

Press Release



European Bioethanol Fuel Association

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2009 showed again growth in fuel ethanol production and consumption

After a strong growth in 2008 (almost 60%) European fuel ethanol production continued to increase considerably in 2009 by 31%. This gives a clear signal to all doubters that European bioethanol is here to stay and to fulfill its increasingly important role in curbing greenhouse gas emissions and in contributing to energy security.

Total EU **production** in 2009 was an estimated 3.7 billion litres up from 2.8 billion litres the previous year. This represents a significant increase of 31%. Several countries increased their ethanol fuel production considerably in 2009. The biggest producer however is still France with an annual output in 2009 of 1,250 million litres. This represents an increase of 25% compared to 2008 (1,000 million litres). Second largest producing country is Germany, which constantly increased its production by 32% to 750 million litres (568 in 2008). Third biggest producer remained Spain with 465 million litres (+46% compared to 2008). In 6 out of 18 producing member states the production declined while the rest could either increase their production (10) or could keep it steady.

In 2009 two countries more than doubled their fuel ethanol output, namely Austria (+102%) and Sweden (+124%), which are now ranking as fourth and fifth largest producer respectively.

Also on consumption side we see substantial growth. Total EU **consumption** of fuel ethanol in 2009 amounted to an estimated 4.3 billion litres (up from 3.5 billion litres in 2008). This constitutes a considerable increase of 23%. Biggest consuming country was Germany (1,143 million litres) followed by France (798) and Sweden (377 million litres). Compared to the overall size of its fuel sector, Sweden thus still is spearheading the relative ethanol fuel consumption.

Brazil is still the most important 3rd country supplier of ethanol for fuel. Due to lower ethanol production exports from Brazil reduced by around 200 million litres compared to 800 million litres of fuel ethanol exported to the EU in 2008. However, 2009 showed a strong increase in ethanol imports from Nicaragua, Costa Rica and for the first time, the U.S.A.. As EU trade statistics do not distinguish between ethanol imports by end-use it is not possible to tell how much precisely of all imported ethanol was used in the fuel stream.

About eBIO

Founded in 2005, eBIO serves as the voice of the European bioethanol fuel industry, providing advocacy, authoritative analysis and industry data to its members, the European Institutions, strategic partners and the media. eBIO pursues the promotion of European policies and initiatives that lead to increased production and use of bioethanol fuel. With over 60 members, eBIO is committed to raising public awareness of renewable fuels and the positive contribution they make to European energy independence, climate change and the wider economy. If you wish to learn more about eBIO, please visit www.ebio.org, or contact info@ebio.org.

Fuel ethanol production in the EU since 2004 in rank order by volume

Country	2009*	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
France	1,250	1,000	539	293	144	101
Germany	750	568	394	431	165	25
Spain	465	317	348	402	303	254
Austria	180	89	15	0	0	0
Sweden	175	78	120	140	153	71
Poland	165.5	200	155	120	64	48
Hungary	150	150	30	34	35	0
Belgium	143.2	n.a.	0	0	0	0
Slovakia	118	94	30	0	0	0
Czech Republic	112.5	76	33	15	0	0
Italy	72	60	60	128	8	0
UK	70	75	20	0	0	0
Lithuania	30	20	20	18	8	0
Latvia	15	20	18	12	12	12
Finland	4	50	0	0	13	3
Ireland	1,6	10	7	0	0	0
Netherlands	0	9	14	15	8	14
Total	3,701.8	2,816	1,803	1,608	913	528

In million litres. * Provisional data.

Fuel ethanol production and consumption in 2009

	Production*	Consumption*
Austria	180	150
Belgium	143.2	70
Czech Rep.	112.5	95
Denmark	0	30
Finland	4	160
France	1,250	798
Germany	750	1,143
Hungary	150	100
Ireland	1.6	1,3
Italy	72	75
Latvia	15	2
Lithuania	30	28
Netherlands	0	287
Poland	165.5	271
Slovakia	118	68
Slovenia	0	8
Spain	465	298
Sweden	175	377
UK	70	316
Total	3,701.8	4,278.20

In million litres. * Provisional data.

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