



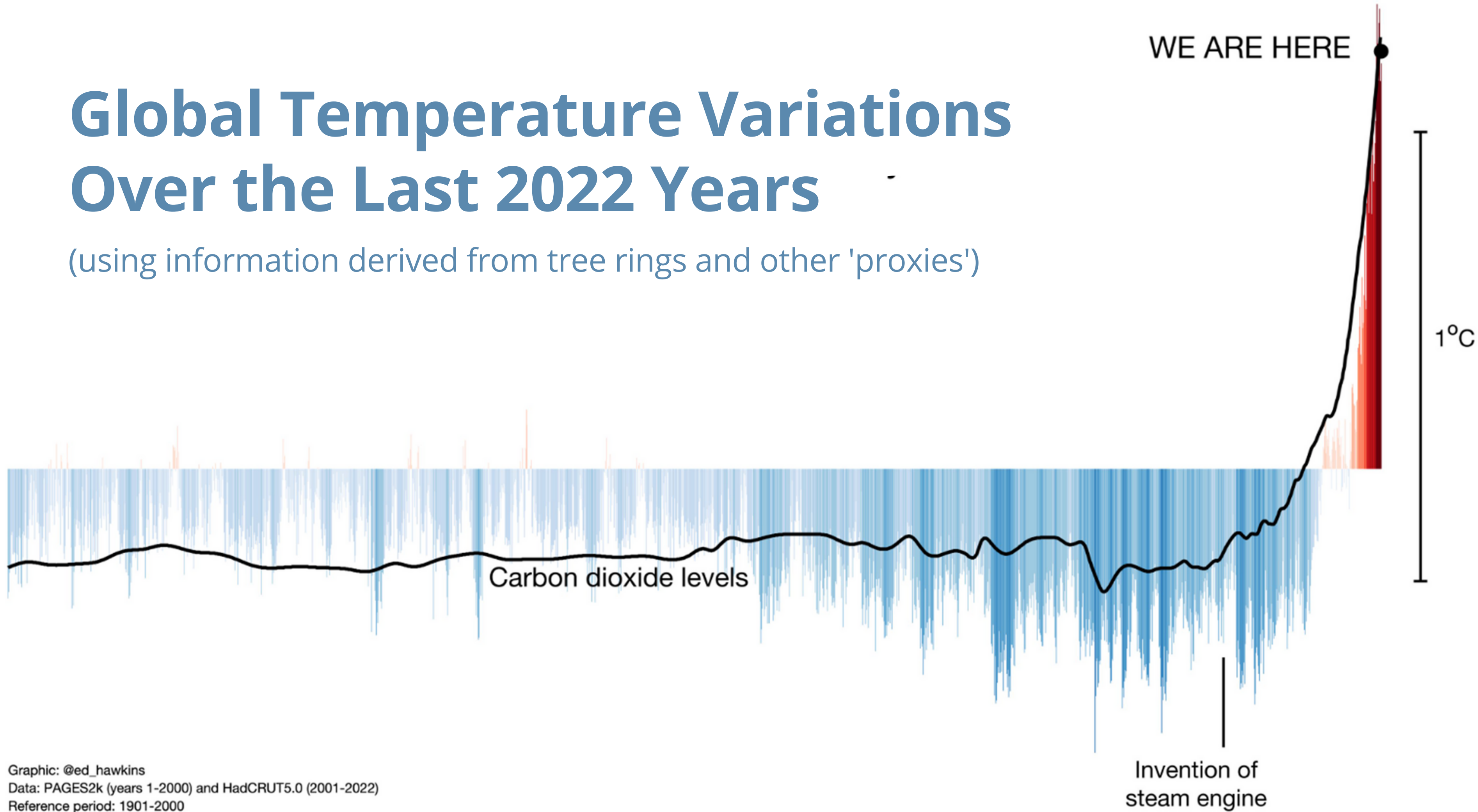
Erie County 
 **CLIMATE ACTION**

**ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING**

Tracy Skalski
Sustainability Coordinator

Global Temperature Variations Over the Last 2022 Years

