



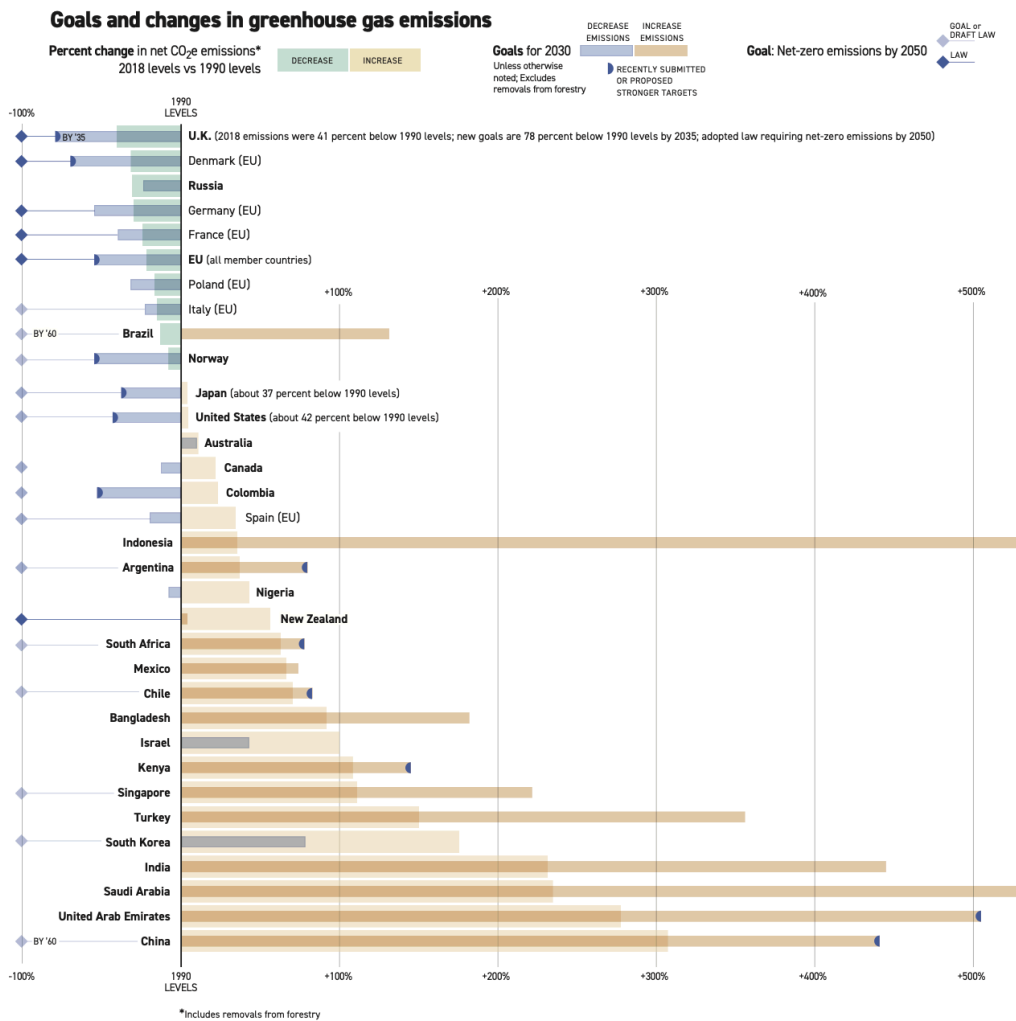
April 22, 2021

Europe continues to lead on curbing greenhouse gas emissions

EU representatives are participating in the White House-sponsored Leaders Summit on Climate the day after EU enshrined into law the target of net-zero emissions by 2050. The Biden administration — playing catch-up after four years of previous administration efforts to roll back emissions regulations and enforcement — announced an ambitious new pledge: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions 50-52 percent below 2005 levels by 2030. That's a much more ambitious target than the Obama administration's 26-28 percent reduction below 2005 levels by 2030, and more in line with the goals of EU, which has already significantly reduced emissions below 1990 levels. U.K. has made a fresh pledge to cut emissions 78 percent below 1990 levels by 2035. Japan announced a new target the day of the summit: a 46 percent reduction of emissions by 2030 compared with 2013 levels.

Several summit participants want to relax efforts to curb emissions, including Brazil, which recently submitted a proposal that removes all references to forest restoration or halting deforestation. Russia, Australia and Indonesia have failed to strengthen their targets and have been strongly supporting fossil fuel development. Turkey remains heavily dependent on coal, even though renewables are less costly.

