



SIERRA CLUB

Deploying Low Income Comprehensive Retrofits
Vermont Senate Natural Resources Committee
Mark Kresowik, Deputy Regional Director

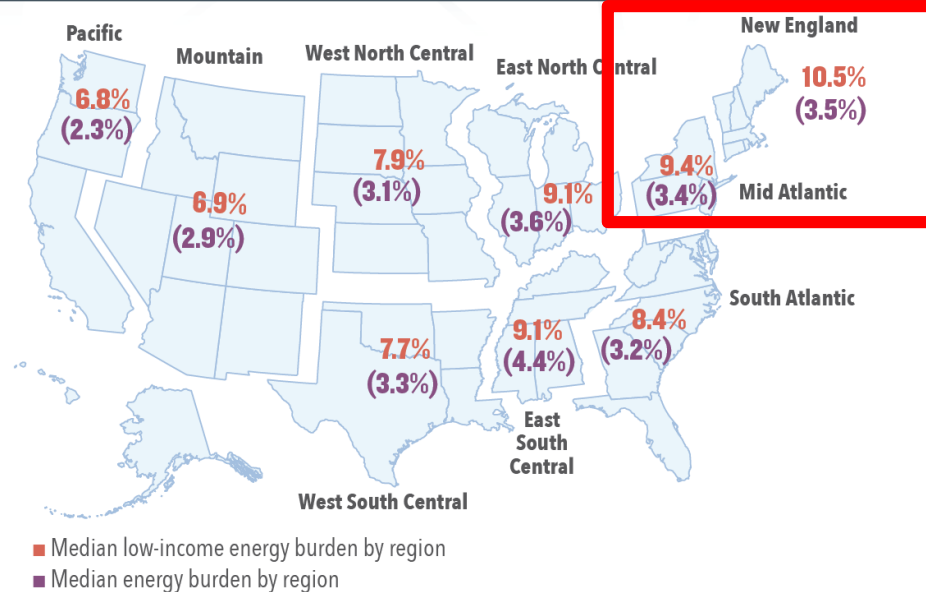


Ingredients for success



Energy Burden, Health, and Safety at Home in the Age of COVID

FIGURE 3. Median low-income (< 200% FPL) energy burdens by region (red) compared to median energy burdens by region (purple)

