

## PRESS NOTICE



Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy



Date: 26 September 2019

## STATISTICAL PRESS RELEASE

# UK Energy Statistics, Q2 2019

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Energy Trends and Energy Prices publications are published today 26 September 2019 by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. The publications cover new data for the second quarter of 2019 (April to June).

Energy Trends covers statistics on energy production and consumption, in total and by fuel, and provides an analysis of the year on year changes. Energy Prices covers prices to domestic and industrial consumers, prices of oil products and comparisons of international fuel prices.

The main points for the second quarter of 2019 are:

- Total **energy production** was 1.9 per cent lower than in the second quarter of 2018.
- Total **primary energy consumption** for energy uses fell by 0.1 per cent. However, when adjusted to take account of weather differences between the second quarter of 2018 and the second quarter of 2019, total primary energy consumption fell by 1.8 per cent.
- **Final energy consumption** (excluding non-energy use) was 1.2 per cent higher than in the second quarter of 2018. The average temperature in the second quarter of 2019 was 1.3 degrees Celsius cooler than the same period a year earlier, with May and June being particularly cooler than in 2018. On a temperature adjusted basis, final energy consumption fell by 3.0 per cent.
- Of **electricity generated** in the second quarter of 2019, coal accounted for only 0.6 per cent, a new record low, whilst gas accounted for 43.6 per cent. Nuclear generation accounted for 17.1 per cent of total electricity generated in the second quarter of 2019.
- **Renewables' share of electricity generation** (wind, solar pv, hydro and bioenergy) increased from 32.0 per cent in the second quarter of 2018 to 35.5 per cent in the second quarter of 2019, mainly due to increased capacity.

main points continued:

- **Renewable electricity generation** was 27.1 TWh in the second quarter of 2019, an increase of 9.9 per cent on the 24.6 TWh in the second quarter of 2018.
- **Low carbon electricity's share of electricity generation** fell slightly to 52.6 per cent in the second quarter of 2019, compared to 53.6 per cent in the second quarter of 2018.
- **Renewable electricity capacity** was 45.9 GW at the end of the second quarter of 2019, a 7.9 per cent increase (3.4 GW) on a year earlier, with two thirds of the annual increase coming from wind.
- **Switching rates** increased in the second quarter of 2019, by 12 per cent compared to the levels of a year earlier for electricity and by 6.8 per cent for gas, based on data provided by Ofgem. An average of 510,000 households per month switched electricity supplier, with 413,000 households per month switching their gas supplier in the quarter.

For more detailed information on methodology, quality assurance and use of the data, please refer to the methodology notes available by energy sector on the BEIS section of the GOV.UK website at: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-business-energy-and-industrial-strategy/about/statistics](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-business-energy-and-industrial-strategy/about/statistics)

The September 2019 edition of Energy Trends also includes articles on:

- Renewable electricity in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the regions of England in 2018
- Combined Heat and Power in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the regions of England in 2018
- Diversity of supply for oil and oil products in OECD countries in 2018
- Competition in gas supply
- Competition in UK electricity markets
- Aggregated energy balances showing proportion of renewables in supply and demand

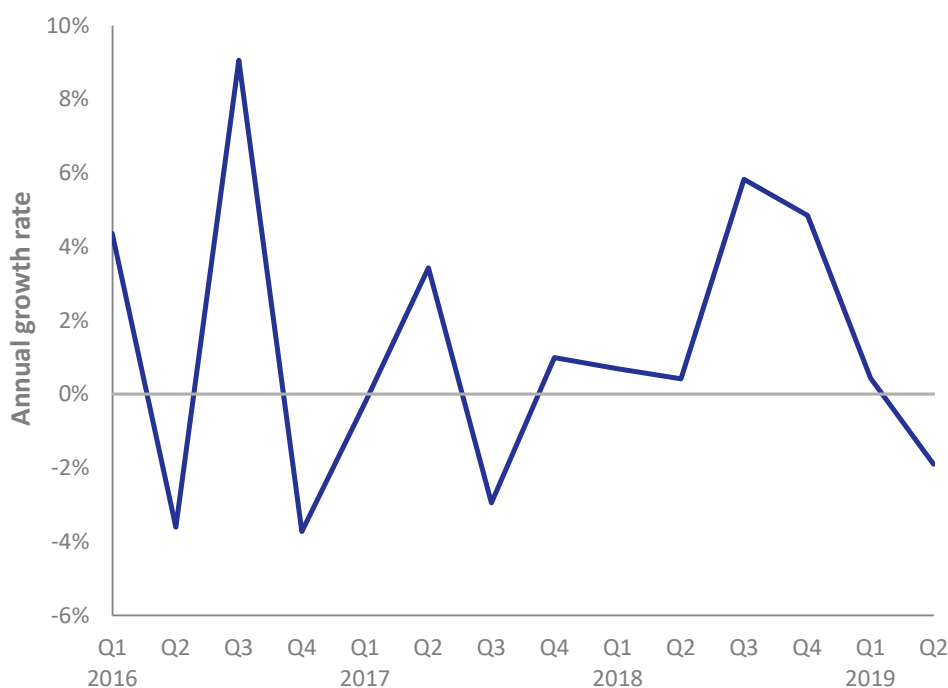
The following statistics are also published today 26 September 2019 by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy:

- Solar photovoltaics deployment, August 2019  
[www.gov.uk/government/statistics/solar-photovoltaics-deployment](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/solar-photovoltaics-deployment)
- Sub-national residual fuel use, 2017  
[www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/estimates-of-non-gas-non-electricity-and-non-road-transport-fuels-at-regional-and-local-authority-level](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/estimates-of-non-gas-non-electricity-and-non-road-transport-fuels-at-regional-and-local-authority-level)
- Sub-national total energy use, 2017  
[www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/total-final-energy-consumption-at-regional-and-local-authority-level](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/total-final-energy-consumption-at-regional-and-local-authority-level)
- Sub-national electricity consumption in Northern Ireland, 2017  
[www.gov.uk/government/statistics/sub-national-electricity-consumption-statistics-in-northern-ireland](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/sub-national-electricity-consumption-statistics-in-northern-ireland)



