

Climate survey - Country Comparisons

OECD

U.S. (2,010 respondents), Denmark (2,011 respondents), France (1,691 respondents - partial).
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?

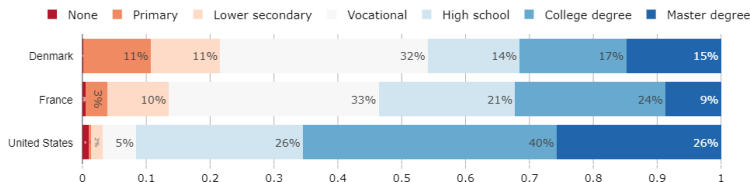


Figure 2: Respondent's origin is the dominant one in their country (US: white only; Other: national)

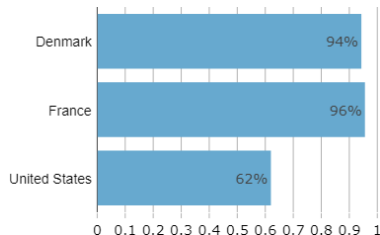


Figure 3: On economic policy matters, where do you see yourself on the liberal/conservative spectrum?

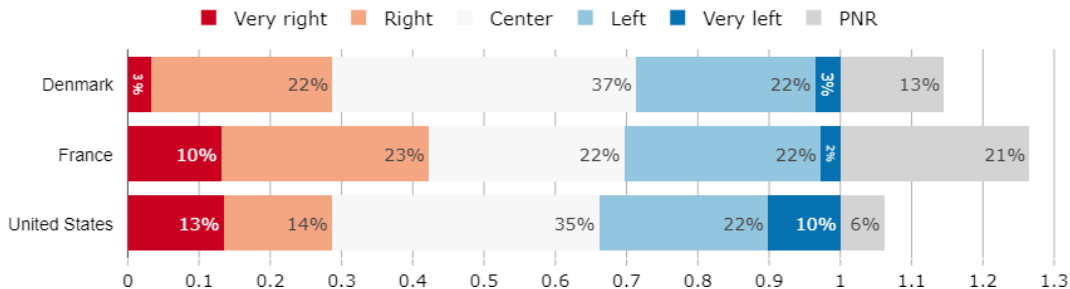


Figure 4: Lives in an urban area, retrieved from zipcode

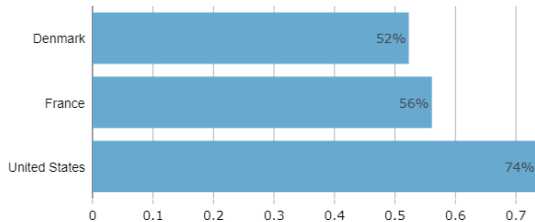


Figure 5: Size of town

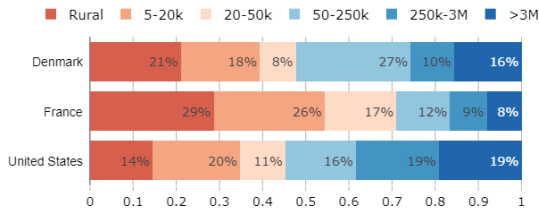


Figure 6: Have you or a member of your household been laid off or had to take a cut in your salary or wages due to the COVID-19 pandemic?

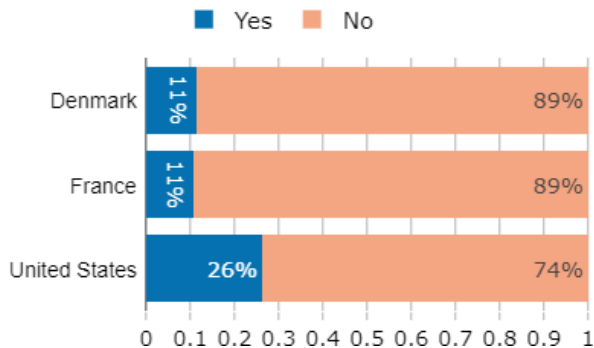
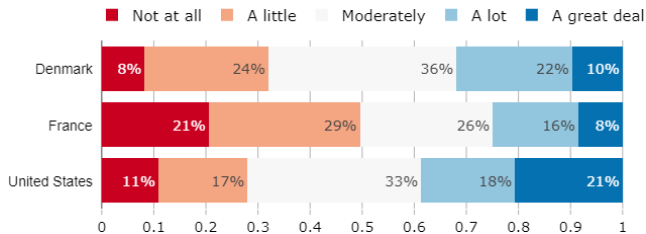


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Figure 7: To what extent are you interested in politics?



