Carbon Measurement Report
Career Legal
2023

Prepared by ethy

March 2024

Introduction

The climate crisis is the single biggest threat to humanity; as a forward-thinking company, Career Legal recognises this, which is why it has partnered with ethy to measure its corporate emissions.

The first step is to understand your current impact, as you can't reduce what you haven't measured. By collecting and analysing data across a range of categories we've calculated Career Legal's footprint for the 2023 calendar year (1st January 2023 - 31st December 2023).

This report includes those findings, comparisons to the wider industry, recommendations to reduce the largest emitting areas as well as next steps for Career Legal to continue their carbon journey and route to Net Zero.

Methodology and Sources

ethy is aligned with the GHG Protocol standard. The Greenhouse Gas Protocol is the main global standard for public and private sector entities to measure greenhouse gas emissions. Its standards apply to operations, value chains, and climate change mitigation actions.

Emissions factors were taken from the GOV.UK greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2023. These emission conversion factors are for use by UK and international organisations to report on greenhouse gas emissions. They have not yet been updated for 2024.

Emissions sources that represented less than 0.5% of total emissions, and/or weren't feasible or practical to measure, were excluded.

The boundary used was an operational one, therefore electricity purchased through the landlord was considered Scope 2.

The methods used for each category were as follows:

Activity-based	Scope 2, Purchased goods, Upstream transportation and distribution, Employee commuting
Spend-based	Waste generated in operations
Hybrid	Capital goods

Industry benchmarking data was taken from Exiobase and Carbon Trust.

Definitions

Scope 1 (direct emissions) emissions are those from activities owned or controlled by your organisation. Examples of Scope 1 emissions include emissions from combustion in owned or controlled boilers, furnaces and vehicles; and emissions from chemical production in owned or controlled process equipment.

Scope 2 (energy indirect) emissions are those released into the atmosphere that are associated with your consumption of purchased electricity, heat, steam and cooling. These indirect emissions are a consequence of your organisation's energy use, but occur at sources you do not own or control.

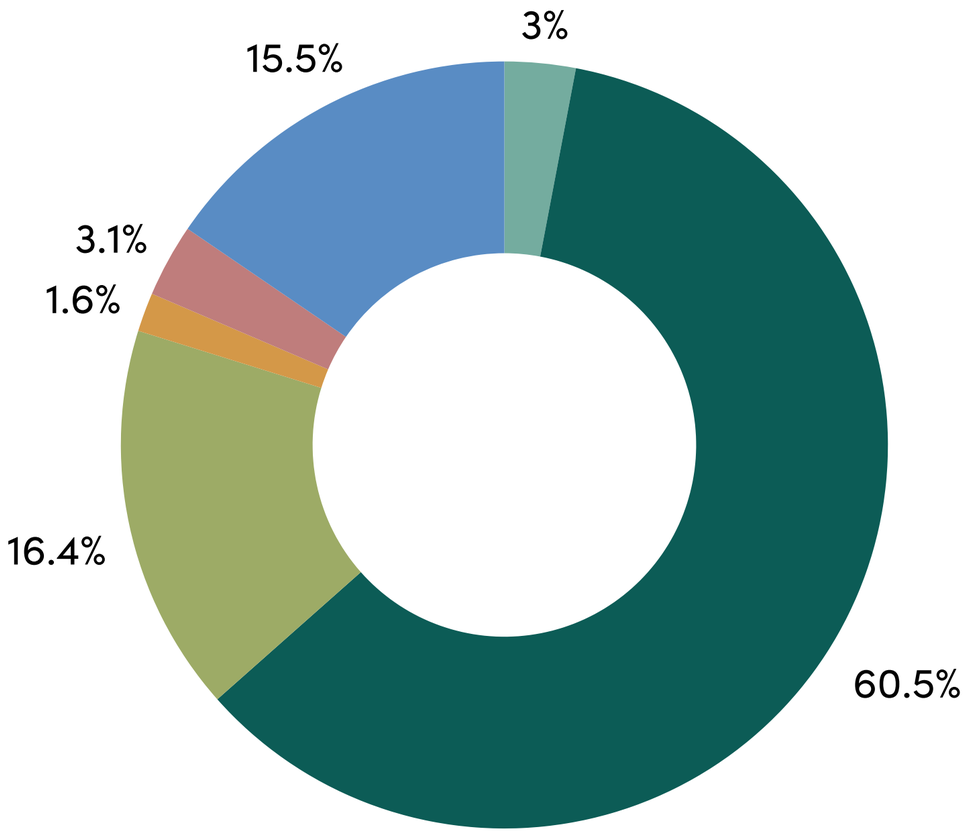
Scope 3 (other indirect) emissions are a consequence of your actions that occur at sources you do not own or control and are not classed as Scope 2 emissions. Examples of Scope 3 emissions are business travel by means not owned or controlled by your organisation, waste disposal, materials or fuels your organisation purchases. Scope 3 emissions can be from activities that are upstream or downstream of your organisation.

