



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Energy Trends

UK, October to December 2022 and 2022

About this release

Information on energy production, trade, and consumption in the UK for total energy and by specific fuels.

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Data tables

Additional data are available online as part of the Energy Trends series:

[Total energy](#)

[Coal and derived gases](#)

[Oil and oil products](#)

[Gas](#)

[Electricity](#)

[Renewables](#)

This publication is based on a snapshot of survey data from energy suppliers. New data are incorporated in line with the [revisions policy](#).

Percentage annual change from 2021, primary energy basis

(mtoe basis)	Production	Imports	Exports	Demand
Total energy	+2.7%	+11%	+25%	-1.1%
Coal	-39%	+33%	-47%	-16%
Primary oil	-7.6%	+11%	-10%	+11%
Petroleum products	+12%	+17%	+15%	+10%
Gas	+16%	+10%	+244%	-7.6%
Electricity	+11%	-46%	+399%	+11%

On the back of record temperatures in 2022 and higher energy prices, these provisional data show both domestic (household) and industrial demand falling to levels not seen for fifty years. The fall in domestic demand in the UK's households is most notable in the final quarter of 2022, which shows a drop of 15 per cent for gas and 7 per cent for electricity despite similar temperatures to last year.

UK energy production recovered slightly from last year's record low but remains down 14 per cent on pre-pandemic levels. **Oil and coal production hit record lows**, with oil down nearly 30 per cent on 2019 the last full year before the Covid-19 pandemic. Gas production is up on last year and at near pre-pandemic levels whilst **output from wind, solar and hydro reached a record high**. Nuclear output was up on last year's record low despite smaller operational capacity but down 15 per cent on 2019.

Production from renewable technologies broadly matched the previous record high of 2020 and renewables share of electricity generation increased to 41.4 per cent from 39.6 per cent last year, largely due to wind and solar generation reaching new record highs. **Wind generation hit a record high share of 24.6 per cent of generation**. Generation from fossil fuels fell slightly (down to a share of 40.8 per cent) but generation from gas remained the principal form of UK generation at 38.4 per cent.

Energy trade was affected by several factors. **Exports of crude reached a record low** due to low indigenous production, but **exports of gas reached a record high** as the UK operated as a land-bridge for transfers of gas arriving into the UK and onto the continent. **Electricity exports also hit a record high** and helped make good the shortfall caused by outages in the French nuclear fleet. Imports from Russia decreased throughout the year and dropped to zero by December.

Section 1: UK total energy

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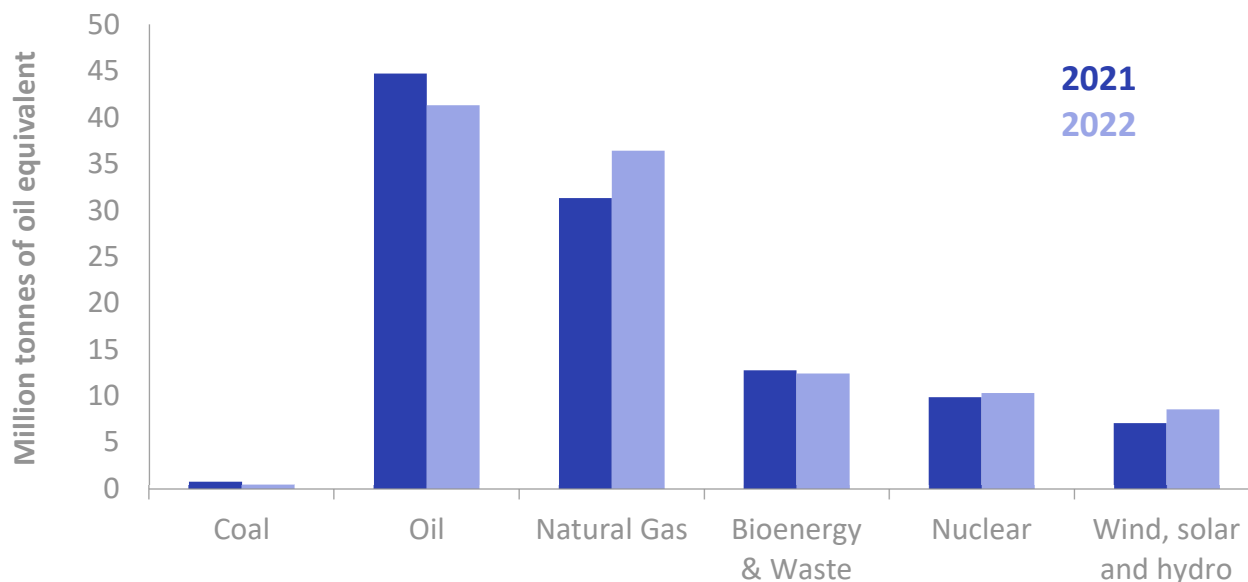
Key headlines

In 2022 total production was 109.6 million tonnes of oil equivalent, 2.8 per cent higher than the record low level of 106.6 million tonnes of oil equivalent in 2021. Production of oil and coal hit a record low, but gas production increased significantly and there was a record high for output from wind, solar & hydro. Production in the fourth quarter of 2022 was 3.8 per cent lower than the same period in 2021, again reflecting weaker output from oil but strong output from wind, solar & hydro.

Provisional energy consumption data show significant change on both last year and on longer time frames. On the back of record high temperatures and higher energy prices in 2022, **domestic (i.e., household) consumption dropped 15 per cent on 2021 to levels last seen in the early 1970s.** Reduced manufacturing output in 2022 also saw **industrial energy demand drop 6.7 per cent to a record low.** Transport demand increased by 15 per cent reflecting increased air travel.

Energy consumption in the domestic and industrial sectors dropped significantly in the fourth quarter of 2022. Domestic consumption dropped 12 per cent despite similar temperatures to the same period the previous year and reached a record low for the fourth quarter of the year in this century. Industrial consumption fell 7.2 per cent, also a record low for the fourth quarter. On a seasonally and temperature adjusted basis, final energy consumption fell by 4.9 per cent, with falls in all sectors except transport.

Chart 1.1 UK production ([Energy Trends Table 1.1](#))



In 2022 total production was 109.6 million tonnes of oil equivalent, 2.8 per cent higher than the record low level of 106.6 million tonnes of oil equivalent in 2021. Production levels for all fuels except coal, oil and bioenergy & waste are up on 2021, with oil output at a record 21st century low level. Production of oil fell by 7.6 per cent, with output down by 28 per cent on pre-pandemic levels, conversely production of natural gas rose by 16 per cent and is down just 2.9 per cent on pre-pandemic levels. Electricity produced from wind, solar and hydro rose by 21 per cent to a record high level due to more favourable weather conditions and increased capacity.

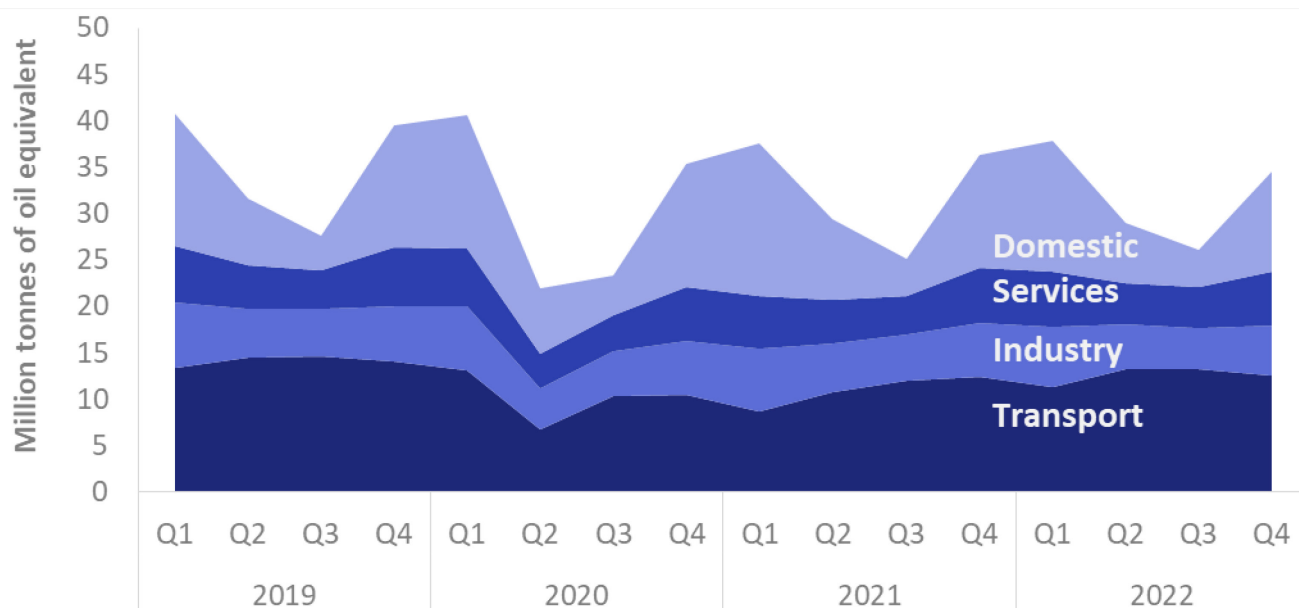
In the fourth quarter of 2022 total production was 28.3 million tonnes of oil equivalent, 3.8 per cent lower than in the fourth quarter of 2021. Production of all primary fuels fell except for gas, and wind and solar which rose due to more favourable weather conditions and increased capacity.

Chart 1.2 Total inland consumption (primary fuel input basis) ([Energy Trends Table 1.2](#))



In 2022 total inland consumption (this includes not only fuel use by consumers, but fuel used for electricity generation and other transformation) was 170.9 million tonnes of oil equivalent, 0.4 per cent higher than in 2021, but down 7.7 per cent on pre-pandemic levels (on a seasonally adjusted and annualised rate that removes the impact of temperature on demand). **In the fourth quarter of 2022** consumption fell by 6.7 per cent on the fourth quarter of 2021, with gas consumption down 8.4 per cent despite marginally colder weather, but with higher energy prices the key factor for the reduced consumption levels.

Chart 1.3 Final energy consumption by user ([Energy Trends Table 1.3](#))



In 2022 total final energy consumption (excluding non-energy use) was 0.9 per cent lower than in 2021. Transport consumption rose by 15 per cent, but demand for aviation fuel remained low despite doubling on last year. Domestic consumption fell by 15 per cent due to warmer weather reflecting average temperatures in 2022 reaching a record high as well changes in consumer behaviour arising from higher energy prices. Industrial consumption fell by 6.7 per cent to a record low. Service sector consumption fell by 0.4 per cent. **In the fourth quarter of 2022** total final energy consumption was 5.1 per cent lower than in the fourth quarter of 2021. Domestic consumption fell by 12 per cent due to higher energy prices, with both industrial and domestic consumption at the lowest level recorded for the fourth quarter of the year this century.

Section 2: Coal and derived gases

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Key headlines

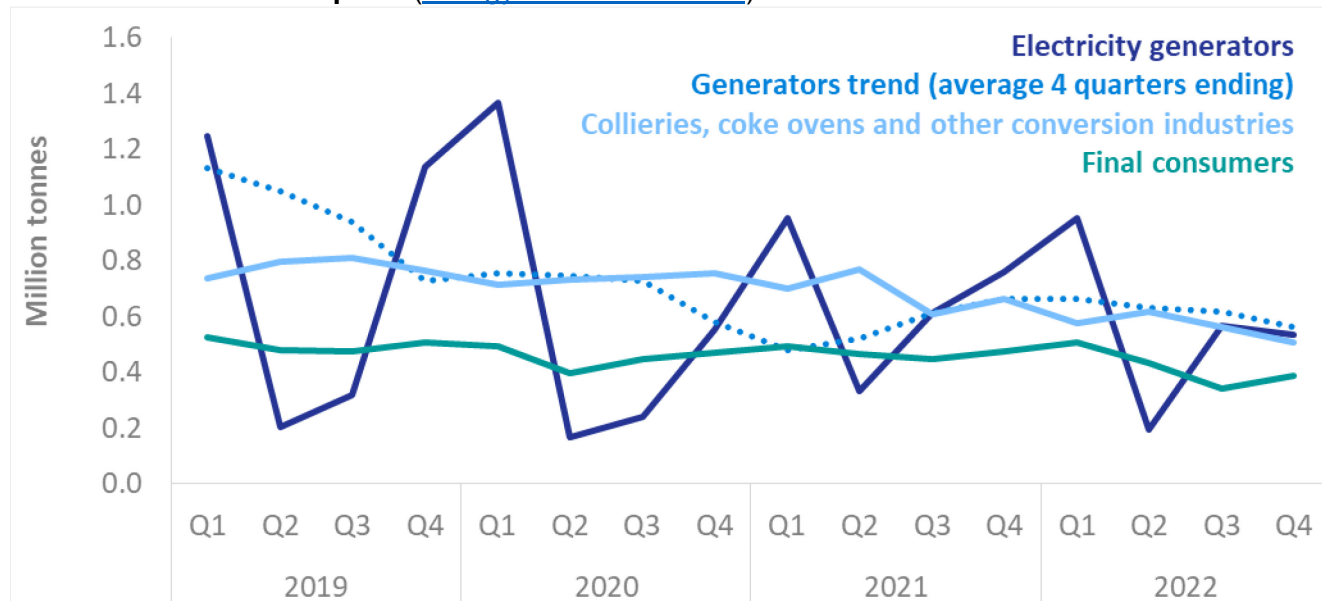
Total coal demand in 2022 fell to 6.1 million tonnes, 16 per cent lower than in 2021. The decrease was mainly due to a 17 per cent fall in coal-fired electricity as it continues to be displaced by renewables and gas. Windy conditions in the fourth quarter of 2022 saw demand for coal-fired electricity fall to 491 thousand tonnes, 35 per cent lower than the same quarter in 2021.

Coal production in 2022 fell to a record low of 0.7 million tonnes, down 38 per cent compared with 2021. Surface mining production fell to a record low of 588 thousand tonnes with mine closures and falling demand for coal for electricity generation. In the last ten years UK coal production has fallen by 96 per cent, with a record low of 0.1 million tonnes in the fourth quarter of 2022.

Coal imports rose to 6.4 million tonnes in 2022, 38 per cent up compared with 2021 as electricity generators rebuilt stocks in case they were needed over the winter. Despite the increase, volumes remain low by historic standards. In 2022 the USA was the largest exporter of coal to the UK with a share of 39 per cent. This was followed by the Russia with 16 per cent (down from 43 per cent in 2021) and Australia with 12 per cent. The UK banned Russian coal imports in August 2022. **Imports in the fourth quarter of 2022 rose to 1.7 million tonnes**, 30 per cent up on Q4 2021. With no imports from Russia, imports were sourced from the USA (39 per cent), Australia (22 per cent) and South Africa (17 per cent).

