Energy conservation latvia



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In 2021 the final energy consumption (FEC) in Latvia was 3.95 Mtoe; the increase was about 20% in comparison with the year 2000. In 2021, the largest consuming sector is residential, representing 30% of total FEC. The share of residential has decreased by about 12 percentage points. The share of transport has significantly increased from 22.1% to 27.4% in 2021, while industry increased its share from 17.5% to 22.9%. Unlike other sectors, residential energy consumption decreased by 14% over this period.

Energy efficiency for final consumers, as measured by ODEX, improved by 30%, or 1.7% per year from 2000 to 2021. In the industry, despite the economic recession (2008-2011), there has been steady progress and larger gains than in the other sectors (2.8% per year). The financial support programs from the State and the implementation of legislation targeted at reducing heat losses from buildings had contributed to the improvement of energy efficiency in the residential sector by about 33% (average 1.9%/year). For the transport and service sectors, gains are lower (1.4% and 0.4% per year respectively since 2000).

In 2021, space heating accounted for 64% of sector's consumption, water heating for 20% and cooking for 7.2%. As shown in Figure 3 the household energy consumption per m? for space heating has decreased by 40% since 2000, from 21.7 koe/m? to 13.0 koe/m? in 2021, thanks in particular to energy efficiency policies in existing buildings. While energy consumption of electrical appliances and water heating per dwelling increased since 2000 (2.3% and 0.1%/year respectively).

The final energy consumption of households was 0.12 Mtoe lower in 2021 than in 2000. On the one hand, two main drivers contributed to increase energy consumption - lifestyle/comfort (larger homes by 0.45 Mtoe) and climate effects (by 0.08 Mtoe). On the other hand, energy savings (0.55 Mtoe) fully compensated the effect of the above-mentioned energy consumption drivers, while the decline in the number of dwellings had a slight downward impact of 0.09 Mtoe.

Energy consumption per employee increased by 17% between 2000 and 2021. To a large extent, it was due to the sharp increase by 70% of electricity consumption per employee. Though electrical appliances become ever more efficient, the rapid increase in their number and diffusion of ICT in offices contributed to the growth of electricity consumption. The introduction of digital solutions to replace employees in certain segments of the service sector also affects this indicator.

Road transport constitutes the greatest part of energy consumption in transport (96.9%). In 2021 cars accounted for 54.8% of the sector's consumption and road freight transport for 38.7%. From 2000 to 2021 the share of railway in transport energy consumption has decreased from 9.7% to 2.8%.



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The passenger traffic grew by around 0.2%/year since 2000. The growth was mainly observed in the traffic by cars (0.7%/year) while public transport showed an opposite trend: road public transportation decreased by 2.5%/year and rail by 2.7%/year. In 2021 cars represented 87.5% of the traffic of passengers. It should be noted that public transport was significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, bus and rail traffic, measured in passenger-kilometers, declined by 46% and 44%, respectively, compared to 2019.

Road freight transport represents 47% of total freight traffic in 2021, 33% points more than in 2000. The share of rail transport in freight decreased strongly by 33% points. Freight transport (measured in tonne-kilometre) showed decrease in comparison with 2000 (0.5% per year) due to the sharp decline in rail transport from 2019.

The energy consumption in the transport sector has increased by 2%/year from 0.73 Mtoe to 1.08 Mtoe. The main drivers for the increase are the growth in passenger traffic (0.08 Mtoe) and shift from rail to road for freight and from public transport to cars (0.37 Mtoe). This trend was partly counterbalanced by energy savings (0.3 Mtoe).

The total consumption of the industry sector increased from 0.58 Mtoe in 2000 to 0.9 Mtoe in 2021 (+57%). The consumption increase was mainly brought about by two branches: non-metallic minerals by 4.7% per year and wood and wood products by 9.2% per year; the later absorbs 61% of the energy consumption of the manufacturing sector.

Since 2000 final energy consumption increased by 2.2%/year driven by a growth in activity (0.58 Mtoe) and other factors (0.22 Mtoe). Just over half of these effects have been offset by energy savings (0.42 Mtoe) thanks to technical improvements of the machineries and processes.

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