

10 surprising global warming facts

Today's temperatures are higher than any time over the last 11,000 years and are ascribed to human industrial and agricultural activities. We bring together some surprising global warming facts to better understand climate change.

1 Migration of species

Global warming triggers migration of animals to new habitats where conditions are similar to those prior to the climate changes



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2 Extinction

When animals cannot adapt or find favorable conditions elsewhere, they may become extinct. This happened in the past and it is happening again



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3 Polar bears are starving

The sea ice is melting away under the feet of polar bears. Thus, they lose their possibilities to hunt and capture less prey



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4 Some species adapt better than others

Birds and mammals adapt better to climate changes than reptiles and amphibians



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5 Coral reefs are dying

Coral bleaching is accelerated by global warming. Survival of coral reef ecosystems is thus being threatened



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6 Surprising effects

Research shows that birds around the world are shrinking due to increasing temperatures



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7 Hurricanes become stronger

Wind speed within the most powerful hurricanes increases more rapidly now than thirty years ago



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8 Cities are warming up faster

Big cities warm up faster than the rest of Earth. The maximum temperatures of the year are rising by 0.6 C per decade



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9 Climate models may not be accurate

Recent studies show that polar waters warmed up more than believed until now



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10 The sun will cool down around mid-century

This will slow down global warming, but not enough to halt human-induced climate changes



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