

Why the media need climate polling to do their jobs

(And people in politics might, too)

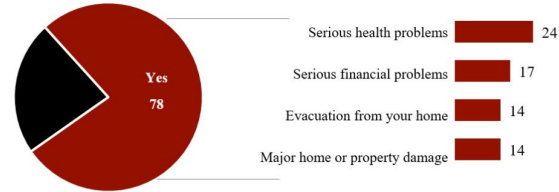
- The Impact of Extreme Weather on Views About Climate Policy in the United States, from March 31 – May 8, 2022.
- Nationally representative sample of 2,646 U.S. adults ages 18 or older.
- Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish, according to respondents' preferences.

The vast majority of respondents had experienced extreme weather events

Figure 2. Serious Damage, Health, Financial Problems for U.S. Households Facing Extreme Weather Events in the Past Five Years (in Percent)

U.S. adults reporting they have personally been affected extreme weather events in the last five years

Among the 78% of adults who reported facing extreme weather events in the last 5 years, those reporting they or household members faced _____ as a result



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. *The Impact of Extreme Weather on Views About Climate Policy in the United States, 3/31/22 – 5/8/22*. N=2,646 U.S. adults ages 18+. Q2a-i and Q4a-i.

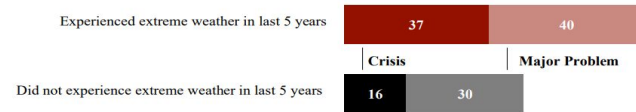
- Notice how it compares to the U.S. adult population more broadly
- The takeaway: as more people experience extreme weather, they are more likely to see it and climate change as a problem.
- And that has implications for policy makers

If you've been affected by extreme weather, you are more likely to consider climate change a crisis or a major problem

Figure 1. Public Views on Climate Change as a Crisis/Major Problem, by Recent Experiences with Extreme Weather (in Percent)

Q11. In the United States, do you think that climate change is a crisis, a major problem but not a crisis, a minor problem, or not a problem at all?

% reporting they see climate change as a crisis/major problem



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, *The Impact of Extreme Weather on Views About Climate Policy in the United States*, 3/31/22 – 5/8/22. N=2,646 U.S. adults ages 18+.

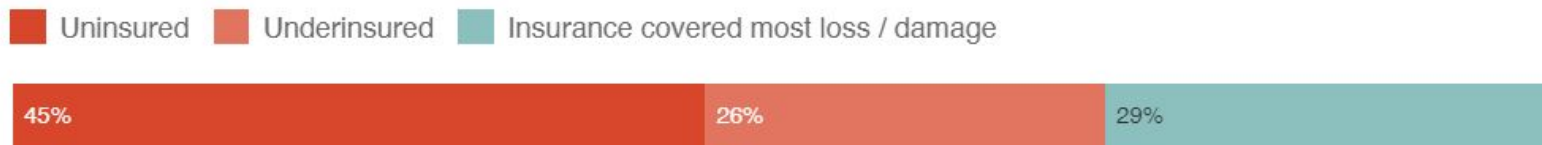


About 17% of respondents said they'd experienced serious financial hardship because of extreme weather

Of those, more than 70% said they were uninsured or underinsured to cover those losses.

Insurance does not cover most extreme weather losses

71% of those who reported major losses or financial problems after extreme weather were either uninsured or underinsured.



Notes

This graph represents the 18% of U.S. adults who reported major home or property damage or serious financial problems as a result of extreme weather events in the last five years.

Source: NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health poll of 2,646 U.S. adults conducted March 31-May 5. The margin of error for the overall sample is 2.8 percentage points.

Credit: LA Johnson/NPR

Nearly one in four respondents said they or someone in their home faced health issues because of extreme weather

One unexpected health issue was the lack of air conditioning, in places in the Pacific Northwest and parts of California

The screenshot shows the top portion of an NPR website article. At the top left is the NPR logo (npr) and the station identifier 'WAMU 88.5 AMERICAN UNIVERSITY RADIO'. To the right are links for 'SIGN IN', 'NPR SHOP', and a red 'DONATE' button. Below this is a navigation bar with links for 'NEWS', 'CULTURE', 'MUSIC', 'PODCASTS & SHOWS', and 'SEARCH'. The main content area features a 'NATIONAL' category label, a Facebook share icon, and the article title 'Americans connect extreme heat and climate change to their health, a survey finds'. Below the title is the date 'June 22, 2022 · 5:00 AM ET' and the text 'Heard on Morning Edition'. At the bottom of the article preview is the author's name 'MOLLY PETERSON' in a light blue box.

