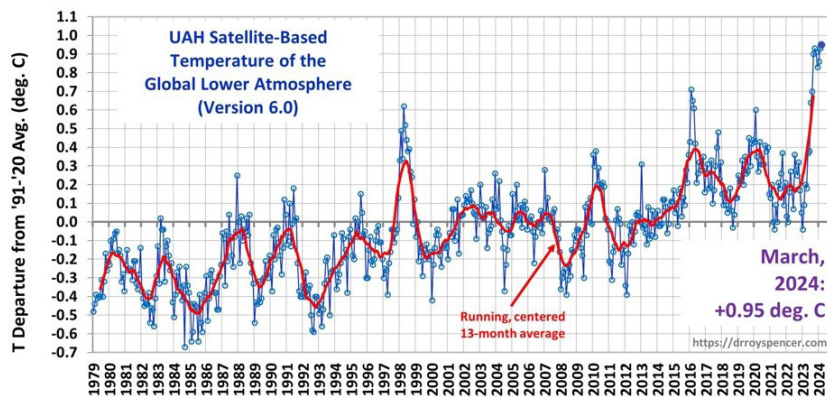


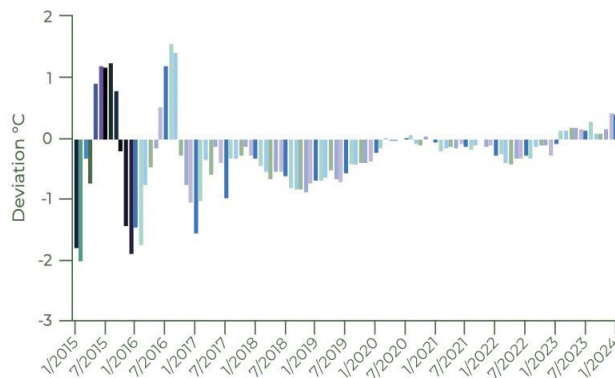
# CLIMATE FACT CHECK: MARCH 2024 EDITION

According to NASA satellite data, the planet remained in the grip of the naturally-caused warming during a waning El Nino phenomenon in March:



In contrast, the real-time surface station temperature measurements from [Temperature.global](https://temperature.global) report that temperature remained cooler than at the height of the prior El Nino during 2015-2016.

## GLOBAL TEMPERATURE



Average (Jan 2015-Feb 2024): -0.252°C  
Source: Temperature.Global  
Data: NOAA global METARs 2015-current  
NDBC global buoy reports 2015-current  
MADIS Mesonet Data, NOAA OMOs  
<https://temperature.global>

As always, average global temperature is not a physical concept. It is merely a notion invented to push the global warming agenda. We mention it merely because it is what the excitement is all about. More on this at the end of this month's fact checks.

## GLOBAL WARMING AFFECTING TIME?

The *Washington Post* reported in "[Climate change is altering Earth's rotation enough to mess with our clocks](#)" that: "The melting of polar ice due to global warming is affecting Earth's rotation and could have an impact on precision timekeeping."

*The Washington Post*

*The Washington Post*  
Democracy Dies in Darkness

### Climate change is altering Earth's rotation enough to mess with our clocks



By Joel Achenbach

March 27, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. EDT



Different size icebergs drift as they melt due to warming temperatures along the Scoresby Sound fjord in eastern Greenland. (Oliver Morley/Getty Images)

**Fact Check.** The claim that Arctic melting vs. anything else affecting the Earth's rotational speed is unverified guesswork. There might be something to this claim if someone predicted changes about the Earth's rotational speed based on polar ice and then verified them. That would be a scientific process. But that this not the case in the new study. Moreover, there is no scientific evidence that emissions have anything to do with polar ice. The March 2024 annual maximum Arctic sea ice extent, for example, is about the [same as 20 years earlier](#), despite almost a trillion tons of emissions. The Earth's rotational speed has always varied and we don't have an accurate record or understanding of all the factors that caused those changes.

