

The Geography of Transport Systems

Jean-Paul Rodrigue

Sixth Edition



Transport, Energy and Environment

CHAPTER 4

Copyright © 1998-2024, Jean-Paul Rodrigue, Dept. of Maritime Business Administration, Texas A&M University - Galveston.

ecojpr@gmail.com

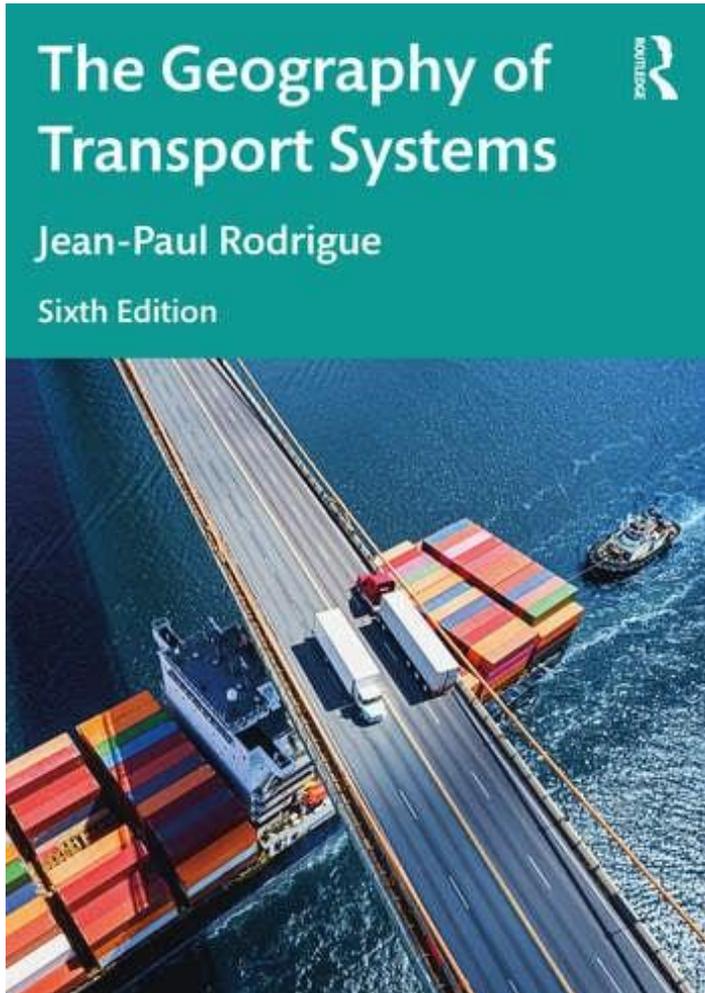
You may use the figures within for educational purposes only. No modification or redistribution permitted.
For more information: <https://transportgeography.org/>

Usage Conditions

- DO NOT COPY, TRANSLATE OR REDISTRIBUTE THIS DOCUMENT.
- The contents of this document can be freely used for personal or classroom use ONLY.
- Although the material contained in this document is freely available, it is not public domain. Its contents, in whole or in part (including graphics and datasets), cannot be copied and published in ANY form (printed or electronic) without consent.
- If you have accessed this document through a third party (such as a content farm), keep in mind that this party is illegally redistributing this content. Please refer to the true source (<https://transportgeography.org/>) instead of the third party.
- Permission to use any graphic material herein in any form of publication, such as an article, a book or a conference presentation, on any media must be requested prior to use.
- Information cited from this document should be referred as: Rodrigue, J-P et al. (2024) The Geography of Transport Systems, Texas A&M University, Department of Maritime Business Administration, <https://transportgeography.org/>.

Table of Contents

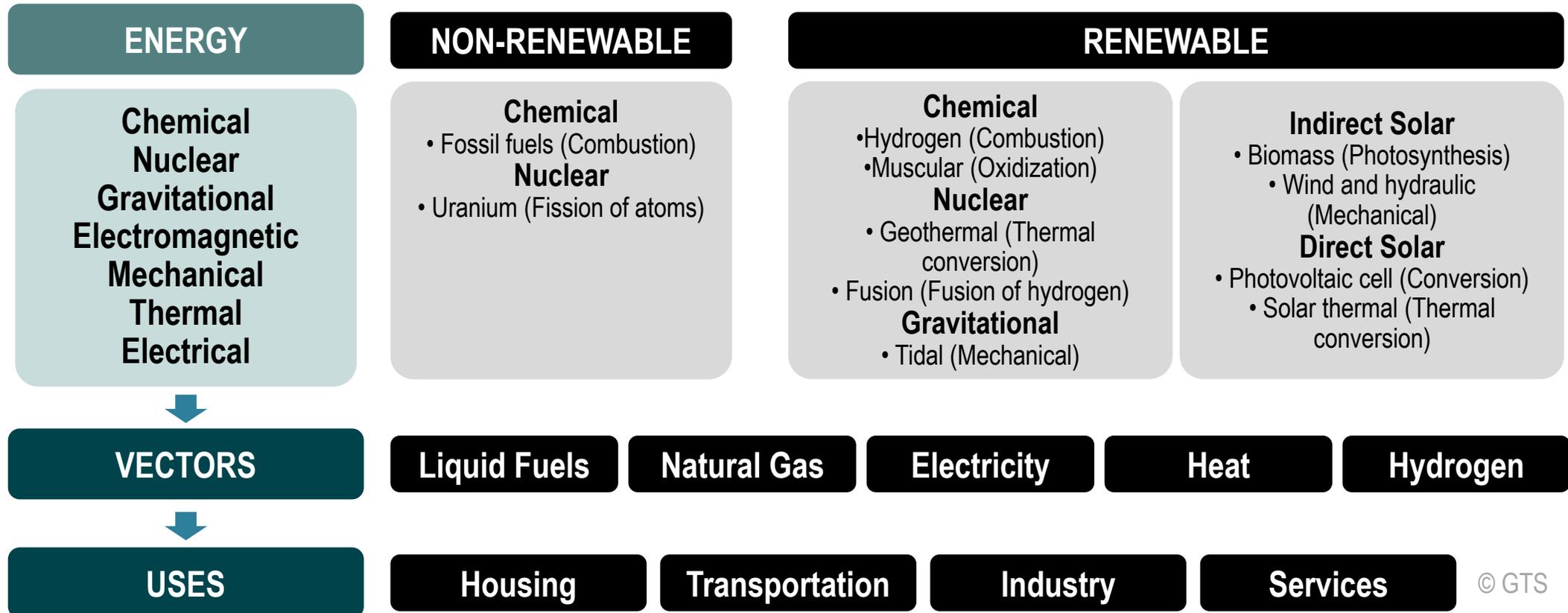
- 4.1 – Transportation and Energy
- 4.2 – Transportation and the Environment
- 4.3 – The Environmental Footprint of Transportation
- 4.4 – Transportation, Sustainability and Decarbonization



Transportation and Energy

Chapter 4.1

Sources of Energy



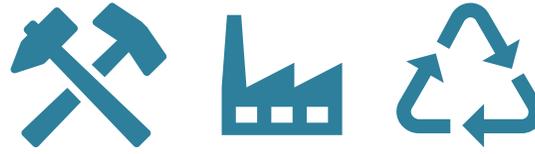
© GTS

Energy and Work



MODIFICATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

- Modifying the landscape (agriculture, mining, residential, industry, transportation).
- Construction of infrastructure and buildings.
- Modifying the hydrography (irrigation, water supply, energy).
- Conditioning enclosed structures (temperature and light).



APPROPRIATION AND PROCESSING

- Resources extraction (agricultural products and raw materials).
- Modifying resources (manufacturing).
- Waste disposal (landfills, decontamination and incineration).
- Recycling and re-use.

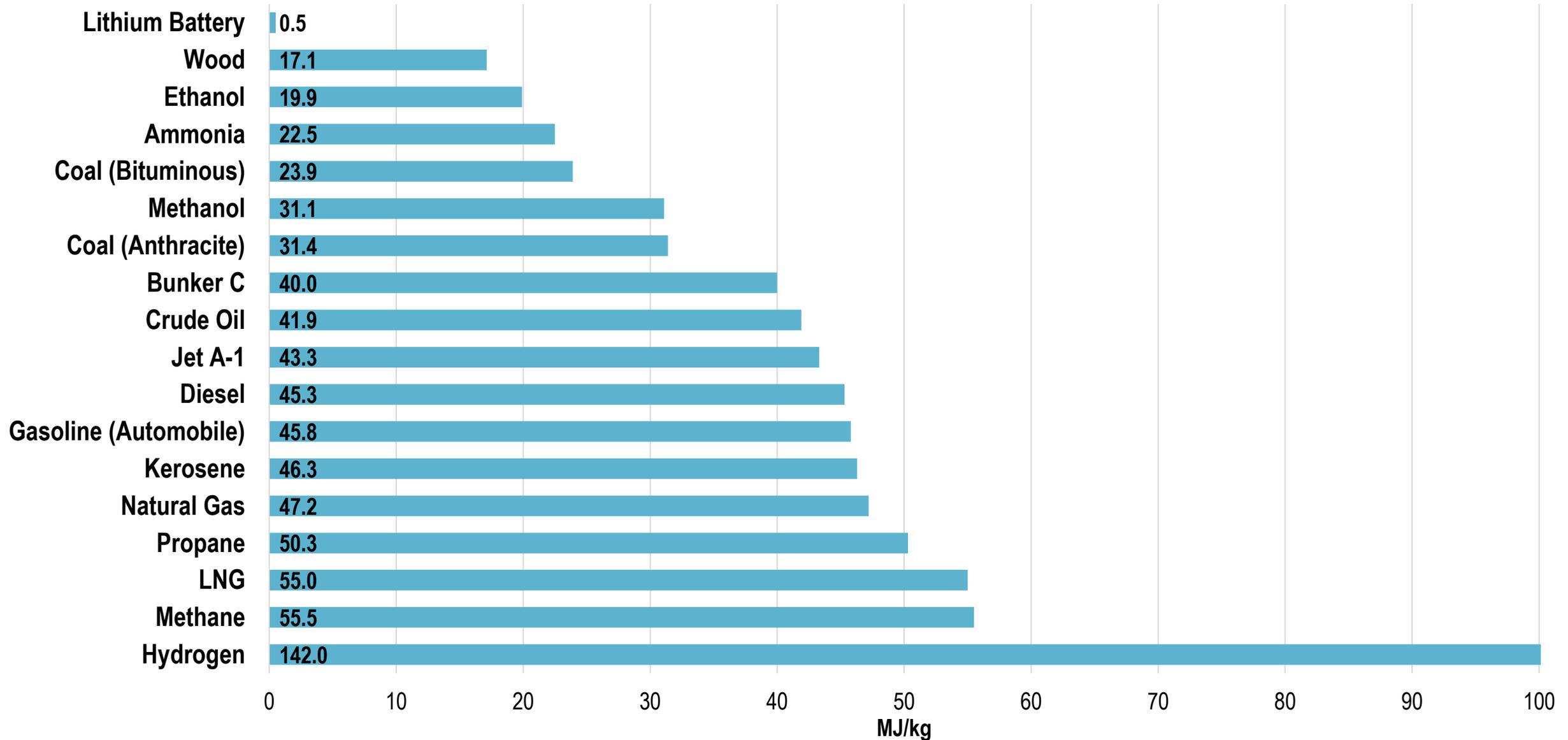


TRANSPORTATION

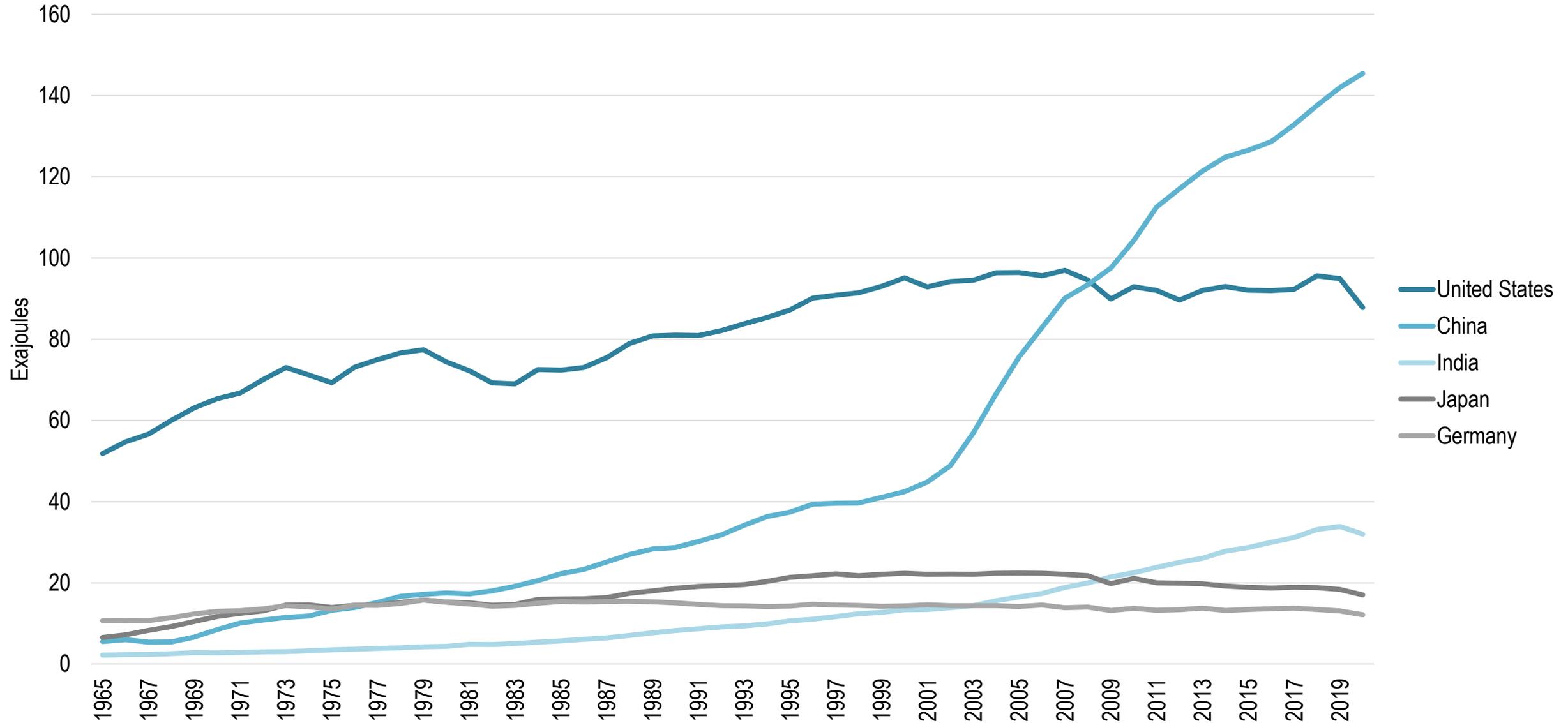
- Mobility of freight, people and information.
- Packing, sorting, bundling and unbundling.
- Energy for conveyances.
- Energy for terminals.
- Energy for warehousing and distribution.

© GTS

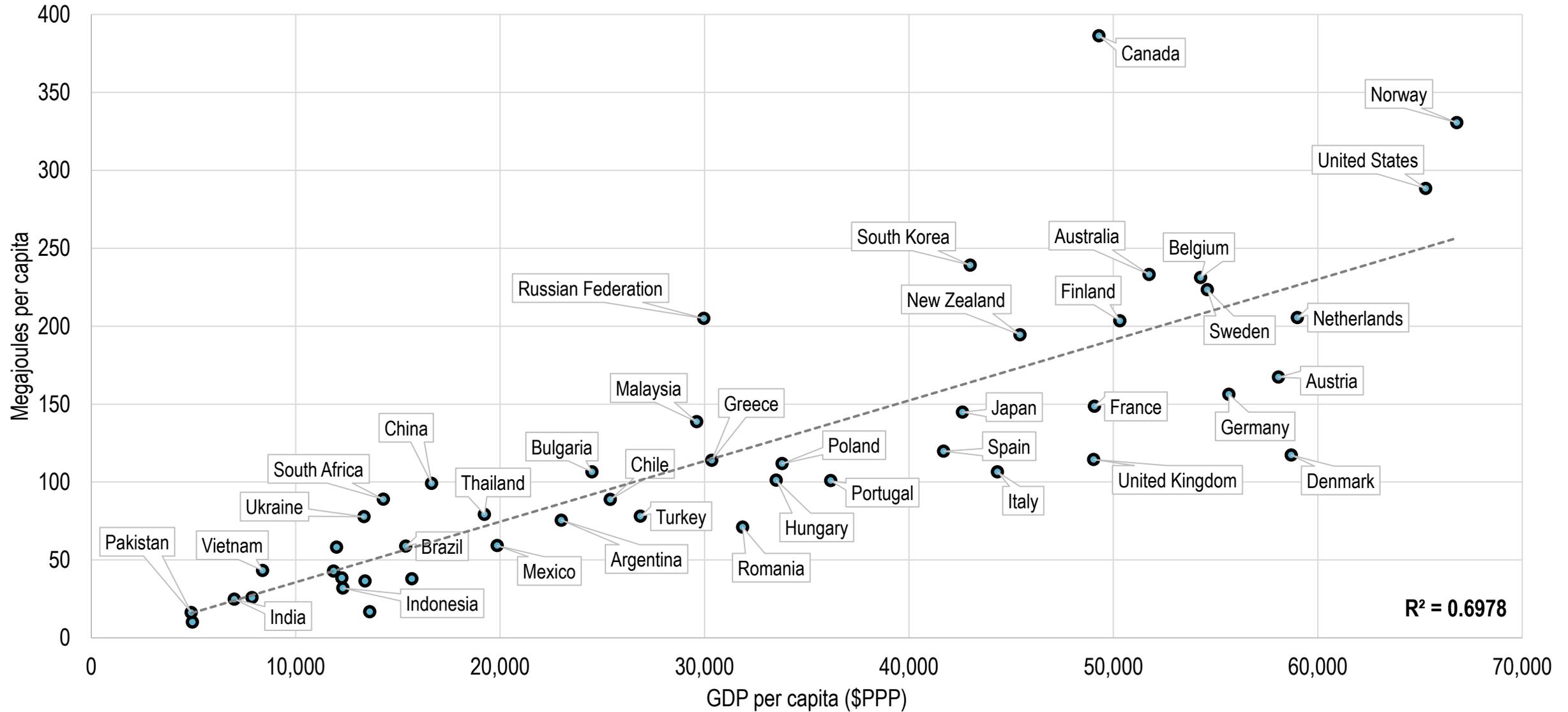
Chemical Energy Content of some Fuels (in MJ/kg)



Primary Energy Consumption, Selected Countries, 1965-2020



Primary Energy Consumption and GDP Per Capita, 2019



Fuels Production Processes

FUEL	SOURCES	PROCESSES
Liquid petroleum fuels Gasoline Diesel Kerosene Jet fuel Bunker fuel	Conventional oil fields (ground and shore-based) Non-conventional sources (tar sands, fracking)	Refining
Liquid synthetic fuels	Natural gas, coal	Gasification
Biodiesel	Oilseed crops Biomass from crops or wastes	Esterification, hydrogenation Gasification
Ethanol	Plant materials (corn, sugar cane) Cellulose	Saccharification, distillation Gasification, pyrolysis
CNG	Natural gas	Gasification
Electricity	Coal, gas, petroleum, nuclear, hydro, solar, wind	Electric generator (source dependent)
Ammonia	Natural gas, hydrogen	Haber-Bosch process
Hydrogen	Natural gas (Grey hydrogen) Electricity (Green/Yellow hydrogen) Biomass (Turquoise hydrogen)	Steam reforming, compression Electrolysis Pyrolysis

© GTS

Energy Sources Used for Transportation

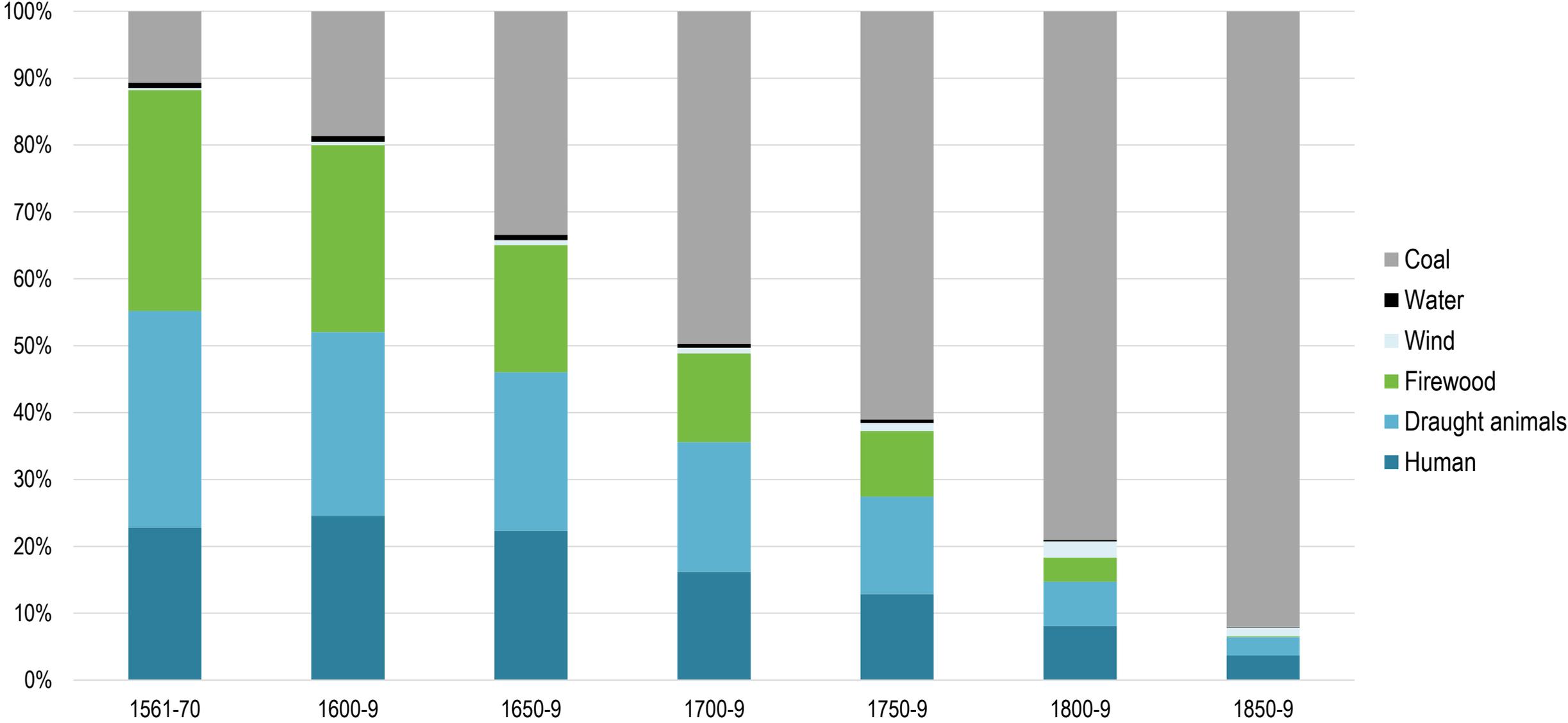
- Muscular
- Wind
- Gravity
- Fossil fuels
- Electricity
- Biofuels

- Engine
 - ICE
 - Steam engine / turbine
 - Electric motor
 - Fuel cells

Alternative Sources of Energy for Transportation

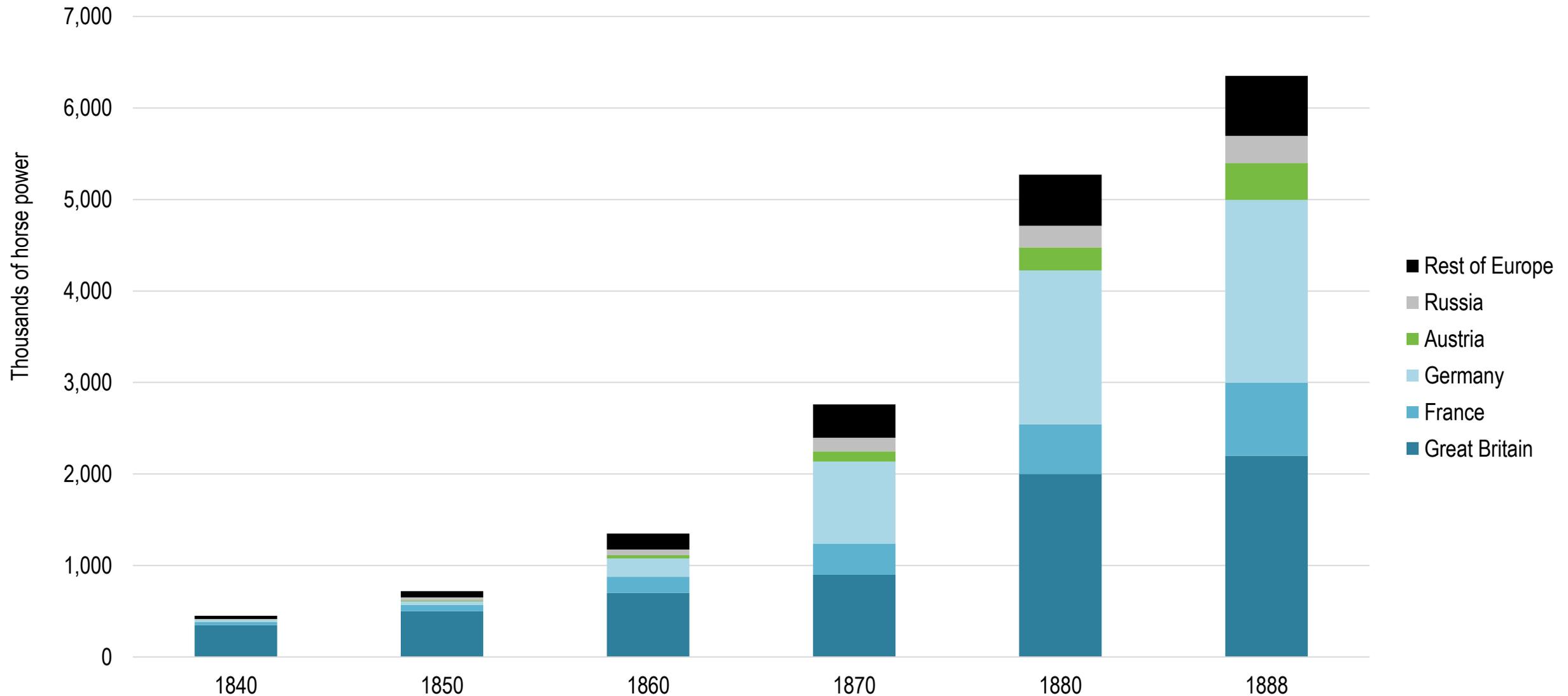
Source	Advantages	Drawbacks
Biodiesel	Renewable; biodegradable; domestically produced; improved lubricity in engine; reduced air pollutant emissions.	May congeal at low temperatures; may damage engine components; lower fuel economy; non-renewable fuels are used in production; limited availability; may increase nitrous oxide emissions.
Ethanol	Renewable; domestically produced; may reduce harmful air pollutants.	Non-renewable fossil fuels are used in its production; slightly decreases fuel economy.
Natural gas / propane	Reduced air pollutant emissions.	Non-renewable fossil fuel; reduced driving range; limited availability; larger fuel tanks.
Electricity	Zero tailpipe emissions; widely available.	High vehicle and battery costs; limited range and performance; electricity production mainly from non-renewable sources.
Hybrid electric	Increased fuel economy and reduced pollution; good range and performance	Primarily fueled with non-renewable fossil fuels.
Synthetic fuels	Abundant supply exists.	Significant environmental damages from extraction and processing; high carbon emissions; high production costs.
Hydrogen	Zero tailpipe emissions.	Potential use of fossil fuels to produce; high cost of vehicle.

Annual Energy Consumption in England and Wales, 1560s to 1850s (MJ)

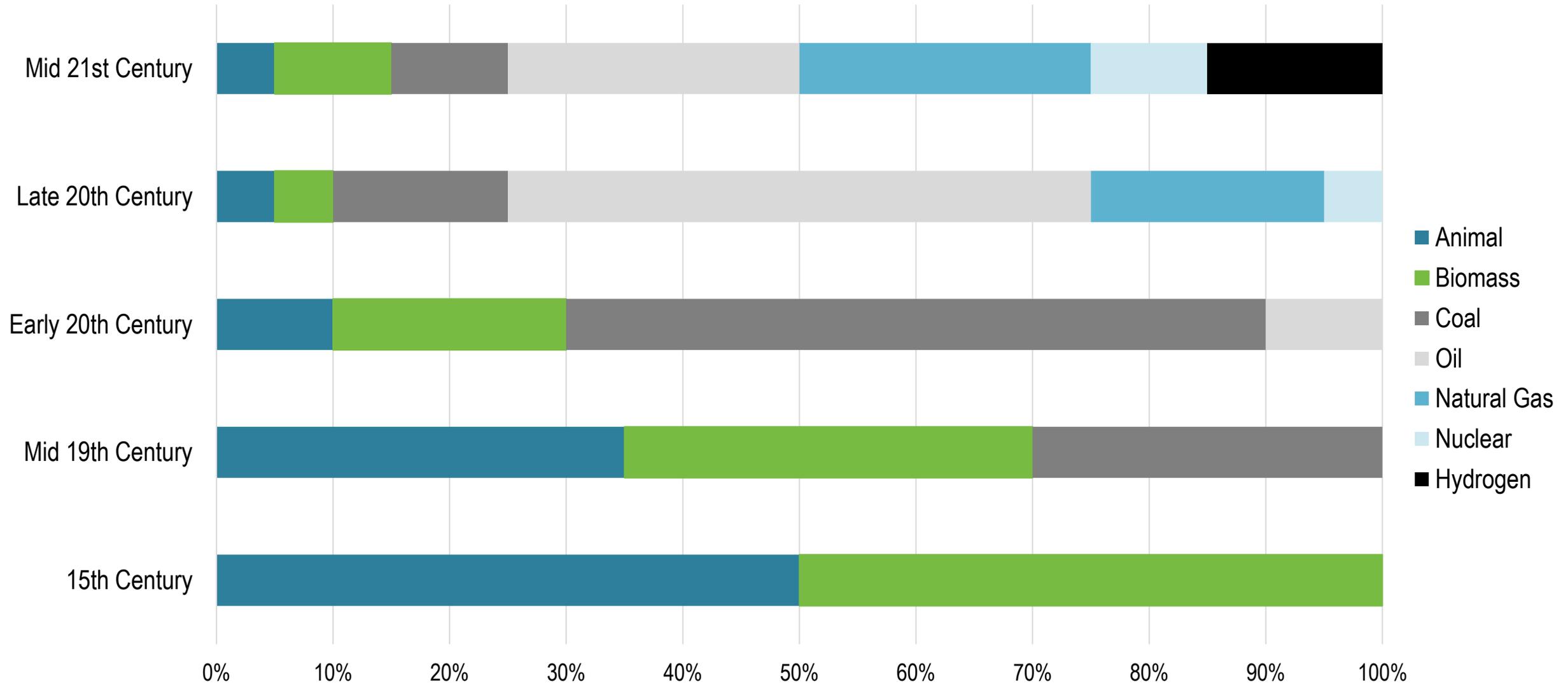


Copyright © 1998-2024, Dr. Jean-Paul Rodrigue, Dept. of Maritime Business Administration, Texas A&M University. For personal or classroom use ONLY. This material (including graphics) is not public domain and cannot be published, in whole or in part, in ANY form (printed or electronic) and on any media without consent. This includes conference presentations. Permission MUST be requested prior to use.

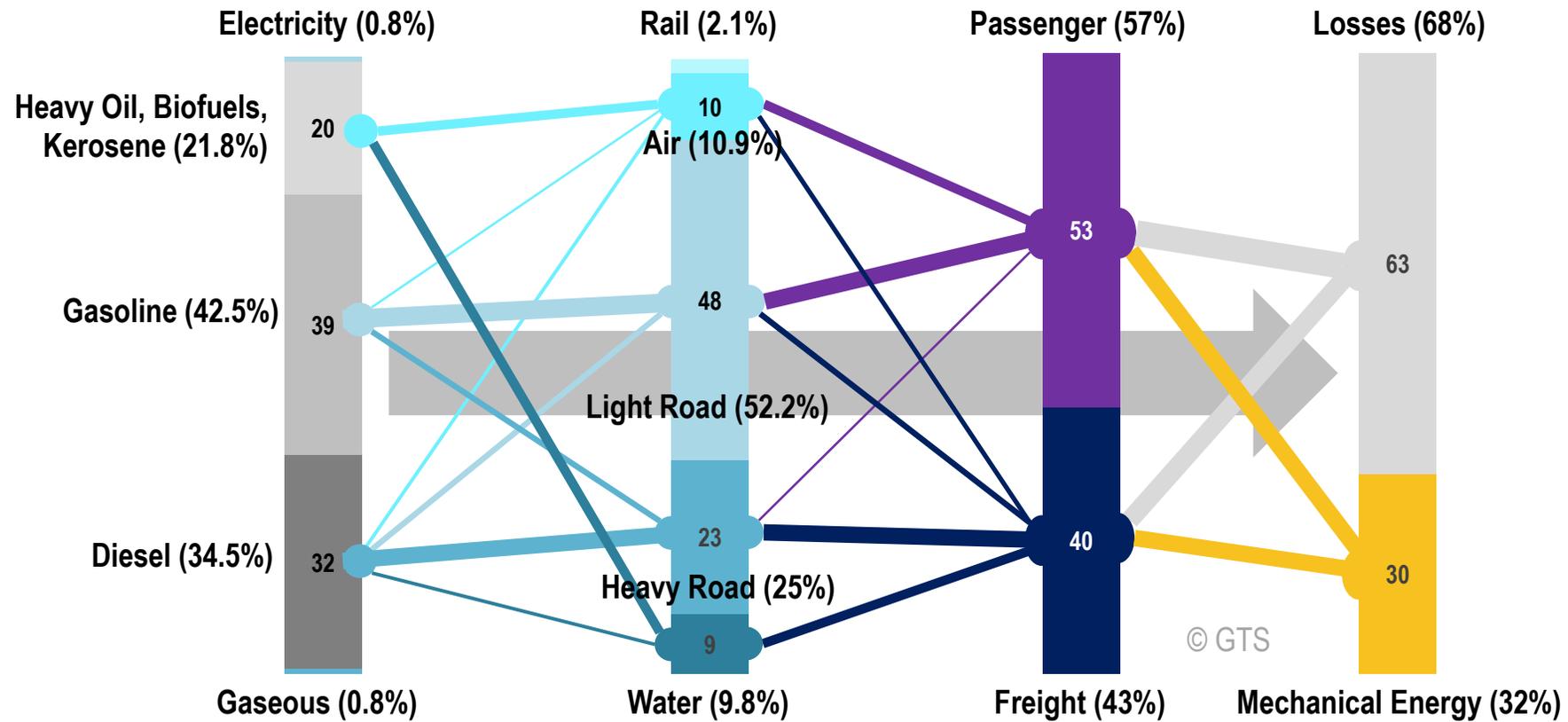
Power Generated by Steam Machines, Europe, 1840-1888



Evolution of Energy Sources

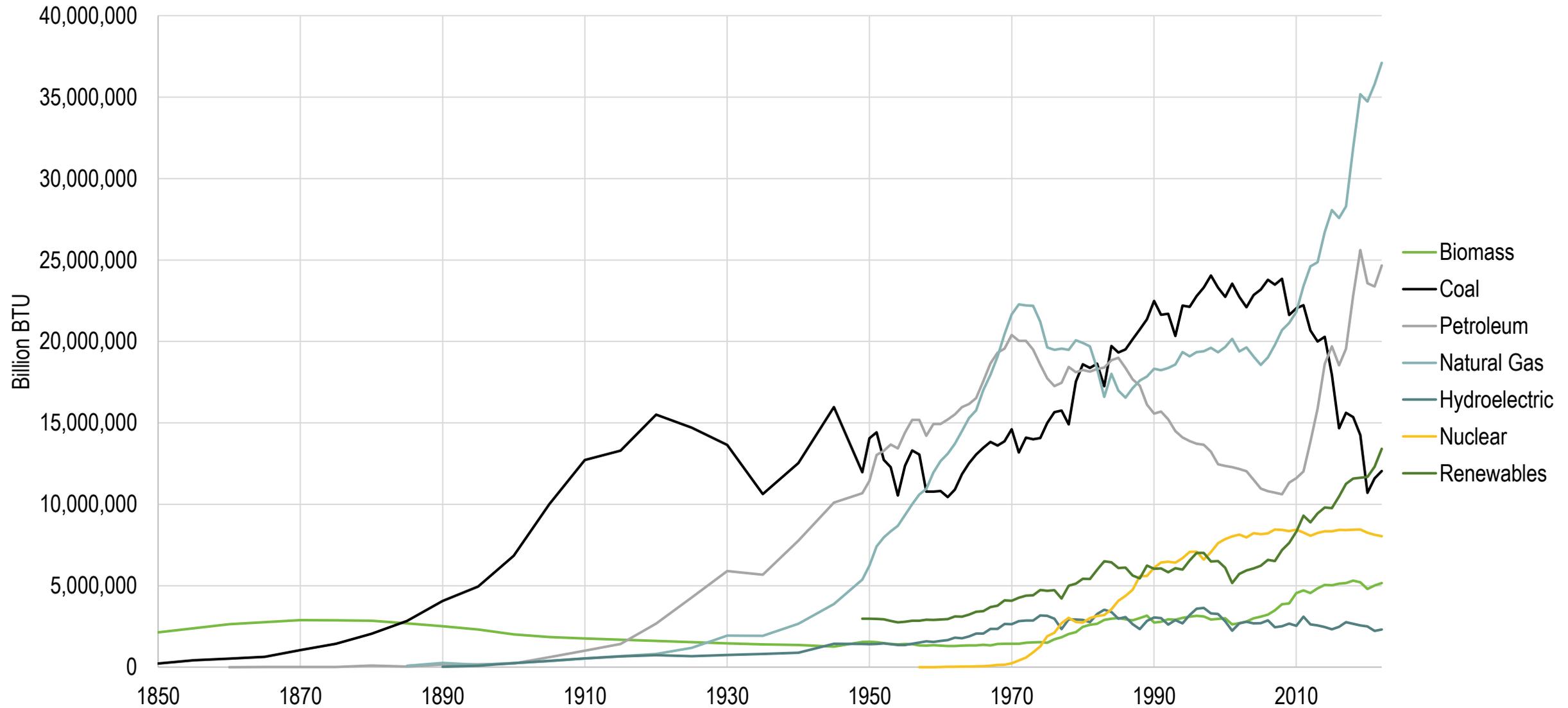


Final Energy Consumption by Fuel Type by Transport Sector (in Exajoules)

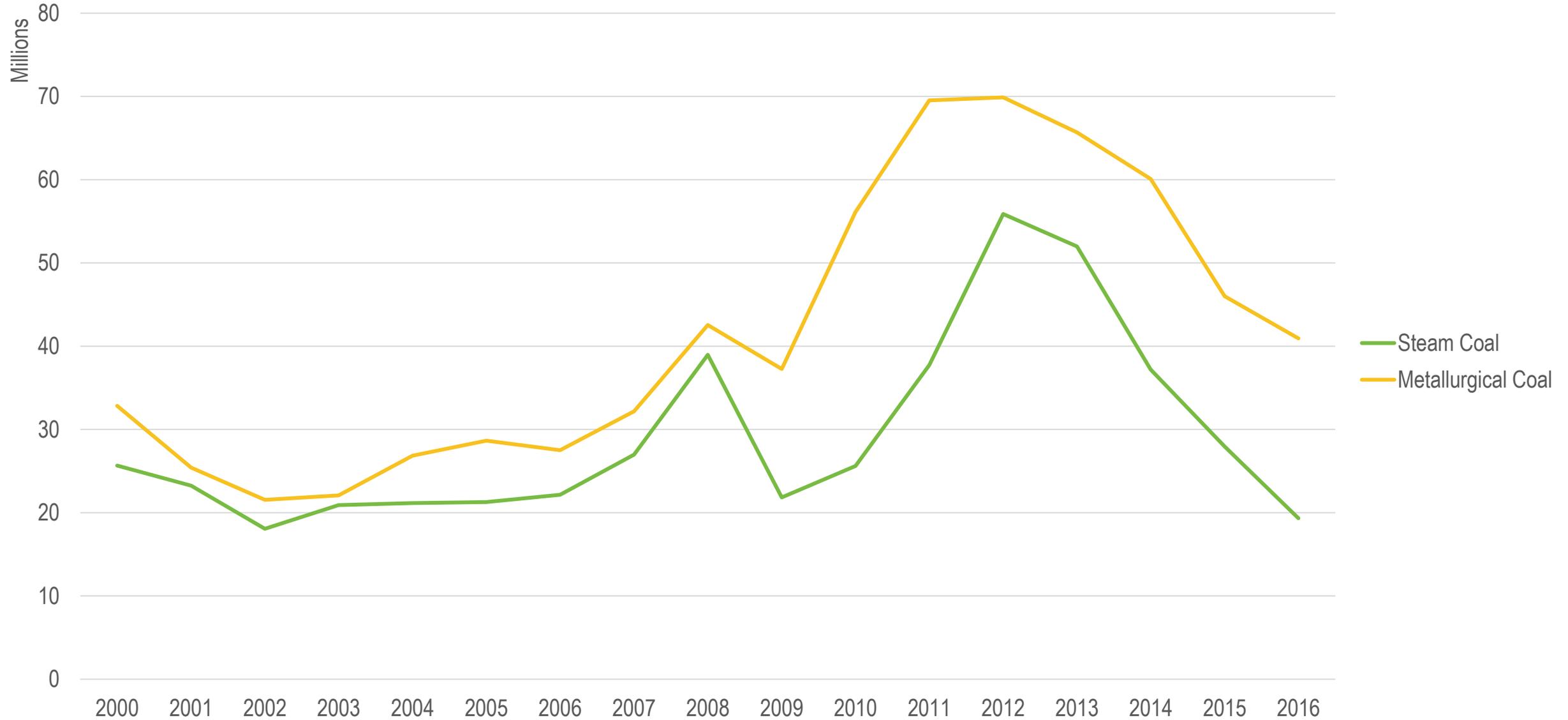


© GTS

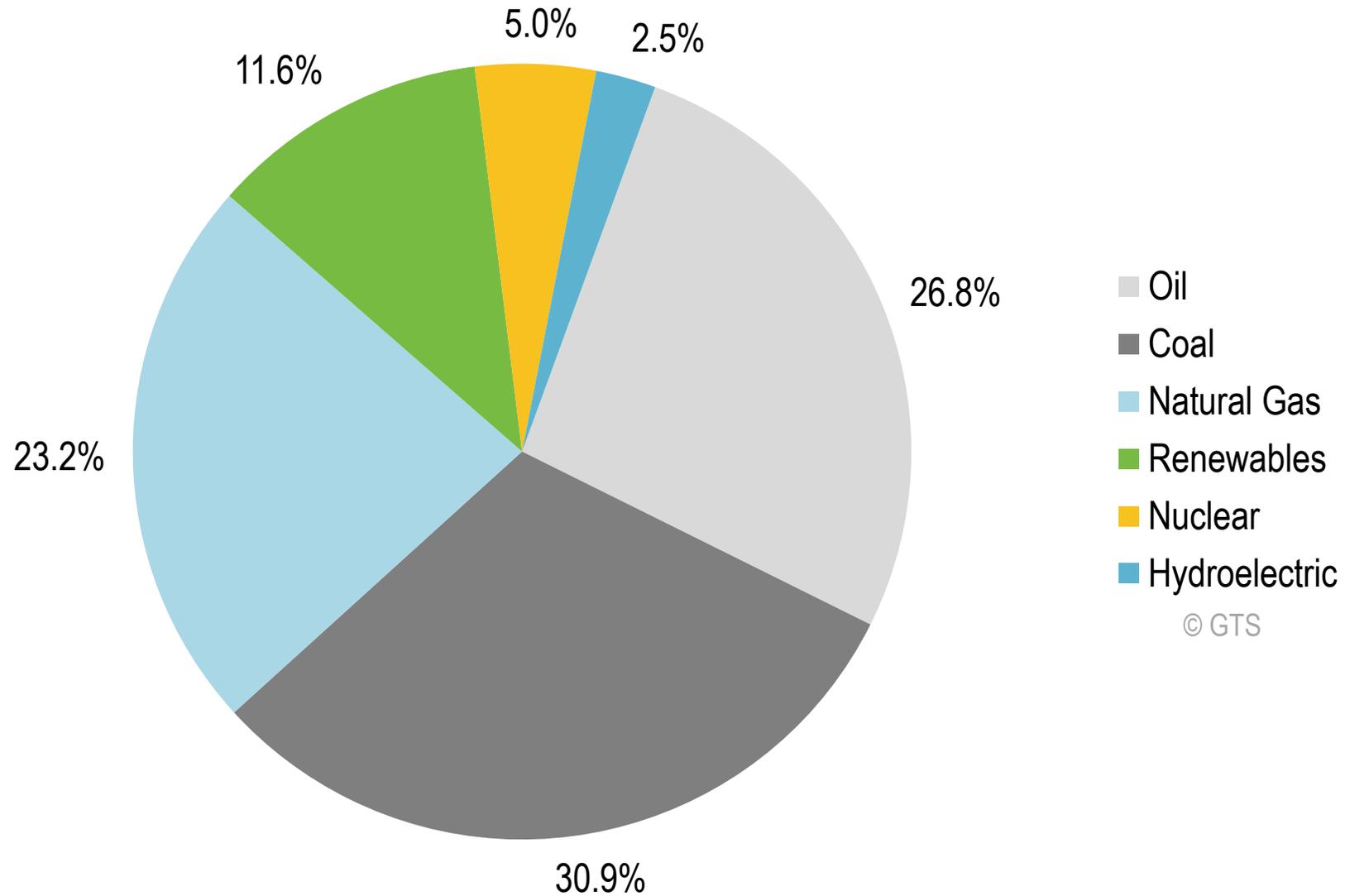
Primary Energy Production by Source, United States, 1850-2022



