

# Climate survey - Country Comparisons

OECD

U.S. (2,010 respondents), Denmark (2,011 respondents), France (2,001 respondents).  
Results are reweighted along the gender, age, income, highest diploma, region and rural/urban dimensions.

June 2021

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# Education and Origin

Figure 1: What is the highest level of education you have completed?

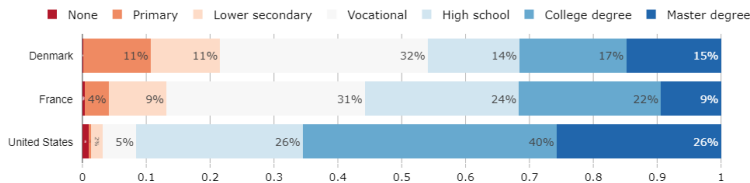


Figure 2: Respondent's origin is the dominant one in their country (US: white only; Other: national)

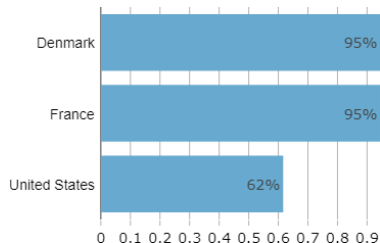


Figure 3: On economic policy matters, where do you see yourself on the liberal/conservative spectrum?

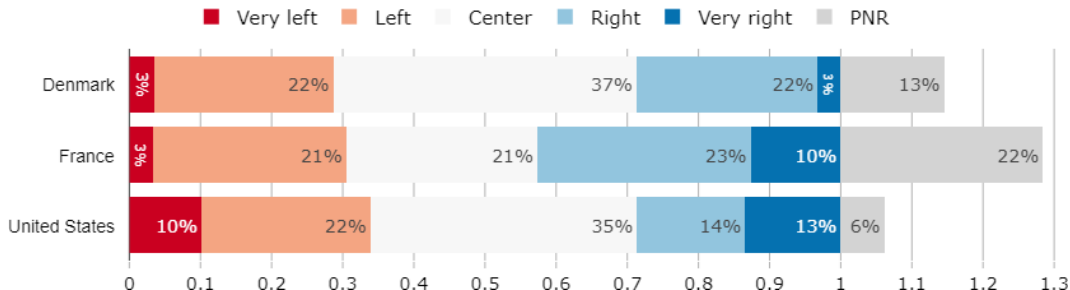


Figure 4: Lives in an urban area, retrieved from zipcode

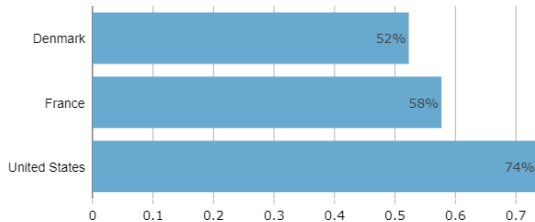
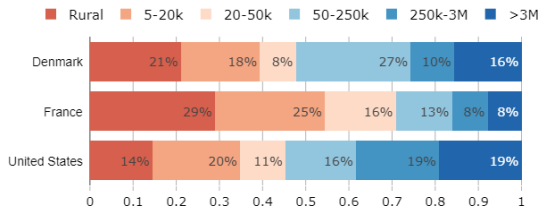
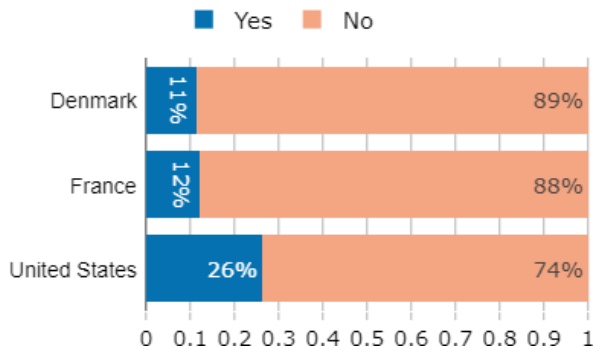


Figure 5: Size of town



**Figure 6:** Have you or a member of your household been laid off or had to take a cut in your salary or wages due to the COVID-19 pandemic?

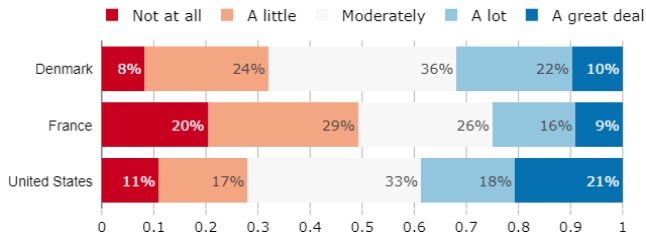


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Figure 7: To what extent are you interested in politics?



