



# **GB Wholesale Market Summary February 2020**

Published March 2020

## Executive summary

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1. A combination of lower fuel prices and demand resulted in February's average power price dipping to £29.5/MWh – the lowest monthly price in a decade and a £5.3/MWh decrease from January. See slides [6](#), [7](#) and [10](#).
2. Higher temperatures in February reduced monthly demand by 10% compared to January. Consequently, monthly gas and coal generation decreased by 1.6 TWh and 0.5 TWh, respectively. See slides [10](#) and [11](#).
3. With low carbon technologies contributing to 70% of total generation in February (wind alone accounted for 41%), total monthly emissions fell by 1.3 MtCO<sub>2</sub> (or 27.1%) relative to January. See slides [11](#) and [14](#).
4. Despite lower power prices, wind assets saw an 8% rise in monthly gross revenues relative to January as the 10-p.p. average increase in load factors outweighed the 14% dip in capture prices. See slides [20](#) and [22](#).

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Power market forecast reports</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Power market forecast reports</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Aurora can provide power market forecasts upon request</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Forecast data in Excel</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Forecast data in Excel</li></ul>	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Analyst support</li></ul>		

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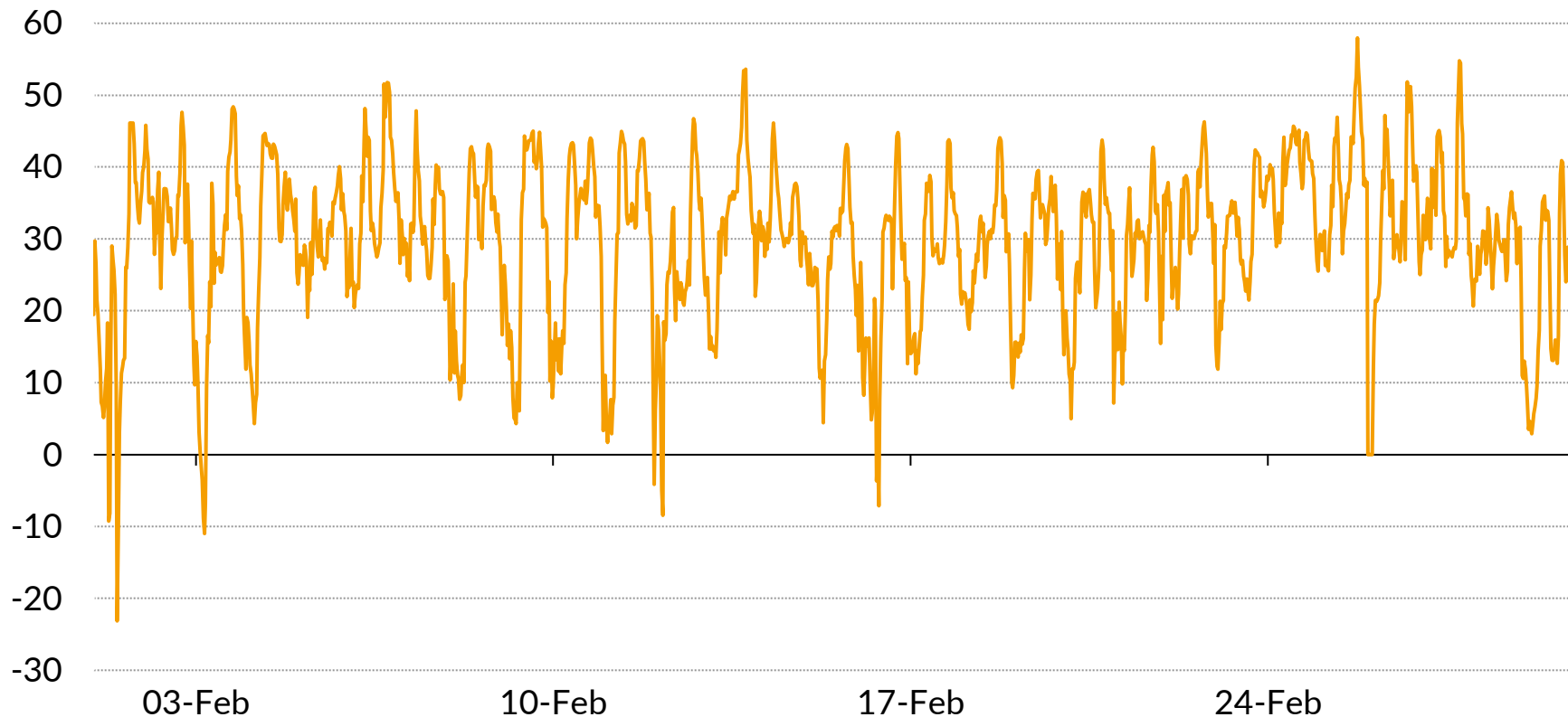
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1. System performance
2. Company performance (available to subscribers only)
3. Plant performance

