

Addressing Public Health and Climate Change:
The Colorado Climate Plan

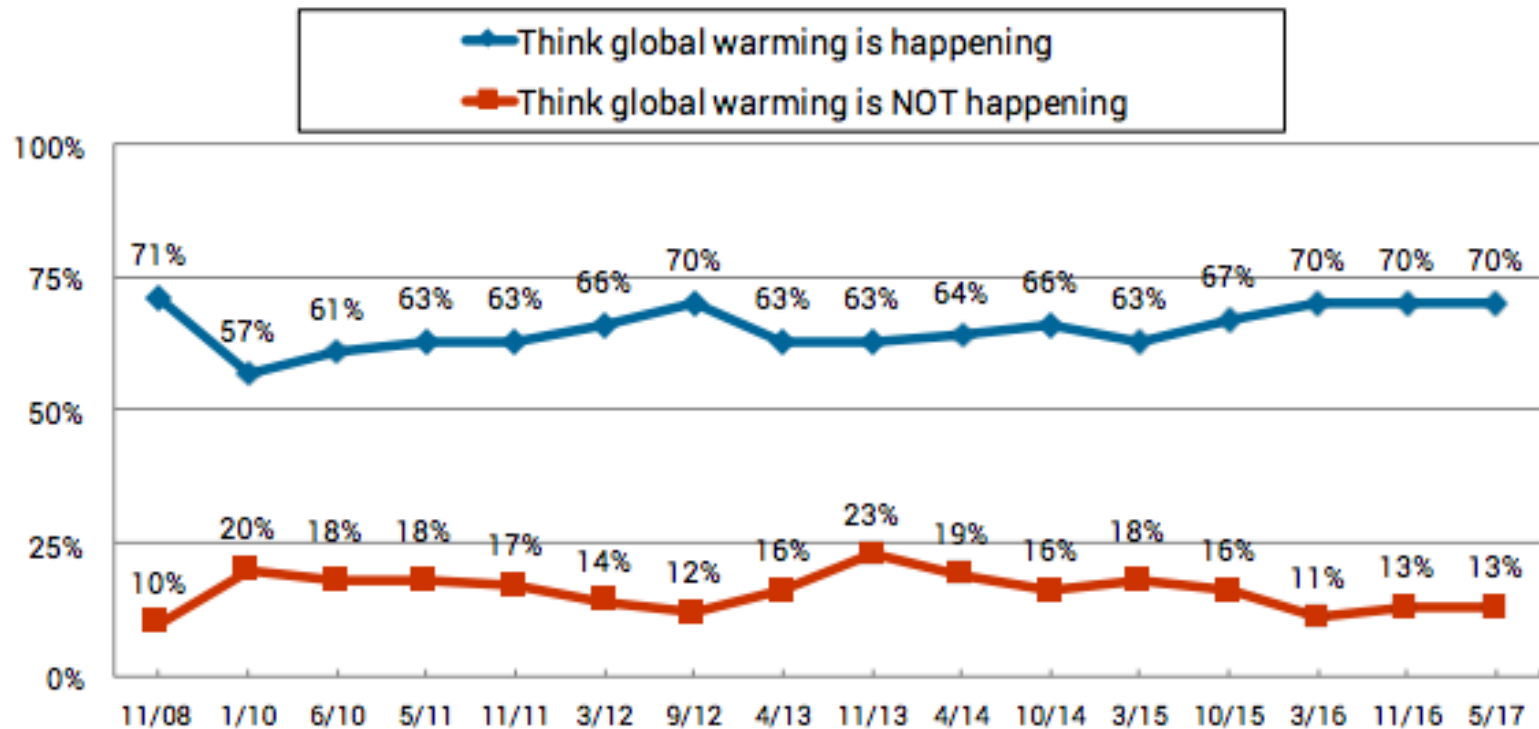
Mike Silverstein
Executive Director,
Regional Air Quality Council

EEE Forum
September 17, 2018

Why focus on [public] health to address the climate change issue?

