



<b>Contributes to:</b>	Tasmania <i>Together</i> Benchmark <b>12.4.1:</b>
Goal 12:	Sustainable management of our natural resources.
Standard 4:	Mitigate the effects of greenhouse gases and, where possible, reduce their emissions.
Indicator 1:	Levels of greenhouse gas emissions (megatonnes)

## SURVEY ON GLOBAL WARMING

### Report from Kingston High School

At Kingston High School we conducted a survey on Global Warming. The surveys were undertaken in Greater Hobart: Sandy Bay, Hobart CBD, Glenorchy, Kingston and Huonville. The survey contained ten questions, all of which were created by students. 377 people were surveyed in total over the five areas. Our aim was to find the public's awareness of Global Warming, to see if people were personally prepared to fix the problem and their level of concern. We compared age groups, as well as gender and location.

Here is how we went about it, and some of our most interesting results:

#### **Background:**

Students watched An Inconvenient Truth, listened a lecture from Peter Boyer, looked at The Carbon Cycle and did some work on Carbon Chemistry. At the conclusion of this we decided to do a community survey into Global Warming.

#### **The Survey:**

- Involved the students listing aims and outcomes.
- The aims included - awareness of global warming, the level of concern, the public's willingness to act.
- The public's ideas on solutions to global warming.
- Students spent several hours devising a 10 question survey form with closed questions.
- All ten questions reflected the aims (above)
- Students surveyed in Glenorchy, Huonville, Hobart, Kingston and Sandy Bay.
- A total of 377 members of the public were surveyed.
- The ages and gender of each participant was noted.
- Students ended up with over 4000 pieces of raw data which was put into a spread sheet.
- Students paired up and began to examine trends.
- Some students focussed on one aim and compared it across several different suburbs.
- Some students looked at age or gender and looked at responses to a question or questions.
- Some students cross-referenced responses to questions. For example a comparison of people's stated level of concern and their stated will to do something. This analysis took students 3 weeks of class time.
- Each pairing presented their findings to the group using graphs and interpreting the data they analysed.
- Students then contacted Local, State and Federal politicians to outline their findings. Media organisations were also contacted by letter.

## Notable findings:

- 79% of all responders said something should be done now to slow global warming- only 37% said global warming is currently a problem.
- 80% of all responders were prepared to act to stop global warming.
- Females are more prepared to act on global warming. Women 40-60 are the most prepared to do something of all age groups.
- 86% of all responders have heard of global warming and have at least some understanding of it.
- The suburbs in order of concern – most to least – are: Sandy Bay, Huonville, Kingston, Hobart and Glenorchy.
- The lowest awareness was Glenorchy –the figure was 67% who were concerned compared with 100% in Sandy Bay.
- Despite a high level of awareness and concern (80+ %) 30% of people in Kingston were not personally prepared to do something.
- 75% of all responders think Human activity is responsible for global warming.17% are unsure.8% said something Human activity is not responsible.
- People in the (0-20) age range were least prepared to do something about global warming. All people in the 40-60 age range were most prepared.
- In all locations except for Glenorchy 60-70% of people thought global warming would cost them financially. Only 35% of people in Glenorchy thought it would.

## Kingston High School Global Warming Survey Questions

### 1. Are you aware of Global Warming?

- a) No
- b) Yes, I have heard of it but am *unsure* what it is
- c) Yes, I have heard of it and have *some* understanding about what it is
- d) Yes, I have heard of it and have a *good* understanding of what it is.

### 2. Do you think human-activity is responsible for increasing Global Warming?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Unsure

### 3. Do you think Global Warming is having a negative effect upon our environment?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Unsure

### 4. On a scale of One to Five how concerned are you about Global Warming?

(1 = Not at all / 5= Extremely Concerned)

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### 5. On a time scale, when will the impacts of global warming be a major risk to our lifestyle - ?

- a) They are now
- b) Not for at least 10 years
- c) Not for at least 20 years
- d) Not for at least 50 years
- e) Not at all

### 6) How quickly do you think something should be done about Global Warming?

- a) Now
- b) Start to do something in the next 5 years
- c) Start to do something in 10 years time
- d) Start to do something in 20 years time
- e) Never, it is not a problem.

### 7) Are you personally prepared to do something about Global Warming?

- a) Yes
- b) No

**8) Do you believe Global Warming can be solved?**

- a) Yes it is something that can be *completely* stopped
- b) Yes, it is something that can be *adequately* dealt with but will take a long time
- c) No, It is too hard
- d) I'm unsure
- e) It is not a problem

**9) Who do you think should be responsible for doing something about Global Warming?**

- a) Governments
- b) Businesses
- c) Individuals
- d) Business and Government
- e) Government, Businesses, and Individuals
- f) No-one.

**10) Do you believe acting on Global Warming will end up costing you financially?**

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Unsure

Thank you for your time.

Male or Female

Age group

0-20

20-40

40-60

60 +