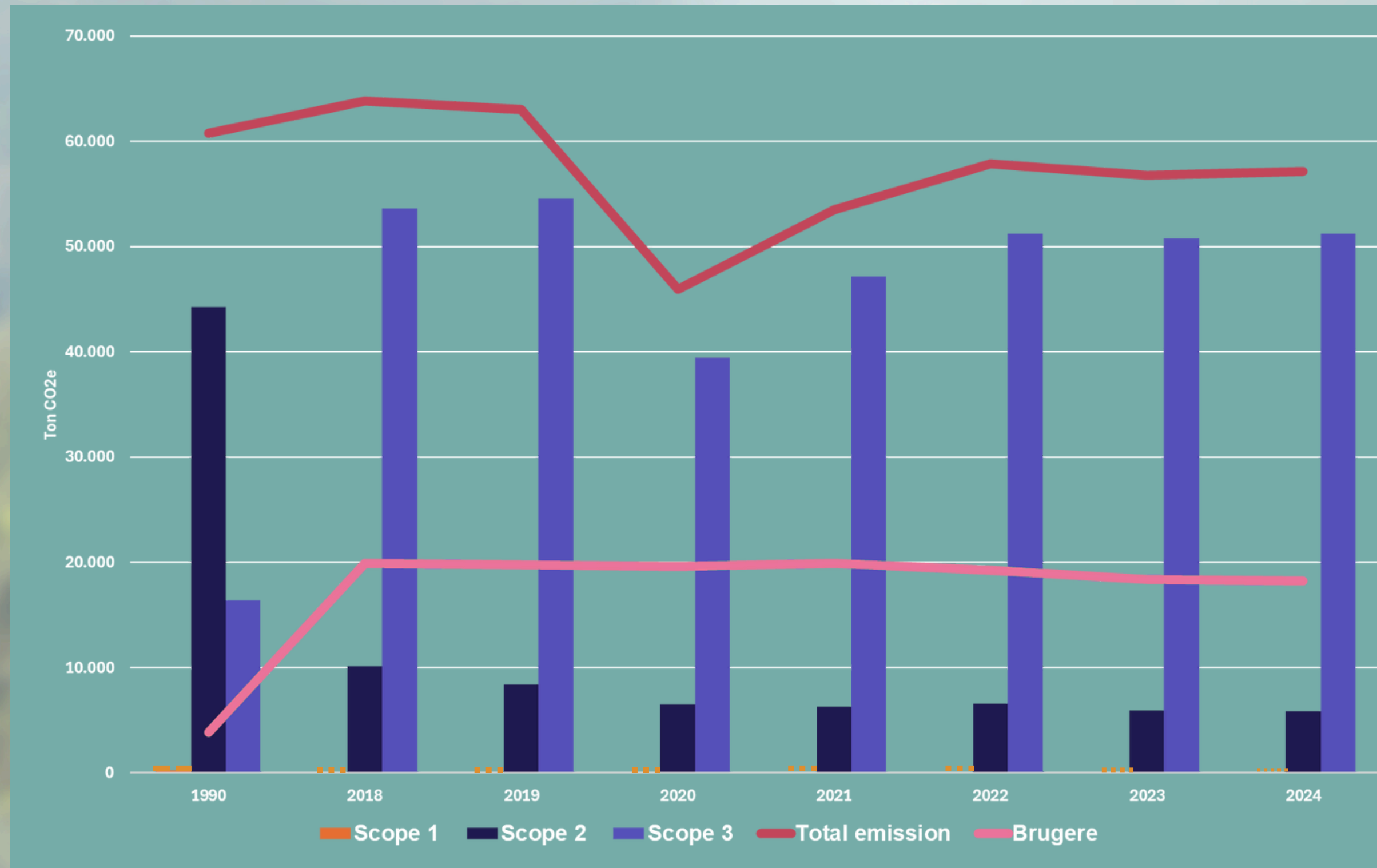


# CLIMATE ACCOUNT 2024



AALBORG  
UNIVERSITET

# AAU'S TOTAL YEARLY GHG EMISSIONS



0.67% increase from 2023-2024

**57.120** 

Emissions have increased by 381 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> from 2023-2024 (0.67%)

**18.261** 

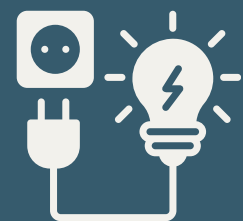
The number of users has decreased slightly in 2024 (from 18,406 in 2023)

# AAU'S GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS DIVIDED BY SCOPES



**Scope 1: 64 ton 0,1%**

Covers direct emissions from own operations, e.g. from own cars and machinery.



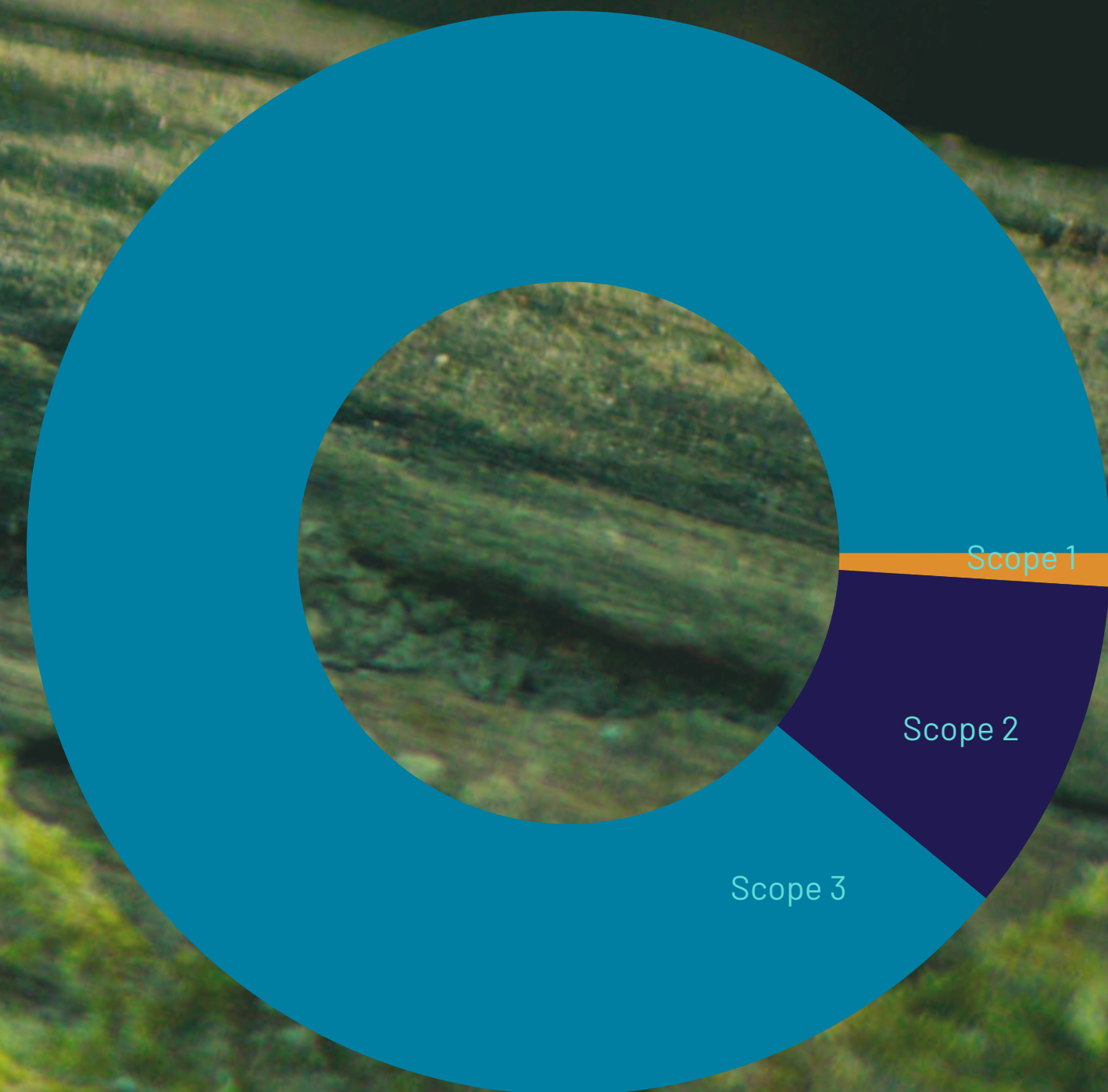
**Scope 2: 5822 ton 10,2%**

Includes indirect emissions from energy consumption - electricity, water and heat.



