

# CLOSE UP LOOK IN NORTH AMERICA

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Regional Analysis of  
Film and Television  
Carbon Emissions

DATE:

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PREPARED BY:

**Sustainable Production Alliance**

# Introduction

Climate change is the most pressing global issue facing us today. In March 2021, the Sustainable Production Alliance (SPA) released the [Carbon Emissions of Film and Television](#) report, an industry baseline using data collected from SPA's member company productions between 2016-2019. The findings confirmed production activities that contribute the most to greenhouse gas emissions.

As some of SPA's member companies have continued the dialogue on how to advance sustainability in the industry, SPA determined that it would be beneficial to share more specific data about carbon emissions in major North American production regions. The intention of sharing this information is to further the conversation and provide a resource for interested parties to identify priority areas for emissions reduction and sustainable production.

This interim report breaks down the same dataset used for the 2021 report by North American filming regions to further illuminate priorities, with the intention of furthering dialogue about sustainability.

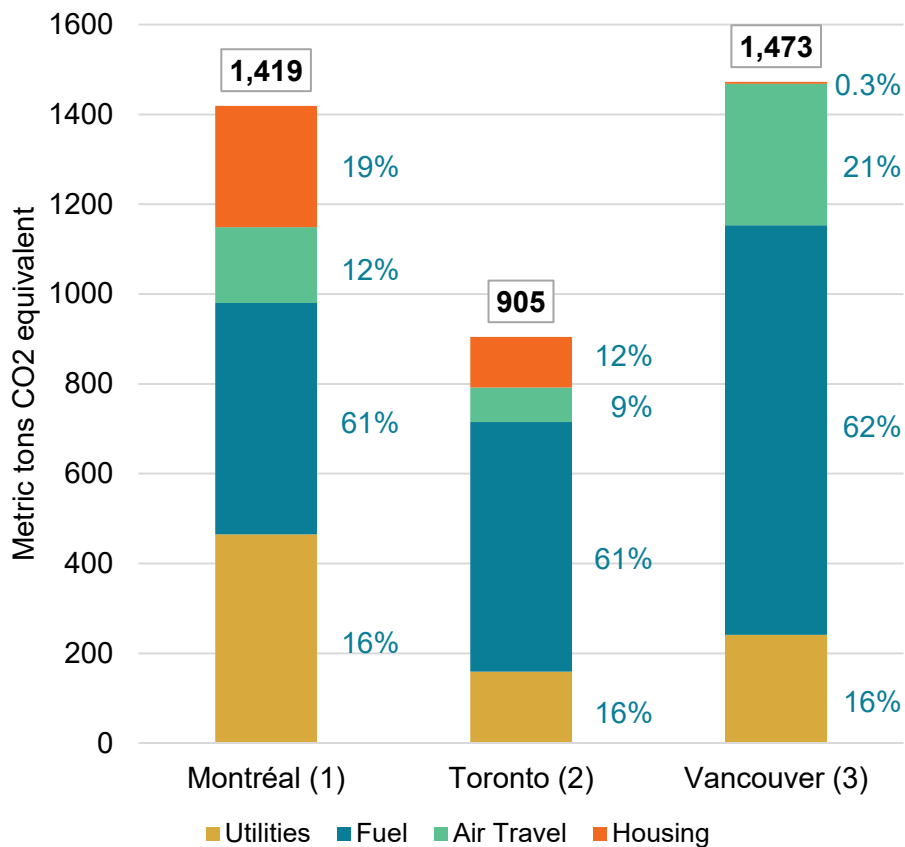
Addressing climate change is an ongoing challenge, and SPA remains committed to exploring and developing solutions, sharing industry findings, and publishing studies to address this important issue.

Overall, data were collected from 75 film and 242 TV productions in the USA, and 22 film and 39 TV productions in Canada. The following summary shows total and percent average emissions sources by region based on the production type with the most data per region.