Environmental organizations

Figure 8: Are you member of an environmental organization?

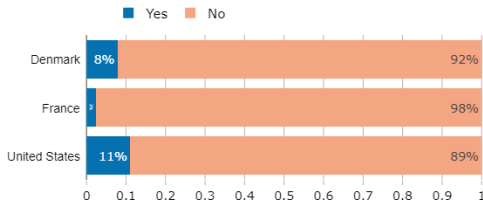
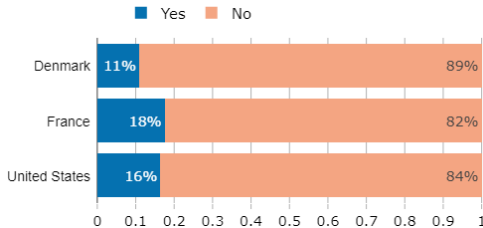


Figure 9: Do you have any relatives who are environmentalists?



Major election vote

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

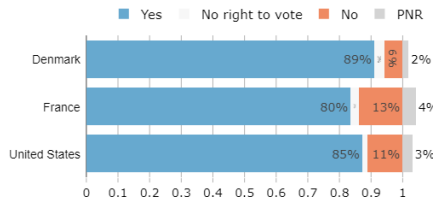
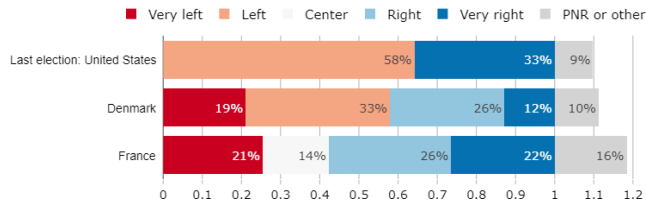


Figure 11: Which candidate did you vote / would you have voted for in the last major election?



Political affiliation

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

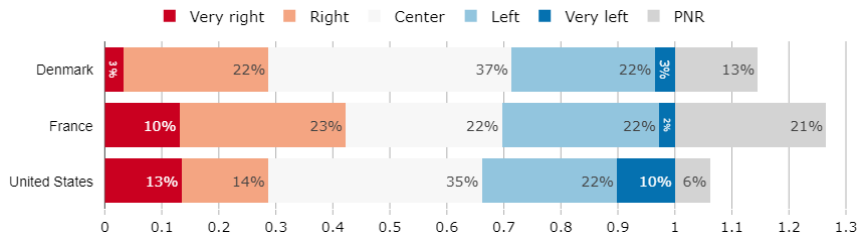


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Figure 13: What is the main way you heat your home

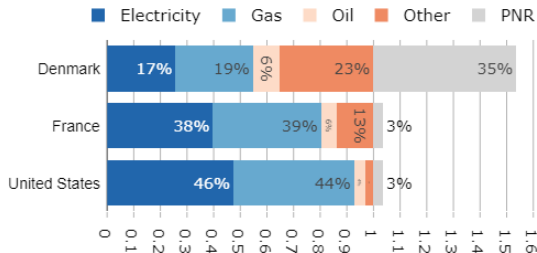


Figure 14: In a typical month, how much do you spend on heating for your accommodation?

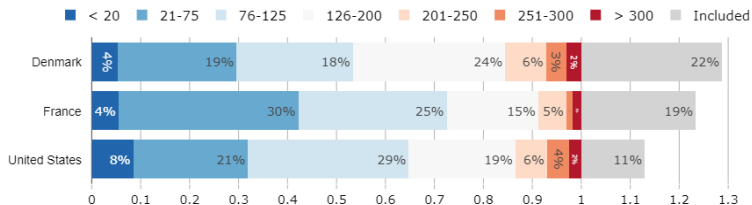


Figure 16: In a typical month, how much do you spend on gas for driving?

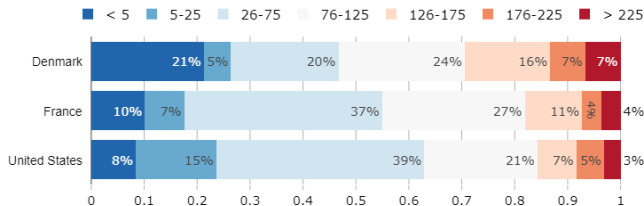


Figure 17: How many round-trip flights did you take between 2017 and 2019?

