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Over the past year, the United Nations Fourth Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reported that "the observed increase in globally averaged temperatures since the mid-20th century is very likely due to the observed increase in anthropogenic greenhouse gas concentrations," a statement strengthening previous IPCC assessment reports, but leaving policymakers with tough decisions due to the uncertainties involved. In this talk, we will present the statistical issues and research underlying and influencing the IPCC assessment, a study of the economic impact of global warming, and future public health policy implications. (Received September 20, 2007)