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Reducing Emissions in Rhode Island: Status and Programs

RIEC⁴

Did You Know?

In 2022, Rhode Island's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions were estimated to be 9.60 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MMT_{CO₂e}), which is a 18.3% reduction below 1990 levels. Rhode Island's Act on Climate sets enforceable targets to reduce emissions:

- 10% below 1990 levels by 2020
- 45% below 1990 levels by 2030
- 80% below 1990 levels by 2040
- Net-zero emissions by 2050

The Department of Environmental Management (DEM) assess the state's emissions in a report called the *Rhode Island Greenhouse Gas Inventory*. This annual publication details emissions by economic sector and gas; it's also the primary scientific tool the Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council (EC4) uses to assess progress with the Act on Climate. The EC4 is charged with developing a Climate Action Strategy every 5 years that will include programs and practices necessary to achieve the emissions limitations set by the Act.



In This Section →

1. Greenhouse Gas Inventory
2. Emissions by Economic Sector
3. Emissions by Gas

Use navigation boxes above to explore the data.

Why It Matters

Fossil fuels burned for energy adds more GHGs, including carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, to the atmosphere. This buildup acts as a "blanket" that traps heat over Earth's surface. Increases in heat trapping GHGs lead to many adverse effects, including more extreme storms, higher average temperatures, and sea level rise. Rhode Island is a member of the U.S. Climate Alliance, a bipartisan coalition of states and territories that is working to uphold the commitments of the Paris Climate Accords.

[Learn More about the RI Greenhouse Gas Inventory](#)

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EC4 Dashboard: Reducing Emissions



Quick Facts

1990-2022 Rhode Island Greenhouse Gas Inventory

RIEC⁴

2022 Gross Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions



2022 Net GHG Emissions

9.60*
million metric tons of CO_{2e}

*Net emissions equal the sum of gross emissions and removals. Sector totals may not align with net total due to rounding.

2022 Greenhouse Gas Removals

Natural and Working Lands (NWLs)



-0.75 MMTCO_{2e}

7.2%

of gross GHG emissions offset by NWLs

1990 - 2022 Change

Statewide Net GHG Reductions



-18.3%

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EC4 Dashboard: Reducing Emissions

[Reducing Emissions in Rhode Island](#)

[Greenhouse Gas Inventory](#)

