Guernsey Annual Greenhouse Gas Bulletin

2013 - Issue date 27th February 2015



POLICY COUNCIL

THE STATES OF GUERNSEY

1.1 Introduction

The Greenhouse Gas Bulletin provides annual updates of Guernsey's greenhouse gas emissions inventory. The data is provided by AEA Technology, a UK-based company which calculates greenhouse gas emissions for the UK and British Isles on behalf of the Department of Energy and Climate Change.

Guernsey has signed up to the Kyoto Protocol, which entered its second commitment period in 2013. The target for the second period is yet to be finalised; a reduction of 20% between 1990 and 2020 has been proposed. The analysis provided in this bulletin uses 1990 as a base year for comparison.

1.2 Headlines

- Greenhouse gas emissions decreased by 3.1% in 2013, when they totalled 528.2kt of carbon dioxide (CO₃) equivalent, compared to 544.8kt in 2012.
- The cumulative percentage change in Guernsey's greenhouse gas emissions between 1990 and 2013 was a decrease of 6.6% (or 37.3kt of CO₂ equivalent).
- Similar to 2012, power generation contributed the largest proportion (26.9%) of the greenhouse gases emitted in 2013. (In 2011, the largest proportion came from transport.) This was due to a fault in the cable link to France which resulted in the need to generate electricity on Island (see *page 5*).
- The majority (73.3%) of the emissions were in the form of carbon dioxide.

Figure 1.2.1: Total emissions

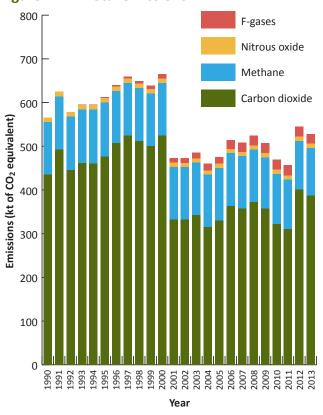


Table 1.2.1: Key data

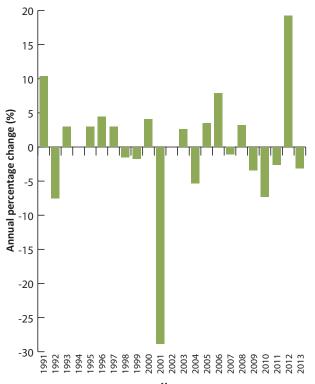
	Total emissions (kt of CO ₂ equivalent)	Annual % change	Cumulative % change
1990	565.5		
1991	624.3	10.4	10.4
1992	577.6	-7.5	2.1
1993	595.0	3.0	5.2
1994	595.1	0.0	5.2
1995	612.9	3.0	8.4
1996	640.1	4.4	13.2
1997	659.4	3.0	16.6
1998	649.6	-1.5	14.9
1999	638.7	-1.7	12.9
2000	664.7	4.1	17.5
2001	473.1	-28.8	-16.3
2002	473.0	-0.0	-16.4
2003	485.2	2.6	-14.2
2004	459.7	-5.3	-18.7
2005	475.8	3.5	-15.9
2006	513.5	7.9	-9.2
2007	508.0	-1.1	-10.2
2008	524.4	3.2	-7.3
2009	506.8	-3.4	-10.4
2010	469.6	-7.3	-17.0
2011	457.2	-2.6	-19.2
2012	544.8	19.2	-3.7
2013	528.2	-3.1	-6.6

2.1 Emissions Inventory - Type

Table 2.1.1: Emissions by type

		-		
	Carbon Dioxide (kt)	Methane (kt of CO ₂ equivalent)	Nitrous Oxide (kt of CO ₂ equivalent)	F-Gases (kt of CO ₂ equivalent)
1990	434.9	120.3	10.3	0.0
1991	492.9	121.0	10.4	0.0
1992	445.6	121.5	10.4	0.1
1993	461.9	122.0	10.5	0.6
1994	460.8	122.5	10.6	1.3
1995	477.0	122.9	10.7	2.2
1996	507.0	119.9	9.9	3.3
1997	524.2	120.4	10.1	4.8
1998	512.4	120.7	10.0	6.5
1999	500.1	121.0	10.0	7.5
2000	524.0	121.2	10.2	9.4
2001	332.9	119.9	9.4	10.9
2002	332.2	119.5	9.2	12.1
2003	342.3	119.9	9.2	13.8
2004	315.5	120.1	9.1	15.1
2005	329.6	120.9	9.3	15.9
2006	362.9	121.2	9.4	20.1
2007	357.1	120.3	9.3	21.2
2008	372.5	119.4	9.9	22.7
2009	357.1	116.9	9.8	23.0
2010	321.6	114.7	9.9	23.4
2011	310.7	112.4	10.0	24.0
2012	401.1	110.5	10.3	22.9
2013	387.3	108.5	10.3	22.1

