

Global warming: Reasons why it might not actually exist

2008 was the year man-made global warming was disproved, according to the Telegraph's Christopher Booker. Sceptics have long argued that there are other explanations for climate change other than man-made CO2 and here we look at some of the arguments put forward by those who believe that global warming is all a hoax.

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Temperatures are falling, not rising

As Christopher Booker says in [his review of 2008](#), temperatures have been dropping in a wholly unpredicted way over the past year. Last winter, the northern hemisphere saw its greatest snow cover since 1966, which in the northern US states and Canada was dubbed the "winter from hell". This winter looks set to be even worse.

The earth was hotter 1,000 years ago

Evidence from all over the world indicates that the earth [was hotter 1,000 years ago](#) than it is today. Research shows that temperatures were higher in what is known as the Mediaeval Warming period than they were in the 1990s.



Some icebergs are melting -but not necessarily because of mankind's actions Photo: REUTERS

The earth's surface temperature is not at record levels

According to Nasa's Goddard Institute for Space Studies analysis of [surface air temperature measurements](#), the meteorological December 2007 to November 2008 was the coolest year since 2000. Their data has also shown that the hottest decade of the 20th century was not the 1990s but the 1930s.

Ice is not disappearing

Arctic website [Cryosphere Today](#) reported that Arctic ice volume was 500,000 sq km [greater than this time last year](#). Additionally, Antarctic sea-ice this year reached its highest level since satellite records began in 1979. Polar bear numbers are also at record levels.

Himalayan glaciers

A report by the UN Environment Program this year claimed that the [cause of melting glaciers in the Himalayas](#) was not global warming but the local warming effect of a vast "atmospheric brown cloud" over that region, made up of soot particles from Asia's dramatically increased burning of fossil fuels and deforestation.

Temperatures are still dropping

Nasa satellite readings on global temperatures from the University of Alabama show that August was the fourth month this year when temperatures [fell below their 30-year average](#), ie since satellite records began. November 2008 in the USA was only the 39th warmest since records began 113 years ago.

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