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# Global Carbon Emissions Rose by Record Volume Last Year

By Mathew Carr and Catherine Airlie - Dec 6, 2011 5:30 AM GMT+1100

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The volume of [greenhouse gases](#) pumped into the world's atmosphere increased by an unprecedented amount last year, scientists said in research published as countries meet to discuss how to limit [climate change](#).

Emissions rose the equivalent of 510 million metric tons of carbon to 9.14 billion tons in 2010, the most in records dating to 1959, according to [data](#) compiled by the Global Carbon Project, which includes [scientists](#) from Europe, the U.S. and [India](#). That's a 5.9 percent leap, the largest since 2003, when they jumped 6 percent, the data show. Last year's global emissions were 33.5 billion tons when converted to carbon dioxide.

Delegates from almost 200 nations started a second week of meetings in Durban, [South Africa](#), today to debate ways of limiting the gases that contribute to global warming. Climate change is being overshadowed by concern over the European debt crisis and U.S. economic slump, reducing the chances of an agreement, according to the Washington-based World Resources Institute, an environmental lobby group.

"We're going exactly in the wrong direction for limiting global warming," said Corinne Le Quere, co-author of the Global Carbon Project's report and a director of the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research at the University of East Anglia, [England](#). "Governments need to develop ways to boost the economy using renewable energy," she said in a phone interview today.

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## 2010 Was Record Year for Global Carbon Emissions



By [Tracey E. Schelmetic](#)

[TMCnet Contributor](#)

While the amount of global attention to carbon emissions may be rising, it's only the volume of talk, apparently, and not the solutions. A group of scientists say 2010 was a record year for global carbon emissions.

The international group of scientists from the Global Carbon Project have said that global emissions rose the equivalent of 510 million metric tons of carbon to 9.14 billion tons in 2010, the most in records dating back to 1959. The [data](#) show a 5.9 percent rise in emissions, the largest since 2003, when they rose by six percent, the data show. Last year's global emissions were 33.5 billion tons when converted to carbon dioxide, said the group.

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## World carbon output up in weak economy: study

**GROWTH OF ANOTHER KIND:** The 2008-2009 global financial crisis was a mere speed bump in terms of increasing carbon emissions, which grew 3% this year

Reuters, SINGAPORE

Global carbon dioxide emissions from industry rose about 3 percent in a weak global economy this year, a study released yesterday showed, adding fresh urgency to efforts to control planet-warming gases at UN climate talks in South Africa.

The study by the Global Carbon Project, an annual report card on mankind's carbon dioxide pollution, says a slowdown in emissions during the 2008-2009 global financial crisis was a mere speed bump and the gain this year followed a 6 percent surge last year.

"The global financial crisis was an opportunity to move the global economy away from a high-emissions trajectory. Our results provide no indication of this happening," the authors say in the study published in the journal Nature Climate Change.

Delegates from nearly 200 nations attending major talks in South Africa are struggling to make progress toward tougher steps to curb soaring carbon pollution.

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# Despite Sluggish Economy, Global Carbon Emissions Reach Record High

Published on December 5, 2011 | By Eric Wilson



The New York Times is reporting that the worldwide carbon dioxide emissions "from fossil-fuel burning jumped by the largest amount on record last year, upending the notion that the brief decline during the recession might persist through the recovery." This report follows news from earlier this year about the increase in US based emissions, which were up from 2009, but still below 2005 levels.

The Times cites a recent study from the Global Carbon Project (GCP). For a copy of the media summary from GCP, click [here](#). Among the findings, GCP noted the "annual growth rate of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> was 2.36±0.09 ppm in 2010 (ppm = parts per million), one of the largest growth rates in the past decade." This growth rate was nearly 25% higher than the average for the first decade of the millennium, and roughly 33% higher than the last two decades of the preceding century.

GCP's report covers the following topics:

Emissions from land use change

Emissions from fossil fuel and cement

Regional fossil fuel emissions

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Statistics released yesterday by the Global Carbon Project showed that carbon emissions had increased 5.9 % between 2009 and 2010. In fact, it was arguably among the most important pieces of data in the last, oh, three centuries, since according to the New York Times it represented “almost certainly the largest absolute jump in any year since the Industrial Revolution.” →

joshsternberg:

Um?