## TOTAL ENERGY: QUARTER 2 2019

### Total Energy - Production



	<b>2019 Q2</b> <i>Million tonnes of oil equivalent</i>	Percentage change on a year earlier
Total production	31.4	-1.9
Oil	14.2	+1.8
Natural gas	9.2	-4.7
Primary electricity <sup>(1)</sup>	4.4	-12.3
Bioenergy & waste	3.2	+10.4
Coal	0.3	-21.9

(1) Nuclear and wind, solar & natural flow hydro electricity

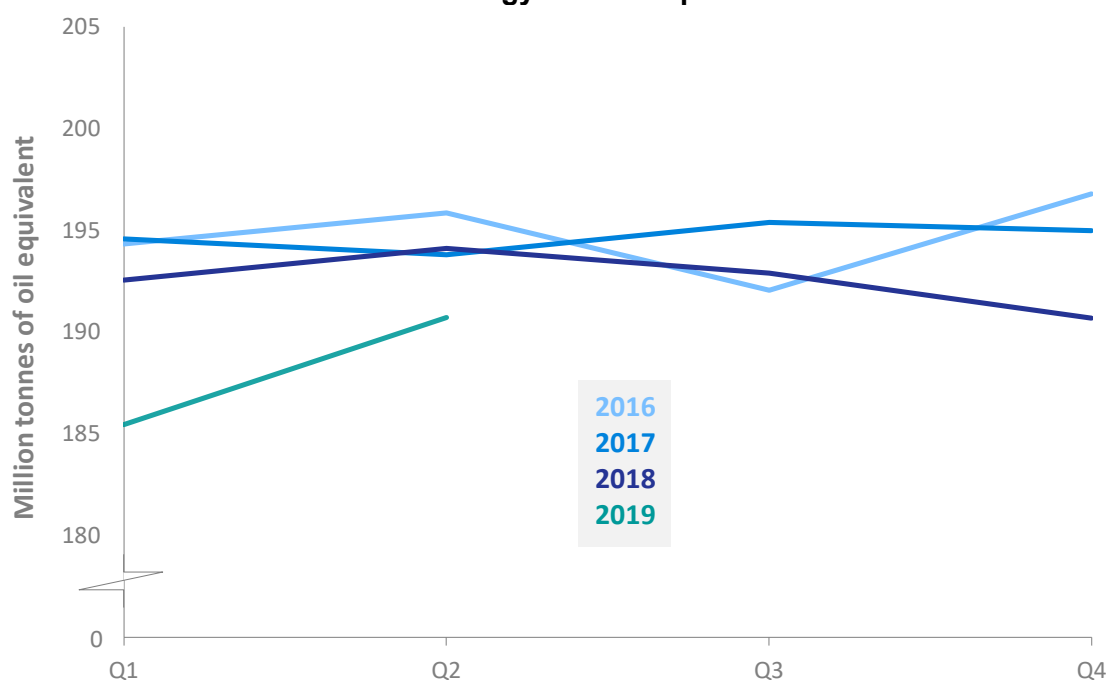
- Total production in the second quarter of 2019 was 31.4 million tonnes of oil equivalent, 1.9 per cent lower than in the second quarter of 2018.
- Production of oil rose by 1.8 per cent, whilst production of natural gas fell by 4.7 per cent due to the closure of the Theddlethorpe terminal in August 2018.
- Primary electricity output in the second quarter of 2019 was 12 per cent lower than in the second quarter of 2018. Nuclear electricity output was 21 per cent lower due to maintenance outages at the major reactors at Hunterston B, Dungeness B and Sizewell B, and refuelling outages at Hartlepool and Heysham 1 nuclear stations, whilst output from wind, hydro and solar pv was 11 per cent higher, driven by increased wind capacity.
- Production of bioenergy and waste was 10 per cent higher compared to the second quarter in 2018 due to a corresponding increase in capacity, whilst coal production fell by 22 per cent.

Total energy quarterly tables ET 1.1 – 1.3 are available on the BEIS section of the GOV.UK website at: [www.gov.uk/government/statistics/total-energy-section-1-energy-trends](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/total-energy-section-1-energy-trends)



## TOTAL ENERGY: QUARTER 2 2019

### Total Energy – consumption<sup>(1)</sup>



(1) Total inland consumption on a primary fuel input basis (seasonally adjusted and temperature corrected annual rates).

	2019 Q2 Million tonnes of oil equivalent	Percentage change on a year earlier
Total consumption		
<i>Unadjusted</i>	42.8	-0.1
<i>Seasonally adjusted and temperature corrected – annual rate</i>	190.7	-1.8
Final consumption: <i>unadjusted</i>	31.7	+1.2
<i>temperature corrected</i>	35.5	-3.0

Final energy consumption (excluding non-energy use) was 1.2 per cent higher in the second quarter of 2019 compared to the same quarter a year earlier. The average temperature in the second quarter of 2019 was 1.3 degrees Celsius cooler than a year earlier, with May and June being particularly cooler than in 2018. On a temperature corrected basis, final energy consumption was down 3.0 per cent.

