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# Maine Energy Burden Study

Electric Ratepayer Advisory Council, June 3, 2024





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**Project Lead** 



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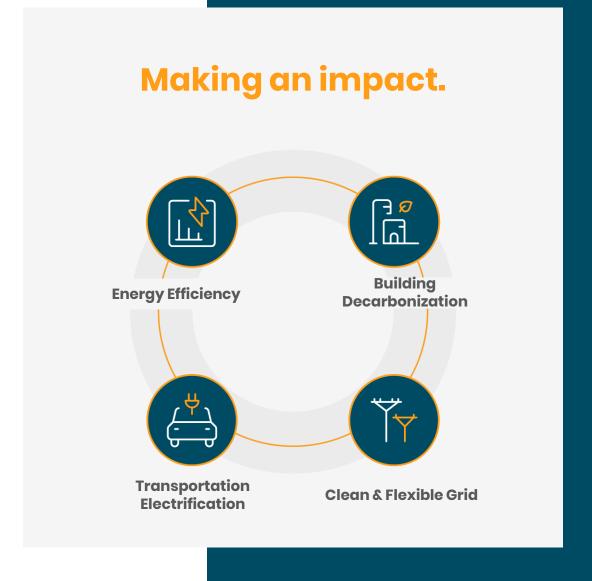


**Amanda Dwelley** 

Principal

# VEIC: High-impact energy solutions that decarbonize buildings, transportation, and utility grids, today.

- Nonprofit founded in 1986
- National consulting practice working across over 75% of the country
- Program design & implementation for award winning energy efficiency and clean energy programs





# Study Background & Goals

#### **Background**

- 2018 study established a low-income energy efficiency baseline
- 2019 study reported an average building energy burden of 19% for low-income HH

#### Scope

Characterize household spending & burden

- Electricity
- Heating
- Transportation

By county and census tract



#### Data

- DOE LEAD Tool
- EIA Residential Energy Consumption Survey (RECS)
- NREL ResStock
- NREL SLOPE Tool
- US Census data (HH Income, tenure)
- Program data
- Interviews



Energy Burden =

% HH income spent on energy



#### **Methods**

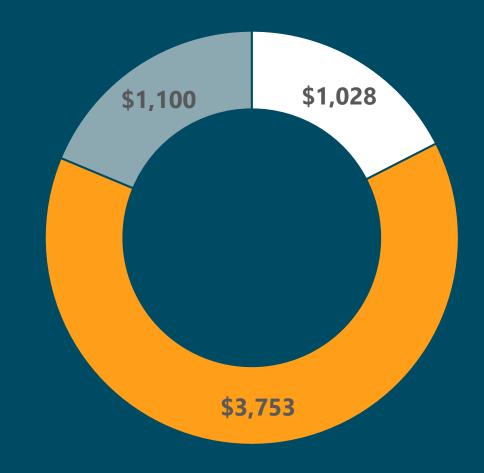
- Analysis by county and tract,
  demographics as data is available
- Calculate a benefits cliff statewide
- Interviews with partners/
  Community Action Agencies to understand the experience with existing program landscape





(Source: DOE LEAD Tool, Housing & Transportation Index)

