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<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/climate-qa/did-global-warming-stop-1998>

Between 1998 and 2012 the average temperature did not increase as much as projected. This despite an exponential increase in greenhouse gases. Climate skeptics have taken this as evidence that human activities does not affect the globe. This short article put forth three arguments of cooling events; the pacific ocean had more cool phases, the sun had relatively few sunspots in that cycle, volcanic particles were more present in the atmosphere acting as a mirror. The compounding of these cooling events help explain why 1998-2012 did not see a drastic increase in temperature.