What it means, in climate terms, is that we've all but lost the battle to reduce the damage from global warming. The planet has already warmed about a degree Celsius; it's clearly going to go well past two degrees. It means, in political terms, that the fossil fuel industry has delayed effective action for the 12 years since the Kyoto treaty was signed. It means, in diplomatic terms, that the endless talks underway in Durban should be more important than ever—they should be the focus of a planetary population desperate to figure out how it's going to survive the century.

NBD, right?

Dec 5, 2011 7:52 pm Joshsternberg 51 Notes

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## Study finds global carbon emissions reached 10 billion tonnes in 2010

4 December 2011

Global carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels have increased by 49% in the last two decades, [according](#) to the latest figures from the [Global Carbon Project](#). Total emissions—including fossil fuel combustion, cement production, deforestation and other land use emissions—reached 10 billion tonnes of carbon (36.7 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>) in 2010 for the first time.

Half of the emissions remained in the atmosphere, where CO<sub>2</sub> concentration reached 389.6 parts per million. The remaining emissions were taken up by the ocean and land reservoirs, in approximately equal proportions.

Published in the journal *Nature Climate Change*, the new analysis shows fossil fuel emissions increased by 5.9% in 2010 and by 49% since 1990, the reference year for the Kyoto protocol. On average, fossil fuel emissions have risen by 3.1% each year between 2000 and 2010—three times the rate of increase during the 1990s. They are projected to continue to increase by 3.1% in 2011.

Rebounding from the global financial crisis of 2008-09 when emissions temporarily decreased, last year's high growth was caused by both emerging and developed economies.

Contributions to global emissions growth in 2010 were largest from China, the United States, India, the Russian Federation and the European Union. Emissions from the trade of goods and services produced in emerging economies but consumed in the West increased from 2.5% of the share of rich countries in 1990 to 16% in 2010.

*Global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions since 2000 are tracking the high end of the projections used by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which far exceed two degrees warming by 2100. Yet governments have pledged to keep warming below two degrees to avoid the most*





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## Global Emissions Grow at Record Rate as Nations Seek Climate Treaty

By Tilde Herrera

Published December 05, 2011

Tags: [Commitments & Goals](#), [COP17](#), [More...](#)[Email](#) | [Print](#) | [Single Page View](#)

## Industrial Revolution.

The release of the [study](#) from the [Global Carbon Project](#), published in the journal *Nature Climate Change* and based on data from the U.S., U.N. and British Petroleum Company, comes as negotiators from around the world are [meeting in Durban, South Africa](#) over the fate of the [Kyoto Protocol](#). The agreement, which commits developed countries -- except the U.S. -- to emissions cuts that average 5 percent below 1990 levels, will see its first commitment period end in 2012.

But as the [Global Carbon Project](#) figures reveal, [global CO2 emissions have risen 49 percent since then](#).

You may have heard the [dismal news](#) over the weekend that the global carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions are back on the rise, following a temporary dip during the recession.

CO2 emissions from burning fossil fuels and producing cement grew 5.9 percent in 2010, largely driven by surging emissions in developing countries, as well as a return to the old upward trajectory in the developed nations.

In short, worldwide emissions topped 10 billion tonnes of CO2 for the first time in 2010, which could be the largest annual jump since the

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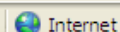
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## New report confirms all the world's carbon reduction schemes have failed to reduce global CO2 levels



Posted by: [wakeup2thelies](#) Tags: [carbon reduction](#), [carbon tax](#), [CO2 emission](#) Posted date: December 5, 2011 | No comment

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All of the carbon reductions schemes whether they are: carbon taxes, emission trading schemes, cap and trade schemes or direct action measures have failed to reduce global CO2 levels.

