Supplementary Materials

A Finite Pool of Worry or a Finite Pool of Attention? Evidence and Qualifications

Supplemental Table 1. Regression results that are visualized in Figure 2 in manuscript.

	Dependent variable:											
	economy worry	economy discuss	economy thought	job worry	job discuss	job thought	climate worry	climate discuss	climate thought	terrorism worry	terrorism discuss	terrorism thought
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
Daily log cases	0.06***	0.07***	0.06***	0.06***	0.05***	0.06***	0.01***	-0.004	-0.01***	0.001	-0.01*	-0.02***
	(0.004)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.004)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.004)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.004)	(0.01)	(0.01)
Income brackets	0.0002	0.02***	0.01**	-0.01**	0.02***	0.01	0.02***	0.03***	0.02***	0.02***	0.04***	0.03***
	(0.003)	(0.005)	(0.005)	(0.003)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.004)	(0.005)	(0.005)
Age	-0.003***	-0.002**	0.0003	-0.01***	-0.01***	-0.002**	-0.01***	-0.01***	-0.004***	-0.005***	-0.001	0.002**
	(0.0005)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.0004)	(0.0004)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)
Female	0.07***	-0.04	-0.04*	0.06***	-0.01	0.01	0.04**	-0.05***	-0.05***	0.15***	-0.01	-0.01
	(0.02)	(0.03)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.03)	(0.03)	(0.02)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.03)
Education	0.01	0.03***	0.02***	-0.01	-0.01	0.004	-0.0005	0.001	0.02***	-0.01*	-0.01	-0.004
	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)
Ideology	0.01**	0.02*	0.03***	0.003	0.01	0.02**	0.16***	0.03***	0.07***	-0.11***	-0.05***	-0.05***
	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.004)	(0.004)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)
Dallas	-0.02	-0.48***	-0.36***	-0.18***	-0.21***	-0.02	-0.30***	-0.58***	-0.43***	0.10***	-0.23***	-0.02
	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.03)	(0.03)	(0.03)	(0.04)	(0.05)	(0.05)
Milan	0.32***	0.05	-0.03	0.44***	0.28***	0.45***	0.24***	0.004	0.03	0.10***	-0.04	0.05
	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.03)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.05)
New York City	0.06**	-0.50***	-0.42***	-0.15***	-0.27***	-0.07	-0.04	-0.53***	-0.40***	0.25***	-0.20***	-0.01
	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.03)	(0.06)	(0.05)	(0.03)	(0.03)	(0.03)	(0.04)	(0.05)	(0.05)
Rome	0.53***	0.14***	0.12***	0.68***	0.47***	0.60***	0.32***	-0.004	-0.01	0.08**	0.02	0.04
	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.04)	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.03)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.03)	(0.04)	(0.04)
Shanghai	-0.02	-0.05	-0.07*	-0.06**	-0.10**	-0.06	-0.01	-0.08***	-0.07***	-0.05*	-0.07*	-0.05
	(0.03)	(0.04)	(0.04)	(0.03)	(0.04)	(0.04)	(0.03)	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.03)	(0.04)	(0.04)
Day	0.0000	-0.0001	0.0002	-0.0003	0.0001	0.0004*	-0.001***	-0.001***	-0.001***	-0.001***	-0.0001	-0.0002
	(0.0001)	(0.0002)	(0.0002)	(0.0002)	(0.0003)	(0.0002)	(0.0001)	(0.0001)	(0.0001)	(0.0002)	(0.0002)	(0.0002)
Constant	2.81	3.28	-1.98	8.38***	-0.77	-6.39	14.65***	13.85***	14.01***	19.21***	4.56	5.05
	(2.63)	(4.39)	(4.11)	(2.94)	(4.62)	(4.52)	(2.73)	(2.21)	(2.20)	(3.06)	(4.19)	(4.30)
Observations	15,271	3,771	3,771	15,271	3,812	3,812	15,271	15,271	15,271	15,271	3,855	3,855
Adjusted R^2	0.09	0.11	0.09	0.13	0.11	0.15	0.11	0.12	0.10	0.04	0.04	0.03

