PEW RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE SURVEY 2019

Findings are based on a nationally representative survey on spending on infrastructure in flood prone areas. Respondents also stated whether or not they were concerned with the number of extreme weather events increasing over the next ten years.

77% are in favor of a proposal requiring all federal spending on resilient infrastructure located in flood prone areas to be better constructed to withstand the impacts of flooding.

This proposal would also include using federal funds to build new structures and facilities or to help rebuild those that have been severely damaged by flooding. This proposal has widespread approval; with more than three-fourths in favor. The proportions of those who favor the proposal are nearly identical across political affiliation; 80% of Democrats, 79% of Independents, and 74% of Republicans. Respondents who live in a coastal community support this proposal, 80%, along with 76% of those living inland.

Overall, three-fourths of respondents are very concerned or somewhat concerned that the number of extreme weather events will increase over the next ten years.

When asked whether Congress should spend money to put infrastructure in good working condition, or should spend slightly more money to build and repair resilient infrastructure to make it more resilient to harsh weather such as floods and future sea rise, half (49%, 37% strongly favor) supports spending more for resilient infrastructure, compared to 43 percent who favor the status quo (26% strongly).

Respondents agree similarly, regardless of their political affiliation; 56% of Democrats, 51% of Republicans, and 46% of Independents feel that Congress should spend more on infrastructure. Democrats are the most likely to feel strongly about this. Respondents who live inland are just as likely to favor more spending on infrastructure as those who live in a coastal community (49% each).