



# **DRIVING TRANSFORMATION**

Behavior, Energy & Climate Change (BECC) / November 12-15, 2023 / Sacramento, CA

Co-Convened by

Stanford

Environmental and Energy  
Policy Analysis Center

**ciee**  
California Institute  
for Energy and Environment

 **CITRIS**  
THE **BANATAO**  
INSTITUTE

**ACEEE** ::

# A National Survey of UK Household Opinions, Behaviors, and Energy Use to Drive the Energy Transition

November 14, 2023

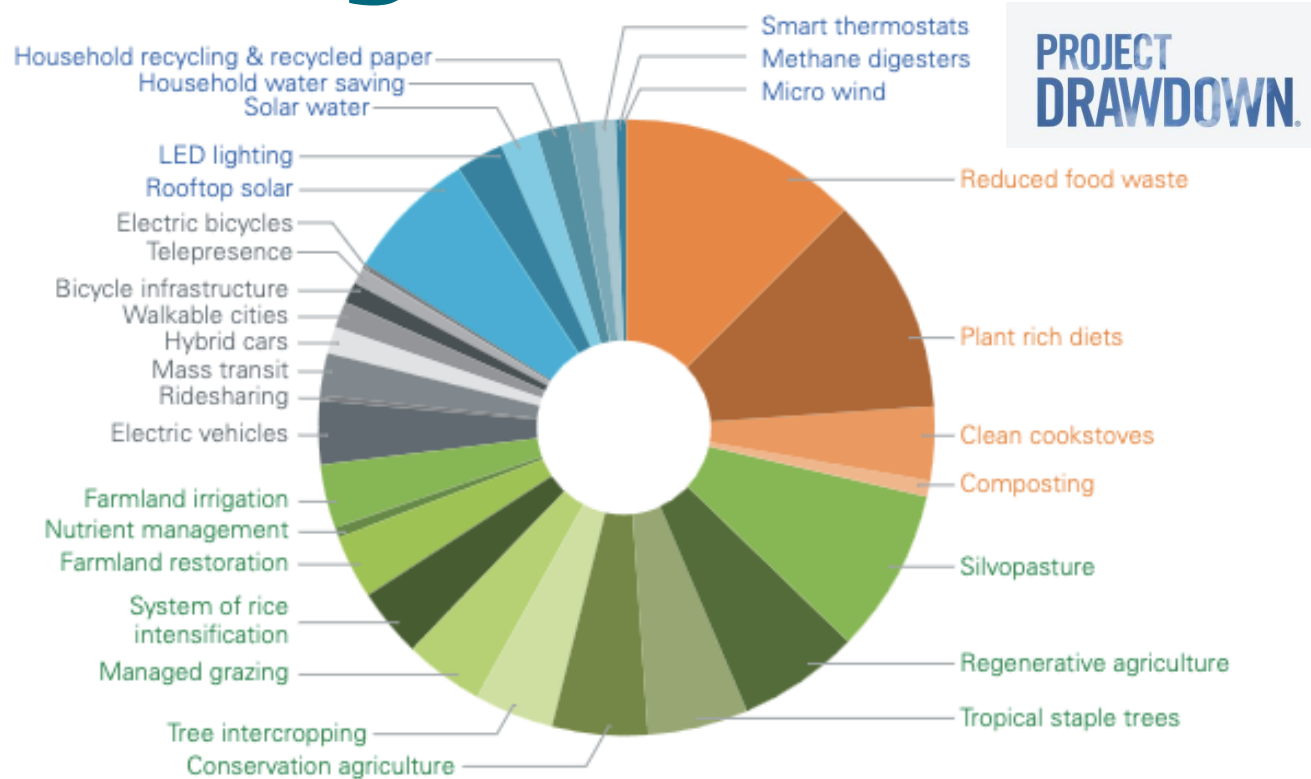
Aven Satre-Meloy, PhD | Research Scientist, Berkeley Lab

Sam Hampton, PhD | Research Fellow, Department of Psychology, University of Bath

Convened by:



# Climate change needs behavior change



“Therefore, large-scale adoption of these thirty behavioral solutions could mitigate **19.9–36.8%** of [global GHG] emissions between 2020 and 2050.”

