PRESS NOTICE

Department of Energy & Climate Change

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STATISTICAL PRESS RELEASE

UK Energy Statistics

Energy Trends and Quarterly Energy Prices publications are published today 20 December 2012 by the Department of Energy and Climate Change.

Energy Trends covers statistics on energy production and consumption, in total and by fuel, and provides an analysis of the year on year changes, and now includes a section on renewables.

Quarterly Energy Prices covers prices to domestic and industrial consumers, prices of oil products and comparisons of international fuel prices.

The main points for the third quarter of 2012 are:

- Indigenous production of fuels in the UK fell by 7.3 per cent in the third quarter of 2012 compared with a year earlier. Production of oil fell by 12.1 per cent whilst gas fell by 11.3 as a result of maintenance work and slowdowns on a number of fields.

- Total primary energy consumption for energy uses rose by 1.2 per cent. A similar rise is seen in the temperature corrected data.

- Of electricity generated in the third quarter of 2012, gas accounted for 28.2 per cent (it's lowest third quarter share for 14 years) due to high prices, whilst coal accounted for 35.4 per cent (it's highest third quarter share for 14 years). Nuclear generation accounted for 22.3 per cent, whilst renewables share of electricity generation increased by 2.6 percentage points to 11.7 per cent in the third quarter of 2012. Overall low carbon fuels accounted for a record share of 34.0 per cent of generation.

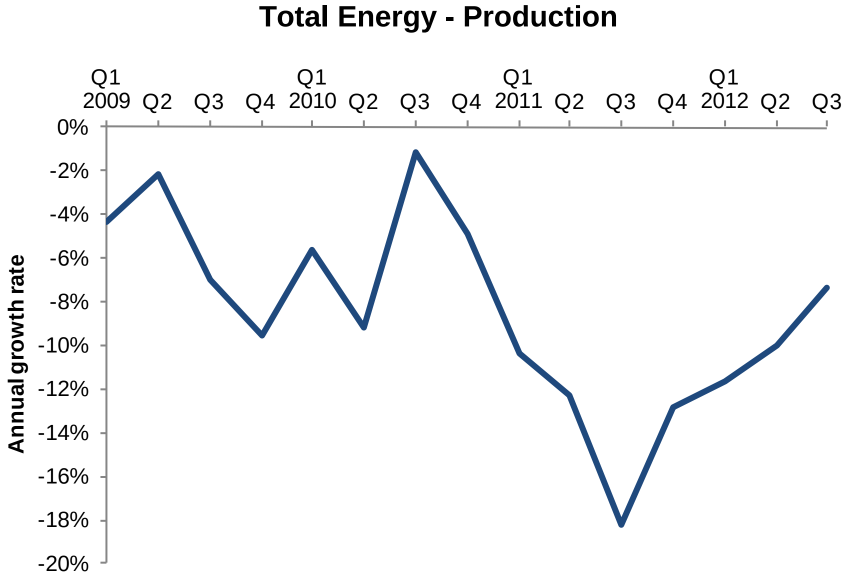
- Offshore wind increased by 54 per cent, with onshore wind up by 38 per cent due to increased capacity, whilst hydro output fell by 16 per cent as a result of lower rainfall in North Scotland.

- Provisional data for 2012 suggest that for fixed consumption levels of electricity of 3,300 kWh per annum, bills increased by £25 to £478; and for fixed consumption levels of gas of 18,000 kWh per annum, bills increased by £79 to £798.

The December 2012 edition of Energy Trends also includes articles on:

- Sub-national energy consumption statistics updates
- Electricity generation and supply figures for Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England, 2008 to 2011
- National Energy Efficiency Data-Framework
- Tariff type variation in the domestic energy market.

TOTAL ENERGY: QUARTER 3 2012



	2012 Q3 *Million tonnes of oil equivalent*	Percentage change on a year earlier
Total production	27.1	-7.3
Natural and other gases	8.4	-10.3
Oil	10.7	-12.1
Primary electricity(1)	4.6	+16.2
Coal and other solid fuels	3.4	-9.0

(1)Nuclear and wind & natural flow hydro electricity

- Total energy production in the third quarter of 2012 was 27.1 million tonnes of oil equivalent, 7.3 per cent lower than in the third quarter of 2011, driven by lower oil and gas production.

- Production of natural and other gases fell by 10.3 per cent and production of oil fell by 12.1 per cent compared to the third quarter of 2011, as a result of maintenance work and slowdowns on a number of fields.

