



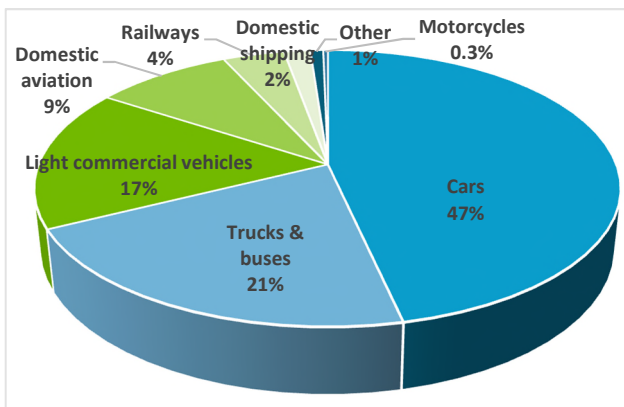
Transport

Transport was responsible for 18% of Australia’s greenhouse gas emissions in 2020.

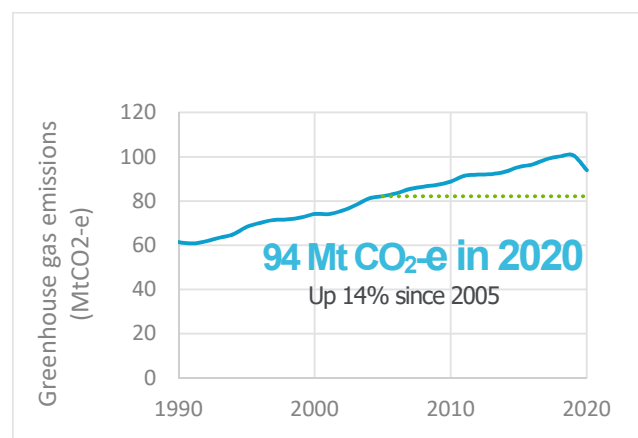
Transport emissions have been rising every year in Australia since 1990 with the exception of 2020, which saw a temporary drop due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Road transport accounted for around 85% of transport emissions (or about 16% of Australia’s total emissions) in 2018.

Rail transports half of Australia’s freight, but produces only 4% of transport emissions.



Australia’s transport emissions



Electric vehicles and emissions

The adoption of electric vehicles can reduce emissions.

Electric vehicles are 3–5 times more efficient than petrol cars, and can be powered by renewable electricity.

Even using grid electricity, electric vehicles lead to less CO₂ emissions than equivalent petrol cars.



We can reduce transport emissions by:

- Reducing the need for transport.
- Switching to a lower-emissions mode of transport, like public transport, walking or cycling.
- Adopting new vehicle technologies, such as electric vehicles.
- Switching to lower-emissions fuels, like biodiesel or ethanol.

Government policies

The Government has announced the development of a Future Fuels Strategy to encourage new forms of low emissions transport including hydrogen, electric, and bio-fueled vehicles backed by a \$74.5 million Future Fuels Package and a \$24.5 million Freight Energy Productivity Program.

See our report [Prospering in a low-emissions world](#).