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| Variable (5): | annual temperature |
| Changing (3): | #4730 #6348 #7926 |
| Increasing (1): | #16484 |
| Decreasing (1): | #21171 |
| More general: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • temperature |
| More specific: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mean annual temperature • annual temperature between 1958 and 2010 • the annual , Milankovitch and continuum temperature |

- Here we show that although fluctuations in [annual temperature](#) have indeed shown substantial geographical variation over the past few decades , the time-evolving standard deviation of globally averaged temperature anomalies has been stable .
- A feature of the changes has been a tendency for many regions of low variability to experience increases , which might contribute to the perception of [increased climate volatility](#) .
- The normalization of temperature anomalies creates the impression of larger relative overall increases , but our use of absolute values , which we argue is a more appropriate approach , reveals little change .
- Regionally , greater year-to-year changes recently occurred in much of North America and Europe .
- Many climate models predict that [total variability](#) will ultimately decrease under high greenhouse gas concentrations , possibly associated with reductions in [sea-ice cover](#) .
- Our findings contradict the view that a warming world will automatically be one of more overall climatic variation .