

Overview

This survey will compare our 2021 climate change survey data and 2024 climate change survey data.

The 2021 survey collected responses from 1,154 unique individuals on campus. In comparison, the 2024 survey collected responses from 2,015 individuals.

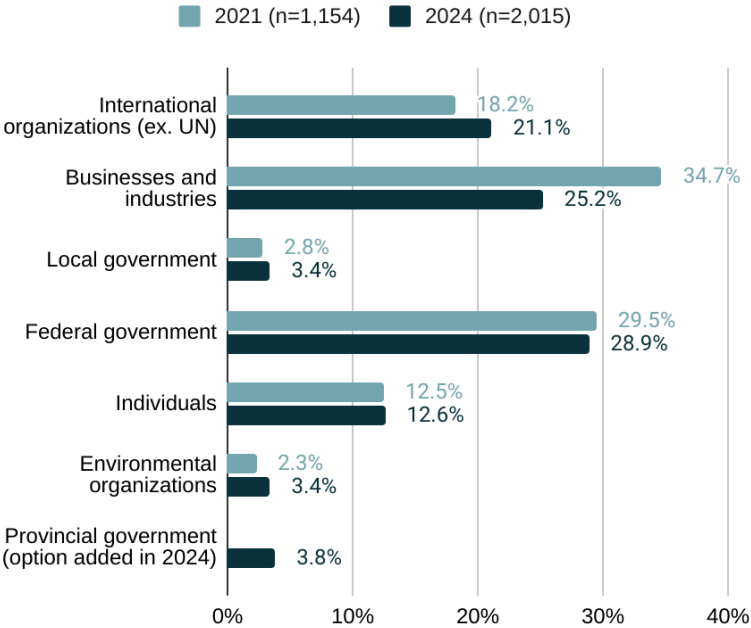
Key points

- In 2021 34.7% of respondents believed that businesses and industries are responsible for addressing climate change, compared to 25.2% in 2024
- In both 2021 and 2024, the majority of respondents felt that air pollution and pollution of rivers and oceans are important on a global scale
- More respondents claim to have learned about climate change through school/university and the internet in 2021 than in 2024
- Fewer respondents trust scientists for information about climate change in 2024 than in 2021
- More respondents trust social media, family members and TV for information about climate change in 2024 than in 2021
- Respondents from 2021 and 2024 have similar opinions on global temperatures changing from the previous decade
- More respondents in 2024 are neutral regarding the statement “climate change is caused by human activities” than in 2021
- More respondents in 2024 are neutral regarding the statement “recent global disasters are because of climate change” than in 2021
- The proportion of respondents who disagree with the statement “climate issues and their impact are underrepresented in the news” has decreased between 2021 to 2024

The question "who do you think has the main responsibility for addressing climate change?" rendered similar responses between the 2021 and 2024 survey. Slight differences arise with the international organizations option and businesses and industries option, with a 2.9% increase and 9.5% decrease in selections from 2021 to 2024, respectively. Overall, most students indicate that the federal government and businesses and industries have the main responsibility for addressing climate change.

Note: In the 2024 survey we added an additional option "provincial government". However, this option was not popular, with only 3.8% of respondents selecting it.

"Who do you think has the main responsibility for addressing climate change?"

