



CGA by the Numbers: Where is Canada on meeting its greenhouse (GHG) targets?

In this issue, we outline where Canada's GHG emissions currently sit, relative to the commitment to reduce them by 30 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030. What we see, is that emissions have remained fairly close to their 2005 levels and, as of 2018 (the year of the latest data), would require an annual reduction of just over 2.5 per cent per year to meet the 2030 target.

In the latest National Inventory Report (NIR 2019) data on GHG emissions levels by Environment and Climate Change Canada, the country's revised 2018 emissions levels were placed at 729 megatonnes (Mt) of CO₂eq.

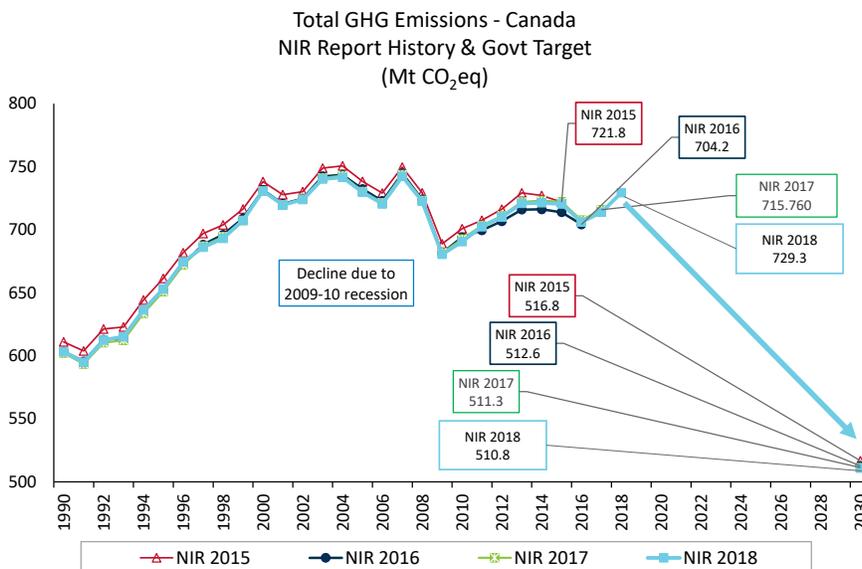
This is nearly the same as the revised 2005 levels of over 729 Mt CO₂eq, and up from the revised 1990 levels of 603 Mt CO₂eq.

To meet the stated target of a 30 per cent reduction from 2005 levels (roughly equal to a 15 per cent reduction from 1990 levels) by 2030, Canada's GHG emissions would have to decline to 510.8 Mt CO₂eq.

This would require a reduction rate of just over 2.5 per cent each year from now until 2030. For comparison, Canada's GHG emissions have been increasing at an annual rate of 0.7 per cent since 1990.

In a 2016 report, ICF International estimated that almost a quarter (48 Mt) of the desired reductions in Canada's GHG levels could be obtained from the natural gas lifecycle if the proper financing and policy conditions were put in place. This would include measures that would allow the use of more renewable natural gas (RNG), coal-to-gas conversions, natural gas vehicles, energy efficiency and connecting more communities to the natural gas system. That report is available on our [website](#).

The natural gas delivery industry's leadership in renewable natural gas (RNG) and hydrogen (H₂) can be found via our public commitments on RNG, seeing a 5 per cent and 10 per cent blend by 2025 and 2030, respectively, and calling for national coordination on H₂. Resources on RNG can be found [here](#), and for H₂ [here](#).



To meet Canada's GHG reduction target of a 30 percent decline over 2005 levels (510.8 Mt CO₂eq) by 2030 emissions will now have to decline by 218.5 Mt CO₂eq from their current 2018 level.

Source: ECCC National Inventory Report 1990-2019