

# Speaking Out on Global Warming: Public Attitudes toward the Papal Encyclical on Climate Change

Conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research

*Interviews: 7/17-19/2015*

*1,030 adults*

*Margin of error: +/- 4.4 percentage points at the 95% confidence level among all adults*

*NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled.*

**Q2. Do you think that global warming is happening, or do you think global warming is not happening?**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Yes, global warming is happening	69	76
No, global warming is not happening	16	15
Not sure	15	9
SKIP/REFUSED	1	-
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,030</i>	<i>229</i>

**Q3. How worried, if at all, are you about global warming?**

[HALF SAMPLE ASKED OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
<b>Extremely/very worried NET</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>29</b>
Extremely worried	9	8
Very worried	17	21
<b>Moderately worried</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Not too/not at all worried NET</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>28</b>
Not too worried	20	20
Not worried at all	15	8
Not sure	3	3
SKIP/REFUSED	-	-
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,030</i>	<i>229</i>

**Q4. [if “global warming is happening” in Q2] Do you think global warming is...**

**[HALF SAMPLE ASKED OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Caused entirely by human activities	11	5
Caused mostly by human activities	41	43
Caused about equally by human activities and natural changes in the environment	38	46
Caused mostly by natural changes in the environment	6	2
Caused entirely by natural changes in the environment	2	2
Not sure	2	2
SKIP/REFUSED	*	-
<i>N=</i>	<i>737</i>	<i>167</i>

**Q5. In your opinion, do you think global warming is...**

**[ITEMS RANDOMIZED]**

**a. An environmental issue**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Yes	82	87
No	9	7
Not sure	5	5
SKIP/REFUSED	4	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,030</i>	<i>229</i>

**b. A moral issue**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Yes	39	43
No	43	42
Not sure	12	10
SKIP/REFUSED	7	5
<i>N=</i>	<i>1,030</i>	<i>229</i>

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**c. A religious issue**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Yes	9	8
No	74	77
Not sure	8	9
SKIP/REFUSED	8	7
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

**d. A social justice (fairness) issue**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Yes	25	25
No	51	53
Not sure	16	17
SKIP/REFUSED	8	6
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

**e. A political issue**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Yes	56	50
No	31	36
Not sure	8	8
SKIP/REFUSED	5	6
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

**f. A scientific issue**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Yes	76	80
No	12	9
Not sure	6	6
SKIP/REFUSED	6	6
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

**g. A poverty issue**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Yes	17	16
No	64	69
Not sure	12	8
SKIP/REFUSED	7	7
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

**Q6. [HALF SAMPLE] Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Pope Francis? If you don't know enough about this person to have an opinion, you can say that too.**

**[HALF SAMPLE] Do you have an unfavorable or favorable opinion of Pope Francis? If you don't know enough about this person to have an opinion, you can say that too.**

**[HALF SAMPLE ASKED OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER]**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
<b>Very/somewhat favorable NET</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>62</b>
Very favorable	21	44
Somewhat favorable	18	18
<b>Very/somewhat unfavorable NET</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>
Very unfavorable	4	4
Somewhat unfavorable	7	2
Don't know enough to say	49	33
SKIP/REFUSED	*	-
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

**Q7. Pope Francis recently released an encyclical (a letter sent to all Catholic Bishops worldwide) which said that addressing global warming is a high priority for the Catholic Church. Before you read about it in this question, were you aware of this papal encyclical about global warming?**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Yes	31	40
No	60	53
Not sure	8	7
SKIP/REFUSED	*	-
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

**Q8. Do you think it's appropriate or not appropriate for the pope to take a public position on the issue of global warming?**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
It is appropriate	55	64
It is not appropriate	21	18
Not sure	23	18
SKIP/REFUSED	*	*
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

**Q11. [if "yes" in Q7]**

**[ASK HALF] If you attended religious services in the past month, did the service leader talk about the pope's encyclical on global warming or was it not mentioned?**

**[ASK HALF] If you attended religious services in the past month, did the service leader not mention the pope's encyclical on global warming, or was it talked about?**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Yes, the service leader talked about it	11	23
No, it was not mentioned	39	40
I did not attend religious services in the past month	51	38
SKIP/REFUSED	*	-
<i>N=</i>	322	86

**On another topic...**

**DPARENT. Do you have any children?**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Yes	72	70
No	27	30
DON'T KNOW/SKIP/REFUSED	*	*
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

**DP18. Are any of your children under 18?**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Yes, under 18	45	46
No, 18 and over	55	54
DON'T KNOW/SKIP/REFUSED	-	-
<i>N=</i>	661	150

**S1. Are you currently registered to vote at your address, or not?**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Yes	78	75
No	21	23
DON'T KNOW/SKIP/REFUSED	1	2
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

**TP4. Do you consider yourself a supporter of the tea party movement, or are you not a supporter of the tea party movement?**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Supporter	22	18
Not a supporter	76	81
DON'T KNOW/SKIP/REFUSED	3	1
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

**TP4/TP4a. IF SUPPORTER: Do you support the tea party movement strongly or somewhat?**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
<b>Supporter NET</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>18</b>
Support strongly	5	2
Support somewhat	16	16
<b>Not a supporter</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>81</b>
DON'T KNOW/SKIP/REFUSED	3	1
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

