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# A Review of Energy Use Factors for Selected Household Appliances

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August 1985

Prepared for  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Building Energy  
Research and Development  
Building Equipment Division  
Washington, DC 20585

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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, Malcolm Baldrige, Secretary**  
**NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS, Ernest Ambler, Director**



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## INTRODUCTION

The Energy Policy and Conservation Act (EPCA) as amended by the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (NECPA) requires the development of test procedures, labeling rules, and energy efficiency standards for consumer appliances. These requirements must be established using representative national data when establishing the various parameters for each appliance.

During the process of establishing test procedures, labeling rules, and energy efficiency standards, many of the parametric values used have been questioned through written comment and public hearings. The purpose of this report is to re-evaluate selected parametric values through analysis of current data, and provide comment and recommendations.

Each parameter reviewed is documented in an independent section in this report. As such, each section indicates the current value, the historical basis for the current value, the approach used to review and update the value, the results and conclusions, and recommendations. The recommendations generally propose a new value for the parameter studied based upon the information analyzed.

Although the parameters are treated separately, their relationships to one another is noted in each section, as applicable. For example, the delta T factor for water heaters (outlet water temperature minus inlet water temperature) is an important parameter for water heater energy studies, however, the outlet and inlet temperatures are evaluated in separate sections in this report and left to the reader to relate. On the other hand, outdoor design temperature is also addressed separately, however, the results of this study are also included and used in the

section that evaluates annual heating load hours.

Where possible, the data used to determine a recommended value are included as a table or figure in this report. This will allow the reader, if he is so inclined, to check the values selected, especially in those cases where there is a degree of subjectivity involved and there is room for individual judgement.

Finally, it should be noted that no evaluation has been made to determine the impact of any recommended revision to the currently used values on existing or proposed test procedures, energy savings, or appliance economic studies.



## SUMMARY OF RESULTS

The results of the individual studies detailed in the following sections are summarized below for easy reference.

SECTION	PARAMETER STUDIED	CURRENT VALUE	PROPOSED VALUE
I	Water Heater - Inlet Water Temperature	55°F	58°F
II	Water Heater - Outlet Water Temperature	145°F	135°F
III	Water Heater - Ambient Air Temperature	55°F	65°F
IV	Water Heater - Hot Water Usage	64.3 gal/day	60 gal/day
V	Furnaces - Outdoor Design Temperature	5°F	17°F
VI	Furnaces - Annual Heating Load Hours	2080 hrs	2080 hrs
VII	Room Air Conditioners - Yearly Hours of Use	750 hr/yr	670 hr/yr
VIII	Central Air Conditioners - Annual Full Load Compressor Operating hours	1000 hr/yr	1150 hr/yr



## SECTION I

### WATER HEATER

#### INLET WATER TEMPERATURE

CURRENT VALUE: 55°F

PROPOSED VALUE: 58°F

#### HISTORICAL BASIS FOR CURRENT VALUE

Test methods were developed for water heaters in 1977 [1, 2]\* in support of Public Law 94-163 which required the Federal Energy Administration [now the Department of Energy] to carry out energy conservation activities related to household appliance efficiency. These test methods were developed by the National Bureau of Standards with cooperation from the Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association and were based on the ANSI Standards Z21.10.1 for Gas Water Heaters and C72.1 for Electric Water Heaters and on earlier test procedures published in the Federal Register on August 14, 1975 (40 FR 158) for the Commerce Department Voluntary Labeling Program.

The test procedures of Reference [1] (Section 2.1.2.4) provide a rationale for selecting a National average inlet water temperature of 55°F. The average water temperature is calculated as the mean of annual median temperatures for subdivisions of the United States and the water heater inlet water temperature for each of these subdivisions is considered to be equivalent to the local surface water temperature of streams, rivers, and lakes. This average surface temperature throughout the United States is approximately 55°F.

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\* Numbers in brackets pertain to references listed at end of each section.

A study of Household Appliance Usage Data [3] also cites an inlet water temperature of 55°F for water heaters. The report comments that this value has a marginal empirical basis, and in view of the importance of water heaters to the energy program, recommends independent field verification.

Reference [1] also states that it would be inappropriate to specify an inlet water temperature of 55°F for laboratory test purposes since this would require cooling of the tap water in the summer months when tap water temperature can be above 55°F. Therefore, a 70°F  $\pm$  2°F feed-water temperature which can normally be achieved in laboratories throughout the year is specified in the test procedures. This increase of 15°F is also matched by a 15°F increase in outlet temperature from 145°F to 160°F (see SECTION II - WATER HEATERS - OUTLET WATER TEMPERATURE) to maintain a specified  $\Delta T$  (outlet water temperature minus inlet water temperature).

#### APPROACH FOR UPDATE

The current value of 55°F is based on the average for all regions of the United States of the median annual surface water temperature of the streams, rivers, and lakes in those regions. No consideration, however, is given to the specific location of the Nation's housing units. For example, if all housing units were located in the southern parts of the country, we might expect a higher average water heater inlet temperature than if all the housing units were located along the Canadian border. Therefore, in calculating the average inlet water temperature, the median annual water temperature of an area should be weighted by the number of water heaters in that area. In effect, the average water heater inlet temperature is not an unchanging geological quantity, as the average annual surface or ground water temperature might be, but rather changes with population shifts. Concurrent with the continuing population migration to



the warmer regions of the United States [5, 6], the average water heater inlet temperature should also be increasing.

Accordingly, the approach taken was to estimate water heater inlet temperature on a housing population-weighted basis and average surface water temperatures for each State as described below. Temperatures were then weighted by the State's 1980 housing population to calculate a National average water inlet temperature. This was also done for the 1970 population to verify the upward inlet water temperature change from 1970 to 1980 in keeping with population shifts.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this study, the median annual surface-water temperatures in the conterminous United States were used [4]. These temperatures were determined by the U.S. Geological Survey and are reflected on a map showing isothermal bands of median annual temperature ranges for surface water (see Figure 1-1). The bands generally have a 5°F spread; however at the highest and lowest ranges, the bands represent surface water temperatures of "70°F or higher" and "39°F or less," respectively.

Using the U.S. Geological Survey map, a single representative water heater inlet temperature was estimated for each State (see Table 1-1). Where a single isothermal band covers a State, the midpoint of the band was generally used. Where more than one band covers a State, an average inlet water temperature for the entire State was not assigned solely on the geographical distribution of the isothermal bands within the State, but was based on the housing population distribution. For example, if a State was covered by two isothermal bands, a uniform housing population would lead to selection of the boundary temperature of the two bands. If, however, the centers of population were generally located within one of the bands, a surface water temperature within that band was selected to represent the

average inlet water temperature for that State.

The above method is subjective in that judgment was required to select a representative inlet water temperature for each State, especially for those States which lie in areas which have no fixed upper or lower limits to the isothermal bands (bands that are defined as 70°F or higher; or bands defined as 39°F or less). Nevertheless, it is felt that a fair assessment has been made and that the selected temperatures shown in Table 1-1 would vary by a small amount even in those cases where there is room for other assessments of individual State inlet water temperatures. The overall results, however, should not be significantly altered as a result of these differences.

Also important to this study is the location of the Nation's housing population. This was determined by the use of 1980 census data [5]. The 1980 housing census divides housing by number of units per building: single-family units; 2-9 units per building; and more than 9 units per building. (The number of single family and 2 to 9 units per building, by State, are also tabulated in Table 1-1.) Since this study is focused on small residential water heaters it was assumed that all single-family units would have one water heater each and that buildings having more than 9 units would not have any residential size water heaters. For buildings having 2-9 units, calculations were made assuming that only one-eighth of the units had individual water heaters; two-eighths of the units had individual water heaters, etc.; and finally, that all of these units had individual water heaters. The computed fractions were added to the single-family units to arrive at State residential water heater populations for each increment.



The above information permitted the calculation of a weighted National average inlet water temperature for small residential water heaters by multiplying the number of water heaters per State by the average water surface temperature, adding the products, and dividing by the total estimated number of water heaters. This information is presented in Table 1-1 for single-family units and for 2-9 units incremented as described above. As can be seen, the housing population-weighted average water inlet temperature is 58.5°F for single-family houses and varies from 58.2°F to 58.4°F if buildings having 2-9 dwelling units are included in the estimate. This shows that neglecting multi-unit buildings has little effect on the average inlet water temperature.

To see whether the housing population-weighted average inlet water temperature increased from 1970 to 1980 as might be expected by population movement to warmer climates, the same calculations were also performed for single-family houses using 1970 census data [6]. The 1970 census divides the population into only 2 categories: single-family and more than one unit per dwelling. Only single-family data were used and are shown in Table 1-1 along with the calculated average water inlet temperature of 58.2°F for 1970. The increase in housing population-weighted average inlet water temperature for single-family units from 58.2°F for 1970 to 58.5°F for 1980 is in the expected direction. Because any errors made in estimating temperatures, especially those arising from considering only single-family houses, were probably similar for the two years studied, this change in temperature is probably fairly accurate.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Lacking field data and in view of the information presented above, a National inlet water temperature for residential water heaters of 58°F is

recommended. This factor should be reviewed if significant field data of actual inlet water temperatures are collected or other information becomes available that has the potential to provide further refinement.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] Test Procedure Review--Water Heaters; Recommendations concerning test procedures to be proposed for use under Public Law 94-163 for Federal Energy Administration Appliance Efficiency Program by the National Bureau of Standards, Center for Consumer Product Technology, March 10, 1976 Revised April 21, 1977.
- [2] Federal Register; Federal Energy Administration; Energy Conservation Program for Appliances; Test Procedures for Water Heaters; Tuesday, October 4, 1977; Part III.
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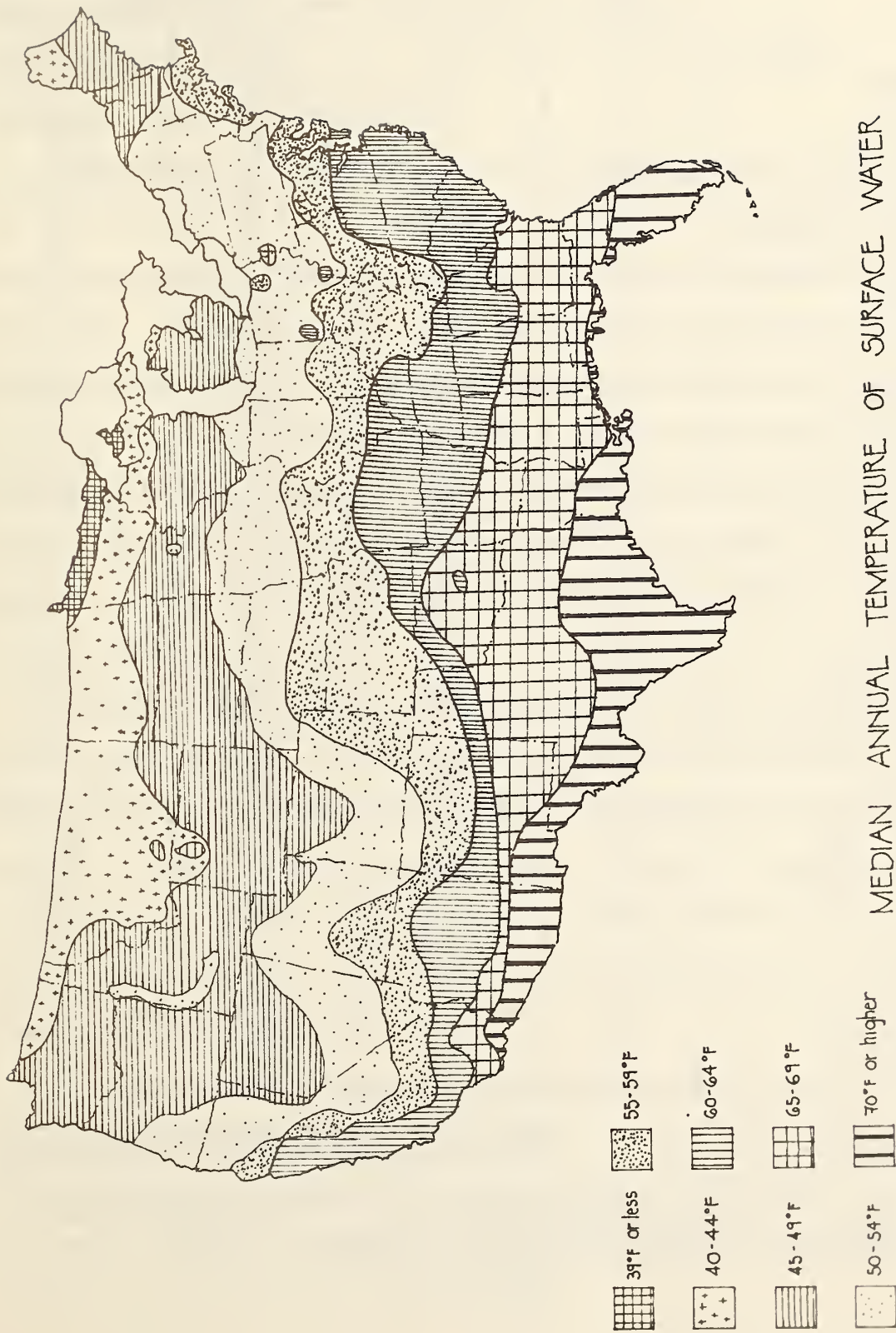


Figure 1-1



TABLE 1-1

## HOUSING POPULATION-WEIGHTED AVERAGE SURFACE WATER TEMPERATURE

STATE	ASSUMED AVERAGE INLET WATER TEMPERATURE °F	HOUSING POPULATION (IN THOUSANDS)		
		1970 CENSUS		1980 CENSUS
		SINGLE FAMILY UNITS	SINGLE FAMILY UNITS	2-9 UNITS PER BUILDING
Alabama	67	929	1,168	111
Arizona	70	426	745	87
Arkansas	65	577	725	62
California	63	4,696	6,440	1,148
Colorado	52	534	835	107
Connecticut	56	572	794	241
Delaware	55	133	170	21
District of Columbia	57	102	127	58
Florida	73	1,740	2,798	429
Georgia	64	1,107	1,525	205
Idaho	47	192	272	33
Illinois	52	2,197	2,699	1,025
Indiana	54	1,341	1,655	214
Iowa	52	783	902	117
Kansas	57	645	775	81
Kentucky	57	850	1,045	144
Louisiana	72	897	1,195	149
Maine	47	230	295	83
Maryland	57	852	1,145	202
Massachusetts	55	925	1,257	636
Michigan	46	2,162	2,721	368
Minnesota	47	895	1,128	163
Mississippi	67	598	732	65
Missouri	62	1,228	1,518	243
Montana	42	180	222	40
Nebraska	55	408	493	60
Nevada	50	105	203	39
New Hampshire	47	158	235	71
New Jersey	55	1,334	1,710	638
New Mexico	58	263	347	53
New York	55	2,487	3,096	1,758
North Carolina	62	1,341	1,761	181
North Dakota	42	149	174	38
Ohio	55	2,482	3,119	520
Oklahoma	67	798	1,010	98
Oregon	50	570	812	85
Pennsylvania	52	2,821	3,415	658
Rhode Island	57	159	221	107
South Carolina	64	669	883	89
South Dakota	47	178	200	32
Tennessee	60	1,041	1,373	163
Texas	72	3,069	4,143	450
Utah	52	234	372	54
Vermont	47	99	135	41
Virginia	60	1,112	1,554	206
Washington	47	913	1,225	154
West Virginia	55	491	577	66
Wisconsin	47	999	1,321	262
Wyoming	47	86	118	24

Population-weighted  
National average inlet water  
temperature (°F).