WFH - Work from Home / tCO_2e - Tonnes Carbon Dioxide equivalent

Intensity ratio - a way of comparing emissions within different sectors & time - employees are chosen in this report

Career Legal's Carbon Emissions

Scope	Category	tCO_2e
Scope 1		0
Scope 2	Purchased energy	3.74
Scope 3	Purchased goods and services	75.52
	Capital goods	20.42
	Upstream transportation and distribution	2.05
	Waste generated in operations	3.85
	Employee commuting	19.32
Total		**124.89**



Your Scope 1 emissions were determined to be zero, as no emissions were directly attributed to the operation of your business. The bulk of your emissions stemmed from Scope 3, which is typical for businesses, as these encompass indirect sources of emissions.

ethy.

Individual Scope Emissions

Scope 1	0	tCO_2e
Scope 2	3.74	tCO_2e
Scope 3	121.15	tCO_2e
Total	**124.89**	**tCO_2e**

60.47%

from purchased goods and services

3.78 tCO_2e

per full time employee

2.60 tCO_2e

per permanent employee

Your Scope 3 emissions emerged as the most substantial among all three categories. Notably, within this scope, the procurement of goods and services for Career Legal during the reporting period emerged as the most significant contributor, accounting for 60% of your total emissions. Your intensity ratio was determined to be above 3.8 tonnes or 2.6 tonnes, contingent on whether you wished to report solely for full-time employees or include all permanent employees, considering your employment of part-time workers.

ethy.

