

DOES DROUGHT INFLUENCE SOUTHERN CITIZENS OPINION ABOUT WATER AVAILABILITY?

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Abstract. A regional survey containing water quantity and quality questions was mailed to 6,289 randomly selected respondents in 2008 - 2010. The return rate was 51 percent. Survey responses were compiled and analyzed with SAS 9.2. Summary statistics illustrated a bias in the sample toward more educated, older and mostly male respondents. Responses to drought and water availability are presented below and illustrate divergent opinions depending on state and exposure to drought. These results can inform water allocation and water conservation policy decisions.