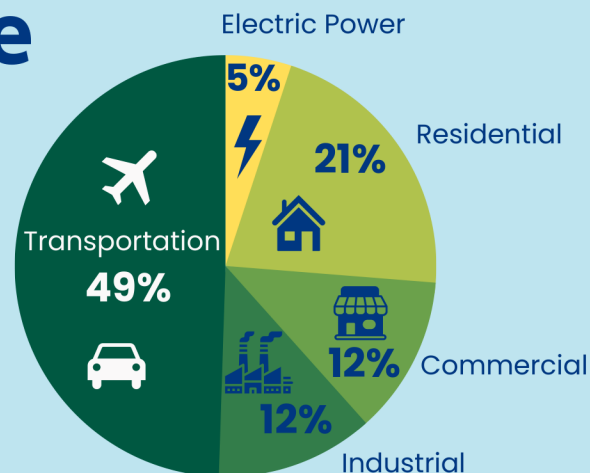


# How is Southern Maine Affected by Climate Change?

**Climate change** is the long-term shifting of temperatures and weather patterns **primarily caused by human activity**, especially the burning of fossil fuels. This emits greenhouse gases, the most significant of which is **carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)**.

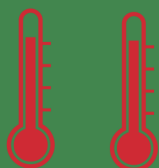


## CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Sources in Maine

Source: Maine Climate Council, 2019

### Rising Temperatures

+2-4°F +10°F



2050 2100

**Extreme heat** days 2-4x more likely by 2050

**Shorter & warmer** winters



### Changing Ecosystems



Decreased biodiversity



Increased **invasive species & pests**



**Shifting** plant hardiness zones

### Changing Precipitation



Maine's annual precipitation has **increased 6+ inches** since 1895

More **extreme storms**

More **severe droughts** in summer



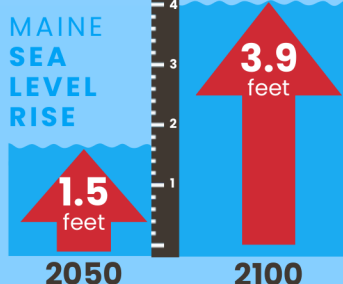
### Coastal Flooding & Storms

Projected to become **more frequent & severe**



### Rising Sea Level

Projected to **submerge two thirds of Maine's coastal sand dunes** by 2100



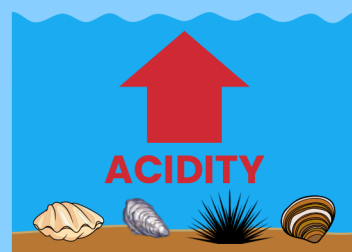
### Ocean Warming

Could cause the Maine coast to feel like the coast of Rhode Island by 2100

+2.7°F



### Ocean Acidification



Increased acidity **harms shellfish populations**

Learn what Southern Maine communities are doing about climate change at [SoMaineCAPCohort.com](http://SoMaineCAPCohort.com)

