

Global Warming and the Transportation Sector

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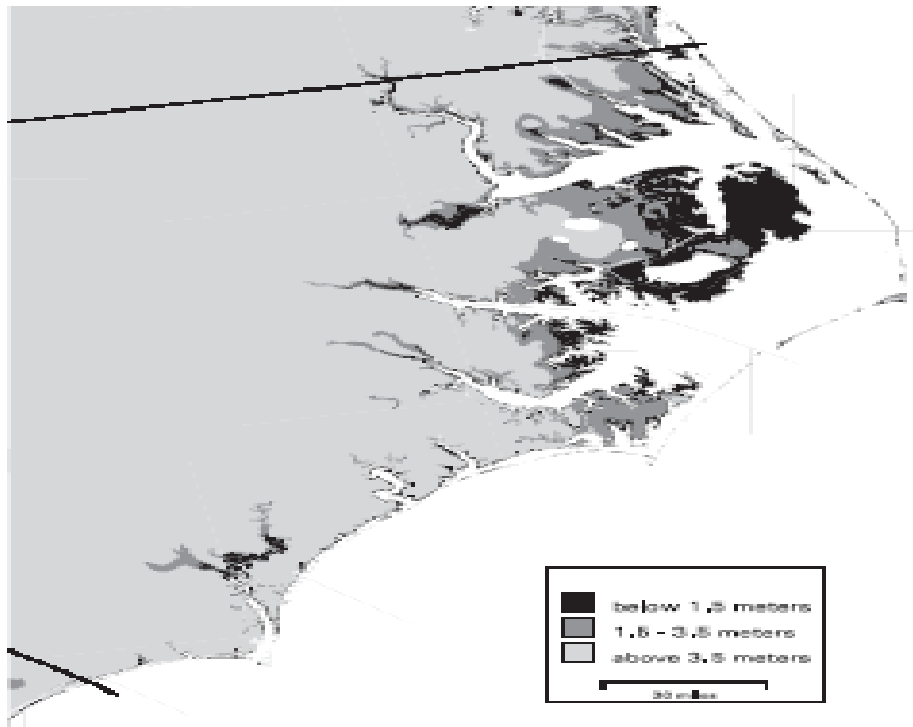


Environment North Carolina

- Statewide, citizen-funded environmental advocacy organization
- Part of nationwide network of state-based environment groups with offices in 27 states
- National advocacy in Washington, D.C.

What is at stake in North Carolina?

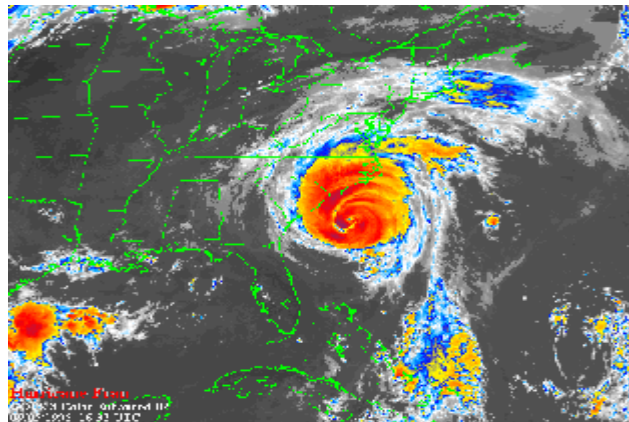
- With more than 3,000 miles of coastline, North Carolina is the nation's 3rd most vulnerable state to rising sea levels



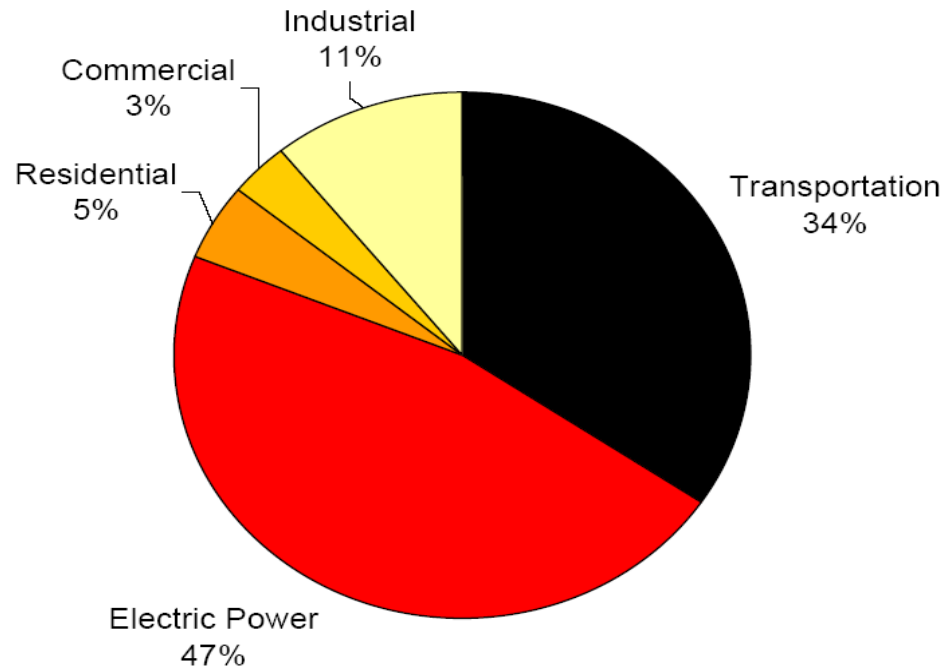
Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Policy, *Climate Change and North Carolina*, September 1998.

