



YOUTH CLIMATE VOICES

YOUTH CLIMATE
JUSTICE SURVEY
2020

In collaboration with

SPUNOUT.ie

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INTRODUCTION

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) the climate has been changing since pre-industrial times, human activities have caused approximately 1°C of global warming; at current rates, this would reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052. The world is already seeing consequences for people, nature, and livelihoods. The impacts of climate change are being felt in different ways by different people and these profound and drastic changes raise several questions for climate justice.

In October 2020 as part of the 'Youth Climate Justice challenge', ECO-UNESCO in collaboration with SpunOut.ie, conducted an online survey with young people. The purpose of the survey is to highlight how young people of Ireland feel about climate change and climate justice issues, what impacts they feel climate change has on them, what are the barriers to their engagement, what actions they take, what their knowledge is on this topic and what supports they would like; the survey also included open-ended responses towards their vision for the future. The survey took place between October 6th, 2020 to October 18th. The Survey included a range of multiple-choice questions along with open-ended questions allowing for personalised responses.

This Project saw a significant response rate with 1000+ participants. More than 50% of the participants were aged 17-22 years and more than 75% were students. 55.50% participants are female, 43.01 male, 1.29% non-binary, and 2 participants categorize themselves through self-identity and other. This survey was part of a larger project called 'The Youth Climate Justice Challenge', funded by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. This project involved additional partners: The Irish Girl Guides; The Girls' Brigade; The No Name Club; and the Young Irish Film Makers.

This report provides an analysis of the survey findings, highlighting how young people of Ireland feel about climate change and climate justice issues

Answers to multiple choice questions can be found in the appendix.

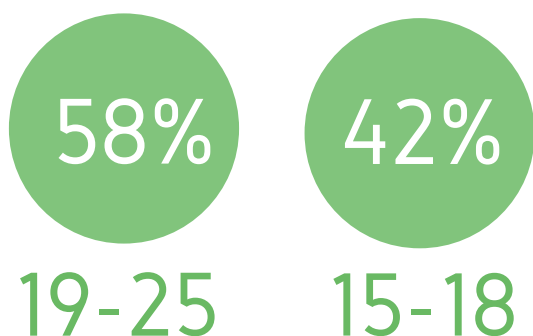
**SINCE PRE-INDUSTRIAL
TIMES, HUMAN ACTIVITIES
HAVE CAUSED
APPROXIMATELY
1°C OF GLOBAL WARMING.**

WHO RESPONDED?

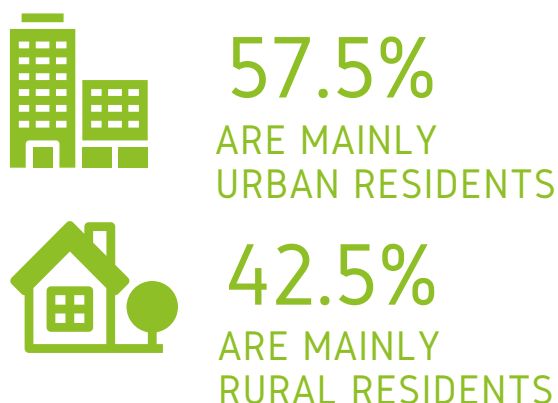
SURVEY RESPONSES



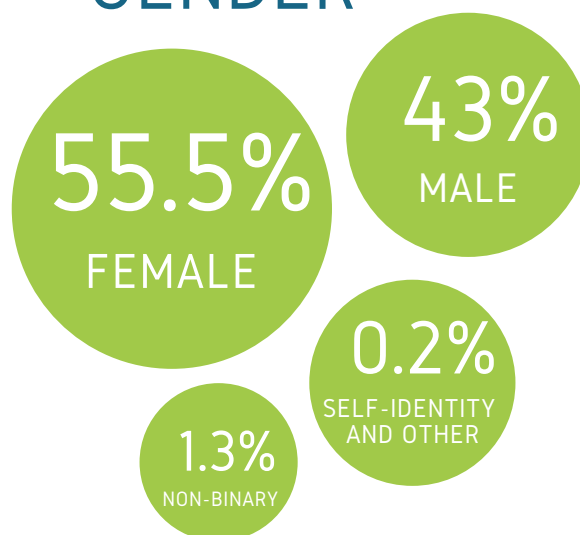
AGE



LOCATION



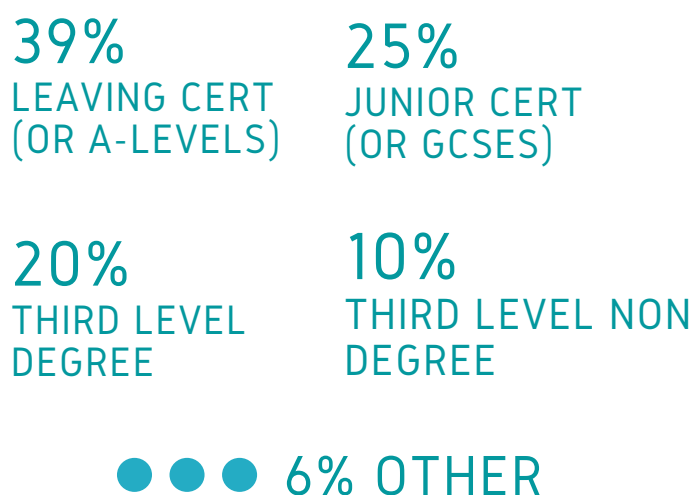
GENDER



OCCUPATION



EDUCATION LEVEL



KEY FINDINGS

GROWING CONCERN



Young people are very concerned about climate change highlighting extreme weather events, environmental damage as areas of impact. There was a high number of responses highlighting anxiety, stress and negative mental health as an impact of climate change and a sense of fear and hopelessness for their future.

TACKLING THE SYSTEMIC ISSUES OF CLIMATE CHANGE



Young people believe that changes in big business practices and government policies would have the biggest impact in tackling the climate crisis. However, they are far more likely to take small-scale, individual action than they are to try and tackle this issue at a systemic level.

BARRIERS TO ACTION



There are a number of barriers that young people face in taking climate action, including not having the skill set to organize action, a lack of information on how to get involved and how to contact decision makers, not having enough knowledge on climate change, and not feeling supported by their peers. 54% of respondents feel like they're not listened to when they try to engage on this issue. This highlighted the importance of young people feeling empowered to take action in ways that feel tangible, where they feel they are having an impact at local, national and global levels.

TAKING ACTION



Many identified a range of actions they have taken including reducing plastic waste, cycling, walking, buying second-hand clothes, actively campaigning, taking part in local action projects and raising awareness. Young people also highlighted a move to vegetarianism or veganism, reduction in meat consumption, choosing education and career options focused on environment or sustainability as specific actions they have taken.

KEY OBSERVATIONS

89%

of young people are
reducing plastic waste as
a way of taking action
on climate change

77%

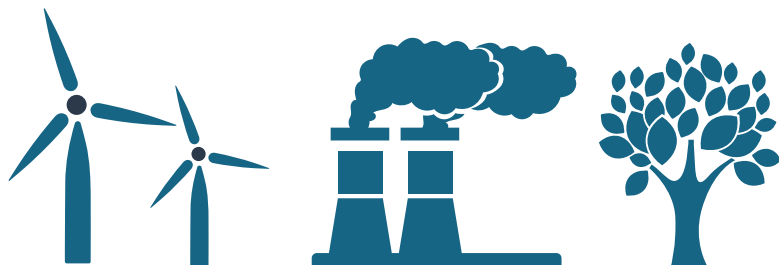
of young people feel
very and extremely
concerned
about climate change

55%

of respondents feel
like no-one listens
to them

48%

of young survey-takers
ranked changes in big
businesses and corporations
as most important when
tackling climate change and
38% ranked changes in
government policy



SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

PROTECTING NATURE

ROLE OF BIG BUSINESSES WITH REGARDS TO CLIMATE CHANGE

are the topics that young people want to learn the most about it

KEY OBSERVATIONS

+800

of young people use
public transport, cycle,
or walk to help
Climate Change

+380

of respondents have been
personally impacted
by climate change

80%

of young people get
involved in climate action
because of facts
and statistics

58%

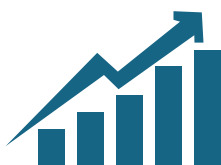
of respondents want more
local opportunities
to get involved in
climate issues

45%

of respondents care
about
global warming

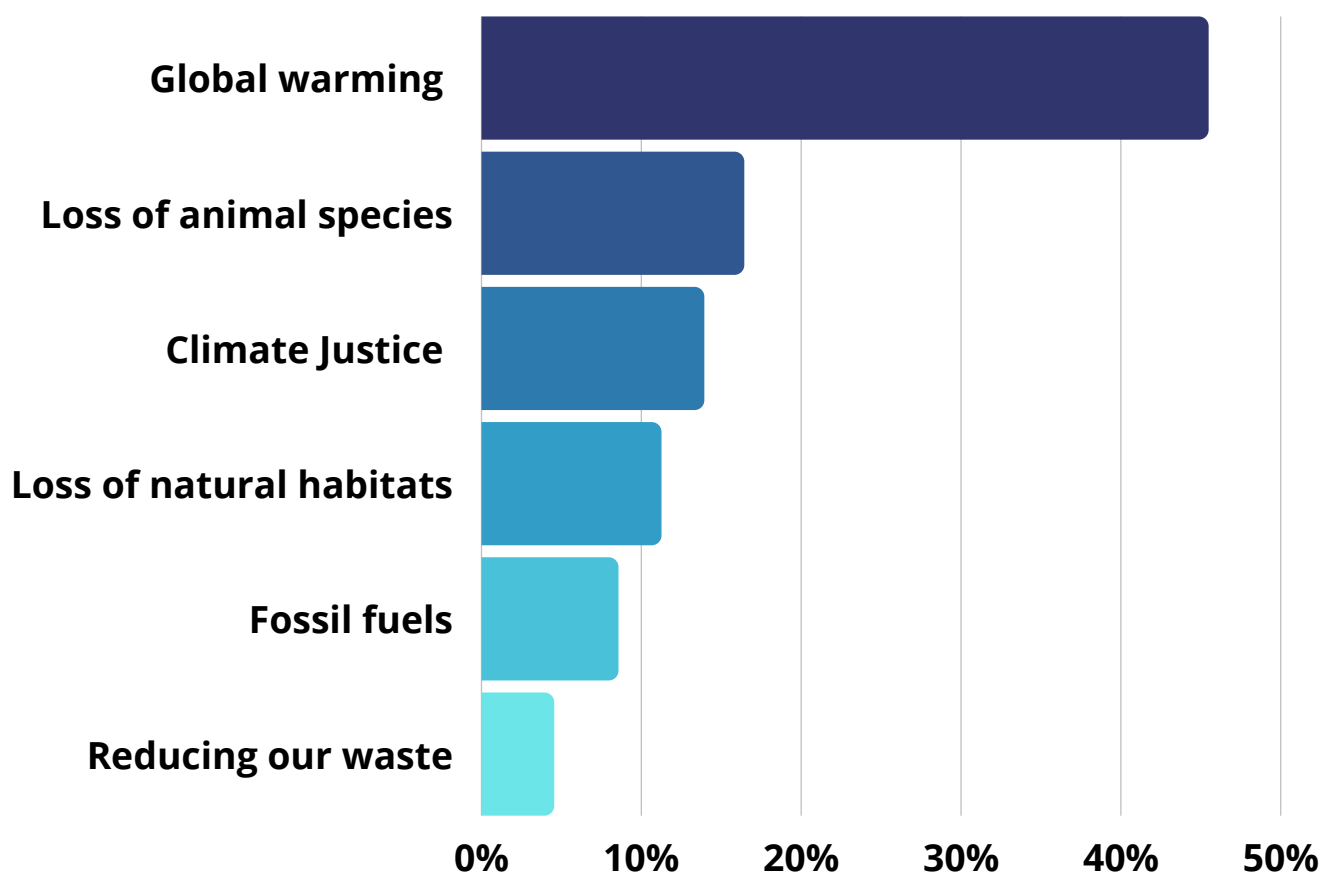
52%

of young people stated
that they want more
information on climate
change and
climate action



