

# PRESS NOTICE



Department  
of Energy &  
Climate Change



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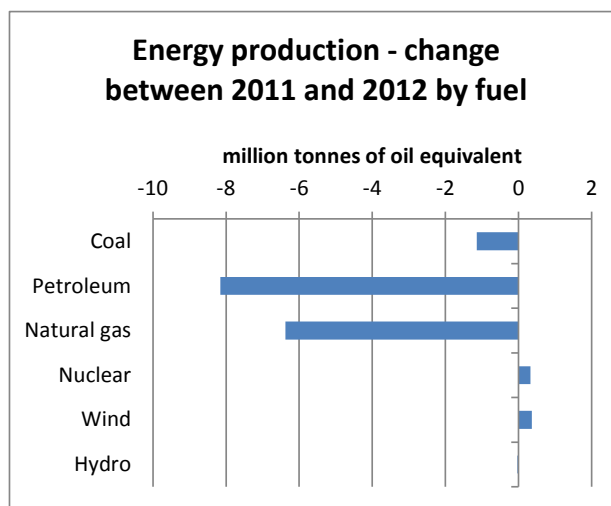
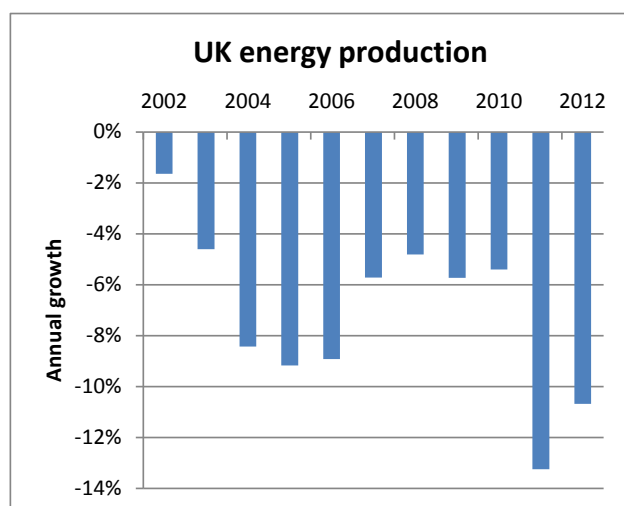
## Statistical Press Release

### UK Energy Statistics – 2012 provisional data

The Department of Energy and Climate Change today releases its December energy statistics, that allow an assessment to be made of trends in energy production, transformation and consumption in 2012.

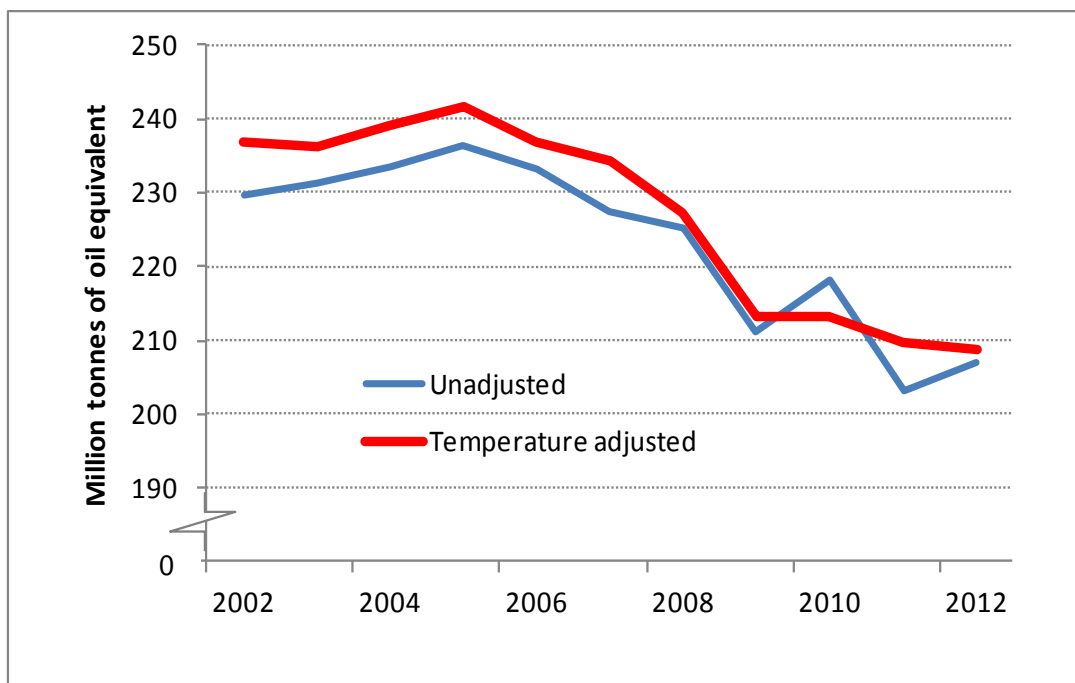
**Primary energy production** fell by 10.7 per cent on a year earlier to 122.4 million tonnes of oil equivalent, following sharp falls in output from the UK Continental Shelf as a result of longer term decline, maintenance activity and slowdowns. This follows the record 13.2 per cent decline recorded last year. On an annual basis, petroleum was down by 14.3 per cent, with gas production down by 14.1 per cent. Low carbon energy production grew: nuclear output was up 2 per cent; wind output from major power producers was up by 33 per cent reflecting additional capacity; though hydro was down by 9 per cent, due to lower rainfall in the areas where the UK hydro resources are located.

