



# Energy Efficiency Profile: Malta

May 2011

## Energy Efficiency Trends

### Overview

Between 2000-2008 the energy efficiency index for the whole economy (ODEX) improved by 8%, similar to the EU average.

### Industry

The efficiency of the industrial sector (measured at the level of the 7 main branches in terms of energy used per unit value added) showed an improvement of 5% from 2000 to 2008. A significant difference between the EU evaluation and the Malta measurement of ODEX is that in Malta, the value added are used as a proxy for sectoral production for each industrial branch. The quality of the data relating to energy consumption will also be upgraded following an extensive exercise by the national statistics office during the course of next year.

### Households

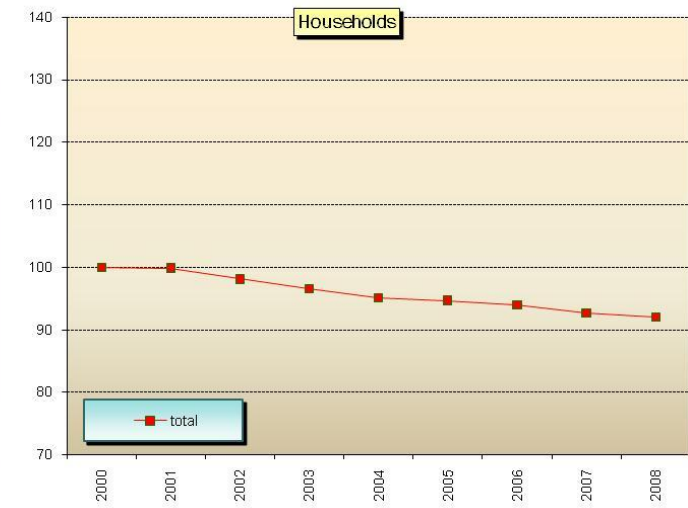
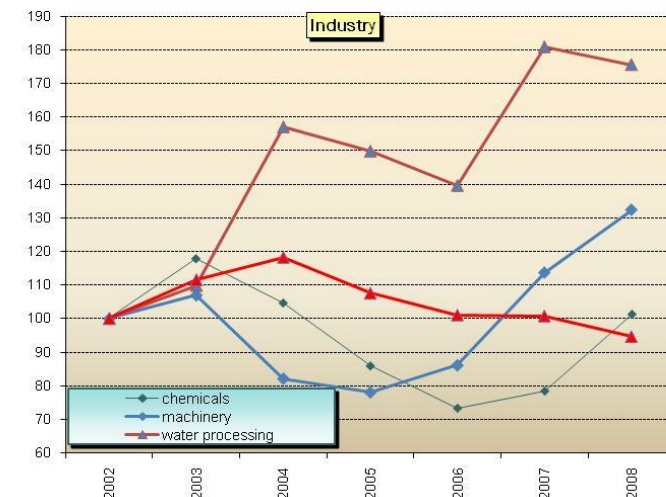
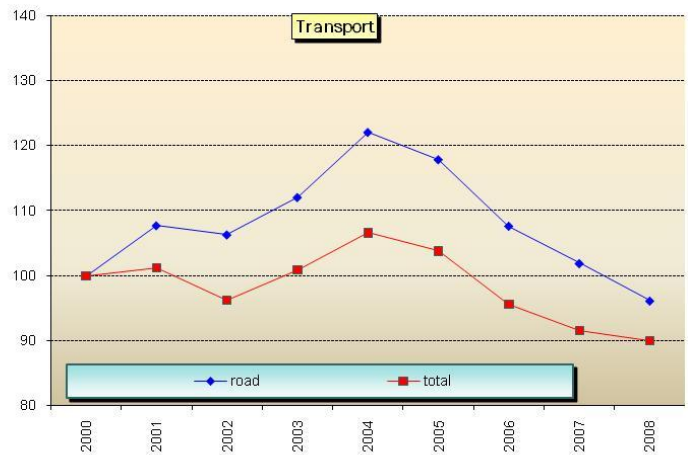
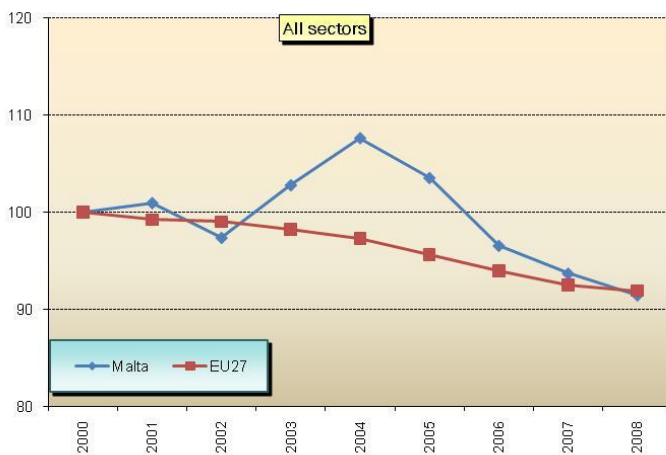
Between 2000 and 2008, the total energy efficiency of households improved by 8%. For heating, the data cannot be classified as the energy is mainly electrical, which is lumped with other consumption. Nevertheless, the energy demand for cooling is significantly on the increase with a greater import of air conditioning units. Its consumption is also lumped with other electricity uses, such as lighting and cooking.

