

The three types of radiation in weather data files

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The three types of radiation that are considered and factored in weather analysis are the following:¹

- **Direct Normal Irradiance (DNI):** Is the solar radiation that comes directly from the sun in a straight line.
- **Diffuse Horizontal Irradiance (DIF):** Is the solar radiation that comes indirectly from the sun in which its rays bounce across the atmosphere in all directions.
- **Global Horizontal Irradiance (GHI):** Is the sum of all radiation collected from above by a horizontal surface. To clarify, it includes both Direct Normal Irradiance and Diffuse Horizontal Irradiance.²

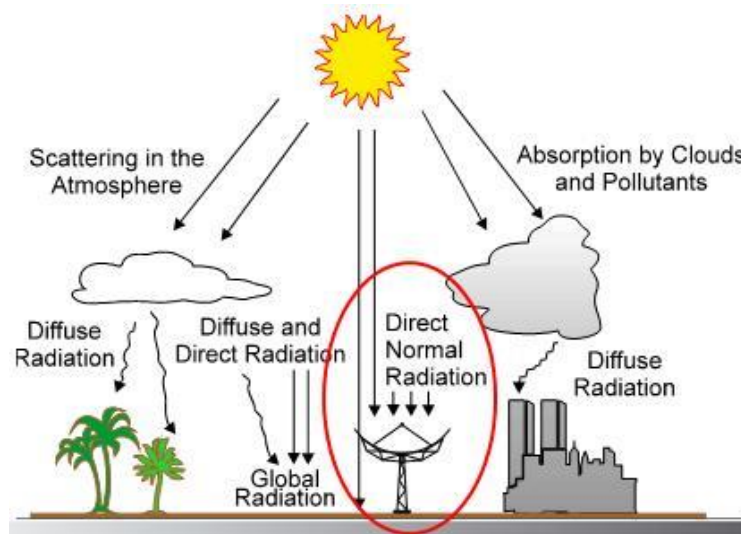


Image Source: http://www.soda-is.com/img/bni_basics.jpg

¹ Climate Consultant 6.0

² "What is Global Horizontal Irradiance?" <http://www.3tier.com/en/support/solar-prospecting-tools/what-global-horizontal-irradiance-solar-prospecting/>