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# Tauranga Community Carbon Footprint

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## Tauranga Community Carbon Footprint

#### Client: Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Co No.: N/A

Prepared by

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# **Quality Information**

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### **Executive Summary**

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions for the Tauranga District Territorial Area (that is covered by the Tauranga City Council) have been measured using the Global Protocol for Community Scale Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory (GPC) methodology. This approach includes emissions from Stationary Energy, Transport, Waste, Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU), Agriculture and Forestry sectors. This document reports greenhouse gas emissions produced in or resulting from activity or consumption within the geographic boundaries of the Tauranga District Territorial Area for the 2020/21 financial reporting year and examines greenhouse gas emissions produced from 2015/16 to 2020/21.

The Tauranga District Territorial Area is referred to hereafter as Tauranga for ease. Greenhouse gas emissions are generally reported in this document in units of Carbon Dioxide Equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>e) and are referred to as 'emissions'.

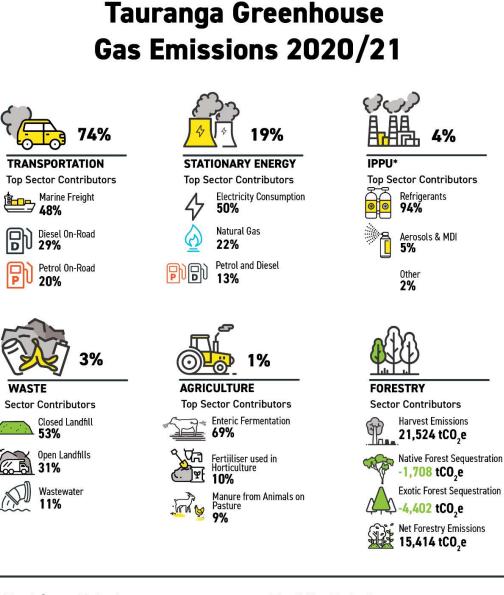
Major findings of the project include:

#### 2020/21 Emissions Footprint

- In the 2020/21 reporting year (1<sup>st</sup> July 2020 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021), total gross emissions in Tauranga were 1,345,115 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.
- Transport (e.g. emissions from road and air travel) is the largest source of emissions in Tauranga, representing 74% of total gross emissions, with petrol and diesel consumption accounting for 36% of Tauranga's total gross emissions and marine freight accounting for 35% of Tauranga's total gross emissions.
- Stationary Energy (e.g. consumption of electricity and natural gas) is the second highest emitting sector in the region, producing 19% of total gross emissions. Electricity consumption accounts for 10% of Tauranga's total gross emissions.
- After consideration of carbon sequestration (carbon captured and stored in plants or soil by forests) and harvesting emissions, total net emissions in Tauranga were 1,360,530 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. This is larger than total gross emissions because carbon sequestration (6,110 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) was less than emissions released following forest harvesting during this year (21,524 tCO<sub>2</sub>e).

#### Changes in Emissions, 2015/16 to 2020/21

- Between 2015/16 and 2020/21, total gross emissions in Tauranga increased from 1,096,155 tCO<sub>2</sub>e to 1,345,115 tCO<sub>2</sub>e, an increase of 23% (248,961 tCO<sub>2</sub>e).
- Over this time the population of the district increased by 22%, with per capita gross emissions in Tauranga remaining stable with a slight increase of 1% between 2015/16 and 2020/21, from 8.7 to 8.8 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per person per year.
- Transport emissions increased by 33% between 2015/16 and 2020/21 (245,775 tCO<sub>2</sub>e), driven by a 50% increase in marine freight emissions (157,853 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) and a 21% increase in on-road fuel emissions (74,671 tCO<sub>2</sub>e).
- Emissions from **Stationary Energy** increased by 32% between 2015/16 and 2020/21 (62,309 tCO<sub>2</sub>e), driven by a 51% increase in electricity consumption emissions (44,016 tCO<sub>2</sub>e). This increase in electricity consumption emissions was due to a 2% increase in electricity consumption coupled with a 48% increase in the emissions intensity of the national electricity grid (tCO<sub>2</sub>e/kWh).
- Emissions from Waste decreased by 67% between 2015/16 and 2020/21 (70,511 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) driven by improvements in landfill gas recovery at landfill sites.
- IPPU and Agriculture emissions increased between 2015/16 and 2020/21, by 26%, and 16% respectively (10,429 tCO<sub>2</sub>e and 958 tCO<sub>2</sub>e).
- **Forestry** emissions increased by 12,812 tCO<sub>2</sub>e between 2015/16 and 2020/21. This increase was predominantly due to an increase in total harvest emissions (estimated based on regional harvesting data and the age of commercial forests in Tauranga).

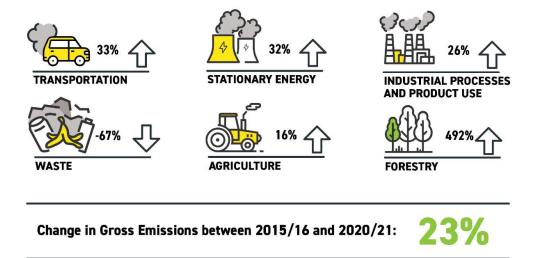


Total Gross Emissions (excluding Forestry): 1,345,115 tCO<sub>2</sub>e Total Net Emissions (including Forestry): 1,360,530 tCO<sub>2</sub>e

\*IPPU = Industrial Processes and Product Use

Figure 2: Change in Tauranga's Emissions Footprint between 2015/16 and 2020/21

# Tauranga Greenhouse Gas Emissions Percentage Changes between 2015/16 and 2020/21



### 1.0 Introduction

AECOM New Zealand Limited (AECOM) was commissioned by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council to assist in the development of community-scale greenhouse gas (GHG) footprints for Tauranga for the 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21 financial years. This is part of a wider study to develop community carbon footprints for each district within the Bay of Plenty region. As part of this work, AECOM recalculated emissions for the footprint year (2015/16) previously calculated by AECOM, using current best-practice methodology and additional emissions sources to enable direct comparison to the other reported years. Emissions are reported for the period from 1 July to 30 June for the respective years. The study boundary reported in the following pages incorporates the jurisdiction of the Tauranga District Council.

The Tauranga District Territorial Area is referred to hereafter as Tauranga for ease. Greenhouse gas emissions are generally reported in this document in units of Carbon Dioxide Equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>e) and are referred to as 'emissions'.

# 2.0 Approach and Limitations

The methodological approach used to calculate emissions follows the Global Protocol for Community Scale Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory v1.1 (GPC) published by the World Resources Institute (WRI) 2021. The GPC includes emissions from Stationary Energy, Transport, Waste, Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU), Agriculture, and Forestry activities within the district's boundary. The sector calculations for Agriculture, Forestry and Waste are based on Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) workbooks and guidance for emissions measurement. The sector calculators also use methods consistent with GHG Protocol standards published by the WRI for emissions measurement when needed.

The same methodology has been used for other community scale GHG footprints around New Zealand, (e.g. Wellington, Auckland, Christchurch, Dunedin and the Waikato region) and internationally. The GPC methodology<sup>1</sup> represents international best practice for city and regional level GHG emissions reporting.

This emissions footprint assesses both direct and indirect emissions sources. Direct emissions are production-based and occur within the geographic area (Scope 1 in the GPC reporting framework). Indirect emissions are produced outside the geographic boundary (Scope 2 and 3) but are allocated to the location of consumption. An example of indirect emissions is those associated with the consumption of electricity, which is supplied by the national grid (Scope 2). All other indirect emissions such as cross-boundary travel (e.g. flights) and energy transportation and distribution losses fit into Scope 3.

All major assumptions made during data collection and analysis have been detailed within **Appendix A – Assumptions**. The following aspects are worth noting in reviewing the emissions footprint:

- Emissions are expressed on a carbon dioxide-equivalent basis (CO<sub>2</sub>e) including climate change feedback using the 100-year Global Warming Potential (GWP) values<sup>2</sup>. Climate change feedbacks are the climate change impacts from GHGs that are increased as the climate changes. For example, once the Earth begins to warm, it triggers other processes on the surface and in the atmosphere. Current climate change feedback guidance is important to estimate the long-term impacts of GHGs.
- GPC reporting is predominately production-based (as opposed to consumption-based) but includes
  indirect emissions from energy consumption. Production-based emissions reporting is generally
  preferred by policy-makers due to robust established methodologies such as the GPC, which
  enables comparisons between different studies. Production-based approaches exclude globally
  produced emissions relating to consumption (e.g. embodied emissions relating to products
  produced elsewhere but consumed within the geographic area such as imported food products,
  cars, phones, clothes etc.).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>http://www.ghgprotocol.org/greenhouse-gas-protocol-accounting-reporting-standard-cities</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar5/wg1/WG1AR5\_Chapter08\_FINAL.pdf (Table 8.7)

https://aecom.sharepoint.com/sites/BOPRCCCFProject-60671688/Shared Documents/General/BoP CCF 2021/3.

