

Table HC8.7 Air-Conditioning Usage Indicators by Urban/Rural Location, 2005
Million U.S. Housing Units

Air-Conditioning Usage Indicators	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
Type of 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 Usage					
Air-Conditioned Floorspace (Square Feet)					
None.....	45.2	21.3	8.0	6.1	9.8
1 to 499.....	3.9	2.1	0.8	0.6	0.5
500 to 999.....	15.0	7.5	2.6	3.0	2.0
1,000 to 1,499.....	15.6	6.7	2.7	3.3	2.8
1,500 to 1,999.....	11.1	4.5	1.9	2.3	2.4
2,000 to 2,499.....	7.0	1.8	1.2	2.6	1.4
2,500 to 2,999.....	5.2	1.6	0.6	2.0	1.0
3,000 or 3,499.....	2.7	0.5	0.4	1.0	0.9
3,500 to 3,999.....	1.8	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.5
4,000 or More.....	3.5	0.8	0.4	1.3	1.0
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

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At Home Behavior					
Home Used for Business					
Yes.....	6.4	1.8	0.8	1.9	2.0
No.....	59.5	24.0	10.1	14.7	10.6
Someone Home All Day					
Yes.....	32.7	11.5	6.2	8.1	7.0
No.....	33.1	14.3	4.7	8.5	5.6
Housing Unit Characteristics Affecting Usage in Centrally Air-Conditioned Housing Units					
Large Tree(s) that Shade the Home					
Yes.....	31.6	11.7	5.1	8.0	6.8
No.....	34.3	14.1	5.9	8.5	5.7
Adequacy of Insulation					
Well Insulated.....	29.5	10.2	4.8	7.5	6.9
Adequately Insulated.....	27.9	11.5	4.7	7.1	4.6
Poorly Insulated.....	7.3	3.3	1.2	1.9	1.0
No Insulation.....	0.3	Q	Q	Q	N
Don't Know.....	0.9	0.5	Q	Q	Q
Home Is Too Drafty During the Winter					
Never.....	42.6	16.4	7.1	10.3	8.9
Some of the Time.....	16.3	6.4	2.5	4.4	3.0
Most of the Time.....	2.5	1.2	0.5	0.6	0.2
All of the Time.....	2.2	1.0	0.4	0.5	0.3
Don't Know.....	2.2	0.8	0.5	0.8	Q
Unusually High Ceilings					
Yes.....	20.3	6.9	2.5	7.3	3.7
No.....	41.9	18.0	8.0	8.9	7.0
Not Asked (Mobile Homes).....	3.7	0.9	0.5	0.4	1.9
Cathedral Ceilings (In Housing Units with High Ceilings)					
Yes.....	13.5	4.7	1.5	5.1	2.3
No.....	6.7	2.2	0.9	2.2	1.4
Type of Glass in Windows					
Single-pane Glass.....	27.4	14.0	4.4	5.4	3.7
Double-pane Glass					
Without Low-e Coating.....	31.5	10.2	5.7	8.9	6.7
With Low-e Coating.....	5.8	1.4	0.6	2.1	1.8
Triple-pane Glass					
Without Low-e Coating.....	0.8	Q	Q	Q	Q
With Low-e Coating.....	Q	N	Q	Q	Q
Proportion of Windows Replaced					
All.....	11.5	4.0	2.3	3.1	2.0
Some.....	11.1	4.3	1.8	2.9	2.1
None.....	40.9	16.4	6.3	9.9	8.3

