

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY STUDIES

FY 2006 Energy Bills Forecast: The Impact on Low-Income Consumers (Mid-Winter 2005-2006 Review)

February 2006
Meg Power, PhD

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400 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, SUITE G-80, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

Tel. (202) 628-4900 Fax (202) 393-1831 E-mail info@opportunitystudies.org

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY STUDIES

Highlights:

Forecast FY 2006 Energy Bills & Energy Burdens of Low-Income Consumers

February 2006

The Department of Energy's updated residential energy bill and price projections were released in February. They indicate that mild weather and lower-than-predicted prices will still result in record high residential bills during FY 2006. Analysis of low-income consumer bills based on current conditions shows:

Low-Income Consumers' Bills Will Reach Record Highs

- On average, all consumers can expect their winter season bills to be 24% higher than last year. LIHEAP-eligible households will spend an average of \$1612 for all energy in FY 2006;
- If the weather is normal from February to September, the LIHEAP-eligible population will, on average, spend 16% of all their annual income for these bills. This would exceed any previous year's costs and equal 13% more than they spent in 2005. Their "energy burden" also surpasses all previous years';
- Households in poverty would need 25% of their entire FY 2006 annual income for all their energy bills if they maintain their modest levels of usage;
- All other consumers can expect bills averaging \$2030 and 4% of their expected income.

Impacts Vary by Fuel Used for Heating

- Oil-heat users are paying the highest bills for heat and for the whole year; natural gas users' bills are close behind; LIHEAP-eligible fuel oil and kerosene users will pay more than \$2000 for all energy, over 20% of their annual income;
- A year earlier, the energy burden for oil heat consumers was 18%, and natural gas consumers paid 15%. Increases in incomes of low-income consumers have not kept pace with rising energy bills.

Impacts Vary Little by Region

- Southerners who are LIHEAP-eligible consumers will pay 15% less than Midwesterners, but incomes in Southern states are also lower than in other regions; warm state consumers will spend between 17% and 18% of income;
- Midwestern eligible households' bills will demand 16%-17% of income;
- Low-income consumers in the Northeast will get the highest bills, and their energy burdens will, on average, exceed 20%.

Assistance, Subsidies, and Weatherization Savings Combined Equal \$6.6 Billion, but Low-Income Consumers' Bills, Collectively, Will Be \$53 Billion

- The combined FY 2006 expenditures of low-income consumers will exceed \$53 billion.
- LIHEAP is funded at \$2.05 B as of February 25, 2006, below its FY 2001 and FY 2005 levels;
- Weatherization of about 7.5 million homes has resulted in average 2006 savings or avoided bills of \$460 for the majority, compared to bills for the same home without the upgrades;
- The combined utility and oil low-income discounts in 37 states will be about \$2.3 billion.

See the full study at www.opportunitystudies.org

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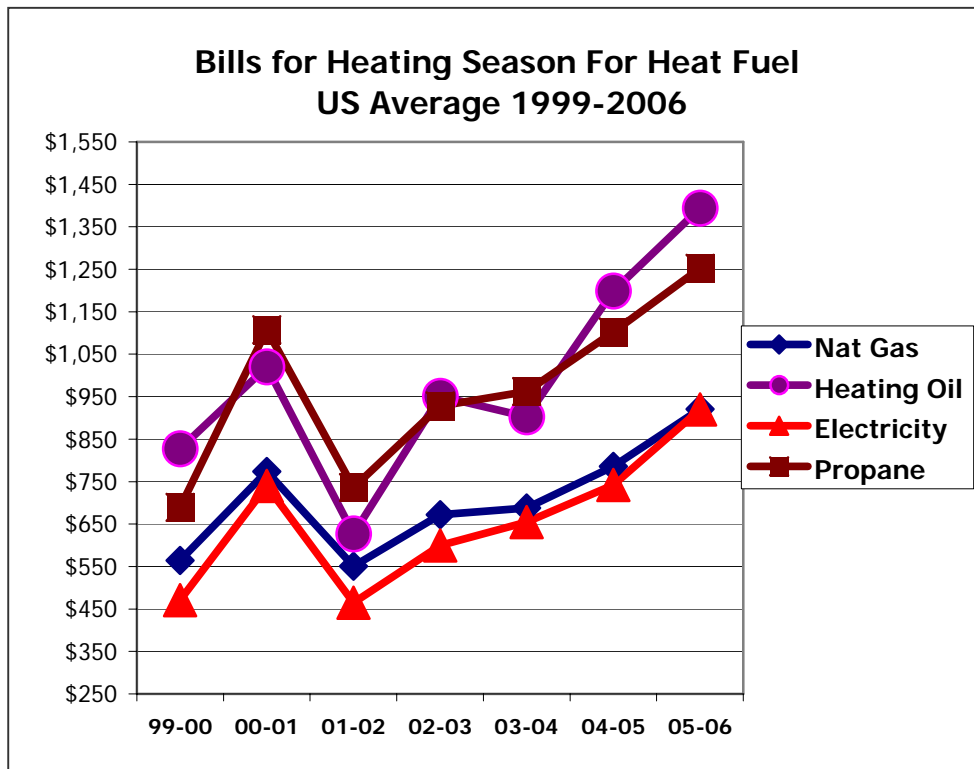
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY STUDIES

