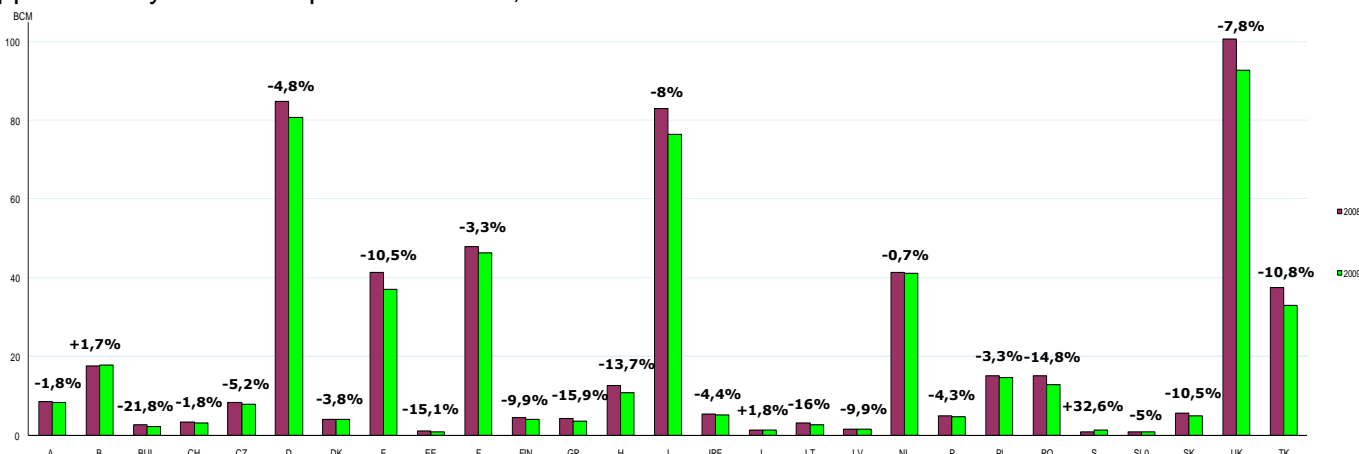


Natural Gas Consumption in EU27, Turkey and Switzerland in 2009

According to preliminary figures and estimates from Eurogas, total natural gas consumption in EU27 has decreased by 6,4% in 2009 in comparison to 2008.

The initial estimate for 2009 natural gas consumption in EU27 is 18879 peta joule (PJ), equivalent to 484 billion cubic metres (BCM)¹, or 406 million tons of oil equivalent (MTOE)². This represents a decrease of 6,4% compared to 2008.

At the end of 2009, the total number of gas customers connected to the EU27 natural gas grid rose by approximately 1% in comparison to 2008, to reach 114 million customers.



The economic downturn in the EU had a serious impact on the energy sector in 2009. According to Eurostat estimates, there was a fall of 4,1% in the EU27 GDP. Although the natural gas markets of the different countries vary significantly, in almost all EU countries, the natural gas demand between 2009 and 2008 declined because of the economic recession. The impact was slightly offset by colder weather conditions and signs of economic recovery in most EU countries at the end of the year. Some general trends can be distinguished for most of the EU countries.

Although the residential sector has not been as affected by the economic crisis as other sectors, it registered a decrease due to the progressive implementation of energy efficiency measures and some switching to alternative energy forms. The demand contraction was however limited by the cold temperatures. The industrial sector was heavily affected by the economic crisis. According to Eurostat estimates, compared with 2008, the average production index in the EU27 for 2009 fell by 13,9%. Alongside the industrial sector, the power sector played a large part in the total consumption drop. Lower electricity demand due to the economic recession and increased use of alternative energies, such as renewables, have significantly decreased the volume of gas used for power generation. The drop in gas consumption was significant in the Eastern European countries. The damage caused by the economic crisis in the industrial and power sectors was slightly offset by the improved economic outlook at the end of the year.

Indigenous gas production in the EU27 decreased by 10% to 7097 PJ (182 Bcm) over the period, mainly because of lower demand and ongoing decline in the mature production basins.

The largest source of gas supplied in the EU27 comes from indigenous production, making up 36% of the total net supplies in 2009. Main external sources of supply are Russia with 22%, Norway with 19% and Algeria with 10%.

