

# Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities

Experimental Official Statistics Release Housing, Energy Efficiency

# Energy Performance of Buildings Certificates Statistical Release January to March 2022 England and Wales

## In this release:

#### **England and Wales**

• In the quarter January to March 2022, 478,000 EPCs were lodged on the Register in England and Wales, a 12% increase compared to the same quarter 2021.

#### **England**

- In January to March 2022, 434,000 domestic EPCs were lodged on the Register, an increase of 13% on the same quarter 2021.
- The number of EPCs for new dwellings (58,000), decreased by 8% while the number of existing domestic EPCs increased by 17% (377,000) compared to the same quarter last year.
- In the 12 months to March 2022, 239,000 EPCs were lodged for new build dwellings, an increase of 8% on the previous year.
- From January to March 2022, 82% of new properties were given an A or B rating, the same as January to March 2021.
- In the quarter ending March 2022, the largest increase in EPCs lodged for new dwellings compared to the same quarter in 2021, was in the East of England (8%), while the largest decrease was in the North West (28%).

#### Wales

- In Wales, in January to March 2022, 21,000 EPCs were lodged on the Register covering <u>all</u> properties (domestic and non-domestic). This is a decrease of 2% compared to the same quarter in 2021.
- Of the 21,000 EPCs lodged in Wales, 20,000 were domestic properties.
- Of the 20,000 domestic properties lodged in Wales, 18,000 were for <u>existing</u> properties, a 1% decrease, while 2,000 were for <u>new</u> properties (including new builds, conversions and change of use), a 14% decrease
- In Wales, 80% of <u>new</u> domestic properties received an energy efficiency rating of A (the highest) or B, whilst only 20% received a rating of C or D.

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## Introduction

This statistical release presents Experimental Official Statistics based on Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) issued for domestic and non-domestic buildings and Display Energy Certificates (DECs) issued for buildings occupied by public authorities. The certificates are lodged on the Energy Performance of Buildings Register (The Register) for England and Wales.

Through most of the release the figures have been split into England only and Wales only figures. If England and Wales combined figures are required they are available in the <u>live tables</u> published alongside this release. Throughout the report, numbers have been rounded to the nearest thousand. Percentage changes have been calculated using unrounded figures. Due to rounding, individual figures may not add up to the total.

## **Energy Performance Certificates**

An Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) indicates the energy efficiency of a building. The assessments are banded from A to G, where A (or A+ for non-domestic properties) is the most efficient in terms of likely fuel costs and carbon dioxide emissions. An EPC is required when a building is constructed, sold, or let and if a valid certificate is not already in place. The purpose of an EPC is to show prospective tenants or buyers the energy efficiency of the property. The requirement for EPCs was introduced in phases and fully implemented for domestic properties by autumn 2008. EPCs are valid for 10 years.

## **Experimental Official Statistics**

Experimental Official Statistics are defined in the Code of Practice for Statistics as "new official statistics undergoing evaluation". They are published in order to involve users and stakeholders in

their development and as a means to build in quality at an early stage.

These statistics are based on information from EPCs lodged on the Register. This administrative data is subject to continuing quality investigation and improvement (see Technical Notes on Data Quality). They have been released because they have been judged to be of immediate value to interested parties and to encourage user feedback.

## **Display Energy Certificates**

Larger properties occupied by public authorities and frequently visited by the public must display a Display Energy Certificate (DEC) in a prominent place. DECs show the actual energy consumption of a building and are accompanied by reports which provide recommendations on potential energy saving measures. DECs last for 1 year for buildings with a total useful floor area more than 1,000 square metres, or 10 years when the total useful floor area is over 250 square metres and up to 1,000 square metres.

# Changes to this release

For full details on changes to the release, please refer to the technical note.

#### How the data should be used





- ✓ To evaluate trends in the energy performance of buildings in England and Wales that have had an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC)
- ✓ To assess changes in the number of EPCs between the same quarters across years e.g., Q3 2021 and Q3 2020
- ✓ To use as an early indication of new housing supply

- x To count the total building stock in England and Wales. The register does not hold data for every building, only those with an EPC
- x To compare across quarters within a year. The data have a seasonal pattern and should only be compared between the same quarters across years e.g., Q4 2021 and Q4 2020
- x The data are aggregated and will not comment on individual buildings

These statistics compare the period of January to March 2022 with the same quarter in 2021 when government guidelines in England and Wales and restrictions to slow the spread of COVID-19 had eased after the first lockdown.

