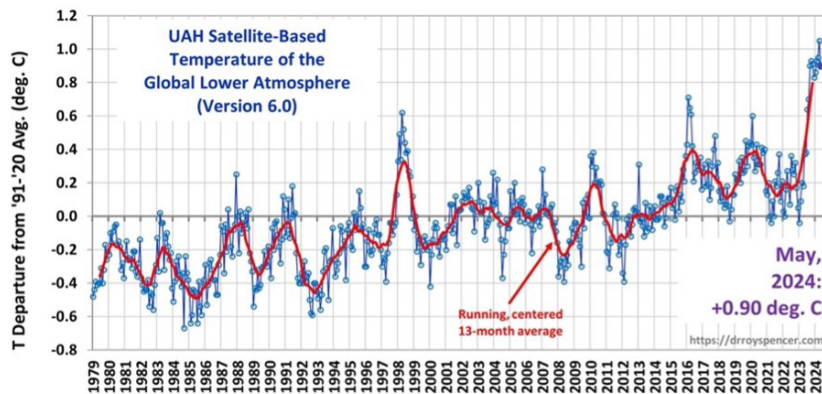


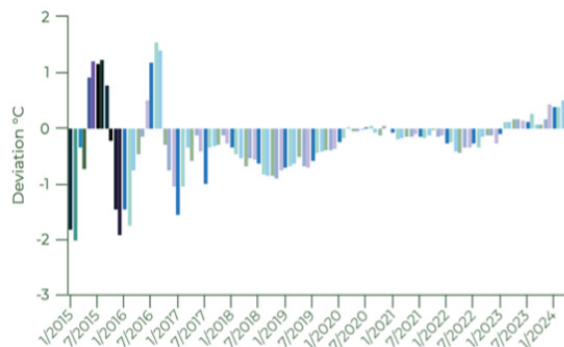
CLIMATE FACT CHECK: MAY 2024 EDITION

[NASA satellite data](#) indicates that El Niño and other natural warming phenomena persist, though slightly less than in April:



The [real-time surface measurement record](#) continues to show cooling since 2015:

GLOBAL TEMPERATURE



Average (Jan 2015-May 2024): -0.230°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 usual, we caution that there is no such physical thing as “average global temperature.” It is a non-physical and statistical construct invented by and for global warming alarmism. Now, on to this month’s fact checks.

EMISSIONS CAUSED THE ‘HOTTEST YEAR EVER’?

Reuters reported earlier this year in [“2023 was world’s hottest year on record, EU scientists confirm”](#): “Professor of Climate Change at Newcastle University Hayley Fowler said the record-breaking year underlined the need to act ‘extremely urgently’ to reduce emissions.”



Fact Check. A new study published in a Nature journal reported this month that 80% of the warming since 2020, which would include the warming reported in 2023 and 2024, was actually caused by a regulation that reduced sulfur content in marine diesel fuel. Fewer sulfur emissions led to fewer sulfate aerosols in the atmosphere which, in turn, reflected less sunlight back to space. More sunlight hit the ocean surface, which increased ocean and atmospheric temperatures.

communications earth & environment

Article



<https://doi.org/10.1038/s43247-024-01442-3>

Abrupt reduction in shipping emission as an inadvertent geoenvironmental termination shock produces substantial radiative warming

Check for updates

Tianle Yuan^{1,2}, Hua Song^{2,3}, Lazaros Oreopoulos¹, Robert Wood⁴, Huisheng Bian^{1,2}, Katherine Breen^{2,5}, Mian Chin¹, Hongbin Yu¹, Donifan Barahona¹, Kerry Meyer² & Steven Plattnick²

CLIMATE CHANGE TO HAVE LONG-TERM ECONOMIC IMPACT?

Reuters reported in [“Climate change to have long-term economic impact: SF Fed paper”](#): “An increase in the number of hot days as climate change warms the globe would likely damage the U.S. economy over the long-term, according to research published on Tuesday.”



