

# *Human Caused Climate Change? A Skeptical Look at the Narrative*

## Climate Glossary

( twelfth PDF of 12)

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Find all PDFs in this package & other Climate Related material on [their website page](#).

Other PDFs on various subjects, exposing the machinations behind the mainstream narrative about our world, can be found [here on my website](#).

Should anyone feel like supporting my continuing this work, a donation button is to be found [on my website](#) (left sidebar and on a page shown in the menu). Thank you.

This short glossary is intended to be terms and abbreviations encountered in the world of climate science that appear in these *Human Caused Climate Change? A Skeptical Look at the Narrative* PDFs.

For a more complete glossary of climate related terms, see the end of this list.

### Organizations

CRU - University of East Anglia's Climatic Research Unit, UK

IPCC - The United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

AR(#) - Assessment Report from the IPCC; there have been 6 so far, the last, AR6, published in 2023.

NASA - National Aeronautics and Space Administration

NCDC - The National Climatic Data Center, located in Asheville, North Carolina, is the world's largest active archive of weather data from around the globe.

NOAA - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NWS - National Weather Service, part of NOAA

UNEP - United Nations Environment Programme

UNFCCC - United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

WCRP - World Climate Research Programme

WGCM - Working Group on Coupled Modelling

WMO - World Meteorological Organization

## General Terminology

Albedo - reflectivity, measured on a scale from 0 (a black body that absorbs all incident radiation) to 1 (a body that reflects all incident radiation)

Anthropogenic - Caused by humans

Diurnal Drift - In telecommunication, a drift is a comparatively long-term change in an attribute, value, or operational parameter of a system or equipment. Drift is usually undesirable and unidirectional, but may be bidirectional, cyclic, or of such long-term duration and low excursion rate as to be negligible.

Forcing - Climate forcing is the physical process of affecting the climate on the Earth through a number of forcing factors. These factors are specifically known as forcings because they drive the climate to change.

Holocene - the current geological epoch, which is the current interglacial period starting at end of the last ice age, about 11,700 years ago

Paleoclimatology, Proxy - Paleoclimatology is the study of past climates. Scientists use what is known as proxy data to reconstruct past climate conditions. These proxy data are preserved physical characteristics of the environment that can stand in for direct measurements.

Radiosonde - a battery-powered telemetry instrument carried into the atmosphere usually by a weather balloon that measures various atmospheric parameters and transmits them by radio to a ground receiver.

Reanalysis - a blend of observations with past short-range weather forecasts rerun with modern weather forecasting models. They are globally complete and consistent in time and are sometimes referred to as 'maps without gaps'.

Troposphere - the lowest layer of the atmosphere of Earth. It contains 75% of the total mass of the planetary atmosphere and 99% of the total mass of water vapor and aerosols, and is where most weather phenomena occur.

Abbreviations - often encountered in graphs and other discussions

BP - Before Present, on a time scale axis of a graph

ECS – Equilibrium Climate Sensitivity – an estimate of how much the world will warm every time carbon dioxide levels double.

ENSO - El Niño – Southern Oscillation

GCM - Global Climate Model, a computer climate model

GISP - the Greenland Ice Sheet Project

GISS - Goddard Institute for Space Studies (NASA) - a surface temperature data set

GISTEMP - GISS Surface Temperature Analysis

HadCRUT (Hadley CRUT) - a cooperative effort between the Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction and Research and the CRU

LIA - Little Ice Age

MMTS - Maximum Minimum Temperature System

MWP - Medieval Warming Period

RSS - Remote Sensing Systems - a satellite temperature data set. RSS is a private research company founded in 1974; it processes microwave data from a variety of NASA satellites.

SAT - Surface Air Temperature

SST - Buoy Sea-Surface Temperature

TTT - Temperature Total Troposphere

UAH - University of Alabama Huntsville - a satellite temperature data set

An extensive glossary can be found on the Watts Up With That? website. One section is Climate Science Acronyms, each with a link to the organization. Another section is Climate Science Abbreviations. [WUWT? Glossary Page](#)