



Fact sheet: Home energy upgrades in New South Wales

Sources and further information

Unless otherwise stated, most assumptions are aligned to those found in the [technical appendix](#) to [A focus on homes, not power plants, could halve energy bills](#).

Fact	Source / further information
NSW homes waste around \$1.25 billion each year running inefficient appliances.	Total energy consumption of mains gas and resistive electric appliances in NSW drawn from EnergyConsult (2021) . Comparative energy consumption of efficient electric alternatives based on appliance efficiency assumptions used in <i>A focus on homes, not power plants, could halve energy bills</i> . Retail energy prices are based on tariffs offered by major retailers as of January 2025.
The average thermal efficiency star rating of an existing NSW home is likely about two out of 10 .	The average star rating for a home built prior to 2003 is 1.8 stars (CSIRO). NSW has the largest share of old homes in Australia.
About 48% of NSW homes pay a gas bill on top of their electricity bill	Based on the number of residential customers on the Jemena , AGN (Wagga Wagga & Albury) and Nowra gas networks in 2024, compared with the total number of dwellings in NSW (ABS). Customer numbers were unavailable for several other small gas networks that exist in NSW.
Breakdown of household energy use in NSW	EnergyConsult (2021)
More than 95% of hot water systems in NSW are inefficient	Based on the proportion of gas and resistive electric hot water systems in NSW reported in EnergyConsult (2021) .
NSW homes with gas pay around \$270/year in fixed charges	Average of fixed annual charges in major retailers' residential retail plans on the Jemena gas network in NSW as of January 2025.
Annual hot water running costs Annual heating and cooling costs Impact of solar and batteries on energy bills	Based on IEEFA modelling for an average-sized home in Sydney. Dual-fuel home assumptions are based on those used in A focus on homes, not power plants, could halve energy bills . Inefficient electric homes include a resistive electric space heater, resistive electric hot water system and resistive electric cooktop.
33% of homes in NSW are rented 22% of homes in NSW are apartments 40% of rental properties in NSW are apartments	ABS – 2021 Census data (STRD Dwelling Structure and TEND Tenure Type). <i>Increasing trend for rental properties is in reference to lower proportions reported in the 2011 and 2016 censuses.</i>