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RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS’ WINTER UTILITY BILLS

Findings

- For the past eight winter heating seasons, bills for natural gas households on average were lower than those for electric only households, according to the Energy Information Administration.
- Electric only household winter bills followed a similar pattern to gas households in that winter temperatures impacted energy usage and thus average heating bills.
- The average consumer expenditure for a natural gas home increased slightly during the 2017-2018 winter, compared to the prior winter, driven by a higher average energy price while consumption remained at nearly the same level as the previous year.
- AGA’s estimate of a 5 percent increase in 2017-18 winter heating season bills closely matches EIA’s March 2018 Short-term Energy Outlook estimate.
- Looking at the past eight winters, average winter residential natural gas home heating bills ranged from $519 in 2015/16 to $680 in 2010/11. During the same period, average electric home heating bills ranged from $842 in 2010/11 to $960 in 2014/15.

| Average Residential Winter Space Heating Bills (2010 – 2018) |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 10-11                       | 11-12                       | 12-13                       | 13-14                       | 14-15                       | 15-16                       | 16-17                       | 17-18                       |
| Natural Gas                 | $ 680                       | $ 571                       | $ 607                       | $ 678                       | $ 642                       | $ 519                       | $ 575                       | $ 597                       |
| Electricity                 | $ 884                       | $ 842                       | $ 895                       | $ 955                       | $ 960                       | $ 896                       | $ 906                       | $ 958                       |

*Winter covers the period October 1 through March 31.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Short-Term Energy Outlook, March 2018
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