

Approximate Heat Content of Petroleum and Natural Gas Liquids

Asphalt. The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) adopted the thermal conversion factor of 6.636 million British thermal units (Btu) per barrel as estimated by the Bureau of Mines and first published in the *Petroleum Statement, Annual, 1956*.

Aviation Gasoline Blending Components. Assumed by EIA to be 5.048 million Btu per barrel or equal to the thermal conversion factor for **Aviation Gasoline (Finished)**.

Aviation Gasoline (Finished). EIA adopted the thermal conversion factor of 5.048 million Btu per barrel as adopted by the Bureau of Mines from the Texas Eastern Transmission Corporation publication *Competition and Growth in American Energy Markets 1947–1985*, a 1968 release of historical and projected statistics.

Butylene. EIA estimated the thermal conversion factor to be 4.377 million Btu per barrel, based on data for enthalpy of combustion from the National Institute of Standards and Technology, *NIST Chemistry WebBook, NIST Standard Reference Database Number 69*, 2018; and data for density of liquids at 60 degrees Fahrenheit and equilibrium pressure from the American Petroleum Institute.

Crude Oil Exports. • 1949–2014: Assumed by EIA to be 5.800 million Btu per barrel or equal to the thermal conversion factor for crude oil produced in the United States. See **Crude Oil Production**. • 2015 forward: Calculated annually by EIA based on conversion of American Petroleum Institute (API) gravity ranges of crude oil exports as reported in trade data from the U.S. Census Bureau. Specific gravity (SG) = $141.5 / (131.5 + \text{API gravity})$. The higher heating value (HHV) in million Btu per barrel = $\text{SG} * (7.801796 - 1.3213 * \text{SG}^2)$.

Crude Oil Imports. Calculated annually by EIA as the average of the thermal conversion factors for each type of crude oil imported weighted by the quantities imported. Thermal conversion factors for each type were calculated on a foreign country basis, by determining the average American Petroleum Institute (API) gravity of crude oil imported from each foreign country from Form ERA-60 in 1977 and converting average API gravity to average Btu content by using National Bureau of Standards, Miscellaneous Publication No. 97, *Thermal Properties of Petroleum Products*, 1933.

Crude Oil Production. • 1949–2014: EIA adopted the thermal conversion factor of 5.800 million Btu per barrel as reported in a Bureau of Mines internal memorandum, “Bureau of Mines Standard Average Heating Values of Various Fuels, Adopted January 3, 1950.” • 2015 forward: Calculated annually by EIA based on conversion of American Petroleum Institute (API) gravity ranges of crude oil production as reported on Form EIA-914, “Monthly Crude Oil, Lease Condensate, and Natural Gas Production Report.” Specific gravity (SG) = $141.5 / (131.5 + \text{API gravity})$. The higher heating value (HHV) in million Btu per barrel = $\text{SG} * (7.801796 - 1.3213 * \text{SG}^2)$.

Distillate Fuel Oil Consumption. • 1949–1993: EIA adopted the Bureau of Mines thermal conversion factor of 5.825 million Btu per barrel as reported in a Bureau of Mines internal memorandum, “Bureau of Mines Standard Average Heating Values of Various Fuels, Adopted January 3, 1950.” • 1994 forward: Calculated by EIA as the annual quantity-weighted average of the conversion factors for **Distillate Fuel Oil, 15 ppm Sulfur and Under** (5.770 million Btu per barrel), **Distillate Fuel Oil, Greater Than 15 ppm to 500 ppm Sulfur** (5.817 million Btu per barrel), and **Distillate Fuel Oil, Greater Than 500 ppm Sulfur** (5.825 million Btu per barrel).

Distillate Fuel Oil, 15 ppm Sulfur and Under. EIA adopted the thermal conversion factor of 5.770 million Btu per barrel (137,380 Btu per gallon) for U.S. conventional diesel from U.S. Department of Energy, Argonne National Laboratory, “The Greenhouse Gases, Regulated Emissions, and Energy Use in Technologies Model” (GREET), version GREET1_2023, December 2023.

Distillate Fuel Oil, Greater Than 15 ppm to 500 ppm Sulfur. EIA adopted the thermal conversion factor of 5.817 million Btu per barrel (138,490 Btu per gallon) for low-sulfur diesel from U.S. Department of Energy, Argonne Laboratory, “The Greenhouse Gases, Regulated Emissions, and Energy Use in Technologies Model” (GREET), version GREET1_2023, December 2023.

Distillate Fuel Oil, Greater Than 500 ppm Sulfur. EIA adopted the Bureau of Mines thermal conversion factor of 5.825 million Btu per barrel as reported in a Bureau of Mines internal memorandum, “Bureau of Mines Standard Average Heating Values of Various Fuels, Adopted January 3, 1950.”