ePURE European renewable ethanol – key figures 2020

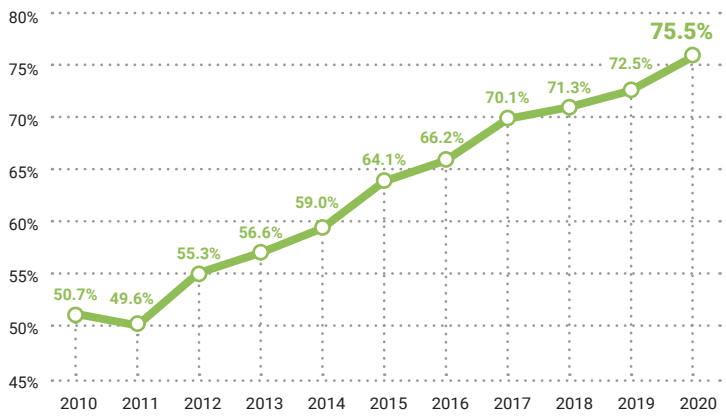
ePURE
european renewable ethanol

In 2020, ePURE members produced **5.57 billion litres of ethanol** and **6.16 million tonnes of co-products,** of which 4.22 million tonnes was high-protein, GMO-free animal feed. **98% of the crops used were grown by European farmers.** 79.2% of the ethanol produced was for fuel use, with an average of **75.5% GHG savings compared to petrol.**

EMISSIONS REDUCTION

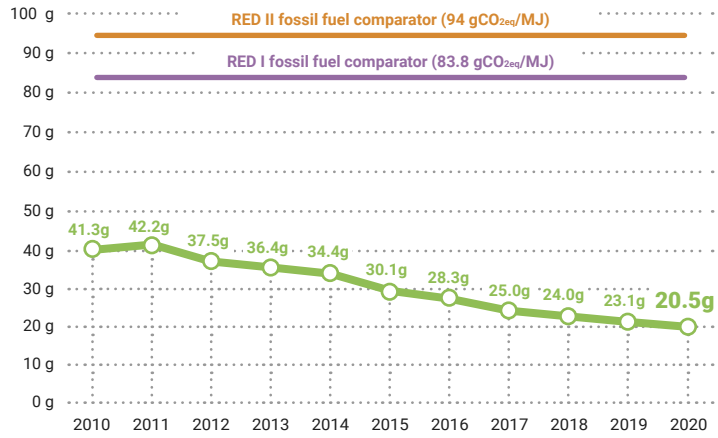
Average certified GHG emission savings in %

Since 2011 the average certified greenhouse gas emission savings of renewable ethanol against fossil fuel have increased continuously, reaching 75.5% in 2020.



Source: Aggregated and audited data of ePURE members under RED I methodology, compared to a fossil fuel comparator of 83.8 gCO_2eq/MJ

Average certified emissions from the production and use of fuel ethanol in gCO_{2eq}/MJ

