

PERCEPTIONS

EVERYONE ELSE BUT ME

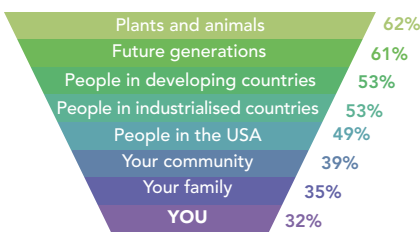
Climate change discussions often focus on images of polar bears and melting glaciers which can create a personal detachment with the issue. This can cause people to believe that climate change doesn't affect them directly.

A survey of American attitudes towards climate change conducted by George Mason University's Center for Climate Change Communication has revealed that, while many people are concerned about the possible effects of climate change, they are less concerned with how it will affect them personally.

62% of the survey's respondents believe that climate change will affect plants and animals while only 32% believe it will affect them directly.

Nate Silver from the political analysis site *FiveThirtyEight* has charted these results to reveal how people tend to think about the effects of climate change.

GLOBAL WARMING WILL AFFECT:



**WANT TO KNOW MORE?**  
Visit the source. [www.fivethirtyeight.com/2009/04/envrionmental-inverted-pyramid.html](http://www.fivethirtyeight.com/2009/04/envrionmental-inverted-pyramid.html)

CLIMATE CHANGE

The doctor's diagnosis

The final report from a comprehensive year long Commission held jointly between the Lancet Medical Journal and University College London (UCL) Institute for Global Health has concluded that 'climate change is the biggest global health threat of the 21st century.'

The study, which examines the health implications of the IPCC's greenhouse emissions scenarios, states that climate change will have a direct effect on:

- ± nutrition and food security
- ± food safety
- ± water and disease
- ± air quality
- ± aeroallergens and disease
- ± vector-borne, rodent-borne and other infectious diseases
- ± occupational health
- ± ultraviolet radiation

The study also concludes that climate change will have substantial indirect effects on global health.

It states: *'Economic collapse will devastate global health and development. Mass environmental displacement and migration will disrupt the lives of hundreds of millions of people, exacerbating the growing issues associated with urbanisation and reverse successes in development. Conflict might result from resource scarcity and competition, or from migration and clashes between host and migrant groups.'*

The study calls for a new public health movement that frames the climate change debate as a public health issue. It states that the 'ability of health systems to respond effectively to direct and indirect health effects of climate change is a key challenge worldwide'.

**WANT TO KNOW MORE?**  
Read Center for Climate Change Communication survey. Information on the joint UCL Lancet Commission here.

CHANGING VIEWS ON CLIMATE CHANGE

As the debate about the passage of the Government's Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) continues, UMR RESEARCH, in partnership with KINESIS has sought to understand Australian's views on the climate change issue. Our first Climate Intelligence survey found that only 8% of Australians believe that climate change will never happen and 78% believe that climate change is a serious issue. The survey found that support for action is strongest amongst young people with 77% of Australians under the age of 30 agreeing with the statement that 'we need to act because the consequences could be disastrous'.

The survey found broad support for the CPRS with 52% of Australians stating that they support the scheme. 57% of Australians also agreed with the statement that 'we should implement climate change policies unconditionally, encouraging other countries to change their policies'.

The results of this first Climate Intelligence survey reveal that, despite the continued delay and debate surrounding the CPRS, there remains a strong segment of the Australian community that is concerned with the possible effects of climate change and that supports action to reduce Australia's greenhouse emissions.

**WANT TO KNOW MORE?**  
To learn more about *Climate Intelligence* contact us at [admin@kinesis.org](mailto:admin@kinesis.org)



The equivalent of almost 50% of Australia's carbon emissions will originate at Port of Newcastle.

## Action or delay?

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS STILL NEGOTIATING the passage of its CPRS legislation through the Senate and has announced a number of amendments to its scheme. The scheme will now begin in 2011 with the initial permit cost capped at \$10 per tonne and additional compensation available for emissions intensive trade exposed industries. The Government has also announced that it will consider a 25% reduction target by 2020 if an 'ambitious' agreement is reached at the international climate change negotiations in Copenhagen in December.

A Carbon Trust to encourage voluntary action from businesses and individuals to reduce their greenhouse emissions is to be established. The Carbon Trust will include funding to support businesses to improve energy efficiency and allow individuals to voluntarily purchase and retire CPRS emissions permits. A similar scheme called 'Sandbag' has already been established in Europe to encourage the voluntary retirement of permits from the EU Emissions Trading Scheme.

The Federal Government has also included in its latest budget a \$4.5 billion *Clean Energy Initiative*. This scheme will fund the construction of four solar power plants totalling 1 GW of power and two industrial scale carbon capture and storage demonstration plants.

### WANT TO KNOW MORE?

To read about the changes to the CPRS, read the white paper. Click for information on climate change measures in the 2009 Budget.

For information on Sandbag see their website [sandbag.org.uk](http://sandbag.org.uk).

## INFRASTRUCTURE

### EXPORTING AUSTRALIA'S

### NEW CO<sub>2</sub>AL




Construction is currently underway on a third coal export terminal in the Port of Newcastle. The terminal will be completed in 2010 with an initial capacity to export 30 million tonnes of coal per annum. The ultimate capacity for the terminal will be 66 million tonnes. In addition, development approval has been granted to increase the capacity of the existing Kooragang Coal Terminal up to a limit of 120 million tonnes per year. These upgrades and expansions will allow Newcastle to export an additional 109 million tonnes of coal per annum.

At any one time there may be over 70 ships queuing offshore waiting to be loaded with coal. The waiting time can be up to 25 days per ship, however the terminal upgrades are expected to reduce this waiting time significantly. The third terminal alone is also expected to create up to 5000 extra jobs for the region.

Kinesis has calculated that the combustion of this additional exported coal would result in greenhouse emissions of approximately 250 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per annum or almost 50% of Australia's total emissions.

Kinesis estimates that to offset these exported emissions would require:

- ± Almost 10 times the current worldwide installed capacity of solar power, OR
- ± Australia to build one hundred and fifty 1 GW solar plants as direct replacements of coal-fired power plants, OR
- ± Over 150 million (1 KW) rooftop solar arrays.

 WANT TO KNOW MORE?  
For more information on the expansion of Newcastle's coal terminal, go to [www.ncig.com.au](http://www.ncig.com.au).



kinesis.org

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