

CO2 concentration in atmosphere over last 800,000 years

CO2 concentration in parts per million

800 thsd.
years ago
(kya)

600kya

400kya

300kya

200kya

100kya

40kya

20kya

10kya

5kya

-2000

0

1000

1500

1900

2019

First signs of
Neanderthals

First signs
of modern
humans

Start of
Ice Age

End of
Ice Age

First
civilization
(Sumer)

Ancient
Egypt

Roman
Empire

First use of
gunpowder
in war

Industrial
Revolution

Invention of
dynamite

World
War I

World
War II

World
Wide
Web

Bitcoin

Time is warped using sqrt scale before 1900 for readability. Graphic: Gregor Aisch, vis4.net

Source: NOAA (1959-today), NASA (1850-1958), Monnin et al., Petit et al., Siegenthaler et al., Luethi et al. (800kya-1850)