



Household heating bills expected to be higher than last winter, mainly driven by colder weather

U.S. households are expected to pay higher heating bills this winter compared to last winter mainly because the weather is forecast to be colder than the relatively mild weather seen last winter and fuel prices are forecast to be higher.

In its new forecast, the U.S. Energy Information Administration said households using heating oil will see a 38% jump in their heating fuel expenditures while propane bills will rise 26%.

Despite these projected increases, expenditures for heating oil would be 24% lower than the average cost over the five winters prior to last winter and the cost of propane would be 20% lower.

Nearly half of U.S. households rely on natural gas as their primary heating fuel and they will pay 22% more to stay warm this winter similar to average costs over the five winters prior to last winter.

Electricity bills will increase the least just 5% higher from last winter. While electricity prices will be mostly unchanged, electricity expenditures are expected to rise because of more demand for electric heat in response to colder weather than last winter.

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