

Anthropogenic CO2 Emissions Expectations

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January 14, 2020

<http://ccdatacenter.org/documents/AnthropogenicCO2EmissionsExpectations.pdf>

Anthropogenic CO2 emissions are likely to continue to increase through at least 2030 and possibly through 2050:

- Greenhouse gas emissions will increase about 1% per year through 2030 under current policies (latest UN "Emissions Gap Report")
- Entrenched interests (fossil fuels, etc.) are interested in maintaining the status quo
- Our society has not taken any really serious steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Background Information

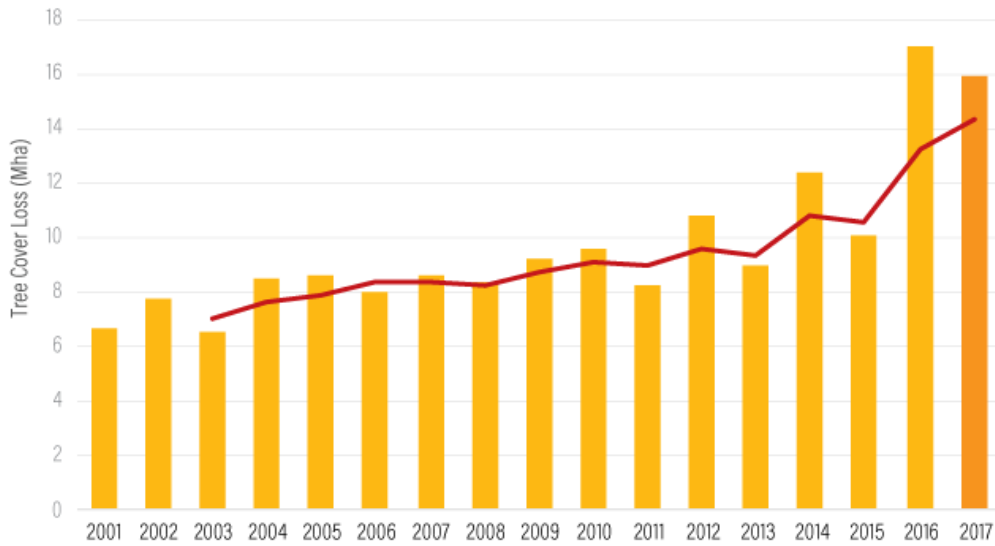
- CO2 emissions from fossil fuels have been increasing about 1.3%/year for the last 10 years and were about 9.124 GTC in 2015¹
- CO2 emissions from cement in 2016 were 0.4 GTC²
- CO2 emissions from land use change in 2015 were about 1.32 GTC³
- Deforestation is likely to increase into the 2020's^{4,5}, but cumulative land use changes are hard to predict⁶
- Current emissions pledges ("NDCs") do not come close to meeting the objectives of the Paris agreement⁷ (*note that the emissions ranges for 1.5 and 2.0° C include natural emission, so anthropogenic emissions would need to be a lot less, making the gap even wider*)
- Global CO2 emissions from fossil fuels will likely remain the same through 2050 at about 10 GTC/year⁸ and atmospheric CO2 could reach 480 PPM by 2050⁸
- If CO2 fossil fuel emissions increase 1%/year between now and 2030 and then decline by 2%/year through 2100, total CO2 emissions through 2100 would be about 625 GTC⁹, about triple the estimates for 2.0° C carbon budgets
- Global energy consumption has almost quadrupled since 1965¹⁰
- For every trillion dollars of global GDP we add, the concentration of CO2 increases by 1.7 ppmv¹¹
- World GDP is likely to increase by a factor of around 7 by 2100¹²
- Fossil fuel use will likely increase through at least 2050^{13,14,15}
- The atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases is approaching 500 PPM CO2e¹⁶

Footnotes

1	<p>Global Fossil Fuel CO2 Emissions (BP Statistical Review)</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Approximate data from the graph</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>CO2 Emissions (GtCO2)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1965</td><td>11,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1967</td><td>12,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1969</td><td>13,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1971</td><td>14,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1973</td><td>15,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1975</td><td>16,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1977</td><td>17,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1979</td><td>18,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1981</td><td>18,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1983</td><td>18,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1985</td><td>19,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1987</td><td>20,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1989</td><td>21,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1991</td><td>21,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1993</td><td>21,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1995</td><td>22,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1997</td><td>22,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>1999</td><td>23,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>2001</td><td>24,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>2003</td><td>26,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>2005</td><td>28,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>2007</td><td>30,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>2009</td><td>29,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>2011</td><td>31,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>2013</td><td>32,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>2015</td><td>32,000.0</td></tr> <tr><td>2017</td><td>33,444.0</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	CO2 Emissions (GtCO2)	1965	11,000.0	1967	12,000.0	1969	13,000.0	1971	14,000.0	1973	15,000.0	1975	16,000.0	1977	17,000.0	1979	18,000.0	1981	18,000.0	1983	18,000.0	1985	19,000.0	1987	20,000.0	1989	21,000.0	1991	21,000.0	1993	21,000.0	1995	22,000.0	1997	22,000.0	1999	23,000.0	2001	24,000.0	2003	26,000.0	2005	28,000.0	2007	30,000.0	2009	29,000.0	2011	31,000.0	2013	32,000.0	2015	32,000.0	2017	33,444.0	
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	<p>2017 CO2 emissions from fossil fuels were about 33,444 MTCO2 (9.124 GTC) in 2017, an increase of 1.6% from 2016 (the 10-year average growth through 2017 was rate of 1.3%). (2015 fossil fuel emissions were 8.966 GTC)</p> <p>Since the Kyoto Protocol was signed global carbon dioxide emissions have increased by 19%.</p> <p>https://www.forbes.com/sites/rrapier/2018/06/29/global-carbon-dioxide-emissions-set-new-record/#18c1feab43a9</p>																																																									
2	<p>Global CO2 emissions from cement production</p> <p>We show that global process emissions in 2016 were 1.45 ± 0.20 GtCO₂ [0.40 GTC], equivalent to about 4 % of emissions from fossil fuels. Cumulative emissions from 1928 to 2016 were 39.3 ± 2.4 GtCO₂, 66 % of which have occurred since 1990. Emissions in 2015 were 30 % lower than those recently reported by the Global Carbon Project. The data associated with this article can be found at https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.831455.</p> <p>https://www.earth-syst-sci-data.net/10/195/2018/essd-10-195-2018.pdf</p>																																																									
3	<p><i>Global_Carbon_Budget_2016_v1.0.xlsx (from http://cdiac.ornl.gov/GCP/) has fossil fuel +cement CO2 emissions at 9.90 GTC and land use change emissions at 1.32 GTC (for a total of 11.22 GTC) in 2015</i></p>																																																									

