

PRRI/RNS December 2012 Survey
December 5 – 9, 2012
N = 1,018

Q.1 From what you've read and heard, do you believe there is solid evidence that the average temperature on earth has been getting warmer over the past few decades, or not?

75	Yes
21	No
1	Mixed/some evidence (VOL.)
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

IF "YES or MIXED" or DK (Q1=1,3,9) ASK [N=785]:

Q.2 Which statement comes closest to your view about the causes of climate change...**[READ AND ROTATE]**?

60	Climate change is caused mostly by human activity such as burning fossil fuels
34	Climate change is caused mostly by natural patterns in the earth's environment
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.3 As I read a pair of statements please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views, even if neither is exactly right. **[READ; ROTATE OPTIONS]**

38	God gave human beings the right to use animals, plants, and all the resources of the planet for human benefit OR
55	God gave human beings the task of living responsibly with the animals, plants, and the resources of the planet, which are not just for human benefit
4	Neither/Both (VOL.)
1	Do not believe in God (VOL.)
<u>2</u>	Don't Know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.4 Now as I read a few statements please tell me whether you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly disagree or completely disagree with each one. The first statement is **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**. Next... **[INSERT NEXT]**.

a. God is in control of everything that happens in the world

37	Completely Agree
21	Mostly agree
17	Mostly disagree
21	Completely disagree
1	Do not believe in God (VOL.)
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

b. God sometimes punishes nations for the political decisions that their citizens make

15	Completely Agree
14	Mostly agree
19	Mostly disagree
46	Completely disagree
1	Do not believe in God (VOL.)
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

c. Earthquakes, hurricanes, floods and other natural disasters are a sign from God

20	Completely Agree
19	Mostly agree
21	Mostly disagree
36	Completely disagree
1	Do not believe in God (VOL.)
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

d. The U.S. government needs to do more to address the issue of climate change

34	Completely Agree
33	Mostly agree
15	Mostly disagree
16	Completely disagree
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=514]:

ef1. The severity of recent natural disasters is evidence that we are in what the Bible calls the end times

19	Completely Agree
17	Mostly agree
18	Mostly disagree
41	Completely disagree
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ff1. The political choices being made by Americans these days are moving the U.S. away from God

34	Completely Agree
23	Mostly agree
18	Mostly disagree
18	Completely disagree
2	Do not believe in God (VOL.)
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=504]:

ef2. The severity of recent natural disasters is evidence of global climate change

26	Completely Agree
37	Mostly agree
18	Mostly disagree
15	Completely disagree
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ff2. The political choices being made by Americans these days are moving the U.S. in the right direction

8	Completely Agree
29	Mostly agree
32	Mostly disagree
26	Completely disagree
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK ALL:

ROTATE Q5a and Q5b

Q.5a Do you think that the end of the world, as predicted in the Book of Revelation, will happen in your lifetime, or don't you think so?

15	Yes
72	No
1	Other [VOL. SPECIFY]
<u>12</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

And...

Q.5b Do you think that the end of the world, as predicted by the ancient Mayans, will happen in 2012, by the end of this year, or don't you think so?

2	Yes
93	No
*	Other [VOL. SPECIFY]
<u>5</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.6 From what you know, over the last few years do you think that the weather has been getting more extreme, getting less extreme or has it not really changed?

63	More extreme
6	Less extreme
29	Not changed
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Survey Methodology

The survey was designed and conducted by Public Religion Research Institute in partnership with Religion News Service. Results of the survey were based on bilingual (Spanish and English) RDD telephone interviews conducted between December 5, 2012 and December 9, 2012 by professional interviewers under the direction of Social Science Research Solutions (SSRS). Interviews were conducted among a random sample of 1,018 adults 18 years of age or older in the continental United States (311 respondents were interviewed on a cell phone).

The final sample was weighted to five different parameters—age, sex, geographic region, education and telephone usage¹—to ensure reliable and accurate representation of the total adult population.

The margin of error for the survey is +/- 3.5 percentage points at the 95% level of confidence. In addition to sampling error, surveys may also be subject to error or bias due to question wording, context and order effects.

¹ Telephone usage refers to whether respondents have only a landline telephone, only a cell phone or both types and the frequency with which they use each type.