In England, this led to a spike in the number of EPC lodgements over the period January to March 2021 which has not been sustained this year. As a result, some comparisons between Q1 2022 and Q1 2021 may show a decrease.

# **England and Wales**

In the quarter January to March 2022, 478,000 EPCs were lodged on the Register for both domestic and non-domestic properties in England and Wales, a 12% increase from quarter 1 in 2021 (Live Table A1).

In January to March 2022, the total number of EPCs lodged for **new** dwellings in England and Wales decreased by 9% to 60,000, compared to the equivalent quarter in 2021 (Live Table NB1). There was a 16% increase (395,000) for **existing** dwellings EPCs lodged for that quarter (Live Table EB1).

# **England**

This section presents statistics on the number of EPCs in England only.

#### Cumulative totals for EPCs and DECs

In January to March 2022, 457,000 EPCs were lodged on the Register for domestic and non-domestic properties in England. This represents an increase of 13% compared with the same quarter in 2021 (Live Table A1).

In England a total of 23,000 EPCs covering <u>non-domestic</u> properties and a total of 8,000 DECs have been lodged on the Register for quarter 1 in 2022 (Live table A and DEC1).

## **EPCs** for domestic properties

From January to March 2022, 434,000 EPCs were lodged on the Register covering <u>domestic</u> properties (sales, lets and new dwellings) in England. This represents an increase of 13% on the same quarter 2021, when there were 386,000 domestic lodgements (Live Table D1).

In the 12 months to March 2022, in England, 1,616,000 domestic EPCs were lodged, an increase of 13% on the previous 12 months (Live Table D1).

## Existing and new domestic properties

The majority of domestic EPCs were for the sale or let of existing properties. In January to March 2022, 377,000 EPCs for **existing** dwellings were lodged on the Register in England, an increase of 17%, while 58,000 EPCs were lodged for **new** dwellings (including new builds, conversions and change of use), an 8% decrease on the same quarter 2021 (Live Table EB1 and NB1).

In the year to March 2022, 1,378,000 EPCs for **existing** dwellings were lodged on the register in England, up 14%, while 239,000 EPCs were lodged for **new** dwellings (including new builds, conversions and change of use) up 8% on the previous year (Live Tables EB1 and NB1).

Table 1: Number of EPCs for new and existing dwellings, England, January to March 2022

Country	New dwellings				All dwelling totals		
	Number	As proportion of total	Change since the equivalent quarter 2021	Number	As proportion of total	Change since the equivalent quarter 2021	Number
England	58,000	13%	-8%	377,000	87%	17%	434,000

Source: Live Tables, D1, EB1 and NB1

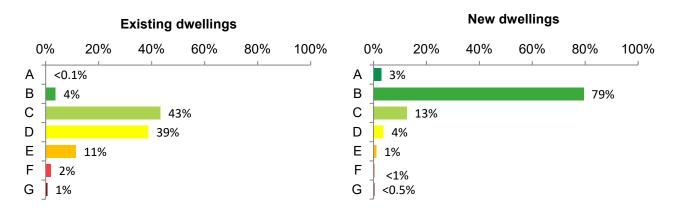
#### **Energy efficiency**

Energy Performance Certificates for domestic properties show an Energy Efficiency Rating (EER) based on estimated fuel costs and although no longer shown on the certificate, an Environmental Impact Rating (EIR) based on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Both measures are estimated from the characteristics of the property. The numerical ratings are then banded A to G, with A being the most energy efficient and G the least. In general, the higher the EER or EIR rating, the lower the fuel bills and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are likely to be.

For both the EER and the EIR, the largest proportion of lodgements for **existing** domestic properties in England were in bands C and D. **New** properties in England tended to be more energy efficient, with the majority in band B (Figures 1 and 2).

In England, from January to March 2022, 82% of **existing** dwellings were given a C or D EER, whereas only 16% of **new** dwellings were. The majority of **new** properties were given an A or B EER rating, 82%; only 4% of **existing** dwellings received an A or B rating (Live Tables EB1 and NB1).

