

Carbon Footprint Calculations for a CEO of a Large-Sized Firm Living in the USA

The average annual energy related carbon footprint for a CEO of large-sized American firm living in the US is **85.2 metric tons of carbon dioxide** (tCO_2e) according to the latest information from the U.S. Department of Energy.ⁱ A large firm's CEO earns more and travels far more than the average American. General assumptions include:

- Per capita emissions are the total U.S. emissions divided by the U.S. population, and adjusted to be greater than average for a CEO.ⁱⁱ
- The average electricity-related emissions are 31.1% from coal, 41.9% from petroleum, and 26.7% from natural gas, emitting 0.59 kg CO₂e per kWh.ⁱⁱⁱ
- 740 million passenger trips on airlines crossed 72.8 billion miles on commercial airlines.^{iv} A large firm CEO travel CEO travels 100,000 miles by air, including 50% travel by private jet, which increases air emissions by seven times per mile over first class commercial air travel.^v
- A large firm's CEO owns a car and travels 20,000 miles annually^{vi} averaging 23.4 miles per gallon.^{vii} They also have emissions associated with boating and other direct emissions.
- Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions are categorized as Scope 1, 2 or 3:

Scope 1 CO₂ Emissions – Space Heating, Hot Water Heating, Cooking

Scope 1 emissions are all direct GHG emissions. A household may combust fuel on site for cooking and space and/or water heating. Cooking and heating make up 34.6% of an average American household's energy use. Because cooking, space and water heating energy services are also done with electricity, the carbon footprint from stationary sources can vary by household.

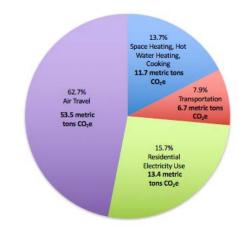
Scope 1 Emissions – Transportation

Mobile combustion sources include fuel consumed by 20,000 miles of travel via an automobile averaging 23.4 miles per gallon, operated by the household.

Scope 2 Emissions – Electricity Consumption

Scope 2 emissions are all indirect GHG emissions from the consumption of purchased electricity, heat, or steam. The American household consumes 11,320 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity.^{viii} The precise mix of electricity varies by region. On average the emissions are 0.59 kg CO₂e per kWh of

5. The average home in the U.S is 1,850 square feet. Large firm CEOs live in homes that are twice as large and consume twice as much electricity.



U.S. Large Firm CEO Carbon Footprint

6.7 tCO₂e

11.7 tCO2e

13.4 tCO2e



electricity. The electricity consumed by a mid-sized firm's CEO is assumed to be 50% higher than average.

Scope 3 Emissions – Air Travel

53.5 tCO2e

Scope 3 emissions include those associated with CEO traveling 100,000 miles 50% by first class airliner and 50% by private jet.

Endnotes

ⁱ Energy Information Agency. 2017. Energy-Related Carbon Dioxide Emissions at the State Level, 2000-2014. January 2017, U.S. Department of Energy.

ⁱⁱ Geography can vary the carbon footprint because of the different mixes of electricity, heating fuels and demand, and transportation patterns.

ⁱⁱⁱ Energy Information Agency. 2017. Energy-Related Carbon Dioxide Emissions at the State Level, 2000-2014. January 2017, U.S. Department of Energy. June 2015.

^{iv} U.S. Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Office of Airline Information, T-100 Market Data, available at <u>www.transtats.bts.gov</u>

^v Greenhouse gas Emissions factor data comes from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Center for Corporate Climate Leadership. EPA uses three categories of air travel—short (<300 miles), medium (>300 miles, < 2,300 miles), and long haul (>2,300 miles). EPA estimates emissions factors for CO₂, CH₄, and N₂O per passengermile. For short haul the emissions factors are 0.251 kg CO₂/passenger-mile, 0.0039 kg C4₄/passenger-mile, 0.0083 kg N₂O/passenger-mile for short haul flights, 0.143 kg CO₂/passenger-mile, 0.0000 kg C4₄/passenger-mile, 0.0047 kg N₂O/passenger-mile for medium haul flights, and 0.167 kg CO₂/passenger-mile, 0.0006 kg C4₄/passenger-mile, 0.0056 kg N₂O/passenger-mile for long haul flights. The 100-year global warming potential of CH4 is 25 and N₂O is 298.

^{vi} Department of Energy. 2016. Average Annual Vehicle Miles Traveled by Major Vehicle Categories. Alternative Fuels Data Center.

^{vii} Department of Energy. 2016. Average Fuel Economy of Major Vehicle Categories. June 2015. Alternative Fuels Data Center.

^{viii} EIA. 2013. Heating and cooling no longer majority of U.S. home energy use. Residential Energy Consumption Survey, U.S. Department of Energy.