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Thermostats					
Thermostat Available During Summer					
Yes.....	63.9	25.1	10.5	16.1	12.2
No.....	1.9	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.3
Do Not Use Central Air-Conditioning.....	45.2	21.3	8.0	6.1	9.8
Use a Programmable Thermostat					
Yes.....	25.0	10.0	3.8	7.2	3.9
No.....	38.9	15.0	6.6	8.9	8.3
Use of Programmable Thermostats					
Adjusts Temperature During Day					
Yes.....	15.1	5.9	2.5	4.4	2.3
No.....	9.9	4.1	1.4	2.8	1.6
Adjusts Temperature at Night					
Yes.....	15.4	5.8	2.5	4.6	2.5
No.....	9.6	4.2	1.3	2.6	1.4
Do Not Use Central Air-Conditioning.....	45.2	21.3	8.0	6.1	9.8
Summer 2005 Temperature Settings					
Higher Temperature Settings					
Daytime When No One is Home					
Yes.....	0.5	Q	Q	Q	Q
No.....	50.8	19.3	8.4	12.9	10.2
Unknown.....	14.5	6.2	2.4	3.5	2.3
Do Not Use Central Air-Conditioning.....	45.2	21.3	8.0	6.1	9.8
At Night During Sleeping Hours					
Yes	7.3	2.3	1.3	2.2	1.5
No.....	44.3	17.3	7.3	10.9	8.8
Unknown.....	14.2	6.1	2.3	3.5	2.3
Do Not Use Central Air-Conditioning.....	45.2	21.3	8.0	6.1	9.8
Daytime Setting When Someone is Home					
Air Conditioner Turned On.....	52.0	19.8	8.7	13.2	10.4
69 Degrees or Less.....	4.8	1.8	1.0	1.2	0.7
70 Degrees.....	7.2	3.0	1.3	1.5	1.4
71 to 73 Degrees.....	8.8	3.1	1.3	2.6	1.8
74 to 76 Degrees.....	16.5	5.4	3.1	4.2	3.7
77 to 79 Degrees.....	11.1	4.9	1.5	2.6	2.0
80 Degrees or More.....	3.7	1.6	0.4	1.0	0.7
Don't Know/No Answer.....	1.1	0.4	Q	0.3	Q
Do Not Use Central Air Conditioning.....	45.2	21.3	8.0	6.1	9.8
Daytime Setting When No One is at Home					
Air Conditioner Turned On.....	49.5	18.5	8.3	12.5	10.1
69 Degrees or Less.....	3.6	1.4	0.8	0.7	0.6
70 Degrees.....	5.2	2.3	0.8	1.1	1.0
71 to 73 Degrees.....	6.0	2.1	1.0	1.4	1.5
74 to 76 Degrees.....	13.8	4.5	2.4	3.7	3.2
77 to 79 Degrees.....	10.7	4.3	1.8	2.8	1.8
80 Degrees or More.....	10.2	4.0	1.4	2.8	2.1
Don't Know/No Answer.....	1.6	0.6	0.3	0.4	Q
Air-Conditioner Turned Off.....	2.0	1.1	0.3	0.5	Q
Do Not Use Central Air Conditioning.....	45.2	21.3	8.0	6.1	9.8

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Setting During Seeping Hours					
Air Conditioner Turned On	51.0	19.3	8.6	13.0	10.1
69 Degrees or Less.....	5.7	2.1	1.2	1.3	1.0
70 Degrees.....	7.7	3.1	1.3	1.8	1.6
71 to 73 Degrees.....	8.3	2.8	1.4	2.3	1.8
74 to 76 Degrees.....	15.5	5.4	2.7	4.1	3.2
77 to 79 Degrees.....	9.7	4.2	1.4	2.3	1.8
80 Degrees or More.....	4.1	1.7	0.6	1.2	0.7
Don't Know/No Answer.....	1.3	0.6	Q	0.3	0.3
Air-Conditioner Turned Off.....	0.8	0.4	Q	Q	Q
Do Not Use Central Air Conditioning.....	45.2	21.3	8.0	6.1	9.8
Dehumidifier Use Each Year					
Use a Humidifier.....	13.3	3.8	2.7	3.7	3.1
1 to 3 Months Each Year.....	5.1	1.6	1.4	1.4	0.8
4 to 6 Months Each Year.....	4.4	1.4	0.7	1.0	1.4
7 to 9 Months Each Year.....	0.9	Q	Q	0.4	Q
10 to 11 Months.....	Q	Q	N	Q	Q
Turned on All Year Long.....	2.6	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.6
Do Not Use a Dehumidifier.....	97.8	43.3	16.3	19.0	19.2
Window/Wall Air Conditioners					
Frequency Most Used Unit Was 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
Energy Star Wall/Window (Most-Used) Unit					
Yes.....	4.6	1.9	1.1	0.6	1.0
No.....	2.7	1.3	0.5	Q	0.6
Don't Know.....	7.0	3.7	1.1	1.0	1.2
Unit is More Than 4 Years Old.....	14.6	6.5	2.8	2.0	3.3
Use a Swamp Cooler (Asked Only in Arid Areas)					
Yes.....	3.4	1.8	0.3	0.4	0.8
No.....	41.9	19.6	5.6	8.6	8.0
Not Asked.....	65.8	25.6	13.0	13.7	13.5

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.