

Table 2

## Statements of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on Detection and Attribution of Global Climate Change

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<i>First Assessment Report</i> (1990)	“Unequivocal detection of the enhanced greenhouse effect from observations is not likely for a decade or more.”
<i>Second Assessment Report</i> (1995)	“The balance of evidence suggests a discernible human influence on global climate.”
<i>Third Assessment Report</i> (2001)	“Most of the observed warming over the last 50 years is <i>likely</i> * to have been due to the increase in greenhouse gas concentration.”
<i>Fourth Assessment Report</i> (2007)	“Most of the observed increase in global average temperatures since the mid-20th century is <i>very likely</i> due to the observed increase in anthropogenic greenhouse gas concentrations.”
<i>Fifth Assessment Report</i> (2013)	“It is <i>extremely likely</i> that human influence has been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century.”

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*Source:* The IPCC Assessment Reports can be found at [https://www.ipcc.ch/publications\\_and\\_data/publications\\_and\\_data\\_reports.shtml](https://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/publications_and_data_reports.shtml).

\* The uncertainty language used by the IPCC is precisely defined: *likely* refers to an assessed probability of at least 66 percent, *very likely* implies at least 90 percent, and *extremely likely* means at least 95 percent.