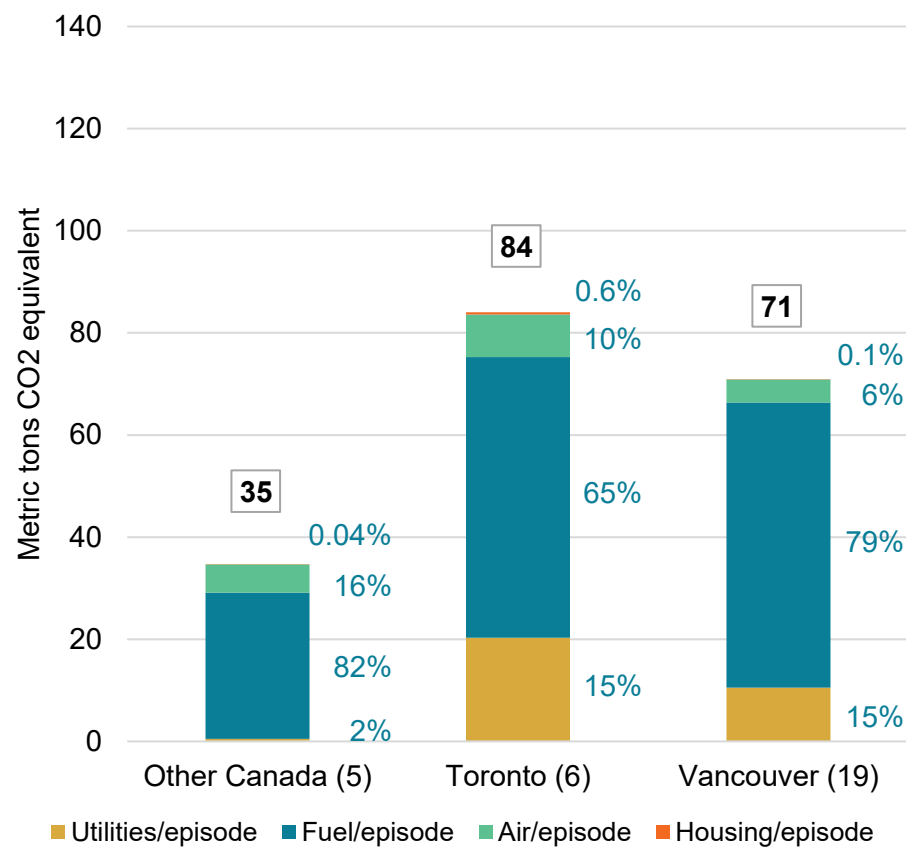
# Carbon Emissions by Region – Canada

Data based on SPA [Carbon Emissions Report](#).

