

PEW FLOOD NATIONAL SURVEY

Interview Schedule

March 11-19, 2017
 Project #17082
 N=1,000 Registered Voters (500 Land/500 Cell)



**PUBLIC OPINION
 STRATEGIES**

In this interview schedule:

- *Sample A was asked of 1/2 of the respondents = 497 registered voters.*
- *Sample B was asked of 1/2 of the respondents = 503 registered voters.*
- *An asterisk (*) in a response category means that less than 0.5% of respondents chose that response category and a dash (-) represents no response.*

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

	VERY SERIOUS	SMWT SERIOUS	NOT VERY SERIOUS	NOT A PROBLEM AT ALL	UNSURE/REF (DNR)
(SAMPLE B) (N=503)					
3. Crime and drugs	33%	40%	17%	9%	1%
	73%		26%		
(SAMPLE A) (N=497)					
2. Poor condition of infrastructure, such as roads and bridges	34%	38%	17%	11%	-
	72%		28%		
(SAMPLE B) (N=503)					
4. Traffic congestion	31%	32%	19%	18%	-
	63%		37%		

Continued...

	VERY SERIOUS	SMWT SERIOUS	NOT VERY SERIOUS	NOT A PROBLEM AT ALL	UNSURE/REF (DNR)
11. Climate change	37%	25%	15%	22%	1%
	62%			37%	
(SAMPLE A) (N=497)					
1. Lack of affordable homes or apartments	28%	29%	19%	21%	1%
	59%			40%	
10. Poorly planned growth and development	21%	38%	19%	19%	3%
	59%			38%	
9. Cost of homeowners insurance	19%	37%	23%	15%	6%
	56%			38%	
13. Lack of planning for potential natural disasters, like floods or wildfires	20%	29%	24%	25%	2%
	49%			49%	
8. Drought	20%	27%	24%	28%	1%
	47%			52%	
(COASTAL STATES ONLY) (N=592)					
6. Coastal erosion and loss of barrier islands	20%	23%	19%	35%	3%
	43%			54%	
12. Loss of wetlands	17%	26%	20%	33%	4%
	43%			53%	
14. Flooding that destroys homes	17%	26%	26%	31%	*
	43%			57%	

Continued...

	VERY SERIOUS	SMWT SERIOUS	NOT VERY SERIOUS	NOT A PROBLEM AT ALL	UNSURE/REF (DNR)
(COASTAL STATES ONLY) (N=592)					
5. Sea level rise	23%	19%	19%	37%	2%
	42%			56%	
7. Wildfires that destroy homes	16%	21%	25%	38%	*
	37%			63%	

Summary of Issues - Ranked By % Total Serious

Issues	% Very Serious	% Total Serious
Crime and drugs	33%	73%
Poor condition of infrastructure, such as roads and bridges	34%	72%
Traffic congestion	31%	63%
Climate change	37%	62%
Lack of affordable homes or apartments	28%	59%
Poorly planned growth and development	21%	59%
Cost of homeowners insurance	19%	56%
Lack of planning for potential natural disasters, like floods or wildfires	20%	49%
Drought	20%	47%
Coastal erosion and loss of barrier islands	20%	43%
Loss of wetlands	17%	43%
Flooding that destroys homes	17%	43%
Sea level rise	23%	42%
Wildfires that destroy homes	16%	37%

Thinking about one of these - flooding.

(IF OWN HOME, N=638)

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>	
24%	15%	TOTAL SERIOUS/SOMEWHAT CONCERN
76%	48%	TOTAL NOT A CONCERN
3%	2%	One of the two most serious concerns for you
7%	5%	Serious concern, but not in the top one or two
14%	8%	Somewhat of a concern
31%	19%	Not that big a concern for you
45%	29%	Not at all a concern
*	*	UNSURE/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

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?

16%	More
15%	Less
68%	About the same
1%	UNSURE/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

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?)**

8%	TOTAL YES
84%	TOTAL NO
5%	Yes, and I'm fairly sure of that
3%	Yes, but that's my best guess
19%	No, but that's my best guess
65%	No, and I'm fairly sure of that
6%	UNSURE (DO NOT READ)
2%	REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

(IF OWN HOME, N=638)

23. Do you happen to have flood insurance?

<u>Skip</u>	<u>Total</u>	
16%	10%	Yes
78%	50%	No
6%	4%	UNSURE (DO NOT READ)
*	*	REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

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)

3%	Surplus
14%	Deficit
82%	Or do you not know enough to say?
1%	Refused (DO NOT READ)

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

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	No Strong Opinion (DNR)	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Don't Know/Refused (DNR)
25. (DISCLOSURE) 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.	59%	22%	6%	6%	6%	1%
	81%			12%		
28. (FLOOD READY BUILDING) 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%	33%	6%	4%	6%	2%
	82%			10%		
27. (CONSERVATION BUY-OUTS) Rather than rebuilding repeatedly flooded homes, some communities offer to compensate willing home owners at pre-flood values for their property so they can purchase a new home in a safer area. One proposal would ensure that repeatedly flooded homes that are in environmentally sensitive areas are prioritized by FEMA (fee-mah), the Federal Emergency Management Agency, so that this land could be restored to a natural state, allowing it to be wildlife habitat, public beaches, or recreation areas.	43%	32%	7%	8%	8%	2%
	75%			16%		

Continued...

