Total greenhouse gas emissions from transport

The data are compiled by DECC and its contractors on a calendar year basis due to the reporting timetable of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the EU. The methodology behind the compilation from all sources, also agreed with the UNFCCC, takes some time to work through and final results for the calendar year 2013 were published in February 2015. Results for 2014 will be published in early 2016.

The figures published for this indicator are the emissions from the basket of greenhouse gases covered by the Kyoto Protocol. In accordance with international reporting protocols each of the gases is weighted by its global warming potential relative to that of carbon dioxide and presented in terms of the equivalent amount of carbon dioxide. Total transport greenhouse gas emissions include those from domestic transport as well as international shipping and aviation. From 2012 to 2013 total transport emissions decreased by 1.0 per cent from 159.4 to 157.7 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents and formed just over a quarter of total UK greenhouse gas emissions. Longer term, they increased by 22 per cent from 1990 to 2007, and then decreased by 11 per cent to 2013. In 2013, cars and taxis contributed to around two fifths of total transport emissions, light vans and heavy goods vehicles around a quarter with another fifth from international aviation.

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