

The 2 Degree Tipping Point

This states that if the temperature of the atmosphere rises above 2°C of pre-industrial levels, the earth will become an unsafe habitat for humans. The lives of billions of people will be compromised due to:

- From rising sea levels of 10's of metres.
- Massive desert expansion – to over 70% of the globe.
- Catastrophic species extinction
- Wide scale food shortages and
- Highly increased levels of disease among humans.

Aims

We carried out our survey on 40 teenagers and 40 adults.

- One of our aims was to investigate any differences between teenagers and adults in their awareness of the tipping point.
- We wanted to raise awareness of the 2°C Tipping Point.
- We also wanted to educate people on the topic. In our survey we included a big red stop sign towards the end and we explained what it was to people before they answered the last three questions.
- We wanted to find out if it concerned them after learning about it and we also wanted to find out if they would make any changes to their lifestyles.

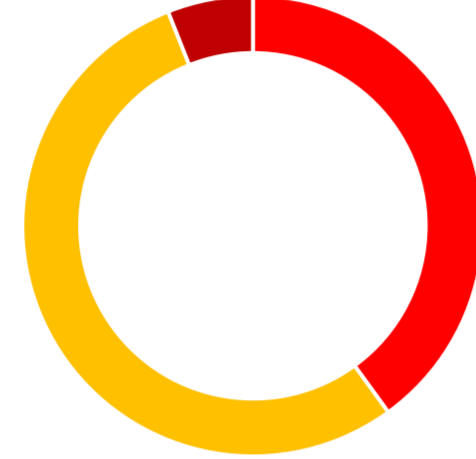
Have you ever heard of the '2 Degree Tipping Point'?

The graph shows us that both adults and teenagers have very little awareness of the '2 Degree Tipping Point'. A huge 71% of people have never heard of it before which we found a quite concerning statistic.

We then asked people would they be willing to make changes to their lifestyle. We were surprised to learn that 94% of people would make changes which is positive.

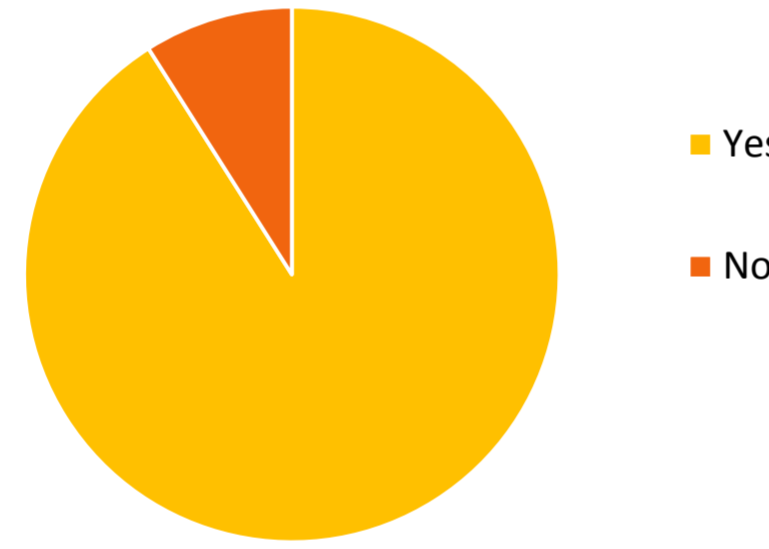
In Q.4 on our survey we told people that, "Temperatures will rise. There is about a 50% chance of keeping temperature rise below 2 degrees if we act now". We asked them was this statement true and 82.5% of people said this was true. But in Q.9 only 40% of people said they would make big changes which is upsetting.

Would you be willing to make Big Changes, Small Changes or None?



