

LSF

Learning for a Sustainable Future



LST

L'éducation au service de la Terre



@LSF_LST



Empowering Youth for Climate Action

Learning for a Sustainable Future

March 2024



About LSF

- Canadian charity founded in 1991
- Bilingual (EN/FR)
- Our mission is to promote—through education—the knowledge, skills, values, perspectives and practices essential to a sustainable future
- Working at all levels of the education system: students, teachers, administrators, boards, governments, etc.

LSF
Learning for a
Sustainable Future



LST
L'éducation au
service de la Terre



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



LSF supports the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals through our programs and partnerships.





LSF Strategic Priorities

- **Advancing Education Policy**
- **Supporting Teachers**
- **Empowering Youth**
- **Supporting Bright Spots of Innovation**



01

Advancing Policy

in support of sustainability education

Advancing Policy

Canadians' Perspectives on Climate Change & Education: 2022

Canada, Climate Change and Education, 2019

Ministry of Education Curriculum Review

Research

Knowledge Mobilization

Thought Leadership

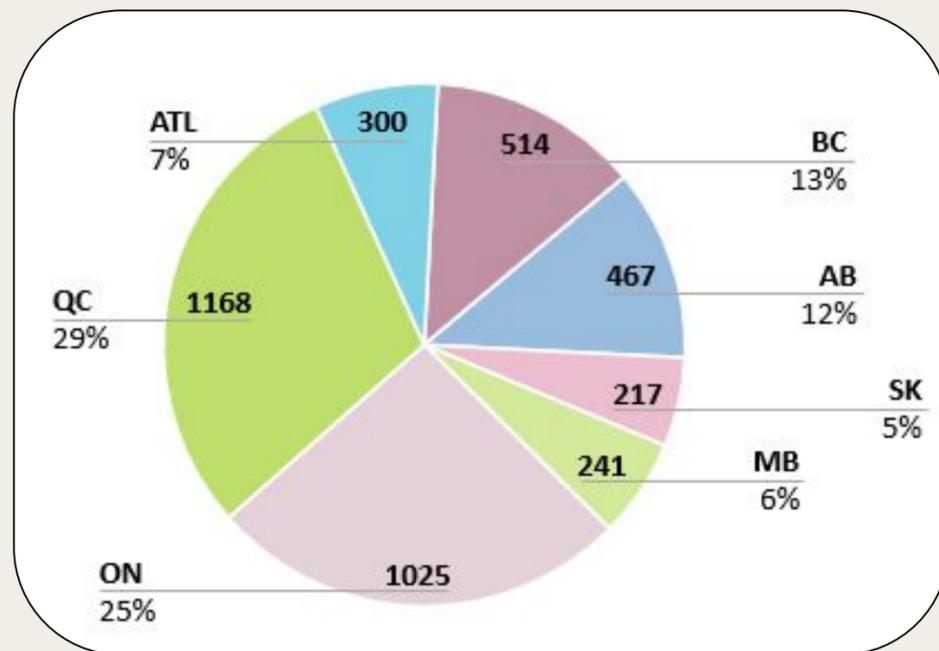
Dr. David V.J. Bell Memorial Lecture

Youth Knowledge Mobilization Sessions

Provincial/territorial Knowledge Mobilization Sessions

Canadian's Perspectives on Climate Change and Education

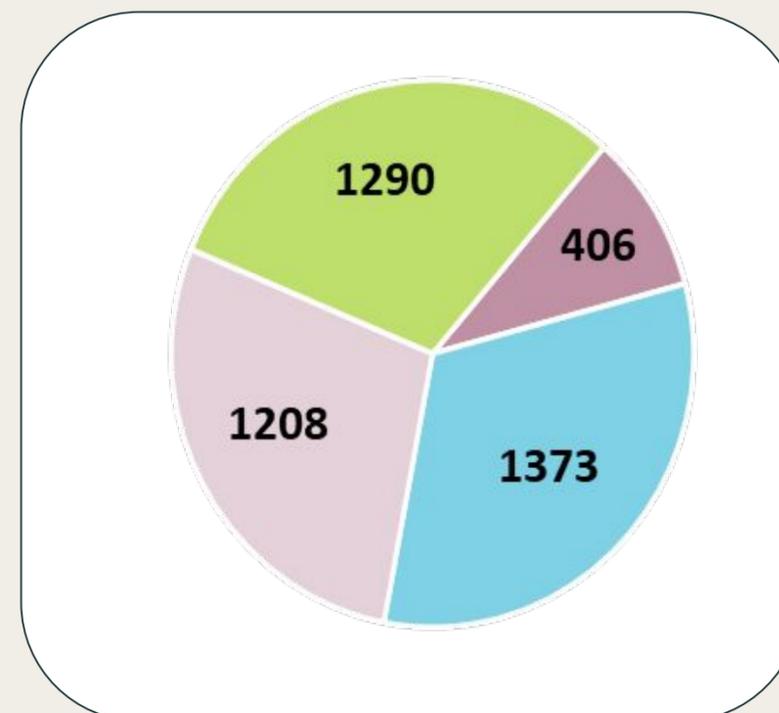
National Respondents by Province/Region



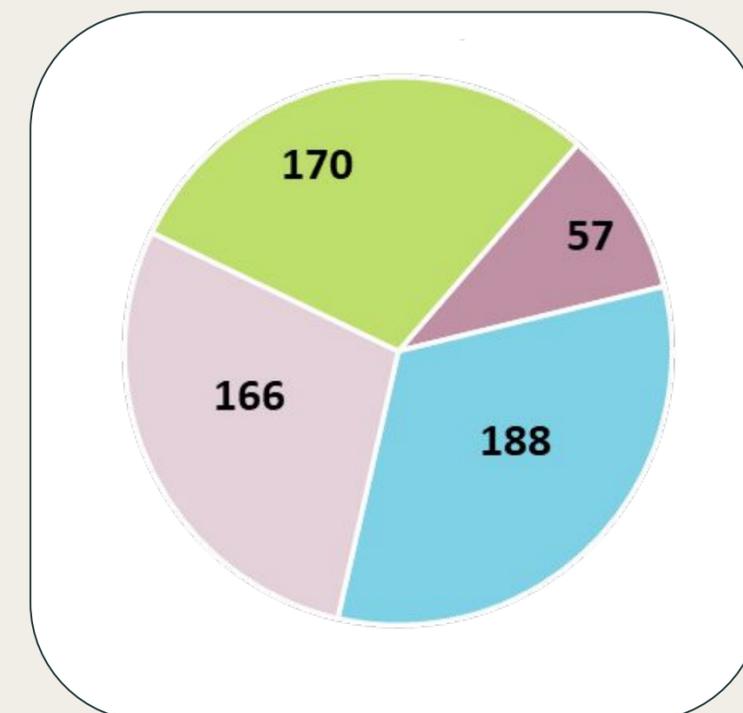
Leger provided data collection using their online survey panel: A total of **4,035 Canadians responded**, which provided a robust sample size on which to base the national reporting.

The purpose of this survey, conducted in 2022, was to assess Canadians' knowledge, understanding and perceptions of climate change and its risks, and to explore views on climate change education.