Figure 2.1.1: Annual percentage change in total emissions



Greenhouse gas emissions need to be calculated in a consistent manner across all jurisdictions to ensure comparability and avoid double counting or omissions.

The content and structure of the inventory is based on the categories defined by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). See www.unece.org for more information.

The methodology used to calculate the data is refined each year and the whole data set is revised to ensure comparability between one year and the next. As such, the figures published here should not be compared with those previously published.

Emissions of the greenhouse gases; carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and fluorinated gases (hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulphur hexafluoride) are all estimated for the inventory. They are all presented in the form of carbon dioxide (CO_3) equivalents for ease of comparison.

The Guernsey emissions inventory is compiled by AEA Technology, the company which calculates emissions for the whole of the UK and British Isles on behalf of the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC). More information on the work of the DECC can be found via their website: www.decc.gov.uk.

In 2013, Guernsey's emissions totalled 528.2kt of CO₂ equivalent, which equates to 8.4 tonnes per capita. The total was 3.1% lower than in 2012 (see *Table 1.2.1*) and 6.6% lower than in 1990.

Table 2.1.1 shows that the majority of Guernsey's emissions are in the form of carbon dioxide (CO_2) . The main source of these emissions is combustion of fossil fuels for power generation, transport and heating i.e. energy.

The variability in recent years as shown in *Figure* **2.1.1** is largely due to changes in the amount of power being generated on island.

3.2 Emissions Inventory - Source

Figure 3.2.1 and Figure 3.2.2 show the proportions of emissions contributed by different sources. This data is also provided in **Table 3.2.1** overleaf.

Power generation contributed the largest proportion of emissions in both 1990 and 2013 (at 25.4% and 26.9% respectively). Its contribution to greenhouse gas emissions was 1.5 percentage points higher in 2013 than in 1990.

Waste contributed the second largest proportion in 2013 and the third largest proportion in 1990 (at 21.6% and 20.8% respectively). Its contribution to greenhouse gas emissions was 0.8 percentage points higher in 2013 than in 1990.

Transport contributed 19.6% in 2013 compared with 23.0% in 1990, a decrease of 3.4 percentage points.

The proportions contributed by commercial and domestic combustion, industrial combustion and agriculture, land use, land use change and forestry decreased by 1.4, 1.1 and 0.5 percentage points respectively.

F-Gases, which contributed less than 0.1% in 1990, contributed 2.1% in 2013.

The changes in terms of emissions by mass, rather than proportions, are given on *pages 5* to *11*.

Figure 3.2.1: Percentage contribution of emissions by source in 1990

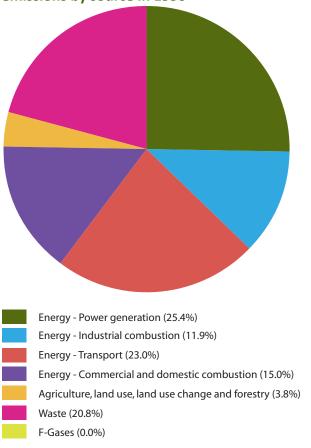
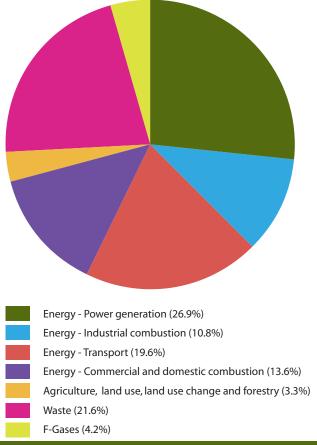


