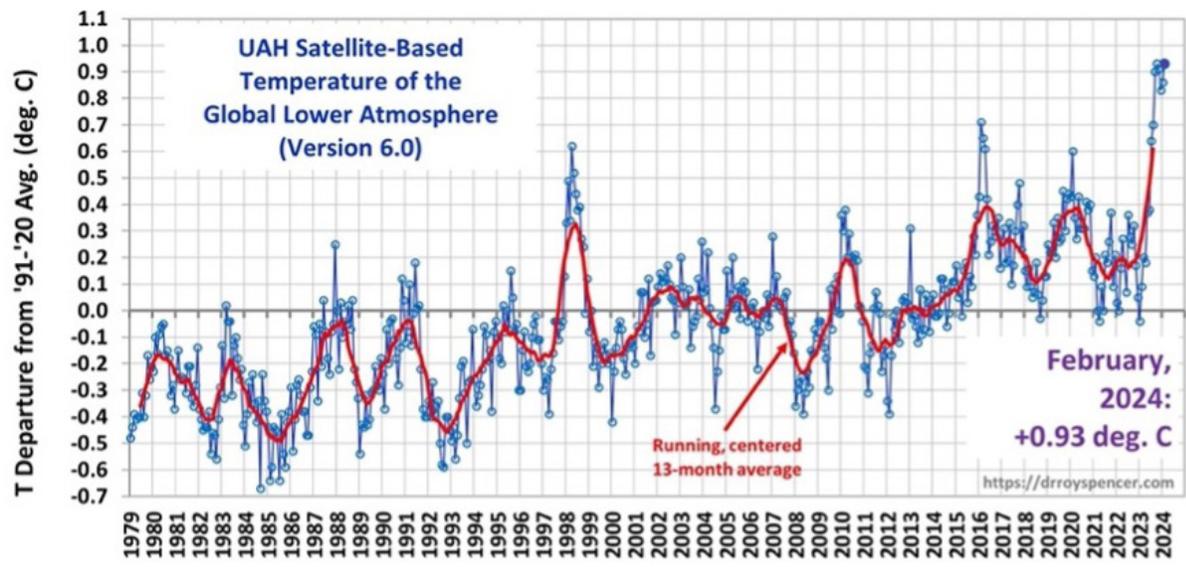




# CLIMATE FACT CHECK: FEBRUARY 2024 EDITION

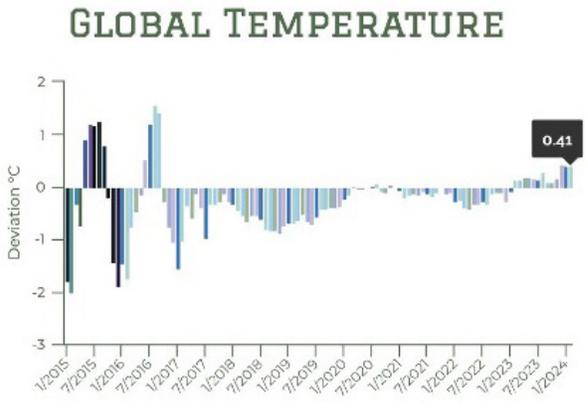
*Still Stuck in the El Nino from Nature*

The naturally caused El Nino that started in 2023 is still here and warming the NASA satellite data.



In contrast, [Temperature.global](#) reports real-time surface station data – i.e., data not manipulated to fit a narrative -- that show while February 2024 was slightly warmer, the average remains in a cooling trend since January 2015.

As always, its hard to know what to make of any of this data except to say that all these temperature differences are small and presented without their tremendous uncertainties. Ninety-six percent (96%) of US temperatures, for example, are not accurate to within 1°C. It is likely worse for non-US temperature data. And no source of temperature data provides uncertainties in their estimates. On to this month’s fact checks.



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>

BEAM [venngage.com/beam](http://venngage.com/beam)

# RECORD HOT IN DALLAS?

The *Washington Post* reported in "[Milwaukee, Detroit and St. Louis set February warm weather records](#)": "Dallas soared to 93 degrees, a calendar day record [for Feb. 26] and its highest temperature so early in the year since 1996... Human-caused climate change and the powerful El Niño climate pattern have fueled the warmth..."

