



Department  
for Environment,  
Food & Rural Affairs

# Methods and quality processes for UK air pollutant emissions statistics

**February 2026**

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Table 1 - Summary of the major revisions undertaken since first publication

Version	Revision Description	Reason for change	Date
v1.1	Modifications to tables	Merged cells removed to meet accessibility requirements; some information condensed	23/09/2020
v1.2	Updated data sources/methodology for some sectors	Updates necessary to be consistent with changes in the 2019 NAEI (2021 submission)	11/02/2021
v1.3	Updated data sources/methodology for some sectors	Updates necessary to be consistent with changes in the 2020 NAEI (2022 submission)	11/02/2022
v1.4	Updated data sources/methodology for some sectors	Updates necessary to be consistent with changes in the 2021 NAEI (2023 submission)	10/02/2023
v1.5	Updated data sources/methodology for some sectors	Updates necessary to be consistent with changes in the 2022 NAEI (2024 submission)	14/02/2024
v1.6	Updated data sources/methodology for some sectors	Updates necessary to be consistent with changes in the 2023 NAEI (2025 submission)	13/02/2025
v1.7	Updated data sources/methodology for some sectors	Updates necessary to be consistent with changes in the 2024 NAEI (2026 submission)	10/02/2026

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# Introduction

## The National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory

The [National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory \(NAEI\)](#) work programme delivers air pollutant emissions estimates from anthropogenic emission sources in the UK. The NAEI data underpin UK Government statutory reporting commitments under the [National Emission Ceilings Regulations \(2018\) \(NECR\)](#)<sup>1</sup> and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) [Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution \(CLRTAP\)](#). Under these national and international mechanisms, the UK has agreed to achieve emission reductions against a baseline of emissions in 2005, to mitigate sources of air pollution that are linked to health and environmental concerns. The set of pollutants that are reported on in 'Emissions of Air Pollutants in the UK', which are of primary policy interest, are:

- Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>)
- Non-Methane Volatile Organic Compounds (NMVOCs)
- Nitrogen Oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>)
- Particulate Matter ≤10µm (PM<sub>10</sub>)
- Particulate Matter ≤2.5µm (PM<sub>2.5</sub>)
- Sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>)

The NAEI is compiled and updated annually, to report emissions of air quality pollutants from 1990 to the latest year for which data are available; for some pollutants and sources, data are available back to 1970. Each year the time series (from 1990 onwards) of NAEI data and methods are reviewed and updated to take account of statistical revisions and, where applicable, to apply improved estimation methods.

Our statutory obligations require us to compile and update an inventory of annual emissions, from 1990, and this is used to assess compliance with our statutory emissions targets. The NAEI has historically included emissions estimates dating back to 1970 with the earlier part of the time series based on the best data available at the time, or using data that has become available since then. Data for this earlier part of the time series is often limited in availability and is likely to be more uncertain than the later part of the time series, and so, from the 2022 submission, we no longer routinely update the time series data for the years 1970 – 1989. This allows us to focus our resources on improving the quality of emissions estimates for more recent years where new or updated data and methods are most likely to be available. Revisions or additions to the inventory pre-1990 may be considered if there are new sources added and there is new information available specific to those years. Changes such as, for example, to reporting categories (or in the case of the GHG inventory, GWP values), will be applied to the full time series.

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<sup>1</sup> These are UK regulations transposed from the EU's National Emission Ceilings Directive (NECD)

The NAEI data quality is assessed annually through international reviews (e.g. under CLRTAP), whereby teams of inventory experts assess the UK data and methods against the international good practice guidance that all countries are required to adhere to in the European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme (EMEP) and European Environment Agency's (EEA) [Inventory Guidebook](#).

The scope of NAEI reporting is consistent with the international guidance for all countries under NECR and CLRTAP, as follows:

- ✓ Emissions are reported for the UK and Gibraltar
- ✓ All emissions from the cruise phase of aviation activity and from international shipping movements are reported as memo items but are not to be reported within national inventory totals.
- ✗ Natural sources of emissions (e.g. from geological activity, forest fires, non-managed forests and grasslands, wild animals) are not included in UK inventory reported totals, as the primary aim is to estimate the impact of anthropogenic activity, emission estimates from some natural sources are included as memo items.
- ✗ Secondary emission sources, such as from the resuspension of particulate matter (e.g. dust on roads) or from the formation of secondary pollutants in the atmosphere, are not included in UK inventory reported totals as this would be a double-count of the primary emission sources, emission estimates from some secondary sources are included as memo items.

## Intended use of this document

This document presents a summary of the methodologies and data sources used for estimating emissions of pollutants from **key emission sources**<sup>2</sup> as well as information on the uncertainties and limitations of the inventory methods (e.g. assumptions applied where data / information are limited). A summary of the quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) procedures employed to minimise the risk of error and any bias in the reported data is also given. The QA/QC summary also includes a statement on the Inventory Agency's approach to the treatment of confidential data.

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<sup>2</sup> **Key sources** for a pollutant are those which either contribute significantly to the national inventory total in a given year ("LEVEL"), or that contribute significantly to the reported trend in the inventory since the base year ("TREND"). Level assessment: when emissions are summed across all source categories in descending order of magnitude, the key sources are those that contribute to the first 80% of inventory emissions totals. Trend assessment: when source categories are sorted by magnitude (highest to lowest) of their contribution to the total reported inventory trend since the base year, those source categories whose cumulative % contribution is greater than 80% of the total are identified as key sources.

The [Informative Inventory Report](#), which is updated in March each year, provides full, referenced details of the data sources and methods used to compile each years' inventory including method details for non-key sources, and information for a wider scope of pollutants such as metals and persistent organic pollutants. For details of recent trends and figures in pollutant emissions alongside contextual information, please see the latest [statistical bulletin for emissions of air pollutants in the UK](#).

The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) and Defra together manage a [continuous improvement programme](#) for the NAEI, to ensure that the best available data and methods are applied in the inventory, reflecting latest research and scientific data. Therefore, the methods and data sources outlined in this document may change in future submissions.

## Summary of general methodology

Emissions are estimated for each pollutant by sector which are allocated to sources using the Nomenclature for Reporting (NFR) format as set out in [international reporting guidelines](#). The NAEI website contains a [glossary](#) of all NFR codes used.

In its simplest form, emission estimates for each pollutant are calculated as a function of the quantity of pollutant emitted per unit of activity that emits emissions:

**Emission estimate = Activity Data (AD) · x [Emission Factor \(EF\)](#)**

The UK emission inventories are compiled according to international good practice guidance for national inventories; for air quality pollutant inventories the inventory methodological guidance is the [EMEP/EEA Air Pollutant Emission Inventory Guidebook](#).

Each year, the emission inventories are updated to include the latest data available and any new research to improve the emission estimation methods. Improvements to the inventory methodology are made and backdated to ensure a consistent time series for emissions reporting. Methodological changes are made to take account of new data sources, or new guidance from the EMEP/EEA Guidebook, relevant work by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) or CLRTAP, new research, or specific research programmes sponsored by Defra or DESNZ.

The method selected for each emission source is determined by the significance of that source in the overall UK inventory context, and the availability of UK-specific data or models.

**A tiered approach** is taken according to [EMEP/EEA guidelines](#), as follows:

- **Tier 1** methods are the most simplistic. UK activity data are combined with default EFs to generate emission estimates. The **default EFs** from the EMEP/EEA Guidebook are selected to be representative of typical global average performance (e.g. of a combustion unit). Hence the Tier 1 estimates using default EFs may not accurately reflect UK circumstances, and are only used for minor sources.
- **Tier 2** methods combine UK activity data with EFs that are specific to the UK,

usually derived from UK research or derived from emissions reporting by plant operators which can then be extrapolated across all such sources (i.e. including where monitoring may not be feasible). As these EFs are more representative of UK emission sources, than Tier 1 EFs, they are suitable for application to key source categories.

- **Tier 3** methods typically apply more complex modelling approaches that are developed to generate more accurate estimates than Tier 2, often through research to more fully understand high-emitting emission sources.

Where possible, an estimate has been made of the uncertainty that can be associated with an EF value and the uncertainty in activity data used. Combining these gives an estimate of how uncertain we are in the emissions from a particular source, but these do not always reflect uncertainties associated with the representativeness of the EFs used. The higher tiered approaches often have a lower relative uncertainty than approaches using default EFs, resulting in more accurate estimates, through improved applicability to the UK.

Note that not all sources emit all pollutants. For example, typically emissions from fuel combustion will include NO<sub>x</sub> and particulate matter, and usually low levels of other pollutants such as NMVOCs from incomplete combustion; if the fuel contains sulphur, then there may also be SO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The EMEP/EEA Guidebook provides default EFs only for those pollutants that are expected from a given source. Many industrial process or solvent-related emission sources may only emit one or two pollutants, such as NMVOCs or particulate matter. For information of the scope of pollutants for each emission source, please refer to the [Informative Inventory Report \(IIR\)](#).

## Summary of main data sources

The UK inventory estimates are based on a wide range of data sources, and are underpinned by many long-standing UK national statistics datasets, sector surveys and the reporting of emissions under various legal and (in some cases) voluntary mechanisms.

For most of these key data inputs to the NAEI, there are established data quality requirements that help to ensure good quality data are available to the UK inventory. For details of these systems, please see the summary of the general QA/QC procedures at the end of this document or the relevant chapter of the [IIR](#).

**Emission factors** are primarily derived from either the default EFs in the EMEP/EEA Guidebook, or from UK research to derive country-specific EFs for given source.

**Emissions data** for many sources are routinely reported for regulated activities such as high-emitting combustion, industrial production and waste management activities.

For example, for activities that fall under the scope of regulation by the

[Environmental Permitting Regulations \(EPR\)](#) (England and Wales), the [Environmental Authorisations \(Scotland\) Regulations](#) (Scotland) and the [Pollution Prevention and Control \(Industrial Emissions\) Regulations](#) (Northern Ireland), there is a statutory requirement for all permitted installations to report annual estimates of pollutant emissions to the regulatory authority, if they emit to a level above a reporting threshold for each pollutant. These data are reported to different agencies according to their location:

- The Environment Agency's **Pollution Inventory for England (PI)**;
- Natural Resources Wales's **Welsh Emissions Inventory (WEI)**;
- The Scottish Environment Protection Agency's **Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI)**; and
- The **Northern Ireland Environment Agency's Pollution Inventory (NIPI)**.

These pollution inventories have not been operational throughout the entire time series of the NAEI (i.e. back to 1990), and hence there is only partial coverage from operator-reported data. In England and Wales, pollution inventory data are available for most pollutants back to 1998, and NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> data are available back to 1990. The Scotland SPRI data are available for 2002, and then from 2004 onwards, whilst the Northern Ireland PI data are available from 2001 onwards. For the earlier years, estimates are often extrapolated back across the time series using EFs derived from the operator-reported data, and often using information on either production, fuel consumption or plant capacity to generate estimates.

**Emissions and/or activity data** are also provided through other regulations, such as the **EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS)**, for which data are available from 2005 to 2020 via DESNZ. A **UK Emissions Trading Scheme (UK ETS)** replaced the UK's participation in the EU ETS on 1 January 2021. Emissions reporting by upstream oil and gas operators is regulated by the DESNZ Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning (OPRED) team, with all upstream fixed and mobile installations reporting annual emission estimates for NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub> and NMVOCs to the **Environmental Emissions Monitoring System (EEMS)**.

**Further information on emissions** is also provided annually to the Inventory Agency for many high-emitting sectors via trade associations, statistical agencies or key operators, including:

- Production and fuel use emissions for the iron and steel sector, from the **Iron and Steel Statistics Bureau (ISSB)**;
- Air pollutant emissions by refinery for all UK refining operations from **Fuels Industry UK**;
- Air pollutant emissions from sub-sources within integrated steelworks from operators such as **Tata Steel** (i.e. separate data for emissions from coke ovens, sinter plant, blast furnaces, power plant, basic oxygen furnaces, fugitives); and
- Activity data (fuel use and production of clinker) and emissions from UK cement kilns, from the **Mineral Products Association (MPA)**.

- Activity data (sales) of aerosols, adhesives and sealants, and paints and coatings, from the **British Aerosol Manufacturers Association (BAMA)**, **British Adhesives and Sealants Association (BASA)**, and **British Coatings Federation (BCF)** respectively.

**Activity data** for the UK inventory methods are derived primarily from UK national statistics, augmented by some of the sector-specific inputs noted above, including:

- Annual fuel use for each economic sector which is used for all combustion sources and primary energy products in the energy sector is provided by **The Digest of UK Energy Statistics (DUKES)**;
- Supplementary data on combustion sources and industrial production activity and emissions are provided by **United Kingdom Emissions Trading System (UK ETS)**;
- Transport statistics including road transport vehicle kilometre (vkm) data and Maritime Shipping statistics are provided by the **Department for Transport (DfT)**;
- Housing statistics are provided by **the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government**;
- Information on fugitive emissions from the energy sector is provided by the **Environmental and Emissions Monitoring System (EEMS)** for upstream oil and gas, whilst data for the downstream gas transmission and distribution network come from the **National Grid** and regional gas transporters (**Cadent Gas, Northern Gas, Wales and West, SGN**). Information on coal production is provided by annual statistics from the **Coal Authority**;
- Industrial production statistics are obtained from various trade associations (outlined above) as well as the **Office for National Statistics (ONS)** production and economic performance statistics;
- Agricultural estimates are derived from published surveys and statistical releases including June Agricultural Census (**Defra**) and **The British Survey of Fertiliser Practice**. Livestock and crop production surveys are also obtained from **Scottish and Welsh Government** and **DAERA** for Northern Ireland;
- Waste management statistics are obtained from a range of surveys and statistical releases from **Defra, Scottish and Welsh Government** and **DAERA**. Information on landfills is obtained from UK environmental regulators. Data on the emergence of anaerobic digestion and composting is taken from the **Alder Bioinsights** database;
- Information on land use and NH<sub>3</sub> emissions from natural sources are derived from surveys and modelling by the **United Kingdom Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (UK CEH)**.

## References

For a complete list of the references used in this report, please refer to the [IIR](#). The NFR glossary terminology can be found [here](#), and more detail on specific sources is in Annex A.

Table 2 - Terms used throughout statistical release

Terms used in publication	NFR source category	NFR glossary terminology
Combustion in Energy industries	1A1a, 1A1b, 1A1c	Stationary Fuel Combustion Activities - Energy Industries
Industrial combustion	1A2a, 1A2b, 1A2c, 1A2d, 1A2e, 1A2f, 1A2gvii, 1A2gviii	Stationary and Mobile Fuel Combustion Activities - Manufacturing Industries and Construction
Non-road transport	1A3ai(i), 1A3aii(i), 1A3c, 1A3dii, 1A3eii	Transport - (i) International Aviation take-off and landing, (ii) Domestic aviation take-off and landing, (iii) Railways, (iv) National Navigation (shipping), and (iv) Other
Road transport	1A3b	Transport - Road transport
Other combustion	1A4ai, 1A4aii, 1A4ci, 1A4cii, 1A4ciii	Stationary and Mobile Fuel Combustion Activities - Other Sectors
Domestic combustion	1A4bi, 1A4bii	Fuel Combustion Activities - (i) Residential stationary combustion, (ii) Household and gardening mobile combustion; and (iii) Outdoor combustion
Military aircraft and naval shipping	1A5b	Fuel Combustion Activities - Other mobile combustion
Fugitive emissions from fuels	1B1a, 1B1b, 1B2ai, 1B2aiv, 1B2av, 1B2b, 1B2c	Fugitive Emissions from Fuels

Terms used in publication	NFR source category	NFR glossary terminology
Industrial processes and product use	2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2G, 2H, 2I	Industrial Processes and Product Use
Agriculture	3B, 3D, 3F	Agriculture
Waste	5A, 5B, 5C, 5D, 5E	Waste
Other	6A	Other

# Combustion in Energy Industries (1A1)

## Summary

This sector comprises of emissions from fuel combustion in the energy supply sector, including from power generation, exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas, the refining of crude oil into secondary oil products, distribution of gaseous fuels, and the production of solid fuels such as coal, coke, and smokeless solid fuels.

## Key sources and pollutants

Table 3 - Key sources and pollutants in Energy Industries (1A1)

NFR source category	NFR source category name	Pollutant	Proportion of total emissions for pollutant in 2024 (%)	% Change in emissions (1990 - 2024)
1A1a	Public electricity and heat production	NOx	10.0	-92.5
1A1a	Public electricity and heat production	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	1.9	-96.7
1A1a	Public electricity and heat production	SO <sub>2</sub>	7.7	-99.7
1A1b	Petroleum refining	NOx	2.2	-68.6
1A1b	Petroleum refining	SO <sub>2</sub>	23.7	-85.5
1A1c	Manufacture of solid fuels and other energy industries	NOx	7.3	-35.2

## Data sources

Table 4 - An overview of the methods and data sources used in Energy Industries (1A1)

NFR source category	NAEI source sub-categories	Pollutant coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
1A1a	Power stations	All	UK model	DUKES; UK ETS; Operators	<u>Major fuels:</u> Operator-reported; <u>Minor fuels:</u> Default EFs
1A1a	Heat supply	All	AD · EF	DUKES	<u>Gas oil:</u> Default EFs
1A1b	Refineries	All (except NH <sub>3</sub> )	AD · EF	DUKES; UK ETS	Operator-reported; Default EFs
1A1c	Coke production	All	UK model	DUKES; UK ETS; ISSB	<u>Major fuels:</u> Operator-reported; <u>Minor fuels:</u> Default EFs
1A1c	Collieries - fuel combustion	All	AD · EF	DUKES	Default EFs
1A1c	Gas production (downstream gas)	All	AD · EF	DUKES; UK ETS	Default EFs; operator-reported emissions (NO <sub>x</sub> & PM <sub>10</sub> only and some sites only)
1A1c	Upstream gas production	All	UK model	DUKES; EEMS; UK ETS	Operator-reported; UKOOA / other UK-specific research; Default EFs
1A1c	Nuclear fuel production	All	AD · EF	DUKES	Default EFs
1A1c	Upstream oil production	All	UK model	DUKES; EEMS; UK ETS	Operator-reported; UKOOA / other UK-specific research; Default EFs
1A1c	Solid smokeless fuel production	All	AD · EF	DUKES; UK ETS	Default EFs
1A1c	Town gas manufacture	All	AD · EF	DUKES	Default EFs

## Public electricity and heat generation (1A1a)

This category is dominated by emissions from the combustion of fuels (e.g. coal, natural gas, oils, wood/biomass) in UK power stations, but also includes some other sources that generate heat and power such as the use of biogas for power generation from landfill gas (LFG) engines, sewage gas engines and the combustion of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) in Energy from Waste (EfW) plants in the UK.

