Achieving Maryland's Climate Pathway



Prepared by MDE for 2023 Potomac River Conference September 21, 2023

mde.maryland.gov



Maryland is a Climate Leader

Maryland has reduced climate pollution faster than almost any other state (yes, faster than California).

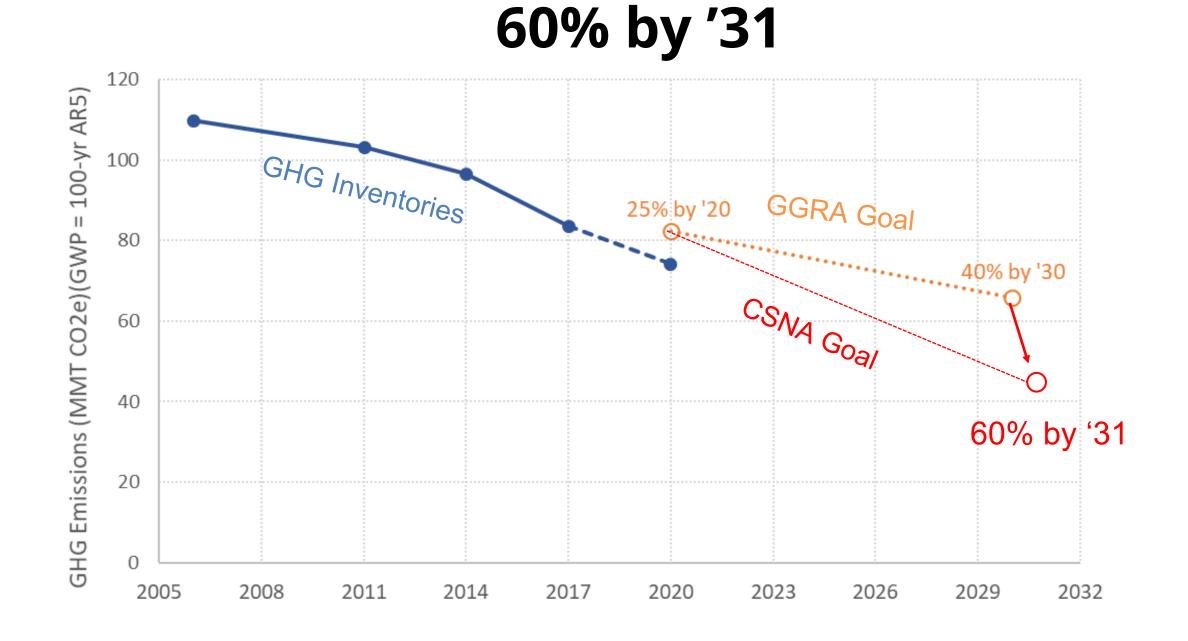
Maryland will reduce statewide greenhouse emissions 60% by 2031 and achieve net-zero by 2045.

These are the most ambitious goals of any U.S. state



Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 (CSNA)

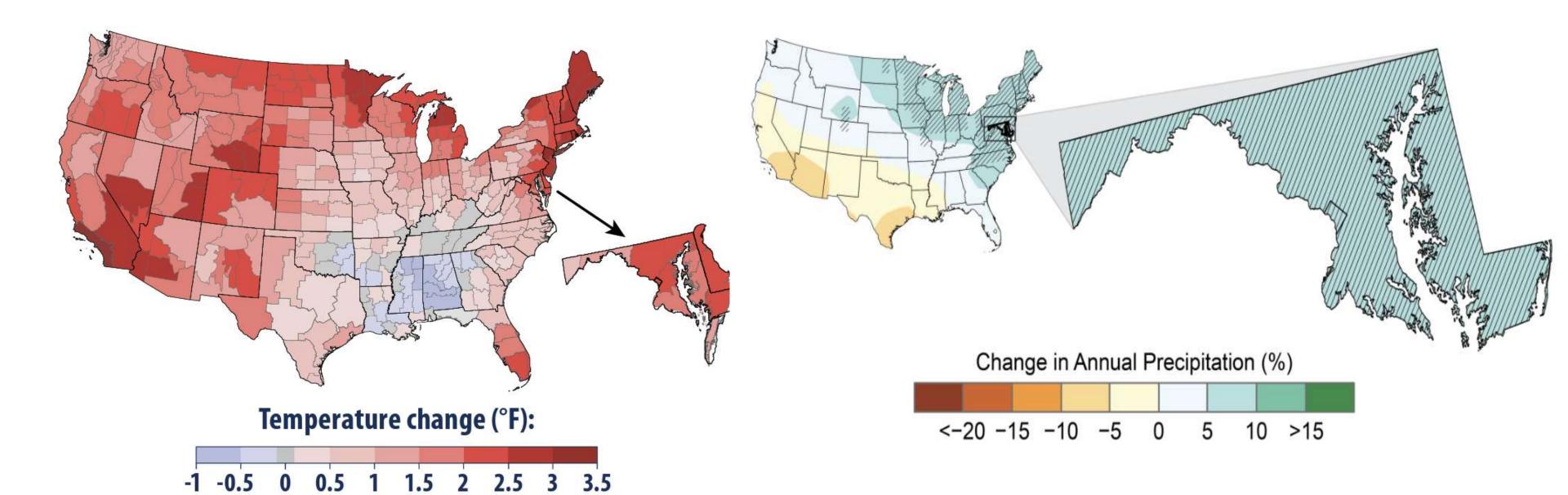
Maryland has the most ambitious near-term goal of any State



Long-term goal: net-zero emissions by 2045

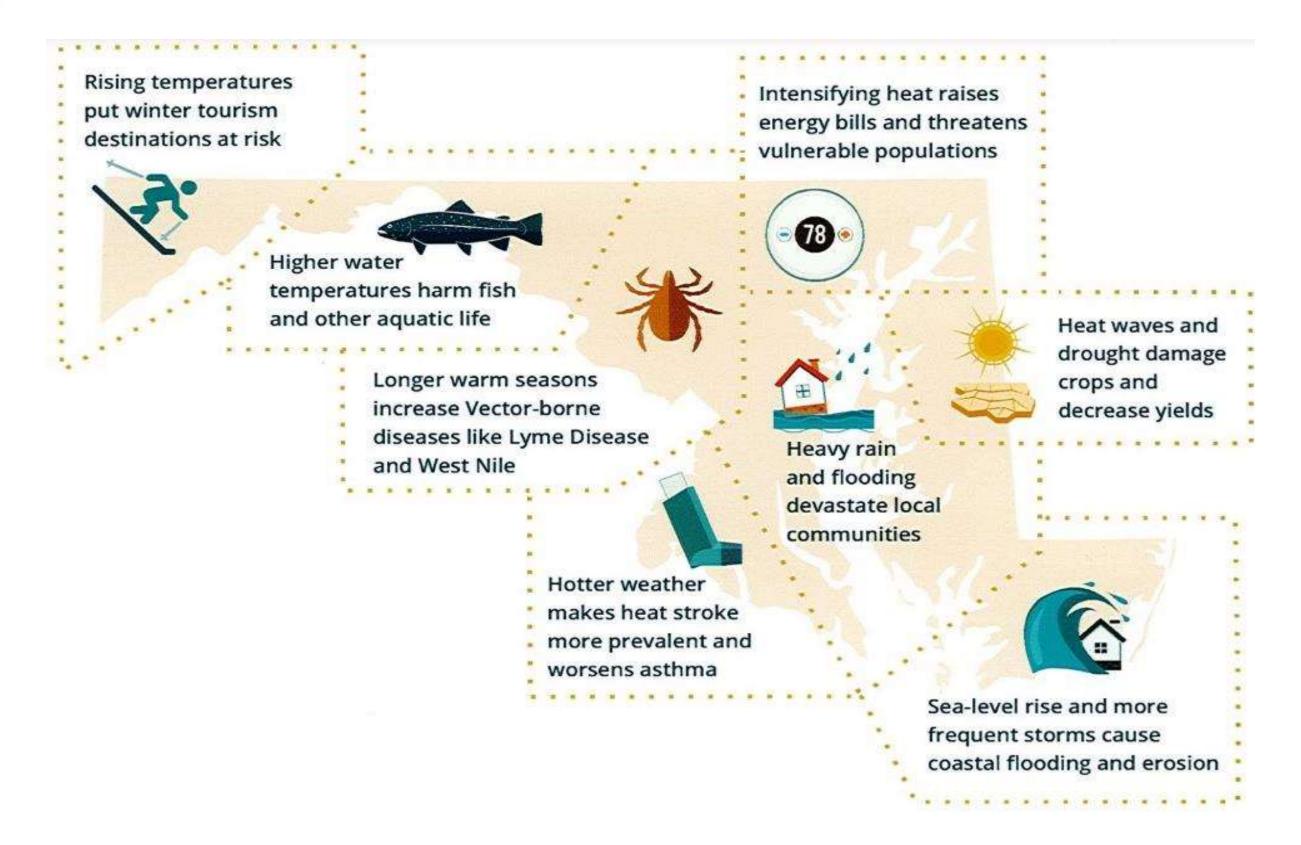


Maryland is Vulnerable



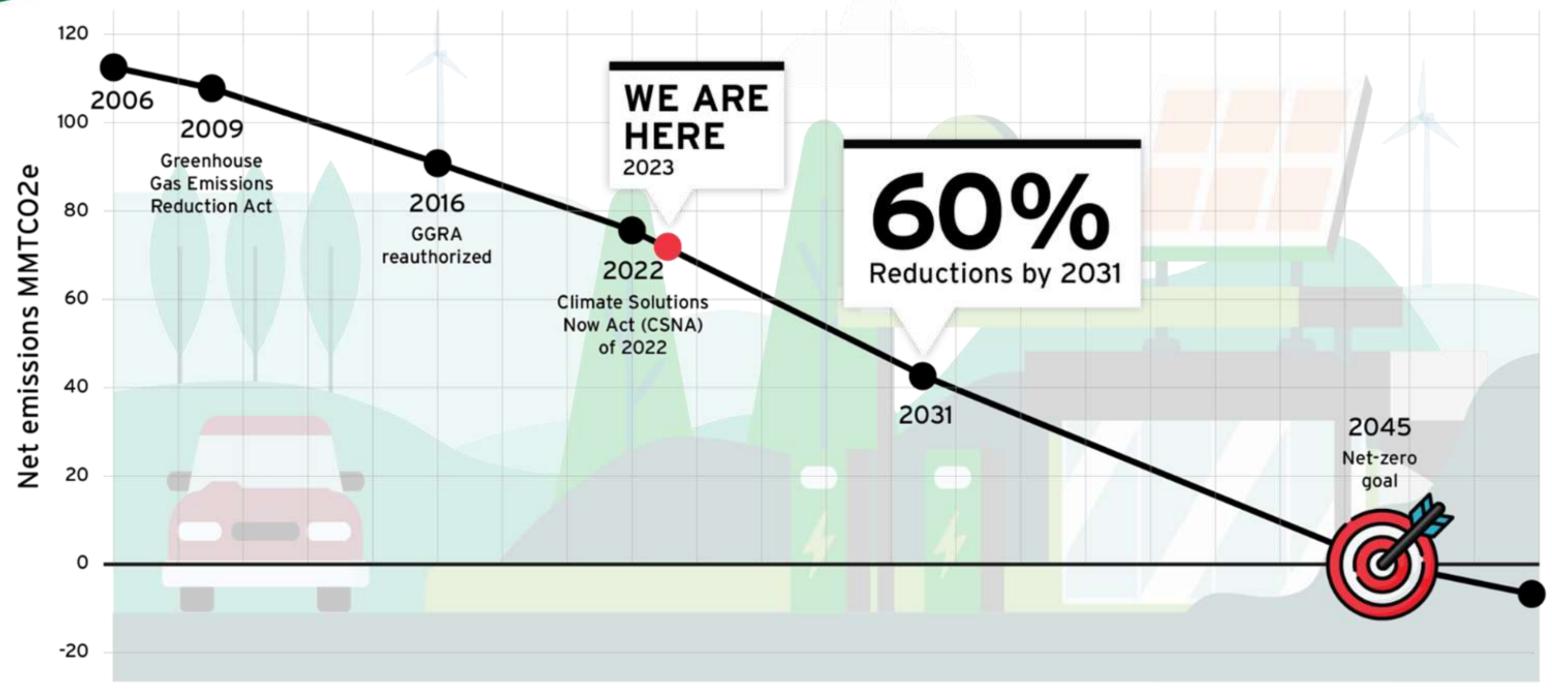


Climate Change affects all of Maryland



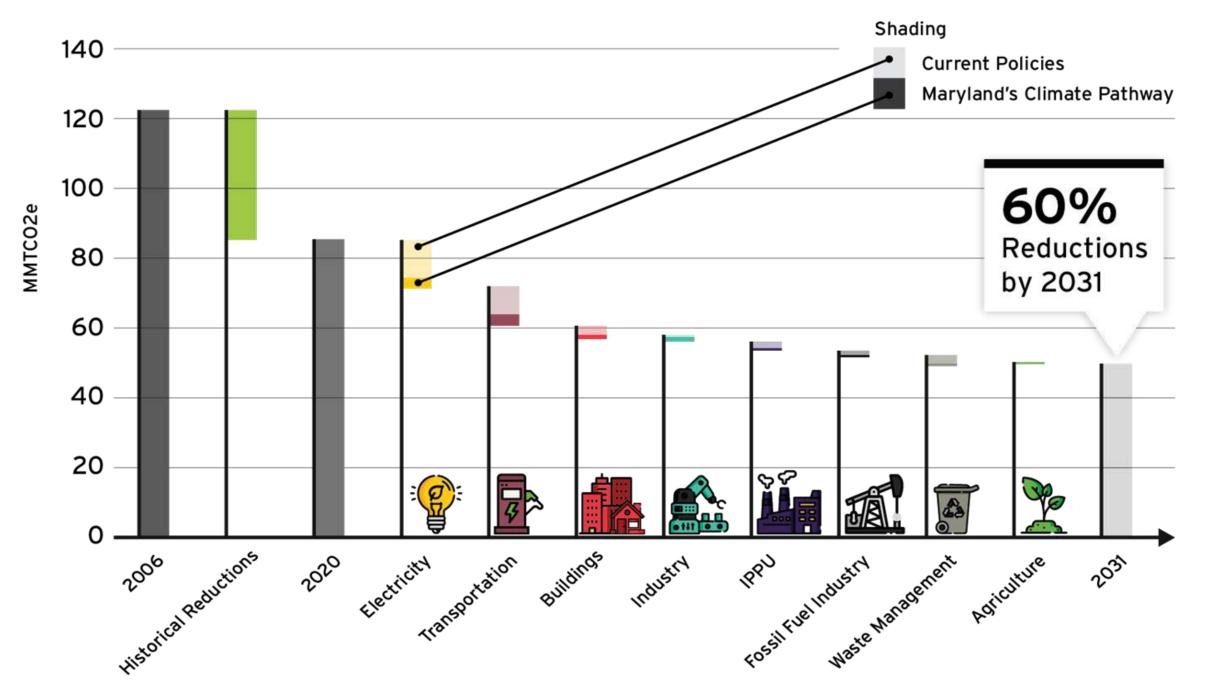


The Path to 2045





Maryland's Climate Pathway requires reductions from all sectors



The report discusses not just what emissions can be reduced, but also *how* they can be reduced. Each sector has some unique considerations and opportunities.

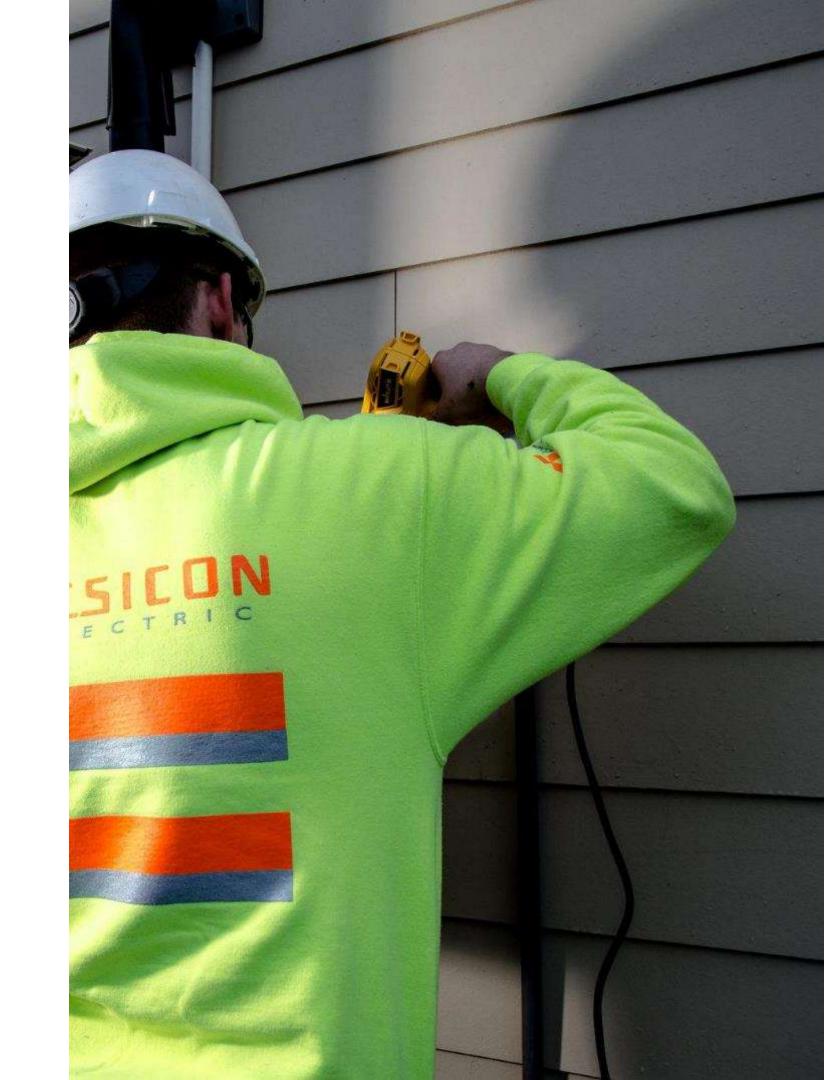


- Current policies achieve 51% reductions by 2031
- Maryland's Climate Pathway provides an inclusive and comprehensive approach for Maryland to reach its 60% goal
- An all-of-society approach can realize substantial benefits for Marylanders





- 100% clean electricity
- Electric cars and buildings
- Public transit and smart development
- Advanced technology for heavy transport and industry
- Millions of trees





Maryland's December Plan



- Reduce climate pollution 60% by 2031
- A path to net zero emissions by 2045
- Strengthen our economy
- Improve public health
- Leave a healthier planet for our children
- Include sector-specific programs, regulations and standards
- MDE is exploring how an economy wide program would support the sector specific polices

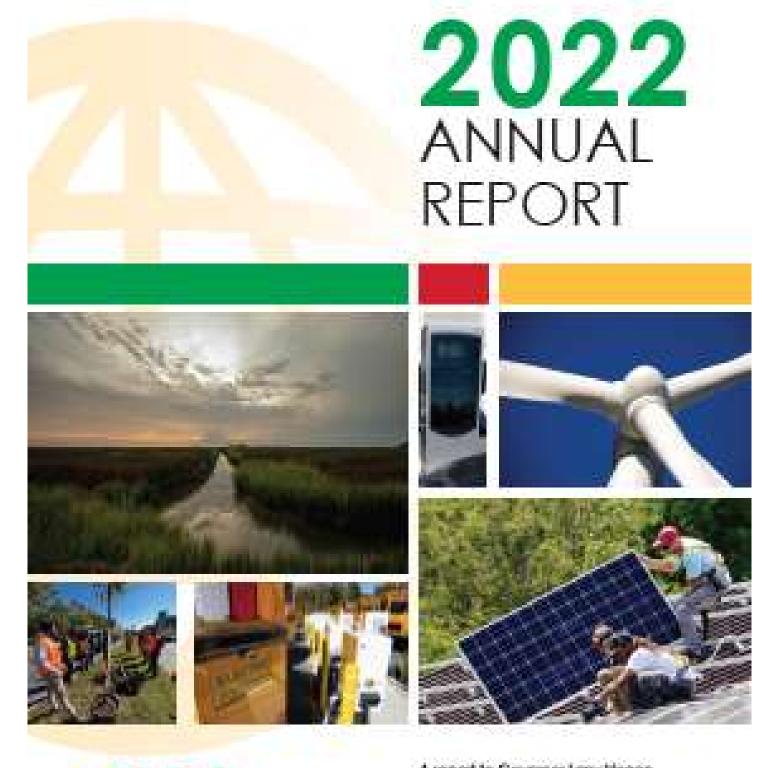
What can Policy Makers do to realize these reductions?



Advise the Governor and General Assembly on ways to:

- mitigate the causes of,
- prepare for,
- and adapt to

the consequences of climate change





A report to Governor Larry Hogan and the Maryland General Assembly with recommendations for seducing greenhouse gas emissions and preparing for and adapting to the impacts of alimate change



Maryland Commission on Climate Change Working Groups









Scientific and Technical



Key implementation opportunities



Decarbonizing electricity also enables decarbonization of other sectors

- Equitable transition
 Access to incentives
 Economic Development



Overcoming barriers to the electric vehicle transition and reducing miles traveled

- Affordability
 Access to charging infrastructure
 Access to public transit



Efficient and clean building technologies must be made available to everyone

- Affordability
- Access for owners and renters



Key implementation opportunities



Decarbonizing the industrial sector is challenging but has large untapped potential

- Stakeholder engagement
- Research and innovation



Waste management is an opportunity to improve Air Quality and reduce GHG

Incineration

- Reduce pollution
- Waste diversion



Land and agriculture sector can contribute to reductions and help the Bay

- Improve soil health
 Preserve & expand forest sinks
 Improve water & air quality



What are the Rewards?

Clean air · Lower illness and hospitalization rates · Healthy buildings

Lower energy costs · Better transportation options · Economic development

Pathways to work, wages, and wealth · Slowing sea level rise

Reducing global suffering · Saving Earth for future generations



Marylanders are Ready

Marylanders say yes to climate action

- 68% of voters rank fighting climate change as a top priority
- 78% of Democrats want zero-emission buildings

(Gonzales poll, 2022)



What's Next in Maryland?

- MDE has determined that most of the steps called for in the Pathway report can be done through regulations w/out any legislative action
- MDE is coordinating a whole-of-government approach to policy development and implementation strategy by working with state agencies to develop the sector specific policies



What's Next in Maryland?

The December Plan will include a description of each proposed policy, timeline, status, current GHG reductions, and health and economic benefits.

The Final Plan will include specific agency actions to implement the economy-wide Plan

Questions and Comments?