



Household Energy Efficiency headline release: Great Britain Data to August 2019

17 October 2019

National Statistics

This release presents the latest statistics on the Energy Company Obligation (ECO), the Green Deal (GD) and an update on the measurement of the one million homes improved target.

- **Around 2.7 million measures have been installed in around 2.1 million properties through ECO and under the GD framework to the end of August 2019.** Around 2.6 million of these installed measures (96 per cent) were delivered through ECO.
- Since the start of ECO3 in October 2018, 136,000 measures have been installed, including 18,600 measures installed in August 2019. In Q2 2019, 44,700 measures were installed; a 17 per cent increase on measures installed in the previous quarter.
- The Government set a target to upgrade the energy efficiency of around one million more homes over the five years to April 2020. In the four years and four months of the target period so far, **around 911,000 homes have had at least one improvement measure installed under the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) or Green Deal (GD).**
- At the end of September 2019 there were 13,867 live or completed Green Deal Plans in unique properties in GB. During Q3 2019, 140 plans were completed.
- BEIS plans to bring forward future Household Energy Efficiency quarterly releases. The next quarterly releases will be 19 December 2019 and 27 February 2020. For details see [Further information](#) at the end of this release.

Chart: ECO measures installed, by quarter, Q2 2017 – Q2 2019



What you need to know about these statistics:

The Energy Company Obligation (ECO) was introduced in January 2013 to reduce energy consumption and support people at greater risk of living in fuel poverty. The larger energy companies are set obligations to install insulation and heating measures in order to achieve reductions in energy usage and heating costs.

The Green Deal (GD) is a government initiative that is designed to help home owners install energy efficiency measures into their properties, and the costs of these measures are paid back through their energy bill over a period of time; this is in the form of a Green Deal Finance Plan (GD Plan).

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Introduction

This release presents the latest quarterly statistics on the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) and the Green Deal (GD), and includes an update on the measurement against the one million homes target. More detailed analysis of ECO and GD Plans, together with home insulation levels are available in the [detailed statistical report](#). Both schemes cover Great Britain.

The headline statistics presented in this release are up to August 2019, with detailed analysis of ECO up to June 2019 and GD statistics up to September 2019.

Energy Efficiency Measures, Households and Carbon Savings

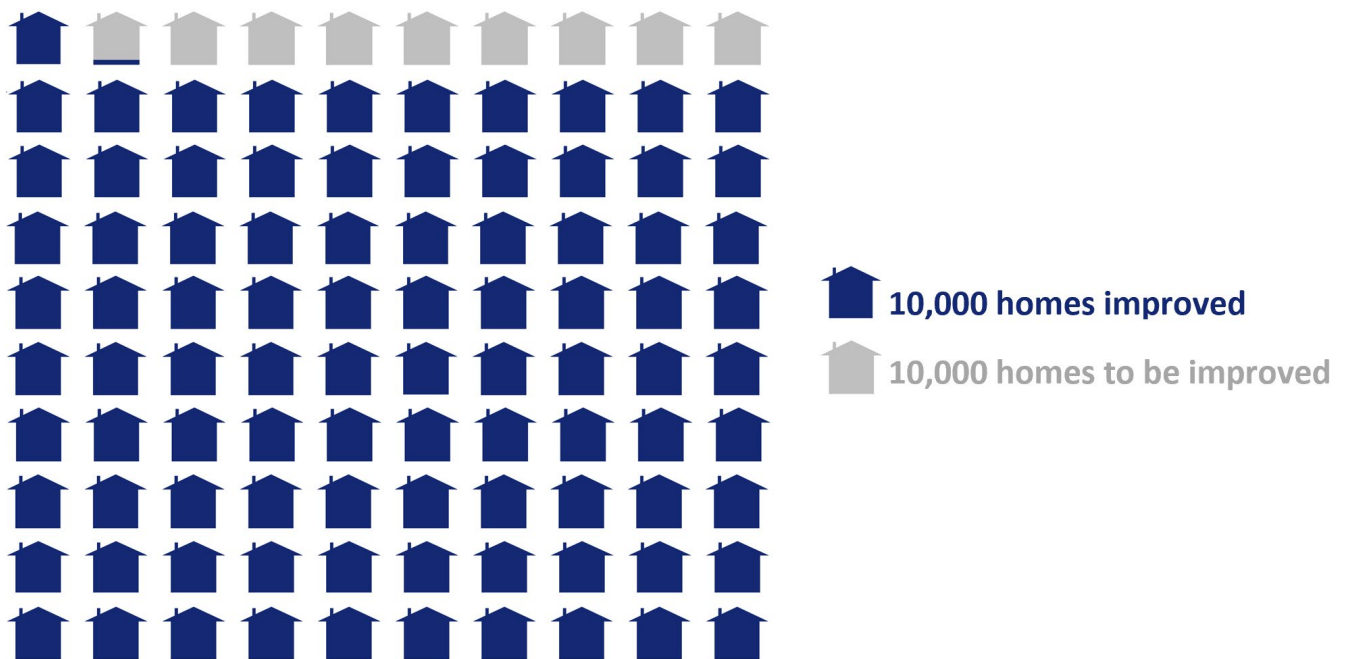
In the [data tables](#) accompanying this publication, tables 1.1 - 1.4 show the combined number of measures across the schemes including 1m homes target and estimated carbon and energy savings.

Since 2013, around 2.7 million measures were installed in around 2.1 million properties through ECO and under the Green Deal Framework to the end of August 2019. Around 2.6 million of these installed measures (96 per cent) were delivered through ECO (Tables 1.1 and 1.2).

In Q2 2019, around 44,700 measures were installed through ECO in around an additional 25,900 households (Tables 3.3 and 4.1).

The Government has a target to upgrade around one million homes through the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) and other Government domestic energy efficiency schemes, including insulation and other energy efficiency measures. The period covered is over five years from the start of May 2015 through until the end of April 2020. In the four years and four months of the target period up to May 2019, around 911,000 homes have had at least one improvement measure installed under ECO or the Green Deal. (Infographic 1, Table 1.3).

Infographic 1: Proportion of the 1 million homes target achieved, up to end August 2019



Historically, the energy and carbon savings from measures delivered under the ECO Affordable Warmth obligation have not been included in this analysis since that obligation is defined in terms of lifetime bill savings where the other ECO obligations are defined in terms of lifetime carbon savings. Since October 2018, ECO has only been delivered under the Affordable Warmth obligation which prompted a review by BEIS to include these to continue to demonstrate the carbon and energy savings from ECO. The additional energy and carbon savings have been estimated using the lifetime bill savings and the historic carbon and energy savings from Affordable Warmth in since 2013 are now included in these statistics. See Methodology Note for details of this.

