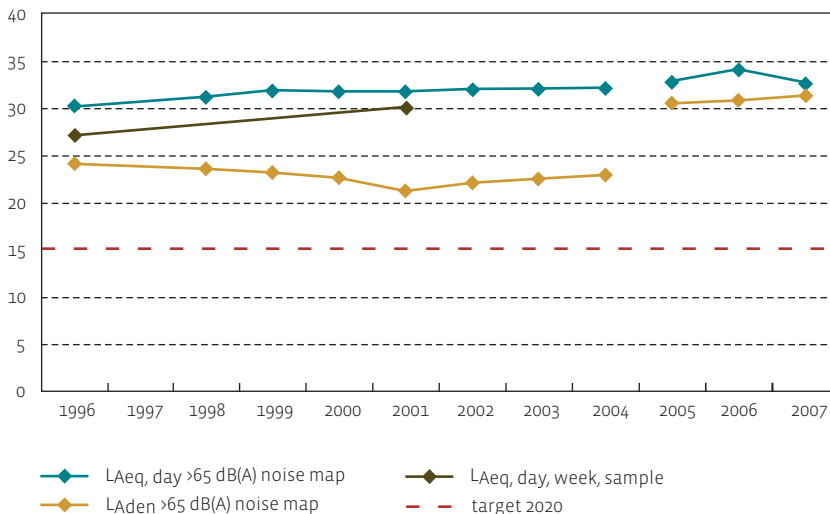




population (%)



There is a jump in the data in 2005 because of an improvement in the traffic model.

Source: measurements and INTEC-UGent noise map, traffic counts, Antwerp Traffic Centre

Sound pressure levels in Flanders keep increasing

The exposure of the population to sound pressure levels above 65 dB is described by means of three indicators which show the sound pressure level at the building facade, i.e. a measured indicator (LAeq, day, week, sample), a calculated indicator that shows the exposure during the day (LAeq, day >65 dB(A) noise map) and a calculated indicator that includes the need for quiet at night (LAden >65 dB(A) noise map).

Between 1996 and 2001 the sound pressure level at the measured indicator has increased significantly. We see the same change in the indicator that shows the sound pressure level during the day. The sound pressure level for a good night's rest has also increased since 2001. In 2007, the exposure to high sound pressure levels during the day has decreased while the indicator that includes the need for a night's rest increased slightly. This seems to indicate that traffic is shifting to the night hours and/or that the average driving speed during the day is increasing. A detailed analysis of the data is needed to confirm this.

Two times too much exposure to high sound pressure levels

The long-term target in the MINA plan 3+ (2008-2010) stipulates that in 2020 only 15 % of the population will be exposed to outside traffic noise during the day in front of the house (LAeq >65 dB(A)). At present this is still twice as much.

population (%)	1996	2001	2004	2005	2006	2007
LAeq,day,week,sample	27	30
LAeq,day >65 dB(A) noise map	30	32	32	33	34	33
LAden >65 dB(A) noise map	24	21	23	31	31	31