



*Independent Statistics & Analysis*

U.S. Energy Information  
Administration

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## **Last year's warm U.S. winter temperatures to give way to normal, increasing household heating fuel use**

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U.S. households will likely burn more heating fuels to stay warm this winter compared with last year

Average household demand for natural gas, the most common primary heating fuel, is expected to be up 14 percent this winter, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration's new winter fuels forecast. Demand for electricity will be up 8 percent. And demand for heating oil, used mainly in the Northeast, is expected to be 17 percent higher with propane, used mostly in rural areas, also up 17 percent.

The primary reason for the boost in heating fuel demand is weather, which is expected to be 20 to 27 percent colder than last winter's unusually warm temperatures in regions of the country east of the Rocky Mountains. The West Coast is forecast to be 1 percent colder.

While prices for the major heating fuels will be mostly flat or lower compared with last winter, the expected near-normal temperatures this winter will cause most U.S. households to use more heating fuels and to spend more on heating compared to last year's mild winter.

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