



For Immediate Release

September 8, 2017

The Asahi Glass Foundation Announces Results of the 26th Annual “Questionnaire on Environmental Problems and the Survival of Humankind”

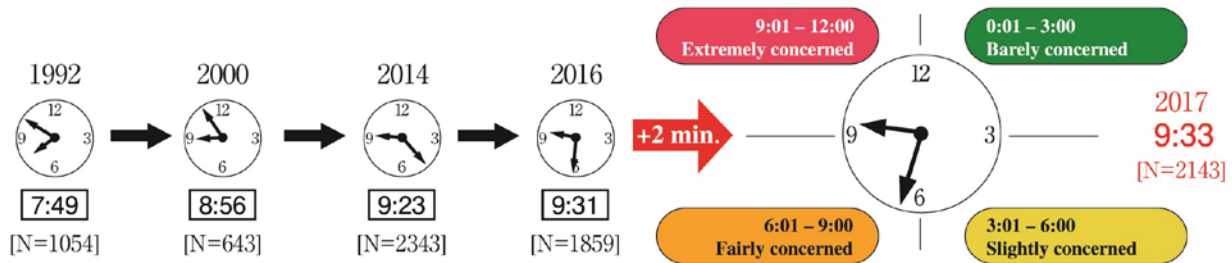
- The average time on the Environmental Doomsday Clock for all respondents was 9:33, the same as reported in 2008 and the most advanced time since the inception of the survey in 1992.
- Respondents in Oceania reported the highest sense of crisis. In contrast, the lowest was in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.
- Respondents over the age of 60 reported the highest sense of crisis, with a time on the Environmental Doomsday Clock 10 minutes more advanced than respondents under 60.
- A combined 95% of respondents stated they were “extremely concerned” or “fairly concerned,” revealing a strong sense of worry among the great majority of respondents.
- Overall, respondents most frequently selected “climate change” as the environmental condition they were most concerned about in selecting a time on the Environmental Doomsday Clock, a consistent response since 2011.
- Overall, 80% of respondents from the United States and more than half stated that post-U.S. presidential election politics had an effect on their determination of the time on the Environmental Doomsday Clock.

The Asahi Glass Foundation (Chairman: Kazuhiko Ishimura) has conducted surveys with environmental experts around the world each year since 1992. This year, the questionnaire was distributed to 211 countries around the world, and we received responses from 2,152 respondents in 130 countries, a 14% increase from last year. Below are the main points of this year’s questionnaire results. Further details are available in the “Survey Report of the 26th Annual Questionnaire on Environmental Problems and the Survival of Humankind,” or online at the Foundation’s web site starting 11 a.m. on September 8th.

1. Awareness of the Crisis Facing Human Survival - The Environmental Doomsday Clock

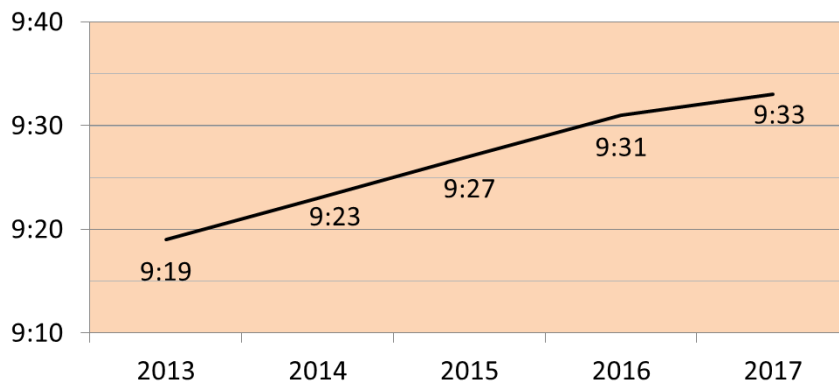
1-1 Environmental Doomsday Clock

- The average time on the Environmental Doomsday Clock for all respondents advanced 2 minutes to 9:33, the same time as reported in 2008. This marks the most advanced time since the inception of the survey in 1992.



