

The NOAA Annual Greenhouse Gas Index (AGGI) – Update 2006

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For the past 30 years, the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has monitored climate-forcing and ozone-depleting atmospheric gases. These global measurements have provided input to climate and ozone assessments (e.g., the quadrennial IPCC Climate Reports and WMO/UNEP Ozone Assessments). Recently, efforts to make these data more useful and available have been undertaken through release of the NOAA Annual Greenhouse Gas Index (AGGI), <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/aggi> and the Ozone Depleting Gas Index (ODGI) <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/odgi>. These indices are designed to enhance the connection between scientists and society by providing a normalized standard that can be easily understood and followed. Measurements are made at baseline climate observatories (Pt. Barrow, Alaska; Mauna Loa, Hawaii; American Samoa; and the South Pole) and flask air samples are collected through global networks, including an international cooperative program for carbon gases. The concept of radiative climate forcing is used to determine the AGGI, which is normalized to 1.00 in 1990, the Kyoto Climate Protocol baseline year. In this poster, the 2006 values for the AGGI are highlighted.

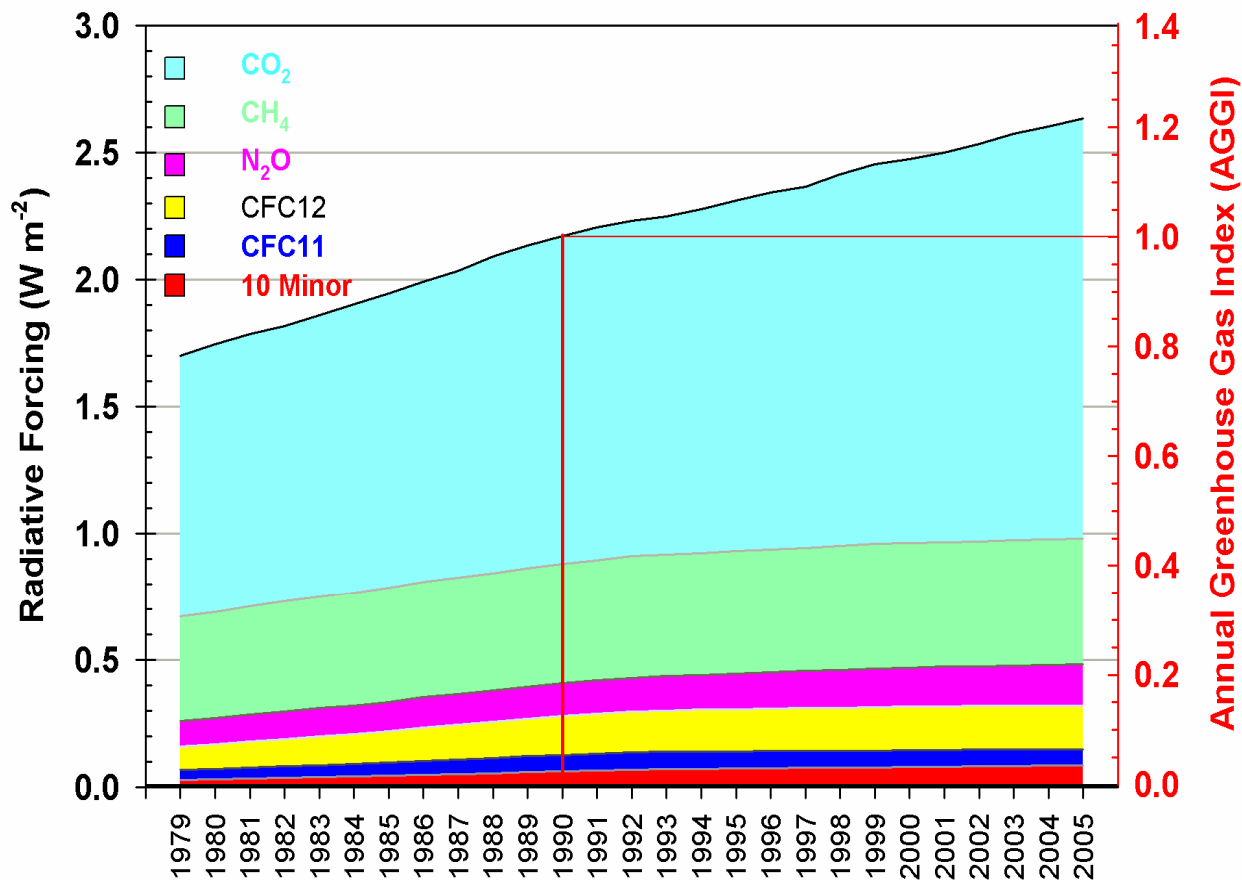


Figure 1. NOAA Annual Greenhouse Gas Index (AGGI).