

Greenpeace Climate Emergency



Key findings

23 April 2019

Project details

PROJECT NUMBER	OP12211
PROJECT NAME	Climate Emergency
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SAMPLE	2,000 UK adults (18+)
FIELDWORK DATES	19th - 23rd of April 2019

Climate Emergency

Three in five believe that we are facing a climate emergency

Three in five (63%) agree that we are facing a climate emergency, with a quarter (25%) strongly agreeing. Two thirds (66%) say they would be willing to make personal sacrifices for the climate as long as they knew others were doing the same.

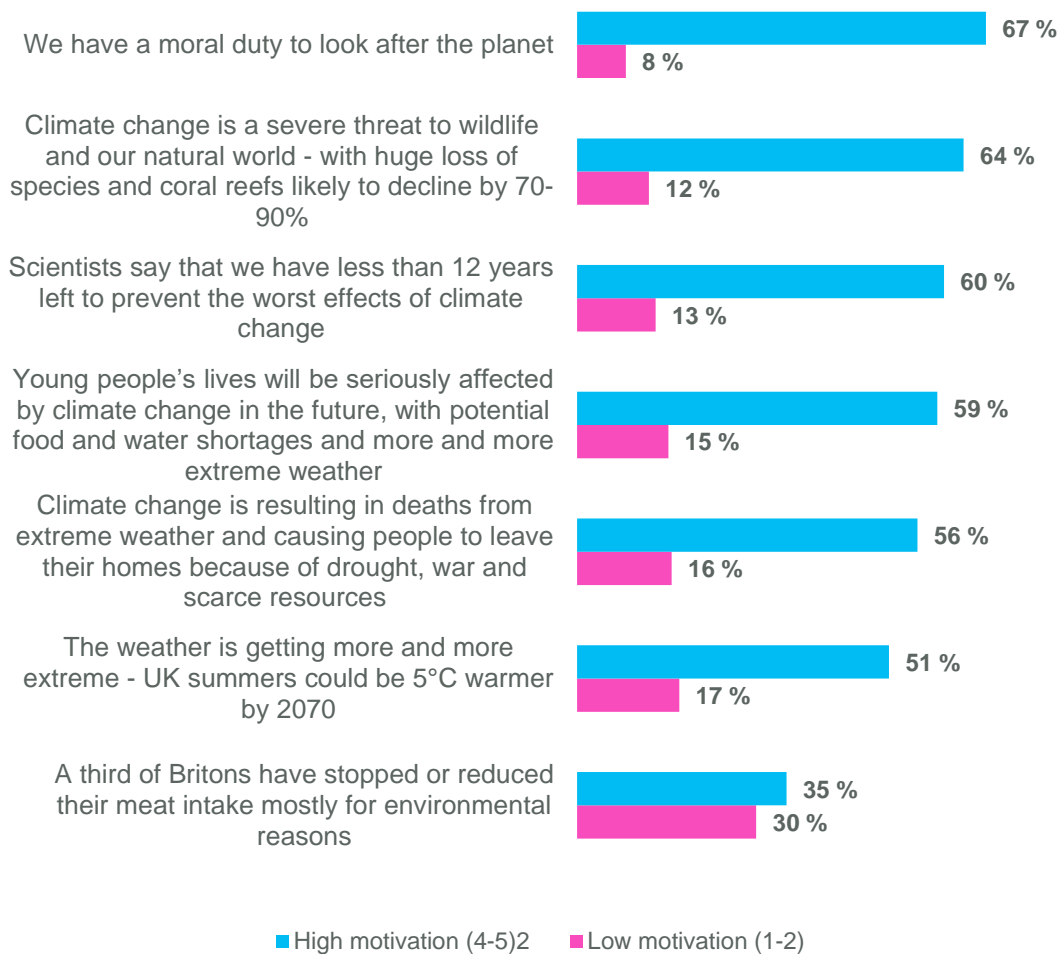
In comparison, a quarter (25%) say climate change is happening but there is nothing they can do about it personally, whilst 21% believe climate change won't have an effect on people in the UK for several decades to come.

