

Analysis of Carbon Emission Trends

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Introduction

1. Throughout our lifetimes, carbon emissions have been a growing concern for our planet. These emissions contribute to climate change and environmental degradation. In this project, we try to answer these three questions:
 1. *Which countries have contributed the most to global emissions?*
 2. *What's the relationship between country GDP and country carbon emissions?*
 3. *What are the contribution of different sectors towards CO2 emissions?*
2. Our project starts with showcasing the increase in global emissions over the past decades, identifying the top five countries with the highest emissions. We then see the relationship between the economic growth and emission by comparing GDP and carbon emissions. In conclusion, we see the emissions made by different sectors, using bar graphs and line charts to see the top contributing industries to emission and looking at trends over time.

Background Information

- Carbon emissions, are in the form of carbon dioxide or CO₂, which is one of the major reason for climate change. These emissions are produced by activities such as burning fossil fuels, transportation, construction, and agriculture. Over the last 50 years, global carbon emissions have risen.
 1. *Which countries have contributed the most to global emissions?*

We will use the carbon emission data to identify the top five countries with the highest emissions. A line graph will help us see trends, and a table will show a summary. For this question we will be using an emissions per capita dataset that tracks many countries over many years.

2. *What are the contribution of different sectors towards CO2 emissions?*

Different sectors have different levels of carbon emissions. We will visualize a emissions by sector bar graph to see which sectors are responsible for the most emission. For this question we will be using an emissions by sector dataset to see which countries have the most CO2 output over the years.

3. *What's the relationship between country GDP and country carbon emissions?*

Economic development often leads to increase in industrial activity and energy use. We will use a GDP dataset and track it alongside the emissions by sector dataset to see if there is a correlation between the 2.

Average Global CO2 Emissions Per Capita Over Time

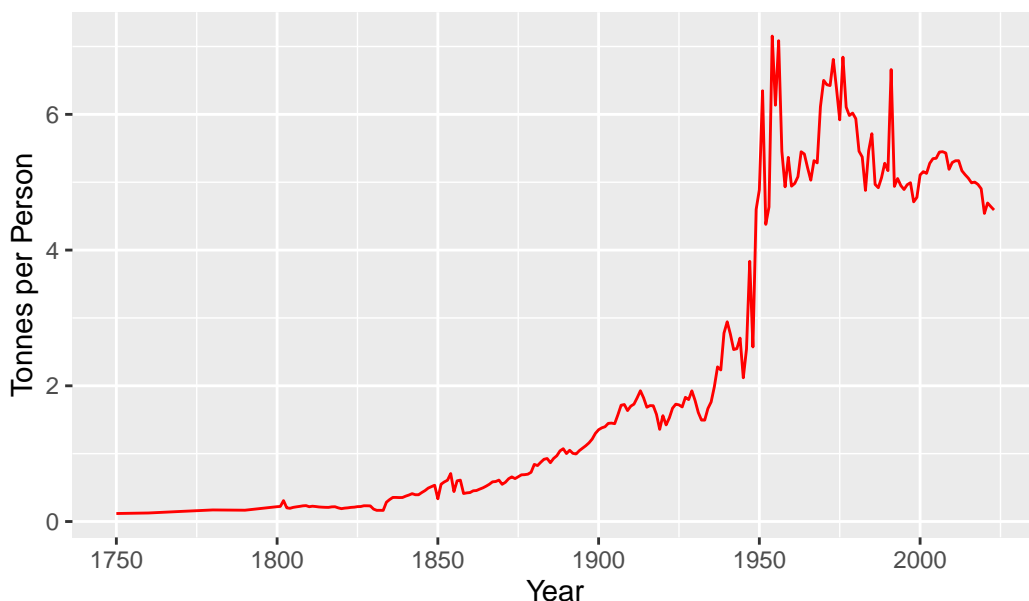
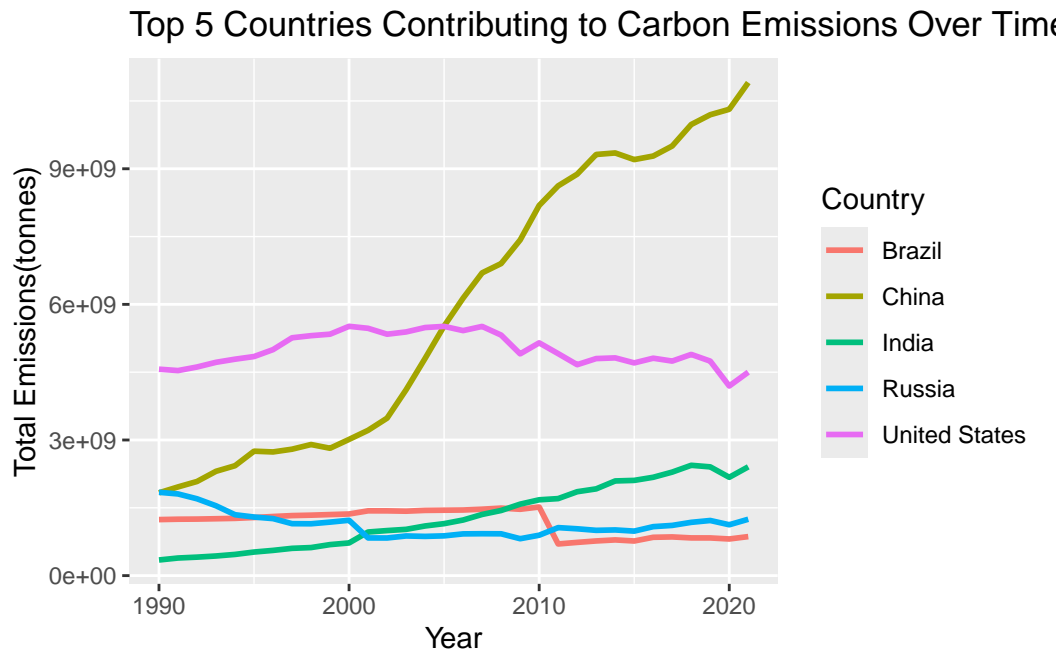


