

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	L: TSP, PM _{2.5} , L&T: PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , L: TSP

Method(s) applied	
D	Default
T1	Tier 1 / Simple Methodology *
T2	Tier 2*
T3	Tier 3 / Detailed Methodology *
C	CORINAIR
CS	Country Specific
M	Model
* as described in the EMEP/EEA Emission Inventory Guidebook - 2019, in category chapters.	
(source for) Activity Data	
NS	National Statistics
RS	Regional Statistics
IS	International Statistics
PS	Plant Specific
As	Associations, business organisations
Q	specific Questionnaires (or surveys)
M	Model / Modelled
C	Confidential
(source for) Emission Factors	
D	Default (EMEP Guidebook)
CS	Country Specific
PS	Plant Specific
M	Model / Modelled
C	Confidential

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.

Method

Activity Data

Basically, total inland deliveries of *diesel oil* are available from the National Energy Balances (NEBs) (AGEB, 2019) ¹⁾. This data is based upon sales data of the Association of the German Petroleum Industry (MWV) ²⁾. As a recent revision of MWV data on diesel oil sales for the years 2005 to 2009 has not yet been adopted to the respective NEBs, this original MWV data has been used for this five years.

Data on the consumption of biodiesel in railways is provided in the NEBs as well, from 2004 onward. But as the NEBs do not provide a solid time series regarding most recent years, the data used for the inventory is estimated based on the prescribed shares of biodiesel to be added to diesel oil.

Table 1: Overview of activity-data sources for domestic fuel sales to railway operators

Table 2: Annual fuel consumption in German railways, in terajoules

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.

=	= 1990	= 1995	= 2000	= 2005	= 2010	= 2011	= 2012	= 2013	= 2014	= 2015	= 2016	= 2017	= 2018
~ Electric Traction	> 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
~ Diesel Traction	> 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

	PM,,2.5,,	PM,,10,,	TSP	BC	Pb	Cd	Hg	As	Cr	Cu	Ni	Se	Zn
Contact line ¹	0.00016	0.00032	0.00032	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.00033	NA	NA	NA
Tyres on rails ²	0.009	0.018	0.018	NA	NA								
Braking system ³	0.004	0.008	0.008	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.00008	NA	0.00016	NA	NA
Current collector ⁴	NE	NE	NE	NE	NA								

¹ assumption: 100 per cent copper ² assumption: 100 per cent steel ³ assumption: steel alloy containing Chromium and Nickel ⁴ 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

[illegible]

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- + Discussion of emission trends

NFR 1.A.3.c is no key source.

Basically, for all unregulated pollutants, emission trends directly follow the trend in over-all fuel consumption.

Here, as emission factors for solid fuels tend to be much higher than those for diesel oil, emission trends are disproportionately effected by the amount of solid fuels used. Therefore, for the **main pollutants, carbon monoxide, particulate matter** and **PAHs**, emission trends show remarkable jumps especially after 1995 that result from the significantly higher amounts of solid fuels used.

gallery size="medium" : 1A3c EM NH3.png : 1A3c EM NOx.png gallery

For all fractions of **particulate matter**, the majority of emissions generally result from abrasion and wear and the combustion of diesel fuels. Additional jumps in the over-all trend result from the use of lignite briquettes (1996-2001). Here, as the EF(BC) for fuel combustion are estimated via fractions provided in ⁹⁾, black carbon emissions follow the corresponding emissions of PM₁₀, PM_{2.5},...

gallery size="medium" : 1A3c EM PM.png : 1A3c EM PM10.png gallery

Due to fuel-sulphur legislation, the trend of **sulphur dioxide** emissions follows not only the trend in fuel consumption but also reflects the impact of regulated fuel-qualities. For the years as of 2005, sulphur emissions from diesel combustion have decreased so strongly, that the over-all trend shows a slight increase again due to the now dominating contribution of sulphur from the use of solid fuels.

