

High Level Summary of Statistics

Business, Enterprise and Energy

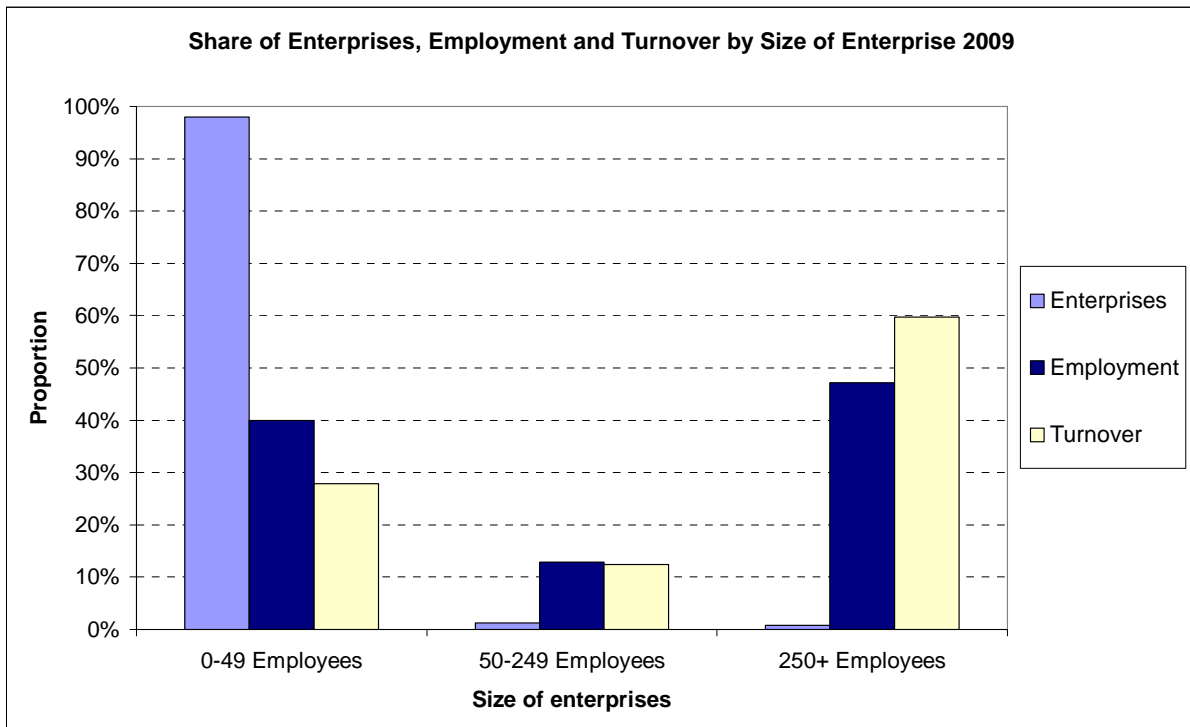
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Growing Businesses

Businesses in Scotland

Last updated: October 2009

In 2009, there were 291,380 private sector enterprises operating in Scotland, with associated employment of 2 million. SME's (enterprises with fewer than 250 employees) made up 99% of all enterprises and provided 53% of all jobs. However, the 2,315 large enterprises operating in Scotland accounted for 60% of turnover.



Source: Scottish Government, Office for National Statistics (Inter Departmental Business Register)

Note: Includes unregistered enterprises, excludes central and local government. Turnover figures exclude financial intermediation services.

Web link

[Scottish Corporate Sector Statistics](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Business/Corporate)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Business/Corporate>

