

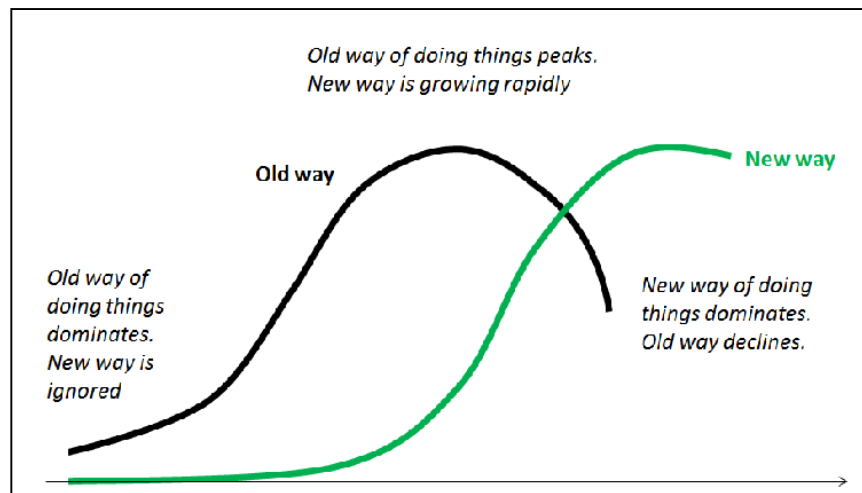
Some hopeful trends for a low carbon world.

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<https://annemiller.eu/resources/paris-2015/>



Change sneaks up on us.

Important trends start small, while being ignored by those with an interest in the status quo.

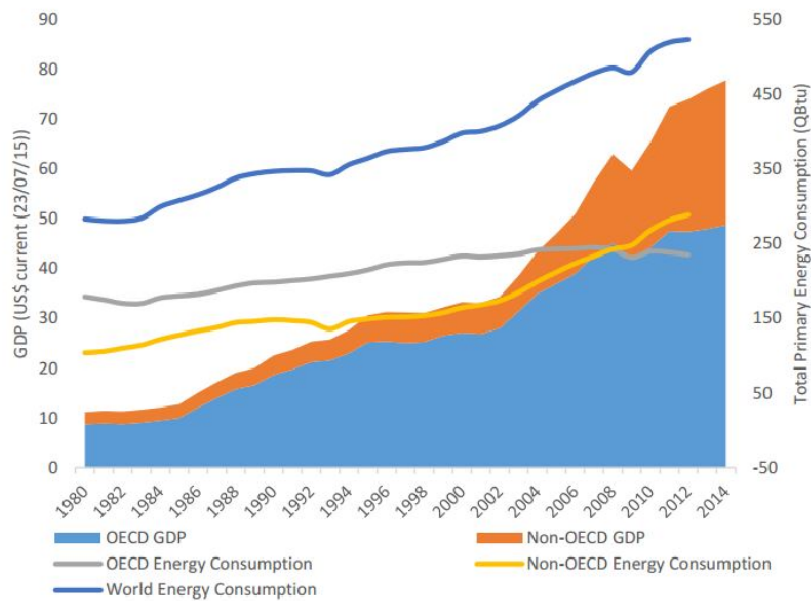
The personal choices we each make, about what we want to do or to buy, can add up to a significant trend.

It's easy to feel low about the transition to a low carbon world, but there are some encouraging trends to keep an eye on

1. Global energy use and the economy

Global GDP growth is decoupling from energy demand, even in developing countries.

Figure 3.1: Global GDP growth is decoupling from energy demand



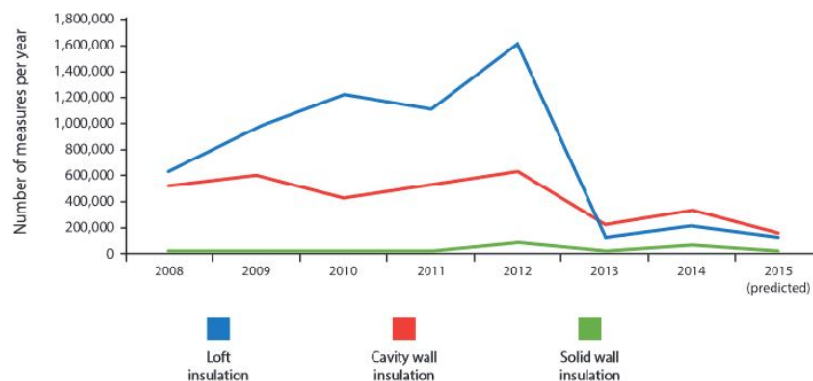
Source: US EIA, World Bank

http://www.carbontracker.org/report/lost_in_transition/

2. Home energy

Our homes are getting better insulated (although UK insulation installation rates dropped dramatically during the failed "Green Deal" scheme)

