# CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE AMERICAN MIND

Americans' Global Warming Beliefs and Attitudes in November 2011









# Climate Change in the American Mind: Americans' Global Warming Beliefs and Attitudes in November 2011

Interview dates: October 20, 2011 – November 16, 2011. Interviews: 1,000 Adults (18+) Margin of error: +/- 3 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.

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N29<sup>1</sup>. In your opinion, over the past several years, has the weather in the U.S...

|                               | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Gotten worse                  | 56       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Gotten better                 | 3        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Been about the same as normal | 41       | -        | -         | -        | -        |

N30 – 35. Some people say that, due to growing populations and consumption worldwide, the United States is going to experience serious shortages of natural resources, while others disagree. When, if ever, do you think the United States will start to experience serious shortages of the following?

Precious metals (e.g., gold, silver, platinum)

|                                       | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| We are already experiencing shortages | 13       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In about 10 years                     | 8        | -        | -         | _        | -        |
| In about 25 years                     | 8        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In about 50 years                     | 7        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In 100 years                          | 9        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Never                                 | 14       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Don't know                            | 43       | -        | -         | _        | -        |

Base metals (e.g., copper, lead, zinc)

|                             | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| We are already experiencing | 10       | _        | _         | _        | _        |
| shortages                   | 10       |          |           |          |          |
| In about 10 years           | 8        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In about 25 years           | 8        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In about 50 years           | 9        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In 100 years                | 10       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Never                       | 10       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Don't know                  | 45       | _        | _         | -        | -        |

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Items are listed in the order they were asked despite occasional non-sequential item numbers. Items not shown in this report are being released separately.

# Uranium (for nuclear fuel)

|                             | Nov 2011   | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-----------------------------|--|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| We are already experiencing | 8  | _        | _         | _        | -        |
| shortages                   | , and the second |          |           |          |          |
| In about 10 years           | 8  | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In about 25 years           | 6  | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In about 50 years           | 5  | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In 100 years                | 7  | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Never                       | 10   | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Don't know                  | 57   | -        | -         | -        | -        |

#### Oil

|                             | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| We are already experiencing | 26       |          |           |          |          |
| shortages                   | 26       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In about 10 years           | 9        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In about 25 years           | 9        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In about 50 years           | 10       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In 100 years                | 11       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Never                       | 8        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Don't know                  | 26       | -        | -         | -        |          |

# Coal

|                                       | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| We are already experiencing shortages | 11       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In about 10 years                     | 9        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In about 25 years                     | 7        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In about 50 years                     | 9        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In 100 years                          | 15       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Never                                 | 13       | -        | -         | _        | -        |
| Don't know                            | 36       | -        | -         | _        | -        |

#### Natural gas

|                                       | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| We are already experiencing shortages | 12       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In about 10 years                     | 8        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In about 25 years                     | 8        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In about 50 years                     | 10       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| In 100 years                          | 15       | -        | -         | _        | -        |
| Never                                 | 14       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Don't know                            | 34       | -        | -         | -        | -        |

N36. How worried are you about our country running out of natural resources?

|                    | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | May 2011 June 2010 Jan 2010 |   |   |  |  |
|--------------------|----------|----------|-----------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Very worried       | 9        | -        | -                           | _ | - |  |  |
| Somewhat worried   | 45       | -        | -                           | _ | - |  |  |
| Not very worried   | 35       | -        |                             |   | - |  |  |
| Not at all worried | 12       | -        |                             |   | _ |  |  |

Q47. 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?

|            | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Yes        | 63       | 64       | 61        | 57       | 71       |
| No         | 17       | 18       | 18        | 20       | 10       |
| Don't Know | 20       | 18       | 21        | 23       | 19       |

People who answered yes to question 47 (i.e. those who believe global warming is happening) were asked the following question.

