

This Report on the Gas Industry relates to establishments engaged wholly or mainly in the production and distribution of gas for public supply. Construction work carried out by employees of gas undertakings is included. Showrooms are also included. Establishments (other than transport undertakings) producing gas primarily for their own use are excluded, being included in the industries covering the major output of the parent works.

This industry corresponds to minimum list heading 601 in the Standard Industrial Classification (Revised 1968) which has been used for the first time as a basis of classification in the 1968 census. The definition of this industry however is unchanged from the last detailed Census of Production for 1963 in which it was reported (Part 127).

This report covers all undertakings of the twelve Area Gas Boards together with the Gas Council, and gas undertakings in Northern Ireland. The figures for 1968 relate to the year ending 29 March 1969, and those for 1963 to the year ending 31 March 1964.

In interpreting the data in the tables it is essential to bear in mind the notes and definitions which appear on pages (i) to (iv).

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TABLE 1 Industry summary, 1963 and 1968:
United Kingdom

	Unit	1963	1968
Number of gasworks	No.	287	184
Gross output	£'000	480,556	668,342
Net output	"	215,989	324,617
Net output per head	£	1,708	2,635
Sales and work done	£'000	405,559	574,883
	{ gas, etc sold and work done (a) (b)		
	{ merchant goods and canteen takings	68,826	99,632
Cost of materials and fuel used (c)	"	211,750	236,339
Cost of merchant goods and canteen purchases	"	42,394	71,639
Payments to other organisations	"	7,402	33,172
	{ for work done on materials given out		
	{ for transport (c)	3,020	2,574
Stocks	"		
Total stocks (d)	{ change during year	+ 7,061	- 4,917
	{ at end of year	58,146	85,464
Goods on hand for sale (d)	{ change during year	+ 6,171	- 6,173
	{ at end of year	29,584	21,640
Materials, stores and fuel	{ change during year	+ 890	+ 1,256
	{ at end of year	28,562	63,824
Number employed on average during the year	No.	126,461	123,204
	{ total		
	{ operatives	82,573	68,371
	{ other employees (e)	43,883	54,833
Wages and salaries	£'000	62,353	70,180
	{ of operatives		
	{ of other employees (e)	38,803	64,024
Wages and salaries per head	£	755	1,026
	{ operatives		
	{ other employees (e)	884	1,168
Capital expenditure (f)	£'000	89,345	218,506
Total (g)	"	6,256	13,810
New building work	"	445	763
Land and existing buildings	{ acquisitions	912	2,975
	{ disposals		
Plant and machinery	{ acquisitions (h)	43,964	74,283
	{ disposals	2,193	3,655
Mains and services	{ acquisitions	39,849	133,927
	{ disposals	17	33
Ships and barges	{ acquisitions	-	20
	{ disposals	30	529
Vehicles and mobile plant	{ acquisitions	2,370	3,255
	{ disposals	387	360

- (a) Including sales of gas and other products, charges for work done, rents received, and work of new construction. For details see Tables 5(A), 5(B) and 7.
- (b) Including services rendered to other organisations (amounts charged for hiring out plant, machinery or other goods, for providing transport, or for technical or other services rendered).
- (c) Payments for transport inwards are included in the cost of purchased materials and fuel used and excluded from payments for transport to other organisations. They amounted to £8,861,000 in 1963 and £6,351,000 in 1968.
- (d) Including stocks of appliances for England, Scotland and Wales.
- (e) Administrative, technical and clerical employees.
- (f) Including expenditure for establishments not yet in production.
- (g) Acquisitions less disposals.
- (h) Including appliances for hire and meters.

TABLE 2 Analysis by size of undertaking within the industry, 1968

This table is not applicable to this industry.

TABLE 3 Percentage analysis of employees, by age and sex, 1969(a)

All undertakings: United Kingdom

Ages	Males	Females	All employees
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Under 18	3	1	4
18 and over	79	17	96
All ages	82	18	100

Source: Department of Employment

(a) The percentages relate to the numbers employed (excluding working proprietors) at June 1969, the earliest date for which the information is available on the basis of the Standard Industrial Classification, (Revised 1968.)

