



Investing

OCT 26, 2015 @ 11:40 AM **6,032** VIEWS

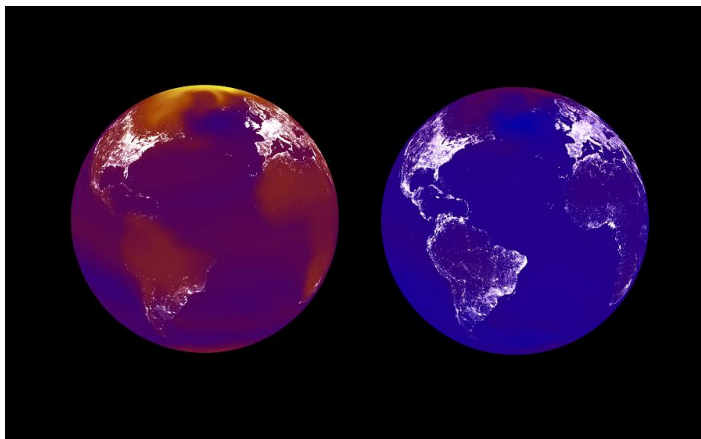
# Climate Change Will Be Disastrous For These Economies


**Kenneth Rapoza**, CONTRIBUTOR

*I cover business and investing in emerging markets.*
[FULL BIO](#) ✓

Opinions expressed by Forbes Contributors are their own.

Save



Two possible future. Colors are 2100 temperatures under “business as usual” climate change (left, RCP8.5) and aggressive climate policy (right, RCP2.6). Burke, Hsiang, & Miguel (Nature 2015) demonstrate the effects of these changes on economies around the world. These findings are used in a simulation of future nightlights, as seen from space, since richer economies tend to glow brighter. A hotter world is a more unequal world, with the north benefitting and tropical economies declining. A cooler world leads to more equitable global growth, offering regions like Africa the chance to “catch up”.

Figure attribution:

Burke, Hsiang, &amp; Miguel (Nature, 2015)

Lucky for Mexico, Hurricane Patricia didn’t pack the wallop the Weather Channel thought it might. But as storms get meaner,



related disasters are bad news. And many scientists expect they will get worse over the next 70 years or so. While looking that far out is about as difficult as rocket science, [Stanford and Berkeley universities took a crack at it anyway.](#)

For Mexico...yeah, it's pretty bad. A 73% reduction in per-capita GDP by 2100 due to natural disasters caused by climate change.

The study, conducted by Stanford professor Marshall Burke, [Global Policy Lab](#) climate change researcher Sol Hsiang and Berkeley professor Ted Miguel was published in "Nature" magazine last week. The study looked at how economic output, namely agribusiness around the world, has been affected by changes in temperature and precipitation. Its goal was to come up with potential economic impacts of climate change on world economies.

The United States faces a range of economic risks from global climate change, according to Hsiang. These include increased flooding and storm damage, to less predictable crop yields. There's also heat-related strains leading to forest fires, water rationing and erosion that has caused California mudslides. This puts increasing pressure on state and federal budgets, with more money going to disaster relief. There is no end in sight, that is for sure.



People work in a banana plantation after the passage of hurricane Patricia at El Rebase community, Mexico on October 24, 2015. Patricia flattened dozens of homes on Mexico's Pacific coast, but authorities said Saturday the record-breaking hurricane largely spared the country as it weakened to a tropical depression. Nevertheless, storms like this are becoming more frequent and more mean, making small family farming all the more difficult in tropical countries. (Photo by HECTOR GUERRERO/AFP/Getty Images)

AdChoices

Introducing MEMBER EXCLUSIVE RATES



Members save more on hotels when booking with us.

JOIN NOW

IHG Rewards Club

The study predicts U.S. per capita GDP will be reduced by 36% by the year 2100. Most countries in the Americas will see a decline in income, with the odd exception of Canada. Cold weather climates tend to fair much better in this scenario. But overall, the study suggests that there is a 63% chance that GDP per capita will drop by at least 10% and a 51% chance it will drop by at least 20%.

Recommended by Forbes

The Heat Is On: Three Ways To Avoid Climate Armageddon

We Are Not All Change Laws World



In other words, on balance, climate change is going to make us all poorer.



Report Corrections



Reprints & Permissions

SEE ALSO

CAUSES OF	CLIMATE
CLIMATE	REASONS FOR
CLIMATE	EFFECTS OF
CLIMATE	CLIMATE

From the Web

Ads by Revcontent

**The Razor So Popular It Sold Out Twice**

HARRY'S

**After Getting His Bike Stolen, Victim Gets Revenge With**

TRYNDING

**Hemp Company Releases Legal CBD Oil Across All 50**

BE WELL BUZZ

**Obama Quietly Signed Bill Giving 119 Million Americans**

THE OXFORD CLUB

**Died Too Young - 35 Celebrities You Didn't Know Passed Away**

TONSOFBUZZ

**25 Facts You Won't Believe About Hillary Clinton**

POP HITZ

**7-Time Lotto Winner Reveals The Truth How To Win Any**

LOTTO CRUSHER

**New Rule In Berkeley Leaves Residents Furious**

PROVIDE-SAVINGS





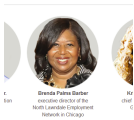
Personal Finance

AUG 22, 2016 @ 08:00 AM

# Most Inappropriate Job Interview Ever? What To Do When You're Asked Unlawful Questions



SOUTH AMERICA RIFE FOR INVESTMENT



JPMorgan Chase *Voice*: Training America's Workforce: What's Working in Three Different Cities

+2k views in the last hour



Best Buy Earnings Surprise Powers Best Day In Years, But Boost From 4K TVs May Be Fleeting