

Domestic Energy Market Snapshot

This update considers developments in the household electricity and gas markets in the three months from 31 January 2017 to 30 April 2017 (Q217)¹

Headlines

- Small and medium suppliers (SaMS) see their collective dual fuel² share rise to 20.4% (+1.4pp). This is the first time SaMS have held a share above 20.0% in any market. Meanwhile, SaMS see their share of energy accounts rise 1.5pp to 17.9%, collectively holding 9.11mn energy accounts
- Large Suppliers³ see their collective energy⁴ account losses increase in Q217, up 420,000 to 665,000. This is the biggest energy account loss for large suppliers since Q414. Large suppliers now hold an 82.1% share of energy accounts overall
- 51 fully-licensed electricity suppliers and 55 gas suppliers were active in the market in Q217. Five dual fuel suppliers entered the market and one electricity-only supplier
- Total domestic energy accounts in Britain at 30 April 2017 stood at 50.83mn. There were 27.81mn electricity accounts, up from 27.76mn at 31 January 2017, while gas accounts were up 40,000 to 23.03mn. 78.4% of the total market bought their energy on a dual fuel basis
- Market concentration measured through HHIs⁵ decreased across the electricity, gas and dual fuel markets. Gas HHI dropped the most, down 43 points to 1,668, while electricity and dual fuel HHI dropped 26 and 35 points respectively. The electricity market is considered the most competitive by this measure, with a HHI of 1,298

Table 1: Domestic Energy Market Competition Indicators at 30 April 2017

	Electricity	Gas	Dual fuel
Household accounts (k)	27,805 (50)	23,025 (40)	19,935 (120)
HHI	1,298 (-26)	1,668 (-43)	1,401 (-35)
Number of suppliers	51 (6)	55 (5)	49 (5)
Aggregate Large Supplier share	82.3% (-1.4pp)	81.8% (-1.5pp)	79.6% (-1.5pp)

Source: Cornwall. Data in brackets indicates change on 31 January 2017

Notes to editors

¹ This snapshot updates "Competition in British household energy supply markets" January 2017, published by Energy UK and commissioned from Cornwall. The next Domestic Energy Market Snapshot will cover developments to 31 July 2017 and will issue in September 2017. Further information is available [here](#).

² Dual fuel accounts indicate consumers who take their electricity and gas supply with the same supplier

³ British Gas, EDF Energy, E.ON UK, npower, SSE and Scottish Power

⁴ Energy = total electricity accounts plus total gas accounts

⁵ HHI = Herfindahl-Hirschman Index. A measure of market concentration