TABLE 4 Analysis of larger undertakings, 1963 and 1968

This table is not applicable to this industry.

TABLE 5(A) Sales of principal products of the industry, charges for work done and rents received, 1963 and 1968

All undertakings in the industry: United Kingdom

	1963		1968	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Gas sold (a)	Th.therms 2,951,315	£'000 281,397	Th.therms 4,690,637	£'000 462,410
Coke (b)	Th.tons 7,839	71,290	Th.tons 4,362	49,649
Coke breeze (b)	1,727	5,893	915	3,311
	Value		Value	
	£'000		£'000	
Work done for which a direct charge was made	11,536		14,695	
Rents received				
Meter rents and prepayment supplement	2,151		1,973	
Hire of appliances (excluding hire purchase payments)	1,702		1,516	
Total sales of principal products, charges for work done and rents received	373,969		533,554	

(a) Excluding gas supplied in bulk to other Boards (630 thousand therms valued at £38,000 in 1963 and 1,287,129 thousand therms valued at £26,518,000 in 1968).

(b) Sales of coke and coke breeze produced at coke ovens are included in the report on the Coke Ovens and Manufactured Fuel Industry, Part 24.

TABLE 5(B) Work of new construction and repair and maintenance carried out by employees of gas undertakings, 1963 and 1968

All undertakings in the industry: United Kingdom

	Value of work done (a)	
	1963	1968
	£'000	£'000
New construction		
On depots, workshops, offices and other buildings	344	533
On plant and machinery	4,106	6,864
On mains and services	8,775	24,879(b)
On ships and barges	-	24
On vehicles and mobile plant	4	27
Repair and maintenance		
On depots, workshops, offices and other buildings	2,081	2,254
On plant and machinery	11,201	13,354
On mains and services	4,593	8,104
On vehicles and mobile plant	-	1,533
Total work of new construction and repair and maintenance	31,104	57,573
Less work of repair and maintenance	17,875	25,246
Total new construction	13,229	32,328

(a) These values represent sums calculated to cover wages, salaries and cost of materials used.

(b) Including cost of converting consumers' appliances to burn natural gas which amounted to £8,944,000.

TABLE 6 Sales of principal products of the industry by larger establishments classified to other industries, 1963 and 1968

This table is not applicable to this industry.

TABLE 7 Sales of other than principal products, 1963 and 1968

All undertakings in the industry: United Kingdom

	1963		1968	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Th. tons	£'000	Th. tons	£'000
Crude coal tar	1,279	8,873	656	4,728
Crude benzole (a)	10,738	700	4,476	107
Ammoniacal liquor (b)	21.6	219	20.3	67
Coal tar fuels (including crude tar fuels and creosote/pitch mixtures) (c)	138	1,196	..	231
Refined benzole (b)	45.5	1,447	15.6	211
Ammonium hydrate (b)	..	73	2.3	37
Sulphuric acid (b)	13.2	112	4.6	53
Naphthalene	13.6	332	3.7	127
Other benzole products	Th. gal. 3,128	311	Th. gal. 193	5
Creosote oils (including anthracene oils but excluding oils used as fuel) (d)	10,206	493	6,290	395
Pitch (other than for use as fuel) (d)	Th. tons 83.6	778	Th. tons 41.8	321
Refined coal tar (other than for use as fuel) (d) (e)	113	1,066	65.4	804
Phenol	4.4	153	0.9	75
Crude tar acids (dry basis)	..	..	2.9	349
Oil gas tar crude, tar bases, other tar acids and other tar products	..	871	..	282
Sulphate of ammonia (b)	59.7	896	14.5	231
Other by-products (including naphtha and spent oxide)	..	817	..	641
Electricity	Th. kWh 5,616	25	Th. kWh 5,218	24
Services rendered to other organisations (f)	..	..	..	315
Total value of goods sold without having been subjected to any manufacturing process (merchanted or factored) including sales of gas appliances (g)		68,418		99,069
Canteen takings		409		563
Total		87,189		108,635

(a) Including light oils distilling not less than 90 per cent. at 200°C.