*The Washington Post*

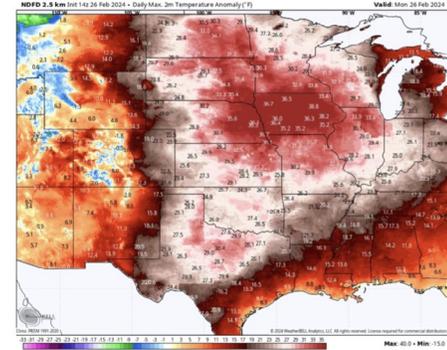
**Fact Check.** The National Weather Service reports that Dallas hit 93°F on February 25, 1918 – 106 years and trillions of tons of emissions ago. While February 25 and February 26 are not exactly the same calendar day, they are certainly close enough on the calendar to be practically the same day. That Dallas hit 93°F in 1918 and 2024 at about the same time in February does not support the notion that "human-caused climate change" was a factor in the 2024 temperature reading.

## Dallas hits 93 degrees as scores of warm weather records are set

A huge area of high temperatures 30 or more degrees above normal in the central states is sweeping eastward

By Ian Livingston

Updated February 26, 2024 at 6:32 p.m. EST / Published February 26, 2024 at 11:23 a.m. EST



Temperatures are forecast to be 30 to 40 degree above average across a huge area Monday. (weatherbell.com)

Day	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec												
1	82	2006	87	1963	90	2006	93	1918	93	2002	102	1998	108	1980	107	2012	108	2000	100	1979	87	2016	81	2012
2	78	2023	83	1995	86	1976	94	1918	96	1943	101	2018	108	1980	109	2011	107	2000	97	1997	92	2017	82	2012
3	83	2006	82	1976	85	1974	97	1989	95	1943	100	1977	106	1996	111	2011	109	2000	99	1951	89	1948	88	2005
4	81	1921	81	2019	88	2013	90	1978	98	1947	100	1977	108	1996	109	2011	110	2000	96	1983	89	1987	85	1977
5	79	1989	86	1942	93	1991	93	2022	99	1984	103	1948	104	1954	109	1956	103	2023	85	2019	92	2017	82	1975
6	79	1982	80	2017	89	1916	94	1960	99	1998	102	1977	105	1998	109	2003	105	2023	97	2019	87	1989	82	1966
7	82	2006	83	1969	90	1980	96	1980	95	1955	98	2010	107	1996	107	1953	108	2023	97	2014	88	1988	81	1966
8	88	1969	86	1962	85	1993	96	2020	93	2011	101	1985	107	1956	108	1953	109	2023	94	1979	87	1980	82	1977
9	83	1957	87	1960	87	1993	97	1963	99	1952	100	2020	107	2022	109	1947	102	1954	94	2017	88	2005	80	2020
10	82	2023	85	1954	93	1955	99	1963	96	1967	100	2013	105	1954	110	1936	100	2014	94	1975	86	1978	81	2021
11	82	2023	88	1922	94	1955	96	1948	98	1967	103	2022	108	1954	107	1953	101	2000	99	1979	85	2015	82	1996
12	80	2003	84	1962	92	1955	94	1972	96	1978	105	1953	110	1954	108	2023	103	2011	97	1979	86	1955	83	1973
13	78	1996	84	1918	92	1971	93	1936	95	1955	101	2011	105	2022	106	2023	107	2011	94	1954	85	1951	81	1995
14	77	1996	85	1996	91	1989	91	1963	95	1955	105	1953	105	1925	106	1956	102	1965	96	2015	89	1989	81	1995
15	80	2020	83	2005	83	2016	91	1924	95	2022	102	1960	110	1978	106	1951	101	1980	95	2015	86	1955	79	2021
16	80	1935	85	2006	86	2018	95	2006	95	1996	102	1924	108	1980	107	1956	102	1980	93	1972	86	2016	83	1977
17	80	2023	87	1959	85	1982	100	2006	96	1966	103	2011	109	1954	109	2023	101	1997	95	1972	87	2013	80	2006
18	80	1974	86	1986	87	1982	99	2006	97	2018	103	2011	108	2022	110	2023	100	2013	93	2016	83	1973	82	1980
19	83	1952	86	1996	88	1994	93	1996	97	2020	103	2013	110	2018	108	1984	101	1956	95	1921	86	1950	80	2012
20	83	1972	91	1980	90	2017	93	1963	96	2005	104	1953	110	2018	108	2023	102	2021	93	2023	84	1977	78	1978
21	79	2005	95	1996	96	1916	95	1955	99	2005	105	1953	110	2018	107	1980	101	1944	93	1979	81	1967	85	2010
22	85	1943	93	1996	92	1995	93	1963	99	2005	104	2018	112	2018	106	2011	101	1980	93	1939	87	1955	77	1970
23	88	1943	88	2017	90	1929	91	1987	97	1996	102	2022	108	1974	107	2010	100	2005	90	1925	84	1973	81	1964
24	84	83	91	1918	98	1929	93	2020	97	1996	105	1980	109	1977	107	2023	100	2023	90	2003	84	1965	89	1955
25	83	92	93	1918	98	1928	91	1975	96	1989	107	1980	111	1954	109	2023	102	2005	90	1980	85	1965	81	2021
26	80	1921	91	2024	98	2018	90	1955	96	2018	112	1980	105	2018	109	2023	102	1977	91	1992	86	1965	81	2008
27	82	1955	85	1975	95	1956	93	1987	99	1996	112	1980	105	2011	108	2011	104	1977	88	2016	81	1964	81	2005
28	84	1970	85	2023	88	1971	93	2005	103	1927	110	1980	108	1995	107	2011	105	1953	89	1980	83	1949	82	2016
29	80	2013	82	1940	89	1967	95	1990	98	1998	106	1980	107	1957	106	2020	100	2011	90	1937	82	1927	80	1923
30	84	1917	-	-	95	1946	94	1981	102	1985	105	1980	110	1957	107	1954	100	1977	90	1951	84	1950	87	1951
31	80	2017	-	-	97	1974	-	-	103	1985	-	-	107	1986	106	2013	-	-	90	1977	-	-	83	1951

