

Electricity Switching - March 2017

Over 530,000 consumers switched supplier in March

Switching is above 1.3 million in the first quarter of 2017

The latest electricity switching figures, released by Energy UK today, show over half a million consumers (536,658) have switched electricity supplier in March. This is an increase of 13 per cent on last March and takes switching in 2017 to over 1.3 million consumers.

Last month consumers switching from larger to small and mid-tier suppliers represented a quarter of all switches (27 per cent) reaching just over 145,000.

Lawrence Slade, chief executive of Energy UK said:

“1.3m consumers switching already this year is further demonstration of competition in action in the retail market. Competition is driving up standards, innovation and investment as suppliers compete to keep and attract new customers. There has never been a better time to check you are on the best deal for you – and the Energy Switch Guarantee gives consumers extra confidence the process will be simple, speedy and safe.”

Ends

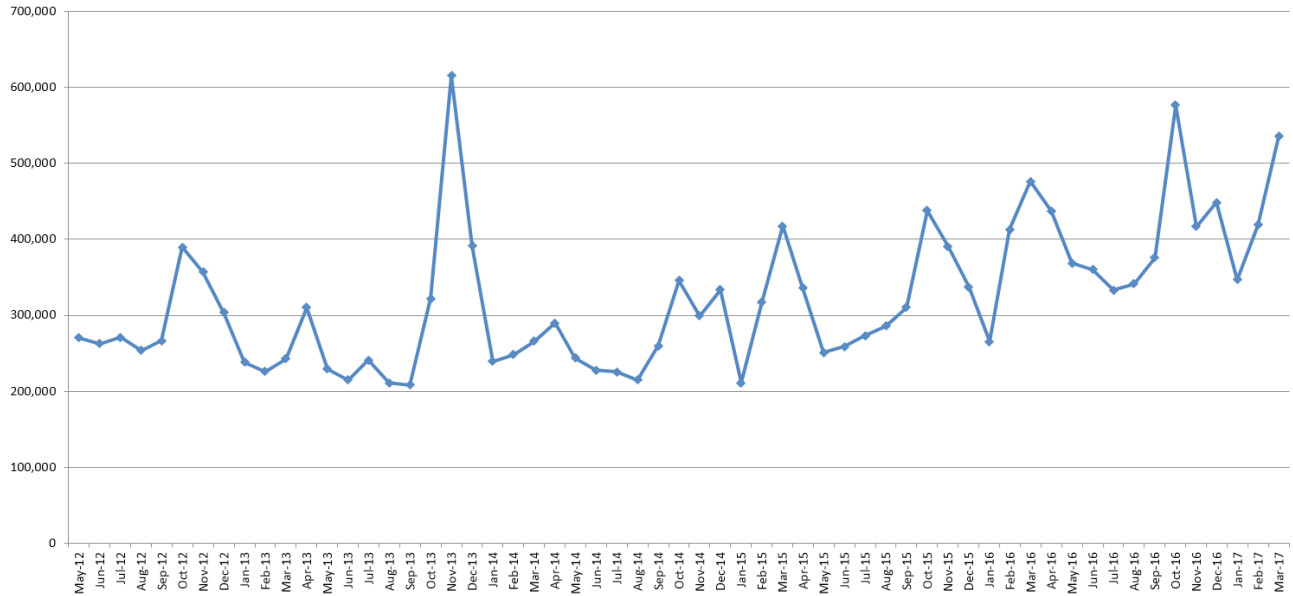
Notes for editors

- ▶ [To see the latest monthly switching stats, please visit Energy UK's website.](#)
- ▶ Around 70 per cent of the market are signatories of the Guarantee. This includes: British Gas, Bulb Energy E.ON, EDF Energy, First Utility, Flow Energy, npower, Octopus Energy, Sainsbury's Energy, So Energy and Tonik Energy. For more information about the Guarantee: www.energyswitchguarantee.com
- ▶ The switching data is supplied by Electralink who provides a secure service to transfer data between the electricity market participants. The company operates the Data Transfer Network (DTN) which underpins customer switching, meter interoperability and other business processes critical to a competitive electricity market.
- ▶ The data referenced in these reports is since our collection of data only and is for electricity only. These figures include both domestic & non-domestic customers.

Change of Supply Event

A 'Change of Supply Event' is the industry term for describing when a domestic or non-domestic customer moves from one supplier to another. The total number of electricity switches in March was 536,658.