A new report has found, that last year global CO2 emission were not reduced but increased by a record amount:

Carbon dioxide emissions increased by a record 5.9 per cent worldwide last year after a

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**Global carbon output is higher than ever.** New figures released by the Global Carbon Project show that 2012 saw a record jump in emissions from fossil-fuel burning, thanks mostly to unprecedented leaps from developing nations. [Here](#), some numbers from the report:

## 510 million

Extra tons of CO<sub>2</sub> pumped into the air in 2010, "almost certainly the largest absolute jump in any year since the Industrial Revolution, and the largest percentage increase since 2003," [says Justin Gillis at \*The New York Times\*.](#)

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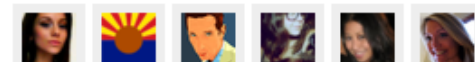
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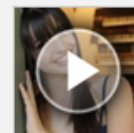
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### BY THE NUMBERS

## The record jump in global carbon emissions: By the numbers

After a brief decline in CO<sub>2</sub> production at the height of the recession, global carbon output is higher than ever

POSTED ON DECEMBER 5, 2011, AT 4:08 PM

During the global economic downturn, cash-strapped factories slowed their production, and sometimes closed altogether, reducing global carbon emissions — a rare bright spot of sorts in the recession's darkest days. Now, it's clear that decline was an outlier. New figures released by the Global Carbon Project, which creates an annual report card of the world's CO<sub>2</sub> output, show that 2010 saw a "record" jump in emissions from fossil-fuel burning, thanks mostly to



A coal power plant in Germany: 2010 saw the largest jump in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in years, with coal across the biggest



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Global carbon dioxide emissions increased by a record 5.9 per cent in 2010 following the dampening effect of the 2008-2009 Global Financial Crisis (GFC), according to scientists working with the Global Carbon Project.

The Global Carbon Project (GCP) published its annual analysis in the journal Nature Climate Change, reporting that the impact of the GFC on emissions has been short-lived owing to strong emissions growth in emerging economies and a return to emissions growth in developed economies.

Contributions to global emissions growth in 2010 were largest from China, USA, India, the Russian Federation, and the European Union, with a continuously growing global share from emerging economies. Coal burning was at the heart of the growth in fossil fuel and cement emissions accounting for 52% of the total growth.

Coal burning was at the heart of the growth in fossil fuel and cement emissions accounting for

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## Global Carbon Project annual emissions summary

by [livetec](#)



ScienceDaily (Dec. 6, 2011) □ Global carbon dioxide emissions increased by a record 5.9 per cent in 2010 following the dampening effect of the 2008-2009 Global Financial Crisis (GFC), according to scientists working with the Global Carbon Project.

The Global Carbon Project (GCP) published its annual analysis in the journal *Nature Climate Change*, reporting that the impact of the GFC on emissions has been short-lived owing to strong emissions growth in emerging economies and a return to emissions growth in developed economies.

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Coal burning was at the heart of the growth in fossil fuel and cement emissions accounting for 52% of the total growth.

"The GFC was an opportunity to move the global economy away from a high emissions trajectory. This opportunity has not been realised but developed countries have moved some way closer to their emission reduction commitments as promised in the Kyoto Protocol and the Copenhagen Accord," said the GCP's Executive Director, CSIRO's Dr Pep Canadell.

The atmospheric concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2010 rose to 389.6 parts per million, the highest recorded in at least the last 800,000 years.

Dr Canadell and a member of the GCP's Scientific Steering Committee, CSIRO's Dr Mike Raupach are co-authors of the paper. The GCP produces an annual report card with the latest figures on all major carbon exchanges that result from human activities.

Dr Raupach said the 2010 figures represent the highest annual growth recorded, and the highest annual growth rate since 2003.

The international science team preparing the analysis tracked emissions growth in tandem with significant economic events since 1960. These included the 1970's oil crisis, the US Savings and Loans Crisis, the collapse of the Federated States of the Soviet Union, the Asian Financial Crisis, and finally the Global Financial Crisis.

December 5, 2011 1:52 AM EST

## Global Carbon Emissions Increased to Record in 2010

By Bhaskar Prasad



Carbon dioxide emissions, from the burning of fossil fuels and production of cement, registered record increases last year, according to researchers with the Global Carbon Project, which reported a 5.9 percent increase.