# 'DOOMSDAY GLACIER' RELATED TO EMISSIONS?

*Rolling Stone* reported in, "The Doomsday Glacier" (May 2017): "In the farthest reaches of Antarctica, a nightmare scenario of crumbling ice – and rapidly rising seas – could spell disaster for a warming planet."

*Rolling Stone*

## The Doomsday Glacier

In the farthest reaches of Antarctica, a nightmare scenario of crumbling ice – and rapidly rising seas – could spell disaster for a warming planet.

BY JEFF GOODSELL

MAY 9, 2017



The ice cliffs of West Antarctica. MICHAEL MARTIN/LAR/REXUS

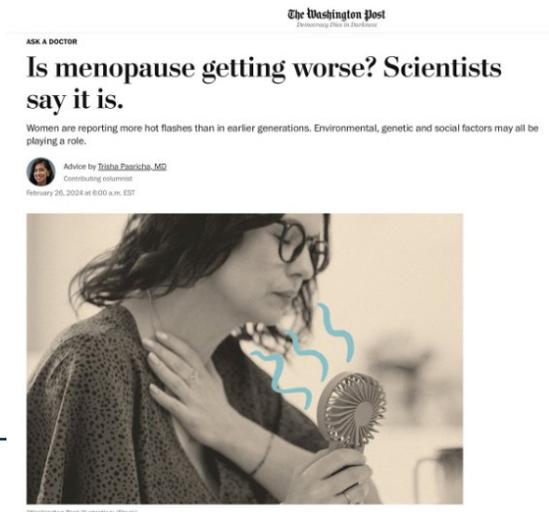
**Fact Check.** The so-called “Doomsday glacier” is the Thwaites glacier located in West Antarctica. A new study reported in February that the retreat of the Thwaites glacier actually began in the 1940s (i.e., many emissions ago) and was caused by an El Nino event, which is not related to emissions. Additionally and as spotlighted in the [November 2023 Climate Fact Check](#), whatever is happening to the Thwaites glacier, the West Antarctic has been cooling for the past two decades despite more than a trillion tons of emissions. [Read more...](#)

## MENOPAUSE WORSENERD BY GLOBAL WARMING?

The *Washington Post* reported in, “[Is menopause getting worse? Scientists say it is](#)”: “Some scientists also argue that environmental changes like pollution and rising global temperatures aggravate the perception of hot flashes.”

*The Washington Post*

**Fact Check.** The case for global warming worsening menopause, as presented by the *Washington Post*, boils down to “scientists say perceptions are aggravated.” No actual scientific data were presented about any of this – not even, for example, that summer hot flashes are worse than winter ones. So it’s difficult to believe that any gradual warming occurring over decades affects anyone in the slightest.