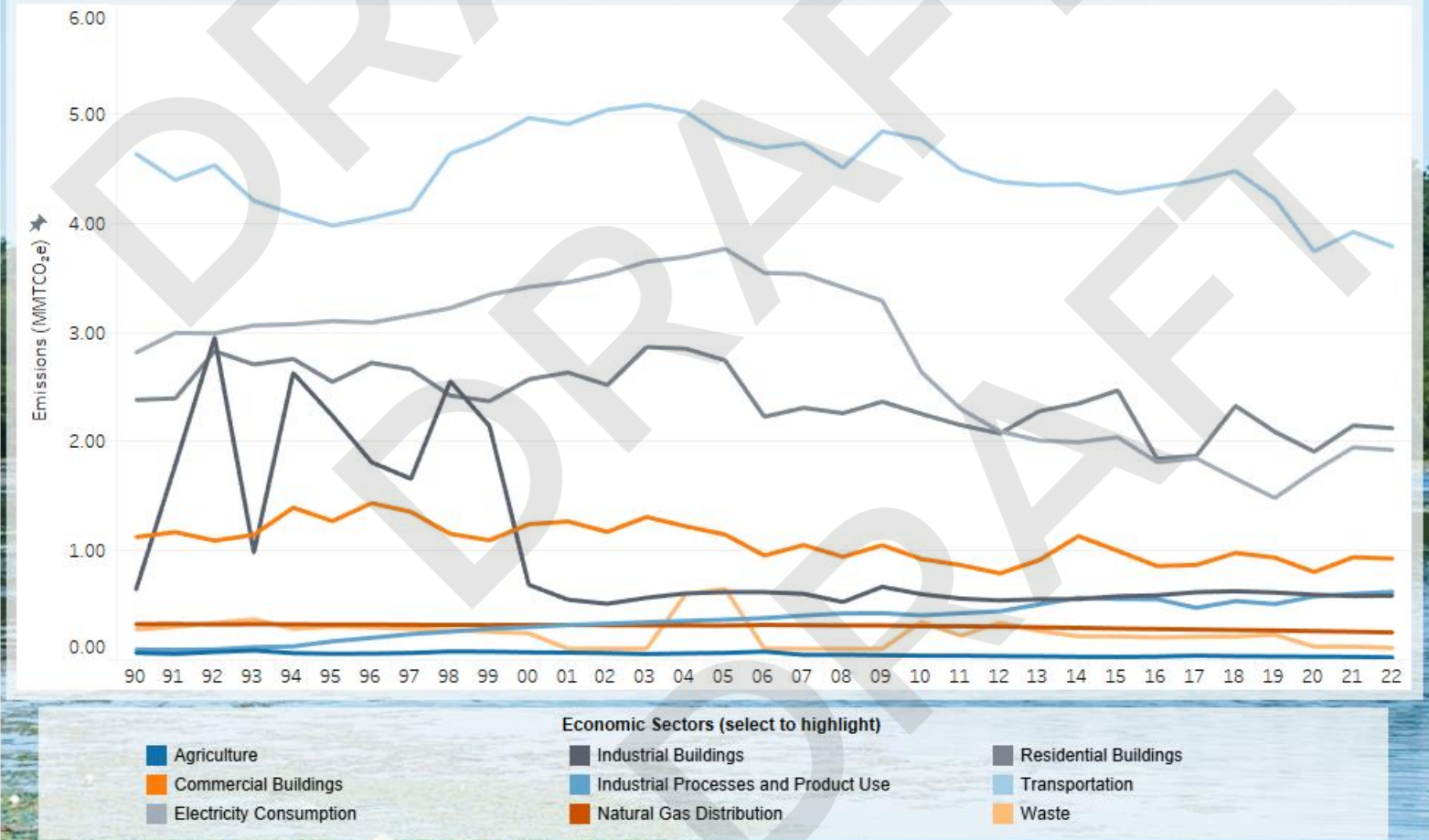
Emissions: Economic Sectors

[Emissions: Gases](#)

1990-2022 Rhode Island Greenhouse Gas Inventory

RIEC⁴

Total Emissions by Economic Sector (1990-2022)
All units in (MMTCO₂e), 100-Year AR5 GWPs



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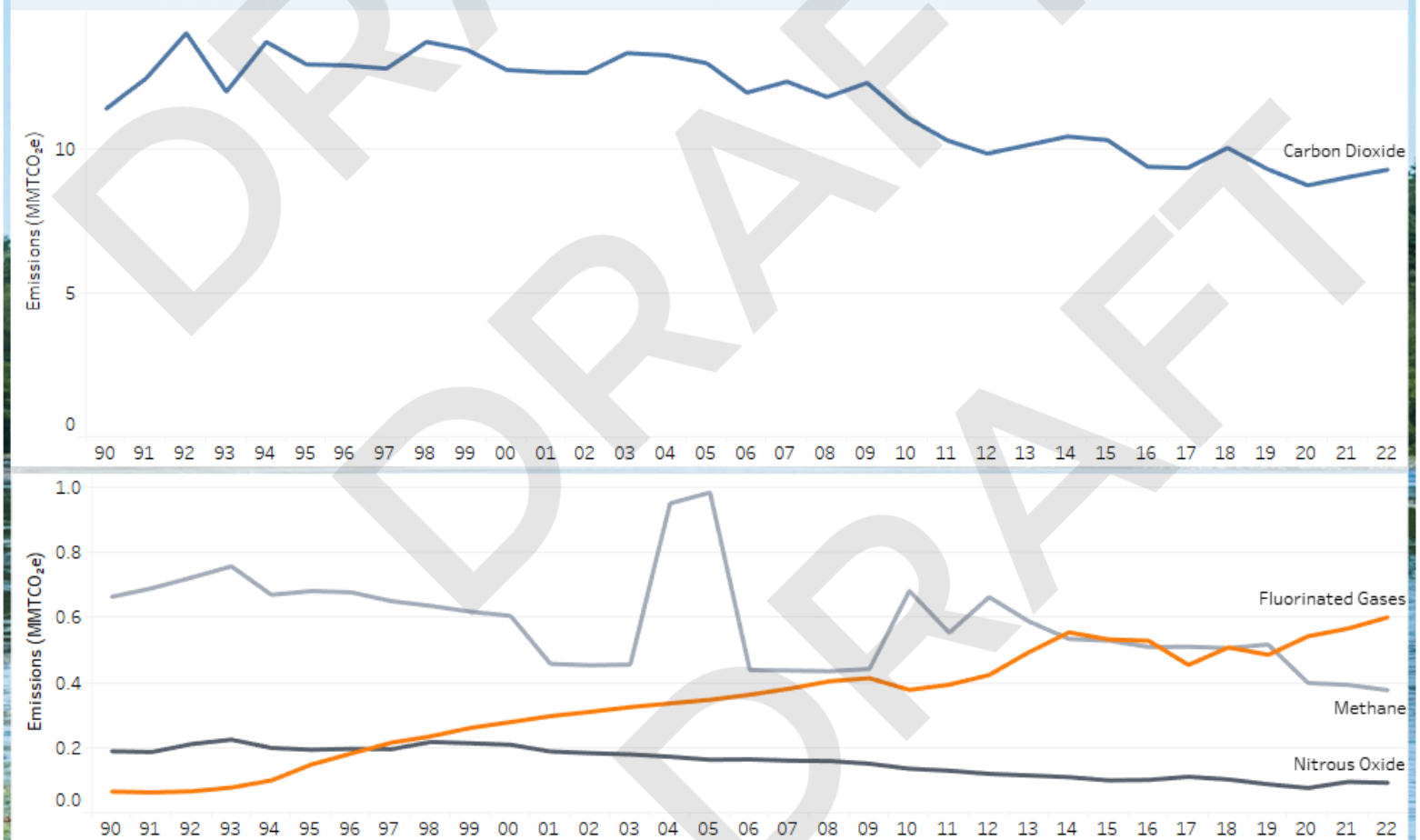
EC4 Dashboard: Reducing Emissions



1990-2022 Rhode Island Greenhouse Gas Inventory

RIEC⁴

Total Emissions by Gas (1990-2022)
All units in (MMTCO₂e), 100-Year AR5 GWPs



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