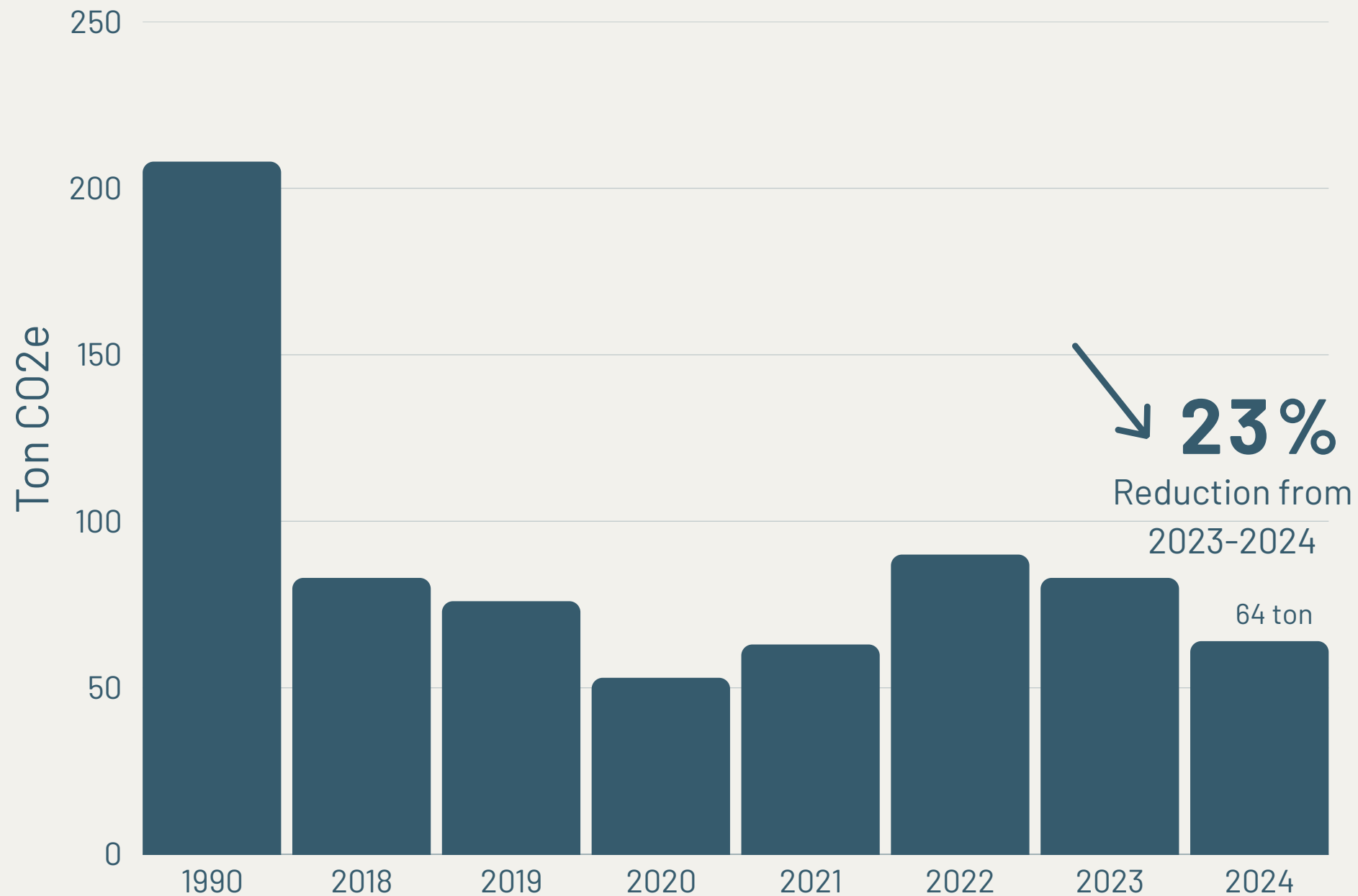
**Scope 3: 51.234 ton 89,7%**

Indirect emissions in 15 subcategories, e.g. purchasing, renting buildings, waste, transport and services.



# SCOPE 1

64 TON CO<sub>2</sub>e

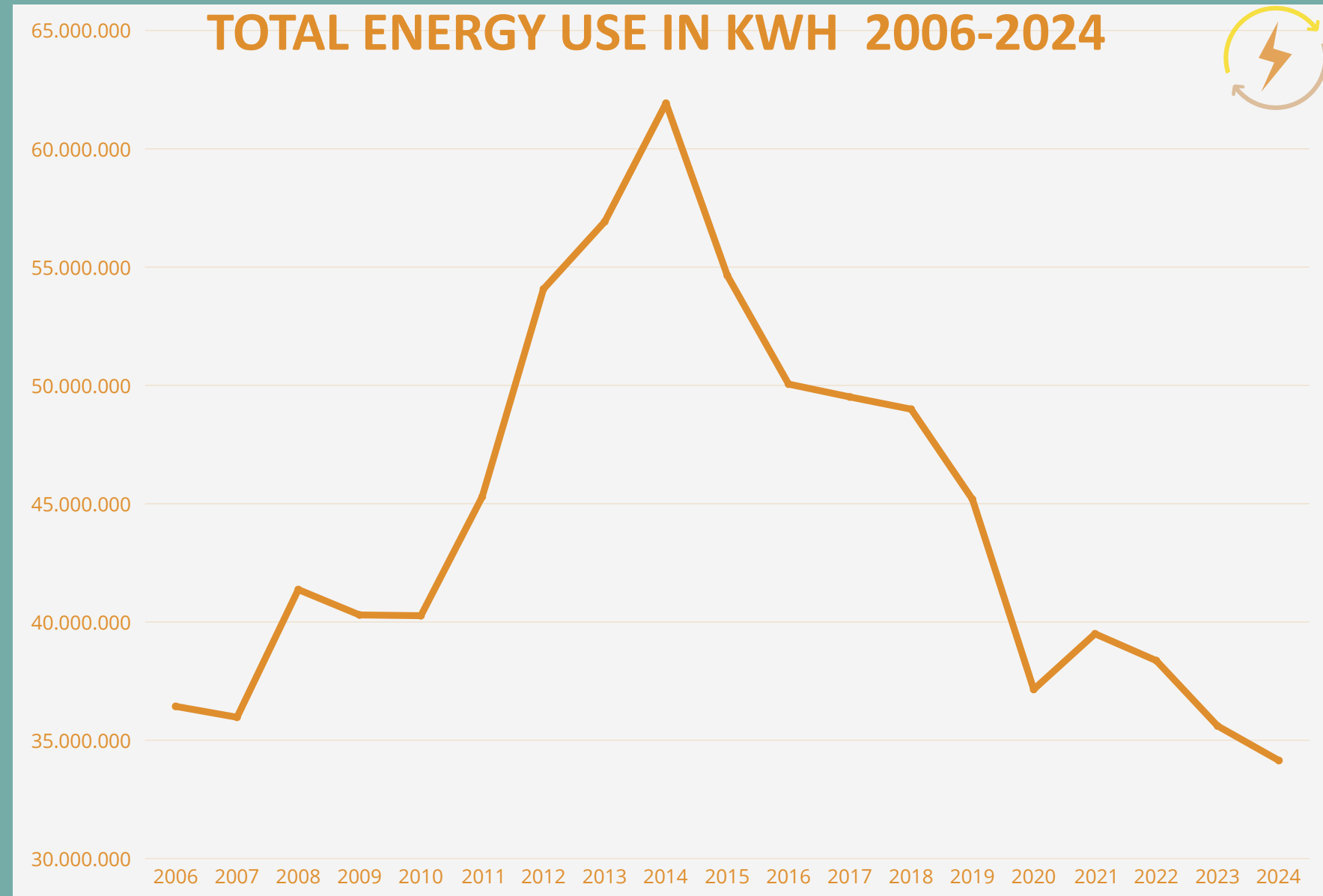
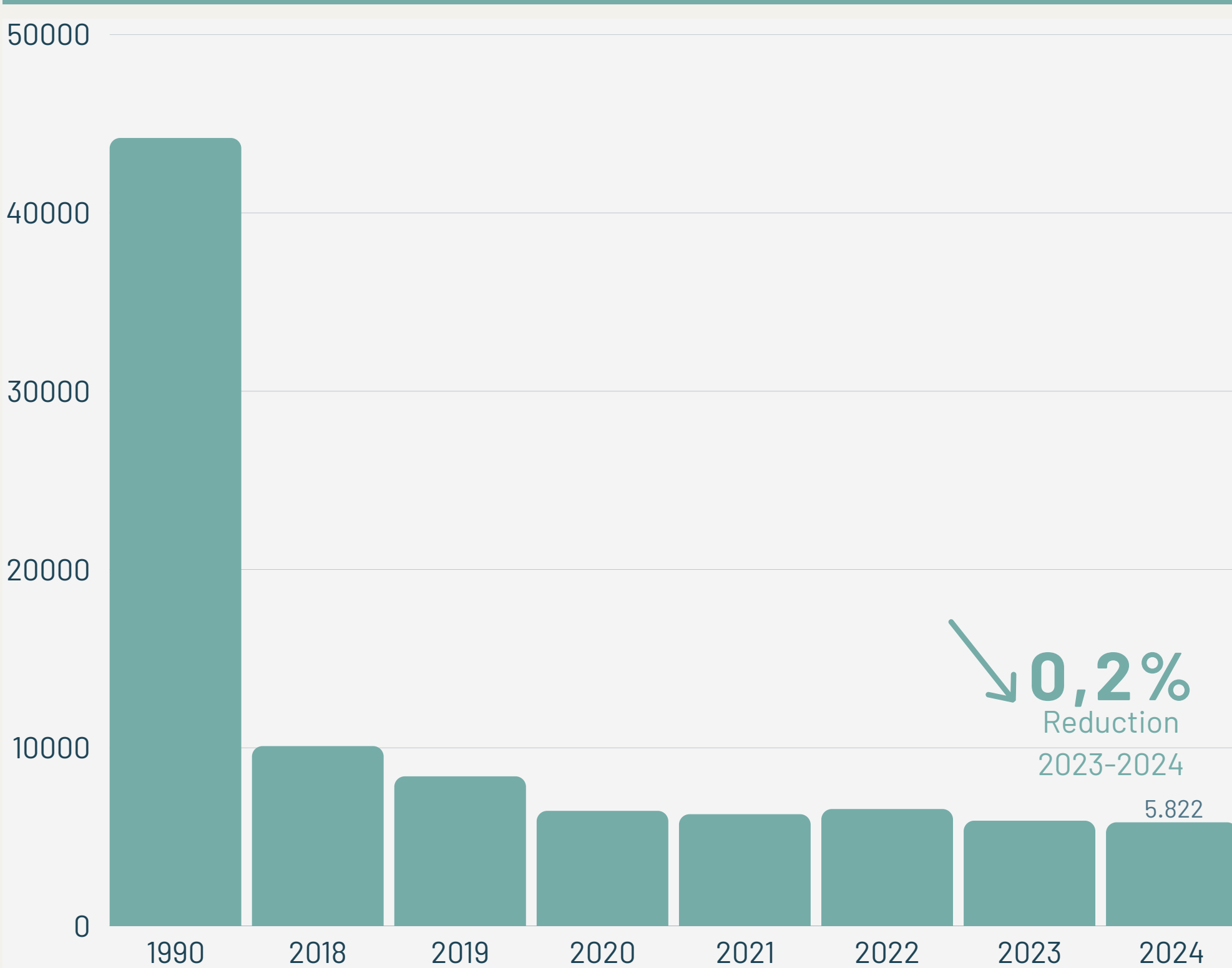


