

## What causes shifts in beliefs about climate change?

For my initial capstone, I propose to look at two datasets:

1. National Community and Environment in Rural America Survey, July-August 2011
  - 2,006 participants from across the US
  - 60 columns, mostly categorical describing demographic and survey question responses
2. Princeton Survey Research Associates International (PSRAI), July 2014
  - 1,002 participants from across the US
  - 73 columns, similar categories to the 2011 survey

First, I would like to identify regions or demographics where public sentiment on climate change has shifted from believing it is not occurring, or is natural, to believing that it is occurring and is a result of human activity.

Based off these results, I'd like to further explore the cause of this shift. For this part I will try to find or scrape another dataset that I suspect may be related to my initial findings. For example, if I notice that an abnormally high number of the changes in attitude occurred in young males from Alabama, I will look for awareness initiatives, college enrollment numbers, etc. in Alabama.

My MVP will be a markdown with a graph and hypothesis for each conversion trend, with a graph displaying correlated events for each.