

Global warming may have improved U.S. weather, but for how long?

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Global warming has mostly made the weather more pleasant for Americans over the past 40 years, which may explain why much of the public doesn't consider climate change as big a threat as do scientists and the rest of the world, a new study suggests.

But that perceived benefit of global warming — mostly milder winters — will soon be outweighed by more-oppressive summer heat, according to a study in the journal *Nature* that's dividing the scientific community.

"Americans are getting the wrong signal from year-round weather about whether they should be concerned about climate change," said the study's lead author, Patrick Egan, a public policy professor at New York University. "They're getting the good parts and haven't had to pay the price of the bad part."

At least, not yet.

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