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by Grey\_Eye\_22 • 2 yr. ago

## How bad will climate change be confused.

I'm currently 22 years old in college. I was curious, but I didn't get a clear answer on this. I've been scanning some articles while others say as long as we stay below **2 degrees** and reach 0 emission by 2050 we will be mostly fine.

I know I'm trying to get an answer for something with a lot of variables. But is there any sense about where we're headed? Will technology bail us out? Will developing countries go green immediately? Just help me understand what's real and what's not.



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If we reduce emissions to zero as soon as possible then we'll (mostly) stabilise Earth's temperature and avoid worsening the impacts. If we continue to emit then things will obviously get worse.

Under no circumstances will humans go extinct or the world end. That's fantasy rhetoric pushed by those who don't understand climate science and would rather engage in hyperbole.

"2050", "1.5°C", "2°C", etc. are just arbitrary thresholds that make it easier for people to engage in the forming of climate policy. There isn't going to be a massive climatic shift if we reach 2°C or don't reach net zero by 2050. Climate change is more of a spectrum of gradually worsening effects rather than switches that get flipped as the mainstream media like to push.

The biggest concerns are the climatic impacts on our society, environment, economy, etc. There's no one solution to this problem but a mix of many. These include technology, behavioural change, sustainable development, natural regeneration and scientific advancements to name a few.

How bad a state will the world be in by 2050? Depends on our actions.

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**SongOfTheSealMonger** • 2 yr. ago

Having lived in the 3rd world and seen people in dire circumstances....

Extinction isn't what you should be worrying about.

Trying to live in an environment that is so hostile you have nothing but a desperate struggle year in an year out to scrape a miserable existence surrounded by others equally desperate and some who have lost their soul and will escape their despair by feeding off your despair.

Now that is what you should fear.

Increasing average temperatures are an objectively measurable but abstract index of change.

The real impact will be an increasingly unsustaining environment.

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**Grey\_Eye\_22** 🗣️ • 2 yr. ago

I appreciate the comment!

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**Used\_Intention6479** • 2 yr. ago



However, even though humans will likely remain, to some extent, even if the climate collapses, that does not convey the horrific conditions that may exist that will exterminate the majority who won't survive.

We are already knee deep in climate changes.

Countries are jockeying for position to take advantage of the melting North Pole (ironically to drill for oil, which got us in this mess), which is now a new shipping lane (!)

Glaciers are melting at a rapid rate.

Texas is frozen under a now gyrating jet stream.

Hurricanes and tornadoes are becoming super-sized.

Syrian refugees flood European nations due in part because of drought. Putin then uses them as weapons of war to weaken Europe.

Caravans of migrants seek refuge from magnified hurricanes in Central America. This causes political upheaval and opportunities for people like Trump.

How will we grow food when crops are subject to erratic and drastic weather changes?

When the young generation figures out why and how some of this generation is denying climate change, blocking serious efforts to mitigate it and thereby profiting, they will rightfully feel betrayed.

I hope my new invention will help reduce GHG emissions significantly enough to help mitigate climate collapse/change.

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**MisterMT** · 2 yr. ago

It's extremely unlikely that the world will 'end' in 2050. But every extra 0.1 of a degree matters, and we are on track for over 3 degrees rise by 2100, which civilization would struggle to adapt to. As others have said, it all depends on what we do now.

For your reading, you could start with the IPCC's 2018 special report on 1.5C warming.

<https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/>

You may also want to check out the most recent UNEP emissions gap report.

<https://www.unep.org/emissions-gap-report-2020>



**Tperrochon27** • 2 yr. ago

It's not something that we can comfortably predict by any means. There are multiple tipping points / feedback loops that can be triggered depending on the degree of warming, the location, and magnitude of the effects from that warming. The fewer greenhouse gases we emit, and the more we remove from the atmosphere, the better off we are at avoiding the sort of doomsday runaway warming scenarios alarmists, or should I say, alarmed scientists, have imagined. The status of permafrost in the Arctic and subarctic regions are probably amongst the most important to pay attention to. The greater the disturbance there the worse we can expect the effects to be.

One thing to note is climate change may be global but it's effects are felt at the local level. Depending on where you live you will feel the effects at different points along that long road to 2050 than people in other places. Also how societies adapt to the realities we will see change over the next few decades will surely affect how we experience it.

I'm terrified of what we can expect to see in the future if we don't make the changes we so desperately need to make. Dismayed by how much effort and money is dedicated towards furthering the crisis and wasting precious time. Shocked at the willful ignorance on display now, that will lead to so much more expense and tragedy in the future. It's a grim reality and we can only hope scientists are magically all wrong 🙏



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**Grey\_Eye\_22** • 2 yr. ago

Don't lose hope! Everyone remember there's good people out there who are pushing for change. Keep faith!

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**Hot-Scallion** • 2 yr. ago

Global GDP is projected to more than double by 2050 and the biggest beneficiaries of this will be developing nations. Extreme poverty could be entirely eradicated if the will to continue to address the problem continues. Reliable energy and clean water will be available to the nearly one billion people who currently do not have those luxuries. By many metrics, the world will be an even better place in 2050 if we play our cards right.

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