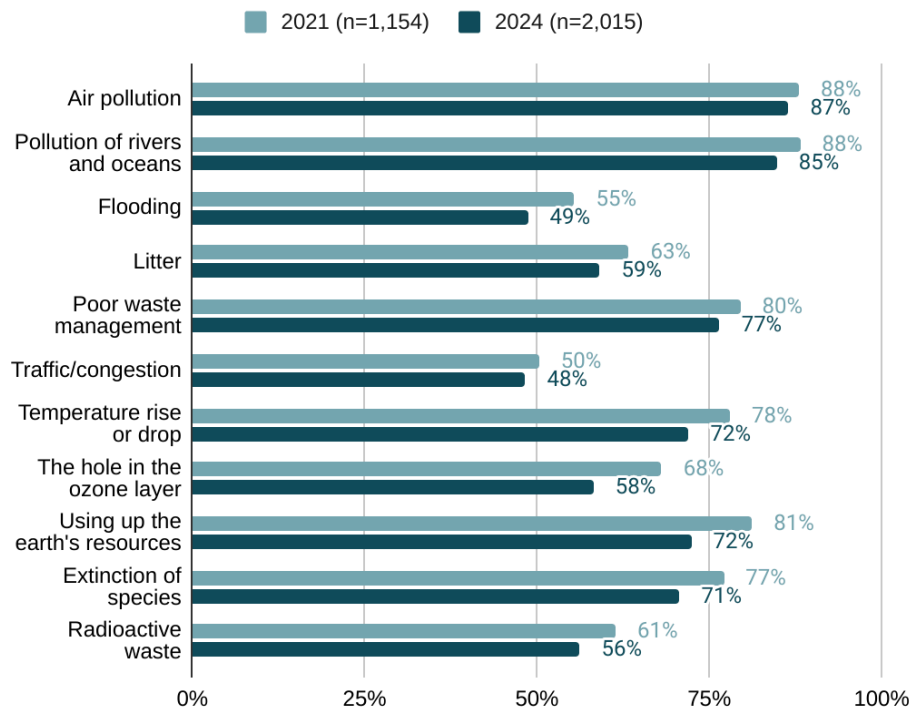


Between 2021 and 2024, fewer respondents indicated that certain issues are important on a global scale. These decreases can be seen in the question options:

- The hole in the ozone layer (68% respondents to 58% respondents)
- Extinction of species (77% respondents to 71% respondents)
- Flooding (55% respondents to 49% respondents)
- Using up Earth's resources (81% respondents to 72% respondents)

It is unclear why there has been such a steady decrease in respondent opinions to this question. To gain clarity on this matter, it would be beneficial to run a followup question in our next survey asking why people responded the way they did.

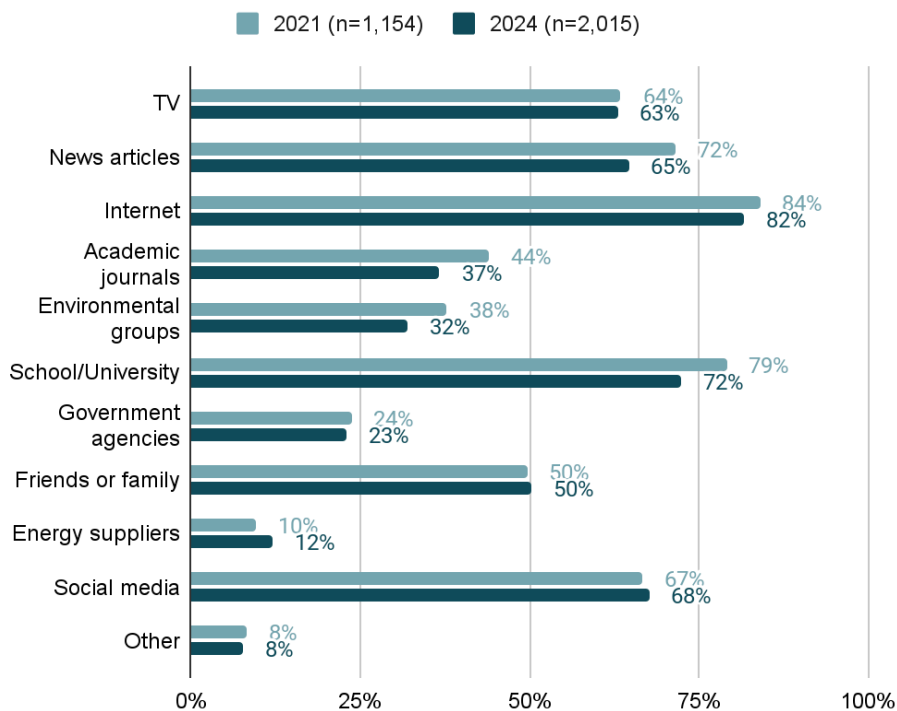
Which of the following issues you feel are important on a global scale? (Check all that apply)



In both 2021 and 2024 the most popular method respondents have learned about climate change through are the internet, school/university, social media and news articles. There has been a decrease in respondents who have learned about climate change from the following:

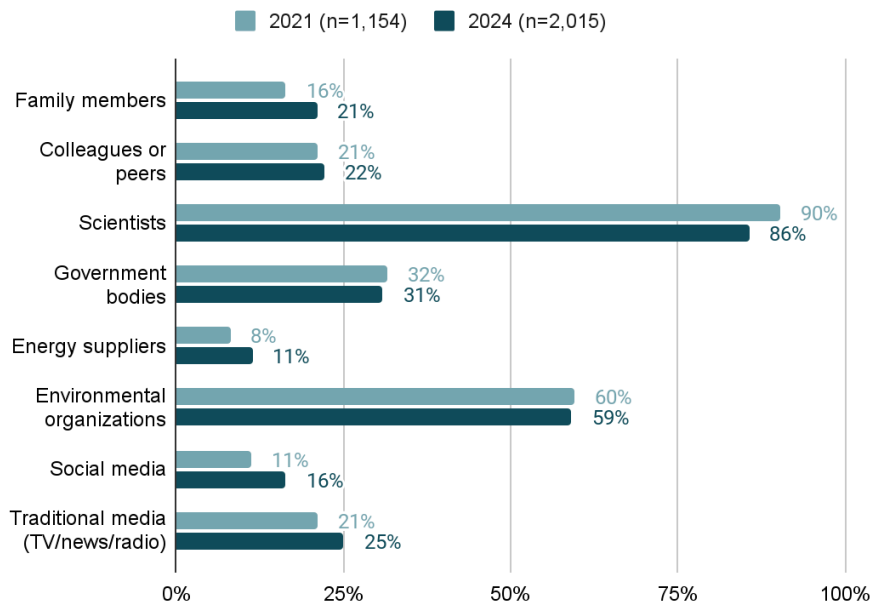
- School/University (79% respondents to 72% respondents)
- Academic journals (44% respondents to 37% respondents)
- Environmental groups (38% respondents to 32% respondents)
- News articles (72% respondents to 65% respondents)

Where have you learned about climate change? (Check all that apply)



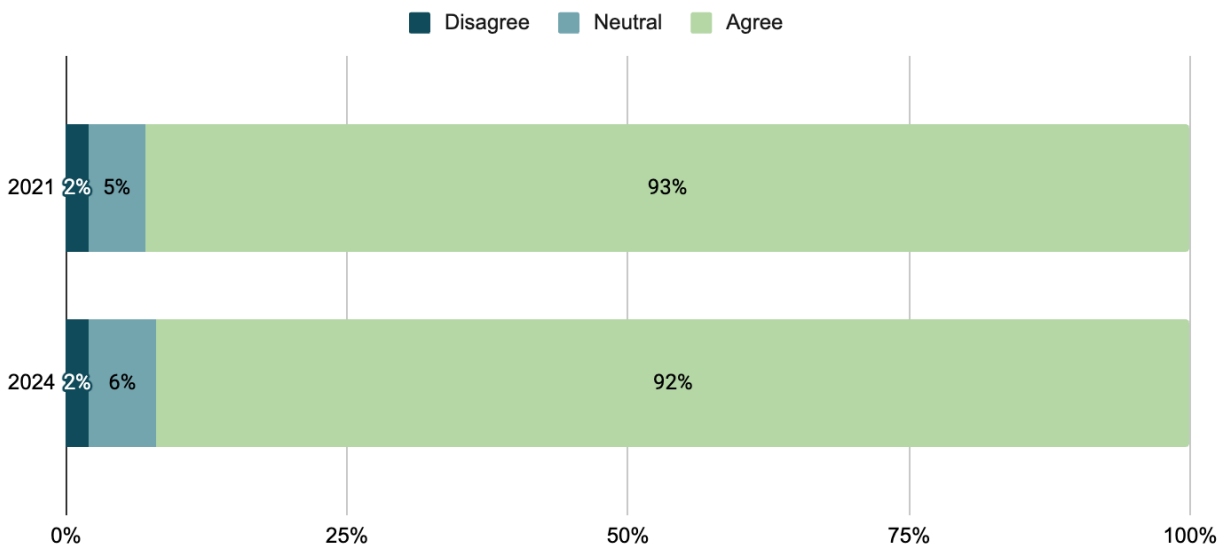
Many respondents in 2021 and 2024 trust scientists and environmental organizations for information on climate change. Comparatively, very few rely on energy suppliers, social media and family members. However, it is important to note that between 2021 and 2024, an increasing proportion of survey respondents claim to trust these sources. For instance, in 2021 8 % of respondents trusted energy suppliers, compared to 11% in 2024. Similarly, 11% trusted social media in 2021 and 16% in 2024.

Which of these sources do you trust for information about climate change? (Check all that apply)



