

# The Solar System

The Solar System consists of the Sun and the objects that orbit it, either directly or indirectly. Of the objects that orbit the Sun directly, the largest are the eight planets, with the remainder being smaller objects, such as dwarf planets and small Solar System bodies. The inner Solar System contains the terrestrial planets Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars, which are primarily composed of rock and metal. The outer Solar System contains the gas giants Jupiter and Saturn, and the ice giants Uranus and Neptune. Together, these four planets are much more massive than the inner planets. Moons orbit most of the planets, with Jupiter and Saturn having the most. Other objects, such as comets and asteroids, also populate the Solar System, and provide evidence of its formation and history.