4 **Terrifying Trends Collide as Surging Deforestation 'Making World a Hotter, Drier Place'** , June 2018
 New data shows climate goals and biodiversity threatened as tropics continue to lose "alarming" number of trees

Tropical Tree Cover Loss



— Three-year moving average. The three-year moving average may represent a more accurate picture of the data trends to uncertainty in year-to-year comparisons. All figures calculated with a 30% minimum tree cover canopy density.



WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

Last year alone, tropical forests lost 39 million acres of trees—which could cover an area roughly the size of [Bangladesh](#)—according to new findings that have conservationists concerned about failing efforts to protect trees and the vital role forests play in battling anthropogenic global warming.

<https://www.commondreams.org/news/2018/06/27/terrifying-trends-collide-surgingly-deforestation-making-world-hotter-drier-place>

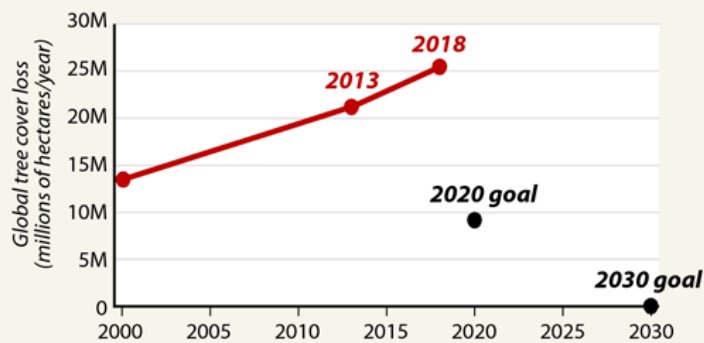
4 Deforestation

A

Deforestation On the Rise

Nations endorsed the New York Declaration on Forests in 2014, but five years later, there is little evidence that the goals are on track.

GROSS GLOBAL TREE COVER LOSS PER YEAR
In millions of hectares, 2000-2018

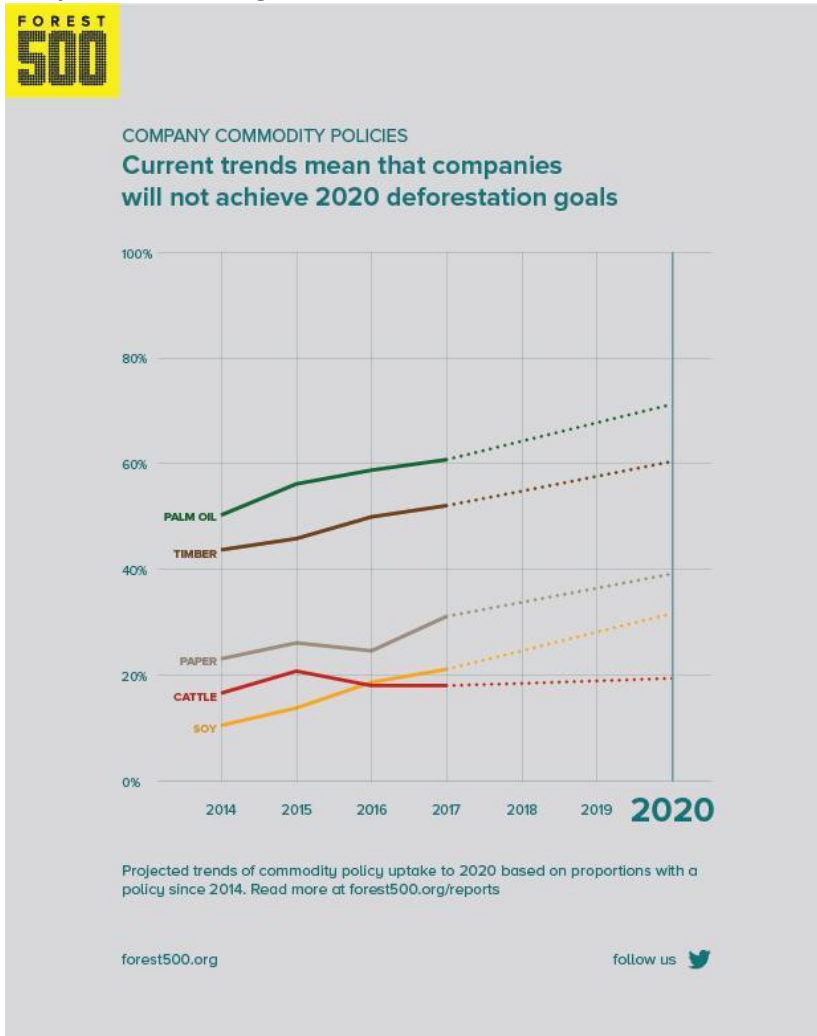


SOURCE: New York Declaration on Forests 2019 report

InsideClimate News

<https://insideclimatenews.org/news/13092019/forest-loss-rate-global-deforestation-amazon-fires-corporate-agribusiness-international-declaration>

5 **Companies still falling short on deforestation: more action needed** December 2017