## Environmental organizations

Figure 8: Are you member of an environmental organization?

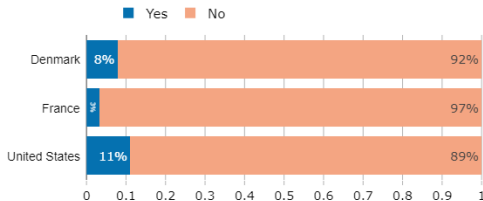
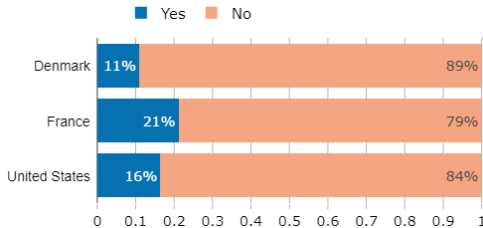


Figure 9: Do you have any relatives who are environmentalists?



## Major election vote

Figure 10: Did you vote in the last major election?

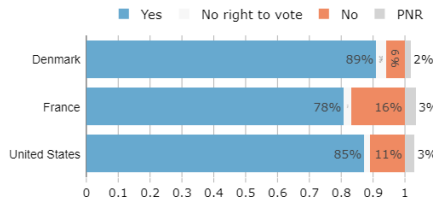
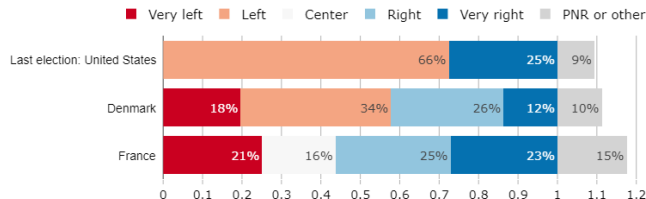
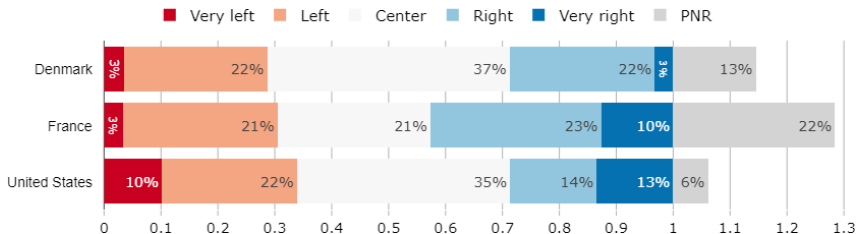


Figure 11: Which candidate did you vote / would you have voted for in the last major election?



## Political affiliation

**Figure 12:** On economic policy matters, where do you see yourself on the left(liberal)/right(conservative) spectrum?



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Figure 13: What is the main way you heat your home

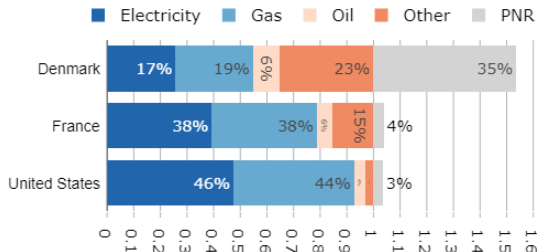


Figure 14: In a typical month, how much do you spend on heating for your accommodation?

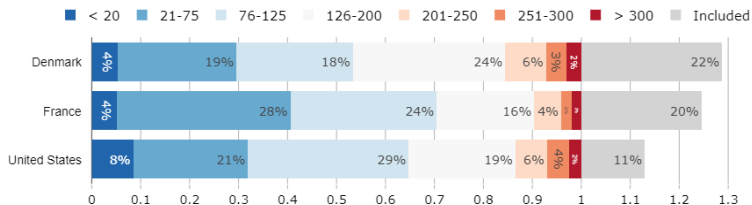


Figure 16: In a typical month, how much do you spend on gas for driving?

