

	Troposphere	Stratosphere	Mesosphere	Thermosphere	Exosphere
Distance above sea level	This layer extends from 0 km to 16 km.	This layer extends from 16 km to 50 km.	This layer extends from 50 km to 90 km.	This layer extends from 90 km to 300 km.	This layer extends from 300 to more than 600 km.
How temperature changes with altitude	As altitude increases, temperature decreases.	As altitude increases, temperature increases.	As altitude increases, temperature decreases.	As altitude increases, temperature increases.	As altitude increases, temperature increases.
How density changes with altitude	As altitude increases, density decreases.	As altitude increases, density decreases.	As altitude increases, density decreases.	As altitude increases, density decreases.	As altitude increases, density decreases.
What occurs in this layer?	All weather happens at this layer.	Jets cruise near the bottom of this layer.	Meteors, or "shooting stars" burn up at this layer.	Shimmering curtains of lights called auroras happen here.	Many satellites orbit at this layer.
	Air pressure is the highest at this layer.	The ozone layer is located here.	This is the coldest layer of the atmosphere.	This is the hottest layer of the atmosphere.	Air pressure is the lowest at this layer.
	This layer contains 99% of the earth's water vapor.	Weather balloons are flown to this layer.	This is the hardest layer to study since planes cannot fly high enough and satellites cannot fly low enough.	Space shuttles orbit at this layer.	It is sometimes considered part of outer space.