

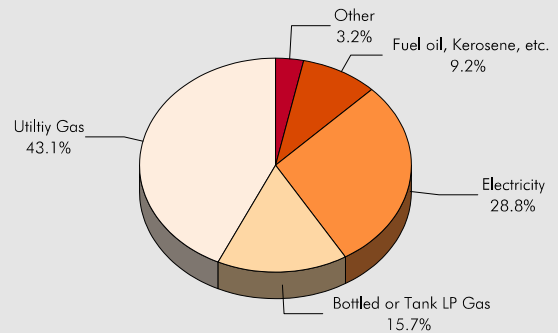
House Heating Fuel Used in North Dakota Households: 2000

According to the 2000 Census, most households in North Dakota, 43 percent, use natural gas to heat their homes (Figure 1). This proportion is up from 39.7 percent in 1990. Nearly 29 percent of North Dakota households use electricity for heat, up from 26.2 percent in 1990. Households using bottled or tank liquid propane (LP) gas for heat comprise 15.7 percent of all North Dakota households, up from 14.0 percent in 1990. Households using fuel oil, kerosene oil, gasoline, alcohol, or other combustible liquids for heat comprise 9.2 percent of North Dakota households, down from 15.7 percent in 1990 (Table 1).

Home heating fuel varies widely throughout North Dakota by county. Urban centers have higher proportions of homes using natural gas or electricity. Rural areas tend more towards liquid propane, electricity or fuel oil (Table 1).

Figure 2 provides a look at the types of house heating fuel used by households nationwide. In 22 of the nation's 50 states, a majority of households use natural gas for home heating. A majority of households in only five states heat their homes with electricity. Fuel oil is used by a majority of households in only four states, all in the far northeast.

Figure 1. Proportion of Households by Type of House Heating Fuel North Dakota: 2000

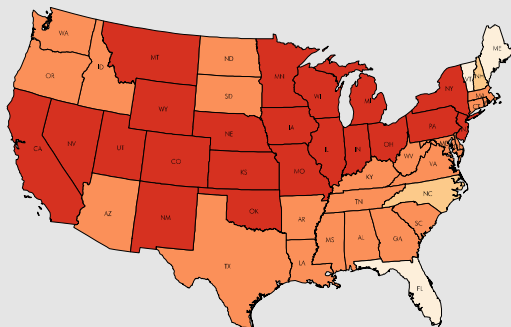


Note: 'Other' includes coal, wood, solar energy, and other fuels.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Summary File 3 (SF3) Table H40, <http://factfinder.census.gov>

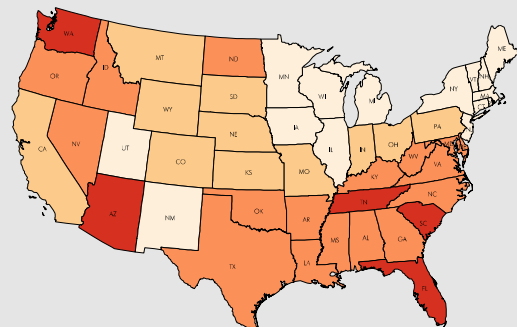
Figure 2. Percent of Households by Type of House Heating Fuel: 2000

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, Summary File 3 (SF3), Table H40, <http://factfinder.census.gov>

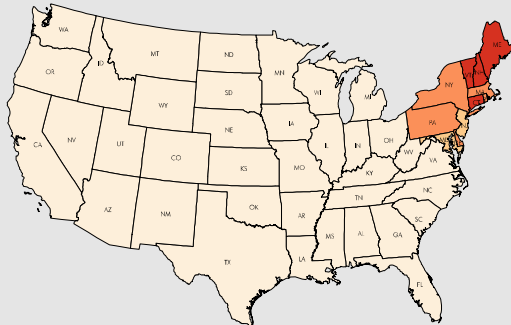
Percent of Households Using Natural Gas



Percent of Households Using Electricity



Percent of Households Using Fuel or Kerosene Oil



Percent of Households Using Bottled or Tank LP Gas

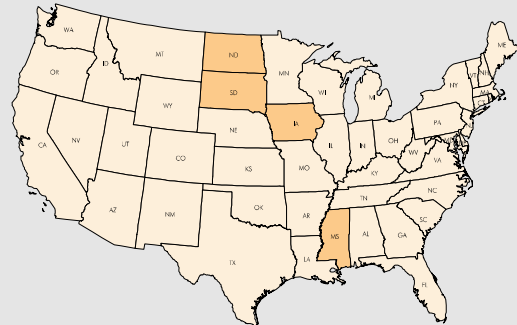


Table 1. House Heating Fuel Used in North Dakota Households by County: 1990 and 2000