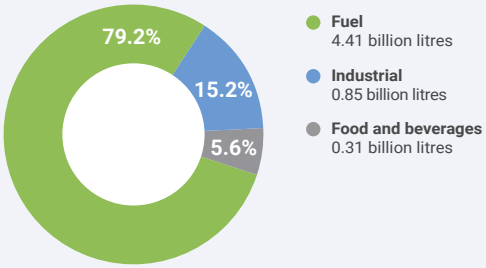


Source: Aggregated and audited data of ePURE members

OUTPUT AND END-USE

Renewable ethanol production by end-use

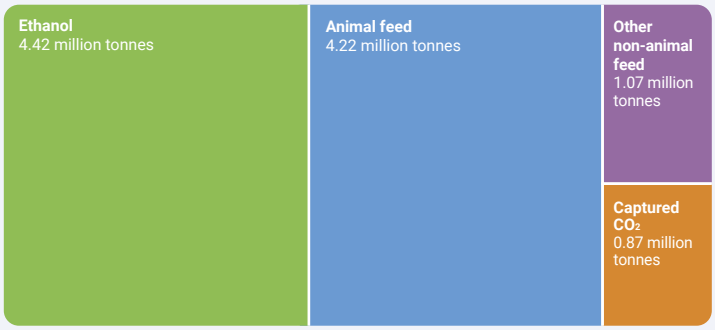
In 2020, ePURE members produced 5.57 billion litres of ethanol, operating at 86.3% of their 6.46 billion litres of installed capacity. Fuel accounted for 79.2% of the use; other markets, such as industrial applications and beverages, represented 15.2% and 5.6% respectively. Production for industrial use increased significantly in response to demand for hand sanitisers and disinfectants.



Source: Aggregated and audited data of ePURE members. Ethanol volumes in pure alcohol

Main output of European renewable ethanol plants

Animal feed makes up the largest share of renewable ethanol co-products produced by ePURE members. Of the 6.16 million tonnes of co-products produced in 2020, 4.22 million tonnes were animal feed.

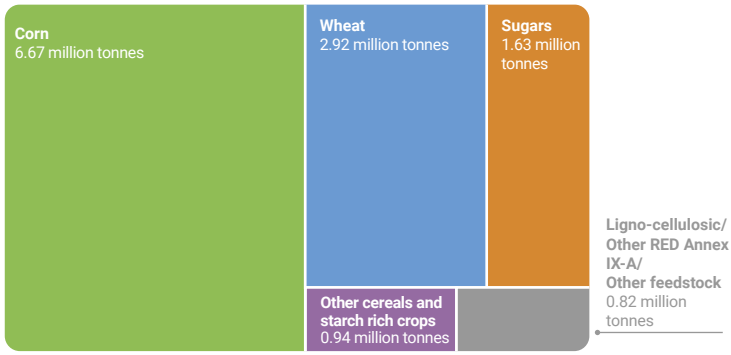


Source: Aggregated and audited data of ePURE members. Ethanol – pure alcohol; Animal feed co-products – dry matter equivalent; Other co-products – commercial equivalent

FEEDSTOCK

Feedstock used to produce renewable ethanol

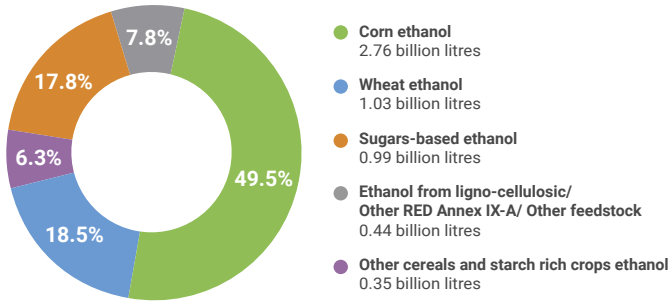
More than 98% of all feedstock used to produce renewable ethanol by ePURE members was grown in Europe.



Source: Aggregated and audited data of ePURE members. Sugars – sugar equivalent; Ligno-cellulosic/Other RED Annex IX-A/Others – dry matter equivalent

Share of European renewable ethanol produced from each feedstock type

In 2020, 49.5% of the ethanol produced was from corn, followed by wheat (18.5%) and sugar (17.8%).

