

'We are already witnessing in real time the devastating impacts of climate related disasters on businesses, people and the economy,' he added.

In spite of such results, public opinion polls as well as opinions of politicians and public representatives point to false beliefs and claim that 'a significant debate still exists among scientists over the true cause of climate change,' they found.

In 2016, the Pew Research Center found that only 27 per cent of US adults believe that 'almost all' scientists agreed that climate change is due to human activity.

A 2021 Gallup poll pointed to a deepening partisan divide in American politics on whether Earth's rising observed temperatures since the Industrial Revolution were primarily caused by humans.

'To understand where a consensus exists, you have to be able to quantify it,' said Lynas.

'That means surveying the literature in a coherent and non-arbitrary way in order to avoid trading cherry-picked papers, which is often how these arguments are carried out in the public sphere.'

The findings have been published in the journal Environmental Research Letters.

PARIS AGREEMENT: ACCORD TO LIMIT TEMPERATURE RISES

The Paris Agreement, which was first signed in 2015, is an international agreement to control and limit climate change.

It hopes to hold the increase in the global average temperature to below 2°C (3.6°F) 'and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C (2.7°F)'.

It seems the more ambitious goal of restricting global warming to 1.5°C (2.7°F) may be more important than ever, according to previous research which claims 25 per cent of the world could see a significant increase in drier conditions.

The Paris Agreement on Climate Change has four main goals with regards to reducing emissions:

- 1) A long-term goal of keeping the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels
- 2) To aim to limit the increase to 1.5°C, since this would significantly reduce risks and the impacts of climate change
- 3) Governments agreed on the need for global emissions to peak as soon as possible, recognising that this will take longer for developing countries
- 4) To undertake rapid reductions thereafter in accordance with the best available science

Source: European Commission

Revealed: MailOnline dissects the impact greenhouse gases have on the planet - and what is being done to stop air pollution

EMISSIONS

Carbon dioxide