

1. Introduction

Welcome to the 3rd bulletin of the DECC Statistics User Panel.

2. News

A new webpage, for the publication of Feed-in-Tariff statistics, was set up on the DECC website in December 2011. The new webpage can be accessed at;

http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy_stats/source/fits/fits.aspx, and contains all the data previously available on the electricity statistics webpage. It also includes a new weekly release which shows the number of solar photovoltaic installations and capacity installed at the end of each week, from 2011, that are registered on the Microgeneration Certification Scheme. The data will be updated with the latest weekly data every Wednesday morning until the end of August 2012.

On 7 February 2012 DECC published Greenhouse Gas Emissions, 2010 final figures, which showed that in 2010, UK emissions of the basket of six greenhouse gases covered by the Kyoto Protocol were estimated to be 590.4 million tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO₂e), 3.1 per cent higher than in 2009. Data can be accessed on the DECC website at:

http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/climate_stats/gg_emissions/uk_emissions/2010_final/2010_final.aspx.

On 23 February 2012 DECC published provisional December 2011 energy statistics, that allowed an initial assessment to be made of trends in energy production, transformation and consumption in 2011. A statistical press release, including additional data by fuel for 2011, can be accessed on the DECC website at:

<http://www.decc.gov.uk/assets/decc/11/stats/publications/energy-trends/4454-pn-12-013.pdf>. More detailed 2011 data has been released today, 29 March, in Energy Trends (see below).

On 7 March 2012 DECC published the latest estimates of homes in Great Britain with loft, cavity wall and solid wall insulation. It is estimated that at the start of January 2012:

- There are 26.7 million homes in Great Britain. Of these 23.3 million have lofts, 18.9 million have cavity walls with the remaining 7.8 million having solid walls.
- Through Government schemes since April 2008 (the start of CERT), there have been 3.8 million lofts insulated, 2.0 million cavity walls insulated and 58,000 solid walls insulated.
- Compared with October 2011, 370,000 more properties had loft insulation, 160,000 more had cavity wall insulation and 6,000 more had solid wall insulation.
- 14.1 million homes had loft insulation of at least 125mm (60 per cent of homes with lofts).
- 11.2 million homes had cavity wall insulation (59 per cent of homes with cavity walls).
- 122,000 homes had solid wall insulation (2 per cent of homes with solid walls).

Data and a consultation on the methodology can be accessed on the DECC website at:http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy_stats/en_effic_stats/en_effic_stats.aspx. Data for the start of April 2012 will be released on 7 June 2012.

Today, 29 March 2012, at 9:30am DECC released its regular quarterly publications Energy Trends and Quarterly Energy Prices, and also provisional estimates of UK greenhouse gas emissions for 2011.

Energy Trends covers statistics on energy production and consumption, in total and by fuel, and provides an analysis of the year on year changes. The March edition also includes articles on:

- Sub-national electricity consumption statistics and household energy distribution analysis for 2010
- Gas and electricity consumption data below Local Authority level
- Comparison of M-1 and M-2 oil data
- Identifying local areas with higher than expected domestic gas use
- Feed in Tariffs: 2010/11 generation data
- Domestic energy bills in 2011
- UKCS capital expenditure survey 2011

Quarterly Energy Prices covers prices to domestic and industrial consumers, prices of oil products and comparisons of international fuel prices.

The publications are available, along with a statistical press release highlighting the main trends in 2011 and in the fourth quarter of 2011 (October to December), on the DECC website at:

<http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/publications/publications.aspx>

Also released on 29 March 2012 are data covering:

- Electricity consumption at local authority level during 2010 (delayed from December 2011);
- Electricity and gas consumption at middle layer super output area (MLSOA) and intermediate geography zone (IGZ) level during 2010;
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions, 2011 provisional figures, and
- Feed-in-Tariff generation data, 2010-11 (this will be the first time that this data series has been published).

2011 provisional UK Greenhouse Gas Emissions Estimates indicate that UK emissions of the basket of six greenhouse gases covered by the Kyoto Protocol were down by around 7% from 2010 to 2011, from 590.4 million tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO₂e) to 549.3 MtCO₂e. The decrease was largely due to a fall in residential gas use, linked to the much warmer weather in 2010 than in 2011, and there was also a drop in demand for electricity accompanied by lower use of gas and greater use of nuclear power for electricity generation in 2011.