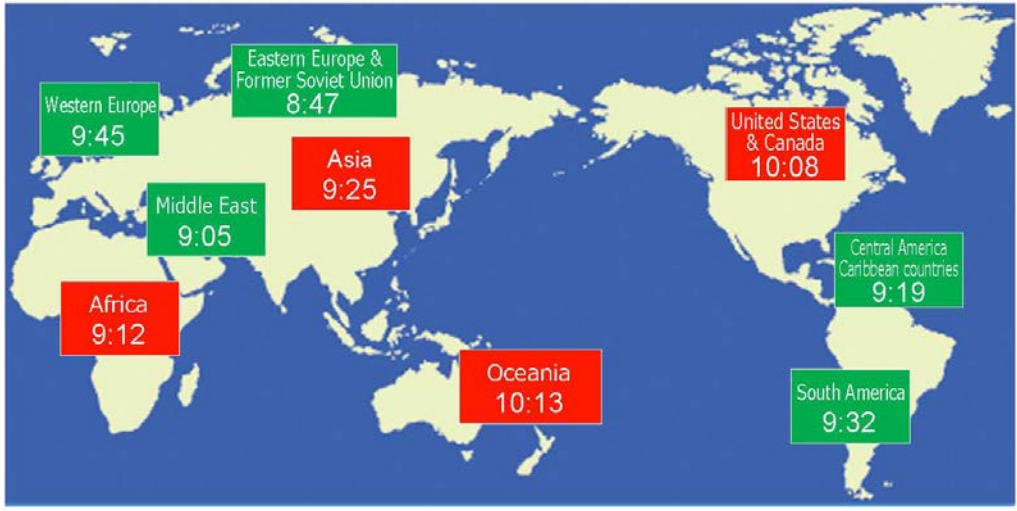
Change over the years in the Environmental Doomsday Clock

- The time on the Environmental Doomsday Clock has advanced every year since 2013. This year’s time marks a 14-minute advancement from 2013.



The trend in the Environmental Doomsday Clock (2013-2017)

- Of the 9 regions surveyed, the needle advanced in four regions (Oceania, United States & Canada, Asia, Africa). The time retreated in the remaining five regions (Western Europe, South America, Central America, Middle East, Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.)
- This year, the needle of the Middle East retreated 61 minutes to 9:05, representing the second lowest after Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.
- Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union was the only region that remained in the 8 o'clock range (the “fairly concerned” quadrant), whereas all other regions were in the “extremely concerned” quadrant, as in previous years. The sense of crisis was the highest among respondents in Oceania and United States & Canada, in the 10 o'clock range.

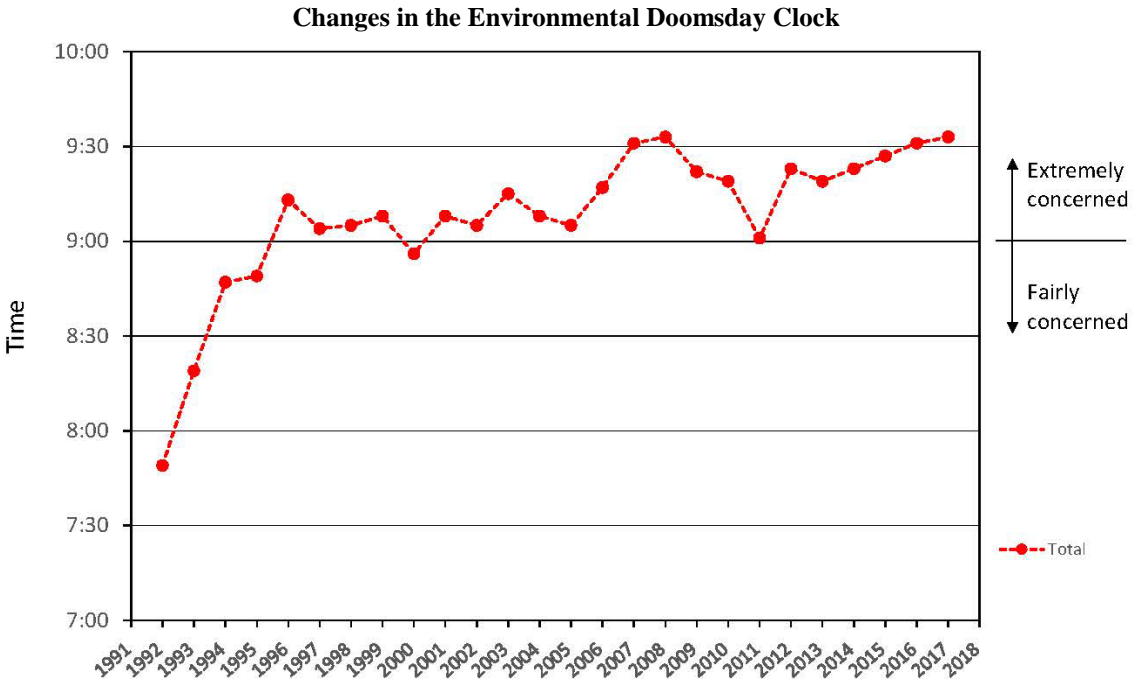


■ Represents regions/countries where the time advanced from last year
 ■ Represents regions/countries where the time retreated from last year
Regional Times

- In analyzing the changes in the Environmental Doomsday clock since the inception of the survey, overall, respondents have consistently indicated times in the “extremely concerned” quadrant in the 9 o'clock hour since 1996, with the exception of 2000.

