

EONS OF GEOLOGICAL TIME

Chart shows the names scientists use to refer to various periods in the distant past.

					MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO		
EON	ERA	PERIOD		EPOCH			
Phanerozoic	Cenozoic	Quaternary		Holocene		NOW	
				Pleistocene	Late	0.1	
					Early	0.8	
		Tertiary	Neogene	Pliocene	Late	1.8	
				Early	3.6		
				Miocene	Late	5.3	
					Middle	11.2	
					Early	16.4	
				Paleogene	Oligocene	Late	23.7
			Early			28.5	
			Eocene		Late	33.7	
					Middle	41.3	
					Early	49.0	
			Paleocene		Late	54.8	
					Early	61.0	
			Mesozoic	Cretaceous		Late	
	Early					99.0	
	Jurassic			Late		144	
				Middle		159	
				Early		180	
	Triassic			Late		206	
				Middle		227	
				Early		242	
	Paleozoic	Permian		Late		248	
				Early		256	
		Pennsylvanian				290	
		Mississippian				323	
		Devonian		Late		354	
				Middle		370	
				Early		391	
		Silurian		Late		417	
				Early		423	
		Ordovician		Late		443	
				Middle		458	
				Early		470	
		Cambrian		D		490	
				C		500	
				B		512	
				A		520	
	Precambrian	Proterozoic	Late			543	
Middle			900				
Early			1,600				
Archean		Late			2,500		
		Middle			3,000		
		Early			3,400		
					4,000		