

ABSORPTION OF RADIANT ENERGY BY THE ATMOSPHERE

ATMOSPHERIC COMPONENT	ATMOSPHERIC ABUNDANCE	SHORTWAVE ABSORPTION	LONGWAVE ABSORPTION	TOTAL ABSORPTION	TOTAL PERCENT
	Parts per billion	Watts per square meter	Watts per square meter	Watts per square meter	
Water Vapor (H ₂ O)	4,000,000	64	128	192	52
Clouds ¹	-	19	59	78	21
Total Of All Water	-	83	187	270	73
Carbon Dioxide (CO ₂)	390,000	<1	53	53	14
Ozone (O ₃)	3.5	19	17	36	10
Methane (CH ₄)	1,790	<1	9	9	2
Nitrous Oxide (N ₂ O)	300	<1	2	2	1
Total		102	268	370	100

Table data extrapolated from: Kiehl, J. T. and Trenberth, K. E.: "Earth's Annual Global Mean Energy Budget", *Bulletin of the American Meteorology Society*, Vol. 78, No. 2, February 1997.

¹ Includes water droplets, ice crystals, dust, pollen, and other atmospheric particulates.