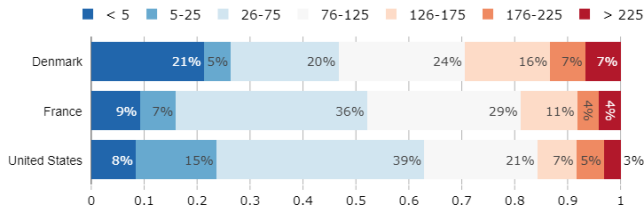
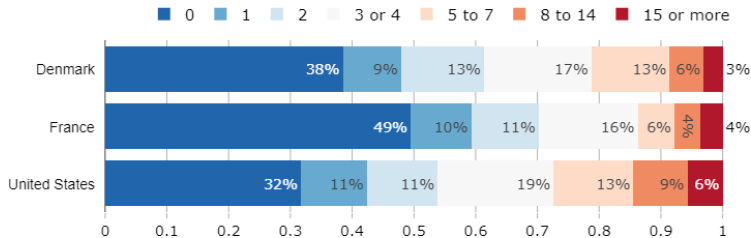
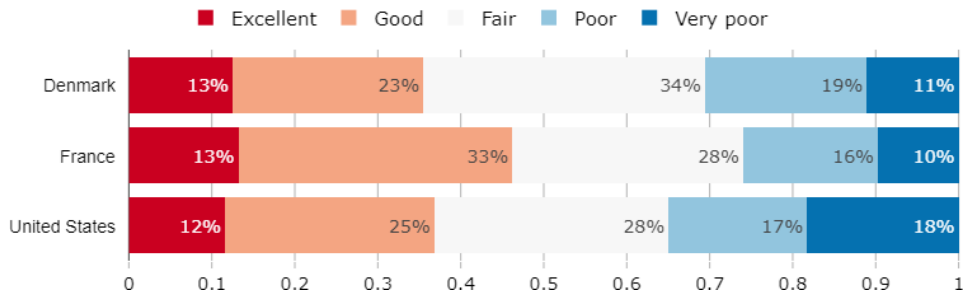


Figure 17: How many round-trip flights did you take between 2017 and 2019?



**Figure 19:** How do you rate the availability (ease of access and frequency) of public transportation where you live?





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**Figure 20:** Themes mentioned – When thinking about climate change, what are your main considerations? What should the French government do regarding climate change? Please write as much as you would like, your response will be very useful.

	Denmark	United States
Action needed	61	48
Measure proposed	15	6
No action needed	6	13
Do not know	15	11
Empty	11	14

**Figure 21:** Themes mentioned (raw) – When thinking about climate change, what are your main considerations? What should the French government do regarding climate change? Please write as much as you would like, your response will be very useful.

	Denmark	United States
damages	2	5
adaptation	0	2
change lifestyle	2	0
companies	3	5
trash/recycling/plastic	10	6
cars/transport	19	5
power/energy	15	9
housing/insulation	3	1
agriculture/forest	11	3
tax/incentives	7	2
bans/sanctions	3	1
standard	1	3
subsidies/investment	3	1

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## Climate change knowledge: general

Figure 22: How often do you think or talk with people about climate change?

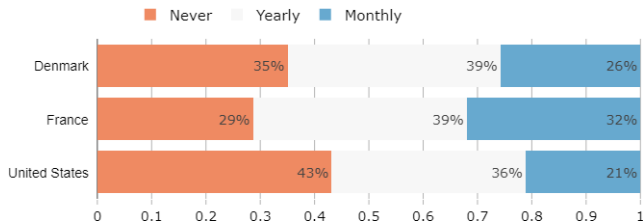
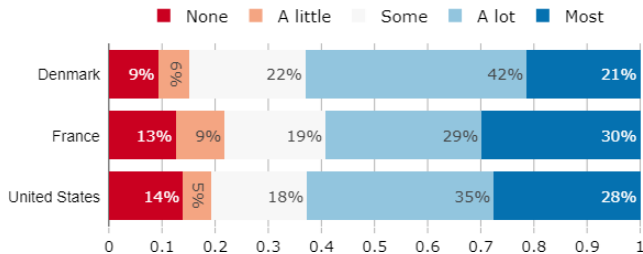


Figure 23: What part of climate change do you think is due to human activity?



## Climate change knowledge: general

Figure 24: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Climate change is an important problem."

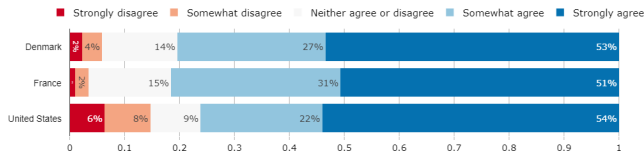
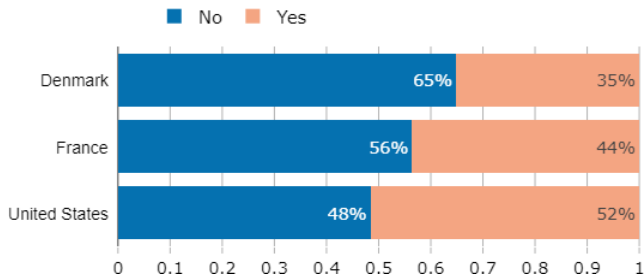


Figure 25: Do you think that cutting global greenhouse gas emissions by half would be sufficient to eventually stop temperatures from rising? (Right answer: No)



# Climate change knowledge: GHG footprints

Figure 26: How knowledgeable do you consider yourself about climate change?

