

Comparison of electric cars and different internal combustion engine fuel options – Volkswagen Golf model year 2018

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Example cars

The curb weight, battery pack weight and fuel/electricity consumption data (WTL²) of the following Volkswagen Golf models (2018) were used in comparing different fuel and engine options: Volkswagen Golf Comfortline 1.0 TSI 85 kW, Volkswagen Golf Trendline 1.6 TDI 85 kW, Volkswagen Golf 1.4 TGI 81 kW and Volkswagen e-Golf 100 kW. In calculations, no other factory data were used.

Excerpts

Considering CO₂e:

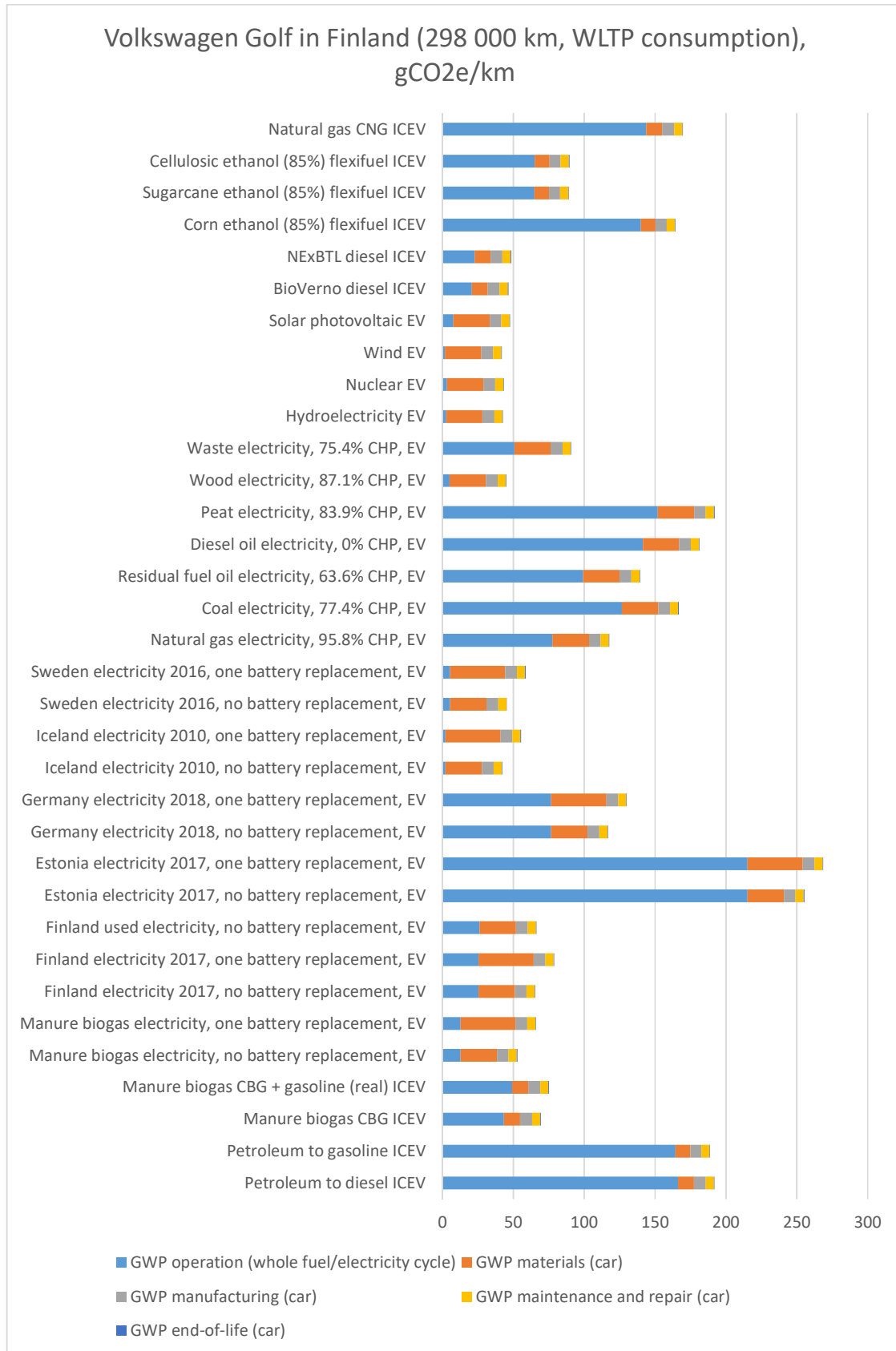
- New electric car beats new diesel car after 28 000 km in Finland.
- New electric car beats new gasoline car after 26 000 km in Finland.
- New electric car beats old diesel car after 72 000 km (old diesel car still has driving, fuel cycle, maintenance and end-of-life emissions – but not the emissions from manufacturing a car) in Finland.
- Electric car in Finland beats biogas car after 203 000 km in Finland (if there is no battery pack replacement)
- Electric car with biogas electricity beats biogas ICE car after 120 000 km.
- Electric car with biogas electricity beats biogas ICE car after 245 000 km, if the battery pack is replaced once.

Considering euros:

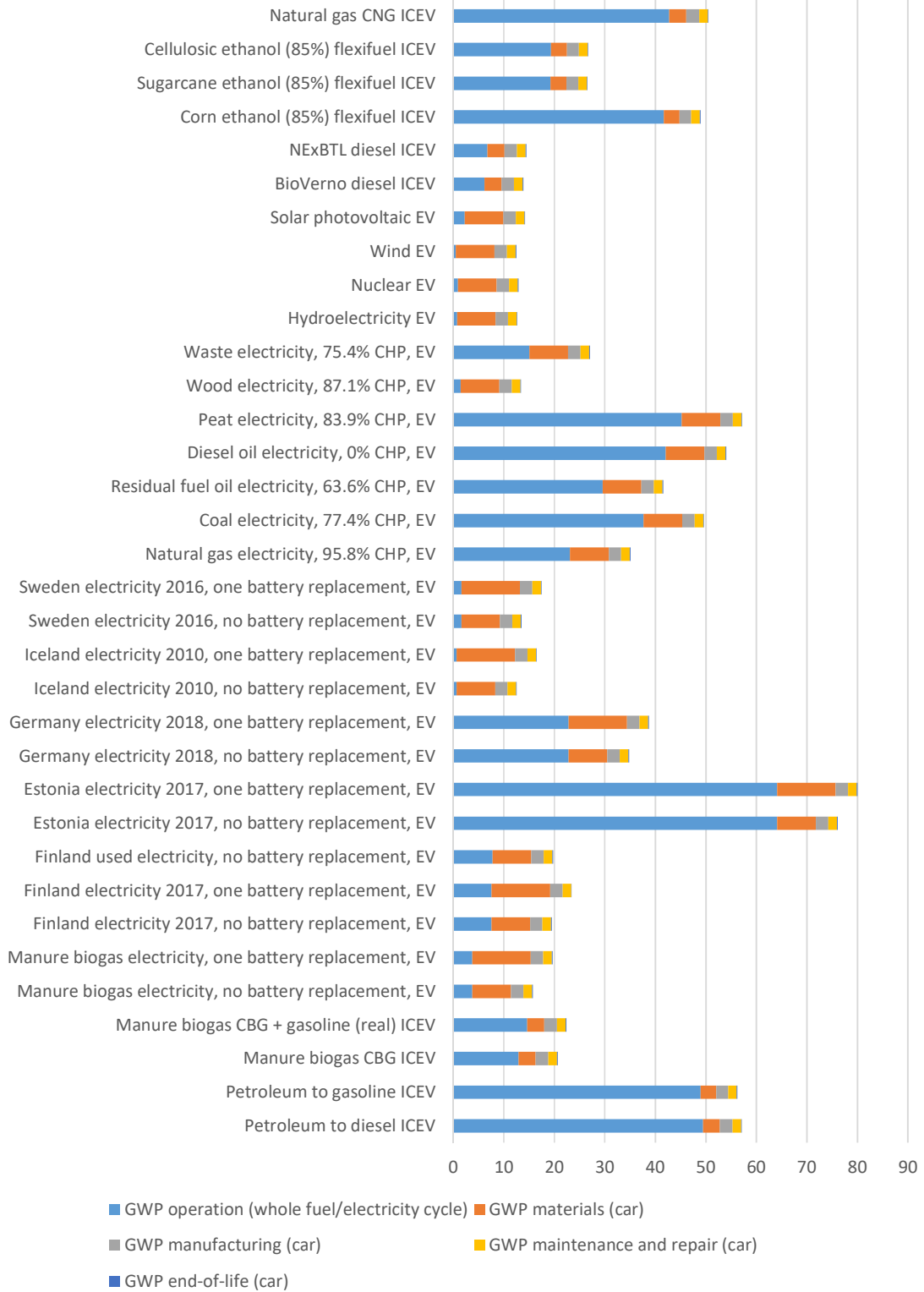
- In Finland, CNG (compressed natural gas) gas car gives cheapest life-time kilometers followed by CBG (compressed biogas).
- In Finland, lifetime costs are about equal for e-Golf, gasoline Golf and diesel Golf.
- January 2019 prices and taxes were used for the whole lifetime of the car.

² The worldwide harmonized light vehicles test procedure (WLTP) is a global harmonized standard for determining the levels of pollutants and CO₂ emissions, fuel or energy consumption, and electric range from light-duty vehicles (passenger cars and light commercial vans). (Wikipedia)

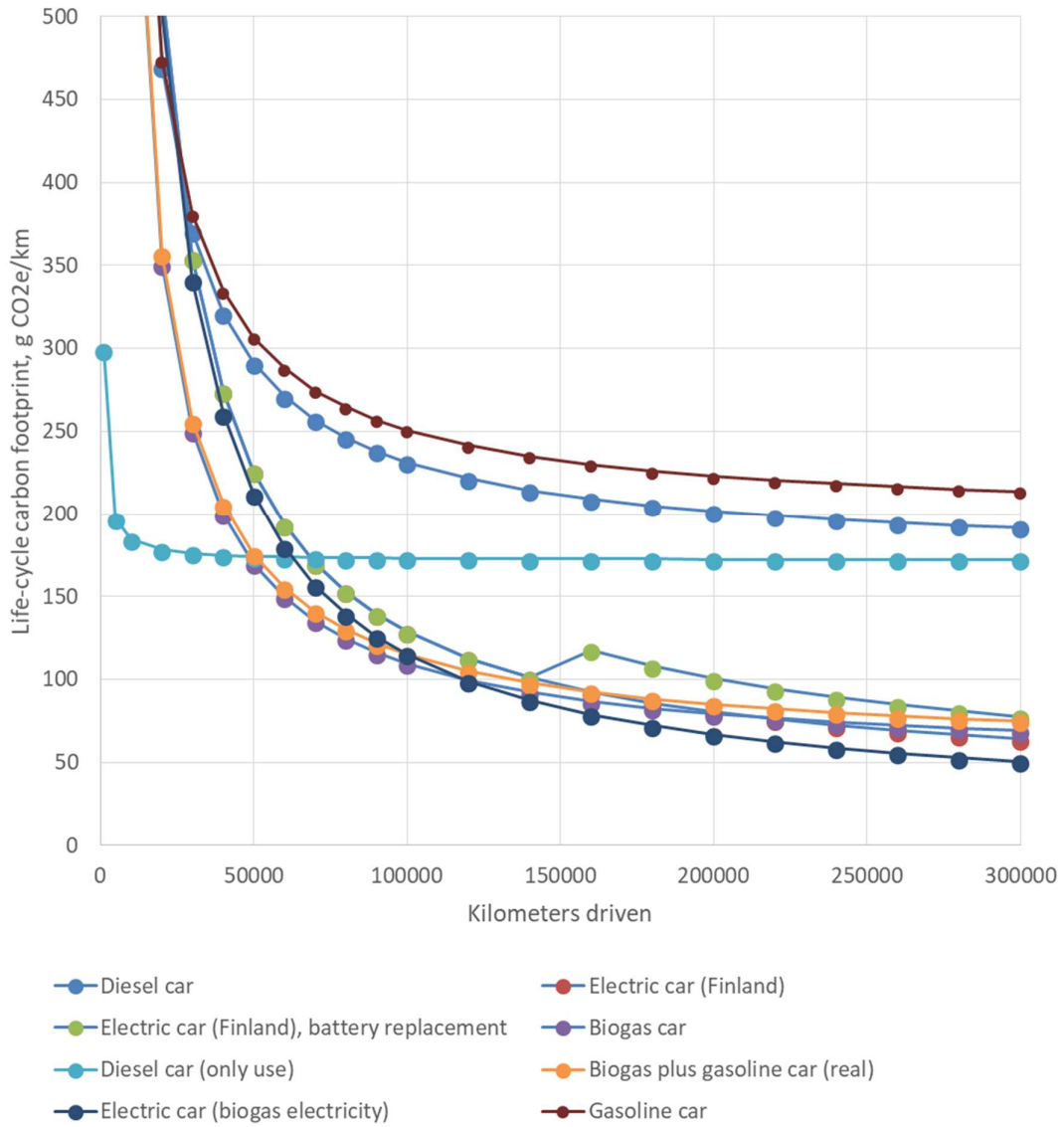
Global warming potential (carbon footprint)



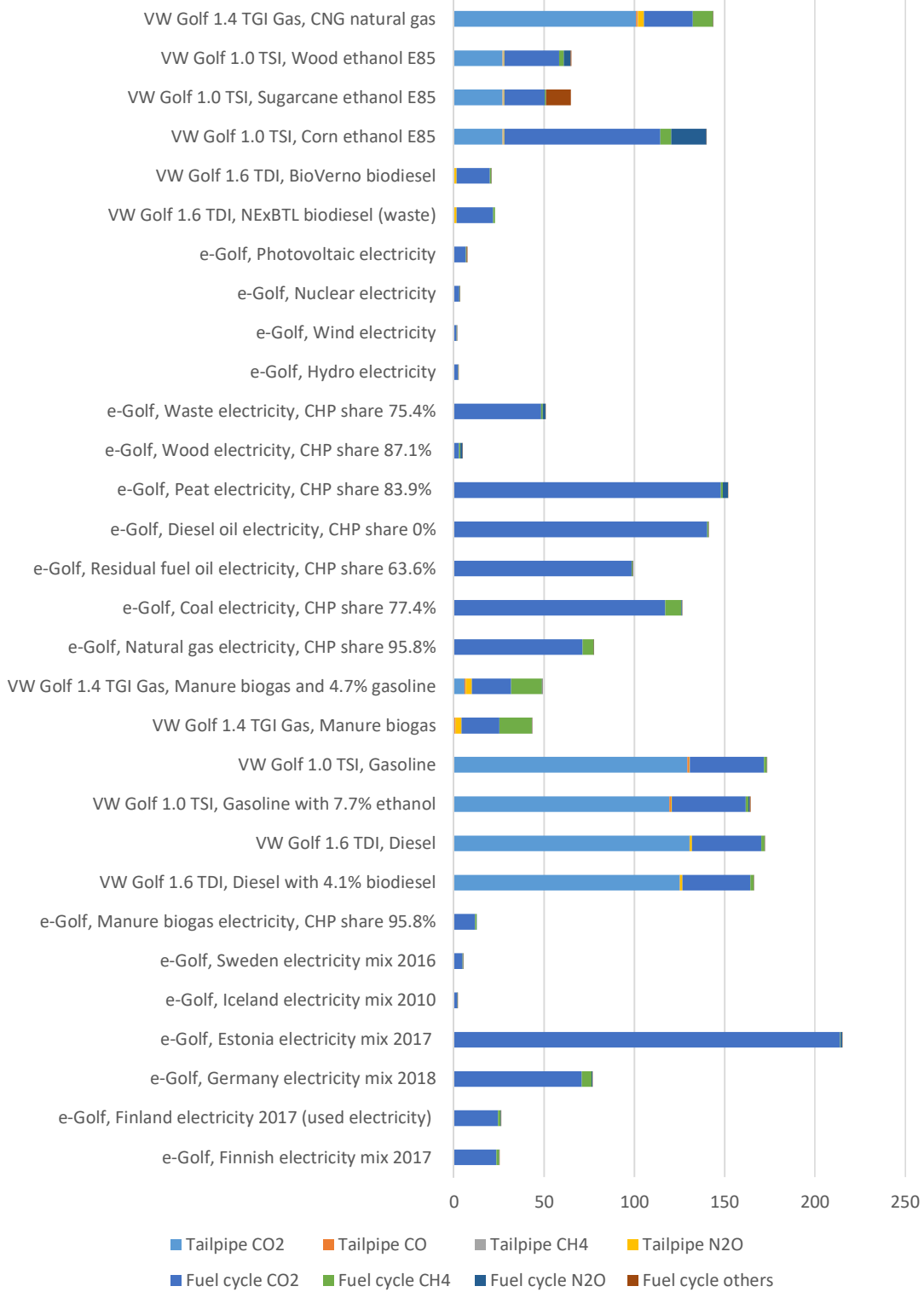
Volkswagen Golf in Finland (298 000 km, WLTP consumption), tCO2e/lifetime



