



**Cross Border Indicators of Climate Change  
over the Past Century**  
*Northeastern United States  
and Canadian Maritime Regions*

**Cameron Wake and Liz Burakowski, UNH**

**Gary Lines and Kyle Mckenzie, Environment Canada**

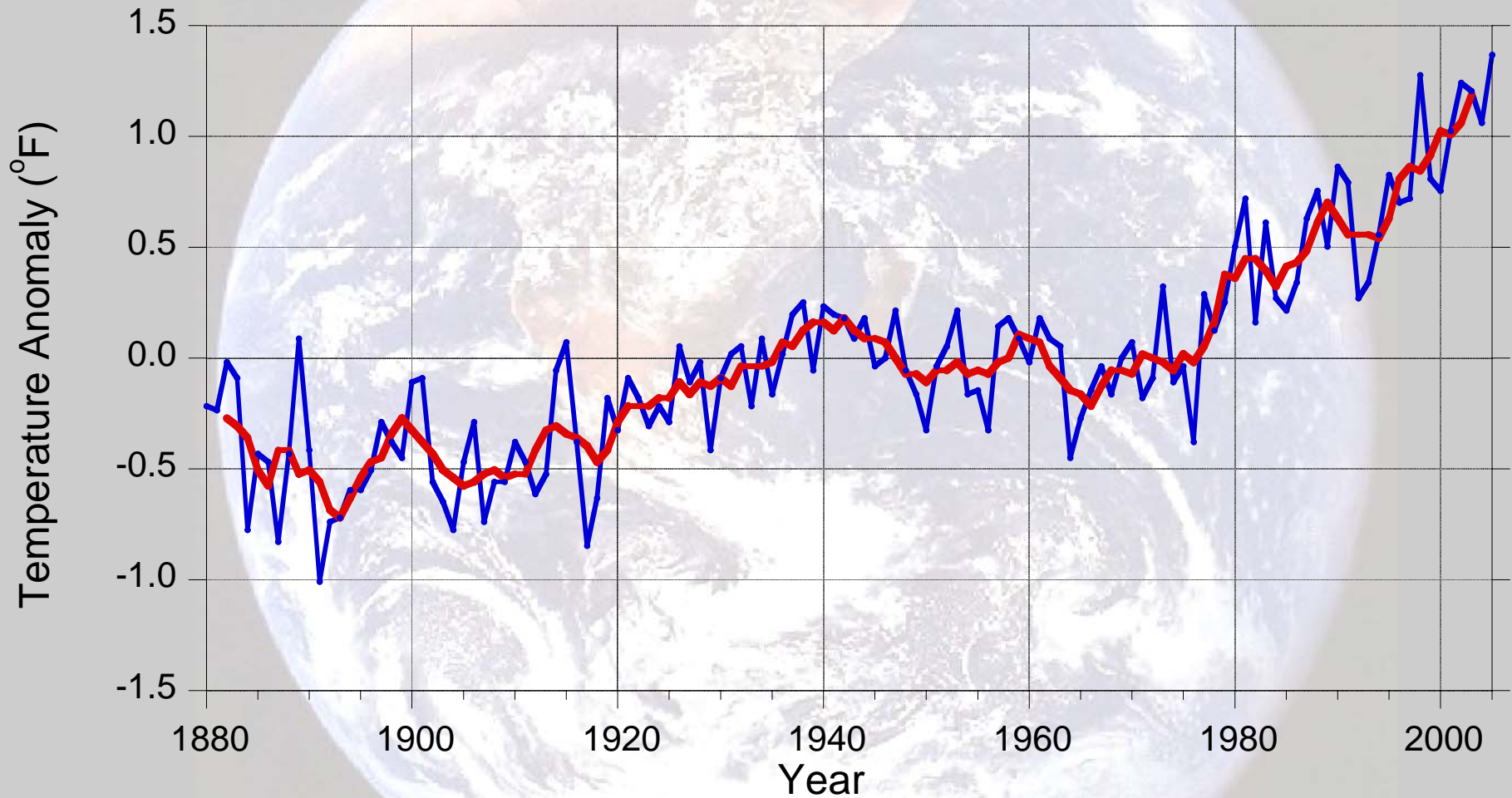
**Thomas Huntington, Bigelow Lab for Ocean Sciences**

**Regional Association for Research on the Gulf of Maine**

**Development of Ecosystem Indicators for Multiple Management & Research Needs**

**Wells, Maine 15 November 2005**

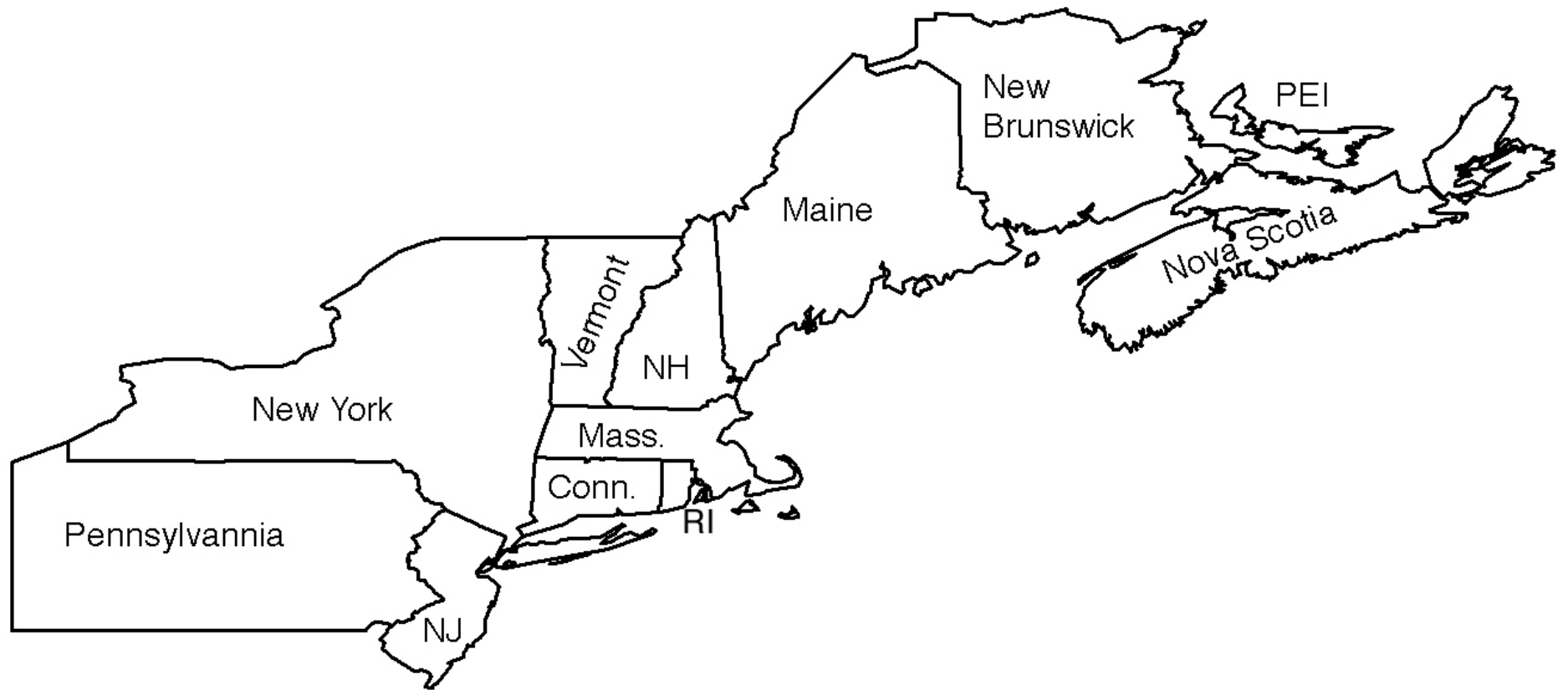
# Global Average Annual Temperature Anomaly (°F) From meteorological stations 1880-2005



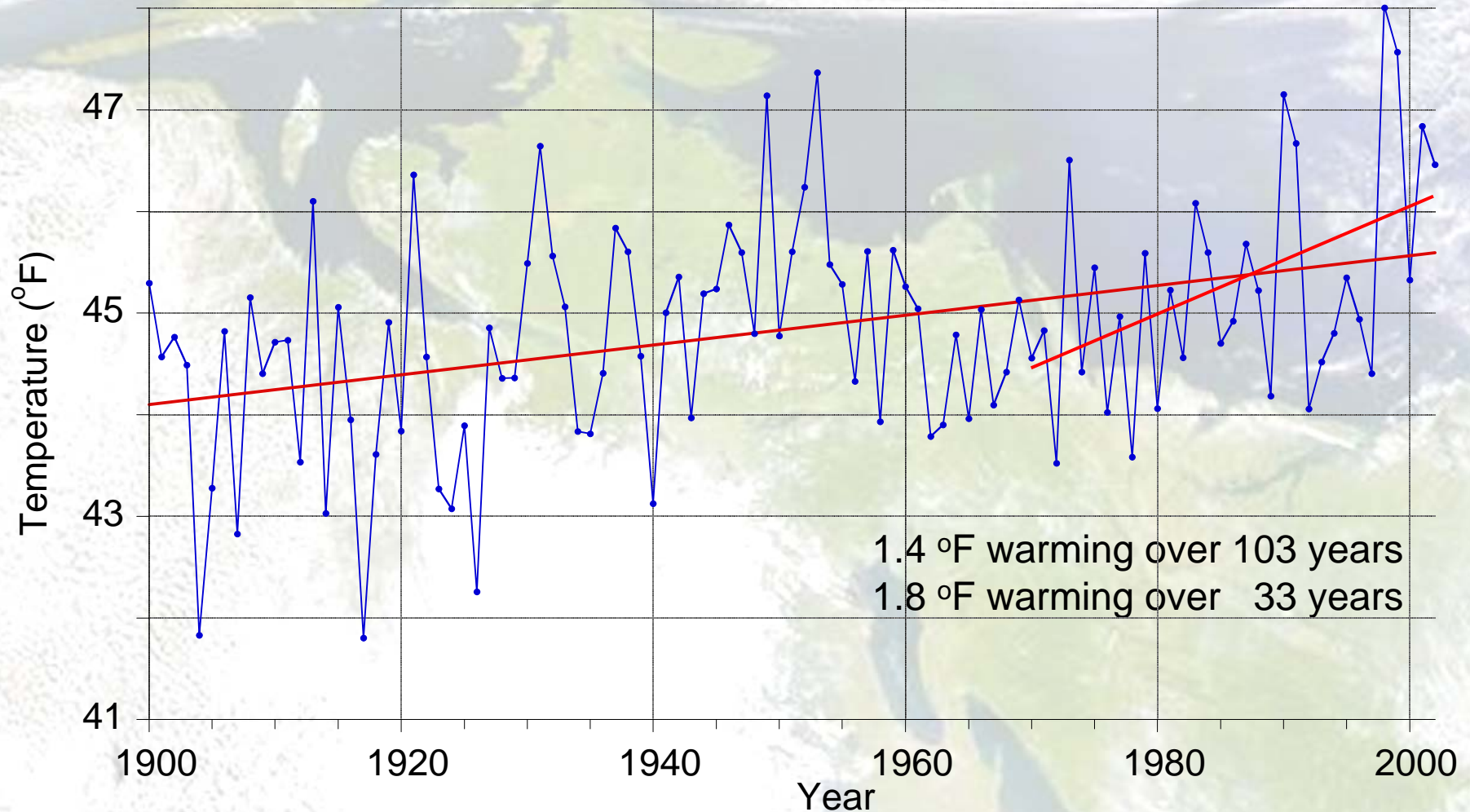
Hansen et al. (2001) J. Geophysical Res. Vol 106, p. 23,947-23,963  
Data from <http://www.giss.nasa.gov/data/update/gistemp/>



# Northeastern United States and Canadian Maritime Provinces



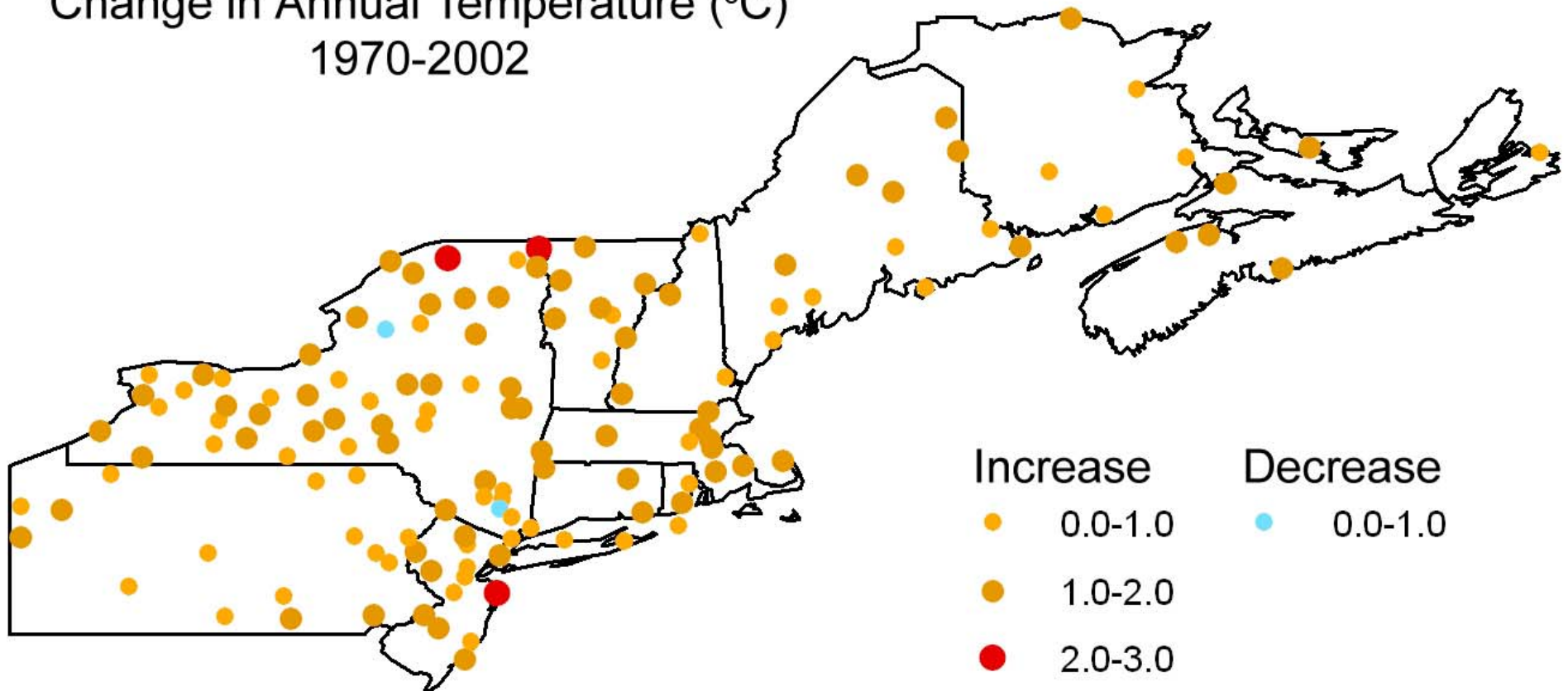
# Average Annual Temperature in NE US & CDN Maritimes 1900-2002