National Respondent Groups



BC Respondent Groups

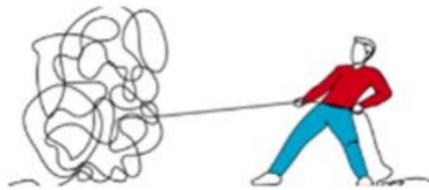


■ Educator
 ■ Parent
 ■ Student
 ■ General Public

Initial Findings

Overall, the great majority (**81%**) of Canadians (**79% in BC**) are certain that climate change is happening, and they are concerned:

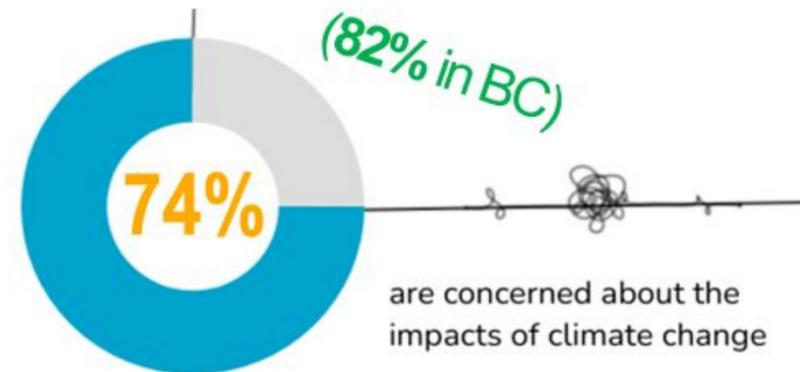
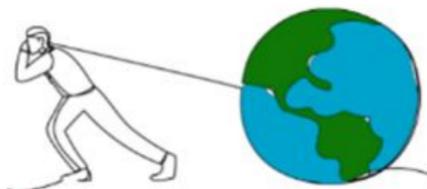
73% of Canadians feel that we are experiencing a climate emergency
(77% in BC)



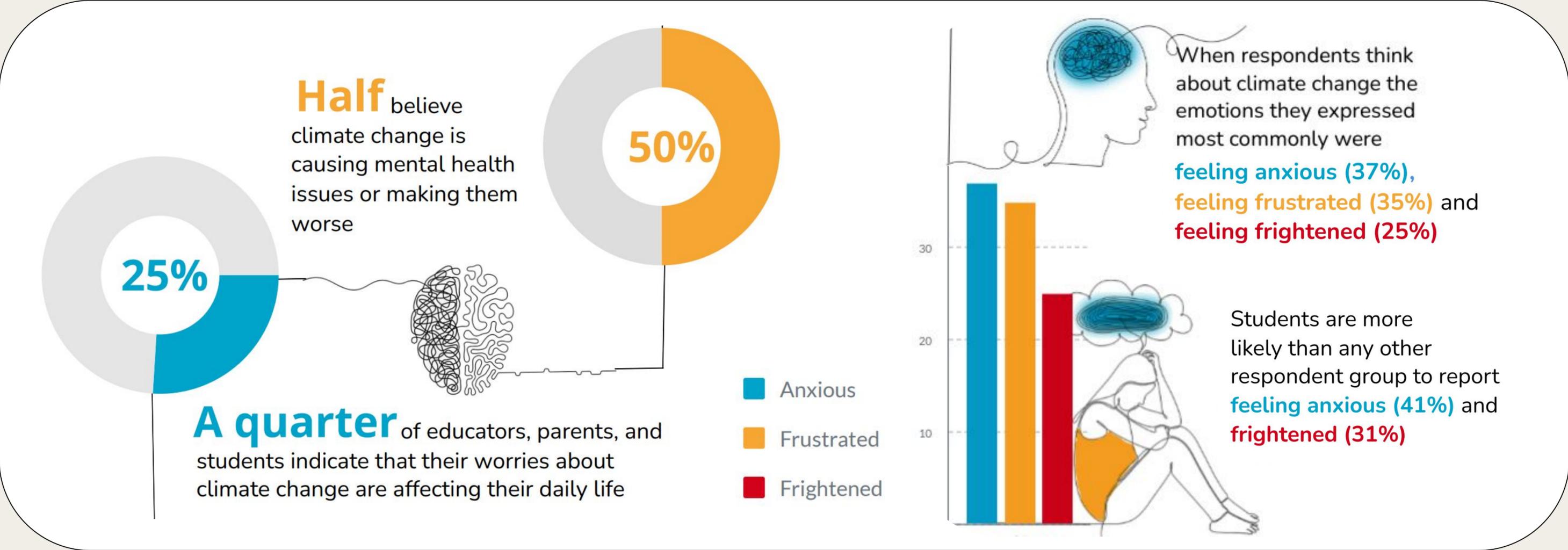
82% of Canadians feel that people have failed to care for the planet
(82% in BC)