What else is at stake?

- Increased air pollution
- Longer periods of drought
- More intense storms
- Harm to agricultural and forest production



Sources of Global Warming Pollution in North Carolina

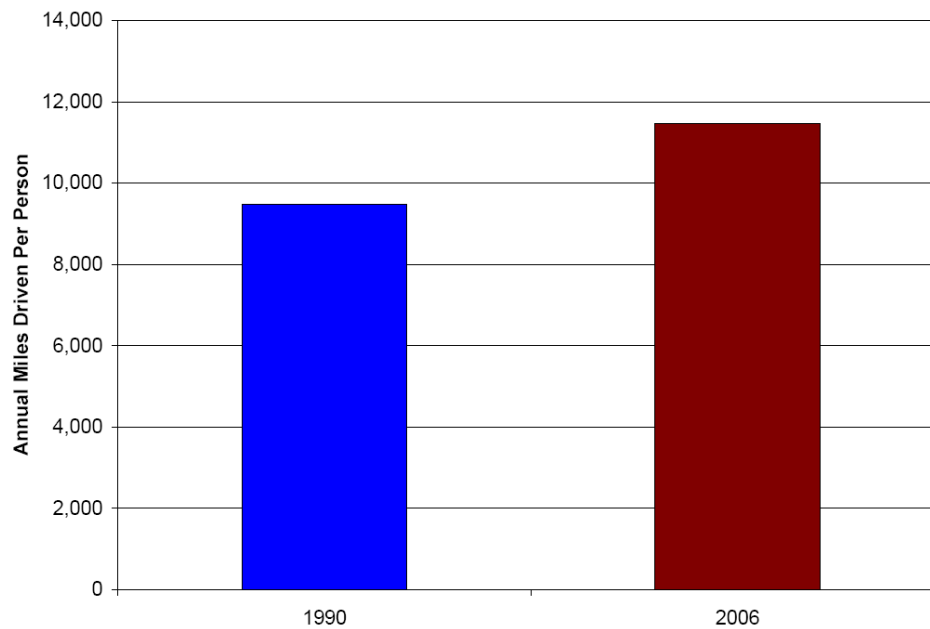


Source: U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, *State Carbon Dioxide Emissions: Emissions Detail by State*, February 2008 (2004 levels)

The Transportation Challenge

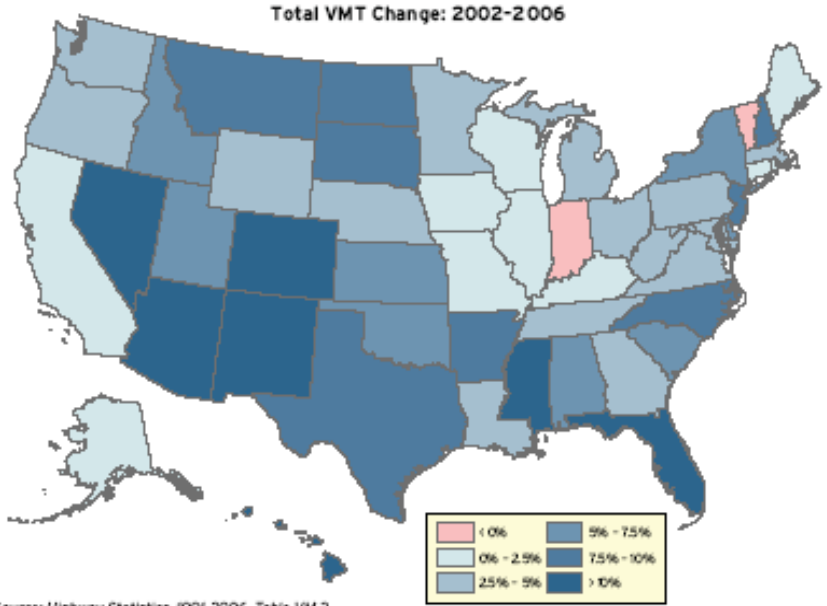
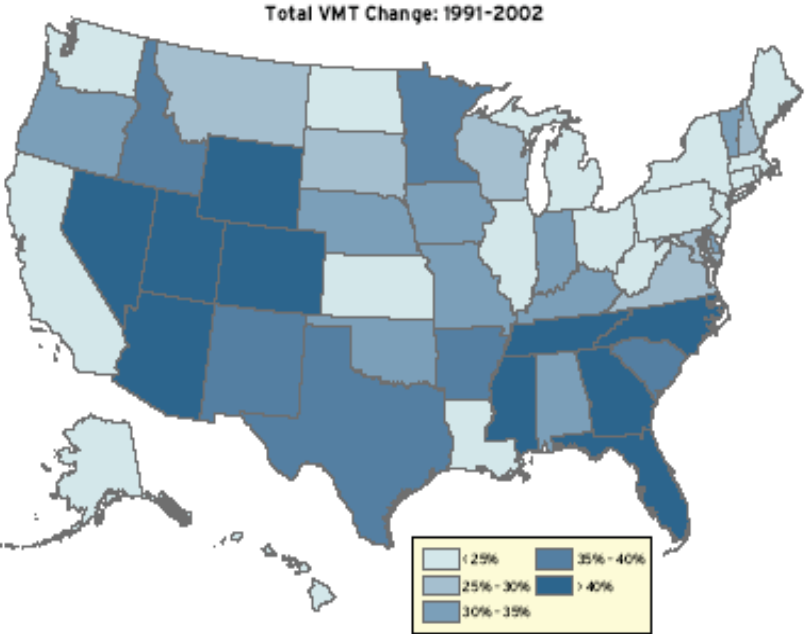
- Stagnant fuel economy standards
- Large number of light trucks and SUV's
- Increase in vehicle miles traveled

