

An aerial photograph of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, taken during the golden hour of sunset. The image shows a mix of urban development and green space. In the foreground, a large green park area with winding paths and trees is visible. A multi-lane road runs parallel to a canal or river that flows through the city. The background features a dense city skyline with numerous high-rise buildings, some of which are illuminated by the setting sun. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of orange, yellow, and blue.

Milwaukee's Climate and Equity Plan

2023

Full Plan at [Milwaukee.gov/ClimatePlan](https://www.milwaukee.gov/ClimatePlan)

Climate Threats: A Warming Planet

- 3 Big Causes

- Overuse of fossil fuels
- Deforestation
- Lack of sustained political action



- Threats

- Extreme Storms & Flooding
- Heat Waves and Urban Heat Islands
- Health risks, including asthma
- Wild Fires in the West
- Food Supply Disruptions
- Climate Refugees
- National Security
- Loss of Biodiversity

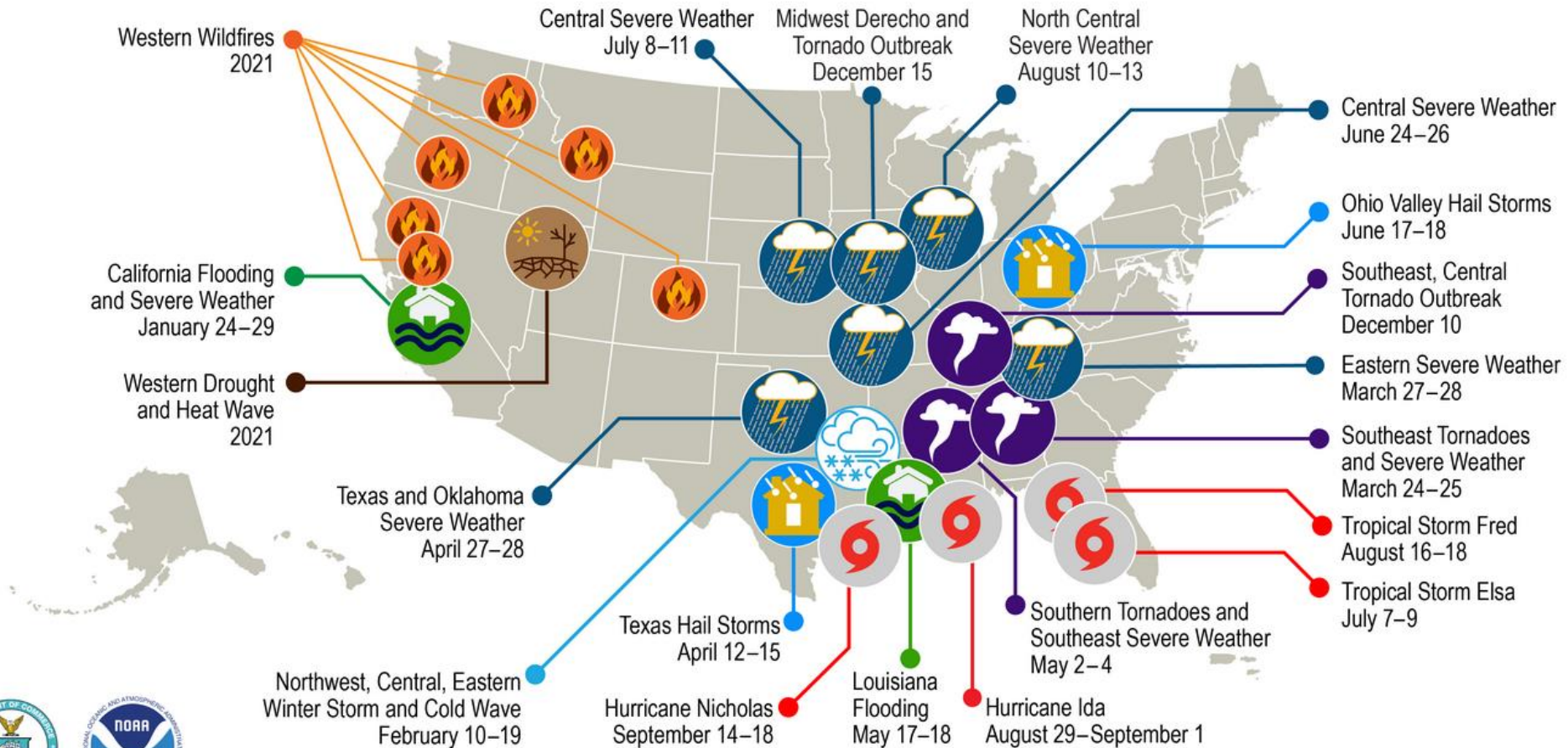
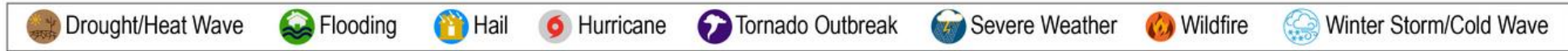