## GLOBAL WARMING KILLING MOOSE?

Minnesota Public Radio reported in March 2008 that "[Minnesota's moose are dying; global warming may be to blame.](#)"

**AP** Associated Press



**Fact Check.** The Associated Press [reported](#) in March 2024 that so many moose in Nevada have "defied climate change" and moved south toward warmth that they are considering opening a hunting season on them in Nevada.

## FINLAND WARMING BECAUSE OF EMISSIONS?

The Weather Channel [reported](#) in December 2014 that: “Finland is receiving the brunt of global warming, as temperatures across the Nordic country climb faster than anywhere else in the world.”

The Washington Post

**Fact Check.** The *Washington Post* reported in March 2024 that the Northern Lights (caused by charged particles from the Sun) are warming Finland enough to raise temperatures and to lower winter heating costs.



## EMISSIONS CAUSED A NEW GEOLOGIC EPOCH?

In January 2004, the *New York Times* featured an [op-ed](#) by the founding chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and others that proclaimed: “It is now clear that the Earth has entered the so-called Anthropocene Era — the geological era in which humans are a significant and sometimes dominating environmental force. Records from the geological past indicate that never before has the Earth experienced the current suite of simultaneous changes: we are sailing into planetary terra incognita.”

The New York Times

**Fact Check.** In March 2024, the *New York Times* reported in “[Are We in the ‘Anthropocene,’ the Human Age? Nope, Scientists Say](#)” that: “A panel of experts voted down a proposal to officially declare the start of a new interval of geologic time, one defined by humanity’s changes to the planet.”





# EMISSIONS WARMING THE OCEAN?

CNN reported in "Global ocean heat has hit a new record every single day for the last year" that: "Ocean heat is being supercharged by human-caused global warming."



**Fact Check.** A January 2024 study [reports](#) that ocean warming since 2000 is explained by increased absorption of solar radiation, not emissions. [Read more...](#)



# WASHINGTON DC COOLING?

The *Washington Post* reported in "[D.C.-area tree pollen is surging because of abnormally warm weather](#)" that: "Washington's average temperature has risen about 0.3 degrees per decade during the winter since 1900."

The Washington Post

**Fact Check.** Supposing that Washington DC has warmed 0.3°F per decade since 1900, that would be a total of about 3.6°F since 1900. But Washington, DC has an urban heat island effect of about 4.7°F, which is higher during the winter. To the extent these figures are real, that would mean Washington DC has experienced slight meteorologic cooling over the past 124 years.



## 'EXPLOSIVE' HURRICANE SEASON IN 2024?

CBS News reported that "Rising air and ocean temperatures around the world could set the stage for an "explosive hurricane season."



**Fact Check.** If the season is "explosive," it won't be because of emissions. Not making the headline is the fuller explanation: "Water temperatures can have a significant impact, especially as hurricanes. La Niña, when winds near the equator blow away from the Americas and cause colder water to rise to the surface, is also expected to develop during the upcoming hurricane season. This weather phenomenon results in less wind shear in the Atlantic Ocean, and typically makes for a more active hurricane season. "The combination of La Niña and record warmth in the Atlantic could make for an explosive hurricane season." La Niña is a natural phenomenon not related to emissions and, as mentioned above, the Sun is the major warming influence on the oceans.

## MANMADE CLIMATE CHANGE FLOODING MAINE?

The *Washington Post* reported in "[Floodwaters inundate Maine, New Hampshire for fourth time since December](#)" that: "The frequency of flooding in Maine is increasing because of human-caused climate change and rising sea levels" according to data from NOAA.