- Total emissions are reported as both gross emissions (excluding Forestry) and net emissions (including Forestry).
- Emissions for individual main greenhouse gases for each emissions source are provided in the supplementary spreadsheet information supplied with this report.
- Where location specific data were not accessible, information was calculated based on national or regional level data.
- Transport emissions:
  - Transport emissions associated with air travel, rail, and marine fuel were calculated by working out the emissions relating to each journey arriving or departing the area based on data provided by the relevant operators. Emissions for these sources are then split equally between the destination and origin. Emissions relating to a particular point source (e.g. an airport or port) are allocated to the expected users of that source, not just the area that it is located in. For example, in the Bay of Plenty Region, it is expected that all territorial authorities will use the Port of Tauranga for imported and exported goods, emissions from this source have been allocated to all territorial authorities in the region based on population. It is understood that freight imports moving through the Port of Tauranga do not exclusively serve the Bay of Plenty Region, and freight exports do not exclusively originate from the Bay of Plenty Region, this should be considered when examining these emissions.
  - All other transport emissions are calculated using the fuel sold in the area (e.g. petrol, diesel, LPG).
- Solid waste emissions:
  - Solid waste emissions from landfill are measured using the IPCC First Order Decay method that covers landfill activity between 1950 and the present day.
  - Emissions are calculated for waste produced within the geographic boundary, even if they are transported outside the boundary to be entered into landfill. Much of the landfill waste originating in the Bay of Plenty is transported to landfill sites in the Waikato, this has been accounted for in these calculations.
  - An additional assessment of transport emissions related to the transport of landfill waste and recycled/diverted waste has been included in this assessment, outside of the GPC requirements for Community Carbon Footprints. Emissions were estimated based on the amount of material, distance transported from transfer station to next processing location, and the vehicles used. Any onward transport of materials post-processing have not been included.
- Wastewater emissions:
  - Emissions have been calculated based on the local data provided, following IPCC 2019 guidelines. Where data is missing, IPCC and Ministry for the Environment (MfE) figures have been used. Wastewater emissions from both wastewater treatment plants, and individual septic tanks have been calculated.
  - Wastewater emissions include those released directly from wastewater treatment, flaring of captured gas and from discharge onto land/water.
- Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU) emissions:
  - IPPU emissions are estimated based on data provided in the New Zealand Greenhouse Gas Emissions 1990-2019 report (MfE 2021). Emissions are estimated on a per capita basis applying a national average per person.
- Forestry emissions:
  - This emissions footprint accounts for forest carbon stock changes from afforestation, reforestation, deforestation, and forest management (i.e. it applies land-use accounting conventions under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change rather than the Kyoto Protocol). It treats emissions from harvesting and deforestation as instantaneous

rather than accounting for the longer-term emission flows associated with harvested wood products.

- The emissions footprint considers regenerating (growing) forest areas only. Capture of carbon from the atmosphere is negligible for mature forests that have reached a steady state.

Overall sector data and results for the emissions footprint have been provided to Tauranga Council in calculation table spreadsheets. All assumptions made during data collection and analysis have been detailed within **Appendix A – Assumptions**.

It is important to consider the level of uncertainty associated with the results, particularly given the different datasets used. Depending on data availability, national, regional, and local datasets are used across the different calculators. At the national level, New Zealand's Greenhouse Gas Inventory shows that for 2018 (the most recent national level inventory) an estimate of gross emissions uncertainty was +/- 9%, whereas a net emissions uncertainty estimate was +/- 12%. These levels of uncertainty should be considered when interpreting the results of this community carbon footprint (MfE, 2020).

## 3.0 Community Carbon Footprint for 2020/21

The paragraphs, figures and tables below outline Tauranga's greenhouse gas emissions, referred to as 'emissions' in this assessment. This includes Tauranga's total emissions, emissions from each sector, and major emissions sources within each sector. The focus of emissions reporting is on gross emissions.

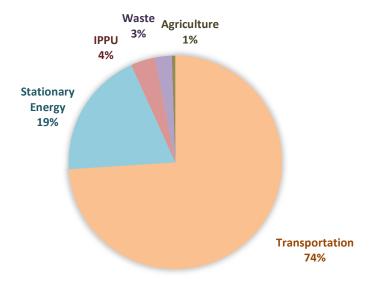
During the 2020/21 reporting period, Tauranga emitted **gross** 1,345,115 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. Note that gross emissions do not account for Forestry. Transport is the largest contributor to total gross emissions for the district.

The population of Tauranga in 2020/21 was approximately 153,700 people, resulting in per capita gross emissions of 8.8 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/person. Discussion of per capita emissions is limited to when it is useful for comparing emission figures against other territorial authorities. A breakdown of net emissions (i.e. including results from Forestry resources) is reported separately.

Table 1 Total net and gross emissions

| Total emissions                            | tCO <sub>2</sub> e |
|--|--------------------|
| Total Net Emissions (including forestry)   | 1,360,530          |
| Total Gross emissions (excluding forestry) | 1,345,115          |





During the 2020/21 reporting period, Tauranga emitted **net** 1,360,530 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.

Net emissions differ from gross emissions because they include emissions related to forestry activity (harvesting and planting) within an area. Forestry emissions are influenced by the cyclical nature of harvesting and planting regimes. In addition, with each subsequent planting of harvestable trees, there is a decreasing ebb and flow of sequestration.

Carbon sequestered by forestry can be viewed as a liability/risk that needs careful consideration. For example, if plantations are not replanted or other land use change occurs to exotic forested areas, then net emissions may rise quickly. Equally, if native forest is not protected from removal, and removal does happen, then net emissions may rise.

The community carbon footprint comprises emissions from six different sectors, summarised below:

#### 3.1 Transport

Transport was the highest emitting sector in Tauranga and produced 995,138 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2020/21 (74% of Tauranga's gross total emissions). Table 2 provides the total emissions, percentage of the total gross emissions, and percentage of the sector total for each sector/emissions source.

Table 2 Transport energy by emission source

| Sector / Emissions<br>Source | tCO <sub>2</sub> e | % of Total Gross<br>Emissions | % of Sector Total |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Marine Freight               | 473,045            | 35.2%                         | 47.5%             |
| Diesel                       | 290,141            | 21.6%                         | 29.2%             |
| Petrol                       | 194,145            | 14.4%                         | 19.5%             |
| Rail Emissions               | 21,479             | 1.6%                          | 2.2%              |
| Jet Kerosene                 | 11,334             | 0.8%                          | 1.1%              |
| Marine Diesel (local)        | 2,822              | 0.2%                          | 0.3%              |
| LPG                          | 1,316              | 0.1%                          | 0.1%              |
| Aviation Gas                 | 856                | 0.1%                          | 0.1%              |
| Bioethanol                   | 0.04               | <0.1%                         | <0.01%            |
| Total                        | 995,138            | 74.0%                         | 100.0%            |

Almost half of transport emissions can be attributed to diesel and petrol, which produced a total of 290,141 tCO<sub>2</sub>e and 194,145 respectively (collectively 49% of the sector's emissions and 36% of total gross emissions). Diesel and petrol transport emissions are broken down into on-road and off-road use. On-road transport consists of all standard transportation vehicles used on roads (including cars, trucks, buses, etc.). Off-road transport consists of all fuel used for the movement of machinery and vehicles off roads (including agricultural tractors and vehicles, forklifts, etc.). On-road transport produced 430,316 tCO<sub>2</sub>e (43.2% of Transport emissions). Off-road transport produced 55,287 tCO<sub>2</sub>e (5.6% of Transport emissions).

The next largest emission source for Tauranga is marine freight, which contributed to 48% of the sectors emissions and 35% of total gross emissions (473,045 tCO<sub>2</sub>e). Marine freight emissions are the result of freight movements to and from the Port of Tauranga. Emissions from this source have been divided between all territorial authorities in the Bay of Plenty region based on relative population sizes. It is understood that the imports and exports through this port are not exclusively related to activities in the Bay of Plenty region, however, to ensure that these emissions are reflected in community carbon footprints as per the GPC requirements this approach is appropriate.

The remaining transport emissions are attributed to air travel (jet kerosene and aviation gas), rail freight emissions, and LPG use for transport (e.g. forklifts).