Carbon dioxide emissions are usually measured by the weight of carbon they contain. The report, published on Sunday in *Nature Climate Change*, is based on preliminary estimates of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

"Taking action to reverse current trends is urgent," said Corinne Le Quere, director of Britain's Tyndall Center for Climate Change Research and co-author of the report. She also said these emissions were at the high end of projections, used by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, showing temperatures could rise by more than 2 degrees by the end of the century.

The report also states there was a short-lived drop in global emissions due to the financial crisis of 2008-09; unfortunately, they climbed back up the next year.

"Many saw the global financial crisis as an opportunity to move the global economy away from persistent and high emissions growth, but the return suggests the opportunity was not exploited," said Glen Peters of the Norwegian Center for International Climate and Environmental Research.

The rates of emissions were highest in developing countries, including China (10.4 percent), Brazil (11.6 percent) and India (9.4 percent); those in developed countries like the U.S., Russia and the European Union were 4.1 percent, 5.8 percent and 2.2 percent, respectively.

The United States, however, is the world's second largest emitter of greenhouse gases and pumped 1.5 billion tons of carbon into the atmosphere last year. The largest is China, which releases more than 2 billion tons every year.

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## Global carbon emissions up 50 percent

Monday, December 5, 2011 - 01:13

SAANJ NEWS



**London:** Global carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels have gone up by 49 percent over the last two decades to reach a staggering 10 billion tonnes in 2010.

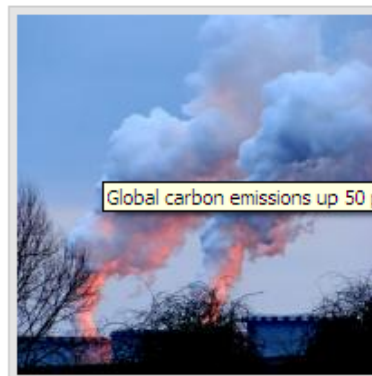
Contributions to such emissions growth in 2010 were largest from China, the US, India, the Russian Federation and the European Union.

The new analysis by the Global Carbon Project, undertaken by the University of East Anglia and others, shows fossil fuel emissions went up by 5.9 percent in 2010 and by 49 percent since 1990 - the reference year for the Kyoto protocol.

Half of the emissions remained in the air, where CO2 concentration reached 389.6 parts per million. The remaining emissions were taken up by the ocean and land reservoirs, in almost equal proportions, the journal Nature Climate Change reports.

On average, fossil fuel emissions have risen by 3.1 percent each year between 2000 and 2010 - three times the rate of increase during the 1990s. They are projected to continue to increase by 3.1 percent in 2011, according to an East Anglia statement.

Rebounding from the global financial crisis of 2008-09 when emissions temporarily decreased, last year's high growth was caused by both emerging and developed economies.



Global carbon emissions up 50 percent

### LIFESTYLE/FASHION

#### Kate Moss strips off for the 2012 Pirelli calendar

Dec 8 2011 - 8:25pm

**London:** Supermodel Kate Moss has stripped off for a shoot for the latest Pirelli calendar. She was photographed by ex-boyfriend Mario Sorrenti. [READ MORE](#)

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## Humans Pumped Out 10 Billion Tonnes of Carbon Emissions in 2010

Posted: December 5th, 2011 | Author: [M. Aaron Silverman](#) | Filed under: [Cankler](#), [Cankler Science News](#), [Science of Green](#) | Tags: [Climate Change](#), [CSIRO](#), [Science of Green](#), [The Global Carbon Project](#), [Tyndall Centre for Climate Change](#) | Comments Off



New research has found global carbon emissions surged by a record amount in 2010 after falling during the international financial crisis. [The Global Carbon Project](#) published its yearly analysis of carbon dioxide emissions in the journal *Nature Climate Change* today. The report found that global carbon dioxide emissions increased by a record 5.9 per cent in 2010. The report says the overall atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide is now at its highest level in 800,000 years.

*"At current rates, including the increase in emissions that has been occurring over the last few years and*

*continuing and even accelerating this year, we have about 35 to 40 years to go, before we hit that limit of a total of 1 trillion tonnes"*

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## Global Carbon Project annual emissions summary

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NewsEcology (Dec. 6, 2011) □ Global carbon dioxide emissions increased by a record 5.9 per cent in 2010 following the dampening effect of the 2008-2009 Global Financial Crisis (GFC), according to scientists working with the Global Carbon Project.

