Introduction to Consumption-Based Emissions: Emissions Inventories and a Report to the Legislature on Emission Reduction Opportunities

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Dec. 11, 2023 Oregon Global Warming Commission



What are consumption-based GHGs?

- GHG emissions resulting from consumption
 - "Consumption" is defined as economic "final demand"
 - Purchases by households, governments, and business capital/inventory
 - Purchases include fuels, energy, materials and services "consumed" by the community
 - Consumption = a "root driver" of emissions
 - These emissions can occur anywhere in the world
 - Yet are associated with satisfying Oregon's consumption





Why should we care?

- Oregon contributes to these emissions
 - ➤ Oregon could contribute to reductions of these emissions
- Oregon is impacted by these emissions
 - ➤ Climate doesn't stop at Oregon's borders
- Consumption-based inventories uncover additional opportunities to reduce emissions





Comparing Oregon's inventories (2015)





House Bill 3409 (2023)

OPPORTUNITIES TO REDUCE OREGON'S CONSUMPTION-BASED GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

SECTION 52. (1) The Department of Environmental Quality, in consultation with the Oregon Climate Action Commission, shall evaluate opportunities to reduce Oregon's consumption-based greenhouse gas emissions. The department shall present its findings in a report submitted in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to the environment, and the commission, no later than September 15, 2024.

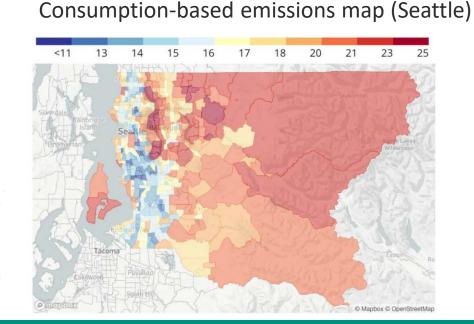
- (2) The report under this section must:
- (a) Update Oregon's consumption-based greenhouse gas emissions inventory;
- (b) Identify opportunities to reduce consumption-based greenhouse gas emissions through materials management or other state programs or policies;
- (c) Include recommendations for regularly updating the consumption-based greenhouse gas emissions inventory; and
- (d) Evaluate the effects of consumption-based greenhouse gas emissions reductions, taking into account economic, social and environmental factors.

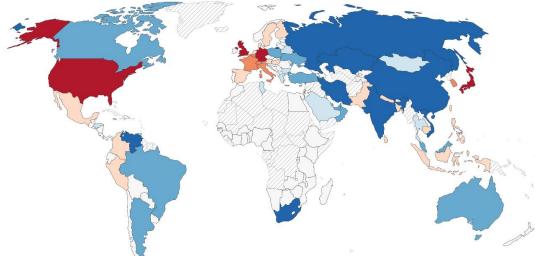


History

- Oregon published the first sub-national consumptionbased emissions inventory in the U.S. in 2011 (for 2005)
- Updated inventories for 2010 and 2015

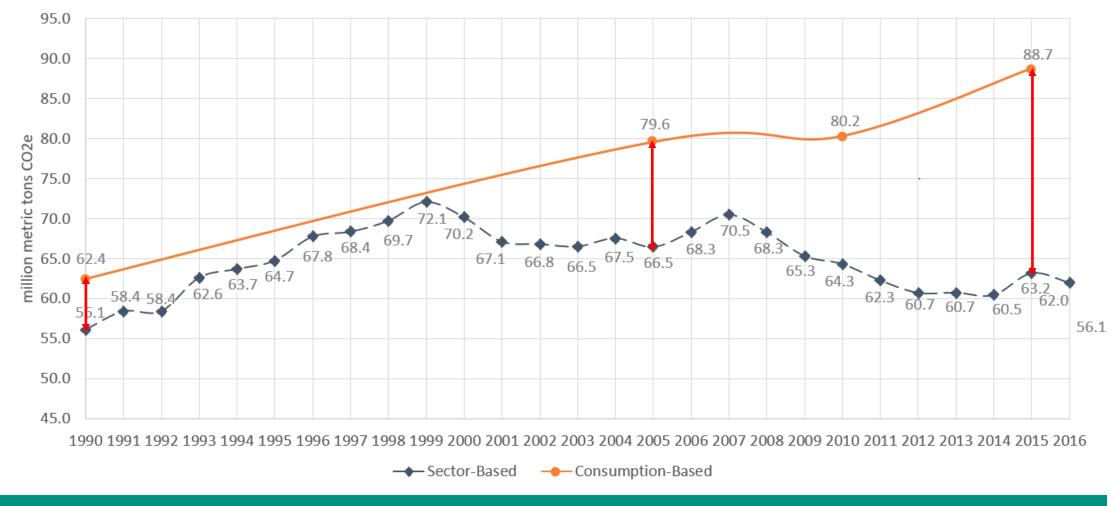
CO₂ emissions embedded in global trade, 2020