One contributing element of transport emissions is from the movement of waste, recycling, and other diverted materials from transfer facilities to their end location. These transport emissions (displayed in Table 3) are included in the totals outlined above and are not additional to the totals above. These reported emissions are high-level estimations only based on the data available and fall outside of the GPC requirements for Community Carbon Footprinting. Transport of landfill waste is responsible for the largest proportion of these transport emissions with all waste transported to the sites in the Waikato Region.

|                                | Total material<br>(tonnes) | Total distance<br>travelled (return) (km) | Emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e) |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Landfill Waste                 | 113,102                    | 1,771,931                                 | 1,091                          |
| Composting                     | 10,449                     | 202,019                                   | 124                            |
| Diverted/Recycled<br>Materials | 13,593                     | 259,614                                   | 160                            |
| Total                          | 137,144                    | 2,233,564                                 | 1,375                          |

#### Table 3 Tauranga emissions from the transport of waste, recycling, and other diverted materials

#### 3.2 Stationary Energy

Producing 259,044 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2020/21, Stationary Energy was Tauranga's second highest emitting sector (19% of total gross emissions). Table 4 provides the total emissions, percentage of the total gross emissions, and percentage of the sector total for each sector/emissions source.

| Sector / Emissions<br>Source                           | tCO <sub>2</sub> e | % of Total Gross<br>Emissions | % of Sector Total |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Electricity<br>Consumption                             | 129,583            | 9.6%                          | 50.0%             |
| Natural Gas  | 55,863             | 4.2%                          | 21.6%             |
| Stationary Petrol &<br>Diesel Use                      | 32,612             | 2.4%                          | 12.6%             |
| Electricity transmission and distribution losses       | 11,902             | 0.9%                          | 4.6%              |
| LPG  | 10,434             | 0.8%                          | 4.0%              |
| Coal   | 9,536              | 0.7%                          | 3.7%              |
| Natural Gas<br>transmission and<br>distribution losses | 4,516              | 0.3%                          | 1.7%              |
| Biofuel / Wood   | 4,498              | 0.3%                          | 1.7%              |
| Biogas   | 101                | <0.1%                         | <0.1%             |
| Total:   | 259,044            | 19.3%                         | 100%              |

Table 4 Stationary energy emissions by emission source

Electricity consumption was the cause of 50% of Stationary Energy emissions (129,583 tCO<sub>2</sub>e), and 10% of Tauranga's total gross emissions. Electricity consumption emissions increase to 141,485 tCO<sub>2</sub>e when including transmission and distribution losses related to that consumption.

Natural gas consumption accounted for 23% of the sector's emissions (60,379 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) when including transmission and distribution losses. Stationary petrol and diesel consumption generated 13% of the sector's emissions (32,612 tCO<sub>2</sub>e). Use of LPG, and the burning of coal, biofuels and biogas produced the remaining Stationary Energy emissions.

Stationary Energy demand can also be broken down by the sector in which it is consumed. Stationary Energy demand is reported for the following sectors: commercial; residential and industrial. Emissions from petrol and diesel used for Stationary Energy are not able to be broken down by sector.

 Industrial Stationary Energy consumption accounts for 48% of Stationary Energy emissions (123,433 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) and 9% of total gross emissions. Industrial Stationary Energy is energy used within all industrial settings (including agriculture, forestry and fishing, mining, food processing, textiles, chemicals, metals, mechanical/electrical equipment and building and construction activities).

- Residential Stationary Energy consumption accounts for 23% of Stationary Energy emissions (59,723 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) and 4% of total gross emissions. Residential Stationary Energy is energy used in homes (e.g. for heating, lighting, and cooking).
- Commercial Stationary Energy consumption accounts for 17% of Stationary Energy emissions (43,176 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) and 3% of total gross emissions. Commercial Stationary Energy is energy used in all non-residential and non-industrial settings (e.g. in retail, hospitality, education, and healthcare).
- The remaining 13% of Stationary Energy emissions (32,713 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) were produced by diesel and petrol, and the burning of biogas, which were not allocated to the above categories. Stationary Energy uses of diesel and petrol include stationary generators and motors and for heating.

#### 3.3 Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU)

IPPU in Tauranga produced 49,896 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2020/21, contributing 4% to Tauranga's total gross emissions. This sector includes emissions associated with the production of GHGs from refrigerants, foam blowing, fire extinguishers, aerosols, metered dose inhalers and Sulphur Hexafluoride for electrical insulation and equipment production. IPPU emissions do not include energy use for industrial manufacturing, which is included in the relevant Stationary Energy sub-category (e.g. coal, electricity and/or petrol and diesel). These emissions are based on nationally reported IPPU emissions and apportioned based on population due to the difficulty of allocating emissions to particular geographic locations. Addressing IPPU emissions is typically a national policy issue.

There are no known industrial processes (as defined in the GPC requirements) present in Tauranga (e.g. aluminium manufacture).

Table 5 provides the total emissions, percentage of the total gross emissions, and percentage of the sector total for each sector/emissions source. The most significant contributor to IPPU emissions is the use of refrigerants which produced 94% of IPPU emissions (46,739 tCO<sub>2</sub>e).

| Sector / Emissions<br>Source      | tCO₂e  | % of Total Gross<br>Emissions | % of Sector Total |
|-----------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Refrigerants and air conditioning | 46,739 | 3.5%                          | 93.7%             |
| Aerosols                          | 2,413  | 0.2%                          | 4.8%              |
| SF6 - Electrical<br>Equipment     | 402    | <0.1%                         | 0.8%              |
| Foam Blowing                      | 187    | <0.1%                         | 0.4%              |
| SF6 - Other                       | 85     | <0.1%                         | 0.2%              |
| Fire extinguishers                | 70     | <0.1%                         | 0.1%              |
| Total                             | 49,896 | 3.7%                          | 100%              |

| Table 5 | Industrial processes and product use emissions by emission source |
|---------|---|
|         | industrial processes and product use emissions by emission source |

#### 3.4 Waste

Waste originating in Tauranga (solid waste and wastewater) produced  $34,099 \text{ tCO}_2\text{e}$  in 2020/21, which comprises 3% of Tauranga's total gross emissions. Table 6 provides the total emissions, percentage of the total gross emissions, and percentage of the sector total for each sector/emissions source.

Table 6 Waste emissions by emission source

| Sector / Emissions<br>Source   | tCO <sub>2</sub> e | % of Total Gross<br>Emissions | % of Sector Total |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Waste in closed landfill sites | 18,240             | 1.4%                          | 53.5%             |
| Waste in open landfill sites   | 10,455             | 0.8%                          | 30.7%             |
| Individual septic tanks        | 3,183              | 0.2%                          | 9.3%              |
| Composting                     | 1,797              | 0.1%                          | 5.3%              |
| Wastewater treatment plants    | 424                | <0.1%                         | 1.2%              |
| Total:                         | 34,099             | 2.5%                          | 100%              |

Solid waste produced the bulk of Waste emissions (28,695 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2020/21), making up 84% of total Waste emissions. Solid waste emissions include emissions from open landfills and closed landfills. Both open and closed landfills emit methane from the breakdown of organic materials disposed of in the landfill for many years after waste enters the landfill. It has been assumed that landfill waste in Tauranga has been transported to either Tirohia or Hampton Downs since 2001. Waste from Tauranga sent to these open landfill sites contributed 10,455 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2020/21. Emissions from closed landfill sites will decrease over time as no new waste enters these sites.

Composting produced 1,797 tCO<sub>2</sub>e making up 5% of total Waste emissions.

Wastewater (both treatment plants and individual septic tanks) produced 3,607 tCO<sub>2</sub>e making up 11% of total Waste emissions. The majority of households in Tauranga are connected to wastewater treatments plants, which produced total emissions of 424 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. Households connected to individual septic tanks produced 3,183 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in wastewater emissions. Due to the production of methane, septic tanks have a higher emissions intensity compared to the wastewater treatments plants in Tauranga.

Wastewater treatment tends to be a relatively small emission source compared to solid waste as advanced treatment of wastewater produces low emissions. In contrast, solid waste generates methane gas over many years as organic material enters landfill and emissions depend on the efficiency and scale of landfill gas capture.

