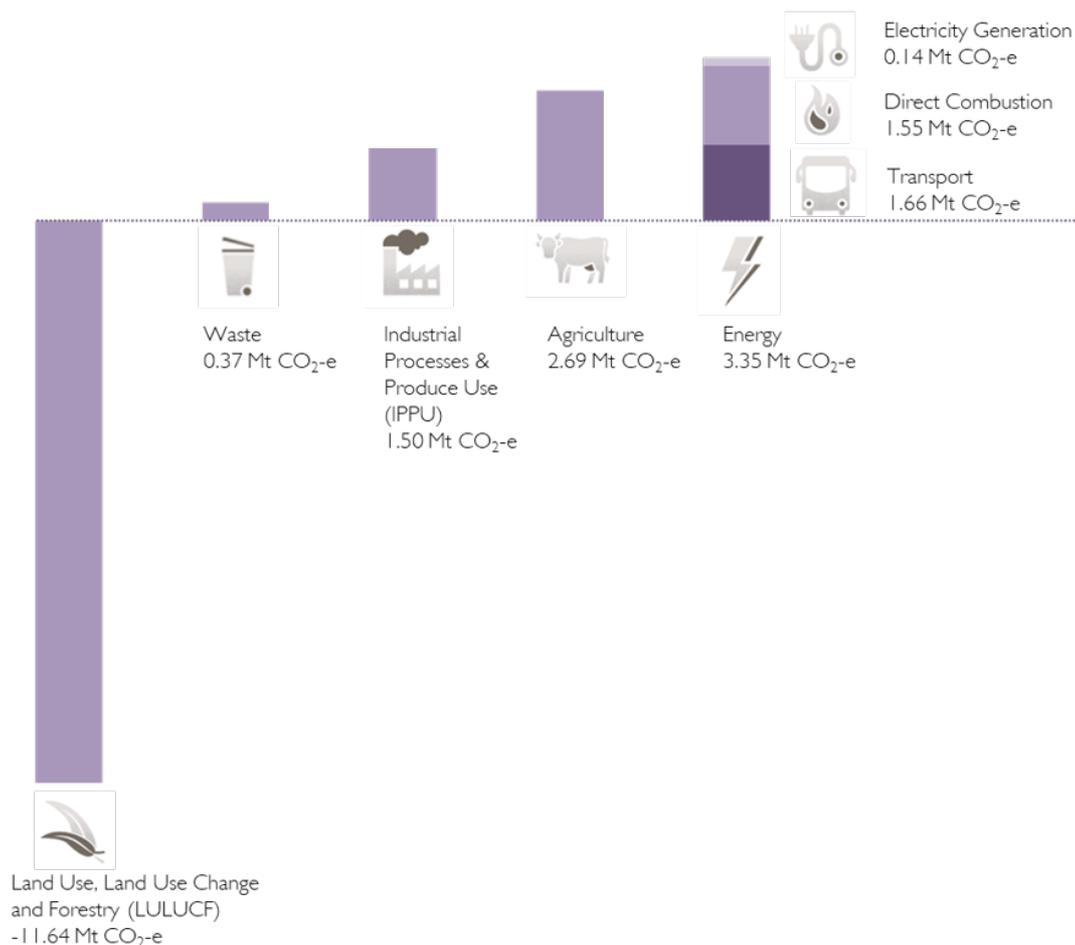


Tasmania's greenhouse gas emissions

In 2020, Tasmania's emissions were **minus 3.73 megatonnes** of carbon dioxide equivalent (Mt CO₂-e). This is a **drop of 120.9 per cent** from 1990 levels.

Tasmania was the first Australian jurisdiction to achieve **net zero emissions**, and has done so for the last seven years.

Where do our emissions come from?



What are greenhouse gases?

Greenhouse gases trap heat in the atmosphere and make the Earth warmer. Those with the most significant impact on global warming are water vapour, carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide. Other common greenhouse gases include ozone and chlorofluorocarbons.

What is a carbon sink?

A carbon, or emissions, sink removes more carbon than it emits. The removed carbon is stored, often in the form of growing vegetation, like a forest. Tasmania's forests absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and offset all our emissions.

How are emissions measured?

Each greenhouse gas varies in terms of its contribution to climate change. Global warming potentials are used as a relative measure of how much heat a greenhouse gas traps in the atmosphere. They compare the amount of heat trapped by a certain mass of each gas to the amount of heat trapped by a similar mass of carbon dioxide. Using this method, greenhouse gases are combined into a single, consistent value of carbon dioxide equivalent, known as CO₂-e.

How are emissions reported?

Each year the Tasmanian Government releases a report on Tasmania's latest greenhouse gas figures, which shows the State's progress towards its emissions reduction target, and monitors emissions by sector. You can read the report at recfit.tas.gov.au.

Tasmania's emissions are reported in accordance with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reporting framework for national greenhouse gas inventories.

The report is compiled using data from the Australian Government's [State and Territory Greenhouse Gas Inventories](#)¹, which are prepared as part of the suite of reports for the annual National Greenhouse Accounts, and includes the National Inventory Report.

The Australian Government submits the National Inventory Report to meet Australia's annual reporting commitments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol.

The National Inventory Report runs two years behind the current date and represents the most recent official data in Australia on annual emissions.

Each year, the Australian Government updates how it calculates the national emissions figures, updating all the figures from 1990 to the current reporting year. The figures are recalculated to ensure that they are accurate, complete, and can be compared with reports from other countries. This means the latest accounts cannot be compared with those released in previous years.

¹ <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/climate-change/publications/state-and-territory-greenhouse-gas-inventories>