



Canada: Climate killer No. 5

Greenhouse gas emissions: 791 million tonnes (Mt)
Carbon dioxide: 597 million tonnes (Mt)

This makes Canada the fifth largest greenhouse gas emitter among the G8 countries.

Enormous per capita emissions: Approx. 18 t CO₂ per inhabitant

In terms of *per capita* emissions, Canada is way above the rest of the world, only just behind the USA.

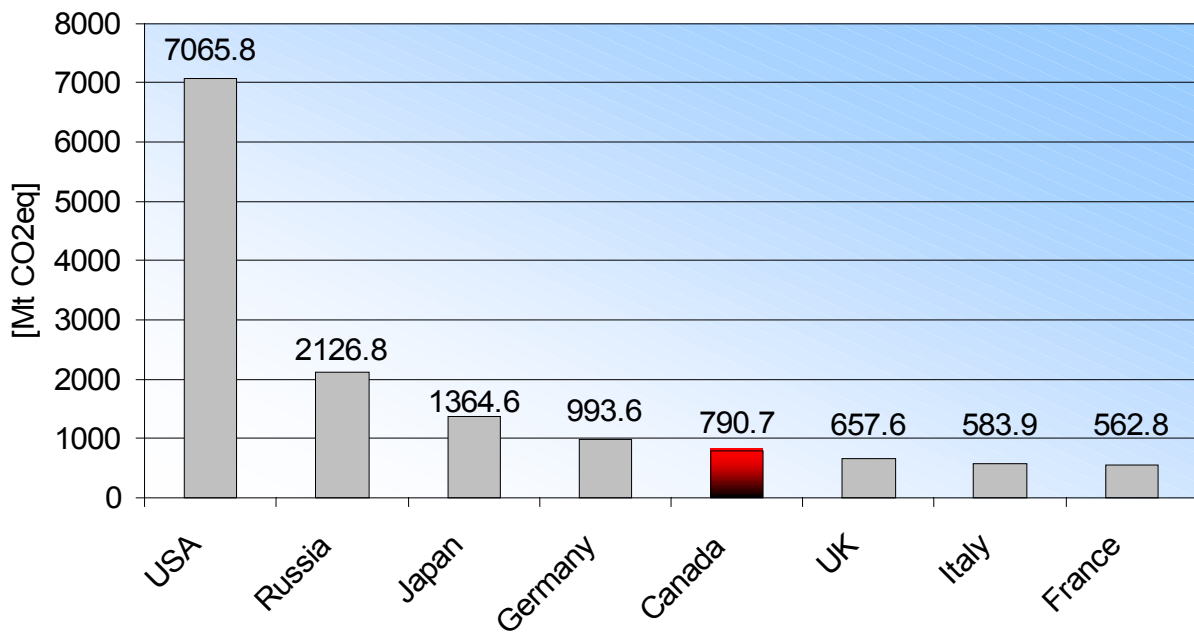
Trend: Total disaster – 30 percent growth rate

Canada's greenhouse gas emissions have risen by 30.8 percent over the period from 1990 to 2005. This is the greatest rate of increase within the G8 group. Under the terms of the Kyoto Protocol, Canada would have to reduce its emissions by six percent below its 1990 level by 2012.

Political will: Absent

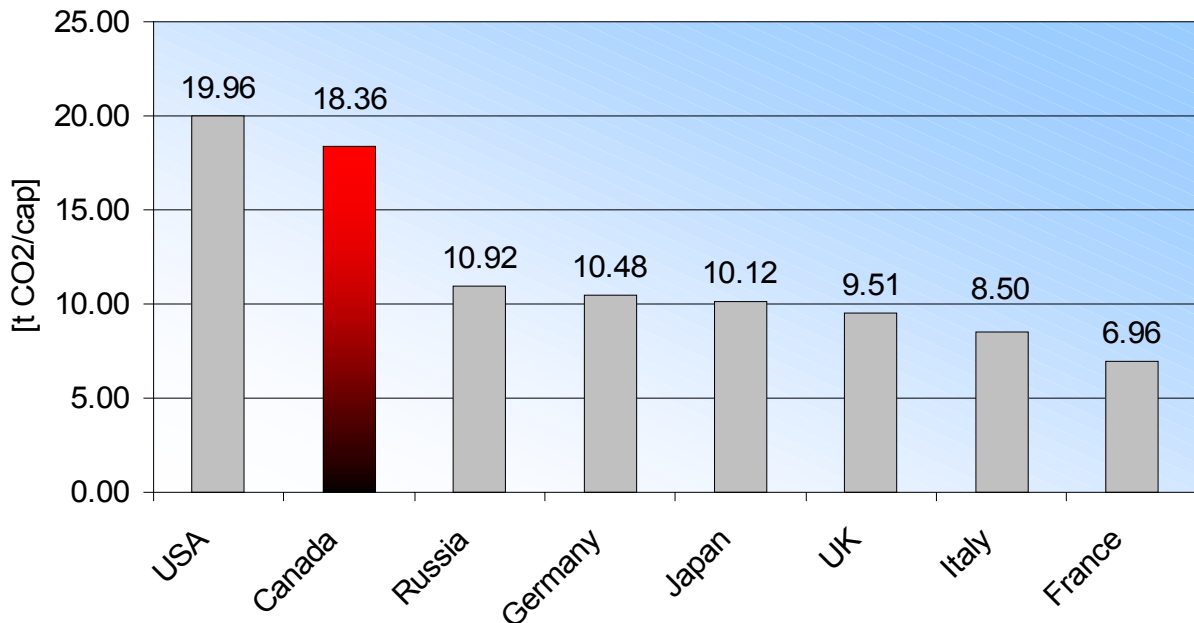
Canada ratified the Kyoto Protocol in December 2002. Nonetheless, national climate protection initiatives, such as *Action Plan 2000*, the *2002 Climate Change Plan for Canada*, and *Project Green 2005* –failed to achieve any greenhouse gas reductions. In January 2006, the Conservative Stephen Harper, a declared opponent of Kyoto, became prime minister. One of the first acts of the Harper government was to put all global warming programs on hold, and the first budget in May 2006 slashed climate spending in half. Some climate change programs have been restored in 2007, and Canada has not formally withdrawn from Kyoto, but the government claims that Canada's Kyoto commitment is "unachievable". Canadian environment minister John Baird has suggested that meeting Canada's Kyoto commitment would cause the economic collapse of Canadian industry.

GHG emissions of the G8 countries 2005



Source: Ziesing, Hans-Joachim: Trotz Klimaschutzabkommen: Weltweit steigende CO₂-Emissionen, DIW Berlin Wochenbericht 35/2006.

per-capita CO₂ emissions of the G8 countries 2005



Source: Greenpeace calculation, from Ziesing, Hans-Joachim: Trotz Klimaschutzabkommen: Weltweit steigende CO₂-Emissionen, DIW Berlin Wochenbericht 35/2006 und World Development Report 2006, Weltbank