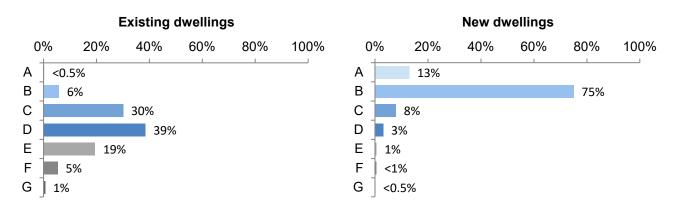
Figure 1: Energy efficiency ratings (EER): existing and new domestic properties, England, January to March 2022



Source: Live Tables EB1 and NB1

Note: Percentage changes have been calculated using unrounded figures, therefore individual figures may not match those quoted in the text

Figure 2: Environmental impact ratings (EIR): existing and new domestic properties, England, January to March 2022



Source: Live Tables EB2 and NB2

Note: Percentage changes have been calculated using unrounded figures, therefore individual figures may not match

## EPCs for non-domestic properties

A non-domestic property is a building that is not a dwelling, such as retail units and offices.

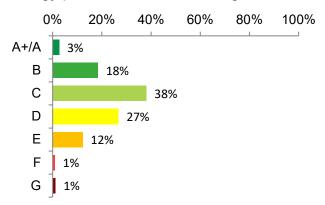
In January to March 2022, 23,000 EPCs were lodged for non-domestic properties, an increase of 24% compared with the corresponding quarter in 2021.

In the year ending March 2022, 88,000 non-domestic EPCs were lodged, an increase of 34% on the number lodged during the previous year (Live Table A).

The distribution by EPC band is shown in Figure 3. Non-domestic buildings have an additional A+band but numbers are too small to report. Almost two thirds (65%) of certificates lodged in England from January to March 2022 were given a C or D rating. An A+, A or B rating were given to 21% of properties (Live Table A).

Figure 3: Energy performance asset ratings for non-domestic properties, England, January to March 2022

Energy performance asset ratings for non-domestic properties in England, January to March 2022



Source: Live Table A

Note: Percentage changes have been calculated using unrounded figures, therefore individual figures may not match those quoted in the text

## Display Energy Certificates (DECs)

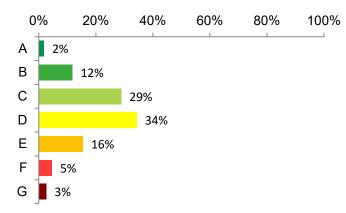
Larger properties occupied by a public authority and frequently visited by the public must display a Display Energy Certificate (DEC). DECs show the actual energy consumption of a building and are accompanied by reports which provide recommendations on potential energy saving measures.

From January to March 2022, 8,000 DECs were lodged in England, a decrease of 1% compared with the corresponding quarter in 2021 (Live Table DEC1).

In the year ending March 2022, 32,000 DECs were lodged in England, representing an increase of 8% compared with the previous year (Live Table DEC1).

The distribution of DECs by Energy Performance Operational Ratings is shown in Figure 4. The highest proportion of DECs (32%) in quarter 4 were in band D.

Figure 4: Energy Performance Operational Ratings: Display Energy Certificates, England, January to March 2022



Source: Live Table DEC1

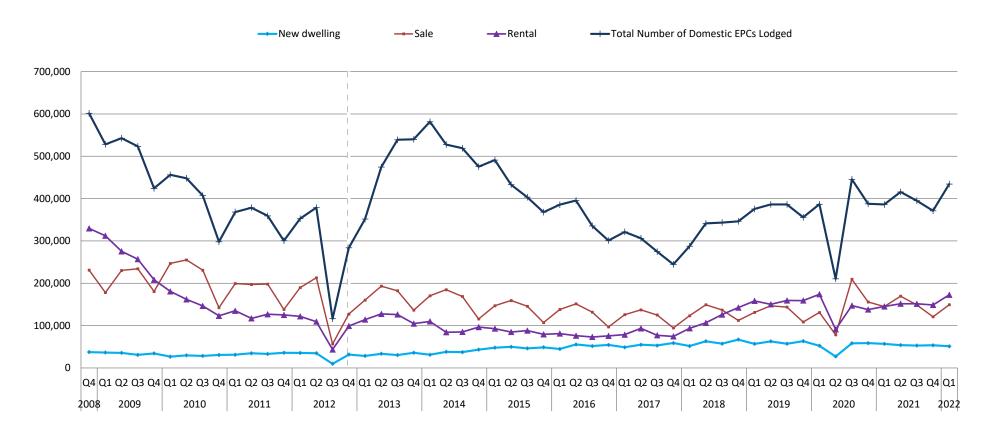
Note: Percentage changes have been calculated using unrounded figures, therefore individual figures may not match those quoted in the text

## Transaction types for domestic dwellings

Figure 5 shows the number of domestic EPCs by transaction type, i.e., the reason for the EPC being produced, as well as the total number. The transaction types have been grouped. For example, lodgements for social and private rentals are grouped together.

