

Explanation of Key Trends - Carbon Monoxide

Main drivers

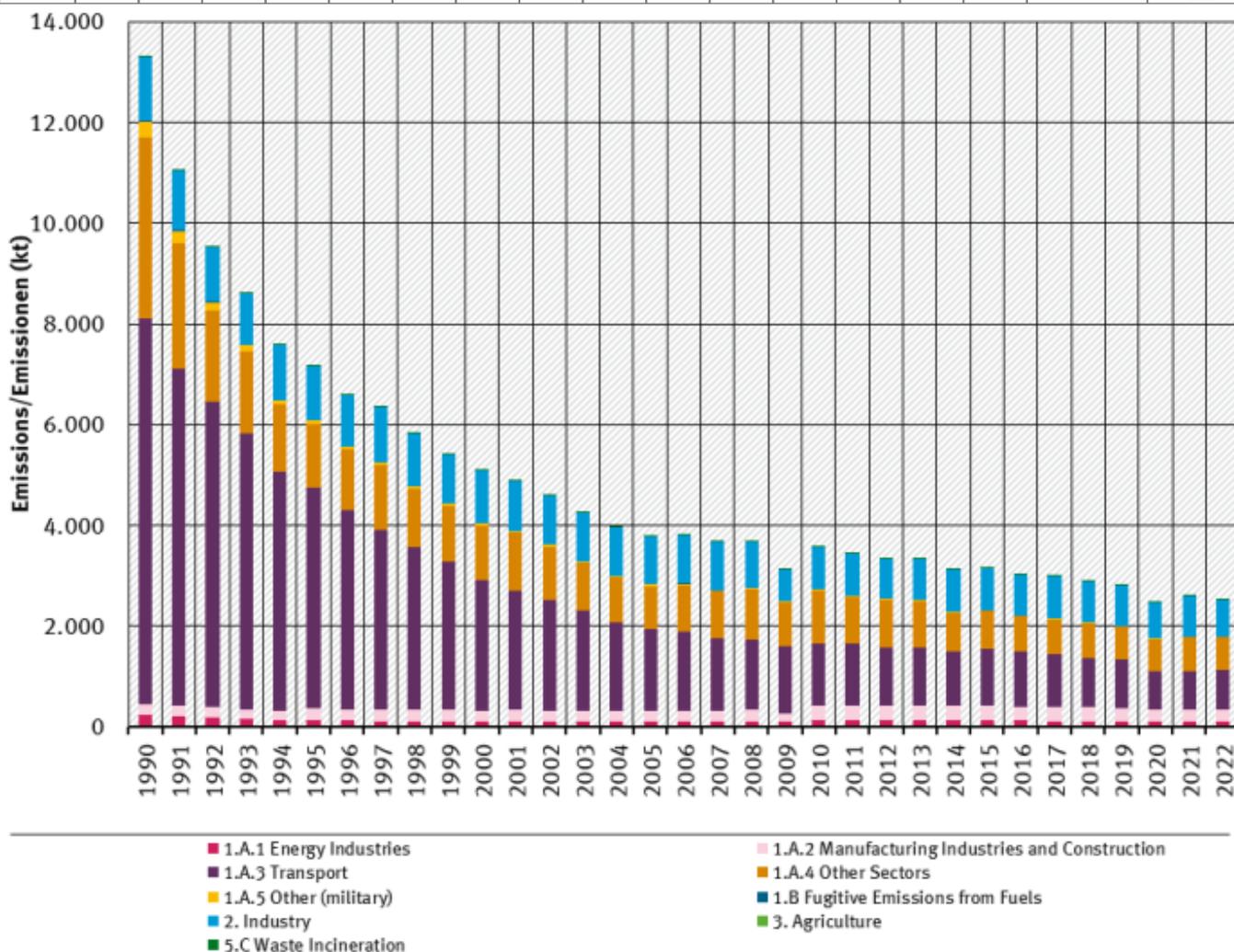
CO total emissions show a falling trend over the whole interval, with emission reductions of 80.6 % between 1990 and 2021 and a renewed interval of emission reductions in the last years.

The Main Driver for CO emissions is **Fuel Combustion (NFR 1.A)** with 90% of total 1990 emissions and an 86% reduction between 1990 and 2020. In the Fuel Combustion category, **Road Transport (NFR 1.A.3.b)** is responsible for 57% of the 1990 emissions, with **Passenger Cars (NFR 1.A.3.b.i)** emitting nearly all of it. Reductions of about 89% in those categories between 1990 and 2020 are mainly due to constantly improving fuels and increasingly stricter regulations resulting in technical improvements.