Graph 1: Number of change of supply events



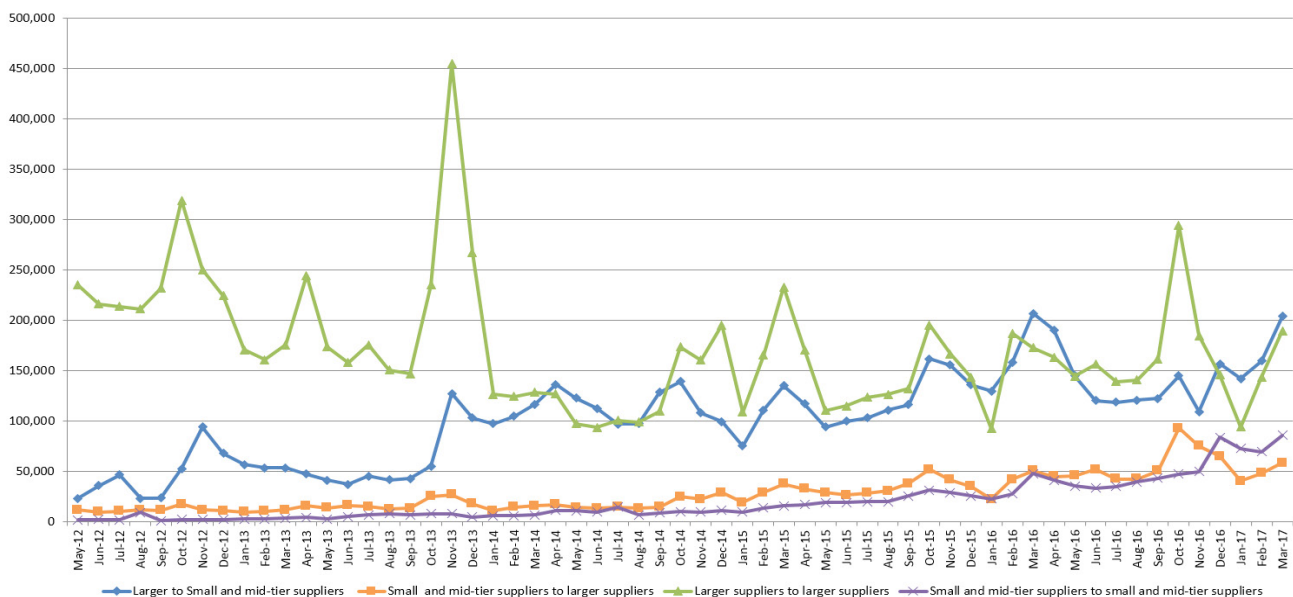
Source: Electralink

Movement between supplier groups

In March 2017, of all switches:

- ▶ 38% were from larger to small and mid-tier suppliers
- ▶ 11% were from small and mid-tier to larger suppliers
- ▶ 35% were between larger suppliers
- ▶ 16% were between small and mid-tier suppliers

Graph 2: Movement between small and mid-tier and larger suppliers



Source: Electralink

Gains by small and mid-tier suppliers

In March, the net gain by small and mid-tier suppliers was 145,625 this is 27% of all switches. This is the same as the previous month, where small and mid-tier suppliers had a 27% net gain.

*Net gain is the number of switches from larger to small and mid-tier suppliers minus the number of switches from small and mid-tier to larger suppliers.

Table 1: A breakdown of all switches

Month Year	Larger to small and mid-tier suppliers	Small and mid-tier to larger suppliers	Larger to larger suppliers	Small and mid-tier to small and mid-tier suppliers	Total switches
Mar-17	203,631	58,006	189,467	85,554	536,658
Feb-17	159,355	47,689	143,561	68,944	419,599
Jan-17	141,692	39,854	93,912	72,328	347,786
Dec-16	156,318	64,765	145,275	83,563	449,921
Nov-16	108,903	74,924	184,553	49,459	417,839
Oct-16	144,552	92,632	293,708	46,918	577,810
Sep-16	121,969	50,325	161,344	42,873	376,511
Aug-16	120,485	42,246	140,321	39,407	342,459
Jul-16	118,184	42,010	138,822	34,577	333,653
Jun-16	120,115	51,524	156,061	33,178	360,878
May-16	144,410	45,544	144,177	35,133	369,264
Apr-16	190,201	44,464	162,831	40,670	438,166
Mar-16	206,419	50,365	172,326	47,418	476,528
Feb-16	157,676	41,903	186,805	27,378	413,762
Jan-16	129,516	21,839	92,162	22,579	266,096
Dec-15	135,542	34,638	142,814	25,259	338,253
Nov-15	155,185	41,405	166,430	28,707	391,727
Oct-15	161,358	51,341	195,072	31,138	438,909
Sep-15	116,070	37,615	132,037	25,259	310,981
Aug-15	110,359	30,122	125,934	19,786	286,201
Jul-15	102,667	28,262	123,174	19,593	273,696
Jun-15	99,493	26,003	114,807	18,730	259,033
May-15	93,865	28,813	109,971	18,967	251,616
Apr-15	116,826	32,355	170,237	16,692	336,110
Mar-15	134,824	37,122	232,619	15,449	420,014

Change of Supply definition

► Change of supply is an event in which a customer intends to switch electricity supply from their current supplier to a new supplier. When there is no objection from the old supplier and all the requisite intermediate processes are completed, the new supplier starts supplying the customer's premises. The number of change of supply events shown is the total number of changes from one supplier to another which have completed in the month and where the new supplier has started supplying the electricity.