US Coal Exports in Tons, 2000-2016

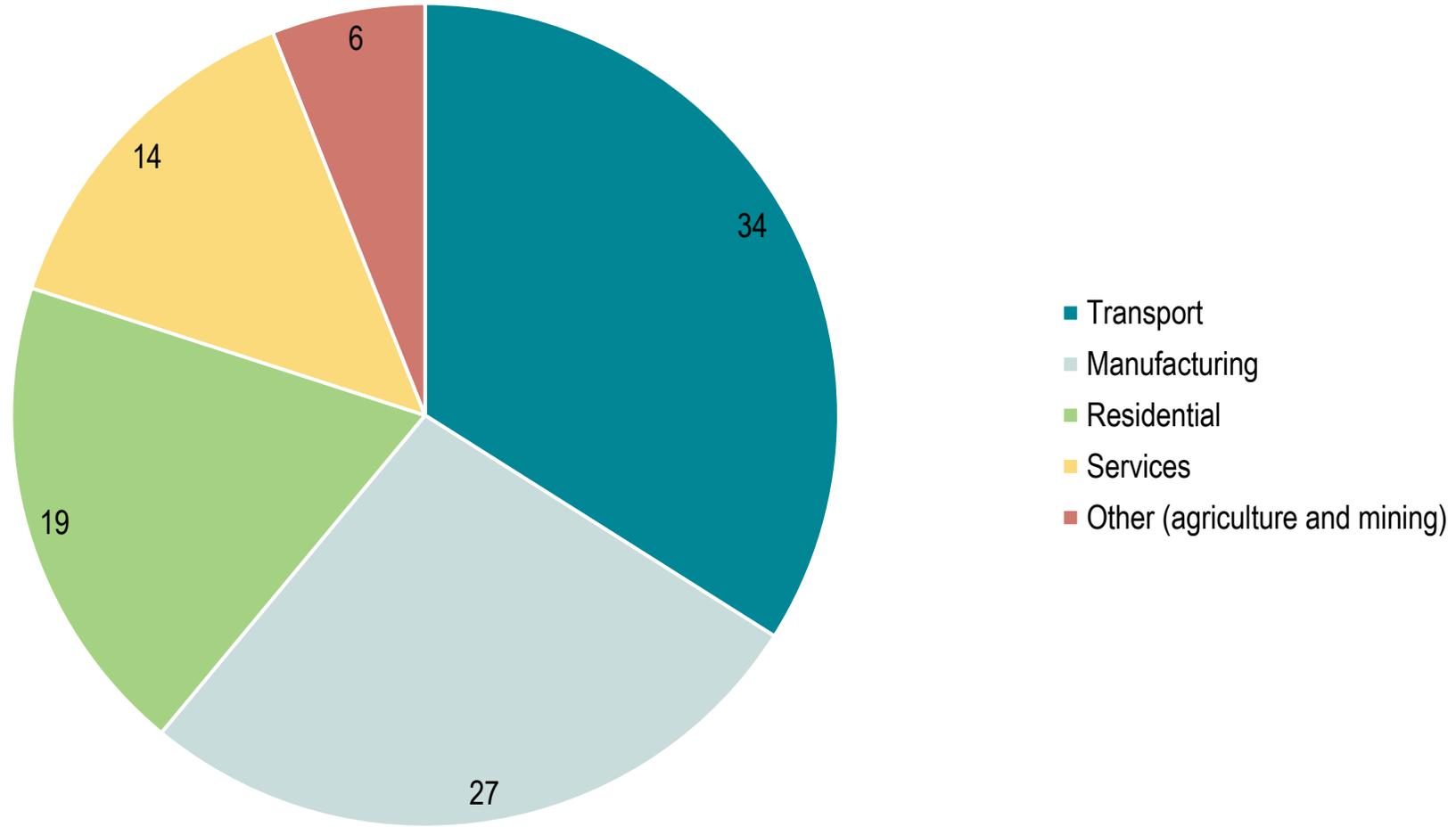


World Energy Production, 2019

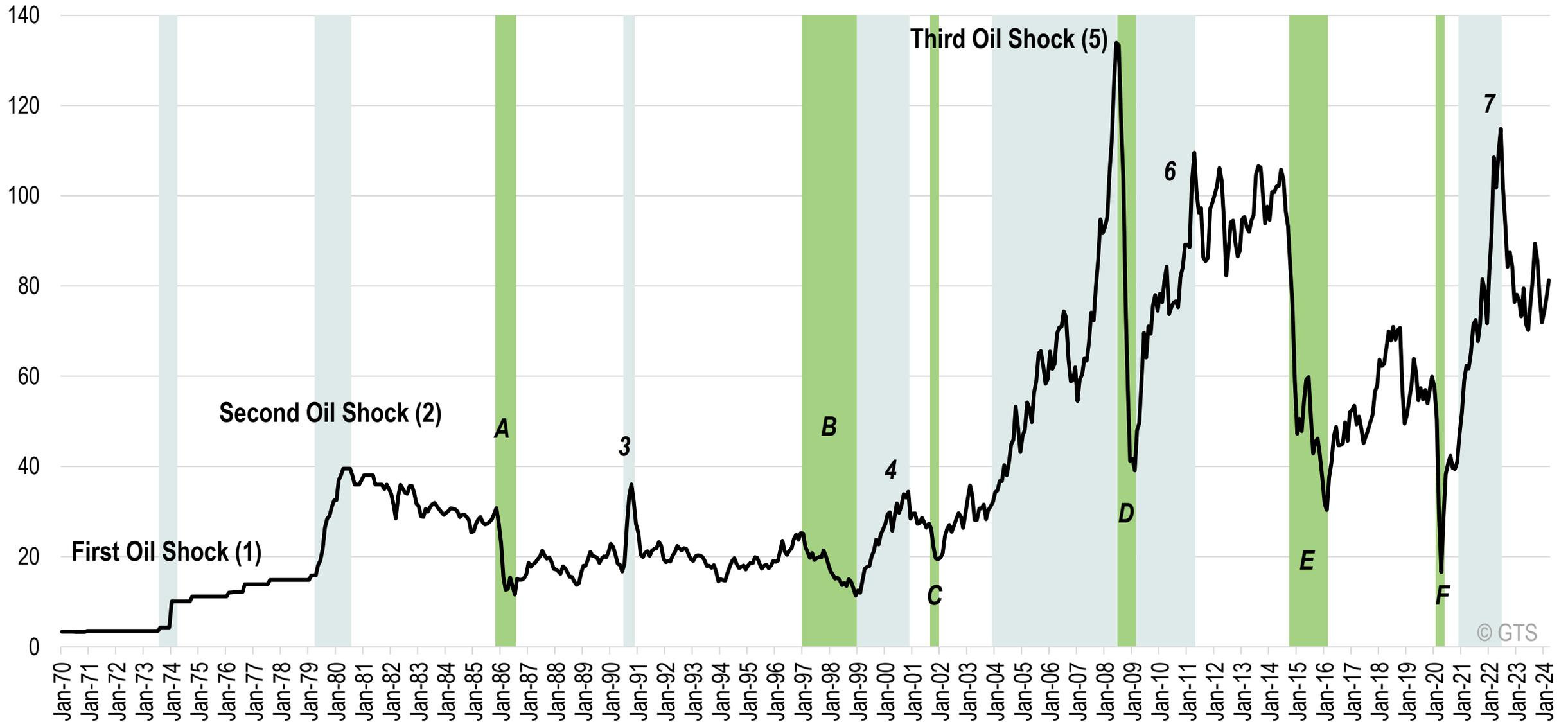


© GTS

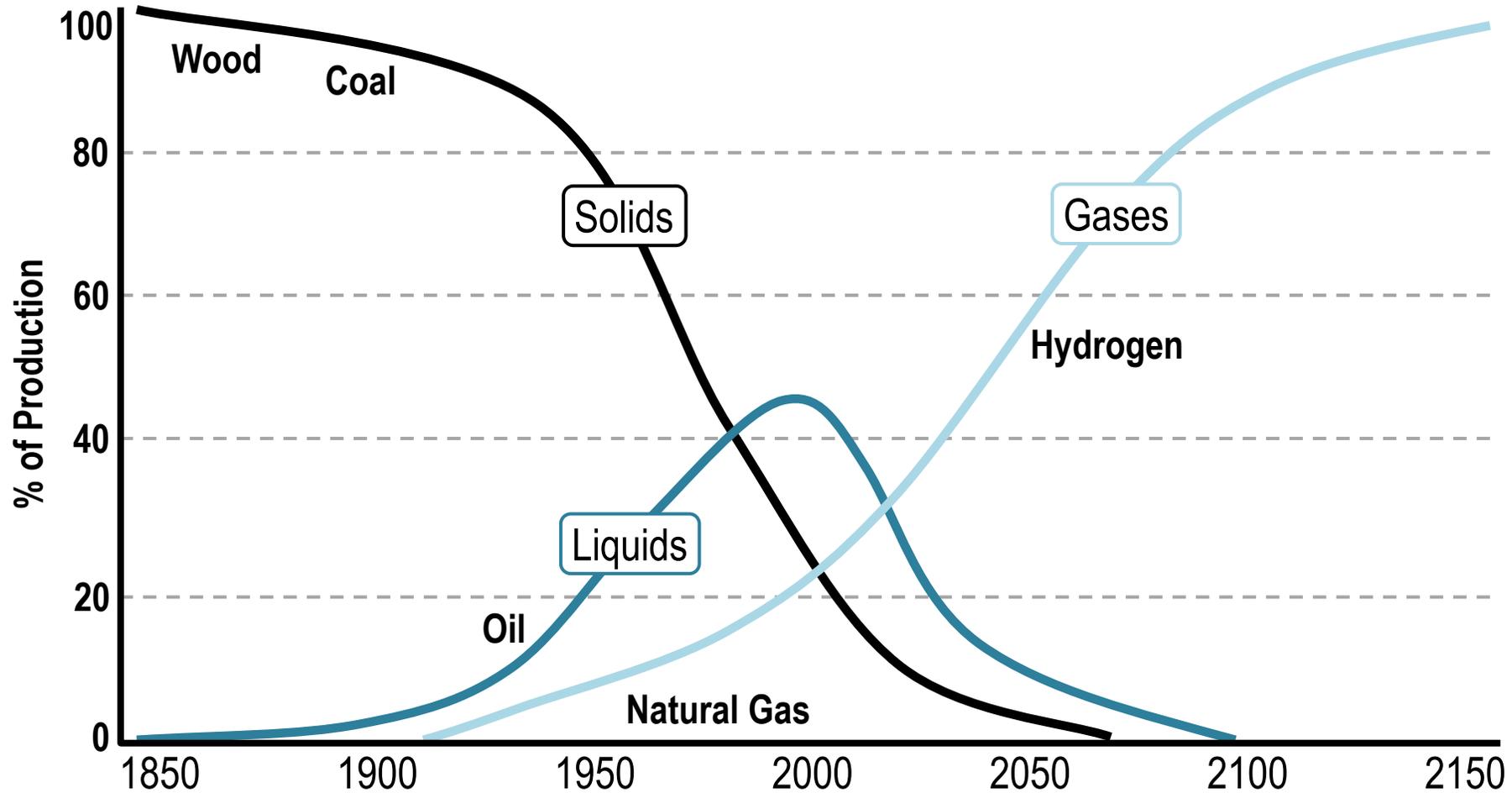
Energy End Uses, 2014



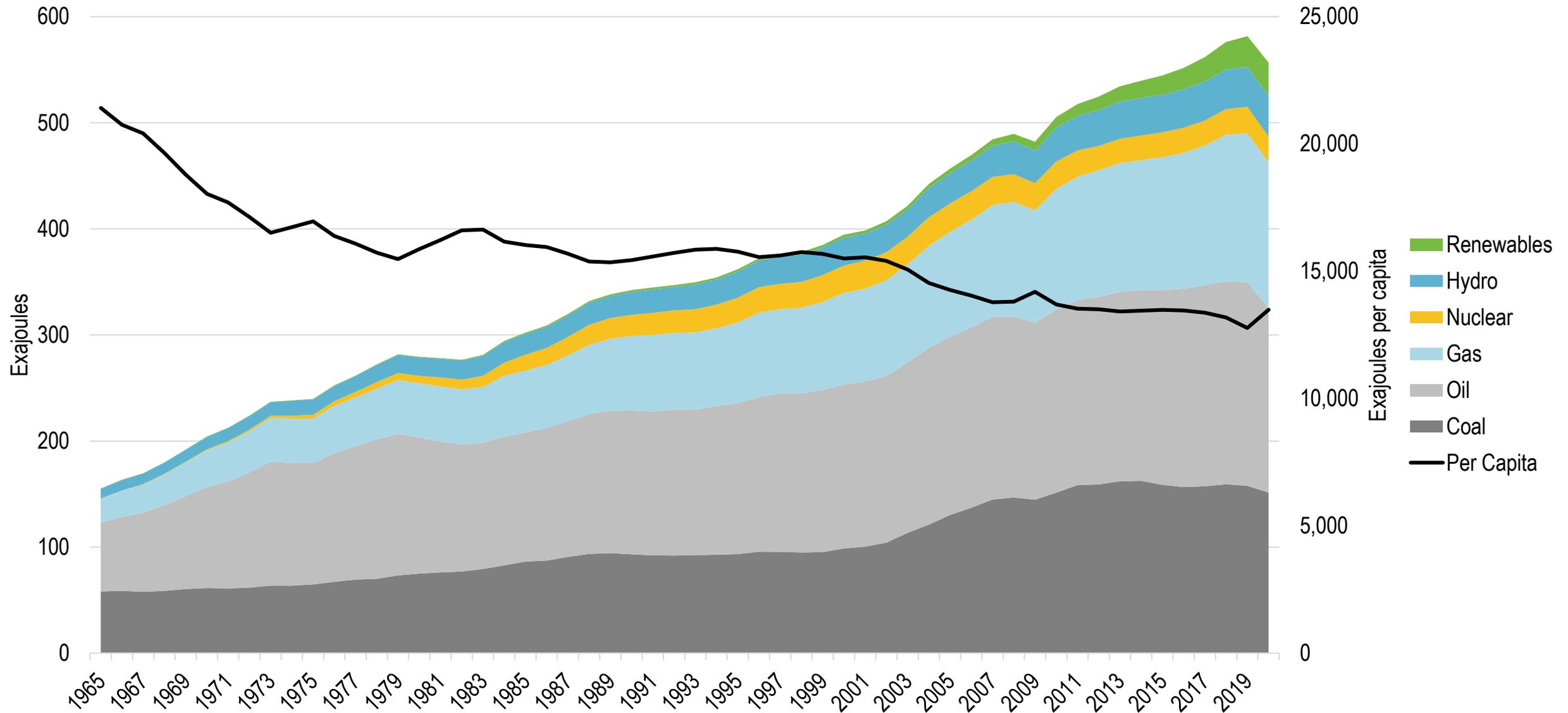
West Texas Intermediate, Monthly Nominal Spot Oil Price (1970-2024)



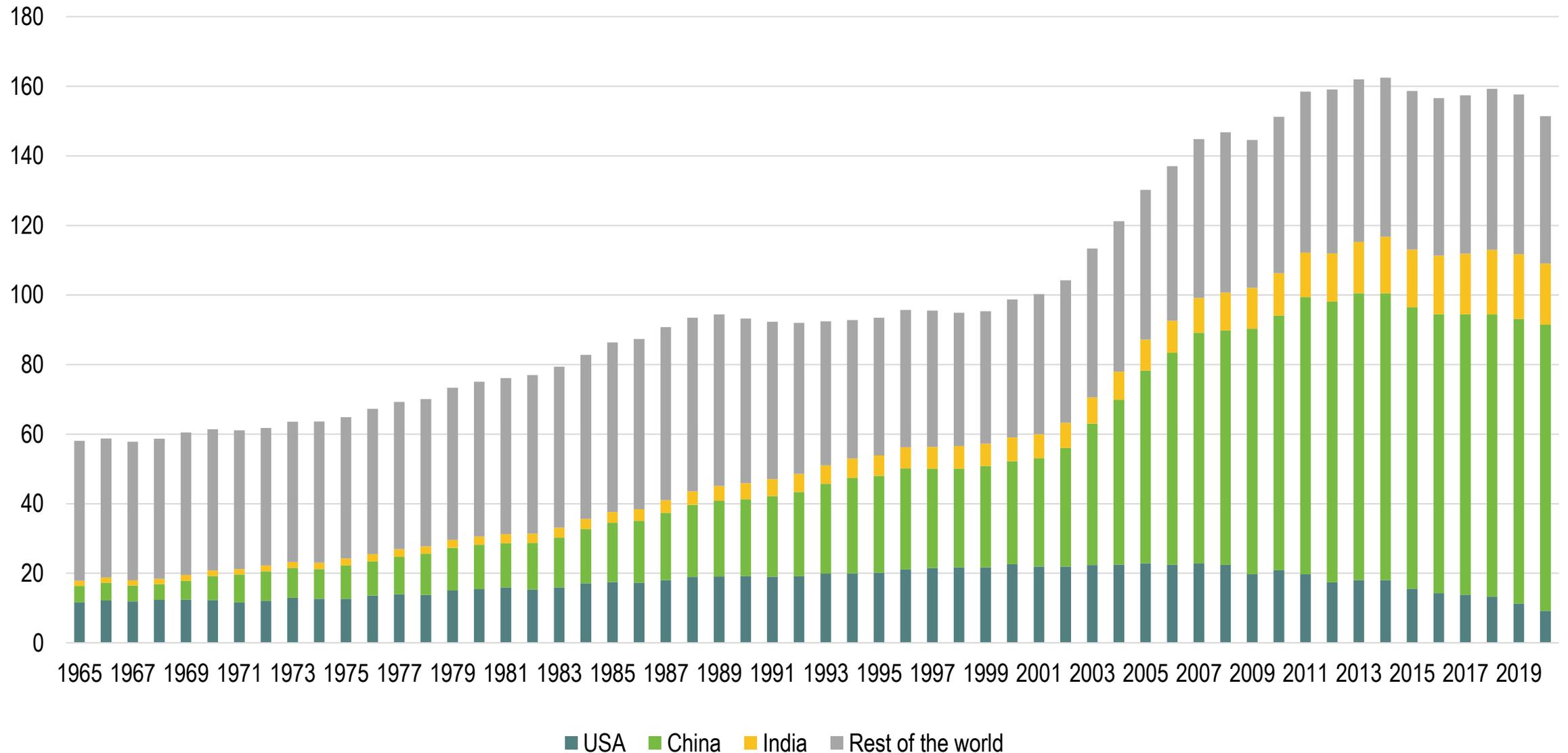
Global Energy Systems Transition



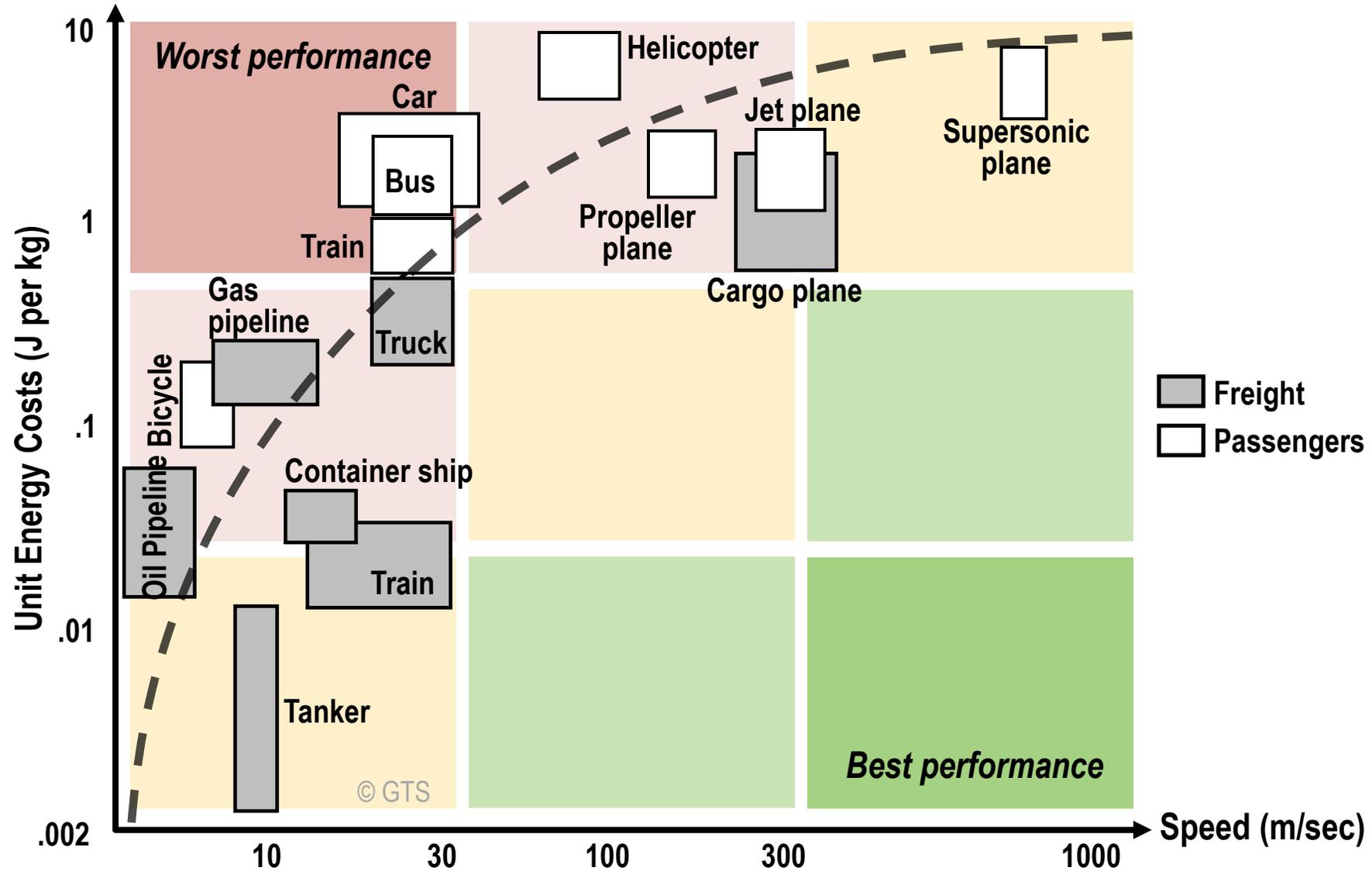
World Energy Consumption, 1965-2020



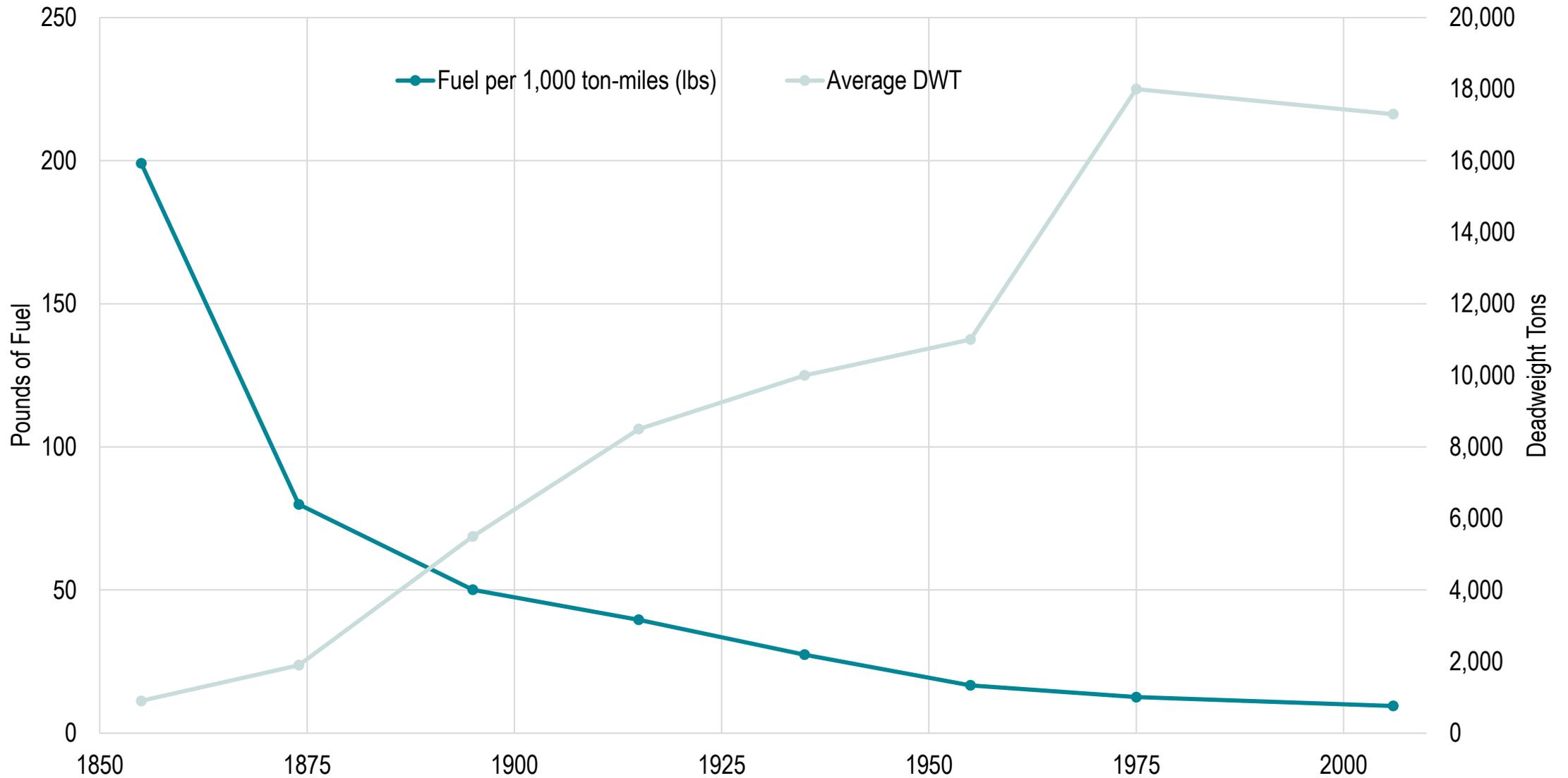
Coal Consumption, 1965-2020 (in Exajoules)



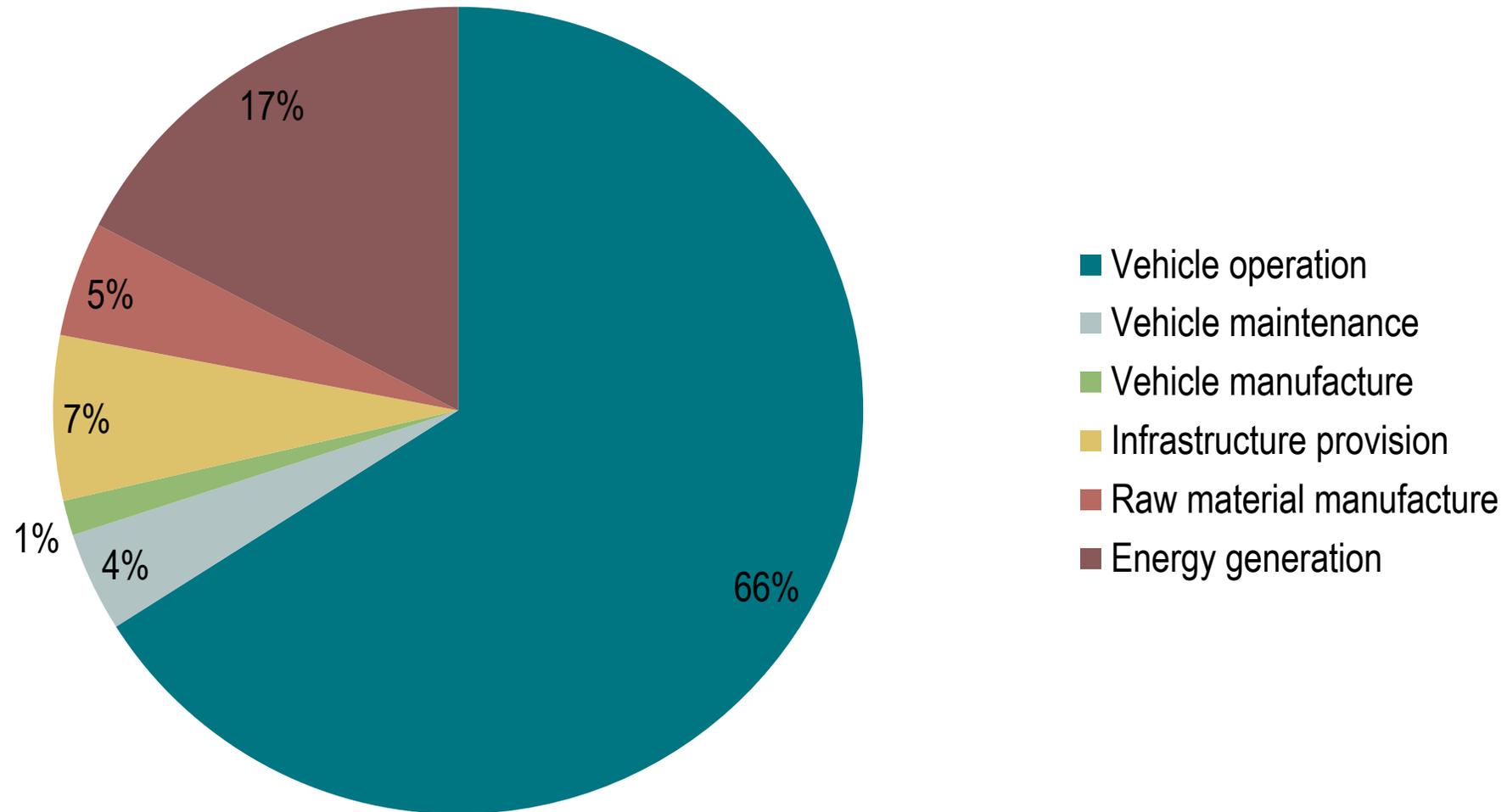
Energy Efficiency by Transportation Mode



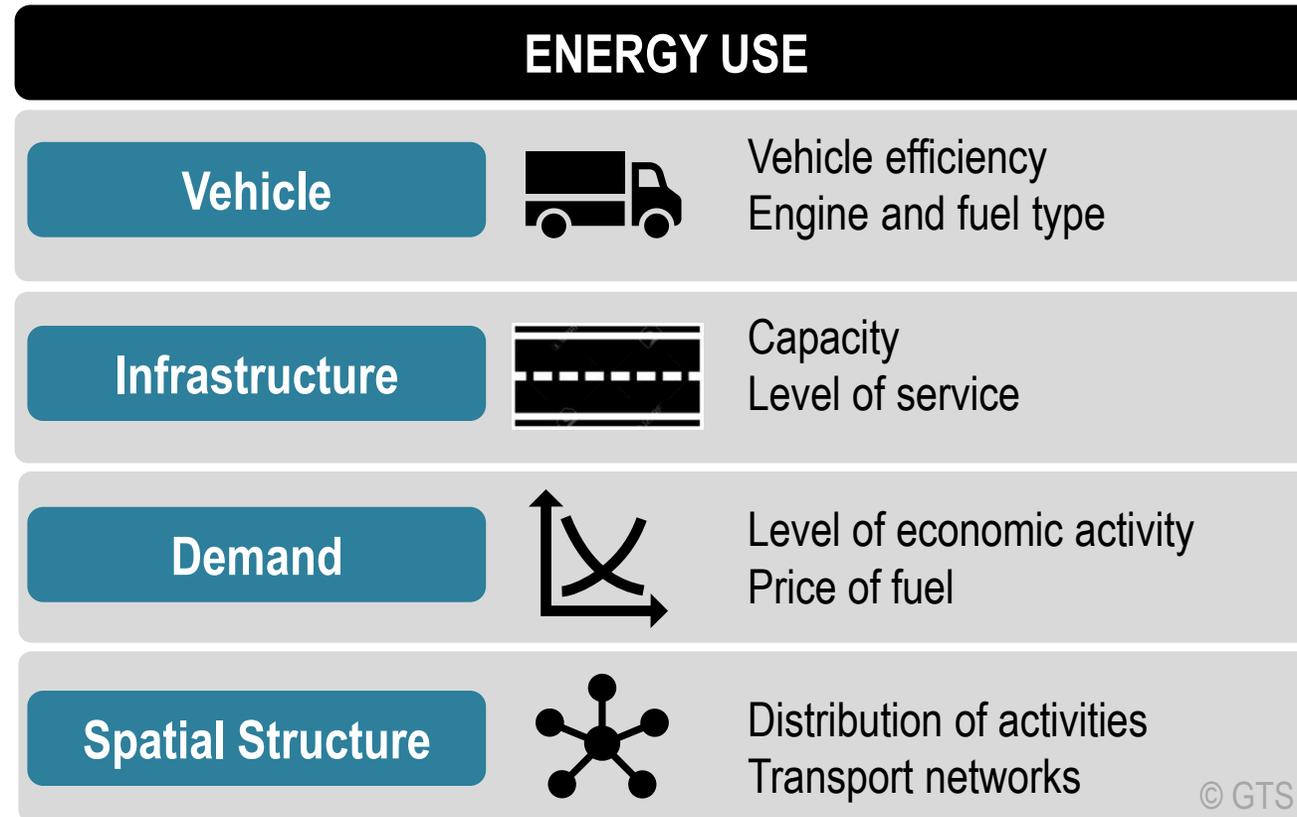
Fuel Consumption for an Average Cargo Ship



Energy Used by the Road Transportation System

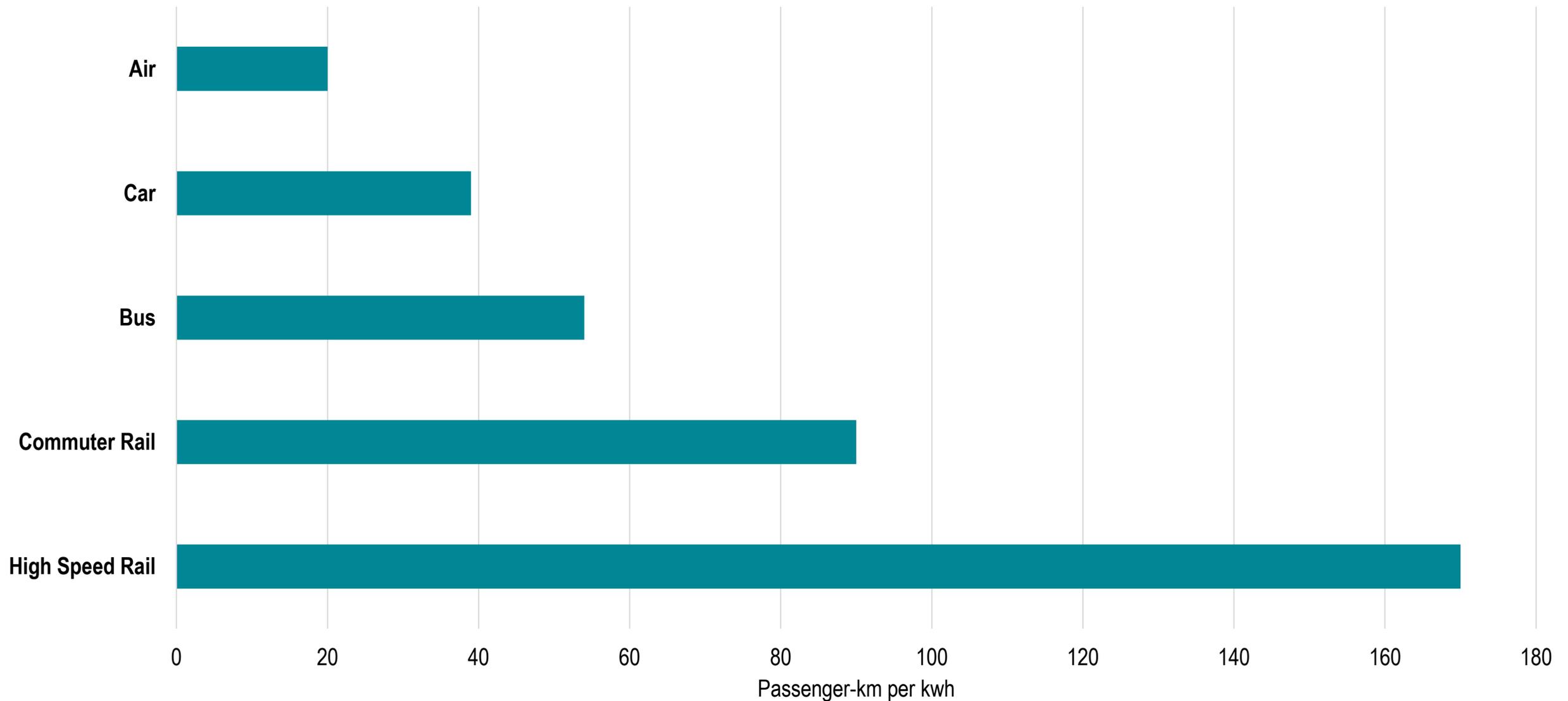


Energy Use Factors by Transportation

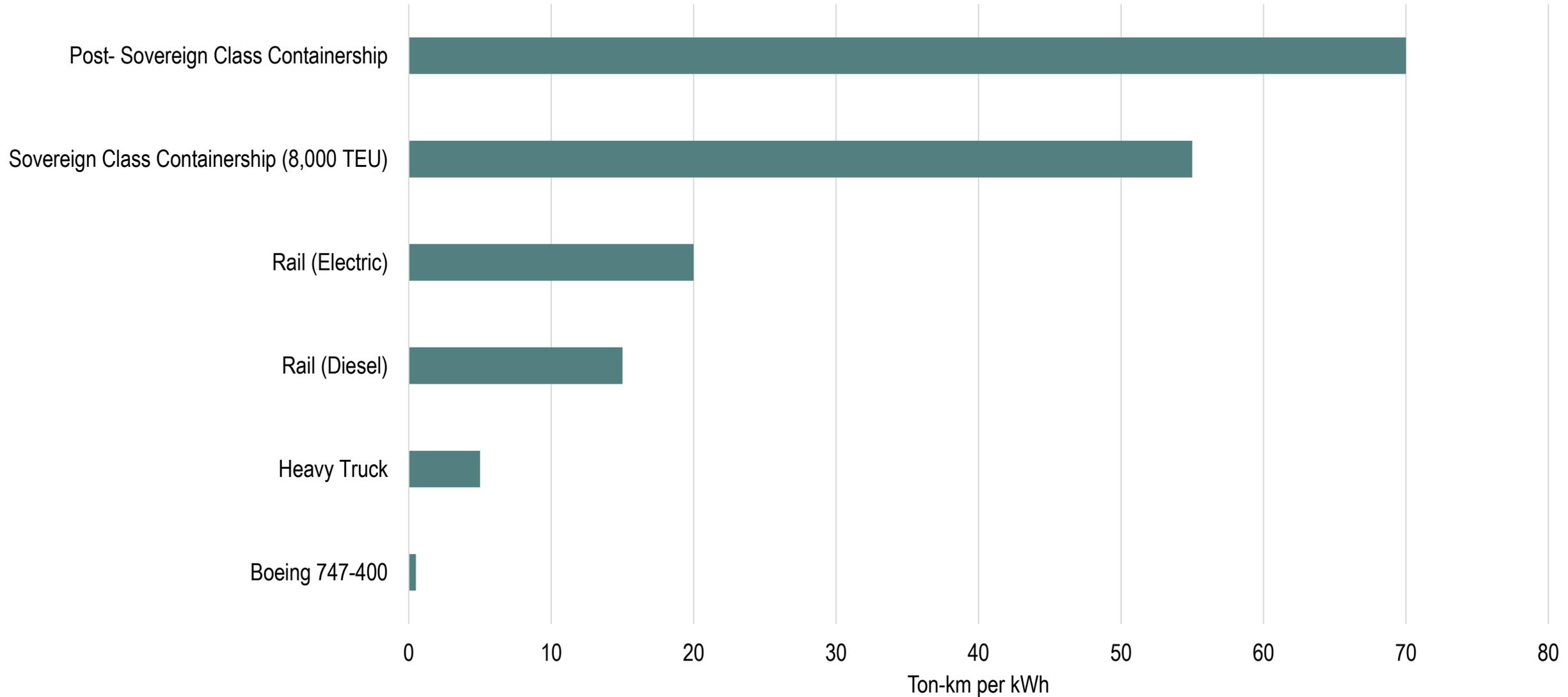


© GTS

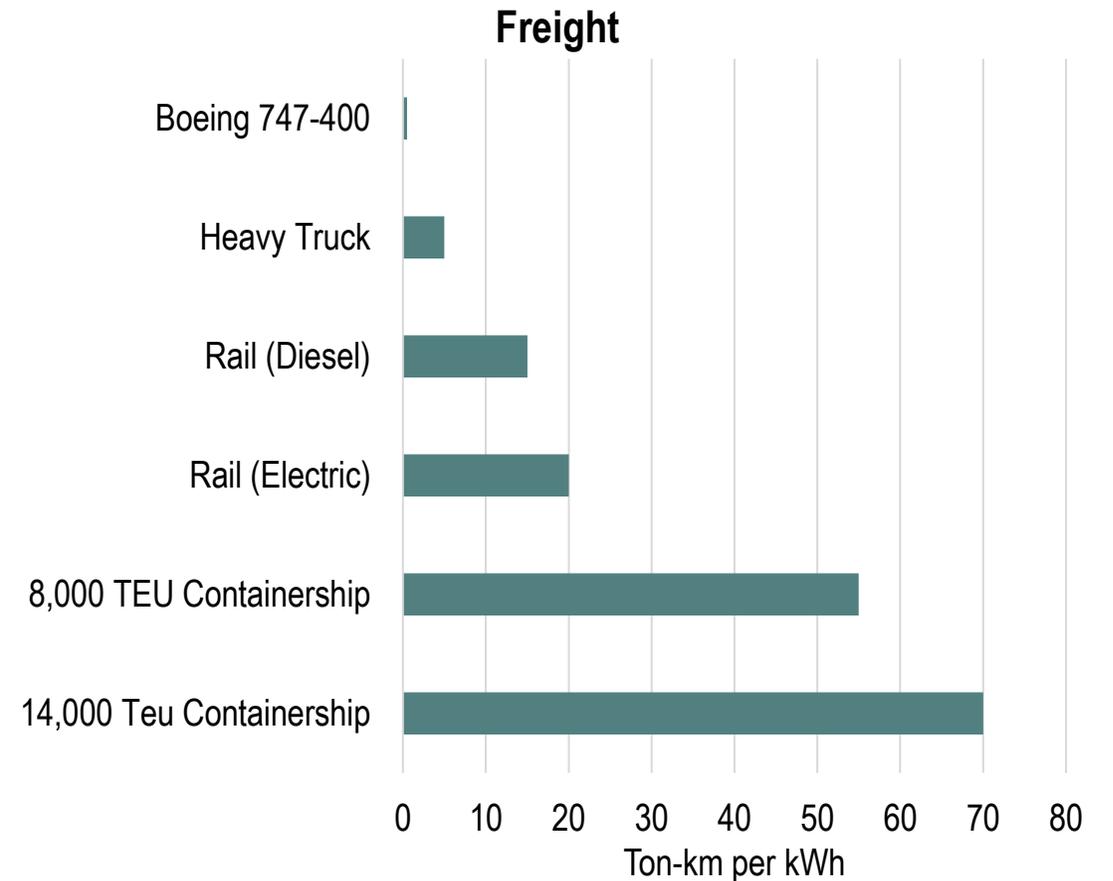
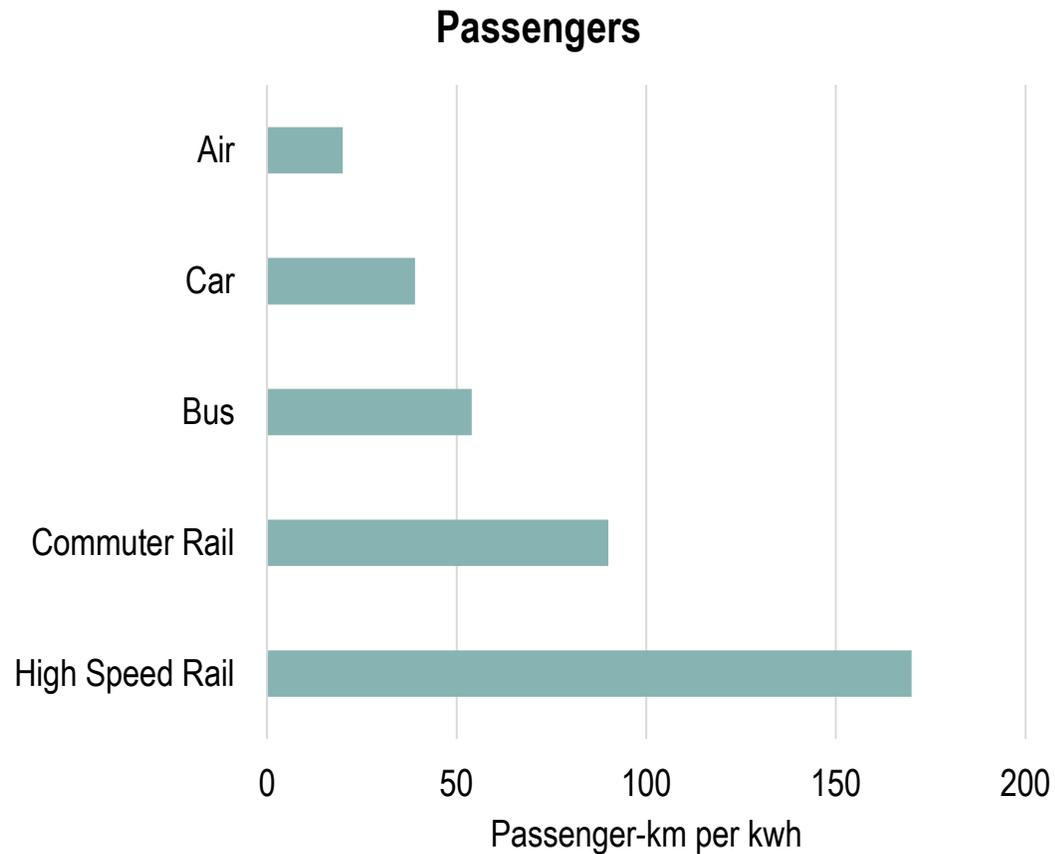
Energy Efficiency of Selected Passenger Modes



Distance Travelled for One Ton of Cargo Using 1 kWh of Energy



Energy Efficiency of Selected Passenger and Freight Modes



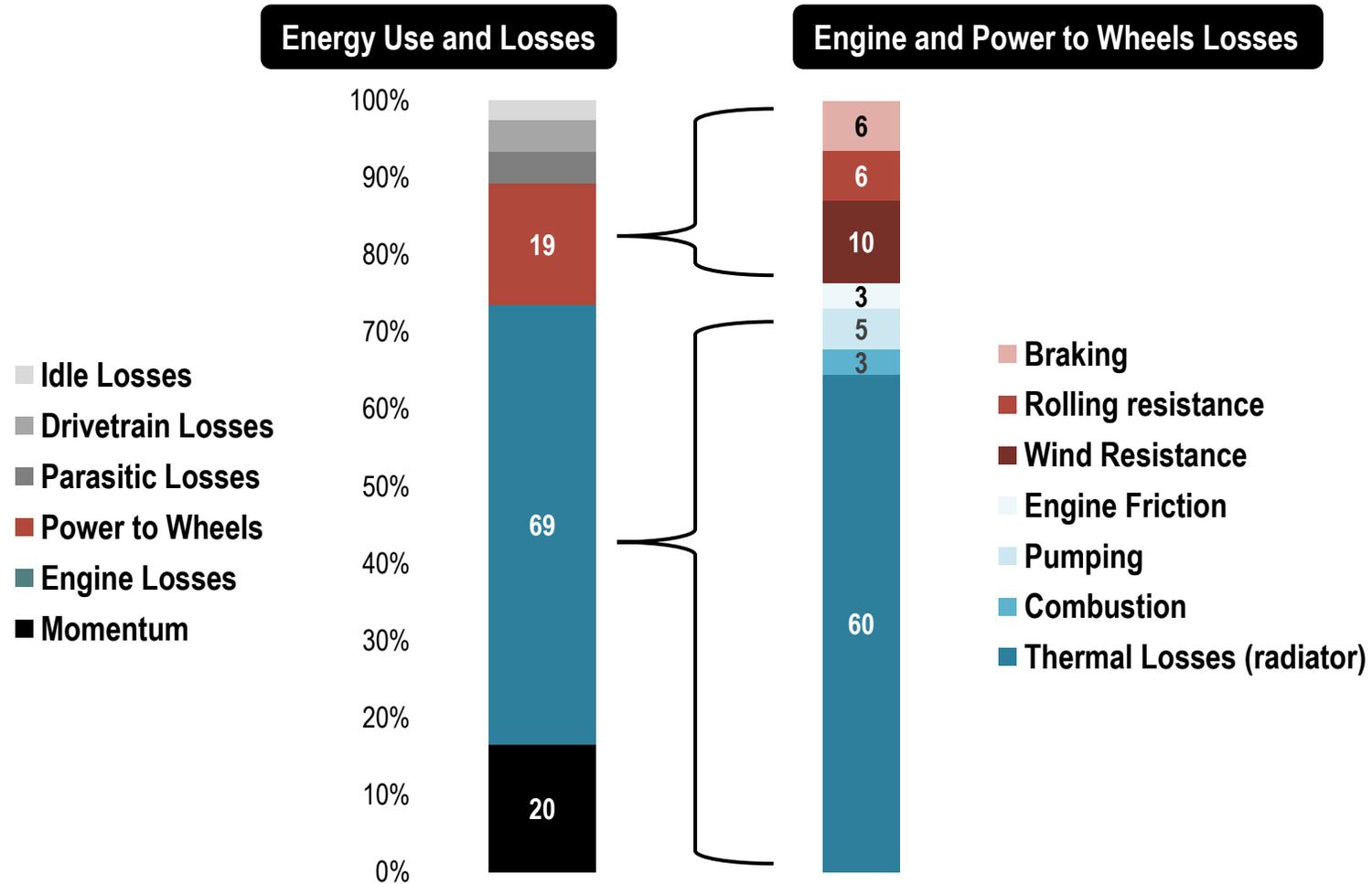
Energy Efficiency of Main Passenger Transportation Modes