### Methodology

In most cases:

$$UK\ Emission = \sum Reported\ Site\ Emissions$$

All the high-emitting large UK fossil fuel powered power stations are regulated under UK ETS and EPR, and the operators are required to report annual fuel use in the UK ETS and estimates of pollutant releases to the regulatory authorities. In all such emissions reporting, there are reporting thresholds for each pollutant; where an installation emits less than the reporting threshold, then operators may submit a return indicating “Below Reporting Threshold” (BRT) for that pollutant in that year. Further, where an installation closes mid-year, no report on environmental emissions may be submitted to regulators.

As the NAEI must report complete UK emissions, the inventory method uses the reported data and also applies assumptions (e.g. plant capacity, duration of year in operation) to extrapolate from reported data to address any non-reporting sites, closed sites and BRT data.

Dedicated biomass-fired power stations are not included in UK ETS and so the fuel burnt at these stations must be estimated (based on the site capacity) or be provided by the operator. Some smaller UK power stations are not obliged to report emissions and so these emissions are estimated based on activity data from UK ETS or plant capacity information.

## Petroleum refining (1A1b)

This sector includes emissions of all pollutants released from combustion of fuels in UK refineries, where crude oil is processed into secondary petroleum products including petrol, diesel, aviation fuels, fuel oil, lubricants, and other minor products. Included within the scope of 1A1b are the emissions from the regeneration of catalysts in fluid catalytic cracker units in refineries and emissions from any sub-units on site, such as for the production of hydrogen or anode-grade petroleum coke products. The inventory also includes emissions from combustion at specialist refineries, such as those producing bitumens or solvents, in this category.

## Data sources

Activity data for the refinery sector are mostly taken from DUKES when operators do not report emissions directly, except in a small number of instances where information from the UK ETS indicates a higher level of consumption than reported in DUKES, typically for fuels such as petroleum coke.

## Methodology

As for power stations, in most cases the method applied is:

$$UK\ Emission = \sum Reported\ Site\ Emissions$$

All UK refineries are regulated under EPR and hence report annual emission estimates to the UK environmental regulatory agencies, and these data are used in the NAEI. In addition, further data at a higher resolution are provided by the voluntary reporting of operators via the trade association Fuels Industry UK. These additional data cover all of the non-specialist refineries and present a greater breakdown of emissions by source within UK refineries, for example setting out the different emission sources of NMVOCs from production processes, oil storage and transport. For the specialist refineries, emissions data from the regulatory agencies are used.

Similarly to the method for power stations, the Inventory Agency applies assumptions to address data gaps by extrapolating emissions data, typically using information on fuel consumption or plant capacity data.

## Manufacture of solid fuels and other energy industries (1A1c)

This sector comprises a wide range of fuel combustion sources from installations linked to energy exploration, production, processing, and distribution, including: the production of manufactured fuels (coke, other solid smokeless fuels (SSF) and town gas), coal extraction, oil and gas exploration and production, and running of LNG terminals and compressors on the natural gas distribution systems of the UK.

### Methodology

#### Coke and Smokeless Solid Fuel Production:

In most cases:

$$UK\ emission = \sum Reported\ Site\ Emissions$$

All UK coke ovens and regulated SSF manufacturing plants report emissions in the PI or WEI, although all coke ovens have now been closed. Small amounts of “Below Reporting Threshold” data are extrapolated based on plant capacity.

The approach taken to allocate reported emissions for coke ovens to fuels varies by pollutant:

- NO<sub>x</sub>: The main source is the combustion of coke oven gas. Literature EFs are used for minor sources and estimates from these are subtracted from the reported emissions data, with the remainder then being assumed to be from combustion of coke oven gas.
- SO<sub>2</sub>: Emissions data are split between coke oven gas combustion and process sources using a ratio based on reported emissions data for these sources.
- Other pollutants: No data are available for a data split. These emissions are allocated to a non-fuel specific source category (1B1b).

#### Gas Production (Downstream Gas):

Emissions are mainly from natural gas use at compressor stations on the UK transmission and distribution network.

The activity data for this source is taken mostly from DUKES, except in instances where information from the UK ETS indicates a higher level of consumption than reported in DUKES. Where available, site-specific emissions data for NO<sub>x</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>, reported to UK regulators, are used as the basis of emission factors. However, this is not available for all sites and in all years so default EFs are used in these instances. For other pollutants, default EFs are applied.

## Upstream Oil and Gas Exploration and Production (E&P):

This includes all emissions from fuel combustion at offshore and onshore oil and gas platforms, floating production storage and offloading (FPSO) vessels, Mobile Drilling Units (MODUs) and combustion sources at onshore terminals.

Offshore facilities emissions are generally operator-reported (EEMS) under DESNZ OPRED, whilst onshore terminals and production sites report to the Environment Agency, Natural Resources Wales or the Scottish Environment Protection Agency under the EPR. The UK's OPTIS (Offshore Platform and Terminal Inventory System) model aligns the EEMS, Regulatory Inventories and UK ETS datasets to provide complete and detailed emissions of NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, and NMVOCs. A detailed methodology can be accessed [here](#).

### **Data sources**

The EEMS dataset includes activity data and emission estimates for NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub> and NMVOCs for combustion of gas, gas oil and fuel oil.

Activity data are taken from DUKES except in instances where UK ETS and/or EEMS systems indicate a higher level of consumption than DUKES.

Emission factors are derived from EEMS and EPR/E-PRTR operator-reported data along with study data from the UK Offshore Operators Association (UKOOA, now UK Oil and Gas) (pre-1998), reported to UK Government in February 2005.

Emission estimates of PM<sub>10</sub> are derived from the EMEP/EEA Guidebook for both the use of gas oil and fuel gas by oil & gas production facilities and at terminals.

## **Source-specific QA/QC and verification (1A1)**

Activity data taken from DUKES are subject to regular QA audits and reviews stipulated within the UK Government's National Statistics Code of Practice. Similarly, emissions data that are reported to UK environmental regulatory agencies (e.g. published in the PI) are also subject to audit and review within established regulator QA systems.

The UK Inventory Agency conducts a limited review of the regulators' data to identify outliers since there may be substantial year-on-year changes in the emissions data for each site in the regulators' inventories. It is possible that changes at sites may sometimes be because operators change the basis on which they calculate emissions (for example moving from using emission factors to using monitoring) or submit incomplete or erroneous data. However, changes from year to year may also be due to changes in the quantity or quality of fuel consumed, or changes in the level of control of emissions. As a general rule, the Inventory Agency assumes that changes in reported emissions for each site from one year to the next are valid. Where there are notable data gaps or exceptional outliers for significant emission sources and pollutants, the Inventory Agency may query the data with the PI teams, Site Inspectors

/ Process Engineers, operators, or trade associations, and in some very limited cases the data may be rejected by the UK Inventory Agency.

Emissions estimates based on site-specific emissions data provided by process operators are considered to have low uncertainty due to multiple parallel data reporting systems, allowing for some level of cross-checking. However, some subsectors consist of mostly smaller sites (e.g. power stations using gas oil or biomass as primary fuel) where complete reporting of pollutant emissions does not occur across the time series, for example where annual emissions fall below reporting thresholds. Inventory good practice gap-filling methods (e.g. extrapolation and assumptions using proxy data) are used for emissions estimates from non-reporting sites, and these are less accurate.

The OPTIS model has in-built QA/QC procedures to ensure that emissions are calculated for all relevant emission sources per oil and gas site. At the site level, activity data and emissions are aligned to the maximum of the regulator inventories, UK ETS (for activity data per fuel) and/or EEMS site totals, where appropriate.

## **Planned improvements in Energy Industries (1A1)**

The ongoing energy transition in the UK is anticipated to lead to changes in the UK electricity fuel mix with continued growth of renewables, as well as new and emerging fuels and technologies, e.g. hydrogen. This sector, therefore, remains a priority for inventory improvement to ensure that the UK evidence base is accurate and representative of those fuels and technologies in future. We will maintain a watching brief on this.

For a few of the source categories within 1A1c (the most significant being gas distribution), the Inventory Agency currently uses a relatively simple Tier 2 methodology. Work is underway to investigate improvements to this general methodology for 'industrial-scale combustion' (in 1A1c, 1A2, 1A4a & 1A4c) and this may lead to revisions for 1A1c in a future version of the inventory. This work will not have any impact on 1A1a or 1A1b.

# Industrial Combustion (1A2)

## Summary

This sector comprises emissions from stationary combustion sources in manufacturing industries and construction, and from industrial off-road machinery.

Any process-related emissions from these sectors (e.g. dust from construction, NMVOCs from solvents, or fugitive emissions) are reported elsewhere in the inventory.

## Key sources and pollutants

Table 5 - Key sources and pollutants in Industrial Combustion (1A2)

NFR source category	NFR source category name	Pollutant	Proportion of total emissions for pollutant in 2024 (%)	% Change in emissions (1990 - 2024)
1A2f	Stationary combustion in manufacturing industries and construction: Non-metallic minerals	SO <sub>2</sub>	3.5	-93.7
1A2gviii	Stationary combustion in manufacturing industries and construction: Other (specified in the IIR)	NO <sub>x</sub>	9.3	-47.0
1A2gviii	Stationary combustion in manufacturing industries and construction: Other (specified in the IIR)	PM <sub>10</sub>	3.7	-52.2
1A2gviii	Stationary combustion in manufacturing industries and construction: Other (specified in the IIR)	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	7.0	-47.1
1A2gviii	Stationary combustion in manufacturing industries and construction: Other (specified in the IIR)	SO <sub>2</sub>	16.1	-91.9

## Data sources (general)

Table 6 - An overview of methods and data sources used in Manufacturing Industries and Construction (1A2)

NFR source category	NAEI source sub-categories	Pollutant coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
1A2a	Iron and steel (combustion plant)	All	UK model for integrated works; AD · EF	DUKES; UK ETS; ISSB	Operator reported; Default EFs. Fuels Industry UK; others for fuel analysis for SO <sub>2</sub>
1A2b, 1A2f, 1A2gviii	Other industrial combustion	All	UK model for activity allocation to unit type; AD · EF	DUKES (with data from other sources e.g. MPA); UK ETS data for OPG	Operator reported; Default EFs. Fuels Industry UK; others for fuel analysis for SO <sub>2</sub>
1A2gvii	NRMM: Other Industry	All	AD · EF	Bottom-up estimates in 2018. Estimates in other years based on studies and proxy statistics	Default EFs (technology specific), Fuels Industry UK

### Methodology (general) for stationary combustion

Somewhat different approaches are necessary for two groups of stationary sources within 1A2, those groups being: i) combustion as part of specific industrial processes – cement kilns, lime kilns, blast furnaces – and ii) all other industrial combustion, most of which is solely to produce heat and power, for example in boilers, gas turbines and engines. The first group consists entirely of large industrial facilities. Site-specific emissions data for all these sites are reported by site-operators to the various UK regulators and can therefore be used as the basis of UK emission estimates. The second group covers a mix of small, medium, and large industrial plants and site-specific emissions data are only available for a very small proportion of sites. For the second group, NO<sub>x</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> emissions are estimated by combining site-specific emissions where available (covering perhaps a few percent of fuel use), with emissions based on default EMEP/EEA emission factors for the remainder, with activity data taken from DUKES. For other pollutants from this group, we use literature factors exclusively.

Emissions are disaggregated on an industry sector basis in the case of the most significant fuels (coal, fuel oil, burning oil, gas oil and natural gas). However, data are lacking to allow a sectoral split for other fuels, so these are allocated to 1A2gviii, except for Other Petroleum Gas (OPG) which is split between 1A2c and 1A2gviii.

## Specific Coal-fired Autogeneration methods:

Coal-fired autogeneration in the UK was once dominated by one large installation, and hence some historical EFs are based on emissions reported by the operator in the PI. Emissions for remaining coal-fired autogeneration are calculated using default factors. SO<sub>2</sub> factors are based on data on sulphur in coal from coal suppliers.

## Industrial Non-Road Mobile Machinery (1A2gvii)

The Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM) category covers a wide range of off-road machinery in manufacturing industries, construction, and quarrying sectors. The type of combustion units varies from large-scale mobile plant such as bulldozers, cranes and trucks to smaller plant such as mobile generators, and the fuels used are typically gas oil, LPG, and petrol. However, this section only deals with the methods for estimating emissions from industrial NRMM sources since they are notable sources of NO<sub>x</sub>, NMVOCs and particulate matter.

Note that NRMM is dealt with within the Transport sector of the [IIR](#) where the methods for other NRMM sources (e.g. fuel use in mobile machinery in the agriculture sector, domestic house and garden machinery, and airport machinery) are also described. These methods are largely similar across sectors.

### Data sources

Machinery (or engine-specific) fuel consumption and EFs (g/kWh) are mostly taken from the EMEP/EEA Guidebook. The EU Fuel Quality Directive (2009/30/EC) is also taken into account which requires fuels used in NRMM to have a maximum sulphur content of 10ppm from 2011 onwards.

Activity data are derived from bottom-up estimates of population and hours of use of equipment in 2018. Various proxy statistics are used as activity drivers for different groups of machinery types to estimate fuel consumption and the turnover in the off- road engine fleet. A simple fleet turnover model is used to estimate the proportion of different legislative classes of NRMM in the fleet. These proxy statistics are also used to generate emissions and fuel consumption estimates across the time series. A DESNZ energy projections driver for 'construction' is also used to estimate activity rates of machinery from 2005 onwards based on [ONS construction statistics](#) for a number of different machinery types such as cranes, generators and rollers.

### Methodology

A Tier 3 methodology is used to calculate emissions from individual types of mobile machinery as per the EMEP/EEA Guidebook.

For each class of machinery, the kilograms of emission per year are calculated using the equation:

$$Emission = N \cdot H \cdot P \cdot L \cdot Y \cdot W \cdot \left(1 + Y \cdot \frac{a}{2}\right) \cdot e$$

- N = Population of class
- H = Annual usage of class (hours/year)
- P = Average power of class (kW)
- L = Load factor (unitless)
- Y = Lifetime of class (years)
- W = Engine design factor of class
- a = Age factor of class (per year)
- e = Emission factor of class (kg/kWh)

For the total kilograms of evaporative NMVOC emissions from machinery with petrol engines, the following equation is used:

$$Emission = N \cdot H \cdot e$$

A fuel reconciliation procedure is undertaken for gas oil, taking into account consumption from all sources. The calculated gas oil consumption for each source is reconciled by aligning overall fuel totals with DUKES annual demand totals.

## Source-specific QA/QC and verification (1A2)

Activity data are derived from DESNZ publications which are subject to established QA/QC requirements, augmented by information from the UK ETS and trade associations such as the MPA.

For specific industry sectors (e.g. iron & steel, cement, lime, autogeneration), the quality of these data is also checked by the Inventory Agency by comparison with UK ETS data on emissions information and energy use data as well as operator-supplied activity data. Amendments of DESNZ fuel allocations are made based on these checks.

## Planned improvements in Industrial Combustion (1A2)

Emission estimates for stationary plant use site-specific data for the relatively small number of sites where suitable data are available. Default (Tier 2) factors are used for the vast majority of the sector. The Tier 2 method is relatively simple and cannot account for all of the specific characteristics of the sector in the UK (e.g. regulation, abatement level, fuel composition, or combustion appliance design). The 1A2 sector covers large numbers of both large and small plant, and it is not possible to generate emission estimates using data for every single site, so a Tier 3 method for all of the sector is not practical. However, increasing numbers of medium-sized combustion plant are being permitted by UK regulators and the Inventory Agency is investigating if data collected as a result of the permitting process can be used to significantly improve the inventory methodology for 'industrial-scale combustion' (in 1A1c, 1A2, 1A4a & 1A4c). The aim is to develop a methodology that more fully reflects historical and future regulation of industrial-scale

combustion plant in the UK, and the work should then lead to revisions for 1A2 in a future version of the inventory.

## Road Transport (1A3b)

### Summary

This category includes emissions of pollutants from hot and cold exhaust emissions (1A3bi-iv) and particulate matter emissions from tyre and brake wear and road abrasion (1A3bvi-vii). Evaporative emissions from petrol vehicles (1A3bv) are also calculated for national totals, but since emissions from this source are small, the details are excluded in this report and can be found in the [IIR](#).