Table 1: Average Total Emissions by Country

Country	Average Emissions
China	5927070017
United States	4993443129
India	1307694061
Brazil	1175641249
Russia	1135610309

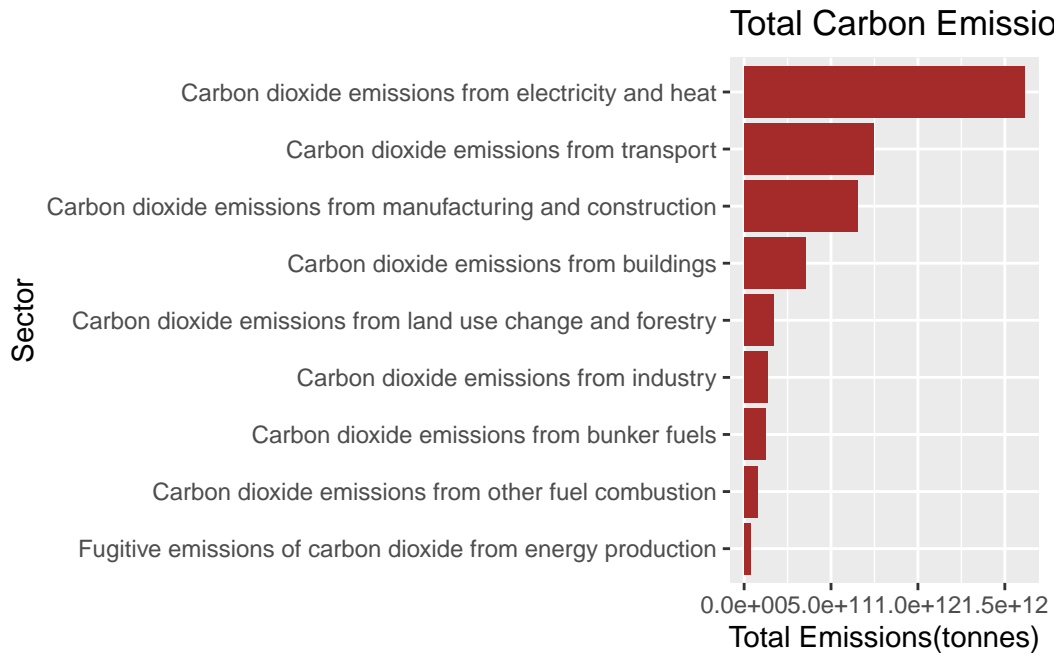
Top 5 countries

- Here we've established that the top 5 countries in CO2 Emissions are China, United States, Brazil, India, and Russia. Next we will look at the trend of CO2 Emissions over the years in each of those countries to get a better understanding of their respective policies on the matter.



