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WORLD BRIEFING

Heat-Trapping Emissions Rise Globally

By ANDREW C. REVKIN

Published: September 26, 2008

Worldwide emissions of heat-trapping carbon dioxide from fuel burning and cement production increased by 3.5 percent per year from 2000 to 2007, nearly four times the growth rate in the 1990s, according to a new report. The rapid rise is being driven primarily by economic growth in developing countries, which now produce more greenhouse gas than industrialized countries. The report was produced by the Global Carbon Project and is available online at globalcarbonproject.org. In a worrisome trend, the authors of the report said, the capacity of oceans, forests and other "sinks" to sop up carbon dioxide has not kept pace with the increase in emissions.

A version of this article appeared in print on September 27, 2008, on page A7 of the New York edition.

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DOT EARTH

Nine billion people. One planet.

September 26, 2008, 10:31 AM

CO₂ Flow Speeds Up; Poor Countries Now Lead

By ANDREW C. REVKIN

Overnight the [Global Carbon Project](#), a network of scientists tracking emissions of carbon dioxide, released its latest update, and it shows that emissions are accelerating and are close to the highest scenarios considered by the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) last year.

Seth Borenstein of The Associated Press has written a [summary of the carbon dioxide findings](#), with some input from experts who express surprise that a slowing of economic growth in some places hasn't blunted the growth in CO₂ output.

More than half of global emissions, which totaled more than 34 billion tons of CO₂ in



Global emissions of carbon dioxide have surged, driven mainly by explosive economic expansion in

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About Dot Earth

By 2050 or so, the world population is expected to reach nine billion, essentially adding two Chinas to the number of people alive today. Those billions will be seeking food, water and other resources on a planet where, scientists say, humans are already shaping climate and the web of life. In Dot Earth, reporter Andrew C. Revkin examines efforts to balance human affairs with the planet's limits. Supported in part by a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, Mr. Revkin tracks relevant news from suburbia to Siberia, and conducts an interactive exploration of trends and ideas with readers and experts.



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Earth Aboil

A new study raises the imperative to get serious about reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Monday, October 6, 2008; Page A14

SO MUCH carbon was released around the world from burning fossil fuels in 2007 that it could lead to a sweltering 11-degree Fahrenheit increase in the Earth's temperature by the end of the century, according to data recently unveiled by the Global Carbon Project. To put it more starkly, the relentless buildup of carbon emissions in the atmosphere is outpacing the worst-case scenario outlined by the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change \(IPCC\)](#).

According to the new report from the Global Carbon Project, an Australian-based international consortium of scientists, 8.47 gigatons of emissions were released in 2007, up 2.9 percent over 2006. The consortium pointed out that developed countries spewed carbon at a slightly higher rate than in 1990. But the dramatic increase in emissions is coming from developing nations such as China, India and Brazil. In less than 20 years, they've doubled their carbon output and are now responsible for a little more than half of all emissions.

The IPCC has said that an increase in the Earth's temperature between 3.2 and 9.7 degrees would lead to major melting of glaciers around the world. The impact on species such as polar bears, which need Arctic sea ice to survive, would be devastating. A rise of 11 degrees Fahrenheit, as estimated by

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Carbon Is Building Up in Atmosphere Faster Than Predicted

By [Juliet Eilperin](#)

Washington Post Staff Writer
Friday, September 26, 2008; Page A02

The rise in global carbon dioxide emissions last year outpaced international researchers' most dire projections, according to figures being released today, as human-generated greenhouse gases continued to build up in the atmosphere despite international agreements and national policies aimed at curbing climate change.



James Connaughton of the White House Council on Environmental Quality said the White House has moved the world closer to greenhouse gas cuts. (By Rich Lipski -- The Washington Post)

In 2007, carbon released from burning fossil fuels and producing cement increased 2.9 percent over that released in 2006, to a total of 8.47 gigatons, or billions of metric tons, according to the Australia-based Global Carbon Project, an international consortium of scientists that tracks emissions. This output is at the very high end of scenarios outlined by the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change \(IPCC\)](#) and could translate into a global temperature rise of more than 11 degrees Fahrenheit by the end of the century, according to the panel's estimates.

"In a sense, it's a reality check," said Corinne Le Quéré, a professor at the School of Environmental Sciences at the University of East Anglia and a researcher with the British Antarctic Survey. "This is an extremely large number. The emissions are increasing at a rate that's

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September 25, 2008, 12:22 pm

Big Gas: Emissions Growing Four Times Faster Than A Decade Ago

Posted by Keith Johnson

While some northeastern states are taking [tentative steps](#) to eventually curb greenhouse-gas emissions, a new report says the climate-change clock is ticking faster than ever.



Giddyup! (AP)

for 53%.

That shift makes clear that [state](#), regional, and even nationwide climate-change schemes in the U.S. will do little to slash global carbon emissions [unless developing countries](#) like China and India can be persuaded to

The [Global Carbon Project's](#) latest tally of greenhouse-gas emissions marks a sobering reminder that global trends are headed in the [wrong direction](#): The world is pumping more a lot more carbon dioxide into the atmosphere each year than it did during the 1990s. Man-made emissions, such as those from fossil fuels and the cement industry, are growing four times faster than they did a decade ago. That means that atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide are growing faster than even pessimistic scientific models assumed. That could mean the nasty effects of climate change will come sooner and hit harder.

The main explanation is simple economic growth—more cars and more factories in more parts of the world. And since so much of that economic growth comes in developing corners of the world, the global economy is growing dirtier, too—each dollar of global output produces more pollution today than just a few years ago.

The report confirms initial estimates that China is now the world's [leading emitter](#) of greenhouse gases; the U.S. is number two, while India and Russia are jockeying for the bronze. When the Kyoto Protocol was conceived in 1992, developing countries accounted for just 38% of global emissions. In 2007, developing countries accounted

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Greenhouse gas emissions shock scientists

Carbon dioxide output is rising rather than falling, despite efforts to curb it. 'It's scary,' one researcher says.

From Times Wire Services

September 26, 2008

WASHINGTON -- The world pumped up emissions of the chief human-produced global warming gas last year, setting a course that could push beyond leading scientists' projected worst-case scenario, international researchers said Thursday.

The new numbers, which some scientists called "scary," were a surprise because experts thought an economic downturn would slow energy use. Instead, carbon dioxide output rose 3% from 2006 to 2007.

That amount exceeds the most dire outlook for emissions from burning coal and oil and related activities as projected by a Nobel Prize-winning group of international scientists in 2007.

Meanwhile, forests and oceans, which suck up carbon dioxide, are doing so at lower rates, scientists said. If those trends continue, the world will be on track for the highest predicted rises in temperature and sea level.

The U.N.'s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has warned that an increase of between 3.2 and 9.7 degrees Fahrenheit could trigger massive environmental changes, including melting of the Greenland ice sheet, the Himalayan-Tibetan glaciers and summer sea ice in the Arctic.

Corinne Le Quere, professor of environmental sciences at the University of East Anglia and the British Antarctic Survey, said the prediction that current emissions put the planet on track for a temperature rise of more than 11 degrees means the world could

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Posted by Staff in science.

Carbon emissions growing 5 Tips to Get a Flat Stomach

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27 (UPI) --

U.S. and European researchers said carbon dioxide emissions are growing faster, despite efforts to curb the release of CO₂.

The Global Carbon Project said anthropogenic CO₂ emissions

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about four times faster since 2000 than during the previous decade. Carbon released from burning fossil fuels and producing cement increased 2.9 percent in 2007 to 8.47 gigatons, The Washington Post said.

Deforestation in tropical countries has added an estimated 1.5 billion tons of emissions to the atmosphere, the report said.

This new update of the carbon budget shows the acceleration of both CO₂

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SETH BORENSTEIN | September 25, 2008 04:54 PM EST | 



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WASHINGTON — The world pumped up its pollution of the chief man-made global warming gas last year, setting a course that could push beyond leading scientists' projected worst-case scenario, international researchers said Thursday.

The new numbers, called "scary" by some, were a surprise because scientists thought an economic downturn would slow energy use. Instead, [carbon dioxide](#) output jumped 3 percent from 2006 to 2007.

That's an amount that exceeds the most dire outlook for emissions from burning coal and oil and related activities as projected by a Nobel Prize-winning group of international scientists in 2007.

Meanwhile, forests and oceans, which suck up carbon dioxide, are doing so at lower rates than in the 20th century, scientists said. If those trends continue, it puts the world on track for the highest predicted rises in temperature and sea level.

The pollution leader was China, followed by the United States, which past data show is the leader in emissions per person in carbon dioxide output. And while several developed countries slightly cut their CO2 output in 2007, the United States churned out more.

Still, it was large increases in China, India and other developing countries that spurred the growth of carbon dioxide pollution to a record high of 9.34 billion tons of carbon (8.47 billion metric tons). Figures released by science agencies in the United States, Great Britain and Australia show that China's added emissions accounted for more than half of the worldwide increase. China passed the United States as the No. 1 carbon dioxide polluter in 2006.

Emissions in the United States rose nearly 2 percent in 2007, after declining the previous year. The U.S. produced 1.75 billion tons of carbon (1.58 billion metric tons).

"Things are happening very, very fast," said Corinne Le Quere, professor of environmental sciences at the University of East Anglia and the British Antarctic Survey. "It's scary."

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Aumentan 3% emisiones globales de dióxido de carbono

Por **SETH BORENSTEIN** © 2008 The Associated Press

Sept. 25, 2008, 8:25PM

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El mundo aumentó su emisión de gases de invernadero a la atmósfera el año pasado, lo cual podría llevarlo más allá del peor escenario proyectado por los científicos, dijeron el jueves investigadores internacionales.

Las nuevas cifras, que algunos llaman "de miedo", fueron una sorpresa porque los científicos pensaron que los problemas económicos mundiales obligarían a disminuir el uso de energéticos. En lugar de ello, las emisiones de dióxido de carbono aumentaron 3% del 2006 al 2007.

Esa es una cantidad que excede el peor panorama para las emisiones generadas por la combustión de carbón y petróleo y actividades relacionadas, de acuerdo con proyecciones en el 2007 de un grupo de científicos internacionales ganadores del Premio Nobel.

Mientras tanto, bosques y océanos, que absorben dióxido de carbono, están haciéndolo a tasas más bajas que en el siglo XX, dijeron los científicos. Si esas tendencias continúan, colocarán al mundo en ruta a mayores incrementos en las temperaturas y los niveles del mar.

El mayor contaminador fue China, seguida por Estados Unidos, que según datos anteriores es el líder en emisiones de dióxido de carbono por persona. Y aunque varios países desarrollados redujeron ligeramente sus emisiones en el 2007, Estados Unidos emitió más.

Aún así, fueron los grandes incrementos en China, la India y otros países en desarrollo los que causaron que las emisiones de dióxido de carbono llegaran a un nivel récord de 8.470 millones de toneladas métricas (9.340 millones de toneladas).

Las cifras dadas a conocer por agencias científicas de Estados Unidos, Gran Bretaña y Australia muestran que las emisiones adicionales de China representaron más de la mitad del incremento mundial. China superó a Estados Unidos como el principal contaminador con dióxido de carbono en el 2006.

Las emisiones en Estados Unidos subieron casi 2% en el 2007, luego de haber declinado el año previo. Este país produjo 1.580 millones de toneladas métricas (1.750 millones de toneladas) de carbono.

"Las cosas están sucediendo muy, muy pronto", dijo Corinne Le Quééré, profesora de ciencias ambientales en la Universidad de East Anglia. "Da miedo".