# Half-hourly APX spot price for February

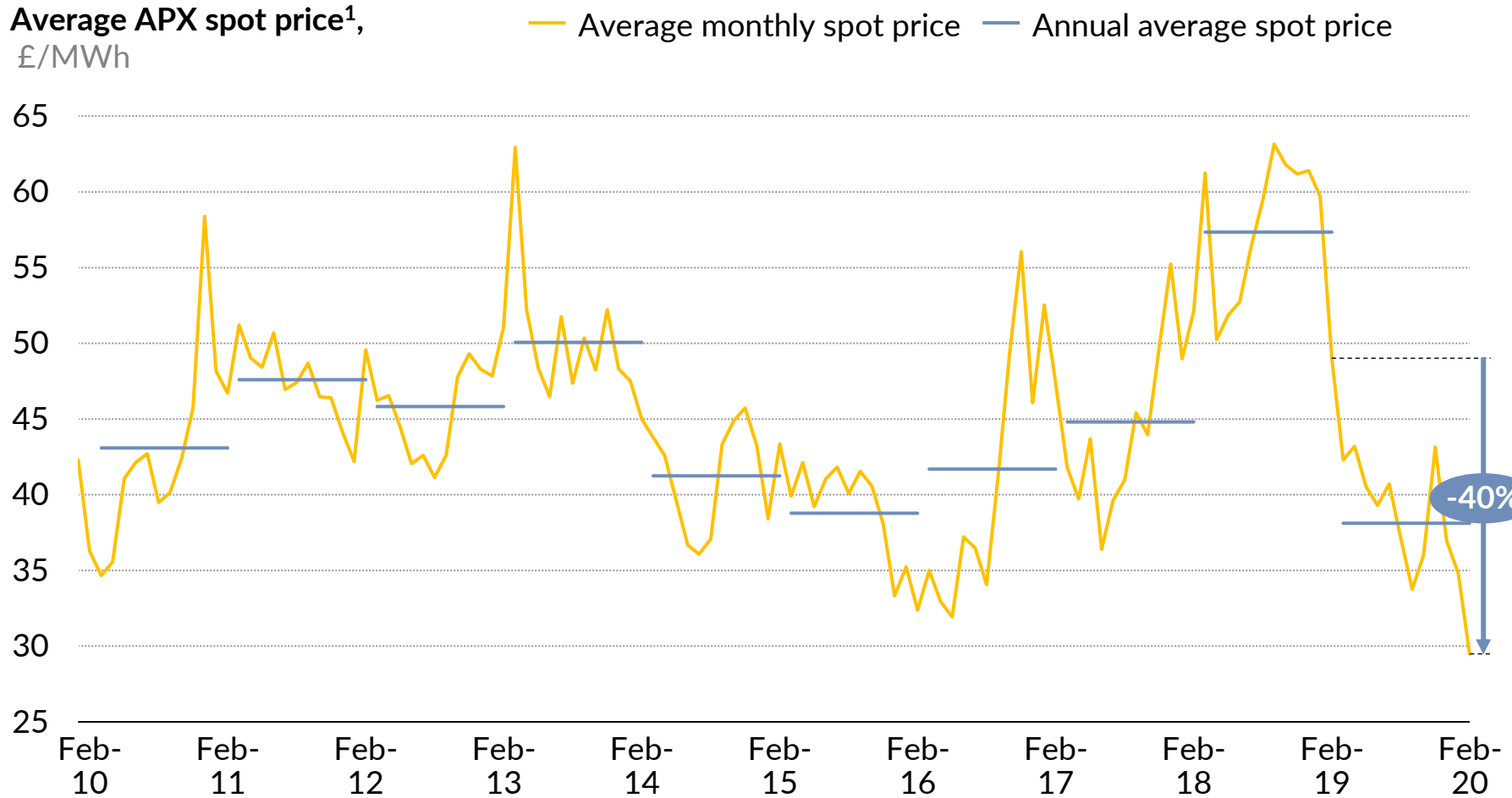
APX spot price<sup>1</sup>,  
£/MWh

Monthly average price  
in February 2020:  
£29.49/MWh



1. Half-hourly APX is the volume-weighted reference price over that half-hour interval, as provided by APX Power UK.

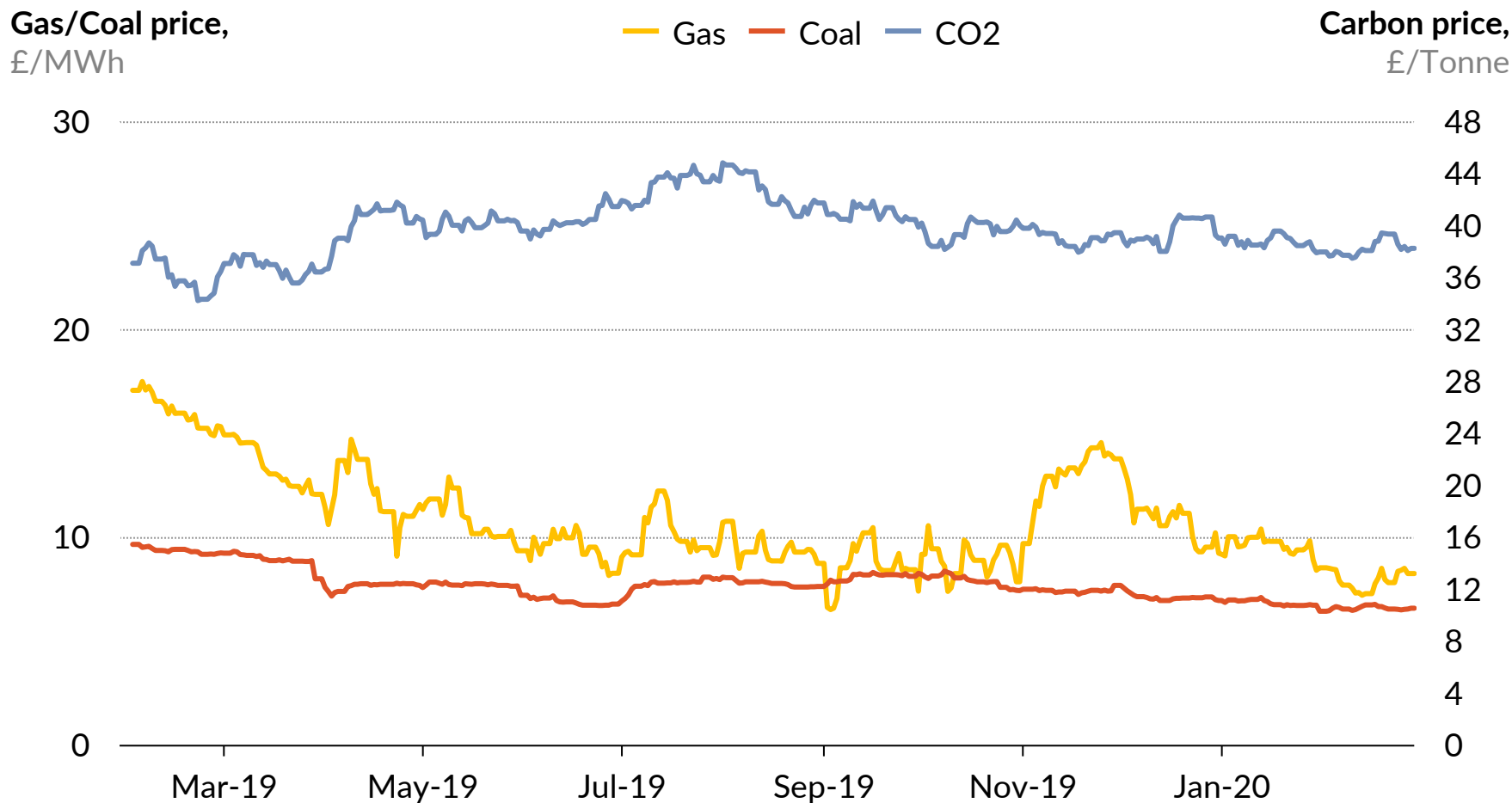
# Historic monthly average APX spot price



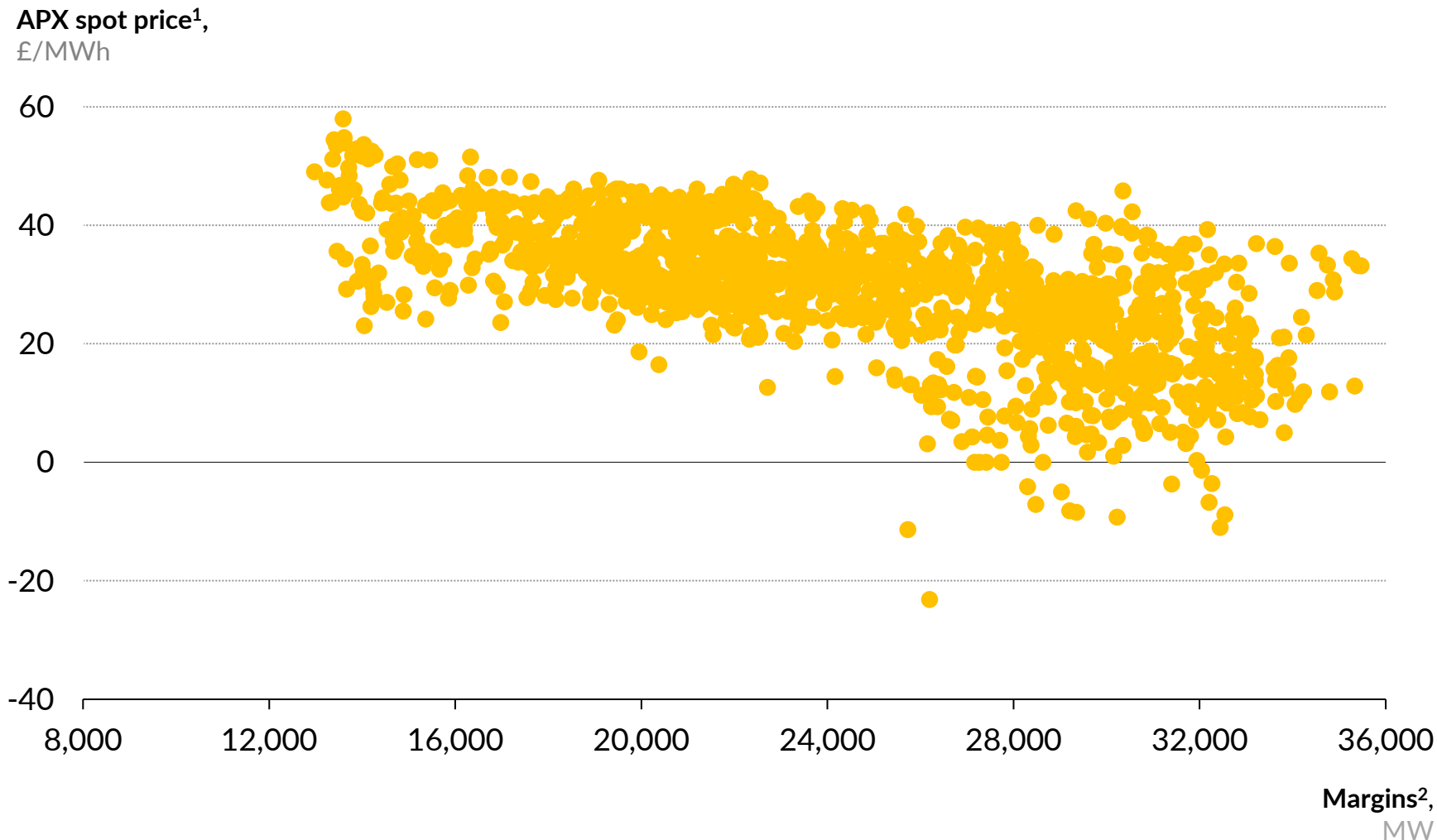
1. Average monthly APX is the average over the month of the volume-weighted reference prices for each half-hour interval.