Fact Check. There is no basis for the claim that “climate change” can possibly have a “long-term” negative economic impact. Past the threshold question of what “climate change” means: (1) The Earth’s economy has boomed since recent warming began in the late 1600s; (2) Actual “climate change” is likely to be so gradual as to be imperceptible; (3) If warming since 1650 is “climate change,” climate change has been beneficial as we have recovered from the dangerous climatic conditions of the Little Ice Age; (4) Some of the actual threats to our well-being and economy are bad and incompetent government, not the weather and (5) the New York Federal Reserve came to the [opposite conclusion](#) of the San Francisco Federal Reserve in 2022.

Climate change to have long-term economic impact: SF Fed paper

By Reuters

May 28, 2024 1:12 PM EDT - Updated 2 min ago



A pedestrian walks near the branch of Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, in Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S., April 7, 2023. REUTERS/Ann Saphir / File Photo [Purchase Licenses](#) [Reprints](#)

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STAFF REPORTS

How Bad Are Weather Disasters for Banks?

Number 990

November 2021 Revised January 2022

JEL classification: G21, H84

Authors: Kristian S. Blikle, Sarah N. Hamerling, and Donald P. Morgan

Not very. We find that FEMA disasters over the last quarter century had insignificant or small effects on U.S. banks' performance. This stability seems endogenous rather than a mere reflection of federal aid. Disasters increase loan demand, which offsets losses and actually boosts profits at larger banks. Local banks tend to avoid mortgage lending where floods are more common than official flood maps would predict, suggesting that local knowledge may also mitigate disaster impacts.

PAKISTAN HEAT WAVE CAUSED BY CLIMATE CHANGE?

Reuters reported in "Pakistan temperatures cross 52°C in heatwave": "Pakistan is the fifth most vulnerable country to the impact of climate change. We have witnessed above normal rains, floods," Rubina Khursheed Alam, the prime minister's coordinator on climate, said at a news conference on Friday adding that the government is running awareness campaigns due to the heatwaves."



Pakistan temperatures cross 52 C in heatwave

By Akhtar Soomro and Ariba Shahid

May 28, 2024 10:18 AM EDT - Updated 3 hours ago



Fact Check. Previous Climate Fact Checks have debunked the general notion that emissions cause heatwaves, so we will leave you with this climate conundrum:

Which temperature reading from Pakistan is emissions-driven global warming?

125.6°F on May 28, 2024

or

126.9°F on May 31, 1998.

'CLIMATE CHANGE REFUGEES' IN BRAZIL?

The *Washington Post* reported in "[The climate refugee crisis is here](#)": "For years, scientists have warned that climate change would displace millions of people, reordering the world's human presence as people searched for safety."

The Washington Post



The screenshot shows the top portion of a Washington Post article. The headline is "The climate refugee crisis is here" with a sub-headline: "Catastrophic flooding in southern Brazil has forced hundreds of thousands of people from their homes. Many say they won't go back." The byline reads "By Marina Diaz and Vanessa McGeay" dated "May 28, 2024 at 6:00 a.m. EDT". Below the text is a photograph of a middle-aged couple, Wilmar and Sílvia Trizon, standing in front of a metal gate to their home in Porto Alegre, Brazil. They are wearing muddy, dark clothing and boots, indicating they have been through floodwaters. The couple is looking towards the camera. Below the photo is a caption: "Wilmar and Sílvia Trizon in front of their home in Porto Alegre, Brazil. After another catastrophic flood, they now plan to leave. 'I can't live in fear of the rain,' Sílvia says." At the bottom of the screenshot, there are social media sharing options (Listen, Share, Comment, Save) and a short paragraph of text: "PORTO ALEGRE, Brazil — The middle-aged couple stepped through the muddy remains of their neighborhood. For 12 days, they'd steeled themselves for this: the moment when they'd return to their house, swallowed by floodwaters, and decide whether it, and their old life, was worth saving."

Fact Check. The World Meteorological Organization beat us to the punch, attributing the Brazilian rains and subsequent flooding to the ongoing and natural El Niño.