Scope 1 covers direct emissions from the company's own operations and includes, among other things, mobile and stationary fuel as well as emissions from industrial processes. Emissions in scope 1 have decreased by 19 tonnes from 2023-2024, which corresponds to 23%. The result is achieved due to lower fuel consumption for the maintenance of outdoor areas, where more machines have been replaced with electric ones.

It is considered likely to be possible to achieve climate neutrality in scope 1 in 2029 (before 2030) with investments in, for example, electric cars and analysis of own industrial processes.

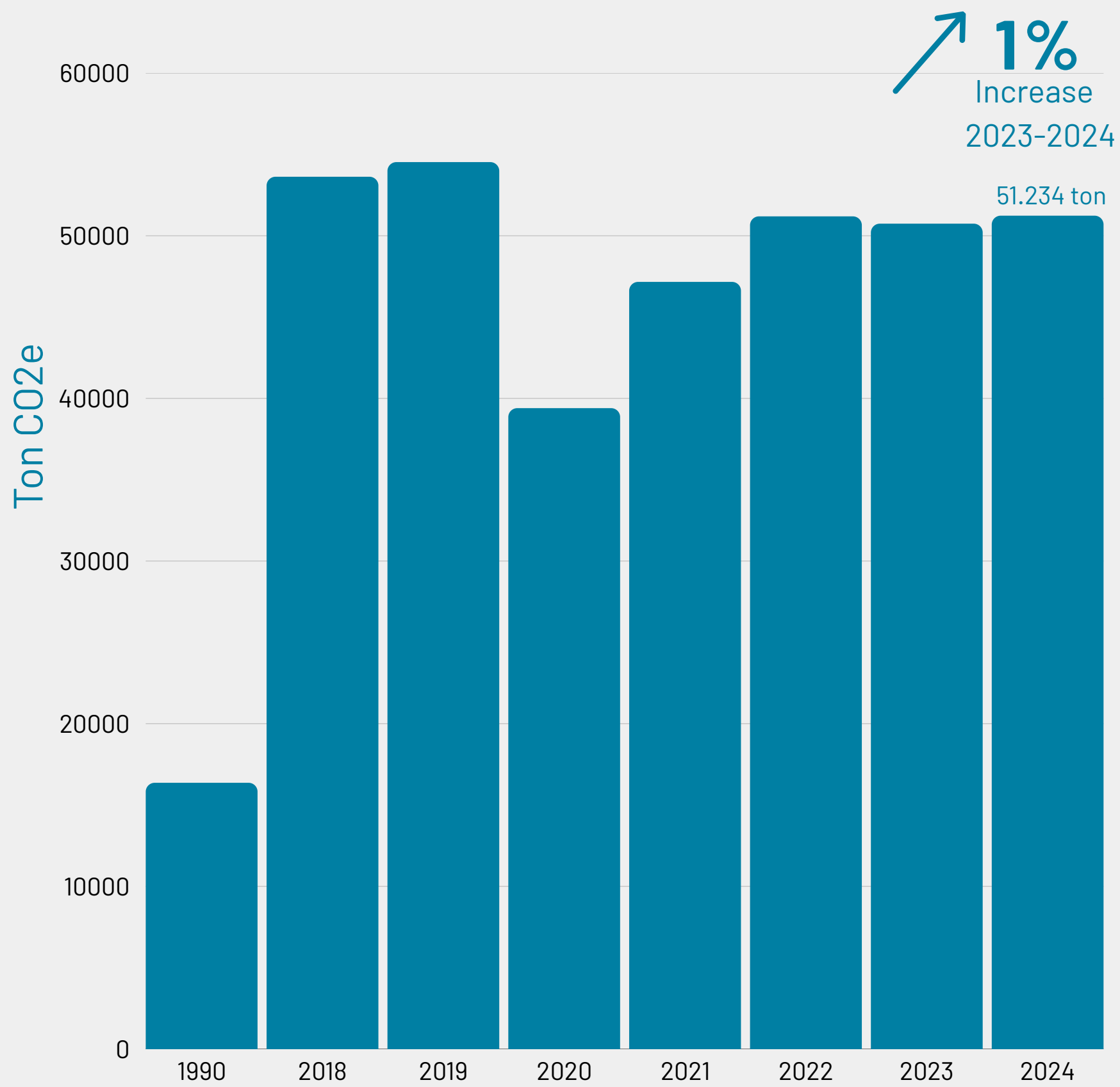
# SCOPE 2

5.822 TON CO<sub>2</sub>e



Scope 2 contains emissions from the university's energy consumption - electricity, water and heat. In 2024, 5,822 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e were emitted in scope 2. This represents a small decrease of 0.2% from 5,913 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2023. In 2024, the share of low carbon energy sources in AAU's energy supplies was slightly lower than in 2023. This means that CO<sub>2</sub> emissions have not decreased despite reduced energy consumption.

The university aims for climate neutrality in scope 2 in 2029 (by 2030). AAU continues to work towards the goal by optimizing energy, but is also dependent on the energy supply in Denmark becoming increasingly climate neutral.



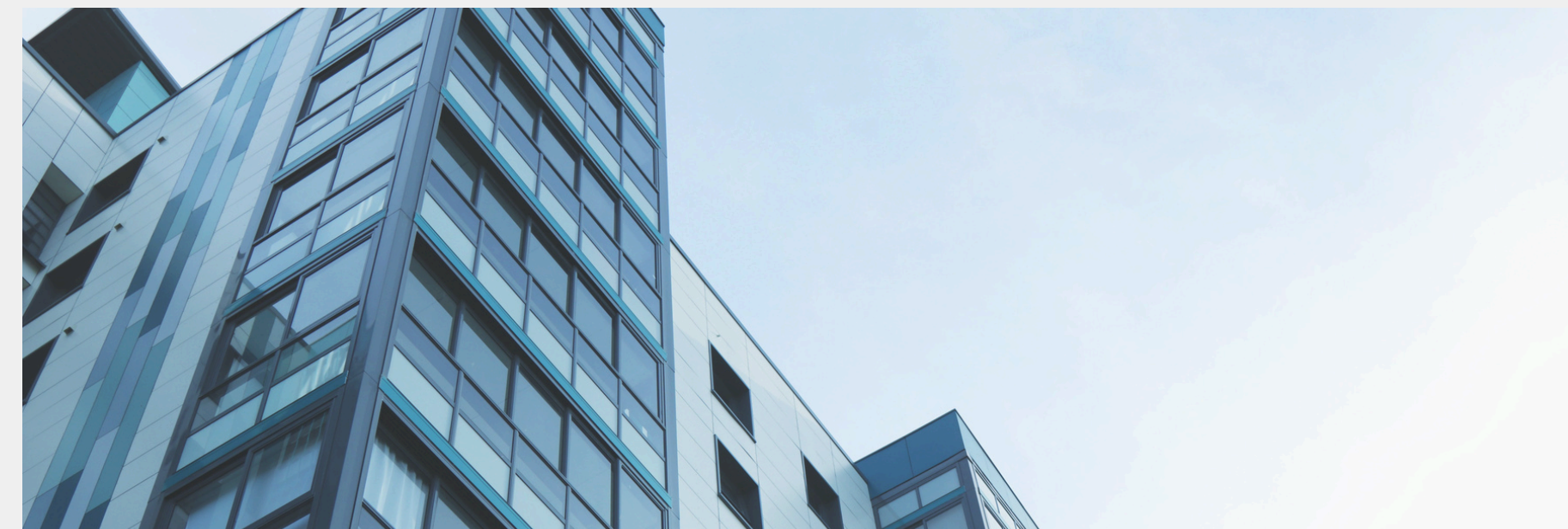
# SCOPE 3

## 51.234 TON CO<sub>2</sub>e



Scope 3 emissions cover the indirect CO<sub>2</sub> emissions that occur outside AAU's own buildings and activities – e.g. from travel, procurement, consultancy services and commuting. These constitute by far the largest part (89%) of the university's total climate footprint and are closely linked to daily operations.

From 2023 to 2024, there has been a small increase of 1%, corresponding to 491 tonnes. Areas such as consulting services and office equipment have increased, while there is a lower footprint in business travel and furniture. More details on developments in scope 3 can be found under the individual focus areas.