77% of Canadians agree that climate change poses risks to Canadians
(79% in BC)



Canadians feel that climate change is impacting mental health and well-being





Canadians are taking action to reduce climate change

69% of Canadians take action to reduce their personal greenhouse gas emissions

72% of Canadians (**BC 72%**) would change “some” or “a lot” in their life (at school, work or home) to help reduce the effects of climate change.

Canadians overwhelmingly believe government is not doing enough

78% of Canadians (**BC 79%**) indicated that, while personal actions are important, systemic change is needed to address climate change.

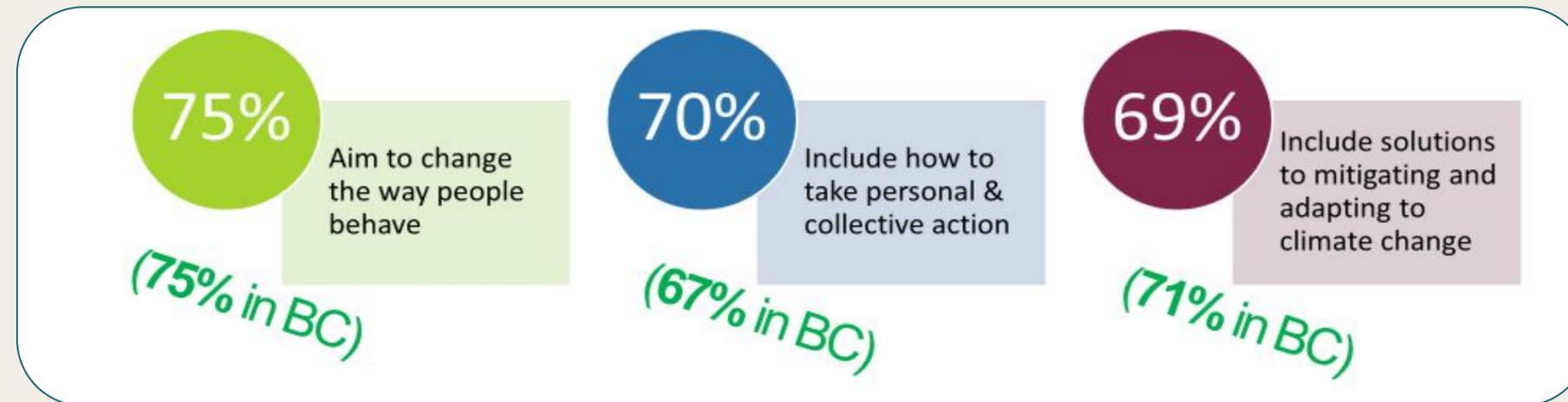
Only **17%** agree (**BC 20%**) that the government is doing a good job in their actions to address climate change.

