

100 VIEWS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

<http://changingclimates.colostate.edu>



HUMAN HEALTH: START HERE

10 Places Climate Change Kills the Most People

Market Watch, Wall Street Journal, 2012

This annotated slide show offers a quick introduction to some of key results of the Climate Vulnerability Monitor's 2nd edition. (URL 1)

Human Health: National Climate Assessment, 2014

This is an excellent overview. The link above is for the user-friendly short version; when you download the whole report from this page, it opens to the relevant chapter, a readable 14 pages of text with many more pages of citations and other documentation. The CDC's "Climate Effects on Health" page draws its information from this chapter. The Environmental Protection Agency offers another good overview, "Climate Impacts on Human Health," focused on likely impacts from heat waves, extreme weather events, reduced air quality, and climate-sensitive diseases. And the NIH "Climate Change and Human Health" site includes good links, including one to its own "Human Health Perspective on Climate Change" report, a somewhat more technical document that focuses on research needs. (URLS 2-5)

Where the Wildfires Are:

If There's Smoke, There Are Costly Health Problems

Amy Westervelt, The Guardian, September 2014

This good story about the (often surprisingly distant) health effects of wildfire smoke includes links to many primary sources. (URL 6)

What is Climate Change Doing to Our Mental Health?

Joanne Silberner, Grist, July 2014

A good quick introduction focused on Australia but with global ramifications. (URL 7)

The Id and the Eco

Rosemary Randall, Aeon, December 2012

"Thinking about climate change makes people feel helpless and anxious—but that's why we must talk about it openly": so psychotherapist Randall explains in this terrific article. Rich in insights about how emotions interfere with our ability to deal well with climate change, and good ideas about what we might do to face and cope with these emotions. (URL 8)

The Green Boat: Reviving Ourselves in Our Capsized Culture

Mary Pipher, Riverhead Books, 2013, 219 pp.

This helpful, companionable book tells two stories linked by psychologist Pipher's own journey from despair and grief about climate change to what becomes life-enhancing, empowering, and hope-creating action. She describes how she and other Nebraskans

organized to fight the Keystone XL pipeline (designed to move crude oil from Canada's tar sands to the Gulf Coast, crossing the Nebraska Sandhills and Ogallala Aquifer). And she shares her considerable professional understanding of how to face and then move beyond despair. Here is a video of her 19-minute TEDx talk (URL 9).

Breaking the Climate Fear Taboo
Renee Lertzman, Sightline Daily, March 2014

This short, efficient blog post outlines four ways we think about climate change communication and psychology. We tend to neglect the one having to do with feelings, to our loss, and she offers ideas for how to pay it proper attention. (URL 10)

Beyond Storms and Droughts: The Psychological Impacts of Climate Change
ecoAmerica and the American Psychological Association, June 2014

This lucid, comprehensive, efficient survey of harms likely to ensue to our mental, physical, and community health from global warming cites a wealth of sources and recommends ways leaders can communicate risks and increase resilience. (URL 11)

The Psychological Effects of Global Warming on the United States
Lise Van Susteren and Kevin Coyle, 2012

This report surveys the mental health problems we're likely to see (in the US) as climate-change-linked severe weather events increase. With lessons from recent traumatic weather events like Hurricane Katrina and other events with comparable psychological effects, such as the 9/11 attacks and war trauma, and offering good source notes, it calls for better preparation, government support, and prompt action to prevent as much emotional suffering as we can. (URL 12)

Climate Change in the American Mind:
Americans' Global Warming Beliefs and Attitudes in November 2013
Yale Project on Climate Change Communication & George Mason University Center for Climate Change Communication

Among the many interesting findings reported here (see chapters 2 and 6) is some information about how different groups of Americans feel about climate change. Not surprisingly, these feelings vary among the groups distinguished by the excellent 6 Americas project, the alarmed, concerned, cautious, disengaged, and dismissive. A later report noted that "worry" is the feeling most often associated with taking action. (URL 13)

The URLs

- (1) <http://www.marketwatch.com/story/10-places-climate-change-kills-the-most-people-2012-12-18>
- (2) <http://nca2014.globalchange.gov/report/sectors/human-health>
- (3) <http://www.cdc.gov/climateandhealth/effects/default.htm>
- (4) <http://www3.epa.gov/climatechange/impacts/health.html>
- (5) <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/programs/geh/climatechange/>
- (6) <http://www.theguardian.com/vital-signs/2014/sep/15/wildfires-health-fires-asthma-smoke-smog-climate-change-air-quality>
- (7) <http://grist.org/climate-energy/what-is-climate-change-doing-to-our-mental-health/>
- (8) <http://www.aeonmagazine.com/being-human/rosemary-randall-climate-change-psychoanalysis/>
- (9) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iozXLbuPiX4>
- (10) <http://www.sightline.org/2014/03/12/breaking-the-climate-fear-taboo/>
- (11) <http://ecoaffect.org/2014/06/05/new-ecoamerica-what-is-climate-change-will-have-broad-psychological-effects/>
- (12) <http://www.climateaccess.org/resource/psychological-effects-global-warming-united-states-and-why-us-mental-health-care-system-not>
- (13) <http://environment.yale.edu/climate-communication-OFF/files/Climate-Beliefs-November-2013.pdf>

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