Q48. How sure are you that global warming is happening?

|                 | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |  |
|-----------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|--|
| Extremely sure  | 22       | 21       | 20        | 24       | 35       |  |
| Very sure       | 35       | 33       | 37        | 35       | 37       |  |
| Somewhat sure   | 39       | 40       | 40        | 37       | 24       |  |
| Not at all sure | 5        | 6        | 3         | 5        | 4        |  |

People who answered no to question 47 (i.e. those who do not believe global warming is happening) were asked the following question.

Q49. How sure are you that global warming is not happening?

|                 | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-----------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Extremely sure  | 21       | 21       | 20        | 28       | 26       |
| Very sure       | 37       | 31       | 31        | 31       | 28       |
| Somewhat sure   | 37       | 38       | 44        | 34       | 38       |
| Not at all sure | 5        | 11       | 4         | 7        | 8        |

#### Q50. Assuming global warming is happening, do you think it is...

|   | Nov<br>2011 | May<br>2011 | June<br>2010 | Jan<br>2010 | Nov<br>2008 |
|---|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Caused mostly by human activities                                 | 50          | 47          | 50           | 47          | 57          |
| Caused mostly by natural changes in the environment               | 33          | 35          | 34           | 36          | 32          |
| None of the above because global warming isn't happening          | 8           | 8           | 6            | 9           | 4           |
| Caused by both human activities and natural changes (volunteered) | 6           | 8           | 7            | 6           | 5           |
| Other   | 2           | 1           | 1            | 1           | 1           |
| Don't know (volunteered)  | 1           | 1           | 1            | 1           | 1           |

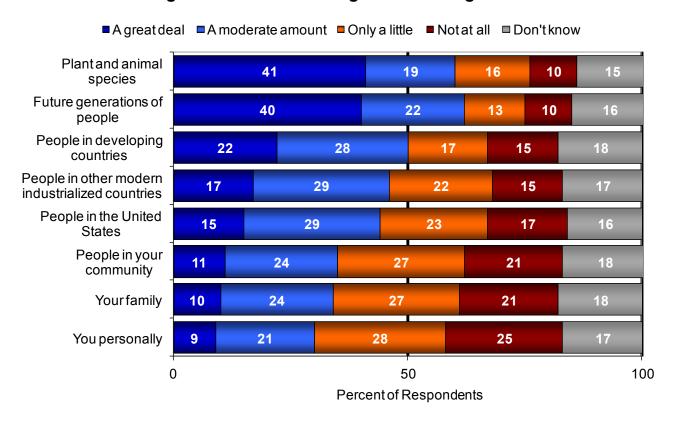
#### Q59. Which comes closer to your own view?

|  | Nov<br>2011 | May<br>2011 | June<br>2010 | Jan<br>2010 | Nov<br>2008 |
|--|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Most scientists think global warming is happening  | 41          | 39          | 34           | 34          | 47          |
| Most scientists think global warming is not happening  | 3           | 4           | 4            | 5           | 3           |
| There is a lot of disagreement among scientists about whether or not global warming is happening | 39          | 40          | 45           | 40          | 33          |
| Don't know enough to say   | 18          | 18          | 17           | 22          | 18          |

# Q60. How worried are you about global warming?

|                    | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|--------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Very worried       | 12       | 9        | 12        | 12       | 17       |
| Somewhat worried   | 42       | 43       | 41        | 38       | 46       |
| Not very worried   | 31       | 28       | 30        | 27       | 24       |
| Not at all worried | 15       | 20       | 18        | 23       | 13       |

# Some people say that global warming will harm each of the following. How much do think global warming will harm...?



Q62. How much do you think global warming will harm you personally?

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| A great deal      | 9        | 11       | 10        | 14       | 10       |
| A moderate amount | 21       | 18       | 21        | 23       | 22       |
| Only a little     | 28       | 28       | 27        | 22       | 24       |
| Not at all        | 25       | 25       | 24        | 31       | 22       |
| Don't know        | 17       | 18       | 18        | 11       | 23       |

Q63. How much do you think global warming will harm your family?