Increasing Vehicle Miles Traveled



Source: North Carolina Department of Transportation

North Carolina VMT's Compared to Other States



Source: Highway Statistics, 1991-2006, Table VM-2

Source: The Brookings Institute, *The Road...Less Traveled: An Analysis of Vehicle Miles Traveled in the U.S.*, December 2008.

Federal Action on Global Warming

House

- Rep. Henry Waxman, chair of the Energy and Commerce Committee has said he wants a comprehensive global warming bill out of his committee by the Memorial Day recess
- Rep. G.K. Butterfield sits on the Energy and Commerce Committee and is Vice-Chair of the Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment

Senate

- Sen. Reid has said he would like a bill to the floor by the end of the summer
- Likely to be less comprehensive than the House version
- Bill would move through the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

Science Based Cap and Trade

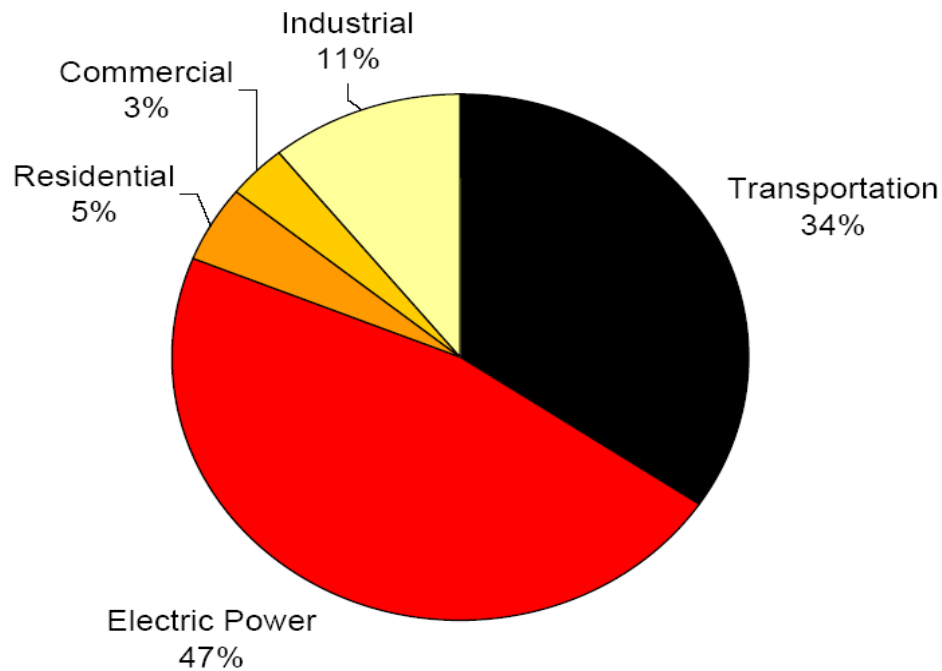
- A cap and trade program is a mandatory cap or limit on carbon dioxide that companies or sectors are allowed to emit.
- Caps should be set at levels consistent with what science says is necessary to avoid the worse effects of global warming—20-25% domestic reduction by 2020 and 80-90% by 2050
- 100% auction of emission credits

Transportation Challenges from Cap and Trade

- Inability to monitor at the source
- Elasticity of demand



Transportation sector reductions must be part of any global warming solution, whether or not they are required in the bill Congress considers this year



Complimentary Policies

- Low carbon fuel standard
- Public transit that reduces VMT'S



What the General Assembly is Considering on Transportation

- Clean Cars Program
- Energy-Efficient State Motor Vehicle Fleets
- Intermodal bill-H148, S151



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