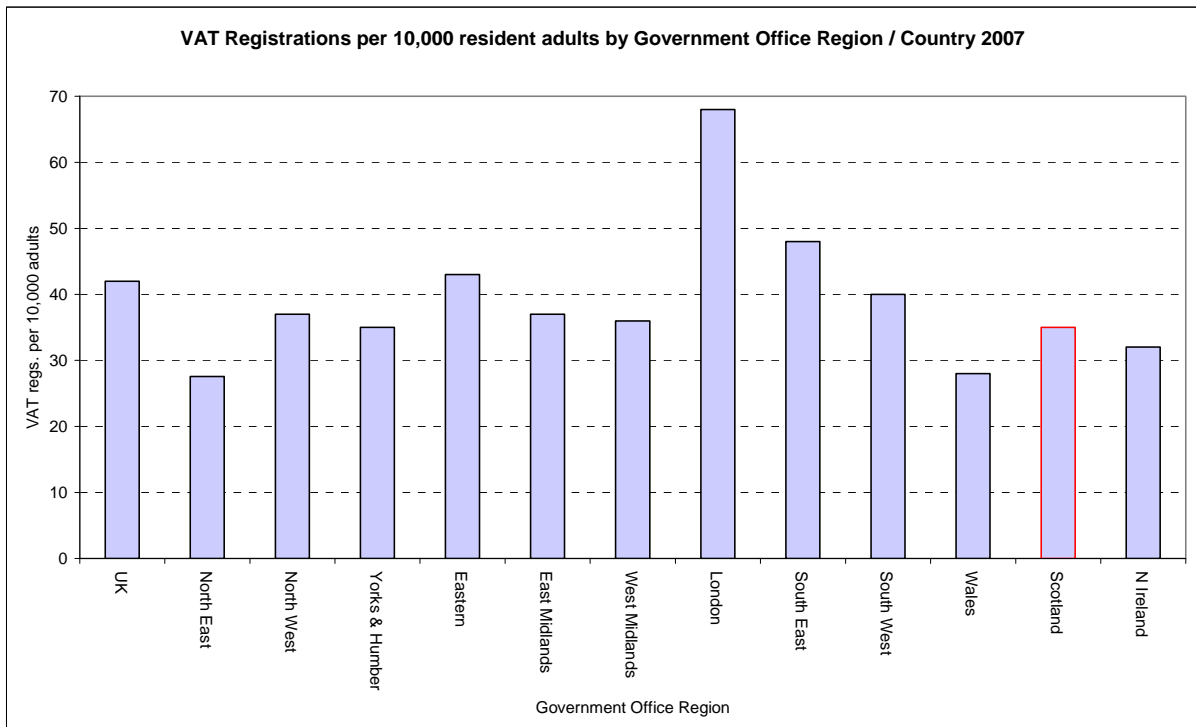
Business Registrations

Last updated: November 2008

New business formation is one of the key drivers of economic growth. A high business birth rate drives up levels of innovation, competitiveness and productivity, as firms are replaced by more competitive enterprises in the important process of business churn. VAT registrations are the most reliable official indicator of business start-ups but exclude the very smallest businesses.

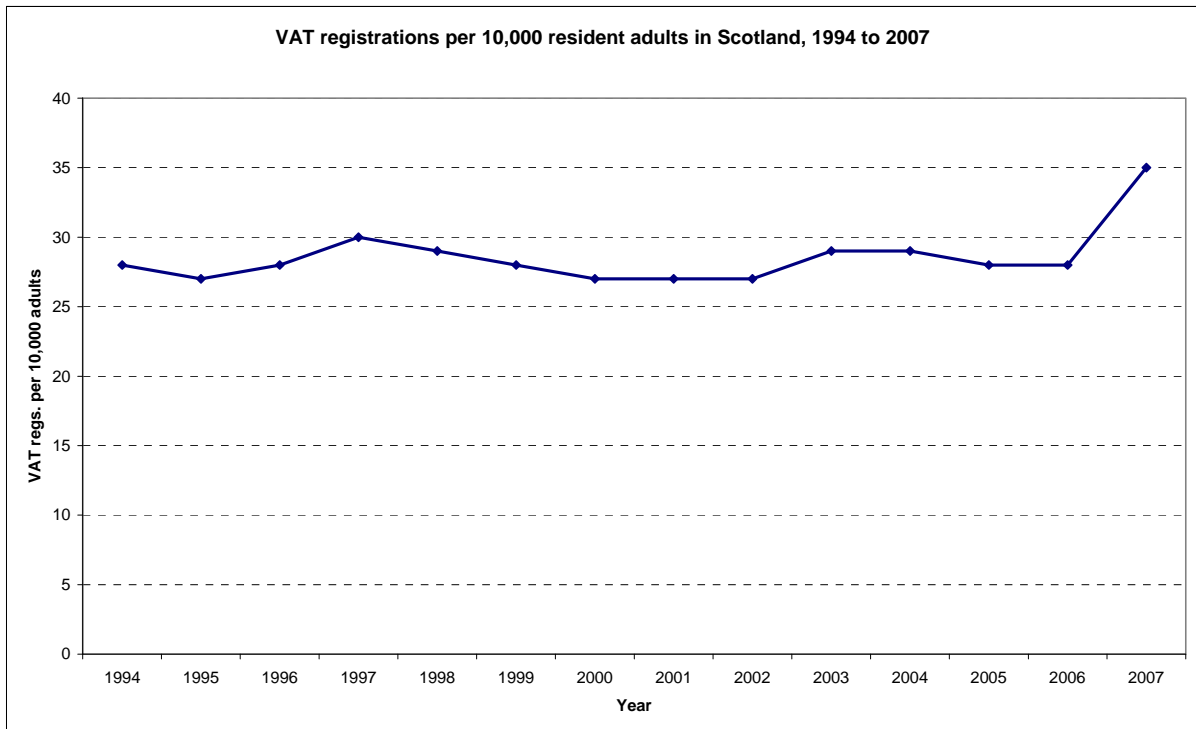
In 2007, Scotland had 35 registrations per 10,000 of the adult population in comparison to the UK figure of 42. Excluding London and the South East the UK figure would be 36 per 10,000 resident adults.

