

Table HC8.2 Water heating in U.S. homes, by owner or renter status, 2020

Number of housing units (million)

	Housing unit type						
	Total U.S. ^a	Own	Rent ^b	Single-family and mobile homes		Apartments	
				Own	Rent ^b	Own	Rent ^b
All homes	123.53	82.92	40.61	78.60	12.75	4.32	27.86
Fuel used by main water heater							
Natural gas	57.96	41.98	15.98	39.84	5.48	2.14	10.50
Electricity	58.24	35.09	23.15	33.08	6.83	2.00	16.32
Propane	4.28	3.62	0.66	3.60	0.28	Q	0.37
Fuel oil or kerosene	2.64	1.95	0.69	1.82	0.13	0.13	0.56
Some other fuel	0.41	0.28	0.14	0.26	0.04	Q	0.10
Size of main water heater							
Small (30 gallons or less)	13.28	6.37	6.91	5.79	1.64	0.58	5.27
Medium (31 to 49 gallons)	55.37	37.38	17.99	35.61	6.83	1.78	11.16
Large (50 gallons or more)	46.83	33.04	13.79	31.26	3.80	1.78	9.99
Tankless	8.05	6.12	1.92	5.94	0.48	0.18	1.44
Age of main water heater							
Less than 2 years old	17.65	12.94	4.71	12.40	2.50	0.54	2.21
2 to 4 years old	22.49	15.60	6.88	15.01	2.85	0.60	4.03
5 to 9 years old	38.96	25.09	13.87	23.77	3.50	1.32	10.37
10 to 14 years old	25.10	16.32	8.77	15.43	2.14	0.90	6.63
15 to 19 years old	10.35	7.12	3.23	6.68	0.92	0.43	2.31
20 years or more	8.98	5.85	3.14	5.31	0.83	0.53	2.30
Fuel used by secondary water heater							
Natural gas	2.35	2.03	0.31	1.89	0.07	0.14	0.25
Electricity	2.91	2.33	0.58	2.30	0.12	Q	0.46
Some other fuel	0.47	0.41	0.06	0.41	Q	N	Q
Does not have a secondary water heater	117.80	78.14	39.65	74.00	12.55	4.14	27.10

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Office of Energy Demand and Integrated Statistics, Form EIA-457A of the *2020 Residential Energy Consumption Survey*

Notes: Because of rounding, data may not sum to totals. See RECS Terminology for the definitions of terms used in these tables.

^a *Total U.S.* includes all primary occupied housing units in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Vacant housing units, seasonal units, second homes, military houses, and group quarters are excluded.

^b *Rent* includes households that occupy their primary housing units without paying rent.

Q = Data withheld because either the relative standard error (RSE) was greater than 50% or fewer than 10 households were in the reporting sample.

N = No households in reporting sample.

Relative standard errors (RSEs) for Table HC8.2 Water heating in U.S. homes, by owner or renter status, 2020

RSEs for number of housing units

	Housing unit type						
	Total U.S. ^a	Own		Rent ^b		Apartments	
		Own	Rent ^b	Own	Rent ^b	Own	Rent ^b
All homes	0.00	0.42	0.86	0.35	2.15	4.13	0.64
Fuel used by main water heater							
Natural gas	0.84	0.98	2.27	0.94	3.68	6.53	2.89
Electricity	0.82	1.25	1.55	1.22	3.07	6.93	1.62
Propane	4.49	4.46	11.17	4.57	15.89	59.23	16.91
Fuel oil or kerosene	5.20	5.71	12.41	5.56	21.26	30.64	14.66
Some other fuel	15.84	13.17	37.96	13.58	39.82	80.26	38.39
Size of main water heater							
Small (30 gallons or less)	2.50	4.05	3.67	3.97	8.26	15.98	4.19
Medium (31 to 49 gallons)	1.02	1.13	1.99	1.15	3.04	7.35	2.46
Large (50 gallons or more)	1.04	1.31	2.38	1.25	4.91	7.90	2.45
Tankless	3.51	3.72	7.61	3.74	14.34	28.73	9.56
Age of main water heater							
Less than 2 years old	2.02	2.26	4.98	2.32	5.90	15.04	7.65
2 to 4 years old	1.87	2.21	3.83	2.12	4.42	13.72	5.65
5 to 9 years old	1.12	1.75	1.70	1.68	4.19	9.71	2.24
10 to 14 years old	1.66	2.04	2.83	2.07	5.67	11.27	3.65
15 to 19 years old	2.95	3.30	4.98	3.29	9.11	17.86	5.99
20 years or more	3.03	3.28	4.77	3.36	9.27	13.71	6.02
Fuel used by secondary water heater							
Natural gas	5.76	5.81	17.74	5.68	32.34	26.60	21.47
Electricity	4.81	5.18	12.93	5.30	23.82	64.57	14.18
Some other fuel	12.65	12.58	43.99	12.58	65.54	0.00	45.01
Does not have a secondary water heater	0.16	0.49	0.86	0.43	2.25	4.12	0.67

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Office of Energy Demand and Integrated Statistics, Form EIA-457A of the 2020 Residential Energy Consumption Survey

Notes: See RECS Terminology for the definitions of terms used in these tables.

^a Total U.S. includes all primary occupied housing units in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Vacant housing units, seasonal units, second homes, military houses, and group quarters are excluded.

^b Rent includes households that occupy their primary housing units without paying rent.