

1 Temporary reduction in daily global CO₂ emissions during the 2 COVID-19 forced confinement

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26 27 28 **Abstract**

29 Government policies during the COVID-19 pandemic have drastically altered patterns
30 of energy demand around the world. Many international borders were closed and
31 populations were confined to their homes, reducing transport and consumption
32 patterns. Here we compile government policies and activity data to estimate the
33 decrease in CO₂ emissions during forced confinement. Daily global CO₂ emissions
34 decreased by –17% (–11% to –25%) by early April 2020 compared to mean 2019
35 levels, primarily from changes in surface transport. At their peak, emissions in
36 individual countries decreased by –27% on average. The impact on 2020 annual
37 emissions depends on the duration of the confinement, with a low estimate of –4% (–
38 2% to –7%) if pre-pandemic conditions return by mid-June, and a high estimate of –
39 8% (–3% to –14%) if some restrictions remain worldwide until end of 2020.
40 Government actions and economic incentives post-crisis will likely influence the global
41 CO₂ emissions path for decades.

42 43 **Introduction**

44 Before the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020, emissions of carbon dioxide had been rising
45 by about one percent per year over the previous decade¹⁻³, with no growth in 2019⁴
46 (also updated from Peters et al. 2020³; see Methods). Renewable energy production
47 was expanding rapidly amid plummeting prices⁵, but much of the renewable energy
48 was being deployed alongside fossil energy and did not replace it⁶, while emissions
49 from surface transport continued to rise^{3,7}.

50 The emergence of COVID-19 was first identified on 30 December 2019⁸ and declared
51 a global pandemic by the World Health Organization on 11 March 2020. Cases rapidly
52 spread initially mainly in China during January, but quickly expanding to South Korea,

53 Japan, Europe (mainly Italy, France and Spain) and the US between late January and
54 mid-February, before reaching global proportions by the time the pandemic was
55 declared⁹. Increasingly stringent measures were put in place by world governments in
56 an effort, initially, to isolate cases and stop the transmission of the virus, and later to
57 slow down its rate of spread. Measures imposed ramped up from the isolation of
58 symptomatic individuals, to the ban of mass gatherings, mandatory closure of schools,
59 and even mandatory home confinement (Table 1). Population confinement is leading
60 to drastic changes in energy use, with expected impacts on CO₂ emissions.

61 Despite the critical importance of CO₂ emissions for understanding global climate
62 change, systems are not in place to monitor global emissions in real time. CO₂
63 emissions are reported as annual values¹, often released months or even years after
64 the end of the calendar year. Despite this, some proxy data is available in near real
65 time or at monthly intervals. High-frequency electricity data is available for some
66 regions (e.g., Europe¹⁰ and US¹¹), but rarely the associated CO₂ emissions data.
67 Fossil fuel use is estimated for some countries at the monthly level, with data usually
68 released a few months later^{1,12}. Observations of CO₂ concentration in the atmosphere
69 are available near-real time^{13,14}, but the influence of the natural variability of the carbon
70 cycle and meteorology is large and masks the variability in anthropogenic signal over
71 short period^{15,16}. Satellite measurements of column CO₂ inventory¹⁷ have large
72 uncertainties and also reflect the variability of the natural CO₂ fluxes¹⁸, and thus
73 cannot yet be used in near-real time to determine anthropogenic emissions.

74 Given the lack of real time CO₂ emissions data, we take an alternative approach to
75 estimate country level emissions based on a confinement index representing the effect
76 of different policies. The change in CO₂ emissions associated with the confinement is
77 informative in multiple ways. First, the changes in emissions are entirely due to a
78 forced reduction in energy demand. Although in this case the demand disruption was
79 neither intentional nor welcome, the effect provides a quantitative indication of the
80 potential and limits that extreme measures could deliver with the current energy mix
81 (for example, a higher rate of home working or reducing consumption). Second, during
82 previous economic crises, the decrease in emissions was short-lived with a post-crisis
83 rebound that restored emissions to their original trajectory, except when these crises
84 were driven by energy factors such as the oil crises of the 1970s and 1980s, which led
85 to significant shifts in energy efficiency and development of alternative energy
86 sources¹⁹ (Fig. 1). For example, the 2008-2009 Global Financial Crisis saw global CO₂
87 emissions decline -1.4% in 2009, immediately followed by a growth in emissions of
88 +5.1% in 2010²⁰, well above the long-term average. Emissions soon returned to their
89 previous path almost as if the crisis had not occurred.

90 The economic crisis associated with COVID-19 is markedly different from previous
91 economic crises in that it is more deeply anchored in constrained individual behaviour.
92 At present it is unclear how long and deep the crisis will be, and how the recovery path
93 will look, and therefore, how CO₂ emissions will be affected. Keeping track of evolving
94 CO₂ emissions can help inform government responses to the COVID-19 pandemic to
95 avoid locking future emissions trajectories in carbon-intensive pathways.

96 **Method and results**

97 In this analysis, we use a combination of energy, activity, and policy data available up
98 to the end of April 2020 to estimate the changes in daily emissions during the
99 confinement from the COVID-19 pandemic, and its implications for the growth in CO₂
100 emissions in 2020. We compare this change in emissions to mean daily emissions for
101 the latest available year (2019 for the globe) to provide a quantitative measure of
102 relative change compared to pre-COVID conditions.

103 Changes in CO₂ emissions are estimated for three levels confinement and for six
104 sectors of the economy, as the product of the CO₂ emissions by sector before
105 confinement and the fractional decrease in those emissions due to the severity of the
106 confinement and its impact on each sector (Eq.1, see Method). The analysis is done
107 over 69 countries, 50 US states and 30 Chinese provinces representing 85% of the
108 world population and 97% of global CO₂ emissions.

109 The confinement index is defined on a scale of 0 to 3 that allocates the degree to
110 which normal daily activities were constrained for part or all of the population (Table
111 1). A scale of 0 indicates no measures are in place, 1: policies are targeted at small
112 groups of individuals suspected of carrying infection, 2: policies are targeted at entire
113 cities or regions or that affect about 50% of society, and 3: national policies
114 significantly restrict the daily routine of all but key workers, affecting approximately
115 80% of society (see Extended Methods in Supplementary Information). During the
116 early confinement phase around Chinese New Year in China (starting January 25),
117 around 30% of global emissions were in areas under some confinement (Fig. 1). This
118 increased to 70% by the end of February, and over 85% by mid-March when
119 confinement in Europe, India and the US started, while China later relaxed
120 confinement (Fig. 1). At its peak in early April, 89% of global emissions were in areas
121 under some confinement.

122 The six economic sectors covered in this analysis are: (1) power (44.3% of global
123 fossil CO₂ emissions), (2) surface transport (20.6%), (3) industry (22.4%), (4) public
124 buildings and commerce (here shortened to “public”; 4.2%), (5) residential (5.6%), and
125 (6) aviation (2.8%; see Methods). We collected time-series data (mainly daily)
126 representative of activities emitting CO₂ in each sector, to inform the changes in each
127 sector as a function of the confinement level (Fig. 2). The data represents changes in
128 activity, such as electricity demand or road and air traffic, rather than direct changes in
129 CO₂ emissions. We make a number of assumptions to cover the six sectors based on
130 the available data and the nature of the confinement (Table 2; see Methods;
131 Supplementary Tables S1-S10). Changes in the surface transport and aviation sectors
132 were best constrained by indicators of traffic from a range of countries, including both
133 urban and nation-wide data. Changes in power-sector emissions were inferred from
134 electricity data from Europe, US, and India. Changes in industry were inferred mainly
135 from industrial activity in China and steel production in the US. Changes in the
136 residential sector were inferred from UK smart meter data, while changes in the public
137 sector was based on assumptions about the nature of the confinement. All activity
138 changes are relative to typical activity level prior to the COVID-19 pandemic (see
139 Extended Methods in the Supplementary Information).

140 Activity data shows the changes in daily activities were largest in the aviation sector,
141 with a decrease in daily activity of –75% (–60% to –90%) during confinement level 3
142 (Table 2). Surface transport saw its activity reduce by –50% (–40% to –65%), while
143 industry and public sectors saw their activity reduce by –35% (–25% to –45%) and –
144 33% (–15% to –50%), respectively. Still during confinement level 3, power saw its
145 activity decrease by a modest –15% (–5% to –25%), while the residential sector saw
146 its activity increase by +5% (0% to +10%). Activity data also shows substantial
147 decreases in activity during confinement levels 2, and only small decreases during
148 confinement level 1 (Table 2).

149 150 **Daily changes in CO₂ emissions**

151 The effect of the confinement was to decrease daily global CO₂ emissions by –17 (–11
152 to –25) MtCO₂ d⁻¹, or –17% (–11% to –25%) by 7 April 2020 (Table 2), relative to the
153 mean level of emissions in 2019. The change in emissions on 7 April was the largest

154 estimated daily change during 1 January to 30 April 2020. Daily emissions in early
155 April are comparable to their levels of 2006 (Fig. 3). The values in $\text{MtCO}_2 \text{ d}^{-1}$ are close
156 to the value in percent coincidentally, because we currently emit about $100 \text{ MtCO}_2 \text{ d}^{-1}$.
157 For individual countries, the maximum daily decrease averaged to -27% ($\pm 9\%$ for
158 $\pm 1\sigma$), although the maximum daily decrease did not occur during the same day across
159 countries, hence the decrease is more pronounced than the global maximum daily
160 decrease. Estimated changes quantify the effect of confinement only, and is relative to
161 underlying trends prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. The daily decrease in CO_2
162 emissions during the pandemic is as large as the seasonal amplitude in emissions
163 estimated from data published elsewhere^{21,22} ($-17 \text{ MtCO}_2 \text{ d}^{-1}$), which results primarily
164 from the higher energy use in winter than summer in the Northern Hemisphere. The
165 range in estimate reflects the range of parameter values (Table 2) based on the
166 spread in underlying data (Fig. 2).

167 Global emissions from surface transport fell by -36% or -7.5 (-5.9 to -9.6) $\text{MtCO}_2 \text{ d}^{-1}$
168 by 7 April 2020 and made the largest contribution to the total emissions change ($-$
169 43% ; Fig. 4; Table 2). Emissions fell by -7.4% or -3.3 (-1.0 to -6.8) $\text{MtCO}_2 \text{ d}^{-1}$ in the
170 power sector, and by -19% or -4.3 (-2.3 to -6.5) in the industry sector. Emissions
171 from surface transport, power and industry were the most affected sectors in absolute
172 values, accounting for 86% of the total reduction in global emissions. CO_2 emissions
173 declined by -60% or -1.7 (-1.3 to -2.2) $\text{MtCO}_2 \text{ d}^{-1}$ in the aviation sector, yielding the
174 largest relative anomaly of any sector, and by -21% or -0.9 (-0.3 to -1.4) $\text{MtCO}_2 \text{ d}^{-1}$ in
175 the public sector. The large relative anomalies in the aviation sector correspond with
176 the disproportionate effect of confinement on air travel (Table 2). A small growth in
177 global emissions occurred in the residential sector, with $+2.8\%$ or $+0.2$ (-0.1 to $+0.4$)
178 $\text{MtCO}_2 \text{ d}^{-1}$ and only marginally offsets the decrease in emissions in other sectors.

179 The total change in emissions until the end of April is estimated to amount to -1048 ($-$
180 543 to -1638) MtCO_2 (Table S13). Of this, the changes are largest in China where the
181 confinement started, with a decrease of -242 (-108 to -394) MtCO_2 , then in the US,
182 with -207 (-112 to -314) MtCO_2 , then Europe, with -123 (-78 to -177) MtCO_2 , and
183 India, with -98 (-47 to -154) MtCO_2 . These changes reflect both the fact that these
184 are regions that emit high levels of CO_2 on average, and their severe confinement in
185 the period through end of April. The integrated changes in emissions over China
186 MtCO_2 are comparable in magnitude with the estimate -250 MtCO_2 of Myllyvirta
187 (2020)²³ up to the end of March. The global changes in emissions is also consistent
188 with global changes in NO_2 inventory from satellite data, although the concentration
189 data is complex to interpret (see Supplementary Figures S1-S2).

191 **Implications for global fossil CO_2 emissions in 2020**

192 The change for the rest of the year will depend on the duration and extent of the
193 confinement, the time it will take to resume normal activities, and the degree to which
194 life will resume its pre-confinement course. At the time of press, most countries that
195 were under confinement level 3 had announced dates when they anticipated some
196 confinement would be lifted. Dates ranged between mid-April and mid-May. We use
197 those dates where available, and for other countries we assume end of confinement
198 corresponding to neighbouring regions or States (see Supplementary Tables S15-
199 S16). It is possible that end of confinement is delayed in some countries and therefore
200 these dates are likely the earliest possible dates. Nevertheless, the mounting
201 social^{24,25} and economic pressure²⁶, along with improving management of healthcare
202 means systematic postponement is unlikely.

203 We assessed the effect of the recovery time by conducting three sensitivity tests. Our
204 sensitivity tests are not intended to provide a full range of possibilities, but rather to

205 indicate the approximate effect of the extent of the confinement on CO₂ emissions.
206 Before COVID-19 we expected global emissions to be similar to those in 2019², so the
207 effect of confinement on CO₂ emissions provided above might be approximately
208 equivalent to the actual change from 2019 emissions. Our sensitivity tests do not
209 attempt to quantify the effects of multiple confinement waves, or of deeper and
210 sustained changes in the economy that could result from either the collapse of tens of
211 thousands of small and medium businesses or government economic stimulus
212 packages.

213 In the first sensitivity test, we assume that after the announced dates for initial
214 deconfinement, activities will return to pre-crisis level within 6 weeks (around mid-
215 June), as observed for coal use in industry in China²³. In this case, the decrease in
216 emissions from the COVID-19 crisis would be –1524 (–795 to –2403) MtCO₂, or –
217 4.4% (–2.3% to –7.0%). In the second sensitivity test, we assume it takes 12 weeks to
218 reach pre-confinement levels (around the second half of July), because of low
219 productivity resulting from social trauma, and low confidence. This longer period is
220 more aligned with announcements of gradual deconfinements, for example in France,
221 UK and Norway, where a gradual deconfinement is planned over the coming months,
222 and with time-scales for expected progression of the illness²⁷. In this case, the
223 decrease in emissions from the COVID-19 crisis would be –1923 (–965 to –3083)
224 MtCO₂, or –5.6% (–2.8% to –9.0%).