The Scottish Government has established a National Indicator to increase the business start-up rate.



Source: Department for Business Enterprise & Regulatory Reform.

Scotland's position in terms of these figures has changed little in the past ten years, varying between 27 and 30 registrations per 10,000 resident adults, until the substantial increase from 28 in 2006 to 35 in the latest year. However, it is likely that this increase, in part, is a reflection of a change in business behaviour in response to a recent change in tax legislation.



Source: Department for Business Enterprise & Regulatory Reform.

Note: The sharp increase in the latest year may partly reflect the impact of changes to tax rules relating to composite managed service companies in April 2007.

Web link

[VAT statistics](http://stats.berr.gov.uk/ed/vat/)

<http://stats.berr.gov.uk/ed/vat/>

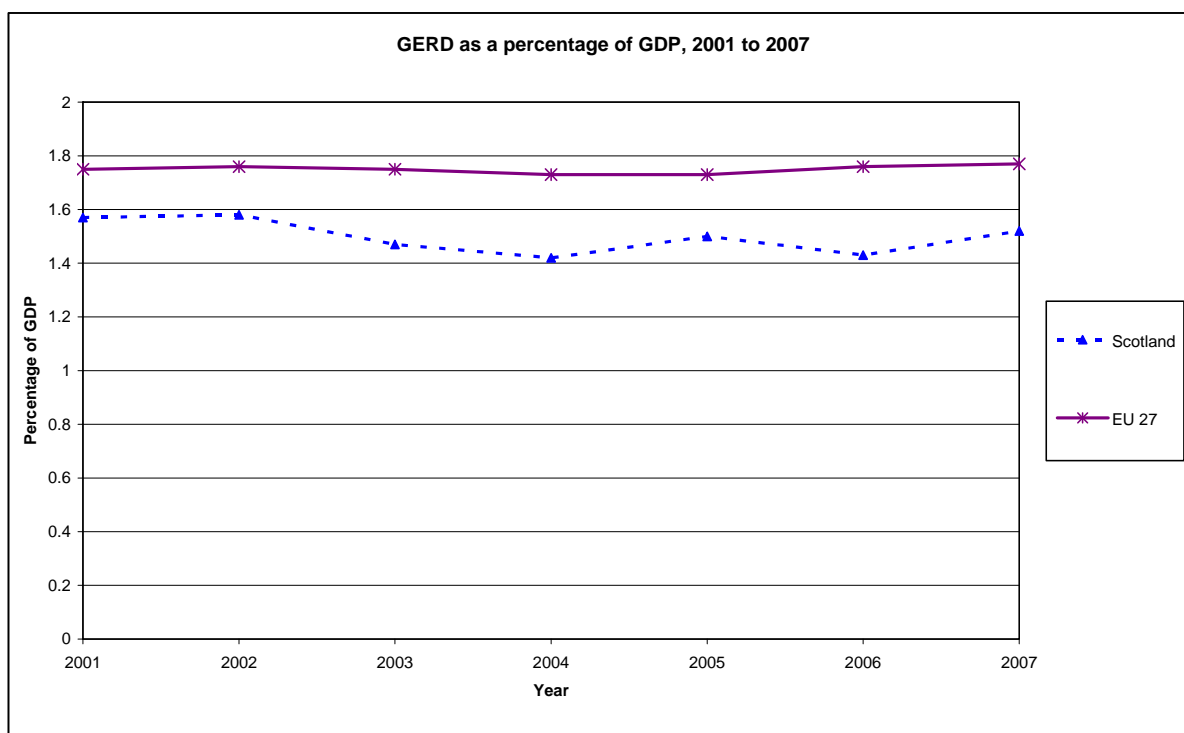
Innovation and Research & Development

R&D Gross Expenditure

Last updated: June 2009

Innovation and Research & Development (R&D) are important both for individual firms, and for the economy as a whole. R&D is a component part of the innovation process, characterised as work that increases the