

TABLE 1. Sources of global methane emissions from identified sources

Sources	Methane emission (Tg of CH ₄ per year)	Percentage (%) ^a
Natural sources		
Wetlands	92–237	15–40
Termites	20	3
Ocean	10–15	2–3
Methane hydrates	5–10	1–2
Subtotal	127–282	21–47
Anthropogenic sources		
Ruminants	80–115	13–19
Energy generation ^b	75–110	13–18
Rice agriculture	25–100	7–17
Landfills	35–73	6–12
Biomass burning	23–55	4–9
Waste treatment	14–25	2–4
Subtotal	267–478	45–80
Total sources	500–600	

Source: Modified from Lowe² and Prather and Ehhalt.¹⁴⁰

^aEstimates of the relative contribution of methane emission from a source to the total global emissions of 600 Tg of CH₄ per year.

^bMethane deposits released by coal mining, petroleum drilling, and petrochemical production.