Milwaukee Climate Vulnerability Report

available at [Milwaukee.gov/ClimatePlan](https://www.milwaukee.gov/ClimatePlan)

2021: 20 weather events causing \$1B+ in damage each

U.S. 2021 Billion-Dollar Weather and Climate Disasters



This map denotes the approximate location for each of the 20 separate billion-dollar weather and climate disasters that impacted the United States in 2021

Burning Fossil Fuels is Warming the Planet

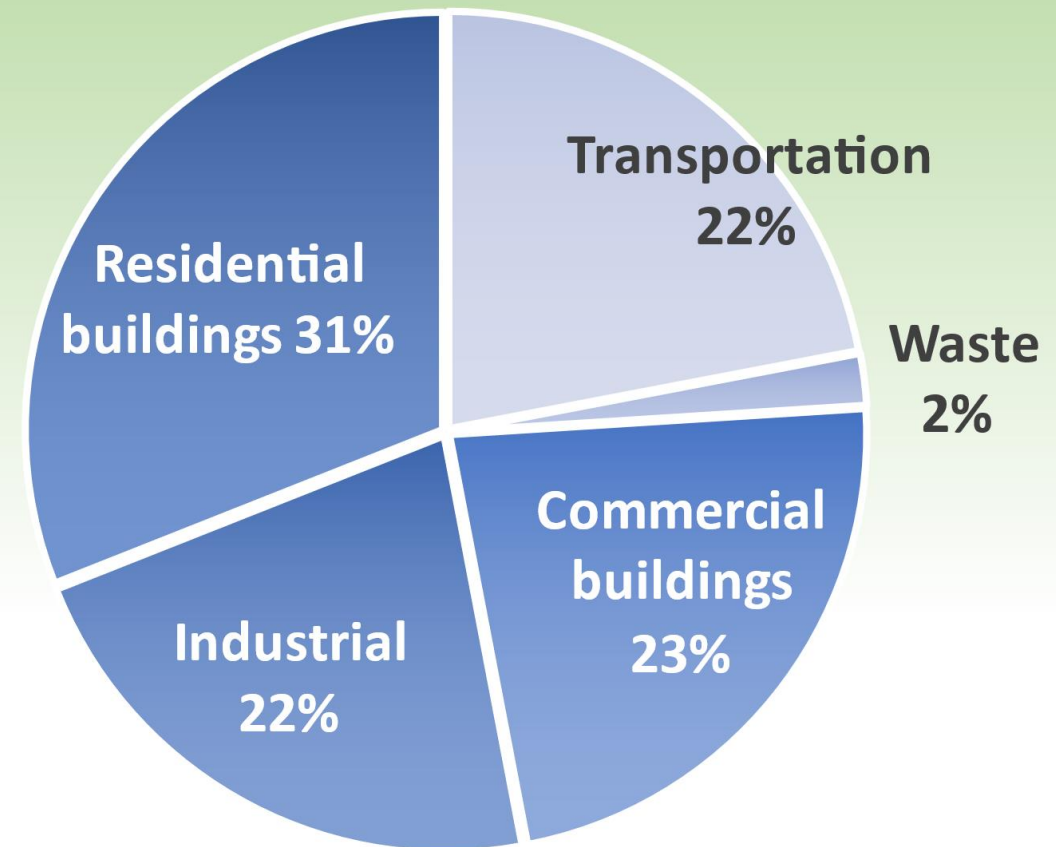


Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Coal and Natural Gas for electricity
- Natural gas for power and heat
- Gasoline and diesel for transportation

Major Sources of Greenhouse Gases

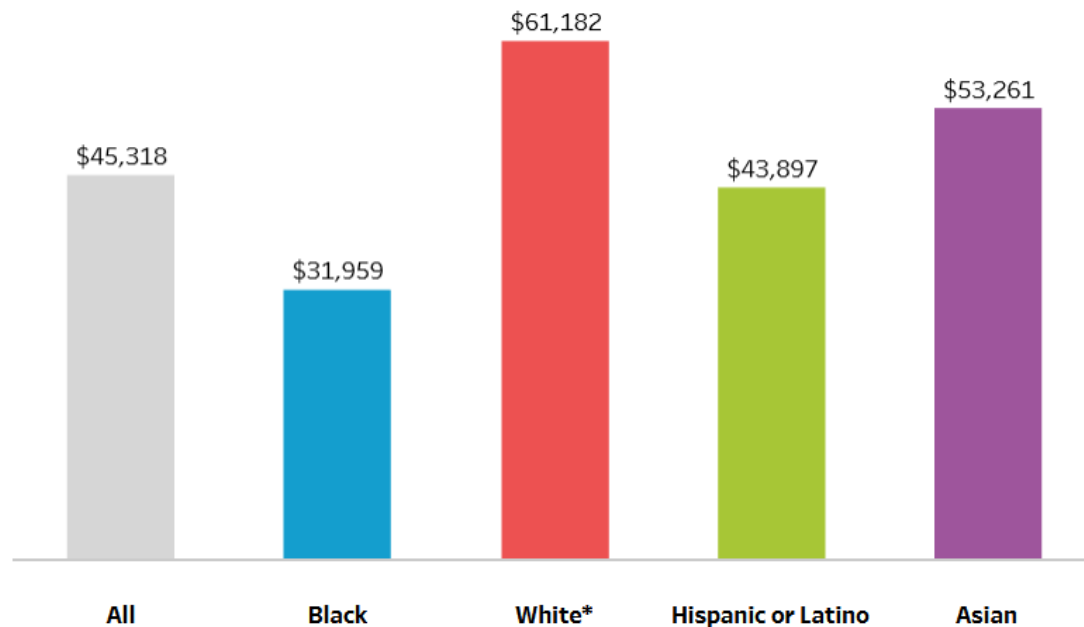
Sources of Milwaukee's Green House Gas Emissions in 2018



Racial Equity: We've got work to do

Median household income in past 12 months

City of Milwaukee, 2017-2021 Estimate (in 2021 dollars)



Milwaukee has unacceptable racial disparities in every economic category including employment, incomes, home ownership, and energy burden.

This is a city and metropolitan problem.

city.milwaukee.gov/Equity-and-Inclusion/Racial-Equity/Data

	All	Black	White*	Hispanic or Latino	Asian
2012-2016	\$41,550	\$30,200	\$57,965	\$37,025	\$49,376
2017-2021	\$45,318	\$31,959	\$61,182	\$43,897	\$53,261
Change	+\$3,768 ▲	+\$1,759 ▲	+\$3,217 ▲	+\$6,872 ▲	+\$3,885 ▲

*Not Hispanic or Latino

Data source: US Census Bureau, 2012-2016 and 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; Table S1903

City-County Task Force on Climate and Economic Equity

Common Council established the Task Force in 2019 (CCFN 190445) to address the ongoing climate crisis and mitigate racial and economic inequity through “green” jobs.