- 1 the need to “move the needle”*
- 2 the need to reset the conversation*
- 3 Kaiser video at Global Climate Action Summit*
- AFTER MIKE SILVERSTEIN’S TALK -----*
- 4 the need for special attention to children’s health*
- 5 state, national, and global health alliances*

Seven in Ten Americans Think Global Warming Is Happening



May 2017 Base: American 18+ (n = 1,266)



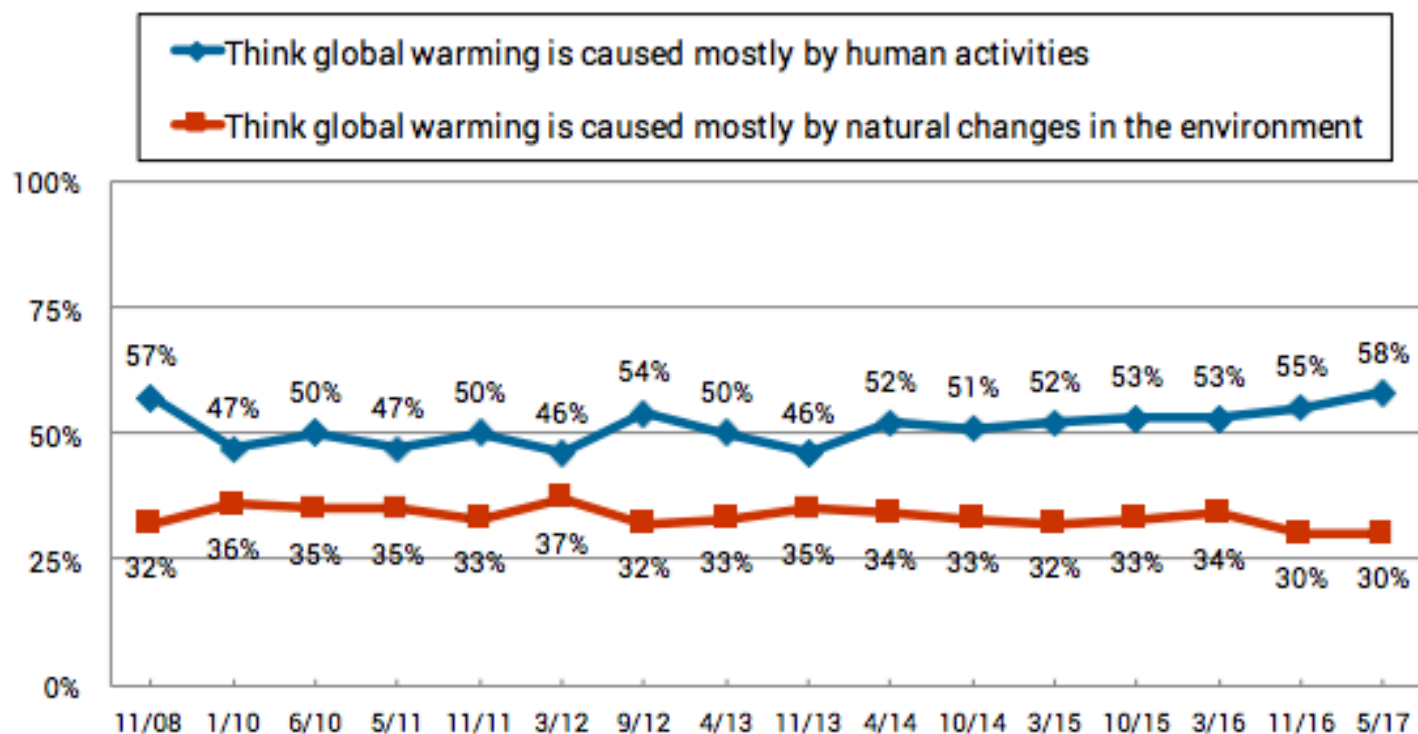
YALE PROGRAM ON
Climate Change
Communication



GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
CENTER for CLIMATE CHANGE
COMMUNICATION

