Blueprint for American Prosperity
Unleashing the Potential of a Metropolitan Nation

Per Capita Carbon Footprints

This table ranks the 100 largest U.S. metropolitan areas based on their per-capita carbon emissions in 2005. To read more on metropolitan areas' performance on key indicators of productive, inclusive, and sustainable growth, please see the recent Brookings report, "MetroPolicy: Shaping a New Federal Partnership for a Metropolitan Nation," available at www.blueprintprosperity.org.

Metro	Metric tons of carbon emissions per capita, 2005	Rank
Honolulu, HI	1.356	1
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, CA	1.413	2
Portland-Vancouver-Beaverton, OR-WA	1.446	3
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-PA	1.495	4
Boise City-Nampa, ID	1.507	5
Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA	1.556	6
San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA	1.573	7
San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, CA	1.585	8
El Paso, TX	1.613	9
San Diego-Carlsbad-San Marcos, CA	1.630	10
Oxnard-Thousand Oaks-Ventura, CA	1.754	11
Sacramento--Arden-Arcade--Roseville, CA	1.768	12
Greenville, SC	1.859	13
Rochester, NY	1.908	14
Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, IL-IN-WI	1.965	15
Buffalo-Niagara Falls, NY	1.995	16
Tucson, AZ	2.000	17
Las Vegas-Paradise, NV	2.013	18
Stockton, CA	2.016	19
Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, MA-NH	2.024	20
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	2.072	21
Fresno, CA	2.076	22
Lancaster, PA	2.091	23
New Haven-Milford, CT	2.097	24
Poughkeepsie-Newburgh-Middletown, NY	2.133	25
Colorado Springs, CO	2.134	26
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2.137	27
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Miami Beach, FL	2.156	28
New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner, LA	2.162	29
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk, CT	2.181	30
Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor, OH	2.235	31
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA	2.257	32
San Antonio, TX	2.270	33
Pittsburgh, PA	2.276	34
Houston-Baytown-Sugar Land, TX	2.292	35
Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA-NC	2.340	36
Detroit-Warren-Livonia, MI	2.350	37
Albuquerque, NM	2.355	38
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, PA-NJ	2.364	39
Providence-New Bedford-Fall River, RI-MA	2.368	40
Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford, CT	2.381	41
Denver-Aurora, CO	2.392	42
Charleston-North Charleston, SC	2.429	43
Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, WI	2.436	44
Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI	2.440	45
Springfield, MA	2.446	46
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL	2.499	47
Baton Rouge, LA	2.511	48

Metro	Metric tons of carbon emissions per capita, 2005	Rank
Worcester, MA	2.517	49
Salt Lake City, UT	2.522	50
Albany-Schenectady-Troy, NY	2.524	51
Columbia, SC	2.534	52
Bakersfield, CA	2.540	53
Orlando, FL	2.551	54
Austin-Round Rock, TX	2.567	55
Greensboro-High Point, NC	2.576	56
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX	2.582	57
Portland-South Portland-Biddeford, ME	2.599	58
Palm Bay-Melbourne-Titusville, FL	2.604	59
Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI	2.609	60
Durham, NC	2.610	61
Akron, OH	2.637	62
Scranton--Wilkes-Barre, PA	2.660	63
Trenton-Ewing, NJ	2.660	64
Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE-IA	2.676	65
Wichita, KS	2.681	66
Syracuse, NY	2.682	67
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA	2.682	68
Baltimore-Towson, MD	2.714	69
Cape Coral-Fort Myers, FL	2.739	70
Lansing-East Lansing, MI	2.754	71
Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord, NC-SC	2.757	72
Youngstown-Warren-Boardman, OH-PA	2.758	73
Des Moines, IA	2.765	74
Dayton, OH	2.769	75
Raleigh-Cary, NC	2.795	76
Memphis, TN-MS-AR	2.870	77
Augusta-Richmond County, GA-SC	2.885	78
Birmingham-Hoover, AL	2.901	79
Jacksonville, FL	2.905	80
Madison, WI	2.914	81
Sarasota-Bradenton-Venice, FL	2.914	82
Columbus, OH	2.952	83
Kansas City, MO-KS	2.969	84
Little Rock-North Little Rock, AR	3.009	85
Richmond, VA	3.039	86
Jackson, MS	3.063	87
Chattanooga, TN-GA	3.110	88
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV	3.115	89
Tulsa, OK	3.124	90
Knoxville, TN	3.134	91
Harrisburg-Carlisle, PA	3.190	92
Oklahoma City, OK	3.204	93
St. Louis, MO-IL	3.217	94
Nashville-Davidson--Murfreesboro, TN	3.222	95
Louisville, KY-IN	3.233	96
Toledo, OH	3.240	97
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN	3.281	98
Indianapolis, IN	3.364	99
Lexington-Fayette, KY	3.455	100
100-metro average	2.235	
United States	2.602	

These figures report the per-capita carbon emissions from passenger and freight transportation and from residential energy consumption—sources of roughly half of all national emissions. Excluded are emissions from commercial buildings, industry, and other modes of transportation such as planes, transit, and trains.

Source: Marilyn Brown, Frank Southworth, and Andrea Sarzynski, "Shrinking the Carbon Footprint of Metropolitan America" (Washington: Brookings Institution, 2008). Available at www.blueprintprosperity.org