stock of knowledge or results in the creation of new products. The introduction of new products or processes, or improvements to existing ones, is a prerequisite for firms to survive, evolve and grow in an increasingly competitive environment. The ongoing process of innovation improves and increases the rate of technical progress in the economy and is recognised in empirical studies as an important source of productivity growth, which is ultimately a key determinant of regional economic growth.

In terms of Gross Expenditure on R&D (GERD, which includes businesses, higher education and government expenditure), Scottish expenditure as a proportion of GDP is below the EU average. In 2007, GERD as a percentage of GDP was 1.52 per cent for Scotland and 1.77 per cent for the EU; a gap of 0.25 percentage points. The Scottish Government has set a National Indicator to at least halve the gap between Scottish GERD and the EU average by 2011.



Source: Scottish Government, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

Publication

[Business Enterprise Research and Development Scotland 2007](#)

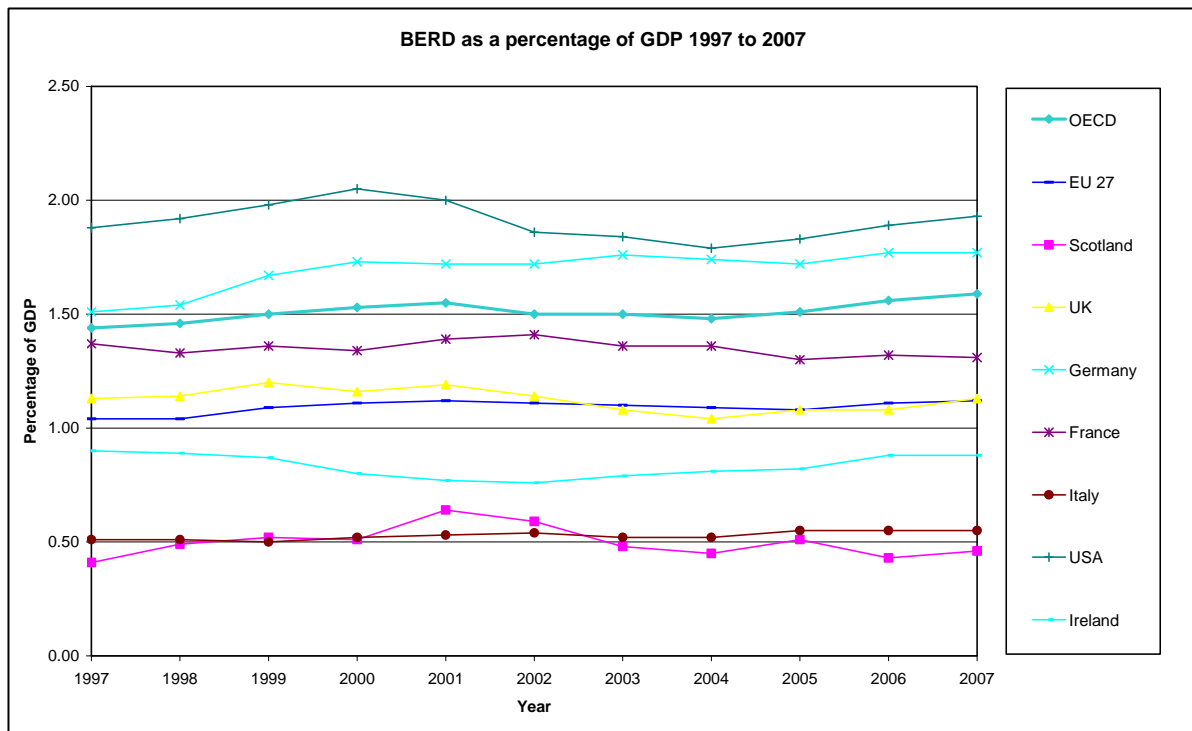
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/06/BERD07>