Activities Topics News Resources Community About WMO

Home / El Niño-linked rains trigger devastation in Brazil

El Niño-linked rains trigger devastation in Brazil

NEWS

07 May 2024

Record rainfall linked to El Niño has caused unprecedented flooding in the southern Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Sul, with a growing number of casualties and infrastructure and economic losses. There is no immediate respite in sight.

AIR TURBULENCE CAUSED BY CLIMATE CHANGE?

The CBS television news program *Face the Nation* [featured](#) Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg who blamed air turbulence on climate change.

FACE: NATION

Fact Check. This claim was so outrageous that even X's "Community Notes" jumped on Buttigieg. Here is the National Transportation Safety Board report mentioned by Community Notes.

.@SecretaryPete says an increase in flight turbulence is one of the effects of climate change that "are already upon us in terms of our transportation."

He says the deadly turbulence on a recent Singapore Airlines flight is "very rare," but "turbulence can happen and sometimes it can happen unexpectedly."

"Our climate is evolving. Our policies and our technology and our infrastructure have to evolve accordingly."



Readers added context they thought people might want to know

NTSB data shows there is no rising trend in aircraft turbulence incidents.

Adjusting for the increasing number of aircraft flying hours, the trend is actually reducing.

[ntsb.gov/safety/safety-...](https://www.ntsb.gov/safety/safety-...)

DEADLY TORNADOES CAUSED BY CLIMATE?

The Associated Press reported in "[At least 15 dead after severe weather carves path of ruin across multiple states in the South](#)":

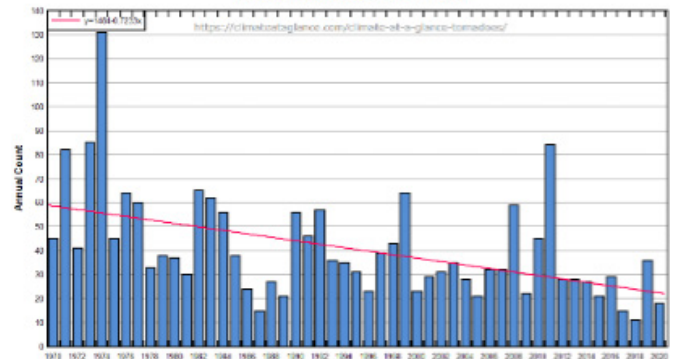
"The deadly twisters have spawned during a historically bad season for tornadoes, at a time when climate change contributes to the severity of storms around the world. April had the second-highest number of tornadoes on record in the country!"

AP Associated Press



Fact Check. While there have been a lot of tornadoes this year, that does happen from time to time. Tornado season is unpredictable and a spiky phenomenon. In 2011 -- during the global warming pause and 13 years of emissions ago -- twice as many tornadoes happened as this year. We have better tornado detection technology now and so detect more storms. Generally, there is no characteristic of tornadoes -- frequency, strength or anything else -- that even correlates with emissions. There is absolutely no evidence that "climate change" has contributed to "the severity of storms around the world."

U.S. Annual Count of Strong to Violent Tornadoes (F3+) 1970-2020
Data Source: NOAA/NWS Storm Prediction Center



EMISSIONS HARMING THE OCEANS?

The *New York Times* reported in "[Top Oceans Court Says Nations Must Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions](#)": "The world's highest court dealing with the oceans issued a groundbreaking opinion on Tuesday that said excessive greenhouse gases were pollutants that could cause irreversible harm [warming and acidification] to the marine environment and must be cut back."

The New York Times

The New York Times

Top Oceans Court Says Nations Must Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Experts say the opinion, though nonbinding, is likely to lead to more claims for damages against polluting nations.

Share full article



Outside the main courtroom at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in Hamburg, Germany, last year. Gregor Fischer/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images

By Marlise Simons
Reporting from Paris

May 21, 2024, 9:59 a.m. ET

Fact Check. First, the atmosphere does not significantly warm oceans. Atmospheric infrared radiation penetrates [less than a millimeter of the ocean surface](#). Next, there is no such thing as "ocean acidification." While the ocean may or may not be slightly less basic from higher atmospheric CO₂, slightly less basic is not the same as becoming acidic -- just like two is not more negative than three. [Emails obtained from NOAA](#) through the Freedom of Information Act reveal that NOAA scientists know "ocean acidification" has caused no observed harm.

