

## 2023 Climate Impact Report: City of New York - Citywide

September 2024

#### Collective target: reduce food-related emissions by 25% by 2030



### **Methods and data**

GHG calculator uses emission factors from two global databases (Poore and Nemecek, Science, 2018; Searchinger et al., Nature, 2018) to estimate GHG emissions associated with production of food purchased.

RESEARCH

SUSTAINABILITY

#### Reducing food's environmental impacts through producers and consumers

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Assessing the efficiency of changes in land use for mitigating climate change

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#### **Methods and data**



Total food-related carbon costs per kg of product, retail weight

Note: Global average factors shown here. Sources: Poore and Nemecek (2018); Searchinger et al. (2018).

### What's included in the annual emissions estimates?

**GHG emissions from agricultural supply chains:** This includes emissions from production of food and animal feed (enteric fermentation, manure management, soil fertilization, rice methane, energy use on farms and for manufacturing inputs), transport of food and animal feed, food processing, food packaging, and losses during these supply chain stages (cradle to point of purchase).

Data source: Poore and Nemecek (2018).

**Carbon opportunity costs of agricultural land use:** This includes total historical carbon losses from plants and soils on lands used to produce the sourced food. Because carbon losses from clearing native ecosystems to expand food production occur quickly, but food production on a cleared plot of land can continue well into the future, this metric is annualized over a period of 33 years.

Data source: Searchinger et al. (2018).

## City of New York - Citywide: total food-related GHG emissions (2019 baseline)



Sources: Purchase data provided by member. Emission factors from Poore and Nemecek (2018) (agricultural supply chain) and Searchinger et al. (2018) (carbon opportunity costs).

# City of New York - Citywide: total food-related GHG emissions (2023)



Sources: Purchase data provided by member. Emission factors from Poore and Nemecek (2018) (agricultural supply chain) and Searchinger et al. (2018) (carbon opportunity costs).

### City of New York - Citywide: total food purchases (2019-2023)



Food type	% change
Ruminant meats	-64%
Pork	-77%
Animal-based foods (misc.)	-33%
Dairy	-18%
Poultry	+10%
Eggs	+80%
Seafood	+141%
Plant-based milk subs.	-73%
Grains	+65%
Legumes/nuts/seeds	+144%
Fruits & vegetables	+35%
Roots/tubers	+52%
Vegetable oils	+55%
Added sugars	+122%
Alcohol, stimulants, spices	+193%
Total	+17%

Other plant-based foods

## City of New York - Citywide: total food-related emissions (2019-2023)



Sources: Purchase data provided by member. Emission factors from Poore and Nemecek (2018) (agricultural supply chain) and Searchinger et al. (2018) (carbon opportunity costs).

#### Progress against absolute 25% target



Sources: Emission factors from Poore and Nemecek (2018) (agricultural supply chain) and Searchinger et al. (2018) (carbon opportunity costs). GHG equivalency to passenger vehicles from EPA (2021) and assumes 4.63 t CO<sub>2</sub>e/vehicle/year.

#### **Progress against relative 38% target**



# Benchmarking against sectoral and regional performance (per 1,000 kcal)



Sources: Emission factors from Poore and Nemecek (2018) (agricultural supply chain) and Searchinger et al. (2018) (carbon opportunity costs). Note: only "mandatory foods" (animal and plant proteins) are counted in this chart for comparability across all members.

## Benchmarking against all Coolfood and regional performance (per 1,000 kcal)



Sources: Emission factors from Poore and Nemecek (2018) (agricultural supply chain) and Searchinger et al. (2018) (carbon opportunity costs). Note: only "mandatory foods" (animal and plant proteins) are counted in this chart for comparability across all members.