

Study 1: Height

MANIPULATION: A person's height is mainly determined by two factors: genetics and nutrition. When someone is said to be in the 75th [25th] percentile in terms of height, they are said to be taller [shorter] than 75% of the population. Imagine a person whose parents are relatively tall [short]: they are both at the 75th [25th] percentile in terms of height. That is, both parents are taller [shorter] than 75% of the population in their gender. What is the likelihood that, as an adult, this person will be...

- _____ ... in the 75th-99th percentiles (taller than 75%-99% of the population)? (1)
- _____ ... in the 50th-75th percentiles (taller than 50%-75% of the population)? (2)
- _____ ... in the 25th-50th percentiles (shorter than 50%-75% of the population)? (3)
- _____ ... in the 1st-25th percentiles (shorter than 75%-99% of the population)? (4)

Q2 Obviously, there is some randomness in a person's height. Some people are taller than their parents, some shorter. Imagine a person whose parents that are both on the 75th [25th] percentile in terms of height (taller [shorter] than 75% of the population). What percentile would you expect this person to be in, as an adult?

_____ (1)

Q6 What is your gender?

- Male (1)
- Female (2)

Q8 What is your age?

Study 2: Temperature

Q4 In this survey, we will ask you to make a few predictions regarding the future. You will be presented with a list of the top 20 warmest states in terms of their average temperature, ranging from Florida (ranked #1) to Maryland (ranked #20). Then, you will be asked to predict what the ranking of different states will be 35 years from now, in 2050.

Q32 Before we begin, we would like to ask you a general question regarding whether you believe in global warming.

Q39 In the next 50 years or so, do you believe that the world's temperature will rise, drop, or remain unchanged?

- I believe that the world's temperature will rise in the next 50 years. (1)
- I believe that the world's temperature will drop in the next 50 years. (2)
- I believe that the world's temperature will not change in the next 50 years. (3)

Consider how Florida is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Florida is currently ranked #1 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- _____ ... remain in the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- _____ ... drop to the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- _____ ... drop to the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- _____ ... drop to the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how Hawaii is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Hawaii is currently ranked #2 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- _____ ... remain in the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- _____ ... drop to the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- _____ ... drop to the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- _____ ... drop to the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how Louisiana is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Louisiana is currently ranked #3 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- _____ ... remain in the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- _____ ... drop to the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- _____ ... drop to the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- _____ ... drop to the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how Texas is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Texas is currently ranked #4 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- _____ ... remain in the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- _____ ... drop to the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- _____ ... drop to the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- _____ ... drop to the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how Georgia is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Georgia is currently ranked #5 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- ... remain in the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- ... drop to the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- ... drop to the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- ... drop to the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how Mississippi is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Mississippi is currently ranked #6 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- ... rise to the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- ... remain in the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- ... drop to the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- ... drop to the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how Alabama is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Alabama is currently ranked #7 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- ... rise to the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- ... remain in the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- ... drop to the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- ... drop to the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how South Carolina is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that South Carolina is currently ranked #8 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- ... rise to the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- ... remain in the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- ... drop to the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- ... drop to the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how Arkansas is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Arkansas is currently ranked #9 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- ... rise to the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- ... remain in the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- ... drop to the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- ... drop to the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how Arizona is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Arizona is currently ranked #10 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- ... rise to the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- ... remain in the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- ... drop to the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- ... drop to the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how Oklahoma is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Oklahoma is currently ranked #11 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- ... rise to the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- ... rise to the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- ... remain in the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- ... drop to the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how California is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that California is currently ranked #12 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- ... rise to the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- ... rise to the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- ... remain in the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- ... drop to the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how North Carolina is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that North Carolina is currently ranked #13 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- ... rise to the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- ... rise to the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- ... remain in the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- ... drop to the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how Tennessee is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Tennessee is currently ranked #14 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- ... rise to the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- ... rise to the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- ... remain in the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- ... drop to the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how Kentucky is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Kentucky is currently ranked #15 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- ... rise to the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- ... rise to the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- ... remain in the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- ... drop to the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how Delaware is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Delaware is currently ranked #16 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- ... rise to the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- ... rise to the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- ... rise to the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- ... remain in the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how Virginia is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Virginia is currently ranked #17 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- ... rise to the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- ... rise to the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- ... rise to the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- ... remain in the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how Missouri is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Missouri is currently ranked #18 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- ... rise to the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- ... rise to the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- ... rise to the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- ... remain in the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how Kansas is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Kansas is currently ranked #19 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- ... rise to the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- ... rise to the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- ... rise to the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- ... remain in the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Consider how Maryland is currently ranked in terms of temperature and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that Maryland is currently ranked #20 in terms of average annual temperature, what is the likelihood that it will...

- ... rise to the top 5 warmest states (places 1-5) in 2050? (1)
- ... rise to the second 5 warmest states (places 6-10) in 2050? (2)
- ... rise to the third 5 warmest states (places 11-15) in 2050? (3)
- ... remain in the fourth 5 warmest states (places 16-20) in 2050? (4)

Q32 What is your gender?