The provisional estimated lifetime carbon savings of measures installed by the end of June 2019, under ECO (including Affordable Warmth), Cashback, GDHIF and GD Plans was up to 48.7 MtCO₂ with provisional estimated lifetime energy savings up to 189,900 GWh (Table 1.4). This statistic has been revised to include ECO Affordable Warmth since last quarter. If ECO Affordable Warmth is excluded, the savings are up to 38.0 MtCO₂ and 150,600 GWh of lifetime savings.

ECO Measures Installed and Households

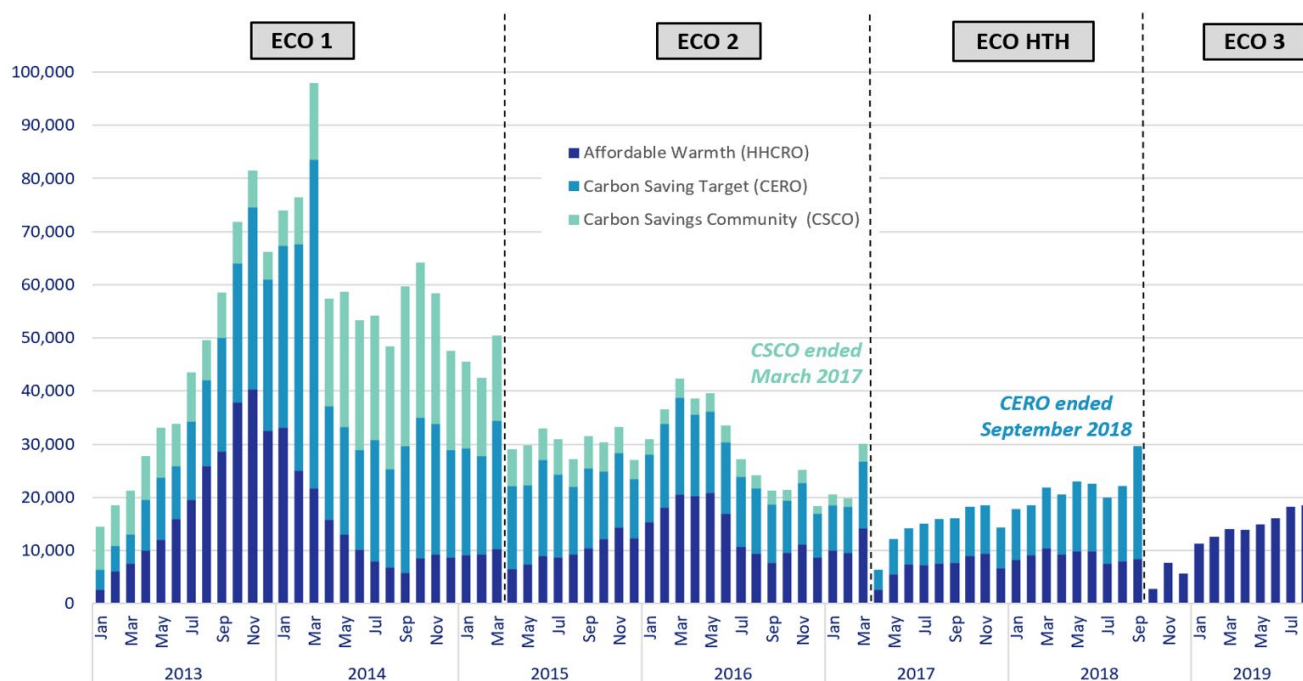
In the [data tables](#) accompanying this publication, tables 2.1 - 2.8 show the detailed tables for each phase of ECO, tables 3.1 - 3.6 present all ECO measures including geographic analysis and tables 4.1 - 4.5 present the number of households receiving ECO measures.

Provisional figures show there were around 2,572,900 measures installed in 2,016,900 households under ECO up to the end of August 2019 (Tables 1.1 and 1.2).

Since the start of ECO3 in October 2018, 136,000 measures have been installed, including 18,600 measures installed in August 2019, the highest monthly delivery to date under ECO3 and provisionally a 1.7 per cent increase in the number of measures compared to July 2019 (Table 2.5). Suppliers have until March 2022 to deliver their ECO3 obligations.

To date, an average of 12,400 measures have been delivered per month under ECO3 reflecting a slower start compared with previous obligation periods, but the levels of delivery over the last two months (Jul-Aug 2019) were 1.4 per cent higher than at the same stage of ECO Help-to-Heat.

Chart 1: ECO measures installed, by obligation, by month, up to end August 2019



Through ECO, the combination of Affordable Warmth and the Carbon Savings Community obligations have delivered around 1.49 million measures in around 1.10 million low income and vulnerable households, or households in specified areas of low income, by the end of August 2019 (Tables 2.6, 2.7 & 2.8). Since the start of April 2017, around 280,000 Affordable Warmth measures have been installed in around 200,600 low income and vulnerable households. (Tables 2.7 and 2.8).

Under ECO3, the whole obligation is delivered through Affordable Warmth with 44,700 measures installed to an additional 25,900 households in Q2 2019 (Tables 3.1 and 4.1).

Of all notified ECO measures installed to end of August 2019, 67 per cent of measures have been insulation measures, including cavity wall insulation (35 per cent), loft insulation (23 per cent) and solid wall insulation (seven per cent). The remainder are mostly heating measures with 22 per cent boiler measures and a further 11 per cent for 'other heating' measures. (Tables 2.6, 2.7 and 2.8 and Infographic 2).