Data can be accessed on the DECC website at:

http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/climate_stats/gg_emissions/uk_emissions/2011_prov/2011_prov.aspx

3. Forthcoming releases

On Thursday 17 May 2012 at 9:30am DECC will release its annual report on fuel poverty statistics which will provide details of the level of fuel poverty in 2010 in England and the UK and projections for England for 2011 and 2012. Also released at the same time will be 2010 fuel poverty data at sub-regional level.

On Wednesday 18 April 2012, DECC will publish the first in a new series of quarterly statistics on UK greenhouse gas emissions. These statistics will be based on the energy statistics in DECC's quarterly Energy Trends publications, and will enable trends in UK emissions to be monitored on a more regular basis. Each release will report on emissions in the most recent four quarters, and will include a weather-corrected series alongside the actual emissions series. The first publication will cover the year up to the fourth quarter of 2011.

4. Quarterly Energy Prices: Changes to publication

A number of changes have been made to the design of the March 2012 edition of Quarterly Energy Prices (QEP). The changes are to the presentation of the commentary on the data, and are designed to reflect the design of our other quarterly statistical publication, Energy Trends, which was updated in December 2011. All of the tables within QEP remain available.

DECC would welcome your feedback on the changes.

5. UK Energy in Brief app

In the first user panel bulletin we sought feedback from you on whether the development of an app, of our publication UK Energy in Brief, would be supported by users. In response to feedback we are now considering building the app in HTML5 rather than creating bespoke iPhone and Android apps.

The aim of the app will be to enhance information already available, the publication will continue to be made available in printed form with a PDF and supporting Excel dataset available on the DECC website, as well as engaging with a wider audience and making use of our data/publication more interactive.

DECC would be interested to know whether you support the development of an app in HTML5 as a means of engaging more widely with users of our data.

6. Local Area tools

In our last bulletin we informed you about developments in Local Area data – the analytical tool which allows Local Authorities to compare their energy use to others, http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/energy_stats/regional/analytical/analytical.aspx, and the interactive maps which show trends in Local Authority data, http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/local_auth/local_auth.aspx.

Feedback from users has been positive so far. If you have now had the opportunity to use either of these tools and have any comments on how they could be developed we would be to interested to hear from you.

7. Putting Low Carbon Heating on the Map

DECC has recently launched a new, National Heat Map to help local planners develop district heating networks, which is modelled from DECC sub-national statistics.

Covering the whole of England, the National Heat Map provides local authorities, communities, private sector developers and heat suppliers with a reliable source of information about where heat networks are technically possible. The map covers the whole of England and allows planners to zoom down to the level of individual buildings and view their heat demand, and shows the demand of wider areas with the same accuracy.

The map is equipped with a range of tools to help developers and planners identify priority areas for low carbon heat projects. Local authorities will be able to use the map as the starting point to develop detailed Energy Master Plans, to inform distributed energy policies in their Local Development Frameworks and climate change strategies. Developers can use the map to help them meet local distributed energy needs. In addition, there are a number of benefits that come with heat mapping at a national level.

- Common standards: individual local maps are developed by different people in different ways, using different data sources and methodologies. The National Heat Map is drawn up to common standards and open to everyone, to help identify the best opportunities for low-carbon heat across the country.
- Cross-boundary development: local heat maps stop at the boundaries of the authority that commissioned it. Having a common map helps join everything together across boundaries, so a large heat demand in one borough could be linked easily to an abundant supply of heat in a neighbouring area, for example.
- Economies of scale: The National Heat Map covers the whole of England at a substantially reduced cost.

The National Heat Map can be accessed at <http://ceo.decc.gov.uk/nationalheatmap>

DECC would welcome your feedback on map, please send comments to national.heat.map@decc.gsi.gov.uk

8. Publication of User Panel bulletins

Please note that copies of all User Panel bulletins are now published on the DECC website at: <http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/governance/governance.aspx>

9. Comments

Please send comments on the above issues or any other aspect of DECC's statistics, except the National Heat Map, to the DECC Energy Statistics Mailbox, energy.stats@decc.gsi.gov.uk

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