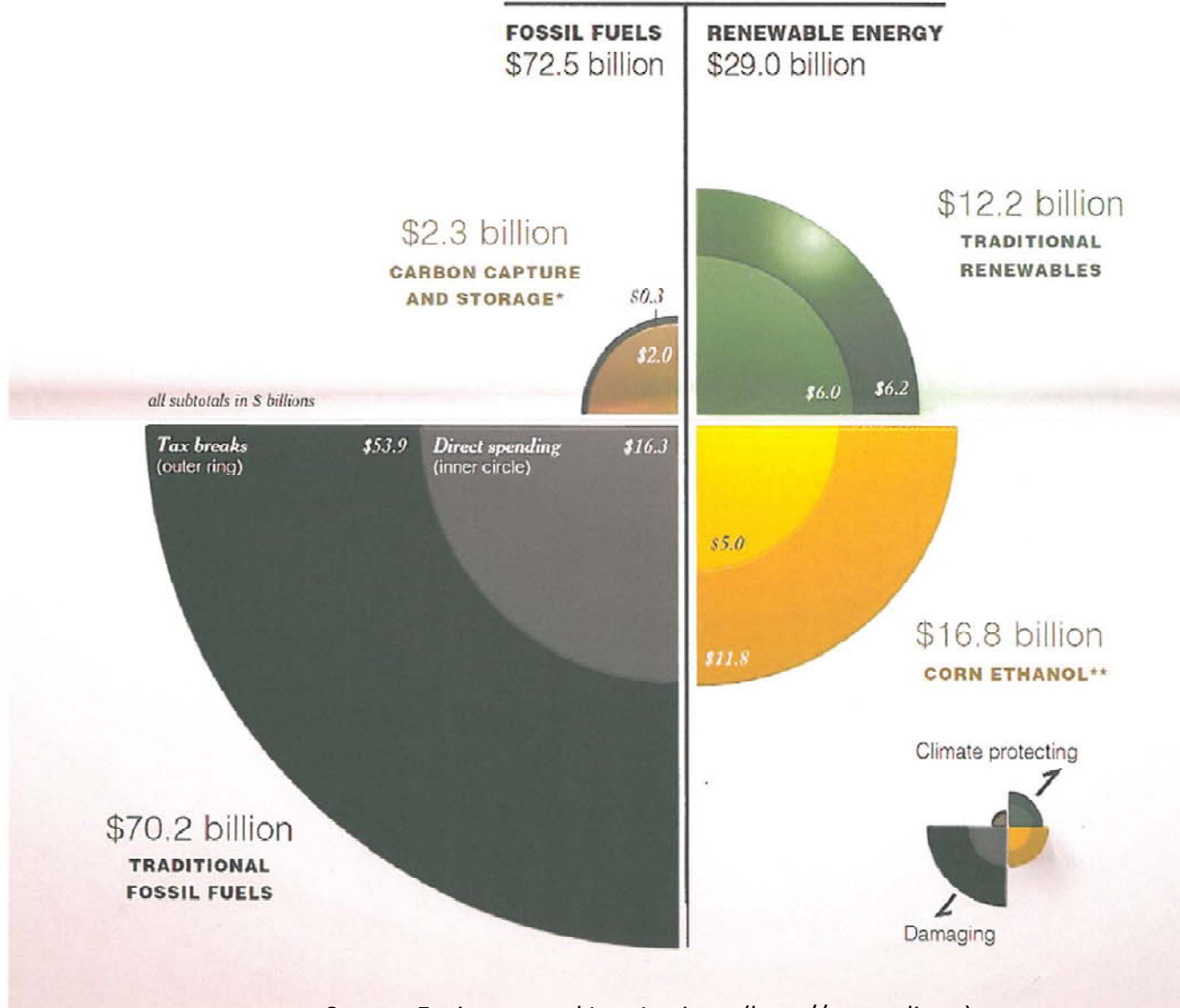


Federal Subsidies (2002-08)

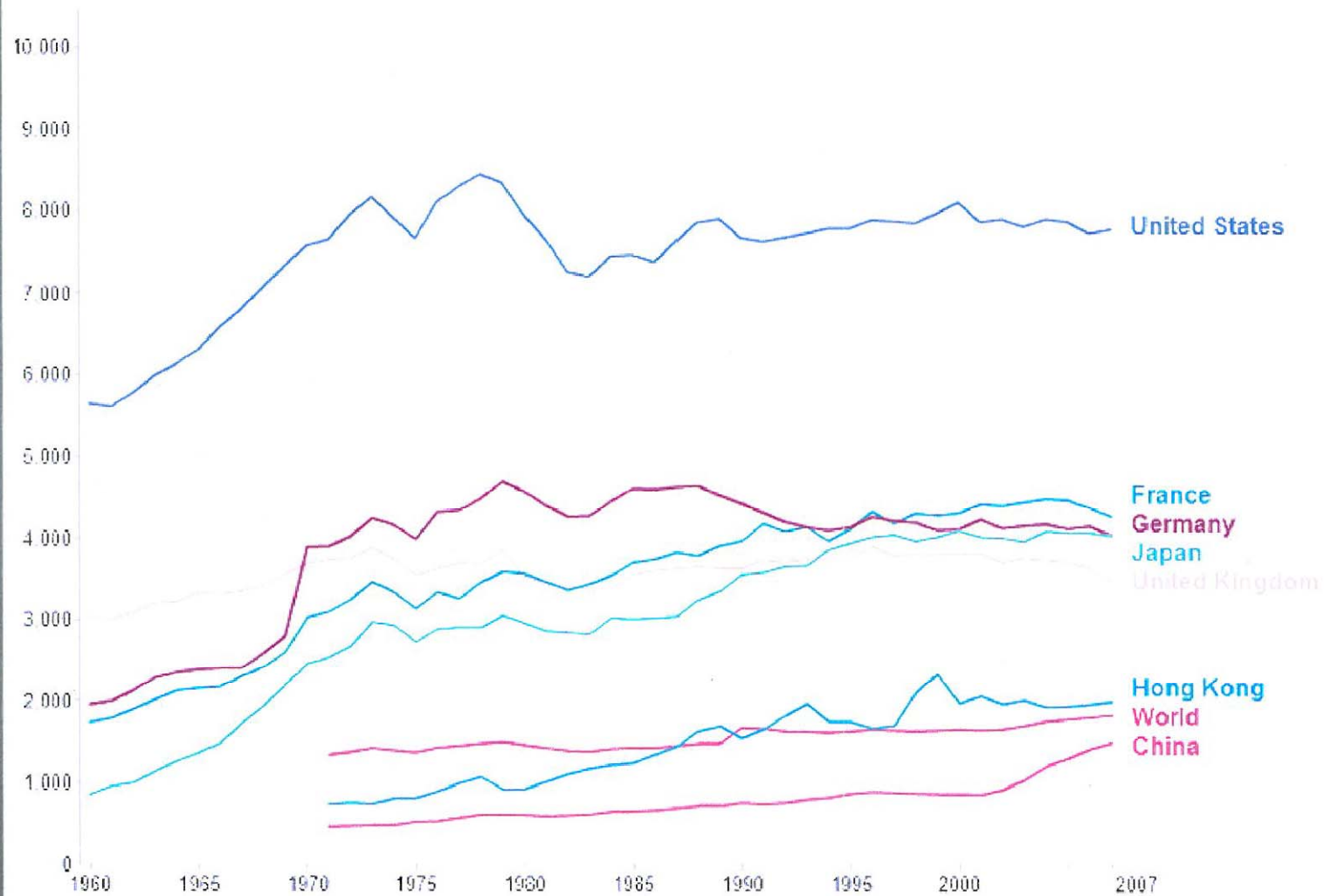


Source: Environmental Law Institute (<http://www.eli.org>)

Americans Are Oil Gluttons

Energy use per capita

Primary energy use (before transformation to other end-use fuels) in kilograms of oil equivalent, per capita [More info »](#)



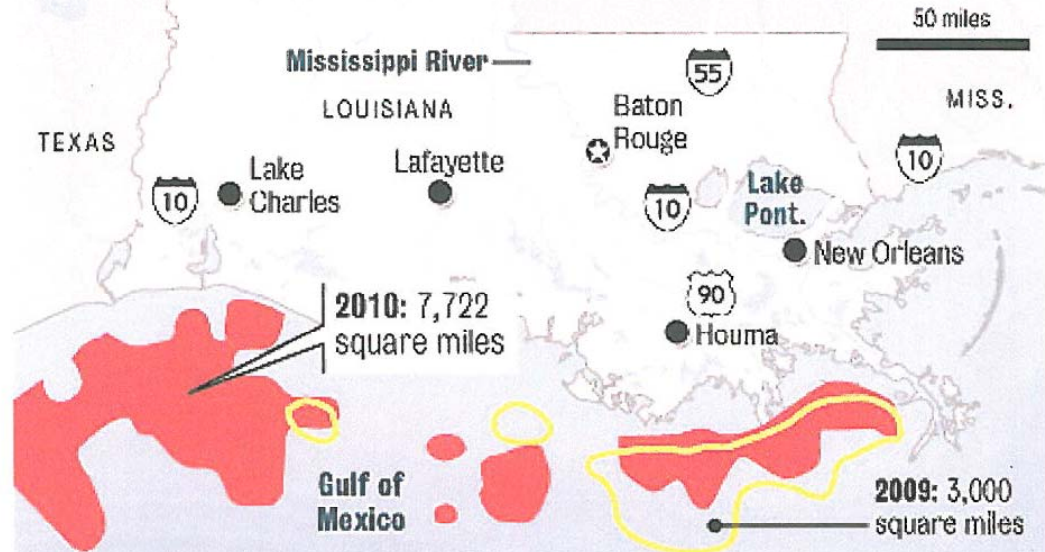
Data source: [World Bank World Development Indicators](#) - Last updated May 7, 2010

<http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EG.USE.PCAP.KG.OE/countries/1W-US-DE-JP-AE-EU-CN?display=graph>

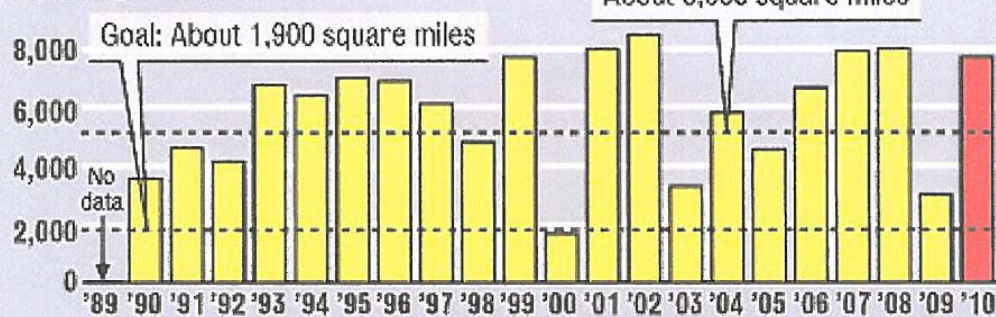
DEAD ZONE RETURNS

The dead zone along the Louisiana and Texas coasts is as big as Massachusetts. It is more than twice as large as it appeared in 2009, but there is no evidence that the Deepwater Horizon oil spill is involved.

KEY:
 2009
 2010



Extent of dead zone, 1989-2010
 AREA IN SQUARE MILES



Note: The dead zone is an area where water at the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico is low in oxygen, below two parts per million.

Source: Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium

Reducing Your Footprint Take the Meatless Monday Pledge.

Across the country, thousands of people and dozens of schools and other institutions are going meatless on Mondays. Just like reducing home energy use or driving less, skipping meat once a week can make an important difference if everyone does it. By itself, eating less (or no) meat won't stop climate change or eliminate environmental damage, but it is very important for improving personal health and reducing your environmental footprint.

If everyone in the U.S. chose a vegetarian diet – the equivalent of taking 46 million cars off the road or not driving 555 billion miles, according to EWG's calculations, it would only make a moderate dent in overall carbon emissions, about a 4.5 percent reduction. Other estimates of meat's overall contribution to US emissions are higher, but not as high as many estimates for the world as a whole (Weber 2010). That's because the U.S. has other very large other industrial sources of greenhouse gases, making the meat slice of carbon emissions comparatively smaller. Also, U.S. livestock production does not depend on cutting down carbon-rich rain forests in order to import or grow feed crops and raise animals, as is true in Europe (which imports significant amounts of feed from Brazil) or in some tropical countries, where livestock emissions are a much larger slice of the overall emissions pie.

While important, it is clear that making significant cuts in US emissions will not come solely from individual action. It will take political action to bring

about comprehensive policies that put the nation on a path to green energy. Similarly, reducing meat production's negative impact on soil, air and water quality will require better policies and regulatory enforcement as well as curbing meat consumption.

Here's how eating less meat measures up against other climate-saving actions:

Over a year:

- ✓ If you eat one less burger a week, it's like taking your car off the road for 320 miles or line-drying your clothes half the time. ¹⁰
- ✓ If your four-person family skips meat and cheese one day a week, it's like taking your car off the road for five weeks – or reducing everyone's daily showers by 3 minutes. ¹¹
- ✓ If your four-person family skips steak once a week, it's like taking your car off the road for nearly three months. ¹²
- ✓ If everyone in the U.S. ate no meat or cheese just one day a week, it would be like not driving 91 billion miles – or taking 7.6 million cars off the road. ¹³