**PID1. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an independent, or none of these?**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Democrat	30	30
Republican	22	18
Independent	29	33
None of these	18	20
DON'T KNOW/SKIP/REFUSED	*	-
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

**PIDI. IF "INDEPENDENT" OR "NONE," DK, OR REFUSED, ASK: Do you lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
<b>Democrat NET</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>46</b>
Democrat	30	30
Ind/None/DK/Ref. - Lean Democrat	15	16
<b>Ind/None/DK/Ref. - DO NOT LEAN</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Republican NET</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>
Ind/None/DK/Ref. - Lean Republican	12	13
Republican	22	18
<b>None/Other/DK/Refused</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

*Asked of those who said "yes" in S1. Not asked of those living in North Dakota.*

**LV5. In which party's 2016 presidential primary or caucuses are you most likely to vote, or are you not likely to vote in a 2016 presidential primary or caucus at all?**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Democratic	41	47
Republican	34	28
Neither	15	17
Not likely to vote	8	5
DON'T KNOW/SKIP/REFUSED	3	2
<i>N=</i>	794	175



**G11B. Generally speaking do you consider yourself a...?**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Liberal	21	20
Conservative	29	26
Moderate	46	53
DON'T KNOW/SKIP/REFUSED	3	2
N=	1,030	229

**DM12. Do you consider yourself a born-again or evangelical Christian, or not?**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Yes, born-again/evangelical	34	12
No, not born-again/evangelical	64	88
DON'T KNOW/SKIP/REFUSED	2	*
N=	1,030	229

**DM13. What is your religious preference?**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Protestant	40	-
Catholic	25	100
Mormon	1	-
Jewish	2	-
Muslim	1	-
Other religion	3	-
Don't belong to any religious denomination	28	-
DON'T KNOW/SKIP/REFUSED	1	-
N=	1,030	229

Ask if "other religion" or DON'T KNOW/SKIP/REFUSED in DM13.

**DM14. Do you consider yourself a Christian, or not?**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Yes, a Christian	32	-
No, not a Christian	60	-
DON'T KNOW/SKIP/REFUSED	8	-
N=	51	

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**AGE**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
18-24	12	13
25-34	18	12
35-44	15	18
45-54	19	21
55-64	17	19
65-74	13	13
75+	6	4
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

**GENDER**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Male	48	48
Female	52	52
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

**RACE/ETHNICITY**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
White	65	64
Black or African American	12	2
Hispanic	16	28
Other	8	6
<i>N=</i>	1,030	229

**MARITAL STATUS**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Married	52	56
Widowed	5	6
Divorced	12	9
Separated	3	3
Never married	24	22
Living with partner	5	3
<i>N</i> =	1,030	229

**INCOME**

	AP-NORC 7/17-19/2015	Catholics 7/17-19/2015
Under \$10,000	7	4
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	12	10
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	14	17
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	11	10
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	8	7
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	16	16
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	13	7
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	11	18
\$150,000 or more	8	12
<i>N</i> =	1,030	229

## **AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research Poll - Provider Quality Survey**

### **Study Methodology**

This survey was conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research and with funding from NORC at the University of Chicago. Data were collected using AmeriSpeak®, which is a probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population. The survey was part of an omnibus that included questions about several other topics not included in this report, such as climate change. During the initial recruitment phase of the panel, randomly selected U.S. households are sampled with a known, non-zero probability of selection from the NORC National Sample Frame and are then contacted by U.S. mail, email, telephone, and field interviewers (face-to-face).

Interviews for this survey were conducted between July 17 and July 19, 2015, with adults age 18 and over from the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Panel members were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak®, and 1,030 completed the survey—894 via the web and 136 via telephone. The final stage completion rate is 28.6 percent, the weighted household panel response rate is 29 percent, and the weighted household panel retention rate is 99 percent, for a cumulative response rate of 8.2 percent. The overall margin of sampling error is +/- 4.4 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including the design effect. The margin of sampling error may be higher for subgroups.

Once the sample has been selected and fielded, and all the study data has been collected and made final, a poststratification process is used to adjust for any survey nonresponse as well as any non-coverage or under- and oversampling resulting from the study-specific sample design. Poststratification variables included age, gender, census division, race/ethnicity, and household phone status. The weighted data, which reflect the U.S. population of adults age 18 and over, were used for all analyses.

All analyses were conducted using STATA (version 14), which allows for adjustment of standard errors for complex sample designs. All differences reported between subgroups of the U.S. population are at the 95 percent level of statistical significance, meaning that there is only a 5 percent (or lower) probability that the observed differences could be attributed to chance variation in sampling.

A comprehensive listing of all study questions, complete with tabulations of top-level results for each question, is available on The AP-NORC Center website: [www.apnorc.org](http://www.apnorc.org).

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- The Associated Press (AP) is the world's essential news organization, bringing fast, unbiased news to all media platforms and formats.
- NORC at the University of Chicago is one of the oldest and most respected, independent research institutions in the world.

The two organizations have established the AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research to conduct, analyze, and distribute social science research in the public interest on newsworthy topics, and to use the power of journalism to tell the stories that research reveals.

The founding principles of the AP-NORC Center include a mandate to carefully preserve and protect the scientific integrity and objectivity of NORC and the journalistic independence of AP. All work conducted by

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