



The IEA data work on calorific values

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An illustration on a green background showing a hand holding a magnifying glass over a laptop. The laptop screen displays a line graph with an upward trend. Above the magnifying glass, a cluster of colorful business-related icons floats, including a clock, a smartphone, a shopping cart, a gear, a location pin, a mail icon, a car, and a document.

Improving calorific values data quality, globally

Calorific values: why do we need good data?



The IEA collects statistics and develops balances

Annual Questionnaires

OR

National publications, reports, websites



Coal



Oil



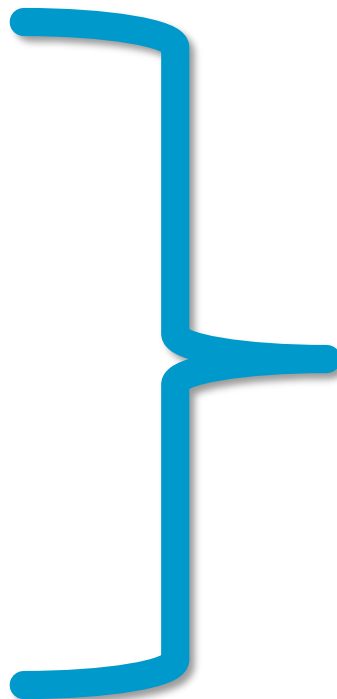
Natural gas



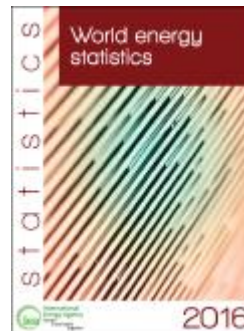
Renewables



Electricity & Heat



**Commodity
balances
(Statistics)**



**Energy
balance**



Calorific values are a key input to develop energy balances

Mexico											
2015											
Million tonnes of oil equivalent											
SUPPLY AND CONSUMPTION	Coal	Crude oil*	Oil products	Natural gas	Nuclear	Hydro	Geotherm./ Solar/ etc.	Biofuels/ Waste	Electricity	Heat	Total
Production	7.99	130.95	-	34.36	3.02	2.65	4.20	8.62	-	-	191.79
Imports	5.29 e	0.40	34.67	30.17	-	-	-	-	0.14	-	70.66
Exports	-0.00	-62.28	-9.73	-0.02	-	-	-	-	-0.20	-	-72.24
Intl. marine bunkers	-	-	-0.85	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.85
Intl. aviation bunkers	-	-	-3.45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-3.45
Stock changes	0.38 e	0.37	0.56	0.15	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.45
TPES	13.65	69.44	21.19	64.64	3.02	2.65	4.20	8.62	-0.06	-	187.37
Transfers	-	-5.98	7.04	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.06
Statistical differences	0.31	2.30	0.93	-3.25	-	-	-	-0.00	0.47	-	0.76
Electricity plants	-8.88 e	-	-7.06	-30.39	-3.02	-2.65	-3.99	-1.49	25.40	-	-32.08
CHP plants	-	-	-0.54	-4.20	-	-	-	-0.21	1.36	-	-3.59
Heat plants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blast furnaces	-0.72 e	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.72
Gas works	-	-	-0.77	0.49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.28
Coke/pat. fuel/BKB/PB plants	-0.09 e	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.09
Oil refineries	-	-65.96	57.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-8.17
Petrochemical plants	-	0.15	-0.16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.01
Liquefaction plants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other transformation	-	0.06	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.06
Energy industry own use	-0.39 e	-	-5.71	-13.36	-	-	-	-	-1.54	-	-21.00
Losses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-3.50	-	-3.50
TFC	3.88	-	72.71	13.93	-	-	0.22	6.92	22.14	-	119.81

To convert all physical values into a common energy unit

Calorific values determine the quality of balances (and inventories)

Commodity balances	Bituminous coal kt	Product 2 m3	...	Net Calorific Values	Bituminous coal TJ/kt	Product 2 TJ/m3	...	Energy balance (excerpt)	Bituminous coal TJ	Product 2 TJ	...
Production	100			Production	23			Production	2300		
Import	20			Import	25			Import	500		
Export	40			Export	22.5			Export	-900		
Supply	80							Supply	1900		
<i>Statistical differences</i>	<i>0</i>							<i>Statistical differences</i>	<i>200</i>		
Input to Electricity	50			Input to Electricity	22			Input to Electricity	1100		
...						
Final consumption	30			Final consumption	20			Final consumption	600		
Need to collect good data for physical quantities AND calorific values										

The IEA calorific values: data collection and dissemination



IEA questionnaires: guidance on ranges by type of fuel



ANTHRACITE

Quality: High carbon content (about 90 % fixed carbon).