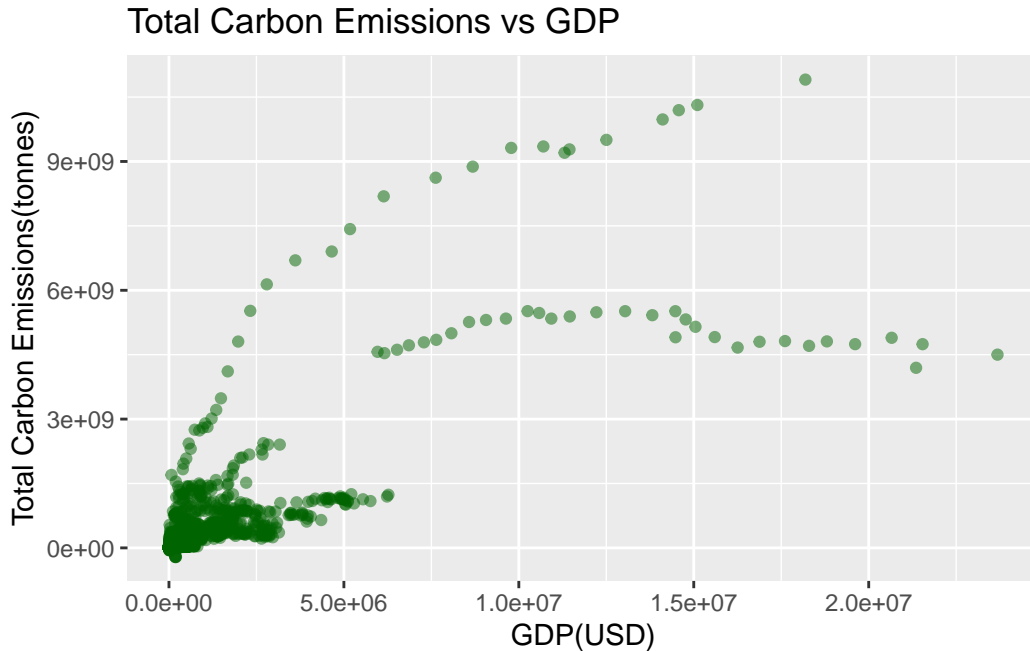
What does this mean

- We can clearly see that between countries, there are various trends of how the idea Carbon Emissions are being treated. Countries like China that are increasingly unconcerned with how their industrialization affects the rest of the world show a clear steep upward slope of Carbon Emissions. Whereas countries like the US and Russia have grown more environmentally conscious over the years showing their slight downward slope.



Which Sector is Performing Worst

- We can see that the largest contributor to emissions is consumer heat and electricity. This makes sense as everyone in the world needs electricity and heat. However, something interesting to note is that CO₂ from transport is almost half of heat and electricity. Furthermore, manufacturing and construction accounts for nearly the same amount. So there is nearly the same amount of CO₂ being spent on transport and manufacturing as there is for the heat and electricity of the 8 billion people who reside on Earth. Also worth noting is that the actual energy being produced doesn't contribute very much to the total amount of emissions which is a common misconception.



Relationship between GDP and Carbon Emissions

- Intuitively, we can reason that there is a positive relationship between Carbon Emissions and GDP. After all, it's reasonable that countries that produce more energy and goods, are also producing more emissions through the use of fossil fuels, electricity, and large machinery. The above scatter plot measuring the relationship between Carbon Emissions and GDP backs this up. As we can see there is a clear positive slope in the plot.
- However, another important detail to realize is that there are countries on the scatter plot that have very high Carbon Emissions with respect to their GDP. What this means is that there are countries that are underproducing, but still contributing a significant amount of emissions. Through this graph we can see that and furthermore, through further analysis we would be able to deduce which countries are responsible for that part of the graph.