Interestingly, 36% of those aged 18-34 agree that climate change is happening but can't do anything, compared to only 21% of those aged 55+. Yet younger people are also more likely to say we are facing a climate emergency (69% of those aged 18-34 vs. 59% of those aged 55+).

‘We have a moral duty to look after the planet’ is the most motivating statement

Two-thirds of UK adults find the statement ‘we have a moral duty to look after the planet’ the most motivating statement to take action on climate change. This is the most popular statement amongst all age groups and genders. The breakdown is as follows:

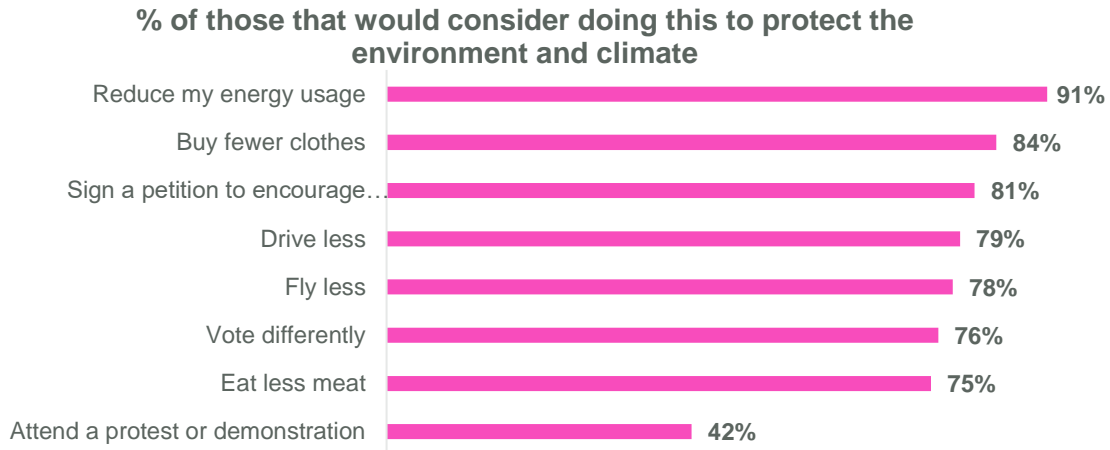
Which of the following statements, if any, would motivate you to take action on climate change?



Nine in ten would consider reducing their energy usage to protect the environment and climate

Overall, UK adults would consider most options to protect the environment and climate. Nine in ten (91%) would consider reducing their energy usage, whilst 83% would consider buying fewer clothes.

Only two in five however would consider attending a protest or demonstration to protect the environment and climate. This is particularly low amongst those aged 55+, as those aged 18-24 are more than twice as likely to attend a protest than those aged 55+ (63% vs. 27%).



Fossil fuel companies are most responsible for making climate change worse but government is most responsible for taking action

When asked who is responsible for making climate change worse, fossil fuel companies come top (56%), followed by the government (43%) and individuals 'like me' (38%).

In comparison, almost two thirds (64%) believe the government is responsible for taking action on climate change, followed by fossil fuel companies and individuals (both 51%).

WHO	RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING CLIMATE CHANGE WORSE	RESPONSIBLE FOR TAKING ACTION
Fossil fuel companies	56%	51%
Government	43%	64%
Individuals like me	38%	51%
Natural processes	27%	-
International bodies like the EU, UN	27%	49%
Non-governmental organisations (NGOs)	22%	33%
Local government	22%	39%
Banks	13%	24%