**Fact Check.** "New England has a long history of flooding," [reports](#) the Army Corps of Engineers. "Sinking land [is] impacting coastal infrastructure, farmland, and wetlands. The land sinking, called subsidence, is from natural and human changes, like groundwater pumping," [reports](#) NASA. About that NOAA data, the EPA has noted that: "The data have been averaged over multi-year periods for comparison." So the flood data and standard vary from site to site and have been mysteriously "averaged." If the type of "averaging" done is similar to the "homogenization" that NOAA does to its temperature data, then its flood data have been rendered virtually meaningless. Finally, Greenland ice loss has not significantly added to sea level rise per a recent [study](#).

# CLIMATE CHANGE CAUSES CATASTROPHES?

Reuters [reported](#) that: "Countries across Europe should prepare for 'catastrophic' risks, ranging from floods to deadly heatwaves, as worsening climate change hits every part of their economies and societies this century, the EU Environment Agency said."



**Fact Check.** Previous [Climate Fact Checks](#) have debunked the notion that emissions are related to heat waves, wildfires and floods. More generally, it is impossible for climate change to cause sudden "catastrophes." Absent a catastrophic event like a meteor strike, climate change is long-term and gradual, and is not associated with specific weather events. No one alive today has witnessed any sort of discernible climate change. The variance we experience is not climate change. It is just weather. Weather varies slightly from year to year, decade to decade and from century to century. Only changes in long-term average trends for particular weather phenomena would suggest that climate change may be impacting weather. But no such trends are evident in the data. The climate con is the contrived conversion of natural weather phenomena into imaginary emissions-driven calamities.

# CLIMATE CHANGE CAUSED TEXAS RECORD WILDFIRES IN FEBRUARY 2024?

CNN blamed February 2024's record Texas wildfires on climate in "[How a warming climate is setting the stage for fast-spreading, destructive wildfires.](#)"



**Fact Check.** A link between climate and the Texas wildfires was debunked in last month's [Climate Fact Check](#). The affected area is not in drought. It is worthwhile noting this month that the wildfires actually started because utility Xcel Energy's power lines failed during high winds, which are common in the Texas Panhandle. While such an event may or may not be under anyone's control, it is worthwhile noting that the management of Xcel is fixated on becoming net zero by 2050. It's just possible that Xcel's management should be more focused on equipment maintenance and safety.

We'll close out this month with an interesting [commentary](#) in Nature magazine from NASA's chief climate scientist, Gavin Schmidt.

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WORLD VIEW | 19 March 2024

### Climate models can't explain 2023's huge heat anomaly – we could be in uncharted territory



Taking into account all known factors, the planet warmed 0.2 °C more last year than climate scientists expected. More and better data are urgently needed.

By [Gavin Schmidt](#)

Schmidt acknowledges that emissions-based climate models don't explain the apparent ongoing warming that started in July 2023. Recall that we've been told since the 1990s that climate science is "settled." That doesn't seem so, now does it?

Don't miss these other great fact checks and articles from March. Until next month...

#### [ClimateRealism.com](#)

- [The AP's Coverage of UN's 'Climate Red Alert' Is Nothing More Than a Red Herring](#)
- [WIRED Is Pushing False Claims About Climate Change and Human Health, Again](#)
- [Wrong, Al Jazeera, Coffee Production Is Setting Records, Not Declining Amid Climate Change](#)
- [Wrong, NBC News, Climate Change Doesn't Threaten Minnesota Ice Fishing](#)
- [New York Post Misses the Boat on Sea Level Rise](#)

#### [WattsUpWithThat.com](#)

- [BBC's Failed 'Fact Check' of Daily Sceptic Report on Arctic Sea Ice](#)
- [Get Ready For Underwater Holidays, Says Dopey Telegraph Reporter](#)
- [No, Ohio Capital Journal, Climate Change is Not Causing 'Weird, Violent Weather'](#)
- [Wrong, Daily Mail, Climate Change Isn't Causing a Chocolate Easter Egg Crisis](#)
- [The Seattle Times Says Washington State is in a Serious Drought. Is this True?](#)

**See you in May for the April Climate Fact Check!**