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| A great deal      | 10       | 13       | 11        | 15       | 11       |
| A moderate amount | 24       | 21       | 25        | 25       | 24       |
| Only a little     | 27       | 26       | 24        | 21       | 23       |
| Not at all        | 21       | 23       | 21        | 28       | 19       |
| Don't know        | 18       | 18       | 19        | 11       | 23       |

Q64. How much do you think global warming will harm people in your community?

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| A great deal      | 11       | 12       | 11        | 15       | 13       |
| A moderate amount | 24       | 22       | 25        | 27       | 26       |
| Only a little     | 27       | 26       | 24        | 22       | 20       |
| Not at all        | 21       | 22       | 21        | 24       | 17       |
| Don't know        | 18       | 18       | 19        | 12       | 23       |

Q65. How much do you think global warming will harm people in the United States?

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| A great deal      | 15       | 16       | 16        | 22       | 21       |
| A moderate amount | 29       | 26       | 28        | 29       | 28       |
| Only a little     | 23       | 23       | 22        | 16       | 15       |
| Not at all        | 17       | 17       | 17        | 22       | 14       |
| Don't know        | 16       | 18       | 18        | 12       | 22       |

Q66. How much do you think global warming will harm people in other modern industrialized countries?

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| A great deal      | 17       | 17       | 17        | 23       | 22       |
| A moderate amount | 29       | 25       | 28        | 29       | 28       |
| Only a little     | 22       | 23       | 21        | 16       | 13       |
| Not at all        | 15       | 17       | 15        | 19       | 13       |
| Don't know        | 17       | 19       | 18        | 13       | 24       |

Q67. How much do you think global warming will harm people in developing countries?

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| A great deal      | 22       | 23       | 22        | 29       | 31       |
| A moderate amount | 28       | 22       | 28        | 25       | 22       |
| Only a little     | 17       | 20       | 17        | 14       | 11       |
| Not at all        | 15       | 17       | 15        | 19       | 13       |
| Don't know        | 18       | 19       | 18        | 13       | 24       |

Q68. How much do you think global warming will harm future generations of people?

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| A great deal      | 40       | 37       | 39        | 42       | 44       |
| A moderate amount | 22       | 22       | 22        | 22       | 17       |
| Only a little     | 13       | 10       | 11        | 9        | 7        |
| Not at all        | 10       | 12       | 12        | 15       | 10       |
| Don't know        | 16       | 19       | 16        | 12       | 22       |

Q69. How much do you think global warming will harm plant and animal species?

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| A great deal      | 41       | 39       | 40        | 43       | 45       |
| A moderate amount | 19       | 19       | 21        | 19       | 17       |
| Only a little     | 16       | 12       | 12        | 11       | 8        |
| Not at all        | 10       | 13       | 13        | 15       | 9        |
| Don't know        | 15       | 18       | 15        | 12       | 20       |

Q70. When do you think global warming will start to harm people in the United States?

|                           | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|---------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| They are being harmed now | 30       | 32       | 29        | 25       | 34       |
| In 10 years               | 10       | 12       | 12        | 12       | 13       |
| In 25 years               | 13       | 13       | 12        | 14       | 13       |
| In 50 years               | 15       | 12       | 13        | 13       | 13       |
| In 100 years              | 15       | 11       | 15        | 13       | 12       |
| Never                     | 16       | 20       | 19        | 23       | 15       |

Q71. When do you think global warming will start to harm other people around the world?

|                           | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|---------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| They are being harmed now | 35       | 34       | 32        | 28       | 38       |
| In 10 years               | 9        | 12       | 11        | 13       | 13       |
| In 25 years               | 14       | 12       | 13        | 12       | 12       |
| In 50 years               | 13       | 12       | 12        | 12       | 12       |
| In 100 years              | 14       | 11       | 13        | 13       | 11       |
| Never                     | 15       | 19       | 18        | 22       | 14       |

Q72. How much had you thought about global warming before today?