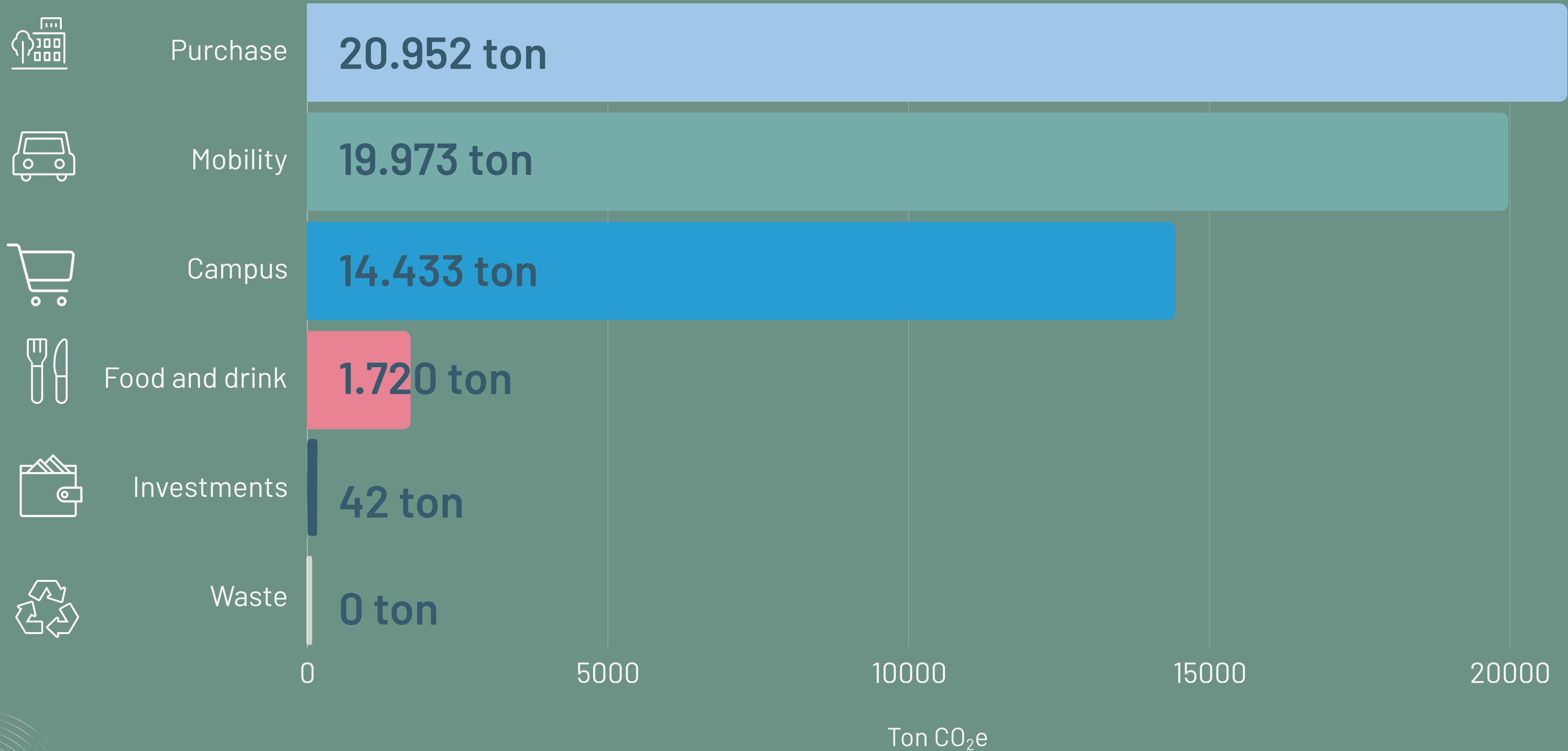


# FOCUS AREAS



**AALBORG  
UNIVERSITET**

# FOCUS AREAS 2024





# PROCUREMENT

## 20.952 TON CO<sub>2</sub>e

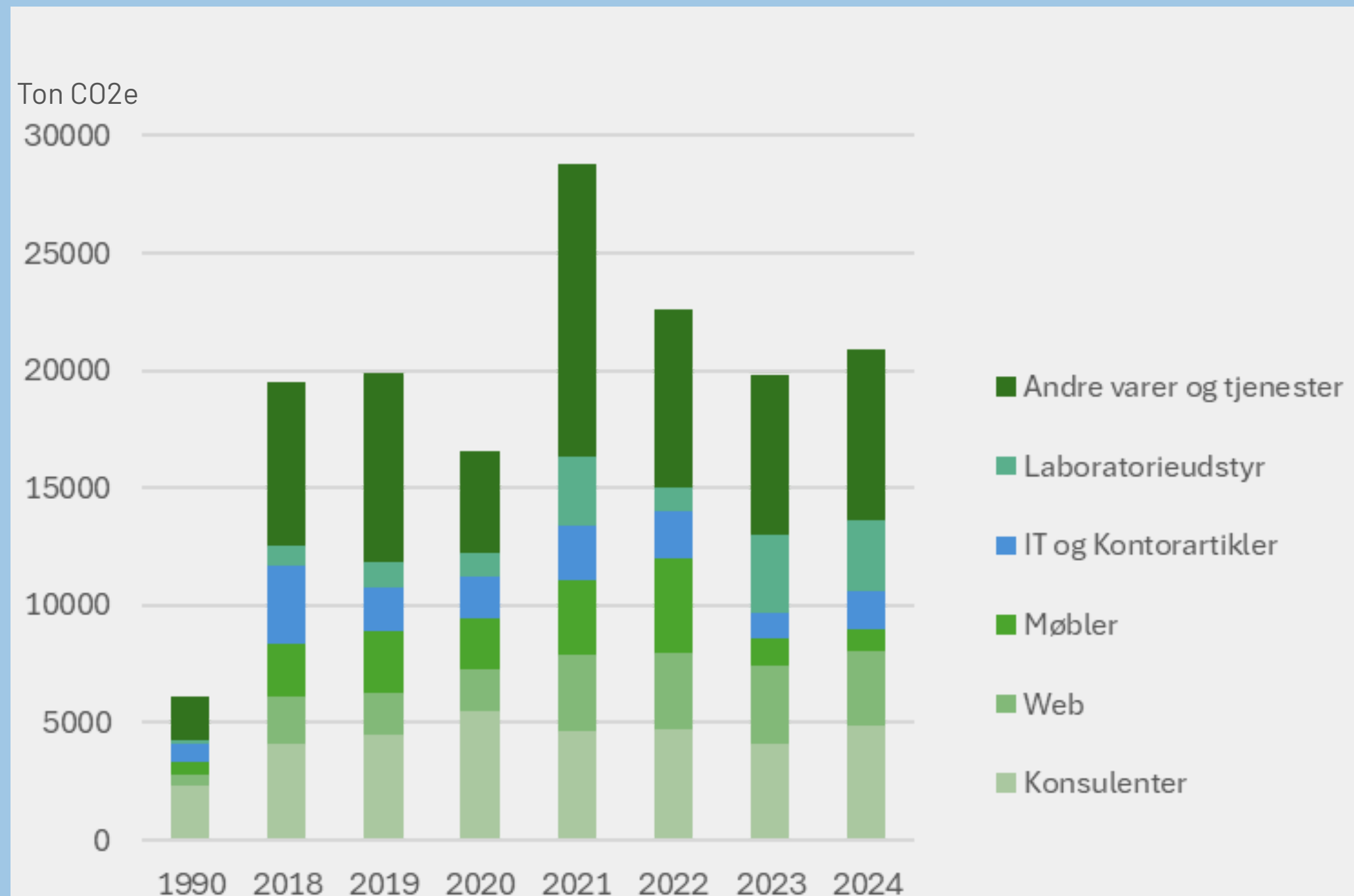
### 6% increase 2023-2024

The focus area Procurement constitutes a significant part of AAU's overall climate footprint and has experienced an increase in greenhouse gas emissions in 2024. Emissions have increased from 19,821 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2023 to 20,952 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2024, corresponding to an increase of 6%.

The increase is primarily due to increased emissions in subcategories such as:

- Consulting services (+811 tons)
- Other goods and services (+674 tons)
- IT and office supplies (+545 tons)

To support the goal of climate neutrality by 2045 and 50% reduction per user by 2030, it is crucial to strengthen green procurement policy and ensure circular solutions.





