

# EPA Simplified GHG Emissions Calculator ("the Calculator")

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The EPA Simplified GHG Emissions Calculator ("the Calculator") is designed as a simplified calculation tool to help organizations estimate and inventory their annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for US-based operations. All methodologies and default values provided are based on the most current Center for Corporate Climate Leadership Greenhouse *Gas Inventory Guidance Documents* and the *Emission Factors Hub*. The Calculator will quantify the direct and indirect emissions from sources at an organization when activity data are entered into the various sections of the workbook for one annual period.

Before entering data, please: 1) Enable Macros and 2) Familiarize yourself with the Simplified Guide to GHG Management for Organizations.

Access the guide:

https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-09/Simplified Guide GHG Management Organizations.pdf

#### There are three primary steps in completing a GHG inventory. Each emissions source also has these three steps.

(1) **DEFINE**: The first step in completing a GHG inventory is to determine the boundaries and emissions sources included within those boundaries. After you have defined your organizational and operational boundaries, you can use the questions on the "Boundary Questions" worksheet to help you determine which emissions sources are relevant to your business.

#### Go to Boundary Questions

(2) **COLLECT**: The second step is to collect data for the defined annual period. This step is typically the most time consuming, since the data can be difficult to gather. This Calculator has help sheets with suggestions and guidance for each emissions source and a general help sheet for data management. **Click the drop down menu boxes below to navigate to these sheets**.

Help - Data Management

(3) **QUANTIFY**: The third step is to calculate emissions. This Calculator is designed to complete the emissions quantification step for you. Once the user enters data in this MS Excel spreadsheet, the emissions will be calculated and totaled on the "Summary" sheet.

## Calculator Guidance - Important Information

- (A) Navigate to the data entry sheets using the drop down menu in the dark grey cell below and then clicking on the "Go To Data Entry Sheet" button. On the data entry sheets enter data in ORANGE cells only.
- (B) This Calculator has several "Tool Sheets" with useful reference data such as unit conversions, heat contents, and emission factors. Click on the buttons below to go to the appropriate Tool Sheet.
- (C) Data must be entered in the units specified on the data entry sheets. Use the "Unit Conversions" or "Heat Content" sheets if unit conversion is necessary prior to entering data into the Calculator.
- (D) If more guidance is needed, you can reference the emission factor data sources found on the "Emission Factors" sheet.

Tool Sheets	Quick Data Entry Navigation
Unit Conversions	Upstream Trans and Dist
Heat Content	
Emission Factors	

### **Calculator Notes**

Emission sources of all seven major GHGs are accounted for in the inventory and in this Calculator: carbon dioxide ( $CO_2$ ), methane ( $CH_4$ ), nitrous oxide ( $N_2O$ ), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulfur hexafluoride ( $SF_6$ ), and nitrogen trifluoride ( $NF_3$ ). The Calculator allows the user to estimate GHG emissions from scope 1 (direct), scope 2 (indirect), and some scope 3 (other indirect) sources.

The Calculator uses U.S.-specific cross-sector emission factors from the *Emission Factors Hub*. Many industrial sectors also have process-related emissions sources that are specific to their sector. EPA's Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program provides guidance and tools that can aid in the calculation and reporting of these emissions:

https://www.epa.gov/ghgreporting

The GHG Protocol also provides guidance on calculating emissions from industrial processes.