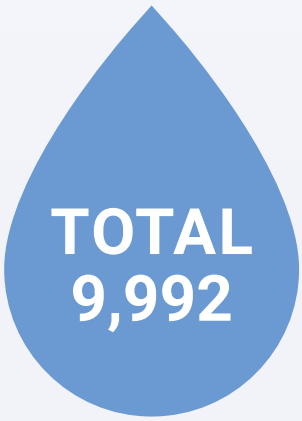


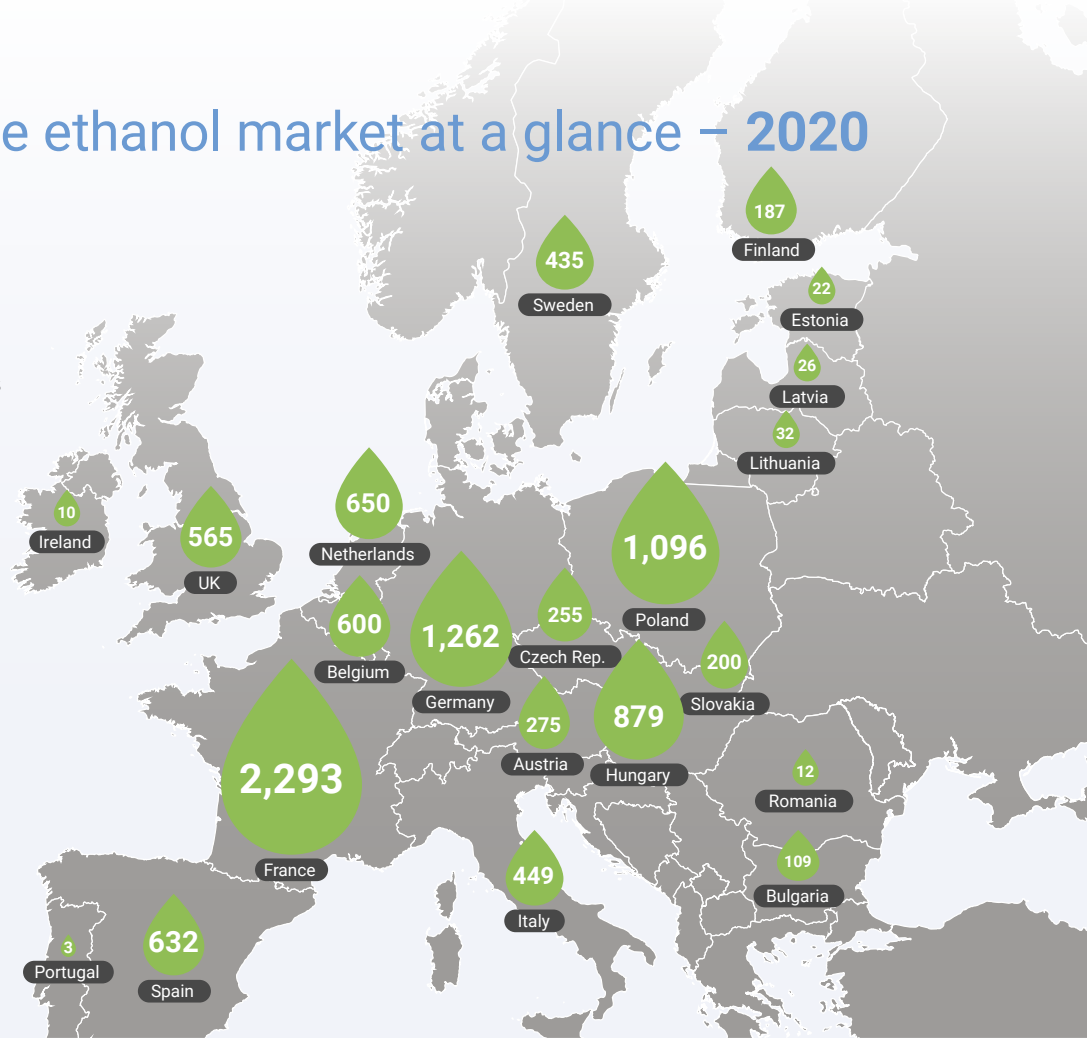
Source: Aggregated and audited data of ePURE members. Ethanol volumes in pure alcohol

Renewable ethanol market at a glance – 2020

EU27 + UK renewable ethanol installed production capacity (Million litres)

*Includes non-ePURE members. ePURE members account for 6.46 billion litres of total European production capacity.

