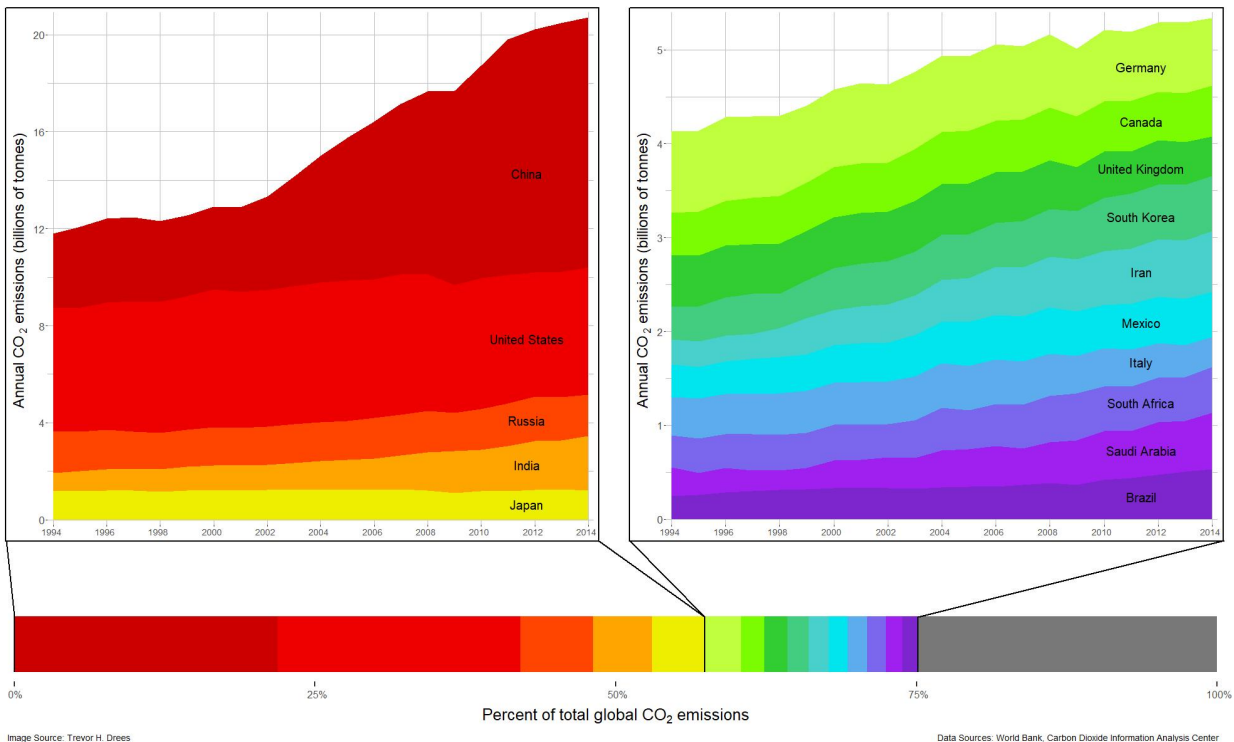


Top 15 Countries by Total CO₂ Emissions



Here, we visualise the total CO₂ emissions for each country in the world between 1994 and 2014, which is simply calculated by summing the annual emissions for each country over the 20-year time period. Only the top 15 countries in terms of total CO₂ emissions are shown, with all other countries placed in an “other” category. Countries are ranked in descending order of total emissions; for example, even though India had more CO₂ emissions in 2014 than Russia did, Russia produced a greater amount of CO₂ over the 20-year period.

As can be seen in the graphic above, over the two decades from 1994 to 2014, almost 60% of the total CO₂ emissions originated from five countries: China, the United States, Russia, India, and Japan¹. When we expand this list to include the top 15 countries ranked by total CO₂ emissions, we find that these 15 countries account for almost 75% of the world’s total CO₂ emissions between 1994 and 2014.

Note that the emissions shown here are expressed in absolute terms rather than on a per-capita basis, and if we consider per-capita emissions, then our order of countries changes drastically. For example, in 2014, Qatar had the highest emissions rate at 43.5 tonnes of CO₂ per capita; Saudi Arabia, the 14th country in terms of total emissions from 1994 to 2014, had the highest per-capita emissions of the 15 featured countries with a rate of 20.4 tonnes of CO₂ per capita. Though countries such as China and the United States have high have much higher total CO₂ emissions than Saudi Arabia, they actually have lower per-capita rates of 7.5 and 16.4 tonnes, respectively².

¹ Annual CO₂ emissions data can be found at <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.KT>.

² Per-capita CO₂ emissions data can be found at <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.PC>.