Developing countries, such as China — also heavily dependent on coal — and India, foresee curbing emissions in the near future as they gradually wean their economies off fossil fuels.



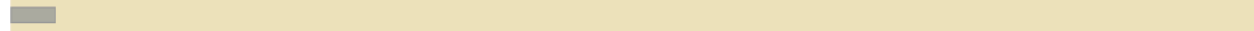


Vietnam: Off the charts

Rapid industrialization in the country increased emissions more than 300-fold.

2018 emissions were more than 31,000 percent above 1990 levels; Vietnam's target for 2030: 1,142 percent above 1990 levels

Vietnam

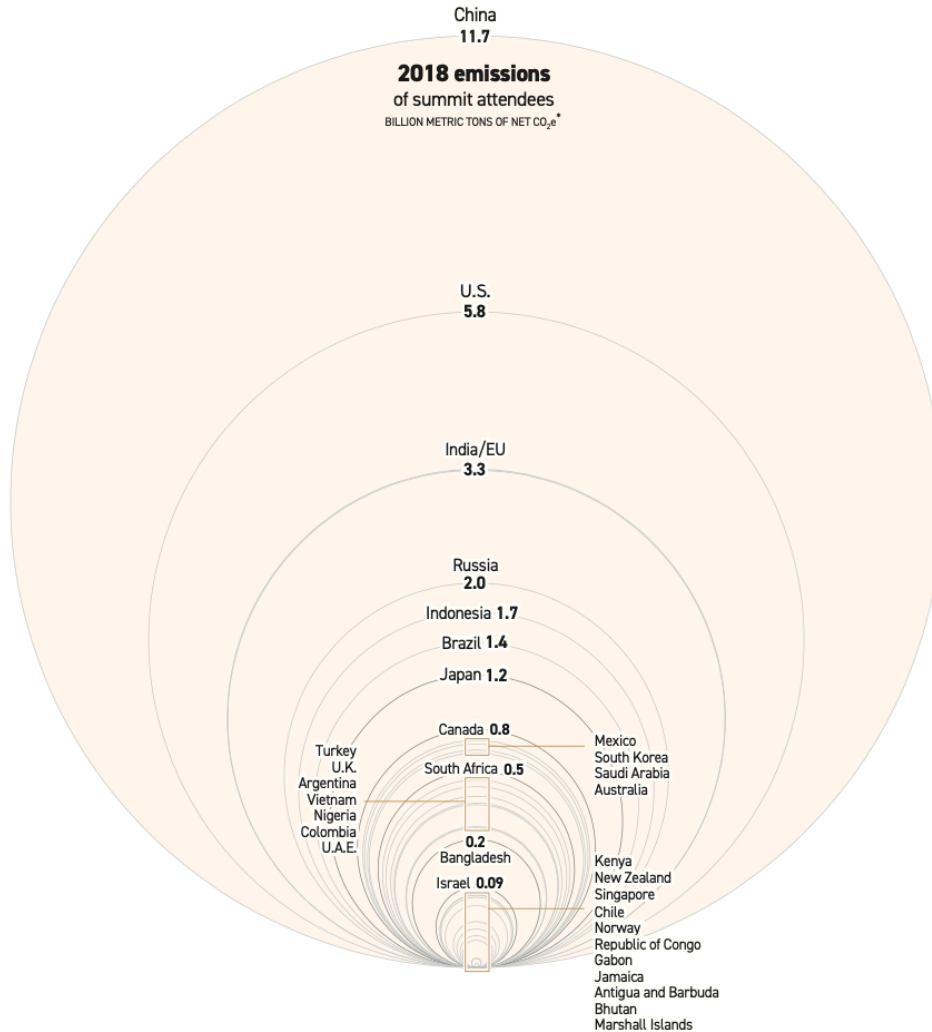


China

Emissions rose 307 percent above 1990 levels; target for 2030: 441 percent above 1990 levels

Small emitters

Also attending the summit, Jamaica, Gabon, Republic of Congo, Antigua and Barbuda, Bhutan and the Marshall Islands all emitted less than 25 million tons of CO₂e in 2018.



Sources: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, World Resources Institute, Climate Action Tracker project, European Commission, Reuters, France 24, Climate Analytics, Energy Monitor, Climate & Clean Air Coalition, World Bank, Climate Change News