

1.5.2 Consumption Comparisons in 2010

One quad equals:

- 50.2 million short tons of coal
 - = enough coal to fill a train of railroad cars 4,123 miles long (about one and a half times across the U.S.)
- 974.7 billion cubic feet natural gas
- 8.2 billion gallons of gasoline = 21.2 days of U.S. gasoline use
 - = 22.89 million passenger cars each driven 12,400 miles
 - = 20.12 million light-duty vehicles each driven 12,200 miles
 - = all new passenger cars sold, each driven 50,000 miles
 - = 13.69 million stock passenger cars, each driven 11,500 miles = 10% of all passenger cars, each driven 11,500 miles
 - = all new passenger cars each making 9 round-trips from New York to Los Angeles
- 172.4 million barrels of crude oil = 14.45 days of U.S. imports = 245 days of oil flow in the Alaska pipeline at full capacity
 - = the amount of crude oil transported by 483 supertankers
- 16.8 hours of world energy use
- the electricity delivered from 258 coal-fired power plants (200-MW each) in one year
- the electricity delivered from 37 nuclear power plants (1000-MW each) in one year
- average annual per capita consumption of 3.17 million people in the U.S.
- the approximate annual primary consumption of any one of the following states: Arkansas, Mississippi, Kansas, Oregon (1)

Note(s): 1) All states listed have annual energy consumption that is within 20% of one quad. Consumption numbers for states are from 2009.

Source(s): EIA, Annual Energy Outlook 2012 Early Release, Jan. 2012, Summary Reference Case Tables, Table A1, p. 1-2, Table A2, p. 3-5, Table A7, p. 34-35, Table A8, p. 18-19, Table A9, p. 20-21, and Table A11, p. 23-24 for consumption; EIA, Annual Energy Outlook 2011, April 2011, Table G1, p. 235 for heat rates; EIA, State Energy Consumption Database, June 2011; EIA, Electric Power Annual 2010, Nov. 2011, Table 1.1, p. 14; DOC, Statistical Abstract of the United States 2008, May 2008, No. 1080, p. 690; DOC, Statistical Abstract of the United States 2012, 2011, No. 1060, p. 666, and No. 1096, p. 688; and Newport News Shipbuilding Web site.