

# Home Energy Index

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The Consumer Council's Home Energy Index tracks changes in household gas, electricity, and home heating oil (HHO) prices in Northern Ireland.

A composite index is calculated, meaning that all three energy prices are combined to create one overarching figure which uses appropriate weighting to reflect usage and market share.

## **About our Home Energy Index**

A price index is a number that shows the extent to which a price has changed from a base over a given period. The base period is set at 100 and changes in price are shown relative to that number, i.e., above or below 100 for an increase or decrease respectively.

The base period for the Home Energy Index is January 2016.

At the Consumer Council, we record gas and electricity tariffs every month, and home heating oil prices every week, from different suppliers across Northern Ireland. Prices are weighted to take consideration of usage and market share of suppliers, so that changes in the index number better reflect the change impacting the consumer over time.

Due to the reliance of home heating oil in Northern Ireland (approximately 62.5% of households have oil central heating), the index is particularly sensitive to changes in its price.

To reflect the growing use of natural gas central heating systems the weightings within the Index were changed in November 2023. The other data sources used were last updated in October 2022 so that the index better reflects meter types in use, market share, and is based on tariffs on suppliers' standard tariffs only for greater consistency.

The Index encompasses the impact of the Government Energy Price Guarantee (EPG) that artificially lowered gas and electricity prices from 1 November 2022 until 30 June 2023.

## **Composite Energy Index**

**Home Energy Index for (a) Electricity and Gas and  
(b) Electricity and Home Heating Oil for Northern  
Ireland**

## **Gas, electricity, and home heating oil (HHO) indices for Northern Ireland**

## Help and support with energy bills

View our information about saving money on your energy bills and use our free online price comparison tools to see what prices are like in your area or if you could save money by switching.

### **Electricity price comparison tool**

You could save money by switching supplier, switching billing method, or switching tariff. Use our price comparison tool to make sure you are on the best deal for you.

### **Gas price comparison tool**

Depending on where you live in Northern Ireland, you could save money by switching supplier, billing method, or tariff. Use our price comparison tool to make sure you are on the best deal for you.

### **Support with high energy costs**

There are advice agencies, grants and schemes available to help you with the cost of your home energy.

### **Home heating oil**

Information and advice on how to save money on home heating oil, how to keep your oil safe, and how to make the oil you buy last longer.