

YouGov / Daily Telegraph Survey Results

Sample Size: 1619

Fieldwork: 30th October - 1st November 2006

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Most scientists, but not all, believe that global warming is taking place at the moment and that global warming is almost certain to accelerate over the next few decades. Do you personally believe that global warming is taking place at the moment or not?

Yes, I believe it is	85
No, I don't believe it is	8
Don't know	7

Do you personally believe that, unless action is taken, global warming is almost certain to accelerate over the next few decades?

Yes, I think it will accelerate	79
No, I don't think it will	11
No, I don't believe global warming is occurring at all	3
Don't know	7

When you think about those who draw attention to the issue of global warming, what impression do you have of them?

That they are just scarce-mongers and alarmists	15
That they are level-headed people who have good reasons for wanting people to be concerned about global warming	76
Don't know	10

Those who believe that global warming is actually taking place offer a number of explanations. Here are some of them. Please tick all the factors that you believe are contributing to global warming:

The worldwide increase in the use of cars and other motor vehicles	78
The burning of fossil fuels in factories and power stations	76
The burning of tropical rain forests	74
The increased use of air transport, for both passengers and cargo	70
Wasting of energy in home and offices	65
The thinning of the earth's ozone layer	62
The melting of icecaps and glaciers in Arctic regions	51
None of these	7

%

In what ways do you think global warming, if it exists, will affect you personally during the course of your own life?

It will make my own life a lot better	1
It will make it a little better	5
It will make no real difference	32
I will make my life a little worse	34
It will make it a lot worse	13
Don't know	15

What about your children and grandchildren and coming generations in general? How will they be affected?

Their lives will be a lot better	2
Their lives will be a little better	2
They lives will be largely unaffected	10
Their lives will be a little worse	23
Their lives will be a lot worse	48
Don't know	15

Which of these statements comes closest to your own view?

Global warming is a big and urgent issue: immediate and radical steps need to be taken to slow it down	38
Global warming is a big issue, but more work needs to be done to understand it before radical changes are made to the way we live	49
There is not yet enough clear evidence of global warming and therefore there is no need currently to consider any major steps to change the way we live	9
Don't know	3

And which of these statements comes closest to your own view?

If introduced with enough urgency, new technologies can do enough to curb global warming without standards of living suffering	27
New technologies can help, but they won't be enough: standards of living will have to rise more slowly	45
In order to curb global warming, current standards of living in the world's richest countries will have to fall below current levels	19
Don't know	9

If there is such a thing as global warming, do you think Britain can make a significant contribution on its own to dealing with it, or is action by almost all the countries in the world essential?

Britain can make a significant contribution on its own	5
Action by almost all the countries in the world is essential	92
Don't know	3

How good do you think the chances are of the countries in the world that use the most energy coming together in the next few years to agree on common measures to tackle global warming?

The chances are very good	2
The chances are fairly good	17
The chances are not very good	51
The chances are not at all good	25
Don't know	5

If the main energy-using countries did agree on common measures, do you think countries like Russia, China and India would make sure those measures are implemented in their own country?

Yes, they probably would	17
No, they probably wouldn't	66
Don't know	17

If there were agreement on common measures, do you think the United States would make sure those measures are implemented in the US?

Yes, the US probably would	24
No, it probably wouldn't	64
Don't know	12

Do you think enough is being done by the British Government to take action on global warming? Are you . . . ?

Very satisfied with how much it is doing	4
Fairly satisfied	37
Fairly dissatisfied	30
Very dissatisfied	12
Don't know	16

Which of the following steps would you personally be prepared to take in order to combat global warming – even if you were not encouraged or forced to do so by subsidies or higher taxes?

Take fewer holidays abroad

Would definitely be prepared to take	27
Might be willing to take	22
Would not be prepared to take	24
Not relevant to my personal circumstances	23
Don't know	4

%

Improve your home insulation

Would definitely be prepared to take	61
Might be willing to take	22
Would not be prepared to take	2
Not relevant to my personal circumstances	13
Don't know	3

Club together with neighbours to install a wind turbine for generating electricity

Would definitely be prepared to take	25
Might be willing to take	37
Would not be prepared to take	20
Not relevant to my personal circumstances	9
Don't know	9

Use less hot water

Would definitely be prepared to take	33
Might be willing to take	39
Would not be prepared to take	20
Not relevant to my personal circumstances	4
Don't know	3

Install solar panels on your house

Would definitely be prepared to take	35
Might be willing to take	41
Would not be prepared to take	10
Not relevant to my personal circumstances	9
Don't know	5

Which of the following steps would you personally be prepared to take in order to combat global warming – even if you were not encouraged or forced to do so by subsidies or higher taxes?