Figure 3.2.2: Percentage contribution of emissions by source in 2013



3.2 Emissions Inventory - Source

Table 3.2.1: Percentage contribution of emissions by source

	Energy - Power generation (%)	Energy - Industrial combustion (%)	Energy - Transport (%)	Energy - Commercial and domestic combustion (%)	Agriculture, land use, land use change and forestry (%)	Waste (%)	F gases (%)
1990	25.4	11.9	23.0	15.0	3.8	20.8	0.0
1991	27.6	12.9	20.9	16.2	3.4	18.9	0.0
1992	25.5	12.0	22.8	15.3	3.7	20.6	0.0
1993	25.8	12.1	22.8	15.4	3.6	20.1	0.1
1994	26.0	12.2	22.4	15.4	3.6	20.2	0.2
1995	26.3	12.4	22.1	15.7	3.5	19.7	0.4
1996	26.0	13.0	22.3	16.6	2.7	18.9	0.5
1997	25.5	13.1	23.4	16.3	2.6	18.4	0.7
1998	27.1	12.3	22.5	15.7	2.7	18.8	1.0
1999	28.2	11.3	22.7	14.7	2.7	19.2	1.2
2000	25.4	12.8	23.5	15.8	2.6	18.5	1.4
2001	8.6	12.6	29.9	17.2	3.4	26.1	2.3
2002	7.6	13.9	28.5	18.0	3.3	26.2	2.6
2003	8.7	13.9	27.7	18.1	3.2	25.6	2.8
2004	7.7	12.3	29.0	17.3	3.4	27.1	3.3
2005	10.8	11.7	28.1	16.4	3.5	26.3	3.3
2006	20.3	9.7	24.6	13.9	3.3	24.4	3.9
2007	14.7	12.1	25.8	15.5	3.3	24.5	4.2
2008	22.3	10.9	21.2	14.4	3.2	23.7	4.3
2009	20.2	11.2	21.9	14.8	3.4	24.0	4.5
2010	12.1	13.3	23.1	17.3	3.6	25.5	5.0
2011	14.8	11.8	23.4	15.3	3.7	25.8	5.3
2012	29.0	10.4	19.1	12.9	3.2	21.3	4.2
2013	26.9	10.8	19.6	13.6	3.3	21.6	4.2

Combustion of fuels for energy (including electricity generation, heating, industrial processes and transport) has contributed the largest proportion of emissions since 1990. The majority of the emissions are in the form of carbon dioxide, but methane and nitrous oxide are also released in the combustion processes. In 2013, emissions from fuels for energy constituted 70.9% of the total emissions.

The emissions inventory is "source based", which means it reflects only emissions released from Guernsey. As such, emissions resulting from the generation of electricity in Europe, which is imported for consumption in Guernsey, are not included. Electricity has been imported via a cable link to France since 2001, resulting in a significant decrease in the amount of power generated on-Island.

Landfilled waste is the next largest contributor to Guernsey's total emissions and the proportion it has contributed has increased slightly since 1990. The emissions are mostly in the form of methane gas, which is released by decomposing material.

Agriculture, land use, land use change and forestry combined contribute a small proportion of total emissions. The majority of the emissions are methane released by the digestive processes of cattle.

Nitrous oxide is also released as a result of the combustion of fuels for energy and as a result of waste disposal and agricultural processes, but at comparatively low levels.

The fluorinated gases ("F-gases") are not estimated by source in the same way as the other three gases mentioned above. They are associated with chemicals used in refrigeration, air-conditioning and heat pump systems and can be released as greenhouse gases if the systems leak or are disposed of improperly.

More detail and analysis of Guernsey emissions by source is provided over the next pages.

Combustion of fuels for power generation contributed 26.9% of Guernsey's total greenhouse gas emissions in 2013 (see *Table 3.2.1*). The majority of the emissions are in the form of carbon dioxide, but methane and nitrous oxide are also released in the combustion processes.

Electricity has been imported via a cable link to France since 2001, reflected by a 75.9% decrease in power generation emissions between 2000 and 2001 (see *Table 4.1.1*).

Excepting this large change, levels of greenhouse gas emitted from Guernsey as a result of fuel combusted for power generation have generally been trending upwards since 1990 (see *Figure 4.1.1*). The red line on the chart shows the historic three year average.