58.2

58.5

58.2-58.4\*

\* Range is based on the calculation that one-eighth of these units had individual water heater; two-eighths had individual water heaters, etc.. The individual calculations are as follows: 1/8 - 58.4°F; 2/8 - 58.4°F; 3/8 - 58.4°F; 4/8 - 58.3°F; 5/8 - 58.3°F; 6/8 - 58.3°F; 7/8 - 58.3°F; 8/8 - 58.2°F.

## SECTION II

### WATER HEATER

#### OUTLET WATER TEMPERATURE

CURRENT VALUE: 145°F

PROPOSED VALUE: 135°F

#### HISTORICAL BASIS FOR CURRENT VALUE

Test methods were developed for water heaters in 1977 [1] in support of Public Law 94-163 which required the Federal Energy Administration to carry out energy conservation activities related to household appliance efficiency. These test methods were developed by the National Bureau of Standards with cooperation from the Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association and were based on ANSI Standards Z21.10.1 for Gas Water Heaters and C72.1 for Electric Water Heaters using the appropriate sections from each of these standards and on earlier test procedures published in the Federal Register on August 14, 1975 (40 FR 158) for the Commerce Department Voluntary Labeling Program.

The test procedures of Reference [1] (Section 2.1.2.4) provide a rationale for selecting a National average outlet temperature of 145°F. The reason given is that water heater thermostats are factory set to achieve a tank water temperature of 145°F. Reference [1] (Section 3.2.1) further states that the setting is assumed to be 145°F because gas water heater thermostats are normally set for 140°F and electric water heater thermostats are set for 150°F.

A study made on Household Appliance Usage Data [2] also cites an outlet water temperature of 145°F for water heaters. The report comments that the empirical basis for this value is very marginal and in view of the importance of water heaters to the energy program, independent field verification of this factor is recommended.

It should be noted that Reference [1] specifies a thermostat setting of 160°F when conducting water heater test procedures rather than the National average outlet temperature of 145°F. This setting was required to maintain a specified  $\Delta T$  (outlet water temperature minus inlet water temperature) and resulted from raising the inlet water temperature 15°F (from 55°F to 70°F [ $\pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ]) during testing so that the tap water used in the test procedures need not be cooled (see SECTION I - WATER HEATERS - INLET WATER TEMPERATURE).

#### APPROACH FOR UPDATE

The current National average for the outlet temperature for water heaters is derived from thermostat settings of gas and electric water heaters and were based on practices that were used during the early and middle 1970's. In conducting this study, it was concluded that this approach was reasonable and that the data should be updated to reflect current practices. Towards this end, manufacturers of gas-fired and electrical resistance water heater control thermostats were contacted as well as water heater manufacturers and trade associations to learn the temperatures at which units are set at the factory and/or by installers. In addition, data regarding the number of gas and electric water heaters manufactured was gathered to provide weighting factors in determining a single overall value for outlet temperature. Finally, data collected during field studies of gas and electric water heaters are included.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

To determine the settings of electric thermostats for residential water heaters, representatives of two major manufacturers of water heater thermostats [3, 4] and two major manufacturers of water heaters [5, 6] were contacted. According to these representatives, currently-produced electric water heaters generally have a temperature range setting from 110°F to



170°F; with index markings every ten degrees F; and a screw-type adjustment which allows the temperature to be infinitely set between 110°F and 170°F (see Figure 2-1) [7]. In addition, each contacted representative stated that electric water heaters are shipped from the factory at a setting of 140°F as required by the April 18, 1983 Standard - "Household Electric Storage Tank Water Heaters - UL 174."

Specifically, the provisions of UL 174 state:

21.1 A temperature-regulating thermostat shall have no marked dial setting more than 77°C (170°F) and shall be provided with a stop to prevent its adjustment to a higher temperature setting.

21.3 A temperature-regulating thermostat or control shall be set before leaving the factory to a control position corresponding to a 60°C (140°F) setting. This setting may be approximate, as in the case of a marking that reads "Low-Medium High" or the equivalent, instead of directly in degrees C or F.

Because the thermostat setting could be changed by the installer or occupant, each contacted representative was asked about the likelihood of such a change. It was the consensus that the installer would generally have no motivation to change the setting. Also, most homeowners are not familiar enough with the existence or location of the electric water heater thermostats to make a change and also would generally keep away from manipulating concealed line voltage electrical controls since most residential electric water heaters contain two thermostats which can be reached only after unscrewing a metal cover plate and pushing aside the water tank insulation which covers the thermostat. It was further postulated that those individuals who would be likely to perform such an operation would be those persons who are generally energy conscious and who would be inclined (and knowledgeable) to make the positive effort to lower

the thermostat from the 140°F setting. In addition to the above, no field data were found which actually describe the thermostat settings of recently installed electric water heaters. Therefore, a National average thermostat setting for recently installed electric water heaters of 140°F seems reasonable.

For gas water heaters, information was also obtained from two major manufacturers of water heater thermostats [3, 4] and two major manufacturers of water heaters [5, 6] as well as from the American Gas Association [8]. A summary of the responses indicates that there is no standard, per se, on the significance of thermostat knob markings such as "Hot", "Energy Savings", "Low", etc. A review of ANSI Z21.23 - 1980 - Gas Appliance Thermostats [9] reveals that the only reference to temperature dial marking for water heaters recommends a minimum marking of 100°F and a maximum marking of 180°F with a calibration reference point of 140°F. However, the individuals contacted indicated that on most thermostats the following dial settings and corresponding temperatures are generally applicable:

HOT	160°F
WARM	120°F
VACATION	110-115°F

In addition, a marking of "energy savings" would generally correspond to a setting of 130°F (see Figure 2.1(a), (b), (c), (d)) [10] and that gas water heater thermostats are set at their lowest setting when the gas water heater leaves the manufacturer and reset for 130°F during installation. As a reference, American National Standard ANSI Z21.10.1b - 1983 was cited [11]. Specifically, the provisions state:

#### 1.29 INSTRUCTIONS

1.29.1 Each water heater shall be accompanied by clear, concise

printed instructions and diagrams,....

e. Thermostat information to the effect that:

1. The thermostat is adjusted to its lowest temperature position when shipped from the factory.
2. The detent or marking, as applicable, on the thermostat is the preferred starting point for setting the temperature control (see 1.30.10).
3. Procedures for adjusting the thermostat for energy efficient operation at the minimum water temperature setting consistent with the consumers needs.

1.30.10 Each adjustable thermostat shall have a detent or legible marking on Class III A material consistent with a water temperature of approximately 130°F (54.5°C).

The potential for thermostat setting change is greater for gas water heaters than for electric water heaters since gas water heater thermostats are more accessible. Older people might lower the setting to avoid scalding as might energy conscious individuals. On the other hand, people in large households might increase the setting to accommodate a higher demand for hot water. No field data were found which actually describe the thermostat settings of recently installed gas water heaters, however, in view of the above, a National average thermostat setting for recently installed gas water heaters of 130°F seems reasonable.

With regard to the distribution of gas and electric water heaters information received from the Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association [12] indicates an almost even shipment distribution between gas and electric water heaters (see Table 2-1). With this equal distribution of units and an average setting for electric water heaters of 140°F and 130°F for gas water heaters, a single National average outlet water temperature for



recently installed gas and electric water heaters of 135°F seems reasonable.

Because many older water heaters are still in service, outlet temperatures of older water heaters were also of interest and in a field study conducted in 1976 - 1977 data were collected for 5 electric and 5 gas-fired normally operating water heaters in new townhouses in Twin Rivers, New Jersey [13]. In this study, outlet temperatures ranged from 145.5°F to 163.2°F; with an average outlet water temperature of 158.2°F for gas-fired water heaters and 148.5°F for electric water heaters. Only one water heater had an outlet temperature below 145°F. This sample may not have been representative of the National average at the time since the sample was small, at a single location, and conducted in a test environment. However, water heaters were generally set at a higher outlet temperature during that time frame and the Twin Rivers study seems to confirm this. Since the average lifetime of a water heater is 13 years [14], it could be expected that the National average water heater outlet water temperature settings over a thirteen year period would tend to approach those of current production due to the effects of energy conservation activities, the adoption of new standards, the replacement of older water heaters, and the installation of water heaters in new housing.

#### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

It appears that the current value for a National average outlet water temperature of 145°F for water heaters is probably quite reasonable for the 1984 time frame. However, as the inventory of water heaters is turned over during the 13 year average lifetime, a value approaching 135°F is more appropriate. A suggested table of values, by year, is shown in Table 2-2. The selection of an outlet water temperature would depend on its intended use.

If used for test procedure development, the 135°F outlet temperature is recommended to reflect a single National average outlet water temperature for currently produced gas and electric water heaters although this value might be modified, along with the inlet water temperature, in order to facilitate testing. If used for energy savings evaluations or economic studies and a more time dependent value is needed to reflect the removal of older water heaters from service, the appropriate temperatures should be selected from the time/temperature relationship shown in Table 2-2. If the year in question goes beyond 1990, an update in inlet water temperature should also be considered to reflect the effects of further housing population shifts (see SECTION I - WATER HEATERS - INLET WATER TEMPERATURE) .

#### REFERENCES

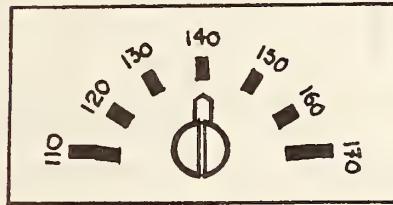
- [1] Test Procedure Review-Water Heaters; Recommendations concerning test procedures to be proposed for use under Public Law 94-163 for Federal Energy Administration Appliance Efficiency Program by the National Bureau of Standards, Center for Consumer Product Technology - March 10, 1976, Revised April 21, 1977.
- [2] Household Appliance Usage Data; NBSIR 80-1994; Alan D. Davies, et. al.; dated February 1980 (Final Report Issued March 1980).
- [3] Robert Shaw, Grayson Division, Long Beach, CA.
- [4] White Rogers, St. Louis, MO.
- [5] Reliance, Ashland City, Tennessee.
- [6] Rheem, Chicago, IL.
- [7] From a sample of residential electric water heaters used for a variety of water heater projects at the National Bureau of Standards.
- [8] Letter from S. L. Blackman; dated February 27, 1984; American Gas Association Laboratories; Cleveland, Ohio.

- [9] ANSI Z21.23-1980; American National Standards for Gas Appliance Thermostats; Approved December 31, 1980; Secretariat American Gas Association; Arlington, VA.
- [10] From a sample of residential gas water heaters used for a variety of water heater projects at the National Bureau of Standards and from gas water heaters currently being sold by Sears.
- [11] ANSI Z21.10.1b-1983; Addenda to American National Standard Z21.10.1-1981, Z21.10.1a-1983; for Gas Water Heaters; Volume 1 - Automatic Storage Water Heaters With Inputs of 75,000 Btu Per Hour or Less; Approved February 15, 1983; Secretariat-American Gas Association; Arlington, VA.
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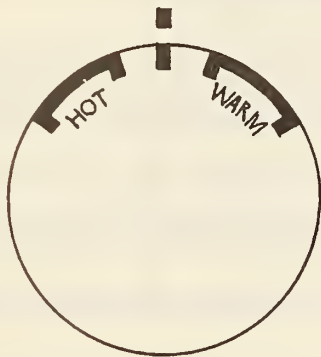


# WATER HEATER THERMOSTAT DIALS (Typical)

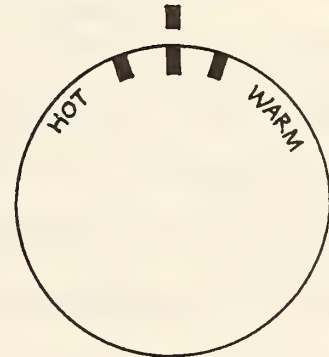
## ELECTRIC



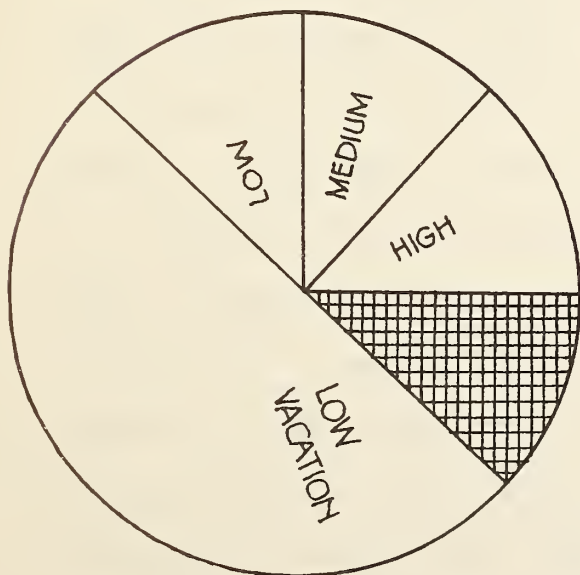
## GAS



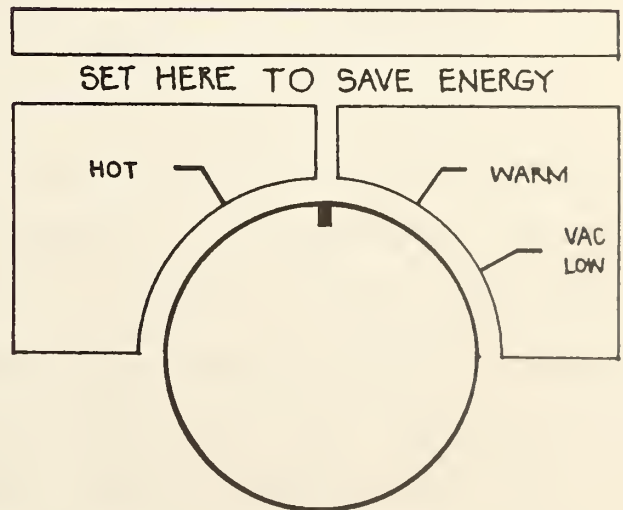
(A)



(B)



(C)



(D)

Table 2-1

SHIPMENTS OF RESIDENTIAL WATER HEATERS  
(in thousands)

	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
Water Heaters, Gas	2,887	2,818	2,785	3,040	3,172
Water Heaters, Electric	2,661	2,451	2,463	2,716	3,131

Table 2-2

AVERAGE OUTLET WATER TEMPERATURE BY YEAR

Year	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97
National Average Outlet Water Temperature for Water Heaters °F	145	144	143	143	142	141	140	140	139	138	137	137	136	135

### SECTION III

#### WATER HEATER

#### AMBIENT AIR TEMPERATURE

CURRENT VALUE: 55°F

PROPOSED VALUE: 65°F

#### HISTORICAL BASIS FOR CURRENT VALUE:

Test methods were developed for water heaters in 1977 [1] in support of Public Law 94-163 which required the Federal Energy Administration to carry out energy conservation activities related to household appliance efficiency. These test methods were developed by the National Bureau of Standards with cooperation from the Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association and were based on ANSI Standards Z21.10.1 for Gas Water Heaters and C72.1 for Electric Water Heaters using the appropriate sections from each of these standards and on earlier test procedures published in the Federal Register on August 14, 1975 (40 FR 158) for the Commerce Department Voluntary Labeling Program.