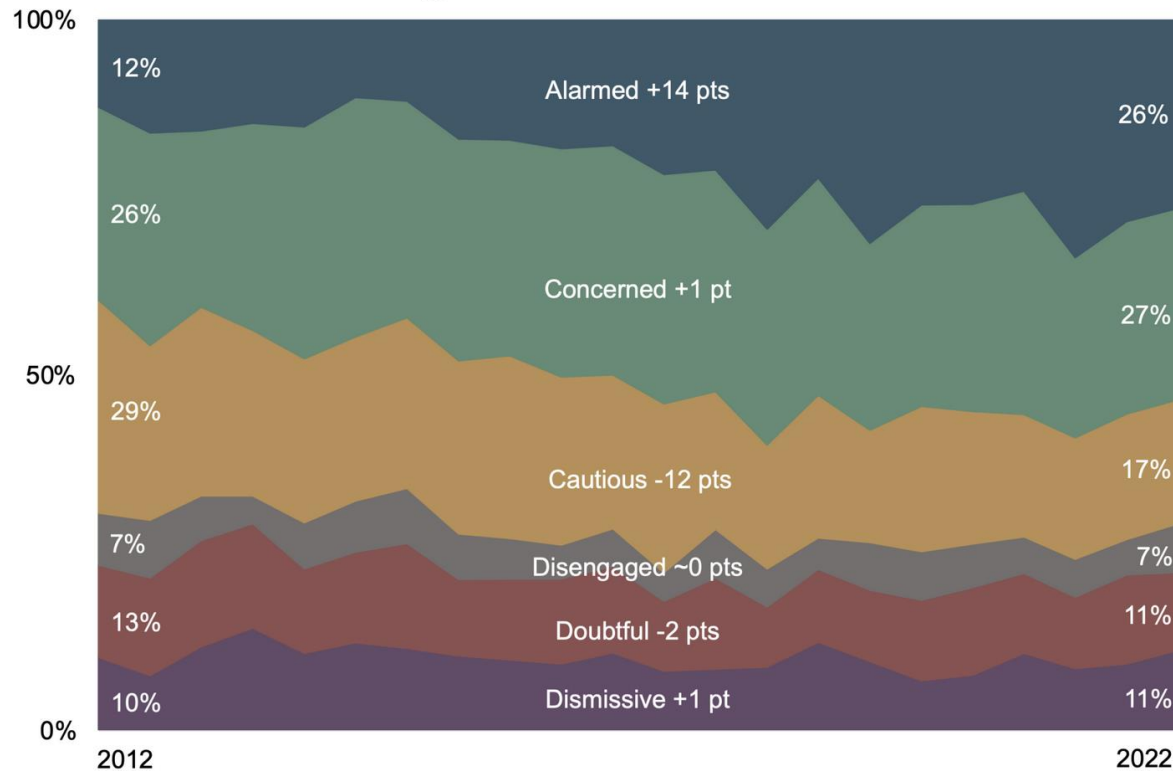
#BECC2023



Williamson, K., **Satre-Meloy, A.**, Velasco, K., & Green, K., 2018. Climate Change Needs Behavior Change: Making the Case For Behavioral Solutions to Reduce Global Warming. Arlington, VA: Rare.

