

# 1.A.3.c - Transport: Railways

## Short description

In category *1.A.3.c - Railways*, emissions from fuel combustion in German railways and from the related abrasion and wear of contact line, braking systems and tyres on rails are reported.

Method	AD	EF	Key Category
T1, T2	NS, M	CS, D, M	<b>L</b> : TSP, PM <sub>2.5</sub> , <b>L&amp;T</b> : PM <sub>10</sub> , PM <sub>2.5</sub> , <b>L</b> : TSP

**T** = key source by Trend **L** = key source by Level

Methods	
<b>D</b>	Default
<b>RA</b>	Reference Approach
<b>T1</b>	Tier 1 / Simple Methodology *
<b>T2</b>	Tier 2*
<b>T3</b>	Tier 3 / Detailed Methodology *
<b>C</b>	CORINAIR
<b>CS</b>	Country Specific
<b>M</b>	Model
* as described in the EMEP/CORINAIR Emission Inventory Guidebook - 2007, in the group specific chapters.	
AD - Data Source for Activity Data	
<b>NS</b>	National Statistics
<b>RS</b>	Regional Statistics
<b>IS</b>	International Statistics
<b>PS</b>	Plant Specific data
<b>AS</b>	Associations, business organisations
<b>Q</b>	specific questionnaires, surveys
EF - Emission Factors	
<b>D</b>	Default (EMEP Guidebook)
<b>C</b>	Confidential
<b>CS</b>	Country Specific
<b>PS</b>	Plant Specific data

Germany's railway sector is undergoing a long-term modernisation process, aimed at making electricity the main energy source for rail transports. Use of electricity, instead of diesel fuel, to power locomotives has been continually increased, and electricity now provides 80% of all railway traction power. Railways' power stations for generation of traction current are allocated to the stationary component of the energy sector (1.A.1.a) and are not included in the further description that follows here. In energy input for trains of German railways, diesel fuel is the only energy source that plays a significant role apart from electric power.



<b>Hard Coal</b>	576	250	250	255	314	345	357	352	341	339	340	340	340	340
<b>Hard Coal Coke</b>	0	0	431	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Solids TOTAL</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>341</b>
<b>Σ 1.A.3.c</b>	<b>39.034</b>	<b>62.444</b>	<b>51.502</b>	<b>37.342</b>	<b>31.481</b>	<b>31.755</b>	<b>29.165</b>	<b>29.503</b>	<b>26.411</b>	<b>28.436</b>	<b>29.348</b>	<b>24.240</b>	<b>20.286</b>	<b>20.488</b>

The use of other fuels – such as vegetable oils or gas – in private narrow-gauge railway vehicles has not been included to date and may still be considered negligible.

Table 3: Annual transport performance, in Mio tkm (ton-kilometers)

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>Electric Traction</b>	361,515	337,853	361,633	356,605	344,546	342,701	350,085	335,298	331,235	323,387	295,798	296,280	288,336	
<b>Diesel Traction</b>	98,812	58,805	37,237	26,540	26,702	27,403	26,791	23,768	23,734	21,397	21,484	21,365	19,580	
<b>Σ 1.A.3.c</b>	<b>460,326</b>	<b>396,658</b>	<b>398,870</b>	<b>383,145</b>	<b>371,248</b>	<b>370,104</b>	<b>376,876</b>	<b>359,065</b>	<b>354,970</b>	<b>344,785</b>	<b>317,282</b>	<b>317,645</b>	<b>307,916</b>	

[gallery size="medium" : 1A3c\\_AD\(TJ\).png : 1A3c\\_AD\(km\).png gallery](#)

Regarding particulate-matter and heavy-metal emissions from **abrasion and wear of contact line, braking systems, tyres on rails**, annual transport performances of railway vehicles with electrical and Diesel traction derived from Knörr et al. (2019a) <sup>5)</sup> are applied as activity data.

## Emission factors

The (implied) emission factors used here for estimating **emissions from diesel fuel combustion** of very different quality: For main pollutants, CO and PM, annual tier2 IEF computed within the TREMOD model are used, representing the development of German railway fleet, fuel quality and mitigation technologies <sup>6)</sup>. On the other hand, constant default values from (EMEP/EEA, 2019) <sup>7)</sup> are used for all reported PAHs and heavy metals and from Rentz et al. (2008) <sup>8)</sup> regarding PCDD/F. As no emission factors are available for HCB and PCBs, no such emissions have been calculated yet.