Passenger Travel by	Fuel	Rate of fuel use MJ / passenger-km
Personal vehicle (ICE)	Gasoline	2.6
Local bus (ICE)	Diesel	2.8
Electric bus, light rail, subway	Electricity	0.6
Intercity bus (ICE)	Diesel	0.7
Intercity rail (diesel - electric)	Diesel	0.9
Intercity rail (electric)	Electricity	0.2
High-speed rail (electric)	Electricity	0.3
Aircraft (domestic)	Kerosene	2.0

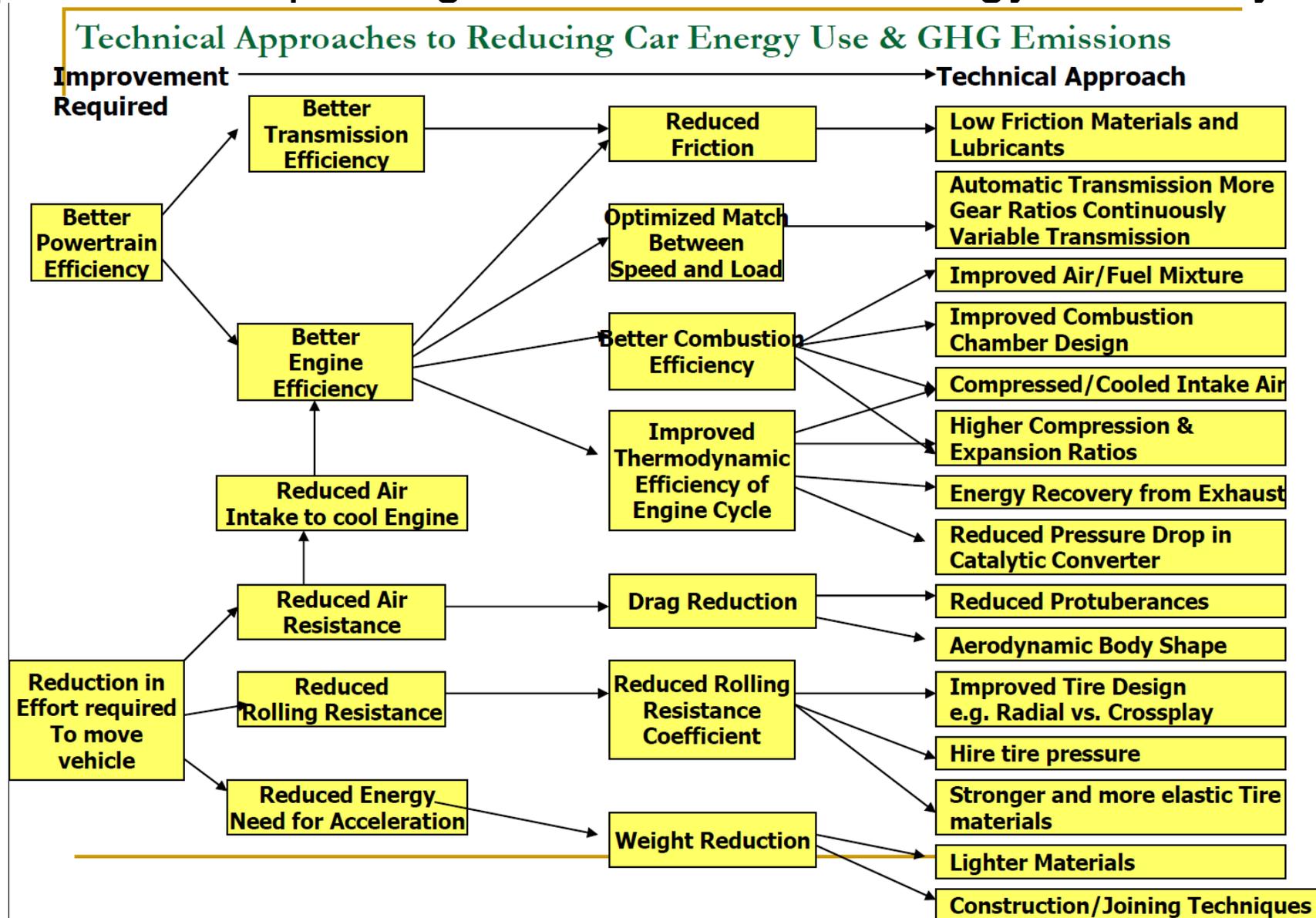
Transportation Fuel Markets

	Marine	Aviation	Road
Type of fuel	Low quality (bunker oil)	High quality (jet fuel)	Medium quality (diesel, gasoline)
Share of energy consumption	2%	6%	90%
Market size (year)	150 M metric tons	190 M metric tons	650 M metric tons
Percentage of operating costs	40%	25%	18-20%

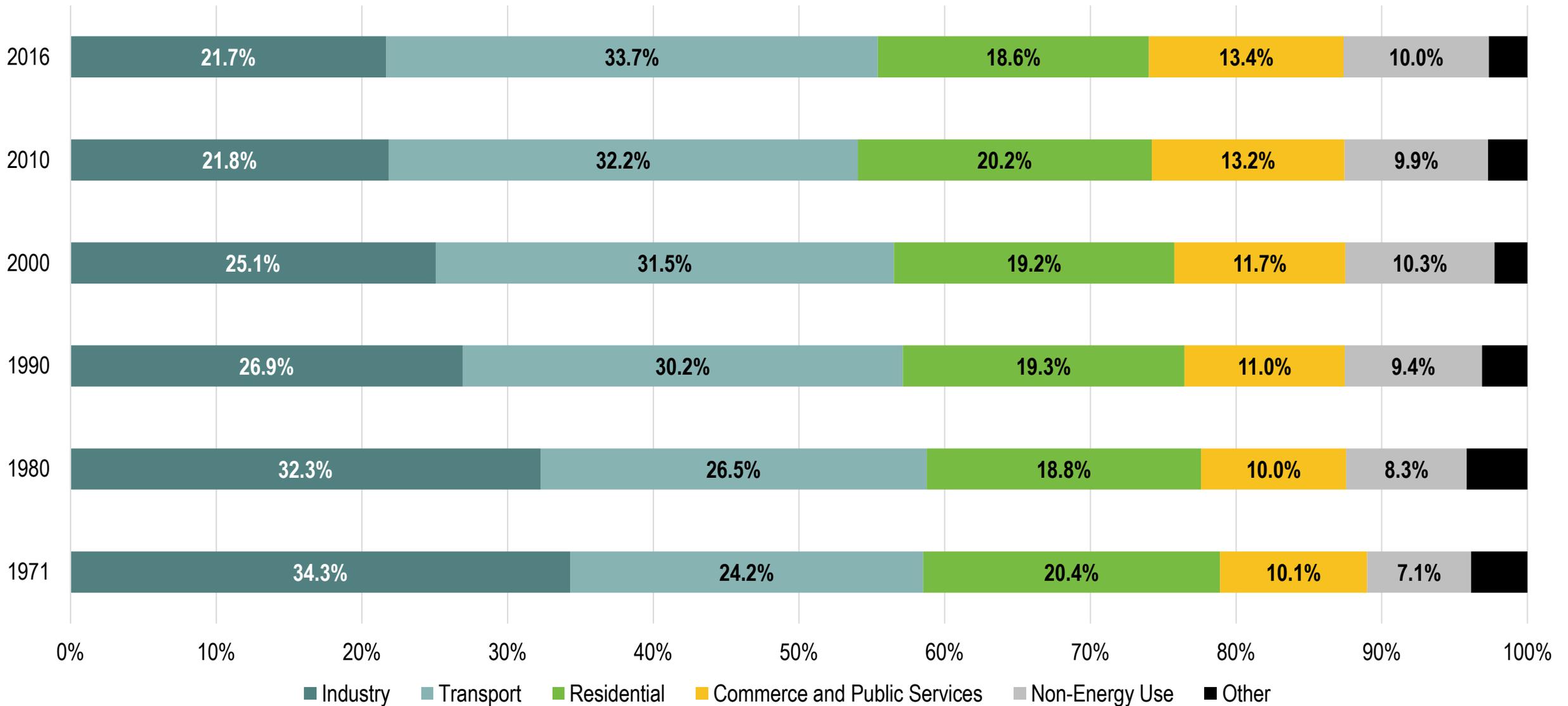
Typical Energy Use for a Car



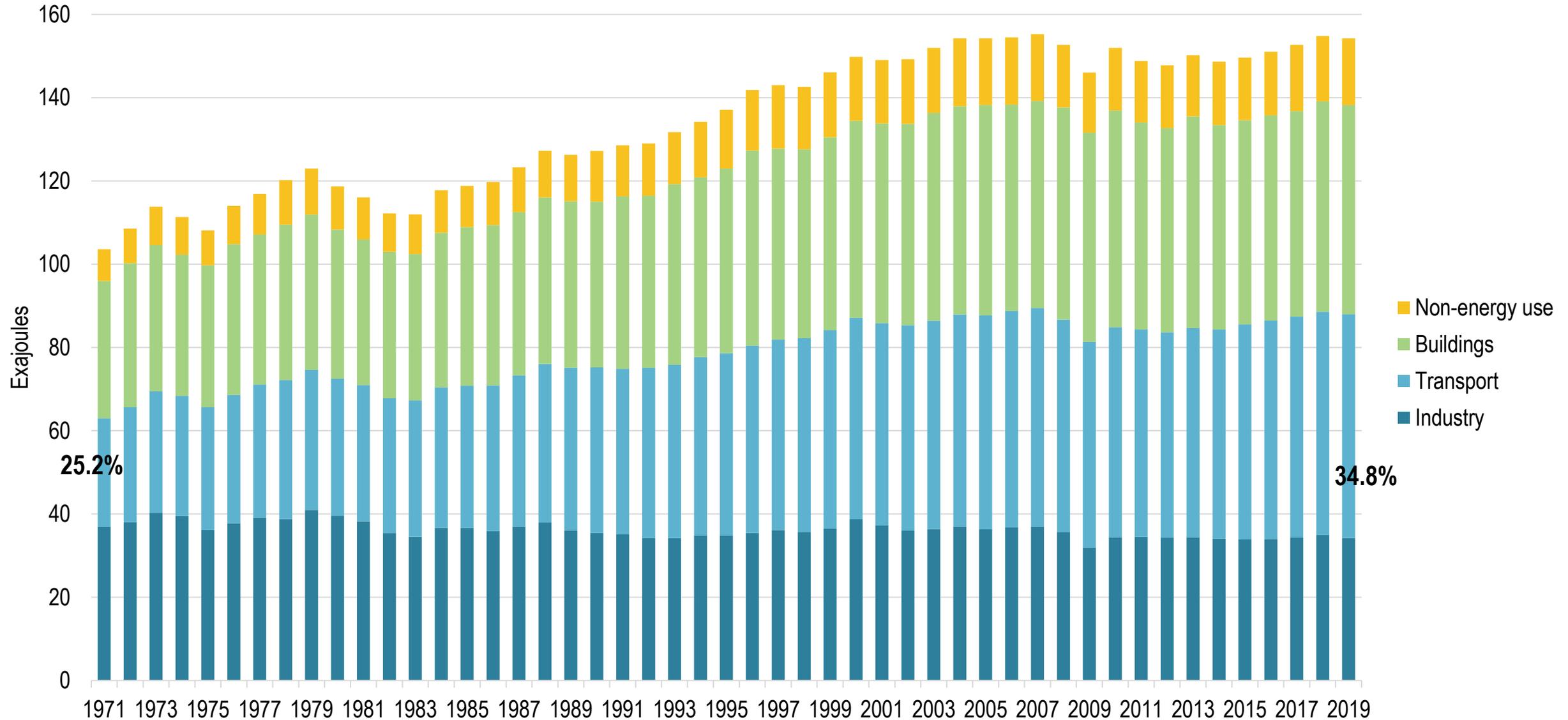
Technical Approaches Improving ICE Automobile Energy Efficiency



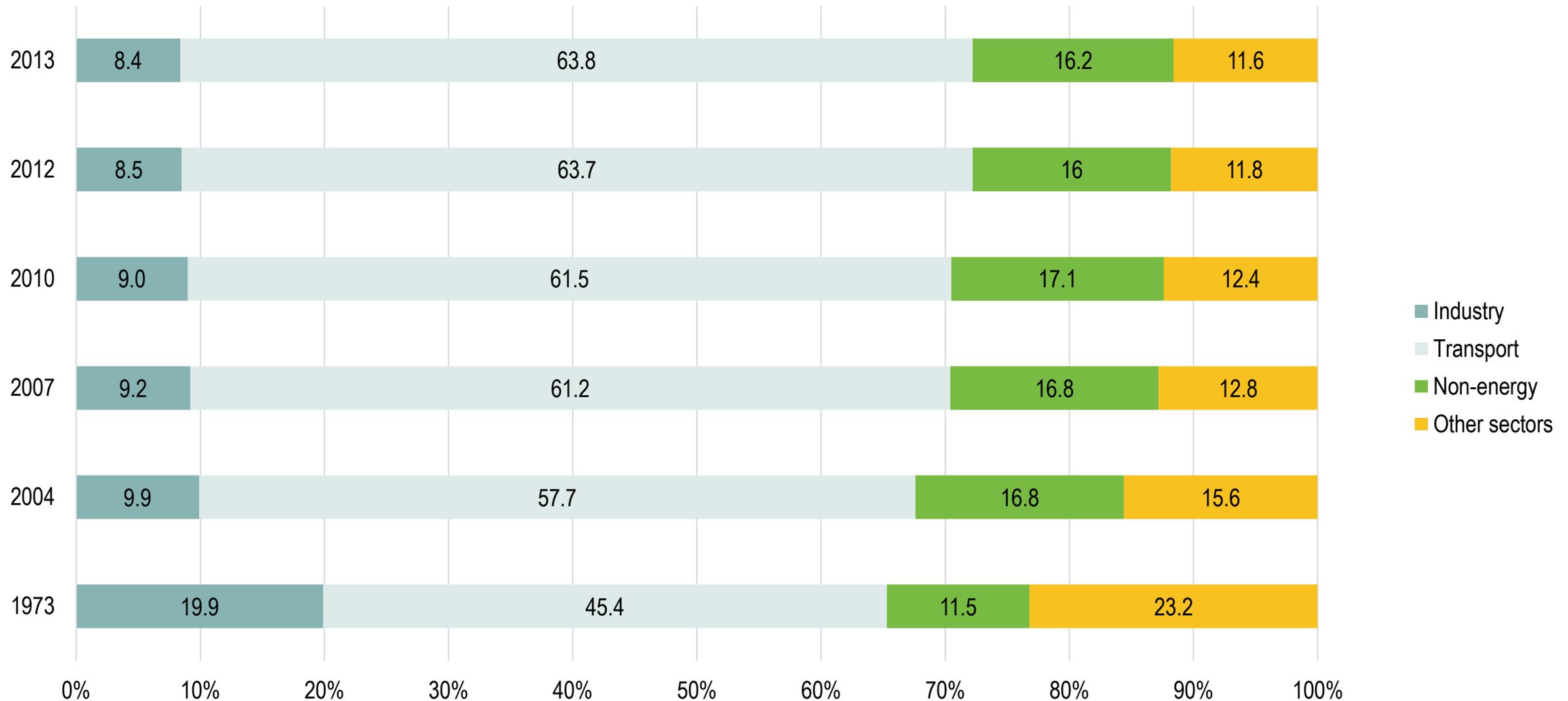
Energy Consumption by Sector, OECD Countries



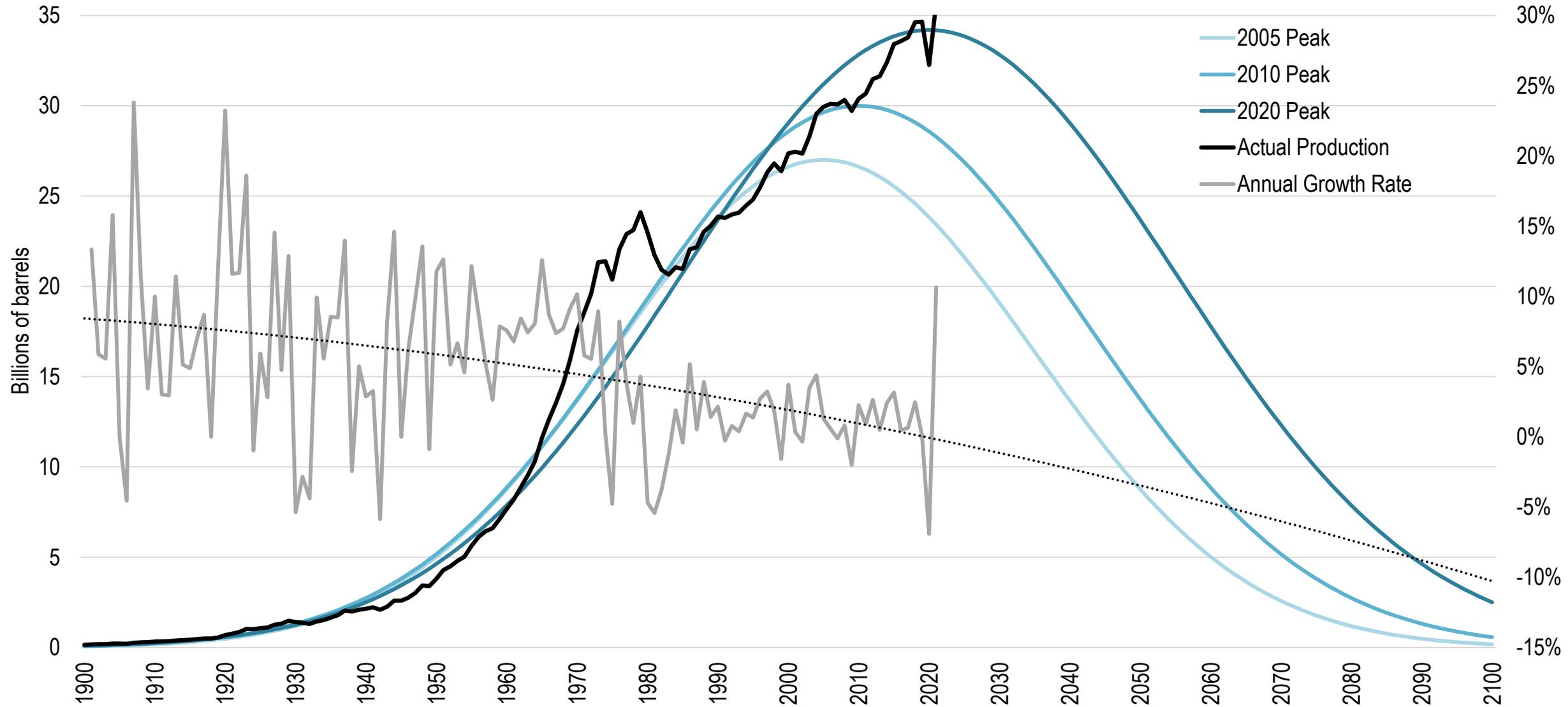
Energy Consumption by Sector, OECD Countries, 1971-2019



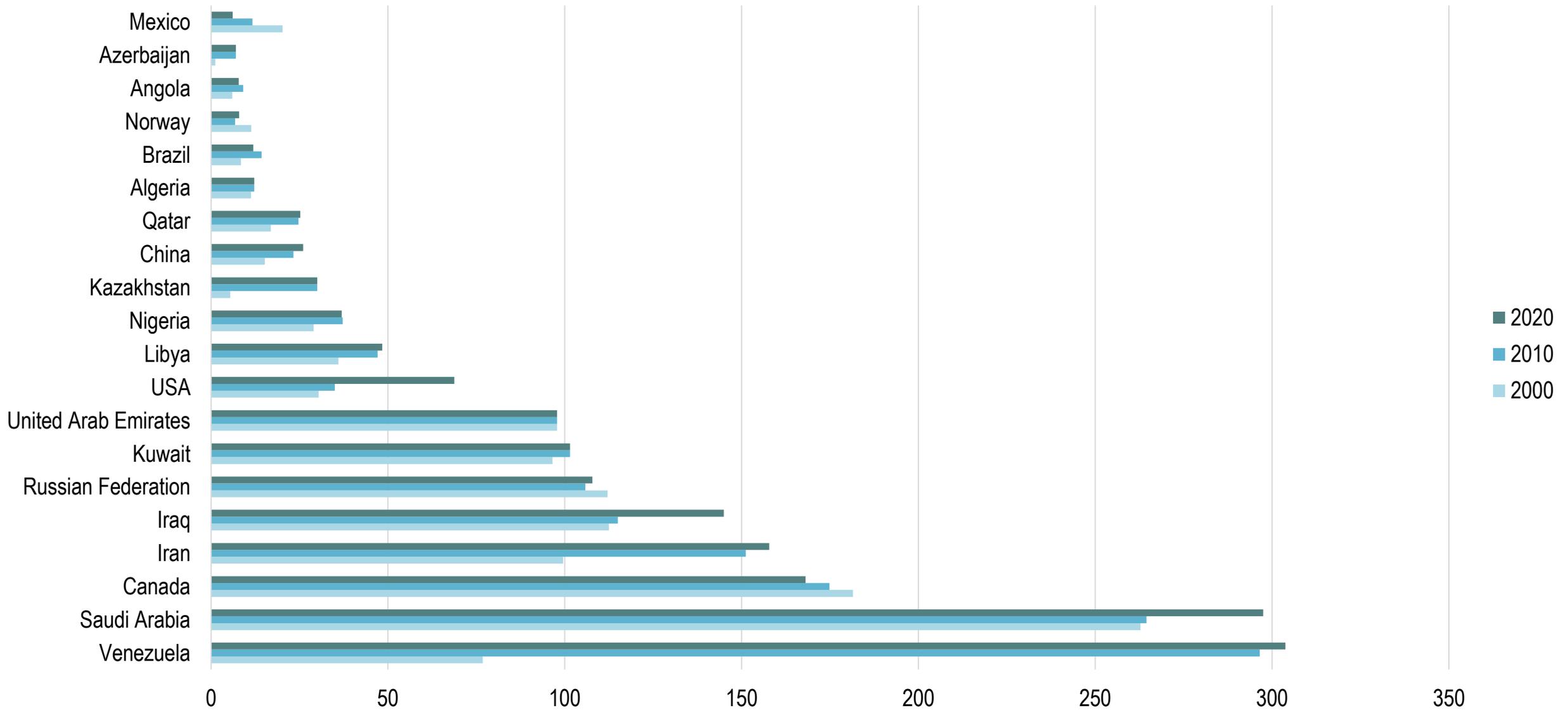
World Oil Energy Consumption by Sector, 1973-2013



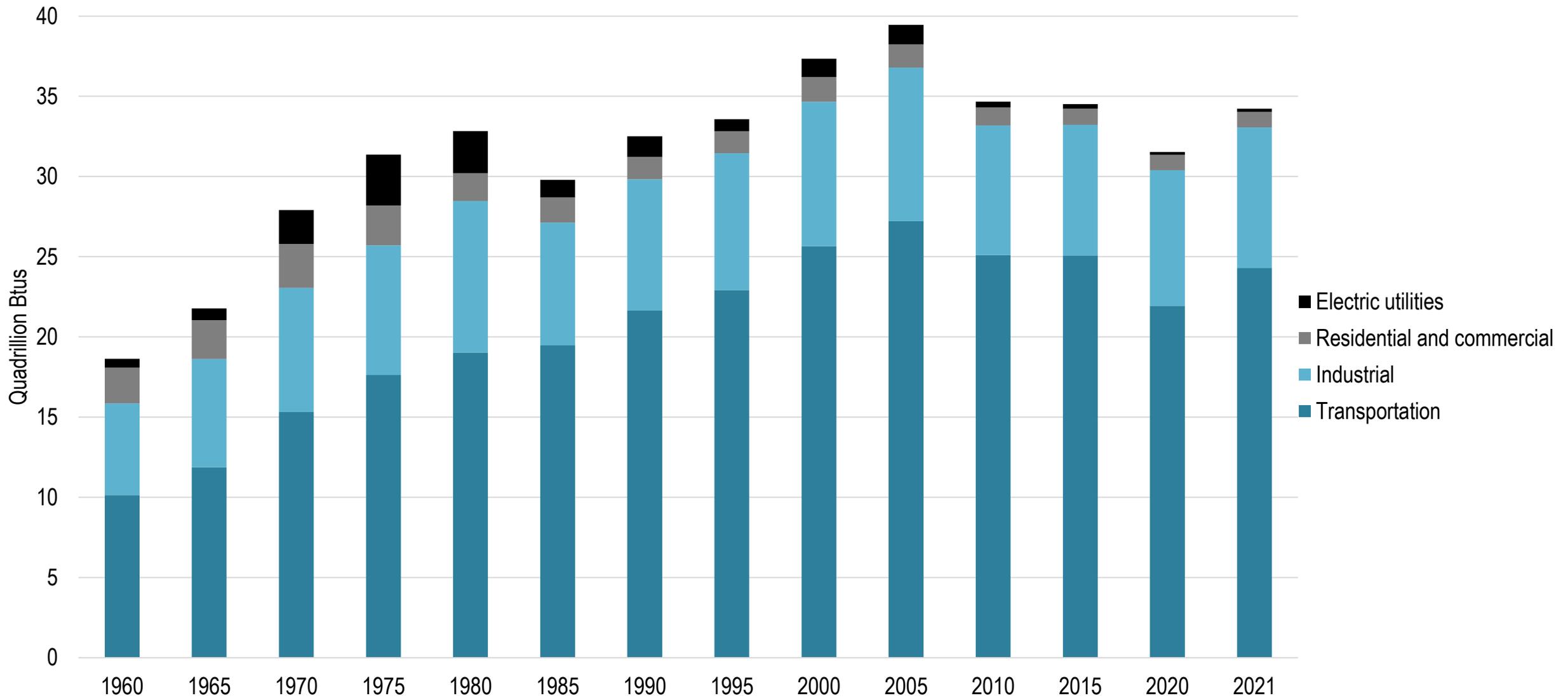
World Annual Oil Production (1900-2021) and Peak Oil (2005-2020)



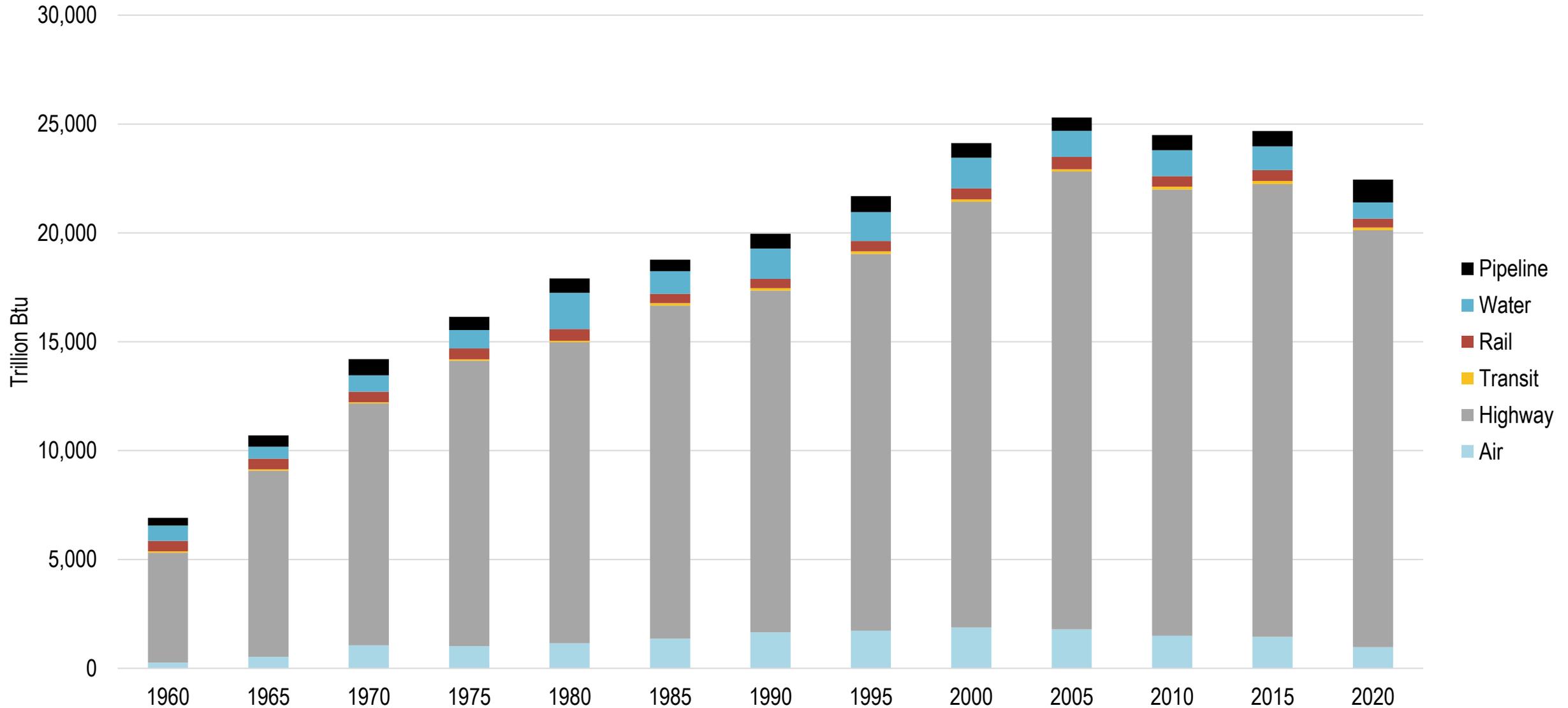
Major Crude Oil Reserves, 2000-2020 (Thousand Million Barrels)



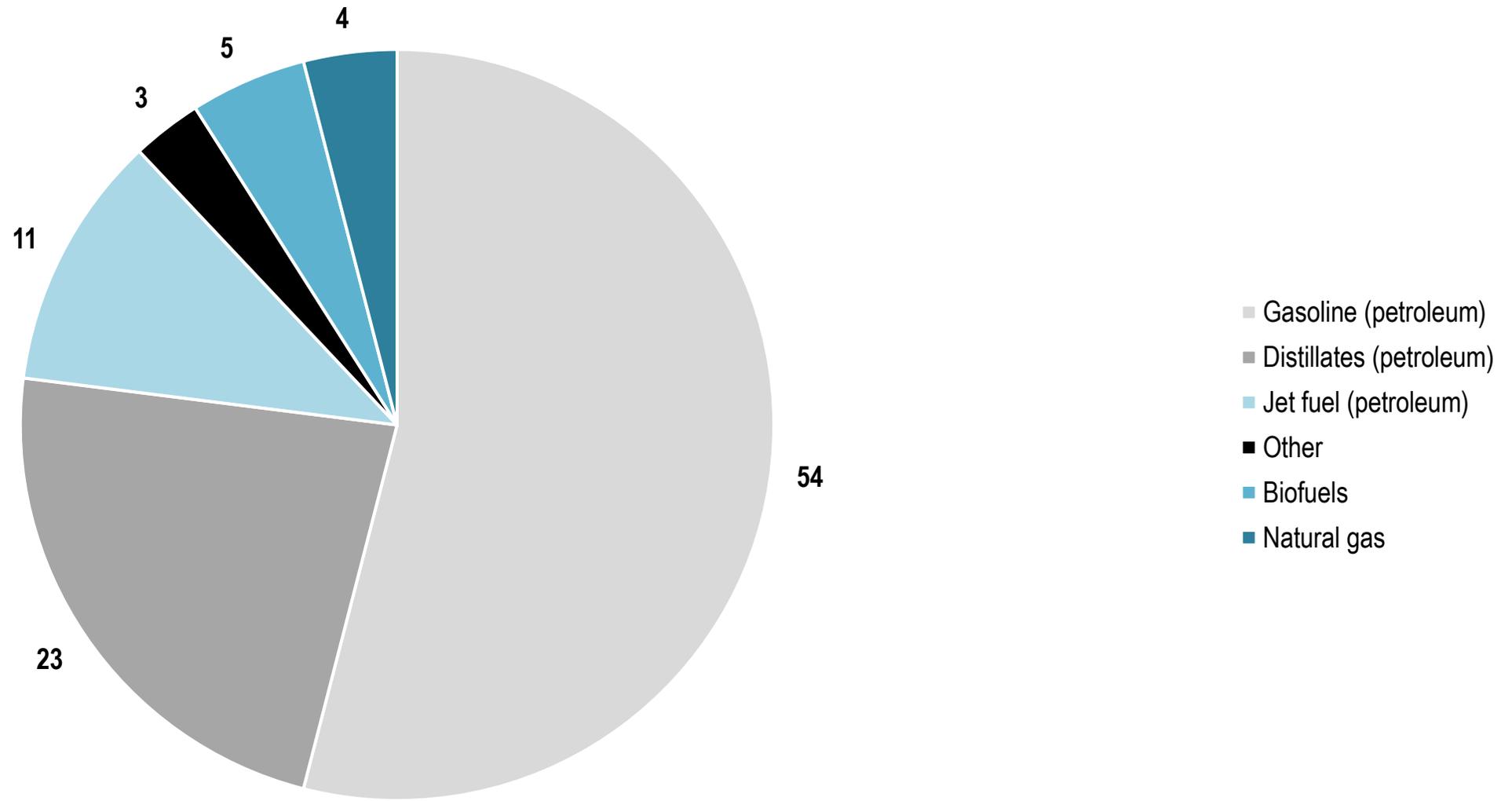
Demand for Refined Petroleum Products by Sector in the United States, 1960-2021



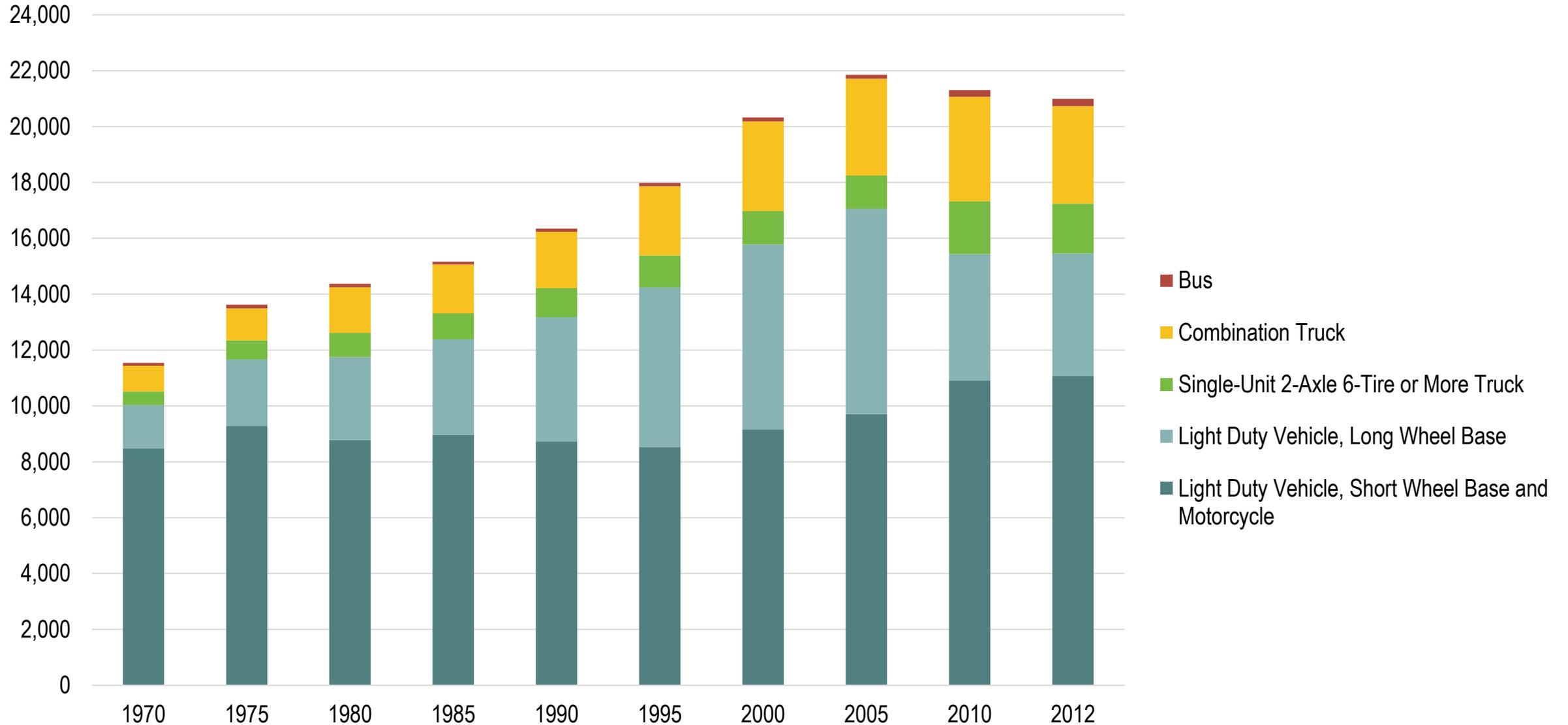
Energy Consumption by Transportation Mode in the United States, 1960-2020



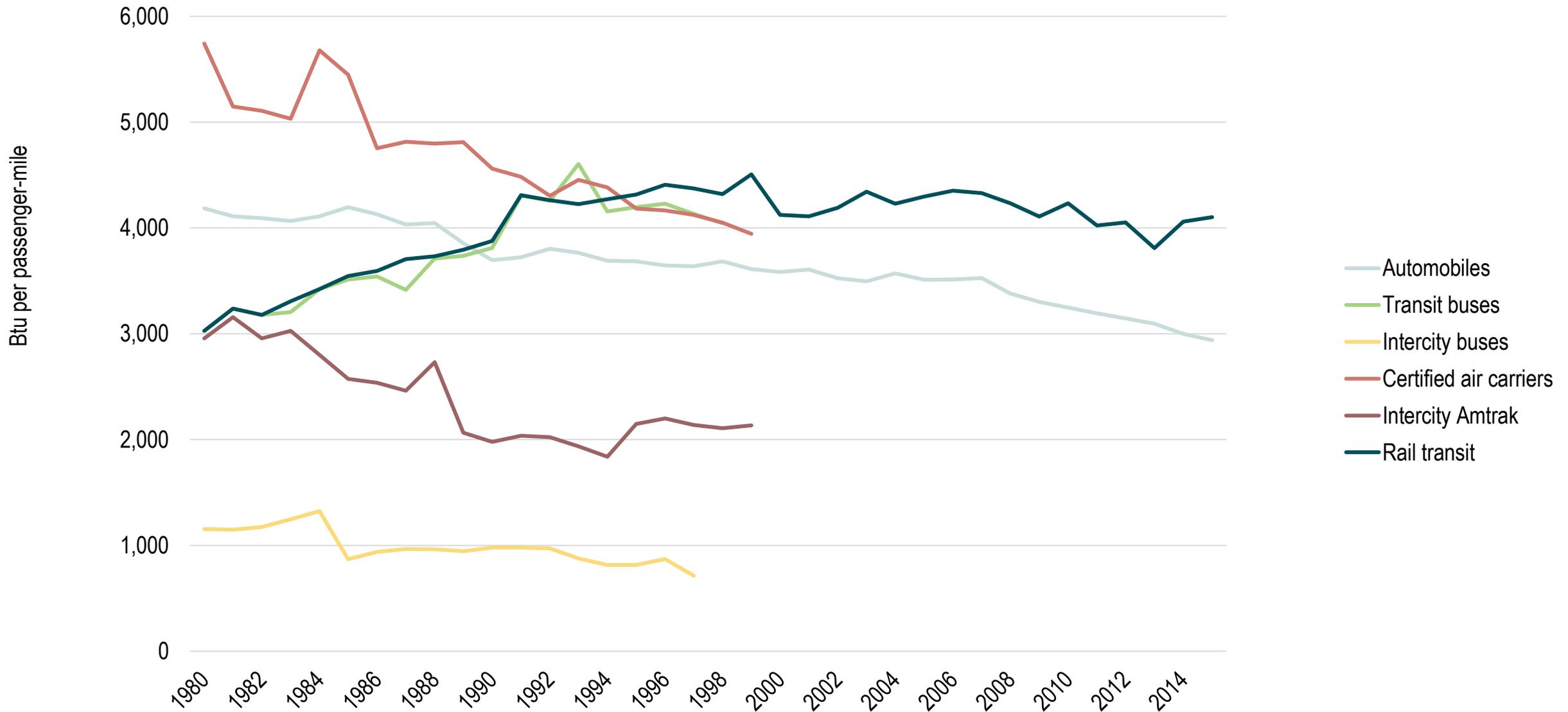
Transportation Energy Sources, United States 2021



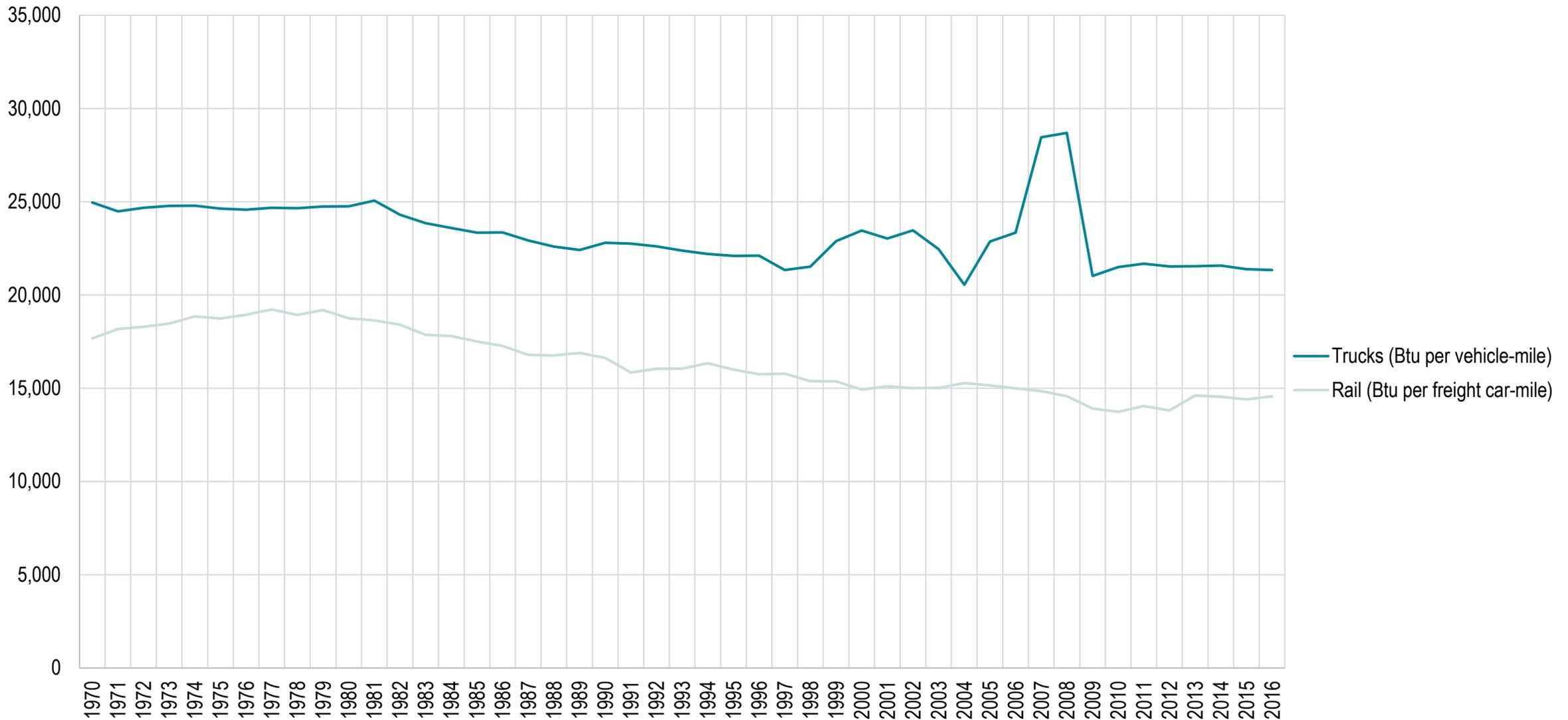
Energy Consumption by Road Transportation in the United States, 1970-2012 (in Trillion BTUs)



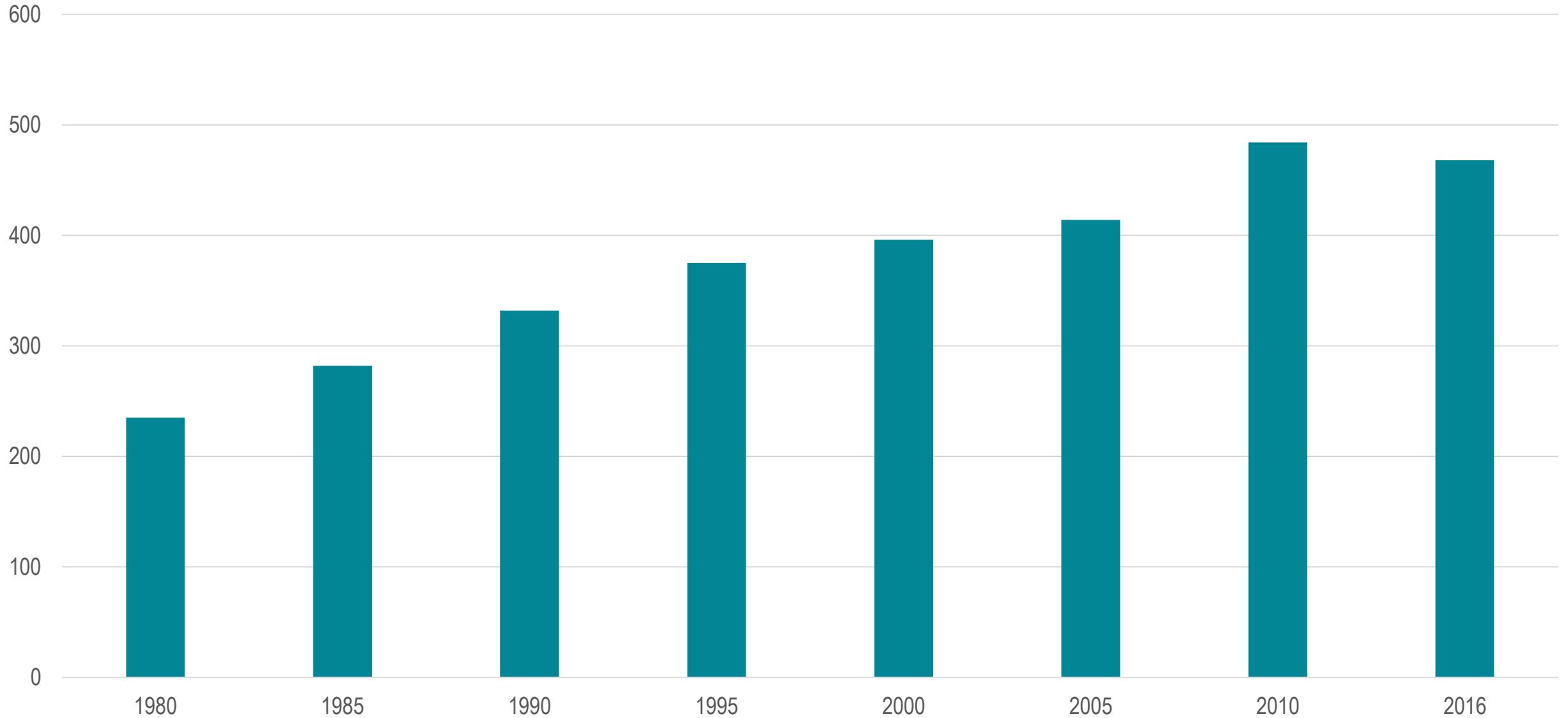
Energy Intensities of Passenger Modes, 1980-2016 (in BTU per passenger-mile)