Data Summary

In this project, we have used three datasets:

1. CO₂ and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Source: Our World in Data

Purpose: This dataset was used to get insights on the countries which contributed most

towards the global emissions.

Cases: Each case is a country in a particular year and their annual CO2 emissions per capita.

Attributes: Country, Years

2. GDP by Country

Source: Wikipedia

Purpose: This dataset was used to get insights on the relationship between country's GDP v/s country's emissions.

Cases: Each case is a country and the columns are GDP in particular years.

Attributes: Country, Years

3. CO2 Emissions by Sector

Source: Our World in Data

Purpose: This dataset was used to get insights on the sectors which contributed the most towards global emissions.

Cases: Each case is a country in a particular year and emissions done by various sectors(1990-2021).

Attributes: Country, Year, Sectors CO2 emissions

Conclusion

- Looking at all the data together, it's clear that carbon emissions have been rising steadily.
- We found that the top five countries contributing to CO2 emissions are China, the United States, India, the European Union, and Russia.
- When we broke emissions down by sector, electricity and heat were the biggest contributors.
- Finally, the GDP vs. emissions graph showed that richer countries tend to emit more, which is expected.
- Overall, the project gave a solid picture of who's contributing to emissions, how it connects to GDP, and the sectors involved.

References

- Our World in Data – CO₂ and Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Ritchie, H., Roser, M., & Rosado, P. (2020). CO₂ and greenhouse gas emissions. Our World in Data. <https://ourworldindata.org/co2-and-greenhouse-gas-emissions>
- Wikipedia contributors. (2025, June 29). List of countries by past and projected GDP (nominal). In *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. Retrieved 04:52, July 1, 2025, from [https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=List_of_countries_by_past_and_projected_GDP_\(nominal\)&oldid=1297935771](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=List_of_countries_by_past_and_projected_GDP_(nominal)&oldid=1297935771)

- Our World in Data – CO Emissions by Sector (Grapher Tool)
Our World in Data. (n.d.). CO emissions by sector. <https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/co-emissions-by-sector?tab=table>

Code Appendix

```
# Emissions per capita over time graph code
#-----
library(readr)
library(dplyr)
library(tidyr)
library(ggplot2)

# Load the per capita emissions dataset
per_capita <- read_csv("C:/Users/Saathvik/Desktop/STAT184Project/datasets/per_capita_emission")

# Convert the dataset from wide format to long format
# Each row will now represent a country and year with corresponding emissions
pc_long <- per_capita %>%
  pivot_longer(
    cols = -Country,
    names_to = "Year",
    values_to = "Emissions"
  ) %>%
  mutate(Year = as.integer(Year))

# Calculate the global average CO2 emissions per capita for each year
avg_val <- pc_long %>%
  group_by(Year) %>%
  summarise(Average = mean(Emissions, na.rm = TRUE))

# Create a line plot of average emissions over time
ggplot(avg_val, aes(x = Year, y = Average)) +
  geom_line(color = "red") +
  labs(
    title = "Average Global CO2 Emissions Per Capita Over Time",
    x = "Year",
    y = "Tonnes per Person"
  )
```

```

# Top 5 Countries Emission Table
#-----
library(readr)
library(dplyr)
library(knitr)
# Load the emissions by sector dataset
emissions <- read_csv("C:/Users/Saathvik/Desktop/STAT184Project/datasets/emission_by_sector.csv")

# Identify the relevant columns in the dataset
emission_cols <- setdiff(names(emissions), c("Entity", "Code", "Year"))

# Sum across all sector columns
emissions <- emissions %>%
  mutate(Total_Emissions = rowSums(select(., all_of(emission_cols)), na.rm = TRUE))

# Compute the average total emissions for each country
country_avg <- emissions %>%
  group_by(Entity) %>%
  summarise(Average_Emissions = mean(Total_Emissions, na.rm = TRUE)) %>%
  arrange(desc(Average_Emissions))

# Identify the target countries which we found when examining the dataset excluding the group
target_countries <- c("United States", "China", "India", "Brazil", "Russia")

# Rename columns for display and filter for the target countries
filtered_avg <- country_avg %>%
  filter(Entity %in% target_countries) %>%
  rename(Country = Entity, `Average Emissions` = Average_Emissions)

kable(filtered_avg, caption = "Average Total Emissions by Country")

# Emissions Plot of Top 5 Countries code
#-----
library(readr)
library(dplyr)
library(ggplot2)

emissions <- read_csv("C:/Users/Saathvik/Desktop/STAT184Project/datasets/emission_by_sector.csv",
                      show_col_types = FALSE)

emission_cols <- setdiff(names(emissions), c("Entity", "Code", "Year"))