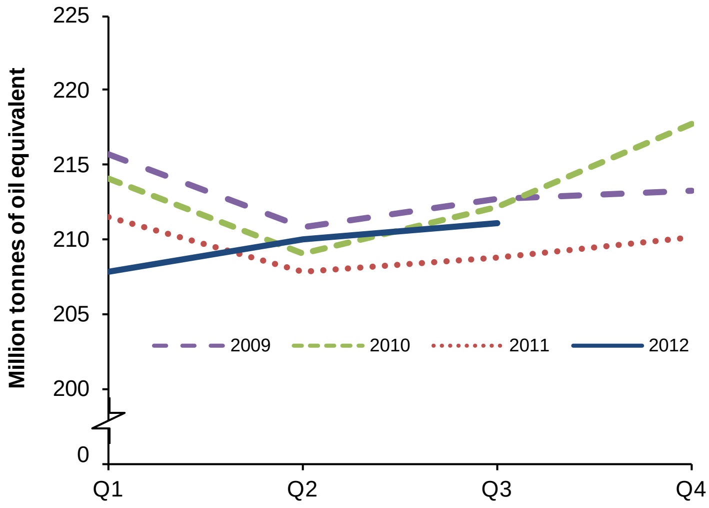
- Primary electricity output in the third quarter of 2012 was 16.2 per cent higher than in the third quarter of 2011: within which nuclear electricity output was 14.4 per cent higher, following lower output in 2011; and output from wind and natural flow hydro was 33.4 per cent higher than the same period in 2011.

- In the third quarter of 2012 production of coal and other solid fuels was 9.0 per cent lower than the corresponding period of 2011. This was due to a sharp decrease in deep mined production due to operational problems at several sites.

Total energy quarterly tables ET 1.1 – 1.3 are available on the DECC website at:
www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy_stats/source/total/total.aspx

TOTAL ENERGY: QUARTER 3 2012

Total Energy – consumption(1)



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

	2012 Q3 *Million tonnes of oil equivalent*	Percentage change on a year earlier
Total consumption		
Unadjusted	43.4	+1.2
Seasonally adjusted and temperature corrected – annual rate	211.1	+1.1

When examining seasonally adjusted and temperature corrected annualised rates:

- Total inland consumption on a primary fuel input basis was 211.1 million tonnes of oil equivalent in the third quarter of 2012, 1.1 per cent higher than the same quarter in 2011.

  Between the third quarter of 2011 and the third quarter of 2012,

- Coal and other solid fuel consumption increased by 27.8 per cent, driven by high use in electricity generation.

- Oil consumption fell by 1.1 per cent.

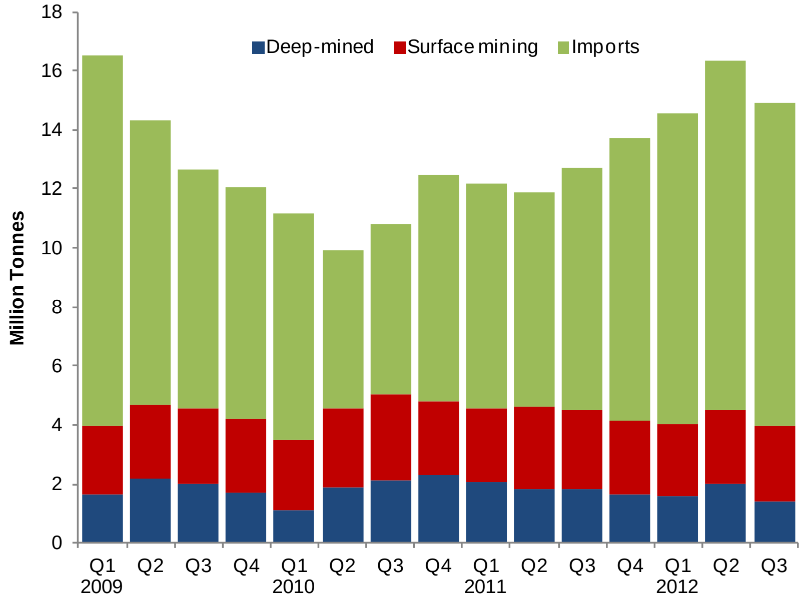
- Gas consumption fell by 13.2 per cent, with lower use in electricity generation.

- Primary electricity consumption rose by 19.5 per cent.

Total energy quarterly tables ET 1.1 – 1.3 are available on the DECC website at:
www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy_stats/source/total/total.aspx

COAL: QUARTER 3 2012

Coal production and imports



	2012 Q3 *Thousand tonnes*	Percentage change on a year earlier
Coal production	4,109	-12.5
Coal imports	10,939	+33.4
Coal demand	13,428	+35.6
- Power stations	11,192	+49.6
- Coke ovens & blast furnaces	1,472	-12.0
- Final users	591	+1.5

- Provisional figures for the third quarter of 2012 show that coal production (including an estimate for slurry) was down 12.5 per cent on the third quarter of 2011 at 4.1 million tonnes. There was a decrease of 21.6 per cent (-0.4 million tonnes) in deep-mined production due to operational problems at several sites and of 4.7 per cent (-0.1 million tonnes) in surface-mined production.

- Imports of coal in the third quarter of 2012 were 33.4 per cent higher than in the third quarter of 2011 at 10.9 million tonnes, with Russia the largest source accounting for 40 per cent.

