

**Table HC8.8 Water Heating Characteristics by Urban/Rural Location, 2005**  
**Million U.S. Housing Units**

Water Heating Characteristics	Housing Units (millions)	Urban/Rural Location (as Self-Reported)			
		City	Town	Suburbs	Rural
<b>Total</b> .....	111.1	47.1	19.0	22.7	22.3
<b>Number of Water Heaters</b>					
1.....	106.3	45.5	18.2	21.6	21.0
2 or More.....	3.7	1.0	0.6	0.9	1.1
Do Not Use Hot Water.....	1.1	0.6	Q	Q	Q
<b>Housing Units Served by Main Water Heater</b>					
One Housing Unit.....	99.7	39.4	17.4	21.0	21.8
Two or More Housing Units.....	10.3	7.1	1.4	1.5	Q
Do Not Use Hot Water.....	1.1	0.6	Q	Q	Q
<b>Main Water Heating Fuel</b>					
Electric.....	43.1	16.4	6.6	6.0	14.0
For One Housing Unit.....	40.3	14.6	6.2	5.6	14.0
For Two or More Housing Units.....	2.7	1.8	0.4	0.4	Q
Natural Gas.....	58.7	28.2	11.2	15.3	3.9
For One Housing Unit.....	52.5	24.0	10.3	14.3	3.9
For Two or More Housing Units.....	6.2	4.2	0.9	1.1	Q
Fuel Oil.....	4.0	1.4	0.7	0.9	1.0
For One Housing Unit.....	3.0	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.9
For Two or More Housing Units.....	1.1	0.9	Q	N	Q
Propane/LPG.....	4.0	0.5	0.2	0.3	3.0
Other.....	0.2	Q	Q	Q	Q
Do Not Use Hot Water.....	1.1	0.6	Q	Q	Q
<b>Age of Main Water Heater</b>					
<b>Used by One Housing Unit</b>					
Less than 2 Years.....	14.7	5.6	2.6	3.4	3.1
2 to 4 Years.....	18.6	6.8	3.3	4.0	4.5
5 to 9 Years.....	25.5	9.3	4.6	5.4	6.3
10 to 19 Years.....	20.1	7.5	3.2	5.0	4.5
20 Years or More.....	6.8	3.0	1.3	1.0	1.6
Don't Know.....	12.0	6.3	2.3	1.8	1.6
No Separate Water Heater.....	1.9	1.0	Q	Q	0.3
<b>Used by Two or More Housing Units</b>					
Less than 2 Years.....	0.3	Q	Q	Q	Q
2 to 4 Years.....	0.5	0.3	Q	Q	N
5 to 9 Years.....	0.5	0.3	Q	Q	N
10 to 19 Years.....	0.6	0.4	Q	Q	Q
20 Years or More.....	0.6	0.5	Q	Q	Q
Don't Know.....	4.4	2.9	0.7	0.8	Q
No Separate Water Heater.....	3.4	2.5	0.5	0.4	Q

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Water Heating Characteristics	Housing Units (millions)	Urban/Rural Location (as Self-Reported)			
		City	Town	Suburbs	Rural
<b>Size of Main Water Heater</b>					
<b>Used by One Housing Unit</b>					
Small (30 gallons or less).....	17.1	7.4	3.5	2.1	4.1
Medium (31 to 49 gallons).....	52.4	21.2	8.9	11.1	11.1
Large (50 gallons or more).....	27.1	9.6	4.3	7.2	6.1
Tankless water heater.....	1.1	0.3	0.4	Q	Q
No Separate Water Heater.....	1.9	1.0	Q	Q	0.3
<b>Used by Two or More Housing Units</b>					
Small (30 gallons or less).....	1.4	1.0	Q	0.3	Q
Medium (31 to 49 gallons).....	2.4	1.5	0.4	0.4	Q
Large (50 gallons or more).....	2.8	1.9	0.4	0.4	Q
Tankless water heater.....	0.2	0.2	N	N	Q
No Separate Water Heater.....	3.4	2.5	0.5	0.4	Q
<b>Other Water Heating</b>					
<b>Hot Tubs or Spas.....</b>					
Electricity.....	6.7	1.7	1.2	2.2	1.6
Natural Gas.....	5.3	1.3	1.0	1.6	1.4
	1.2	0.3	Q	0.5	Q
<b>Swimming Pools.....</b>					
Natural Gas.....	1.9	0.5	Q	0.9	0.4
Electricity.....	1.2	0.5	Q	0.5	Q
Propane/LPG.....	0.4	Q	Q	Q	Q
Some Other Fuel.....	0.3	N	Q	Q	Q
	Q	N	Q	N	N
<b>Electric Water Beds.....</b>					
1.....	2.2	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.7
2 or More.....	1.9	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.6
	0.3	Q	Q	Q	Q
<b>Heaters Used all Year.....</b>					
1.....	1.7	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5
2 or More.....	1.5	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.5
	0.3	Q	Q	Q	Q

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.