FY 2006 Energy Bills: The Impact on Low-Income Consumers (Mid-Winter 2005-2006 Review)

The unusually mild winter has not forced residential energy prices down to a level that low- and moderate-income energy consumers can afford. They still face dramatically higher bills and dangerous sacrifices.

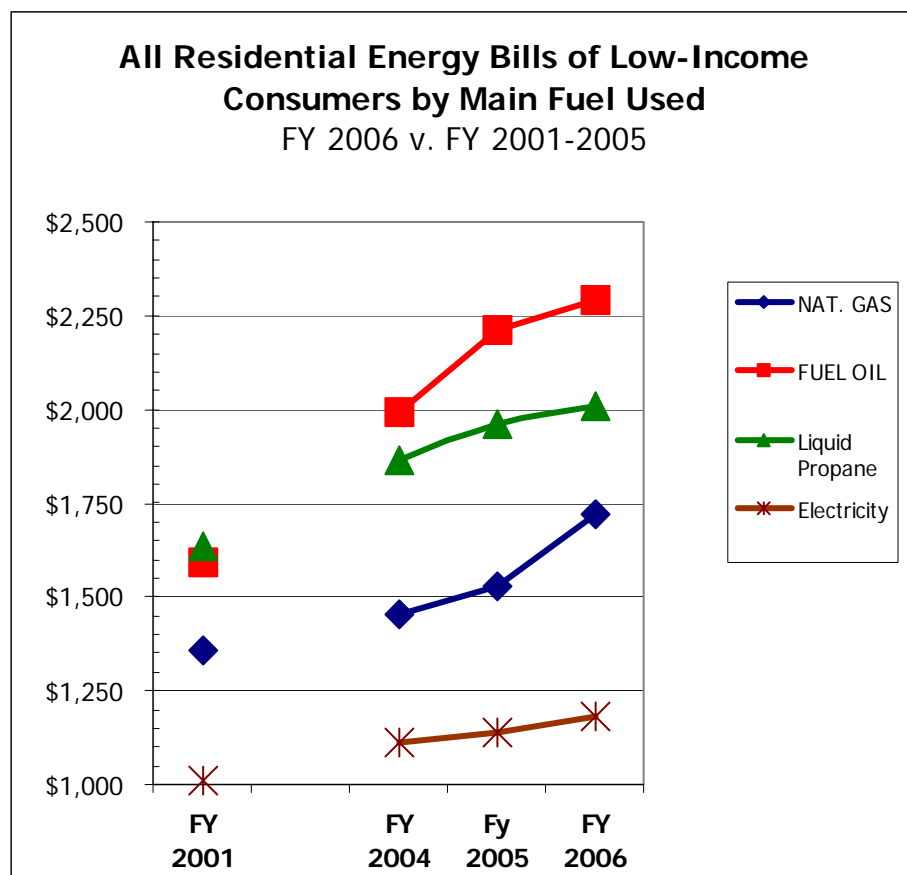
The Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration (EIA) February 2006 Short-Term Energy Outlook re-estimates its forecast of 2006 residential fuel prices and makes new projections for residential winter fuel bills and for the rest of the year's costs (<http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/steo/pub/contents.html>). Although the figures are lower than