Big Changes Small Changes None

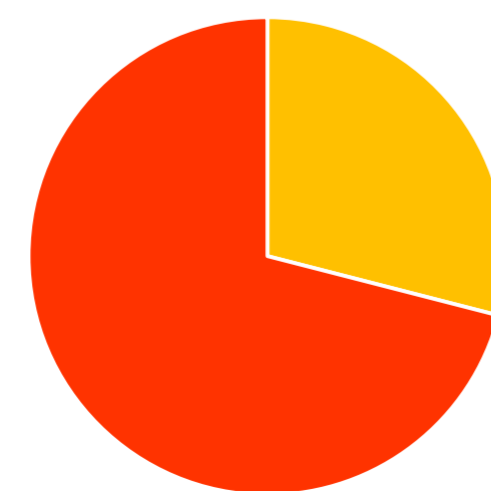
Does the '2 Degree Tipping Point' concern you?



Yes No

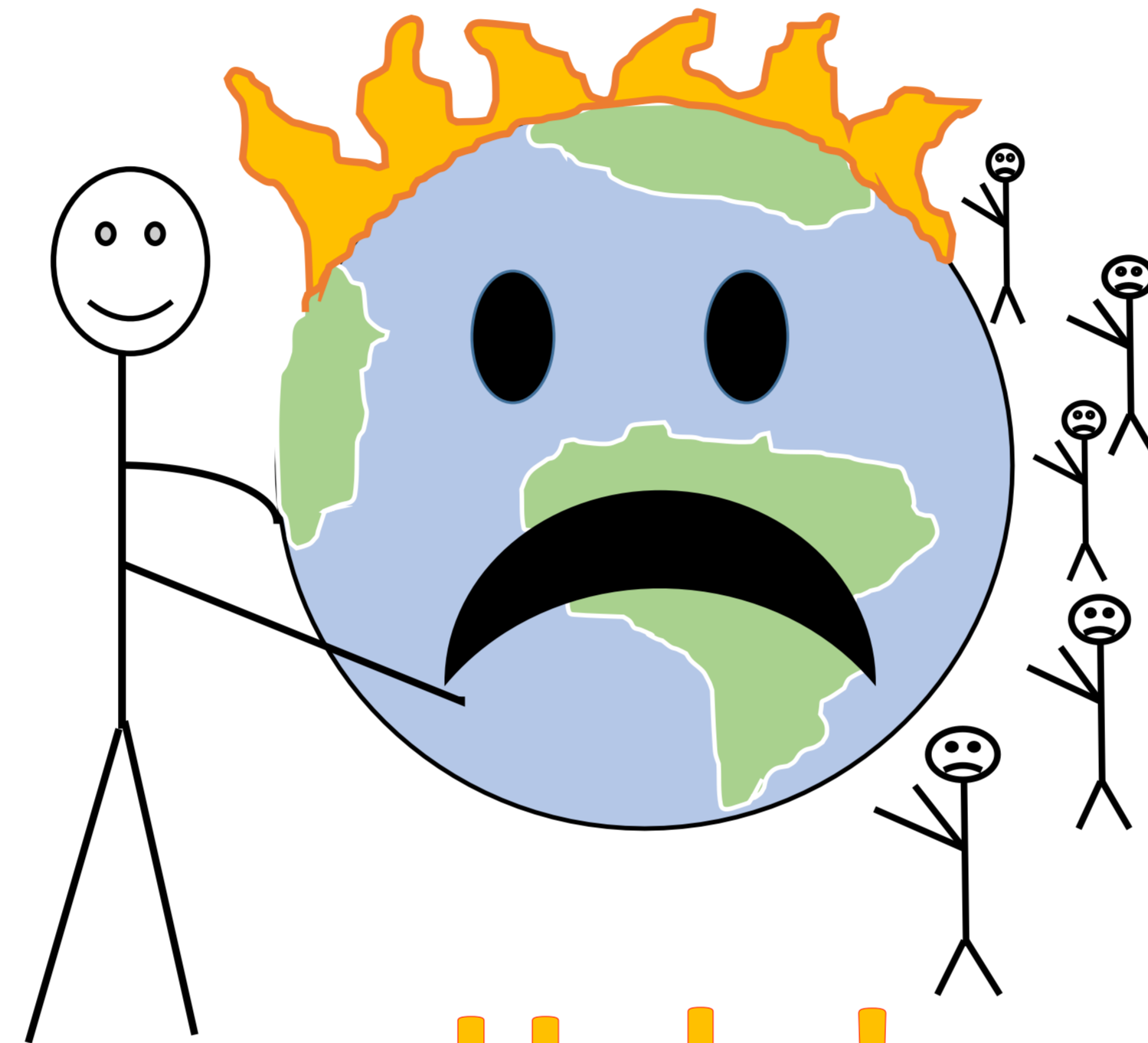
After people were made aware of the 2°C Tipping Point at the end of the survey we asked if it concerned them or not. We were happy to learn that 91% of them said it concerned them considering 71% of people had never heard of it before.