THE ISSUES YOUNG PEOPLE CARE

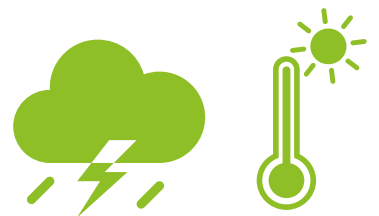
When young people asked how much they cared about a range of climate and environment related issues they cared most about global warming, followed by loss of animal species, climate justice and loss of natural habitats.



PERSONALLY IMPACTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE

37% OF RESPONDENTS FELT PERSONALLY IMPACTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE WITH 63% STATING THEY DID NOT FEEL PERSONALLY IMPACTED.

Of those who felt impacted, we asked them in what way they felt impacted. A high number of respondents highlighted extreme and unpredictable weather, storms, heatwaves, flooding, temperature changes as ways that they feel personally impacted by climate change.



What young people said:

"I'm only 20 years old and I've already seen a huge change in the Irish climate in the last 10 years. The weather is more extreme and the seasons are messed up."

"More severe weather such as storms and heat waves for my area have led to events being cancelled, electricity being cut off and general influence on my day to day life because of that."

"More frequent erratic floods / weather not appropriate for the season. Not a negative impact (for me) but buds still on (summer) flowers in October because of increased temperatures."

"As we have a farm in recent years weather has become a huge issue. The weather is completely unpredictable unusually wet for the time of year and unusually dry at other times of the year. It is hard to plan ahead."

"You can see it everywhere. I'm a surfer, the ocean is dirty, the beaches are dirty. The weather is changing. I've changed my lifestyle to try help - my diet, my purchases, my everyday choices."

"As a young person today, it is very hard to not feel impacted by climate change. We are the generation who will be forced to live in a world irreversibly changed by the carelessness of older generations."

PERSONALLY IMPACTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE

Of those who stated they were impacted by climate change they highlighted a sense of hopelessness for the future, feelings of being frightened and feelings of increased stress and anxiety and climate change impacting mental health.



What young people said:

"I feel like my future has been stolen from me - I think I probably won't have children as I don't imagine they will have a good future with the current environmental outlook."

"Climate change is something that is often on my mind. It is a cause of anxiety for me at time that I try not to think about these days - I care deeply about the environment and climate justice and it is a source of stress for me thinking about it excessively. For other things in life that are a source of anxiety you can tackle mostly on personal level but climate anxiety is something I can do little about. There is only so much an individual to do. The real action is at government level and to date I feel very let down by governments in not addressing the biggest issue we will face in our lifetimes."

"The way our generation has been given a lot of responsibility. If we don't do something about it and wait until the future then it will be too late."

"My future is being destroyed."

"Mental health is severely impacted by impending sense of doom and feeling like nothing I can do individually would be enough - working in college and towards goals feels less meaningful when you're not sure how far you'll get."

"My generation feel like it's us that has to reverse the damage done by many generations before us. I know some people who have even considered not having kids in the future because of the impact of a growing population on pollution and climate change. Myself included."



PERSONALLY IMPACTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE

Of those who were impacted by climate change young people environmental damage including habitat loss, deforestation, species loss as ways they are personally impacted.



“

What young people said:

"Climate change is messing up the Earth's ecological, geological and biological systems. Which is causing many extreme issues with wildfires etc and a global spread of infectious diseases. I personally feel impacted by climate change as these infectious diseases are becoming more and more of a problem. Also, the animals are dying and that's [...] sad. I feel like if you care for animals and understand that climate change is destroying any chance they may have it's really bad for one's mental health. Especially whilst knowing something can be done about it but some people refuse to believe it is real and continue to go about their lives as if nothing is happening.."

"I'm having to grow up in a world that my parents and their parents didn't seem to care about, and now don't care about how we can fix it because it's not their problem."

"Less insects and wildlife around as there used to be."

"Some animal species are extinct. Not allowed to build in the town I am from. Everything is more expensive. Forests are getting destroyed. Oceans are polluted. Changed my entire diet to help the environment and I am ridiculed by people not informed about climate change and the damage that eating meat does to the environment."

”

BARRIERS TO TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE

54.6%

NO ONE LISTENS



When asked about the barriers young people face regarding acting on climate issues, 54.6% of the respondents responded that they feel they are not being listened to.

45.7%

LACK OF SKILLS



45.7% of the respondents believe their lack of skills in areas such as public speaking, organising, etc. are barriers to them taking action on climate change.

36%

GET IN TOUCH WITH POLITICIANS AND DECISION MAKERS



36% of the respondents don't know how to get in touch with politicians and decision makers.

35.4%

NOT ENOUGH INFORMATION ON HOW TO GET INVOLVED



35.4% of the respondents think that there's not enough information on how to get involved in taking climate action.

BARRIERS TO TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE

34.4%

NO PROTESTS OR EVENTS
IN MY AREA



34.3% of young people feel that the lack of environmental protests and events in their local areas is a barrier in acting towards climate change.

29.5%

THERE IS NOT ENOUGH
KNOWLEDGE ON CLIMATE CHANGE



29.5% of participants don't feel they have enough knowledge on climate change.

28.4%

FRIENDS AREN'T INTERESTED
IN CLIMATE ISSUES



28.4% of the respondents feel that their friends aren't interested in climate issues.

12.3%

MY FAMILY DON'T SUPPORT ME



12.3% of the respondents confirmed that they do not have support from their family members to take environmental action.

BARRIERS TO TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE

When asked to outline specific barriers to them getting involved, young people said:

“

"Knowing where to start is often a problem. Which is the most pressing issue? How do we make global change?"

"I have a lot of knowledge on the situation but I need to educate myself more, I am confident to speak to any group of people except my class."

"Very difficult to properly commit to acting in the community with a busy lifestyle."

"My experience is that, generally, people care more about the economy than the climate. It's hard to convince someone that this is not the case without proper education."

"Lack of proportional actions from government bodies. Climate change is a generational issue. The generation currently in governments will not feel the impacts of climate change. However, by the time my generation are in government, it will be too late to act as. I think convincing older generations to take action and to care about the future of our species is the biggest barrier I currently face."

”



SOLUTIONS

INCREASE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

52%

OF YOUNG PEOPLE STATED THAT THEY WANT MORE INFORMATION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND CLIMATE ACTION.

When asked what areas young people would like more information on, the results were:

- Sustainable energy (64%)
- The role of business and corporations in climate change (63%)
- Protecting nature and biodiversity (62%)
- How to take action on climate change (59%)
- Sustainable food options (58%)
- Reducing plastic waste (57%)
- Politics and policy around climate change (56%)
- Climate justice (55%)
- How to lobby the government about climate change (50%)
- Fast fashion/sustainable fashion (50%)
- Sustainable buildings (46%)
- Gardening and growing (40%)
- Circular economy (39%)

SOLUTIONS

In terms of supports young people highlighted more local opportunities to get involved in climate issues, increased education on climate-change and climate action, training on how to get involved and upskilling in specific areas such as communications, organising and campaigning.

58.5%

MORE LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED IN CLIMATE ISSUES

52.4%

GAINING MORE SKILLS

For example campaigning, organising, communicating, etc.

50.2%

TRAINING IN HOW TO GET INVOLVED IN CLIMATE ISSUES

39.6%

GET TO KNOW MORE YOUNG CLIMATE ACTIVISTS

SOLUTIONS



There are the main actions young people feel are the most important when it comes to tackling climate change:

BIG BUSINESS AND CORPORATIONS



Young people expressed concerns towards the environmentally friendly activities (or lack thereof) of big business and corporations. 47.7% of young survey-takers ranked big businesses as their primary concern, and the most prominent factor that could have an impact on tackling climate change and climate justice issues.

GOVERNMENT POLICIES



Changes in government policies were the second most highly rated response about what factors are important to tackle climate issues. 38% of the respondents rank changes in government policies as the most important factor.

INDIVIDUAL ACTION



Individual actions, such as reducing waste and changing habits were the third most highly rated response about what factors are important to tackle climate issues. 8.4% of the respondents rank individual actions as a relevant factor.

EDUCATION SYSTEM



A bigger focus on climate issues in the education system are the fourth response about what factors are important to tackle climate issues. 5.6% of the respondents rank changes in the education system will help to tackle climate issues.

WHAT ENCOURAGES YOUNG PEOPLE TO GET INVOLVED IN CLIMATE ACTION?

Young people were asked what encourages them to take action on climate issues. The results are:

81%

of young people get involved because of facts and/or statistics on climate issues.



75%

of respondents stated a respect for the environment.



73%

listed reading or watching news stories about climate change as a factor that encourages them to act.



70%

answered that they feel compelled to act after watching nature-based documentaries and listening to climate-centered stories.



WHAT ENCOURAGES YOUNG PEOPLE TO GET INVOLVED IN CLIMATE ACTION?

Of the other reasons young people are encouraged to get involved in climate action the responses highlighted that young people want a desire for a better world for future generations, fear and loss. Young people also highlighted education and others speaking out as encouraging.

What young people said:



“Desire for a better world for future generations”



“Seeing people my age speak out!”



“Being absolutely terrified of the planet heating up and the consequences that brings”



“Education”



“I have a strong belief that humans should be at one with the planet. We need the planet, the planet doesn’t need us.”

WHAT ACTIONS ARE YOUNG IRISH PEOPLE TAKING?

Climate change has led the young people of Ireland to take various actions, mainly on an individual level:

89% ARE REDUCING PLASTIC WASTE



The survey shows that the most popular effort is reducing plastic waste.

81% CHANGED TO A GREENER COMMUTE



Respondents have started using public transport, bicycles, and walking to reduce their personal effects on global warming.

60% ARE RAISING AWARENESS



An attempt to raise awareness among friends and family is a practice that is being adopted by more than 60% of the respondents to help take action on a changing climate.