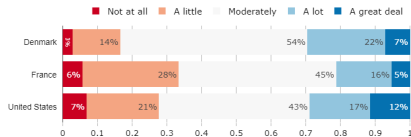


Figure 27: Kendall tau distance to correct ranking of GHG footprints for three sectors and for regions (~ number of mistakes)

	Denmark	France	United States
Electricity: coal > gas > nuclear	0.6	1.1	1
Food: beef > chicken > pasta	0.4	0.6	0.5
Transport: plane > car > coach/train	0.8	0.7	1.1
Countries per capita: US > EU > China > India	1.5	2.1	2.3
Countries in absolute: China > US > EU > India	1.5	1.5	1.8

## Impacts of climate change

Figure 28: If nothing is done to limit climate change, how likely do you think it is that climate change will lead to the following events? (positive responses)

	Denmark	France	United States
Severe droughts and heatwaves	89	85	77
More frequent volcanic eruptions	36	59	57
Rising sea levels	93	83	78
Lower agricultural production	71	76	75
Drop in standards of living	67	71	72
Larger migration flows	83	83	74
More armed conflicts	76	70	63
Extinction of humankind	40	58	56



## Summary of Knowledge

Figure 29: % of respondents who agree with the following statements:

	Denmark	France	United States
CC exists, is anthropogenic	0.6	0.5	0.6
Considers one's self knowledgeable	0.2	-0.1	0.1
Cutting emissions by half enough to stop global warming (False)	0.4	0.4	0.5
Score to knowledge of greenhouse gases in [0;+4]	3.2	2.6	2.8
Knowledge score of impacts in [0;4] (droughts, sea-level, volcanos)	2.7	2.2	2.1
Correctly compares p.c. emissions of e.g. own region vs. China	0.5	0.7	0.4

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## Affected by Climate Change

Figure 30: % of respondents with the following characteristics:

	Denmark	France	United States
Current/past job in a polluting sector	10	12	11
Nb activities by car/motorbike	67	88	90
Availability of transport	36	46	37
Size of agglomeration	79	71	86
Urban	52	58	74
Index Affected by CC	49	49	49

*Current/past job in a polluting sector:* work or used to work in a polluting sector; *Nb activities by car/motorbike:* use the car or the motorbike for at least one activity; *Availability of transport:* good or excellent availability of transport; *Size of agglomeration:* do not live in rural area; *Urban:* live in a large metropolitan area; *Index Affected by CC:* has a positive Index of being Affected by Climate Change

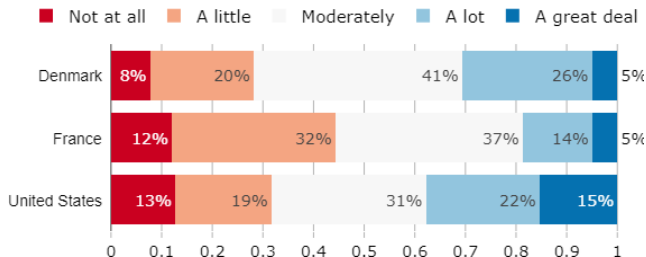
## Behavior Summary

Figure 31: % of respondents with the following behaviors:

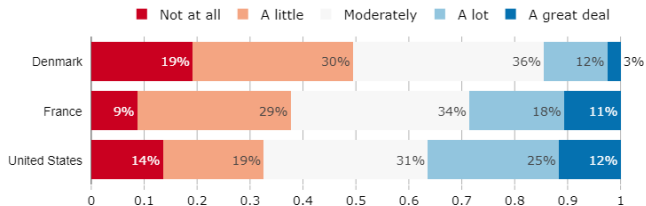
	Denmark	France	United States
At least one flight between 2017 and 2019	64	51	68
More than one flight per year on average	40	30	46
Eat beef at least once a week	66	47	59
Commutes by car/motorbike	38	44	57
Talks or thinks of CC several times a month	26	33	21
Is member of an environmental organisation	8	3	11

## Beliefs about the future

**Figure 32:** To what extent do you think that it is technically feasible to stop greenhouse gas emissions while maintaining satisfactory standards of living in France?