Have you ever heard of the '2 Degree Tipping Point'?



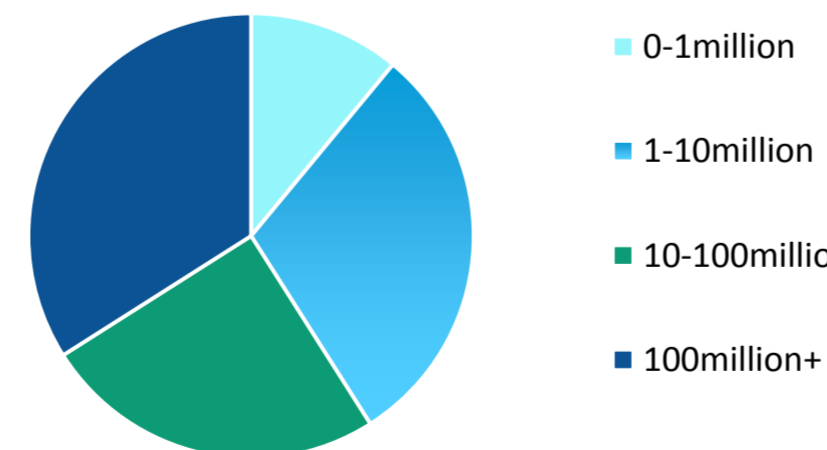
Yes No

20 Tipping Point



Help!

In your lifetime how many people do you think will be affected by sea level rises?



0-1million
1-10million
10-100million
100million+



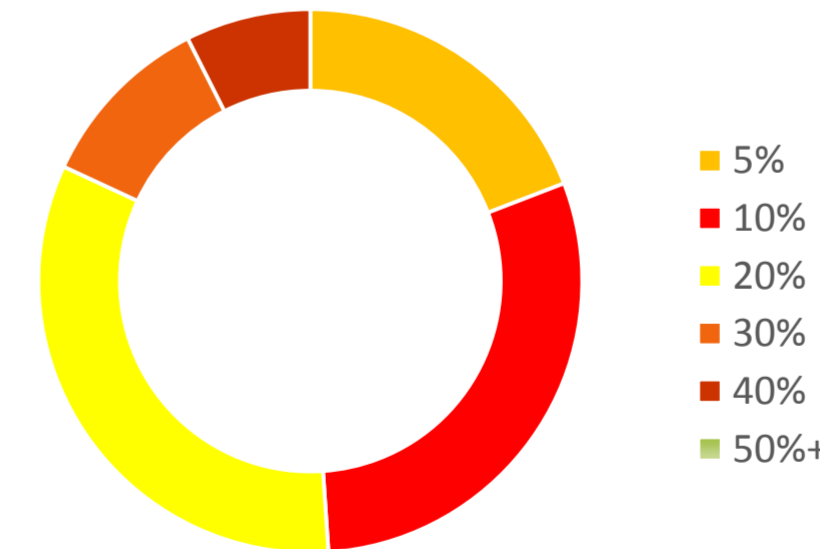
People were asked did they think the '2 Degree Tipping Point' would have a negative effect on human health, such as dehydration, diseases through food, water and animals, and deaths from extreme weather events etc.

