

Electric Power Annual 2010

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Table 5.3. Average Operating Heat Rate for Selected Energy Sources, 2001 through 2010

(Btu per Kilowatthour)

Period	Coal ¹	Petroleum ²	Natural Gas	Nuclear
2001	10,378	10,742	10,051	10,443
2002	10,314	10,641	9,533	10,442
2003	10,297	10,610	9,207	10,421
2004	10,331	10,571	8,647	10,427
2005	10,373	10,631	8,551	10,436
2006	10,351	10,809	8,471	10,436
2007	10,375	10,794	8,403	10,485
2008	10,378	11,015	8,305	10,453
2009 ^R	10,414	10,923	8,160	10,460
2010	10,415	10,984	8,185	10,452

¹ Includes anthracite, bituminous, subbituminous and lignite coal. Waste coal and synthetic coal are included starting in 2002.

² Includes distillate fuel oil (all diesel and No. 1 and No. 2 fuel oils), residual fuel oil (No. 5 and No. 6 fuel oils and bunker C fuel oil, jet fuel, kerosene, petroleum coke, and waste oil.

Notes: • 2009 natural gas heat rate is revised • Included in the calculation for coal, petroleum, and natural gas average operating heat rate are electric power plants in the utility and independent power producer sectors. • Combined heat and power plants, and all plants in the commercial and industrial sectors are excluded from the calculations. • The nuclear average heat rate is the weighted average tested heat rate for nuclear units as reported on the Form EIA-860.

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-923, "Power Plant Operations Report," and predecessor form(s) including U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-906, "Power Plant Report," and Form EIA-920, "Combined Heat and Power Plant Report;" Form EIA-860, "Annual Electric Generator Report."