1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	(Total)
7:49	8:19	8:47	8:49	9:13	9:04	9:05	9:08	8:56	9:08	9:05	9:15	9:08	9:05	9:17	9:31	9:33	9:22	9:19	9:01	9:23	9:19	9:23	9:27	9:31	9:33	

Since the inception of the survey, ■ represents the lowest sense of crisis, while ■ represents the highest.

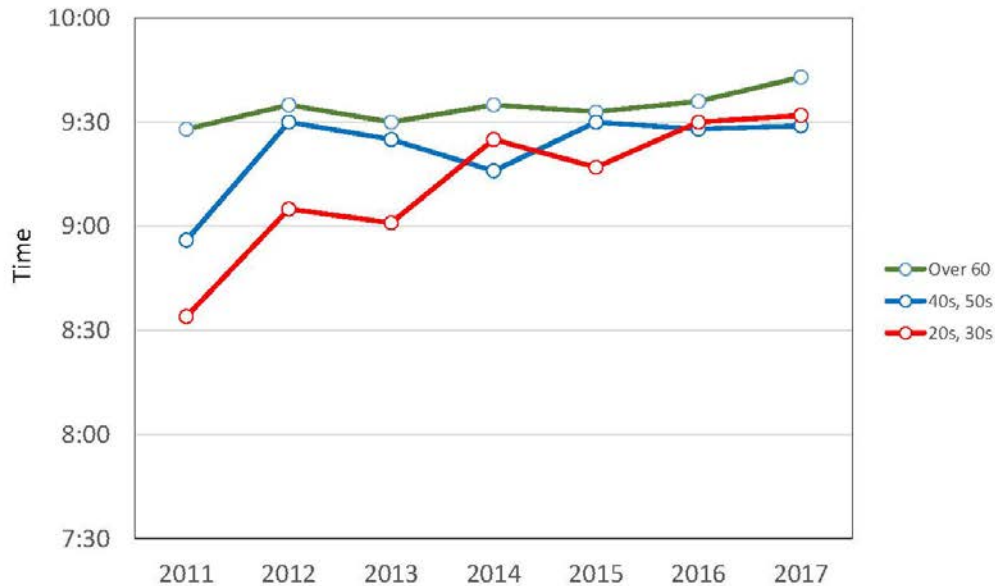


A Comparison of Annual Changes Since 1992

1-2. Shifts in the Environmental Doomsday Clock Based on Respondent Age (2011 – 2017)

As in last year, shifts in the time by respondent age were analyzed this year, examining the seven years from 2011 to 2017.

- In all years since the inception of the survey, respondents over the age of 60 reported a more advanced time on the Environmental Doomsday Clock than respondents under the age of 60.
- Comparing the shifts in the Environmental Doomsday Clock from 2011 to 2017 between the three age groups reveals that the advancement in time was greater for younger generations, at 58 minutes for respondents in their 20s to 30s, 33 minutes for those in their 40s to 50s, and 15 minutes for respondents in their over 60s.



Shifts in the Environmental Doomsday Clock by Generation

2. Environmental Issues to be Taken into Account in Determining the Time on the Environmental Doomsday Clock

(Overall)

In determining the time on the Environmental Doomsday Clock, the questionnaire asked respondents to select from the following 9 categories of environmental problems the most pressing issues in the country or region where they lived, ranking the problems from 1 to 3. (See Questionnaire Report for further details.)