#### 3.5 Agriculture

Agriculture emitted 6,938 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2020/21 (1% of Tauranga's total gross emissions). Table 7 provides the total emissions, percentage of the total gross emissions, and percentage of the sector total for each sector/emissions source. Agricultural emissions are the result of both livestock and crop farming and do not include emissions relating to fuel or electricity consumption (reported in the Transport and Stationary Energy sectors). Enteric fermentation from livestock produced 67% of Tauranga's agricultural emissions (4,759 tCO<sub>2</sub>e). Enteric fermentation GHG emissions are produced by methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) released from the digestive process of ruminant animals (e.g. cattle and sheep).

| Sector / Emissions<br>Source              | tCO <sub>2</sub> e | % of Total Gross<br>Emissions | % of Sector Total |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Enteric Fermentation                      | 4,759              | 0.4%                          | 68.6%             |
| Fertiliser used in<br>Horticulture        | 691                | 0.1%                          | 10.0%             |
| Other Agriculture<br>Emissions            | 628                | <0.1%                         | 9.0%              |
| Manure from Grazing<br>Animals on pasture | 626                | <0.1%                         | 9.0%              |
| Atmospheric<br>Deposition                 | 168                | <0.1%                         | 2.4%              |
| Manure Management                         | 66                 | <0.1%                         | 1.0%              |
| Total                                     | 6,938              | 0.5%                          | 100%              |

Table 7 Agriculture emissions by emission source

#### 3.6 Forestry

Planting of native forest (e.g. mānuka and kānuka) and exotic forest (e.g. pine), sequesters (captures) carbon from the atmosphere while the trees are growing to maturity. Harvesting of forest releases emissions via the release of carbon from plants and soils following harvesting. When sequestration by forests exceeds emissions from harvesting in a particular year, the extra quantity of carbon sequestered by forest reduces total gross emissions for that year. Conversely when emissions from harvesting exceed the amount of carbon sequestered by native and exotic forests, then total gross emissions will increase.

Sequestration in 2020/21 was 6,110 tCO<sub>2</sub>e (which was mostly from exotic forestry) while harvesting emissions were 21,524 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. This meant that Forestry in Tauranga was a net positive source of emissions in 2020/21 (rather than a negative source of emissions, where sequestration exceeds harvesting emissions). Total Forestry emissions in 2020/21 were 15,414 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.

 Table 8
 Forestry emissions by emission source (including sequestration)

| Sector / Emissions Source   | tCO <sub>2</sub> e |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Total harvest emissions     | 21,524             |
| Native forest sequestration | -1,708             |
| Exotic forest sequestration | -4,402             |
| Total                       | 15,414             |

#### 3.7 Total Gross Emissions by Greenhouse Gas

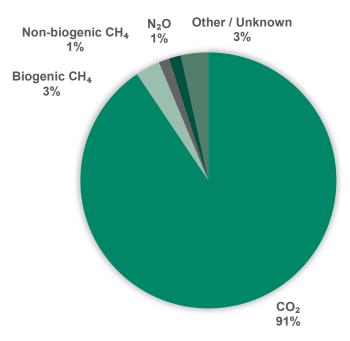
Each greenhouse gas has a different level of impact on climate change, this is accounted for when converting quantities of each gas into units of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e).

Table 9: Tauranga's total gross emissions, by greenhouse gas

| Greenhouse Gas                             | Tonnes    | Tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> e |
|--|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Carbon Dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> )          | 1,218,422 | 1,218,422                   |
| Biogenic Methane (CH <sub>4</sub> )        | 1,232     | 41,894                      |
| Non-biogenic Methane (CH <sub>4</sub> )    | 529       | 17,976                      |
| Nitrous Oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O)           | 68        | 20,129                      |
| Other / Unknown Gas (in CO <sub>2</sub> e) | 46,694    | 46,694                      |
| Total                                      | 1,266,945 | 1,345,115                   |

Figure 4 illustrates Tauranga's total gross emissions by greenhouse gas in units of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>e).

Figure 4: Tauranga District's total gross emissions, by greenhouse gas (in tCO2e)



By far the largest source of emissions in tonnes is carbon dioxide  $(CO_2)$  at 1,218,442 tonnes. Due to the greater global warming impact of methane, methane represents 0.1% of the total tonnage of GHG emissions from Tauranga but represents 3% of CO<sub>2</sub>e. Nitrous oxide represents 0.005% of the total tonnage of GHG emissions from Tauranga but represents 1% of CO<sub>2</sub>e.

#### 3.8 Biogenic emissions

Biogenic carbon dioxide and methane emissions are stated in Table 10 and Table 11, respectively.

Biogenic  $CO_2$  emissions are those that result from the combustion of biomass materials that store and sequester  $CO_2$ , including materials used to make biofuels (e.g. trees, crops, vegetable oils, or animal fats). Biogenic  $CO_2$  emissions from plants and animals are excluded from gross and net emissions as they are part of the natural carbon cycle.

Table 10: Biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> in Tauranga (Excluded from gross emissions)

| Biogenic Carbon Dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ) (Excluded from gross emissions) |         |                   |  |
|--|---------|-------------------|--|
| Biofuel  | 147,287 | t CO <sub>2</sub> |  |
| Combusted Landfill Gas   | 15,590  | t CO <sub>2</sub> |  |
| Biodiesel  | 540     | t CO <sub>2</sub> |  |
| Total Biogenic CO <sub>2</sub>   | 163,417 | t CO <sub>2</sub> |  |

Biogenic CH<sub>4</sub> emissions (e.g., produced by farmed cattle via enteric fermentation) are included in gross emissions due to their relatively large impact on global warming relative to biogenic CO<sub>2</sub>. Biogenic methane represents <0.1% of the gross total tonnage of GHG emissions in Tauranga but represents 3% of total gross GHG emissions when expressed in CO<sub>2</sub>e. This is caused by the higher global warming impact of methane per tonne, compared to carbon dioxide. The total tonnage of each GHG and the contribution of each GHG to total gross emissions when expressed in CO<sub>2</sub>e is shown in Table 9.

The importance of biogenic CH<sub>4</sub> is highlighted in NZ's Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act. The Act includes specific targets to reduce biogenic CH<sub>4</sub> by between 24% and 47% below 2017 levels by 2050, and by 10% below 2017 levels by 2030. More information on the Act is available here: <u>https://www.mfe.govt.nz/climate-change/zero-carbon-amendment-act</u>.

 Table 11: Biogenic Methane in Tauranga (Included in gross emissions)

| Biogenic Methane (CH₄) (Included in gross emissions) |       |       |  |  |
|--|-------|-------|--|--|
| Landfill Gas   | 844   | t CH₄ |  |  |
| Enteric Fermentation                                 | 140   | t CH₄ |  |  |
| Biofuel  | 118   | t CH4 |  |  |
| Wastewater Treatment                                 | 97    | t CH4 |  |  |
| Composting (Green Waste)                             | 31    | t CH4 |  |  |
| Manure Management                                    | 2     | t CH4 |  |  |
| Total Biogenic CH₄                                   | 1,232 | t CH₄ |  |  |

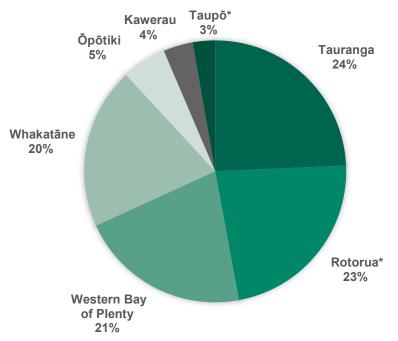
# 3.9 Comparison with other Territorial Authorities in the Bay of Plenty Region

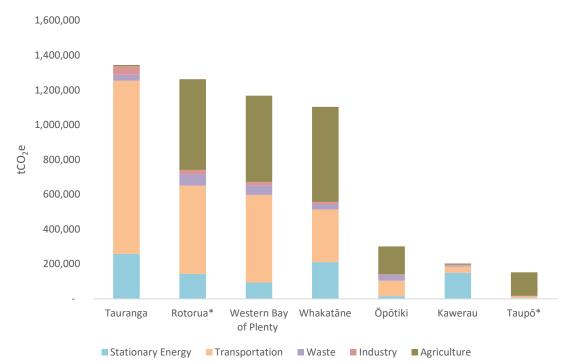
The Bay of Plenty regional area contains several territorial authorities. Tauranga City, Western Bay of Plenty District, Whakatāne District, Ōpōtiki District, and Kawerau District are all exclusively within the boundaries of the Bay of Plenty region. However, areas of Rotorua District and Taupō District are also part of the Waikato region. We estimate that 93% of Rotorua's population and 62% of Rotorua's area, and 4% of Taupō's population and 14% of Taupō's area are within the Bay of Plenty region.

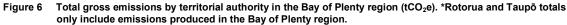
Figure 5 shows the Bay of Plenty's total gross emissions divided by territorial authority. The Bay of Plenty regional area contains several territorial authorities. Tauranga City, Western Bay of Plenty District, Whakatāne District, Ōpōtiki District, and Kawerau District are all exclusively within the boundaries of the Bay of Plenty region. However, areas of Rotorua District and Taupō District are also part of the Waikato region. We estimate that 93% of Rotorua's population and 62% of Rotorua's area, and 4% of Taupō's population and 14% of Taupō's area are within the Bay of Plenty region. Figure 6 shows total gross emissions for the territorial authorities in the Bay of Plenty Region, split by sector. Both figures only include the emissions produced within the Bay of Plenty region for Rotorua and Taupō.