The Federal Register documenting proposed rules for the Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products [2] includes the determination of the current value of 55°F for a national average room temperature. It states "... the national average room ambient air temperature specification of 55°F was derived by calculation using field data on actual gas and electric storage water heater energy consumption in the residential sector obtained from a survey of 50 gas and 50 electric utility companies conducted by NBS in July 1974." Thirty-eight companies responded to this survey, eighteen of them supplied metered data. The data obtained were normalized to a 90°F water temperature rise and a family size of four persons. Two of the companies responding supplied data on both water usage

and energy usage. NBS used the data supplied by these two companies to compute an average energy efficiency factor (combination of recovery efficiency and standby losses) for gas and electric storage water heaters. These energy efficiency factors were then applied to the energy use data supplied by the other companies to derive average hot water usage of households and associated average room ambient air temperature. Following this approach, NBS determined the average hot water usage of households to be 450 gallons per week, or 64.3 gallons per day and the average room ambient air temperature to be 55°F for the purposes of DOE's test procedures for water heaters. DOE acknowledged at the time that this average ambient room temperature specification may or may not simulate actual ambient temperature conditions where water heaters are installed; however, the use of this specification coupled with the daily hot water usage specification of 64.3 gallons per day resulted in calculated values of energy consumption that agree reasonably well with actual energy consumption obtained from field data.

In addition, a study of Household Appliance Usage Data [3] addressing the basis for room ambient temperature, states "no information was provided on whether the water heaters were usually located outside the house, in unheated cellars, or inside the heated or air conditioned volumes of housing units." The study concludes "... independent field verification of each of these usage factors is recommended. It is suspected that a value for  $T_r$  [room temperature] nearer to 70°F than to 55°F will be found, for example."

Finally, reference [2] also states that the existing test procedures for water heaters require the ambient air temperature to be maintained at a temperature between 65°F and 85°F (and not vary more than  $\pm 7^\circ\text{F}$  throughout the test). It was for the convenience of testing that this temperature was



elevated 10°F to 30°F (from 55°F).

#### APPROACH FOR UPDATE

The ambient water heater temperature is, of course, based on the location of the water heater which in turn is a function of the house configuration, climate, and in some cases fuel type. House configuration determines the possible location of the water heater in that houses built with basements would normally have their water heaters located in those basements. Houses built solely with crawl spaces, however, would have their water heaters placed elsewhere since most crawl spaces usually are too low to accommodate water heaters. In addition, crawl spaces generally provide an unreasonable access for setting, servicing, maintaining or replacing water heaters. In houses built on grade (concrete slab), water heaters are generally placed within the conditioned square footage such as closets or laundry rooms. Water heaters may also be placed in garages or, in milder climates, in spaces outside of the heated or air conditioned volumes of the house.

Fuel type also affects the placement of water heaters. If a water heater is fueled by gas, the furnace generally would also be gas fueled and the water heater placed near the furnace to avoid running extra lengths of gas pipe. This placement of water heaters in proximity to furnaces would generally prevail for all types of installation; basement, closet, garage, etc. Electric water heaters on the other hand, may be located, in principle, anywhere in or near the houses. From a practical point, however, if a basement exists, the electric water heater would also be placed near the furnace to keep all utility type equipment together to allow for more flexible use of the remaining basement space.

The approach for update of this factor is based on a search for data involving the most likely location for the water heater and the ambient

temperature at that location. Very little data in this regard were identified, however, some census data did provide an insight into determining a representative value for this factor.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In addressing the determination of a water heater ambient temperature, Census Data were reviewed to determine the national population for housing with and without basements [4]. A summary of Housing Basement Data is presented for 1977 and 1970 in Table 3-1. These data indicate that for all year round housing units, 47.4% of the total U.S. Housing in 1977 had basements - a reduction from 54.3% in 1970. This trend to fewer basements is not surprising as the cost of housing increases and affordability decreases. The greatest number of basements in 1977 were in the colder climates with 85.5% of the housing in the North East having basements and 70.4% for the North Central region. Housing in the South and West having basements were 18.2% and 22.0% respectively. These data were for all types of residential units from apartment buildings to single family detached houses.

Another source of data which concentrates solely on single family units was derived from the Energy Information Administration of the Department of Energy [5] and is shown in Table 3-2. For single family units the data combine basements and crawl spaces and do not present information separating the two. Again, the number of basement/crawl space single family units are greatest in the North East and North Central regions (87.5% and 90.8% respectively) and lowest in the South and West (69.5% and 65.1%).

Unfortunately, no definitive numerical conclusions can be drawn from the above data. However, one can observe that there are a large number of basements in the colder climates of the North East and North Central parts



of the country with many of the basements directly heated. Residences in the South and West, with their warmer climates, have fewer basements with a smaller percentage directly heated. If it can be assumed that (1) the water heater will be generally located in the basement when a basement is available and (2) the number and distribution of residential basements are geographically wide ranging as described above, than it is hard to imagine the surrounding ambient temperature of the water heater being as low as 55°F, the current value. In the wintertime, directly heated basements might range in the order of 65°F to 70°F while unheated basements might range in the 60°F to 65°F region due to heat being radiated from a nearby furnace or boiler. Also in the summertime, the basement temperature would generally be higher than 55°F when the outside temperature fluctuates between 70°F and 90°F, as might be expected.

Regarding the ambient temperature for water heaters not located in basements, a strong argument can be made for assuming that the water heater ambient temperature would generally be the same as the prevailing ambient temperature in the residence. To determine this temperature, data showing the percentage of U.S. Households by inside temperatures were identified. These data, shown in Table 3-3, were developed by the Energy Information Administration of the Department of Energy [5] and show (1) Daytime Temperature When Someone Is At Home; (2) Daytime Temperature When No One Is At Home; and, (3) Nighttime (Sleeping Hours) Temperatures. The information is for winter indoor temperatures and is classified by heating degree days and residence square footage. An inspection of the data reveals that the percentage of indoor winter temperatures less than 63°F is relatively small. In the summertime, of course, the indoor ambient temperature would be much higher, even with air conditioning.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

It would be difficult to justify the current value of 55°F as a National average ambient water heater temperature based on a critical review of the data presented above. Although impossible to quantify with the data available, a value of 65°F to 70°F seems more supportable. In view of the above, it is recommended that a value of 65°F be used until a better approach can be developed or actual field data collected.

## REFERENCES

- [1] Test Procedure Review - Water Heaters; Recommendations concerning test procedures to be proposed for use under Public Law 94-163 for Federal Energy Administration Appliance Efficiency Program by the National Bureau of Standards, Center for Consumer Product Technology; March 10, 1976, Revised April 21, 1977.
- [2] Federal Register; Department of Energy; Part II; Office of Conservation and Renewable Energy; 10 CFR Part 430; Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products; Test Procedures for Water Heaters; Public Heating; Proposed Rule; Wednesday, February 8, 1984.
- [3] Household Appliance Usage Data; NBSIR 80-1994; Alan D. Davies, et. al.; dated February 1980 (Final Report issued March 1980).
- [4] Annual Housing Survey: 1977; General Housing Characteristics; Part A - United States and Regions; U.S. Department of Commerce; Bureau of the Census/U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; Office of Policy Development of Research.
- [5] Residential Energy Consumption Survey: Housing Characteristics 1982; DOE/EIA-0314(82); Published August 1984; Energy Information Administration, Washington, DC 20585.

TABLE 3-1

HOUSING BASEMENT DATA  
(all year round housing units)

1977

		Total US	North East	North Central	South	West
Housing With Basement	Number (Thousand)	38253	15141	14920	4797	3395
	%	47.4	85.5	70.4	18.2	22.0
Housing Without Basement	Number (Thousand)	42463	2566	6261	21625	12011
	%	52.6	14.5	29.6	81.8	78.0

1970

		Total US	North East	North Central	South	West
Housing With Basement	Number (Thousand)	34467	13843	13452	4180	2992
	%	54.3	89.4	76.7	21.7	26.8
Housing Without Basement	Number (Thousand)	28978	1640	4084	15077	8177
	%	45.7	10.6	23.3	78.3	73.2

Source:  
Annual Housing Survey: 1977  
General Housing Characteristics

TABLE 3-2

SINGLE-FAMILY BASEMENT DATA  
(SINGLE-FAMILY UNITS - 1982)

		TOTAL U.S.	NORTH EAST	NORTH CENTRAL	SOUTH	WEST
Have Basement/ Crawl Space	Number (Millions)	44.7	9.3	13.6	14.5	7.3
	%	77.5	87.5	90.8	69.5	65.1
Heated	Number (Millions)	12.7	3.6	6.5	1.5	1.1
	%	22.0	33.6	43.2	7.2	9.9
No Basement/ Crawl Space	Number (Millions)	13.0	1.3	1.4	6.4	3.9
	%	22.5	12.5	9.2	30.5	34.9

Source:  
Energy Information Administration  
Office of Energy Markets and End Use  
The 1982 Residential Energy Consumption Survey



TABLE 3-3

PERCENTAGE OF U.S. HOUSEHOLDS BY INSIDE TEMPERATURES  
(SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCES - AS OF NOVEMBER 1982)

DAYTIME TEMPERATURE WHEN SOMEONE IS AT HOME

	Heating Degree Days (HDD)														
	April 1982 through March 1983 by Heated Square Foot					4,000 to 5,499 HDD					More Than 4,000 HDD				
	Less than 1000 Sq.Ft.	1000 to 1999 Sq.Ft.	More than 1999 Sq.Ft.	Less than 1000 Sq.Ft.	1000 to 1999 Sq.Ft.	More than 1999 Sq.Ft.	Less than 1000 Sq.Ft.	1000 to 1999 Sq.Ft.	More than 1999 Sq.Ft.	Less than 1000 Sq.Ft.	1000 to 1999 Sq.Ft.	More than 1999 Sq.Ft.	Less than 1000 Sq.Ft.	1000 to 1999 Sq.Ft.	More than 1999 Sq.Ft.
Total	97.3	4.9	3.5	96.8	99.9	99.7	98.1	98.8	99.5	93.7	94.0	96.4	94.0	94.0	96.4
Heat Is Turned On	4.9	3.5	7.6	3.5	9.0	7.6	5.3	3.5	4.6	5.1	2.0	2.3	2.0	2.3	2.3
63 Degrees or Less	13.4	15.0	18.2	15.0	16.3	18.2	15.2	12.3	14.3	10.3	8.6	12.5	8.6	8.6	12.5
64 to 66 Degrees	27.7	28.6	34.0	28.6	34.0	31.6	23.5	31.1	33.7	15.9	23.0	25.7	23.0	23.0	25.7
67 to 69 Degrees	26.7	30.2	21.8	30.2	21.8	25.9	28.9	29.8	26.5	27.8	25.7	25.0	25.7	25.7	25.0
70 Degrees	24.7	19.5	18.8	19.5	18.8	16.4	25.2	22.1	20.3	34.5	34.6	29.9	34.6	34.6	29.9
71 or More Degrees	1.6	0.6	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.1	3.4	4.9	2.9	4.9	4.9	2.9
Heat Turned Off	1.1	2.6	0.2	2.6	-	0.2	1.8	0.7	0.4	3.0	1.1	0.7	1.1	1.1	0.7
Unknown/No Answer															
DAYTIME TEMPERATURE WHEN NO ONE IS AT HOME															
Total	83.6	91.7	97.6	91.7	97.6	99.0	81.7	90.4	96.1	54.2	65.4	78.9	65.4	65.4	78.9
Heat Is Turned On	27.0	30.3	34.9	30.3	34.9	34.8	24.0	29.8	28.0	17.0	20.0	20.4	20.0	20.0	20.4
63 Degrees or Less	19.8	25.7	22.6	25.7	22.6	25.7	20.7	21.2	23.0	8.9	12.2	23.3	12.2	12.2	23.3
64 to 66 Degrees	15.2	12.3	20.0	12.3	20.0	20.2	17.4	13.8	20.9	8.4	11.3	14.0	11.3	11.3	14.0
67 to 69 Degrees	11.9	13.8	12.1	13.8	12.1	10.4	12.6	14.1	14.4	9.3	11.0	8.1	11.0	11.0	8.1
70 Degrees	9.7	9.6	7.9	9.6	7.9	7.9	7.0	11.5	9.8	10.7	11.0	13.0	11.0	11.0	13.0
71 or More Degrees	15.3	5.1	2.4	5.1	2.4	0.8	16.6	8.9	3.6	43.2	33.0	18.8	33.0	33.0	18.8
Heat Turned Off	1.1	3.1	-	3.1	-	0.2	1.8	0.7	0.4	2.6	0.8	2.3	0.8	0.8	2.3
Unknown/No Answer															
NIGHTTIME (SLEEPING HOURS)															
Total	88.6	93.1	98.1	93.1	98.1	99.4	87.3	94.5	96.8	69.4	76.6	80.7	76.6	76.6	80.7
Heat Is Turned On	23.9	21.1	30.4	21.1	30.4	29.4	19.8	25.3	26.5	18.2	20.1	22.2	20.1	20.1	22.2
63 Degrees or Less	22.2	26.5	25.8	26.5	25.8	27.3	24.1	24.6	23.4	14.7	14.9	21.3	14.9	14.9	21.3
64 to 66 Degrees	19.5	19.9	21.0	19.9	21.0	24.5	21.7	19.6	21.5	11.1	19.0	14.6	19.0	19.0	14.6
67 to 99 Degrees	13.2	17.2	11.3	17.2	11.3	12.3	15.7	13.5	16.2	11.0	11.1	14.2	11.1	11.1	14.2
70 Degrees	9.8	8.5	9.6	8.5	9.6	5.9	6.1	11.4	9.2	14.4	11.5	8.5	11.5	11.5	8.5
71 or More Degrees	10.3	3.4	1.7	3.4	1.7	0.5	11.5	4.8	2.9	27.1	22.9	18.6	22.9	22.9	18.6
Heat Turned Off	1.1	3.4	0.2	3.4	0.2	0.2	1.2	0.7	0.4	3.5	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.7
Unknown/No Answer															

Source:

Energy Information Administration; Office of Energy  
Markets and End Use; The 1982 Residential  
Energy Consumption Survey



## SECTION IV

### WATER HEATERS

#### HOT WATER USAGE

CURRENT VALUE: 64.3 gal/day

PROPOSED VALUE: 60 gal/day

#### HISTORICAL BASIS FOR CURRENT VALUE

The current value for hot water usage was estimated by the National Bureau of Standards [1] not from direct measurements, but from hot-water heater energy usage metered data obtained by several electric and gas utilities and from general service efficiency factors obtained from laboratory tests. The following equation was used to calculate hot water usage by the indirect analysis:

Average hot water usage in gallons =

$$\frac{(\text{average total energy consumed}) \times (\text{average service efficiency})}{\text{energy required per gallon heated}}$$

Using the above equation, the national average hot water usage was calculated to be 64.3 gallons per day, 365 days per year with a nominal tank temperature of 145°F; input water temperature of 55°F; and an ambient air temperature of 55°F. A National Bureau of Standards report, Household Appliance Usage Data [2], describes the basis for the estimate and includes the origin for the data used as follows:

The energy consumed was treated independently for gas and for electric water heaters. The average gas energy of 378 therms per year was taken as the average of the average annual energy consumptions reported for regional usage by five gas utility companies. The average gas heater service efficiency of 47 percent was taken as the average of results of laboratory studies on one gas heater tested by the Institute of Gas Technology and on two gas heaters tested by the Houston Lighting and Power Company. The

average annual energy consumption for the electric heaters of 6012 kWh per year was taken as the average of the average annual regional energy consumptions reported by 13 electric utility companies. The average service efficiency for the electric heater of 75 percent was taken as the average of results of (a) laboratory tests conducted on one heater by the Institute of Gas Technology and on three heaters by the Houston Lighting and Power Company, and (b) field tests on 54 metered units by Detroit Edison over two weeks in the summer and two weeks in the winter.