Gregg Marland, un importante científico en el Laboratorio Nacional del Departamento de Energía de Estados

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Emissions Point To 11-Degree Temp. Jump

Analysis of last year's carbon dioxide emissions puts the planet on track for the most severe effects of climate change outlined in the influential UN IPCC study on the problem. With as much as an 11-degree increase in average temperatures by 2100, the worst case scenario includes a dangerous rise of



sea levels, covering significant regions in water, and monster storms. The increased emissions came despite an economic downturn and international efforts to reduce them. (The U.S.'s emissions rose by 2 percent.) The new numbers, from the [Global Carbon Project](#), also reveal that natural carbon sinks such as forests and oceans are slowing their absorption rates.

More than one scientist called the findings "scary." Richard Moss of the World Wildlife Fund said the new carbon figures and research showed that "we're already locked into more warming than we thought."

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2007 rise in carbon-dioxide emissions topped estimates

THE WASHINGTON POST

September 26, 2008

WASHINGTON – The rise in global carbon-dioxide emissions last year outpaced international researchers' most dire projections, according to figures being released today, as human-generated greenhouse gases continued to build up in the atmosphere despite international agreements and national policies aimed at curbing climate change.

Carbon released from burning fossil fuels and cement production increased 2.9 percent in 2007 over 2006 to 8.47 gigatons, or billions of tons, according to the Australia-based Global Carbon Project, an inter-national consortium of scientists that tracks emissions. This output is at the very high end of scenarios outlined by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and could translate into a global temperature rise of more than 11 degrees

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Running out of time on carbon emissions

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Globe and Mail Update
September 26, 2008 at 10:25 PM EDT

Present attempts to reduce carbon emissions are falling behind. According to the Global Carbon Project, emissions are actually speeding up, moving more quickly to dangerous levels than the International Panel on Climate Change had predicted.

It is striking that the GCP drew its data on the fossil-fuel element in greenhouse-gas emissions from the multinational oil corporation BP p.l.c. – hardly an anti-business source – as well as from the United Nations Statistical Office. “Anthropogenic” carbon-dioxide emissions, that is, those caused by us human beings, have grown four times faster in the third millennium than in the 1990s.

Global warming is indeed a global threat; countries that are already rich, countries that are becoming rich and countries that only hope to prosper all need to take part in reversing these trends. China has surpassed the United States as the largest source of greenhouse-gas emissions, and India has moved into third place, ahead of Russia.

Unfortunately, the emerging economic powers are not entitled to catch up to the

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October 2, 2008

'Clean coal' policies absent, GAO finds

By **Ken Ward Jr.**
Staff writer

CHARLESTON, W.Va. - Federal policy-makers have taken few of the steps necessary if greenhouse emissions from coal-fired power plants are to be captured and stored underground, according to a new government report.

Coal industry backers are banking that "carbon capture and storage" will allow the industry to survive efforts to control global climate change.

But the U.S. Government Accountability Office report, released this week, adds to growing concerns that the technology isn't ready now - and might not be for a long time.

GAO investigators cited underdeveloped and costly emissions-capture technology and legal uncertainties about the permitting and liability for carbon dioxide that would be stored underground. National studies, industry leaders and top scientists have all pointed to key problems with CCS becoming a reality, the GAO noted.

"Federal agencies have begun to address some CCS barriers but have yet to comprehensively address the full range of issues that would require resolution for commercial-scale CCS deployment," the GAO said in a 69-page study made public Tuesday.

GAO officials also concluded that widespread deployment of CCS is unlikely to happen unless Congress passes binding limits on carbon dioxide emissions.

"The absence of a national strategy to control CO2 emissions not only leaves the regulated community with little incentive to reduce their emissions, it also leaves

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CARROLL: Nuclear's new allure

By [Vincent Carroll](#), Rocky Mountain News ([Contact](#))

Published October 10, 2008 at 12:05 a.m.

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"Mr. Udall, would you work to locate a nuclear power plant in Colorado?"

Democratic Senate candidate Mark Udall: "If we meet all the standards, yes."

Even Bob Schaffer, Udall's Republican opponent, gave a more cautious answer to the same question during a 9News debate. "Maybe," Schaffer replied. "It's a hypothetical. If it's a good plan,

I'll support it."

Udall's answer was surprising given his longtime alliance with environmentalists who mostly have despised nuclear power. Yet it was not a momentary lapse. A minute earlier, 9News' Adam Schrage had asked the candidates if they favored "expanding nuclear power to help solve the energy crisis." Udall and Schaffer both said, "Yes."

What's up with the congressman from the 2nd District? There are two possibilities. Either he's indulging in election-year rhetoric to neutralize Republican charges that he's indifferent to the energy squeeze, or he's another convert to nuclear power as a practical response to global warming.

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New report says global carbon emissions on the rise despite reduction efforts

by Rich Bowden - Sep 28 2008, 22:15



Img: CO2 pollution. Credit: Gregory Heath , CSIRO.

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Damning new evidence presented by a scientific body has shown a four-fold increase in carbon emissions throughout the world since 2000 despite

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Scientists Learn Global Warming Pollution Increased 3 Percent in 2007

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Associated Press

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WASHINGTON — Worldwide man-made emissions of carbon dioxide — the main gas that causes global warming — jumped 3 percent last year, international scientists said Thursday.

The pollution leader was China, followed by the United States, which past [data](#) show is the leader in emissions per capita in carbon dioxide output. And while several developed countries slightly cut their CO2 output in 2007, the United States churned out more.

Still, it was large increases in China, India and other developing countries that spurred the growth of carbon dioxide pollution to a record high of 9.34 billion tons of carbon (8.47 billion metric tons). Figures released by science agencies in the United States, Great Britain and Australia show that China's added emissions accounted for more than half of the worldwide increase. China passed the United States as the No. 1 carbon dioxide polluter in 2006.

Emissions in the United States rose nearly 2 percent in 2007, after declining the previous year. The U.S. produced 1.75 billion tons of carbon (1.58 billion metric tons).

Gregg Marland, a senior staff scientist at the U.S. Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory, said he was surprised at the results because he thought world emissions would drop because of the economic downturn. That didn't happen.

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updated 9:43 a.m. EDT, Thu October 9, 2008

Turning carbon dioxide into fuel

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- Californian company testing a revolutionary new method of recycling CO₂ into fuel
- Carbon Sciences using biocatalyst technology to transform CO₂ into fuel efficiently
- Technology could reduce the millions of tons of CO₂ emitted by the energy sector

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PHOTOS

By Matthew Knight
For CNN

TEXT SIZE

LONDON, England (CNN) -- You might have thought that recycling is limited to paper, plastics and glass. Well, think again. A Californian company is developing a new technique for recycling carbon dioxide, or CO₂, and turning it back into fuel.



GETTY IMAGES

Carbon Sciences are developing a "breakthrough technology" to make fuel out of waste CO₂.

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Carbon Sciences believe they have made a breakthrough with their technology, which they say can transform CO₂ back into basic fuel building blocks efficiently.

Their biocatalytic process converts CO₂ into basic hydrocarbons - C1 (methane) C2 (ethane) and C3 (propane) -- which can then be utilized to make higher-grade fuels like gasoline and jet fuel.

"We are very excited by what we've seen in the lab. We've had some promising results," Derek McLeish, President and CEO of the Santa Barbara-based company, told CNN.

By employing biocatalysis -- using natural catalysts to perform chemical reactions -- Carbon Sciences hope to bypass the problem of inefficient energy ratios which can render many CO₂ recycling projects pointless.

"We don't use high temperatures or high pressures, which is a huge advantage in terms of scaling the project up," McLeish said.

In the future, McLeish envisages Carbon Sciences setting up shop next door to large CO₂ emitters -- coal, gas-fired plants and oil refineries -- recycling concentrated streams of CO₂ discharged from fossil fuel plants. Trying to take CO₂ out of natural air just wouldn't be worth it.

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Global Warming Pollution Increases 3 Percent

Chinese Greenhouse Gas Pollution Largely Responsible for Bringing CO2 Emissions to Record High

By **SETH BORENSTEIN** AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON September 25, 2008 (AP)

The Associated Press

6 comments



Carbon dioxide output rose 3 percent from 2006 to 2007.

(ABCNews Photo Illustration)

The world pumped up its pollution of the chief man-made global warming gas last year, setting a course that could push beyond leading scientists' projected worst-case scenario, international researchers said Thursday.

The new numbers, called "scary" by some, were a surprise because scientists thought an economic downturn would slow energy use. Instead, carbon dioxide output jumped 3 percent from 2006 to 2007.

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That's an amount that exceeds the most dire outlook for emissions from burning coal and oil and related activities as projected by a Nobel Prize-winning group of international scientists in 2007.




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Carbon dioxide releases up 2.9 percent

Number exceeds researchers' predictions

Friday, September 26, 2008

Juliet Eilperin

Washington Post

Washington - The rise in global carbon dioxide emissions last year outpaced international researchers' most dire projections, according to figures being released Friday, as human-generated greenhouse gases continued to build up in the atmosphere despite international agreements and national policies aimed at curbing climate change.

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Carbon released from burning fossil fuels and cement production increased 2.9 percent in 2007 over 2006 to a total of 8.47 gigatons, or billions of

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FACTBOX - Global carbon emissions soar



Thu Sep 25, 8:05 am ET

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Reuters — Smoke comes out of a chimney as sun rises in Siddhpur, in Gujarat in this February 17, 2006 file photo. ...

REUTERS – Global carbon emissions are rising rapidly, an international study says, with production of carbon dioxide in 2007 up sharply from the year before through the burning of fossil fuels, deforestation and cement making.

Following are highlights from the Global Carbon Project's 2008 report "Carbon budget and trends 2007". The project is a programme supported by the International Council for Science.

CARBON DIOXIDE GROWTH

Annual mean growth rate of atmospheric CO₂ was 2.2 parts per million per year in 2007, up from 1.8 ppm in 2006, and above the 2.0 ppm average for the period 2000-2007. The average annual mean growth rate for the previous 20 years was about 1.5 ppm per year.

Atmospheric CO₂ concentration rose to 383 ppm in 2007, which is 37 percent above the concentration at the start of the industrial revolution of about 280 ppm in 1750.

The present concentration is the highest during the past 650,000 years and probably during the past 20 million years.

The growth rate of emissions was 3.5 percent per year for the period of 2000-2007, an almost four-fold increase from 0.9 percent per year in 1990-1999.

SOURCES OF EMISSIONS

The biggest increase in emissions has occurred in developing countries, mainly China and India, while developed countries have been

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Global carbon emissions rising rapidly - study



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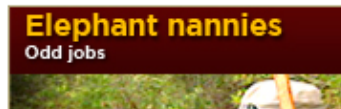


Reuters Photo: Smoke billows from a power station during sunset in New Delhi in this February 16,...

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Elephant nannies
Odd jobs

By David Fogarty

Thu Sep 25, 8:01 AM ET

SINGAPORE (Reuters) - Global carbon emissions rose rapidly in 2007, an annual study says, with developing nations such as China and India now producing more than half of mankind's output of carbon dioxide, the main gas blamed for global warming.

The Global Carbon Project said in its report carbon dioxide emissions from mankind are growing about four times faster since 2000 than during the 1990s, despite efforts by a number of nations to rein in emissions under the Kyoto Protocol.

Emissions from burning fossil fuels was a major contributor to the increase, the authors said in their "Global Carbon Project (2008) Carbon budget and trends 2007" report (http://www.globalcarbonproject.org/carbontrends/index_new.htm).

