

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: [Climate Change and the Geography of the U.S. Economy](#)

Article Link: <https://www.frbsf.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/wp2023-17.pdf>

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Tweet: [@wilson_daniel_j @sffed argues that rising temperatures between now and 2050 will drive a shift in population and employment away from the Sunbelt and toward the North and Mountain West.](#)

Summary: The link between extreme heat and population growth was strongly positive in the 1980s. That relationship weakened substantially over the subsequent two decades and vanished entirely over 2010-2020. The projections for the decades ahead show a continuation of this pivot. “Hot” climate counties have gotten considerably hotter - to a point where they are no longer as tolerable. The 90th percentile county over 1951-1980 averaged about 62 days per year of daily average temperatures above 80°F. That number grew to 72 days from 1991-2020. The projected climate changes are predicted to cause a general shifting of population from the Southeast and parts of the Southwest to the North, the Mountain West, and most of the Pacific coastline.

Related Articles: [Sunbelt Cities Nashville and Austin Are Nation’s Hottest Job Markets and Young Families Have Not Returned to Large Cities Post-Pandemic](#)

Primary Topic: Demographics

Topics: Demographics, Global Warming, Science, Weekly, Workforce

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