Figure 1



projected in EIA's October forecast, the difference is not dramatic during the federal fiscal year (FY 2006). For example, while predictions for natural gas prices for the calendar year 2006 have changed from an anticipated 18% increase over 2005 levels to a 6% increase, the prediction for heating season residential gas bills, the first half of FY 2006, remains 24% above the previous winter. In fact, natural gas consumers are paying that much more for 5% less natural gas. Heating oil users are paying 16% more for 4% less oil, and electric heat users are experiencing a similar loss of purchasing power. Figure 1 charts the EIA-reported winter-season bills for the heating fuels of all US households since the winter of 1999-2000. A short respite from then record-high bills of FY 2001 ended by 2004; the expected costs for the winter of FY 2006 have reached new heights.

Figure 2



Data source: EIA [STEO](#) Feb. 2006.

This analysis uses the February forecast prices in a model that projects the year-round energy bills and energy burdens of the nation's 33 million low-income households, the consumers who are eligible for federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) and Weatherization Assistance. (See Appendix A for methodology details.) Figure 2 above charts their annual expenditures for all fuels; it shows the 2001 level, once a record, as a reference point and tracks costs from FY 2004 through FY 2006 estimates. Clearly, whether heating bills or year-round expenditures are charted, the pattern is the same: there is significant year-to-year growth in bills.

Energy Bills and Energy Burden

Energy Bills

Because consumers pay for all the fuel delivered to them by their suppliers, regardless of what they use it for, we project the year-long combined bills for FY 2006 (October 2005 through September 2006) for electricity and all other fuel used.

Figure 3

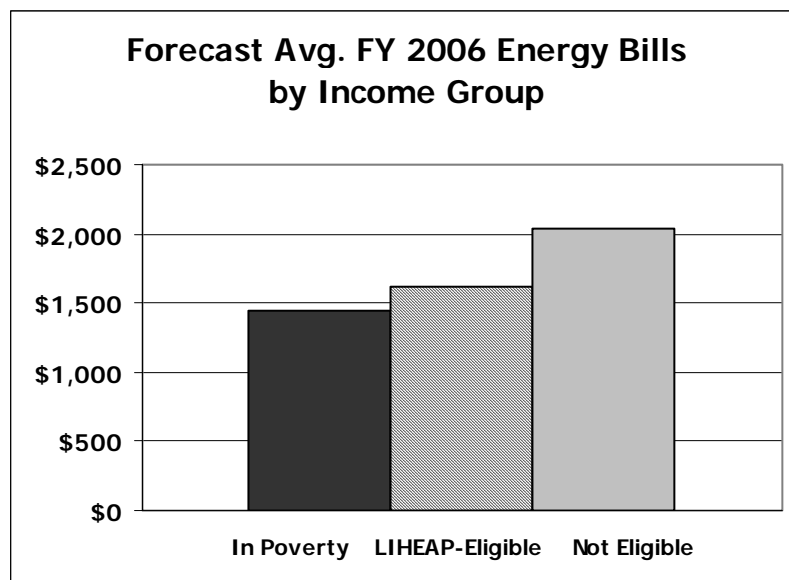


Figure 3 compares the projected FY 2006 total bills of three different income groups: nearly 13 million consumers with incomes lower than the Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG), all 33 million households income-eligible for LIHEAP which include the 13 million consumers in poverty, and, last, everyone whose incomes exceed the LIHEAP eligibility ceiling, or about 80 million.