In each separate case--gas and electric--reported results were combined into unweighted averages without regard to sampling methods, locality, manufacturer, size, or specific operating conditions. The data collected in the field were those offered voluntarily by the utility companies and varied widely in format, detail, and estimated reliability. In most instances, the thermostat setting was unknown; and no information was provided on whether the water heaters were usually located outside the house, in unheated cellars, or inside the heated or air-conditioned volumes of housing units. Most of the data were for individual houses, but some were for apartments.

The annual median water surface temperature (as reported by the U.S. Geological Survey) was taken to be the annual average tank water-input temperature for the specific location involved.

In addition, the NBS report states that no direct data are available to support an estimate of uncertainty in national average hot water usage and the magnitude of systematic errors cannot be reasonably estimated because of the diversity of the reported observations. The report correctly addresses the point that the mathematical relationship used (shown at the beginning of this section) is in error on the high side (i.e., gives too large a value of average water use) because it includes an



additional average of cross-product terms of energy and service efficiency and that the magnitude of the cross-product contribution is unknown.

#### APPROACH FOR UPDATE

The current value of 64.3 gal/day for a national hot water usage factor is a derived value determined indirectly from average energy usage and average service efficiencies, as explained above. In order to revise this value, this update incorporates information developed subsequent to the establishment of the 64.3 gal/day value and evaluates a number of reports that address this topic. Each report is reviewed for methodology, data presented, and conclusions reached and an overall assessment made regarding the adequacy of the current value.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A report by R. D. Clear and D. B. Goldstein [3] addresses those factors important in estimating hot water consumption and energy use. The report analyzes the National Bureau of Standards approach and establishes a methodology for determining hot water usage based upon a home inhabited by an average size family with an average appliance usage.

The focus for the Clear and Goldstein report lies with the following algorithm:  $W = (P + S_c C + S_d D) \times FS$ .

W = Daily water usage (gal/day)

P = Per-capita water use for personal services (showers, hand washing, bathing) (gal/day)

C = Per-capita increase in water use caused by the presence of a clotheswasher (gal/day)

D = Per-capita increase in water use (compared to hand dishwashing) caused by the presence of an automatic dishwasher (gal/day)

$S_c$  = Saturation of clothes washers (percentage of families owning a clothes washer)

$S_d$  = Saturation of dishwashers (percentage of families owning a dishwasher)

FS = Family size (number of members)

The above equation assumes a relationship of a simple linear combination of coefficients, all of which are proportional to family size. The authors state that this equation is intuitively plausible and that some data exists to support its accuracy. The authors derive numerical values for each of the parameters and state that for some of the parameters good agreement is achieved when compared to some direct or indirect measurement. The following results are presented:

#### WATER USAGE PARAMETERS

Auto Clotheswasher	C = 5.6 ± 1	S <sub>C</sub> = .7 (estimate)
Wringer Washer	WW = 3 ± 2	S <sub>WW</sub> = .1 (estimate)
Dishwasher	D = 3 ± 1.5	S <sub>D</sub> = .4 (estimate)
Personal Use	P (gas) = 10.3 ± 3	P (electric) = 6 ± 1 P (avg) = 8 ± 2
Family Size	FS (avg) = 2.8	FS (single family) = 3.2

Water Use: W

Electric;  $W = (6+5.6 \times .7+3 \times .1+3 \times .4) \times 2.8 = 11.4 \times 2.8 = 32 \text{ gpd } \pm 4$

Gas;  $W = (10.3+5.6 \times .7+3 \times .1+3 \times .4) \times 2.8 = 15.7 \times 2.8 = 44 \text{ gpd } \pm 9$

Average;\*  $W = (8+5.6 \times .7+3 \times .1 \times 1+3 \times .4) \times 2.8 = 13.4 \times 2.8 = 38 \text{ gpd } \pm 6$

Average Single Family;  $W = 13.4 \times 3.2 = 42 \text{ gpd } \pm 7$

\* This is not a weighted average of gas and electric households.

P (electric) is far more accurately known than P (gas) and a simple average was used for the estimate of average water use.

In effect, it is concluded that for a family of 3.2 persons, the daily hot water usage would be 42 gpd ±7.

Although the above is presented with detailed back-up, the accuracy of the results are questionable. The assumption of a simple linear combination of coefficients, all of which are proportional to family size, is unjustified (see Ontario Hydro, below). Small variations in nonlinearity and non-proportionality could change the results

significantly. In addition, the authors question their own values for P, the personal use parameter, which provides the largest input to the equation. The report states that the water use for gas water heaters is only supported by two studies, one of them small and the other small and non-random, and concludes that more study is clearly needed to evaluate P more accurately.

The results, however, are considered as another useful data point developed through a different premise from that by which the current 64.3 gal/day was developed. However, neither is based on actual metered water use.

A second report evaluated was prepared by M. Perlman of Ontario Hydro for the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers, Inc. [4]. The report uses data derived from actual measurements conducted in residences and contains the results of consumer surveys regarding water usage. The field measurements include two years of data for five residences in the Toronto area and one year of data for fifty more residences located throughout the Province of Ontario. The report addresses such items as the overall and peak average hot water usage; the average daily and peak hourly hot water use by family size, average age of adults, presence of children, seasonal variations, etc. The results indicate an overall average hot water use of 62.4 gal/day for all families and a 63.1 gal/day for a "typical family" defined as a family size of 4 (two adults and two children) owning a clothes washer and dishwasher.

In reviewing the data which are thoroughly presented in graphic and tabular form, the non-linearity of the various parameters are manifest. Some of the variables are reported as follows:



### Average Daily Hot Water By Family Size

Family Size	Average Daily Use gal/person
2	18.1
3	22.6
4	16.6
5	12.3

### Average Daily Hot Water Use By Average Age of Adults

Average Age of Adults	Average Daily Use gal/person
30	14.6
30-35	20.4
35-40	19.1
40-45	17.6
45-50	17.1
59	15.8

This representation, in effect, is counter to the Clear and Goldstein basis that assumes a simple linear combination of coefficients, all of which are proportional to family size.

Regarding the Ontario Hydro value of 63.1 gal/day for the "typical" family, the assumption of a 4 member family is coupled with the demographic survey of the residences which revealed that 98% of the households in Ontario had automatic clothes washers and 79% automatic dishwashers. This must be compared to the average United States household numbering 2.7 persons in 1980 [5] and the saturation levels of clothes washers and dishwashers for 1983 as 73.6% and 45.0% respectively [6]. It should be noted that the term "family" refers to a group of two or more persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption and residing together in a household. A "household", however, includes all persons who occupy a "housing unit." (For complete definitions see Statistical Abstract of the United States, National Data Book and Guide Sources, Bureau of the Census.)

In addition to the above, another factor which must be addressed in the average cold water temperature differences between Canada and the United States. Section I of this report, (WATER HEATERS - INLET WATER



TEMPERATURE), recommends a national average temperature of 58°F. Using the same source data [7], the average inlet water temperature for the Ontario area is at least 10°F colder. If it can be assumed that this inlet water temperature also represents the temperature flowing from the cold water tap, a higher hot water use rate will result if this colder inlet water is blended with hot water for showering or other personal use.

In summary, the detailed data and analysis presented by Ontario Hydro lends high credibility for the 63.1 gal/day water usage for the "typical" family in the Ontario area. Comparable data for the United States, however, showing a smaller number of persons in the average household, fewer clothes washers and dishwashers, and a higher average cold water tap temperature, leads us to conclude that the Canadian data can be viewed as a reasonable upper bound for water temperature usage extrapolated to the United States.

A third report evaluated that contains field data was provided by a study prepared by the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory [8]. The paper describes and analyzes both laboratory and field test data on water heaters from more than 75 published and unpublished sources. The report contains a table showing per capita hot water usage from occupied households in various locations in the United States, Denmark, and Canada. The pertinent data only for the United States are shown below:

PER CAPITA HOT WATER USAGE (GAL/DAY)

<u>Average No. of Occupants</u>	<u>Number of Units</u>	<u>Daily Hot Water Use Per Capita (Gallons)</u>	<u>Building Type</u>	<u>Fuel Type</u>	<u>Project Location</u>
2.8	8	12.2	SF	E	Tacoma, WA
4.0	1	13.0	SF	E	Chico, CA
4.0	1	15.5	SF	E	Chico, CA
4.0	13	17.1	SF	G	San Diego, CA
3.3	18	17.7	SF	E	Portland, OR
4.7	23	17.7	SF	S	San Diego, CA
4.0	85	18.3	SF	E	USA
3.6	10	28.7	SF	E	Portland, OR
2.9	15	19.7	SF	S	USA
2.9	32	21.7	SF	E	MD, VA, WV
3.7	10	22.7	SF	E	PA
2.9	12	22.9	SF	S	San Diego, CA
3.7	23	23.9	SF	E	Seattle, WA
3.6	251	18.54			

In reviewing the above table, a number of observations can be made. If the daily water use per capita (18.54 gal/day) is multiplied by the average number of occupants (3.6), the daily usage is 66.7 gal/day. If the daily water use per capita (18.54 gal/day), however, is multiplied by the average number of persons per household in the United States (2.7), the daily water use falls to 50.1 gal/day. In addition, if the number of occupants is weighted by number of units and per capita use (since the high daily water use per capita also corresponds to the larger number of units) a per capita use of 19.6 gal/day is derived and when multiplied by the average number of persons per household (2.7) a total consumption of 53.0 gal/day results. Finally, assuming that the average family size in a single-family dwelling is 3.2 people [3], the daily usage is either 59.3 or 62.7 gallons if the daily water use per capita is 18.54 or 19.6 gallons per day, respectively. Of course, it should be noted that the 251 units sampled are still small in number and not geographically dispersed to give very special meaning to the results. On the other hand, the data and results cannot be ignored.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

A review of the information presented above shows that both the analytical approach and the limited field data available suffer from lack of definitive data on a nationwide basis. The analytical approach of Clear and Goldstein offers a daily water usage of 42 gallons; the Ontario Hydro studies show results of 63.1 gallons for a Canadian scenerio; and the Usbelli study varies between 66.7 and 50.1 gallons. The daily usage rate, based on the Usibelli study, varies between 59.3 and 62.7 gallons, if the average family size of 3.2 in a single-family dwelling is used. Further, in weighing all of the studies together it could be reasonably concluded that the current 64.3 gallons per day factor for a national hot water usage may be an upper limit and a lower value may be more representative. In this regard, a proposed value of 60 gallons per day may be more desirable as it would move the value closer to an "integrated assessment" and also not imply the measure of accuracy that the current 64.3 gallon per day value suggests. It is, therefore, recommended that the current value for hot water usage be changed from 64.3 to 60 gallons per day until a better body of field data is gathered and a more definitive usage factor determined.

## REFERENCES

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- [2] Alan D. Davies, et. al; "Household Appliance Usage Data"; NBSIR 80-1994; National Bureau of Standards; Washington, D.C.; dated February 1980 (Final Report issued March 1980).
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- [5] General Housing Characteristics; United States Summary; 1980 Census of Housing; HC80-1-A1; Bureau of the Census; U.S. Department of Commerce; Issued May 1983.
- [6] Appliance Magazine; A Dana Chase Publication; "The Saturation Picture"; September 1984.
- [7] J. F. Blakey; "Temperature of Surface Waters in the Conterminous United States"; U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Investigations Atlas HA-235; Washington, D.C.; 1966.
- [8] A. Usibelli; "Monitored Energy Use of Residential Water Heaters - Buildings Energy - Use Compilation and Analysis: Part D"; Report No. LBL-17873; Buildings Energy Data Group; Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory; Berkeley, CA; dated May 1984.



## SECTION V

### FURNACES

#### OUTDOOR DESIGN TEMPERATURE

CURRENT VALUE: 5°F

PROPOSED VALUE: 17°F

#### HISTORICAL BASIS FOR CURRENT VALUE

Test methods were developed for furnaces in 1978 [1, 2] in support of Public Law 94-163 which required the Federal Energy Administration to carry out energy conservation activities related to the efficiencies of household appliances. As part of the development of test procedures for furnaces, a national average value for heating load hours per year was needed which included the value of a National outdoor design temperature (see SECTION IV - FURNACES - HEATING LOAD HOURS).

As reported in the Household Appliance Usage Data [3], the current outdoor design temperature of 5°F was calculated as a weighted average of long-term "97.5%-design dry-bulb temperatures" at weather stations in the lower 48 states supplied by the Armed Forces [4]. The "97.5% winter design dry-bulb temperature" is defined as temperatures which have been equaled or exceeded by 97.5% of the total hours in the months of December, January, and February (a total of 2160 hours). In a normal winter, there would be approximately 54 hours at or below the 97.5% value [5]. The weighting was by the number of housing units using gas or oil as their primary heating fuel as reported by the 1970 census, but it is unknown how the regions were delineated or how much of the population was not included in the calculation.

This factor is primarily used in the equation to compute heating load hours (see SECTION IV - FURNACES - HEATING LOAD HOURS). The factor is

discussed herein separately to present, in detail, the methodology and data used to confirm the current value or develop a new proposed value. Further, by including this factor as a separate section of this report, the value is highlighted for use in other building related energy studies requiring a National average outdoor design temperature.

#### APPROACH FOR UPDATE

The approach taken here for estimating the National average outdoor design temperature is similar to that for estimating annual average water heater inlet temperature (see SECTION I - WATER HEATERS - INLET WATER TEMPERATURE). This means that the average outdoor design temperature will be weighted for each State by its housing population. Specifically, average "97.5%-design temperatures" were estimated for each State using data for climatic conditions for the United States as tabulated in the ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals [5]. This information was weighted by the number of single-family housing units for that State derived from 1980 census data [6] and an overall National average outdoor design temperature determined.

Estimating average state outdoor design temperatures was subjective. An alternative would have been to weight the temperature reported for each locale by the population of that locale. However, this would have frequently meant neglecting populous regions. For example, no weather station is listed for Montgomery County, Maryland, which is one of the most populous counties of the state and contains the state's second largest city. In the method used here, Montgomery County, which is a suburb of Washington, DC, was assigned a design temperature equal to that of Washington, DC, and was considered in calculating the average state outdoor design temperature.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 5-1 shows the results of the outdoor design temperature calculation. The resulting housing population-weighted average outdoor design temperature was 16.7°F, considerably higher than the presently used 5°F value. Although a certain amount of subjectivity is involved in estimating state average outdoor design temperatures, the National average outdoor design temperature should change little even allowing for differences in individual assessments. As indicated above, all populous areas were included even if they were not represented by a weather station in the ASHRAE Fundamentals [5].