Scope 2 Emissions

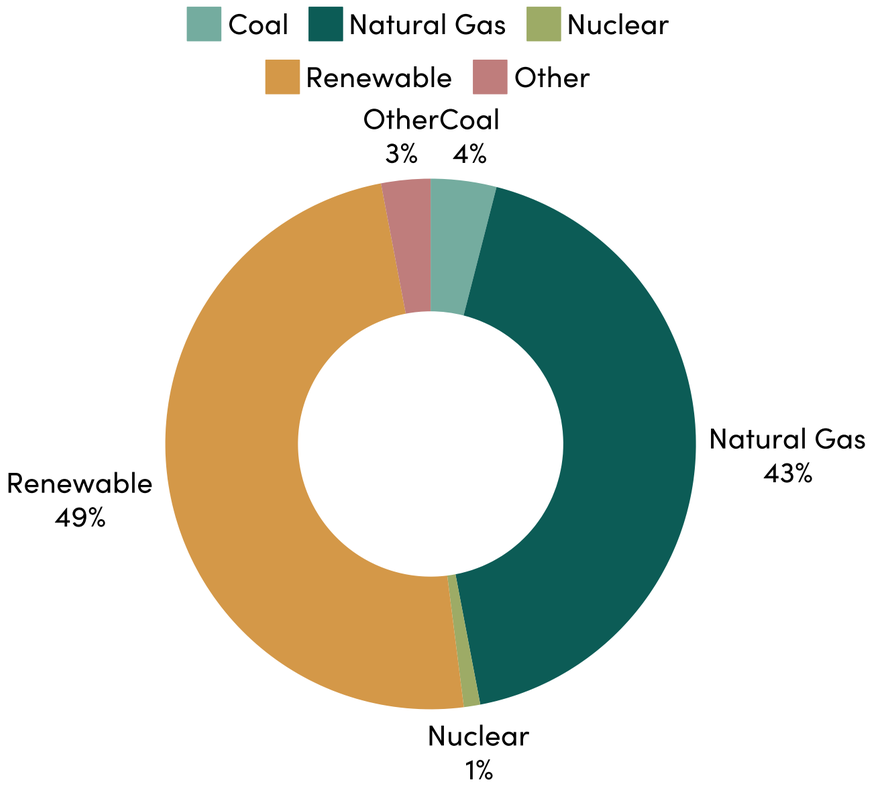
Total Energy Used: 16910kWh

x

Supplier Carbon Footprint: 221g/kWh

=

Emissions: 3.74 tCO_2e

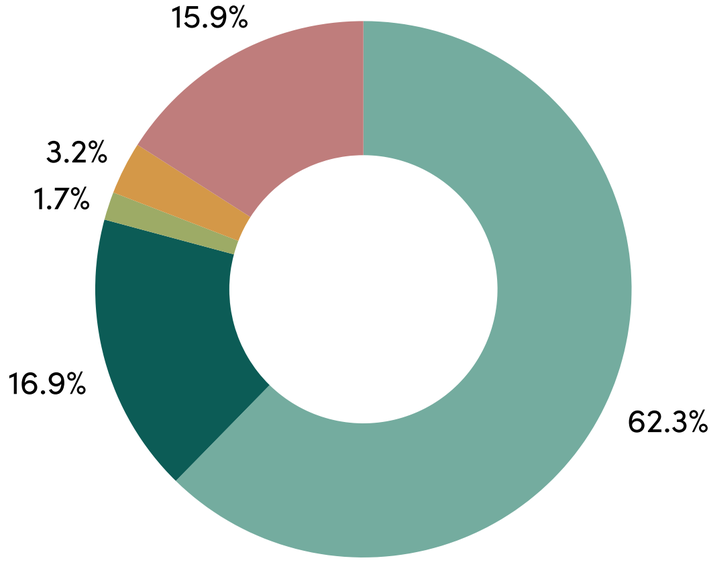


Your Scope 2 emissions encompass the emissions within your operational control, irrespective of whether you directly bear the energy costs. The fuel mix provided by your energy supplier indicates that you're not currently enrolled in a renewable energy tariff, resulting in a higher carbon footprint attributable to your supplier.

ethy.

Scope 3 Emissions

Purchased goods and services	75.52 tCO_2e
Capital goods	20.42 tCO_2e
Upstream transportation and distribution	2.05 tCO_2e
Waste generated in operations	3.85 tCO_2e
Employee commuting	19.32 tCO_2e



In total, your procurement of goods, services, and new capital goods contributed to over 75% of your Scope 3 emissions and accounted for a similar proportion of your total emissions across all three scopes. Given the absence of business-related travel during the reporting period, the next significant category was employee commuting, which aligns with typical patterns.

