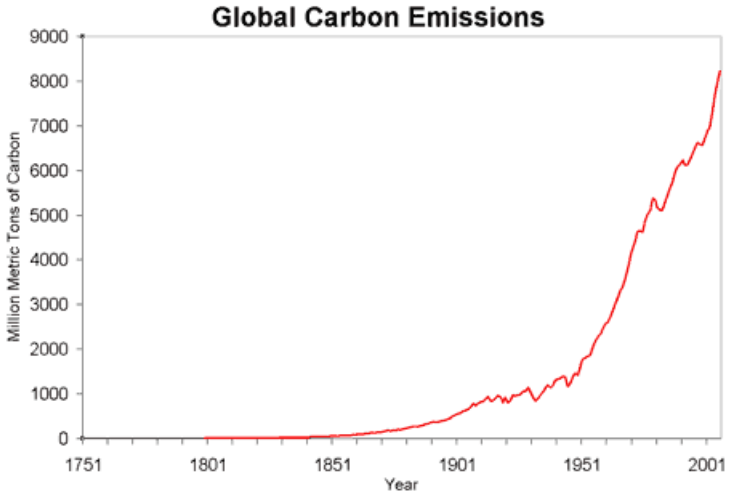
This is the print version of the Skeptical Science article 'We didn't have global warming during the Industrial Revolution', which can be found at http://sks.to/industrial.

Why didn't we have global warming during the Industrial Revolution?

What The Science Says:
Global CO2 emissions during the Industrial Revolution were a fraction of the CO2 we are currently emitting now.

Climate Myth: We didn't have global warming during the Industrial Revolution
'Why didn't we have global warming during the Industrial Revolution? In those days you couldn't have seen across the street for all the carbon emissions and the crap coming out of the chimneys.' (Alan Titchmarsh)

The Industrial Revolution spanned the 18th and early 19th Century. Over this period, global CO2 emissions were a fraction of current levels. During the 18th Century, global CO2 emissions were around 3 to 7 million tonnes per year. During the early 19th Century, CO2 emissions steadily rose reaching 54 million tonnes per year by 1850. Currently we are emitting over 8000 million tonnes per year.



The Skeptical Science website by Skeptical Science is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Unported License.

Skeptical Science explains the science of global warming and examines climate misinformation through the lens of peer-reviewed research. The website won the Australian Museum 2011 Eureka Prize for the Advancement of Climate Change Knowledge. Members of the Skeptical Science team have authored peer-reviewed papers, a college textbook on climate change and the book Climate Change Denial: Heads in the Sand. Skeptical Science content has been used in university courses, textbooks, government reports on climate change, television documentaries and numerous books.

The Skeptical Science website by Skeptical Science is licensed under a Creative CommonsAttribution 3.0 Unported License.