

A man wearing glasses and a blue polo shirt is focused on working on the internal wiring of a grey HVAC unit. He is using his hands to connect or adjust wires. The unit is mounted on a brick wall. The background is a red brick wall. The man is on the right side of the frame, looking towards the unit on the left. The unit has a QR code and a label with technical specifications. The overall scene is a professional HVAC technician at work.

REGULATORY  
REQUIREMENTS  
GUIDEBOOK **2023**

**NGH**  
NORTEK GLOBAL HVAC

**ALWAYS** MOVING FORWARD. **NEVER** STANDING STILL.



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**JULY 2022**

**To: Nortek Distributors, Contractors and Partners**

**From: *Nortek Global HVAC***

January 1, 2023, is rapidly approaching, and the Department of Energy will require new minimum efficiencies for residential and manufactured housing HVAC equipment. The goal of the new requirements is to continue to reduce energy usage. As with all changes, the new requirements will present challenges for everyone. NGH has been working tirelessly to prepare for these changes and help you meet these challenges as smoothly as possible.

It is important to remember the new DOE requirements affect the minimum efficiency of residential and manufactured housing products and how these products are tested. For the past two years, we have been planning and preparing for these new DOE regulations and ensuring a smooth transition for our valued customers. As always, we will work together with you as we move to these new products.

To help you prepare for the upcoming 2023 changes, we have created this guidebook. This guidebook gives an overview of the changes, the impact of new testing procedures, information on the regional standards and much more. NGH continues to be here for you and your business throughout this transition. We will continually communicate to you throughout this process, ensuring a smooth transition. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to your NGH representative.



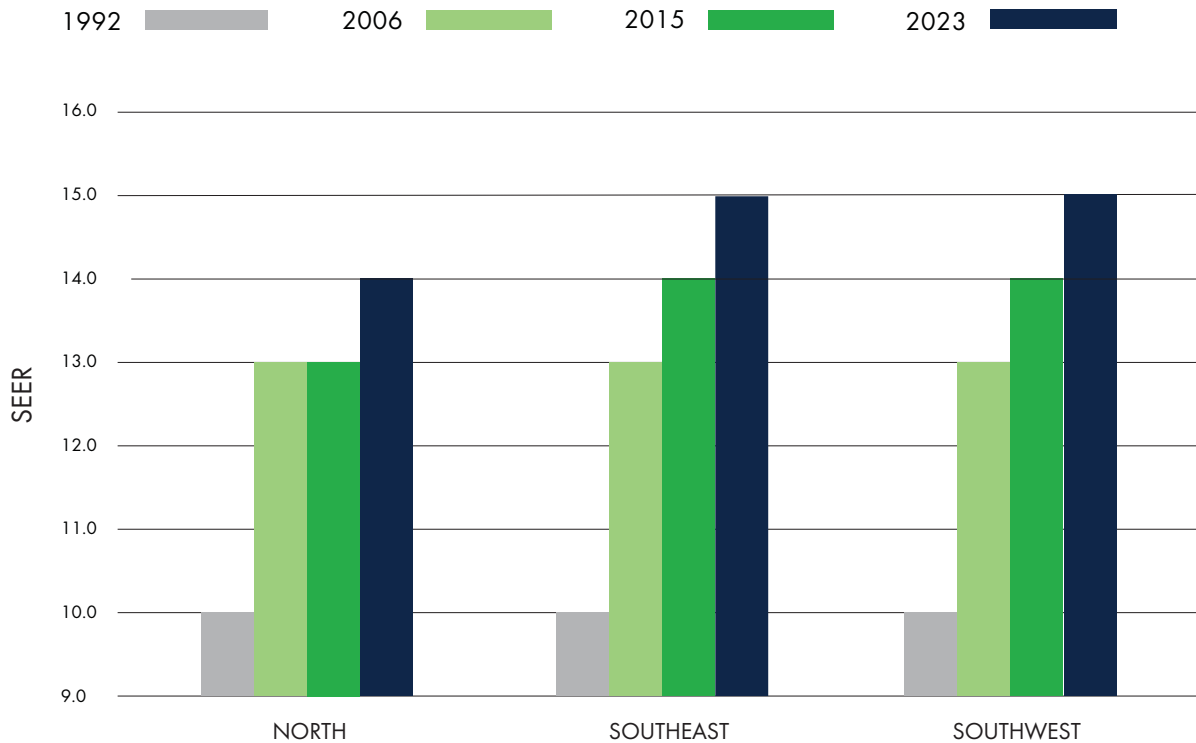
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## WHAT'S CHANGING IN 2023

