

Energy in Transport 2014 – Highlights

Introduction

Since the start of the economic downturn there has been a strong reversal in energy consumption trends in the transport sector. The uninterrupted growth in demand over the period 1990 and 2008, when transport energy usage almost tripled, was halted and energy demand declined year on year from 2009 to 2012, although it returned to growth in 2013. The economic recession affected energy consumption across the entire sector, with road freight in particular being affected by the downturn in construction activity.

Energy Use in Ireland

Transport was Ireland's largest energy consuming sector in 2013, accounting for over one third of all energy use and related CO₂ emissions.

PRIMARY ENERGY DEMAND BY SECTOR IN 2013



Energy Imports

Ireland's transport is almost entirely dependent (99%) on imported fuels. Almost 98% is from oil products.

These imports cost \in 3.5 billion in 2013 – over half the total cost of all fuel imports to Ireland.

COST OF FUEL IMPORTS





Modes of Transport

Private cars had the largest share of transport energy use in 2013, accounting for 43%. Road freight at 21% is the second largest mode followed by aviation on 14%.

FINAL ENERGY BY MODE OF TRANSPORT IN 2013



Demand Trends 2007-2013

Overall transport energy use fell by 25% and related CO_2 emissions fell by 26% between 2007 and 2013. The largest declines were in road freight and aviation.

26% CO₂ EMISSIONS FELL BY 26% BETWEEN 2007 AND 2013

The economy contracted 6.7% over the period.

CHANGE IN FINAL ENERGY DEMAND OF TRANSPORT SECTOR BY MODE BETWEEN 2007 AND 2013





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New Car Purchasing Patterns

Changes to the taxation of private cars introduced in 2008 together with progress made by car manufacturers have contributed to a significant shift in purchasing patterns towards more efficient and less carbon intensive models.

PERCENTAGE SHARE OF NEW CARS PURCHASED



SHARE OF NEW CARS PURCHASED



Renewable Energy in Transport

- The weighted share of biofuels as a percentage of petrol and diesel energy use was 4.8% in 2013, up from 3.9% in 2012 and 0.5% in 2007.
- Sales of Electric Vehicles (EVs) in 2014 are showing a significant increase, with 215 new vehicles registered in the first 8 months, bringing the total figure to 635.



To download a copy of the full report Energy in Transport 2014, visit www.seai.ie