

# PEW FLOOD NATIONAL SURVEY

Interview Schedule – Oversample in Impacted Counties

January 6-15, 2018  
 Project #18005  
 N=800 Registered Voters + an Oversample to Reach  
 N=252 in Impacted Counties



***In this interview schedule:***

- *Sample A was asked of 1/2 of the respondents = 130 registered voters in impacted counties.*
- *Sample B was asked of 1/2 of the respondents = 122 registered voters in impacted counties.*
- *An asterisk (\*) in a response category means that less than 0.5% of respondents chose that response category and a dash (-) represents no response.*
- *"Skip" is the percentage of respondents that are asked a question because they meet a criteria based on a response to a previous question, meaning not all respondents received that question. "Total" is the percentage of the total sample.*

Now, thinking about some issues some people say are problems in our country. For each one, please indicate how big a problem you think it is where you live - is it a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not very serious or not a problem at all. The first/next one is... **(RANDOMIZE)**

**RANKED BY % TOTAL SERIOUS**

|                           | <b>VERY<br/>SERIOUS</b> | <b>SMWT<br/>SERIOUS</b> | <b>NOT VERY<br/>SERIOUS</b> | <b>NOT A<br/>PROBLEM AT ALL</b> | <b>UNSURE/REF<br/>(DNR)</b> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>(SAMPLE B) (N=122)</b> |                         |                         |                             |                                 |                             |
| 3. Crime and drugs        | 38%                     | 37%                     | 14%                         | 10%                             | 1%                          |
|                           | <b>75%</b>              |                         | <b>24%</b>                  |                                 |                             |
| <b>(SAMPLE B) (N=122)</b> |                         |                         |                             |                                 |                             |
| 4. Traffic congestion     | 45%                     | 27%                     | 14%                         | 14%                             | *                           |
|                           | <b>72%</b>              |                         | <b>28%</b>                  |                                 |                             |

Continued...

|                           | VERY<br>SERIOUS  | SMWT<br>SERIOUS | NOT VERY<br>SERIOUS | NOT A<br>PROBLEM AT ALL | UNSURE/REF<br>(DNR) |
|---------------------------|--|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>(SAMPLE A) (N=130)</b> |  |                 |                     |                         |                     |
| 2.                        | Poor condition of infrastructure, such as roads and bridges                |                 |                     |                         |                     |
|                           | 29%  | 35%             | 22%                 | 14%                     | --                  |
|                           | <b>64%</b>   |                 | <b>36%</b>          |                         |                     |
| 9.                        | Cost of homeowners insurance   |                 |                     |                         |                     |
|                           | 27%  | 36%             | 14%                 | 16%                     | 7%                  |
|                           | <b>63%</b>   |                 | <b>30%</b>          |                         |                     |
| 11.                       | Climate change   |                 |                     |                         |                     |
|                           | 36%  | 25%             | 14%                 | 25%                     | 1%                  |
|                           | <b>61%</b>   |                 | <b>39%</b>          |                         |                     |
| 10.                       | Poorly planned growth and development                                      |                 |                     |                         |                     |
|                           | 26%  | 31%             | 17%                 | 24%                     | 2%                  |
|                           | <b>57%</b>   |                 | <b>41%</b>          |                         |                     |
| <b>(SAMPLE A) (N=130)</b> |  |                 |                     |                         |                     |
| 1.                        | Lack of affordable homes or apartments                                     |                 |                     |                         |                     |
|                           | 24%  | 33%             | 21%                 | 18%                     | 4%                  |
|                           | <b>57%</b>   |                 | <b>39%</b>          |                         |                     |
| 14.                       | Flooding that destroys homes   |                 |                     |                         |                     |
|                           | 30%  | 23%             | 19%                 | 28%                     | --                  |
|                           | <b>53%</b>   |                 | <b>47%</b>          |                         |                     |
| 13.                       | Lack of planning for potential natural disasters, like floods or wildfires |                 |                     |                         |                     |
|                           | 23%  | 30%             | 24%                 | 22%                     | 1%                  |
|                           | <b>53%</b>   |                 | <b>46%</b>          |                         |                     |
| 6.                        | Coastal erosion and loss of barrier islands                                |                 |                     |                         |                     |
|                           | 25%  | 27%             | 8%                  | 34%                     | 6%                  |
|                           | <b>52%</b>   |                 | <b>42%</b>          |                         |                     |
| 12.                       | Loss of wetlands   |                 |                     |                         |                     |
|                           | 20%  | 27%             | 19%                 | 29%                     | 5%                  |
|                           | <b>47%</b>   |                 | <b>48%</b>          |                         |                     |