### OVERVIEW

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) new minimum efficiency requirements will begin on January 1, 2023. The changes affect all newly manufactured residential and manufactured housing air conditioners and heat pumps.

#### ▶ Looking back at SEER efficiency changes for residential split air conditioners



### 2023 SEER Change

#### Northern Regions

- Split air conditioners must achieve a 14.0 SEER rating (increased from 13.0 SEER).

#### Southeast and Southwest Regions

- Split air conditioners must achieve a 15.0\* SEER rating (increased from 14.0 SEER).

#### All Regions

- Split heat pumps, regardless of region, must have a minimum efficiency of 15.0 SEER (increased from 14.0 SEER)

\* 15.0 SEER if <45k BTU, or 14.5 SEER if ≥ 45k BTU

EER requirements also apply in the southwest region, 12.2 EER <45k BTU or 11.7 EER ≥ 45k BTU, if SEER >16, then the EER minimum is 10.2



## Testing and Measurement Required Changes

### 2023 DOE changes will also require more stringent testing procedures.

A revised testing procedure will determine energy efficiency ratings for residential and manufactured housing equipment to more accurately reflect field conditions. The external static pressure, ESP, will be increased from 0.3" to 0.5" for residential housing and from .27" to .3" for manufactured housing. With the change in testing procedures, efficiency ratings will reduce vs. the current SEER, EER and HSPF ratings. As such, new metrics and nomenclature were developed. These changes apply ONLY to single-phase equipment.

### The New Testing Will Reduce Energy Efficiency Ratings

Since testing is more stringent, the minimum DOE efficiency requirements will be reduced for SEER2, EER2, and HSPF2 ratings versus the 2023 SEER, EER, and HSPF minimum requirements for each region. As an example, the current minimum requirement for the northern region is 13.0 SEER. Under the new requirement, the minimum will be 14.0 SEER or 13.4 SEER2.

### Why the Reduction in Efficiency Rating

Increasing the external static pressure by 66% increases the blower motor watt usage, reducing the energy efficiency rating.

### Equipment Testing

Unlike other efficiency requirement changes, the 2023 changes require manufacturers to retest every product tier. According to the new guidelines, each tier will need to be reoptimized and relaunched in accordance with the new DOE test procedure.

### What Else Changed

The airflow set point on indoor blowers, including fan coils and furnaces, will also change.

