

## Greenhouse Gas Emissions Sources

By: Kristen Miller, Senior Legislative Attorney  
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### Issue

Provide the breakdown of contributors to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, by economic sector, in Connecticut and nationwide.

### Summary

According to the most recently published data, 94.9% of GHG emissions in Connecticut are from energy consumption in the following economic sectors: transportation, electric power, residential, industrial, and commercial. Approximately 5% of emissions are due to waste (e.g., landfills) and agriculture. Transportation is the greatest emissions source at 38% and electric power is the second-greatest source at 23%.

Transportation and electric power are also the greatest GHG emissions sources nationwide, though at different percentages. Compared to Connecticut transportation accounts for a lesser share of emissions at 29% and electric power contributes a greater share at 28%. Agriculture produces 9% of GHG emissions.

## GHG Emissions by Economic Sector

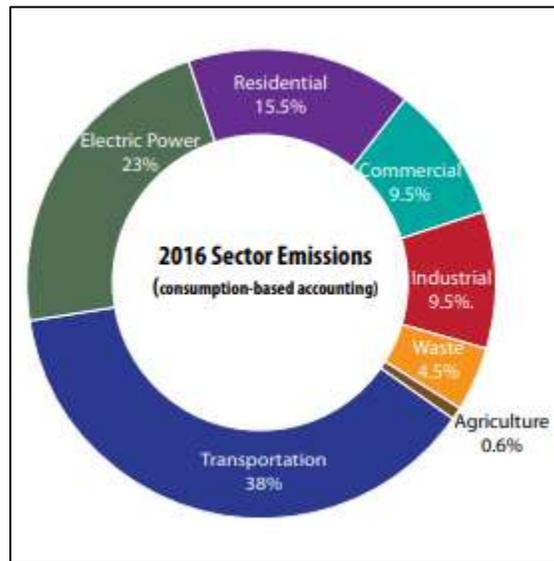
### *Connecticut*

Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) [inventories](#) state GHG emissions to, among other things, track the state's progress toward certain statutory GHG reduction goals. For example, by 2050 the state must reduce its GHG emissions to a level of at least 80% below 2001's emissions level ([CGS § 22a-200a](#)).

DEEP's most recently published data, the 2016 [inventory](#) of state GHG emissions, is primarily based on data from (1) the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) "State Inventory Tool," which calculates sector-by-sector GHG emissions from various state-level data sets and (2) regional electricity load data.

Figure 1 provides the breakdown of Connecticut GHG emissions in 2016, by economic sector. Transportation and electric power are the two greatest sources at 38% and 23%, respectively.

**Figure 1: 2016 Connecticut GHG Emissions, by Economic Sector**



Source: DEEP Office of Climate Change, Technology and Research, 2016 Connecticut Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, released 2018

Additional information about state GHG emissions is available on DEEP's climate change [website](#).

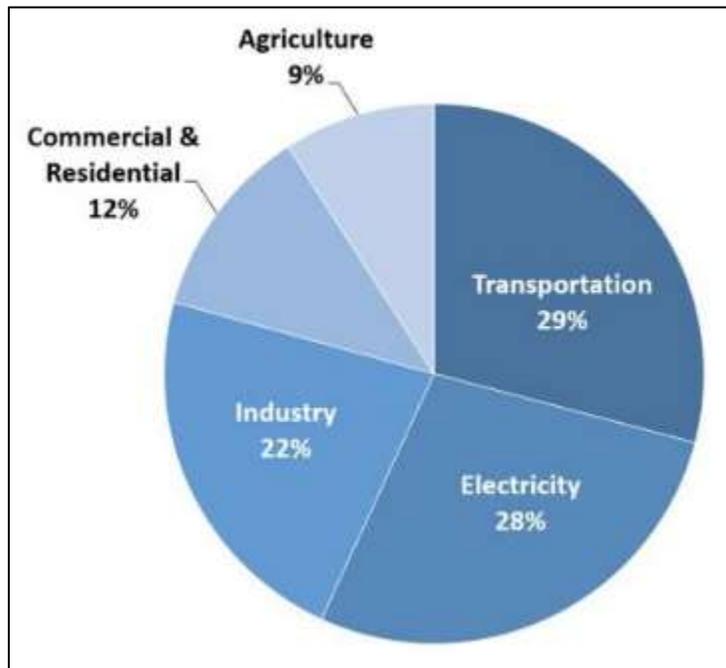
### ***Nationwide***

EPA's most recent data on nationwide GHG emissions is from 2017. The agency tracks total U.S. emissions in its annual report, [Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks](#).

As in Connecticut, transportation and electric power are the two greatest emissions sources nationwide, though at different amounts. Nationwide, agriculture is a much greater emissions source than in Connecticut, at 9% compared to .6%.

Figure 2 provides the breakdown of GHG emissions nationwide in 2017, by economic sector, though the nationwide data does not separate commercial and residential emissions.

**Figure 2: 2017 Nationwide GHG Emissions, by Economic Sector**



Source: EPA, Sources of Greenhouse Gas Emissions, last updated September 13, 2019

Additional information about nationwide GHG emissions sources is available on EPA's [website](#).

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