

The Belgian Energy Policy

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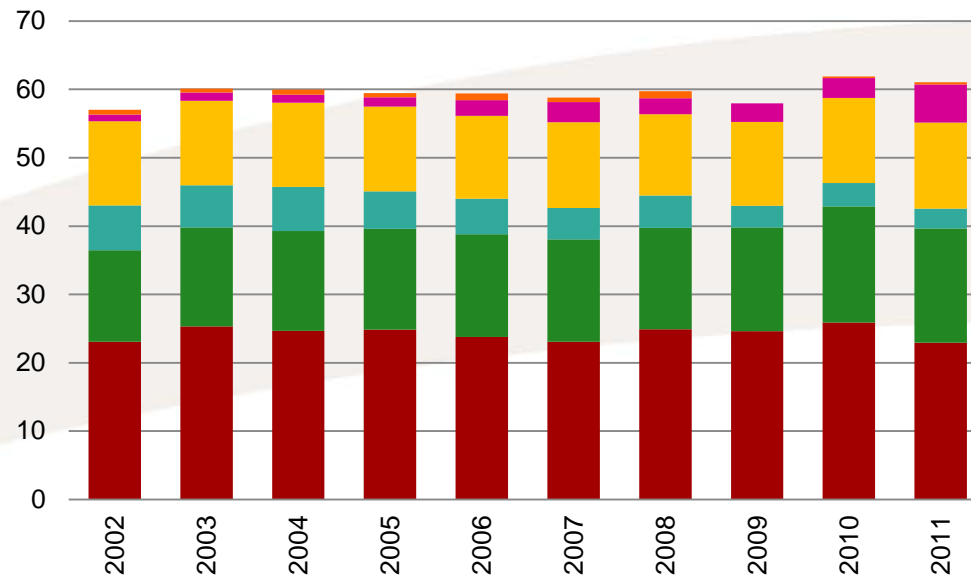
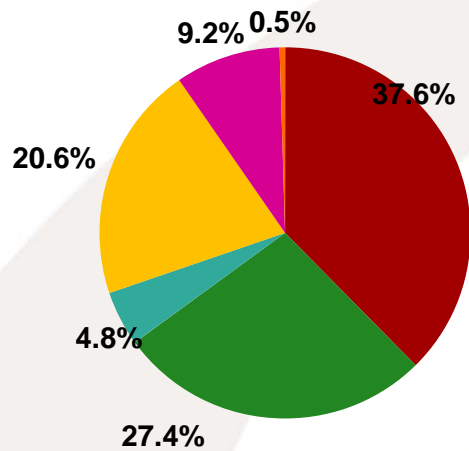
I. INTRODUCTION

