



Globe at Night is an international citizen-science program that crowdsources light pollution measurements and aims to raise public awareness of the impact of artificial light at night. Participants measure the brightness of their night sky on moonless nights. They go outside an hour after sunset, let their eyes adjust to the dark, and observe a specific constellation.

Each observer compares what they see with numbered charts that show what the night sky looks like under different conditions. Then they use a web app to submit a magnitude number between 0 and 7. Researchers use this information to update a publicly available map of global light pollution. It's particularly helpful when participants commit to making observations year after year; their data show most clearly where the night sky is getting brighter.

Globe at Night began in 2006 as a NASA educational program organized by the National Science Foundation. It is an offshoot of the GLOBE Program, which focuses on school-based science education. Globe at Night was expanded outside of the USA during the 2009 International Year of Astronomy. To date, more than 200,000 measurements have been contributed by people all over the world!