# Engaging the public in climate discourse

Global Warming's Six Americas Over the Last Decade



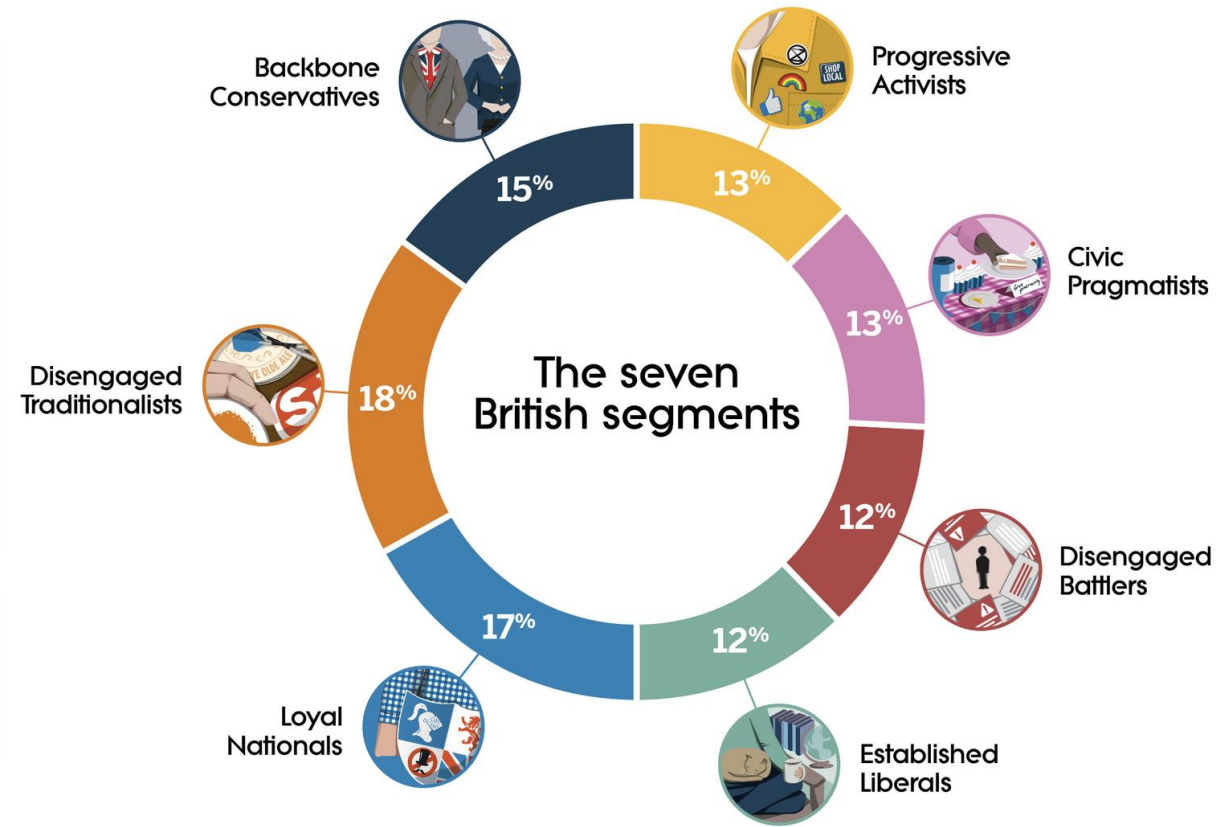
Data from 22 national surveys (n = 25,393)  
April 2012 – December 2022



#BECC2023



Source: <https://climatecommunication.yale.edu/about/projects/global-warmings-six-americas/>