India would soon overtake Russia to become the world's third largest CO2 emitter, it says.

"What we are talking about now for the first time is that the absolute value of all emissions going into the atmosphere every year are bigger coming from less developing countries than the developed world," said the project's Australia-based executive director Pep Canadell.

"The other thing we confirm is that China is indeed now the top emitter," he told Reuters, adding that China alone accounted for 60 percent of all growth in emissions. The United States was the second largest emitter.

The project is supported by the International Council for Science, the umbrella body for all national academies of science.

"DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES"

The rapid rise in emissions meant the world could warm faster than previously predicted, said professor Barry Brook, director of the Research Institute for Climate Change and Sustainability at the University of Adelaide in Australia.

He said CO2 concentrations could hit 450 ppm by 2030 instead of 2040 as currently predicted. They are just above 380 ppm at present.



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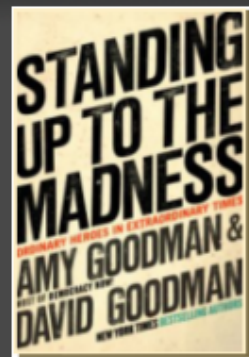
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GOP Opposition Derails Wall Street Bailout Deal

The federal bailout of Wall Street is in limbo after Republican lawmakers refused to support an emerging deal between the Bush administration and Democratic leaders. The surprise move came hours after it appeared all sides were close to an agreement. The proposed deal would spend some \$700 billion to buy up defaulted Wall Street debts, while also imposing some executive pay limits and granting the government equity that could possibly be sold to help recoup the bailout costs. But as talks progressed, congressional Republicans emerged to propose an alternative plan emphasizing insurance for mortgage-based assets and further deregulation of the financial sector. Lawmakers huddled at the Capitol Building until late in the evening. Democratic Congress member and House Banking Committee Chair Barney Frank blamed Republicans for the delay.

Rep. Barney Frank: "House Republicans stayed for a while and then left. And at this point we are told that the House Republicans have no plan to participate in helping draw this up or having any commitment to help pass it."

Many Democrats pointed the finger at Senator John McCain, saying his involvement in the talks helped derail an emerging deal. Connecticut Senator and Senate Banking chair Christopher Dodd called the

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World Leaders Recommit To Poverty Goals

"World leaders recommitted themselves to reducing global poverty, pledging an estimated \$16 billion in aid, but France said rich countries were strapped by a spreading crisis in financial markets. ...

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said if verified, the \$16 billion figure 'would be all the more remarkable because it comes against the backdrop of financial crisis.' The meeting of governments, the private sector and development agencies sought to assess progress of universally agreed MDGs to halve global poverty by 2015 and identify next steps. ...

World Bank President Robert Zoellick said he worried the financial crisis could quickly spread to developing nations, already reeling from higher food and fuel prices. Developing country leaders expressed concern that the anti-poverty goals were beyond their reach, and urged wealthy nations to act firmly to ensure the crisis did not spread. ..." [[Reuters/Factiva](#)]

[AFP](#) notes that "...The gathering was called to galvanize world support to ensure that eight poverty reduction goals agreed by world leaders in 2000 are met by all countries by 2015. ... Major commitments were announced Thursday in four key areas: malaria control, education, and health and food security. ... In the health sector, commitments totaling nearly \$2 billion next year and rising to \$7 billion by 2015 were made for the MDGs relating to child mortality and maternal health. ..." [[Agence France Presse/Factiva](#)]

[AP](#) adds that "British Prime Minister Gordon Brown says his country will spend more than \$800 million over the next three years as part of a wider initiative to reduce the number of newborns and mothers who die each year during childbirth. Brown made the announcement Thursday

"War does not determine who is right - only who is left." — Bertrand Russell, (1872 - 1970)



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Carbon Emissions Growing

Deforestation in tropical countries has added an estimated 1.5 billion tons of emissions to the atmosphere

by OfficialWire NewsDesk

WASHINGTON, D.C. — (OfficialWire) — 09/27/08 — U.S. and European researchers said carbon dioxide emissions are growing faster, despite efforts to curb the release of CO2.

The Global Carbon Project said anthropogenic CO2 emissions have been growing about four times faster since 2000 than during the previous decade. Carbon released from burning fossil fuels and producing cement increased 2.9 percent in 2007 to 8.47 gigatons, The Washington Post NYSE:WPO said.

Deforestation in tropical countries has added an estimated 1.5 billion tons of emissions to the atmosphere, the report said.

Posted 9/27/2008 12:30 PM

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Greenhouse gas pollution up despite economic downturn

[David Biello](#)

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Despite a slowing global economy, [carbon dioxide emissions](#) continued to rise in 2007, according to energy use figures from oil company BP—jumping to 8.47 billion metric tons of the most common greenhouse gas responsible for global warming or 2.9 percent higher than the last year's total. Leading the charge: the U.S. (up nearly 2 percent to 1.58 billion metric tons) and [China](#) (up more than 7 percent to 1.8 billion metric tons).

These figures outpace even the [worst-case projections](#) of the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which warned last year that unless pollution is reduced, global average temperatures could rise by between four and 11 degrees Fahrenheit (two to six degrees Celsius).

Such a temperature rise would likely cause a slew of ill

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Emissions rising faster this decade than last

Date: 10/2/2008[[Outline](#)] [[RSS & Subscription](#)]

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Releasing the 2007 data, Dr Canadell said emissions from the combustion of fossil fuel and land use change almost reached the mark of 10 billion tonnes of carbon in 2007.

Using research findings published last year in peer-reviewed journals such as Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Nature and Science, Dr Canadell said atmospheric carbon dioxide growth has been outstripping the growth of natural carbon dioxide sinks such as forests and oceans.

The new results were released simultaneously in Washington by Dr Canadell and in Paris by Dr Michael Raupach, GCP co-Chair and a CSIRO scientist.

Dr Raupach said Australia's position remains unique as a developed country with rapidly growing emissions.

"Since 2000, Australian fossil-fuel emissions have grown by two per cent per year. For Australia to achieve a 2020 fossil-fuel emissions target 10 per cent lower than 2000

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Carbon sunk

10/01/2008

At this point, the global climate is about as responsive to human input as a fully loaded supertanker. It will take a great distance — and a very long time — to change direction.

Right now, that supertanker is headed in the wrong direction, and it is picking up speed.

A new scientific report finds that since 2000, greenhouse gas emissions have increased four times faster than they did in the 1990s. They increased by about 3 percent last year as China overtook the United States as the leading carbon dioxide emitter.

It's now likely that the earth's atmosphere contains more carbon dioxide than at any other time in the past 650,000 years. It is 37 percent higher than it was before the Industrial Revolution began around 1750.



Carbon dioxide emissions are growing even faster than the worst-case scenarios put forward by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which is the United Nations-sponsored organization established to track

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Published: 12:31 EST, September 26, 2008

Emissions rising faster this decade than last

Space & Earth science / Environment



Image credit – Gregory Heath, CSIRO. Emissions of carbon dioxide from human activities have been growing about four times faster since 2000 than during the previous decade.

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The latest figures on the global carbon budget to be released in Washington and Paris today indicate a four-fold increase in growth rate of human-generated carbon dioxide emissions since 2000.

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"This is a concerning trend in light of global efforts to curb emissions," says Global Carbon Project (GCP) Executive-Director, Dr Pep Canadell, a carbon specialist based at CSIRO in Canberra.

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The new results were released simultaneously in Washington by Dr Canadell and in Paris by Dr Michael Raupach. GCP co-

Releasing the 2007 data, Dr Canadell said emissions from the combustion of fossil fuel and land use change almost reached the mark of 10 billion tonnes of carbon in 2007.

Using research findings published last year in peer-reviewed journals such as Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Nature and Science, Dr Canadell said atmospheric carbon dioxide growth has been outstripping the growth of natural carbon dioxide sinks such as forests and oceans.

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Global Carbon Emissions Speed Up, Beyond IPCC Projections

ScienceDaily (Sep. 28, 2008) — The new Global Carbon Budget has been launched simultaneously by Global Carbon Project co-chair Michael Raupach in France at the Paris Observatory, and in the USA at Capitol Hill, Washington by GCP Executive Director Pep Canadell, September 25.

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Emissions from the combustion of fossil fuel and land use change reached 10 billion tones of carbon in 2007. Natural CO₂ sinks are growing but slower than the atmospheric CO₂ growth, which has been increasing at 2 ppm since 2000 or 33% faster

The Global Carbon Project posted the most recent figures for the worlds' carbon budget, a key to understanding the balance of carbon added to the atmosphere, the underpinning of human induced climate change. Despite the increasing international sense of urgency, the growth rate of emissions continued to speed up, bringing the atmospheric CO₂ concentration to 383 parts per million (ppm) in 2007.

Anthropogenic CO₂ emissions have been growing about four times faster since 2000 than during the previous decade, despite efforts to curb emissions in a number of Kyoto Protocol signatory countries.



Smog and traffic jam in Beijing. China has improved the carbon intensity of their economy since 2005, based on data from the National Energy Administration in China. (Credit: iStockphoto)

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CARBON EMISSIONS

Running out of time

September 27, 2008

Present attempts to reduce carbon emissions are falling behind. According to the Global Carbon Project, emissions are actually speeding up, moving more quickly to dangerous levels than the International Panel on Climate Change had predicted.

It is striking that the GCP drew its data on the fossil-fuel element in greenhouse-gas emissions from the multinational oil corporation BP p.l.c. - hardly an anti-business source - as well as from the United Nations Statistical Office. "Anthropogenic" carbon-dioxide emissions, that is, those caused by us human beings, have grown four times faster in the third millennium than in the 1990s.

Global warming is indeed a global threat; countries that are already rich, countries that are becoming rich and countries that only hope to prosper all need to take part in reversing these trends. China has surpassed the United States as the largest source of greenhouse-gas emissions, and India has moved into third place, ahead of Russia.

Unfortunately, the emerging economic powers are not entitled to catch up to the emissions levels of the nations that industrialized in the 19th century. East Asia and South Asia will not benefit if Shanghai and Bangladesh are below sea level, along

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By Laura Severs

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Carbon dioxide output startles climate researchers

By The Canadian Press - For Business Edge

Published: 10/03/2008 - Vol. 4, No. 20

The world pumped up its pollution of the chief man-made global warming gas last year, setting a course that could push beyond leading scientists' projected worst-case scenario, international researchers say.

The new numbers, called "scary" by some, were a surprise because scientists thought an economic downturn would slow energy use. Instead, carbon dioxide output jumped three per cent from 2006 to 2007.

That's an amount that exceeds the most dire outlook for emissions from burning coal and oil and related activities as projected by a Nobel Prize-winning group of international scientists in 2007.

Meanwhile, forests and oceans, which suck up carbon dioxide, are doing so at lower rates than in the 20th century, scientists said. If those trends continue, it puts the world on track for the highest predicted rises in temperature and sea level.

The pollution leader was China, followed by the United States, which past data show is the leader in emissions per person in carbon dioxide output. And while several developed countries slightly cut their CO2 output in 2007, the U.S. churned out more.

Still, it was large increases in China, India and other developing countries that spurred the growth of carbon dioxide pollution to a record high of 8.47 billion tonnes of carbon.

Figures released by science agencies in the U.S., Great Britain and Australia show that China's added emissions accounted for more than half of the worldwide increase. China passed the United States as the No. 1 carbon dioxide polluter in 2006.

Emissions in the United States rose nearly two per cent in 2007, after declining the previous year. The U.S. produced 1.58 billion tonnes of carbon.