Other Sectors (NFR 1.A.4, including commercial/institutional and residential sources) are responsible for about 27% of 1990 Fuel Combustion emissions with a 82% reduction between 1990 and 2020.

Table: CO emissions 1990-2021

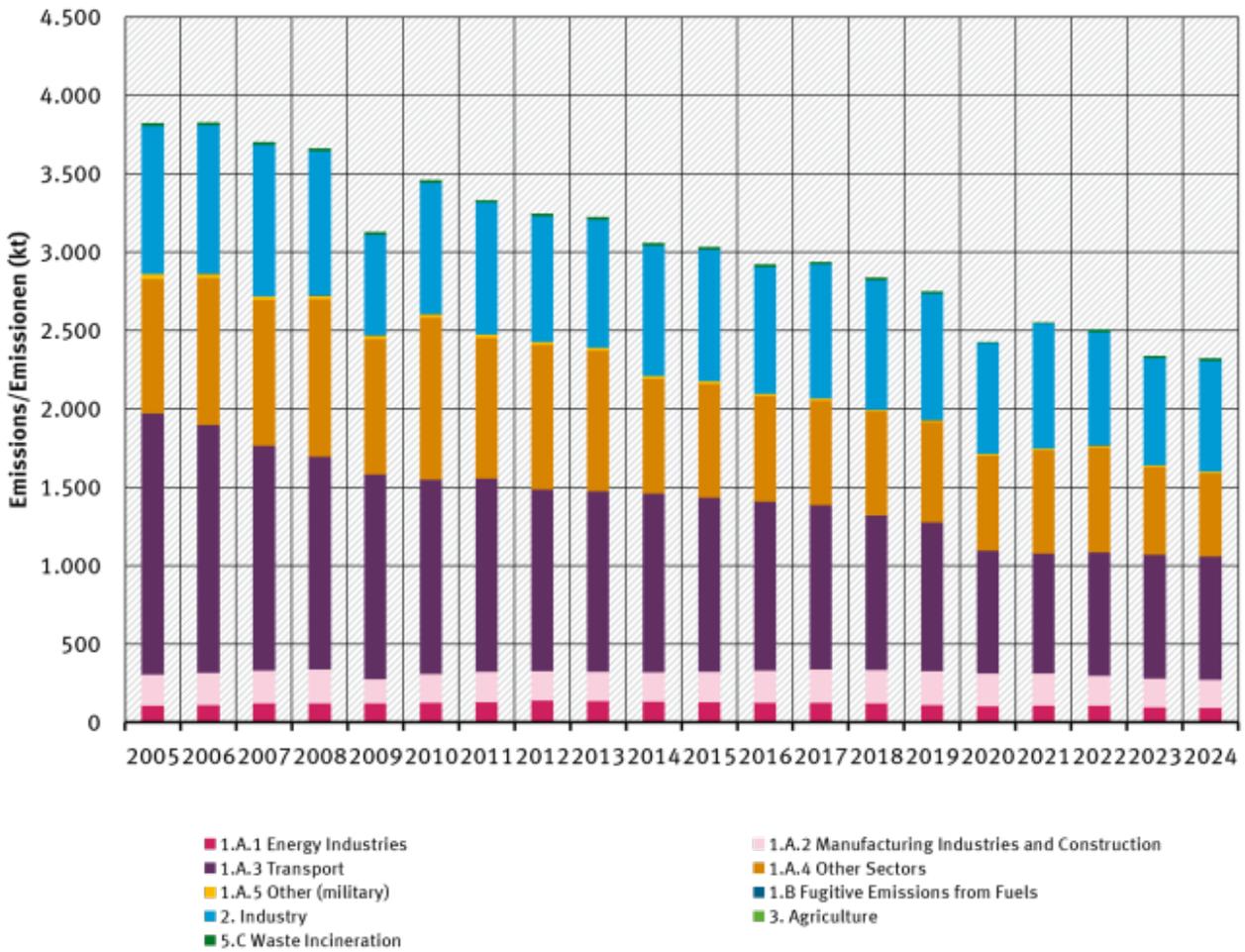
Total Emissions (kt)																	Trend: latest compared to	
1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	1990	last years	
13,354	7,234	5,146	3,863	3,536	3,457	3,206	3,168	3,000	3,102	2,973	2,981	2,863	2,756	2,454	2,587	✗ -80.6%	✗	



CO trend by sector

Carbon Monoxide / Kohlenmonoxid

Emissions per Sector / Sektorale Emissionen



Quelle: German Emission Inventory (04.02.2026)

CO trend by sector, from 2005