```



```

# Convert all emission values to numeric
emissions <- emissions %>%
  mutate(across(all_of(emission_cols), ~ readr::parse_number(as.character(.))))

# Calculate total emissions for each row
emissions <- emissions %>%
  rowwise() %>%
  mutate(Total_Emissions = sum(c_across(all_of(emission_cols)), na.rm = TRUE)) %>%
  ungroup()

target_countries <- c("United States", "China", "India", "Brazil", "Russia")
filtered_data <- emissions %>%
  filter(Entity %in% target_countries)

# Create a line plot showing total emissions over time for each of the top 5 countries
ggplot(filtered_data, aes(x = Year, y = Total_Emissions, color = Entity)) +
  geom_line(size = 1) +
  labs(
    title = "Top 5 Countries Contributing to Carbon Emissions Over Time ",
    x = "Year",
    y = "Total Emissions(tonnes)",
    color = "Country"
  )

# Highest Contributing Sectors to Emission Bar Graph code
# -----
library(readr)
library(dplyr)
library(ggplot2)

emissions <- read_csv("C:/Users/Saathvik/Desktop/STAT184Project/datasets/emission_by_sector.csv")

emission_cols <- setdiff(names(emissions), c("Entity", "Code", "Year"))

emissions <- emissions %>%
  mutate(across(all_of(emission_cols), ~ readr::parse_number(as.character(.))))

sector_totals <- emissions %>%
  summarise(across(all_of(emission_cols), ~ sum(., na.rm = TRUE))) %>%
  pivot_longer(cols = everything(), names_to = "Sector", values_to = "Total_Emissions")

```

```

# Create a horizontal bar plot showing total emissions by sector
ggplot(sector_totals, aes(x = reorder(Sector, Total_Emissions), y = Total_Emissions)) +
  geom_bar(stat = "identity", fill = "brown") +
  coord_flip() +
  labs(
    title = "Total Carbon Emissions by Sector",
    x = "Sector",
    y = "Total Emissions(tonnes)"
  )

# GDP Relationship to Emissions Scatter Plot code
# -----
library(readr)
library(dplyr)
library(ggplot2)
library(tidyr)

gdp <- read_csv("C:/Users/Saathvik/Desktop/STAT184Project/datasets/GDP_estimates.csv")
emissions <- read_csv("C:/Users/Saathvik/Desktop/STAT184Project/datasets/emission_by_sector.csv")

# Change the GDP data from wide to long format
gdp_long <- gdp %>%
  pivot_longer(cols = -Country, names_to = "Year", values_to = "GDP") %>%
  mutate(
    Country = tolower(Country),
    Year = as.numeric(Year),
    GDP = as.numeric(gsub(",", "", GDP))
  )

emission_cols <- setdiff(names(emissions), c("Entity", "Code", "Year"))

# Format the dataset so that it can match up with the GDP dataset so we can use it
emissions_clean <- emissions %>%
  mutate(across(all_of(emission_cols), ~ readr::parse_number(as.character(.)))) %>%
  rowwise() %>%
  mutate(Total_Emissions = sum(c_across(all_of(emission_cols)), na.rm = TRUE)) %>%
  ungroup() %>%
  mutate(
    Country = tolower(Entity),
    Year = as.numeric(Year)
  )