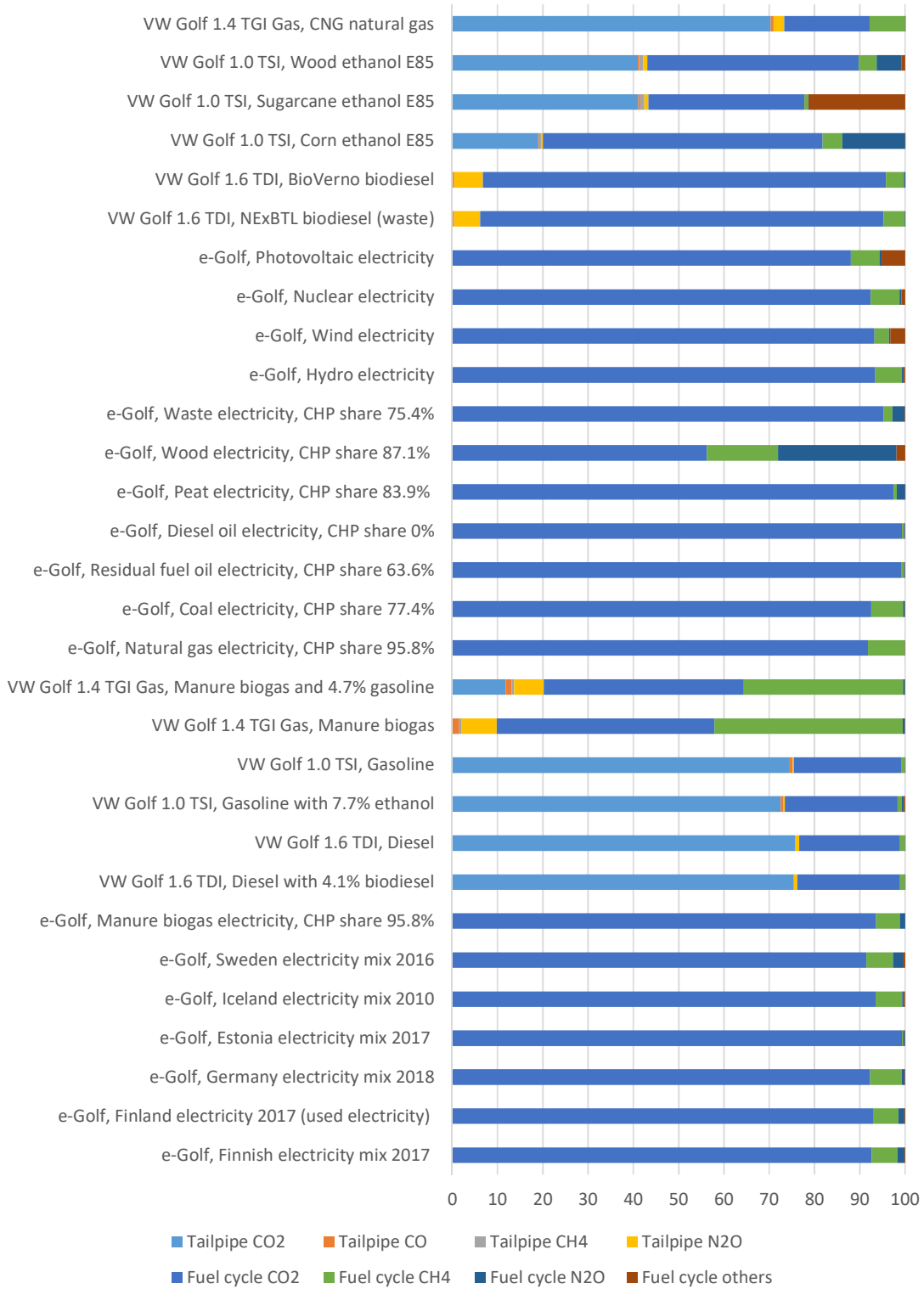
Life-cycle carbon footprints of VW Golf (including materials, manufacturing, maintenance, driving and end-of-life)



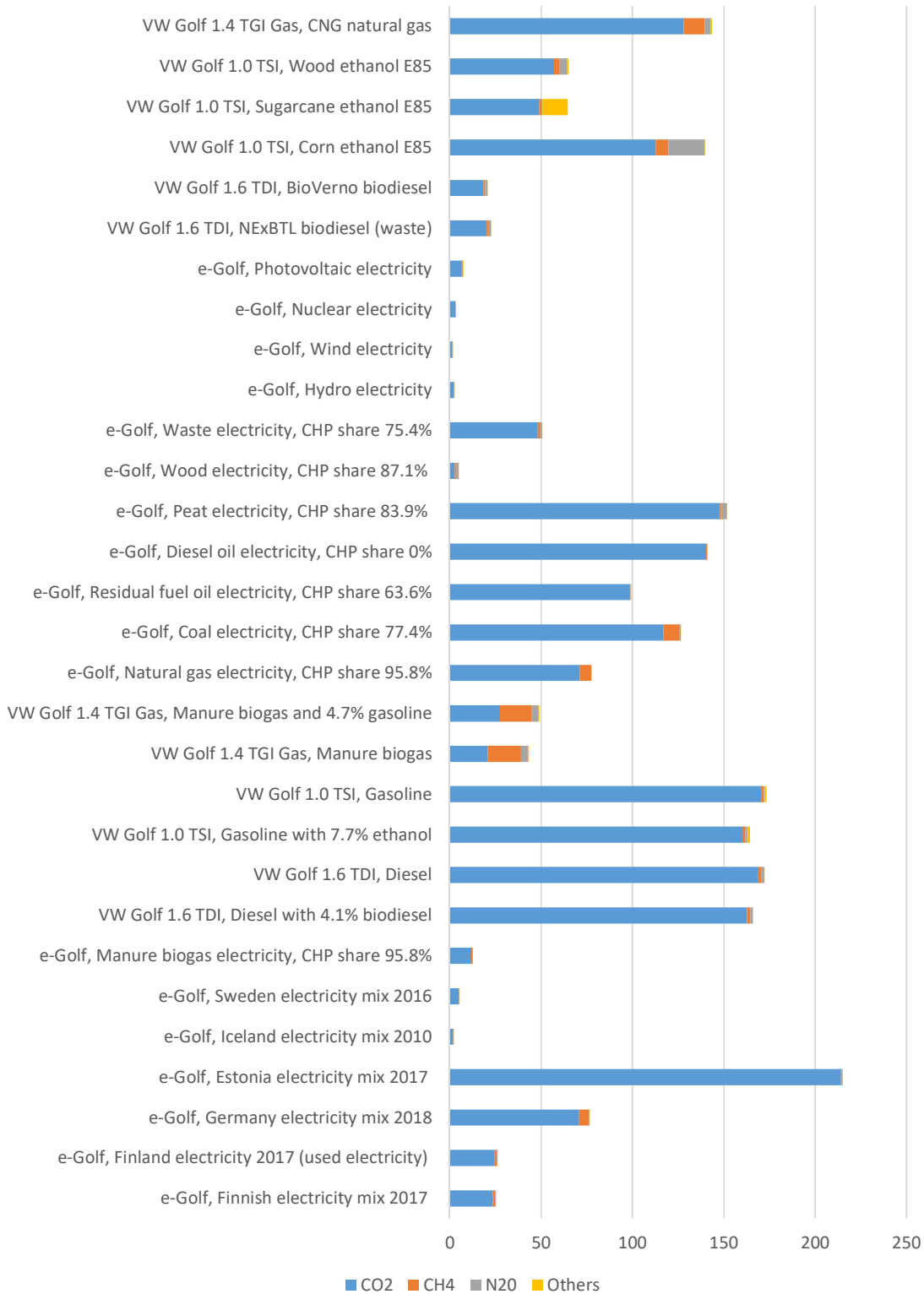
Volkswagen Golf in Finland (298 000 km, WLTP consumption), operation stage (driving), gCO2e/km



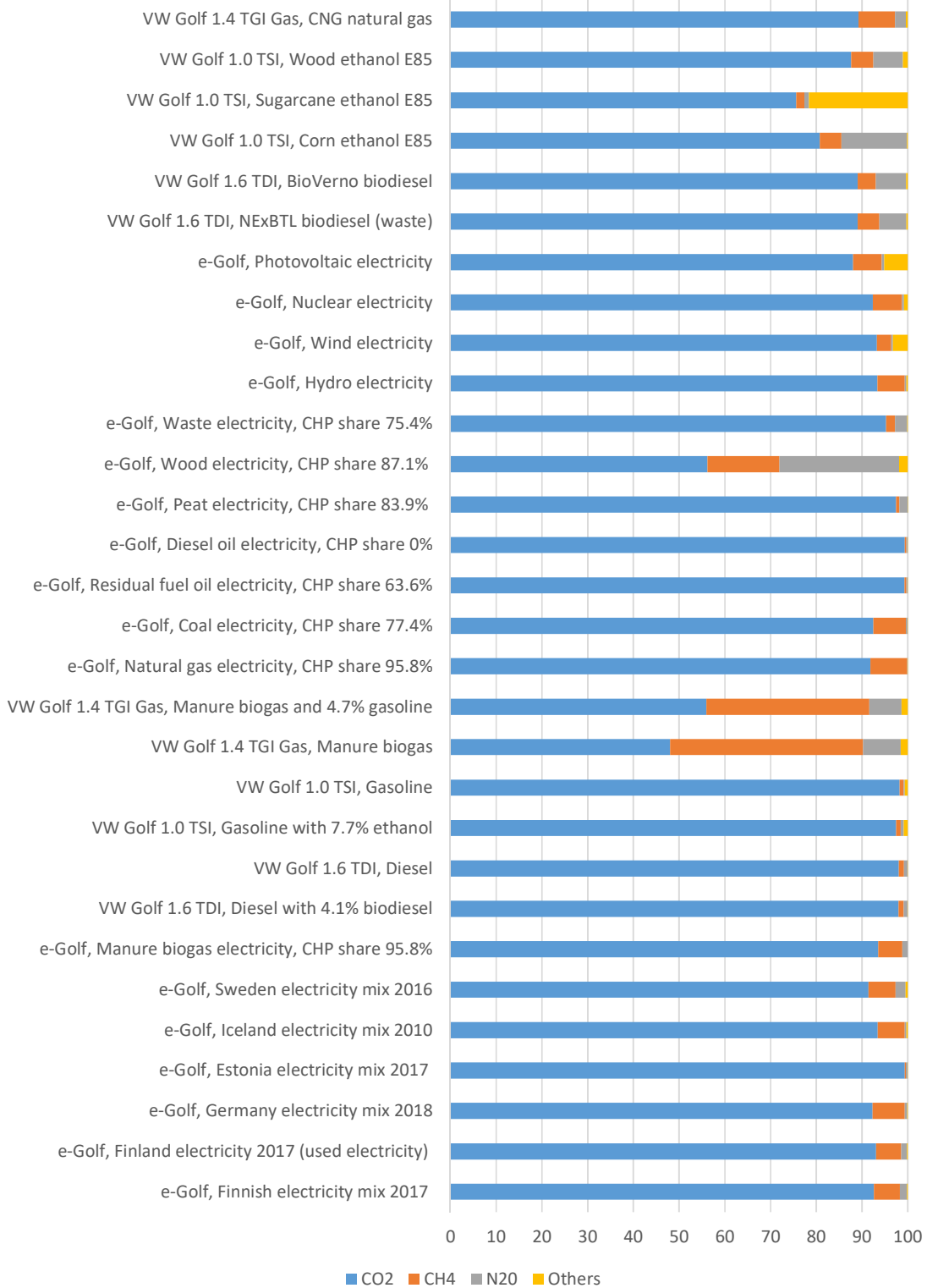
Volkswagen Golf in Finland (298 000 km, WLTP consumption), operation stage (driving), % of gCO2e



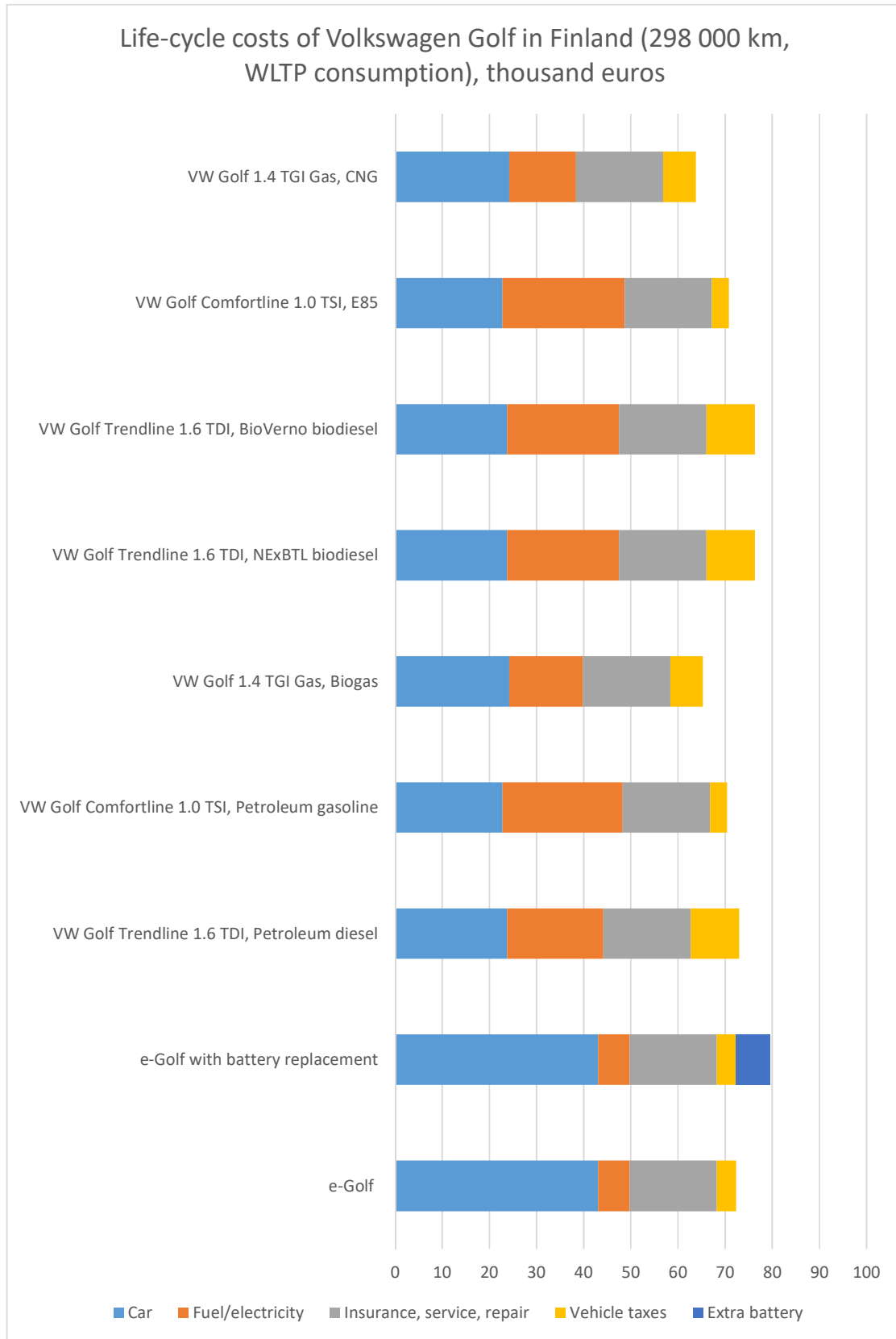
Volkswagen Golf in Finland (298 000 km, WLTP consumption), operation stage (driving) different components, gCO2e/km

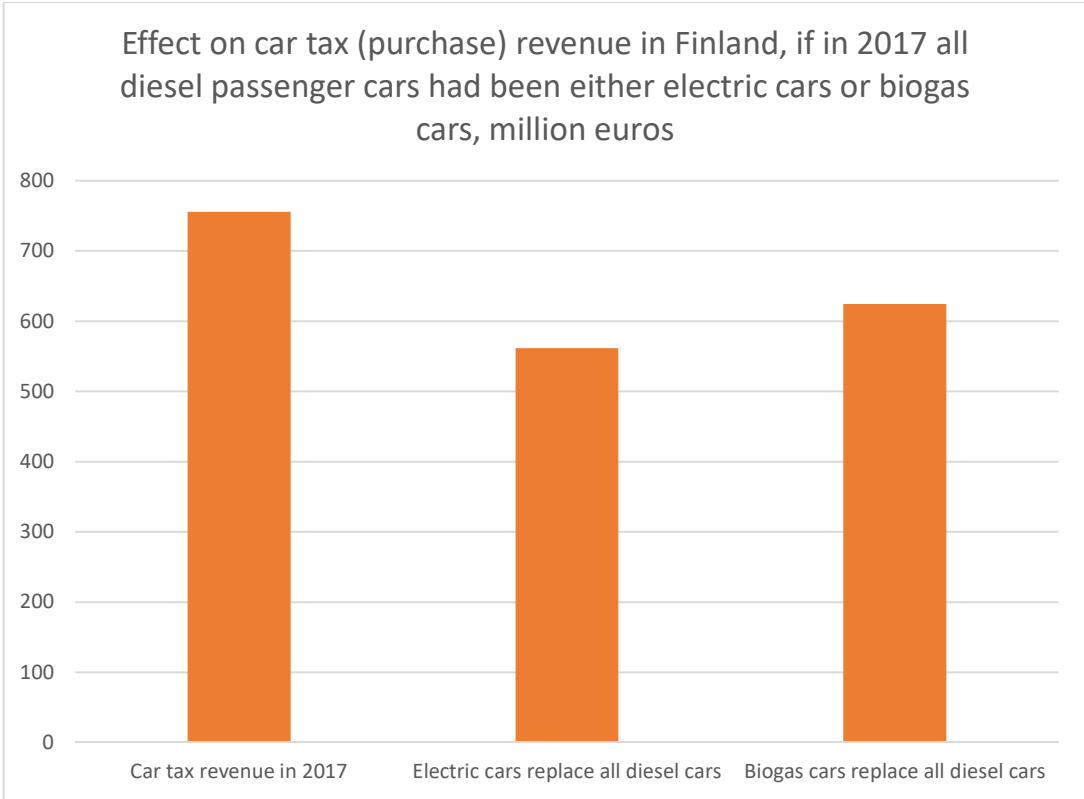
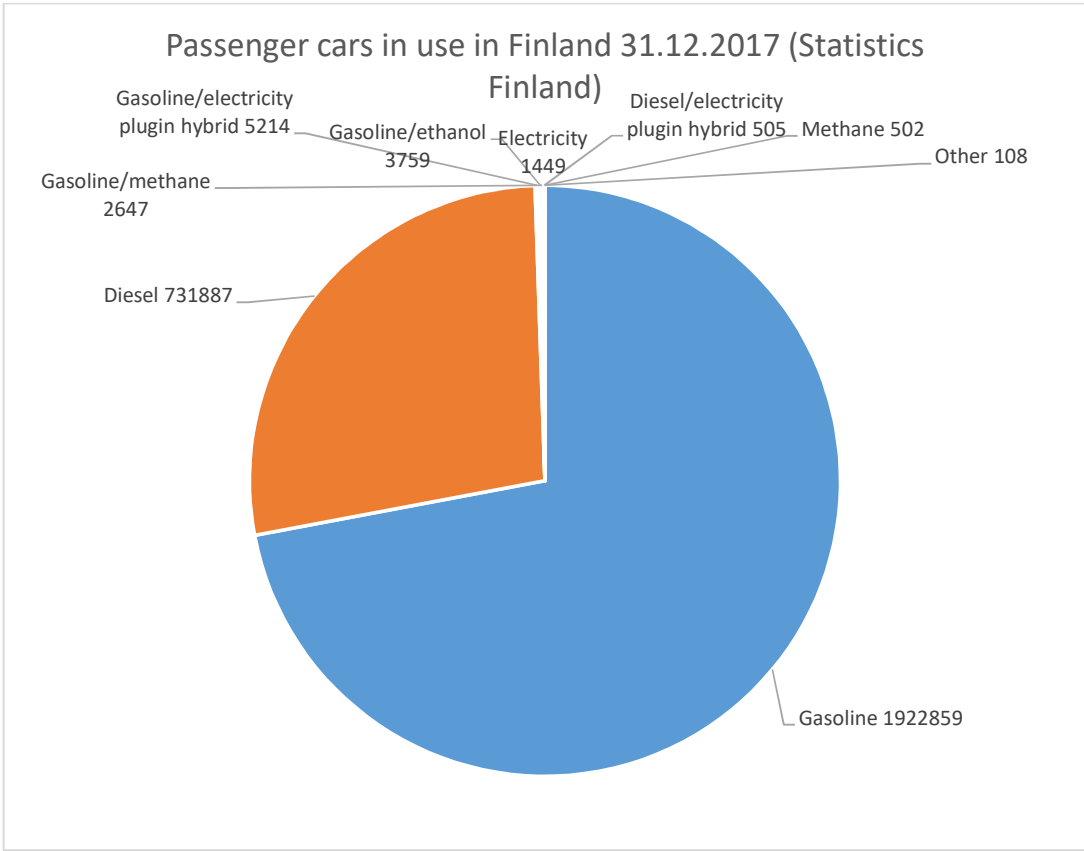


