

Denver to Barcelona: Global cities and greenhouse gas emissions

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Denver released the largest amount of greenhouse gases (GHG) and Barcelona (pictured here) had the smallest amount, according to a new study on factors that affect GHG emissions in global cities. Credit: Wikimedia Commons

Denver released the largest amount of greenhouse gases (GHG) and Barcelona the smallest amount in a new study documenting how differences in climate, population density and other factors affect GHG emissions in global cities. The study, which could identify ways in which cities can reduce GHG emissions, is scheduled for October 1 issue of *ACS' Environmental Science & Technology*.

Christopher Kennedy and colleagues note in the new study that some cities are developing strategies to reduce releases of GHG, which include carbon dioxide, methane, and other gases that can contribute to global warming through the greenhouse effect. Not enough information was previously available on why emissions vary considerably among different cities. The authors asked, "How and why do emissions differ

between cities?"

To help answer those questions, the scientists analyzed those variations and how [climate](#), power generation, transportation, waste processing, and other factors contributed to the differences. [Denver](#) had the highest overall GHG emissions, with levels two to five times higher than other cities. Its high levels were due partly to its high use of electricity, heating and industrial fuels, and ground transportation, they note. Los Angeles was second on the list, followed by Toronto and Cape Town (tied for third), Bangkok, New York City, London, Prague, Geneva, and [Barcelona](#).

More information: "Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Global Cities"; [Environmental Science & Technology](#)

Source: American Chemical Society ([news](#) : [web](#))

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