# Historic fuel prices

## Gas, Coal and Carbon daily prices



# Half-hourly spot prices against half-hourly system margins for February



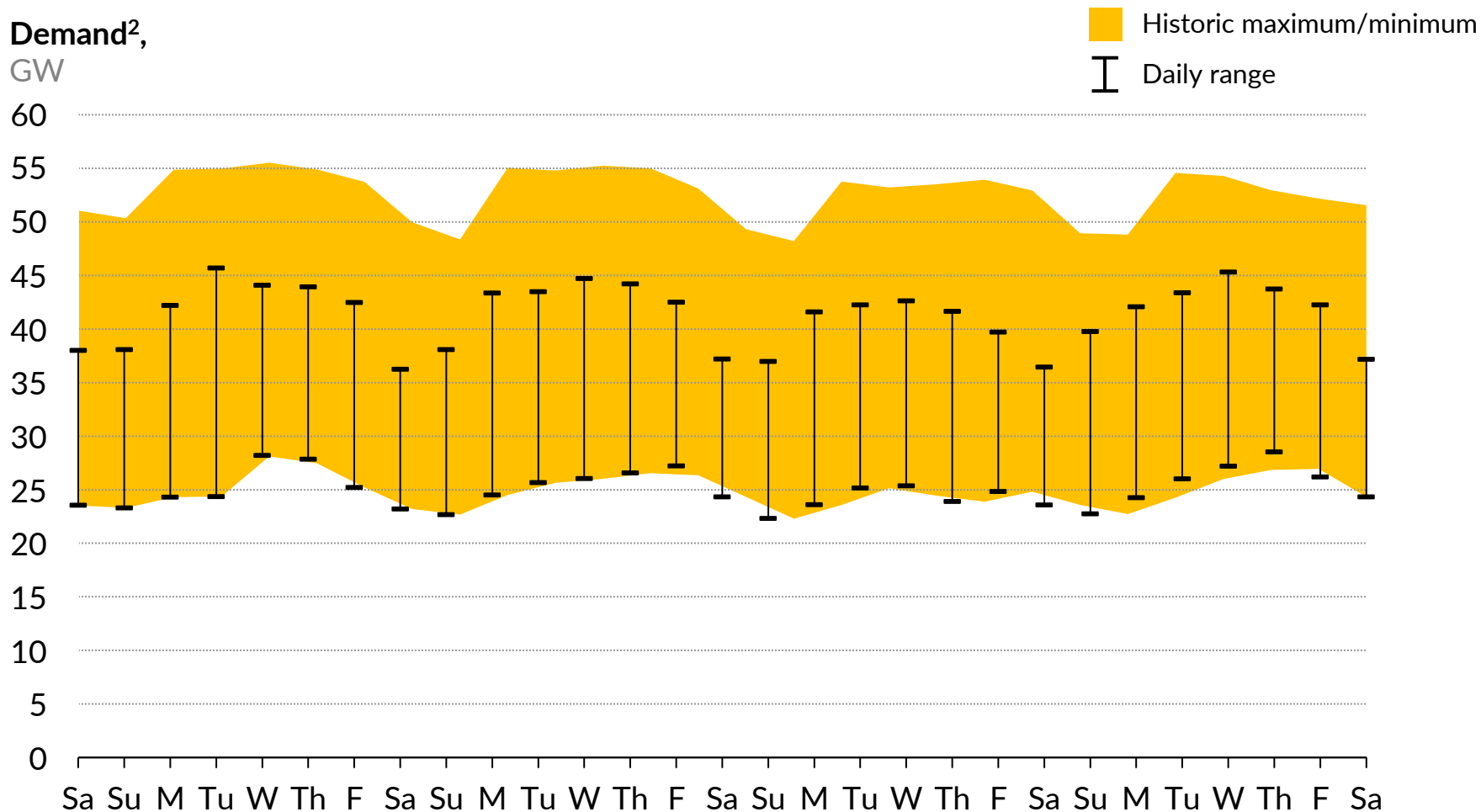
1. Half-hourly APX is the volume-weighted reference price over that half-hour interval, as provided by APX Power UK.

2. Margins are calculated as the difference between MEL and Demand for each half-hour period. Demand data presented here is Initial Transmission System Demand Out-Turn, and does not include embedded demand. MEL is calculated as the sum of all transmission BM units reporting MEL values in each half-hour. Where a BMU gives multiple values in a half-hour, only the least is taken.



# Daily February max and min demand

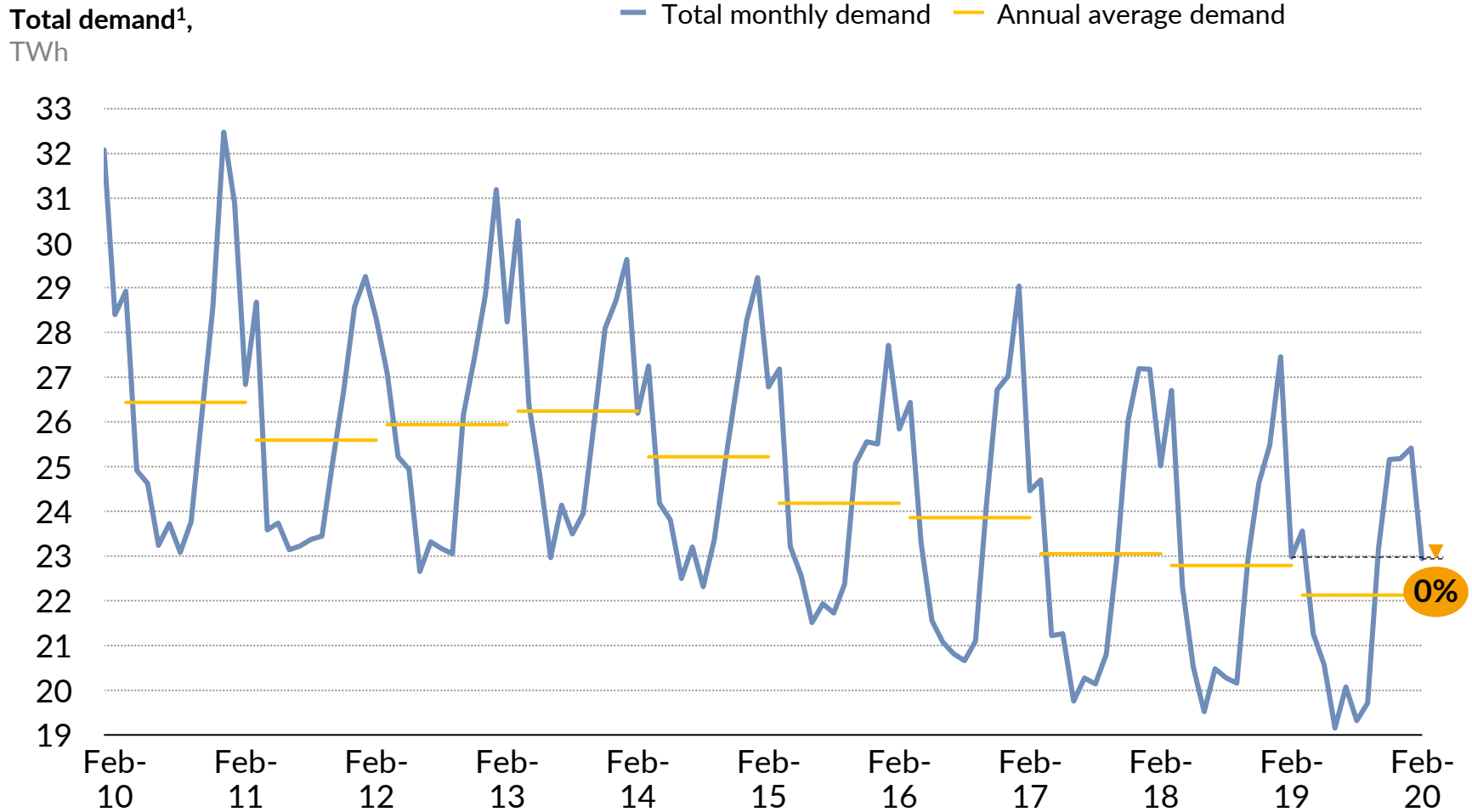
Relative to historic February max and min demand since 2010<sup>1</sup>



1. Data from previous years is matched to the nearest weekday within the current month, to maintain the weekly demand pattern.