Infographic 2: ECO measures by measure type, up to end August 2019

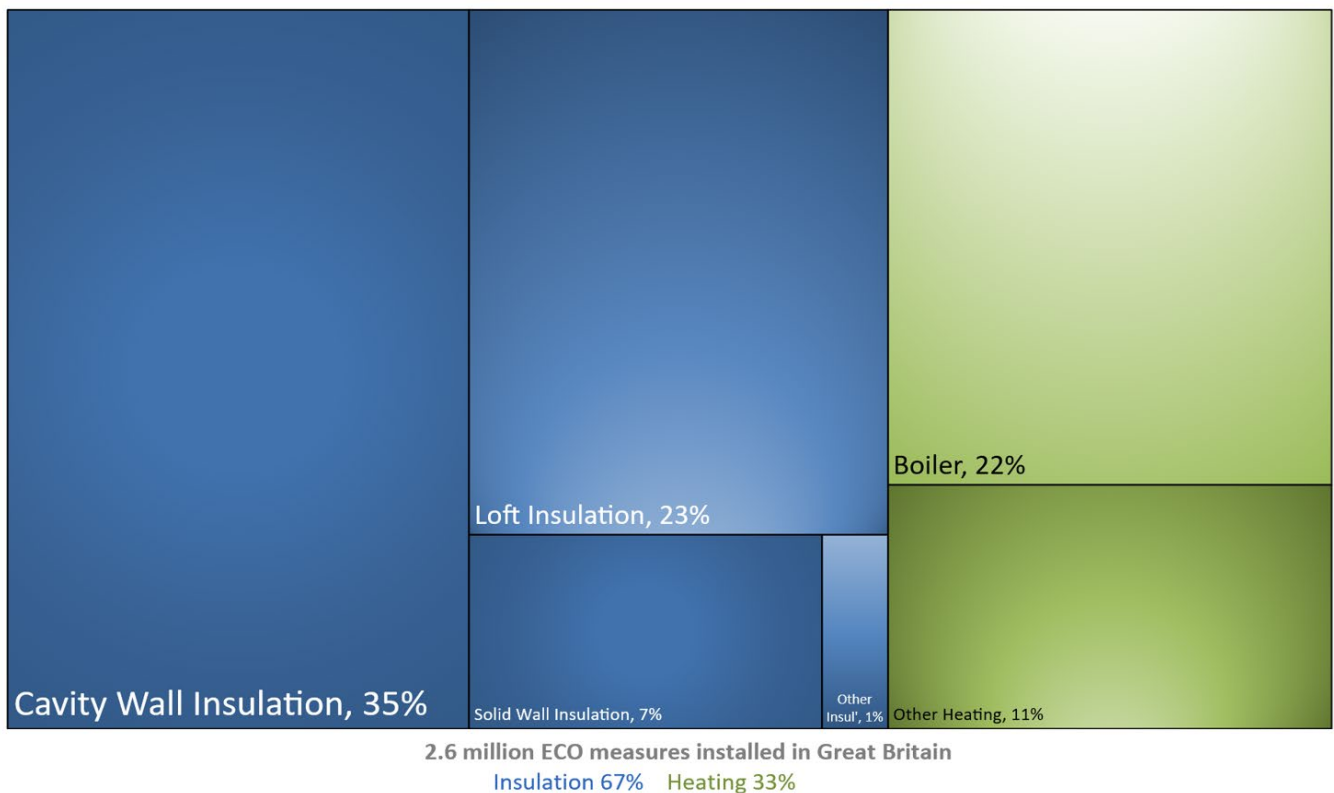


Chart 2a shows that over the first 11 months of ECO3, the share of heating measures has increased to previous ECO phases, with boiler measures representing 27 per cent of measures and a further 18 per cent from 'other heating' measures up to August 2019. This is due to the Affordable Warmth obligation, the only sub-obligation to include boilers, making up the whole of ECO3 (Table 2.8).

Chart 2b compares the share of measures within the Affordable Warmth obligation only. Of all notified ECO3 measures installed to end of August 2019, 23 per cent were for cavity wall insulation, 16 per cent were for loft insulation and seven per cent were for solid wall insulation. These are significantly higher than the share of insulation measures through Affordable Warmth across all ECO phases, where eight per cent were for cavity wall insulation, nine per cent were for loft insulation and one per cent were for solid wall insulation. In ECO3 the share of other insulation has increased to nine per cent. This is due to under floor insulation being the most popular associated insulation measure to a broken boiler. To date the scheme has delivered

11,100 broken boiler replacements with an associated insulation measure which has been under floor insulation in 79 per cent of cases. (Tables 2.6, 2.7 & 2.8).

Chart 2a: Share of all ECO measures installed, by measure type, by ECO phase, up to end August 2019