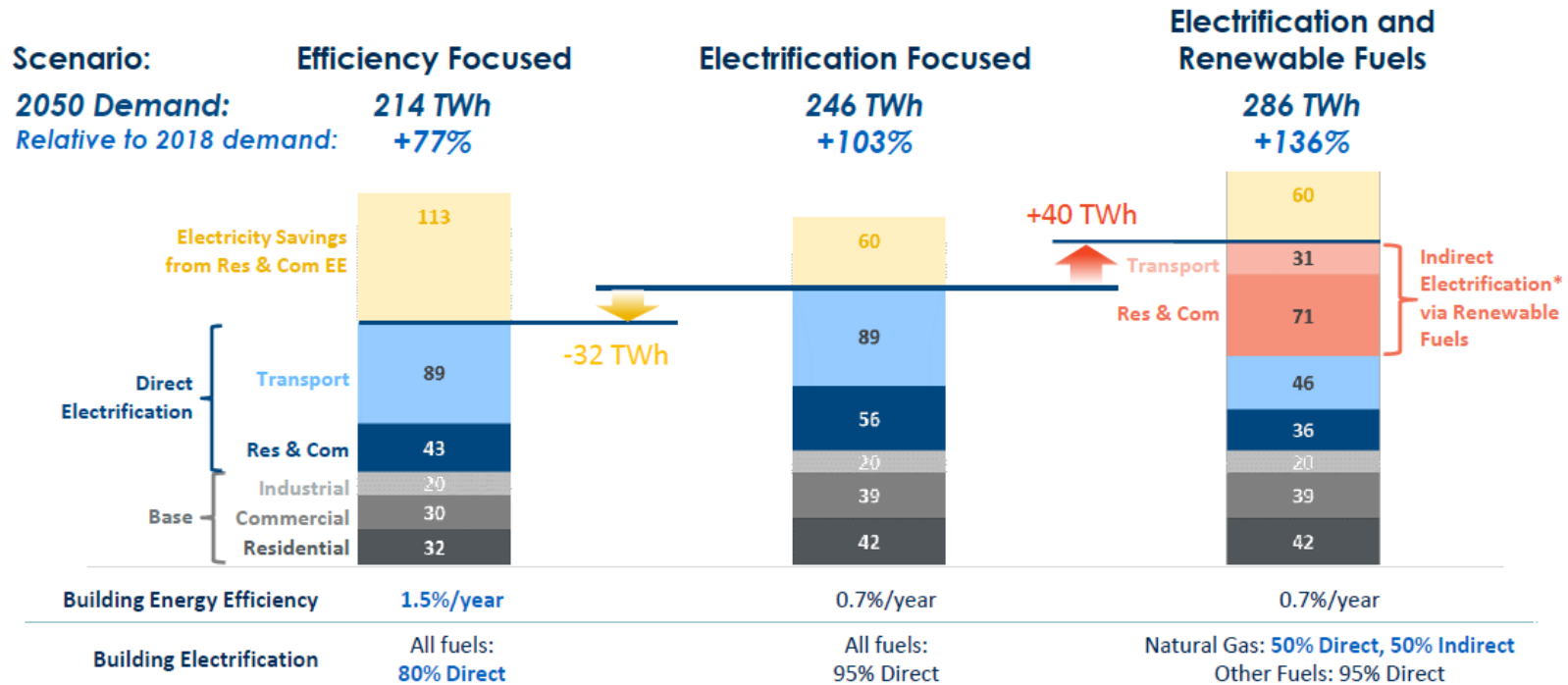


Source: ACEEE, How High Are Household Energy Burdens, September 2020

According to Green and Healthy Homes Initiative, more than 12% of low-income homes surveyed were ineligible for programs due to health and safety needs, **including more than 43% in Baltimore, MD.**

Efficiency and Electrification are Critical Climate Solutions

2050 New England Annual Electricity Demand (TWh)



Source: Brattle and Coalition for Community Solar Access, Achieving 80% GHG Reduction in New England by 2050, September 2019

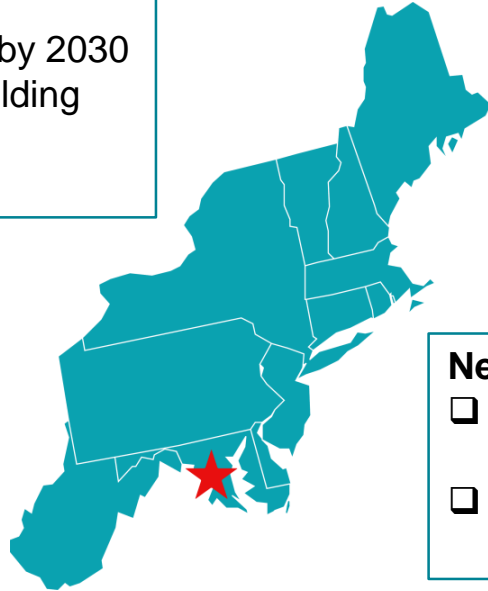
Vermont is not alone

New York:

- 50-70% sales of heat pumps by 2030
- 85-100% sales of efficient building shells by 2030
- RetrofitNY

District of Columbia:

- Net-zero energy new construction & major renovation by 2026
- No new gas appliances hookups after 2035
- All homes electric by 2050



Massachusetts:

- ~ 1,000,000 housing units are converted to heat pump systems for heating and cooling by 2030
- 10% EUI reduction at equipment/envelope turnover by 2030

New Jersey:

- Develop a transition plan to a fully electrified building sector
- Expand and accelerate the current statewide net zero carbon homes incentive programs

Maryland:

- Set a goal of 50 percent of space heater sales to be electric heat pumps by 2025
- Improve interagency coordination for holistic building retrofits

Whole Home Comprehensive Retrofit Program

- Create interagency task force
- Identify and braid together potential funding streams – housing, energy, weatherization, health - and secure new funding as necessary
- Ensure all customers are taking advantage of energy assistance programs to avoid increase in energy bills, e.g. Percentage of Income Payment Plans
- Complete all health and safety repairs, weatherization, efficiency, electrification, grid-interconnectivity, and resilience together
- Include protections from displacement and gentrification

Benefits



Challenges



We need to fundamentally rethink our approach to buildings, appliances, and costs, and redesign energy efficiency program structures, funding, cost effectiveness frameworks, and workforce development