

**Table HC8.4 Space Heating Characteristics by Urban/Rural Location, 2005**  
**Million U.S. Housing Units**

| Space Heating Characteristics                    | Housing Units<br>(millions) | Urban/Rural Location<br>(as Self-Reported) |      |         |       |
|--|-----------------------------|--|------|---------|-------|
|  |                             | City                                       | Town | Suburbs | Rural |
| <b>Total</b> .....                               | 111.1                       | 47.1                                       | 19.0 | 22.7    | 22.3  |
| <b>Do Not Have Space Heating Equipment</b> ..... | 1.2                         | 0.7  | Q    | 0.2     | Q     |
| <b>Have Main Space Heating Equipment</b> .....   | 109.8                       | 46.3                                       | 18.9 | 22.5    | 22.1  |
| Use Main Space Heating Equipment.....            | 109.1                       | 45.6                                       | 18.8 | 22.5    | 22.1  |
| Have Equipment But Do Not Use It.....            | 0.8                         | 0.7  | Q    | N       | N     |
| <b>Main Heating Fuel and Equipment</b>           |                             |  |      |         |       |
| Natural Gas.....                                 | 58.2                        | 27.0                                       | 11.9 | 14.9    | 4.3   |
| Central Warm-Air Furnace.....                    | 44.7                        | 19.8                                       | 8.6  | 12.8    | 3.6   |
| For One Housing Unit.....                        | 42.9                        | 18.8                                       | 8.3  | 12.3    | 3.5   |
| For Two Housing Units.....                       | 1.8                         | 1.0  | 0.3  | 0.4     | Q     |
| Steam or Hot Water System.....                   | 8.2                         | 4.4  | 2.1  | 1.4     | 0.3   |
| For One Housing Unit.....                        | 5.1                         | 2.1  | 1.6  | 1.0     | 0.3   |
| For Two Housing Units.....                       | 3.1                         | 2.2  | 0.5  | Q       | N     |
| Floor, Wall or Pipeless Furnace.....             | 2.3                         | 1.2  | 0.5  | 0.4     | Q     |
| Room Heater.....                                 | 2.0                         | 1.1  | 0.5  | Q       | Q     |
| Other Equipment.....                             | 0.9                         | 0.4  | 0.3  | Q       | Q     |
| Electricity.....                                 | 33.7                        | 15.9                                       | 4.6  | 5.8     | 7.4   |
| Built-in Electric Units.....                     | 5.0                         | 2.5  | 0.8  | 0.9     | 0.9   |
| Central Warm-Air Furnace.....                    | 16.0                        | 7.9  | 2.7  | 2.3     | 3.2   |
| For One Housing Unit.....                        | 15.2                        | 7.5  | 2.5  | 2.1     | 3.1   |
| For Two Housing Units.....                       | 0.9                         | 0.5  | Q    | Q       | Q     |
| Heat Pump.....                                   | 9.2                         | 3.4  | 0.8  | 2.2     | 2.7   |
| Portable Electric Heater.....                    | 1.6                         | 0.8  | Q    | Q       | 0.5   |
| Other Equipment.....                             | 1.9                         | 1.2  | Q    | Q       | Q     |
| Fuel Oil.....                                    | 7.7                         | 2.4  | 1.7  | 1.2     | 2.4   |
| Steam or Hot Water System.....                   | 4.7                         | 1.8  | 0.9  | 0.8     | 1.2   |
| For One Housing Unit.....                        | 3.3                         | 0.8  | 0.7  | 0.7     | 1.0   |
| For Two Housing Units.....                       | 1.4                         | 1.0  | Q    | Q       | Q     |
| Central Warm-Air Furnace.....                    | 2.8                         | 0.6  | 0.7  | 0.5     | 1.0   |
| Other Equipment.....                             | 0.3                         | Q  | Q    | N       | Q     |
| Wood.....  | 2.9                         | 0.3  | Q    | Q       | 2.3   |
| Heating Stove.....                               | 2.0                         | Q  | Q    | Q       | 1.5   |
| Other Equipment.....                             | 0.9                         | Q  | Q    | N       | 0.7   |
| Propane/LPG.....                                 | 6.0                         | 0.3  | 0.2  | 0.3     | 5.2   |
| Central Warm-Air Furnace.....                    | 4.1                         | Q  | Q    | Q       | 3.7   |
| Room Heater.....                                 | 0.9                         | Q  | Q    | Q       | 0.7   |
| Other Equipment.....                             | 1.0                         | Q  | Q    | Q       | 0.8   |
| Kerosene.....                                    | 0.7                         | Q  | Q    | Q       | 0.4   |
| Other Fuel.....                                  | 0.6                         | 0.3  | Q    | Q       | Q     |
| <b>Housing Units Served by</b>                   |                             |  |      |         |       |
| <b>Main Heating Equipment</b>                    |                             |  |      |         |       |
| One Housing Unit.....                            | 101.0                       | 40.5                                       | 17.6 | 21.2    | 21.7  |
| Two or More Housing Units.....                   | 8.8                         | 5.8  | 1.3  | 1.3     | 0.4   |
| Do Not Have Heating Equipment.....               | 1.2                         | 0.7  | Q    | 0.2     | Q     |