Time-series represents an aerielly weighted average of data from 136 stations.  
Data from the NOAA-NCDC and Environment Canada

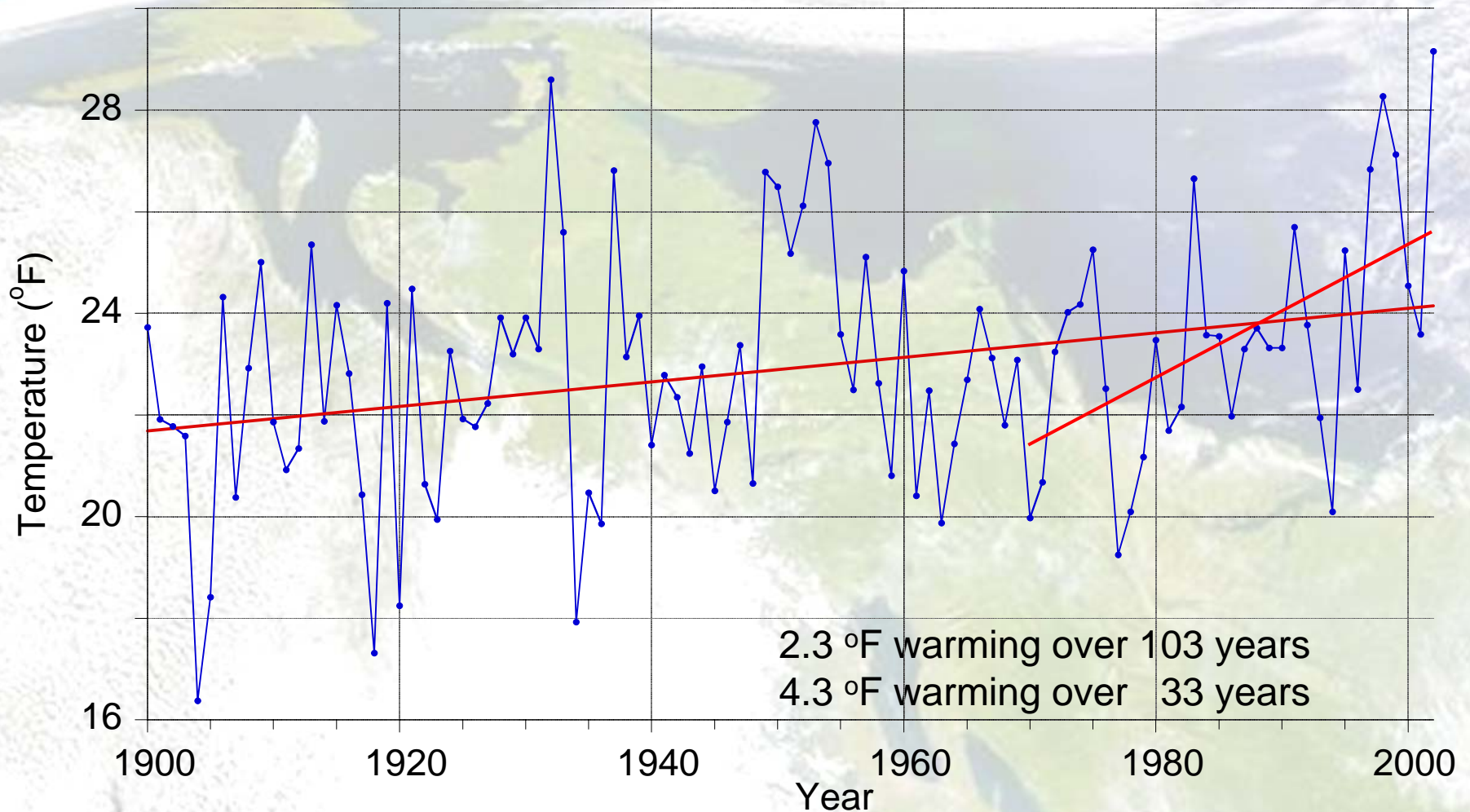
# Spatial Variation of Annual Temperature Trend 1970-2002

Change in Annual Temperature (°C)  
1970-2002



The temperature trend was calculated from a linear regression of annual average temperature for each station.

# Average Winter Temperature in the NE US & CDN Maritimes 1900-2002

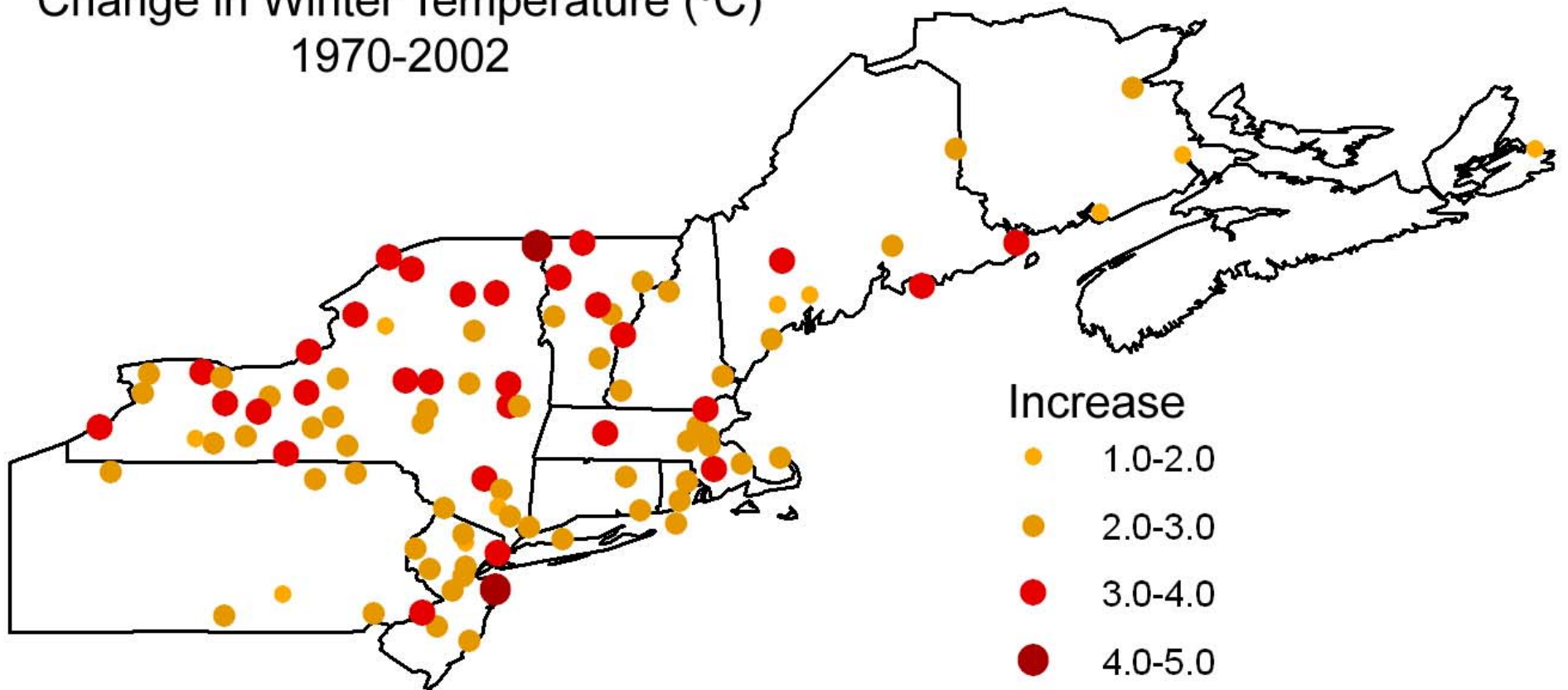


Time-series represents an aerielly weighted average of data from 136 stations.  
Data from the NOAA, NCDC and Environment Canada



# Spatial Variation Winter Temperature Trend 1970-2002

Change in Winter Temperature (°C)  
1970-2002



The temperature trend was calculated from a linear regression of annual average temperature for each station

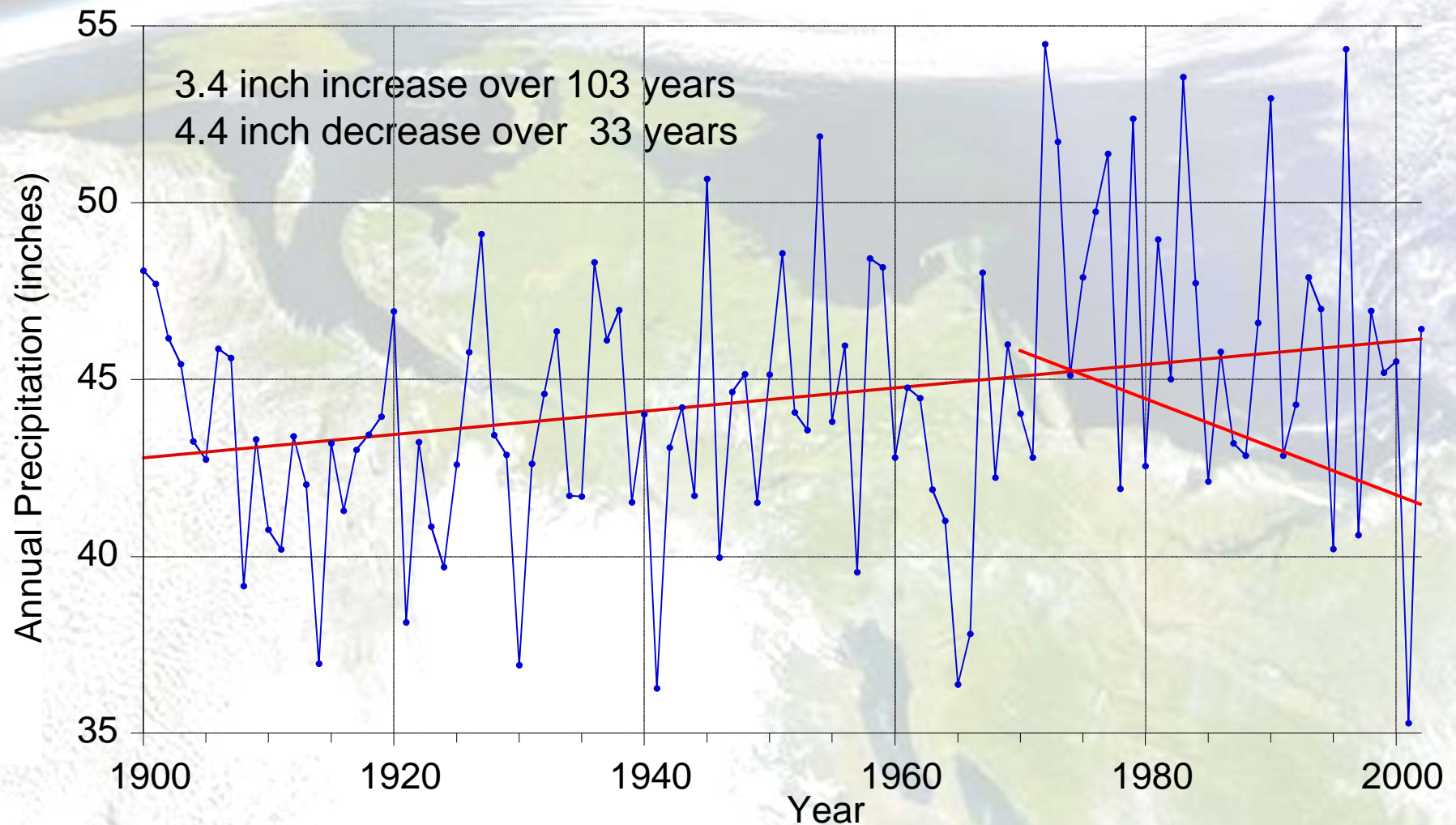
## 2.4°C (4.3°F) Winter Temperature Increase from 1971-2002

Table 1. Comparison of monthly and winter mean temperatures (°C) for three coastal cities in the cross border region.