Members Organizations

- Milwaukee Common Council
- Milwaukee County Board
- Citizen Action of WI
- Community Advocates Public Policy Inst.
- Milwaukee Area Labor Council
- Wisconsin Climate Table
- NAACP
- Sierra Club
- Clean Wisconsin
- Environmental Collaboration Office

Climate and Equity Plan Goals

[Milwaukee.gov/ClimatePlan](https://www.milwaukee.gov/ClimatePlan)

- Reduce community greenhouse gas emissions
 - 45% by 2030
 - Net zero emissions by 2050
- Improve racial and economic equity
 - Create **green jobs** that pay \$40,000+
 - Focus recruitment on people of color

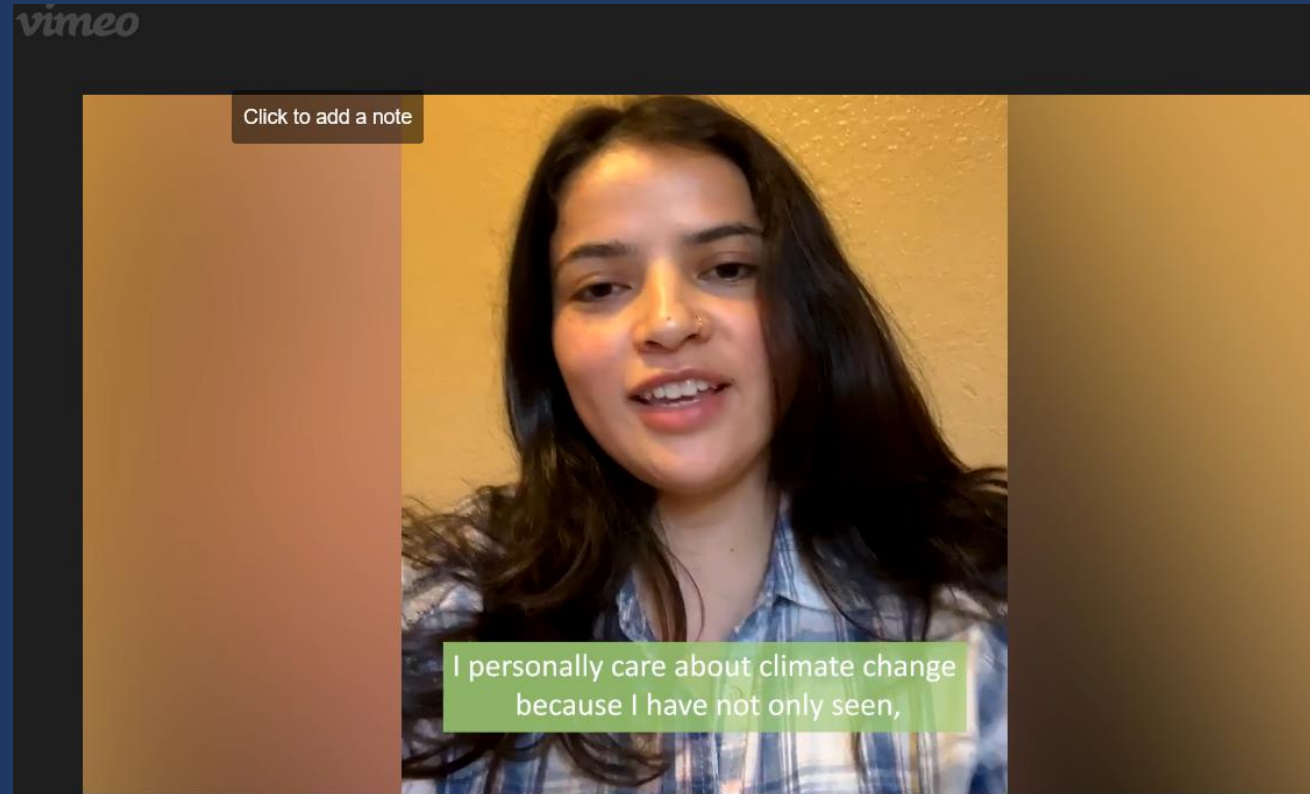


Climate Plan Timeline

- **2019:** Formation of *City-County Task Force*
- **2020:** Preliminary Report and Greenhouse Gas Inventory
- **2021-2022:** Nine Work Groups formulate *Ten Big Ideas* + Public Surveys and community meetings
- **2022:** Draft Climate and Equity Plan released for public comment
- **2023:** Common Council Adoption as part of Citywide Policy Plan
- **2023-2030** Implementation and on-going reporting



Milwaukee Climate and Equity Video Survey



<https://vimeo.com/tankbrain/review/651338623/fb6e6ec84a>

Good News: We are not starting from scratch

- 2013 ReFresh Milwaukee Sustainability Plan
- 2019 Green Infrastructure Plan
- Me² Home Energy Efficiency Program
- Milwaukee Shines Solar Program
- Sustainability practices in city and county operations
- Multi-Modal Transportation



Building on Current Programs



ECO
NEIGHBORHOODS



MILWAUKEE
SHINES



MILWAUKEE
ENERGY
EFFICIENCY

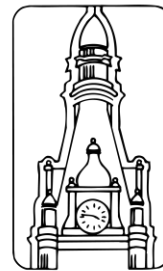


BETTER
BUILDINGS



WATER
CENTRIC
CITY

ecology economy equity | milwaukee.gov/eco



City
of
Milwaukee

ECO

ENVIRONMENTAL
COLLABORATION
OFFICE

Ten Big Ideas



1. Green Jobs Accelerator



2. Healthy Homes Upgrades

3. New Net Zero Energy Homes

4. Commercial Building
Benchmarking + Energy standards



5. People-centered Transportation

6. Electric vehicles