1. Belgium - location
2. Key figures
3. Federal Structure



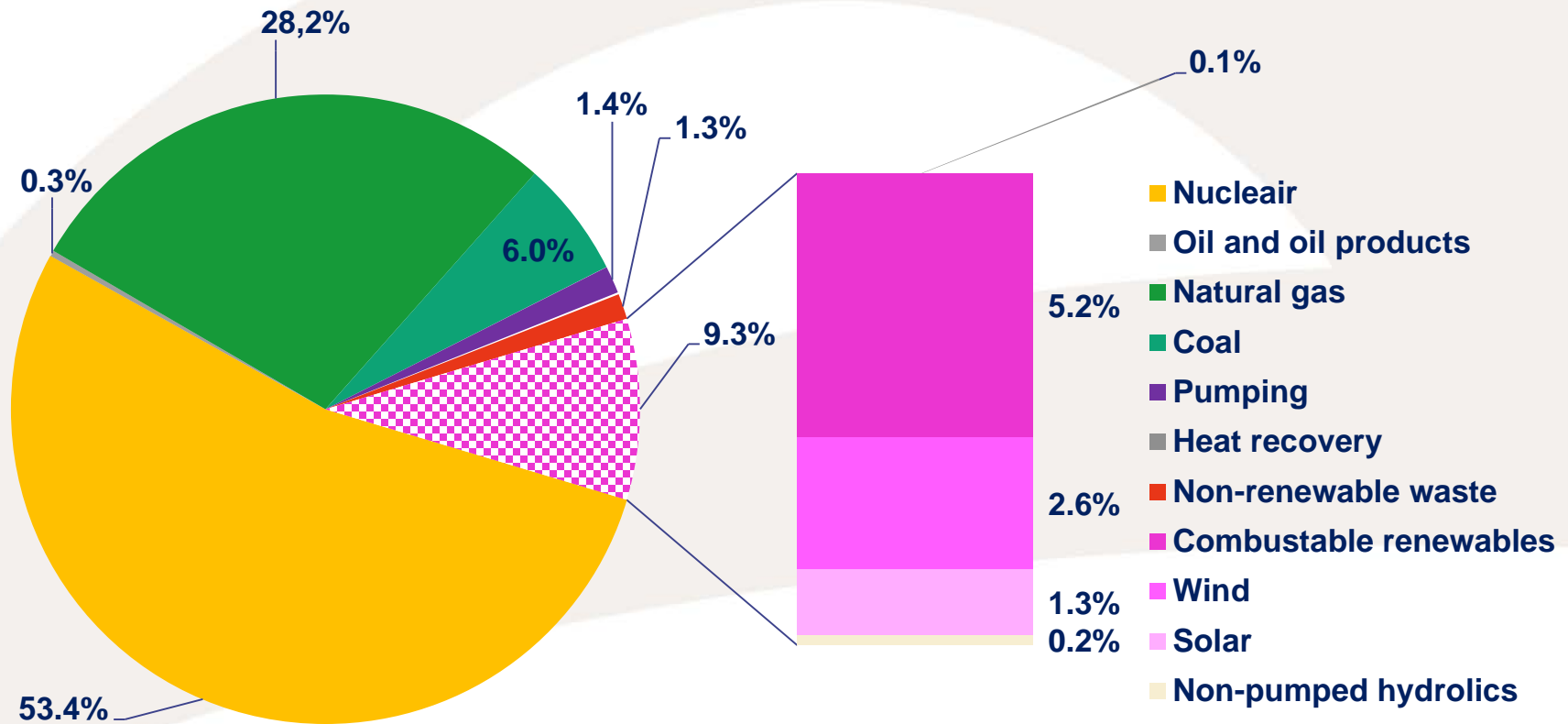


Primary energy consumption by source (2011 - evolution)

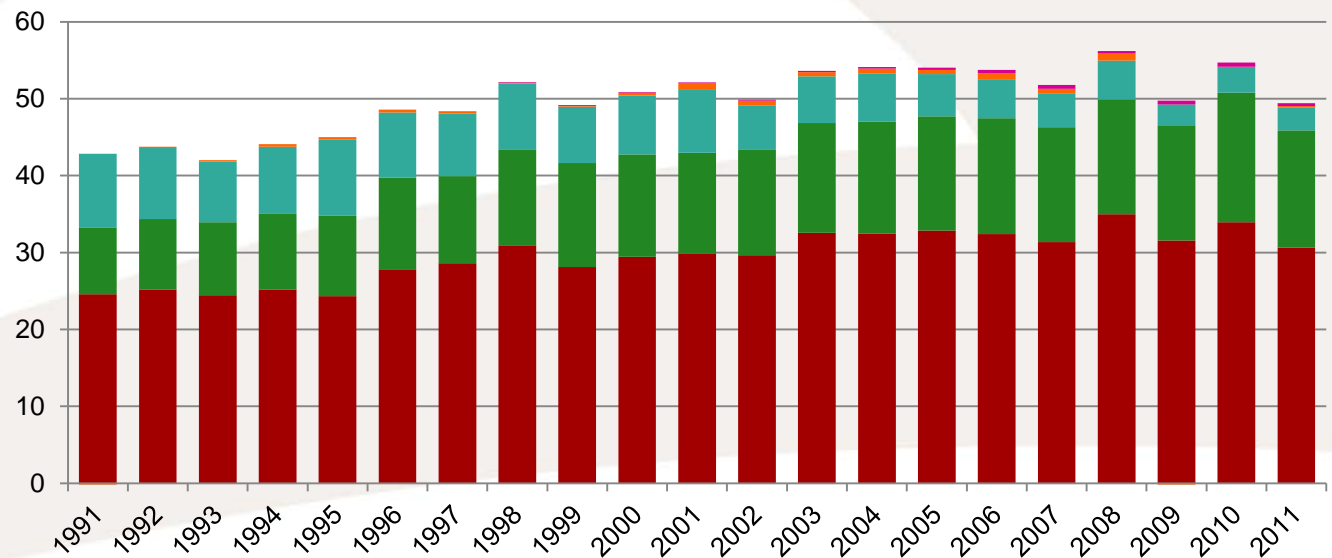
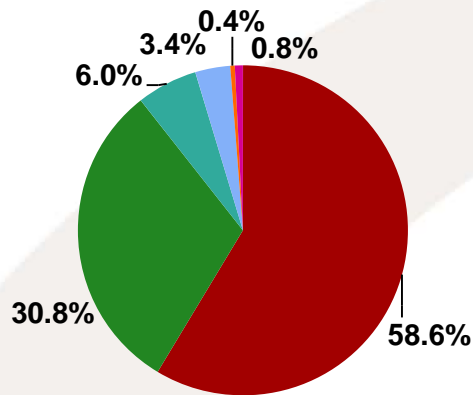


