

Methodology for Estimation of Energy Supplied

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1. INTRODUCTION

In terms of item 3 of Condition 35 of the Electricity Distribution & Supply Licence read together with Subsection 3 of Sections 49 and 50 of the Sri Lanka Electricity Act, No 20 of 2009, this Methodology for Estimation of Energy is approved by the Commission on the basis of the following. This document may be cited as the Methodology for Estimation of Energy and shall come into effect on the date on which this document is issued.

- a) In terms of item 5(1) of Schedule (III) of the Electricity Act, No. 20 of 2009, where a consumer of electricity is to be charged for his or her supply wholly or partly by reference to the quantity of electricity supplied, the Distribution Licensee may in the normal course of business, estimate the amount of electricity consumed by the consumer and recover charges accordingly, so long as the estimated consumption is confirmed by a Meter reading within a reasonable period of time.
- b) In terms of item 5(2) of Schedule (III) of the Electricity Act, No. 20 of 2009 , a Distribution Licensee shall be entitled to estimate consumption and recover charges accordingly, in the event of:
 - (i) A Meter (by which the quantity of electricity supplied to any consumer is ascertained) being proved to register consumption incorrectly;
 - (ii) The malfunction of any Meter; or
 - (iii) Any person altering the register of any Meter used for measuring the quantity of electricity supplied to any premises.
- c) In terms of item 5(3) of schedule III of the Sri Lanka Electricity Act, No. 20 of 2009, where the consumption of electricity has been estimated by a Distribution Licensee in accordance with item a) and b) above, the consumer shall pay for any electricity consumed in accordance with the estimate prepared by the Distribution Licensee or otherwise determined in accordance with the provisions relating to dispute resolution.
- d) In terms of item 1 (c) of Section 14 of the Sri Lanka Electricity (Amendment) Act, No 31 of 2013, every person who, intentionally or negligently
 - (i) alters the quantity of electricity as registered on any meter used for measuring the quantity of electricity supplied to any premises by a distribution licensee; or
 - (ii) prevents any meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied through that meter,shall be guilty of an offence under Sri Lanka Electricity Act, No.20 of 2009 and shall be liable on conviction after summary trial before a Magistrate in addition to a penalty of not less than ten thousand rupees and not exceeding fifty thousand rupees, to a fine in a sum of money being the value of the loss or damage caused to the licensee as a result of the act or default constituting such offence, and any sum recovered as such additional fine shall be paid to the licensee on application made to Court by such licensee.
- e) In terms of Sections 49(3) and 50(3) of the Sri Lanka Electricity Act, No. 20 of 2009, in the absence of any agreement and the extraction or improper use of electricity respectively, a licensee may charge for Energy supplied to any consumer in accordance with any method of charging provided for in the license.

- f) In terms of Condition 35 of the Electricity Distribution and Supply Licenses, a Distribution Licensee may estimate Energy supplied in the absence of an agreement in the event of:
- (i) Electricity supply with the absence of a Meter;
 - (ii) A Meter is proved to registering incorrectly;
 - (iii) The malfunction of any Meter;
 - (iv) Any person altering the register of any Meter used for measuring the quantity of electricity supplied to any premises.

In any other event the Distribution Licensee may adopt a reasonable methodology for estimation of Energy consumption and apply charges in accordance with Tariffs and Charges approved by the Commission.

2. APPLICABILITY

This methodology is applicable to Distribution Licensees, Customers and Consumers.

3. OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of this methodology is to define the method and procedure to be followed when estimating the consumption of Energy under specified events. It intends to encourage Distribution Licensees to ascertain the quantity of electricity supplied to Consumers by a Meter or Meters and to discourage Distribution Licensees from supplying electricity without Meters as well as supplying electricity through reported incorrectly registering Meters or reported malfunctioning (stopped registering) Meters. It also intends to encourage Consumers to take proper care of electricity Meters and inform the respective Distribution Licensee of any failure do so or abnormal Meter reading.

4. SCOPE

The methodology is to be applied in the event of item i, ii, iii and iv of Condition 35 of the Electricity Distribution & Supply Licenses, and item 1(a) & 1 (b) of the Section 49 and 50 of the Sri Lanka Electricity Act, No 31 of 2013.