Figure 2: Delivery rates of key insulation measures

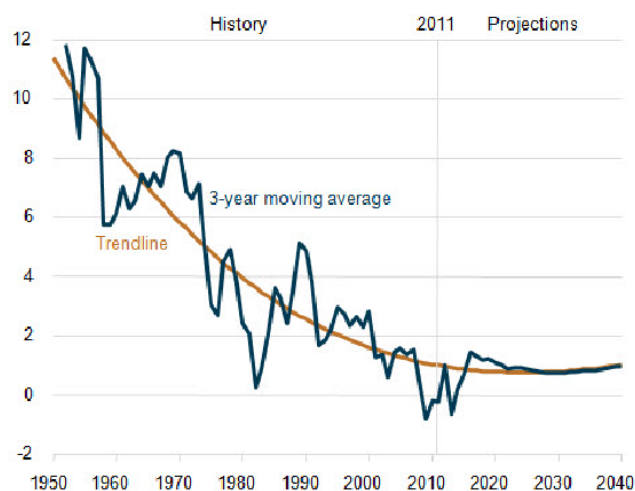


Source: Based on Committee on Climate Change¹⁵ and DECC¹⁶

<http://www.respublica.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/After-the-Green-Deal.pdf>

Electricity companies are complaining that demand growth is declining.

Figure 75. U.S. electricity demand growth, 1950-2040 (percent, 3-year moving average)

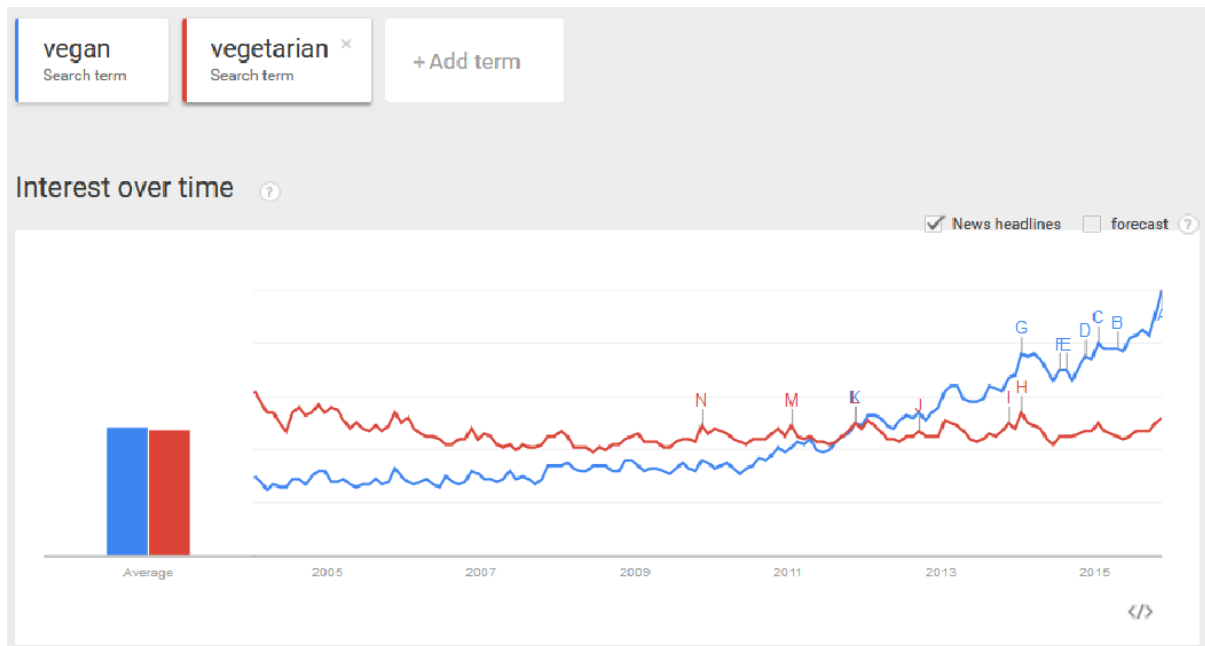


eia

http://q.foolcdn.com/editorial/images/116983/eia-electricity-demand-growth_040714.jpg