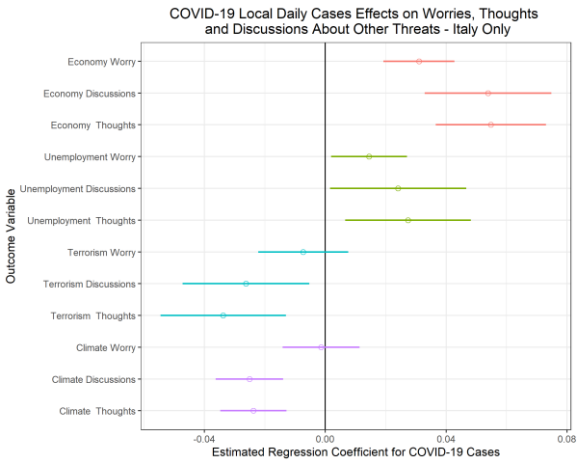
Note: *p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

The regression equation fitted in the analysis for each outcome variable is:

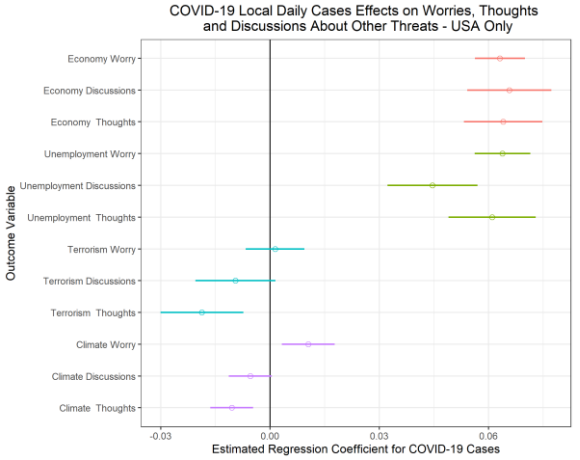
$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \log(cases_i)\,\beta_1 + income_i\beta_2 + age_i\beta_3 + female_i\beta_4 + education_i\beta_5 +$$
$$ideology_i\beta_6 + Dallas_i\beta_7 + New_{York_i}\beta_8 + Milan_i\beta_9 + Rome_i\beta_{10} + Shanghai_i\beta_{11} + time_i + \epsilon_i$$

Supplemental Figure 1

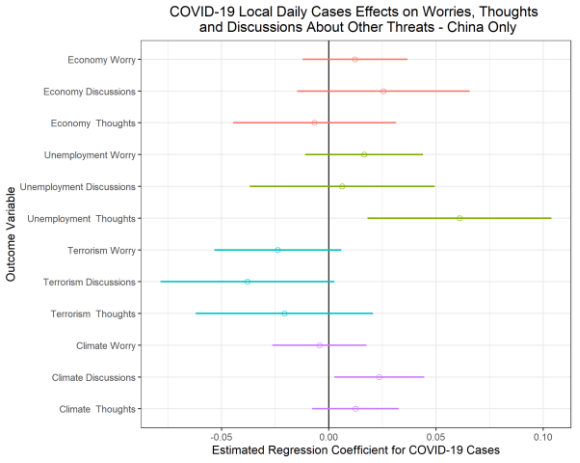
Italy



USA



China



Supplemental Table 2

Various worries regressed on COVID-19 worry and COVID-19 experience.

