

PUBLIX  
**ONLINE**  
EASY ORDERING

Choose from  
hundreds of options.  
Pick up when  
you're ready.

**Publix**®

► **START YOUR ORDER**

## 99.9999 percent chance we're the cause of global warming, study says

**Doyle Rice, USA TODAY**    Published 5:52 p.m. ET Feb. 26, 2019 | Updated 7:52 a.m. ET Feb. 27, 2019

There's a 99.9999 percent chance that humans are the cause of global warming, a [new study](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-019-0424-x#Sec5) (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-019-0424-x#Sec5>) reported Monday.

This means we've reached the "gold standard" for certainty, a statistical measure typically used in particle physics.

Humanity burns fossil fuels such as oil, coal and gas, which release carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) into the Earth's atmosphere and oceans. CO<sub>2</sub> is the greenhouse gas that's [most responsible for warming](https://www.skepticalscience.com/CO2-is-not-the-only-driver-of-climate.htm) (<https://www.skepticalscience.com/CO2-is-not-the-only-driver-of-climate.htm>).

Study lead author [Benjamin Santer](https://pcmdi.llnl.gov/staff/santer/index.html) (<https://pcmdi.llnl.gov/staff/santer/index.html>) of the [Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory](https://www.llnl.gov/) (<https://www.llnl.gov/>) told Reuters that "the narrative out there that scientists don't know the cause of climate change is wrong."

With only a one-in-a-million chance that humans aren't the cause, it's obvious that we need to dramatically reduce our emissions of carbon dioxide, experts say.



(Photo: Getty Images)

This article is free to your community

**Support local journalism today**  
\$5 for 3 months. Save 83%.

**Subscribe Now**

'Frage%2F2994043002%2F'

UN report: 'Unprecedented changes' needed to protect Earth from global warming (/story/news/2018/10/07/global-warming-earth-nears-tipping-climate-change/1562253002/).

Most recent report from the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (<https://www.ipcc.ch/>), released in 2013, put the likelihood at 95 percent. That report said that in the Northern Hemisphere, the years 1983–2012 were likely the warmest 30-year period of the past 1,400 years.

udy was published Monday in the peer-reviewed British journal Nature Climate Change. (<https://www.nature.com/nclimate/>).

or Share this story: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2019/02/26/global-warming-99-9999-percent-chance-humans-2994043002/>