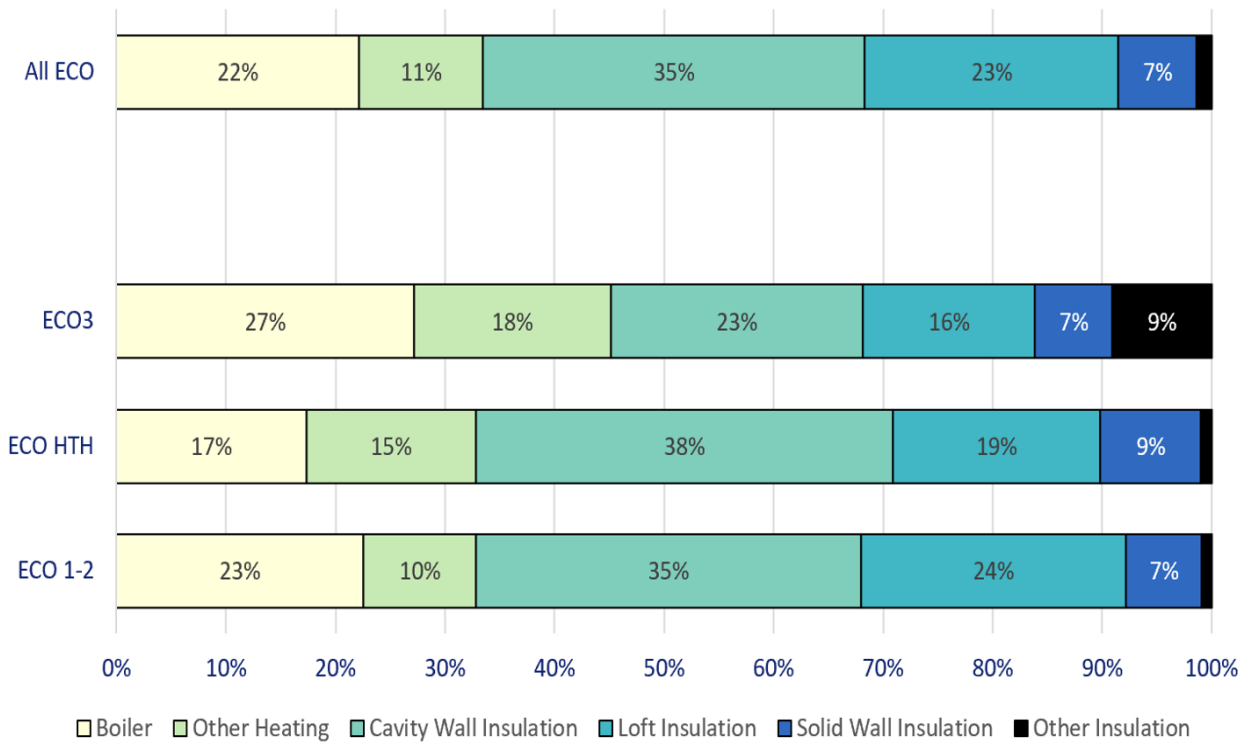
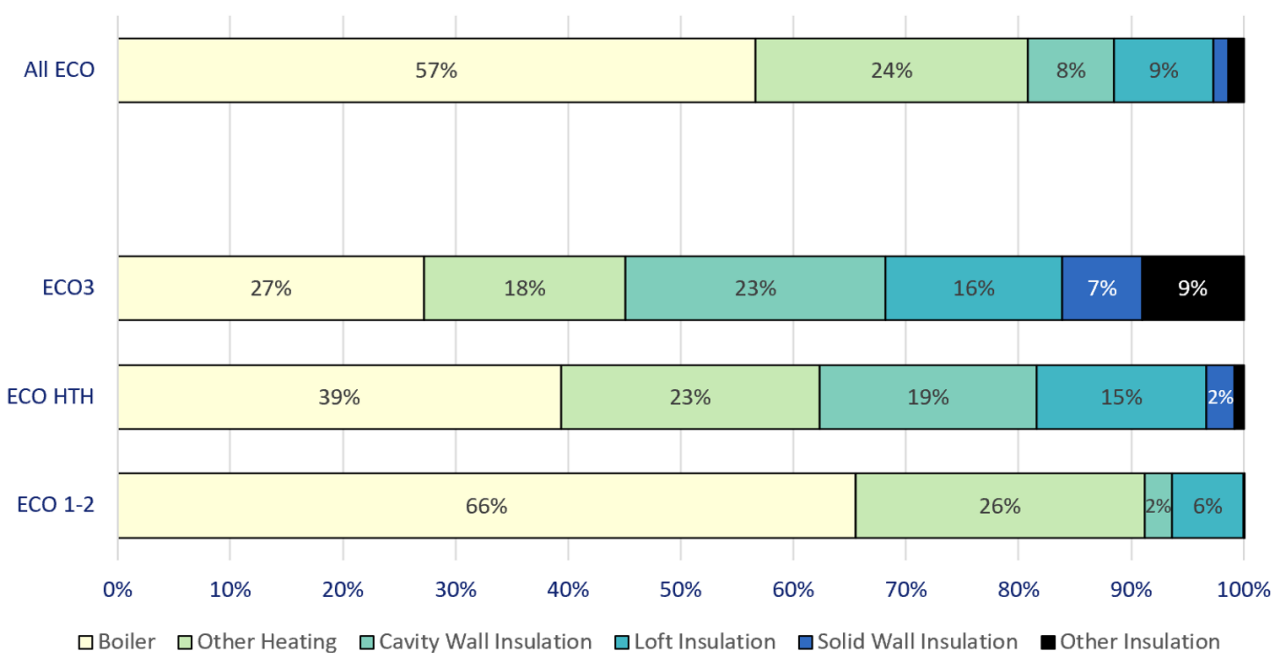
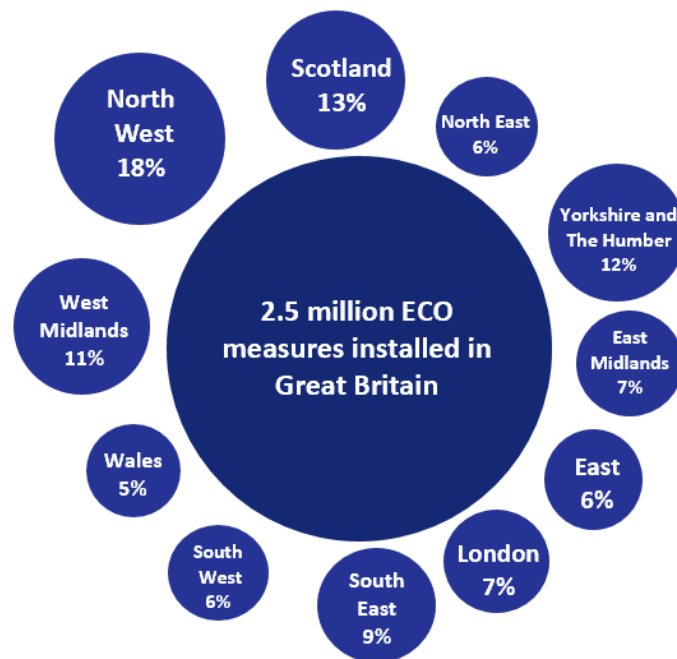


Chart 2b: Share of all Affordable Warmth measures installed, by measure type, by ECO phase, up to end August 2019



Up to the end of June 2019, around one fifth (18 per cent) of ECO measures were in the North West (461,300), the highest in any region. Thirteen per cent of ECO measures were installed in Scotland (319,100) and five per cent were in Wales (138,400). In Q2 2019 around 18 per cent of ECO measures were in the North West (7,900), the highest in any region. Thirteen per cent of ECO measures were installed in Scotland (6,000) and around six per cent were in Wales (2,700). (Infographic 3, Table 3.3).

Infographic 3: ECO measures by region, up to end June 2019



Around seven per cent of all households in Great Britain had a measure installed under ECO (i.e. around 75 per 1,000 households), up to the end of June 2019. The North West and North East regions had the highest amounts in England with 113 and 99 households with ECO measures per 1,000 households respectively. In Scotland there were around 110 per 1,000 households and 77 per 1,000 households in Wales. (Map 1, Table 4.1 and Table 4.4).

In total, to end June 2019, around 85 per cent of ECO measures were installed in properties that used gas as their main fuel type (around 2,151,300 measures); however this has decreased from 97 per cent in the first quarter of ECO to 72 per cent in Q2 2019. (Chart 3, Table 3.2).