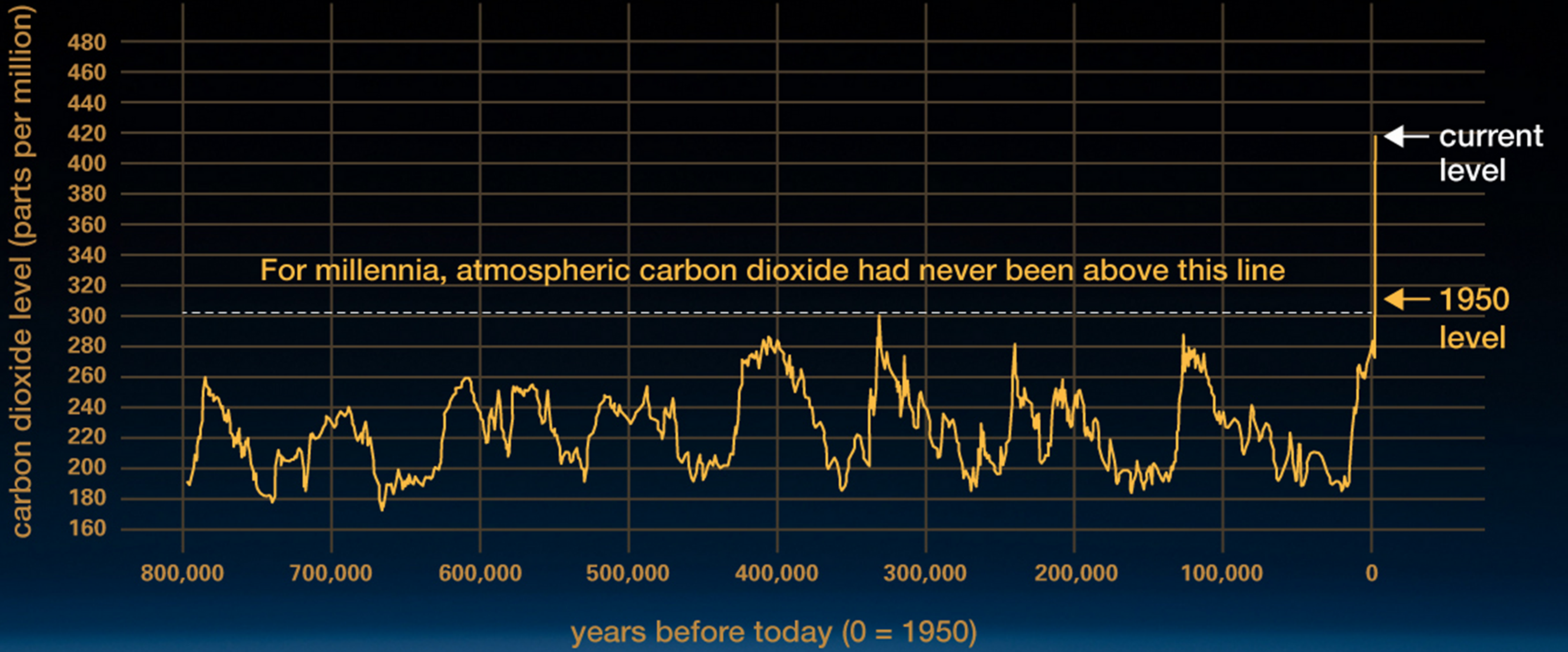
(using information derived from tree rings and other 'proxies')



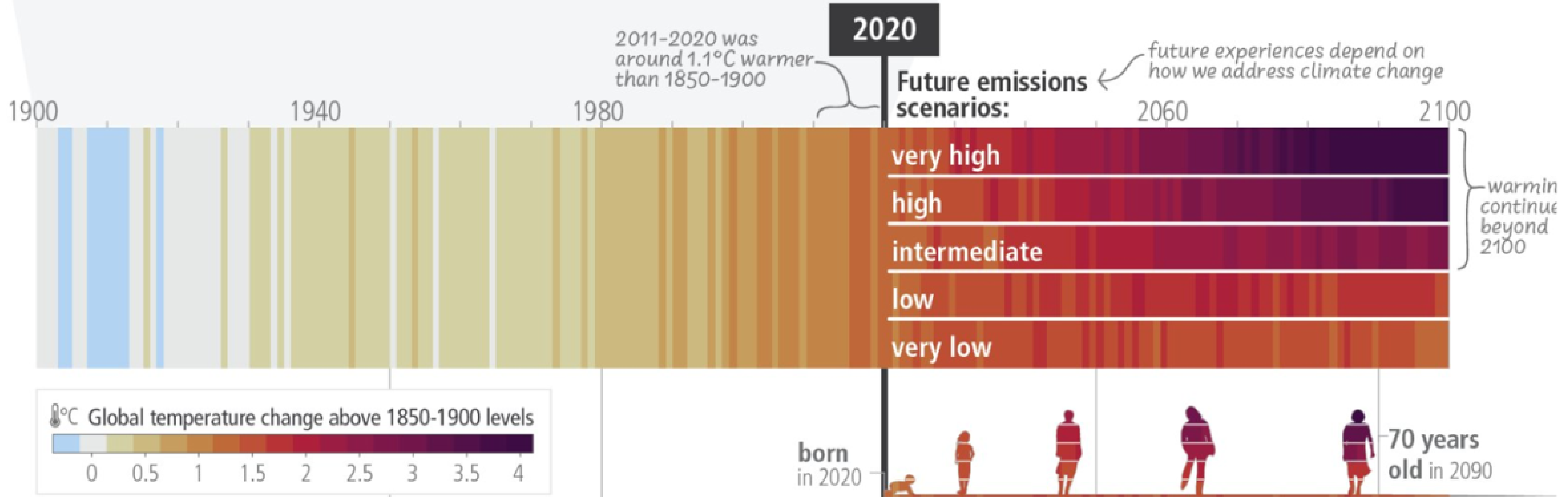
Graphic: @ed_hawkins

Data: PAGES2k (years 1-2000) and HadCRUT5.0 (2001-2022)