City	Latitude (N)	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mean
Halifax	44.65°	-2.0	-4.5	-5.0	-3.8
Boston	42.32°	0.0	-2.5	-1.5	-1.3
Philadelphia	40.00°	2.5	0.5	1.0	1.3



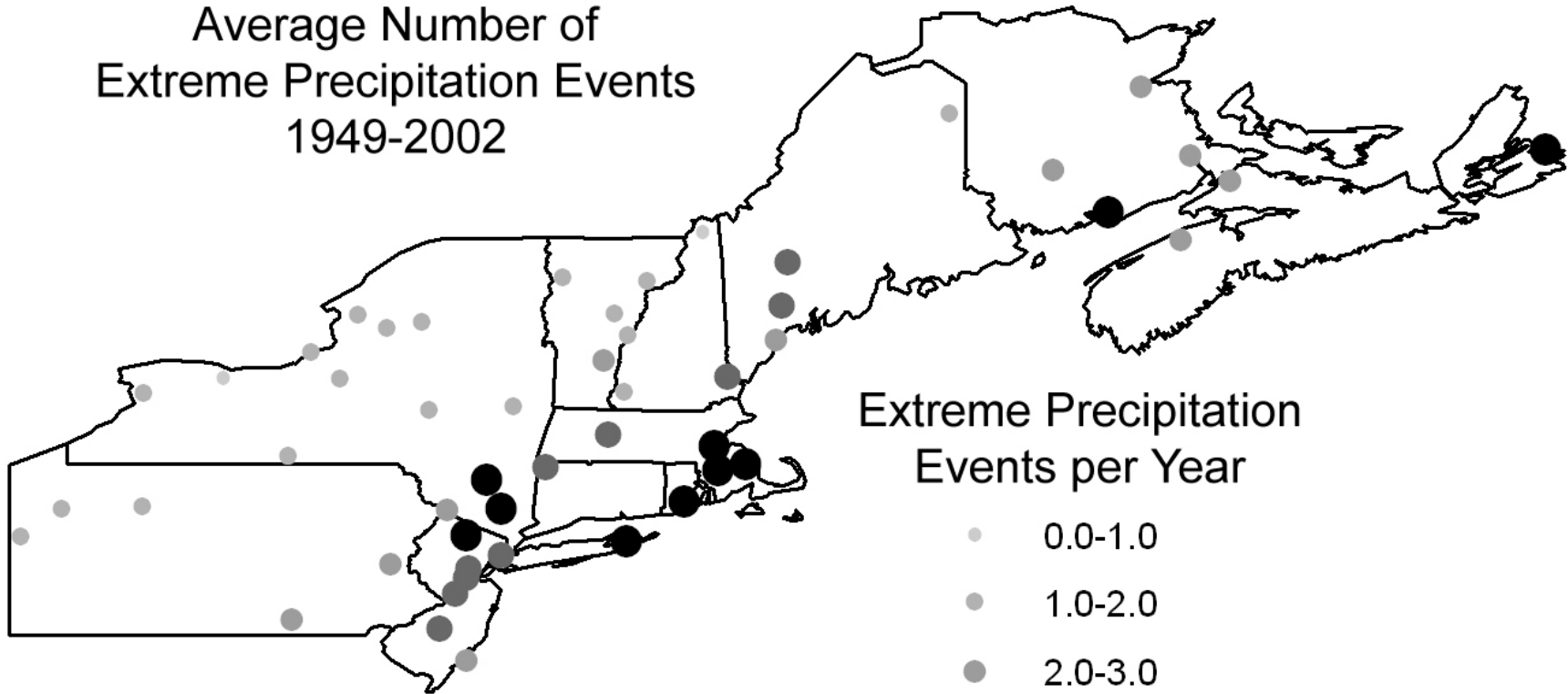
# Average Annual Precipitation in the NE US & CDN Maritimes 1900-2002



Time-series represents an aerielly weighted average of data from 133 stations.

# Spatial Variation of Extreme Precipitation Events

Average Number of  
Extreme Precipitation Events  
1949-2002

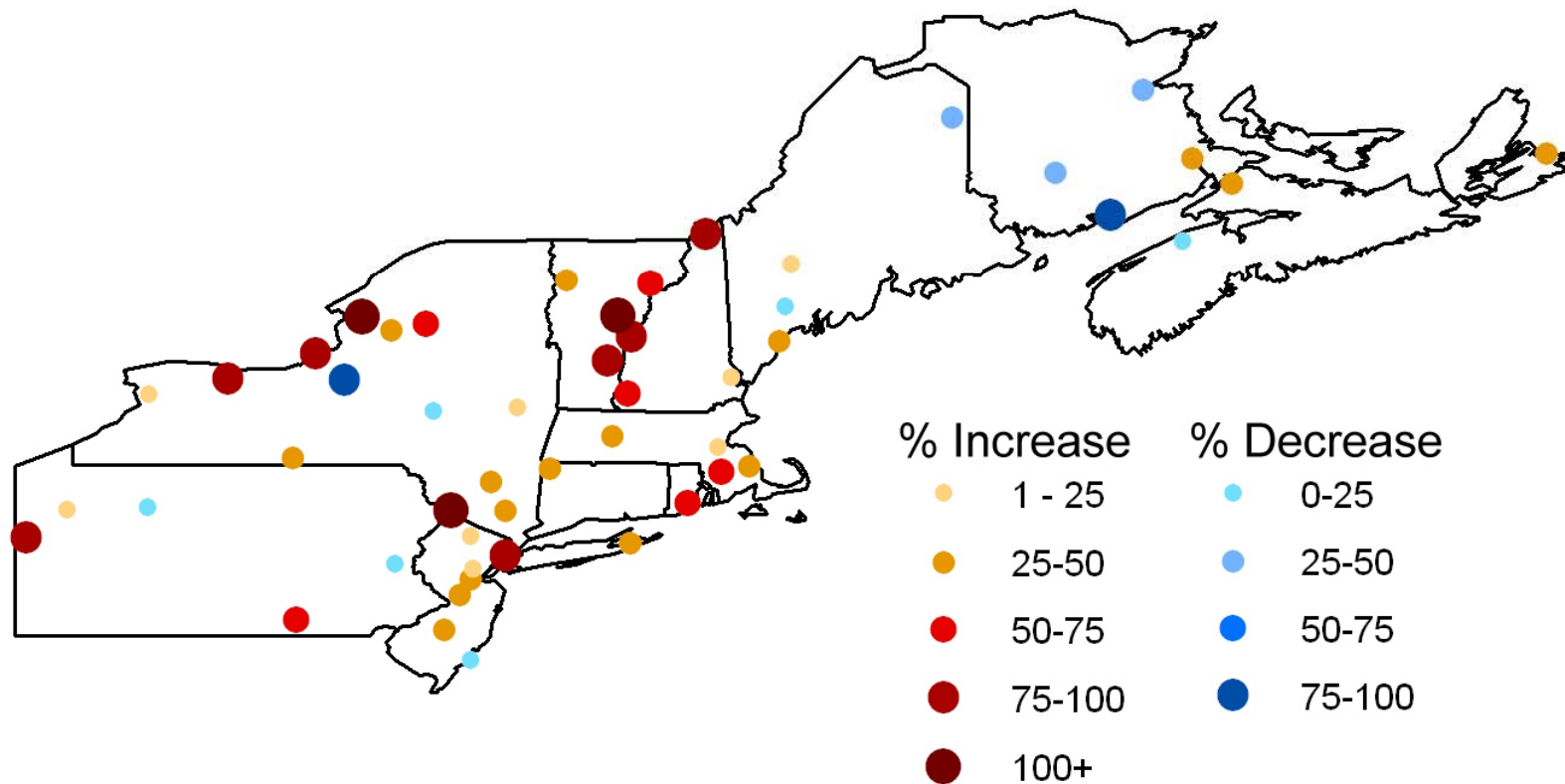


Extreme Precipitation  
Events per Year

- 0.0-1.0
- 1.0-2.0
- 2.0-3.0
- 3.0-4.0
- 4.0-5.0

# Spatial Variation of Extreme Precipitation Trend 1970-2002

Percent Change in Extreme Precipitation Events  
1949-2002

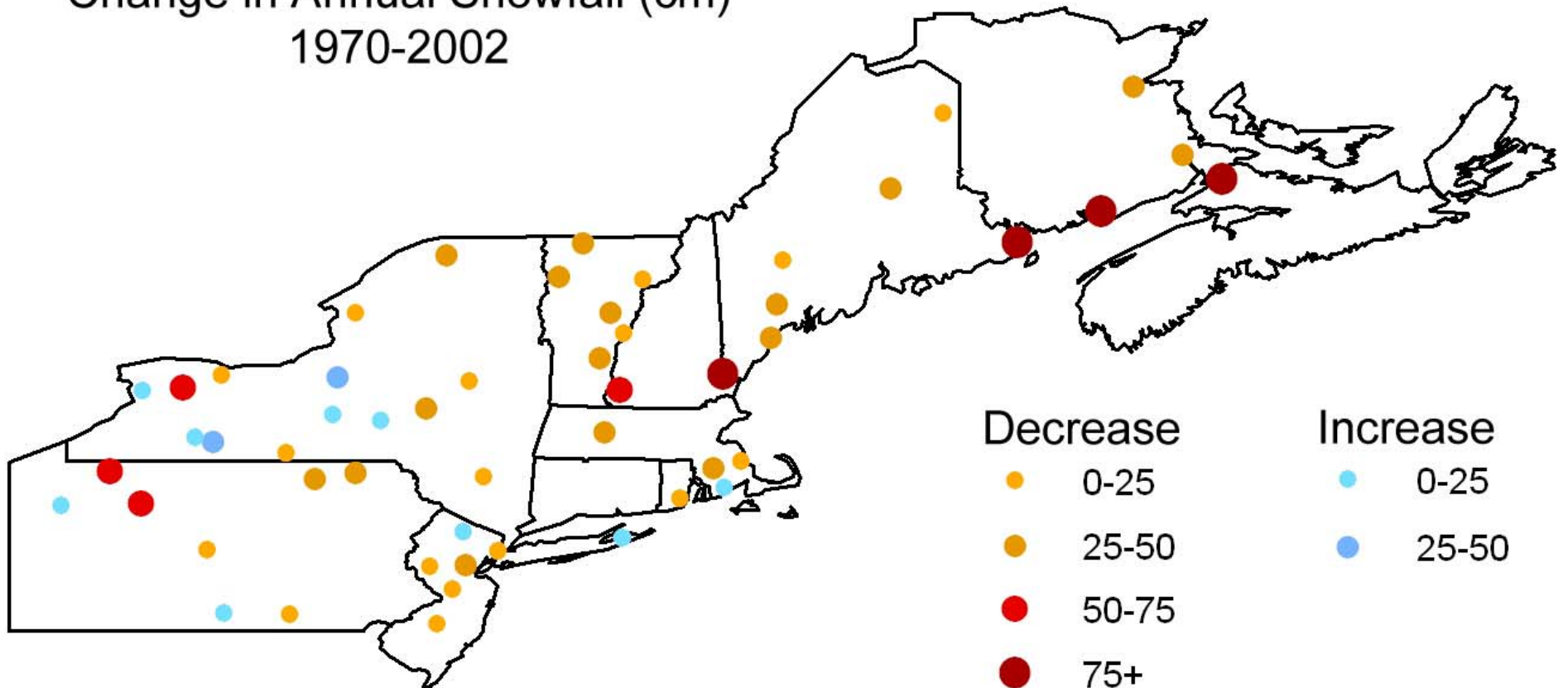


The extreme precipitation trend was calculated from a linear regression of number of events each year for each station.



## Spatial Variation of Snowfall Trend 1970-2002

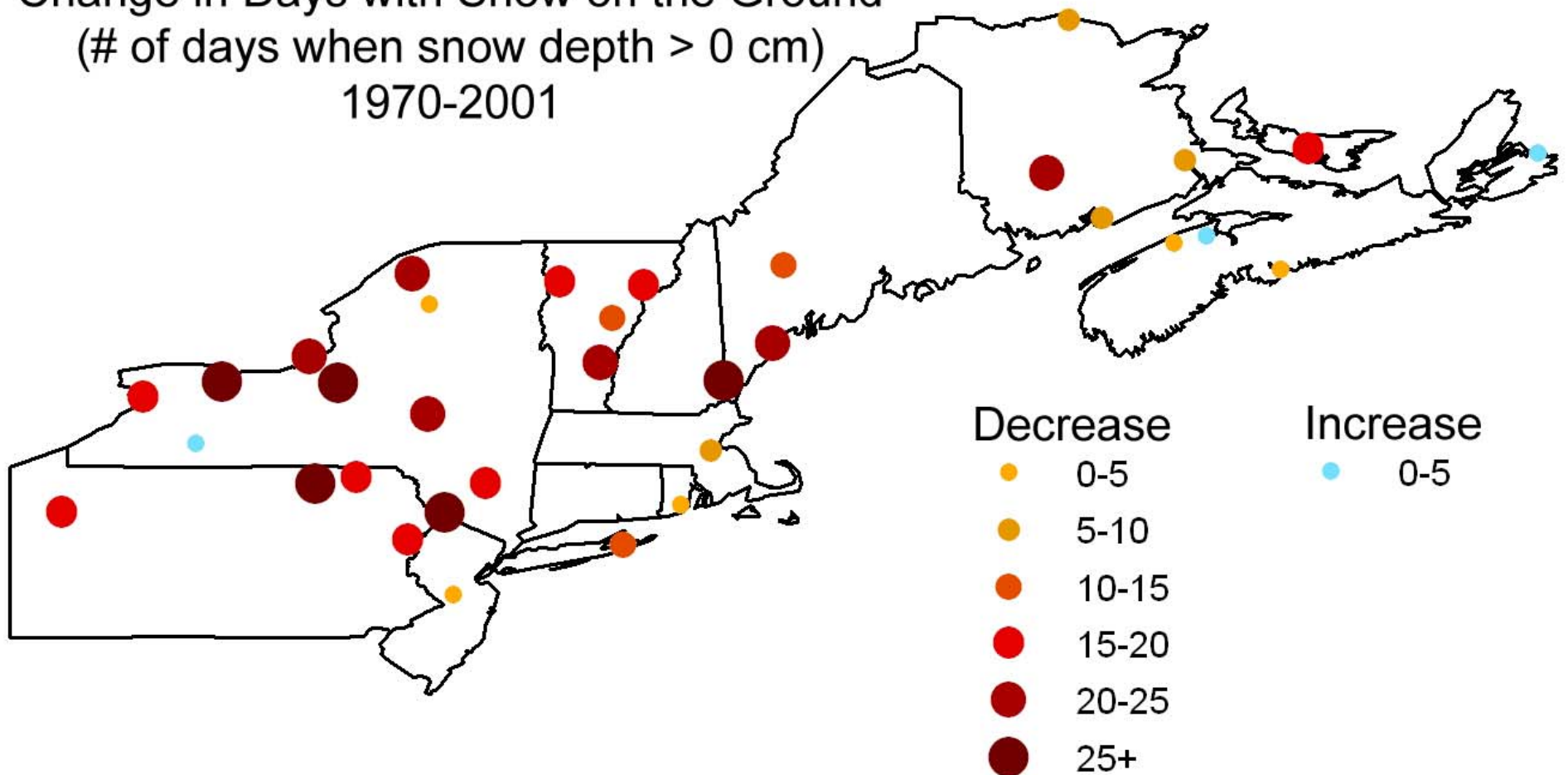
Change in Annual Snowfall (cm)  
1970-2002



The snowfall trend was calculated from a linear regression of average winter snowfall for each station.

