CLIMATE METRICS · FREE FACT SHEET

Climate data

Key figures · Updated 27 November 2026 · 10 pages summarised · climatemetrics.org

The headline figures from every Climate data page on Climate Metrics, taken from each page as it is published today. Every figure keeps the source and date given on its page: follow the links for full context, charts and citations.

2026 Climate Records Scoreboard

Figures as of September 2026 · Page updated 14 Sep 2026

A running tally of the records this year has broken or nearly broken — hottest months, costliest disasters, wildfire acreage, and sea ice extremes.

1.65°C	August 2026 temperature vs pre-industrial levels, Copernicus
12	US billion-dollar weather disasters, Jan–Aug 2026, $31.9bn in damages
11.1M	Acres burned in Canada's 2026 wildfire season through August 31
448	All-time heat records set at European weather stations in a single June heatwave

Full page, charts and sources: climatemetrics.org/2026-climate-records-scoreboard

Global CO2 Emissions Tracker

Figures as of Aug 2026 · Page updated 23 Aug 2026

Every other page on this site is, in some sense, downstream of this one number: how much CO2 humanity is still adding to the atmosphere each year. The short version for 2025: emissions hit a new record high, essentially tied with 2024, with fossil fuel emissions still rising even as land-use emissions fell.

~42.2 Gt	Total global CO2 emissions, 2025 (fossil + land-use)
38.1 Gt	Fossil fuel & cement CO2 emissions, 2025 (+1.1% vs. 2024)
4.1 Gt	Land-use change CO2 emissions, 2025 (-9.8% vs. 2024)
-0.5%	Change in China's emissions, 2025 — continued reduction

Full page, charts and sources: climatemetrics.org/global-co2-emissions-tracker

Per-Capita Emissions

Figures as of September 2026 · Page updated 14 Sep 2026

Every country page on this site tracks national totals — but a country's total emissions say very little about what an individual resident actually contributes, and totals alone can flatter large economies with small footprints per person, or unfairly implicate small countries with a handful of extremely energy-intensive industries.

4.7t	Global average CO2 emissions per person, 2023–24

42.6t	Qatar — the world's highest per-capita emitter, ~9× the global average
2.3t	Per-person emissions needed globally by 2030 to stay on a 1.5°C pathway
30×	The richest 1% globally are projected to emit 30× the 1.5°C per-person limit in 2030

Full page, charts and sources: climatemetrics.org/per-capita-emissions

Understanding Methane

Figures as of Aug 2026 · Page updated 23 Aug 2026

Methane gets far less attention than CO2, but it's the second-largest human-caused driver of warming, and it behaves very differently in the atmosphere: far more potent, pound for pound, but far shorter-lived. That combination makes methane cuts one of the fastest available levers for slowing near-term warming.

~1,938 ppb	Atmospheric methane concentration, April 2026
7–12 yrs	Approximate atmospheric lifetime (vs. centuries for CO2)
84–87×	Warming potency vs. CO2 over a 20-year horizon (GWP20)
28–36×	Warming potency vs. CO2 over a 100-year horizon (GWP100)

Full page, charts and sources: climatemetrics.org/understanding-methane

Changes since 1988

Page updated 14 Aug 2026

23 June 1988 is the date NASA scientist James Hansen testified to the U.S. Senate that human-caused global warming had begun — often cited as the moment climate change entered mainstream public debate. This page compares conditions then to conditions now across twenty indicators.

$182.7B	In damages in 2024 alone
-324M	Hectares (loss rate has slowed since the 1990s)

Full page, charts and sources: climatemetrics.org/since-1988

Satellite Record Since 2000

Figures as of Sep 2026 · Page updated 4 Sep 2026

Twenty-four specific findings, drawn from more than a dozen different satellite missions and instruments, covering everything from ice sheets to phytoplankton.

15+	Distinct satellite missions/instruments cited on this page
46 yrs	Longest continuous satellite climate record (passive-microwave sea ice, since 1979)
33 yrs	Continuous satellite sea-level record (TOPEX/Poseidon -> Sentinel-6, since 1993)
2×	Earth's measured energy imbalance roughly doubled, 2005–2019 (CERES + Argo)

Full page, charts and sources: climatemetrics.org/satellite-record-since-2000

G20 Energy Consumption

Page updated 14 Aug 2026

How much energy each G20 country actually uses has changed dramatically since 1990 — some have industrialized and multiplied their energy use several times over, others have seen consumption shrink through deindustrialization or efficiency gains.

+357%	Largest total-energy increase — China
-33%	Largest total-energy decrease — Germany

Full page, charts and sources: climatemetrics.org/g20-energy-consumption-1990-vs-now

Global Changes

Page updated 20 Oct 2026

Since satellites began tracking vegetation in the early 1980s, a third of the world's vegetated land has been getting measurably greener — producing more leaf area, more biomass, more photosynthesis.

~33%	Of global vegetated land is greening (MODIS, 2000–2017)
~5%	Of global vegetated land is browning over the same period
+5.4M km²	Net new leaf area added globally, 2000–2017 — equal to adding a forest the size of the Amazon and Congo basins combined
~2.3%	Net increase in global leaf area per decade

Full page, charts and sources: climatemetrics.org/global-greening

Also in this section

Demographics

Total population, births, deaths and net natural change for each continent, estimated for 2026.

Read: climatemetrics.org/demographics

Methodology

How every figure on this site is sourced, verified, refreshed and classified — in enough detail to reproduce, audit or dispute it.

Read: climatemetrics.org/methodology