Tauranga is the highest emitting territorial authority in the region, representing 24% of the Bay of Plenty's total gross emissions. Tauranga's emissions inventory is predominantly transport-related emissions while the next largest territorial authorities by; Rotorua, Western Bay of Plenty and Whakatāne, contain significant agricultural emissions. Ōpōtiki, Kawerau, and Taupō collectively represent just 12% of the Bay of Plenty's emissions.

# Figure 5 Bay of Plenty's total gross emissions divided by territorial authority (tCO<sub>2</sub>e). \*Rotorua and Taupō totals only include emissions produced in the Bay of Plenty region.

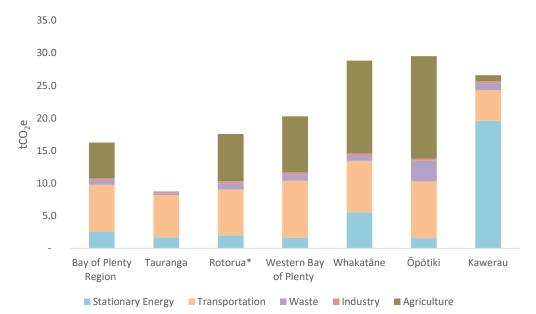


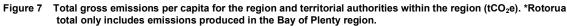




When comparing emissions inventories from different areas, a per capita figure can be useful because it provides a common reference point to understand the difference in emissions. Figure 7 shows emissions per capita for the region and territorial authorities within the region. Taupō is excluded from this figure due to the tiny population and large agriculture creating very large per capita emissions (this is not the case for the entire Taupō District.

The Bay of Plenty has a 16.2 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/per capita figure for total gross emissions which is higher than the national value of 15.7 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/per capita. Notably, Tauranga has the lowest per capita total emissions at 8.8 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/per capita. Õpõtiki and Whakatāne have the largest per capita total gross emissions at 29.5 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/per capita and 28.9 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/per capita respectively. Kawerau has the third highest per capita emissions at 26.6 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/per capita, this is due to a small population and large industrial and manufacturing energy use in the area.





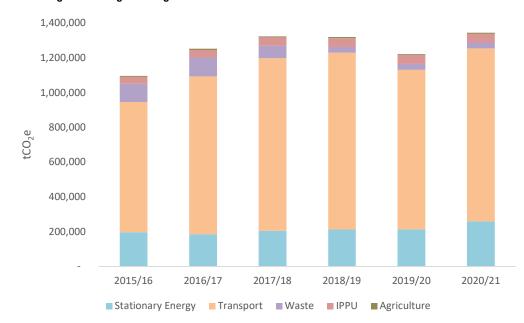
### 4.0 Emissions change from 2015/16 to 2020/21

Alongside calculating Tauranga's emissions footprint for 2020/21, we have calculated Tauranga's emissions footprint for 2018/19 and 2019/20. By calculating these three years we can assess the emissions footprint before the COVID pandemic caused disruptions, changes, and enforced restrictions, and assess the impact of the COVID pandemic on emissions in Tauranga. We have also recalculated Tauranga's most recent emissions footprint (2015/16) using the same methodology, data sources, and emission factors as for the other footprints reported here. This enables us to directly compare these emissions footprints. A discussion of the updated 2015/16 footprint and significant changes is found in section 7.0. For the years in between (2016/17 and 2017/18) we have calculated emissions from key sources (e.g. electricity consumption, petrol and diesel consumption, marine freight, livestock and air travel) and estimated all other emission sources as part of the agreed approach.

This section displays the results of the 2015/16, 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21 emissions footprints with a focus on Gross emissions and examines the change in emissions from 2015/16 to 2020/21. An analysis of the impact of the COVID pandemic on Tauranga's emissions is found in section 6.0.

|   | 2015/16<br>(tCO₂e) | 2018/19<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2019/20<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2020/21<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | % Change<br>(2015/16 to<br>2020/21) |
|---|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Total Net<br>Emissions<br>(including<br>forestry)   | 1,098,757          | 1,322,459                       | 1,226,290                       | 1,360,530                       | 24%                                 |
| Total Gross<br>Emissions<br>(excluding<br>forestry) | 1,096,155          | 1,319,775                       | 1,221,060                       | 1,345,115                       | 23%                                 |

|  | Table 12 | Change in Tauranga's Total Gross and Net emissions from 2015/16 to 2020/21 |
|--|----------|--|
|--|----------|--|



#### Figure 8 Change in Tauranga's total gross emissions from 2015/16 to 2020/21

Total gross emissions per year increased by 23% from  $1,096,155 \text{ tCO}_2\text{e}$  in 2015/16 to  $1,345,115 \text{ tCO}_2\text{e}$  in 2020/21. This is driven by increases in transport and stationary energy emissions. Emissions from all sectors with the exception of Waste have increased since 2015/16.

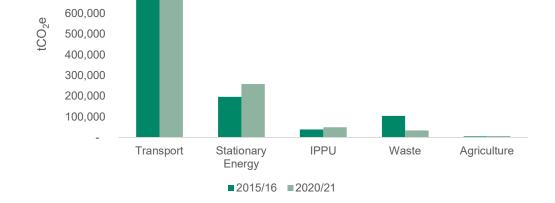
Per capita gross emissions in Tauranga remained steady between 2015/16 and 2020/21, changing from 8.7 to 8.8 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per person per year. The population of Tauranga grew by 22% during this time which is almost the same as the growth in total gross emissions. A discussion of the decoupling of gross emissions from population growth and GDP is found in section 5.0.

The sections below outline the change in emissions between 2015/16 and 2020/21 for each sector and emissions source, highlighting the changes that have had the largest impact on total gross emissions.



Figure 9 Emissions for each sector of Tauranga's gross emissions footprint for 2015/16 and 2020/21

800,000 700,000



https://aecom.sharepoint.com/sites/BOPRCCCFProject-60671688/Shared Documents/General/BoP CCF 2021/3. Reports/BOPRC\_CommunityCarbonFootprint\_2022\_Tauranga\_220914\_Final.docx Revision 1 – 28-Sep-2022 Prepared for – Bay of Plenty Regional Council – Co No.: N/A

#### 4.1 Transport

Table 13 Change in Tauranga's Transport emissions from 2015/16 to 2020/21

| Sector /<br>Emissions<br>Source | 2015/16<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2018/19<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2019/20<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2020/21<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | % Change<br>(2015/16 to<br>2020/21) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Marine Freight                  | 315,457                         | 518,431                         | 461,563                         | 473,045                         | 50.0%                               |
| Diesel                          | 218,978                         | 270,253                         | 252,749                         | 290,141                         | 32.5%                               |
| Petrol                          | 177,367                         | 188,471                         | 168,404                         | 194,145                         | 9.5%                                |
| Rail                            | 24,632                          | 23,214                          | 21,017                          | 21,479                          | -12.8%                              |
| Jet Kerosene                    | 8,627                           | 11,685                          | 8,794                           | 11,334                          | 31.4%                               |
| Marine Diesel<br>(local)        | 2,556                           | 3,214                           | 3,059                           | 2,822                           | 10.4%                               |
| LPG                             | 1,005                           | 1,213                           | 1,244                           | 1,316                           | 31.0%                               |
| Aviation Gas                    | 741                             | 843                             | 641                             | 856                             | 15.5%                               |
| Bioethanol                      | 0.03                            | 0.03                            | 0.03                            | 0.04                            | 32.6%                               |
| Total:                          | 749,362                         | 1,017,326                       | 917,470                         | 995,138                         | 33%                                 |

Transport emissions increased by 33% between 2015/16 and 2020/21 (245,775 tCO<sub>2</sub>e). This was driven by a 50% increase in marine freight emissions (245,775 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) and a 21% increase in on-road fuel emissions (74,671 tCO<sub>2</sub>e).

The largest annual increase in greenhouse gas emissions from marine freight transport occurred from 2016 to 2017. This is associated with an increase in average vessel size following the introduction of 9,500 Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) vessels, which was over double the capacity of the previous largest container vessel visiting Tauranga. This shift occurred following shipping channel deepening and widening in the Tauranga Harbour. These largest vessels call directly and exclusively to the Bay of Plenty, whereas smaller vessels are likely to call at more than one New Zealand port/region. These larger vessels are generally more fuel efficient as they emit fewer greenhouse gases per unit of cargo (e.g. per container). In general, marine freight emissions have increased over the period from 2016 to 2021 due to an increase in import and export freight movements through Tauranga Port.

With the exception of rail, no transport emissions sources decreased between 2015/16 and 2020/21. Notably, the impact of the COVID pandemic can be seen in Transport emissions where emissions decreased by 11% between 2018/19 and 2019/20 before increasing again by 8% between 2019/20 and 2020/21.

