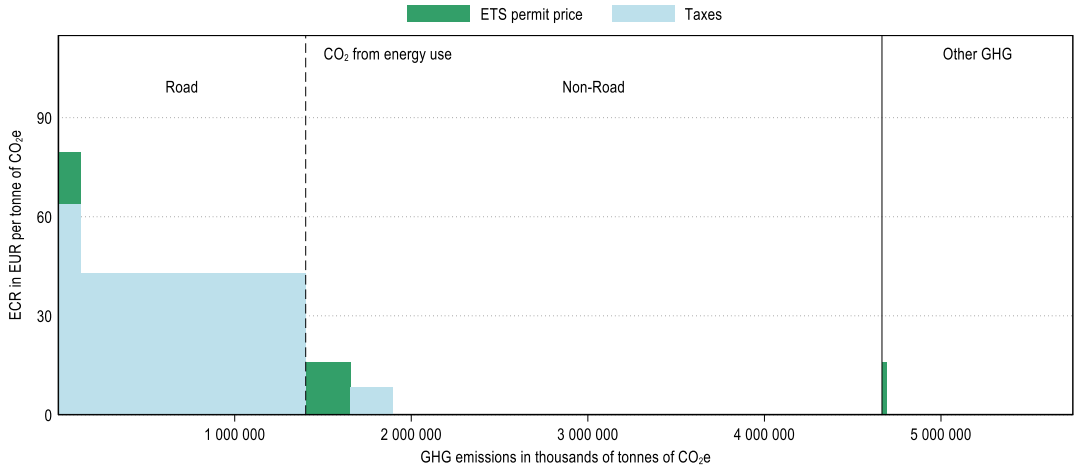
United States

The United States' greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions mainly consist in CO_2 emissions from energy use (81%). In 2021, these emissions are priced through fuel excise taxes and subnational emissions trading systems (ETSs). The United States priced about 41% of its carbon emissions from energy use and about 5% were priced at an ECR above EUR 60 per tonne of CO_2 (see Figure 3). Emissions priced at this level mainly originated from the road transport sector. The majority of unpriced emissions from energy use were from the electricity, buildings and industry sectors (Figure 2). ETSs covered about 2% of other GHG emissions[1], which made up about 19% of national emissions (see Figure 1).

Figure 1. Average effective carbon rates in United States in 2021

CO_2 emissions from energy use and other GHG emissions



[1] CH_4, N_2O, F-gases and process CO_2 emissions.

Figure 2. Average effective carbon rates in United States by sector and component in 2021

Restricting to CO_2 emissions from energy use

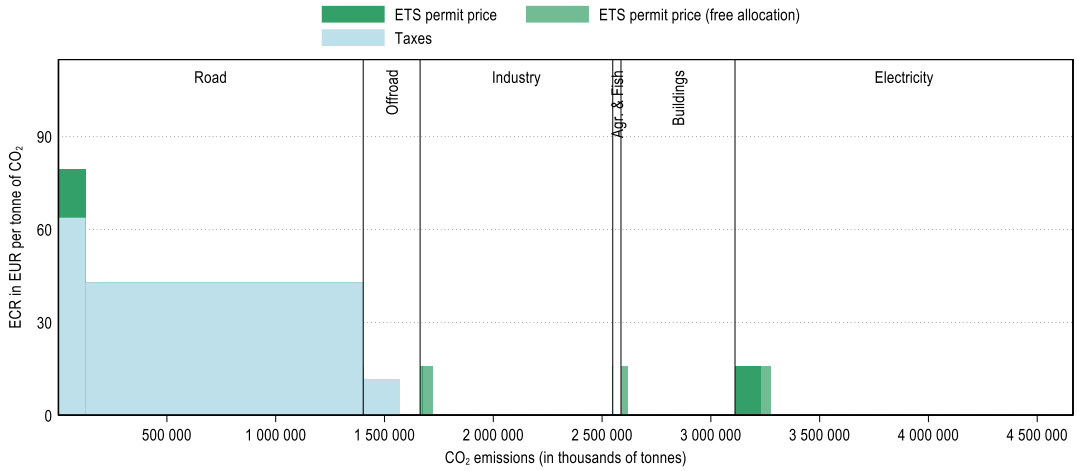
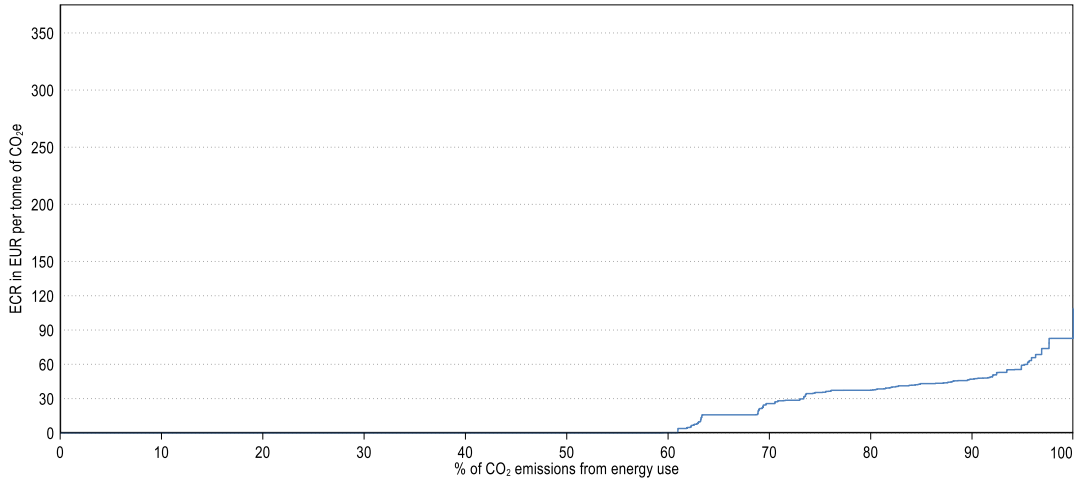


Figure 3. Distribution of ECRs on CO_2 emissions from energy use in United States in 2021

Restricting to CO_2 emissions from energy use



For additional information to interpret the graphs, see: https://oe.cd/ECR2023-graph-info

Main insights from *Effective Carbon Rates 2023*: https://oe.cd/ECR2023-brochure