

Climate Change

Citizens
For Our
Children's
Future

What is Climate Change?

Climate is the average or typical weather in a region¹. Countries near the equator have a climate that is warm while countries near the North or South Pole have a climate that is cooler.

The Impact on You

Climate change affects every person in the world and will affect our children and their children to follow. People in America are noticing longer summers with higher

Climate change is the change in Earth's overall climate due to an increase in temperature². The planet is warming and it is being caused by human related activities.

temperatures and shorter winters. Others are experiencing heavier rainfalls that are causing floods more often than before. Signs of climate change are becoming more abundant in the atmosphere and in the oceans. There are increasing concentrations of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere due to the burning of coal, oil, and gas³. The rise in carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is preventing the heat from the sun from leaving Earth, thus affecting the temperatures all over the world. Not only is the carbon dioxide preventing heat from escaping but it is also interacting with ocean water and making it more acidic (see figure 1). This in turn makes the water more corrosive and prevents life forms with shells or skeletons from growing and reproducing normally³. The danger these life forms face will affect the marine food chain.

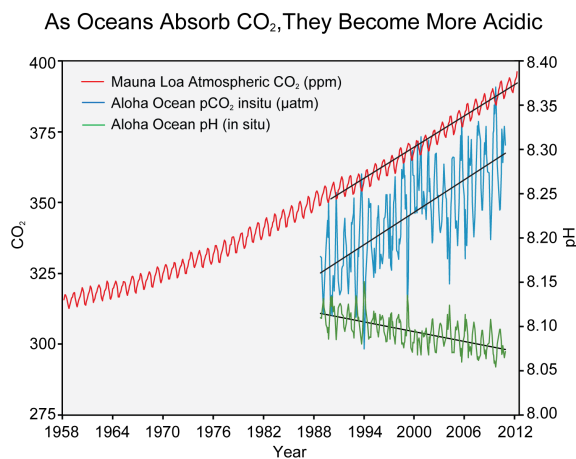


Figure 1. Mauna Loa CO₂ in atmosphere (red), rising CO₂ levels (blue), falling pH means more acidic (green)³

What You Can Do

You can start by spreading the word about climate change. Not enough people are aware that human activity is the cause of our planet warming. A Pew Study conducted in 2014 concluded that about half of the elderly surveyed disagree that scientist think the Earth is getting warmer due to human activities (see figure 2). Another action you can take is using other methods of transportation. Instead of navigating around with a car, you can ride a bike or ride the local public transportation system. Not only does this decrease the amount of traffic in the road but also reduced the amount of pollution coming from vehicles that is strengthening climate change.

Opinion about scientists not agreeing Earth is warming due to human activities

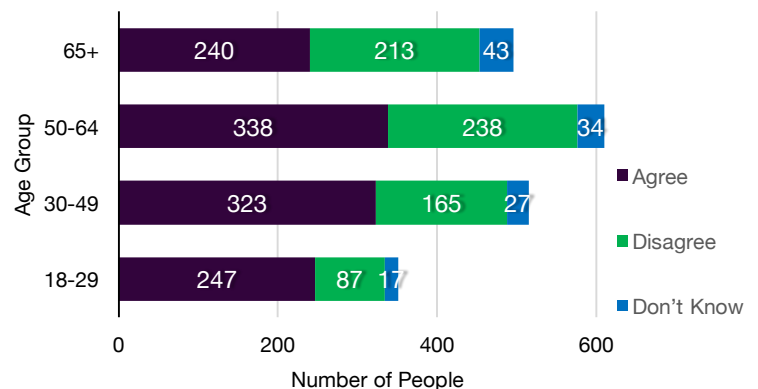


Figure 2. Number of people who had an opinion about human-driven climate change by age group

For more information and resources, you can visit our website