

CLIMATE FACT CHECK: JUNE 2025 EDITION

Scientifically debunking claims about heatwaves, hurricanes, extreme weather, ocean acidification, & food shortages

June 1st: Costlier weather disasters because of climate change?

Claim: To kick off the Atlantic hurricane season, *MSNBC* published an [opinion piece](#) complaining about the Trump administration's cuts to NOAA and FEMA. In the column, they harp on how the federal job cuts occur at a time when climate change is allegedly making costly disasters more common. The author writes, "In 2023, the U.S. experienced 28 weather disasters... that cost at least a billion dollars in property losses... Climate change isn't theoretical!"

Administration. Climate change isn't theoretical. It isn't a prediction for what will happen in the future. It's here, now, reshaping our landscape and threatening lives from the Gulf Coast to the Great Lakes.



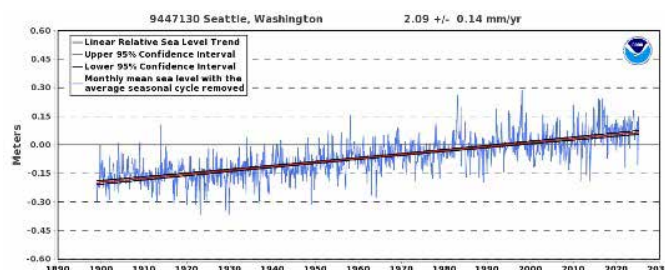
Fact-Check: The number of weather-related disasters inflicting at least one billion dollars in damage has increased since the 1980s, but not because of increased climate risks. The increased number of people moving to and building homes, businesses, and related infrastructure in locations prone to natural disasters has resulted in the higher costs of natural disasters. NOAA's U.S. "Billion-Dollar Weather and Climate Disasters" database [does not account](#) for changes in exposure. Hence, NOAA is [retiring](#) this metric. Extreme weather expert Dr. Roger Pielke Jr's [2024 study](#) in *Nature's Natural Hazards* journal found that "weather and climate disasters losses as a percentage of U.S. GDP, show no increase" from 1990 to 2019.

June 3rd: Climate change is causing 'worsening flooding' & worrisome sea level rise

Claim: The *Seattle Times* published [an article](#) claiming that sea level rise has been a major driver of recent flooding in Seattle's South Park neighborhood, putting it "on the front lines of climate change." The *Times* highlighted the major flood of December 2022, which brought water levels up 15 feet.

The Seattle Times

Fact-Check: South Park is a community built on the floodplain of the Duwamish River. It has [flooded for millennia](#). Over the last 50 years—the only period during which humans could have had any meaningful climate impact—the sea level around Seattle has risen by only [four inches](#). This means that sea level rise could have only contributed to about 2% of the 15-foot rise in water level.



June 9th: Ocean acidity has passed a “critical threshold”?

Claim: *The Hill* [reported](#) on a [new study](#) published in the *Journal of Global Change Biology* which claims that ocean acidification has passed a critical “threshold” that makes the ocean ecosystem “Less hospitable to species such as corals and clams.”

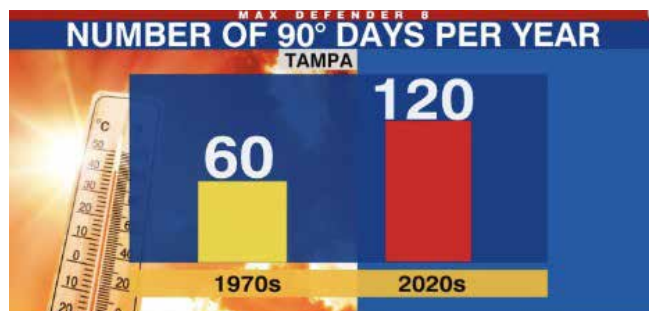
‘Ticking time bomb’: Ocean acidity crosses vital threshold, study finds



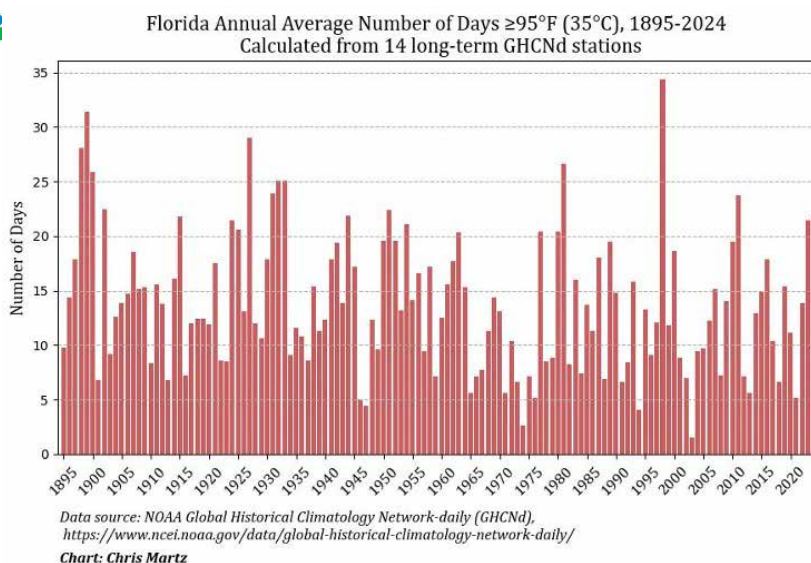
Fact-Check: The oceans are **NOT** becoming acidic; they are becoming *less alkaline*. According to the [IPCC](#), the average ocean pH has dropped by 0.1 units over the last 200 years. Even under the high-end emissions scenario (SSP5-8.5), ocean pH isn’t expected to dip below 7.8. The ocean bed is lined with alkali rocks, mainly basalt and limestone, which sequester carbon dioxide and keep pH from changing significantly. Coral coverage at the world’s largest reef, the Great Barrier Reef, reached [record highs](#) in 2024.