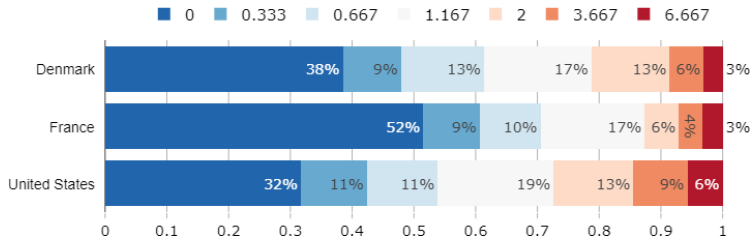


Figure 19: How do you rate the availability (ease of access and frequency) of public transportation where you live?

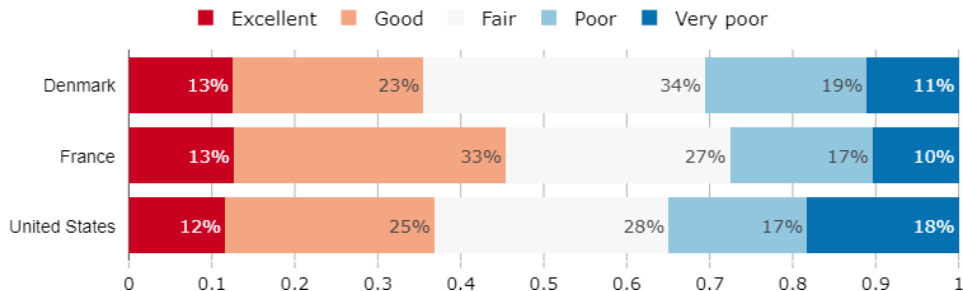


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Climate change knowledge: general

Figure 20: How often do you think or talk with people about climate change?

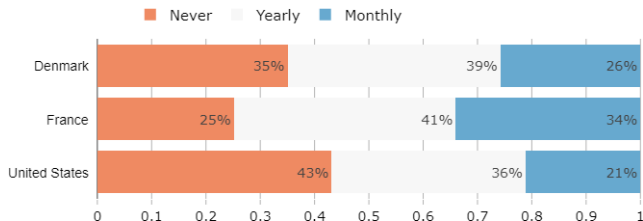
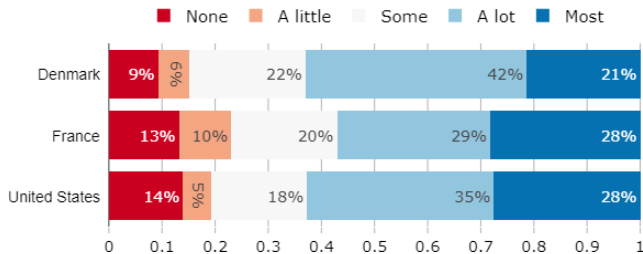


Figure 21: What part of climate change do you think is due to human activity?



Climate change knowledge: general

Figure 22: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Climate change is an important problem."

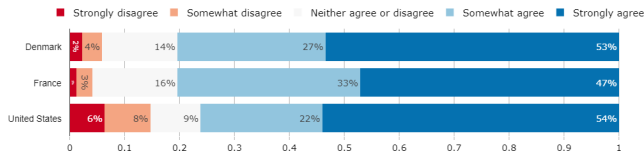
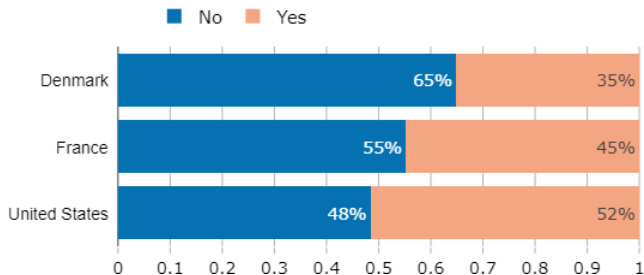


Figure 23: Do you think that cutting global greenhouse gas emissions by half would be sufficient to eventually stop temperatures from rising? (Right answer: No)



Climate change knowledge: GHG footprints

Figure 24: How knowledgeable do you consider yourself about climate change?

