

ABSTRACT

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Title: PERCEPTIONS OF THE CLIMATE CRISIS AND CLIMATE JUSTICE
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It is becoming increasingly clear that we are in a state of climate crisis. Global temperatures are rising, many ecosystems are becoming increasingly stressed, and developing nations are experiencing the impacts at a higher rate than developed nations. As global climate change calls for action, the climate justice movement aims to address it. The purpose of this study is to better understand Southern Connecticut State University students' knowledge of, and attitudes towards, the climate crisis and climate justice. This research is of particular importance given that the university recently signed a Climate Emergency declaration. Understanding perceptions of climate justice is necessary to promote this movement, yet no research on perceptions of climate justice exists. Utilizing a diverse sample of American college students ($n = 175$), this study employed surveys to examine attitudes toward the climate justice movement and its relationship to existing measures of environmental and climate attitudes. This paper concludes with implications for engagement and practical applications for implementing climate actions in the U.S.