(b) Undertakings were requested to return their figures in terms of the following equivalents:

Ammoniacal liquor and ammonium hydrate in terms of 100 per cent. ammonia.

Benzole refined in terms of motor benzole.

Sulphuric acid as 100 per cent. acid.

Sulphate of ammonia in terms of 20.8 per cent. nitrogen.

(c) For 1963 shown as Creosote/pitch mixtures.

(d) May include some sales for use as fuel in 1963.

(e) Including mixtures containing not more than 10 per cent. of bitumen.

(f) Amounts charged for hiring out plant, machinery or other goods, for providing transport, or for technical or other services rendered to other organisations.

(g) Including hire purchase interest.

TABLE 8 Total make of gas and intermediate products, 1963 and 1968 (a)

All undertakings in the industry: United Kingdom

	Returned in this industry			
	1963		1968	
	Th. therms	Mn. cu. ft.	Th. therms	Mn. cu. ft.
Gas (b)				
Coal gas	1,661,642	340,120	668,513	139,501
Oil gas	197,393	44,660	2,150,950	523,443
Water gas	459,381	96,306	142,725	37,924
Producer gas	9,420	7,620		
Other gases produced for distribution	58,422	17,000		
Total	2,386,258	505,706	2,962,188	700,868
	Th. tons		Th. tons	
Intermediate products				
Coke	9,687		4,016	
Coke breeze	2,353		1,109	
Crude coal tar	1,587		685	
	Th. gal.		Th. gal.	
Crude benzole	26,326		8,864	
	Th. tons		Th. tons	
Ammoniacal liquor	68.0		21.5	
Creosote/pitch mixtures	154		11.5	
Refined benzole	42.5		11.4	
Ammonium hydrate	4.0		-	
Sulphuric acid	56.6		20.2	
Naphthalene	12.6		3.7	
	Th. gal.		Th. gal.	
Other benzole products	3,839		206	
Creosote oils	32,928		8,807	
	Th. tons		Th. tons	
Pitch	176		38.8	
Refined coal tar	131		48.1	
Phenol	13.5		886	
Crude tar acids			3.1	
Oil gas tar crude	57.7		14.5	
	Th. gal.		Th. gal.	
Tar bases	42.9		8.7	
Other tar acids	867		128	
	Th. tons		Th. tons	
Other tar products	2.2		0.2	
Sulphate of ammonia	56.1		18.6	
Spent oxide	213		127	
	Th. gal.		Th. gal.	
Naphtha	526		877	

(a) Total make of gas and intermediate products relates only to production by undertakings classified within the gas industry.

(b) Gas made before benzole extraction, including gas used in the works in which it was made.

TABLE 9 Purchases of selected principal products of the industry, 1963 and 1968

This table is not applicable to this industry.

