how/How) much do you think (could/can) be done to reduce the amount of future global warming – a great deal, a good amount, just some, or hardly anything?

	6/21/2012	4/10/2007
A great deal	26	27
A good amount	29	36
Just some	29	20
Hardly anything	15	15
Don't know/Refused	1	2

31. Held for release.

32. (Assuming it's happening, how/How) difficult do you think it would be for people to stop global warming - extremely difficult, very difficult, moderately difficult, slightly difficult, or not difficult at all?

	6/21/2012	6/7/2010
Extremely difficult	26	31
Very difficult	34	27
Moderately difficult	25	28
Slightly difficult	8	7
Not difficult at all	6	6
Don't know/Refused	1	1

33. (Assuming it's happening, do/ Do) you think the things people would have to do to stop global warming would make your own life better, worse, or neither better nor worse?

	6/21/2012	6/7/2010
Better	43	43
Worse	12	14
Neither better nor worse	43	43
Don't know/Refused	1	1

34. Do you think the United States should take action on global warming only if other major industrial countries such as China and India agree to do equally effective things, that the United States should take action even if these other countries do less, or that the United States should not take action on this at all?

	6/21/2012	11/14/2010	6/7/2010	7/28/2008
Only if other countries do	14	13	14	18
Take action even if other countries do less	65	71	68	67
Not take action at all	19	15	18	13
Don't know/Refused	1	2	1	2

35. (Assuming it's happening) Do you think global warming is causing there to be more droughts, is causing there to be fewer droughts, or is global warming not affecting the number of droughts?

	6/21/2012
More droughts	57
Fewer droughts	5
Not affecting	35
Don't know/Refused	3

36. (Assuming it's happening,) Do you think global warming is causing there to be more storms, is causing there to be fewer storms, or is global warming not affecting the number of storms?

	6/21/2012
More storms	55
Fewer storms	8
Not affecting	33
Don't know/Refused	3

37-38 held for release.

39. In your opinion, how much government action does Barack Obama want on global warming - a great deal, quite a bit, some, a little, or none?

	6/21/2012
A great deal	23
Quite a bit	21
Some	33
A little	9
None	6
Don't know/Refused	8

40. In your opinion, how much government action does Mitt Romney want on global warming - a great deal, quite a bit, some, a little, or none?

	6/21/2012
A great deal	4
Quite a bit	7
Some	38
A little	23
None	15
Don't know/Refused	14

41-53 held for release.

54. If the world's temperature does rise over the next 100 years and this rise has effects on poor countries, how much do you think that the United States government should help these countries deal with the effects of global warming – a great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all? (IF US SHOULD PROVIDE ANY HELP) Do you think the U.S. government should provide this help to poor countries by giving them money, by providing help in other ways, or by both giving money and providing help in other ways?

	6/21/2012
A great deal	12
A lot	12
A moderate amount	37
A little	23
Not at all	15
Don't know/Refused	2

IF HELP:	6/21/2012
By giving them money	1
By providing help in other ways	64
By both giving them money and providing help in other ways	34
Don't know/Refused	1

END