DVs (worries):	Climate	Econ	Immig	Ill-Immig	Climate	Econ	Immig	Ill-Immig
COVID-19 Worry	0.491***	0.167***	0.072***	0.014				
	(0.014)	(0.010)	(0.013)	(0.012)				
COVID-19 Experience					0.134***	0.061***	0.025	-0.009
					(0.019)	(0.013)	(0.016)	(0.015)
Party-Ind	-0.194***	-0.004	0.057**	0.146***	-0.306***	-0.042**	0.041	0.142***
	(0.027)	(0.020)	(0.025)	(0.023)	(0.030)	(0.020)	(0.025)	(0.023)
Party-Rep	-0.419***	-0.020	0.305***	0.408***	-0.576***	-0.073***	0.282***	0.403***
	(0.032)	(0.024)	(0.030)	(0.027)	(0.036)	(0.024)	(0.030)	(0.027)
Ideology	0.163***	0.021**	-0.156***	-0.176***	0.204***	0.035***	-0.150***	-0.175***
	(0.013)	(0.009)	(0.012)	(0.011)	(0.014)	(0.010)	(0.012)	(0.011)
Age	-0.005***	0.003***	0.003***	0.005***	-0.003***	0.004***	0.003***	0.005***
	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)
Income	-0.017**	0.024***	-0.025***	0.005	-0.023**	0.022***	-0.026***	0.005
	(0.008)	(0.006)	(0.007)	(0.007)	(0.009)	(0.006)	(0.007)	(0.007)
Education	0.049***	0.015**	-0.019***	-0.019***	0.061***	0.018***	-0.018**	-0.018***
	(0.008)	(0.006)	(0.007)	(0.007)	(0.009)	(0.006)	(0.007)	(0.007)
Gender-Male	0.049**	-0.009	-0.056***	-0.047**	-0.002	-0.026	-0.063***	-0.049***
	(0.022)	(0.016)	(0.021)	(0.019)	(0.025)	(0.017)	(0.021)	(0.019)
Gender-Other	0.395*	-0.030	-0.138	0.012	0.132	-0.121	-0.178	0.006
	(0.208)	(0.151)	(0.191)	(0.175)	(0.231)	(0.155)	(0.192)	(0.175)
Region-NE	0.091***	0.030	0.068**	0.053*	0.141***	0.045*	0.075**	0.056*
	(0.035)	(0.025)	(0.032)	(0.029)	(0.039)	(0.026)	(0.032)	(0.029)
Region-S	0.068**	0.048**	0.072**	0.020	0.069**	0.049**	0.073**	0.020
	(0.031)	(0.023)	(0.028)	(0.026)	(0.034)	(0.023)	(0.029)	(0.026)
Region-W	0.163***	0.058**	0.014	-0.022	0.157***	0.056**	0.013	-0.023
	(0.033)	(0.024)	(0.031)	(0.028)	(0.037)	(0.025)	(0.031)	(0.028)
Constant	1.008***	1.629***	1.997***	2.311***	2.373***	2.076***	2.191***	2.363***
	(0.080)	(0.058)	(0.073)	(0.067)	(0.077)	(0.052)	(0.064)	(0.059)
Observations	5,059	5,059	5,059	5,059	5,059	5,059	5,059	5,059
Adjusted R^2	0.356	0.082	0.119	0.199	0.206	0.038	0.114	0.199

Note: *p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Supplemental Table 3

Climate policy support regressed on COVID-19 worry and covariates across countries.

	DV: CLIMATE POLICY SUPPORT		
	China	Italy	USA
COVID-19 Worry	.24***	.40***	1.06***
	(.04)	(.04)	(.06)
Income	.05***	.10***	-.02
	(.01)	(.02)	(.02)
Age	.03***	-0.00	-.03***
	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
Female	.22**	-.12	-.01
	(.07)	(.09)	(.12)
Ideology	.28***	.50***	.78***
	(.03)	(.03)	(.04)
Education	.01	.01	.03
	(.03)	(.03)	(.04)
Constant	13.17***	13.09***	9.84***
	(.29)	(.28)	(.34)
Observations	3,806	3,335	3,165
Adjusted R^2	.08	.10	.26
Notes:	*P < .05; **P < .01; ***P < .001		

Supplemental Note 1

By "keyword" we mean a word or phrase that if contained in a news article or message, signals that the text is likely about or referring to the topic the keyword is relevant to. We employed a dual-strategy to keyword generation for robustness. Firstly we created a list of keywords for each of our topics (climate change, air pollution, the economy, immigration, unemployment, and terrorism) manually. The research team collaboratively generated a list of keywords for each topic that based on our knowledge of the topics and target countries we believed would effectively filter in content that is likely about one of the topics. We felt that combining this with an automated, data-driven approach to keyword generation would allow us to have a maximally robust approach and to have an extremely comprehensive list of keywords to ensure a very low false negative rate. To generate a data-driven list of keywords, we used the word embeddings produced by the word2vec algorithm trained on 300 billion Google news articles. All of the keywords were then translated by native speakers from English into Italian and Mandarin Chinese. Some keywords such as "cassaintegrati" are primarily relevant for one country and likely not relevant for the other countries. In these cases, we still translated the keyword into the other languages.