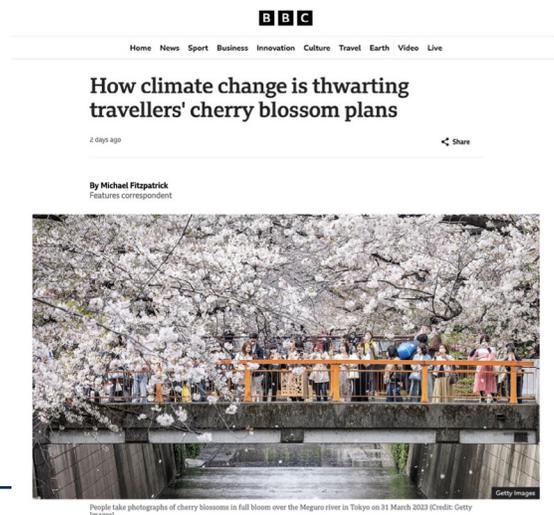


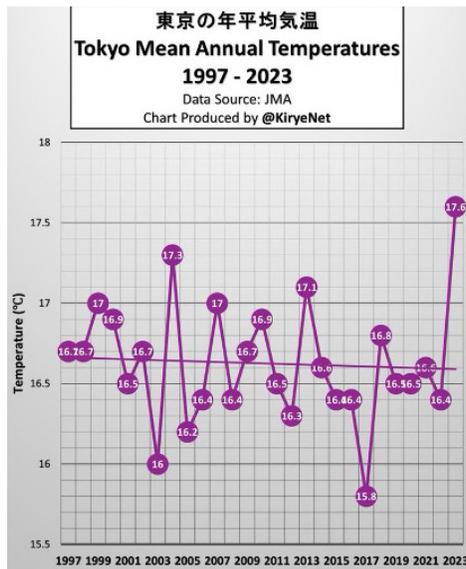
## WARMING MAKES CHERRY BLOSSOMS BLOOM EARLIER?

The BBC reported in “[How climate change is thwarting travelers' cherry blossom plans](#)”: “Yoshino cherries are now flowering about two weeks earlier than they did 50 to 60 years ago, and this is due to the warmer weather associated with climate change.”

**B B C**

**Fact Check.** There has been no warming in Tokyo over the past 25 years, per temperature data from the Japan Meteorologic Association. Moreover, Tokyo has an urban heat island effect of a reported 5.4°F over the past 100 years, although it may very well be greater as other cities around the world have warmed at a rate of as much as 1°F per decade. The case can’t be made that warming, much less emissions, is causing Tokyo’s cherry trees to bloom earlier.





## CANADIAN 'ZOMBIE FIRES' CAUSED BY CLIMATE?

The *Washington Post* reported in "[These wildfires never went out — they just moved underground](#)": "These Canadian fires are part of the growing footprint of wildfires across North America and other parts of the world as the climate warms, primarily from humans burning fossil fuels."

*The Washington Post*

*The Washington Post*  
These wildfires never went out — they just moved underground

Canada's record wildfire season keeps burning through the winter

By Joshua Dettler  
February 24, 2024 at 7:03 a.m. EST



Firefighters at work in Fox Lake, Alberta, in Feb. 6. Beneath the ground in western Canada, more than 150 zombie fires that started last year are still burning in the midst of winter. (Alberta Wildfire/AFP/Getty Images)

**Fact Check.** As the newspaper ad (nearby) from 1988 indicates, "zombie fires" are not new to Canada. While there may very well be more than usual left over from 2023, last year was an unusually active wildfire season in Canada. As debunked in the [June 2023 Climate Fact Check](#), Canadian wildfires have nothing to do with emissions or warming in the first place.

**Where there's smoke there's fire.**

**AN URGENT ALBERTA FOREST SERVICE BULLETIN**

The drought conditions last fall, and the below normal snowfall this winter, have resulted in *extremely dry* ground and forest fuel conditions. This, combined with campfire, brush and peat burning last fall, have resulted in holdover fires which are currently burning in many Alberta forest areas.

These fires could remain burning and become forest fires.

The Alberta Forest Service urgently requests all Alberta landowners to check for possible holdover fires and extinguish them before spring.

All forest users are asked to keep watch for holdover fire or smoke in the forested areas and report it immediately by phoning our Hot Line 427-FIRE (collect).

For more information on forest conditions or advice on putting out fires, call your local District Forest Officer.

Alberta  
FOREST SERVICE  
FOR LIFE • LANDS  
AND WATER

# CHILEAN WILDFIRES WORSENER BY CLIMATE?

Reuters reported in "[How climate change made Chile's wildfires so deadly](#)": "What's different this time is that the temperatures were much higher than before," Cordero said. He noted the region was going through a heat wave likely caused by climate change and the El Nino phenomenon, when unusually warm water temperatures off the Pacific coast of South America roil global weather patterns."



