

## Climate emissions and mitigation



MCC photo/Meghan Mast

### What is mitigation?

There is a direct relation between global temperatures and the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. This means the key to solving the climate change problem is in decreasing new emissions while also reducing the current concentration of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) by enhancing sinks (things that decrease the amount of carbon, like forests). Efforts to reduce emissions and enhance sinks are referred to as “mitigation.”<sup>1</sup>

Countries such as Canada and the U.S. bear some of the greatest responsibility for the greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change, and therefore, have a moral obligation to reduce emissions and to contribute their fair share to help populations suffering from the negative effects of climate change.

*Top photo: In Mwenezi District, Zimbabwe, a fuel-efficient stove developed through an MCC project requires just a few pieces of wood to cook a meal. It's a win for the environment – and for women like Ntombizodwa Mapfacha, who no longer has to walk 6 miles to gather firewood.*

*At right, as climate change intensifies, Teofilo Colque's remote community of Chucarasi, Bolivia, faces the threat of killing frosts and devastating hail in addition to disruptions in rainfall.*



MCC photo/Annalee Giesbrecht

1. [unfccc.int/topics/introduction-to-mitigation](https://unfccc.int/topics/introduction-to-mitigation).

“Climate change doesn’t just affect my family, it affects my whole community.”

Rath Morn



MCC photo/Isaac Alderfer

## How much are Canada and U.S. emitting?

### Current annual total

- As of 2019: U.S. is 2nd overall with 6 billion tons, Canada is 10th with 737,000 million tons.<sup>2</sup>

### Cumulative total

- U.S. is 1st at 400 billion tons, or 25% of all emissions, Canada is 7th at 32 billion tons, or 2% of all emissions<sup>3</sup>

## Per capita emissions World Bank Data as of 2019<sup>4</sup>

<b>Canada</b>	15.4 tons/person
<b>U.S.</b>	14.7 tons/person
<b>Bolivia</b>	1.9 tons/person
<b>Cambodia</b>	1 ton/person
<b>Zimbabwe</b>	0.8 tons/person

*Above photo: In Cambodia, MCC partner Organization to Develop our Villages is working with farmers like Rath Morn and his wife Jhonh Nham on a multipronged approach to the challenges of climate change, including establishing fishponds that can help provide water for gardens like these.*

[ClimateActionForPeace.com](https://ClimateActionForPeace.com)



2. [data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.GHGT.KT.CE?most\\_recent\\_value\\_desc=true](https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.GHGT.KT.CE?most_recent_value_desc=true)

3. [ourworldindata.org/co2-emissions](https://ourworldindata.org/co2-emissions).

4. [data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.PC?most\\_recent\\_value\\_desc=true](https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.PC?most_recent_value_desc=true)