Reference period: 1901-2000

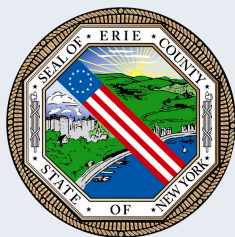
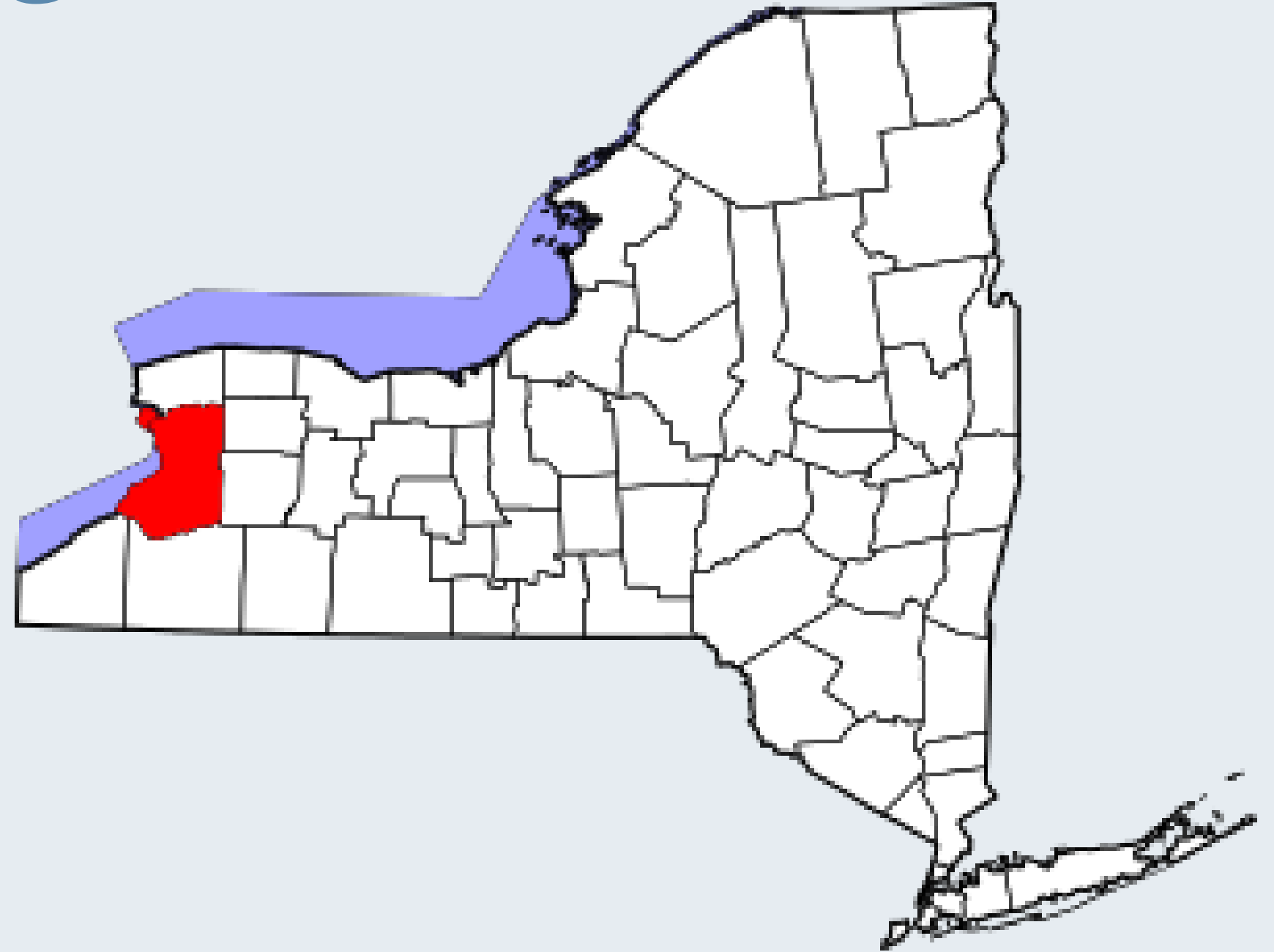


