



# Natural Gas in RHODE ISLAND

## FAST FACTS



A new natural gas home costs almost **half as much** a year to operate compared to an electric equivalent.<sup>1</sup>



The natural gas industry supports more than **7,400 jobs**.<sup>2</sup>



Natural gas generates **89%** of the state's electricity.<sup>3</sup>



The Direct, Indirect, and Induced value of natural gas totaled more than **\$1.8 Billion** in 2015.



## CONSUMER TRENDS

Natural gas is used by<sup>4</sup>:

- **244,000** households
- **24,628** commercial buildings including hospitals, schools and businesses
- **291** industrial users



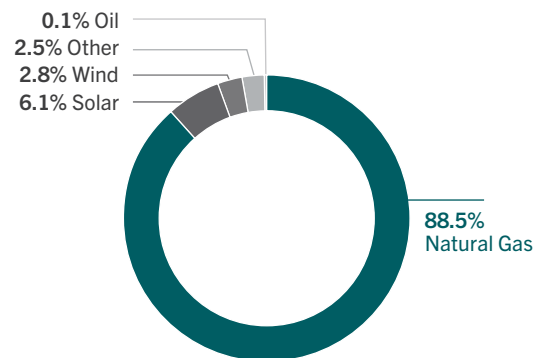
Natural gas accounted for more than **1/4** of Rhode Island's total end-use consumption in 2018.<sup>5</sup>



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND EMISSIONS

- Natural gas utilities in Rhode Island spent more than **\$6.6 million** on energy efficiency programs for low-income households and an additional **\$10.9 million** on residential programs in 2018.<sup>6</sup>
- Between 1990 and 2019, Rhode Island saw a **79% decrease** in known asthma and cancer-causing hazardous air pollutants, including CO, NH<sub>3</sub>, NOX, PM-10 and -25, VOC, SO<sub>2</sub>.<sup>7</sup>

Rhode Island's Electricity Mix<sup>8</sup>



In 2016, natural gas distribution systems represented **only 1.4%** of Rhode Island's total greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>9</sup>



## PRICE TRENDS

- The cost of natural gas per MMBtu is **\$13.32** vs. **\$60.27** for electricity.
- Natural gas prices since 2010 have **dropped 15%** on average in Residential, Commercial and Industrial sectors while electricity prices have increased.<sup>10</sup>



## NATURAL GAS IN YOUR STATE



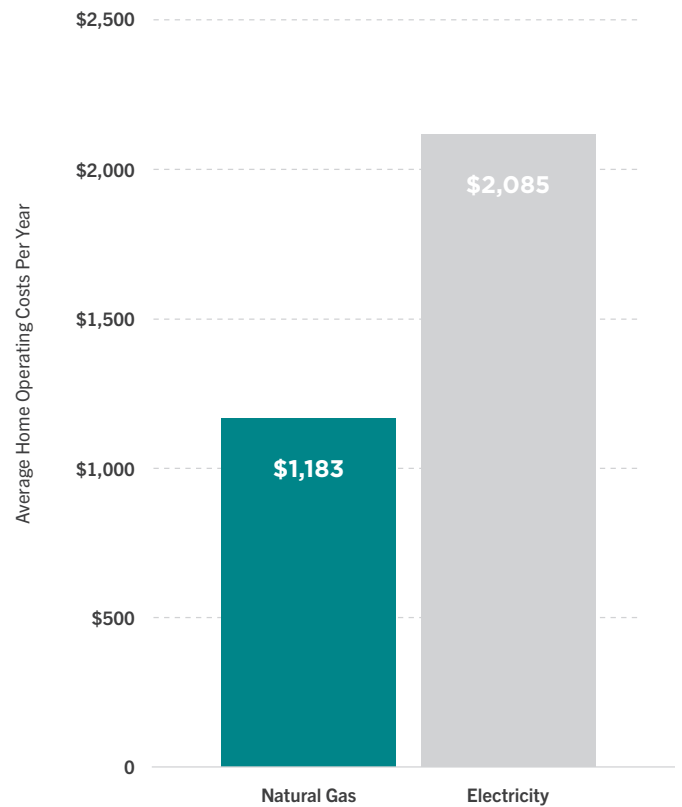
There are more than **3,000 miles** of natural gas pipelines in Rhode Island.<sup>11</sup>

- Natural gas fuels **85%** of Rhode Island’s combined heat and power (CHP) sites.<sup>12</sup>
  - CHP is the concurrent production of electricity or mechanical power and useful thermal energy (heating and/or cooling) from a single source of energy.
- In Fiscal Year 2020, Rhode Island received **\$21.5 million** in Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funding.<sup>13</sup>
  - LIHEAP is a federal block grant program that provides financial assistance to low and fixed-income individuals for fuel and utility bills, as well as low-cost weatherization and energy-related home repairs.



## Annual Cost to Operate a New Home

Comparing Average Annual Operation Costs for New Homes in Rhode Island<sup>14</sup>



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