



PHOTO: ISTOCK

# Cutting carbon and growing the economy

## A DECADE OF CAP-AND-TRADE SUCCESS IN CALIFORNIA

In the 10 years since California passed the Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32) in 2006, carbon emissions are in decline, the economy is robust, and residents across the state are reaping the benefits. California is proving we do not have to choose between ambitious climate action and a thriving economy.

### Emissions are decreasing

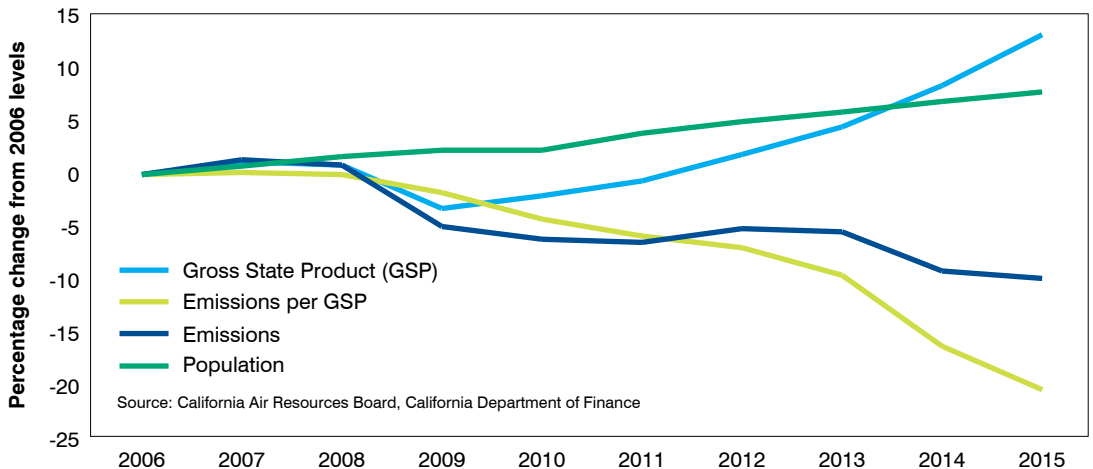
With strong climate policies in place, California's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions have declined by over 9% since 2006. The carbon intensity of California's economy has also decreased, meaning while the state is reducing emissions, it is also taking less carbon to continue growing the economy.

Californians are emitting less while producing more, even as the population steadily increases.

Per capita emissions have decreased by over 2 tonnes since 2006, and as of 2014 were over 5 tonnes less than national per capita emissions. Gross State Product (GSP) per capita has increased by \$5,000 since 2006 and continues to beat the national per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

California is on track to meet, or likely even beat, its target of reducing pollution to 1990 levels by 2020.

### California emissions and economic growth since 2006



# CALIFORNIA CLIMATE

## The economy is thriving

California's GSP has increased more than 16% since 2006, and over that same time the state's job growth has outpaced the nation by 27%. Today, California is the sixth-largest economy in the world, and growing.

California is leading the nation in job creation, at the same time that it's taking groundbreaking strides to combat climate change. More than 500,000 residents now work in the renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean vehicle industries, eclipsing the 18,000 employed by fossil fuel generation. Workers building solar arrays earn an average of \$78,000 per year plus health and other benefits.

## Californians are benefitting

California's cap-and-trade program is directly benefitting residents through climate investments from auction revenues, new clean energy jobs, and local air quality initiatives. The state is working to ensure that the communities hit first and worst by climate change will be the first to benefit from climate investments from cap and trade. Research also shows that investment decisions and other protective measures could more than offset increased costs to energy consumers, especially low-income consumers.

Since the beginning of the cap-and-trade program, these investments have resulted in nearly 30,000 households receiving energy efficiency upgrades, over 16,000 acres of land

Rest of United States 4.8%

California 6.2%

**Job growth:** From January 2013 to December 2015, California added 1,046,730 jobs, which represents 6.2% growth, outpacing 4.8% job growth in the rest of the U.S. in the same period.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Total job growth 6.2%

Clean job growth 23.3%

**Clean job growth within California:** From January 2013 to December 2015, California added 96,048 clean energy jobs, which represents 23.3% growth, outpacing the state's total job growth of 6.2% in the same period.

Source: AEE Institute, Bureau of Labor Statistics

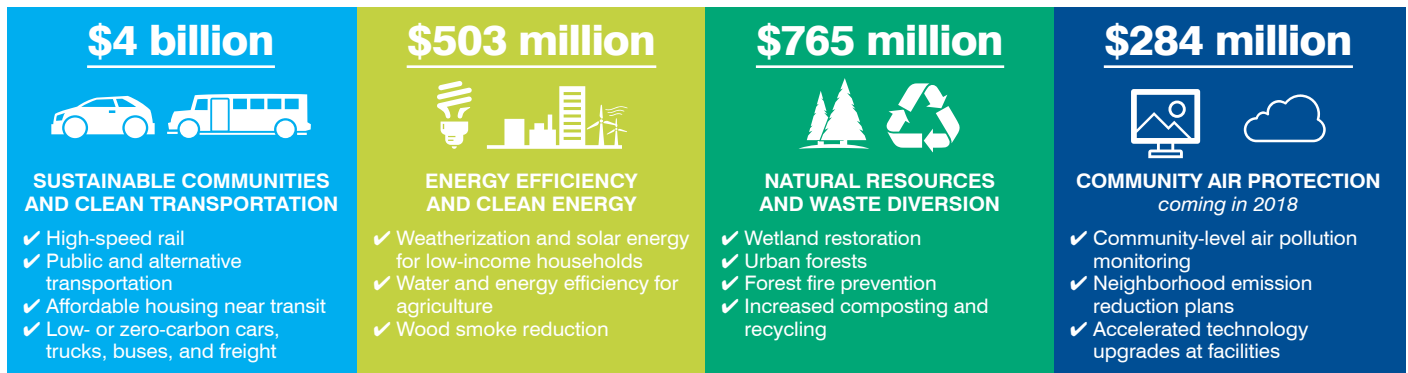
preserved or restored, and over 200 transit agencies adding or expanding service.

Most residential utility customers receive a climate credit on their bill twice a year, ranging from \$17 to \$106. This credit helps offset increased costs due to cap and trade.

With the extension of California's cap-and-trade program, the State Legislature also passed sweeping air quality legislation increasing emission monitoring, air quality planning, and pollution mitigation in neighborhoods most burdened by multiple sources of dangerous air pollution.

## Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) investments through 2017

At least 35% of these cumulative investments directly benefit disadvantaged communities across California.



Source: California Air Resources Board, California State Legislature

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