

Damascus electricity market trends

Hama and Damascus have also been damaged but have since been partially repaired. In 2021, the Ministry of Electricity estimated the sector's production and transmission reconstruction cost at USD 2.4 billion. Though difficult to quantify, indirect losses in lost output in other sectors due

The last ten years have greatly taken their toll on the service conditions associated with electricity in Damascus; according to a research study prepared by researchers Sinan Hatahet and Karam Shaar, the per capita consumption of state electricity is now 15 percent less of what it was in 2010.

As access to the government-supplied electrical current deteriorates--seemingly without end--turning to the black market for electricity has become a pressing need for many families in most Syrian provinces controlled by the regime.

Since the beginning of winter, power cuts (rationing) in Damascus have increased to at least eight hours of disconnection for less than one hour of connection, with variation in the cuts between one area and another.

Demand on candles has grown due to severe power shortage in the Syrian capital, Damascus, and other areas under the Assad regime's control amid a fuel crisis that disrupted not only power plants...

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Residents of the Syrian capital joke that electricity was more plentiful when battles were at the verge of Damascus as the outages exceed 20 hours, which makes most of the Damascene nights dark. The regime's government alleges that the limited capacities of power plants cannot meet the total needs of the capital and surrounding suburbs.

The electricity dilemma in Damascus and its countryside is not a recent one. The city has been suffering severe energy shortages for years due to the deterioration of power plants, which was aggravated by the destruction of gas pipelines during military operations. As a consequence, the hours of power outages increased, and the problem is exacerbated when irregular power cuts occur.

The quality of electricity in the capital is described as "beyond terrible" in a poll conducted by Enab Baladi in Qudssaya suburb in the western countryside of Damascus. Usually, electricity is available for one hour, and then it is cut for six hours.

However, the recurrent irregular power outages in the city became as usual as about five or seven outages

during that one hour, during which electricity is supposed to be available.

In light of these deteriorating conditions of electricity supply, families are utterly unable to perform the type of daily activities that necessitate the use of electric energy--the frequent and irregular cuts during that one hour of available electricity exhaust the electrical appliances at homes.

During the first half of 2021, electric energy rationing in Damascus meant five hours of outage for every hour of electricity, according to the study issued in September 2021.

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