Volkswagen Golf in Finland (298 000 km, WLTP consumption), operation stage (driving) different components, % of gCO2e

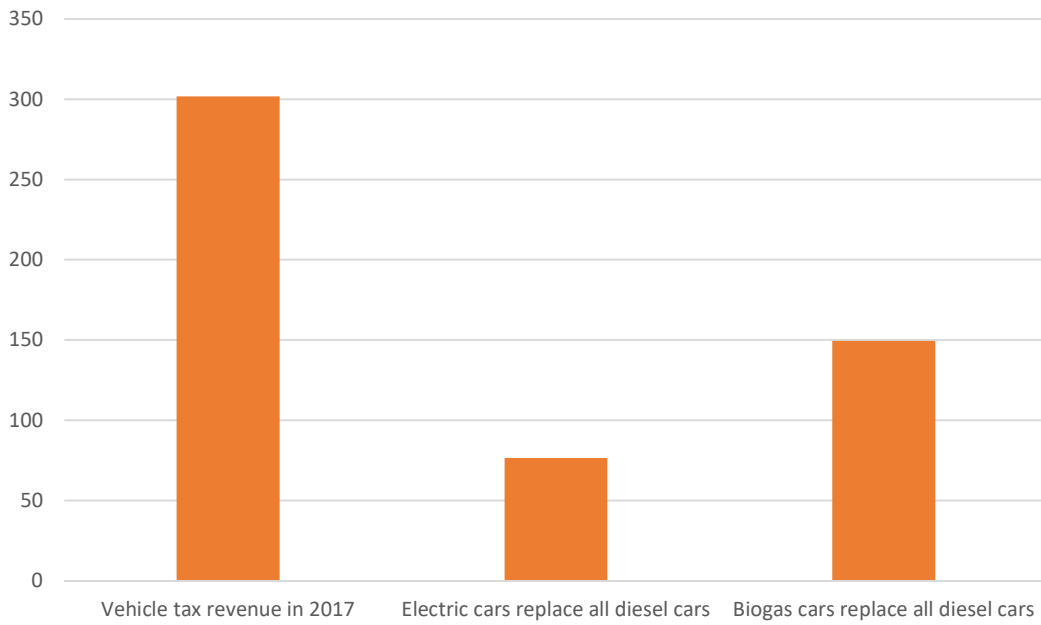


Economics and tax revenues

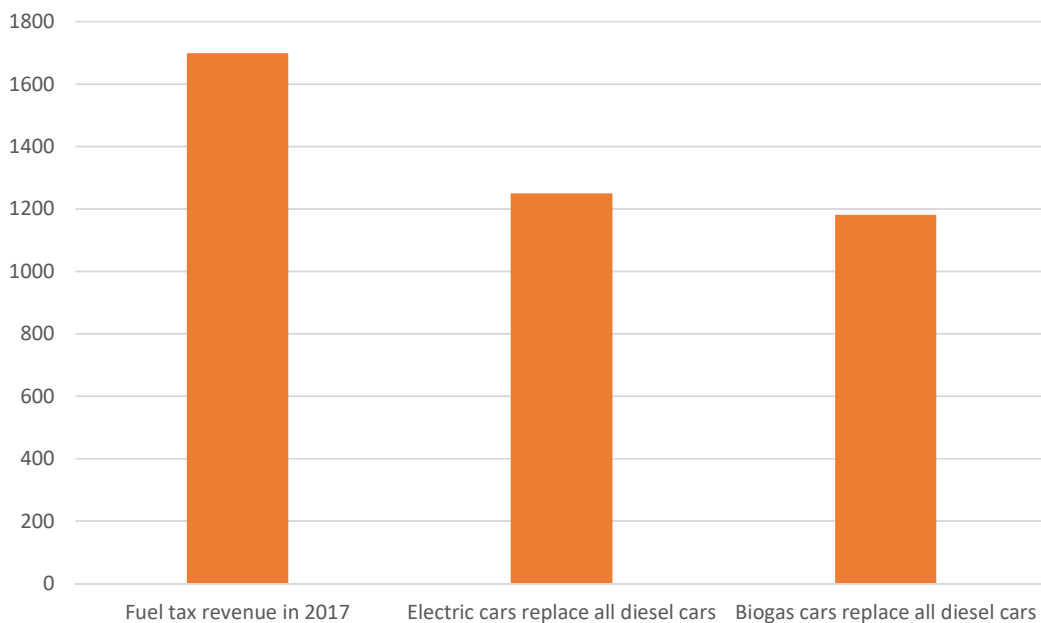




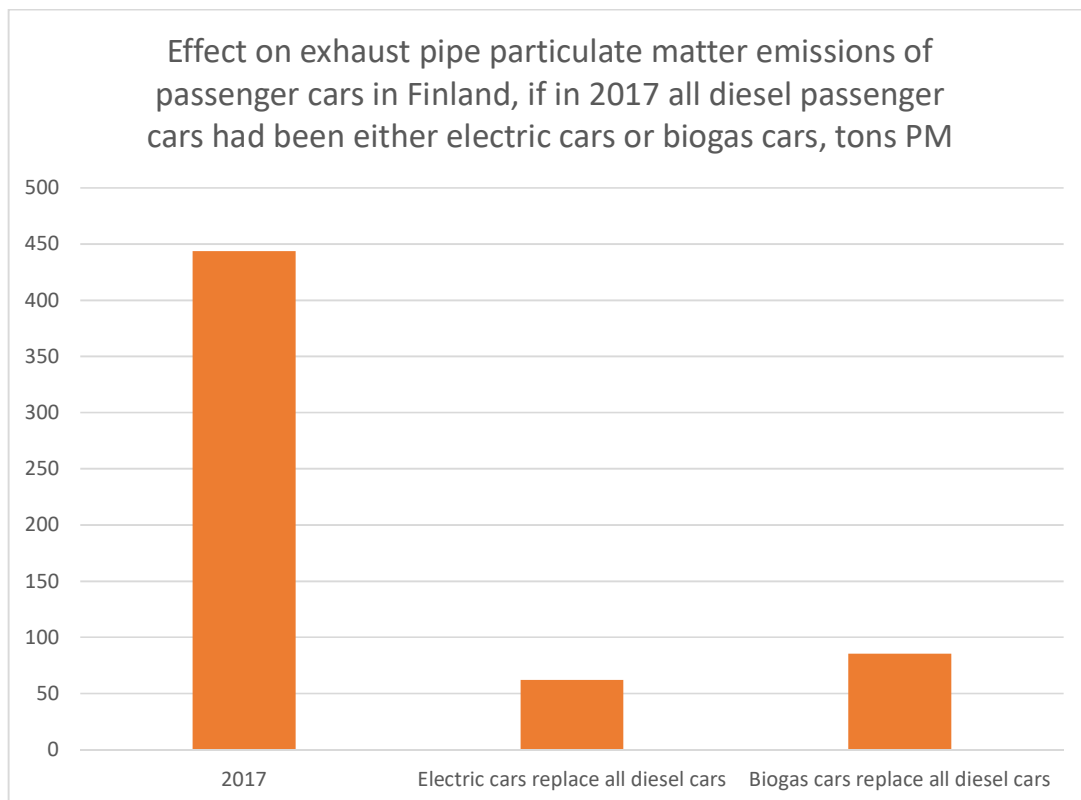
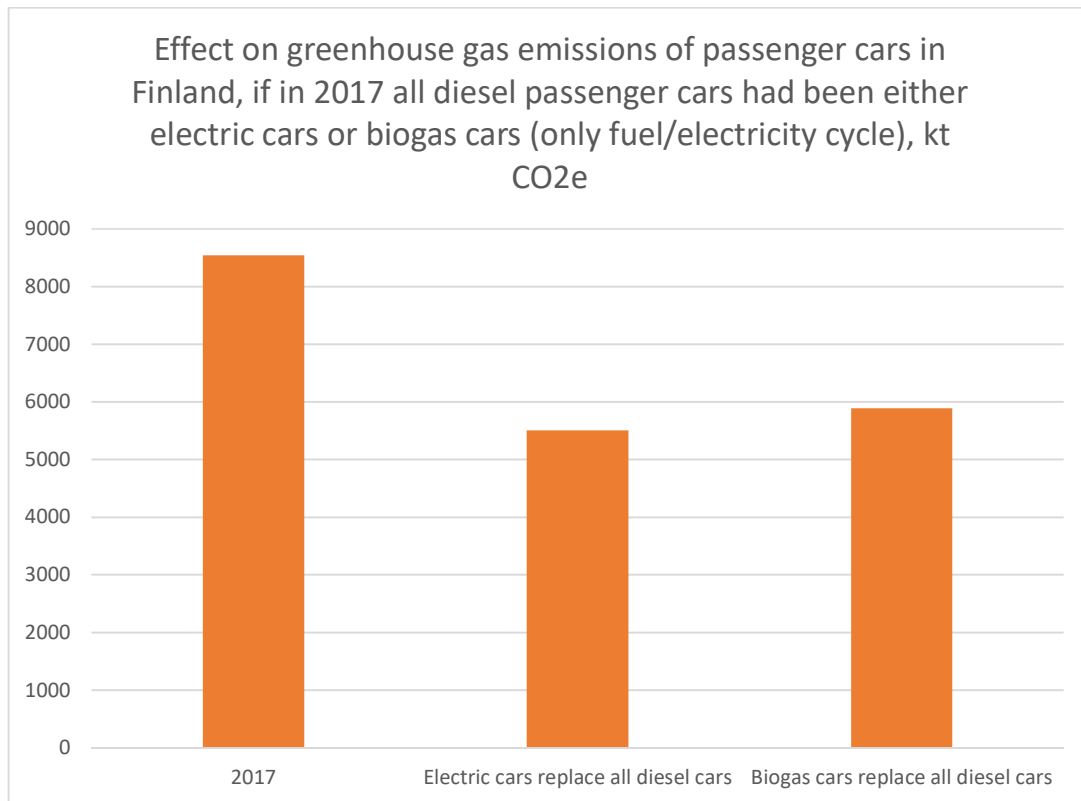
Effect on vehicle tax (yearly) revenue in Finland, if in 2017 all diesel passenger cars had been either electric cars or biogas cars, million euros

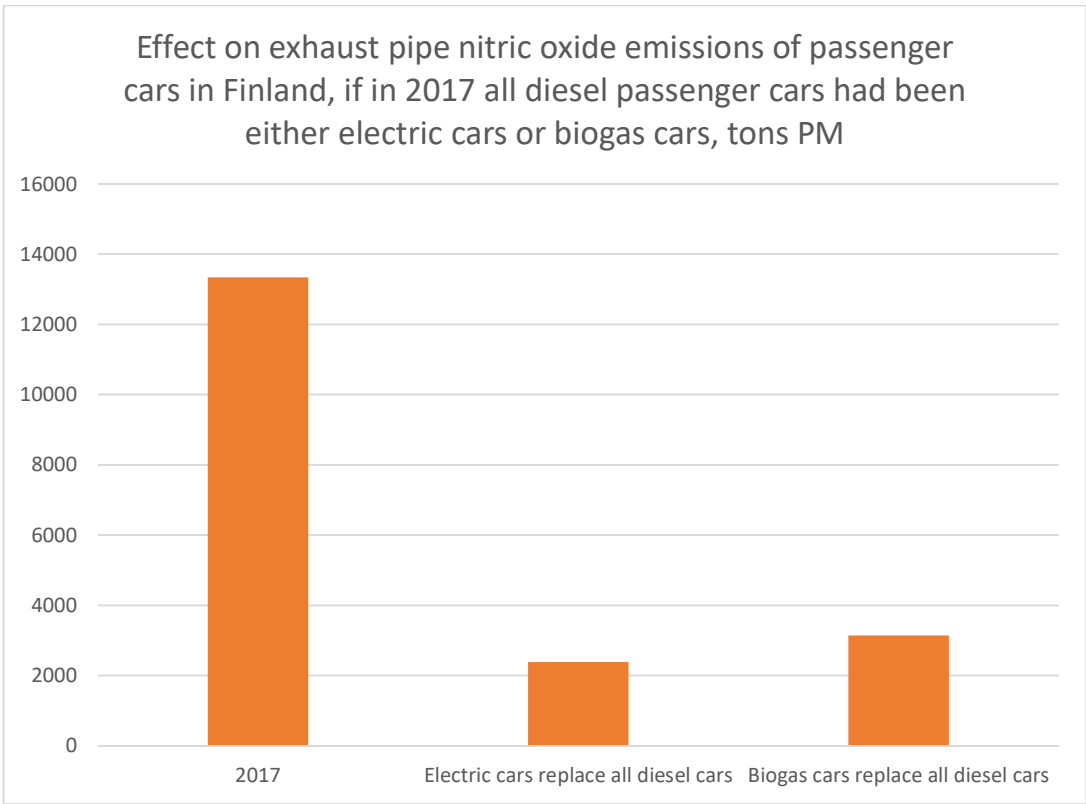


Effect on fuel tax revenue in Finland, if in 2017 all diesel passenger cars had been either electric cars or biogas cars, million euros