225 In the third sensitivity test, we make the same assumption as the second test, but
226 further assume that confinement level 1 remains in place in all countries examined
227 until the end of the year. This is consistent with the situation in China in general, where
228 although measures were lifted at the end of February in most provinces, there are still
229 some restrictions on specific activities such as restricted international travel. It is also
230 more aligned with latest understanding of the dynamics of transmission of the disease,
231 suggesting prolonged or intermittent social distancing may be necessary into 2022²⁸.
232 In this case, the decrease in emissions from the COVID-19 crisis would be –2729 (–
233 986 to –4717) MtCO₂, or –8.0% (–2.9% to –14%).

234 At the regional levels, the low sensitivity test led to mid-point decreases in emissions
235 for year 2020 of –2.3%, –6.7%, –5.6% and –5.3% respectively for China, the US,
236 Europe (EU27+UK) and India, while the high sensitivity test led to mid-point decreases
237 of –5.1%, –11.3%, –9.3%, and –8.8% for those same countries (Table S14). For
238 comparison for the US alone, the EIA (2020) provides a forecast of a decrease in
239 emissions of –7.5% in 2020²⁹, taking into account all projected economic factors,
240 which is between our scenario tests 1 & 2.

241 In spite of the broader effects on the economy that are not included in our analysis,
242 our 2020 estimates are similar to what can be inferred based on the projections of the
243 International Monetary Fund (IMF) for 2020 of –3% reduction in global Gross Domestic
244 Product³⁰ combined with an average CO₂/GDP improvement of –2.7% over the past
245 decade³¹, which gives a –5.7% reduction in CO₂ emissions in 2020. These
246 independent global and US projections are similar to the middle sensitivity test 2 of
247 confinement that we present in this publication (see Table S14), while the projection of
248 the International Energy Agency of –8% decrease in CO₂ emissions in 2020 aligns
249 with our high-end test 3³². The IMF and EIA further forecast that emissions will
250 rebound +5.8% and +3.5% in 2021, respectively for the world and US economies.

251
252

Discussion

253 The estimated decrease in daily CO₂ emissions from the severe and forced
254 confinement of world populations of –17% (–11% to –25%) at its peak are extreme
255 and probably unseen before. Still, these correspond to the level of emissions in 2006

256 only. The associated annual decrease will be much lower (−4.4% to −8.0% according
257 to our sensitivity tests), which is comparable to the rates of decrease needed year-on-
258 year over the next decades to limit climate change to 1.5°C warming^{33,34}. These
259 numbers put in perspective both the large growth in global emissions observed over
260 the past 14 years, and the size of the challenge we have to limit climate change in line
261 with the Paris climate Agreement.

262 Furthermore, most changes observed in 2020 are likely to be temporary as they do not
263 reflect structural changes in the economic, transport, or energy systems. The social
264 trauma of confinement and associated changes could alter the future trajectory in
265 unpredictable ways³⁵, but social responses alone, as shown here, would not drive the
266 deep and sustained reductions needed to reach net zero emissions. Scenarios of low-
267 energy/material demand explored for climate stabilisation explicitly aim to match
268 reduced demand with higher wellbeing^{35,36}, an objective that is not met by mandatory
269 confinements. Still opportunities exist to set structural changes in motion by
270 implementing economic stimuli aligned with low carbon pathways.

271 Our study reveals how responsive the surface transportation sector's emissions can
272 be to policy changes and economic shifts. Surface transport accounts for nearly half
273 the decrease in emissions during confinement, while active travel (walking and cycling,
274 including ebikes) has attributes of social distancing that are likely to be desirable for
275 some time²⁸ and could help to cut back CO₂ emissions and air pollution as
276 confinement is eased. For example, cities like Bogota, New York, and Berlin are
277 rededicating street space for pedestrians and cyclists to enable safe individual
278 mobility, with some changes likely to become permanent. Follow-up research could
279 explore further the potential of near-term emissions reductions in the transport sector
280 without impacting societal well-being.

281 Several drivers push towards a rebound with an even higher emission trajectory
282 compared to policy-induced trajectories before the COVID-19 pandemic, including
283 calls by some governments³⁷ and industry to delay Green New Deal programs and to
284 weaken vehicle emission standards³⁸, and the disruption to clean energy deployment
285 and research from supply issues. The extent to which world leaders consider the net
286 zero emissions targets and the imperatives of climate change when planning their
287 economic responses to COVID-19 is likely to influence the pathway of CO₂ emissions
288 for decades to come.

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406 407 408 **Methods.**

409 410 **Changes in emissions**

411 Changes in emissions $\Delta CO_2^{c,s,d}$ in MtCO₂ d⁻¹ for each country/state/province (c), sector (s), and day (d) are
412 estimated using the following Equation:

$$\Delta CO_2^{c,s,d} = CO_2^c \times \delta S^c \times \Delta A^{s,d(Cl,c)} \quad (1)$$

413 Where CO_2^c in $MtCO_2 d^{-1}$ is the mean daily emissions for the latest available year (2017 to 2019) updated
414 from the Global Carbon Project for world countries (GCP; 2019)¹ (see Extended Methods in the
415 Supplementary Information), EIA³⁹ for the US, and national statistics⁴⁰ for Chinese provinces. δS^c is the
416 fraction of emissions in each sector using data from the IEA⁴¹ for world countries, EIA³⁹ for the US, and
417 national statistics⁴⁰ for Chinese provinces. $\Delta A^{s,d(CI)}$ is the fractional change in activity level for each sector
418 compared with pre-COVID levels (Table 2), as a function of the confinement index CI for each day of the
419 year and each country (see Supplementary Tables S15-S16). The combination of CO₂ emissions data
420 from GCP and sector distribution from IEA enabled the use of country's own reported emissions to the
421 UNFCCC, building on our previous work⁴², and means more recent emissions could be used. Our
422 analysis is done for 69 countries accounting for 97% of global emissions. We do not estimate changes in
423 other countries.

424 **Parameter choices**

425 The choices of parameters by sector is based on data that represent changes in activity rather than
426 directly changes in CO₂ emissions, and assumptions about the nature of the confinement. Most data are
427 available daily up to 15 April 2020. All data (Fig. 2) are representative of changes compared to a typical
428 day prior to confinement, taking into account seasonality and day of the week. The changes were
429 calculated differently depending on the data availability and the causes of the seasonality and weekly
430 variability. Sectors and parameter choices are described in detail in the Extended Methods section of the
431 Supplementary Information with the key elements summarised here.

432 *The power sector* (44.3% of global CO₂ emissions) includes energy conversion for electricity and heat
433 generation. The change in electricity and heat assumes this sector follows the change observed in
434 electricity demand data for the US⁴³, selected European countries¹⁰, and India⁴⁴.

435 *The industry sector* (22.4%) includes production of materials (e.g. steel), manufacturing, and cement. The
436 change in industry is based on China coal consumption for six coal producers²³ and on steel production in
437 the US⁴⁵.

438 *The surface transport sector* (20.6%) includes cars, light vehicles, buses and trucks, as well as national
439 and international shipping. The change in transport is based on the Apple mobility data⁴⁶ for world
440 countries, US⁴⁷ and UK⁴⁸ traffic data and urban congestion data from TOMTOM⁴⁹. The changes in
441 shipping are based on forecast by the World Trade Organization.

442 *The public sector* (4.2%) includes public buildings and commerce. The change in the public sector is
443 based on surface transport for the upper limit, assuming it is proportional to the change in the workforce.
444 It is based on electricity changes for the lower limit, with the central value interpolated between the two.

445 *The residential sector* (5.6%) represents mostly residential buildings. The changes in residential sector is
446 based on reports of residential use monitored with UK smart meters⁵⁰.

447 *The aviation sector* (2.8%) includes both domestic and international aviation. It is based on the total
448 number of departing flights by Aircrafts on Ground (OAG⁵¹).

449

450 **Data availability**

451 Global Carbon Project CO₂ emissions data are available at: <https://www.icos-cp.eu/global-carbon-budget-2019>

452 International Energy Agency IEA World Energy Balances 2019 @IEA are available at
453 www.iea.org/statistics/

454 European Network of Transmission System Operators Electricity Transparency Platform (ENTSOE) are
455 available at <https://transparency.entsoe.eu/>

456 Power System Operation Corporation Limited (POSOCO) data are available at
457 <https://posoco.in/reports/daily-reports/>

458 Energy Information Administration (IEA) data are available at https://www.eia.gov/realtime_grid/

459 CO₂ emissions data for China are available at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/s41597-020-0393-y/>

460 Coal changes from China industry are available at <https://www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-coronavirus-has-temporarily-reduced-chinas-co2-emissions-by-a-quarter/>

461 American Iron and Steel Institute data are available at <https://www.steel.org/industry-data/>

462 TOMTOM Traffic Index are available at https://www.tomtom.com/en_gb/traffic-index/

463 MS2 Corporation traffic data are available at <https://www.ms2soft.com/traffic-dashboard/>

464 Apple Mobility Trends data are available at <https://www.apple.com/covid19/mobility/>,

465 UK traffic data from the Cabinet Office Briefing are available at

466 <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/slides-and-datasets-to-accompany-coronavirus-press-conferences>

467 Octopus Energy Tech smartmeter data are available at <https://tech.octopus.energy/data-discourse/2020-social-distancing/index.html>

471

472 Aircraft on Ground OAG data are available at <https://www.oag.com/coronavirus-airline-schedules-data/>

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515 <https://www.oag.com/coronavirus-airline-schedules-data>, accessed 07 April 2020,
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517

518

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530 (all rights reserved).

531

532 **Author contributions**

533 C.L.Q., R.B.J., J.G.C., P.F., and G.P.P. conceived and designed the project. C.L.Q.
534 and A.J.P.S. conceived the Confinement index and together with Y.S. they produced
535 it. C.L.Q., R.B.J., M.W.J., S.A., R.M.A., A.J.D.-G., D.R.W., F.C. provided and analysed
536 data. C.L.Q. produced the analysis. All authors contributed to the interpretation of the
537 results and wrote the paper.

538

539 Correspondence and requests for materials should be addressed to C.L.Q.

540

541

579 **Table 1.** Definition of the Confinement Index (CI). The Confinement Index categorises
 580 the level of restrictions to normal activities that have the potential to influence CO₂
 581 emissions. It is based on the policies adopted by national and sub-national
 582 governments.
 583

Level	Description	Policy examples
0	No restrictions	
1	Policies targeted at long distance travel or groups of individuals where outbreak first nucleates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Isolation of sick or symptomatic individuals - Self-quarantine of travellers arriving from affected countries - Screening passengers at transport hubs - Ban of mass gatherings >5000 - Closure of selected national borders & restricted international travel - Citizen repatriation
2	Regional policies that restrict entire city/region or ~50% of society from normal daily routines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Closure of all national borders - Mandatory closure of schools, universities, public buildings, religious/cultural buildings, restaurants, bars, and other non-essential businesses, within a city or region - Ban public gathering >100 and social distancing >2m - Perhaps also accompanied by recommended closures at a broader or national level - Mandatory night curfew
3	National policies that significantly restrict the daily routine of all but key workers, ~80% of workforce.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mandatory national 'lockdown' requiring household confinement of all but key-workers - Ban public gathering >2 and social distancing >2m

584
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 586
 587

588 **Table 2.** Change in activity as a function of the confinement level (percent). (Left)
 589 Parameters used in Eq. 1 for each sector (ΔA^s). (Right) Results for the globe, on the
 590 day with the maximum change (4th April 2020). The change is estimated relative to the
 591 mean level of emissions in 2019 (see Methods).
 592

	Change in activity as a function of confinement level (Eq. 1)			Results
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	daily change 7 April 2020
Power	0% (0% to 0%)	-5% (0% to -15%)	-15% (-5% to -25%)	-7.4% (-2.2% to -14%)
Industry	-10% (0% to -20%)	-15% (0% to -35%)	-35% (-25% to -45%)	-19% (-10% to -29%)
Surface Transport	-10% (0% to -20%)	-40% (-35% to -45%)	-50% (-40% to -65%)	-36% (-28% to -46%)
Public	-5% (0% to -10%)	-22.5% (-5% to -40%)	-32.5% (-15% to -50%)	-21% (-8.1% to -33%)
Residential	0% (0% to 0%)	0% (-5% to +5%)	+5% (0% to +10%)	+2.8% (-1.0% to +6.7%)
Aviation	-20% (0% to -50%)	-75% (-55% to -95%)	-75% (-60% to -90%)	-60% (-44% to -76%)
Total				-17% (-11% to -25%)

593
 594

542 **Figure 1.** Fraction of global CO₂ emissions produced in areas which are subject to
543 confinement (percent). CO₂ emissions from nations and states in each confinement
544 level (see Table 1) are aggregated as a fraction of global CO₂ emissions. CO₂
545 emissions are from the Global Carbon Project¹ (see Methods).
546

547 **Figure 2.** Change in activity by sector during Confinement level 3 (percent). The data
548 includes: for the power sector, temperature-adjusted electricity trends in Europe¹⁰,
549 India⁴⁴, and the US⁴³; for the industry sector, coal use in industry in China²³ and US
550 steel production⁴⁵; for the surface transport sector, cities congestion⁴⁹, country
551 mobility⁴⁶, UK⁴⁸ and US state⁴⁷ traffic data; for the residential sector, UK smart meter
552 data⁵⁰; and for aviation, aircraft departures⁵¹. Each data point (filled circles) represents
553 the analysis of a full time series, and shows the changes in activity compared to typical
554 activity levels prior to COVID-19, correcting for seasonal and weekly biases. These
555 changes along with the nature of the confinement are used to set the parameters in
556 Eq. 1. (See Methods). The data is randomly spaced to highlight the volume of some
557 data streams. Empty points represent mean value amongst the sample of data points,
558 while the whiskers mark the standard deviation from the mean. The plotted violins
559 represent the kernel density estimate of the probability density function for each
560 sample of data points.

561
562 **Figure 3.** Global daily CO₂ emissions (MtCO₂ d⁻¹). **(Left panel)** Annual mean daily emissions
563 in the period 2000-2019 (black line), updated from the Global Carbon Project^{1,3} (See
564 Methods), with uncertainty of ±5% (±1σ; grey shading). Also on this panel are the daily
565 emissions in 2020 estimated here (red line). **(Right panel)** Daily CO₂ emissions in 2020 (red
566 line, same as left panel) based on the confinement index (CI) and corresponding change in
567 activity for each CI level (Figure 2), and its uncertainty (red shading; Table 2). Daily
568 emissions in 2020 are smoothed with a 7-day box filter to account for the transition between
569 confinement levels.

