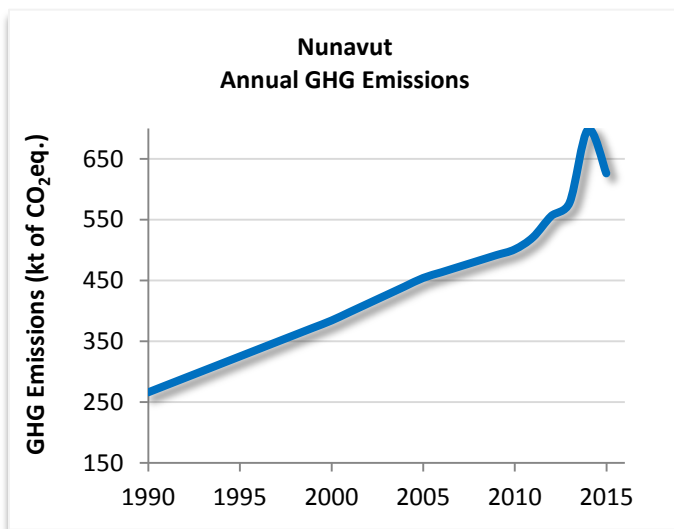


One Million Climate Jobs Challenge for Canada: Lowering Emissions and Creating Jobs in Nunavut

Environmental changes are already impacting Nunavut's communities, the daily lives of Nunavummiut, and the continuation of traditional activities. These environmental changes include alterations in weather patterns and precipitation, as well as changes in ice conditions, permafrost, wildlife and vegetation. *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*, the system of Inuit traditional knowledge and societal values, is reinforcing and supporting scientific observations of these changes.

Targeted public investments in energy efficiency and building retrofits, renewable energy, and public and alternative transportation will reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and create jobs for Nunavummiut.



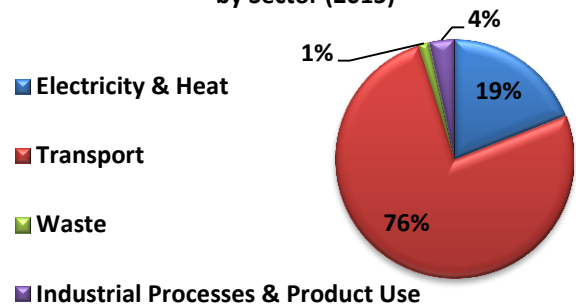
Emissions

- In 2011, the Government of Nunavut released *Upagiatqavut*, a climate change adaptation report and review of the impacts of climate change on the territory;
- Emissions have increased by 38% since 2005, and emissions have increased 135% since 1990;
- The Government of Nunavut Energy Strategy, *Ikummatiit*, emphasizes the importance of energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy, while also promising to create business and employment opportunities through these strategies; and
- Nunavut does not currently have any legislated GHG reduction targets.

Unemployment

In 2016, Nunavut had an annual average of 2,400 unemployed workers and a total average unemployment rate of 15%, the highest unemployment rate in Canada

GHG Emissions for Nunavut
by Sector (2015)



Energy Efficiency and Conservation

Energy security and the energy efficiency of buildings, particularly homes, is a concern in the territories. The quality of housing in the North is also a concern because incidences of non-compliance with building codes and standards pose a threat to human health and well-being. Additionally, in many areas in the North, housing has not been designed and constructed to suit northern realities and lifestyles and therefore may not accommodate the needs of Northerners or be suited for the northern environment.

There are major opportunities to create employment by investing in renovating existing housing stock for energy efficiency and conservation, as well as for adaptation to the changing climate. These investments will also decrease GHG emissions and lower utility costs in response to energy savings, freeing up capital and discretionary income. There are also opportunities to create jobs and reduce emissions in the construction of new homes and buildings.

Budget 2017 committed \$240 million to Nunavut over the next 11 years to support northern housing by helping territorial governments offset the higher cost of construction in the North. These investments could be an opportunity to dramatically increase the energy efficiency of new buildings, resulting in energy cost savings over time.