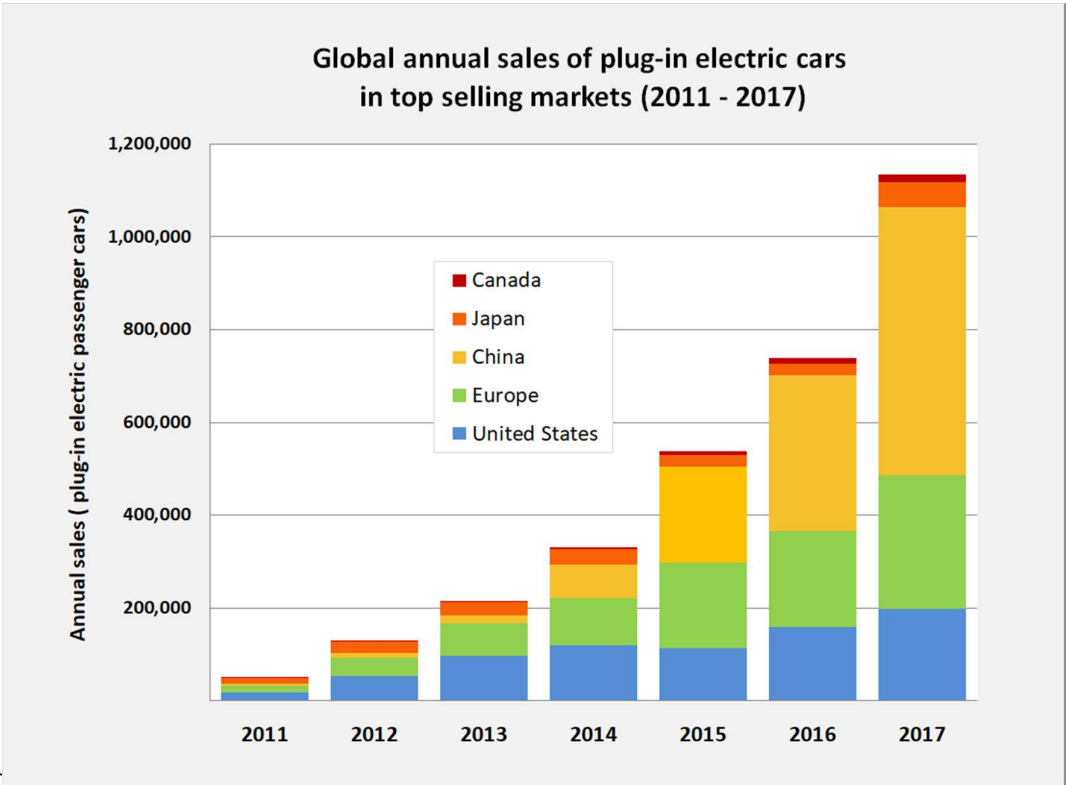


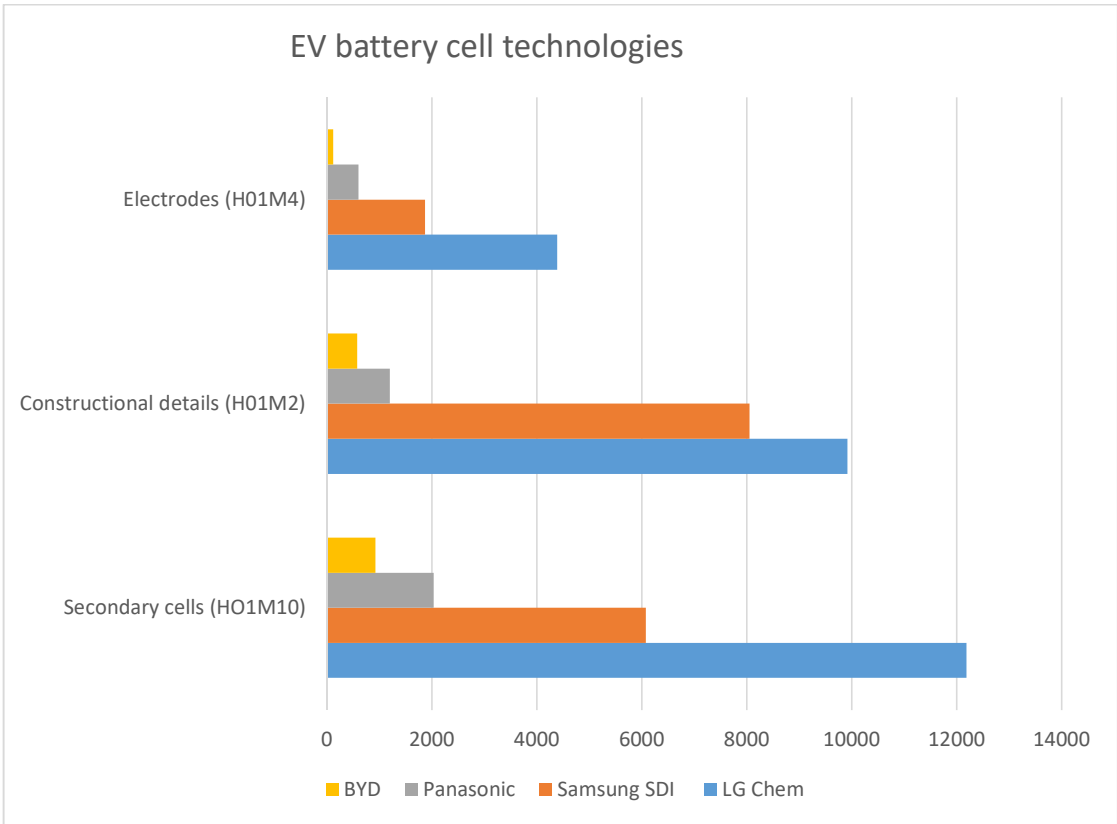
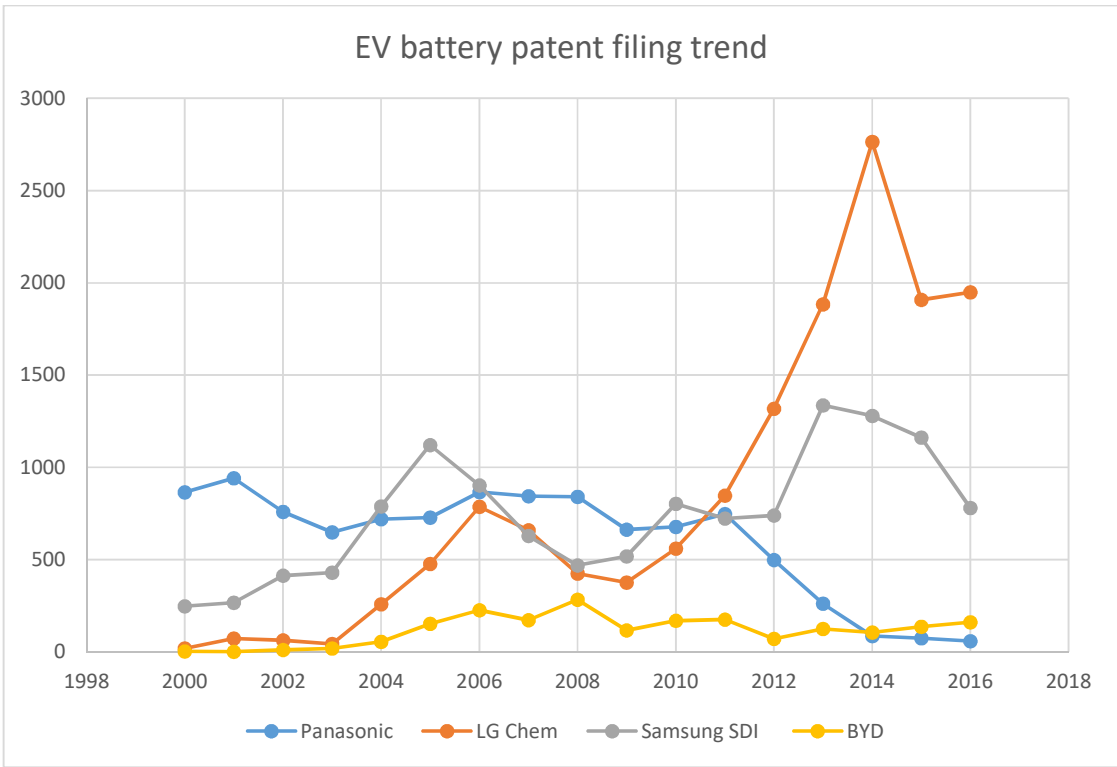
Environmental impacts of dedieselisation of the car fleet in Finland

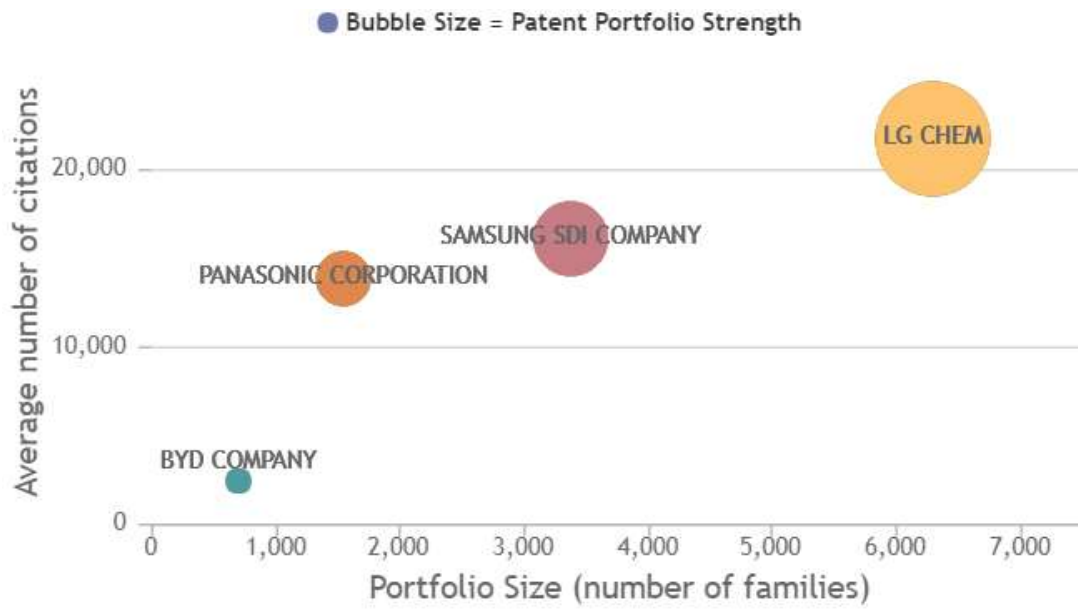




Electric car sales globally and battery cell patent indicators







Data

Below car component and material data and electricity/fuel data are given in detail.

Car components and materials

Table 1. Volkswagen Golf Comfortline 1.0 TSI 85 kW, gasoline, 5.7 L/100 km. Car components (generic data).

Component group	All vehicles (kg)	ICEV only (kg)	ICEV (kg)
Body and doors	528.21		
Brakes	12.28		
Chassis	15.58		
Fluids ICEV and EV	5.02		
Vehicle interior and exterior	238.43		
Tyres and wheels	79.61		
Total	879.13		
Engine (ICEV)		170.75	
Fluids (ICEV only)		5.02	
Other ICEV powertrain		92.55	
ICEV transmission		52.03	
ICEV battery		16.52	
Total		336.86	
Car weight			1216.00

Table 2. Volkswagen Golf Trendline 1.6 TDI 85 kW, diesel, 4.9 L/100 km. Car components (generic data).

Component group	All vehicles (kg)	ICEV only (kg)	ICEV (kg)
Body and doors	565.13		
Brakes	13.14		
Chassis	16.67		
Fluids ICEV and EV	5.37		
Vehicle interior and exterior	255.10		
Tyres and wheels	85.18		
Total	940.58		
Engine (ICEV)		182.69	
Fluids (ICEV only)		5.37	
Other ICEV powertrain		99.02	
ICEV transmission		55.66	
ICEV battery		17.68	
Total		360.41	
Car weight			1301.00

Table 3. Volkswagen Golf 1.4 TGI 81 kW, methane, 3.6 kg/100 km. Car components (generic data).

Component group	All vehicles (kg)	ICEV only (kg)	ICEV (kg)
Body and doors	572.08		
Brakes	13.30		
Chassis	16.88		
Fluids ICEV and EV	5.43		
Vehicle interior and exterior	258.24		
Tyres and wheels	86.22		
Total	952.15		
Engine (ICEV)		184.93	
Fluids (ICEV only)		5.43	
Other ICEV powertrain		100.24	
ICEV transmission		56.35	
ICEV battery		17.89	
Total		364.84	
Car weight			1317.00

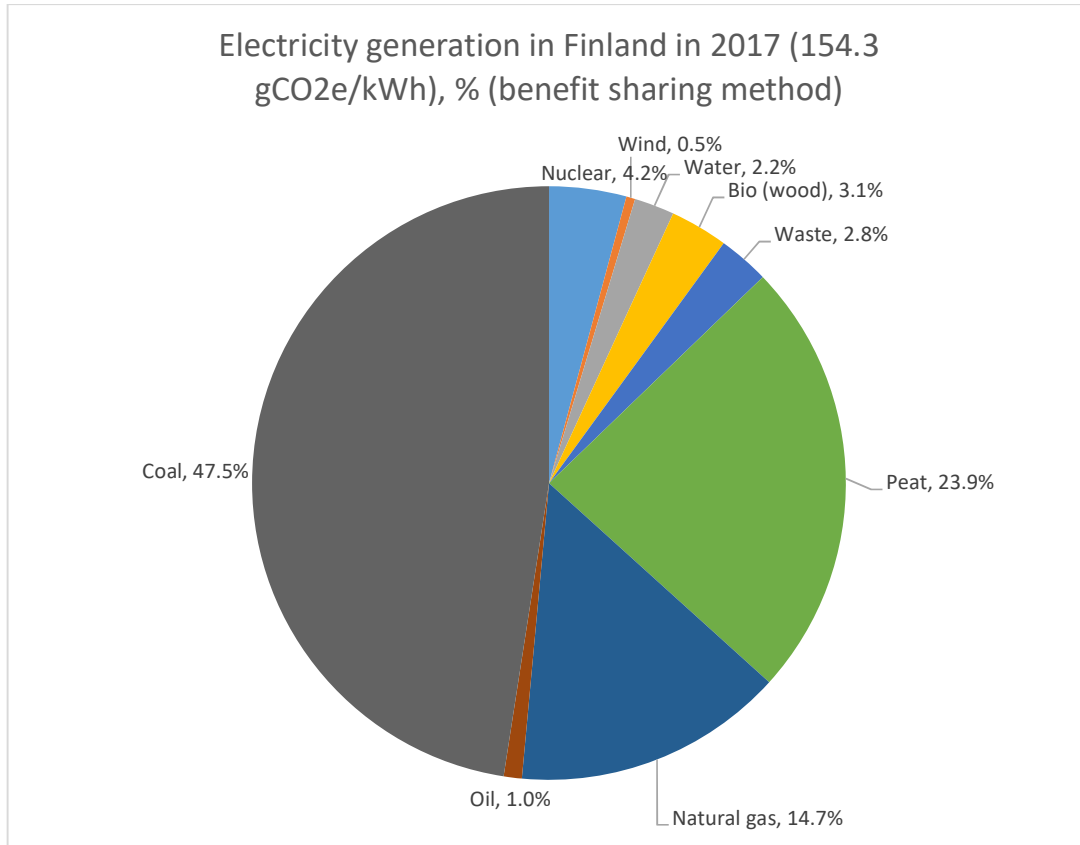
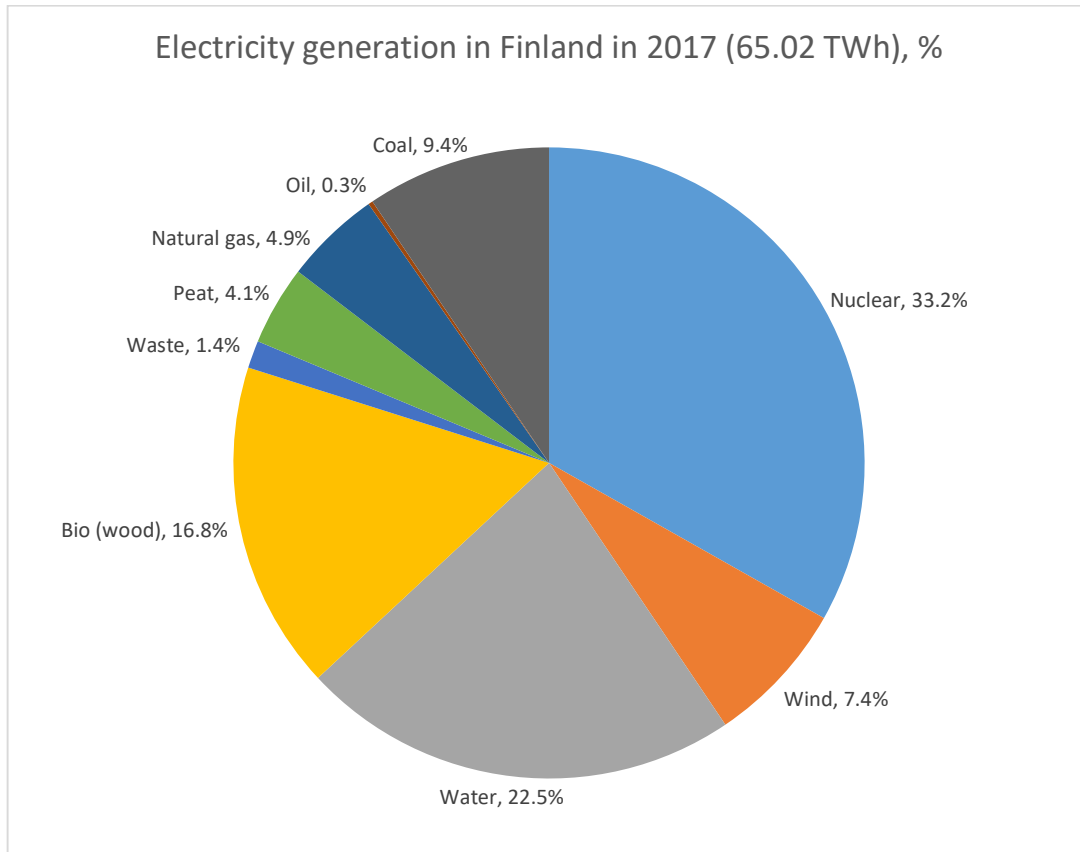
Table 4. Volkswagen e-Golf 100 kW, electricity, 15.6 kWh/100 km (grid electricity consumption). Car components (generic data).