When examining seasonally adjusted and temperature corrected annualised rates:

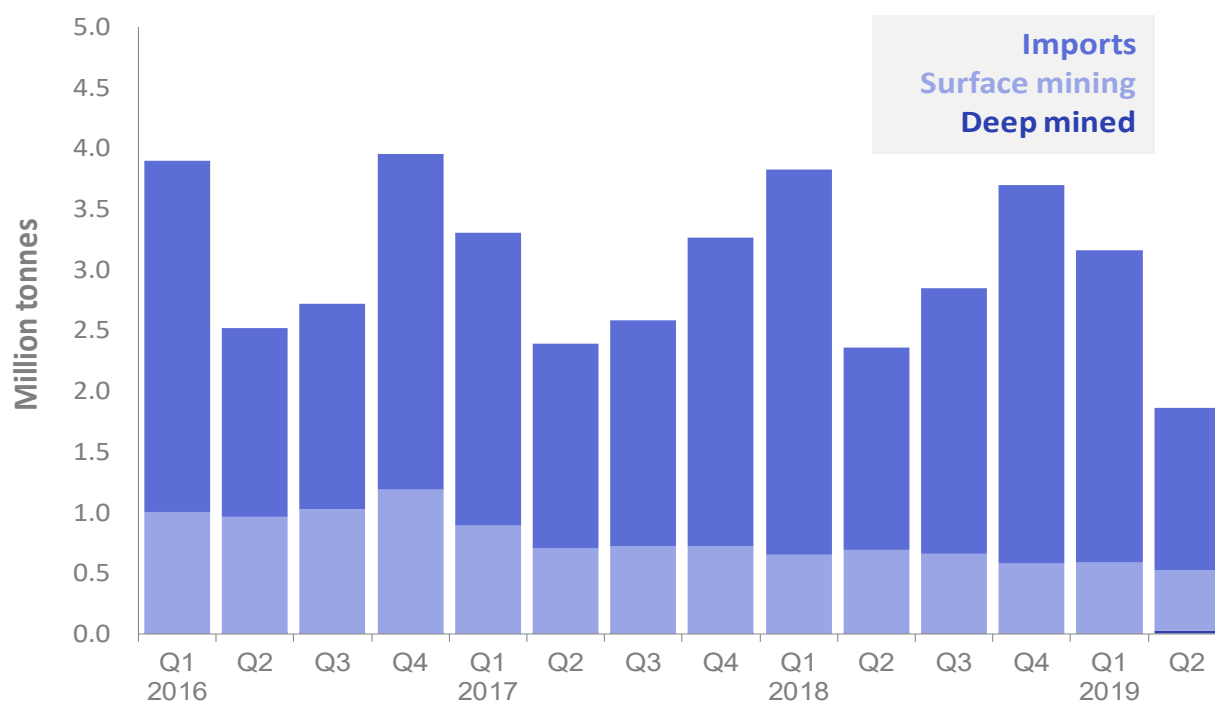
- Total inland consumption on a primary fuel input basis was 190.7 million tonnes of oil equivalent in the second quarter of 2019, 1.8 per cent lower than the same quarter in 2018. The main driver for the reduced level of consumption is the switch by electricity generators from using fossil fuels to renewable sources (bioenergy, wind, solar and hydro), as well as improvements in energy efficiency.
- Coal and other solid fuel consumption fell by 21 per cent, driven by decreased coal use in electricity generation, gas consumption fell by 0.8 per cent, whilst oil consumption fell by 1.4 per cent.

Total energy quarterly tables ET 1.1 – 1.3 are available on the BEIS section of the GOV.UK website at: [www.gov.uk/government/statistics/total-energy-section-1-energy-trends](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/total-energy-section-1-energy-trends)



## COAL: QUARTER 2 2019

### Coal production and imports



	2019 Q2 Thousand tonnes	Percentage change on a year earlier
Coal supply	1,480	-22.4
Coal production	520	-25.0
Coal imports	1,343	-19.4
Coal demand	1,477	-22.5
- Power stations	208	-60.6
- Coke ovens & blast furnaces	764	-6.3
- Final users	476	-7.5

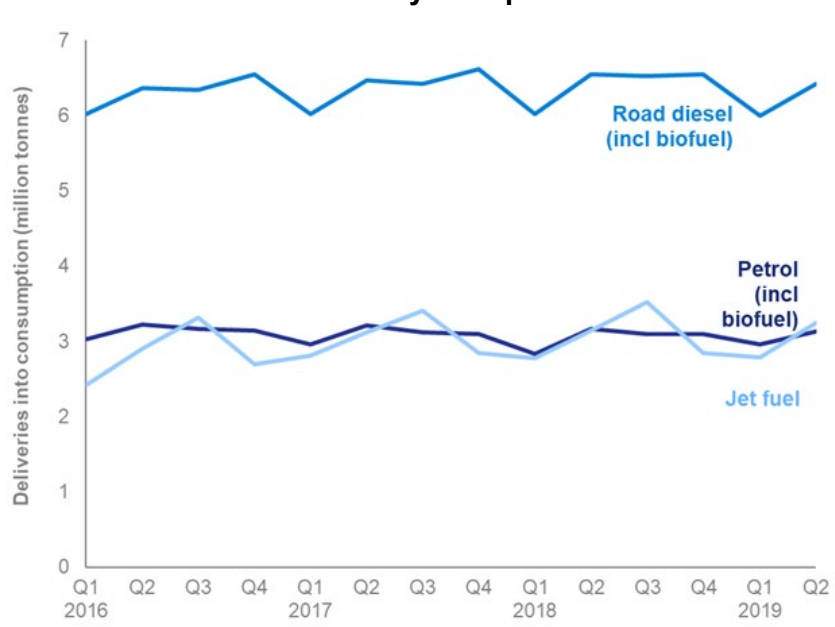
- Provisional figures for the second quarter of 2019 show that coal production fell to a new record low of 0.5 million tonnes, 25 per cent lower than the second quarter of 2018. This was due to mine closures and falling demand for coal for electricity generation.
- Imports of coal in the second quarter of 2019 were 19 per cent lower than in the second quarter of 2018 at 1.3 million tonnes.
- Total demand for coal in the second quarter of 2019 fell 22 per cent lower to a new record low of 1.5 million tonnes, with consumption by electricity generators down by 61 per cent to a new record low of 0.2 million tonnes.
- Coal stocks showed a seasonal increase of 0.2 million tonnes during the second quarter of 2019 but now stand at 6.1 million tonnes, 1.6 million tonnes lower than at the end of June 2018. This was due to a build up of electricity generators stocks as less coal was used in electricity generation.