Climate change education must be prioritized

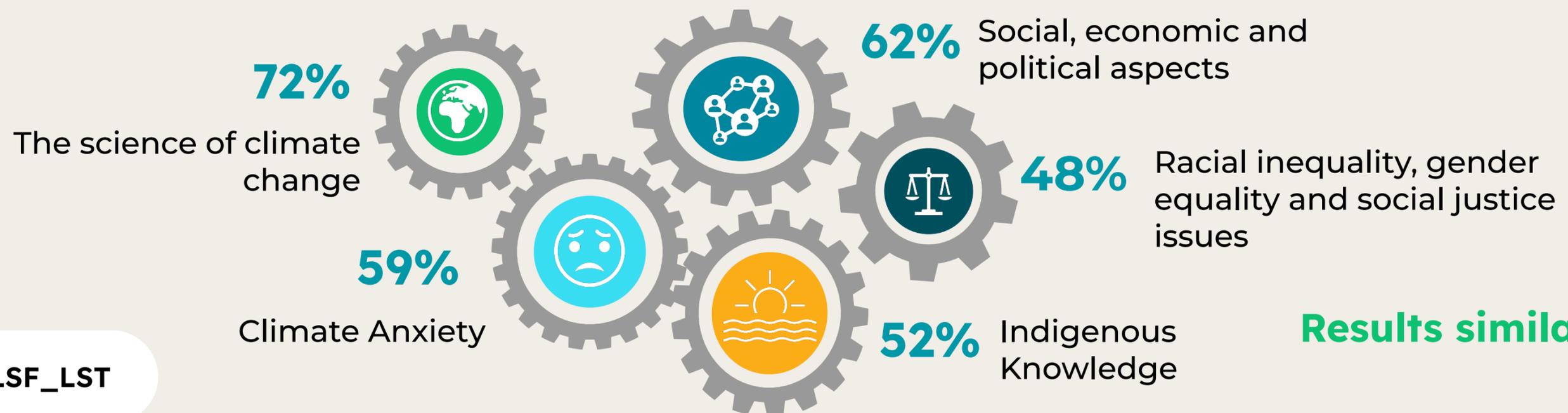
- ◉ Canadians think climate change education should be a high priority **(67%) BC 69%**
- ◉ Canadians believe that the education system should be doing “a lot more” to educate young people about climate change **(64%) BC 62%**
- ◉ Many Canadians feel climate change education should be the role of all teachers **(61%) BC 62%**
- ◉ Most felt climate change topics should be taught early, as only very few **(15%) BC 13%** felt that climate change was too complex to be taught in the younger grades

Climate change education must address numerous, diverse topics

When teaching climate education, most Canadians agree that climate change education should:



Canadians feel that climate change education should address:



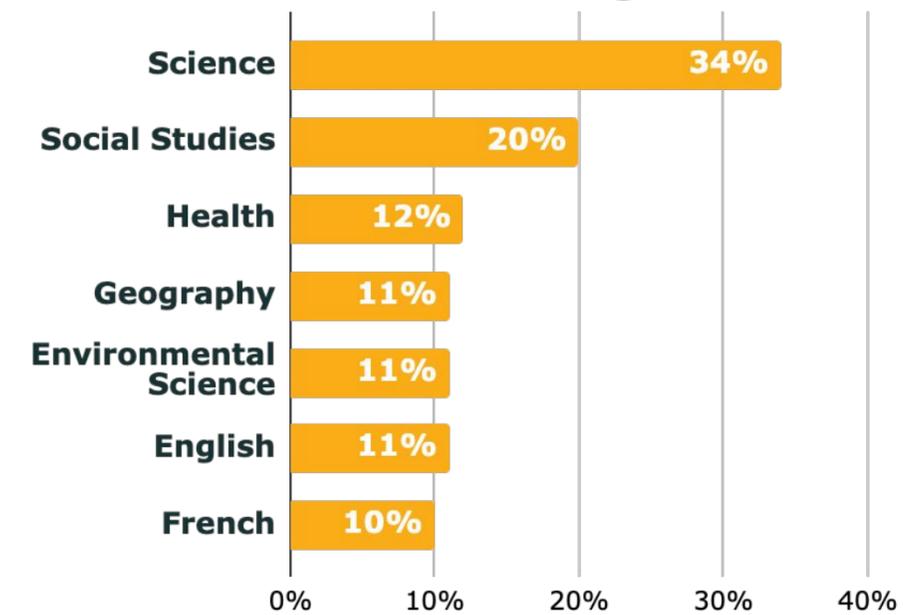
Results similar in BC

Where and when is climate change taught?