Eurogas is the European Union of the Natural Gas Industry representing the European natural gas industries of 26 countries towards the European Commission and all other relevant international institutions and stakeholders. Web site: www.eurogas.org
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¹ Applied calorific value : 39 MJ/cubic metre GCV

² Applied calorific value : 41.86 PJ/MTOE NCV

Developments in European Natural Gas Consumption 2008-2009

NATURAL GAS CONSUMPTION IN 2009 (PRELIMINARY)																												
	Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	Czech Republic	Germany	Denmark	Spain	Estonia	France	Finland	Greece	Hungary	Italy	Ireland	Luxembourg	Lithuania	Latvia	The Netherlands	Portugal	Poland	Romania	Sweden	Slovenia	Slovakia	United Kingdom	EU27	Switzerland	Turkey
PJ (peta joule)	328,7	699,0	85,4	310,1	3150,0	154,5	1446,7	33,2	1804,5	161,8	136,6	424,2	2977,1	199,2	52,8	100,9	56,6	1603,6	185,2	571,9	498,9	50,4	36,8	193,6	3617,2	18878,8	126,0	1255,3
BCM* (billion cubic meter)	8,4	17,9	2,2	8,0	80,8	4,0	37,1	0,9	46,3	4,1	3,5	10,9	76,3	5,1	1,4	2,6	1,5	41,1	4,7	14,7	12,8	1,3	0,9	5,0	92,7	484,1	3,2	32,2
MTOE* (million tons of oil equivalent)	7,1	15,0	1,8	6,7	67,7	3,3	31,1	0,7	38,8	3,5	2,9	9,1	64,0	4,3	1,1	2,2	1,2	34,5	4,0	12,3	10,7	1,1	0,8	4,2	77,8	405,9	2,7	27,0
billion kWh*	91,3	194,2	23,7	86,1	875,0	42,9	401,9	9,2	501,3	45,0	37,9	117,8	827,0	55,3	14,7	28,0	15,7	445,4	51,4	158,9	138,6	14,0	10,2	53,8	1004,8	5244,1	35,0	348,7

NATURAL GAS CONSUMPTION IN 2008																												
	A	B	BUL	CZ	D	DK	E	EE	F	FIN	GR	H	I	IRE	L	LT	LV	NL	P	PI	RO	S	SI	SK	UK	EU27	CH	TK
PJ (peta joule)	334,7	687,0	109,2	327,0	3310,0	160,6	1616,4	39,1	1866,1	179,6	162,5	491,3	3234,5	208,3	51,9	120,1	62,8	1614,2	193,6	591,5	585,9	38,0	38,7	216,2	3924,0	20163,1	128,2	1407,2
BCM* (billion cubic meter)	8,6	17,6	2,8	8,4	84,9	4,1	41,4	1,0	47,8	4,6	4,2	12,6	82,9	5,3	1,3	3,1	1,6	41,4	5,0	15,2	15,0	1,0	1,0	5,5	100,6	517,0	3,3	36,1
MTOE* (million tons of oil equivalent)	7,2	14,8	2,3	7,0	71,2	3,5	34,8	0,8	40,1	3,9	3,5	10,6	69,5	4,5	1,1	2,6	1,4	34,7	4,2	12,7	12,6	0,8	0,8	4,6	84,4	433,5	2,8	30,3
billion kWh*	93,0	190,8	30,3	90,8	919,4	44,6	449,0	10,9	518,4	49,9	45,1	136,5	898,5	57,9	14,4	33,4	17,4	448,4	53,8	164,3	162,8	10,6	10,8	60,0	1090,0	5600,9	35,6	390,9

NATURAL GAS CONSUMPTION CHANGE 2008/2009 (PRELIMINARY)																												
	A	B	BUL	CZ	D	DK	E	EE	F	FIN	GR	H	I	IRE	L	LT	LV	NL	P	PI	RO	S	SI	SK	UK	EU27	CH	TK
%	-1,8%	1,7%	-21,8%	-5,2%	-4,8%	-3,8%	-10,5%	-15,1%	-3,3%	-9,9%	-15,9%	-13,7%	-8,0%	-4,4%	1,8%	-16,0%	-9,9%	-0,7%	-4,3%	-3,3%	-14,8%	32,6%	-5,0%	-10,5%	-7,8%	-6,4%	-1,8%	-10,8%

* The results are based on petajoule, the applied calorific values (39 MJ / cubic meter GCV, 41.86 PJ / MTOE NCV, NCV = 0.9 GCV) are representing an European average. Results in other units than petajoule shall give an indication and can vary for countries using a different conversion factor than the European average.