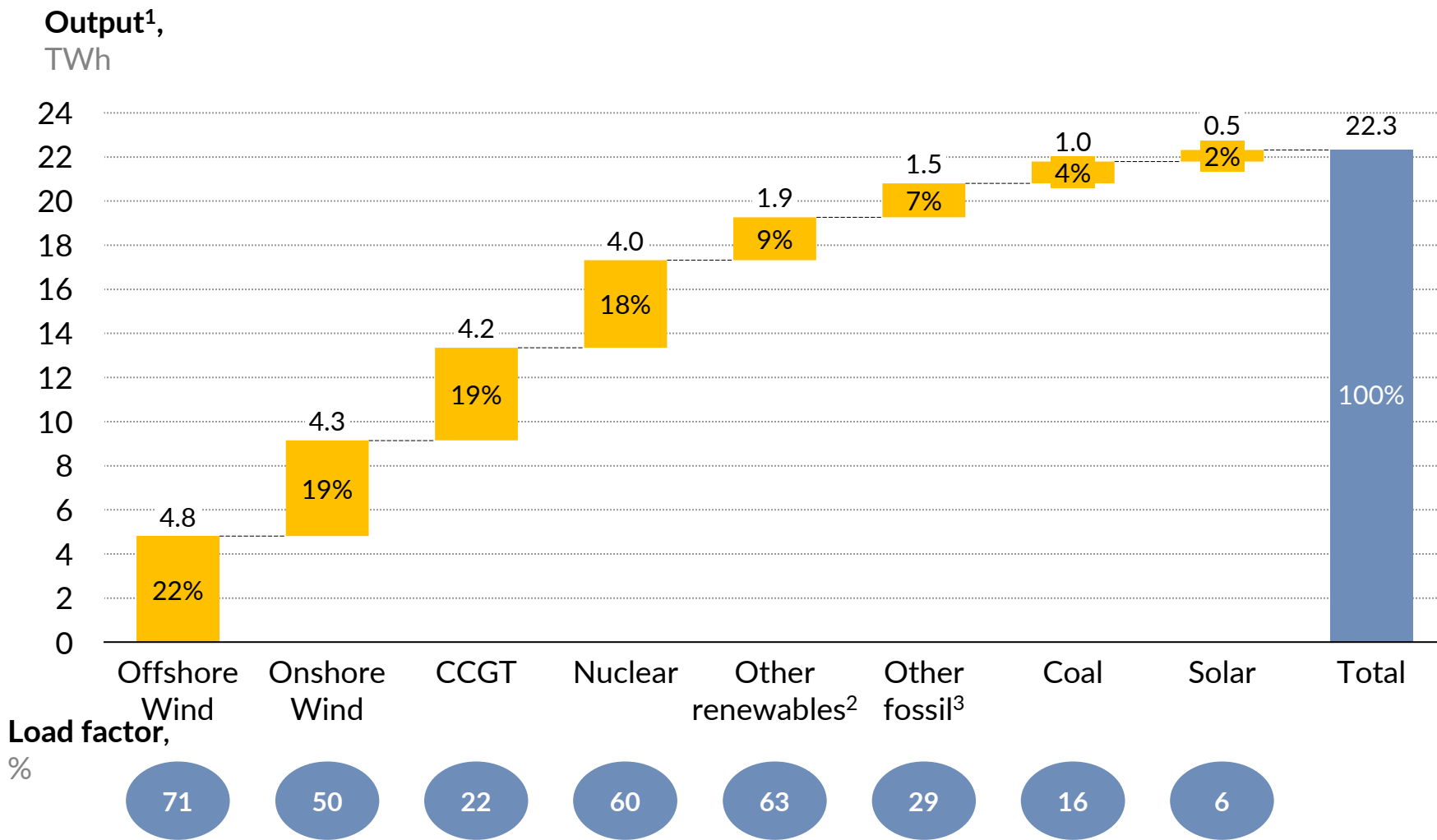
2. Demand data presented here is Initial Transmission System Demand Out-Turn, and does not include embedded demand.

# Monthly historical demand on the transmission system



<sup>1</sup>, Demand data presented here is Initial Transmission System Demand Out-Turn, and includes station transformer load, pumped storage demand and interconnector demand, but does not include embedded demand.

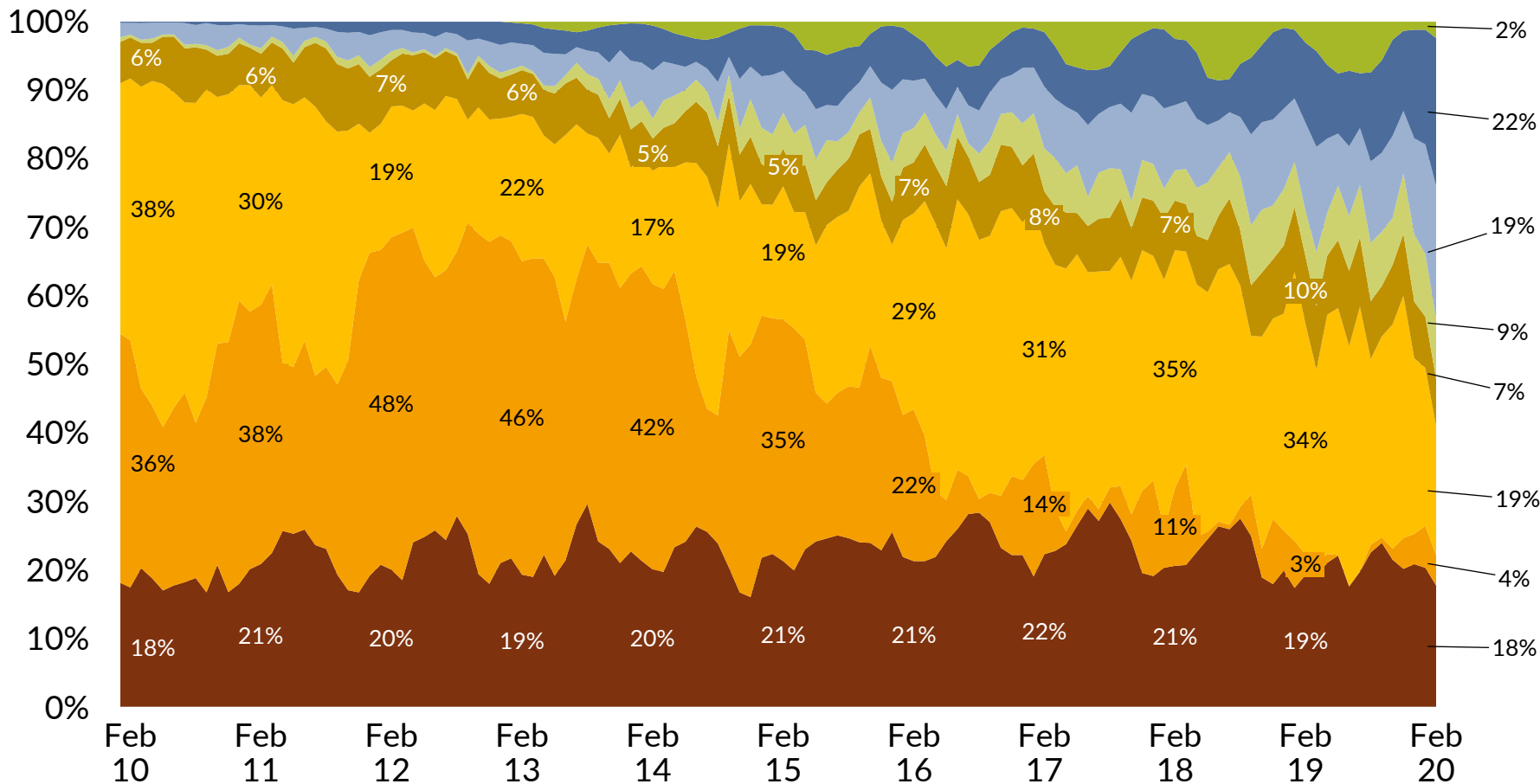
# Monthly fuel mix breakdown



1) Includes outputs from generators registered as BM Units as well as embedded wind and solar PV assets. All numbers are rounded to 0.1 TWh which means that subtotals may not sum to total value. 2) Other fossil includes oil, CHP-CCGT and OCGT. 3) Other renewables includes biomass and hydro.