|            | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | <b>June 2010</b> | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|------------|----------|----------|------------------|----------|----------|
| A lot      | 15       | 12       | 18               | 15       | 20       |
| Some       | 30       | 33       | 37               | 31       | 35       |
| A little   | 39       | 38       | 32               | 36       | 33       |
| Not at all | 16       | 16       | 13               | 18       | 12       |

#### Q73. How important is the issue of global warming to you personally?

|                      | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|----------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Extremely important  | 6        | 7        | 6         | 5        | 11       |
| Very important       | 13       | 15       | 18        | 15       | 21       |
| Somewhat important   | 41       | 38       | 39        | 38       | 40       |
| Not too important    | 25       | 25       | 24        | 23       | 18       |
| Not at all important | 15       | 14       | 14        | 20       | 11       |

Q74. 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?

|                                    | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|------------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| I need a lot more information      | 18       | 22       | 20        | 22       | 30       |
| I need some more information       | 28       | 30       | 27        | 23       | 30       |
| I need a little more information   | 27       | 25       | 29        | 26       | 22       |
| I do not need any more information | 27       | 23       | 24        | 29       | 18       |

Q75. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "I could easily change my mind about global warming."

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly agree    | 4        | 6        | 5         | 5        | 5        |
| Somewhat agree    | 34       | 32       | 32        | 30       | 28       |
| Somewhat disagree | 36       | 33       | 36        | 31       | 34       |
| Strongly disagree | 27       | 29       | 27        | 34       | 34       |

Q135. Which of the following statements comes closest to your view?

|   | Nov<br>2011 | May 2011 | June<br>2010 | Jan<br>2010 | Nov<br>2008 |
|---|-------------|----------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Humans can reduce global warming, and we are going to do so successfully                                      | 4           | 5        | 5            | 10          | 6           |
| Humans could reduce global warming, but it's unclear at this point whether we will do what's needed           | 47          | 41       | 47           | 45          | 51          |
| Humans could reduce global warming, but people aren't willing to change their behavior, so we're not going to | 25          | 25       | 21           | 17          | 22          |
| Humans can't reduce global warming, even if it is happening   | 15          | 18       | 18           | 15          | 16          |
| Global warming isn't happening  | 10          | 11       | 10           | 13          | 5           |

Q89 – Q98. **Worldwide/In the United States** over the next 20 years, do you think global warming will cause more or less of the following, *if nothing is done to address it?*<sup>2</sup>

#### Intense hurricanes

|               | Worldwide | In the United States |
|---------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Many more     | 28        | 28                   |
| A few more    | 29        | 28                   |
| No difference | 20        | 19                   |
| A few less    | 1         | 1                    |
| Many less     | 2         | 3                    |
| Don't know    | 20        | 21                   |

#### Extinctions of plant and animal species

|               | Worldwide | In the United States |
|---------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Many more     | 31        | 31                   |
| A few more    | 32        | 25                   |
| No difference | 17        | 20                   |
| A few less    | 2         | 1                    |
| Many less     | 2         | 3                    |
| Don't know    | 17        | 22                   |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For questions 89 to 98, the sample was randomly split in half, with half of respondents assigned to questions about worldwide impacts, and the other half assigned to questions about impacts in the United States.

# Famines and food shortages

|               | Worldwide | In the United States |
|---------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Many more     | 30        | 26                   |
| A few more    | 28        | 27                   |
| No difference | 21        | 22                   |
| A few less    | 1         | 1                    |
| Many less     | 2         | 2                    |
| Don't know    | 18        | 22                   |

# Droughts and water shortages

|               | Worldwide | In the United States |
|---------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Many more     | 33        | 33                   |
| A few more    | 29        | 27                   |
| No difference | 17        | 18                   |
| A few less    | 2         | 1                    |
| Many less     | 2         | 3                    |
| Don't know    | 17        | 19                   |