The full keyword table can be found here.

Supplemental Table 4

Weekly social media attention to various threats regressed on COVID-19 attention. Note: The constant term is Beijing.

	DV: Weekly Social Media Attention			
	Climate Change	Terrorism	Economy	Unemployment
COVID-19 Attention	-.01***	-.01*	.02**	.01**
	(0.00)	(0.00)	(.01)	(0.00)
Shanghai	-.04***	.04**	.13**	-0.00
	(.01)	(.01)	(.04)	(.01)
Milano	.04***	.10***	-.08*	.04**
	(.01)	(.01)	(.04)	(.01)
Roma	.06***	.08***	-.02	.03**
	(.01)	(.01)	(.04)	(.01)
Dallas	-.03**	.04**	-.37***	0.00
	(.01)	(.01)	(.04)	(.01)
New York	.01	.05***	-.34***	.03**
	(.01)	(.01)	(.04)	(.01)
Constant	.07***	.10***	.97***	.05***
	(.01)	(.01)	(.03)	(.01)
Observations	207	207	209	209
Adjusted R^2	.38	.22	.56	.15
Notes:	*P < .05; **P < .01; ***P < .001			

Supplemental Table 5

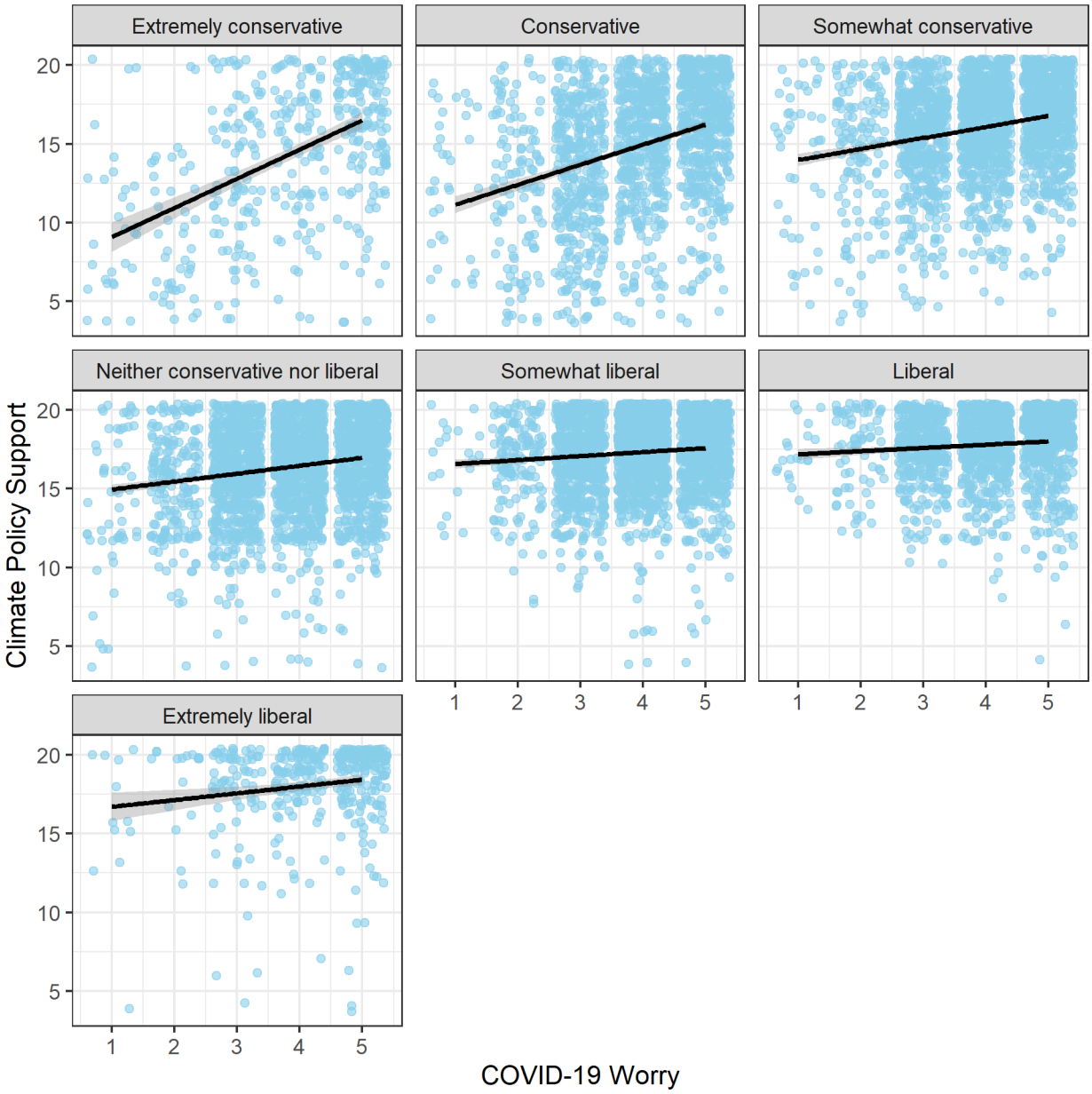
Weekly news attention to various threats regressed on COVID-19 attention. Note: the constant term is language = Chinese.

