

**STATE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INDICATORS COLLABORATIVE (SEHIC)
CLIMATE AND HEALTH INDICATORS**

Category: Policy Indicators

Indicator: Completion of a Greenhouse Gas Inventory

MEASURE DESCRIPTION

Last updated:	April 24, 2010
Measurement units:	Yes
Geographic scale:	State and Local
Time scale:	Periodic. At the time of creation of this How-To guide the state information was current as of August 2009, and the local information was current as of February 2010.
Significance/background:	A greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory provides a baseline of a state or locality's emission levels as well as an indication of their sources, whether anthropogenic or natural.
Rationale:	Tracking the trends of GHG inventories in a state provides a strong indication of how effective its mitigation policies have been at reducing GHG emissions. Its division into sectors, can help policymakers prioritize policies to target the largest emitters.
Limitations:	This indicator does not include the next level of detail, which would allow a researcher to compare state GHG inventories and local GHG inventories with each other.
Data resources:	EPA: http://www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/
Data limitations:	The data is provided in a text list. It does not compare attributes of the topics tasked of advisory boards, complicating comparisons across states.
Related SEHIC measures:	CC 1.1: Greenhouse Gas Emissions CC 3.1: Population Vulnerability or General Social Vulnerability CC 4.1: Total Energy Consumption per Capita CC 4.2: Renewable Energy Generation per Capita CC 4.3: Vehicle Miles Traveled per Capita CC 5.1: Development of State Adaptation Plan CC 5.4: Number of Municipal Heat Island Mitigation Projects and Plans CC 6.1. Number, Percent, and Percent of Population of Local Governments Participating in ICLEI CC 6.2 Number, Percent, and Percent of Population Living in Cities Participating in the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

	CC 6.3: Creation of a State Climate Change Advisory Board CC 6.5 Completion of a State/Local Climate Change Action Plan
Recommendations:	Visit the website for the GHG inventories in your state and compare the results over time to identify trends of successful reductions as well as areas that would benefit from additional action.

HOW-TO GUIDE: Completion of a Greenhouse Gas Inventory

State Inventories

1. Go to the U.S. EPA State and Local Climate and Energy Program website:
<http://www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/>
2. Under STATE, select “State & Regional Climate Policy Tracking.”
3. Under the “State Planning and Incentive Structures” subtitle, select “GHG Inventory”.
4. On the map on this website, on the map titled GHG Inventory, if your state is shaded green then it has completed a greenhouse gas inventory. At the time of creation of this How-To guide the information was current as of August 2009.

Local Inventories

5. Go to the U.S. EPA State and Local Climate and Energy Program website:
<http://www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/>
6. Select “Local.”
7. From “Local Government Activities” select “Developing a GHG Inventory”
8. Click on the map to see a list of states with examples of GHG inventories completed by local governments. Click the abbreviation for your state to view which localities in your state have completed a GHG inventory. This will allow you to view a synopsis of completed GHG Inventories and links to those plans’ websites, if applicable.