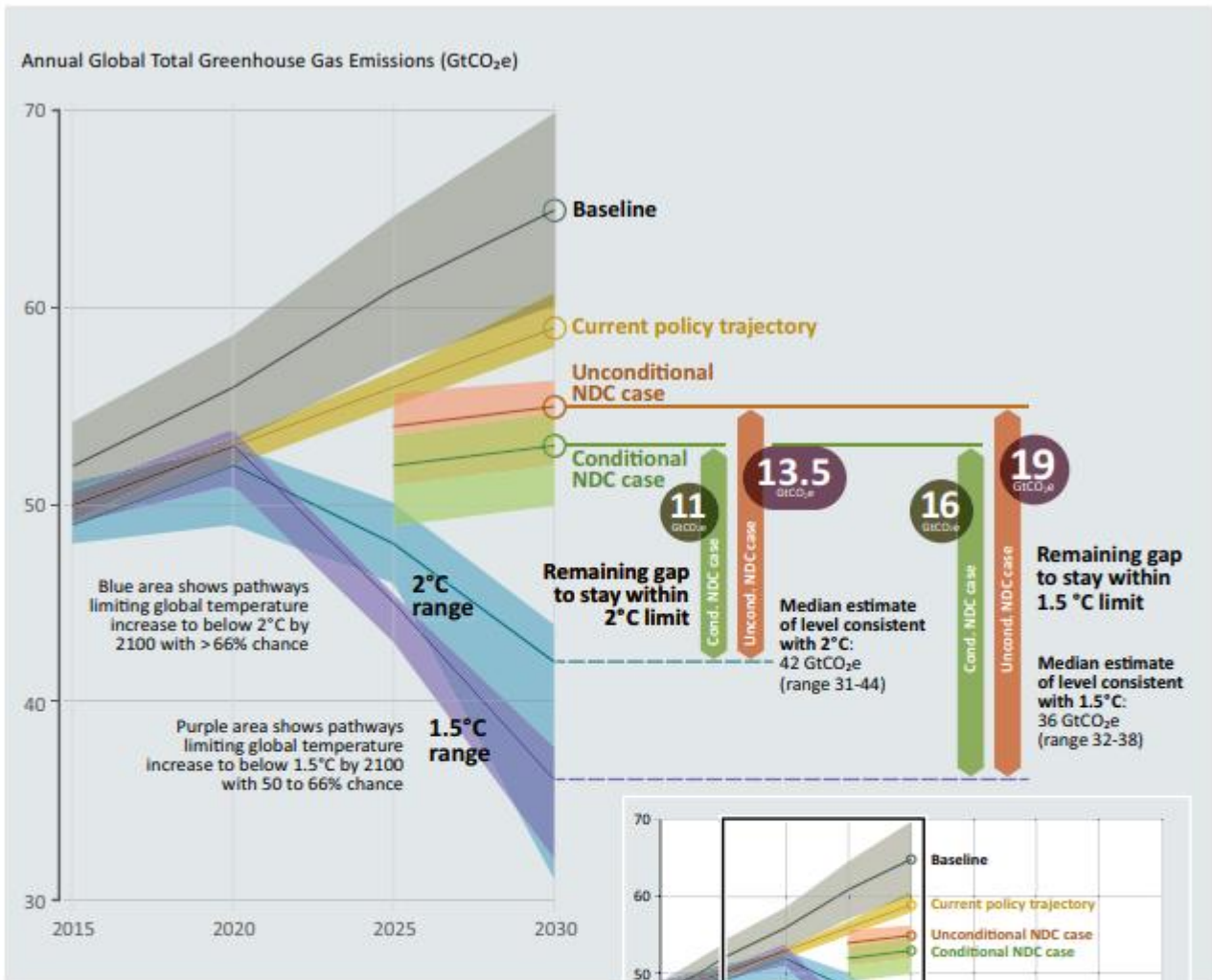


Our 2017 analysis of company commitments shows that at current rates of policy uptake, the 2020 goals to eliminate commodity driven deforestation will not be met. At current rates, the 250 most influential companies will not have introduced, let alone implemented, policies covering the key forest risk commodities by 2020. <https://forest500.org/analysis/insights/companies-still-falling-short-deforestation-more-action-needed>

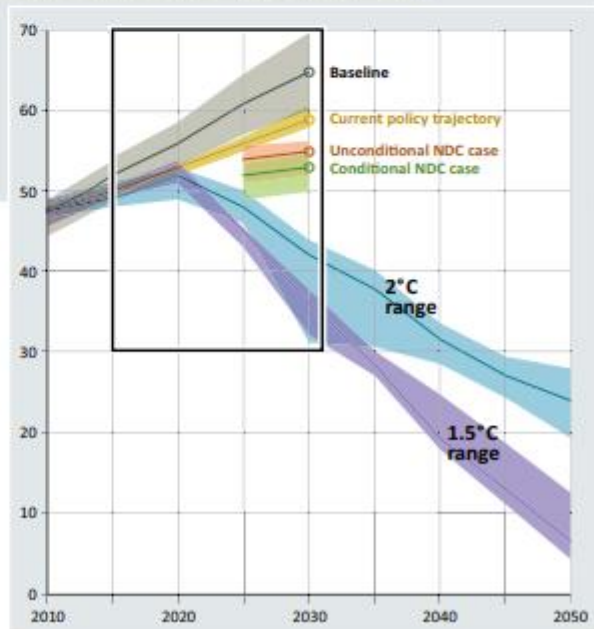
6 **Anthropogenic CO2 emissions from agriculture, forestry, land use for IPCC RCP scenarios**

Year	Anthropogenic CO2 emissions from agriculture, forestry, land use (AFOLU) (PgC yr ⁻¹)			
	RCP2.6	RCP4.5	RCP6.0	RCP8.5
2010	1.09	0.94	0.93	1.08
2020	0.97	0.41	0.38	0.91
2030	0.79	0.23	-0.43	0.74
2040	0.51	0.21	-0.67	0.65
2050	0.29	0.23	-0.48	0.58
2060	0.55	0.19	-0.27	0.50
2070	0.55	0.11	-0.04	0.42
2080	0.55	0.02	0.20	0.31
2090	0.59	0.03	0.24	0.20
2100	0.50	0.04	0.18	0.09
Total 2016-2100	50.73	17.85	-6.46	46.96

Figure 3.1: Global greenhouse gas emissions under different scenarios and the emissions gap in 2030 (median estimate and 10th to 90th percentile range).