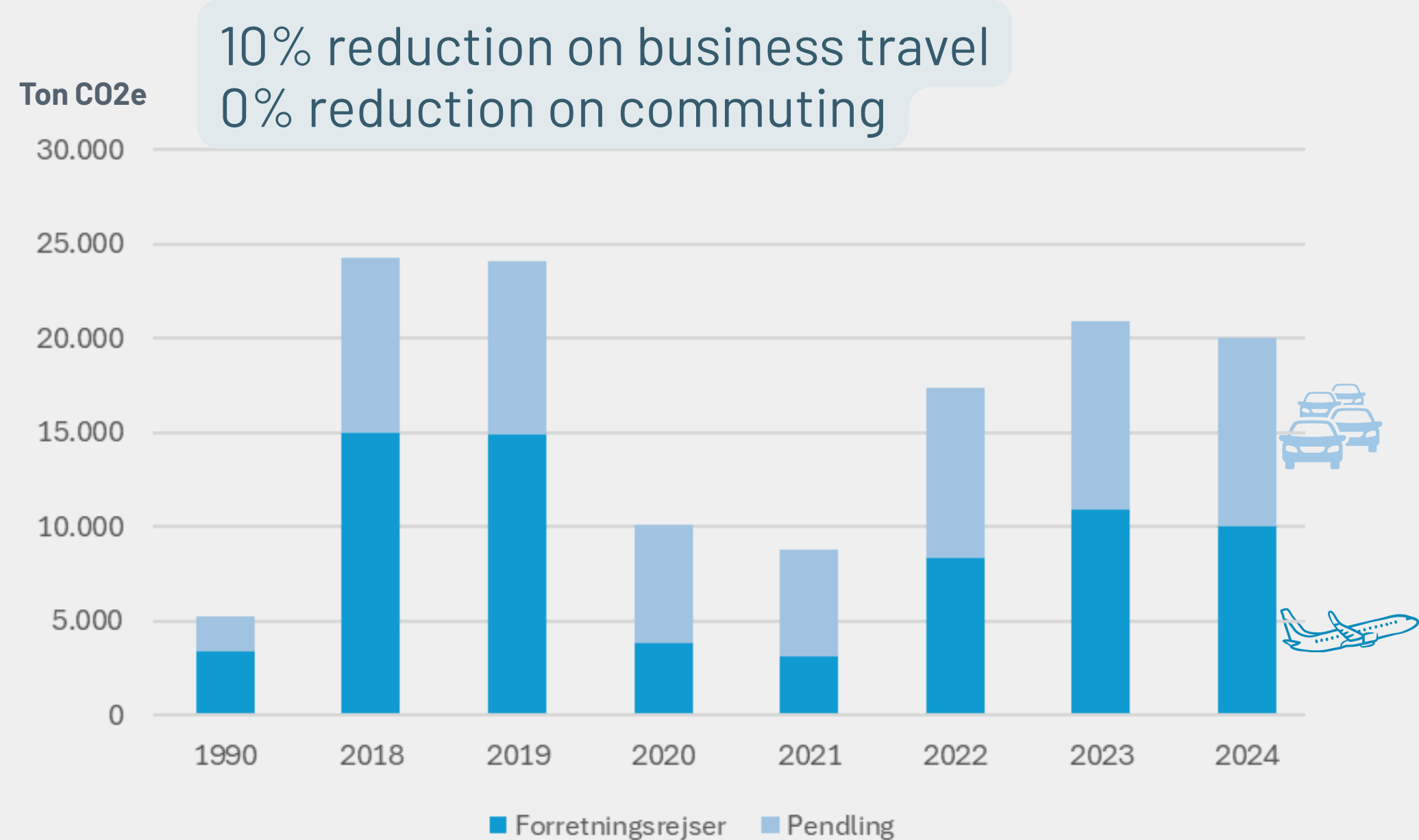
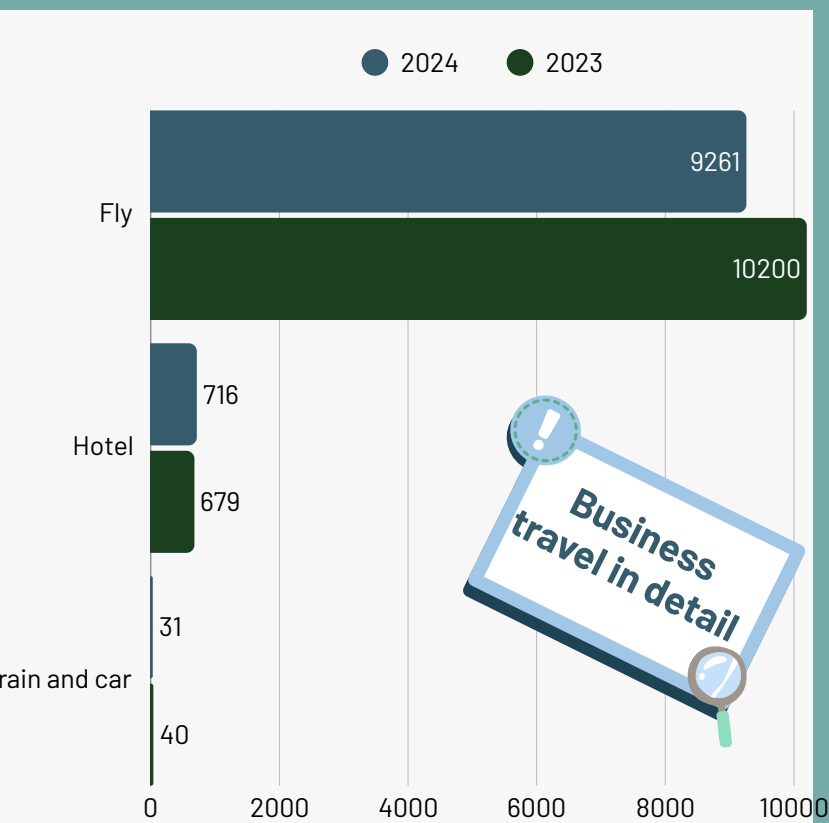
# MOBILITY

# 19.973 TON CO<sub>2</sub>e

## 4% reduction 2023-2024

Mobility is the second largest of the 6 focus areas, accounting for 35% of the university's total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. There has been a 4% reduction, equivalent to 911 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e, from 2023 to 2024. The reduction has been on business travel, while commuting is at the same level as the previous year.

The CO<sub>2</sub> savings on business trips are due to AAU flying slightly fewer short distances and fewer long distances. A decrease in commuting was expected, as there are slightly fewer users at the university in 2024, while the share of electric cars is increasing. The reduction did not occur because Denmark's energy mix in 2024 was less renewable than the year before.





# CAMPUS

## Stable 2023-2024

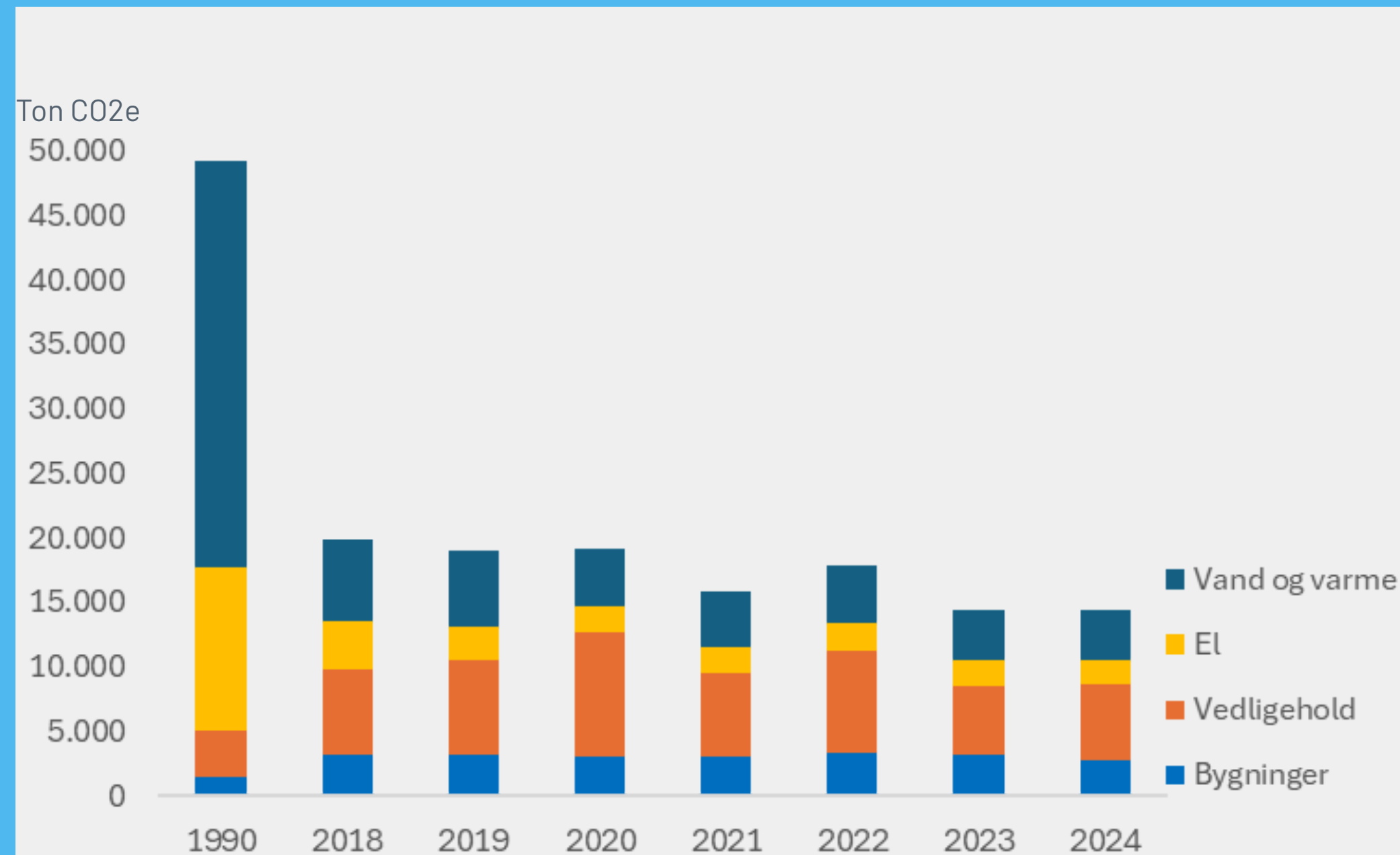
19 ton reduction = 0.13%

The focus area 'Campus' accounts for 25% of the university's total greenhouse gas emissions and emissions in this area are largely the same in 2024 as the year before.