We cannot fully explain the large difference between our result, 16.7°F, and the current value of 5°F. Part of this could be due to the shift of population to warmer climates between 1970 and 1980. Further differences could be attributed to the different methodologies used since the current value is weighted by housing units having gas- or oil-fired heating systems, while the proposed value uses single-family houses. In addition, the current value and the proposed value are based on different weather-station data and different regions over which temperatures were averaged. It is quite possible that temperatures simply cannot be meaningfully estimated for areas located between two weather stations, and large population areas are necessarily neglected no matter how much one tries to include them.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The replacement of the current 5°F value with a 17°F value for a National average outdoor design temperature seems justified. The basis for the justification is the relatively high confidence placed in the methodology and the data used. It is again noted that this new value is used in the equation to compute heating load hours (see SECTION VI -



FURNACES - HEATING LOAD HOURS) and may also be used in other building related energy studies requiring a National average outdoor design temperature.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] "Test Procedures for Conventional Ranges, Conventional Cooking Tops, Conventional Ovens, Microwave Ovens and Microwave/Conventional Ranges, Furnaces and Vented and Unvented Home Heating Equipment"; Federal Register 43, 91; 20108-20205 (May 10, 1978).
- [2] "Proposed Test Procedures for Furnaces; Public Hearing"; Federal Register 42, 155; 40826-40845 (August 11, 1977).
- [3] Davis, A.D., et al.; "Household Appliance Usage Data"; NBSIR 80-1994, National Bureau of Standards, Washington, DC; February 1980.
- [4] Departments of the Air Force, Army, and Navy, "Engineering Weather Data," AFM-99-8, June 15, 1967.
- [5] American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc., "ASHRAE Handbook, 1981 Fundamentals," Atlanta, 1981.
- [6] U.S. Department of Commerce; "1980 Census of Housing Volume 1, Characteristics of Housing Units; Chapter A, General Housing Characteristics; Part 1, United States Summary"; Bureau of the Census; Issued May 1983.



TABLE 5-1

## HOUSING POPULATION-WEIGHTED AVERAGE OUTDOOR WINTER DESIGN TEMPERATURE

STATE	ASSUMED 97.5% WINTER DESIGN DRY BULB TEMPERATURE °F	HOUSING POPULATION (IN THOUSANDS) 1980 CENSUS SINGLE FAMILY UNITS
Alabama	21	1,168
Alaska	21	86
Arizona	33	745
Arkansas	20	725
California	41	6,440
Colorado	1	835
Connecticut	7	794
Delaware	14	170
District of Columbia	17	127
Florida	42	2,798
Georgia	22	1,525
*Hawaii	63	198
Idaho	10	272
Illinois	2	2,699
Indiana	2	1,655
Iowa	- 5	902
Kansas	5	775
Kentucky	10	1,045
Louisiana	33	1,195
Maine	- 2	295
Maryland	17	1,145
Massachusetts	9	1,257
Michigan	6	2,721
Minnesota	-12	1,128
Mississippi	25	732
Missouri	7	1,518
Montana	-16	222
Nebraska	- 3	493
Nevada	20	203
New Hampshire	- 1	235
New Jersey	14	1,710
New Mexico	13	347
New York	12	3,096
North Carolina	21	1,761
North Dakota	-19	174
Ohio	5	3,119
Oklahoma	13	1,010
Oregon	24	812
Pennsylvania	11	3,415
Rhode Island	9	221
South Carolina	26	883
South Dakota	-10	200
Tennessee	18	1,373
Texas	30	4,143
Utah	8	372
Vermont	- 8	135
Virginia	18	1,554
Washington	26	1,225
West Virginia	10	577
Wisconsin	- 5	1,321
Wyoming	- 7	118

Population-weighted National Average Winter  
Design Temperature (°F).

16.7

\* Not included in calculation.



FURNACESANNUAL HEATING LOAD HOURSCURRENT VALUE: 2080 Hours Per YearPROPOSED VALUE: 2080 Hours Per YearHISTORICAL BASIS FOR CURRENT VALUE

Test methods were developed for furnaces in 1978 [1, 2], in support of Public Law 94-163 which required the Federal Energy Administration to carry out energy conservation activities related to the efficiencies of household appliances. As part of the development of test procedures for furnaces, a national average value for heating load hours per year was needed [2]. A study made on Household Appliance Usage Data [3] describes the analytical approach used to determine the current value for furnace annual heating load hours and is based upon the following equation:

Annual Heating Load Hours =

$$\frac{\text{Degree-days per year} \times 24 \text{ hr. per day} \times \text{SHL}}{(\text{Balance Point Temp.} - \text{Outdoor Design Temp.}) \times \text{SHL}}$$

where: SHL = heat loss rate of the structure in Btu per hour per degree Fahrenheit

The current value was derived as follows:

Annual Heating Load Hours = 2080 =

$$\frac{5200 \text{ Degree-days per year} \times 24 \text{ hr. per day}}{(65^{\circ}\text{F} - 5^{\circ}\text{F})}$$

The calculation that produced the current value of 2080 heating load hours per year used 5200 degree-days; a balance point of 65°F; and a 5°F outdoor air design temperature. These were based on weighted averages using long-term weather data and 1970 census data. The 65°F temperature used as the balance point (zero heat point) is the traditional reference

temperature for computing degree-days, and marks the outdoor dry bulb temperature boundary between a load and no load on the heating system. The Household Appliance Usage Data Study [3] further states that the rate of conduction and infiltration is, for practical purposes, considered proportional to the difference between indoor and outdoor temperatures. The number of degree-days in a day at a given location is computed by finding the arithmetic average of the high and low temperatures for the day and subtracting the result from the balance point (65°F). No heating degree-days are counted if the average is above the balance point. When summed over the heating season, the total degree-days for a year is proportional to the annual heating load. In addition, the conductive heat loss characteristics of a given structure may also be included in the annual heating load hour calculation, but since these characteristics appear in the numerator and denominator of the equation (see above), they cancel out and may be dropped for brevity.

#### APPROACH FOR UPDATE

As a first step, this update addresses the 65°F balance point and its use in deriving the current value for annual heating load hours. A review was made of currently marketed heating equipment [4], systems design practices [5], and housing construction practices [6] in order to reveal any appropriate changes to the original assumptions used in the calculation of the current value. The second step in the update addresses the calculation of average degree-days based upon a housing population weighting. This information, along with the revised outdoor design data, which is also based upon a housing population weighting, (see SECTION V - FURNACES - OUTDOOR DESIGN TEMPERATURE) is incorporated into the Annual Heating Load Hour equation and a new value determined.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The function of the heating load hours parameter is to combine certain climate and indoor factors into a form that is concise and convenient for



analytical uses, while meeting the requirement for a representative national value. The 65°F balance point, a reference used in the analytical equation to combine climate and indoor factors, has been of concern to the furnace manufacturing community, [1]. This community has at times stated that this balance point is no longer representative of current home construction and heating practices and leads to serious overestimates.

An analysis by NBS [3] also revealed areas of uncertainty with regard to the use of 65°F as a balance point. Historically, the 65° balance point temperature was proposed [7] in the 1920's as a result of study by a gas utility company. In their analysis [3], NBS pointed out that several changes since that date indicate that a re-examination of that balance point would be in order. Residential construction is considerably tighter, reducing heat losses from air infiltration; much more insulation is being used, reducing heat losses by conduction through the walls and ceilings; and there are many more heat releasing appliances in homes, reducing the additional heat requirements from furnaces. NBS also states in this analysis that higher fuel costs are encouraging the use of lower thermostat settings during the heating season. Further, because of heat storage characteristics of house structures and contents, transient excursions of outdoor air temperatures below 65°F may result in no call for heat from the central heating system for as long as 6 to 12 hours.

DOE has recognized the general nature and effects of the factors listed above, but has deferred any change from the 65°F balance point until deeper study reveals a better alternative [3]. However, the lack of precision with regard to the assumptions used to determine furnace energy use can have a major impact on the resulting heating load hours per year value. NBS has estimated [3] that the effect of a change of one degree fahrenheit in either the indoor temperatures (an indoor design temperature of 70°F was used in determining the present value), or the balance point temperature (65°F) at 5200 degree-days is approximately  $900/5 = 180$  degree-

days. The corresponding effect on the heating load hours per year would be approximately 72 hours per degree F. After reviewing related heating and weather data [5, 8], NBS recommended and DOE accepted an adjustment factor, C, of 0.77 as a multiplier for changing the burner operating hours to the approximate heating load experienced by the system.

A survey of data compiled by industry [9, 10] and professional research communities [11, 12, 13] revealed that there is as yet no field data comprehensive enough to replace analytical data in areas of: indoor control temperatures, including any setback temperatures and durations; and design point temperatures, including local variations relative to the reference weather station. Because of the above, along with the realization that there is a large accumulation of data based on a long institutionalized 65°F balance point, no recommendation is made here to change this value. Requirements for the determination of burner operating hours (not studied here) should be based on a reassessment of the C = 0.77 (adjustment) factor rather than a recomputation of degree-days using a different balance point.

In addition to reviewing the degree-day basis, as noted above, the methodology for determining a national average degree-day value was also evaluated. Instead of using the data for degree-days at the weather stations selected to represent the various states, a housing population weighted degree-day average was calculated.

The study used data of yearly heating degree days as distributed in the conterminous United States which was found in the 1980 U.S. Climatic Atlas produced by NOAA [14]. Degree day values were given for at least four population centers in every State. A degree-day value for each State was determined by averaging the values of these centers, giving weight to housing population distribution.

Although the above method is subjective in that judgement was required to select a representative value for average degree days by State,

nevertheless, it is felt that a fair assessment has been made and that the selected values would vary by a small amount even in those cases where there is room for other assessments. Such differences should not, therefore, significantly alter the overall results.

Also important to this study is the location of the Nation's population of single-family housing units. This was determined by the use of the 1980 census data [15]. The census divides single-family housing units by State. These are the same housing population values used to determine the updated outdoor design temperature value. (See SECTION V - FURNACES - OUTDOOR DESIGN TEMPERATURE.) The above information resulted in a weighted national average yearly value of 4232 degree-days (see Table 6-1).

The annual heating load hours may now be recalculated using the following values in the equation: 4232 annual degree-days (as derived above); 65°F as the balance point (no change); and 17°F as the average outdoor design temperature (as determined in SECTION VI - FURNACES - OUTDOOR DESIGN TEMPERATURE).

Annual Heating Load Hours = 2116 =

$$\frac{4232 \text{ Degree-days per Year} \times 24 \text{ hr. per day}}{(65^{\circ}\text{F} - 17^{\circ}\text{F})}$$

It should be noted again that the annual average degree-day value (4232) and the average outdoor design temperature (17°F) are both derived using housing population weighted data and consequently, will shift with population migrations.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

In viewing the annual heating load hours (2116) derived through the methodology using housing population weighted data, and comparing this value with the current value of 2080 heating load hours per year, little change is noted. This may indicate that a consistent approach in determining the annual degree-days and average outdoor design temperature



will result in little change in determining annual heating load hours. In view of the small difference between the two values (approximately 1.7%), it is recommended that the current value of 2080 heating load hours be retained.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] "Test Procedures for Conventional Ranges, Conventional Cooking Tops, Conventional Ovens, Microwave Ovens and Microwave/Conventional Ranges, Furnaces and Vented and Unvented Home Heating Equipment"; Federal Register 43, 91; 20108-20205 (May 10, 1978).
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- [12] The Code for Energy Conservation in New Building Construction; National Conference of States on Building Codes and Standards; December 1977.
- [13] Energy Conservation in New Building Design; Standard 90A-80; ASHRAE; 1980.
- [14] U.S. Climatic Atlas; NOAA; 1980.



[15] U.S. Department of Commerce; 1980 Census of Housing; Volume 1;  
Detailed Housing Characteristics; Equipment and Plumbing Facilities  
for States; Part 1; United States Summary.

TABLE 6-1

## Housing Population Weighted Average Annual Degree Days

STATE	HOUSING POPULATION (IN THOUSANDS) 1980 CENSUS SINGLE FAMILY UNITS	DEGREE DAYS (AVERAGE PER YEAR)
Alabama	1168	2400
Arizona	748	3300
Arkansas	725	3300
California	6440	2800
Colorado	835	6300
Connecticut	794	5900
Delaware	170	4900
District of C.	127	4200
Florida	2798	2100
Georgia	1525	2400
Idaho	272	6100
Illinois	2699	5800
Indiana	1655	5700
Iowa	902	6800
Kansas	755	5300
Kentucky	1045	4900
Louisiana	1195	3300
Maine	295	8600
Maryland	1145	4700
Massachusetts	1257	6500
Michigan	2721	7400
Minnesota	1128	8900
Mississippi	732	2200
Missouri	1518	4900
Montana	222	8000
Nebraska	493	6600
Nevada	203	6100
New Hampshire	235	10600
New Jersey	1710	4800
New Mexico	347	4600
New York	3096	6200
North Carolina	1761	3300
North Dakota	174	9300
Ohio	3119	5800
Oklahoma	1010	3800
Oregon	812	5300
Pennsylvania	3415	5500
Rhode Island	221	5900
South Carolina	883	2300
South Dakota	200	7800
Tennessee	1373	4000
Texas	4143	1900
Utah	372	6100
Vermont	135	8200
Virginia	1554	3800
Washington	1225	5400
West Virginia	577	4800
Wisconsin	1321	7800
Wyoming	118	7600

National Average Yearly Degree Days

4232

## SECTION VII

### ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS

#### YEARLY HOURS OF USE

CURRENT VALUE: 750 Hours Per Year

PROPOSED VALUE: 670 Hours Per Year

#### HISTORICAL BASIS FOR CURRENT VALUE

Test methods were developed for room air conditioners in 1976 [1], [2], in support of Public Law 94-163 which required the Federal Energy Administration to carry out energy conservation activities related to household appliance efficiency. These test methods were developed at the National Bureau of Standards (NBS) with cooperation from the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) and in conjunction with the ANSI Standard Z234.1-1972 (AHAM-RAC-1) for Room Air Conditioners. The methods NBS developed were based upon an analytical approach which was used to calculate the estimated national average hours of use for room air conditioners.

NBS [3] used a report by David A. Pilati of Oak Ridge National Laboratory as a starting point. This Pilati report [4], estimates the annual compressor operating hours for ten cities using selected weather years. The author modified the National Bureau of Standards' Load Determination (NBSLD) computer program to calculate compressor operating hours while also accounting for the ability of natural ventilation to provide cooling. The assumptions were that a house room air conditioner was set at 78°F and the windows were opened if the outdoor conditions could maintain the inside temperature between 75°F and 78°F. Compressor hours for ten cities were averaged using census data and market saturation data [5] as weighting factors. Average air conditioning demand hours were also calculated using the same data (demand hours being defined in this study as

the larger of two numbers: hours of dry bulb temperature above 80°F, or wet bulb temperature above 67°F.) The required weather data were obtained from the Engineering Weather Data Manual AFM 88-8 [6]. The ratio of compressor hours to demand hours then gave the percent of time that the room air conditioner compressor was operating per demand hour.

The National Bureau of Standards used this modified program to then compute the annual national average air conditioning demand hours value. This average was weighted for population and market saturation using the same weather [6] and market saturation data [5] used in the Pilati study [4]. Average hours of air conditioner operation were computed for 138 Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA's). From this work, the estimated national average of 730 hours of compressor operating time was computed and rounded up to the 750 value.

