

# Climate Literacy 101

## *Resources List*

This list of websites and resources will help you evaluate the body of evidence for anthropogenic (human-caused) climate change, which is now occurring above and beyond the natural variability that has caused climate to change over the long course of Earth's history.

### **The scientific evidence for climate change**

1. [NASA \(National Aeronautic and Space Administration\) on Global Climate Change](#): *This website covers evidence, causes, effects, and uncertainties related to climate change.*
2. [NOAA \(National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association\)](#): *This website tells 'the story' of climate change from a paleoclimate (ancient climates) perspective, which helps to put current climate change into a long term perspective.*
3. [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change AR4 - Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report Summary for Policymakers](#): *The UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) prepared this summary of the expansive Fourth Assessment Report (AR4), which is the largest and most detailed summary of climate change research currently available and involved thousands of authors from dozens of countries. The authors assess available information about climate change drawn mainly from peer-reviewed and published scientific literature.*

These [FAQs](#) from the IPCC AR4 report provide helpful summaries of key facts about climate change.

4. [United Nations Environmental Program Climate Science Compendium 2009](#): *This report is based on peer-reviewed research published by researchers and institutions since 2006.*
5. [Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States](#): *This report summarizes the science of climate change and the impacts of climate change on the United States, now and in the future*

### **Other good websites that provide reliable information about climate change**

1. [US Global Change Research Program](#)
2. [US Environmental Protection Agency](#)
3. [National Academy of Sciences](#)
4. [Pew Center on Global Climate Change](#)
5. [Real Climate](#)
6. [Climate Central](#)

**Climate change policy statements** (*Many people are unaware of the broad consensus on this issue in the scientific community. This list is just a sampling; check the website of your favorite respected organizations to see what they say*):

1. [Open letter to the United States Senate](#) (Oct 2009) from **18 of the top scientific societies in the country** on the **consensus scientific view**<sup>1</sup>
2. [American Fisheries Society](#)
3. [The Geological Society of America](#)
4. [The American Physical Society](#)
5. [American Chemical Society](#)
6. [American Society of Civil Engineers](#)
7. [Dupont](#): “We believe the scientific understanding of climate change is sufficient to compel prompt, effective actions to limit emissions of greenhouse gases.”
8. [Halliburton](#): “The company acknowledges the growing global consensus that human activity, through the use of fossil fuels, contributes to the increasing concentration of greenhouse gases (GHG) in the atmosphere. This is widely believed to be a contributory factor in global warming thus impacting climate change.”
9. [Chevron](#): “Given the complexities involved in climate science, we look to the scientific community to provide consensus on the issue of global warming.”
10. [American Medical Association statement on \*Global Climate Change and Human Health\*](#) (“Our American Medical Association (AMA)...1. Support the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s fourth assessment report and concurs with the scientific consensus that the Earth is undergoing adverse global climate change and that anthropogenic contributions are significant. These climate changes will create conditions that affect public health, with disproportionate impacts on vulnerable populations, including children, the elderly, and the poor”)
11. [The Importance of Science in Addressing Climate Change](#): Letter to members of the US House of Representatives and the US Senate from 18 prominent climate scientists.

## Mitigation and adaptation

1. [America’s Climate Choices](#) (download .pdf for free) [National Research Council – 2011]:  
“Climate change is occurring, is very likely caused by human activities, and poses significant risks for a broad range of human and natural systems... the environmental, economic, and humanitarian risks of climate change indicate a pressing need for substantial action to limit the magnitude of climate change and to prepare to adapt to its impacts.” – National Academy of Sciences

---

<sup>1</sup> Currently, no scientific body of national or international standing maintains a dissenting opinion regarding human influence on recent global warming

## Mitigation and adaptation (continued)

2. [Connecting Biodiversity and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation](#) – Report of the Second Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change [Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity – 2009]: *“The issues of climate change and biodiversity are interconnected, not only through climate change effects on biodiversity, but also through changes in biodiversity that affect climate change.”*
3. [Climate Change: Mastering the Public Health Role](#): *This guidebook is a translation of a six-part webinar series hosted by the American Public Health Association (APHA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and is intended to be a useful tool to help prepare the public health community for the challenge of climate change.*