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	No Strong Opinion (DNR)	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Don't Know/Refused (DNR)
26. (COMMUNITY REPETITIVE LOSS) 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.	28%	36%	8%	13%	13%	2%
	64%			26%		

(SAMPLE A) (N=497)

Thinking again about the proposal that would require communities to reduce the risk of flooding or else the amount people pay for flood insurance rates would increase -- which is closer to your view?

(ROTATE VIEWPOINTS)

29. Supporters of the proposal say an independent study found for every one dollar invested to reduce risk from disasters like floods before they occur, as much as four dollars is saved in emergency response and related costs. Requiring communities to proactively act to protect flood prone areas makes more sense than having the federal flood program pay to rebuild the same homes repeatedly.

...or is this closer to your view...

Opponents of the proposal say if a community does not take the steps required to reduce the flood risk to homes that continually flood, then everyone in that community would pay more for flood insurance. This would unfairly penalize people if their local government does not have the resources to invest in addressing these problems.

IF CHOICE MADE THEN ASK: And do you feel strongly about that?

60% TOTAL SUPPORTERS

26% TOTAL OPPONENTS

35% Supporters/strongly

25% Supporters

11% Opponents

15% Opponents/strongly

2% BOTH (**DO NOT READ**) (**PROMPT:** But if you had to choose which viewpoint comes closer to your own?)

4% NEITHER (**DO NOT READ**)

8% UNSURE/REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

(SAMPLE B) (N=503)

Thinking again about the proposal that would require a single, national standard to ensure that potential home buyers are aware of whether or not a property has flooded repeatedly. Which is closer to your view?

(ROTATE VIEWPOINTS)

30. People who support the proposal say that home buyers should be made aware of a home's flood risk and history before they buy it, particularly if they are going to be required to buy flood insurance. Requiring disclosure of flood risk is no different from the law that requires buyers be told about the risk of lead-based paint in older homes.

...or is this closer to your view...

People who oppose the proposal say that forcing home sellers to disclose flood history could discourage potential buyers and hurt property values, as a study shows happened in California after it made this requirement. Real estate laws should be left up to states - not the federal government anyway.

IF CHOICE MADE THEN ASK: And do you feel strongly about that?

77% TOTAL SUPPORTERS

19% TOTAL OPPONENTS

64% Supporters/strongly

13% Supporters

6% Opponents

13% Opponents/strongly

* BOTH (**DO NOT READ**) (**PROMPT:** But if you had to choose which viewpoint comes closer to your own?)

1% NEITHER (**DO NOT READ**)

3% UNSURE/REFUSED (**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

	YES	NO	DK/REFUSED
33. Infrastructure, such as roads or schools, in your community has been damaged by flooding	41%	58%	1%
34. A family member's home or business has been damaged by flooding	25%	75%	*
31. Your home has been damaged by flooding	10%	90%	*
32. Your place of work or business has been damaged by flooding	10%	90%	*

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.

9%	18 to 24
20%	25 to 34
16%	35 to 44
15%	45 to 54
21%	55 to 64
19%	65 and over

* REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

D2. Gender **(By Observation)**

47%	Male
53%	Female

D3. Other than being an American, what is your main ethnic or racial heritage? **(READ CHOICES - ALLOW MULTIPLE PUNCHES)**

- 12% AFRICAN AMERICAN OR BLACK
 - 71% WHITE
 - 10% HISPANIC AMERICAN OR LATINO
 - 3% ASIAN AMERICAN

 - 4% SOMETHING ELSE/MIX **(VOL)**
 - 2% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**
-

D4. And, what was the highest level of education you have completed? **(DO NOT READ CATEGORIES)**

- 26% HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS**
 - 29% SOME COLLEGE**
 - 45% COLLEGE+**

 - 26% HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE OR LESS
 - 4% TECHNICAL OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL
 - 25% SOME COLLEGE
 - 29% GRADUATED COLLEGE
 - 16% GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL

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

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

- 73% Single-family, detached home
 - 3% Condominium
 - 3% Townhome
 - 13% Apartment
 - 4% Manufactured or mobile home

 - 2% Some other response **(DO NOT READ)**
 - 2% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**
-

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

- 64% OWN YOUR HOME
 - 21% RENT YOUR HOME
 - 13% LIVE WITH A PARENT OR FAMILY MEMBER
...OR...
 - 1% 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**
 - 42% TOTAL DEMOCRAT**

 - 18% STRONG REPUBLICAN
 - 8% NOT-SO-STRONG REPUBLICAN
 - 9% LEAN TO REPUBLICANS

 - 20% SOMETHING ELSE/INDEPENDENT

 - 10% LEAN TO DEMOCRATS
 - 8% 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)?

37% TOTAL CONSERVATIVE

23% TOTAL LIBERAL

18% VERY CONSERVATIVE
19% SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE
35% MODERATE
10% SOMEWHAT LIBERAL
13% VERY LIBERAL

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

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

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

36% TOTAL TOWN/RURAL

17% A big city
24% A medium or small city
22% A suburban area
20% A small town
16% A rural area

1% DK/REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

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)**

- 5% One block or less
 - 6% Several blocks
 - 9% Less than one mile
 - 23% One to five miles
 - 22% Five to 15 miles
 - 12% 16 to 30 miles
 - 22% More than 30 miles

 - 1% 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?

- 41% UNDER \$60,000**
 - 51% OVER \$60,000**

 - 8% UNDER \$20,000
 - 18% BETWEEN \$20,000 - \$40,000
 - 15% OVER \$40,000

 - 13% UNDER \$80,000
 - 14% BETWEEN \$80,000 - \$100,000
 - 24% OVER \$100,000

 - 8% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**
-

D12. Zip code