Coal quarterly tables ET 2.1 – 2.4 are available on the BEIS section of the GOV.UK website at: [www.gov.uk/government/statistics/solid-fuels-and-derived-gases-section-2-energy-trends](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/solid-fuels-and-derived-gases-section-2-energy-trends)



## OIL: QUARTER 2 2019

### Demand for key transport fuels



	2019 Q2 Thousand tonnes	Percentage change on a year earlier
Primary oil production	13,066	+1.5
Primary oil demand	13,855	-2.2
Net imports (primary oil)	1,011	-58.7
Net imports (oil products)	4,018	+7.4
Refinery production	14,438	-1.7
Petroleum demand	17,468	-1.7
- Petrol (including biofuels)	3,129	-1.1
- Diesel (including biofuels)	6,424	-1.9
- Aviation turbine fuel	3,247	+3.2

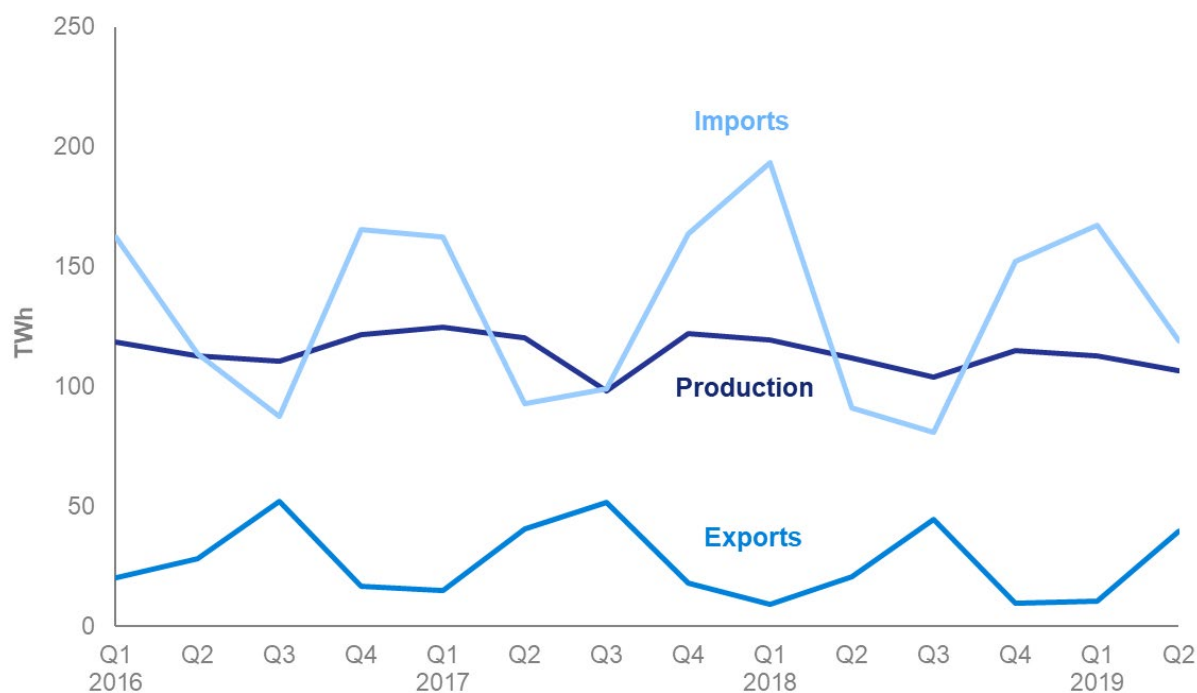
- Primary oil production was up 1.5 per cent in Q2 2019 compared to last year, with increases in both Natural Gas Liquids and crude oil.
- The UK was a net importer for all oil products in the second quarter of 2019 by a record 4.0 million tonnes, higher than the 3.7 million tonnes in the same period of 2018. This is driven primarily by the sharp decrease in exports of petroleum products.
- Production of petroleum products in Q2 2019 decreased on last year (down 1.7 per cent). Imports were up 5.4 per cent.
- Overall demand for petroleum products in the second quarter of 2019 was down 1.7 per cent, within which sales of petrol including biofuels decreased by 1.1 per cent in the second quarter of 2019 while sales of diesel including biofuels decreased by 1.9 per cent.

Oil quarterly tables ET 3.1 & 3.2 and 3.4 – 3.6 are available on the BEIS section of the GOV.UK website at: [www.gov.uk/government/statistics/oil-and-oil-products-section-3-energy-trends](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/oil-and-oil-products-section-3-energy-trends)



## GAS: QUARTER 2 2019

### Production and trade of natural gas



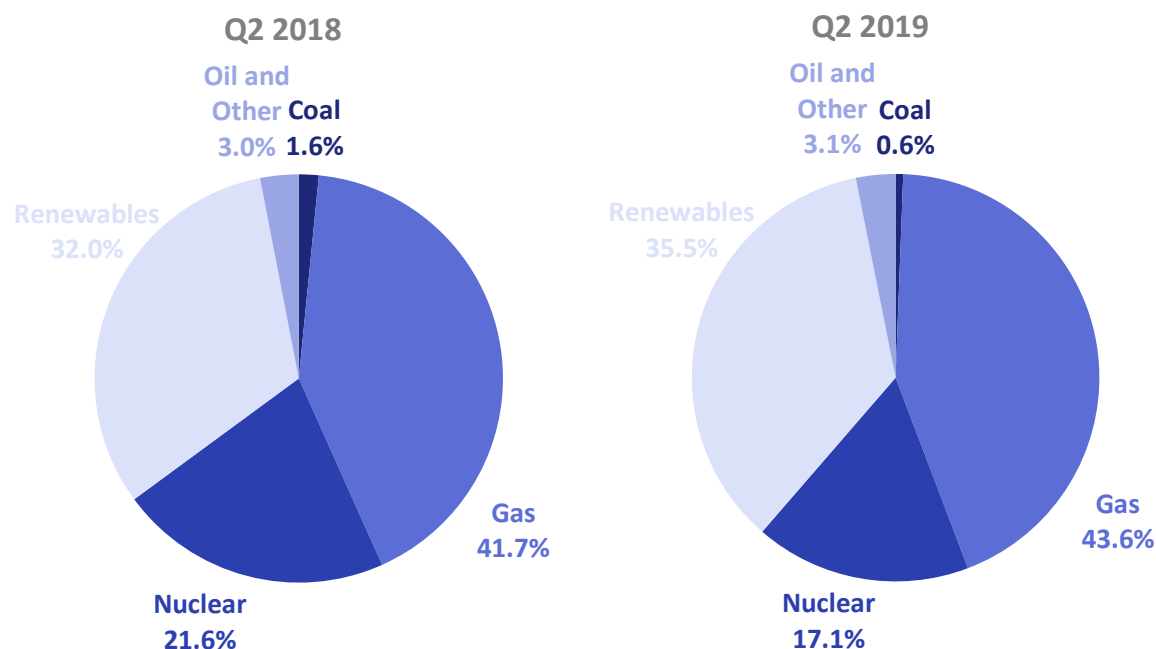
	2019 Q2 TWh	Percentage change on a year earlier
Gas production	106.5	-4.7
Gas imports	118.8	+30.2
Gas exports	39.9	+92.9
Gas demand	179.6	+3.9
- Electricity generation	66.9	+0.4
- Domestic	49.4	+8.2