53% ARE BUYING SECOND-HAND



53% of survey-takers are familiar with the harmful effects of the Fast Fashion industry, and are making an effort to buy second-hand, vintage clothes.

34% ARE ACTIVELY CAMPAIGNING



34% of participants say they are actively campaigning for change at their school; youth organisation; college; or workplace.

24% ARE INVOLVED IN A LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PROJECT



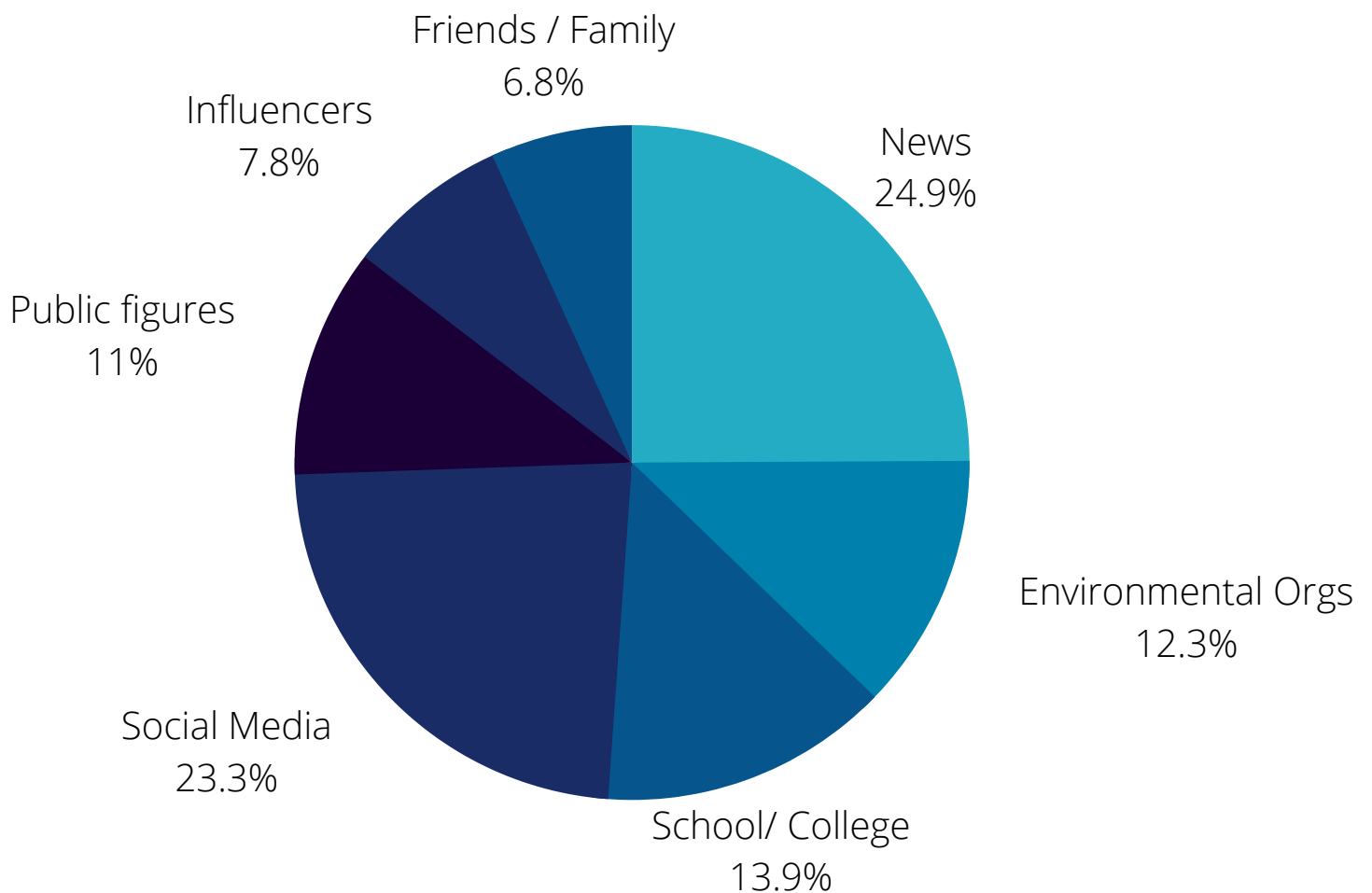
24% of participants say they are involved in environmental action projects in their communities.

OTHER SPECIFIC ACTIONS THEY HAVE TAKEN:

When asked what specific actions young people are taking on climate change some of the actions included choosing to be vegetarian or vegan and reducing meat consumption as personal actions they have taken, others highlighted choosing environmentally focused courses and careers including geography, sustainability, environmental sciences etc. Other actions included reducing waste and consumption, improved recycling and going on protests and strikes.

HOW TO REACH YOUNG PEOPLE?

The young survey-takers expressed many different avenues that they receive their information on climate-based issues. The most popular are the following channels:



HOW TO REACH YOUNG PEOPLE?

The most popular social media platforms used by young people on a daily basis are:

INSTAGRAM



88%

SNAPCHAT



74%

YOUTUBE



51%

TIK TOK



39%

A FAIRER, GREENER WORLD

Desire for a fairer-greener future.

Young people want a fair and equitable future. They highlighted that they want a future that, uses renewable energy, has cleaner air, reduction in fast fashion and that respects nature with people and planet living in harmony.

We asked all of the participants to write what a fairer, greener world would look like to them. Here are some of the young people's responses:

A world where everyone is treated equally and has equal rights and opportunities available to them. A world where we respect the environment and live as a part of nature, not separate from it. Where animals and plants have space to thrive in their natural habitats but where all humans have access to their basic necessities.

Where animals and plants have space to thrive in their natural habitats, and where all humans have access to their basic necessities.

“

Where people are educated on the issues and want to make a positive change, massive reduction in waste and fast fashion.”

A world where fossil fuels are no longer needed, single use plastics are completely gone and animals aren't in the same amount of danger as they are in now.

“

A circular economy, free and accessible public transport, all SDGs in place, we have green cities and towns. Electric cars are the norm, food and fashion are sustainable, and there's no food poverty or homelessness, Equality and equity for all.

”

A FAIRER, GREENER WORLD

“

Humans and animals living in harmony, and all energy requirements created in environmentally friendly way”

Less fast fashion especially online fast fashion, big organisations taking action to reduce co2 emissions etc., more forestation and protection of natural green spaces.

Where we don't cut corners to save money at the climate's expense. Where the first question is "what impact" instead of "what price?"

Animals habitats not being destroyed. People composting their biodegradable food instead of binning it in the dump in plastic bags. Less plastic packaging.

A world where sustainable energy is an affordable/viable option. A world where communities in developing countries don't have their land and livelihood exploited for profit.

“

Every policy in government should have an environmental aspect to it, because without a functioning planet we have nothing.”

A FAIRER, GREENER WORLD

More companies providing sustainable packaging and materials, e.g plastic packaging for clothes deliveries to be made from sustainable materials e.g. Hemp. Clothes to be sourced from sustainable materials. Single use plastics eradicated in super markets for more sustainable ones.

Sustainability on a large, global scale as the only option available. It looks like biodiversity and environmental changes have taken a turn for the greater and the threat of a global crisis is no longer there.

Multinational companies taking responsibility for harmful practices or being fined a sizable tax if they don't change - and no waiting to implement it.

“

A fairer, greener world looks to me like a place where everyone makes habitual changes in their daily routines to promote sustainability. Ultimately, there should be no discernible cost disadvantage of choosing a 'greener' option as a straight swap for something less sustainable i.e. using an electric car as opposed to a diesel car. The onus is on every family to take responsibility, recycle and reduce unnecessary consumption. It is my opinion that such changes are a lot more achievable than they are made out to be. This will be the foundation for a fairer, greener world where we can live sustainably and benefit from it immensely.

”

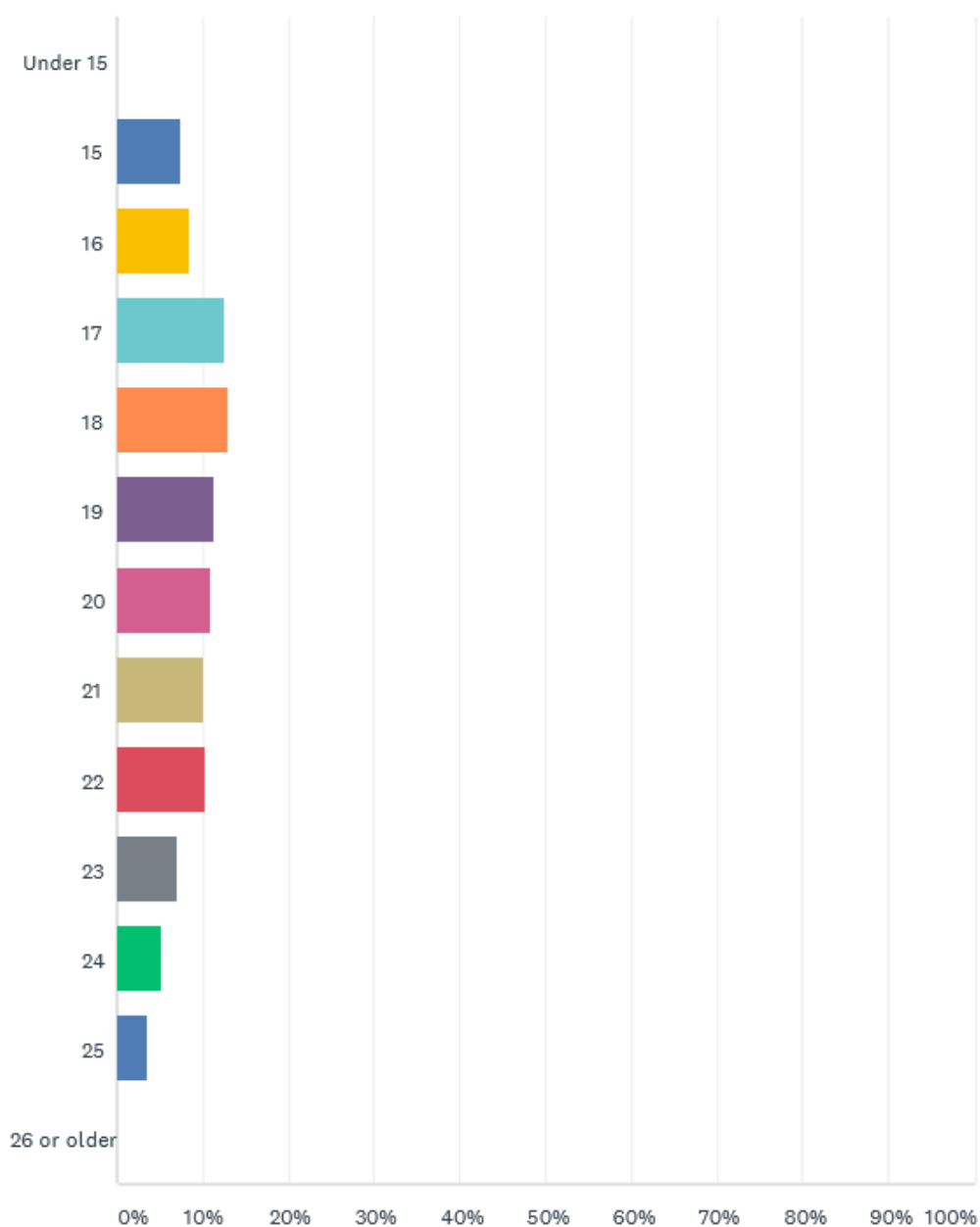
APPENDIX



These are young people's closed answers. Open ending responses are not included.

