

PRESS NOTICE



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy



27 February 2020

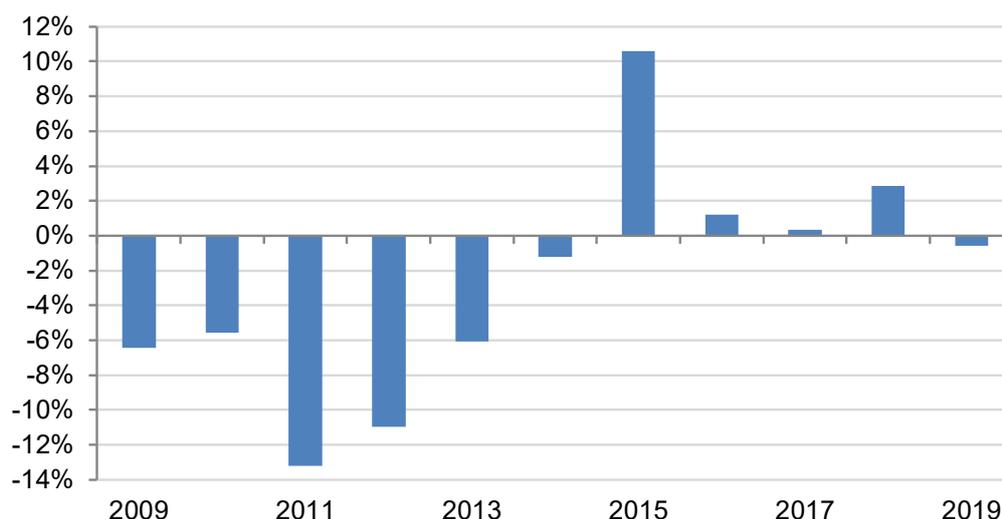
Statistical Press Release

UK Energy Statistics – 2019 provisional data

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy today releases its December 2019 energy statistics that allow a provisional assessment to be made of trends in energy production and consumption in 2019. A more detailed analysis will be available in Energy Trends, published on 26 March 2020.

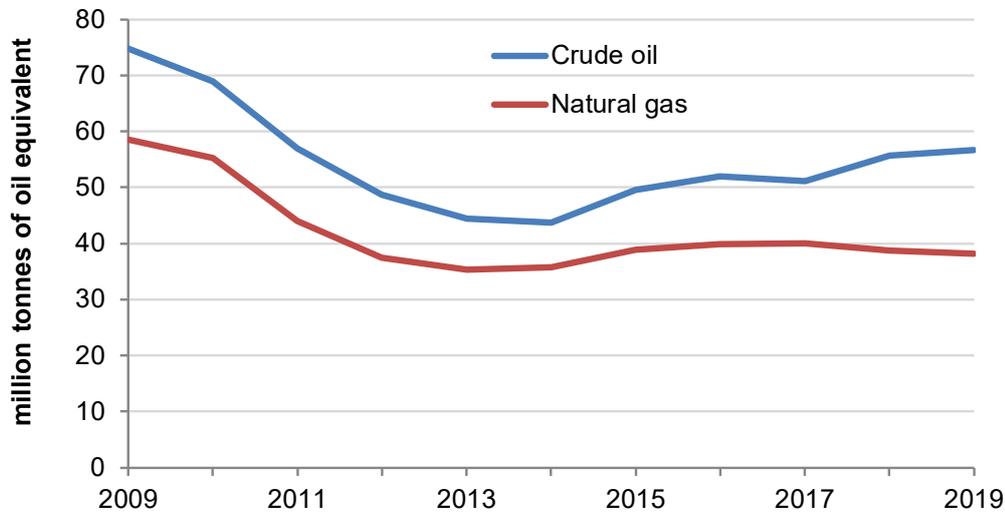
Primary energy production fell by 0.6 per cent on a year earlier to 129.2 million tonnes of oil equivalent (chart 1). This decrease, the first since 2014, follows four successive years of growth. Energy production in 2019 is around 43 per cent of the UK's peak production in 1999.

