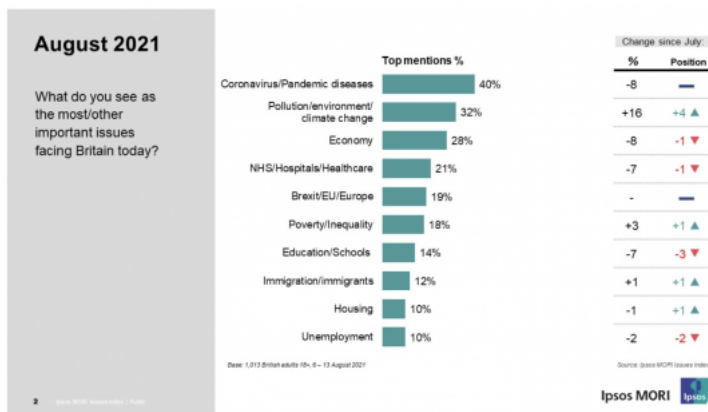


The [Ipsos MORI Issues Index for August 2021](#) shows public concern about the environment has jumped sixteen percentage points over last month's Index.



This could, of course, be an aberration. It may be that Westminster was out of sight in August. And it could be because people are actually seeing what climate change is really doing to the planet now. Ipsos MORI were, I think, confused, saying:

While environmental concern has risen generally, there remain differences between different groups of the population:

- This month older people are more likely than average to mention the environment as a concern: 38% of the over 55s (and 42% of those aged 55–64) say it is a big issue, compared with 24% of 18–34s.
- There remains a split by social grade with those in social grades ABC1 more likely to be worried about climate change than those in grades C2DE (37% compared with 28%)
- By contrast there is no party-political split with supporters of the Conservative and Labour parties – as well as those who support no political party – all similarly likely to mention it as a concern (30%, 33% and 28% respectively)

I think the last is particularly telling. It is rare for there to be such cross-cutting issues. It seems that the environment is.

Now, when will the government take it seriously, because right now, right around the

world, no one thinks that it is.