Total coal demand in 2022 fell to 6.1 million tonnes, 16 per cent lower than in 2021. Much of this decrease was due to the 17 per cent fall in coal used for electricity generation, to 2.2 million tonnes. The fuel mix has shifted towards other fuels as coal moves out of the UK's generation mix. Wind generation was up 25 per cent due to higher-than-average wind speeds (see Energy Trends table 5.4). Four coal-fired power plants were operational in the UK throughout 2022 - Drax, West Burton, Ratcliffe-on-Soar and Kilroot. Drax and West Burton had planned to cease generation but agreed to remain available to secure the electricity supply if needed over winter 2022/23. The government remains committed to ending coal use for electricity generation by October 2024. Plants had used stocks in anticipation of closure but rebuilt their stocks over the summer to be available if needed. Coal use has declined since the early 1970s as more fuels, principally gas, entered the market. In the last ten years UK coal consumption has fallen by 90 per cent.

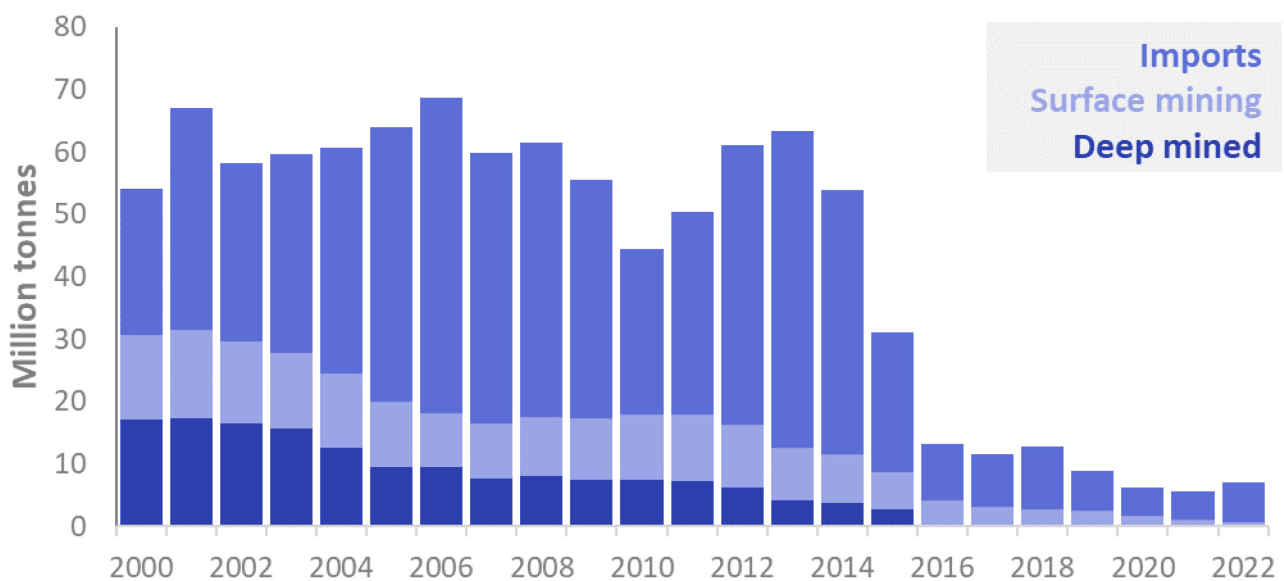
Chart 2.1 Coal Consumption ([Energy Trends Table 2.1](#))



In the most recent quarter, coal demand for coal-fired electricity generation fell from 759 thousand tonnes in Q4 2021 to 491 thousand tonnes in Q4 2022, a decrease of 35 per cent. Generation favoured gas and wind power during this period. Demand for coal-fired generation is seasonal, peaking in winter when conditions are cold and dark; these peaks have declined as coal-fired generation became less competitive economically and was displaced by gas and renewable sources.

Domestic coal production fell steadily because of coal mine closures and reduced demand. Imports filled the gap and increased 38 per cent from 4.6 million tonnes in 2021 to 6.4 million tonnes in 2022. This made up for supply lost due to lower domestic coal production. In Q4 2022, UK coal production fell to a record low 124 thousand tonnes, a 32 per cent fall compared to Q4 2021. This was due to mine closures and declining demand for coal use.

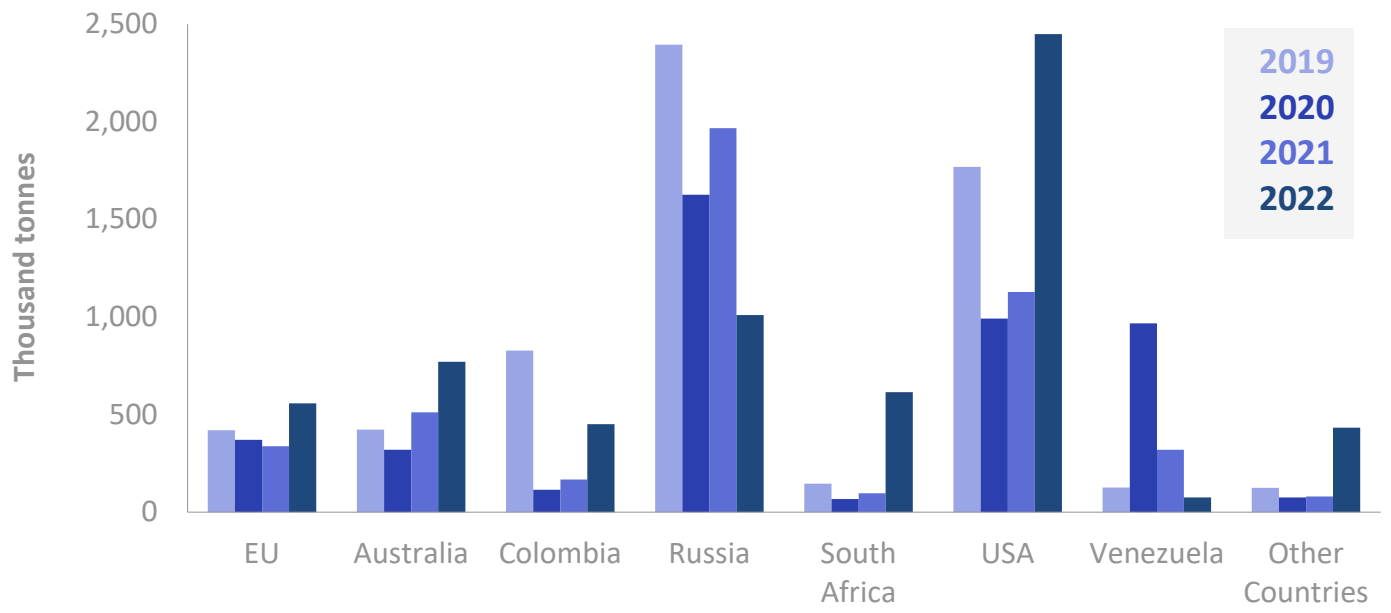
Chart 2.2 Coal Supply ([Energy Trends Table 2.1](#))



Coal imports rose to 6.4 million tonnes in 2022, 38 per cent up compared with 2021. Volumes remained historically low due to a steep fall in UK demand for coal. Imports had peaked at 50.6 million tonnes in 2013. In 2022 the USA was the largest exporter of coal to the UK with a share of 39 per cent. This was followed by Russia with 16 per cent (down from 43 per cent in 2021) and Australia with 12 per cent.

In Q4 2022, coal imports rose to 1.7 million tonnes, 30 per cent up on Q4 2021. The USA (39 per cent), Australia (22 per cent) and South Africa (17 per cent) accounted for 78 per cent of total coal imports. The UK banned Russian coal imports in August 2022, so in the fourth quarter of 2022 imports from Russia fell to zero. In the same period in 2021 Russia had provided 50 per cent of total coal imports. This reflects a decreasing reliance on Russian energy in line with that seen for both oil and gas.

Chart 2.3 Coal Imports ([Energy Trends Table 2.4](#))



Section 3: Oil and oil products

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Key headlines

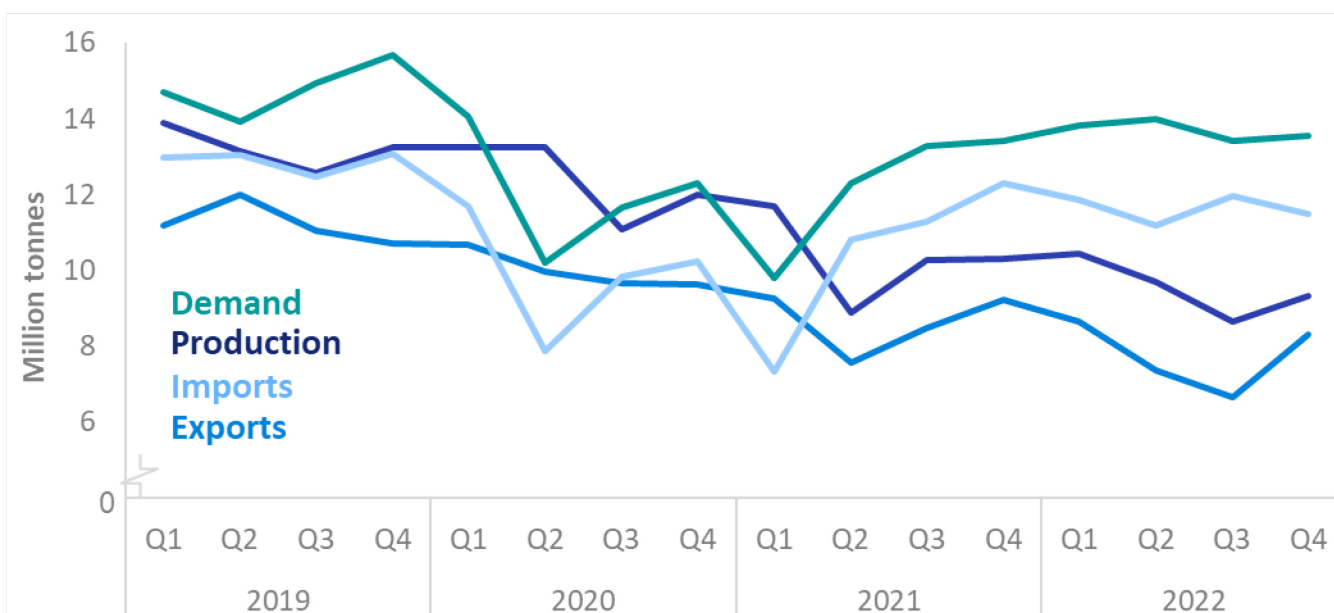
In 2022, indigenous production of primary oils reached the lowest level since records began at 38 million tonnes, exports of primary oils also reached a record low. In contrast, indigenous production of petroleum products increased on 2021 by 6 million to 55 million tonnes. In line with increased demand following the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions however output remains down on pre-pandemic levels.

Demand for petroleum products increased 9.6 per cent in 2022 compared to 2021 but remains down by 13 per cent compared to 2019. Much of this growth in demand was driven by increasing demand for transport fuels, which were up by 15 per cent. Jet fuel demand almost doubled in 2022 compared to 2021 due to lifting of international travel restrictions from the Covid-19 pandemic.

In 2022, UK oil stocks hit a record low of 8.7 million tonnes, falling 13.8 per cent in comparison with 2021. This partly reflects the UK's participation in the release of oil stocks co-ordinated by the International Energy Agency (IEA) in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The final quarter of 2022 showed similar trends to the year as a whole. Indigenous production of primary oils remained low, down 9.6 per cent compared to the same period in 2021. Production, trade, and demand for petroleum products remained stable in Quarter 4 2022 compared to the same period in the previous year. These levels remain down compared to pre pandemic levels, particularly in the transport and domestic sectors. The most significant increase in demand was for jet fuel, up by a third in Quarter 4 2022 compared with the same period in the previous year.

Chart 3.1 Production and trade of crude oil and NGLs ([Energy Trends Table 3.1](#))

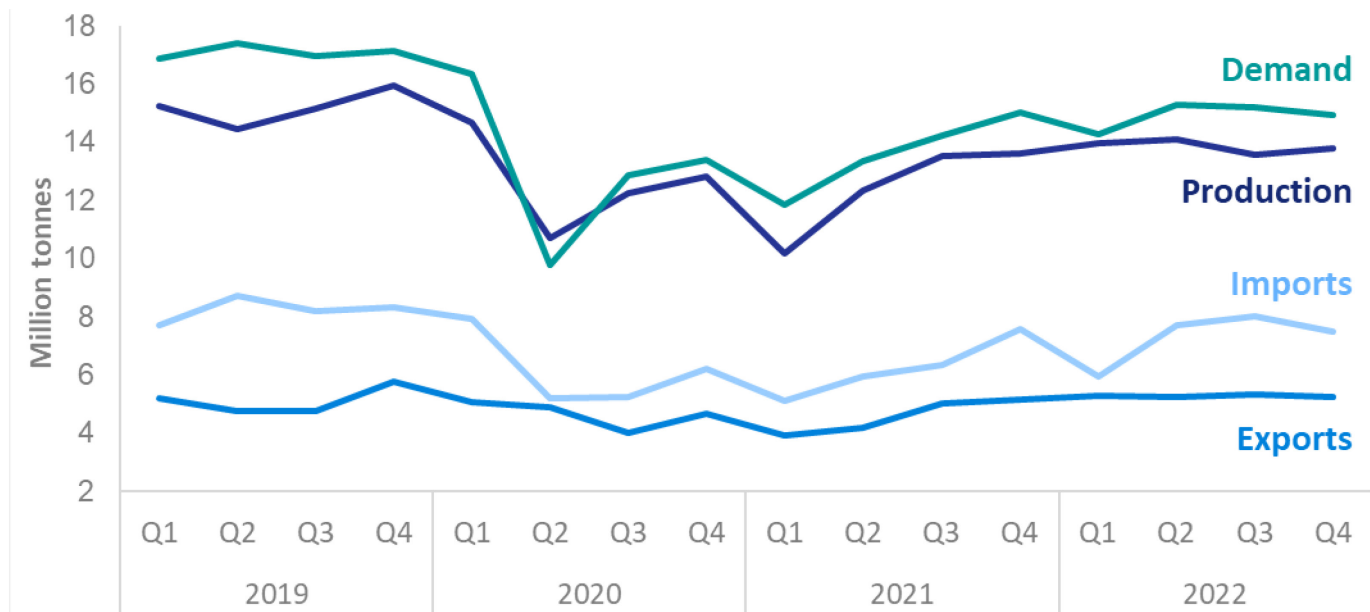


Indigenous production of primary oils fell to the lowest levels since records began, down 7.5 per cent compared to 2021. In line with this, exports of crude oil and NGLs also reached record lows, down 13 per cent in 2022 compared to 2021. In the final quarter, production fell 9.6 per cent on the same period last year and exports remain low.

In 2022, demand for primary oils increased on 2021, but remained down compared to pre pandemic levels. This increasing demand combined with record low production meant supply was met with imports of crude oil and NGLs which were up 13 per cent in the same time period. The combination of decreasing exports and increasing imports saw primary oil net imports more than double; meaning the UK remained a net importer of primary oils.

The composition of imports changed, with Russian crude oil imports dropping to 0.5 million tonnes in 2022 as sanctions were introduced following Russia’s illegal invasion of Ukraine. This was equivalent to 1.2 per cent of total crude imports compared to 7.4 per cent in 2021. Following this 2022 saw substantial increases in imports from North America and the Middle East, the US and Norway remained the largest source of crude imports.