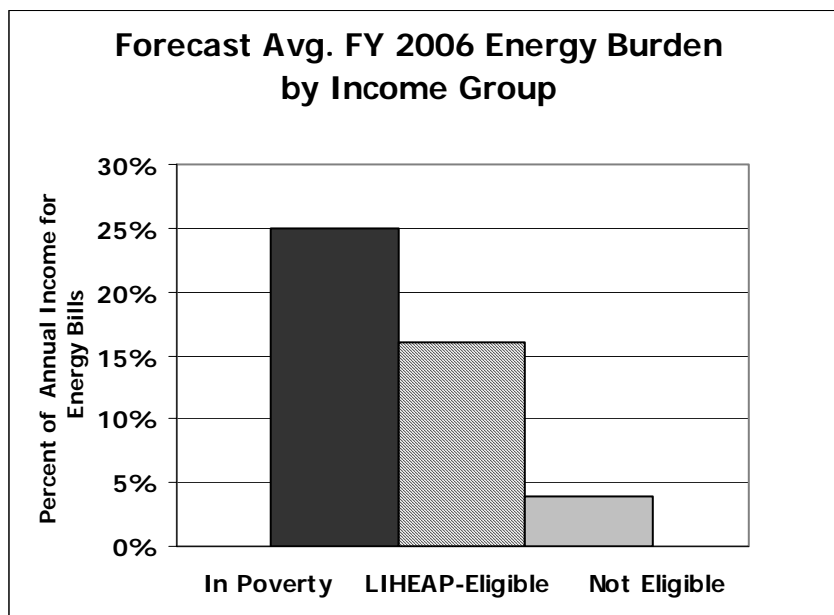
Those in poverty spend the least; their average bills in all climate regions, fuel types and housing types will be about \$1452. The LIHEAP-eligible group and the higher income population will pay, on average, \$1612 and \$2018, respectively. This evidence that low-income consumers historically use far less energy than the rest of U.S. households, about 82% of the average, suggests that they have fewer ways to cut bills through minor behavioral changes that do not cause them real hardship.

Another way to understand the demands on the LIHEAP-eligible population is to aggregate the average bills for these 33 million low-income households and derive the national year-long total energy bill of all members of the group combined, a “Gross Domestic Low-Income Energy Bill” of \$53.2 billion. The figure is one benchmark for estimating nationwide resource deficits and requirements and is shown in the final chart of this document.

Energy Burdens

The percentage of annual income that a consumer devotes to all residential energy bills is referred to as the “Energy Burden.” Energy Burden indicates the impact that the bill will have on the consumer’s purchasing power for all other goods and services. Figure 4 shows the forecast average energy burdens for each of the same three income groups. The pattern of Figure 3 is reversed, with the highest burden falling on the group with the lowest bill, the poor.

Figure 4



- Households in poverty will owe an average of 25% of their entire annual income for all their FY 2006 energy bills.
- On average, LIHEAP-eligible consumers, including those in poverty, will owe 16% of their entire income, while
- The average for those *not* eligible will be 4%.

The significance of paying 16% of income to keep the same comfort level as in earlier years becomes clearer when we compare the situation of the average low-income family to that of the median-income household in the U.S.; the median income was just over \$47,000 in 2005. If that family's bills equaled 16% of income, it would owe \$7520 to its energy suppliers! However, it might still be able to afford its basic needs on the remaining (pretax) \$39,480. By contrast, the typical LIHEAP-eligible customer will have about \$8400 left for all the year's expenses.

Low-income households are paying a greater share of their income than in the past. Even though the model includes changes in every group's income over time, the average low-income household energy burden was 14% of income in both FY 2001 and FY 2005.

Impacts Vary by the Fuels Used

Energy bills and burdens vary greatly depending on the main fuel a home uses. All but about 1.1 million eligible households use oil, gas, liquid propane or electricity to heat their homes. Table 1 shows how the kind of fuel the home uses for heat affects the household's energy burden.

Low-income fuel oil users will experience the most dramatic burden, 20% of income, and they will spend \$2236 for heat, electricity and all other bills. Propane users have similar bills; kerosene users have lower bills but higher burdens. Those who use natural gas, the majority, will need to spend 18% of their income. One-third of eligible homes are heated by electricity and will average \$1171 for all the year's energy, with average burdens of 13%; they are predominantly located in the South and West.

Table 1

**Forecast FY 2006 Residential Energy Bills and Energy Burdens
by Main Heat Fuel and LIHEAP Eligibility status**

	LIHEAP Eligibility Status			
	Not Eligible		Eligible	
Main Heat Fuel Is:	Average Bill	Average Burden	Average Bill	Average Burden
Natural Gas	\$2,137	4%	\$1,774	18%
Liquid Propane	\$2,313	5%	\$2,070	17%
Fuel Oil	\$2,626	5%	\$2,236	20%
Kerosene	\$1,968	5%	\$1,662	22%
Electricity	\$1,671	3%	\$1,171	13%
All Five Average	\$2,031	4%	\$1,630	17%

Homes that use no heat, solar heat or wood are omitted from the table.

