Attitudes to net zero based on age

In 2019 the UK became the first major economy to legislate for net-zero, changing the long-term target in the Climate Change Act 2008 to bring all greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero by 2050. Meaning that... Net zero is one of the world's answers to reducing the effects of climate change and remains top of the agenda as countries, companies, and individuals must all reduce their carbon emissions. In general we found consumers have a good awareness of net zero in the context of the environment:





57% of respondents **understand** what 'net zero' means

Understanding of the term 'net zero' in the context of the environment



Younger generations are **more confident** in their understanding and concerns of Net Zero:



In terms of completely understanding 'net zero' the results were **low and varied across the different generations** with millennials having the best understanding by 10%...

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Men are far **more confident** than women in their understanding of Net Zero...



72% of men say that they understand what Net Zero means

Compared with only ...

42% of women

AND OF THIS...

28% of men say that they fully understand what it means

Compared with only ...

9% of women

Do the public believe that the UK will achieve net zero by 2050?

Given the time-sensitive nature of climate change, the path to net zero puts **heavy burden on consumers to change their attitudes and habits**. Brits are very aware of how urgent it is to tackle climate change.





53% of the respondents across all the generations believe that individuals should make some changes in their lifestyle in an effort to meet net zero targets.



Interestingly, though Millennials and Gen Z have **driven social change significantly** in the last few years, however...



19% less than a fifth of Gen Z think that individuals should make a **large change** in their personal lives.

Respondents particularly felt that there **should be a focus** on getting the infrastructure and correct measures in place for the public to support change that will bring us closer to net zero.



75% of Brits believe it's the **government's responsibility** to help and encourage sustainable solutions



believe it's an **urgent issue**, but until the infrastructure and the correct measures are in place we need to wait



12% Over 1 in 10 argue it is a more urgent issue for the government and industry

Overall, national governments / politicians and big businesses were the **two most popular responses** for who consumers think is responsible for solving the problems / finding solutions to climate change.



As well as being held accountable, respondents also believe the government could **help encourage a change in behaviour** by offering incentives...











of **Brits would be encouraged** to spend more on a greener lifestyle if they receive incentives (e.g. a voucher/money off your bill) from the government or company of **Millennials would be encouraged** to live a greener lifestyle if they received financial incentives

Likelihood to spend more on a greener lifestyle if incentivized by the government or a company



How do you feel about **energy supplier's / utility company's roles** in addressing climate change?



Government should do more
Should feel personally responsible
Are helping, but could do more
See climate change as an opportunity to raise bills and make money
Not in their interests to help people save
Not doing enough
Working hard on solutions



27% of Brits feel that energy companies are working as hard as they can to find solutions



Millennials are most trusting of the efforts of energy companies



62% of Brits think that energy / utility companies should feel personally responsible for climate change



35% agree that they are working as hard as they can to find solutions



62% think that they are helping, but they could do more





61% think that energy/ utility companies see climate change as an opportunity to raise bills and make more money

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