June 18th: Climate change causing more record highs in Tampa?

Claim: To A WFLA-TV meteorologist [posted on Facebook](#), “Native Floridians often say... ‘it didn’t used to be this hot!’ They are right. 90-degree days have doubled here in Tampa and heat index days above 100 have increased by 4X since around 1970. It’s not a coincidence, it’s climate change!”



Fact-Check: Tampa does not represent the rest of Florida. The average number of days reaching 95°F (35°C) or higher in Florida has [not increased](#) since 1895, according to station data from NOAA’s [Global Historical Climatology Network daily](#) (GHCNd). Tampa’s temperature data has been contaminated with urban heat island effects, which have led to an artificial rise in the number of extremely hot days.



June 18th: Climate warming wiping out staple crops?

Claim: A [new study](#) published in *Nature* claims that the six critical staple crops—maize, soybeans, rice, wheat, cassava, and sorghum—will suffer “substantial” production losses due to rising temperatures and worsening weather.

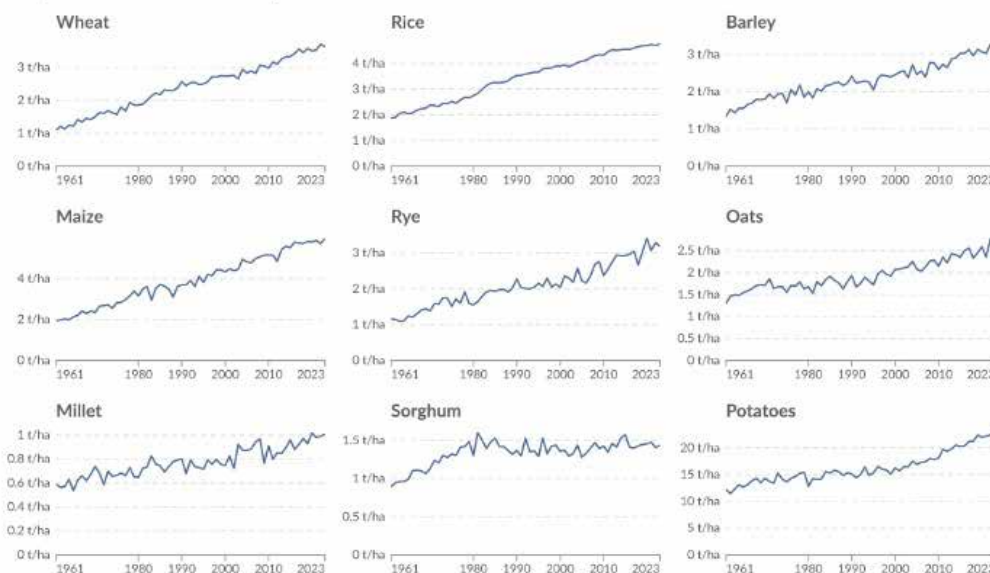
nature

Fact-Check: Despite the increase in global average temperature since the mid-19th century, staple crop yields have reached [all-time record highs](#) in recent years. Mankind’s ability to use technology to create more weather-resilient crop varieties should be able to offset any adverse impact, if any, from rising temperatures.

Yields of important staple crops, World, 1961 to 2023

All yields are measured in tonnes per hectare.

Our World in Data



Data source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (2025) and other sources.

OurWorldinData.org/crop-yields | CC BY

June 20th: Hottest day on record in the UK?

Claim: BBC News [posted on X](#) (formerly Twitter) that the “UK could break the hottest day record with 33C peak.” (91 degrees Fahrenheit)



BBC News (UK)
@BBCNews

UK could break hottest day record with 33C peak

Fact-Check: This headline is misleading, at best. In the article, they claim that the heat is only “record-breaking” for 2025, not “all-time” as implied by the headline. What’s more, an [archived version](#) of the same BBC article stated, “temperatures are still below the June peak of 35.6C in 1976.”

Despite the record-breaking heat so far this year, temperatures are still below the June peak of 35.6C in 1976.

June 23rd: More frequent and intense heat waves?

