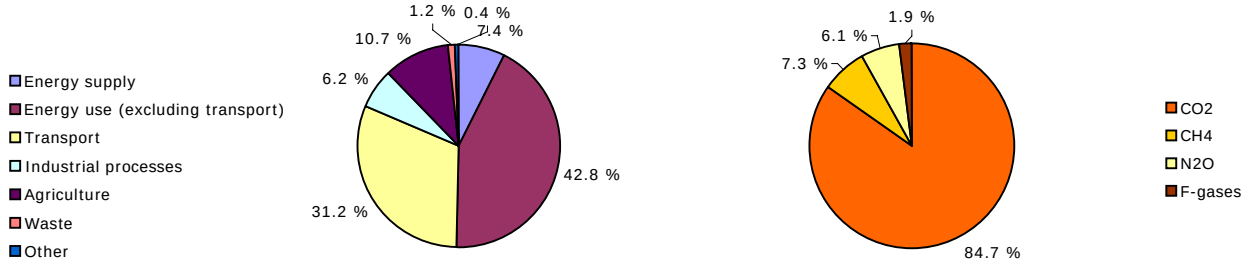
GHG trends and projections in Switzerland

European Environment Agency

Key GHG data [1]	1990	2007	2008	2009 [2]	Unit	Rank in EU-27 [3]	Rank in EU-15 [3]
Total greenhouse gas emissions (GHG)	53.0	51.6	53.2	52.0	Mt CO_2-eq.	n.a.	n.a.
GHG from international bunkers [4]	3.1	4.0	4.3	n.a.	Mt CO_2-eq.	n.a.	n.a.
GHG per capita	7.9	6.9	7.0	6.8	t CO_2-eq. / capita	n.a.	n.a.
GHG per GDP [5]	217	166	168	167	g CO_2-eq. / euro		

Share of GHG emissions (excluding international bunkers) by main source and by gas in 2008 [1],[8]



Key GHG trends	1990–2008		2007–2008		1990–2009 [2]		2008–2009 [2]	
	Mt CO_2-eq.	%	Mt CO_2-eq.	%	Mt CO_2-eq.	%	Mt CO_2-eq.	%
Total GHG	0.3	0.5 %	1.6	3.1 %	– 0.9	– 1.7 %	– 1.2	– 2.2 %
GHG per capita	– 0.9	– 11.7 %	0.1	2.0 %	– 1.2	– 14.8 %	– 0.3	– 2.2 %

Assessment of long-term GHG trend (1990–2008)

With about 95.1 % of electricity generated by hydroelectric and nuclear power plants in 2008, emissions from energy supply are relatively limited. Overall, energy-related emissions remained relatively constant. Emissions from transport increased in fairly strong correlation with economic development. CO2 emissions from the residential sector are strongly correlated with winter climatic conditions. Increases in the number of buildings and apartments and in the average floor space per person and workplace led to an increase in the total area heated, compensated by the specification of higher standards for insulation and for combustion equipment efficiency for both new and renovated buildings. Declining populations of cattle and swine and reduced fertilizer use have led to a decrease in emissions from agriculture until 2004. Since then, CH4 emissions slightly increased again due to higher livestock numbers, mainly cattle. Total emissions from waste management decreased steadily throughout the period 1990-2003. Since 2000, emissions have been reduced further by a ban on the disposal of combustible municipal solid wastes on landfills been banned. However this reduction was offset due to more municipal solid waste being incinerated

Assessment of short-term GHG trend (2007–2008)

Emissions increased in 2008, following an extraordinary decrease of emissions from households (energy use for heating) in 2007, which reflected the high prices for heating oil in 2007 and relatively milder winter that year. Transport emissions have continued their upward trend observed since 2002.

Source and additional information

Greenhouse gas emission data and EU ETS data www.eea.europa.eu/themes/climate/data-viewers

List and description of national policies and measures www.eea.europa.eu/themes/climate/pam

[1] Total greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), GHG per capita, GHG per GDP and shares of GHG do not include emissions and removals from LULUCF (carbon sinks) and emissions from international bunkers.

[2] Preliminary estimates reported by the country for total greenhouse gas emissions. EEA estimates in the case of EU-27, EU-15 and Slovakia.

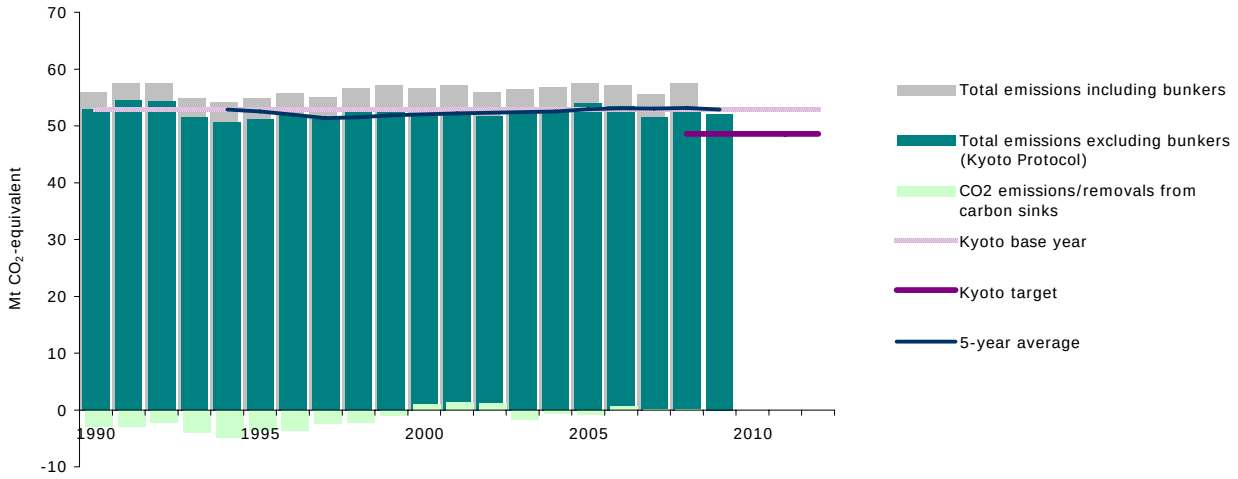
[3] Comparison of 2008 values, 1 = highest value among EU countries.