# Historical fuel mix breakdown

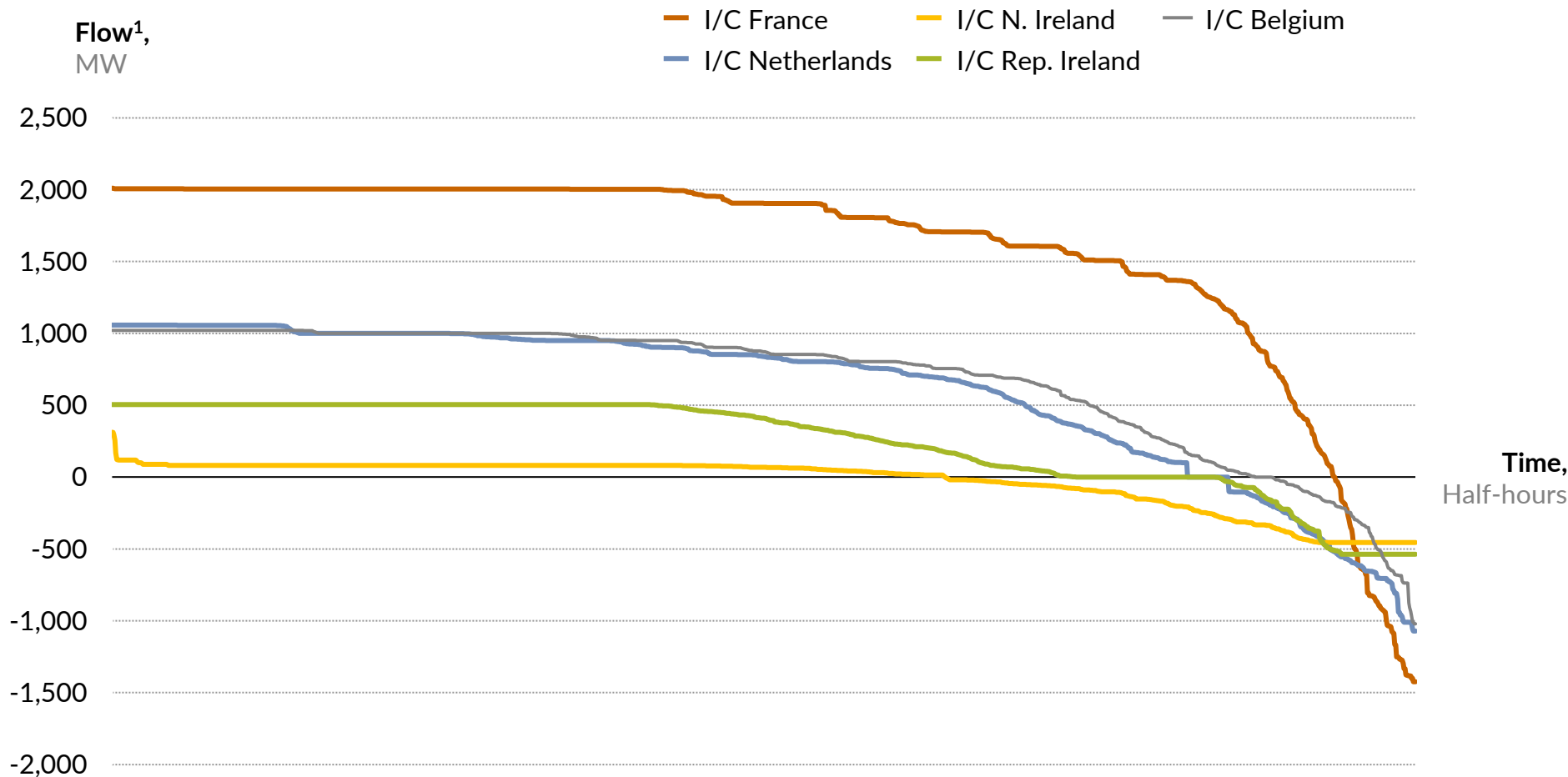
Output<sup>1</sup>,  
% of total



1. Includes outputs from generators registered as BM Units as well as embedded wind and solar PV. 2. Other fossil includes oil, CHP-CCGT and OCGT. 3. Other renewables includes biomass and hydro.

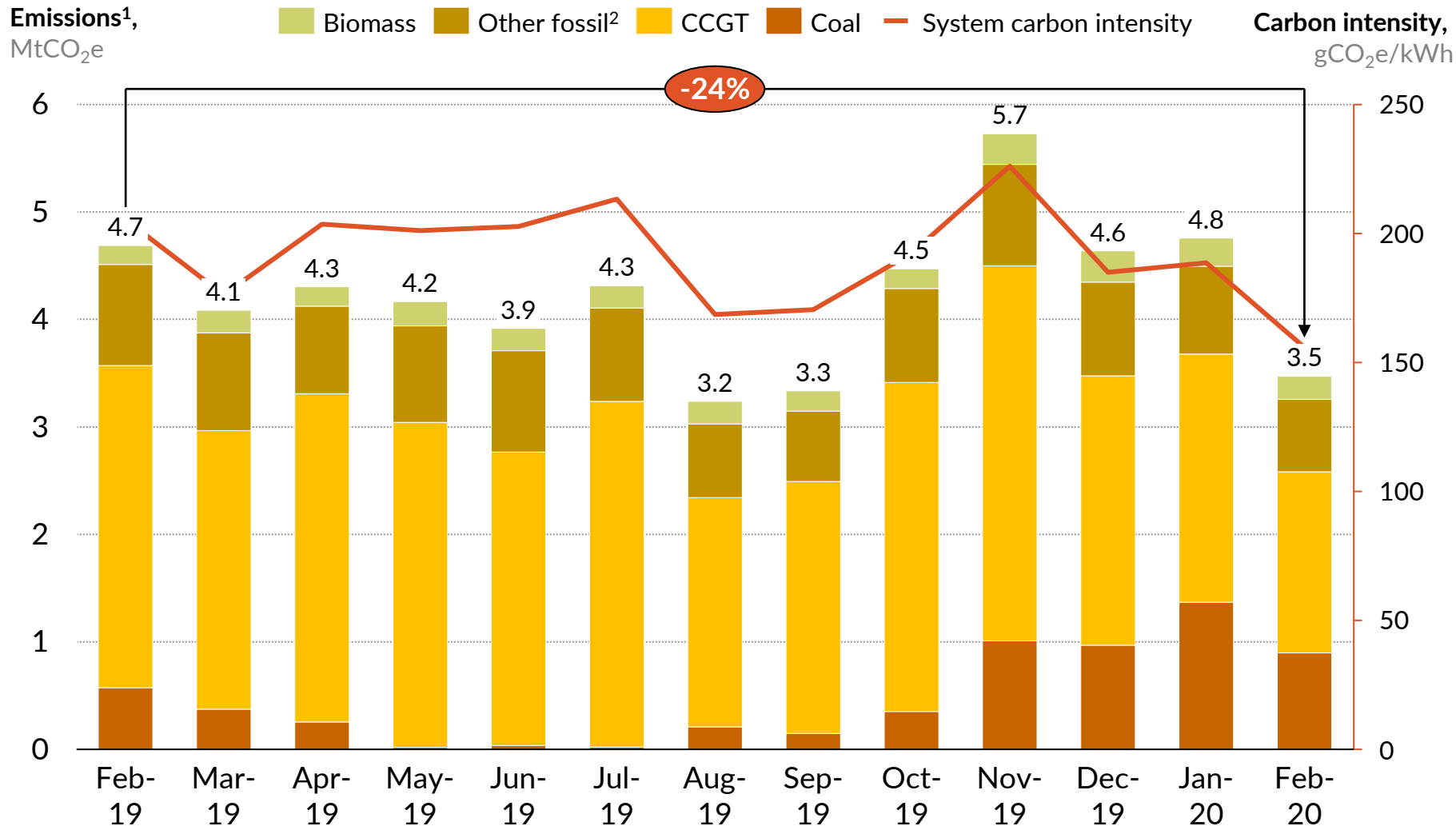
# Monthly interconnector flow duration curve

## Flow in each half-hour for GB interconnectors



1. Positive flow is imports into GB, negative flow is exports.

# Monthly emissions by technology



1. Please refer to Appendix 1 for details of methodology employed to calculate emission amounts. Includes all Balancing Mechanism plants.

2. Other fossil includes oil, OCGT and gas CHP-CCGT.

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1. System performance
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3. Plant performance

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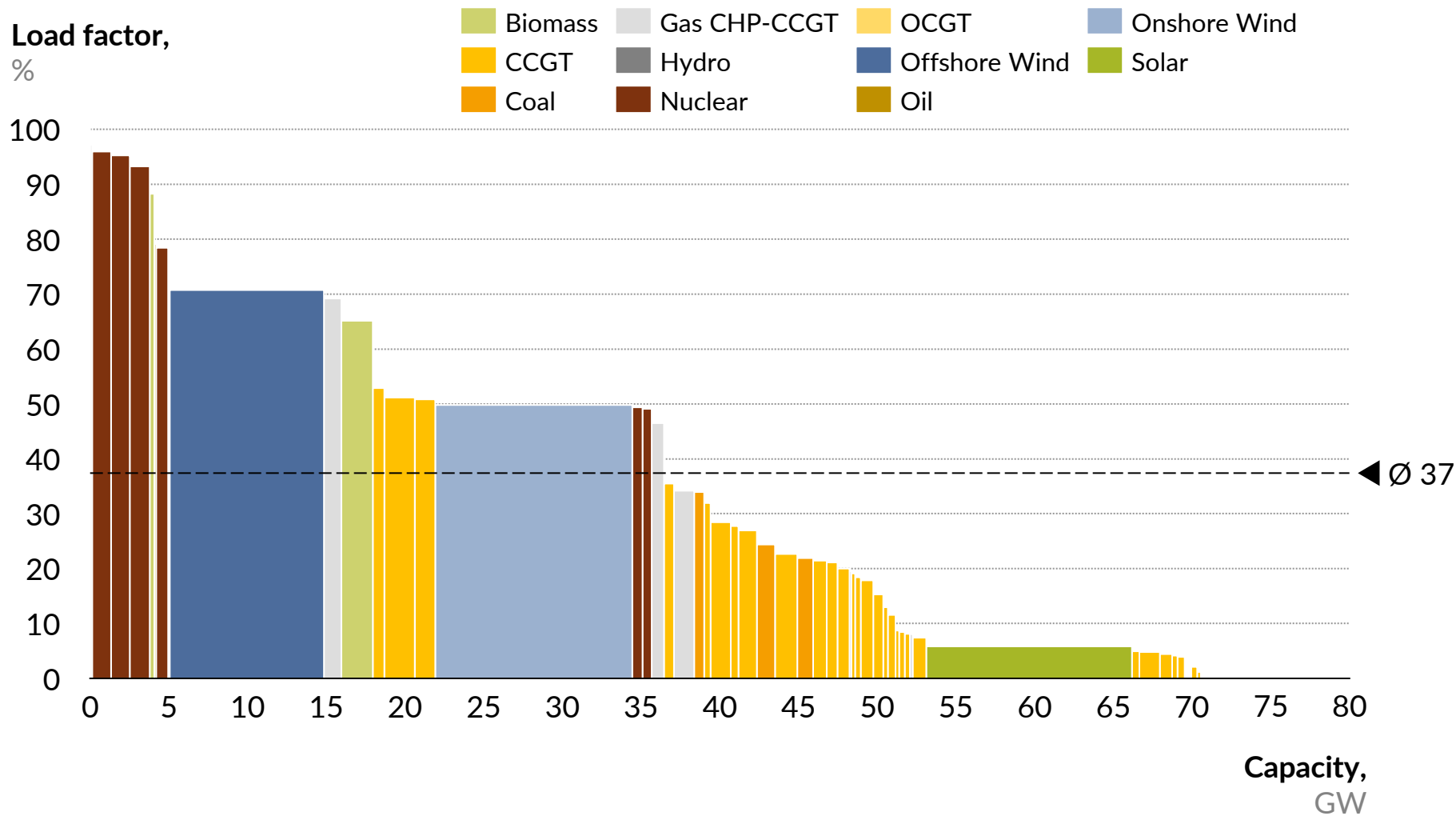
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1. System performance
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# Plant utilisation - load factors by plant

