

# Destination net zero

Companies are decarbonizing. But how can they go faster?



Accenture's latest net zero report on the world's 2000 largest companies (G2000) reveals that broad corporate decarbonization is happening. **37% have set full net zero targets, up from 27% in 2021.** But companies aren't moving fast enough.

Note: Our sample was based on the Accenture Global 2000 (or G2000): an Accenture-developed list of the top 2,000 public and private companies in the world by revenue. 1,399 of these companies have sufficient emissions data for analysis. Emissions data were retrieved from S&P Global Trucost 2024.

Three key findings you need to know:

## 01 Decarbonization is gaining momentum

Since the ratification of the Paris Agreement in 2016, there has been progress among the largest private sector organizations.

**55%** of companies with emissions data have cut operational emissions from 2016 to 2022.

**77%** have reduced operational emissions intensity on a revenue basis over the same period.

**52%** of companies are doing both by embedding decarbonization into their core strategy and operations, making their businesses more sustainable across the board.

## 02 Lever adoption is growing in reach and range, becoming standard business practice

The significant push from businesses to implement decarbonization is clear in the widespread adoption of 'foundational' decarbonization levers.

**12** levers are being used by a majority of companies. Five have been adopted by 80%+ of the G2000.

**30%** of companies now deploy 15+ levers while an additional 43% adopt between 10 and 14.

Adopting more levers continues to generate results – the typical company adopting 15 or more levers has cut emissions by nearly **2%** annually since 2016.

## 03 Acceleration is still needed – and AI can help

To reach net zero, companies need to operationalize foundational levers effectively and adopt more next-generation levers.

Despite widespread foundational lever adoption, **only 16% of companies with emissions data are on track to reach net zero** in their operations by 2050.

Next-generation levers – especially **AI** – have the potential to supercharge decarbonization efforts.

**But currently only 14% of companies are adopting AI for decarbonization. This needs to increase.**

## What companies need to do now:

### Next 3 months

Set targets and develop transition plans. Define comprehensive emissions targets – including Scope 1,2 and 3. Develop robust transition plans with immediate actions, clear milestones, and external validation.

### Next 12 months

Build a stack of relevant decarbonization levers. Use proven levers for maximum impact and prioritize universal and industry-specific levers.

### Year 2 and beyond

Refine and incorporate AI support. Use AI as a "super-lever" to boost decarbonization. Enable smarter decisions, real-time tracking, and predictive analytics for optimal resource management.

## How Accenture can help

We help clients on their transitions to net zero, from strategy to execution. This includes the development of their "ESG and carbon intelligence". These are a set of capabilities that enable organizations to control, improve and create value and impact by embedding carbon—and broader sustainability—data and intelligence into decision-making across the core business. Achieving this is a key part of our work in helping clients to build a digital core that helps drive growth and competitiveness.

**Act Now! Discover how to boost your ESG and carbon intelligence to achieve net zero by 2050.**

[Read the report](#)