```

```

# Merge GDP and emissions datasets by country and year
merged <- inner_join(gdp_long, emissions_clean, by = c("Country", "Year")) %>%
  drop_na(GDP, Total_Emissions)

# Create a scatter plot of GDP vs Total Emissions
ggplot(merged, aes(x = GDP, y = Total_Emissions)) +
  geom_point(alpha = 0.5, color = "darkgreen", size = 1.5) +
  labs(
    title = "Total Carbon Emissions vs GDP",
    x = "GDP(USD)",
    y = "Total Carbon Emissions(tonnes)"
  )

# Data Wrangling Code
# -----
#dependencies

library(mosaicData)
library(knitr)
library(rvest)
library(stringr)
library(tidyverse)

#Scraping the gdp table from web (General data wrangling)
page <- "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_past_and_projected_GDP_(nominal)"
tableList <- page %>%
  read_html() %>%
  html_nodes(css = "table") %>%
  html_table(fill = TRUE)

#assigning a variable to all the diffrent gdp tables (General data wrangling)
gdp_table1 = tableList[[1]]
gdp_table2 = tableList[[2]]
gdp_table3 = tableList[[3]]
gdp_table4 = tableList[[4]]
gdp_table5 = tableList[[5]]
gdp_table6 = tableList[[6]]

#There was a * after the name of countries in the first table (Regular expression)
gdp_table1 <- gdp_table1 %>%
  mutate(`Country (or area)` = gsub("\\*", "", `Country (or area)`))

```

```

#renaming the column (General data wrangling)
joined_table5 <- joined_table5 %>%
  rename(Country = `Country (or dependent territory)`)

gdp_table1 <- gdp_table1 %>%
  rename(Country = `Country (or area)`)

#Joining the tables to make a big table with all the data (Join operation)
joined_table2 <- full_join(gdp_table2, gdp_table3, by = c("Country (or dependent territory)"
joined_table3 <- full_join(joined_table2, gdp_table4, by = c("Country (or dependent territory)"
joined_table4 <- full_join(joined_table3, gdp_table5, by = c("Country (or dependent territory)"
joined_table5 <- full_join(joined_table4, gdp_table6, by = c("Country (or dependent territory)"

#(General data wrangling)
filtered_gdp_table2 <- gdp_table1 %>%
  filter(Country %in% joined_table5$Country)

#(Transformation function)
gdp_table1 <- gdp_table1 %>%
  mutate(Country = str_trim(tolower(Country)))

joined_table5 <- joined_table5 %>%
  mutate(Country = str_trim(tolower(Country)))

#(General data wrangling)
common_countries <- intersect(gdp_table1$Country, joined_table5$Country)
common_countries

joined_table5_not_matched <- joined_table5 %>%
  filter(!(Country %in% gdp_table1$Country))

gdp_table1_non_matched <- gdp_table1 %>%
  filter(!(Country %in% joined_table5$Country))

gdp_table1_non_matching
joined_table5_non_matching

gdp_table1[45, "Country"] <- "republic of the congo"
gdp_table1[126, "Country"] <- "federated states of micronesia"

last10 <- tail(names(final_table), 10)
final_table <- final_table %>%

```

```

relocate(all_of(last10), .before = 2)

#(Transformation function)
final_table <- final_table %>%
  mutate(across(everything(), ~na_if(.x, "")))

#(Join operation)
final_table <- left_join(joined_table5, gdp_table1, by = "Country")

# (General data wrangling)
per_capita_emission <- read_csv("per_capita_emission.csv")
gdp_estimates <- read_csv("GDP_estimates.csv")
per_capita_emission <- per_capita_emission %>%
  rename(Country = `Entity`)

#(Pivot wider)
per_capita_emission <- per_capita_emission %>%
  pivot_wider(
    names_from = Year,
    values_from = `Annual CO emissions (per capita)`
  )

# (General data wrangling)
common_countries <- intersect(gdp_estimates$Country, per_capita_emission$Country)
common_countries

per_capita_emission <- per_capita_emission %>%
  mutate(Country = str_trim(tolower(Country)))

non_matched_countries <- per_capita_emission %>%
  filter(!(Country %in% gdp_estimates$Country))

per_capita_emission[131, "Country"] <- "federated states of micronesia"

#turn table into csv (General data wrangling)
write_csv(final_table, "GDP_estimates.csv")
write_csv(per_capita_emission, "per_capita_emission.csv")

#

```