Prior to 2000, when all of Guernsey's electricity was generated on island, power generation was the single largest component contributor to Guernsey's total emissions. Some electricity is still generated on Island and it is this amount which impacts most noticeably on the total level of emissions.

The amount of electricity generated on island varies from year to year. In 2012, a fault in the cable link to France resulted in the need to generate electricity on Island, resulting in an increase in power generation emissions between 2011 and 2012 of 133.5%. This fell by 9.9% (or 15.7kt of CO₂ equivalent) between 2012 and 2013.

In total, the emissions from power generation decreased by 1.1% (or 1.5kt of CO₂ equivalent) between 1990 and 2013.

Figure 4.1.1: Energy emissions - Power generation

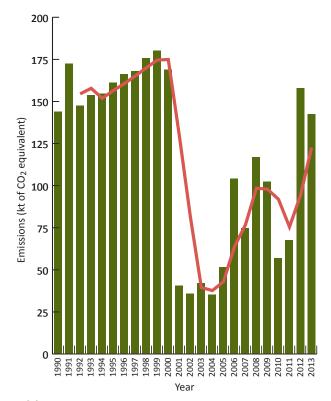


Table 4.1.1: Energy emissions - Power generation

	Total emissions (kt of CO ₂ equivalent)	Annual % change	Cumulative % change
1990	143.8		
1991	172.3	19.8	19.8
1992	147.4	-14.5	2.5
1993	153.6	4.2	6.8
1994	154.7	0.7	7.5
1995	161.0	4.1	12.0
1996	166.2	3.2	15.5
1997	168.0	1.1	16.8
1998	175.8	4.6	22.2
1999	180.1	2.5	25.3
2000	168.7	-6.4	17.3
2001	40.7	-75.9	-71.7
2002	35.8	-12.0	-75.1
2003	42.0	17.3	-70.8
2004	35.2	-16.2	-75.5
2005	51.5	46.4	-64.2
2006	104.1	102.1	-27.6
2007	74.6	-28.3	-48.1
2008	116.8	56.4	-18.8
2009	102.2	-12.5	-29.0
2010	56.8	-44.4	-60.5
2011	67.7	19.1	-52.9
2012	158.0	133.5	9.9
2013	142.3	-9.9	-1.1

Figure 4.1.2: Energy emissions - Industrial combustion

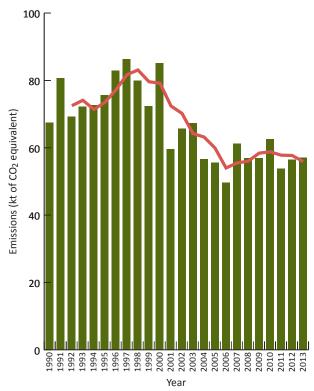


Table 4.1.2: Energy emissions - Industrial combustion

	Total emissions (kt of CO ₂ equivalent)	Annual % change	Cumulative % change
1990	67.5		
1991	80.7	19.7	19.7
1992	69.3	-14.2	2.7
1993	72.2	4.2	7.1
1994	72.7	0.7	7.8
1995	75.7	4.1	12.2
1996	83.0	9.7	23.1
1997	86.4	4.0	28.0
1998	79.9	-7.5	18.4
1999	72.4	-9.4	7.3
2000	85.1	17.6	26.2
2001	59.6	-30.0	-11.6
2002	65.7	10.2	-2.6
2003	67.3	2.4	-0.3
2004	56.7	-15.7	-15.9
2005	55.6	-2.0	-17.6
2006	49.7	-10.6	-26.3
2007	61.3	23.4	-9.1
2008	56.9	-7.2	-15.6
2009	57.0	0.0	-15.6
2010	62.6	9.9	-7.2
2011	53.9	-13.9	-20.1
2012	56.5	4.9	-16.2
2013	57.1	1.0	-15.3

Energy emissions also include industrial combustion emissions (relating to building processes, use of generators etc), which decreased by 15.3% (or 10.3kt of CO₂ equivalent) between 1990 and 2013 (see *Figure 4.1.2* and *Table 4.1.2*). The red line on the chart shows the historic three year average.

The majority of the emissions are in the form of carbon dioxide, but methane and nitrous oxide are also released in the combustion processes.

This source was the fifth largest contributor to emissions in 2013, at 57.1kt of CO_2 equivalent (10.8% of the total).