The study, Household Appliance Usage Data [7], describes this analytical approach and also cites 750 hours as the national average number of hours of compressor operation per year for room air conditioner units. This same study also states that the usage factor of 750 hours per year is based entirely on analyses and assumptions and that field surveys are advisable in order to verify the factor. Such field survey data would account for the impact of thermostat settings, the oversizing or undersizing of air conditioner units and also account for ventilation use patterns. It is assumed that users of room air conditioners, unlike consumers who cool with central air conditioners, are more inclined to open windows when the outdoor air speed and temperature are adequate to maintain comfortable indoor temperature. Ventilation can make a substantial difference in the cooling required by air conditioners, thus affecting hours of use. Also, the great differences in hours of room air conditioner usage from one locality of the country to another would impact a national



average usage factor if field data were used to determine regional values.

Early progress reports of field tests by AHAM [8] were mentioned in the Household Appliance Usage Data report [7], but at that time testing was considered too incomplete to be useful input. Since the AHAM study is now complete [9], it appears that field survey data is available that is sufficient to check against the calculation method which established the initial factor.

#### APPROACH FOR UPDATE

The approach for this update focused upon field data available with regard to annual hours of operation for room air conditioners since the establishment of the current value of 750 hours. Two manufacturers of room air conditioners, York and Carrier, were contacted as well as various trade and professional associations including: the Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA), The Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM), The Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute (ARI), and the Edison Electric Institute (EEI). In addition, The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), and Lawrence Berkeley Laboratories (LBL) were contacted in an attempt to obtain field data. It was found through discussion with room air conditioning manufacturers [10], and trade and professional associations [11], [12], [13], that the final AHAM Report [9] was used as a basis for recent research done by these organizations [14], [15]. This AHAM report is also the basis for this current study. In effect, data from the AHAM study which shows yearly hours of use of room air conditioners as distributed in the conterminous United States, is adjusted by room air conditioner saturation, by state, to arrive at a national average.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The AHAM report was the result of an extensive field survey whose major objective was to provide sufficient room air conditioner field test data on compressor operating hours per year for correlation with a calculation method also developed by AHAM. Data were taken from AHAM field testing sites, throughout the United States, in over 30 locations with major emphasis on New York City, Chicago, St. Louis, and Dallas. Data for a total of over 290 units were collected. Another source of data for the AHAM Report was the field testing results collected and published by other organizations [16, 17, and 18].

As part of the AHAM report a map was developed which shows yearly hours of operation for room air conditioners as distributed in the conterminous United States [19]. This map shows bands of operating hours for room air conditioners with each band spread generally representing a change of 250 yearly hours of operation.

Using the AHAM map (Fig. 7-1), a single representative number of hours of operation was estimated for each State (Table 7-1). Where a single band covers a State, the midpoint of the band was used. Where more than one band covers a State, an average number of hours of operation for the State was not assigned solely on the geographic distribution of the bands within the State, but was based on the room air conditioners saturation within the state. For example, if a State was covered by two bands, a uniform room air conditioners saturation would lead to selection of the boundary value of the two bands. If, however, the centers of population were generally located within one of the two bands, the number of hours within that band was selected to represent the average number of hours of room air conditioner operation for that State.

The above method is subjective in that judgement was required to select a representative value for hours of operation for each State. Nevertheless, it is felt that a fair assessment has been made and that the selected values would vary by a small amount even in those cases where there is room for other assessments of individual State hours of operation of room air conditioners. Such differences, therefore, should not significantly alter the overall results.

Also important to this study is the location of the Nation's population of room air conditioning units. This was determined by the use of the 1980 census data [20] (Table 7-1) in that the census survey of equipment and plumbing facilities also includes individual room air conditioning units by State. It should be noted that no information is provided regarding the number of room air conditioners per dwelling unit or air conditioner size.

The above information permitted the calculation of a weighted National average for the number of hours of operation of room air conditioning units. The average number of operation hours for room air conditioners by State was multiplied by the number of units in that State; the products added; and then divided by the total number of room air conditioning units. From these calculations, the average room air conditioning hours of operation, weighted by room air conditioner saturation, is 668.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

In consideration of the information presented above, a National average number of annual hours of operation for room air conditioning units of 670 hours is recommended. Although this recommended figure varies to some degree from the current value of 750 hours, the variance is less when viewed from the perspective that the original computation for the current value was calculated at 730 hours and later rounded up to 750 hours. This



factor should be reviewed if significant changes in field data or census data occur or if other information is developed that has the potential to provide further refinement.

#### REFERENCES

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Figure 7-1

AHAM  
ROOM AIR CONDITIONER  
AVERAGE COMPRESSOR HOURS OF OPERATION  
PER YEAR

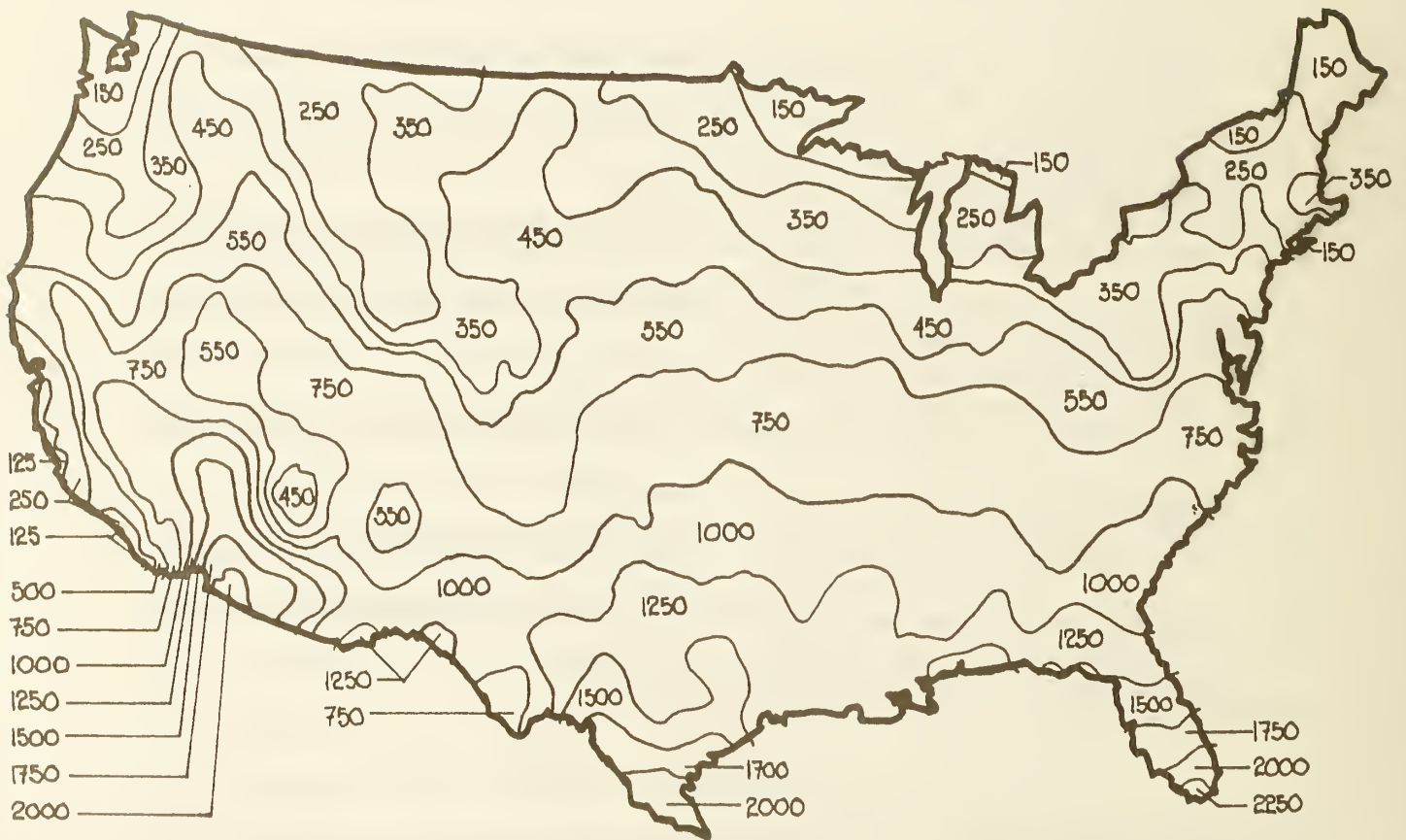


TABLE 7-1

POPULATION-WEIGHTED AVERAGE HOURS OF OPERATION  
FOR ROOM AIR CONDITIONER UNITS

STATE	ASSUMED AVERAGE ANNUAL HOURS OF OPERATION FOR ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS*	NUMBER OF ROOM AIR CONDITIONER UNITS (IN THOUSANDS)°
Alabama	1050	488
Arizona	1275	88
Arkansas	1000	288
California	800	1613
Colorado	550	180
Connecticut	250	446
Delaware	550	78
District of Columbia	550	94
Florida	1750	1194
Georgia	1000	524
Idaho	425	56
Illinois	550	1503
Indiana	500	585
Iowa	400	368
Kansas	730	315
Kentucky	625	441
Louisiana	1250	559
Maine	150	42
Maryland	550	419
Massachusetts	275	681
Michigan	250	698
Minnesota	275	460
Mississippi	1125	325
Missouri	750	568
Montana	350	37
Nebraska	500	181
Nevada	1000	50
New Hampshire	250	76
New Jersey	450	1230
New Mexico	750	87
New York	275	2275
North Carolina	750	646
North Dakota	200	67
Ohio	450	1041
Oklahoma	900	443
Oregon	350	117
Pennsylvania	400	1328
Rhode Island	250	102
South Carolina	875	357
South Dakota	425	91
Tennessee	750	711
Texas	1250	1550
Utah	750	85
Vermont	200	17
Virginia	550	530
Washington	275	133
West Virginia	450	181
Wisconsin	350	441
Wyoming	350	23

Population-weighted National average hours  
of operation for Room Air Conditioning Units.

668

\* Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers, 1984.

° U.S. Housing Census, 1980





## SECTION VIII

### CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONERS\*

#### ANNUAL FULL LOAD COMPRESSOR OPERATING HOURS

CURRENT VALUE: 1000 Hours Per Year

PROPOSED VALUE: 1150 Hours Per Year

#### HISTORICAL BASIS FOR CURRENT VALUE

Test methods were developed for central air conditioners in 1977 [1] and 1978 [2] in support of Public Law 94-163 which required the Federal Energy Administration to carry out energy conservation activities related to household appliance efficiency.

In order to develop the current value for central air conditioner annual hours of operation (full load compressor operating hours), three approaches were compared. The first involved a study by Pilati [3] who used a value of 750 annual operating hours for room air conditioners (see SECTION VII - ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS - YEARLY HOURS OF USE) to derive a value for central air conditioners. He assumed that users of room air conditioners will tend to use natural ventilation to achieve their cooling objectives when outdoor conditions permit, while users of central air conditioners will tend to avoid natural ventilation during the cooling season. Data from the "ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals," American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers, 1972, were used in a multi-variable regression analysis to extend the results over the country and to produce "predictions" for ten cities and the results were cross-plotted. The calculations using this method yielded a result of approximately 1100 hours per year. A second study was made by Honeywell [4] who reported the results of compressor-hours analysis for 26 cities (six of which coincided with Pilati's selections) using weather data from

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\* Including heat pumps operating in the cooling mode.

the Departments of the Air Force, Army, and Navy. These data included the mean number of hours per year for which the dry bulb temperature was observed in each of a succession of five-degree bins. Compressor operating hours for an unventilated house were estimated for three temperature control methods. Averages among the six cities coinciding with Pilati's selection show a value of 1518 annual hours.

The third method, developed by the National Bureau of Standards, is based upon the same weather data used in the Honeywell study. The results from this approach are considered to be more approximate than the previous two because of the methods of data aggregation. The average number of hours in each temperature bin were first combined by state and then weighted by the number of housing units with central air conditioning by State (derived from the 1970 U.S. Census of Housing Summary HC(1)B1.), to develop nationally averaged bin-hours. The compressor was assumed to be off for outdoor temperatures below the balance point and to operate continuously for temperatures at and above a temperature determined by the design point and any system oversizing. A linear relationship with respect to outdoor temperature was used to estimate the fraction of operating time for conditions between these two temperatures. Assuming a 78°F set point, a 68°F balance point, a 95°F design point and a ten percent oversizing factor, a value of 1238 compressor operating hours per year results. Use of a 65°F balance point yields 1373 hours.

Statistical information provided by industry on usage patterns in specific locations of the country showed evidence that no single value for usage could be usefully regarded as "representative" even within a limited climate area over more than one cooling season. It was also concluded by NBS [5] that the effects of climate variation across the nation contribute further to usage variation. Weather variations from season to season were also stated to contribute uncertainties. NBS, therefore, recommended that

the annual usage factor be heavily rounded to avoid undue impression of applicability in all situations. The value of 1000 compressor hours per year was recommended because it was believed to be reasonably close to analytical results and because it would provide a convenient basis for calculations if a form of regional treatment is considered in the future.

The study, Household Appliance Usage Data, [6] commented that this usage factor was based entirely upon analyses and assumptions. It was stated that field data, oversizing practices, consumer practices regarding ventilation, temperature objectives, and shutoff periods should be investigated.

#### APPROACH FOR UPDATE

The general approach for this update is to review the most current information available on central air conditioner hours of use [7] and a National average determined by weighing the available data by central air conditioner saturation as published by the Census Bureau [8] for 1980. Data are presented and analyzed using a set point temperature at a constant 75°F; a normal set point of 75°F with an adjustment to the set point to 80°F from 5:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and a constant thermostat set point of 78°F. In addition, the current value of 1000 annual full load compressor hours is reevaluated using 1980 Census Bureau data [8] to determine central air conditioner saturation on a state-by-state basis in order to establish a single National value. Heat pumps operating in the cooling mode have also been included to reflect their increasing popularity as a combination heating and cooling appliance.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Three approaches were used in developing a value for annual compressor operating hours. Two assumed an indoor thermostat constant set point of 78°F; the third approach assumed a constant 75°F set point. All of the approaches assumed that there was no natural ventilation. It was assumed



that users of central air conditioning will tend to avoid natural ventilation during the cooling season. In these approaches, the compressor was assumed to be off for outdoor temperatures below the balance point and to cycle, as appropriate, for temperatures at and above a temperature determined by the design point and any system oversizing. In the NBS document, Test Procedure Review - Central Air Conditioners [5], it was determined that one characteristic of the bin calculation methods used in this analysis concerns all outdoor temperature excursions into the cooling demand region. These contribute to the total compressor hours, however brief they may be or whenever they may occur during the year. However, there are practical reasons for adjusting these theoretical results. Because of the thermal masses of walls and building contents, indoor temperatures do not respond immediately or fully to short-term outdoor temperature fluctuations. Operating hours would also be reduced by any tendencies to confine system usage to the main cooling season. Also, no allowance is made in the analyses for conservation-motivated setbacks during vacations or other periods of absence. Thus, it was recommended in this review, that some downward adjustment of theoretical results was warranted.