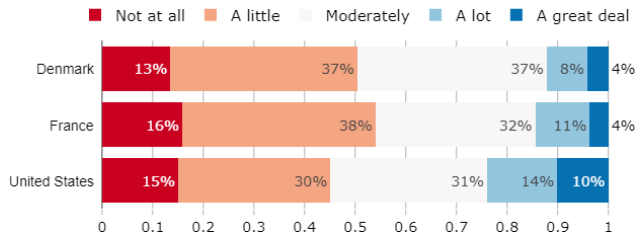


**Figure 33:** To what extent do you think climate change already affects or will negatively affect your personal life?

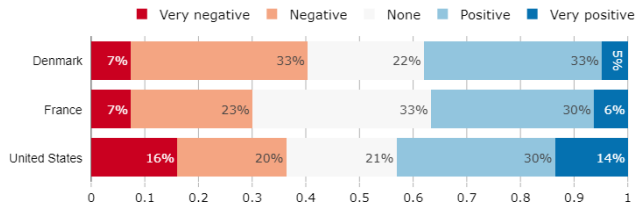


## Beliefs about ambitious climate policies

**Figure 34:** If we decide to halt climate change through ambitious policies, to what extent do you think it would negatively affect your lifestyle?



**Figure 35:** If we decide to halt climate change through ambitious policies, what would be the effects on the U.S economy and employment?



## Summary Views on Future

Figure 36: % of respondents who agree with the statement

	Denmark	France	United States
World will be richer in 100 years	31	13	22
Technically possible to stop emissions by 2100	30	18	37
Likely that humans halt CC by 2100	38	26	39
CC will affect me negatively	14	29	36
With ambitious climate policies, effects on economy	38	37	43
Ambitious climate policies negative for my lifestyle	12	14	24

## Views on who is responsible

Figure 37: % of respondents who think the followings groups are responsible for climate change

	Denmark	France	United States
Responsible: Each of us	68	51	52
Responsible: The high income earners	33	50	45
Responsible: The government	48	59	54
Responsible: Companies	71	70	66
Responsible: Previous generations	38	29	39



## Willingness to change behaviors

**Figure 38:** Here are possible habits that experts say would help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. To what extent would you be willing to adopt the following behaviors? (% agreement)

	Denmark	France	United States
Willing to Limit flying	52	56	39
Willing to Limit driving	33	30	32
Willing to Have a fuel-efficient or electric vehicle	61	44	52
Willing to Limit beef consumption	33	37	38
Willing to Limit heating or cooling your home	30	39	30

## Factors needed to change lifestyle

**Figure 39:** How important are the factors below in order for you to adopt a sustainable lifestyle (i.e. limit driving, flying, and consumption, cycle more, etc.)? (% agreement)

	Denmark	France	United States
Ambitious climate policies	47	41	36
Having enough financial support	48	45	55
People around you also changing their behavior	57	39	47
The most well off also changing their behavior	59	56	54

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## Policy description

To fight climate change, car producers can be required by law to produce cars that emit less CO<sub>2</sub> per mile of the cars they sell. The emission limit is lowered every year so that only electric or hydrogen vehicles can be sold after 2030. This policy is called a *ban on combustion-engine cars*.

## Effects of the policy

**Figure 40:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? A ban on combustion-engine cars would...  
(% agreement)

	Denmark	France	United States
Reduce car emissions	71	58	70
Reduce air pollution	78	64	77
Negative economic effect	30	37	41
Large economic effect	34	48	55
Costly way to fight CC	48	55	53

## Incidence

**Figure 41:** In your view, would the following groups win or lose if a ban on combustion-engine cars was implemented in France? (mean answers)

	Denmark	France	United States
High-income earners	0.5	0.4	0.4
The middle class	-0.5	-0.7	-0.2
Low-income earners	-1	-0.9	-0.6
Those living in rural areas	-0.9	-0.5	-0.5
Your household financially	-0.4	-0.2	-0.3

Figure 42: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "A ban on combustion-engine cars is fair"?

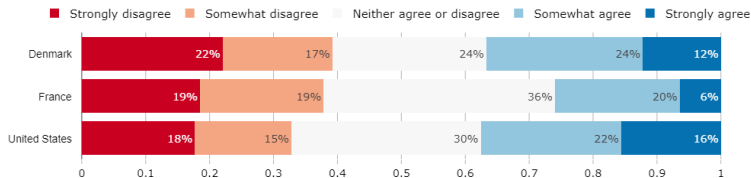
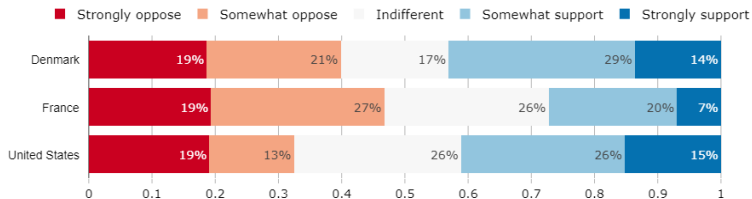
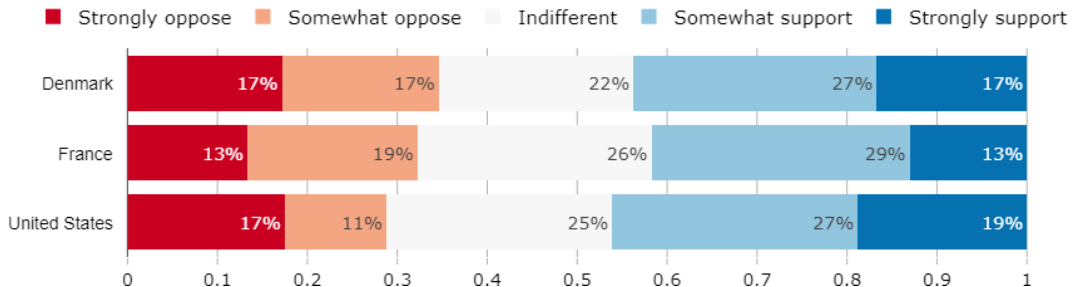


