

NEW YORK'S ENERGY SUPPLY OUTLOOK

WINTER 2025-26

This Year's Outlook

Adequate Supply

New York's utilities have made arrangements to have enough natural gas and electric supply to satisfy expected consumer demand for the upcoming 2025-2026 heating season. They are prepared to meet consumer demand in the event of more severe winter weather conditions.

Energy Bill Components

An electricity or natural gas bill consists of two main parts: delivery and supply.

- The *delivery* charge is the cost to transport the electricity or natural gas to you throughout the utility's system. This fee is regulated by the NYS Public Service Commission (PSC).
- The *supply* charge is the cost of the electricity or natural gas itself. The supply price is determined in a competitive marketplace and is not controlled by the PSC or the utilities.

On average, supply costs make up about 35-45% of your bill, depending on your local utility.

Anticipated Winter Supply Prices

In general, energy bills are expected to be similar to last winter.



An average residential electric consumer using 600 kWh of electricity per month is expected to be billed about \$60 per month for supply.



Natural gas bills are projected to be about 8% higher than last year. The average residential gas consumer, using 700 therms of natural gas from November through March, is expected to be billed about \$1120 in total for their gas usage.

The actual bill impact will vary by utility and with the weather: a colder than normal winter will cause usage and bills to increase.

Factors That Affect Energy Bills

Price

The price of electricity or natural gas rises, and falls based on many factors, including the weather, the balance between supply and demand, as well as the amount and cost of natural gas in storage. When one of these factors changes, such as a widespread and prolonged cold spell, overall demand for energy increases, which puts upward pressure on commodity prices. Any change in the cost of supply can have a significant impact on your overall energy bill.

Usage

The weather—especially the temperature—plays a significant role in how much electricity and natural gas we use. For heating consumers, the colder the weather, the more energy is used by the average household, potentially increasing winter energy bills.

Managing Winter Energy Bills

Your energy bill depends on how much energy you use and the rate you are paying. In general, the more energy you use, the higher your bill will be. Whether you own or rent, there are steps you can take to control your energy use and programs available to help with energy bills.

For more information, visit www.dps.ny.gov/winter, call 1-800-342-3377, or email web.questions@dps.ny.gov.



Consumer Protections

The Home Energy Fair Practices Act provides special protections for residential energy utility consumers regarding service terminations.

If you are facing an electric or gas shutoff, call the Department's Hotline at 1-800-342-3355.

HELP YOUR HOME HEAT BETTER



Insulate attics, foundations, heating ducts and hot water pipes



Caulk around windows and doors



Take advantage of financial assistance and **energy efficiency programs**



Open your shades on sunny days and close them at night



Install a **programmable thermostat**

To learn about ways to manage your heating bill, financial assistance programs, energy efficiency measures, and winter safety tips,

- Scan the QR code using your phone's camera
- Visit www.dps.ny.gov/winter
- Call **1-800-342-3377**