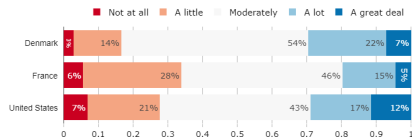


Figure 25: Kendall tau distance to correct ranking of GHG footprints for three sectors and for regions (~ number of mistakes)

	Denmark	France	United States
Electricity: coal > gas > nuclear	0.6	1	1
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	2.2	2.3
Countries in absolute: China > US > EU > India	1.5	1.6	1.8

Impacts of climate change

Figure 26: 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	58	57
Rising sea levels	93	83	78
Lower agricultural production	71	75	75
Drop in standards of living	67	69	72
Larger migration flows	83	83	74
More armed conflicts	76	69	63
Extinction of humankind	40	58	56

Summary of Knowledge

Figure 27: % 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	-0.2	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
Standardised knowledge index	0.2	-0.2	-0.2

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Figure 28: % 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	87	90
Availability of transport	36	45	37
Size of agglomeration	79	71	86
Urban	52	56	74
Index Affected by CC	51	50	51

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 29: % 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 30: To what extent do you think that it is technically feasible to stop greenhouse gas emissions while maintaining satisfactory standards of living in France?

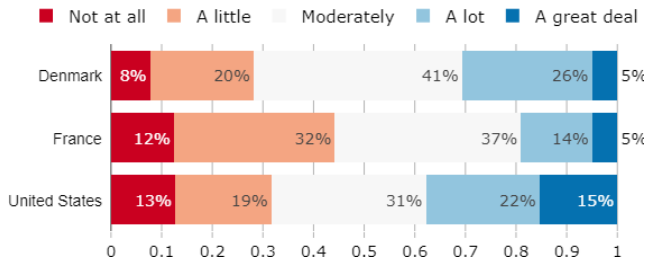
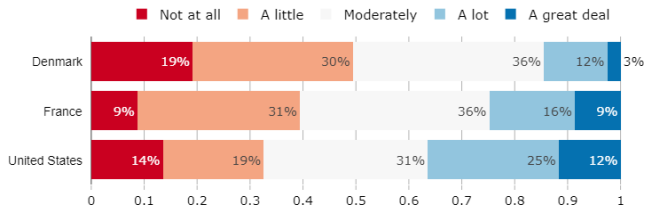


Figure 31: To what extent do you think climate change already affects or will negatively affect your personal life?



Beliefs about ambitious climate policies

Figure 32: If we decide to halt climate change through ambitious policies, to what extent do you think it would negatively affect your lifestyle?

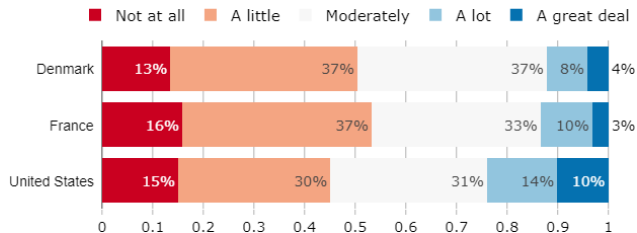
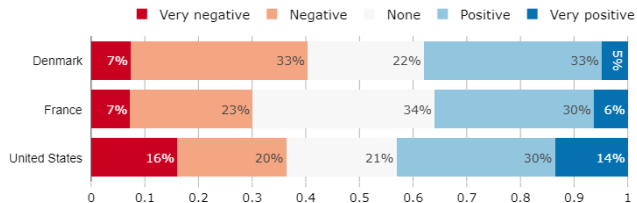


Figure 33: If we decide to halt climate change through ambitious policies, what would be the effects on the U.S economy and employment?