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NATIONAL

Americans connect extreme heat and climate change to their health, a survey finds

June 22, 2022 · 5:00 AM ET
Heard on Morning Edition

MOLLY PETERSON

Americans who suffer through extreme weather are more likely to support action on climate

Figure 2. Public Support for Specific Policies Related to Protecting Against Weather Disasters (in Percent)

% support, by experiences of extreme weather in the past five years

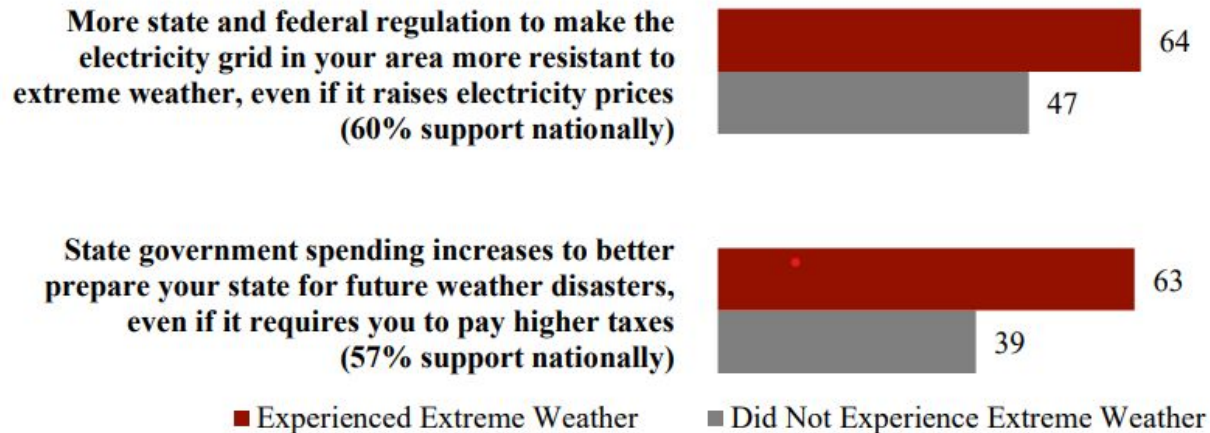
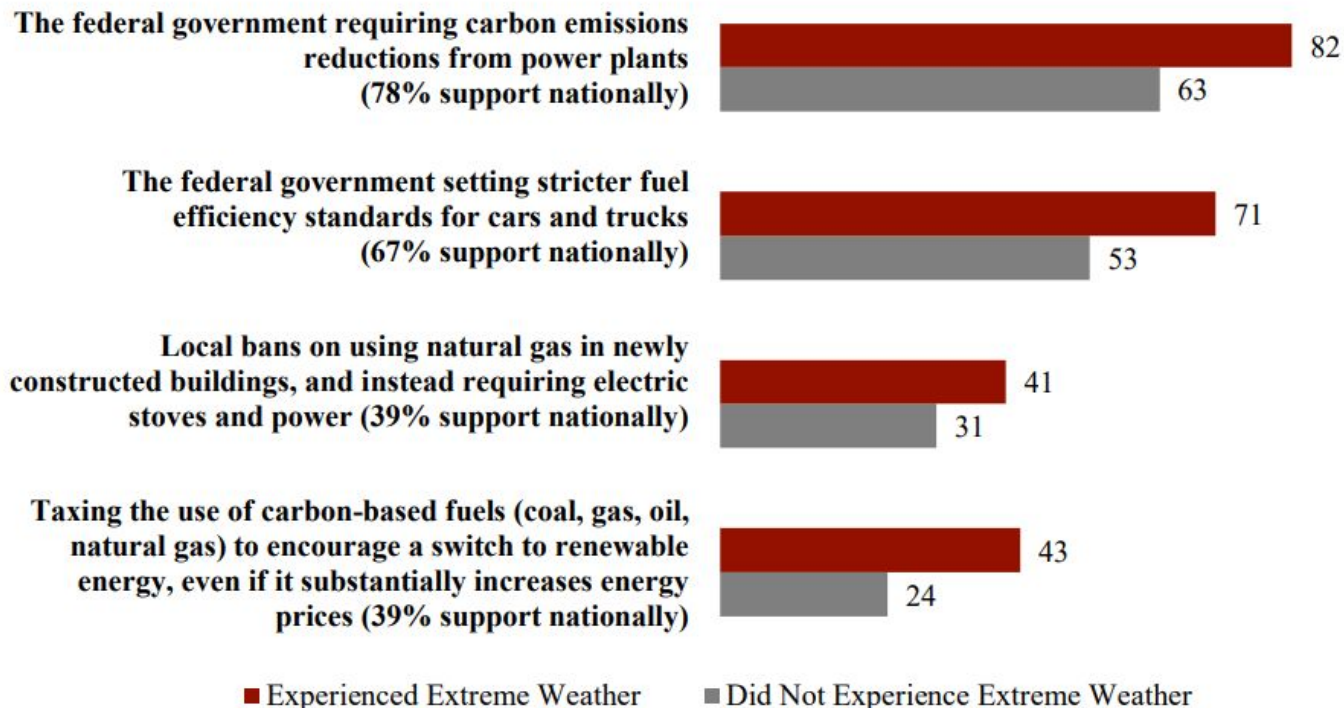


Figure 3. Public Support for Policies Related to Climate Change (in Percent)

% support, by experiences of extreme weather in the past five years



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, *The Impact of Extreme Weather on Views About Climate Policy in the United States*, 3/31/22 – 5/8/22. N=2,646 U.S. adults ages 18+.

What the impact of climate change on people's lives means for you

30% of registered voters say they are likely to vote for a candidate in the next election who favors major government action to limit climate change

When it comes to the upcoming 2022 Congressional election, 30% of registered voters say they are very likely to vote for a candidate because they favor major government action to limit climate change. Meanwhile, 33% of registered voters say they are somewhat likely, 15% say they are somewhat unlikely, and 22% say they are very unlikely to vote for such a candidate.