- Autres énergies
- Energies renouvelables et déchets
- Energie nucléaire
- Combustibles solides
- Gaz naturel
- Pétrole et produits pétroliers

Gross Electricity production (2011)



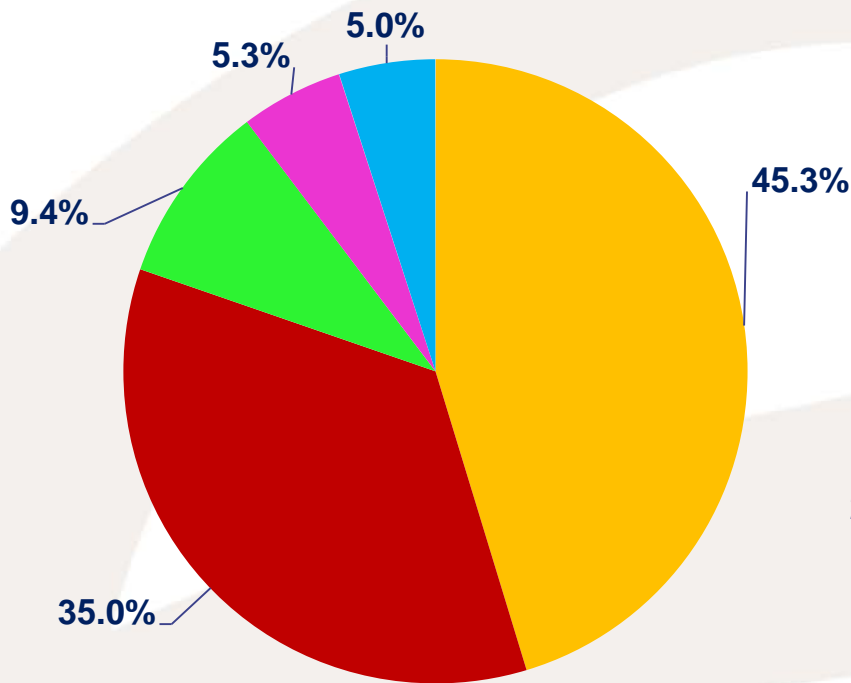
Import by energy source (2011 – evolution since 1991)



- Pétrole et produits pétroliers
- Gaz naturel
- Combustibles solides
- Electricité
- Combustibles renouvelables et déchets

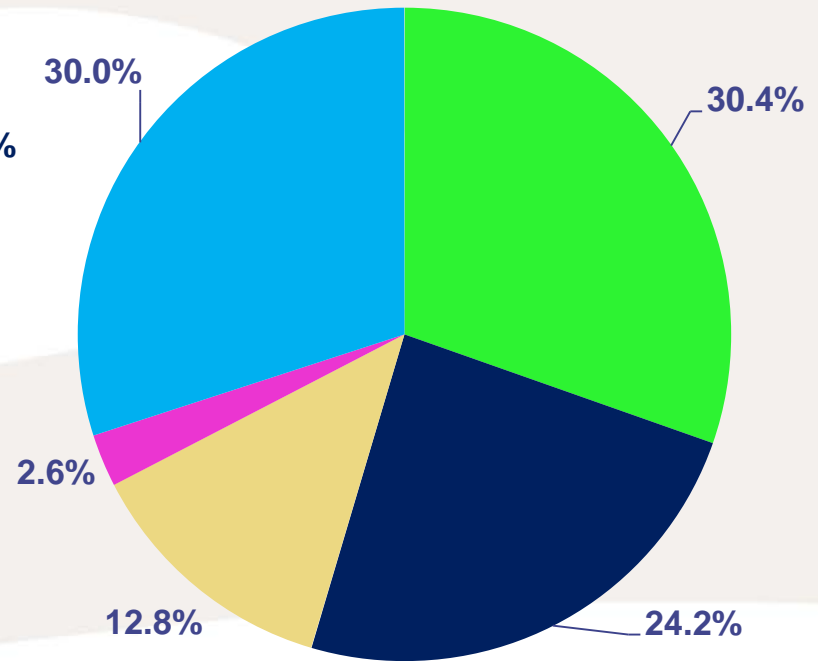
Oil and gas imports by country (2011)