### Key sources and pollutants

Table 7 - Key sources and pollutants in Road Transport (1A3b)

NFR source category	NFR source category name	Pollutant	Proportion of total emissions pollutant in 2024 (%)	% Change in emissions (1990 - 2024)
1A3bi	Road transport: Passenger cars	NOx	17.2	-88.1
1A3bi	Road transport: Passenger cars	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	1.9	-82.2
1A3bii	Road transport: Light duty vehicles	NOx	9.7	-46.4
1A3biii	Road transport: Heavy duty vehicles and buses	NOx	3.5	-93.4
1A3bv	Road transport: Gasoline evaporation	VOC	2.0	-94.1
1A3bvi	Road transport: Automobile tyre and brake wear	PM <sub>10</sub>	12.6	25.7
1A3bvi	Road transport: Automobile tyre and brake wear	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	12.8	28.0

NFR source category	NFR source category name	Pollutant	Proportion of total emissions for pollutant in 2024 (%)	% Change in emissions (1990 - 2024)
1A3bvii	Road transport: Automobile road abrasion	PM <sub>10</sub>	5.1	31.2
1A3bvii	Road transport: Automobile road abrasion	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	5.4	31.2

## Data sources (general)

Table 8 - An overview of methods and data sources in Road Transport (1A3b)

NAEI source sub-categories	Pollutant coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
All cars, LGVs, HGV rigid and articulated, buses and coaches, mopeds and motorcycles (exhaust and evaporative emissions)	All	AD * EF. UK model for activity allocation to unit type	Vehicle km (Vkm) data, vehicle licensing statistics, and ANPR data (DfT); DUKES	Default COPERT 5.8 EFs; Fuel analysis (Fuels Industry UK)
All cars, LGVs, HGV rigid and articulated, buses and coaches, mopeds and motorcycles (non-exhaust emissions)	PM	AD * EF. UK model for activity allocation to unit type	Vehicle km (Vkm) data (DfT)	Default COPERT 5.8 EFs

Table 9 - A summary of the activity data sources, and related assumptions used in Road Transport (1A3b) emission calculations

Parameters	Region	Data source	Related assumptions
Annual vkm	GB	National Road Traffic Survey (DfT)	None
Annual vkm	NI	Annual Road Traffic Estimates (DRDNI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vkm data for all vehicle types (except motorcycles) from 2015 onwards are not available and are extrapolated from 2014 vehicle km data for Northern Ireland based on the traffic growth rates in Great Britain.</li> <li>Motorcycle vehicle km data are not available from the DRDNI data and so they are derived based on the ratio of motorcycles registered in Northern Ireland relative to Great Britain each year.</li> </ul>
Petrol/Diesel mix	GB	ANPR data (DfT)	ANPR data are available for years between 2007 and 2011, then biannually up to 2023. For 2024, the trend is extrapolated based on the 2021-2023 GB ANPR trend. For years prior to 2007, the petrol/diesel mix is based on the trend as indicated by DfT Vehicle Licensing Statistics
Petrol/Diesel mix	NI	Northern Ireland Transport Statistics (DRDNI)	None.
Vehicle size fractions	All	Vehicle licensing statistics (DfT); Road Freight Statistics (DfT); Fleet composition data (TfL); Local bus operator information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assumed that 72% of all bus and coach km on urban and rural roads are done by buses (and 28% by coaches), while on motorways all the bus and coach km are done by coaches.</li> <li>Assumed that 31% of buses are &lt;15t and the remaining are 15-18t outside of London; for London buses, the split is defined by the fleet composition provided by TfL.</li> <li>Assumed that mopeds (&lt;50cc) operate only in urban areas, while only larger &gt;750cc, 4-stroke motorcycles are used on motorways.</li> </ul>
Age/ Euro standard mix	All	Vehicle Licensing Statistics (DfT)	A fleet turnover model was developed using DfT's latest licensing stats and MOT data to cover the whole time-series.
Vehicle speed data (to calculate speed-related EFs)	All	Speed Limit Data Basemap (2021), Teletrac Navman (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The underlying speed limit dataset has been provided by Basemaps for Great Britain.</li> <li>The vehicle speeds assigned to each category were derived from an analysis of GPS vehicle speed observations for England provided by DfT.</li> <li>The observed average speeds for England were applied across the UK. Speed limits were</li> </ul>

Parameters	Region	Data source	Related assumptions
			manually assigned to road links in Northern Ireland.
Total fuel sales	All	DUKES	Adjustments are made for the small amount of consumption by inland waterways, off-road machinery and consumption in the Crown Dependencies.
Fuel quality	All	HMRC; Murrells and Li (2008)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EFs are adjusted to take account of improvements in fuel quality for conventional petrol and diesel (mainly due to reductions in the fuel sulphur content of refinery fuels) and effects of the biofuel blended into conventional fossil fuel.</li> </ul> <p>The introduction of road fuels with sulphur content less than 10ppm from January 2009 is taken into account according to Directive 2009/30/EC.</p>
Impact of emission abatement technologies/ measures	All	Various	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COPERT provides separate EFs for Euro V heavy duty vehicles equipped with Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) and Exhaust Gas Recirculation (EGR) NO<sub>x</sub> control technologies. It is assumed 75% of vehicles are equipped with SCR systems (EU ACEA). COPERT also accounts for technologies such as plug-in hybrid vehicles.</li> <li>Emissions from some Euro II buses and HGVs are scaled down according to the proportion fitted with oxidation catalysts or diesel particulate filters (DPFs) and the effectiveness of these measures in reducing emissions from the vehicles.</li> <li>Assumptions about the proportion of failing catalysts in the petrol car fleet were derived following discussions with DfT. Assumed that the failure rate is 5% per annum for all Euro standards and only 20% of failed catalysts were rectified properly (for years up to 2008). From mid2009 onwards, repair rates are assumed to be 100% for Euro 3 (or above) LDVs due to Regulations Controlling Sale and Installation of Replacement Catalytic Converters and Particle Filters.</li> </ul>

Parameters	Region	Data source	Related assumptions
Impact of emission abatement technologies/measures	London	TfL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effects of the Low Emission Zone (LEZ) on PM emissions from HGVs and buses, larger vans and minibuses, the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) in Central London introduced in 2019, and the LEZ tightening (Euro VI requirement for heavy-duty vehicles) in 2020 are taken into account.</li> </ul> Emission factors for London black cabs are assumed to be the same as diesel LGVs.

## Methodology (general)

A detailed bottom-up (also known as Tier 3) approach is used to calculate fuel consumption and all exhaust emissions of NMVOCs, NO<sub>x</sub>, PM and NH<sub>3</sub> from passenger cars, LGVs, heavy-duty vehicles (including buses and coaches) and motorcycles. Emissions of NMVOCs, NO<sub>x</sub>, PM and NH<sub>3</sub> are calculated on a fuel-used basis from measured EFs expressed in g/km along with road traffic statistics.

Emission factors are based on experimental measurements of emissions from in-service vehicles of different types driven under test cycles with different average speeds. Road traffic statistics (or total vehicle km travelled data) by different vehicle types are provided by DfT (for Great Britain) and the Department for Regional Development Northern Ireland (DRDNI). Other datasets, such as DfT's vehicle licensing statistics and the Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) data, are used to disaggregate the vehicle km (vkm) data further. Disaggregation is done by the composition of each vehicle type (fraction of diesel/petrol vehicles and different vehicle sizes) and by the fraction of each under different emissions regulations (i.e., Euro Standard) that applied when the vehicle was first registered.

It should be noted that emissions of NO<sub>x</sub>, NMVOCs, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> based on the fuel used approach are to be used for tracking compliance with the UK's emissions ceilings. However, the UK also reports road transport emission estimates based on the fuel-sold approach as part of the annual submission under the CLRTAP and NECR. To report emissions by vehicle types on a fuel-sold basis, a normalisation process is applied based on the ratio of fuel sales according to DUKES and the fuel consumption estimates for each vehicle type derived from the bottom-up calculations.

Emissions of SO<sub>2</sub> are based on the total fuel sold rather than the fuel used method. This is because the SO<sub>2</sub> emission factor is highly correlated to fuel consumption and so it makes sense to estimate emissions based on the known fuel sales from DUKES rather than estimating fuel use bottom-up, which can be more complex/uncertain.

## Hot exhaust emissions (Road Transport)

These are emissions from vehicle exhausts when the engine is at normal operating temperature. Vehicle types considered include petrol, diesel, and LPG fuelled: cars, LGVs (<3.5t), rigid HGVs (>3.5t), articulated HGVs (>3.5t), buses and coaches and motorcycles.

### Methodology

On a national scale, it is sufficient to model hot exhaust emissions using emission factors (EFs) related to the average speed of the vehicle over the whole drive cycle as described in the [National Inventory Document](#). For each vehicle type on different road types:

$$\text{Total Emissions} = EFs \left( \frac{g}{km} \right) \text{ for average speed on the road network} \cdot \text{annual vehicle km}$$

### Data sources

Hot exhaust EFs are taken from COPERT v5.8 and the EMEP/EEA Guidebook. NMVOCs emissions are calculated from total hydrocarbon (THC) EFs. THC emissions include methane. Therefore, NMVOC emissions are derived by subtracting methane emissions from the THC emissions. For NH<sub>3</sub>, the EFs take into account the vehicle's accumulated mileage and the fuel sulphur content.

## Cold start emissions (Road Transport)

These are excess emissions that occur when a vehicle is started with the engine below its normal operating temperature. The excess emissions occur in both petrol and diesel vehicles, but are significantly higher in petrol cars, because the three-way catalyst does not function properly to reduce emissions from the tailpipe until it reaches its normal operating temperature. Cold start emissions are also present for Heavy Duty Vehicles with Selective Catalytic Reduction systems.

### Methodology

Cold-start emissions are also calculated based on COPERT v5.8 and the EMEP/EEA Guidebook. Broadly, it estimates emissions based on the proportion of distance travelled on each trip with a cold engine and a ratio of the cold/hot EF:

$$E_{cold} = \beta \cdot E_{hot} \cdot (e_{cold}/e_{hot} - 1)$$

- $E_{hot}$  = hot exhaust emission from the vehicle type
- $\beta$  = fraction of km driven with cold engines. The value for cars for example, is taken from the EMEP/EEA Guidebook with an average trip length given as 10 km. The method is sensitive to the choice of average trip length in the calculation.
- $e_{cold}/e_{hot}$  = ratio of cold to hot emissions by pollutant and vehicle type. The equations relating this ratio to ambient temperature for each pollutant and vehicle type were taken from the EMEP/EEA Guidebook and were used with monthly average temperatures for the Devolved Governments based on trends in UK Met Office data.

Cold-start emissions of NH<sub>3</sub> were estimated using a simpler method provided by COPERT 5 in the recent EMEP/EEA Guidebook. It uses EFs (mg/km) in combination with distance for a vehicle travelled when not fully warm. For petrol cars and LGVs, the cold start EFs also consider the vehicle's accumulated mileage and the fuel sulphur content, in the same way as for the hot exhaust emissions.

## Non-exhaust Emissions of PM (Road Transport)

Particulate Matter is emitted from the mechanical wear of material used in vehicle tyres, brake linings and from road surfaces. See the [Air Quality Expert Group's PM report \(AQEG, 2019\)](#) for further details regarding non-exhaust emissions of PM.

### Methodology

A Tier 2 approach is used to estimate non-exhaust emissions of PM from tyre and brake wear and road abrasion. Emissions are calculated by combining EFs with vehicle km data. For tyre and brake wear and road abrasion, EFs (g/km) are provided in the EMEP/EEA Guidebook for each vehicle type with speed correction factors.

#### Tyre and brake wear:

The EFs are given for different vehicle types with speed correction factors implying higher EFs at lower speeds. For heavy duty vehicles, a load correction factor is provided, and tyre wear is dependent on the number of axles. The EFs vary by vehicle technology (e.g., conventional, hybrid, electric).

#### Road abrasion:

The EFs are given in g/km for each main vehicle type (e.g., cars, LGVs). The EFs vary by vehicle technology (e.g., conventional, hybrid, electric) due to differing vehicle weights between these technologies.

## Domestic Navigation (1A3d)

### Summary

This sector includes emission estimates for domestic coastal shipping and inland waterways (1A3dii), primarily from the combustion of gas oil and fuel oil in marine vehicles. Emissions from international, transit (passing the UK), or to/from/between Crown Dependencies by vessels can be distinguished in the methodology and are not included in UK emissions inventory totals. Estimates from fishing vessels and naval vessels are estimated separately, they are reported under 1A4ciii and 1A5b respectively (see the [IIR](#) for details).

### Key sources and pollutants

Table 10 - Key sources and pollutants in Domestic Navigation (1A3d)

NFR source category	NFR source category name	Pollutant	Proportion of total emissions for pollutant in 2024 (%)	% Change in emissions (1990 - 2024)
1A3dii	National navigation (shipping)	NOx	8.1	-23.2
1A3dii	National navigation (shipping)	PM <sub>10</sub>	1.7	-71.9
1A3dii	National navigation (shipping)	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	3.1	-71.0

## Data sources

Table 11 - An overview of methods and data sources in Domestic Navigation (1A3d)

NFR source category	NAEI source sub-categories	Pollutant coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
1A3dii	Shipping (coastal)	All	AD · EF. UK model for activity allocation to unit type	DfT (2025) based on AIS data; Marine Statistics (DfT); OT port authorities (OT shipping)	DfT (2025), EMEP/EEA Guidebook, Fuel analysis (Fuels Industry UK)
1A3di	Inland waterways	All	AD · EF (see Walker <i>et al.</i> , 2011). UK model for activity allocation to unit type	Vessel population; statistics on expenditure on recreation (ONS), tourism (Visit England), port freight traffic (DfT), and inland waterways goods lifted (DfT)	Default EFs. Fuel analysis (Fuels Industry UK)

## Coastal Shipping (1A3dii)

This is the main category of domestic voyages for coastwise shipping within and outside UK waters. This includes all domestic shipping activity except fishing vessels and inland waterways. Emissions from Fishing Vessels are calculated using the same methodology but categorised under 1A4ciii.

### Data sources

EFs are based on detailed values for different main and auxiliary engine types, fuels, and vessel movement types and are taken from DfT (2025) and the EMEP/EEA Guidebook. Emission factors also account for regulations on fuel sulphur content in different sea territories around the UK.

EFs for NO<sub>x</sub> are assumed to reduce over time due to introduction of vessels with more recent engines that meet more stringent NO<sub>x</sub> emissions standards; SO<sub>2</sub> and PM EFs generally decrease with reductions in fuel sulphur content.

NH<sub>3</sub> EFs are not available in the EMEP/EEA Guidebook, and hence it is assumed they are equivalent to those of a diesel railway train using Tier 2 methodology (EMEP/EEA) and assumed to remain constant over time.

### Methodology (AIS-based shipping model)

The UK applies a Tier 3 model (DfT, 2025) to estimate emissions from National Navigation. The model estimates detailed fuel consumption and emissions for a base year (2019) using movement data from the terrestrial and satellite Automatic Identification System (AIS) from the Joint Maritime Security Centre. The model also incorporates other shipping activity statistics (DfT) as proxy data to provide estimates for other years. Fuel use for domestic and international shipping activities is normalised to the relevant DUKES categories (National Navigation, and Marine Bunkers).

Emissions are calculated for each vessel (bottom-up approach) by multiplying an EF (g/kWh) by the estimated engine demand (kWh). The methodology goes beyond the Tier 3 approach set out in the Guidebook by calculating fuel consumption and emissions for each part of a voyage using high-resolution Automatic Identification System (AIS) vessel tracking data, rather than carrying out the calculation for each port-to-port voyage as a whole.

## Vessel movements between the UK and Overseas Territories (1A3dii)

Emissions from vessel movements between the UK and Gibraltar are included in DfT (2025) and reported with coastal shipping under NFR 1A3dii.

### Data sources

EFs are based on detailed values for different main and auxiliary engine types, fuels, and vessel movement types and are taken from DfT (2025) and the EMEP/EEA Guidebook. The same emission factors are used as for coastal shipping.

## Methodology (AIS based shipping model)

The methodology described for coastal shipping is also used to estimate emission between the UK and Overseas territories. The Tier 3 model (DfT, 2025) is used to estimate fuel consumption and emissions for a base year of 2019 using vessel movements from AIS. Domestic movements between the UK and Overseas are distinguished following assessment of port calls. The model also incorporates other shipping activity statistics (DfT) as proxy data to provide estimates for other years.

## Inland waterways (1A3di)

This category is included in domestic emission totals and includes emissions from fuel used for small passenger vessels, ferries, recreational watercraft, and other inland watercraft and gasoline-fuelled watercraft.

Vessels with more than 12 passengers and 3 or more engines operating in estuaries, tugs, cranes, and chartered commercial fishing vessels are included under coastal shipping.

### Methodology

A Tier 3 bottom-up approach based on population and usage estimates of different types of inland waterways vessels is used to estimate emissions. See Walker *et al.* (2011) for details.

### Data sources

Fuel-based EFs for all inland waterway vessels were taken from the EMEP/EEA Guidebook. Emission factors for SO<sub>2</sub> from vessels using gas oil take into account tighter limits on the sulphur content of gas oil for inland waterways use (the limit reduced to 10ppm from January 2011).

Estimates of population and usage of each type of vessel on inland waterways were made based on data collected from stakeholders (e.g., British Waterways, DfT) for the baseline year of 2008. It was assumed that privately-owned recreational vessels with diesel engines use Diesel Oil for Road Vehicles (DERV) fuel, whilst only commercial and service craft and canal boats use gas oil (Walker *et al.*, 2011).

For years other than 2008, proxy statistics were used to estimate activities (fuel consumption) for different groups of vessels: Private leisure craft (ONS Social Trends 41 and the OECD, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development), Commercial passenger/tourist craft (Visitor Attraction Trends in England) and Freight (Waterborne Freight in the UK, DfT).

## Source-specific QA/QC and verification (1A3)

None. Please see the General Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) procedures.

## Planned improvements in Transport (1A3)

Most of the improvements in the transport sectors will depend on the availability of new or revised forms of activity data and EFs and not all of these can be anticipated at this stage. Particularly for the road transport sector, the evidence used to develop EFs changes frequently, especially as new evidence on ‘real-world’ EFs for NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from modern diesel vehicles emerges. A watching brief is kept on developments in EFs and activity data for all modes of transport, especially those that may arise from stakeholder initiatives and which can be reasonably incorporated in the inventory.

We routinely assess updated evidence and undertake work to improve the accuracy of road transport emissions estimates in future submissions where better evidence is identified.

## Domestic Combustion (1A4bi)

### Summary

This sector is dominated by emissions from fuel combustion in the residential sector, including for fuels such as coal, SSF, wood, natural gas, gas oil and LPG. Information on emission estimates for other non-key sources in sector 1A4 (Combustion in the Residential/Commercial/Public Sectors) can be found in the [IIR](#).