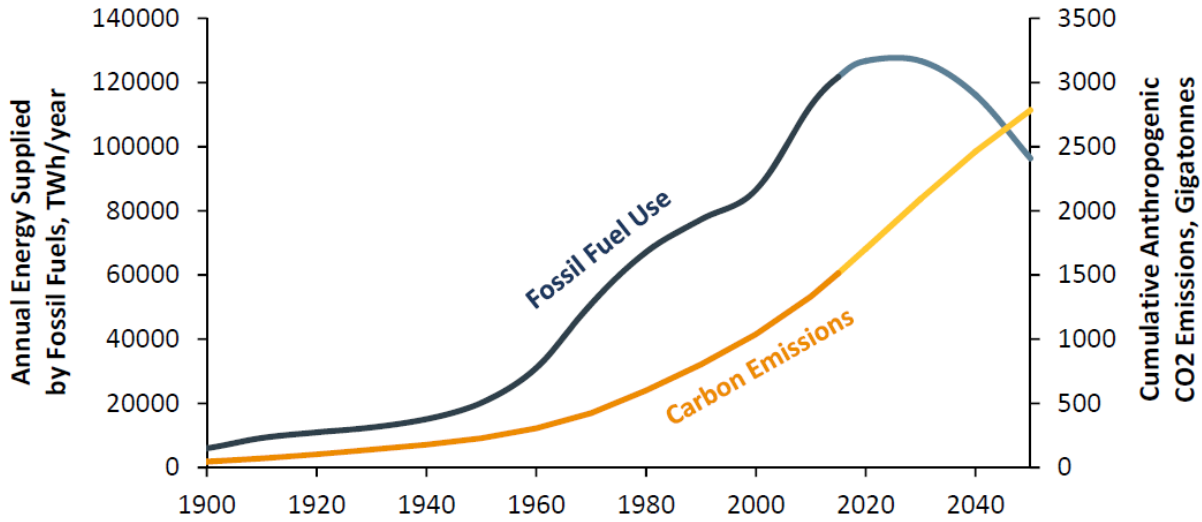


Note: the emissions range for 1.5°C is smaller than for 2°C, as a smaller number of studies for 1.5°C are available. For current policy, the minimum-maximum across all assessed studies are provided.



8 The Race of Our Lives Revisited

Exhibit 14: Annual Energy Supplied by Fossil Fuels, and Cumulative CO2 Emissions

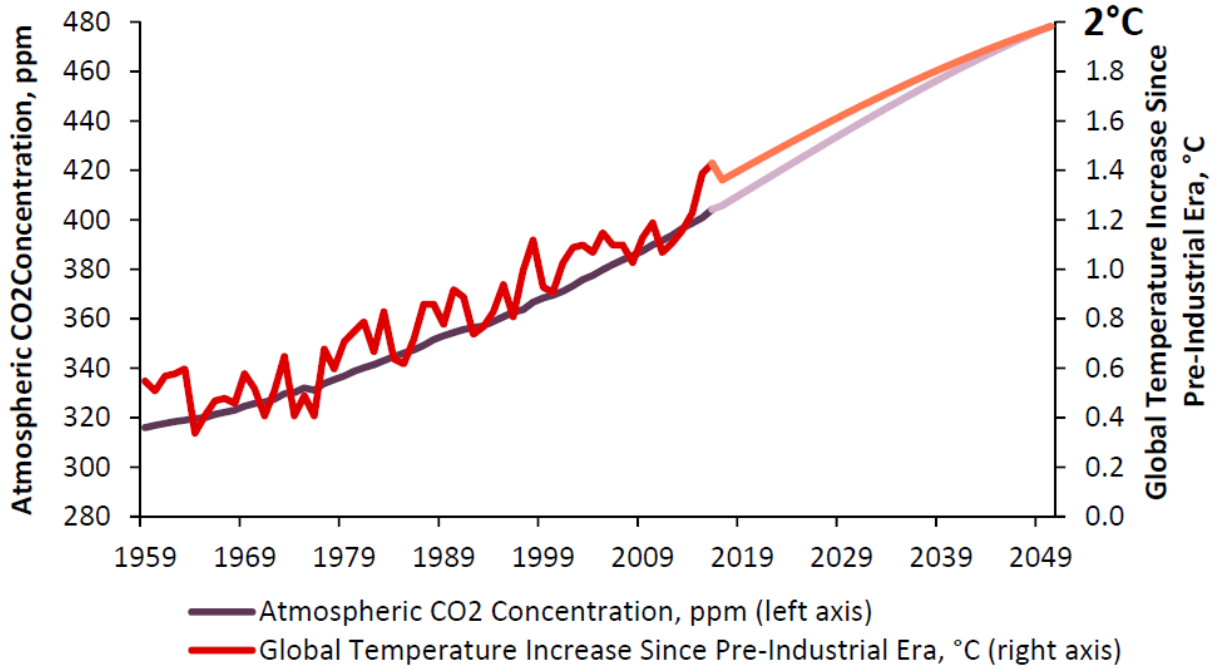


As of 9/30/17

Source: OurWorldinData.org, Vaclav Smil, Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Centre, GMO

Data from 2015-2050 is estimated or forecast.

Exhibit 15: Atmospheric CO2 and Temperature Increase since Pre-Industrial Era



As of 9/30/17

Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, GMO

Data from 2016-2050 is estimated or forecast.