Chart 3.2 Production and trade of petroleum products ([Energy Trends Table 3.2](#))

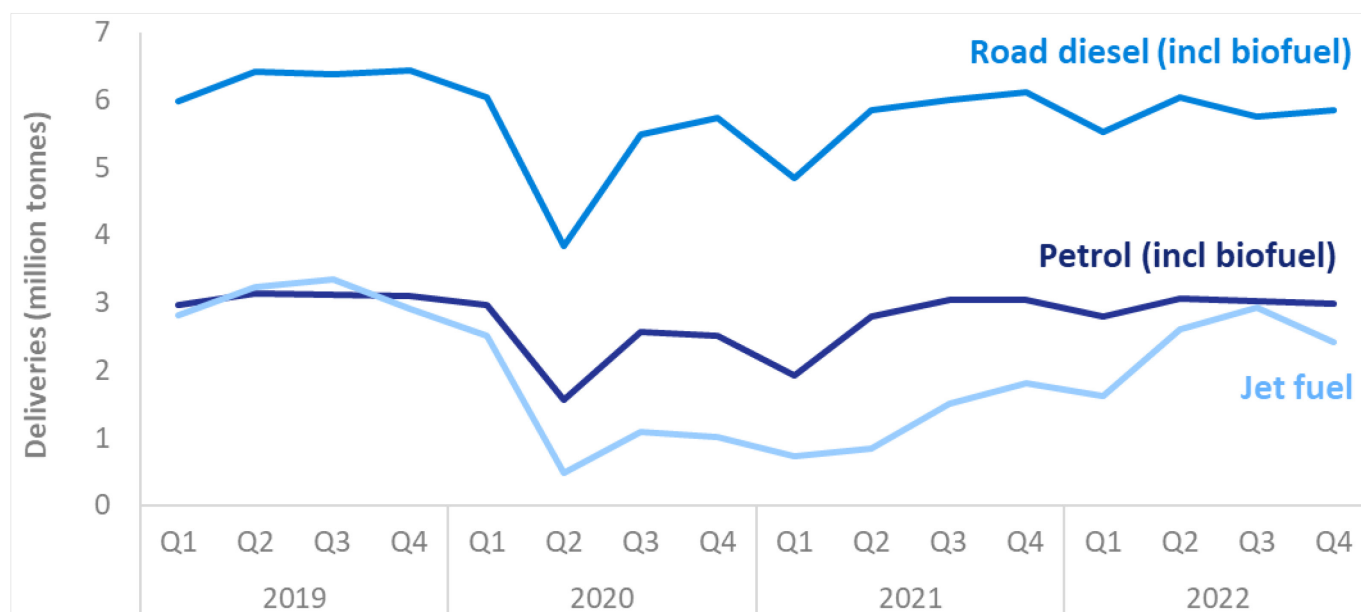


In 2022, indigenous production of petroleum products was up 12 per cent compared to 2021 but remains lower than pre-pandemic levels, down 9 per cent on 2019. The increase was largely due to increased demand compared to the low levels seen in 2021, which were caused by reduced demand during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Demand for petroleum products was up by 9.6 per cent in 2022 compared to 2021 although remains down 13 per cent compared to 2019. Much of the growth in demand was attributable to an increase in demand for transport fuels which was up 15 per cent compared with 2021. This increase was compared to notably low demand for road fuels and jet fuel in the first half of 2021, caused by Covid-19 travel restrictions.

Total demand for road fuels in 2022 increased by 2.7 per cent compared with 2021 but remain below pre-pandemic levels. Demand for diesel has remained stable on last year, however, sales of biodiesel increased 16 per cent in the same time period. Sales of petrol increased by 10 per cent, including an almost 60 per cent increase in bio-ethanol sales due to the introduction of new laws in Quarter 4 2021 making E10 fuel the standard sold at pumps.

Chart 3.3 Deliveries of transport fuels ([Energy Trends Table 3.5](#))



Demand for petroleum products in Quarter 4 2022 remained relatively stable compared to the same quarter last year. However, demand remains below levels seen in Quarter 4 2019, particularly in the transport and domestic sectors which were down 11 per cent and 22 per cent, respectively. Demand for jet fuel was most impacted by Covid-19 restrictions with Quarter 4 2022 seeing an increase of a third compared to Quarter 4 2021. Demand for jet fuel remains down compared to pre pandemic levels, by 17 per cent in Quarter 4 2022 compared to the same period in 2019. Whilst demand for road fuels recovered more quickly than jet fuel demand remains muted. In Quarter 4 2022, total sales of petrol and diesel decreased by 2.0 and 4.3 per cent respectively, compared with same period in 2021. This remains lower than pre pandemic levels with a decrease of 4.0 and 8.9 per cent compared to Quarter 4 2019.

Section 4: Gas

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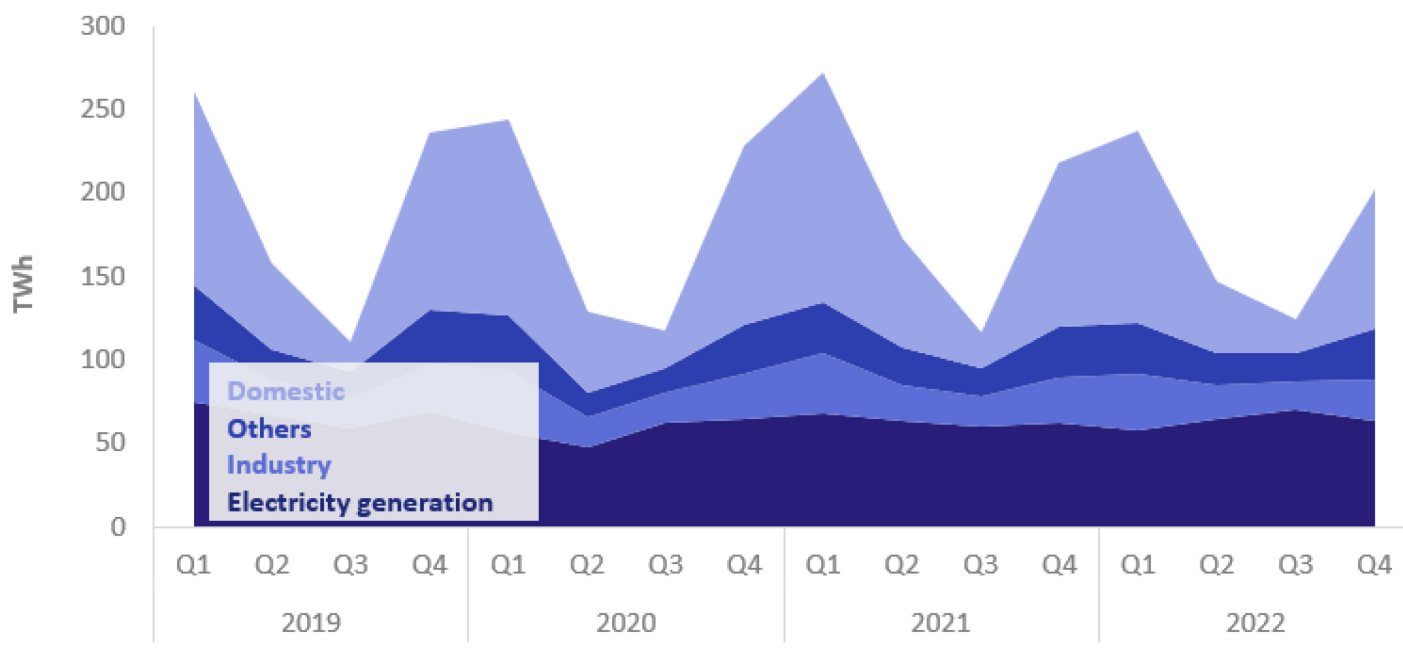
Key headlines

In 2022, UK gas demand decreased by 7.5 per cent compared with 2021, down by 65 TWh to 799 TWh. This decrease was the result of both the warmest year on record and changes in consumer behaviour driven by higher gas prices. **Both domestic and industrial demand reached levels last seen in the 1970s, as households and businesses changed their behaviour to reduce costs.** The most notable reduction was in the final quarter of the year.

Imports and exports reached record highs in 2022, at 618 TWh and 260 TWh respectively. Gas exports increased to over three times the levels seen in 2021, primarily driven by increased supply to Belgium and The Netherlands. Imports increased by 10 per cent and also reached an annual record high, driven by record Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) imports, up 74 per cent up on the previous year and accounting for almost half of total imports which have supported the increase in export volumes to Europe.

Gas production increased by 16 per cent in 2022 compared to the record low in 2021 when an extensive summer maintenance schedule saw shutdowns at several major terminals. Production in 2022 was just a little short of output in 2019, the last full year before the Covid-19 pandemic.

Chart 4.1 UK demand for natural gas ([Energy Trends Table 4.1](#))

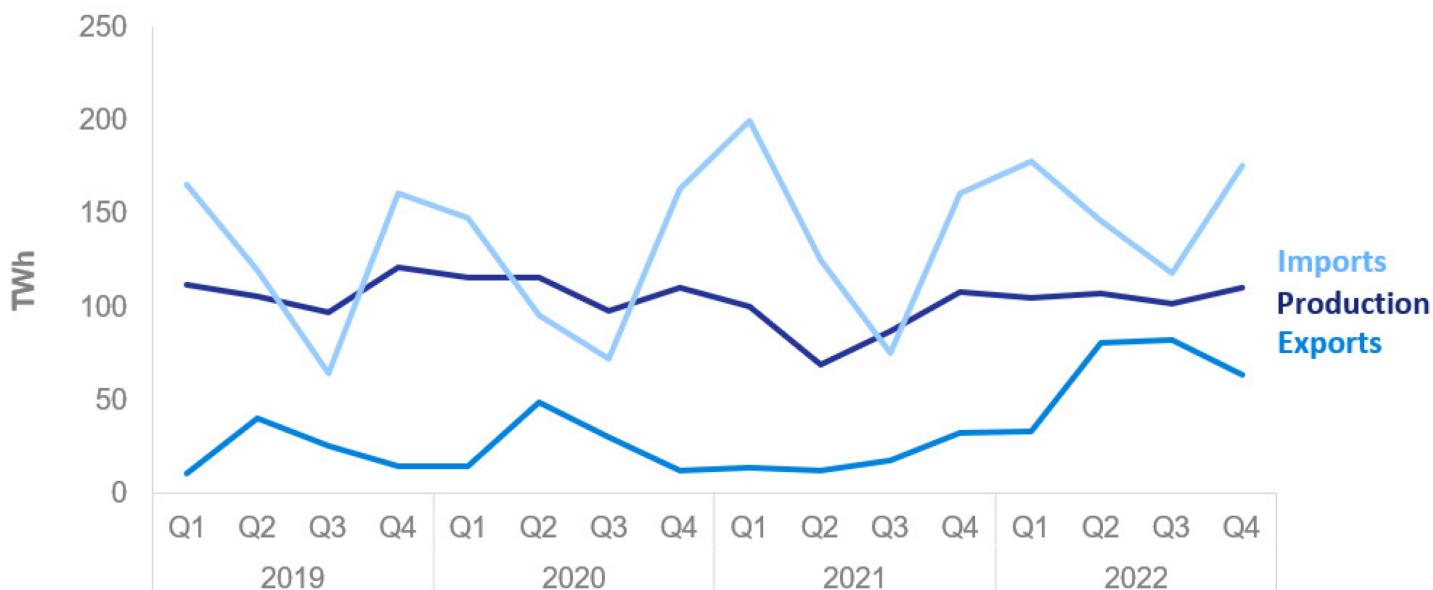


Domestic demand decreased in 2022, down by 19 per cent in comparison with the previous year, reaching levels last seen in the early 1970s when coal was the main household fuel. The warmest year on record will have reduced demand for heating, in addition higher gas prices are a likely factor in changing consumer behaviour and reducing consumption levels. Reduced industrial output in 2022, some of which will have been driven by higher energy prices, saw industrial demand for gas drop by 8.2 per cent to levels last seen in the early 1970s. Gas demand for electricity generation remained stable.

Despite similar temperatures between the final quarters of 2021 and 2022, Quarter 4 saw a very large and notable reduction in the consumption of gas. Gas consumption fell 11 per cent in Quarter 4 2022 compared to the same period in 2021. Given the similar temperatures, the contraction of 15 per cent in domestic demand seems likely to be driven by changes in consumer behaviour resulting from higher prices. Data from the Office of National Statistics shows a decline in output from manufacturing which is reflected in a

7.1 per cent contraction in reported industrial gas consumption in the last quarter compared to the same quarter last year.

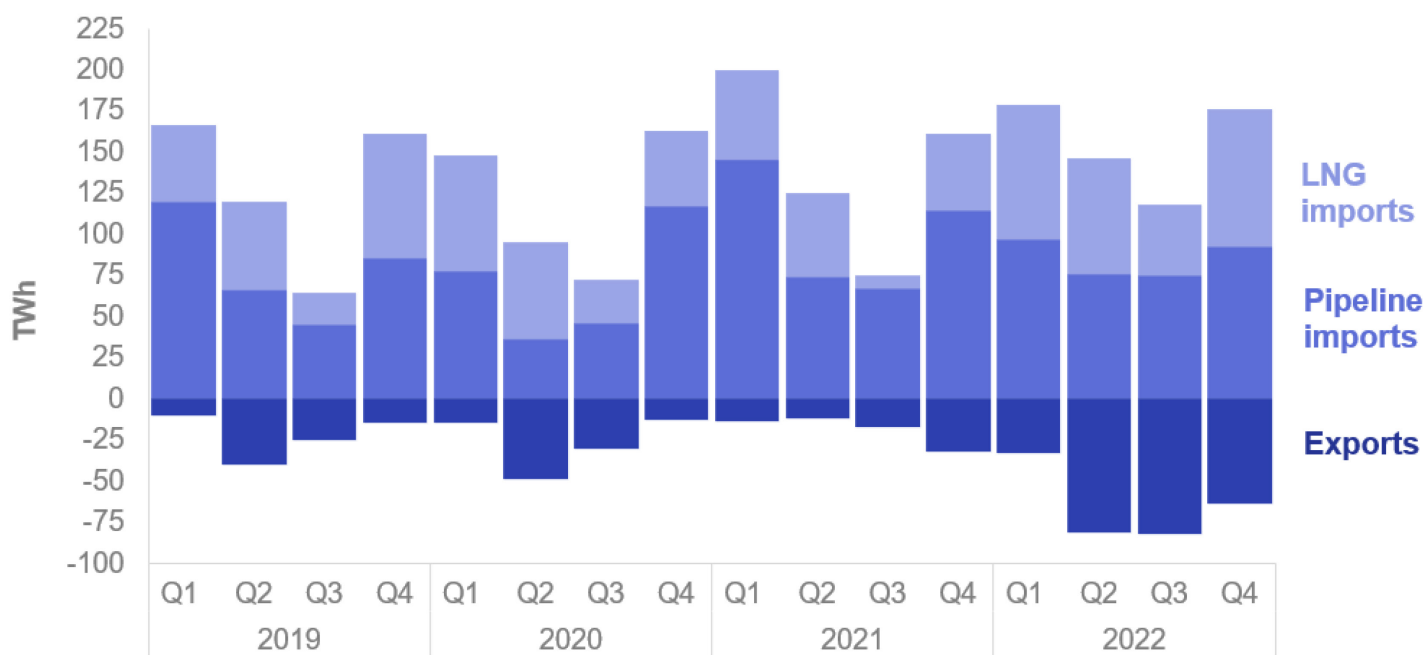
Chart 4.2 Production and trade of natural gas ([Energy Trends Tables 4.2](#))



In 2022, gas production increased 16 per cent from the record low in 2021 and is now only 3 per cent below gas output in 2019, the last full year before the Covid-19 pandemic. **Exports more than tripled in 2022 compared to 2021**, as the UK’s LNG infrastructure was utilised to support Europe’s move away from Russian gas. Production and trade in Quarter 4 2022 is broadly stable on the trends observed through much of the year.