### Key sources and pollutants

Table 12 - Key sources and pollutants in Domestic Combustion (1A4bi)

NFR source category	NFR source category name	Pollutant	Proportion of total emissions for pollutant in 2024 (%)	% Change in emissions (1990-2024)
1A4bi	Residential: Stationary	NO <sub>x</sub>	4.5	-70.9
1A4bi	Residential: Stationary	PM <sub>10</sub>	10.7	-74.1
1A4bi	Residential: Stationary	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	20.3	-74.1
1A4bi	Residential: Stationary	SO <sub>2</sub>	16.0	-78.3

NFR source category	NFR source category name	Pollutant	Proportion of total emissions for pollutant in 2024 (%)	% Change in emissions (1990-2024)
1A4bi	Residential: Stationary	VOC	3.4	-73.2

## Data sources

Table 13 - An overview of methods and data sources in Domestic Combustion (1A4bi)

NAEI source subcategories		Pollutant coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
Domestic Solid Fuel Fireplace - Standard	All	UK model for allocation to heater type; AD · EF	DUKES, 2018-19 & 2022-23 Defra Domestic Burning Surveys (DBS) for wood fuels including wood logs at different moisture levels, solid mineral fuels, coffee logs, UK CEH (Peat), Industry (Petroleum Coke).	UK-specific research, Default EFs (Technology specific where appropriate) (EMEP/EEA, US EPA). Fuel analysis (Fuels Industry UK; others for fuel analysis for SO <sub>2</sub> ).	
Domestic Solid Fuel Closed Stove - Basic	All	UK model for allocation to heater type; AD · EF	DUKES, 2018-19 & 2022-23 Defra DBS for wood fuels including wood logs at different moisture levels, solid mineral fuels, coffee logs, UK CEH (Peat), Industry (Petroleum Coke).	UK-specific research, Default EFs (Technology specific where appropriate) (EMEP/EEA, US EPA). Fuel analysis (Fuels Industry UK; others for fuel analysis for SO <sub>2</sub> ).	
Domestic Solid Fuel Closed Stove - Upgraded	All	UK model for allocation to heater type; AD · EF	DUKES, 2018-19 & 2022-23 Defra DBS for wood fuels including wood logs at different moisture levels, solid mineral fuels, coffee logs, UK CEH (Peat), Industry (Petroleum Coke).	UK-specific research, Default EFs (Technology specific where appropriate) (EMEP/EEA, US EPA). Fuel analysis (Fuels Industry UK; others for fuel analysis for SO <sub>2</sub> ).	

Pollutant coverage		Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
NAEI source subcategories				
Domestic Solid Fuel Closed Stove - Advanced	All	UK model for allocation to heater type; AD · EF	DUKES, 2018-19 & 2022-23 Defra DBS for wood fuels including wood logs at different moisture levels, solid mineral fuels, coffee logs, UK CEH (Peat), Industry (Petroleum Coke).	UK-specific research, Default EFs (Technology specific where appropriate) (EMEP/EEA, US EPA). Fuel analysis (Fuels Industry UK; others for fuel analysis for SO <sub>2</sub> ).
Domestic Solid Fuel Closed Stove - EcoDesign	All	UK model for allocation to heater type; AD · EF	DUKES, 2018-19 & 2022-23 Defra DBS for wood fuels including wood logs at different moisture levels, solid mineral fuels, coffee logs, UK CEH (Peat), Industry (Petroleum Coke).	UK-specific research, Default EFs (Technology specific where appropriate) (EMEP/EEA, US EPA). Fuel analysis (Fuels Industry UK; others for fuel analysis for SO <sub>2</sub> ).
Pellet Appliance - Basic	All	UK model for allocation to heater type; AD · EF	DUKES, 2018-19 & 2022-23 Defra DBS for wood fuels including wood logs at different moisture levels, solid mineral fuels, coffee logs, UK CEH (Peat), Industry (Petroleum Coke).	UK-specific research, Default EFs (Technology specific where appropriate) (EMEP/EEA, US EPA). Fuel analysis (Fuels Industry UK; others for fuel analysis for SO <sub>2</sub> ).
Pellet Appliance - Ecodesign	All	UK model for allocation to heater type; AD · EF	DUKES, 2018-19 & 2022-23 Defra DBS	Default EFs (EMEP/EEA).
Woodchip Appliance - Basic	All	UK model for allocation to heater type; AD · EF	DUKES, 2018-19 & 2022-23 Defra DBS	UK-specific research, Default EFs (Technology specific where appropriate) (EMEP/EEA).

Pollutant coverage		Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
NAEI source subcategories				
Woodchip Appliance - Ecodesign	All	UK model for allocation to heater type; AD · EF	DUKES, 2018-19 & 2022-23 Defra DBS	Default EFs (EMEP/EEA).
Domestic Solid Fuel Boiler	All	UK model for allocation to heater type; AD · EF	DUKES, 2018-19 & 2022-23 Defra DBS	Default EFs (EMEP/EEA).
Domestic Outdoor	All	UK model for allocation to heater type; AD · EF	DUKES	Default EFs (Technology specific where appropriate) (EMEP/EEA, US EPA). Fuel analysis (Fuels Industry UK; others for fuel analysis for SO <sub>2</sub> )
Domestic Gas or Oil Space Heater	All	UK model for allocation to heater type; AD · EF	DUKES, 2018-19 & 2022-23 Defra DBS.	UK-specific research, default EFs (Technology specific where appropriate) (EMEP/EEA);
Domestic Gas or Oil Water Heater	All	UK model for allocation to heater type; AD · EF	DUKES, ECUK	Default EFs (Technology specific where appropriate) (EMEP/EEA), NO <sub>x</sub> is derived from emission classes and Ecodesign emission limits;

Pollutant coverage		Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
NAEI source subcategories				
Domestic Gas Cooking and Other	All	UK model for allocation to heater type;  AD · EF	DUKES, ECUK	Default EFs (Technology specific where appropriate) (EMEP/EEA);

## Methodology

Emissions from residential combustion are estimated using a ‘top down’ methodology which is applied based on national energy statistics (DUKES), domestic burning surveys (for solid fuels) and emission factors.

Emission factors applied in the NAEI are from UK research (Emission Factors for Domestic Solid Fuel ‘EFDSF’ project), literature and the EMEP/EEA Guidebook Tier 1 and Tier 2 datasets. Suitable factors are not always available for some minor fuels, and so emission factors for a similar fuel are used instead.

The NAEI uses an integrated single inventory system with separate modules for solid, liquid and gaseous fuels, that:

- i) incorporates the findings of the 2018-19 and 2022-23 Defra Domestic Burning Surveys (DBS)<sup>3</sup> into the NAEI. This information is used to develop age profiles of domestic solid fuel appliances and apportion activity of various fuels across appliances. Additionally, the DBS is used to disaggregate DUKES wood activity between logs (dry, seasoned, wet), briquettes, pellets and woodchip.
- ii) implements a flexible system that can easily accept data from domestic combustion research projects, including the EFDSF project<sup>4</sup>. The EFDSF project has provided emission factors for selected pollutants for wood and mineral fuels.
- iii) ensures that assumptions regarding appliance mix are consistent across all relevant activities.

The solid fuel module is the most complex component of the model as there is a combination of different types of appliances, each of which may have multiple technologies and associated emission factors. In comparison, the liquid and gaseous emission modules have a much more limited variation in fuel type and technologies.

<sup>3</sup> Published here: <https://sciencesearch.defra.gov.uk/>

<sup>4</sup> Published here : [EFDSF WP1 Report](#), [EFDSF WP2 Report](#), [EFDSF WP3 Report](#)

The NAEI uses a Tier 2 model for many pollutants where country-specific EFs have been measured through primary research. SO<sub>2</sub> emission estimates for fuels use country specific emission factors based on information regarding the sulphur content of fuels on a year-by-year basis.

## Data sources

**Indoor wood use:** Estimates of wood use for residential heating are taken from the DUKES dataset which is based on historical estimates and the recent 2018-19 and 2022-23 Defra DBS. The surveys have been used by the DUKES team to estimate the quantity of wood used in the residential sector. However, there remains uncertainty in these estimates due to the lack of comprehensive fuel sales data (potentially significant quantities of wood are sourced outside conventional fuel markets).

For years where the NAEI year does not match a survey year (where the survey activity has been extrapolated), increases in wood fuel use are apportioned between seasonal impacts and installation of new appliances. In the latest submission this reallocation was required in 2023 and 2024, as the latest survey year was in 2022. The quantity of additional wood use attributed to heating degree days (HDD) or installation impacts is provided directly by the DUKES team.

A key assumption is the proportion of wood fuel used in open and closed appliances. This is derived from various survey outputs which provide data points across the timeseries, these are summarised in Table 14 below.

*Table 14 - An overview of data sources for domestic combustion for information on technology and fuel splits.*

Data source	Period
British Coal Market Survey	1990-91
BEIS Domestic Wood Use Survey	2014-15
Defra Domestic Burning Survey	2018-19
Defra Domestic Burning Survey	2022-23

Another key assumption is the disaggregation of overall wood activity across more detailed fuel categories. Data from the Defra DBSs are used to disaggregate domestic wood activity from DUKES between logs (dry, seasoned, wet), briquettes, pellets and woodchip. The 2018-19 and 2022-23 surveys each provide a data point on the timeseries and the full timeseries is developed by interpolation between, and extrapolation from, these data points.

Country-specific emission factors for wood burning are applied based on measurement work commissioned by Defra (EFDSF<sup>4</sup>). Testing occurred on five appliance types (open fireplace, three groups of wood log stoves of different ages and a pellet stove) covering wood logs at different moisture contents, wood briquettes and wood pellets. A 'real world' test protocol matching the typical stove/fireplace burning period in the UK was used. The following pollutants are now estimated using country-specific emission factors:

- Dioxins/furans

- PAH
- SO<sub>2</sub>
- NO<sub>x</sub>
- CO
- NMVOC
- PM (TPM, PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, PM<sub>1</sub>)

**Outdoor wood use:** In the 2025 submission, emission estimates for domestic outdoor burning were included in 1A5a but as of the 2026 submission these are now included in 1A4bi. This includes wood burning in outdoor appliances (firepits, chimineas etc.). Emissions from outdoor domestic waste burning are reported in NFR 5C2.

The methodology for outdoor domestic burning of wood applies the Defra Burning Survey activity values for the two survey years and the proportions for different moisture contents of wood used during outdoor burning. Activity data on outdoor wood burning was developed for years prior to, and between, the survey years by applying proxy data based on outdoor appliance sales and information on the proportion of houses which are likely to have gardens and hence deemed capable of outdoor burning (derived from government housing stock data).

Wood activity was disaggregated between bonfires and appliances. It has been assumed that dry and seasoned wood are burnt on appliances (reported in 1A4bi) and wet wood is burnt on bonfires (reported in 5C2).

Country-specific emission factors for wood burning are applied based on the EFDSF measurement project outputs for open fireplaces for dry and seasoned wood. In lieu of information on emission factors from the burning of wood outdoors, it is assumed that emission factors measured from burning wood in indoor open fireplaces are applicable to outdoor burning.

**Other solid fuels:** Allocation of fuel use to different technologies has been aligned with the outputs of the two Defra Domestic Burning Surveys and (in earlier years) historic research on types of residential appliances. The model also assumes that anthracite fuel is not burned in open fireplaces - experience in the EFDSF project (and subsequent discussion with fuel suppliers) indicated that maintaining combustion of anthracite in an open fireplace was not possible without use of other fuels.

Almost all emission factors are also country-specific Tier 2 emission factors derived from the EFDSF project.

**Gaseous fuels:** Emissions from residential combustion of natural gas and Liquefied Petroleum Gas 'LPG' are estimated from national energy statistics. The allocation of fuel use to different technologies has been assigned based on the Energy Consumption in the UK (ECUK) dataset.

Emissions from residential combustion of gaseous fuels are estimated from EMEP/EEA Guidebook Tier 2 emission factors for all pollutants except for NO<sub>x</sub>. For NO<sub>x</sub>, a model is used which assumes that EFs for new boilers are constant within different periods: applying default EMEP/EEA 2009 EFs for 1970-89; Ecodesign study EFs (derived from the GEMIS database for natural gas boilers) for 1990-2004; Class 5 standard (EN 483) from 2004 and Ecodesign emission limits from 2017 onwards.

**Liquid fuels:** Emissions from residential combustion of gas oil, burning oil and fuel oil are taken from national energy statistics. Fuel oil is not a typical fuel in residential use but there is a very small quantity of fuel oil allocated to residential use in the national energy statistics in the period 1970 -2003. Fuel has been allocated to other appliance types based on the ECUK dataset. The majority of fuel (>99%) is allocated to boilers.

A population model is used to allocate fuel to older appliances and more recent, Ecodesign-compliant, boilers. In the absence of national or other data, the age profile for gas-fired boilers is applied to liquid fuel appliances. Due to the small allocation of liquid fuels to roomheater use in ECUK (<1%), no differentiation is made between existing and new roomheaters.

A Tier 2 methodology has been adopted for residential combustion of oil. Emission factors for pollutants (except NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub>) are taken from the 2023 EMEP/EEA Guidebook. Emission factors for SO<sub>2</sub> are based on UK-specific data on fuel composition. The NAEI applies a modelled approach for NO<sub>x</sub> emissions for boilers to reflect implementation of Ecodesign regulation on gas and oil boilers.

## Source-specific QA/QC and verification (1A4bi)

Throughout the duration of the development of the new emission factors derived via the EFDSF (Emission Factors for Domestic Solid Fuels) research project, the associated steering group scrutinised and approved the data. Together with this, the emission factors, as well as the integrated domestic combustion model, were assessed and approved by the UK's Air Quality Inventory Steering Group (AQISG). Please see the General Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) procedures for more general QA/QC.

## Planned improvements in Domestic Combustion (1A4bi)

For domestic wood and natural gas combustion, the inventory method aims to reflect the change in EFs over time. However, there is a need to maintain the evidence of the market share of different UK technologies and activity associated with these technologies. Wood and solid fuel burning have an impact on the overall inventory uncertainty for some major pollutants such as PM. In particular, wood and solid fuel manually-controlled room heater appliances emit substantially more PM than natural gas boilers and, estimates of wood use in residential heating are uncertain because potentially significant quantities of wood are sourced outside of conventional fuel markets. In the next submission we expect the final emission factors from the EFDSF project for (Black Carbon) to be implemented.

## Fugitive Emissions from Fuels (1B)

### Summary

The 1B sector includes fugitive emissions from fuels from extraction or production. Specifically, the category 1B2 includes fugitive emissions from oil & gas industries (exploration, production, transport, refining, storage, distribution, and venting and flaring). Due to the relatively low contribution to UK total emissions from sources related to the

extraction and production of solid fuels (1B1), the methodologies behind emissions calculations for sources other than for solid fuel transformation (1B1b) have been omitted from this document, but can be found in the [IIR](#).

## Key sources and pollutants

Table 15 - Key sources and pollutants in Fugitive Emissions from Energy Industries (1B)

NFR source category	NFR source category name	Pollutant	Proportion of total emissions for pollutant in 2024 (%)	% Change in emissions (1990 - 2024)
1B1b	Fugitive emission from solid fuels: Solid fuel transformation	SO <sub>2</sub>	8.4	-66.0
1B2ai	Fugitive emissions oil: Exploration, production, transport	VOC	2.7	-80.6
1B2av	Distribution of oil products	VOC	3.1	-80.7
1B2b	Fugitive emissions from natural gas (exploration, production, processing, transmission, storage, distribution and other)	VOC	2.8	-55.1
1B2c	Venting and flaring (oil, gas, combined oil and gas)	VOC	1.7	-58.4

## Data sources

Table 16 - An overview of methods and data sources in Fugitive Emissions from Energy Industries (1B)

NFR Source category	NAEI Source sub-categories	Pollutant Coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
1B1b	Solid fuel transformation	SO <sub>2</sub>	Operator-reported; AD · EF	DUKES; UK ETS	Operator-reported; Literature sources

NFR Source category	NAEI Source sub-categories	Pollutant Coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
1B2ai	Onshore oil production.	NO <sub>x</sub> ; NMVOC; SO <sub>2</sub>	Hybrid Tier 2	PPRS; DUKES	Operator-reported data (PI) for large sites; EF derived from larger site reporting applied to production residual for smaller sites.
1B2ai	Offshore oil loading; Onshore oil loading	NMVOC	AD · EF	PPRS; UKOOA; DUKES	2019 IPCC Refinement
1B2ai	Oil terminal storage; Offshore well testing; Process and fugitive emissions	NO <sub>x</sub> ; NMVOC; SO <sub>2</sub>	UK OPTIS model	EEMS; UKOOA; DUKES	Operator-reported EEMS data since 1998 (including AD); UKOOA (2005) for earlier years.
1B2ai	Petroleum processes	NO <sub>x</sub> ; NMVOC; SO <sub>2</sub>	Operator-reported	DUKES	Operator-reported data; UK operators
1B2aiv	Drainage; General; Process; Tankage	NMVOC; NH <sub>3</sub>	Operator-reported	Fuels Industry UK	Operator-reported; Fuels Industry UK for refinery sources
1B2av	Petrol stations; Petrol terminals	NMVOC	AD · EF	DUKES	UK periodic research; Fuels Industry UK (fuel vapour pressure); Met Office (temperature); IoP survey (abatement controls)
1B2av	Refineries (road/rail loading)	NMVOC	Trade association estimates	DUKES	Fuels Industry UK; Pre-1994 data scaled by DUKES for petrol use
1B2av	Sea going vessel loading	NMVOC	AD · EF	DUKES	UK periodic research (IoP); Fuels Industry UK (fuel vapour pressure); Met Office (temperature)
1B2b	Onshore gas production	NO <sub>x</sub> ; NMVOC; SO <sub>2</sub>	AD · EF	EEMS; UKOOA; DUKES	Operator-reported EEMS data since 1998 (including AD); UKOOA (2005) for earlier years.
1B2b	Upstream gas production; Offshore well testing; gas terminal storage; process and fugitive emissions.	NO <sub>x</sub> ; NMVOC; SO <sub>2</sub>	UK OPTIS model	EEMS; UKOOA; DUKES	Operator-reported EEMS data since 1998 (including AD); UKOOA (2005) for earlier years.