Crude Oil



- Russia
- Opec
- Norway
- UK
- Not specified

Natural Gas



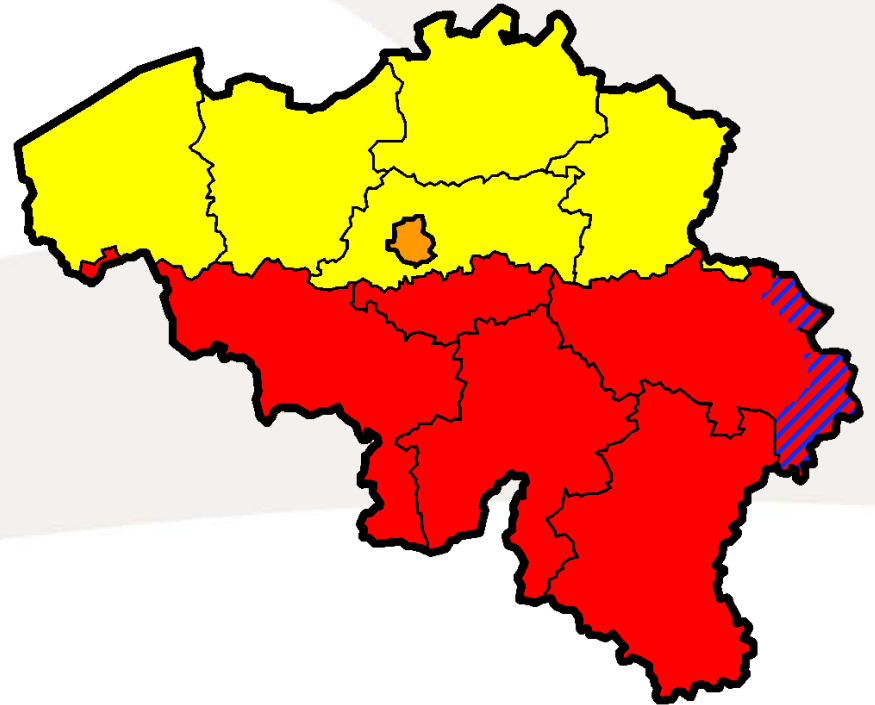
- Norway
- The Netherlands
- Qatar
- UK
- Not Specified

Federal structure

The constitutional reforms in the 1970's and 1980's led to the creation of a federal state with:

- 3 communities
- 3 regions

These institutions have powers and responsibilities for the different fields



Federal competences

- Security of supply
- National prospective studies
- Nuclear fuel cycles and related R&D programmes
- Large stockholding installations
- Production and transmission / transport of energy (electricity grid >70 kV), including large storage infrastructure
- Distribution and transport tariffs
- Energy statistics and balances
- Offshore wind energy

Regional competences

- Promotion of the efficient use of energy
- New and renewable energy sources
- Non-nuclear energy R&D
- Market regulation for the distribution
- Distribution and transmission of electricity (electricity grid <70 kV)
- Public distribution of natural gas
- District-heating equipment and networks
- Recovery of waste energy from industry or other uses
- Regional energy statistics and balances

Institutional Energy concertation between the State and Regions

Enover/Concere:

- Cooperation agreement between the concerned governments signed on 18 December 1991

- Major tasks:
 - Organisation of the consultation between the State and the Regions regarding energy
 - Stimulate the internal coherence of the energy policy of the competent governments
 - Stimulate the information exchange between the competent governments
 - Collect data in order to be able to share information and work out energy statistics
 - Determine the Belgian delegation that participates in international organisations
 - Prepare a coherent national position to be defended at the European and international organisations

II. AN ENERGY POLICY BASED ON THE FIVE-PILLARS APPROACH

1. Security of supply
2. Competitiveness
3. Sustainability
4. Affordability
5. Safety

1. Security of Supply

a. Offer reliable energy data and planning tools

- Collection and publication of energy data by the **Energy Observatory**, in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders;
- **Prospective studies** for gas and electricity;
- Approve **network development plans** of the network operators;
- **Repertory of power plants**, in collaboration with the regions.