Map 1: Households in receipt of ECO measures by Local Authority per 1,000 households, up to end June 2019

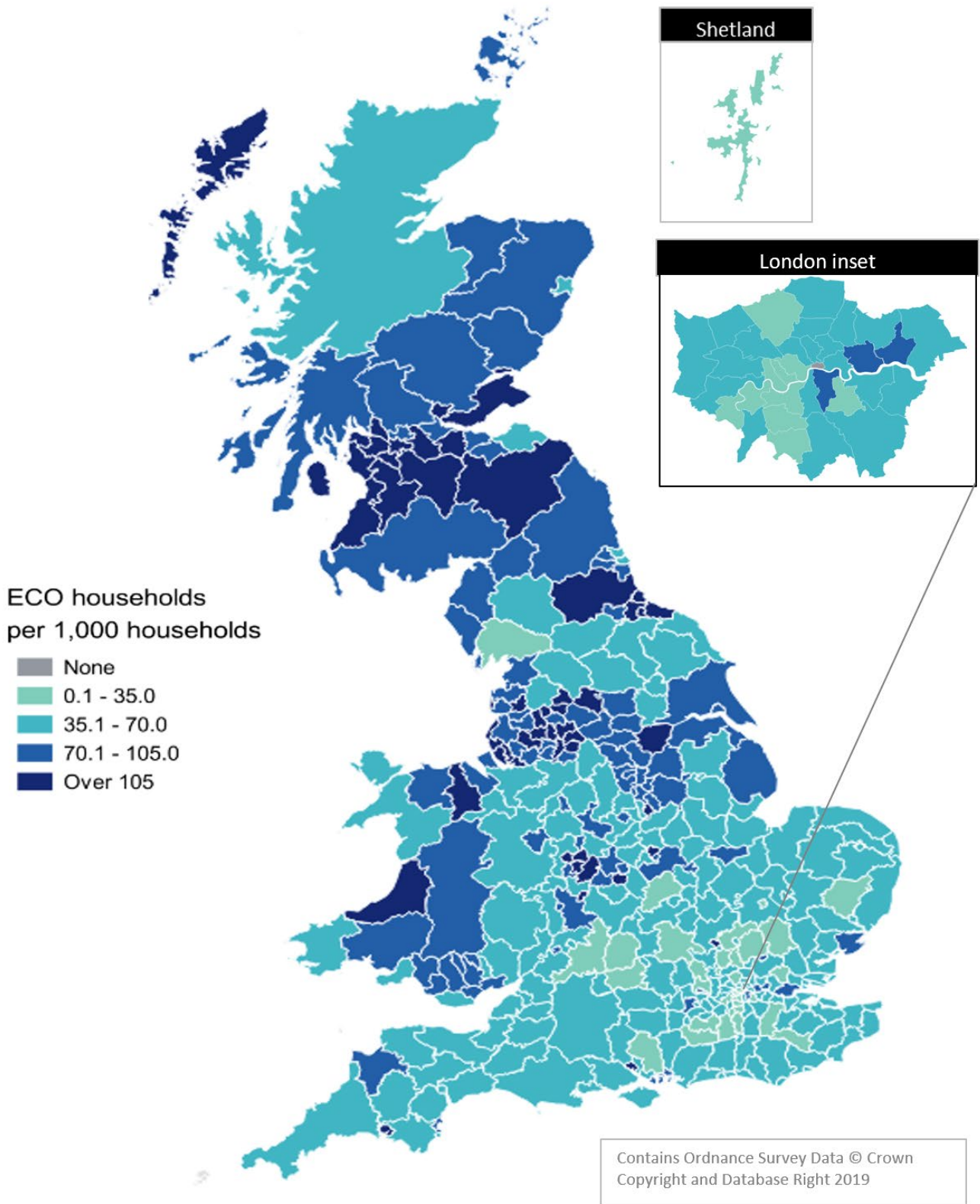
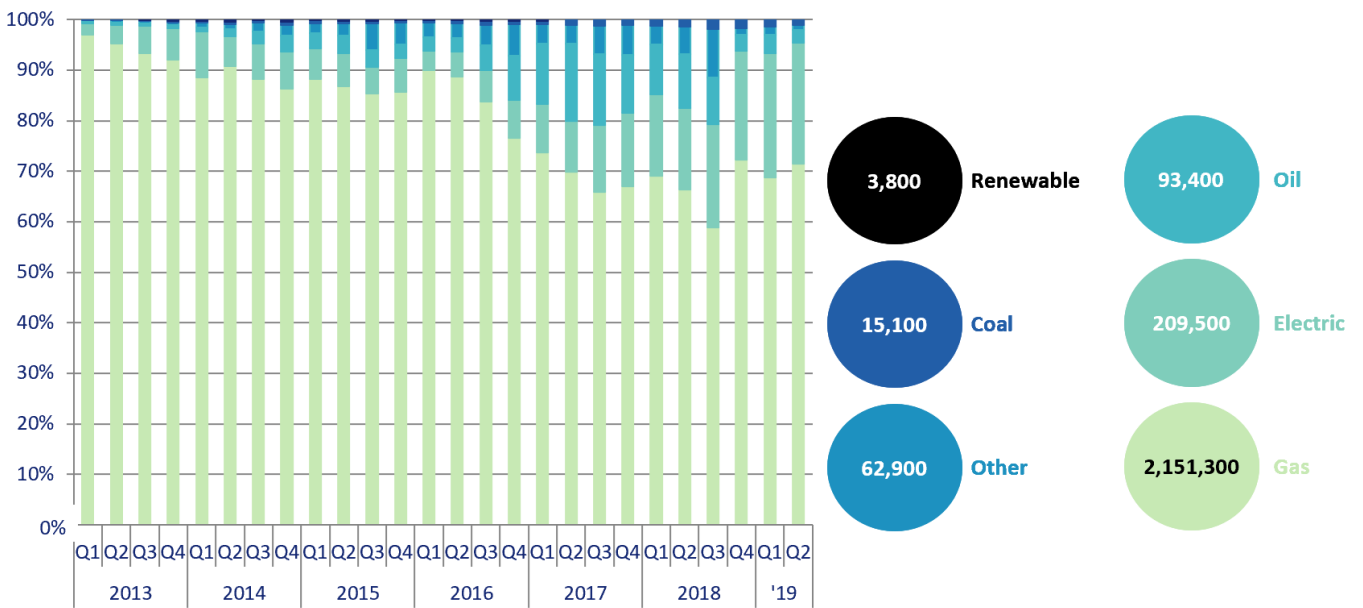
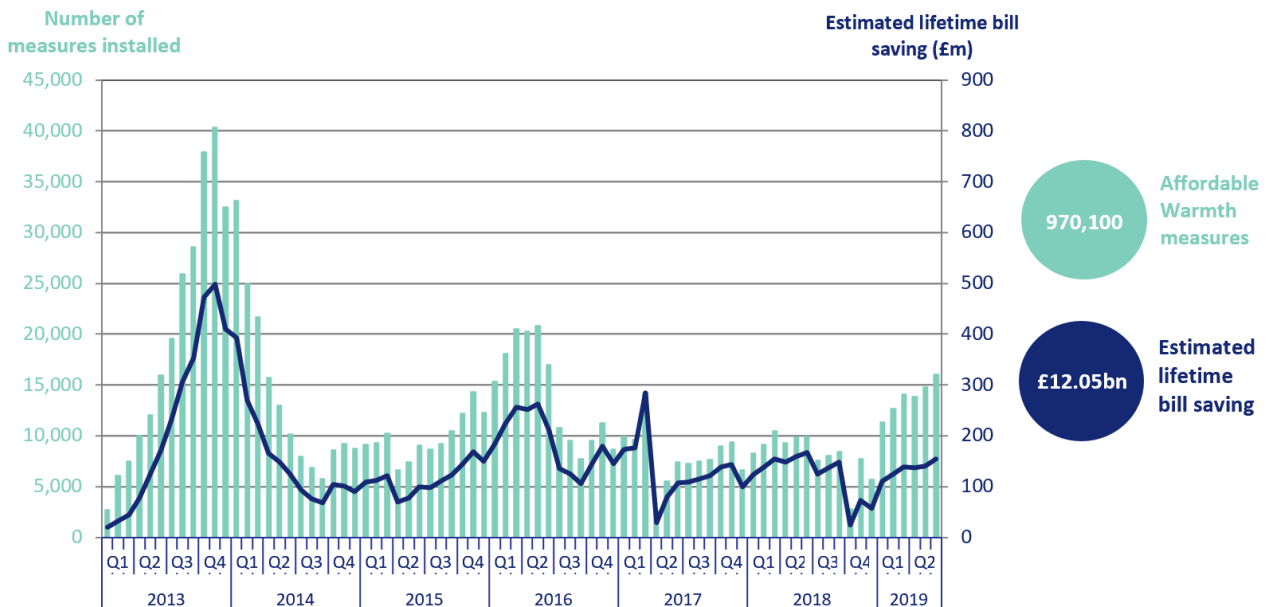