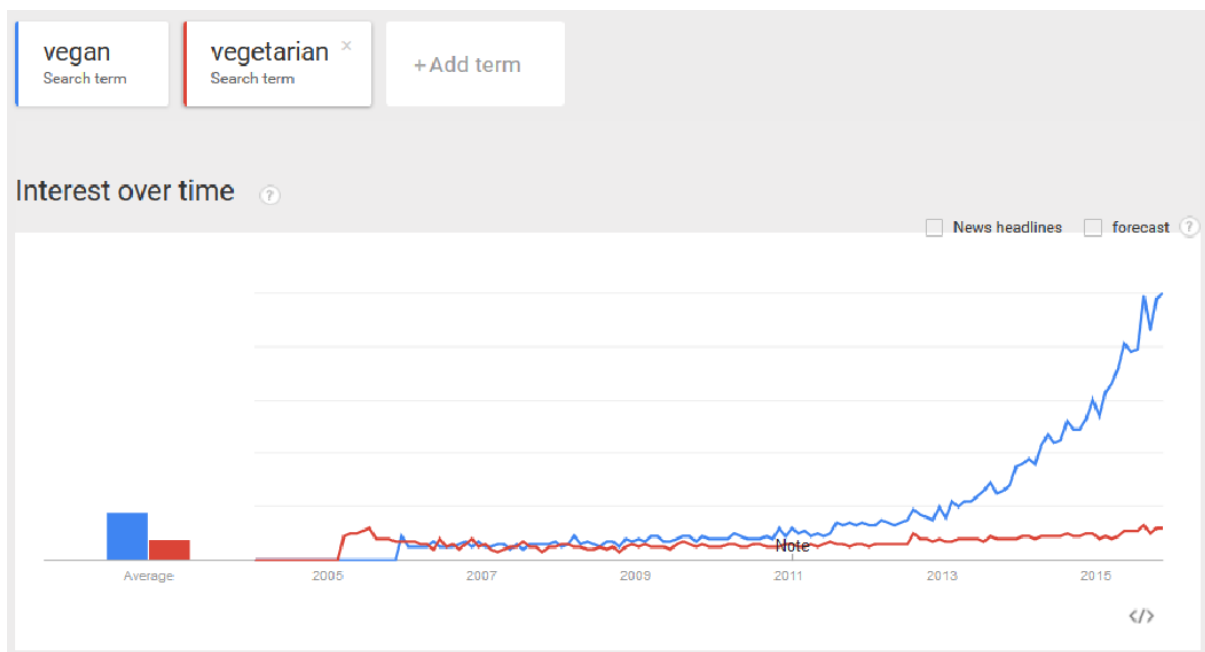
3. Food

Interest in Veganism is increasing worldwide.



Data from Google Trends

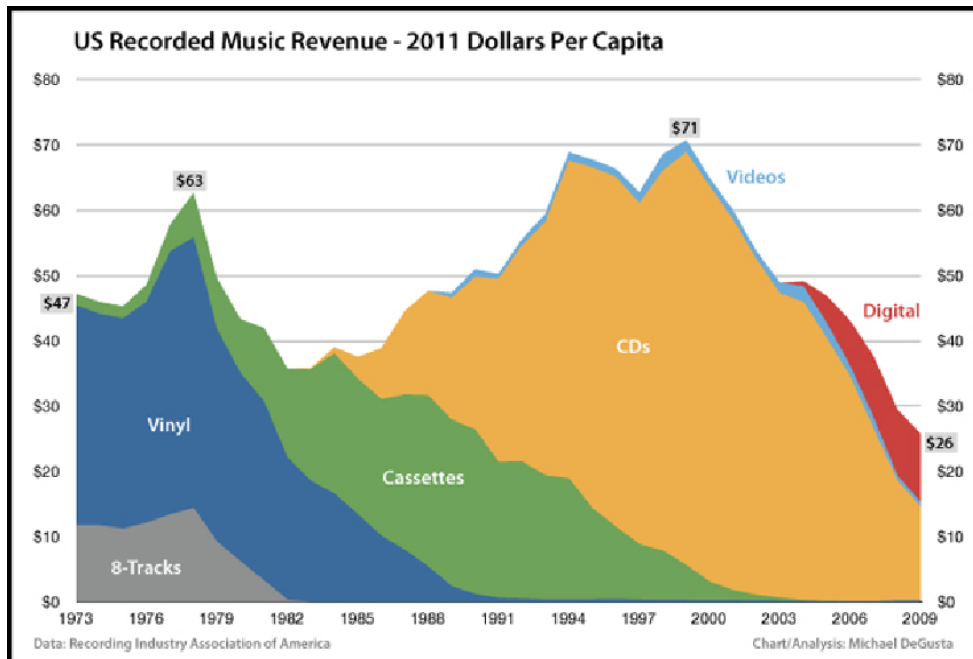
..and in France too.