570

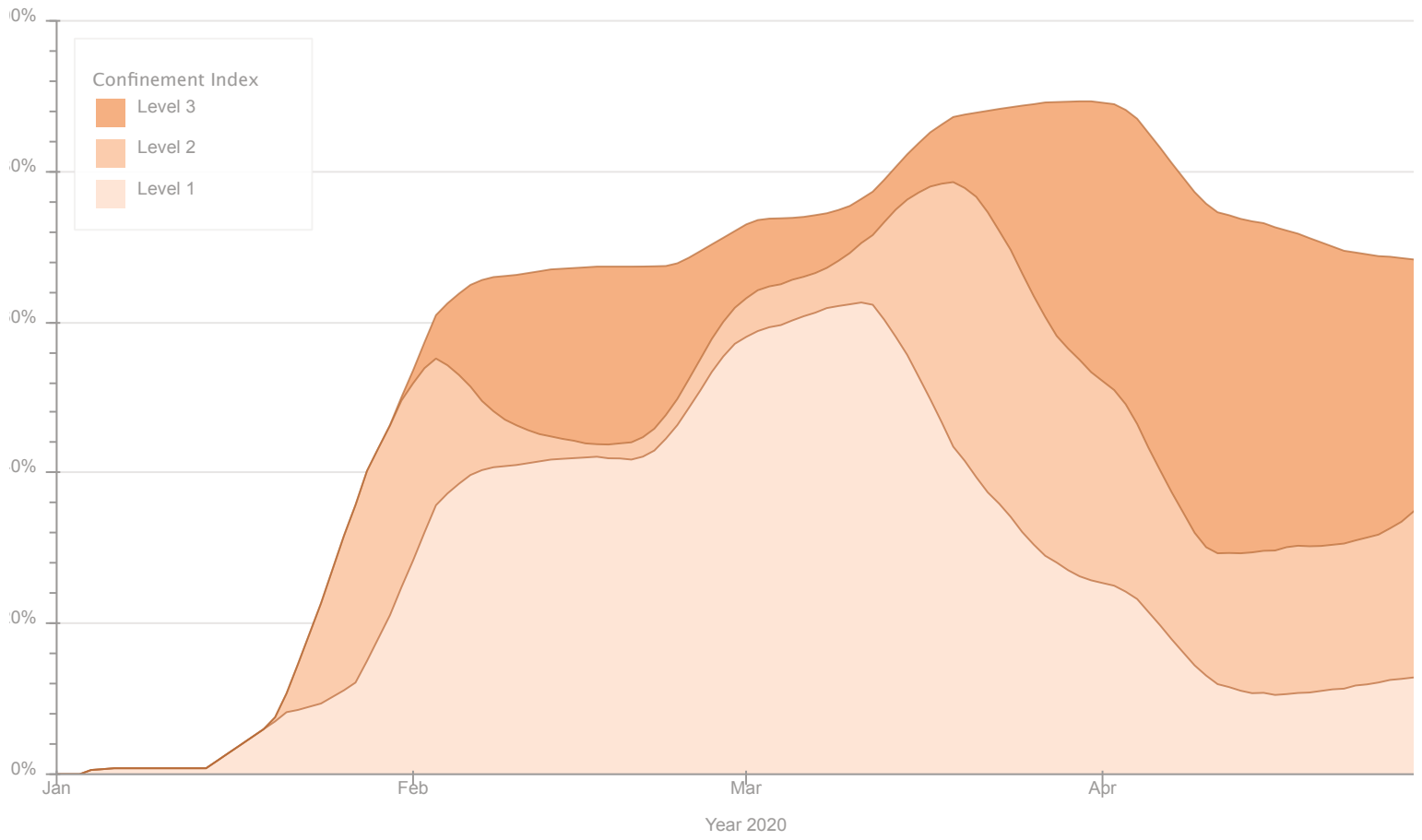
571 **Figure 4.** Change in global daily fossil CO₂ emissions by sector (MtCO₂ d⁻¹). The
572 uncertainty ranges represent the full range of our estimates. Changes are relative to
573 annual mean daily emissions from those sectors in 2019 (see Methods). Daily
574 emissions are smoothed with a 7-day box filter to account for the transition between
575 confinement levels. Note that the y-axes range differs for the upper and lower panels.

576

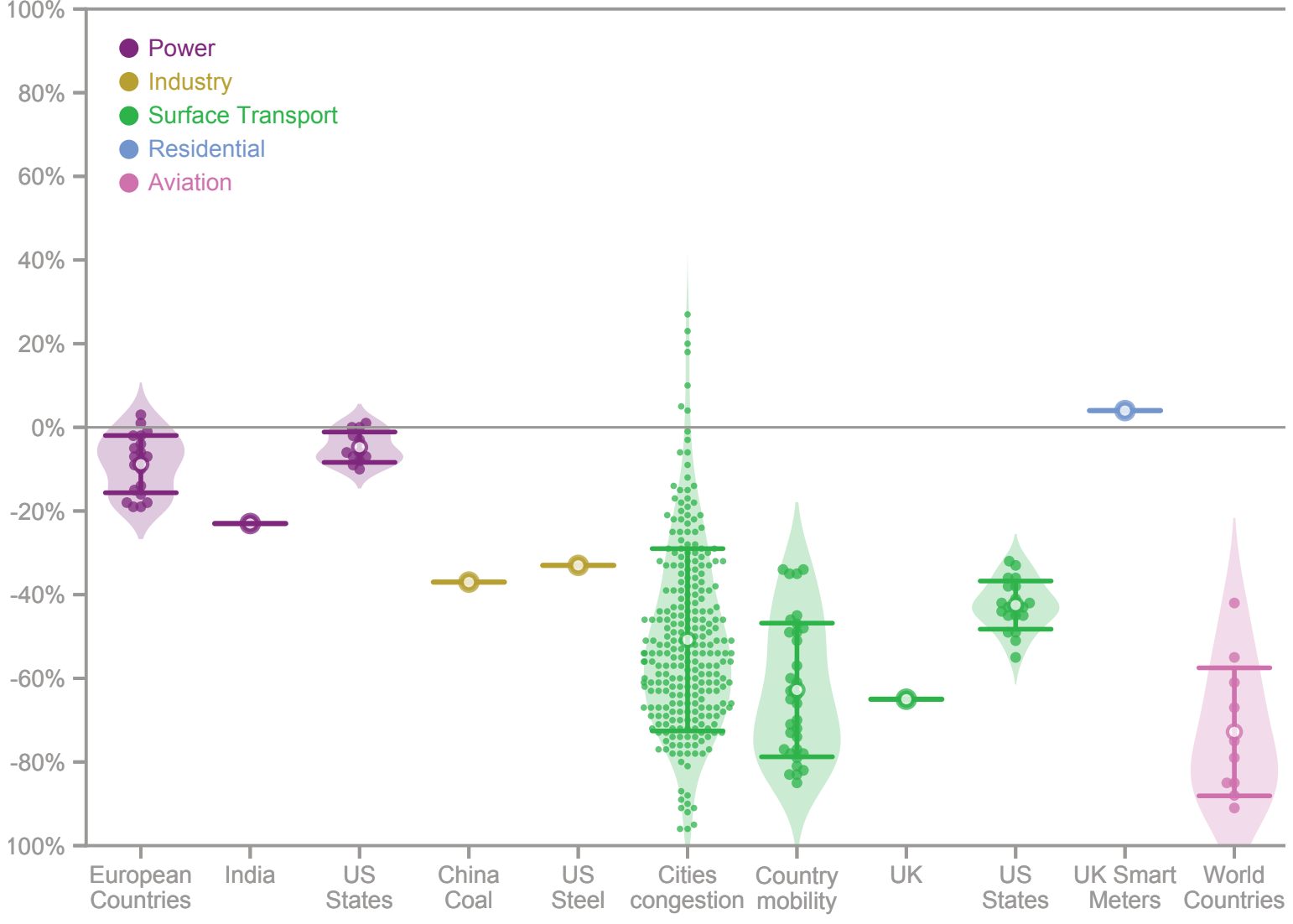
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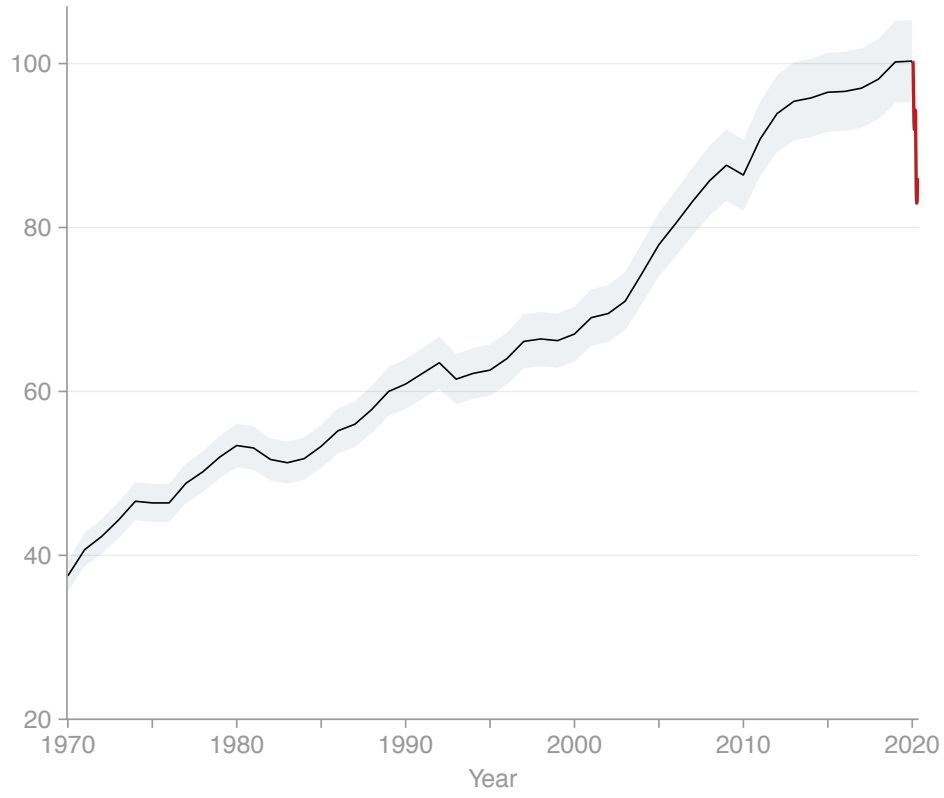
Proportion of global CO₂ emissions produced in area which are subject to confinement



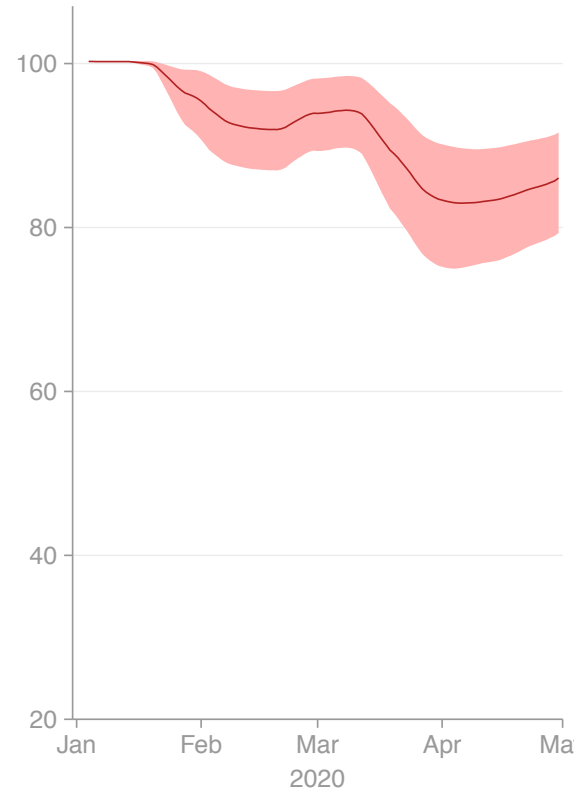
Percent change in activity



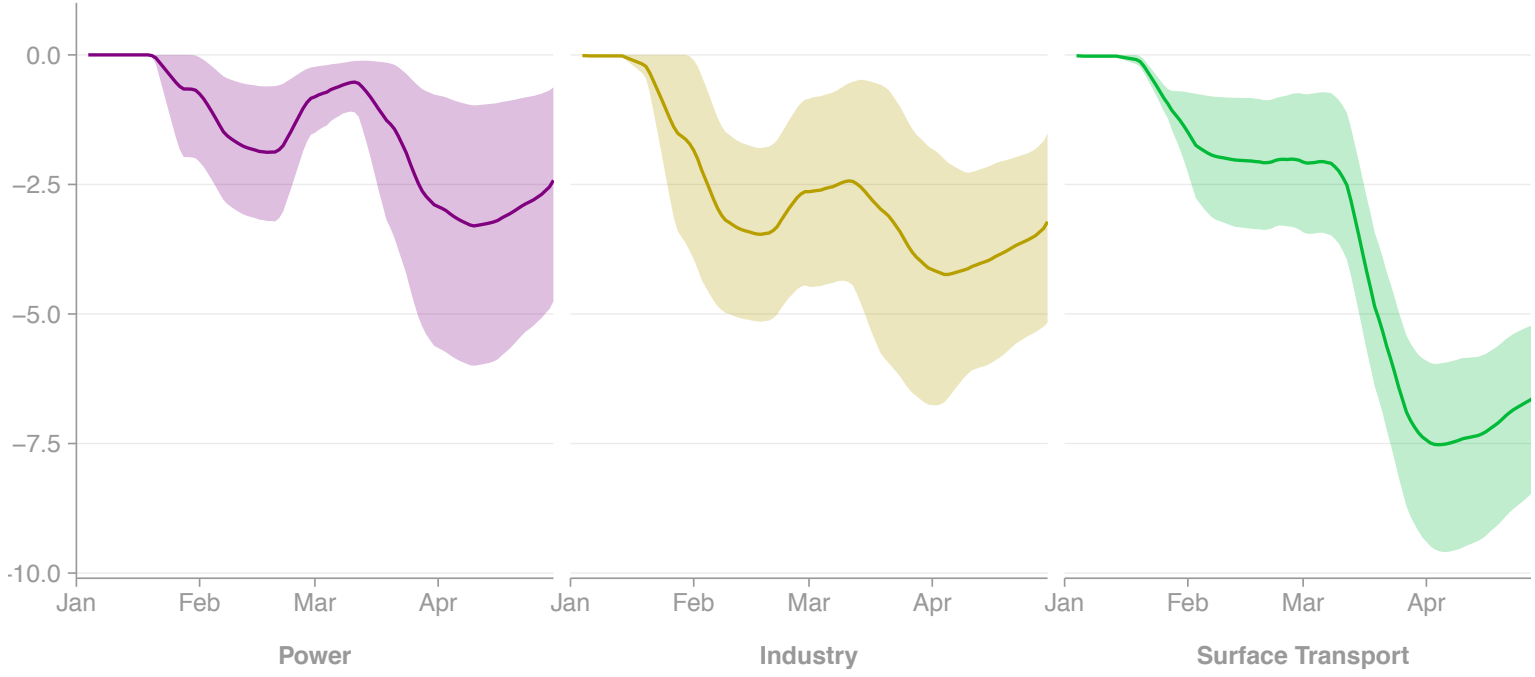
Global daily fossil CO₂ emissions
MtCO₂ day⁻¹