Impacts by Region

Low-income consumers in every region face extreme suffering. Table 2 below shows the forecast average bills and energy burdens for each of the nine Census divisions. Tables showing comparable figures for past years are in Appendix B.

Table 2 indicates:

- The 6.7 million LIHEAP-eligible households in Northeast, where most oil heat is used, are facing an especially grave situation. They will spend between 20 and 22% of their income on energy bills, a 38% *greater* share of income than five years earlier.
- Twelve million consumers in the southern divisions can expect to spend an average of 17% of their income or more, instead of the 14% spent five years earlier.
- Midwesterners will pay an average 16-17%, up from 13% in 2001. Low-income energy burdens in the Midwestern division have risen from 11% to 14%, a 38% growth in share of income.

Table 2

**Forecast FY 2006 Residential Energy Bills and Energy Burdens
by Region and LIHEAP Eligibility Status**

Census Division	States in Division	LIHEAP Eligibility Status			
		Not Eligible		Eligible	
		Average Bill	Average Burden	Average Bill	Average Burden
New England	CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT	\$2,656	5%	\$2,180	20%
Middle Atlantic	PA, NJ, NY	\$2,527	5%	\$1,897	22%
East North Central	IL, IN, OH, MI, WI	\$2,105	4%	\$1,868	16%
West North Central	IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD	\$1,998	4%	\$1,816	17%
South Atlantic	DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV	\$2,018	4%	\$1,602	17%
East South Central	AL, KY, MS, TN	\$1,840	4%	\$1,424	18%
West South Central	AR, OK, LA, TX	\$2,114	4%	\$ 1,650	17%
Mountain	AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY	\$1,659	4%	\$1,453	14%
Pacific	AK, CA, HI, OR, WA	\$1,394	2%	\$ 932	8%
US Totals	All Energy Bills FY 2006	\$2,010	4%	\$1,612	16%

This table includes those who use no fuels for heating.

Consumers in Poverty

As Figure 3 and 4 above showed, the very poorest households have the least affordable energy bills. Their situation deserves separate analysis. It would take a quarter of their yearly income to buy enough energy to maintain energy service or fuel deliveries at even the modest levels used in the past.

Table 3

**Forecast FY 2006 Residential Energy Bills and Energy Burdens
of Households in Poverty, by Region**

Census Division	States in Division	Households in Poverty	
		Average Bill	Average Burden
New England	CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT	\$1,909	36%
Middle Atlantic	PA, NJ, NY	\$1,740	39%
East North Central	IL, IN, OH, MI, WI	\$1,569	27%
West North Central	IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD	\$1,566	26%
South Atlantic	DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV	\$1,451	26%
East South Central	AL, KY, MS, TN	\$1,388	25%
West South Central	AR, OK, LA, TX	\$1,634	24%
Mountain	AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY	\$1,327	22%
Pacific	AK, CA, HI, OR, WA	\$ 852	10%
US Totals	All Energy Bills FY 2006	\$1,442	25%

All federal and state energy affordability programs serve this population, and generally the lowest-income population is eligible for the highest benefits; however, participation rates remain limited to about one-fifth of the poverty population. The vast majority of those in poverty pay all their bills from their own resources. Table 3 shows the projected regional energy bills and burdens for the population in poverty. Clearly, impoverished households in most places, especially in the two Northeastern divisions, will face severe hardships.

Predictable Hardships

Low-income consumers cannot afford their projected energy bills. As a result, many or most of these consumers will make do with less energy than they need for safety; they will also sacrifice other necessities. Census data show that in 2001, when energy prices were lower and the weather was even milder, 9.6 million consumers failed to pay at least one month's energy bill because they could not afford it.ⁱ

Of these consumers:

- Seventy-seven percent were unable to afford at least one more basic necessity during the year, and most suffered three or four kinds of deprivation;
- The other most common sacrifices they made or risks they took were, in order:
 - Delaying rent payments;
 - Skipping needed medical or dental care; and
 - Experiencing hunger.
- Only half were eligible for LIHEAP; however, nearly all had incomes lower than the U.S. median.