Historic trends in Oregon's emissions



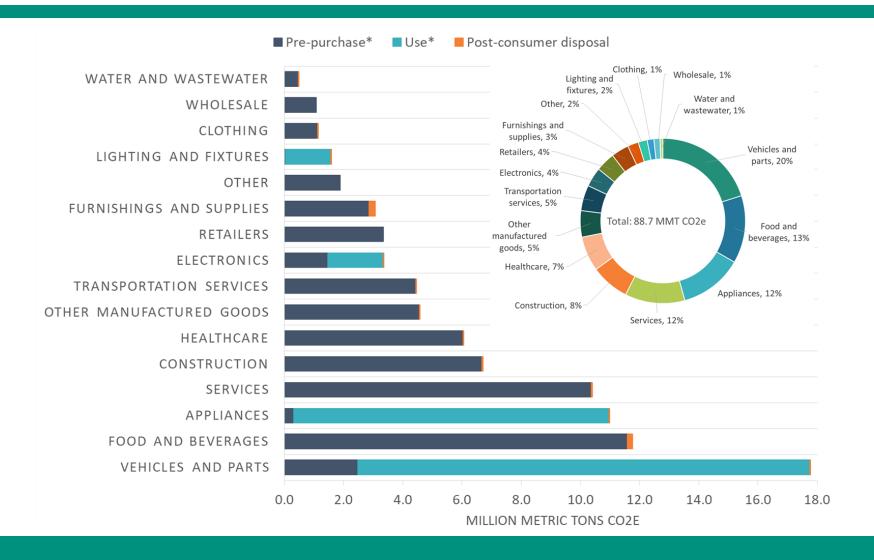


Comparing Oregon's inventories (2015)



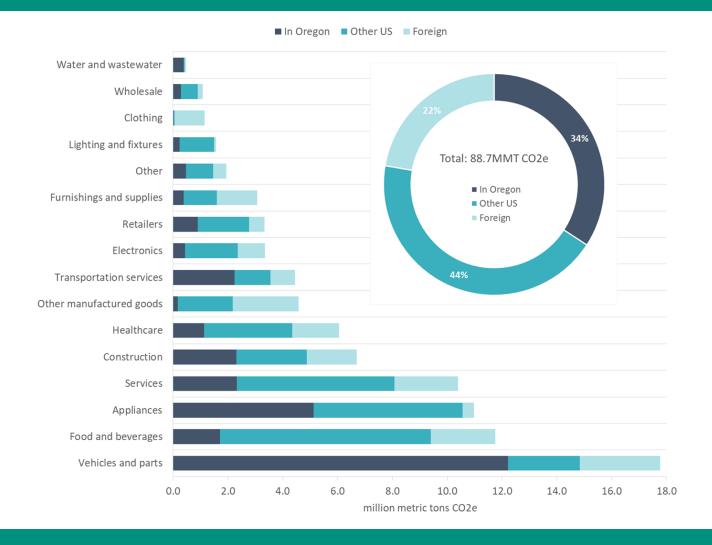


Major categories of consumption-based emissions (2015)



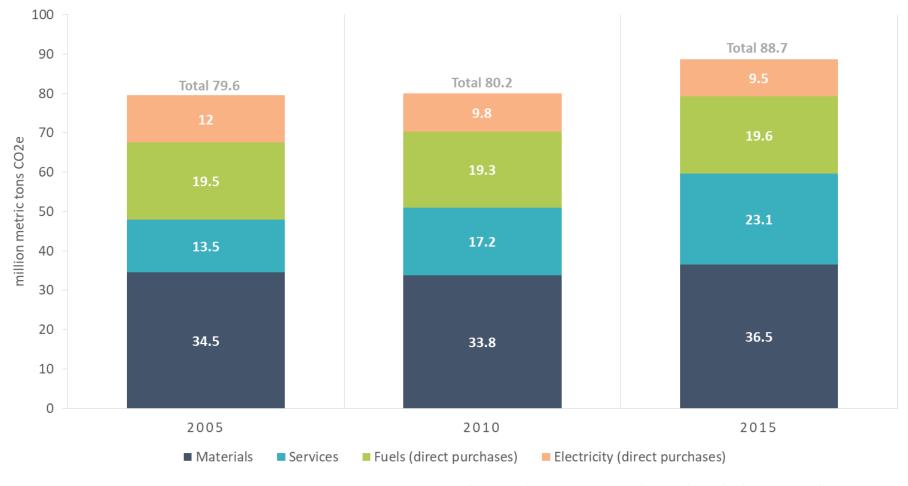


Locations of Oregon's consumption-based GHG emissions (2015)