2) I think it is really important to resist the NYT editor's impulse to say that OA is wreaking all sorts of havoc RIGHT NOW, because for ecological systems, we don't yet have the evidence to say that. OA is

CARBON DIOXIDE CAUSES WILDFIRES?

UC Riverside News reported in "[CO₂ worsens wildfires by helping plants grow](#)": "By fueling the growth of plants that become kindling, carbon dioxide is driving an increase in the severity and frequency of wildfires, according to a UC Riverside study."

UC RIVERSIDE

Fact Check. If mere plant growth causes wildfires, then carbon dioxide (CO₂) is guilty as charged. But the reality is not so simple. First, absent arson or negligence, wildfires are entirely natural phenomena. They have always happened and always will. Next, while humans successfully and dramatically curbed wildfires during the 20th century, late 20th century anti-logging policies have acted to turn forests into dried out thickets just waiting for any kind of spark to ignite into wildfire



CO2 worsens wildfires by helping plants grow
The greenhouse gas is a floating fertilizer

By fueling the growth of plants that become kindling, carbon dioxide is driving an increase in the severity and frequency of wildfires, according to a UC Riverside study.

The worldwide surge in wildfires over the past decade is often attributed to the hotter, drier conditions of climate change. However, the study found that the effect of increasing levels of carbon dioxide (CO2) on plants may be a bigger factor.

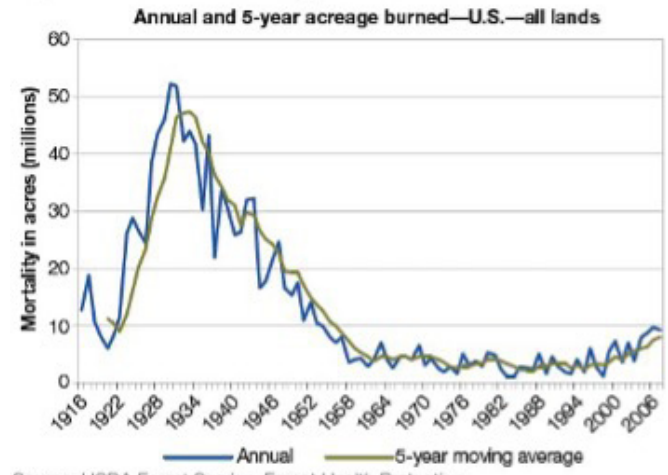
"It's not because it's hotter that things are burning, it's because there's more fuel, in the form of plants," said UCR doctoral student in Earth and planetary sciences and study author James Gomez.

This conclusion, and a description of the eight model experiments that produced it, have been published in *Communications Earth & Environment*.



conflagration. And even with anti-logging policies, [wildfire destruction is still substantially below early 20th century levels](#). Finally, CO2 is plant food that helps forests grow and stay healthy. [CO2 is actually a fire suppressant](#).

Figure 16-1. Total acreage burned.



Source: USDA Forest Service, Forest Health Protection

VENEZUELAN GLACIERS DISAPPEARED BY GLOBAL WARMING?

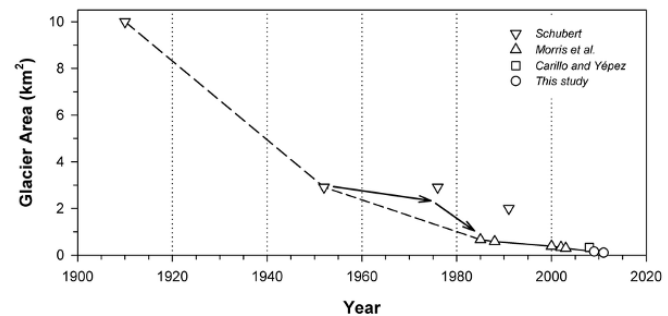
The *Washington Post* reported in "[A mountainous country loses its last glacier](#)" that: "The last of Venezuela's glaciers has disappeared... Scientists say warming temperatures will render the entire Northern Andes, which snakes through Venezuela, Colombia and Ecuador, glacier-free by 2050."