The Global Carbon Project (GCP) published its annual analysis in the journal *Nature Climate Change*, reporting that the impact of the GFC on emissions has been short-lived owing to strong emissions growth in emerging economies and a return to emissions growth in developed economies.

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## Global carbon dioxide emissions increase by 5.9% in 2010 after GFC

Published on December 7, 2011 at 2:18 AM · 2 Comments



Global carbon dioxide emissions increased by a record 5.9 per cent in 2010 following the dampening effect of the 2008-2009 Global Financial Crisis (GFC), according to scientists working with the Global Carbon Project.

The Global Carbon Project (GCP) published its annual analysis in the journal *Nature Climate Change*, reporting that the impact of the GFC on emissions has been short-lived owing to strong emissions growth in emerging economies and a return to emissions growth in developed economies.

Contributions to global emissions growth in 2010 were largest from China, USA, India, the Russian Federation, and the European Union, with a continuously growing global share from emerging economies. Coal burning was at the heart of the growth in fossil fuel and cement emissions accounting for 52% of the total growth.

Coal burning was at the heart of the growth in fossil fuel and cement emissions accounting for 52% of the total growth.

"The GFC was an opportunity to move the global economy away from a high emissions trajectory. This opportunity has not been realised but developed countries have moved some way closer to their emission reduction commitments as promised in the Kyoto Protocol and the Copenhagen Accord," said the GCP's Executive Director, CSIRO's Dr Pep Canadell. The atmospheric concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2010 rose to 389.6 parts per million, the highest recorded in at least the last 800,000 years.



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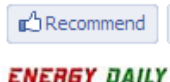
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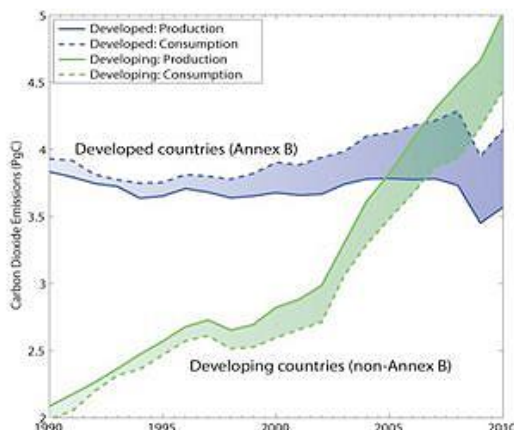
# Carbon dioxide emissions rebound quickly after global financial crisis

by Staff Writers  
Oak Ridge TN (SPX) Dec 08, 2011

The sharp decrease in global carbon dioxide emissions attributed to the worldwide financial crisis in 2009 quickly rebounded in 2010, according to [research](#) supported by the Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center at the Department of [Energy's](#) Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

In 2010, emissions reached an all-time high of 9.1 billion tons of carbon, compared with 8.6 billion tons in 2009. The downturn was also followed by milestone carbon dioxide emissions from the developing world's emerging economies.

In developing countries, consumption-based emissions, or those emissions associated with the consumption of goods and services, increased 6.1 percent over 2009 and 2010.



For the first time, in 2009, developing countries surpassed developed countries in consumption-based carbon dioxide emissions. The shaded region represents the difference between developed and developing consumption-based and production-based carbon dioxide emissions.

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## **Global Carbon Project annual emissions summary**

by Staff Writers

Canberra, Australia (SPX) Dec 08, 2011

The Global Carbon [Project](#) (GCP) published its annual analysis in the journal Nature Climate Change, reporting that the impact of the GFC on emissions has been short-lived owing to strong emissions growth in emerging economies and a return to emissions growth in developed economies.

Contributions to global emissions growth in 2010 were largest from China, USA, India, the Russian Federation, and the European Union, with a continuously growing global share from emerging economies. Coal burning was at the heart of the growth in fossil fuel and cement emissions accounting for 52% of the total growth.

Coal burning was at the heart of the growth in fossil fuel and cement emissions accounting



Contributions to global emissions growth in 2010 were largest from China, USA, India, the Russian Federation, and the European Union. Coal burning was at the heart of the growth in fossil fuel and cement emissions accounting for 52% of the total growth.