Chart 1: UK energy production – annual growth



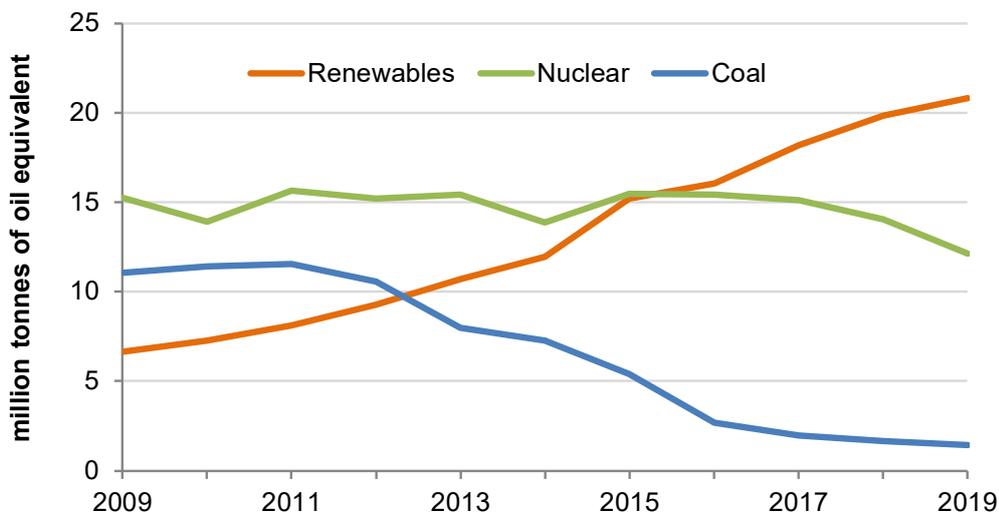
Oil production was up 1.7 per cent, boosted by new production from the Clair Ridge field which opened at the end of 2018, whilst gas production was down 1.3 per cent, due to the closure of the Theddlethorpe terminal in 2018, as well as reduced output at several large gas terminals during 2019 (chart 2). Oil and gas accounted for 44 and 30 per cent respectively of production in 2019.

Chart 2: UK oil and gas production



Renewables energy production rose by 4.9 per cent, with an increase in bioenergy output of 2.1 per cent, and an increase in wind, solar and hydro output of 11 per cent to a record high level due to increased wind and solar capacity. Nuclear output was down by 14 per cent to the lowest level since 2008 due to outages during 2019 (chart 3). Production of coal fell by 14 per cent, to a new record low.

Chart 3: Other UK energy production



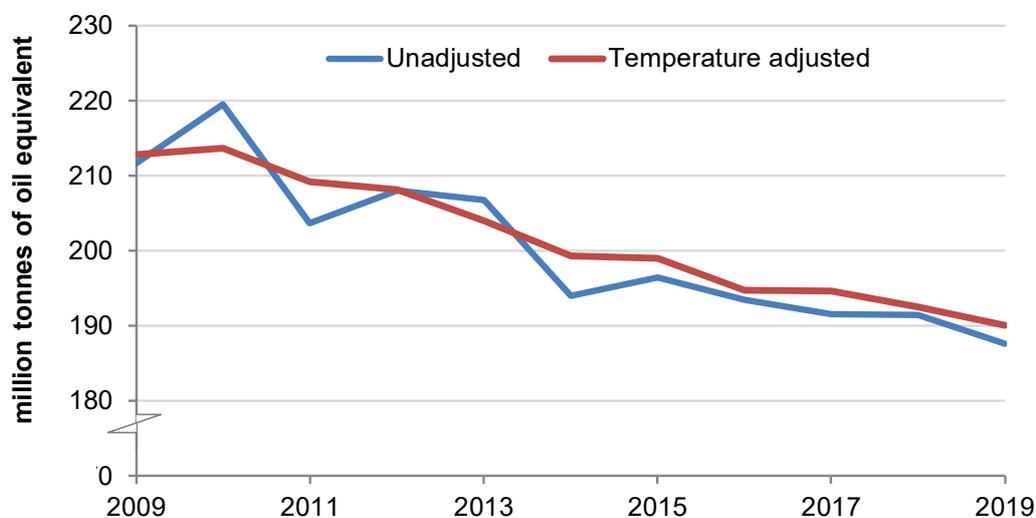
Primary energy consumption on a fuel input basis decreased by 2.0 per cent, and on a temperature adjusted basis, was down 1.3 per cent continuing the downward trend of the last ten years (chart 4). Consumption of coal decreased to a record low as generators made more use of renewable sources for generation in 2019, with bioenergy and wind, solar and hydro consumption all at record high levels. Consumption of nuclear, oil and gas fell, whilst net imports rose.

Estimates of final energy consumption, including detail by sector, will be published in the March edition of Energy Trends on 26 March 2020.

With GDP growth of 1.4 per cent in 2019, the energy ratio, a measure of energy efficiency (energy consumption per unit of economic output) is likely to have fallen by around 2.6 per cent between 2018 and 2019; the ratio has fallen at an average rate of 2.9 per cent per annum since 2000.

The majority of the fall in temperature adjusted primary consumption is due to the change in electricity generation, with fossil fuels (coal and gas) being displaced by renewable sources (bioenergy, wind and solar).

