

# Climate Catastrophe

## Scale of the Problem

The latest IPCC report\* provides a clear view of the future if countries do not sharply reduce greenhouse gas emissions. While nations may hope to limit global warming to below 2°C, and preferably to 1.5°C, countries are falling blatantly short of that aim.

Our present trajectory would lead to a temperature increase of about 2°C by 2050 and at least 3°C by the end of the century.

## Consequences

### Heat, Droughts, Storms, Floods

As the planet continues to warm, extreme weather events become more intense and more frequent. Heatwaves - not pandemics nor wars - represent the world's deadliest events for mankind.

Extreme heat events that would have occurred once in every 50 years in pre-industrial times are now 5 times more likely. At 1.5°C of warming, that likelihood rises to over 8 times, and at 2°C jumps to almost 14 times.

We can expect to see BOTH drought AND heavy rain (including flooding) becoming more intense and frequent.

Drought is expected to intensify, but when it does eventually rain, that rainfall can be more intense.

Higher temperatures mean that the atmosphere can hold more moisture - each 1°C rise in temperature promises a 7% per cent increase in rain intensity.

A drought that would have been seen as a one in 10-year event in the late 1800s is twice as likely to occur should temperatures rise by 1.5°C. And what would have been the wettest day in a decade in the late 1800s is almost twice as likely should warming increase by 2°C.

### Sea Level Rise

With most Australians living on the coastal fringe, concerns about rising sea levels should loom large. Some low-lying areas will be permanently submerged, and we should expect more frequent and more severe coastal flooding.

More frequent and intense combinations of tides, storm surges and waves will generate severe coastal erosion along our sandy coastline. Extreme sea level events that previously occurred once in 100 years could happen almost every year by the end of the century.

### In Our Hands

The effects of climate change are with us now. They will intensify as long as greenhouse gases continue to be emitted into the atmosphere. The promise of a less disruptive world for us and future generations is in our hands now.

## Australia Speaks

**74% of Australians agree “the benefits of taking further action on climate change will outweigh the costs”.** (2021 Lowy Institute).

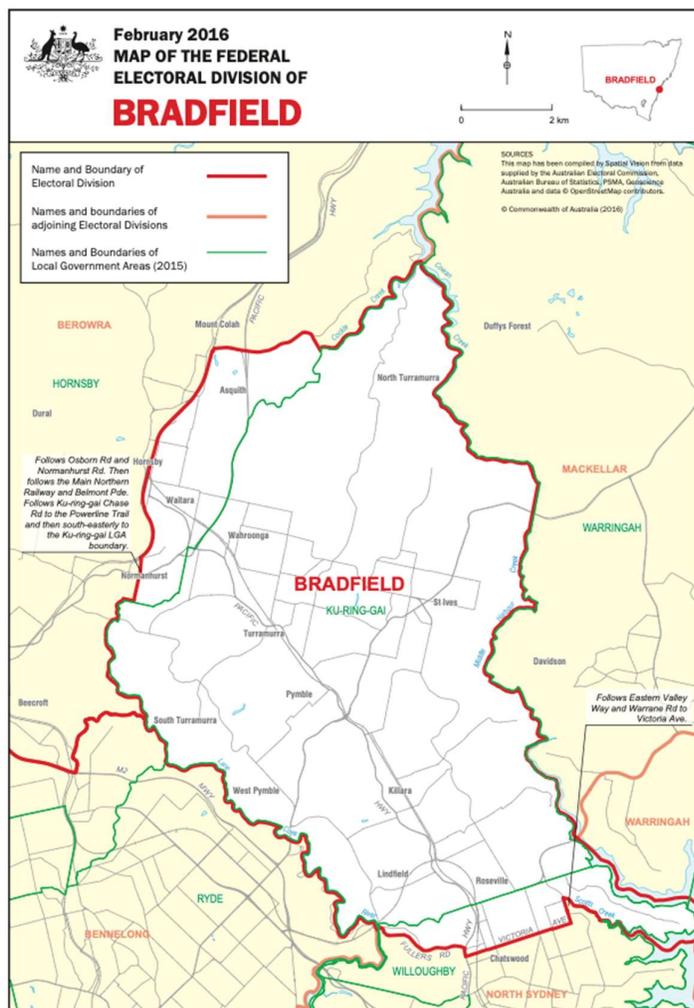
*We need meaningful action on climate change to transition our economy to the post-carbon world that is coming. A Bradfield voter.*

# Fact Sheet 103 – Climate Catastrophe

## Bradfield Electorate – Facts and Figures

The Bradfield electorate occupies sandstone country whose traditional owners are the Darramurragal and Guringai clans.

The electorate was established in 1949 and it has always been won by the Liberal Party.



### Overview of Bradfield

(Census 2016)

**Median Age – 41**

**Sex - 52% female, 48% male**

**Education - 47% Bachelor degree or above**

**Language at home not English – 28%.**

**Country of Birth - 57% Australia, 39% Overseas – 7% China, 7% UK, S Africa 3%.**

**Religion - 33% no religion, 25% Catholic, 20% Mainline Protestant.**

**Families - 47% couple with children, 14% older couples without children.**

**Dwellings – 27% medium/high density, 63% free-standing.**

**Employment - 60% full time (60% professionals/managers), 34% part time, 5% unemployed. 28% did Volunteer work.**

**Household Income (weekly) – 40% had income \$2,500+, 9% under \$650 pw.**

**Transport - 50% drive to work, 26% Train.**

**Citizens – 83%.**

### Educated and Wealthy

Bradfield is one of the most highly educated electorates in the country, and one of the wealthiest.

Voices of Bradfield supports community wishes to see Competent and effective government, an Anti-Corruption Commission, effective Covid management, and Compassionate polices that support a fairer, more equal society.