# People living in poverty

|               | Worldwide | In the United States |
|---------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Many more     | 27        | 23                   |
| A few more    | 23        | 21                   |
| No difference | 29        | 29                   |
| A few less    | 1         | 1                    |
| Many less     | 2         | 2                    |
| Don't know    | 19        | 24                   |

# Refugees

|               | Worldwide | In the United States |
|---------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Many more     | 24        | 20                   |
| A few more    | 21        | 19                   |
| No difference | 29        | 30                   |
| A few less    | 2         | 0                    |
| Many less     | 2         | 3                    |
| Don't know    | 22        | 28                   |

#### Severe heat waves

|               | Worldwide | In the United States |
|---------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Many more     | 35        | 35                   |
| A few more    | 29        | 25                   |
| No difference | 17        | 18                   |
| A few less    | 1         | 0                    |
| Many less     | 1         | 3                    |
| Don't know    | 17        | 19                   |

# Forest fires

|               | Worldwide | In the United States |
|---------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Many more     | 29        | 29                   |
| A few more    | 30        | 27                   |
| No difference | 19        | 20                   |
| A few less    | 1         | 0                    |
| Many less     | 1         | 3                    |
| Don't know    | 19        | 21                   |

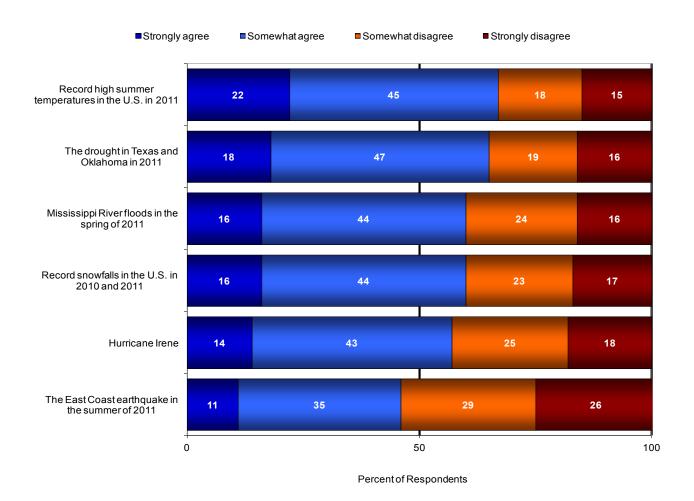
# Disease epidemics

| -             | Worldwide | In the United States |
|---------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Many more     | 24        | 20                   |
| A few more    | 23        | 25                   |
| No difference | 28        | 26                   |
| A few less    | 1         | 0                    |
| Many less     | 1         | 2                    |
| Don't know    | 23        | 26                   |

# Floods

|               | Worldwide | In the United States |
|---------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Many more     | 31        | 29                   |
| A few more    | 26        | 26                   |
| No difference | 19        | 21                   |
| A few less    | 1         | 1                    |
| Many less     | 2         | 3                    |
| Don't know    | 20        | 21                   |

#### Some people say that global warming made each of the following events worse. How much do you agree or disagree?



N114 – N119. Some people say that global warming made each of the following events worse. How much do you agree or disagree?

#### Hurricane Irene

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly agree    | 14       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat agree    | 43       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat disagree | 25       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Strongly disagree | 18       | -        | -         | -        | -        |

The drought in Texas and Oklahoma in 2011

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |  |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|--|
| Strongly agree    | 18       | -        | -         | -        | -        |  |
| Somewhat agree    | 47       | -        | -         | -        | -        |  |
| Somewhat disagree | 19       | -        | -         | -        | -        |  |
| Strongly disagree | 16       | -        | -         | -        | -        |  |

# Mississippi River floods in the spring of 2011

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly agree    | 16       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat agree    | 44       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat disagree | 24       | -        | -         | _        | -        |
| Strongly disagree | 16       | -        | -         | -        | -        |

## Record high summer temperatures in the U.S. in 2011

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly agree    | 22       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat agree    | 45       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat disagree | 18       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Strongly disagree | 15       | -        | -         | -        | -        |