100%

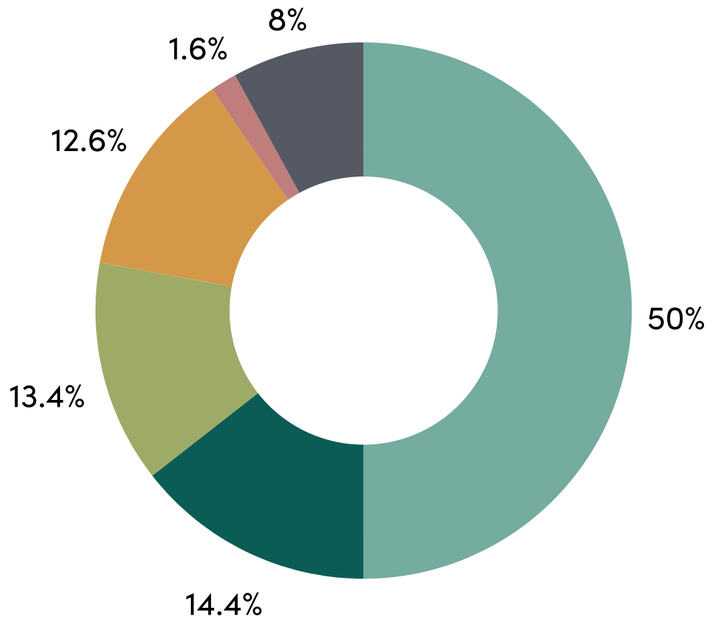
from upstream

0%

from downstream

Scope 3 Purchased Goods and Services

IT related activities	37.77 tCO_2e
Professional services	10.90 tCO_2e
Software	10.13 tCO_2e
Financial funding	9.51 tCO_2e
Purchased goods	1.20 tCO_2e
Other	6.01 tCO_2e



Exactly half of your emissions emanated from IT-related activities, encompassing services such as IT consultancy, digital advertising, hosting, and computer programming. The remaining emissions were attributed to professional services, including legal and accounting.

30.24%

from IT related activities of total emissions

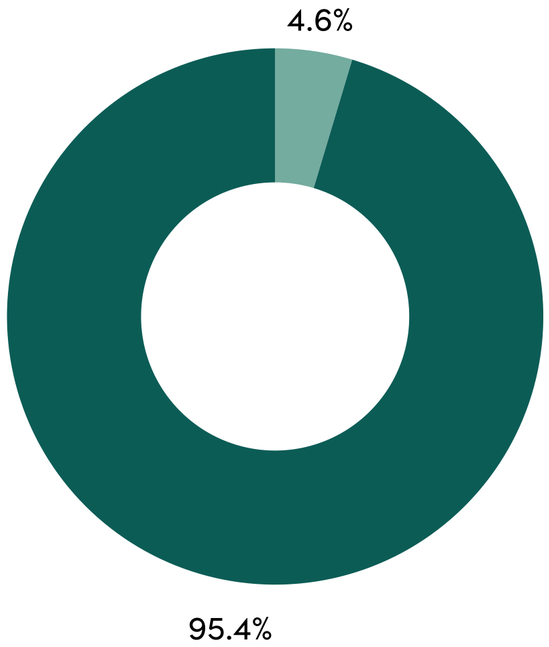
8.73%

from professional services of total emissions

ethy.

Scope 3 Capital Goods

Phones, television and communication equipment	0.876 tCO_2e
Computers and office machinery	19.54 tCO_2e



Purchases such as monitors, keyboards, mice, docking stations, and similar peripherals accounted for over 95% of your emissions in this category. Conversely, the procurement of phones and other communication equipment contributed significantly less.

<0.01%

from phones & communication equipment of total emissions

15.65%

from computers and office machinery of total emissions

ethy.

Detailed Emissions Data

Scope	Category	tCO_2e
Scope 1	Stationary combustion	0
	Mobile combustion	0
	Other combustion	0
Scope 2	Energy	3.74
Scope 3	Purchased goods and services	75.52
	Capital goods	20.42
	Fuel and energy related activities	0
	Upstream transportation and distribution	2.05
	Waste generated in operations	3.85
	Business travel	0
	Employee commuting	19.32
	Upstream leased assets	0
	Downstream transportation and distribution	0
	Processing of sold products	0
	Use of sold products	0
	End of life treatment of sold products	0
	Downstream leased assets	0
	Franchises	0
	Investments	0
	Total	**124.89**