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| Space Heating Characteristics                                | Housing Units<br>(millions) | Urban/Rural Location<br>(as Self-Reported) |      |         |       |
|--|-----------------------------|--|------|---------|-------|
|  |                             | City                                       | Town | Suburbs | Rural |
| <b>Age of Main Heating Equipment</b>                         |                             |  |      |         |       |
| <b>Used by One Housing Unit</b>                              |                             |  |      |         |       |
| Less than 2 Years.....                                       | 11.7                        | 4.6  | 2.0  | 2.5     | 2.6   |
| 2 to 4 Years.....  | 13.8                        | 5.1  | 2.6  | 3.0     | 3.1   |
| 5 to 9 Years.....  | 20.6                        | 7.2  | 3.5  | 4.4     | 5.5   |
| 10 to 19 Years.....  | 24.8                        | 9.1  | 3.7  | 6.1     | 6.0   |
| 20 Years or More.....  | 21.5                        | 9.9  | 4.0  | 4.0     | 3.6   |
| Don't Know.....  | 8.6                         | 4.6  | 1.8  | 1.2     | 1.0   |
| <b>Used by Two or More Housing Units</b>                     |                             |  |      |         |       |
| Less than 2 Years.....                                       | 0.3                         | Q  | Q    | Q       | N     |
| 2 to 4 Years.....  | 0.4                         | 0.2  | Q    | Q       | Q     |
| 5 to 9 Years.....  | 0.6                         | 0.3  | Q    | Q       | Q     |
| 10 to 19 Years.....  | 1.1                         | 0.5  | Q    | Q       | Q     |
| 20 Years or More.....  | 2.7                         | 2.1  | 0.3  | Q       | Q     |
| Don't Know.....  | 3.7                         | 2.5  | 0.6  | Q       | Q     |
| <b>Proportion of Heat Provided by Main Heating Equipment</b> |                             |  |      |         |       |
| All or Almost All.....                                       | 98.9                        | 42.6                                       | 17.3 | 20.6    | 18.5  |
| About Three-Fourths.....                                     | 5.8                         | 1.7  | 0.9  | 1.1     | 2.2   |
| Closer to One-Half.....                                      | 4.3                         | 1.4  | 0.7  | 0.7     | 1.5   |
| Do Not Use Main Heating Equipment.....                       | 2.0                         | 1.4  | Q    | 0.2     | Q     |
| <b>Secondary Heating Fuel and Equipment</b>                  |                             |  |      |         |       |
| No.....  | 76.2                        | 35.4                                       | 13.9 | 15.3    | 11.6  |
| Yes (More than One May Apply).....                           | 34.9                        | 11.7                                       | 5.1  | 7.3     | 10.8  |
| Natural Gas.....   | 5.0                         | 1.8  | 0.7  | 1.7     | 0.7   |
| Fireplace.....   | 2.7                         | 0.9  | 0.3  | 1.1     | 0.4   |
| Room Heater.....   | 0.5                         | Q  | Q    | Q       | Q     |
| Central Warm-Air Furnace.....                                | 1.1                         | 0.4  | Q    | 0.3     | Q     |
| Other Equipment.....   | 0.8                         | 0.4  | Q    | Q       | Q     |
| Electricity.....   | 19.7                        | 7.5  | 3.0  | 4.0     | 5.2   |
| Portable Heater.....   | 16.0                        | 6.2  | 2.6  | 3.3     | 3.8   |
| Built-in Electric Units.....                                 | 2.2                         | 0.8  | Q    | 0.5     | 0.7   |
| Heat Pump.....   | 0.6                         | Q  | Q    | Q       | 0.3   |
| Other Equipment.....   | 1.3                         | 0.4  | 0.2  | Q       | 0.5   |
| Fuel Oil.....  | 0.4                         | N  | Q    | Q       | Q     |
| Wood.....  | 8.9                         | 2.6  | 1.2  | 1.6     | 3.4   |
| Fireplace.....   | 6.7                         | 2.3  | 1.0  | 1.4     | 2.0   |
| Heating Stove.....   | 2.2                         | 0.3  | 0.3  | 0.3     | 1.3   |
| Other Equipment.....   | Q                           | Q  | Q    | N       | Q     |
| Propane/LPG.....   | 2.3                         | Q  | Q    | 0.3     | 1.8   |
| Kerosene.....  | 0.9                         | Q  | Q    | Q       | 0.5   |
| Other Fuel.....  | 0.2                         | 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.