

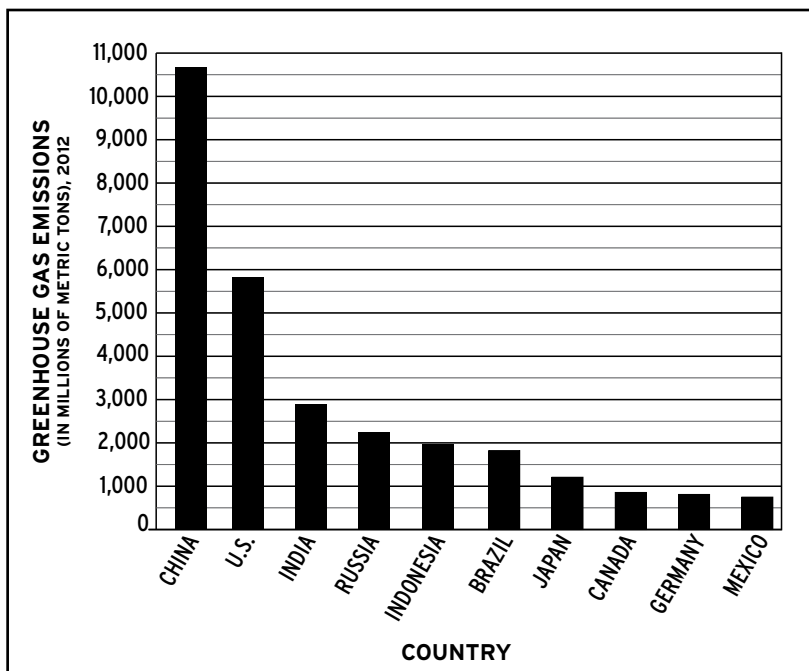
For use with "Feeling the Heat" on p. 14 of the magazine

**GRAPH**

# Greenhouse Gas Emissions

In December, 195 nations pledged to work to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that most scientists agree are contributing to global warming. The graph at right shows which countries have the most work to do. These 10 nations are responsible for more than half of the global total of 47,500 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions. The lineup is hardly surprising, however. All of these nations rank among the world's 20 largest economies; one major source of emissions is the burning of fossil fuels by various industries.

The bar graph below shows the 10 countries with the most greenhouse gas emissions.



SOURCE: WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE; 2012 DATA ARE THE MOST RECENT AVAILABLE.

## ANALYZE THE GRAPH

- Which country on the graph emitted about 2,250 million metric tons of greenhouse gases?  
a the U.S.  
b India  
c Russia  
d Indonesia
- China emitted just over three times as many metric tons of greenhouse gases as \_\_\_\_.  
a India  
b Canada  
c Japan  
d the U.S.
- Many want the U.S. to cut emissions to 5,000 million metric tons by 2025. That's about a \_\_\_\_ from 2012 levels.  
a 50 percent drop  
b 30 percent drop  
c 15 percent drop  
d 2 percent drop
- In 2012, Iceland emitted about 2.7 million metric tons of greenhouse gases, or about one thousandth of \_\_\_\_ emissions.  
a China's  
b the U.S.'s  
c India's  
d Germany's
- Which of these continents does not have a nation on the top 10 list of greenhouse gas emitters?  
a Europe  
b Africa  
c South America  
d both b & c

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What are some ways a country might reduce its emissions of greenhouse gases?
- Many of the nations hit hard by climate change, like the Marshall Islands, have very low greenhouse gas emissions. How does that affect your view of how we should respond to climate change? Do you think major greenhouse-gas-emitting nations have a responsibility to aid nations like the Marshall Islands? Why or why not?
- Do you think a nation can continue to grow economically without increasing its greenhouse gas emissions? Explain.