Chart 3: ECO measures by main fuel type of property, by quarter, up to end June 2019

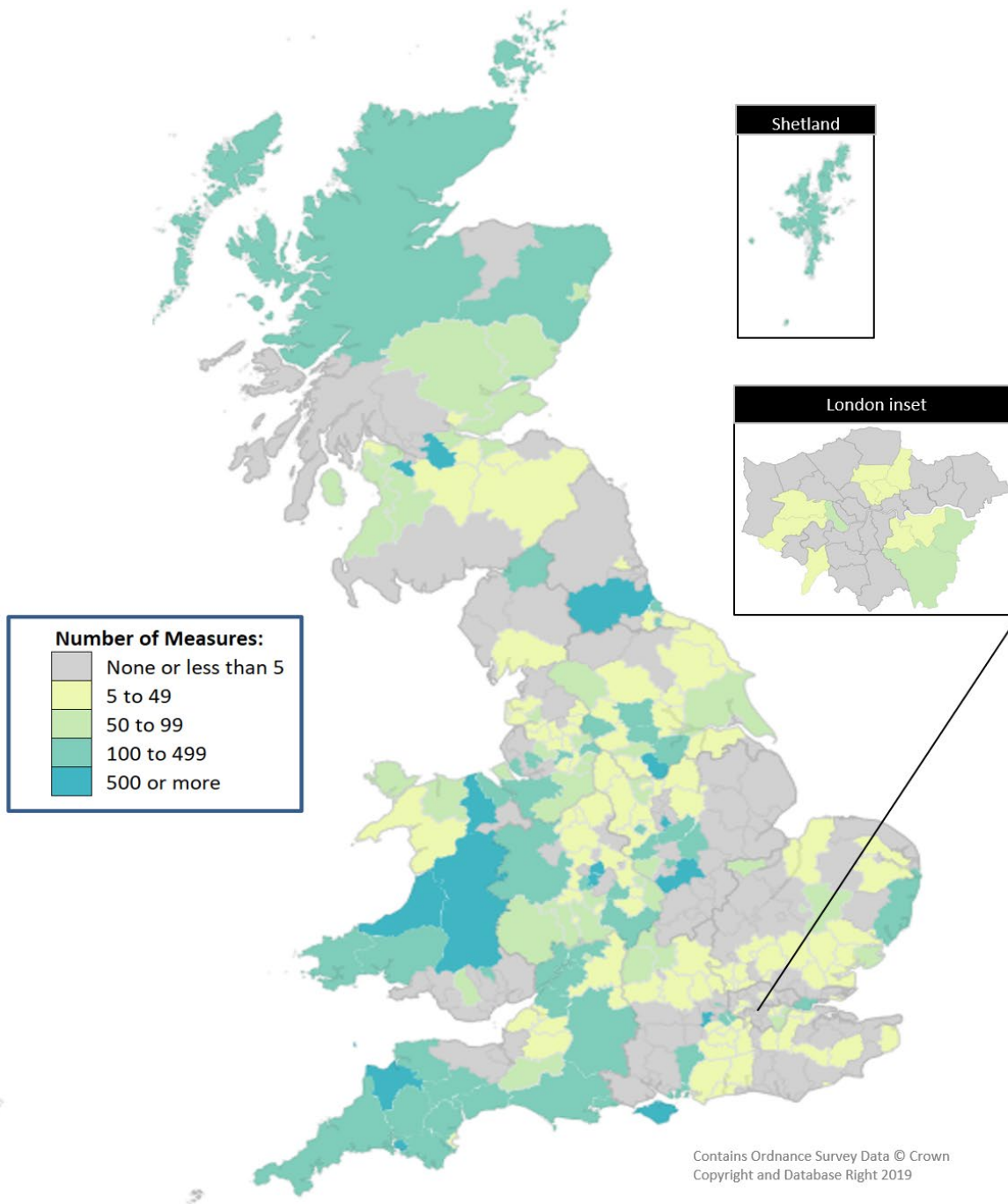


Around 970,100 Affordable Warmth ECO measures installed up to the end of June 2019 are estimated to deliver £12.1bn worth of notional lifetime bill savings. In Q2 2019, Affordable Warmth delivered around 44,700 measures delivering around £432m of lifetime bill savings. (Chart 4, Table 2.1).