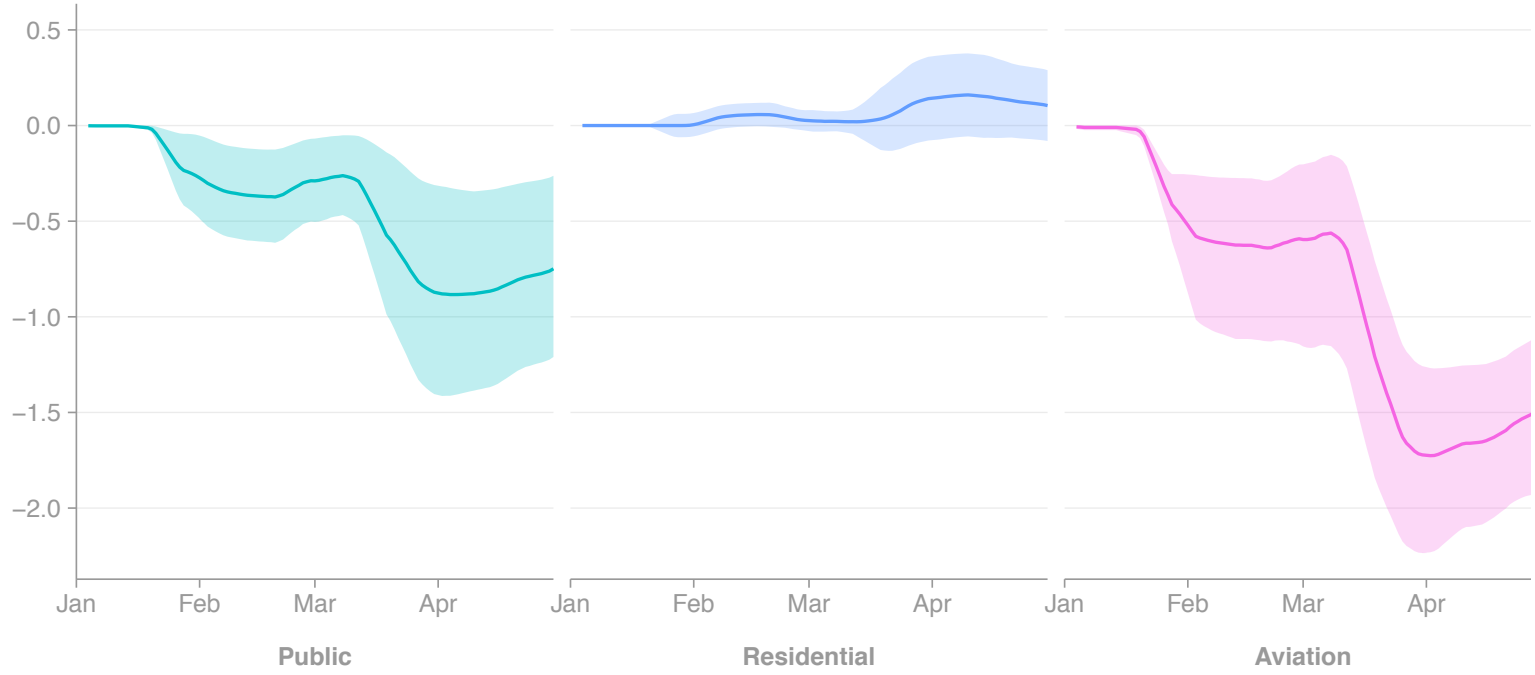
MtCO₂ day⁻¹



Change in global daily fossil CO₂ emissions
MtCO₂ day⁻¹



MtCO₂ day⁻¹



Temporary reduction in daily global CO₂ emissions during the COVID-19 forced confinement

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Supplementary Information

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1. Extended methods

1.1. Updated 2019 global fossil CO₂ emissions

Extending the approach used by Friedlingstein et al 2019¹, we update estimates of global fossil CO₂ emissions growth in 2019 based on revised and newer data from China, US, EU, India, and updated estimates of economic growth from IMF². This update produces an estimated growth rate of global CO₂ emissions in 2019 of +0.1% (−0.5% to +0.6%), compared to +0.6% (−0.2% to +1.5%) projected in November 2019^{1,3}. Likewise the updated growth in 2019 emissions is: +2.0% for China, compared to +2.6% (+0.7% to +4.4%); −2.6% for the US, compared to −1.7% (−3.7% to +0.3%); −3.9% (−5.4% to −2.4%) for EU28, compared to −1.7% (−3.4% to +0.1%); +1.0% (+0.7% to +1.3%) for India, compared to +1.8% (+0.7% to +3.7%); and +0.5 (−0.8% to +1.9%) for the rest of the world, compared to +0.5% (−0.8% to +1.8%). Revised estimates are for a decrease in coal in 2019 by −2.0%, and increases in oil and natural gas of 0.6% and 2.6%, respectively.

1.2. Confinement Index

To define the confinement index (CI) a detailed online search of government websites, news articles and Wikipedia was undertaken to identify the full range of policies that have been applied to tackle the COVID-19 outbreak. These policies were ordered by the timing in which they were typically applied to strengthen a nation's response, while policies with the potential to impact CO₂ emissions were highlighted. Three groups of policies were formed, based on the range of people impacted and the perceived restriction of daily activities, corresponding to a progressive reduction of CO₂ emissions.

A subsequent online search was undertaken for each country, in order of COVID-19 outbreak severity and CO₂ emissions, to identify dates that confinement policies were introduced. Up to 19th April, the date each country transitioned between CI levels was recorded, including as countries descend levels when policies are relaxed. Information from government websites was prioritised, while information from news articles and Wikipedia that was more readily accessible, was fact-checked wherever possible. Despite efforts to maintain a consistent approach, there remains some uncertainty where countries introduce multiple policies from one CI level over multiple days. In these situations, the date of the policy with the greatest impact on CO₂ emissions was selected or, if information was lacking, a median date was selected. The analysis was undertaken by one researcher to consistently allocate dates that countries move between CI levels.

For China and the USA analysis was conducted at State or Province level while other countries were analysed at national level. To further improve the quality of the analysis, the most populous cities in each country were analysed individually to capture local variation in the date policies were introduced. Analysis over China provinces were cross-checked by two people. When the CI was needed over aggregated region (e.g. for the whole of China or USA), the index was weighted with the emissions of the regions, and the closest CI was used.

We have cross-checked our confinement index with that produced in parallel by Oxford University, called OxCGRT⁴, which looks at 13 indicators of government response and is broader in its intended use (while we focus on those measures that have an impact on CO₂ emissions only). To compare our database to the Oxford study we applied a logic that matched policy interventions as closely as possible and cross-plotted those dates in order to

detect bias in the data. For the four policies that are most similar to both studies, there is no bias and the mean difference between the studies is -0.65 ± 5.36 days for CI3 and -0.17 ± 5.47 days for CI2. Given the difficulty grouping policies into three confinement levels, some differences were expected. The outliers were therefore investigated manually, and our CI was updated when appropriate. Following these changes, comparing the remaining differences between the two datasets, the mean difference for CI3 reduced to 0.09 ± 0.87 days, while for CI2 the difference reduced to 0.02 ± 1.66 days.

1.3. Seasonal and weekly adjustment

All input data are representative of changes compared to a typical day prior to confinement, taking into account seasonality and day of the week. The changes were calculated differently depending on the data available and the causes of the seasonality and weekly variability. The choices of method are detailed for each data stream, and was primarily dictated by the availability of the data. Some data sources are provided in each section below, with details of the additional processing provided in this section.

The treatment for the data for European countries electricity demand (load) is as follows. The data was obtained from the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity⁵ (ENTSOE). Aggregate daily loads were calculated by taking daily mean power demands and outputs and multiplying by 24 hours to obtain MWhrs. In order to obtain an anomaly measure that removes a signal for the weekly cycle, the difference between the daily load is compared to the average of the previous 5-years for the closest day-of-the week to the date in question. ENTSOE electricity data was temperature adjusted to take into account variability caused by heating. We use Heating Degree Days (HDD) defined as the outside temperature below a threshold of 15.5°C multiplied by the time outside of the respective threshold^{6 7}. To obtain the most recent temperature measures, ERA5⁸ reanalysis data for air temperature at 2m was taken ($0.25^{\circ}\times 0.25^{\circ}$, hourly) up to 17 April 2020, and bias corrected with the measured Climatic Research Unit time-series version 4.03 (CRU-TSv4.03)⁹ ($0.5^{\circ}\times 0.5^{\circ}$, hourly) for the period 2001-2018. A population-weighted HDD was calculated hourly at a 0.5° spatial resolution, and combined for a timezone-corrected daily average for each country.

The electricity data for India from POSOCO¹⁰ was also compared to the previous 5-years for the closest day-of-the week to the date in question. The average was normalised to January values for year 2020 to remove the bias from growth in electricity use in recent years.

The U.S. daily electricity demand data were sourced from the Energy Information Administration¹¹ (EIA) and downloaded for 13 regions, covering the 48 contiguous states (i.e. excluding Alaska & Hawaii). The following states were used for each regions, organized by Independent System Operator (ISO) or other relevant body: Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT): *Texas Region*: Texas; Florida Reliability Coordinating Council: *Florida region*: Florida ; Midcontinent ISO: *Midwest region*: North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Arkansas, Louisiana ; New England ISO: *New England region*: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island; New York ISO: *New York Region*: New York; PJM: *Mid Atlantic region*: Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia; SERC Reliability Corporation: *Carolinas region*: North Carolina, South Carolina; *Southeast region*: Georgia, Alabama; *Tennessee region*: Tennessee; Southwest Power Pool (SPP): *Central region*: North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma; Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC), including California ISO: *California region*: California: *Northwest Region*: Washington, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Wyoming, Nevada, Utah, Colorado; *Southwest Region*: Arizona, New Mexico.

The data on coal consumption in China was taken from Myllyvirta (2020¹²). It averages coal consumption for the 6 main providers of electricity from the WIND platform

(<https://www.wind.com.cn/en/>). Daily averages were obtained from 2014-2020 with anomaly data taken as the difference between the 5-year average for the day of the year relative to the Chinese New Year and the day in question, to minimise the effect of the event on the anomaly signal. The average was normalised to January values for year 2020 to remove the bias from growth in coal consumption in recent years.

1.4. Parameters values

The parameters for the change in activity level (ΔA^s in Eq. 1) were estimated based on a range of data for energy or activity use. Details of the calculations are given below for each sector, but the general approach is to compare 2020 data to a reference level prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. The reference level is either levels for 2019 or the average of 2015-2019 to obtain a percent change, or sometimes pre-pandemic days (e.g. January 2020) depending on the nature and availability of the data. Individual time series (for countries, state, province, region, or cities as described below) were then mapped to their corresponding confinement level for each day when available, or week. The percentage changes for each time-series analysed is then averaged, and that information along with the standard deviation across data was then used to estimate the parameter values for each level of confinement, where possible. These are the changes that are summarised in Figure 2 and Table 2 of the main manuscript. Where no data is available, information about the nature of the confinement was used.

The uncertainty is intended to represent approximately $\pm 1\sigma$ around the most representative mean value for the sector. This range was estimated by combining multiple streams of data, examining the spread of the data within and among data streams, and assessing the representation of each activity data for worldwide sectoral activity. This assessment is detailed below for each sector.

1.4.1. Power sector

Power includes electricity, both residential and public/commercial, and heat production (44.3% of global CO₂ emissions). The change in power is based on three primary sources (Table S1).

Table S1. Data used to inform the parameters in the power sector. Each data point is the result of the analysis of a time series. See the text in this supplementary material for details.

Power			
European electricity data from ENTSOE			
country	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Austria		-9%	-9%
Belgium		-10%	-18%
Bulgaria	-1%	3%	
Cyprus			-18%
Czechia	4%	1%	-5%
Germany		-2%	-6%
Denmark		1%	1%
Estonia		-4%	-4%
Finland		-2%	
France	1%	-7%	-15%
Greece	-2%	-6%	-2%
Hungary		3%	-7%
Ireland	8%	6%	-1%
Italy	-3%	-5%	-19%
Latvia		-3%	
Lithuania		7%	-2%
Luxembourg		-1%	-19%
Netherlands		-25%	
Norway			3%
Poland	0%	-3%	-8%
Portugal		-1%	-10%
Roumania	-1%	-4%	-7%
Slovakia		-8%	
Slovenia	1%	-7%	
Spain		-10%	-14%
Sweden	4%	-4%	
Ukraine		-11%	
United Kingdom	-6%	-7%	-16%
average	0%	-4%	-9%
standard deviation	4%	6%	7%
number of countries	11	26	20
USA regional electricity data from EIA			
region	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
California	10%		-2%
Carolinas	0%		-8%
Central	-5%	-3%	
Florida	2%	17%	1%
Mid-Atlantic	-5%	-7%	-7%
Midwest	-5%	2%	-7%
New England	-7%	-3%	-6%
Northwest	-2%	3%	0%
New York	-6%		-9%
Southeast	3%	0%	-10%
Southwest	0%	-1%	-3%
Tennessee	0%	-5%	-6%
Texas	3%	5%	0%
United States Lower 48	-2%	0%	-5%
average	-1%	1%	-5%
standard deviation	4%	6%	4%
number of regions	13	10	12
India electricity demand from POSOCO			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
average	3%	-16%	-23%
standard deviation	4%	2%	3%

Electricity data for European countries from ENTSO up to 17 April 2020 (see above): We used the daily electricity load. The electricity data was adjusted for the anomaly in cooling degree days (HDD), by fitting for each country the mean load versus the mean HDD for daily winter months (October to March) during 2015-2019. The HDD adjustment led to a steeper reduction in electricity of around 2% during confinement level 3. Data for 28 European countries were analysed. These data suggest a reduction in electricity use of -9% during confinement level 3, with a non-significant reduction of -4% during confinement level 2 and no reduction during confinement level 1.