[4] International bunkers: international aviation and international maritime transport.

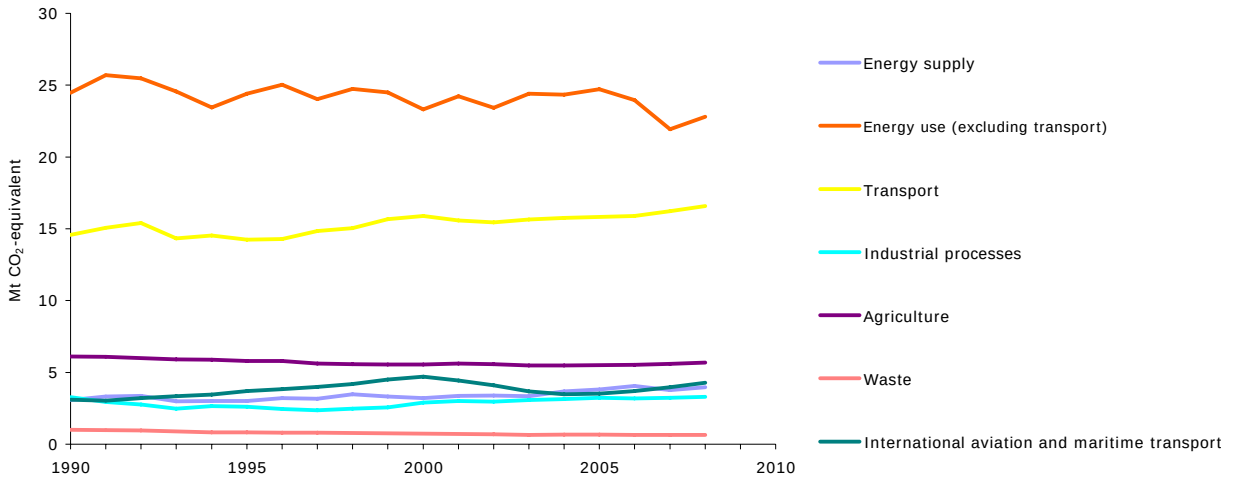
[5] GDP in constant 2000 prices - not suitable for a quantitative comparison between countries for the same year.

[8] LULUCF sector and emissions from international bunkers excluded. Due to independent rounding the sums do not necessarily add up.

GHG trends 1990–2009 - total emissions and removals



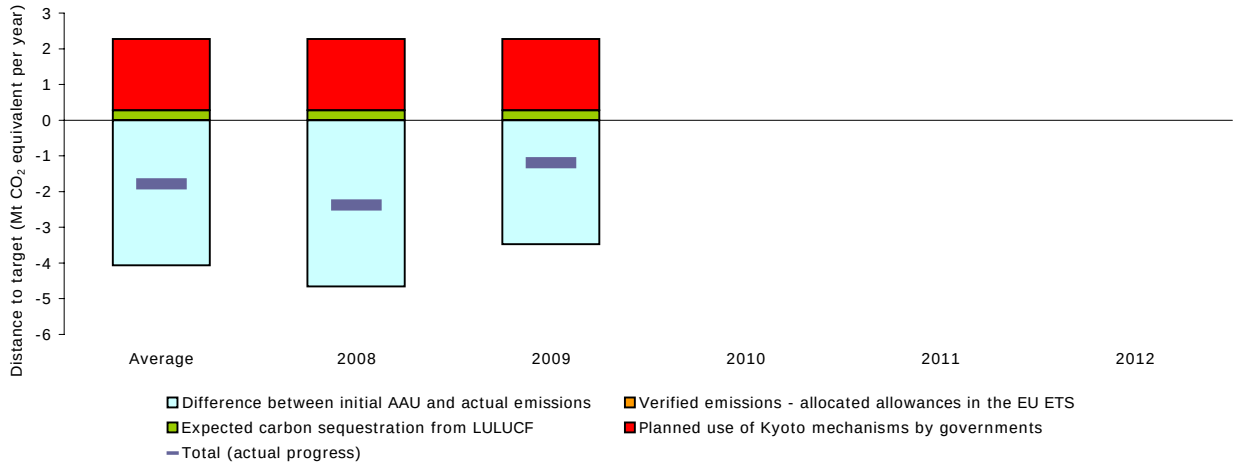
GHG trends 1990–2008 - emissions by sector



Note: updated sectoral projections, taking the effects of the economic crisis, will be presented in 2011

Progress towards Kyoto target

Average emissions in Switzerland in 2008–2009 were 0.3 % lower than the base-year level, significantly above the Kyoto target of -8 % for the period 2008–2012. LULUCF activities are expected to decrease net emissions by 0.5 % of base-year level emissions. Switzerland intends to acquire allowances corresponding to 3.8 % of base-year level emissions per year through the use of flexible mechanisms at government level. Taking all these effects in to account, emissions in Switzerland stand currently above their target level, by a gap representing 3.4 % of the base-year emissions. However, Switzerland estimates that further emission reductions over the period 2010-2012 will close the remaining gap.



Note: A positive value indicates emissions lower than the average target.