NATURAL GAS IN MINNESOTA

FAST FACTS

- A new natural gas home costs $1,206 less to operate compared to an electric equivalent.
- Minnesota adds about 2 natural gas customers every hour.¹
- The natural gas industry supports 61,100 jobs.²

CONSUMER TRENDS

Natural gas is used by³:
- 1.5 million households
- 140,880 commercial buildings including hospitals, schools, and businesses
- 2,160 industrial users

Natural gas generates 13.9% of the state’s electricity.⁴

PRICE TRENDS

- The cost of electricity is $45.28 vs $8.39 for natural gas per MMBtu.
- The residential price of natural gas is 80% cheaper than the residential price of electricity.
- Natural gas prices have decreased in Residential, Commercial, and Industrial sectors since 2005.⁵

Annual Cost to Operate a New Home⁶

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<th>Electricity</th>
<th>Natural Gas</th>
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<td>$1983</td>
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70% of households rely on natural gas.

¹ AGA, 2020 Industry Trends Report
² AGA, 2020 Industry Trends Report
³ AGA, 2020 Industry Trends Report
⁴ AGA, 2020 Industry Trends Report
⁵ AGA, 2020 Industry Trends Report
⁶ AGA, 2020 Industry Trends Report
ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND EMISSIONS

- Natural gas utilities spent more than $45 million on energy efficiency programs in 2017, including more than $4 million on programs for low-income households.\(^7\)
- Between 1990 and 2017, Minnesota saw a 55% decrease in known asthma and cancer-causing hazardous air pollutants, including CO, NH\(_3\), NOX, PM-10 and -25, VOC and SO\(_2\).\(^8\)

NATURAL GAS IN YOUR STATE

- Natural gas combined heat and power is utilized at 17 sites across Minnesota.\(^10\)
  - Combined heat and power is the concurrent production of electricity or mechanical power and useful thermal energy (heating and/or cooling) from a single source of energy.
- There are more than 35,000 miles of natural gas pipeline in Minnesota as of 2018.
- In Fiscal Year 2020, Minnesota received $105.7 million in Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funding.\(^11\)
  - 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.

IN THE MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL METRO AREA:

- 84% of households rely on natural gas for heating
- 83% of households rely on natural gas for water heating.
- 51% of households rely on natural gas for cooking.

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1. https://www.eia.gov/naturalgas/annual/
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