

A brief from the Energy Security Studies Program

Natural Gas Wallet Share: Maryland

Introduction

NATURAL gas heats homes. It's the fuel behind a hot shower in the morning and a warm kitchen in winter.

Measuring the Burden

This infographic is based on a computed income burden metric, which measures the share of a household's monthly income that goes toward the gas bill, calculated month by month. Natural gas bills are from EIA data on household usage and unit

prices.¹ Household income is from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, adjusted for household size.² Both are converted to 2024 dollars, so a 1997 bill is a fair comparison against one in 2024.³

The Share of the Bill

Picture a household's monthly spending as a single \$100 bill. In Maryland, housing takes \$23, financial services and insurance \$25, healthcare \$18, food \$11. Natural gas takes 59 cents. Natural gas represents one of the smallest household expenses, yet delivers outsized value for the home.

The Power of Your Dollar

Natural gas direct bills as a proportion of total household expenditures
Maryland, 2024

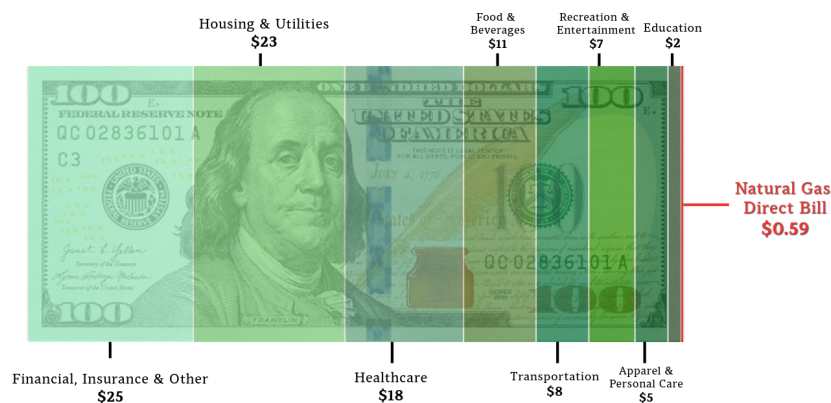


Figure 1: Natural gas as a share of total household spending, Maryland, 2024. Values are rounded to the nearest dollar; natural gas is shown to the cent.⁴

Notes and Sources

- ¹ U.S. Energy Information Administration. (2025). *Natural gas residential consumption, number of consumers, and price by state*. U.S. Department of Energy. <https://www.eia.gov/dnav/ng/>
- ² Bureau of Economic Analysis. (2026). *Personal income by state (SAINC1)*. Regional Economic Accounts, U.S. Department of Commerce. <https://www.bea.gov/data/income-saving/personal-income-by-state> Household size from U.S. Census Bureau. (2025). *American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Table B25010*. <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/>
- ³ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2026). *Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, metropolitan area series*. U.S. Department of Labor. <https://www.bls.gov/cpi/> Accessed via Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, FRED. <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/>
- ⁴ Bureau of Economic Analysis. (2025). *Personal consumption expenditures by state (SAPCE3)*. Regional Economic Accounts, U.S. Department of Commerce. <https://www.bea.gov/data/consumer-spending/state>

Suggested citation: Sandhu, A. (2026). *Natural Gas Wallet Share: State-Level Residential Energy Burden, 1997–2024*. Energy Security Studies Program, University of Georgia.