

Aug. 6, 2018

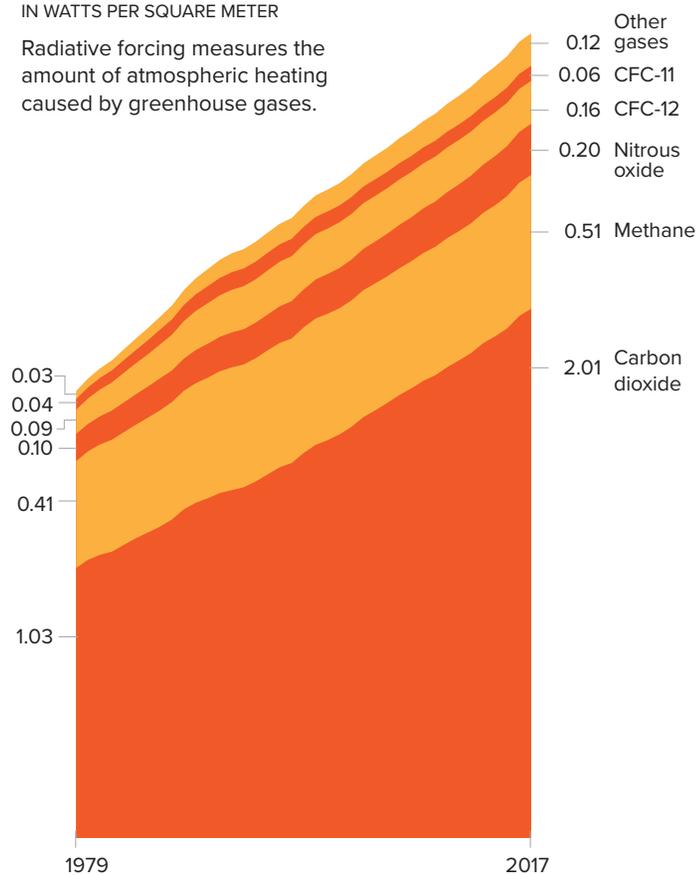
Global Warming, 2017

Greenhouse gases reached record levels in 2017, the warmest non-El Niño year on record. The Arctic experienced exceptionally high temperatures and sea ice extent at the end of the growth season “saw its lowest maximum in the 37-year satellite record,” according to The American Meteorological Society’s annual bulletin “State of the Climate, 2017.” The bulletin also notes the world’s glaciers lost mass for the 38th consecutive year, a coral bleaching event from June 2014 to May 2017 was “the longest, most widespread, and almost certainly most destructive such event on record,” and in the U.S., an extreme Western wildfire season burned 15,666 square miles, costing \$18 billion, tripling the previous U.S. annual wildfire cost record set in 1991.

Radiative forcing from greenhouse gases

IN WATTS PER SQUARE METER

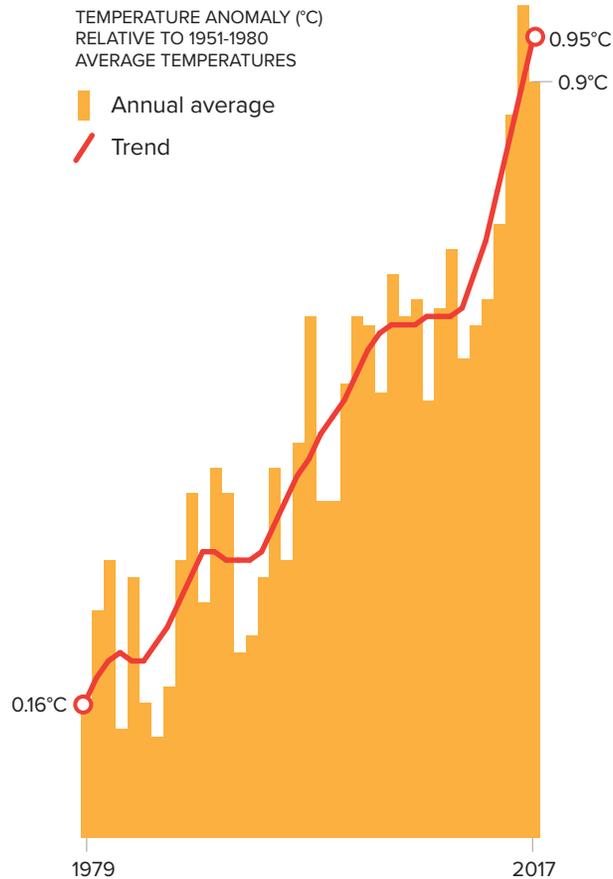
Radiative forcing measures the amount of atmospheric heating caused by greenhouse gases.



Global land-ocean temperature index

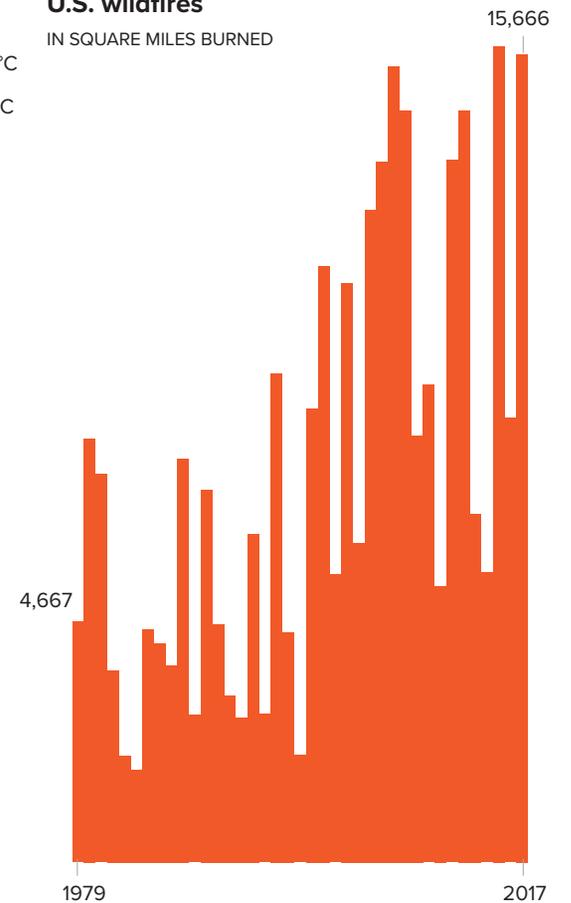
TEMPERATURE ANOMALY (°C)
 RELATIVE TO 1951-1980
 AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

Annual average
 Trend



U.S. wildfires

IN SQUARE MILES BURNED



Sources: AMS, NOAA, NASA/GISS, National Interagency Fire Center

By Patterson Clark, POLITICO Pro DataPoint

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