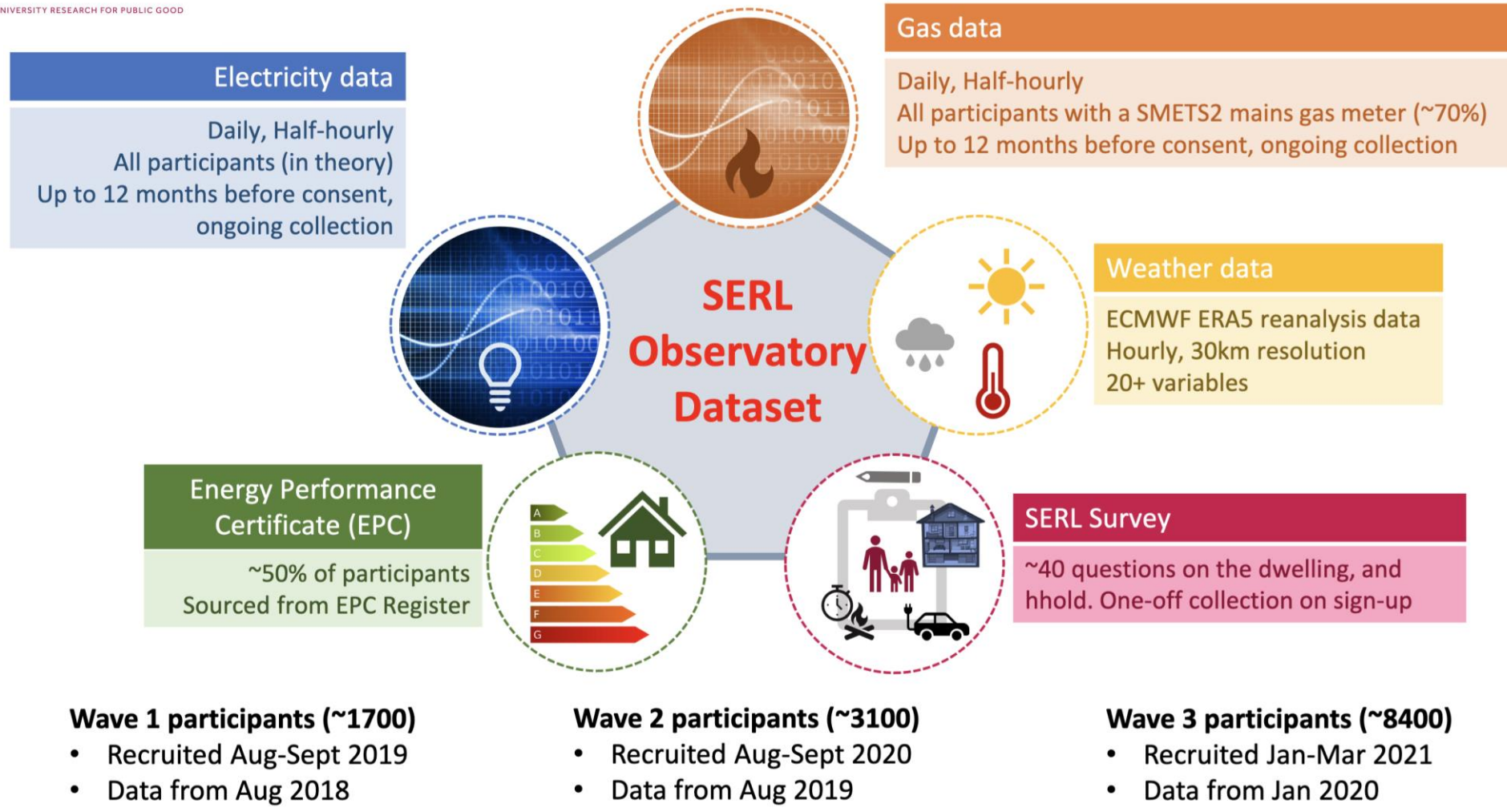


Source: <https://climateoutreach.org/britain-talks-climate/seven-segments>

# UK Smart Energy Research Lab (SERL)



SMART ENERGY  
RESEARCH LAB  
