

# CLIMATE CHANGE

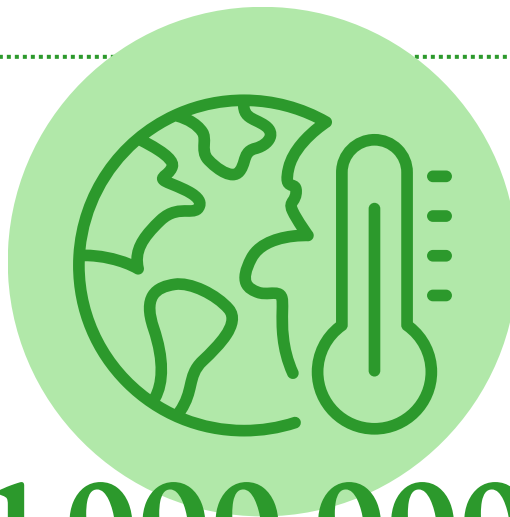
FACT SHEET

**Over 7.6 million** people worldwide protested for government action on climate change in September 2019.<sup>1</sup>

**96% of young people** in Ireland are concerned about climate change.<sup>2</sup>



Global sea levels have risen **20 cm in the last century**, and could rise up to about **2 m by 2100**.<sup>3</sup>



**Over 70,000 Irish homes and businesses** are at risk of coastal flooding by 2050. Dublin, Louth, Limerick, Clare and Galway are most vulnerable.<sup>4</sup>

**1,000,000** species of plants and animals

are at risk of extinction because of human activity such as deforestation, desertification, pollution, and the introduction of invasive alien species.<sup>5</sup>



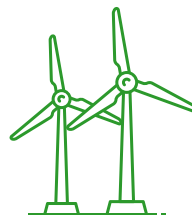
**There were 7.7 million** people living in **internal displacement** globally as a result of disasters at the end of 2023.<sup>6</sup>

**The majority of the Irish population supports climate action,**

with 56% believing it will boost economic growth, and 74% seeing it as improving quality of life.<sup>7</sup>



**G20 countries account for around 77% of global greenhouse gas emissions.**<sup>8</sup> Europe and the US have contributed roughly 40% of all emissions since 1850.<sup>9</sup>



In 1990, the UK generated 60% of its electricity from coal. **In 2024, the last coal power plant in the UK closed down.** Wind now produces more energy than coal and gas together.<sup>11</sup>

**12% of all global emissions are caused** by the burning and clearing of forests for agriculture.<sup>10</sup>



Indigenous people make up just 6% of the global population, but **they manage and protect 50% of global biodiversity.**<sup>12</sup>



This resource was produced with the support of Irish Aid's Worldwide Global Schools. The ideas and claims to accuracy contained herein are entirely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect Irish Aid or WWGS policy.



<sup>1</sup> [350.org \(2019\)](#) | <sup>2</sup> [ECO-UNESCO \(2023\)](#) | <sup>3</sup> [Lindsey, R. \(2023\)](#) | <sup>4</sup> [Irish Times \(2020\)](#) | <sup>5</sup> [IPBES \(2019\)](#) | <sup>6</sup> [iDMC \(2024\)](#) | <sup>7</sup> [Environmental Protection Agency \(2024\)](#) | <sup>8</sup> [UN Environment Programme \(2024\)](#) | <sup>9</sup> [Our World in Data \(2024\)](#) | <sup>10</sup> [Brack, D. \(2019\)](#) | <sup>11</sup> [MIT Technology Review \(2024\)](#) | <sup>12</sup> [World Resources Institute \(2024\)](#)