#### 4.2 Stationary Energy

| Table 44 |  |
|----------|--|
| Table 14 | Change in Tauranga's Stationary Energy emissions from 2015/16 to 2020/21 |

| Sector /<br>Emissions<br>Source                              | 2015/16<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2018/19<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2019/20<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2020/21<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | % Change<br>(2015/16 to<br>2020/21) |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Electricity<br>Consumption                                   | 85,568                          | 89,012                          | 89,920                          | 129,583                         | 51%                                 |
| Natural Gas  | 51,742                          | 54,953                          | 56,465                          | 55,863                          | 8%                                  |
| Stationary<br>Petrol &<br>Diesel Use                         | 24,800                          | 30,483                          | 28,468                          | 32,612                          | 31%                                 |
| Coal   | 12,991                          | 11,383                          | 11,881                          | 9,536                           | -27%                                |
| LPG  | 7,962                           | 9,613                           | 9,863                           | 10,434                          | 31%                                 |
| Electricity<br>Transmission<br>and<br>Distribution<br>Losses | 5,157                           | 7,770                           | 7,893                           | 11,902                          | 131%                                |
| Biofuel / Wood   | 4,333                           | 4,498                           | 4,498                           | 4,498                           | 4%                                  |
| Natural Gas<br>Transmission<br>and<br>Distribution<br>Losses | 4,183                           | 4,442                           | 4,565                           | 4,516                           | 8%                                  |
| Biogas<br>(landfill)   | -                               | 90                              | 96                              | 101                             | NA                                  |
| Total:   | 196,735                         | 212,244                         | 213,648                         | 259,044                         | 32%                                 |

Emissions from Stationary Energy increased by 32% between 2015/16 and 2020/21 (62,309 tCO<sub>2</sub>e). This was driven by a 51% increase in electricity consumption emissions (44,016 tCO<sub>2</sub>e). This rise in electricity consumption emissions was caused by a 2% increase in electricity consumption in Tauranga coupled with a 48% increase in the emissions intensity of the national electricity grid (tCO<sub>2</sub>e/kWh). The emissions intensity of the national grid has increased in recent years due to the increased use of fossil fuels during years with low hydro electricity generation.

#### 4.3 Waste

Table 15 Change in Tauranga's Waste emissions from 2015/16 to 2020/21

| Sector /<br>Emissions<br>Source      | 2015/16<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2018/19<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2019/20<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2020/21<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | % Change<br>(2015/16 to<br>2020/21) |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Waste in open<br>landfill sites      | 77,412                          | 9,356                           | 9,922                           | 10,455                          | -86%                                |
| Waste in<br>closed landfill<br>sites | 24,742                          | 20,542                          | 19,348                          | 18,240                          | -26%                                |
| Composting<br>(Green Waste)          | -                               | -                               | 899                             | 1,797                           | N/A                                 |
| Wastewater<br>treatment<br>plants    | 526                             | 531                             | 458                             | 424                             | -19%                                |
| Individual septic tanks              | 1,929                           | 3,064                           | 3,223                           | 3,183                           | 65%                                 |
| Total                                | 104,609                         | 33,493                          | 33,849                          | 34,099                          | -67%                                |

Waste emissions decreased between 2015/16 and 2020/21, by 67% (70,511 tCO<sub>2</sub>e).

Total solid waste in landfill emissions decreased by 72%. Emissions from closed landfills decreased because as no extra waste is added, the existing waste in landfill releases fewer emissions over time. Emissions from open landfills decreased due to improvements in landfill gas capture at landfill sites.

Total wastewater emissions increased by 47%, this is based an increase in the assumed number of people using septic tank systems. Data availability improvements in future years may improve the accuracy of this estimate.

#### 4.4 Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU)

| Table 16 | Change in Ta | auranga's IPPU | emissions f | rom 2015/16 to 2020/21 |
|----------|--------------|----------------|-------------|------------------------|
|----------|--------------|----------------|-------------|------------------------|

| Sector /<br>Emissions<br>Source         | 2015/16<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2018/19<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2019/20<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2020/21<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | % Change<br>(2015/16 to<br>2020/21) |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Refrigerants<br>and air<br>conditioning | 36,440                          | 46,870                          | 46,048                          | 46,739                          | 28.3%                               |
| Aerosols                                | 2,384                           | 2,408                           | 2,378                           | 2,413                           | 1.2%                                |
| SF6 -<br>Electrical<br>Equipment        | 396                             | 375                             | 396                             | 402                             | 1.5%                                |
| Foam Blowing                            | 110                             | 168                             | 184                             | 187                             | 69.7%                               |
| SF6 - Other                             | 76                              | 82                              | 84                              | 85                              | 11.0%                               |
| Fire<br>extinguishers                   | 60                              | 67                              | 69                              | 70                              | 15.7%                               |
| Total                                   | 39,468                          | 49,971                          | 49,158                          | 49,896                          | 26%                                 |

IPPU emissions increased between 2015/16 and 2020/21, by 26% (10,429 tCO<sub>2</sub>e). The increase in IPPU emissions is mainly caused by an increased use of refrigerant gases. Note that national level data is used for this sector and is portioned out using a population approach; exact emissions for the district are unknown.

#### 4.5 Agriculture

| Table 17 | Change in Tauranga's Agriculture emissions from 2015/16 to 2020/21 |
|----------|--|
|          | enange in raaranga e righteatare enneerene nem zerer re te zezerzi |

| Sector /<br>Emissions<br>Source    | 2015/16<br>(tCO₂e) | 2018/19<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2019/20<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2020/21<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | % Change<br>(2015/16 to<br>2020/21) |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Enteric<br>Fermentation            | 4,068              | 4,616                           | 4,759                           | 4,759                           | 17.0%                               |
| Fertiliser used<br>in Horticulture | 675                | 685                             | 688                             | 691                             | 2.4%                                |
| Manure from<br>Grazing<br>Animals  | 533                | 607                             | 626                             | 626                             | 17.3%                               |
| Other<br>Agriculture<br>Emissions  | 505                | 607                             | 628                             | 628                             | 24.4%                               |
| Atmospheric<br>Deposition          | 144                | 163                             | 168                             | 168                             | 17.3%                               |
| Manure<br>Management               | 55                 | 64                              | 66                              | 66                              | 18.9%                               |
| Total                              | 5,980              | 6,742                           | 6,935                           | 6,938                           | 16%                                 |

Agriculture's emissions increased by 16% between 2015/16 and 2020/21 (958 tCO<sub>2</sub>e). This increase is due to an increase in livestock numbers.

#### 4.6 Forestry

Table 18 Change in Tauranga's Forestry emissions from 2015/16 to 2020/21

| Sector /<br>Emissions<br>Source | 2015/16<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2018/19<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2019/20<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | 2020/21<br>(tCO <sub>2</sub> e) | % Change<br>(2015/16 to<br>2020/21) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Total harvest emissions         | 8,657                           | 8,788                           | 11,334                          | 21,524                          | 148.6%                              |
| Native forest sequestration     | -1,707                          | -1,708                          | -1,708                          | -1,708                          | <0.1%                               |
| Exotic forest sequestration     | -4,348                          | -4,396                          | -4,396                          | -4,402                          | 1.2%                                |
| Total                           | 2,602                           | 2,684                           | 5,230                           | 15,414                          | 492%                                |

Forestry emissions increased by 12,812 tCO<sub>2</sub>e between 2015/16 and 2020/21. This increase was driven by an increase in total harvest emissions (12,867 tCO<sub>2</sub>e) as more exotic forest is harvested. Sequestration by both exotic forest and native forest remained relatively stable during this time, increasing the net emissions from forestry.

# 5.0 Decoupling of GHG emissions from population growth and GDP

Figure 10 shows the change in gross emissions when compared to changes in other metrics of interest between 2015/16 and 2020/21. In Tauranga during this period, total gross emissions growth (22%) has matched population growth (22%) resulting in a 1% increase in total gross emissions per capita.

When emissions grow less rapidly than Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as a measure of income then this process is known as decoupling. The term decoupling is an expression of the desire to mitigate emissions without harming economic wellbeing. A full discussion of decoupling of emissions is beyond the scope of this project. However, the changes in emissions and GDP illustrated in Figure 10 suggest at a high-level decoupling has occurred between 2015/16 and 2020/21. GDP increased by 48% while gross emissions increased by 23%, resulting in a 17% decrease in GHG emissions ration to GDP.

The exact drivers for the decoupling of emissions from GDP are difficult to pinpoint. New policies, for restructuring the way to meet demand for energy, food, transportation and housing will all contribute. In this case, both direct local actions including reducing the emissions from landfill gas and indirect national trends e.g. reduction of emissions from electricity generation will have contributed to the trends noted.