(Column width reflects capacity)



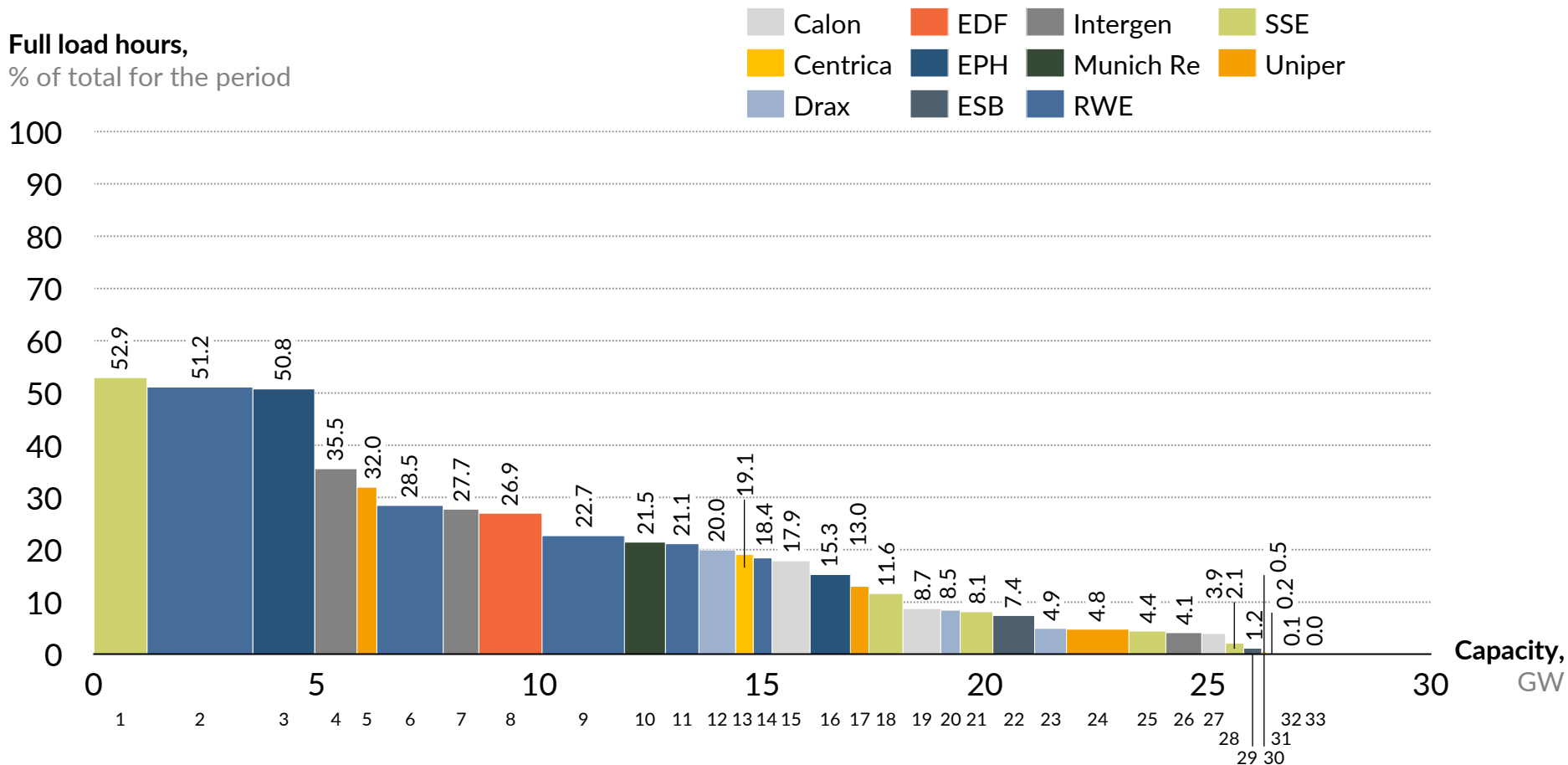
Represents 60 plants with highest capacity according to the Balancing Mechanism (BM) database, as well as aggregated data for wind and solar. Capacity of each plant represents the sum of capacities of all its generators that have been active at least once in the last three months.

Please refer to Appendix for a detailed description of the data used and categories presented.

### 3. Plant performance

# CCGT plant utilisation – by plant, February 2020

(Column width reflects capacity)



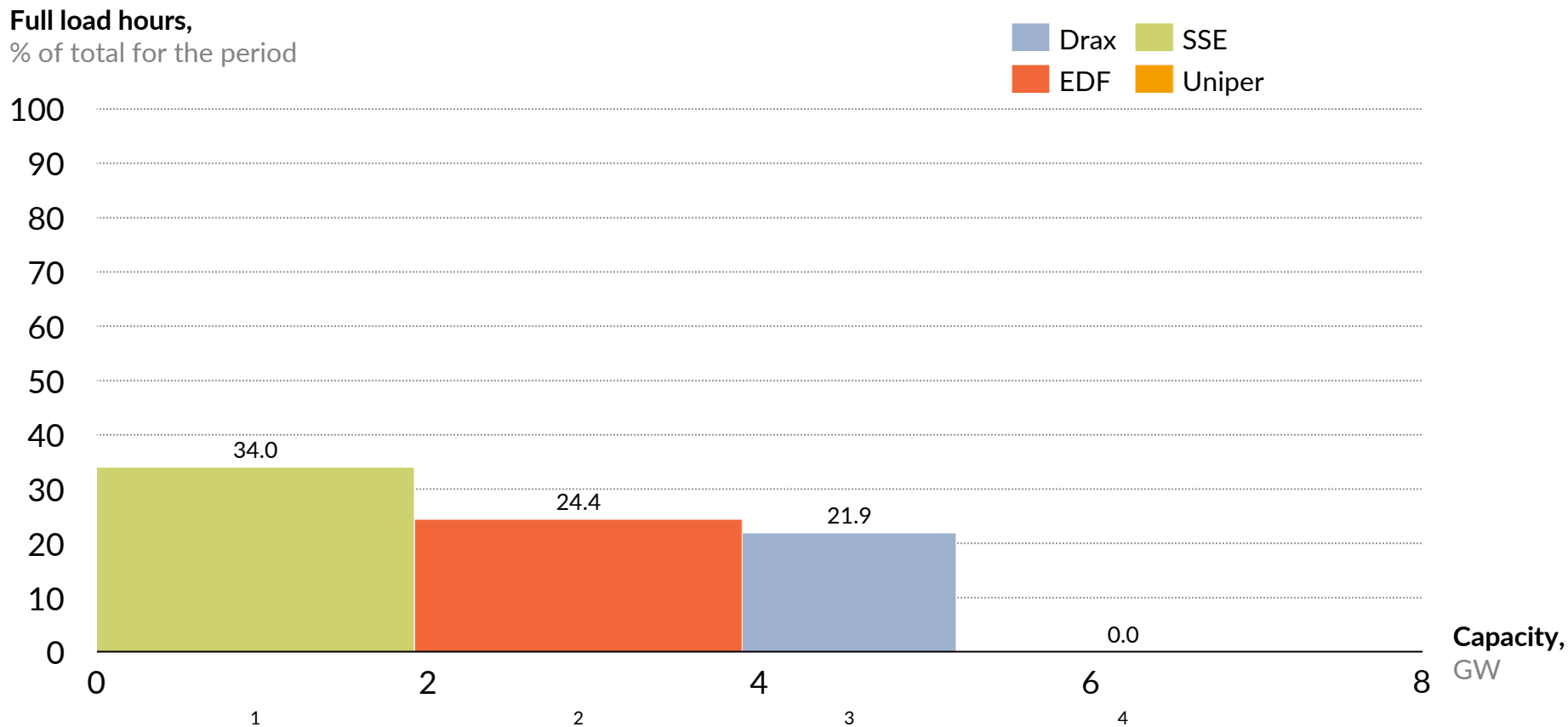
Plant Names: 1. Peterhead, 2. Pembroke, 3. South Humber Bank, 4. Spalding, 5. Cottam Dvpt Centre, 6. Didcot B, 7. Coryton, 8. West Burton B, 9. Staythorpe, 10. Marchwood, 11. Little Barford, 12. Damhead Creek, 13. Kings Lynn, 14. Great Yarmouth, 15. Severn, 16. Langage, 17. Enfield Energy, 18. Keadby, 19. Sutton Bridge, 20. Shoreham, 21. Medway, 22. Carrington, 23. Rye House, 24. Connahs Quay, 25. Seabank 1, 26. Rocksavage, 27. Baglan Bay, 28. Seabank 2, 29. Corby, 30. Glanford Brigg, 31. Peterborough, 32. Killingholme 2, 33. Killingholme 1.

