

Home

Climate change impact and actions

Overview of topic

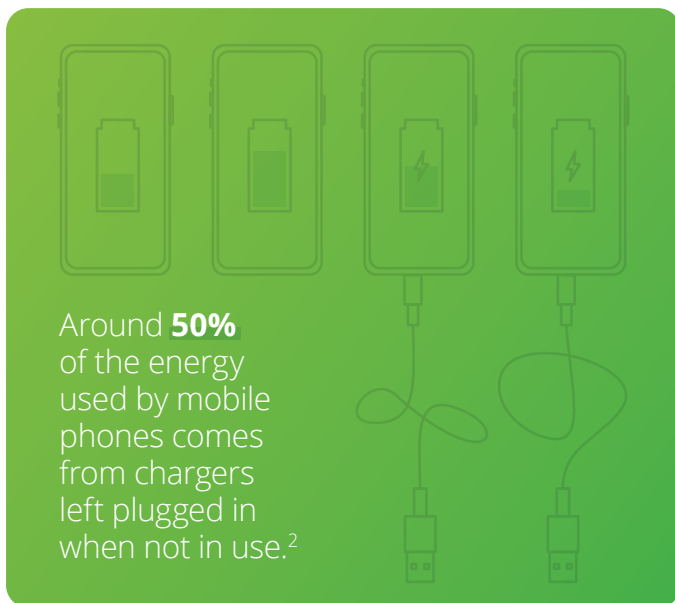
On average, the energy we use for our homes accounts for around 20% of carbon dioxide emissions.¹ This energy is used to light, cool and heat our homes as well as the electricity used to run appliances and other electronics. In many parts of the world, heating and cooling typically consume the most energy followed by lighting.

We can reduce home energy use and its associated emissions through choosing: the attributes of the appliance or system, environment in which it operates, how it operates, or the source of the energy. Home appliances, lighting and heating and cooling systems come in a range of models and/or technologies and choosing those which maximize efficiency will result in lower energy use per unit of output. Also, modifying

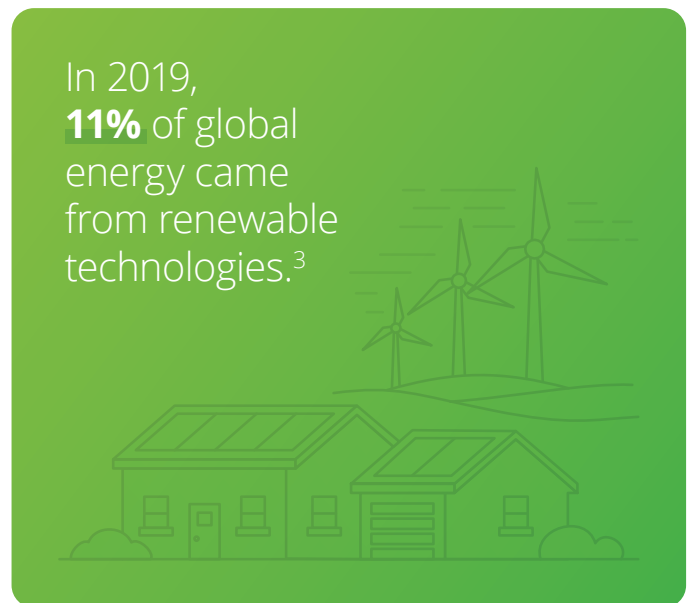
the structure of a house, such as through improving insulation and reducing leakage through windows and doors can significantly decrease energy use. Operating household appliances or systems in modes that minimize their energy, such as through programmability or simply unplugging them when not in use, also reduces associated emissions.

Regardless of the amount of energy used, emissions per unit of energy consumed will be determined by the generation source. In some geographies, people can choose their energy providers, can install green power at their home (solar panels), or can opt for green power purchasing through their existing providers or through others, thereby reducing emissions.

Did you know?



Around **50%** of the energy used by mobile phones comes from chargers left plugged in when not in use.²



In 2019, **11%** of global energy came from renewable technologies.³

- Energy used for heating and cooling accounts for nearly 50% of all global energy demand.⁴
- There are 1 billion single-room air conditioning units in the world right now, one for every seven people on Earth.⁵
- Doubling the share of renewables in the global energy mix by 2030 would increase global GDP by up to 1.1%, or US\$1.3 trillion.⁶
- Upgrading a home's heating and cooling equipment can reduce energy use by up to 20%.⁷

Home

Climate change impact and actions

Positive climate actions you can take



Today

Unplug your chargers for mobile phones and devices when not using them.

Use cold water settings for your laundry and air dry as often as possible.

Prioritize your daily activities to maximize natural daylight.

Use the 'Energy Saver' mode on your phone and laptop to help the battery last longer.



Next month

Switch to energy saving lightbulbs—they use one third of the electricity of conventional bulbs and can last up to 10 times as long.

Explore options for using renewable electricity in your home.

Choose a laptop instead of a desktop—it consumes five times less electricity.



Over the coming year

When buying new appliances consider their efficiency as part of the purchase decision.

Install a programmable thermostat.

Explore installing a water-saving showerhead.

Regularly maintain your heating and air conditioning systems to increase energy efficiency.

Explore sustainability focused home upgrades, such as attic insulation to reduce emissions.

Home

Climate change impact and actions

Additional Resources

Read

[WWF | Green tips](#) (blog)

[National Geographic | Renewable energy, explained](#) (article)

Watch

[WWF | Climate crisis: Mobilizing action to ensure a liveable planet](#) (webinar)

[TED Talks | The four things you need to know about the energy you use](#) (video)

[TED Talks | How behavioural science can lower your energy bill](#) (video)

[National Geographic | Renewable energy 101](#) (video)

These links are being provided as a convenience and for informational purposes only; they do not constitute an endorsement or an approval by Deloitte of any of the products, services or opinions of the applicable corporation, organization or individual. Deloitte bears no responsibility for the accuracy, legality or content of the external site or for that of subsequent links. Contact the external site for answers to questions regarding its content.

¹ WWF.

² Ibid.

³ Hannah Ritchie (2017) - "[Renewable Energy](#)". Published online at OurWorldInData.org. Retrieved from: '<https://ourworldindata.org/renewable-energy>' [Online Resource]

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Martin Armstrong, "Air Conditioning Biggest Factor in Growing Electricity Demand", Statista, August 27, 2020.

⁶ WWF.

⁷ US Department of Energy, "Energy Data Facts", accessed December 10, 2020.

[Return to the WorldClimate Hub](#)



Deloitte refers to one or more of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited ("DTTL"), its global network of member firms, and their related entities (collectively, the "Deloitte organisation"). DTTL (also referred to as "Deloitte Global") and each of its member firms and related entities are legally separate and independent entities, which cannot obligate or bind each other in respect of third parties. DTTL and each DTTL member firm and related entity is liable only for its own acts and omissions, and not those of each other. DTTL does not provide services to clients. Please see www.deloitte.com/about to learn more.

Deloitte is a leading global provider of audit and assurance, consulting, financial advisory, risk advisory, tax and related services. Our global network of member firms and related entities in more than 150 countries and territories (collectively, the "Deloitte organisation") serves four out of five Fortune Global 500® companies. Learn how Deloitte's approximately 312,000 people make an impact that matters at www.deloitte.com.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.