NFR Source category	NAEI Source sub-categories	Pollutant Coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
1B2b	Gasification processes	NO <sub>x</sub> ; NMVOC; SO <sub>2</sub>	AD · EF	DUKES	Operator-reported data
1B2b	Gas transmission network leakage; Gas distribution network leakage	NO <sub>x</sub> ; NMVOC; SO <sub>2</sub>	UK gas leakage model	Cadent Gas; National grid; Northern Gas Networks; Airtricity; SGN; Wales and West Utilities	Annual gas compositional analysis from GB gas network operators
1B2b	Gas leakage at point of use	NO <sub>x</sub> ; NMVOC; SO <sub>2</sub>	UK model	DUKES; Leakage % from assumptions on unit leakage and operational cycles of gas fired heaters, boilers, cookers	Annual gas compositional analysis from GB gas network operators
1B2c	Upstream gas production (gas flaring); Upstream oil production (gas flaring)	NO <sub>x</sub> ; NMVOC; SO <sub>2</sub> ; PM	UK OPTIS model	UK ETS; EEMS; UKOOA; DUKES	Operator-reported EEMS data since 1998 (including AD); UKOOA (2005) for earlier years.
1B2c	Upstream gas production (gas venting); Upstream oil production (gas venting)	NO <sub>x</sub> ; NMVOC; SO <sub>2</sub> ; PM	UK OPTIS model	UK ETS; EEMS; UKOOA; DUKES	Operator-reported EEMS data since 1998 (including AD); UKOOA (2005) for earlier years.
1B2c	Refineries (flares)	NO <sub>x</sub> ; NMVOC; SO <sub>2</sub> ; PM	Trade association estimates	Fuels Industry UK	Operator-reported data; Fuels Industry UK for refinery sources

## Methodology (general)

A wide range of methods are used across this sector that reflect the individual nature of these fugitive emission sources. For several of the upstream oil and gas emission sources, such as venting and flaring, most emissions are operator-reported either to EEMS (for offshore assets) or to the regulatory inventories (for onshore production sites and terminals). Emission calculations are completed via the NAEI's OPTIS model, for which more detail can be found [here](#). For the leakage of NMVOCs from the downstream gas transmission and distribution system, a model developed by the UK gas industry is used, whilst for fugitive emissions from refineries, the data are reported by the trade association, Fuels Industry UK.

## Solid Fuel Transformation – 1B1b

Fugitive emissions can occur both from the combustion of fuels used to provide heat required for solid fuel transformations, and also from fugitive releases from the transformation process. The main source of emissions within this category across the time series is coke production.

### Methodology

In most cases:

$$UK\ Emission = \sum Reported\ Site\ Emissions$$

Total emissions at UK coke ovens and certain solid smokeless fuel (SSF) manufacturing sites are reported annually to the EPR/E-PRTR pollution inventories of the regulatory agencies, but it is not possible to reliably split these emissions data into a combustion component and a fugitive component. Where annual emissions are Below the Reporting Threshold, estimates are largely derived using plant operating capacity and extrapolating implied EFs from other reporting plants in the sector. It should be noted that the last coke oven in the UK closed in March 2024, with another coke oven having closed in early 2023.

For other SSF production reporting is less comprehensive. Therefore, emissions are generally estimated using literature factors and, in some cases, using a mass balance approach.

## Oil (Exploration, Production and Transport) - 1B2ai

This category includes reported emissions from: processes, oil loading at offshore platforms and storage units or from offshore terminals, fugitive releases and emissions from well testing.

### Methodology

Estimates of all pollutants are operator-reported (via EEMS) from 1998 onwards, and from trade associations (UKOOA, now Offshore Energies UK) for earlier years.

Onshore oil well sites report their emissions annually under EPR/E-PRTR to the Environment Agency, where the emissions are above the reporting threshold per pollutant.

## Oil (Refining and Storage) – 1B2aiv

This sector includes release of NMVOC emissions from oil handling and process fugitive sources. These emissions occur at refineries from: the venting of process plants for safety reasons, the flaring of waste products, leakages from process plant components (e.g. flanges; valves), evaporation of organic contaminants in refinery wastewater, regeneration of catalysts by burning off carbon fouling, and storage of crude oil, intermediates and products at refineries.

## **Methodology**

Emissions are reported annually via Fuels Industry UK since 1993 and are compiled by refinery operators using industry standard methods. Emissions for tankage and drainage systems are deemed to be applicable to years prior to 1993. Emissions from processes for years prior to 1993 have been extrapolated in line with changes in production. When data are unavailable, data from EPR/E-PRTR reporting mechanisms to UK regulators are used instead.

## **Distribution of Oil Products – 1B2av**

NM VOC emissions occur from each storage and transfer stage of petrol distribution: loading onto vehicles from refineries, transit to petrol stations or intermediate terminals, storage at petrol stations, and distribution into fuel tanks of road vehicles.

## **Methodology**

Petrol distribution emissions are calculated using petrol sales data taken from DUKES, and EFs calculated using the UK Institute of Petroleum's (IoP) protocol on estimation of emissions from petrol distribution (which accounts for average temperature, petrol Reid Vapour Pressure (RVP), and abatement measures).

Temperature data are obtained from the Met Office (CET data), RVP estimates for summer and winter blends of petrol are supplied by Fuels Industry UK, and abatement measures are given in the annual petrol retail survey of the IoP.

## **Natural Gas Transmission and Distribution – 1B2b**

This sector covers leakages in the natural gas transmission and distribution network in the UK.

## **Methodology**

Emission estimates are provided by the gas network operators: National Grid, Cadent Gas, SGN, Northern Gas Networks, Wales and West and Airtricity. Natural gas compositional analysis is provided by the gas network operators. Estimates for 1B2b also include emissions reported in the Pollution Inventory (PI) by operators at onshore installations extracting gas from onshore fields in England.

Most UK inventory emissions of NM VOCs from leaks are derived from industry models that calculate leakages from losses from high pressure (transmission) networks, losses from low pressure (distribution) networks, and other losses from above-ground installations and other sources.

## **Gas (Exploration, Production and Transport) - 1B2b**

This category includes reported emissions from: gas exploration and production, gas processing, fugitive releases and emissions from well testing.

## Methodology

Estimates of all pollutants are operator-reported (via EEMS) from 1998 onwards, and from trade associations (UKOOA, now Offshore Energies UK) for earlier years.

Onshore gas well sites report their emissions annually under EPR/EPRT to the Environment Agency, where the emissions are above the reporting threshold per pollutant.

## Oil and Natural Gas (Venting and Flaring) – 1B2c

Emissions from gas flaring and venting at offshore oil & gas production sites and refineries are all included within 1B2c.

### Methodology

The general methodology is the same as for sources detailed above in 1B2ai and 1B2b. However, for upstream oil & gas flaring, emissions data are reported by plant operators in EEMS, and activity data is reported in EEMS for venting, and UK ETS or EEMS for flaring. Finally, industry-wide estimates are used based on periodic studies for earlier years (UKOOA, 2005).

For flaring emissions from refineries, the sum of operator-reported data is used, provided by Fuels Industry UK.

## Source-specific QA/QC and verification (1B)

For sources in 1B, there are additional quality checks that are beyond the general checks described in the general QA/QC procedures at the end of this document.

### 1B2ai and 1B2c:

DESNZ OPRED, as the sector regulator, provides emission estimation guidance for all operators to assist in the completion of EEMS and UK ETS returns to the UK environmental regulators. This includes the provision of appropriate default EFs for specific activities where installation-specific EFs are not available.

EEMS data have improved over recent years due to development of online reporting systems which have built-in quality checking functions. The Inventory Agency's OPTIS model conducts further quality checks across EEMS, UK ETS and regulator inventory data. This enables an assessment of the consistency and completeness of operator reporting across the time-series and enables reconciliation of energy and emissions data across the energy statistics and environmental reporting mechanisms.

### 1B2aiv and 1B2av:

Emission estimates from refineries and petrol distribution are derived based on consistent industry standard methods and UK-specific EFs and models across the timeseries.

Uncertainties arise from the use of the same EFs for different process designs and delivery systems, especially in the refinery storage, transfer and petrol distribution systems. Quality checking and verification involves time-series consistency checks and periodic benchmarking against international EFs for these sources.

#### 1B2b:

For upstream gas production emissions, the QAQC activities are as described above for 1B2ai and 1B2c.

Uncertainties in estimates from leakage from the gas transmission and distribution networks stem mainly from assumptions within the industry models that derive mass leakage estimates based on input data (e.g. network pipe replacement). Although the NMVOC content of gas is known, the mass emitted is estimated.

Estimates of emissions from leakage at the point of use are based on gas compositional analysis by network operators as detailed above, combined with a series of assumptions regarding leakage from commercial appliances. While there is a high degree of uncertainty associated with this source, it is only a minor source with regard to total emissions.

Quality checking and verification for these sources involves time-series consistency checks and periodic benchmarking against international EFs, as well as checks between datasets from different UK network operators for UK-wide consistency checking.

## **Planned Improvements in Fugitive Emissions from Energy Industries (1B)**

Activity and emission factor data sources will be kept under review for all key categories. Development of gas network leakage models (MarcoGaz, 2019) could lead to some revisions in the estimates presented for NMVOC emissions from the UK gas transmission and distribution networks in future inventory cycles. Refinery operators continue to review and update the estimation methods for NMVOC emissions, which we anticipate could lead to revised estimates in future cycles.

# Industrial Processes and Product Use (2)

## Summary

This category covers many different emission sources from industry (not including combustion) and consumer product use, many of which are low emitting in the UK inventory context. As such, detailed methodological descriptions are provided for high emitting (key) source categories only (see Table 17). For details of emission estimation for other sources, please consult the [IIR](#).

### Key sources and pollutants

Table 17 - Key sources and pollutants in Industrial Processes and Use of Solvents (2)

NFR source category	NFR source category name	Pollutant	Proportion of total emissions for pollutant in 2024 (%)	% Change in emissions (1990 - 2024)
2A5a	Quarrying and mining of minerals other than coal	PM <sub>10</sub>	7.6	-54.5
2A5a	Quarrying and mining of minerals other than coal	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	1.5	-54.5
2A5b	Construction and demolition	PM <sub>10</sub>	18.0	-12.7
2A5b	Construction and demolition	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	3.5	-12.7
2A6	Other mineral products (specified in the IIR)	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	1.5	-59.3
2A6	Other mineral products (specified in the IIR)	SO <sub>2</sub>	3.7	-77.7
2C1	Iron and steel production	PM <sub>10</sub>	1.9	-78.3
2C1	Iron and steel production	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	2.1	-79.7
2D3a	Domestic solvent use including fungicides	VOC	22.9	11.0
2D3d	Coating applications	VOC	7.1	-78.7
2D3g	Chemical products	VOC	2.2	-54.9
2D3i	Other solvent use (specified in the IIR)	VOC	3.6	-59.8

NFR source category	NFR source category name	Pollutant	Proportion of total emissions for pollutant in 2024 (%)	% Change in emissions (1990 - 2024)
2G	Other product use (specified in the IIR)	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	1.6	-75.0
2H2	Food and beverages industry	VOC	16.9	53.2
2I	Wood processing	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	1.6	-56.7

## Data sources

Table 18 - An overview of methods and data sources in Industrial Processes and Use of Solvents (2)

NFR Source category	NAEI Source sub-categories	Pollutant Coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
2A5a	Dewatering lead concentrates (Quarrying)	PM <sub>10</sub> ; PM <sub>2.5</sub>	AD · EF	Statistics on extraction of various types of minerals: UK Minerals Yearbook (BGS)	Default EFs; Other literature EFs
2A5b	Construction of apartments and houses, Non-residential construction, and Road construction	PM <sub>10</sub> ; PM <sub>2.5</sub>	AD · EF	Proxy statistics (MHCLG & NHBC for numbers and types of houses and apartments; ONS financial data for non-residential buildings; DfT for road length and road width assumptions)	Default EFs
2C1	Electric arc furnaces; Integrated steelworks; Cold rolling of steel; Hot rolling of steel	All (except NH <sub>3</sub> )	Operator-reported supplemented by regulator data	Statistics on production of oxygen steel / electric steel (ISSB)	Operator-reported; Literature EFs (Default EFs; IPCC etc.)

NFR Source category	NAEI Source sub-categories	Pollutant Coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
2D3a	Agriculture (agrochemical use); Aerosols; Non-aerosol products	NMVOC; NH <sub>3</sub>	AD · EF	Euromonitor, UK industry data (product consumption, sales, population and number of households, adhesive use)	UK industry data (BAMA, UKCPI, ESIG); UK-specific and US emission EFs (UK industry including BASA; US EPA)
2D3a	Vehicle screen wash	NMVOC	AD · EF	UK model (vehicle kilometres)	Netherlands Inventory Team
2D3a	Hand Sanitiser (Healthcare sector use)	NMVOC	AD · EF	DA health statistics, NHS and other health sector staff counts	Literature EFs
2D3a	Hand Sanitiser (General use)	NMVOC	AD · EF	ESIG and NAEI data on ethanol use	Literature EFs
2D3a	Professional use of cleaning products	NMVOC	AD · EF	UK CPI, employment statistics	UK Industry (UK CPI)

NFR Source category	NAEI Source sub-categories	Pollutant Coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
2D3d	Decorative paint (retail; trade)	NMVOC; PM <sub>10</sub> ; PM <sub>2.5</sub>	AD · EF	UK industry data (sales, consumption)	UK industry data and literature EFs (Default EFs, HMIP etc.)
2D3d	Industrial coatings	NMVOC; PM <sub>10</sub> ; PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Site specific emissions data (from regulators); AD · EF	Trade association data (sales; consumption)	UK industry data and literature EFs (Default EFs, HMIP etc.)
2D3d	Paper coating; Textile coating; Leather coating; Film coating	NMVOC; PM <sub>10</sub> ; PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Site-specific emissions data (from regulators)	Operator-reported	Operator-reported
2D3i	Seed oil extraction	NMVOC	Site-specific emissions data (from regulators)	Operator-reported	Operator-reported
2D3i	Industrial adhesives (other)	NMVOC	AD · EF	UK industry data (consumption)	UK industry data (BASA, ESIG, country-specific EFs Giddings et al.)

NFR Source category	NAEI Source sub-categories	Pollutant Coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
2D3i	Other solvent use	NMVOC	Industry estimates (2008; 2013; 2015)	ONS; UK Government Statistics (manufacturing data for proxy of usage)	UK industry data (BASA, ESIG, country specific EFs, Giddings et al., 1991)
2D3i	Wood impregnation (LOSP; creosote)	NMVOC	Industry estimates (1990 & 2000)	ONS (data on manufacturing output for proxy of usage for years other than 1990 & 2000); Giddings et al., 1991 (split of emissions from LOSP and creosote)	UK industry data (BASA, ESIG, country specific EFs Giddings et al.)
2D3i	Aircraft and Runway de-icer	NMVOC	AD · EF	Operator reported, CAA statistics	Operator reported
2H1	Pulp and Paper Industry	CO, NO <sub>x</sub> , NMVOC, PM	AD · EF	Confederation of European Paper Industries, Forest Research, ONS	Tier 2 Default EFs
2H2	Bread baking; Brewing (fermentation); Brewing (wort boiling); Cider manufacture; Malting; Other food (inc. sugar production); Spirit manufacture	NMVOC; NH <sub>3</sub>	AD · EF	Government statistics (e.g. HMRC Alcohol Bulletin; Defra Family Food Survey; Defra Agriculture in the UK; ONS population statistics); Trade associations (e.g. Scottish Whisky Association;	Default EFs; Literature EFs (mainly from UK industry research; US EPA AP-42); Derived from emissions reported to EA for one UK sugar factory

NFR Source category	NAEI Source sub-categories	Pollutant Coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
				Maltsters Association of GB;	
2H2	Sugar beet processing	NMVOC; NH <sub>3</sub>	AD · EF	PI (for NMVOCs)	Literature EFs (mainly from UK Industry research), some Default EFs for NMVOCs
2H2	Spirit manufacture (spent grain drying); Wine manufacture	NMVOC; NH <sub>3</sub>	AD · EF	Government statistics (e.g. HMRC Alcohol Bulletin); Trade associations (e.g. Scottish Whisky Association; Maltsters Association of GB)	Literature EF (US EPA AP-42); Default EFs



## Methodology (general)

To generate estimates of emissions from industrial processes, several methods may be used, depending on the data available for each source.

For some industrial sectors there is a high level of emissions reporting to environmental regulators (e.g. from the PI/SPRI/WEI/NIPI), with reporting extending across all installations in the sector (examples include chemical processes and electric arc furnaces), so the sum of reported emissions is used in the NAEI. In cases where there are also activity data (e.g. annual production data) for the sector, an Implied Emission Factor (IEF) can be calculated (Emissions / Production) and used to validate the UK data against the EMEP/EEA Guidebook or other default EFs. Where there may be data gaps in the reporting (e.g. for a certain installation or pollutant, across the time series) then the Inventory Agency applies gap-filling assumptions using proxy data such as production data, economic indices, plant capacity data or emission trends of other pollutants.

For many industrial process emission sources, however, there are very few reported emissions data, and other methods are deployed, typically:

$$\textit{Emission} = \textit{Activity Data} \cdot \textit{Emission Factor}$$

Where available, emission factors are taken from the EMEP/EEA Guidebook, UK research or other literature sources, and are used in combination with activity data such as production and sales data from the ONS, for which the main dataset is the Production Communautaire (PRODCOM). However, this dataset is limited for many sectors due to aggregation across products / sectors (to protect commercially sensitive data), lack of explicit product mass data (as most data are in economic units) and categorisation of production data that are misaligned with inventory methods. Therefore, data are often supplemented through direct consultation with regulators, industry contacts and trade associations such as ISSB, British Geological Survey (BGS), MPA and British Glass amongst others. Other trade associations (e.g. the British Aerosol Manufacturers' Association) and industry contacts provide data periodically on product use, or annual sales data. However, domestic solvent consumption data supplied by industry contacts are often more reliable than production data for this sector due to the presence of numerous product types. Gap-filling techniques are applied to these consumption data where necessary using proxy statistics.

## Quarrying and Mining of Minerals (2A5a)

There are few active underground mines in the UK; most minerals are extracted from quarries. Production is dominated by aggregate minerals, clays and industrial materials. Emissions predominantly arise from extraction of the minerals and primary processing stages e.g. crushing. These are generally fugitive and as such, difficult to quantify.

## Method

Emissions estimates for PM are based on the Tier 2 EFs from the EMEP/EEA Guidebook, assuming medium-high emissions (this is a conservative approach since many UK quarries are regulated with dust suppression systems).

