



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

Greenhouse Gas emissions statement on user needs

7th November 2014

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Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at Climatechange.Statistics@decc.gsi.gov.uk.

Introduction

The Department of Energy and Climate change (DECC) provides accurate, timely, user friendly and easily accessible National and Official statistics on Greenhouse Gas emissions. This document sets out the requirement of these statistics and how DECC ensures users' needs are met.

Users

Users of emission statistics can be categorised as being from the following groups:

- Ministers, policy makers and analysts within the Department of Energy and Climate Change.
- Policy makers within central government, Devolved Administrations and Local Authorities
- Energy and climate change consultancy companies.
- Non profit organisations/charities
- International statistics organisations
- Academia
- Media
- The Public

DECC recognise that these users will have different needs and welcome views from both internal and external customers through the Climate Change Statistics Mailbox (Climatechange.Statistics@decc.gsi.gov.uk). Contact details for specific publications are also provided within each statistical release.

Use of Statistics

Based on discussions with a variety of users we have identified the following uses of these statistics:

- Informing the general public on levels of UK GHG emissions, and trends over time in UK GHG emissions.
- Providing information on progress against various UK emissions reductions targets (both domestic and international).
- Providing information on devolved administration and sub-national emissions that can be used to monitor progress against Devolved Administration or Local Authority targets.
- Informing policy making on emissions reductions measures.
- Informing media reporting of UK GHG emissions and trends.
- Providing a historical baseline for UK emissions projections.
- Providing detailed emissions data on gases, sectors and sub-sectors that may of interest to users (particularly academics) with a focus on a particular area of emissions.

Final Emissions Statistics

Final emissions statistics published each February provide users with the latest emissions and allow them to monitor the UK's progress towards international and domestic targets using the latest available inventory data. This is the publication that summarises GHG emissions inventory data submitted to the UN and EU and shows the UK's final emissions from 1990 to the year to date – 2 years. For example in the February 2014 publication users will be provided with UK's final emissions from 1990-2012 and in the February 2015 publication users will be provided the UK's final emissions from 1990-2013.

Provisional Annual Emissions Statistics

Provisional emissions statistics provide users with an early indication of trends in emissions nearly a year ahead of the final statistics publication. These are not used for monitoring of targets but give an early steer for whether emissions are likely to increase or decrease based on the most recently available energy data.

Provisional Quarterly Emissions Statistics

Quarterly emissions statistics are based on the provisional annual statistics and provide an early indication of trends in emissions each quarter ahead of the annual publication. These are based on the most recent quarterly energy data.

Local Authority Statistics

Local authority statistics are published a few months after the February publication to disaggregate emissions to the smaller geographical areas of the local authorities that make up the UK. Local authorities can use this to monitor their progress against any local level targets. A supplementary dataset of emissions within the scope of influence of the local authority is also provided to help local authority policy makers.

Devolved administration inventories

Devolved administration inventories are also published a few months after the February publication to disaggregate emissions to the devolved administrations of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. These are used by the respective administrations to monitor their progress against any targets they have set.

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