UNIVERSITY RESEARCH FOR PUBLIC GOOD



#BECC2023

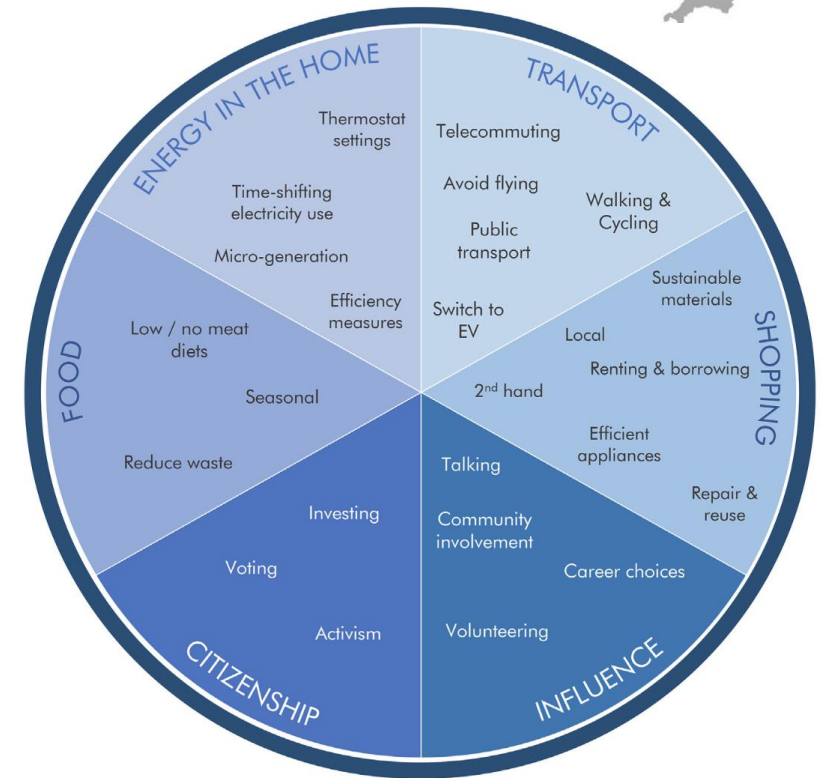




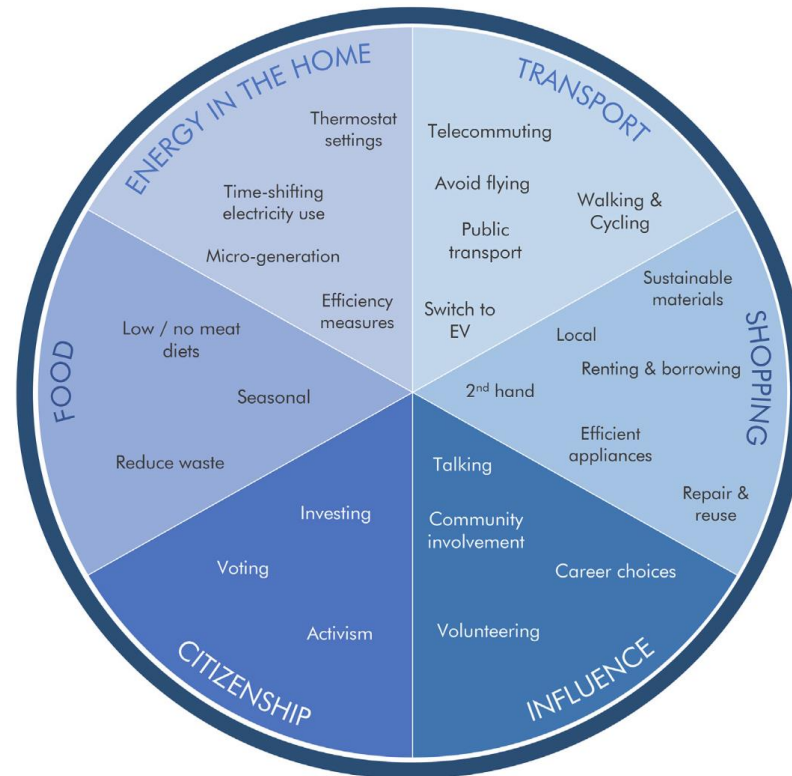
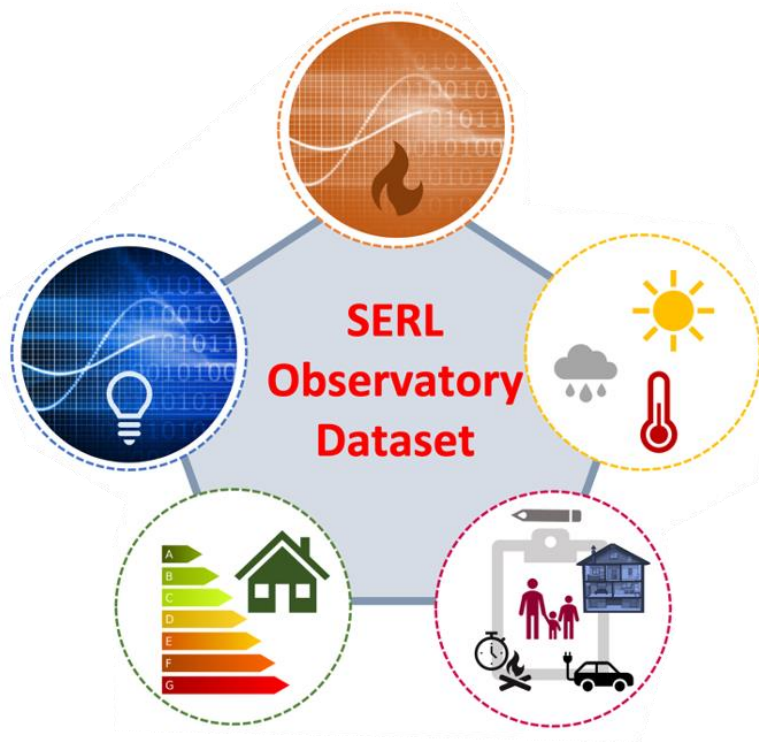
# UK national household survey