Figure 43: Do you support or oppose a ban on combustion-engine cars?



**Figure 44:** Do you support or oppose a ban on combustion-engine cars where alternatives such as public transports are made available to people?





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A green infrastructure program is a large public investment program, which would be financed by additional public debt, to accomplish the transition needed to cut greenhouse gases emissions. Investments would concern renewable power plants, public transportation, thermal renovation of building, and sustainable agriculture.

## Effects of the policy

**Figure 45:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? A green infrastructure program would...  
(% agreement)

	Denmark	France	United States
Make electricity greener	70	57	66
Popularize public transport	48	54	54
Reduce air pollution	73	67	72
Negative economic effect	29	26	40
Large economic effect	34	42	57
Costly way to fight CC	44	49	54

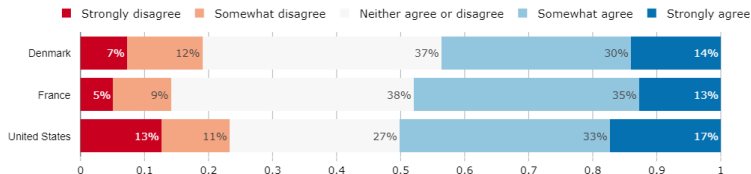
## Incidence

**Figure 46:** In your view, would the following groups win or lose with a green infrastructure program? (mean answers)

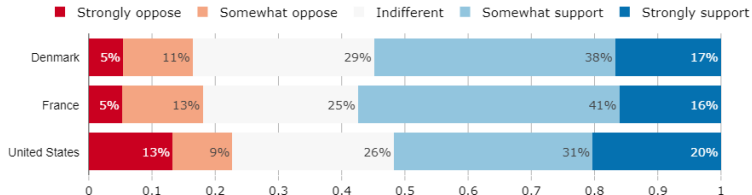
	Denmark	France	United States
Low-income earners	-0.6	-0.4	-0.3
The middle class	-0.3	-0.3	-0.1
High-income earners	0.3	0.3	0.3
Those living in rural areas	-0.6	-0.2	-0.2
Your household financially	-0.2	-0.1	0

## Fairness and support

**Figure 47:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: “A green infrastructure program mainly financed by public debt is fair.”



**Figure 48:** Do you support or oppose a green infrastructure program?



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To fight climate change, the French government can make greenhouse gas emissions costly, to make people and firms change their equipment and reduce their emissions. The government could do this through a policy called a carbon tax with cash transfers. Under such a policy, the government would tax all products that emit greenhouse gas. For example, the price of gasoline would increase by 10 centimes par litre. To compensate households for the price increases, the revenues from the carbon tax would be redistributed to all households, regardless of their income. Each adult would thus receive 160€ per year.

## Effects of the policy

**Figure 49:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? A carbon tax with cash transfers would... (% agreement)

	Denmark	France	United States
Discourage driving	52	43	53
Encourage insulation	63	64	60
Reduce use of fuels	62	54	59
Reduce air pollution	66	60	65
Negative economic effect	32	31	44
Large economic effect	32	40	55
Costly way to fight CC	42	50	55



## Incidence

**Figure 50:** In your view, would the following groups win or lose under a carbon tax with cash transfers? (mean answers)

	Denmark	France	United States
Low-income earners	-0.7	-0.6	-0.4
The middle class	-0.4	-0.5	-0.2
High-income earners	0.2	0.2	0.2
Those living in rural areas	-0.7	-0.4	-0.3
Your household financially	-0.3	-0.4	-0.2

Figure 51: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "A carbon tax with cash transfers is fair."