TABLE 10 Materials and fuel purchased and used, 1963 and 1968

All undertakings in the industry: United Kingdom

	1963		1968	
	Quantity	Cost	Quantity	Cost
	Th. tons	£'000	Th. tons	£'000
Materials for use in production				
Coke, coke breeze and other by-products	..	3,729	154	2,157
Fuels for gas making				
Coal	22,100	132,623	9,225	59,728
Light oils	922	8,742	5,588	54,805
Gas oils	98.5	1,173	17.8	210
Heavy oils	269	1,866	116.4	742
Other fuels	..	58	..	88
Gas purifying materials	..	974	..	584
Iron castings	170	9,328	112	9,328
Wrought iron pipes and tubes and fittings for wrought iron pipes and tubes including welded, seamless, conduits, etc	174	11,503	164	12,569
Iron and steel not elsewhere specified except finished parts, wire and scrap	20.8	1,043	..	3,547
Light metals and non-ferrous metals in all forms except finished parts, wire and scrap	4.5	1,506	3.4	1,361
	Th. stds.		Th. stds.	
Softwood, sawn or planed, but not further prepared or manufactured (a)	0.9	114	0.8	118
Refractory materials	..	602	..	127
Protective clothing and footwear	..	274	..	478
Stationery and printing	..	1,217	..	2,222
	Th. gal.		Th. gal.	
Paint and varnish (including lacquers and stains)	234	325	152	230
	727	154	746	197
	Th. cwt.		Th. cwt.	
Lubricating oils and greases	5.3	25	4.9	27
Replacement parts for undertakings' own machinery, plant and vehicles, and accessories and consumable tools bought as replacement				
Tyres and other spare parts for undertakings' own road goods vehicles	..	3,589	..	1,118
Other	..	..	..	8,001
Other purchased materials	..	10,796	..	50,543
Packaging materials				
Paper and board	..	146	..	150
Jute and hessian piece-goods, sacks and bags (b)	..	78	..	25

Continued on next page

TABLE 10 (continued)

	1963		1968	
	Quantity	Cost	Quantity	Cost
Fuel and electricity (c)	Th. gal.	£'000	Th. gal.	£'000
Derv fuel and motor spirit for use in road vehicles	6,819	1,248	11,307	2,703
Other liquid fuels (including creosote/pitch mixtures, etc and liquefied petroleum gases) (d)	21,794	875	35,569	1,855
Gas purchased from coke ovens and other sources	Th. therms		Th. therms	
	919,768	26,588	2,231,300	60,460
Electricity	Th. kWh		Th. kWh	
	653,431	3,854	1,085,714	6,898
All other fuels	..	321	-	-
Total cost of materials and fuel used		222,751		280,272
Less cost of materials supplied to contractors for capital work		11,001		43,933
Net total cost of materials and fuel used		211,750		236,339
Goods purchased for merchanting or factoring (including cost of appliances, etc)		42,068		71,112
Canteen purchases		327		527
Total cost of purchases		254,144		307,979

(a) For 1963 described as 'Softwood sawn or planed, but not further prepared'.

(b) Piece goods were not specifically included for 1963.

(c) The total quantity of electricity generated by undertakings in the Gas industry was 173,396 Th. kWh in 1963 and 213,444 Th. kWh in 1968.

(d) Liquefied petroleum gases were not specifically included in 1963.

TABLE 11 Transport costs and employment, 1963 and 1968

All undertakings in the industry: United Kingdom

	Unit	1963	1968
Average number mainly employed on transport	No.	5,407	4,880
Transport costs			
Wages and salaries	£'000	3,937	5,095
Derv fuel and motor spirit	"	1,248	2,703
Tyres and other spare parts for road goods vehicles	"	..	1,118
Payments to other organisations for transport	"	3,020	2,574
Costs of operating road goods vehicles			
Insurance	"	153	244
Vehicle licences	"	328	747
Depreciation	"	1,141	1,643
Payments to other organisations for repairs and maintenance	"	452	798
Total	"	10,279 (a)	14,923

(a) Excluding purchases of tyres and other spare parts for road goods vehicles not separately recorded for 1963.

TABLE 12 Payments for certain services, etc., 1963 and 1968 (a)

All undertakings in the industry: United Kingdom

	Amounts payable	
	1963	1968
Repairs and maintenance to	£'000	£'000
Buildings	1,417	1,894
Road goods vehicles	452	798
Plant, machinery and other capital equipment	6,281	10,620
Insurance, licensing and depreciation of road goods vehicles (b)	1,621	2,634
Rates, excluding water rates	5,642	7,511
Hire of plant and machinery	616	1,329
Postage, telephone, telegrams, cables and telex (c)	1,826	3,273
Total	17,855	28,060

(a) No deduction is made for these payments to arrive at the figures of net output given in this report.

(b) For details see Table 11.

(c) Telex was not included for 1963.

TABLE 13 Percentage analysis of twelve-month periods covered by returns from larger undertakings, 1968

This table is not applicable to this industry.