5. DEFINITIONS

TERM	Definition
Act	Sri Lanka Electricity Act, No 31 of 2013
Agreement	Standard tariff agreement between the Distribution Licensee and the Customer to supply electricity
Allowed Creeping Condition	When no load is connected at Customer premises, the disc of an analog Meter may rotate slowly up to one rotation
Billing Period	Period of time between two consecutive Meter readings
Bulk Customer	A Customer whose contract demand exceeds 42kVA
Charges	Charges approved by the Commission under Section 30 of Act, No. 20 of 2009.
Commission	Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka
Consumer	A Consumer of electricity in Sri Lanka and includes a prospective Consumer.
Contract Demand	Maximum real (kW) or apparent (kVA) power Demand agreed to be supplied by the Licensee/Supplier as stated in the declaration made by

TERM	Definition
	the Customer or as computed from the service connection current rating
Customer	Means a Tariff Customer
Declared Voltage	A voltage or voltages declared by a Distribution Licensee for the supply of electricity to a Customer
Demand	The requirement for active power and reactive power unless otherwise stated
Distribution Licensee	A person who has been granted a distribution licence by the Commission under section 13(1)(c)(i)(c) of the Electricity Act, No. 20 of 2009;
Energy	Quantity of electrical Energy measured in units equal to one kilowatt hour (kWh) or multiples thereof such as: 1000 Wh = 1 kWh 1000 kWh = 1 MWh 1000 MWh = 1 GWh
Error	percentage Error calculated according to below formula $e = \frac{(\text{Recorded Energy consumption of the reported incorrectly registering Meter} - \text{Recorded Energy consumption of the series Test Meter}) \times 100\%}{\text{Recorded Energy consumption of the series Test Meter}}$
Load Factor	Ratio of total amount of Energy delivered during a given period to the total amount of Energy that could have been delivered, had the Maximum Demand been maintained throughout the same period. It is usually expressed as a percentage.
Maximum Demand	The greatest of all Demands of the load that has occurred within a specified period of time
Meter	Equipment used to measure electricity consumption and Maximum Demand during a particular period, including the current transformers, voltage transformers, power transformer, connection wires and Meter mounting
Meter Malfunctioning	Meter has stopped registering the Energy consumption
Over-Registering	The Meter registering the Customer's Energy consumption more than the correct value
Power Factor	Ratio of active power (kW) to apparent power (kVA)
Retail Customers	A Customer whose Contract Demand is less than 42 kVA
Service Connection Amperage	Maximum current (A) agreed to be supplied by the Licensee/Supplier as stated in the standard tariff agreement
Tariff	Tariffs approved by the Commission under Section 30 of the Act, No. 20 of 2009.
Test Meter	A Test Meter or instrument connected in series and is calibrated to measure the electricity supplied through the Meter/ equipment
Under-Registering	The Meter registering the Customers Energy consumption less than the correct value
Utilization Factor	Ratio of the Customers Maximum Demand to the Contract Demand

6. GENERAL INTERPRETATION

- 6.1. When a word or a phrase that is defined in the “Definitions and Abbreviations” is more particularly defined in another Code of the Distribution Code and if there is any inconsistency between the two definitions, the latter or that particular definition shall prevail.
- 6.2. Any reference to a gender shall include all genders.
- 6.3. Any reference to a person or entity shall include an individual, partnership, company, corporation, association, organization, institution, or other similar groups.
- 6.4. Unless otherwise specified, singular shall include the plural and vice-versa.
- 6.5. The word including or a grammatical variation thereof means “including but not limited to”
- 6.6. A reference to a standard shall include any revision, update or a replacement of that standard.

7. APPLICATION OF THE METHODOLOGY

Where a Consumer of electricity supplied by a Distribution Licensee is to be charged for supply, wholly or partly by reference to the quantity of electricity supplied, then, unless otherwise agreed between the Consumer and the Distribution Licensee, the supply shall be given through, and the quantity of electricity shall be ascertained by an appropriate Meter or Meters as the case may be.