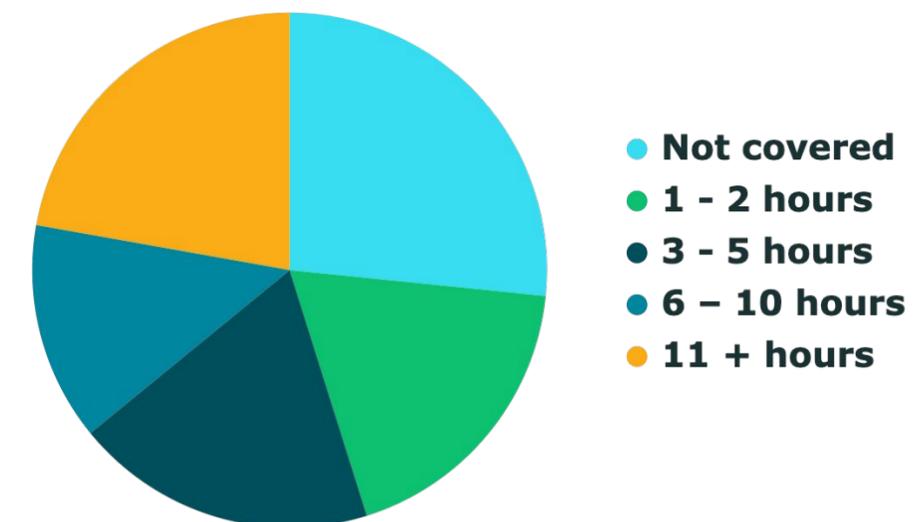
35% of educators in 2022 did not cover climate change compared to 57% in 2019.

However, the actual number of hours dedicated to climate change topics remains low.

Classes that Address Climate Change



Hours in a year/semester spent covering climate change



Supports that teachers need to address climate change

Only one-third of educators feel that they have the knowledge and skills needed to teach climate change.

32% in 2019 → 34% in 2022

A growing majority need professional development to learn about how to effectively teach this complex topic.

50% in 2019 → 64% in 2022

More teachers feel they don't have sufficient time within the course /grade to teach climate change.

39% in 2019 → 50% in 2022

Educators are looking for additional supports including:

56%

Climate change resources

49%

Updated curriculum documents that contain climate change topics

37%

Appropriate instructional strategies including how to extend classroom learning outdoors

36%

A school wide culture that promotes climate change education

When I teach about climate change...	BC	AB	ON	QC	ATL*	SK*	MB*
I encourage students to take action as part of their learning	45%	30%	60%	50%	66%	66%	66%
I include solutions to climate change	40%	26%	42%	41%	56%	59%	58%
I primarily focus on teaching climate change science	25%	27%	38%	32%	42%	59%	36%
I include the social, economic & political elements of climate change	31%	28%	30%	29%	35%	38%	35%
I emphasize aspects of ethics and social justice within climate change	25%	16%	27%	22%	32%	34%	39%
I teach students strategies to cope with emotions that arise	12%	18%	24%	15%	19%	28%	23%
I include Indigenous traditional knowledge about climate change	13%	26%	20%	11%	19%	48%	29%

Regionally, there are differences in taking action in schools

	BC	AB	ON	QC	ATL*	SK*	MB*
Making Lifestyle/Consumer Choices	71%	39%	70%	65%	76%	76%	82%
Educating & Informing	65%	48%	65%	65%	74%	86%	77%
Eco-Projects	37%	34%	46%	45%	56%	69%	62%
Engaging in Political/Legislative Action	24%	16%	24%	18%	24%	31%	34%
Peaceful Dissent	13%	11%	26%	14%	24%	31%	30%
Raising Funds	25%	13%	25%	10%	15%	10%	29%



