

David Wratt was born in Motueka, New Zealand. He has a PhD in atmospheric physics from Canterbury University, and undertook postdoctoral research at the University of Illinois in the USA. He joined the New Zealand Meteorological Service in 1976, and moved to the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) when it was formed in 1992. He is presently Chief Scientist (Climate) at NIWA in Wellington, and chairs the Climate Committee of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

Dr Wratt has published scientific papers, book chapters and reports on upper atmosphere physics, air pollution meteorology, applied climatology, mountain influences on weather and climate, regional climate projections, and climate change impacts and adaptation. He was a Coordinating Lead Author for the Australia and New Zealand chapter of the IPCC's Third Assessment, and a Bureau member for the Fourth Assessment.