Electricity data for US from the EIA¹¹ up to 15 April 2020. We analysed daily electricity demand data and calculated the anomaly for 2020 based on the difference from the same week in 2019. The electricity data were also adjusted for HDD¹³. Data for 13 regions were analysed as well as aggregated data at a national level (the contiguous 48 states). The data suggest a small decrease in electricity use of -5% for confinement level 3, consistently when computed from data for individual regions and for the US as a whole.

Electricity data for India from POSOCO¹⁰ up to 19 April 2020. We use data on daily energy use. The electricity data in India was not adjusted for HDD because electricity and HDD anomalies did not show a significant relationship, possibly due to the relatively low use of active heating or cooling in the country. The data was reported nationally for India and suggests a decrease in electricity use of -16% and -23% for confinement levels 2 and 3.

The three data sources are approximate indicators of changes in power, which includes heat as well as electricity generation. The differences between the European countries and US data could be accounted for by the fact that the European countries have been in confinement level 3 for longer, and there is some inertia in the changes as activities wind down and countries adjust to the new confinement. The large changes in electricity in India could reflect the larger portion of electricity use in public and commercial sectors compared to the residential sectors. The difference in electricity generation also responds to user demand, with expected increased demand in the residential sector, and decreased demand in industry and commerce.

To reflect these complexities, we adopt parameter values that average the changes in these three regions, rounded off to the nearest 5 to reflect uncertainty in the data. Likewise, the minimum and maximum values are the minimum and maximum of these three regions, rounded off to the nearest 5. The parameters used are summarised in Table S2.

Table S2. Parameters for the power sector.

<i>Power</i>	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	0 (0 to 0)	-5 (0 to -15)	-15 (-5 to -25)

1.4.2. Industry sector

Industry (22.4% of global CO₂ emissions) includes production of materials (e.g. steel), manufacturing, and cement. The change in industry is based primarily on changes in China's coal consumption as reported by Myllyvirta (2020)¹² for six coal producers, based on commercial data from WIND (Table S3), using data up to 4 April 2020. Because China has been in and out of confinement, we were able to analyse the data for confinement level 2 before and after the confinement level 3. For the early phase of confinement level 2, there was no decrease in industry observed compared to previous years. However, the inference from the data is made more difficult from the fact that China was also celebrating New Years

at that time, and industrial production is relatively low and the data across years is highly variable. Decreases in coal consumption was -37% in level 3, and -35% and -20% when confinement decreased to levels 2 and 1, respectively.

This data is consistent with weekly report from USA steel production of the American Iron and Steel Institute ¹⁴. Although only five weeks of data are available, they also show no change in production at confinement levels 1 and 2, and a change of -33% when confinement level 3 was established the two weeks ending on 11 and 19 April. Note that the decrease in steel production was smaller the first April week (-19%), probably due to the fact that the response of steel production is more related to the time lag in demand rather than to employee availability. These industrial data are also consistent with reports by the French electricity provider of -27% decrease in electricity use by the manufacturing sector¹⁵.

Table S3. Data used to inform the parameters in the industry sector. See the text in this supplementary material for details.

Industry					
China's coal consumption reported by Myllyvirta (2020) using the WIND data					
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
average		2%	-37%	-35%	-20%
standard deviation		10%	5%	4%	4%
number of days	0	13	19	12	21
USA steel production from the American Iron and Steel Institute					
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3		
average	-1%	0%	-33%		
number of weeks	2	1	2		

We adopt parameter values that average from the China and US data sets for the confinement level 3, and use 2 standard deviation for the uncertainty, as limited data was available. For confinement level 1 and 2, we use the average of changes in China's coal consumption before and after the confinement level 3, with the high and low ranges also from the values before and after confinement level 3. The parameters are rounded off to the nearest 5 to reflect uncertainty in the data. The parameters used are as follows:

Table S4. Parameters for the industry sector.

Industry	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	-10 (0 to -20)	-15 (0 to -35)	-35 (-25 to -45)

1.4.3. Surface transport sector

Surface transport (20.6% of global emissions) includes cars, light vehicles, buses and trucks, as well as shipping. The change in surface transport is based on four primary sources (Table S5).

Table S5. Data used to inform the parameters in the surface transport sector. See the text in this supplementary material for details.

Surface transport

Mobility trends report from Apple				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
Africa	10%	-42%	-77%	n=5
Europe	1%	-41%	-61%	n=30
Middle East and Asia	-2%	-39%	-61%	n=11
North America	-16%	-52%	-46%	n=3
Oceania	4%	-35%	-67%	n=2
South America	-20%	-67%	-72%	n=3
average	-2%	-43%	-63%	
standard deviation	18%	20%	16%	
number of countries	32	51	33	

Urban congestion index from TOMTOM				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	number of cities
Africa			-34%	n=6
China	-21%			n=21
Europe		-34%	-46%	n=132
Middle East and Asia	-9%	-43%	-94%	n=25
North America		-58%	-62%	n=91
Oceania			-27%	n=22
South America		-49%	-40%	n=18
average (all cities)	-18%	-46%	-50%	
standard deviation	23%	25%	23%	
number of data	26	113	272	

State traffic data for the USA from MS2				
State traffic				
state	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
Washington	1%	-16%	-41%	
Montana	-8%		-36%	
Colorado	-17%		-45%	
Arizona	-2%	-26%	-38%	
New Mexico	-8%		-38%	
Texas	-12%	-37%	-36%	
Missouri	-20%	-42%	-45%	
Louisiana	3%		-32%	
Illinois	-9%		-42%	
Indiana	-12%		-42%	
Michigan	-13%		-55%	
Ohio	-14%		-45%	
Tennessee	-6%	-25%	-33%	
Virginia	-26%		-44%	
North Carolina	-18%		-43%	
Florida	-10%	-33%	-43%	
Vermont	-15%		-51%	
Massachusetts	-15%	-49%	-49%	
Connecticut	-14%		-49%	
Rhode Island	-2%	-31%	-43%	
average	-11%	-33%	-42%	
standard deviation	7%	10%	6%	
number of data	20	8	15	

Total traffic data from the UK Cabinet office			
Traffic from all motor vehicles			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
average	1%	-20%	-65%
standard deviation	3%	9%	6%
number of days	18	8	28

Mobility trends reported by Apple. This dataset shows a relative volume of requests for directions compared to a baseline volume on January 13 2020. We use daily data up to 17 April data for 58 countries. The mobility trends include all transports, including pedestrians and cycles. These data suggest a change in mobility of -63% during confinement level 3, -43% during confinement level 2, and no change during confinement level 1 (see Table S5).

Congestion index reported by TOMTOM¹⁶. The congestion index indicates the additional time needed to go from a to b, compared to uncongested conditions. The metrics reported by TOMTOM give the changes in congestion index for 7 days compared to the average congestion in 2019. Data for 413 cities were available, and were analysed for the week ending 4 April 2020. We excluded data from the city of Pamplona which was a clear outlier showing an increase in congestion of +80% for CI=3. These data suggest decreases in congestion by -50%, -46%, and -18% for confinement levels 3, 2, and 1, respectively (see Table S5).

Traffic data for US states from MS2 corporation¹⁷. The metrics reported by MS2 give the change in daily traffic volume compared to the same day of week in 2019. It is based on traffic sensors and smart traffic signals. Data for 20 states were available, and were analysed daily up to 15 April 2020. These data suggest decreases in traffic by -42, -33%, and -11% for for confinement levels 3, 2, and 1, respectively (see Table S5).

Total traffic from the UK Cabinet Office. This dataset includes the percentage change in the total volume of traffic from all motor vehicles on UK roads, daily for 27 February to 20 April. No seasonal adjustment is mentioned in the data source. The data suggests a decrease in traffic of -65%, -28% and -10% during confinement levels 3, 2, and 1, respectively (see Table S5).

All four metrics are indicators of CO₂ emissions, but they may be biased in different ways due to the nature of the metric, the regional differences, and the urban/rural differences. In the UK where we have three datasets, they are very close with the TOMTOM urban data, the Apple mobility trends, and the UK Cabinet office showing decreases in road transport of -60%, -66% and -65%, respectively. For the US where we also have three datasets, the differences are much larger. The MS2 state data has the smallest change of -42% for confinement level 3, with the TOMTOM urban congestion index for US city at -62%, and the Apple mobility data in between at 54%. Given the differences in the nature of the data, it is not possible to decide if there is one or more that are most representative of CO₂ emissions. We adopt parameter values for surface transport which average the findings based on the Apple mobility trends, the TOMTOM urban congestion, and the US MS2 state traffic data, and use the low and high database to set the low and high ends of the parameter uncertainty. The values are rounded off to the nearest 5 to reflect the uncertainty in the data. The parameters used are as follows:

Table S6. Parameters for the surface transport sector.

Surface transport	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	-10 (0 to -20)	-40 (-35 to -45)	-50 (-40 to -65)

International container shipping is dominated by China, featuring 7 of the 10 largest cargo ports worldwide. International shipping was held up in February with the China confinement, measured as delay, but not as reduced capacity, as ships were either mostly idling in quarantine/waiting for load (17% reduced vessel calls in week 7 2020 compared to week 7 2019). Hence, 15-20% present the immediate supply-driven effects Level 2 and 3 confinement on maritime transport. Demand-driven effects are likely to dominate the longer time scales. Lines are cutting down capacity to adjust for reduced demand and disrupted

supply chains. Sea shipping is slow and many orders from a few months ago are now shipped, whereas the full impact of COVID-19 on shipping will be only visible by end of the year, also reflecting potentially reduced demand for products. Sea Intelligence estimates 10-38% reduction in volume traded in 2020. Here we adopt the projections of the World Trade Organization, at similar magnitude, of an expected fall of between 13% and 32% in 2020, and adopt a decrease of -20% (-10 to -30%) in shipping, regardless of the confinement level. The results for shipping are reported in the surface transport, although they are calculated separately.

1.4.4. Public sector

The public sector (4.2% of global CO₂ emissions) includes commercial and public buildings, including offices, schools, hospitals and government buildings. Aggregated data were not available that could represent this sector specifically. We therefore adopt parameter values based on the changes observed in other sectors, with our own assessment of the nature of the confinement. For the upper limit, we base the change in the public sector on changes in surface transport, assuming it is proportional to the change in the workforce. For the lower limit, we base the changes in the public sector on changes in electricity, assuming a range of buildings remain open and operational (e.g. hospitals, government buildings) in spite of the confinement. The central value is interpolated between the two.

Table S7. Parameters for the public sector.

Public sector	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	-5 (0 to -10)	-23 (-5 to -40)	-33 (-15 to -50)

1.4.5. Residential sector

The residential sector (5.6% of global CO₂ emissions) represents mostly residential buildings.

Table S8. Data used to inform the parameters in the residential sector. See the text in this supplementary material for details.

<i>Residential</i>			
UK smart meter data from octopusenergy			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
average		0%	4%
standard deviation		3%	4%
number of days	0	7	22

Here we use reports of residential electricity use monitored with UK smart meters from octopusenergy¹⁸, representing 120,000 users across the UK. Data are available daily from 9 March to 13 April, and are provided already adjusted for temperature variations¹⁸. The data shows no significant changes in electricity use during confinement levels 1 and 2, and a small increase of 4% during confinement level 3. Although users who do not normally stay home have tended to use substantially more electricity than they would otherwise (around 20% according to OCTOPUS who provided the data), only a fraction of the users were in that position. Taken as a whole, the increase is much smaller. This is consistent with report of the French electricity provider of a small ‘overconsumption’¹⁵. We therefore use the UK smart meter data to allocate the parameters for changes in the residential sector at

confinement level 3. We assume zero changes at confinement level 1 and average between the two for confinement level 2.

Table S9. Parameters for the residential sector.

Residential	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	0 (0 to 0)	0 (-5 to 5)	5 (0 to 10)

1.4.6. Aviation sector

Aviation (2.8% of global CO₂ emissions, with radiative forcing index of 2¹⁹) consists of both domestic and international flights. The change in aircraft emissions is estimated from weekly comparisons of the number of aircrafts departing from each country compared to the corresponding week in 2019, as reported by the OAG corporation²⁰. We use data up to the week ending on 20 April 2020. For confinement levels 2 & 3, there was a big difference between the first week of confinement, where the changes were relatively small, and subsequent weeks. This was likely caused by inertia in the sector, and the repatriation of citizens as confinement started which kept airlines open. We therefore removed the first week of data during confinement levels 2 & 3 for each country to get a better representation of the changes in aviation. We also set the lower end of level 1 to zero because the variability of the data did not suggest systematic increase in aviation at that level that could be inferred from the standard deviation alone. The parameter values are taken to be the average across countries with ± one standard deviation as the range, again rounded to the nearest 5.

Table S10. Data used to inform the parameters in the aviation sector. See the text in this supplementary material for details.

<i>Aviation</i>			
Global Scheduled Flights Change from Aircraft on Ground (AOG)			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Italy	-4%	-61%	-85%
Germany		-94%	-91%
Spain	-95%	-94%	-85%
Hong Kong			
UAE	-67%	-86%	
France	-2%		-79%
UK	-5%		-88%
India	6%		-61%
Australia	-3%	-84%	-75%
Sweden	-41%	-84%	
South Korea	-9%	-54%	
China	2%	-42%	-67%
Japan	-9%		-42%
USA	0%		-55%
average	-19%	-75%	-73%
standard deviation	30%	18%	15%
number of countries	12	8	10

Table S11. Parameters for the aviation sector.

Aviation	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	-20 (0 to -50)	-75 (-55 to -95)	-75 (-60 to -90)

2. Additional tables of results

Table S12. Change in daily fossil CO₂ emission on 7 April 2020 compared to mean daily 2019 levels. The change in emissions on 7 April was the largest estimated daily change during 1 January to 30 April 2020. The right-hand column shows the contribution of each sector to the total absolute change in CO₂ emissions.