More Than Half of Americans Think Global Warming Is Mostly Human Caused

- Highest percentage since survey began -



May 2017 Base: American 18+ (n = 1,266)



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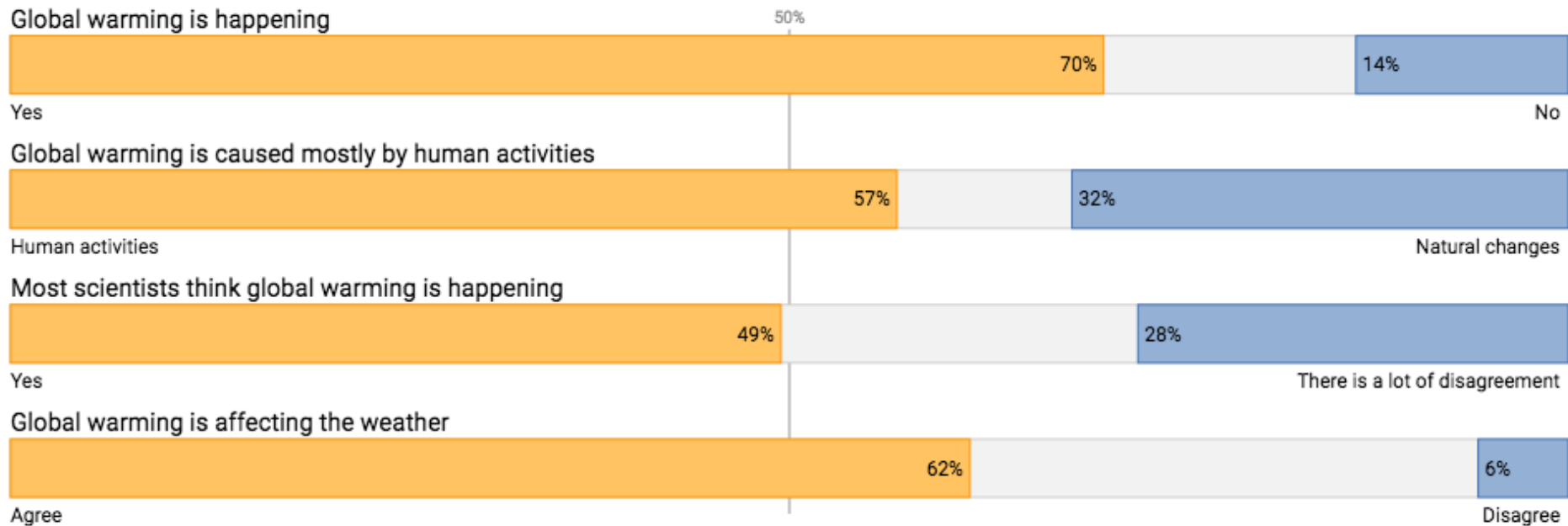


GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
CENTER for CLIMATE CHANGE
COMMUNICATION

Public Opinion Estimates, United States, 2018

Yale Program on Climate Change Communication

BELIEFS

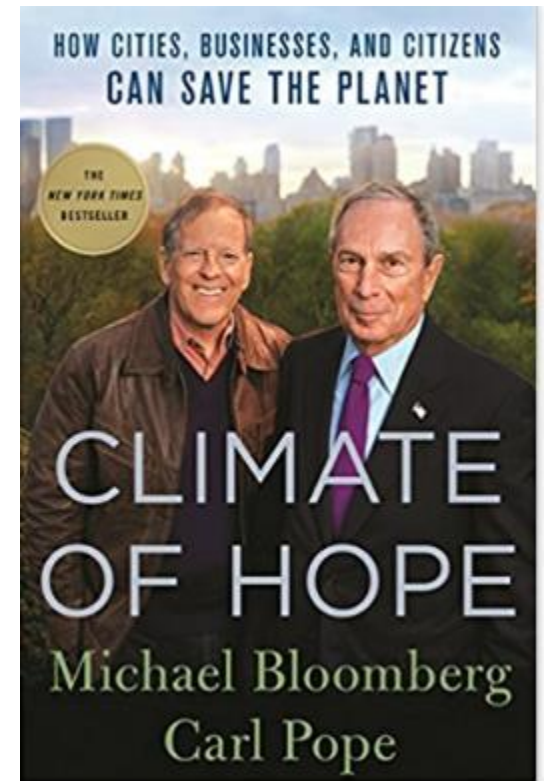


Beliefs haven't changed significantly since 2008.

