

# Australian Petroleum Statistics

Revisions Information, May 2017



## REVISIONS TO THE AUSTRALIAN PETROLEUM STATISTICS

The Department of the Environment and Energy (DoEE) has been making improvements to the Australian Petroleum Statistics (APS) to improve the accuracy, coherence and usefulness of the statistics. This includes addressing known under-coverage problems affecting a number of the statistical series in the APS. Through the enrolment of additional data providers into the survey, reference to other official data collected for regulatory purposes and the application of robust statistical estimation techniques, revised estimates have been compiled for a number of the series. This lays the foundation for a range of future initiatives that will focus on the continuous improvement of the APS.

All of the improvements have been made in response to stakeholder/user concerns, many of whom have supported the process and provided continuous feedback during the development and implementation.

### Revisions

In the February 2017 issue, the natural gas statistics presented in Table 1A were revised and the table re-formatted to include estimates of Coal Seam Gas production and export volumes of Liquefied Natural Gas. The revised estimates are derived from survey data benchmarked<sup>1</sup> to data obtained from a range of official sources<sup>2</sup>. Supplementary information from other publicly available sources including company reports have been used to test the coherence of the revised estimates. Revised estimates are presented for the entire published historical time series. The statistics presented in Table 1A in all future issues of the APS will be compiled using this method.

The March 2017 issue of the APS sees the introduction of further key changes. Within Table 3A, *Sales of petroleum products, Australia* and Table 3B, *Sales of petroleum products by state marketing area*, all published estimates of “Automotive Gasoline” and “Diesel Oil” have been revised. These revisions impact all of the individual state/territory and product estimates and sub-totals for “sales to retailers” and apply to the entire published time series. The revised estimates are derived from APS survey data benchmarked to aggregate, de-identified duty data provided by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) under a data sharing arrangement. All of the revised series will be compiled in similar fashion in all future issues of the APS.

The revisions have led to a shift in the levels of the affected series. Interested users can assess the magnitude of that level shift by comparing the series presented in this issue with those presented in earlier issues.

The Department of the Environment and Energy are grateful for the help and advice given freely by the owners and custodians of all data sets and supplementary information used in this process.

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<sup>1</sup> Benchmarking is a process whereby short term indicators (in this case the monthly APS survey data) are supplemented with more comprehensive, longer term (quarterly, six-monthly or annual) estimates.

<sup>2</sup> Data have been sourced from the Queensland Government Department of Natural Resources and Mines, the Government of Western Australia Department of Mines and Petroleum and the Government of South Australia Department of State Development. Aggregate, de-identified data are also provided by the National Offshore Petroleum Titles Administrator (NOPTA) via a data sharing arrangement. Information released by EnergyQuest and the Australian Energy Market Operator were used to test the broader coherence of the revised estimates.

## **Future Work**

Similar improvements will be made to a number of other series in the coming months. The number of additional data sources used to complement the APS survey will increase through data-sharing and other arrangements, improving the coherence of the estimates. Additional data providers will be enrolled into the APS survey, in preparation for the introduction of mandatory reporting of petroleum statistics from January 2018 and methods of data estimation will be refined.

The revised (benchmarked) time series data will remain open to revision for up to fifteen months after the reference period, although any revisions are likely to be minor and are unlikely to alter the overall 'story'. As greater numbers of data providers are enrolled and timelier complementary information is sourced, revisions to some series will cease whilst for others the window for revisions will shorten in length.

Changes made to future issues of the APS will be reported on the "Notes" pages of the publication. Feedback and requests for further information can be sent to; [petroleum.statistics@environment.gov.au](mailto:petroleum.statistics@environment.gov.au)