



Monday 25th November 2019

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Science & Environment

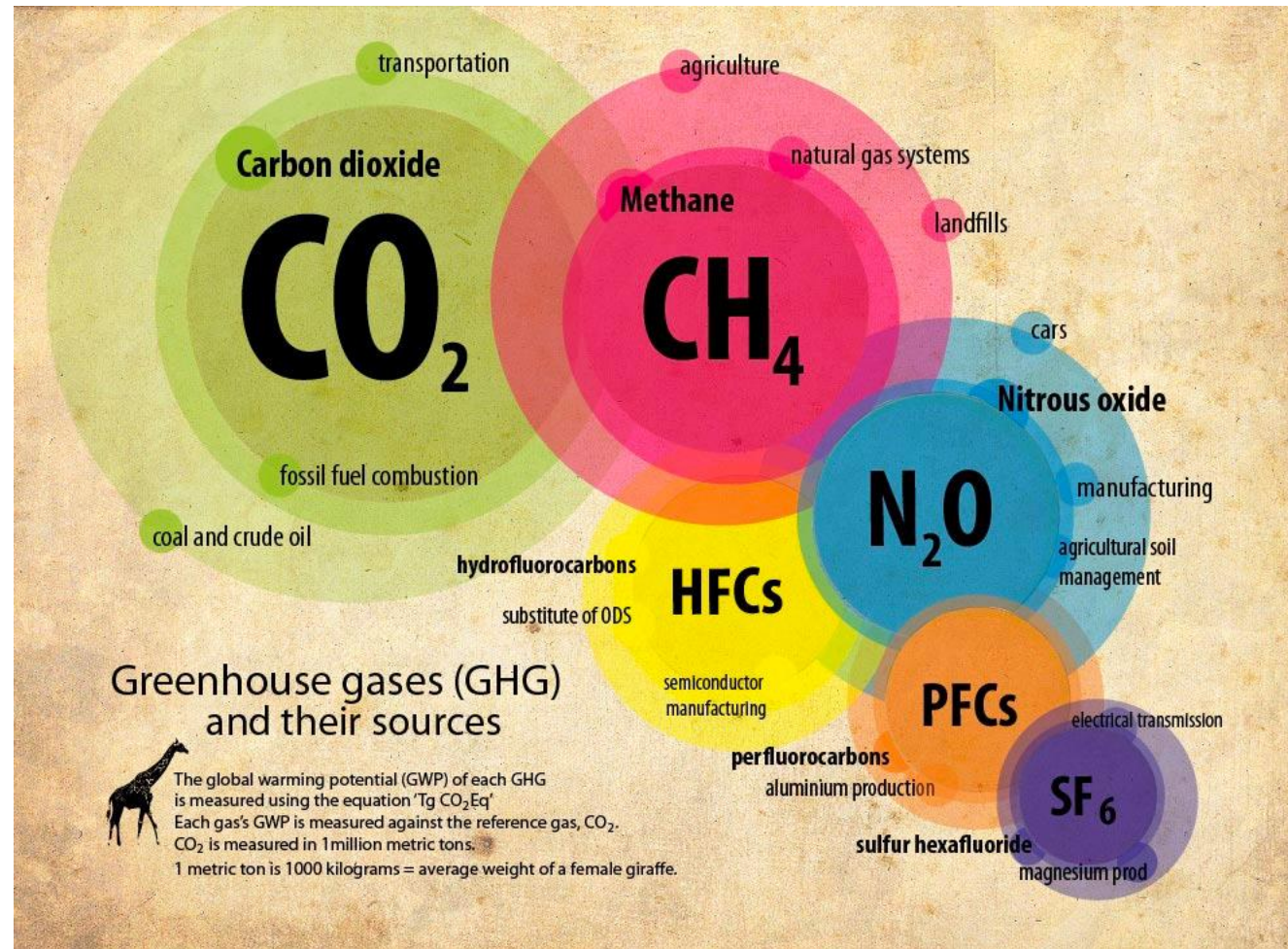
Climate change: Greenhouse gas concentrations again break records

By Matt McGrath
Environment correspondent

7 hours ago 1820

Climate change

GETTY IMAGES



Each greenhouse gas's (GHG) global warming potential (GWP) is measured against CO₂ as a reference gas

The Climate Change Act (2008) was introduced to ensure the UK cuts its carbon dioxide equivalent emissions by 80% by 2050 against a 1990 baseline

The interim targets for reductions in carbon dioxide equivalent emissions to meet the Climate Change Act are

- a 34% reduction by 2020
- a 50% reduction by 2025



Climate Change Act 2008



In 2008 the NHS contributed around 3% of England's total carbon dioxide emissions the equivalent of 18m tonnes of CO₂ per year, making it the largest public sector contributor to climate change.



The NHS, public health and social care system has set an ambitious goal to reduce carbon dioxide equivalent emissions across building energy use, travel and procurement of goods and services by 34% by 2020.