R&D Business Expenditure

Last updated: June 2009

There has been a significant gap in business R&D expenditure between Scotland and the UK and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) averages in recent years. Scottish Business Enterprise R&D (BERD) was £513 million in 2007. This represented 0.46 per cent of Scottish GDP; the comparable figures were 1.13 per cent for the UK, 1.12 per cent for the EU as a whole and 1.59 per cent for the OECD. Over the longer term from 1999 to 2007, BERD increased by 7 per cent in real terms, compared to an increase of 17 per cent in the UK as a whole.

The graph below shows how Scotland compares internationally.



Source: Scottish Government, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

Publication

[Business Enterprise Research and Development Scotland 2007](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/06/BERD07)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/06/BERD07>

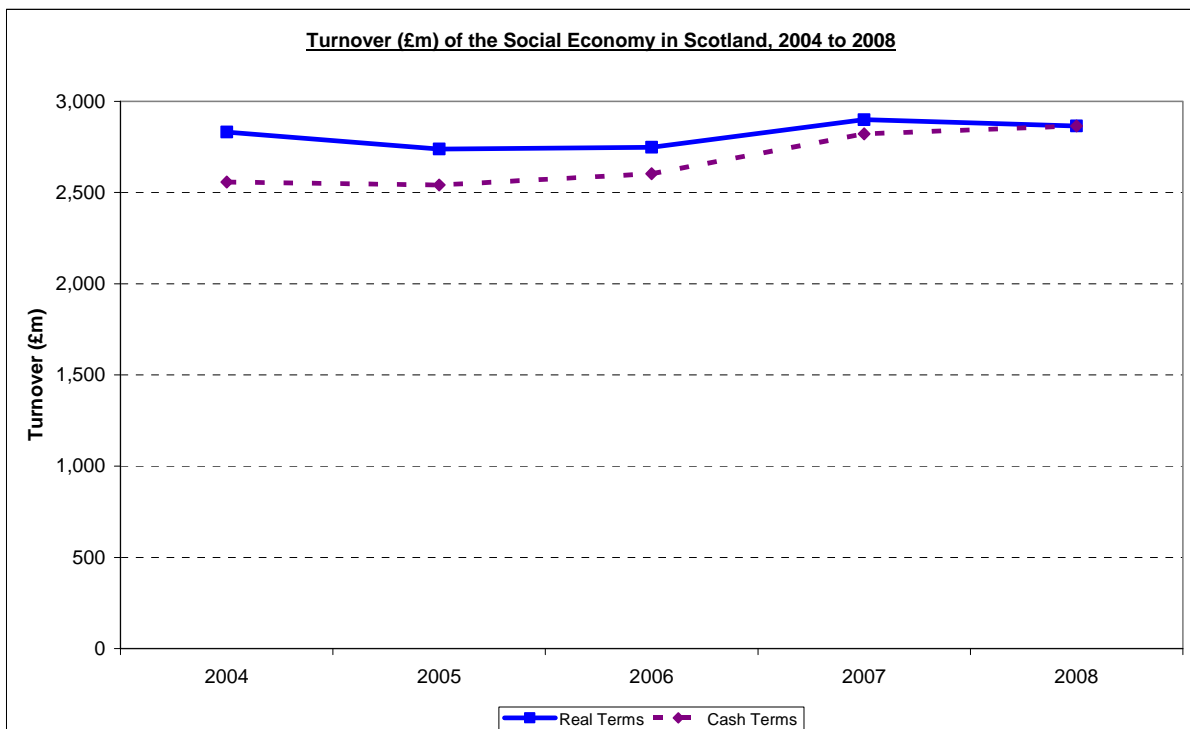
Social Economy

Social Economy Turnover

Last updated: June 2009

The social economy captures the economic activity of the third sector, which embraces voluntary and community organisations, charities, social enterprises, mutuals and co-operatives. There is a national target to increase the turnover of the social economy in Scotland. This is intended to measure the sustainable growth of the social economy as a provider of more and better opportunities for individuals and as a provider of innovative, customer-focused public services. There is increased interest in the use of official data to measure the third sector, both within the Scottish Government and UK government departments.