#### Record snowfall in the U.S. in 2010 and 2011

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly agree    | 16       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat agree    | 44       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat disagree | 23       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Strongly disagree | 17       | -        | -         | -        | -        |

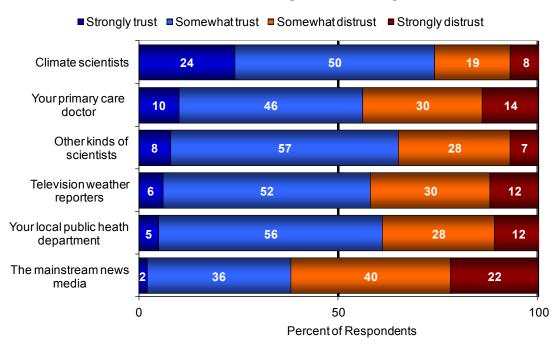
# The East Coast earthquake in the summer of 2011

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly agree    | 11       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat agree    | 35       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat disagree | 29       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Strongly disagree | 26       | -        | -         | -        | -        |

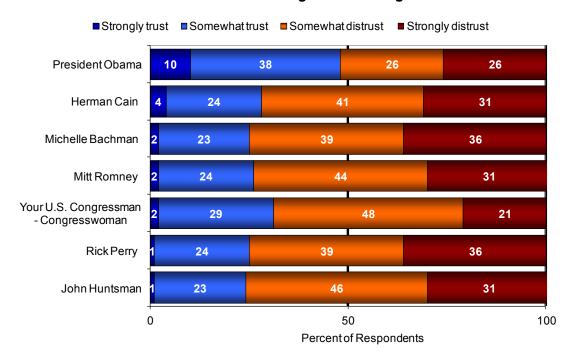
Q54. Personally, how well informed do you feel you are about global warming?

|                        | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Very well informed     | 8        | 10       | 12        | -        | -        |
| Fairly well informed   | 49       | 51       | 49        | -        | -        |
| Not very well informed | 36       | 34       | 35        | -        | -        |
| Not at all informed    | 8        | 5        | 3         | -        | -        |

# How much do you trust the following as a source of information about global warming?



# How much do you trust the following as a source of information about global warming?



Q161. How much do you trust or distrust the following as a source of information about global warming?

Television weather reporters

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly trust    | 6        | 5        | 5         | 5        | 6        |
| Somewhat trust    | 52       | 47       | 56        | 51       | 60       |
| Somewhat distrust | 30       | 34       | 28        | 30       | 25       |
| Strongly distrust | 12       | 14       | 11        | 14       | 10       |

The mainstream news media

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly trust    | 2        | 4        | 3         | 3        | 3        |
| Somewhat trust    | 36       | 34       | 42        | 33       | 43       |
| Somewhat distrust | 40       | 37       | 34        | 35       | 33       |
| Strongly distrust | 22       | 25       | 22        | 29       | 20       |

#### Climate scientists

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly trust    | 24       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat trust    | 50       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat distrust | 19       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Strongly distrust | 8        | -        | -         | -        | -        |

#### Other kinds of scientists

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly trust    | 8        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat trust    | 57       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat distrust | 28       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Strongly distrust | 7        | -        | -         | -        | -        |

#### Scientists<sup>3</sup>

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly trust    | -        | 21       | 26        | 22       | 28       |
| Somewhat trust    | -        | 55       | 55        | 52       | 54       |
| Somewhat distrust | -        | 19       | 15        | 19       | 14       |
| Strongly distrust | -        | 5        | 4         | 7        | 4        |

# Your local public health department

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly trust    | 5        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat trust    | 56       | -        | -         | _        | -        |
| Somewhat distrust | 28       | -        | -         | _        | -        |
| Strongly distrust | 12       | -        | -         | _        | -        |

# Your primary care doctor

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly trust    | 10       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat trust    | 46       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat distrust | 30       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Strongly distrust | 14       | -        | -         | =        | -        |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> We have included this data from the May 2011 report to serve as a reference point for our new trust in scientists items. The new items split scientist into two groups: Climate scientists and other kinds of scientists.

