

Thomas R. Karl currently serves as Director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Climatic Data Center in Asheville, N.C., and Chair of the U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP). Karl is a fellow of the American Meteorological Society and has served as its President and as a member of the Executive Council. He is also a fellow of the American Geophysical Union. He has published more than 150 peer-reviewed scientific reports and articles and has authored several books as Editor and Contributor. He has received many awards and recognition for his services and scientific research in climate-related work including: two Distinguished Presidential Rank Awards, five Gold Medals from the Department of Commerce and two Bronze Medals; the American Meteorological Society's Suomi Award; National Associate of the National Academy of Sciences; the NOAA Administrator's Award, and several others.

Karl has served as Editor of the Journal of Climate and has been a Convening and Lead Author, Review Editor, or U.S. Government Delegate for all the major IPCC assessments since 1990. He was Co-Chair of the first two U.S. National Climate Assessments and is overseeing the third in his capacity of Chair of the USGCRP. He recently oversaw the development of a new 10-year strategic plan for federal global change research. He has received a B.S. in Meteorology from Northern Illinois University, a M.S in Meteorology from the University of Wisconsin, and a doctorate of humane letters (honoris causa) from North Carolina State University.