Uses: industrial and residential applications

>23 865 kJ/kg



COKING COAL

Quality: High. Bituminous coal with properties to the production of coke oven coke

Uses: Metallurgical industry

>23 865 kJ/kg



OTHER BITUMINOUS COAL

Quality: Lower carbon content and higher volatile matter (>10%)

Uses: Electricity and heat generation, manufacture of cement...

>23 865 kJ/kg



SUB-BITUMINOUS COAL

Quality: High carbon content: high carbon content (about 90 % fixed carbon).

Uses: Electricity and heat generation.

<23 865 kJ/kg
>17 435 kJ/kg



LIGNITE

Quality: Low carbon content and higher volatile matter

Uses: Electricity and heat generation

<17 435 kJ/kg

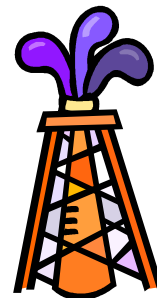
HARD
COAL

BROWN
COAL

For each fuel, calorific value data may also vary significantly

- over time
- from country to country
- from flow to flow - mainly primary products (e.g. trade \neq consumption)

Note: the IEA uses average regional values for oil products



Calorific values in the IEA annual questionnaires: example for coal

ANNUAL QUESTIONNAIRE COAL (Solid Fossil Fuels and Manufactured Gases) IEA - Eurostat - UNECE

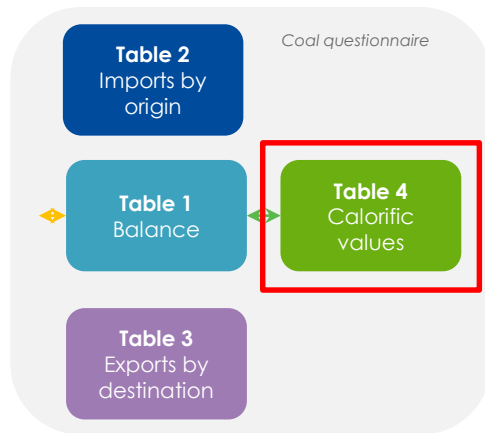


Table 4: Calorific values

- Different calorific values for each flow
- CVs need to be properly balanced to avoid statistical difference in an energy balance
- Estimated Gross calorific value = Net + 5%
- Manufacture gases: reported in TJ (gross)

Country

		Anthracite	Coking coal	Lignite
		MJ/tonne	MJ/tonne	MJ/tonne
		A	B	E
Production	gross -	0	0	0
	net -	0	0	0
Imports	gross -	0	0	0
	net -	0	0	0
Exports	gross -	0	0	0
	net -	0	0	0
Used in main activity plants	gross -	0	0	10230
	net -	0	0	9000
Used in industry	gross -	0	0	0
	net -	0	0	0
For other uses	gross -	0	0	0
	net -	0	0	0

Not all countries submit questionnaires to the IEA. If not, information is more scarce