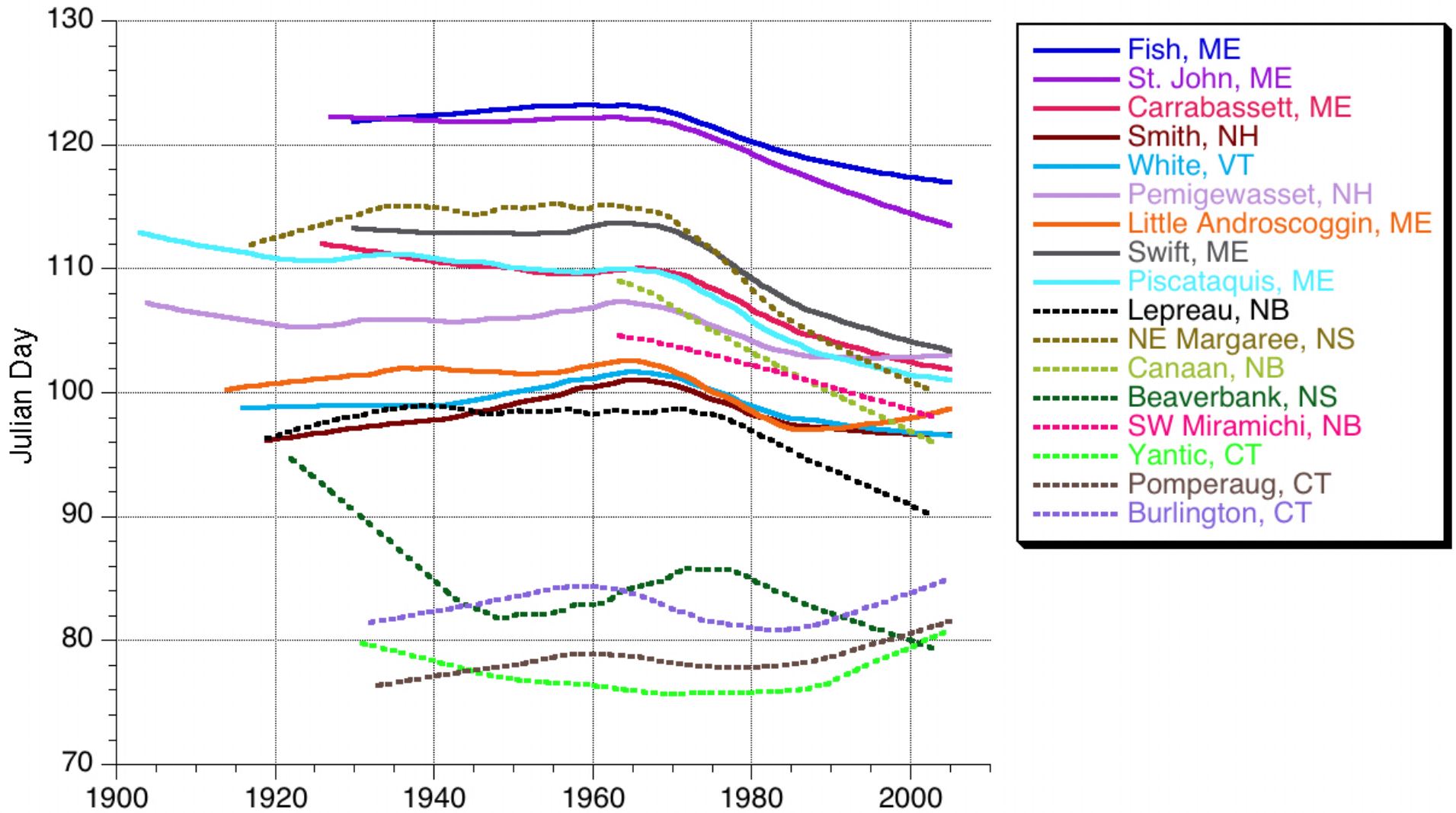
# Spatial Variation of Days with Snow on Ground 1970-2002

Change in Days with Snow on the Ground  
(# of days when snow depth > 0 cm)  
1970-2001



The snow on ground trend was calculated from a linear regression of annual total snow on ground days for each station.

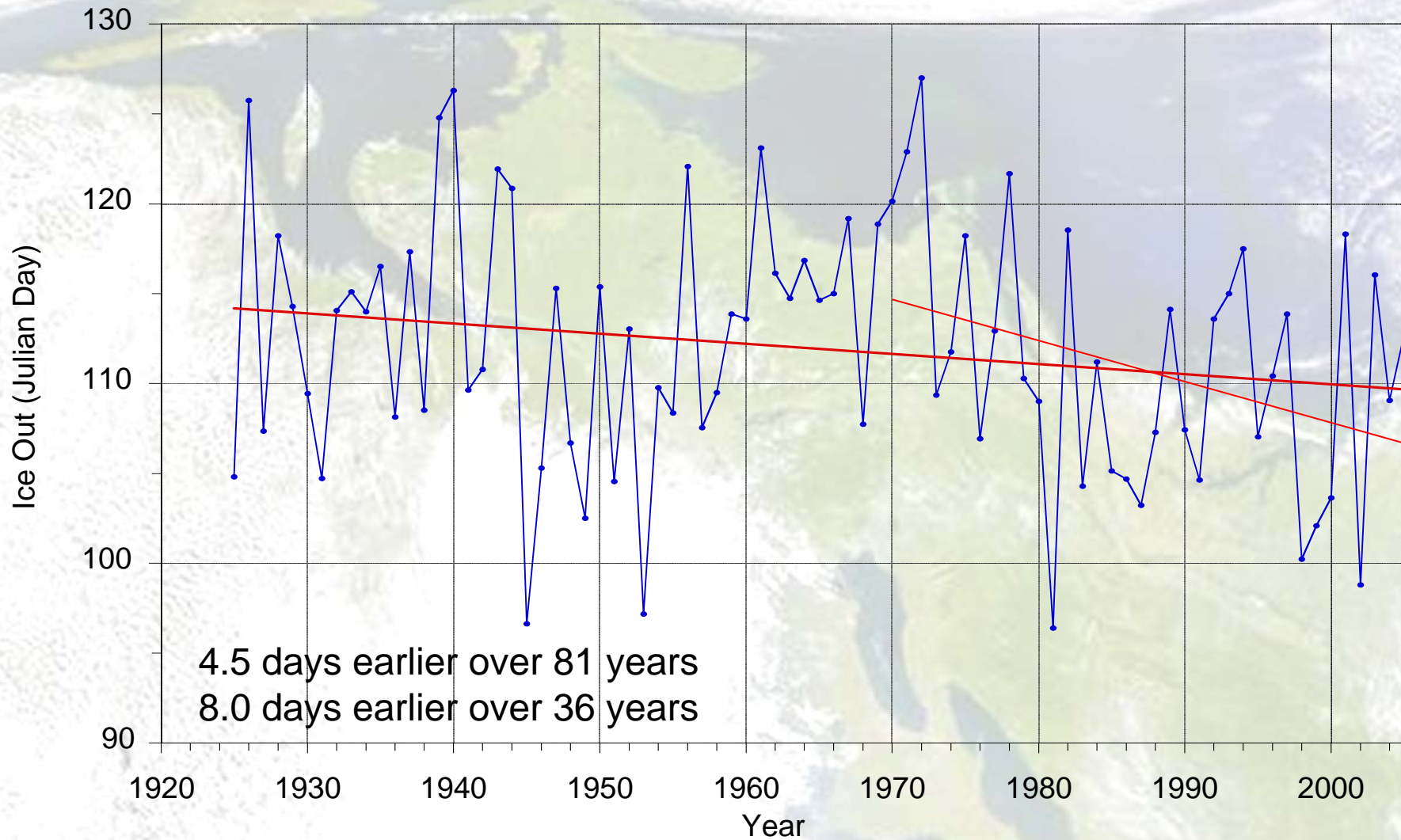
# Winter/Spring (1 Jan - 31 May) Center-of-Volume Dates



All data from unregulated rivers



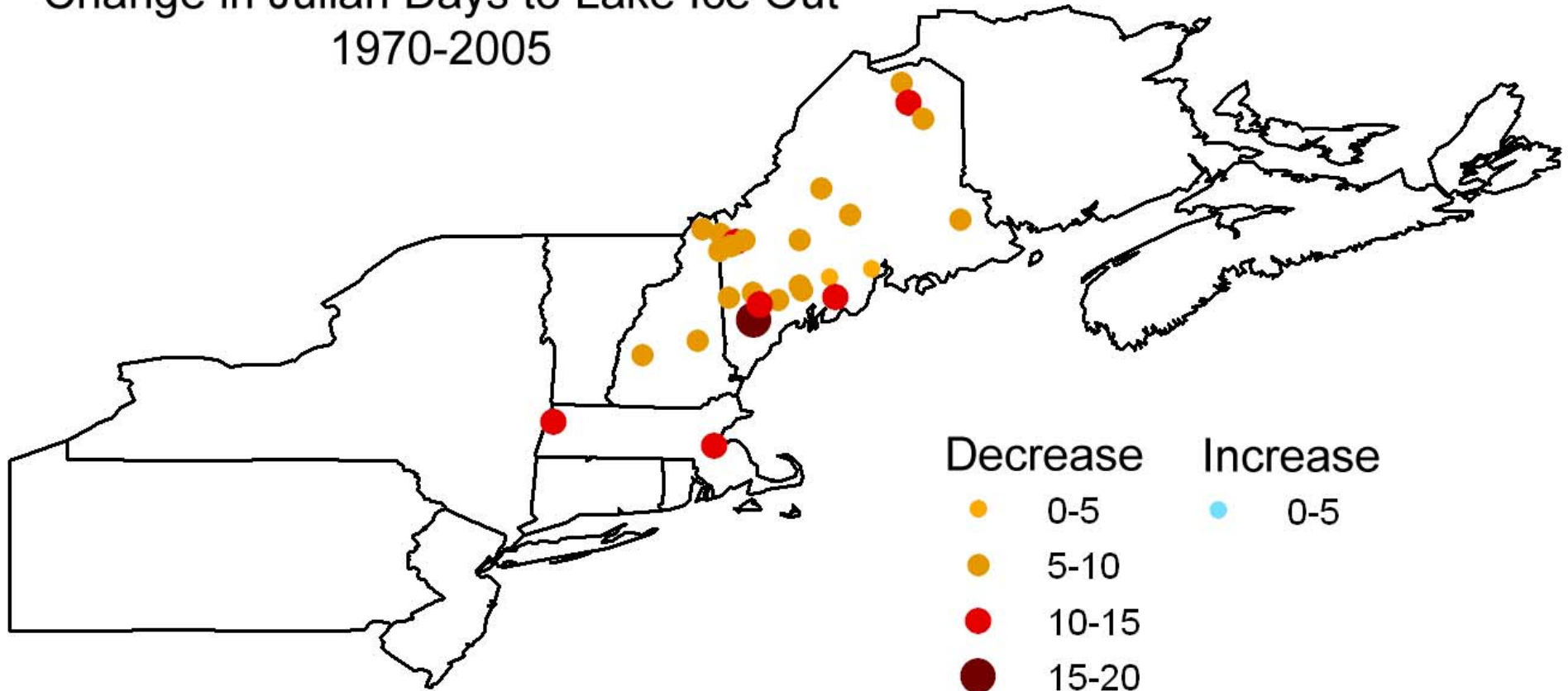
# Average Ice Out Day Trend 1925-2005 (27 Lakes)



Ice Out data from Hodgkins et al. 2002 and at: <http://me.water.usgs.gov/iceout.html>

