



# Electricity bills antigua and barbuda

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Antigua and Barbuda is a small island nation in the Caribbean Sea, with a population of just over 100,000 people. The country relies heavily on tourism as a significant contributor to its economy, and as such, reliable access to electricity is crucial. The Antigua Public Utilities Authority (APUA) is responsible for the generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity in the country. As of September 2024, the cost of electricity for domestic consumption is \$0.40 per unit (kWh) up to 300 kWh and \$0.38 cents per unit (kWh) for consumption over 300 kWh.

The Antigua Public Utilities Authority (APUA) is a tripartite government statutory agency that provides electricity, telecommunications, and water services to residents of Antigua and Barbuda. The authority was set up under the Public Utilities Act No. 10 of 1973 to ensure that consumers receive the best possible value for these essential services. In addition to powering homes, businesses, and institutions, APUA is also the only locally owned and operated telecommunications provider on the islands.

The day-to-day operations of APUA are managed by a General Manager, who is assisted by a Management Team. Oversight is provided by a Board of Commissioners appointed by the Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda. The Minister with responsibility for Public Utilities formulates policies and introduces legislation as required to successfully fulfill APUA's mission.

APUA's Electricity Business Unit is responsible for powering the islands, and as of 2016, Antigua and Barbuda generated 331,000 MWh of electricity, covering 108% of its annual consumption needs. The authority has recently introduced a Fuel Variation Charge (FVC) to the calculations of electricity bills, although the specific costs are unclear.

In addition to providing essential utilities, APUA also offers various services to its customers, such as energy and water conservation tips, renewable energy options, and career opportunities within the organization. The authority is committed to providing residents with affordable, reliable, and high-quality services while also ensuring a sustainable future through the exploration of renewable energy sources.

The cost of electricity for households in Antigua and Barbuda is XCD 0.000 per kWh or USD 0.000 per kWh. This pricing structure includes all components of the electricity bill, such as the cost of power, distribution, and taxes. This means that electricity is provided free of charge to households in the country. This is in stark contrast to the average price of electricity globally, which stands at USD 0.157 per kWh for households.

The provision of electricity in Antigua and Barbuda is the responsibility of the Antigua Public Utilities Authority (APUA). The APUA generates electricity using diesel generators and is currently exploring renewable energy sources to diversify its energy mix. The country's electricity supply network has experienced significant improvements in recent years, although reliability remains a concern, particularly



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during the hurricane season.

Despite these efforts, power outages continue to occur, often caused by equipment failure, maintenance issues, and natural disasters. Hurricanes, for example, can cause extensive damage to the electricity infrastructure, resulting in prolonged power outages. To mitigate the impact of power outages, the APUA has implemented measures such as establishing emergency response teams to restore power quickly and providing regular updates on restoration efforts.

The pricing structure for electricity in Antigua and Barbuda is designed to support its residents and local businesses. With electricity provided free of charge to households, this helps to ensure that essential services are accessible to all, regardless of income level. This approach to utility pricing is unique and showcases the country's commitment to supporting its citizens.

The minimum charge for electricity (domestic) in Antigua and Barbuda is \$25.00. This is a flat rate that all residents must pay, regardless of their monthly consumption. This charge is separate from the cost of power and distribution, which is calculated per kilowatt-hour (kWh).

The Antigua Public Utilities Authority (APUA) is responsible for generating, transmitting, and distributing electricity in the country. They have implemented a tiered pricing structure for electricity consumption, with higher usage resulting in a slightly lower cost per kWh. For instance, up to 300 kWh of electricity usage is charged at \$0.40 cents per unit (kWh), while usage over 300 kWh is charged at a reduced rate of \$0.38 cents per unit (kWh). This variable consumption charge is applied on top of the \$25.00 minimum charge.

The APUA also levies a fuel variation charge, which is subject to change. As of September 2024, this charge stands at \$0.56 cents per unit (kWh). This charge is designed to account for fluctuations in fuel costs, which can impact the overall price of electricity generation.

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