

Table HC8.6 Air Conditioning Characteristics by Urban/Rural Location, 2005
Million U.S. Housing Units

Housing Unit Characteristics	Housing Units (millions)	Urban/Rural Location (as Self-Reported)			
		City	Town	Suburbs	Rural
Total	111.1	47.1	19.0	22.7	22.3
Do Not Have Cooling Equipment	17.8	8.5	2.7	2.6	4.0
Have Cooling Equipment	93.3	38.6	16.2	20.1	18.4
Use Cooling Equipment.....	91.4	37.8	15.9	19.8	18.0
Have Equipment But Do Not Use it.....	1.9	0.9	0.3	0.3	0.4
Air-Conditioning Equipment ^{1, 2}					
Central System.....	65.9	25.8	10.9	16.6	12.5
Without a Heat Pump.....	53.5	21.2	9.7	13.7	8.9
With a Heat Pump.....	12.3	4.6	1.2	2.8	3.6
Window/Wall Units.....	28.9	13.4	5.6	3.9	6.1
1 Unit.....	14.5	6.8	2.3	2.0	3.3
2 Units.....	9.1	4.1	1.9	1.2	1.9
3 or More Units.....	5.4	2.4	1.4	0.7	0.9
Central Air-Conditioning	65.9	25.8	10.9	16.6	12.5
Housing Units Served by Central Air-Condition Equipment					
One Housing Unit.....	64.2	24.9	10.7	16.1	12.5
Two or More Housing Units.....	1.7	0.9	Q	0.5	Q
Do Not Have Central A/C Equipment.....	45.2	21.3	8.0	6.1	9.8
Number of Rooms Cooled by Central Air-Conditioning in Summer 2005					
None.....	1.4	0.7	Q	Q	Q
1.....	0.7	0.3	Q	Q	Q
2.....	2.1	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.4
3.....	7.5	3.7	1.2	1.6	1.1
4.....	7.9	3.6	1.6	1.4	1.2
5 or More.....	46.3	16.8	7.4	12.6	9.6
Proportion of Rooms Air-Conditioned					
None.....	1.4	0.7	Q	Q	Q
Some, But Not All of the Rooms.....	8.4	3.0	1.3	2.4	1.7
All of the Rooms.....	56.1	22.2	9.5	13.9	10.5
Frequency of Central Air-Conditioner Use					
Never.....	1.4	0.7	Q	Q	Q
Only a Few Times When Needed.....	11.4	4.9	1.8	2.9	1.8
Quite a Bit.....	12.6	4.9	2.1	3.1	2.5
All Summer.....	40.5	15.3	6.8	10.3	8.0
Age of Central Air-Conditioner Used by One Housing Unit					
Less than 2 Years.....	9.0	3.4	1.4	2.4	1.8
2 to 4 Years.....	11.0	4.0	2.1	2.8	2.2
5 to 9 Years.....	16.3	5.9	2.7	3.8	3.9
10 to 19 Years.....	16.8	6.1	2.6	4.9	3.2
20 Years or More.....	6.5	3.1	1.2	1.4	0.8
Don't Know.....	4.5	2.5	0.7	0.8	0.4

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Housing Unit Characteristics	Housing Units (millions)	Urban/Rural Location (as Self-Reported)			
		City	Town	Suburbs	Rural
Used by Two or More Housing Units					
Less than 2 Years.....	Q	Q	N	N	N
2 to 4 Years.....	Q	Q	Q	N	N
5 to 9 Years.....	0.3	Q	Q	Q	Q
10 to 19 Years.....	0.3	Q	Q	Q	Q
20 Years or More.....	0.3	Q	N	Q	N
Don't Know.....	0.7	0.4	Q	Q	N
Household Pays for Electricity for Central Air-Conditioning					
Yes.....	63.6	24.7	10.4	16.1	12.4
No.....	2.3	1.1	0.5	Q	Q
Window/Wall Unit Air-Conditioning.....	28.9	13.4	5.6	3.9	6.1
Frequency Most-Used Unit Used					
Never.....	0.6	0.3	Q	Q	Q
Only a Few Times When Needed.....	12.1	5.8	2.2	1.7	2.4
Quite a Bit.....	7.5	3.2	1.7	1.1	1.6
All Summer.....	8.6	4.1	1.5	1.0	2.0
Age of Most-Used Unit					
Less than 2 Years.....	6.4	3.5	1.0	0.9	1.0
2 to 4 Years.....	7.8	3.4	1.7	1.0	1.8
5 to 9 Years.....	7.0	2.8	1.3	1.1	1.9
10 to 19 Years.....	3.7	1.6	0.7	0.5	0.8
20 Years or More.....	2.1	1.1	0.5	Q	0.3
Don't Know.....	1.8	1.0	0.4	Q	0.3
Household Pays for Electricity for Window/Wall Air-Conditioners					
Yes.....	26.1	11.6	5.1	3.6	5.8
No.....	2.2	1.4	0.4	Q	Q

1. In the 2005 RECS 1.5 million housing units reported having both central and window/wall air conditioners.

2. The number of housing units using air-conditioning includes a small, undetermined number of housing units where the fuel for central air-conditioning was some fuel other than electricity; these housing units were treated as if the air-conditioning fuel was electricity.

Q = Data withheld either because the Relative Standard Error (RSE) was greater than 50 percent or fewer than 10 households were sampled.

N = No cases in reporting sample.

Notes: • Because of rounding, data may not sum to totals. • See Glossary for definition of terms used in these tables.

Source: Energy Information Administration, Office of Energy Markets and End Use, Forms EIA-457 A, B, C of the 2005 Residential Energy Consumption Survey.