Regarding **emissions from solid fuels** used in historic steam engines, all emission factors displayed below have been adopted from small-scale stationary combustion.

Furthermore, regarding **emissions from abrasion and wear**, emission factors are calculated from PM<sub>10</sub>, emission estimates directly provided by the German railroad company Deutsche Bahn AG. As these original emissions are only available as of 2013, implied EF(PM<sub>10</sub>) were calculated from the emission estimates extrapolated backwards from 2013 to 1990 and the transport performance data available from TREMOD. Regarding PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and TSP, due to lack of better information, a fractional distribution of 0.5 : 1 : 1 (PM<sub>2.5</sub> : PM<sub>10</sub> : TSP) is assumed for now. Emission factors for emissions of copper, nickel and chrome are calculated via typical shares of the named metals in the contact line (copper) and in the braking systems (Ni and Cr). Other heavy metals contained in alloys used for the contact line (silver, magnesium, tin) are not taken into account here. Furthermore, emissions from other wear parts (e.g. the current collector) are not estimated. However, these components are not supposed to contain any of the nine heavy metals to be reported here (current collectors are made of aluminium alloys and coal).

Table 3: Annual country-specific emission factors for diesel fuels<sup>1</sup>, in kg/TJ

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>NH<sub>3</sub></b>	0,54	0,54	0,54	0,54	0,54	0,54	0,54	0,54	0,54	0,54	0,54	0,54	0,54	0,54
<b>NM<sub>VOC</sub></b>	109	100	90,2	64,8	52,0	54,3	44,8	41,9	41,2	38,5	38,2	37,2	35,2	35,0
<b>NO<sub>x</sub></b>	1170	1207	1225	1111	970	990	919	899	886	826	801	775	747	724
<b>SO<sub>x</sub></b>	191	60,5	14,1	0,32	0,32	0,32	0,32	0,32	0,33	0,32	0,33	0,33	0,33	0,33
<b>BC<sup>3</sup></b>	28,8	28,3	23,8	15,2	11,5	12,0	10,4	9,5	9,3	8,6	8,5	8,0	7,6	7,3
<b>PM<sub>2,5</sub></b>	44,4	43,6	36,6	23,4	17,7	18,5	16,0	14,6	14,3	13,3	13,1	12,4	11,7	11,2
<b>PM<sub>10</sub></b>	44,4	43,6	36,6	23,4	17,7	18,5	16,0	14,6	14,3	13,3	13,1	12,4	11,7	11,2
<b>TSP<sup>2</sup></b>	44,4	43,6	36,6	23,4	17,7	18,5	16,0	14,6	14,3	13,3	13,1	12,4	11,7	11,2
<b>CO</b>	287	292	255	162	121	121	105	101	98,9	94,7	93,3	92,6	88,5	88,2

<sup>1</sup> due to lack of better information: similar EF are applied for fossil diesel oil and biodiesel

<sup>2</sup> EF(PM<sub>2,5</sub>) also applied for PM<sub>10</sub> and TSP (assumption: >99% of TSP consists of PM<sub>2,5</sub>)

<sup>3</sup> EFs calculated via f-BCs as provided in <sup>9)</sup>: diesel fuels: 0.56 (Chapter: 1.A.3.c - Railways, Appendix A: tier1), solid fuels: 0.064 (Chapter: 1.A.4 - Small Combustion: Residential combustion (1.A.4.b): Table 3-3, Zhang et al., 2012)

Table 4: Emission factors applied for solid fuels, in kg/TJ

	<b>NH<sub>3</sub></b>	<b>NM<sub>VOC</sub></b>	<b>NO<sub>x</sub></b>	<b>SO<sub>x</sub></b>	<b>PM<sub>2,5</sub></b>	<b>PM<sub>10</sub></b>	<b>TSP</b>	<b>BC</b>	<b>CO</b>
<b>Hard coal</b>	4.00	15.0	120	650	222	250	278	14.2	500
<b>Hard coal coke</b>	4.00	0.50	120	500	15.0	15.0	15.0	0.96	1,000

Table 4: Country-specific emission factors for abrasive emissions, in g/km

	<b>PM<sub>2,5</sub></b>	<b>PM<sub>10</sub></b>	<b>TSP</b>	<b>BC</b>	<b>Pb</b>	<b>Cd</b>	<b>Hg</b>	<b>As</b>	<b>Cr</b>	<b>Cu</b>	<b>Ni</b>	<b>Se</b>	<b>Zn</b>
Contact line <sup>1</sup>	0.00016	0.00032	0.00032	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.00033	NA	NA	NA
Tyres on rails <sup>2</sup>	0.009	0.018	0.018	NA	NA								
Braking system <sup>3</sup>	0.004	0.008	0.008	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.00008	NA	0.00016	NA	NA
Current collector <sup>4</sup>	NE	NE	NE	NE	NA								

