

# Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans

## Utilities Fact Sheet



### Why Utility Costs Matter

AARA works to ensure that Arizona seniors and retirees can live with social and economic security after a lifetime of work. Yet over the past year, **utility costs nationwide have risen by 13%**. For people on fixed incomes, higher energy bills can be a matter of life and death—especially as extreme heat and climate-driven disasters like wildfires grow more frequent. Arizona now has the **8th-highest energy prices** in the nation, and residents' energy bills have increased by **more than 50%** since 2022.

### Did you know?

- 1 in 6 Arizona households — about 425,000 families — already struggle with unaffordable energy bills.
- Families pay an average of \$811 more per year than they can afford.
- Residential electricity rates have jumped nearly 28% since 2010.
- Seniors often live in older, less efficient homes, making cooling more expensive and dangerous.
- And now, Arizona utilities are requesting additional rate increases, which could push bills even higher.

### FYI

#### Easy Ways to Save Today!

- Turn off lights/appliances when not in use
- Use curtains and drapes
- Use ceiling fans
- Switch to LED light bulbs
- Use dishwasher/washing machine with a full load

### Resources Available to Help Lower Your Bills

#### Direct Financial Assistance

- Wildfire Arizona
- Arizona Public Service
- Salt River Project
- Tucson Electric Power

#### Home & Appliance Upgrades

- Efficiency Arizona
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program
- Weatherization Assistance Program