Q1 What is your age?

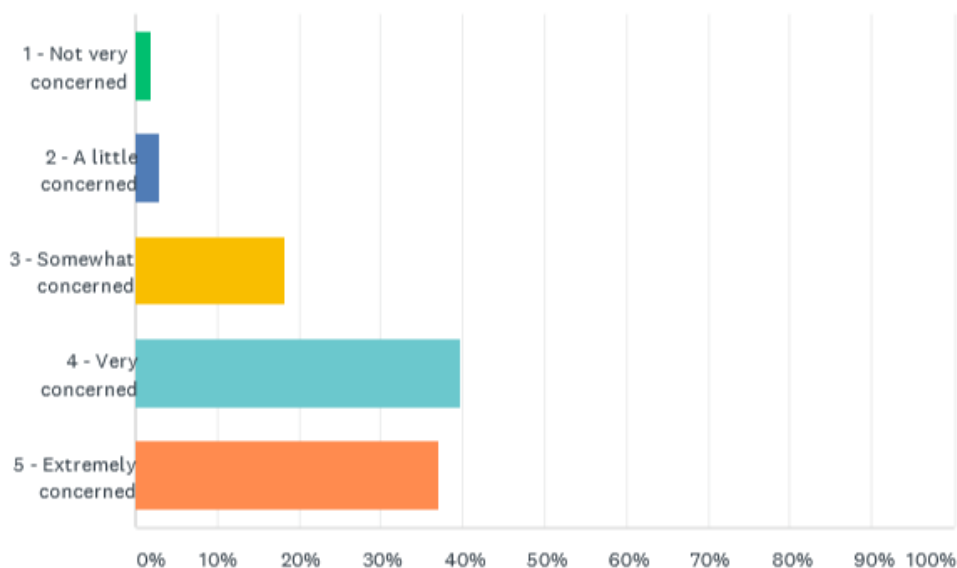
Answered: 1,043 Skipped: 0



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|----------------|-----------|-------|
| Under 15 | 0.00% | 0 |
| 15 | 7.48% | 78 |
| 16 | 8.63% | 90 |
| 17 | 12.56% | 131 |
| 18 | 13.04% | 136 |
| 19 | 11.22% | 117 |
| 20 | 10.83% | 113 |
| 21 | 9.97% | 104 |
| 22 | 10.35% | 108 |
| 23 | 7.09% | 74 |
| 24 | 5.18% | 54 |
| 25 | 3.64% | 38 |
| 26 or older | 0.00% | 0 |
| TOTAL | | 1,043 |

Q2 How concerned do you feel about climate change?

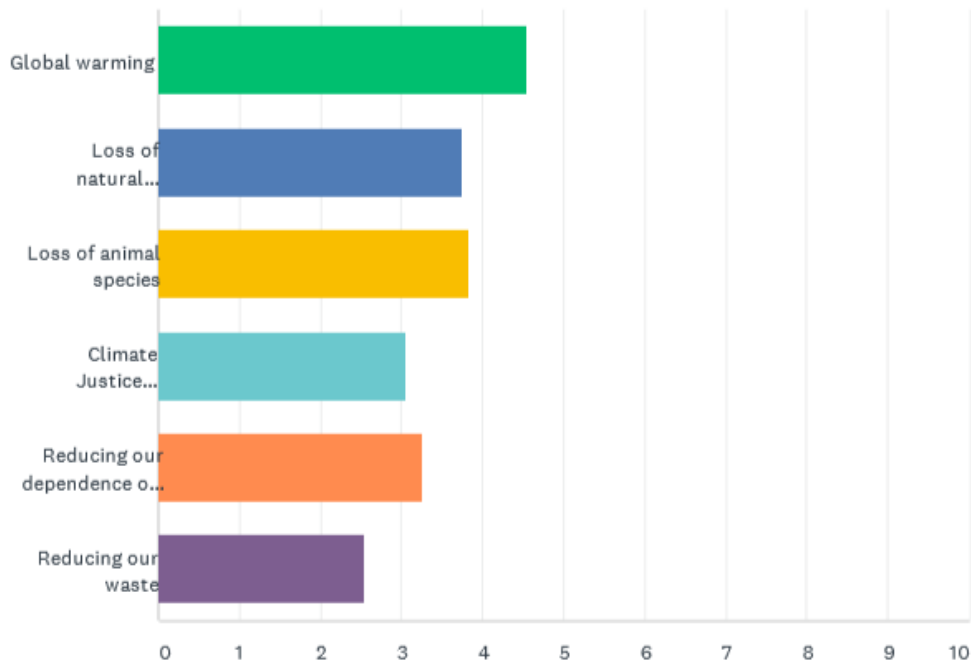
Answered: 1,043 Skipped: 0



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------|
| 1 - Not very concerned | 1.92% | 20 |
| 2 - A little concerned | 2.97% | 31 |
| 3 - Somewhat concerned | 18.22% | 190 |
| 4 - Very concerned | 39.79% | 415 |
| 5 - Extremely concerned | 37.10% | 387 |
| TOTAL | | 1,043 |

Q3 Rank the following in order of how much you care about these issues from top to bottom

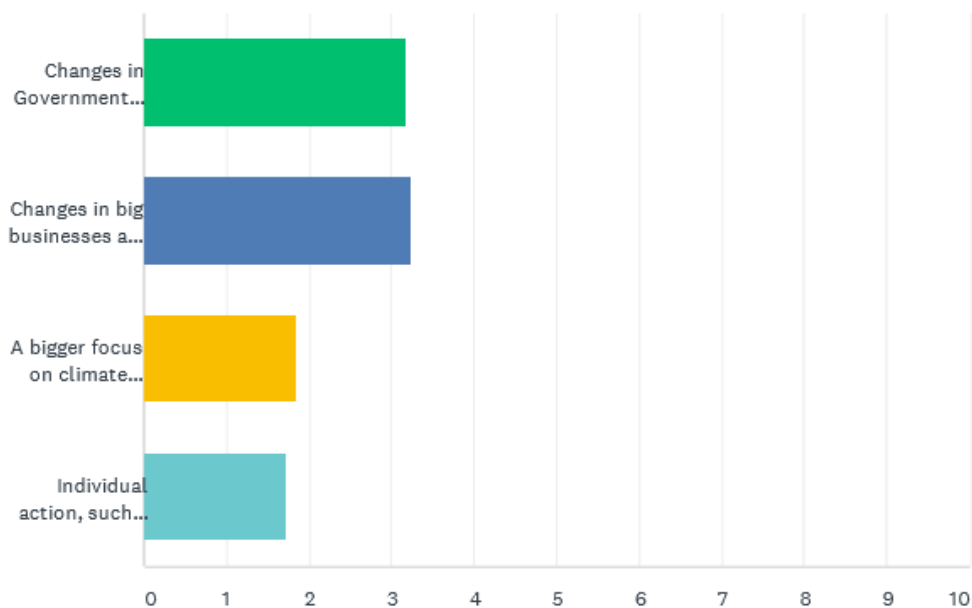
Answered: 1,043 Skipped: 0



| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | TOTAL | SCORE |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------|-------|
| Global warming | 45.45% 474 | 14.19% 148 | 13.81% 144 | 11.03% 115 | 7.67% 80 | 7.86% 82 | 1,043 | 4.55 |
| Loss of natural habitats | 11.22% 117 | 25.12% 262 | 22.72% 237 | 18.89% 197 | 12.85% 134 | 9.20% 96 | 1,043 | 3.75 |
| Loss of animal species | 16.40% 171 | 21.67% 226 | 20.13% 210 | 19.08% 199 | 15.05% 157 | 7.67% 80 | 1,043 | 3.82 |
| Climate Justice (Protecting the most vulnerable people from climate change) | 13.90% 145 | 12.85% 134 | 12.75% 133 | 15.05% 157 | 16.97% 177 | 28.48% 297 | 1,043 | 3.06 |
| Reducing our dependence on fossil fuels | 8.53% 89 | 16.30% 170 | 18.22% 190 | 19.56% 204 | 24.35% 254 | 13.04% 136 | 1,043 | 3.26 |
| Reducing our waste | 4.51% 47 | 9.88% 103 | 12.37% 129 | 16.40% 171 | 23.11% 241 | 33.75% 352 | 1,043 | 2.55 |

Q4 What do you feel is most important when it comes to tackling climate change? Please rank the options below from top to bottom

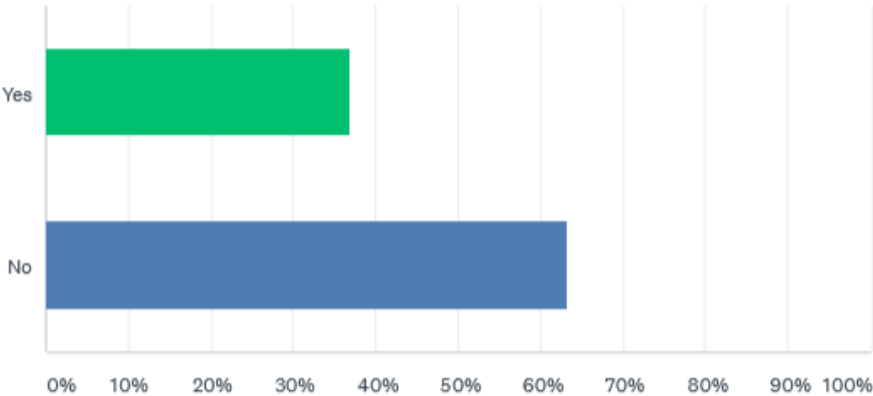
Answered: 1,043 Skipped: 0



| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | TOTAL | SCORE |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------|-------|
| Changes in Government policy | 38.16% 398 | 45.54% 475 | 11.51% 120 | 4.79% 50 | 1,043 | 3.17 |
| Changes in big businesses and corporations | 47.75% 498 | 34.23% 357 | 11.98% 125 | 6.04% 63 | 1,043 | 3.24 |
| A bigger focus on climate issues in the education system | 5.66% 59 | 9.59% 100 | 49.28% 514 | 35.47% 370 | 1,043 | 1.85 |
| Individual action, such as reducing waste and changing habits | 8.44% 88 | 10.64% 111 | 27.23% 284 | 53.69% 560 | 1,043 | 1.74 |

Q5 Do you feel you have been personally impacted by climate change?