Environmental Issues to be taken into Account:

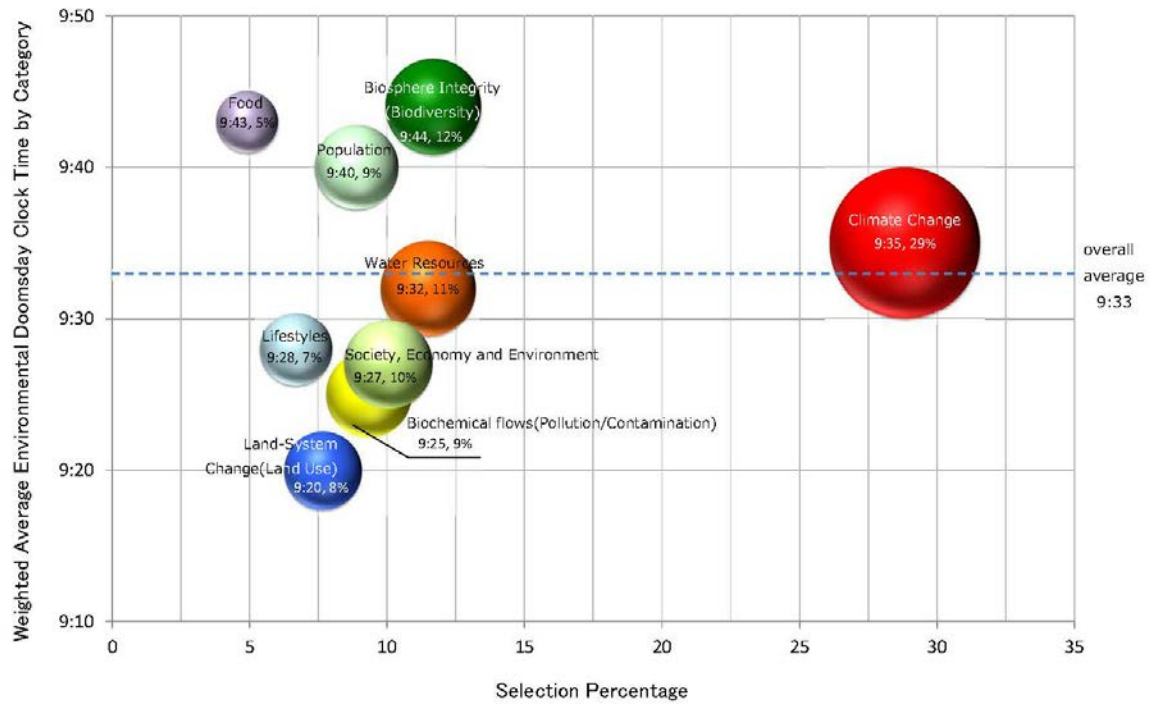
1. Climate Change; 2. Biosphere integrity (Biodiversity); 3. Land-system change (Land Use); 4. Biochemical flows (Pollution/Contamination); 5. Water Resources; 6. Population; 7. Food; 8. Lifestyles (Consumption Habits) ; 9. Society, Economy and Environment (Category item of “Warming measures” is deleted, while “Environment and economy” and “Environment and society” are integrated into “Society, Economy and Environment” from 2017.)

2-1. Selection Rates for Environmental Issues to be taken into Account

- In selecting a time on the Environmental Doomsday Clock, similar to last year, respondents overall most frequently selected “climate change” as the environmental issues to be taken into account at 29%. This was followed by “biosphere integrity (biodiversity)” at 12%, and “water resources” at 11%.

2-2. Ranking of Time on the Environmental Doomsday Clock for Environmental Issues to be taken into Account

- When ranking the Environmental Doomsday Clock time for the Environmental Issues to be taken into Account in descending order, “biosphere integrity (biodiversity)” had the most advanced time, at 9:44, followed very closely by “food” at 9:43, and “population” at 9:40.
- “Food,” which ranked the lowest last year and the only category that had remained in the 8 o’clock hour, saw its needle advance by 44 minutes this year, representing the greatest rise in the sense of crisis.



2-3. Regional Trends in the Selection of Environmental Issues to be taken into Account

- Overall, “climate change” was the most frequently selected category in most regions, at 29%. This was followed by “biosphere integrity (biodiversity)” (12%) and “water resources” (11%)
- In the Middle East, “water resources” was the top-ranked issue.