<https://www.advisorperspectives.com/commentaries/2018/08/09/the-race-of-our-lives-revisited>

(Note: the rate of CO2 emissions is about 37 GTCO2 (10 GTC) per year from 2015 through 2050)

9 The following tables show cumulative CO2 emissions from 2016-2100 for fossil fuel , cement, and land use changes for various combinations of emission reductions (without BECCS, CCS, or CDR) based on the following values:

- 9.86 **2015 Fossil Fuel Emissions (GTC)**
- 1.6 **2015 land use emissions (GTC)**
- 2070 **Year when land use emissions reach zero**
- 0.029 **Land use decline/year (GTC)**
- 43.00 **Land use emissions 2016-2070 (GTC)**

	Peak Yr:	2020		
	Pct Chg to Peak Yr:	0	1	2
Annual Percent Change After Peak Yr	0	881	923	966
	-1	632	661	691
	-2	480	501	523
	-3	383	400	417
	-4	320	333	347
		Emissions 2016-2100		

2025		
0	1	2
881	964	1055
659	718	783
519	564	613
428	464	502
367	397	428
Emissions 2016-2100		

2030		
0	1	2
881	1005	1146
684	776	881
557	628	709
472	530	595
414	462	517
Emissions 2016-2100		

	Peak Yr:	2020		
	Pct Chg to Peak Yr:	0	1	2
Annual Percent Change of Peak Yr After Peak Yr	0	868	910	953
	-1	548	574	600
	-2	321	334	349
	-3	238	248	258
	-4	197	205	213
		Emissions 2016-2100		

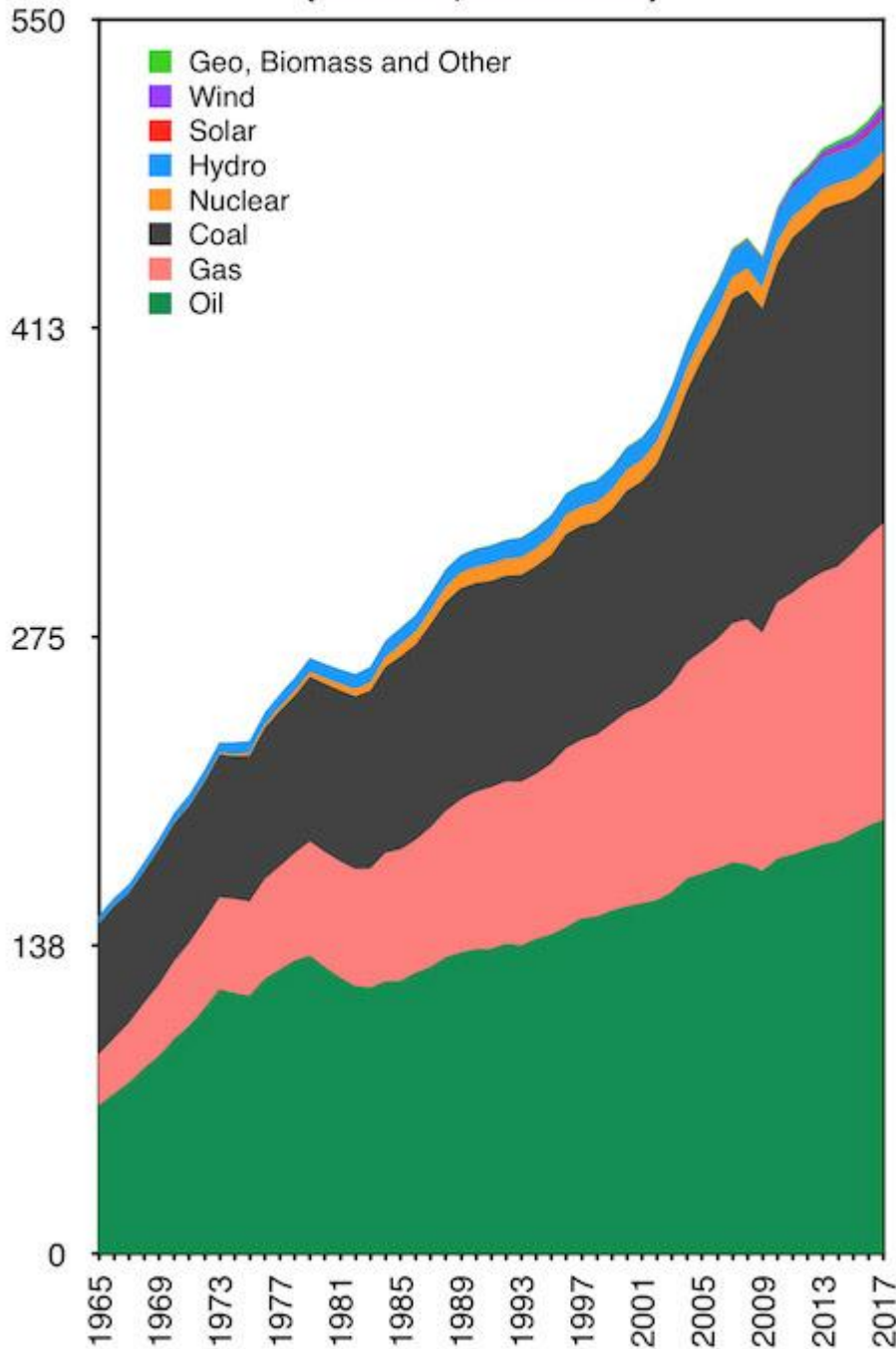
2025		
0	1	2
868	951	1041
587	655	731
370	415	466
288	319	355
247	272	300
Emissions 2016-2100		

2030		
0	1	2
868	991	1133
623	734	862
419	500	601
337	395	467
296	342	399
Emissions 2016-2100		

(See worksheets EmmDecPctPeak and EmissDeclPctPrev in <http://www.ccdatcenter.org/documents/FormulasAndTables.xlsx> for calculations)

Note: Based on footnotes 1 and 2, CO2 emissions from fossil fuels and cement were about 9.366 GTC (=8.966 +0.40), a bit lower than the 9.86 GTC used in this footnote)

Global energy consumption (stacked, exaJoules)



<https://www.resilience.org/stories/2018-06-18/our-energy-challenge-in-6-eye-popping-charts/>