In 2022, imports increased by 10 percent and reached an annual record high, largely the result of record LNG imports. Pipeline imports were sourced mainly from Norway, with substantial drops in Belgian and Dutch imports as interconnectors were mainly used for exports. LNG imports from the USA increased to over three times the levels seen in 2021 and for the first time, the US was the largest source of LNG to the UK, accounting for 50 per cent of total LNG imports. Qatar was the second largest source in 2022 with a share of 30 per cent, having previously held the highest share of LNG imports between 2009 and 2021. In 2022, the UK received LNG from a diverse range of countries including Chile, Peru and Oman.

Chart 4.3 Trade in natural gas ([Energy Trends Table 4.3](#))



Natural gas exports reached a record high of 260 TWh in 2022, 47 per cent higher than the previous record set in 2011. The UK supported European efforts to move away from Russian gas, utilising substantial LNG regasification infrastructure and interconnectors with mainline Europe. Increased exports were driven by increased supply to Belgium and the Netherlands in 2022, with exports to Belgium almost nine times higher than levels seen in 2021.

In Quarter 4 2022, LNG volumes from the US have increased nearly fivefold on Quarter 4 2021, up by 44 TWh. The US supplied over two-thirds of the UK's LNG imports, their highest proportion to date. LNG imports from Qatar and Peru fell by a fifth, as the US dominates the UK share. No Russian LNG was imported in Quarter 4 2022, down from a 16% share in Quarter 4 2021.

Section 5: Electricity

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Key headlines

Final consumption of electricity decreased by 3.9 percent in 2022, with domestic demand down 5.9 per cent to a level last seen in the mid-1990s as a result of record temperatures and increased prices. Industrial consumption fell 6.3 per cent and consumption by other users rose by 0.7 per cent.

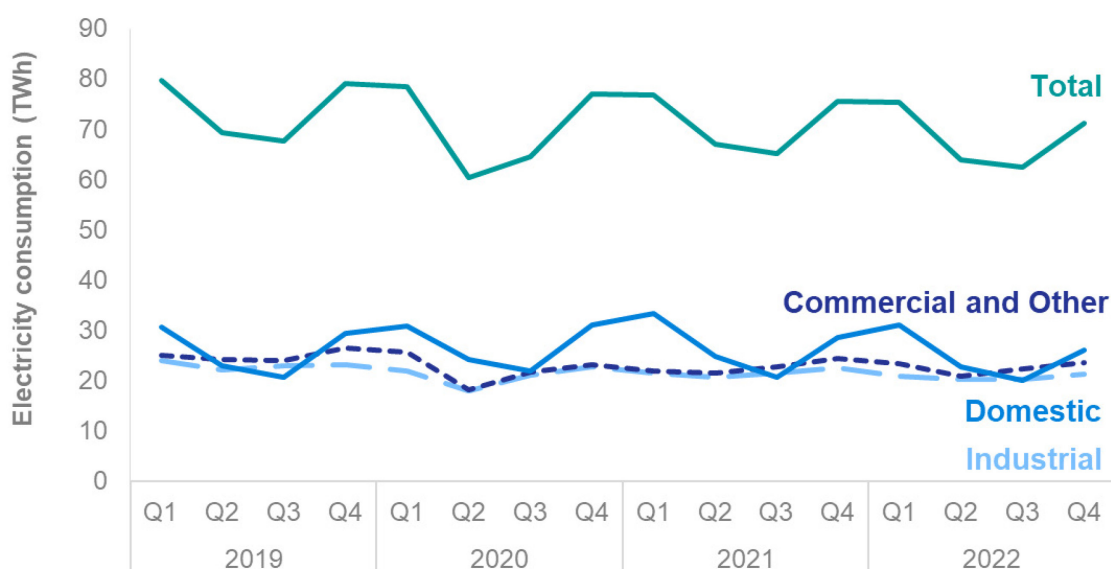
Total electricity generation increased 5.6 percent in 2022 despite a 3.5 per cent drop in demand. The difference was accounted for by record electricity exports of 5.3 TWh, which saw the UK become a net exporter of electricity for the first time in more than forty years. The increase in exports was driven by increased demand from France due to nuclear outages.

Renewable generation produced 134.8 TWh in 2022, a 10 per cent increase compared to 2021 and broadly matching the previous record high in 2020. There were also record levels of wind generation. Increased renewable and nuclear generation meant that low carbon sources represented 56.0 per cent of generation in 2022, 1.5 percentage points higher than in 2021. Generation from fossil fuels also increased slightly in 2022 to 133.0 TWh, a 1.2 per cent increase compared to 2021.

Quarter 4 of 2022 saw similar patterns, with demand down 5.1 per cent and drops across all sectors compared to the same period in 2021. Total electricity generation was 84.7 TWh, 1.4 per cent higher than Quarter 4 2021 with a 4.5 per cent rise in renewable generation due to windy conditions. Low carbon electricity represented 57.9 per cent of total electricity generation, the same share as Quarter 4 2021. Again, high electricity exports accounted for the different trends between generation and demand.

Final consumption of electricity decreased substantially in 2022, down by 3.9 per cent compared to 2021. Final consumption totalled 273.0 TWh. The lower demand reflects the record high average temperature in 2022 and the impact of increased electricity prices causing consumers to reduce consumption.

Chart 5.1 Electricity consumption by sector ([Energy Trends table 5.2](#))



Domestic consumption fell 5.9 per cent in 2022 compared to 2021, to 102.1 TWh. Many consumers reported reducing their electricity use in response to high electricity prices. The comparison also reflects warmer average temperatures and increased domestic demand in 2021 as a result of Covid-19 restrictions.

Non-domestic consumption had contrasting trends in 2022. Industrial use of electricity, including iron and steel, was down 6.3 per cent to 80.9 TWh but consumption by other final users, including commercial use, increased by 0.7 per cent to 84.9 TWh.

Quarter 4 2022 saw lower electricity consumption compared to the same period in 2021. Final electricity consumption by end-users fell 5.8 per cent to 71.3 TWh. This was the lowest Quarter 4 value in the published data series, with a range of potential causes. Despite similar temperatures to last year, domestic demand fell by 6.6 per cent to 26.7 TWh, likely reflecting consumer behaviour changes resulting from increased electricity prices. In addition, while formal Covid-19 restrictions ended in Summer 2021, Quarter 4 comparisons may also reflect other changes in behaviour, for example the return to office working and increased leisure time outside the house. Non-domestic demand also fell, with industrial consumption down 7.0 per cent to 21.1 TWh and consumption by other users (including commercial) down 3.9 per cent to 22.2 TWh.

Total electricity generation increased 5.6 percent in 2022 to 326.0 TWh, while demand fell by 3.5 per cent. The difference was accounted for by record electricity exports, which saw the UK become a net exporter of electricity for the first time in more than forty years. Exports rose to a record 20.8 TWh, more than five times 2021's exports of 4.2 TWh. The increase in exports was driven by increased demand in France as a result of nuclear outages.

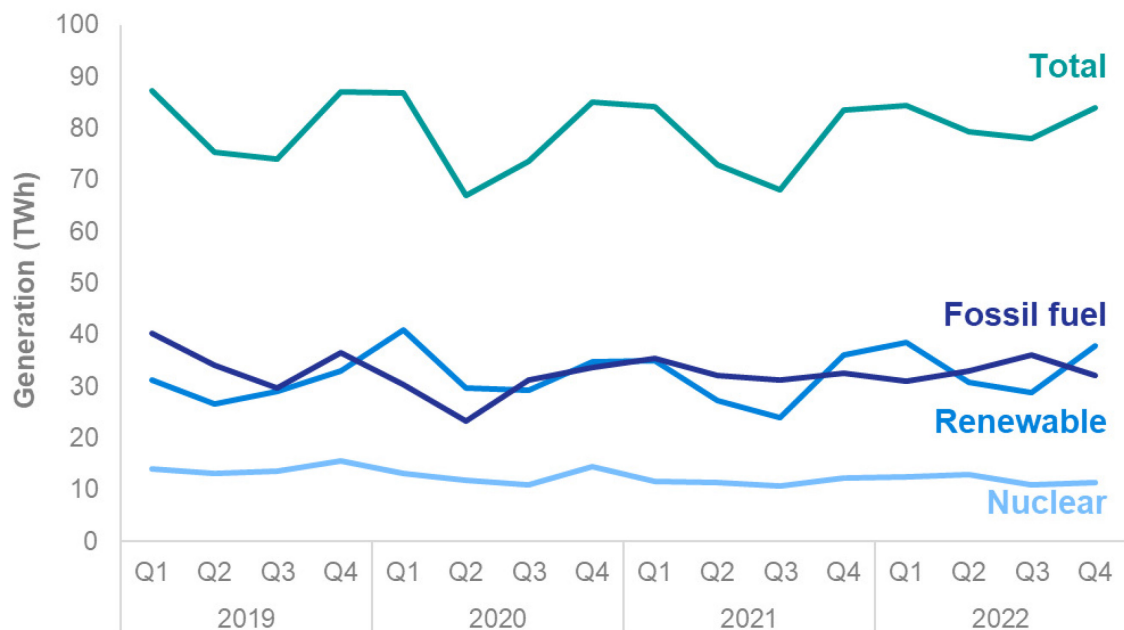
Chart 5.2 Electricity trade and net imports (Energy Trends Table 5.6)



Renewable generation was 134.8 TWh in 2022, a 10 per cent increase compared to 2021 and matching the previous high in 2020. There were also record levels of wind generation, up 24 per cent to 80.2 TWh. This came as capacity increased and wind speeds returned to more normal levels, after the unusually low values in 2021. Conversely, there was an 11 per cent decrease in generation from bioenergy, down to 35.4 TWh, as a result of outages at key sites. Nuclear generation was up 4.0 per cent to 47.7 TWh, despite operational nuclear capacity having decreased 25 per cent this year following the closure of Hunterston B in January 2022 and Hinkley Point B starting the defueling phase from August 2022. The increase in renewable and nuclear generation meant that low carbon sources represented 56.0 per cent of generation in 2022, 1.5 percentage points higher than in 2021. Renewable's share of generation rose from 39.6 to 41.4 per cent with wind generation reaching a record 24.6 per cent, up from 3.3 per cent in 2010.

Generation from fossil fuels increased slightly in 2022 to 132.1 TWh, a 0.5 per cent increase compared to 2021. This was in line with higher levels of generation, including meeting the demand for electricity exports. Generation from gas was 124.7 TWh in 2022, a 1.2 per cent increase compared to 2021. In contrast, generation from coal decreased by 13 per cent to 5.7 TWh, just 0.2 TWh above the record low seen in 2020. The overall fossil fuel share of generation dropped from 42.6 in 2021 to 40.8 per cent in 2022.

Chart 5.3 Electricity generated, by fuel type (Energy Trends Table 5.1)



Trends in Quarter 4 of 2022 reflected the trends seen throughout the year, with total electricity generation 1.4 per cent higher than the same period last year despite reduced demand (-5.1 per cent) as the UK continued to export electricity to France though at a lower rate than earlier in the year.

Renewable generation increased by 4.5 per cent in Quarter 4 2022 compared to the same period in 2021. Wind generation increased by 18 per cent, as capacity increased and average wind speeds were higher than the unusually low values in Quarter 4 2021. Higher average sun hours and increased solar capacity saw solar generation rise 26 per cent, but hydro generation was down by 13 per cent in line with lower average rainfall. There was also a 24 per cent decrease in generation from bioenergy, down to 8.1 TWh with outages at key sites. Nuclear generation fell to 11.4 TWh, 7.6 per cent lower than the same period in the previous year. Low carbon electricity generation represented 57.9 per cent of total electricity generation, the same share as in Quarter 4 2021. Fossil fuel represented 38.4 per cent of the total generation in Quarter 4 2022, 0.6 percentage points lower than in the same period in 2021.

Section 6: Renewables

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Key headlines

Records in renewable generation were achieved in 2022 for wind (both onshore and offshore), and solar PV. Overall, total renewable generation in 2022 was broadly in line with the previous record set in 2020 when unusually high wind speeds and rainfall hit the UK.

Where the previous 2020 record for renewable generation was driven by favourable weather conditions, the current record was driven primarily by new capacity (particularly in offshore wind) which returned to the same level as in 2018; **3.8 GW, of which, 2.7 GW was offshore wind, 0.7 GW in solar PV, and 0.3 GW in onshore wind.**

Compared to 2021, generation was 10.4 per cent higher; although weather conditions weren't as favourable as in 2020, wind speeds, and sun hours were higher than in 2021.

As a proportion of total generation, renewables accounted for 41.4 per cent, 1.8 percentage points higher than in 2021 though 1.8 percentage points lower than the previous record in 2020.

