

Published on *American Geosciences Institute* (<https://www.americangeosciences.org>)

Home > EARTH: Volcanoes Sparked - And Prolonged - The Little Ice Age

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Volcanism is often implicated in periods of abrupt cooling. After the 1991 eruption of Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines, for instance, global temperatures dropped by half a degree Celsius due to airborne particulate matter blocking solar radiation. However, these effects don't normally last more than a few years. Yet, a recent study blames volcanism for a 500-year cold period referred to as the Little Ice Age.

Press Release PDF:



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