City of San Antonio

Historical Greenhouse Gas Inventories, Methodologies, and Tracking Efforts

The City of San Antonio strives to improve data collection and maintenance, to enhance greenhouse gas (GHG) accounting methodologies, and to maintain records that provide for contextual analysis. Greenhouse gas emissions accounting is an ever-evolving practice. In order to accurately track emissions over time, it is common practice to adjust and reevaluate previous GHG inventories as updated and more accurate data sources and methodologies become available.

In 2023, the City completed an update to its existing municipal and community-wide GHG inventories to determine where they stand in relation to their goals. During this process, inconsistencies in the methodologies of previous and recent GHG inventories were identified. For example, the sources and sites included in the Energy Industries sector were not consistent between inventory years – causing a disparity in the industrial processes and entities that were accounted for and reported as community emissions. As part of the inventory update process, the Energy Industries sector was adjusted to only include the San Antonio Refinery (formerly Calumet Specialty Products) as an emissions site.

The 2016, 2019, and 2021 GHG inventories have been updated accordingly. However, the itemized inventories detailing the sites and sources in the Energy Industries sector were not available for 2013 and 2014. As a result, those inventories could not be updated to reflect the change in methodology. Without the ability to update values from 2013 and 2014, displaying them side by side with more recent updates would give the impression of more dramatic reductions from these early years than can be verified with data. To not misrepresent the data or San Antonio's progress on GHG reductions since 2013 and 2014, these values have been removed from the large dashboard, but the original values for these years is included below for reference.

Table 1. San Antonio's previous community-wide GHG emissions inventory totals

Year	MT CO2e
2013	18,685,264
2014	19,212,799