- April 2022, conducted by Dynata
- Nationally representative of age, region, gender, education, ethnicity
- Over 250 questions, spanning “Six domains”:
  - Knowledge of, and attitudes towards, climate change
  - Consumption of energy, food, transport and products, and openness to change
  - Social capital measures
  - Personality traits and socio-demographic variables
  - Political opinions and support for climate policies
- 2 surveys conducted over 2 weeks
  - $N=1,001$  (completed both surveys)



# Analysis approach



**Step 1: Build predictive model of electricity/gas use trained on SERL data**

**Step 2: Use predictive model and shared variables between SERL and “Six domains” survey to predict electricity/gas usage**

**Step 3: Model relationship between survey data on “Six domains” and electricity/gas usage**

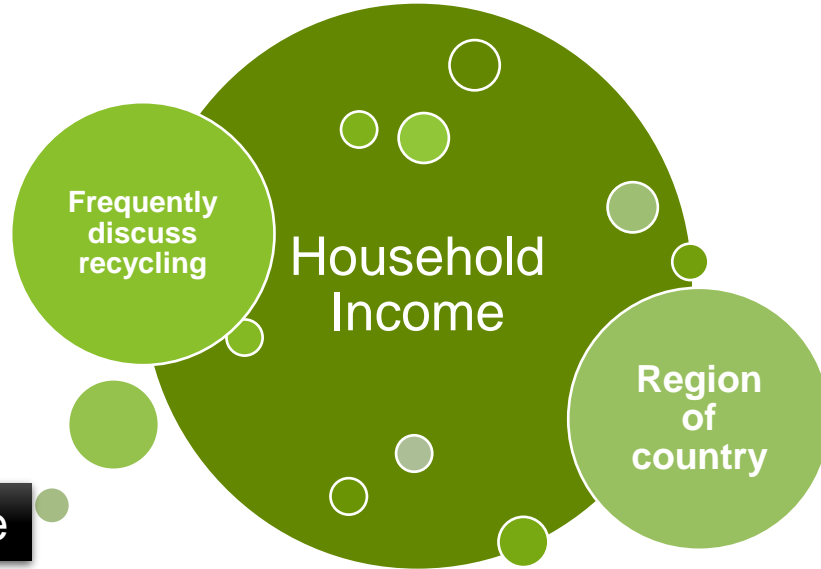
- Electricity and gas usage data
- Dwelling and household characteristics
- $N=6,751$  (electricity),  $N=5,256$  (gas)
- Nationally representative sample

- Dwelling and household characteristics
  - (>50 variables overlap w/ SERL)
- Survey data covering “Six domains of choice for climate action”<sup>1</sup>
- $N=1,001$
- Nationally representative sample

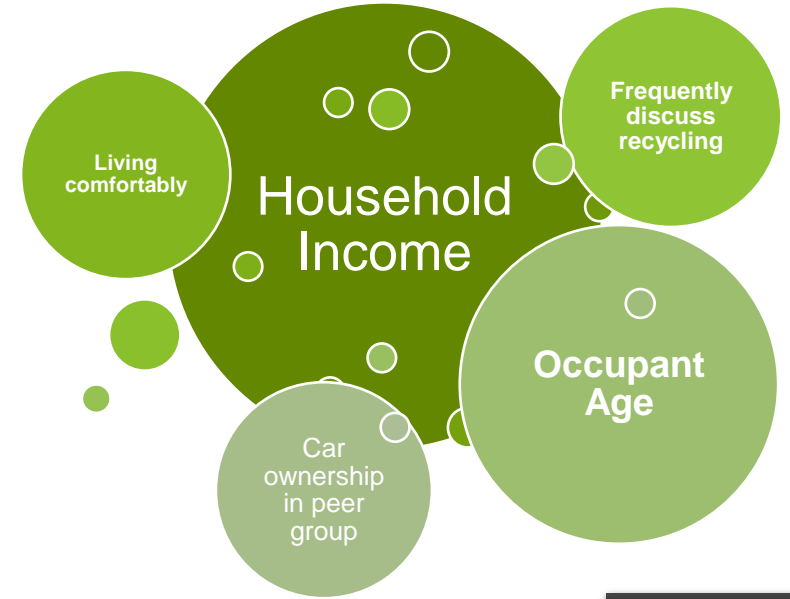
<sup>1</sup>Hampton, S., Whitmarsh, L., 2023. Choices for climate action: A review of the multiple roles individuals play. *One Earth* 6, 1157–1172. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oneear.2023.08.006>