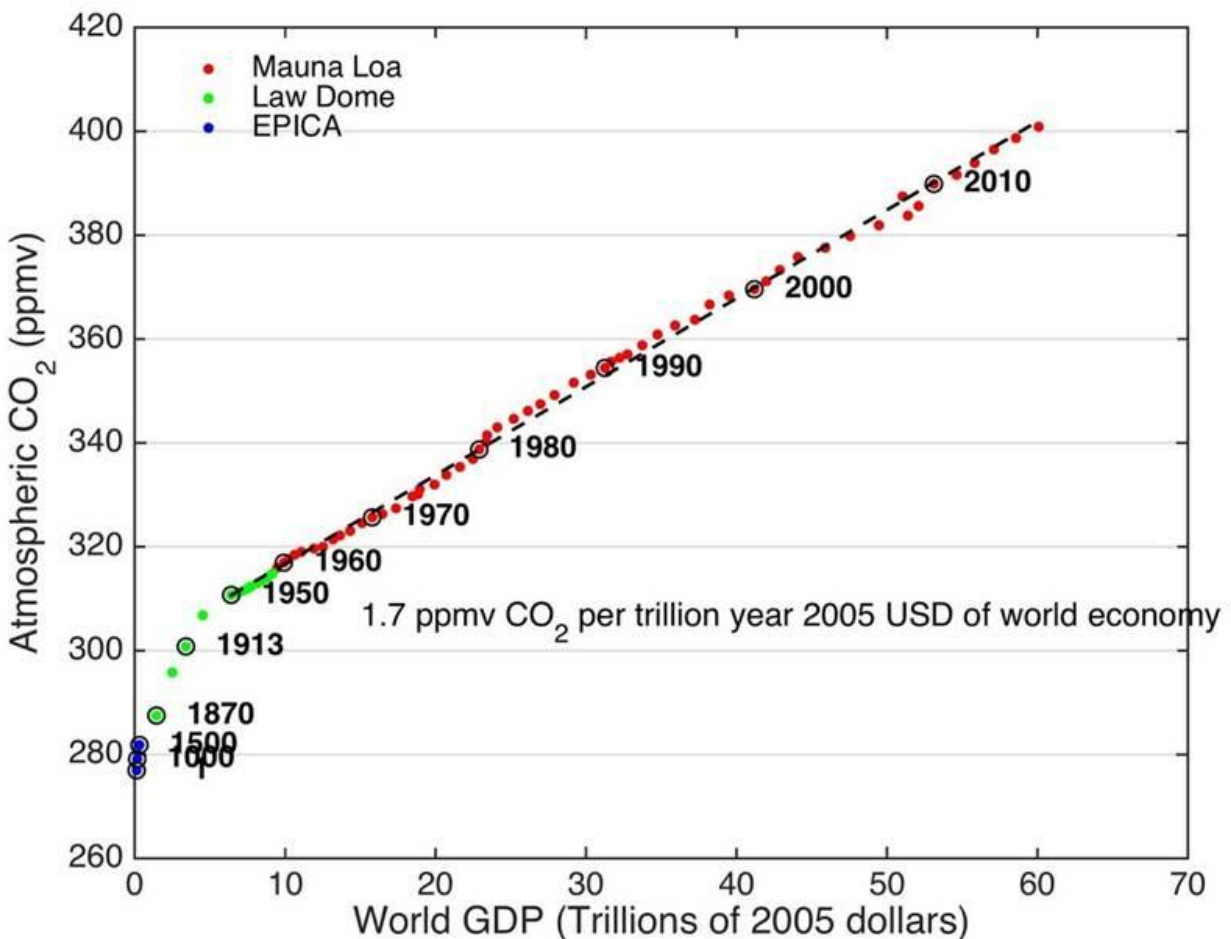
11 Another interesting fact and figure - CO2 PPM has been correlated very strongly to global GDP since about 1950. The figure has been updated from the original in:

No way out? The double-bind in seeking global prosperity alongside mitigated climate change (2012)

Abstract. In a prior study (Garrett, 2011), I introduced a simple economic growth model designed to be consistent with general thermodynamic laws. Unlike traditional economic models, civilization is viewed only as a well-mixed global whole with no distinction made between individual nations, economic sectors, labor, or capital investments.

At the model core is a hypothesis that the global economy's current rate of primary energy consumption is tied through a constant to a very general representation of its historically accumulated wealth. Observations support this hypothesis, and indicate that the constant's value is $\lambda = 9.7 \pm 0.3$ milliwatts per 1990 US dollar. It is this link that allows for treatment of seemingly complex economic systems as simple physical systems. Here, this growth model is coupled to a linear formulation for the evolution of globally well-mixed atmospheric CO₂ concentrations. While very simple, the coupled model provides faithful multi-decadal hindcasts of trajectories in gross world product (GWP) and CO₂. Extending the model to the future, the model suggests that the well-known IPCC SRES scenarios substantially underestimate how much CO₂ levels will rise for a given level of future economic prosperity. For one, global CO₂ emission rates cannot be decoupled from wealth through efficiency gains. For another, like a long-term natural disaster, future greenhouse warming can be expected to act as an inflationary drag on the real growth of global wealth. For atmospheric CO₂ concentrations to remain below a "dangerous" level of 450 ppmv (Hansen et al., 2007), model forecasts suggest that there will have to be some combination of an unrealistically rapid rate of energy decarbonization and nearly immediate reductions in global civilization wealth. Effectively, it appears that civilization may be in a double-bind. If civilization does not collapse quickly this century, then CO₂ levels will likely end up exceeding 1000 ppmv; but, if CO₂ levels rise by this much, then the risk is that civilization will gradually tend towards collapse.

<https://www.earth-syst-dynam.net/3/1/2012/>



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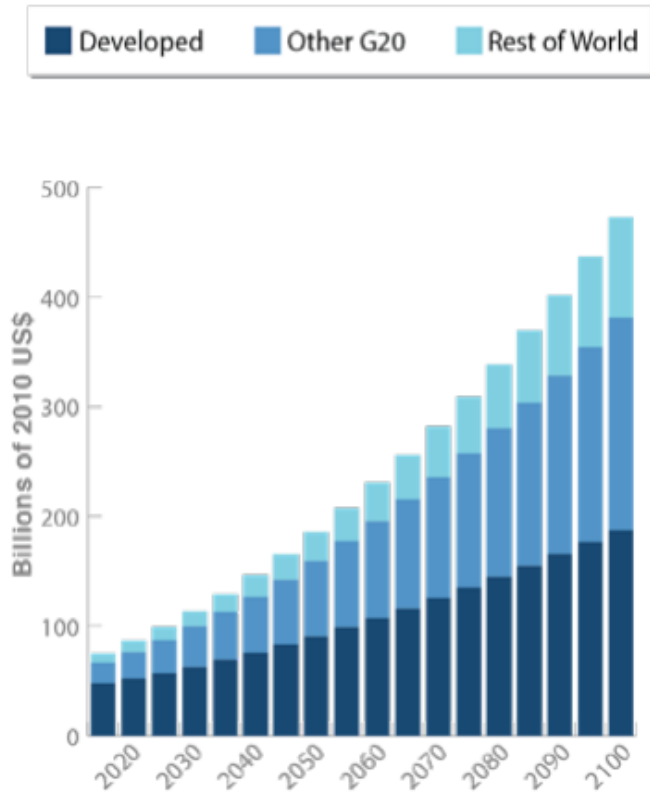