Answered: 1,043 Skipped: 0



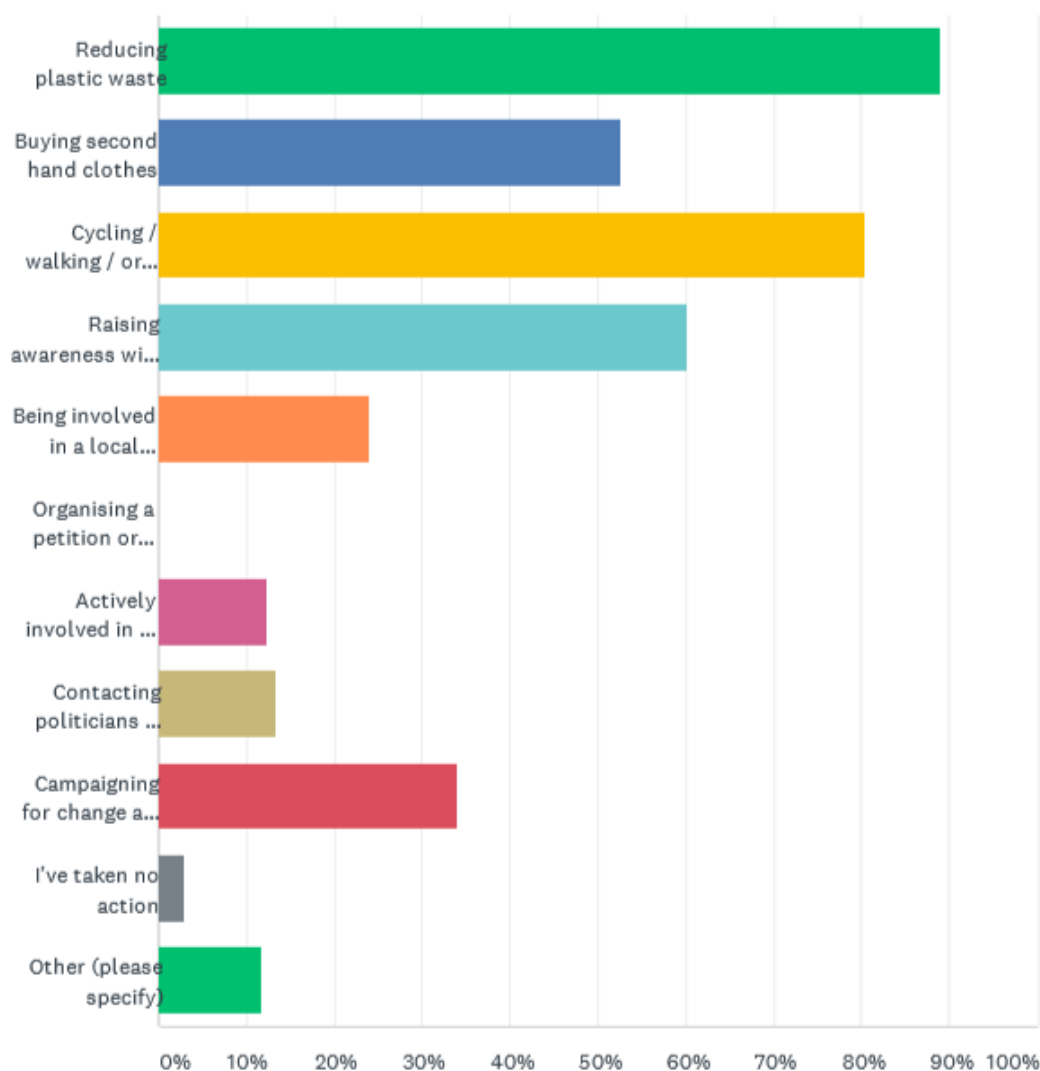
| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|----------------|-----------|-------|
| Yes | 36.82% | 384 |
| No | 63.18% | 659 |
| TOTAL | | 1,043 |

Q6 If yes, in what way to do you feel personally impacted by climate change?

Answered: 360 Skipped: 683

Q7 What action, if any, have you taken on climate change?(Select as many options as you want)

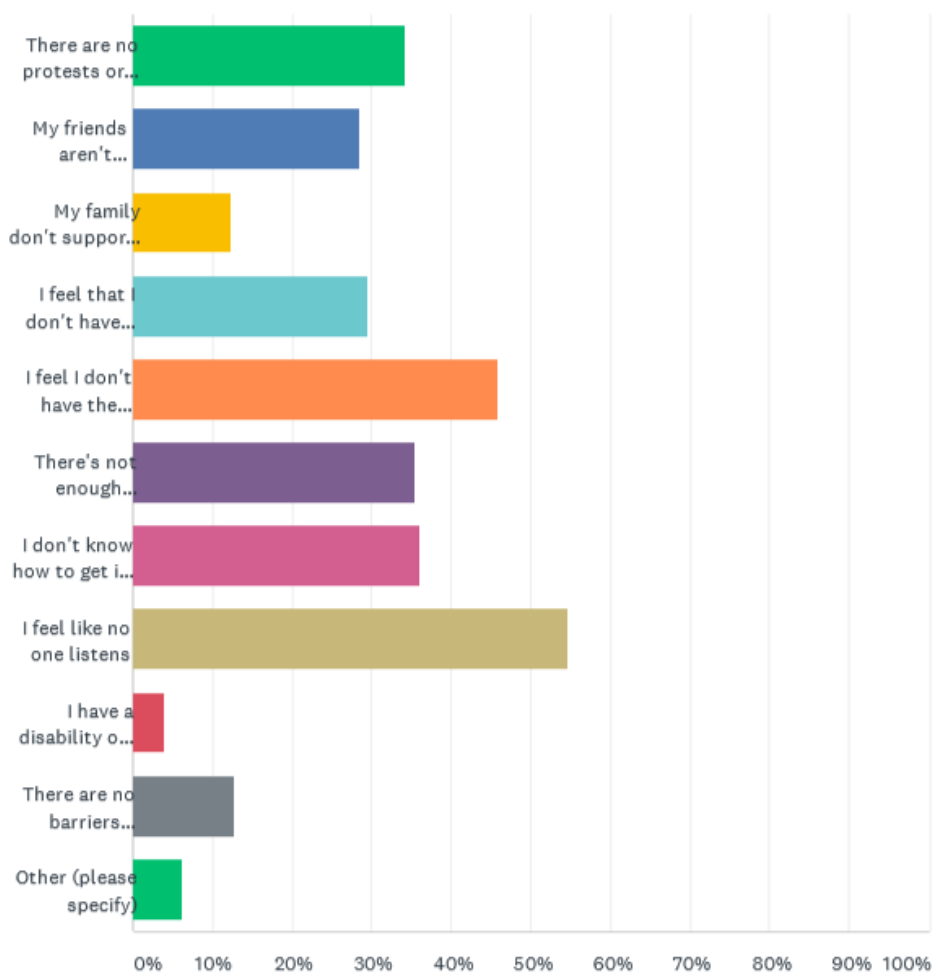
Answered: 1,026 Skipped: 17



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|--|-----------|-----|
| Reducing plastic waste | 89.18% | 915 |
| Buying second hand clothes | 52.63% | 540 |
| Cycling / walking / or using public transport more | 80.51% | 826 |
| Raising awareness with friends and family | 60.33% | 619 |
| Being involved in a local environmental action project | 23.98% | 246 |
| Organising a petition or protest | 0.10% | 1 |
| Actively involved in an environmental organisation | 12.38% | 127 |
| Contacting politicians or companies | 13.45% | 138 |
| Campaigning for change at my school / youth organisation / college / workplace | 34.02% | 349 |
| I've taken no action | 2.83% | 29 |
| Other (please specify) | 11.70% | 120 |
| Total Respondents: 1,026 | | |

Q8 What barriers do you see with taking action on climate issues?(Select as many options as you want)

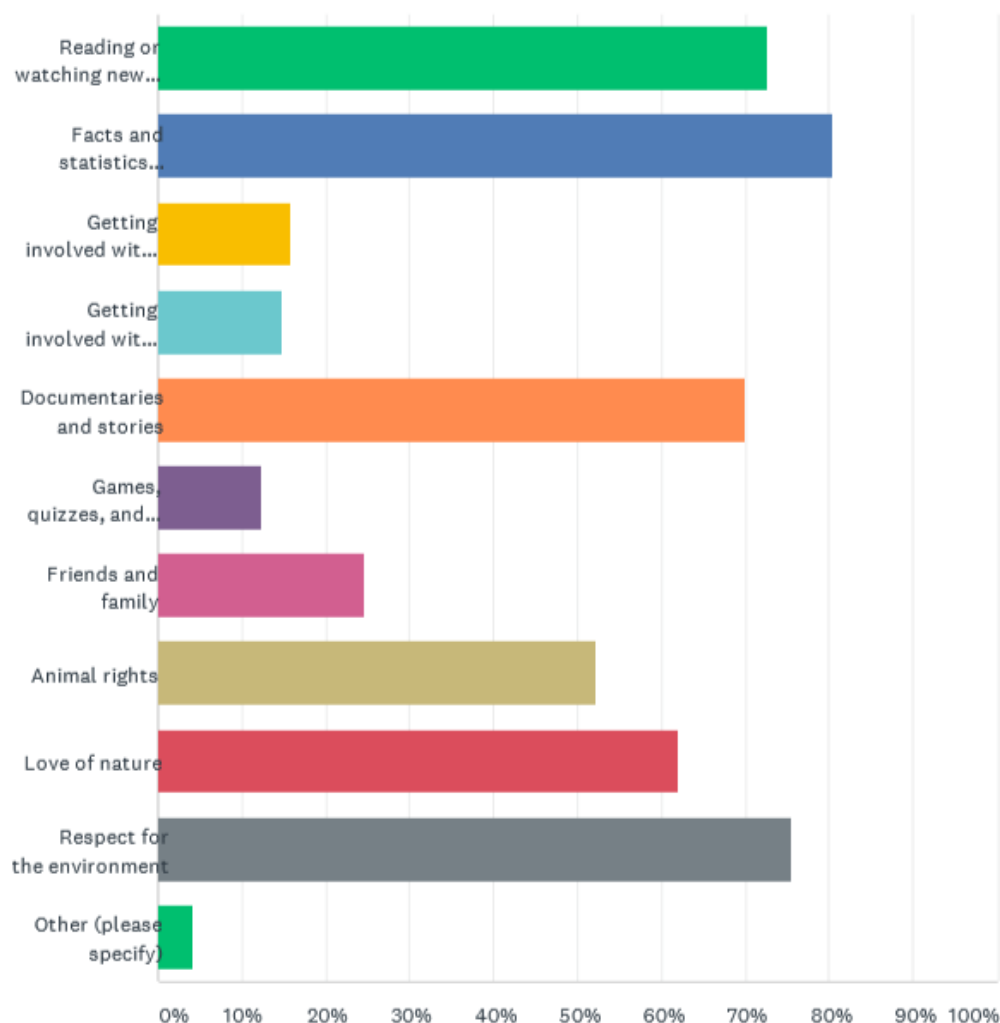
Answered: 1,026 Skipped: 17



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|--|-----------|-----|
| There are no protests or events in my area | 34.31% | 352 |
| My friends aren't interested in climate issues | 28.46% | 292 |
| My family don't support me | 12.38% | 127 |
| I feel that I don't have enough knowledge on climate change | 29.53% | 303 |
| I feel I don't have the skills, e.g. public speaking, organising, etc. | 45.71% | 469 |
| There's not enough information on how to get involved | 35.48% | 364 |
| I don't know how to get in touch with politicians and decision makers | 36.06% | 370 |
| I feel like no one listens | 54.58% | 560 |
| I have a disability or another condition that makes it difficult to get involved | 3.90% | 40 |
| There are no barriers preventing me from taking action | 12.67% | 130 |
| Other (please specify) | 6.34% | 65 |
| Total Respondents: 1,026 | | |