Chart 6.1 Changes in renewable generation since previous record in 2020 ([Energy Trends Table 6.1](#))

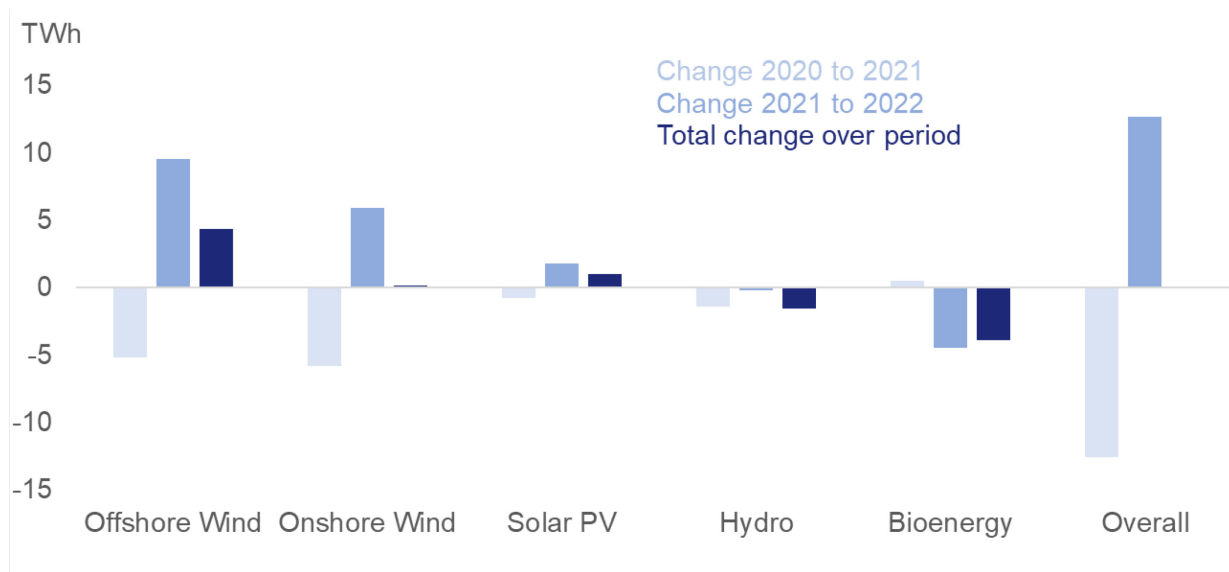
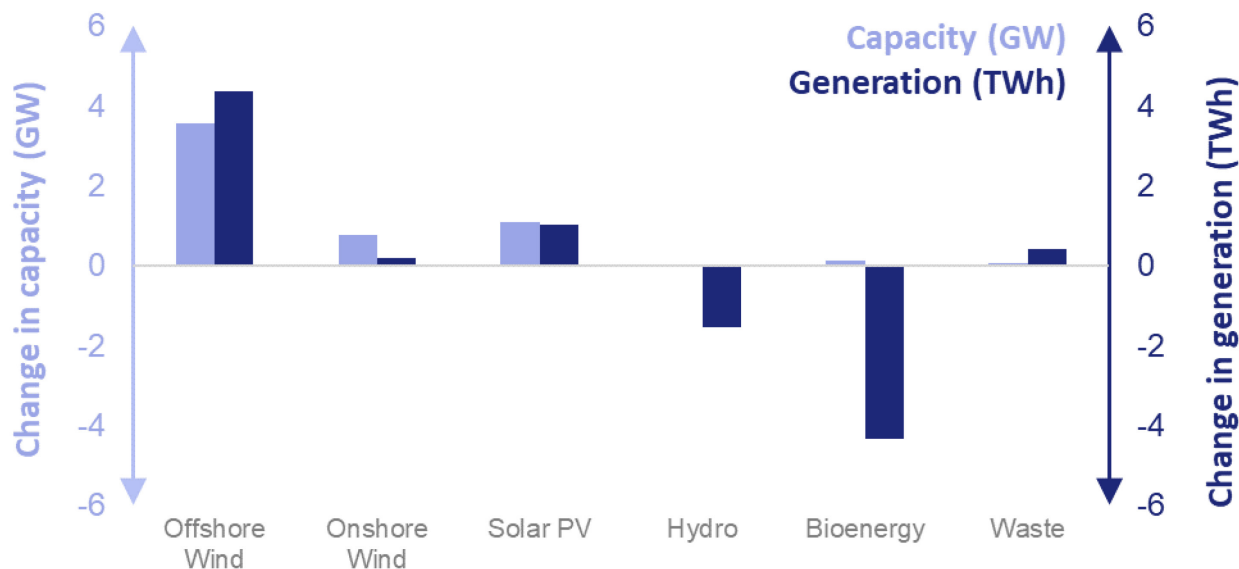


Chart 6.1 shows the year-on-year changes in generation since the previous record year, 2020 (between 2020 and 2021, and 2021 to 2022), and the total change during this period. Generation fell in 2021 by 9.3 per cent but increased by 10 per cent in 2022, with a negligible increase over the period as a whole (0.1 per cent). The fall in 2021 was the result of considerably lower wind speeds and rainfall (2020 had been unusually favourable for both) and low levels of new capacity. During 2022, weather conditions recovered somewhat, particularly wind speeds and average daily sun hours, though the primary driver in generation growth was the turnaround in new capacity, most notably in offshore wind, but also in solar PV and onshore wind.

Chart 6.2 highlights the interaction between capacity and generation between 2020, the previous record year, and 2022.

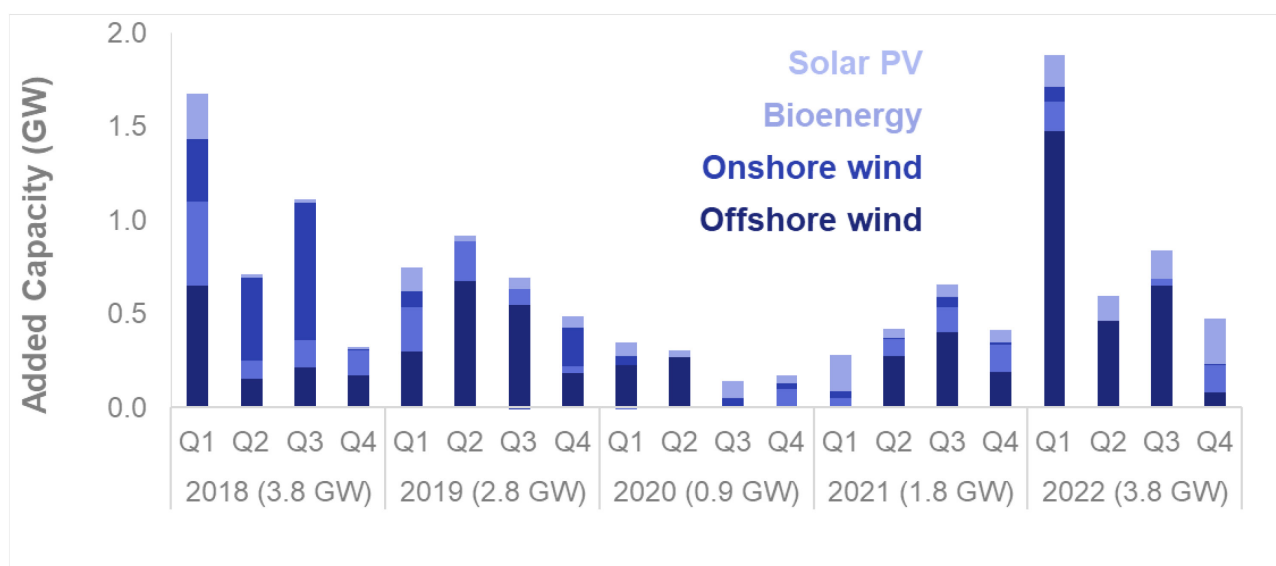
Chart 6.2 Change in renewable generation and capacity 2020 and 2022 ([Energy Trends Table 6.1](#))



The trends in wind generation over the time period are striking in comparing onshore and offshore wind; with wind speeds lower in 2022 compared to 2020, increases in capacity resulted in higher generation for both technologies, but the increase in offshore generation is considerably larger compared to onshore due to much greater levels of new capacity. Hydro generation was lower in 2022 as rainfall levels reverted towards the long-term mean (hydro capacity is currently stable) whereas 2020 saw record levels. With capacity being fairly stable in bioenergy, the 9.9 per cent fall in generation was due to outages at two major power producers. The interaction of weather patterns, new capacity, and the fall in bioenergy generation resulted in generation in 2022 (134.8 TWh) being in line with that in 2020 (134.7 TWh).

New capacity installed in 2022 reached 3.8 GW, matching 2018. Chart 6.3 shows the quarterly trends in new capacity since 2018 by technology.

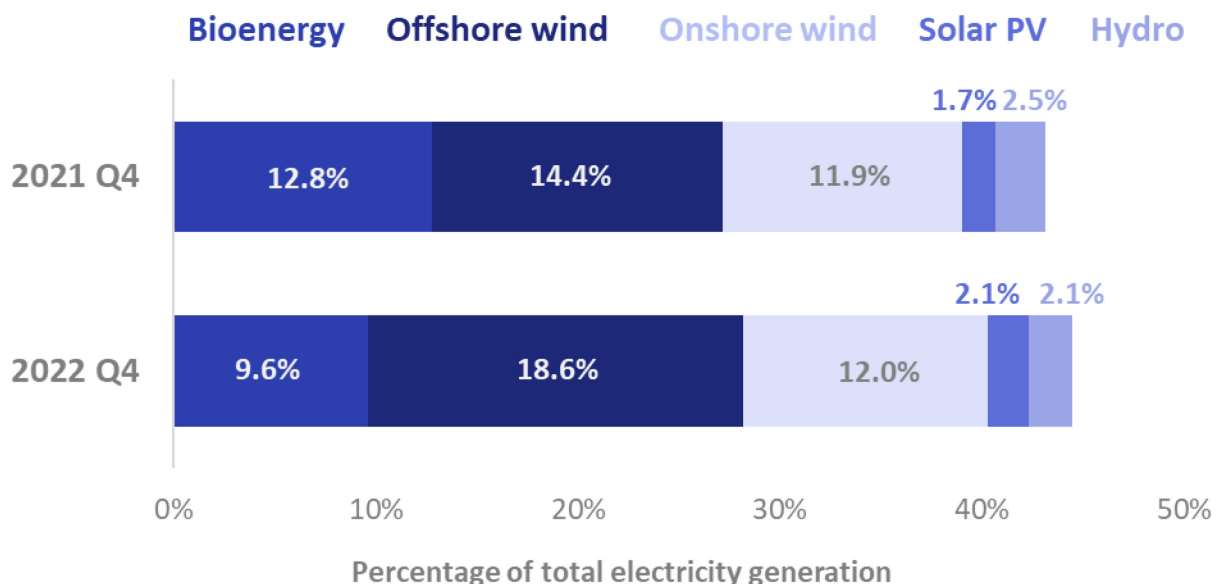
Chart 6.3 Added capacity since 2018 for the leading technologies ([Energy Trends Table 6.1](#))



Most notable is the spike in the first quarter of 2022 when 1.5 GW was installed in offshore wind alone. New offshore wind continued to come on line in the second and third quarters before dropping off in the fourth; for the year as a whole, 2.7 GW in offshore wind was installed including key sites at Moray East (1.0 GW) and Seagreen (0.3 GW) in Scotland, as well as Hornsea Two in England (1.4 GW).

In the fourth quarter, new Solar PV capacity outstripped that for offshore wind accounting for half the new installed capacity with an additional 0.2 GW. This combined with high levels of sun hours resulted in record quarterly generation. For the year as a whole, solar PV capacity increased by 0.7 GW (5.0 per cent), mostly microgeneration schemes of less than 50kW. There were around 112,000 new domestic solar installations in 2022, the highest number since 2015. These accounted for around 60 per cent of the new capacity. This combined with unusually high sun hours (not just Q4 but also during the heat wave in the third quarter¹) ensured an annual record as well as a quarterly.

Chart 6.4 Renewables' share of electricity generation – Q4 2021 and Q4 2022 ([Energy Trends table 6.1](#))



In 2022 Quarter 4, renewable's share of generation was 44.4 per cent, 1.3 percentage points higher than in 2021, with some notable changes across the renewable technologies. Reflecting the additional capacity during the year, offshore wind's share of generation increased from 14.4 per cent to 18.6 per cent but this was offset by the fall in bioenergy's share (from 12.8 per cent to 9.6 per cent), due to outages at two power stations.

¹ See data tables and special articles page for links to weather data.

Data tables and special articles

Data in this release

Data are collected by DESNZ through surveys of energy suppliers. This publication highlights key stories in energy in the UK for the specified period. Additional data are available in the quarterly and monthly statistical tables for each fuel and total energy. The tables are generally in commodity balance format, showing the flow from the sources of supply through to final use.

Special articles

Special articles that explore current topics of interest are available alongside this summary report. Included in this publication are:

Supply of Liquefied Natural Gas in the UK, 2022

Statistical tables*

Data tables available as part of the Energy Trends series:

[Total energy](#)

[Solid fuels and derived gases](#)

[Oil and oil products](#)

[Gas](#)

[Electricity](#)

[Renewables](#)

The full range of special articles is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/energy-trends-articles>

Additional sources of information

Index of Production, published by the Office for National Statistics:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/economicoutputandproductivity/output/bulletins/indexofproduction/previousReleases>

Index of Services, published by the Office for National Statistics:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/economicoutputandproductivity/output/bulletins/indexofservices/previousReleases>

Detailed annual Digest of UK Energy Statistics:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/digest-of-uk-energy-statistics-dukes>

Tables showing foreign trade flows of energy:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/dukes-foreign-trade-statistics>

Weather tables produced by DESNZ using Met Office data:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/weather-statistics>

Information on Energy Prices:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/quarterly-energy-prices>

*Hyperlinks will open the most recently published table. If you require a previously published version of a table, please contact Kevin Harris:

Tel: 0747 135 8194

e-mail: kevin.harris@beis.gov.uk

Technical information

Methodology and revisions

More detailed notes on the methodology used to compile the figures and data sources are available on the collection pages for each fuel. The figures have not been adjusted for temperature or seasonal factors except where noted.

Percentage changes relate to the corresponding period a year ago. They are calculated from unrounded figures. They are shown as (+) or (-) when the percentage change is very large. Quarterly figures relate to calendar quarters. All figures relate to the United Kingdom unless otherwise indicated. Further information on Oil and Gas is available from the North Sea Transition Authority at <https://www.nstauthority.co.uk/>

Table of conversion factors

To	ktoe	TJ	GWh	million therms	To	toe	GJ	kWh	therms
From	Multiply by				From	Multiply by			
ktoe	1	41.868	11.63	.39683	toe	1	41.868	11.63	396.83
TJ	.023885	1	.27778	.0094778	GJ	.023855	1	277.78	9.4778
GWh	.085985	3.6	1	.034121	kWh	.000085985	.003600	1	.034121
million therms	2.52	105.51	29.307	1	therms	.00252	.105510	29.307	1

toe = tonne of oil equivalent

ktoe = thousand tonne of oil equivalent

Sector breakdowns

Categories for final users are defined by Standard Industrial Classification 2007:

Fuel producers	05-07, 09, 19, 24.46, 35
Final consumers	
Iron and steel	24 (excluding 24.4, 24.53 and 24.54)
Other industry	08, 10-18, 20-23, 24.4 (excluding 24.46), 24.53, 24.54, 25-33, 36-39, 41-43
Transport	49-51 (part*)
Other final users	
Agriculture	01-03
Commercial	45-47, 49-51 (part*), 52-53, 55-56, 58-66, 68-75, 77-82
Public administration	84-88
Other services	90-99
Domestic	Not covered

* Note – transport sector includes only energy used for motion/traction purposes. Other energy used by transport companies is classified to the commercial sector.

Revisions policy

Figures for the latest periods are provisional and are liable to subsequent revision. [The DESNZ statistical revisions policy](#) sets out the revisions policy for these statistics, which has been developed in accordance with the UK Statistics Authority [Code of Practice for Statistics](#).