#### UK energy production – annual growth



**Primary energy consumption** increased by 2.0 per cent, but on a temperature adjusted basis, was down 0.4 per cent continuing the downward trend of the last seven years. The main difference was due to 2012 being colder than 2011, with average temperatures falling from 10.7 to 9.8 degrees Celsius. As a result there was increased demand for energy for heating. Also, the switch in electricity generation from gas to coal, as detailed below, results in an increased demand for primary energy, as gas generation is thermally more efficient than coal generation. This has likely increased both the unadjusted and temperature adjusted data in 2012 by around 1 per cent, compared to what it would have been without this change. As a result, final energy consumption is estimated to have fallen by around 1.5 per cent, broadly in line with the trend since 2004.

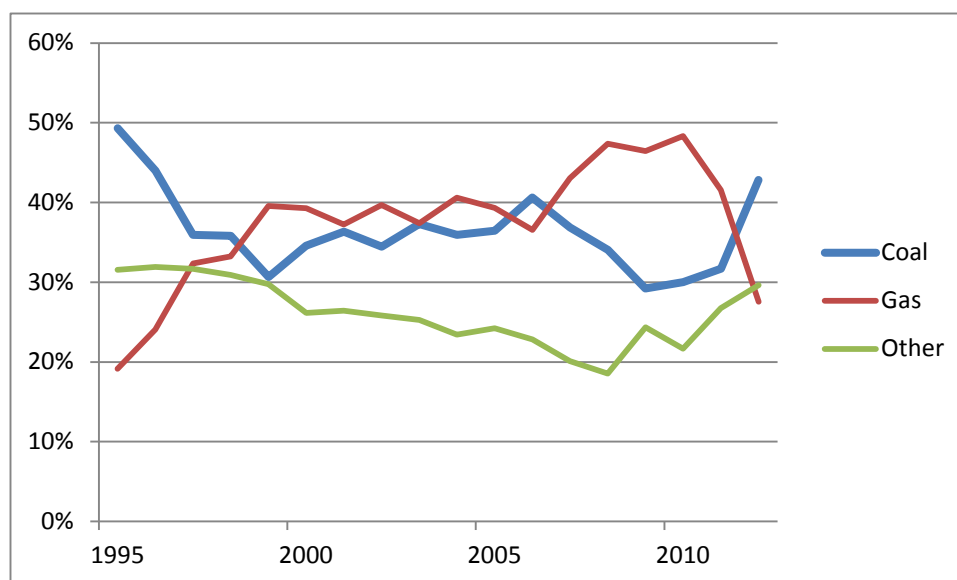
## Primary energy consumption



## Electricity

At this stage only complete annual estimates are available for major power producers, which exclude auto-producers and some renewable sources. Coal accounted for 42.8 per cent of electricity supplied in 2012, with gas accounting for 27.6 per cent and nuclear 20.8 per cent. Coal's share of generation is at its highest level since 1996, with gas's share at its lowest since 1996.

## Electricity – share of generation from major power producers



**Low carbon generation** accounted for 29.6 per cent of supply, up from 26.7% in 2011. Wind generation by major power producers was up 33 per cent, and its share of generation has grown from 4.0 per cent in 2011 to 5.5 per cent in 2012. Bioenergy was up by 46 per cent and its share has grown to 1.9 per cent. Hydro was down by 9.0 per cent and its share decreased marginally to 1.4 per cent. Nuclear output was up by 2.1 per cent, but still accounted for over 70 per cent of the UK's low carbon generation.

### Gas

In 2012, UK production of gas fell by 14.1 per cent, following the record fall of 20.8 per cent in 2011. This large fall reflects continued planned and unplanned maintenance activity. Imports of gas again exceeded UK production, though production continued to exceed net imports. The net import dependency rate is estimated to have increased to 47 per cent.

In 2012 physical flows of imports were down by 7.4 per cent. There was a large increase in pipeline imports, which were up 25.9 per cent, primarily from Norway, following maintenance works in 2011; with a large fall in imports of LNG (liquefied natural gas), which were down 45.3 per cent.

UK gas demand was at its lowest level since 1995, due the decreased demand from generators.

## Crude oil and petroleum products

In 2012, UK production of crude oil fell by 14.3 per cent. Crude oil imports again exceeded UK production, though the UK still exported significant quantities, with production still exceeding net imports.

In July 2012, the Coryton refinery closed. Despite this, the UK remained a net exporter of petroleum products, with net exports of 1.6 million tonnes.

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### Notes to editors

1. **Monthly Energy Statistics** are compiled by the Department of Energy and Climate Change, and are available for download on the DECC website at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-energy-climate-change/about/statistics>. They contain tables and commentary on highlights, and technical notes.
2. More detailed estimates of 2012 will be available on 28<sup>th</sup> March when DECC publish Energy Trends and Quarterly Energy Prices. The Digest of UK Energy Statistics (DUKES) will be published on 25<sup>th</sup> July.