### New Efficiency Standards

SEER → SEER2

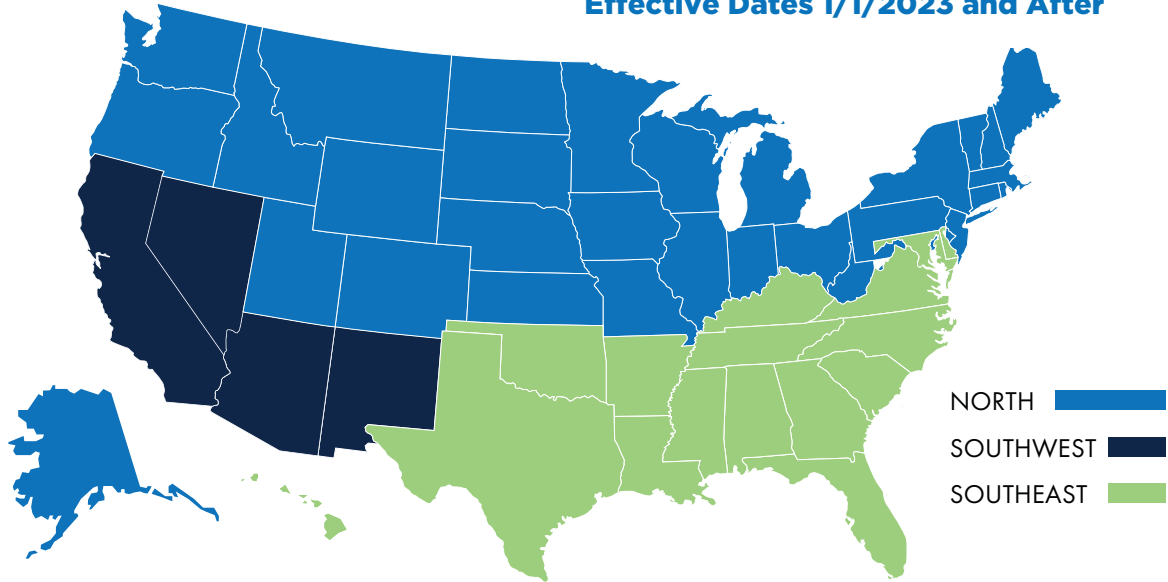
EER → EER2

HSPF → HSPF2

2023 Residential Future Minimum Standards, effective January 1, 2023

# 2023 REGIONAL EFFICIENCIES FOR SPLIT AC, SPLIT HP AND PACKAGED UNITS

Effective Dates 1/1/2023 and After



**SOUTHWEST**

<b>Split AC</b>	<b>SEER2</b>	<b>EER2</b>
Split < 45K BTU	14.3	11.7*
Split ≥ 45K BTU	13.8	11.2*
<b>Split HP</b>	14.3	7.5
SEER2	HSPF2	
<b>Packaged AC</b>	<b>Packaged HP</b>	
13.4   SEER2	10.6   EER2	13.4   SEER2
		6.7   HSPF2

**NORTH**

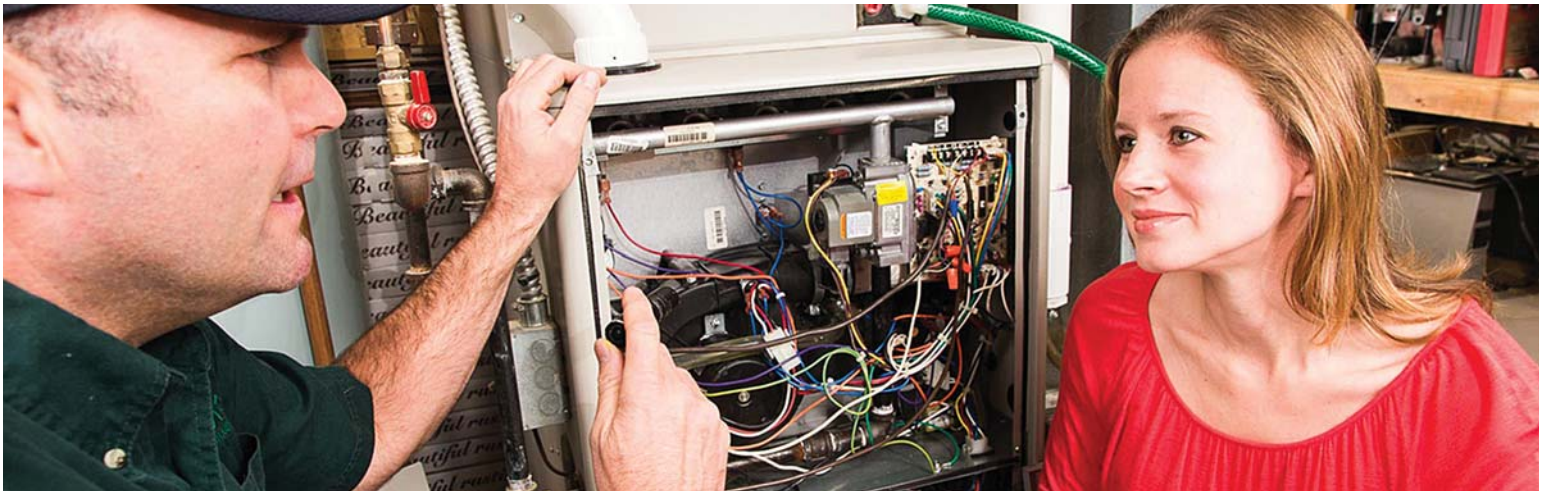
<b>Split AC</b>	<b>Packaged AC</b>
13.4 SEER2	13.4 SEER2
<b>Split HP</b>	<b>Packaged HP</b>
14.3   SEER2	7.5   HSPF2
	13.4   SEER2
	6.7   HSPF2

