



Energy use in English homes Cambridge Housing Energy Tool

Guidance note

The English Housing Survey* is a continuous survey of homes in England. It includes information about the tenure, age and condition of homes, the demographic make-up of occupants, and detailed information about insulation and energy-consuming equipment in homes. This data is published annually.

It comprises an interview with householders, a physical inspection, and a market value survey. The English Housing Survey (EHS) brings together the information formerly collected using the English House Condition Survey and the Survey of English Homes.

The Cambridge Housing Energy Tool allows users to interrogate the energy-related part of this EHS data easily. It was designed and created by Cambridge Architectural Research and Cambridge Econometrics in response to feedback from stakeholders that they want an Excel-based, user friendly tool to access the EHS data.

The tool shows how many homes in England fall into various categories. For example: 'How many homes in England are of Tenure X and Dwelling Age Y?' You can choose any two parameters from a list of energy-related variables to show in a table.

There are too many variables in the survey to list here, but they cover insulation thicknesses for lofts, walls, floors, and hot water tanks, floor areas, glazing, heating systems, SAP ratings, Decent Homes standards, fuel poverty, employment status, benefits, and rent or mortgage payments.

The current version of the Tool uses EHS 2008 data, but we are working on the EHS 2009 dataset, and we will issue a new version of the Tool in the Autumn. This is the first time this Tool has been published, and any feedback is welcome.

The Tool requires Excel 2007 to run, and users should 'allow macros'. There is a step-by-step User Guide on the second worksheet.

*Further information about the English Housing Survey is available here:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/housing/housingresearch/housingsurveys/englishhousingsurvey/>

And there is more technical information and links to User Guides for the EHS here:

<http://www.esds.ac.uk/findingData/snDescription.asp?sn=5021>

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