1. Security of Supply

b. Emergency Response Management

National Plans

- **Gas**: Preventive and Emergency Action Plan for Gas
- **Oil**: Management of Strategic Oil Stocks
- **Electricity**: Electricity Emergency Response Plan (dealing with sudden phenomena such as blackouts and electricity shortfalls)

1. Security of Supply

c. Active Energy Diplomacy

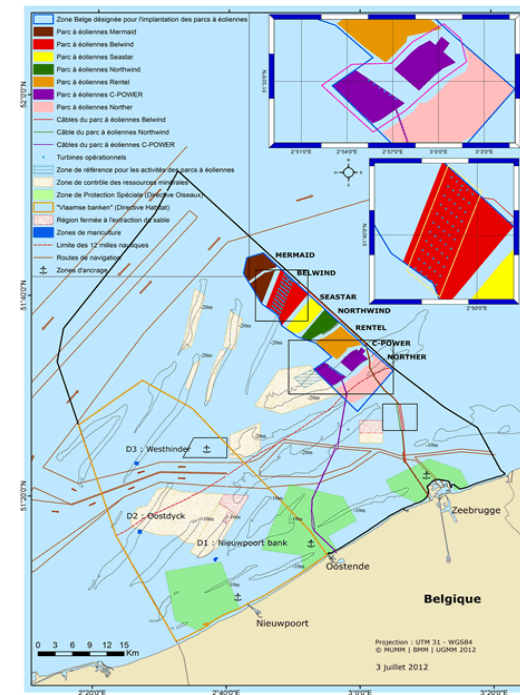
- EU
- Regional
 - Pentalateral Energy Forum
 - North Seas Countries' Offshore Grid Initiative
 - North West Gas Platform
- International
 - International Energy Forum (IEF)
 - International Energy Agency (IEA)
 - International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
 - Energy Charter
 - International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

2. Competitiveness

- **Monitoring of the energy prices**, in view of ensuring the competitiveness of our industry.
- Some **recent measures**:
 - Reform of the renewables support scheme, including structural degressivity and cap for SME's and industry.
 - Review of the federal cotisation for natural gas,
 - Reduction of VAT on electricity from 21% to 6%.

3. Sustainability

- Promotion of **renewable energy (offshore)** and development of an **offshore grid**
- Promotion of **biofuels**
- Promotion of **alternative transport fuels**
- Promotion of **energy efficiency**



4. Affordability

- Focus on **vulnerable consumers**
 - Electricity and Gas social fund
 - Social heating fund
 - Public Centres for Social Welfare provide access to suppliers and DSOs and negotiate consumer payment plans
- **Awareness raising & consumer empowerment**
 - Switching campaign, 2012
 - ⇒ campaign “*Dare to compare*” encouraging consumer to switch from energy supplier resulting in high switch rates for both E and G

5. Safety

- Ensure **safe management of radioactive waste**
- Ensure **reliable & qualitative energy products** (electric and gas appliances, monitoring of the control, certification and accreditation of the control of petroleum products)
- Ensure **reliable & safe energy infrastructure** through the implementation of national, European and International legislation (gas & electricity networks, EPCIP, FIPOL)

III. CURRENT CHALLENGES OF THE BELGIAN ENERGY POLICY

1. Challenges

2. New Generation Adequacy Plan

1. Current challenges

- Implementing the nuclear phase-out.
- Lack of investments in new and flexible power plants.
- Ageing production park.
- Meeting the 20-20-20 targets.
- Securing affordable energy prices.

- Fixing the **calendar** of the **nuclear phase out**
- Improving the **profitability** of the **existing power plants**.
- Attracting **investments in new gas-fired power plants** through **public tender**.
- Developing a **strategic reserve**.
- Improving **interconnections**
- Promoting **demand side management**.
- **Administrative simplification**.

IV. THE INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

The IEF offers a great added value in the following fields:

- Promoting the **dialogue** between gas- and oil producing and consuming countries;
- Procurement of **key statistics** (JODI);
- Combatting **price volatility**;
- Exchange of **best practices**;

V. JOINING FORCES FOR A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUTURE

- Managing the **nuclear competences**;
- Strategic partnership between Saudi Arabian oil companies and **petro-chemical cluster in Antwerp**;
- Experience in making the **conventional fuel supply chain more sustainable**;
- Large expertise concerning **renewable energy**;
- Increasing cost-effectiveness and security of supply by **regional market integration**;