How Cities, Businesses, and Citizens CAN SAVE THE PLANET (2017)

. . . It's time for a new type of conversation about climate change . . . Instead of debating long-term consequences, let's talk about immediate threats. . . . Instead of focusing on polar bears, let's focus on asthmatic children. . . . (2-3)

--Michael Bloomberg & Carl Pope



Global Climate Action Summit (Sept 2018)

Session: “Healthy Planet, Healthy People”

“Climate Change: It’s About Health”
Kaiser Permanente Video

“If you care about climate change, you have to care about health. And if you care about health, you have to care about climate change.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yeih2v4P25A&feature=youtu.be>



Bernard Tyson,
Kaiser CEO,
Narrator

Children bear the brunt of climate change impacts

According to the World Health Organization, more than 80 percent of the current health burden due to changing climate occurs in children younger than five years old. These health impacts include the broad effects of weather disasters, exacerbated allergic and asthmatic diseases, food and water insecurity, and heat-related deaths. As climate change accelerates, children will continue to suffer disproportionately.

--American Academy of Pediatrics

<https://www.aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/federal-advocacy/Pages/ClimateChange.aspx>

(GCAS) “Protecting Child Health through Global Climate Action: The Time to Act Is Now”

“In my 30 years as a physician and scientist . . . , I have seen the rates and severity of allergies and asthma increase at an astounding rate. . . . In children in the US, food allergy is now estimated at 8%, atopic dermatitis at 10.7%, and asthma at 8.3%. By 2025, it is expected that the prevalence of asthma will increase by 25% – an alarming rate of increase! . . .”



--Dr. Kari Nadeau, MD, PhD; Director of the Sean N. Parker Center for Allergy & Asthma Research at Stanford University

<https://www.globalclimateactionsummit.org/protecting-child-health/>

Another GCAS Session on Children's Health:

“Children's Health, The Measure of Success When Addressing Climate Solutions – A Discussion of What We Know, Don't Know & Need to Know”

--session led by C-CHANGE (Center for Climate, Health, and the Global Environment) –the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

- <https://www.globalclimateactions Summit.org/events/childrens-health-the-measure-of-success-when-addressing-climate-solutions-a-discussion-of-what-we-know-what-we-dont-know-what-we-need-to-know/>

“Climate Change: It’s About Health” (more from Kaiser Permanente video)

“There has been a coalition of hospital systems all around the world to address the footprint, especially the climate footprint, of health care, so that the mission of health care is actually expanding to go beyond treating individual patients to supporting healthier communities and a healthier planet.”



Dr. Gary
Cohen, Pres.,
Health Care
Without Harm

(GCAS Session) “Health Action for Climate and Climate Action for Health”

The Global Climate and Health Forum will bring together 250 leaders from national and local governments, health systems, public health agencies, civil society, and international health organizations to build the community of climate and health professionals, share global success stories of health action for climate, and generate momentum and commitments for action on climate and health.

- The Forum is organized by the Health Care Without Harm, UCSF Global Health Group, US Climate and Health Alliance and Global Climate and Health Alliance. <https://www.globalclimateandhealthforum.org/>

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSN

Denver, Colorado

NEHA has been training and educating environmental health professionals since 1937, from Ebola and Chikungunya to bed bugs and E-coli, wherever human health and the environment intersect. NEHA is building the capacity of local and state health departments and agencies to address, mitigate, and adapt to climate change, specifically addressing the health impact and effects of climate change with training and educational resources. Staff skills include communication skills, policy expertise, spokesperson experience, network connections, and education/resources. www.neha.org

California Health Care Climate Alliance

- The Alliance was formed in August by four of the state's largest health systems – Dignity Health, Kaiser Permanente, Providence St. Joseph Health, and Sutter Health.
- The Alliance represents over 20 percent of all California hospitals and serves more than 20 million patients.
- The Alliance aims to drive stronger commitments from California's health care sector to protect the public from the health impacts of climate change and to work with policymakers in Sacramento to support the state's climate goals.