02

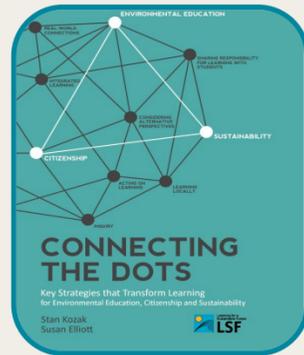
Supporting Educators with the tools and competencies

Professional Development

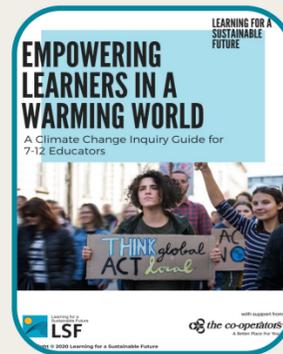
- flexible workshop options ranging from 1-hour webinars to 3-day workshops
- provides K-12 educators with strategies, tools and resources
- fosters understanding, inspires student engagement, and motivates action on sustainability and climate change



LSF Resources



Connecting the Dots: LSF's main teaching resource exploring 7 interrelated strategies for environmental education, citizenship and sustainability



ClimateLearning.ca: three cross-curricular inquiry resources supporting climate change learning for grades K-2, 3-6 and 7-12



Action Toolkits: lesson plans to guide your students through an Action Project from background info, to taking action, to measuring your impacts

LSF-LST.ca/resources

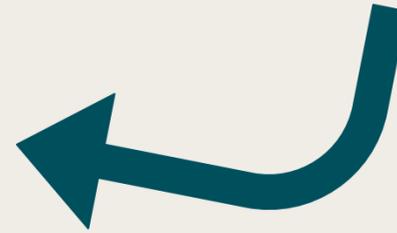


R4R

Resources for Rethinking

Ressources pour repenser

Check it out
at R4R.ca!



- LSF's education resource database
- **1,800+** lesson plans, books, outdoor activities, videos, apps, games, & more
- **Reviewed** by teachers, for teachers
- Connected to **your curriculum**
- **Searchable** by language, province, grade, subject, SDGs
- **NEW: Indigenous Search Tool** +40 new Indigenous teaching resources!

45 Second Explainer Video

Summary of R4R resources



Explore Resources for Rethinking



- **Learning Inside Out**: weekly activity guides for grades K-12, hand picked from R4R & linked to seasonal events and the Sustainable Development Goals



- **Step Outside**: bi-weekly nature guides linking seasonal events to classroom resources on our R4R database



- **Hot Topics**: link classroom learning with national/international campaigns and events (e.g. Earth Day, World Water Day, etc.)





03

Empowering Youth

Linking education to action

Youth Forums

Virtual and in-person offerings

Engage students in climate change issues

Equip them with the skills needed to take action

Empower them to make change in their communities.



PD for teachers



Speakers &
workshops for
students



Action Project
planning



Action Project
funding



Action Projects

LSF provides up to \$500 to schools for student-led climate change/sustainability Action Projects

LSF-LST.ca/funding

OurCanadaProject.ca



A call to action for youth to share their visions for a more sustainable future and the actions they are taking to achieve their vision.

This interactive website hosts over 1,800 sustainability Action Projects undertaken by youth and **searchable by the SDGS.**



OUR CANADA PROJECT
PROJET NOTRE CANADA



04

Supporting Bright Spots of Innovation

Whole school approaches and awards

Sustainable Future Schools (SFS)

Takes a whole school approach to help students, teachers, administrators, staff, parents and community members integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into: school culture; curriculum, teaching and learning; facilities and operations; and community partnerships.



Youth Climate Action Project Awards

Recognizes student-led projects that contribute most to climate change awareness and behaviour change





THE SUSAN LANGLEY EARTH STEWARD Teaching Award

**To recognize exemplary teaching contributions
to sustainability education**



Thank you!

LSF-LST.ca | LSF-LST.ca/fr

Sign up for our newsletters!

