

Keeling Curve

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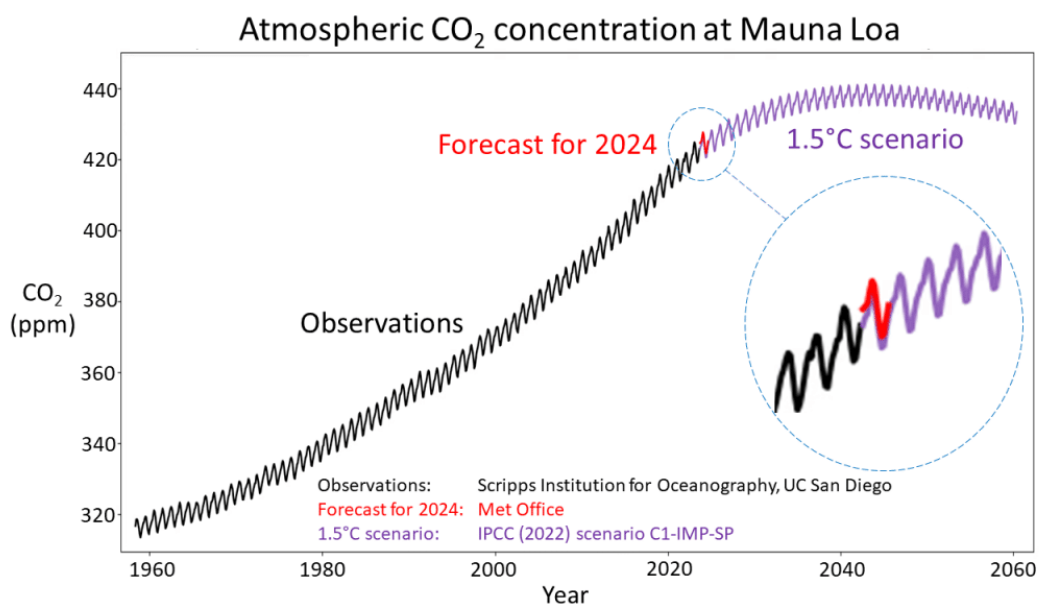
Keeling Curve

March 2024 saw a significant jump in the **Keeling Curve** with a global average carbon dioxide (CO₂) concentration of 4.7 parts per million (ppm), greater than March 2023.



[Ref: washingtonpost]

About Keeling Curve:



[Ref: Earth]

- The Keeling Curve is a graph that shows the concentration of **carbon dioxide (CO₂)** in Earth's atmosphere since **1958**, created by **Dr. Charles David Keeling**.
- Measurements are taken at the **Mauna Loa Observatory** in Hawaii.

Key Findings

- The Keeling Curve reveals both **seasonal and long-term increases** in atmospheric CO₂.
- Seasonal variations show **higher CO₂ levels** in spring and lower in autumn due to plant **photosynthesis and respiration cycles**.
- Long-term data indicates a consistent rise in **CO₂ levels**, attributed to fossil fuel combustion.

Significance

- It provides the longest uninterrupted record of atmospheric CO₂ levels, crucial for understanding climate change.
- The data shows a **clear upward trend**, illustrating the impact of human activities on global CO₂ levels.
- The curve is instrumental in **climate science**, offering evidence for the greenhouse effect and informing climate models.