- Male (1)
- Female (2)

Q34 What is your age?

Study 3: Natural Disasters

Q6 Have you ever wondered where most of the major natural disasters happen in the United States? Below is the ranking of the Top 10 States in terms of major natural disasters. In this survey, we will ask you to predict the ranking in the future, in 2050. Before continuing, please take a look at these rankings.

Q12 Consider where Florida (#5) is currently ranked in terms of natural disasters, and where it is likely to rank 35 years from now, in 2050. Where do you predict that Florida will rank in 2050?

Q15 Given that Florida is currently ranked #5 (the 5th most dangerous state in terms of natural disasters), what is the likelihood that it will...

_____ ...remain in the top 5 most dangerous states? (3)

_____ ...drop to the second 5 most dangerous states? (4)

Q17 When thinking about Florida's future ranking, which were you more focused on?

- Reasons for it to rise in ranking (1)
- Reasons for it to drop in ranking (2)
- Reasons for it to remain in the same exact ranking (3)

Q19 When thinking about Florida's future ranking, what were you imagining? That is, what images came to mind?

- I was imagining more natural disaster occurring in Florida1 (1)
- 2 (2)
- 3 (3)
- 4 (4)
- 5 (5)
- 6 (6)
- I was imagining less natural disaster occurring in Florida7 (7)

Q11 Consider where Louisiana (#6) is currently ranked in terms of natural disasters, and where it is likely to rank 35 years from now, in 2050. where do you predict that Louisiana will rank in 2050?

Q21 Given that Louisiana is currently ranked #6 (the 6th most dangerous state in terms of natural disasters), what is the likelihood that it will...

_____ ...rise to the top 5 most dangerous states? (3)

_____ ...remain in the second 5 most dangerous states? (4)

Q18 When thinking about Louisiana's future ranking, which were you more focused on?

- Reasons for it to rise in ranking (1)
- Reasons for it to drop in ranking (2)
- Reasons for it to remain in the same exact ranking (3)

Q20 When thinking about Louisiana's future ranking, what were you imagining? That is, what images came to mind?

- I was imagining more natural disaster occurring in Florida¹ (1)
- 2 (2)
- 3 (3)
- 4 (4)
- 5 (5)
- 6 (6)
- I was imagining less natural disaster occurring in Florida⁷ (7)

Q13 What is your gender?

- Male (1)
- Female (2)

Q15 What is your age?

Study 4A:

In this survey, we will ask you to make a short prediction regarding the future of the climate. Below is a list of the Top 10 Driest States in terms of their average annual precipitation (rain and snow), ranging from Nevada (ranked #1) to South Dakota (ranked #10).

MANIPULATION: As you may probably know, there is a consensus among the scientific community that the world is getting warmer. There is much less of a consensus regarding what this mean for rainfall and snowfall. However, many scientists believe that changes in the climate will lead to a decrease [increase] in the amount of precipitation. That is, the warmer the world gets, the less [more] rainfall we should expect.

Consider how Nevada is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that Nevada is currently ranked #1 (the driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how Utah is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that Utah is currently ranked #2 (the 2nd driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how Wyoming is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that Wyoming is currently ranked #3 (the 3rd driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how Arizona is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that Arizona is currently ranked #4 (the 4th driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how New Mexico is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that New Mexico is currently ranked #5 (the 5th driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how Montana is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that Montana is currently ranked #6 (the 6th driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how Colorado is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that Colorado is currently ranked #7 (the 7th driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how North Dakota is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that North Dakota is currently ranked #8 (the 8th driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how Idaho is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that Idaho is currently ranked #9 (the 9th driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how South Dakota is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that South Dakota is currently ranked #10 (the 10th driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how Nevada is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that Nevada is currently ranked #1 (the driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how Utah is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that Utah is currently ranked #2 (the 2nd driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how Wyoming is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that Wyoming is currently ranked #3 (the 3rd driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how Arizona is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that Arizona is currently ranked #4 (the 4th driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how New Mexico is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that New Mexico is currently ranked #5 (the 5th driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how Montana is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that Montana is currently ranked #6 (the 6th driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how Colorado is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that Colorado is currently ranked #7 (the 7th driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how North Dakota is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that North Dakota is currently ranked #8 (the 8th driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how Idaho is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that Idaho is currently ranked #9 (the 9th driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Consider how South Dakota is currently ranked and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050. Top 10 Driest States Given that South Dakota is currently ranked #10 (the 10th driest state), how do you think it will rank in 2050?

Q32 According to the text you read, which of the following is true?

- Climate change will lead to an increase in rainfall (1)
- Climate change will lead to a decrease in rainfall (2)

Q32 What is your gender?

- Male (1)
- Female (2)

Q34 What is your age?

Study 4B:

MANIPULATION: As you may probably know, there is some consensus among the scientific community that the world is getting warmer. But what does this mean for rainfall and snowfall? How will global warming influence levels of rain? Some scientists have shown that the increasing frequency of droughts [floods] around the world and in the United States is evidence that the world is getting drier [wetter]. Experts are warning that there will be less [more] rain in the future. And, the warmer the world gets, the less [more] rainfall we should expect.

