

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

	Approximate Heat Rates <sup>a</sup> for Electricity Net Generation						Heat Content <sup>l</sup> of Electricity <sup>k</sup>
	Fossil Fuels <sup>b</sup>				Nuclear <sup>h</sup>	Noncombustible Renewable Energy <sup>g,i</sup>	
	Coal <sup>c</sup>	Petroleum <sup>d</sup>	Natural Gas <sup>e</sup>	Total Fossil Fuels <sup>f,g</sup>			
1950 .....	NA	NA	NA	14,030	--	14,030	3,412
1955 .....	NA	NA	NA	11,699	--	11,699	3,412
1960 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,760	11,629	10,760	3,412
1965 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,453	11,804	10,453	3,412
1970 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,494	10,977	10,494	3,412
1975 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,406	11,013	10,406	3,412
1980 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,388	10,908	10,388	3,412
1981 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,453	11,030	10,453	3,412
1982 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,454	11,073	10,454	3,412
1983 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,520	10,905	10,520	3,412
1984 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,440	10,843	10,440	3,412
1985 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,447	10,622	10,447	3,412
1986 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,446	10,579	10,446	3,412
1987 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,419	10,442	10,419	3,412
1988 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,324	10,602	10,324	3,412
1989 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,432	10,583	10,432	3,412
1990 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,402	10,582	10,402	3,412
1991 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,436	10,484	10,436	3,412
1992 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,342	10,471	10,342	3,412
1993 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,309	10,504	10,309	3,412
1994 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,316	10,452	10,316	3,412
1995 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,312	10,507	10,312	3,412
1996 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,340	10,503	10,340	3,412
1997 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,213	10,494	10,213	3,412
1998 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,197	10,491	10,197	3,412
1999 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,226	10,450	10,226	3,412
2000 .....	NA	NA	NA	10,201	10,429	10,201	3,412
2001 .....	10,378	10,742	10,051	10,333	10,443	10,333	3,412
2002 .....	10,314	10,641	9,533	10,173	10,442	10,173	3,412
2003 .....	10,297	10,610	9,207	10,125	10,422	10,125	3,412
2004 .....	10,331	10,571	8,647	10,016	10,428	10,016	3,412
2005 .....	10,373	10,631	8,551	9,999	10,436	9,999	3,412
2006 .....	10,351	10,809	8,471	9,919	10,435	9,919	3,412
2007 .....	10,375	10,794	8,403	9,884	10,489	9,884	3,412
2008 .....	10,378	11,015	8,305	9,854	10,452	9,854	3,412
2009 .....	10,414	10,923	8,160	9,760	10,459	9,760	3,412
2010 .....	10,415	10,984	8,185	9,756	10,452	9,756	3,412
2011 .....	10,444	10,829	8,152	9,716	10,464	9,716	3,412
2012 .....	10,498	10,991	8,039	9,516	10,479	9,516	3,412
2013 .....	10,459	10,713	7,948	9,541	10,449	9,541	3,412
2014 .....	10,428	10,814	7,907	9,510	10,459	9,510	3,412
2015 .....	10,495	10,687	7,878	9,319	10,458	9,319	3,412
2016 .....	10,493	10,811	7,870	9,232	10,459	9,232	3,412
2017 .....	10,465	10,834	7,812	9,213	10,459	9,213	3,412
2018 .....	E 10,465	E 10,834	E 7,812	E 9,213	E 10,459	E 9,213	3,412

<sup>a</sup> The values in columns 1–6 of this table are for net heat rates. See "Heat Rate" in Glossary.

<sup>b</sup> 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.

<sup>c</sup> Includes anthracite, bituminous coal, subbituminous coal, lignite, and, beginning in 2002, waste coal and coal synfuel.

<sup>d</sup> Includes distillate fuel oil, residual fuel oil, jet fuel, kerosene, petroleum coke, and waste oil.

<sup>e</sup> Includes natural gas and supplemental gaseous fuels.

<sup>f</sup> 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).

<sup>g</sup> The fossil-fuels heat rate is used as the thermal conversion factor for electricity net generation from noncombustible renewable energy (hydro, geothermal, solar thermal, photovoltaic, and wind) to approximate the quantity of fossil fuels replaced by these sources. Through 2000, also 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.

<sup>h</sup> Used as the thermal conversion factor for nuclear electricity net generation.

<sup>i</sup> 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.

<sup>j</sup> See "Heat Content" in Glossary.

<sup>k</sup> The value of 3,412 Btu per kilowatthour is a constant. It is used as the thermal conversion factor for electricity retail sales, 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.