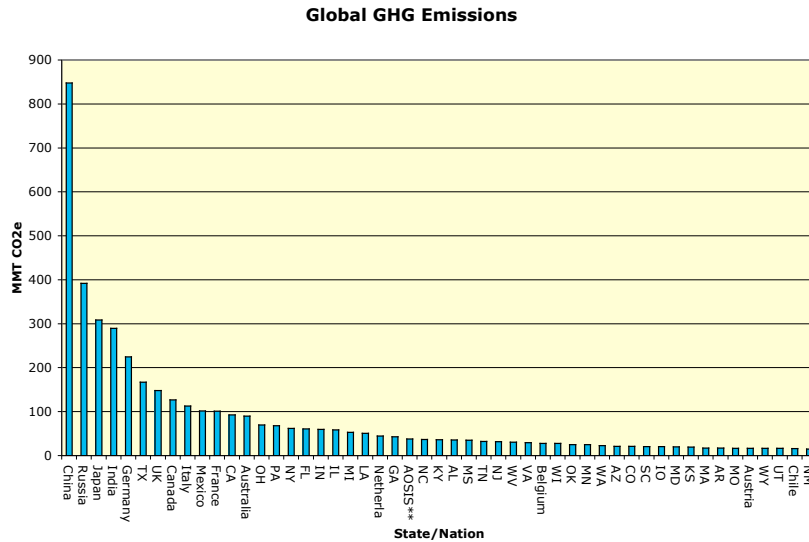


# STATE CLIMATE PROTECTION PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

## OVERVIEW

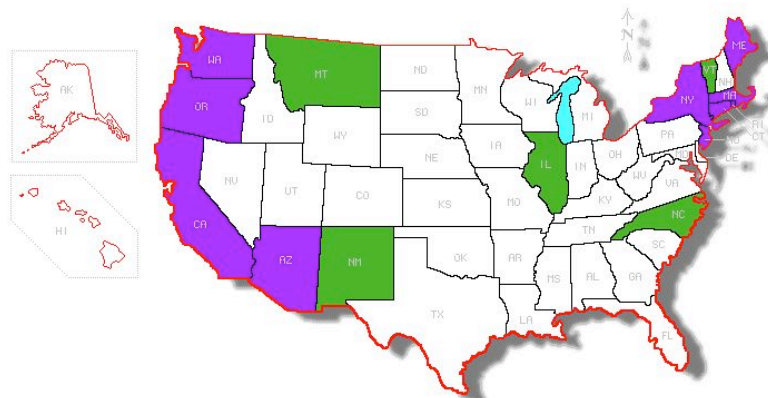
Compared to nations, US states represent 34 of the top 75 emitters of greenhouse gases worldwide. Actions by these states significantly reduce global emissions.



Currently, several US state governments are actively and explicitly engaged in climate protection. Some have completed comprehensive climate action plans and have created a broad portfolio of policy actions; some are in the midst of developing similar climate action plans; and others are engaged in technical assessments or departmental planning initiatives. The map below provides a snapshot of some of this activity.

State Climate Change Actions Since 2000

- - Plans Completed
- - Plans Underway



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The map above, however, does not by itself capture the full story of state climate action. When policymaking in key sectors such as energy efficiency, renewable energy and auto emissions is also taken into account, as well as growing regional collaborations, **it is safe to say that the majority of US state governments are now directly addressing global warming** through policy and planning mechanisms. Together, the individual greenhouse gas reduction actions undertaken by states to address climate, energy, transportation and natural resource issues covers more than 250 specific state emission reduction programs.

## **THE ROLE OF THE CENTER FOR CLIMATE STRATEGIES (CCS)**

The Center for Climate Strategies is the nation's leading state climate planning and policy designer. The staff of CCS have been involved in virtually every state climate planning initiative since 2000, is currently assisting six states with development and implementation of comprehensive climate change mitigation plans, and is assisting two others with planning of specific programs. CCS is also conducting comprehensive inventories and forecasts of greenhouse gas emissions to 11 other states, and acting as a resource for others considering action. See [www.climatestrategies.us](http://www.climatestrategies.us).