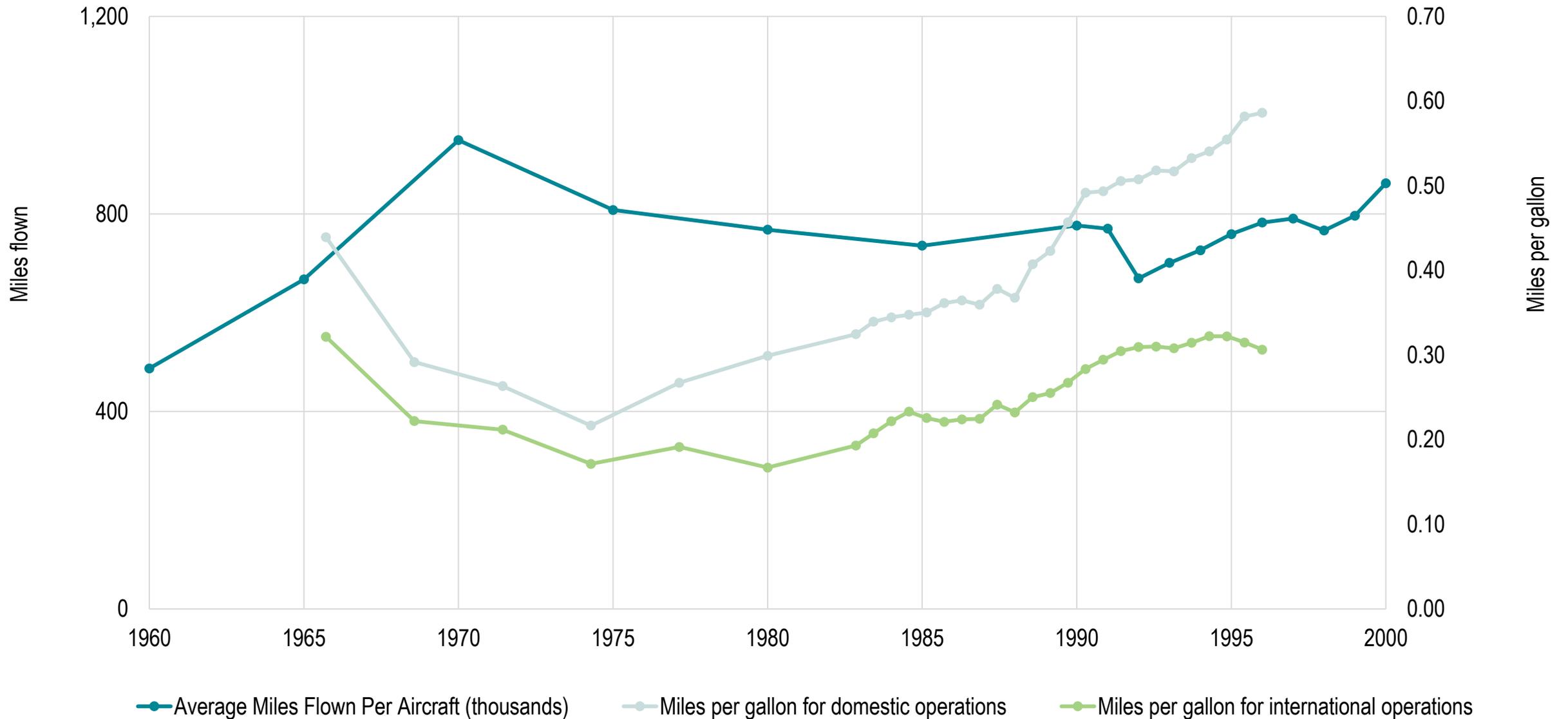
Energy Intensities of Freight Modes, 1970-2016



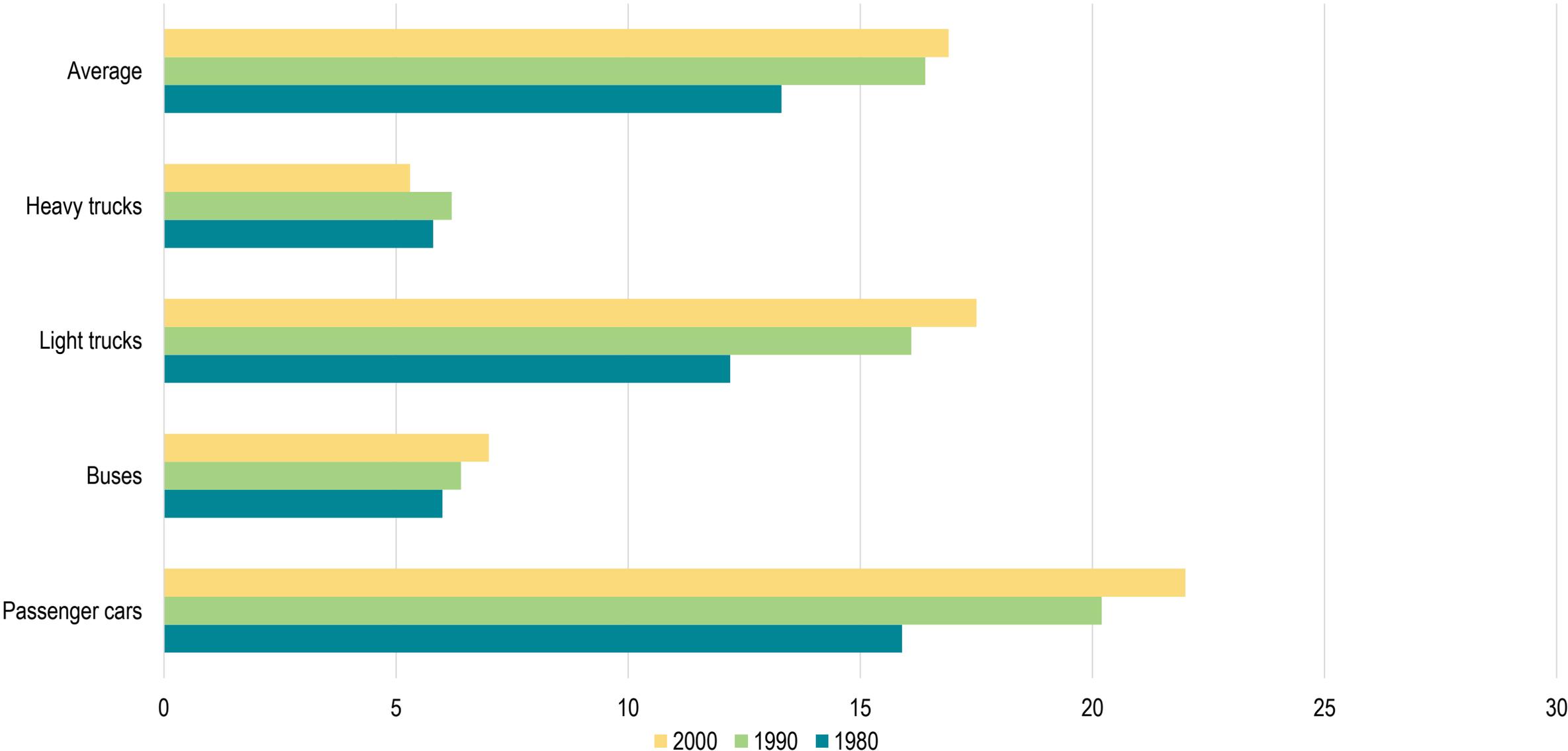
Rail Freight Fuel Efficiency (ton-miles per gallon)



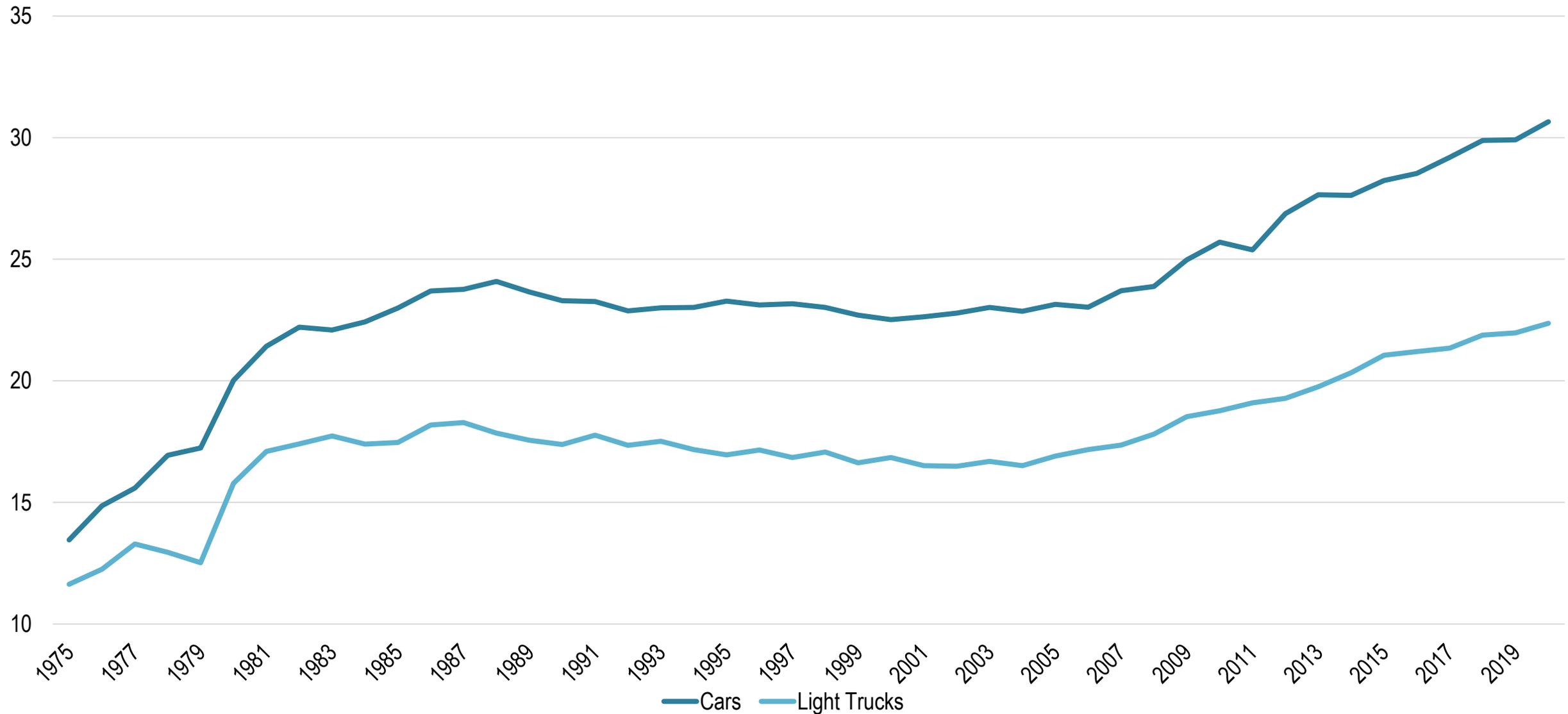
Fuel Consumption and Travel by Certificated Air Carriers in the United States, 1960-2000



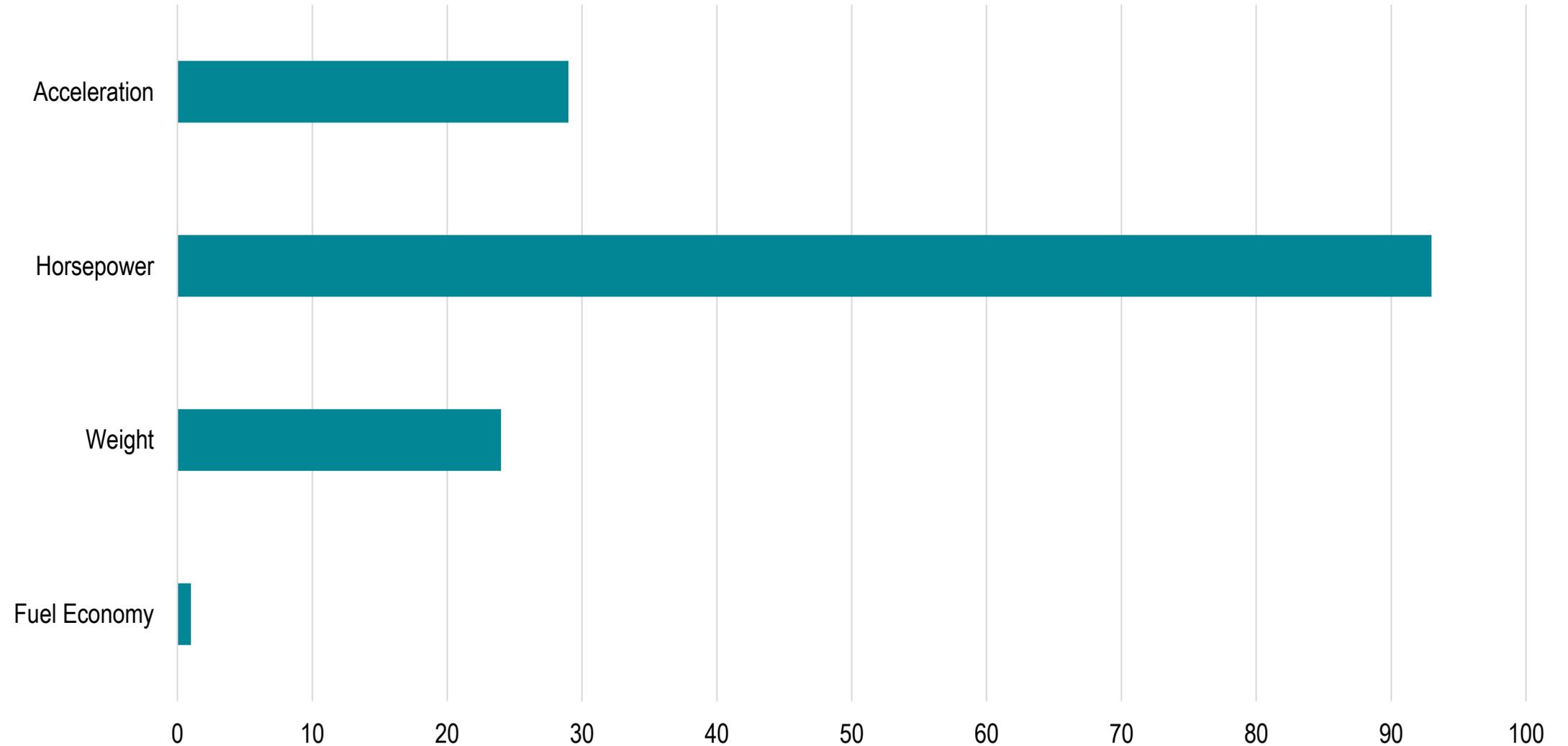
Average Miles per Gallon Traveled by Road Vehicle in the United States, 1980-2000



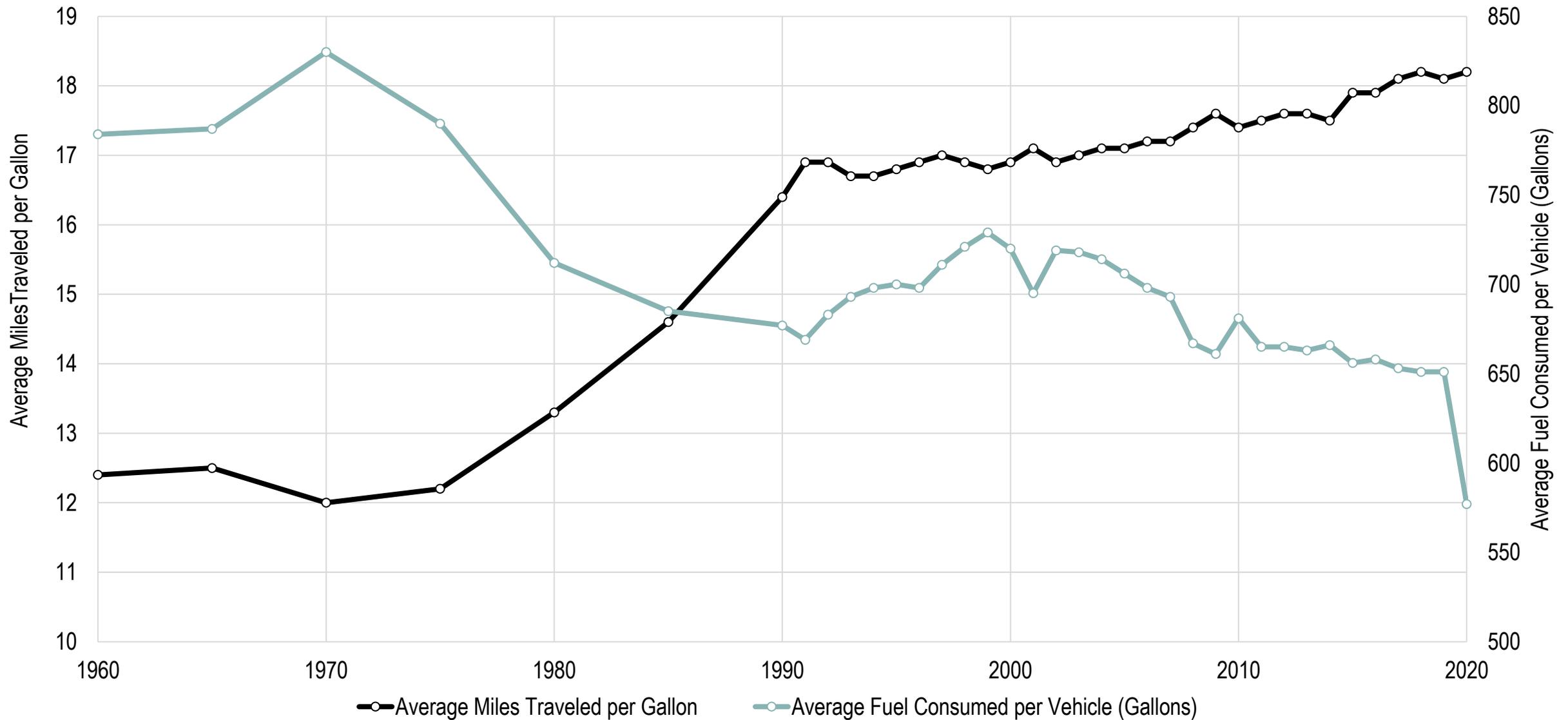
Average Gasoline Consumption for New Vehicles, United States, 1972-2020 (in miles per gallon)



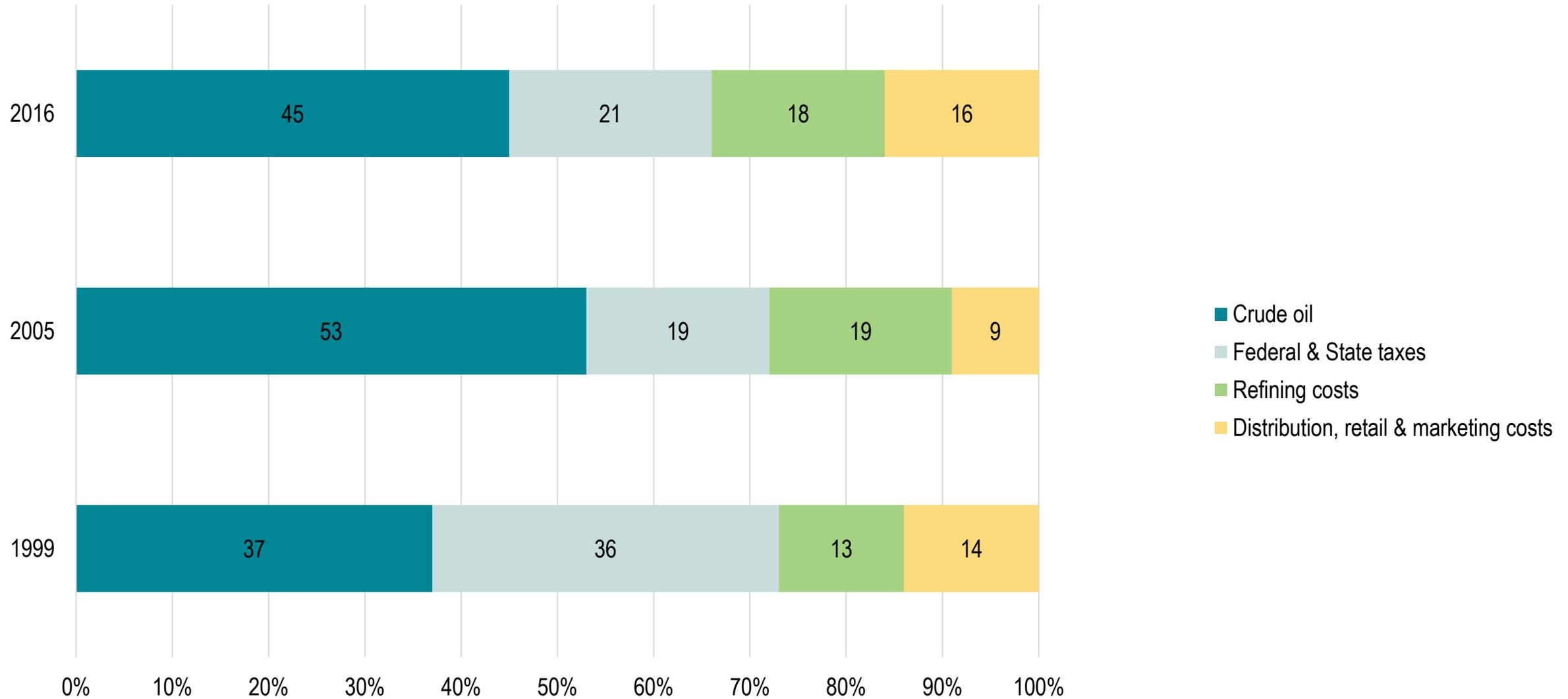
Change in Average Vehicle Characteristics, 1981-2003 (in %)



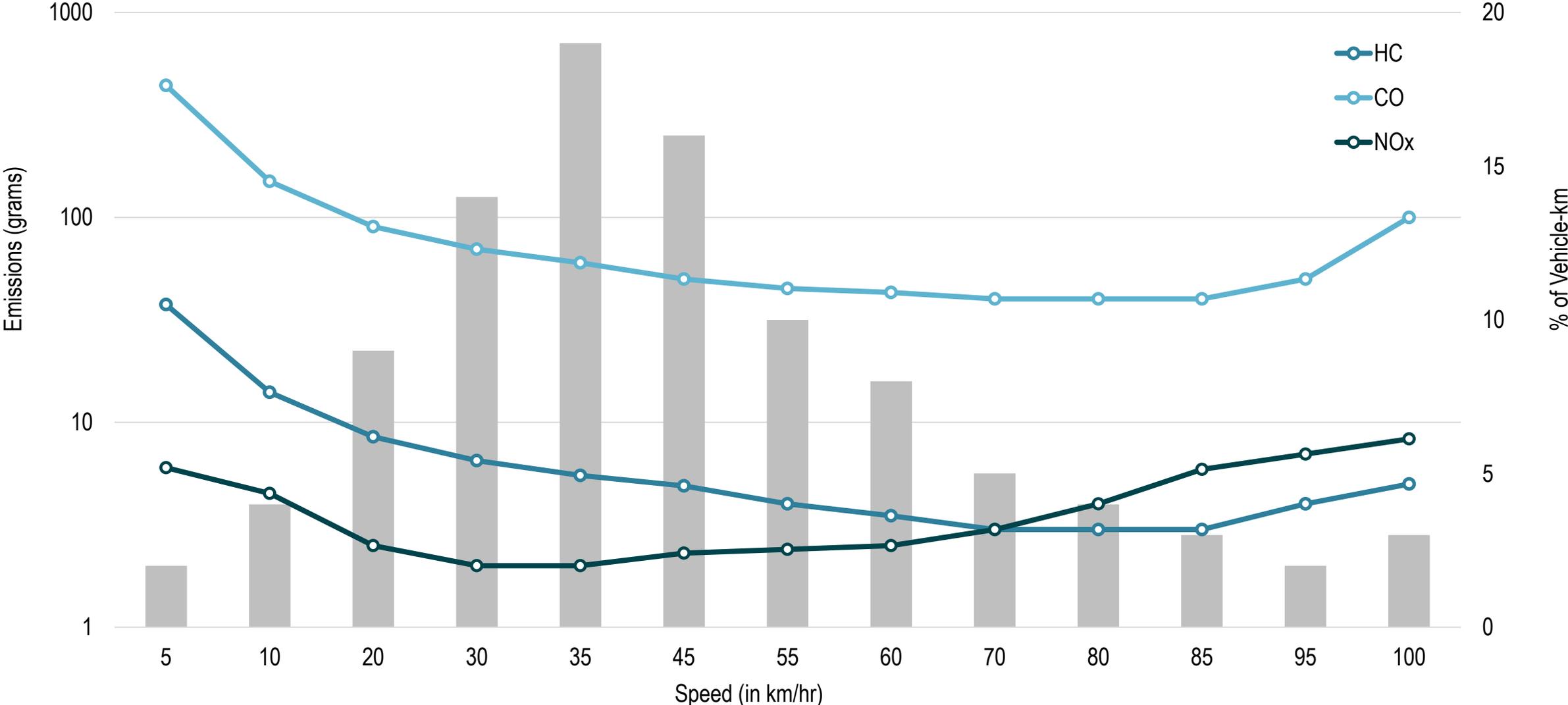
Total Motor Vehicle Fuel Consumption and Travel in the United States, 1960-2020



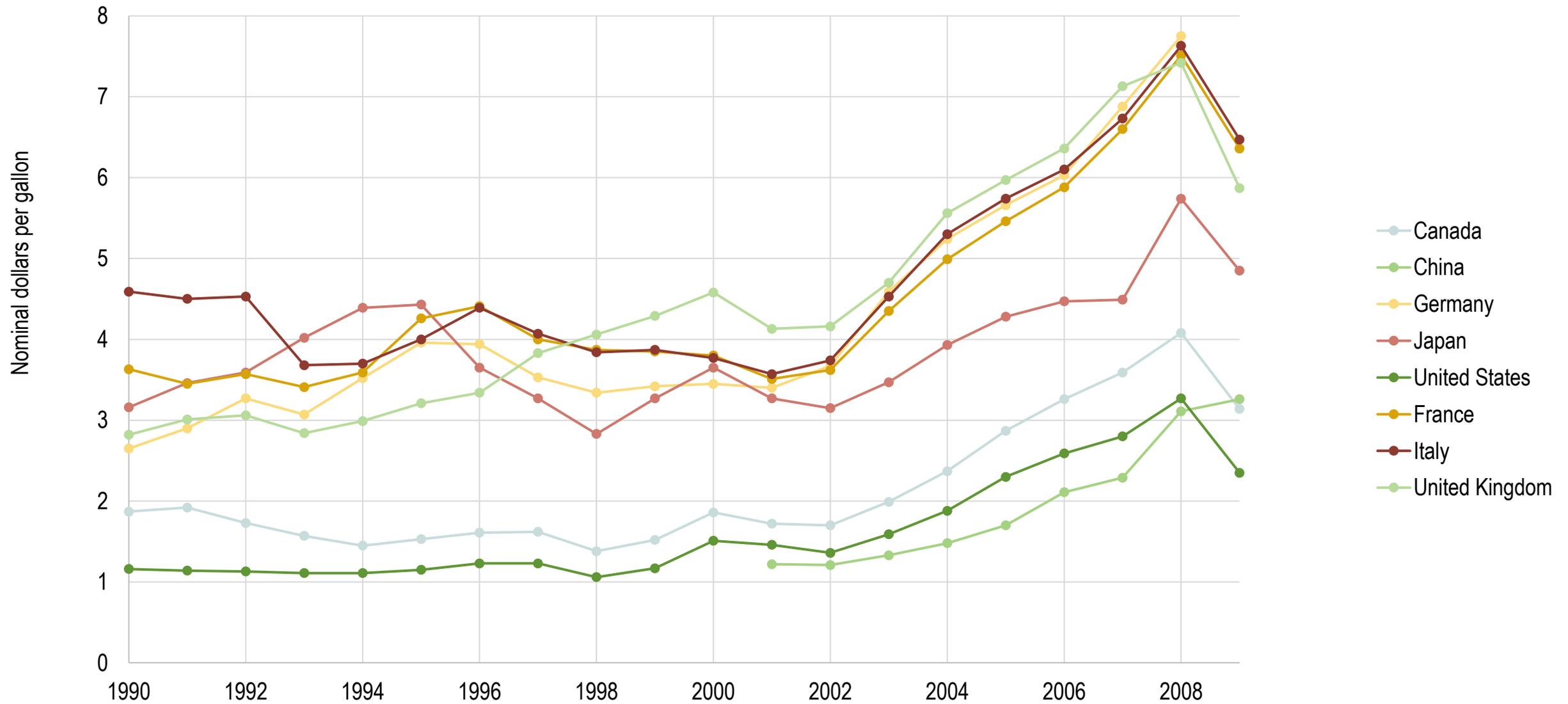
Components of Retail Costs of Gasoline, United States, 1999-2016



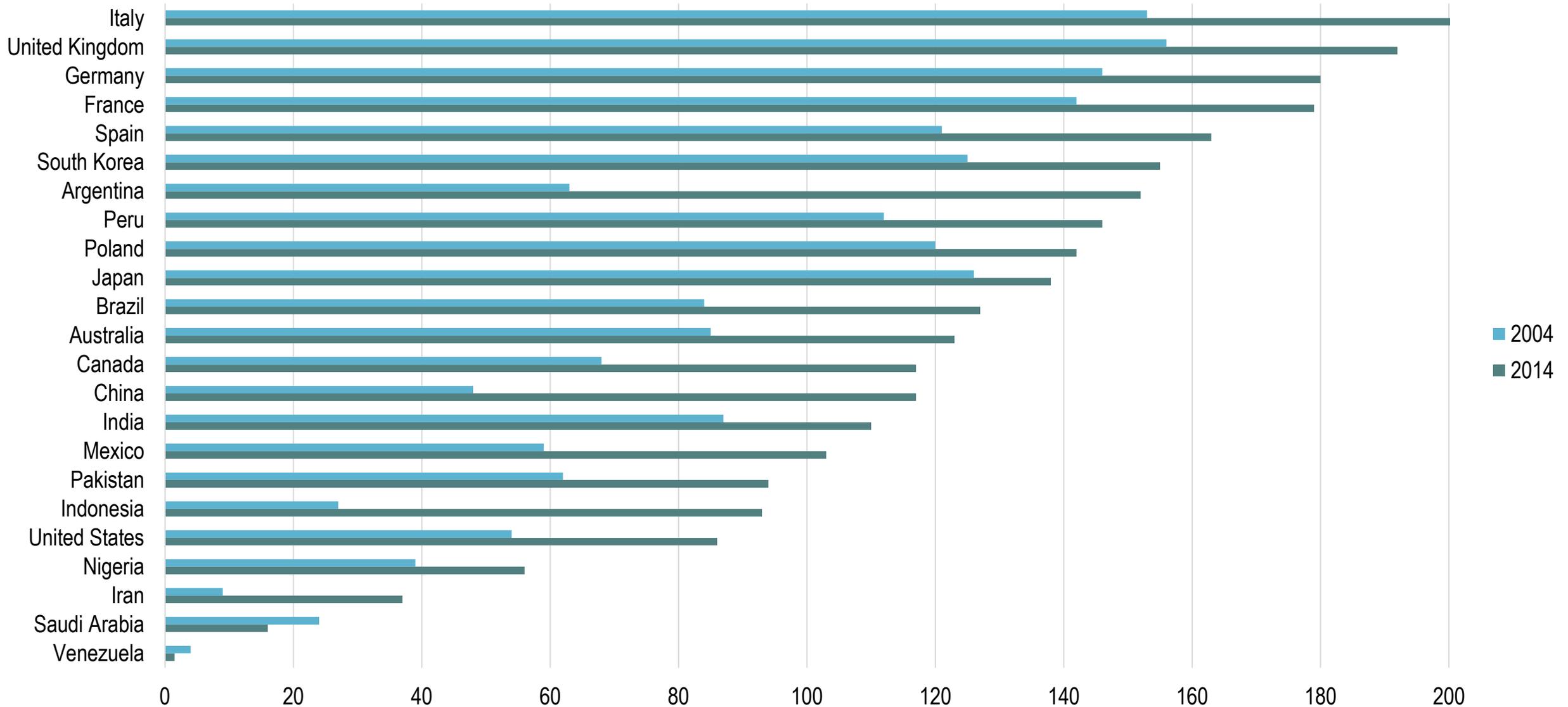
Automobile Emission Factors



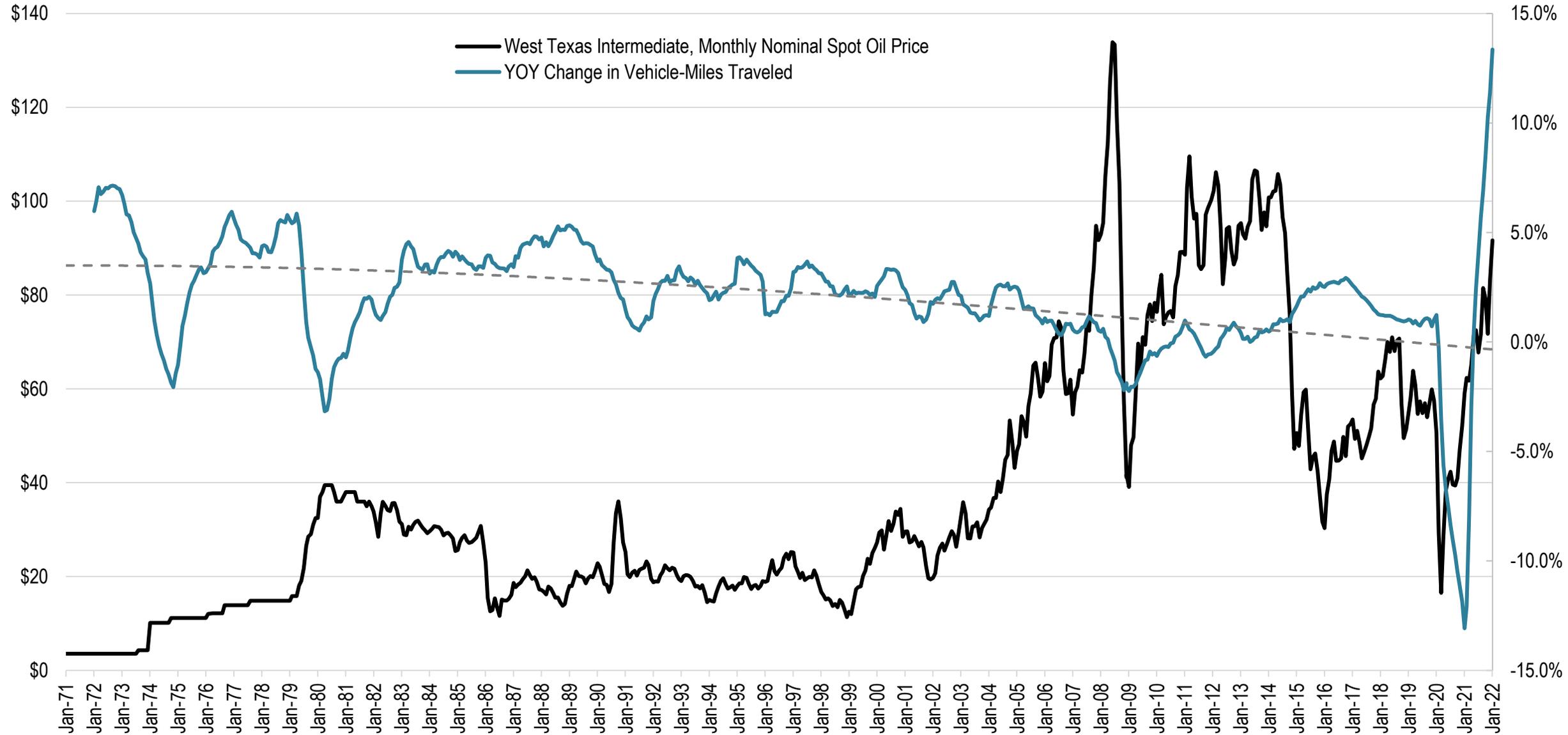
Retail Motor Gasoline Prices, Selected Countries, 1990-2009



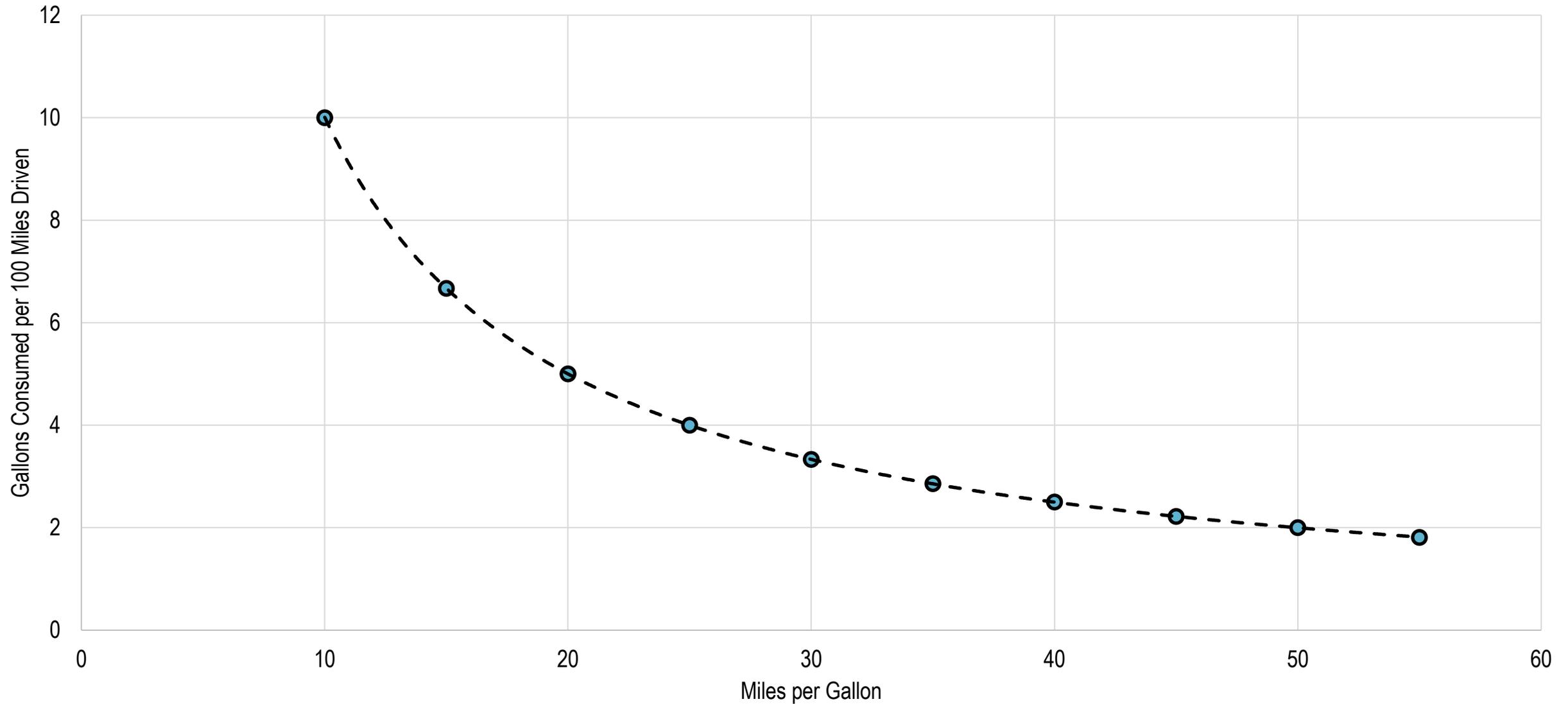
Retail Motor Gasoline Prices (cents per liter), Selected Countries, 2004-2014



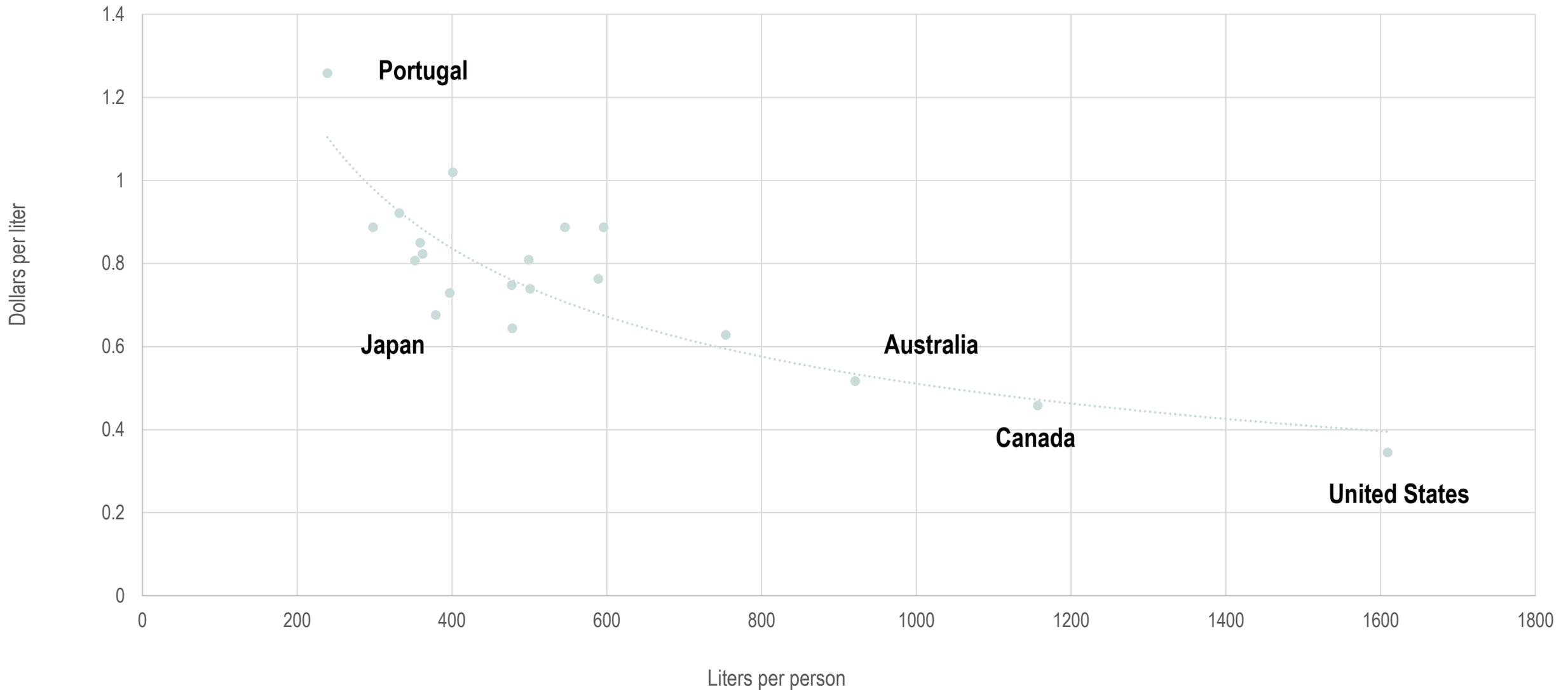
Annual Vehicle-Miles Traveled in the United States, Year-over-Year Changes, 1971-2022



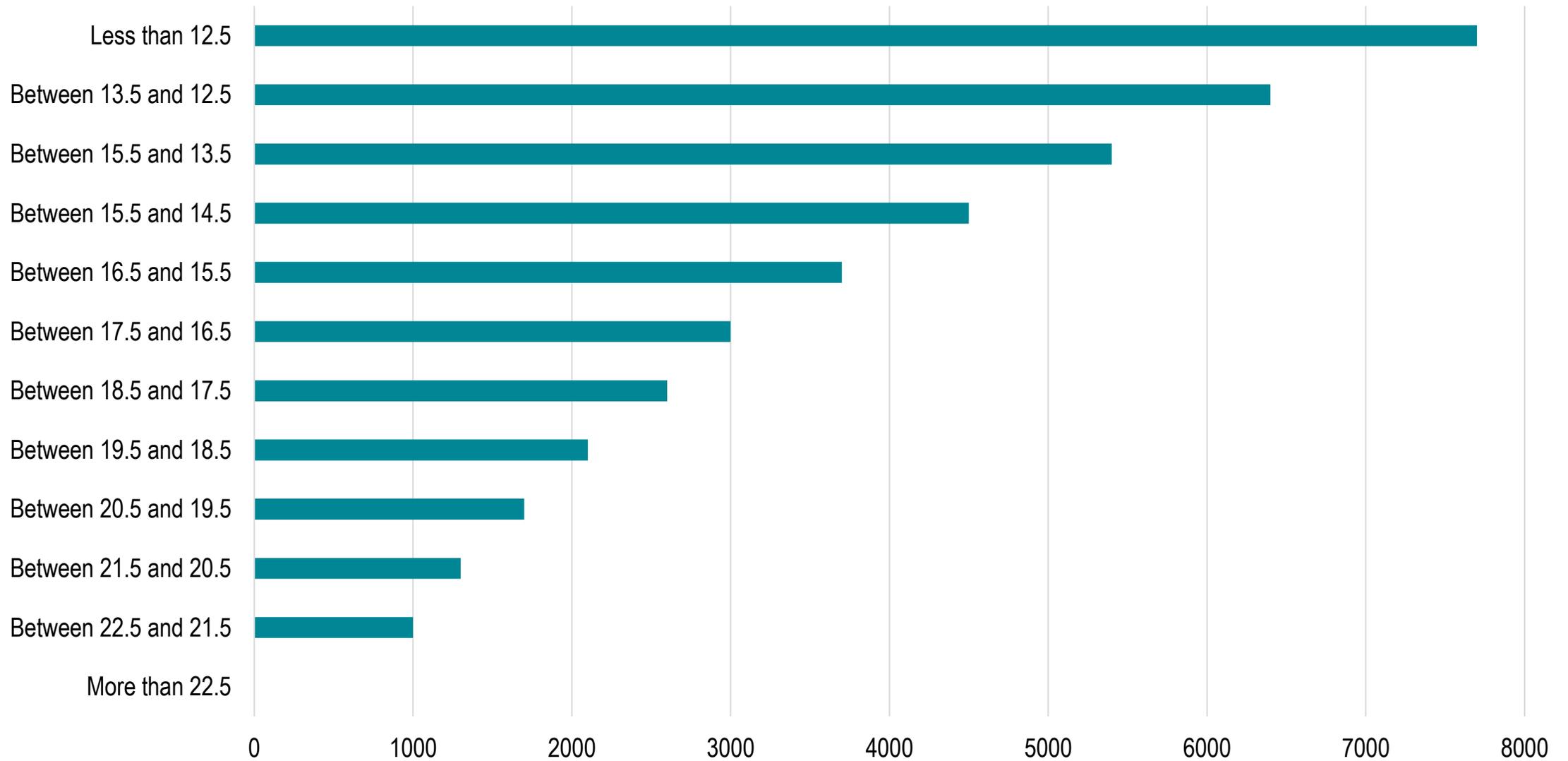
Automobile Fuel Consumption and Fuel Efficiency



Gasoline Price and Fuel Consumption, Western Industrial Countries, 1994



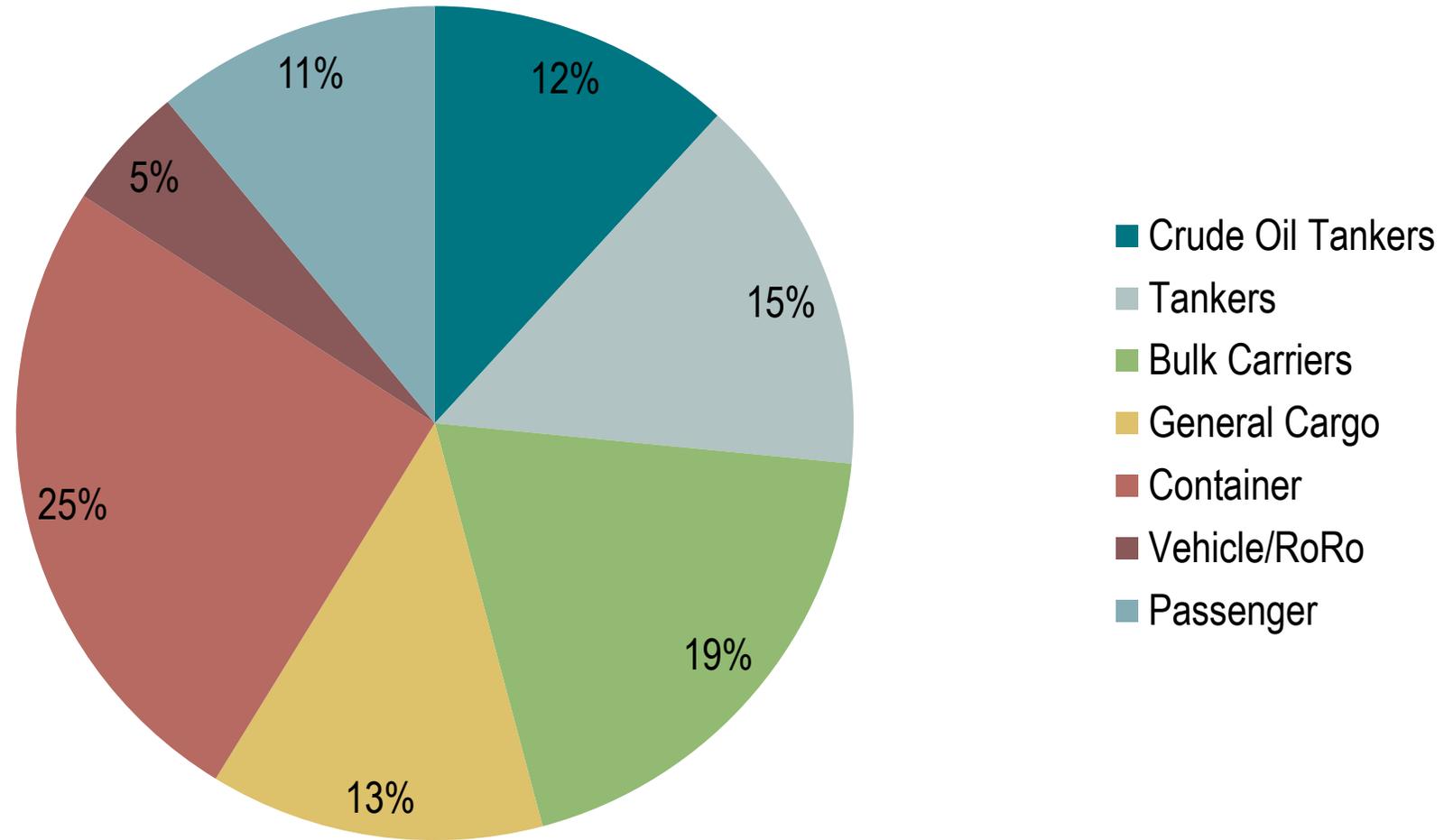
Gas Consumption Tax in the United States, 1999 (in \$ per mile per gallon per vehicle)



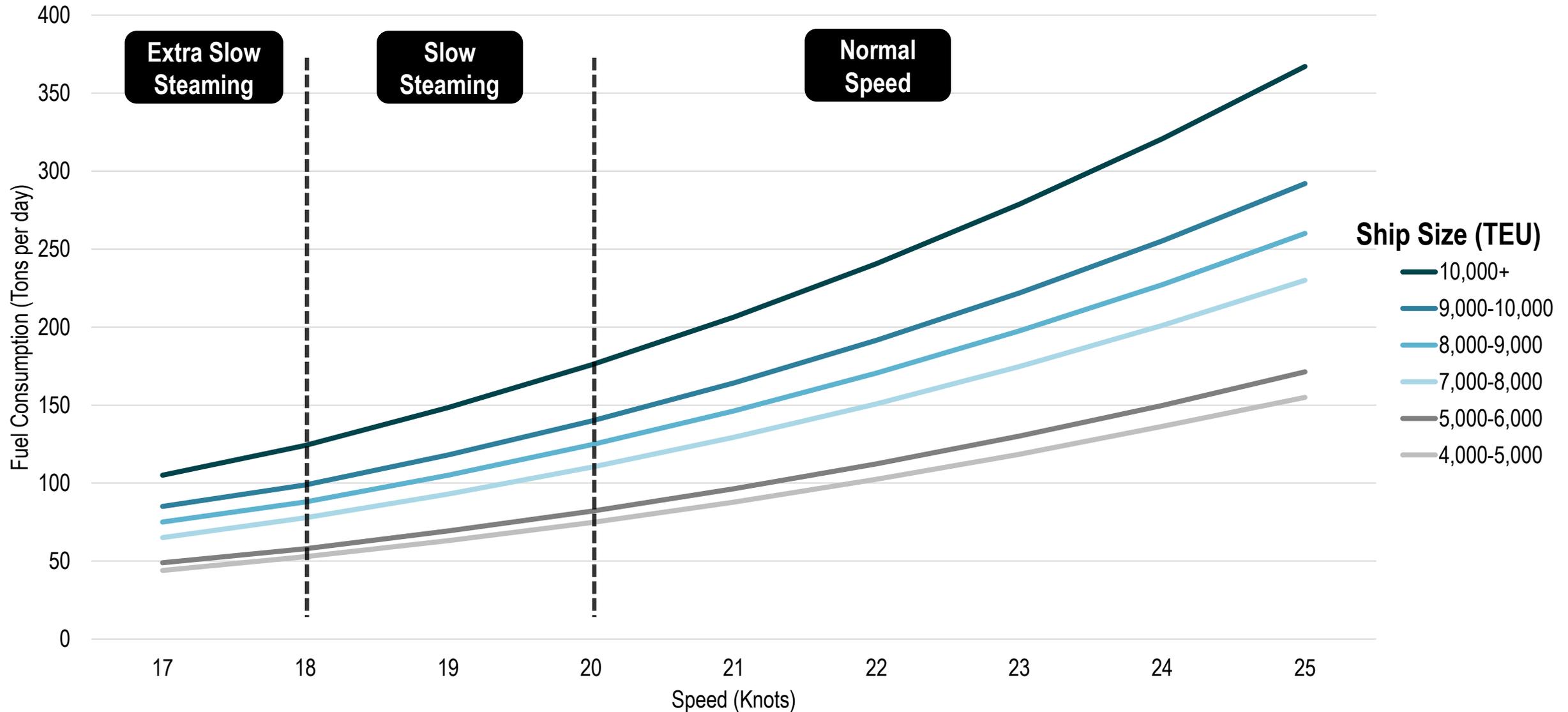
Bunker Fuel Spot Prices, Singapore FOB



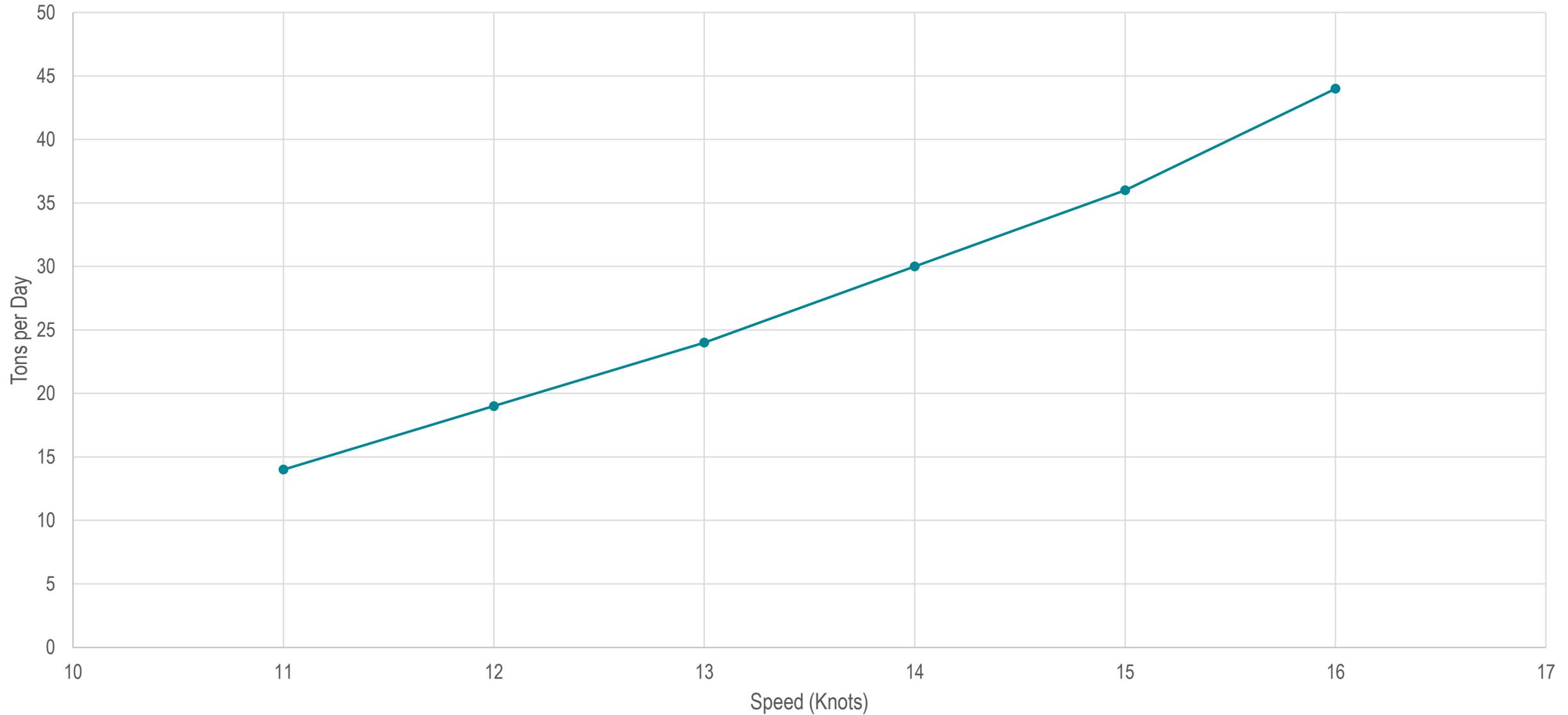
Fuel Consumption by Ship Category, 2007



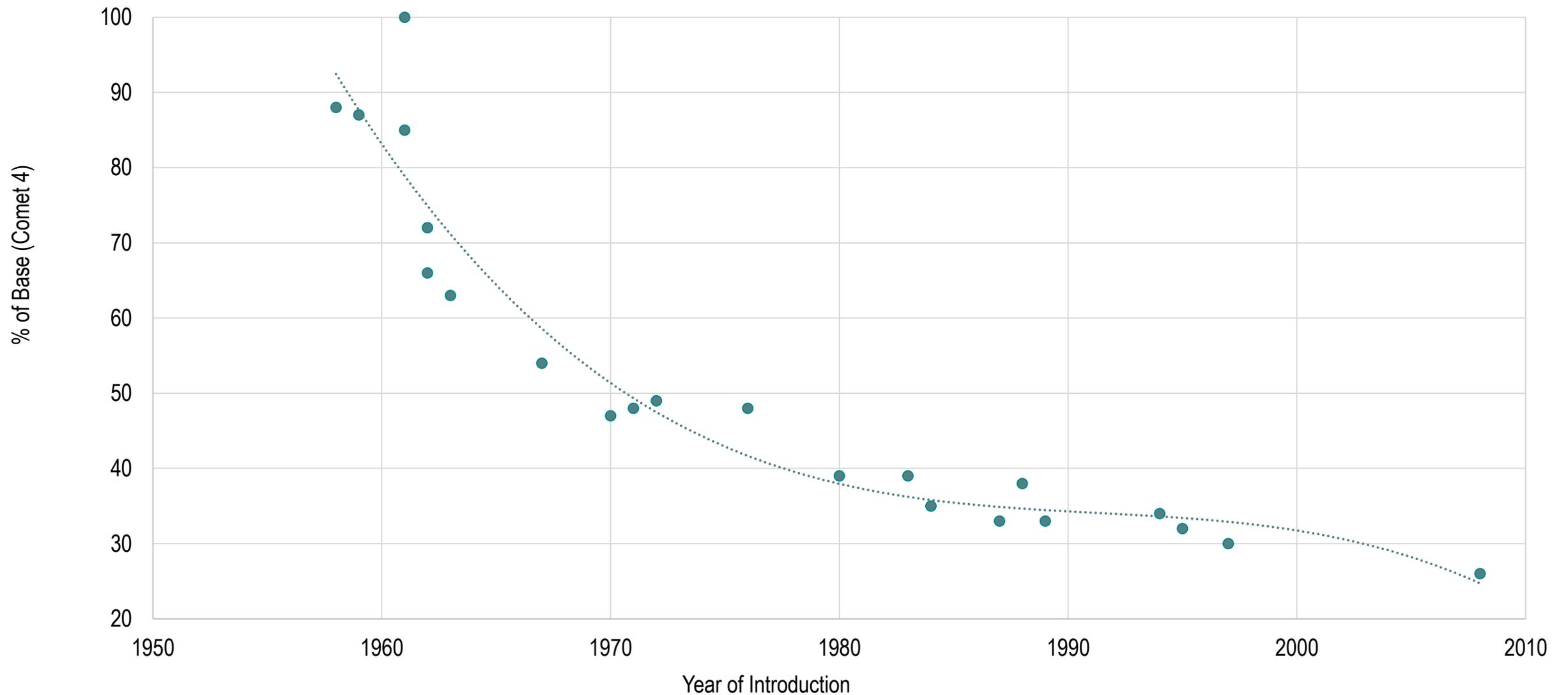
Fuel Consumption by Containership Size and Speed



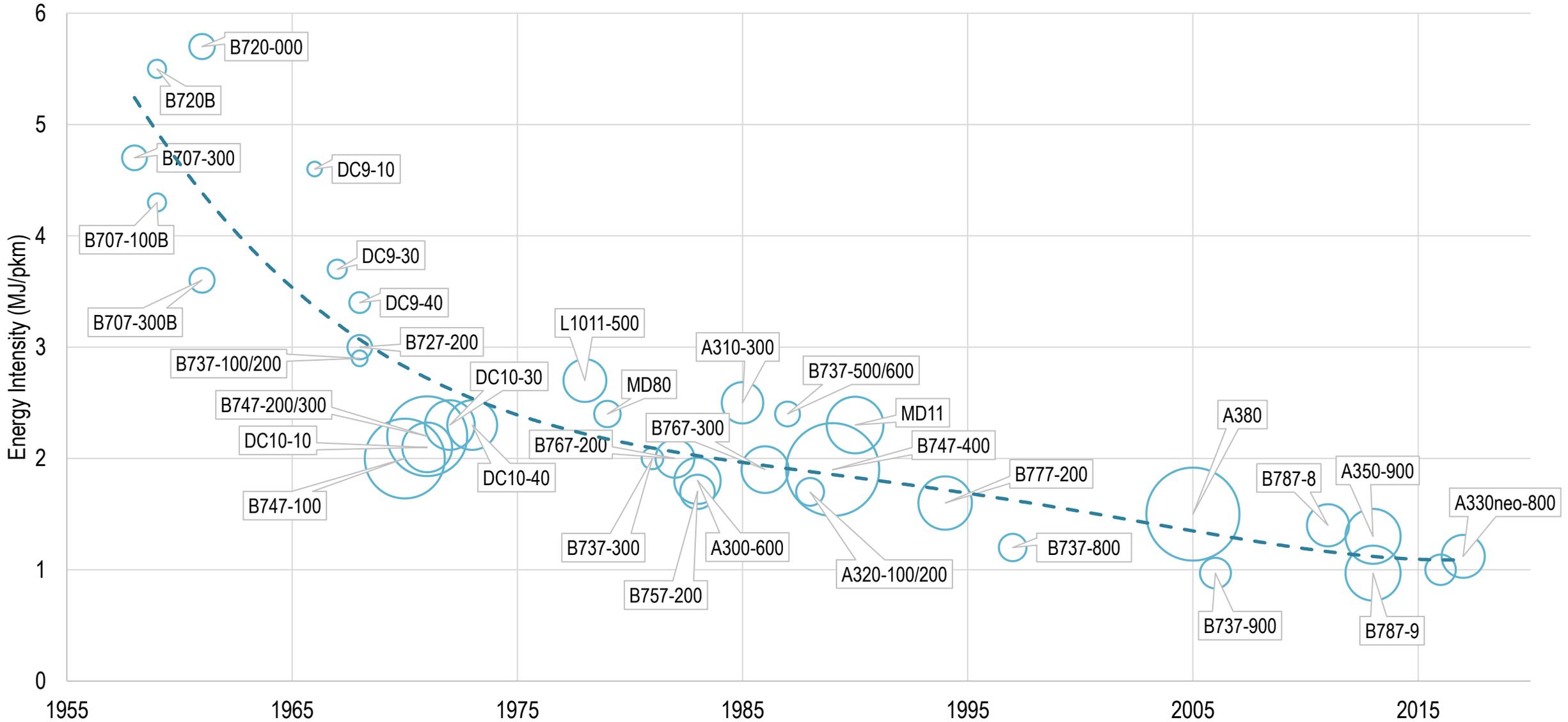
Effects of Speed on Fuel Consumption, Panamax Bulk Carrier



Trend in Aircraft Fuel Efficiency (Fuel burned per Seat)



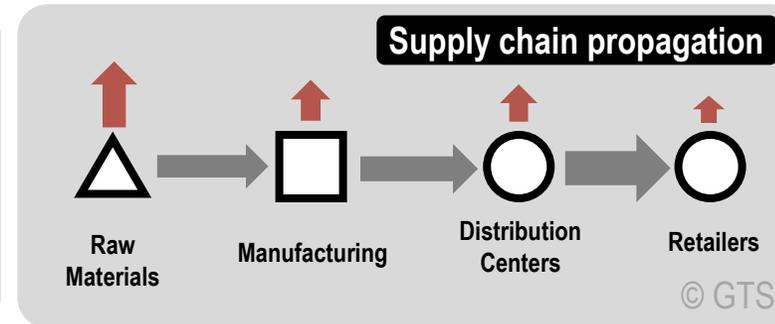
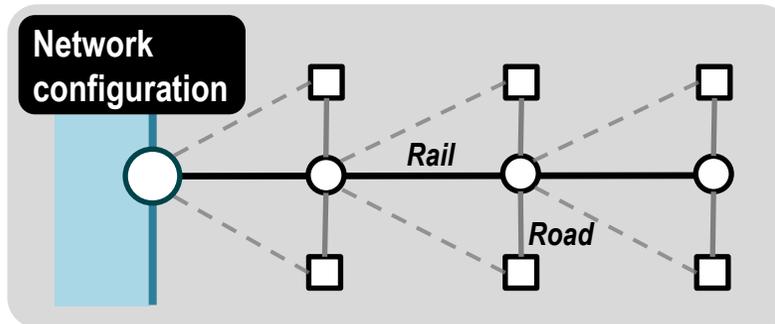
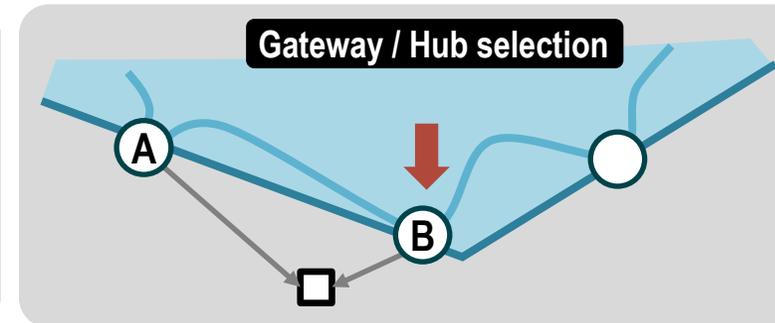
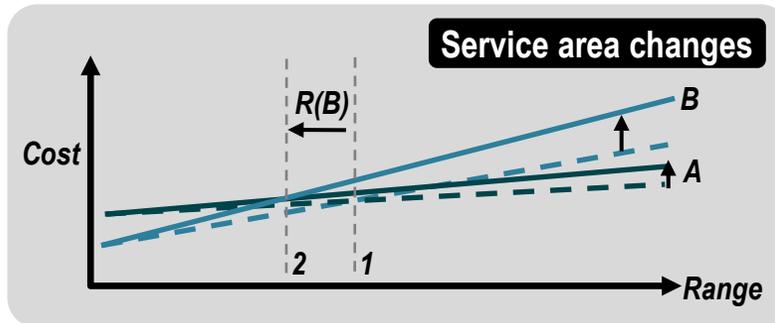
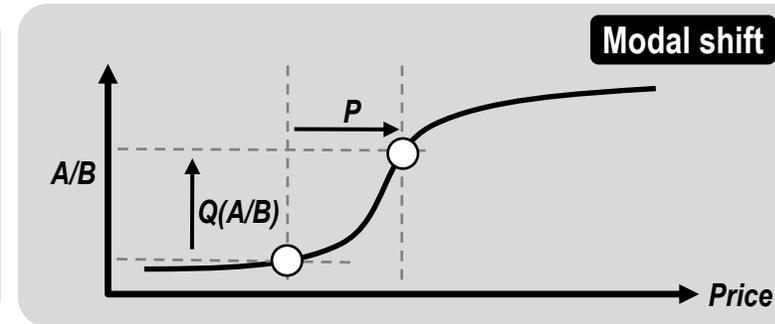
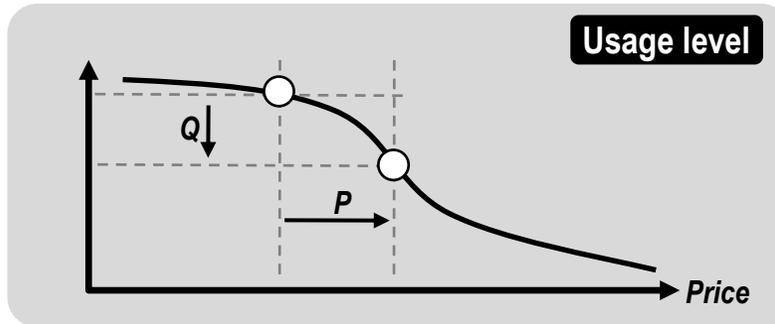
Trends in Fuel Efficiency, Selected Passenger Jet Planes



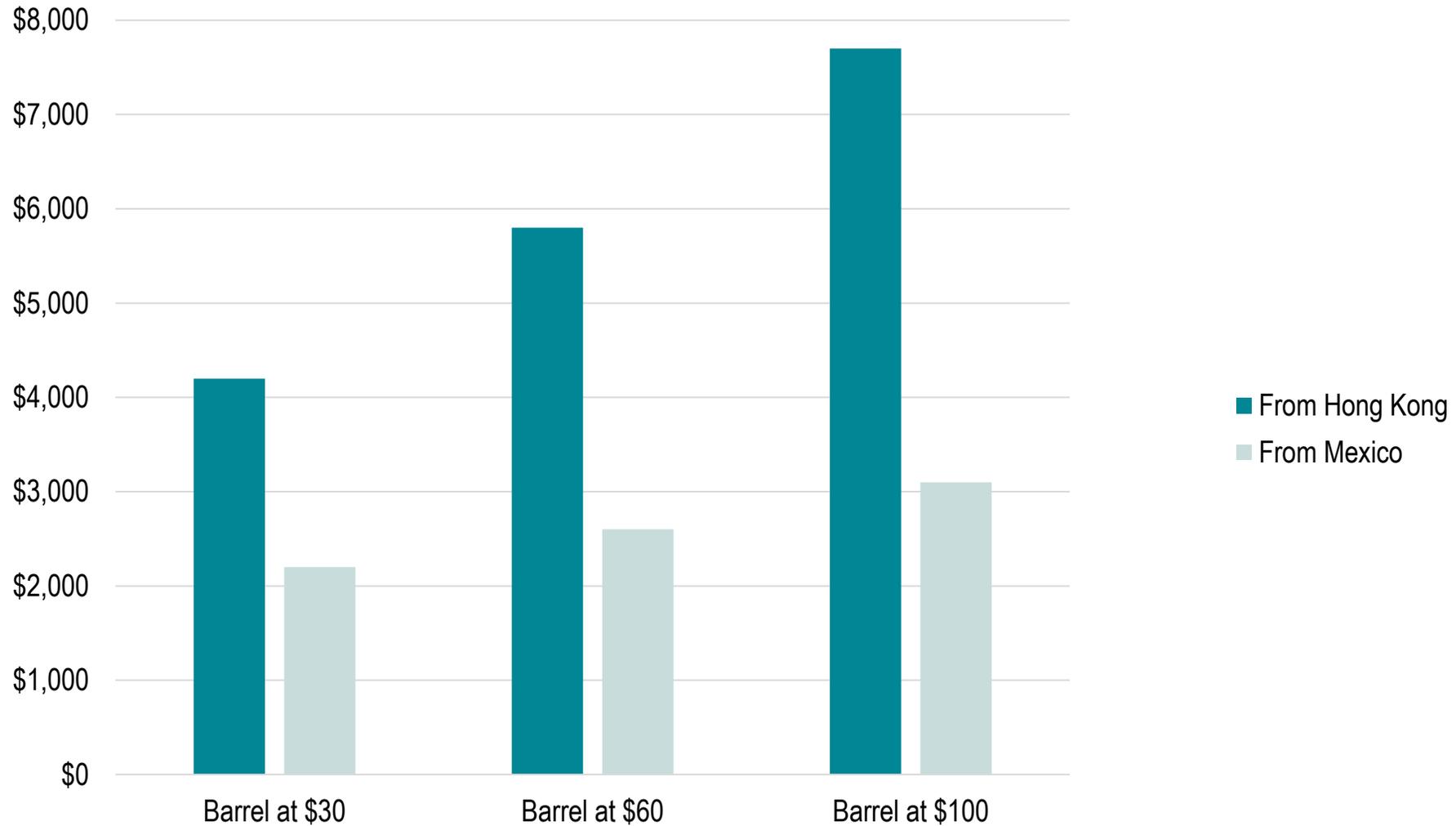
Potential to Reduce Energy Consumption in Air and Maritime Transportation

Sector	Category	Measure	Potential Improvements
Aviation	Operations	Advanced communications, navigation and surveillance (CNS) and air traffic management (ATM)	5%
	Airframe Design and Propulsion	More efficient turbofan engines, Unducted fan engines, Advanced lightweight materials, Improved aerodynamics, New airframe designs	30%
	Alternative Fuels	Medium term: Biofuels; Long term: Biofuels, Hydrogen	25%
Marine	Operations	Speed reduction, Optimized routing, Reduced port time	45%
	Ship Design and Propulsion	Novel hull coatings and propellers, Fuel efficiency optimization, Combined cycle operation, Multiple engines	35%
	Alternative Fuels and Power	Marine diesel oil (MDO), Liquefied natural gas (LNG), Wind power sails	40%

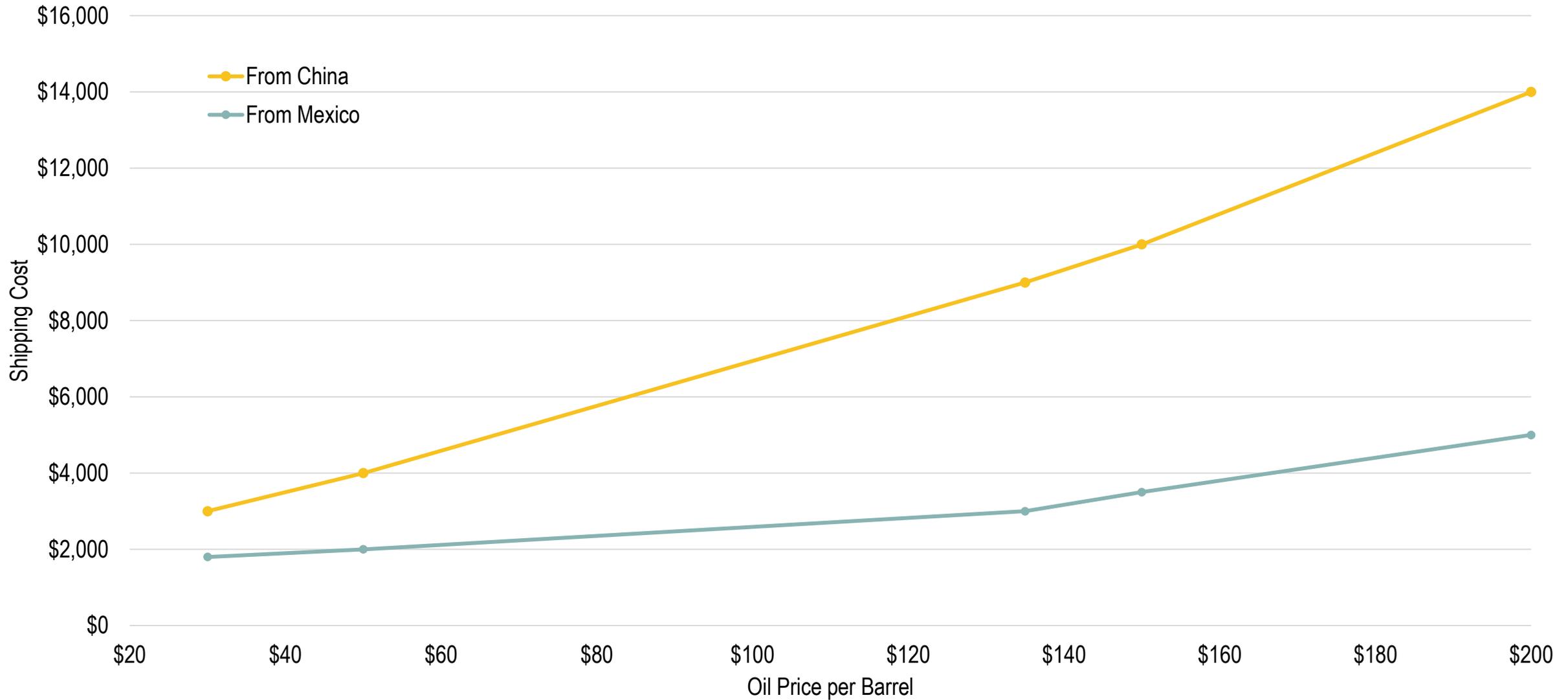
Potential Impacts of High Energy Prices on Transportation



Costs of Shipping a 40 foot Container to New York



Costs of Shipping a 40-foot Container to the American East Coast



The Geography of Transport Systems



Jean-Paul Rodrigue

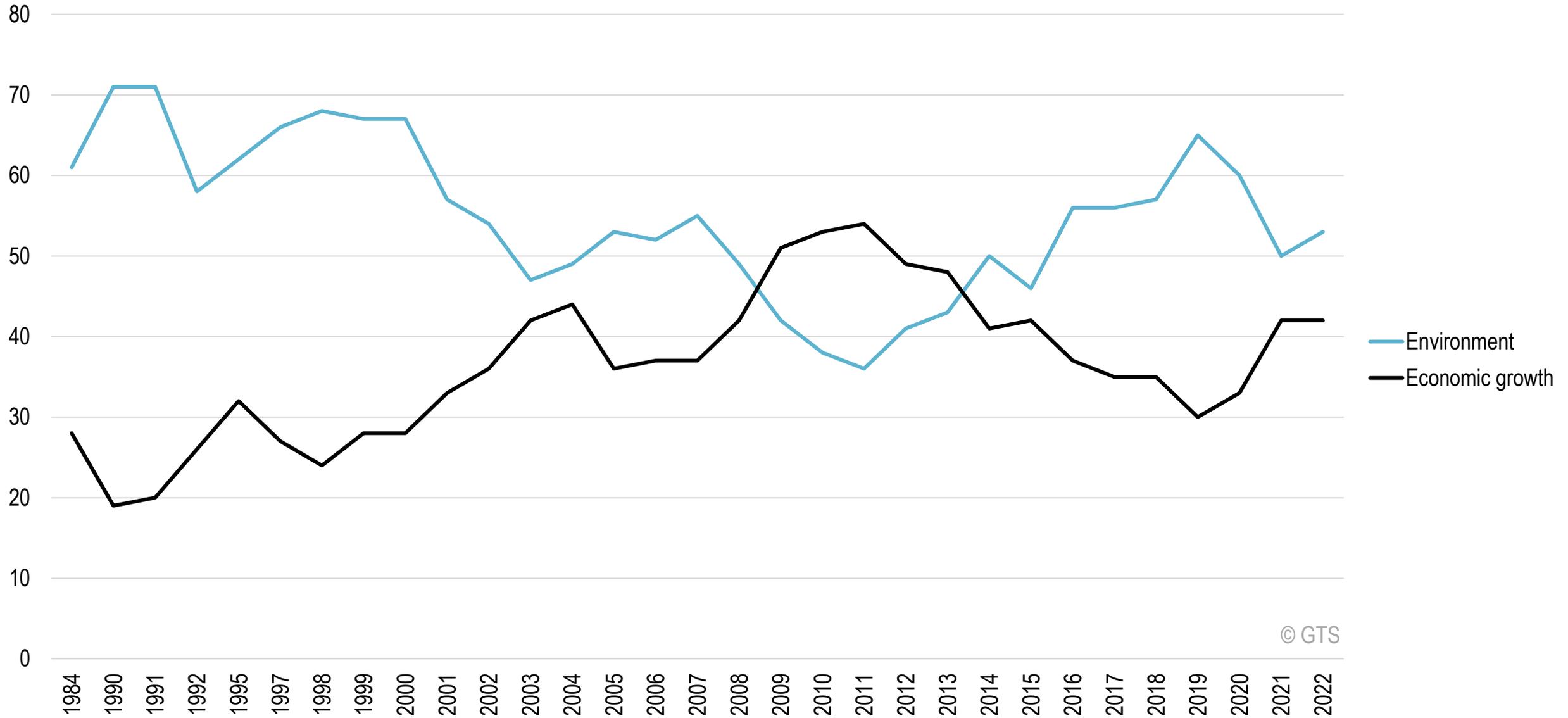
Sixth Edition



Transportation and the Environment

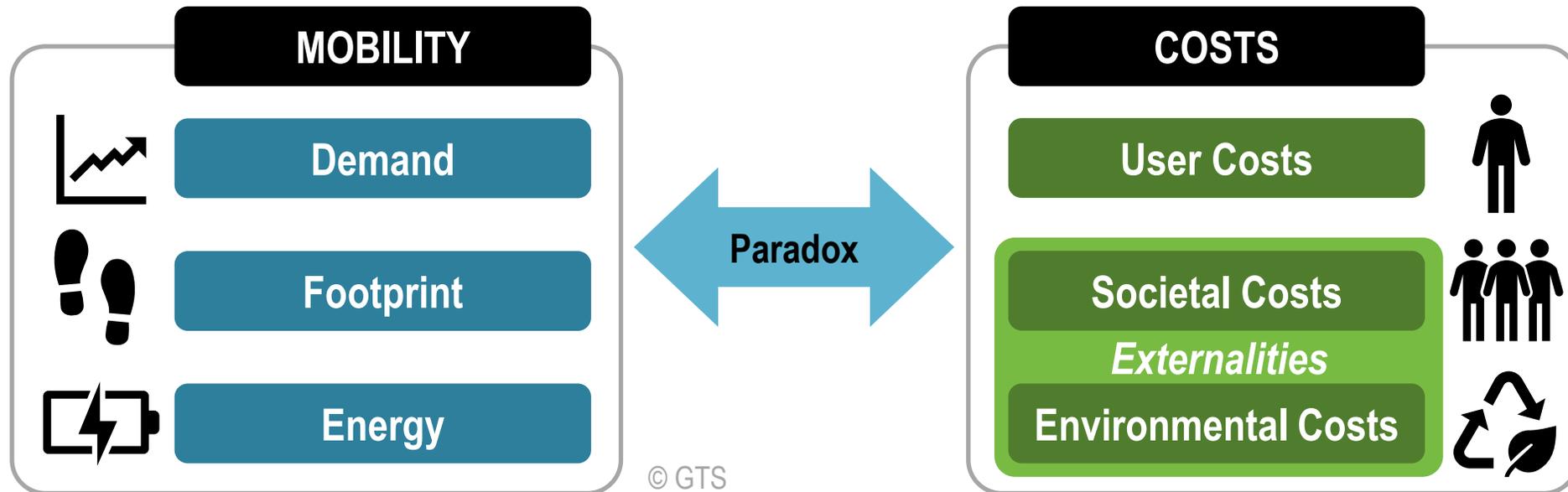
Chapter 4.2

Public Preferences for Priority between the Economy and the Environment, 1984-2022



© GTS

The Paradox of Mobility and its Costs



Environmental Costs Hierarchy



INTERNAL

- Material, labor, other expenses, and revenues that are commonly allocated to a product or process.
- Can easily be quantified (internalized).



COMPLIANCE

- Expenses incurred by and benefits to the firm not related to products or processes.
- Mostly concern compliance to regulations.



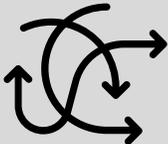
CONTINGENT

- Potential liability or benefit that depends on the occurrence of a future event.
- Assessed as a risk.



IMAGE

- Costs/benefits related to the subjective perceptions of a firm's stakeholders.
- Difficult to quantify.

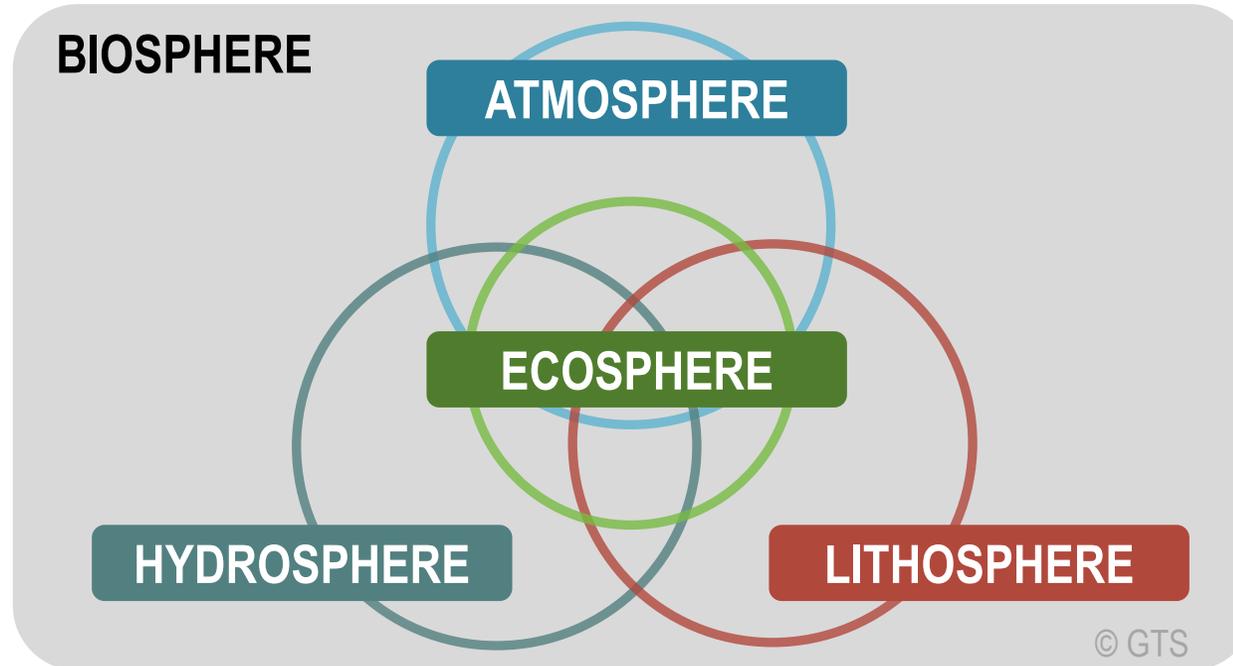


EXTERNAL

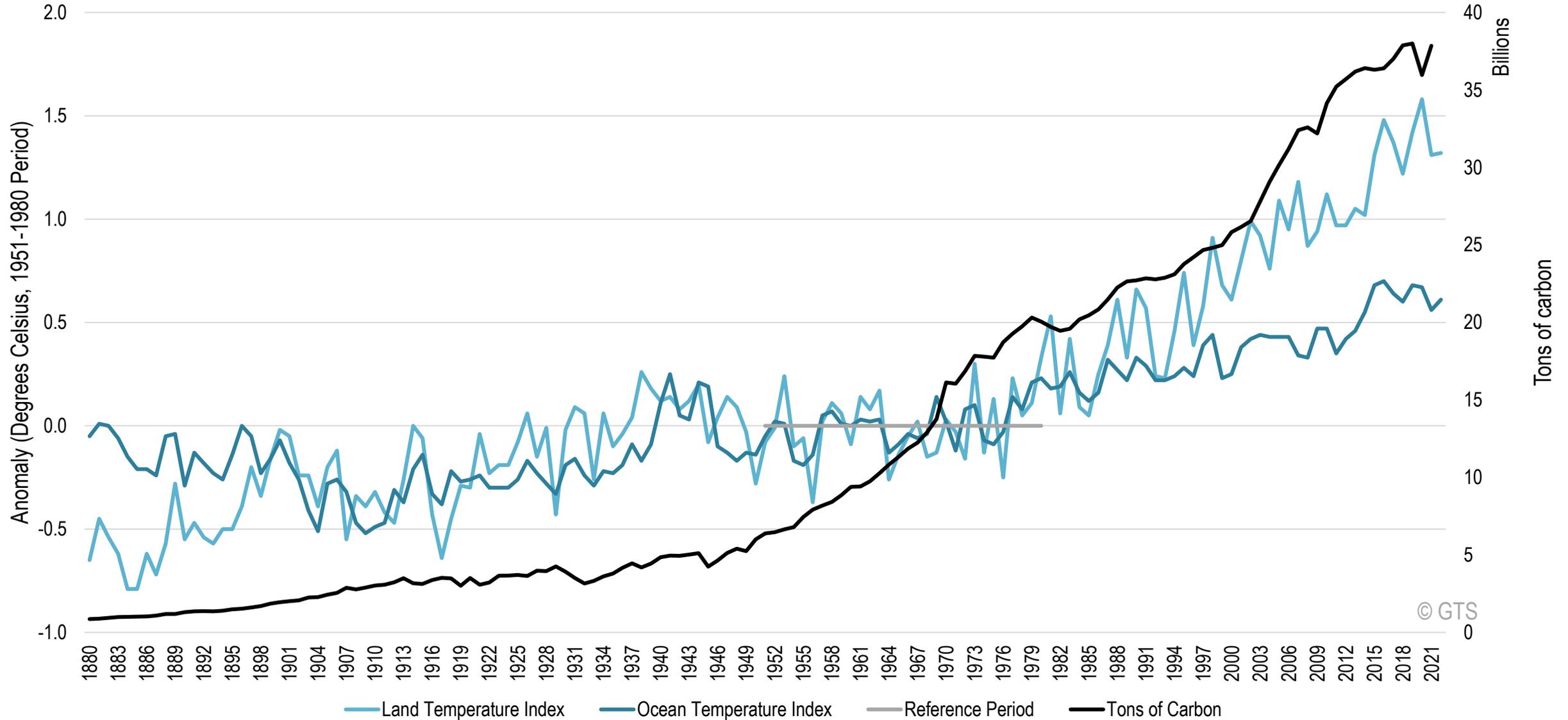
- Costs/benefits of a company's impacts upon the environment and society that do not directly accrue to the business.
- Difficult to quantify (externalized).

© GTS

The Environmental System

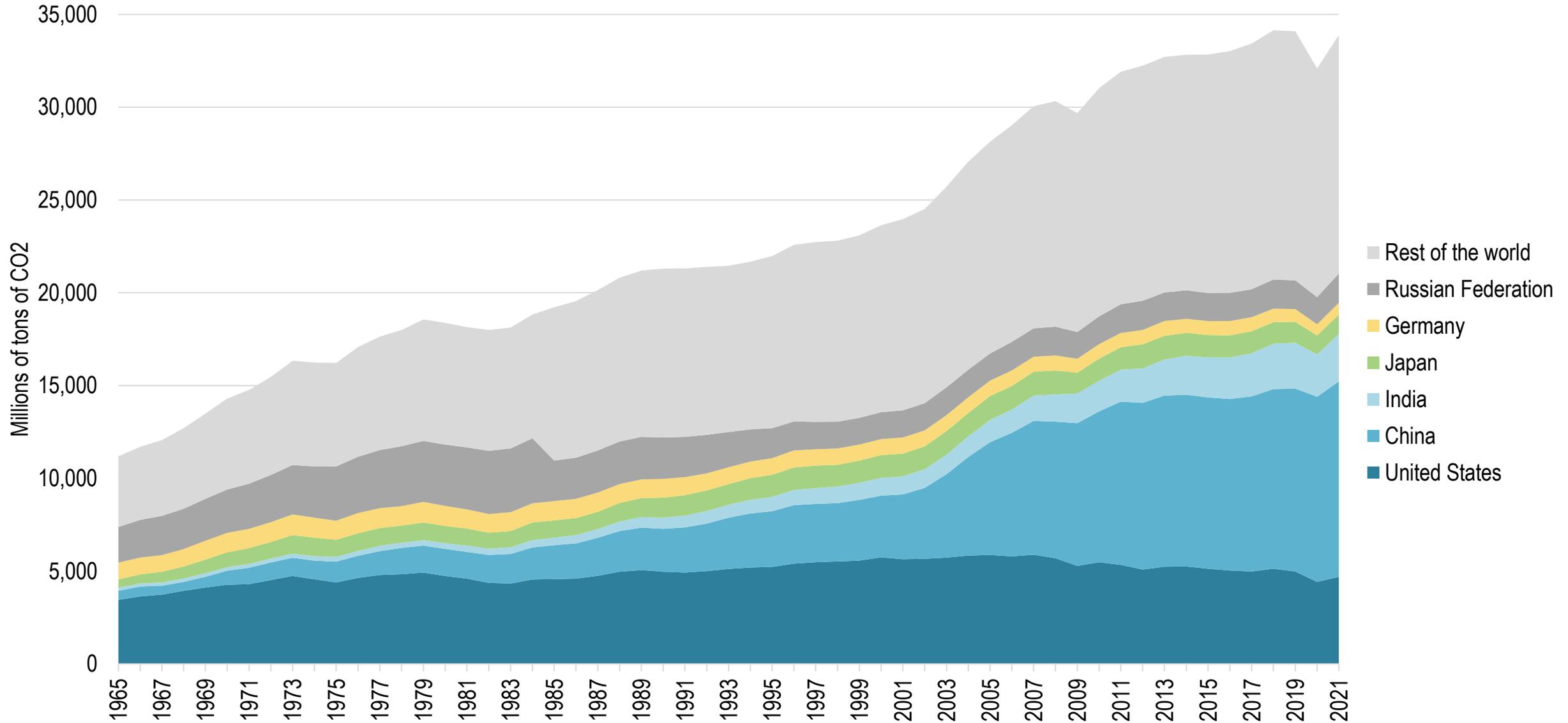


Average Global Temperature and Carbon Emissions from Fossil Fuel Burning, 1880-2022



© GTS

Carbon Emissions by Country, 1965-2021



The Environmental Relationships of Transportation Systems

1. ATMOSPHERE

- Large scale diffusion of pollutants.
- Concentration of pollutants because of local conditions (e.g. smog).
- Photochemical reactions caused by ultraviolet rays, notably over ozone, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide.
- Climate change.
- Acid rain.
- Synergetic effects when pollutants are combined (e.g. smog and greenhouse gases).

2. HYDROSPHERE

- Diffusion of pollutants in a dissolved or colloidal state.
- Acidification and loss of neutralizing potential of ground and underground water.
- Drops of pH following snow melting (aquatic organisms vulnerable).
- Growth in the solubility of several metals because of acidification.
- Additions of organic compounds, aluminum, manganese, calcium, magnesium, and potassium by runoffs.
- Contamination of ground and underground water by nitrates.

3. LITHOSPHERE

- Acid depositions.
- Liberation of toxic metallic ions (aluminum, cadmium, etc.) through acidification.
- Loss of nutrients, notably calcium and magnesium.
- Inhibition of the mineralization of nitrogen.
- Inhibition of decomposition.
- Loss of the soil flora and fauna.
- Fixation by plants of heavy metals (e.g. lead) and contamination.
- Land footprint.
- Extraction of raw materials like minerals and energy.

4. ECOSPHERE

4.1 AQUATIC ECOSPHERE

- Unforeseen alterations of ecosystems.
- Disappearance of vulnerable species and proliferation of tolerant ones.
- Reduction of bacterial treatment of organic matter by nitrification.
- Reduction of available nutrients to aquatic species.
- Reproductive impediments.

4.2 LAND ECOSPHERE

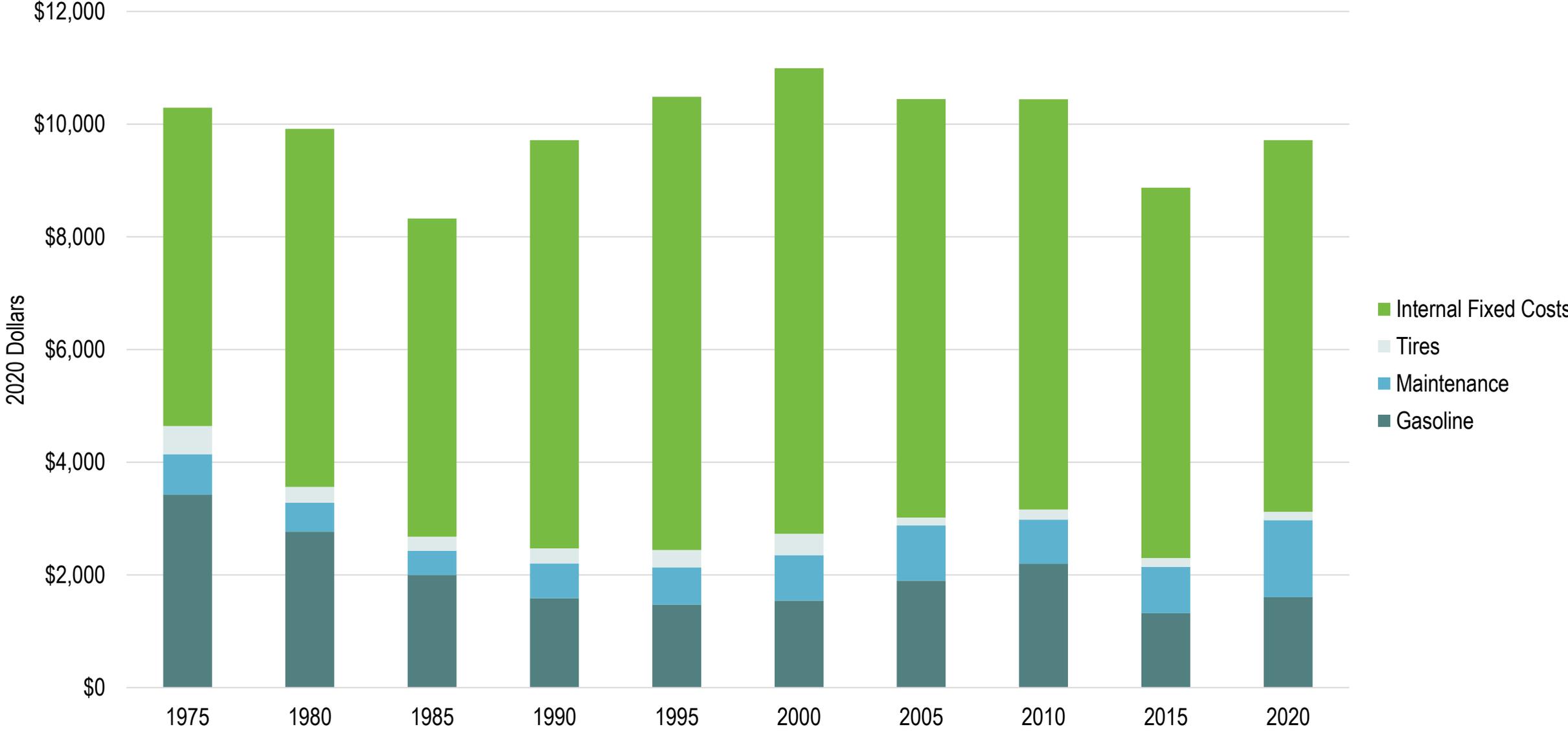
- Damages over the vegetation modifying:
 - Hydrological cycles.
 - Level of underground water resources.
 - Soil erosion.
 - Air purification capacity of the ecosphere.
 - Food sources (agriculture).
 - Entertainment and tourism.
- Reduction of ecological ranges.
- Reduction of the genetic potential of species.
- Reduction of the food supply and alteration of the food chain.
- Consumption of resources.

4.3 HUMAN ECOSPHERE

- Odors.
- Noise.
- Cardiovascular and respiratory problems.
- Susceptibility to infection.
- Drops in life expectancy.
- Injuries, incapacity, hospitalization, death.
- Damage to structures:
 - Loss of useful life (amortization).
 - Loss of property values.
 - Corrosion of metal structures (bronze, steel, etc.).
 - Destruction of historical and cultural monuments.

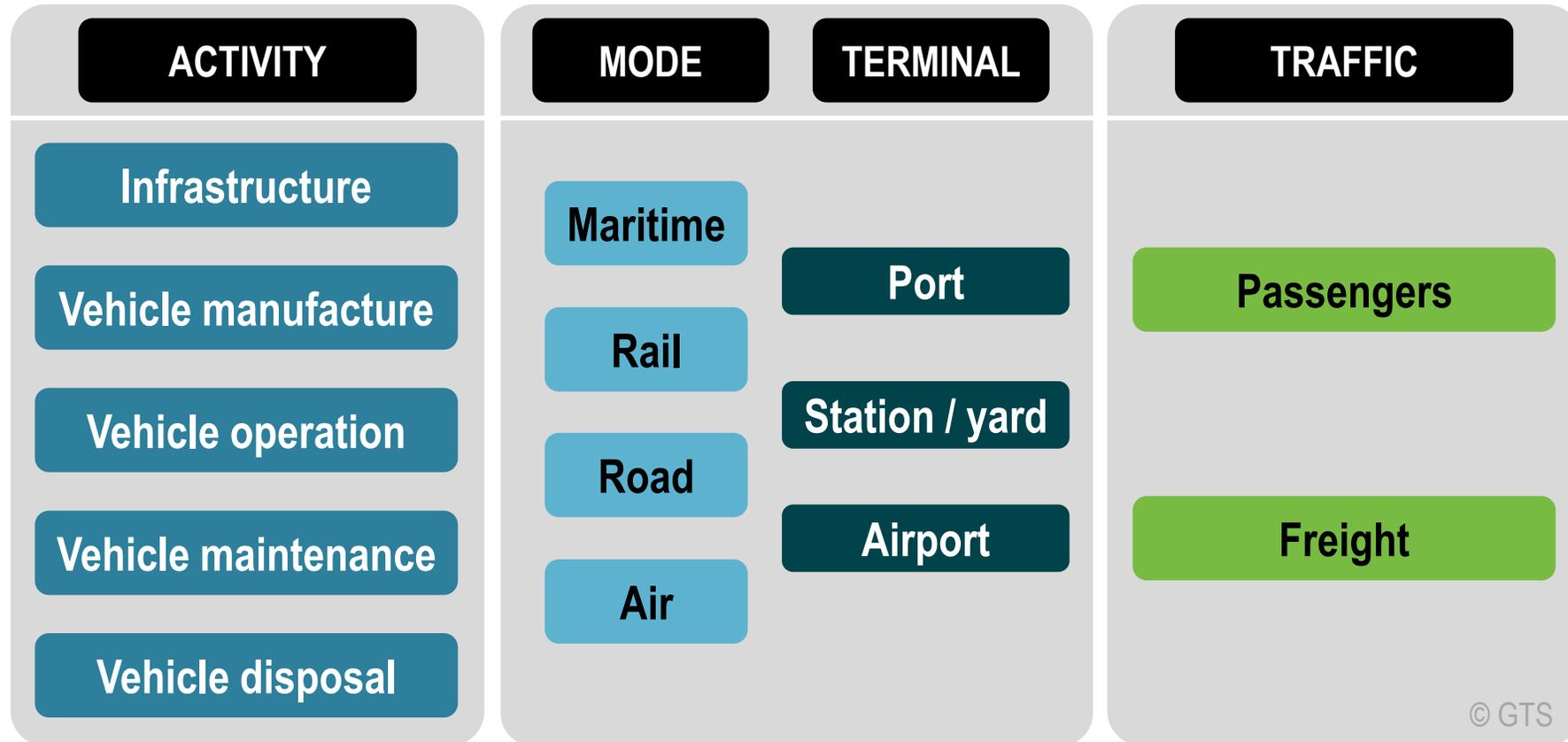
© GTS

Average Cost of Owning and Operating an Automobile, 1975-2020

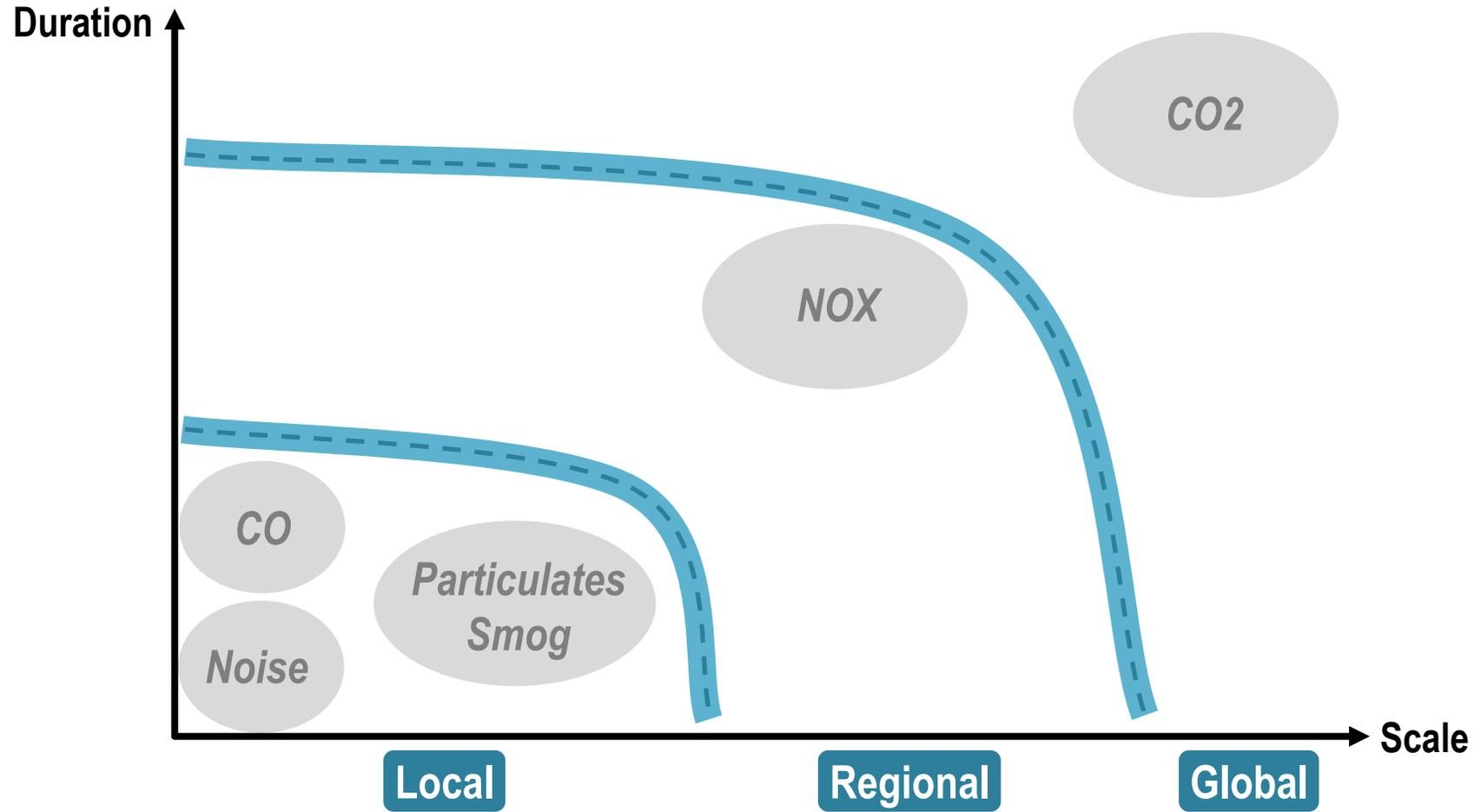


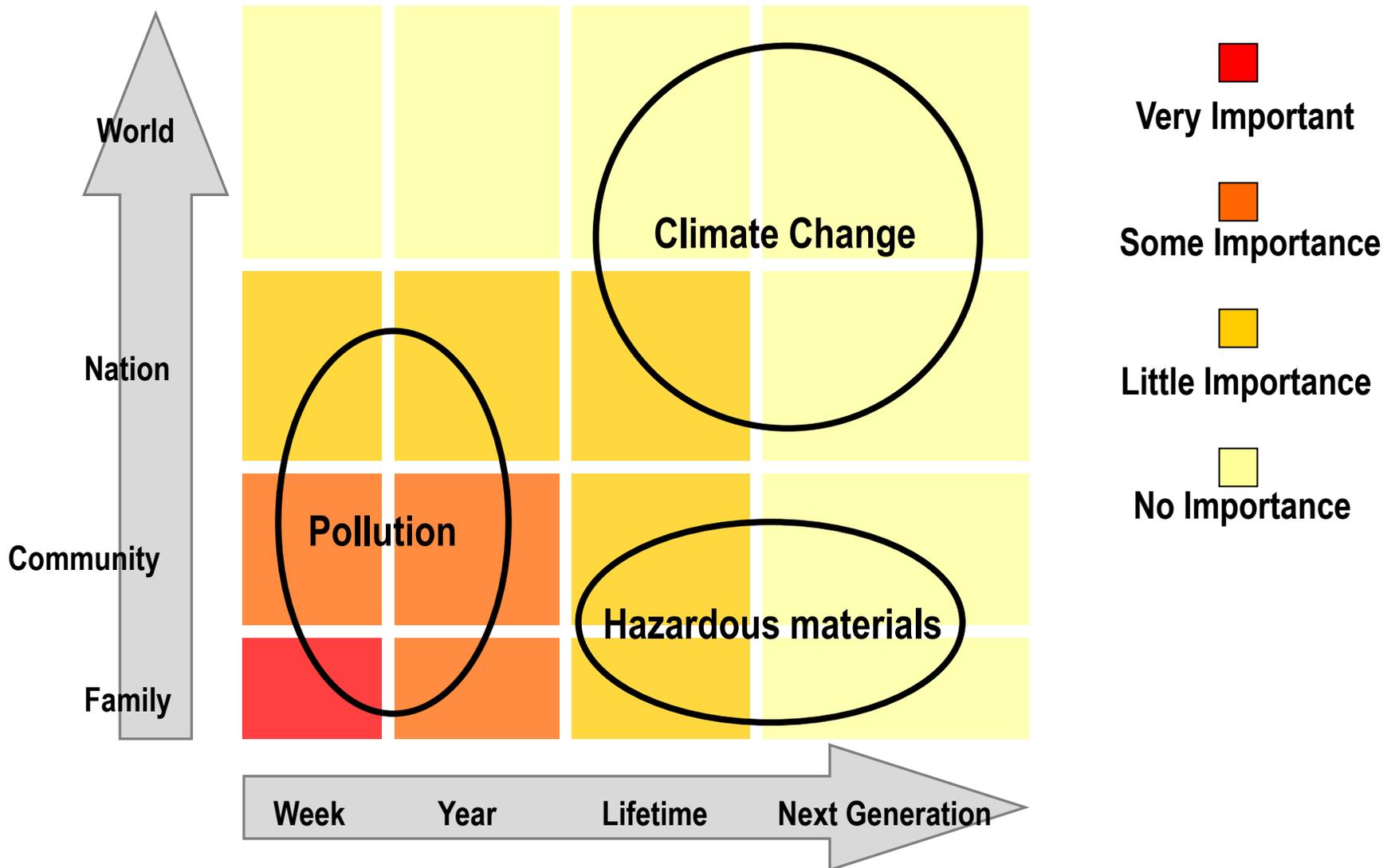
Copyright © 1998-2024, Dr. Jean-Paul Rodrigue, Dept. of Maritime Business Administration, Texas A&M University. For personal or classroom use ONLY. This material (including graphics) is not public domain and cannot be published, in whole or in part, in ANY form (printed or electronic) and on any media without consent. This includes conference presentations. Permission MUST be requested prior to use.

Transportation Activities Affecting the Environment

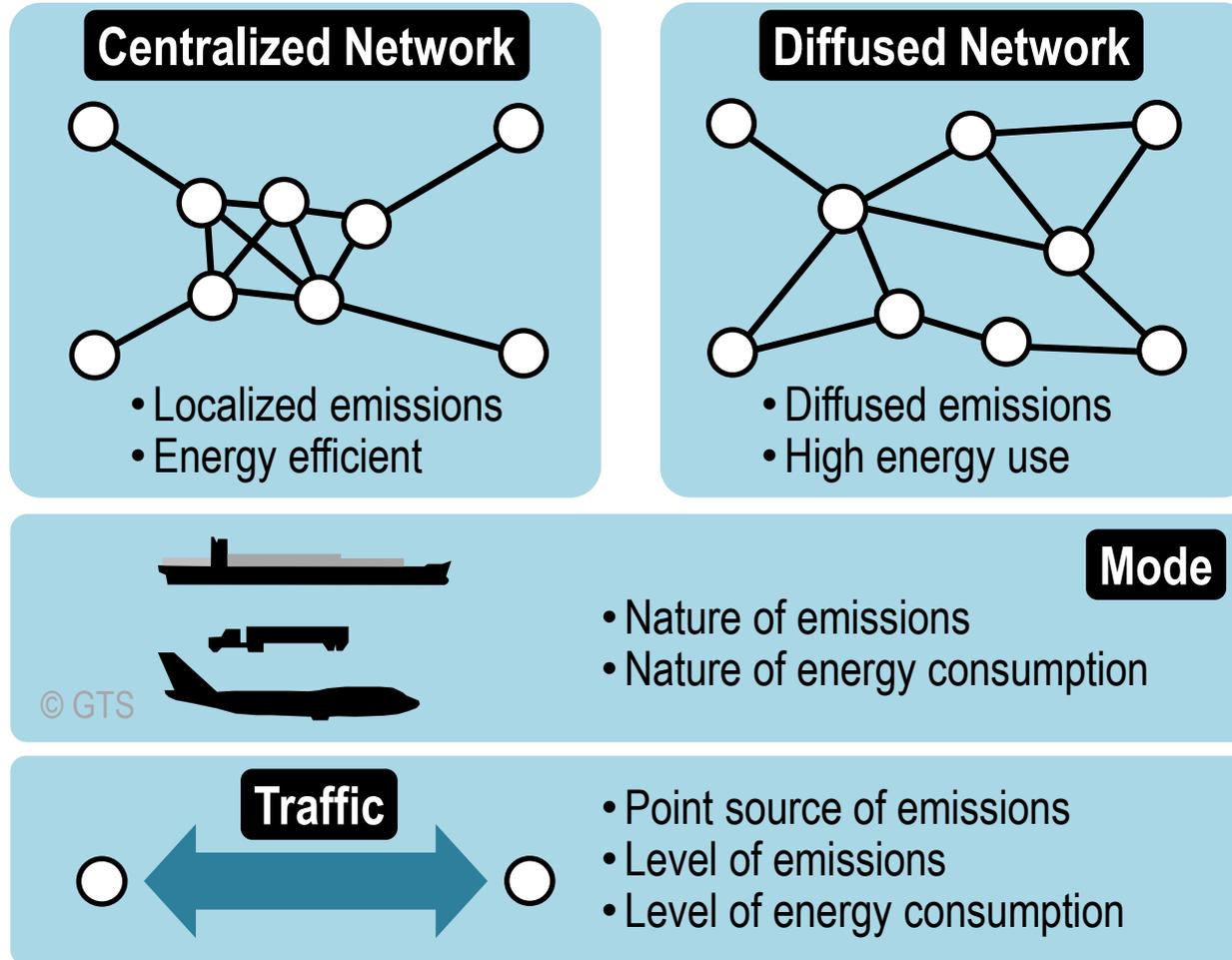


Spatial and Durational Environmental Effects of Selected Environmental Externalities



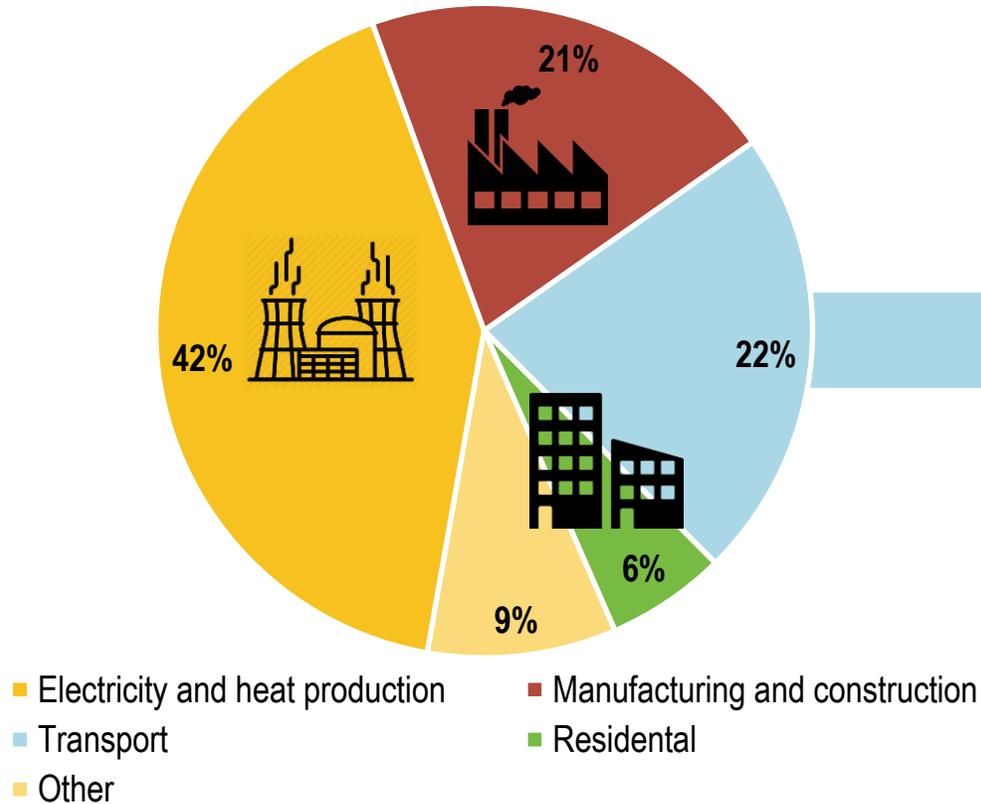


Transportation Systems and the Environment

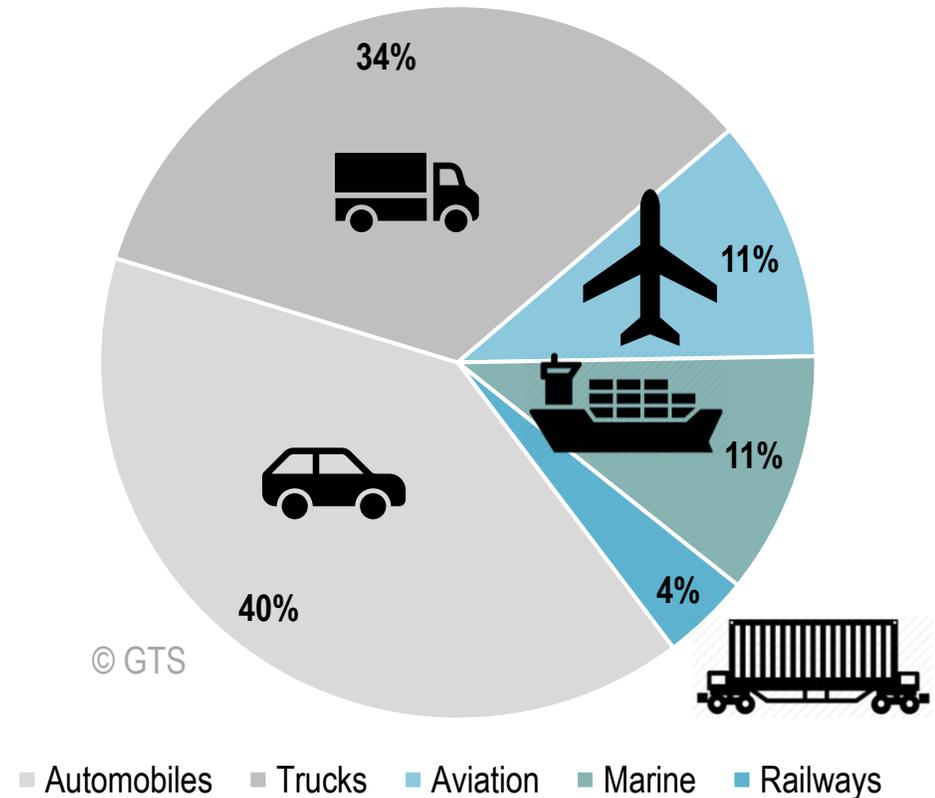


Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions by the Transportation Sector

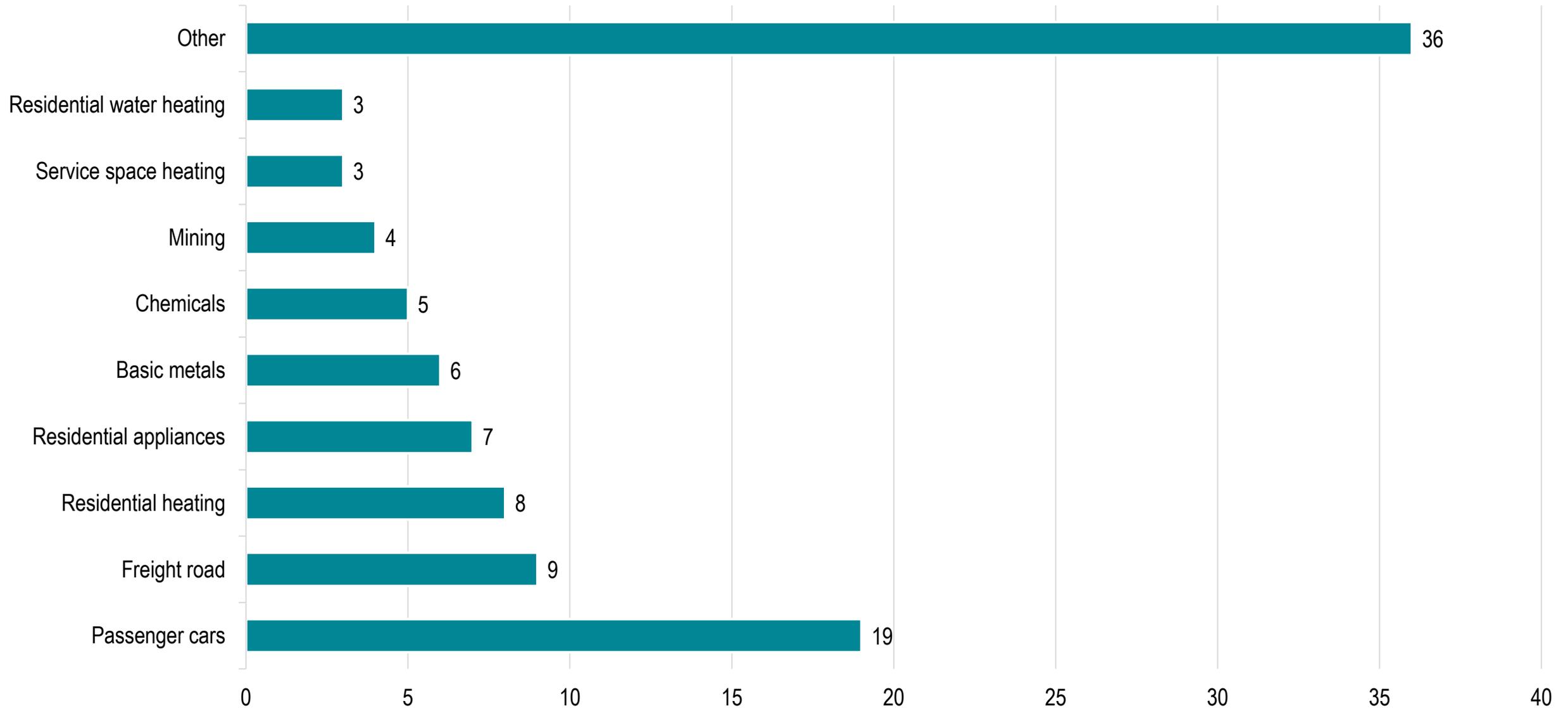
CO2 Emissions by Economic Sector



CO2 Emissions by the Transport Sector



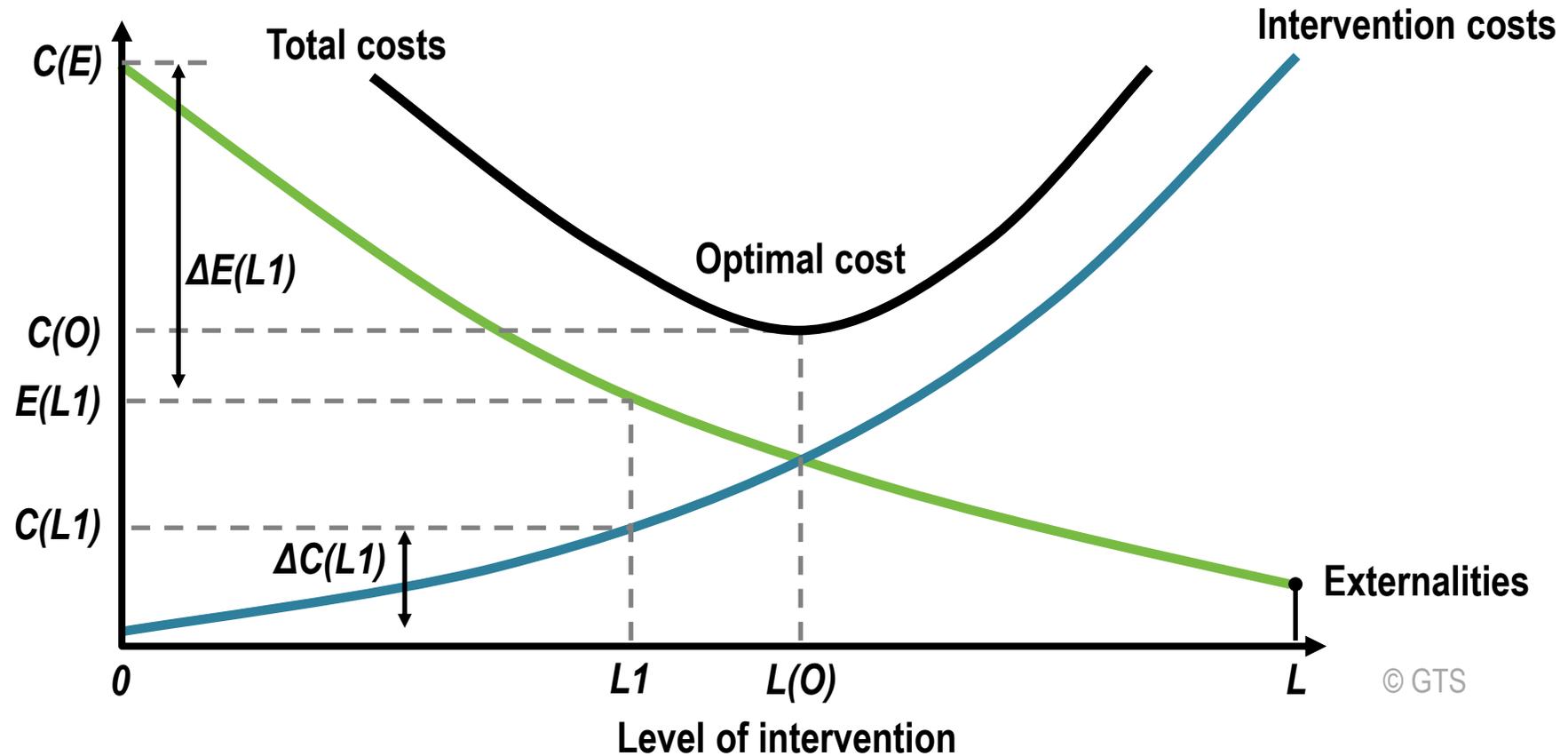
Top 10 CO2 Emitting Sources, 2014 (in % of total emissions)



Major Oil Spills Since 1967

Ship name	Year	Location	Spill Size (tons)
Atlantic Empress	1979	Off Tobago, West Indies	287,000
ABT Summer	1991	700 nautical miles off Angola	260,000
Castillo de Bellver	1983	Off Saldanha Bay, South Africa	252,000
Amoco Cadiz	1978	Off Brittany, France	223,000
Haven	1991	Genoa, Italy	144,000
Odyssey	1988	700 nautical miles off Nova Scotia, Canada	132,000
Torrey Canyon	1967	Scilly Isles, UK	119,000
Sea Star	1972	Gulf of Oman	115,000
Irenes Serenade	1980	Navarino Bay, Greece	100,000
Urquiola	1976	La Coruna, Spain	100,000
Hawaiian Patriot	1977	300 nautical miles off Honolulu	95,000
Independenta	1979	Bosporus, Turkey	95,000
Jakob Maersk	1975	Oporto, Portugal	88,000
Braer	1993	Shetland Islands, UK	85,000
Khark 5	1989	120 nautical miles off Atlantic coast of Morocco	80,000
Aegean Sea	1992	La Coruna, Spain	74,000
Sea Empress	1996	Milford Haven, UK	72,000
Katina P	1992	Off Maputo, Mozambique	72,000
Nova	1985	Off Kharg Island, Gulf of Iran	70,000
Prestige	2002	Off Galicia, Spain	63,000
Exxon Valdez	1989	Prince William Sound, Alaska, USA	37,000

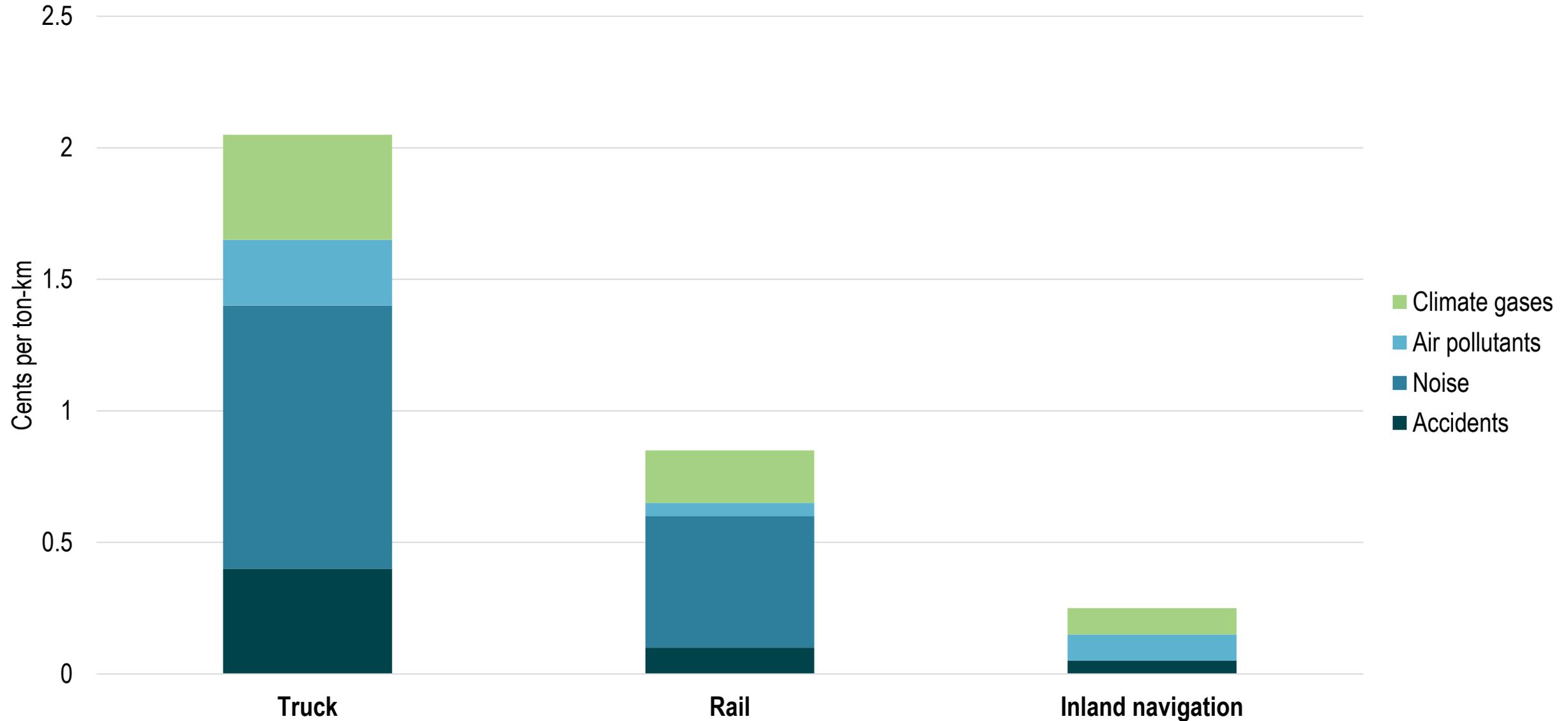
The Concept of Externalities



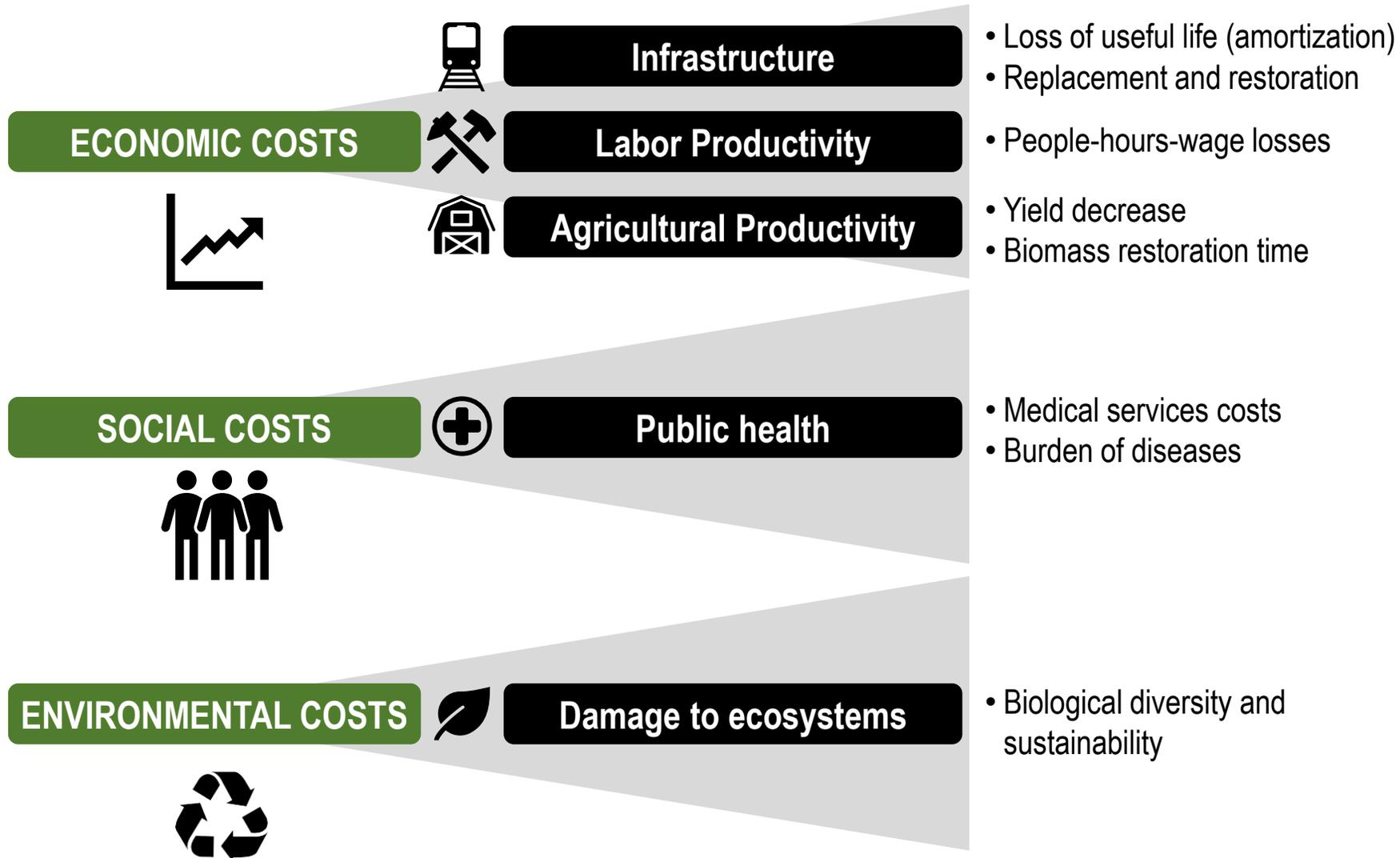
Environmental Externalities Generated by Transportation

	Supra and infrastructure	<p>Vehicle emissions; CO2 (30%), CO (70-90%), SO2 (5%), NOx (45-50%), HC/VOC (40-50%), Particulates (25%), O3 (indirect), Smog (indirect), Acid rain (10-30%), CFCs (20%), Lead (5%)</p>
	Labor Productivity	
	Agricultural Productivity	
	Commercial fishing	<p>Air pollution fallouts, Marine vessels discharges and spills, De-icing of infrastructure, Runoffs, Construction and maintenance of infrastructure, Dredging (80%)</p>
	Recreational facilities	
	Water purification	
	Accidents/Spills	<p>Marine vessels spills, Accidental and intentional releases (Hazmat); Road (84%), Rail (12%), Air (3%) and Maritime (1%)</p>
	Property values	<p>Vehicle emissions; Road (70%), Rail (10%) and Air (20%)</p>
	Public health	<p>Vehicle emissions, During transport © GTS</p>
	Damage to ecosystems	<p>Vehicle emissions, during transport, Infrastructure</p>

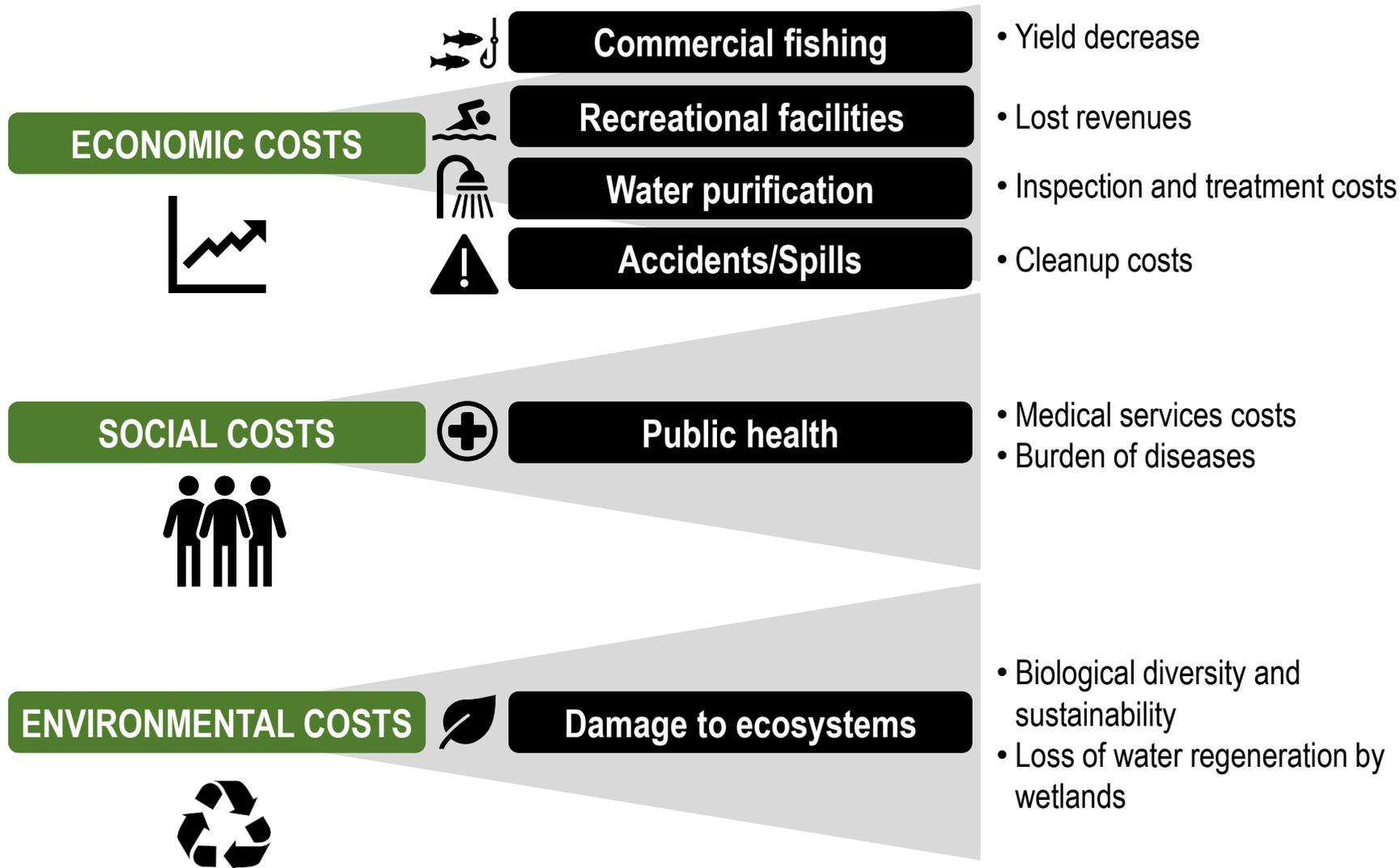
External Costs for Bulk Transportation



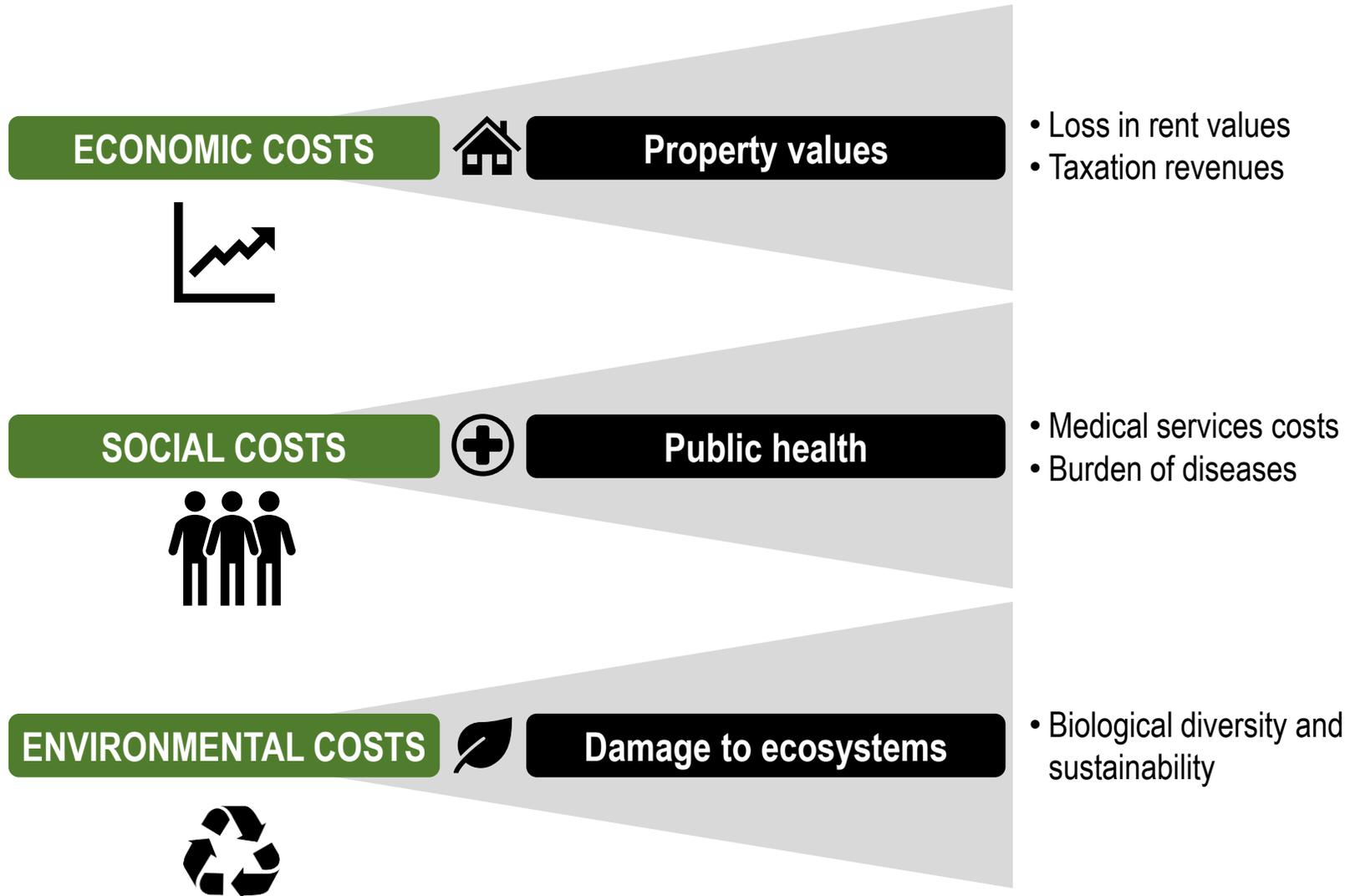
Externalities of Air Pollution



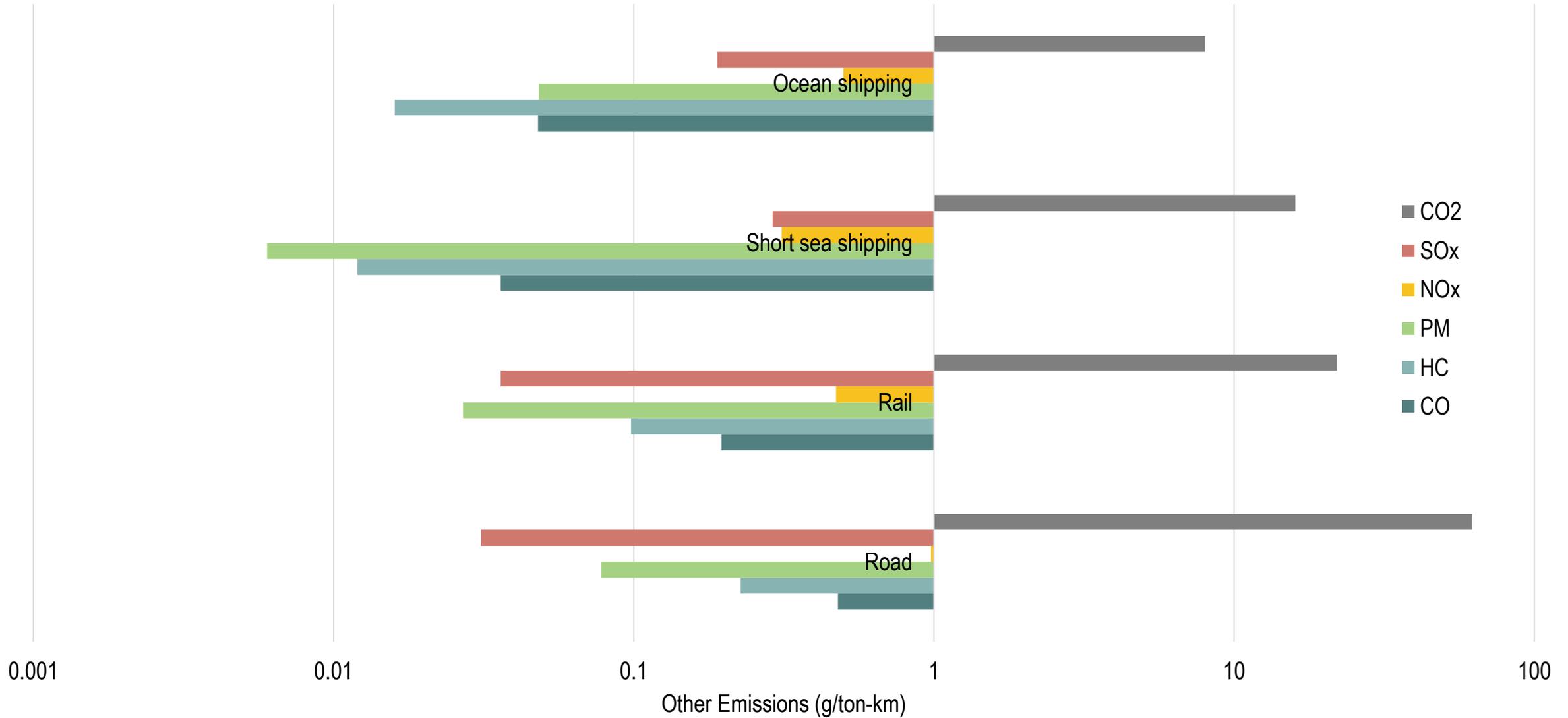
Externalities of Water Pollution



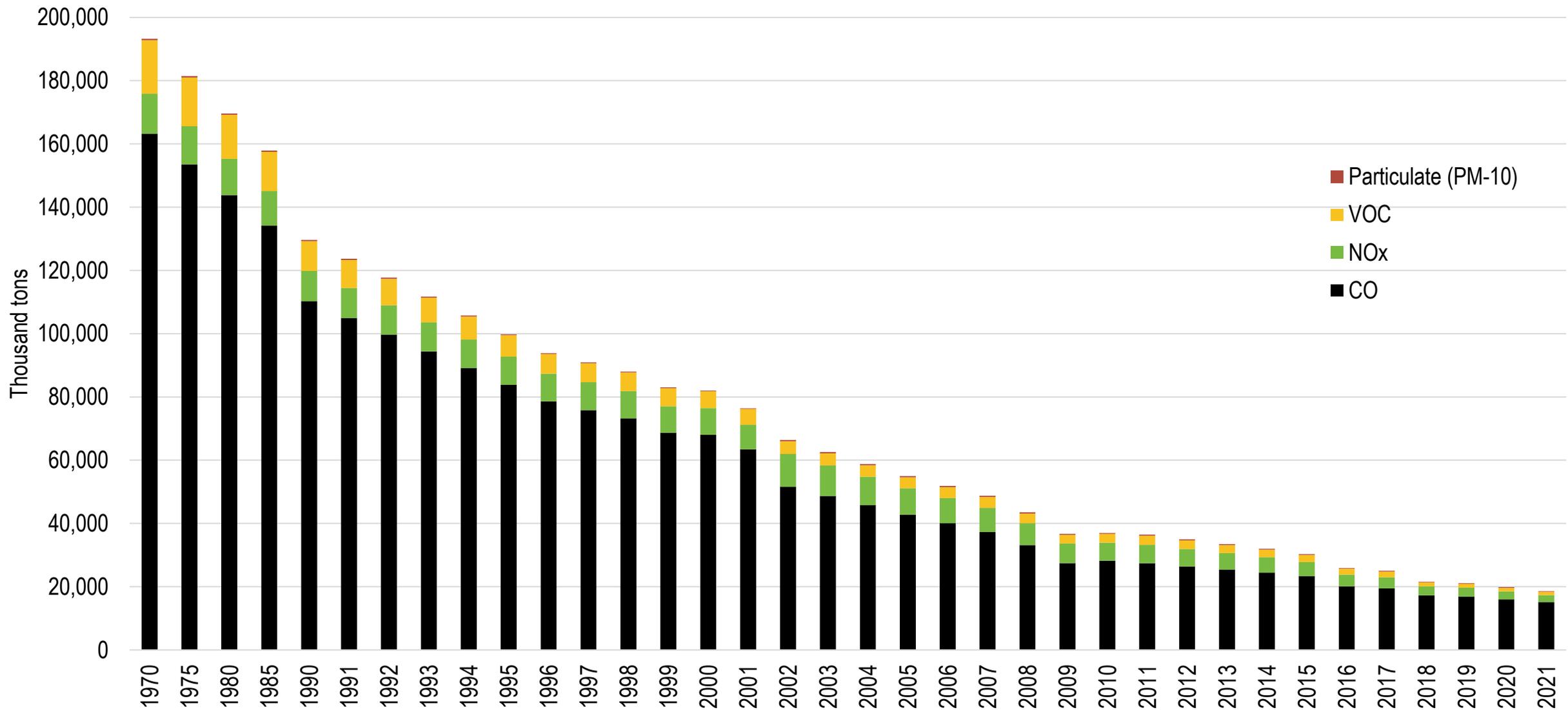
Externalities of Noise Pollution



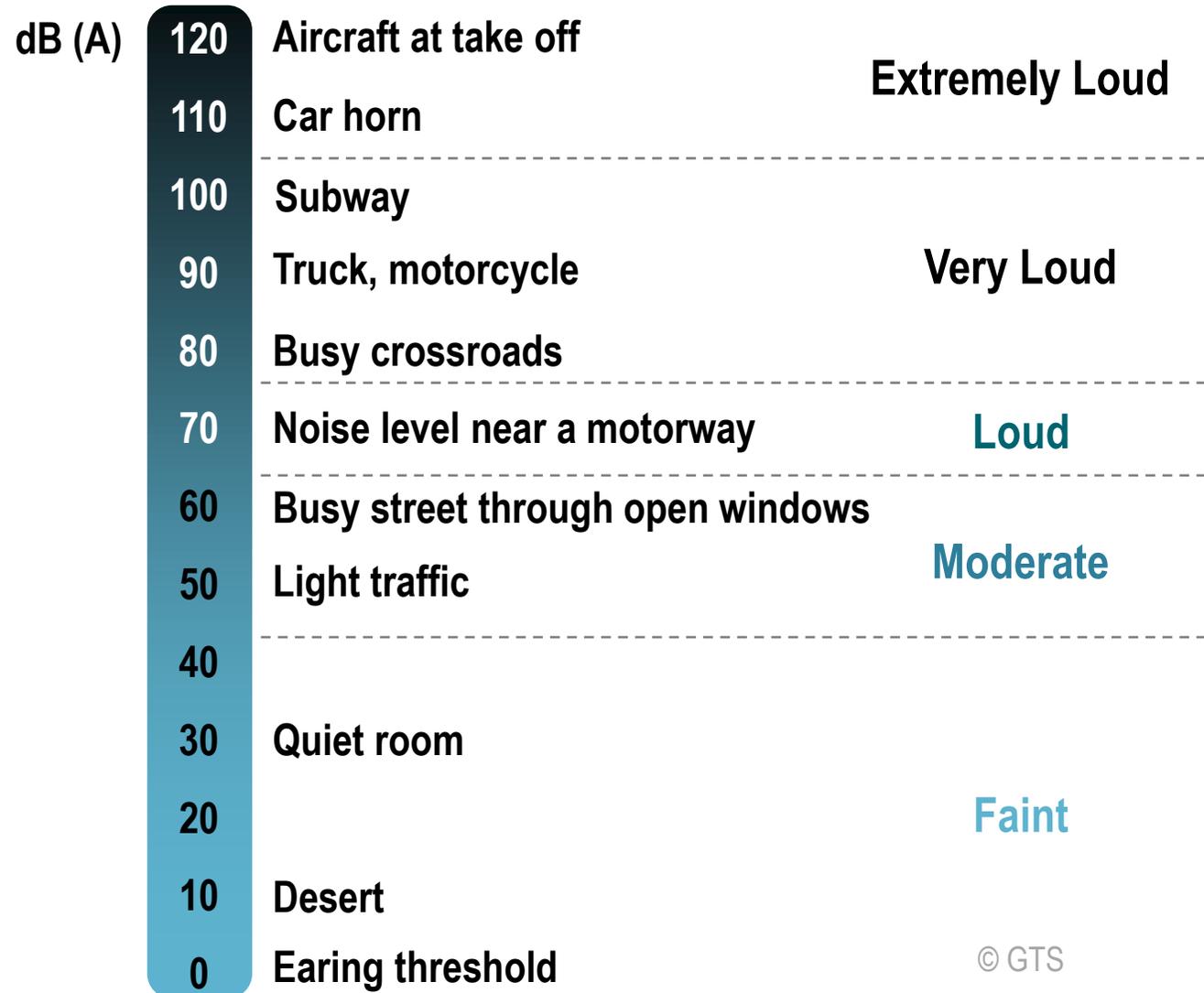
Emissions from Freight Modes (grams / ton-km)



Estimated Air Pollutants Emitted by Highway Transportation in the United States, 1970-2021



Noise Levels (in decibels)



© GTS

Hazmat Accidents in the United States, 1975-2020

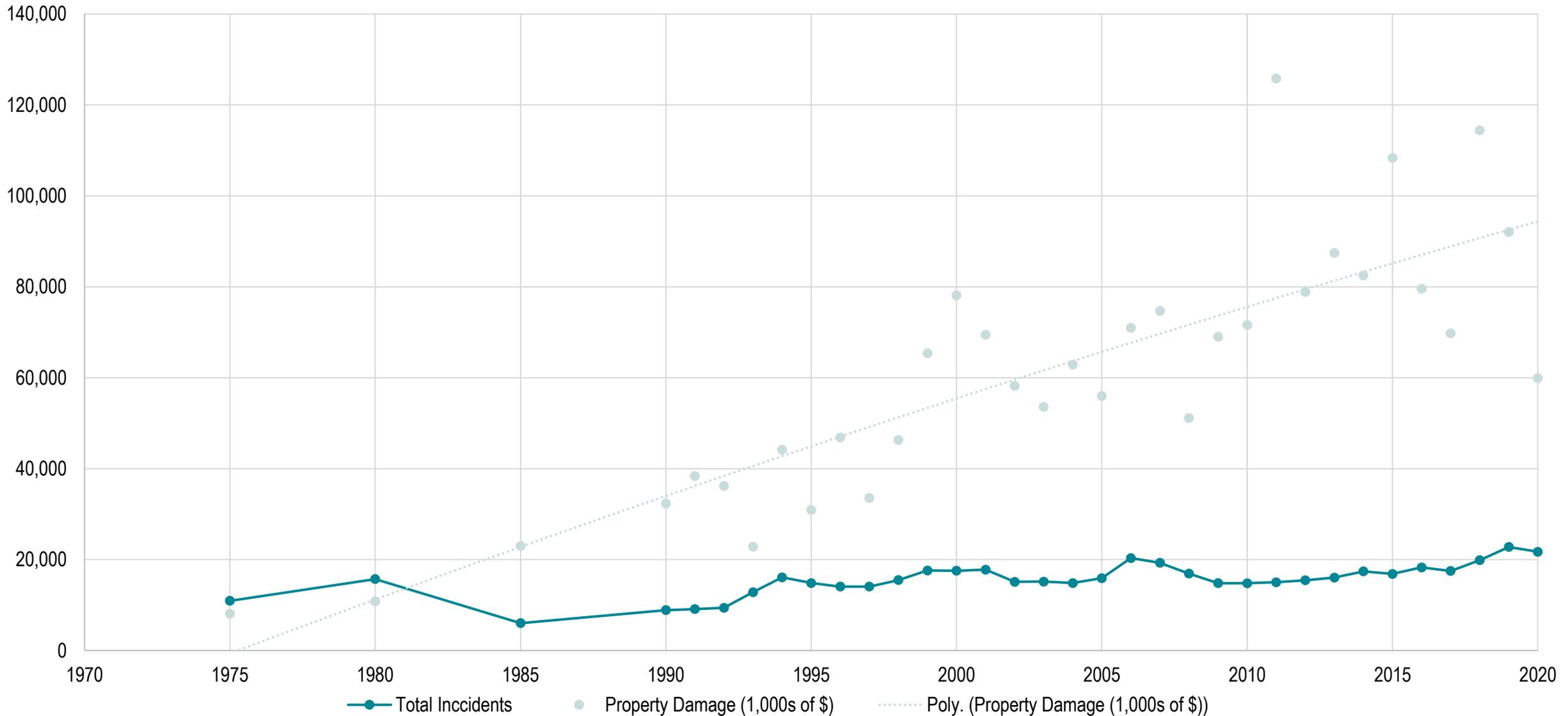
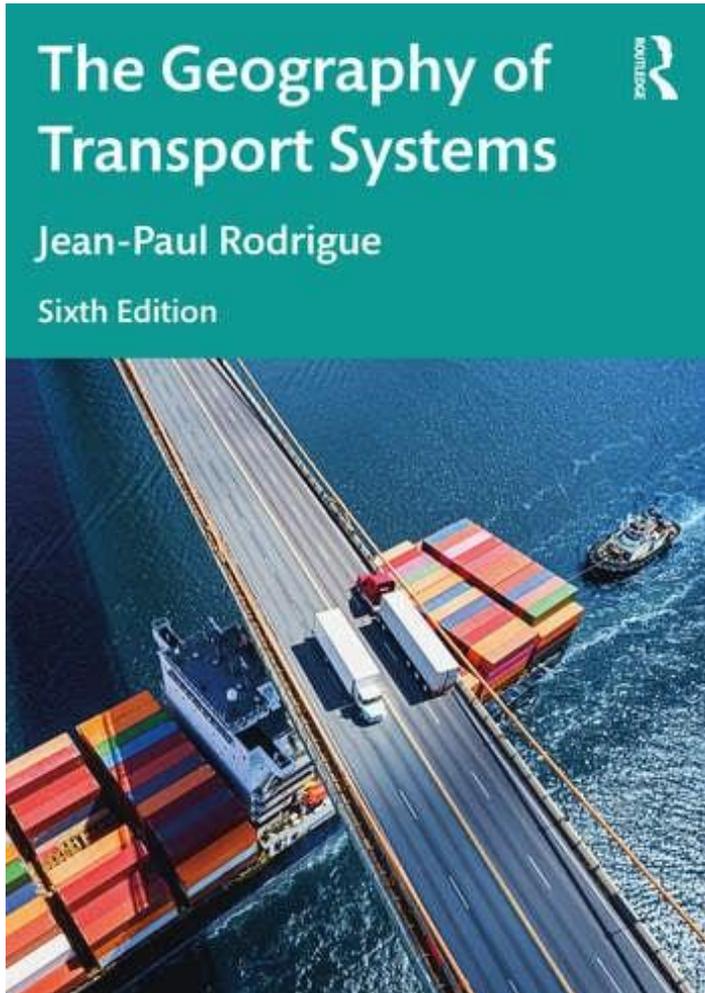


Table 3. Road traffic and networks of social support

Traffic levels	Contacts living on the same street	
	Friends	Acquaintances
Light traffic (200 vehicles at peak hour)	3.0	6.3
Moderate traffic (550 vehicles at peak hour)	1.3	4.1
Heavy traffic (1900 vehicles at peak hour)	0.9	3.1

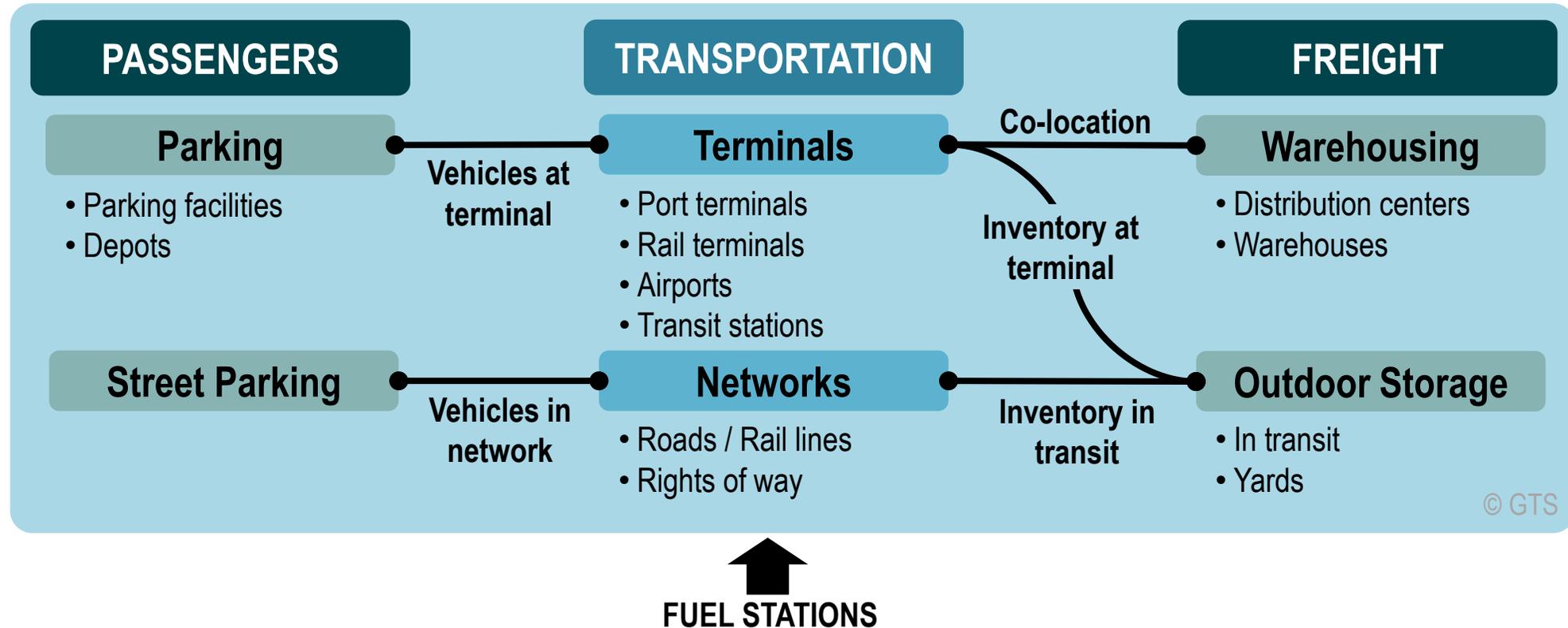
Source: adapted from Appleyard & Lintell (62).



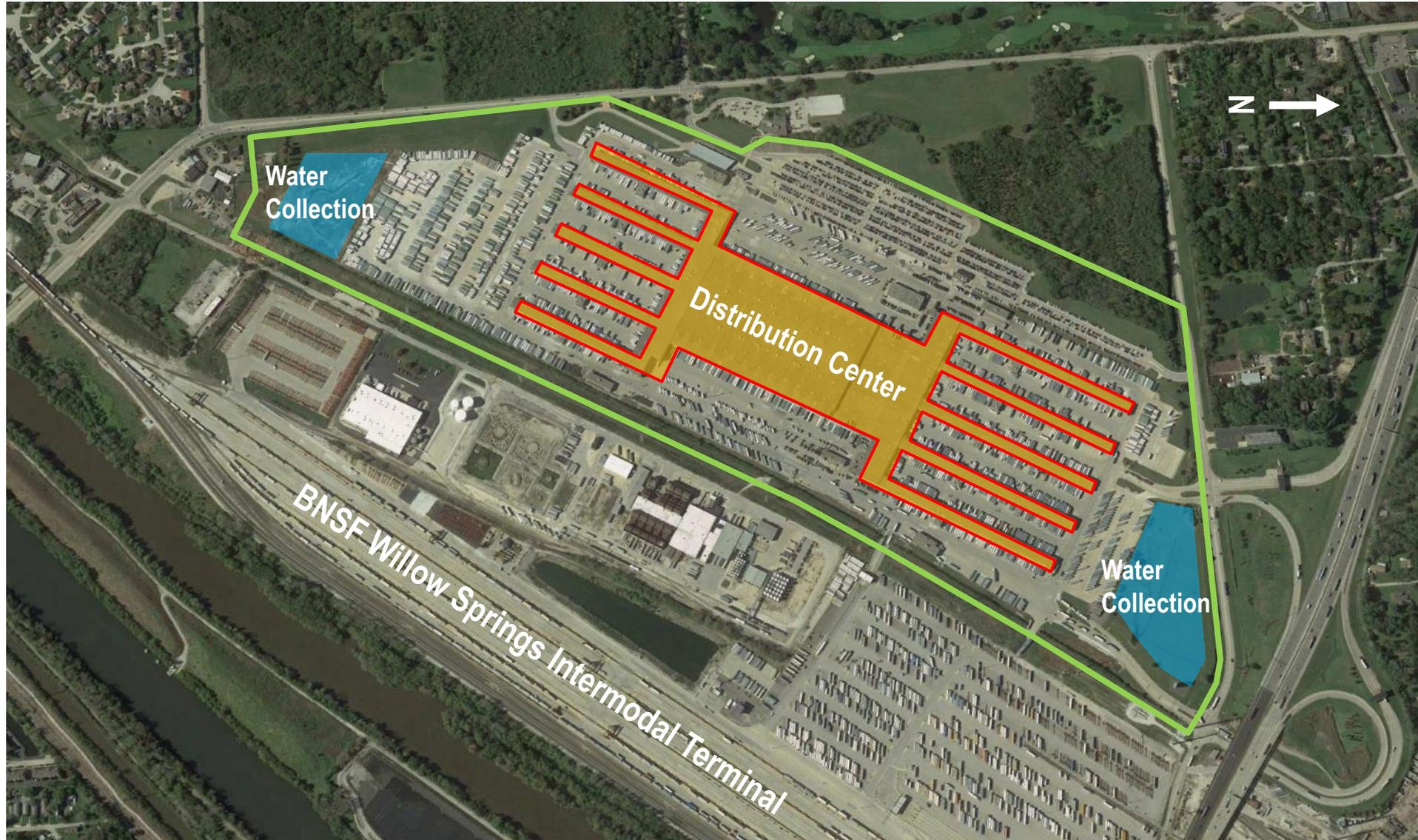
The Environmental Footprint of Transportation

Chapter 4.3

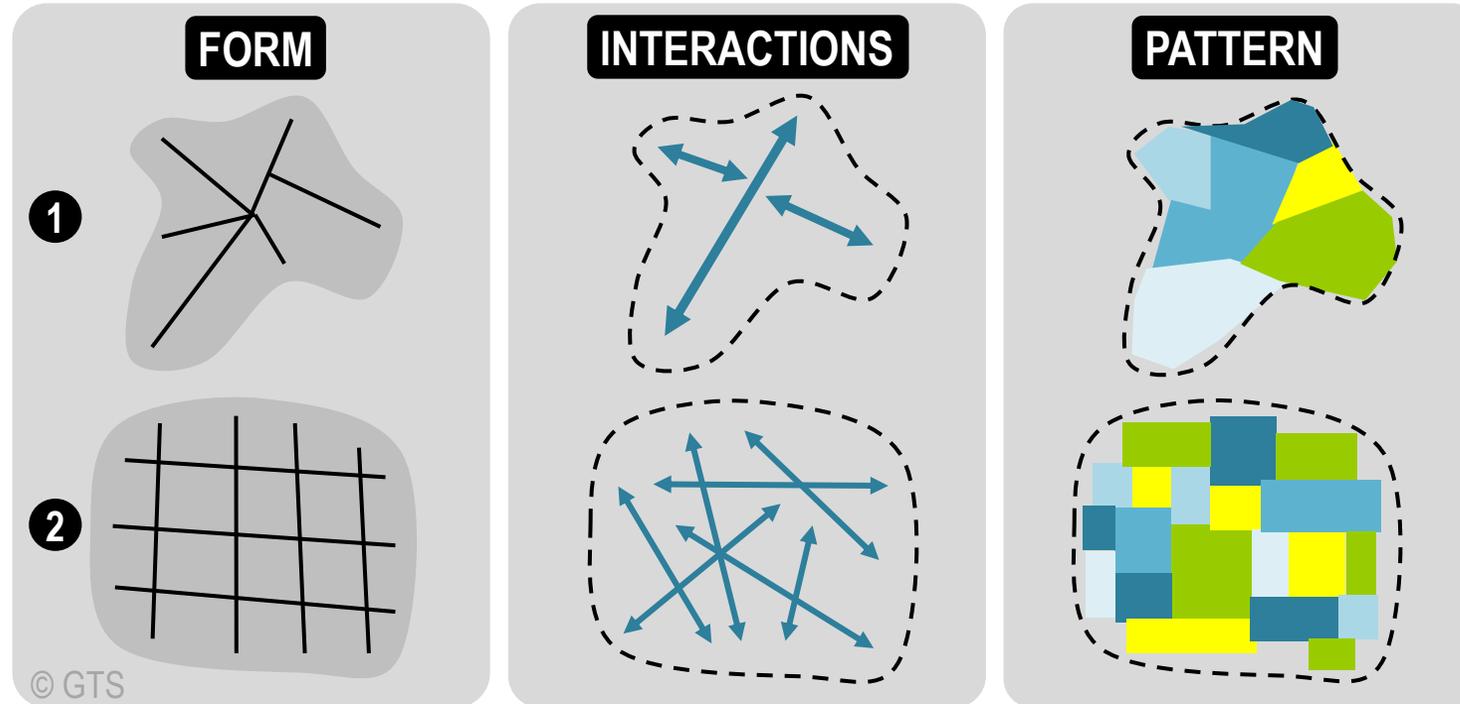
The Footprint of Transportation

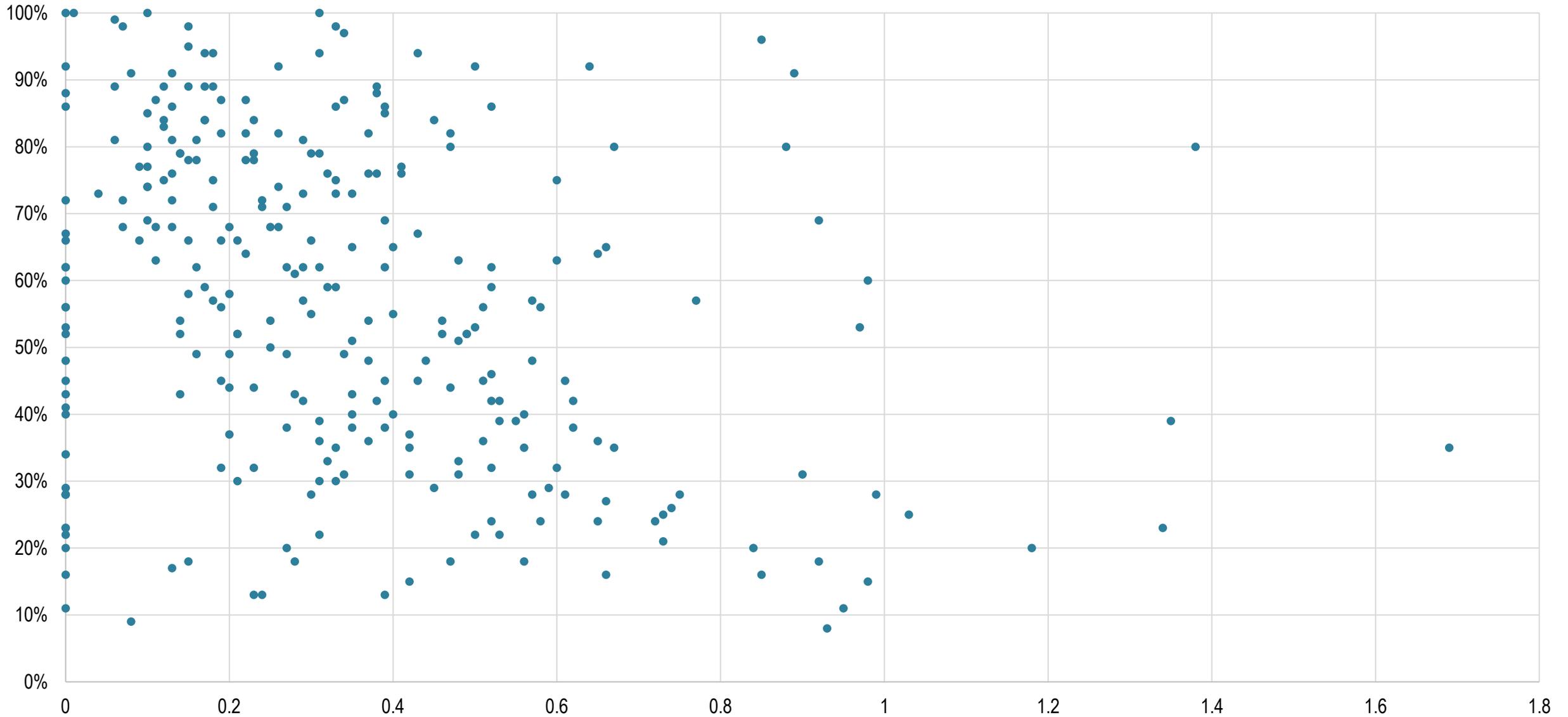


UPS Chicago Area Consolidation Hub

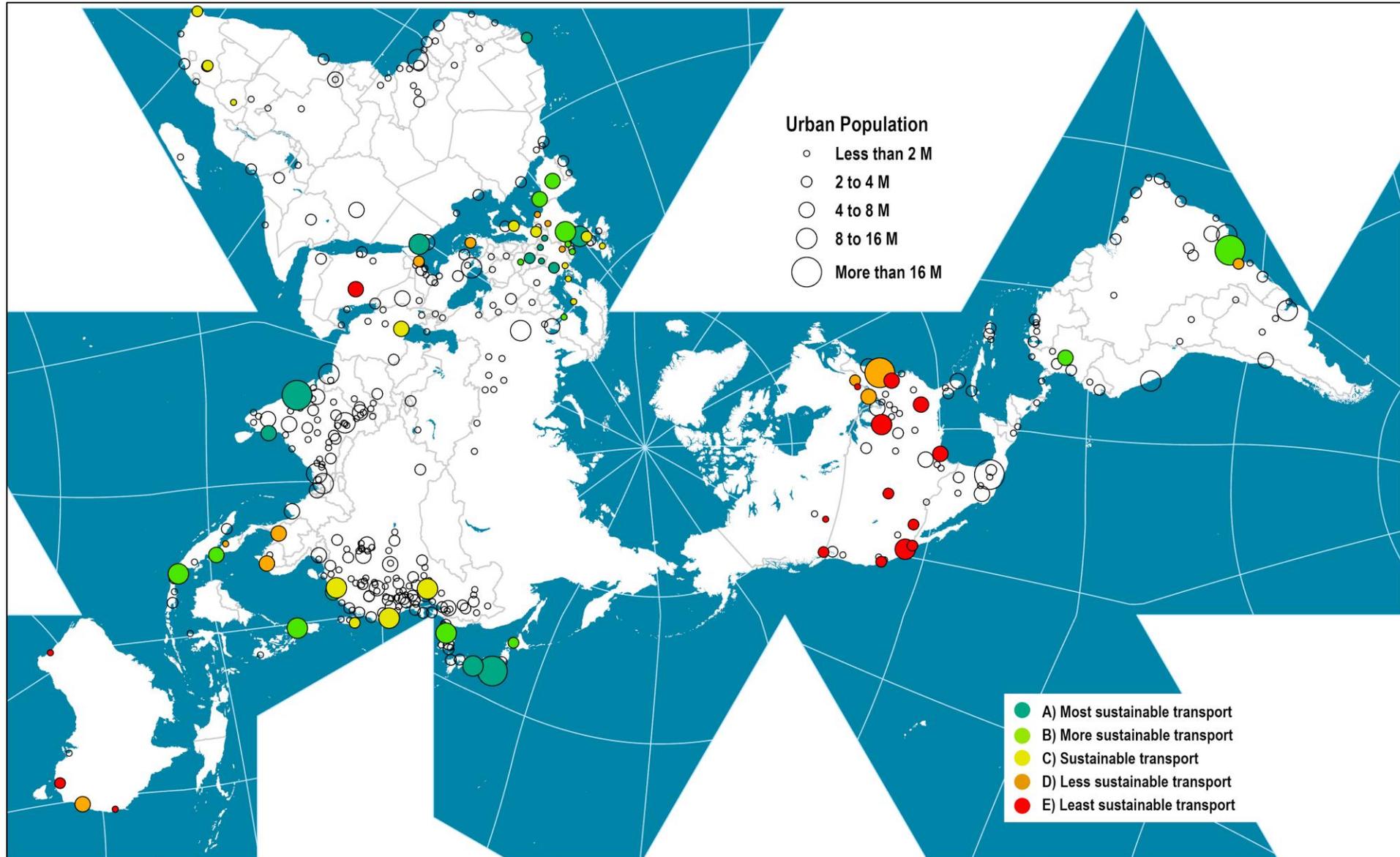


Spatial Form, Pattern and Interaction and the Environmental Impacts of Transportation

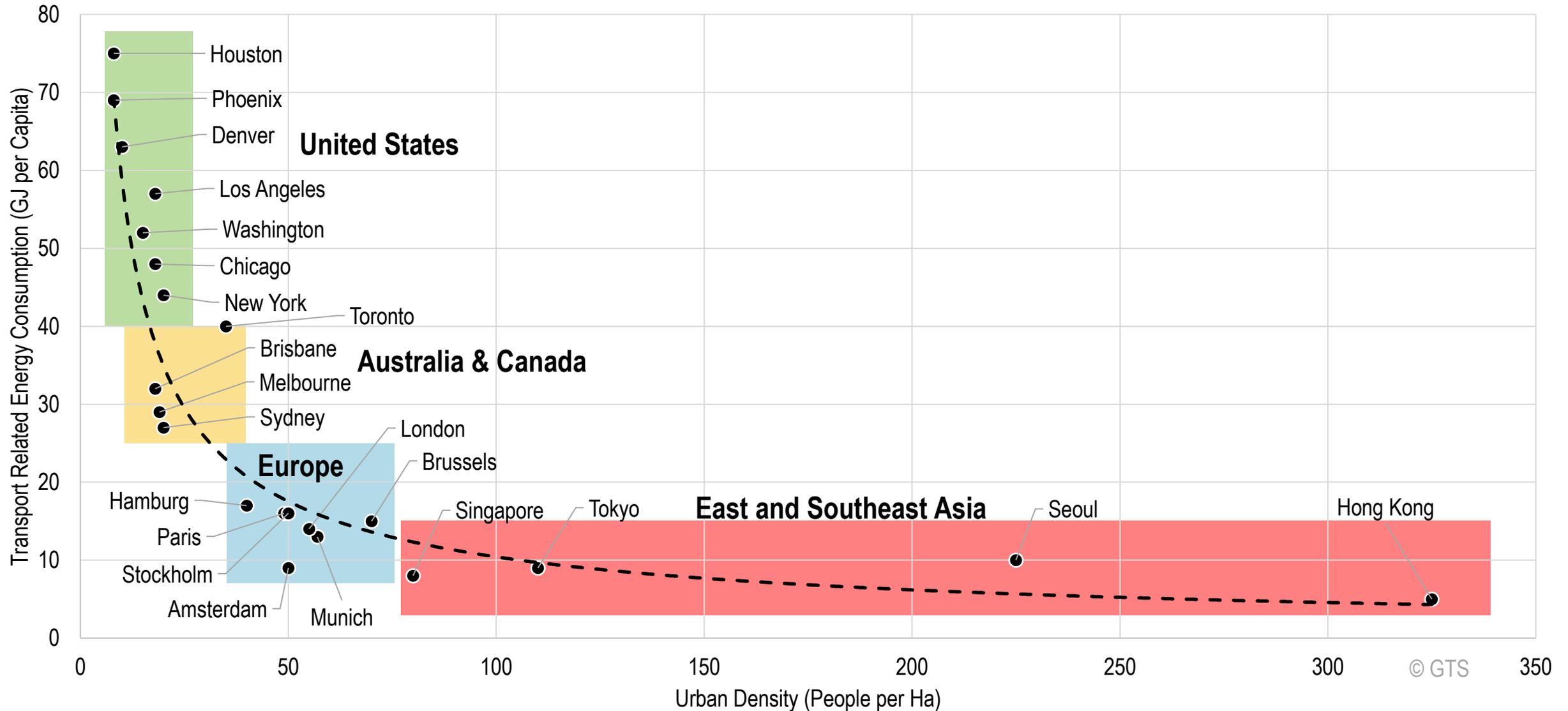




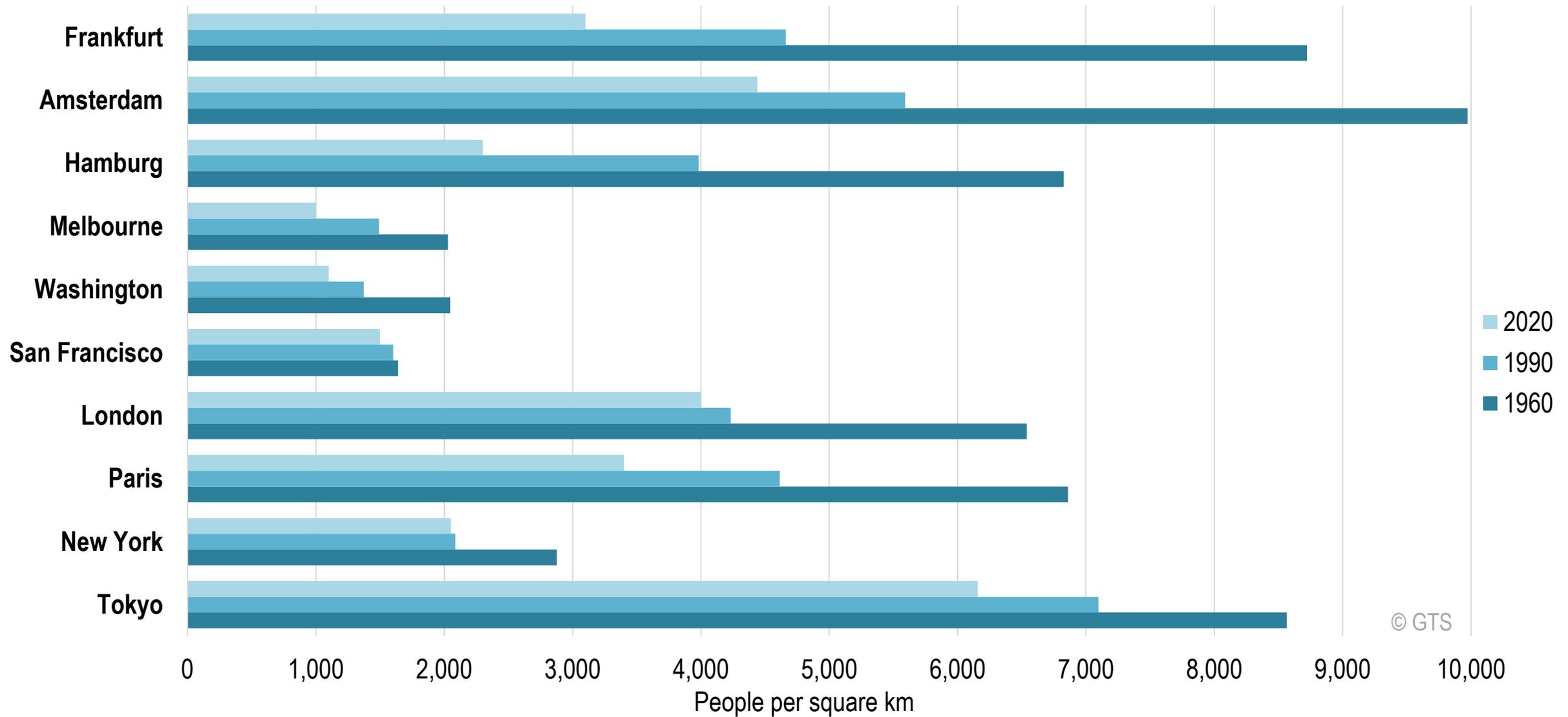
Sustainable Urban Passenger Travel, Selected Cities