Summary Views on Future

Figure 34: % of respondents who agree with the statement

	Denmark	France	United States
World will be richer in 100 years	31	12	22
Technically possible to stop emissions by 2100	30	18	37
Likely that humans halt CC by 2100	38	25	39
CC will affect me negatively	14	25	36
With ambitious climate policies, effects on economy	38	36	43
Ambitious climate policies negative for my lifestyle	12	13	24

Views on who is responsible

Figure 35: % 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 36: 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	54	39
Willing to Limit driving	33	27	32
Willing to Have a fuel-efficient or electric vehicle	61	42	52
Willing to Limit beef consumption	33	36	38
Willing to Limit heating or cooling your home	30	37	30

Factors needed to change lifestyle

Figure 37: 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	44	55
People around you also changing their behavior	57	38	47
The most well off also changing their behavior	59	55	54

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Policy description

To fight climate change, car producers can be required by law to produce cars that emit less CO₂ 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 38: 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	59	70
Reduce air pollution	78	64	77
Negative economic effect	30	39	41
Large economic effect	34	48	55
Costly way to fight CC	48	56	53

Incidence

Figure 39: 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	0.3	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	-0.6	-0.5
Your household financially	-0.4	-0.2	-0.3

Figure 40: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "A ban on combustion-engine cars is fair"?

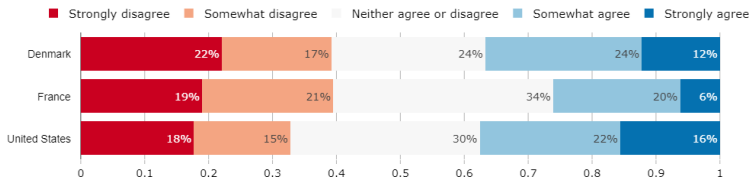


Figure 41: Do you support or oppose a ban on combustion-engine cars?

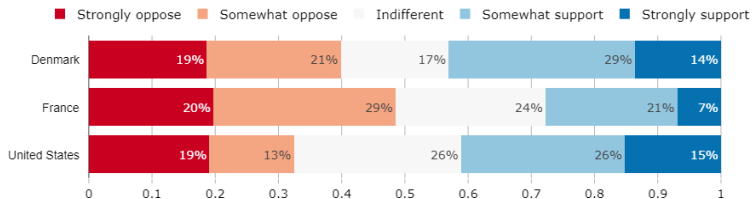


Figure 42: Do you support or oppose a ban on combustion-engine cars where alternatives such as public transports are made available to people?

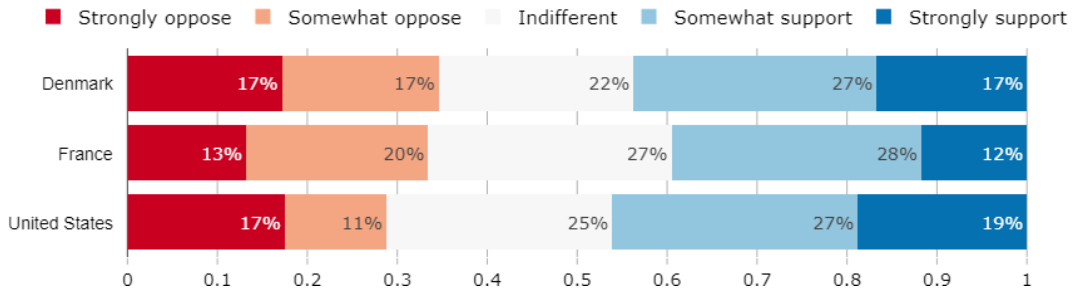


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A green infrastructure program is a large public investment program, which would be financed by additional public debt, to accomplish the transition needed to cut greenhouse gases emissions. Investments would concern renewable power plants, public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

Effects of the policy

Figure 43: 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	53	54
Reduce air pollution	73	67	72
Negative economic effect	29	28	40
Large economic effect	34	43	57
Costly way to fight CC	44	50	54

Incidence

Figure 44: 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	-0.5	-0.3
The middle class	-0.3	-0.3	-0.1
High-income earners	0.3	0.4	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 45: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: “A green infrastructure program mainly financed by public debt is fair.”

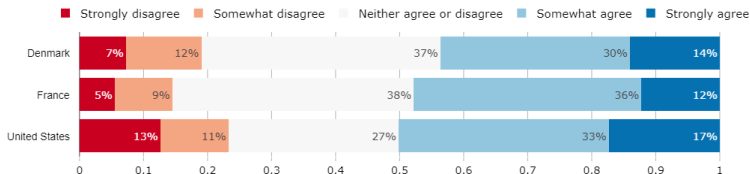


Figure 46: Do you support or oppose a green infrastructure program?

