

1992 EUROPEAN UNION ENERGY BALANCE SHEETS

The final energy balance sheet, expressed in tonnes of oil equivalent, is briefly analysed as regards both aggregates and products. A paragraph is devoted to renewable energies, included for the first time in the energy balance sheet.

I. ANALYSIS BY AGGREGATE

1. Production, trade balance and transformation

Primary production was up slightly by 0.2% compared with 1991, but there were differences depending on the type of energy. Coal and especially lignite fell by 4.9% and 11.3% respectively, while other energy products increased.

Net imports rose by 12 million toe compared with 1991, to reach 630.8 million toe, an increase of 2%.

External energy dependence was thus approximately 50%.

As regards the activity of the transformation sector, input amounted to 1 078 800 toe and the production of derived energy to 806.8 million toe.

Gross transformation efficiency was therefore 74.8%.

2. Consumption

Gross inland consumption fell very slightly (-0.2%), while overall Gross Domestic Product rose by 1.3%.

It follows that final energy consumption also fell by 0.2%.

An analysis of the consumption of each major sector shows that:

- the consumption of industry rose slightly (+0.3%), while the industrial production index fell by 1.4%;
- consumption by transportation rose by 2.6%;
- consumption by households, trade etc. fell by 3.6%, one of the reasons for which was the mild weather during the year, since the number of degree-days (*) was 7.7% down on 1991.

II. ANALYSIS BY PRODUCT

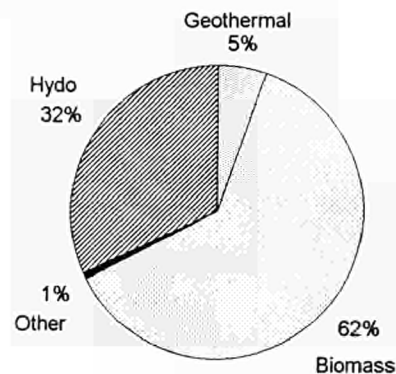
Gross inland consumption by energy source followed the same trend as in recent years: coal down, oil stable and natural gas up. The percentage of the total consumption for each source in 1992 was 15.6% for hard coal, 5.2% for lignite, 43.5% for oil, 18.6% for natural gas, 13.6% for thermal energy produced in nuclear power stations and 3.5% for renewable energies.

III. RENEWABLE ENERGIES IN THE BALANCE SHEET

The renewable energies (RE) included in the balance sheet are: solar energy (active), geothermal energy, wind energy, hydropower and biomass (wood, wood waste, municipal solid waste and biogas). The reader should treat the data with some caution since statistics on these types of energy are recent and constantly progressing.

1992 saw the following developments :

- RE production was 43.6 million toe, i.e. 6.7% of total primary production.
- consumption of RE was 3.5% of gross inland consumption.
- households consumed 16.2 million toe of biomass, particularly wood, which represents approximately 7% of their final consumption.
- biomass represented 14% and 4.3% of gross inland consumption of energy in Portugal and France respectively.
- hydropower (13.8 million toe) represented 8.2% of total electricity production.
- France was the main producer of hydroelectric power (5.9 million toe).
- Denmark was the main producer of wind energy (78 000 toe), but this represents only 0.06% of total electricity production in the European Union.



(*) Degree-days express the level of cold during the year.