#### Figure 10 Change in total gross emissions compared to other metrics of interest

2016 2021 Total (Gross) GHG GHG Emissions 23% GDP growth 48% GHG Emissions ratio to GDP GHG -17% Population growth 22% GHG Emissions ratio to Capita 1%

Tauranga Region Emissions change over time 2016 – 2021

Decoupling GDP Growth from GHG Emissions

# 6.0 Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on GHG Emissions

COVID-19 impacted New Zealand and the entire world during 2020 and 2021; causing widespread government-imposed restrictions on businesses and individuals and huge shifts in behaviours and economic markets. Restrictions in New Zealand relating to COVID-19 began in mid-March with many personal and business restrictions continuing past the end of 2019/20 and throughout 2020/21.<sup>3</sup>

Globally, carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels (the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions) in 2020 decreased by 7% compared to 2019<sup>4</sup>. Emissions from the transportation sector account for the largest share of this decrease. Surface transport, e.g. car journeys, fell by approximately half at the peak of COVID-19 restrictions in April 2020 (when restrictions were at their maximum, particularly across Europe and the U.S. Globally, emissions recovered to near 2019 levels and are expected to continue to increase.

In New Zealand, national daily carbon dioxide emissions are estimated to have fell by up to 41% during the level 4 lockdown in April 2020<sup>5</sup>. National gross emissions decreased by 3% from 2018/19 to 2019/20, which was largely driven by a decrease in fuel use in road transport due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, a decrease in fuel use in manufacturing industries and construction due to COVID-19 restrictions, and a decrease in fuel use from domestic aviation also due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Total gross emissions in Tauranga decreased by  $98,715 \text{ tCO}_{2e}$  (8%) between 2018/19 and 2019/20. Total gross emissions then increased by  $124,055 \text{ tCO}_{2e}$  (9%) from 2019/20 to 2020/21 to above that of the pre-COVID-19 year.

The impact on emissions in different sectors varied. Notably, Transport emissions reduced by 11% between 2018/19 and 2019/20, driven by reduced transport fuel use across all transport emission sources. Despite changes in Stationary Energy, Agriculture, Waste, and IPPU emissions, these sectors are not judged to have been significantly affected by the COVID-19.

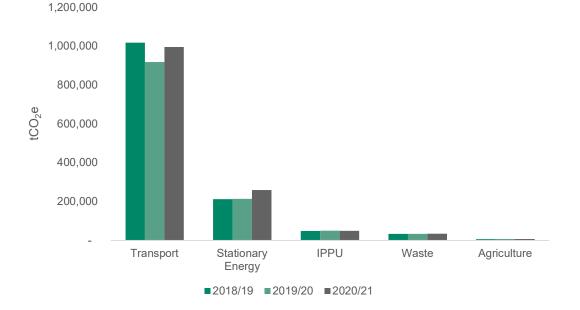


Figure 11 Tauranga emissions per sector for 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21 (tCO2e)

<sup>5</sup> Corinne Le Quere et al. – Temporary Reduction in Daily Global CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions During the COVID-19 Forced Confinement https://aecom.sharepoint.com/sites/BOPRCCCFProject-60671688/Shared Documents/General/BoP CCF 2021/3.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://covid19.govt.nz/alert-system/history-of-the-covid-19-alert-system/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Pierre Friedlingstein et al. - Global Carbon Budget 2020 (2020)

Reports/BOPRC\_CommunityCarbonFootprint\_2022\_Tauranga\_220914\_Final.docx

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# 7.0 Update to the 2015/16 Emissions Footprint

Improvements to the methodology, improvements in available data, and updates to emission factors since the 2015/16 Community Carbon Footprint was first published in 2017 have meant that the 2015/16 footprint results are required to be updated to allow direct comparison with the 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21 footprints.

The previous 2015/16 inventory and updated 2015/16 inventory results are presented in Table 19

Key reasons for results changes between these footprints are outlined below:

- Stationary Energy emissions have been adjusted due to improvements in data and methodology changes, notably through the inclusion of emissions related to industry-specific natural gas connection points.
- Transportation emissions have been adjusted due to the inclusion of marine freight emissions relating to the Port of Tauranga which were not previously included. Data improvements and methodology changes have also impacted this sector.
- Waste emissions have been adjusted due to updates to IPCC guidance and improvements in data.
- IPPU emissions have been adjusted due to a change in emission factors provided by the Ministry for the Environment (MfE).
- Agriculture emissions have been adjusted due to improvements in data and changes in MfE emission factors.
- Forestry emissions have been adjusted due to improvements in published data.

# Table 19 Reported GHG emissions in Tauranga for 2015/16, showing the change in emissions between those previously reported (2017) and the updated results (2022)

|   | 2015/16 previous inventory<br>(2017) – tCO <sub>2</sub> e | 2015/16 updated inventory<br>(2022) – tCO₂e |
|---|---|---|
| Stationary Energy                       | 177,341   | 196,735                                     |
| Transportation                          | 463,960   | 749,362                                     |
| Waste                                   | 62,250  | 104,609                                     |
| IPPU                                    | 40,336  | 39,468                                      |
| Agriculture                             | 16,042  | 5,980                                       |
| Forestry                                | 5,442   | 2,602                                       |
| Total Net Emissions (incl.<br>forestry) | 765,371   | 1,098,757                                   |
| Total Gross Emissions (excl. forestry)  | 759,929   | 1,096,155                                   |

Future community carbon footprints for Tauranga may also require adjustments to the emission results reported here due to improvements to the inventory process.

## 8.0 Closing Statement

Tauranga's GHG emissions footprint provides information for decision-making and action by the council, Tauranga stakeholders, and the wider community. We encourage the council to use the results of this study to update current climate actions plans and set emission reduction targets.

The emissions footprint developed for Tauranga covers emissions produced in the Stationary Energy, Transport, Waste, IPPU, Agriculture, and Forestry sectors using the GPC reporting framework. Sector-level data allows Tauranga to target and work with the sectors that contribute the most emissions to the footprint.

Understanding of the extensive and long-lasting effects of climate change is improving all the time. It is recommended that this emissions footprint be updated regularly (every two or three years) to inform ongoing positive decision making to address climate change issues.

The accuracy of any emissions footprint is limited by the availability, quality, and applicability of data. Solid waste and wastewater, marine freight emissions, IPPU, and on and off-road transport fuel use.

## 9.0 Limitations

Where this Report indicates that information has been provided to AECOM by third parties, AECOM has made no independent verification of this information except as expressly stated in the Report. AECOM assumes no liability for any inaccuracies in or omissions to that information. This Report was prepared between **December 2021 and September 2022** and is based on the information reviewed at the time of preparation. AECOM disclaims responsibility for any changes that may have occurred after this time. This Report should be read in full. No responsibility is accepted for use of any part of this report in any other context or for any other purpose or by third parties. This Report does not purport to give legal advice.

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# Assumptions

| Sector /<br>Category     | Assumption and Exclusions  |
|--------------------------|--|
| General                  |  |
|                          | LGNZ local council mapping boundaries have been applied.   |
| Geographical<br>Boundary | The emissions footprint for the Bay of Plenty Region covers the entirety of the Bay of Plenty Region (this excludes some of the Rotorua and Taupō territorial authorities).  |
|                          | Emissions footprints for each territorial authority covers the entirety of the territorial authority area (for Rotorua and Taupō territorial authorities, this includes areas outside the Bay of Plenty Region).                                   |
|                          | Population figures are provided by StatsNZ.  |
| Population               | Financial year populations have been used, these are based on the average population from the two calendar years (e.g. the average of 2018 and 2019 calendar year populations for FY19).   |
|                          | The population of Rotorua and Taupō inside/outside the Bay of Plenty Region has been estimated by AECOM and approved by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BoPRC).  |
| Transport Emissio        | ons  |
| Petrol and<br>Diesel:    | Bay of Plenty fuel sales figures (litres) provided by Rotorua Lakes District Council.  |
|                          | Sales have been divided between territorial authorities based on the number of kilometres travelled by vehicles on roads (VKT) in each territorial authority. VKT data provided by Waka Kotahi.  |
|                          | The division into transport and stationary energy end use (and within transport into on-road and off-road) has been calculated using fuel end use data provided by the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA) from the 2019 database. |
|                          | Biofuel sales information provided directly by the supplier.   |
| Rail Diesel              | Emissions from fuel use have been calculated and provided by Kiwi Rail. The following assumptions were made:   |
|                          | <ul> <li>Net Weight is product weight only and excludes container tare (the weight of an empty container)</li> </ul>   |
|                          | <ul> <li>The Net Tonne-Kilometres (NTK) measurement has been used. NTK is the sum of<br/>the tonnes carried multiplied by the distance travelled.</li> </ul>   |
|                          | - National fuel consumption rates have been used to derive litres of fuel for distance.  |
|                          | <ul> <li>Type of locomotive engine used, and jurisdiction topography, have not been<br/>incorporated in the calculations.</li> </ul>   |
|                          | The trans-boundary routes were determined, and the number of stops taken along the way derived. The total amount of litres of diesel consumed per route was then split between the   |