Chart 4: Estimated lifetime bill savings for Affordable Warmth measures, by installation month, up to end June 2019



Map 2: ECO measures installed through Flexible Eligibility, by Local Authority (April 2017 - June 2019)

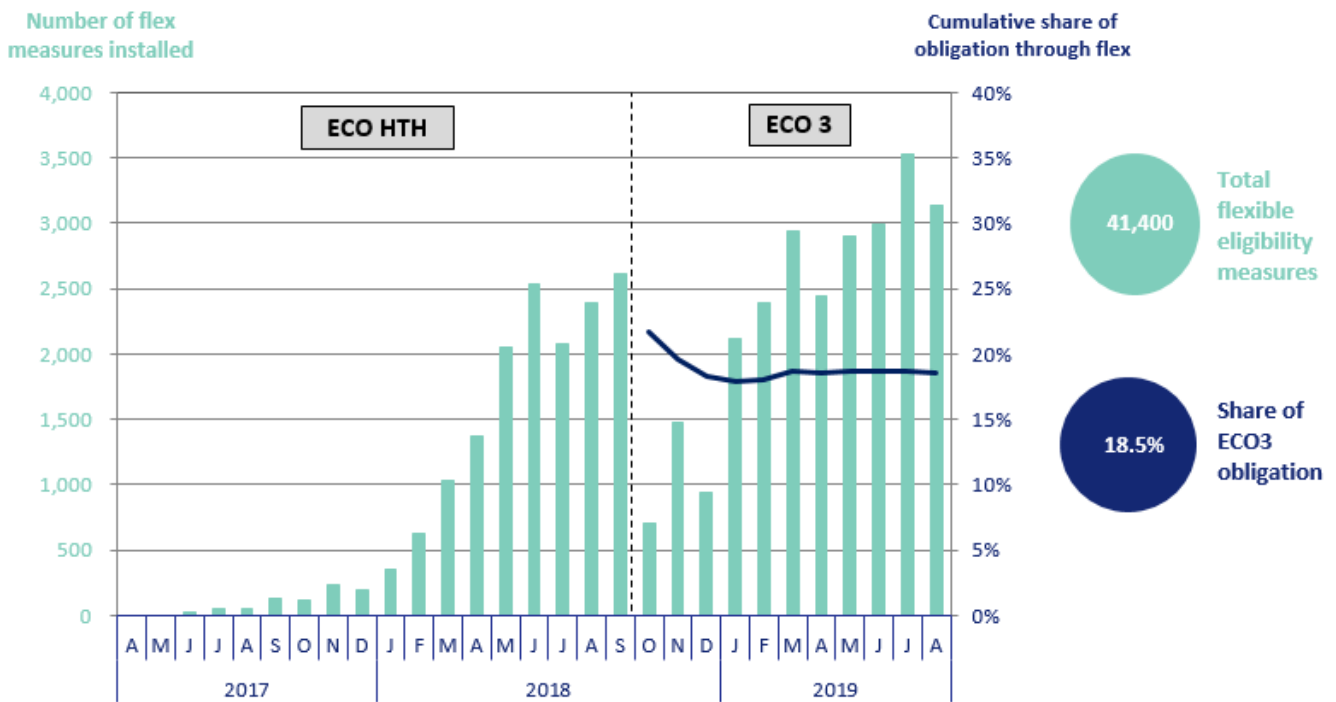


Local Authorities are shown only if they have at least 5 flexible eligibility measures. In total, 258 Local Authorities had at least 1 flex measure up to June 2019.

Local Authorities can determine eligible homes under the 'flexible eligibility' mechanism. The Affordable Warmth Obligation is measured through lifetime savings and up to 25 per cent of the ECO3 obligation permitted to be delivered through 'Flexible Eligibility'. Up to June 2019, 112 local authorities had seen 50 or more measures installed through Flexible Eligibility, 15 of these had over 500 measures installed. The South West region had the highest share in England with 19 per cent of flex measures in Great Britain. Wales had 17 per cent and Scotland 14 per cent. (Table 3.5).

Since the introduction of Flexible Eligibility, up to the end of August 2019, 41,400 measures have been delivered through this aspect of the scheme (Tables 2.7 & 2.8). Under ECO3 (since October 2018), up to 25 per cent of the obligation can be delivered through flex, with 19 per cent of this obligation delivered through flex up to August 2019.

Chart 5: Number of ECO3 Flexible Eligibility Measures by installation month and share of Affordable Warmth obligation delivered through flex, up to end August 2019¹



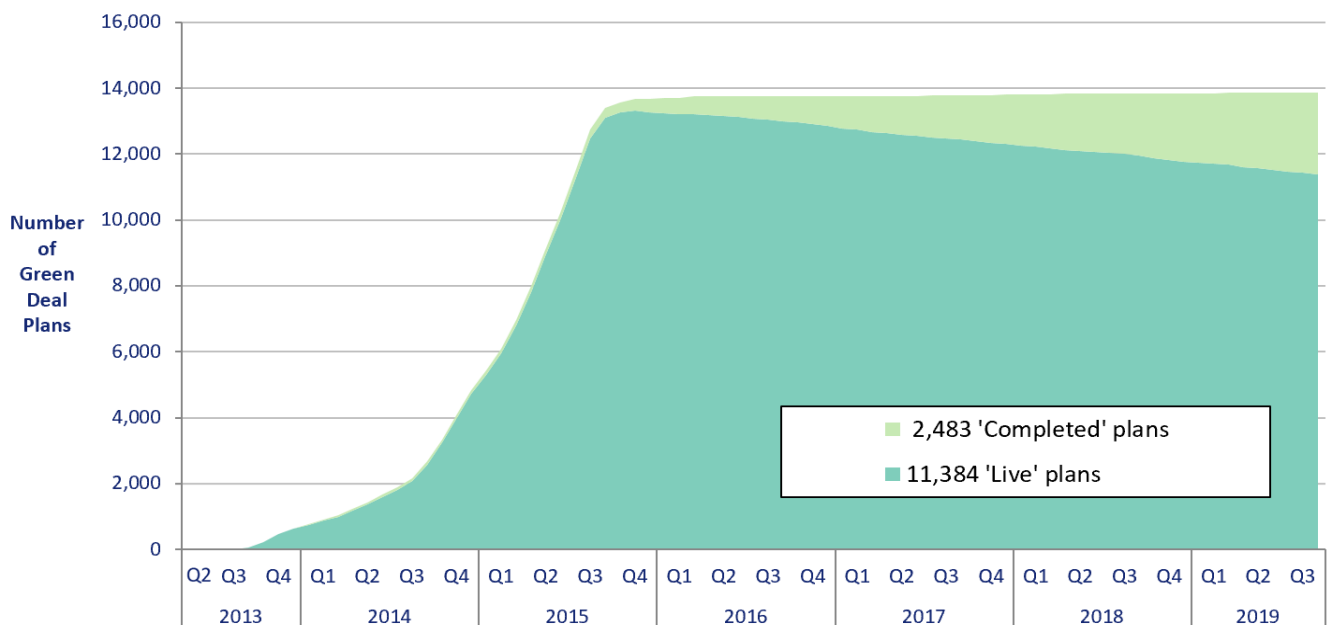
¹ The share of obligation delivered through Flexible Eligibility only covers ECO3 as a different cap of 25 per cent is allowed under this phase. Currently, 14 per cent of the ECO HTH Affordable Warmth Obligation was delivered through Flexible Eligibility exceeding the 10 per cent cap for that phase but the excess is expected to be re-elected into ECO3.