Includes all CCGT plants of the presented companies that report to the Balancing Mechanism. Refer to Appendix B for ownerships in joint-ventured CCGT plants.

### 3. Plant performance

# Coal plant utilisation – by plant, February 2020

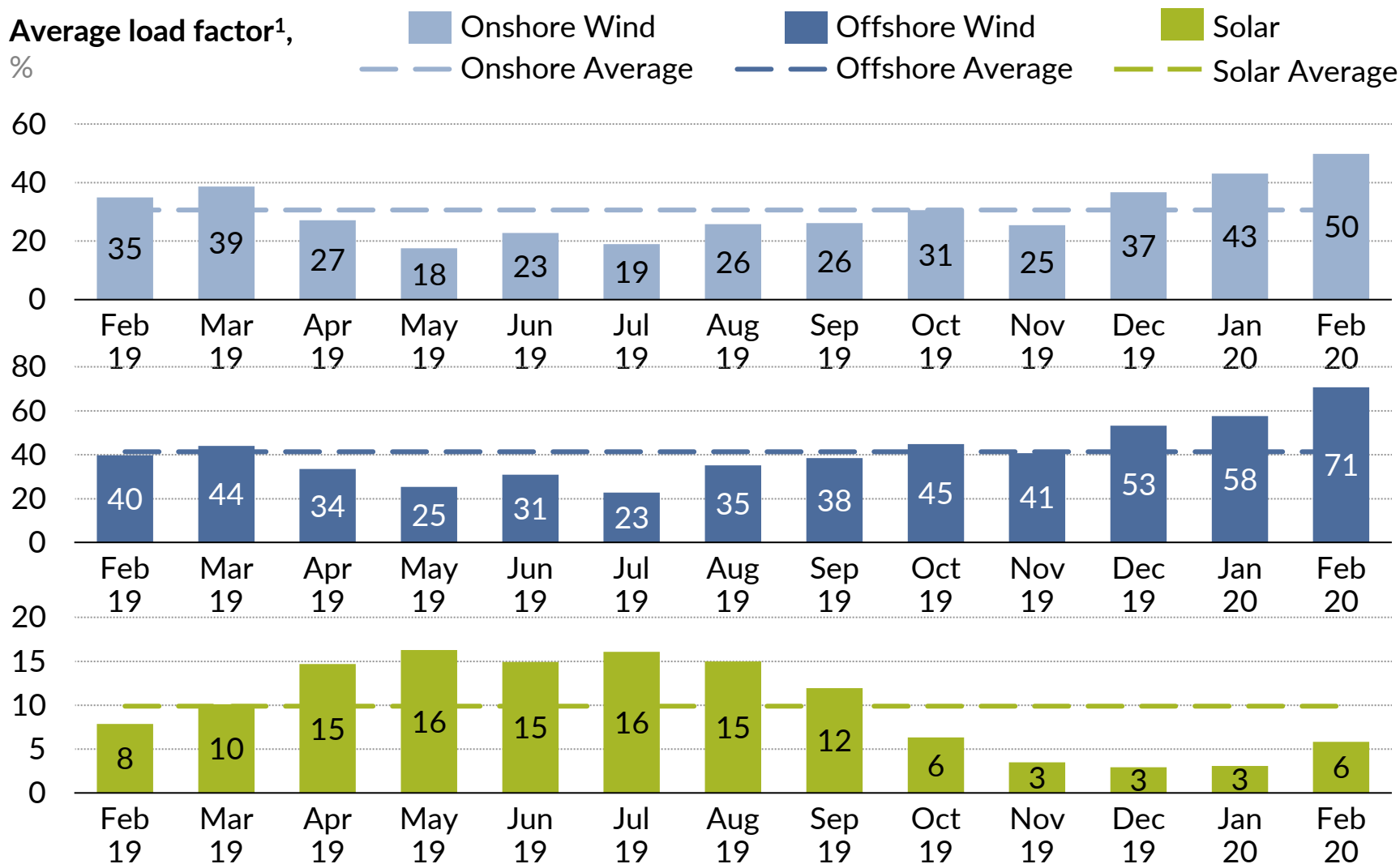
(Column width reflects capacity)



Plant Names: 1. Fiddlers Ferry, 2. West Burton, 3. Drax Coal, 4. Ratcliffe

Includes all coal plants of the presented companies that report to the Balancing Mechanism. Refer to Appendix B for ownerships in joint-ventured coal plants.

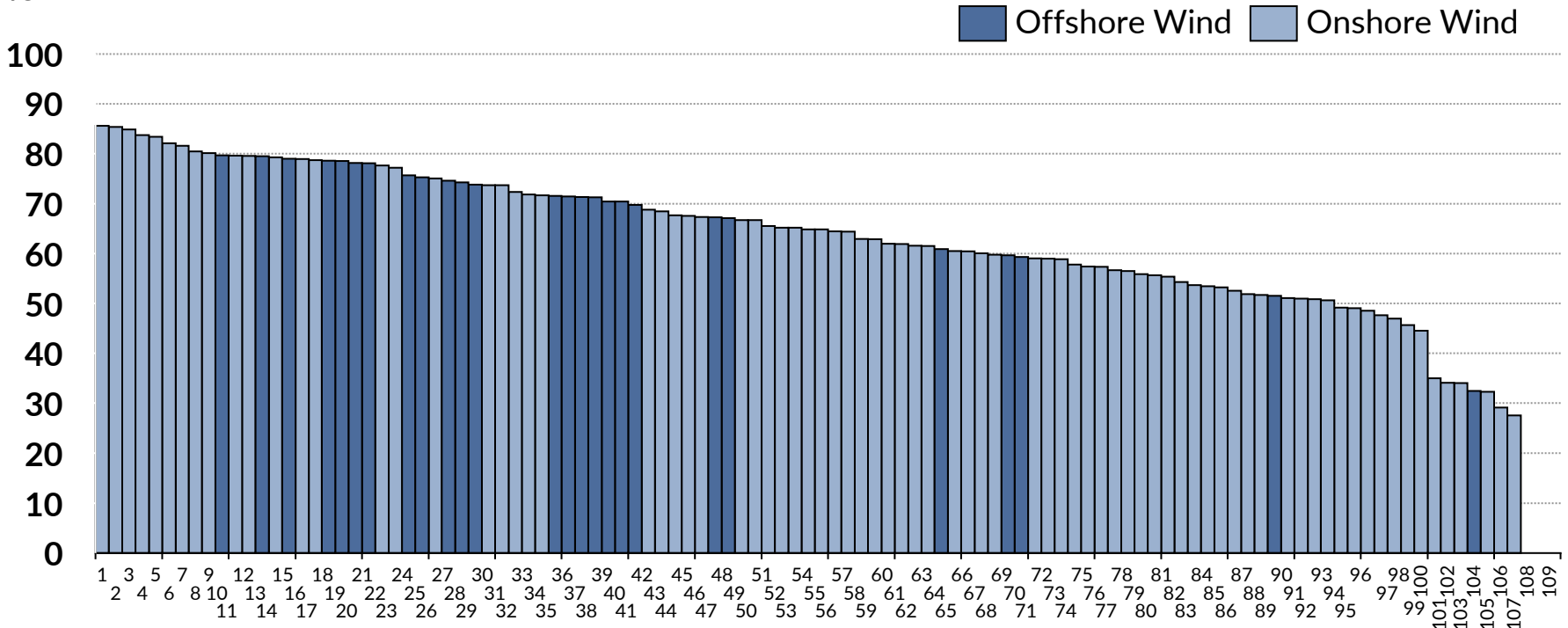
# Monthly load factors by technology



Notes: 1) Includes outputs from generators registered as BM Units as well as embedded wind and solar PV.