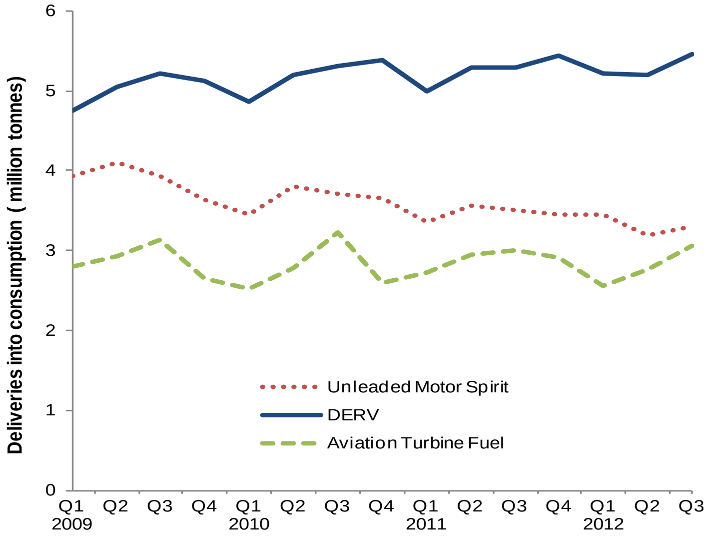
- Total demand for coal in the third quarter of 2012, at 13.4 million tonnes, was 35.6 per cent higher than in the third quarter of 2011. Consumption by electricity generators was up by 49.6 per cent to 11.2 million tonnes, reflecting the switch from gas to coal for electricity generation. Coal consumption by generators over the three quarters of 2012 is already at 93 per cent of the level seen in 2011

- Coal stocks showed a seasonal rise of 1.4 million tonnes during the third quarter of 2012 and at the end of September 2012 stood at 15.8 million tonnes, 2.6 million tonnes lower than at the end of September 2011.

Coal quarterly tables ET 2.1 – 2.3 are available on the DECC website at:
www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy_stats/source/coal/coal.aspx

OIL: QUARTER 3 2012

Demand for key transport fuels



	2012 Q3 *Thousand tonnes*	Percentage change on a year earlier
Primary oil production	9,771	-12.1
Refinery demand	17,505	-9.2
Net imports (oil and oil products)	6,977	+8.1
Petroleum demand	16,711	-4.2
- Motor spirit	3,305	-5.6
- DERV fuel	5,461	+3.4
- Aviation turbine fuel	3,059	+2.0

- Total indigenous UK production of crude oil and NGLs in the third quarter of 2012 fell by 12.1 per cent when compared with the third quarter of 2011. In particular, crude oil production in September this year was around a third lower than in September 2011, mainly because of planned maintenance work on the very large Buzzard field.

- Overall demand for primary oils at refineries (transformation) in the third quarter of 2012 was lower by 9.2 per cent compared with the same quarter a year earlier and was at its lowest level since Q1 2010. The closure of the Coryton refinery in July 2012 is a contributory factor as it previously accounted for around 10 per cent of the UK's refinery production. Also, there were shutdowns at other refineries in the latest quarter for planned maintenance work, reducing demand further. As a result imports of petroleum products fuel grew by 23 per cent.

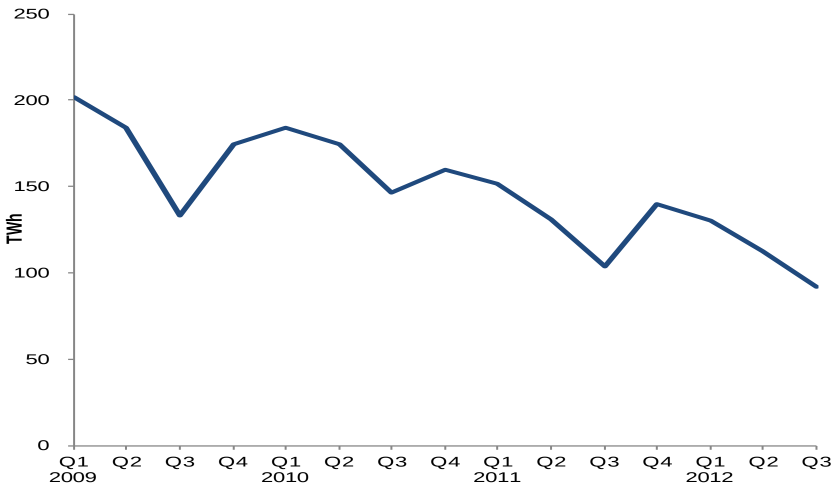
- The UK was a net importer of oil and oil products in the third quarter of 2012 by 7.0 million tonnes. In the same period of 2011 the UK was a net importer by 6.5 million tonnes.

- Overall demand for petroleum products was lower by 4.2 per cent. This was mainly driven by demand for non energy products being much lower - down 21.3 per cent. A large part of this was due to planned shutdowns at petro-chemical plants in September 2012. Also, petroleum refineries use of oil was lower by 11.4 per cent and reflects the closure of the Coryton refinery as well as shutdowns at other refineries for maintenance work.

Oil quarterly tables ET 3.1 – 3.7 are available on the DECC website at:
www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy_stats/source/oil/oil.aspx

GAS: QUARTER 3 2012

Production of natural gas



	2012 Q3 *TWh*	Percentage change on a year earlier
Gas production	91.8	-11.3
Gas imports	93.8	-22.9
Gas exports	43.5	-16.2
Gas demand	133.5	-18.0
- Electricity generation	48.3	-39.4
- Domestic	32.6	+11.7

- Total indigenous UK production of natural gas in the third quarter of 2012 was 11.3 per cent lower than in the same quarter a year earlier. At 92 TWh, this was the lowest third quarter production since 1992. Part of the reason for this was the significant amount of planned maintenance work that took place at the St Fergus associated gas terminal in September this year.