Related publications

Recent publications of interest

Smart Meters

Estimates on the roll-out of Smart Meters in Great Britain, covering meters operating and meters installed: www.gov.uk/government/collections/smart-meters-statistics

Household Energy Efficiency

Statistics on the Energy Company Obligation (ECO), Green Deal and homes insulated. Monthly updates of ECO measures and quarterly updates of in-depth ECO statistics, carbon savings and the Green Deal schemes: www.gov.uk/government/collections/household-energy-efficiency-national-statistics

Renewable Heat Incentive statistics

Statistics on deployment data for the domestic and non-domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) to support the uptake of renewable heat: www.gov.uk/government/collections/renewable-heat-incentive-statistics

Energy Consumption in the United Kingdom (ECUK)

Detailed data on end use estimates of energy in the UK: www.gov.uk/government/collections/energy-consumption-in-the-uk

Sub-national total final energy consumption

Findings of the sub-national energy consumption analysis in the UK for all fuels, for the period covering 1 January to 31 December, with gas consumption covering the annual period from mid-May: www.gov.uk/government/collections/total-final-energy-consumption-at-sub-national-level

Sub-national electricity consumption

Electricity consumption by consuming sector for Great Britain and devolved administration areas. Data are based on the aggregation of Meter Point Administration Number readings as part of DESNZ's annual meter point electricity data exercise: www.gov.uk/government/collections/sub-national-electricity-consumption-data.

Sub-national gas consumption

Gas consumption by consuming sector for Great Britain, and devolved administration areas. Data are based on the aggregation of Meter Point Reference Number readings throughout Great Britain as part of DESNZ's annual meter point gas data exercise. Data are subject to a weather correction factor to enable comparison of gas use over time: www.gov.uk/government/collections/sub-national-gas-consumption-data.

Sub-national road transport consumption

Road transport fuels consumption in the UK at regional and local authority level. Data is modelled and provided to DESNZ by Ricardo Energy & Environment, with estimates based on where the fuel is consumed, rather than where it is purchased. www.gov.uk/government/collections/road-transport-consumption-at-regional-and-local-level

Sub-national consumption of residual fuels

Non-gas, non-electricity and non-road transport fuels consumption in the UK. Includes coal, petroleum, solid fuels, and bioenergy not for generation or road use: www.gov.uk/government/collections/sub-national-consumption-of-other-fuels

Further information

National statistics

This is a National Statistics publication. National Statistics status means that our statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality, and public value, and it is our responsibility to maintain compliance with these standards.

The Office for Statistics Regulation confirmed continued designation of Energy Trends as National Statistics in 2018 following a compliance check. A full assessment against the Code of Practice was last conducted in June 2014.

Pre-release

Some ministers and officials receive access to these statistics up to 24 hours before release. Details of the arrangements for doing this and a list of the ministers and officials that receive pre-release access to these statistics can be found in the [DESNZ statement of compliance](#) with the Pre-Release Access to Official Statistics Order 2008.

User engagement

Users are encouraged to provide comments and feedback on how these statistics are used and how well they meet user needs. Comments on any issues relating to this statistical release are welcomed.



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Supply of Liquefied Natural Gas in the UK, 2022

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Key headlines

In 2022, European demand for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) surged as countries looked to move away from Russian gas. European imports rose 71 per cent on 2021, leading to high global prices. Conversely, Asian imports fell by 7 per cent due to high spot prices for cargoes and depressed gas demand in China.

Qatar, Australia, and the USA were the largest exporters of LNG in 2022. Record US LNG exports were used to meet high global demand as new infrastructure came online. Increased US liquefaction capacity has enabled exports to more than double in the past three years.

UK LNG imports hit a record high of 25.6 bcm in 2022, up 74 per cent on the previous year. The UK holds significant regasification infrastructure, which meant the UK was used as a land-bridge for increased natural gas exports to Europe, while supporting domestic gas demand.

The US supplied half of the UK's LNG in 2022, ending Qatar's 13-year period as the largest LNG import source to the UK. Increased global demand led the UK to source cargoes from further afield, with Peruvian imports more than doubling on the previous year.

Introduction

Over the past few decades, Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) has become an increasingly important method of moving natural gas to market. LNG refers to natural gas which has been cooled to approximately -160°C , changing its state from gas to liquid. This means it can be transported by ship, as the volume is around 600 times smaller than the gaseous state. Therefore, it provides an effective means of transportation where established pipeline infrastructure does not exist or is not viable. Once at its destination, LNG is regasified and used in the same way as natural gas which has not been liquefied.

The increased importance of LNG for global gas supply is reflected in year-on-year increases in global liquefaction capacity. This is partly due to a depletion of easily accessible natural gas reserves. The UK has three LNG import terminals with a capacity of 48 bcm per year. In the UK, LNG imports have gained importance in ensuring a secure and diverse gas supply portfolio following a decline in indigenous production.

In 2022, global LNG imports hit another record high with market growth boosted by record European demand. Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 led Europe to reduce their pipeline imports of Russian natural gas, increasing demand for alternative sources of gas supply to meet domestic needs and fill historically low storage inventories.

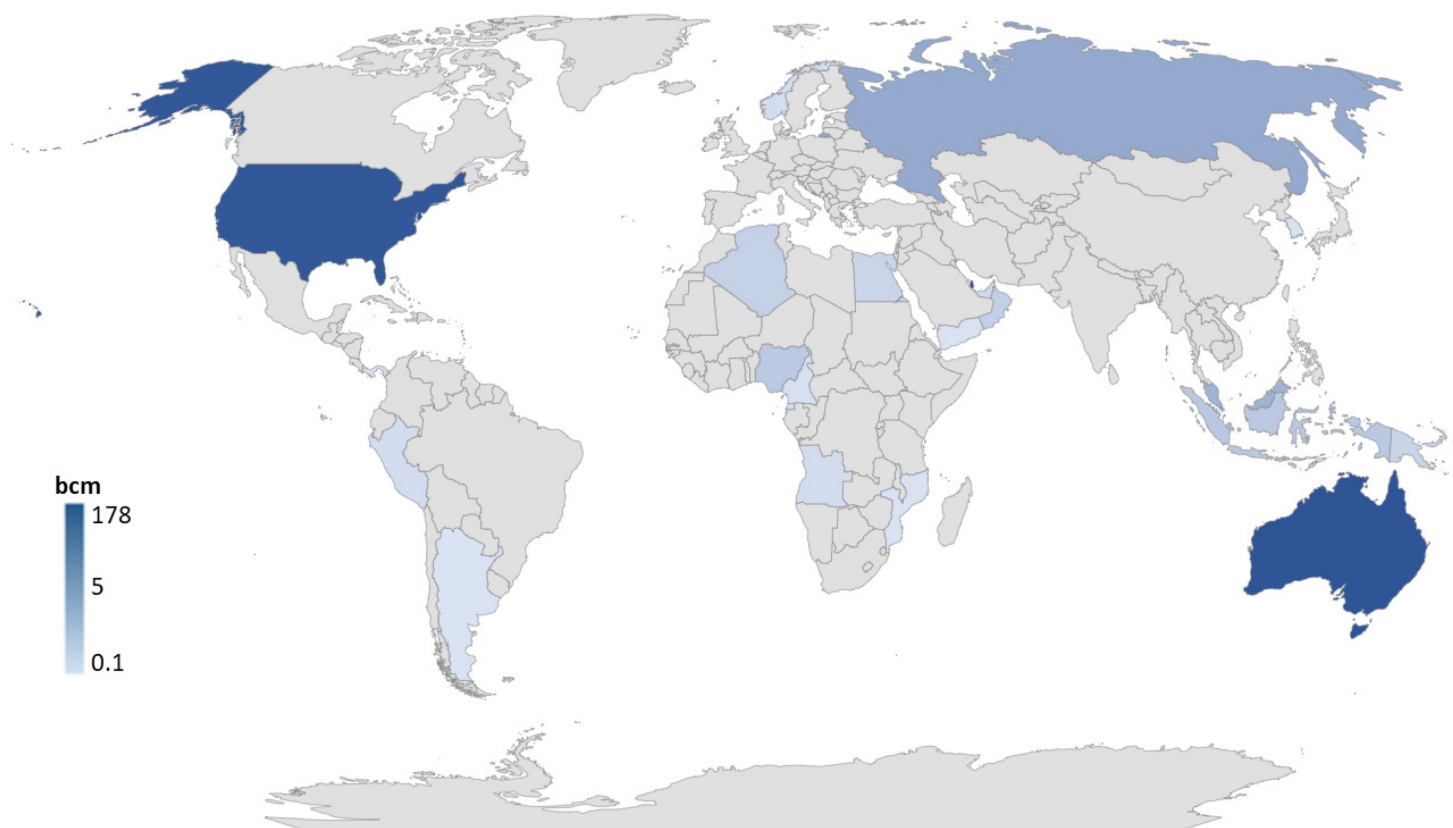
The aim of this article is to provide analysis of LNG supply to the UK (1) within the context of global LNG markets (2)

(1) UK and Europe data was sourced from the International Energy Agency (IEA) and Energy Trends: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/gas-section-4-energy-trends>

(2) Global data was sourced from the Independent Commodity Intelligence Services (ICIS)

Global LNG Trade

Map 1: Global exporters of LNG by volume, 2022

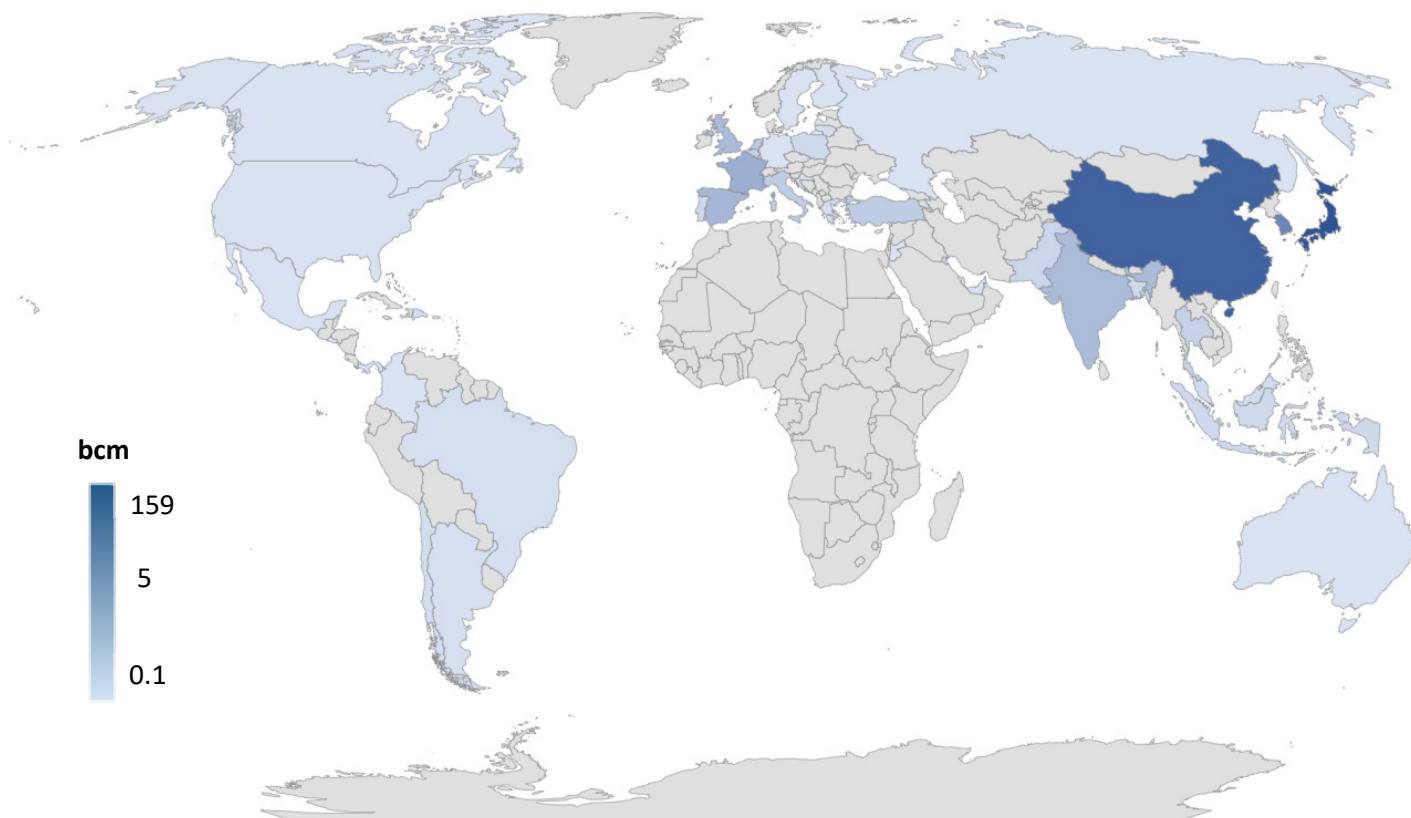


Map 1 shows global exporters of LNG. In 2022, Qatar, Australia and the United States were the largest exporters of LNG, supplying 60 per cent of the global market. Qatar and Australia are established LNG exporters whereas the US has seen substantial growth in liquefaction capacity in recent years. In the last three years, US LNG exports have more than doubled and, in 2022, were up 10 per cent on the previous year. In the first half of 2022, the US became the largest global exporter as new infrastructure came online and facilities operated close to maximum capacity to meet a surge in European demand. However, this was not sustained into the second half of the year as a fire at Freeport, a major export facility, reduced capacity.

Other major LNG exporters were those with large natural gas reserves, including Russia, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Nigeria. Europe is not a major exporter of LNG, accounting for just 0.7 per cent of global exports in 2022. The UK does not produce LNG but is able to re-export imported LNG – this is called reload. However, the last reload was in 2018.

Whilst LNG can be traded flexibly outside of existing pipeline supply routes, factors such as shipping costs and boil-off mean that proximity to the market plays some role in trade.

Map 2: Global importers of LNG by volume, 2022



Map 2 shows global importers of LNG in 2022. Historically, Asia has represented the largest LNG market, driving global growth in demand by being prepared to pay high prices for cargoes. Europe has played a vital role in balancing the global market, with substantial storage capacity allowing for high import levels when prices are low, even during periods of low demand.

In 2022 this dynamic reversed, as European LNG demand surged leading to high global gas prices. Europe became the premium market for LNG as countries paid high prices to replace supply from Russian pipelines and fill historically low natural gas storage inventories. European countries imported almost 30 per cent of total LNG traded, with France and Spain breaking into the top five largest importers globally, which have historically all been Asian.

Despite this Asia remained the largest market for LNG, receiving more than double the volume of European imports in 2022. Furthermore, Japan, China, and South Korea retained their positions as the three largest global importers. However, demand was muted in 2022, falling approximately 7 per cent in comparison with the previous year. China ranked as the second largest global LNG importer, dropping from the top spot in 2021. This followed 'zero Covid' policies which restricted gas demand across 2022, contributing towards Chinese LNG imports falling by one fifth. Emerging Asian gas markets, such as India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh, also saw substantial falls in imports due to high spot prices for cargoes.