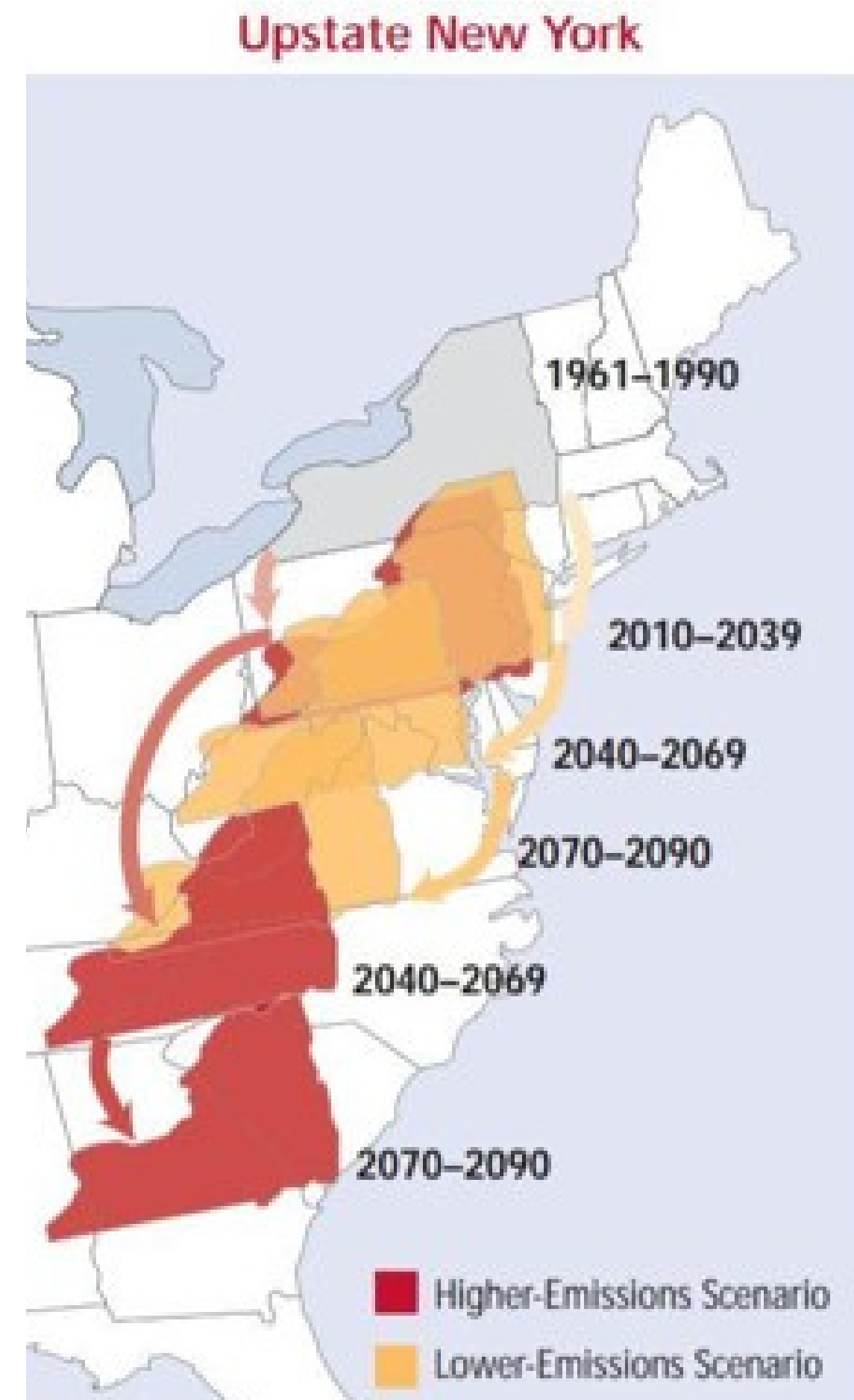
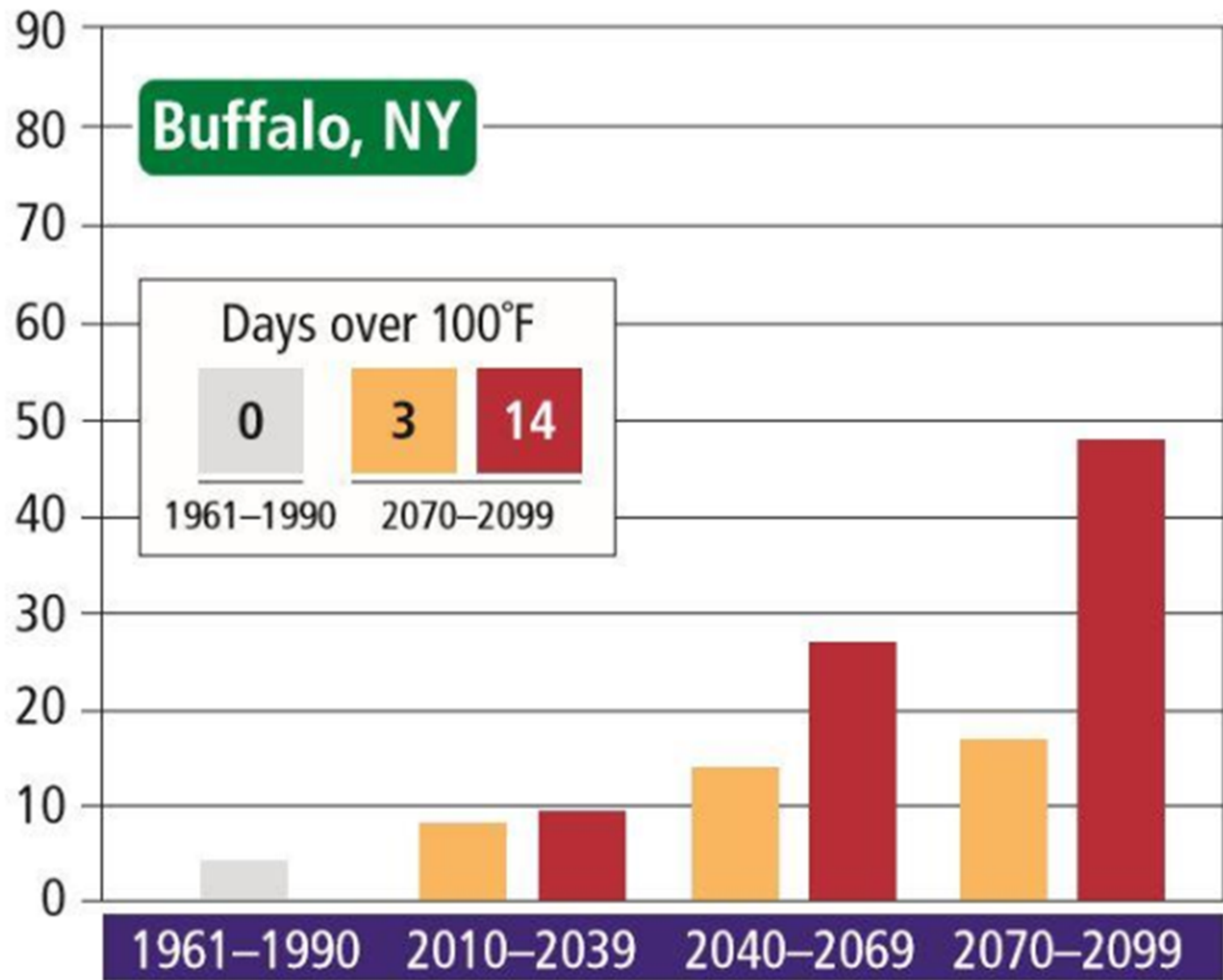
c) The extent to which current and future generations will experience a hotter and different world depends on choices now and in the near-term