2009

**The
Guardian**

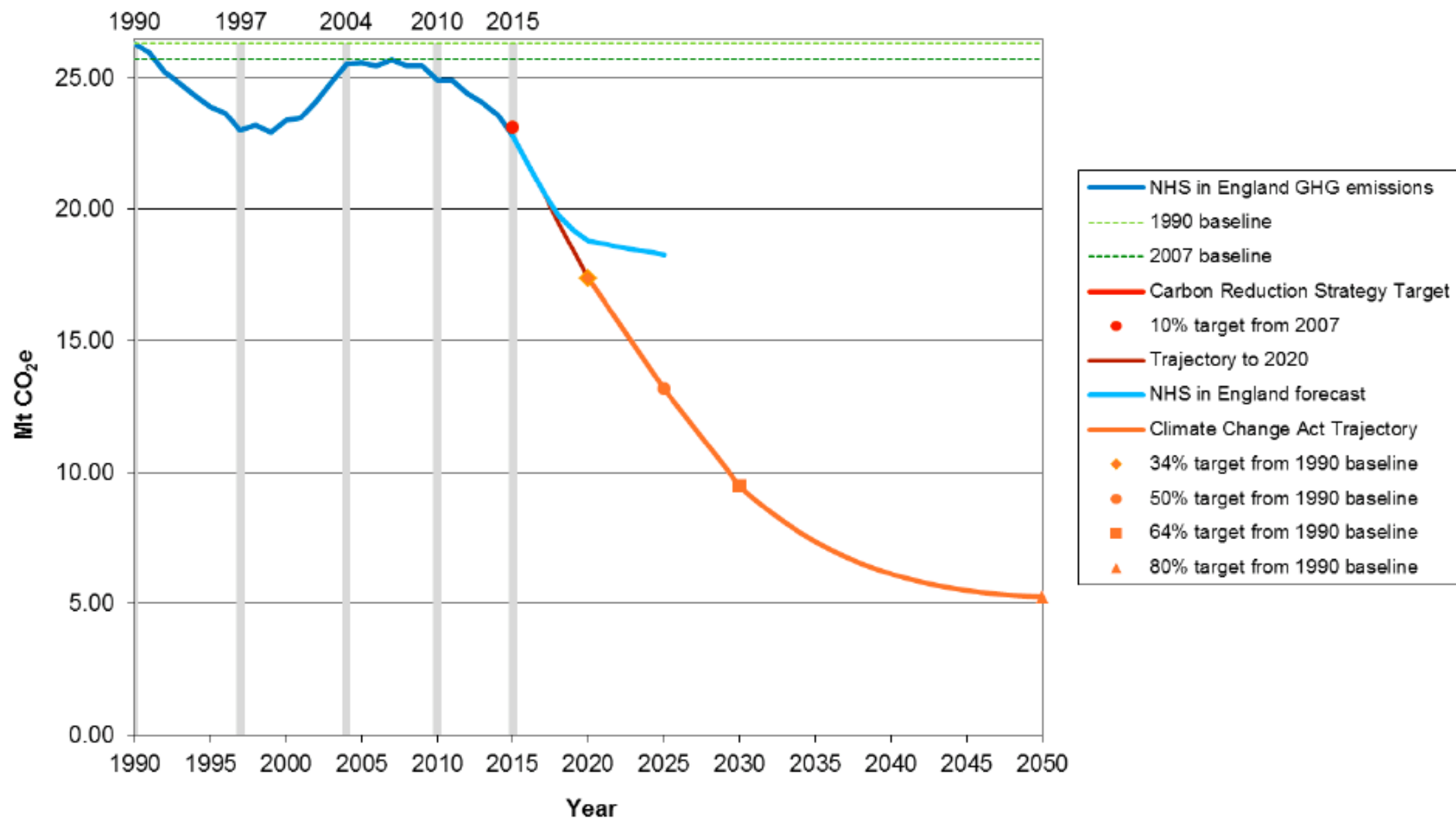
NHS leads world on strategy to cut carbon emissions

Carbon neutral hospitals, greener transportation of goods and services and meat-free menus praised in World Health Organisation report



NHS in England Carbon Footprint

CO₂e baseline to 2020 with Climate Change targets





NEWS

NHS to step up efforts to tackle “health emergency” of climate change

Gareth Iacobucci

“The climate emergency is a health emergency,” Stevens said. “We, the NHS, as the single biggest organisation across this country are both part of the solution and part of the problem. We are 40% of public sector emissions, and although we have reduced our carbon footprint by around a fifth over the past decade, we’ve got to make major changes if we’re going to help this country become carbon net neutral.”

Issue 303 - 21 November 2019

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CCG bulletin

NHS England and NHS Improvement



Action

Reducing single-use plastics in the NHS

Our Chief Nursing Officer Ruth May calls on organisations to sign up to the NHS Plastic Reduction Pledge.