Continued...

|                                 | <b>VERY<br/>SERIOUS</b> | <b>SMWT<br/>SERIOUS</b> | <b>NOT VERY<br/>SERIOUS</b> | <b>NOT A<br/>PROBLEM AT ALL</b> | <b>UNSURE/REF<br/>(DNR)</b> |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 8. Drought                      | 14%                     | 27%                     | 25%                         | 33%                             | 1%                          |
|                                 | <b>41%</b>              |                         | <b>58%</b>                  |                                 |                             |
| 5. Sea level rise               | 21%                     | 17%                     | 19%                         | 42%                             | 1%                          |
|                                 | <b>38%</b>              |                         | <b>61%</b>                  |                                 |                             |
| 7. Wildfires that destroy homes | 20%                     | 11%                     | 23%                         | 46%                             | *                           |
|                                 | <b>31%</b>              |                         | <b>69%</b>                  |                                 |                             |

Thinking about one of these - flooding.

**(IF OWN HOME, N=182)**

20. When you think about the problems and concerns you have in owning your home, how would you characterize the threat of flooding? Would you say it is... **(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)**

| <u>Skip</u> | <u>Total</u> |  |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| <b>38%</b>  | <b>27%</b>   | <b>TOTAL CONCERN</b>                             |
| <b>62%</b>  | <b>45%</b>   | <b>TOTAL NOT A CONCERN</b>                       |
| 6%          | 4%           | One of the two most serious concerns for you     |
| 10%         | 7%           | A serious concern, but not in the top one or two |
| 22%         | 16%          | Somewhat of a concern                            |
| 23%         | 17%          | Not that big a concern for you                   |
| 39%         | 28%          | Not at all a concern                             |
| --          | --           | <b>UNSURE/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)</b>              |

21. Do you worry about flood-related disasters more or worry about flood-related disasters less compared to five years ago, or worry about the same amount?

|     |                                     |
|-----|-------------------------------------|
| 25% | More                                |
| 11% | Less                                |
| 62% | About the same                      |
| 2%  | <b>UNSURE/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)</b> |

22. From what you know, is your home located in an officially designated flood zone area? **(IF RESPONSE GIVEN, THEN ASK: And are you fairly sure of that or is it your best guess?)**

**17% TOTAL YES**

**78% TOTAL NO**

13% Yes, and I'm fairly sure of that

4% Yes, but that's my best guess

13% No, but that's my best guess

65% No, and I'm fairly sure of that

5% UNSURE **(DO NOT READ)**

\* REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

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**(IF OWN HOME, N=182)**

23. Do you happen to have flood insurance?

**Skip Total**

24% 17% Yes

72% 52% No

4% 3% UNSURE **(DO NOT READ)**

-- -- REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

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As you may or may not know, homeowners can purchase flood insurance backed by the National Flood Insurance Program (the N-F-I-P). The N-F-I-P is a federal government insurance program. Most private insurers will NOT provide flood insurance. Private insurers quit issuing it decades ago, because of significant losses, so the government started providing coverage as a back-stop.

24. If you had to guess, would you say that the National Flood Insurance Program probably has a ...? **(ROTATE PUNCHES 1 AND 2; ALWAYS READ PUNCH 3 LAST)**

5% Surplus

26% Deficit

69% Or do you not know enough to say?

-- Refused **(DO NOT READ)**

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Actually, the National Flood Insurance Program is more than twenty-five billion dollars in debt. Therefore, some people have proposed a number of changes that could help address how communities and the country prepare for and respond to floods. For each one, please indicate whether you support or oppose that proposal. **(IF RESPONSE GIVEN THEN ASK:** and do you **STRONGLY** (insert choice) or just somewhat (insert choice) that?