**Fact Check.** Even the climate hoaxers at the World Weather Attribution have been compelled to [agree](#) that the Chilean wildfires resulted from El Nino and not "global warming."

## Climate & Energy | Water Management | Climate Change How climate change made Chile's wildfires so deadly

Reuters  
February 7, 2024 11:56 AM EST · Updated 23 days ago



## Did Climate Change Worsen Chile's Wildfires? Not This Time, Researchers Say.

A rapid analysis didn't find the fingerprints of global warming on the February blazes, but risks are still rising overall as the planet heats.

Share full article



Fires in Viña del Mar, Chile, and the surrounding area killed over 100 people and destroyed more than 7,000 homes. Rodrigo Garrido/Reuters

By Delger Erdenesanaa

Feb. 22, 2024, 12:01 a.m. ET

# HOW MANY WILL CLIMATE CHANGE KILL?

The *New York Times* reported in "Just How Many People Will Die From Climate Change?": "According to research by the Climate Impact Lab, a moderate emissions trajectory, most likely leading to about two degrees of warming by the end of the century, would produce by that time about 40 million additional deaths... simply burning the additional fossil fuel necessary to bring the planet from 1.5 degrees of warming up to two degrees would produce air pollution that would prematurely kill an estimated 153 million people."

The New York Times

The New York Times

OPINION

## Just How Many People Will Die From Climate Change?

Feb. 22, 2024



Ibrahim Rayimkakh

**Fact Check.** In the [July](#), [August](#) and [November](#) 2023 Climate Fact Checks, we debunked the notion that “global warming” or “climate change” kills. The notion that “air pollution” kills is debunked [here](#). It’s also worth considering that before industrialization, global population is estimated to have been about one billion. Global population is now in excess of 8 billion and growing, undercutting any notion that emissions kill anyone.

## POLAR BEARS TO STARVE?

The BBC reported in [“Climate change: Polar bears face starvation threat as ice melts”](#): “But as the ice disappears in a warming world, many bears are spending greater amounts of time on shore, eating bird’s eggs, berries and grass. However the animals rapidly lose weight on land, increasing the risk of death.”

**B B C**



**Fact Check.** There has never been anything there to the polar bear scare: (1) At last September's Arctic sea ice extent minimum, there were more than 5 million square kilometers of ice; (2) Arctic sea ice extent for January 2024 was the same as for January 2004, despite a trillion tons of emissions; and (3) since the 1960s, the polar bear population has increased from an estimated 5,000-15,000 to about 26,000 today. [Read more...](#)

## TEXAS WILDFIRE CAUSED BY CLIMATE CHANGE?

The *Washington Post* reported in [“A massive Texas wildfire is now the largest on record in the state”](#):

“Opening his remarks focused on immigration policy in a visit to Texas’s southern border, [President Biden](#) made clear his concerns that global warming has heightened the potential for such devastating fires. ‘I love some of my Neanderthal friends who think there is no such thing as climate change,’ Biden said.”

*The Washington Post*



A drone view of the grasslands burning from the Smokehouse Creek fire in Roberts County, Tex., on Wednesday. (Bathian Frandino/Reuters)

**Fact Check.** As pointed out in previous [Climate Fact Checks from 2023](#), burn acreage from wildfires varies from year-to-year and has generally been trending downward, opposite from emissions. Specifically with respect to the February Texas wildfires, it was the “neanderthals” at the *Washington Post* who provided readers [here](#) and [here](#) with further evidence that emissions have nothing to do with wildfires:

**Fact Check.** If 'King Kong' really did become extinct 215,000 years ago it clearly had nothing to do with industrial era emissions. Whatever climate change may have happened to affect the species, it may well have occurred at a carbon dioxide level far below the pre-industrial level. Such a low CO2 level could possibly have led to plant failure and starvation of the ape species.

- "Texas wildfire records go back to 1988, and nearly all of the largest fires on the list have occurred since 2011. It's probable that fires grew even larger hundreds of years ago, when humans didn't take measures to suppress them and the land was less fragmented by development, said Michael Stambaugh, an associate professor of forest ecology at the University of Missouri."
- "One reason for that increase [in burn acreage] is the growth of trees, such as red cedar, in grasslands... Compared with grasses, trees allow fires to burn hotter and to spread embers farther, leading to more intense and larger wildfires... Before European settlement, Great Plains landscapes like the one ablaze across northern Texas would have burned every other year, on average... Without that frequent exposure to fire, trees and other fuels have been able to flourish, increasing the risks to communities when fires do ignite, usually as a result of human actions."