## Data sources

Activity data are taken from BGS statistics which consist of production data for each product type (sandstone, clays etc.), but these are not available for all types in the very latest years due to a 1-year time lag in publishing. In such cases, the Inventory Agency has extrapolated data from the latest year of data availability.

# Construction and Demolition (2A5b)

## Method

Emissions of PM from construction are estimated using the default method given in the EMEP/EEA Guidebook.

## Data sources

The EMEP/EEA Guidebook contains EFs for 4 types of construction: houses, apartments, non-residential buildings, and roads. Based on the method in the EMEP/EEA Guidebook, activity data for each type should be the annual area of new construction, but these do not exist for the UK. Thus, activity data are based on proxy statistics:

- **Houses and apartments:** The number and type of dwellings built (MHCLG); house type (NHBC, the National House-Building Council)
- **Non-residential buildings:** the value of construction work converted into Euros (ONS). This is multiplied by 0.001 to obtain the estimate for the affected area. Note that values may include road construction around the area of construction, so could be some degree of double-counting.
- **Roads:** The annually reported road length (DfT). The annual net change in road length is calculated for each road type. Annual increase in length is assumed to reflect the length of new roads constructed (and reported reductions are disregarded assuming they are due to method changes or road removal). Assumptions on the widths of different roads, e.g. motorways, A roads etc. and the presence of central reservations and/or hard shoulders has been made with the aid of GIS data from DfT.

## Iron and Steel Production (2C1)

UK iron and steel production leads to emissions from integrated steelworks (excluding those from coke production), electric arc steelworks, downstream processes (e.g. continuous casting; rolling of steel), and iron and steel foundries.

### Methodology

Emission estimates for all these processes are based on a bottom-up approach. Emissions are mostly obtained from operator data either directly or via inventories based on required reporting processes.

### Data sources

For most UK integrated works data are normally taken directly from operators from 1998 onwards. Data gaps are filled using data in the PI and WEI. However, these data are less detailed (no disaggregation by activity), so reconciliation is achieved based on the reported split of emissions in other years. For electric arc steelworks, emissions are reported in the PI/WEI/SPRI (no sites in NI). Emissions for the earlier part of the timeseries for processes at integrated and electric arc steelworks are estimated by extrapolation of EFs from later years.

Literature EFs, including EMEP/EEA defaults are used for some minor emission sources that are not operator-reported.

## Solvent and Other Product Use (including Coating Applications) (2D3)

Solvents are used by a wide range of industrial sectors and the general public (domestic solvent use). Industrial solvent applications (e.g. paints, inks, adhesives and other industrial coatings) often require that the solvent is evaporated at some stage. Similarly, in many consumer products (e.g. fragrances, polishes and aerosols), the solvents are expected to be released to the atmosphere upon product use.

### Data sources

Most industrial solvent-using processes in England, Wales and NI are regulated by local authorities. Therefore, any operator-reported emissions data are managed across hundreds of Local Authority (LA) records, often in hard copy, and so difficult to obtain. The reporting of emissions from larger processes under the EPR/E-PRTR does allow the emission estimates to reflect NMVOC reductions at those sites, although these sites will only constitute a minor proportion of the sector.

As a result of the lack of data for most industrial sites where solvents are used, data are instead mainly provided by suppliers of solvents or solvent-containing products such as paints and adhesives. As a result, emission estimates may not fully take account of reductions due to end-of-pipe abatement methods, which solvent / product suppliers may not be fully aware of.

For NMVOC emissions from domestic solvent use in consumer products, information is obtained from a market research company (Euromonitor) and from regular consultation with UK trade bodies (e.g. BAMA, UKCPI).

## Methodology

Emissions of NMVOCs from solvent use are mostly assumed equal to the solvent consumed in products after accounting for plant-level abatement measures in industrial processes. Some processes (e.g. publication gravure printing, seed oil extraction, and dry cleaning) include recovery and re-use of as much solvent as possible. For some applications (e.g. wood treatments and some bitumen grades) where the solvent is used but not entirely released, emissions are based on solvent consumption but include allowances for solvent not released.

Some other uses of solvents (e.g. paint and ink manufacture) do not rely on the solvent being evaporated (and losses are prevented as far as possible). As such, estimates for these emissions can be made using EFs assuming some percentage loss of solvent.

Some solvent processes (industrial coating) emit dust (e.g. application of coatings by spraying). Thus UK-specific EFs for these processes have been developed by combining various assumptions. Assumptions include the proportion of coatings in each sector applied by spraying, the average solids contents of the coatings, the average efficiency of the spraying transfer process and dust emission abatement, as well as the particle size distribution of PM.

## Pulp and Paper Industry (2H1)

### Methodology

Emissions are estimated using Tier 2 default methods given in the EMEP/EEA Guidebook.

### Data sources

Activity data are from the [Confederation of European Paper Industries](#). Data are only available from 2012 onwards, so for other years, emissions are based on extrapolation using paper and board [production statistics](#) from Forest Research and Index of Production data from the ONS.

Up until 2006 a split of activity is produced for neutral sulphite semi-chemical processes (NSSC) and mechanical pulping. From 2007 onwards, only mechanical pulping is used in the UK.

EFs are Tier 2 default factors taken from the EMEP/EEA Guidebook.

## Food and Beverages Industry (2H2)

Emissions occur from a variety of processes including bakeries, malting, animal feed manufacture, and production of fats and oils. However, the most significant emissions arise from the manufacture of Scotch Whisky and other spirits.

### Data sources

Activity data are sources from a range of government statistics (e.g. HMRC Alcohol Bulletin; Defra Family Food Survey), together with industry-specific information from organisations (e.g. the Scottish Whisky Association; Maltsters Association of GB; Federation of Bakers).

EFs for spirits manufacturing and brewing are UK-specific and derived based on information supplied by industry, since NMVOC emitting processes are often outside the scope of the EPR. Bread baking emissions are calculated based on the EMEP/EEA Guidebook EF for “White bread, typical European” which is consistent with Campden BRI’s measurements (the organisation that invented the UK’s main bread baking process - CBP (Chorleywood bread process)), based on consultation with their experts. Emission factors for other significant sources are taken from the EMEP/EEA Guidebook.

### Methodology

In most cases:

$$\textit{Emission} = \textit{Activity Data} \cdot \textit{Emission Factor}$$

Industry data are unavailable for sugar production, but estimates are based on UK plants recovering sugar from sugar beet (who report emissions in the PI) and includes limited data on NMVOC emissions.

## Source-specific QA/QC and verification (2)

Some emission estimates (for 2A, B, C, D and I) rely on emissions data reported in the PI/SPRI/WEI/NIPI. See QA/QC in the Energy 1A section for issues with these data.

QC of activity data for specific industries is also carried out between trade association data and other reference sources (e.g. comparison between Tata Steel and ISSB data). Discrepancies are investigated and resolved via stakeholder consultation. However, for many sources only one dataset is available, so cross-checking is not possible.

In the Construction and Demolition subcategory, uncertainty arises mainly from the EFs for the residential buildings, non-residential buildings and road construction sectors. There is also uncertainty in the activity data for the non-residential and road construction sectors where data are scarce.

## Planned Improvements in Industrial Processes and Use of Solvents (2)

The industrial process and product use sector covers a diverse range of sources and for many of these there are little to no regular data. Most estimates rely heavily on site-specific emissions data from regulators or activity and/or emissions data from industrial trade bodies. However, the large number of individual sites and distinct source categories mean that maintaining or improving estimates is very resource intensive. Therefore, few routine improvements can be planned and instead, the Inventory Agency looks to engage with stakeholders periodically to help update the inventory.

For many NMVOC sources in 2D3 (except domestic solvent use, 2D3a), emission estimates are largely based on data gathered over many years on an ad-hoc basis from process operators, trade associations and regulators. Thus, regular stakeholder consultation (resource intensive) must take place to supplement the data.

There is uncertainty in the emissions estimates for PM in these sectors since sources are mostly fugitive and emissions are hard to quantify. Many dust-emitting processes are regulated by LAs, so emissions are estimated using a top-down approach (e.g. use of literature EFs), but this approach does not account for existing abatement strategies that must exist. Increasing the level of detail of activities in these sources remains a priority.

# Agriculture (3)

## Summary

The agriculture sector includes emissions from livestock and arable crop production; the sector is by far the greatest source of emissions of NH<sub>3</sub> in the UK across the time series of the NAEI.

Dairy and beef cattle production contribute most to NH<sub>3</sub> emissions, but inorganic fertiliser application to crops is also a large contributor.

Manure management within the agriculture sector is also a key source of NMVOC emissions.

The methods for NH<sub>3</sub> and NMVOC emissions are described in this section; see the [IIR](#) for details on other pollutants.

## Key sources and pollutants

Table 19 - Key sources and pollutants in Agriculture (3)

NFR source category	NFR source category name	Pollutant	Proportion of total emissions for pollutant in 2024 (%)	% Change in emissions (1990 - 2024)
3B1a	Manure management - Dairy cattle	NH <sub>3</sub>	13.9	24.1
3B1a	Manure management - Dairy cattle	VOC	3.7	16.7
3B1b	Manure management - Non-dairy cattle	NH <sub>3</sub>	12.9	-12.5
3B1b	Manure management - Non-dairy cattle	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	1.3	-21.7
3B1b	Manure management - Non-dairy cattle	VOC	3.6	-15.0
3B4gii	Manure management - Broilers	PM <sub>10</sub>	2.2	52.0
3B4giv	Manure management - Other poultry	PM <sub>10</sub>	2.0	59.9
3Da1	Inorganic N-fertilizers (includes also urea application)	NH <sub>3</sub>	14.2	-29.8
3Da2a	Animal manure applied to soils	NH <sub>3</sub>	21.3	-29.9

NFR source category	NFR source category name	Pollutant	Proportion of total emissions for pollutant in 2024 (%)	% Change in emissions (1990 - 2024)
3Da2a	Animal manure applied to soils	VOC	5.6	24.7
3Da2c	"Other organic fertilisers applied to soils	NH <sub>3</sub>	8.1	NA <sup>5</sup>
3Da3	Urine and dung deposited by grazing animals	NH <sub>3</sub>	7.0	-24.0
3Dc	Farm-level agricultural operations including storage, handling and transport of agricultural products	PM <sub>10</sub>	6.1	-12.5

## Data sources

Table 20 - Key sources and pollutants in Agriculture (3)

NAEI source sub-categories	Pollutant coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
Agriculture livestock (all animals)	NH <sub>3</sub> ; NO <sub>x</sub> ; NMVOC; PM <sub>2.5</sub> ; PM <sub>10</sub>	UK model (using the mass-flow approach) for NH <sub>3</sub> and NO <sub>x</sub> see Webb & Misselbrook, 2004; AD · EF for NMVOC and PM	<u>Livestock Management Practices:</u> Defra Farm Practices Survey; Smith et al., 2000-01, EPRL & Fibropower (incinerated poultry litter); Peter Cottney (2019); Ferris (2021); Savage (2022) <u>Livestock statistics:</u> National Agricultural Survey & Cattle Tracing Scheme; <u>Nitrogen Excretion:</u> Thomas, 2004 & AFRC, 1993 (feed DM); Cottrill & Smith, 2007;	Default EFs; UK EF (for NH <sub>3</sub> ); NO <sub>x</sub> EFs are ratios of UK-specific N <sub>2</sub> O EFs
Agricultural livestock (animal manure applied to soils)	NH <sub>3</sub> ; NO <sub>x</sub>	UK model (using the mass-flow approach) for NH <sub>3</sub> and NO <sub>x</sub> see Webb & Misselbrook, 2004	<u>Livestock Management Practices:</u> Defra Farm Practices Survey; Smith et al., 2000-01, EPRL & Fibropower (incinerated poultry litter); <u>Livestock statistics:</u> National Agricultural Survey & Cattle Tracing Scheme; <u>Nitrogen Excretion:</u> Thomas, 2004 & AFRC, 1993 (feed DM); Cottrill & Smith, 2007; Defra WT1568 (2016)	UK EF (for NH <sub>3</sub> ); NO <sub>x</sub> EFs are ratios of UK-specific N <sub>2</sub> O EFs

<sup>5</sup> Emissions from this source began in 1991.

NAEI source sub-categories	Pollutant coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
Agricultural soils (other organic fertilisers applied to soils)	NH <sub>3</sub> ; NO <sub>x</sub>	UK model (using the mass-flow approach) for NH <sub>3</sub> and NO <sub>x</sub> see Webb & Misselbrook, 2004 for manure- based digestates; UK model (AD · EF for non-manure digestates)	<u>Feedstock quantities used in anaerobic digestion:</u>	UK EF (for NH <sub>3</sub> ); NO <sub>x</sub> EFs are ratios of UK-specific N <sub>2</sub> O EFs
Agricultural soils (Inorganic N- fertilizers)	NH <sub>3</sub> ; NO <sub>x</sub>	UK model (simple; process- based); Misselbrook et al., 2004 for NH <sub>3</sub> ; AD · EF for NO <sub>x</sub>	British Survey of Fertiliser Practice; DAERA stats & NI Farm Business Survey (for NI)	UK EFs (model); NO <sub>x</sub> EFs are ratios of UK- specific N <sub>2</sub> O EFs
N-excretion on pasture range and paddock (unspecified)	NH <sub>3</sub> ; NO <sub>x</sub>	AD · EF	Survey data (proportion of livestock grazing & proportion of year spent outdoors)	UK EFs
Agricultural soils (Farm-level agricultural operations)	PM <sub>2.5</sub> ; PM <sub>10</sub>	AD · EF	Total area of each crop; Amount of times emitting practice carried out	EMEP/EEA guidebook, 2016

NAEI source sub-categories	Pollutant coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
Crop residues	NH <sub>3</sub>	AD · EF	Surveyed (crop) and modelled (grass) dry matter yield and residue nitrogen content.	Ruijter and Huijsmann, 2019; EMEP/EEA guidebook, 2023

## Livestock management practices

### Methodology

#### NH<sub>3</sub>:

A Tier 3 methodology using the N-flow model is used for manure management using country-specific EFs for livestock housing, manure storage and manure spreading, and grazing. The N-flow model accounts for all N losses (NH<sub>3</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, NO, N<sub>2</sub>) and transformations (mineralisation/immobilisation) through the manure management system with NH<sub>3</sub> EFs expressed as a proportion of the Total Ammoniacal N (TAN) in the manure for a given emission source (Webb & Misselbrook, 2004).

NH<sub>3</sub> EFs at each management stage are expressed as a percentage of the TAN present within that stage. Other N additions (e.g. from bedding addition and losses (e.g. via leaching or denitrification) are modelled at each stage (with all assumed to occur from the TAN content of the manure). Several abatement strategies are also incorporated in the methodology<sup>6</sup>.

#### NMVOC:

A Tier 2 approach is used to estimate NMVOCs from manure management whereby EFs taken from the 2016 EMEP/EEA Guidebook are applied to UK livestock numbers.

## Soils

NH<sub>3</sub> emissions from soils derive from direct excretal returns by grazing livestock (including outdoor pigs and poultry), from manure application to land, from the application of other organic fertilisers to land (e.g. digestates from anaerobic digestion), and from synthetic N fertiliser application to land.

## Data sources

Emissions from grazing livestock are estimated using UK-specific activity data on the proportion of livestock associated with grazing and the proportion of the year those livestock spend outdoors. Quantities of digestates applied to land, by feedstock type (livestock manure, crops, food waste, other) are taken from the National Non-Food Crops Centre annual deployment report (NNFCC, 2024).

UK EFs for most sources are derived from experimental measurements (Carswell *et al.*, 2025<sup>6</sup>). EFs for non-manure digestates are based on a review by Tomlinson *et al.* (2019).

## Methodology

### NH<sub>3</sub>:

For livestock manure-based digestates, anaerobic digestion is included in the UK model as a manure management option, associated with a higher N mineralisation factor than for conventional manure storage, therefore giving a greater TAN content (as a proportion of the total N) at land spreading. NH<sub>3</sub> EFs expressed as a percentage of the TAN are assumed to be the same as for livestock slurries. From 2018, all digestates are assumed to be applied to land using low emission application techniques.

Emissions from fertiliser applications to agricultural land are estimated using a Tier 3 approach based on a simple process-based model (Misselbrook *et al.*, 2004), modified according to data from a Defra project (NT26). Each EF is associated with a maximum EF value which is then further modified according to soil, weather and other management factors (e.g. application rate). Soil placement of N fertiliser is considered an abatement measure as is the use of a urease inhibitor with urea fertiliser. The relationships are applied at a 10km<sup>2</sup> grid level across the UK using land use, soil, and climate data at that resolution combined with crop-specific fertiliser application rates (British Survey of Fertiliser Practice; NI Farm Business Survey) for each year and region.

Ammonia emissions from decomposing plant residues on the soil surface are calculated following the methodology of Ruijter and Huijsmann (2019) and the EMEP/EEA air pollutant emission inventory guidebook (Hutchings *et al.*, 2023). Residue ammonia emissions occur primarily from the regular cutting of grass for silage, with a dry matter loss proportional to the forage harvester efficacy and emissions only occurring when the residue nitrogen content is greater than 13.2 g N kg<sup>-1</sup> dm.

## Source-specific QA/QC and verification (3)

Model output including emissions estimates, activity data, and implied EFs are checked against default EF values and consistency with previous years. Trends in emissions per subcategory are plotted (from 1990) and any large deviations are scrutinised.

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<sup>6</sup> [https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/assets/documents/reports/cat07/2509190841\\_UK\\_Agriculture\\_Ammonia\\_Emission\\_Report\\_1990-2023\\_26062025\\_Final.pdf](https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/assets/documents/reports/cat07/2509190841_UK_Agriculture_Ammonia_Emission_Report_1990-2023_26062025_Final.pdf)

Following compilation, the inventory spreadsheet and report are checked by the wider compilation team (ADAS, Rothamsted, Cranfield University and UK CEH) and sent to the Inventory Agency and Defra for final checks.

The UK participates in the European Agricultural Gaseous Emissions Research (EAGER) network which has a strong focus on comparing approaches and parameter values used in the NH<sub>3</sub> emissions inventories of the participating countries (see Reidy *et al.* 2008).