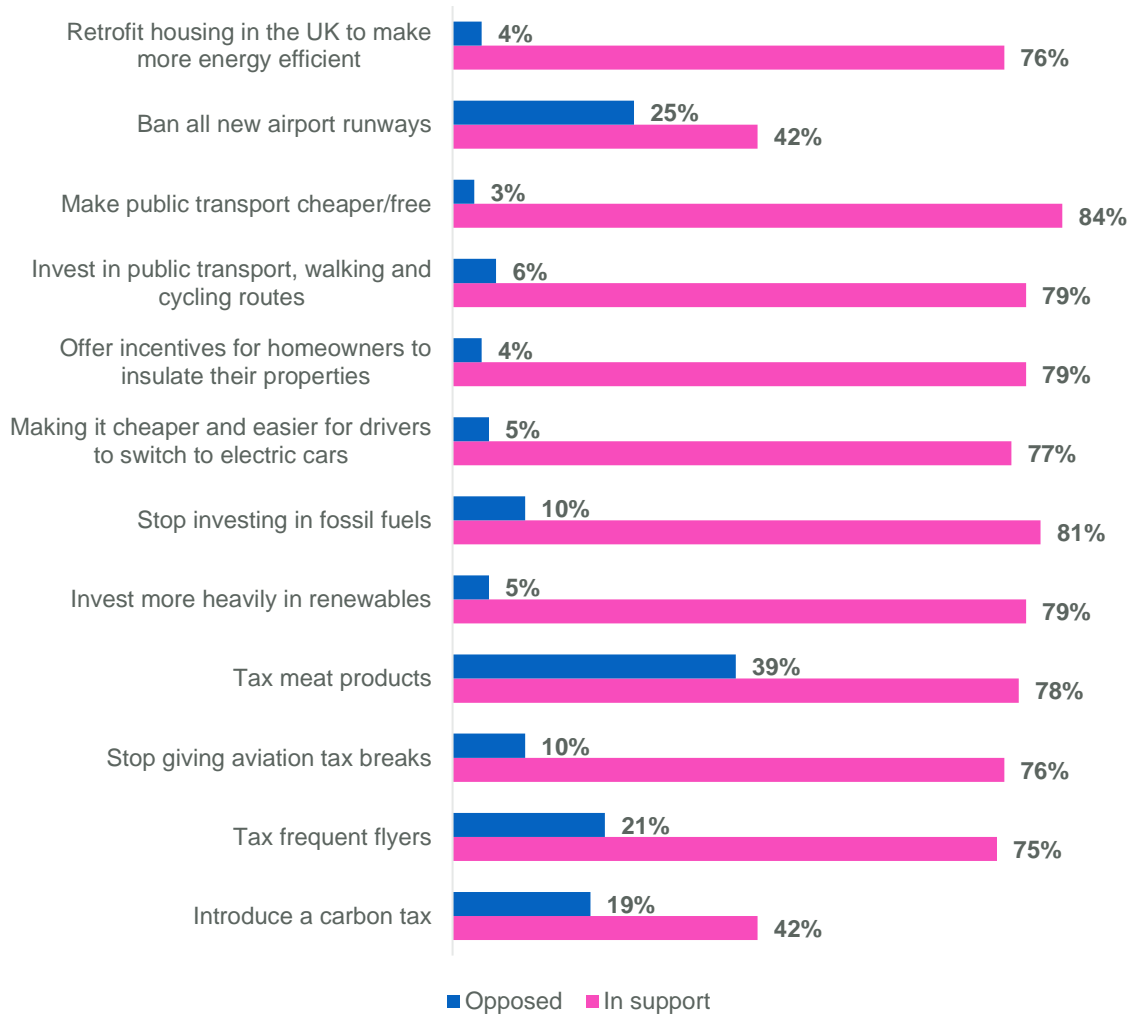
Three quarters would support the government investing more heavily in renewables

Thinking about what UK adults would support the government doing in order to protect the environment, investment in energy and transport comes top.

Three quarters (77%) would support the government in investing more heavily in renewables, and 61% would support stopping investing in fossil fuels.

Transport is also popular, with 84% in support of making public transport cheaper/free, and 79% in support of the government investing in public transport, walking and cycling routes.

To what extent would you support or oppose the government doing each of the following to protect the environment and slow/stop climate change?



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