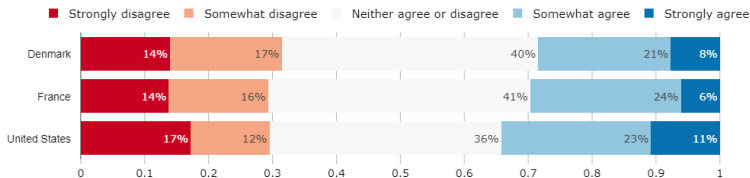
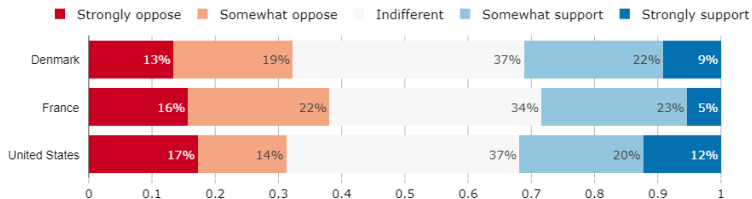


Figure 52: Do you support or oppose a carbon tax with cash transfers?



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## Support

**Figure 53:** Comparison of responses to each policy question: do you support or oppose the following policy? (% that support)

	Denmark	France	United States
Ban on combustion cars where public transport made available	44	42	46
A ban on combustion-engine cars	43	27	41
A green infrastructure program	55	57	52
A carbon tax with cash transfers	31	28	32

## Other policies

Figure 54: Do you support or oppose the following climate policies? (% agreement)

	Denmark	France	United States
Tax on flying (+20%)	60	45	33
Tax on fossil fuels (\$45/tCO <sub>2</sub> )	43	30	35
Ban polluting cars in city centers	66	59	50
Subsidies to low-carbon technos	66	58	58
Funding clean energy in LDC	53	48	48

## Revenue recycling of carbon tax

**Figure 55:** Governments can use the revenues from carbon taxes in different ways. Would you support or oppose introducing a carbon tax that would raise gasoline prices by 10 centimes par litre, if the government used this revenue to finance... (% agreement)

	Denmark	France	United States
Cash for constrained HH	38	56	45
Cash for the poorest	44	55	45
Equal cash for all	27	44	36
Reduction in income tax	38	62	47
Reduction in corporate tax	24	37	29
Tax rebate for affected firms	37	52	39
Funding green infrastructure	60	65	57
Subsidies to low-carbon technos	53	57	54
Reduction in the deficit	34	50	47

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**Figure 56:** Are you willing to pay [amount] annually through an additional individual contribution to limit global warming to safe levels (less than 2 °C)?

	Denmark	France	United States
WTP (~ PPP\$/year): 10	81	75	61
WTP (~ PPP\$/year): 30	71	58	66
WTP (~ PPP\$/year): 50	63	60	55
WTP (~ PPP\$/year): 100	73	33	63
WTP (~ PPP\$/year): 300	55	28	48
WTP (~ PPP\$/year): 500	49	35	44
WTP (~ PPP\$/year): 1000	34	25	42



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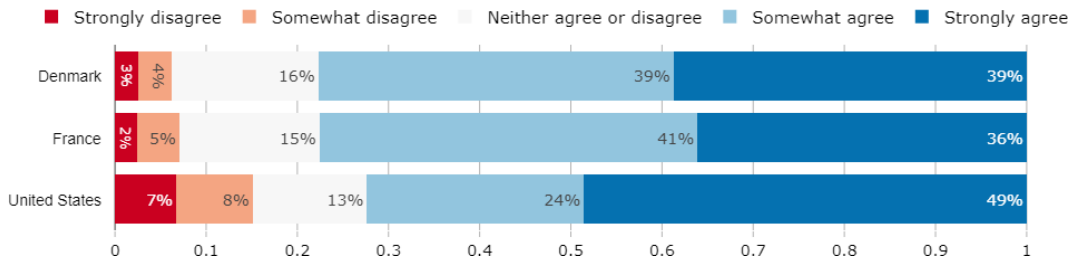
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## Governance of climate policies

Figure 57: At which level(s) do you think public policies to tackle climate change need to be put in place?  
(Multiple answers are possible)

	Denmark	France	United States
Level of climate policies needed: global	83	87	73
Level of climate policies needed: federal/continental	47	36	53
Level of climate policies needed: state/national	46	28	43
Level of climate policies needed: local	33	26	37

**Figure 58:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "France should take measures to fight climate change."



## Burden-sharing

**Figure 59:** To achieve a given reduction of greenhouse gas emissions globally, costly investments are needed. Ideally, how should countries bear the costs of fighting climate change?