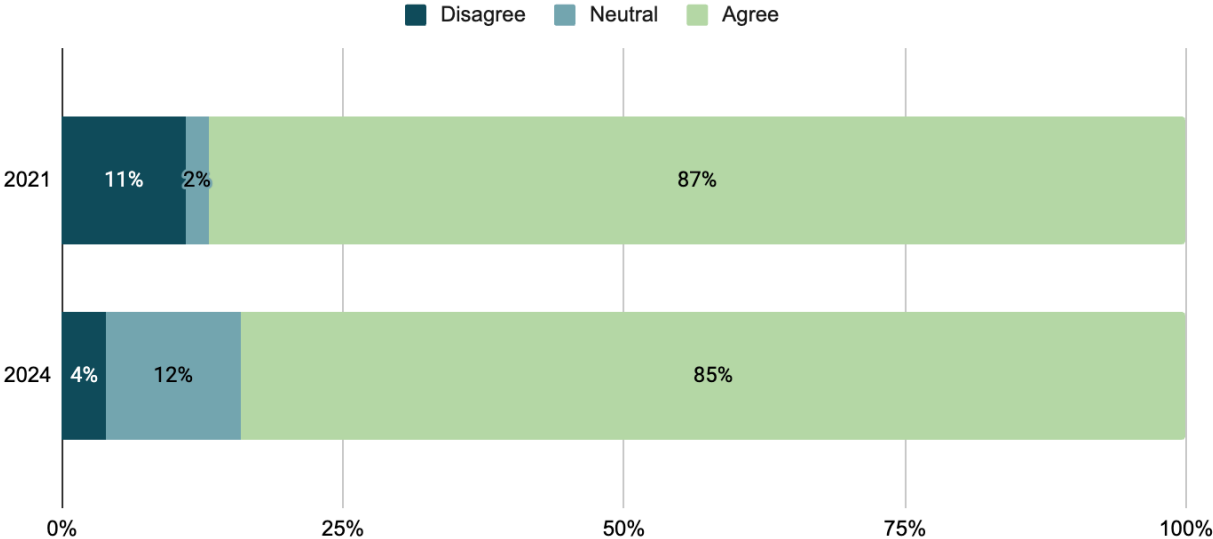
Respondents from 2021 and 2024 have similar opinions on global temperatures changing from the previous decade.

The global temperatures have changed compared to the previous decade.



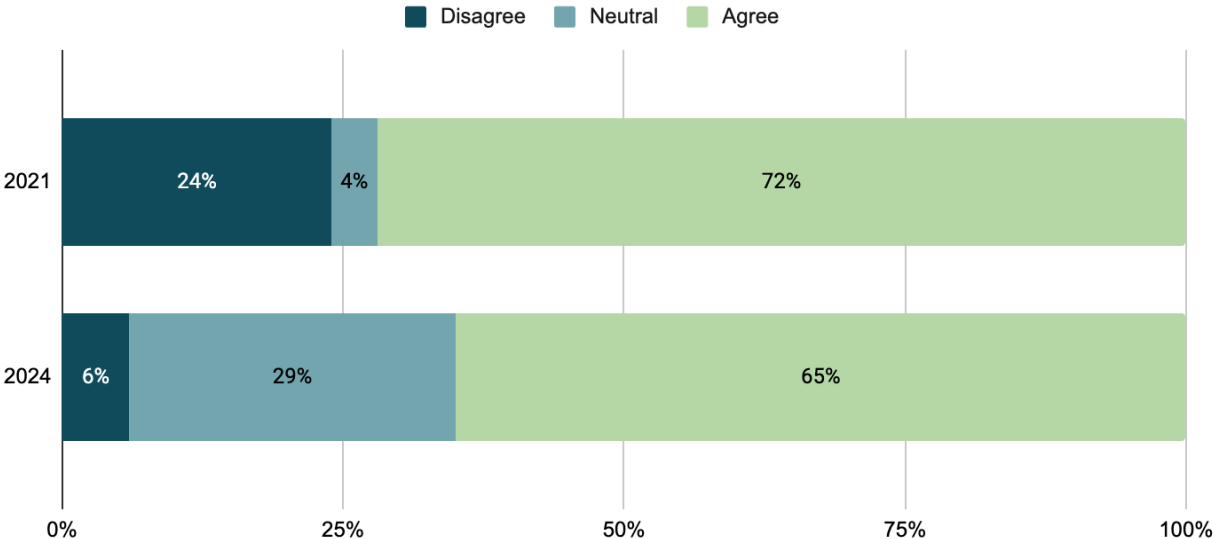
Approximately the same proportion of respondents from 2021 and 2024 agree that climate change is caused by human activities. In addition, there has been a decrease in those who disagree that climate change is caused by human activities, while the proportion of those who are neutral has increased by 10%.

Climate change is caused by human activities.