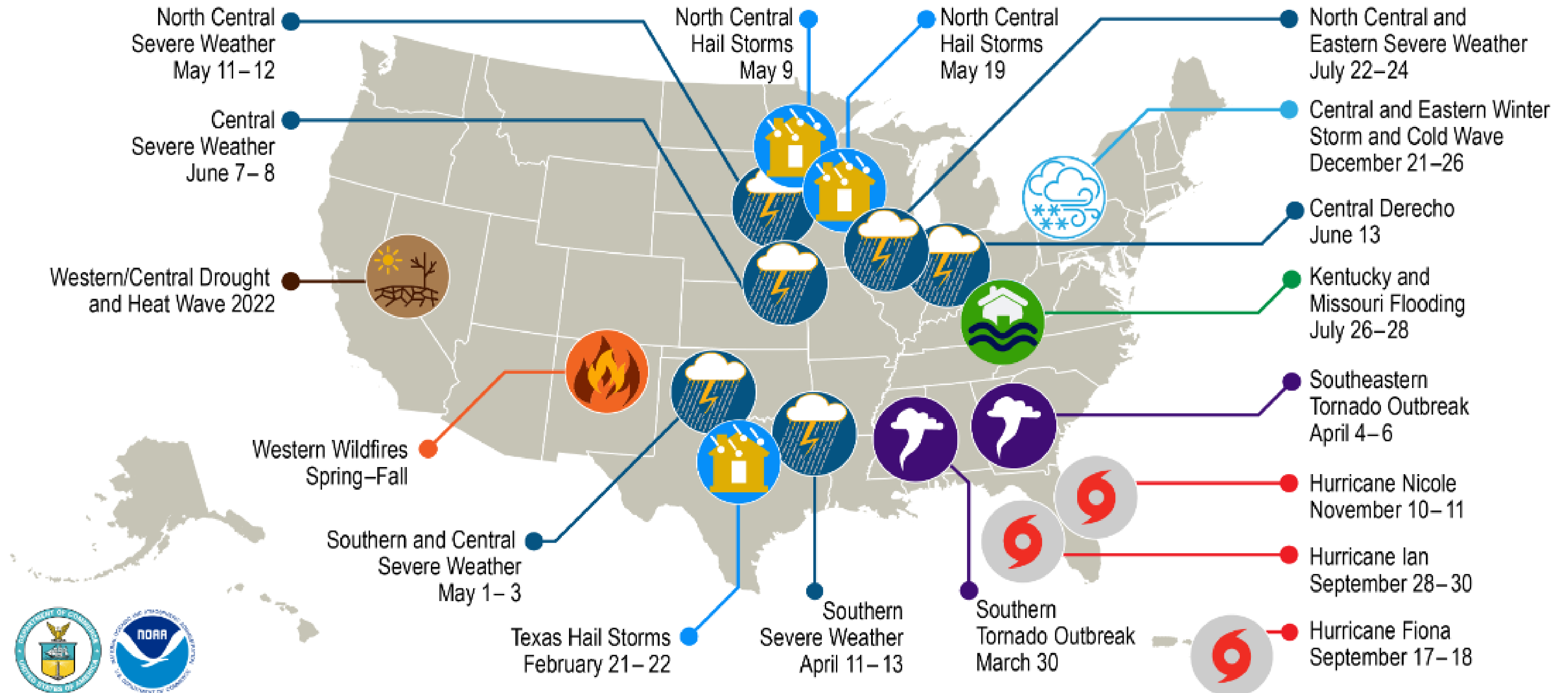
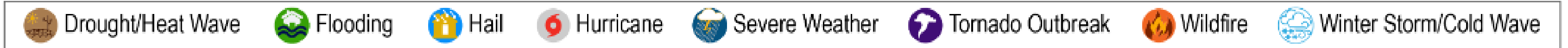
What are we expecting in Erie County?