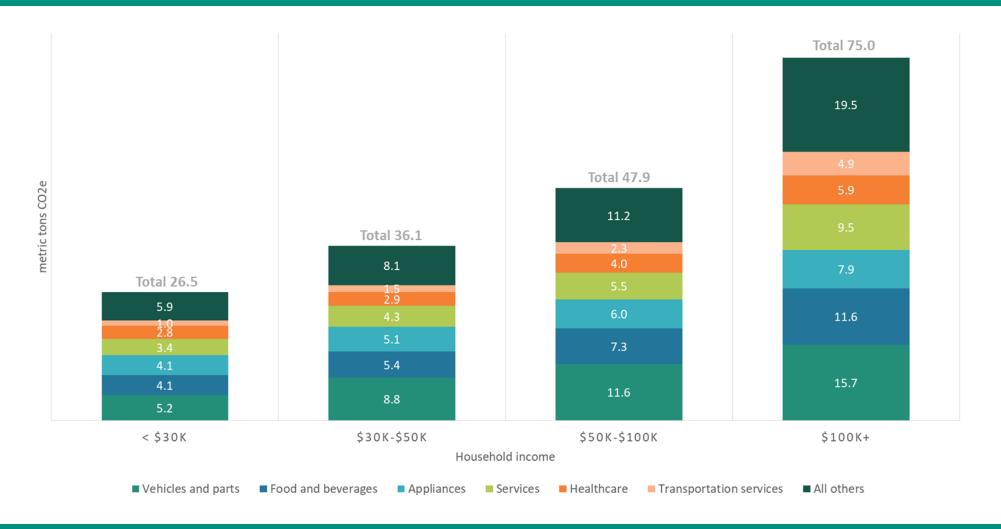


Materials contribute 41% to consumption-based emissions (2015)





Average household consumption-based emissions by income strata (2015)





DEQ report to Legislature: scope

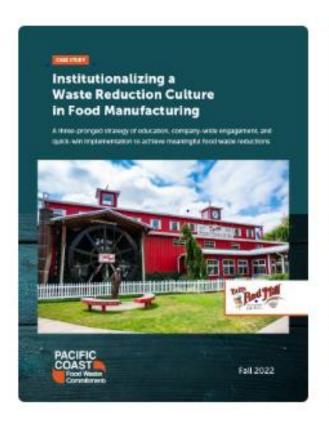
- Update the consumptionbased inventory and make recommendations for future updates
- Identify opportunities to reduce emissions
- Evaluate economic, social and environmental impacts

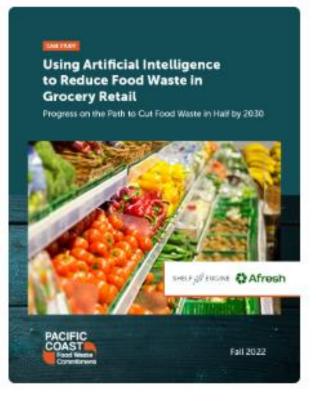


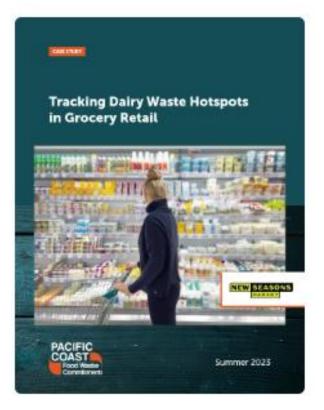


Examples of options: food

Expand the Pacific Coast Food Waste Commitment



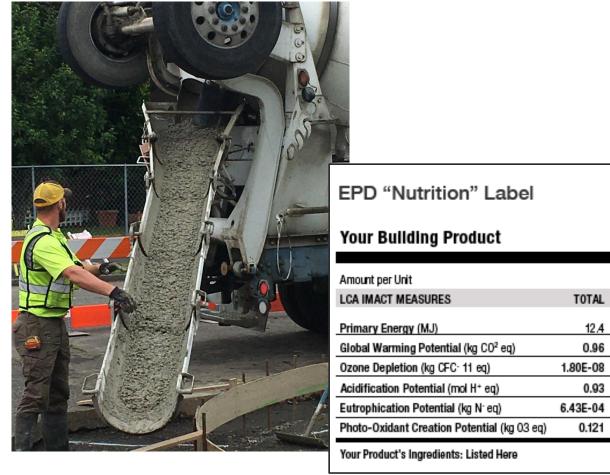






Examples of options: built environment

- Address embodied carbon through code or incentives
- PCC Low Carbon
 Construction Action Plan
- Impact assessment and disclosure





Examples of options: other

- Incent and/or require impact disclosure
- "Product policy" (including extended producer responsibility)
- Funding for industrial decarbonization
- State procurement
- Extending the lifespan of durable goods





One option for Commission consultation

Commission subcommittee studies topic and advises DEQ as it evaluates options Full Commission reviews draft outline, themes & findings for DEQ's report Full Commission uses DEQ's report* to inform its 2024 Biennial Report to the Legislature

February – May 2024 (est.)

May - July 2024 (est.)

October – November 2024

*DEQ's report to the Legislature is due September 15



Thank you

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