

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
OCTOBER 2009 POLITICAL SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
September 30-October 4, 2009
N=1500

QUESTIONS 1 THROUGH 38 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

NO QUESTIONS 39 AND 40

ASK ALL:

On a different subject...

Q.41 From what you've read and heard, is there solid evidence that the average temperature on earth has been getting warmer over the past few decades, or not?

IF "YES" (1 IN Q.41) ASK [N=834]:

Q.42 Do you believe that the earth is getting warmer [READ AND RANDOMIZE]?

BASED ON TOTAL:

Sep 30-Oct 4 <u>2009</u>		April <u>2008</u>	Jan <u>2007</u>	Aug <u>2006</u>	July <u>2006</u>	June <u>2006</u>
57	Yes	71	77	77	79	70
	Mostly because of human activity					
36	such as burning fossil fuels, OR	47	47	47	50	41
	Mostly because of natural patterns in the					
16	earth's environment	18	20	20	23	21
6	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	6	10	10	6	8
33	No	21	16	17	17	20
2	Mixed/some evidence (VOL.)	3	1	1	1	1
8	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	5	6	5	3	9

ASK ALL:

Q.43 In your view, is global warming a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not a problem?

Sep 30-Oct 4 <u>2009</u>		Apr 28-May 12 <u>2009</u>	April <u>2008</u>	Jan <u>2007</u>	July <u>2006</u>	June <u>2006</u>
35	Very serious	47	44	45	43	41
30	Somewhat serious	26	29	32	36	33
15	Not too serious	11	13	12	11	13
17	Not a problem	13	11	8	9	11
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	2	3	3	1	2

ASK ALL:

Q.44 Do you think [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

Sep 30-Oct 4 <u>2009</u>		<i>Trend for comparison</i>	
		April ¹ <u>2001</u>	Nov <u>1997</u>
56	The United States should join other countries in setting standards to address global climate change [OR]	58	55
32	The United States should set its own standards to address global climate change	38	41
3	Neither (VOL.)	--	--
2	No need to address/No climate change (VOL.)	--	--
6	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	4

QUESTIONS 45 THROUGH 52 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

NO QUESTIONS 53 AND 54

On another topic...

ASK ALL:

Q.55 How much, if anything, have you heard about a policy being considered by the president and Congress called "cap and trade" that would set limits on carbon dioxide emissions? Have you heard...[READ]

14	A lot
30	A little [OR]
55	Nothing at all
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

IF HEARD A LOT OR A LITTLE (1,2 IN Q.55) [N=777]: From what you've read and heard

IF HEARD NOTHING/DK (3,9 IN Q.55) [N=723]: Just in general,

ASK ALL:

Q.56 Do you favor or oppose setting limits on carbon dioxide emissions and making companies pay for their emissions, even if it may mean higher energy prices?

50	Favor
39	Oppose
11	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

NO QUESTIONS 57 AND 58

QUESTIONS 59 THROUGH 64 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

1 In April 2006 and November 1997, question was worded "Do you think the United States should join other countries in setting standards to improve the global environment, or should the United States set its own environmental standards independently?"