Figure 3. World GDP

<https://globalchange.mit.edu/sites/default/files/newsletters/files/2018-JP-Outlook.pdf>

13

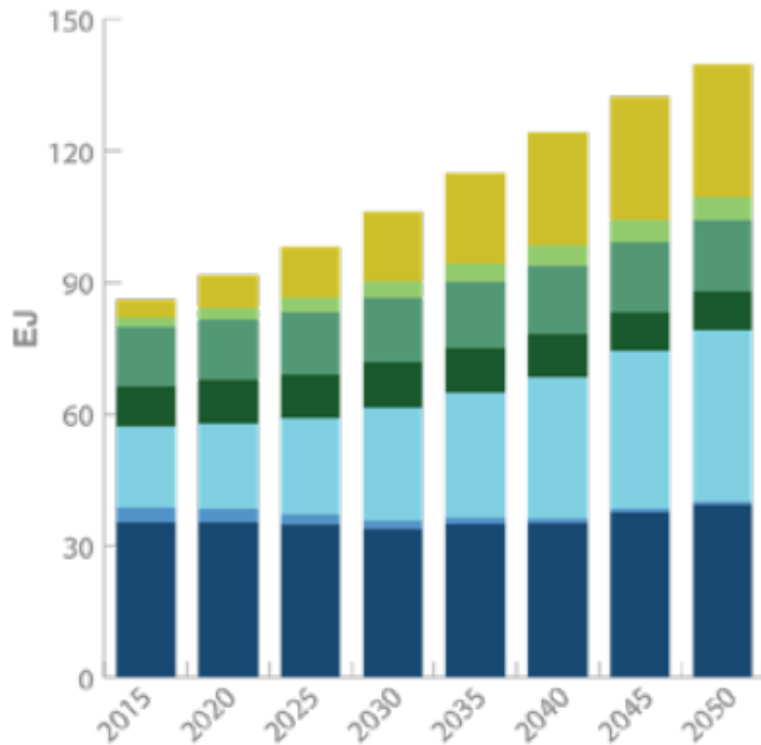


Figure 13. World electricity production (exajoules)



<https://globalchange.mit.edu/sites/default/files/newsletters/files/2018-JP-Outlook.pdf>

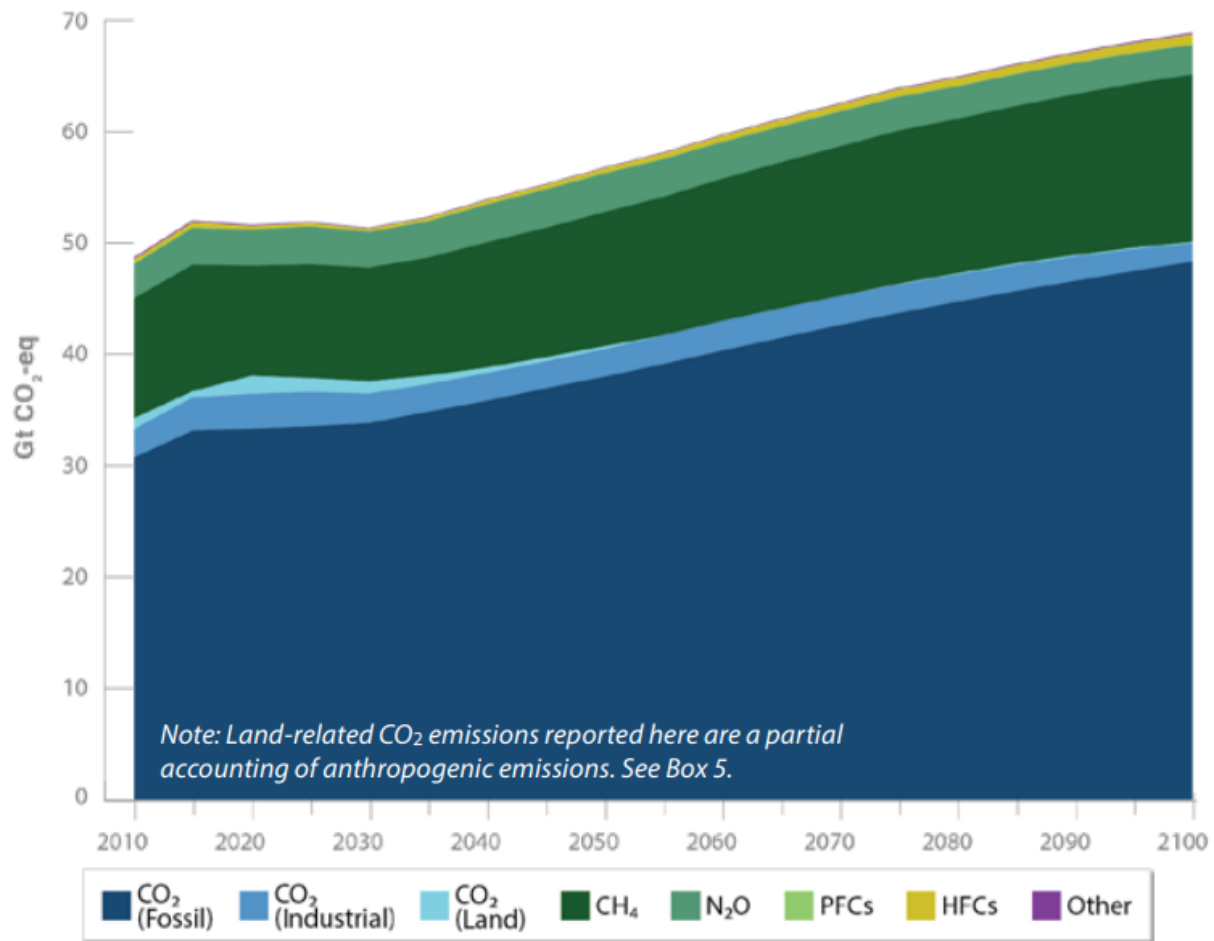
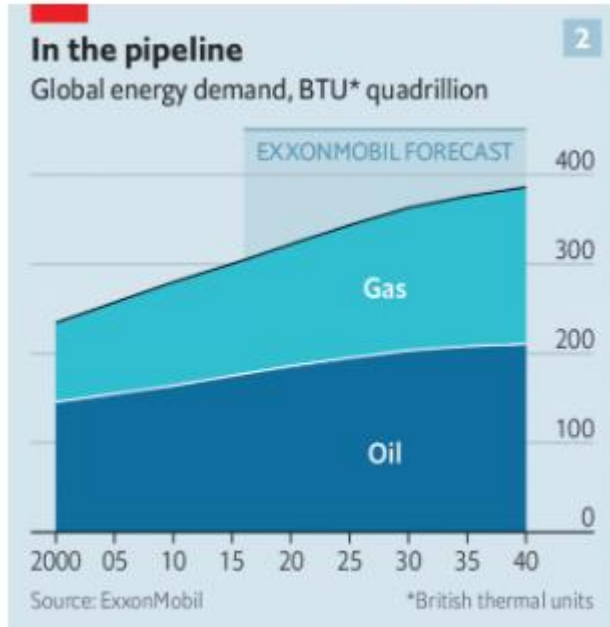