#### President Obama

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly trust    | 10       | 11       | -         | 16       | 13       |
| Somewhat trust    | 38       | 35       | -         | 35       | 38       |
| Somewhat distrust | 26       | 24       | -         | 21       | 23       |
| Strongly distrust | 26       | 30       | -         | 28       | 26       |

## Your U.S. Congressman/Congresswoman

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly trust    | 2        | 2        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat trust    | 29       | 34       | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat distrust | 48       | 39       | -         | -        | -        |
| Strongly distrust | 21       | 24       | -         | =        | -        |

# Mitt Romney (Republican candidate for president)

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly trust    | 2        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat trust    | 24       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat distrust | 44       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Strongly distrust | 31       | -        | -         | -        | -        |

# John Huntsman (Republican candidate for president)

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly trust    | 1        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat trust    | 23       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat distrust | 46       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Strongly distrust | 31       | -        | -         | -        | -        |

# Michelle Bachman (Republican candidate for president)

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly trust    | 2        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat trust    | 23       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat distrust | 39       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Strongly distrust | 36       | -        | -         | -        | -        |

Rick Perry (Republican candidate for president)

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly trust    | 1        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat trust    | 24       | -        | -         | -        | _        |
| Somewhat distrust | 39       | -        | -         | -        | _        |
| Strongly distrust | 36       | -        | -         | -        | _        |

#### Herman Cain (Republican candidate for president)

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly trust    | 4        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat trust    | 24       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat distrust | 41       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Strongly distrust | 31       | -        | -         | -        | -        |

N140. Have you ever heard of the United Nations' panel of climate experts, the "Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change" (IPCC)?

|            | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Yes        | 14       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| No         | 65       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Don't know | 21       | _        | _         | -        | -        |

N141. How much do you trust or distrust the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as a source of information about global warming?

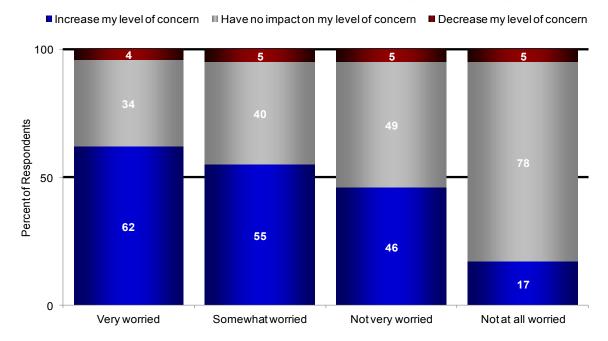
|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly trust    | 7        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat trust    | 25       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat distrust | 10       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Strongly distrust | 6        | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Don't know        | 52       | _        | _         | _        | -        |

Q141a. If 90% of climate scientists were to agree and state publicly that global warming is happening, would that increase, decrease, or have no impact on your level of concern about the issue?

|                                       | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Increase my level of concern          | 47       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Have no impact on my level of concern | 48       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Decrease my level of concern          | 5        | -        | -         | -        | -        |

4

# Impact of a statement by 90% of climate scientists that global warming is happening on Americans who are already very, somewhat, not very, or not at all worried about global warming.



Q235. The actions of a single individual won't make any difference in global warming.

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly agree    | 11       | 15       | 13        | 17       | 9        |
| Somewhat agree    | 31       | 31       | 29        | 29       | 22       |
| Somewhat disagree | 43       | 36       | 43        | 37       | 45       |
| Strongly disagree | 15       | 19       | 15        | 17       | 24       |

Q237. New technologies can solve global warming, without individuals having to make big changes in their lives.