7.1. Electricity supply with the absence of a Meter

7.1.1. Estimation of Energy consumption

In the event, a Consumer and a Distribution Licensee has agreed that the supply of electricity shall be given with the absence of a Meter or Meters, as the case may be, the Distribution Licensee shall in the normal course of business estimate the amount of electricity consumed by the Consumer on the basis of the average Energy consumption of Customers belong to the same Tariff category, and where applicable the Maximum Demand, identified in Appendix 1, and recover charges in accordance with the Tariffs and Charges applicable for the relevant period. Where Time of Use is applicable, the distribution of Energy consumption among the time intervals shall be based in accordance to Appendix II.

The Distribution Licensee shall determine the charges accordingly until the estimates are confirmed by a Meter reading within a reasonable period of time. However, the said reasonable period of time shall not be more than six (6) Billing Periods.

7.1.2. Correction of estimated Energy consumption

Once the Meter or Meters, as the case may be, are fixed, the Customer’s Energy consumption measured and recorded over the first three (3) Billing Periods shall be prorated and applied for the period of estimation. Where applicable the Maximum Demand shall be the average of the three Billing Periods.

7.1.3. Adjustment of charges

The correct charges for the period of estimation shall be determined in accordance with the Tariffs and Charges applicable for the relevant period as indicated below

7.1.3.1. Adjustment of charges, where the period of estimation is less than six Billing Periods

Where the period of estimation is less than six Billing Periods the charges shall be determined in accordance with the approved Tariffs and Charges applicable for the relevant period.

7.1.3.2. Adjustment of charges, where the period of estimation exceeds six Billing Periods

Where the period of estimation exceeds six Billing Periods, the charges in respect of the first six (6) Billing Periods shall be determined in accordance with the approved Tariffs and Charges applicable during such period, and the charges in respect of the period in excess of the six (6) Billing Periods shall be determined in accordance with the approved fixed charge applicable during such period (considering as zero energy consumption and where applicable, zero Maximum Demand) i. e. The Tariff in respect of the Energy consumed and Maximum Demand during the period in excess of the first six (6) Billing Periods shall not be charged.

The Customer’s account shall be adjusted accordingly, and where the Customer has been over charged, the adjusted amount shall be credited to the Customer’s account within three (3) Billing Periods.

Where the Customer has been undercharged, the Customer shall be given a minimum of 06 Billing Periods for settlement of the correct charges from the appearance of the adjustment in the bill, without any penalty being imposed.

7.2. A Meter is proved to registering incorrectly

7.2.1. Calculation of the Error

Where a Meter is suspected to be registering incorrectly, the Error, if any, will be ascertained by an instrument or a Meter calibrated for this purpose (referred to herein as a Test Meter), connected in series. The Error (e) will be calculated according to the formula below:

$$e = \frac{(\text{Recorded Energy consumption of the reported incorrectly registering Meter} - \text{Recorded Energy consumption of the series Test Meter}) \times 100\%}{\text{Recorded Energy consumption of the series Test Meter}}$$

7.2.2. Consumer’s acknowledgement

Prior to ascertaining the Energy, if any, the Licensee shall explain to the Consumer the procedure to be followed and the formula to be used in doing so. In addition, the Licensee shall display the readings of both the series Test Meter and the reported incorrectly registering Meter and obtain the Consumer’s acknowledgement of same. Further, the Licensee shall also explain to the Consumer his or her right to lodge a complaint if he or she is not satisfied that the Licensee followed the procedure as acknowledged by the Consumer and/ or the conclusion arrived through the procedure.

7.2.3. Estimation of Energy consumption

If the magnitude of the Error so determined is greater than 2.5% ($|e| > 2.5\%$), except under allowed creeping condition (under no load condition i.e. the current though the current coil of an analog Meter is zero, the disc of the Meter may rotate slowly up to one rotation, before getting stopped), the Meter will be proved to be registering incorrectly. The Error shall then be used to correct the recorded Energy consumption of the Customer for the relevant Billing Period according to the formula given below:

$$\text{Estimated Energy consumption for the relevant Billing Period} \\ = \frac{\text{Recorded Energy consumption for the relevant Billing Period} \times 100}{100 + e}$$

7.2.4. Under-Registering Energy consumption

7.2.4.1. Correction of Energy consumption where Consumer has reported the Error

Where the Consumer has reported that the Meter is registering incorrectly and the Meter is proven to have been under-registering the Energy consumption, the recorded Energy consumption shall be corrected only in respect of the current Billing Period and recorded Energy consumption of the Customer in respect of previous Billing Periods shall not be corrected.