Note: 'Other' includes coal, wood, solar energy, and other fuels. LP represents liquid propane gas.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Census 2000, Summary File 3, Table H40*; *Census 1990, Summary Tape File 3, Table H30*, <http://factfinder.census.gov>

Area	Occupied Housing Units											
	Total		Proportion of Occupied Housing Units by Type of House Heating Fuel (%)									
			Utility Gas		Bottled or Tank LP		Electricity		Fuel oil, Kerosene		Other	
	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000
North Dakota	240,878	257,152	39.7	43.1	14.0	15.7	26.2	28.8	15.7	9.2	4.4	3.2
Adams	1,266	1,121	8.8	15.7	48.3	44.4	18.6	20.1	14.8	13.3	9.6	6.5
Barnes	4,975	4,884	33.7	36.0	9.0	11.1	34.9	39.6	20.0	11.8	2.4	1.6
Benson	2,415	2,328	1.2	6.9	23.9	37.2	32.2	28.3	40.9	22.1	1.8	5.5
Billings	387	366	1.6	3.3	57.1	48.6	19.4	35.2	8.8	2.5	13.2	10.4
Bottineau	3,105	2,962	0.5	0.3	31.3	33.8	34.5	41.7	25.7	19.3	8.1	4.9
Bowman	1,420	1,358	50.8	52.4	30.7	29.7	13.2	13.1	0.5	0.9	4.9	3.8
Burke	1,252	1,013	4.6	12.6	49.0	54.8	11.7	15.9	19.5	9.2	15.2	7.5
Burleigh	22,684	27,670	78.4	73.8	6.3	9.2	9.6	13.7	0.8	0.6	4.9	2.8
Cass	40,281	51,315	35.2	40.4	2.9	2.5	44.6	48.5	14.8	6.0	2.5	2.6
Cavalier	2,375	2,017	26.9	31.2	13.1	16.2	31.5	34.0	26.7	16.8	1.7	1.8
Dickey	2,299	2,283	0.2	0.5	28.8	41.1	26.4	27.2	41.3	28.9	3.2	2.3
Divide	1,193	1,005	0.2	0.9	31.5	42.0	20.7	27.6	30.3	19.8	17.3	9.8
Dunn	1,433	1,378	7.5	16.5	45.2	46.4	24.7	24.8	11.9	7.0	10.7	5.2
Eddy	1,194	1,164	55.3	56.5	11.3	15.0	17.8	17.1	12.3	9.8	3.4	1.5
Emmons	1,849	1,786	0.2	15.7	21.9	28.6	15.5	16.1	59.4	38.0	3.0	1.6
Foster	1,541	1,540	46.9	47.3	13.0	16.0	20.2	24.3	16.2	8.9	3.6	3.6
Golden Valley	811	761	64.1	64.9	22.4	19.2	5.2	8.9	1.2	3.2	7.0	3.8
Grand Forks	25,340	25,435	36.8	47.4	4.2	6.4	40.0	36.5	14.8	4.8	4.3	4.8
Grant	1,374	1,195	0.4	0.9	47.7	55.9	15.4	14.8	29.1	23.8	7.4	4.5
Griggs	1,294	1,178	0.0	0.6	9.2	15.8	34.5	41.7	52.5	40.0	3.8	2.0
Hettinger	1,341	1,152	58.5	59.5	20.1	19.4	11.9	14.8	3.4	3.5	6.2	2.8
Kidder	1,247	1,158	31.2	35.3	29.0	29.8	13.0	15.5	23.5	17.4	3.3	2.1
LaMoure	2,075	1,942	0.0	0.1	21.3	25.8	27.6	30.6	49.4	41.5	1.7	2.0
Logan	1,096	963	0.2	0.5	16.2	24.3	20.5	20.5	59.7	51.9	3.4	2.8
McHenry	2,551	2,526	2.8	4.7	30.8	42.1	19.5	19.8	37.0	28.2	10.0	5.2
McIntosh	1,687	1,467	0.0	0.5	18.6	20.7	23.5	19.6	56.5	56.5	1.5	2.7
McKenzie	2,301	2,151	33.4	34.9	39.0	43.7	19.4	15.9	3.5	1.3	4.7	4.3
McLean	3,933	3,815	52.7	50.6	17.7	25.0	14.9	17.2	6.1	3.9	8.6	3.3
Mercer	3,560	3,346	0.1	0.7	45.8	57.2	34.4	31.5	7.9	4.2	11.8	6.3
Morton	8,677	9,889	71.2	70.2	12.2	13.4	8.4	10.4	1.9	1.4	6.3	4.6
Mountrail	2,587	2,560	24.4	24.5	46.8	42.1	15.9	23.0	8.7	5.2	4.3	5.3
Nelson	1,831	1,628	0.3	0.1	18.6	22.9	41.5	46.3	38.1	29.3	1.5	1.4
Oliver	809	791	0.7	0.0	50.3	64.0	16.2	19.2	8.7	4.0	24.1	12.8
Pembina	3,555	3,535	21.0	24.8	14.9	23.0	27.4	26.3	31.6	23.8	5.1	2.2
Pierce	1,974	1,964	0.2	1.3	23.8	25.4	25.6	38.2	47.0	32.3	3.5	2.9
Ramsey	4,977	4,957	50.6	53.5	10.4	12.6	21.0	24.2	14.8	6.2	3.2	3.4
Ransom	2,284	2,350	0.0	0.5	14.7	19.0	34.6	39.2	45.3	38.4	5.5	2.9
Renville	1,209	1,085	5.0	1.1	61.0	62.1	18.4	24.1	12.2	8.1	3.3	4.5
Richland	6,518	6,885	20.5	25.2	15.8	22.3	29.2	30.9	30.4	19.2	4.0	2.5
Rolette	4,150	4,556	1.9	2.3	33.2	38.0	34.6	40.2	20.2	16.1	10.1	3.4
Sargent	1,763	1,786	0.1	0.5	23.9	39.6	23.5	25.4	50.2	33.0	2.3	1.5
Sheridan	858	731	0.0	0.4	47.6	56.8	17.0	17.4	29.7	22.4	5.7	3.0
Sioux	1,022	1,095	0.4	2.6	73.3	86.4	11.9	3.2	10.3	4.7	4.1	3.1
Slope	333	313	16.8	29.1	60.4	56.2	10.5	7.7	3.0	3.2	9.3	3.8
Stark	8,479	8,932	65.2	62.8	7.5	8.5	22.0	25.1	0.9	0.5	4.4	3.2
Steele	991	923	0.0	0.5	15.8	24.5	47.7	41.3	34.4	33.3	2.0	0.4
Stutsman	8,661	8,954	59.2	59.2	9.4	12.0	16.5	17.4	12.2	8.2	2.7	3.3
Towner	1,433	1,218	0.0	0.6	22.6	26.1	40.1	46.3	33.8	25.0	3.5	2.1
Traill	3,327	3,341	0.0	0.3	11.5	25.3	41.8	40.0	43.9	32.9	2.8	1.4
Walsh	5,229	5,029	27.5	32.8	14.7	12.8	34.2	34.8	21.6	16.9	2.0	2.7
Ward	21,485	23,041	73.7	71.5	9.5	9.9	9.7	14.1	3.4	1.9	3.7	2.6
Wells	2,406	2,215	0.7	1.0	37.2	47.9	20.1	25.6	35.9	23.3	6.1	2.1
Williams	8,041	8,095	65.4	66.9	14.2	13.7	15.6	16.1	1.3	1.0	3.5	2.4



