

Anthropogenic

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The power station in Herne, Germany, behind a snow-covered town. Burning coal, oil and gas is the largest man-made source of CO₂.

Arnoldius. [CC BY-SA 3.0](#). [Wikimedia Commons](#).

Made by humans or caused by human activity.

Anthropogenic effects often arise as by-products of human production. Waste and pollution are anthropogenic effects that are damaging to the environment.

The part of [climate change](#) that is caused by humans and human activities is referred to as anthropogenic climate change.

In the context of climate change anthropogenic, effects are usually referring to [CO₂](#) or other man-made greenhouse gas emissions that result in increasing temperatures.

Not all anthropogenic emissions result in global warming.

Sulfate [aerosols](#) can exert a cooling effect by increasing the reflection of incoming sunlight. This partially accounts for the cooling seen in the temperature record in the middle of the twentieth century.

The [IPCC](#) has concluded that most of the increase in temperature since the mid-twentieth century is "very likely" due to the increase in anthropogenic greenhouse gas concentrations.

How to cite this entry

Lennart Kiil: "Anthropogenic". Climate Encyclopedia, climate-encyclopedia.com/anthropogenic, retrieved 25 October 2026.

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