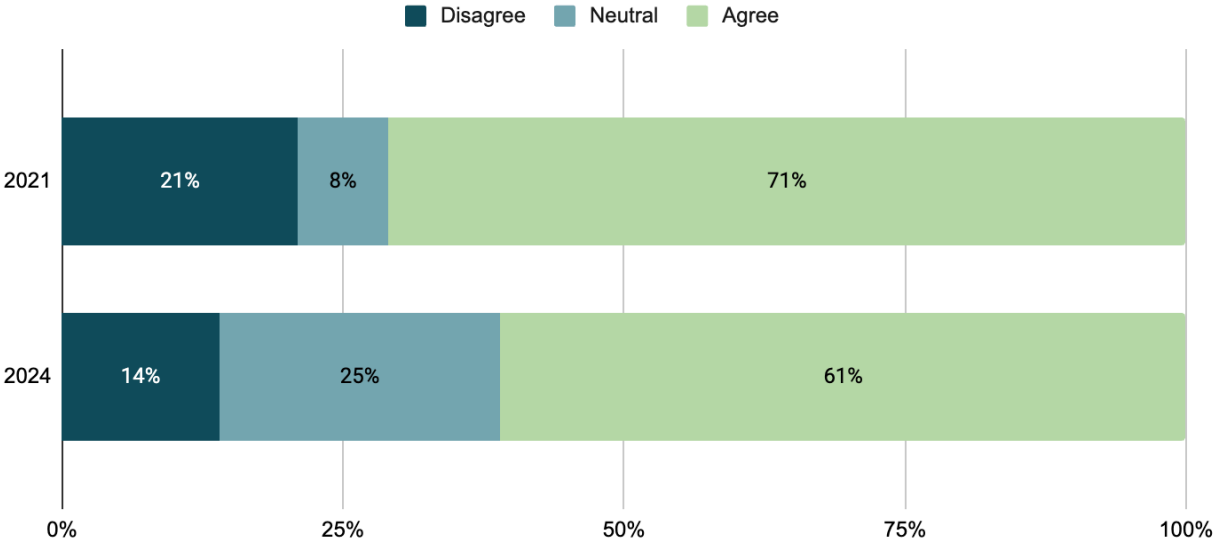
Comparing survey results from 2021 and 2024, the portion of respondents who agree that global disasters are because of climate change has decreased. Furthermore, the amount of respondents who are neutral on the issue has increased by 25%.

Recent global disasters are because of climate change.



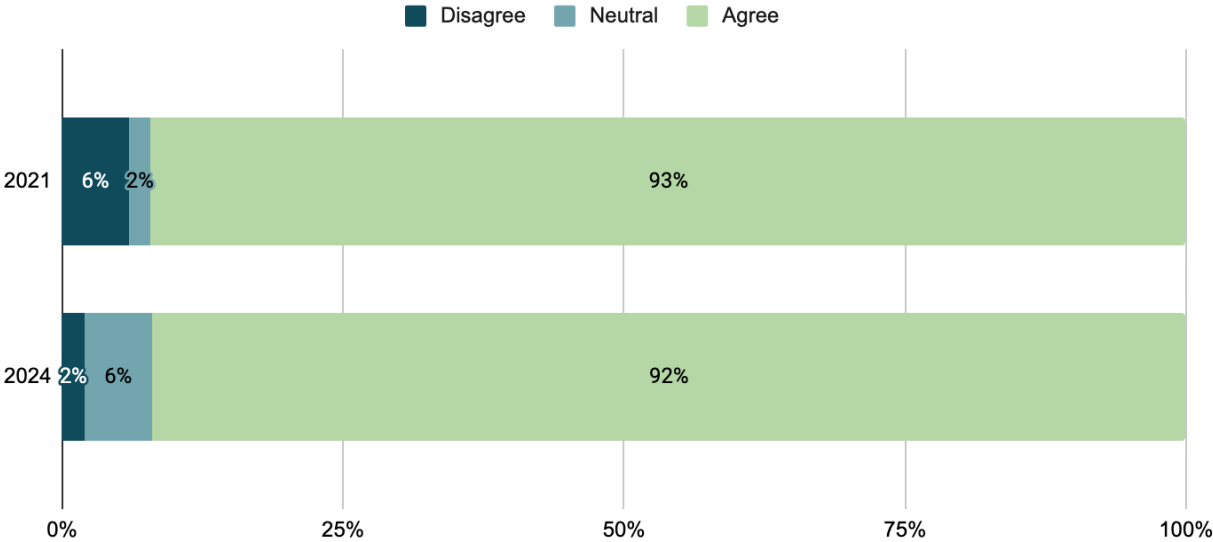
Between 2021 and 2024, the proportion of respondents who agree that climate change is underrepresented in the news has decreased. Meanwhile, more students are neutral on the issue.

Climate issues and their impact are underrepresented in the news.



The proportion of respondents who believe that climate change is happening now has remained fairly stable between 2021 and 2024. However, the portion who disagree has reduced drastically.

Climate change is happening right now.



The proportion of respondents who think that the government should increase the incentives for people who try to reduce their environmental impact has decreased from 83% in 2021 to 71% in 2024. The proportion of those who are neutral on this issue has increased by 19%.

The government should increase the incentives for people who try to reduce their environmental impact.