- Total imports in the third quarter of 2012 decreased by 22.9 per cent compared to the same quarter a year ago, reflecting the fall in demand. The main bulk of this decrease was with imports of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). LNG imports decreased sharply by 42.1 per cent falling from 60 TWh in Q3 2011 to 35 TWh in Q3 2012. LNG imports (the majority of which are from Qatar) accounted for 37.0 per cent of total imports in Q3 2012 compared with 49.3 per cent a year ago.

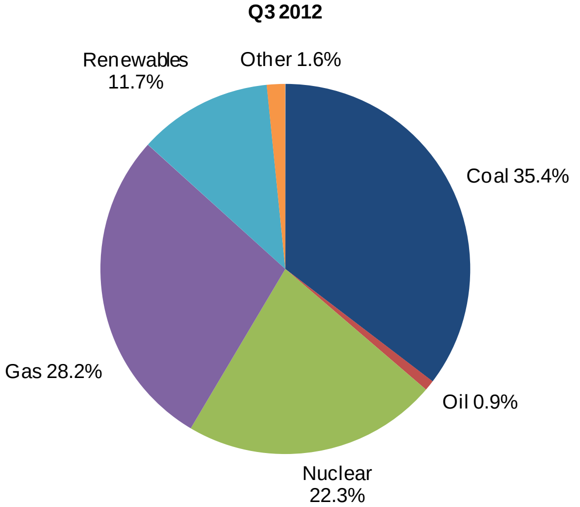
- Total exports in the third of 2012 decreased by 16.2 per cent compared with a year earlier. This was largely due to Bacton – Zeebrugge interconnector switching from export to import mode during September of this year.

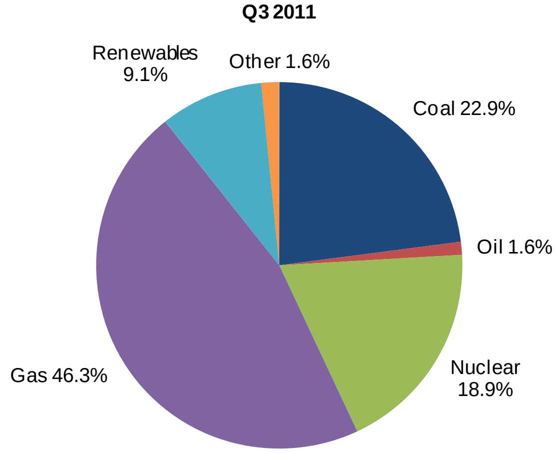
- UK demand for natural gas was 18.0 per cent lower in the third quarter of 2012 compared with a year earlier. This was the lowest third quarter demand since 1995. This was mainly driven by a large decline in gas used for electricity generation (at the expense of coal) which was lower by 39.4 per cent. Domestic demand for gas increased by 11.7 per cent with mean temperatures in the third quarter of 2012 being around 0.2 degrees colder than in Q3 2011.

Gas quarterly table ET 4.1 is available on the DECC website at:
www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy_stats/source/gas/gas.aspx

ELECTRICITY: QUARTER 3 2012

Electricity generated



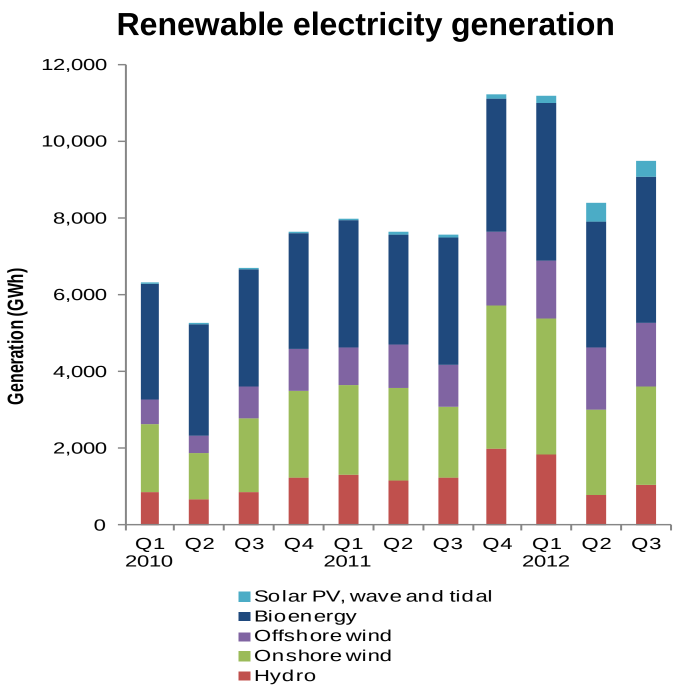


	2012 Q3 *TWh*	Percentage change on a year earlier
Electricity		
Generated from		
Coal	28.66	+49.9
Nuclear	18.03	+14.4
Gas	22.83	-40.9
Renewables	9.49	+25.2
Total	81.04	-2.8
Supplied to		
Industry	24.71	-1.1
Domestic	22.76	-0.6
Other final consumers	24.80	-0.5
All	72.26	-0.8

