

Kyrgyzstan climate change

"Making peace with nature is the defining task of the 21st century. It must be the top, top priority for everyone, everywhere." - António Guterres

International community action is essential to addressing climate change. Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Paris Agreement brings together nations to promote and support ambitious efforts to combat climate change and adapt to climate impacts, while providing enhanced support to developing countries to successfully implement these measures. Through the Paris Agreement, countries agree to reduce carbon emissions and transition to sustainable development trajectories with the aim of limiting global warming to well below 2°C, with a target of 1.5°C. This is to prevent the most dangerous impacts of climate change and to deliver a safe, healthy world to future generations.

The Kyrgyz Republic committed to combating climate change and accelerating the transition to climate-resilient, low-carbon sustainable modes of development, and has been party to the UNFCCC since 2000, and has ratified all relevant subsequent agreements, including the Paris Agreement. The country also submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) in September 2015. This will be followed by submission of the 1st Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2021, outlining how the Kyrgyz Republic plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions across its economic sectors.

The NDC revision process will collect relevant data and conduct stakeholder consultations to help update national circumstances, investment needs, review mitigation potential of certain economic sectors, and identify catalytic actions to raise mitigation ambition while also generating mitigation co-benefits and help achieve progress across relevant SDGs. 2021 will be an important year for the Kyrgyz Republic, and the world, for addressing climate change.

The science is clear: climate change is the biggest threat to the Earth and future generations. Every effort to tackle climate change - international and national, at a household and individual level - is important. Let us all contribute as we can to making peace with nature and to tackling climate change to protect the world for future generations.

Explore historical and projected climate data, climate data by sector, impacts, key vulnerabilities and what adaptation measures are being taken. Explore the overview for a general context of how climate change is affecting Kyrgyz Republic.

This page presents high-level information for Kyrgyz Republic's climate zones and its seasonal cycle for mean temperature and precipitation for the latest climatology, 1991-2020. Climate zone classifications are derived from the Köppen-Geiger climate classification system, which divides climates into five main climate groups divided based on seasonal precipitation and temperature patterns. The five main groups

are A (tropical), B (dry), C (temperate), D (continental), and E (polar). All climates except for those in the E group are assigned a seasonal precipitation sub-group (second letter). Climate classifications are identified by hovering your mouse over the legend. A narrative overview of Kyrgyz Republic's country context and climate is provided following the visualizations.

The Kyrgyz Republic (Kyrgyzstan) is a landlocked country located in Central Asia between two major mountain systems, the Tien Shan and the Pamirs. The Kyrgyz Republic is bordered by Kazakhstan to the north, Uzbekistan to the west, Tajikistan to the southwest, and China to the east. Approximately 94% of the country is above 1,000 meters (m) elevation, and 40% is above 3,000 m. Over 80% of the country is within the Tian Shan mountain chain and 4% is permanently under ice and snow. The Kyrgyz Republic had a population of 6 million in 2020. Most of this population live in the foothills of the mountains, and is centered around two urban conurbations, the capital Bishkek in the north, and between Osh and Jalal-Abad in the west.

The socio-economic context in the Kyrgyz Republic is complex. In terms of GDP per capita (PPP) the Kyrgyz Republic ranks among the poorest countries in the world. This position is reflected in the high national poverty rate of 25.4% but less so in the rate of undernourishment (6.4%) where the country performs comparatively better. A recent feature of Kyrgyz society has been the high rate of outmigration, with an estimated 0.5% of the population leaving the country every year between 2010-2015. Linked to this has been the rise in household reliance on remittances for income, with remittance income estimated to be equivalent to 28.5% of GDP in 2019.

This page presents Kyrgyz Republic's climate context for the current climatology, 1991-2020, derived from observed, historical data. Information should be used to build a strong understanding of current climate conditions in order to appreciate future climate scenarios and projected change. You can visualize data for the current climatology through spatial variation, the seasonal cycle, or as a time series. Analysis is available for both annual and seasonal data. Data presentation defaults to national-scale aggregation, however sub-national data aggregations can be accessed by clicking within a country, on a sub-national unit. Other historical climatologies can be selected from the Time Period dropdown list.

Observed, historical data is produced by the Climatic Research Unit (CRU) of University of East Anglia. Data is presented at a 0.5° x 0.5° (50km x 50km) resolution.

The Kyrgyz Republic is a small emitter of greenhouse gases. However, it is vulnerable to climate change because of its mountainous landscape with glaciers and a large agricultural sector. The Kyrgyz authorities have ambitious plans to reduce carbon emissions and adapt to climate change, with consideration given to national priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals. Because of the Kyrgyz Republic's small carbon footprint, the authorities' main focus should be on adaptation policies to build resilience to climate change and reduce annual output losses from global warming. However, success of adaptation policies would hinge on the availability of sufficient financing, both from domestic and external sources.

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