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## Highest Annual Jump In Global CO2 Emissions Ever Recorded

by JOHN JOHNSTON on 12/06/2011

in EARTH



Despite the ongoing global



economic crisis, or perhaps partly because of it, global emissions jumped a massive 5.9 percent in 2010. This is the largest jump ever recorded, according to a study by the Global Carbon Project, a global collaboration of scientists tracking global emissions.

There was a short decline in emissions in 2008 and 2009 during the global financial crisis (GFC), with economic recessions in many countries. It seems that carbon emissions have well and truly jumped back.

The Global Carbon Project has pointed out that the 2010 increase of 500,000 million tons of CO2 is likely the biggest one year jump since the industrial revolution began.

Emissions from China climbed 10.4 percent to 2.2 billion tons, which was the world's largest amount of CO2 emitted from one nation, surpassing the United States. Emissions from the U.S. climbed by 4 percent, after dropping 7 percent in 2009.

According to the authors of the study, published in the journal *Nature*,

"The impact of the 2008-2009 global financial crisis (GFC) on emissions has been short-lived owing to strong emissions growth in emerging economies, a return to emissions growth in developed economies, and an increase in the fossil-fuel intensity

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## Record global fossil fuel emissions in 2010

Posted Mon, 05 Dec 2011 18:11:00 GMT by [Adrian Bishop](#)

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## Global carbon emissions up 50 percent

HP News Network | December 5, 2011 | [Comments](#) | [Print](#)

**London** : Global carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels have gone up by 49 percent over the last two decades to reach a staggering 10 billion tonnes in 2010.

Contributions to such emissions growth in 2010 were largest from China, the US, India, the Russian Federation and the European Union.

The new analysis by the Global Carbon Project, undertaken by the University of East Anglia and others, shows fossil fuel emissions went up by 5.9 percent in 2010 and by 49 percent since 1990 – the reference year for the Kyoto protocol.

Half of the emissions remained in the air, where CO<sub>2</sub> concentration reached 389.6 parts per million. The remaining emissions were taken up by the ocean and land reservoirs, in almost equal proportions, the journal Nature Climate Change reports.

On average, fossil fuel emissions have risen by 3.1 percent each year between 2000 and 2010 – three times the rate of increase during the 1990s. They are projected to continue to increase by 3.1 percent in 2011, according to an East Anglia statement.

Rebounding from the global financial crisis of 2008-09 when emissions temporarily decreased, last year's high growth was caused by both emerging and developed economies.

Rich countries continued to outsource part of their emissions to emerging economies through international trade.

Study co-author Ben Canadell, executive director of the Global Carbon

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## Global CO2 concentrations reach record levels

By APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
12/08/2011 11:58

Researchers say emissions have risen an average of 3.1% a year over last decade, a trend that is expected to continue.

Talkbacks (12)



Photo by: Bloomberg

Global carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels have surged to record levels following the 2008-09 global financial crisis, when a stagnant economy resulted in a temporary decline in emissions.

In their annual analysis published in the journal Nature Climate Change, scientists working on the Global Carbon Project (GCP) say emerging economies continue to



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# Carbon dioxide emissions break growth records

**Emissions rebound fast from global financial crisis, driven by developing world**

CBC News Posted: Dec 5, 2011 11:01 AM ET | Last Updated: Dec 5, 2011 12:54 PM ET 356

Global carbon dioxide emissions hit a record 9.1 billion tonnes in 2010, after a year of the highest growth ever, a new study has found.

"This is the highest total annual growth recorded, and the highest annual growth rate since 2003," reported an analysis by the Global Carbon Project published Sunday in the journal *Nature Climate Change*. The project is an international science research partnership founded in 2001 to develop a complete picture of the global carbon cycle.

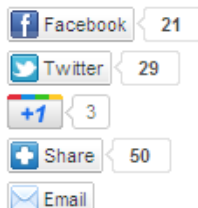
Emissions of greenhouses gases, measured in units equivalent to tonnes of carbon dioxide, have been linked to global climate change.