Since 2000 there was a notable shift from electric space heating to the use of portable gas (LPG) heaters; further shifts are expected in the future.

### Transport

Between 2000 and 2006, the transport sector experienced a marginal increase in energy efficiency: 5%. This development is mainly due to the efficiency improvements in vehicle engines. Malta has no domestic air or rail transport systems.

Energy efficiency index (base 100=2000)\*



\* All indicators measured as a three-year moving average.  
Source ODYSSEE  
For more information : <http://www.odyssee-indicators.org/>

## Energy Efficiency Policy measures

### Institutions and programmes

As part of Malta's alignment with EU policies, Parliament set up the **Malta Resources Authority (MRA)** in 2000, under the Minister responsible for Resources. As a public corporate body its mandate is to regulate and advise Government on matters related to energy, water and mineral resources (including quarrying and oil exploration). Its role is also to advise, co-ordinate and assist other government entities, to promote and administer energy legislation and to conduct analyses and assessments of developments in the energy sector.

Through the MRA, the Maltese Government has launched a number of energy efficiency programmes as part of a holistic energy policy, running in parallel with the three pillars of EU Energy Policy, namely security of supply, open market competition, and the protection of the environment. In tandem to the MRA, the **MEPA** (Malta Environment & Planning Authority), apart from being the Authority responsible for all master planning and local development, is also responsible for conducting air quality surveys and the drawing up of biennial 'State of the Environment Report'.

### Industry

Malta Enterprise has implemented up a number of initiatives to enhance energy savings and improve energy efficiency in the industrial sector. Other initiatives of Government include:

- Power factor correction for large scale energy users.
- Energy auditing scheme for major industrial activities (production processes).
- Eco-contribution as a disincentive to minimize waste (industrial, commercial & domestic sectors)

### Households, Services

Energy consumption in buildings is the latest intensified energy conservation focused effort. This is spelt out through a specific Legal Notice (Nov 2006). With effect from January 2007, the main initiatives include a new stringent energy requirement in the Building Regulations (part F). This will eventually lead to a harmonised energy certificate for all buildings by 2009 (effective mandatory date under EU legislation). A standard national calculation software tool is being designed in conformity with EU methodology for energy certification of buildings at design and auditing stages. Household appliances are now subjected to an improved energy labelling scheme, enhanced inspection of boilers and ventilation systems and increased efforts in energy savings and green procurement in the public sector at large.

### Transport

The Maltese government considers cost efficiency for commuters as one essential basic tool for regulating energy efficiency and minimising environmental impact of transport. In the absence of local air, surface rail or underground transport communal travel is encouraged through public transport by diesel bus. A 'Park and Ride' scheme has been in operation for almost a year and a new CVA (controlled vehicle access) scheme was introduced from 01 May 2007; this has introduced an hourly charge for entry into Valletta, a historical city, during office hours yet encouraging free access in the evenings promoting private enterprise and social activities.

### Energy prices and taxes

Energy prices and taxes are important determinants of energy consumption and have been successfully used to promote energy savings in Malta. Formerly, electricity rates were always considered a social commodity, almost by right, provided by a state-monopoly corporation, Enemalta. However, electricity tariffs went through a general overhaul in 2003, and another major review in 2008, essentially reflecting the true price of oil on international markets. Although this affected all sectors, the household and tertiary felt this most, raising a greater awareness of savings in consumption and the importance of energy efficiency at all levels.

## Selected Energy Efficiency Measures

Sectors	Title
Households	Promotion of solar water heaters, PVs
Households	Subsidy schemes for appliances and insulation for buildings
Households	Promotion of compact fluorescent lamps
Tertiary	Energy efficiency promotion in the tourism industry
Tertiary	Smart metering rollout
Industry	Support schemes for industry and sme's
Transport	Green travel plans for the public sector
Transport	Promotion of cleaner vehicles
Transport	Promotion of modal shifts

Source : MURE [www.mure2.com](http://www.mure2.com)