# Analysis results

Positive association

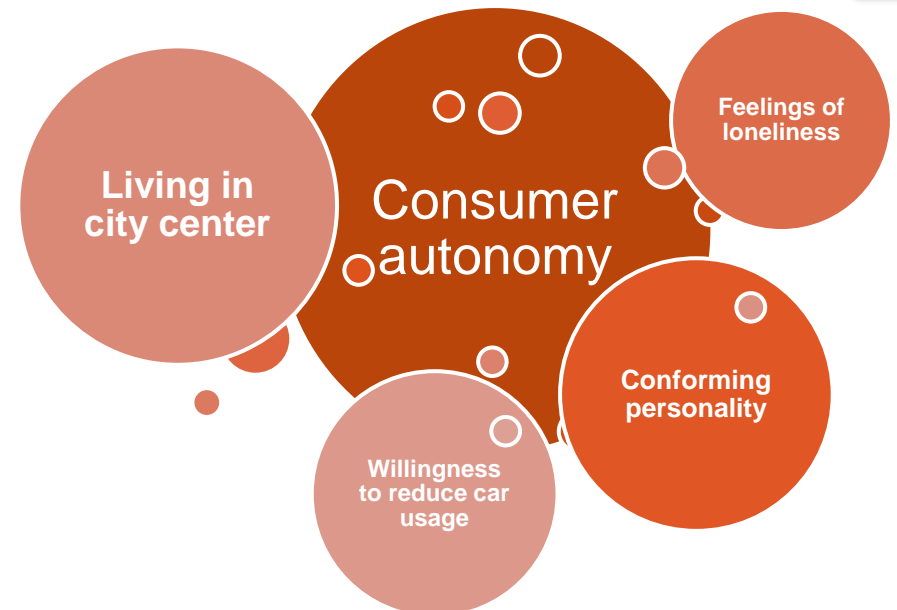
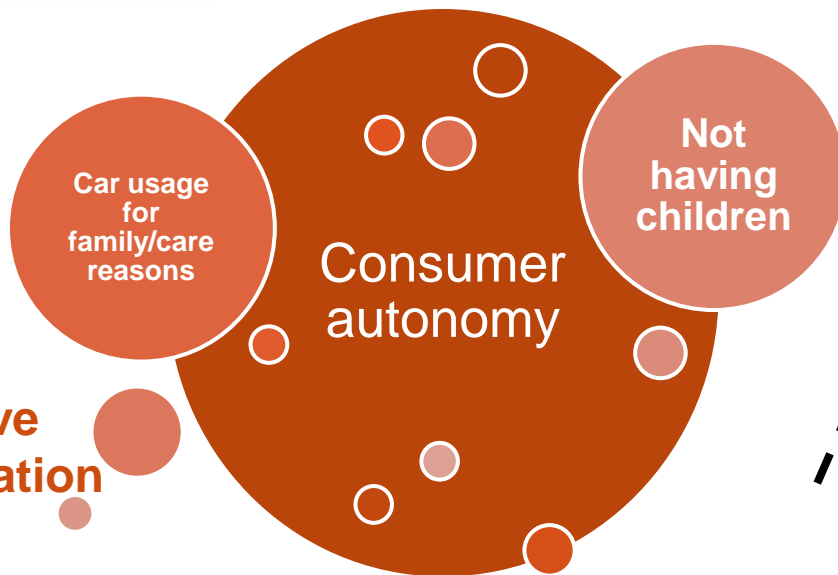