Q9 What encourages you to get involved in climate action?(Select as many options as you want)

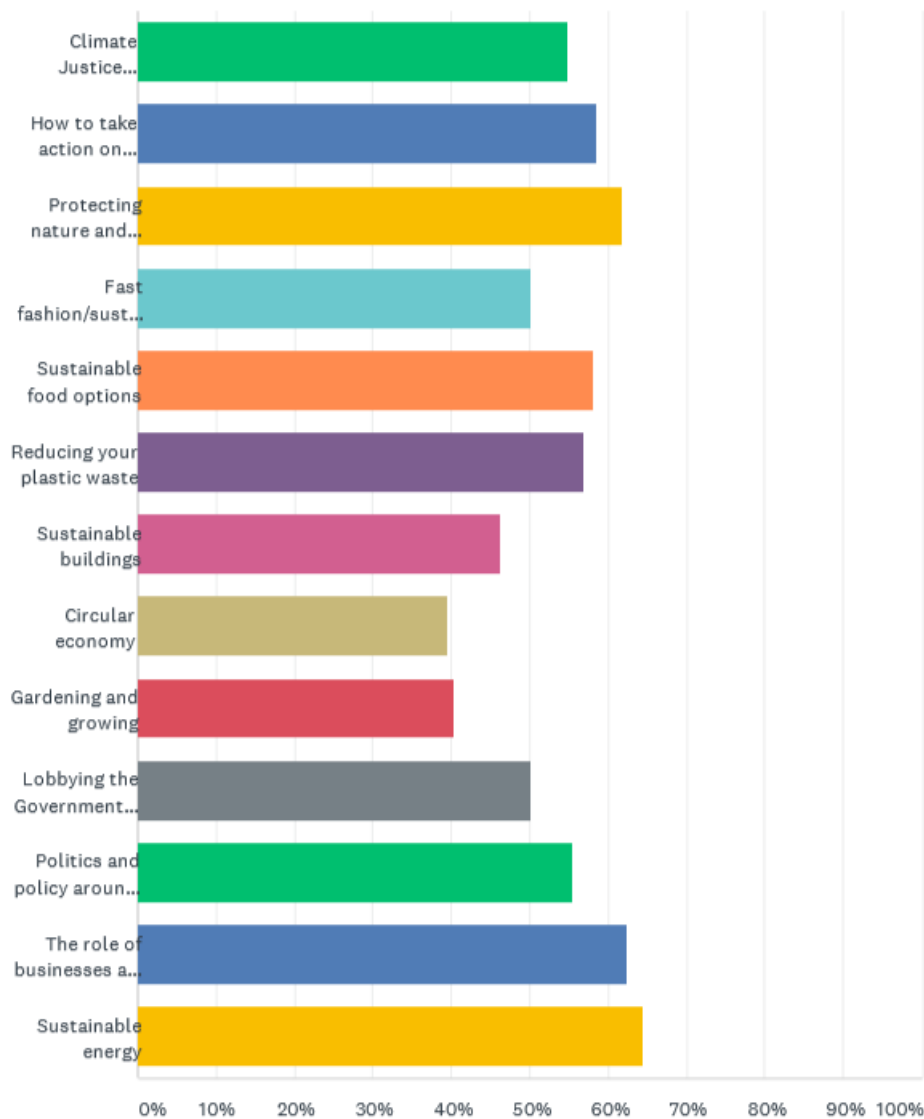
Answered: 1,026 Skipped: 17



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|---|-----------|-----|
| Reading or watching news stories about climate change | 72.61% | 745 |
| Facts and statistics about climate change | 80.51% | 826 |
| Getting involved with youth organisations | 15.98% | 164 |
| Getting involved with climate organisations | 14.91% | 153 |
| Documentaries and stories | 70.08% | 719 |
| Games, quizzes, and activities | 12.38% | 127 |
| Friends and family | 24.66% | 253 |
| Animal rights | 52.34% | 537 |
| Love of nature | 62.09% | 637 |
| Respect for the environment | 75.44% | 774 |
| Other (please specify) | 4.19% | 43 |
| Total Respondents: 1,026 | | |

Q10 Which topics would you like to learn more about?(Select as many options as you want)

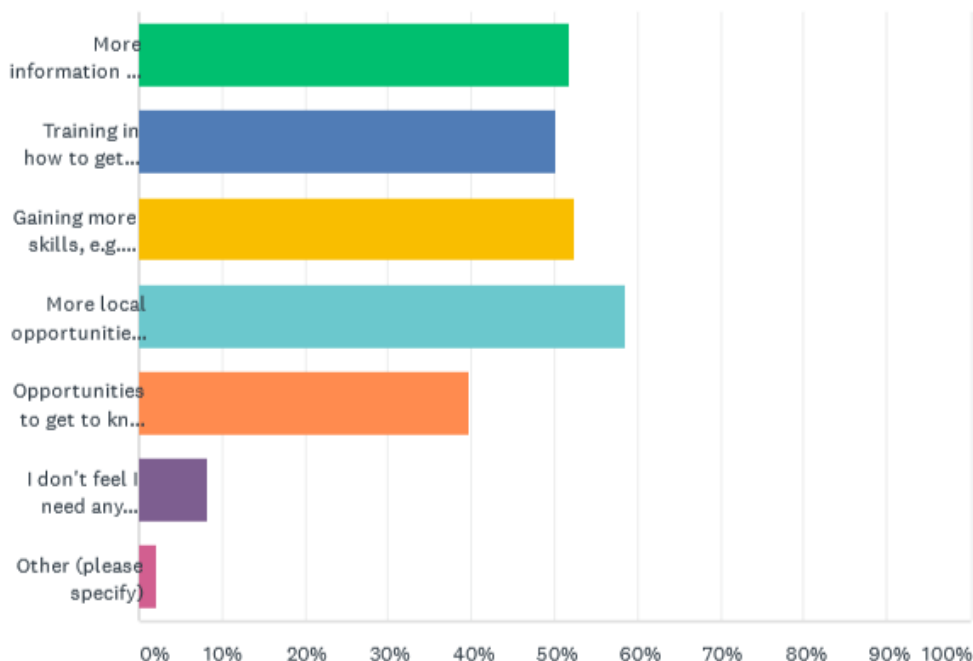
Answered: 1,043 Skipped: 0



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|---|-----------|-----|
| Climate Justice (Protecting the most vulnerable people from climate change) | 54.84% | 572 |
| How to take action on climate change | 58.58% | 611 |
| Protecting nature and biodiversity | 61.84% | 645 |
| Fast fashion/sustainable fashion | 50.24% | 524 |
| Sustainable food options | 58.20% | 607 |
| Reducing your plastic waste | 56.86% | 593 |
| Sustainable buildings | 46.31% | 483 |
| Circular economy | 39.60% | 413 |
| Gardening and growing | 40.46% | 422 |
| Lobbying the Government about climate change | 50.24% | 524 |
| Politics and policy around climate change | 55.51% | 579 |
| The role of businesses and corporations in climate change | 62.51% | 652 |
| Sustainable energy | 64.43% | 672 |
| Total Respondents: 1,043 | | |

Q11 What supports do you need to get more involved in climate action? (Select as many options as you want)

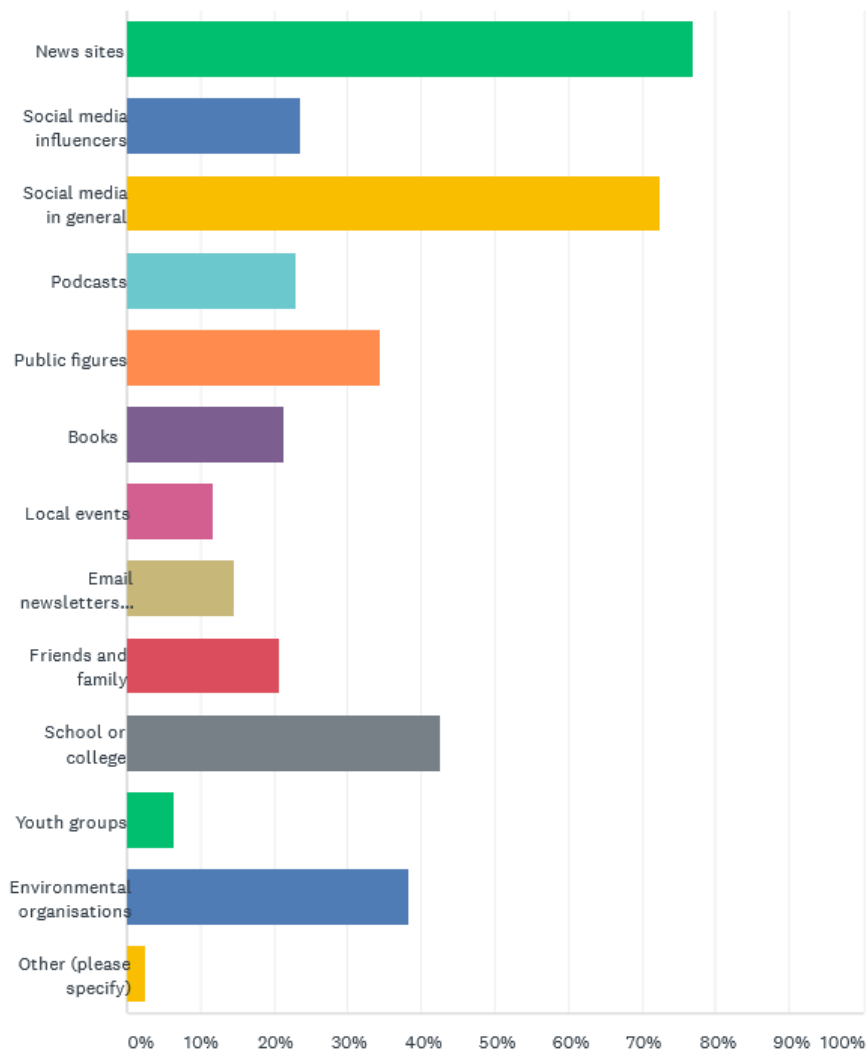
Answered: 1,043 Skipped: 0



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|--|-----------|-----|
| More information on climate change and climate action | 51.87% | 541 |
| Training in how to get involved in climate issues | 50.24% | 524 |
| Gaining more skills, e.g. campaigning, organising, communicating, etc. | 52.44% | 547 |
| More local opportunities to get involved in climate issues | 58.49% | 610 |
| Opportunities to get to know more young climate activists | 39.69% | 414 |
| I don't feel I need any support | 8.34% | 87 |
| Other (please specify) | 2.01% | 21 |
| Total Respondents: 1,043 | | |

Q12 Where do you usually get your climate updates and information from? (Select as many options as you want)

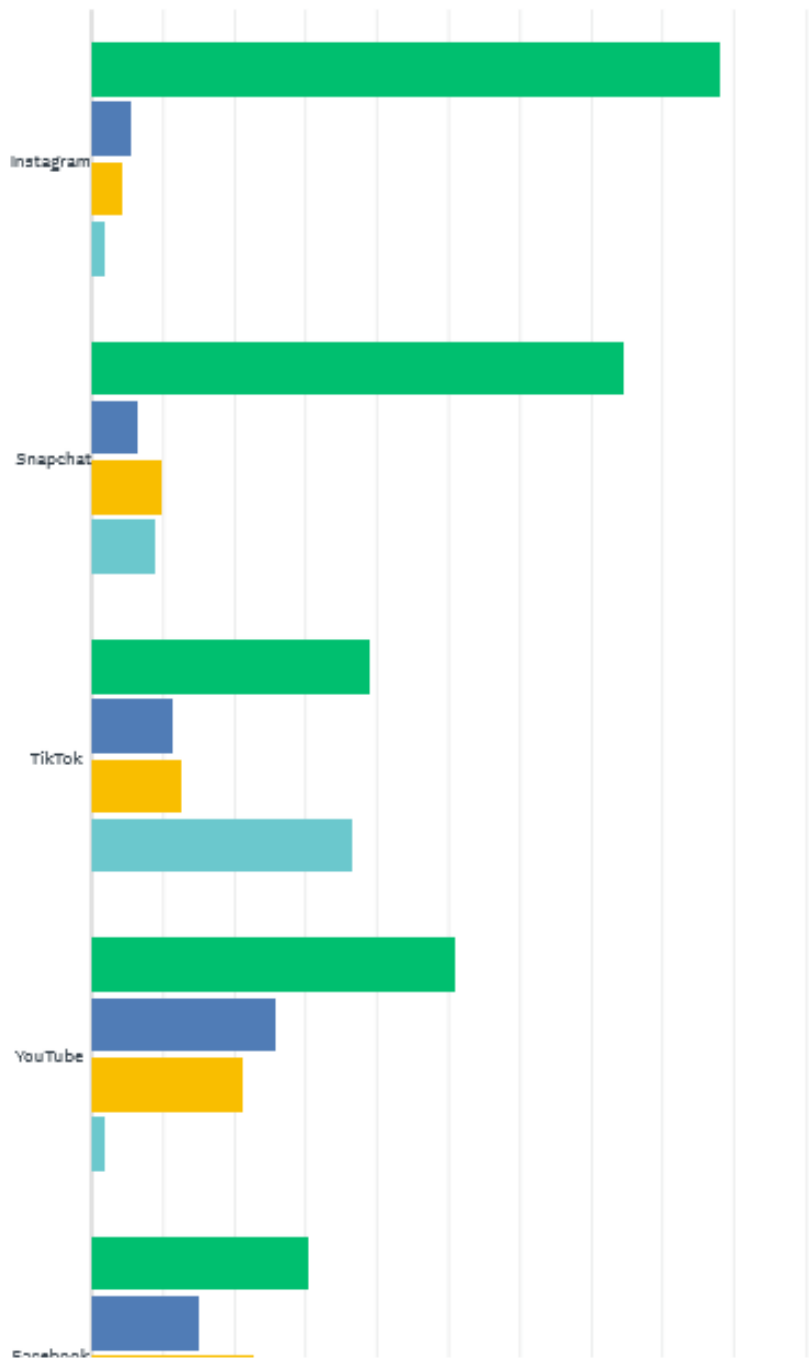
Answered: 1,043 Skipped: 0

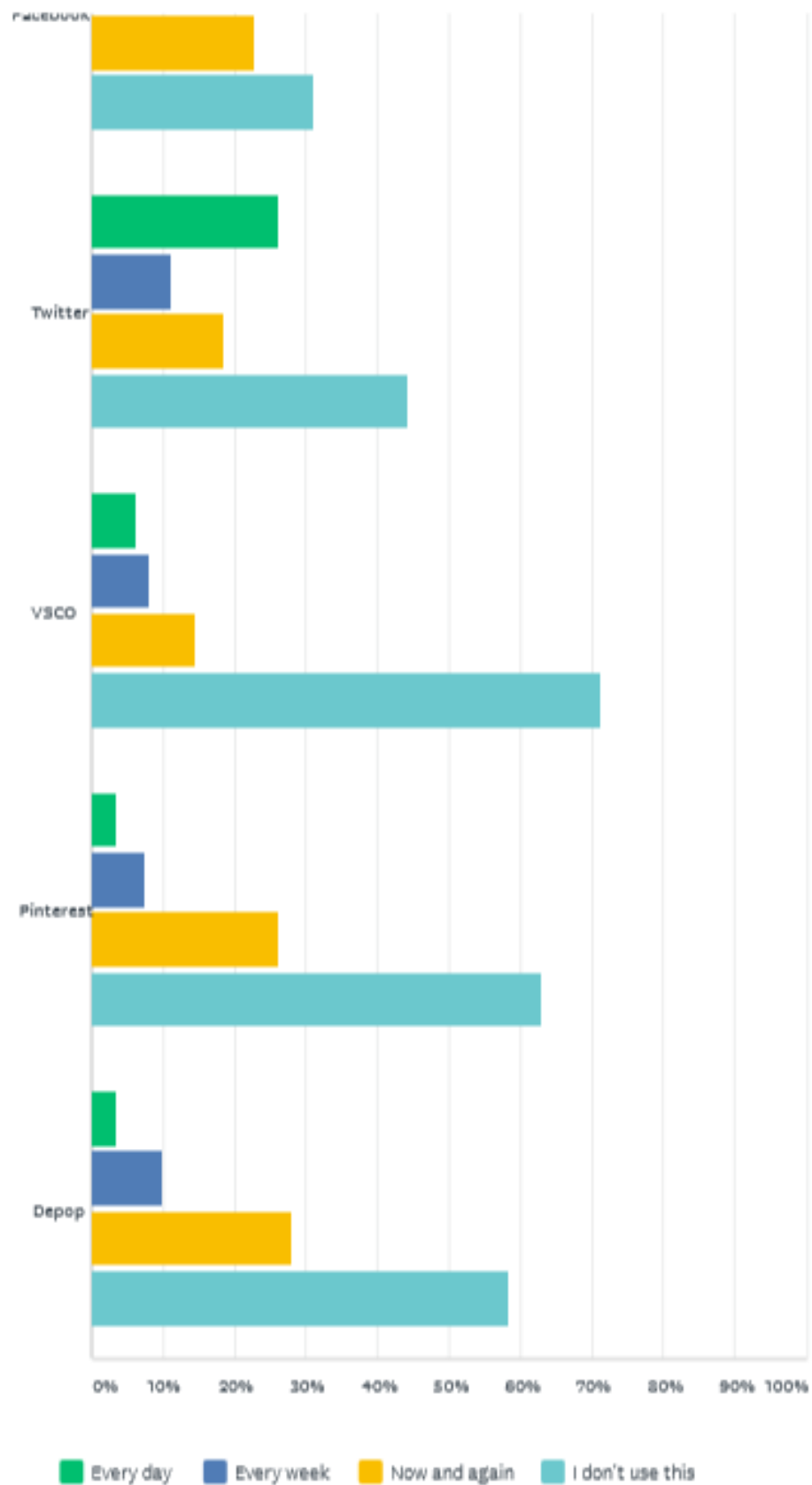


| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|--|-----------|-----|
| News sites | 76.99% | 803 |
| Social media influencers | 23.68% | 247 |
| Social media in general | 72.29% | 754 |
| Podcasts | 23.11% | 241 |
| Public figures | 34.42% | 359 |
| Books | 21.28% | 222 |
| Local events | 11.70% | 122 |
| Email newsletters from climate organisations | 14.57% | 152 |
| Friends and family | 20.61% | 215 |
| School or college | 42.67% | 445 |
| Youth groups | 6.42% | 67 |
| Environmental organisations | 38.35% | 400 |
| Other (please specify) | 2.49% | 26 |
| Total Respondents: 1,043 | | |

Q13 How frequently do you use the following social media platforms?
(Please give an answer for each row)

Answered: 1,016 Skipped: 27





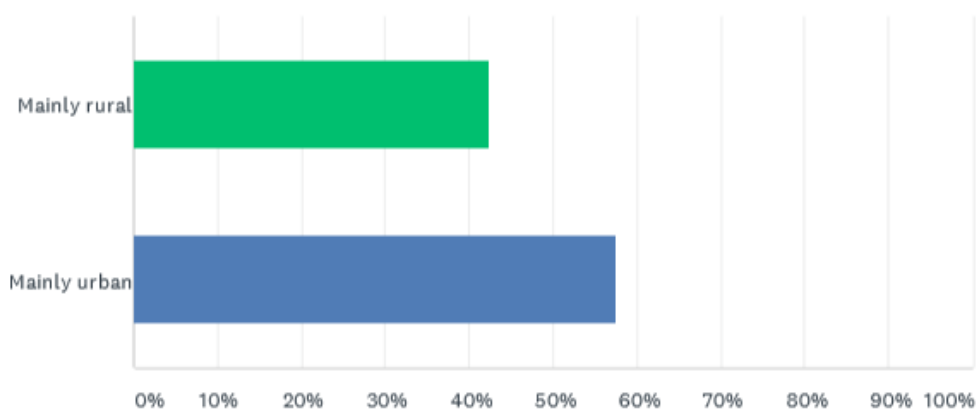
| | EVERY DAY | EVERY WEEK | NOW AND AGAIN | I DON'T USE THIS | TOTAL |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|-------|
| Instagram | 88.09% 895 | 5.61% 57 | 4.33% 44 | 1.97% 20 | 1,016 |
| Snapchat | 74.41% 756 | 6.40% 65 | 10.14% 103 | 9.06% 92 | 1,016 |
| TikTok | 39.07% 397 | 11.52% 117 | 12.80% 130 | 36.61% 372 | 1,016 |
| YouTube | 50.98% 518 | 25.98% 264 | 21.06% 214 | 1.97% 20 | 1,016 |
| Facebook | 30.61% 311 | 15.35% 156 | 22.83% 232 | 31.20% 317 | 1,016 |
| Twitter | 26.08% 265 | 11.02% 112 | 18.50% 188 | 44.39% 451 | 1,016 |
| VSCO | 6.20% 63 | 8.17% 83 | 14.57% 148 | 71.06% 722 | 1,016 |
| Pinterest | 3.44% 35 | 7.38% 75 | 26.18% 266 | 62.99% 640 | 1,016 |
| Depop | 3.64% 37 | 10.14% 103 | 27.95% 284 | 58.27% 592 | 1,016 |

Q14 Describe what a fairer, greener world would look like to you

Answered: 830 Skipped: 213

Q15 How would you describe the place where you spend the majority of your time?

