# Google's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Surge Due to AI Demands



Google's greenhouse gas emissions have increased 48% since 2019, according to its latest environmental report. This surge is attributed to the rising energy demands of data centers, largely driven by the computational requirements of artificial intelligence (AI). The 2023 report highlights that, despite efforts to use carbon-free energy, the intensifying AI compute requirements are making emission reductions more challenging.

The report indicates a 13% increase in emissions from 2022 to 2023. While data centers in Europe and the Americas predominantly use carbon-free energy, those in the Middle East, Asia, and Australia rely more heavily on carbon-intensive sources.

Google aims to achieve net-zero emissions by 2030, although it acknowledges the difficulty of this goal given the rapid growth of AI technologies. The company also noted substantial disparities in carbon-free energy usage among its global data centers, with regions like Asia-Pacific facing significant challenges in accessing clean energy.