- Extreme Precipitation Events & Flooding
- Increased Heat
- High Winds
- Invasive Species & Vector Borne Diseases





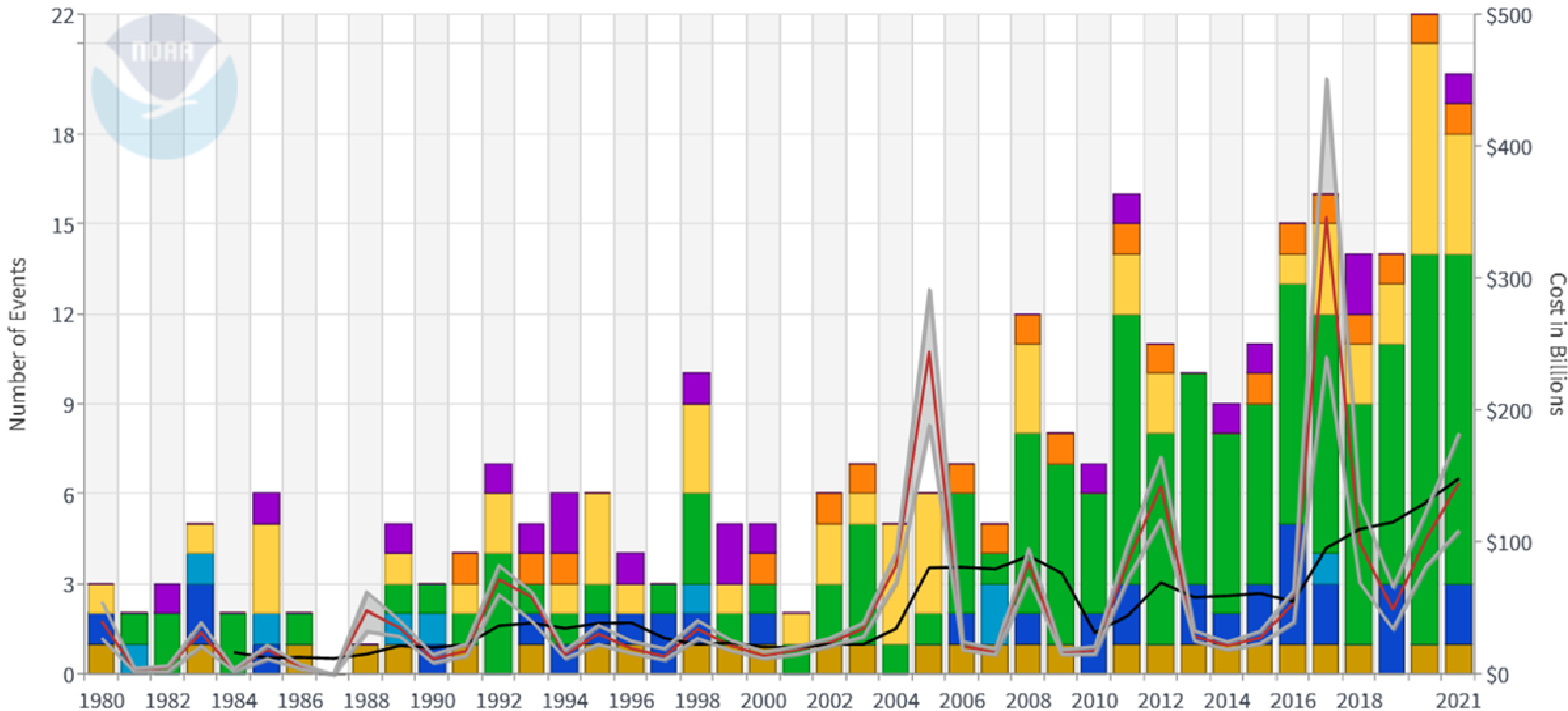
U.S. 2022 Billion-Dollar Weather and Climate Disasters



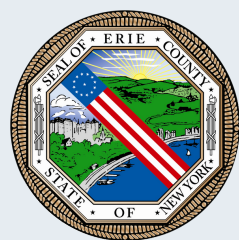
This map denotes the approximate location for each of the 18 separate billion-dollar weather and climate disasters that impacted the United States in 2022.

United States Billion-Dollar Disaster Events 1980-2021 (CPI-Adjusted)

- Drought Count
- Flooding Count
- Freeze Count
- Severe Storm Count
- Tropical Cyclone Count
- Wildfire Count
- Winter Storm Count
- Combined Disaster Cost
- Costs 95% CI
- 5-Year Avg Costs



Health Risks & Climate Change



How is Erie County addressing Climate Change?



Internal
Operations

Community
Wide

Municipal Infrastructure



More than **220 County buildings** managed by the Division of Buildings and Grounds in the Department of Public Works (DPW). Portfolio includes 20 large buildings that have more than 3.5 million square feet.



1,100 miles of sewers

- 6 water resource recovery facilities (WRRFs)
- 5 excess flow management facilities
- Over 90 pumping stations



Approximately **5,500 (4,400 full time) employees**

- Commute approximately 2 million miles per year.



290 bridges greater than 20 feet

- The largest inventory of any county-owned infrastructure in New York State.