[gallery size="medium" : 1A3c_EM_SO2.png](#) [gallery](#)

Regarding **heavy metals**, emissions from combustion of diesel oil and from abrasion and wear are estimated from tier1 default emission factors. Therefore, the emission trends reflect the development of diesel use and - for copper, chromium and nickel emissions resulting from the abrasion & wear of contact line and braking systems - the annual transport performance (see description of activity data above).

[gallery size="medium" : 1A3c_EM_Cu.png](#) : [1A3c_EM_Cd.png](#) [gallery](#)

+ [Recalculations](#)

Activity data

Given the revised NEB 2017, both the activity data fo diesel oil and the annual amounts of blended biodiesel were revised accordingly.

Table 5: Revised 2017 fuel consumption, in terajoule

>	> Diesel Oil	> Biodiesel
~ Submission 2020	> 11,344	> 602
~ Submission 2019	> 13,690	> 726
~ absolute change	> -2,346	> -124
~ relative change	> -17.1%	> -17.1%

Emission factors

Due to the routine revision of the TREMOD model ¹⁰⁾, tier2 emission factors changed for recent years. Here, the revision results mainly from the consideration of revised NCvs for diesel oil as provided by the AGEb.

Table 6: Revised country-specific emission factors for diesel fuels, in kg/TJ

=	= 2005	= 2006	= 2007	= 2008	= 2009	= 2010	= 2011	= 2012	= 2013	= 2014	= 2015	= 2016	= 2017
< Nitrogen oxides - NO_x													
~ Submission 2020	> 1,111	> 1,058	> 1,028	> 1,010	> 991	> 970	> 990	> 919	> 899	> 886	> 826	> 801	> 775
~ Submission 2019	> 1,111	> 1,058	> 1,029	> 1,011	> 1,001	> 986	> 1,010	> 921	> 882	> 897	> 851	> 836	> 814
~ absolute change	> 0.00	> -0.75	> -0.44	> -1.81	> -9.91	> -15.63	> -19.97	> -2.05	> 16.27	> -10.45	> -25.27	> -34.82	> -38.70
~ relative change	> 0.00 %	> -0.07%	> -0.04%	> -0.18%	> -0.99%	> -1.59%	> -1.98%	> -0.22%	> 1.84%	> -1.16%	> -2.97%	> -4.16%	> -4.75%
< Non-methane volatile organic compounds - NMVOC													
~ Submission 2020	> 64.8	> 61.8	> 57.3	> 55.6	> 51.2	> 52.0	> 54.3	> 44.8	> 42.2	> 41.2	> 38.5	> 38.2	> 37.2
~ Submission 2019	> 64.8	> 62.1	> 57.8	> 56.7	> 53.8	> 55.7	> 59.2	> 46.9	> 43.5	> 43.1	> 41.4	> 40.9	> 39.3
~ absolute change	> -0.04	> -0.33	> -0.48	> -1.05	> -2.60	> -3.79	> -4.84	> -2.09	> -1.33	> -1.95	> -2.87	> -2.66	> -2.08
~ relative change	> -0.06%	> -0.52%	> -0.83%	> -1.85%	> -4.85%	> -6.80%	> -8.18%	> -4.46%	> -3.06%	> -4.52%	> -6.93%	> -6.50%	> -5.30%

< Particulate matter - PM (PM _{2.5} , = PM ₁₀ , = TSP)														
~ Submission 2020	> 23.4	> 22.4	> 20.9	> 19.5	> 17.6	> 17.7	> 18.5	> 16.0	> 14.7	> 14.3	> 13.3	> 13.1	> 12.4	
~ Submission 2019	> 23.4	> 22.5	> 21.1	> 19.9	> 18.2	> 18.6	> 19.8	> 16.6	> 14.8	> 15.4	> 14.7	> 14.6	> 13.7	
~ absolute change	> -0.02	> -0.14	> -0.21	> -0.40	> -0.68	> -0.95	> -1.33	> -0.58	> -0.14	> -1.12	> -1.37	> -1.58	> -1.33	
~ 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%	
< Black carbon - BC														
~ 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%	
< Carbon monoxide - CO														
~ 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 2017**, 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) ¹¹⁾.

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 ¹²⁾ 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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¹⁾ (bibcite 1)

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