The new study was released as world leaders meet in Durban, South Africa, in an effort to reach a new international agreement to reduce emissions and tackle climate change following the end of the commitment period for the Kyoto Protocol, and the failure to reach a new binding agreement in Copenhagen in 2009.

Governments are aiming to keep the increase in global temperatures by 2100 below two degrees. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change suggests that may allow the world to avoid some of the most dangerous aspects of climate change, such as a significant rise in sea



Smoke billows from a coal-fired power plant in Changchun, in northeast China's Jilin province, in 2010. That year, China's CO2 emissions grew 212 million tonnes or 10.4 per cent in 2010. Associated Press



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## Global Carbon Emissions Reach Record 10 Billion Tons -- Threatening 2 Degree Target

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Global carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels have increased by 49 per cent in the last two decades, according to the latest figures by an international team, including researchers at the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, University of East Anglia (UEA).

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05/12/2011

# Global carbon emissions up 50 percent

Global carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels have gone up by 49 percent over the last two decades to reach a staggering 10 billion tonnes in 2010.

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Contributions to such emissions growth in 2010 were largest from China, the US, India, the Russian Federation and the European Union.

The new analysis by the Global Carbon Project, undertaken by the University of East Anglia and others, shows fossil fuel emissions went up by 5.9 percent in 2010 and by 49 percent since 1990 - the reference year for the Kyoto protocol.

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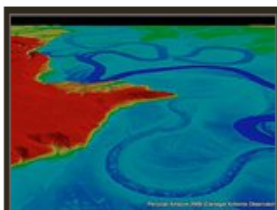


# 2010 Saw Biggest Jump in Global CO2 Emissions Since the Industrial Revolution



**Brian Merchant**  
Energy / Fossil Fuels  
December 5, 2011

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Worldwide carbon dioxide emissions jumped 5.9% last year, according to the Global Carbon Project. Yes, a record amount of CO<sub>2</sub>--500 million tons more than the year before--was loosed into the atmosphere in 2010. As [the New York Times](#) put it, it "was almost certainly the largest absolute jump in any year since the Industrial Revolution, and the largest percentage increase since 2003."

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## Explosion in carbon emissions

ADAM MORTON, THE AGE  
05 Dec, 2011 08:25 AM

[A+](#) [A-](#)

CARBON dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels are growing at a record rate, with the latest data suggesting pollution from rich countries is accelerating despite nearly 15 years of pledges to make cuts.

An analysis by international scientists working on the Global Carbon Project found emissions from developed countries increased by 3.4 per cent in 2010, reversing a two-year slump caused by the global financial crisis.

Developing world emissions continued to surge, particularly from the expanding economies of China and India, up 10.4 and 9.4 per cent respectively.

It meant that global emissions leapt by 5.9 per cent - nearly twice the average pace of growth of the past decade.

The findings came as 10 heads of state and dozens of government ministers, including Australian Climate Change Minister Greg Combet, prepared to meet in Durban, South Africa, in a bid to salvage a future for the United Nations climate negotiations.

The findings also coincided with the publication of research - using a new method not reliant on climate models - estimating that three-quarters of the global warming since 1950 was extremely likely to be due to the heat-trapping effect of human greenhouse gas emissions.

Scientists said the latest emissions data quashed hopes the financial crisis and some related green-focused stimulus packages might have triggered an end to the rapid pace of emissions growth since 2000.

CSIRO climate scientist Mike Raupach, a member of the Global Carbon Project scientific steering committee, said it suggested the dip in global emissions in 2009 was illusory.

"We are now into our 17th [UN climate conference] and despite the agreement at Kyoto these negotiations have failed to make any dent in emissions," he said.

"It is not just that China's emissions are rising rapidly, but that the developed world's emissions have not reduced."