## Large Films (6 productions) Emissions per Film



## 1 Hour Scripted Dramas (30 productions) Emissions per Episode



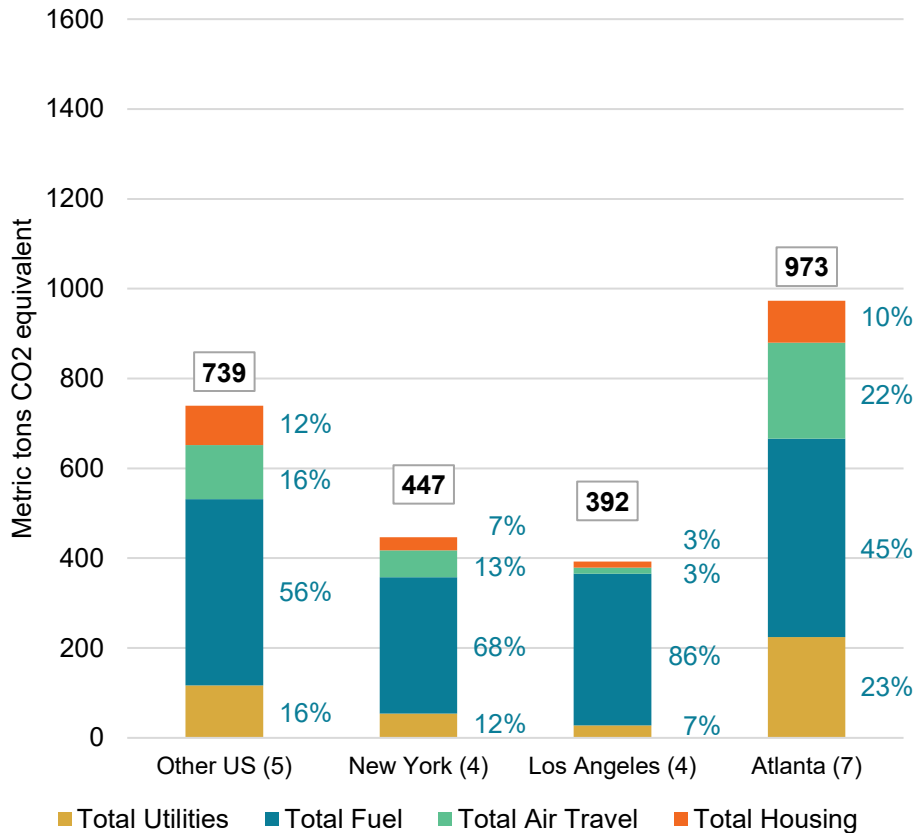
## Key Takeaways

- ① Productions in Vancouver tend to use more fuel than other regions, although the percentages are similar.
- ② Utilities (including natural gas) can be a high source of emissions across Canada due to differences in grid cleanliness. Most emissions in Vancouver and Toronto come from natural gas used to heat buildings.
- ③ Fuel is the highest contributor to emissions across Canada. Electric fleets and mobile battery power are key solutions.

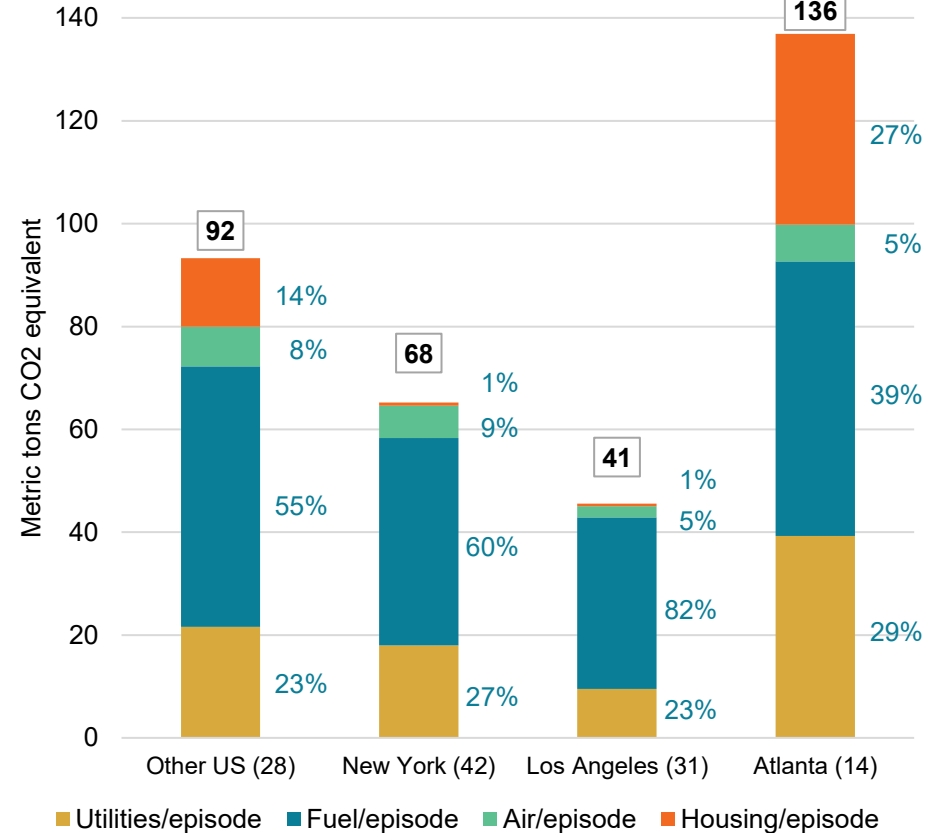
# Carbon Emissions by Region – USA

Data based on SPA [Carbon Emissions Report](#).

## Medium Films (20 productions) Emissions per Film



## 1 Hour Scripted Dramas (115 productions) Emissions per Episode



### Key Takeaways

- ① Productions in Atlanta have the highest emissions from fuel, utilities, and housing.
- ② Utilities (including natural gas), are generally the secondary source of emissions across the USA due to differences in grid cleanliness.
- ③ Fuel is the highest contributor to emissions across the USA. Electric fleets and mobile battery power are key solutions.