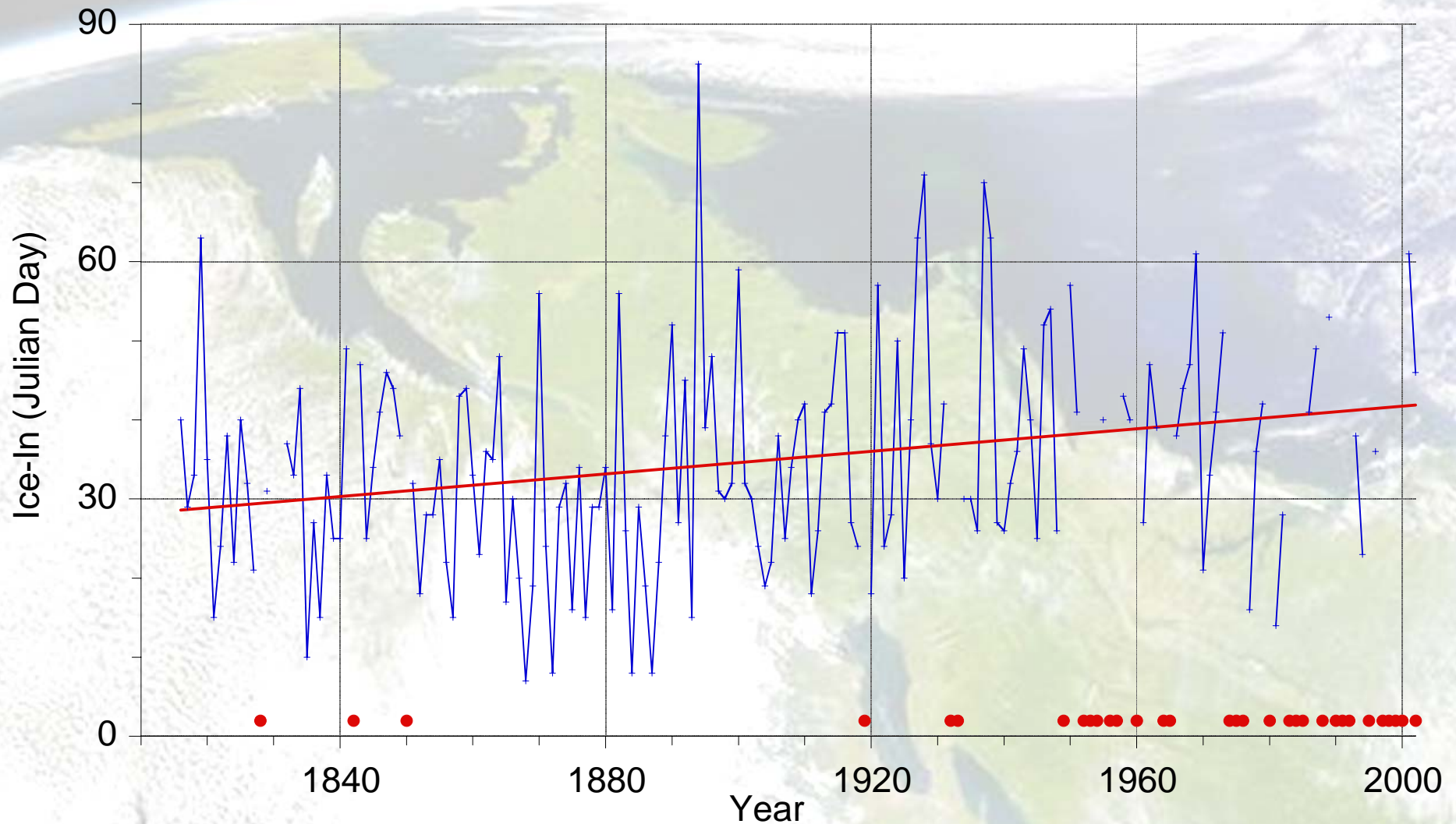
## Spatial Variation Trend in Ice Out Dates 1970-2000

Change in Julian Days to Lake Ice Out  
1970-2005



The ice out trend was calculated from a linear regression of annual ice out date record for each lake.

## Lake Champlain Ice-In Dates 1816-2005



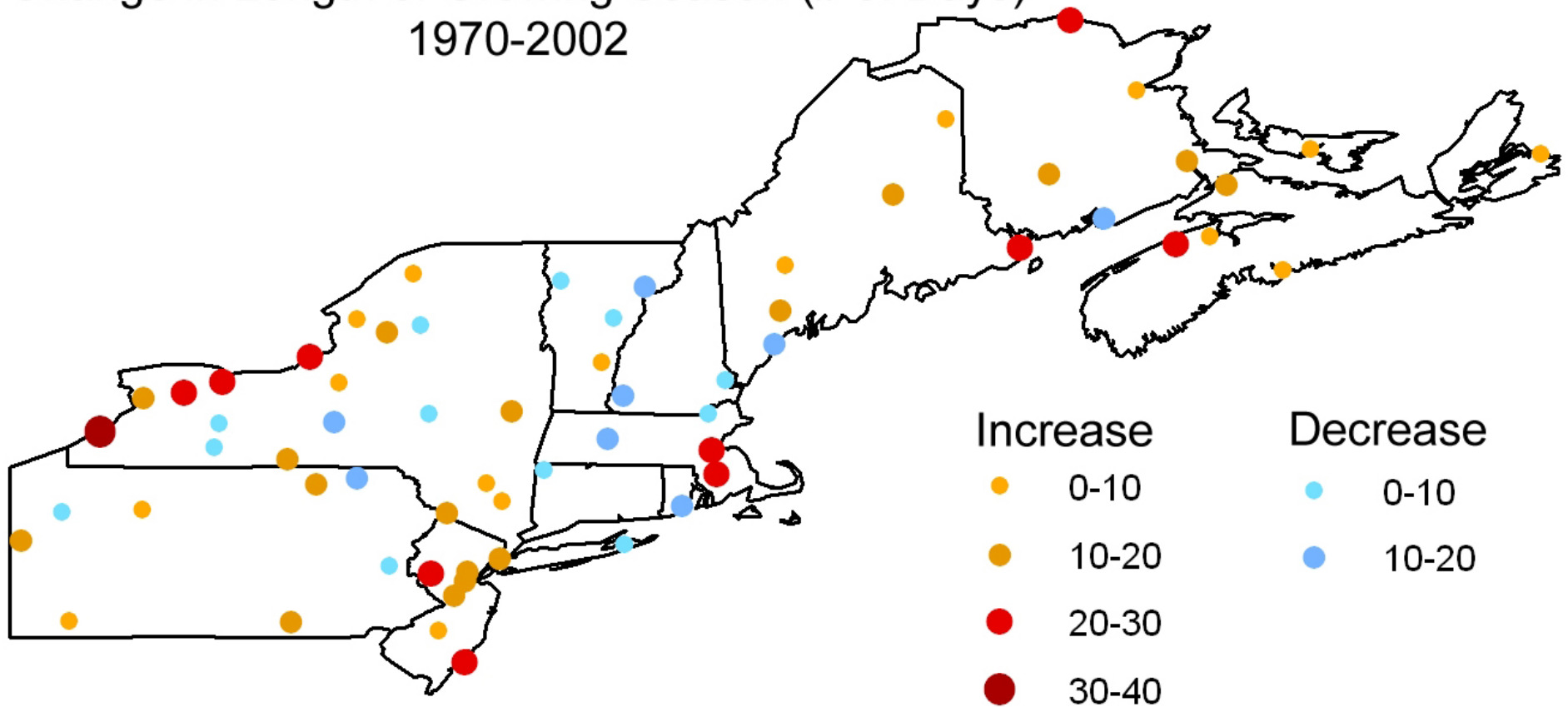
**Ice-in date 14 days later over last 190 years. Of 33 years lake has not frozen, 18 have occurred since 1970, and 26 since 1950.**

Data from NWS Burlington <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/er/btv/climo/lakeclose.html>



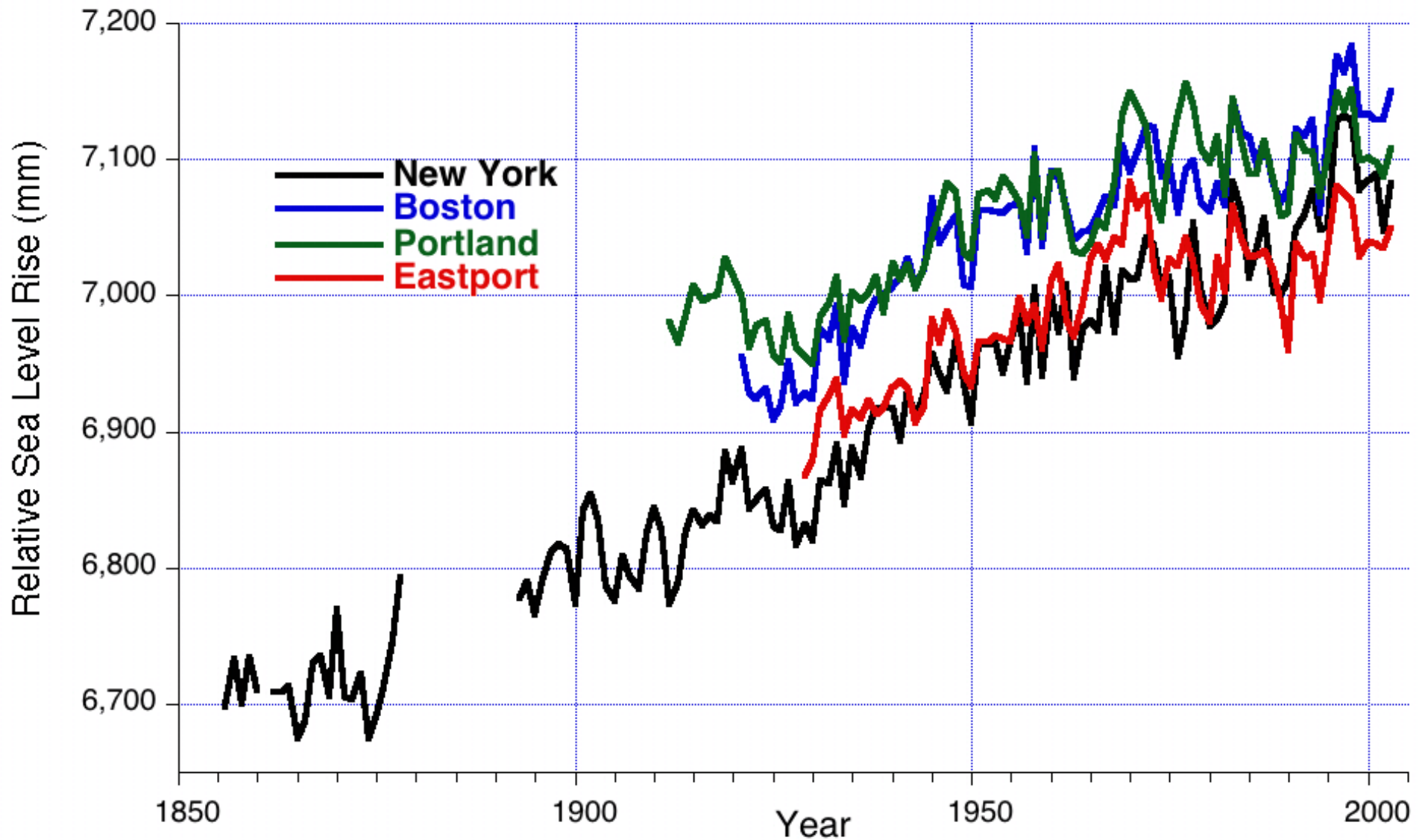
## Spatial Variation of Growing Season (28°F) Trend 1970-2000

Change in Length of Growing Season (# of Days)  
1970-2002



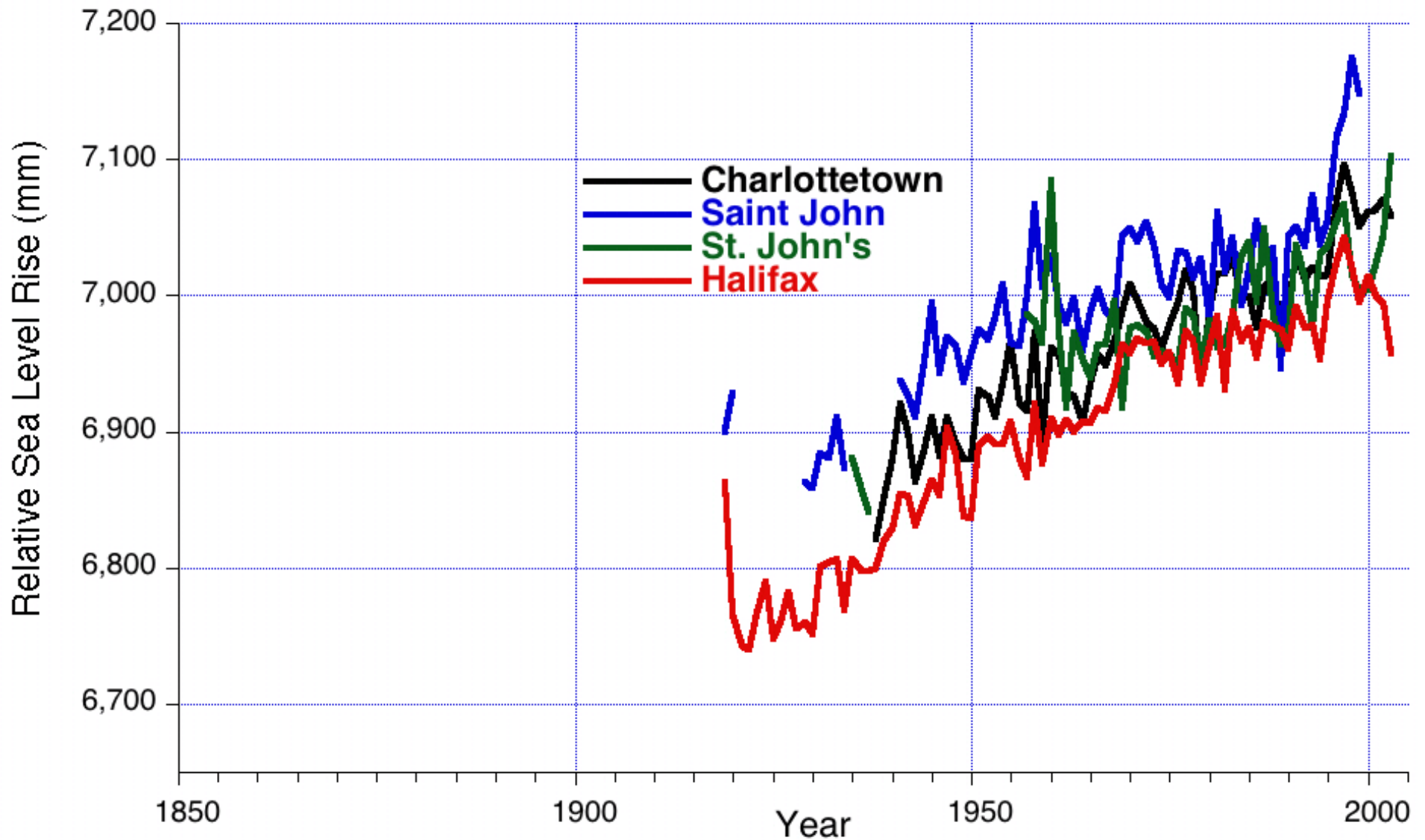
The growing season trend was calculated from a linear regression of annual average growing season length for each station.

