

### Vermont Climate Change

Vermont is getting warmer and wetter each year. How long will it be until the Green Mountain State isn't the East Coast's ski destination of choice? Climate Change is already visible in Vermont and we need to act now to help slow down this problem for future generations. An analysis of the average temperature in Vermont over the last decade reveals that warming temperatures pose a serious problem for the future of the state as we know it today.

Winter each year is getting shorter and shorter. The Vermont Department of Health notes that spring is arriving two weeks earlier and winter is starting one week later, compared to the average winter in 1960. According to the Gund Institute for Environment at the University of Vermont, Vermont's temperature has been rising by 2°F each year. Scientists believe that there will be more rain and less snow in the coming winters. Rising temperatures will affect Vermont's winter activities, such as downhill skiing and snowboarding, outdoor skating rinks, and cross-country skiing.

The Vermont Department of Health says that Lake Champlain is getting warmer each year with temperatures having risen from 2°F to 7°F over the last 50 years. As well, the lake in the last 10 years has been completely frozen less times than any decade before. This trend of warming waters will change the biodiversity of Vermont's lakes and rivers. The University of Vermont also says that more rain will increase the risk of flooding. Vermont's lakes are a huge part of the environment in Vermont and if we don't act to protect Vermont's lakes and rivers, our communities and biodiversity may not be what they are today.

Climate change is more destructive for some than others. For example, it is estimated that

70 bird species will disappear in Vermont due to climate change in the next 25 years, moose numbers will also decrease, but white tailed deer numbers will increase. The other major industry affected is maple sugaring. According to Derek Brouwer of Seven Days, there will be fewer nights that freeze and earlier warming, affecting one of Vermont's most important and delicious products. What will we do without maple syrup?!

Each year, Vermont is getting warmer and warmer because of climate change and this will change Vermont's tourism industry and its natural environment. Many of our beloved products and animals will be negatively affected. We need to help this issue by learning more about climate change and how we can help slow down this major issue. Climate Change is not just a local issue, it's a global issue and if we don't act now, it may completely change Vermont into a whole new state.

### Bibliography

[Climate Change | Vermont Department of Health](#)

[Vermont is Getting Warmer and Wetter: Climate Change Study](#)

[Vermont Climate Study Says Sweeping Change Is Happening](#)

[Vermont - State Climate Summaries 2022](#)

[Researchers: Climate change could cost Vermont billions over next ...](#)