	Absolute change	Change relative to mean	Contribution to global
	MtCO ₂ per day	2019 sector level	CO ₂ decrease
		percent	percent
Total	-17 (-11 to -25)	-17% (-11% to -25%)	
Power	-3.3 (-1.0 to -6.0)	-7.4% (-2.2% to -14%)	19%
Industry	-4.3 (-2.3 to -6.5)	-19% (-10.1% to -29%)	25%
Surface Transport	-7.5 (-5.9 to -9.6)	-36% (-28% to -46%)	43%
Public	-0.9 (-0.3 to -1.4)	-21% (-8.1% to -33%)	5.1%
Residential	0.2 (-0.1 to 0.4)	2.8% (-1.0% to 6.7%)	-0.9%
Aviation	-1.7 (-1.3 to -2.2)	-60% (-44% to -76%)	9.7%

Table S13. Change in fossil CO₂ emission during 1 January to 30 April 2020 (4 months), with the percent change relative to annual 2019 emissions (12 months), for the Globe, US, China, India, EU27+UK.

	MtCO ₂	percent from 2019 level
Global	-1048 (-543 to -1638)	-2.9% (-1.5% to -4.5%)
China	-242 (-108 to -394)	-2.6% (-1.2% to -4.3%)
US	-207 (-112 to -314)	-3.9% (-2.1% to -6.0%)
EU27+UK	-123 (-78 to -177)	-3.3% (-2.1% to -4.7%)
India	-98 (-47 to -154)	-3.6% (-1.7% to -5.6%)

Table S14. Change in fossil CO₂ emission during 1 January to 31 December 2020 compared to 2019 levels, for the Globe, US, China, India, EU27+UK. Changes are for the three sensitivity tests described in the text.

	MtCO₂	percent from 2019 level
Scenario 1		
Global	-1524 (-795 to -2403)	-4.2% (-2.2% to -6.6%)
China	-243 (-108 to -396)	-2.6% (-1.2% to -4.3%)
US	-355 (-209 to -529)	-6.7% (-4.0% to -10.0%)
EU27+UK	-189 (-114 to -280)	-5.1% (-3.0% to -7.5%)
India	-143 (-65 to -238)	-5.2% (-2.4% to -8.7%)
Scenario 2		
Global	-1923 (-965 to -3083)	-5.3% (-2.6% to -8.4%)
China	-288 (-108 to -488)	-3.1% (-1.2% to -5.3%)
US	-471 (-283 to -700)	-8.9% (-5.4% to -13.3%)
EU27+UK	-234 (-135 to -350)	-6.2% (-3.6% to -9.4%)
India	-185 (-81 to -317)	-6.8% (-3.0% to -11.6%)
Scenario 3		
Global	-2729 (-986 to -4717)	-7.5% (-2.7% to -12.9%)
China	-522 (-108 to -965)	-5.6% (-1.2% to -10.4%)
US	-604 (-283 to -973)	-11.5% (-5.4% to -18.5%)
EU27+UK	-316 (-140 to -517)	-8.5% (-3.8% to -13.8%)
India	-238 (-81 to -425)	-8.7% (-3.0% to -15.6%)

3. Comparison to Earth Observations

Insights from Earth observations of co-emitted species offer insights into the feasibility of the calculated changes to CO₂ emission. NO₂ is a useful indicator of rapid changes in fossil fuel combustion at regional and local scales²¹⁻²³ because around two-thirds of global surface NO₂ emissions derive from fossil fuel combustion²¹ and its residence time is less than one day. We assessed changes in the NO₂ atmospheric column density using data from the NASA OMI/Aura NO₂ Cloud-Screened Total and Tropospheric Column L3 Global Gridded 0.25 degree x 0.25 degree V3 (OMNO2d 003)²⁴. We used NO₂ total column density from pixel level data passing a good quality filter and with cloud cover <30% (product variable name: ColumnAmountNO2CloudScreened). We averaged the daily total column NO₂ from OMNO2d 003 at the global scale and within large regions for the period 1st January 2005-2nd April 2020. Daily anomalies were calculated for 2020 relative to the 2015-2019 mean. The Aura satellite, on which the OMI sensor is deployed, has a sun-synchronous orbit and thus processes through one complete revolution each year. This enables daily retrievals of vertical atmospheric column NO₂ to be compared across years.

Daily anomalies in the global mean NO₂ atmospheric column density averaged -5% relative to the 2015-2019 mean since the first Chinese provinces implemented CI2 restrictions on 22nd January 2020, -6% since Italy implemented CI2 restrictions one month later, and -7% in the final week of March 2020 (Fig. 4). In the month prior to the first implementation of CI2 in China, daily anomalies in global mean NO₂ atmospheric column density were typical for the time of year, averaging -2.5%. Although these observations do not provide direct quantification of reductions in global or regional NO₂ emissions fluxes, they do nonetheless indicate a substantial deficit in NO₂ emission relative to NO₂ removal in the period of the COVID-19 outbreak versus previous years.

There was strong congruence between the observed anomalies in atmospheric column NO₂ and the estimated anomalies in CO₂ emission in the period January-March 2020, according to a significant zero-intercept (CO₂ anomaly = 0.989 × NO₂ anomaly; Adjusted R² = 0.81, p < 1 × 10⁻¹⁵; zero-intercept model fitted after verifying that the intercept was non-significant).

Figure S1: (Left panel) Global mean vertical column density of NO₂ (molecules cm⁻²) for all years 2005-2019 (light blue lines) and for the period 1st January-15th April 2020 (red line), based on the NASA OMI/Aura NO₂ Cloud-Screened Total and Tropospheric Column L3 Global Gridded 0.25 degree x 0.25 degree V3 (OMNO2d 003)²⁴. The dark blue line marks the inter-annual average daily value for 2005-2019. **(Right panel)** Equivalent daily anomalies relative to the 2015-2019 mean.

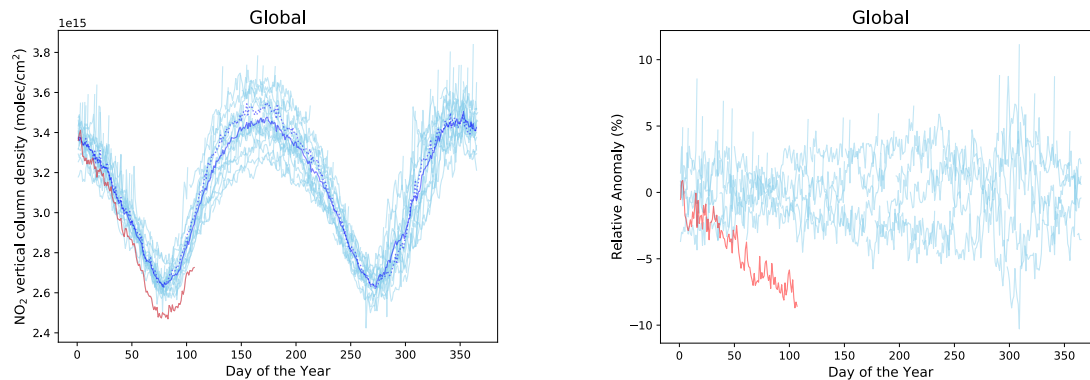
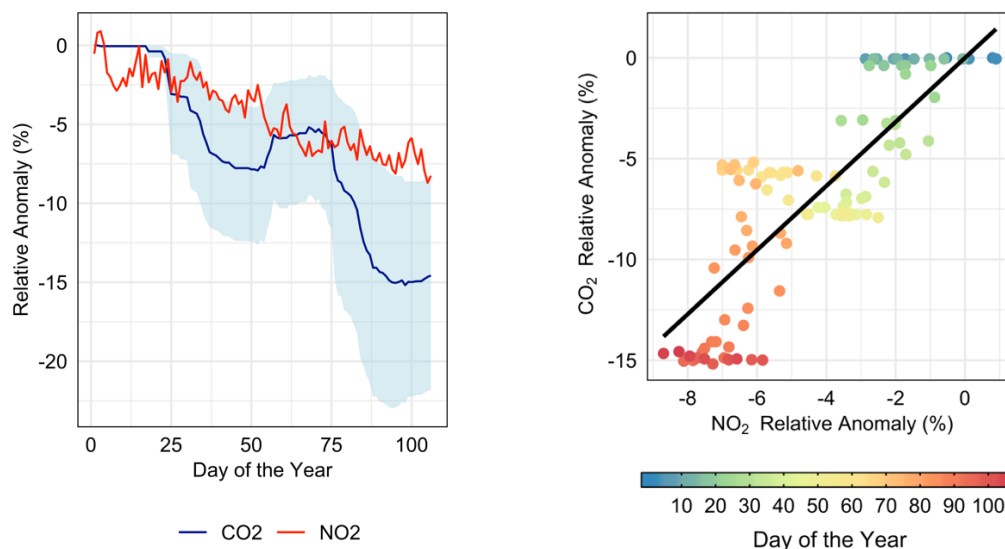
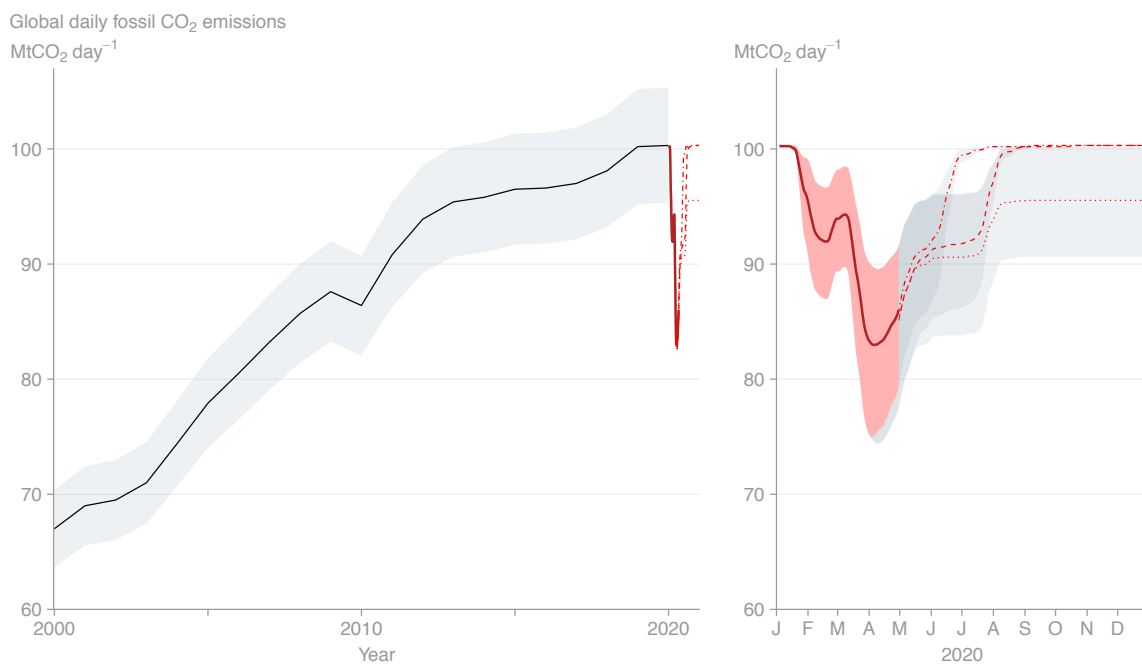


Figure S2: Comparison of the relative anomalies in regional mean vertical column density of NO₂ anomalies (see figure S1) and estimated anomalies in total CO₂ emission in the period 1st January-15th April 2020. The panels show (left panel) a times series of the anomalies to April 2nd 2020 and (right panel) a scatter plot of the daily anomalies for each variable. The black line in the right panel shows the simple linear regression equation fitted to the variables (CO₂ anomaly = 1.59 NO₂; Adjusted R² = 0.88, p < 1 × 10⁻¹⁵; zero-intercept model fitted after verifying that the intercept was non-significant).



4. Scenario Figures

Figure S3: Global daily fossil CO₂ emissions in MtCO₂ d⁻¹. **(Left panel)** Annual mean daily emissions in the period 2000-2019 updated from the Global Carbon Project^{1,3}. The grey uncertainty range represents $\pm 5\%$ ($\pm 1\sigma$) uncertainty in global fossil CO₂ emissions. **(Right panel)** Change in daily CO₂ emissions in the year 2020 relative to annual mean daily emissions in the year 2019. The solid red line represents our estimates based on the confinement index (CI) and corresponding change in activity for each CI level (Figure 2). The red uncertainty range accounts for uncertainty in the changes in activity data (Table 2). The broken red lines represent projected changes in emissions in the three future scenarios described in the text: sensitivity test 3 (high end) (dotted); sensitivity test 2 (middle) (dashed line); sensitivity test 1 (low end) (dot-dashed line). Daily emissions in 2020 are smoothed with a 7-day box filter to account for the transition between confinement levels.



5. Country, provinces and state details

Table S15. Date when confinement index levels 1-3 were reached and relaxed by country, China provinces and US states (as of 19th April 2020). Future dates for policy relaxation are as announced as of 30th April 2020, sometimes informally and conditional to the evolving situation, while § symbol represents an assumed date for relaxation of policy as actual date not yet announced. Blank cells represent CI level skipped or policy end date not yet announced.