"Things are happening very, very fast," said Corinne Le Quere, professor of environmental sciences at the University of East Anglia and the British Antarctic Survey. "It's scary."

Gregg Marland, a senior staff scientist at the U.S. Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory, said he was surprised at the results because he thought world emissions would drop because of the economic downturn. That didn't happen.

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Posted September 29, 2008

Climate Change

Global Carbon Emissions Rising Rapidly-Study

Earth - "Global carbon emissions rose rapidly in 2007, an annual study says, with developing nations such as China and India now producing more than half of mankind's output of carbon dioxide, the main gas blamed for global warming.

The Global Carbon Project said in its report carbon dioxide emissions from mankind are growing about four times faster since 2000 than during the 1990s...Emissions from burning fossil fuels was a major contributor to the increase, the authors said in their Global Carbon Project (2008) Carbon budget and trends 2007 report. India would soon overtake Russia to become the world's third largest CO2 emitter, it says.
..." [Reuters/Factiva]

AP notes that "...The pollution leader was China, followed by the US, which past data show is the leader in emissions per person in carbon dioxide output. ...Still, it was large increases in China, India and other developing countries that spurred the growth of carbon dioxide pollution to a record high of 9.34 billion tons of carbon (8.47 billion metric tons).

Figures released by science agencies in the US, Great Britain and Australia show that China's added emissions accounted for more than half of the worldwide increase. ..." [The Associated Press/Factiva]

WP adds that "...In 2007, carbon released from burning fossil fuels and producing cement increased 2.9 percent over that released in 2006, to a total of 8.47 gigatons, or billions of metric tons, according to the Australia-based Global Carbon Project, an international consortium of scientists that tracks emissions. ...

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Publié le 06 octobre 2008 à 05h00 | Mis à jour le 06 octobre 2008 à 05h00

Économie morose cherche \$ verts



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La Chine, qui s'est développée plus rapidement que prévu, et les autres pays en voie de développement sont responsables de la moitié de la hausse de 3 % des émissions de CO2 entre 2006 et 2007, malgré le ralentissement économique.

PHOTOTHÈQUE LE SOLEIL



Éric Moreault

Le Soleil

Il y a peut-être du bon dans la crise économique actuelle : la diminution de la consommation va aider l'environnement de notre planète, qui en a bien besoin. Mais cette accalmie ne saurait être que temporaire si on se fie au passé. Explications.

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Angus Reid Global Monitor : Polls & Research

Russians Say Global Warming Happening

October 04, 2008



(Angus Reid Global Monitor) - More people in Russia believe that climate change is a reality now, according to a poll by the All-Russian Public Opinion Research Center. 51 per cent of respondents say global warming is already happening, up six points since May 2007.

Additionally, 57 per cent of respondents say the phenomenon is the result of human activity.

The term global warming refers to an increase of the Earth's average temperature. Some theories say that climate change might be the result of human-generated carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. In 2007, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a report which states that global warming has been "very likely"—or 90 per cent certain—caused by humans burning fossil fuels.

In 1998, several countries agreed to the Kyoto Protocol, a proposed amendment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The agreement commits nations to reduce their emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. Russia ratified the protocol in 2002, during the first term of then Russian president Vladimir Putin.

On Sept. 25, the Global Carbon Project, made of a group of scientists reporting on greenhouse gas emissions annually, released a report saying that carbon emissions rose in 2007, and that such emissions are growing at four times the rate in this decade than they were in the 1990s.

Pep Canadell, the group's executive director, said that India will likely overtake Russia as the world's largest emitter of toxic gases, adding, "What we are talking about now for the first time is that the absolute value of all emissions going into the atmosphere every year are bigger coming from less developing countries than the developed world."

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The Global Carbon Project releases a report which highlight significant levels of increase in emissions for the year 2007. The rate of emissions clearly signals the need for a reworking of the Kyoto Protocol.

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According to a latest report, carbon emissions are on the increase. The emission increase has been markedly more so during 2007. And leading the pack are the emerging economic powerhouses like China and India.

The Global Carbon Project brought this out in its latest report and said that carbon dioxide emissions are increasing at rates four times faster since 2000 than during the 1990s despite the advances made under the the Kyoto Protocol. The annual study pointed to the old scourge - fuel burning in automobiles as the chief source of greenhouse gasses.

The Global Carbon Project looks at changes in the earth's total carbon cycle involving man-made and natural emissions and how carbon is absorbed

through sinks, such as oceans and forests. The project's Australia-based executive director Pep Canadel said

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Global Carbon Project: 'Global Economy Has Accelerated Greenhouse Gas Growth'

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Global Carbon Budget numbers, compiled by the [Global Carbon Project](#), show that despite an increase in the global efforts to combat pollution, the growth rate of the emissions continued to speed up.

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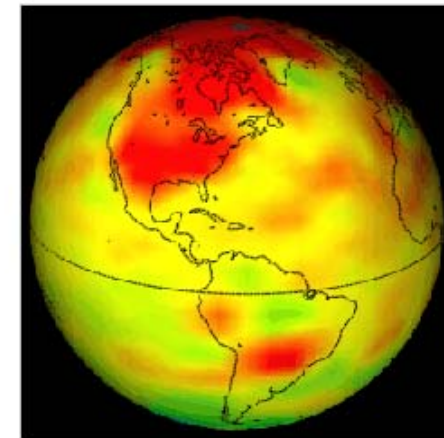
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The recalculations by the international consortium of scientists that tracks emissions indicate that atmospheric CO2 concentration was 383 parts per million (ppm) in 2007. That means that our emissions have grown four times faster since 2000 than during the previous decade. Emissions from the combustion of fossil fuel and land use change reached 10 billion tones of carbon in 2007. Natural CO2 sinks are growing but slower than the atmospheric CO2 growth, which has been increasing at 2 ppm since 2000 or 33% faster than the previous 20 years.

Emissions growth for 2000-2007 was above even the [most fossil fuel intensive scenario](#) of the

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Imprimer



Il faut réduire les émissions de gaz à effet de serre, tout le monde est d'accord sur ce point. Les émissions de gaz à effet de serre augmentent de plus en plus vite, tout le monde est d'accord sur ce point.

C'est cet étrange paradoxe que deux rapports publiés coup sur coup mettent en évidence. Le premier, qui émane du groupe de scientifiques Global Carbon Project, porte sur l'année 2007. Il recoupe le scénario le plus pessimiste du Groupe d'experts de l'ONU sur le climat (GIEC).

« L'augmentation est de 3,5 % par année entre 2000 et 2007, ce qui est presque quatre fois plus rapide, en termes d'augmentation, que la décennie des années 90 », explique Corinne Le Quééré, géobiochimiste à l'Université d'East Anglia, en Angleterre, et l'une des auteurs du rapport.

L'autre rapport, publié par l'Agence européenne pour l'environnement, n'est pas plus encourageant. Il révèle que l'Europe, tout comme l'Arctique, se réchauffe plus vite que ce que les scénarios les plus pessimistes avaient anticipé.

Les scientifiques s'inquiètent aussi de constater que la croissance des émissions de dioxyde de carbone amoindrit la capacité de la planète à capter le carbone.

« L'efficacité des puits naturels de carbone qui, chaque année, absorbent 55 % des émissions se ralentit », constate Corinne Le Quééré.

La Chine en tête de liste

Il y a un autre point sur lequel les deux rapports sont d'accord: les raisons de cette situation. Elle s'explique par la dépendance des pays riches aux énergies fossiles et par l'explosion des émissions de gaz à effet de serre dans les pays en voie de développement.

La Chine est évidemment montrée du doigt. Le pays est le premier émetteur de GES de la planète et, depuis 2002, la part des émissions chinoises de CO2 dans le monde a augmenté de moitié.

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Global warming pollution increases 3 per cent, surpassing worst case scenario (Warming-Emissions)

THE CANADIAN PRESS **++**

WASHINGTON _ The world pumped up its pollution of the chief man-made global warming gas last year, setting a course that could push beyond leading scientists' projected worst-case scenario, international researchers said Thursday.

The new numbers, called "scary" by some, were a surprise because scientists thought an economic downturn would slow energy use. Instead, carbon dioxide output jumped three per cent from 2006 to 2007.

That's an amount that exceeds the most dire outlook for emissions from burning coal and oil and related activities as projected by a Nobel Prize-winning group of international scientists in 2007.

Meanwhile, forests and oceans, which suck up carbon dioxide, are doing so at lower rates than in the 20th century, scientists said. If those trends continue, it puts the world on track for the highest predicted rises in temperature and sea level.

The pollution leader was China, followed by the United States, which past data show is the leader in emissions per person in carbon dioxide output. And while several developed countries slightly cut their CO2 output in 2007, the United States churned out more.

Still, it was large increases in China, India and other developing countries that spurred the growth of carbon dioxide pollution to a record high of 8.47 billion tonnes of carbon. Figures released by science agencies in the United States, Great Britain and Australia show that China's added emissions accounted for more than half of the worldwide increase. China passed the United States as the No. 1 carbon dioxide polluter in 2006.

Emissions in the United States rose nearly two per cent in 2007, after declining the previous year. The United States produced 1.58 billion tonnes of carbon.

"Things are happening very, very fast," said Corinne Le Quere, professor of environmental sciences at the University of East Anglia and the British Antarctic Survey. "It's scary."

Gregg Marland, a senior staff scientist at the U.S. Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory, said he was surprised at the results because he thought world emissions would because of the economic downturn. That didn't happen.

"If we're going to do something (about reducing emissions), it's got to be different than what we're doing," he said.



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Category: Climate Change

Published: September 29, 2008

Global Carbon Project Says 2007 CO2 Emission Higher Than Worst-Case IPCC Estimate

The Global Carbon Project (GPC) released its Climate Trends 2007 update, and there 's some sobering news within the latest update: CO2 emissions are higher than the worst-case IPCC-SRES scenario. This means we're on track to have over 4,000 ppm CO2, an amount of CO2 we haven't had in the air since just after the dinosaurs ruled the earth. Brian Angliss blogs in *Scholars and Rogues* September 26, 2008.

Read it here: <http://www.scholarsandrogues.com/2008/09/26/global-carbon-project-says-2007-co2-emission-higher-than-worst-case-ipcc-estimate/>

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Growth in the global carbon budget

Courtesy <http://www.eurekalert.org/rss/business.xml> Wed, 09/24/2008 - 23:00

(Global Carbon Project) The Global Carbon Project posted the most recent figures for the worlds' carbon budget, a key to understanding the balance of carbon added to the atmosphere, the underpinning of human induced climate change.

Despite the increasing international sense of urgency, the growth rate of emissions continued to speed up, bringing the atmospheric CO2 concentration to 383 parts per million in 2007.

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Carbon emissions growing

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WASHINGTON, Sept. 27 (UPI) -- U.S. and European researchers said carbon dioxide emissions are growing faster, despite efforts to curb the release of CO2.

The Global Carbon Project said anthropogenic CO2 emissions have been growing about four times faster since 2000 than during the previous decade. Carbon released from burning fossil fuels and producing cement increased 2.9 percent in 2007 to 8.47 gigatons, The Washington Post ([NYSE:WPO](#)) said.

Deforestation in tropical countries has added an estimated 1.5 billion tons of emissions to the atmosphere, the report said.

"This new update of the carbon budget shows the acceleration of both CO2 emissions and atmospheric accumulation are unprecedented and most astonishing during a decade of intense international developments to address climate change," [Pep Canadell](#), executive director of the Global Carbon Project, said Thursday in a statement.