However, the distribution has changed in 2024 - as there are fewer emissions from the buildings themselves - AAU has reduced the total building stock in 2024 by around 21,000 m<sup>2</sup>. At the same time, emissions from building maintenance have increased.

The CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from energy for water, heat and electricity are the same as in 2023 - despite the fact that AAU has reduced energy consumption by 5%. This is due to the composition of fossil and renewable energy sources from AAU's energy supply.

14.433 TON CO<sub>2</sub>e





# FOOD & BEVERAGE

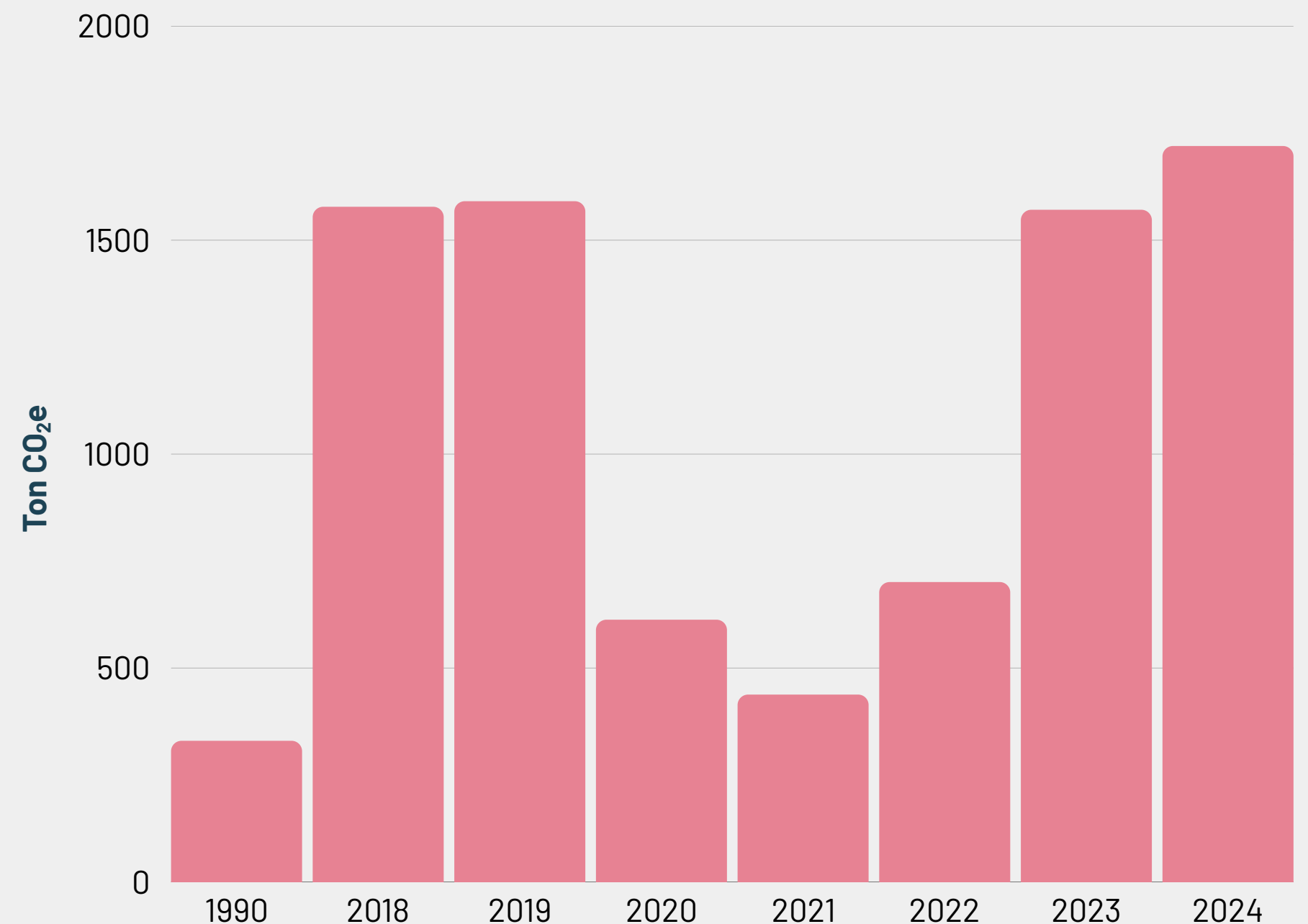
## 10% increase 2023-2024

Food and beverage covers emissions from canteen operations and food purchased directly for events and employees at the university.

The area accounts for 1% of AAU's total emissions. Therefore, it is not alarming that emissions here have increased by 10% from 2023 to 2024, which corresponds to an increase of 149 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e.

The increase is due to Jespers Torvekøkken increasing its turnover at AAU in 2024. It is crucial that the canteens continue their work to reduce the climate footprint of each meal.

# 1.720 TON CO<sub>2</sub>e





# INVESTMENTS

42 TON CO<sub>2</sub>e

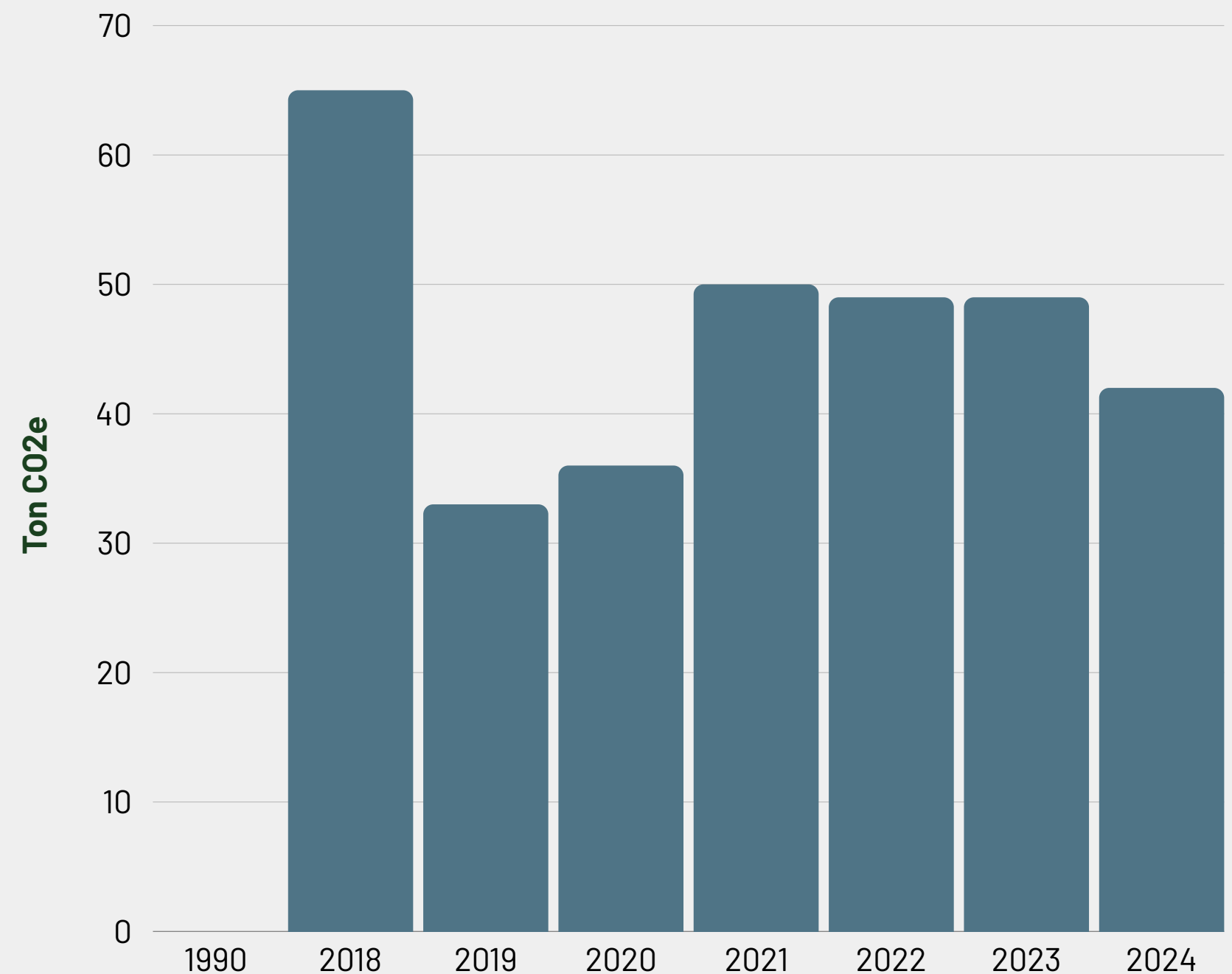
## 15% Reduction 2023-2024

Investments account for less than 0.1 percent of AAU's climate footprint.

### ***Aalborg University's Investment Policy***

AAU has a green investment profile that supports the transition to sustainable energy sources. This excludes, among other things, investments in companies that explore for, extract, produce and distribute fossil fuels (coal, oil and gas).

AAU's asset managers must use an ESG model to compose the portfolio.





# WASTE RESOURCES



## Virtually zero!

Greenhouse gas emissions from university waste are virtually zero. Waste that is not recycled is sent to incineration and displaces fossil fuels in the energy sector and therefore has a positive climate impact because emissions from non-recycled waste are offset by emission gains from recycling.

Waste resources are one of the focus areas in AAU's climate plan, as it is an important area in relation to responsible consumption of resources.

New legislation is constantly being introduced regarding the recycling of, for example, packaging and requirements for producers. This means that with a higher recycling rate, it is likely that waste will actually have a positive impact in the future.