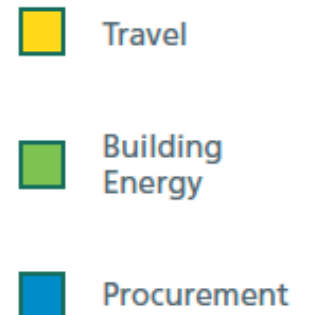
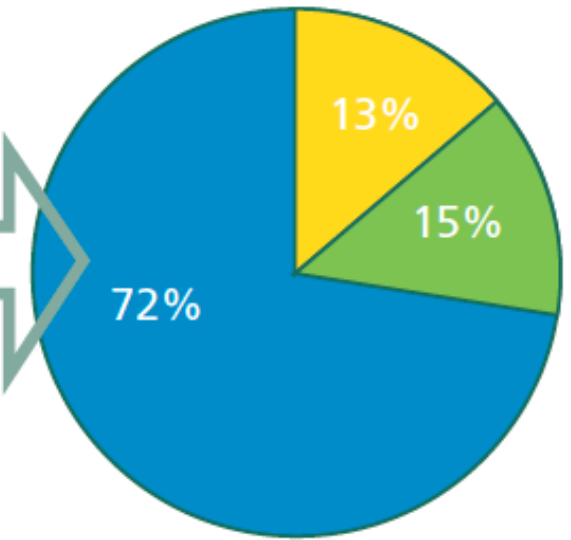
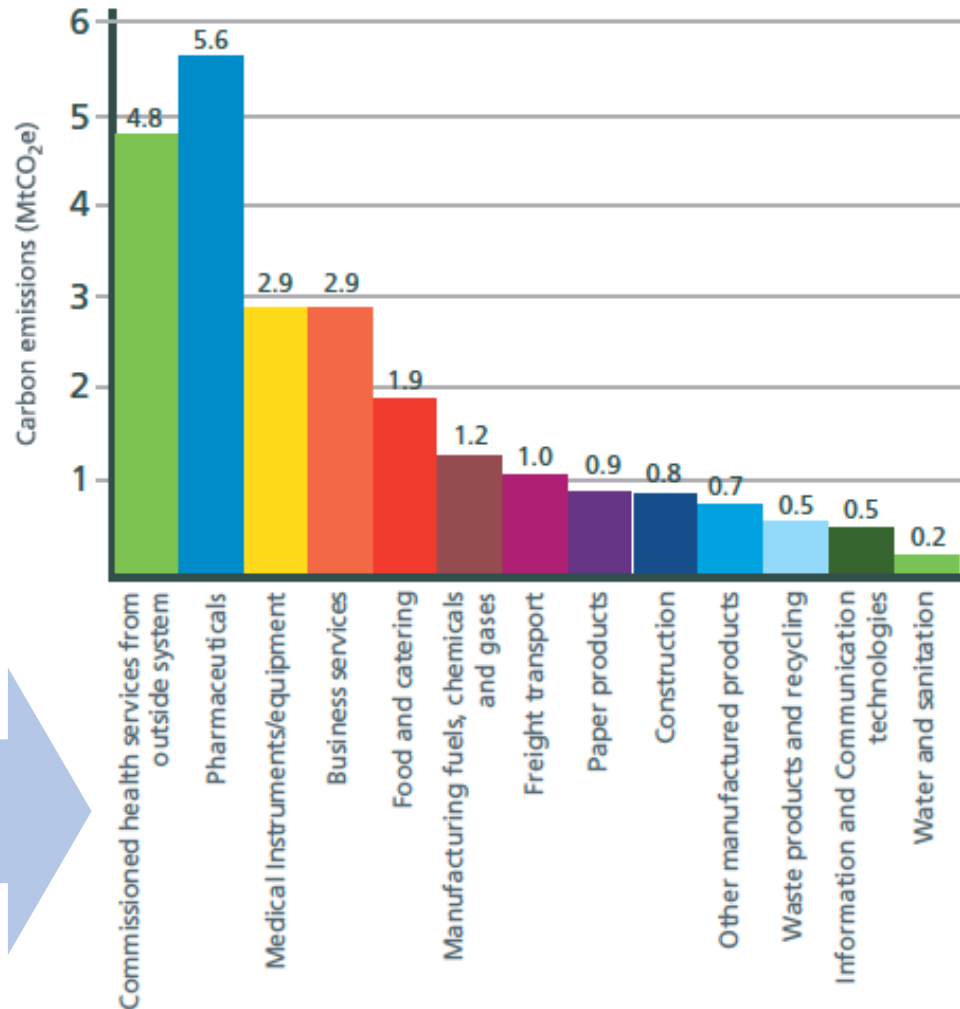
‘Across the NHS, nurses, midwives and other frontline staff are providing great leadership on environmental issues and championing sustainability where they work.’

‘Support from local NHS organisations to sign the pledge and cut use of catering plastics will need all NHS staff to take action in their own areas and encourage their employers to go further faster.’

The deadline to sign the pledge has been extended to Friday 20 December.

[Sign the pledge now.](#)

NHS, Public Health and Social Care carbon footprint breakdown of procurement 2012



Reducing the Carbon Footprint



Buildings

Electricity
Water
Heating



Pharmaceuticals

Inhalers
Anaesthetic gasses
Packaging



Waste



Travel



Food & Drink

Transport
Packaging



Freight Transport



Single use plastics

The NHS produces millions of tonnes of waste, and is responsible for 6.3% of England's total carbon emissions and 5% of travel in the UK;

What are the top 5 high impact changes that healthcare systems can make as a meaningful contribution towards mitigating climate change?