

BROOKINGS

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# Consequences of Cap and Trade

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# Analysis

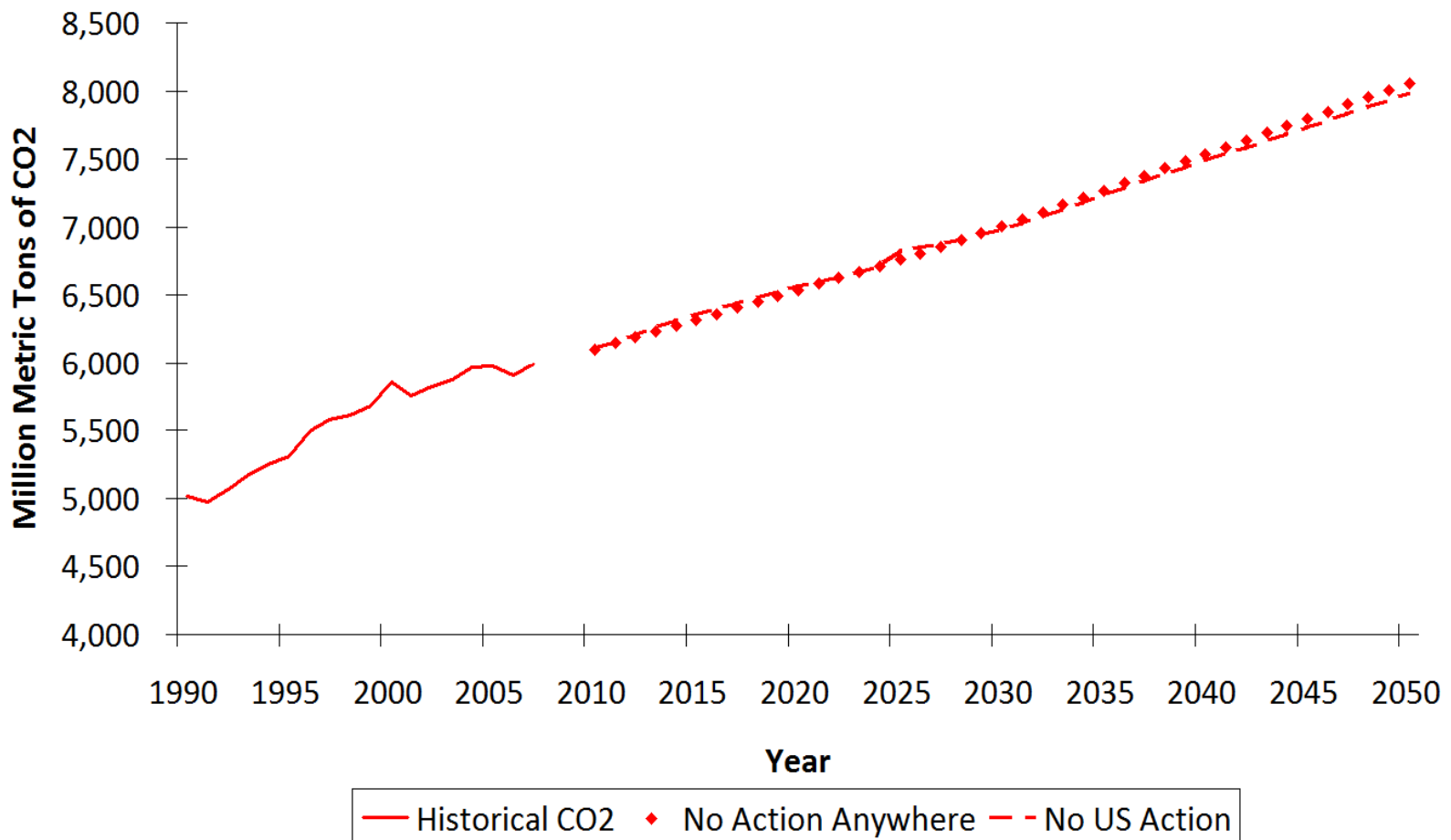
- Not an analysis of particular bills
- Not a cost-benefit analysis
  - » Looking only at mitigation costs and emissions reductions
- Looking for ways to pursue environmental goals at lower cost

# Scenarios

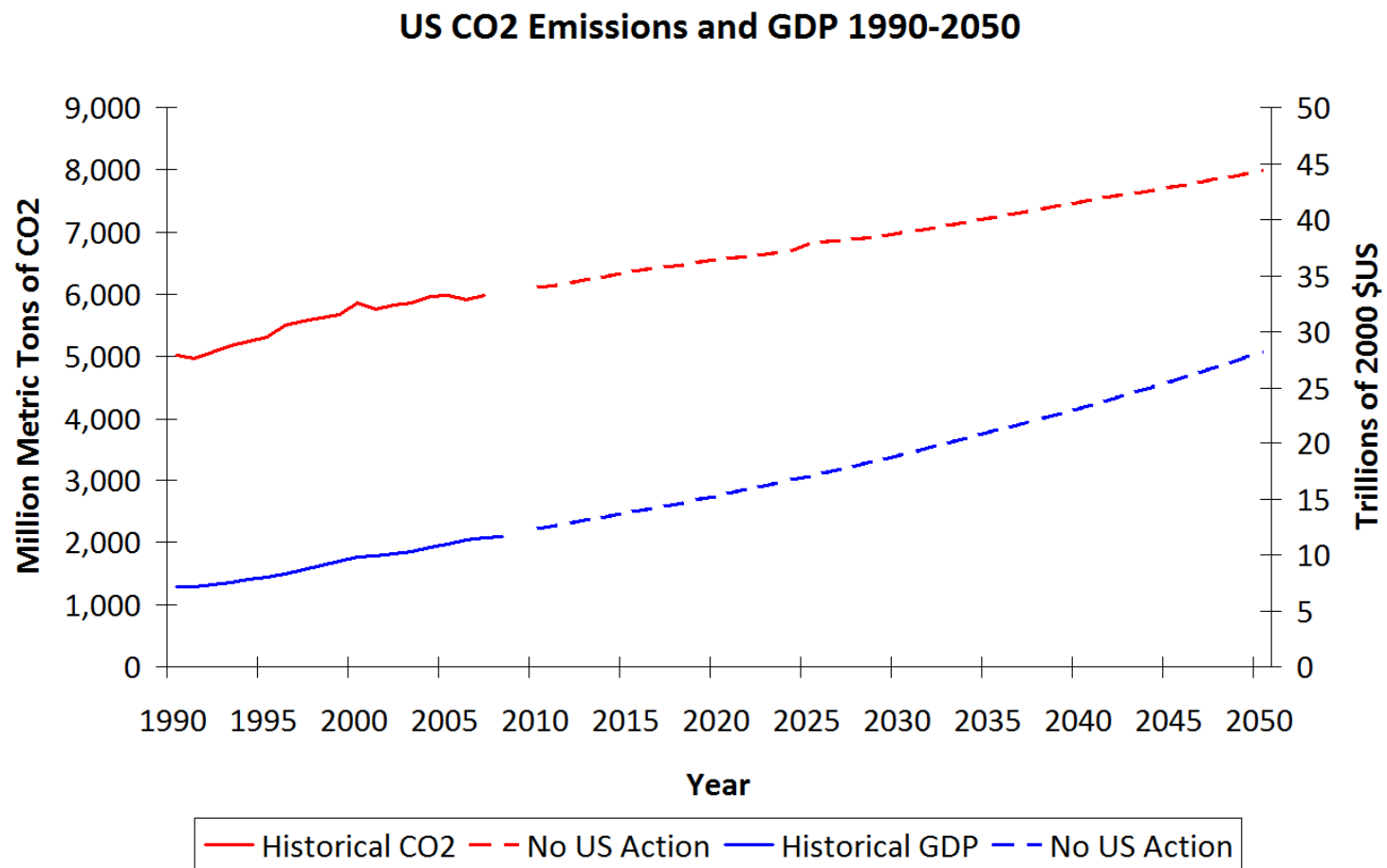
- Two Reference Scenarios
  - » No countries adopt a price on carbon (“take action”)
  - » All countries except the U.S. take action
- Four Policy Scenarios
  - » “OA Targets” based loosely on Administration proposal
  - » “DD Targets” based loosely on targets in Waxman-Markey Discussion Draft
  - » “Hotelling 2050” cost-minimizing with same 2050 emissions
  - » “Hotelling Cumulative” cost-minimizing with same total emissions

# U.S. Reference Emissions Levels

## CO2 Emissions with Alternative Non-US Actions



# Reference Emissions and GDP



# All US Policy Scenarios

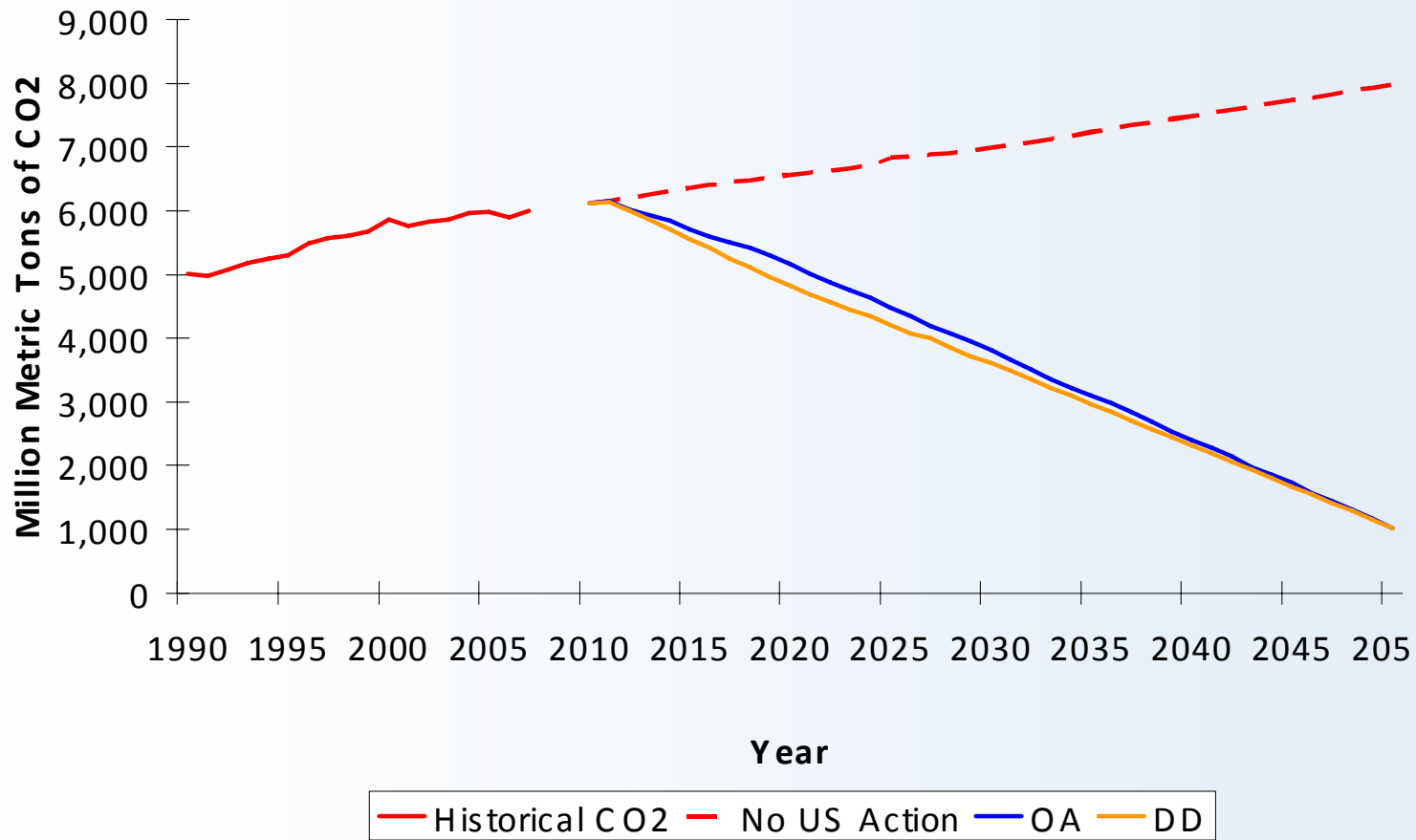
- Targets relative to 2005 emissions levels
- U.S. emissions reduced 83% by 2050

# Scenario Differences

- OA Targets
  - » 14% lower by 2020
- DD Targets
  - » 20% lower by 2020
  - » 40% lower by 2030
- Hotelling 2050
  - » Least cost path to 83% reduction by 2050
- Hotelling Cumulative
  - » Least cost path with same cumulative emissions as OA

# U.S. Emissions With Action

CO2 Emissions Targets Under Alternative Policies





# Assumptions for all scenarios

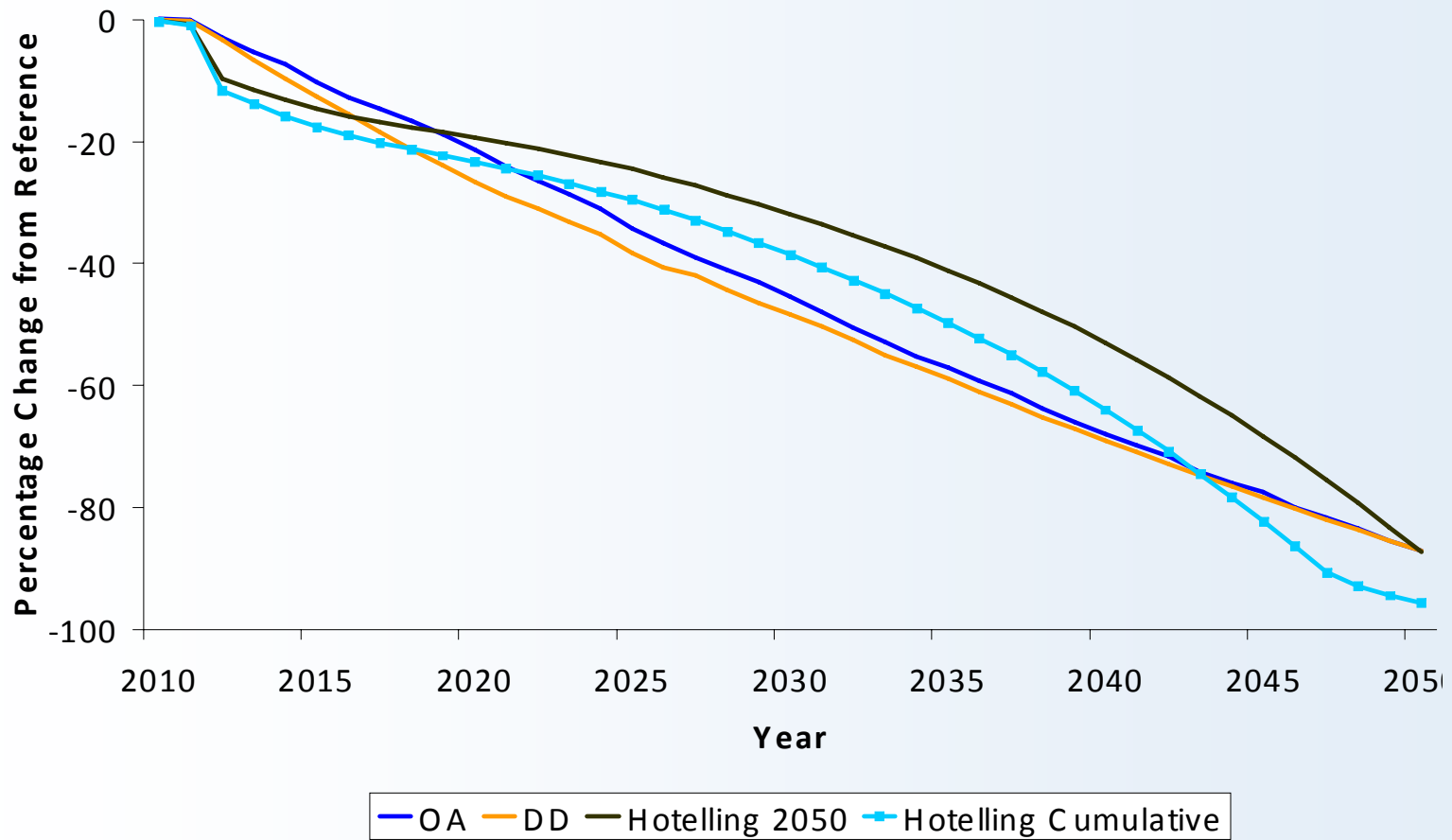
- No banking or borrowing
- Caps apply only to fossil energy sectors
- No offsets
- Allowance value finances additional government spending
- Results relative to other countries taking action without the US

# The G-Cubed Model

- General equilibrium model with 9 Regions, 12 sectors in each
- Forward looking – firms see a carbon constraint coming
- Financial capital is fully mobile, but physical capital isn't
- Reports trade and investment flows
- Employment adjusts gradually to new policies
- Includes only CO<sub>2</sub> from fossil energy, about 85% of total U.S. greenhouse emissions

# Emissions trajectories

Effect of Alternative Policies on US CO2 Emissions



# Cumulative US Emissions

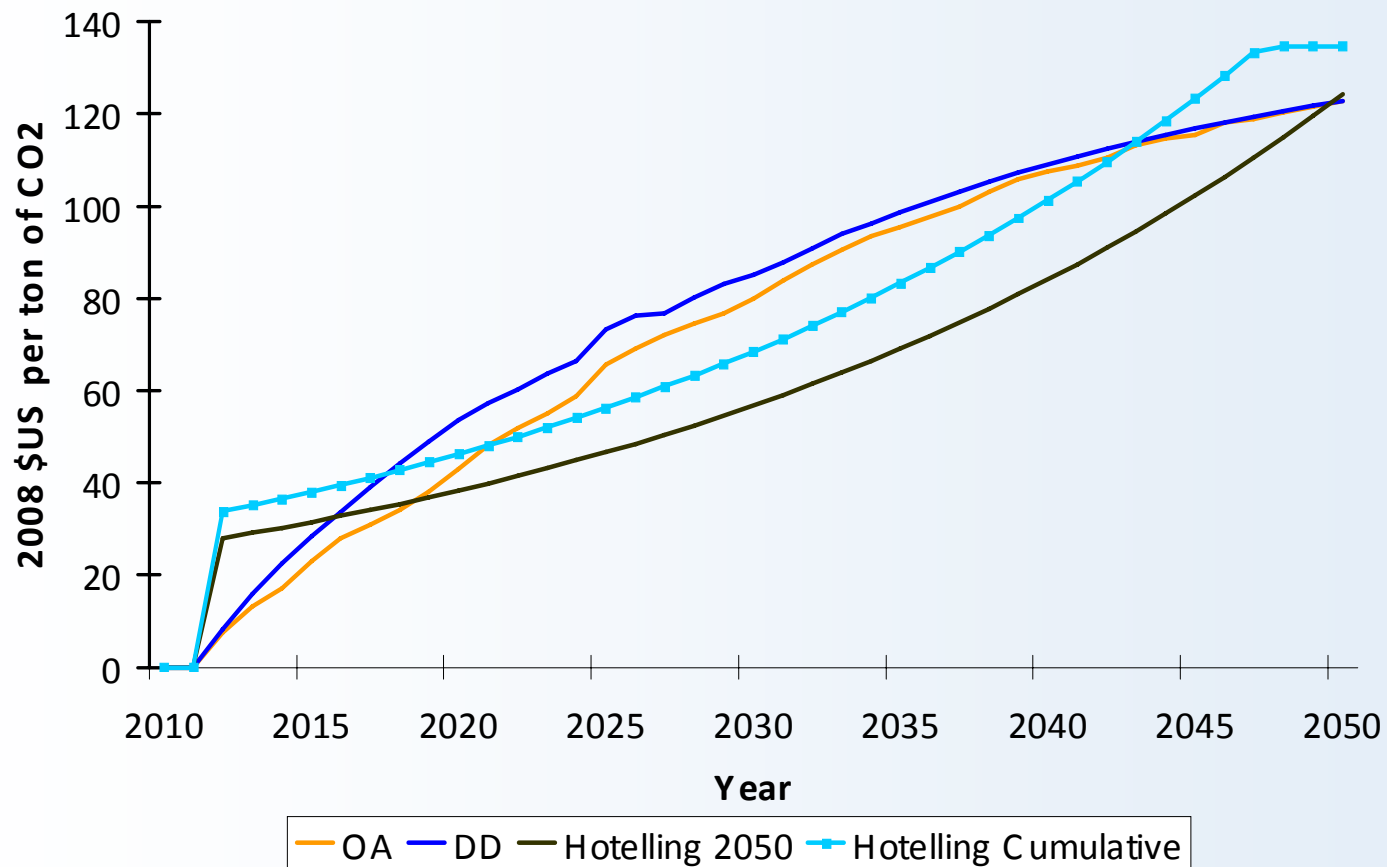
Scenario	Billion Metric Tons of CO <sub>2</sub>	Percent Reduction
Reference	288	N/A
OA Targets	154	47%
DD Targets	148	49%
Hotelling 2050	176	39%
Hotelling Cumulative	154	47%

## Present Discounted Personal Consumption 2010 to 2050 in 2008 dollars

Scenario	2.2% discount rate	4% discount rate
OA Targets	-0.45% \$1.9 trillion	-0.36% \$1.1 trillion
DD Targets	-0.49% \$2.0 trillion	-0.39% \$1.3 trillion
Hotelling 2050	-0.28% \$1.1 trillion	-0.23% \$0.6 trillion
Hotelling Cumulative	-0.38% \$1.6 trillion	-0.31% \$0.9 trillion

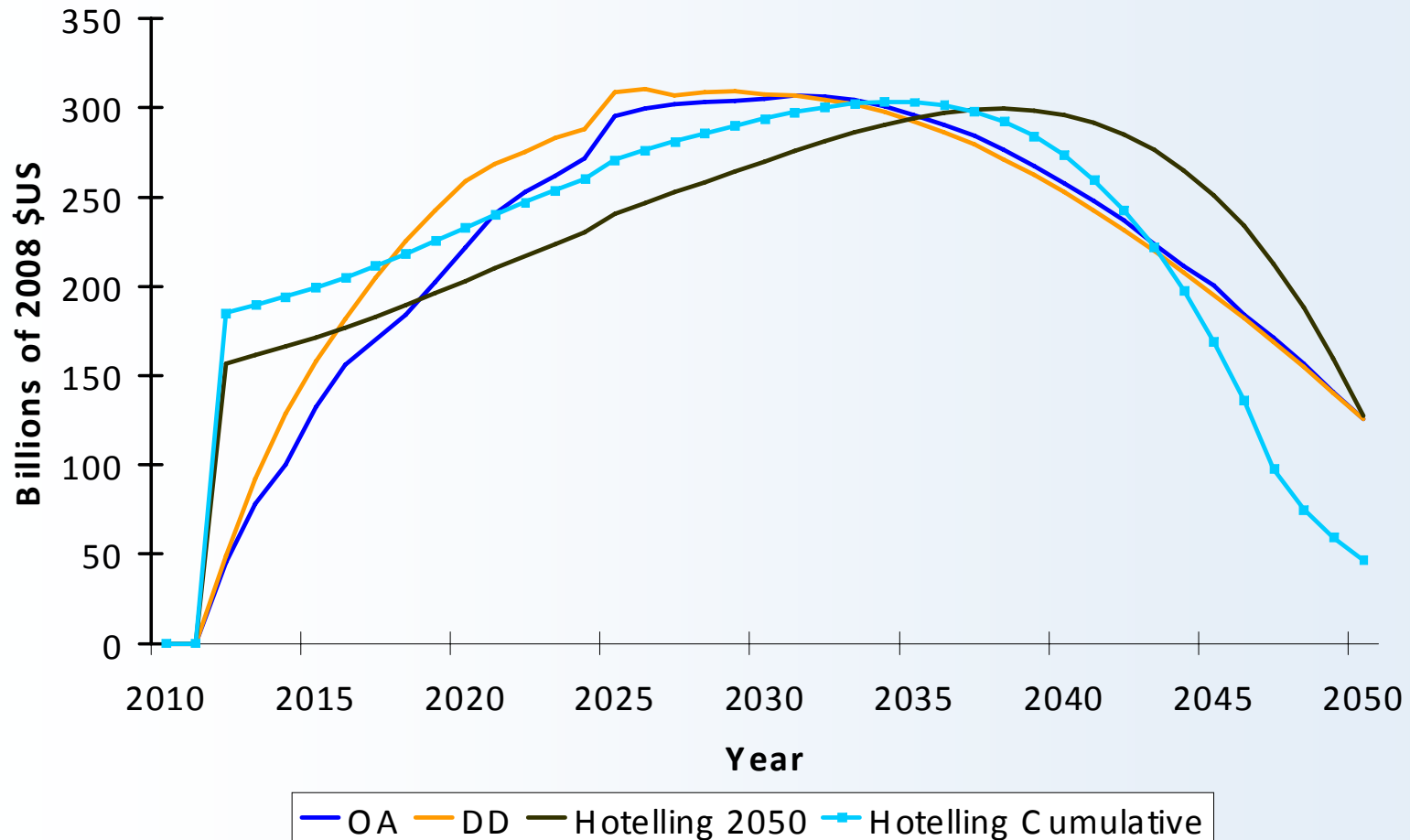
# Allowance Prices

Carbon Dioxide Prices Under Alternative Policies



# Total Value of Allowances

Allowance Values Under Alternative Policies

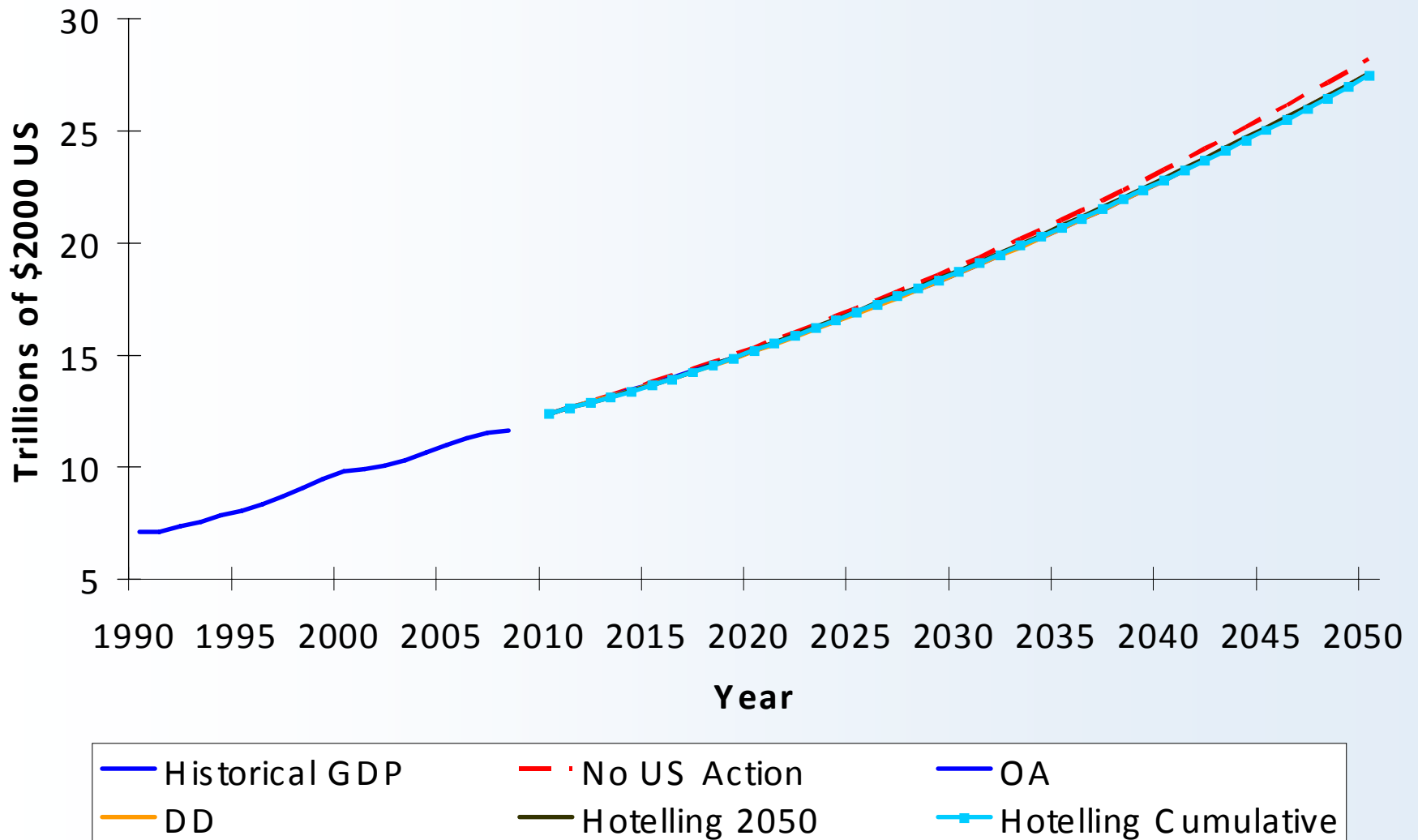


## Cumulative Undiscounted Allowance Value 2012 to 2050 in 2008 dollars

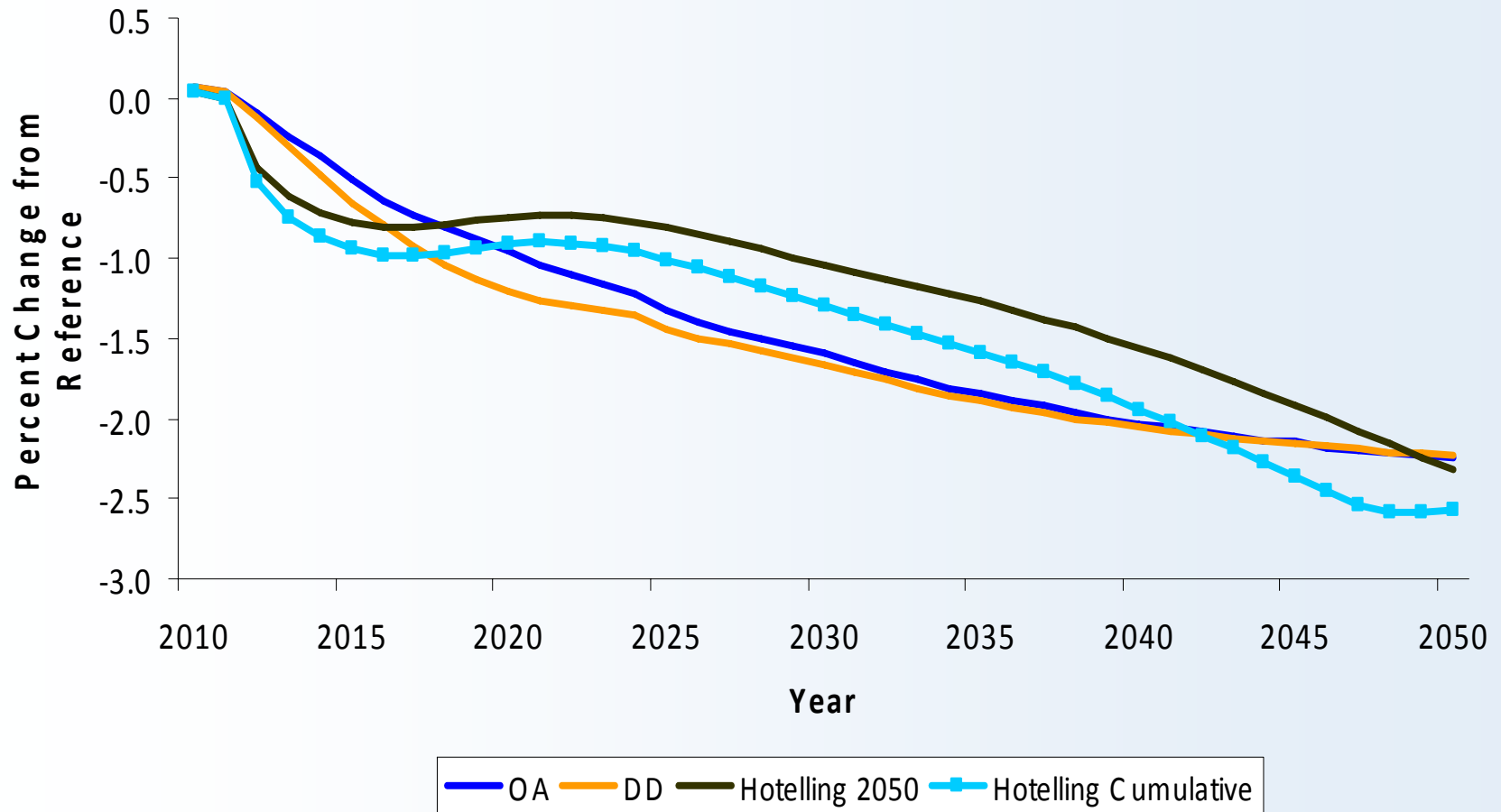
Scenario	2012 to 2050	2012 to 2020
OA Targets	\$8.9 trillion	\$1.3 trillion
DD Targets	\$9.2 trillion	\$1.5 trillion
Hotelling 2050	\$9.2 trillion	\$1.6 trillion
Hotelling Cumulative	\$9.0 trillion	\$1.9 trillion



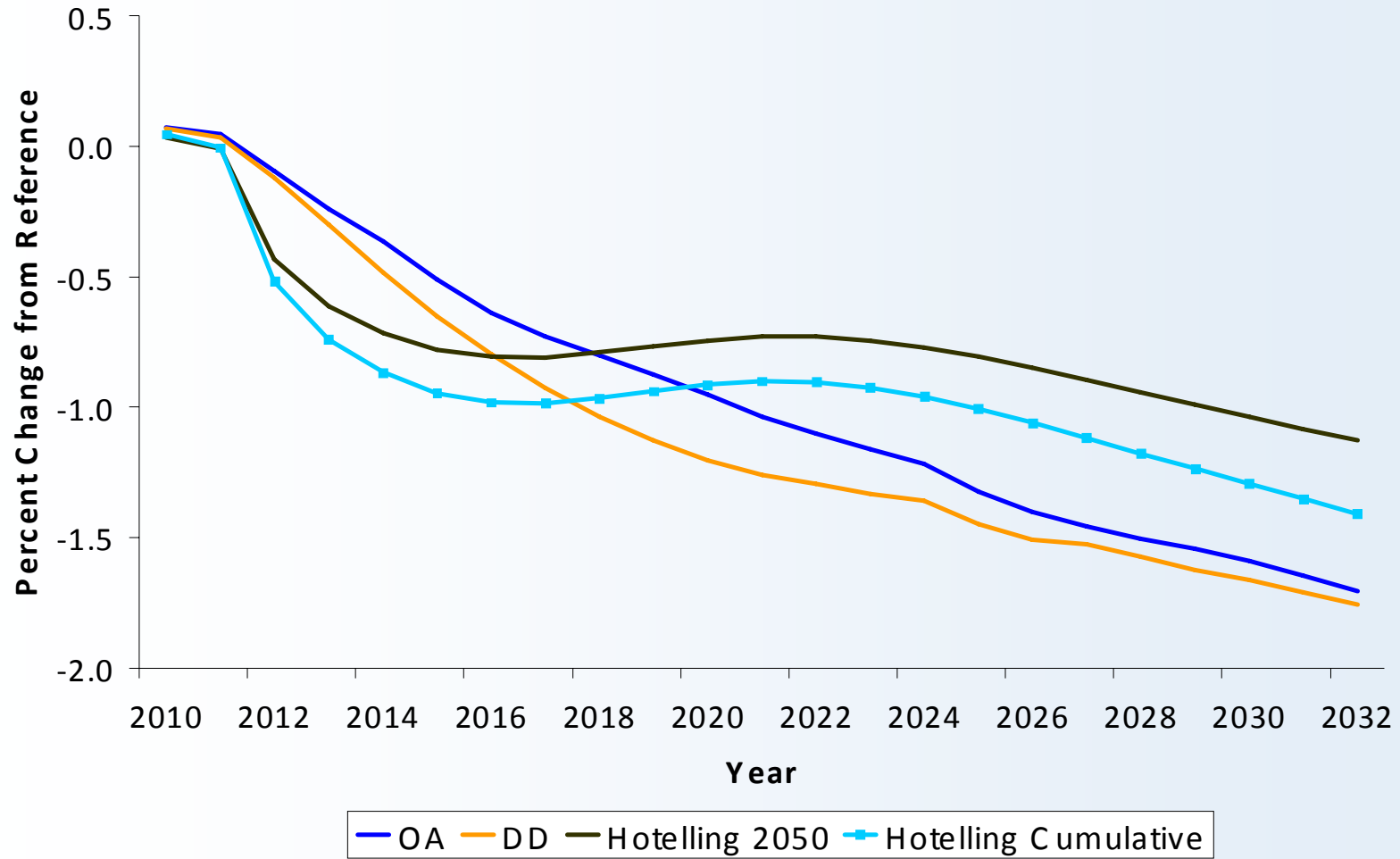
## US GDP Under Different Policies and Scenarios



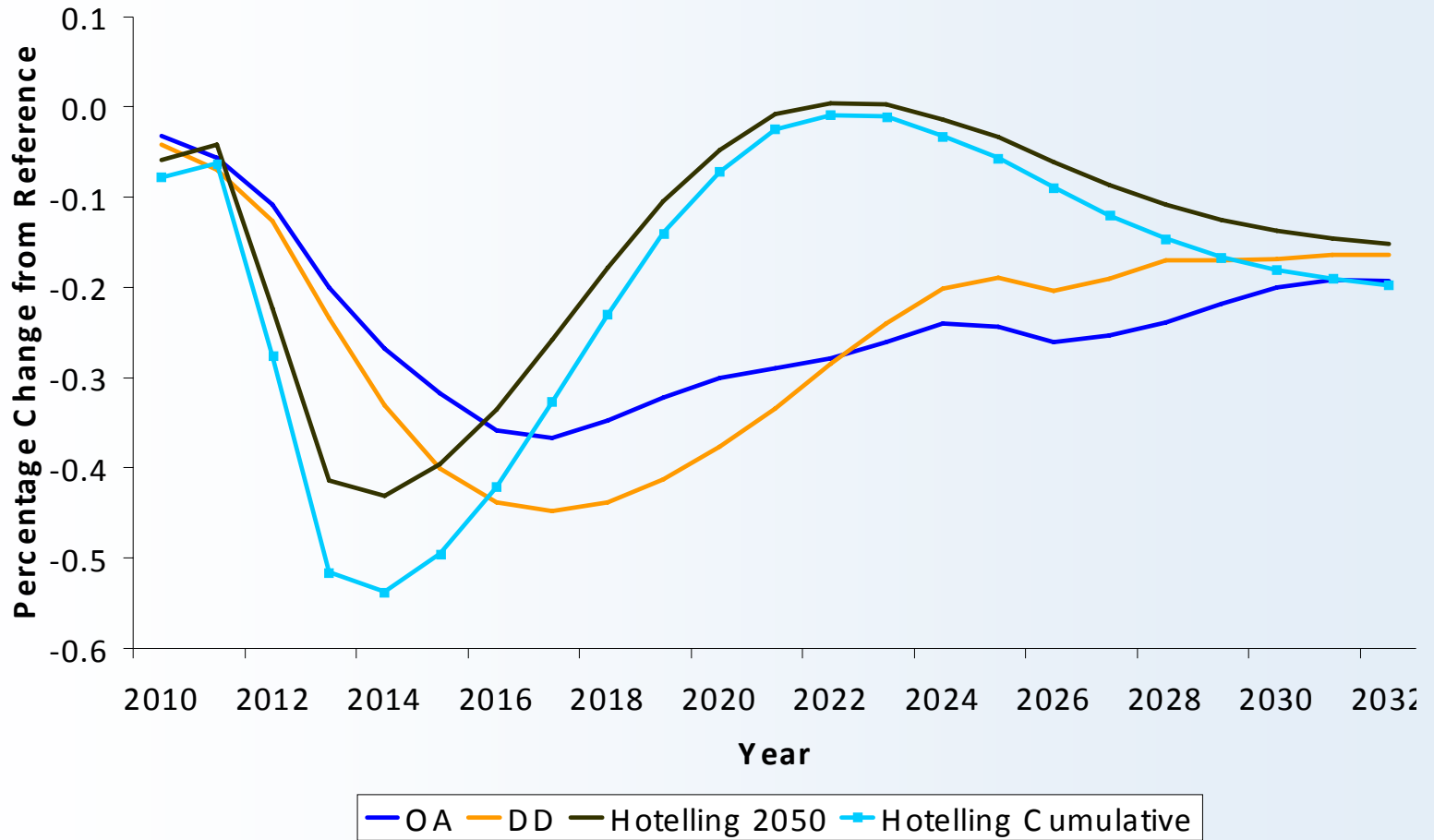
### Effect of Alternative Policies on US GDP



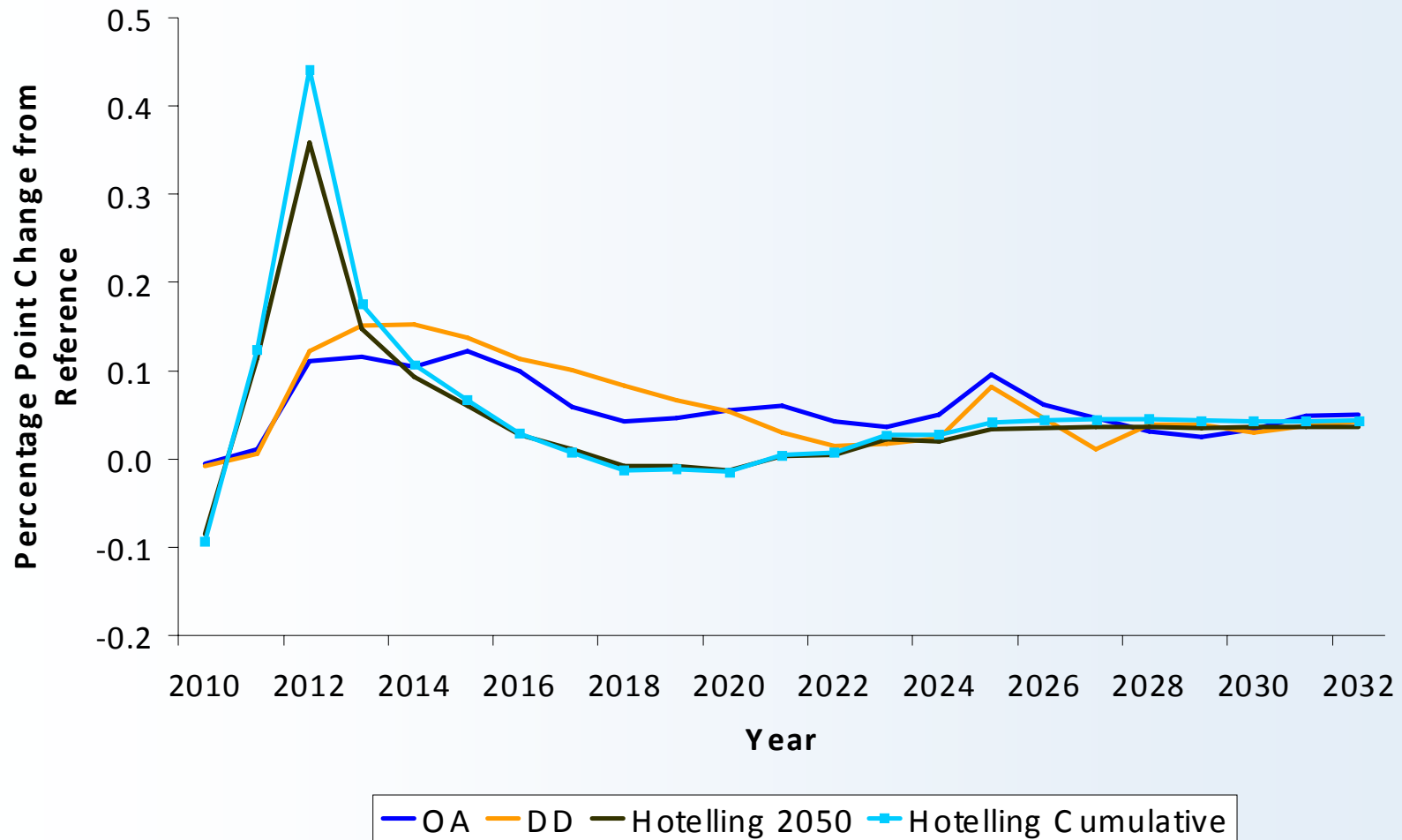
### Effect of Alternative Policies on US GDP Through 2032



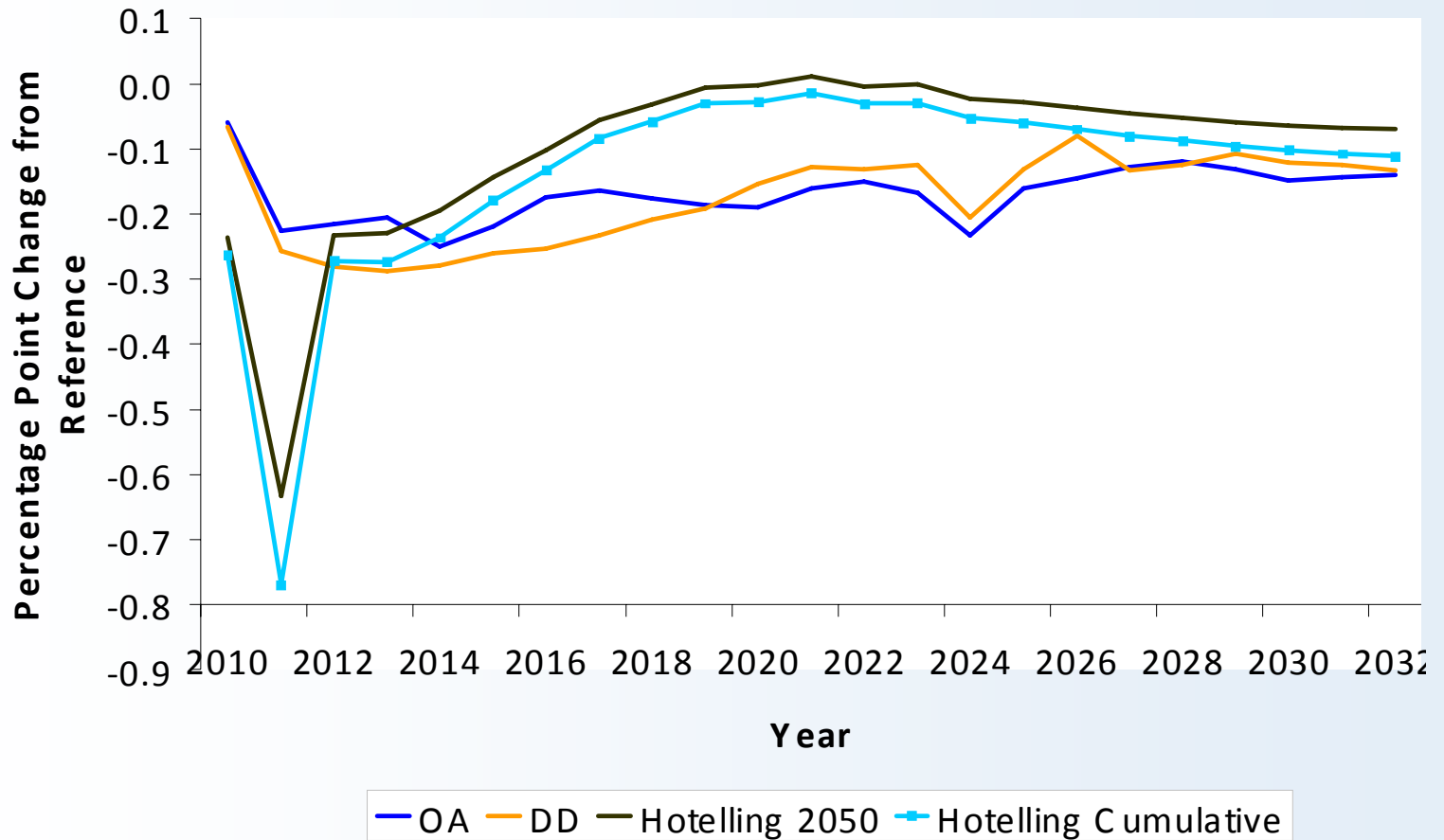
### Effect of Alternative Policies on US Employment



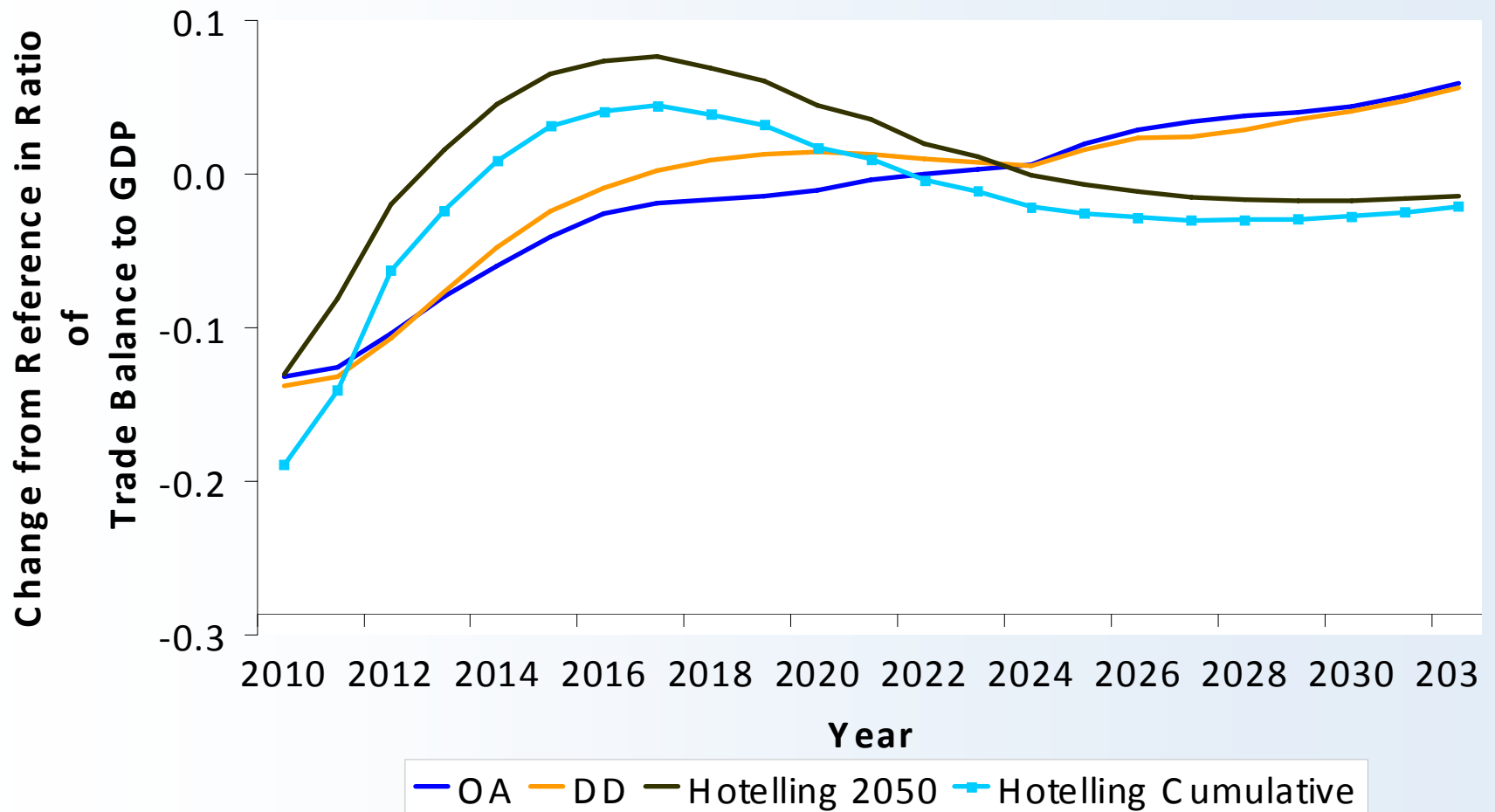
### Effect of Alternative Policies on US Inflation



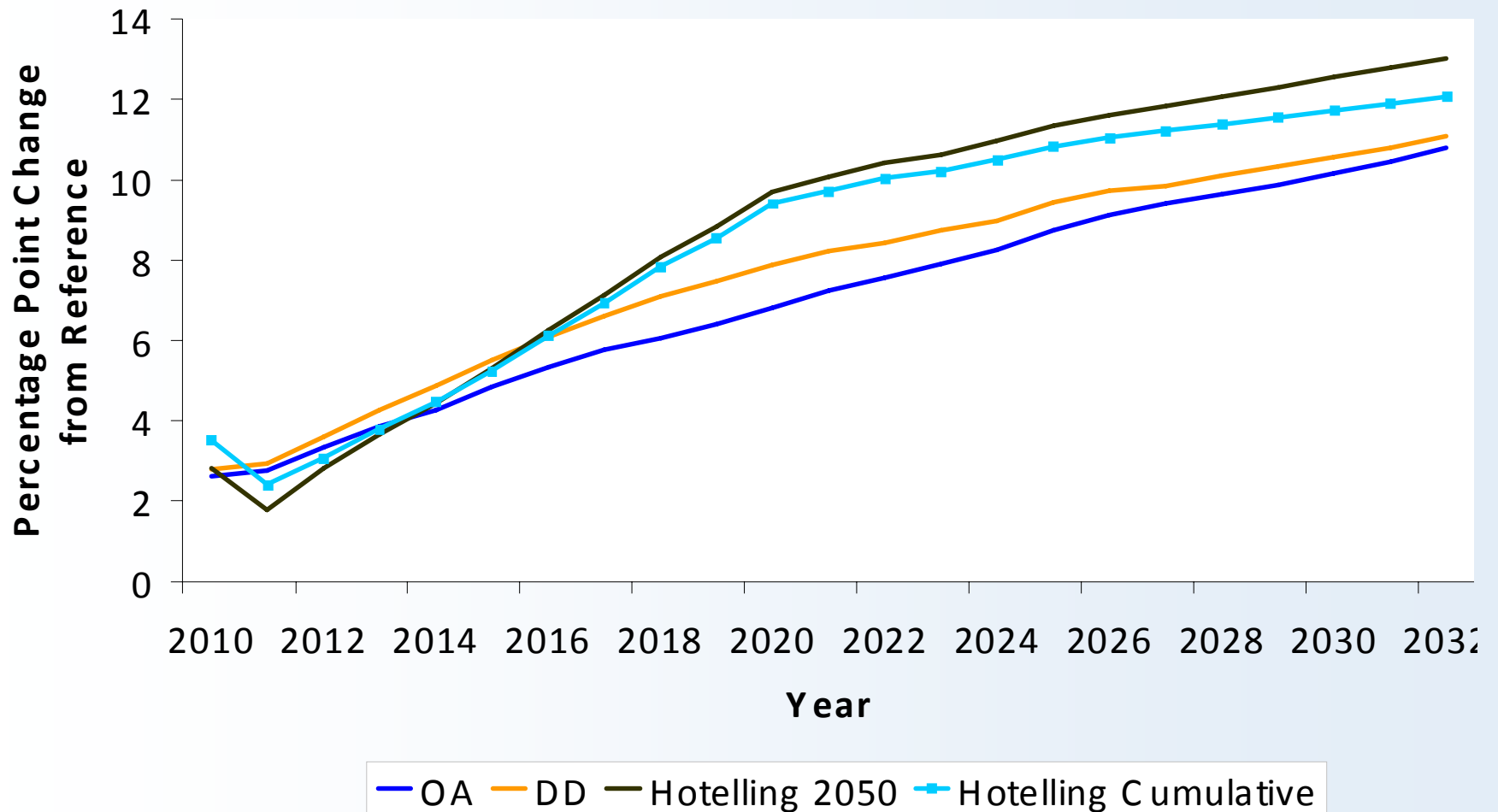
### Effect of Alternative Policies on US Real Interest Rates



### Effect of Alternative Policies on US Trade Balance to GDP Ratio



## Effect of Alternative Policies on US Real Effective Exchange Rate

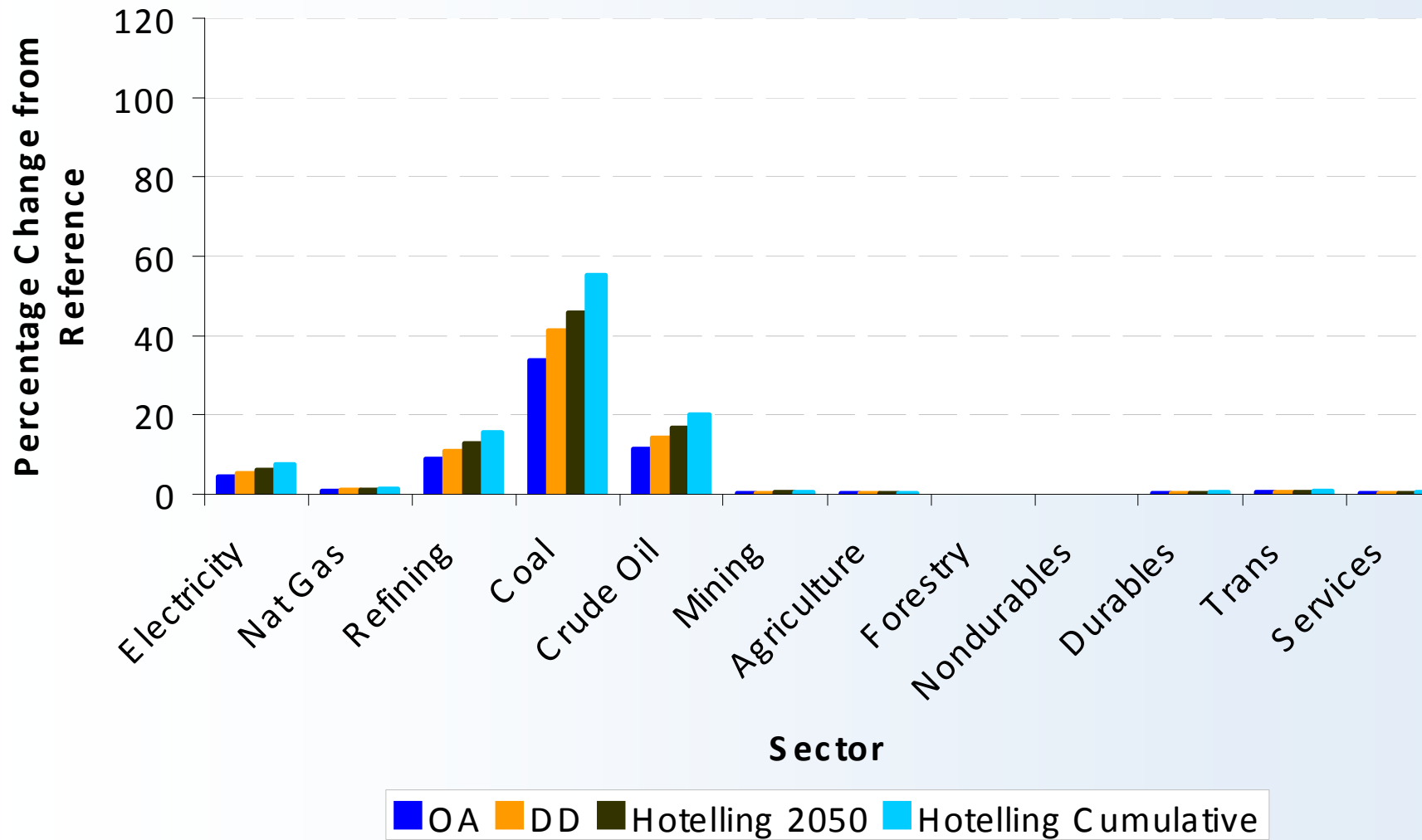




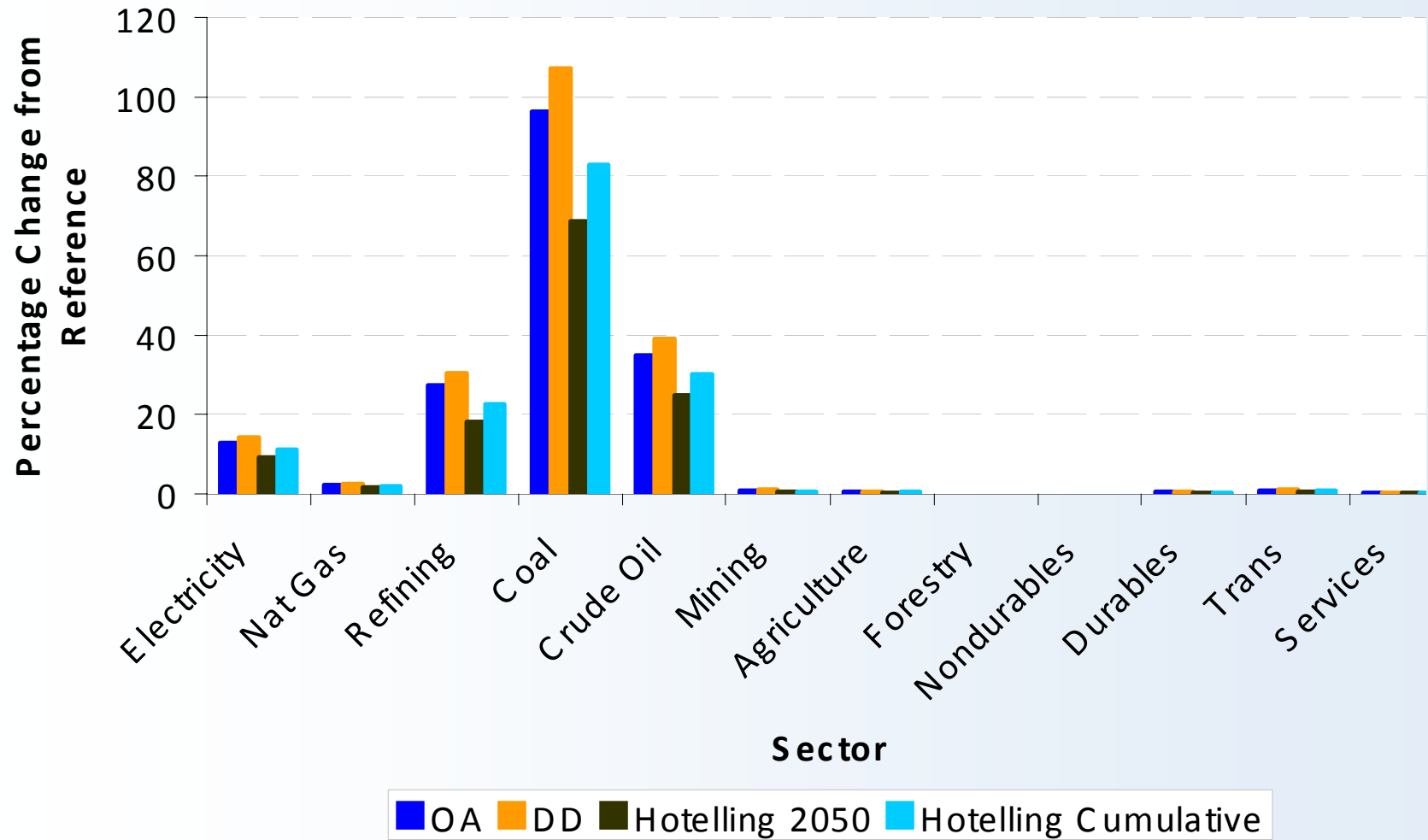
# Effects on Sectors

Num	Name	Num	Name
1	Electricity	7	Agriculture
2	Natural Gas	8	Forestry
3	Petroleum Refining	9	Nondurables
4	Coal	10	Durables
5	Crude Oil	11	Transportation
6	Mining	12	Services

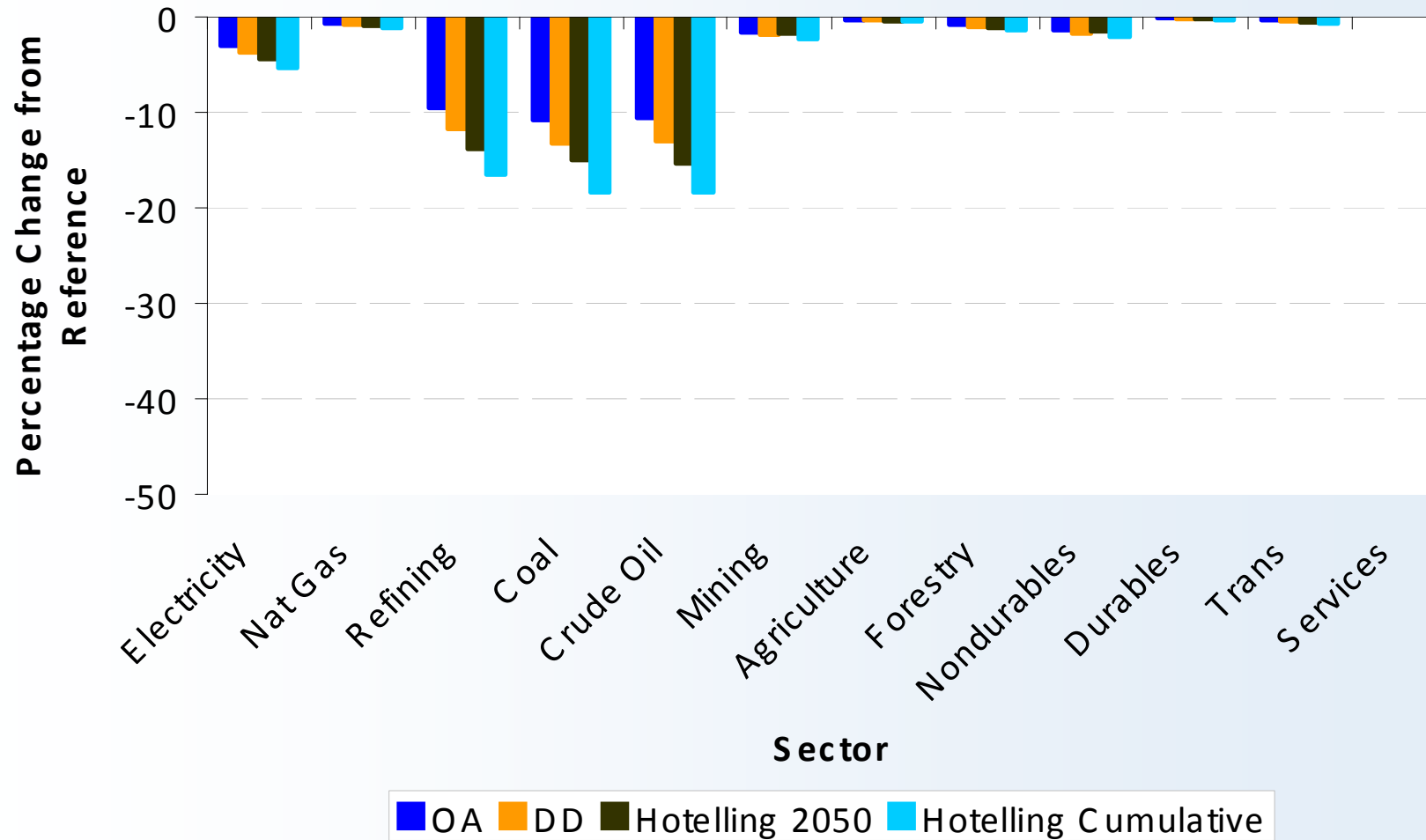
### Effect on Purchaser's Prices in 2015



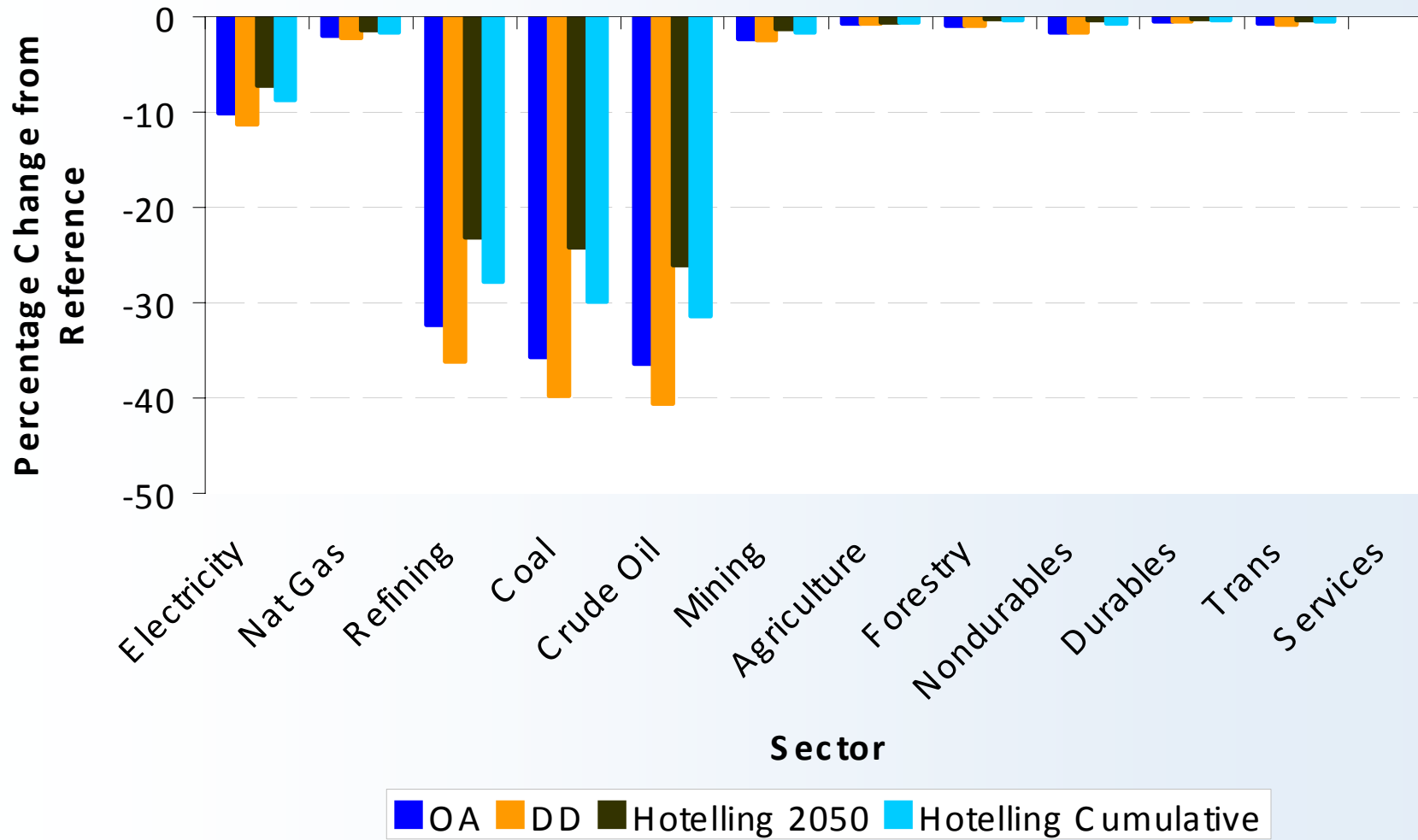
### Effect on Purchaser's Prices in 2025



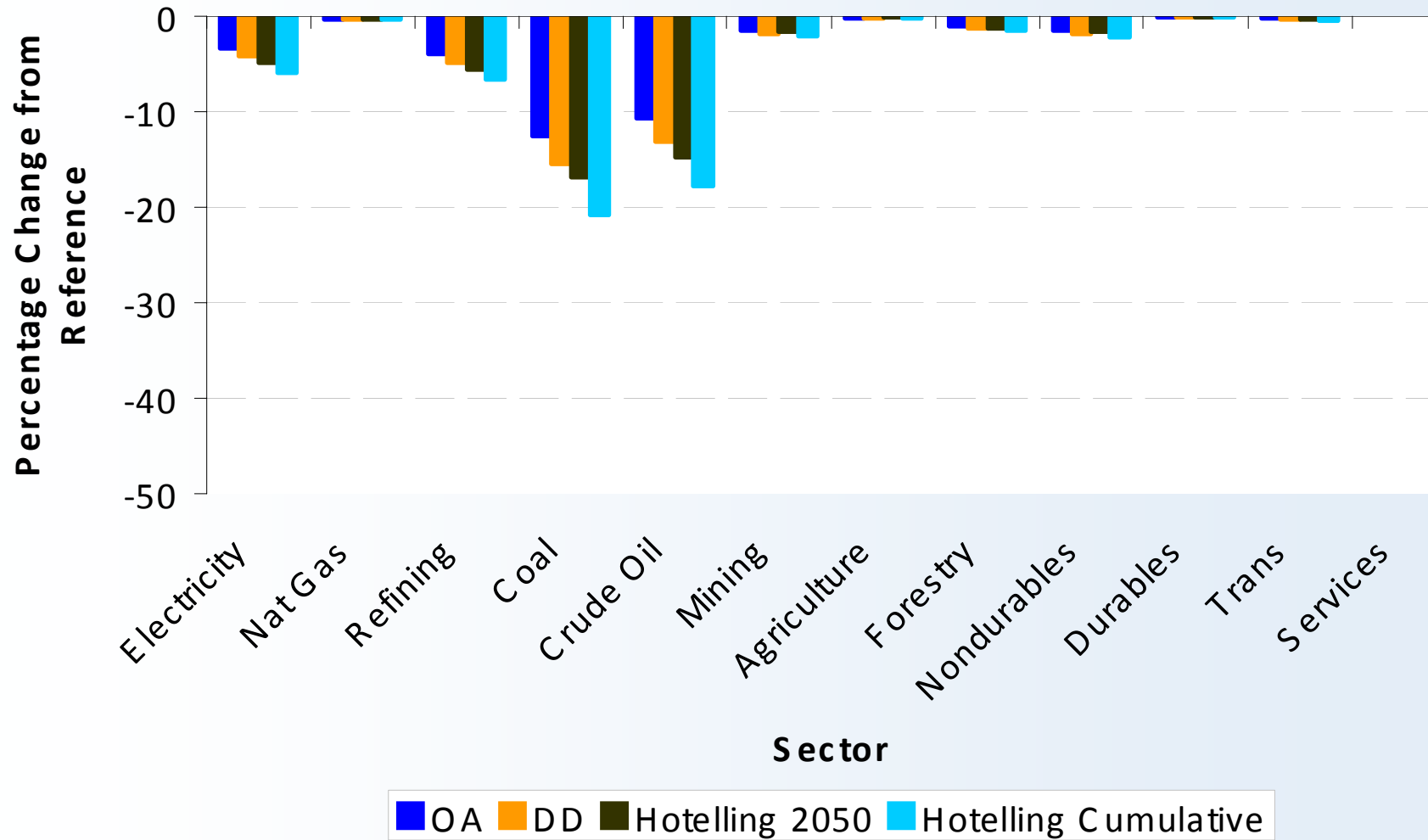
### Effect on Production in 2015



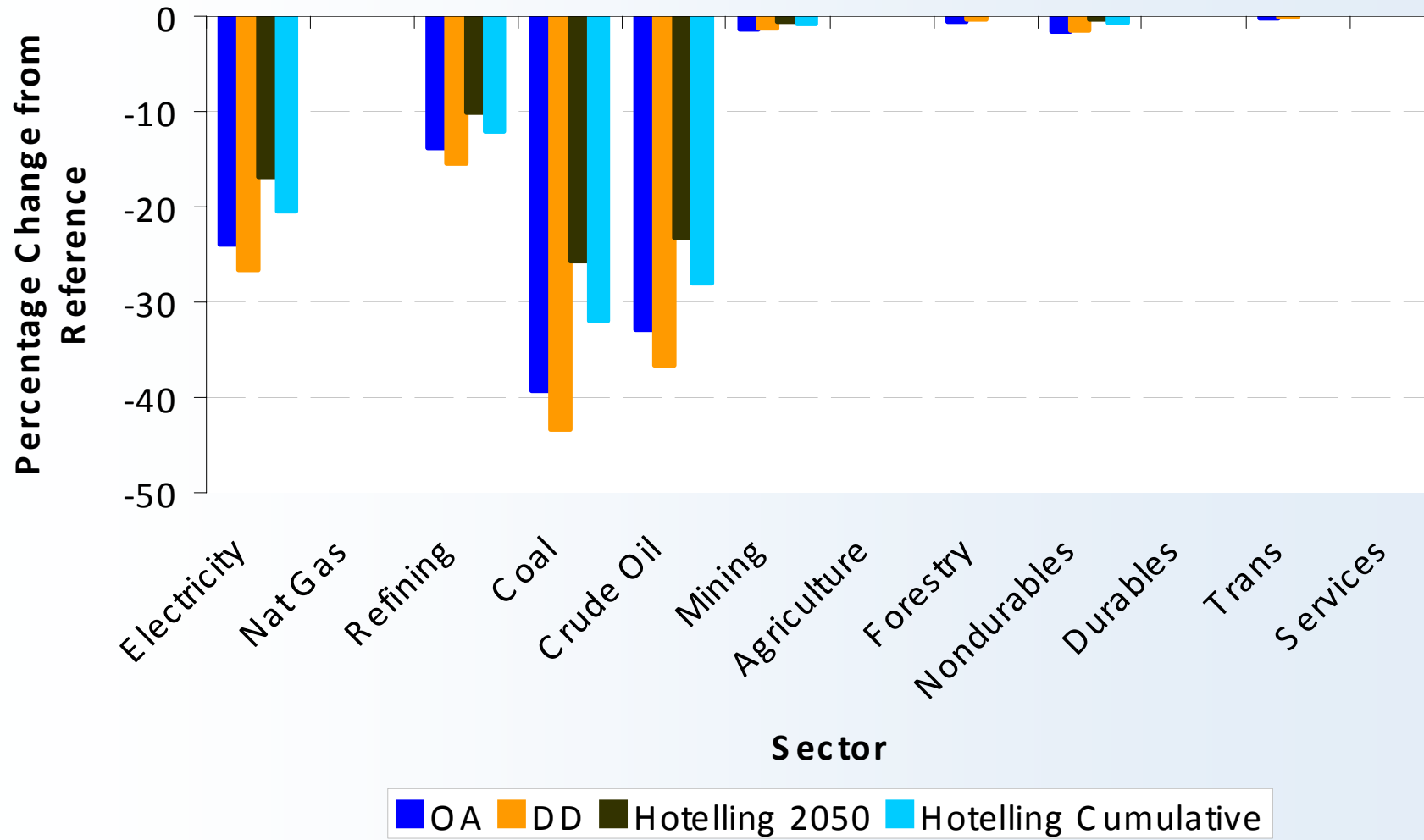
### Effect on Production in 2025



### Effect on Employment in 2015



### Effect on Employment in 2025



# Summary: Effects Relative to Reference

- Emissions effects
  - » Modeled policies reduce cumulative US emissions 38% to 49%
  - » 110 to 140 billion metric tons CO<sub>2</sub> fewer emissions
- Welfare effects
  - » Loss in total personal consumption of 0.3% to 0.5%, or about \$1 to \$2 trillion in discounted present value from 2010 to 2050
  - » Incremental stringency produces relatively high incremental cost, e.g. extra 8% reduction increases costs by 45%



# Summary, continued

- US GDP in 2050 lower by 2.5%
- Employment effect
  - » -0.5% at peak in first decade
- Allowance value
  - » About \$300 billion at peak during 2030-2040
  - » \$9 trillion in total
- OA and DD targets vs. Hotelling Paths
  - » Without banking, CO<sub>2</sub> prices rise more gradually
  - » More stringent in medium run