

Performance Indicators for the Vermont Weatherization Assistance Program

In accordance with 2006 Act 215 Sec 134(b); 2008 Act 192 Sec 5.221(b) (H. 891)

Submitted To:

Senate Committee on Appropriations

House Committee on Appropriations

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Published:

1.30.2026

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Introduction

Act 192 (2008) Section 5.221 of state legislation requires the Office of Economic Opportunity to compile performance data and present a report of the past year's Weatherization Program 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 expenditures 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 reduce energy costs for low-income families, particularly for the elderly, people with disabilities, and families with children, by improving the energy efficiency of their homes while ensuring their health and safety and at the same time reducing carbon emissions.

The Vermont Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) administers the Vermont Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP), with state and federal funding. OEO monitors and provides training and technical assistance to five non-profit regional Weatherization Assistance Programs (WAPS) and one Statewide Program, 3E Thermal, which provides statewide multi-family Weatherization for Vermont. The five regional WAPS are: Capstone Community Action, BROCC Community Action, Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity, Southeastern Vermont Community Action, and Northeast Employment & Training Organization.

OEO provides extensive quality assurance and quality control through inspection and monitoring of at least 10 percent of all weatherized units, as well as daily desktop monitoring and oversight via its statewide, web-based management system called Hancock Energy Software. The data management system includes an integrated energy audit modeling tool and prioritizes customers based on Vermont Statute, which

includes consideration of whether a household receives Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) assistance¹.

Efficiency Coaching and the One-Touch Referral Program are important pieces of the Weatherization process. Coaching enhances the focus on client education and behavior change. One-Touch is a web-based referral service to and from other home, health and human service partner programs. Both help remove barriers to weatherization and maximize the benefits the Weatherization Program provides to clients.

The HWAP completed Weatherization services at 1,310 homes (aka households, or “units”) in state fiscal year (SFY) 2025. This was an increase of 99 units from the prior year (8% increase). The program continued to see results from the Minimum and Prevailing wage requirement implemented in SFY 2023. This significant increase in wages has continued to be a successful recruitment and retention tool for crew workers statewide, which has contributed to the program’s increased production. Program spending in SFY25 totaled \$21,978,023.

In SFY25, the program continued to need to mitigate the presence of vermiculite insulation, a known asbestos containing material, as well as other structural issues present in Vermont’s older housing stock that can prohibit weatherization such as leaky roofs, wet basements, knob and tube wiring, and others. Historically these issues would “defer” weatherization of a home indefinitely. In SFY25, Vermont’s Weatherization Program continued a “zero deferral” goal in recognition that addressing non-energy related issues that would otherwise prevent weatherization is a critical equity policy. In SFY25, ARPA funds were utilized to address home repair and vermiculite remediation.

In SFY 2025, OEO opened a State Weatherization Training Center with funding from an Enhancement and Innovation Grant from the Department of Energy. OEO issued an RFP for a Training Center operator and awarded a grant to Everblue from North Carolina. The Training Center opened in July and is located in Barre, Vermont.

¹ LIHEAP eligibility includes a household with gross income equal or less than 185% of the federal poverty level.

Performance Data for Completed SFY 2025

1. Number of households weatherized in SFY 2025 (July 1, 2024, thru June 30, 2025): 1,310 households (801 1-unit homes (includes 228 mobile homes), 224 2–4-unit homes, 285 5+ unit homes (includes 5 shelter facilities))

Table 1 - Number of Households by County

County	Number of Households
Addison	40
Bennington	72
Caledonia	85
Chittenden	160
Essex	29
Franklin	53
Grand Isle	13
Lamoille	71
Orleans	171
Orange	72
Rutland	98
Washington	192
Windham	131
Windsor	123

2. Average program investment per household: **\$11,825.**

3. Average energy savings: Approximately **28.5%**² per household, or **\$853.14**³ saved per year by a household heating with #2 heating fuel.
4. Total 1st year gallons of #2 oil saved for **412**⁴ fuel assistance households weatherized in SFY25: **99,292 gallons**⁵.
5. Average Annual Savings, total Annual savings, and number of households served (by household main fuel type)⁶.
 - a. #2 oil saved: average of **241** gallons saved annually, **112,614** total gallons saved by **565** households.
 - b. Kerosene saved: average of **251** gallons saved annually, **25,121** total gallons saved by **100** households.
 - c. Propane saved: average of **266** gallons saved annually, **66,762** total gallons saved by **266** households.
 - d. Natural Gas saved: average of **172** therms saved annually, **7,422** total therms saved by **43** households.
 - e. Cords of wood saved: average of **1.3** cords saved annually, **262** total cords saved by **198** households.
 - f. Tons of pellets saved: average of **1.3** tons saved annually, **101** total tons saved by **76** households.
 - g. Kwh saved: average of **1,688** Kwh saved annually, **204,273** total Kwh saved by **121** households.
6. Projected number of households to be weatherized during the current SFY 2026 with Home Weatherization Assistance Program Funds, Department of Energy (DOE) Funds, and IIJA Funds (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act), and ARPA State Fiscal Recovery (SFR) Funds: **1,311 households**.
 - Projected program spending for current SFY 2026: **\$23,623,230** (all funding sources).

² Average energy savings is based on energy modeling of homes Weatherized during SFY25.

³ Savings are calculated at \$3.54 per gallon which was the average price per gallon of oil during SFY25 (source DPS Vermont Fuel Price Report).

⁴ 31% of the total households Weatherized last year were Fuel Assistance recipients. 47% of the 1-unit households were Fuel Assistance recipients, and 6% of the 2 or more unit households received Fuel Assistance.

⁵ Oil is the most common fuel used by low-income Weatherization clients and thus used for this calculation.

⁶ Fuel savings is not available for all 1,310 households served. Some mobile homes were served using the approved priority list not by energy modeling, and fuel savings for some multi-family households is not available.

7. The amount of CO2 prevented from entering the atmosphere annually from the 1,025 1-4 unit households weatherized in SFY 25: **4,074,345 pounds.**
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