|  | departure district, arrival district and any district the freight stopped at along the way. If the  |
|--|---|
|  | freight travelled through but did not stop within a district, no emissions were allocated.  |
|  | This data is subject to commercial confidentiality.   |
| Jet Kerosene<br>(Scheduled<br>Flights) | Calculated from information provided by Rotorua, Tauranga, Taupō, and Whakatāne airports.   |
|  | Emissions from scheduled flights are allocated equally between the origin and destination area emissions footprints.  |
|  | Flight emissions relating to each airport have been divided between territorial authorities based on the expected users of the airports:  |
|  | - Rotorua Airport to Rotorua territorial authority only   |
|  | - Taupō Airport to Taupō territorial authority only   |
|  | <ul> <li>Whakatāne Airport to Whakatāne, Ōpōtiki, and Kawerau territorial authorities,<br/>allocated based on population size</li> </ul>  |
|  | <ul> <li>Tauranga Airport to Tauranga and Tauranga territorial authorities, allocated based<br/>on population size</li> </ul>   |
| Aviation Gas<br>(General<br>Aviation)  | Aviation Gas consumption has been estimated based on community carbon footprints developed for other regions in New Zealand. The relative size of this consumption has been based on the number of general aviation flights taken from each airport for each year. This information has been provided by the respective airports. |
|  | Emissions relating to each airport have been divided between territorial authorities as described for 'Schedules Flights' above.  |
| Marine Freight                         | Shipping schedules have been provided by the Port of Tauranga. Emissions have been calculated based on ship weight and distance from the origin/destination to Tauranga.  |
|  | This figure does not include fishing vessels, or vessels with Tauranga as both the origin and destination.  |
|  | Emissions from freight and international shipping are allocated equally between the origin and destination area emissions footprints.   |
|  | It is expected that imports and exports travelling through the Port of Tauranga service the entire Bay of Plenty Region. Emissions relating to freight and international shipping emissions have been divided between all Bay of Plenty territorial authorities based on population size.   |
| Marine Fuel<br>(Local)                 | This emissions source relates to vessels servicing the Port of Tauranga. All emissions have been allocated to Tauranga territorial authority.   |
|  | Does not include fuel use for private boating. Most private marine vessels use fuel purchased at vehicle fuel stations. Petrol and diesel used in private marine vessels is included in off-road transportation.  |

| LPG<br>Consumption                           | North Island LPG sales data (tonnes) has been provided by the LPG Association.  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
|  | 'Auto' and 'Forklift' sales represent transport uses of LPG.  |  |  |
|  | Sales have been divided between territorial authorities on a per capita basis.  |  |  |
| Stationary Energy                            | Stationary Energy Emissions   |  |  |
| Electricity<br>Demand                        | Electricity demand has been calculated using grid exit point (GXP) data from the EMI website (www.emi.ea.govt.nz). Reconciled demand has been used as per EMI's confirmation.   |  |  |
|  | The territorial authorities serviced by each GXP have been confirmed by the respective electricity suppliers.   |  |  |
|  | The breakdown into sectors (Residential, Commercial, and Industrial) is based on NZ average consumption per sector as per Ministry for the Environment (MfE) data.  |  |  |
| Electricity<br>Generation                    | Electricity generation has been calculated using data from the EMI website (www.emi.ea.govt.nz).  |  |  |
|  | Small electricity generation has not been included in this data (e.g. domestic solar generation). This figure only includes electricity that is connected to the national electricity grid, direct users of electricity are not included. |  |  |
| Coal<br>Consumption                          | National coal consumption data has been provided by MBIE. Regional industrial coal data has been provided by EECA.  |  |  |
|  | National residential and commercial coal consumption has been divided between territorial authorities on a per capita basis.  |  |  |
|  | Regional industrial coal consumption has been divided between territorial authorities on a per capita basis.  |  |  |
| Coal Production<br>and Fugitive<br>Emissions | Not Calculated: There are no active coal mines within the region.   |  |  |
| Biofuel<br>Consumption                       | National biofuel consumption data has been provided by the Ministry for Business,<br>Innovation and Employment (MBIE).  |  |  |
|  | Biofuel consumption has been divided between territorial authorities on a per capita basis.   |  |  |
|  | Biofuel emissions are broken down into Biogenic emissions (CO <sub>2</sub> ) and Non-Biogenic emissions (CH <sub>4</sub> and N <sub>2</sub> O)  |  |  |
| LPG<br>Consumption                           | North Island LPG sales data (tonnes) has been provided by the LPG Association.  |  |  |
|  | 'Auto' and 'Forklift' sales represent transport uses of LPG. All other sales represent stationary energy uses of LPG.   |  |  |

|  | Sales have been divided between territorial authorities on a per capita basis.   |
|--|--|
|  | The breakdown into sectors (Residential, Commercial, and Industrial) is based on NZ average consumption per sector as per MfE data.  |
| Natural Gas<br>Consumption                       | Natural gas consumption data has been provided by FirstGas. Territorial Authorities supplied by gas from each Point of Connection (POC) have been confirmed by FirstGas.   |
|  | Natural gas consumption has been split into residential, commercial, and industrial consumption based on national statistics from MBIE. Some POCs supply gas to particular industrial users exclusively, these have been taken into account.   |
| Oil and Gas<br>Fugitive<br>Emissions             | Not Calculated: There are no gas or oil processing plants within the region.   |
| Agricultural Emiss                               | ions   |
| General  | Territorial authority livestock numbers and fertiliser data taken from the Agricultural Census (StatsNZ). The last territorial authority census was in 2017. Regional agricultural data from StatsNZ (2021) has been used to estimate the change in livestock and fertiliser use since 2017. |
| Solid Waste Emis                                 | Territorial authority land-use data provided by BoPRC covering horticulture land-use.  |
|  |  |
| Waste in Landfill                                | Landfill waste volume and end location information has been provided by the respective council departments.  |
|  | Where information is not available, waste volumes have been estimated based on historical national data on a per capita basis.   |
|  | Emissions are allocated to territorial authorities based on where the waste was produced, even if the waste is disposed in landfill outside the territorial authority.   |
| Wastewater Emiss                                 | sions  |
| Wastewater<br>Volume and<br>Treatment<br>Systems | Information on treated wastewater, and treatment plants has been provided by the respective council departments.   |
|  | Where information is not available, reasonable assumptions have been made.   |
|  | The population connected to septic tank systems have been estimated by the respective council departments.   |
|  | Emissions are allocated to territorial authorities based on where the wastewater was produced, even if the wastewater is treated outside the territorial authority.  |
| Industrial Emissio                               | ns   |
|  |  |

| Industrial processes         | It is assumed that there are no significant non-energy related emissions of greenhouse gasses from industrial processes in the Region (e.g. aluminium manufacture).  |
|------------------------------|--|
| Industrial<br>Product Use    | National data covering industrial product use (e.g. fire extinguishers, refrigerants) has been provided by the MfE.  |
|                              | Emissions have been allocated to territorial authorities on a per capita basis.  |
| Forestry Emission            | IS   |
| Exotic Forestry<br>Harvested | Regional exotic wood harvested has been provided by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) in the Agricultural Production Statistics. The 2017/18 year is the latest year's data available, for 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21, the 2017/18 figure is used.   |
|                              | Exotic forest of harvestable age land area for each territorial authority has been provided<br>by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) in the National Exotic Forest Description<br>(NEFD). This has been used to estimate the likely breakdown of the region's harvested<br>wood by territorial authority. |
|                              | Emissions from roundwood, slash, and the underground tree are all accounted for.   |
| Exotic and<br>Native Forest  | Exotic forest land area for each territorial authority has been provided by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) in the National Exotic Forest Description (NEFD).  |
| sequestration                | Native forest land area is provided by Landcare Research Land-use Change Database (LCDB v5). The 2018/19 year is the latest year's data available, for 2019/20 and 2020/21, the 2018/19 figure is used.  |
| Emission Factors             |  |
| General                      | All emission factors have detailed source information in the calculation tables within which they are used. Where possible, the most up to date, NZ-specific EFs have been applied.  |
|                              | AR5 Global Warming Potential (GWP) figures for greenhouse gases have been used accounting for climate change feedbacks.  |