You will now be presented with a list of The 10 Driest States in the United States. This list ranks the driest states, from Nevada (ranked #1) to South Dakota (ranked #10).

Below is the list of The 10 Driest States in America. Consider how New Mexico is currently ranked on this list and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050.

Given that New Mexico is currently ranked #5 (the 5th driest state), what is the likelihood that it will...

- _____ ... remain in the top 5 driest states in 2050? (1)
_____ ... drop to the second 5 driest states in 2050? (2)

Below is the list of The 10 Driest States in America. Consider how Montana is currently ranked on this list, and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050

Given that Montana is currently ranked #6 (the 6th driest state), what is the likelihood that it will...

- _____ ... rise to the top 5 driest states in 2050? (1)
_____ ... remain in the second 5 driest states in 2050? (2)

You will now be presented with a list of The 10 Wettest States (the states with the most rainfall) in the United States. This list ranks the wettest states, from Hawaii (ranked #1) to Connecticut (ranked #10).

Below is the list of The 10 Wettest States in America. Consider how Florida is currently ranked on this list and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050

Given that Florida is currently ranked #5 (the 5th wettest state), what is the likelihood that it will...

- _____ ... remain in the top 5 wettest states in 2050? (1)
_____ ... drop to the second 5 wettest states in 2050? (2)

Below is the list of The 10 Wettest States in America. Consider how Tennessee is currently ranked on this list, and where it is likely to be ranked 35 years from now, in 2050

Given that Tennessee is currently ranked #6 (the 6th wettest state), what is the likelihood that it will...

- _____ ... rise to the top 5 wettest states in 2050? (1)
_____ ... remain in the second 5 wettest states in 2050? (2)

Q10 According to the text you read, which of the following is true?

- Climate change will lead to an increase in rainfall: The world will be more wet (more rainfall) in the future (1)
- Climate change will lead to a decrease in rainfall: The world will be more dry (less rainfall) in the future (2)

Q12 What is your gender?

- Male (1)
- Female (2)

Q14 What is your age?

Study 5: Industrial Pollution

MANIPULATION: Imagine you were an environmental consultant who is the highest authority on a specific chemical compound - Chemical XXZ. Your research has shown that Chemical XXZ may be dangerous when in high concentration, and should therefore be monitored. You have traveled to all 50 states to examine the concentration of this chemical. Your work has culminated with the following list, ranking The Top 10 States with the highest [lowest] concentration of Chemical XXZ - the most polluted and dangerous states [the cleanest and safest states].

Q7 Now, imagine that you had been hired by the state of New York. The governor is worried about the state's current ranking, and is paying you to predict the future concentration of Chemical XXZ. This is a difficult task, because it is hard to accurately predict how changes in industry, population, and weather would influence this chemical. However, you are asked to give your best estimate of where the state of New York would rank 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that you found that New York is currently ranked #5 (the 5th most polluted in terms of Chemical XXZ), what is the likelihood that by 2050 it will...

- _____ ... remain in the top 5 polluted states? (1)
_____ ... drop to the second 5 polluted states? (2)

Q7 Now, imagine that you had been hired by the state of New York. The governor is worried about the state's current ranking, and is paying you to predict the future concentration of Chemical XXZ. This is a difficult task, because it is hard to accurately predict how changes in industry, population, and weather would influence this chemical. However, you are asked to give your best estimate of where the state of New York would rank 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that you found that New York is currently ranked #6 (the 6th most polluted in terms of Chemical XXZ), what is the likelihood that by 2050 it will...

- _____ ... rise to the top 5 polluted states? (1)
_____ ... remain in the second 5 polluted states? (2)

Q13 Now, imagine that you had been hired by the state of New York. The governor is pleased with the state's current ranking, and is paying you to predict the future concentration of Chemical XXZ. This is a difficult task, because it is hard to accurately predict how changes in industry, population, and weather would influence this chemical. However, you are asked to give your best estimate of where the state of New York would rank 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that you found that New York is currently ranked #5 (the 5th cleanest in terms of Chemical XXZ), what is the likelihood that by 2050 it will...

- _____ ... remain in the top 5 cleanest states? (1)
_____ ... drop to the second 5 cleanest states? (2)

Q15 Now, imagine that you had been hired by the state of New York. The governor is pleased with the state's current ranking, and is paying you to predict the future concentration of Chemical XXZ. This is a difficult task, because it is hard to accurately predict how changes in industry, population, and weather would influence this chemical. However, you are asked to give your best estimate of where the state of New York would rank 35 years from now, in 2050. Given that you found that New York is currently ranked #6 (the 6th cleanest in terms of Chemical XXZ), what is the likelihood that by 2050 it will...

- _____ ... rise to the top 5 cleanest states? (1)
_____ ... remain in the second 5 cleanest states? (2)

Q9 What is your gender?

- Male (1)
 Female (2)

Q11 What is your age?