Chart 4: Primary energy consumption



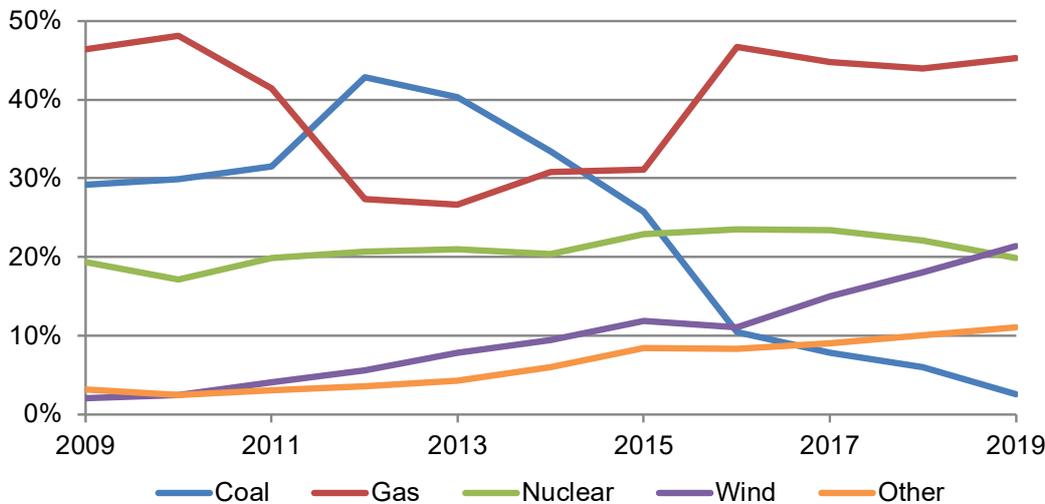
Electricity

At this stage only complete annual estimates are available for Major Power Producers (MPPs), which exclude auto-producers and some renewable sources. Gas accounted for 45.3 per cent of electricity supplied, up from 43.9 per cent in 2018, whilst coal accounted for 2.5 per cent (a record low), down from 5.9 per cent in 2018. Nuclear accounted for 19.8 per cent, down from 22.1 per cent in 2018. Renewables (bioenergy, wind, solar and hydro) accounted for a record high of 31.8 per cent of electricity supplied, up from 27.5 per cent in 2018 (chart 5).



Low carbon generation accounted for a record high of 51.6 per cent of supply, up from 49.6 per cent in 2018, following record outputs from wind, solar and bioenergy, due to increases in capacity for all three technologies.

Chart 5: Electricity – share of generation from major power producers



Gas

In 2019, UK production of gas fell by 1.3 per cent, due to the closure of the Theddlethorpe gas terminal in August 2018 as well as reduced output at several large gas terminals during 2019. Gross gas production is now down by 65 per cent compared to the peak production levels seen in 2000.

Import volumes were broadly similar to 2019 (up by 0.2 per cent, though with notably higher Liquefied Natural Gas imports), whilst exports rose by 5.7 per cent on 2018, boosted by strong growth in exports to the Republic of Ireland.

Whilst exports rose, demand fell by 0.9 per cent on 2018. This is mainly due to the warmer weather experienced during the first quarter of 2019 compared to the 'Beast from the East' weather storm in the first quarter of 2018.

Crude oil and petroleum products

In 2019, UK production of crude oil & Natural Gas Liquids (NGL) rose by 1.7 per cent, with crude oil production up 2.3 per cent but NGL production down 7.4 per cent. Production is now down by 60 per cent compared to the peak production levels seen in 1999.

In 2019 crude oil & NGL imports rose by 2.4 per cent, whilst exports rose 1.8 per cent, reaching the highest level since 2008, as production from new fields was predominantly exported. UK refineries increased their intake of crude from the UKCS to produce petroleum products by 8.2 per cent in 2019 following the record low in 2018. Total refinery intake and production remained stable in 2019 following extensive maintenance in 2018. Demand for petroleum products was down 2.0 per cent on last year, with falls in both imports and exports, and was the first fall following five consecutive annual increases.



Motor spirit consumption rose by 1.1 per cent, the first year on year increase in petrol sales since 1992 and likely due in part to changes in car registrations, whilst DERV consumption fell by 3.1 per cent, the second successive decrease in the series.

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Notes to editors

1. [Monthly Energy Statistics](#) are compiled by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), and are available for download on the BEIS section of the GOV.UK website. They contain tables and commentary on highlights, and technical notes.
2. More detailed estimates of 2019 will be available on 26 March 2020 when BEIS publish the quarterly editions of Energy Trends and Energy Prices. The Digest of UK Energy Statistics (DUKES) will be published on 30 July 2020.