Country name	Confinement Index Level						0
	0	1	2	3	2	1	
Algeria	01-Jan		17-Mar	04-Apr	24-Apr		31-Dec
Argentina	01-Jan		16-Mar	20-Mar	26-Apr	10-May	31-Dec
Australia	01-Jan	01-Feb	22-Mar	26-Mar	27-Apr		31-Dec
Austria	01-Jan		15-Mar	16-Mar	14-Apr	15-May	31-Dec
Bangladesh	01-Jan	01-Feb	17-Mar	26-Mar	27-Apr		31-Dec
Belgium	01-Jan		12-Mar	18-Mar	04-May	18-May	31-Dec
Brazil	01-Jan	14-Mar	17-Mar			07-Apr	31-Dec
Bulgaria	01-Jan	08-Mar	13-Mar			07-Apr	31-Dec
Canada	01-Jan	16-Mar	24-Mar			04-May §	31-Dec
Chile	01-Jan		22-Mar			23-Apr	31-Dec
China	Analysed separately						
Colombia	01-Jan	12-Mar	16-Mar	25-Mar	27-Apr	11-May	31-Dec
Croatia	01-Jan	24-Feb	16-Mar	21-Mar	27-Apr	11-May	31-Dec
Cyprus	01-Jan		13-Mar	24-Mar	30-Apr		31-Dec
Czech Republic	01-Jan	03-Mar	10-Mar	16-Mar	20-Apr	08-Jun	31-Dec
Denmark	01-Jan		11-Mar	16-Mar	15-Apr	10-May	31-Dec
Egypt	01-Jan	14-Feb	19-Mar			23-Apr	31-Dec
Estonia	01-Jan		16-Mar			15-May	31-Dec
Finland	01-Jan		16-Mar		19-Apr	31-May	31-Dec
France	01-Jan	29-Feb	12-Mar	17-Mar	11-May		31-Dec
Germany	01-Jan		16-Mar	23-Mar	20-Apr	04-May	31-Dec
Greece	01-Jan	09-Mar	13-Mar	23-Mar	10-May		31-Dec
Hungary	01-Jan		11-Mar	28-Mar	03-May §		31-Dec
India	01-Jan	18-Jan	16-Mar	25-Mar	25-Apr	03-May	31-Dec
Indonesia	01-Jan	05-Feb	16-Mar		22-May	25-Jul	31-Dec
Iran	01-Jan		28-Feb			18-Apr	31-Dec
Iraq	01-Jan		27-Feb	22-Mar	23-Apr		31-Dec
Ireland	01-Jan	29-Feb	12-Mar	28-Mar	05-May		31-Dec
Israel	01-Jan		10-Mar	19-Mar	19-Apr §	03-May §	31-Dec
Italy	01-Jan	30-Jan	23-Feb	09-Mar	14-Apr	01-Jun	31-Dec
Japan	01-Jan	28-Jan	28-Mar	07-Apr	06-May		31-Dec
Kazakhstan	01-Jan	26-Jan	16-Mar			28-Apr	31-Dec
South Korea	01-Jan	04-Feb	21-Feb			20-Apr §	31-Dec
Kuwait	01-Jan		12-Mar			25-Apr	31-Dec
Latvia	01-Jan		13-Mar			12-May	31-Dec
Lithuania	01-Jan		12-Mar	16-Mar	27-Apr	11-May	31-Dec
Luxembourg	01-Jan		13-Mar	15-Mar	20-Apr §	04-May	31-Dec
Malaysia	01-Jan	28-Feb	14-Mar	18-Mar	12-May		31-Dec
Malta	01-Jan	24-Feb	12-Mar	22-Mar	11-May §		31-Dec
Mexico	01-Jan		24-Mar			30-May	31-Dec
Morocco	01-Jan		14-Mar	19-Mar	20-May		31-Dec
Netherlands	01-Jan		16-Mar			20-May	31-Dec
New Zealand	01-Jan	02-Feb	20-Mar	26-Mar	27-Apr		31-Dec
Nigeria	01-Jan		30-Mar			04-May	31-Dec
Norway	01-Jan			12-Mar	20-Apr	15-Jun	31-Dec
Oman	01-Jan		17-Mar			08-May §	31-Dec
Pakistan	01-Jan		13-Mar	24-Mar	14-Apr	09-May	31-Dec
Philippines	01-Jan	02-Feb	15-Mar			15-May	31-Dec
Poland	01-Jan	25-Jan	12-Mar	25-Mar	19-Apr	03-May	31-Dec
Portugal	01-Jan		12-Mar	19-Mar	03-May		31-Dec
Qatar	01-Jan	09-Mar	17-Mar			25-Apr §	31-Dec
Romania	01-Jan	25-Feb	11-Mar	24-Mar	15-May		31-Dec
Russian Federation	01-Jan	03-Feb	19-Mar	28-Mar	12-May		31-Dec
Saudi Arabia	01-Jan	27-Feb	14-Mar	06-Apr	29-Apr	13-May §	31-Dec
Slovakia	01-Jan		13-Mar		22-Apr		31-Dec
Slovenia	01-Jan	09-Mar	16-Mar		20-Apr	04-May	31-Dec
South Africa	01-Jan	14-Mar	15-Mar	26-Mar	01-May §		31-Dec
Spain	01-Jan		10-Mar	14-Mar	13-Apr		31-Dec
Sweden	01-Jan	12-Mar	04-Apr			11-May §	31-Dec
Thailand	01-Jan	03-Jan	17-Mar			31-May	31-Dec
Turkey	01-Jan	24-Jan	16-Mar			20-May	31-Dec
Turkmenistan	01-Jan	20-Mar				30-Apr §	31-Dec
Ukraine	01-Jan		17-Mar			12-May	31-Dec
United Arab Emirates	01-Jan	17-Mar	26-Mar			25-Apr	31-Dec
United Kingdom	01-Jan	10-Feb	16-Mar	24-Mar	08-May		31-Dec
USA	Analysed separately						
Uzbekistan	01-Jan	15-Mar	20-Mar	27-Mar	12-May §		31-Dec
Venezuela	01-Jan	02-Feb	12-Mar	17-Mar	12-May		31-Dec
Vietnam	01-Jan	01-Feb	22-Mar	01-Apr	15-Apr	22-Apr	31-Dec

Table S15 (continued).

Country name	Confinement Index Level						
	0	1	2	3	2	1	0
Beijing	01-Jan		24-Jan	09-Feb		29-Feb	31-Dec
Tianjin	01-Jan		24-Jan	06-Feb		29-Feb	31-Dec
Hebei	01-Jan		24-Jan	06-Feb		25-Mar	31-Dec
Shanxi	01-Jan		25-Jan	09-Feb		24-Feb	31-Dec
Inner Mongolia	01-Jan		25-Jan	13-Feb		26-Feb	31-Dec
Liaoning	01-Jan		25-Jan	06-Feb		22-Feb	31-Dec
Jilin	01-Jan		25-Jan	06-Feb		26-Feb	31-Dec
Heilongjiang	01-Jan		25-Jan	04-Feb		05-Mar	31-Dec
Shanghai	01-Jan		24-Jan	10-Feb		23-Mar	31-Dec
Jiangsu	01-Jan		25-Jan	04-Feb		25-Feb	31-Dec
Zhejiang	01-Jan		23-Jan	04-Feb		02-Mar	31-Dec
C Anhui	01-Jan		24-Jan	07-Feb		25-Feb	31-Dec
H Fujian	01-Jan		24-Jan	04-Feb		26-Feb	31-Dec
I Jiangxi	01-Jan		24-Jan	04-Feb		12-Mar	31-Dec
N Shandong	01-Jan		24-Jan	05-Feb		08-Mar	31-Dec
A Henan	01-Jan		25-Jan	03-Feb		19-Mar	31-Dec
Hubei	01-Jan		23-Jan	03-Feb	12-Mar	28-Mar	31-Dec
Hunan	01-Jan		23-Jan	14-Feb		11-Mar	31-Dec
Guangdong	01-Jan		23-Jan	04-Feb		24-Feb	31-Dec
Guangxi	01-Jan		24-Jan	05-Feb		26-Feb	31-Dec
Hainan	01-Jan		25-Jan	04-Feb		26-Feb	31-Dec
Chongqing	01-Jan		24-Jan	08-Feb		11-Mar	31-Dec
Sichuan	01-Jan		24-Jan	05-Feb		26-Feb	31-Dec
Guizhou	01-Jan		24-Jan	02-Feb		24-Feb	31-Dec
Yunnan	01-Jan		24-Jan	11-Feb		24-Feb	31-Dec
Shaanxi	01-Jan		25-Jan	19-Feb		28-Feb	31-Dec
Gansu	01-Jan		25-Jan	08-Feb		21-Feb	31-Dec
Qinghai	01-Jan		25-Jan			26-Feb	31-Dec
Ningxia	01-Jan		25-Jan	10-Feb		28-Feb	31-Dec
Xinjiang	01-Jan		25-Jan			26-Feb	31-Dec
Alabama	01-Jan	31-Jan	16-Mar	04-Apr	30-Apr	15-May	31-Dec
Alaska	01-Jan	31-Jan	22-Mar	28-Mar	24-Apr		31-Dec
Arizona	01-Jan	31-Jan	16-Mar	31-Mar	30-Apr		31-Dec
Arkansas	01-Jan	31-Jan	19-Mar			04-May	31-Dec
California	01-Jan	31-Jan		19-Mar	14-May		31-Dec
Colorado	01-Jan	31-Jan		26-Mar	27-Apr		31-Dec
Connecticut	01-Jan	31-Jan		23-Mar	20-May		31-Dec
Delaware	01-Jan	31-Jan		24-Mar	15-May		31-Dec
District of Columbia	01-Jan	31-Jan		01-Apr	15-May		31-Dec
Florida	01-Jan	31-Jan	24-Mar	03-Apr	30-Apr		31-Dec
Georgia	01-Jan	31-Jan	25-Mar	03-Apr	24-Apr	13-May	31-Dec
Hawaii	01-Jan	31-Jan		25-Mar	31-May		31-Dec
Idaho	01-Jan	31-Jan		25-Mar	30-Apr		31-Dec
Illinois	01-Jan	31-Jan		21-Mar	30-May		31-Dec
Indiana	01-Jan	31-Jan		25-Mar	02-May		31-Dec
Iowa	01-Jan	31-Jan	17-Mar			30-Apr	31-Dec
Kansas	01-Jan	31-Jan	24-Mar	30-Mar	03-May		31-Dec
Kentucky	01-Jan	31-Jan		26-Mar	11-May		31-Dec
Louisiana	01-Jan	31-Jan		23-Mar	15-May		31-Dec
Maine	01-Jan	31-Jan	25-Mar	02-Apr	15-May		31-Dec
Maryland	01-Jan	31-Jan		30-Mar	15-May §		31-Dec
Massachusetts	01-Jan	31-Jan	24-Mar	31-Mar	04-May		31-Dec
Michigan	01-Jan	31-Jan		24-Mar	15-May		31-Dec
Minnesota	01-Jan	31-Jan		27-Mar	27-Apr		31-Dec
Mississippi	01-Jan	31-Jan	22-Mar	03-Apr	11-May		31-Dec
U Missouri	01-Jan	31-Jan	23-Mar	06-Apr	03-May		31-Dec
S Montana	01-Jan	31-Jan		28-Mar	26-Apr	07-May	31-Dec
A Nebraska	01-Jan	31-Jan	20-Mar	09-Apr	04-May	31-May	31-Dec
Nevada	01-Jan	31-Jan	20-Mar	01-Apr	15-May		31-Dec
New Hampshire	01-Jan	31-Jan		27-Mar	15-May		31-Dec
New Jersey	01-Jan	31-Jan		21-Mar	15-May §		31-Dec
New Mexico	01-Jan	31-Jan		24-Mar	15-May		31-Dec
New York	01-Jan	31-Jan		22-Mar	15-May		31-Dec
North Carolina	01-Jan	31-Jan		30-Mar	08-May		31-Dec
North Dakota	01-Jan	31-Jan	20-Mar			01-May	31-Dec
Ohio	01-Jan	31-Jan		24-Mar	04-May		31-Dec
Oklahoma	01-Jan	31-Jan	26-Mar		24-Apr		31-Dec
Oregon	01-Jan	31-Jan		23-Mar	01-May		31-Dec
Pennsylvania	01-Jan	31-Jan	23-Mar	01-Apr	01-May		31-Dec
Rhode Island	01-Jan	31-Jan	16-Mar	28-Mar	08-May		31-Dec
South Carolina	01-Jan	31-Jan	26-Mar			21-Apr	31-Dec
South Dakota	01-Jan	31-Jan	23-Mar			02-May	31-Dec
Tennessee	01-Jan	31-Jan	23-Mar	31-Mar	29-Apr		31-Dec
Texas	01-Jan	31-Jan	27-Mar	02-Apr	01-May		31-Dec
Utah	01-Jan	31-Jan	27-Mar			01-May	31-Dec
Vermont	01-Jan	31-Jan		25-Mar	15-May		31-Dec
Virginia	01-Jan	31-Jan		30-Mar	10-Jun		31-Dec
Washington	01-Jan	31-Jan	12-Mar	23-Mar	05-May		31-Dec
West Virginia	01-Jan	31-Jan		24-Mar	04-May		31-Dec
Wisconsin	01-Jan	31-Jan		24-Mar	26-May		31-Dec
Wyoming	01-Jan	31-Jan	28-Mar			15-May	31-Dec

Table S16. Sector allocation by country, US states and China provinces, total CO₂ emissions for the last year available, and population. Sector allocations are from the IEA²⁵ for world countries, EIA¹³ for the US, and national statistics²⁶ for Chinese provinces. CO₂ emissions are the mean daily emissions for the latest available year (2017 to 2019) updated from the Global Carbon Project for world countries (GCP; 2019)¹, EIA¹³ for the US, and national statistics²⁶ for Chinese provinces.