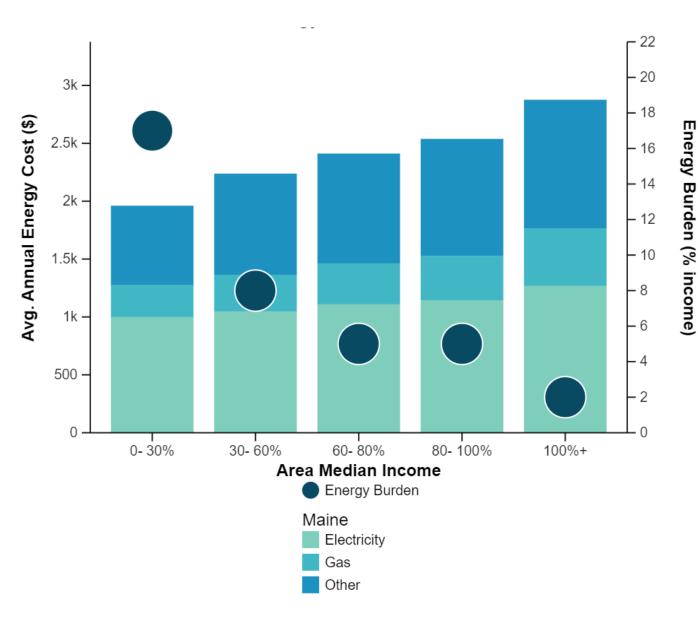
#### Low Income HH Energy Spending



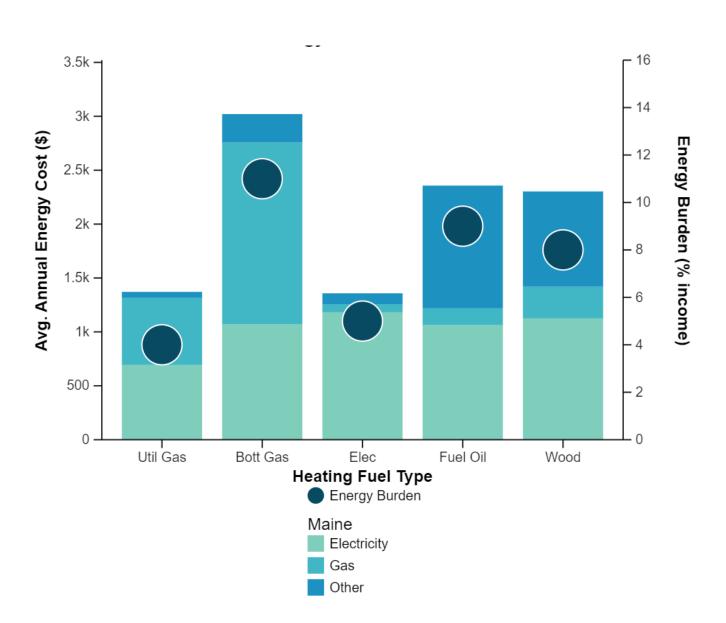
■ Electricity ■ Transportation ■ Fossil fuels/other



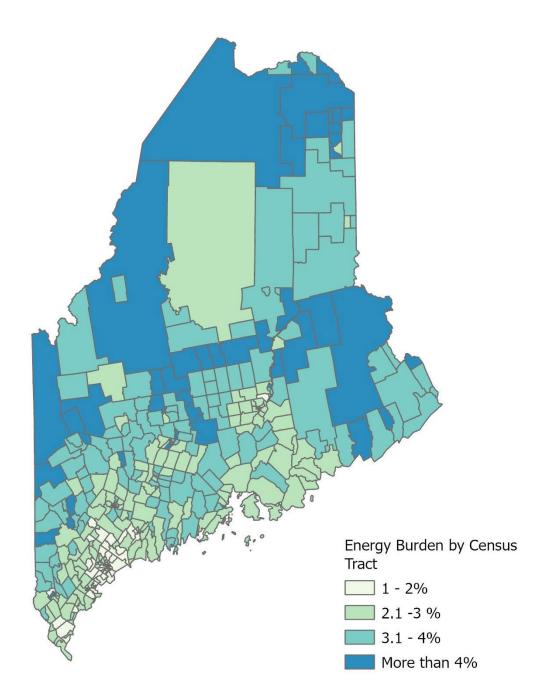
Spending and Burden by income quintile and fuel type



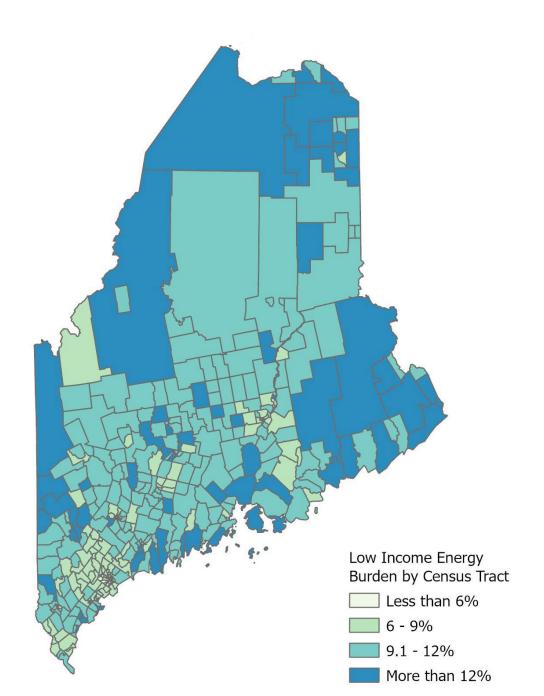
Low Income HH (<60% AMI) spending and burden by fuel type



Electricity and Heating Burden – All households



Low Income Electricity and Heating Burden (HH <60% AMI)



#### **Timeline**

	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Tasks								
1. Project Management		ERAC						
2. Data Gathering			D					
3. Analysis				D	D			
4. Final Report						D	D	

#### **Discussion**

Suggestions?

How will you use this study?





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## Thank you

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Annual Spending by fuel type (\$/HH) (Source: 2020 EIA Residential Energy Consumption Survey) \$1,173 Electricity Natural Gas Bulk Fuel \$723