### **STATE CLIMATE ACTION PLANS**

#### End Results

Comprehensive state climate plans include:

- An inventory and forecast of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from 1990-2020
- About 50 actions covering all sectors, using a variety of implementation methods
- Goals and targets to substantially reduce statewide emissions
- Reporting and registry systems to support implementation
- Measurement standards consistent with state, regional and national protocols

#### Planning Process

Developing a stepwise, consensus based state climate action plan requires about 12 months of intensive collaboration and technical analysis. The process begins by convening state officials together with representatives from key stakeholder groups – from environmental groups to representatives of cities, farm groups, industries, energy companies, and other private citizens – and building consensus around technical issues, such as economic opportunities for specific actions. CCS facilitates development of potential policy solutions with a wide array of stakeholders in partnership with state officials. At the conclusion of the planning process, CCS provides a detailed report with advisory group recommendations to the state convening authority, who then work with the Governor, state legislature and stakeholders to implement actions. The process is:

- Fact based
- Stepwise
- Consensus based
- Implementation driven
- Transparent
- Inclusive

#### Specific Actions

A complete and comprehensive state climate action plan consists of a portfolio of measures that are integrated into an overall plan from six policy categories.

- Energy efficiency and Conservation
- Clean and Renewable Energy
- Transportation and Land Use efficiency
- Industrial Process Improvements
- Waste Reduction and Recycling
- Forest and Farmland Conservation

#### State Climate Action Plans Since 2000

To see complete state climate action plans, go to any of the following links:

ARIZONA Completed June 2006

[www.azclimatechange.us](http://www.azclimatechange.us)

MONTANA In progress

[www.mtclimatechange.us](http://www.mtclimatechange.us)

CALIFORNIA Completed December 2005

[www.climatechange.ca.gov](http://www.climatechange.ca.gov)

NEW MEXICO In progress

[www.nmclimatechange.us](http://www.nmclimatechange.us)

CONNECTICUT Completed December 2003

[www.ctclimatechange.com/StateActionPlan.html](http://www.ctclimatechange.com/StateActionPlan.html)

NORTH CAROLINA In progress

[www.ncclimatechange.us](http://www.ncclimatechange.us)

COLORADO In progress

[http://www.rockymountainclimate.org/colorado\\_1.htm](http://www.rockymountainclimate.org/colorado_1.htm)

OREGON Completed 2004

[www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/GBLWRM/docs/GWReport-FInal.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/GBLWRM/docs/GWReport-FInal.pdf)

PUGET SOUND/WASHINGTON Completed November 2004

[www.pscleanair.org/specprog/globclim/cpsp/pdf/rptfin.pdf](http://www.pscleanair.org/specprog/globclim/cpsp/pdf/rptfin.pdf)

MAINE Completed November 2004

[www.mainehg.raabassociates.org/index.asp](http://www.mainehg.raabassociates.org/index.asp)

RHODE ISLAND Completed 2002

[www.dem.ri.gov/programs/bpoladm/stratpp/greenhos.htm](http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/bpoladm/stratpp/greenhos.htm)

MASSACHUSETTS Completed 2003

[www.mass.gov/Eocd/docs/pdfs/fullcolorclimateplan.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/Eocd/docs/pdfs/fullcolorclimateplan.pdf)

VERMONT In progress

[www.vtclimatechange.us](http://www.vtclimatechange.us)

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*The Center for Climate Strategies ([www.climatestrategies.us](http://www.climatestrategies.us)) is a program of Enterprising Environmental Solutions, Inc. ([www.eesi21.com](http://www.eesi21.com)), a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization dedicated to sharing knowledge and identifying best practices in environmental protection and policy innovation. It is active in the areas of climate change, water and air quality, sustainable energy, land use and brownfields.*