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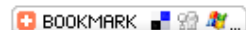
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Study: World's CO2 emissions increase

Published: Sept. 29, 2008 at 1:01 PM

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OAK RIDGE, Tenn., Sept. 29 (UPI) -- U.S. scientists say annual carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels and manufacturing worldwide have grown 38 percent since 1992.

The analysis by the Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee shows CO2 emissions increased from 6.1 billion tons in 1992 to 8.5 billion tons last year.

"At the same time, the source of emissions has shifted dramatically as energy use has been growing slowly in many developed countries, but more quickly in some developing countries, most notably in ... Asian countries such as China and India," the researchers said.

"The United States was the largest emitter of CO2 in 1992, followed in order by China, Russia, Japan and India," said Gregg Marland of ORNL's Environmental Sciences Division. "The most recent estimates suggest India passed Japan in 2002, China became the largest emitter in 2006 and India is poised to pass Russia to become the third-largest emitter, probably this year."

Marland said the numbers are researchers' best estimates, but precise numbers cannot be known with certainty. "Also, as countries with less certain data become more important to the overall CO2 picture, the estimates of the global total of emissions become less certain," he

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Global Warming Emissions Increased Dramatically in 2007

SustainableBusiness.com News

Greenhouse gas emissions increased at a higher rate than expected for 2007, according to reports released this week.

Carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions jumped 3% from 2006 to 2007, surprising many researchers who thought a global economic downturn would slow the increase of emissions.

In addition, the earth's forests and oceans are absorbing CO2 at a slower rate than during the 20th century, leading many climate scientists to believe that global warming will proceed at a pace that matches or surpasses the most pessimistic projections.

According to the new figures, China has definitively passed the United States to become the largest emitter of CO2, and India will soon overtake Russia to claim the #3 spot.

If this trend continues for the century, "you'd have to be luckier than hell for it just to be bad, as opposed to catastrophic," said Stanford University climate scientist Stephen Schneider.

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Growth in the global carbon budget

Published: Wednesday, September 24, 2008 - 23:43 in [Earth & Climate](#)

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Today the new Global Carbon Budget was launched simultaneously by Global Carbon Project co-chair Michael Raupach in France at the Paris Observatory, and in the USA at Capitol Hill, Washington by GCP Executive Director Pep Canadell. The Global Carbon Project posted the most recent figures for the worlds' carbon budget, a key to understanding the balance of carbon added to the atmosphere, the underpinning of human induced climate change. Despite the increasing international sense of urgency, the growth rate of emissions continued to speed up, bringing the atmospheric CO₂ concentration to 383 parts per million (ppm) in 2007.

Anthropogenic CO₂ emissions have been growing about four times faster since 2000 than during the previous decade, despite efforts to curb emissions in a number of Kyoto Protocol signatory countries. Emissions from the combustion of fossil fuel and land use change reached 10 billion tones of carbon in 2007. Natural CO₂ sinks are growing but slower than the atmospheric CO₂ growth, which has been increasing at 2 ppm since 2000 or 33% faster than the previous 20 years.

Dr. Pep Canadell, executive director of the Global Carbon Project said "This new update of the carbon budget shows the acceleration of both CO₂ emissions and atmospheric accumulation are unprecedented and most astonishing during a decade of intense international developments to address climate change."

Emissions growth for 2000-2007 was above even the most fossil fuel intensive scenario of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (SRES-IPCC). While the developing nations of China and India continue to increase emissions, China has improved the carbon

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Tonight's Presidential Debate: Will Candidates Address Climate Change?

The rise in global warming pollution—in the form of carbon dioxide emissions—is happening faster than expected. Tonight is the perfect time for [our next president](#) to address the need to cut emissions by two percent per year and move to a clean energy and green job economy. People produced so many carbon-based pollutants in 2007 that our atmosphere could soon fit under the “worst case scenario” category once outlined by the U.N.'s [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#).

The current concentration of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the highest during the last 650,000 years, and probably during the last 20 million years, according to the [Global Carbon Project](#). [Carbon dioxide emissions increased by 3 percent from 2006 to 2007](#), new numbers considered surprising to many who thought an economic downturn would slow energy consumption.

China is the world's greatest emitter, but the United States follows in second, [the Associated Press reported](#). Though some nations slightly decreased CO₂ output, the U.S. pumped out more in 2007.

With this newly released information detailing our unsustainable fossil fuel use, will Barack Obama or John McCain address the imperative to get serious about reducing greenhouse gas emissions? Watch the [town hall style debate](#) tonight at 9 PM Eastern on any major broadcast network and see if our next president addresses [global warming](#).

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September 27, 2008

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CBRE Joins Global Climate Change Group

The World's Largest CRE Services Provider Partners With the London-Based Climate Group

CB Richard Ellis (CBRE) said this week it has joined The Climate Group, a London-based nonprofit that partners with governments and businesses to promote action on carbon reduction.

The world's largest commercial real estate services company becomes the first from its industry to join The Climate Group, though it follows a commitment by rival Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL) earlier in the year to join Ceres, a climate change advocacy network based in Chicago.

The presence of two of the world's top real estate companies in climate change organizations should help underline the link between buildings and climate change, as well as the massive opportunities within the real estate industry to reduce energy intensity and carbon emissions.

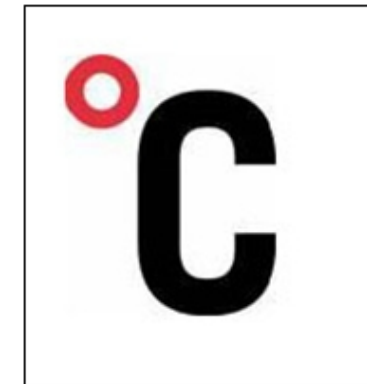
In the United States, buildings account for 39 percent of total carbon emissions and 71 percent of the nation's electricity usage. Worldwide, manmade carbon dioxide emissions continue to rise, growing 2.5 percent last year to a record 9.94 billion metric tons, scientists from the Australia-based Global Carbon Project reported yesterday.

Both JLL and CBRE have been sustainability trendsetters in the past. JLL was one of the first real estate companies to introduce comprehensive energy consulting, while CBRE has partnered on U.S. initiatives with the U.S. Green Building Council and the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA).

Last year, CBRE pledged to begin formally advising clients on energy efficiency programs across its managed real estate portfolio (about 1.9 billion square feet globally), as well as become a carbon-neutral company itself by 2010.

"Working with our clients to reduce energy consumption and curb GHG emissions is a cornerstone of our environmental commitment," said Sally Wilson, CBRE's global director of environmental strategy. "Joining The Climate Group is a tremendous opportunity for collaboration with some of the world's brightest environmental minds in developing practical solutions to carbon reduction."

Other members of The Climate Group include Dell, Google, Starbucks, the media companies Bloomberg LP and News Corp., and financial services firms Goldman Sachs, HSBC and Barclays PLC. Government partners include the cities of New York and Los Angeles, the state of California, the Greater London Authority, and several Canadian provinces.



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Real permafrost - old ice that survived previous warm periods

Posted Sep 21, 2008 by [Bart B. Van Bockstaele](#) in [Science](#) | [7 comments](#) | 130 views

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"Previously, it was thought that the permafrost had completely disappeared from the interior about 120,000 years ago," says Duane Froese, an earth scientist at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada. "This deep permafrost appears to have been stable for more than 700,000 years, including several periods that were warmer and wetter."

[Nature](#) reports that the old ice is located in the Klondike region of the Yukon. It was uncovered by gold miners at the end of 1990s. Froese had seen the site in 2000, but at the time, she thought that the ice and the permafrost around it were younger. However, in 2005 a large rainstorm exposed a layer of tephra, volcanic ash on top of the ice. This allowed Froese and his colleagues to estimate the

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Jay Bookman



Jay Bookman

An Atlanta blog with a little bit of opinion about a lot of things.

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If you haven't OD'd on bad news yet...

By Jay Bookman | Monday, September 29, 2008, 08:58 PM

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

While you're cruising metro Atlanta gas stations, looking for that telltale line of cars that indicates you may have hit the mother lode, here's something to contemplate:

"The rise in global carbon dioxide emissions last year outpaced international researchers' most dire projections, according to figures being released today, as human-generated greenhouse gases continued to build up in the atmosphere despite international agreements and national policies aimed at curbing climate change.

In 2007, carbon released from burning fossil fuels and producing cement increased 2.9 percent over that released in 2006, to a total of 8.47 gigatons, or billions of metric tons, according to the Australia-based Global Carbon Project, an international consortium of scientists that tracks emissions.

This output is at the very high end of scenarios outlined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and could translate into a global temperature rise of more than 11 degrees Fahrenheit by the end of the century, according to the panel's estimates."

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Daily Update

Now sweets caught in China milk scandal

Clifford Coonan, *The Independent*, September 26, 2008

China's "White Rabbit" sweets, a creamy milk candy, were found to contain traces of toxic chemical melamine and domestic sales of the product was immediately halted. The milk scare has spread to neighboring Japan, Hong Kong and Taiwan, and many countries across Asia along with the European Union have in response, restricted imports of Chinese baby food and dairy products. Four babies have been killed by contaminated baby formula and 60,000 more have been affected. 10,000 additional cases of children have developed kidney illnesses after drinking the toxic milk formula. ---posted by Ying Jia Huang

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Report: Olympic activist detained by Chinese police

China biggest carbon polluter, world levels record: scientists

AFP, September 26, 2008

A report by the research consortium Global Carbon Project confirmed that China now leads the world as the biggest carbon emitter, followed by the United States and with India heading toward third place. This report, authored by eight scientists, will be release in conferences at Paris and Washington highlighting the record peaks in global greenhouse-gas levels. According to the scientists, the biggest increase in emissions is coming from developing countries, with China leading the group. China has overtaken the United States as the number one emitter of CO2 in 2006. In the year 2007, China emitted 1.8 billion tones of carbon from fossil fuels compared to 1.59 billion by the U.S. Research done in this project is based on data from the United Nations, statistical models and climate research published by academic journals and energy data collected by the oil giant BP. ---posted by Ying Jia Huang

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While McCain and Obama chase the dream of "clean coal," carbon piles up in the atmosphere at a dangerous rate

The latest news on the climate front is alarming: According to an [annual report](#) released this week by the Australia-based Global Carbon Project, carbon emitted worldwide in 2007 from burning fossil fuels and producing cement increased 2.9 percent over the previous year, to a total of 8.47 billion metric tons. That brings the atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration to 383 parts per million -- significantly more than the 350 ppm considered the "[safe line](#)" for the climate.

This growth in atmospheric carbon concentration exceeds even the most dramatic scenarios considered by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change -- and could result in a global temperature rise of more than 11 degrees F. by the end of this century.

The IPCC has already warned that an increase of 9.7 degrees F. would set off drastic environmental changes by melting the Greenland ice sheet, Himalayan glaciers and summer sea ice in the Arctic. A rise of 11 degrees would be devastating for coastal communities and other flood-prone areas around the world, including the U.S. Southeast and Gulf Coast.

One place particularly vulnerable to rising seas is North Carolina, with its long and vulnerable coastline. A recent [study](#) (pdf) by the University of Maryland's [Center for Integrative Environmental Research](#) found that the state is at risk of losing billions of dollars in coastal real estate values, tourism, and crops if climate change is not halted. CIER has released similar reports for other states including [Georgia](#) (pdf) and [Tennessee](#) (pdf).

