



TO: Environmental Defense Action Fund
FR: Morning Consult
DT: June 2021
RE: Results: Louisiana Respondents' Perceptions of
Hurricanes and Flooding, Support for Preventative Measures



Respondents in Louisiana support preventative measures to reduce the impact of natural disasters before they happen, and support funding natural infrastructure as part of the American Jobs Plan. Hurricanes and flooding are viewed as problems among LA respondents, and they believe the costs to clean up and recover from these events has increased in recent years.

SUPPORT FOR POLICIES

A MAJORITY OF LA RESPONDENTS (80%) SUPPORT PREVENTATIVE MEASURES TO REDUCE THE IMPACT OF NATURAL DISASTERS BEFORE THEY HAPPEN, INCLUDING THREE IN FIVE LA RESPONDENTS (60%) WHO STRONGLY SUPPORT THEM.

- Louisiana respondents in both parties support preventative measures to reduce the impact of natural disasters before they happen. Around four in five Democrats (82%) and Republicans (86%) support these measures.
- Strong support also exists across Louisiana community types. 84% of suburban respondents and 77% of rural respondents in the state support these measures.

RESPONDENTS IN LOUISIANA RECOGNIZE THE POTENTIAL OF PREVENTATIVE MEASURES TO HELP ON A RANGE OF ISSUES.

- Respondents in Louisiana say preventative measures to deal with natural disasters would “mostly help” the safety of human life (66%), infrastructure (56%), the condition of property (54%), and agriculture (52%) as well as state (52%) and local (59%) economies.

TWO THIRDS OF LOUISIANA RESPONDENTS (69%) SUPPORT FUNDING NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AS PART OF THE AMERICAN JOBS PLAN.

- Three quarters of LA Democrats (77%) and two thirds of LA Republicans (68%) support funding for natural infrastructure as part of the proposed plan.
- More than two thirds of coastal LA respondents (70%) support funding natural infrastructure, as do 73% of inland LA respondents.

Methodology: This poll was conducted between May 19-May 28, 2021 among a sample of 299 Louisiana adults. The interviews were conducted online and the data were weighted to approximate a target sample of adults based on gender, age, educational attainment, race, marital status, population density, and home ownership. Results from the full survey have a margin of error of plus or minus 6 percentage points.

WHEN IT COMES TO DISASTER READINESS, RESPONDENTS IN LOUISIANA SUPPORT A NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE APPROACH, DEFINED AS NATURALLY OCCURRING LANDSCAPE FEATURES AND/OR NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS THAT PROMOTE, USE, RESTORE OR EMULATE NATURAL ECOLOGICAL PROCESSES.

Percentage of LA Respondents Who Support the Following Proposal to Address Disaster Readiness	
% Support (strongly + somewhat)	Natural infrastructure measures, such as restored barrier islands, wetlands, and floodplains
LA Respondents	80%
LA Democrats	83%
LA Republicans	84%
Coastal LA Respondents	84%
Inland LA Respondents	83%
Suburban LA Respondents	83%
Rural LA Respondents	84%

CONCERN OVER HURRICANES AND FLOODING

LARGE MAJORITIES OF LOUISIANA RESPONDENTS VIEW HURRICANES (96%) AND FLOODING (97%) AS PROBLEMS IN THE U.S.

THREE QUARTERS OF LA RESPONDENTS BELIEVE THE ECONOMIC OR FINANCIAL COSTS TO CLEAN UP AND RECOVER FROM NATURAL DISASTERS IN THE U.S. HAS INCREASED IN THE PAST 3-5 YEARS.

- 76% of LA respondents say the costs of cleaning up and recovering from hurricanes has increased (a lot + somewhat) in the past 3-5 years, and 77% say the same of flooding.
- Four in five coastal LA respondents say the cost of hurricanes (83%) and flooding (82%) has increased in recent years.

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RESPONSIBILITY FOR COST OF NATURAL DISASTERS

WHEN IT COMES TO HURRICANES AND FLOODING, RESPONDENTS IN LOUISIANA ARE MORE LIKELY TO SAY GOVERNMENT ACROSS THE FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LEVELS SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FINANCIAL COSTS OF CONTAINING AND RECOVERING FROM THESE EVENTS AS OPPOSED TO INDIVIDUALS.

Percentage of LA Respondents Who Believe Each of the Following Should be Responsible for Costs of Containing and Recovering From...		
% Responsible (very + somewhat)	Hurricanes	Flooding
Federal Government	84%	85%
State Government	85%	89%
Local Government	78%	81%
Individuals	65%	61%

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