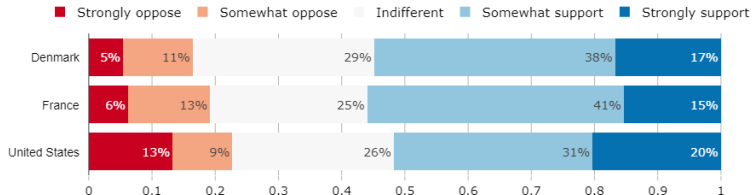


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To fight climate change, the French government can make greenhouse gas emissions costly, to make people and firms change their equipment and reduce their emissions. The government could do this through a policy called a carbon tax with cash transfers. 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 47: Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? A carbon tax with cash transfers would... (% agreement)

	Denmark	France	United States
Discourage driving	52	42	53
Encourage insulation	63	63	60
Reduce use of fuels	62	52	59
Reduce air pollution	66	58	65
Negative economic effect	32	31	44
Large economic effect	32	40	55
Costly way to fight CC	42	49	55

Incidence

Figure 48: 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	-0.7	-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 49: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "A carbon tax with cash transfers is fair."

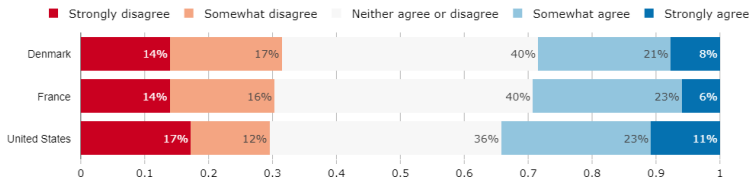
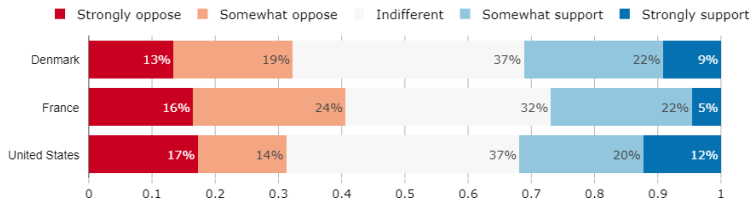


Figure 50: Do you support or oppose a carbon tax with cash transfers?



Other policies

Figure 51: Do you support or oppose the following climate policies? (% agreement)

	Denmark	France	United States
Tax on flying (+20%)	60	47	33
Tax on fossil fuels (\$45/tCO ₂)	43	29	35
Ban polluting cars in city centers	66	59	50
Subsidies to low-carbon technos	66	57	58
Funding clean energy in LDC	53	46	48

Revenue recycling of carbon tax

Figure 52: 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	54	45
Equal cash for all	27	44	36
Reduction in income tax	38	62	47
Reduction in corporate tax	24	35	29
Tax rebate for affected firms	37	53	39
Funding green infrastructure	60	64	57
Subsidies to low-carbon technos	53	56	54
Reduction in the deficit	34	50	47

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Figure 53: 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 (\$/year): 10	81	71	61
WTP (\$/year): 30	71	55	66
WTP (\$/year): 50	63	61	55
WTP (\$/year): 100	73	24	63
WTP (\$/year): 300	55	23	48
WTP (\$/year): 500	49	39	44
WTP (\$/year): 1000	34	22	42

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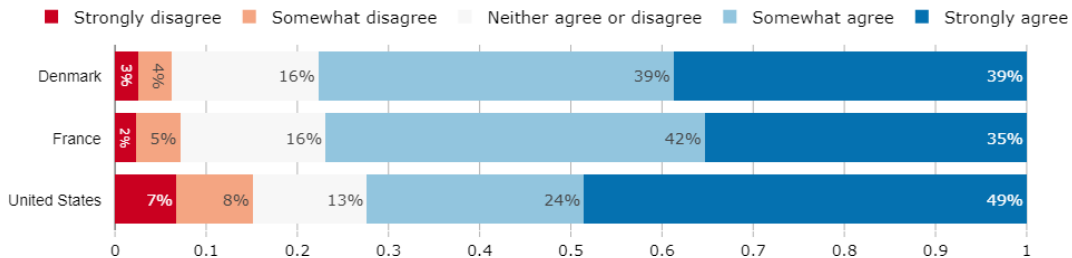
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Governance of climate policies

Figure 54: 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	38	53
Level of climate policies needed: state/national	46	27	43
Level of climate policies needed: local	33	26	37

Figure 55: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "France should take measures to fight climate change."



Burden-sharing

Figure 56: 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	74	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	50	40

Figure 57: Do you support or oppose the following policies?