7. Clean Electricity



8. Nature in the City



9. Food Waste Reduction



10. Resilience Ambassadors



Green Jobs Accelerator



- Build Excitement
- Clarify Career pathways
- Transitional jobs with career ladders
- Training with supports
- Employer DEI agreements



Green and Healthy Homes



- Energy efficiency coordinated with lead abatement
- Continue and expand existing home weatherization and solar programs
- Better coordination and customer navigation among housing repair programs



New Net Zero Homes



- New affordable homes built on scattered vacant lots
- Net Zero Energy
- Attractive and durable
- Factory built
- Manufacturing jobs



Commercial Building Benchmarking



- Required Reporting of Annual Energy Use
- Phased-in energy standards later in decade
- Advocate for stronger State building energy code



People – Centered Transportation



- Expand and Modernize Transit
- Walking and biking
- Land Use, Zoning, and Transit-Oriented Development



Electric Vehicles



- Charging network plan
- City fleet
- Commercial properties requirements
- Public Awareness



Clean Electricity



- Rooftop solar
- Statewide advocacy for utility scale solar and supportive policy
- Municipal purchases of renewable energy
(Renewable Pathways Program)



Nature in the City

- Protect natural land
- Transform schoolyards
- Expand the tree canopy
- Incentivize de-paving

BEFORE:



AFTER:





Food Waste Reduction



- Prevent food waste
- Rescue surplus food
- Feed hungry people

(FEED = “Food Excess Equitable Distribution” partnership)

Plastics reuse systems



Resilience Ambassadors



- Eco Neighborhoods
- Trusted messengers
- Educate and collaborate on new and existing climate programs



Paying For the Plan



- Federal Infrastructure bill (IIJA) and Climate Bill (IRA).
- Reallocating existing budgets from fossil fuel economy to clean energy alternatives
- Financing tools to pay for costs that yield long-term savings

Questions?