The first/next one is... **(RANDOMIZE)**

**RANKED BY % STRONGLY SUPPORT**

|   | <b>Strongly Support</b> | <b>Somewhat Support</b> | <b>No Strong Opinion (DNR)</b> | <b>Somewhat Oppose</b> | <b>Strongly Oppose</b> | <b>Don't Know/Refused (DNR)</b> |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 25. <b>(DISCLOSURE)</b> Currently, there is no national requirement for home owners selling a home to disclose that a property has had past flood damage, and state and local rules vary widely. One proposal would require a single, national standard to ensure that potential home buyers are aware of whether or not a property has flooded repeatedly, which could mean being required to obtain flood insurance.          | 64%                     | 22%                     | 1%                             | 6%                     | 6%                     | 1%                              |
|   | <b>86%</b>              |                         |                                | <b>12%</b>             |                        |                                 |
| 27. <b>(FLOOD READY BUILDING)</b> One proposal would require that all future federal spending in infrastructure located in a flood prone area, such as buildings, roads, transit systems, or hospitals, are constructed to better withstand the impacts of flooding. This includes when federal funds are used to build new structures and facilities or to help rebuild those that have been severely damaged by flooding.     | 49%                     | 36%                     | 2%                             | 6%                     | 5%                     | 2%                              |
|   | <b>85%</b>              |                         |                                | <b>11%</b>             |                        |                                 |
| 28. <b>(LOANS)</b> One proposal would offer low-interest loans from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to state governments to reduce the risk of future flooding. States and communities could then invest in actions that have been proven to reduce future flood damage, such as elevating homes, schools or hospitals, turning repeatedly flooded areas into parks or open space, or improving storm drainage systems. | 46%                     | 40%                     | 2%                             | 6%                     | 6%                     | *                               |
|   | <b>86%</b>              |                         |                                | <b>12%</b>             |                        |                                 |

Continued...

|  | <b>Strongly Support</b> | <b>Somewhat Support</b> | <b>No Strong Opinion (DNR)</b> | <b>Somewhat Oppose</b> | <b>Strongly Oppose</b> | <b>Don't Know/Refused (DNR)</b> |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 29. <b>(DEDUCTIBLE)</b> One proposal would require that the amount of federal funding which communities receive for rebuilding infrastructure after a flood would depend on states taking steps to prepare before a disaster strikes. Emergency response and home rebuilding funds would NOT be affected. States that engage in activities that reduce risks and lower recovery costs, such as establishing a disaster savings fund or stronger building and land use codes would receive more rebuilding funds. States that do less would receive less. | 40%                     | 35%                     | 3%                             | 10%                    | 7%                     | 5%                              |
|  | <b>75%</b>              |                         |                                | <b>17%</b>             |                        |                                 |
| 26. <b>(COMMUNITY REPETITIVE LOSS)</b> Communities can often help reduce the risk of flooding by improving drainage, protecting wetlands, or helping home owners reduce the potential for flood damage. One proposal would require that communities with more than fifty homes classified by the government as having repeatedly flooded would have to make these kinds of investments to reduce the risk of future flood damage. If they do NOT make these investments, the amount people pay for flood insurance in that community would increase.     | 30%                     | 39%                     | 4%                             | 17%                    | 9%                     | 1%                              |
|  | <b>69%</b>              |                         |                                | <b>26%</b>             |                        |                                 |

As you may know, the federal government has provided over 50 billion dollars in disaster recovery assistance to states and communities impacted by the 2017 hurricanes. Some have proposed that future rebuilding funds should be provided with conditions that rebuilding meets stricter standards to withstand future hurricanes or floods, even if it increases the cost of rebuilding.

30. Would you support or oppose the federal government requiring stricter standards for rebuilding that uses federal recovery assistance, even if it increases the cost?

**(IF RESPONSE GIVEN THEN ASK: and do you STRONGLY (SUPPORT/OPPOSE) or just somewhat (SUPPORT/OPPOSE) that?**

**83% TOTAL SUPPORT**  
**15% TOTAL OPPOSE**

52% Strongly support  
 31% Somewhat support  
 7% Somewhat oppose  
 8% Strongly oppose

2% UNSURE **(DO NOT READ)**

Taking a step back - please tell me - yes or no - if you have or have not been affected by flooding in any of the various ways... **(RANDOMIZE)**

**RANKED BY % YES**

|  | <b>YES</b> | <b>NO</b> | <b>DK/REFUSED</b> |
|--|------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 33. Infrastructure, such as roads or schools, in your community has been damaged by flooding | 42%        | 56%       | 2%                |
| 34. A family member's home or business has been damaged by flooding                          | 33%        | 66%       | 1%                |
| 32. Your place of work or business has been damaged by flooding                              | 16%        | 83%       | 1%                |
| 31. Your home has been damaged by flooding   | 12%        | 88%       | --                |

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Finally, there are just a few more questions for statistical purposes only...

D1. To ensure we have a representative sample of voters in your state, please tell me in what year you were born.

23% 18 to 34  
18% 35 to 44  
18% 45 to 54  
19% 55 to 64  
22% 65 and over

-- **REFUSED (DO NOT READ)**

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D2. Gender **(BY OBSERVATION)**

48% Male  
52% Female

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D3. Other than being an American, what is your main ethnic or racial heritage?

