



Tuesday's Tip

information provided by Adriance Memorial Library to make your life a little bit easier

Scientific Perspectives on Climate Change

August 8, 2017

As information professionals, librarians are ethically bound to strive to deliver objectively accurate information, when information is requested. We are also bound to deliver opinion and editorializing when that is specifically what is requested. Reference librarians are trained to critically evaluate information sources, and recognize authority, expertise, and objectivity vs. point-of-view (bias) of those sources. We try to make sure we deliver "just the facts, Ma'am".

With [extremely hot weather](#) affecting much of the planet ("[Surprising Scientists, 2017 Could Be Among Hottest on Record](#)"), it is a good time to turn to our most prestigious and credible scientific organizations to get a bit of factual information on what is driving the climate change affecting our world—and what we can do to slow and reverse it. Intelligent responses to this serious issue require an informed citizenry, one that takes the trouble to learn the facts-- and recognizes bias posing as fact.

Here is a June 2016 [Letter to Congress](#) from the biological sciences community requesting serious study of the problem of climate change: <https://www.aaas.org/sites/default/files/06282016.pdf>

NASA has gathered together statements from the major scientific agencies and organizations in America, expressing consensus on the scientific causes of climate change:

Scientific consensus: Earth's climate is warming

Temperature Anomaly (°C)

0.8
0.6
0.4
0.2
0.0
-0.2
-0.4
-0.6

1880 1900 1920 1940 1960 1980 2000 2020

— NOAA Global Monitor for Space Station
— Hadley Centre/Climate Research Unit
— NOAA National Center for Environmental Information
— Japanese Meteorological Agency

Latest resources

- Video: Greenland's thinning ice
- Video: Ocean circulation plays an important role in absorbing carbon from the atmosphere
- Video: Annual Arctic sea ice minimum 1979-2016 with area graph

Multiple studies published in peer-reviewed scientific journals show that 97 percent or more of actively publishing climate scientists agree: Climate-warming trends over the past century are extremely likely due to human activities. In addition, most of the leading scientific organizations worldwide have issued public statements endorsing this position. The following is a partial list of these organizations, along with links to their published statements and a selection of related resources.

AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

Statement on climate change from 18 scientific associations

"Observations throughout the world make it clear that climate change is occurring, and rigorous scientific research demonstrates that the greenhouse gases emitted by human activities are the primary driver." (2009)

American Association for the Advancement of Science

"The scientific evidence is clear: global climate change caused by human activities is occurring now, and it is a growing threat to society." (2009)

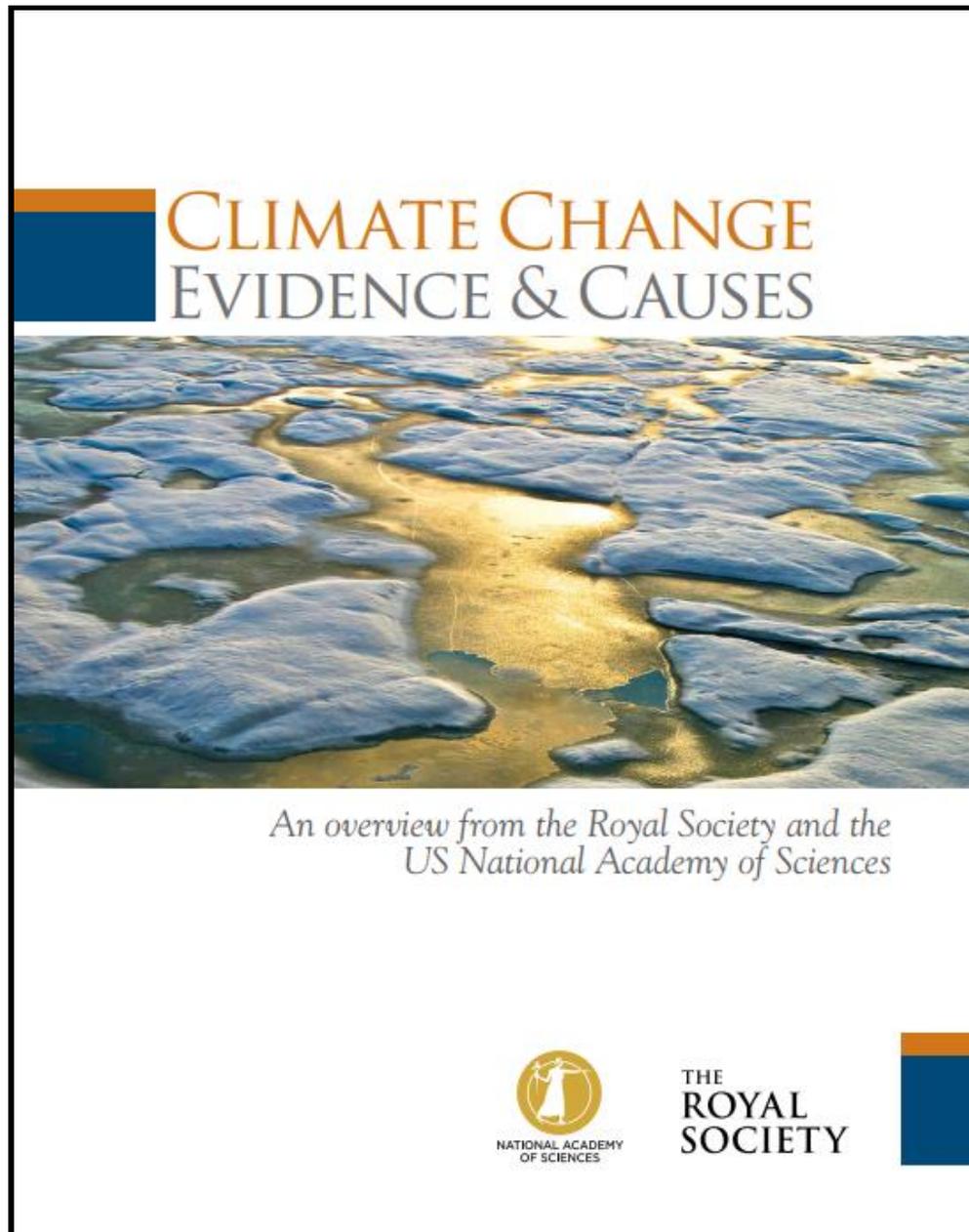
American Chemical Society

"Comprehensive scientific assessments of our current and potential future climates clearly indicate that climate change is real, largely attributable to emissions from human activities, and potentially a very serious problem." (2004)

<https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/>

For more information or other reference and collection development assistance, call the Reference & Information Desk at Adriance Memorial Library at (845) 485-3445 x 3702 or (800) 804-0092 x 3702.

Here is a general overview of climate change-- written for the educated layperson-- by a team from the most venerated scientific societies in the U.S. and U.K.; The *National Academy of Sciences* and the *Royal Society*.



<http://dels.nas.edu/resources/static-assets/exec-office-other/climate-change-full.pdf>