# Wind farm utilisation – load factor by wind farm

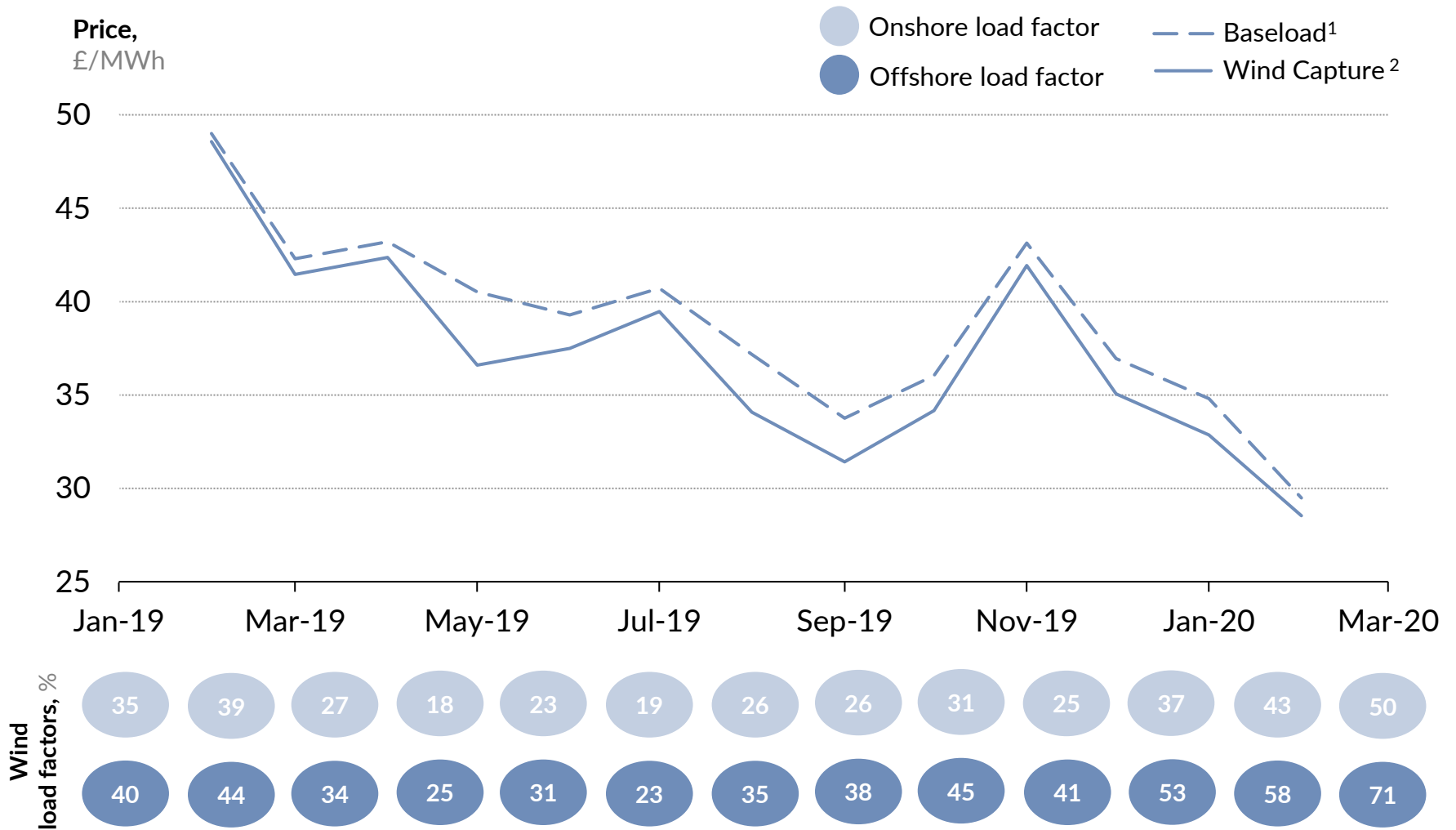
Load factor,  
%



Plant Names: 1. Sanquhar Community, 2. Whiteside Hill, 3. Brockloch Rig 2, 4. Pauls Hill, 5. Afton, 6. Assel Valley, 7. Aikengall 2, 8. Fallago Rig, 9. Dorenell, 10. Race Bank, 11. Corriegarth, 12. Middle Muir, 13. Dudgeon, 14. Crystal Rig, 15. Westermost Rough, 16. Millennium, 17. Gordonstown, 18. Sheringham Shoals, 19. London Array, 20. Walney Extension, 21. Gwynt y Mor, 22. Blackcraig, 23. Kilgallioch, 24. Greater Gabbard, 25. Hornsea 1, 26. Andershaw, 27. Humber, 28. West of Duddon Sands, 29. Burbo Extension, 30. Carraig Gheal, 31. Roths, 32. Dunmaglass, 33. Cour, 34. Auchrobert, 35. Burbo Bank, 36. Galloper, 37. Rampion, 38. Ormonde, 39. Walney, 40. Gunfleet Sands, 41. Beatrice, 42. Coire Na Cloiche, 43. Kype Muir, 44. Harburnhead, 45. Stronelaig, 46. Galawhistle, 47. Thanet, 48. Lincs, 49. Minsca, 50. Pen y Cymoedd, 51. Clyde, 52. Roths Extension, 53. Dersalloch, 54. A Chruach, 55. Toddleburn, 56. Berry Burn, 57. Brownieleys, 58. Freasdail, 59. Hill of Glaschyle, 60. Ewe Hill, 61. Minnygap, 62. Farr, 63. Bhlaraidh, 64. Hywind Scotland, 65. Corriemoillie, 66. Tullymurdoch, 67. Griffin, 68. Glens of Foudland, 69. Aberdeen, 70. Robin Rigg, 71. Beinn An Tuirc, 72. Dalswinton, 73. Camster, 74. Mid Hill, 75. Beinneun, 76. Strathy North, 77. Kilbraur, 78. Mark Hill, 79. Bad a Cheo, 80. Lochluichart, 81. Baillie, 82. Arecleoch, 83. An Suidhe, 84. Dun Law Extension, 85. Edinbane, 86. Tullo, 87. Clashindarroch, 88. Glen App, 89. Barrow, 90. Tullo Extension, 91. Hill of Towie, 92. Goole Fields, 93. Whitelee, 94. Harestanes, 95. Hadyard Hill, 96. Burn of Whilk, 97. Gordonbush, 98. Black Law, 99. Braes of Doune, 100. Beinn Tharsuinn, 101. Moy, 102. Glenchamber, 103. Hare Hill Extension, 104. East Anglia One, 105. Craig, 106. Clachan Flats, 107. Airies, 108. Kincardine, 109. Keith Hill.

Represents UK wind farms reporting Balancing Mechanism Unit data. Figures presented reflect Final Physical Notification (FPN) expectations reported to the grid, which are not always representative of actual production.

# Wind capture price versus baseload price



1. Baseload price is the average monthly APX price.

2. Wind capture price is the load-weighted monthly average APX price across all wind Balancing Mechanism plants for all half-hourly periods.

# Appendix A

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## Data used:

1. Output values used in this summary reflect the sum of Final Physical Notifications (FPN) submitted by all BM Units of a given plant that have been active over the last three months.
2. Capacity values used in this summary reflect the sum of capacities of individual BM Units, as reported to the Balancing Mechanism, that have been active over the last three months. They reflect long-term capacities and exclude temporary fluctuations due e.g. to plant failures or scheduled maintenance.
3. Prices used in this summary are the APX half-hourly Reference Prices for half-hourly, two-hourly and four-hourly spot products.

## Categories presented:

1. Full-load hours represent the plants' load factors, calculated as the ratio of the output produced in a given month to the maximum possible output given the plants' capacity.
2. Running hours represent the proportion of time in a given month when a plant has been active, i.e. when at least one of its BM Units produced output greater than zero.
3. Capture prices (or average output-weighted prices) are calculated as an average of APX half-hourly prices per MWh weighted by the plants' corresponding half-hourly outputs for all periods.
4. Average gross margins are calculated as a sum of the uplift and inframarginal rent. Uplift is calculated as the difference between the APX price and the system marginal cost (SMC). SMC is the maximum marginal cost of all the plants with at least one generator producing above 80% of its installed capacity in a given half-hour.
5. Emissions are calculated as plant output divided by electrical efficiency, multiplied by theoretical carbon content of the fuel input. The carbon content of fuel inputs is sourced from DECC's *Greenhouse gas reporting – Conversion factors 2016*. System carbon intensity is calculated as the total emission divided by total electricity generated.

# Appendix B

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## List of joint ventures in CCGT, coal and offshore wind:

### CCGT plants:

- Marchwood** is co-owned by SSE (50%) and Munich Re (50%);
- Deeside** is co-owned by Engie (75%) and Mitsui (25%);
- Seabank 1** is co-owned by SSE (50%) and Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings (50%).
- Seabank 2** is co-owned by SSE (50%) and Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings (50%).

### Coal plants:

- Eggborough** is co-owned by EPH (90%) and Engie (10%);
- Rugeley** is co-owned by Engie (75%) and Mitsui (25%).

### Offshore wind farms:

- Gwynt y Mor** is co-owned by RWE (60%), Stadtwerke Muenchen (30%) and Siemens (10%);
- Greater Gabbard** is co-owned by SSE (50%) and RWE (50%);
- London Array** is co-owned by E.ON (30%), DONG (25%), the Caisse (25%) and Masdar (20%);
- Gunfleet Sands** is co-owned by DONG (50.1%), Marubeni (24.95%) and Development Bank of Japan (24.95%);
- Walney** is co-owned by DONG (50.1%), SSE (25.1%) and PGGM & Dutch Ampere Equity Fund (24.8%);
- Sheringham Shoals** is co-owned by Statkraft (40%), Statoil (40%) and Green Investment Bank (20%);
- Lincs** is co-owned by Centrica (50%), Siemens (25%) and DONG (25%);
- West of Duddon Sands** is co-owned by DONG (50%) and Scottish Power (50%);
- Westermost Rough** is co-owned by DONG (50%), Marubeni (25%) and Green Investment Bank (25%).



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