## Relative Sea Level Rise 1856 - 2005



Data from Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level <http://www.pol.ac.uk/psmsl/>

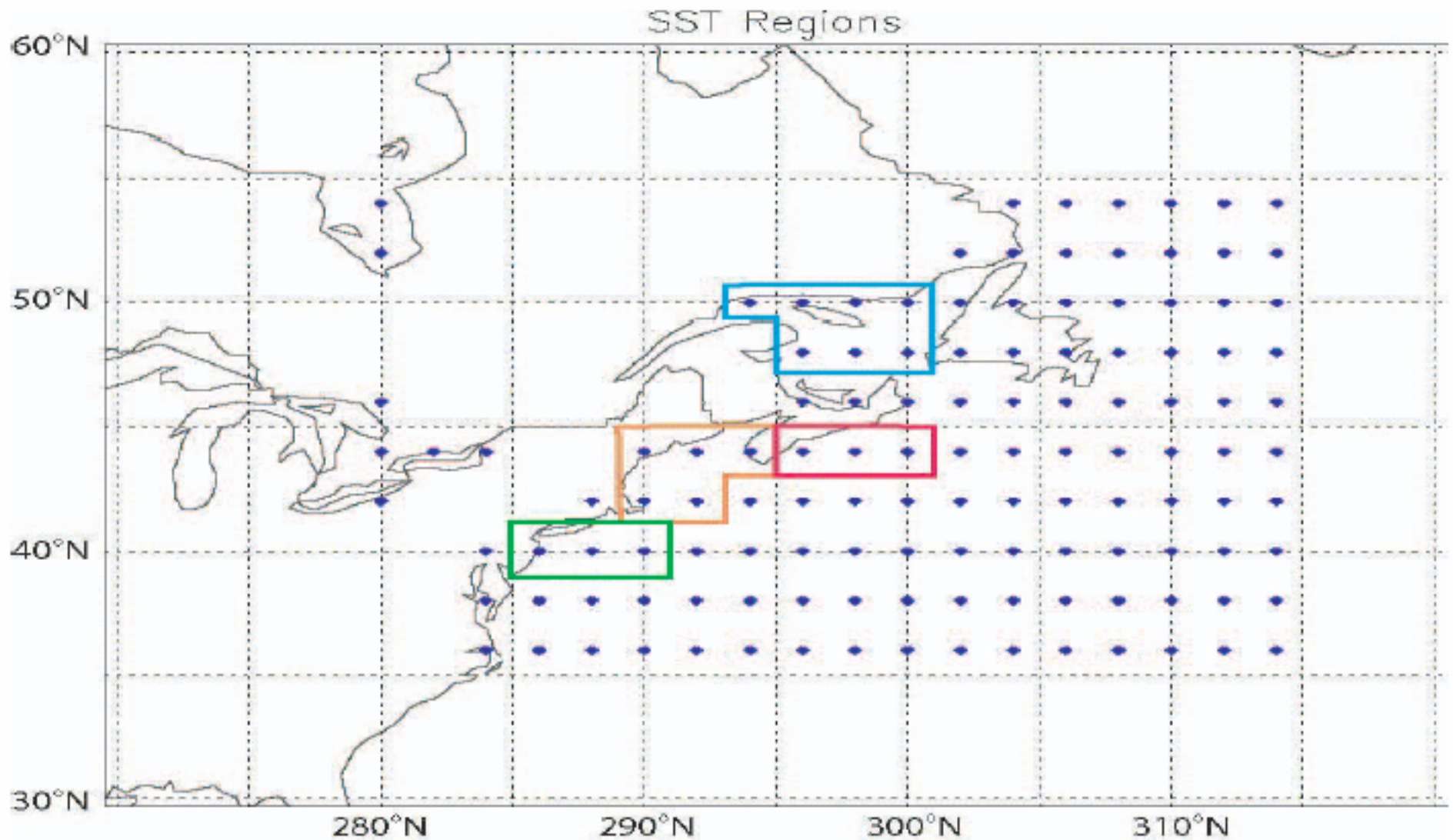
## Relative Sea Level Rise 1856 - 2005



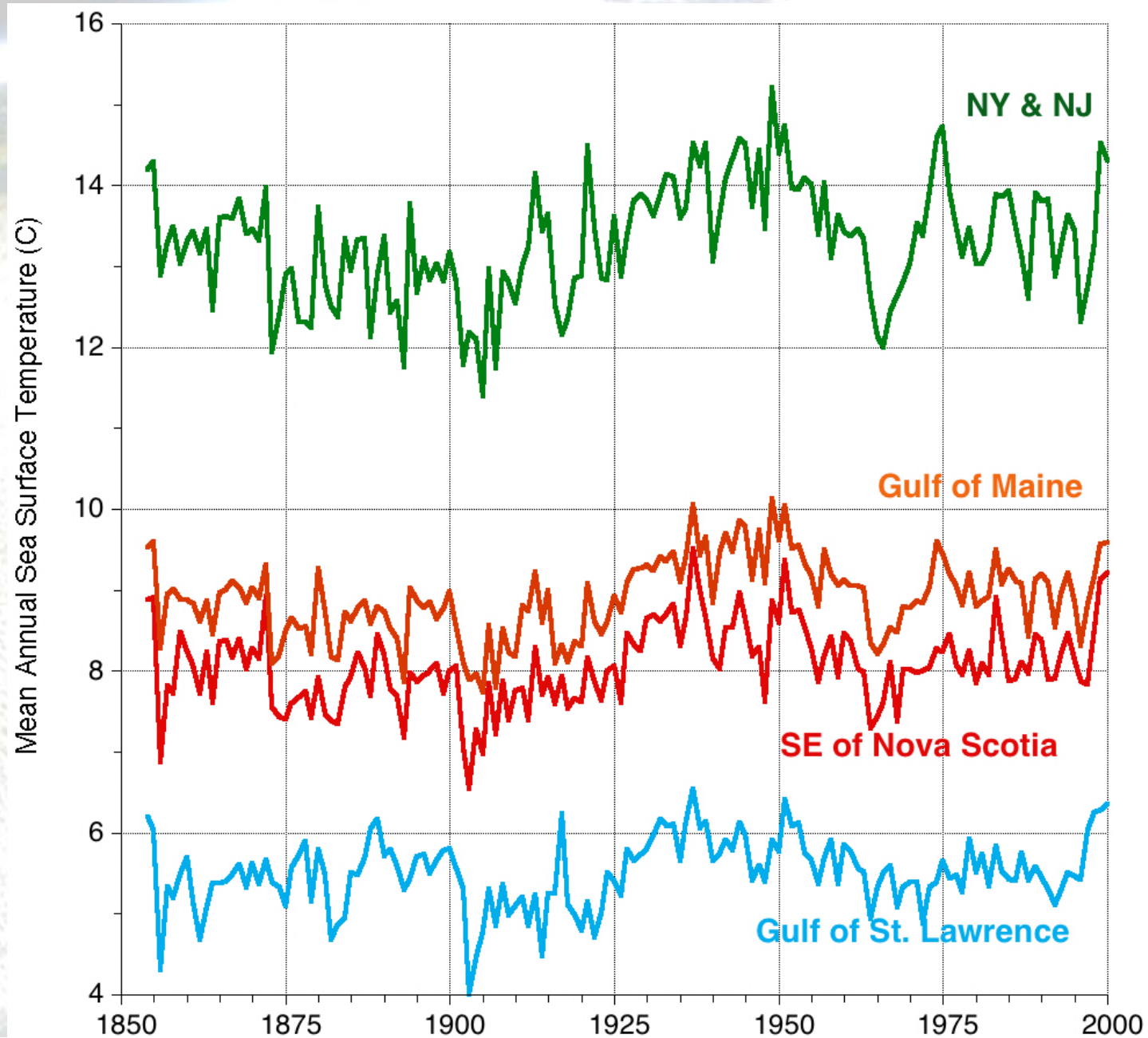
Data from Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level <http://www.pol.ac.uk/psmsl/>



# Sea Surface Temperatures 1900 - 2002



# Sea Surface Temperatures 1900 - 2002





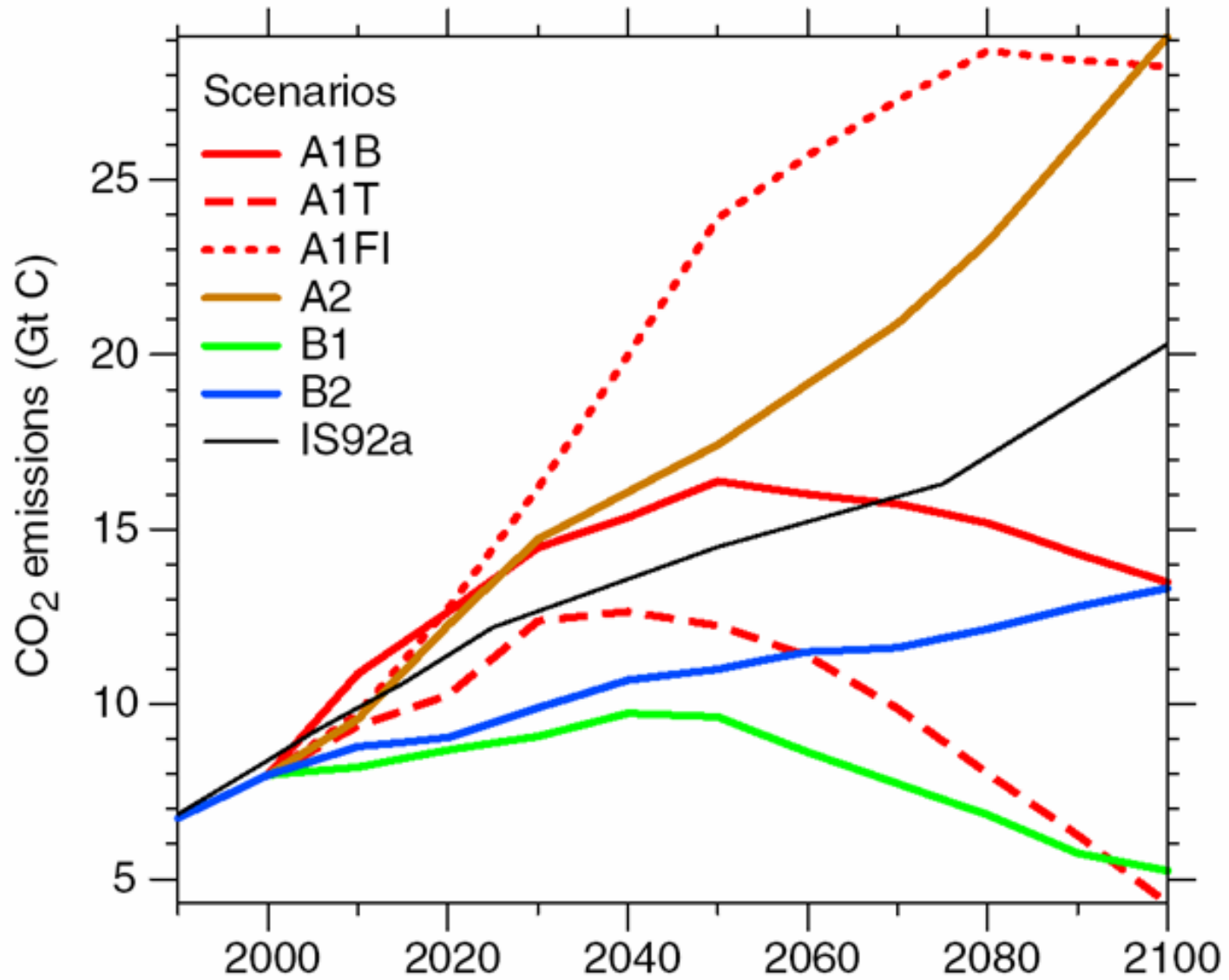
# Northeast Climate Impacts Assessment (NECIA)