Commenting on the GCP findings to the Washington Post, James Connaughton, chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, [blamed](#) the unforeseen rise in atmospheric carbon on increasing greenhouse gas emissions in developing countries. But it's not as if the developed nations are blameless: The U.S. expects its own fossil-fuel consumption to continue to grow, while other industrial powers that unlike the U.S. have signed the Kyoto agreement to cut greenhouse gases have fallen short of their goals.

Meanwhile, both leading U.S. presidential candidates -- Republican Sen. John McCain and Democratic Sen. Barack Obama -- are [pushing](#) for the development of so-called "clean coal" technologies to capture carbon from burning coal. Speaking earlier this month in the Virginia coal mining community of Lebanon, Obama urged the development of carbon capture, [saying](#):

I believe in global warming. It is true that the planet's getting warmer, and we have to deal with it. But this is America -- we figured out how to put a man on the moon in 10 years.

American can-do spirit aside, a decade represents a highly ambitious goal. The Electric Power Research Institute has [anticipated](#) carbon capture technology could be in place by 2020, while the World Business Council on Sustainable Development has estimated commercial implementation could take as long as 20 years.

And unfortunately, given the shockingly rapid accumulation of carbon we're already witnessing, we might not have a decade to wait before we're faced with a climate gone haywire.

Labels: [clean coal](#), [climate](#), [Climate Change](#), [coal](#), [Election 2008](#), [global warming](#)

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Global carbon emissions jumped 3 percent in 2007

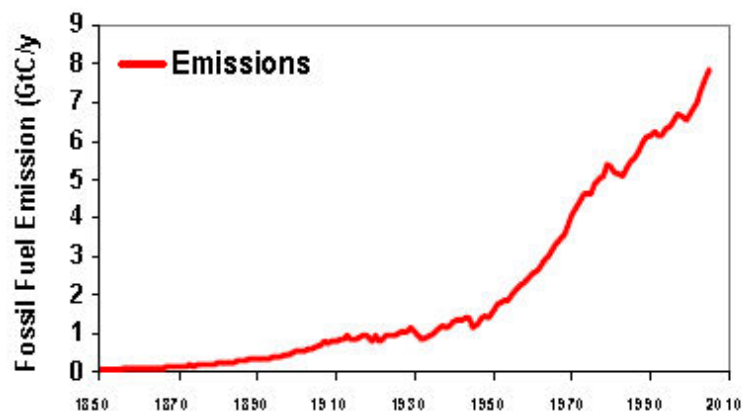
Posted by [Joseph Romm](#) (Guest Contributor) at 3:48 PM on 26 Sep 2008

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The Global Carbon Project released its "[Carbon Budget 2007](#)" [PDF] today. The report shows a continuation of the grossly unsustainable growth rate in CO2 emissions since 2000, which is nearly four times the growth rate of the 1990s:

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Science urges leaders to act swiftly on climate

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Wednesday, 1 October 2008

Climate researchers are lifting the pressure on politicians to agree steep cuts in global greenhouse gas emissions in the lead-up to the annual UN climate meeting in Poland in early December.

With a final deadline for a new climate agreement to replace Kyoto after 2012 laid down for the following annual meeting in Copenhagen in late 2009, leaders and their negotiators appear a long way from comprehensive agreement on significant targets, the cornerstone of any global action.

Scientists are urging developed countries to adopt the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) key recommendation (which emerged from their work) for a minimum of 25 per cent cuts in emissions below 1990 levels by 2020. Along with developing countries agreeing to curb emissions growth, this is seen as the only hope of arresting soaring emissions that would make stabilising the atmosphere at safe levels possible before its too late. A greenhouse gas concentration of around 450 parts per million of CO₂ equivalent is identified as the safe level.

Yet the latest monitoring of worldwide emissions shows emissions are rising faster than ever. The Global Carbon Project, a group of climate researchers worldwide, revealed in their [2007 Carbon Budget and Trends](#) report last week that the atmospheric CO₂ was growing at 2.2 parts per million a year by 2007. This is above the 2.0 ppm average for the period 2000-2007 and well up on average growth rate for the previous 20 years of about 1.5 ppm per year.

The concentration of carbon in the air reached 383 parts per million in 2007, the report says, the highest for 650,000 years and probably for the past 20 million years.

"The acceleration of both CO₂ emissions and atmospheric accumulation are unprecedented - and most astonishing during a decade of intense international developments to address climate change," said Dr Pep Canadell, one of the Project's leaders.

Meanwhile, the UK Met Office's Hadley Centre for climate research has called on governments to ensure emissions started to fall from 2010 and quickly reach reductions of 3 per cent a year. This is the only way to prevent world temperature

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Growth in the global carbon budget

The Global Carbon Project posted the most recent figures for the worlds' carbon budget, a key to understanding the balance of carbon added to the atmosphere, the underpinning of human induced climate change. Despite the increasing international sense of ...

Global Carbon Project, Wednesday, September 24, 2008

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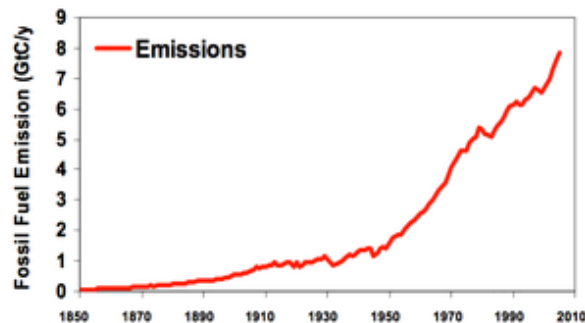
Uncommon Ground

Reflections on academics, the environment, and biodiversity

Bad news on the global carbon budget

By Kent on September 27, 2008 4:32 PM | [Permalink](#) | [Comments \(0\)](#) | [TrackBacks \(0\)](#) | [View blog reactions](#)

2007 Fossil Fuel: 8.5 Pg C



1990 - 1999: 0.9% y⁻¹
 2000 - 2007: 3.5% y⁻¹

Anthropogenic CO₂ emissions have been growing about four times faster since 2000 than during the previous decade, and despite efforts to curb emissions in a number of countries which are signatories of the Kyoto Protocol. Emissions from the combustion of fossil fuel and land use change reached the mark of 10 billion tones of carbon in 2007. Natural CO₂ sinks are growing, but more slowly than atmospheric CO₂, which has been growing at 2 ppm per year since 2000. This is 33% faster than during the previous 20 years. All of these changes characterize a carbon cycle that is generating stronger climate forcing and sooner than expected. ([source](#))

Those are the conclusions of the [Global Carbon Project](#) in their recently released report, [Carbon Trends 2007](#). The atmospheric concentration of CO₂ now stands at 383 parts per million, and total emissions are higher than ever. We're not just changing the world's climate, we're [changing it faster](#) than ever before. It's past time to stop arguing about *whether* we're affecting the climate and time to start arguing about [how we should respond](#).

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Dan Lashof's Blog

Build Up of Heat-Trapping Carbon Dioxide is Accelerating

September 27, 2008

Posted by [Dan Lashof](#) in [Solving Global Warming](#)

Tags: [carbondioxide](#), [CO2](#), [emissions](#), [fossilfuel](#)

Despite two decades of talking about slowing global warming the actual rate at which heat-trapping carbon dioxide is building up in the atmosphere is accelerating according to new data released yesterday. [Juliet Eilperin's story](#) on this research made page 2 of the Washington Post and focused on the rapid increase in carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel combustion during this decade. These data are indeed alarming. They show that CO2 emissions from fossil fuel combustion and deforestation have now reached 10 billion tons per year, which is above the worst-case forecast made by the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) a few years ago.

But these emissions could be cut if governments, particularly in the U.S. and China

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Director, NRDC Climate
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I am the director of NRDC's climate center. My main focus is solutions to global...

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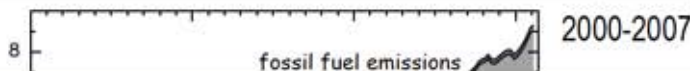


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fuel combustion, cement production, and deforestation. The Global Carbon Project's (GCP) report shows that emissions from fossil fuels and cement have increased 3.5 percent per year since 2000, after increasing at a rate of 0.9 percent during the 1990s. The rate of emissions growth exceeds the highest estimates put forth by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). China is the largest industrial emitter of carbon dioxide (i.e. excluding emissions from deforestation), followed by the United States, E.U. countries, Russia, and India.

When deforestation — a source of nearly 20 percent of emissions — is

Human Perturbation of the Global Carbon Budget



fossil fuel emissions

2000-2007

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Emissions rising faster this decade than last

Courtesy of CSIRO, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation

The latest figures on the global carbon budget to be released in Washington and Paris today indicate a four-fold increase in growth rate of human-generated carbon dioxide emissions since 2000. "This is a concerning trend in light of global efforts to curb emissions," says Global Carbon Project (GCP) Executive Director, Dr Pep Canadell, a carbon specialist based at CSIRO in Canberra. Releasing the 2007 data, Dr Canadell said emissions from the combustion of fossil fuel and land use change almost reached the mark of 10 billion tonnes of carbon in 2007.

Using research findings published last year in peer-reviewed journals such as Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Nature and Science, Dr Canadell said atmospheric carbon dioxide growth has been outstripping the growth of natural carbon dioxide sinks such as forests and oceans.

The new results were released simultaneously in Washington by Dr Canadell and in Paris by Dr Michael Raupach, GCP co-Chair and a CSIRO scientist.

Dr Raupach said Australia's position remains unique as a developed country with rapidly growing emissions.


"Since 2000, Australian fossil-fuel emissions have grown by two per cent per year. For Australia to achieve a 2020 fossil-fuel emissions target 10 per cent lower than 2000 levels, the target referred to by Professor Garnaut this month, we would require a reduction in emissions from where they are now by 1.5 per cent per year. Every year of continuing growth makes the future reduction requirement even steeper."

The Global Carbon Project (GCP) is a joint international project on the global carbon cycle sponsored by the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP), the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Research (IHDP), and the World Climate Research Program.

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September 28, 2008 – Vol.13 No.28

BEYOND THE BAILOUT.

As I write this the US Congress is still working out the details of the \$700 billion bailout which is supposed to be a fix-all for all things gone wrong on Wall Street because of foolish and greedy investments in mortgage-backed securities. If the bailout passes muster, and is signed off on by President Bush, things won't return to normal – whatever that is – right away. The bailout won't automatically pull the nation out of its economic slump, The bailout is meant to keep the nation, always hungry to borrow more money to buy stuff, borrowing even more money so it won't slide into an economic abyss.

Speaking of borrowing, Congress has also approved a \$630-billion budget bill that includes a loan package for US automakers for up to \$25 billion to retool to build vehicles that get at least 25 percent better fuel economy than their competitors. It's the largest federal aid ever offered to the US auto industry. Automakers will pay it back at the low rate of 5 percent. The money won't be immediately available: the US Department of Energy will have to review requests to make sure that automakers comply with the 25 percent better fuel economy rule. The reviews could take up to 18 months.



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Global Carbon Emissions Speed Up, Beyond IPCC Projections

Filed under: Uncategorized, Warnings, Emissions — webmaster at 2:21 pm on Monday, September 29, 2008

- Worse than bad is not good. While we still have a chance, we need to begin now to dedicate our lives to solving this issue. It wasn't clear how the second article below got the 11 degrees, but worse than the IPCC is serious, demanding a true sense of urgency! - Editor

Global Carbon Emissions Speed Up, Beyond IPCC Projections

The Global Carbon Project posted the most recent figures for the worlds' carbon budget, a key to understanding the balance of carbon added to the atmosphere, the underpinning of human induced climate change. **Despite the increasing international sense of urgency, the growth rate of emissions continued to speed up, bringing the atmospheric CO2 concentration to 383 parts per million (ppm) in 2007. Emissions growth for 2000-2007 was above even the most fossil fuel intensive scenario of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.**

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/09/080925072440.htm>

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"The world pumped up emissions of the chief human-produced global warming gas last year, setting a course that... exceeds the most dire outlook for emissions from burning coal and oil and related activities as projected by a Nobel Prize-winning group of international scientists in 2007."

