



Geologic TimeScale Foundation

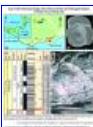
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GSSP Table - Cenozoic Era

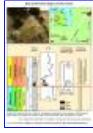
Global Boundary Stratotype Section and Point (GSSP)

Ages from "[Geologic Time Scale 2020](#)" by F.M. Gradstein, J.G. Ogg, M.D. Schmitz and G.M. Ogg, (2020, Elsevier).

Cenozoic Era Mesozoic Era Paleozoic Era Precambrian All Periods								
Stage	Age (Ma) GTS 2020	GSSP Location	Latitude, Longitude	Boundary Level	Correlation Events		Status	Reference
Quaternary System								
Holocene Series								
Meghalayan Stage	0.00425	Mawmluh Cave, Meghalaya, India	25.2622°N 91.7150°E	Mawmluh Cave speleothem dated at 4250yr bk2 (before AD2000)	Stable isotope profile shows a shift to heavier isotopic values,		Ratified 2018	Episodes 41/4, 2018
Northgrippian Stage	0.008236	borehole NGRIP1 in the central Greenland ice sheet	75.1000°N 42.3200°W	1228.67 m depth in NGRIP 1 ice core	Climatic cooling following a period of generally rising temperatures during the Early Holocene		Ratified 2018	Episodes 41/4, 2018
Greenlandian Stage	0.0118	NorthGRIP ice core, central Greenland	75.1000°N 42.3200°W	1492.45m depth in Borehole NGRIP2	Climatic -- End of the Younger Dryas cold spell, which is reflected in a shift in deuterium excess values		Ratified 2008	Episodes 31/2, 2008; J. Quaternary Sci., Vol. 24 pp. 3-17, 2009; Episodes 41/4, 2018
Pleistocene Series								
Upper Pleistocene Stage	0.126	Taranto, Italy	0.0000°N 0.0000°E	63.5 m below surface	Climatic -- Base of the Eemian interglacial stage (= base of marine isotope stage 5e) before final glacial episode of Pleistocene.			Episodes 31/2, 2008
Chibanian	0.78	Chiba, Japan		Base of Byk-E tephra bed	Byk-E tephra; 1.1 m below directional midpoint of Brunhes–Matuyama magnetic reversal (base of Chron 1n)		Ratified 2019	
Calabrian Stage	1.8	Vrica, Italy	39.0385°N 17.1348°E	base of the marine claystone overlying the sapropelic marker Bed 'e' (Mediterranean Precession	top of Olduvai magnetic subchron is about 8 m above the GSSP		Ratified 1985	Episodes 8/2, p. 116 - 120, 1985; Episodes 35/3, p. 388 - 397, 2012

			Related Sapropel, MPRS 176)					
Gelasian Stage	2.58	Monte San Nicola, Sicily, Italy	37.1469°N 14.2035°E	base of marly layer overlying sapropel MPRS 250	Magnetic -- Matuyama/Gauss boundary (C2r/C2An) is 1m below GSSP. GSSP level is within Marine Isotope Stage 103.		Definition as base of Quaternary and Pleistocene ratified 2009	Episodes 21/2, p. 82-87, 1998
Neogene System								
Pliocene Series								
Piacenzian Stage	3.6	Punta Piccola, Sicily, Italy	37.2889°N 13.4933°E	base of the beige marl bed of small-scale carbonate cycle 77 (MPRS 347)	Magnetic -- Gauss/Gilbert (C2An/C2Ar) magnetic reversal is recorded immediately above the GSSP		Ratified 1997	Episodes 21/2, p. 88-93, 1998
Zanclean Stage	5.333	Eraclea Minoa, Sicily, Italy	37.3917°N 13.2806°E	base of the Trubi Formation which corresponds to Insolation cycle 510	Magnetic -- base of the Thvera magnetic event (C3n.4n) is only 96 kyr (5 precession cycles) younger than the GSSP.		Ratified 2000	Episodes 23/3, p. 179 - 187, 2000
Miocene Series								
Messinian Stage	7.25	Oued Akrech, Morocco	33.9369°N 6.8125°W	reddish layer of sedimentary cycle number 15	Planktonic foraminifer first regular occurrence of <i>Globorotalia miotumida</i> , and calcareous nannofossil FAD <i>Amaurolithus delicatus</i>		Ratified 2000	Episodes 23/3, p. 172 - 178, 2000
Tortonian Stage	11.63	Monte dei Corvi Beach, near Ancona, Italy	43.5867°N 13.5694°E	mid-point of sapropel layer of basic cycle number 76.	Calcareous nannofossil last common occurrence of <i>Discoaster kugleri</i>		Ratified 2003	Episodes 28/1, p. 6 - 17, 2005
Serravallian Stage	13.82	Ras il Pellegrin section, Fomm Ir-Rih Bay, west coast of Malta	35.9139°N 14.3361°E	formation boundary between the Globigerina Limestone and Blue Clay Formation	Oxygen-isotopic event (global cooling episode) Mi3b; near calcareous nannofossil LAD of <i>Sphenolithus heteromorphus</i>		Ratified 2007	Episodes, 32/3, 152 - 166, 2009
Langhian Stage	15.99	St. Peter's Pool, Malta or La Vedova, Italy			Base of magnetic polarity chron C5Br			
Burdigalian Stage	20.45	Potentially in astronomically-tuned ODP core			Near FAD of calcareous nannofossil <i>Helicosphaera ampliaperta</i>			