7.2.4.2. Correction of Energy consumption where Licensee has detected the Error

Where the Distribution Licensee has detected that the Meter is registering incorrectly and the Meter is proven to have been Under-Registering the Energy consumption, the recorded Energy consumption shall be corrected in respect of the period commencing the date of the detection, which shall not exceed three (3) Billing Periods.

A summary of the correction periods identified in 7.2.4.1 and 7.2.4.2 is given in Appendix III (A).

7.2.4.3. Adjustment of charges

The correct charges for the period of incorrect Meter registering shall be determined in accordance with the Tariffs and Charges applicable for the relevant period.

Where the Customer has been undercharged, he/she shall be given a period commencing from the appearance of the adjustment in the bill and equal to that in respect of which his/her recorded Energy consumption was corrected, for settlement of related charges, without any penalty being imposed.

7.2.5. Over-Registering Energy consumption

7.2.5.1. Correction of Energy consumption where Consumer has reported and period can be ascertained

Where the Consumer has reported that the Meter is registering incorrectly and the Meter is proven to have been over-registering the Energy consumption, and the period of such incorrect Meter registering can be ascertained, the recorded Energy consumption of the Customer shall be corrected in respect of the corresponding Billing Period(s).

7.2.5.2. Correction of Energy consumption where Consumer reported and period cannot be ascertained

Where the Consumer has reported that the Meter is registering incorrectly and the Meter is proven to have been Over- Registering the Energy consumption, but the period of such incorrect Meter registering cannot be ascertained, the recorded Energy consumption of the Customer shall be corrected from the date of reporting. Notwithstanding the date of reporting, the correction shall not be less than 12 Billing Periods.

7.2.5.3. Correction of Energy consumption where Licensee has detected

Where the Distribution Licensee has detected that the Meter is registering incorrectly and the Meter is proven to have been Over-Registering the Energy consumption, the recorded Energy consumption of the Customer shall be corrected in respect of corresponding Billing Period(s), which shall not be less than three (3) Billing Periods.

A summary of then correction periods identified in 7.2.5.1, 7.2.5.2 and 7.2.5.3, is given in Appendix III (B).

7.2.5.4. Adjustment of charges

The correct charges for the period of incorrect Meter registering shall be determined in accordance with the Tariffs and Charges applicable for the relevant period, and the Customer's account shall be adjusted accordingly within three (03) Billing Periods.

7.2.6. Estimation of Maximum Demand

Where applicable, the Maximum Demand of the Customer shall be estimated by the Licensee on a case by case basis and determine the charges in accordance with the Tariff and Charges applicable for the relevant period.

7.2.7. Replacement of Meter

The Meter(s) shall be replaced within one Billing Period.

7.3. The malfunctioning of any Meter (Meter stopped registering)

7.3.1. Correction of Energy consumption where the period of malfunctioning can be ascertained

Where any Meter is reported by the Consumer or is detected by the Distribution Licensee to be malfunctioning i.e. the Meter has stopped registering altogether, and where the period of such malfunctioning can be ascertained by inspection of the Meter reading record(s) or by other means, such period shall be used to determine the Energy consumption of the Consumer and related charges shall be corrected in respect of such period.

7.3.2. Correction of Energy consumption where the period cannot be ascertained

Where any Meter is reported by the Consumer or is detected by the Distribution Licensee to be malfunctioning i.e. the Meter has stopped registering altogether, but where the period of such malfunctioning of the Meter cannot be ascertained by inspection of the Meter reading record(s) or by other means, the Energy consumption of the Consumer and related charges shall be corrected in respect of the period commencing the date of reporting or the date of detection, as the case maybe. Notwithstanding the date of reporting or the date of detection, the correction period shall not exceed 12 billing periods.

7.3.3. Estimation of Energy consumption where past Energy consumption data is available

The Energy consumption shall be estimated based on the average Energy consumption of the immediately preceding consecutive three (03) Billing Periods (or such other 3 Billing Periods as mutually agreed by the Customer and the Distribution Licensee) prorated for the period of such malfunctioning. Where applicable, the Maximum Demand shall be estimated based on the average of the recorded Maximum Demand of the immediately preceding 03 Billing Periods (or such other 3 Billing Periods as mutually agreed by the Customer & the Licensee).