- Fuel used by generators in the third quarter of 2012 was 2.0 per cent higher than in the third quarter of 2011, reflecting more use of coal, which has a lower thermal efficiency than gas.
- Generation from coal in the third quarter of 2012 rose by 49.9 per cent, while gas fell by 40.9 per cent compared with a year earlier, due to high gas prices. Nuclear rose by 14.4 per cent due to higher availability after outages in the third quarter of 2011. Renewables generation was up 25.2%, mainly due to increased wind capacity.
- Low carbon generation (including renewables) accounted for a record 34.0 per cent of generation in Q3 2012, up from 28.0 per cent from the same period of 2011.
- Total electricity generated in the third quarter of 2012 was 2.8 per cent lower than a year earlier, whilst imports made up 5 per cent of fuel supply.
- Final consumption of electricity provisionally fell by 0.8 per cent in the third quarter of 2012.

Electricity quarterly tables ET 5.1 – 5.2 are available on the DECC website at:
www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy_stats/source/electricity/electricity.aspx

RENEWABLES: QUARTER 3 2012



	2012 Q3 *TWh*	Percentage change on a year earlier
Renewable electricity generation		
Onshore wind	2.56	+38.2
Offshore wind	1.69	+54.2
Hydro	1.04	-16.2
Solar PV, wave and tidal	0.42	+351.4
Bioenergy (inc. co-firing)	3.77	+14.6
All renewables	9.49	+25.2

- Renewables' share of electricity generation increased from 9.1 per cent in the third quarter of 2011, to 11.7 per cent in the third quarter of 2012.

- Renewable electricity generation was 9.5 TWh in the third quarter of 2012, an increase of 25.2 per cent on the 7.6 TWh in the third quarter of 2011. Offshore wind generation rose by 54.2 per cent, while onshore wind generation rose by 38.2 per cent, due to increased capacity. Generation from hydro fell by 16.2 per cent in the third quarter of 2012 compared with a year earlier, due to lower rainfall in North Scotland.

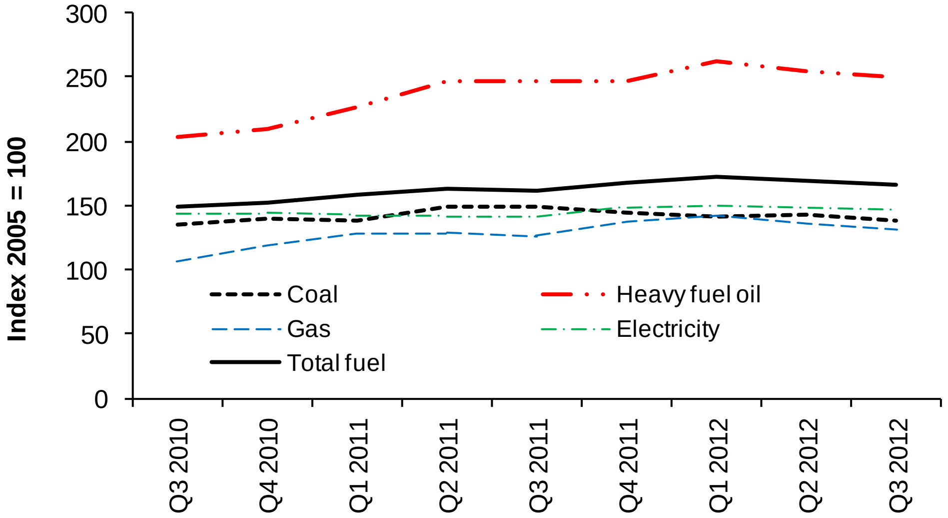
- Renewable electricity capacity was 14.9 GW at the end of the third quarter of 2012, a rise of 42.1 per cent (4.4 GW) on a year earlier, and 4.4 per cent (0.6 GW) on the previous quarter.

- Renewable transport: The share of liquid biofuels of petrol and diesel consumed in road transport fell from 3.9 per cent to 2.7 per cent, due to a 63 per cent fall in biodiesel consumption as a result of the ending of duty relief on cooking oil used for biodiesel on 31 March 2012.