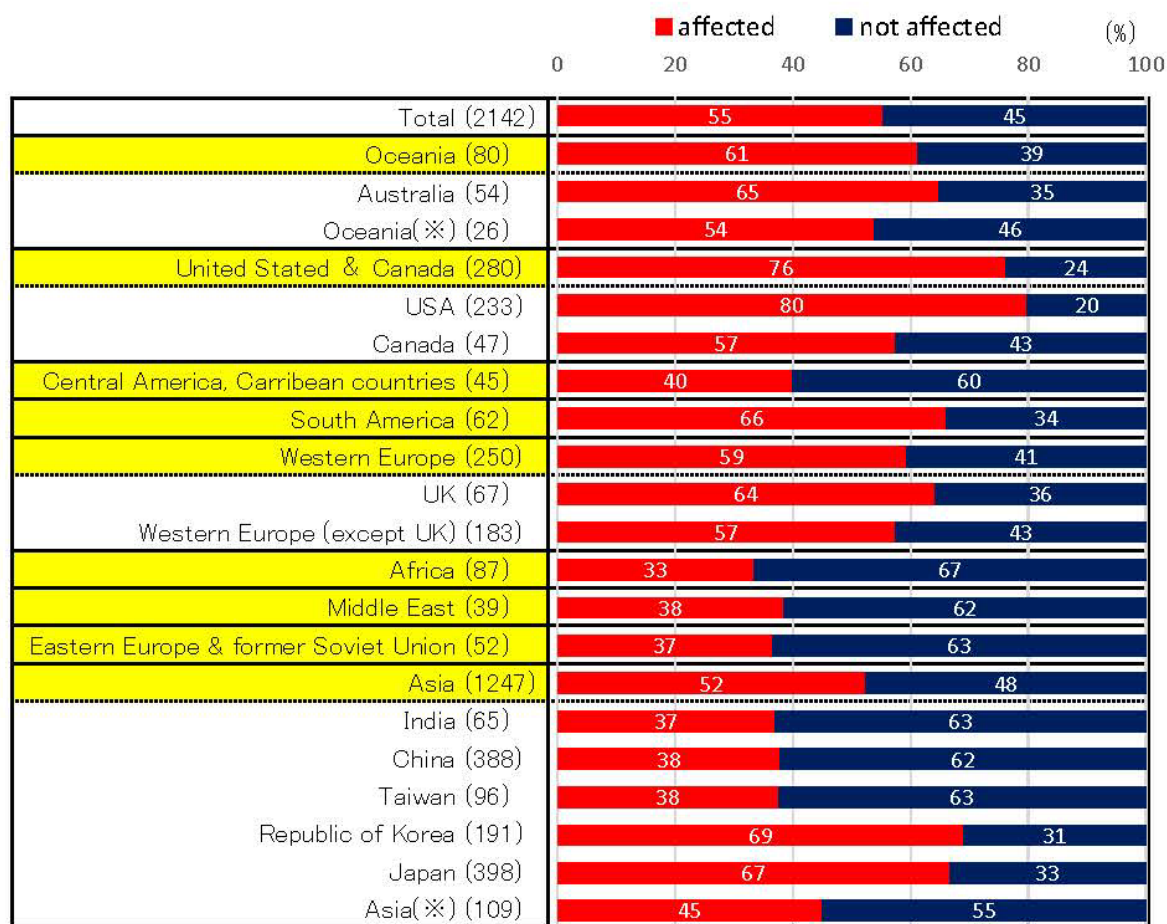
	1. Climate Change	2. Biosphere Integrity (Biodiversity)	3. Land-System Change (Land Use)	4. Biochemical flows (Pollution/Contamination)	5. Water Resources	6. Population	7. Food	8. Lifestyles (Consumption Habits)	9. Society, Economy and Environment
Total	29%	12%	8%	9%	11%	9%	5%	7%	10%
Oceania	33%	18%	11%	4%	9%	10%	1%	7%	8%
Oceania (Except Australia)	33%	16%	17%	7%	11%	6%	2%	4%	5%
Australia	33%	19%	8%	3%	8%	12%	0%	8%	10%
USA & Canada	34%	15%	8%	5%	10%	10%	2%	8%	8%
Canada	37%	20%	9%	3%	10%	5%	1%	9%	7%
USA	34%	14%	8%	5%	10%	11%	2%	8%	8%
Central America, Caribbean countries	27%	15%	11%	5%	16%	4%	2%	10%	10%
South America	25%	12%	19%	3%	16%	6%	2%	3%	11%
Western Europe	27%	18%	8%	5%	6%	10%	2%	13%	10%
UK	28%	17%	7%	5%	3%	11%	3%	15%	10%
Western Europe (except UK)	26%	19%	9%	5%	7%	10%	2%	12%	11%
Africa	30%	11%	13%	1%	18%	11%	4%	3%	8%
Middle East	16%	11%	13%	1%	28%	9%	3%	6%	11%
Eastern Europe & former Soviet Union	25%	14%	17%	7%	14%	3%	1%	5%	13%
Asia	28%	9%	6%	13%	12%	9%	7%	6%	11%
Japan	35%	11%	4%	7%	6%	8%	7%	7%	15%
India	21%	10%	14%	5%	18%	14%	2%	4%	9%
China	20%	6%	4%	16%	18%	10%	13%	5%	9%
Taiwan	33%	7%	6%	23%	13%	4%	2%	5%	7%
Korea	33%	8%	5%	22%	5%	8%	3%	8%	9%
Asian*	28%	13%	14%	5%	16%	11%	2%	3%	8%