In order to monitor the national target, a proxy measure of the turnover of the social economy in Scotland has been developed. In 2008, the social economy turnover in Scotland stood at £2,865 million. This represents a 1.2% decrease (in real terms) since 2007. However, since 2004 the turnover has increased by 1.2% (in real terms).



Sources: Scottish Government, Office for National Statistics (Inter Departmental Business Register) and the Scottish Register of Social Landlords.

Please see the link below for more information on businesses in Scotland:

Web link

[Social Economy](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Business/SocEconomy)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Business/SocEconomy>

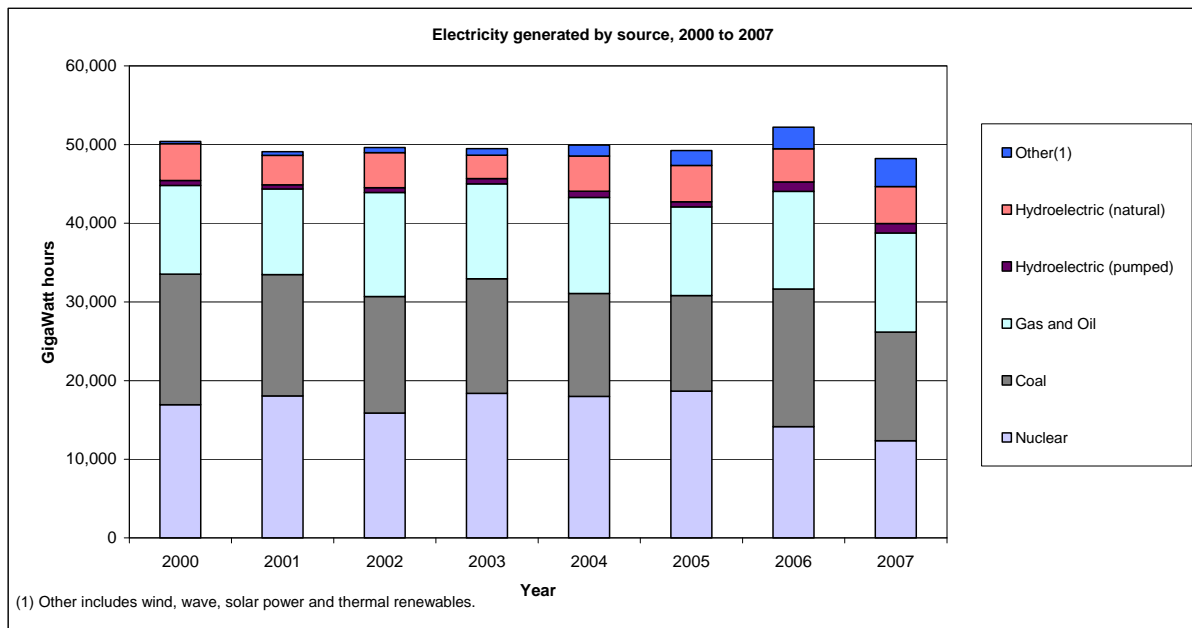
Energy

Electricity Generation

Last updated: December 2008

In 2007, Scotland generated a total of 48,217 GWh of electricity, a decrease of almost 8% compared to 2006. The main source of electricity generation in 2007 was coal, accounting for 29% of the electricity generated. Following a large increase in the use of coal in 2006 coal generation fell by 21% in 2007 to around the average for the period 2000-2005. Over the period 2000 to 2007 electricity generation from gas and oil has remained fairly stable, accounting for 26% of the total electricity generated in 2007. Nuclear power also accounted for 26% of the total electricity generation in 2007, in comparison to 27% in 2006. In 2007, electricity generation for nuclear power was at it's lowest level in the period 2000-2007. This reduction in output and share of generation was the result of unplanned outages at nuclear stations.

Renewable sources accounted for 17% of the total electricity generated in 2007, an increase of 18% in the amount of electricity generated by renewables since 2006. The amount of electricity generated from non-Hydro renewable sources (wind, wave, solar power and thermal renewables) in Scotland increased from 0.6% in 2000 to 7.4% in 2007.



Source: Department of Energy and Climate Change.