Nunavut Energy Management Plan:

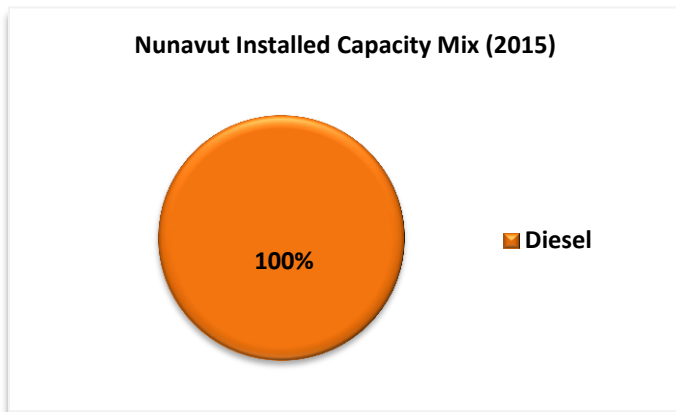
- Since 2008, the Nunavut Energy Management Plan (NEMP) has retrofitted 39 government-owned buildings in Iqaluit with energy efficient technologies such as LED lights, solar hot water heating, and solar wall air preheating. These retrofits are estimated to have reduced CO₂ emissions by 1,270 tonnes per year;
- The Government of Nunavut has committed to retrofit all public buildings, including schools and health centers, in every community;
- As required by the Nunavummi Nangminiaqtunik Ikajuuti (NNI) Policy, a minimum of 10% Inuit

One Million Climate Jobs Challenge for Canada: Lowering Emissions and Creating Jobs in Nunavut

Labour is required for all work performed as part of the project;

- NEMP prioritized local contracting; and
- The financing model used allows for the energy savings to pay for the construction cost of the project, meaning that no capital investment is required by the Government of Nunavut.

The Government of Nunavut currently has no incentives or programs in support of energy efficiency technology or retrofits for residential buildings. This is a major issue, as 29% of homes in Nunavut were built before 1980 and nearly 57% of homes require energy efficiency retrofits.



Renewable Energy

The 2017 Federal Budget committed \$641.4 million to reduce reliance on diesel for rural, remote, northern, and Indigenous communities. This total includes \$400 million in an Arctic Energy Fund to address energy security for communities north of the 60th parallel, including Indigenous communities, and \$21.4 million to Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada to continue the Northern Responsible Energy Approach for Community Heat and Electricity Program to reduce reliance on diesel and support the deployment of renewable energy projects. In combination with the right policies, these investments could offer an enormous opportunity for skills development, training, and local jobs.

Nunavut is the only province or territory that has no primary energy production and relies exclusively on imported fossil fuels for its energy needs.

WWF-Canada commissioned the Waterloo Institute for Sustainable Energy (WISE) to perform in-depth feasibility analyses on the costs and economic benefits of renewable energy in Nunavut over a 20-year simulation period. The researchers studied five Nunavut communities: Arviat, Baker Lake (Qamani'tuaq), Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet (Kangiqliniq) and Sanikiluaq. The simulation results from the study indicated that the use of renewable-energy diesel-hybrid systems was feasible in all communities. Depending on the community, GHG

reductions of between 26% and 75% could be achieved, with energy cost savings between \$9 million and \$30 million per community over the 20-year simulation period. These savings could be directed towards other important policy areas such as housing, health, and education.

Communities may choose to implement renewable energy systems to reduce the impact on the environment, but there are also economic incentives. Over time, renewable energy will help communities be sustainable economically, including creating local jobs and reducing energy costs. The Government of Nunavut has also recently introduced a new net metering program, which will come into effect in the spring of 2017. Nunavummiut will receive a credit on their energy bill for excess power that they generate from renewable energy sources.

Public and Alternative Transit

Nunavut does not currently have a public transportation system, but the City of Iqaluit did have public bus service from July 2003 to January 2005, following the Arctic Winter Games and the municipality previously ran a small bus system in 1980.

Creative solutions are also present in small communities. In Rankin Inlet (Kangiqliniq), the Pulaarvik Kablu Friendship Centre used to operate an Elders' Van to provide transportation to medical appointments, the store, to visit friends, or to church. The van provided free transportation throughout the week and on Sunday mornings, but is unfortunately no longer running due to lack of funding.

Investments in public and alternative modes of transportation can ensure more equitable access to health services, education, recreation, and employment, including the employment opportunities that are created through the creation and expansion of transit services.

Building a More Equitable and Sustainable Future

The environmental changes and impacts we are already seeing today are projected to continue into the future. We need a collaborative and comprehensive approach to reduce GHG emissions and ensure that we are fostering resilient communities. We must also strive to reduce poverty and inequality through public investments to mitigate and adapt to climate change in Nunavut.

The incidence of poverty is higher in the North, where the divide between low-income households and top earners is more pronounced in the territories than in the provinces. Investments in energy efficiency and conservation, renewable energy and public and alternative transit can help to alleviate poverty and inequality, while also creating employment and lowering GHG emissions. Let's work together to put this plan for Nunavut into action, create decent jobs, and build a better future.