<sup>1</sup> assumption: 100 per cent copper <sup>2</sup> assumption: 100 per cent steel <sup>3</sup> assumption: steel alloy

containing Chromium and Nickel <sup>4</sup> typically: aluminium alloy + coal contacts; no particulate matter emissions calculated yet

**NOTE:** With respect to the emission factors applied for particulate matter, given the circumstances during test-bench measurements, condensables are most likely included at least partly. [footnote](#) During test-bench measurements, temperatures are likely to be significantly higher than under real-world conditions, thus reducing condensation. On the contrary, smaller dilution (higher number of primary particles acting as condensation germs) together with higher pressures increase the likeliness of condensation. So over-all condensables are very likely to occur but different to real-world conditions. [footnote](#)

For information on the **emission factors for heavy-metal and POP exhaust emissions**, please refer to [Appendix 2.3 - Heavy Metal \(HM\) exhaust emissions from mobile sources](#)] and [Appendix 2.4 - Persistent Organic Pollutant \(POP\) exhaust emissions from mobile sources](#) ].

[!- [Table 5: Tier1 emission factors for heavy-metal and POP exhaust emissions](#)





~ Submission 2020	> 15.2	> 14.5	> 13.6	> 12.7	> 11.4	> 11.5	> 12.0	> 10.4	> 9.5	> 9.3	> 8.6	> 8.5	> 8.0
~ Submission 2019	> 15.2	> 14.6	> 13.7	> 12.9	> 11.9	> 12.1	> 12.9	> 10.8	> 9.6	> 10.0	> 9.5	> 9.5	> 8.9
~ absolute change	> -0.01	> -0.09	> -0.14	> -0.26	> -0.45	> -0.61	> -0.87	> -0.38	> -0.09	> -0.73	> -0.89	> -1.03	> -0.87
~ relative change	> -0.08%	> -0.62%	> -1.01%	> -2.03%	> -3.75%	> -5.07%	> -6.72%	> -3.48%	> -0.95%	> -7.25%	> -9.31%	> -10.79%	> -9.73%
<b>&lt; Carbon monoxide - CO</b>													
~ Submission 2020	> 162	> 152	> 141	> 134	> 123	> 121	> 121	> 105	> 101	> 98.9	> 94.7	> 93.3	> 92.6
~ Submission 2019	> 162	> 153	> 142	> 136	> 129	> 129	> 129	> 109	> 104	> 104	> 101	> 98.1	> 94.8
~ absolute change	> -0.09	> -0.73	> -1.08	> -2.26	> -6.12	> -8.14	> -8.30	> -3.77	> -2.33	> -4.92	> -5.81	> -4.83	> -2.26
~ relative change	> -0.05%	> -0.48%	> -0.76%	> -1.66%	> -4.75%	> -6.31%	> -6.42%	> -3.46%	> -2.24%	> -4.74%	> -5.78%	> -4.93%	> -2.38%



For more information on recalculated emission estimates for Base Year and 2018, please see the pollutant-specific recalculation tables following chapter [8.1 - Recalculations](#).

## Uncertainties

Uncertainty estimates for **activity data** of mobile sources derive from research project FKZ 360 16 023 (title: "Ermittlung der Unsicherheiten der mit den Modellen TREMOD und TREMOD-MM berechneten Luftschadstoffemissionen des landgebundenen Verkehrs in Deutschland") carried out by Knörr et al. (2009) <sup>12)</sup>.

## Planned improvements

Besides the scheduled **routine revision** of TREMOD, no further improvements are planned for the next annual submission.

## FAQs

### **Why are similar EF applied for estimating exhaust heavy metal emissions from both fossil and biofuels?**

The EF provided in <sup>13)</sup> represent summatory values for (i) the fuel's and (ii) the lubricant's heavy-metal content as well as (iii) engine wear. Here, there might be no heavy metals contained in the biofuels. But since the specific shares of (i), (ii) and (iii) cannot be separated, and since the contributions of lubricant and engine wear might be dominant, the same emission factors are applied to biodiesel.

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<sup>1)</sup> (bibcite 1)

<sup>2)</sup> (bibcite 2)

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