Figure 19. Global annual greenhouse gas emissions

<https://globalchange.mit.edu/sites/default/files/newsletters/files/2018-JP-Outlook.pdf>

15 "According to ExxonMobil, global oil and gas demand will rise by 13% by 2030. All of the majors, not just ExxonMobil, are expected to expand their output. Far from mothballing all their gasfields and gushers, the industry is investing in upstream projects from Texan shale to high-tech deep-water wells. Oil companies, directly and through trade groups, lobby against measures that would limit emissions. The trouble is that, according to an assessment by the ipcc, an intergovernmental climate-science body, oil and gas production needs to fall by about 20% by 2030 and by about 55% by 2050, in order to stop the Earth's temperature rising by more than 1.5°C above its pre-industrial level."



The Economist

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2019/02/09/the-truth-about-big-oil-and-climate-change>

16

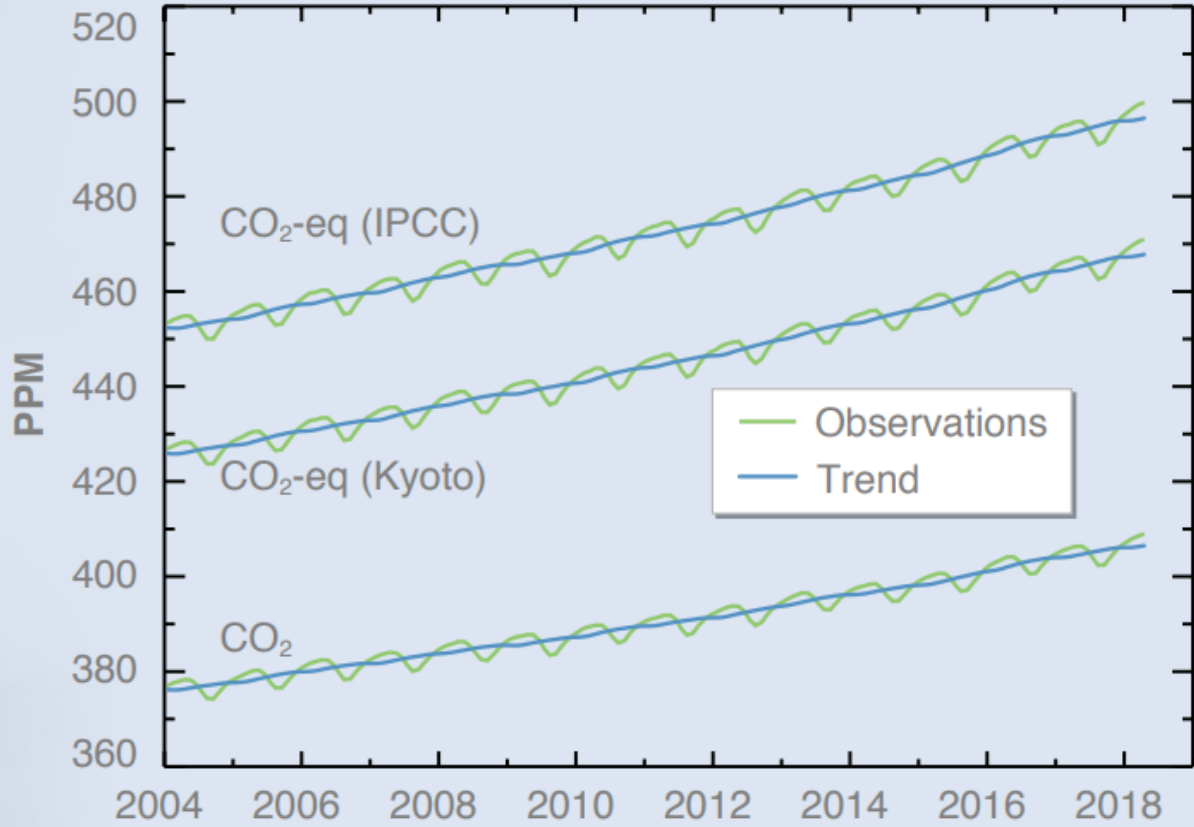


Figure 21. Current GHG concentrations

<https://globalchange.mit.edu/sites/default/files/newsletters/files/2018-JP-Outlook.pdf>

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<https://www.statista.com/statistics/263980/forecast-of-global-carbon-dioxide-emissions/>
Forecast of carbon dioxide emissions worldwide from 2018 to 2050

(in billion metric tons)