Levels of greenhouse gas emitted from Guernsey as a result of industrial fuel combustion had generally trended downwards since a peak in 1997 (see *Figure 4.1.2*). However, levels began to increase again after 2006.

In 2013, emissions from industrial combustion were 1.0% (0.6kt of CO_2 equivalent) higher than in 2012.

Emissions from transport decreased between 1990 and 2013 by 20.4% (26.5kt of CO_2 equivalent) to 103.4kt of CO_2 equivalent (see *Figure 4.1.3* and *Table 4.1.3*). The red line on the chart shows the historic three year average.

Despite this decrease, emissions from this source constituted the third largest proportion of the total in 2013, when it contributed 27.6% of energy emissions and 19.6% of total emissions.

Similar to previous years, approximately 80% of transport emissions resulted from on Island road transport in 2013.

Levels of greenhouse gases emitted as a result of transport have generally been trending downwards since a peak in 2000 (see *Figure 4.1.3*).

The majority of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from transport are carbon dioxide. Other non-greenhouse gas air pollutants, such as nitrogen dioxide, sulpher dioxide are also present in vehicle exhaust emissions.

Figure 4.1.3: Energy emissions - Transport

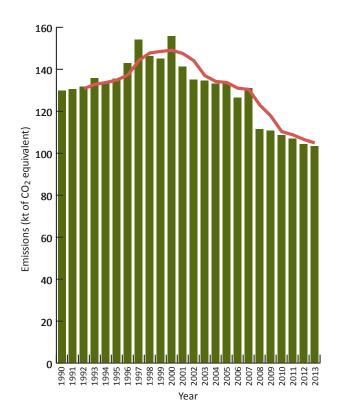


Table 4.1.3: Energy emissions - Transport

	Total emissions (kt of CO ₂ equivalent)	Annual % change	Cumulative % change
1990	129.9		
1991	130.5	0.5	0.5
1992	131.8	1.0	1.5
1993	135.9	3.1	4.6
1994	133.3	-1.9	2.6
1995	135.6	1.8	4.4
1996	142.9	5.4	10.0
1997	154.2	7.9	18.7
1998	146.3	-5.1	12.6
1999	145.2	-0.7	11.7
2000	155.9	7.4	20.0
2001	141.3	-9.3	8.8
2002	135.0	-4.5	3.9
2003	134.6	-0.3	3.6
2004	133.1	-1.1	2.5
2005	133.5	0.3	2.8
2006	126.5	-5.3	-2.7
2007	131.1	3.7	0.9
2008	111.4	-15.0	-14.2
2009	110.9	-0.5	-14.7
2010	108.7	-2.0	-16.4
2011	106.9	-1.6	-17.7
2012	104.3	-2.5	-19.8
2013	103.4	-0.8	-20.4

Figure 4.1.4: Energy emissions - Commercial and domestic combustion

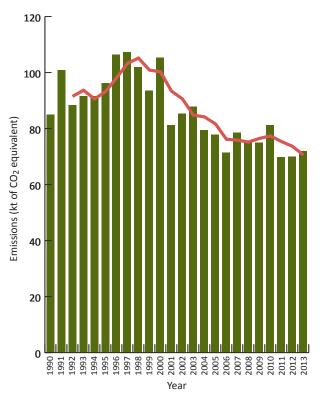


Table 4.1.4: Energy emissions - Commercial and domestic combustion

	Total emissions (kt of CO ₂ equivalent)	Annual % change	Cumulative % change
1990	85.1		
1991	100.9	18.6	18.6
1992	88.5	-12.3	4.0
1993	91.7	3.6	7.8
1994	91.6	-0.1	7.7
1995	96.2	5.0	13.1
1996	106.4	10.6	25.1
1997	107.3	0.8	26.1
1998	101.9	-5.0	19.7
1999	93.6	-8.1	10.0
2000	105.3	12.5	23.8
2001	81.2	-22.9	-4.6
2002	85.3	5.0	0.2
2003	87.8	3.0	3.2
2004	79.5	-9.5	-6.6
2005	77.9	-2.0	-8.5
2006	71.4	-8.4	-16.1
2007	78.6	10.1	-7.6
2008	75.7	-3.7	-11.1
2009	75.1	-0.7	-11.7
2010	81.3	8.2	-4.4
2011	69.8	-14.2	-18.0
2012	70.1	0.4	-17.7
2013	72.0	2.7	-15.4

Commercial and domestic combustion of fuels for heating and hot water in homes and offices etc also contribute a substantial amount of the Island's emissions (13.6% of the 2013 total).