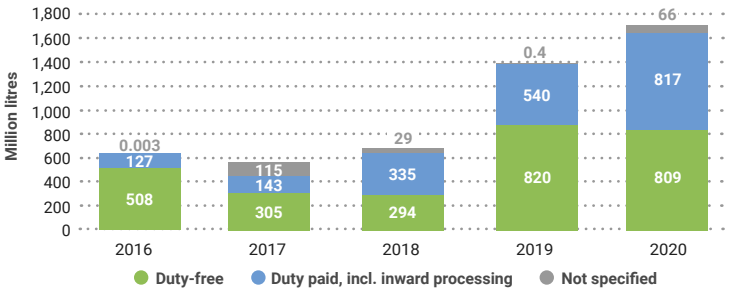




Source: ePURE estimates based on F.O. Licht

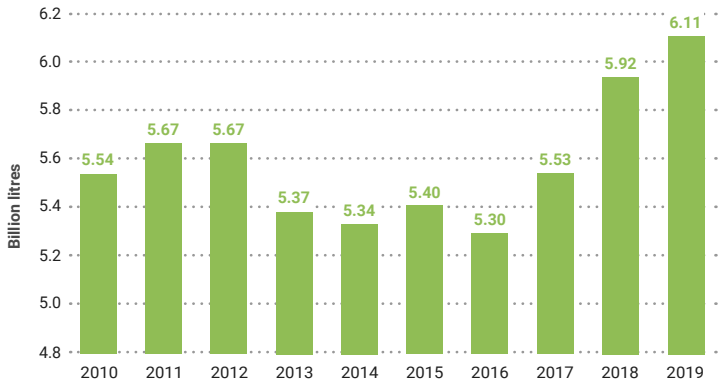
Imports of ethanol into the EU

EU27 ethanol imports continued on an increasing trend and reached 1,692 million litres in 2020, a 24% increase compared to 2019 with 28 Member States. Imports from countries enjoying duty-free access to the EU and imports from countries without preferential access accounted for 48% of the imports respectively. Imports from the US increased by 14% while imports from Brazil skyrocketed to 237 million litres in 2020. As of 2020, the UK is a third country, and accounted for 181 million litres duty-free imports.



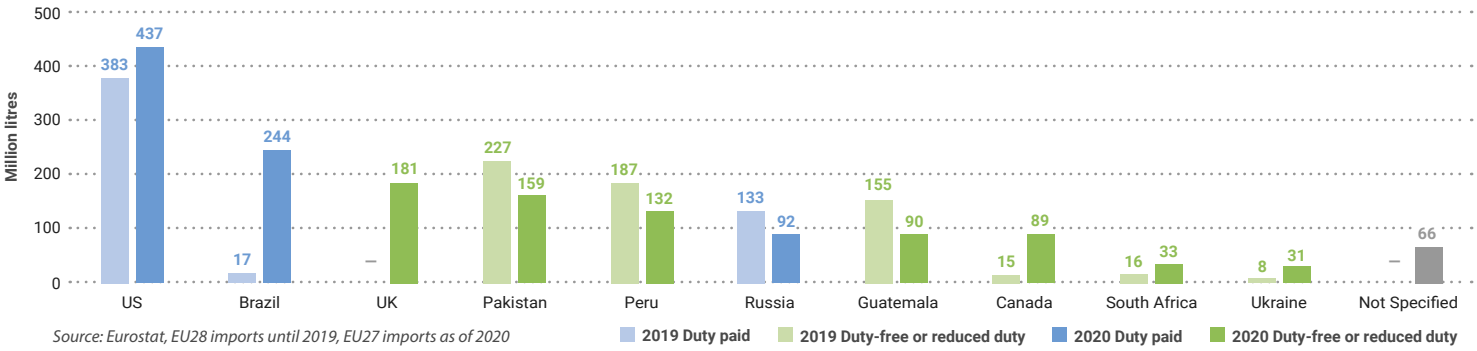
Source: Eurostat, EU28 imports until 2019, EU27 imports as of 2020

EU27+UK biogasoline consumption



Source: Eurostat
Biogasoline: liquid biofuels suitable to be blended with or to replace motor gasoline from fossil origin e.g. ethanol, methanol and the share of ETBE and MTBE from biomass

Top 10 origins of EU ethanol imports



Source: Eurostat, EU28 imports until 2019, EU27 imports as of 2020

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