The Green Deal

In the [data tables](#) accompanying this publication, tables 7.1 - 7.3 show the number of Green Deal plans and measures.

GD Plans – there were 13,867 ‘live’ or ‘completed’ GD Plans in unique homes at the end of September 2019; of these, 11,384 were ‘live’ (all measures installed) and 2,483 were ‘completed’ (all measures installed and paid off). At the end of September 2019, 82 per cent of all plans were ‘live’. Over the last three months (July– September 2019) 140 Plans were ‘completed’, compared to 155 completions in the previous three months. (Table 7.1).

Chart 6: Domestic Green Deal Plans, by ‘Live’ or ‘Completed’ status, up to end September 2019



The next quarterly household energy efficiency release will be published in December so Chart 6 and Table 7.1 will only contain data up to the end of November 2019 rather than a complete quarter.

Technical information

The methodology note and background quality report summarising the methodology used to produce estimates for this statistical series and to summarise the quality assurance of these statistics, can both be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/household-energy-efficiency-statistics-methodology-note>

Definitions

Within the Energy Company Obligation there are sub-obligations

Carbon Saving Target (CERO)	This covered the installation of measures like solid wall and hard-to-treat cavity wall insulation, which ordinarily can't be financed solely through Green Deal Plans. From April 2017 this included a rural sub-obligation where at least 15 per cent of a supplier's CERO for Help-to-Heat must be achieved in rural areas. (Closed end September 2018)
Carbon Saving Communities (CSCO)	This provides insulation measures to households in specified areas of low income. It also makes sure that 15 per cent of each supplier's obligation is used to upgrade more hard-to-reach low-income households in rural areas. (Closed end March 2017)
Affordable Warmth² (HHCRO)	This provides heating and insulation measures to consumers who receive particular means-tested benefits. Since April 2017 it enables those in social housing living in E, F and G rated properties to receive insulation measures, and some heating measures. This obligation supports low-income consumers who are vulnerable to the impact of living in cold homes, including the elderly, disabled and families. From October 2018 this included a rural sub-obligation where at least 15 per cent of a supplier's ECO3 must be achieved in rural areas.
Flexible Eligibility	Local Authorities can determine eligible homes under the new 'flexible eligibility' mechanism, introduced in 2017. Up to 25% of the Obligation can be delivered through Flexible Eligibility under ECO3, up from 10% under ECO Help-To-Heat. Households can be assessed by local authorities to be 'living in fuel poverty'; or assessed to be 'living on a low income and vulnerable to cold'.
Innovation Measures	Under ECO3, suppliers are able to meet up to 10% of their obligation to deliver innovation measures to eligible households. A further 10% can be used to monitor the actual energy performance of measures in homes.

² Also known as The Home Heating Cost Reduction Obligation

Accompanying tables

The underlying tables are available in Excel format on the department's statistics website <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/household-energy-efficiency-national-statistics#headline-releases>

Further information

Future updates to these statistics

The next headline release on the gov.uk website is planned for publication at 9.30am on **21 November 2019** and will contain the latest available information on headline ECO measures.

Changes to the timing of quarterly statistical releases

Following a transitional period at the start of ECO3, analysis shows that almost 99 per cent of measures are reported to Ofgem within 1 calendar month for the reporting period. Since spring 2019, quarterly releases have been lagged by an additional one month to ensure that quarterly analysis is based on complete data. This is no longer necessary, so the next quarterly release will be in two months' time on 19 December 2019.

In addition, due to planned changes to the production process it will be possible to harmonise the monthly and quarterly data such that the quarterly release can be brought forward to align with the final month's ECO data. For example, in February 2020 a December 2019 and Q4 2019 count of ECO measures will be provided together. To do this, the quarterly release dates will be delayed by approximately one week to the last Thursday of a month³. This change prioritises using consistent and timely ECO data throughout the release.

The next quarterly release is planned for publication at 9.30am on **19 December 2019** which contains a full update of ECO measures, ECO costs, Green Deal plans and measures. The next detailed release will be in March 2020.

Revisions policy

The [BEIS statistical revisions policy](#) sets out the revisions policy for these statistics, which has been developed in accordance with the UK Statistics Authority [Code of Practice for Statistics](#).

³ The Detailed (Annual) statistical release will not come forward so will follow approximately one month after the Q4 ECO release. This will align to the March monthly release.

Uses of these statistics

These statistics are used by Government to monitor the delivery and effectiveness of the ECO and GD schemes. They are used to monitor the delivery of the ECO obligation and the share of the obligation delivered through key aspects of the scheme including flexibility eligibility and innovation measures. The data are used within the [National Energy Efficiency Data-framework](#) to assess the impact of these measures in different types of homes.

User engagement

Users are encouraged to provide comments and feedback on how these statistics are used and how well they meet user needs. Comments on any issues relating to this statistical release are welcomed and should be sent to: EnergyEfficiency.Stats@beis.gov.uk

The BEIS statement on [statistical public engagement and data standards](#) sets out the department's commitments on public engagement and data standards as outlined by the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#).

National Statistics designation

National Statistics status means that our statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value, and it is our responsibility to maintain compliance with these standards.

The statistics last underwent a [full assessment](#) against the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#) on 12 June 2014

Pre-release access to statistics

Some ministers and officials receive access to these statistics up to 24 hours before release. Details of the arrangements for doing this and a list of the ministers and officials that receive pre-release access to these statistics can be found in the [BEIS statement of compliance](#) with the Pre-Release Access to Official Statistics Order 2008.

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