Many scientists had predicted that a global economic slowdown would be reflected in a decrease in total carbon dioxide emissions for 2007. Instead, worldwide output increase to 9.34 billion tons, the highest figure in history.

Although several countries reduced their carbon dioxide emissions in 2007 (Denmark by 8%, the U.K. and Germany by 3%, France and Australia by 2%), the United States increased its output by 2% (after a decrease in 2006), while China led all countries in CO2 emissions.

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Emissions Rising Faster This Decade Than Last

October 6, 2008

The latest figures on the global carbon budget to be released in Washington and Paris recently, indicate a four-fold increase in growth rate of human-generated carbon dioxide emissions since 2000.



"This is a concerning trend in light of global efforts to curb emissions," says Global Carbon Project (GCP) Executive-Director, Dr Pep Canadell, a carbon specialist based at CSIRO in Canberra.

Releasing the 2007 data, Dr Canadell said emissions from the combustion of fossil fuel and land use change almost reached the mark of 10 billion tonnes of carbon in 2007.

Using research findings published last year in peer-reviewed journals such as Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Nature and Science, Dr Canadell said atmospheric carbon dioxide growth has been outstripping the growth of natural carbon dioxide sinks such as forests and oceans.

The new results were released simultaneously in Washington by Dr Canadell and in Paris by Dr Michael Raupach, GCP co-Chair and a CSIRO scientist.

Dr Raupach said Australia's position remains unique as a developed country with rapidly growing emissions.

"Since 2000, Australian fossil-fuel emissions have grown by two per cent per year. For Australia to achieve a 2020 fossil-fuel emissions target 10 per cent lower than 2000 levels, the target referred to by Professor Garnaut this month, we would require a reduction in emissions from where they are now by 1.5 per cent per year. Every year of continuing growth makes the future reduction requirement even steeper."

The Global Carbon Project (GCP) is a joint international project on the global carbon cycle sponsored by the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP), the International

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Ongoing rise in global carbon emissions and the lazy audience

Posted by **Barry Brook** on 26 September 2008



The Global Carbon Project just released their annual report ('**Carbon Budget 2007**'), which makes for rather depressing reading, at least if you were hoping for a turn-around any time soon in global carbon emissions. The media release associated with the report is packed with good information, and so I'll reproduce it at the end of this blog post. There have also been some news reports on this in the Australian and international media in which I am quoted, such as [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

My comments on the report, [made to AusSMC](#), are as follows:

The carbon emissions growth story coming out of the latest Global Carbon Project analyses isn't getting any brighter. At the average rate of CO2 accumulation in the atmosphere over the last few years, we'll reach a concentration of 450 parts per million by about the year 2040. And that's an optimistic outlook under a business-as-usual economic scenario, if carbon 'sinks' in the ocean miraculously cease their decline in effectiveness, and industrial emissions growth somehow stagnates at the current output. A more realistic projection, accounting for further decline in carbon sinks and ramping up of industrial activity, suggests 2030 is a plausible timeline. But whatever the specific date, 450ppm CO2 commits us to >2 degrees C global warming and all the disastrous consequences this sets in train.



Of particular concern is that emissions from deforestation (mostly the burning of rain forest) in our nearest tropical neighbour region, Southeast Asia, continue to skyrocket. Not only is this damaging to this area's rich biodiversity (because habitat is degraded and fragmented), but it also has a huge impact on the region's carbon budget. Yet Southeast Asia, like Australia is particularly susceptible to the impacts of climate change from sea level rise and changes in rainfall patterns. Emissions from Southeast Asian forest loss now exceed those of Latin America or Africa - truly the global 'hotspot' of CO2 from deforestation. Australia's regional role in abatement has never been clearer.

Each year that Australia's industrial emissions and Southeast Asia's forestry emissions continues to grow, our chances of avoiding the worst consequences of climate change diminish. Are we willing to continue to act like a lazy audience in a movie theatre, watching passively as a disaster film plays out in slow motion, in which we are the real-life actors? Who is going to ask the projectionist to turn off the reel before we get to the disturbing climax and the end credits start to roll?

This report is timely in the sense that it is a good lead in to another blog post I plan to make within the next few days, which will try to clarify the confusion around whether we are currently at atmospheric concentrations of 455 or 380 ppm CO2-equivalent. The answer is very much that... it depends...





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Golden rule

Editor in Chief Paul Studebaker, CMRP, says it's time to get militant about sustainability.

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As we go to press, Sen. Joe Biden and Gov. Sarah Palin just debated to a draw and the House is giving the Wall Street bailout a second look. California is threatening to shut down if the U.S. Treasury doesn't give it a \$9 billion payday loan, the Dow has dived to around 10,000 and my wife's car blew its head gasket.

What do these things have in common? They all might lead to at least a temporary reduction in global carbon dioxide emissions, which rose 3% from 2006 to 2007, according to a recent report by the Global Carbon Project (www.globalcarbonproject.org). That increase is higher than the direst outlook for fossil fuel and related emissions projected by a Nobel Prize-winning group of international scientists, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, in 2007.

The increase to a total of 9.34 billion tons of carbon is attributed mostly to China (2 billion tons) and the United States (1.75 billion tons), followed by India and other developing nations. China's additional CO₂ emissions accounted for more than half of the worldwide increase (China passed the United States as the No. 1 carbon dioxide emitter in 2006).

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Western manufacturers are rightly concerned about the price of reducing carbon emissions, along with the other costs of doing business in countries where they must comply with labor laws, pay

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Global carbon emissions still rising

Man-made CO₂ emissions are increasing four times faster than pre-2000 figures

Andrew Donoghue, BusinessGreen, 25 Sep 2008



Despite increased attention and international action on climate change, the growth rate of carbon emissions has continued to increase, according to research.

The latest update from the [Global Carbon Project](#) (GCP) put atmospheric CO₂ concentrations at 383ppm at the end of 2007. Man-made CO₂ emissions have been growing about four times faster than pre-2000 figures, the group claims, despite efforts made by signatories to the Kyoto Protocol.

Emissions from the fossil fuels and land-use change reached 10 billion tonnes of carbon in 2007, according to GCP, an organisation made up of numerous leading climate academics and researchers from Europe and the US. "This new update of the carbon budget shows the acceleration of CO₂ emissions and atmospheric accumulation are unprecedented and most astonishing during a decade of intense international developments to address climate change," said Dr Pep Canadell, executive director at the Global Carbon Project.

According to GCP, while developing countries such as China and India continue to increase emissions, China has made some improvements to the carbon intensity of its economy since 2005 if data from the National Energy Administration in China proves accurate.

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According to GCP, while developing countries such as China and India continue to increase emissions, China has made some improvements to the carbon intensity of its economy since 2005 if data from the National Energy Administration in China proves accurate.

The group also explained that natural land and ocean CO₂ sinks, which have removed 54 per cent (or 4.8 billion tons per year) of all CO₂ emitted from human activities during the period 2000-2007, are now becoming less efficient.

"While the size of these sinks continues to grow in response to greater concentrations of CO₂ in the atmosphere, they are losing

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We can't continue to stall

10/06/2008

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AT THIS POINT, the global climate is about as responsive to human input as a fully loaded supertanker. It will take a great distance — and a very long time — to change direction.

Right now, that supertanker is headed in the wrong direction, and it is picking up speed.

A new scientific report finds that since 2000, greenhouse gas emissions have increased four times faster than they did in the 1990s. They increased by about 3 percent last year as China overtook the United States as the leading carbon dioxide emitter.

It's now likely that the Earth's atmosphere contains more carbon dioxide than at any other time in the past 650,000

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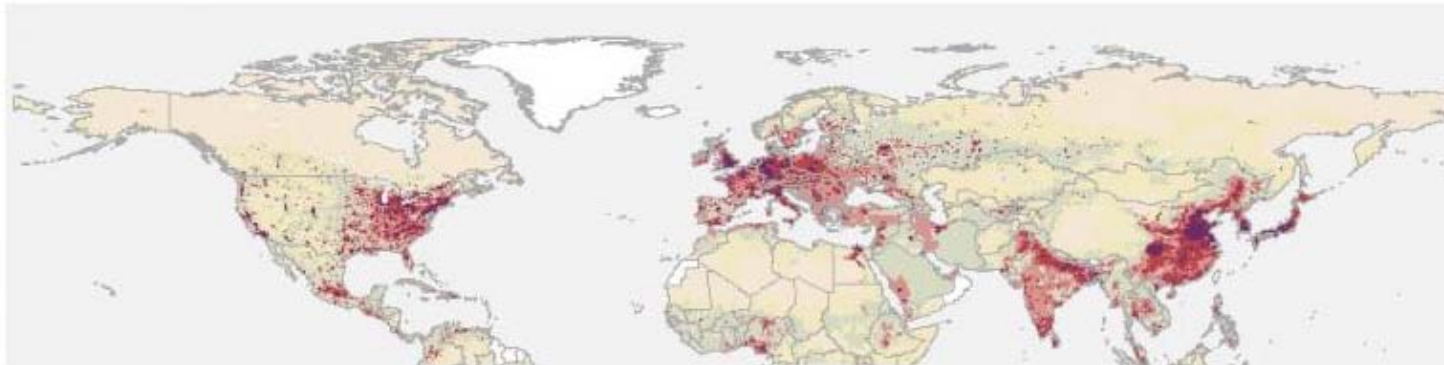


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Global Carbon Project says 2007 CO₂ emission higher than worst-case IPCC estimate

2008-09-29 by [renewenergy](#)

The [Global Carbon Project \(GPC\)](#) released its [Climate Trends 2007 update](#), and there's some sobering news within the latest update.

- The concentration of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere was 383 parts per million (ppm) in 2007, 37% over pre-industrial revolution concentrations (280 ppm), higher than any concentration over the last 650,000 years, and "probably" higher than any concentration in the last 20 million years.
- Actual emissions of CO₂ over the period of 2000-2007 are higher than the highest (worst-case) IPCC emissions scenario.
- Growth in emissions from cement and coal power plants in developing nations (mostly India and China) now account for more than 50% of all CO₂ emissions and a related stagnation in carbon intensity (amount of GDP per unit of carbon).
- The amount of CO₂ extracted from the air by natural carbon sinks is rising, but slower than CO₂ emissions. In addition, natural carbon sinks have lost efficiency over the last 50 years.

GLOBAL FOOTPRINT

The picture above gives the human footprint of each country. The darker the color, the larger the footprint.

Calculation = Global Footprint
Reference = Scientific Method

DAILY NEWS

September 2008

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Global CO₂ emissions exceed IPCC worst case scenario

By John Bruno • Sep 27th, 2008

A comprehensive report released today by the Global Carbon Project contains the grim news that global CO₂ emissions are exceeding the most pessimistic IPCC emissions scenario. The annual mean growth of atmospheric CO₂ increased from 2.0 ppm (parts per million) during the first half of the decade and from 1.8 ppm in 2006, to 2.2 ppm in 2007. This increase in the growth of emissions makes IPCC stabilization scenarios of 450 ppm - 650 ppm doubtful.