**SOUTHEAST**

<b>Split AC</b>	<b>SEER2</b>	<b>EER2</b>
Split < 45K BTU	14.3 SEER2	
Split ≥ 45K BTU	13.8 SEER2	
<b>Split HP</b>	14.3	7.5
SEER2	HSPF2	
<b>Packaged AC</b>	<b>Packaged HP</b>	
13.4 SEER2	13.4 SEER2	6.7 HSPF2

Product Type	Region	Governing Date for Change	Capacity Splits (BTU)	SEER2	EER2	HSPF2
Split AC	North	Manufactured on or after		13.4		
	Southeast	Installed on or after	< 45K	14.3		
			≥ 45K	13.8		
	Southwest	Installed on or after	< 45K		14.3	11.7*
≥ 45K				13.8	11.2*	
Split HP	All	Manufactured on or after		14.3		7.5
Packaged AC	North/Southeast	Manufactured on or after		13.4		
	Southwest	Installed on or after		13.4	10.6	
Packaged HP	All	Manufactured on or after		13.4		6.7

\*9.8 EER2 if SEER2 ≥ 15.2  
 These changes apply ONLY to single phase in 2023. Three phase will be addressed in 2025.



## Department of Energy 2023 Non-Compliance

# THE DOE WILL LIKELY FOLLOW 2015 NON-COMPLIANCE STANDARDS.

### 2015 INFRACTIONS INCLUDED:

- Dealers/contractors installing non-compliant equipment
- Distributors supplying non-compliant equipment to contractors
- Manufacturers knowingly selling non-compliant equipment

### Penalties May Include:

- Dealers/Contractors having to pay to replace non-compliant equipment and being listed on a national "no-sell" list for repeat violators
- Distributors could be barred from purchasing any of the seven classes of products identified in the Code of Federal Regulations (10-CFR-430.32)
- Manufacturers could face significant monetary fines of up to \$440 per incident. The penalties would apply to private labelers or distributors as well.

## How to Protect Your Business

Education is key. Teach your employees about the new 2023 efficiency requirements. Learn the efficiency standard for your region.

Everyone; dealers/contractors, distributors, and manufacturers will be required to track the model and serial numbers of products sold and installed, including installation locations. Keep these records for at least 60 months.



## NORTEK GLOBAL HVAC

# SECURING OUR FUTURE AS WELL AS OUR PARTNER'S FUTURE

We have been working behind the scenes for some time now to ensure our products are fully compliant with the new Department of Energy regulations. We are committed to helping make the transition as easy and painless as possible for our distributor and dealer/contractor partners. Here are a few things that we have been doing and will be offering to you.

- Updating all products to meet the 2023 requirements for air conditioners and heat pumps
- Updating our testing procedures to the new standards
- Video training for our partners on the DOE regulatory changes
- On-going training and support for our partners on the DOE regulatory changes

## Now is the Time to Prepare

Embracing the new guidelines now will have the least impact on your business. Now is the time to train your employees on what they need to do. We are here to help you understand and navigate the 2023 efficiency changes.





## Frequently Asked Questions

**QUESTION:** Why is the DOE changing efficiency ratings?

**ANSWER:** Every six years, the Department of Energy is required by law to review the energy use of specific home appliances and mechanical systems. Based on their review, the Department determines that an increase in energy efficiencies is cost-justified, and they set the requirements accordingly.

**QUESTION:** Are there different product sell dates I need to know?

**ANSWER:** Yes. Refer to the chart below.

DOE Product Class	New Standards Effective By
Residential North/National AC	Date of Mfg. – Sell-through allowed
Residential Southeast AC	Date of Installation
Residential Southwest AC	Date of Installation
Residential National HP	Date of Mfg. – Sell-through allowed

**QUESTION:** Why does my State have higher requirements?

**ANSWER:** Climate is a driving factor in the determination. In warmer climates, homeowners use more energy to cool their homes. Therefore, they represent the most significant opportunity for energy savings.