Chart 1: LNG imports to Europe, split by key importers, 2017 to 2022

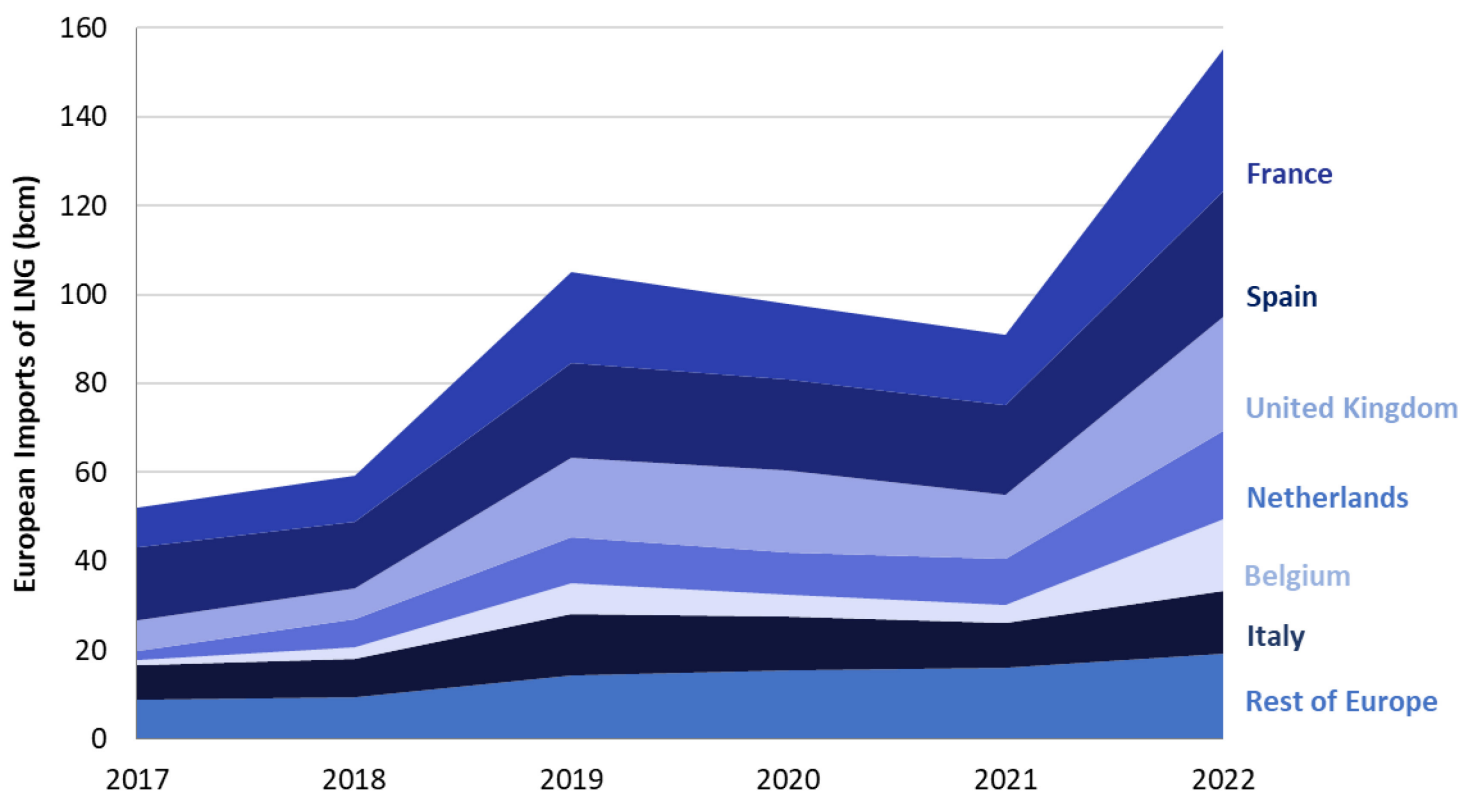


Chart 1 shows LNG import volumes for the six largest European importers.

In 2022, LNG imports to Europe increased by 71 per cent in comparison with the previous year, reaching a record high of 155 bcm. France, Spain, and the UK were the largest importers, accounting for over half of total European LNG imports.

Importing LNG is reliant on access to sufficient regasification capacity. European LNG terminals are mostly found in Western Europe, with the three largest importers each having access to substantial LNG infrastructure. Once LNG has been regasified, it can enter the traditional pipeline networks which connect Europe.

In 2022, major European LNG terminals were used to meet domestic demand and boost imports to other European countries as they looked to move away from Russian gas. France became the largest European LNG importer, with imports doubling in comparison with 2021. This was due to increased domestic gas demand following extensive nuclear outages and reflects France's pipeline connections with European countries with high gas demand, such as Germany.

This use of LNG infrastructure to feed European pipelines translated into large increases in natural gas exports for LNG importers. For example, natural gas pipeline exports from France more than doubled in 2022, in comparison with the previous year.

UK Gas Overview

Chart 2: Summary of UK Natural Gas Use, 1995 to 2022

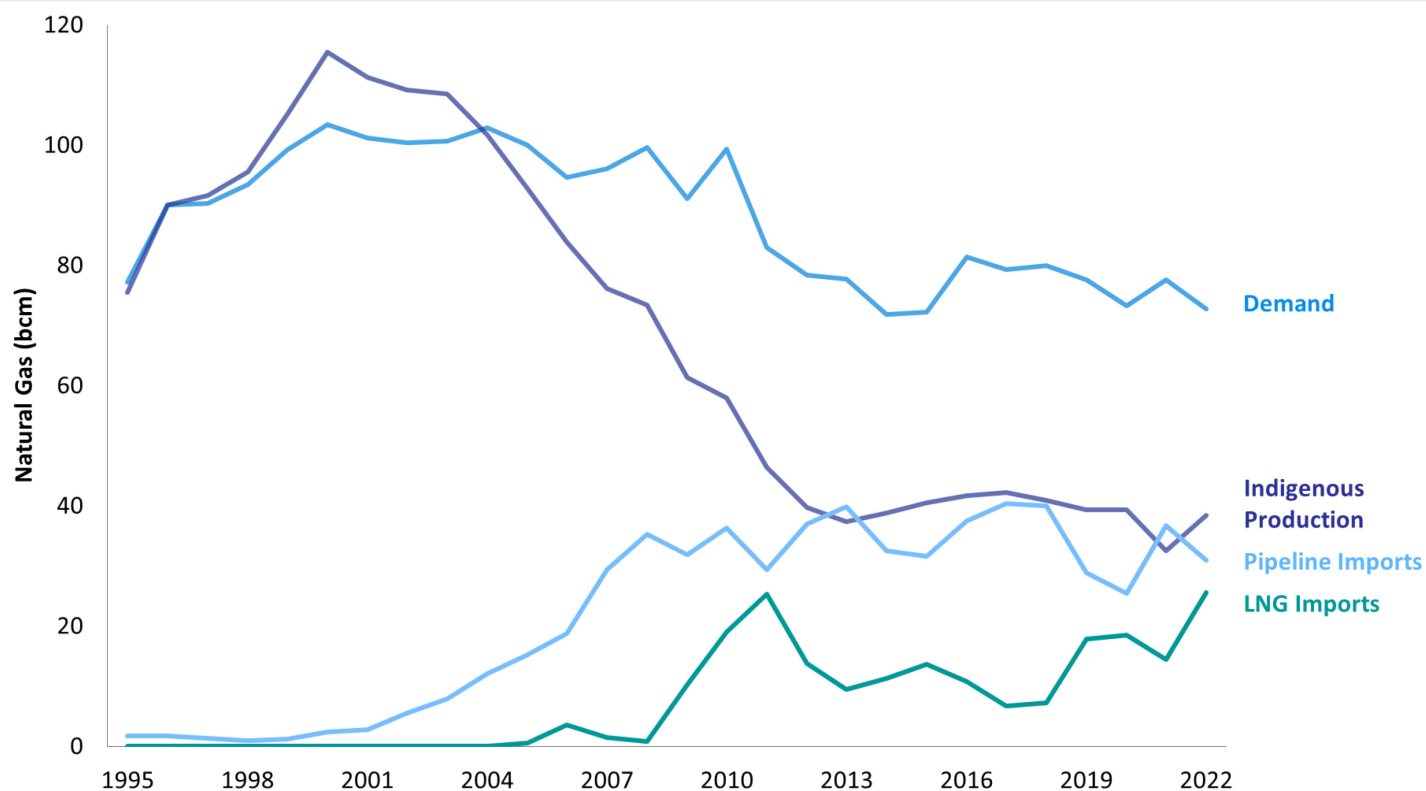
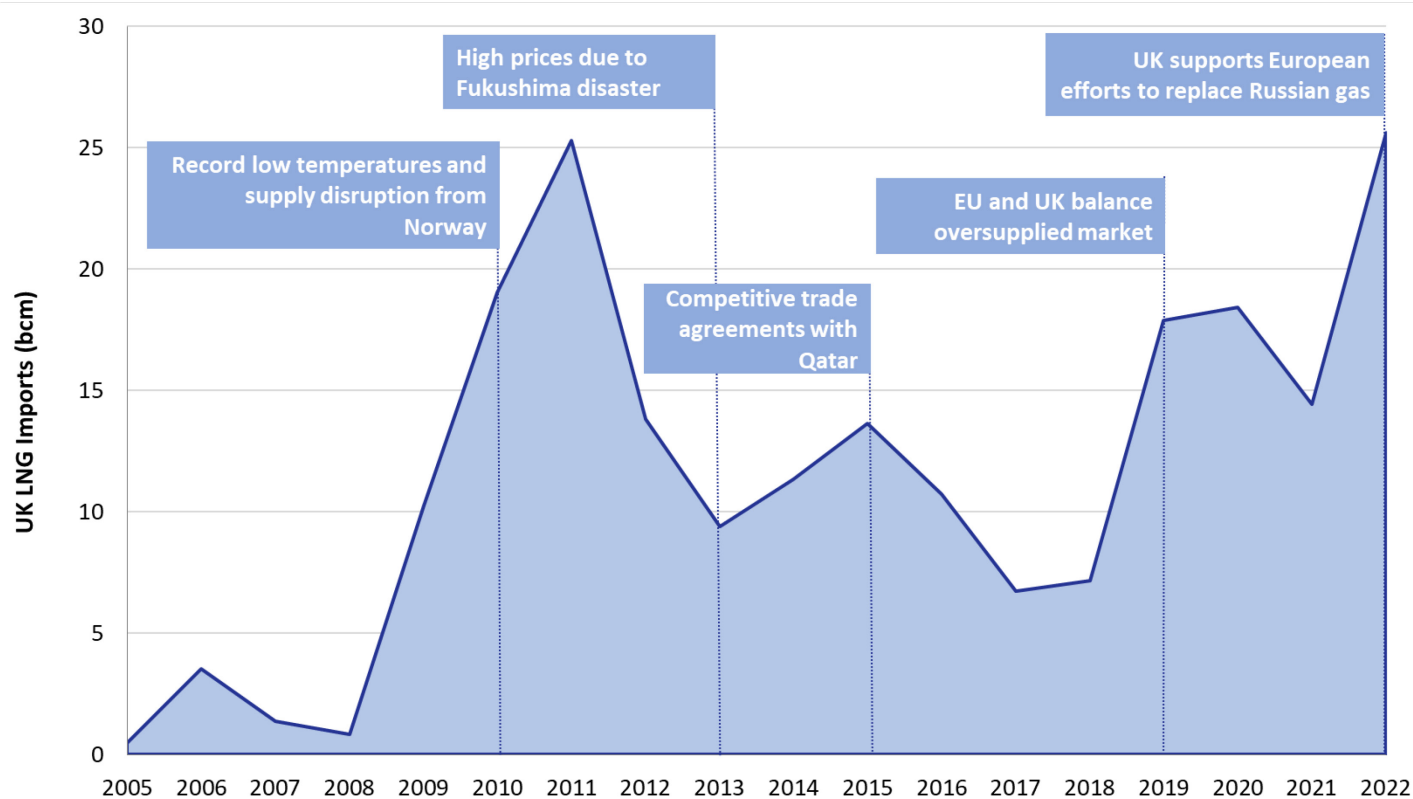


Chart 2 shows components of UK gas supply and demand from 1995 to 2022.

The UK produces natural gas from the UK Continental Shelf (UKCS), which is then transported inland via pipeline to meet domestic demand, with volumes also traded internationally. Indigenous production exceeded demand between 1997 and 2003 when the UK was a net exporter of gas. Following this, indigenous production declined until stabilising in 2013, at around a third of the 115 bcm peak in 2000. Indigenous production fell again in 2021 due to infrastructure maintenance postponed from 2020, but recovered in 2022.

As indigenous production has declined, imports have increased to meet demand. The UK began importing LNG for commercial use in 2005. Imports of LNG were minimal until 2008, following which they increased rapidly before peaking in 2011. Since then, LNG imports have fluctuated. Historically, natural gas imports by pipeline and of LNG have been negatively correlated, meaning that as pipeline imports fall, imports of LNG increase, and vice versa.

Chart 3: UK LNG imports, 2005 to 2022



2010 to 2011

Chart 3 shows that UK imports of LNG increased rapidly from 2008, peaking in 2011 at 25.3 bcm. In 2011, LNG accounted for 46 per cent of natural gas imports and 31 per cent of demand. This was the result of record low temperatures and disruption to pipeline supply due to industrial action in Norway. On peak demand days during the winter of 2010/11, LNG was the second largest source of natural gas, behind stock draws, making it more important than pipeline imports to meet demand.

2013

After the 2011 peak, LNG price increases led to a rapid decline in imports until 2013. Price rises were associated with the Tōhoku earthquake and tsunami in 2011 which caused the Fukushima disaster. In Asia, LNG was used as an emergency fuel to meet demand, as nuclear capacity was reduced over safety concerns. This led to the creation of an LNG spot market, and subsequent changes to the global market structure.

2014 to 2015

Following this, changes to UK LNG imports have been heavily influenced by markets. The 2014/15 bump in imports is linked to sale and purchase agreements (SPAs) with Qatar and oversupplied Asian markets. These contractual agreements can be mutually beneficial. For example, Qatar Petroleum invested in UK LNG infrastructure, including the South Hook LNG terminal, which in turn agreed to import Qatari LNG.