Data from Google Trends

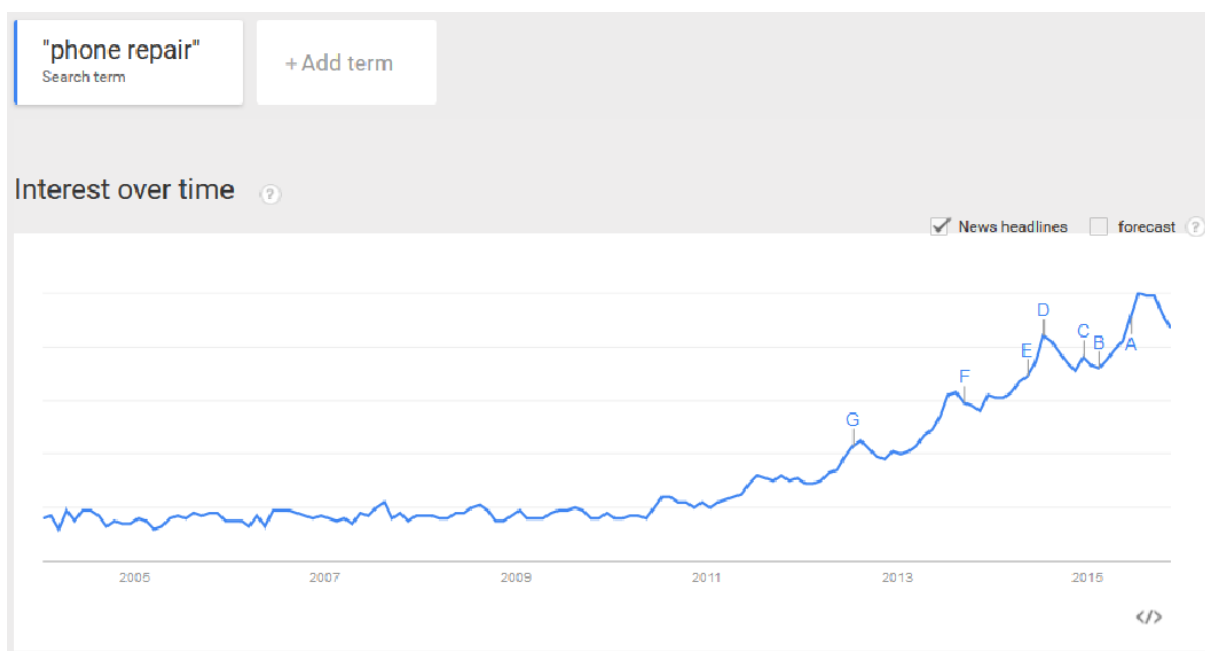
4. Consumption

Digital products are replacing physical products



<http://static2.businessinsider.com/image/4d5ea2acccd1d54e7c030000/music-industry.jpg>

Interest in repairing things is growing, worldwide.

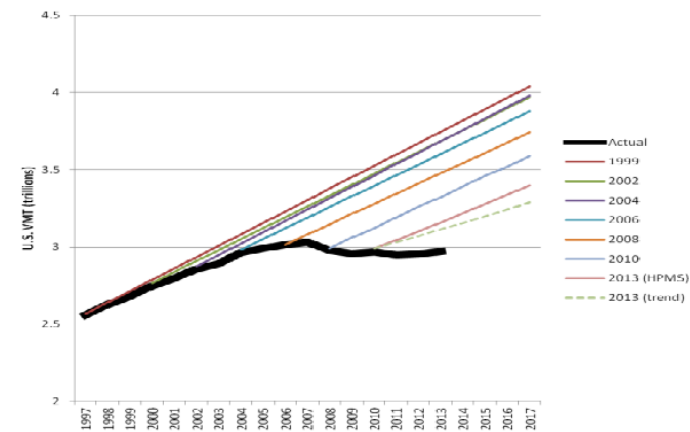


5. Travel

Car use is declining. The official projections of growth are increasingly unrealistic.

In the US....