Avoid, as far as possible, using packaged goods in order to reduce waste

Would definitely be prepared to take	51
Might be willing to take	35
Would not be prepared to take	8
Not relevant to my personal circumstances	1
Don't know	5

Drive your car less

Would definitely be prepared to take	25
Might be willing to take	32
Would not be prepared to take	23
Not relevant to my personal circumstances	16
Don't know	4

Fly less frequently

Would definitely be prepared to take	27
Might be willing to take	24
Would not be prepared to take	20
Not relevant to my personal circumstances	24
Don't know	5

Use fewer electrical appliances around the home

Would definitely be prepared to take	26
Might be willing to take	45
Would not be prepared to take	22
Not relevant to my personal circumstances	3
Don't know	4

Buy more locally-produced food

Would definitely be prepared to take	52
Might be willing to take	35
Would not be prepared to take	6
Not relevant to my personal circumstances	2
Don't know	4

Leaders of all political parties are increasingly considering introducing so-called 'green taxes' – that is, taxes designed not so much to raise revenue as to make people and companies consume less energy and use fewer fossil fuels. Please indicate whether you would support or oppose each of the following proposals.

Taxing more heavily companies whose factories and other facilities emit large amounts of greenhouse gases

Would support	83
Would oppose	8
Don't know	8

Increasing the duty on petrol and diesel fuel

Would support	23
Would oppose	65
Don't know	12

Taxing more heavily restaurants, shops and other firms that produce a great deal of waste

Would support	66
Would oppose	23
Don't know	11

Increasing the council tax on homeowners whose households produce a great deal of waste

Would support	42
Would oppose	47
Don't know	12

Leaders of all political parties are increasingly considering introducing so-called 'green taxes' – that is, taxes designed not so much to raise revenue as to make people and companies consume less energy and use fewer fossil fuels. Please indicate whether you would support or oppose each of the following proposals.

Increasing the tax on large executive-style, estate and 4x4 vehicles

Would support	72
Would oppose	21
Don't know	8

Introducing a new tax on all flights

Would support	46
Would oppose	40
Don't know	14

Making it more expensive for supermarkets to import produce that has to be flown to this country from countries overseas

Would support	60
Would oppose	26
Don't know	14

Leaders of all parties are also considering introducing so-called 'green incentives' – that is, cash grants or other incentives to encourage people to conserve energy and use fewer fossil fuels. Please indicate whether you would support or oppose each of the following proposals.

Reducing the council tax payable by people whose homes are well insulated and energy-efficient

Would support	85
Would oppose	7
Don't know	8

Subsidising the purchase by individuals and community groups of wind turbines to generate electricity

Would support	76
Would oppose	11
Don't know	13

Subsidising the purchase by homeowners and landlords of energy-saving equipment such as solar panels

Would support	86
Would oppose	5
Don't know	9

Subsidising the building of new nuclear power stations

Would support	40
Would oppose	30
Don't know	30

As you may know, views differ about the present government's motives in talking about green taxes. Which of these views comes closer to your own?

'The Government genuinely wants to introduce green taxes in order to combat global warming and for no other purposes'	16
'The Government is using global warming at least partly as an excuse for raising the overall level of taxes'	69
Don't know	16

Equally, views differ about the Conservative leadership's motives in talking about green taxes. Which of these views comes closer to your own?

'The Conservatives genuinely want to introduce green taxes in order to combat global warming and for no other purposes'	19
'The Conservatives are using global warming at least partly as an excuse for raising the overall level of taxes'	51
Don't know	30

There is a good deal of discussion at the moment whether steps taken to deal with global warming could be 'pain free' or not. Which of these statements comes closest to your own view?

There is no way in which global warming can be tackled without most people paying a significant price – that is, suffering some kind of pain	36
Global warming can be tackled effectively without most people needing to pay a significant price – that is, without their having to suffer some kind of pain	47
As there is no such thing as global warming, the question of people needing to pay any kind of price shouldn't arise	6
Don't know	11

Which political party do you think would best handle the problem of global warming?

All the parties equally	14
Conservatives	14
Labour	10
Liberal Democrats	6
Some other party	9
None of them	25
Don't know	22

Taking everything into account, which of these statements comes closer to your view?

Britain should take a lead in fighting global warming, even if this means that people like me have to change our ways	49
There is no point in Britain taking radical action to fight global warming until other countries also agree to take tough measures	45
Don't know	5

Finally, there is a suggestion that, in order to combat global warming, every individual should be given a 'personal carbon allowance', which they could either spend on carbon fuels and such like or else sell in whole or in part to other people. From what

I think it is a good idea	25
I think it is a bad idea	23
I do not feel I know enough about it	52