In addition, over the long term, [extremely hot days have declined and precipitation](#) has increased.

## CLIMATE CAUSING WARMER OCEAN TEMPS?

The *New York Times* reported in "[Scientists Are Freaking Out About Ocean Temperatures](#)": "Given the overall warming trend, higher temperatures in the oceans aren't a complete surprise. Oceans absorb most of the additional heat that greenhouse gasses trap near the surface of the Earth, and have been steadily warming for years."

### The New York Times

**Fact Check.** No one knows exactly why oceans have been warming. But emissions are not a significant cause. Oceans are warmed from above by the Sun and from below by geothermal heating. The atmosphere, at most, warms only the top millimeter or so of the surface. So even assuming for the sake of argument that emissions warmed the atmosphere, they would not have a great effect on ocean temperature. Finally, the *New York Times* itself offered as non-greenhouse gas emissions explanation: "One surprising factor may be a reduction in pollution in the area. In 2020, a new rule went into effect that limited the amount of sulfur dioxide contained in the fuel used by container ships." A reduction in sulfur dioxide emissions would cause more sunlight to reach the oceans and, thereby, cause warming.

The New York Times

### Scientists Are Freaking Out About Ocean Temperatures

"It's like an omen of the future."

Share full article



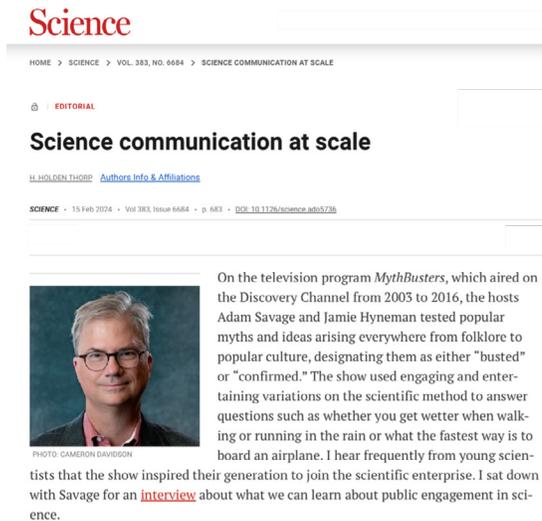
"The North Atlantic has been record-breakingly warm for almost a year now," said Brian McNoldy, a researcher at the University of Miami. "It's just astonishing." Eva Marie Uzcategui for The New York Times

By David Gelles

Feb. 27, 2024

We'll close out this month's *Climate Fact Check* with a February [editorial](#) from Science magazine. Editor Holden Thorp asked the hosts of the Discovery Channel's *Mythbusters* show to do a show to "demonstrate the reality of human-caused climate change." Below are excerpts.

So "seeing is believing" and the Mythbusters apparently do not believe they can show to viewers that climate change is human-caused. We agree.



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

### [ClimateRealism.com](#)

- [No, New York Times, Climate Change Is Not Targeting Animal Sanctuaries](#)
- [No, BNN, Climate Change Will Not Leave 200 Million Africans Hungry by 2050](#)
- [Wrong, USA Today, More Than One Type of Solar Activity Influences the Earth's Climate](#)
- [Wrong, Time Magazine, January 2024 Was Not the Hottest on Record](#)
- [No, CNN and Other Media Outlets, Climate Change Is Not Causing the Ocean Circulation to Collapse](#)

### [CO2 Coalition](#)

- [New study finds that CO2 is increasing the rate by which the globe is greening, even under drought](#)
- [Greenland is turning green again for the first time since medieval times. Why it matters.](#)
- [What Drought? Amazon Data Show Little Overall Rainfall Change in 300 Years](#)
- [The Hockey Stick Trial: Science Dies in a DC Courtroom](#)
- [Health of Fish Stocks Contradict Climate Alarmists Predictions](#)

### [WattsUpWithThat.com](#)

- [Heads Up Media – Texas Wildfires Have Nothing to Do with Climate Change](#)
- [The Des Moines Register Misses the Possible Benefits of Research Suggesting That Climate Change Will Cause Fewer Blizzards](#)
- [NY Times pushes an implausible story of polar bear evolution and what makes a species](#)
- [Wrong, The Hill, Climate Change Isn't Making It Unsafe for Kids to Play Outside](#)
- [Yes, Popular Mechanics, Scientists 'Have Miscalculated Our Global Warming Timeline'](#)