Renewables quarterly tables ET 6.1 – 6.2 are available on the DECC website at:
www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy_stats/source/renewables/renewables.aspx

INDUSTRIAL PRICES: QUARTER 3 2012

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



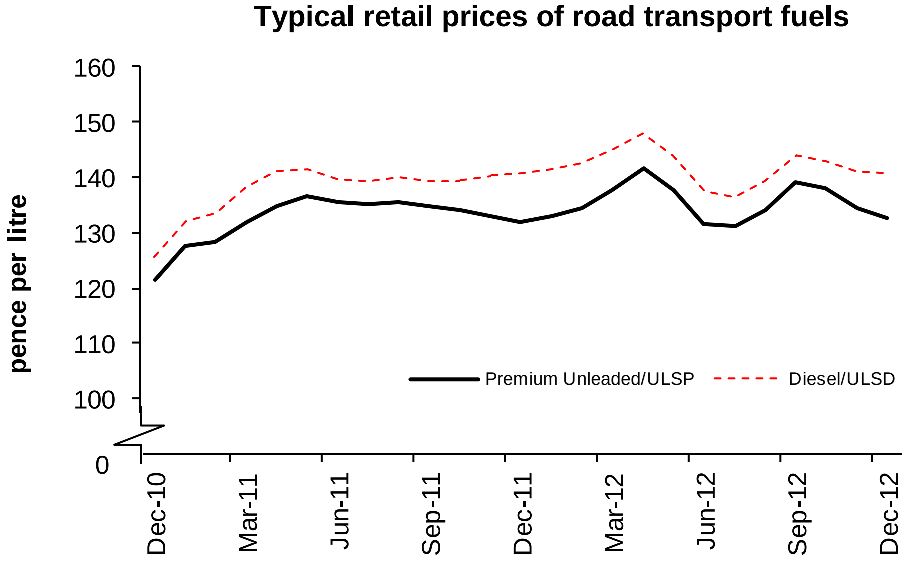
Fuel prices index in real terms(1) 2005=100	**2012 Q3**	Percentage change on a year earlier
Coal	138.8	-6.7
Heavy fuel oil	250.6	+1.7
Gas	131.5	+4.3
Electricity	147.3	+4.0
Total fuel	166.4	+3.1

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

- Average industrial gas prices, including CCL were 4.3 per cent higher in real terms in Q3 2012 compared to Q3 2011, whilst prices excluding CCL were 4.6 per cent higher.
- Average industrial electricity prices were 4.0 per cent higher including CCL and 4.2 per cent higher excluding CCL, in real terms, in Q3 2012 compared to Q3 2011.
- Average coal prices were 6.7 per cent lower in real terms including CCL and 6.9 per cent lower excluding CCL in Q3 2012 compared to Q3 2011. Heavy fuel oil prices were 1.7 per cent higher in real terms than a year ago.
- For the period January to June 2012, prices for industrial electricity consumers including taxes were above the EU15 median for extra large, large and medium consumers, and equal to the median for small consumers. UK industrial gas prices including tax were the lowest in the EU15 for all sizebands of consumer.

Industrial prices tables are available on the DECC website at:
www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy_stats/prices/prices.aspx

ROAD TRANSPORT FUEL PRICES: QUARTER 3 2012



Retail prices of petroleum products	**Mid December 2012**[1] *Pence per litre*	Percentage change on a year earlier
Unleaded petrol [2]	132.5	+0.4
Diesel [2]	140.8	+0.1

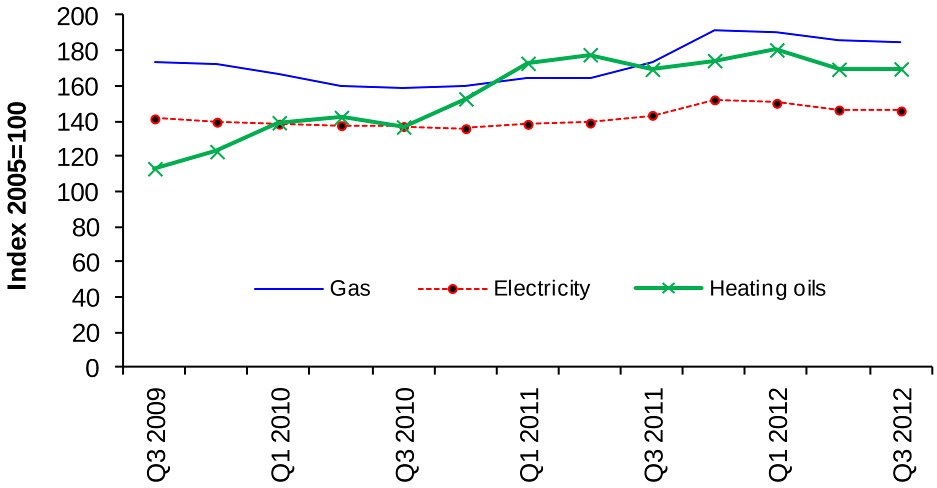
(1) Prices are for ultra low sulphur versions of these fuels.
(2) Prices are provisional estimates.

- In mid December 2012, a litre of unleaded petrol was on average 132.5 pence per litre, 0.5 pence per litre higher than a year earlier, but 9.2 pence per litre lower than the high reached in April 2012.
- In mid December 2012, diesel was on average 140.8 pence per litre, 0.1 pence per litre higher than a year earlier, but 7.0 pence per litre below the peak seen in April 2012.
- In November 2012, the UK retail price for petrol was ranked fifth highest in the EU. The UK diesel price was ranked highest in the EU.
- The price difference between diesel and petrol in December 2012 is 8.2 pence per litre, the highest level since January 2012.