Aquitianian Stage	23.04	Lemme-Carrioso Section, Alessandria Province, Italy	44.6589°N 8.8364°E	35m from the top of the section	Magnetic -- base of Chron C6Cn.2n; planktonic foraminifer FAD of <i>Paragloborotalia kugleri</i> ; calcareous nannofossil near LAD <i>Reticulofenestra bisecta</i> (base Zone NN1); Oxygen isotopic event Mi-1.		Ratified 1996	Episodes 20/1, p. 23 - 28, 1997
Paleogene System								
Oligocene Series								
Chattian Stage	27.3	Monte Cagnero, Umbria-Marche region, Italy	43.6466°N 12.4677°E	at meter level 197	HCO (highest common occurrence) of planktonic foraminifer <i>Chiloguembelina cubensis</i>		Ratified 2016	Episodes 41/1, p. 17-32, 2018
Rupelian Stage	33.9	Massignano, near Ancona, Italy	43.5328°N 13.6011°E	base of a 0.5m thick greenish-grey marl bed 19m above base of section	Foraminifer LAD <i>Hantkenina</i> and <i>Cribrohantkenina</i>		Ratified 1992	Episodes 16/3, p.379 - 382, 1993
Eocene Series								
Priabonian Stage	37.7	Alano di Piave section, NE Italy	45.9142°N 11.9180°E	Tiziano Bed at 63.57m	Foraminifer LAD of <i>Morozovelloides</i> , Calcareous nannofossil acme of <i>Cribrocenrtum erbae</i>		Ratified 2020	Episodes 44/2, p.151-173, 2021
Bartonian Stage	41	Contessa highway section near Gubio, Central Apennines, Italy			provisional: base of magnetic polarity chronozone C18r			
Lutetian Stage	48.1	Gorrondatxe sea-cliff section, Basque Country, northern Spain	43.3796°N 3.0143°W	at 167.85 metres in the Gorrondatxe section at a dark marly level	Calcareous nannofossil FAD of <i>Blackites inflatus</i>		Ratified 2011	Episodes 34/2, p. 86 - 108 2011
Ypresian Stage	56	Dababiya, near Luxor, Egypt	25.5000°N 32.5311°E	base of Bed 1 in DBH subsection	Carbon Isotope Excursion base, initiation of basal Eocene Thermal maximum ("PETM")		Ratified 2003	Micropaleontology 49/1, p.41 - 59, 2003; Episodes 30/4, p. 271 - 286, 2007
Paleocene Series								
Thanetian Stage	59.2	Zumaia section, northern Spain	43.2996°N 2.2609°W	About 78 m above the Cretaceous/Paleogene boundary; 6.5m above the base of Member B of the Itzurun Formation	Magnetic -- Base of Chron C26n		Ratified 2008	Episodes 34/4, p. 220-243, 2011

<u>Selandian Stage</u>	61.7	Zumaia section, northern Spain	<u>43.2992°N 2.2610°W</u>	base of the red marls of Itzurun Formation	Onset of a carbon isotope shift and sea-level drop, 30 precession cycles (~630 kyr) above the top of magnetic polarity Chron 27n		Ratified 2008	<u>Episodes 34/4, p. 220-243, 2011</u>
<u>Danian Stage</u>	66	Oued Djerfane, west of El Kef, Tunisia	<u>36.1537°N 8.6486°E</u>	reddish layer at the base of the 50cm thick, dark boundary clay	Iridium geochemical anomaly. Associated with a major extinction horizon (dinosaurs, ammonites, foraminifers, etc.)		Ratified 1991	<u>Episodes 29/4, p. 263 - 278, 2006</u>

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