7.3.4. Estimation of Energy consumption where past Energy consumption data is not available

Where past Energy consumption data is not available or the past Energy consumption is nil, once the Meter or Meters, as the case may be, are replaced, the Customer's Energy consumption measured and recorded over the first three (3) Billing Periods shall be prorated and applied for the period of estimation. Where applicable the Maximum Demand shall be the average of the three Billing Periods.

7.3.5. Adjustment of charges

The correct charges for the period of Meter Malfunctioning shall be determined in accordance with the Tariffs and Charges applicable for the relevant period, and the Customer account shall be adjusted accordingly.

Where the Customer has been undercharged, the Customer shall be given not less than a corresponding period as the period of Malfunctioning Meter for settlement of related charges from the appearance of the adjustment in the bill, without any penalty being imposed.

7.3.6. Replacement of Meter

The Meter(s) shall be replaced within one Billing Period.

7.4. Any person altering the register of any Meter used for measuring the quantity of electricity supplied to any premises or preventing any Meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied through the Meter

7.4.1. Correction of Energy consumption where the period can be ascertained

Where any person is convicted of an offence under Section 50 (1) (c) the Act, No 31 of 2013 as amended, and the period of altering the register of any Meter used for measuring the quantity of electricity supplied to any premises or preventing any Meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied through the Meter can be determined by inspection of the Meter reading record(s) or by other means, the recorded Energy consumption shall be corrected in respect of such period. However, the correction period shall not exceed 12 Billing Periods.

7.4.2. Determination of period for estimating in case of period cannot be ascertained

Where any person is convicted of an offence under Section 50 (1) (c) the Act, No 31 of 2013 as amended, but the period of altering the register of any Meter used for measuring the quantity of electricity supplied to any premises or preventing any Meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied through the Meter cannot be determined by inspection of the Meter reading record(s) or by other means, the recorded Energy consumption shall be corrected in respect of the preceding three (3) Billing Periods.

7.4.3. Estimation of Energy consumption

In respect of Retail Customers, the Contract Demand in kVA shall be determined based on the Declared Voltage, Service Connection Amperage and number of phases. In respect of the Bulk Customers, the Contract Demand shall be the same as that identified in the Bulk Customer's Standard tariff Agreement. Where the Contract Demand is given in kW, the Contract Demand in kVA shall be calculated using the applicable Power Factor of the respective Tariff category given in Appendix IV of this Methodology.

The corrected Energy consumption of the Consumer, for each day of the period of alteration of the Meter(s) shall be estimated according to the formula below:

Estimated daily Energy consumption (kWh) =
Contract Demand (kVA)x(Utilization Factor)x (Load factor)x(Power Factor)x(24 hours)

The Utilization Factor, Load Factor and the Power Factor applicable to each Tariff category are given in the said Appendix IV. In respect of Bulk Customers whose Contract Demand is higher than 160 kVA, the Utilization Factor shall be decided by the Licensee on case by case basis.

Where applicable, the Maximum Demand shall be estimated according to the formula below:

Maximum Demand (kVA) = Contract Demand in (kVA) x (Utilization Factor)

Where Time of use is applicable, the distribution of Energy consumption among the time intervals is given in the Appendix II.

However, where the recorded energy consumption of the Customer for any Billing Period identified according to either 7.4.1 or 7.4.2 above is higher than the estimated Energy consumption for the same billing period, the Energy consumption for such period shall not be corrected,

7.4.4. Adjustment of charges

The correct charges for the period of altering the register of the Meter or preventing it from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied shall be determined in accordance with the Tariffs and Charges applicable for the relevant period.

7.4.5. Disposing of Meters

Where any person is convicted of an offence under Section 50 (1) (c) the Act, No 31 of 2013 as amended, and the Meter(s) in respect of which the offence was committed is removed, the Distribution Licensee shall keep the Meter(s) in safe custody until the Commission authorizes the Distribution Licensee to destroy or otherwise dispose of it.