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## **Planned Improvements in Agriculture (3)**

There is continued reviewing of the scientific literature to revise and refine UK- specific EFs. Reviews of UK livestock feed data and N excretion by different livestock categories are underway in specific Defra projects.

## Waste (5)

The waste sector includes emissions from a range of sources related to waste management, treatment and disposal. This includes emissions from equipment involved in the waste sector, incineration, and application and decomposition of waste.

Emissions from most of these sources do not constitute a large proportion of UK emission totals and so the methodology is not included in this document (see the [IIR](#) for details). However, emissions from open burning of waste and accidental fires and bonfire night are also reported within this category and are key inventory sources for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>.

### Key sources and pollutants

Table 21 - Key sources and pollutants in Waste

NFR source category	NFR source category name	Pollutant	Proportion of total emissions for pollutant in 2024 (%)	% Change in emissions (1990 - 2024)
5C2	Open burning of waste	PM <sub>10</sub>	5.6	17.4
5C2	Open burning of waste	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	10.5	18.7
5E	Other waste (specified in the IIR)	PM <sub>10</sub>	1.3	-48.3
5E	Other waste (specified in the IIR)	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	2.4	-48.3

## Data sources

Table 22 - An overview of methods and data sources in Waste

NAEI source sub-categories	Pollutant coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
Residential Outdoor - Bonfires	All	AD x EF	2018-19 & 2022-23 Defra DBS with proxy data to develop time series.	UK EFs from the EFDSF; Default factors (US EPA, EMEP/EEA).
Small-Scale Waste Burning	PM; NO <sub>x</sub> ; NMVOC	AD x EF	Combination of survey data (Municipal Waste Composition: A Review of Municipal Waste Component Analyses. Study years 2006/7 (Defra, 2009); Waste wood: A short review of recent research (Defra, 2012); National municipal waste composition, England (WRAP 2017)	Mixture of US EPA (2004) & UK-specific factors
Accidental fires (dwellings, other buildings & vehicles)	NO <sub>x</sub> ; NMVOC; PM	AD x EF	Government statistics for the number and type of incidents fire rescue services attended; Inventory Agency profiles to predict scale of fires and assumptions of quantity of material combusted	Mixture of US EPA (2004), EMEP/EEA default factors & UK-specific factors

NAEI source sub-categories	Pollutant coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
Bonfire night	NMVOC; NO <sub>x</sub> ; SO <sub>2</sub> ; PM	AD x EF	Inventory Agency estimates of the quantity of material burnt in bonfires occurring on and around 5 <sup>th</sup> November in the UK and 11 <sup>th</sup> Night in Northern Ireland (July 11 <sup>th</sup> ).	UK EFs for wet wood burnt in open fires from the EFDSF

## Methodology

### Open burning of Waste (5C2)

Emission estimates in the NAEI from small-scale waste burning comprise emissions from combustion of agricultural waste, and also from the burning of treated wood, commercial and domestic waste (including garden bonfires and domestic grates), and emissions from disposal by burning of untreated and treated waste wood (i.e. treated with fungicides and used in construction). For all sources, the activity data are not routinely collected as annual statistics across the timeseries. Instead, the NAEI generates the timeseries estimates of activity based on available survey data and published statistics, together with proxy data to extrapolate across years where data are missing. The activity estimates take account of a national waste burning habits survey of a thousand UK households completed on behalf of Defra in 2010, improving the representation of numbers of households and allotments across the timeseries.

Following research from the Domestic Burning Survey (DBS), undertaken by Defra on the solid fuel burning practices of UK households covering 2018-2019 ([Defra, 2020](#)), and 2022-2023<sup>7</sup>, the estimation method for this sector has been further revised. This has allowed domestic outdoor burning to be disaggregated into bonfires (reported in NFR 5C2) and chimeneas and firepits (reported in 1A4bi). It is assumed that users burn wet wood on bonfires, whilst dry and seasoned wood is burnt on the appliances.

### Accidental fires (5E)

Government data on fire statistics are used for the number and type of incident the UK fire and rescue services are required to attend annually with the type of incident

<sup>7</sup> Published here: <https://sciencesearch.defra.gov.uk/ProjectDetails?ProjectId=21760>

disaggregated by buildings and vehicles. Detailed statistics on the scale of the fire are only available for dwellings and other buildings for 1987-2001, and for vehicles for 1985-2007. For other years, the Inventory Agency makes assumptions about the quantity of material burnt and the scale of the fire by creating profiles for buildings for example (i.e. whole room/building destroyed etc.). For fires contained to a single item, it is assumed that 1kg of materials is combusted, for example. The mass of material can then be converted into a material type (e.g. wood, plastic, textiles etc.) after which EFs can be applied.

## **Communal Bonfires (5E)**

Bonfire Night in GB (5<sup>th</sup> November) and Eleventh Night bonfires in Northern Ireland (11<sup>th</sup> July) are treated as a separate source from other outdoor burning events due to their large-scale organised nature and the potential air quality impact over a short period of time.

Backyard burning of waste and other bonfires throughout the year are reported elsewhere in the Waste category (Open burning of waste, 5C2).

Emission estimates for Bonfire Night and Eleventh Night are based on Inventory Agency estimates of material burnt in bonfires at firework displays. As it is assumed that users burn wet wood on bonfires, emission factors for wet wood burnt in open fires from the EFDSF (Emission Factors for Domestic Solid Fuels) have been used.

## **Source-specific QA/QC and verification (5)**

Please see the General Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) procedures.

Data on waste sector activities are generally limited in coverage and detail across the time-series.

Additional activity data and estimates for quantities of material burnt for bonfires are based on the UK Inventory Agency's estimates for the UK. These are highly uncertain due to the lack of viable UK data. Over recent years, both the completeness and accuracy across the waste inventory have improved. However, certain elements (e.g. the number of accidental fires) will always be uncertain.

## **Planned Improvements in Waste (5)**

The NAEI team operate a continuous improvement programme that spans all sources sectors of the inventory. Among the inventory improvements foreseen, consideration is given on the one hand to improvements influencing the whole system of the national inventory and, on the other hand, improvements aimed at specific activity sectors.

## Other (6A)

The “Other” category captures sources not covered in other parts of the inventory. It includes emissions from non-agriculture livestock such as horses, domestic pets, non-agriculture fertiliser application (domestically and on parks and golf courses) and infant nappies. However, only category 6A is a key source (of NH<sub>3</sub>) and so only the methods behind calculating NH<sub>3</sub> emissions from these sources are included in this section. Methods for calculating emissions from non-agriculture livestock can be found in the [IIR](#).

### Key sources and pollutants

Table 23 - Key sources and pollutants in Other (6A)

NFR source category	NFR source category name	Pollutant	Proportion of total emissions for pollutant in 2024 (%)	% Change in emissions (1990 - 2024)
6A	Other (included in national total for entire territory) (specified in the IIR)	NH <sub>3</sub>	5.0	56.1

### Data sources

Table 24 - An overview of methods and data sources in Other (6A)

NFR source category	NAEI source sub-categories	Pollutant coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
6A	Infant emissions from nappies	NH <sub>3</sub>	AD · EF	UK population data for <4 years	UK EFs
6A	Domestic pets	NH <sub>3</sub>	AD · EF	UK population data for domestic dogs, cats, and chickens.	UK EFs
6A	Domestic and Professional horses	NH <sub>3</sub> , NMVOCs, NO <sub>x</sub> , PM	AD · EF	UK population data for 'non-agricultural	UK EFs

NFR source category	NAEI source sub-categories	Pollutant coverage	Method	Activity Data (AD)	Emission Factors (EF)
				“normal” horses’, and Professional horses	
6A	Domestic garden fertiliser application	NH <sub>3</sub>	AD · EF	Total amount of non-agriculture fertiliser used in the UK	Misselbrook <i>et al.</i> , 2017
6A	Park and garden, golf courses fertiliser application	NH <sub>3</sub>	AD · EF	Total amount of non-agriculture fertiliser used in the UK	Misselbrook <i>et al.</i> , 2017

## Methodology

All ammonia emissions in this category are based on research by UK CEH.

### Infant emissions from nappies:

Population data for the under 4-year age group are used in combination with assumed NH<sub>3</sub>-N generation rates for sewage to give kt of ammonia per head of population.

### Domestic pets:

Ammonia emission estimates for domestic pets are provided by UK CEH based on the UK population estimates for cats, dogs, and chickens and an EF estimate per animal. The emission factor for dogs accounts for differences in size class (small, medium, large), whilst the emission factor for cats do not account for size class – due to smaller variations in body size relative to dogs. The emission for chickens is also estimated on a per animal basis.

### Fertiliser application to golf courses, parks and gardens:

Ammonia emission estimates for this category are provided by UK CEH. The average ammonia volatilisation rate for fertiliser application is based on EFs for fertiliser application to agricultural grassland (Misselbrook *et al.*, 2017). For parks and gardens and golf courses an average of all fertiliser types was used.

For fertiliser application to domestic gardens, the total estimated amount of non-agriculture fertiliser used in the UK is used (Datamonitor, 1998) in combination with assumed rates of average N content and assumed rates of volatilisation (Misselbrook et al., 2017).

## **Source-specific QA/QC and verification (6A)**

Many of the emission estimates reported under “Other” come from sources with more approximate activity data and emission factors based on literature. Where possible national statistics have been used to help better define the sources which have in-built QA/QC processes. Emission estimate methodologies have adopted innovative approaches to provide robust estimates.

## **Planned Improvements in Other (6A)**

Building on the research undertaken for the 2026 submission to produce updated emission factors for domestic pets (cats and dogs), in future, it will be useful to understand how the updated parameters vary across the timeseries to generate a more accurate series of emission factors.

# Summary of Uncertainty

Table 25 - A qualitative summary of the overall uncertainty for each pollutant

Pollutant	Chemical symbol	Overall uncertainty rating for total emissions in 2024
Ammonia	NH <sub>3</sub>	Moderate
Nitrogen Oxides	NO <sub>x</sub>	Low
Non-Methane Volatile Organic Compounds	NMVOCs	Moderate
Particulate Matter	PM	High
Sulphur Dioxide	SO <sub>2</sub>	Moderate

Uncertainty analysis for national estimates of NAEI pollutants is undertaken in accordance with the methodological guidance from the EMEP/EEA Guidebook, using both the Tier 1 uncertainty aggregation method annually, and less regularly, the more complex and comprehensive Tier 2 Monte-Carlo analysis - which can more accurately combine large non-normally distributed uncertainties.

The results from these analyses can be found in the [Informative Inventory Report \(IIR\)](#), including a split by NFR code. Table 25 presents a qualitative summary of the overall uncertainty for each pollutant.

The uncertainty analyses results are also used to inform priorities for the inventory Improvement Programme, to improve UK data and methods.

## Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>)

Uncertainties in NH<sub>3</sub> estimates are dominated by uncertainties in estimating emissions from agricultural sources (the largest source for UK NH<sub>3</sub>). Despite using a Tier 3 methodology to generate estimates, it is not currently possible to fully represent the many factors influencing emissions from diffuse sources such as animal stocking densities, weather, soil type and conditions etc. (which are reflected in the uncertainties associated with individual EFs).

## Nitrogen oxides

Uncertainty in NO<sub>x</sub> emissions is driven by uncertainty in emissions from fuel combustion, despite the uncertainty in emissions from fuel combustion being relatively low compared to other sectors. Road transport and non-road mobile machinery are a major component of NO<sub>x</sub> uncertainties, partly because they form a large proportion of total NO<sub>x</sub> emissions, but also because there is significant uncertainty in their emission factors and how they are applied (e.g. the relative fuel use of vehicles in different Euro emission classes). In the case of off-road vehicles, there is also significant uncertainty in the total fuel use. Emissions from large stationary combustion plants are associated with lower uncertainty, as they arise from a large number of installations, none of which individually dominate total emissions, meaning uncertainties for individual plant partly average out when combined.

## NMVOCS

Uncertainty in estimates of NMVOC emissions comes from several sources. There is higher uncertainty in the EFs for many sectors (e.g. solvent use and industrial processes) when compared to NO<sub>x</sub> and a lack of reliable activity data for sources such as agriculture. However, since NMVOC emissions are spread across many sources, the overall uncertainty in national emissions tends to average out.

## Particulate Matter

PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> estimates are subject to high uncertainty due to both uncertain EFs and activity data. For many sources, emissions data and/or EFs are available for total PM only and PM<sub>10</sub> must be estimated based on assumptions about the size distribution of particle emissions from that source. Furthermore, many sources of PM are diffuse or fugitive and therefore difficult or impossible to measure accurately, which further increases the uncertainty.

## Sulphur Dioxide

SO<sub>2</sub> emissions are relatively accurate for the largest sources, as emissions are largely determined by the sulphur content of solid and liquid fuels, which is characterised through comprehensive analyses. However, when expressed as a percentage, overall uncertainty has increased since the early 2000s. This reflects substantial emission reductions from large, well-regulated sources with high-confidence estimates (e.g. power stations), leading to a greater proportional contribution from less regulated sectors with more limited data (e.g. domestic coal use). As a result, emissions are now weighted more heavily towards higher-uncertainty sources, increasing overall uncertainty.”

# Summary of general Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) procedures

The inventory aims to ensure high quality standards through transparency, completeness, consistency, comparability and accuracy (IPCC TCCCA quality principles). To achieve these quality principles, the inventory is subject to rigorous QA/QC procedures that comply with the guidance published in the latest EMEP/EEA Guidebook, and the more comprehensive guidance on GHG inventories (Tier 1 procedures outlined in the [2006 IPCC Guidelines](#)), which is supplemented by the [2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines](#).

The QA/QC system for the UK NAEI, including verification and treatment of confidentiality issues, comprises:

- **Quality Control** (e.g. raw data checks, calculation checks, output checks) to minimise the risk of errors within the available resources to deliver the inventory.
- **Quality Assurance** (e.g. peer reviews, bilateral reviews, expert reviews) whereby independent experts periodically review all or part of the inventory to identify potential areas for improvement.
- **Verification** where alternate independent datasets are available to compare against inventory data and trends.

The NAEI complies with all the Tier 1 QA/QC requirements but also goes further by undertaking source-specific (Tier 2) measures which are typically applied to key sources, or where complex estimation methods (Tier 2, Tier 3) are applied. The main elements of the Tier 1 QA system requirements are:

- There is an Inventory Agency (consortium managed by Ricardo Energy & Environment)
- A QA/QC plan
- A QA/QC manager
- Reporting documentation and archiving procedures
- Quality Control (checking) procedures
- Quality Assurance (independent reviews)
- Verification procedures
- Checks for data calculation errors and inventory completeness
- Time-series consistency checks
- Reviews of methods, data sources and assumptions
- Review of internal documentation
- Documentation of methodologies and underlying assumptions
- Documentation of all undertaken QA/QC activities

Most of the compilation and maintenance of the NAEI is currently undertaken by Ricardo, with ADAS responsible for compiling the inventory for the agriculture sector. Ricardo is also responsible for coordinating QA/QC activities across all inventory stakeholders.

## Pre-inventory QA/QC (data suppliers)

Many of the datasets used by the Inventory Agency come from data provider organisations that are UK Government Departments, agencies, research establishments or consultants working on behalf of UK Government or trade associations. Several of these (e.g. DESNZ, DfT, Defra, ONS and BGS) qualify as UK National Statistical Agencies and thus abide by strict statistical QA/QC standards.

Other organisations supplying important datasets to the inventory (e.g. UK environmental regulatory agencies supplying installation-level data) have their own QA/QC systems. When data is taken from individual companies or organisations, the Inventory Agency requests annual information on the QA/QC systems and uncertainties related to the data.

## Quality objectives

The objectives of the QA/QC plan are to ensure that estimates in the air pollutant inventory are of a suitably high quality to meet the methodological and reporting requirements for UK submissions, as set out in the EMEP/EEA Guidebook.

Aside from quality, time and resource are also limiting factors for a given project (three components of the quality triangle). More time and resource are directed towards method development, compilation, reporting, and QA/QC activities for key source categories than for source categories with small contributions to emissions totals.

## Roles and responsibilities

The inventory QA/QC plan sets out specific responsibilities for the different QA (review) and QC (data controls, checking) activities, and to different roles within the inventory compilation and reporting team. These are embedded within compilation and processing spreadsheets and databases.

Training and project management communication across the Inventory Agency ensures that these responsibilities are clear across the team, with specific tasks and checks signed off at appropriate stages throughout the inventory process. The following responsibilities are outlined in the UK Inventory QA/QC plan:

- Senior Responsible Officer
- QA/QC Manager
- Technical Directors / Work Package Leaders / Knowledge leaders
- Project Manager
- Sector Experts
- Sub-contractors
- Governance Committees / External Review Experts / QA Auditors

## Quality Control and Documentation

NAEI Quality Control (checking, documentation and archiving) occurs throughout the data gathering, compilation and reporting cycle. Unless the data passes each step of the following quality criteria in order, it does not advance to the next stage in the QC system:

1. Checking of input data for scope, completeness and consistency with data for recent years and (where available) verification against other independent datasets;
2. Analysis of internal inventory energy and mass balances, and other statistics assumptions against National Statistics input data (e.g. DUKES and ONS);
3. Completeness checks (e.g. inclusion of all relevant pollutants, Source-Activity or missing estimates);
4. Recalculation checks (i.e. checks against the previous inventory);
5. Time series consistency checks and benchmarking for step changes, trends and outliers;
6. Method implementation checks (e.g. unit checks; EFs are consistent across years; other sense checks etc.);
7. Reporting checks (i.e. correct allocation to NFR categories).

Checking and documentation is facilitated by specific custom data storage and handling systems alongside procedures developed for the NAEI compilation including:

- A database of contacts
- Individual data processing tools
- Annual pre-processing and core NAEI models (containing log of all QA/QC)
- A core database (NAEI database)
- QA/QC Dashboard and Digital Data Portal
- Data extraction checking routines and procedures
- Official annual reports
- Archiving

Note that all data are traceable to its original source by assignment of a unique reference number.

## Quality assurance and verification

These activities provide an objective, independent review of the data, methods and assumptions to assess compliance with reporting requirements, and identify areas of improvement.

