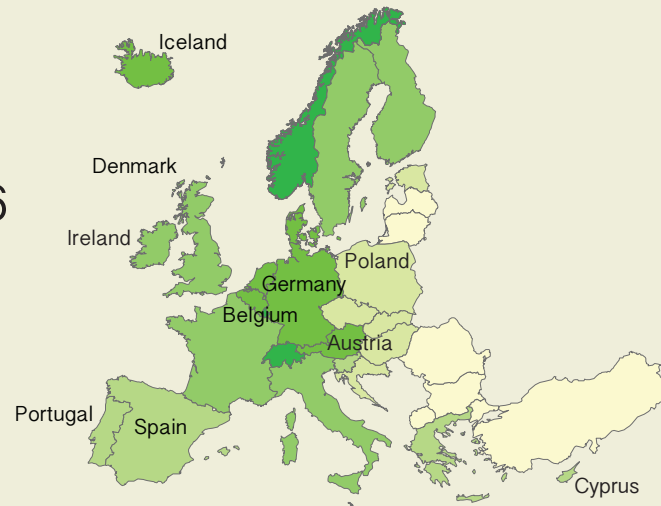
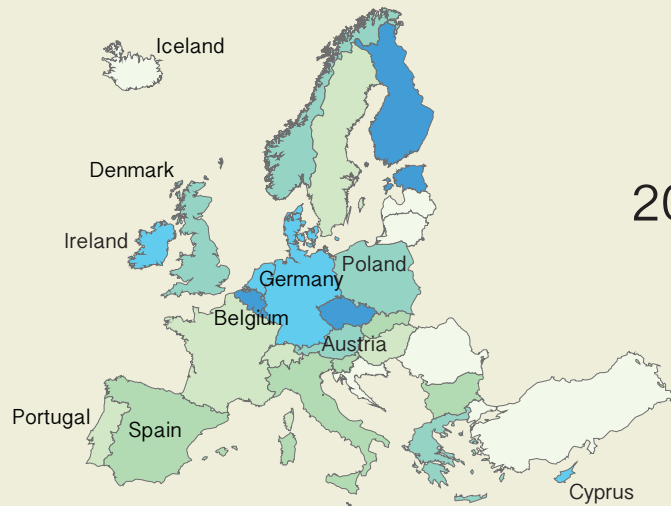


The Environmental Kuznets Curve

A European Perspective

Created by Ethan Maes
Data curated from the FGDC
and the European
Environmental Agency

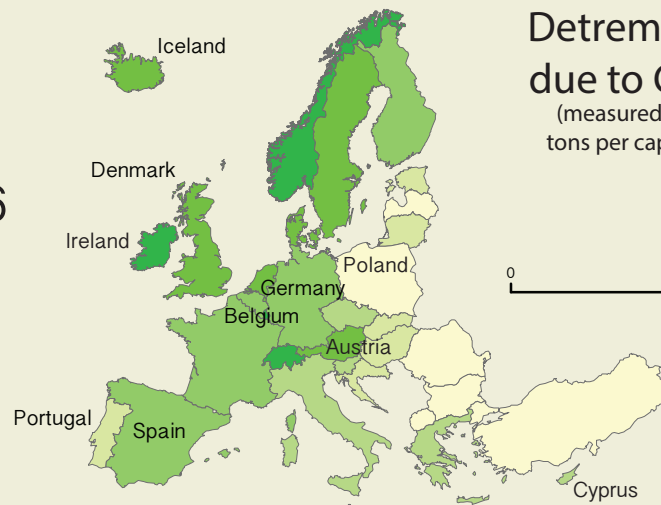
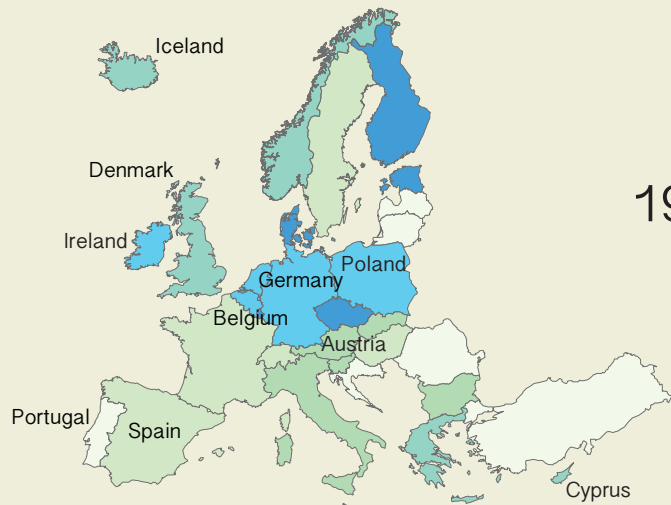
2006



CO₂ Emissions Per Capita

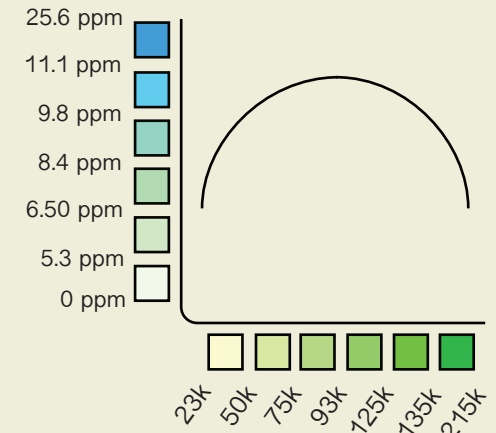
GDP Per Capita

1996



Detrement
due to CO₂
(measured in
tons per capita)

0 750 Miles



GDP Per Capita
(in international dollars)

The Curve

The environmental version of the Kuznets Curve is shown on the right side of the page. It was derived to show a relationship between the success of a country measured in GDP and their ability to use the funds to affect their environmental impact. The theory is that the trend would follow

the shown curve. The less fortunate countries are unable to produce many pollutants and countries with excess GDP are able to fix their problems. The countries in the middle are the ones who are striving to profit and therefore cannot afford to invest their GDP to think of the environment.

For the Future

This curve should be utilized as a general outline. The speed at which today's society is changing requires a refined model to be accurate.

The Data

Based on this 10 year depiction of Europe, the Kuznets curve may need some adjusting to today's standards. The labeled countries are the only substantial shifts in this area. Austria showed increased emissions at a point on the curve where the increase in GDP should actually decrease. Most of the other highlighted countries showed the correct correlation but should the curve still be trusted?