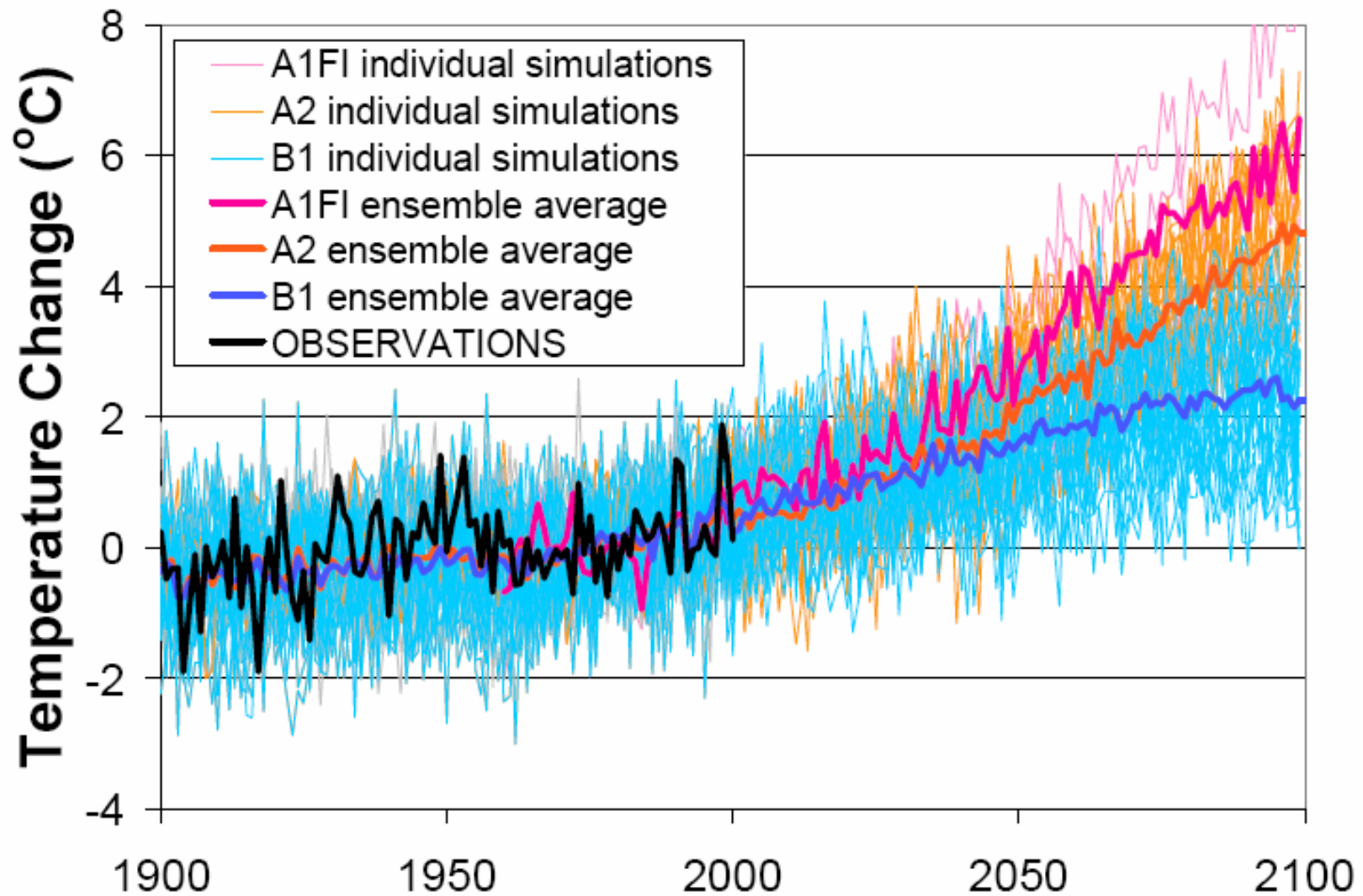
- Collaboration between UCS and 40 independent scientists
- **Analytic Approach**  
Assess projected changes in climate and potential impacts through 2100 under lower and higher scenarios of heat-trapping emissions.
- **Geographic Scope**  
Nine Northeast states, from Maine to Pennsylvania.
- **Peer Review**  
K. Hayhoe, C. Wake, et al.,  
Climate Dynamics, *in press*  
BAMS, *in review*



# Greenhouse Gas Emission Scenarios

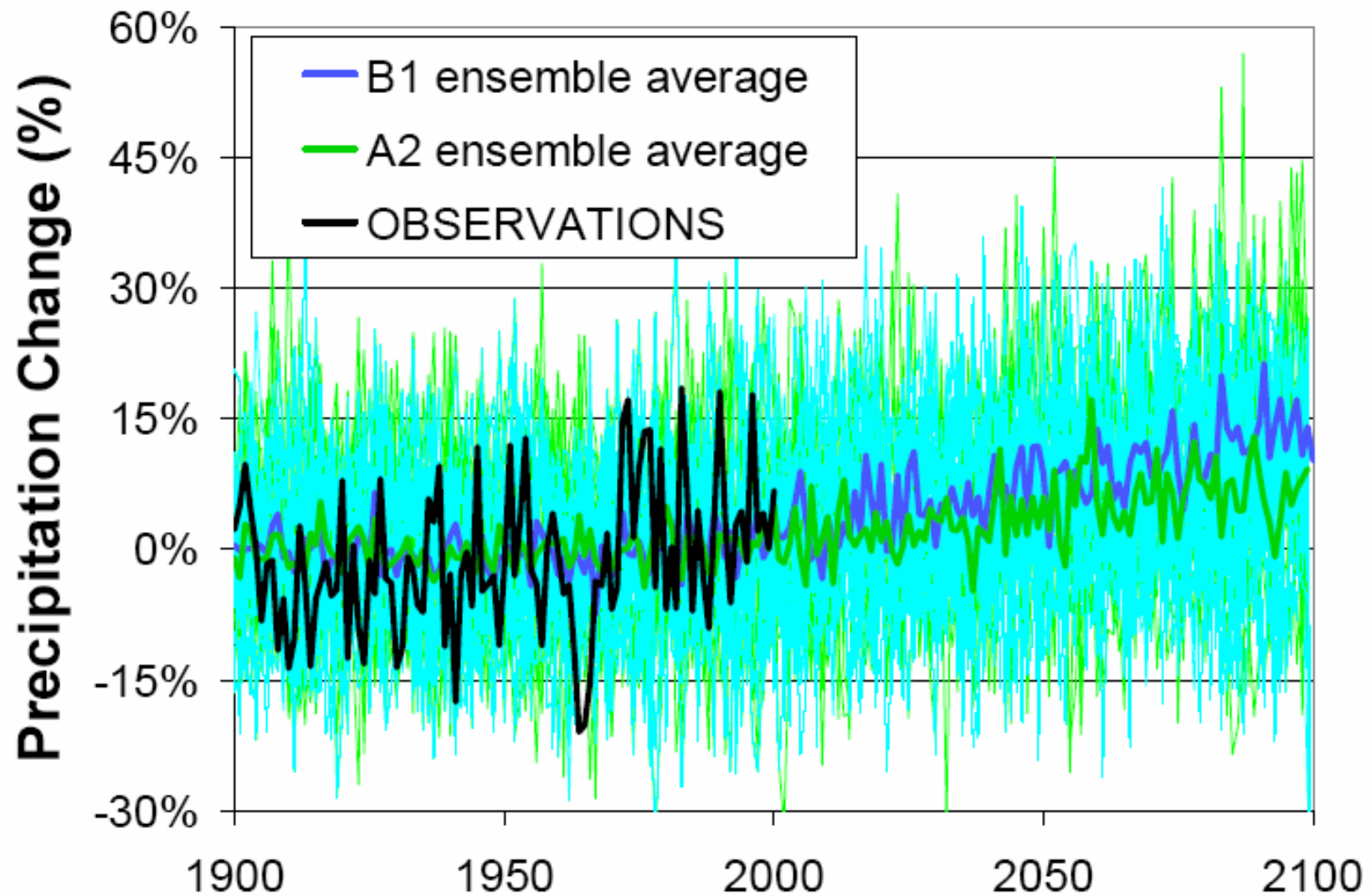


# Northeast Observed and Modeled Temperature





# Northeast Observed and Modeled Precipitation

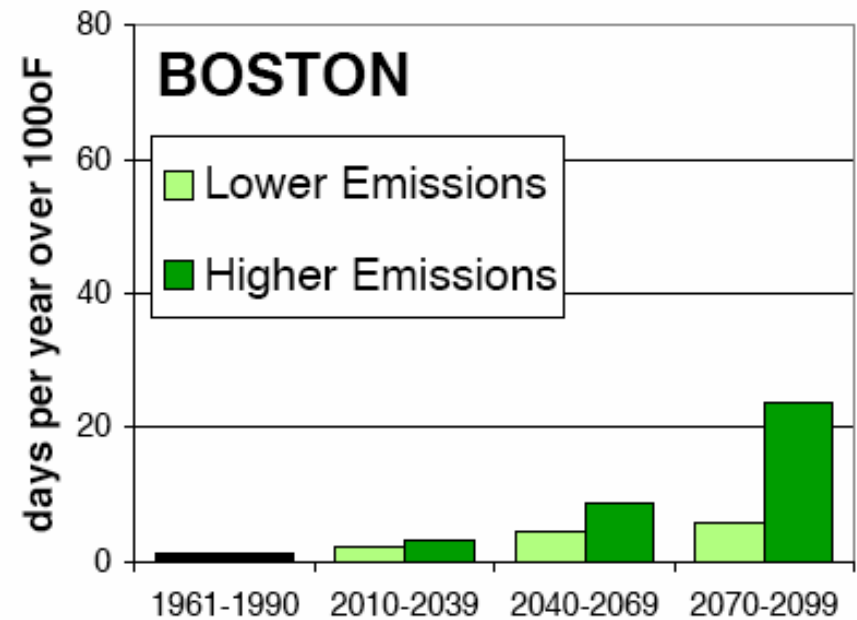
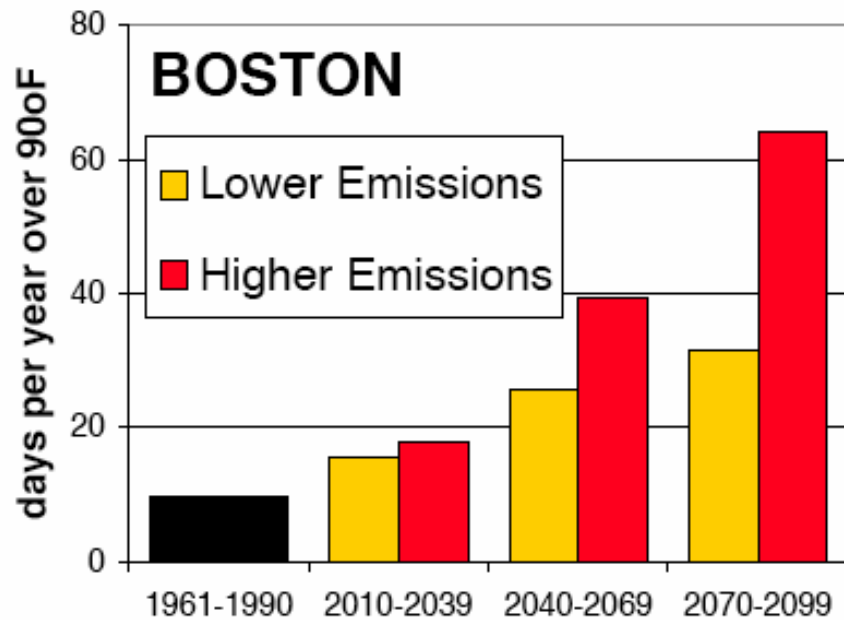




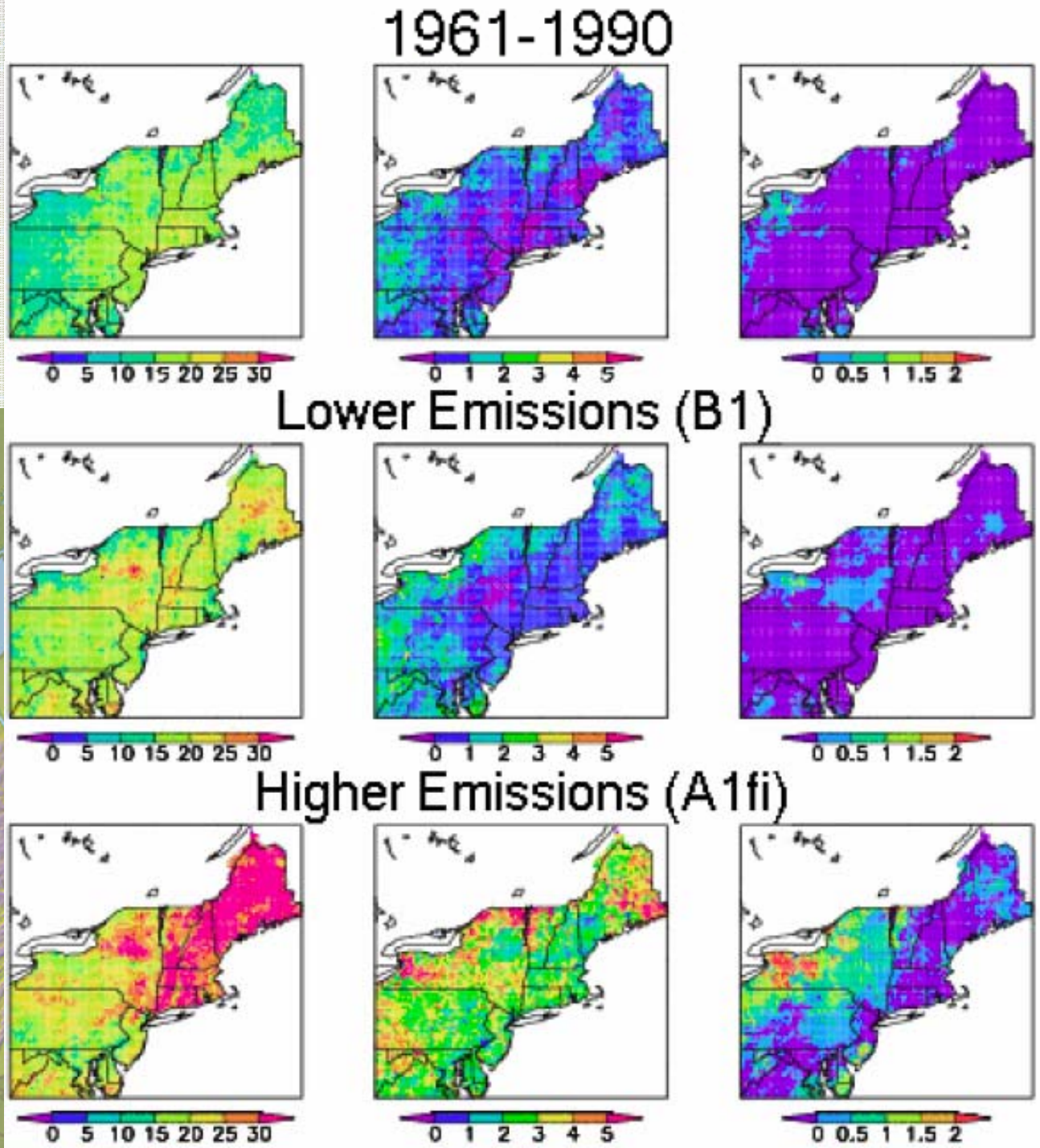
# Northeast Observed and Modeled Extreme Temperature