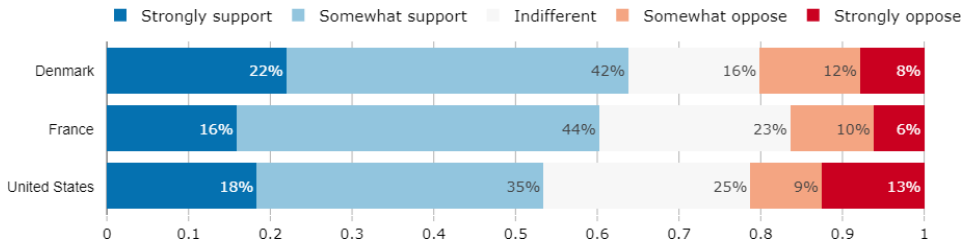
	Denmark	France	United States
All countries should pay in proportion to income	62	62	52
All countries should pay in proportion to current emissions	53	75	68
All countries should pay in proportion to post-1990 emissions	28	53	41
Richest countries should pay it all so poor ones don't pay	24	50	28
Richest countries should pay even more to help vulnerable ones	43	49	40

Figure 60: Do you support or oppose the following policies?

	Denmark	France	United States
Global democratic assembly on climate change	49	54	48
Global tax on GHG financing a global basic income	40	35	35
Global tax on millionaires to finance low-income countries	57	65	54

**Figure 61:** Imagine that the government makes it mandatory for all residential buildings to have insulation that meets a certain energy efficiency standard before 2040. The government would subsidize half of the insulation costs to help households with the transition.

Do you support or oppose such policy?



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Figure 62: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Most people can be trusted."

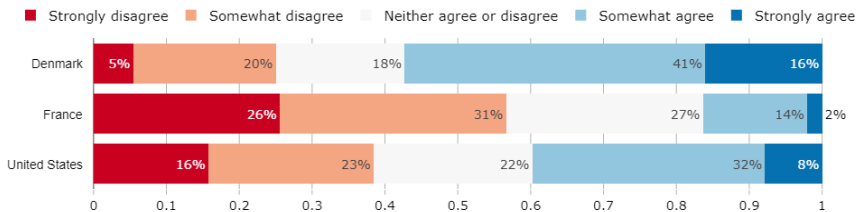
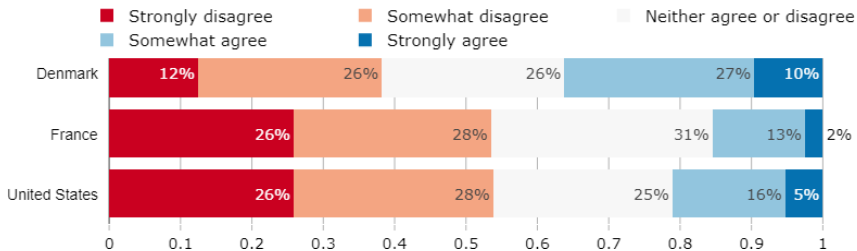


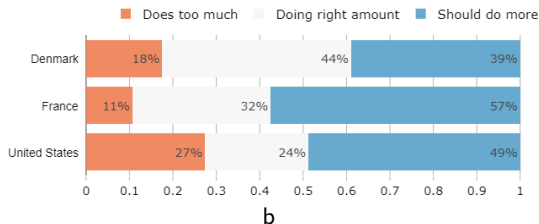
Figure 63: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Over the last decade the [National] government could generally be trusted to do what is right."



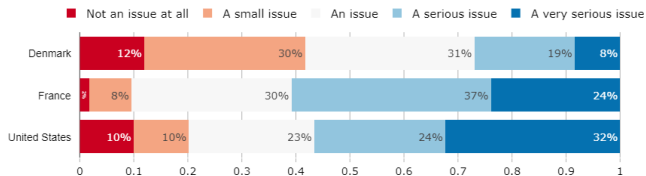


## Perception of institutions, inequality, and the future

**Figure 64:** Some people think the government is trying to do too many things that should be left to individuals and businesses. Others think that government should do more to solve our country's problems. Which come closer to your own view?



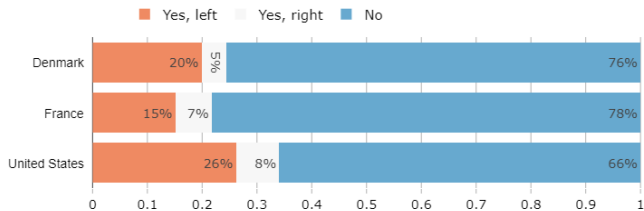
**Figure 65:** How big of an issue do you think income inequality is in [your country]?



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Figure 66: Do you feel that this survey was politically biased?



## Feedback on the survey

**Figure 67:** Main Themes – The survey is nearing completion. You can now enter any comments, thoughts or suggestions in the field below.

	Denmark	United States
Survey biased	24	34
Left-wing biased	20	26
Right-wing biased	5	8
Comment: non empty	22	47
Comment: liked	5	18
Comment: disliked	1	1