Annual mean growth rates of atmospheric CO₂ concentration.

Annual mean growth rates of atmospheric CO₂ concentration.

The report "Carbon budget and trends 2007" is a sobering synthetic analysis of the world's carbon budget, including the sources and sinks of CO₂ parsed by nation, continent, human activity and ecosystem.

Despite the increasing international sense of urgency, the growth rate of emissions continued to speed up, bringing the atmospheric CO₂ concentration to 383 parts per million (ppm) in 2007. Anthropogenic CO₂ emissions have been growing about four times faster since 2000 than during the previous decade, despite efforts to curb emissions in a number of Kyoto Protocol signatory countries.

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- Global CO₂ emissions exceed IPCC worst case scenario by John Bruno
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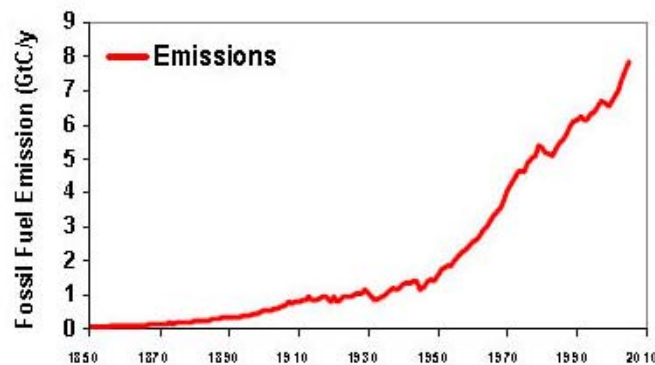
CLIMATE PROGRESS

AN INSIDER'S VIEW OF CLIMATE SCIENCE, POLITICS AND SOLUTIONS

Global carbon emissions jumped 3% in 2007

The Global Carbon Project released its "Carbon Budget 2007" [big PDF] today. The report shows a continuation of the grossly unsustainable growth rate in CO₂ emissions since 2000, which is nearly four times the growth rate of the 1990s:

2007 Fossil Fuel: **8.5 Pg C**



1990 - 1999: **0.9% y⁻¹**

2000 - 2007: **3.5% y⁻¹**

As reported by AP:

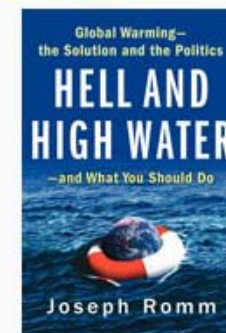
... it was large increases in China, India and other developing countries that spurred the growth of carbon dioxide pollution [3%] to a record high of 9.34 billion tons of carbon (8.47

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ENVIRONMENTAL FUTURISM

Feeling Toasty Yet? You Will Soon

10:45 AM on Tue Sep 30 2008

By [Charlie Jane Anders](#)

938 views

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Here's a dried-out lake in the Chaco region of Paraguay, 400 km north of Asuncion. The region has been experiencing an unprecedented drought that's lasted months, and the government has declared a State of Emergency. (That's a dead cow in the background.) Perhaps not coincidentally, yesterday the Australia-based Global Carbon project said our global carbon output from burning fossil fuels increased 2.9 percent from 2006 to 2007 — at the very high end of scenarios that the International Panel on Climate Change had predicted. That translates to a possible rise in global temperature of 11 degrees Fahrenheit by the end of the century.

And yes, you can mostly blame developing nations for the increase, scientists told the *Washington Post*.



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Speed of Increase in CO2 Emissions by Humans Four as Fast as in Last Decade

October 3rd, 2008 | by admin |

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"This is a concerning trend in light of global efforts to curb emissions," said Global Carbon Project (GCP) Executive-Director, Dr Pep Canadell, a carbon specialist based at CSIRO in Canberra.

Releasing the 2007 data, Dr Canadell said emissions from the combustion of fossil fuel and land use change almost reached the mark of 10 billion tonnes of carbon in 2007.

Using research findings published last year in peer-reviewed journals such as Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Nature and Science, Dr Canadell said atmospheric carbon dioxide growth has been outstripping the growth of natural carbon dioxide sinks such as forests and oceans.

The new results were released simultaneously in Washington by Dr Canadell and in Paris by Dr Michael Raupach, GCP co-Chair and a CSIRO scientist.

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CSIRO: The latest figures on the global carbon budget to be released in Washington and Paris today indicate a four-fold increase in growth rate of human-generated carbon dioxide emissions since 2000.

Released : Friday, September 26, 2008 9:02 AM

RDATE:26092008

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The new results were released simultaneously in Washington by Dr Canadell and in Paris by Dr Michael Raupach, GCP co-Chair and a CSIRO scientist.

Dr Raupach said Australia's position remains unique as a developed country with rapidly growing emissions.

"Since 2000, Australian fossil-fuel emissions have grown by two per cent per year. For Australia to achieve a 2020 fossil-fuel emissions target 10 per cent lower than 2000 levels, the target referred to by Professor Garnaut this month, we would require a reduction in emissions from where they are now by 1.5 per cent per year. Every year of continuing growth makes the future reduction requirement even steeper."

The Global Carbon Project (GCP) is a joint international project on the global carbon cycle sponsored by the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP), the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Research (IHDP), and the World Climate Research Program.

The research team included Corinne Le Quere (University of East Anglia/British Antarctic Survey, UK), Philippe Ciais (Commissariat a L'Energie Atomique, France), Thomas Conway (NOAA, USA), Chris Field (Carnegie Institution of Washington, USA), Skee Houghton (Woods Hole Research Center, USA), Gregg Marland (Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center, USA), and Drs Canadell and Raupach.

Background information: Global Carbon Project figures

Download images at: Emissions rising faster this decade than last.



Think - it ain't illegal yet...

Quotator

Only the educated are free.--Epictetus, *Discourses*

The S&R Poll

Who won the first debate?

- John McCain
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- It was a tie

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Global Carbon Project says 2007 CO2 emission higher than worst-case IPCC estimate

Posted on September 26, 2008 by [Brian Angliss](#) under [China](#), [economy](#), [energy](#), [environment](#), [global warming](#), [policy](#), [science](#) [[Comments: 4](#)]

The [Global Carbon Project \(GPC\)](#) released its [Climate Trends 2007 update](#), and there's some sobering news within the latest update:

- The concentration of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere was 383 parts per million (ppm) in 2007, 37% over pre-industrial revolution concentrations (280 ppm), higher than any concentration over the last 650,000 years, and "probably" higher than any concentration in the last 20 million years.
- Actual emissions of CO₂ over the period of 2000-2007 are higher than the highest (worst-case) IPCC emissions scenario.
- Growth in emissions from cement and coal power plants in developing nations (mostly India and China) now account for more than 50% of all CO₂ emissions and a related stagnation in carbon intensity (amount of GDP per unit of carbon).
- The amount of CO₂ extracted from the air by natural carbon sinks is rising, but slower than CO₂ emissions. In addition, natural carbon sinks have lost efficiency over the last 50 years.
- The GPC concludes that all of the above combine to produce stronger CO₂-driven climate forcing, and sooner than the IPCC estimates.

So, then, what does this all mean?

First off, this means we need to start **decarbonizing human civilization** sooner, decarbonize faster, and decarbonize to an even lower level than the IPCC AR4 target (emissions peaking

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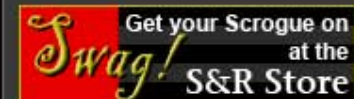
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Global warming emissions increase by 3 percent

2008-09-25 20:56:15 (GMT) (Caymanmama.com - Top Stories News)



Austin, Texas (CaymanMama.com) — The global initiative to reduce the principle man-made global warming gases in 2007 may have put the world on the fast track to scientists' estimated worst-case scenario, according to international researchers as per the Associated Press.

On Tuesday, a report was released that called the new statistics "scary" however this is interesting since originally, scientists projected that the economic slump would curb energy use. On the contrary, the output of carbon dioxide jumped 3 percent from 2006 to 2007. That amount is alarming since it not only meets, but surpasses the original outlook for global warming pollution due to burning coal and oil projected by a group of esteemed international, prize-winning scientists last year.

In the meantime, life sources such as oceans and forests, which act as a vacuum of carbon dioxide, are slowing down their rate of consumption. In fact, they are sucking up the toxin at lower rates than in the 20th century, according to scientists. If that trends persists, the world will be put on the fast track to the highest temperature rises and sea levels on record.

So what country was the worst culprit? China was the global leader of pollution followed by the U.S. which "past data show is the leader in emissions per person in carbon dioxide output. And while several developed countries slightly cut their CO2 output in 2007, the United States



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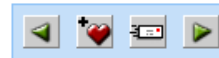
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Current mood: not amused

Happy overpopulated Terra

[The Amazon is being deforested more than three times as fast as last year](#)

...and, far worse:

Anthropogenic CO2 emissions have been growing about four times faster since 2000 than during the previous decade, despite efforts to curb emissions in a number of Kyoto Protocol signatory countries. Emissions from the combustion of fossil fuel and land use change reached 10 billion tones of carbon in 2007.

Natural CO2 sinks are growing but slower than the atmospheric CO2 growth, which has been increasing at 2 ppm since 2000 or 33% faster than the previous 20 years.

Dr. Pep Canadell, executive director of the Global Carbon Project said "This new update of the carbon budget shows the acceleration of both CO2 emissions and atmospheric accumulation are unprecedented and most astonishing during a decade of intense international developments to address climate change."

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/09/080925072440.htm>

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Stephen Rees's blog

Wake Up, Freak Out – then Get a Grip

with 3 comments

Test

[Wake Up, Freak Out – then Get a Grip](#) from [Leo Murray](#) on [Vimeo](#).

Sadly WordPress cannot handle embedding vimeo but I got the link above from [Architecture Week](#) courtesy of BCEN LW. So click the link and watch the video.

The following text and links accompanied the original post and I think they are worth quoting in full. And by the way, that reference to the US goes for us too. In fact our share of the world's ghg probably also exceeds our per capita share – and will get much worse if Harper gets his way and expands the oil sands project

“

It starts out with a polar bear floating on a chunk of ice, playing a violin. Then the narrator hops out and grabs the violin, saying "Give me that. This really isn't about polar bears anymore!" And you're off and running, for a compact, very clever, and scientifically sound run-through of some major [climate tipping points](#) all left out of the current [IPCC](#) projections and what these might mean to us.

Toward the end, there's even a rewind of the worst effects scenario, and a chance for a happy ending!

A chance which is particularly happy this week, as news is released on the latest [worldwide carbon emissions report card \(details here\)](#) from the Global Carbon Project. To quote Olive Heffernan, writing in the [climate blog at Nature](#), one of the world's top scientific journals:

"Most striking is that, despite years of effort, carbon dioxide emissions are increasing at an alarming rate of 3.5% a year faster than the 2.7% predicted by the IPCC in their worst case scenario, and miles ahead of the 0.9% annual rise in the 1990s. Worst still, current measures have been based on a middle-ground IPCC scenario. Pep Candell from the Global Carbon Budget told me that this was 'astonishing'."

Please don't be distracted by some news coverage that will trumpet minor changes in the ranking of the leading greenhouse-gas-emitting countries. Even setting aside real accounting complications due to economic globalization, the United States still emits about 20% of the world's greenhouse gases, some five times more than its per-capita share (with 4.6% of the [world's population](#)).

The animation and the latest annual carbon report both highlight this essential truth: climate change is now everyone's problem.



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In a time of universal deceit, telling the truth is a revolutionary act. – George Orwell

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