	DV: Weekly News Attention on			
	Climate Change	Terrorism	Economy	Unemployment
COVID-19 attention	-.01***	-.02***	.07***	.01*
	(0.00)	(0.00)	(.01)	(0.00)
Italian	.73***	.42*	-13.49***	-1.23***
	(.08)	(.19)	(.56)	(.26)
English	.68***	1.55***	-14.31***	-1.47***
	(.08)	(.18)	(.55)	(.25)
Constant	.29***	.72***	18.21***	1.91***
	(.05)	(.12)	(.37)	(.17)
Observations	78	78	78	78
Adjusted R^2	.60	.54	.92	.31

Notes: *P < .05; **P < .01; ***P < .001

Supplemental Figure 3

COVID-19 worry effect on climate policy support by ideology (using data from Survey 1).

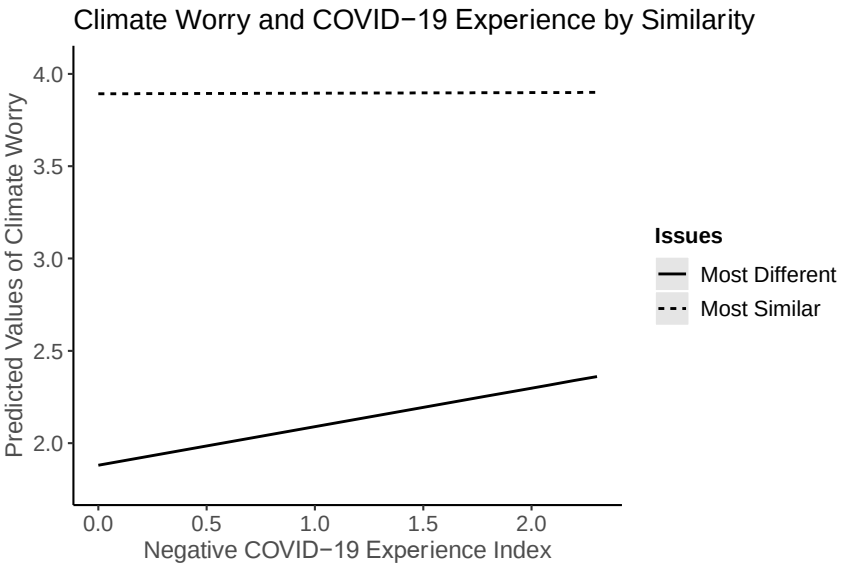


Supplemental Table 6

Exact wording of demographic questions administered in Study 2.

