

LOUISVILLE



GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY FACT SHEET

Every day, when we drive, turn on our lights, heat and cool our buildings, and throw out our garbage, we release greenhouse gases (GHG). These gases trap heat which warms the Earth and leads to climate change. A greenhouse gas emissions inventory measures the amount of greenhouse gases we release and where they come from.

10.1%
CORE GHG
REDUCTION

Louisville's CORE GHG emissions decreased 10.1% from 2010 to 2016.

WHY DID WE DO THE INVENTORY?

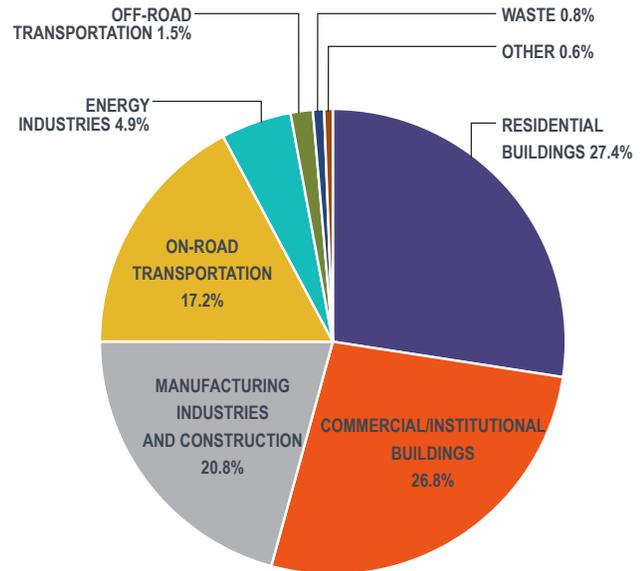
In April of 2016, Mayor Greg Fischer joined more than 7,500 cities in the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, committing Louisville to address climate change by measuring and reporting on community greenhouse gas emissions, establishing reduction targets, and creating an action plan to achieve the targets. The inventory completed by Louisville Metro Government is the first step in this process and will help us make informed decisions by better understanding where our greenhouse gases come from and how we can reduce them.

11% decrease in building emissions due in part to LG&E's transition to natural gas within their electricity generating fleet.

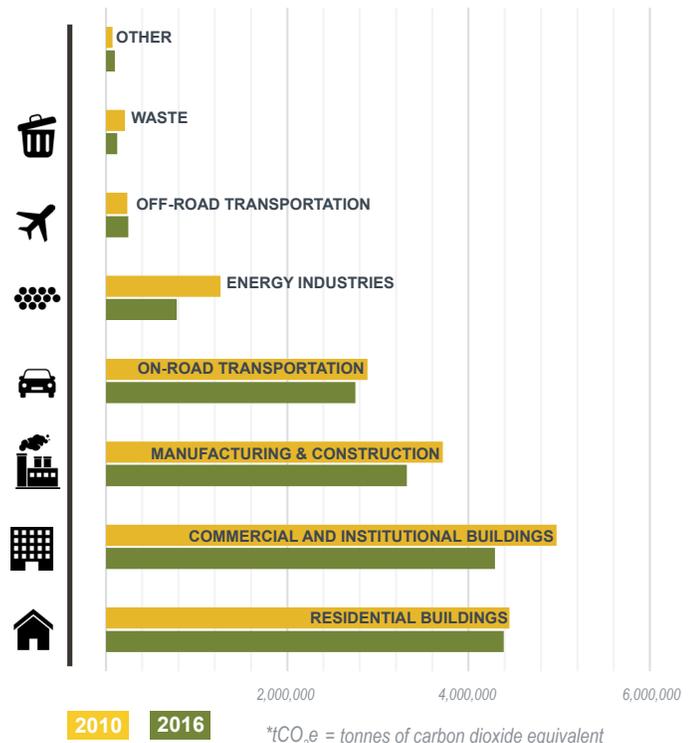
4% decrease in on-road transportation emissions because vehicles are more fuel efficient, have better engine emission controls and cleaner fuel.

41% decrease in waste emissions due to improved technologies at landfills.

2016 CORE GHG EMISSIONS



COMPARING LOUISVILLE'S 2010 & 2016 CORE GHG EMISSIONS (tCO₂e*)





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WHY SHOULD WE REDUCE GREENHOUSE GASES?

Our climate is already warming. Global surface temperatures between 2014-2016 were the highest on record. In Louisville, climate change is causing higher temperatures during all seasons, drier summers, and more extreme weather events, like more frequent floods and more heat waves. These changes result in more damage to roads and bridges, higher energy costs and increased stress on individuals, our community and our local economy. Frequently when greenhouses gases are produced, air pollution is also created which causes asthma, allergies and even lung cancer. We must address these challenges so Louisville may continue attracting new residents and businesses seeking clean air, healthy living and economic prosperity.

HOW DOES LOUISVILLE COMPARE TO OTHER CITIES?

PER CAPITA EMISSIONS

Columbus, OH	13.2 tCO ₂ e
Austin, TX	15.5 tCO ₂ e
Nashville, TN	20.1 tCO ₂ e
Louisville, KY	20.9 tCO₂e
Knoxville, TN	21.7 tCO ₂ e
Memphis, TN	22.0 tCO ₂ e
St. Louis, MO	22.9 tCO ₂ e
US National Average	16.5 tCO₂e

* tCO₂e = tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent

These peer cities are similar to Louisville in size, climate, and geography. Comparing per capita emissions among cities may be of limited value for many reasons. These include the availability of relevant data, differing calculation methodologies and study area boundaries (county, city, region) and differences in the cities' economic drivers and energy sources (hydroelectric, coal, natural gas).

HOW CAN EACH OF US PLAY A ROLE IN REDUCING GREENHOUSE GASES?

Everyone must take action to help reduce Louisville's GHG emissions by actively supporting these efforts.

- **Residents** - Making changes in everyday energy use and transportation will have significant impacts on both your health and your wallet.
- **Businesses** - Because businesses represent over 60% of Louisville's GHG emissions, we can't make real progress without the business community. Those that work to reduce their GHGs see economic benefits with improved production, energy efficiency, and public relations.
- **Local Leaders** - Supporting action to combat climate change will help recruit and retain a high-quality workforce by being a healthier community. Investments in public and active transportation will take more cars off the road and contribute to creating a more vibrant urban environment and local economy.
- **Community Advocates** - through awareness, education, and support of local leadership, our community can become empowered for success.

WHAT IS LOUISVILLE METRO GOVERNMENT DOING?

Louisville Metro Government is leading the charge in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Actions that Louisville Metro Government is taking to reduce emissions include:

- Purchasing clean fuel vehicles
- Providing an innovative recycling program downtown that keeps 80% of trash out of the landfill, including food waste
- Making our buildings more energy efficient and using clean energy
- Retiming traffic lights to reduce idling times citywide

HOW TO LEARN MORE

We encourage all residents to engage in activities that help make our city a national leader in climate action and sustainability. For more information about the inventory and next steps for reducing Louisville's impact on climate change, go to: louisvilleky.gov/sustainability.