

Electricity Switching - March 2019

Switching on the March

Energy UK's latest monthly figures, published today, show that over 600,000 customers switched electricity supplier in March 2019.

In total, 615,503 customers changed provider last month - a significant increase of 29% compared to March 2018.

This brings the total number of switches to 1,451,145 this year, up 12% when compared to the same point in 2018.

Lawrence Slade, Energy UK's chief executive, said:

"It's very positive to see increasing numbers of customers continuing to switch and engaging in the market to make sure they're on the best deal for them - and of course, this number doesn't include those customers who choose to move to a new tariff with their current supplier, which would add many more thousands of households.

"It's most likely that this month's increase is in response to the recent price cap rise announced by Ofgem, showing how the price of electricity and gas is affected by variable costs – the vast majority of which are out of suppliers' direct control. While we hope engagement levels remain high, we can only really assess the cap's effect on switching over a longer period of time when it might fall as well as increase.

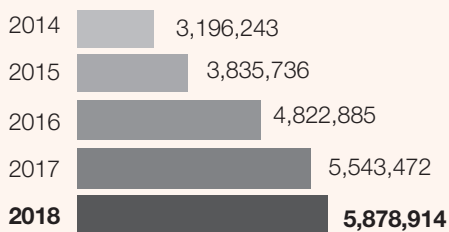
"The one way to ensure lasting savings for all customers – whatever happens to unavoidable costs and the resulting effect on bills – is to make all our homes and businesses energy efficient and for customers to take advantage of new smart tariffs which will help save more money immediately.

"As our forthcoming Future of Energy report makes clear, we need to make energy efficiency a central part of our future. Efficiency measures cut bills by hundreds of pounds a year and in a week where concerns on this issue have been prominent, using less energy has been shown to make a huge contribution to cutting our emissions."

Notes for editors:

▶ [To see the latest monthly switching stats, please visit Energy UK's website.](#)

▶ The rise in switching figures over last few years has been as follows:



▶ The switching data is now supplied by Gemserv (starting from September 2018). Gemserv Limited is the service company contracted by the MRA Service Company (MRASCo) to provide services in support of the MRA including the management of its governance and providing specialised expertise to MRASCo in support of the growing electricity retail market. Historical data up to August 2018 was provided by Electralink.

▶ The data referenced in these reports is for electricity only. These figures include both domestic & non-domestic customers but do not include customers transferred to another supplier as a result of the Supplier of Last Resort process (SOLR).

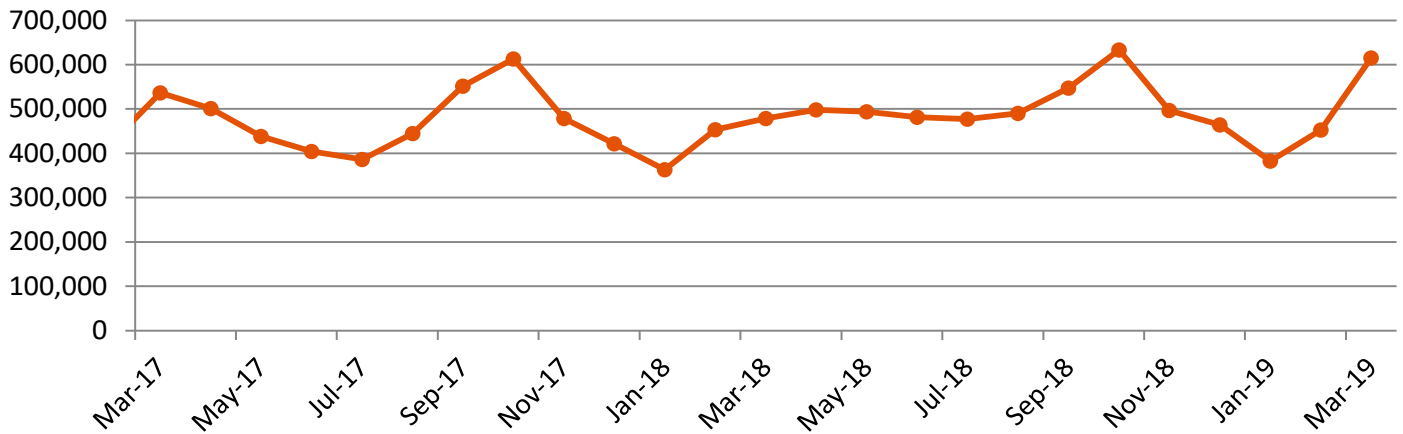
▶ Almost 90 per cent of suppliers (by market share) are signatories of the Guarantee. For more information about the Guarantee: www.energyswitchguarantee.com

▶ These figures do not include internal electricity switching. Such statistics can be found on the [Ofgem website](#).

Change of Supply Event

A 'Change of Supply Event' is the industry term for describing when a domestic or non-domestic customer switches from one supplier to another. The total number of electricity switches in March was 615,503.

Total number of switches

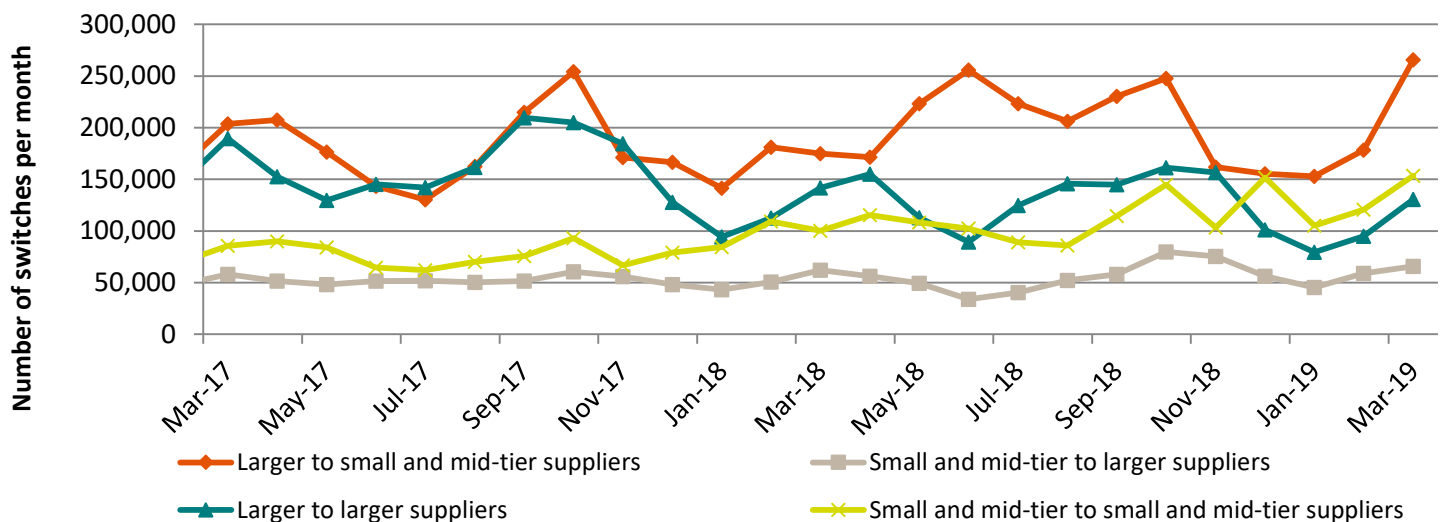


Movement between supplier groups

In March 2019, of all switches:

- ▶ **43%** were from larger to small and mid-tier suppliers
- ▶ **11%** were from small and mid-tier to larger suppliers
- ▶ **21%** were between larger suppliers
- ▶ **25%** were between small and mid-tier suppliers

Movement between small and mid-tier and larger suppliers



Gains by small and mid-tier suppliers

In March the net gain* by small and mid-tier suppliers was 199,779 this is 32% of all switches.

*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.

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-19	265,562	65,783	130,683	153,475	615,503
Feb-19	178,176	59,134	95,059	120,608	452,977
Jan-19	152,792	45,383	79,354	105,136	382,655
Dec-18	155,282	56,320	101,229	151,547	464,378
Nov-18	161,754	75,512	156,529	103,255	497,050
Oct-18	247,611	79,794	161,161	144,672	633,238
Sept-18	230,317	58,124	144,886	114,333	547,660
Aug-18	205,109	52,761	151,858	85,111	494,839
Jul-18	223,173	40,359	124,643	88,931	477,106
Jun-18	255,888	33,825	89,478	102,486	481,677
May-18	223,182	49,413	112,933	108,384	493,912
Apr-18	171,616	56,099	154,959	115,523	498,197
Mar-18	174,946	62,054	141,663	100,068	478,731
Feb-18	181,211	50,655	112,588	109,106	453,560
Jan-18	141,521	43,219	94,212	84,465	363,417
Dec-17	166,591	48,277	127,791	79,043	421,702
Nov-17	171,158	55,931	184,459	66,846	478,394
Oct-17	254,090	60,666	204,976	92,972	612,704
Sep-17	214,735	51,461	209,610	75,637	551,443
Aug-17	162,382	50,450	161,705	70,116	444,653
Jul-17	130,332	51,962	142,038	62,175	386,507
Jun-17	143,155	51,410	145,028	64,580	404,173
May-17	176,350	48,170	129,774	84,247	438,541
Apr-17	207,252	51,694	152,448	89,918	501,312
Mar-17	203,631	58,006	189,467	85,554	536,658
Feb-17	159,355	47,689	143,561	68,994	419,599