2019 to 2020

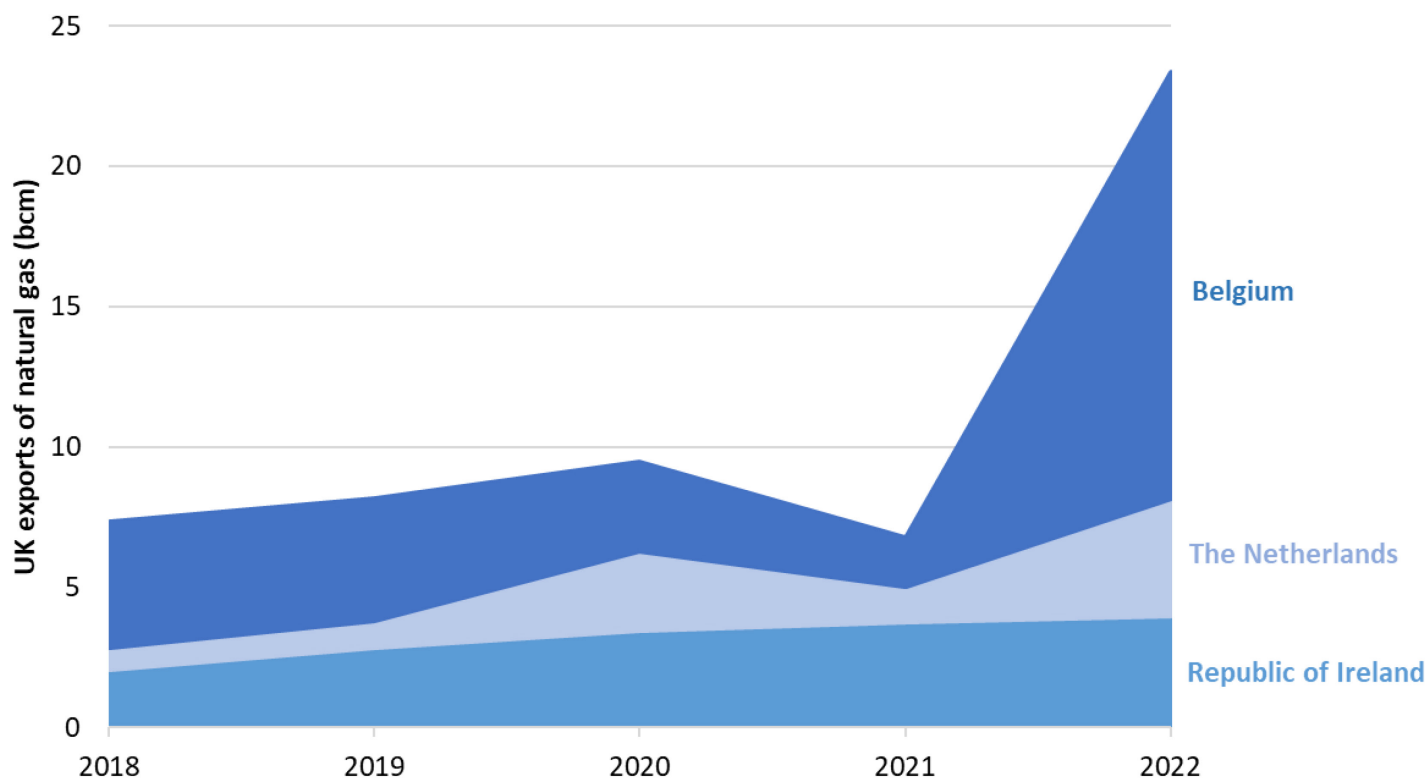
In 2020, LNG imports peaked again at 18.4 bcm - just under three quarters of the 2011 peak. In 2019 and 2020 the UK played a key role in the European 'LNG sink', which saw steep increases in LNG imports across Europe to balance the global LNG market as spot prices reached record lows. This was the result of an oversupplied market, and then a fall in demand as lockdowns were imposed to curb the spread of Covid-19.

2022

In 2022, LNG imports to the UK reached a record high of 25.6 bcm, rising 74 per cent on the previous year. LNG imports accounted for 45 per cent of natural gas imports across the year, and 35 per cent of demand. UK

LNG infrastructure was utilised to allow the UK to act as a land-bridge to increase natural gas imports to mainland Europe as it pivoted away from Russian gas.

Chart 4: UK Natural Gas Exports, 2018 to 2022



The UK also exports a small volume of natural gas to the Isle of Man, which has been excluded from this chart.

As shown in Chart 4, UK exports reached 23.5 bcm in 2022 - over three times greater than that recorded in 2021 and 47 per cent higher than the previous peak in 2011.

The UK has significant LNG regasification capacity spread across three terminals: Isle of Grain, South Hook and Dragon. The UK also has two interconnectors with mainland Europe, allowing bidirectional trade with Belgium and the Netherlands. This infrastructure allowed the UK to act as a land-bridge for increased imports into the European pipeline system during 2022. Though the interconnectors allow trade both to and from the UK, they were predominantly used for exports throughout the year. The Belgian interconnector was only used for exports from the UK between February and December, and exports accounted for 99.7 per cent of total trade flows across the interconnector in 2022.

In addition to exports to the European mainland, the UK exports considerable volumes of natural gas to the Republic of Ireland, with smaller volumes going to the Isle of Man.

Chart 5: UK monthly LNG imports, 2017 to 2022

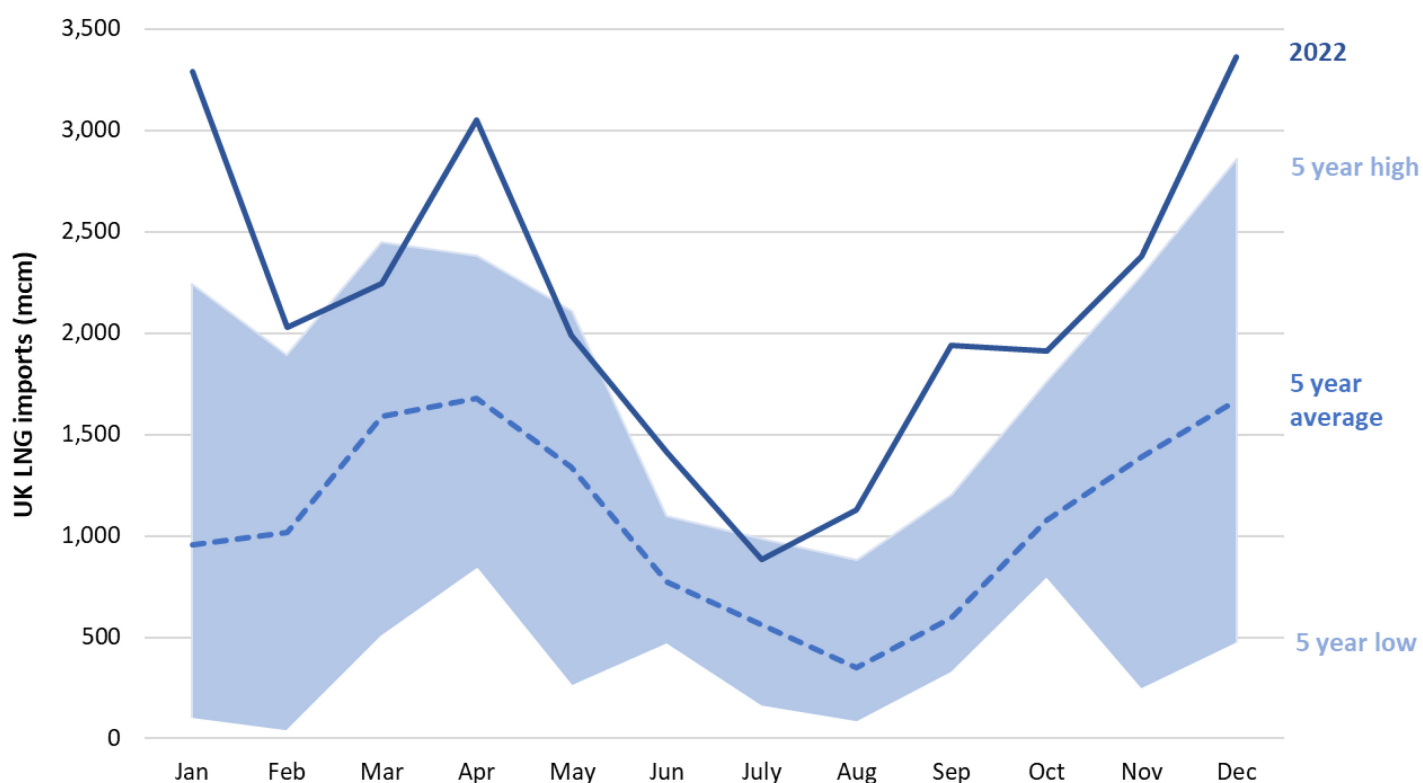


Chart 5 shows monthly imports of LNG across 2022, as well as the five-year average and range of LNG imports per month (using data from 2017 to 2021).

LNG import trends tend to show a seasonal pattern, characterised by high demand in winter months due to increased gas consumption for heating, followed by month-on-month reductions in demand through spring and summer and an increase in demand through autumn. In 2022, LNG imports to the UK continued to show a seasonal pattern but were consistently elevated in comparison to the five-year average. Average LNG imports across 2022 were almost double the average across the last five years, with monthly LNG imports in 2022 exceeding the five-year-high for nine out of twelve months.

UK LNG imports in 2022 began more strongly than usual but spiked again in April 2022 at just over 3 bcm, as Europe looked to source natural gas from a greater variety of sources following Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. The summer and autumn months saw an accelerated increase, as European demand increased to fill historically low stock levels ahead of winter.

UK LNG Import Sources

Chart 6: UK import sources as a percentage of total LNG imports, 2017 to 2022

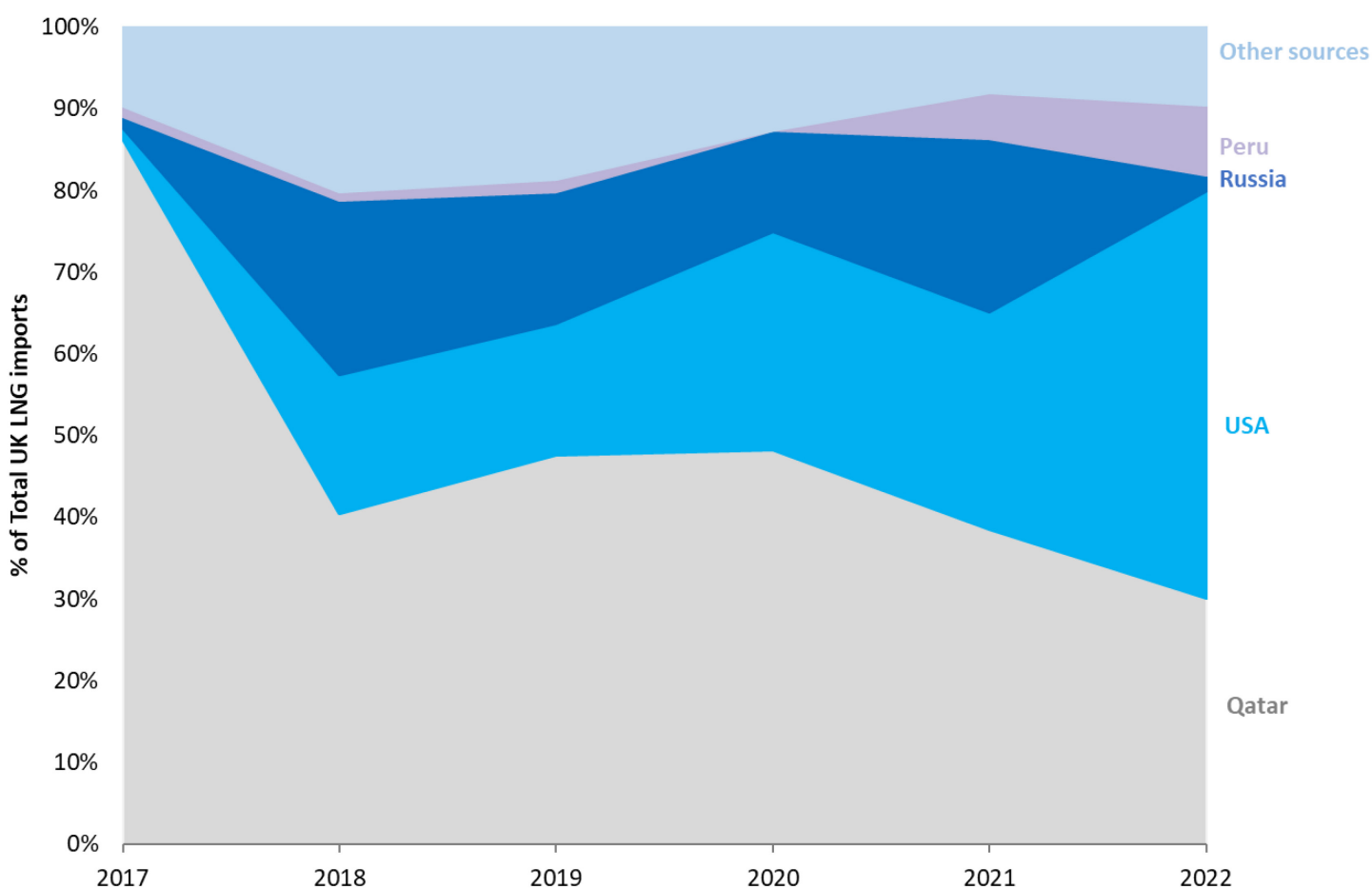


Chart 6 shows UK import sources as a percentage of total LNG imports.

In 2022, the USA replaced Qatar as the largest import source to the UK. US LNG imports accounted for half of total LNG imports in 2022, having only accounted for 1 per cent five years prior. US imports to the UK more than tripled in 2022 compared with 2021, reflecting substantial growth in US liquefaction capacity and the surge in European demand.

Since 2009, Qatar has been the largest import source to the UK, reflecting a strong trading relationship between the two countries. However, in 2022, Qatar accounted for 30 per cent of UK LNG imports, down from 39 per cent in 2021 and the lowest share since 2008. This follows a decline in the Qatari share since the 2012 peak, when they reached 98 per cent of total LNG imports. This is in line with increased global liquefaction capacity and the end of several major Qatari contracts, allowing a diversification of import sources.

Sanctions on Russian commodities came into effect towards the end of 2022, but prior to this the oil and gas industry saw significant self-sanctioning where traders voluntarily sought alternatives to trading with Russia. The UK did not receive any Russian LNG cargoes from April 2022 onwards, resulting in a fall in the share of Russian LNG imports from 21 per cent in 2021, to 1.9 per cent in 2022.

Record high imports saw the UK source cargoes from a diverse range of sources such as Peru, Chile, and Oman. The UK imported 8.6 per cent of total LNG imports from Peru, with the volume of imports received more than doubling on the year before.

Summary

The UK gas supply mix is comprised of natural gas from indigenous production and imports. Some of these imports arrive as Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). The UK began commercially importing LNG in 2005, initially peaking in 2011 when it accounted for just over a quarter of total gas supply. Since 2011, import volumes have been closely linked to economic factors. Historically, Asia has represented the largest LNG market, paying a premium for cargoes and influencing European, including UK, imports.

However in 2022, new LNG market dynamics were established as European demand for LNG increased 71 per cent amid high global gas prices. Europe became the premium market as countries looked to move away from Russian imports and fill historically low natural gas storage inventories. Though Asia remained the largest market for LNG, demand fell by 7 per cent due to reduced natural gas demand in China and high spot prices for cargoes.

Global exports grew to match the surge in demand, primarily driven by record US exports as new liquefaction capacity came online. The three largest exporters remained as Qatar, Australia, and the USA, and accounted for 60 per cent of total exports across the year.

In 2022, UK LNG imports hit a record high of 25.6 bcm, representing 45 per cent of UK natural gas imports. The UK holds significant LNG infrastructure, which was used as a land-bridge for increased natural gas exports to Europe, alongside meeting domestic gas demand. This led to record natural gas exports to Europe at 23.5 bcm - over 3 times greater than that seen in 2021.

The USA replaced Qatar as the largest import source to the UK, supplying half of the UK's LNG imports. Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the share of UK LNG imports from Russia fell to 1.9 per cent in 2022, down from 21 per cent in the previous year. Increased demand for LNG also led the UK to source more cargoes from further afield, for example Peru.

Major commentators are projecting these new market dynamics will persist into 2023. European demand is projected to reach a new high as new import infrastructure comes online. Asian demand is also likely to grow, as Covid-19 restrictions in China ease and long-term LNG contracts commence. Meanwhile, US exports are expected to fuel global export growth, driven by the reopening of the Freeport terminal.



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