The emissions from commercial and domestic combustion were 72.0kt of CO_2 equivalent in 2013, which was 15.4% lower than in 1990 but 2.7% higher than in 2012 (see *Table 4.1.4*).

The emissions from this source have ranged from under 70kt to over 100kt of CO₂ equivalent over the twenty-four years covered by the inventory. The trend (see *Figure 4.1.4*) is similar to that for industrial combustion (as in *Figure 4.1.2, Page 6*), generally decreasing over the ten year period ending in 2006.

The red line on the chart shows the historic three year average.

4.2 Emissions by Source - Agriculture, land use, land use change and forestry

Other emissions include those from agriculture, land use, land use change and forestry (shown in *Figure 4.2.1*), which contributed 3.3% of the total emissions in 2013. The red line on the chart shows the historic three year average.

The majority of these emissions are methane released by the digestive processes of cattle. The decrease between 1995 and 1996 resulted from a change in the way cattle data were sourced.

There was a decrease in the number of cattle in the Island in 2001, when the milk quota was reduced, resulting in a reduction in emissions from cattle. Livestock-related emissions have since remained at a steady level. However, there has been a generally increasing trend in total emissions from this source since 2002, due to increasing emissions resulting from land use change.

The total level of emissions from these sources decreased by 18.5% between 1990 and 2013.

Figure 4.2.1: Agriculture, land use, land use change and forestry emissions

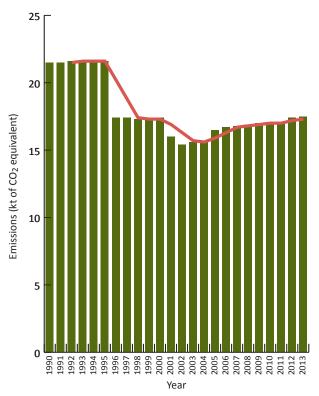


Table 4.2.1: Agriculture, land use, land use change and forestry emissions

	Total emissions (kt of CO ₂ equivalent)	Annual % change	Cumulative % change
1990	21.5		
1991	21.5	0.0	-0.0
1992	21.6	0.5	0.5
1993	21.6	0.0	0.5
1994	21.6	-0.2	0.3
1995	21.6	0.0	0.3
1996	17.4	-19.4	-19.2
1997	17.4	0.1	-19.1
1998	17.3	-0.3	-19.3
1999	17.3	-0.1	-19.4
2000	17.4	0.4	-19.1
2001	16.0	-7.9	-25.5
2002	15.4	-3.8	-28.3
2003	15.6	1.2	-27.4
2004	15.7	0.3	-27.2
2005	16.5	5.4	-23.2
2006	16.7	1.3	-22.2
2007	16.8	0.6	-21.8
2008	16.9	0.5	-21.4
2009	17.0	0.6	-20.9
2010	17.1	0.6	-20.5
2011	17.0	-0.3	-20.7
2012	17.4	1.9	-19.2
2013	17.5	0.9	-18.5

Figure 4.3.1: Waste emissions

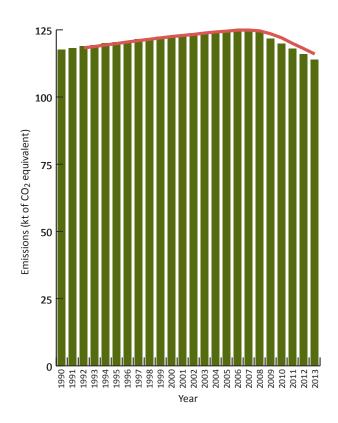


Table 4.3.1: Waste emissions

	Total emissions (kt of CO ₂ equivalent)	Annual % change	Cumulative % change
1990	117.7		
1991	118.3	0.5	0.5
1992	118.9	0.5	1.0
1993	119.4	0.5	1.4
1994	120.0	0.5	1.9
1995	120.5	0.4	2.3
1996	120.9	0.4	2.7
1997	121.5	0.4	3.2
1998	122.0	0.4	3.6
1999	122.5	0.4	4.1
2000	122.9	0.3	4.4
2001	123.3	0.4	4.8
2002	123.8	0.3	5.1
2003	124.2	0.3	5.5
2004	124.5	0.3	5.8
2005	124.9	0.3	6.1
2006	125.2	0.3	6.4
2007	124.5	-0.6	5.7
2008	124.2	-0.2	5.5
2009	121.8	-1.9	3.5
2010	119.9	-1.6	1.9
2011	118.1	-1.5	0.3
2012	116.0	-1.7	-1.4
2012	114.0	-1.7	-3.2