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly agree    | 7        | 7        | 6         | 6        | 4        |
| Somewhat agree    | 40       | 40       | 33        | 42       | 26       |
| Somewhat disagree | 37       | 33       | 40        | 33       | 46       |
| Strongly disagree | 16       | 21       | 21        | 19       | 25       |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Of those Americans who are currently "very worried" about global warming, 62 percent say a statement like this by climate scientists would further increase their level of concern. Of those who are currently "somewhat", "not very" or "not at all" worried about global warming, a statement like this would further increase their levels of concern by 55, 46, and 17 percent, respectively.

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Q238. Most of my friends are trying to act in ways that reduce global warming.

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly agree    | 3        | 4        | 5         | 5        | 4        |
| Somewhat agree    | 43       | 41       | 47        | 43       | 44       |
| Somewhat disagree | 40       | 38       | 36        | 37       | 40       |
| Strongly disagree | 14       | 18       | 12        | 14       | 11       |

Q238A. With the economy in such bad shape, the US can't afford to reduce global warming.

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly agree    | 10       | 15       | 13        | -        | -        |
| Somewhat agree    | 33       | 37       | 30        | -        | -        |
| Somewhat disagree | 41       | 33       | 42        | -        | -        |
| Strongly disagree | 16       | 16       | 15        | -        | -        |

Q238B. The record heat waves last summer in the United States strengthened my belief that global warming is occurring.

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly agree    | 14       | 13       | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat agree    | 44       | 41       | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat disagree | 28       | 26       | -         | -        | -        |
| Strongly disagree | 14       | 20       | -         | -        | -        |

Q238C. The record snowstorms this winter in the eastern United States make me question whether global warming is occurring.

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly agree    | 7        | 13       | 17        | -        | -        |
| Somewhat agree    | 32       | 34       | 35        | -        | -        |
| Somewhat disagree | 37       | 30       | 29        | -        | -        |
| Strongly disagree | 23       | 24       | 20        | _        | -        |

N166. Global warming is affecting the weather in the United States.

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly agree    | 22       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat agree    | 43       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Somewhat disagree | 23       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Strongly disagree | 11       | -        | -         | -        | -        |

Q236. I have personally experienced the effects of global warming.

|                   | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Strongly agree    | 7        | 5        | 5         | 5        | 4        |
| Somewhat agree    | 31       | 29       | 25        | 21       | 29       |
| Somewhat disagree | 37       | 34       | 35        | 35       | 43       |
| Strongly disagree | 25       | 32       | 35        | 40       | 24       |

Q182A. Where have you personally experienced global warming? Please check all that apply.

|                          | Nov 2011 | May 2011 | June 2010 | Jan 2010 | Nov 2008 |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| In the county, parish or | 58       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| borough where I live     | 36       |          |           |          |          |
| Elsewhere in the state   | 26       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| where I live             | 20       |          |           |          |          |
| Elsewhere in the U.S.    | 22       | -        | -         | -        | -        |
| Other location           | 5        | -        | _         | -        | -        |

#### Methodology

These results come from nationally representative surveys of American adults, aged 18 and older. The samples were weighted to correspond with US Census Bureau parameters for the United States. The surveys were designed by Anthony Leiserowitz of Yale University and Edward Maibach and Connie Roser-Renouf of George Mason University and conducted by Knowledge Networks, using an online research panel of American adults.

- November 2011: Fielded October 20 through November 16 with 1,000 American adults. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percent, with 95 percent confidence.
- May 2011: Fielded April 23 through May 12 with 1,010 American adults. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percent, with 95 percent confidence.
- June 2010: Fielded May 14 through June 1 with 1,024 American adults. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percent, with 95 percent confidence.
- January 2010: Fielded December 24, 2009 through January 3, 2010 with 1,001 American adults. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percent, with 95 percent confidence.
- November 2008: Fielded October 7 through November 12 with 2,164 American adults. Data was collected in two waves: wave 1 from October 7 through October 20 and wave 2 from October 24 through November 12. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 2 percent, with 95 percent confidence.