Policy Background

A European energy policy must pursue the objective of a sustainable, competitive and secure supply of energy. If the EU continues on its present course, this key objective will not be attained. In January 2007, the European Commission adopted an energy policy for Europe. This was supported by several documents on different aspects of energy and included an action plan to meet the major energy challenges Europe faces. Each European citizen must be informed of these challenges and the role they should play in meeting them.

A diversified mix of energies will increase security of supply.

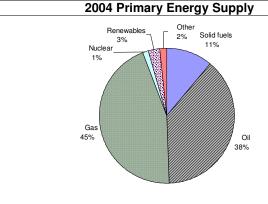
Key Issues

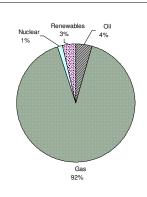
The Netherlands is a significant producer (and exporter) of natural gas and depends on energy imports for oil and hard coal exhibiting a lower than average EU import dependency. Electricity is generated mainly from gas and hard coal. The use of renewable energy sources for power generation has been increasing and the Netherlands is a significant country in terms of installed wind power capacity. Nuclear power is considered as an option within climate change policies, and the lifetime of the single nuclear power plant has been extended. Energy consumption is fairly balanced between the various sectors, with transport and industry holding slightly higher shares.

Key Figures (2004)							
Mtoe	Primary Energy Supply	Domestic Production	Net Imports	Final Energy Consumption	Electricity Generation (TWh)		
Solid fuels	9.2		9.1	1.6	23.5		
Oil	31.6	2.9	44.1	17.4	2.8		
Gas	36.7	61.6	-24.9	21.7	63.8		
Nuclear	1.0	1.0			3.8		
Electricity			1.4	8.9			
Renewables	2.4	2.4		0.4	6.7		
Other	1.4			2.6	0.2		
Total	82.3	67.9	29.7	52.5	100.8		

Key Indicators (2004)						
NE	THERLANDS	EU-27				
Energy per capita (kgoe/cap)	5 056	3 689				
Energy intensity (toe/MEUR '00)	190.2	185				
Energy import dependency %	30.7	50.1				
CO ₂ Emissions (M	t) 177	4 004				
CO ₂ intensity (tCO ₂ /toe)	2.2	2.2				
CO ₂ per capita (kg/cap)	10 902	8 180				

The source for all data is the European Commission, unless otherwise stated





2004 Domestic Production

Primary Energy Supply

Natural gas and oil dominate the Netherlands primary energy supply, with an aggregate 83% of total. While the total supply has increased by 23% since 1990, the share of oil has increased by 29% and of natural gas by 19%. The shares of oil and gas are much higher than the EU-27 average values (38% and 24% respectively). Solid fuel consumption accounts for a 11% of total supply. Renewable energy sources have increased significantly since 1990, although they account for only 3% of energy supply (below EU-27 average of 6%).

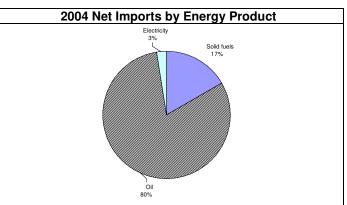
Domestic Production

The Netherlands is the second largest producer of natural gas in the EU. Proved reserves were 1.45 trillion m³ at the end of 2005 (Source: BP Energy Statistics). Natural gas production showed an increase of 15% in 2004 compared to 2003. The Netherlands also produces small quantities of oil, nuclear and renewable energy (at an increasing rate).

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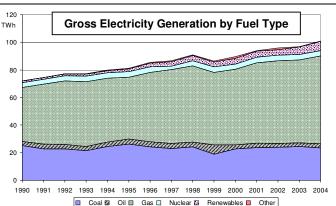
Imports

The Netherlands is an exporter of natural gas and has an import dependency below EU-25 average. Imports consist mainly of oil (80%) and solid fuels (mainly hard coal). Imported oil quantities have increased significantly over the last five years. Main sources of crude oil imports are the Russian Federation, Norway and Saudi Arabia. Hard coal is imported from South Africa and Colombia.



Electricity Generation

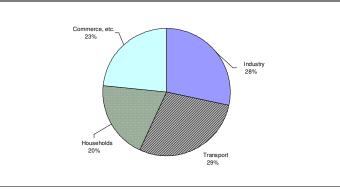
Electricity generation is largely based on natural gas with a significant share also contributed by solid fuels. The participation of natural gas in electricity generation has been steadily increasing since 1990 and in 2004 accounted for 64% of total gross generation. Smaller shares of electricity are produced from nuclear, oil and renewable energy sources. Wind capacity has increased significantly over the past decade and the Netherlands are 6th among EU member states in terms of installed wind capacity with 1.2 GW installed at the end of 2005 (Source: http://www.ewea.org/).



Final Energy Consumption

Final energy consumption in the Netherlands is almost equally distributed among the transport, industry, commerce and household sectors with the latter being the least significant. Transport has exhibited a significant increase (45%) since 1990, and accounted for 29% of final consumption in 2004, slightly remaining below the EU-27 average (31%). Oil and natural gas dominate and electricity follows, in terms of type of energy consumed.

2004 Final Energy Consumption by Sector



For further information

If you want to find more data on the Netherlands or other Member State energy markets, go to http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/energy transport/figures/pocketbook/2006 en.htm

Further fact sheets on the Netherlands and other Member States can be found on: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/energy policy/facts en.htm

What is meant by?

Energy Import Dependency shows the extent to which a country relies upon imports in order to meet its energy needs. It is calculated using the following formula: net imports / (primary energy supply+bunkers)

Energy Intensity gives an indication of the effectiveness with which energy is being used to produce added value. It is defined as the ratio of Primary Energy Supply to Gross Domestic Product

Final Energy Consumption is the energy finally consumed in the transport, industrial, commercial, agricultural, public and household sectors. It excludes deliveries to the energy transformation sector and to the energy industries themselves

Primary Energy Supply: The quantity of energy consumed within the borders of a country: primary production + recovered products + imports + stock changes - exports - bunkers (i.e. quantities supplied to sea-going ships)

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