The chart shows fluctuations in different transaction types based on the total number of EPCs lodged. For example, there is a seasonal pattern with fewer home sales at Christmas, which can be seen in the number of EPC lodgements. This seasonality affects the total for EPCs, particularly up to the end of 2012. At the end of 2012 the recast of EU Directive also led to changes to the Energy Performance of Buildings regulations (the regulations). It also shows how the total number of EPCs were influenced by lodgements made for energy efficiency programmes and similar schemes, as well as lodgements for other reasons, particularly in 2013, 2014 and 2015.

Figure 5: Number of domestic EPCs lodged from October 2008 to end of March 2022, by transaction type, England



Source: Live Table D4a and D4b. The categories collected changed in 2012, leading to a break in the chart indicated by the line.

# Sub-national domestic England EPCs

This section presents a quarterly snapshot of domestic EPCs at sub-national level in England.

## Regional figures

There is much variability across regions in the energy efficiency of dwellings, this is largely related to the type and age of the dwelling stock. In the quarter ending March 2022, the largest increase in EPCs lodged for **new** dwellings compared to the same quarter in 2021, was in the East of England (8%), while the largest decrease was 28% in the North West (Live Table NB1). For **existing** dwellings, the largest increase was 48% in Yorkshire and Humber, which was driven by a large increase in the number of EPC renewals in Wakefield, due to a review of Housing Association stock (Live Table EB1). The smallest increase was in London (1%).

Table 2 shows the number and percentage change by region.

Table 2: Number of EPCs for new and existing dwellings, by region, January to March 2022

Region	New dwellings		Existing dwellings		
(Rounded to the nearest 1,000)	Number	Change since the equivalent quarter 2021	Number	Change since the equivalent quarter 2021	
East of England	8,000	8%	38,000	8%	
East Midlands	5,000	1%	31,000	13%	
London	9,000	-21%	57,000	1%	
North East	2,000	-13%	19,000	27%	
North West	6,000	-28%	50,000	19%	
South East	11,000	-6%	60,000	18%	
South West	6,000	1%	38,000	13%	
West Midlands	6,000	-2%	35,000	18%	
Yorkshire and the Humber	5,000	-4%	48,000	48%	

Source: Live Tables, EB1 and NB1

## Wales

This section presents statistics on the number of EPCs in Wales only.

#### Cumulative totals for EPCs and DECs

In January to March 2022, 21,000 EPCs were lodged on the Register covering <u>all</u> properties (domestic and non-domestic) in Wales. This represents a decrease of 2% compared with the same quarter in 2021 (Live Table A1).

In Wales a total of 1,000 EPCs covering <u>non-domestic</u> properties and a total of 400 DECs have been lodged on the Register for quarter 1 in 2022 (Live table A and DEC1).

## **EPCs** for domestic properties

From January to March 2022, 20,000 EPCs were lodged on the Register covering <u>domestic</u> properties (sales, lets and new dwellings) in Wales. This represents a decrease of 3% on the same quarter 2021, when there were 20,000 domestic lodgements (Live Table D1).

In the 12 months to March 2022, in Wales, 85,000 domestic EPCs were lodged an increase of 5% on the previous 12 months (Live Table D1).

## Existing and new domestic properties

The majority of domestic EPCs were for the sale or let of existing properties. From January to March 2022, 18,000 EPCs for **existing** dwellings were lodged on the Register in Wales, a decrease of 1%, while 2,000 EPCs were lodged for **new** dwellings (including new builds, conversions and change of use), a 14% decrease on the same quarter 2021 (Live Table EB1 and NB1).

In the 12 months to March 2022, 76,000 EPCs for **existing** dwellings were lodged on the register in Wales, up 4%, while 9,000 EPCs were lodged for **new** dwellings (including new builds, conversions and change of use) up 13% on the previous year (Live Tables EB1 and NB1).

Table 3: Number of EPCs for new and existing dwellings, Wales, January to March 2022

Country	New dwellings			Existing dwellings			All dwelling totals
	Number	As proportion of total	Change since the equivalent quarter 2021	Number	As proportion of total	Change since the equivalent quarter 2021	Number
Wales	2,000	9%	-14%	18,000	91%	-1%	20,000

Source: Live Tables, D1, EB1 and NB1

Note: New dwellings and existing dwellings may not add up to all dwellings due to rounding

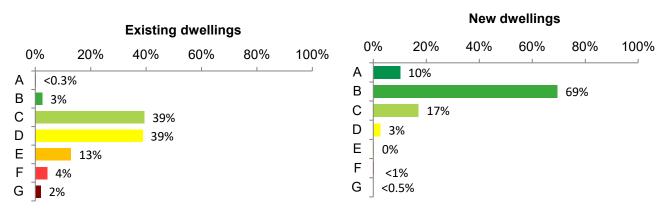
#### **Energy efficiency**

Energy Performance Certificates for domestic properties show an Energy Efficiency Rating (EER) based on estimated fuel costs and although no longer shown on the certificate, an Environmental Impact Rating (EIR) based on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Both measures are estimated from the characteristics of the property. The numerical ratings are then banded A to G, with A being the most energy efficient and G the least. In general, the higher the EER or EIR rating, the lower the fuel bills and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are likely to be.

For both the EER and the EIR, the largest proportion of lodgements for **existing** domestic properties in Wales were in bands C and D. **New** properties in Wales tended to be more energy efficient, with the majority in band B (Figures 7 and 8).

In Wales, from January to March 2022, 78% of **existing** dwellings were given a C or D EER, whereas only 20% of **new** dwellings were. The majority of **new** properties were given an A or B EER rating, 80%; only 3% of **existing** dwellings received an A or B rating (Live Tables EB1 and NB1).

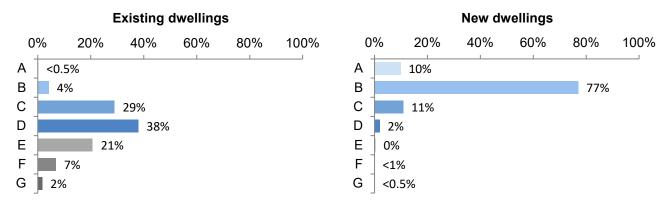
Figure 7: Energy efficiency ratings (EER): existing and new domestic properties, Wales, January to March 2022



Source: Live Tables EB1 and NB1

Note: Percentage changes have been calculated using unrounded figures, therefore individual figures may not match those quoted in the text

Figure 8: Environmental impact ratings (EIR): existing and new domestic properties, Wales, January to March 2022



Source: Live Tables EB2 and NB2

Note: Percentage changes have been calculated using unrounded figures, therefore individual figures may not match those quoted in the text

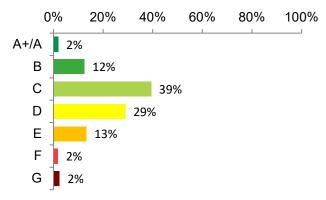
## EPCs for non-domestic properties

During January to March 2022 lodgements for non-domestic properties in Wales increased to 1,000 (up by 25%) compared to the corresponding quarter in 2021.

In the year ending March 2022, 5,000 non-domestic EPCs were lodged, an increase of 45% on the number lodged during the previous year (Live Table A).

The distribution by EPC band is shown in Figure 9. Non-domestic buildings have an additional A+ band but numbers are too small to report. From January to March 2022, 68% of certificates lodged in Wales were given a C or D rating. An A+, A or B rating were given to 14% (Live Table A).

Figure 9: Energy performance asset ratings – non- domestic properties, Wales, January to March 2022



Source: Live Table A

Note: Percentage changes have been calculates using unrounded figures, therefore individual figures may not match those quoted in the text

## Display Energy Certificates (DECs)

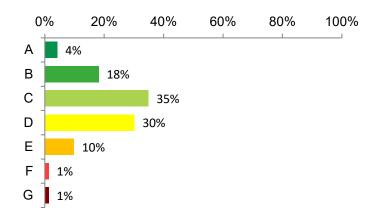
Larger properties occupied by a public authority and frequently visited by the public must display a Display Energy Certificate (DEC). DECs show the actual energy consumption of a building and are accompanied by reports which provide recommendations on potential energy saving measures.

From January to March 2022, 400 DECs were lodged, an increase of 7% compared with the corresponding quarter in 2021.

In year ending March 2022, 2,000 DECs were lodged in Wales, representing a decrease of 20% compared with the previous year (Live Table DEC1).

The distribution of DECs by Energy Performance Operational Ratings is shown in Figure 10. The highest proportions were in bands C (35%) and D (30%).

Figure 10: Energy Performance Operational Ratings: Display Energy Certificates, Wales, January to March 2022



Source: Live Table DEC1

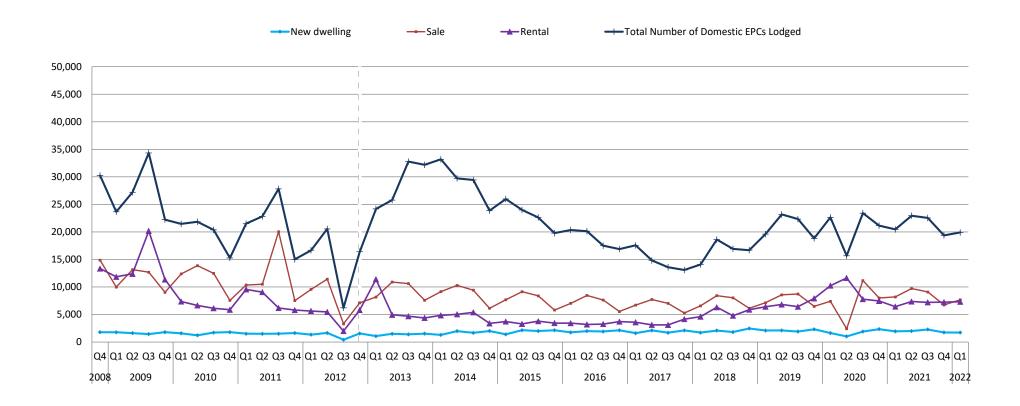
Note: Percentage changes have been calculated using unrounded figures, therefore individual figures may not match those quoted in the text

## Transaction types for domestic dwellings

Figure 11 shows the number of domestic EPCs by transaction type, i.e., the reason for the EPC being produced, as well as the total number. The transaction types have been grouped. For example, lodgements for social and private rentals are grouped together.

The chart shows fluctuations in different transaction types based on the total number of EPCs lodged. For example, there is a seasonal pattern with fewer home sales at Christmas, which can be seen in the number of EPC lodgements. This seasonality affects the total for EPCs, particularly up to the end of 2012. At the end of 2012 the recast of EU Directive also led to changes to the regulations. It also shows how the total number of EPCs were influenced by lodgements made for energy efficiency programmes and similar schemes, as well as lodgements for other reasons, particularly in 2013, 2014 and 2015.

Figure 11: Number of domestic EPCs lodged from October 2008 to end of March 2022, by transaction type, Wales



Source: Live Table D4a and D4b. The categories collected changed in 2012, leading to a break in the chart indicated by the line.

## Accompanying tables

**Note to users:** Based on feedback and to meet legal accessibility regulations, we have made some changes to the live tables to make them more accessible to our users. We would be keen to hear your thoughts or comments on these: <a href="mailto:EPBStats@levellingup.gov.uk">EPBStats@levellingup.gov.uk</a>.

#### EPCs - All Properties (non-domestic and domestic)

**Table A1:** Number of Energy Performance Certificates lodged on the Register and Total Floor Area, by **Type of Property** – in each Year/Quarter.

#### **EPCs – All Domestic Properties**

**Table D1:** Number of Domestic Energy Performance Certificates lodged on the Register, by **Energy Efficiency Rating** – in each Year/Quarter.

**Table D2:** Number of Domestic Energy Performance Certificates lodged on the Register, by **Environmental Impact Rating** – in each Year/Quarter.

Table D3: Floor Area, Size, Energy Use, Carbon Dioxide Emissions and Fuel Costs of Dwellings assessed and lodged on the Register - in each Year/Quarter.

**Table D4a:** Number of Domestic Energy Performance Certificates lodged on the Register by, **Type of Transaction** – in each Year/Quarter – up to and including 30 March 2012.

**Table D4b:** Number of Domestic Energy Performance Certificates lodged on the Register, by **Type of Transaction** – in each Year/Quarter – from 30 March 2012 to latest quarter.

#### **EPCs - All Existing Domestic Properties**

**Table EB1:** Number of Existing Domestic Properties Energy Performance Certificates lodged on the Register, by **Energy Efficiency Rating** – in each Year/Quarter.

**Table EB2:** Number of Existing Domestic Properties Energy Performance Certificate lodged on the Register, by **Environmental Impact Rating** – in each Year/Quarter.

**Table EB3: Floor Area, Size, Energy Use, Carbon Dioxide Emissions and Fuel Costs** of Existing Dwellings assessed - in each Year/Quarter.

**Table EB4:** Number of Existing Domestic Properties Energy Performance Certificates lodged on the Register and Total Floor Area, by **Type of Property** – in each Year/Quarter.

**Table EB7:** Number of Existing Domestic Properties Energy Performance Certificates lodged on the Register, by **Type of Property and Average Energy Use, Carbon Dioxide Emissions and Fuel Costs** per dwelling – in each Year/Quarter.

#### **EPCs – All New Domestic Properties**

**Table NB1:** Number of New Domestic Properties Energy Performance Certificates lodged on the Register, by **Energy Efficiency Rating** – in each Year/Quarter.

**Table NB2:** Number of New Domestic Properties Energy Performance Certificate lodged on the Register, by **Environmental Impact Rating** – in each Year/Quarter.

**Table NB3: Floor Area, Size, Energy Use, Carbon Dioxide Emissions and Fuel Costs** of New Dwellings assessed - in each Year/Quarter.

**Table NB4:** Number of New Domestic Properties Energy Performance Certificates lodged on the Register and Total Floor Area, by **Type of Property** – in each Year/Quarter.

**Table NB7:** Number of New Domestic Properties Energy Performance Certificates lodged on the Register, by **Type of Property, and Average Energy Use, Carbon Dioxide Emissions and Fuel Costs** per dwelling – in each Year/Quarter.

#### **EPCs - Non-Domestic Properties**

**Table A:** Number of Non-Domestic Energy Performance Certificates lodged on the Register, by **Energy Performance Asset Rating -** in each Year/Quarter.

#### **DECs - Display Energy Certificates**

**Table DEC1:** Number of Display Energy Certificates lodged on the Register, by Local Authority and **Energy Performance Operational Rating** - in each Year/Quarter.

These tables can be accessed at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-energy-performance-of-buildings-certificates

Previous DLUHC statistical releases are available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/energy-performance-of-buildings-certificates

#### Open data

EPC data at address level in fully open data format are available at Open Data Communities: <a href="https://epc.opendatacommunities.org/">https://epc.opendatacommunities.org/</a> Data are updated within two weeks of this release and as of November 2021 include Unique Property Reference Numbers (UPRNs). To note: local authority allocation is based on ONS geography as at April 2020, whereas this release is based on a more updated list, therefore allocations for authorities within Northamptonshire will differ due to the merger in April 2021.

## Links to related statistics

#### Housing supply: indicators of new supply

Quarterly figures on EPCs lodged for new dwellings have followed a similar trend to quarterly new build dwelling completions since 2009-10. The number of new dwelling EPCs lodged are higher than quarterly new build completions as they comprise of new build dwellings plus dwelling conversions (for example a house into flats) and change of use of an existing building (for example a shop into a house or a barn conversion).

#### **English Housing Survey**

The English Housing survey is a continuous nation survey commissioned by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). It collects information about people's housing circumstances and the condition and energy efficiency of housing in England. It can be used for understanding the energy efficiency of the whole stock as well as the household characteristics of the people living in the homes.

#### Welsh Housing Conditions Survey

The Welsh Housing Conditions Survey collects information about the condition and energy efficiency of all types of housing in Wales:

- details of energy saving measures installed in dwellings and breakdowns of construction types
- the number of dwellings making use of renewable energy
- heating systems, main fuel type and type of boilers used
- comparisons between tenures, dwelling types and urban/rural areas
- comparisons with other UK nations and changes over time.

## **Technical notes**

Please see the accompanying technical notes document published alongside this release for further details.

Information on Official Statistics is available via the <u>UK Statistics Authority website</u>
Information about statistics at DLUHC is available via the <u>DLUHC website</u>



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