# STATUS OF CLIMATE GOALS AND CONCLUSION



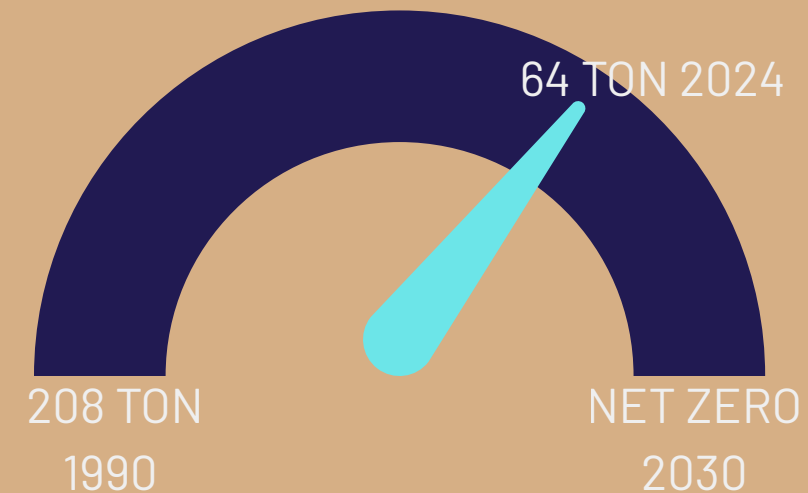
# STATUS OF CLIMATE GOALS 2024



**AAU IS CLIMATE NEUTRAL IN SCOPE 1 AND SCOPE 2 BY 2030**

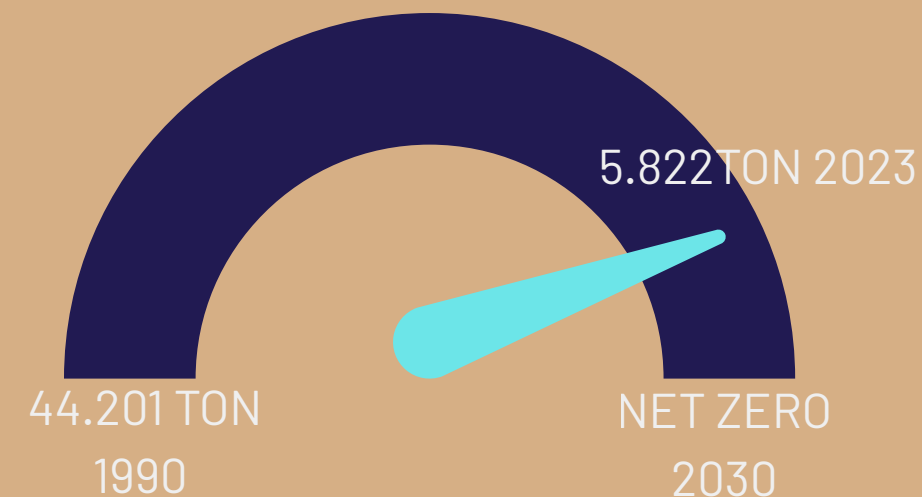
## SCOPE 1:

Reduced by 69%  
1990-2024



## SCOPE 2:

Reduced by 87%  
1990-2024



### Status and progress in Scope 1 and 2

AAU has achieved significant reductions in Scope 1 and 2 since 1990. In 2024, the university emitted 64 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e in scope 1, which is a decrease of 69% since 1990 and a full 23% from 2023 to 2024 alone.

Scope 2 is 5,822 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2024 – a reduction of 87% since 1990, but only a marginal decrease of 0.2% from 2023 to 2024. Here, the energy mix in Denmark plays a crucial role, as a less green mix in 2024 has limited the effect of AAU's energy savings.

### The path to Net Zero by 2030

#### Scope 1

- Phasing out fossil fuels in operation and transport.
- Investment in electric cars and electrical machines.
- Analysis and reduction of industrial processes.
- 

#### Scope 2

- Increased energy efficiency in buildings.
- Installation of solar cells and local renewable energy sources.

# STATUS OF CLIMATE GOALS 2024

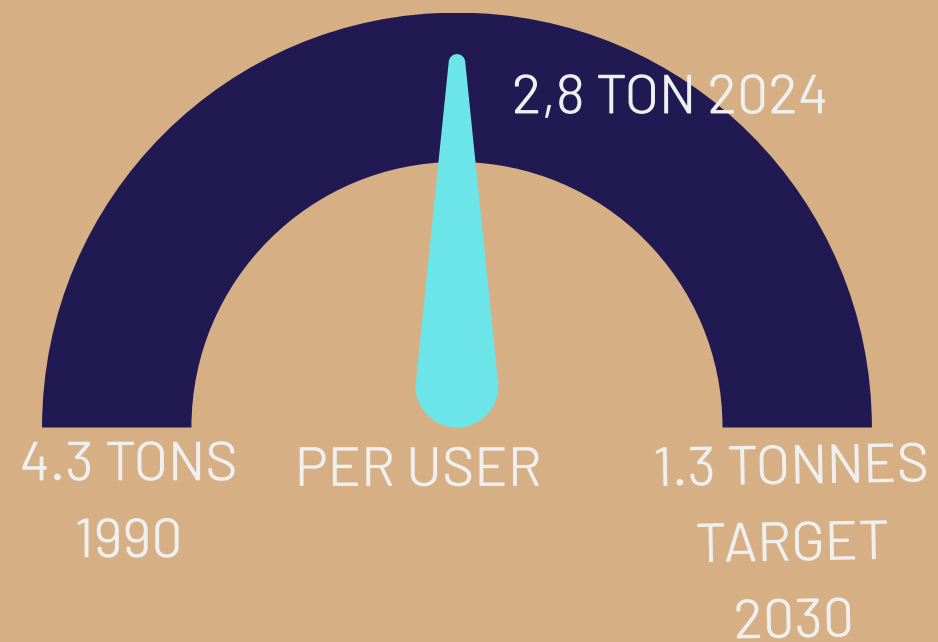


**AAU HAS REDUCED ITS GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN SCOPE 3 BY 70% IN 2030. (PER USER COMPARED TO 1990)**