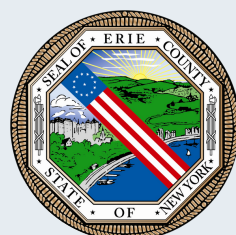
1,195 County-owned vehicles managed by the Fleet Division of DPW

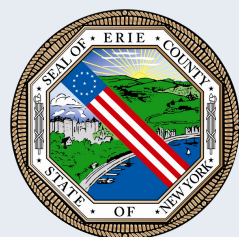


1,187 miles of County roads (2,400 lane miles)



More than **300,000 residents** are served by the Social Services programs administered by the County including Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (**SNAP**) and Home Energy Assistance Program (**HEAP**).





 Erie County 
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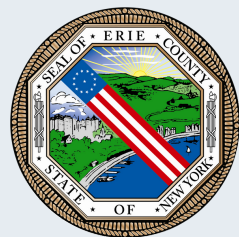
Target GHG Emission Reduction Goals

Short-term (2020) - **32%**

Mid-term (2025) - **50%**

Long-term (2040) - **80%**

www.Erie.gov/CASP



January 2019

CASP Implementation



County LED lighting projects have reduced energy and maintenance costs.



The ECC STEM Building - sustainable design principles - LEED Silver.



Electrifying the fleet.



Construction of a 2 MW solar array at the Erie County Correctional Facility in Alden.



Composting at the Erie County Correctional Facility in Alden.

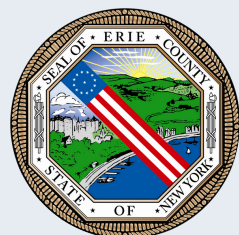


Erie County 
 **CLIMATE ACTION**



Erie County's Equity-Centered
**Community
Climate
Action
Plan**

Community Climate Action Plan Timeline



Community Climate Action Plan

CHAPTER WORKING GROUPS

Overarching Topics



Climate Justice

Reviewed Outputs with a justice lens and made suggestions where equity may be missing to ensure that equity was the focus



Climate Resiliency

Assured that there was a coordinated and comprehensive treatment of resilience topics within the plan



Communicating Progress

Sought input from the community and made that process transparent to address the needs of community members



Consumption & Waste Reduction

Goal: Responsible production and consumption of resources and sustainable management of waste.



Economic & Workforce Development

Goal: Foster an equitable and robust green economy.



Transportation

Goal: Create a safe, equitable, and affordable multi-modal transportation system that enhances mobility and access, phases out fossil fuel dependency, connects communities, supports a resilient supply chain, and decreases GHG emissions.



Commercial Energy Conservation & Renewable Energy

Goal: Moving toward net zero carbon emission buildings and supporting the transition to a decarbonized electrical grid.



Housing & Neighborhood Resiliency

Goal: Fostering zero-emission homes and neighborhoods that promote health and protect residents from extreme weather.



Nature-based Solutions

Goal: Protect intact landscapes, restore degraded ecosystems, and improve equitable access to green infrastructure, tree canopy, and open space.



Agriculture & Food Systems

Goal: Promote agriculture and food system solutions.

CCAP Outputs

7 Goals

**A broad,
aspirational
statement**



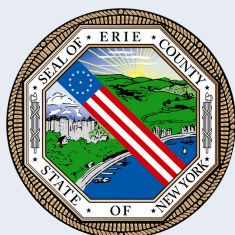
28 Strategies

**Approaches
to achieving
the Goal**



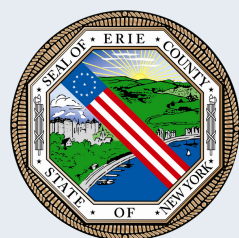
161 Action items

**Tangible next
steps for
implmentation**



Example Actions: Electric Vehicles

STRATEGY 3: Electric Vehicles	HORIZON	SPHERE OF INFLUENCE	LEAD COUNTY ENTITY	PARTNERS
ACTION ITEM 6.3.1:	Foster the development of EV ridesharing and car sharing programs to provide more clean energy options, particularly in disadvantaged communities.			
	Short-Term/ Ongoing	Direct/ Indi- rect	DEP	County Departments, NYSERDA, Go Buffalo Niagara, ridesharing and taxi companies
ACTION ITEM 6.3.2:	Install public-facing EV charging stations at County facilities.			
	Short-Term/ Ongoing	Direct	DPW	New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG), National Grid
ACTION ITEM 6.3.3:	Advocate for EV charging infrastructure on real estate development projects, especially for projects with direct County involvement.			
	Short-Term/ Ongoing	Indirect	DEP	NYSEG, National Grid, New York Power Authority (NYPA), Erie County Industrial Development Agency (ECIDA)
ACTION ITEM 6.3.4:	Participate in the regional planning of EV charging infrastructure and advocate for an equitable EV charging station network.			
	Short-Term/ Ongoing	Indirect	DEP	GBNRTC, NYSEG, National Grid, Clean Communities of WNY, New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT)
ACTION ITEM 6.3.5:	Expand publicly accessible EV charging stations for all by promoting their siting and installation through private and public programs throughout Erie County.			
	Short-Term/ Ongoing	Indirect	DEP	Local municipalities, NYSERDA, NYSDOT, National Grid, Clean Communities of WNY, NYSEG, NYPA, NYSDEC, NYS Parks, American Automobile Association (AAA)



Stakeholder and Public Involvement

**More than 100
volunteers from 70
organizations**

Developed the
draft Community
Climate Action
Plan.