91% of people said yes and 9% said no. We were happy with this result but we feel not enough people want to make real changes especially being aware of the consequences.

People's responses showed us that most do not have a clue about the effects of the '2 Degree Tipping Point'.

25% of the earth's surface is already covered by desert and the majority of people answered 20% or less....This worries us...Why?

How much of the earth will become desert in your lifetime?

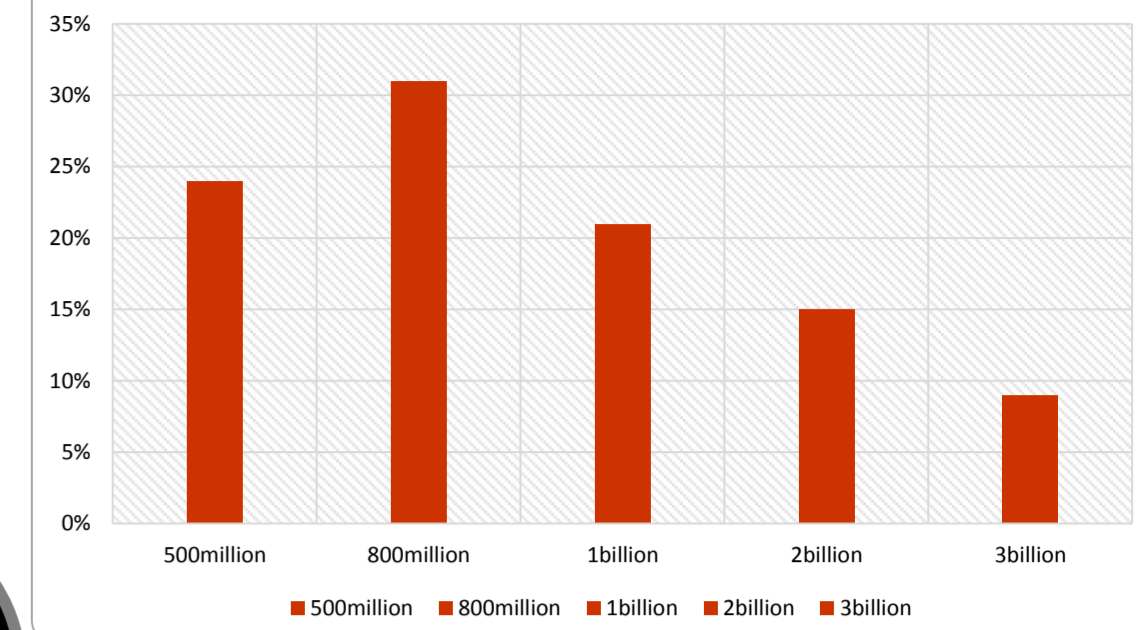


5%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%+

The statistics of this questions showed us that nobody has a clue of the severity of passing the 2 degree tipping point.

Nearly 70% of people are way off the correct answer of 100million+. People don't see the real danger which is alarming. It is predicted that over 2 billion people will be displaced by sea level rises!

How many people, in your lifetime, do you think will be left starving due to Climate Change?



Right now, over 900million people in the world go to bed hungry. From this data we can see that only 24% of people believe that the number of starving people will go over 1 Billion.

In our last question we asked people had taking part in the survey benefited them in anyway. We were very happy to learn that over 85% of people said it did benefit them. We also asked them how it had benefited them and this is some of the feedback we received:

The majority of people said that they had been made more aware of the issue.
"It has been informative and educational"
"I found the whole fact of the issue very upsetting"
"Opened my mind to what is happening in the world"
"Motivated me to make a change"

Conclusion

- People are NOT aware of the 2 Degree Tipping Point.
- People need to be educated more on the consequences of the Tipping Point - not just Ireland but all around the world and people of all ages. People do not have a clue about the dangers that may occur.
- There is a very high percentage of people who are concerned, which shows people care about the world we live in and that hopefully if educated properly will make real changes to their lifestyles.
- Both the results from adults and teenagers were very similar with little differences.