- Total indigenous UK production of natural gas in the second quarter of 2019 was 106.5 TWh, 4.7 per cent lower than a year before.
- In the second quarter of 2019, pipeline imports fell by 14 per cent. This shortfall in pipeline supply was met by Liquefied Natural Gas imports which tripled to 56 TWh. As a result, total imports were up 30 per cent on the previous quarter.
- Total exports nearly doubled compared to the same period last year. However, whilst exports increased by 19 TWh, imports grew by 28 TWh which resulted in net imports going up by 12 per cent.
- UK gas demand was up 3.9 per cent compared to Q2 2018, with an 8.2 per cent increase in domestic sector due to cooler temperatures this quarter. In contrast, demand for gas for electricity generation was stable (up just 0.4 per cent).

Gas quarterly table ET 4.1 is available on the BEIS section of the GOV.UK website at: [www.gov.uk/government/statistics/gas-section-4-energy-trends](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/gas-section-4-energy-trends)



## ELECTRICITY: QUARTER 2 2019



	2019 Q2 <i>TWh</i>	Percentage change on a year earlier
<b>Electricity Generated from</b>		
Coal	0.45	-62.3
Nuclear	13.1	-21.4
Gas	33.3	+3.6
Renewables	27.1	+9.9
Total	76.3	-0.9
<b>Supplied to</b>		
Industry	22.6	-1.3
Domestic	23.5	+1.1
Other final consumers	23.0	+1.0
All	70.3	+0.2

- Fuel used by generators in the second quarter of 2019 was 1.6 per cent lower than in the second quarter of 2018.
- Generation from coal in the second quarter of 2018 fell by more than 60 per cent to a new record low. Gas generation increased by 3.6 per cent when compared with a year earlier. Nuclear generation decreased by 21.4 per cent due to planned and unplanned outages. Renewables generation increased by 9.9 per cent.
- Low carbon generation accounted for 52.6 per cent of generation in Q2 2019, a 1.0 percentage point decrease from the same period last year, due to the drop in nuclear.
- Total electricity generated in the second quarter of 2019 was 0.9 per cent lower than a year earlier.
- Final consumption of electricity rose by 0.2 per cent in the second quarter of 2019, with domestic use up by 1.1 per cent, due to relatively cooler temperatures.

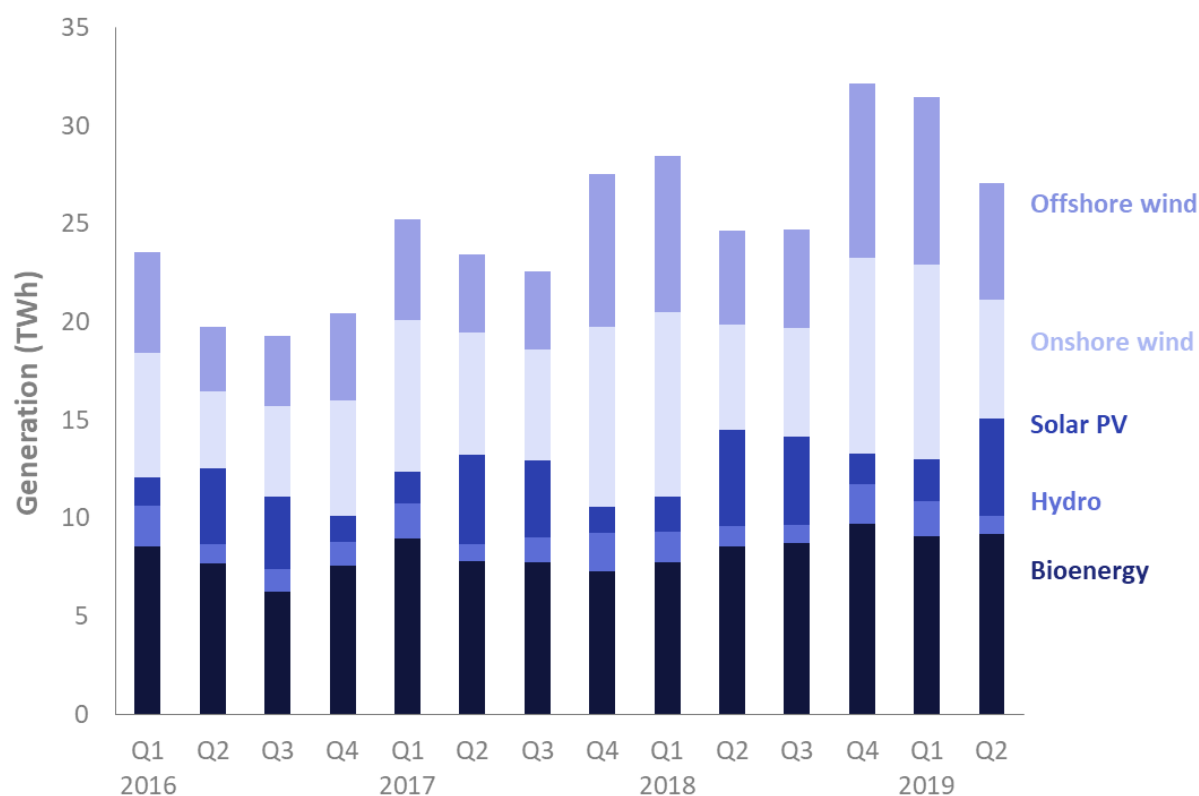
Electricity quarterly tables ET 5.1, 5.2 & 5.6 are available on the BEIS section of the GOV.UK website at: [www.gov.uk/government/statistics/electricity-section-5-energy-trends](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/electricity-section-5-energy-trends)