Waste is the next largest contributor to Guernsey's total emissions after energy. It contributed 21.6% (114.0kt of CO₂ equivalent) of the total emissions in 2013.

The emissions are mostly in the form of methane gas, which is released as landfilled matter decomposes. In a weight for weight comparison, methane has a twenty one times higher global warming potential than carbon dioxide i.e. one kilotonne of methane is equivalent to 21 kilotonnes of carbon dioxide.

As a result, relatively small changes in the amount of methane emitted equate to considerably larger changes to emissions in terms of CO₂ equivalents.

There have been decreases in the emissions from this source since 2007 (see *Figure 4.3.1* and *Table 4.3.1*). This mirrors the trend in waste going to landfill during these years.

The cumulative decrease between 1990 and 2013 was 3.2% (or 3.7kt of CO_2 equivalent). The red line on the chart shows the historic three year average.

Please note that this time series has been revised since the previous publication, due to improvements in the way waste emissions are calculated, which have had a noticable impact on the trend.

5.1 Emissions - F-Gases

Fluorinated gases ("F-gases") are not estimated by source in the same way as the other three gases mentioned above, but are included in the total greenhouse gas emissions.

F-gases can be released by refrigeration, air-conditioning and heat pump systems if they leak or are disposed of improperly. They contribute a relatively small, but increasing amount of total emissions (see *Figure 5.1.1*). The red line on the chart shows the historic three year average.

In 2013, they contributed 4.2% of the total, compared to less than 0.01% in 1990, an increase of 22.1kt of $\rm CO_2$ equivalent.

F-gases have very high global warming potentials compared to carbon dioxide. As such, amounts in the region of one gram in weight could have the same effect as one tonne of carbon dioxide being released into the atmosphere. The result of this is a highly volatile trend in terms of percentage changes.

Figure 5.1.1: F-gases emissions

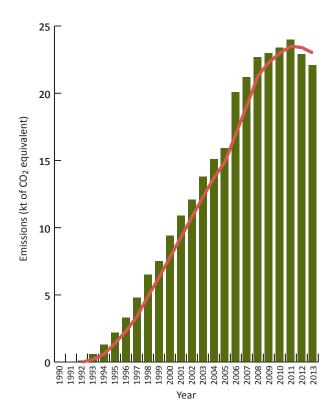


Table 5.1.1: F-gases emissions

	Total emissions (kt of CO ₂ equivalent)	Annual % change	Cumulative % change
1990	0.0		
1991	0.0	24.2	24.2
1992	0.1	48.0	83.9
1993	0.6	897.1	1,733.5
1994	1.3	132.6	4,163.8
1995	2.2	69.0	7,106.2
1996	3.3	46.3	10,443.2
1997	4.8	45.6	15,255.5
1998	6.5	36.8	20,902.7
1999	7.5	15.7	24,208.3
2000	9.4	24.3	30,106.7
2001	10.9	16.5	35,085.4
2002	12.1	11.1	39,001.7
2003	13.8	13.9	44,451.0
2004	15.1	9.0	48,460.0
2005	15.9	5.6	51,200.4
2006	20.1	26.0	64,519.0
2007	21.2	5.8	68,244.1
2008	22.7	6.9	72,973.3
2009	23.0	1.5	74,060.0
2010	23.4	1.6	75,280.2
2011	24.0	2.7	77,340.1
2012	22.9	-4.9	73,547.2
2013	22.1	-3.1	71,257.7

7.1 Further Information

This bulletin has been compiled by the States of Guernsey Policy and Research Unit. The emissions inventory is calculated by AEA Technology, using data collated from a variety of sources.

Please contact the Policy and Research Unit for further information.

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