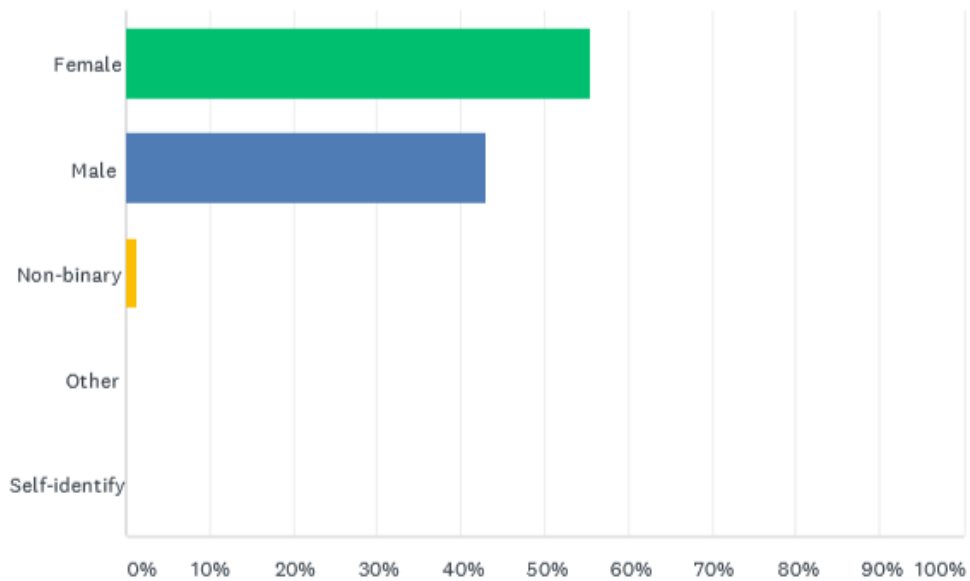
Answered: 1,009 Skipped: 34



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|----------------|-----------|-------|
| Mainly rural | 42.52% | 429 |
| Mainly urban | 57.48% | 580 |
| TOTAL | | 1,009 |

Q16 What is your gender?

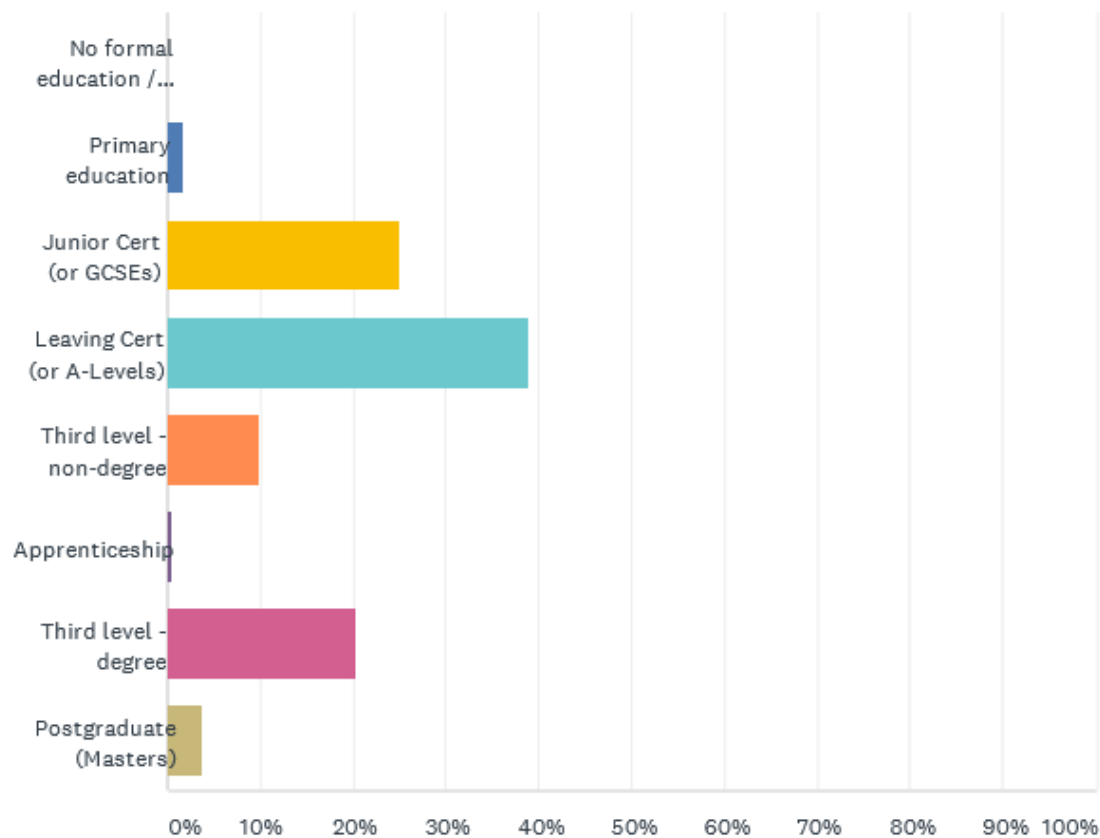
Answered: 1,009 Skipped: 34



| ANSWER CHOICES | | RESPONSES |
|----------------|--|------------|
| Female | | 55.50% 560 |
| Male | | 43.01% 434 |
| Non-binary | | 1.29% 13 |
| Other | | 0.10% 1 |
| Self-identify | | 0.10% 1 |
| TOTAL | | 1,009 |

Q17 What is the highest level of education or training which you have completed to date?

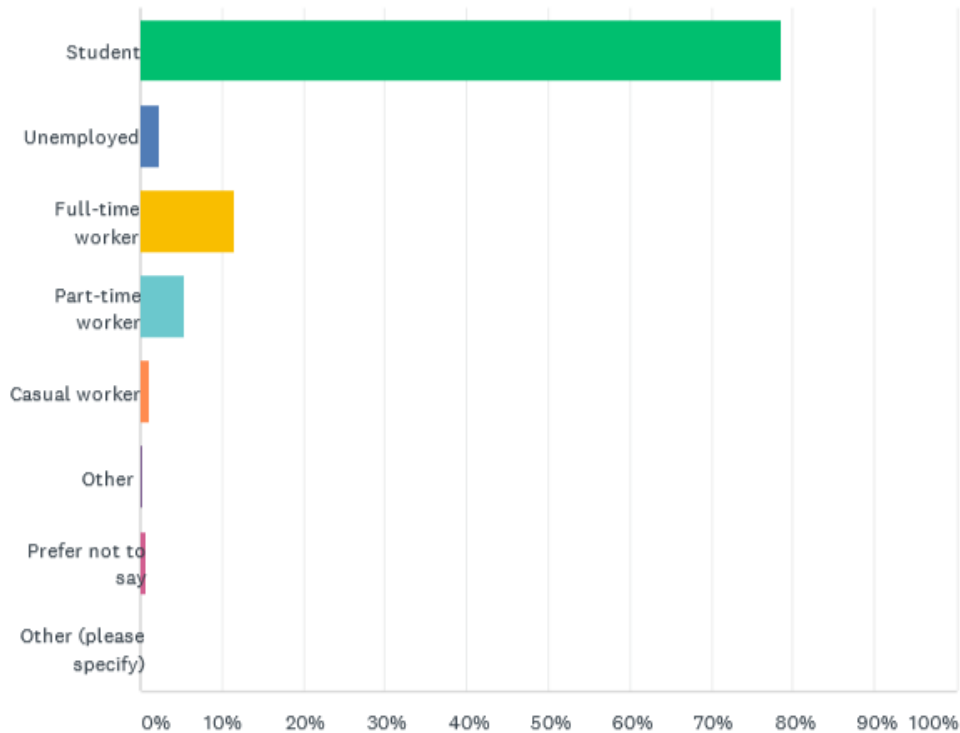
Answered: 1,009
 Skipped: 34



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-------|
| No formal education / training | 0.10% | 1 |
| Primary education | 1.59% | 16 |
| Junior Cert (or GCSEs) | 25.07% | 253 |
| Leaving Cert (or A-Levels) | 38.85% | 392 |
| Third level - non-degree | 9.91% | 100 |
| Apprenticeship | 0.40% | 4 |
| Third level - degree | 20.32% | 205 |
| Postgraduate (Masters) | 3.77% | 38 |
| TOTAL | | 1,009 |

Q18 Which of these options best describes your current occupation?

Answered: 1,009 Skipped: 34



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|------------------------|-----------|-------|
| Student | 78.59% | 793 |
| Unemployed | 2.38% | 24 |
| Full-time worker | 11.60% | 117 |
| Part-time worker | 5.35% | 54 |
| Casual worker | 1.09% | 11 |
| Other | 0.30% | 3 |
| Prefer not to say | 0.69% | 7 |
| Other (please specify) | 0.00% | 0 |
| TOTAL | | 1,009 |

Q19 Mobile number

Answered: 985 Skipped: 58

ABOUT ECO-UNESCO



ECO-UNESCO is Ireland's environmental education and youth organisation that works to empower young people and conserve the environment. We are a key partner of UNESCO's Global Action Programme on ESD and is a QCI accredited training centre.

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

ECO-UNESCO works with young people, educators and youth leaders on environmental projects across Ireland, helping to protect and conserve the environment. Each year our programmes, workshops, events and training programmes inspire environmental action at a local level among young people, their peer groups, communities and beyond.

EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE

Through our innovative peer education programmes and youth led events, ECO-UNESCO continuously strives to better achieve our mission of using environmental education as a means of empowering young people and supporting positive personal development.

For more information visit www.ecounesco.ie

ABOUT SPUNOUT



SpunOut.ie is Ireland's youth information website created by young people, for young people.

They provide information to more than 180,000 active readers each month.

Established in 2005, their vision is to help create an Ireland where young people aged between 16 and 25 are empowered with the information they need to live active, happy, and healthy lives.

SpunOut aims to educate and inform their readers about the importance of holistic wellbeing and how good health can be maintained, both physically and mentally.

They believe we should have easy access to relevant, reliable, and non-judgemental information and they are proud to provide their readers with a dynamic, responsive website full of up-to-date, factual information, free of any shame or bias.

For more information visit www.spunout.ie



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In collaboration with



This survey was part of the Youth Climate Justice Challenge a project led by ECO-UNESCO in collaboration with SpunOut.ie, the Irish Girl Guides, the Girls Brigade, the No Name Club and the Young Irish Filmmakers and was funded by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.



An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth