



Department for  
Energy Security  
& Net Zero



# UK Greenhouse Gas Emissions Statistics

Frequently Asked Questions

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# Publications

**Q1** What are the main reports that the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) publishes on the UK's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions?

A1. DESNZ publishes a series of statistics showing "territorial" GHG emissions, meaning emissions that occur within the UK's borders. DESNZ's regular publications on emissions statistics are as follows:

## **Final UK GHG emission statistics:**

Final UK emissions estimates are published annually, usually on the first Tuesday of February. Estimates of the uncertainty of the figures and with energy supply emissions presented on an end user basis are added in an annex on the final Thursday of March and estimates of emissions by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) category on the final Thursday of June. The most recent estimates published each year relate to the calendar year two years earlier (e.g. the publication in 2024 showed emissions in years up to 2022).

UK emissions are broken down by source and end-user Territorial Emissions Statistics (TES) sector (see question 5), by fuel type and by SIC category. All the UK's domestic and international targets are monitored against the figures in this release, and they are consistent with the UK's GHG inventory that is submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) each year.

This publication can be found on the [UK territorial greenhouse gas emissions statistics page](#) on Gov.uk.

## **Provisional UK GHG emission statistics:**

Provisional UK territorial emissions estimates are usually published annually on the last Thursday of March each year. Based on provisional energy use statistics, they provide a provisional estimate of emissions in the calendar year just gone, e.g. the publication in 2023 showed provisional estimates for emissions in 2022.

In this publication UK greenhouse gas emissions are broken down by source TES sector and by fuel type, and estimates are presented on a quarterly and a temperature adjusted basis.

This publication can be found on the [UK territorial greenhouse gas emissions statistics page](#) on gov.uk.

## **UK local authority and regional GHG emissions statistics:**

Territorial GHG estimates by local authority and region are usually published annually on the last Thursday in June. The most recent estimates published each year relate to the calendar year two years earlier (e.g. the publication in 2024 covered emissions in years up to 2022). Since 2022 this publication has included estimates of methane and nitrous oxide, in addition to carbon dioxide, and estimates of emissions in National Park areas. Estimates of emissions in National Landscapes and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty have been included since 2024.

Emissions are broken down by the following end-user sectors:

- Industry
- Commercial
- Public sector
- Domestic
- Road transport
- Land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF)
- Agriculture
- Waste

GHG emissions per capita and per square kilometre are also estimated for each local authority. This publication can be found on the [UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions statistics page](#) on the gov.uk website.

## Scope

### Q2 Are provisional estimates produced at a sub-national level?

A2. A sub-national breakdown of provisional estimates is not produced since the underlying sub-national energy data are not available any earlier than when the local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions statistics are produced.

### Q3 What is the UK GHG Inventory?

A3. The UK GHG Inventory is a dataset of greenhouse gas emissions within the UK, its Crown Dependencies, and certain Overseas Territories. It is a tool that provides insight into the sources and magnitudes of greenhouse gas emissions in these territories. It fulfils the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) reporting requirements the UK has under the Paris Agreement. Official Statistics based on it are published in February each year and the UK's national inventory submission to the UNFCCC is usually submitted each year on 15th April.

The UK GHG Inventory is compiled in line with international guidance from the [International Panel on Climate Change](#) (IPCC) and contains the UK's official estimates of GHG emissions from 1990 to the latest available year of reporting. The GHG emissions presented in the DESNZ Official Statistics publications are derived from the UK GHG Inventory, although generally only cover emissions within the UK and not in its Crown Dependencies or Overseas Territories, except where specified.

The UK GHG Official Statistics are published on the [UK territorial greenhouse gas emissions statistics page](#) on gov.uk and the UNFCCC inventory submissions are published on the [National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory \(NAEI\) website](#).

## Q4 Are data for the Devolved Administration published by DESNZ?

A4. Emissions data for England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland are produced by Ricardo on a consistent basis with the UK estimates that DESNZ publishes but they are published by the Devolved Administrations themselves, not DESNZ. They can be found on the following websites:

- Scotland – [Scottish Government environment statistics](#)
- Wales – [StatsWales greenhouse gas emissions data](#)
- Northern Ireland – [Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland greenhouse gas inventory](#)

The Devolved Administration GHG inventories can also be found on the [National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory \(NAEI\) website](#).

## Q5 What sectors are UK GHG emissions broken down by in the annual UK emission statistics publications?

A5. UK GHG emissions are primarily reported by Territorial Emissions Statistics (TES) sectors, on a source-basis. These sectors provide a more informative representation of GHG emissions than IPCC sectors which are used for international reporting of the UK GHG Inventory. Note that the TES sectors were introduced in 2024, prior to this the UK GHG emissions statistics were presented using National Communication (NC) sectors.

While the allocation of emissions to TES sectors is primarily determined on a source basis, in the final (and local authority) GHG emissions statistics the sectors are also presented with energy supply emissions on an end-user basis. The key difference is that in the latter, emissions related to energy supply (i.e. from the production and distribution of electricity and fuels) are instead reported under the relevant sector where the energy is used – combining the direct emissions, as seen in the source-based TES, with the indirect energy supply emissions to present net end-user emissions for each sector.

A full breakdown of emissions by sector can be found in Table 1.2 of the Excel tables in the most recent final statistics publication. End-user emissions can be seen in Table 7.1. Summaries of the emissions included in each TES sector are as follows:

<b>Electricity Supply</b>	Emissions from power stations for electricity generation, including incinerators generating energy from waste. Excludes emissions from organisations generating their own electricity (autogeneration) even when exported to the electricity grid. These emissions are instead included in the sector in which they occur.
<b>Fuel Supply</b>	Emissions from the supply of fuels, e.g. oil, gas and coal. Includes activities such as extraction, production, venting, flaring, processing (e.g. oil refining) and distribution. Excludes emissions from coke production which are instead included in the <i>Industry</i> sector as coke is primarily used in the iron and steel industry.

<b>Domestic Transport</b>	Emissions from road vehicles, domestic aviation and shipping (including military), fishing vessels, and railways. Also includes emissions from transport related mobile machinery (e.g. at airports and ports) and F-gases from mobile air conditioning and refrigeration. International aviation and shipping emissions are not included in the national total, though are reported separately.
<b>Buildings and Product Uses</b>	Emissions from fuel combustion in residential, public, and commercial buildings, largely for heating. Also includes emissions from house and garden mobile machinery, anaesthetics, F-gases from air conditioning, refrigeration, heat pumps, aerosols as well as other product uses. Excludes emissions from industrial buildings which are instead included in the <i>Industry</i> sector.
<b>Industry</b>	Emissions from fuel combustion in the manufacturing and construction industries, industrial processes, and F-gases from industrial refrigeration. Emissions from coke production are included in this sector as coke is primarily used in the iron and steel industry. Includes emissions from organisations generating their own electricity and heat (autogeneration) even when exported to the electricity grid or used in heat networks.
<b>Agriculture</b>	Emissions from agricultural machinery and fuel combustion, livestock (enteric fermentation and manure management) and agricultural soils (excluding carbon stock changes which are included in the <i>LULUCF</i> sector).
<b>Waste</b>	Emissions from the treatment and disposal of waste, such as landfill, composting, incineration without energy recovery and wastewater handling. Excludes emissions from incinerators generating energy from waste as these are reported in the <i>Electricity Supply</i> sector.
<b>Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF)</b>	Includes emissions and removals of CO <sub>2</sub> from changes in the carbon stock in forestland, cropland, grassland, wetlands, settlements and harvested wood products, and <i>emissions</i> of other greenhouse gases from drainage (excl. croplands and intensive grasslands) and rewetting of soils, nitrogen mineralisation associated with loss and gain of soil organic matter, and fires. As impacts of carbon stock changes are included in this sector, CO <sub>2</sub> emissions of biogenic origin (e.g. burning biomass for energy) are excluded from other sectors to avoid double counting.

## Q6 Does DESNZ report any alternative sector splits for UK GHG emissions?

A6. Starting from the 2020 publication, presenting UK GHG emissions from 1990-2018, the final UK emissions statistics have been accompanied by supplementary tables showing annual UK GHG emissions split by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC). As the name suggests, this categorisation provides a detailed split of emissions by industrial sectors.

The underlying data comprising the UK GHG Inventory are also available to sufficient detail such that many different categorisations can be made to suit different purposes.

## Q7 What gases are included in the emissions statistics?

A7. The inventory covers the basket of seven GHGs that contribute to global warming, as defined by the Kyoto Protocol. These are:

- carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)
- methane (CH<sub>4</sub>)
- nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O)
- hydrofluorocarbons (HFC),
- perfluorocarbons (PFC),
- sulphur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>)
- nitrogen trifluoride (NF<sub>3</sub>).

These last four gases are collectively referred to as Fluorinated gases (or F gases).

In accordance with international reporting and carbon trading protocols, each of these gases is weighted by its global warming potential (GWP), so that total GHG emissions can be reported on a consistent basis. The GWP for each gas is defined as its warming influence relative to that of carbon dioxide over a 100-year period. GHG emissions are then presented in carbon dioxide equivalent units.

The GWPs on which the UK GHG Inventory (and GHG emissions statistics) are based are subject to change as international guidelines are updated. A list of each GHG with their corresponding GWPs is published in table 6.4 in the final UK GHG statistics tables.

## Q8 Why are there different territorial emissions totals reported for the UK?

A8. The UK's emissions reduction targets and international reporting requirements are based on territorial emissions estimates but can differ in geographical scope and handling of particular sectors. The main geographical coverages used are:

- UK Official Statistics - The geographical coverage of these statistics is based on the UK only, i.e. England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- Convention (UNFCCC) commitment – Under the UNFCCC, the UK must report its emissions plus those Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories which have had the UK ratification of the Convention extended to them. These are currently the Crown Dependencies of Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man and the Overseas Territories of the Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Bermuda and Gibraltar.
- Kyoto Protocol commitment – The UK's progress against the Kyoto Protocol commitment is based on a geographical coverage of the UK, the Crown Dependencies of Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man and the Overseas Territories that have ratified the Kyoto Protocol. For the first commitment period (2008-12) this was the Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Bermuda, and Gibraltar. For the second commitment period (2013-20) the UK's target followed the same coverage excluding Bermuda. However, due to the joint fulfilment of the UK's second commitment period target with the EU, the figures given in the final 1990-2022 greenhouse gas emission statistics are a representation of the UK's share of the target, and include the UK and Gibraltar only, as this is the geographical coverage of the UK's individual target under the EU Effort Sharing Decision.



- Paris Agreement commitment – The UK’s progress against its Paris Agreement commitment is based on a geographical coverage of the UK, the Crown Dependencies of Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man and the Overseas Territory of Gibraltar, which is currently the only Overseas Territory that is party to the Paris Agreement.
- Legacy EU reporting commitment – The coverage only included parts of the UK which were previously part of the EU: the UK and Gibraltar. All Crown Dependencies and other Overseas Territories are excluded.
- Domestic carbon budgets set under the UK Climate Change Act are based on the UK only, excluding all emissions from the UK’s Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories.

Differences in the reported totals can also arise from different definitions of emissions from the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) sector. Under the UNFCCC and in most of our domestic and international reporting, all emissions and removals from this sector are included, whereas the Kyoto Protocol uses alternative definition of emissions from this source.

## Q9 Are there alternative methods of estimating UK GHG emissions other than the territorial emissions reported in the UK GHG Inventory (and DESNZ statistics)?

A9. In addition to the territorial emission estimates, two alternative measures of the UK’s GHG emissions are published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra):

- ONS publishes emissions on a “residency” basis in the [UK Environmental Accounts](#). The figures represent emissions caused by UK residents and businesses whether in the UK or abroad but exclude emissions within the UK which can be attributed to overseas residents and businesses.
- Defra publishes the [UK’s carbon footprint](#). This estimates emissions on a “consumption” basis, meaning it covers emissions associated with the consumption of goods and services by households in the UK. It includes estimates of emissions associated with each stage of the supply chain for those goods and services, regardless of where they occur, while excluding emissions occurring in the UK that are associated with the consumption of goods and services by households outside the UK.

It is important to understand the differences between reported emissions and the different approaches to measuring emissions to ensure that the correct data are used for specific purposes of reporting or analysis. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has published [an article](#) that compares these different measures of the UK’s greenhouse gas emissions in more detail.

## Q10 Why do we report territorial rather than consumption emissions figures?

A10. The UK produces estimates of both its territorial emissions (published by DESNZ) and its consumption emissions (published by Defra). The DESNZ statistics follow the agreed international approach for estimating and reporting greenhouse gas emissions under the UN

Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which is for countries to report the emissions produced within their territories. This ensures that different countries are reporting their emissions on a similar basis. These emissions do not, therefore, include emissions from the manufacture of goods imported into the UK, which are reported in the country they were manufactured in, and vice versa.

All of the UK's emission reduction targets are based on territorial emissions. Statistics on [UK consumption emissions](#) are published by Defra.

## Methodology

### Q11 How are emissions estimated?

A11. It is impractical to directly measure emissions from every exhaust, chimney, and acre of land in the UK, so GHG emission estimates are based on a series of models that estimate emissions from different sources.

The source data and methods used to derive UK GHG emission estimates have been developed to be consistent with methods defined within international guidance<sup>1</sup>. All countries that report to the UNFCCC are required to use these estimation methods to ensure that the emissions for each country are complete and comparable.

The basic equation for estimating most sources of emissions is:

$$\textit{Emission Factor} \times \textit{Activity Data} = \textit{Emission Estimate}$$

For example, to estimate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from vehicles the activity data might be the total number of kilometres travelled by that type of vehicle and the emission factor the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> emitted per kilometre.

The UK inventory uses the best available data from UK and international research for each emission source. The approach used is largely defined by the availability of data and the significance of the emission source in the overall UK inventory: more detailed methods are used for the high-emitting sources, whilst simpler methods can be used for minor sources, consistent with international guidance.

The emission factor is the emission per unit of activity. Emission factors for energy sources are either dependent on the fuel characteristics (for emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>) or how the fuel is burned, for example the size and efficiency of equipment used. For other sources, the emission factor can be dependent on a range of parameters, such as feed characteristics for livestock or the chemical reactions taking place for industrial process emissions.

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<sup>1</sup> 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: <https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/index.html>

2013 Supplement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: Wetlands (Wetlands Supplement): <https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/wetlands/index.html>  
2013 Revised Supplementary Methods and Good Practice Guidance Arising from the Kyoto Protocol (KP Supplement): <https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/kpsg/index.html>

Emission factors are typically derived from measurements on a number of representative sources and the resulting factor applied to all similar sources in the UK. For some sources, the calculation of emissions is more complicated, and therefore a model is used to estimate emissions.

For example, emissions of methane from waste disposed to landfills are estimated using a model that reflects the fact that the emissions occur over a long timeframe from the initial disposal of the waste, and that emissions are affected by the level of capture and utilisation of the landfill methane produced. The carbon fluxes (emissions and sinks) from land use, land use change and forestry are also modelled.

Table 6.2 of the most recent final GHG emissions tables gives details on the methodology used to estimate different parts of the inventory.

## Q12 How are energy statistics related to emissions statistics?

A12. Activities such as energy and fuel consumption related to homes, businesses and transport result in GHG emissions. The large majority of data on activities such as these is taken from the Digest of UK Energy Statistics ([DUKES](#)) publication.

This numerical activity data can be used to estimate different GHG emissions (for carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide) by applying the relevant emissions factors. These emissions factors are dependant, for example, on the activity and the fuel type. Fuels include burning oil and diesel.

In the UK's GHG inventory, emissions related to electricity generation can be estimated using energy consumption data from power stations, and then as above by applying the relevant emissions factors depending on the fuel used.

## Q13 What are the different datasets used to estimate emissions?

A13. The UK's emissions inventory is based on data from a range of sources:

- Digest of UK Energy Statistics (DUKES)
- The Environment Agency's Pollution Inventory
- Data held by other environmental regulators
- Industry
- Independent experts
- Other public sector bodies

A complete list of data sources used in each of the sectors reported in the UK's GHG inventory is described in table 6.2 of the most recent final greenhouse gas emissions tables.

## Q14 How are provisional emissions estimates calculated?

A14. The provisional UK GHG emissions estimates are usually published annually, on the last Thursday in March. This coincides with the publication of the March edition of Energy Trends,

which is the first quarterly release of statistics covering UK energy use in the most recent year and is the main basis for the provisional emissions estimates.

The provisional emissions figures are not estimated using the full greenhouse gas inventory methodology. Instead, carbon dioxide estimates are based on the change in energy use between year x-2 (the final year in the latest inventory) and year x-1 (the year for which the provisional estimates are being made).

It is assumed that the percentage change in energy use between year x-2 and year x-1 is the same as the percentage change in carbon dioxide emissions between the two years. For example, if domestic gas use has increased by 1%, we assume that carbon dioxide emissions from domestic gas use will have increased by 1%.

This approach is used to estimate carbon dioxide emissions, but around a fifth of the UK's GHG emissions each year are of other gases and because these do not generally relate to energy use, we do not have data available at this stage to be able to produce similar estimates.

Instead, we take a simple approach which assumes that emissions of non-CO<sub>2</sub> gases in year x-1 will change from the total in year x-2 in line with the percentage difference between the estimates for non-CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in those two years in the most recent [DESNZ Energy and emissions projections](#).

These provisional emissions estimates will be subject to revision when the final estimates are published around 10 months later, in February of the following year. However, they provide an early indication of emissions in the most recent full calendar year. Overall, the year-on-year percentage change indicated by the provisional figures has usually been within a percentage point of the change shown by the final figures.

## Q15 Why are the final emissions estimates different from the provisional emissions statistics published one year earlier?

A15. The differences between the provisional and final estimates arise primarily due to revisions to other statistics on which these estimates were based, use of actual data to estimate non-CO<sub>2</sub> emissions which are only crudely estimated in the provisional estimates, and methodological changes to the way emissions are calculated.

## Q16 Why is the whole time series of historical emissions revised every year?

A16. Each year, when the UK GHG inventory (on which these emissions statistics are based) is extended to add another year, it is updated to include:

- Emission estimates for any new sources identified in the UK;
- Revised estimates for sources where there is an improved understanding of existing emission sources, e.g., where research identifies that new data are available, or a new, more accurate estimation methodology is developed;
- Data revisions, for example to energy statistics (in the Digest of UK Energy Statistics (DUKES)) or updates to UK manufacturing statistics.

Time series consistency is one of the overarching principles of inventory compilation, therefore any changes or improvements that relate to the first two points listed must be applied to the whole time series. Any changes related to data revisions must be applied to all years where the revision has occurred. It is therefore not appropriate to compare the inventory from one year with that from another – the latest inventory represents a single consistent data series going back to 1990.

The UK inventory has an improvement programme which is used to manage changes to the inventory. A list of possible improvements is compiled each year based on findings from external reviews of the inventory, suggestions from the inventory compilers (e.g. where a new dataset has been identified that should be investigated), or input from other stakeholders.

The list is prioritised, with items related to the completeness of the inventory considered most important. Specific research is conducted to address the highest priority improvement items to ensure that the inventory is continually improved, minimising uncertainties and meeting all of the requirements of the UK's international reporting commitments.

## GHG reduction targets

### Q17 What emissions reduction targets does the UK have?

A17. The UK has several domestic and international emissions reduction targets, which are set out below.

#### **Domestic targets:**

The UK has domestic targets for reducing GHG emissions under the Climate Change Act 2008 (CCA). The CCA established a long-term legally binding framework to reduce emissions and commits the UK to achieving a 100% reduction in emissions (to net zero) by 2050. The CCA also commits the UK to carbon budgets, which are legally binding limits on total GHG emissions over five-year periods.

The first carbon budget ran from 2008-12. In 2014, the UK met the budget, with emissions 36 million tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO<sub>2e</sub>) below the limit of 3,018 MtCO<sub>2e</sub>. The second carbon budget ran from 2013-17. In 2019, the UK met the budget, with emissions 384 MtCO<sub>2e</sub> below the limit of 2,782 MtCO<sub>2e</sub>. In 2024 the UK met the third carbon budget, covering the period 2018-22, with emissions 391 MtCO<sub>2e</sub> below the cap of 2,544 MtCO<sub>2e</sub>.

Further information on carbon budget accounting and performance can be found in the [final UK GHG emissions statistics publications](#).

Projected performance against future carbon budgets can be found in the latest [UK Energy and emissions projections publication](#).

#### **International targets:**

##### **Kyoto Protocol first commitment period (2008-2012)**

The UK met its emissions reductions target for the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. Under the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol (2008-12), the EU and its

Member States, Iceland and Norway collectively made a commitment to reduce GHG emissions across the EU by 8% on 1990 levels by 2012.

As part of this, the UK undertook to reduce total greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5% below base year levels over the five-year period 2008-12. UK emissions of the basket of GHGs covered by the Kyoto Protocol were an average 600.6 MtCO<sub>2e</sub> per year (exclusive of emissions trading) over the first commitment period (2008-12), 23% lower than base year emissions.

### **Kyoto Protocol second Commitment Period (2013-2020)**

Emission targets under the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol (2013-2020) are set out in the Doha Amendment. The EU had a target to reduce emissions by 20% relative to 1990 over the second commitment period. This was fulfilled jointly with Member States and other participating countries (UK and Iceland).

In line with this target, emissions are split into (i) 'traded sector' emissions, covered by the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) which gives an overall EU-wide 'cap' on emissions from participating sectors (power, heavy industry, domestic aviation); and (ii) 'non-traded sector' emissions, which are covered by country-level targets.

Countries' emissions from the traded sector are managed centrally by the Union and are not counted towards individual targets under the Kyoto Protocol. Only emissions outside the scope of the EU ETS are counted towards individual country-level targets. A representative calculation of the UK's compliance with its share of the target can be found in the final 1990-2022 UK greenhouse gas emissions statistics publication.

### **EU Effort Sharing Decision (2013-2020)**

The EU Effort Sharing Decision (ESD) was agreed as part of the EU's 2020 Climate and Energy package. The ESD sets out targets for participating countries to reduce emissions that fall outside the scope of the EU ETS (which covers power, heavy industry, and domestic aviation) and the LULUCF sector.

The UK's 2020 target, based on relative GDP per capita, was to reduce emissions by 16% from 2005 levels, to be achieved through a declining limit for emissions for each year from 2013-2020. UK emissions were below the declining limit in each year reported and the UK has met all its annual targets under the EU ESD.

### **UK Nationally Determined Contribution (2030)**

In 2020, the UK communicated its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the [Paris Agreement](#). The [UK's NDC](#) commits the UK to reducing GHG emissions by at least 68% by 2030, compared to 1990 levels.

Further information on international emission reduction targets accounting and indicative performance can be found in the [final UK GHG emissions statistics publications](#).

## Q18 Why are we still reporting progress against EU targets?

A18. Under the terms of the Withdrawal Agreement, the UK remained committed to its shared targets with the EU under the Kyoto Protocol (including ESD) as part of the Joint Fulfilment Agreement.

## Other questions

### Q19 Where can I find global CO<sub>2</sub> / GHG emissions statistics?

A19. For global figures, we suggest looking on the [International Energy Agency \(IEA\) website](#), or using the [Climate Analysis Indicators Tool](#) (CAIT) produced by the World Resources Institute.

Greenhouse gas emissions estimates submitted by countries to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) can also be found on the [UNFCCC website](#).

### Q20 What are the UK's emissions reporting requirements?

A21. Each year, the UK has a set of requirements, which are summarised below:

- The UK's national emissions inventory is compiled in line with international guidance from the International Panel on Climate Change:
  - [IPCC 2006 GHG Inventory Guidelines](#);
  - [IPCC 2013 KP Supplement](#);
  - [IPCC 2013 Wetlands Supplement](#)

The inventory is compiled within the framework of the UK's National Inventory System.

- As an Annex 1 Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and under its Paris Agreement commitment, the UK must submit its inventory to the UNFCCC by 15 April each year. This is in the form of a National Inventory Document (NID) and Common Reporting Tables (CRT). As 2024 is the first year of reporting under the Paris Agreement the submission deadline has been delayed to 31 December 2024 as a one-off.
- In order to meet the UK's Carbon Budgets, an [Annual Statement of Emissions](#) is submitted to the UK Parliament in March each year.
- The headline results from the inventory are also published as Accredited Official Statistics and are presented for direct public access on the DESNZ website.

## Q21 What is the Code of Practice for Statistics?

A21. The [Code of Practice for Statistics](#) sets out the professional standards which Official Statistics are expected to meet. Official Statistics are fundamental to good government, to the delivery of public services and to decision-making in all sectors of society.

The Code is consistent with the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and the European Statistics Code of Practice. It is also consistent with the Civil Service core values of integrity, honesty, objectivity, and impartiality. The Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 brings all Official Statistics under the remit of the UK Statistics Authority, and with that the need to observe the Code of Practice.

Official Statistics can be accredited following a formal assessment of their compliance with the UK Statistics Authority's Code of Practice for Statistics. Accredited Official Statistics status means that the statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality, and public value.

The UK GHG emissions statistics series published by DESNZ went through a [full assessment of compliance](#) in 2014. They more recently went through a [compliance check](#) by the Office for Statistics Regulation in 2018.

For further information about the UK Statistics Authority and the Code of Practice, please see [the UK Statistics Authority website](#).



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This publication is available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-greenhouse-gas-emissions-explanatory-notes>

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