## Discussing skepticism about anthropogenic climate change

1. [Skeptical Science](#): *This website examines the common arguments against human-caused (anthropogenic) climate change and provides information and links to evidence showing why they don't withstand scientific scrutiny. On the site you'll find the [“Scientific Guide to Global Warming Skepticism”](#)- a layperson guide to global warming skepticism with a concise summary of the scientific facts that confirm that global warming is happening and that multiple lines of evidence clearly indicate CO<sub>2</sub> from burning of fossil fuels is the main cause (natural cycles continue in the background as they always have, of course).*
2. [Grist- How to Talk to a Climate Skeptic](#): *responses to the most common skeptical arguments on global warming*

## Additional thought-provoking resources on climate change

DWR's [Climate News Digest](#): *This compilation of news articles, published research, and reports related to climate change and resource management (particularly water) is posted approximately every 3 weeks and will help keep you informed about the latest climate news.*

[Expert Credibility in Climate Change](#): *97% of publishing climate scientists accepts that anthropogenic climate change is occurring*

[National Security and the Threat of Climate Change](#): *A dozen of the nation's most respected retired admirals and generals have served as a Military Advisory Board to study how climate change could affect our nation's security over the next 30 to 40 years. **Among the findings:** a) projected climate change poses a serious threat to America's national security; b) climate change acts as a threat multiplier for instability in some of the most volatile regions of the world; c) climate change, national security and energy independence are a related set of global challenges. **Among the recommendations:** a) The US should commit to a stronger national and international role to help stabilize climate change at levels that will avoid significant disruption to global security and stability.*

## **Additional thought-provoking resources on climate change (continued)**

[The Last Drop: Climate Change and the Southwest Water Crisis](#) [Stockholm Environment Institute - 2011]

*"With climate change, the Southwest water crisis will grow far worse. Continuing the current trend in global greenhouse-gas emissions will make the cost of the next century's projected water shortage at least 25 percent higher."*

[Global Water Security](#) [Intelligence Community Assessment - February 2012] *"This report is designed to answer the question: How will water problems (shortages, poor water quality, or floods) impact US national security interests over the next 30 years?...Bottom line - Water problems will hinder the ability of key countries to produce food and generate energy, posing a risk to global food markets and hobbling economic growth."*

[Extreme Weather and Climate Change – Understanding the Link, Managing the Risk](#)

[Pew Center on Global Climate Change – 2011]

[Extreme Weather, Climate and Preparedness](#) [Yale Project on Climate Change Communication - April 2012] *According to this March 2012 poll, "a majority of Americans say the weather in the United States is getting worse and...large majorities believe that global warming made a number of recent extreme weather in their own local area has become more frequent and damaging."*

[IPCC Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation \(SREX\)](#) [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change – November 2011]

[The Economic Costs of Sea-Level Rise to California Beach Communities](#)

[California Department of Boats and Waterways - September 2011]

[A Human Health Perspective on Climate Change](#)

[Interagency Working Group on Climate Change and Health – 2009]

[Food Security and Climate Change](#) [WHO - Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health - June 2012] *"Food and nutrition security will be adversely impacted by climate change. Its impacts on global food production will put vulnerable women and children at increased risk of malnutrition thereby contributing to poor health, decreased educational performance, and poor productivity, all of which ultimately hamper sustainable development, including the wellbeing of populations."*

[World Energy Outlook \(Executive Summary\) \(Full Report\)](#) [International Energy Agency - 2011]

*(according to data and policy developments summarized in this report, "the door to 2°C is closing" due to high-carbon infrastructure that may be built in the next 5 years)*

[Climate Engineering - Technical status, future directions, and potential responses](#)

[U.S. Government Accountability Office - July 2011]

**For additional information on climate change impacts and response in California see**

**[DWR's Climate Change webpage](#) and the [California Climate Change Portal](#).**