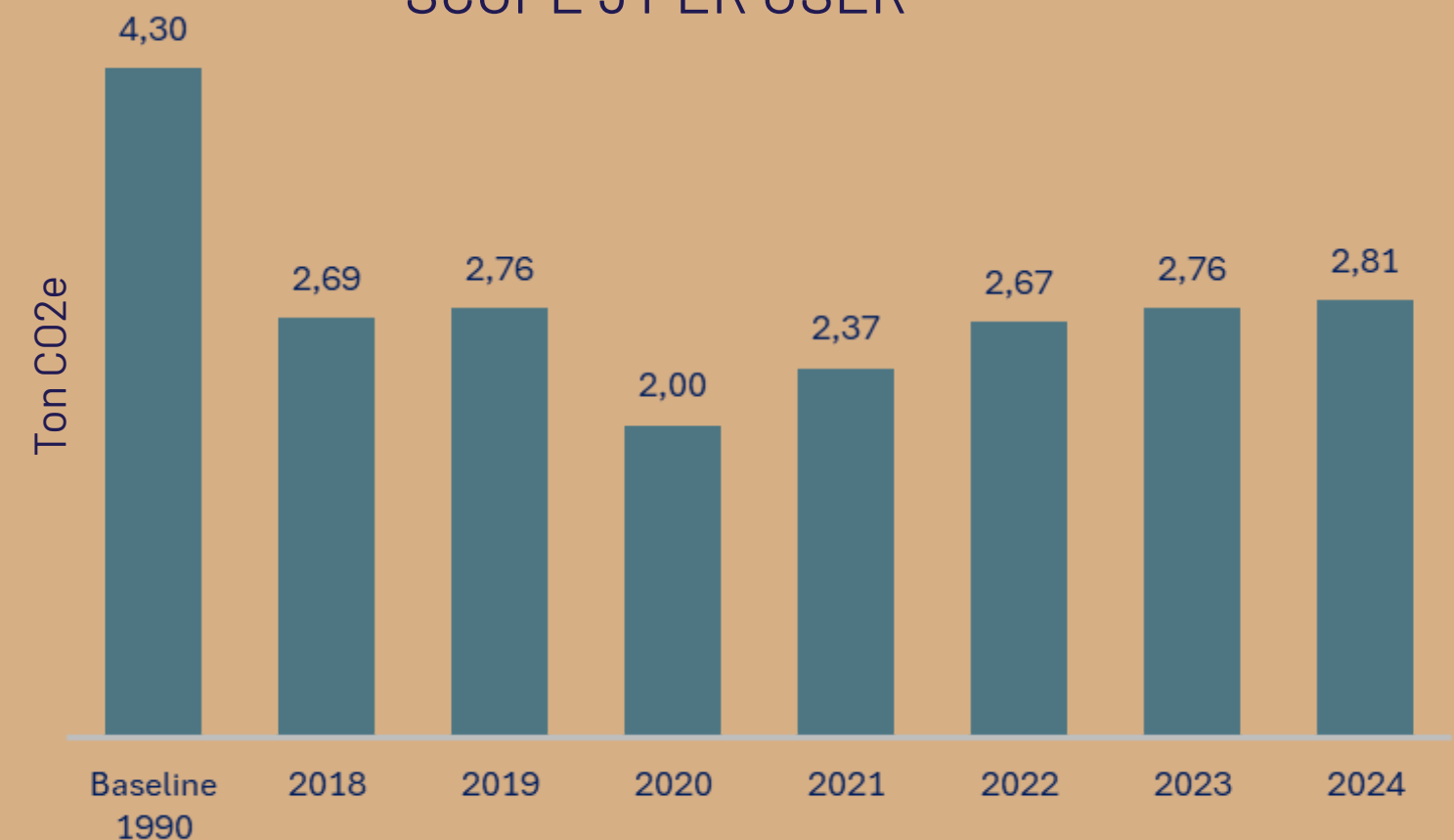


## SCOPE 3

Reduced by 35% 1990-2024 per user



SCOPE 3 PER USER



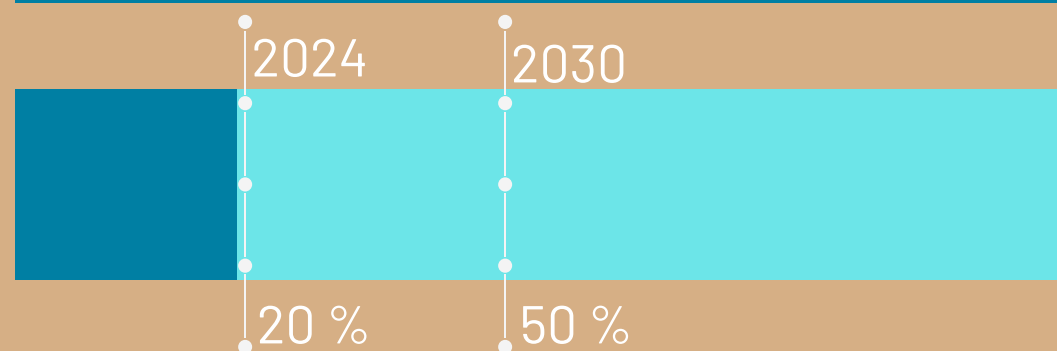
# STATUS OF CLIMATE GOALS - FOCUS AREAS

## 2024



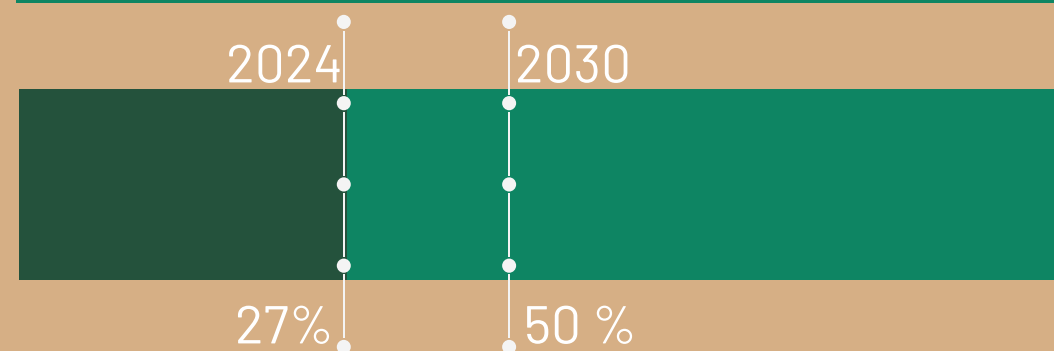
### MOBILITY

Aalborg University will reduce the climate footprint per user from mobility by 50% in 2030 compared to 1990



### PROCUREMENT

Aalborg University will reduce the climate footprint per user from purchasing & circular economy by 50% in 2030 compared to 1990



### CAMPUS

Aalborg University will reduce the climate footprint per campus user by 98% in 2030 compared to 1990





# CONCLUSION

In 2024, AAU had total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions at the same level as the previous two years, indicating a stabilization – but not a reduction – of the university's climate footprint. Total emissions have increased marginally by 0.67%, primarily due to an increase in scope 3.

Significant progress has been made in scope 1, where emissions have been reduced by 23% in one year, and there is a prospect of climate neutrality by 2030. Scope 2 shows a reduction in energy consumption, but CO<sub>2</sub> emissions have not decreased correspondingly, which is due to a smaller green energy mix in 2024.

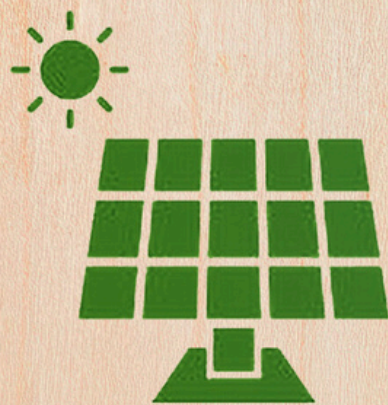
In Scope 3, purchases have increased by 6%, and mobility is – despite a reduction in business travel – still high.

Focus in the coming years:

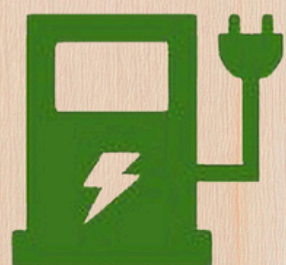
- Strengthened governance: Implementation of travel policy, purchasing policy and procedure for climate data in 2025.
- Data quality and transparency: Increased focus on data precision and uncertainty, especially in Scope 3.
- Action plans per focus area: Preparation of specific initiatives and milestones for each of the six focus areas.

AAU has set ambitious goals for climate neutrality in scope 1 and 2 by 2030 and throughout the organization by 2045. Achieving these goals requires a strategic and data-driven approach, where all parts of the organization actively contribute.

NET  
ZERO



CO<sub>2</sub>



THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION



AALBORG  
UNIVERSITET

# ANNEX 1: EMISSIONS BY SCOPES

Tons of CO2e per year	1990	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Scope 1: direct emissions	209	84	76	54	64	91	83	64
Scope 2: el	12.703	3.724	2.604	1.916	1.927	2.144	2.018	1.902
Scope 2: water and heating	31.499	6.372	5.797	4.550	4.348	4.423	3.895	3.921
Scope 3: business travel	3.397	14.947	14.856	3.822	3.136	8.315	10.919	10.007
Scope 3: consulting services	2.331	4.105	4.477	5.471	4.684	4.715	4.106	4.917
Scope 3: webservice	456	1.993	1.781	1.830	3.226	3.279	3.347	3.126
Scope 3: buildings	1.420	3.210	3.150	3.050	3.000	3.280	3.205	2.824
Scope 3: maintenance	3.614	6.580	7.408	9.687	6.563	7.987	5.297	5.788
Scope 3: furniture	511	2.234	2.622	2.152	3.140	3.983	1.133	914
Scope 3: IT and office supplies	773	3.380	1.848	1.780	2.331	2.053	1.071	1.616
Scope 3: commuting	1.810	9.342	9.228	6.291	5.627	9.015	9.965	9.965
Scope 3: laboratory equipment	192	841	1.119	996	2.927	999	3.378	3.080
Scope 3: other goods and services	1.862	6.995	8.041	4.322	12.530	7.567	8.323	8.997
<b>Total discharge</b>	<b>60.776</b>	<b>63.807</b>	<b>63.005</b>	<b>45.919</b>	<b>53.502</b>	<b>57.850</b>	<b>56.739</b>	<b>57.120</b>



# ANNEX 1a: EMISSIONS BY FOCUS AREAS

<b>Tons of CO2e per year</b>	<b>1990 (baseline)</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
Mobility	5.207	24.290	24.084	10.113	8.762	17.330	20.884	19.973
Campus	49.235	19.885	18.959	19.202	15.839	17.833	14.415	14.433
Purchase	6.002	17.988	18.339	15.956	28.413	21.936	19.821	20.952
Waste resources	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
Food & drink	331	1.579	1.591	613	438	701	1.571	1.720
Investments	0	66	33	36	50	49	49	42
Emission Total	60.775	63.807	63.005	45.919	53.502	57.850	56.739	57.120
<b>Number of users (STA + FTE)</b>	<b>3.807</b>	<b>19.917</b>	<b>19.775</b>	<b>19.651</b>	<b>19.889</b>	<b>19.221</b>	<b>18.406</b>	<b>18.261</b>

# ANNEX 2: METHOD

The climate accounts constitute a tool for calculating CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions from the university's activities for the purpose of following up on climate goals, and a decision-support tool in relation to ensuring appropriate decisions that have a positive effect on the university's climate impact.

The model is based on the university's financial accounts, which are linked to a database (Exiobase) with emission intensities calculated per DKK spent on a given activity. Where more exact figures are available, e.g. for energy consumption and air traffic, the actual emission intensity per unit used (e.g. kWh) is used instead, which is effectively a hybrid model. Continuous work is being done to clarify data and emission factors.

In terms of methodology, the climate accounts are based on the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHGP), which is an internationally widespread standard for calculating companies' and organizations' climate emissions. In GHGP, emissions are traditionally divided into scopes 1, 2 and 3.

AAU's Climate Account includes all three scopes and is a fundamental part of the university's climate plan and the subsequent action plans, as the various interim goals and proposals for action are based on reduction targets compared to the 1990 baseline.

There are two methods for calculating your climate footprint within the GHG Protocol: the consequence method and the attribution method. This report uses the attribution method, which is backward-looking. It gives the best possible picture when we look out over the landscape in 2023 - we can see it all, but not in detail.

The consequence method is more forward-looking and detail-oriented and thus designed to provide data for decision support. The consequence method uses marginal suppliers rather than the average supplier. A marginal supplier is a supplier that can increase its production in the event of increased demand, and who is thus affected by an action. Here we no longer look beyond the landscape we have just passed, but look at the details of the path we are about to take.