Resources

LIHEAP Payment Assistance

FY 2006 LIHEAP, as of February 15, 2006, adds up to \$2.05 billion including all emergency funding made available to date. This figure is 4% lower than in FY 2005. In FY 2001, emergency funding from a prior year was distributed through the regular program for a total of \$2.2 billion. From 2002 through 2004, appropriations ranged from \$1.8 billion to \$2.1 billion.

The 2005 LIHEAP average benefit of \$319 would cover less than 20% of the average 2006 bills projected. Many states have reported increases in LIHEAP participation, and benefits may be even lower as the states are stretched to help more eligible consumers.ⁱⁱ

Weatherization Savings: Avoided Costs are Resources, Too

Past Weatherization investments have produced saving that can be considered “avoided” energy bills. When weather is normal, Weatherization investments reduce the usage of the main fuel by about 30%; in the case of the typical low-income, gas-heated home this means that 31 mcf of natural gas is saved. The average obviously varies by climate region as well as by weather. Less solid data are available about the savings achieved by the more recently introduced programs to invest in reducing electricity use, most commonly by replacing old refrigerators.ⁱⁱⁱ

At the prices forecast in the Feb. 2006 Short Term Outlook, the natural gas consumer weatherized last year would avoid gas bills and electricity bills totaling \$461 this year, while the comparable figure for the low-income fuel oil user would be nearly \$500.

Table 4

**Past WAP Investments “Pay” Benefits to Low-Income Consumers:
Estimated 2005-2006 Average Savings in Homes
Weatherized from 1995-2005**

Main Heat Fuel Is:	Main Heat Fuel Bills avg:	Non-Heat Electricity	All FY 2006 Bills Avg.	Main Heat Fuel Savings	Other Electricity Savings (@.1)	FY 2006 Value of Savings for WAP Investments
Natural Gas	\$1,033	\$ 684	\$1,717	\$ 392	\$ 69	\$ 461
Liquid Propane	\$1,034	\$ 954	\$2,007	\$ 227	\$ 95	\$ 322
Fuel Oil	\$1,287	\$1,005	\$2,292	\$ 386	\$ 100	\$ 486
Kerosene	\$ 692	\$ 874	\$1,684	\$ 152	\$ 87	\$ 229
Electricity	\$ 297	\$ 803	\$1,180	\$ 118	NA	\$ 118

These figures are based on the prices from EIA Feb 2006 Short Term Energy Outlook and real HDD through 1/31/06 applied to the metrics described in the evaluations of a range of Weatherization state programs found at <http://weatherization.ornl.gov> .

Table 4 shows estimated avoided costs in previously weatherized homes for each heating fuel used. It assumes that the warmer temperatures of Oct-Jan are not averaged out by colder-than-normal temperatures later. However, only about 7.5 million homes, approximately a fifth of those eligible, have been assisted to date by either the DOE program or similar investments delivered with other funds by the Weatherization network.^{iv} Most of those that received

