

Annual basic utility bundle cost comparison for the year ended March 31, 2012

This inaugural annual summary provides a comparison of the cost of a bundle of Manitoba's basic utility services with the cost of that same bundle in other Canadian provinces during the year ended March 31, 2012¹. The bundle includes electricity, natural gas (home heating) and auto insurance services. The comparative costs were developed based on a methodology developed by Deloitte & Touche LLP.

Province	Electricity (non-electric heat)	Natural gas (home heating)	Automobile insurance	Total	Gap from Manitoba
British Columbia	946	949	1,472	\$3,367	552
Alberta	2,044	676	2,491	\$5,211	2,396
Saskatchewan	1,473	799	1,168	\$3,440	625
Manitoba	814	849	1,152	\$2,815	-
Ontario	1,405	853	5,380	\$7,638	4,823
Quebec	762	1,410	1,356	\$3,528	713
New Brunswick	1,326	2,321	1,882	\$5,529	2,714
Nova Scotia	1,565	2,138	1,708	\$5,411	2,596
Prince Edward Island	1,646	2,505	1,828	\$5,979	3,164
Newfoundland	1,318	2,498	1,707	\$5,523	2,708
Average	\$1,330	\$1,500	\$2,014	\$4,844	2,029

Utility bundle component calculation summary

Electricity

The annual cost of electricity for each province is the weighted average² of the annual cost of electricity for each of two centres surveyed in the province. The annual cost of electricity for each of the two centres surveyed in each province, one urban and one rural, is based on monthly electricity utilization that reflects actual Manitoba experience for non-electric heat residential customers, multiplied by the actual monthly rates in effect for that centre. Manitoba electricity utilization experience reflected in the 2012 results is 11,057 kWh per year.

Natural gas (home heating)

The annual cost of home heating for each province is the weighted average² of the annual cost of natural gas heating for each of two centres surveyed in the province. The annual cost of natural gas for each of the two centres surveyed in each province, one urban and one rural, is based on monthly natural gas utilization that reflects actual Manitoba experience for residential customers, multiplied by the actual monthly rates in effect for that centre. Manitoba natural gas utilization experience reflected in the 2012 results is 2,465 cubic metres per year. In a limited number of centres surveyed where natural gas is not available, a heat equivalent amount of heating oil is utilized as the basis for the annual cost of heating.

¹ All auto insurance rates reflected in the results below were those in effect immediately following the measurement period (April/May 2012). This is required in this initial reporting year as a result of the inability to retroactively obtain historical comparative rate information that was in effect at the beginning of the measurement period.

² Weighting is between costs in two sample centres, one urban and one rural, based on data published by Statistics Canada in their 2011 survey of "Private Dwellings occupied by usual residents" for each province.

Auto insurance

The annual cost of auto insurance for each province is the weighted average³ of the annual cost of auto insurance in each of two centres surveyed in the province. The annual cost of auto insurance in each centre, one urban and one rural, is based the average of the cost of annual insurance coverage for a sample of ten vehicle/driver/coverage profiles. The ten automobile/driver/coverage profiles were developed to reflect the most popular vehicles insured in Manitoba and proportional representation of actual driver ages, driver safety ratings and insurance coverage purchased for passenger vehicles in Manitoba.

³ Weighting is between costs in two sample centres, one urban and one rural, based on data published by Statistics Canada in their 2011 survey of "Private Dwellings occupied by usual residents" for each province.