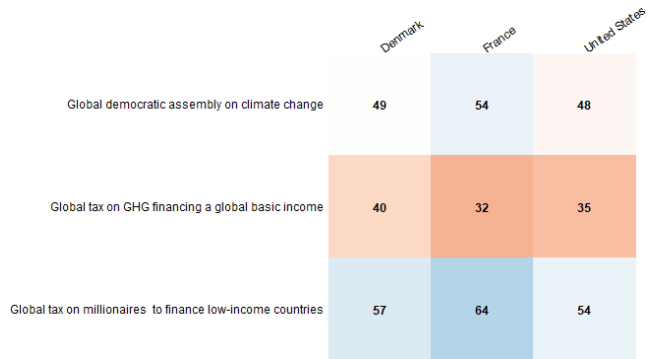


Figure 58: Imagine that the government makes it mandatory for all residential buildings to have insulation that meets a certain energy efficiency standard before 2040. The government would subsidize half of the insulation costs to help households with the transition.

Do you support or oppose such policy?

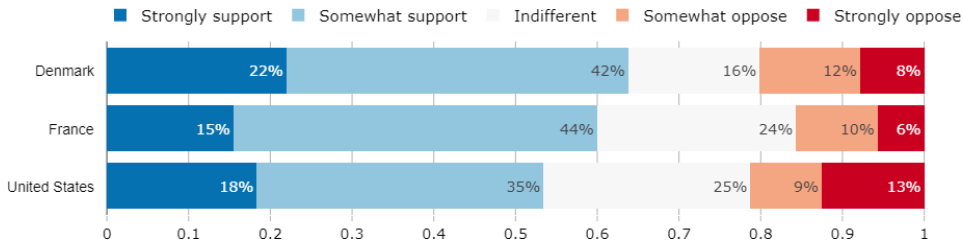


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Figure 59: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Most people can be trusted."

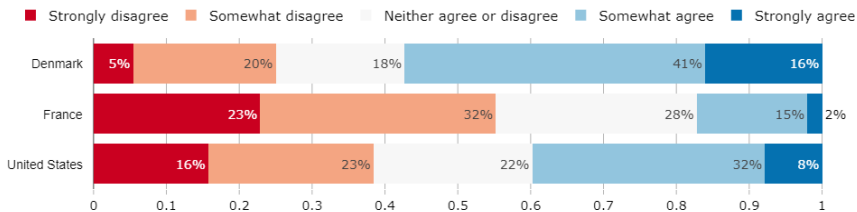
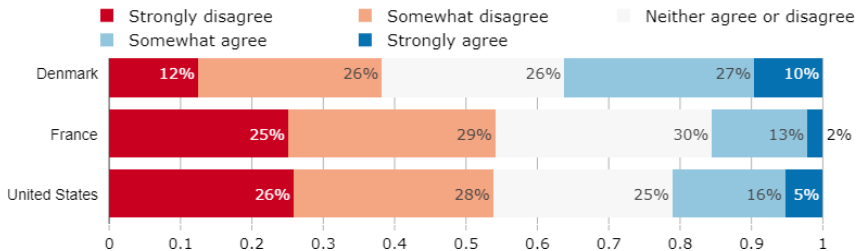


Figure 60: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Over the last decade the [National] government could generally be trusted to do what is right."



Perception of institutions, inequality, and the future

Figure 61: 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?

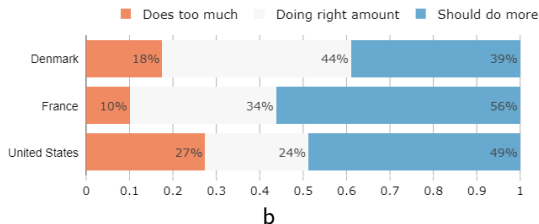


Figure 62: How big of an issue do you think income inequality is in [your country]?

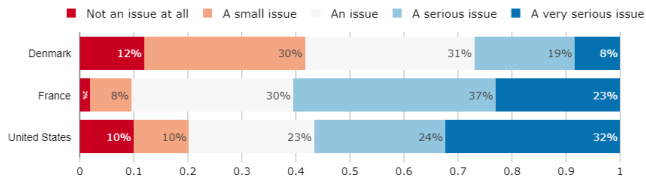


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Figure 63: Do you feel that this survey was politically biased?

