BELGIUM – Energy Mix Fact Sheet

Policy Background

A European energy policy must pursue the objective of a sustainable, competitive and secure supply of energy. If the EU continues on its present course, this key objective will not be attained. In January 2007, the European Commission adopted an energy policy for Europe. This was supported by several documents on different aspects of energy and included an action plan to meet the major energy challenges Europe faces. Each European citizen must be informed of these challenges and the role they should play in meeting them.

A diversified mix of energies will increase security of supply.

Key Issues

Domestic production in Belgium is limited to nuclear energy, with a small but increasing share of renewable energy. As a result, Belgium is strongly dependent on energy imports of fossil fuels. Natural gas, imported from Netherlands, Norway and Algeria, is gradually replacing hard coal in primary energy supply. Electricity is generated mainly from nuclear power and gas. The future of nuclear energy in Belgium is an important issue regarding security of supply and climate change. Industry, transport and household sectors share most of final energy consumption.

Key Figures (2004)

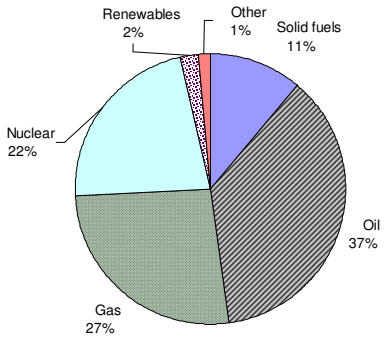
Mtoe	Primary Energy Supply	Domestic Production	Net Imports	Final Energy Consumption	Electricity Generation (TWh)
Solid fuels	6.1	0.1	6.2	2.3	9.1
Oil	20.1		27.7	16.6	1.7
Gas	14.6		14.6	10.6	23.8
Nuclear	12.2	12.2			47.3
Electricity			0.7	6.9	
Renewables	1.2	1.0	0.2	0.5	2.0
Other	0.7	0.1		0.5	1.5
Total	**54.8**	**13.3**	**49.3**	**37.4**	**85.4**

The source for all data is the European Commission, unless otherwise stated

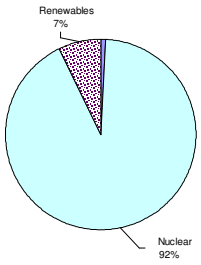
Key Indicators (2004)

	BELGIUM	EU-27
Energy per capita (kgoe/cap)	5 263	3 689
Energy intensity (toe/MEUR '00)	205	185
Energy import dependency %	78.9	50.1
CO_2 Emissions (Mt)	112	4 004
CO_2 intensity (tCO_2/toe)	2.0	2.2
CO_2 per capita (kg/cap)	10 773	8 180

2004 Primary Energy Supply



2004 Domestic Production



Primary Energy Supply

Oil and natural gas dominate the primary energy supply of Belgium at percentages close to EU-27 averages. The share of gas has grown significantly since 1990 (by 78%). On the other hand, consumption of solid fuels has been gradually decreasing. Nuclear is the third most important fuel, with a share above the EU-27 average (22% compared with 14%). Renewable sources account only for 2% of gross energy consumption (6% is the EU-27 average).

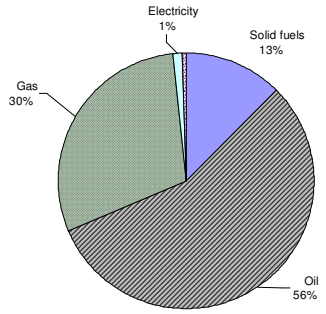
Domestic Production

Domestic production of Belgium is largely based on nuclear energy which shows an increase of 14% since 1990. The share of renewable sources (7%) has significantly grown over the last couple of years (although still remaining below EU-27 average of 12%). In contrast, production of solid fuels has noticeably decreased in recent years.

Imports

Belgium exhibits a strong dependency on imported energy (above EU average). The majority of imports relate to oil, mainly from the Russian Federation and Middle East countries. Natural gas also holds a large share of imports with the main suppliers being Norway, the Netherlands and Algeria. Solid fuel imports mainly originate from South Africa and Australia.

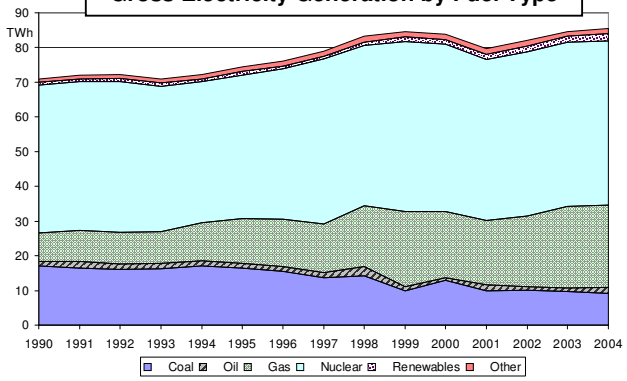
2004 Net Imports by Energy Product



Electricity Generation

Electricity generation in Belgium is based primarily on nuclear power (7 nuclear reactors) followed by natural gas. While the share of nuclear power (55%) remains fairly constant, the share of gas has been steadily increasing, with a corresponding reduction of coal. The amount of electricity generated by renewable energy has more than doubled in the period 1995-2004 but is still small. Total generated electricity has increased by 21% over the period 1990-2004.

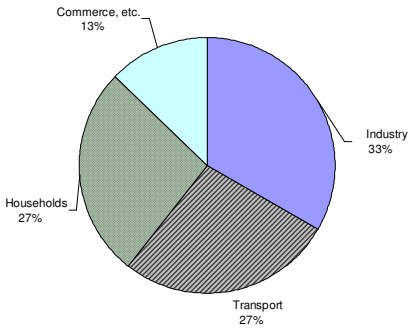
Gross Electricity Generation by Fuel Type



Final Energy Consumption

Final energy consumption is almost evenly distributed between industry, transport and household sectors. The share of industry is above EU-27 average of 28% whereas the share of transport is lower than the EU-27 average (of 31%). The share of commerce has been increasing since 1990, but remains slightly lower than the EU-27 average (15%). In terms of types of energy consumed, oil, natural gas and electricity are the leaders. Consumption of solid fuels has been steadily decreasing.

2004 Final Energy Consumption by Sector



For further information

If you want to find more data on Belgium or other Member State energy markets, go to http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/
http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/energy_transport/figures/pocketbook/2006_en.htm

Further fact sheets on Belgium and other Member States can be found on: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/energy_policy/facts_en.htm

What is meant by…..?

Energy Import Dependency shows the extent to which a country relies upon imports in order to meet its energy needs. It is calculated using the following formula: net imports / (primary energy supply+bunkers)

Energy Intensity gives an indication of the effectiveness with which energy is being used to produce added value. It is defined as the ratio of Primary Energy Supply to Gross Domestic Product

Final Energy Consumption is the energy finally consumed in the transport, industrial, commercial, agricultural, public and household sectors. It excludes deliveries to the energy transformation sector and to the energy industries themselves

Primary Energy Supply: The quantity of energy consumed within the borders of a country: primary production + recovered products + imports + stock changes - exports - bunkers (i.e. quantities supplied to sea-going ships)