

Carbon dioxide concentration animation (data from Baring Head, Wellington)

This data is collected from the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) clean air station at Baring Head Ōrua-pouanui, situated on the Wellington coast and overlooking Cook Strait. This station has been running since 1972 and is the longest running continuous CO₂ measurements in the Southern Hemisphere.

About the data:

- Baseline data are collected in southerly wind conditions so occasionally months have no baseline data; this is shown as gaps in lines of the radar graph.
- The data used in the radar diagram is the monthly average steady interval (baseline) CO₂ parts per million (ppm) between 1973-2021 (NB: the 2020 and 2021 data is yet to undergo full quality control processes).
- For comparison, the pre-industrial level of CO₂ in the atmosphere was 280 parts per million (ppm).
- The oldest continuous monitoring station in the world is based in the Northern Hemisphere at Mauna Loa Laboratory in Hawaii.