Component group	All vehicles (kg)	EV only (kg)	EV (kg)
Body and doors	566.03		
Brakes	13.16		
Chassis	16.70		
Fluids ICEV and EV	5.38		
Vehicle interior and exterior	255.51		
Tyres and wheels	85.31		
Total	942.09		
EV motor and transmission		304.36	
EV differential transmission		38.56	
EV Li-NCM battery		330.00	
Total		672.92	
Car weight			1615.00

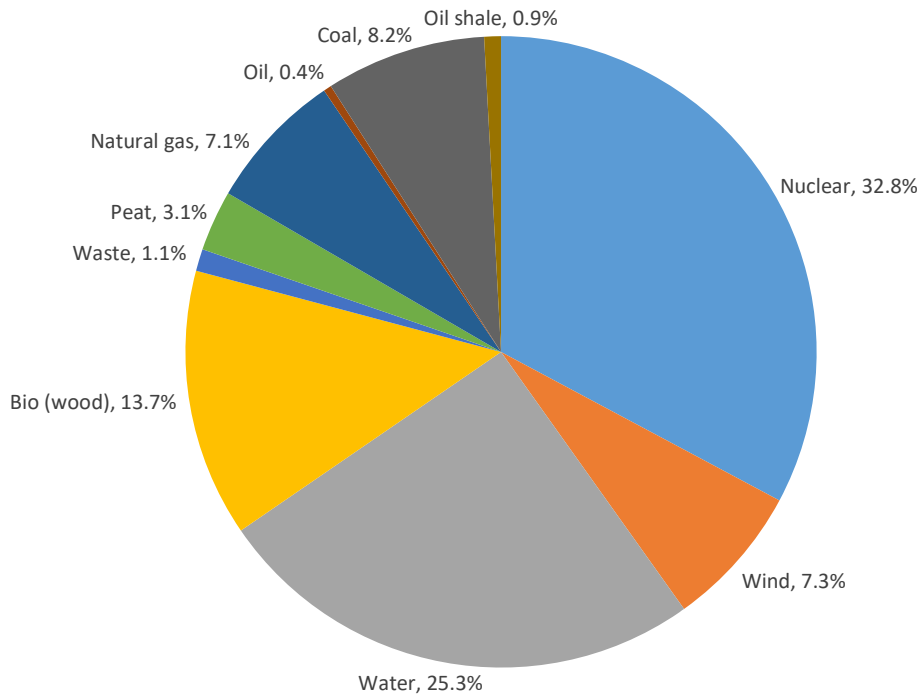
Table 5. Volkswagen Golf, car materials. Some materials are lumped together (generic data).

Material	Volkswagen Golf Comfortline 1.0 TSI 85 kW (kg)	Volkswagen Golf Trendline 1.6 TDI 85 kW (kg)	Volkswagen Golf 1.4 TGI 81 kW Gas (kg)	Volkswagen e-Golf 100 kW (kg)	Volkswagen e-Golf 100 kW with extra battery pack (kg)
Plastics:	178.35	190.82	193.17	183.37	202.18
Polyethylene	16.31	17.45	17.66	13.43	13.43
Polypropylene	83.51	89.35	90.45	76.96	91.81
Polystyrene	34.11	36.50	36.95	42.91	46.87
Polyethylene terephthalate	29.38	31.43	31.82	33.10	33.10
Polyvinylchloride	15.05	16.10	16.30	16.96	16.96
Metals (non-ferrous):	109.86	117.54	118.98	299.24	452.03
Aluminum	73.18	78.30	79.26	167.89	239.50
Copper (manganese, cobalt, nickel)	36.68	39.24	39.72	131.35	212.53
Metals (ferrous):	807.70	864.16	874.78	835.49	835.82
Pig iron	24.10	25.78	26.10	3.54	3.54
Cast iron	131.88	141.10	142.83	5.25	5.25
Steel RR	635.37	679.78	688.14	799.13	799.13
Steel OK	16.35	17.49	17.71	27.57	27.90
Fluids:	14.35	15.35	15.54	95.93	175.79
Lubricating oil	7.02	7.51	7.61	1.13	1.13
Refrigerant	4.01	4.29	4.35	3.39	3.39
Water	3.32	3.55	3.59	91.40	171.26
Other materials:	105.74	113.13	114.52	200.98	279.19
Various plastics	33.86	36.23	36.68	38.16	38.16
Adhesives	4.03	4.31	4.37	18.43	30.64
Minerals (clay)	5.92	6.33	6.41	3.39	3.39
Glass	31.78	34.01	34.42	35.44	35.44
Wood	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rubber (not tyre)	10.06	10.77	10.90	9.82	9.82
Rubber (tyre)	18.39	19.68	19.92	20.73	20.73
Sulphuric acid	1.68	1.80	1.82	0.41	0.41
Lithium	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.22	9.84
Graphite	0.00	0.00	0.00	69.38	130.76

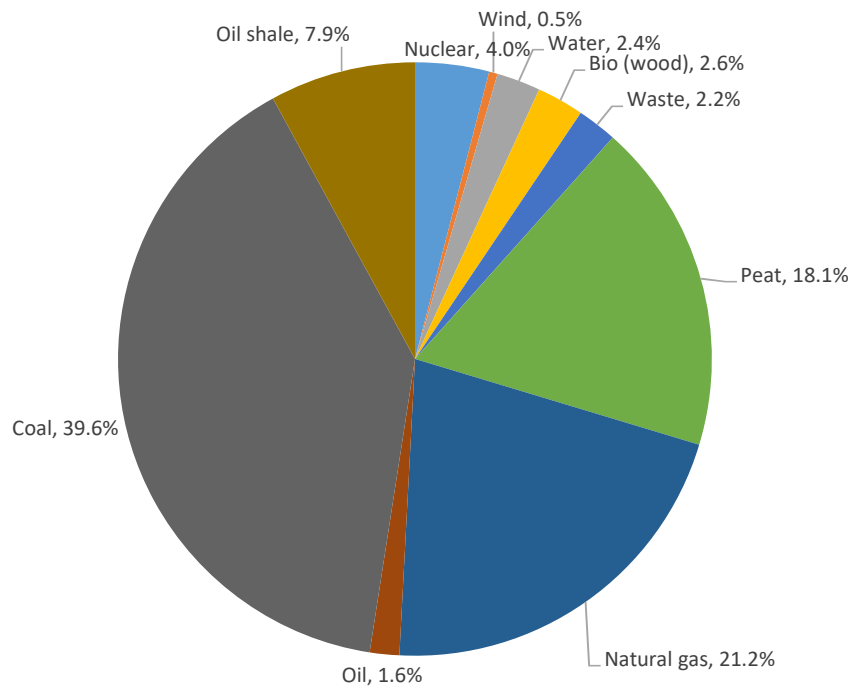
Electricity generation and use



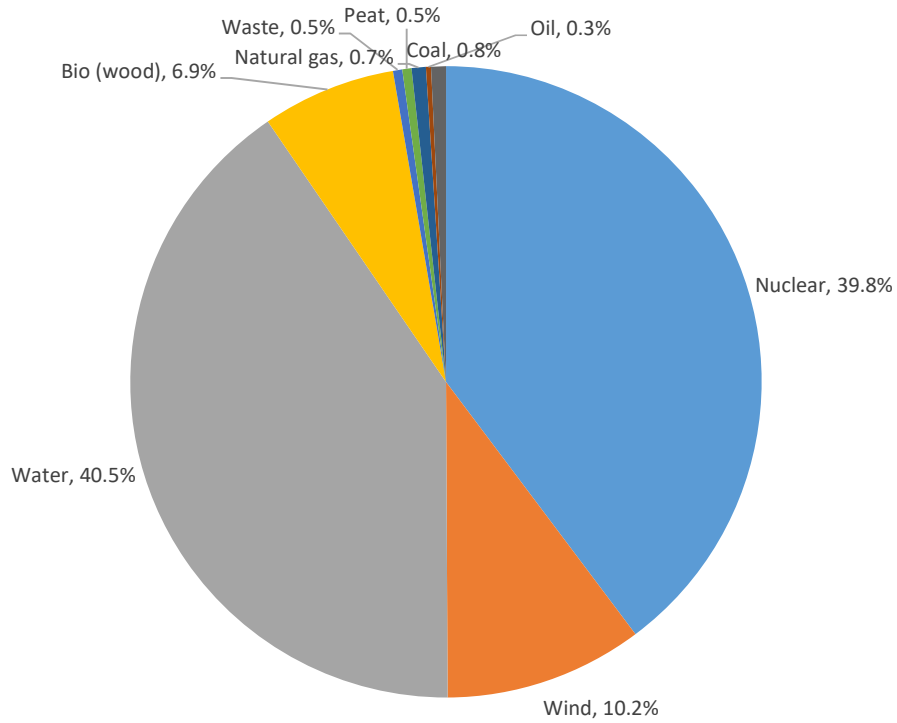
Electricity used in Finland in 2017 (85.45 TWh), %



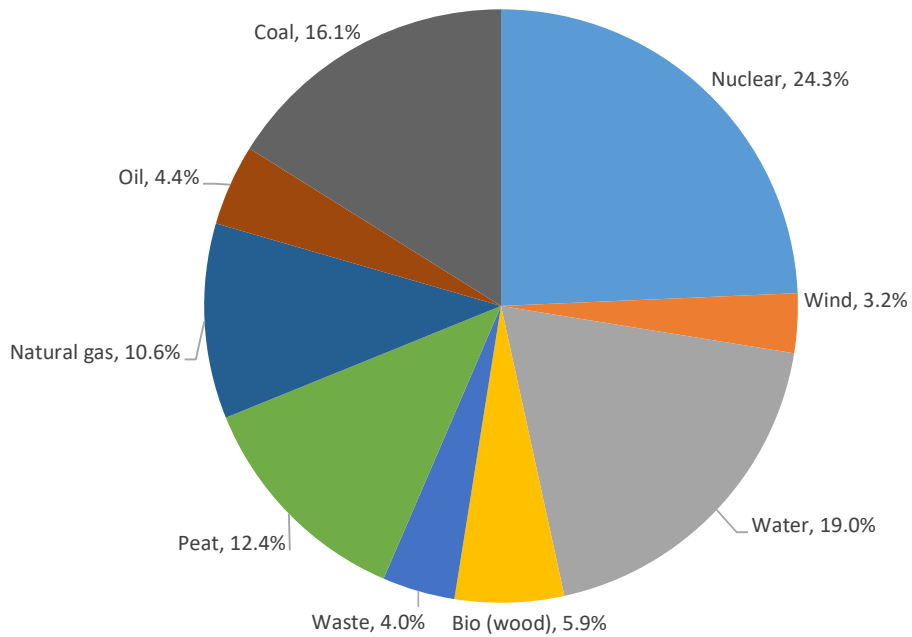
Electricity used in Finland in 2017 (159.2 gCO₂e/kWh), %
(benefit sharing method)



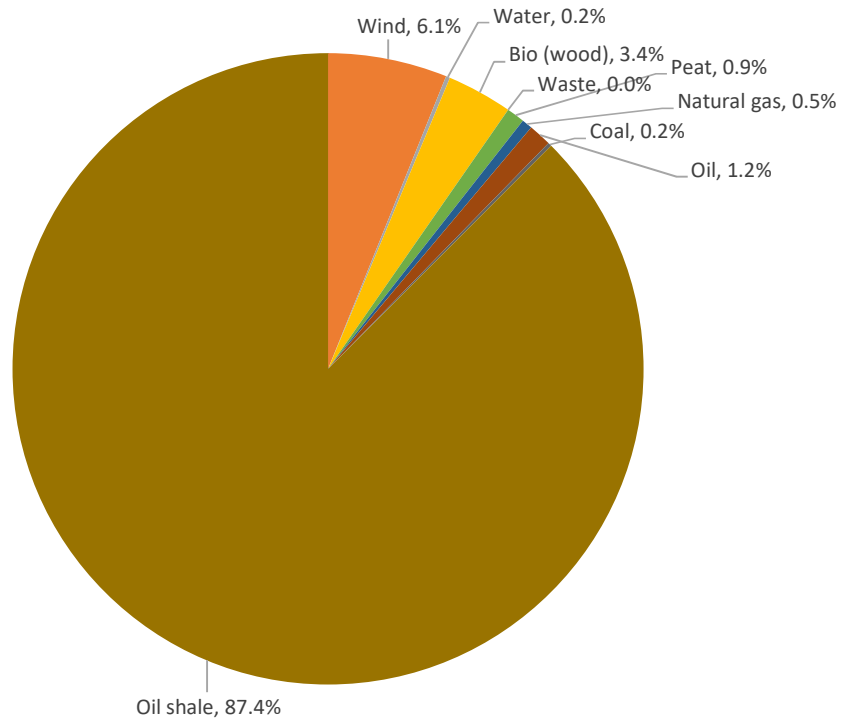
Electricity generation in Sweden in 2016 (152.4 TWh), %



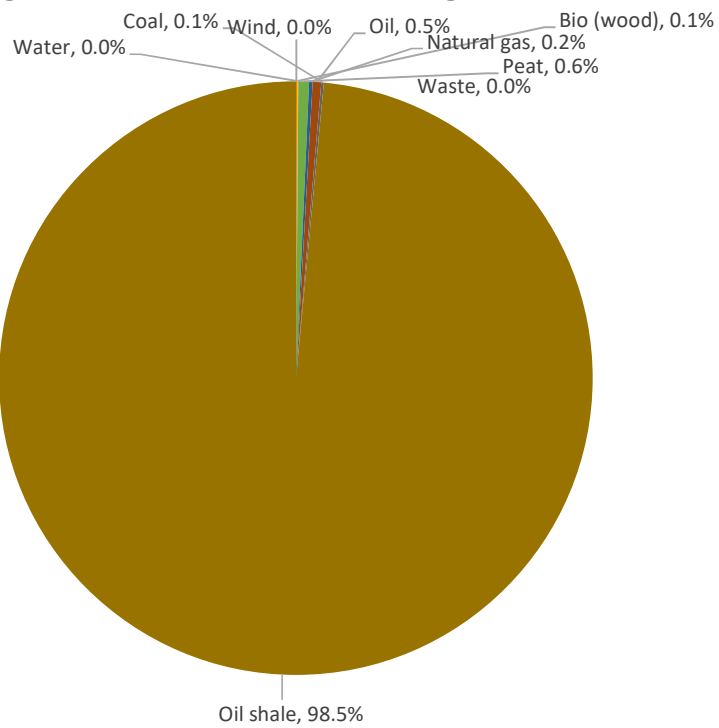
Electricity generation in Sweden in 2016 (31.9 gCO₂e/kWh), % (benefit sharing method)



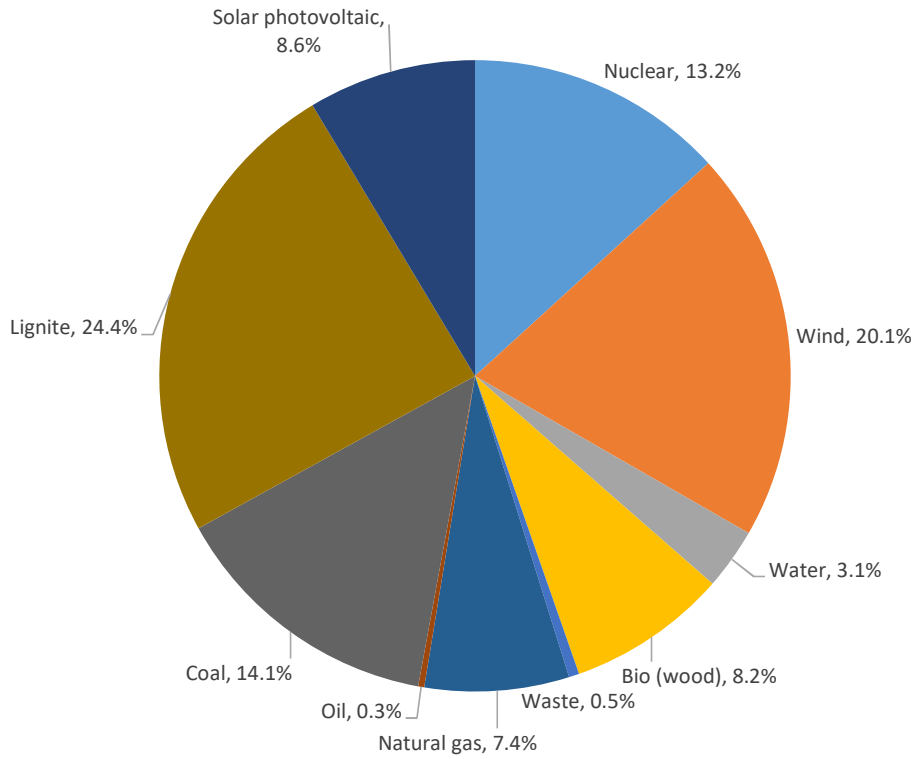
Electricity generation in Estonia in 2017 (11.86 TWh), %



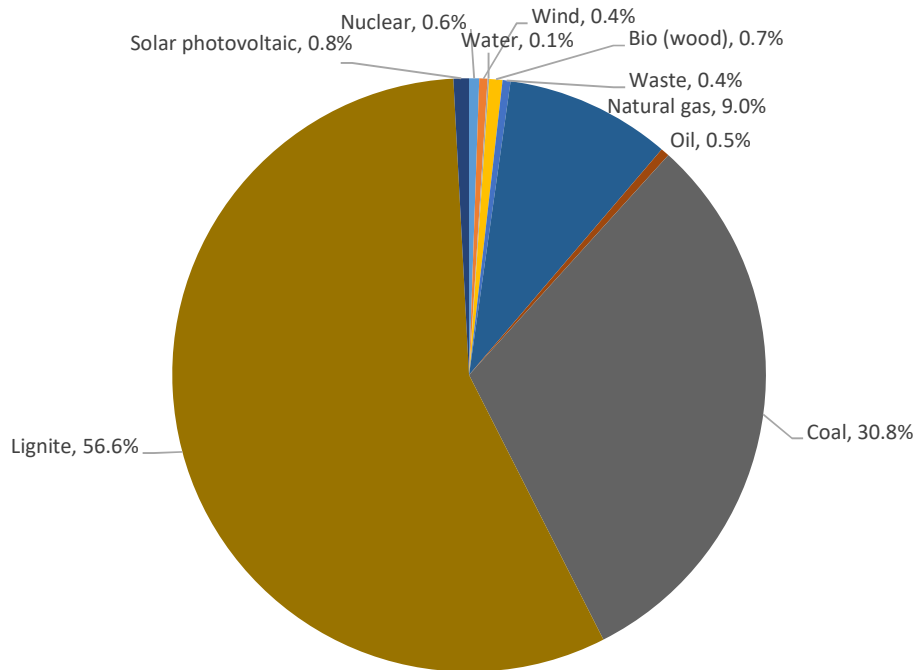
Electricity generation in Estonia in 2017 (1365 gCO₂e/kWh), % (benefit sharing method)



