

Improvements to electricity supply and consumption statistics (Energy Trends table 5.2)

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Key headlines

This article explains improvements to Energy Trends Table 5.2 to make the data easier to understand and more comparable with other published statistics.

The key changes are:

- Separating transport into road and rail, to give more visibility of the growth in electric vehicle consumption;
- Separating energy industry use into electricity used in generation and electricity used by fuel industries;
- Two additional tables to show the calculation of electricity available and electricity consumption from the quarterly data, for direct comparison with Energy Trends 5.5.

Background

Energy Trends Table 5.2 presents a complete quarterly balance of electricity supply and demand in the UK, showing how electricity is generated, imported, and consumed across different sectors. It is used alongside Energy Trends Table 5.5 which reports monthly data on electricity sales to consumers. A review of these tables identified opportunities for greater convergence in definitions and presentation, enabling more direct comparisons between them. It also identified limitations in electricity transport data which have been addressed separately.

What has changed in Table 5.2

Clearer breakdown of energy industry use

Electricity used within the energy sector was previously presented as a single category. This is now split into electricity used in generation and electricity used in other energy industry activities. This allows for direct comparison with Table 5.5 where energy industry data was counted as industrial consumption and electricity used in generation was reflected in the 'electricity available' measure.

Transport consumption split into road and rail

Electricity consumption in transport is now presented separately for road transport (electric vehicles) and rail transport, improving visibility of trends. In addition, road transport calculations were reviewed. They will now be updated quarterly and include consumption by electric buses. A separate [Energy Trends paper](#) gives more details on the updated methodology.

We have also amended the table category names for domestic and other final users to make it clear that these categories do not include electric vehicle consumption (which would cause double counting with transport). The content of these rows has not been changed.

Additional 'electricity available' table (5.2B)

Table 5.5 reports electricity available from the public distribution system (PDS) and from other generators, building on the electricity supply data in Table 5.4. While this came from the same data sources as the 'electricity supply' data in Table 5.2, it was not possible for users to map between the tables. Data on electricity used in generation was not presented separately and users did not have visibility of the amount of electricity transferred to the PDS from other generators. This additional table contains additional components needed to make the calculations and demonstrates how electricity available compares to electricity supply.

Additional ‘electricity consumption’ table (5.2C)

Table 5.5 reports electricity consumption from the public distribution system (PDS) and from other generators. This is a subset of the data presented under electricity demand in Table 5.2, but the categories were grouped such that users could not map between the tables. Specifically, the consumption measure in Table 5.5 included consumption by energy industries, which was grouped with electricity used in generation in Table 5.2. In addition, Table 5.5 reported separate data for the public distribution system and for other generators, which were reported as one total in Table 5.2. This table separates PDS consumption and consumption from other generators on a quarterly basis, including separate fuel industries consumption so that consistent quarterly totals can be presented across both tables.

User feedback

Since these changes only increase the information available, we have implemented them from the June 2026 publication. A version of the table in the old format is available on request. As ever, we welcome comments and feedback on these changes via electricitystatistics@energysecurity.gov.uk.



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