**75 presentations
and 100 events**

At Public Events
and with Partner
Organizations

**Over 300 Public
Comments**

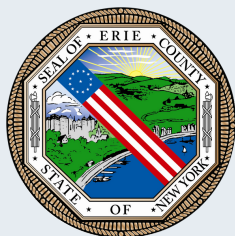
Were received
via email, given
at events, and
phone during the
drafting of the
plan

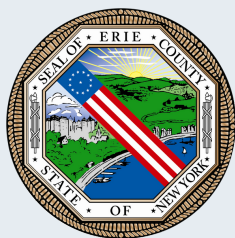
**Over 10,000
people receiving
email updates**

Through our
monthly
newsletters and
when an output
was released

250 Participants

Attended the
Climate Action
Showcase to unveil
the Draft Plan.





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How to Get Involved



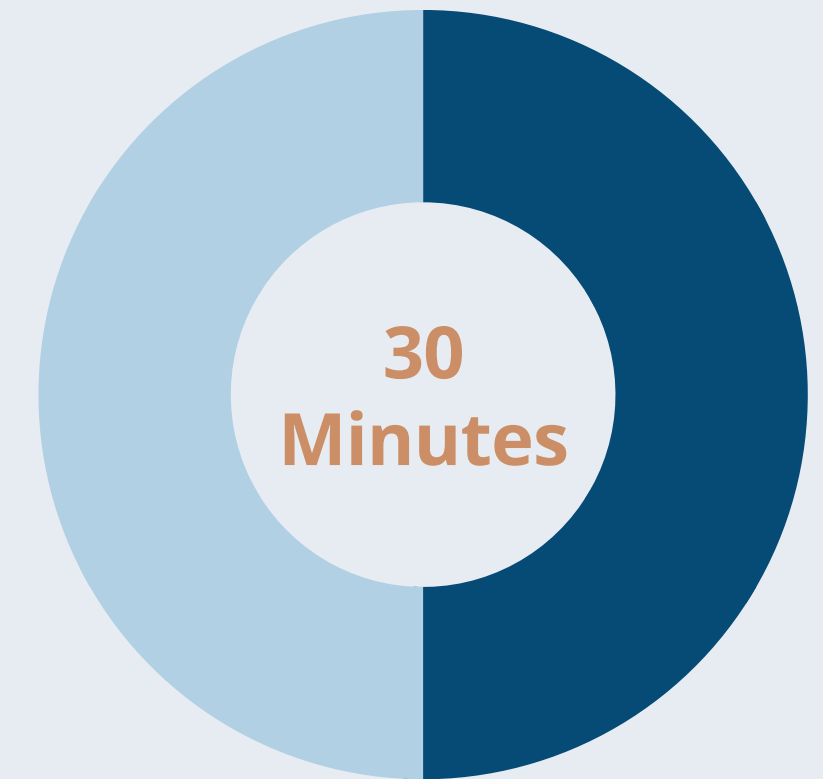
Sign-up for email updates on Erie County Climate Action



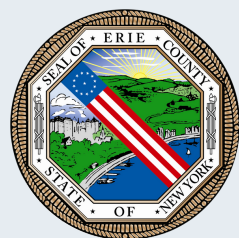
Take the community survey



Comment on a chapter from the draft Community Climate Action Plan



Meet with Erie County Dept. of Environment and Planning staff

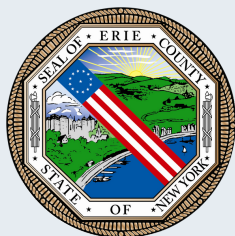


Climate Action Ambassador Program

5-week training program

- Online learning modules
- Group meetings
- Outreach/volunteer

Encourage **3-5 events** per year after completing training



Myths and Facts

National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL)

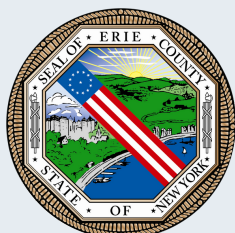
- Wind Energy
- Wind & Solar on the Power Grid
- Top 5 Large Scale Solar

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

- Electric Vehicle



**Access Myths &
Facts Info Here**



Next Steps and Priorities

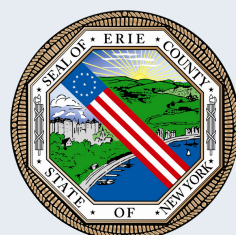
Finalize CCAP

- Adoption by Legislature

Prioritize actions via Regional Climate Action Plan

Immediately implement actions

- Heat Emergency Plan
- Erie County Low Income Program for Sustainable Energy (ECLIPSE)





ErieCounty_ClimateAction



ErieCountyDEP



ErieCoDEP



Erie.gov/ClimateAction

Department of Environment and Planning

Stormwater Pollution Prevention

Lake Erie Watershed Protection

Waste Management and Recycling

Household Hazardous Waste

Brownfield Restoration

Habitat Restoration

Sustainable Business Roundtable

BE THE CHANGE YOU WANT TO SEE.

THANK YOU

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tracy.skalski@erie.gov

Sustainability Team

sustainability@erie.gov

Erie.gov/ClimateAction

