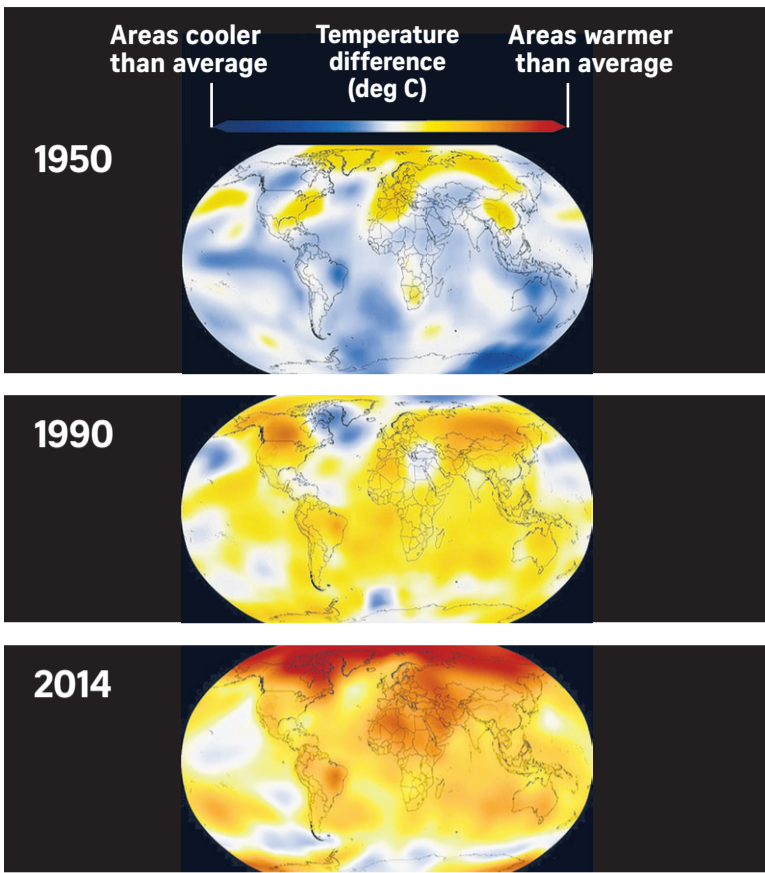


# Taking the pulse of the planet

Ahead of the climate change conference in Paris today, we look at the state of Earth's "health" as measured by the following indicators:

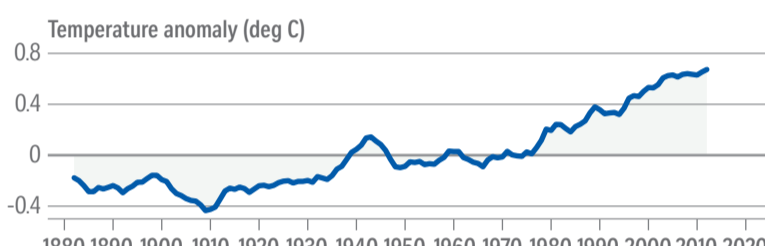
## GLOBAL SURFACE TEMPERATURES



### Global land-ocean temperature index (Five-year average variation)

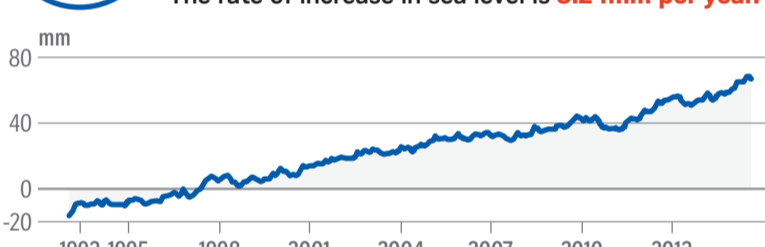
The **10 warmest years** in the 134-year period on record have all occurred since 2000, with the exception of 1998.

**2014** ranks as the warmest on record.



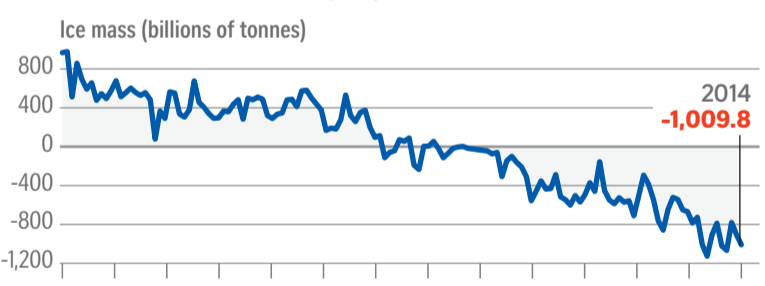
### Rise in sea level

The rate of increase in sea level is **3.24mm per year**.



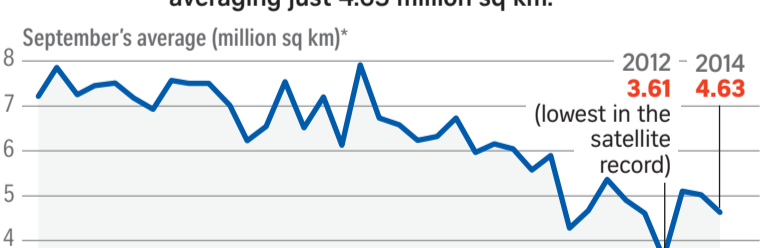
### Shrinking ice sheets in Antarctica

The continent has been losing about **134 billion tonnes of ice per year** since 2002.



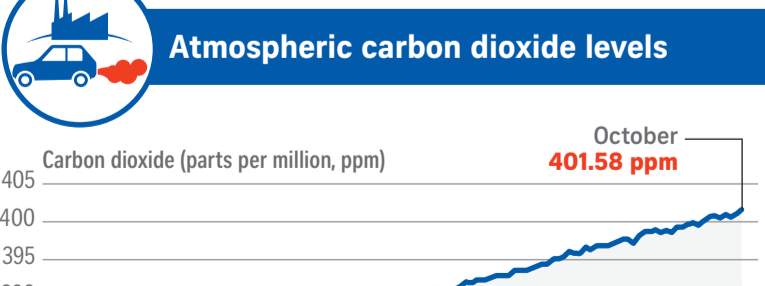
### Arctic sea ice extent

The Arctic's monthly ice cover this year fell to the **fourth lowest extent** in the satellite record, averaging just 4.63 million sq km.



NOTE: \*Arctic sea ice reaches its minimum each September.

### Atmospheric carbon dioxide levels



NOTE: The upper safety limit for atmospheric carbon dioxide is 350 ppm. Atmospheric carbon dioxide levels have stayed higher than 350 ppm since early 1988.