
**Report to
The Vermont Legislature**

Performance Indicators for the Vermont Weatherization Assistance Program

**In Accordance with: Act 215 Sec 134(b);
2009 Special Session, Act 1 Sec.E.326;
2014 Act 142, Sec. 112(12)**

**Submitted to: Senate Committee on Appropriations
House Committee on Appropriations**

Submitted by: Ken Schatz, DCF Commissioner

**Prepared by: Geoff Wilcox, Weatherization Program Administrator
Office of Economic Opportunity**

Report Date: January 30, 2019



**AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES
Department for Children And Families**

Performance Indicators for the Vermont Weatherization Assistance Program

2008 Act 192 Section 5.221 requires the Office of Economic Opportunity to compile performance data and present a report of the past year's weatherization activity, on or before January 30 each year to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees. This report is to include such information as (1) the number of homes weatherized; (2) average program expenditure per household; (3) average percent savings; (4) energy and non-energy benefits combined; (5) benefits saved per dollar spent; (6) average savings per unit of heating fuel; (7) gallons of oil saved; (8) projected number of households to be weatherized in the current program year; and (9) projected program expenditures for the current program year.

The mission of the Vermont Weatherization Program is *“to help low income Vermonters save fuel and money by improving the energy efficiency and health and safety of their home.”*

The Vermont Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) administers the Vermont Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) which operates through state and federal funding. OEO monitors and provides training and technical assistance to five non-profit community Weatherization Assistance Programs. OEO provides thorough and extensive quality assurance and quality control through a variety of methods. These include inspection and monitoring of at least 10 percent of all weatherized units; and daily monitoring and oversight via a web-based data management system called Hancock Energy Software. This system includes an integrated energy audit tool that prioritizes customers, including those receiving Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). This system provides enhanced program management, data and reporting capabilities. It also supports the day-to-day operations and management of the Weatherization Program for the Weatherization Agencies and the Office of Economic Opportunity.

Efficiency Coaching and the One Touch Referral program continue to be an important piece of the weatherization process. Coaching enhances the focus on client education and behavior change. One Touch is a web-based referral service to other partner programs. Both help remove barriers to weatherization and maximize the investments of the Home Weatherization Assistance Program. The OEO Weatherization Program won a national HUD Healthy Homes award in 2017 for its One Touch Program and the 2018 ACEEE Health and Energy Linked Program (HELP) Award.”

The largest barrier to home weatherization continues to be the presence of vermiculite insulation, a material known for containing asbestos. Unfortunately, there are many other structural issues present in client homes that prohibit Weatherization including leaky rooves, wet basements, knob and tube wiring, and other structural issues common in Vermont's low-income housing stock. Vermont's Weatherization Program is leading the nation in how vermiculite insulation can be treated in a home. OEO secured an additional \$150,000 in VLITE (Vermont Low Income Trust for Electricity) funds for Vermiculite remediation in the 2018 program year and continues to leverage Zonolite Trust Funds for its clients to aid in vermiculite remediation costs. OEO continues developing ways to connect our clients with the resources they need to remove weatherization obstacles.

Performance Data for completed Program Year 2018 (PY18)

1. Number of households weatherized in PY18 (July 1, 2017 thru June 30, 2018*): **821 households (512, 1-unit dwellings; 309, 2+ unit dwellings)**
2. Average program investment per household: **\$9,193¹**
3. Average energy savings: Approximately **29.2%²** per home equating to **\$583³** saved per year on heating oil.
4. Total 1st year gallons of #2 oil saved for **390***** fuel assistance households weatherized in PY18: **86,775⁴**
5. Average annual gallons of #2 oil saved per household: **222.5** gallons of oil
6. Total gallons of oil saved: Total combined 1st year savings represented by gallons of #2 oil for the **821** homes weatherized in PY 2018: **182,672 gallons**
7. Projected number of households to be weatherized during the current 2019 Program Year with Home Weatherization Assistance Program Funds and Department of Energy Funds: **860** households
8. Projected program spending for current PY 2019: **\$9,854,240**
9. The amount (in tons) of CO2 prevented from entering the atmosphere from the 893 households weatherized in 2017: **1,735 tons**

¹ This cost is the job cost average (JCA) and is determined from the total of material, on site labor and offsite costs only.

² This savings is estimated savings based on modeling of the homes Weatherized during PY18.

³ Savings are calculated on \$2.62 per gallon which was the average price per gallon of oil during the Weatherization Program Year 18 (source DPS Vermont Fuel Price Report).

⁴ All energy usage and savings is converted to gallons of oil, for ease of data evaluation. Oil is the most common fuel used by low income Weatherization clients.

*** 47.5% of the total households Weatherized last year also received Fuel Assistance. 68% of the 1-unit households Weatherized received Fuel Assistance, and 12% of the 2 or more Unit Households received Fuel Assistance.

*includes 2 months of completions in July and August 2018 from BROCC Weatherization who were given a 2-month Grant extension.