



# The Impacts of Climate Change and the Trump Administration's Anti-Environmental Agenda in Arizona

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Just in the past three years, the Trump administration has attempted to roll back at least 95 environmental rules and regulations to the detriment of the environment and Americans' public health. Moreover, the administration refuses to act to mitigate the effects of climate change—instead loosening requirements for polluters emitting the greenhouse gases that fuel the climate crisis. This dangerous agenda is affecting the lives of Americans across all 50 states.

To read the personal stories of Americans impacted by climate change and the effects of the Trump administration's anti-environmental policies in your state, visit [OurEnvironment.org](https://OurEnvironment.org).



For citations, please see the web version of this fact sheet.

Between 2017 and 2019, Arizona experienced one drought and one wildfire. The damages of each event led to losses of at least \$1 billion.

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## Impacts of climate change

### Extreme weather

- The severity of summer droughts in Arizona is expected to more than triple by 2050, giving it the second-largest projected increase in the United States.
- Arizona currently experiences 80 days of high wildfire potential. By 2050, that number is expected to increase to 115 days—the second-highest number in the country. Nearly 2.9 million Arizona residents, or 45 percent of the state's population, currently face an elevated risk of wildfire.

### Temperature

- Arizona currently experiences 50 days of dangerous heat per year, the second-highest in the nation. However, the state is projected to see 80 such days per year by 2050. This endangers the lives of the nearly 200,000 Arizona residents who are especially vulnerable to extreme heat.
- Arizona is the fourth fastest-warming state in the United States, according to data on warming rates since 1970.

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## Impacts of the Trump administration's anti-environmental policies

### Climate

- In March 2020, the Trump administration announced its [final rule](#) to overturn Obama-era fuel efficiency standards for cars. These weakened fuel standards will lead to [higher greenhouse gas](#) and particulate matter emissions and will cost Arizona residents more than [\\$400 million](#) annually.
- The Trump administration is [attempting](#) to gut climate considerations from major infrastructure projects by [eliminating](#) the “cumulative impact” requirement of the National Environmental Policy Act. This is concerning because Arizona’s economy relies heavily on its tourism, agriculture, and outdoor recreation industries—all of which are highly dependent on climate and weather conditions.
  - **Tourism:** Arizona’s tourism sector employs nearly [200,000](#) people and generated more than [\\$24 billion](#) in spending within the state in 2018.
  - **Agriculture:** The agricultural industry in Arizona employs more than [130,000](#) people and is valued at more than [\\$23 billion](#).
  - **Outdoor recreation:** The outdoor recreation industry in Arizona generates [201,000 direct jobs](#) and more than [\\$21 billion](#) in consumer spending for the state.

### Air quality

- Mercury emissions in Arizona decreased by more than [87 percent](#) from 2011 to 2017, yet the Trump administration [just undermined limits](#) on the amount of mercury and other toxic emissions that are allowed from power plants.