

DECONSTRUCTING 'THE CONSENSUS' on CLIMATE CHANGE

	Oreskes (2004)	Peiser (reran Oreskes & disputes her findings)(2005)	Doran & Zimmerman (2009)	Anderegg et al (2010)	Cook et al (2013)
Number of papers & time-frame of publication	928 (804) (1993-2003) (10 years)	1117 1993-2003 (10 years)	Database of Earth scientists	By publication and citation; partially based on existing lists drawn up by Prall	11,944 1991-2011 (21 years)
Search Term	'climate change' (subsequently corrected to 'global climate change')	'global climate change	2 key opinion questions asked w. 7 related parameters	By publication in climate science journals.	"global climate change" or "global warming"
Comparison of categories and survey findings	Categories & findings: 1. explicit endorsement of consensus position 2. evaluation of impacts 3. mitigation proposals 4. methods 5. paleoclimate analysis 6. rejection of the consensus position "Of all the papers, 75% fell into the first three categories, either explicitly or implicitly accepting the consensus view; 25% dealt with methods or paleoclimate, taking no position on current anthropogenic climate change. Link, Link	Categories & findings: 1. 13 (1.2%) explicit endorsement of the consensus position 2. 322 (29%) implicitly endorse but focus on evaluation of impacts 3. 89 (<10%) mitigation proposals 4. 67 focus on methods 5. 87 deal with paleoclimate analysis 6. 34 reject or doubt of the consensus position. 7. 44 focus on natural factors of global climate change 8. 470 (44%) include the words 'global climate change' but are unrelated to the question of recent global climate change. Link	Categories & findings: 12,000 database of Earth scientists sent 2 minute on- line survey 10,257 potential respondents, 3,146 responded 79 "climate" scientists (self- selected) formed the 100%. Question 1: Has the earth warmed since pre-1800s? Question 2: Is human activity a significant factor in global warming? Link	1,372 reduced to 908 Credibility: focussed on 4 most cited papers "Convinced" (CE) or "Unconvinced by evidence" (UE): based on multi- signatory papers signed by researchers. 903 scientists are CE (66%) 472 scientists are UE Scientists were ranked by number of publications. Of the 100 scientists with the most publications, 3% are UE. Link	Categories & findings: 1. 64 explicit endorse, >50% warming caused by man 2. 923 explicit endorse 3. 2911 implicit endorse 4. 7983 no position 5. 53 implicit reject 6. 15 explicit reject 7. 9 explicit reject, <50% warming caused by man 64 explicit endorsements out of 11,958 is 0.54% Link "endorse" means man has caused some warming. The IPCC claims (AR5) it is extremely likely that more than half of the warming since mid-20th century was caused by man.
Claims	75% consensus and 'Remarkably, none of the papers disagreed with the consensus position.'	Only a 1% consensus, contradicting Oreskes' claim.	Claims 97% consensus based on: 76 of 79 answered 'yes' to Question 1 (96.2%) 75 of 77 answered 'yes' to Question 2 (97.4%)	97-98% of the climate researchers most actively publishing in the field support the IPCC AGW. But only 66% of climate scientists support the IPCC position.	97% consensus claimed in press releases and on "The Consensus Project" website – 3898 (categories 1, 2, 3) of 3975 (all categories except 4) claim 97% - however many scientists rejected Cook's categorizing of their work.

The full questions in the Doran & Zimmerman survey: 1. When compared with pre-1800s levels, do you think that mean global temperatures have generally risen, fallen, or remained relatively constant? 2. Do you think human activity is a significant contributing factor in changing mean global temperatures?