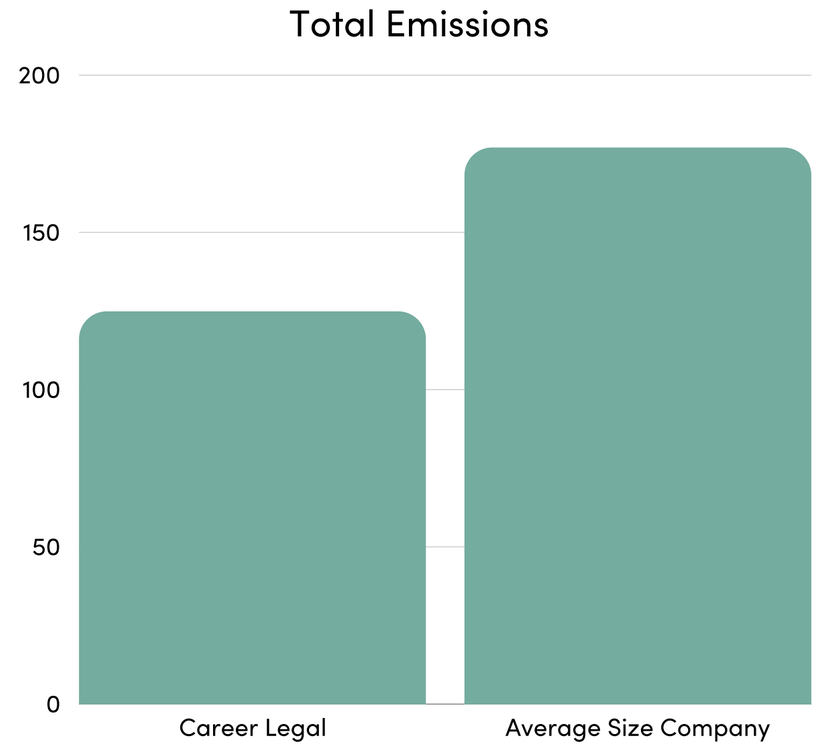
Top 5 Largest Emitting Areas of Career Legal

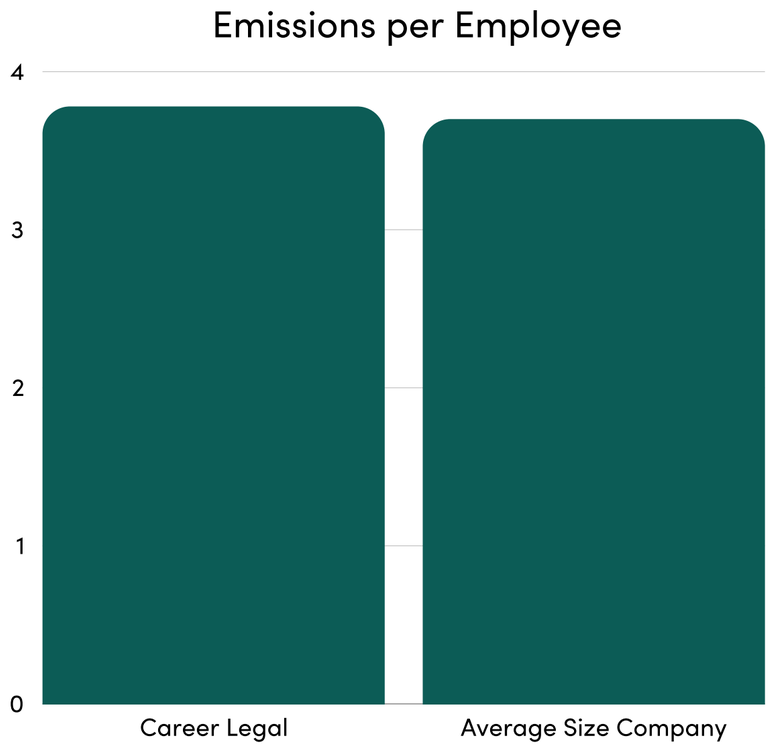
Scope	Category	Area	tCO_2e	% of Total
Scope 3	Purchased goods and services	Further related activities (IT consultants, digital advertising)	32.1	**25.70**
Scope 3	Capital goods	Computers and office machinery	19.54	**15.65**
Scope 3	Employee commuting	WFH	10.38	**8.31**
Scope 3	Purchased goods and services	Software (subscriptions)	10.13	**8.11**
Scope 3	Purchased goods and services	Legal services	7.92	**6.34**

The emissions associated with remote work have now positioned it as the third-largest contributor to carbon emissions. This trend stems from the hybrid approach many companies have adopted for their employees. Strategies for mitigating and diminishing these significant emissions are detailed on the conclusion page.

ethy.

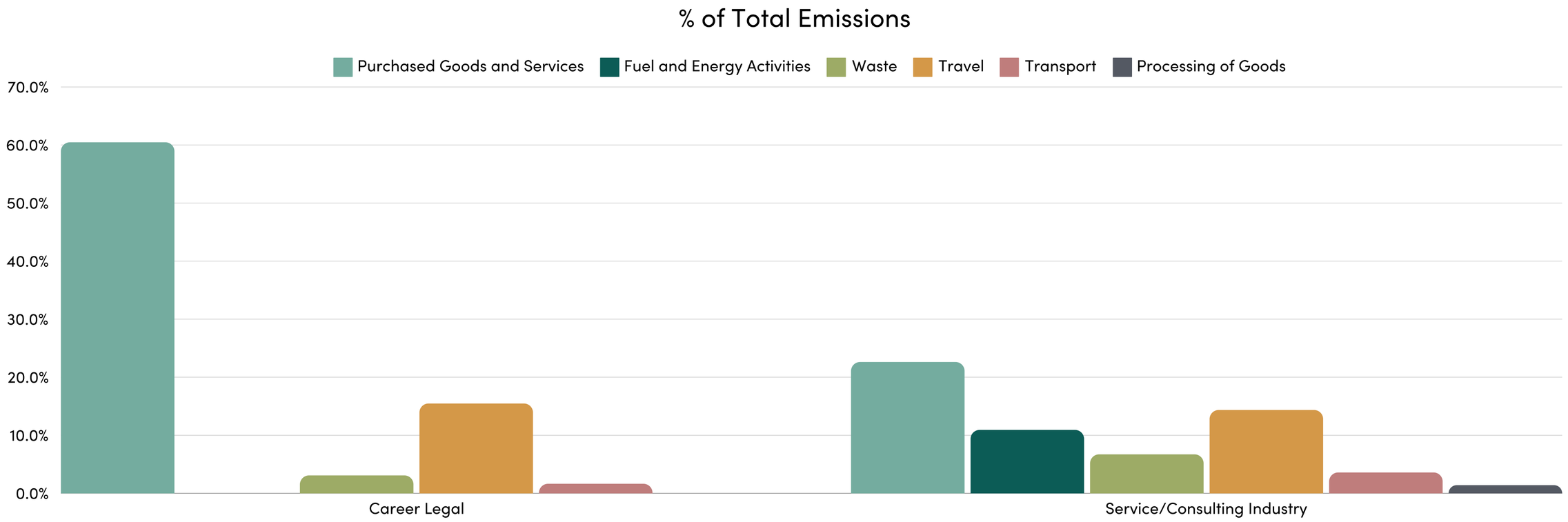
Industry Comparisons





Career Legal falls below the average size for a service/consultancy company with 50 employees. However, you slightly surpasses the average emissions per employee when compared with the corresponding dataset.

Industry Comparisons



When compared with the industry as a whole, particularly in the service/consulting sector, there is a notable disparity in the procurement of goods and services. However, apart from fuel and energy-related activities, many of the figures remain relatively consistent.

Conclusion

Your carbon measurements have helped pinpoint Career Legal’s primary greenhouse gas emission sources. This enables you to shape the company's carbon strategy and identify areas for in-depth analysis, fostering ongoing improvements in environmental impact.

We have identified that the biggest hotspot area is purchased goods and services.

The next step is to create a carbon reduction plan. In the meantime, we recommend completing these steps:

- Review your spending on goods and assess opportunities to purchase second-hand or opt for less resource-intensive alternatives.
- Initiate conversations with your current suppliers to gain insights into their carbon emissions. Understanding their footprint will enable you to report more accurately or consider switching suppliers.
- Educate your employees on energy-saving practices, particularly when working from home and consider incentivizing green travel options for commuting to the office.

Congratulations!

By completing your carbon measurements, Career Legal has earned our Carbon Measured ecolabel. Combined with your other ecolabels, it serves as a powerful communication tool, signalling to stakeholders that you've precisely calculated your business's carbon footprint.

Next steps

Equipped with your carbon footprint data, it's time to plan and implement measures for reducing emissions, moving steadily toward the goal of achieving Net Zero.

Ready to take the next step? Get in touch with our Net Zero consultant today.