Of the three approaches used, the Honeywell study [4] found that a one-degree increase in indoor temperature decreases the operating hours by an estimated 3%. A study published in the ASHRAE Journal [7], reveals a savings in compressor hours of operation of 8-20% by setting the thermostat to 80°F during the day and 75°F at night as compared to a constant 75°F set point. This reflects a practice employed by those households in which all family members are absent from the house during the day. The study also showed a 16-33% savings in compressor hours of use with a thermostat setting of 78°F constant setpoint versus the 75°F set point. This practice is the one most appropriate to a majority of households in which family



members are at home during the day. Both energy conserving setback practices are becoming increasingly popular in homes with central air conditioning and should be taken into consideration if the average annual number of compressor operating hours is to reflect realistic conditions.

These accepted set point practices, along with the concern expressed earlier for response to regional differences, led to the methodology for this update study. It was decided that an air conditioner saturation-weighted average of yearly hours of use be determined for each of the set point practices described above. Sources of data for these studies were the ASHRAE Journal 1976 study previously cited [7] and the 1980 census data [8], which lists the number of central air conditioners for single family residences by State.

The first map used (see Fig. 8-1) shows yearly hours of operation for central air conditioners in single family housing in the conterminous United States when the set point temperature is a constant 75°F. This map shows bands of operating hours for central air conditioners. From 1000 hours to 3000 hours, the bands have a 200 hour spread; from 1000 hours to 300 hours the bands have a 100 hour spread. The second and third maps (Fig. 8-2; 8-3) show yearly hours of savings from the hours shown on the first map for central air conditioners (Fig. 8-1) when two different temperature settings are used. Figure 8-2 indicates the compressor operating hours saved per year when the thermostat is increased to 80°F from 5:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and set back to 75°F the rest of the time. Figure 8-3 shows the compressor operating hours saved per year when the thermostat is set up to a constant 78°F. Both of these maps (Fig. 8-2; 8-3) show bands of saved operating hours for central air conditioners; the bands having a 25 hour spread in the lower range and a 50 hour spread in the upper range.

For each map, a single representative number of hours of operation was estimated for each State. In Figure 8-2 and 8-3, these hours were yearly hours of operation saved over those hours in Figure 8-1. For each map, where a single band covers a State, the midpoint of the band was generally used. Where more than one band covers a State, an average number of hours of operation, or saved hours of operation, for that State was not assigned solely on the geographic distribution of the bands within the State, but was based on the central air conditioner saturation distribution. For example, if a State was covered by two bands, a uniform central air conditioner saturation would lead to a selection of the boundary value of the two bands. If, however, the central air conditioner saturation favored one of the two bands, the number of hours within that band was selected to represent the average yearly number of hours of operation or hours of operation saved for central air conditioners for that State.

The above method is subjective in that judgement was required to select a representative value for hours of operation for each State. Nevertheless, it is felt that a fair assessment has been made and that the selected values would vary by a small amount even in those cases where there is room for other assessments of individual State hours of operation of central air conditioners. Such differences should, therefore, not significantly alter the overall results.

The hours of operation saved in each State as a result of moving the thermostat to the 80°F set point and the constant 78°F set point were then subtracted from the yearly average hours of operation for central air conditioners at the 75°F set point for each State. Average yearly hours of operation were then listed for each set point by State. (See Tables 8-1; 8-2; and 8-3.)

Using this information and the 1980 census data [8] in which the census of equipment and plumbing facilities includes the saturation of individual central air conditioning systems and heat pumps by State, a calculation was performed which derived a weighted National average number of hours of operation of central air conditioners, heat pumps, and total units for each of the accepted set points. For each set point, the average number of hours of central air conditioning operation per State was multiplied by the number of units in that State; the products were added; and divided by the total number of central air conditioning units. (See Tables 8-1; 8-2; and 8-3.)

From these calculations, the central air conditioning unit population-weighted average number of hours of operation at a 75°F constant set point is 1548 hours; at 75°F varying the set point to 80°F from 5:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. is 1383 hours; and at a 78°F constant set point is 1286 hours. (See Table 8-5.)

In further reviewing the basis for the current value, it appears that the value is based on "equivalent annual full load compressor hours." Unfortunately, the documentation covering this subject has been found to be inconsistent in usage and nomenclature. Terms such as "hours of full load compressor operation per year" and "hours/year" are used. As such, it should be pointed out that the information presented above is based on the ASHRAE Journal, June 1976 [7] data and is clearly compressor operating hours. The results have been included in this study for completeness, further reference, and later use in extrapolating full load compressor hours.

A conversion from annual compressor operating hours to equivalent annual full load hours was made by the York Division, Borg-Warner Corporation and was based on the annual compressor operating hour information published in the ASHRAE Journal, June 1976 [7]. The results,



which are mapped as iso-annual full load hours, are contained in the NBS report Method of Testing, Rating, and Estimating the Seasonal Performance of Central Air-Conditioners and Heat Pumps Operating in the Cooling Mode [9], and effectively reduce the ASHRAE annual compressor operating hours by ten percent. The cooling load hour map contained in the NBS report is reproduced here as Figure 8-4.

Utilizing the same methodology as described above for annual compressor operating hours, and using 1980 Census Bureau Data, a State-by-State analysis was made and a single National value determined for annual full load operating hours based on a 75°F set point. In addition, annual full load operating hours for a 75°F set point (increased to 80°F from 5:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) and a constant 78°F set-point were also determined by interpolation using the ASHRAE Journal computations for annual compressor operating hours. The resulting annual full load operating hours at a 75°F constant set point is 1319 hours; at 75°F varying the set point to 80°F from 5:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. is 1178 hours; and at a 78°F constant set point is 1286 hours. (See Table 8-5.)

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

In viewing the summary data presented in Table 8-5, attention is directed to the full load compressor operating hours shown for the 75°F set point; the 75°F set point (80°F from 5:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.); and the 78°F set point. The highest number of annual full load operating hours is 1319 at the 75°F set point. However, under energy and cost savings conditions, raising the set point for the day, or part of a day, lowers the annual full load compressor operating hours. If it can be reasonably assumed that the reduced set point temperature is a widely accepted practice throughout the nation and more representative of current usage, the National average for annual full load compressor operation operating hours should reflect this condition. As such, it is recommended that a new value of 1150 hours be



accepted as the current National average for the annual full load compressor operating hours; this figure not being refined further to suggest a degree of accuracy not warranted by the data and methodology used. This value should be reviewed if significant field data are obtained, if major changes occur in central air conditioner saturation, if the 1976 ASHRAE data are updated, or if other information is developed that has the potential to provide further refinement.

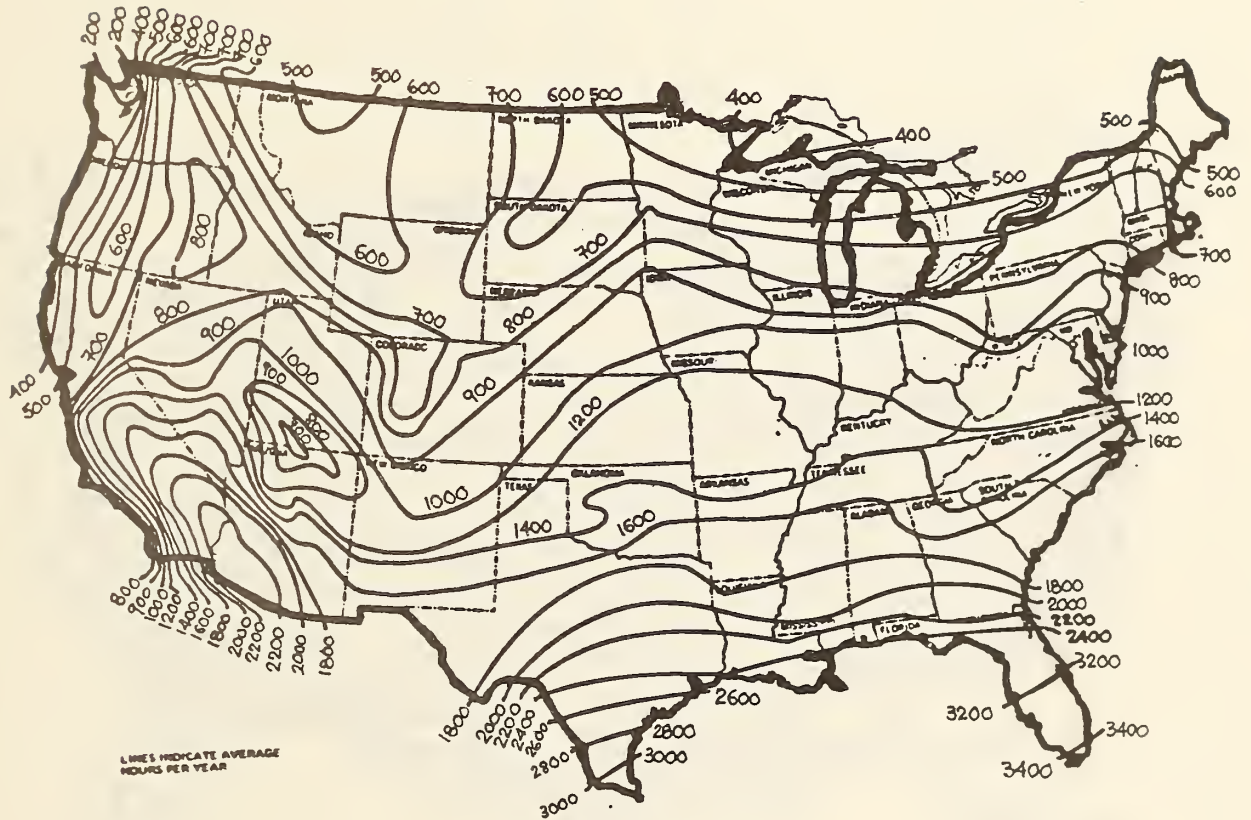
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8. U.S. Department of Commerce; "1980 Census of Housing, Volume 1, Detailed Housing Characteristics, Equipment and Plumbing Facilities for States, Part 1; United States Summary."

9. Method of Testing, Rating and Estimating the Seasonal Performance of Central Air-Conditioners and Heat Pumps Operating in the Cooling Mode; NBSIR 77-1271; G.E. Kelly and W.H. Parken, Jr.; April 1978; National Bureau of Standards; Washington, DC 20234.

Figure 8-1

# COMPRESSOR HOURS PER YEAR AT 75°F SET POINT \*

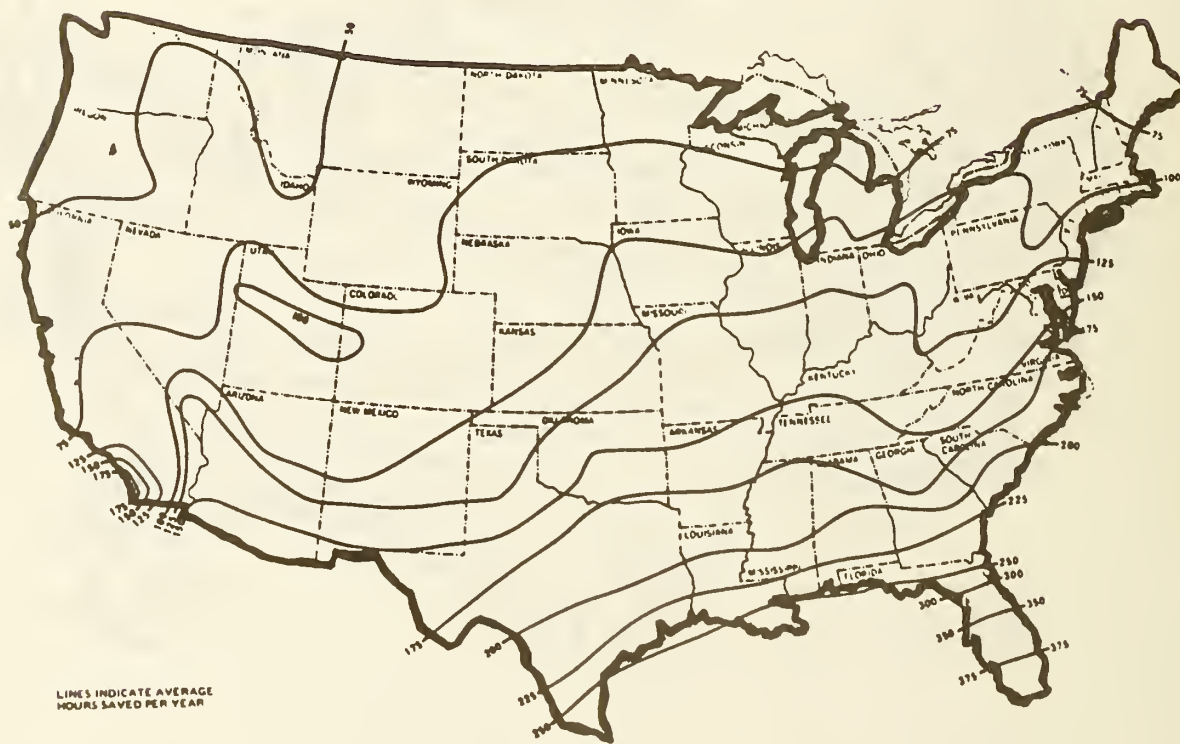


\* ASHRAE JOURNAL, JUNE 1976.



Figure 8-2

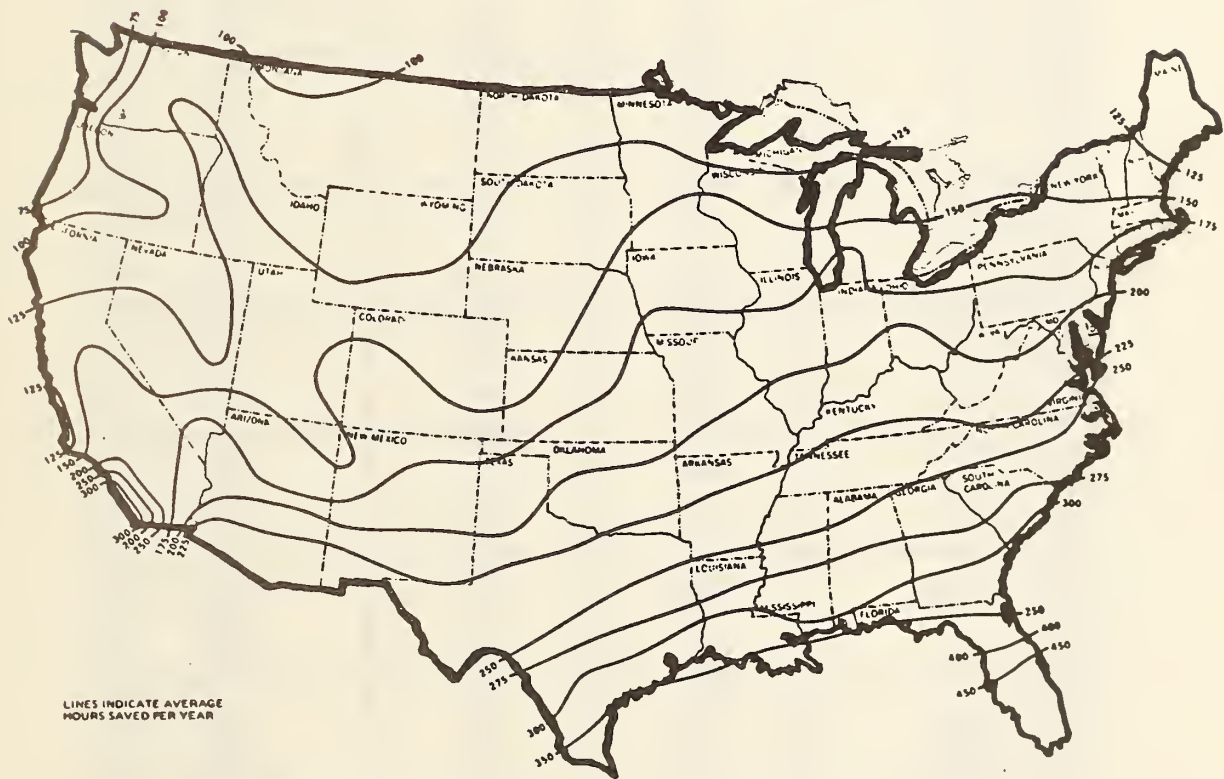
# COMPRESSOR HOURS SAVED PER YEAR AT DAY SETUP OF 80°F FROM 5A.M. TO 4P.M. \*



\* ASHRAE JOURNAL, JUNE 1976.