The Washington Post



Fact Check. [Research](#) indicates that 99% of the glacier area in Venezuela had disappeared before global warming even became a twinkle in James Hansen's eye, circa 1981.

Glacier Area in Venezuela (1910 to 2011)



30% MORE HEAT-RELATED DEATHS IN EUROPE BECAUSE OF CLIMATE CHANGE?

The *Telegraph* (UK) reported in “Climate change is here and it kills’: Heat-related deaths rise by 30% in Europe, says Lancet”: “As scorching summers hit the continent, heat-related deaths per 100,000 people have increased by 30.8% from the period 2003-12 and 2013-22, according to the report.”

The Telegraph



‘Climate change is here and it kills’: Heat-related deaths rise by 30pc in Europe, says Lancet

Researchers tracking the link between climate change and health say the adverse impacts are far-reaching

Verity Bowman
13 May 2024 - 4:33pm

Related Topics
Global Health Security, Climate change, Europe



Greene was ravaged by wildfires last summer | CREDIT: Arian Motamedi/Anadolu Agency via Getty Images

Fact Check. The researchers didn’t actually count any heat-related deaths. Not a single death certificate was reviewed for cause of death. All deaths from all causes were included in the analysis. Deaths from car accidents. Deaths from cancer. Deaths from drug overdoses. Everything. The researchers actually have no idea how many heat-related deaths actually occurred. The study was based on annual death rates. But the researchers didn’t even bother to make sure that deaths occurred on hot days. In fact, even cold weather deaths were counted as heat-related deaths.

We’ll close out this month by noting that the new study about the cleaner air causing more warming (mentioned earlier) is so damaging to the “hottest year ever” climate narrative that the alarmist media basically ignored it. The only major new organizations to report it were Reuters and *The Telegraph* (UK).

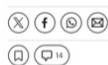


Rules that cut air pollution from shipping may be adding to global warming

Move to reduce sulphur content in fuel by 80pc is linked to a reduction in clouds reflecting sunlight back into space, warn Nasa researchers

Emma Gatten, ENVIRONMENT EDITOR and Sarah Knapton, SCIENCE EDITOR
30 May 2024 - 4:00pm

Related Topics
Shipping, Global warming, Pollution, Nasa (National Aeronautics and Space Administration), Transport and industry, Oceans



Global regulations introduced in 2020 cut the sulphur content in shipping fuel in a bid to reduce air pollution | CREDIT: STEWART SUTTON/GETTY IMAGES

To paraphrase the *Washington Post* masthead, "Democracy dies in darkness": Climate alarm dies in sunshine. Until next month, check these great web sites and fact checks:

Until next month, check out these additional great fact checks.

[ClimateRealism.com](https://www.climate-realism.com/)

- [CNN's Attempt to Link the Singapore Airlines' Turbulence to Climate Change Is Disgusting](#)
- [Wrong, Al Jazeera, Climate Change Not Causing Tribal Woes in Peru](#)
- [The Guardian is Confused, 1.5°C of Warming is Not Catastrophic](#)
- [Wrong, Mainstream Media, Tree Rings Aren't Reliable Indicators of Past Temperatures](#)
- [Sorry, Climate Activists, Montana Climate Harms Are Not Occurring](#)

[WattsUpWithThat.com](https://www.wattsupwiththat.com/)

- [Media Hypes NOAA's Above-Normal 2024 Atlantic Hurricane Season Forecast](#)
- [No, Washington Post, Houston's Mosquito Problem Isn't New or Driven by Climate Change](#)
- [Wash Post's 'climate solutions' reporter touts taking 'cold showers': 'You should embrace using cold water' because 'heating water' leads to 'more planet-warming emissions'](#)
- [Many of the 'Climate Experts' Surveyed by the Guardian in Recent Propaganda Blitz Turn Out to be Emotionally-Unstable Hysterics](#)
- [What The Media Won't Tell You About The Energy Transition](#)

See you in July for the May Climate Fact Check!