

SRI International

		Means...	Which could in turn be a sign of...	Could this trend be an effect of climate warming?	Could this trend also be contributing to more climate warming?	Could this trend also be contributing to less climate warming?	Other reasons for the trend?
Higher values of...	<b>Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) or Enhanced Vegetation Index (EVI)</b> , which indicate the “greenness” of a land surface without specifying what it is about that surface that makes it appear green. Nevertheless, greenness almost always signifies the presence of green plants.	more coverage of the landscape by green plants	a more nourishing climate for photosynthesis	Yes, because some areas may become warmer and wetter and more extensive vegetation could be a result	No. Though the carbon that ends up in plants may at some point return to the atmosphere (through plant respiration, respiration of micro-organisms in the soil that the plants decompose into, or through the respiration of plant-eating animals), plants act as more of a carbon reservoir than as a carbon emitter.	Yes. Greater numbers of plants means greater absorption of atmospheric carbon by these plants and less carbon in the atmosphere means less greenhouse gas in it.	Greater numbers of plants could be due to human environmental protection actions such as the establishment of nature preserves.
Lower values of...	<b>Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) or Enhanced Vegetation Index (EVI)</b> , which indicate the “greenness” of a land surface without specifying what it is about that surface that makes it appear green. Nevertheless, greenness almost always signifies the presence of green plants.	less coverage of the landscape by green plants	a less nourishing climate for photosynthesis. Or, it could be a sign of a cataclysmic event that cleared the area of green, such as a fire. Or it could be the result of logging, or other human actions.	Yes, because warming could induce drying of the area, which would yield less extensive vegetation. The greater dryness from this warming could be accompanied by shifts in how much and how often there is rain and how much or how long snow accumulates during the winter. Less precipitation, or less evenly spaced precipitation over the course of a typical year, could lead to a less supportive environment for plants. If too much precipitation falls at once, much of this precipitation gets wasted as run-off over saturated ground. Less snow or more quickly-melting snow could also lead to excessively-early drying of the snow pack and that means less water in reserve for the plants of the watershed.	Yes because plants absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and the less carbon absorbed by plants, the more remaining in the atmosphere.	Unlikely	Negative factors inhibiting green plants such as the air, water, or soil pollutants that often come with human urban development