BROOKINGS | QUALITY. INDEPENDENCE. IMPACT.

Implications of the IPCC Assessments

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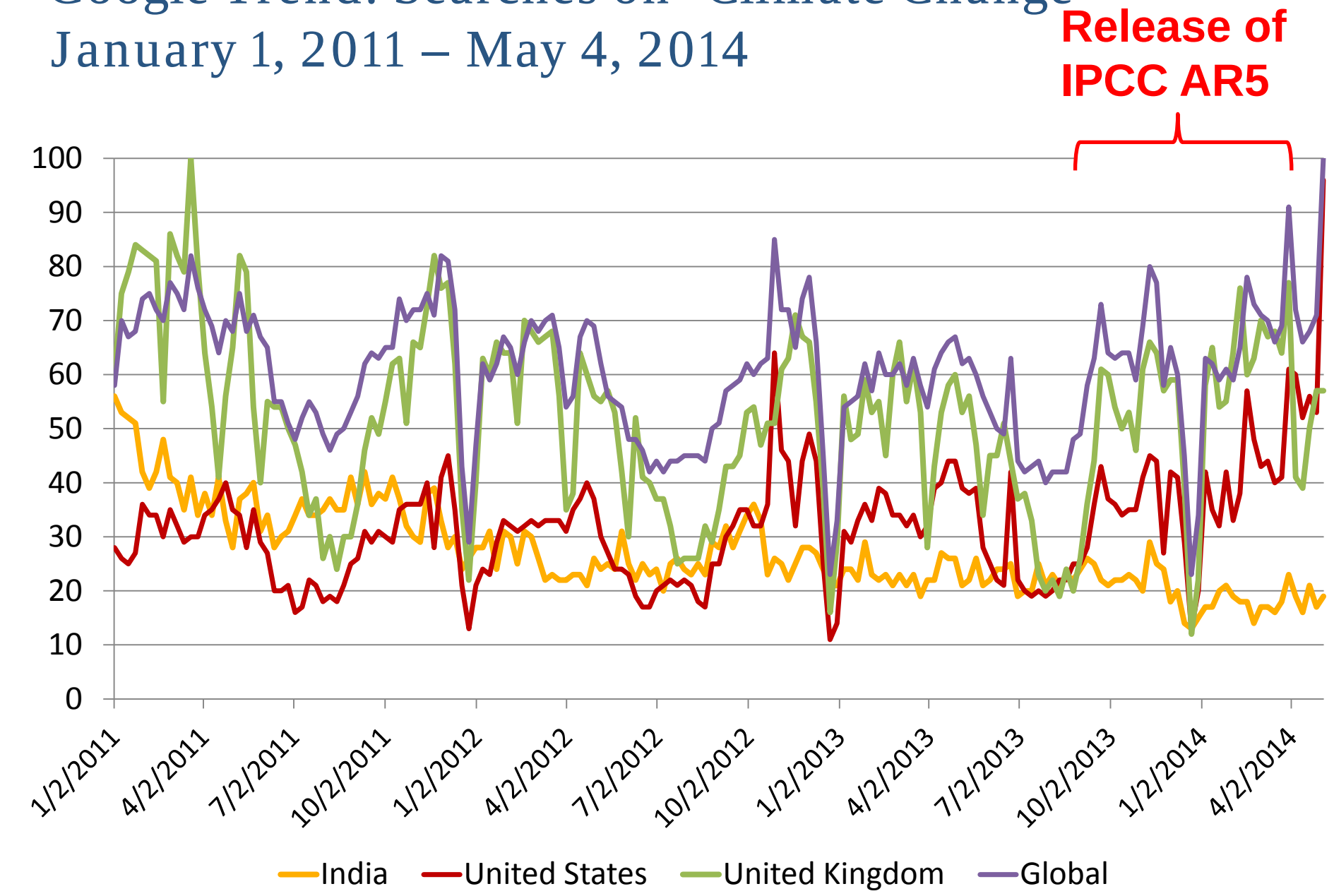
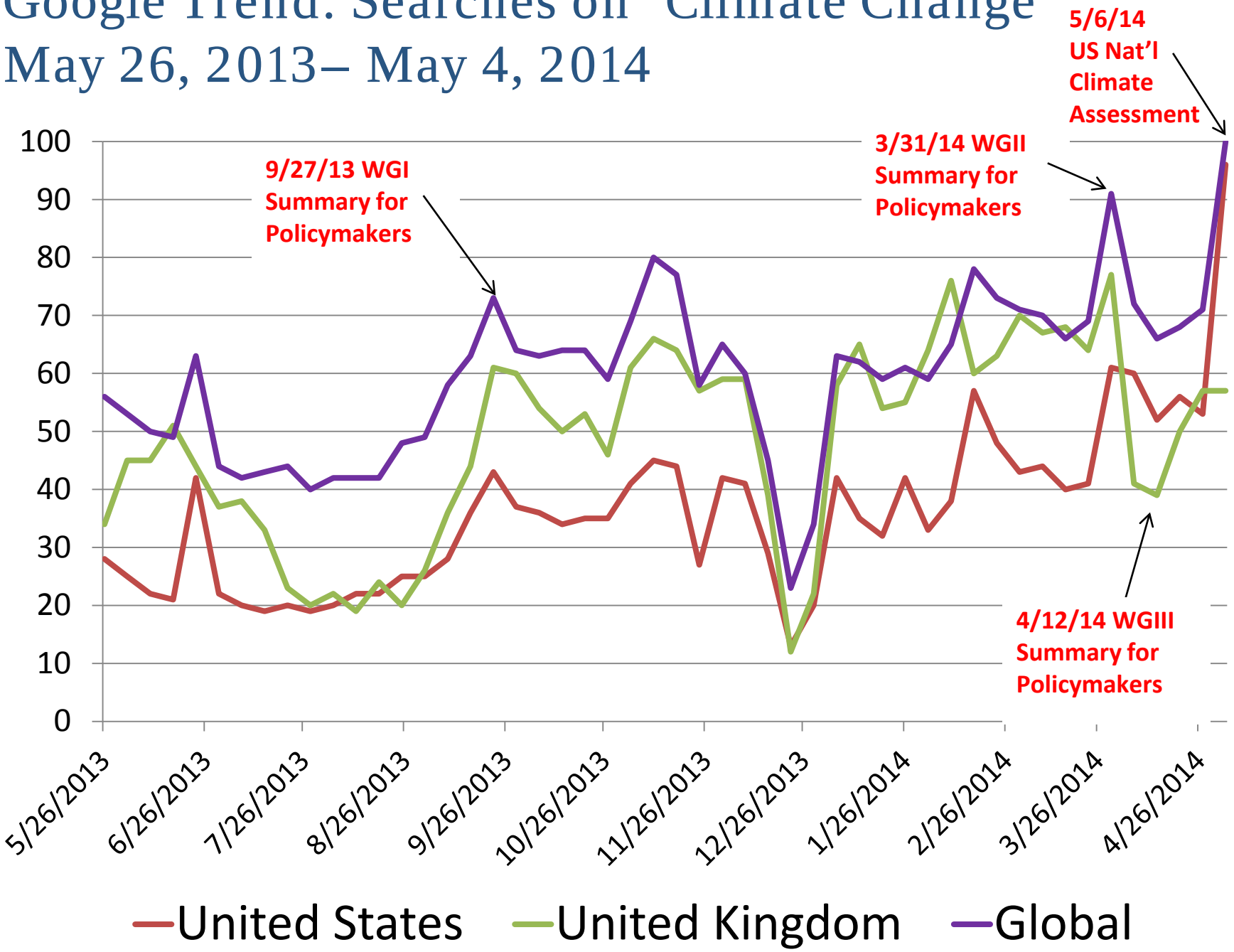
What the IPCC is:

- Established by the UN Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization in 1988
- Leading international body for the assessment of climate change
- "[T]o provide the world with a clear scientific view on the current state of knowledge in climate change and its potential environmental and socio-economic impacts."
- Provides policy-relevant but not policy-prescriptive information

Google Trend: Searches on "Climate Change"
January 1, 2011 – May 4, 2014

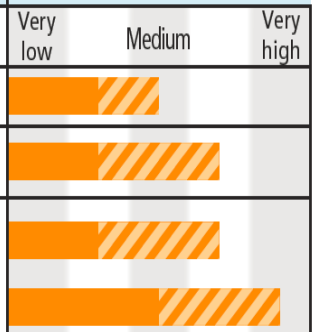
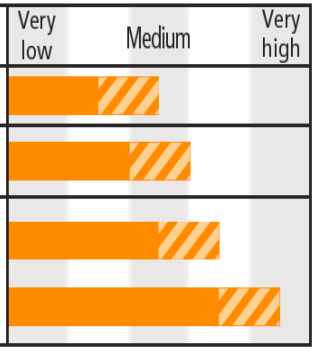


Google Trend: Searches on "Climate Change" May 26, 2013– May 4, 2014

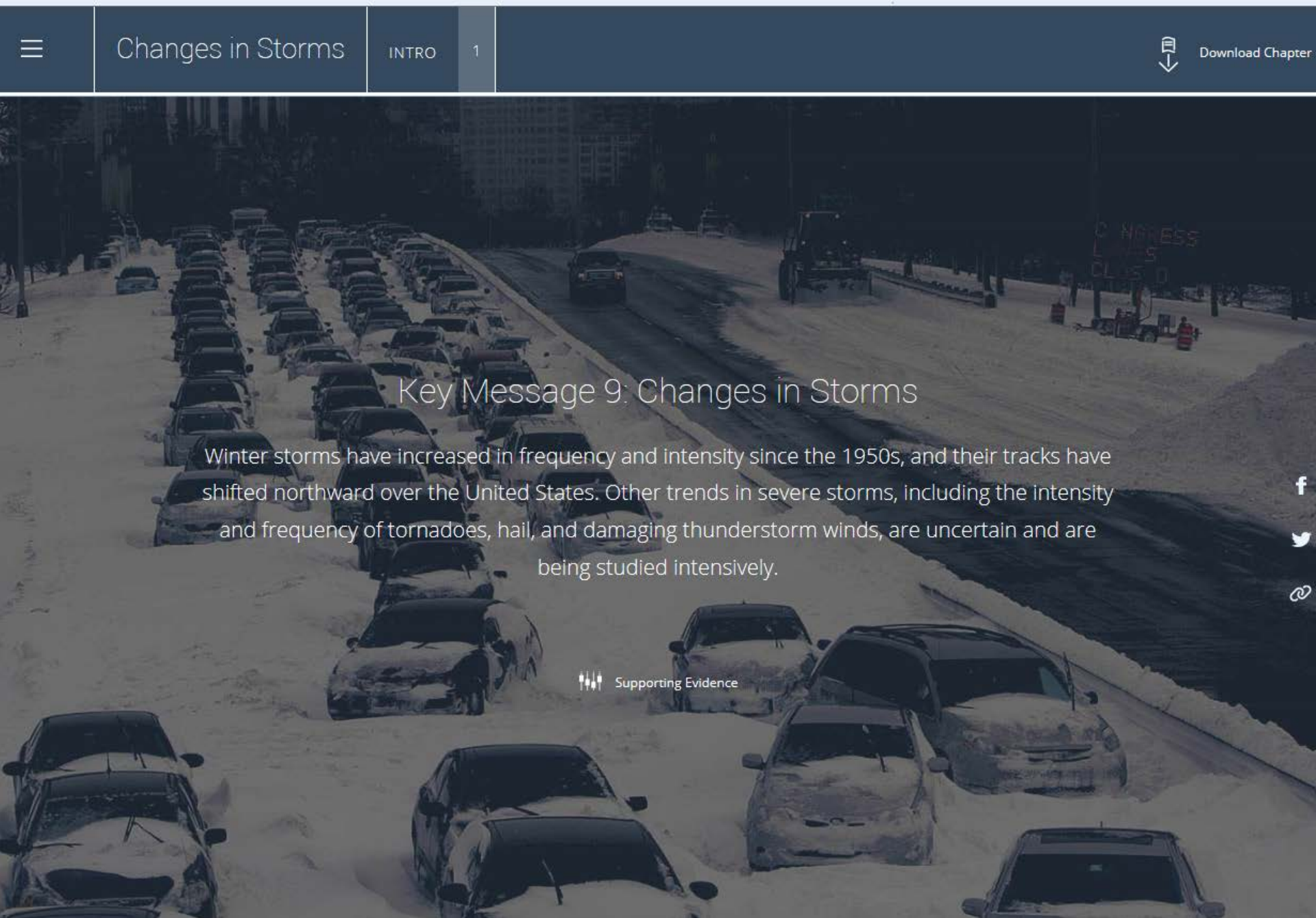


Illustrative Graphic from WGII Summary for Policymakers

North America (continued)

