



GREATER INDIANAPOLIS

THE HOOSIER LIFE SURVEY
METROPOLITAN REPORT

What do Indianapolis area residents think about climate change, how are they preparing, and what resilience policies do they support? Results from the Hoosier Life Survey provide answers.

BELIEFS

75%

believe climate change is happening.

37%

believe climate change is entirely or mostly caused by human activities.

11%

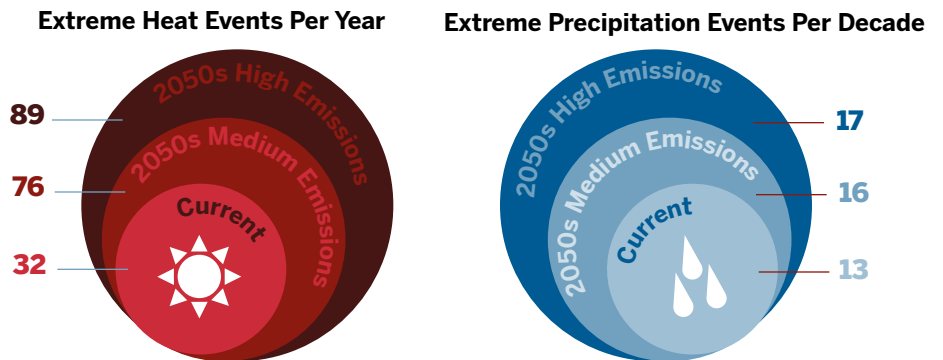
don't know if climate change is happening.

53%

believe most scientists think climate change is happening.

FUTURE IMPACTS

Climate change is projected to bring more high heat days, more extreme precipitation events, and increased flood risks to the Indianapolis metro area.



Source: Hoosier Resilience Index

INFORMATION, TRUST, AND EXPERIENCE

Fifty-three percent know someone who has suffered health impacts from heat waves, such as dehydration or heat stroke, or have experienced it themselves.



Thirty-nine percent trust Indiana scientists "a lot" about how to prepare for climate change.



Thirty percent feel very informed about the risks of extreme weather.



Survey statistics

Average margin of error: 6 percentage points
Confidence level: 95 percent

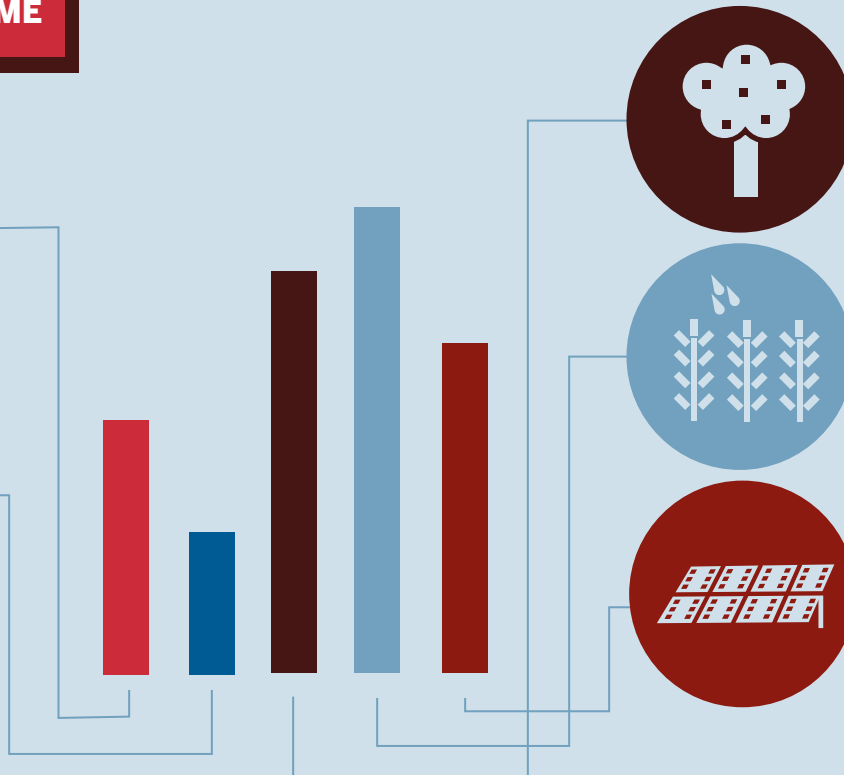
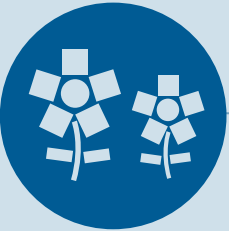
THE HOOSIER LIFE SURVEY METROPOLITAN REPORT

CLIMATE CHANGE AT HOME

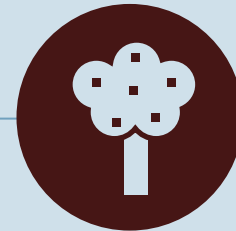
43%
of homeowners are interested in using rain barrels to collect rainwater



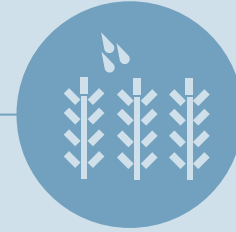
25%
of homeowners plant prairie grasses or wildflowers in their yard to reduce lawn size.



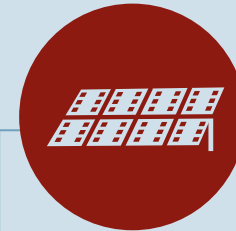
61%
of homeowners use shade trees to cool their home in the summer



67%
of homeowners currently maintain or are interested in planting a rain garden



55%
of homeowners are interested in solar panels to reduce CO₂ emissions



COMMUNITY POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Indianapolis area residents support a mix of policies and programs to address the short- and long-term impacts of climate change. The most popular proposals to address **heat** and **precipitation** challenges are:

Plant more trees on town streets to reduce impacts of flooding and heat waves **88%**

Adopt a text-based early warning system to reduce risks from heat waves **81%**

Provide vulnerable populations free health services during heat waves **79%**

82% **Replace some paved areas with water-absorbent landscape**

82% **Build stronger and higher flood walls where necessary**

65% **Construct new transportation routes to reduce the impact of flooding**

ABOUT THE HOOSIER LIFE SURVEY

Conducted between August and December 2019, the Hoosier Life Survey captures how Indiana residents perceive environmental changes, how residents are being affected in their homes and communities, how Hoosiers are preparing, and what they expect in the future. For more about the survey go to go.iu.edu/31Mf.

Looking for more results? Complete survey responses for the Indianapolis metro area and other Indiana metro areas are available on the Hoosier Life Survey Metropolitan Report web page (go.iu.edu/3ayX).