8. ESTIMATION OF ENERGY CONSUMPTION IN THE ABSENCE OF AN AGREEMENT

Where any person is convicted under Sections 49(1) or 50(1) of the Act, No 20 of 2009 as amended, a certificate issued by the Distribution Licensee shall be received as proof of the value of the loss or damage caused to the Distribution Licensee as a result of the act or default constituting such offence, in the absence of evidence to the contrary. In the absence of any Agreement, a Distribution Licensee may estimate and charge for the Energy and where applicable Maximum Demand on case by case basis.

APPENDICES

Appendix I: Estimated daily Energy consumption where the Consumer has been given a supply of electricity in the absence of a Meter

Customer Type	Contract Demand (A)	Average Consumption ¹ (kWh per day of billing)		Maximum Demand (kVA)
		Single phase	Three phase	
Domestic (D-1)	15	1	N/A	N/A
	30	2	6	N/A
	60	N/A	12	N/A
	100	7	21	N/A
Religious (R-1)	15	3	9	N/A
	30	5	15	N/A
	60	10	30	N/A
	100	17	51	N/A
General Purpose- 1 (GP-1)	15	3	9	N/A
	30	6	18	N/A
	60	12	36	N/A
Government- 1 (GV-1)	15	3	9	N/A
	30	6	18	N/A
	60	12	36	N/A
Hotel-1 (H-1)	15	7	21	N/A
	30	13	39	N/A
	60	26	78	N/A
Industrial-1 (I-1)	15	9	27	N/A
	30	17	51	N/A
	60	34	102	N/A
General Purpose- 2 (GP-2)	≤160 kVA	All	565	45
	>160kVA	All	To be decided on case by case basis by the Distribution Licensee	
Government- 2 (GV-2)	≤160 kVA	All	565	45
	>160kVA	All	To be decided on case by case basis by the Distribution Licensee	
Hotel-2 (H-2)	≤160 kVA	All	1670	120
	>160kVA	All	To be decided on case by case basis by the Distribution Licensee	
Industrial-2 (I- 2)	≤160 kVA	All	1100	90
	>160kVA	All	To be decided on case by case basis by the Distribution Licensee	

¹Calculated on the basis of monthly average electricity sales data indicated in the Statistical Digest 2011, published by Ceylon Electricity Board

Customer Type	Contract Demand (A)	Average Consumption (kWh per day of billing)		Maximum Demand (kVA)
		Single phase		
General Purpose- 3 (GP-3)	All	To be decided on case by case basis by the Distribution Licensee		
Government- 3 (GV-3)	All	To be decided on case by case basis by the Distribution Licensee		
Hotel-3 (H-3)	All	To be decided on case by case basis by the Distribution Licensee		
Industrial-3 (I-3)	All	To be decided on case by case basis by the Distribution		

Appendix II: Distribution of Energy consumption among the time intervals where the Customer is charged under the time of use Tariff

Interval	Percentage Consumption
Day	50%
Peak	15%
Off Peak	35%

Appendix III (A): Determination of correction period of Under-registering

Customer Reported	Licensee detected
No back- charge	Back- charge up to date of detection but not more than 3 billing periods

Appendix III (B): Determination of correction period of Over-registering

		Customer Reported	Licensee detected
Exact period of incorrect registering can be ascertained	Yes	Refund for the ascertained period of incorrect registering	Back- charge up to date of detection but not less than 3 billing periods
	No	Back- charge up to date of reporting but not less than 12 billing periods	

Appendix IV: Applicable Power Factors, Utilization Factors and Load Factors for estimation of Energy where any person is convicted of altering the register of any Meter used for measuring the quantity of electricity supplied to any premises or preventing any Meter from duly registering the quantity of electricity supplied through the Meter

Customer Category	Utilization Factor	Load Factor	Power Factor
Domestic (D-1)	0.3	0.25	0.95
Religious (R-1)			
Industrial-1 (I-1)	0.5	0.4	0.85
Hotel-1 (H-1), General Purpose-1 (GP-1), Government (GV-1)	0.5	0.4	0.95
Industrial-2(I-2), Hotel-2(H-2)	≤160 kVA	0.5	0.85
	>160kVA	case by case basis	
General Purpose-2 (GP-2), Government (GV-2)	≤160 kVA	0.5	0.90
	>160kVA	case by case basis	
Industrial- 3(I-3), Hotel- 3(H-3)	case by case basis	0.5	0.85
General Purpose-3 (GP-3), Government (GV-3)		0.5	0.9