## RENEWABLES: QUARTER 2 2019

### Renewable electricity generation



	2019 Q2 TWh	Percentage change on a year earlier
Renewable electricity generation		
Onshore wind	6.1	+12.7
Offshore wind	6.0	+25.3
Hydro	1.0	-5.5
Solar PV	4.9	-0.3
Bioenergy	9.2	+7.2
All renewables	27.1	+9.9

- Renewables' share of electricity generation was 35.5 per cent in 2019 Q2, up 3.5 percentage points on the share in 2018 Q2 and the third highest percentage share on record.
- Renewable electricity generation was 27.1 TWh in 2019 Q2, an increase of 9.9 per cent on the previous year. Onshore wind generation rose by 13 per cent and offshore wind generation rose by 25 per cent due to increased capacity. Generation from hydro fell by 5.5 per cent on a year earlier. Generation from bioenergy was up by 7.2 per cent due to a large increase in generation from plant biomass as new capacity came online. Solar PV fell by 0.3 per cent as the small increase in capacity was offset by lower load factors.
- Renewable electricity capacity was 45.9 GW at the end of the second quarter of 2019, a 7.9 per cent increase (3.4 GW) on a year earlier.
- Renewable transport: Liquid biofuels increased by 30 per cent and represented 3.8 per cent (by volume) of petrol and diesel consumed in road transport in the second quarter of 2019.

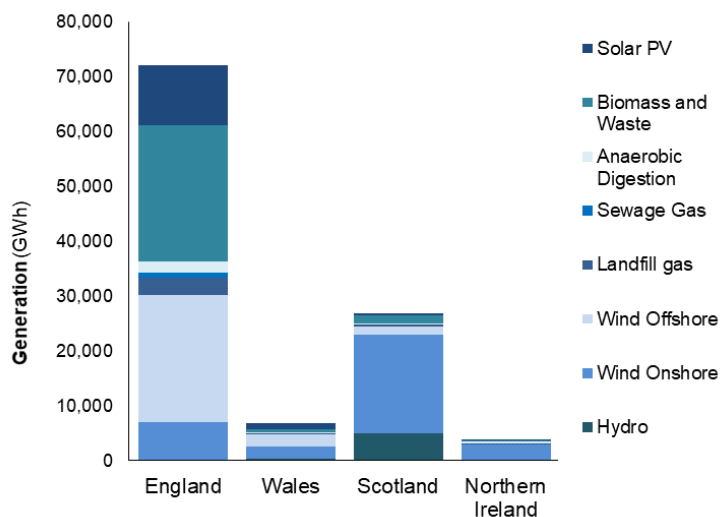
Renewables quarterly tables ET 6.1 – 6.2 are available on the BEIS section of the GOV.UK website at: [www.gov.uk/government/statistics/energy-trends-section-6-renewables](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/energy-trends-section-6-renewables)



## RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY IN THE REGIONS

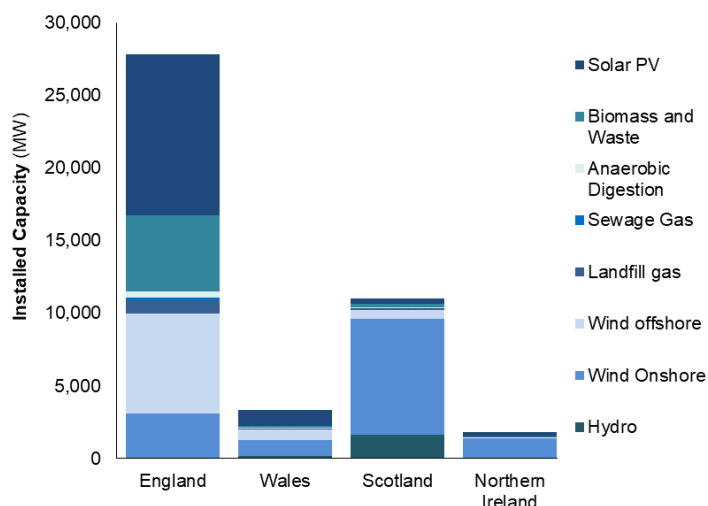
A special feature in the September 2019 edition of Energy Trends looks at renewable electricity in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the regions of England in 2018. The article covers all renewables including those that are not eligible for the Renewables Obligation or Feed in Tariffs. It updates a similar article that was published in September 2018. The main features of the latest statistics are:

### Renewable generation by country, 2018



- Renewable generation in the UK grew by 11 per cent from 2017 to 2018. Within this:
  - Generation in England was up 14 per cent due to new capacity coming online.
  - Generation in Northern Ireland was up 21 per cent, this was largely due to additional onshore wind and solar PV capacity.
  - Generation in Scotland was up 7.1 per cent.
  - Generation in Wales was down 2.2 per cent due to lower average wind speeds.