Electricity Usage



Gas Usage

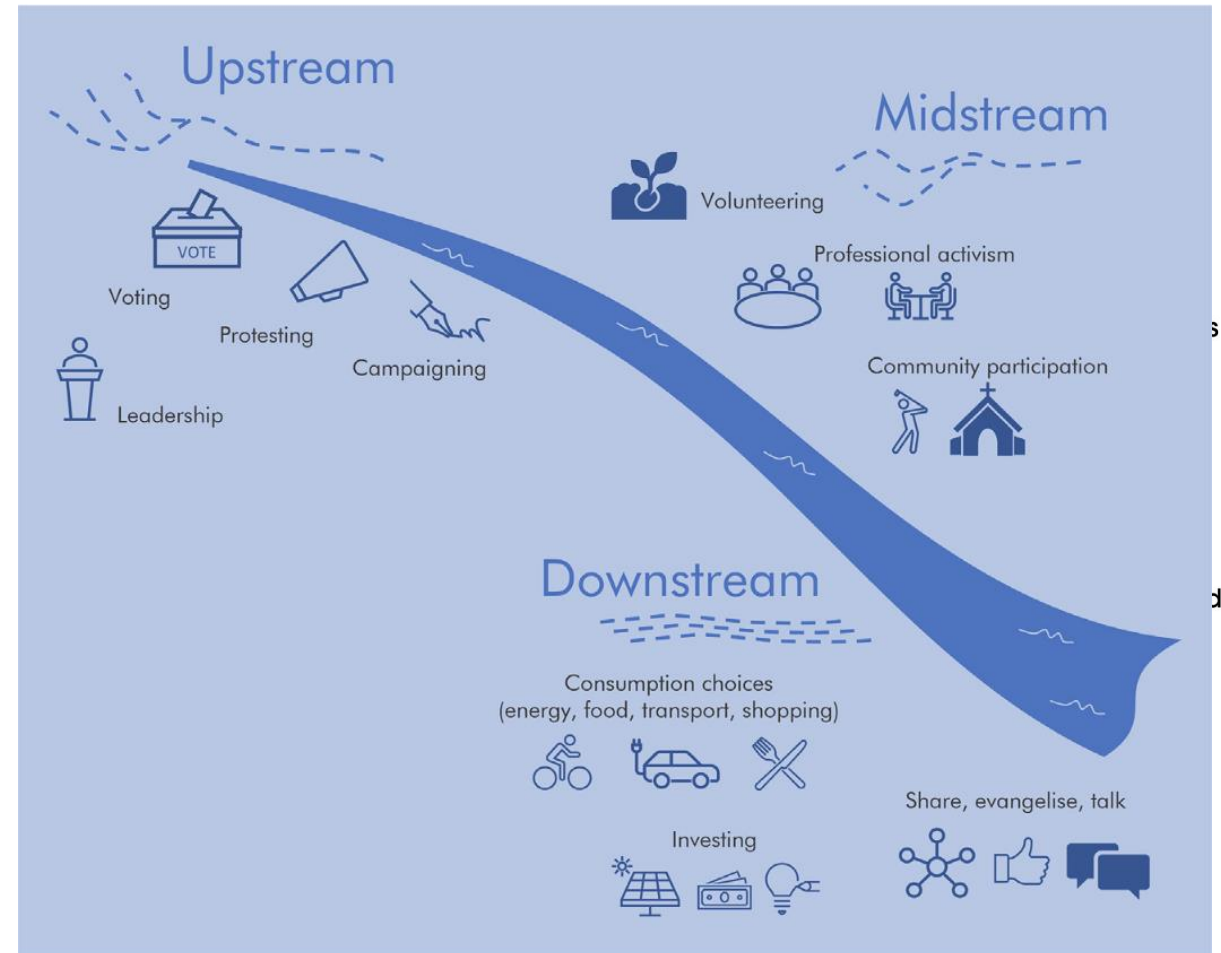
Negative association





# Future research

- Develop archetypes of “Carbon Capability” for UK population based on survey data
- Develop estimates of carbon footprint for other non-energy domains
- Analyze relationships between carbon footprint and “Carbon capability” to inform cross-cutting perspective on accelerating pro-environmental choices



Hampton, S., Whitmarsh, L., 2023. Choices for climate action: A review of the multiple roles individuals play. *One Earth* 6, 1157–1172.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oneear.2023.08.006>





# Thank you

[asatremeloy@lbl.gov](mailto:asatremeloy@lbl.gov) | [sah53@bath.ac.uk](mailto:sah53@bath.ac.uk)



**BERKELEY LAB**



UNIVERSITY OF  
**BATH**

Convened by: