Our energy consumption and emissions

GRI 103-1
GRI 103-2
GRI 103-3

The total energy consumption within and outside of the organisation was approximately 4,041,022 kWh in 2020. Per capita, our employees used an average of 5,381 kWh in 2020.

GRI 302-1
GRI 302-2
GRI 302-3
GRI 302-4

The energy consumption within the Scout24 Group came to about 3,442,283 kWh in 2020. At 1,179,803 kWh, purchased heating energy accounted for the largest share thereof. Fuel consumption from vehicles on long-term leases as well as electricity consumption were further material contributors in 2020.

GRI 305-1
GRI 305-2
GRI 305-3
GRI 305-4
GRI 305-5

There are also relevant areas of consumption that are not caused directly by Scout24. The energy consumption outside of the organisation relates to the use of external data centres and amounted to about 598,739 kWh in 2020. This includes both the electricity consumption and cooling in the data centres.

The greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of the Scout24 Group are derived from the energy consumption statistics above: they have been calculated for 2020 on the basis of direct and indirect energy consumption as well as data relating to business trips. Where possible, the conversion factors applied to the volumes of electricity and heat sourced were made available by each provider. In cases in which such specific conversion factors were not available, the CO_2 factors published by VDA thinkstep AG and ecoinvent were used.

In total, the emissions of the Scout24 Group came to around 2,423 metric tonnes in 2020 (total of Scopes 1, 2 and a proportion of 3). At an annual average of 751 employees (2020), the volume of CO_2 emissions was 3.23 metric tonnes per capita in 2020 (2019: 5.09 metric tonnes CO_2).

The direct emissions (Scope 1) consist of various components: a small portion of emissions is attributable to emissions from heat generated using gas in Cologne (0.5%) and a larger share of 10% is attributable to emissions from fuel consumption. The latter mostly relates to the consumption of vehicles under long-term leases, which employees are also allowed to use for private purposes.

Indirect emissions from electricity and district heat (Scope 2) account for the second largest share of our emissions. One important and efficient measure for reducing CO_2 emissions in the Scout24 Group is to purchase green electricity.

Other indirect emissions outside of the organisation (Scope 3)[1] are attributable to business trips and the energy consumption of external data centres, among other things. They are responsible for the greatest share of our total emissions. In 2020, around 230 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide were emitted due to business trips. At 161 metric tonnes, the majority of the emissions were due to flights. A smaller percentage is attributable to business trips with hired cars and private vehicles which produced a total of 28 metric tonnes of CO_2 emissions, as well as journeys by train which emitted just 41 metric tonnes of CO_2.

If we consider the total emissions of Scout24 SE, the emissions from external data centres were in second place in 2020. They caused 309 metric tonnes of CO_2 (14%). In total, emissions outside of the organisation came to 1,335 metric tonnes.

[1] The Scope 3 categories evaluated in this assessment are an excerpt of all possible categories. The excerpt is based on the available data basis and on the criteria of relevance and materiality. Data on external service providers and purchased IT products is not included, for example.

Energy consumption (in kilowatt-hours)[1, 4, 6]

GRI 302-1
GRI 302-2
GRI 302-3
GRI 302-4

	2018	2019	2020	Change in per cent 2020/2019
Total	**7,765,500**	**5,511,095**	**4,041,022**	**–27%**
per capita[3]	9,190	6,672	5,381	–19%
Total consumption within the organisation	**5,965,800**	**4,231,799**	**3,442,283**	**–19%**
of which fuel	1,801,900	1,006,315	802,275	–20%
of which gas	82,850	81,377	57,355	–30%
of which electricity[2]	1,607,500	1,502,350	862,349	–43%
of which district heat	2,475,000	1,209,266	1,179,803	–2%
of which district cooling	398,410	432,491	540,500	+25%[5]
Total consumption outside of the organisation	**1,799,700**	**1,279,296**	**598,739**	**–53%**
of which data centres	1,799,700	1,279,296	598,739	

[1] The data relate to the following entities of the Scout24 Group in Germany: Immobilien Scout GmbH, Scout24 SE and FLOWFACT GmbH. No information is available on the share of energy from renewable sources. In the interest of consistency, all data reported relate to 2019/2020. The data have been rounded.
[2] In this report, this includes Scout24's own electricity consumption only.
[3] The energy intensity was calculated based on the average headcount in 2020 (751 employees) and 2019 (826 employees) at the German entities of the Scout24 Group given above; the amount has been rounded. The emissions per capita relate to the total volume of electricity purchased by Scout24.
[4] The heat and water consumption statistics for the Munich office are the sole exception here as the rented rooms are used by both ImmoScout24 and AutoScout24. To clarify: the consumption values cannot be allocated to the individual companies as separate utility bills are not generated.
[5] Increase due to higher consumption in the Berlin office and because this was the first time that cooling data could be recorded for the office in Munich.
[6] Changes are also due to a change in the data basis.

