S2. Survey items used to construct climate change knowledge variable. All items were true-false responses.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Survey Item** | **% Correct** |
| Burning oil, among other things, produces CO2. | 78.6 |
| Carbon dioxide (CO2) is a greenhouse gas. | 73.2 |
| Greenhouse gases warm the Earth by trapping some heat that would otherwise escape into the atmosphere. | 75.0 |
| The ozone hole is the main cause of the greenhouse effect. | 64.7 |
| Weather and climate are different names for the same thing. | 74.3 |
| At the same quantity, carbon dioxide (CO2) is more harmful to the climate than methane. | 62.3 |
| The global CO2 concentration in the atmosphere has increased during the past 250 years. | 80.2 |
| The increase of greenhouse gasses in mainly caused by human activities. | 73.7 |
| With a high probability, the increase of CO2 is main cause of climate change. | 54 |
| Climate change is mainly caused by natural variations such as changes in solar radiation intensity and volcanic eruptions. | 57.8 |
| The last century’s global increase in temperature was the largest in the last 1000 years. | 60.6 |
| The Earth’s climate has changed naturally in the past, therefore humans are not the cause of global warming. | 66.1 |
| The decade from 2000 to 2009 was warmer than any other decade in over 150 years. | 59.2 |
| Global warming will stop as soon as we stop producing greenhouse gasses. | 74.6 |
| *Over the next several decades, we can expect…* |  |
| … an increase in extreme events, such as droughts, floods, and storms. | 75.2 |
| … a warmer global climate to increase the melting of polar ice, which will lead to an overall rise of the sea level. | 76.3 |
| … the climate to change evenly all over the world. | 68.3 |
| … a precipitation increase in every region worldwide. | 56.9 |
| … changes in animal migration patterns | 75.8 |
| … wildlife communities to move toward the poles. | 36.1 |
| …. some places to get wetter, while others get drier | 80.5 |