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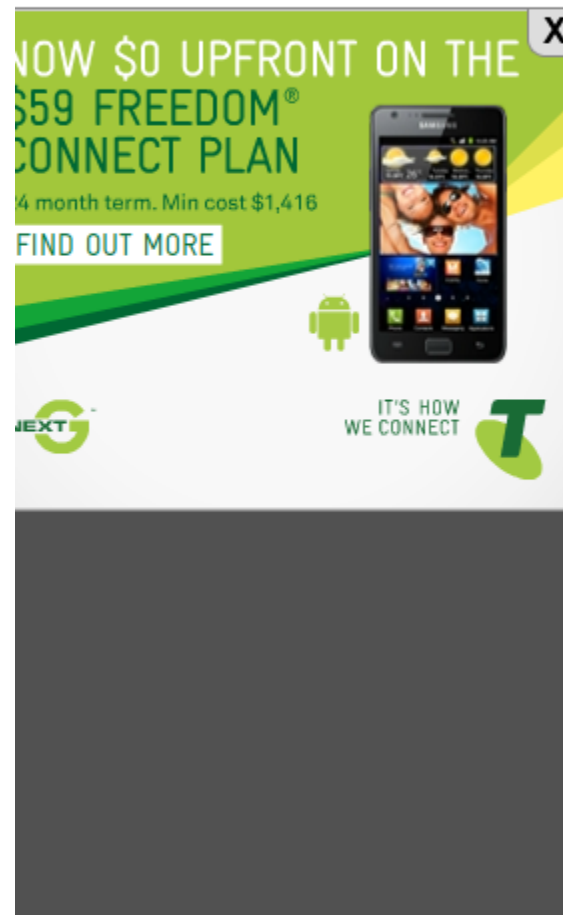


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Last Updated : 05 Dec 2011

LONDON: Global carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels have gone up by 49 percent over the last two decades to reach a staggering 10 billion tonnes in 2010.

Contributions to such emissions growth in 2010 were largest from China, the US, India, the Russian Federation and the European Union.

The new analysis by the Global Carbon Project, undertaken by the University of East Anglia and others, shows fossil fuel emissions went up by 5.9 percent in 2010 and by 49 percent since 1990 - the reference year for the Kyoto protocol.

Half of the emissions remained in the air, where CO2 concentration reached 389.6 parts per million. The remaining emissions were taken up by the ocean and land reservoirs, in almost equal proportions, the journal Nature Climate Change reports.

On average, fossil fuel emissions have risen by 3.1 percent each year between 2000 and 2010 - three times the rate of increase during the 1990s. They are projected to continue to increase by 3.1 percent in 2011, according to an East Anglia statement





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## How the financial crisis barely dented carbon emissions - December 04, 2011

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Carbon dioxide emissions always sag at times of major economic crisis, as the world's industry pauses for breath. The oil crisis of the late 1970s, the recession of the early 1980s, the collapse of the former Soviet Union in 1991 – all of them dampened global CO<sub>2</sub> output. The global financial crisis of 2008-2009 was no exception. But as an analysis published today in [Nature Climate Change](#) and also at the [Global Carbon Project's website](#) notes, carbon emissions have already rebounded as if the crisis never happened. The recovery has been more rapid than from any other economic downturn in the past half-century (see chart, adapted from *Nature Climate Change*).

### A TEMPORARY DENT

Global carbon emissions seem to have recovered faster from the global financial crisis than from other recent economic crises.



The actual figures aren't news: the 5.9% rise\* in last year's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions has already been reported at least three times. In May, the International Energy Agency [estimated](#) the new record, and there was a [more detailed analysis](#) in September by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre and the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency. In November, the Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center, a group housed by the US Department of Energy, put out [its analysis](#), which attracted worldwide [media headlines](#), along with commentary that the present rate of emissions was greater than the worst-case scenario envisaged in a 2007 report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

What's new in this analysis is that it puts the recovery in context with previous global crises. It also updates a novel type of carbon dioxide accounting pioneered by lead author Glen Peters, who is at the Center for International Climate and Environmental Research in Oslo, Norway. Usually, and under the Kyoto Protocol, carbon dioxide emissions are attributed to the country that produces them. Yet rich countries have largely achieved cuts in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions since 1990 by importing goods made elsewhere. Around one-fifth of China's emissions, for example, comes from making goods demanded by consumers in other nations.

If you count the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in final consumer demand, the study shows, Kyoto's 'developed' (Annex B) countries are consuming more carbon dioxide now than they did in 1990 – although they report cuts in domestic production. Even so, 2009 marked the first time that developing countries consumed more carbon dioxide than developed countries.