



Natural Gas Space Heating Grows, Electric Heat Pumps Replacing Inefficient Electricity

Main Space Heating Source - Residential Energy Consumption Survey			
(Million homes)	2015	2020	Change
Gas Heating	57.7	62.7	5.0 (8.7%)
Electric Heating	40.9	42.6	1.7 (4.1%)

The recent pace of natural gas space heating additions was twice that of electric space heating additions, based on the Residential Energy Consumption Survey. There were more than 5 million new homes that used natural gas for main space heating added between 2015 and 2020. The additions of new natural gas heated homes are three times higher than the number of new electric space-heating homes.

Main Space Heating Source - Residential Energy Consumption Survey						
(Million homes)	1993	1997	2001	2005	2015	2020
All Homes	96.6	101.5	107.0	111.1	118.2	123.5
Electric Homes - All Equipment Types	25.3	29.6	30.9	33.7	40.9	42.6
(% of All Homes)	(26.2%)	(29.2%)	(28.9%)	(30.3%)	(34.6%)	(34.5%)
Electric Heat Pumps	7.5	9.7	10.4	9.2	11.8	17.2
(% of Electric Homes)	(29.6%)	(32.8%)	(33.7%)	(27.3%)	(28.9%)	(40.4%)

The number of homes with electric heat pumps continues to increase but appears to be largely installed as a replacement for inefficient electric resistance heat. The share of all homes using electric heat didn't increase between 2015 and 2020, suggesting that electric heat pumps are replacing existing electric heating systems and not natural gas.

Source: Energy Information Administration Residential Energy Consumption Survey
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