Road transport fuel prices tables are available on the DECC website at:
www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy_stats/prices/prices.aspx

DOMESTIC PRICES: QUARTER 3 2012

Fuel price indices in the domestic sector in real terms



Retail price index fuel components in real terms [(1)] 2005=100	**2012 Q3**	Percentage change on a year earlier
Coal and smokeless fuels	145.1	+1.2
Gas	184.9	+6.4
Electricity	145.9	+1.7
Heating oils	169.7	+0.1
Total fuel and light	162.0	+3.6

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

- Q3 2012 data shows that the price paid for all fuel and light by household consumers has risen by 3.6 per cent in real terms between Q3 2011 and Q3 2012, but has fallen by 0.3 per cent between Q2 and Q3 2012.

- Domestic electricity prices, including VAT, in Q3 2012 were 1.7 per cent higher in real terms than in Q3 2011. Prices were 0.4 per cent lower than in Q2 2012.

- The price of domestic gas, including VAT, rose by 6.4 per cent in real terms between Q3 2011 and Q3 2012 but fell by 0.3 per cent between Q2 and Q3 2012.

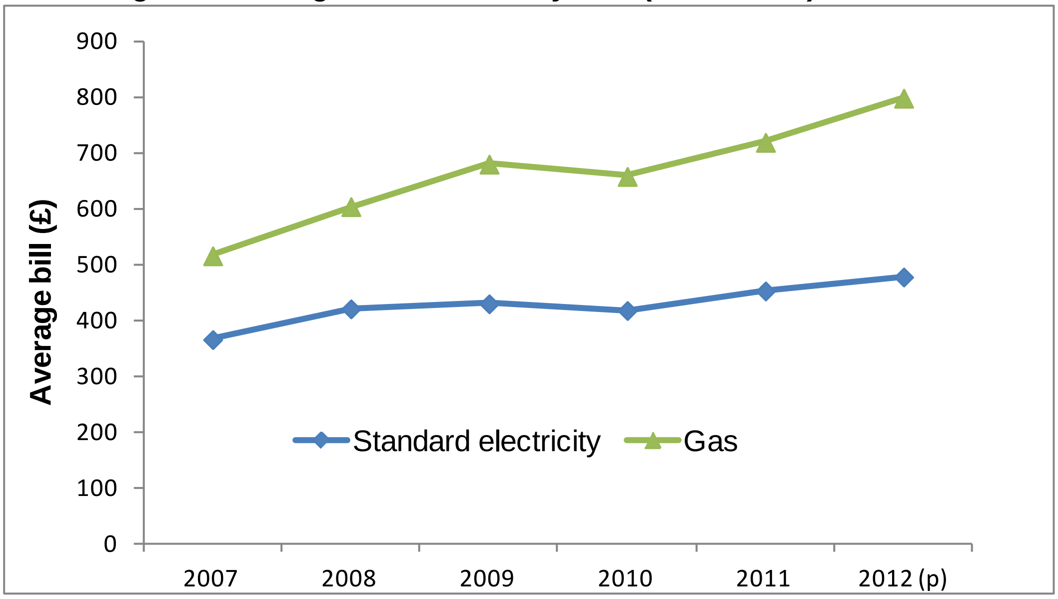
- The recent price increases announced by all of the six major electricity and gas suppliers will be reflected in the RPI data for the fourth quarter of 2012 or the first quarter of 2013.

- The price of heating oils rose marginally by 0.1 per cent both between Q3 2011 and Q3 2012 and between Q2 and Q3 2012.

Domestic prices tables are available on the DECC website at:
www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy_stats/prices/prices.aspx

DOMESTIC ENERGY BILLS: 2012

Average domestic gas and electricity bills (cash terms), 2007 to 2012



Average annual domestic fuel bills [1]

	2011	**2012 (p)**	Percentage change, cash terms	Percentage change, real terms [2]
Gas [3]	£719	£798	+11.0	+8.2
Electricity[4]	£453	£478	+5.5	+2.8
Total [5]	£1,172	£1,276	+8.9	+6.1

(1) Average annual bills for domestic customers are weighted by the proportion of customers on the different payment methods, which include standard credit, direct debit and pre-payment meter. Bills relate to the total bill received in the calendar year and are in cash terms.
(2) To estimate the percentage change in real terms bills were deflated using the GDP (implied) deflator.
(3) Gas bills are based on an annual consumption of 18,000 kWh.
(4) Electricity bills are based on an annual consumption of 3,300 kWh.
(5) The average total gas and electricity bill presented should be taken as broadly indicative only. It is not based on individual customers, but is simply the sum of the averages for electricity and gas.
(p) Provisional bills only – final bills will be available in the March 2013 edition of 'Quarterly Energy Prices'.

- Provisional 2012 figures for household bills show that the average standard electricity bill, based on a fixed consumption level of 3,300 kWh, increased by £25 compared with 2011, to £478. The provisional average direct debit bill for 2012 was £459, while average standard credit and pre-payment bills were £499 and £502 respectively.

- For gas, provisional 2012 figures show that the average domestic gas bill, based on a fixed consumption level of 18,000 kWh, rose by £79 compared with 2011, to £798. Average direct debit bills in 2012 were £770, whilst average standard credit and prepayment bills were £836 and £827 respectively.