**QUESTION:** How do I know if I am located in a "regional standards state?"

**ANSWER:** Regional Standard states are located in the Southeast and Southwest Regions.

Southeast Region	Southwest Region
Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, District of Columbia, and U.S. Territories.	Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico

All other U.S. state not listed above will follow the National Standard.

# FAQ

**QUESTION:** What are the 2023 SEER, HSPF-rated AC, and HP values?

2023 Values Applicable to SEER, HSPF-Rated AC and HP					
Product	National All US States not otherwise listed as "regional standards states"		Southeast Regional Standards States Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, District of Columbia, and U.S. Territories.		Southwest Regional Standards States Arizona, California, Nevada or New Mexico
	SEER	HSPF	SEER	SEER	EER
Split AC < 45K BTU	14.0		15.0	15.0	12.2/10.2*
Split AC ≥ 45K BTU	14.0		14.5	14.5	11.7/10.2*
Split HP	15.0	8.8	15.0	15.0	

\*The lower EER requirement is for equipment at or above 16.0 SEER using the M test method (or 15.0 SEER2 using the M1 test method)

## Split Air Conditioners - 2023 Regional Standards

For northern regions, any 13.0 SEER air conditioner built before January 1, 2023, can still be installed on or after January 1, 2023. In Southeast and Southwest regions, air conditioners that don't meet the below requirements can not be installed on or after January 1, 2023, unless they meet the new 2023 minimum efficiencies listed in SEER.

System Type	North Region			Southeast Region			Southwest Region		
	2015 Minimum Rating 13.0 SEER	New SEER	New SEER2	2015 Minimum Rating 14.0 SEER	New SEER	New SEER2	2015 Minimum Rating 14.0 SEER & 12.2 EER/ 11.7 EER ***	New SEER	New SEER2
Split System ACs AC < 45K BTU)		14.0 SEER	13.4 SEER2		15.0 SEER	14.3 SEER2		15.0 SEER and 12.2 EER*	14.3 SEER2 and 11.7 EER2**
Split System ACs (AC ≥ 45K BTU)		14.0 SEER	13.4 SEER2		14.5 SEER	13.8 SEER2		14.5 SEER and 11.7 EER*	13.8 SEER2 and 11.2 EER2**

\*10.2 EER if SEER ≥ 16.0 \*\*9.8 EER2 if SEER2 ≥ 15.2 \*\*\*12.2 EER if < 45K BTU, 11.7 EER if ≥ 45K BTU

## Split System Heat Pumps - 2023 National Standards

Regardless of region, heat pump minimum efficiency requirements will increase to 14.3 SEER2. Split system heat pumps must also meet a minimum of 7.5 HSPF2. **Any 14.0 SEER heat pump built before January 1, 2023, can still be installed on or after January 1, 2023.**

System Type	National Efficiency Standard	
	2015 SEER and HSPF Minimum Rating	New SEER2 and HSPF2
Split System HPs	14.0 SEER and 8.2 HSPF	14.3 SEER2 and 7.5 HSPF2

## FAQ (CONTINUED)

### Packaged Units - 2023 National Standards

Single-phase packaged unit minimum efficiency requirements will be 13.4 SEER2 and 6.7 HSPF2.

System Type	National Efficiency Standard	
	2015 SEER and HSPF Minimum Rating	New SEER2 and HSPF2
Packaged Units	14.0 SEER and 8.0 HSPF	13.4 SEER2 and 6.7 HSPF2

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**  
([ENERGY.COM](https://www.energy.gov))



**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AGENCY**  
([EPA.GOV](https://www.epa.gov))



**EPA AND DOE ENERGY EFFICIENCY**  
([ENERGYSTAR.GOV](https://www.energystar.gov))



**U.S. GOVERNMENT'S NATIONAL  
ARCHIVES**  
([FEDERALREGISTER.GOV](https://www.federalregister.gov))



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