Variable	Question	Response Options
Income	What currently is your personal annual income before taxes?	$0 - $14,000 $15,000 - $29,000 $30,000 - $44,000 $45,000 - $59,000 $60,000 - $74,000 $75,000 - $89,000 $90,000 - $104,000 $105,000 - $119,000 $120,000 - $134,000 $135,000 - $149,000 $150,000 or more
Education	What is the highest level of education you have completed?	Some schooling, but no diploma or degree High school diploma or GED Some college, but no degree Associate's degree Bachelor's degree Master's degree Professional degree beyond bachelor's degree Doctorate degree
Ideology	What is your political ideology?	Extremely conservative Conservative Somewhat conservative Neither conservative nor liberal Somewhat liberal Liberal Extremely liberal
Gender	What is your gender?	Male Female Other
Age	What year were you born?	Open response

Supplemental Figure 4



Note: Predicted values from model in Table 3, Column 1.

Supplemental Note 2

The policy questions in the multi-national survey read as follows:

(Policy support questions) How much do you support or oppose the following policies (Strongly support; Somewhat support; Neither support nor oppose; Somewhat oppose; Strongly oppose):

- Fund more research into renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power
- Regulate carbon dioxide (the primary greenhouse gas) as a pollutant
- Phase out gasoline and diesel fueled cars in the ${e://Field/city} area within the next 10 years
- Require fossil fuel companies to pay a carbon tax and use the money to reduce other taxes (such as income tax) by an equal amount

The policy and behavior questions in the nationally representative American survey read as follows:

(Behavior Index) Have the current or future impacts of global warming/climate change led you to... Please check all that apply.

- Move to a different area
- Buy an energy generator (diesel or gas)
- Buy or lease an electric vehicle
- Buy rooftop solar panels and/or battery storage
- Invest in renewable energy through community solar or energy utility
- Eat less or no meat
- Help others with deliveries, gifts of food, or other acts during/after disasters
- Send messages to members of your religious or social organization (including social media) about global warming/climate change
- Send messages to public officials or sign online petitions about global warming/climate change
- Give money to charitable/environmental organizations
- None of the above

(Act) Some people say that *global warming/climate change* requires each of us to act in order to help solve a serious social problem — for example, by reducing your carbon footprint or supporting pro-environmental policies. It is important that individuals take action on issues of global warming/climate change.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

(Tracking) The United States government has, or could acquire, cell phone location data and credit card information to track individual actions that contribute carbon emissions and impact global warming/climate change. How would you react to such measures?

- Strongly approve
- Approve
- Neither approve nor disapprove
- Disapprove
- Strongly disapprove

(Green Stim) Members of congress have proposed a large-scale green infrastructure plan to address the economic crisis precipitated by the coronavirus epidemic, which has resulted in the fastest rate of unemployment growth on record. This proposal would revitalize and expand communications, water, transit and other key infrastructure across the United States, creating millions of new jobs while benefiting the environment. To what extent do you support or oppose this plan?

- Strongly support
- Support
- Neither support nor oppose
- Oppose
- Strongly oppose

Supplemental Table 7

The effect of COVID-19 worry on climate behaviors and policy support moderated by ideology. Analysis performed on data from the American survey.

	Behavior Index	Tracking	Act	Green Stimulus
COVID-19 Worry	.28***	.66***	.74***	.78***
Ideology	.09	.42***	.58***	.65***
COVID-19 Worry * Ideology	-0.00	-.12***	-.12***	-.14***
Party-Ind	-.15***	-.30***	-.21***	-.26***
Party-Rep	-.20***	-.26***	-.38***	-.38***
Age	-.01***	-.01***	-0.00***	-0.00
Income	.02	.01	0.00	0.00
Education	.14***	.03*	.03**	.01
Gender-Male	.16***	.21***	-.14***	-.06
Gender-Other	.13	.17	-.52*	.03
Region-NE	.18**	.08	.07	.09
Region-S	.15**	.06	.10**	.15**
Region-W	.19***	.05	.14***	.18**
Constant	-.23	.63**	1.06***	.78**
Observations	5,059	5,059	5,059	2,517
Adjusted R^2	.11	.08	.24	.21

Notes: *P < .05 **P < .01 ***P < .001

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