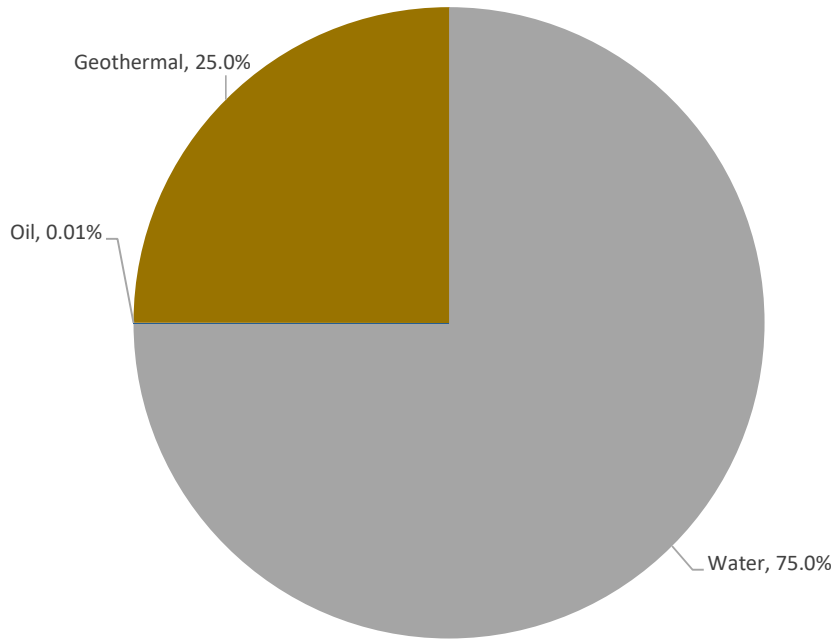
Electricity generation in Germany in 2018 (540.46 TWh), %



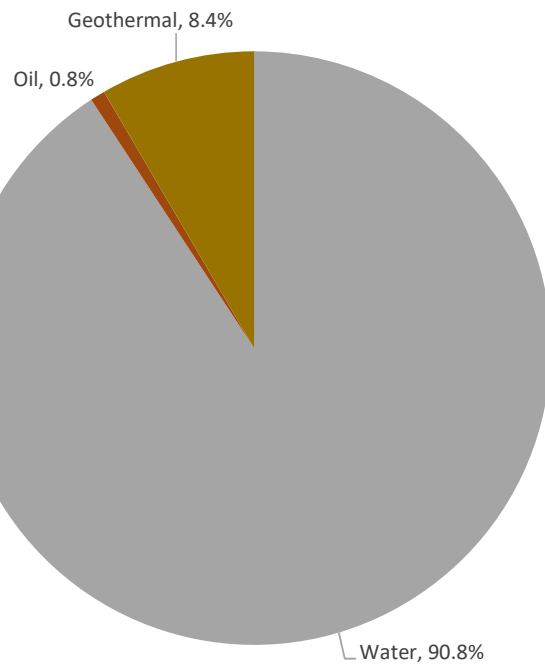
Electricity generation in Germany in 2018 (466.7 gCO2e/kWh), % (benefit sharing method)



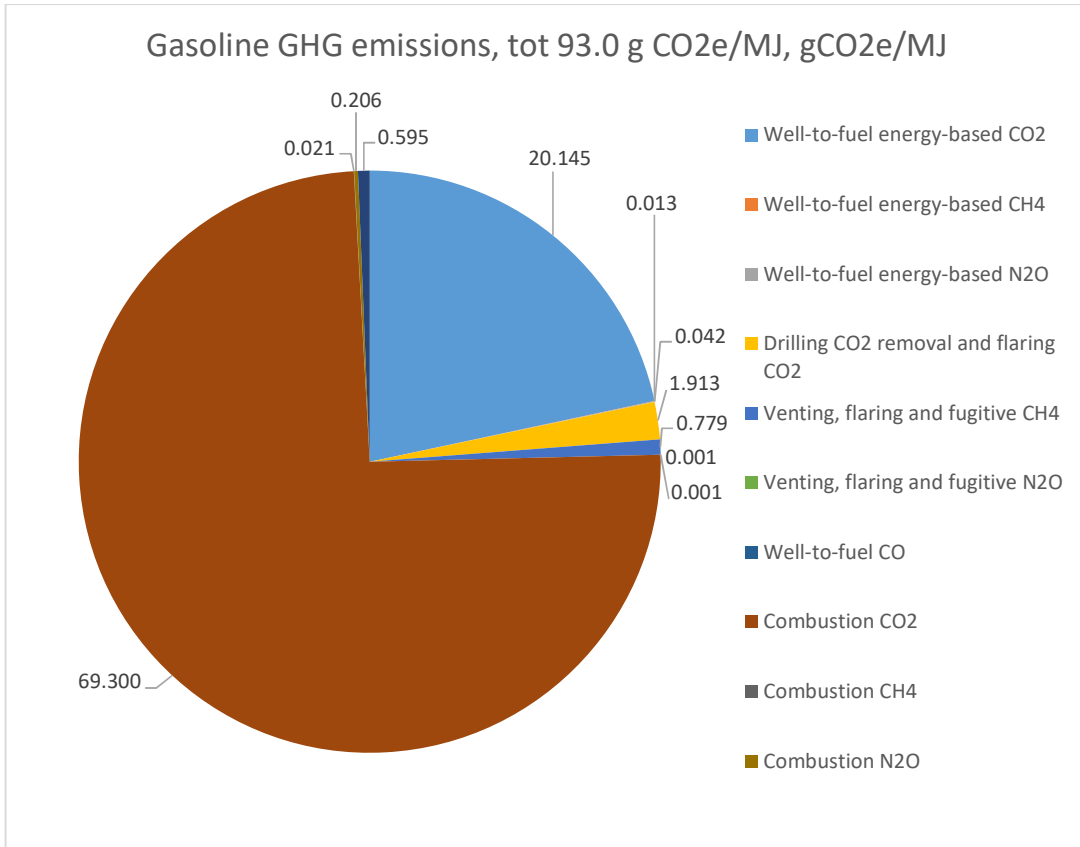
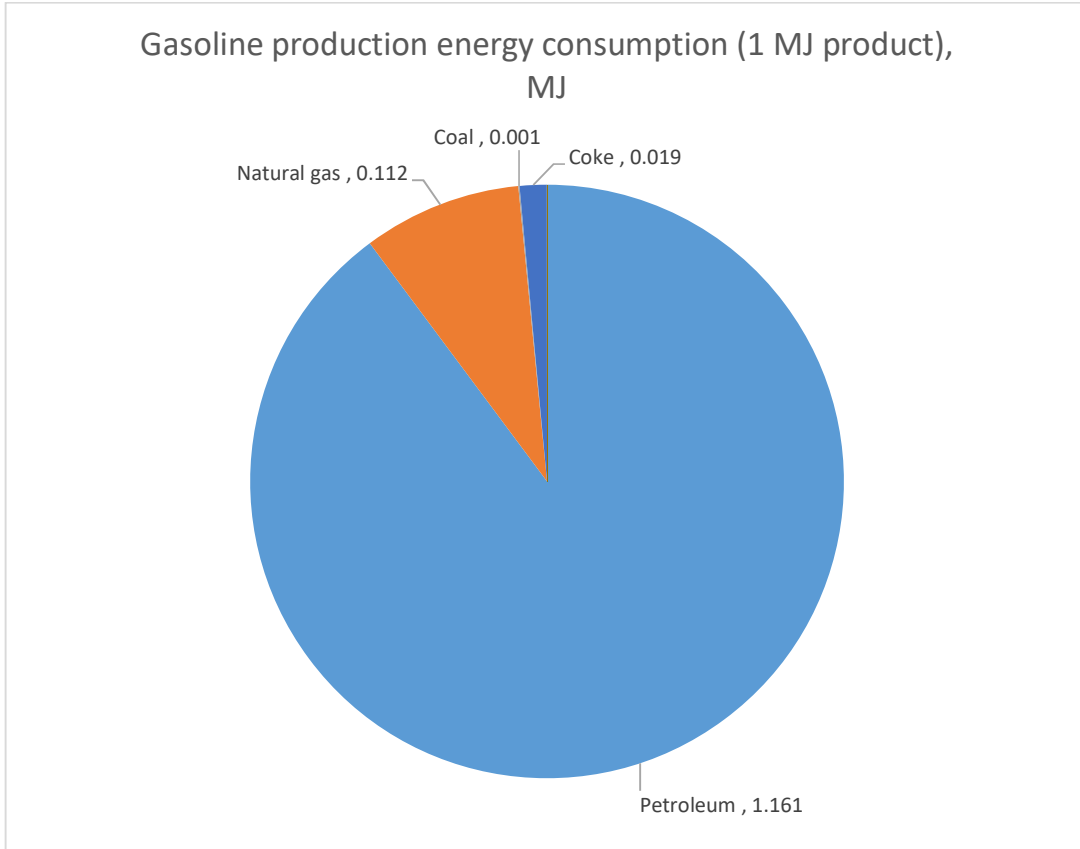
Electricity generation in Iceland in 2010 (17.06 TWh), %



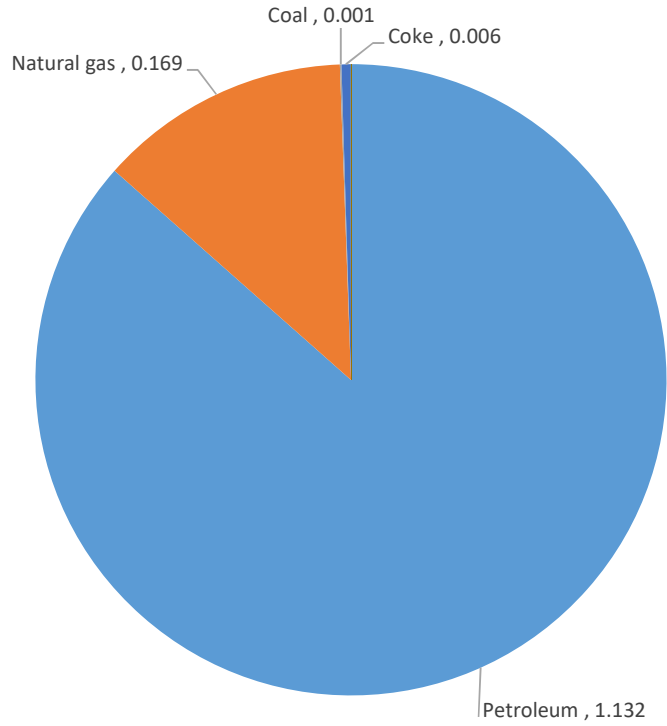
Electricity generation in Iceland in 2010 (1.6 gCO₂e/kWh), % (benefit sharing method)



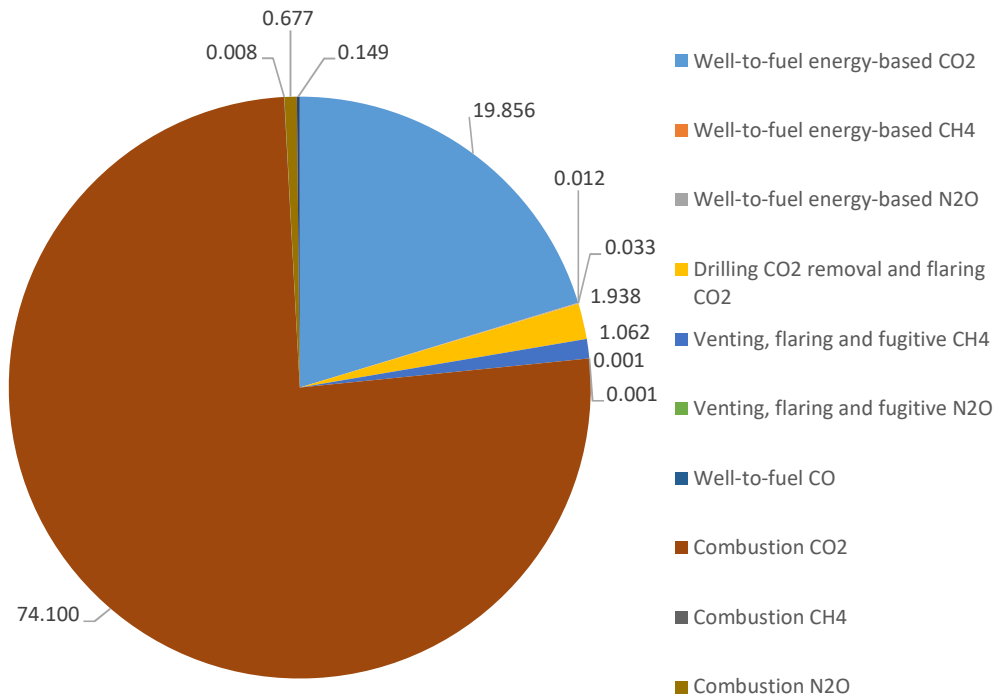
Fuels production and use



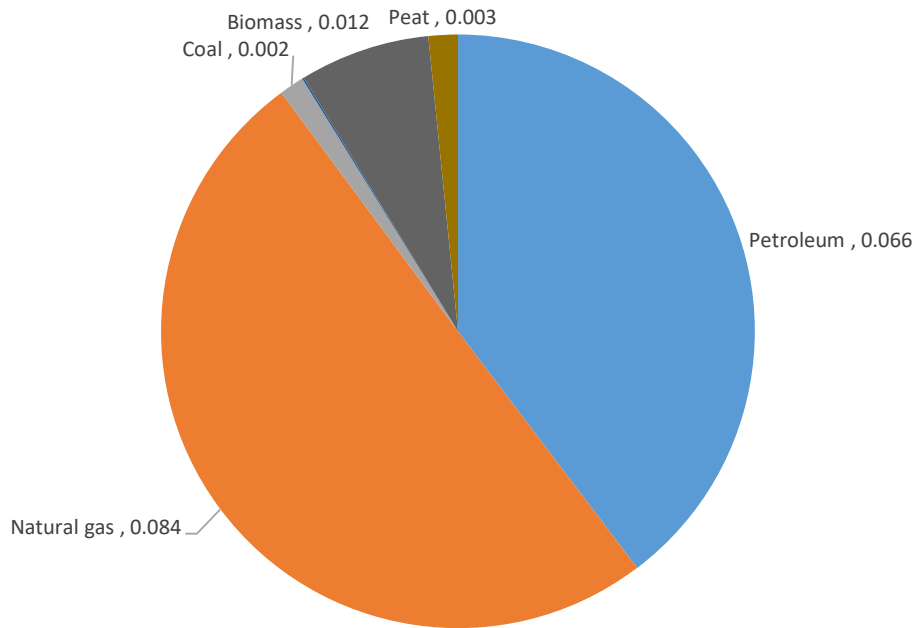
Diesel production energy consumption (1 MJ product), MJ



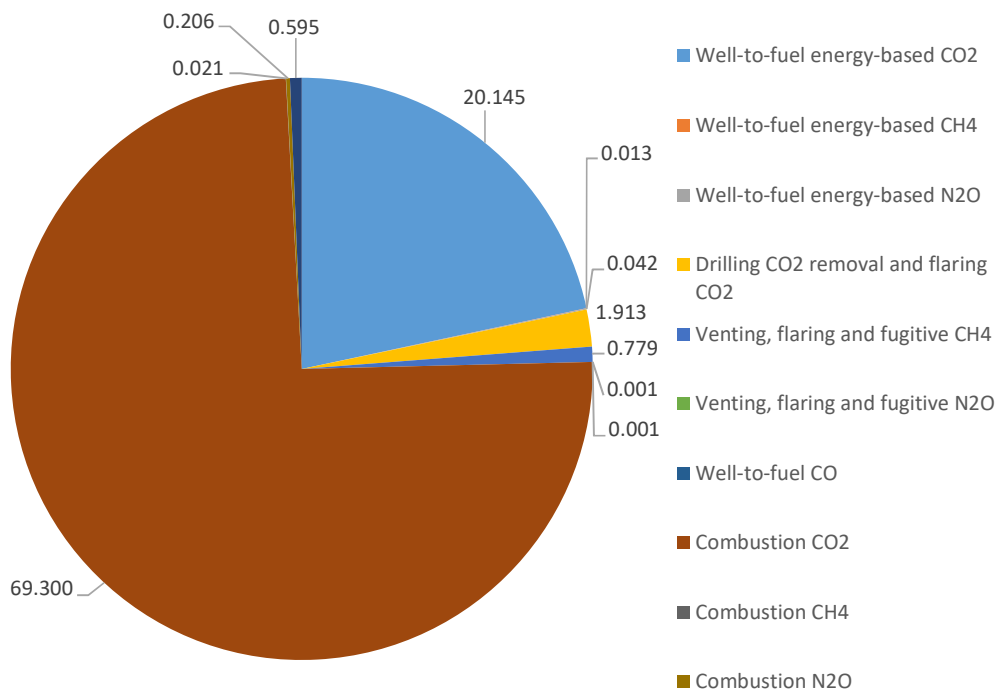
Diesel GHG emissions, tot 97.8 g CO₂e/MJ, gCO₂e/MJ