Figure 8-3

# COMPRESSOR HOURS SAVED PER YEAR AT A CONSTANT 78°F SET POINT \*



\* ASHRAE JOURNAL, JUNE 1976.

Table 8-1

## CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONER ANNUAL COMPRESSOR HOURS OF OPERATION AT 75°F SET POINT

State	Housing Population (in thousands) Having Central Air Conditioners (1980 Census)	Housing Population (in thousands) Having Heat Pumps (1980 Census)	Average Number of Compressor Hours Per Year at 75°F Set Point (ASHRAE Journal, June 1976)
Alabama	531	103	1875
Arizona	674	160	1975
Arkansas	346	29	1575
California	2084	169	975
Colorado	179	17	750
Connecticut	87	19	800
Delaware	71	6	1000
District of Columbia	92	7	1100
Florida	2399	648	3125
Georgia	805	88	1750
Idaho	60	19	725
Illinois	1351	65	950
Indiana	625	66	1075
Iowa	372	22	875
Kansas	430	14	1225
Kentucky	396	80	1175
Louisiana	704	35	2250
Maine	3	5	500
Maryland	667	70	1100
Massachusetts	109	31	750
Michigan	484	25	450
Minnesota	286	17	550
Mississippi	307	33	1900
Missouri	808	36	1300
Montana	25	5	550
Nebraska	296	11	950
Nevada	186	34	1825
New Hampshire	8	5	650
New Jersey	511	40	900
New Mexico	209	6	1100
New York	481	51	750
North Carolina	680	199	1300
North Dakota	34	7	550
Ohio	891	151	1000
Oklahoma	559	26	1500
Oregon	85	45	500
Pennsylvania	539	84	950
Rhode Island	13	3	700
South Carolina	407	128	1625
South Dakota	65	9	725
Tennessee	574	141	1525
Texas	3016	158	2225
Utah	150	8	950
Vermont	1	2	600
Virginia	766	153	1100
Washington	111	62	625
West Virginia	103	21	1075
Wisconsin	216	20	725
Wyoming	13	3	650
TOTAL	23,809	3,136	

Table 8-2

CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONER ANNUAL COMPRESSOR HOURS OF OPERATION AT 75° SET POINT  
REDUCED TO 80°F FROM 5:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

State	Housing Population (in thousands) Having Central Air Conditioners (1980 Census)	Housing Population (in thousands) Having Heat Pumps (1980 Census)	Average Number of Compressor Hours Per Year at 75°F Set Point Reduced to 80°F from 5:00am to 4:00pm (ASHRAE Journal, June 1976)
Alabama	531	103	1675
Arizona	674	160	1845
Arkansas	346	29	1415
California	2084	169	900
Colorado	179	17	665
Connecticut	87	19	700
Delaware	71	6	865
District of Columbia	92	7	960
Florida	2399	648	2775
Georgia	805	88	1550
Idaho	60	19	645
Illinois	1351	65	880
Indiana	625	66	970
Iowa	372	22	780
Kansas	430	14	1075
Kentucky	396	80	1045
Louisiana	704	35	2050
Maine	3	5	425
Maryland	667	70	965
Massachusetts	109	31	650
Michigan	484	25	375
Minnesota	286	17	475
Mississippi	307	33	1705
Missouri	808	36	1165
Montana	25	5	520
Nebraska	296	11	845
Nevada	186	34	1725
New Hampshire	8	5	525
New Jersey	511	40	775
New Mexico	209	6	1000
New York	481	51	620
North Carolina	680	199	1150
North Dakota	34	7	515
Ohio	891	151	820
Oklahoma	559	26	1350
Oregon	85	45	445
Pennsylvania	539	84	840
Rhode Island	13	3	600
South Carolina	407	128	1400
South Dakota	65	9	610
Tennessee	574	141	1335
Texas	3016	158	2000
Utah	150	8	880
Vermont	1	2	535
Virginia	766	153	980
Washington	111	62	560
West Virginia	103	21	980
Wisconsin	216	20	640
Wyoming	13	3	590
TOTAL	23,809	3,136	

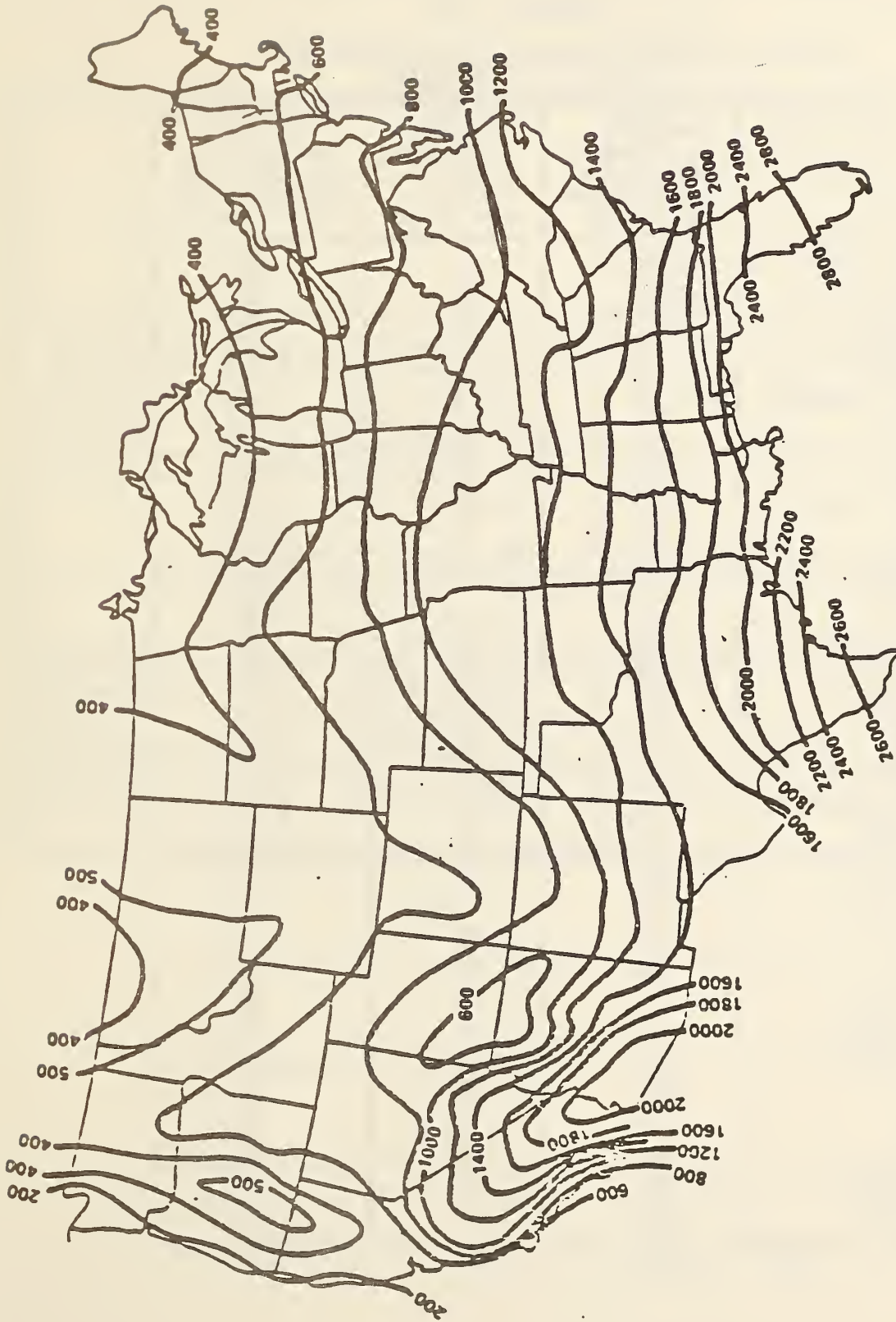


Table 8-3

## CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONER ANNUAL COMPRESSOR HOURS OF OPERATION AT 78°F SET POINT

State	Housing Population (in thousands) Having Central Air Conditioners (1980 Census)	Housing Population (in thousands) Having Heat Pumps (1980 Census)	Average Number of Compressor Hours Per Year at 75°F Set Point (ASHRAE Journal, June 1976)
Alabama	531	103	1610
Arizona	674	160	1800
Arkansas	346	29	1365
California	2084	169	1535
Colorado	179	17	750
Connecticut	87	19	625
Delaware	71	6	785
District of Columbia	92	7	885
Florida	2399	648	2375
Georgia	805	88	1615
Idaho	60	19	575
Illinois	1351	65	815
Indiana	625	66	920
Iowa	372	22	725
Kansas	430	14	1040
Kentucky	396	80	1085
Louisiana	704	35	1985
Maine	3	5	375
Maryland	667	70	890
Massachusetts	109	31	540
Michigan	484	25	265
Minnesota	286	17	465
Mississippi	307	33	1625
Missouri	808	36	1110
Montana	25	5	1390
Nebraska	296	11	655
Nevada	186	34	1075
New Hampshire	8	5	465
New Jersey	511	40	700
New Mexico	209	6	1300
New York	481	51	550
North Carolina	680	199	1250
North Dakota	34	7	585
Ohio	891	151	715
Oklahoma	559	26	1290
Oregon	85	45	415
Pennsylvania	539	84	525
Rhode Island	13	3	325
South Carolina	407	128	1225
South Dakota	65	9	460
Tennessee	574	141	1265
Texas	3016	158	1620
Utah	150	8	865
Vermont	1	2	460
Virginia	766	153	885
Washington	111	62	485
West Virginia	103	21	900
Wisconsin	216	20	370
Wyoming	13	3	675
TOTAL	23,809	3,136	

Figure 8-4



DISTRIBUTION OF COOLING LOAD HOURS THROUGHOUT THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES

Reference: Prepared by York Division,  
Borg-Warner Corporation based  
on material published in the  
June 1976 ASHRAE Journal

Table 8-4

CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONER ANNUAL FULL LOAD COMPRESSOR HOURS  
OF OPERATION AT 75°F SET POINT

State	Housing Population (in thousands) Having Central Air Conditioners (1980 Census)	Housing Population (in thousands) Having Heat Pumps (1980 Census)	Average Number of Full Load Compressor Hours Per Year at 75°F Set Point (York Load Curve)
Alabama	531	103	1475
Arizona	674	160	1600
Arkansas	346	29	1400
California	2084	169	900
Colorado	179	17	600
Connecticut	87	19	650
Delaware	71	6	800
District of Columbia	92	7	900
Florida	2399	648	2775
Georgia	805	88	1400
Idaho	60	19	575
Illinois	1351	65	725
Indiana	625	66	875
Iowa	372	22	800
Kansas	430	14	1000
Kentucky	396	80	950
Louisiana	704	35	2000
Maine	3	5	400
Maryland	667	70	850
Massachusetts	109	31	550
Michigan	484	25	600
Minnesota	286	17	500
Mississippi	307	33	1650
Missouri	808	36	1100
Montana	25	5	450
Nebraska	296	11	750
Nevada	186	34	1475
New Hampshire	8	5	450
New Jersey	511	40	750
New Mexico	209	6	1000
New York	481	51	650
North Carolina	680	199	1200
North Dakota	34	7	400
Ohio	891	151	800
Oklahoma	559	26	1300
Oregon	85	45	450
Pennsylvania	539	84	750
Rhode Island	13	3	600
South Carolina	407	128	1325
South Dakota	65	9	525
Tennessee	574	141	1225
Texas	3016	158	1900
Utah	150	8	800
Vermont	1	2	500
Virginia	766	153	900
Washington	111	62	375
West Virginia	103	21	975
Wisconsin	216	20	550
Wyoming	13	3	550
TOTAL	23,809	3,136	

Table 8-5

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL AVERAGE AIR CONDITIONER  
ANNUAL COMPRESSOR HOURS

		Annual Hours		
		Air Conditioner Only	Heat Pump Only	Total for Air Conditioner and Heat Pump
Operating Hours based on ASHRAE Journal June 1976 and 1980 Census Data	75°F Set Point	1530	1684	1548
	75°F Set Point (80° from 5:00 am to 4:00 pm)	1363	1499	1383
	78°F Set Point	1271	1396	1286
Full Load Operating Hours Based on York Load Curve and 1980 Census Data	75°F Set Point	1304	1437	1319
	75°F Set Point (80°F from 5:00 am to 4:00 pm)	1161	1279	1178
	78°F Set Point	1083	1196	1095



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<b>5. AUTHOR(S)</b> J. Greenberg, B. Reeder, S. Silberstein			
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<b>10. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Document describes a computer program; SF-185, FIPS Software Summary, is attached.			
<b>11. ABSTRACT</b> <i>(A 200-word or less factual summary of most significant information. If document includes a significant bibliography or literature survey, mention it here)</i> <p>The Energy Policy and Conservation Act (EPCA) as amended by the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (NECPA) requires the development of test procedures, labeling rules, and energy efficiency standards for consumer appliances. These requirements must be established using representative national data when establishing the various parameters for each appliance. During the process of establishing tests procedures, labeling rules, and energy efficiency standards, many of the parametric values used have been questioned through written comment and public hearings. The purpose of this report is to re-evaluate selective parametric values through analysis of current data, and provide comment and recommendations. The parameters reviewed are: For water heaters - inlet water temperature, outlet water temperature, ambient air temperature, and hot water usage; for furnaces - outdoor design temperature and average annual heating hours; for room and central air conditioners - yearly hours of use. Each parameter reviewed is documented in an independent section in this report and indicates the current value, the historical basis for the current value, the approach used to review and update the value, the results and conclusions, and recommendations. The recommendations generally propose a new value for the parameter studied based upon the information analyzed.</p>			
<b>12. KEY WORDS</b> <i>(Six to twelve entries; alphabetical order; capitalize only proper names; and separate key words by semicolons)</i> Central Air Conditioner; Furnaces; Hours of Operation; Household Appliance; Hot Water Usage; Outdoor Design Temperature; Water Heater; Water Temperature			
<b>13. AVAILABILITY</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unlimited <input type="checkbox"/> For Official Distribution. Do Not Release to NTIS <input type="checkbox"/> Order From Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order From National Technical Information Service (NTIS), Springfield, VA. 22161		<b>14. NO. OF PRINTED PAGES</b> 86 <b>15. Price</b> \$11.50	