Greenhouse gas emissions (in metric tonnes CO_2)[1, 4, 5, 16]

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GRI 305-3
GRI 305-4
GRI 305-5

	Total 2018	Total 2019	Total 2020	Change 2020/2019	
Emission sources	Emissions (t CO_2)	Emissions (t CO_2)	Emissions (t CO_2)	Absolute (t CO_2)	Relative (%)
Scope 1	**209**	**286**	**232**	**–54**	**–19%**
Direct emissions from company facilities	17	16	12	–5	–29%
Heat (generated)	17	16	12	–5	–29%
Direct emissions from company fleet	192	269	220	–49	–18%
Fleet	192	269	220	–49	–18%
Scope 2[7]	**720**	**487**	**636**	**149**	**31%**
Electricity purchased for own use [8]	536	255	410	155	61%
Electricity (stationary)	536	255	410	155	61%
Purchased heat, steam and cooling for own use	184	232	226	–6	–2%
Heat (purchased)	184	232	226	–6	–2%

	Total 2018	Total 2019	Total 2020		Change 2020/2019
Emission sources	Emissions (t CO_2)	Emissions (t CO_2)	Emissions (t CO_2)	Absolute (t CO_2)	Relative (%)
Scope 3[6]	**4,638**	**3,056**	**1,335**	**–1,721**	**–56%**
Purchased goods and services (Cat. 1)	1,547	1,354	401	–953	–70%
External data centre	809	862	309	–553	–64%
Catering[9]	256	33	22	–10	–32%
Office paper[10]	2		0	0	
Printed materials[11]	476	455	67	–388	–85%
Water	5	5	3	–2	–49%
Fuel and energy-related emissions (Cat. 3)	238	259	321	62	24%
Upstream electricity	118	104	87	–17	–16%
Upstream heat	92	115	110	–4	–4%
Upstream fleet	29	41	124	83	203%
Business trips (Cat. 6)	1,429	1,177	230	–947	–80%
Flights	1,356	1,100	161	–939	–85%
Rail	4	7	41	34	467%
Hired and private vehicles	69	70	28	–41	–59%
Employee commuting (Cat. 7)	1,424	266	383	117	44%
Employee commuting[12]	1,424	266	171	–95	–36%
Working from home[13]	–	–	212	212	–
Total[2]	5,567	3,829	2,202	–1,626	–43%
Including 10% safety margin added	**6,123**	**4,212[14]**	**2,423[15]**	**–1,789**	**–43%**
Consumption per employee[3]	**7.25**	**5.09**	**3.23**	**–**	**–**

If categories were not assessed in 2019, a relative comparison between 2020 and 2019 is not possible.
There is therefore no percentage listed for these cases; only the absolute change is shown.

[1] The data relate to the following entities of the Scout24 Group in Germany: Immobilien Scout GmbH, Scout24 SE and FLOWFACT GmbH. The heat and water consumption for the Munich site in 2020 includes AutoScout GmbH, as it was not possible to allocate the user numbers by the time the Corporate Carbon Footprint report went to print for 2020. In the interest of consistency, all data reported relate to 2019/2020.
[2] Where possible, the conversion factors applied to the volumes of electricity and heat sourced were made available by the respective providers. In cases in which such specific conversion factors were not available, the CO_2 factors published by VDA thinkstep AG and ecoinvent were used.
[3] Emission intensity was calculated based on the average headcount in 2020 (751 employees), in 2019 (826 employees), in 2018 (2018 not audited by KPMG; 845 employees) at the German entities of the Scout24 Group given above relative to the total greenhouse gas emissions.
[4] The audit scope only covered the year 2020.
[5] All figures are rounded. Numbers might not exactly add up due to rounding.
[6] The GHG Protocol stipulates that reporting of CO_2 emissions in Scope 1 and Scope 2 is mandatory, but Scope 3 is voluntary. The Scope 3 categories evaluated in this assessment are an excerpt of all possible categories. The excerpt is based on the available data basis and on the criteria of relevance and materiality. The occasionally non-assessed categories did not meet these criteria in the base year 2018 and were therefore also not included in the assessment in the following years.
[7] Differing accounting period for the gas supplier in Cologne (Oct. 2019–Sept. 2020).
[8] The emissions for electricity were calculated with the market-based method. If the location-based method is used, which calculates with national average factors, the total emissions are 573.85 t CO_2
[9] Spend-based. This includes coffee, milk and mineral water purchases; in Berlin, it also includes muesli consumption. Grocery quantities were multiplied with the respective cradle-to-gate emission factors. Munich was not included due to a lack of data.
[10] Includes purchased paper that is used for printing in the offices. A weighted total of several emission factors for various types of paper from the ecoinvent database was used. The system boundaries for the compiled emission factors are cradle to gate.
[11] This includes classic printed materials (e.g. brochures, posters, letter paper) and advertising items (e.g. printed T-shirts, sweaters, iPhone cases) produced by external suppliers. No information was available on classic printed materials for the Cologne site. The calculation was based on spend.
[12] Calculations are based on an employee survey, which determines the total emissions from the number of working days, travel distances, means of transport and number of employees. The emission factors for the means of transport include combustion of fuel, as well as an addition for the production of the vehicles and the provision and use of the infrastructure and the upstream emissions of the fuels.

[13] Estimate based on an employee survey and statistical data. This includes electricity and heat consumed by employees based on European averages (ecoinvent).
[14] Reduction primarily due to improved data basis for employee travel and fewer flights.
[15] Reduction primarily due to travel being restricted by Covid-19, the move away from data centres and an improved data basis for printed materials.
[16] Changes are also due to a change in the data basis. There was no restatement of the data.