### Renewable capacity, by country, 2018

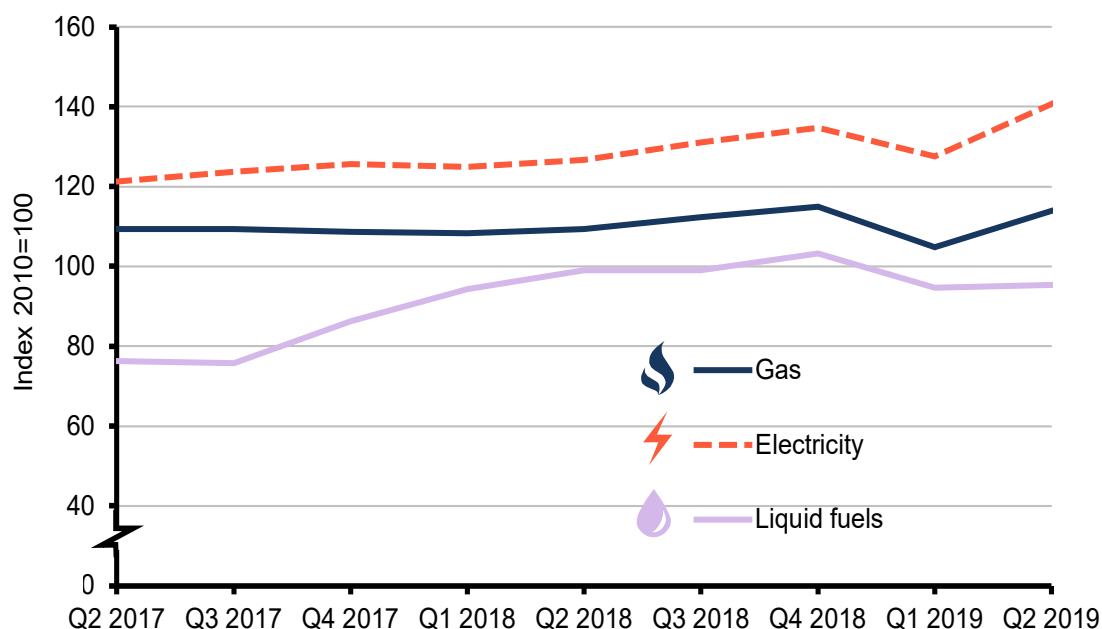


- Overall capacity increased by 10 per cent from 40.3 GW at the end of 2017 to 44.3 GW at the end of 2018. Within this:
  - Capacity in England was up 9.7 per cent. This included a 37 per cent increase in biomass capacity due to the conversion from coal to biomass of another unit at Drax (Yorks & Humber) and at Lynemouth Power station (North East).
  - Capacity in Northern Ireland was up 19 per cent. This included the highest percentage increase for solar PV. The Renewables Obligation was already closed to new Solar PV entrants in England, Scotland and Wales but a grace period was still available in Northern Ireland until March 2018.
  - Capacity in Scotland was up 10.4 per cent, boosted by the Beatrice offshore wind farm.
  - Capacity in Wales was up 4.7 per cent.



## DOMESTIC PRICES: QUARTER 2 2019

### Fuel price indices in the domestic sector in real terms



Consumer price index fuel components in real terms <sup>(1)</sup> 2010=100	2019 Q2	Percentage change on a year earlier
Solid fuels	103.8	+1.6
Gas	113.9	+4.2
Electricity	140.7	+11.0
Liquid fuels	95.4	-3.7
Total domestic fuel	127.3	+7.5

(1) Deflated using the GDP implied deflator. The original source of the indices is ONS.

- The price paid for all domestic fuels by household consumers increased by 7.5 per cent in real terms between Q2 2018 and Q2 2019, and by 9.0 per cent between Q1 and Q2 2019.
- Domestic electricity prices, including VAT, in Q2 2019 were 11.0 per cent higher in real terms than in Q2 2018. Prices were 10.3 per cent higher than in Q1 2019.
- The price of domestic gas, including VAT, rose by 4.2 per cent in real terms between Q2 2018 and Q2 2019, and by 8.7 per cent between Q1 and Q2 2019.
- The price of liquid fuels fell by 3.7 per cent between Q2 2018 and Q2 2019 but rose slightly by 0.8 per cent between Q1 and Q2 2019.

### Switching levels

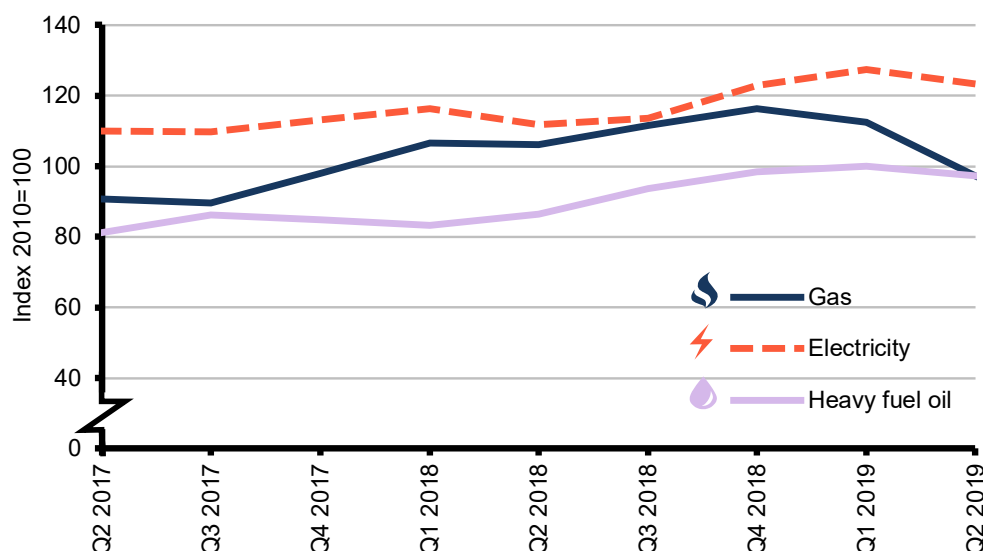
- Switching rates increased in Q2 2019, by 12 per cent compared to the levels of a year earlier for electricity and by 6.8 per cent for gas, based on data provided by Ofgem. An average of 510,000 households per month switched electricity supplier, with 413,000 households per month switching their gas supplier in the quarter.