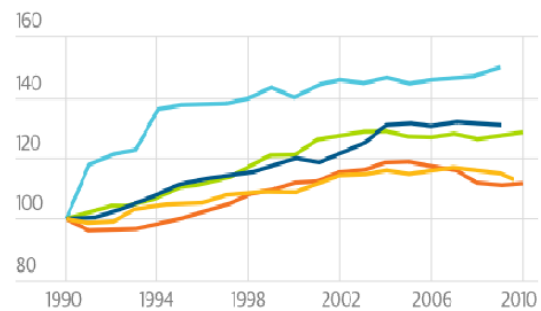
and elsewhere in the developed world too...



Passenger kilometres travelled

Private car and light trucks 1990-2009, index 1990=100

Germany | Australia | France | UK | US

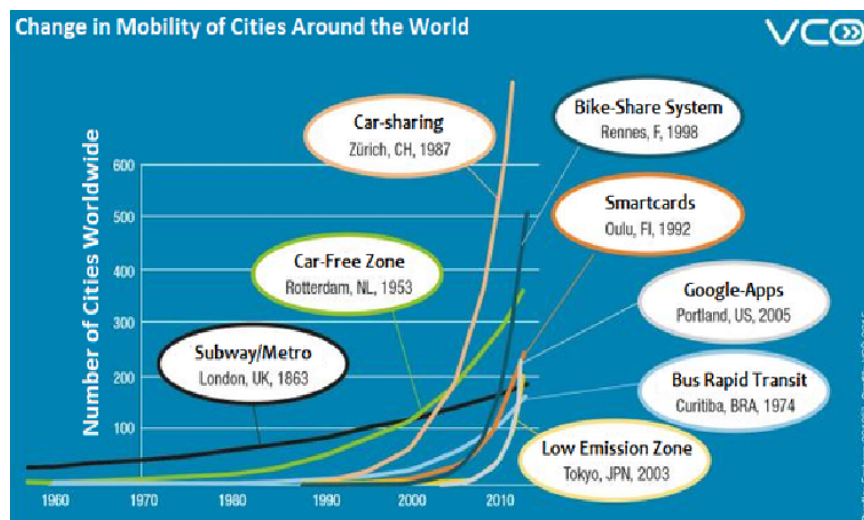


Guardian graphic

Source: International Transport Forum statistics

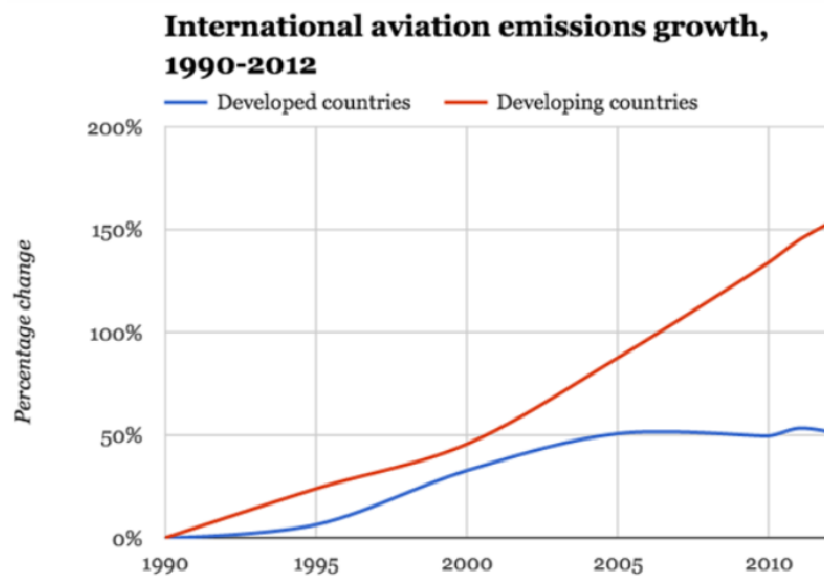
From <http://transportationist.org/2014/12/03/extrapolations-in-traffic-vs-reality/>

Low carbon "mobility services" are booming, worldwide.