The specific QA activities and procedures are:

- External peer review (including annual international reviews, for example under [CLRTAP](#))
- Bilateral reviews with other countries
- Stakeholder consultation and user feedback
- Verification activity

- The 'Inventory Improvement Programme'
- Capacity building and knowledge sharing
- Independent review of the Inventory QA/QC procedures (NAEI - Lot 2)

## Treatment of confidentiality

NAEI input data from some sources are subject to commercial confidentiality, notably where the production data and/or activity data for a specific installation or company are identifiable. For example, there are confidential data indicating the plant production capacity for specific industrial plant (e.g. cement kilns, chemical plant), annual sales data of specific commodities (e.g. sporting goods) and also details of fuel use for specific installations (e.g. plant-level data from UK ETS-regulated installations).

It is important therefore that in the management of these data within the NAEI system, and in the publication of emission estimates (and other data) relating to these data sources, that the NAEI does not disclose such commercially sensitive information.

There are several mechanisms that the Inventory Agency, Ricardo, its sub- contractors and the wider inventory compilation teams (e.g. ADAS, Rothamsted Research) deploy to ensure that disclosure of confidential data does not occur:

- The provision of sensitive raw data to the Inventory Agency, if not through direct communication with the data source organisations, is managed via DESNZ using file encryption with password protection;
- Confidential data, such as the UK ETS dataset, is managed by the Inventory Agency on a password-protected secure server which has limited access rights, i.e. access is limited to the relevant compilers and checkers only;
- Within the NAEI database tables, there are specific data fields to identify confidential data. These are applied to cover all the associated data, such as emissions, activity data and EFs, in order to minimise the risk of mistakenly releasing sufficient information that the confidential data can be inferred. These database data fields then enable ease of identification of risk of data disclosure in any NAEI database output (e.g. data at different spatial scales, such as for a specific Devolved Government, Local Authority or in mapping outputs);
- Confidential data assignments are periodically reviewed, and in every routine data request for input data for the NAEI the organisation providing the data is given an opportunity to identify confidential data;
- Where data outputs use the confidential data, the data are reported at an aggregated level – either with other sources (e.g. in the case of sporting goods), or over a larger geographical area (e.g. in the case of emissions mapping outputs which are usually at 1 km<sup>2</sup> resolution, data for some sources are aggregated and spread over a larger area, typically 10 km<sup>2</sup>). This may mean that the UK cannot report exactly in line with the expected level of sectoral resolution as defined in the NFR reporting format for air pollutants, but

this is considered an acceptable trade-off in data quality and is necessary to protect sensitive data.

# Glossary

AD – Activity data	LFG – Landfill Gas
AIS – Automatic Identification System	LGV – Light Goods Vehicle
ANPR – Automatic Number Plate Recognition	LOSP – Light Organic Solvent Preservative
AQEG – Air Quality Expert Group	LPG – Liquid Petroleum Gas
BAMA – British Aerosol Manufacturer’s Association	MANDE – Manure analysis database
BASA – British Adhesives and Sealants Association	MCA – Maritime and Coastguard Agency
BCF – British Coatings Federation	MFA - Mineral Products Association
BEIS – Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy	MSW – Municipal Solid Waste
BGS – British geological Survey	N – Nitrogen
BRT – Below Reporting Threshold	N <sub>2</sub> O – Nitrous oxide
CET – Central England Temperature	NAEI – UK National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory
CLRTAP – Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution	NECR – UK National Emission Ceilings Regulations
CO <sub>2</sub> – Carbon dioxide	NFR – Nomenclature For Reporting
DAERA – Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (Northern Ireland)	NH <sub>3</sub> - Ammonia
DBS – Domestic Burning Survey	NHBC – National House-Building Council
Defra – Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs	NI – Northern Ireland
DERV – Diesel Oil for Road Vehicles	NIPi – Northern Ireland Pollution Inventory
DESNZ – Department for Energy Security and Net Zero	NMVOc – Non-methane Volatile Organic Compound
DfT – Department for Transport	NNFCC – National Non-Food Crops Centre
DRDNI – Department for Regional Development Northern Ireland	NO <sub>2</sub> (NO <sub>x</sub> ) – Nitrogen dioxide (Nitrogen oxides)
DUKES – Digest of UK Energy Statistics (DESNZ)	NRMM – Non-Road Mobile Machinery
EAGER – European Agricultural Gaseous Emissions Research	OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
ECUK – Energy Consumption in the UK	ONS – Office for National Statistics
EEA – European Environment Agency	OPG – Other Petroleum Gas
EEMS – Environmental and Emissions Monitoring System	OPRED – Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning
EF – Emission factor	OPTIS – Offshore Platform and Terminal Inventory System
EFDSF – Emission Factors for Domestic Solid Fuels	OT – Overseas Territory
EFW – Energy from Waste	PI – England’s Pollution Inventory
EMEP/EEA Guidebook – European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme/European Environment Agency Guidebook	PM – Particulate Matter
EPR – Environmental Permitting Regulations	PRODCOM – Production Communautaire
EPRL – Energy Power Resources Limited	QA/QC – Quality Assurance and Quality Control
E-PRTR – European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register	RVP – Reid Vapour Pressure
ESIG – European Solvents Industry Group	SO <sub>2</sub> – Sulphur dioxide
FPSO – Floating Production Storage and Offloading	SPRI – Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory
GB – Great Britain	SSF – Solid Smokeless Fuels
GEMIS - Global Emissions Model for integrated Systems	SWA – Scotch Whisky Association
HGV – Heavy Goods Vehicle	TAN – Total Ammoniacal Nitrogen
HMRC – HM Revenue & Customs	TCCCA – Transparency, Completeness, Consistency, Comparability and Accuracy – QA/QC objectives
IEF – Implied Emission Factor – Emissions divided by Production	TfL – Transport for London
IIR – Informative Inventory Report	THC – Total Hydrocarbon
IMO – International Maritime Organisation	TRL – Transport Research Laboratory UK – United Kingdom
IoP – UK Institute of Petroleum	UK CEH – United Kingdom Centre for Ecology & Hydrology
IPCC – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change	UK ETS – United Kingdom Emission Trading System
ISSB – International Steel Statistics Bureau	UKOOA – UK Offshore Operators Association
LA – Local Authority	UNECE – United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
	US EPA AP-42 – United States Environmental Protection Agency’s Compilation of Air EFs vkm – Vehicle kilometres
	WEI – Welsh Emissions Inventory
	WRAP – Waste & Resources Action Programme

## Annex A

# Details of emission source groups

The tables in this Annex provide detail on the NFR (Nomenclature For Reporting) codes, the source names and the activity names, for various emission sources used throughout this statistical release where these are not specifically defined by [the NFR code glossary](#) or where data for several NFR, activity and source codes are grouped together. Detailed emissions data is available on the NAEI website (see [Pivot Table viewer](#)).

Table A 1 - Corresponding NFR, Source Name and Activity Name for each group

Group	NFR	Source Name	Activity Name
Dairy Cows	3B1a, 3Da2a, 3Da2c, 3Da3	Dairy - Dairy Cows; Dairy Cows Wastes – Direct; Dairy Cows FAM – Direct; Dairy - Dairy Cows – Digestate; Dairy Cows PRP – Direct; Housing; Silage – Housing; Silage – Storage; Storage; FAM – direct; Spread Manure; Grazing; PRP – direct; Wastes – Direct; Yarding; Spread Digestate	Housing; Storage; Excreta N managed as manure; Spreading; Manure N applied to soil; Grazing; Excreta N returned at grazing; Dairy - Dairy Cows; Dairy - Dairy Cows - Digestate
	3B1b, 3Da2a, 3Da2c, 3Da3, 3B1a	Other cattle - Beef females for slaughter; Other cattle - Bulls for breeding; Other cattle - Cereal fed bull; Other cattle – Cows; Other cattle - Dairy Calves Female; Other cattle - Dairy In Calf Heifers; Other cattle - Dairy Replacements Female; Other cattle - Heifers for breeding; Other cattle – Steers; Other cattle - Beef females for slaughter – Digestate; Other cattle - Bulls for breeding – Digestate; Other cattle - Cereal fed bull – Digestate; Other cattle - Cows – Digestate; Other cattle - Dairy Calves Female – Digestate; Other cattle - Dairy In Calf Heifers – Digestate; Other cattle - Dairy Replacements Female – Digestate; Other cattle - Heifers for breeding – Digestate; Other cattle - Steers – Digestate; Wastes – Direct; Housing; Silage – Housing; Silage – Storage;	Housing; Spreading; Grazing; Dairy - Other cattle; Other cattle - Beef females for slaughter; Other cattle - Bulls for breeding; Other cattle - Cereal fed bull; Other cattle – Cows; Other cattle - Dairy Calves Female; Other cattle - Dairy In Calf Heifers; Other cattle - Dairy Replacements Female; Other cattle - Heifers for breeding; Other cattle – Steers; Other cattle; Storage; Yarding; Other cattle - Beef females for slaughter – Digestate; Other cattle - Bulls for breeding – Digestate; Other cattle - Cereal fed bull – Digestate; Other cattle - Cows – Digestate; Other cattle - Dairy Calves Female – Digestate; Other cattle - Dairy In Calf Heifers –

Group	NFR	Source Name	Activity Name
Pig		Storage; FAM – direct; Spread Manure; Grazing; PRP – direct; Yarding; Spread Digestate	Digestate; Other cattle - Dairy Replacements Female – Digestate; Other cattle - Heifers for breeding – Digestate; Other cattle - Steers - Digestate
	3B3, 3Da2a, 3Da2c, 3Da3	Pig – Boar; Pig - Fattening Pig < 20 kg; Pig - Fattening Pig > 80 kg; Pig - Fattening Pig 20 to 80 kg; Pig – Gilt; Pig – Sow; Pigs Wastes – Direct; Pigs FAM – Direct; Pig - Boar – Digestate; Pig - Fattening Pig < 20 kg – Digestate; Pig - Fattening Pig > 80 kg – Digestate; Pig - Fattening Pig 20 to 80 kg – Digestate; Pig - Gilt – Digestate; Pig - Sow – Digestate; Pigs PRP – Direct; Housing; Storage; Wastes – Direct; FAM – direct; Spread Manure; Spread Digestate; Grazing; PRP - direct	Housing; Excreta N managed as manure; Spreading; Manure N applied to soil; Grazing; Excreta N returned at grazing; Pig – Boar; Pig - Fattening Pig < 20 kg; Pig - Fattening Pig > 80 kg; Pig - Fattening Pig 20 to 80 kg; Pig – Gilt; Pig – Sow; Pigs; Pig - Boar – Digestate; Pig - Fattening Pig < 20 kg – Digestate; Pig - Fattening Pig > 80 kg – Digestate; Pig - Fattening Pig 20 to 80 kg – Digestate; Pig - Gilt – Digestate; Pig - Sow - Digestate
	3B2, 3Da2a, 3Da3	Sheep – Ewe; Sheep – Lamb; Sheep – Ram; Sheep Wastes – Direct; Sheep FAM – Direct; Sheep PRP – Direct; Housing; Silage – Housing; Silage – Storage; Storage; Wastes – Direct; FAM – direct; Spread Manure; Grazing; PRP - direct	Storage; Excreta N managed as manure; Spreading; Manure N applied to soil; Grazing; Excreta N returned at grazing; Sheep – Ewe; Sheep – Lamb; Sheep – Ram; Sheep

Group	NFR	Source Name	Activity Name
Goats	3B4d, 3Da2a, 3Da3	Goats; Goats Wastes – Direct; Goats FAM – Direct; Goats PRP – Direct; Housing; Silage – Housing; Silage – Storage; Storage; Wastes – Direct; FAM – direct; Spread Manure; Grazing; PRP - direct	Housing; Excreta N managed as manure; Spreading; Manure N applied to soil; Grazing; Excreta N returned at grazing; Goats
Deer	3B4h, 3Da2a, 3Da3	Deer; Deer Wastes – Direct; Deer FAM – Direct; Deer PRP – Direct; Housing; Storage; Wastes – Direct; FAM – direct; Spread Manure; Grazing; PRP - direct	Housing; Excreta N managed as manure; Spreading; Manure N applied to soil; Grazing; Excreta N returned at grazing; Deer
Agricultural Horses	3B4e, 3Da2a, 3Da3	Agricultural Horses; Agricultural Horses Wastes – Direct; Agricultural Horses FAM – direct; Agricultural Horses PRP – direct; Housing; Silage – Housing; Silage – Storage; Storage; Wastes – Direct; FAM – direct; Spread Manure; Grazing; PRP - direct	Housing; Excreta N managed as manure; Spreading; Manure N applied to soil; Grazing; Excreta N returned at grazing; Agricultural Horses
Poultry	3B4gi, 3B4gii, 3B4giii, 3B4giv, 3Da2a, 3Da2c, 3Da3	Poultry - Laying Hens; Poultry - Laying Hens Wastes – Direct; Poultry – Broilers; Poultry - Broilers Wastes – Direct; Poultry – Turkeys; Poultry - Turkeys Wastes – Direct; Poultry - Breeding Flock; Poultry – Ducks; Poultry – Geese; Poultry - Growing Pullets; Poultry – Other; Poultry - Other Wastes – Direct; Poultry - Broilers FAM – Direct; Poultry - Laying Hens FAM – Direct; Poultry - Other FAM – Direct; Poultry - Turkeys FAM – Direct;	Housing; Excreta N managed as manure; Spreading; Manure N applied to soil; Grazing; Excreta N returned at grazing; Poultry - Laying Hens; Poultry – Broilers; Poultry – Turkeys; Poultry - Breeding Flock; Poultry – Ducks; Poultry – Geese; Poultry - Growing Pullets; Poultry – Other; Poultry - Laying Hens – Digestate; Poultry - Broilers – Digestate; Poultry - Turkeys – Digestate;

Group	NFR	Source Name	Activity Name
Non agricultural animals		Poultry - Breeding Flock – Digestate; Poultry - Broilers – Digestate; Poultry - Ducks – Digestate; Poultry - Geese – Digestate; Poultry - Growing Pullets – Digestate; Poultry - Laying Hens – Digestate; Poultry - Other – Digestate; Poultry - Turkeys – Digestate; Poultry - Laying Hens PRP – Direct; Poultry - Other PRP – Direct; Poultry - Turkeys PRP – Direct; Housing; Storage; Wastes – Direct; FAM – direct; Spread Manure; Spread Digestate; Grazing; PRP - direct	Poultry - Breeding Flock – Digestate; Poultry - Ducks – Digestate; Poultry - Geese – Digestate; Poultry - Growing Pullets – Digestate; Poultry - Other - Digestate
	6A	Domestic Horses; Professional horses; Wastes; FAM – direct; Grazing; Housing; PRP – direct; Silage – Housing; Silage – Storage; Spread Manure; Storage; Domestic pets	Grazing; Housing; Spreading; Domestic Horses; Professional Horses; Manure and excreta
Non-manure digestate spreading	3Da2c	Crop Digestates - Total N; Food Digestates - Total N; Other organic residue Digestates - Total N; Crop Digestates – TAN; Food Digestates – TAN; Other organic residue Digestates - TAN	Spreading

Group	NFR	Source Name	Activity Name
Shipping	1A3dii	Inland goods-carrying vessels; Motorboats / workboats (e.g. canal boats, dredgers, service boats, tourist boats, river boats); Personal watercraft e.g. jet ski; Sailing boats with auxiliary engines; Shipping – coastal; Shipping between UK and Bermuda; Shipping between UK and CDs; Shipping between UK and Gibraltar; Shipping between UK and OTs (excl. Gib and Bermuda); Marine engines	Gas oil; DERV; Petrol; Fuel oil; Lubricants; Biogas in the gas grid; Natural gas
	1A	Heat supply; Power stations; Iron and steel - combustion plant; Collieries – combustion; Non-Ferrous Metal (combustion); Vehicle manufacture (combustion); Chemicals (combustion); Pulp, Paper and Print (combustion); Food & drink, tobacco (combustion); Mineral products (other): combustion; NRMM: Construction; NRMM: Generators; NRMM: Mining and Quarrying; NRMM: Other Industry; NRMM: Waste; Autogenerators; Autogeneration – exported to grid Mechanical Engineering (combustion); Other industrial combustion; Aircraft - international take-off and landing; Aircraft between UK and Bermuda – TOL; Aircraft between UK and CDs – TOL; Aircraft between UK and Gibraltar – TOL; Aircraft between UK and other OTs (excl Gib. and Bermuda) – TOL; Aircraft - domestic take-off and landing; NRMM: Airport; NRMM: Refrigerated Transport; NRMM: Sea Ports; Miscellaneous industrial/commercial combustion; Public sector combustion; NRMM: Forklifts; Domestic Closed Stove – Advanced;	Liquid bio-fuels; Municipal solid waste: biomass fraction; Slurry; Straw; Wood; Non-municipal solid waste: biomass fraction; Biogas; Plant Biomass; Biodiesel;  Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) - bio based; Coffee Logs; Wood – Dry; Wood – Seasoned; Wood – Wet; Wood Briquettes; Charcoal; Wood Pellets; Woodchip; Landfill gas; Sewage gas; Animal Biomass; Biogas in the gas grid;
Biomass-based fuels			

Group	NFR	Source Name	Activity Name
		Domestic Closed Stove – Basic; Domestic Closed Stove – EcoDesign; Domestic Closed Stove – Upgraded; Domestic combustion; Domestic Fireplace – Standard; Domestic Outdoor; Domestic Pellet Appliance – Basic; Domestic Pellet Appliance – EcoDesign; Domestic Woodchip Appliance – Basic; Domestic Woodchip Appliance – EcoDesign; Agriculture - stationary combustion; NRMM: Agriculture; Residential Outdoor - Appliance including chimineas, firepits Road transport – HGV articulated – motorway driving; Road transport – HGV articulated – rural driving; Road transport – HGV articulated – urban driving; Road transport – HGV rigid – motorway driving; Road transport – HGV rigid – rural driving; Road transport – HGV rigid – urban driving; Shipping – coastal; Shipping between UK and Gibraltar; Railways – stationary combustion; Domestic Cooking and Other; Domestic Space Heater; Domestic Water Heater;	
Non-combustion agriculture	3B, 3D, 3I	All Sources within these categories	All Activities within these categories