Publication

[Scottish Environment Statistics Online](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Environment/seso/Q/TID/18)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Environment/seso/Q/TID/18>

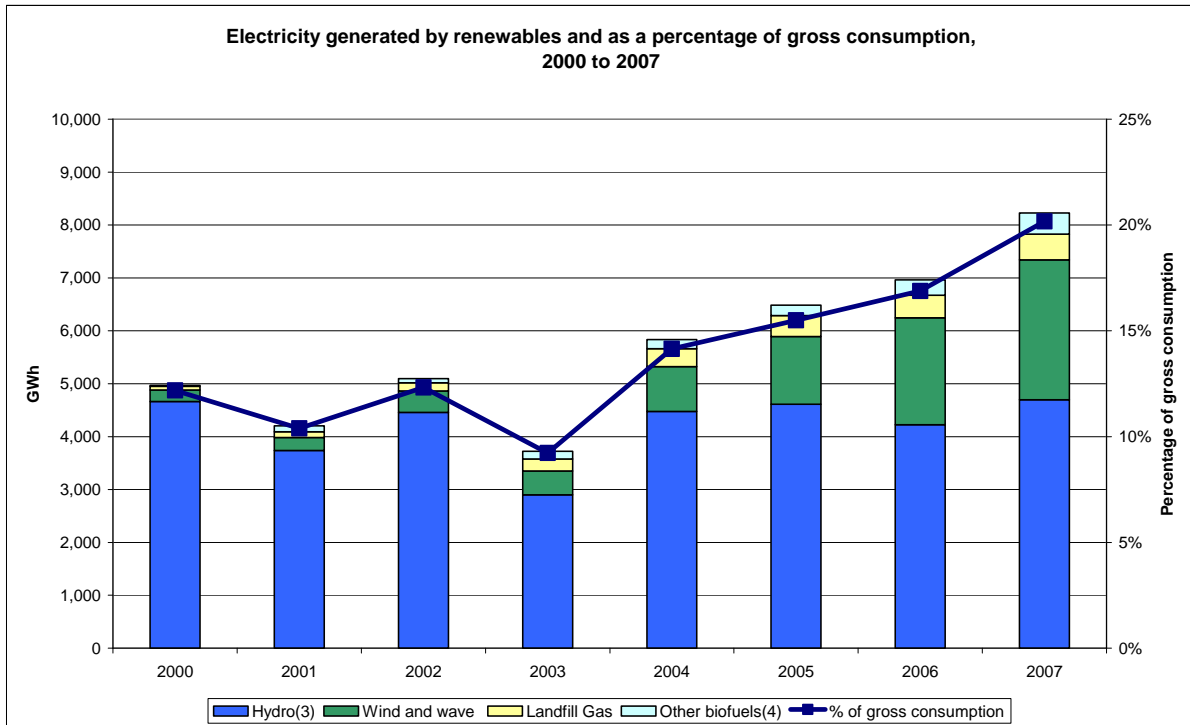
[Energy Trends](http://stats.berr.gov.uk/energystats/etdec08.pdf) (BERR, published December 2008)

<http://stats.berr.gov.uk/energystats/etdec08.pdf>

Renewable Energy

Last updated: January 2009

Renewable sources of energy can provide a sustainable means of generating the energy we need, Scotland particularly has huge potential for renewable energy due to its geology and climate. The Scottish Government has set a National Indicator for the amount of electricity generated through renewable sources as a percentage of gross consumption to increase to 50% by 2020, with an interim target of 31% by 2011.



Source: Department for Energy and Climate Change

This indicator will help monitor the extent to which Scottish electricity consumption can be met sustainably using renewable energy sources located both within Scotland and its coastal waters. The indicator equates the amount of renewables generated in Scotland as a percentage of Scottish gross consumption, where gross consumption is the amount of electricity generated minus net exports (but including losses).

Since 2000 there has been a 65% increase in the amount of electricity generated by renewables in Scotland. In 2006 renewables accounted for just over 8000 GWh of electricity generation. In 2007, the amount of electricity generated in Scotland by renewable sources equated to 20.1% of the gross consumption of electricity in Scotland, compared with 12.2% in 2000.

Publication

[Scottish Environment Statistics Online](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Environment/seso/Q/TID/18)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Environment/seso/Q/TID/18>

Web link

[Energy Trends December 2008](#) (BERR)

<http://stats.berr.gov.uk/energystats/etdec08.pdf>