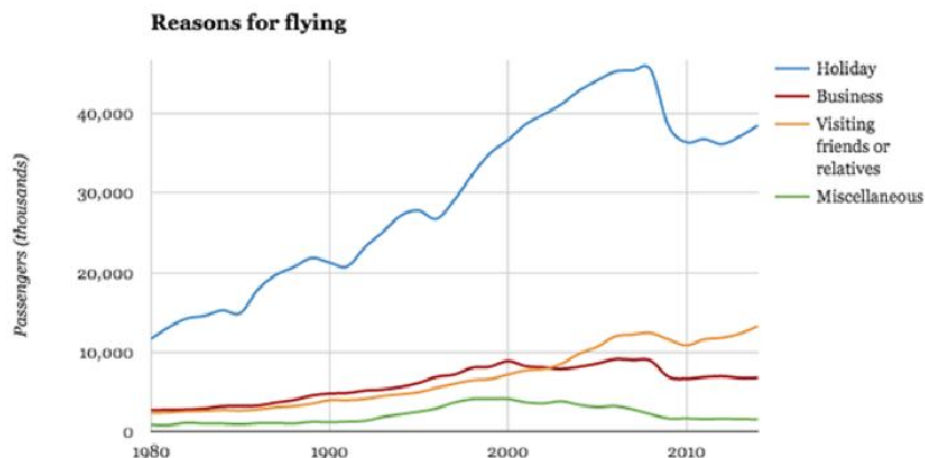
From <https://twitter.com/DewanMKarim/status/618586219950272513>

Flying is a huge and growing problem ... Emissions are growing at 50% p.a. in developed countries, over 150% p.a. in developing countries.



Source: Carbon Brief, using [IEA data](#)

The good news is that UK business flights have been declining since 2000....



Reasons for UK passengers travelling abroad by air. Credit: Carbon Brief, based on [ONS statistics](#)

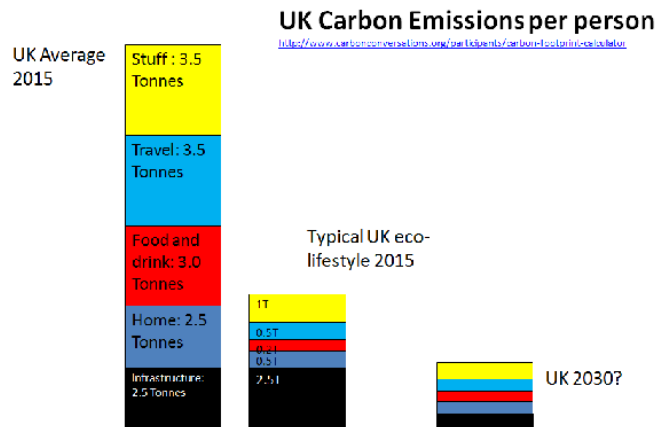
<http://www.carbonbrief.org/explainer-aviations-battle-to-limit-rising-emissions>

...and in the UK: 14% of people were voluntarily choosing not to fly in 2014, up from 13% in 2010.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/336702/experiences-of-attitudes-towards-air-travel.pdf

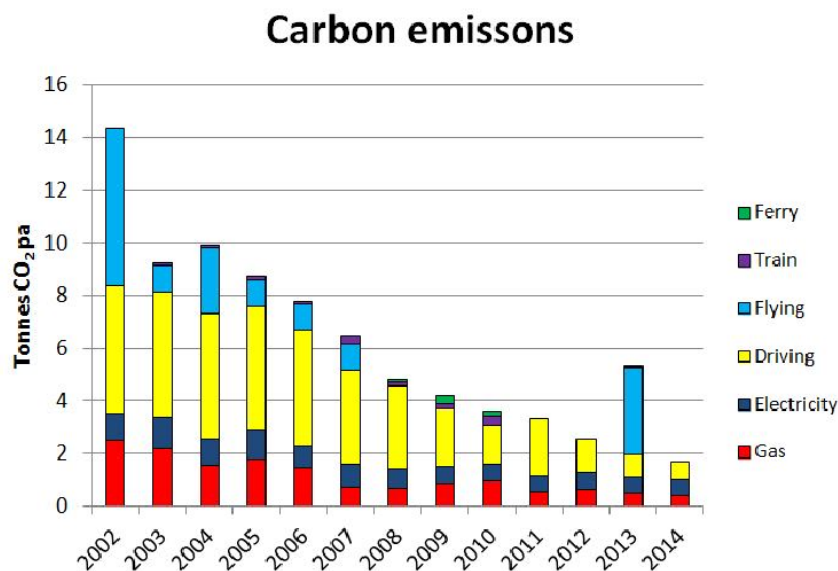
6. Personal Carbon Footprints

As we make these lower carbon lifestyle choices, we make big reductions in our personal carbon emissions.



<http://www.carbonconversations.org/participants/carbon-footprint-calculator>

Big lifestyle changes need persistence and often take time..



Data: Our household carbon emissions

...but it's possible to make a substantial difference, while still having a good time.