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### Web Page of Most Recent International Energy Outlook Report



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ANALYSIS & PROJECTIONS

INTERNATIONAL ENERGY OUTLOOK 2011

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Highlights



In the *IEO2011* Reference case, which does not incorporate prospective legislation or policies that might affect energy markets, world marketed energy consumption grows by 53 percent from 2008 to 2035. Total world energy use rises from 505 quadrillion British thermal units (Btu) in 2008 to 619 quadrillion Btu in 2020 and 770 quadrillion Btu in 2035 (Figure 1). Much of the growth in energy consumption occurs in countries outside the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (non-OECD nations)<sup>2</sup> where demand is driven by strong long-term economic growth. Energy use in non-OECD nations increases by 85 percent in the Reference case, as compared with an increase of 18 percent for the OECD economies.



**Figure 1. World energy consumption, 1990-2035 (quadrillion Btu)**

Year	Non-OECD	OECD	Total
1990	354	0	354
2000	408	0	408
2008	505	0	505
2015	573	0	573
2020	619	0	619
2025	671	0	671
2030	721	0	721
2035	770	0	770

[Figure data](#)

Although the world continues to recover from the 2008-2009 global recession, the recovery is uneven. In advanced economies, recovery has been slow in comparison with recoveries from past recessions. Unemployment is still high among the advanced economies, and real estate markets and household income growth remain weak. Debt levels in a number of small economies of the European Union—Greece, Ireland, and Portugal—required European Union intervention to avert defaults. Concerns about fiscal sustainability and financial turbulence suggest that economic recovery in the OECD countries will not be accompanied by the higher growth rates associated with past recoveries. In contrast, growth remains high in many emerging economies, in part driven by strong capital inflows and high commodity prices; however, inflation pressures remain a particular concern, along with the need to rebalance external trade in key developing economies.

Beyond the pace and timing of the world's economic recovery, other events have compounded the uncertainty associated with this year's energy outlook. Oil prices rose in 2010 as a result of growing demand associated with signs of economic recovery and a lack of a sufficient supply response. Prices were driven even higher at the end of 2010 and into 2011 as social and political unrest unfolded in several Middle Eastern and African economies. Oil prices increased from about \$82 per barrel<sup>3</sup> at the end of November 2010 to more than \$112 per barrel in day trading on April 8, 2011. The impacts of quickly rising prices and possible regional supply disruptions add substantial uncertainty to the near-term outlook. In 2011, the price of light sweet crude oil in the United States (in real 2009 dollars) is expected to average \$100 per barrel, and with prices expected to continue increasing in the long term, the price reaches \$108 per barrel in 2020 and \$125 per barrel in 2035 in the *IEO2011* Reference case.

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**Interactive Table Viewer >**  
Provides custom data views of the *IEO2011* Reference case.

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