



## Is there Consensus Among Leading Scientist that Climate Change is Occuring?

There is actually a consensus in the scientific community not only that the earth is getting warmer, but that this trend is anthropogenically driven, and that if greenhouse gas emissions continue, so will the warming. There are, of course, a few skeptics in the scientific community, but the overwhelming majority agree with this core set of principles. This can be seen in the consensus position published by the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change):

[http://www.grida.no/climate/ipcc\\_tar/wg1/](http://www.grida.no/climate/ipcc_tar/wg1/). It can also be seen in the statements about global climate change published by dozens of scientific organizations around the globe, which together represent tens of thousands of scientists. Furthermore, a study on just this question was conducted in 2004. The author looked at nearly 1000 papers pertaining to global climate change and not a single one opposed the consensus position (Oreskes, N. Beyond the Ivory Tower: The scientific consensus on climate change. Science 306:1686). The confusion regarding scientific consensus stems largely from popular media, which frequently reports that dissension exists when, in fact, it does not.