<https://noharm-uscanada.org/articles/press-release/us-canada/leading-health-systems-form-alliance-address-climate-change>

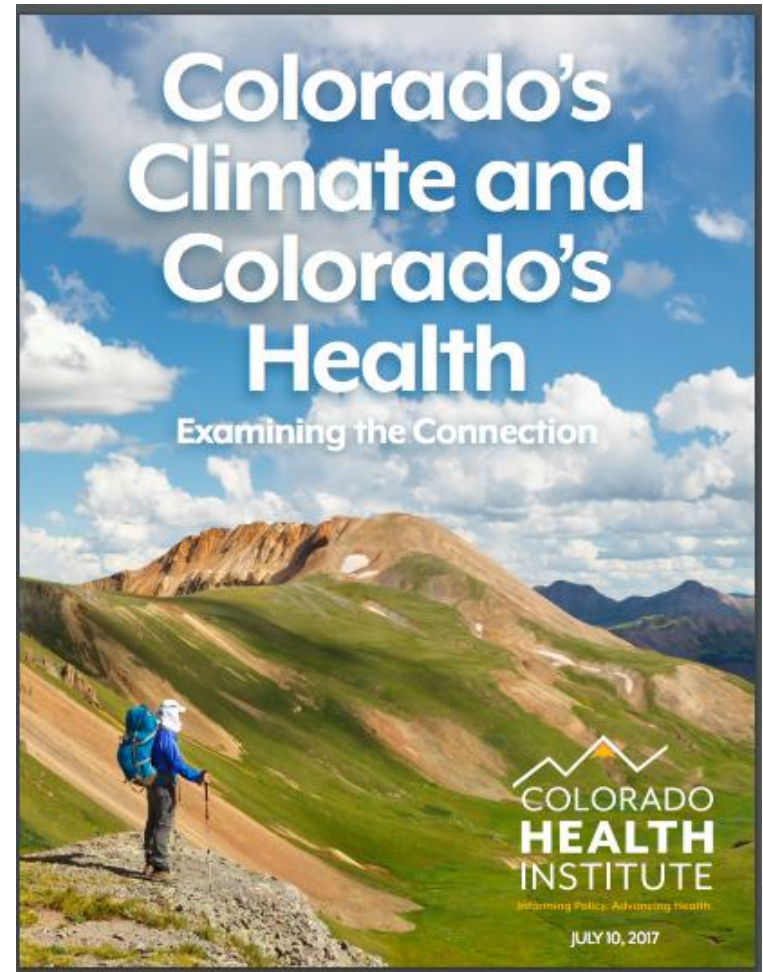
Next EEE Forum: Monday afternoon, October 15, 2018

Addressing Public Health and
Climate Change:

“Colorado’s Climate and
Colorado’s Health”

Colorado Health Institute

sponsored by
the Ethics and Ecological
Economics (EEE) Forum
at the Iliff school of Theology





ActivateCO:2018
**Golden, Colorado, September 21-22, 2018
at Jefferson Unitarian Church**

**Collaborating & Building Solidarity Across Our Movements
Toward System Change, Not Climate Change
Economic, Social and Environmental Justice for All**

ActivateCO! 2018

People and organizations from across Colorado are coming together to build a just, sustainable future in Colorado. We will be discovering how we can learn from, support and show up for each other in our overlapping efforts and create the system change we all need, including clean renewable energy, greater racial, economic, and social justice for all.



**9am – 8pm, Friday, Sept. 21; and
9am - 5pm, Saturday, Sept. 22**

For more information and to register, go to <https://activateco.org/>