

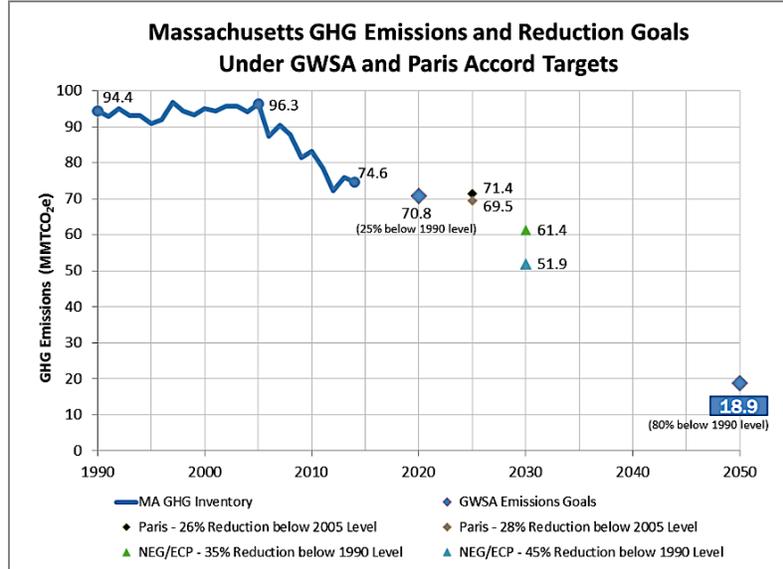
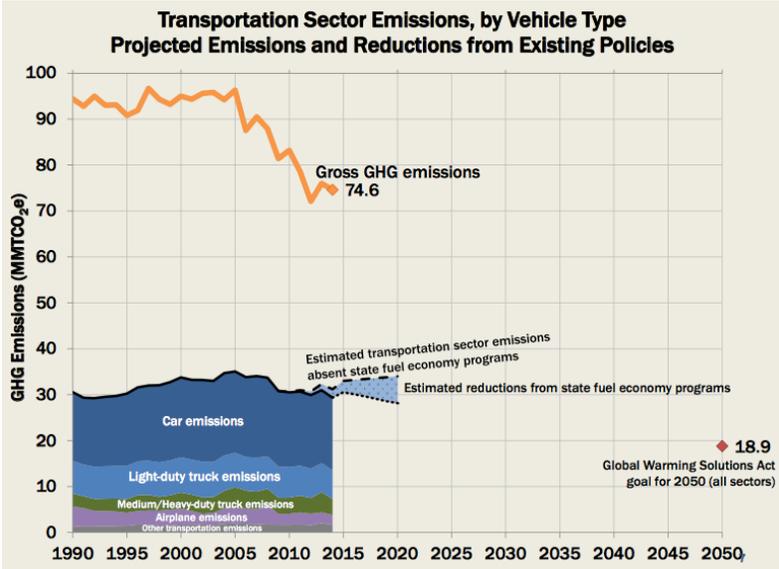
# Fact Sheet: Transportation & Climate Change

*Advancing Resilient and Climate-Friendly Policies*

## Climate change is a real and growing threat.

The overuse of carbon-intensive energy sources has led to increased Greenhouse Gas emissions, rising sea levels, and greater instances of extreme weather in Massachusetts and across the globe. The Commonwealth's coastal areas are especially vulnerable to flooding, while the state's inland regions are subject to more intense and frequent droughts, inundating rainstorms, blizzards, and ice storms.

## Transportation is the largest source of Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Massachusetts.



Source: MassDOT/EEA

In the absence of federal action on climate, state and regional policies are needed to reduce emissions, improve mobility choices and transportation equity, and to ensure that we can get where we need to go — regardless of the weather.

## Massachusetts can reduce its Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

### The climate impacts of transportation in Massachusetts can be reduced by:

- Using more sustainable forms of transportation, such as electric vehicles (EVs) with cleaner energy sources that reduce air pollution
- Investing in public transportation options that reduce the number of cars on the road
- Designing complete streets to make communities more walkable and bikeable
- Integrating smarter land use patterns and intersections to reduce traffic congestion

### Multiple benefits of reducing GHGs and adopting more climate-friendly behaviors:

Better air quality = improved health outcomes

More efficient vehicles save money and reduce pollution

Walkable, bikeable communities are more economically sound and healthier.

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## We need an efficient, equitable transportation system designed for the future.

Rising seas and extreme weather can be catastrophic.

Vulnerable areas include:

- Communities and resources along the coast, including Logan International Airport.
- Communities along the Connecticut River in Western Massachusetts.
- Rural and suburban roads after intense downpours.
- MBTA infrastructure, especially subways.



Simulation: How Rising Sea Levels will Affect the City

## Invest in infrastructure to mitigate the impacts of climate change and enhance resiliency.

The Commonwealth needs smart planning and innovative technologies to be prepared for the likely results of climate change. We need investments to keep people moving amid more extreme weather events and more frequent flooding.

## Transportation and Climate Initiative

The Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI) is an agreement and collaboration between 12 states and Washington, DC to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector.

### The four core areas of TCI include:

- Clean vehicles and fuels
- Sustainable communities
- Freight efficiency
- Information and communication technologies



## We can lower GHGs with EVs

The "Clean Vehicles and Fuels" work of the TCI supports the deployment of Electric Vehicles across the region.

Necessary efforts include:

- Low-income consumer rebates to spread the benefits of EVs more broadly
- Automobile dealer EV training, recognition, and incentive program to increase EV literacy and promote EV sales
- Inclusion of EVs and related infrastructure in the next iteration of the Green Communities program
- Smart electricity rates that promote EV charging during periods of low demand and reduce charging costs
- Inclusion of "EV-ready" provisions in the state building codes
- Electrification of public transit and state fleets



Furthering the electrification of our transportation system, including trains and buses, will help Massachusetts reach its target goal of reducing our GHG emissions by 80% of 1990's total by the year 2050.

For more information...

[tinyurl.com/climatereadyboston](https://tinyurl.com/climatereadyboston)

<https://www.transportationandclimate.org>

[tinyurl.com/MassDOTClimate](https://tinyurl.com/MassDOTClimate)

[www.pvpc.org/plans/our-next-future](http://www.pvpc.org/plans/our-next-future)