Date of Release: January 9, 2004

How are North Dakota's Homes Heated?

According to the 2000 Census, most North Dakota households, 43 percent, use natural gas to heat their homes. This month's *Economic Brief*, a monthly publication by the North Dakota State Data Center at North Dakota State University, focuses on households throughout North Dakota by type of house heating fuel. Nearly 29 percent of North Dakota households use electricity for heat, up from 26.2 percent in 1990. Households using bottled or tank liquid propane (LP) gas for heat comprise 15.7 percent of all North Dakota households, up from 14.0 percent in 1990. Households using fuel oil, kerosene oil, gasoline, alcohol, or other combustible liquids for heat comprise 9.2 percent of North Dakota households, down from 15.7 percent in 1990.

Home heating fuel varies widely throughout North Dakota by county. Urban centers have higher proportions of homes using piped natural gas or electricity. Rural areas tend more towards liquid propane, electricity, or fuel oil. "The diverse distribution of heating fuel used in North Dakota homes means that rises in fuel prices by sector have very different economic impacts across the state. With our cold winters, small changes in fuel prices may have serious consequences for many households, especially those who are economically strapped," said Richard Rathge, Director of the State Data Center.

In 22 of the nation's 50 states, a majority of households use natural gas for home heating. A majority of households in only five states heat their homes with electricity. Fuel oil is used by a majority of households in only four states, all in the far northeast.

North Dakota State Data Center North Dakota State University IACC Building, Room 424 or PO Box 5636 Fargo, North Dakota 58105-5636 Ph: (701) 231-7980 Fax: (701) 231-9730	For more information, contact:		
Dr. Richard Rathge, Director (701) 231-8621 Richard.Rathge@ndsu.nodak.edu	Karen Olson, Information Specialist (701) 231-1060 k.olson@ndsu.nodak.edu	View publication online at: http://www.ndsu.nodak.edu/sdc/publications/publications.htm	