

Climate Change Signal Detected at Cape Grim?

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During the Southern Ocean Atmospheric Photochemistry Experiment (SOAPEX2) in January-February 1999, conditions at Cape Grim were anything but typical. Northeasterly air flow across the state predominated and unperturbed, baseline conditions were rarely seen. It was the lowest period of non-baseline conditions ever recorded at Cape Grim. Furthermore, the percentage of baseline conditions at the station appear to have been decreasing over the last 10 years or so. While some of the decrease in baseline time is undoubtedly due to changes in the baseline switch protocol used, it appears that there may also be an underlying change in the weather conditions at the station during this period! If so, could this be a result of climate change in the midlatitude Southern Ocean region...?

Cape Grim Baseline Conditions

