

Table A6. Approximate Heat Rates for Electricity, and Heat Content of Electricity
(Btu per Kilowatthour)

	Approximate Heat Rates ^a for Electricity Net Generation				Nuclear ^h	Thermal Conversion Factor for Noncombustible Renewable Energy ^{i,k}	Heat Content of Electricity ^k
	Fossil Fuels ^b						
	Coal ^c	Petroleum ^d	Natural Gas ^e	Total Fossil Fuels ^{f,g}			
1950	NA	NA	NA	14,030	--	3,412	3,412
1955	NA	NA	NA	11,699	--	3,412	3,412
1960	NA	NA	NA	10,760	11,629	3,412	3,412
1965	NA	NA	NA	10,453	11,804	3,412	3,412
1970	NA	NA	NA	10,494	10,977	3,412	3,412
1975	NA	NA	NA	10,406	11,013	3,412	3,412
1980	NA	NA	NA	10,388	10,908	3,412	3,412
1981	NA	NA	NA	10,453	11,030	3,412	3,412
1982	NA	NA	NA	10,454	11,073	3,412	3,412
1983	NA	NA	NA	10,520	10,905	3,412	3,412
1984	NA	NA	NA	10,440	10,843	3,412	3,412
1985	NA	NA	NA	10,447	10,622	3,412	3,412
1986	NA	NA	NA	10,446	10,579	3,412	3,412
1987	NA	NA	NA	10,419	10,442	3,412	3,412
1988	NA	NA	NA	10,324	10,602	3,412	3,412
1989	NA	NA	NA	10,432	10,583	3,412	3,412
1990	NA	NA	NA	10,402	10,582	3,412	3,412
1991	NA	NA	NA	10,436	10,484	3,412	3,412
1992	NA	NA	NA	10,342	10,471	3,412	3,412
1993	NA	NA	NA	10,309	10,504	3,412	3,412
1994	NA	NA	NA	10,316	10,452	3,412	3,412
1995	NA	NA	NA	10,312	10,507	3,412	3,412
1996	NA	NA	NA	10,340	10,503	3,412	3,412
1997	NA	NA	NA	10,213	10,494	3,412	3,412
1998	NA	NA	NA	10,197	10,491	3,412	3,412
1999	NA	NA	NA	10,226	10,450	3,412	3,412
2000	NA	NA	NA	10,201	10,429	3,412	3,412
2001	10,378	10,742	10,051	10,333	10,443	3,412	3,412
2002	10,314	10,641	9,533	10,173	10,442	3,412	3,412
2003	10,297	10,610	9,207	10,125	10,422	3,412	3,412
2004	10,331	10,571	8,647	10,016	10,428	3,412	3,412
2005	10,373	10,631	8,551	9,999	10,436	3,412	3,412
2006	10,351	10,809	8,471	9,919	10,435	3,412	3,412
2007	10,375	10,794	8,403	9,884	10,489	3,412	3,412
2008	10,378	11,015	8,305	9,854	10,452	3,412	3,412
2009	10,414	10,923	8,160	9,760	10,459	3,412	3,412
2010	10,415	10,984	8,185	9,756	10,452	3,412	3,412
2011	10,444	10,829	8,152	9,716	10,464	3,412	3,412
2012	10,498	10,991	8,039	9,516	10,479	3,412	3,412
2013	10,459	10,713	7,948	9,541	10,449	3,412	3,412
2014	10,428	10,814	7,907	9,509	10,459	3,412	3,412
2015	10,495	10,687	7,869	9,314	10,458	3,412	3,412
2016	10,493	10,811	7,863	9,228	10,459	3,412	3,412
2017	10,465	10,834	7,803	9,208	10,459	3,412	3,412
2018	10,481	11,095	7,811	9,098	10,455	3,412	3,412
2019	10,551	11,205	7,725	8,899	10,442	3,412	3,412
2020	10,655	11,259	7,725	8,767	10,446	3,412	3,412
2021	10,583	11,224	7,689	8,844	10,429	3,412	3,412
2022	10,689	11,166	7,740	8,813	10,448	3,412	3,412
2023	E 10,689	E 11,166	E 7,740	E 8,813	E 10,448	3,412	3,412
2024	E 10,689	E 11,166	E 7,740	E 8,813	E 10,448	3,412	3,412

^a The values in columns 1–5 of this table are for net heat rates. See "Heat Rate" in Glossary.
^b Through 2000, heat rates are for fossil-fueled steam-electric plants at electric utilities. Beginning in 2001, heat rates are for all fossil-fueled plants at electric utilities and electricity-only independent power producers.
^c Includes anthracite, bituminous coal, subbituminous coal, lignite, and, beginning in 2002, waste coal and coal synfuel.
^d Includes distillate fuel oil, residual fuel oil, jet fuel, kerosene, petroleum coke, and waste oil.
^e Includes natural gas and supplemental gaseous fuels.
^f Includes coal, petroleum, natural gas, and, beginning in 2001, other gases (blast furnace gas, propane gas, and other manufactured and waste gases derived from fossil fuels).
^g Through 2000, used as the thermal conversion factor for wood and waste electricity net generation at electric utilities; beginning in 2001, Btu data for wood and waste at electric utilities are available from surveys.
^h Used as the thermal conversion factor for nuclear electricity net generation.
ⁱ Technology-based geothermal heat rates are no longer used in Btu calculations in this report. For technology-based geothermal heat rates for 1960–2010, see the *Annual Energy Review 2010*, Table A6.
^j See "Heat Content" in Glossary.
^k The value of 3,412 Btu per kilowatthour, which is the heat content of electricity, is a constant. It is used as the thermal conversion factor for electricity net generation from noncombustible renewable energy (hydro, geothermal, solar thermal, photovoltaic, and wind), electricity sales to ultimate customers, and electricity imports and exports.
E=Estimate. NA=Not available. --=Not applicable.
Web Page: See <http://www.eia.gov/totalenergy/data/monthly/#appendices> (Excel and CSV files) for all available annual data beginning in 1949.
Sources: See "Thermal Conversion Factor Source Documentation," which follows this table.