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Tokelau Greenhouse Gas Emissions: energy sector biggest contribution in 2019

Emissions from domestic navigation, refrigeration and air conditioning were the largest contributors to Tokelau’s gross greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in 2019, latest figures from the [New Zealand’s Greenhouse Gas Inventory 1990-2019 | Ministry for the Environment](#) shows.

Gross GHG emissions in 2019 were 4.30 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (kt CO₂-e) (Table 1). Of this total, 2.53 kt CO₂-e or 58.79% comes from the energy sector. Total Tokelau gross emissions in 2019 were 0.66 kt CO₂-e (18.2 per cent) higher than emissions in 2018.

Table 1: Emissions from Tokelau

Sector	1990	2019	Change from 1990 (kt CO ₂ -equivalent)	Change from 1990 (%)	Contribution to gross for Tokelau (%)	Contribution to gross NZ (incl Tokelau) (%)
Energy for Tokelau	1.26	2.53	1.26	99.91	58.79	0.003
IPPU for Tokelau	0.05	0.26	0.21	443.37	5.95	0.000
Agriculture for Tokelau	1.15	0.82	-0.33	-28.29	19.17	0.001
Waste for Tokelau	0.71	0.69	-0.02	-2.31	16.09	0.001
Gross emissions for Tokelau	3.17	4.30	1.13	35.67	100.00	0.005

Note: The 2019 submission includes emissions from Tokelau’s largest contributing sectors, which are the Energy, Industrial Product and Product Use (IPPU), Agriculture and Waste sectors. The LULUCF (Land Use and Land Use change and Forestry) sector is not estimated as it is expected to contribute a miniscule amount of emissions and removals, because Tokelau has no planted or managed forests. The percentages may not add up to 100 per cent due to rounding.

“The higher emissions are largely the result of increases in CO₂ emissions in the *Domestic navigation* category, due to increased shipping within Tokelau”, said Paula Faiva, Director of the Ministry of Climate, Oceans and Resilience.

Although Tokelau emissions in 2019 are higher than 2018, it only account for 0.003% contribution to gross NZ emissions in 2019.

“These are invaluable findings. We need the information and data in the preparation of our Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) report and our Long-Term Low Emissions Development strategies (LT-LEDs)”, Hon. Kelihiano Kalolo, Ulu o Tokelau, and Minister for Climate Change said.

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