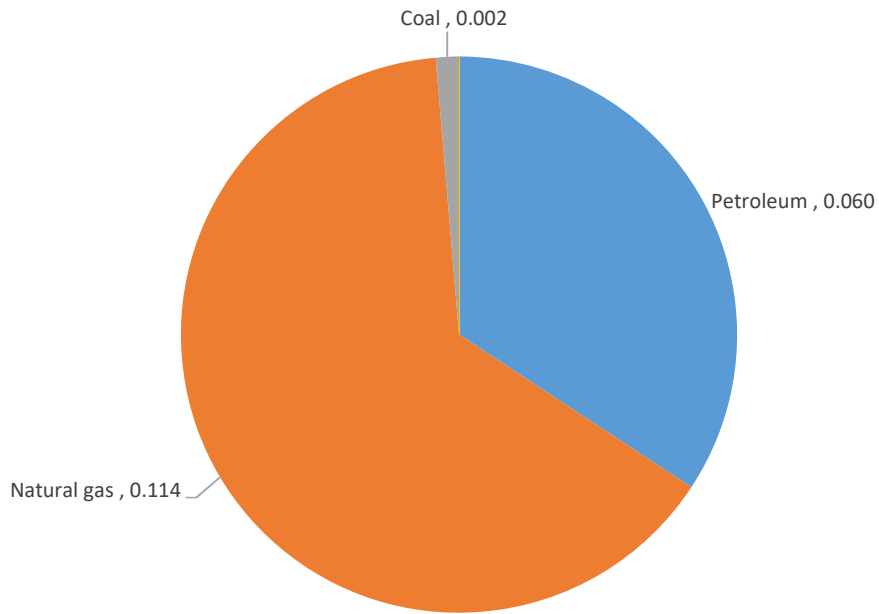
Bioverno diesel production energy consumption, raw-material biomass excluded (1 MJ product), MJ



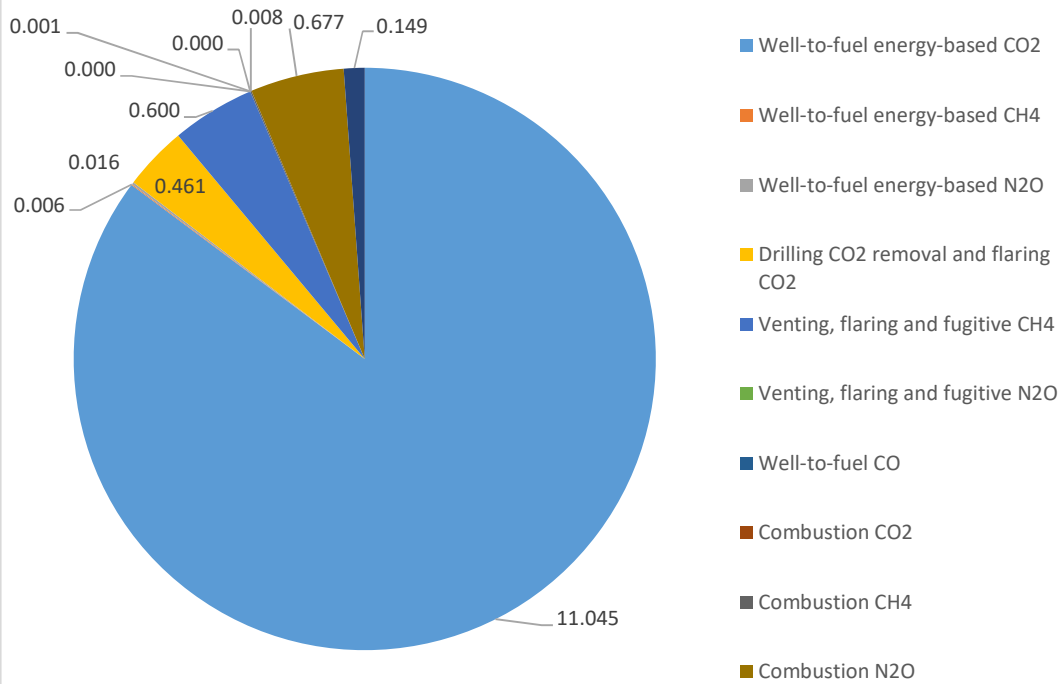
BioVerno diesel GHG emissions, tot 11.8 gCO₂e/MJ, g CO₂e/MJ



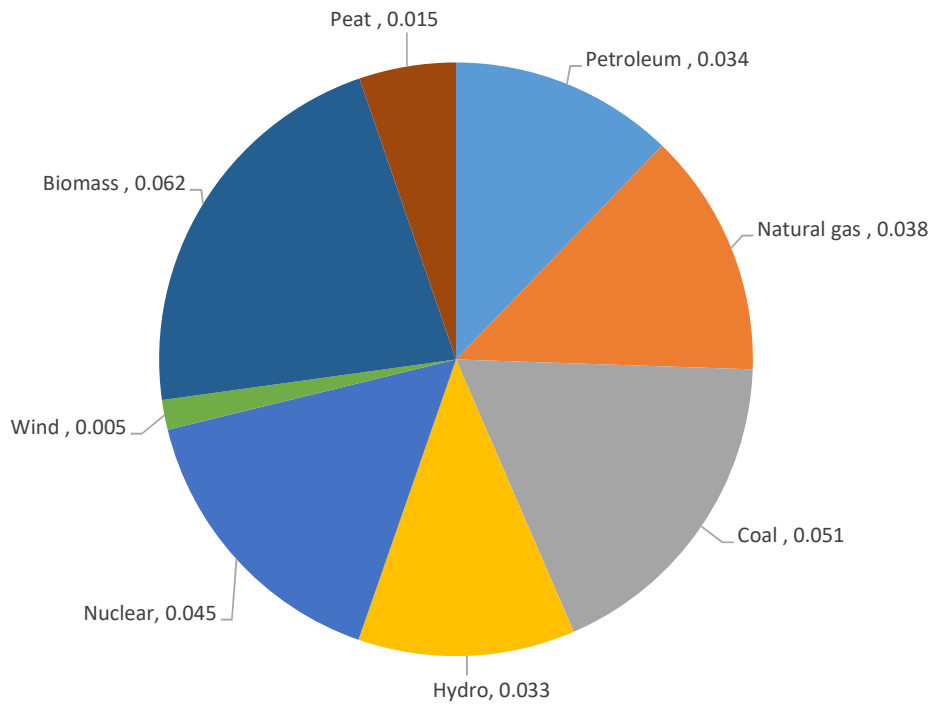
NExBTL diesel (raw material is waste animal fats)
production energy consumption, biomass excluded (1 MJ
product), MJ



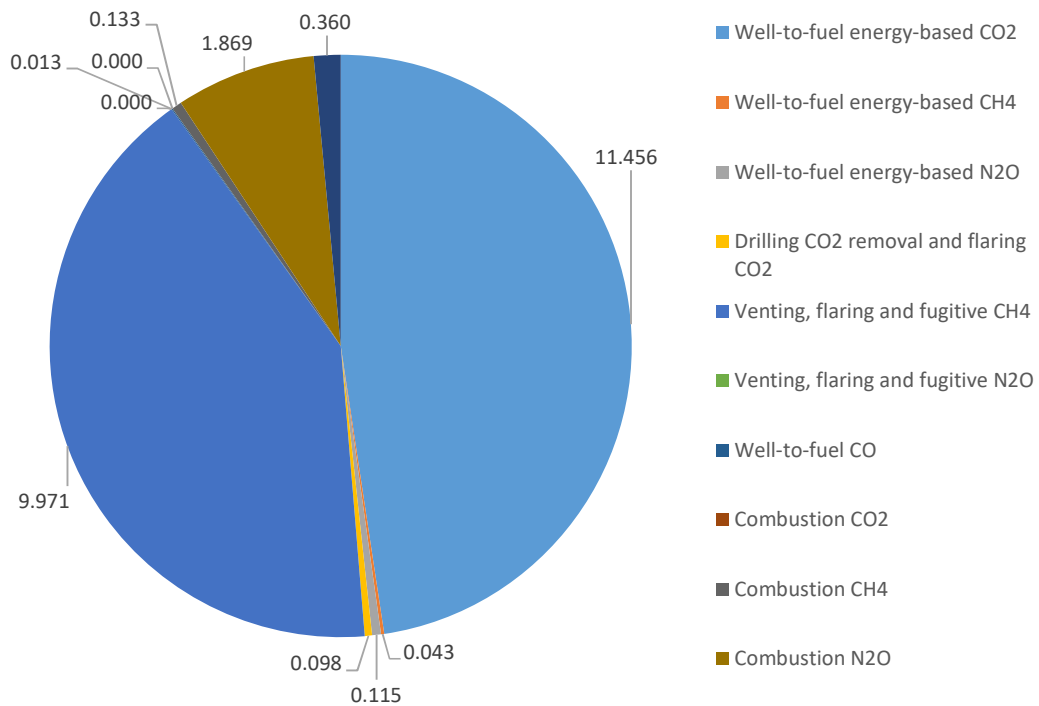
NExBTL diesel (raw material is waste animal fats) GHG
emissions, tot 13.0 g CO₂e/MJ, gCO₂e/MJ



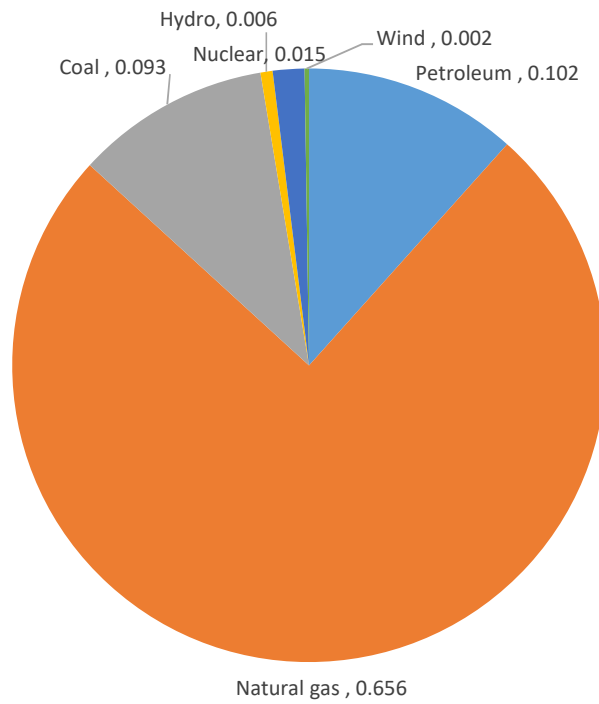
Manure biogas production energy consumption (1 MJ product), MJ



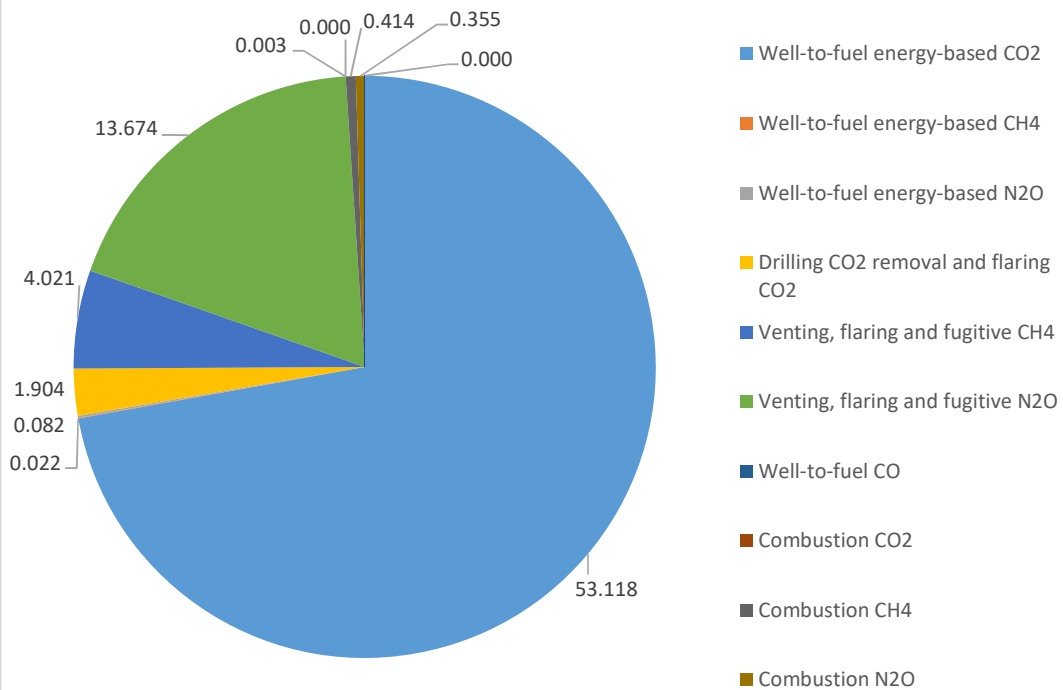
Manure biogas GHG emissions, tot 24.1 g CO₂e/MJ, gCO₂e/MJ



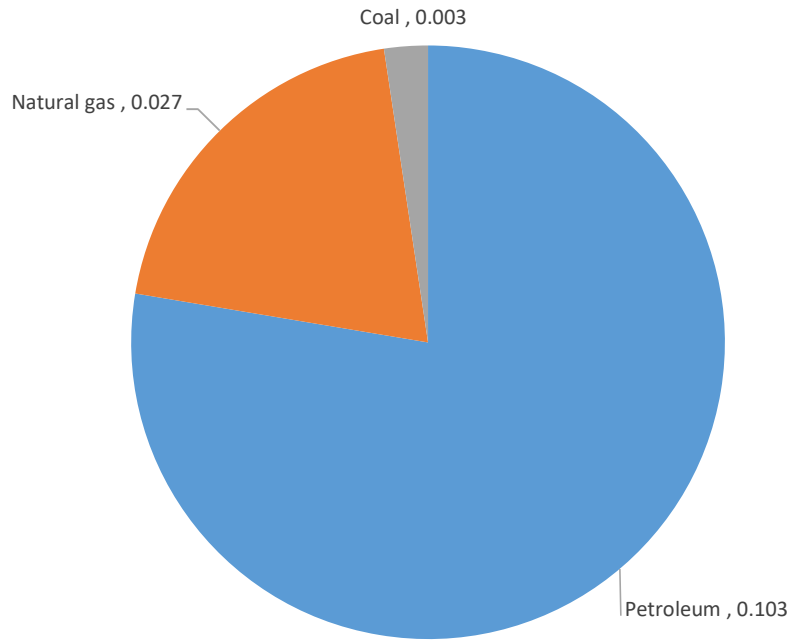
Corn ethanol production energy consumption, biomass excluded (1 MJ product), MJ



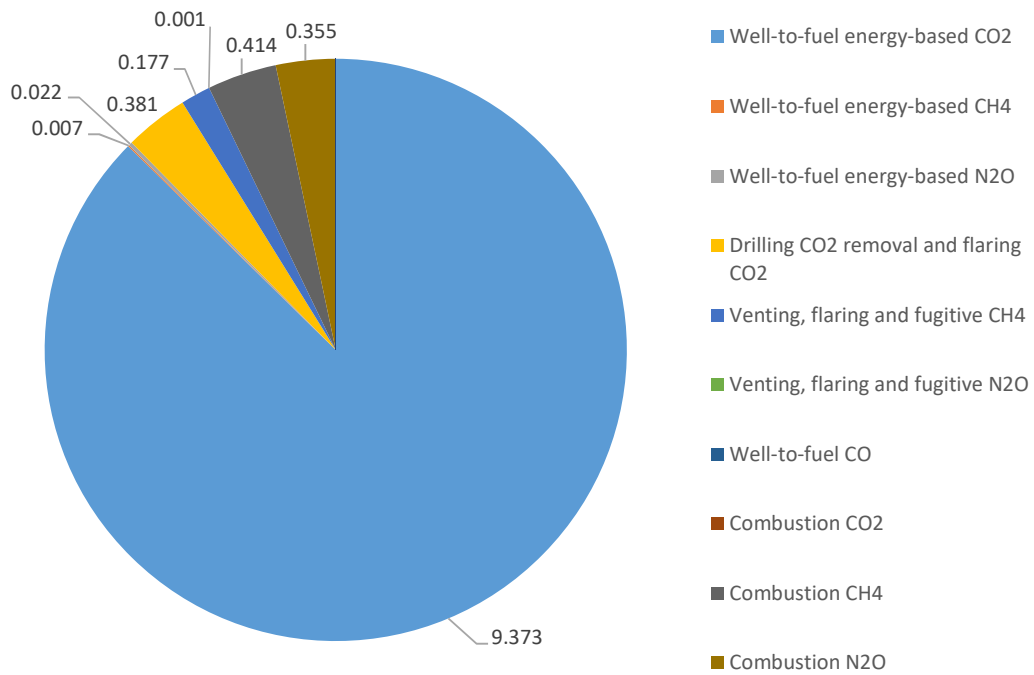
Corn ethanol GHG emissions, tot 73.6 g CO₂e/MJ, gCO₂e/MJ



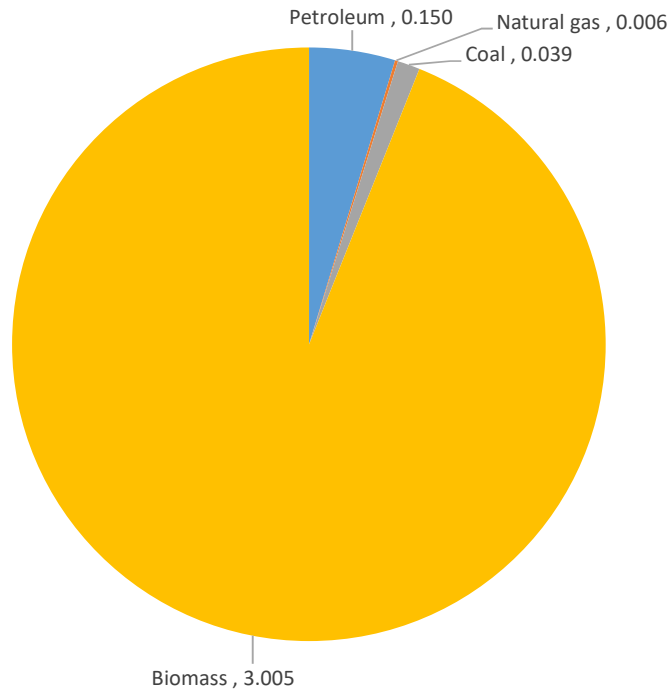
Sugarcane ethanol production energy consumption, biomass excluded (1 MJ product), MJ