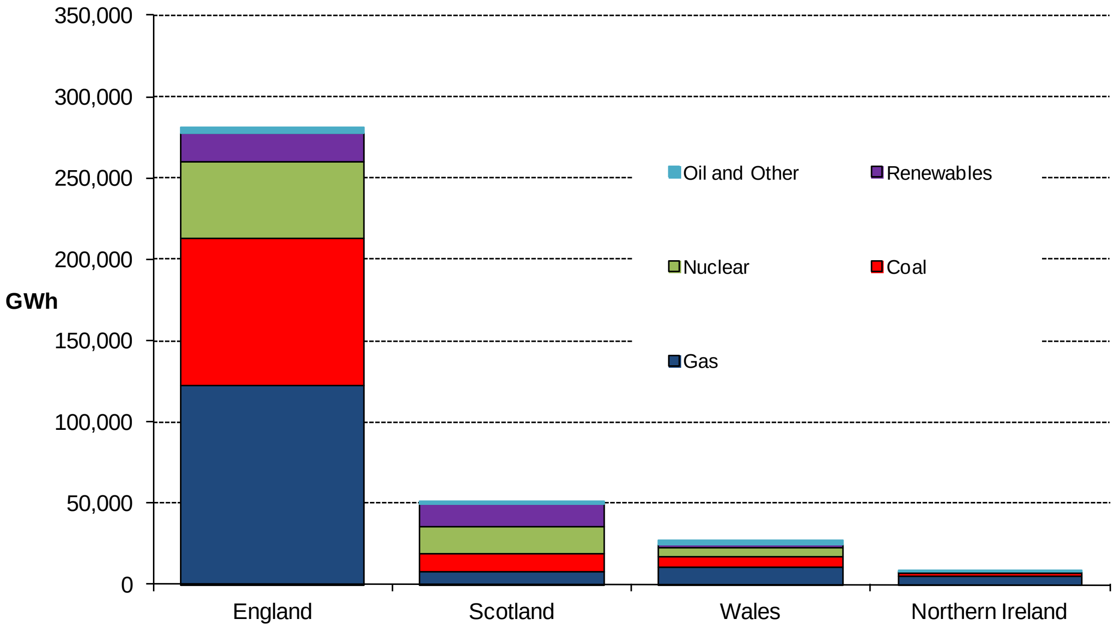
- For the period January to June 2012, prices for medium domestic gas and electricity consumers, including tax, were the lowest and fourth lowest in the EU15 respectively.

Domestic prices tables are available on the DECC website at:
www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy_stats/prices/prices.aspx

ELECTRICITY GENERATION AND SUPPLY

This article updates the detailed electricity figures for Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England that were provided in December 2011's Energy Trends. The data are for 2008 to 2011 and cover generation, supply, internal and external trade and consumption. The role of renewables in each area is also shown.

Generation by country and fuel type in 2011



- Due to high gas prices, gas's share of generation in 2011 in each of England, Scotland and Wales fell in 2011, to a record low for each country in the 2004 to 2011 period covered.
- Nuclear's share of generation in 2011 increased in England, Scotland and Wales, due to increased availability, after extensive outages in 2010.
- The share of renewables increased in all four countries in 2011, as a result of increased capacity and higher rainfall and wind speeds.
- Scotland's renewable electricity target (for renewable electricity generation to reach 31 per cent of gross consumption by 2011) was passed, with 36.3 per cent of gross electricity consumption from renewable electricity generation in 2011.

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Notes to editors

1. More detailed figures of United Kingdom energy production and consumption and of energy prices, for the third quarter of 2012 are given in the December 2012 editions of ENERGY TRENDS and QUARTERLY ENERGY PRICES respectively, the Department's statistical bulletins on energy, published on 20 December 2012.

2. Energy Trends and the Quarterly Energy Prices bulletins, published quarterly, are available in hard copy from DECC on subscription, price £40 per annum and on the DECC website at
www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/publications/publications.aspx

3. Articles featured in Energy Trends are also available on the DECC website at:
www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/publications/trends/articles_issue/articles_issue.aspx
(articles by issue) or
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4. For new subscription queries or a subscription form, telephone SSD on 01904 455395 or you can write to: SSD, 2nd Floor, Foss House, 1-2 Peasholme Green, York YO1 7PX

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Single copies of Energy Trends and Quarterly Energy Prices are also available from the DECC Publications Orderline priced £6 and £8 respectively:

Web: www.decc.gov.uk/publications
Phone: 0845 504 9188
E-mail: deccteam@decc.ecgroup.net

5. More detailed annual data on energy production and consumption for the years 2007 to 2011 are available in the DIGEST OF UNITED KINGDOM ENERGY STATISTICS 2012, published by the Stationery Office on 26 July 2012, priced £62.

All information contained in the Digest is available on the DECC website at:
www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/publications/dukes/dukes.aspx

6. Please note that the DECC website will be moving to the new gov.uk website (www.gov.uk/) in early 2013. All existing links should continue to work; however, if users experience any difficulty in locating Energy Trends and Prices publications or tables following the migration they should contact the DECC Energy Statistics contacts shown for each section or article within the publications.