Transport Energy Consumption and Density in Major Metropolitan Areas, 1990

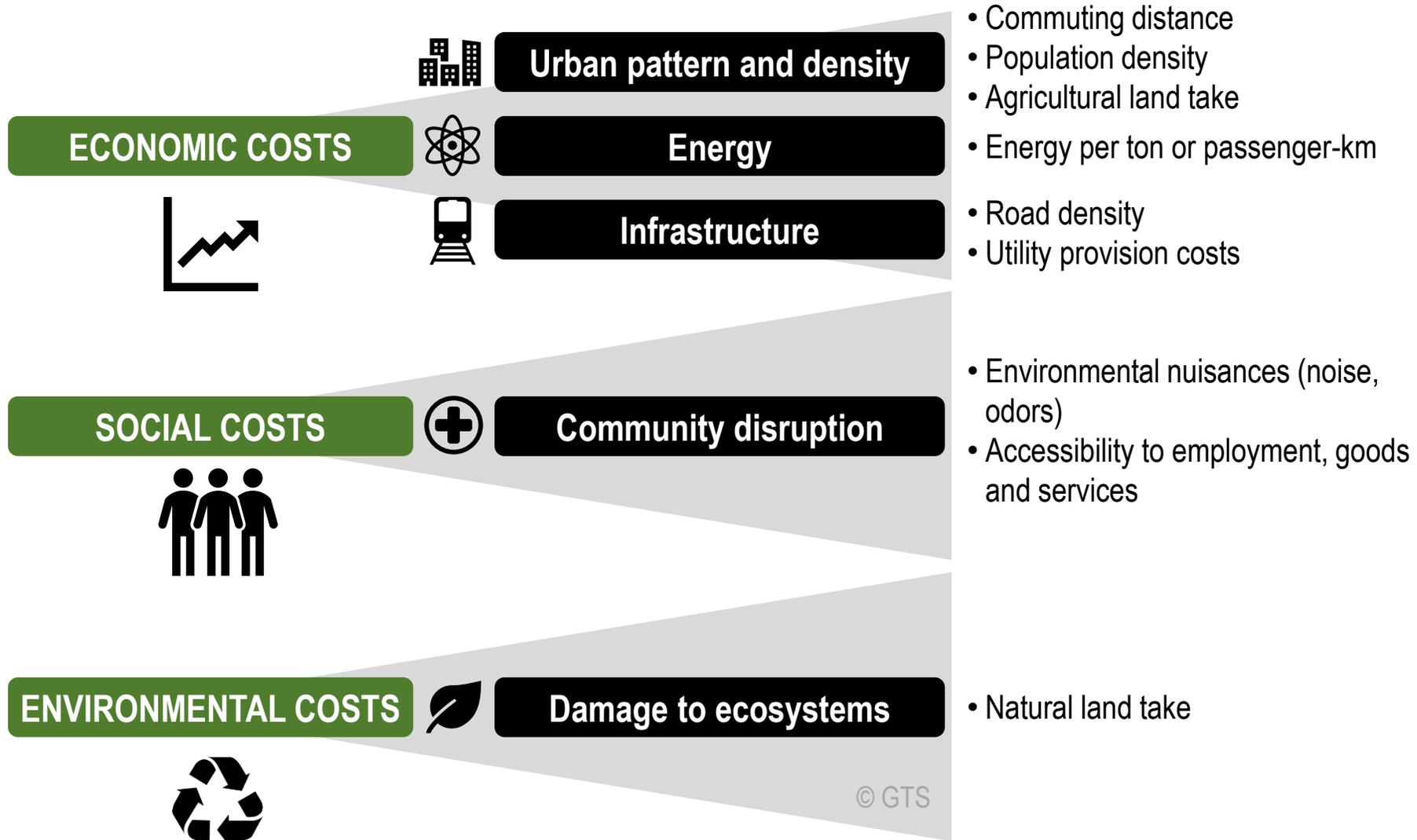


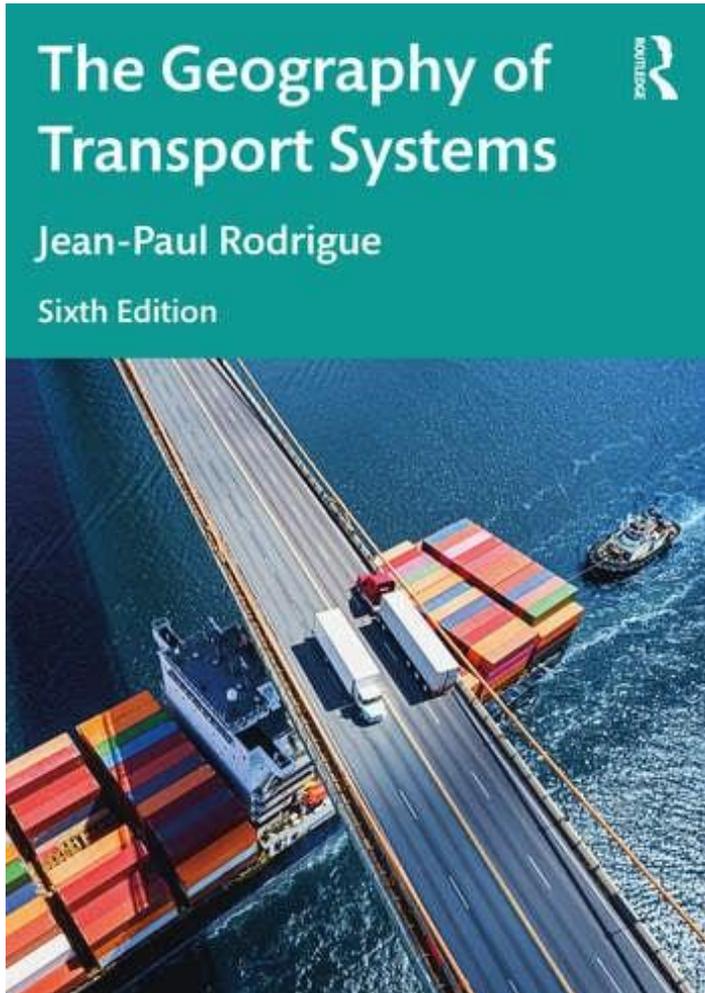
Population Density, Selected Cities, 1960-2020



© GTS

Environmental Externalities of Land Use

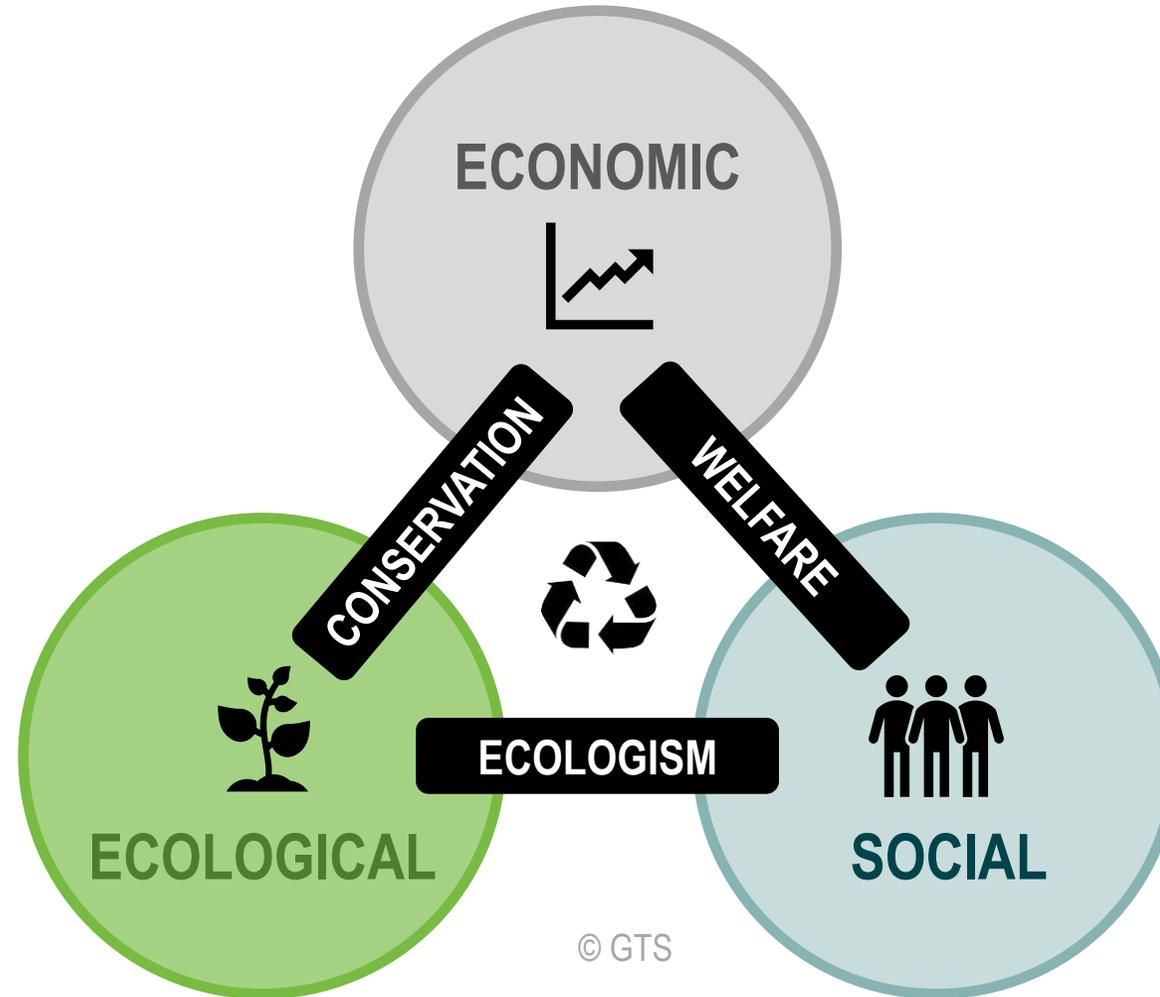




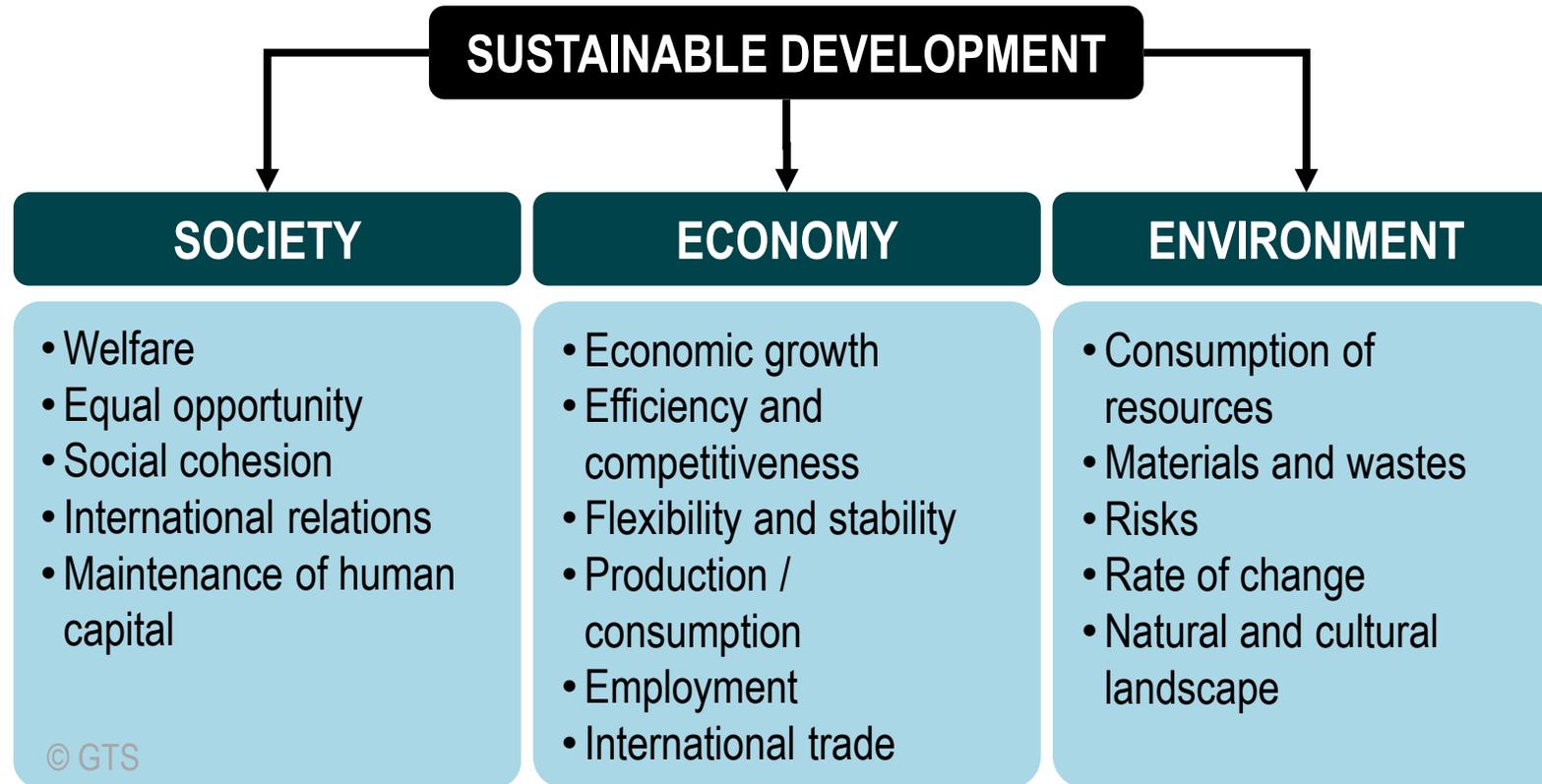
Transportation, Sustainability and Decarbonization

Chapter 4.4

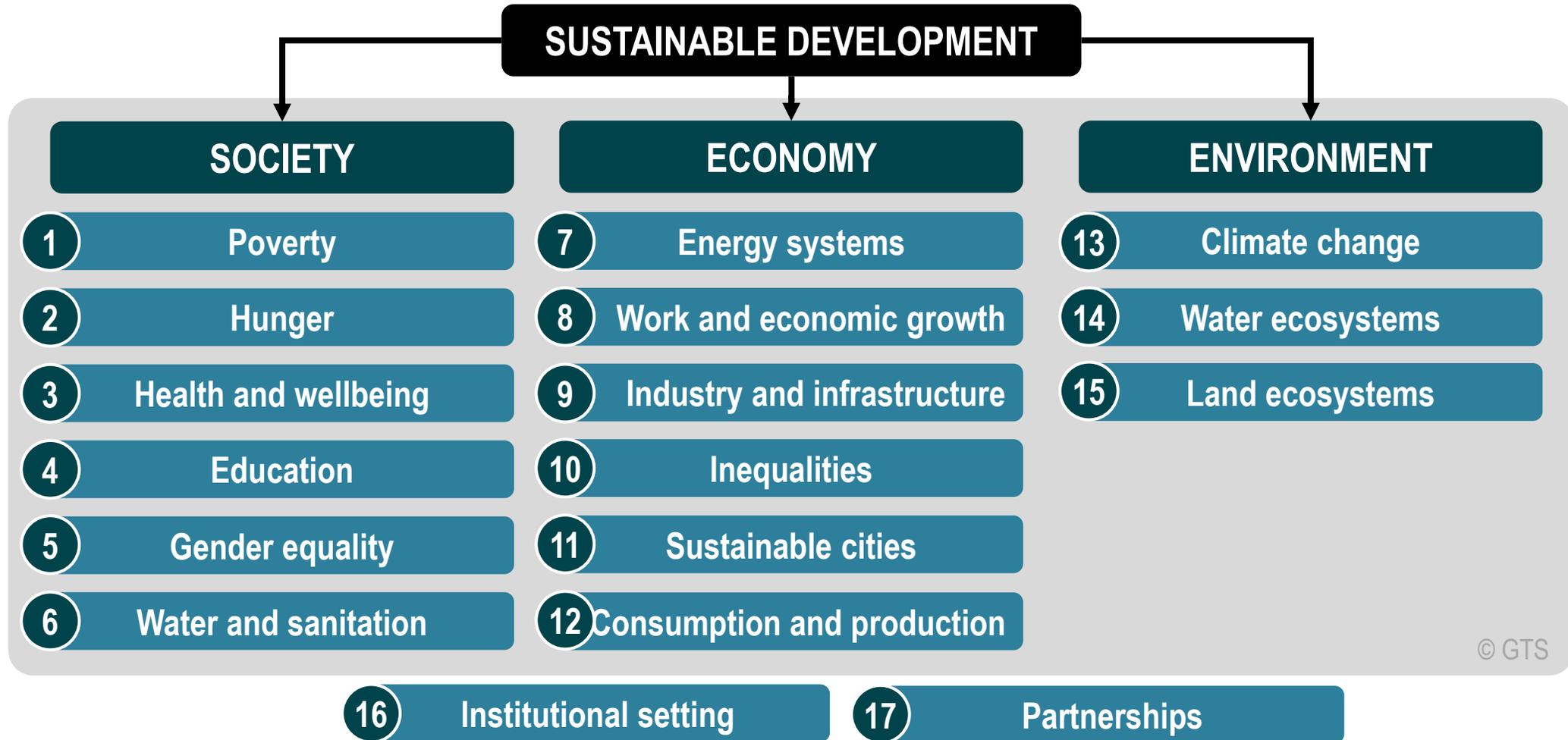
Global Sustainability



Sustainable Development Goals



Sustainable Development Goals



Environmental, Social and Governance Criteria



GOVERNANCE

Governing purpose

Quality of governing body

Stakeholder engagement

Ethical behavior

Risk and opportunity



PLANET

Climate change

Nature loss

Freshwater availability

© GTS

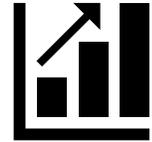


PEOPLE

Dignity and equality

Health and well-being

Skills for the future



PROSPERITY

Employment and wealth

Innovation

Community and social

Issues with ESG



EFFECTIVENESS

- Reflective of sustainability?
- Unclear benefits.
- Ideological judgment of value.



FOCUS LOSS

- Diversion of capital and effort.
- Virtue signaling.
- Limited value.



LEGITIMACY

- Ideological capture of rating agencies.
- Overreach in internal corporate decisions.



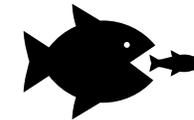
REPORTING

- Burden of resources for data collection.
- Ticking boxes.
- Results difficult to compare.



VISION

- Divert attention towards compliance.
- Overlook real opportunities.

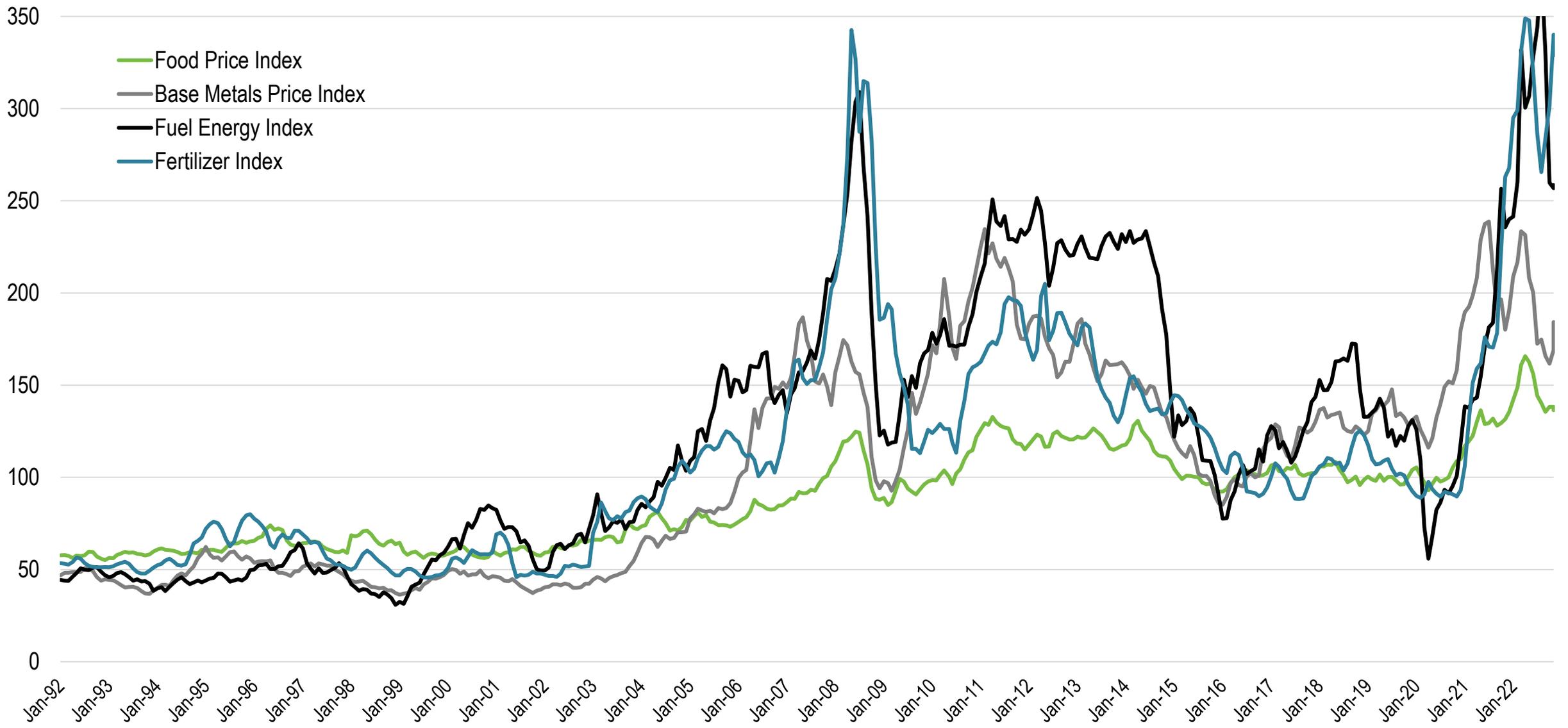


COMPETITION

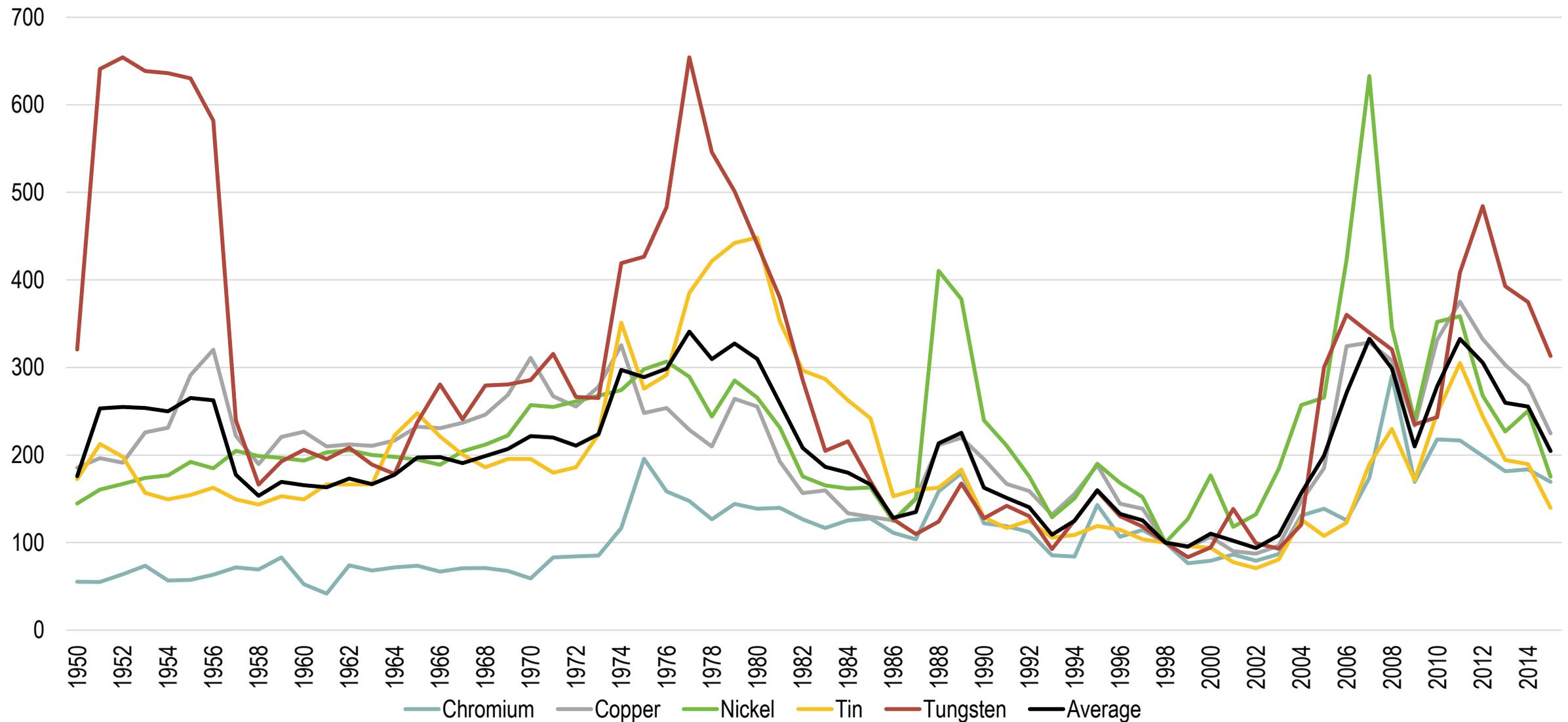
- Tool to avoid competition and new entrants.

© GTS

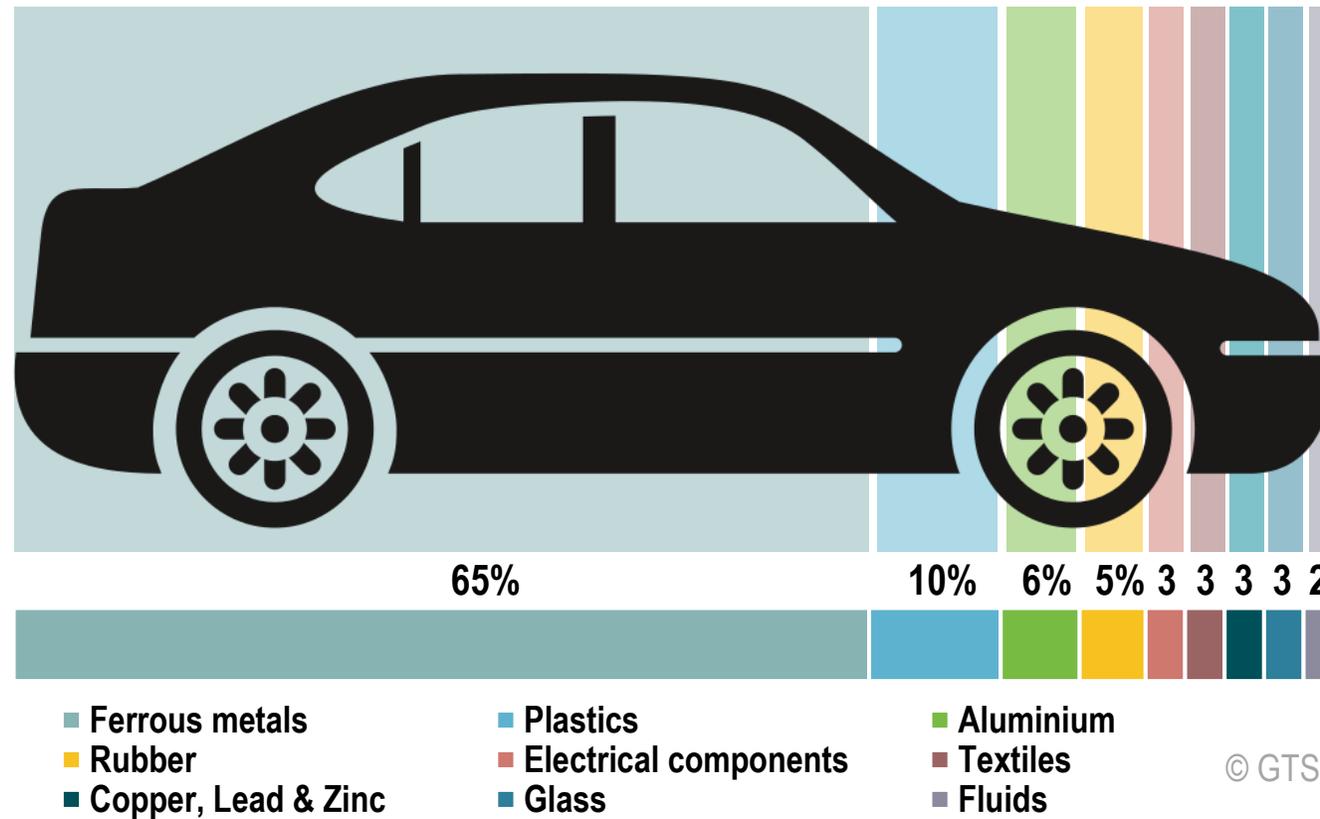
Main Commodity Price Indexes, 1992-2022 (2016=100)



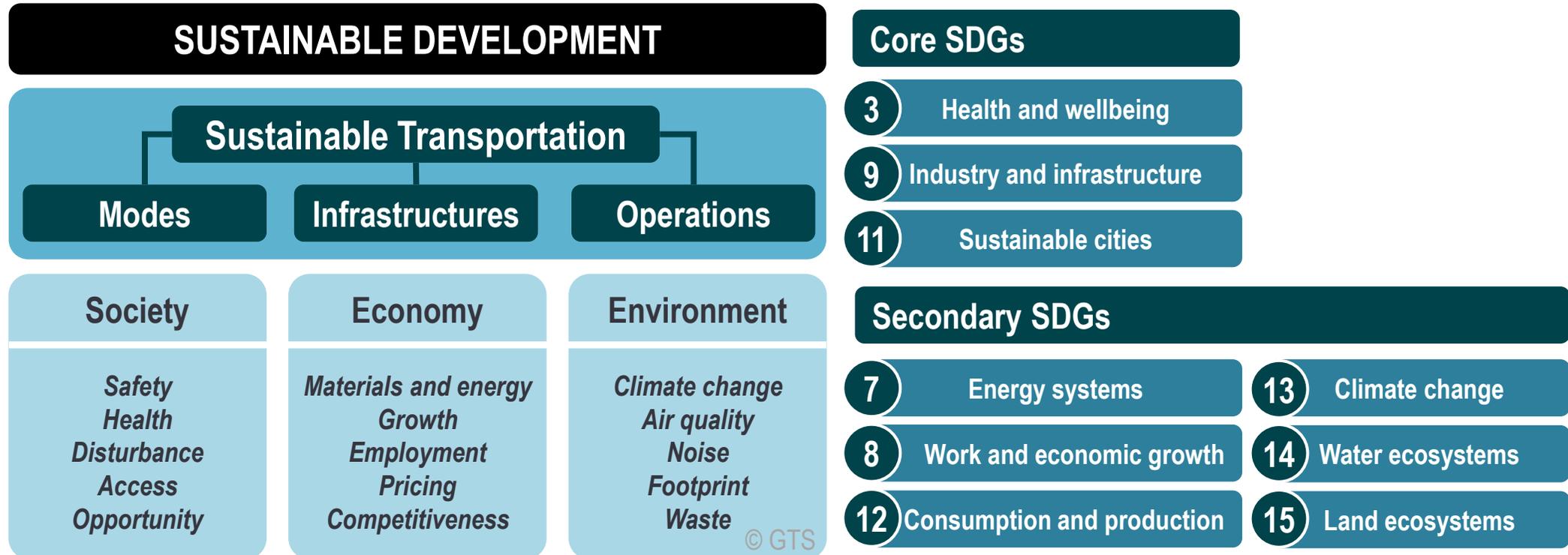
Inflation-Adjusted Price of some Commodities, 1950-2015 (1998=100)



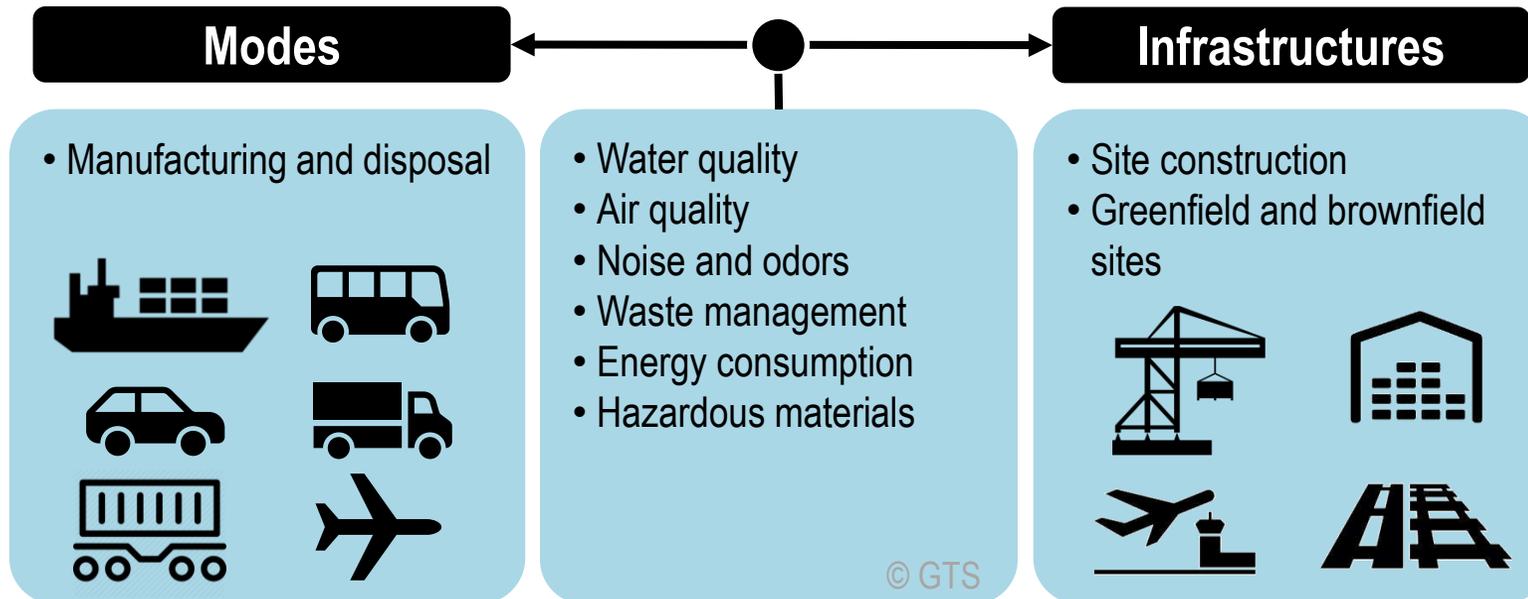
Main Material Components of a Car



Sustainable Transportation



Sustainability Dimensions in the Transport Industry



Economic and Social Outcomes of Sustainable Transportation



EQUITY

- Access by identity groups (income, age, disability, gender)
- Access to employment and opportunities
- Access to goods and services
- Reduction of transport barriers



EFFICIENCY

- Access to global markets
- Improved efficiency in the use of resources
- Reduced footprint
- Reducing the energy intensity of economic sectors
- Increased trade
- Regional integration



SAFETY

- Reduction of fatalities and injuries
- Reduced risks of vulnerable groups (pedestrians, cyclists, elderly, children)
- Reduction of social costs (health, productivity)

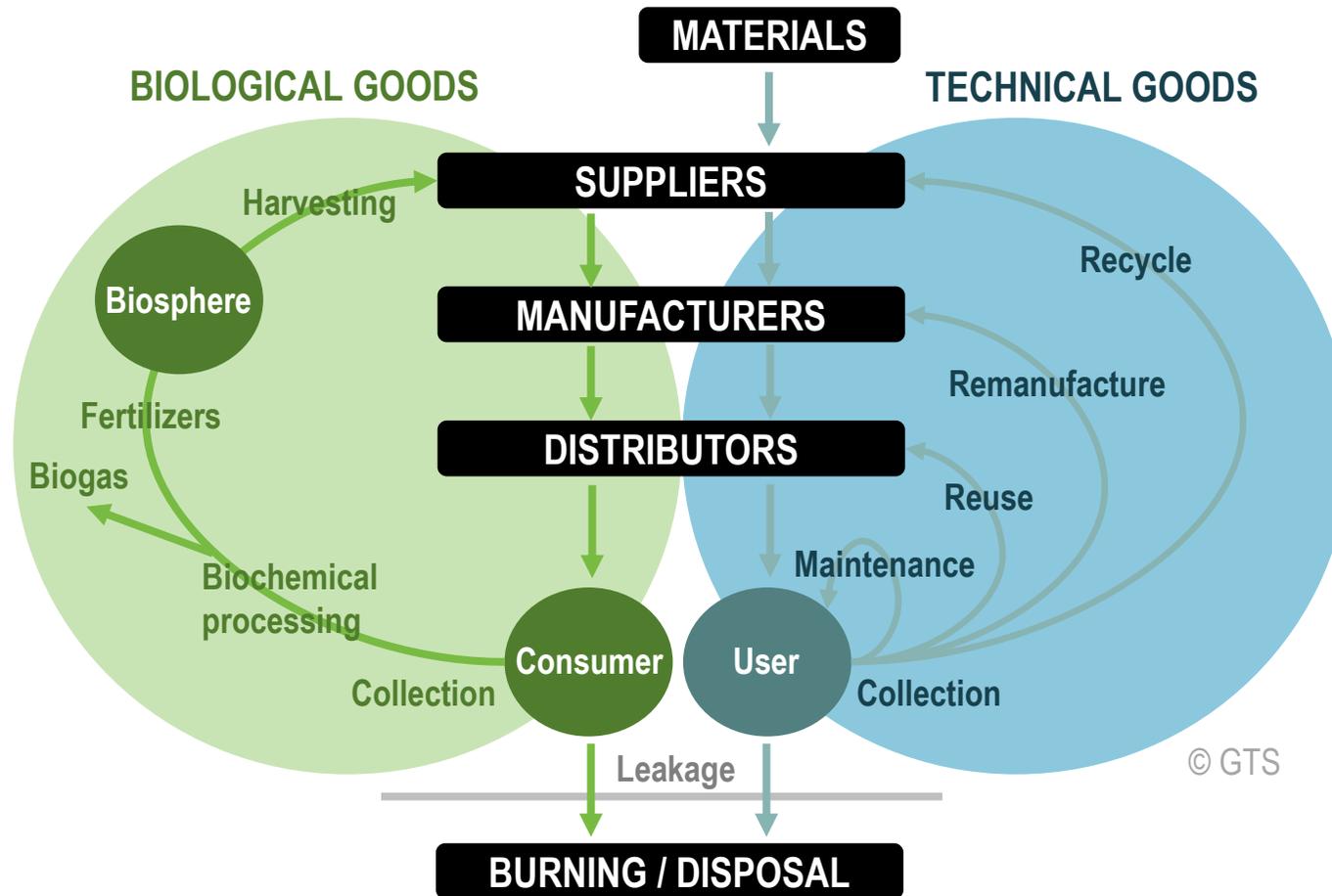


GREEN

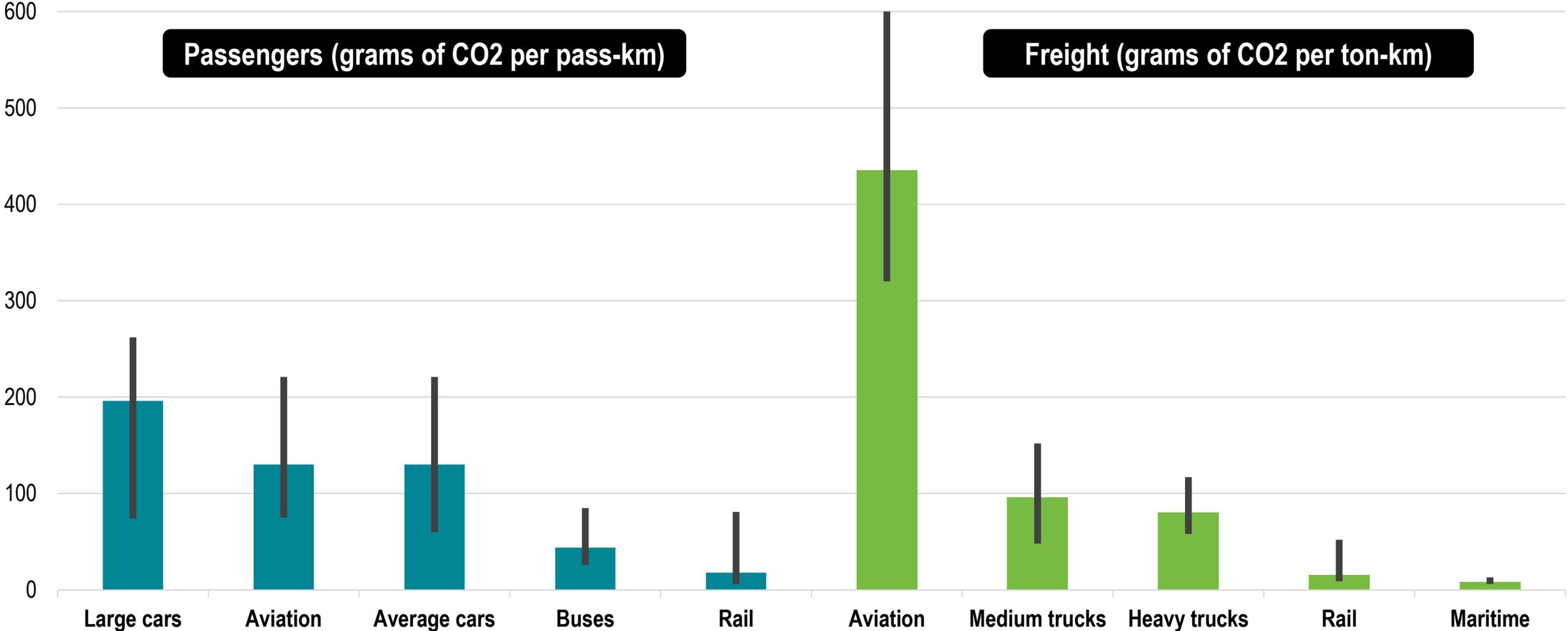
- Decarbonization
- Better air quality
- Lower noise pollution
- Resilience to environmental disruptions
- Preservation of ecosystems
- Reduction of health costs related to the environment

© GTS

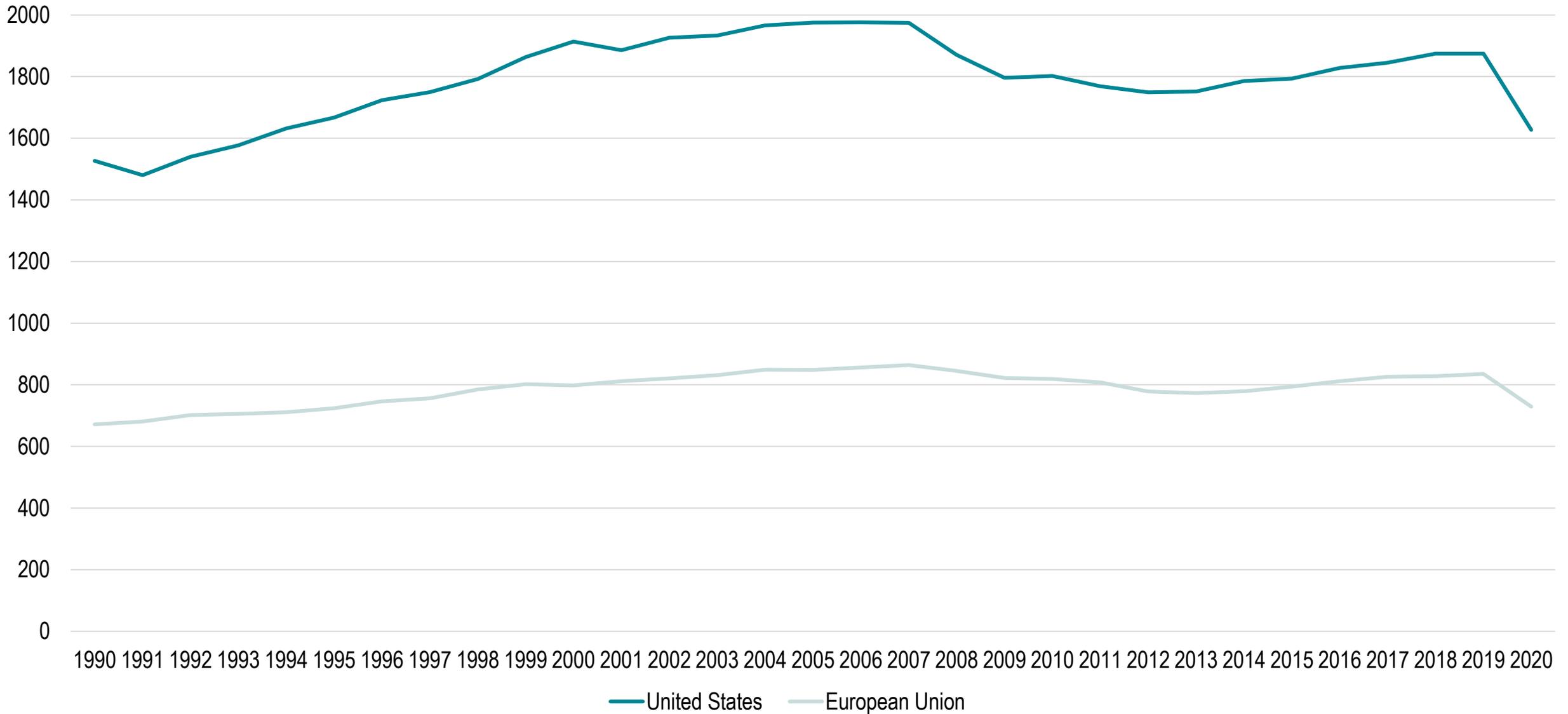
The Circular Economy and Supply Chains



Average CO2 Emissions by Passenger and Freight Transport Mode



Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Transport



General Indicators of Urban Sustainability

URBAN SUSTAINABILITY

Water, materials and waste

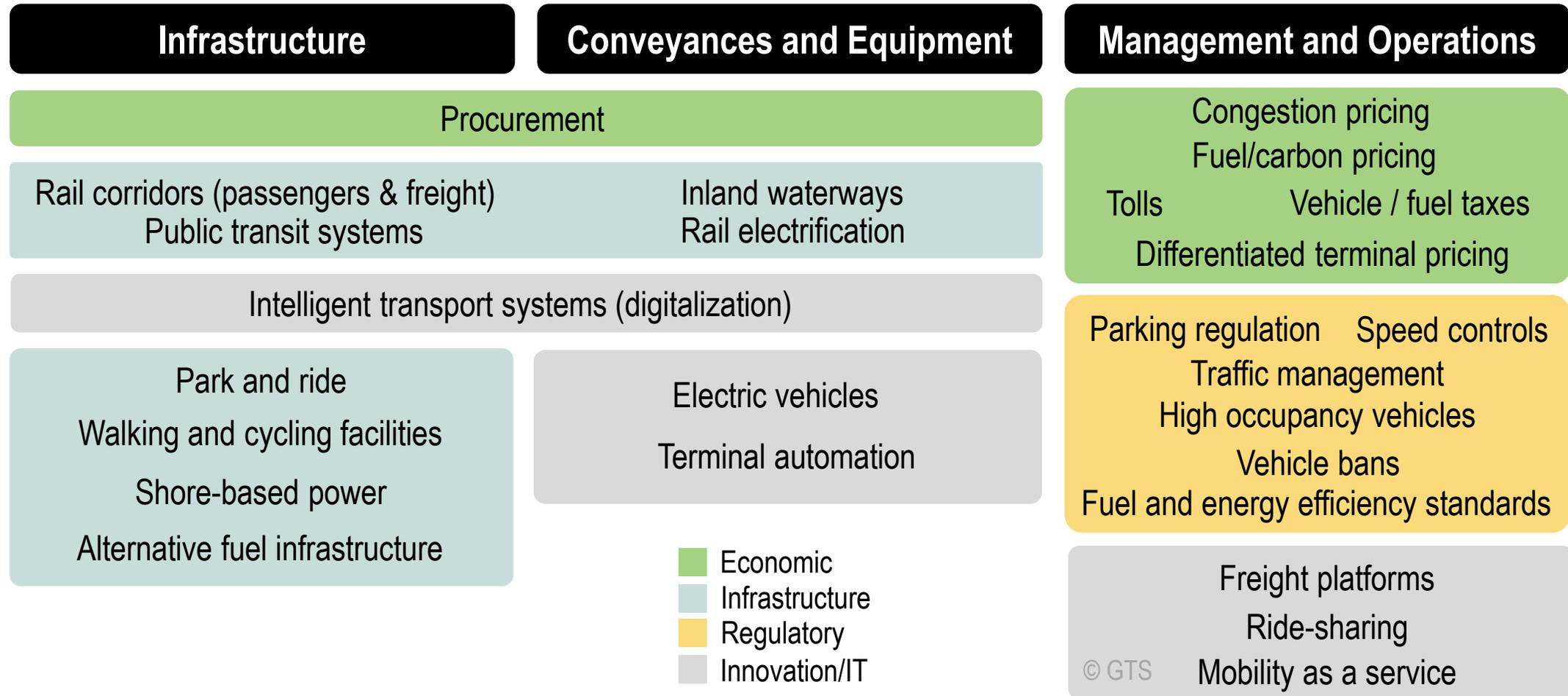
Energy and air quality

Transportation and telecommunications

Land, green spaces and biodiversity

Livability

The Decarbonization of Transportation



Global Electric Vehicles Sales, 2010-2022