- 17% AFRICAN AMERICAN OR BLACK
  - 68% WHITE
  - 11% HISPANIC AMERICAN OR LATINO
  - 2% ASIAN AMERICAN
  - 2% SOMETHING ELSE/MIX
  
  - \* REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)
- 

D4. What was the highest level of education you have completed?

- 26% HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS**
  - 29% SOME COLLEGE**
  - 45% COLLEGE+**
  
  - 26% HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE OR LESS
  - 5% TECHNICAL OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL
  - 24% SOME COLLEGE
  - 29% GRADUATED COLLEGE
  - 16% GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL
  
  - REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)
- 

D5. Is the home you live in a...

- 77% Single-family, detached home
  - 9% Apartment
  - 8% Manufactured or mobile home
  - 4% Townhome
  - 1% Condominium
  
  - 1% Some other response (**DO NOT READ**)
  - \* REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)
-

D6. Do you... **(ROTATE FIRST TWO)**

- 72% OWN YOUR HOME
  - 17% RENT YOUR HOME
  - 7% LIVE WITH A PARENT OR FAMILY MEMBER **(ASK IF D1: 18-44)**  
...OR...
  - 3% HAVE SOME OTHER LIVING ARRANGEMENT
  - DON'T KNOW **(DO NOT READ)**
  - 1% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**
- 

D7. In politics today, do you consider yourself...**(ROTATE)**

a Republican,  
a Democrat,  
an Independent, or something else?

**(IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT, ASK)** Would you call yourself a STRONG  
(Republican/Democrat) or a NOT-SO-STRONG (Republican/Democrat)?

**(IF SOMETHING ELSE, ASK)** Do you think of yourself as closer to the...**(ROTATE)**

the Republican party  
...or...  
the Democratic party

- 35% TOTAL REPUBLICAN**
  - 41% TOTAL DEMOCRAT**
  
  - 20% STRONG REPUBLICAN
  - 6% NOT-SO-STRONG REPUBLICAN
  - 9% LEAN TO REPUBLICANS
  
  - 21% SOMETHING ELSE/INDEPENDENT
  
  - 7% LEAN TO DEMOCRATS
  - 10% NOT-SO-STRONG DEMOCRAT
  - 24% STRONG DEMOCRAT
  
  - 1% DON'T KNOW **(DO NOT READ)**
  - 2% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**
-

D8. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself to be...(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)

conservative  
moderate  
...or...  
liberal?

**(IF CONSERVATIVE/LIBERAL, ASK:) And would you consider yourself to be VERY (CONSERVATIVE/LIBERAL), or just SOMEWHAT (CONSERVATIVE/LIBERAL)?**

**42% TOTAL CONSERVATIVE**

**19% TOTAL LIBERAL**

20% VERY CONSERVATIVE

22% SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE

33% MODERATE

11% SOMEWHAT LIBERAL

8% VERY LIBERAL

3% UNDECIDED/NOT SURE (**DO NOT READ**)

3% REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

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D9. How would you describe the area in which you live? Would you say it is...(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)

**41% TOTAL CITY**

**34% TOTAL TOWN/RURAL**

17% A big city

24% A medium or small city

25% A suburban area

16% A small town

18% A rural area

-- DK/REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

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D10. How close is your home to a major body of water, such as an ocean, bay, major river, or another significant body of water? **(DO NOT RANDOMIZE)**

- 6% One block or less
  - 5% Several blocks
  - 4% Less than one mile
  - 24% One to five miles
  - 22% Five to 15 miles
  - 15% 16 to 30 miles
  - 22% More than 30 miles
  
  - 2% Don't know enough to say **(DO NOT READ)**
  - REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**
- 

D11. And for statistical purposes only...

Is your total annual household income greater or less than \$60,000 dollars?

**(IF LESS THAN \$60,000, ASK:) Is it... (ROTATE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM/BOTTOM TO TOP)**

**33% TOTAL UNDER \$60,000**  
**59% TOTAL OVER \$60,000**

- 5% UNDER \$20,000
- 13% BETWEEN \$20,000 - \$40,000
- 15% OVER \$40,000

**(IF GREATER THAN \$60,000, ASK:) Is it... (ROTATE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM/BOTTOM TO TOP)**

- 20% UNDER \$80,000
  - 18% BETWEEN \$80,000 - \$100,000
  - 21% OVER \$100,000
  
  - 8% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**
-