

Changes in business electricity prices from 1 July 2013

From 1 July 2013, regulated electricity tariffs for Queensland businesses will rise.

While large business customers in south east Queensland are on market contracts, most small and regional businesses buy electricity under one of five regulated tariffs. These tariffs will increase by 13% to 17% from 1 July.

The actual costs experienced by individual businesses will vary according to the tariff they use and their patterns of demand. The cost of using electricity at peak times will rise for some businesses.

Business customers

The two main tariffs for small businesses are tariff 20 (flat rate) and tariff 22 (time of use).

Large business customers in south east Queensland do not have access to regulated tariffs. Outside the south east, large business customers can access tariffs 44, 45, 46, 47 and 48. Fewer than 50 businesses use the last two tariffs.

Price increases for business customers

Tariff	Percentage increase
Tariff 20 (flat rate)	17.4%
Tariff 22 (time of use)	15.5%
Tariff 44	13.2%
Tariff 45	13.5%
Tariff 46	13.1%

GST inclusive

Charges for Tariffs 20 and 22 for 2012–13 and 2013–14

Tariff	Charge	2012–13	2013–14	Increase (cents)	Increase (%)
Tariff 20	Service Charge (c/cust/day)	107.4	130.2	22.7	21%
	Variable Charge (c/kwh)	20.0	23.2	3.2	16%
Tariff 22	Service Charge (c/cust/day)	107.4	130.2	22.7	21%
	Peak Variable Charge (c/kwh)	20.2	25.5	5.3	26%
	Off-peak Variable Charge (c/kwh)	18.1	18.7	0.6	3%

GST exclusive

Changes to tariff charges

The 2013–14 tariff increases include changes to service and usage charges.

Tariff 20 has two charges:

- A service charge – a daily connection charge.
- A usage charge – a charge for electricity consumed.

Tariff 22 has three charges:

- A service charge – a daily connection charge
- A peak usage charge – a charge for electricity used between 7am and 9pm Monday to Friday.
- An off-peak usage charge – a charge for electricity used at all other times.

Businesses on other tariffs

Some businesses are on transitional tariffs (e.g. tariffs 21 and 37). The arrangements for these tariffs can be found in the fact sheet devoted to transitional tariffs.