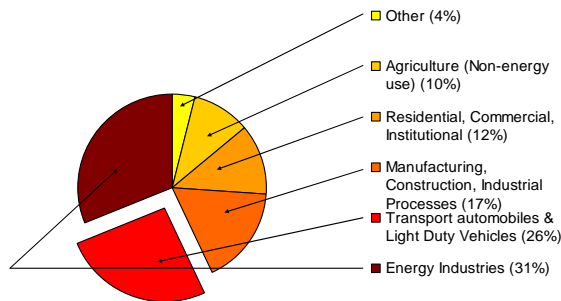


**CLIMATE CHANGE:**  
**Did you know how much your driving habits may contribute to it, and what you can do about that?**

Planet earth appears to be getting warmer: several of the highest average temperature years on record have occurred since 1980. Many scientists believe that **Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)** from human activities may be an important factor. As GHGs build up in the atmosphere, they trap heat causing global temperatures to rise.

**Canada's GHG Emissions by Economic Area 1996**



Source: CAA & NRCAN

**Some possible Climate Change Impacts:**

**Animals:** lower weight / birth rate in polar bears attributed to earlier spring ice breakup.



**Temperatures:** Edmonton; -- warmest summer on record, 1998. Temperatures more than 3°C above the 116-year average.



**Drought/Fires:** Mexico: Worst fire season recorded, 1998. 1.25 million acres burned during severe drought. Smoke reaching Texas triggered statewide health alert.

Source: <http://www.climatehotmap.org>

**Transportation** in Canada causes **26% of our nation's GHG emissions**. And don't just blame those big trucks! Passenger vehicles alone contribute **12% of GHGs**.

**Your personal driving and vehicle maintenance habits may be part of the problem, but you also have the power to make big improvements!**

By changing the way you drive and maintain your vehicle you can reduce GHG emissions and also **save yourself a lot of money!**

- **Avoiding fast starts & hard braking** can lower fuel consumption by up to **40%**
- **Don't Speed** – increasing your speed from **90 to 120 km/hr** can increase your fuel consumption by up to **20%**
- **Proper Tire Inflation** – will reduce rolling resistance, thereby **improving fuel efficiency** by up to **5%**
- **Keep in Tune** -- poorly tuned engines use up to **50% more fuel** and cause up to **50% more emissions**



- **Change your air filter regularly** – this will improve mileage by up to **10%**

**Other ideas:**

- **Carpool; never idle your engine without a good reason; purchase a smaller, more fuel-efficient vehicle; walk; bike; plan trips to avoid unnecessary driving.**

For more information on how you can reduce GHG emissions by changing your driving habits, check out:



- [www.climatechange.gc.ca](http://www.climatechange.gc.ca)
- [www.ec.gc.ca/climate/home-e.html](http://www.ec.gc.ca/climate/home-e.html)
- [www.oeenrcan.gc.ca/english/programs/index.cfm](http://www.oeenrcan.gc.ca/english/programs/index.cfm)
- [www.tc.gc.ca/programs/environment/menu.htm](http://www.tc.gc.ca/programs/environment/menu.htm)
- [www.caa.ca](http://www.caa.ca);