■ Represents the most frequently selected item in the region/country. ■ represents the second most frequently selected item in the region/country

*With the exception of India, China, Taiwan, Korea, and Japan

3. The Effect of Post-U.S. Presidential Election Politics on the Environmental Doomsday Clock

- Overall, 55% of respondents stated that there was an effect. By region/country, respondents from the United States had the highest percentage of respondents who said there was an effect, at 80%.
- While more than half of the respondents in Korea, Japan, South America, Australia, and UK indicated there was an effect, the rate was less than 40% in Africa, India, Eastern Europe & the former Soviet Union, China, Taiwan, and the Middle East.



Asia※ = Except India, China, Taiwan, Korea, Japan)
 Oceania※ = Except Australia

This survey includes a section where respondents are invited to provide their opinions and write about the environmental realities they face in their region of the world, as well as offer suggestions for improvement. This year, we received a total of 1,022 comments, including 716 from 104 countries abroad and 286 comments from Japan. These comments, along with comments on Question 2 will be published on the Asahi Glass Foundation website on September 8th at 11 a.m.

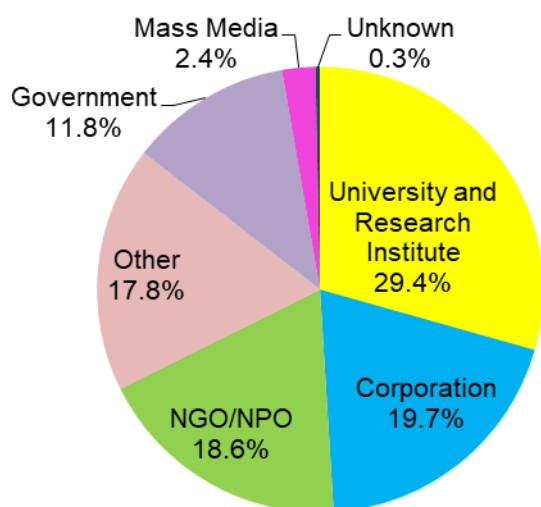
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Appendix

• About the “Questionnaire on Environmental Problems and the Survival of Humankind”

Since 1992, the Asahi Glass Foundation has conducted a survey each year with experts around the world who are knowledgeable and are involved in environmental issues. The respondent pool includes government officials and members of universities and research institutions, nongovernmental organizations, corporations and mass media. These experts are queried about various endeavors to counter environmental problems. The questionnaires are produced in six languages (English, Chinese, French, Japanese, Korean, and Spanish) and are sent out around April each year, and collected by June. After the responses are compiled, compared, and analyzed, the survey results are announced in September. The report is available in five languages. The pie chart below shows the affiliation of the questionnaire respondents in descending order. The questionnaire was sent to respondents in 211 countries including Japan, with responses returning from 130 countries.



Number of Countries Surveyed

Regions	Countries
U.S.A & Canada	2
Central America, Caribbean countries	28
South America	12
Western Europe	28
Eastern Europe & former Soviet Union	28
Africa	56
Middle East	16
Asia	24
Oceania	16
Japan	1
Total	211

• Facts about This Year’s Questionnaire

Survey period: Questionnaires were sent out in April 2017 with a return deadline of June 2017

Questionnaire respondent pool: Environmental experts selected from members of government organizations, academic and research institutions, NGOs, corporations, and mass media. (based on the Asahi Glass Foundation database)

Questionnaires mailed: 29,214 (27,985 to 210 countries and 1,229 within Japan)

Questionnaires returned: 2,152

Response rate: 7.4%

Breakdown of respondents by region:

Region	Number of responses	Percent of total %
Oceania	80	3.7
United States & Canada	282	13.1
Central America, Caribbean countries	47	2.2
South America	63	2.9
Western Europe	251	11.7
Africa	87	4.0
Middle East	39	1.8
Eastern Europe & former Soviet Union	52	2.4
Asia	1251	58.1
Total	2152	100