

CARBON DIOXIDE (CO₂) EMISSION INTENSITIES

2020



We're reducing carbon emissions from the electricity you use. For the second year in a row, we had our largest annual decline in carbon emissions in 2020 and cut emissions 51% from 2005 levels. We're over halfway to our vision of delivering 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050 and interim goal to reduce carbon emissions 80% by 2030 (from 2005 levels).

Carbon intensities also declined across the board from 2019 to 2020, as shown below.

To help you calculate the carbon emissions associated with your electricity use, we provide several options for CO₂ intensities to meet your needs.

1. The basic calculation: lbs/kWh x annual kWh = lbs of CO₂

REGION	2019*	2020*
	CO ₂ Intensity lbs/kWh	CO ₂ Intensity lbs/kWh
Colorado	1.124	1.045
Southwest (New Mexico, Texas)	1.080	0.983
Upper Midwest (Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin)	0.780	0.637

Intensities provided here are based on CO₂ emissions from all electric generation, including biomass and on-site, distributed solar.

2. Customers reporting emissions under The Climate Registry, World Resources Institute or ISO protocols should use the following emissions intensities for Scope 2 market-based reporting.

REGION	2019*		2020*	
	CO ₂ Intensity (mt/MWh)	CO ₂ Intensity (lbs/MWh)	CO ₂ Intensity (mt/MWh)	CO ₂ Intensity (lbs/MWh)
Colorado	0.509	1,122	0.474	1,045
Southwest (New Mexico, Texas)	0.490	1,080	0.446	983
Upper Midwest (Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin)	0.338	745	0.274	604

Per The Climate Registry's Electric Power Sector Protocol, intensities provided here exclude CO₂ from biomass generation. Option A biogenic metrics are available upon request.

3. For some customers, their greenhouse gas accounting calls for “residual mix” carbon emission intensities, which are provided below. These intensities use the same emission reporting data as the other intensities, but they exclude electricity associated with Renewable Energy Credits or RECs that we sold to the market, purchased, or retired on behalf of customers participating in Windsource® and Renewable*Connect®.

REGION	2019*		2020*	
	CO ₂ Intensity (mt/MWh)	CO ₂ Intensity (lbs/MWh)	CO ₂ Intensity (mt/MWh)	CO ₂ Intensity (lbs/MWh)
Colorado	0.552	1,217	0.509	1,122
Southwest (New Mexico, Texas)	0.500	1,102	0.456	1,005
Upper Midwest (Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin)	0.342	754	0.276	608

Residual mix intensities are calculated using The Climate Registry’s Electric Power Sector Protocol optional delivery metrics and exclude CO₂ from biomass generation.

About Xcel Energy’s Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reporting

For well over a decade, we have supported timely, transparent public reporting of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions. Our emissions reporting covers both the electricity we produce and purchase from third-party suppliers, providing a more complete accounting of our carbon footprint.

Our comprehensive reporting is based on The Climate Registry and its Electric Power Sector Protocol, which aligns with the World Resources Institute and ISO 14000 series standards. We joined The Climate Registry as a founding member in 2007 to help establish a consistent and transparent standard for calculating, verifying and reporting greenhouse gases.

For 14 years (2005 through 2018), we have third-party verified, registered and publicly disclosed our greenhouse gas emissions through The Climate Registry and are the only energy provider with this length of consecutive, verified reporting. Both our 2019 and 2020 reporting are undergoing verification now, which means carbon emission intensities provided in this information sheet are preliminary until the verification is complete in 2021.*



Xcel Energy has earned The Climate Registry’s top recognition for excellence in greenhouse gas reporting.

*We contracted with a new verifying agency in 2020, a change we’re periodically required to make. Because of this, we expect 2019 emissions to be third-party verified by mid-year 2021 and 2020 emissions to be third-party verified by the end of 2021.