	Power	Industry	Transport	Public	Residential	Aviation	Population	CO ₂ emissions	Reduced CO ₂ emissions
Country name	percent	percent	percent	percent	percent	percent	(000s; 2018)	(MtCO ₂ /d; 2018)	percent
Algeria	33.9%	14.9%	31.9%	2.8%	15.4%	1.1%	42228	0.43	-27.1%
Argentina	36.1%	17.4%	24.5%	7.9%	11.5%	2.5%	44495	0.55	-27.3%
Australia	56.2%	10.2%	22.4%	3.2%	2.3%	5.6%	24992	1.20	-28.3%
Austria	29.8%	18.9%	35.4%	2.9%	9.8%	3.3%	8847	0.20	-31.7%
Bangladesh	45.9%	22.4%	14.0%	4.8%	11.3%	1.5%	161356	0.24	-23.7%
Belgium	18.2%	17.1%	40.6%	7.1%	13.0%	3.9%	11422	0.36	-27.7%
Brazil	21.3%	23.6%	43.9%	3.7%	3.9%	3.6%	209469	1.30	-25.2%
Bulgaria	61.3%	12.4%	20.9%	1.7%	1.9%	1.7%	7024	0.12	-14.8%
Canada	38.5%	13.2%	28.1%	10.1%	6.9%	3.3%	37059	1.57	-19.8%
Chile	40.8%	17.1%	29.5%	4.4%	4.5%	3.8%	18729	0.24	-20.1%
China	48.6%	34.8%	8.4%	3.4%	3.8%	1.0%	1392730	27.74	-23.9%
Colombia	19.8%	25.4%	37.6%	8.2%	4.3%	4.8%	49649	0.28	-36.5%
Croatia	25.0%	20.3%	36.4%	7.1%	8.6%	2.6%	4089	0.05	-32.9%
Cyprus	35.8%	16.9%	30.9%	2.2%	3.9%	10.2%	1189	0.03	-32.3%
Czech Republic	55.6%	13.3%	17.6%	4.3%	8.0%	1.2%	10626	0.29	-23.7%
Denmark	30.9%	13.2%	36.8%	5.6%	5.5%	8.1%	5797	0.11	-33.9%
Egypt	42.2%	23.1%	24.6%	1.4%	7.3%	1.4%	98424	0.66	-16.7%
Estonia	69.7%	5.3%	19.6%	3.4%	0.9%	1.0%	1321	0.06	-12.5%
Finland	42.9%	17.3%	26.4%	6.1%	2.5%	4.8%	5518	0.14	-19.8%
France	17.6%	14.1%	38.2%	11.0%	12.7%	6.4%	66987	1.00	-34%
Germany	42.7%	14.0%	22.0%	6.0%	11.4%	4.0%	82928	2.18	-26.4%
Greece	44.4%	12.7%	30.2%	2.0%	6.1%	4.6%	10728	0.23	-27.3%
Hungary	28.9%	16.9%	27.2%	9.1%	16.5%	1.4%	9769	0.14	-27.1%
India	49.5%	29.4%	12.4%	3.9%	3.7%	1.1%	1352617	7.32	-25.7%
Indonesia	41.2%	25.0%	25.1%	2.0%	4.1%	2.6%	267663	1.70	-18.2%
Iran	33.9%	19.4%	22.9%	4.9%	18.1%	0.8%	81800	2.01	-15.3%
Iraq	63.1%	8.8%	20.3%	0.0%	6.4%	1.4%	38434	0.57	-23.2%
Ireland	29.3%	14.4%	29.4%	6.1%	13.6%	7.3%	4854	0.12	-30.6%
Israel	56.1%	9.1%	26.5%	3.1%	0.5%	4.8%	8884	0.19	-29.1%
Italy	34.9%	11.4%	29.6%	7.0%	13.4%	3.6%	60431	0.98	-27.7%
Japan	49.4%	19.4%	17.5%	6.2%	4.9%	2.6%	126529	3.28	-26.3%
Kazakhstan	58.5%	25.5%	5.6%	3.6%	6.1%	0.7%	18276	0.89	-10.3%
South Korea	54.2%	14.4%	19.7%	3.6%	5.2%	2.8%	51635	1.94	-14.7%
Kuwait	58.9%	20.5%	16.7%	0.0%	0.9%	3.0%	4137	0.29	-14.3%
Latvia	18.8%	12.7%	48.5%	9.4%	5.5%	5.0%	1927	0.02	-26.3%
Lithuania	21.5%	13.2%	51.8%	4.7%	6.2%	2.6%	2790	0.04	-35.6%
Luxembourg	2.5%	12.3%	53.1%	5.9%	10.2%	16.0%	608	0.03	-44.6%
Malaysia	47.6%	18.3%	26.2%	2.4%	1.3%	4.2%	31529	0.73	-30.3%
Malta	8.2%	0.6%	84.7%	1.2%	0.5%	4.8%	484	0.02	-24.5%
Mexico	40.6%	18.3%	32.1%	3.1%	3.5%	2.5%	126191	1.35	-20.1%
Morocco	32.9%	23.2%	26.3%	4.6%	9.7%	3.3%	36029	0.19	-29.5%
Netherlands	33.2%	12.8%	32.9%	7.3%	8.0%	5.8%	17231	0.58	-19.2%
New Zealand	18.7%	18.6%	41.8%	6.8%	1.6%	12.6%	4886	0.11	-41.1%
Nigeria	26.1%	15.8%	53.5%	0.9%	1.9%	1.9%	195875	0.36	-26.5%
Norway	37.4%	18.8%	30.9%	5.2%	0.6%	7.1%	5314	0.13	-34.2%
Oman	35.0%	25.6%	21.6%	15.8%	0.8%	1.3%	4829	0.20	-17.9%
Pakistan	27.9%	33.3%	26.8%	2.3%	8.2%	1.4%	212215	0.62	-30.6%
Philippines	45.4%	19.4%	23.5%	5.0%	2.2%	4.4%	106652	0.38	-19%
Poland	50.4%	11.9%	19.7%	5.7%	11.4%	0.8%	37979	0.95	-23.4%
Portugal	41.1%	13.8%	31.3%	3.7%	2.9%	7.3%	10282	0.16	-31.9%
Qatar	58.2%	17.0%	14.8%	0.0%	0.4%	9.6%	2782	0.32	-18.6%
Romania	41.0%	20.1%	23.4%	5.4%	8.7%	1.4%	19474	0.21	-27.3%
Russian Federation	51.9%	17.5%	16.6%	2.0%	10.0%	2.0%	144478	4.85	-23.2%
Saudi Arabia	47.8%	26.2%	22.8%	0.0%	0.9%	2.2%	33700	1.77	-28.9%
Slovakia	35.2%	27.1%	23.1%	5.7%	8.5%	0.4%	5447	0.10	-16.7%
Slovenia	34.3%	15.0%	41.3%	4.1%	4.7%	0.5%	2067	0.04	-21.2%
South Africa	63.6%	11.6%	13.2%	4.5%	5.2%	1.9%	57780	1.32	-22.4%
Spain	33.2%	13.3%	35.8%	5.4%	5.7%	6.6%	46724	0.83	-31.9%
Sweden	19.9%	16.2%	54.1%	2.9%	0.3%	6.5%	10183	0.14	-27.6%
Thailand	37.4%	24.0%	27.4%	3.7%	1.6%	5.8%	69429	0.84	-21.4%
Turkey	36.9%	24.7%	19.1%	7.9%	8.1%	3.3%	82320	1.21	-17.4%
Turkmenistan	36.1%	5.1%	16.4%	39.7%	0.6%	2.0%	5851	0.22	-4.5%
Ukraine	49.1%	19.9%	14.5%	3.5%	12.5%	0.4%	44623	0.62	-12.4%
United Arab Emirates	33.2%	25.7%	31.8%	0.0%	0.4%	9.0%	9631	0.76	-21.5%
United Kingdom	28.2%	10.2%	31.4%	5.6%	15.6%	8.9%	66489	1.16	-30.7%
USA	41.7%	9.5%	32.8%	5.2%	5.8%	5.0%	327167	15.28	-31.6%
Uzbekistan	50.9%	14.8%	5.7%	7.3%	21.0%	0.4%	32955	0.25	-17.3%
Venezuela	43.1%	22.1%	29.7%	1.0%	3.1%	0.9%	28870	0.39	-29.5%
Vietnam	31.9%	42.0%	16.3%	3.1%	4.5%	2.2%	95540	0.6	-30%

Table S16 (continued).

	Country name	Power	Industry	Transport	Commerce	Residential	Aviation	Population	CO ₂ emissions	Reduced CO ₂ emissions
		percent	percent	percent	percent	percent	percent	(000s; 2018)	(MCO ₂ /d; 2017)	percent
C H I N A	Beijing	34%	5%	29%	12%	20%	0.4%	2154	0.2	-24.6%
	Tianjin	45%	37%	6%	5%	6%	1%	1560	0.4	-24.7%
	Hebei	32%	57%	3%	2%	6%	1%	7556	1.9	-27%
	Shanxi	57%	32%	4%	2%	4%	1%	3718	1.3	-23.1%
	Inner Mongolia	77%	15%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2534	1.7	-20.1%
	Liaoning	45%	39%	8%	3%	4%	1%	4359	1.3	-26%
	Jilin	55%	28%	7%	5%	3%	2%	2704	0.5	-24.5%
	Heilongjiang	54%	19%	8%	11%	4%	5%	3773	0.7	-25.7%
	Shanghai	33%	25%	27%	8%	7%	1%	2424	0.5	-29.7%
	Jiangsu	60%	30%	6%	0%	3%	1%	8051	1.9	-23.2%
	Zhejiang	70%	12%	9%	3%	5%	2%	5737	1.0	-21.1%
	Anhui	61%	25%	7%	2%	5%	1%	6324	0.9	-22.4%
	Fujian	57%	27%	11%	1%	3%	1%	3941	0.6	-24.7%
	Jiangxi	47%	38%	7%	2%	4%	1%	4648	0.5	-25.3%
	Shandong	60%	27%	6%	2%	4%	1%	10047	2.1	-22.6%
	Henan	56%	30%	6%	2%	5%	1%	9605	1.2	-23.3%
	Hubei	42%	31%	12%	6%	7%	2%	5917	0.8	-26.6%
	Hunan	26%	46%	11%	8%	7%	4%	6899	0.8	-30%
	Guangdong	58%	16%	14%	3%	8%	1%	11346	1.4	-22.6%
	Guangxi	37%	46%	11%	1%	3%	2%	4926	0.5	-28.6%
Hainan	60%	10%	17%	5%	4%	5%	934	0.1	-25.7%	
Chongqing	40%	35%	14%	3%	7%	1%	3102	0.4	-27.1%	
Sichuan	17%	56%	11%	6%	9%	2%	8341	0.7	-30.4%	
Guizhou	55%	11%	6%	18%	8%	2%	3600	0.6	-22.4%	
Yunnan	20%	54%	14%	4%	7%	3%	4830	0.4	-31.6%	
Shaanxi	57%	29%	5%	3%	5%	1%	3864	0.7	-22.7%	
Gansu	56%	25%	7%	4%	7%	2%	2637	0.4	-22.8%	
Qinghai	36%	42%	8%	6%	7%	1%	603	0.1	-13.2%	
Ningxia	76%	20%	2%	1%	1%	0.2%	688	0.5	-19.8%	
Xinjiang	66%	22%	5%	2%	4%	2%	2487	1.1	-10.4%	
international aviation		0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	-	0.1	-75%
international shipping		0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	-	0.1	-20%
U S A	Alabama	47%	19%	30%	2%	2%	1%	4888	0.3	-29.8%
	Alaska	7%	48%	19%	6%	5%	15%	737	0.1	-40.4%
	Arizona	51%	5%	37%	3%	2%	2%	7172	0.2	-29.9%
	Arkansas	50%	13%	30%	5%	2%	1%	3014	0.2	-17.9%
	California	9%	19%	50%	5%	7%	10%	39557	1.0	-41.8%
	Colorado	40%	14%	29%	5%	8%	4%	5696	0.2	-29.3%
	Connecticut	19%	5%	44%	12%	19%	1%	3573	0.1	-30.4%
	Delaware	24%	24%	38%	8%	7%	0%	967	0.0	-33.1%
	District of Columbia	0%	1%	38%	36%	25%	0%	702	0.0	-30%
	Florida	45%	5%	43%	3%	1%	4%	21299	0.6	-33.6%
	Georgia	39%	9%	42%	3%	5%	1%	10519	0.4	-31.9%
	Hawaii	32%	8%	58%	3%	0%	0%	1420	0.0	-37.1%
	Idaho	6%	18%	57%	8%	10%	2%	1754	0.1	-38.6%
	Illinois	32%	17%	30%	7%	11%	4%	12741	0.6	-30.2%
	Indiana	46%	23%	22%	3%	4%	2%	6692	0.5	-28.1%
	Iowa	34%	29%	26%	5%	6%	0.4%	3156	0.2	-17.9%
	Kansas	37%	22%	30%	4%	6%	1%	2912	0.2	-30%
	Kentucky	56%	11%	25%	2%	2%	3%	4468	0.3	-27.8%
	Louisiana	15%	60%	19%	1%	1%	4%	4660	0.6	-36.3%
	Maine	7%	9%	53%	11%	19%	2%	1338	0.0	-34.5%
	Maryland	23%	4%	52%	10%	10%	1%	6043	0.1	-34.2%
	Massachusetts	16%	5%	43%	12%	19%	5%	6902	0.2	-32.2%
	Michigan	37%	12%	32%	7%	12%	1%	9996	0.4	-27.7%
	Minnesota	29%	19%	34%	8%	10%	1%	5611	0.2	-30.8%
	Mississippi	35%	16%	36%	2%	2%	9%	2987	0.2	-36%
	Missouri	56%	6%	30%	3%	4%	1%	6126	0.3	-26.8%
	Montana	51%	13%	25%	5%	6%	1%	1062	0.1	-26.7%
	Nebraska	43%	19%	28%	4%	5%	1%	1929	0.1	-29%
	Nevada	35%	9%	38%	7%	7%	5%	3034	0.1	-32.7%
	New Hampshire	13%	6%	49%	10%	21%	1%	1356	0.0	-31.9%
	New Jersey	16%	8%	44%	10%	14%	8%	8909	0.3	-36%
	New Mexico	47%	15%	30%	3%	4%	1%	2095	0.1	-28.8%
	New York	14%	5%	41%	14%	20%	6%	19542	0.4	-32.7%
	North Carolina	41%	8%	42%	4%	4%	1%	10384	0.3	-31.7%
	North Dakota	52%	29%	15%	2%	2%	0.4%	760	0.2	-13.7%
	Ohio	39%	17%	29%	5%	8%	2%	11689	0.6	-28.9%
	Oklahoma	33%	26%	32%	3%	4%	3%	3943	0.3	-21.1%
	Oregon	20%	12%	50%	7%	8%	4%	4191	0.1	-36.8%
	Pennsylvania	36%	22%	27%	5%	9%	3%	12807	0.6	-29.5%
	Rhode Island	28%	6%	40%	9%	18%	0%	1057	0.0	-27.9%
	South Carolina	36%	11%	47%	3%	2%	1%	5084	0.2	-23.5%
	South Dakota	17%	26%	44%	5%	7%	1%	882	0.0	-24.4%
	Tennessee	33%	16%	40%	4%	4%	4%	6770	0.3	-34.5%
	Texas	30%	34%	29%	2%	1%	4%	28702	1.8	-34.3%
	Utah	47%	12%	27%	5%	7%	3%	3161	0.2	-18.4%
	Vermont	0%	7%	56%	13%	23%	0%	626	0.0	-33.8%
	Virginia	29%	11%	45%	6%	6%	3%	8518	0.3	-34.8%
	Washington	13%	13%	52%	6%	8%	8%	7536	0.2	-40.2%
West Virginia	72%	12%	13%	2%	2%	0%	1806	0.2	-21.8%	
Wisconsin	42%	14%	29%	6%	9%	1%	5814	0.3	-27.4%	
Wyoming	67%	17%	12%	2%	2%	0.4%	578	0.2	-11.6%	
international aviation		0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	-	0.2	-75%
international shipping		0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	-	0.2	-20%

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