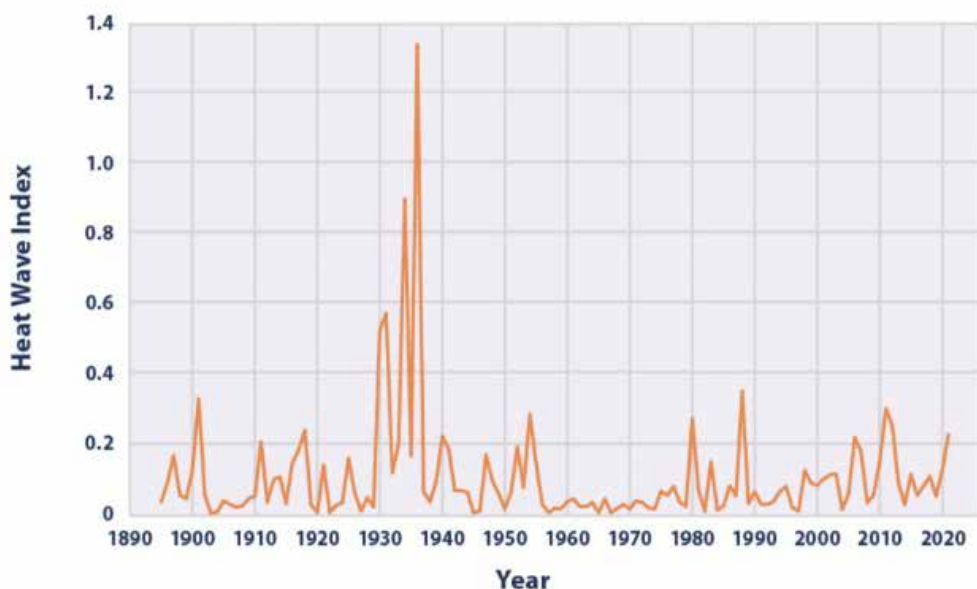
Claim: In their coverage of the recent heatwave in the central and eastern United States, [CNN](#) [claimed](#) that “the frequency and longevity of heat waves are on the rise in recent years due to human-caused climate change.”



Fact-Check: This is cherry-picking data. Data from the [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#) and [Fourth National Climate Assessment](#) show that heat waves were both more frequent and extreme in the United States prior to the 1960s, particularly during the 1930s and 1950s. By eliminating early 20th-century data, CNN can manufacture a desired upward trend.

[EPA's U.S. Heat Wave Index much worse heatwaves in the past](#)

Figure 3. U.S. Annual Heat Wave Index, 1895–2021



June 23rd: Heat domes are becoming more frequent?

Claim: *TIME* ran a [story](#) claiming that so-called “heat domes,” like the one that formed over the eastern United States in late June, are becoming more frequent because of global warming. They assert “greenhouse gases... contribute to the areas of high pressure that make up heat domes.” *TIME* also says that the jet stream is slowing down due to a rapidly warming Arctic, leading to “more lingering high pressure systems and high temperatures” in the mid-latitudes.



Fact-Check: Greenhouse gases do not cause high-pressure systems to form in the atmosphere. Peer-reviewed research finds [no evidence](#) that the jet stream has slowed down in recent decades, despite Arctic warming. Most climate models also project that atmospheric circulation patterns leading to heatwaves [will decrease](#) in the mid-latitudes in the coming decades due to a reduced north-south temperature gradient.

JUN 23, 2025 4:11 PM ET

Is Climate Change Making Heat Domes More Likely?

Until next month, enjoy these and other great climate fact checks at:

[ClimateRealism.com](#)

- [To the Mainstream Media: Quit Lying About Crop Yields, They Are Increasing, Not in Decline](#)
- [False, Politico, “Climate-Related Deaths” Are Declining, Not Climbing](#)
- [The Conversation’s Greenland Glacier Retreat Hype Isn’t Supported by History or Data](#)

[ClimateDepot.com](#)

- [Climate hoax ambulance chasing: NY Times links global warming to airliner crash in India – ‘Hot weather influences aircraft performance’](#)
- [Peak climate absurdity: ‘Climate Change Makes Protests Harder—Including Climate Change Protests’ – Climate protests ‘could become riskier as climate change accelerates’](#)
- [‘Anxiety, grief, anger, fear, helplessness’ – AP on How to Manage ‘Anxiety’ from ‘Emotional Toll’ of Climate Panic](#)
- [STUDY: ‘Climate Change May Increase Cancer Rates — And Mortality — For Women’ – Claims ‘a disturbing correlation between rising temps & cancer rates’](#)
- [New Study: ‘Climate change giving rise to sexual violence’ – ‘Climate change can have a negative impact on women’ –](#)
- [Urge ‘gender-sensitive climate change adaptation policies’ – Published in journal PLOS Global Public Health](#)

[Wattsupwiththat.com](#)

- [CFACT report: Feds fail to “offset” wind turbine eagle kills](#)
- [Gardi Sugdub’s ‘Climate Exodus’ Myth: Overcrowding, Not Rising Seas, Drives Relocation](#)
- [BBC Celebrates Sales of Heat Pumps Rising From Near Zero to Near Zero!](#)