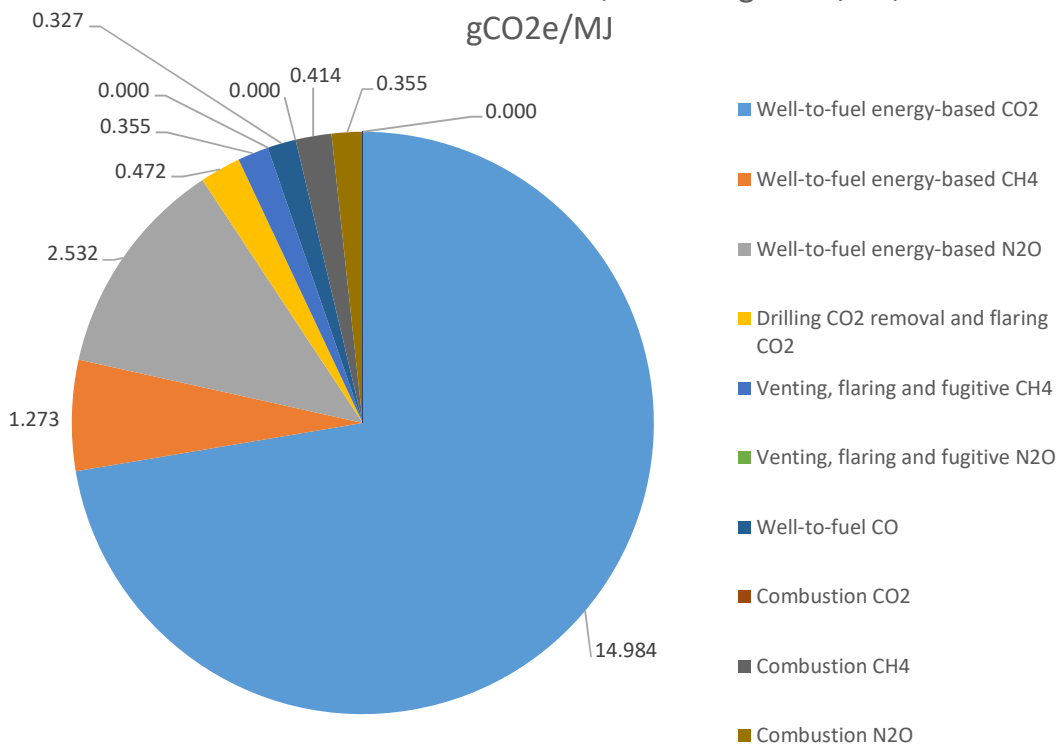
Sugarcane ethanol GHG emissions, tot 10.7 g CO2e/MJ, gCO2e/MJ



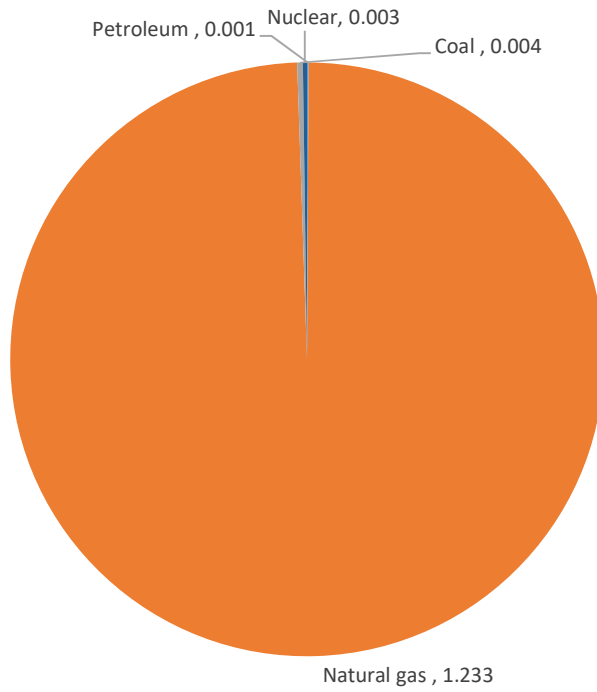
Wood ethanol production energy consumption (1 MJ product), MJ



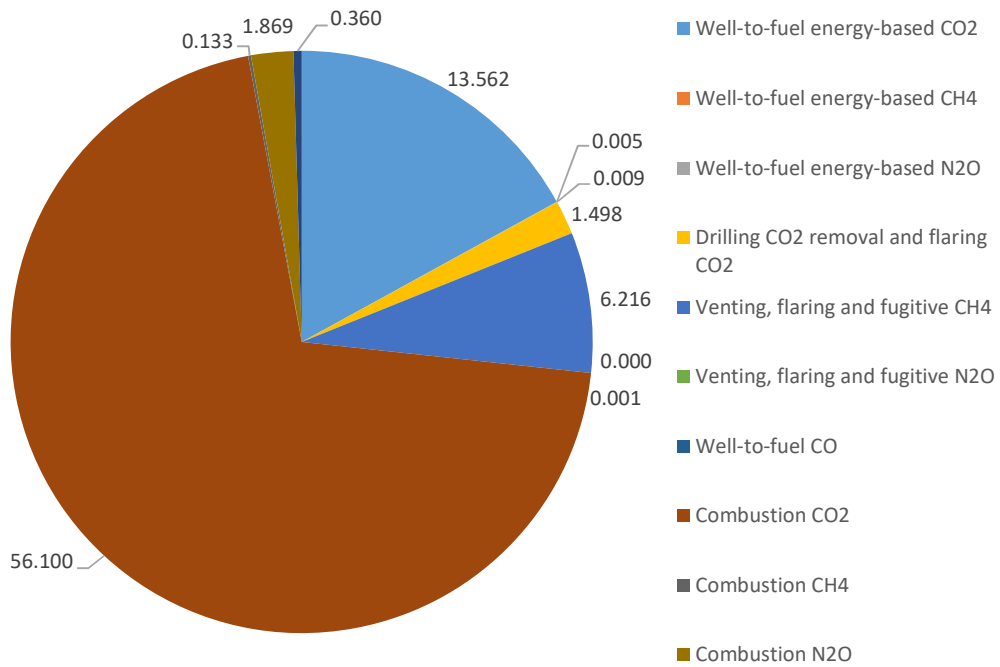
Wood ethanol GHG emissions, tot 20.7 g CO₂e/MJ, gCO₂e/MJ



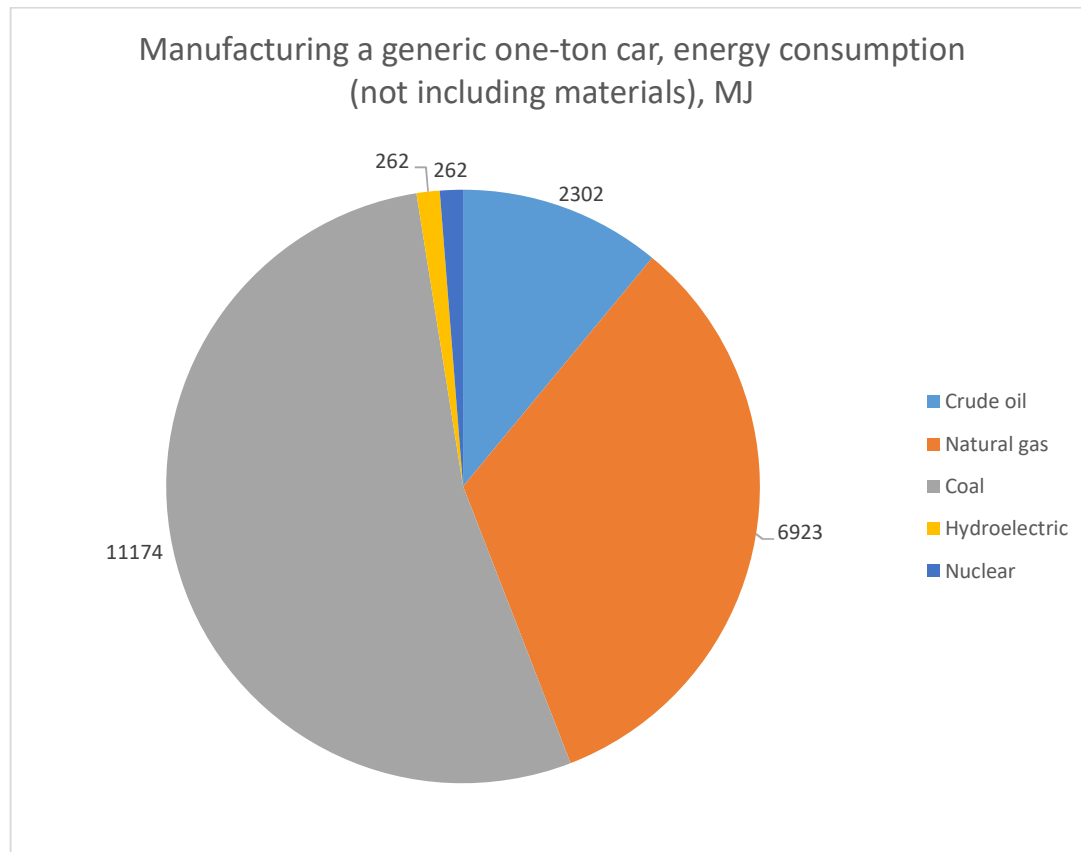
Natural gas to CNG production energy consumption (1 MJ),
MJ



Natural gas to CNG GHG emissions, tot 79.8 gCO₂e/MJ,
gCO₂e/MJ



Manufacturing a car



Principles and parameters

Volkswagen Golf models' weight and fuel/electricity consumption (WTLP) were used in calculations, not the real material and energy use data from Volkswagen manufacturing plants. The scientific literature data are used in the calculations. Volkswagen Golf is an average-size car in Finland.

In combined heat and power (CHP) generation, the energy inputs and emissions are allocated between heat and power outputs. The principles of the allocation methods are explained by Soimakallio and Manninen³:

- **Energy method: primary energy is allocated to heat and power on the basis of the energy (enthalpy) content of those products.** Burning 100 MJ fuel in a CHP plant generates 36 MJe usable electricity and 51 MJ heat. These values are used in this analysis. In power generation, the power station losses are taken into account.
- **Exergy method: primary energy is allocated to power and heat on the basis of the exergy content of those products.** The exergy of power is higher than the exergy of heat and thus e.g. the CO₂e emissions per kWh for power are higher than in energy method. The exergy factors used for power and heat are 1 and 0.24, respectively. These values were used by Soimakallio and Manninen.

³ Soimakallio Sampo, Manninen Jussi, Chapter 2: Energy efficiency and the Finnish energy system, in Energy Use – Visions and Technology Opportunities in Finland, VTT, Edita, 2007.

- **Price method: primary energy is allocated to power and heat on the basis of the difference between the prices of those products.** The price of power is higher than the price of heat and thus e.g. the CO_{2e} emissions per kWh for power are higher than in energy method. The average household prices for electricity and district heat were calculated from 2015 to 2017 and were found to be 16.99 cent/kWh and 7.80 cent/kWh, respectively⁴.
- **Benefit sharing method: primary energy is allocated to heat and power on the basis of the fuel consumption of the forms of heat and power production replaced by CHP.** The benefit for power is higher than the benefit for heat and thus e.g. the CO_{2e} emissions per kWh for power are higher than in energy method. The efficiencies of the replaced heat and power production plants used here equal to 89 % and 36 %, respectively. In power generation, the power station losses are taken into account. **Benefit sharing method is used in this analysis.**
- **Partial benefit sharing method: primary energy is allocated to heat on the basis of the fuel consumption of alternative heat production, and the remaining share is allocated to power.** Not calculated in this analysis.
- **No sharing method: primary energy is allocated without sharing, i.e. allocated to one product only.** If all primary energy is allocated to electricity, e.g. all CO_{2e} emissions are allocated to power.

For electricity generated in Finland:

- 90% steam generator efficiency
- 44% turbine efficiency
- 99% electrical generator efficiency
- 3.8% power station losses (Finnish Energy statistics 2017)
- 3.24% transmission losses (Finnish Energy statistics 2017)

Battery packs:

- The carbon footprint of manufacturing a 330 kg and 35.8 kWh battery pack (e-Golf) is about 4 ktCO_{2e}. In calculations, it has been assumed that the battery is lithium manganese oxide battery that contains no nickel and cobalt. Lithium manganese cobalt oxide batteries contain nickel and cobalt, but manufacturing these metals for a 330 kg battery is not a major source of greenhouse gases (about 260 kg CO_{2e}).
- There is not yet any second-life applications for the electric car batteries, so all life-cycle emissions have to be allocated to electric car use.
- The most energy (electricity) intensive part of battery pack manufacturing is the manufacturing of battery cells. They are manufactured in countries with high carbon intensity in electricity generation (China, Japan, South Korea, Poland). In this analysis, South-Korean electricity mix was used.

Notifications (figures)

Electricity generation and consumption data for Finland are from Finnish Energy statistics. Peat LULUCF and emissions from the field are taken into account for peat (Statistics

⁴ Statistics Finland's PX-Web databases, Price of district heating by type of consumer, Price of electricity by type of consumer.

Finland's data for years 2010–2014). Export and import data are also from Finnish Energy statistics, and the electricity generation data for Sweden, Russia, Norway and Estonia are from Energimyndigheten, World Bank, IEA Statistics and Statistics Estonia, respectively. Germany electricity generation data is from Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE and Iceland electricity generation data is from IEA Statistics.

The carbon footprints i.e. global warming potential life-cycle analyses are carried out from cradle to gate. All life-cycle stages and all greenhouse gases are taken into account. This is also the case for gasoline and diesel, natural gas and biofuels.

Figure “Life-cycle carbon footprints of VW Golf (including materials, manufacturing, maintenance, driving and end-of-life) as a function of driving distance”:

- New electric car beats new diesel car after 28 000 km in Finland.
- New electric car beats new gasoline car after 26 000 km in Finland.
- New electric car beats old diesel car after 72 000 km (old diesel car still has driving, fuel cycle, maintenance and end-of-life emissions – but not the emissions from manufacturing a car) in Finland.
- Electric car in Finland beats biogas car after 203 000 km in Finland (if there is no battery pack replacement)
- Electric car with biogas electricity beats biogas ICE car after 120 000 km.
- Electric car with biogas electricity beats biogas ICE car after 245 000 km, if the battery pack is replaced once.

Figures “Volkswagen Golf in Finland (298 000 km, WLTP consumption), gCO₂e/km” and “Volkswagen Golf in Finland (298 000 km, WLTP consumption), tCO₂e/lifetime”:

- The CHP share values are from Finland 2017 electricity mix.
- Lifetime distance of an average car used in calculations is 298 000 km.⁵
- In Finland in 2017, diesel fuel contained 4.1 vol-% HVO biodiesel (assumption 2.05 vol-% NExBTL biodiesel and 2.05 vol-% BioVerno biodiesel).
- In Finland in 2017, gasoline contained 7.71 vol-% ethanol (assumption 3.76 vol-% Brazilian sugarcane ethanol, 3.76 vol-% U.S. corn ethanol and 0.19 vol-% Finnish cellulosic ethanol).
- In real life (own two-year experiment with gas Touran), 4.7% of fuel is gasoline (by energy content).
- NExBTL and BioVerno biodiesels have 4.9% higher fuel consumption by volume than petroleum diesel due to lower volumetric energy content of HVO diesel.
- E85 has 37.3% higher fuel consumption by volume than petroleum gasoline.⁶

Figure “Life-cycle costs of Volkswagen Golf in Finland (298 000 km, WLTP consumption), thousand euros”:

- Fuel price
 - Gasoline 1.50 e/L
 - Diesel 1.40 e/L

⁵ Klemola Kimmo, Life-cycle energy consumption and carbon dioxide emissions of world cars, Lappeenranta University of Technology, 2006.

⁶ Model year 2007 fuel economy guide, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

- Compressed biogas 1.45 e/L
- Compressed natural gas 1.32 e/L
- Electricity 0.14 e/kWh
- Today's prices are assumed for the whole lifetime.
- Insurance, service, repair etc. 1000 e/year
- Vehicle tax
 - Volkswagen Golf Comfortline 1.0 TSI 85 kW: 194.18 e/year
 - Volkswagen Golf Trendline 1.6 TDI 85 kW: 558.08 e/year
 - Volkswagen Golf 1.4 TGI 81 kW Gas: 375.95 e/year
 - Volkswagen e-Golf 100 kW (136 hp) automatic: 221.18 e/year
 - Today's taxes are assumed for the whole lifetime.
- In Finland, CNG (compressed natural gas) gas car gives cheapest life-time kilometers followed by CBG (compressed biogas).
- In Finland, lifetime costs are about equal for e-Golf, gasoline Golf and diesel Golf.
- January 2019 prices and taxes were used for the whole lifetime of the car.

Figure "Global annual sales of plug-in electric passenger cars in world's top markets 2011–2017" is from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electric_car. In 2017, the sales of electric cars was about 1.15 million globally. In 2018, the number of sold electric cars was probably over 2 million. About 71 million passenger cars were sold in the world in 2017, and in total about 97 million motor vehicles (International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers).

Japanese Panasonic, South-Korean LG Chem and Samsung SDI and Chinese BYD are the four major manufacturers in EV battery cell technologies. The patent trend analyses for this report were provided by TurnIP (<http://www.turnip.co.in>).

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The life-cycle analysis tool consists of model library and inventory with thousands of references. Only selected references are presented here.

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