Key risk	Adaptation issues & prospects	Climatic drivers	Timeframe	Risk & potential for adaptation
Heat-related human mortality (*high confidence*) [26.6, 26.8]	• Residential air conditioning (A/C) can effectively reduce risk. However, availability and usage of A/C is highly variable and is subject to complete loss during power failures. Vulnerable populations include athletes and outdoor workers for whom A/C is not available. • Community- and household-scale adaptations have the potential to reduce exposure to heat extremes via family support, early heat warning systems, cooling centers, greening, and high-albedo surfaces.		Present Near-term (2030-2040) Long-term (2080-2100) 2°C 4°C	
Urban floods in riverine and coastal areas, inducing property and infrastructure damage; supply chain, ecosystem, and social system disruption; public health impacts; and water quality impairment due to sea-level rise, extreme precipitation, and cyclones (*high confidence*) [26.2-4, 26.8]	• Implementing management of urban drainage is expensive and disruptive to urban areas. • Low-regret strategies with co-benefits include less impervious surfaces leading to more groundwater recharge, green infrastructure, and rooftop gardens. • Sea-level rise increases water elevations in coastal outfalls, which impedes drainage. In many cases, older rainfall design standards are being used that need to be updated to reflect current climate conditions. • Conservation of wetlands, including mangroves, and land-use planning strategies can reduce the intensity of flood events.		Present Near-term (2030-2040) Long-term (2080-2100) 2°C 4°C	

Illustrative Graphic from US National Assessment



The New York Times | http://nyti.ms/1qc4F1k

The G.O.P. Can't Ignore Climate Change

By JON M. HUNTSMAN Jr. MAY 6, 2014

WASHINGTON — "TO waste, to destroy our natural resources, to skin and exhaust the land instead of using it so as to increase its usefulness, will result in undermining in the days of our children the very prosperity which we ought by right to hand down to them amplified and developed."

These words were spoken by one of the nation's most passionate conservationists: Republican President Teddy Roosevelt. I admire him for his pragmatism and individualism — foundational traits of the Republican Party. We must summon these qualities and apply them immediately and stoutly to the issue of climate change.

Next up? Climate Policy Economics Deniers

CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER, SYNDICATED COLUMNIST*:

"If we could have a pact with other countries in which everybody would reduce their emissions, I would sign on. In the absence of it, all that we're doing is committing *economic suicide* in the name of do-goodism that will not do an iota of good."

*http://www.foxnews.com/on-air/special-report-bret-baier/2014/05/07/all-star-panel-criticism-obamas-global-warming-agenda

Table from WGIII Summary for Policymakers

	Consumption losses in cost-effective implementation scenarios				Increase in total discounted mitigation costs in scenarios with limited availability of technologies				Incr mit addit
	[% reduction in consumption relative to baseline]			[percentage point reduction in annualized consumption growth rate]	[% increase in total discounted mitigation costs (2015–2100) relative to default technology assumptions]				[% incre t
2100 Concentration (ppm CO_2eq)	2030	2050	2100	2010-2100	No CCS	Nuclear phase out	Limited Solar / Wind	Limited Bio-energy	≤55 G 2030–2050
450 (430–480)	1.7 (1.0–3.7) [N: 14]	3.4 (2.1–6.2)	4.8 (2.9–11.4)	0.06 (0.04–0.14)	138 (29–297) [N: 4]	7 (4–18) [N: 8]	6 (2–29) [N: 8]	64 (44–78) [N: 8]	28 (14–50) [N: 34]
500 (480–530)	1.7 (0.6–2.1) [N: 32]	2.7 (1.5–4.2)	4.7 (2.4–10.6)	0.06 (0.03–0.13)					
550 (530–580)	0.6 (0.2–1.3) [N: 46]	1.7 (1.2–3.3)	3.8 (1.2–7.3)	0.04 (0.01–0.09)	39 (18–78) [N: 11]	13 (2–23) [N: 10]	8 (5–15) [N: 10]	18 (4–66) [N: 12]	3 (-5–16) [N: 14]
580–650	0.3 (0–0.9) [N: 16]	1.3 (0.5–2.0)	2.3 (1.2–4.4)	0.03 (0.01–0.05)					