Typical structure for the IEA database on calorific values

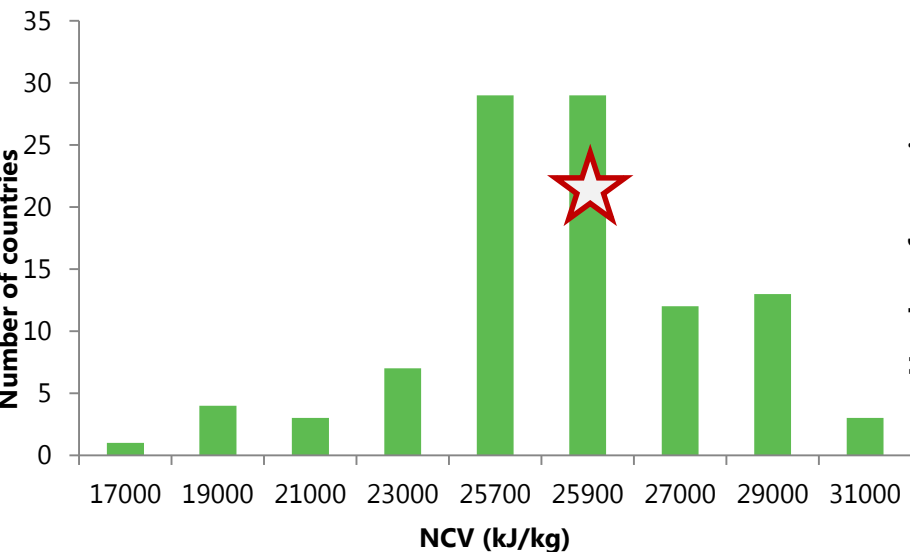
World Conversion Factors (Read-only):1											
UNIT: kJ/kg	TIME: 2015	COUNTRY: Austria									
PRODUCT	Anthracite	Coking coal	Other bituminous coal	Sub-bituminous coal	Lignite	Patent fuel	Coke oven coke	Coal tar	BKB	Peat	Crud
Flow											
Average net calorific value	26,700	28,971	27,414	22,082	9,700	31,000	28,595	36,912	19,800	8,800	
NCV of production	x	x	x	x	x	x	28,595	36,912	x	8,800	
NCV of other sources	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
NCV of imports	26,700	28,971	27,414	22,082	9,700	31,000	28,595	x	19,800	x	
NCV of exports	x	x	27,414	x	x	x	x	36,912	x	x	
NCV of coke ovens	x	28,971	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
NCV of blast furnaces	x	x	27,414	x	x	x	28,595	36,912	x	x	
NCV in main activity producer electricity plants	x	x	26,992	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
NCV in autoproducer electricity plants	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
NCV in main activity CHP plants	x	x	26,923	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
NCV in autoproducer CHP plants	x	x	28,875	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
NCV in main activity heat plants	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
NCV in autoproducer heat plants	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
NCV in industry	x	x	27,414	22,082	9,700	x	28,595	x	x	x	
NCV for other uses	26,700	29,206	27,414	21,914	9,700	31,000	28,595	36,912	19,800	8,800	

IEA World Energy Balances, 2017

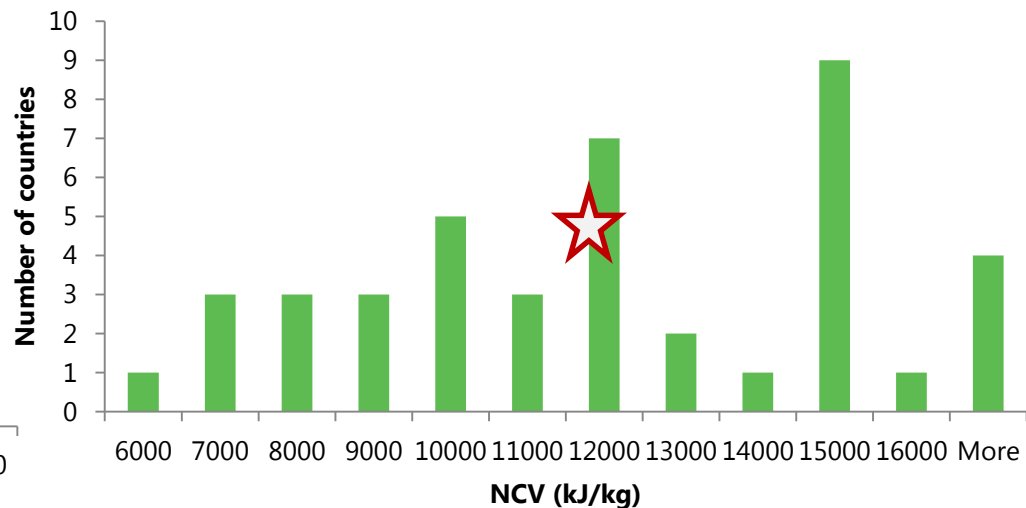
Annual data for around 40 products, country-specific (default if no information available)