Domestic prices tables are available on the BEIS section of the GOV.UK website at: [www.gov.uk/government/collections/domestic-energy-prices](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/domestic-energy-prices)



## INDUSTRIAL PRICES: QUARTER 2 2019

### Industrial fuel price indices in real terms including the Climate Change Levy



Fuel prices index in real terms <sup>(1)</sup> 2010=100	2019 Q2	Percentage change on a year earlier
Coal	108.8	+9.4
Heavy fuel oil	97.4	+12.7
Gas	97.3	-8.3
Electricity	123.4	+10.3
Total fuel	115.3	+6.9

(1) Deflated using the GDP implied deflator. Includes estimates of the average Climate Change Levy (CCL) paid.

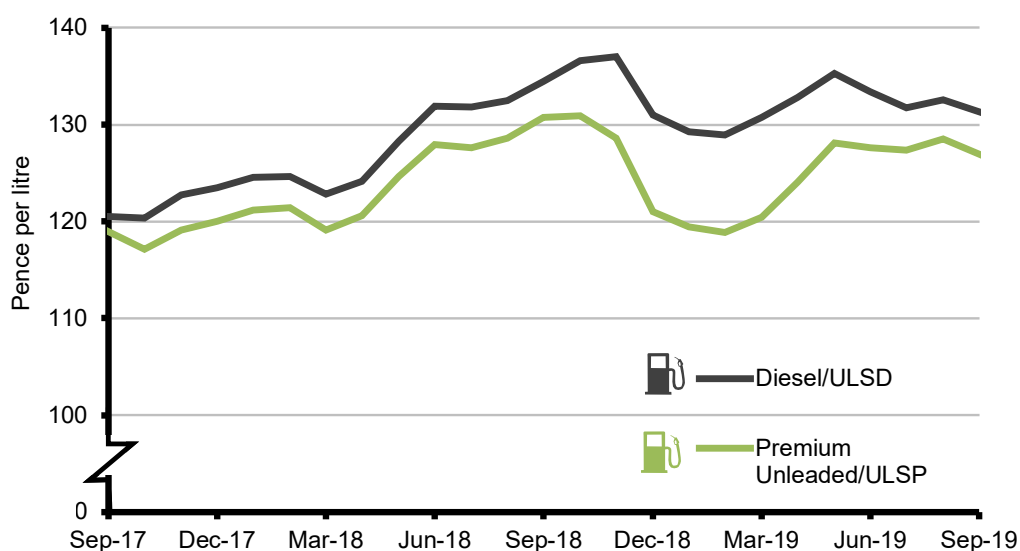
- Average industrial gas prices, including CCL were 8.3 per cent lower in real terms in Q2 2019 compared to Q2 2018 while prices excluding CCL were 10.2 per cent lower.
- Average industrial electricity prices were 10.3 per cent higher including CCL in real terms and 8.8 per cent higher excluding CCL in real terms, in Q2 2019 compared to Q2 2018.
- Average coal prices were 9.4 per cent higher in real terms including CCL and 10.0 per cent higher excluding CCL in Q2 2019 compared to Q2 2018.
- Heavy fuel oil prices were 12.7 per cent higher in real terms than a year ago.
- For the period July to December 2018, UK industrial electricity prices for medium consumers including taxes were the highest in the EU15 whilst UK industrial gas prices for medium consumers including taxes were the second lowest in the EU15.

Industrial prices tables are available on the BEIS section of the GOV.UK website at: [www.gov.uk/government/collections/industrial-energy-prices](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/industrial-energy-prices)



## ROAD TRANSPORT FUEL PRICES: QUARTER 2 2019

### Typical retail prices of road transport fuels



Retail prices of petroleum products	Mid-September 2019 <sup>(1)</sup> Pence per litre	Percentage change on a year earlier
Unleaded petrol <sup>(2)</sup>	126.9	-2.9
Diesel <sup>(2)</sup>	131.3	-2.3

(1) Prices are for ultra low sulphur versions of these fuels.

(2) Prices are provisional estimates.

- In mid-September 2019, unleaded petrol was on average 126.9 pence per litre, 3.8 pence per litre (2.9 per cent) lower than a year earlier and 10 per cent lower than the high reached in April 2012.
- In mid-September 2019, diesel was on average 131.3 pence per litre, 3.1 pence per litre (2.3 per cent) lower than a year earlier and 11 per cent lower than the high reached in April 2012.
- In August 2019, the average UK retail price for petrol was ranked fifth lowest in the EU15. Average UK diesel price was the third highest in the EU15.
- In August 2019 the price of crude oil acquired by refineries, in £ sterling terms, was 11 per cent lower than a year ago, 3.5 per cent lower compared to the previous month and 37 per cent lower than the level reached in March 2012 (highest on record).

Road transport fuel prices tables are available on the BEIS section of the GOV.UK website at: [www.gov.uk/government/collections/road-fuel-and-other-petroleum-product-prices](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/road-fuel-and-other-petroleum-product-prices)



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**Notes to editors**

1. More detailed figures of United Kingdom energy production and consumption and of energy prices, for the second quarter of 2019 are given in the September 2019 editions of ENERGY TRENDS and ENERGY PRICES respectively, the Department's statistical bulletins on energy, released on 26 September 2019.
2. Energy Trends and the Energy Prices bulletins, published quarterly, are available on the BEIS section of the GOV.UK website at: [www.gov.uk/government/collections/energy-trends](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/energy-trends) and [www.gov.uk/government/collections/quarterly-energy-prices](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/quarterly-energy-prices)
3. Articles featured in Energy Trends are also available on the BEIS section of the GOV.UK website at: [www.gov.uk/government/collections/energy-trends-articles](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/energy-trends-articles)
4. More detailed annual data on energy production and consumption for the years 2014 to 2018 are available in the DIGEST OF UNITED KINGDOM ENERGY STATISTICS 2019, published on 25 July 2019. All information contained in the Digest is available on the BEIS section of the GOV.UK website at: [www.gov.uk/government/collections/digest-of-uk-energy-statistics-dukes](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/digest-of-uk-energy-statistics-dukes)

