

RESIDENTIAL ENERGY COST ANALYSIS FOR GREATER WASHINGTON REGION

Based on data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), prices in the broader Pacific region follow patterns comparable to those in Washington state, offering an indication of expected household energy cost trends across the Region. When analyzing the cost of energy for Washington households, state prices and use are only available through the spring of 2026. Modeling future energy prices is available only from the EIA for the Pacific Census Region.

In 2025, the average EIA-reported residential prices in Washington were:

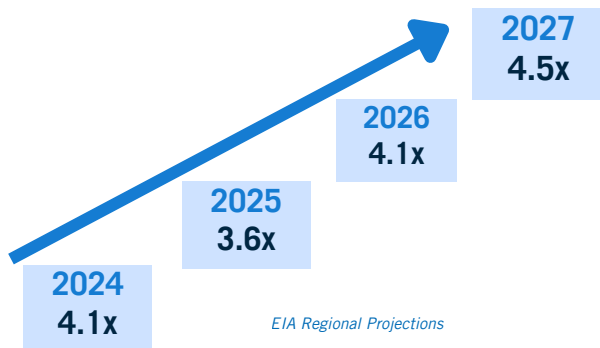
Natural Gas

\$17.62 per Mcf, up from \$12.72 in 2024

Electricity

13.11 Cents per kWh, up from 11.90 cents in 2024

On an energy-equivalent basis, **electricity costs about 2.3 times as much as natural gas in 2025, down from 2.8 times in 2024.** This was below the Pacific average of 3.6 times, which is heavily influenced by California's economy. Nevertheless, Washington, Oregon, and California have all experienced a widening gap between electricity and natural gas prices in recent years, and that trend is expected to continue in 2026.



Month	Natural Gas Price \$/Mcf		Electricity Price cents/kWh		Natural Gas Price \$/MMBtu		Electricity Price \$/MMBtu		Electric to Gas Ratio	
Year	2024 / 2025		2024 / 2025		2024 / 2025		2024 / 2025		2024 / 2025	
January	\$11.57 / \$15.71		11.07 / 11.78		\$11.16 / \$15.15		\$32.44 / \$34.52		2.9x / 2.3x	
February	\$11.75 / \$16.82		11.38 / 12.47		\$11.33 / \$16.22		\$33.35 / \$36.55		2.9x / 2.3x	
March	\$11.91 / \$17.55		11.70 / 12.62		\$11.49 / \$16.92		\$34.29 / \$36.99		3.0x / 2.2x	
April	\$12.29 / \$18.43		11.82 / 13.02		\$11.85 / \$17.77		\$34.64 / \$38.16		2.9x / 2.1x	
May	\$13.79 / \$19.80		12.14 / 13.65		\$13.30 / \$19.09		\$35.58 / \$40.00		2.7x / 2.1x	
June	\$17.70 / \$22.11		12.31 / 12.96		\$17.07 / \$21.32		\$36.08 / \$37.98		2.1x / 1.8x	
July	\$17.09 / \$25.71		12.04 / 13.45		\$16.48 / \$24.79		\$35.29 / \$39.42		2.1x / 1.6x	
August	\$19.41 / \$25.05		12.16 / 13.64		\$18.72 / \$24.16		\$35.64 / \$39.97		1.9x / 1.7x	
September	\$16.78 / \$23.40		12.39 / 13.79		\$16.18 / \$22.57		\$36.31 / \$40.41		2.2x / 1.8x	
October	\$13.12 / \$18.72		12.48 / 14.06		\$12.65 / \$18.05		\$36.58 / \$41.21		2.9x / 2.3x	
November	\$12.41 / \$16.72		12.37 / 13.85		\$11.97 / \$16.12		\$36.25 / \$40.59		3.0x / 2.5x	
December	\$11.89 / \$15.51		11.85 / 13.33		\$11.47 / \$14.96		\$34.73 / \$39.07		3.0x / 2.6x	
Average	\$12.72 / \$17.62		11.90 / 13.11		\$12.27 / \$16.99		\$34.88 / \$38.42		2.8x / 2.3x	

Average Energy Costs During Winter Storm Fern

Seasonal price patterns can make natural gas particularly cost-effective for space heating, especially in homes that also use natural gas for water heating, cooking, or clothes drying. Although Washington's average electricity-to-natural-gas price ratio was about 2.3 times in 2025, the ratio may fall to around 2.0 times during the summer and rise to approximately 3.0 times during the winter. This estimate assumes that 2026 follows a seasonal pattern like 2024.

Washington First-Year and Lifecycle Cost Analysis for New Single-Family Homes

Using the methodology outlined in the AGA Building for Efficiency report, estimated heating costs were calculated for typical new single-family homes in the Greater Washington area. A family living in a new single-family home with natural gas could save around \$159 per year compared with an all-electric, air-source heat pump. The use of a standard cold climate model would be comparable to a high-efficiency furnace. **Over the life of the equipment, that same household can save between \$1,000 and \$6,000.**