Examples of calorific value ranges across countries in IEA data

bituminous coal NCV range by country
IEA data



Lignite - NCV by country
IEA data



Significant cross-country variability – and default values for many countries

Default NCV values to convert from units of 10^3 tonnes to units of terajoules are in Table 1.2. These values are based on a statistical analysis of three data sources:

1. **Annual greenhouse gas inventory submissions of Annex I Parties:** UNFCCC Annex-1 countries' national submissions in 2004 on 2002 emissions (Table-1A(b) of the CRF). This dataset contains Net Calorific Values (NCVs), Carbon Emission Factor (CEF) and Carbon Oxidation Factor (COF) for individual fuels for more than 33 Annex 1 countries.
2. **Emission Factor Database:** The IPCC Emission Factor Database (EFDB), version-1, as of December 2003 contains all default values included in the *1996 IPCC Guidelines* and additional data accepted by the EFDB editorial board. The EFDB contains country-specific data for NCV and CEF including developing countries.
3. **IEA Database:** International Energy Agency NCV database for all fuels, as of November 2004. The IEA database contains country-specific NCV data for many countries, including developing countries.

The statistical analysis performed on these datasets has been described in detail in a separate document (Kainou, 2005). The same data set was used to compile a table of default values and uncertainty ranges.

2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories

IEA data are a reference in IPCC Guidelines

Statistical Commission
Forty-second session
22-26 February 2011
Item 3(e) of the provisional agenda
Items for discussion and decision: energy statistics

Background document
Available in English only

International Recommendations for Energy Statistics (IRES)

4. Default calorific values

4.48. The default calorific values are provided in Table 4.1 as a reference to countries when no specific calorific values are available. The default calorific values presented below are those used in the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (IPCC 2006). For a number of products, no calorific values are available in the 2006 IPCC guidelines and thus no value is reported in the table below.

Table 4.1: Default net calorific values for energy products

SIEC Headings		Net Calorific Values (GJ/metric ton)		
		Default value	Range	
			Lower value	Upper value
0				
01				
011	0110	26.7	21.6	32.2
012				
	0121	28.2	24.0	31.0
	0129	25.8	19.9	30.5
02				
021	0210	18.9	11.5	26.0
022	0220	11.9	5.5	21.6
03				
031				
	0311	28.2	25.1	30.2
	0312	28.2	25.1	30.2
	0313			
	0314	28.2	25.1	30.2
032	0320	20.7	15.1	32.0
033	0330	20.7	15.1	32.0
034	0340	28.0	14.1	55.0
035	0350	38.7	19.6	77.0
036	0360	28.7	19.6	77.0

Yes, but... international data: not a source for national data

Calorific values require country-specific data collection

Source data for calorific values used in the annual questionnaires – AUSTRIA example
(personal communication)

Fuel	Source		
Anthracite	Emission Trading Schemes (ETS)	Biodiesels blended	Biofuel report
Coking coal	steel industry	Fuel oil	refinery
Other bituminous coal	ETS & coal trade companies	White spirit and SBP	refinery
Sub-bituminous coal	ETS	Lubricants	refinery
Lignite	ETS & coal trade companies	Bitumen	refinery
Patent fuel	coal trade companies	Paraffin waxes	refinery
Coke oven coke	steel industry	Petroleum coke	ETS
Coal tar	steel industry	Other oil products	refinery
BKB	coal trade companies	Natural gas	E-Control (regulator)
Coke oven gas	steel industry	Industrial waste (non-ren)	ETS & CHP Statistics
Blast furnace gas	steel industry	Municipal WASTE (ren & non-ren)	CHP Statistics
Other recovered gases	steel industry	Solid biofuels	Austrian Energy Agency & ETS
Peat	Default	Charcoal	ETS & coal trade companies
		Biogases	CHP Statistics
		Biodiesels	Biofuel report

What experience can be shared among experts? What are the challenges?

Calorific value data quality equally impacts energy balances and inventories. Experts may:

- Enhance information exchange at national level among inventory and energy statistics experts (IEA can help if needed – happens when discrepancies occur)
- Enhance effort on national data collection – what are the possible sources? How to collect the data? What is done elsewhere?
- Use international average values as reference, but not as substitute of national data



www.iea.org/statistics