No. of days  $>90^{\circ}\text{F}$

No. of days  $>100^{\circ}\text{F}$



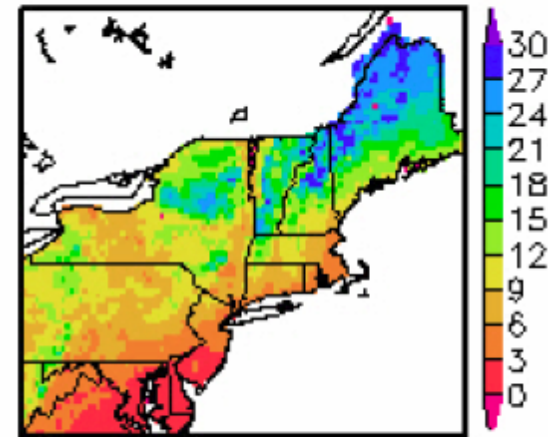
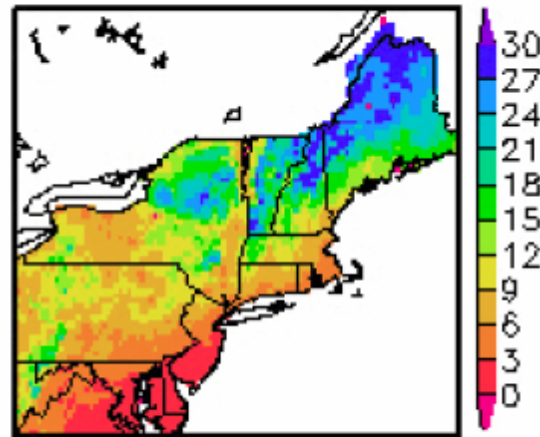
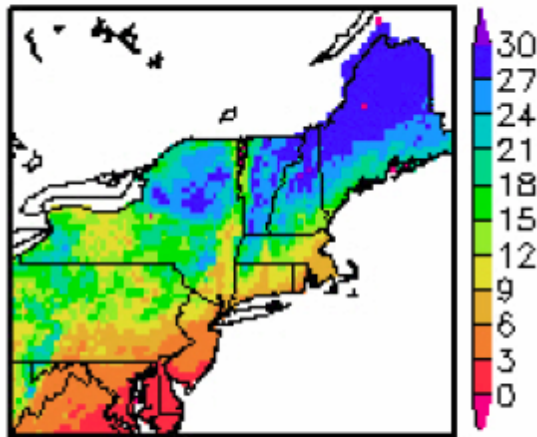
# Northeast Observed and Modeled Drought



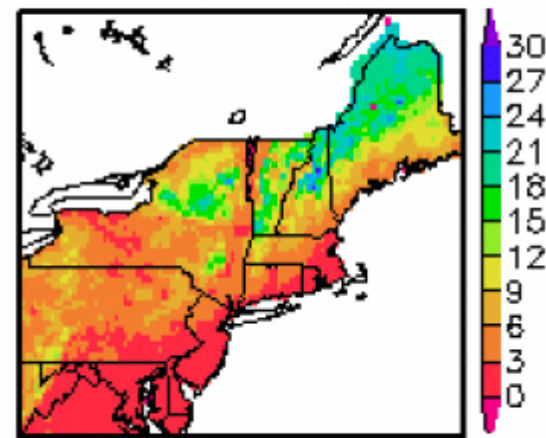
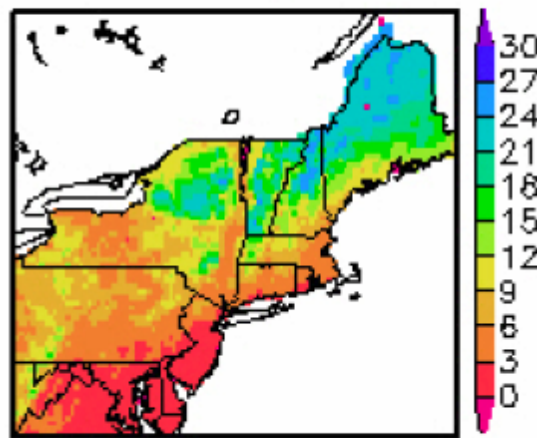
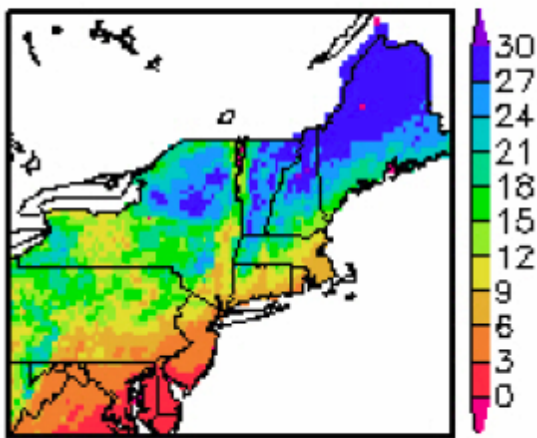


# Northeast Observed and Modeled Snow on Ground Days per Month

## Lower Emissions (B1)



## Higher Emissions (A1fi)



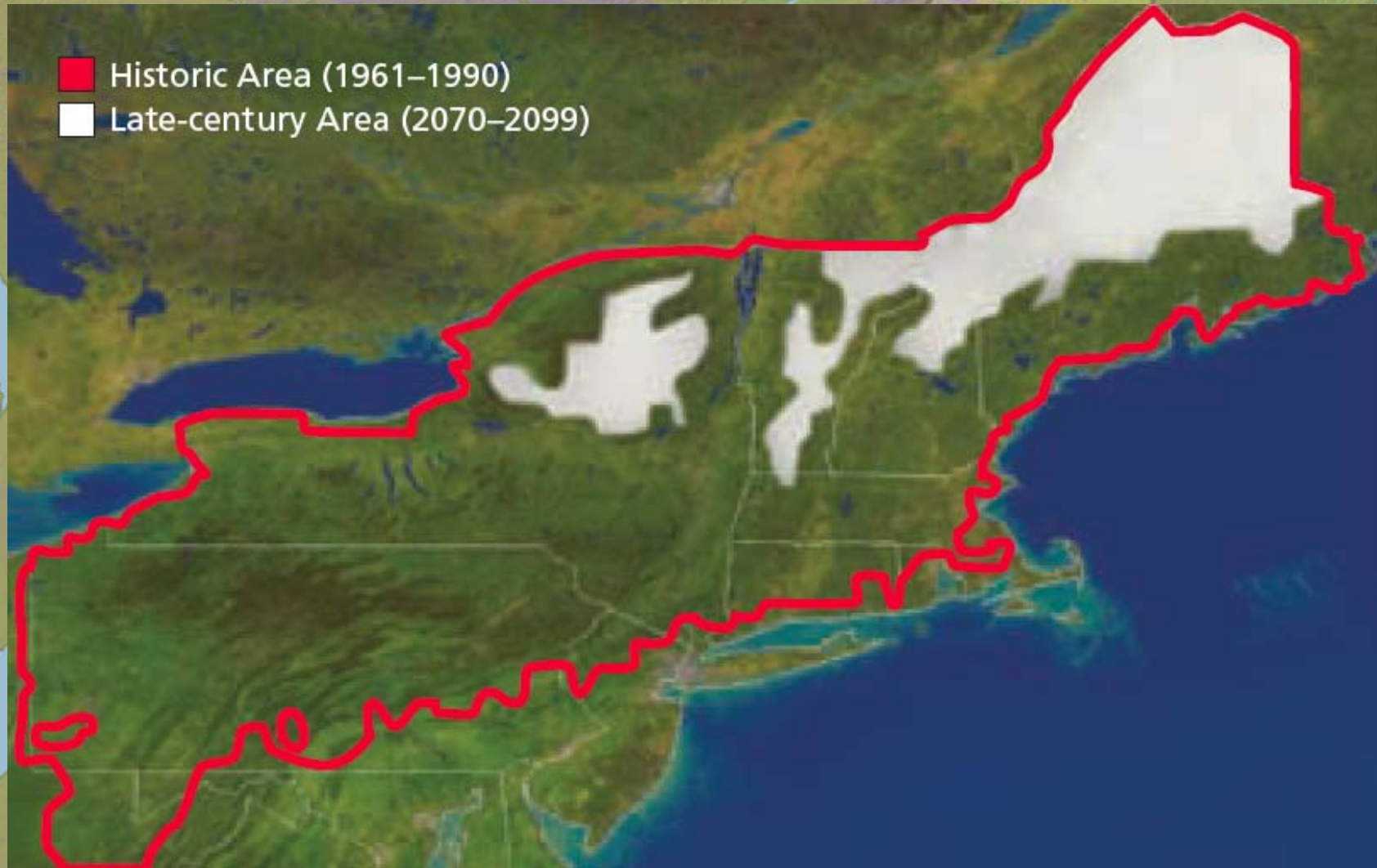
1961-1990

2035-2064

2070-2099



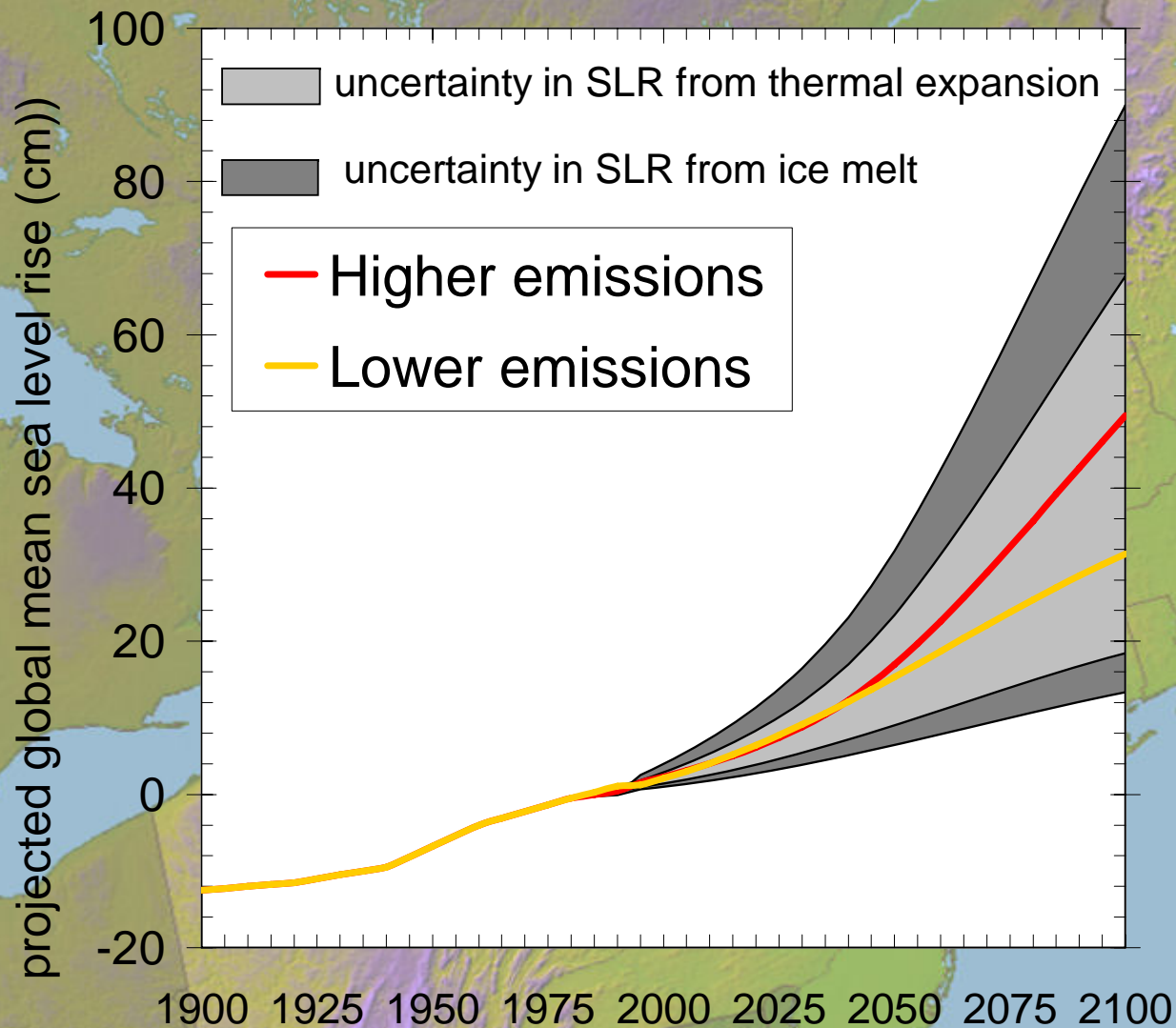
# Northeast Modeled Snow on Ground Days



Higher emissions: 50% reduction in snow-covered days (shown here)

Lower emissions: 25% reduction in snow-covered days

# Sea Level Rise



Higher: 8-33 inches

Lower: 4-21 inches

These estimates do not include the potential for additional increases due to more rapid melting of major polar ice sheets.