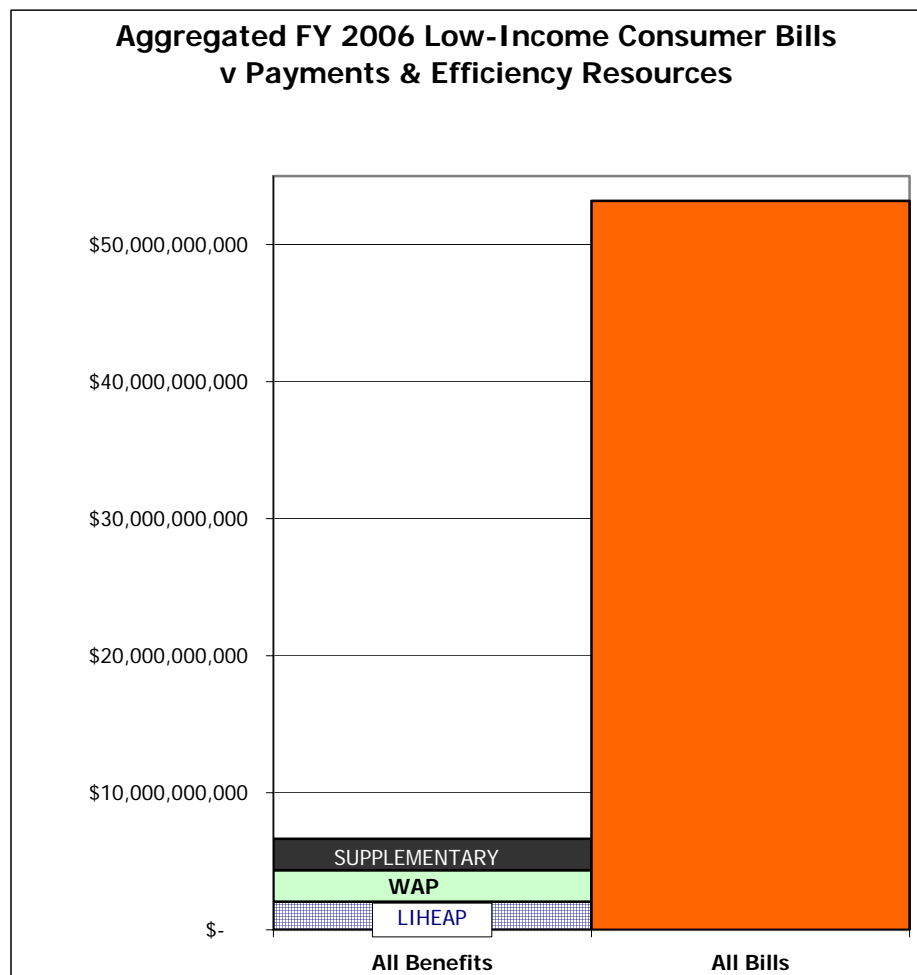
significant levels of investment were gas or oil-heated units in the colder regions that benefit from the distribution formula and have long-standing utility efficiency programs as well.

Supplements to LIHEAP

Other payment resources, including utility discounts, and charitable contributions are available to some low-income consumers. They added up to \$1.78 billion in FY 2004, but half of that total came from just three states (CA, OH, and PA). State appropriations and rate-based subsidies have added about \$500 million to previous levels of non-federal resources for FY 2006, but, again, 53% of those new funds were appropriated in just 6 states. ^v

Figure 5 shows how all these benefits combined compare to the 'Gross Domestic Low-Income Energy Bill' to the low-income population as a whole. Clearly, all assistance resources combined do not add up to 15% of the expenditures low-income households would need to maintain their basic energy supplies for the year.

Figure 5



Endnotes

ⁱThese statistics are measures of household well-being from the 1998 and 2001 cohorts of Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) respondents.
<http://www.sipp.census.gov/sipp/>. The data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) 1996 Panel Wave 8 Topical Module; the details of information provided by those who said they were unable to afford their full energy costs were analyzed by EOS and are found at

<http://www.opportunitystudies.org/weatherization/national.php>. See also the SIPP working paper: Kurt Bauman "Direct Measures of Poverty as Indicators of Economic Need: Evidence from the Survey of Income and Program Participation," U.S. Bureau of the Census Population Division Technical Working Paper No. 30, November 1998.

ⁱⁱ<http://neda.org/comm/press/pr2006-01-24.pdf>

ⁱⁱⁱ<http://www.weatherization.ornl.gov/metaevaluation.htm.eia.doe.gov/emeu/recs/contents.html>.

^{iv}For the basis of these estimates, see Meg Power, "Weatherization PLUS Other Efficiency and Housing Investments Delivered by Local Weatherizers in PY 2000"
<http://www.opportunitystudies.org/weatherization/pdf/utility-wap-combined-programs.pdf>. This figure is a survey-based estimate of all units completed with Department of Energy funding, nearly 5.5 million, added to the units weatherized exclusively with other funding, such as LIHEAP or utility efficiency programs, in which the measures installed and techniques used were comparable to the full service package provided by the federal program.

^v<http://www.liheap.ncat.org/newslett/57net.htm>

Appendix A: Methodology Details

This analysis is based on results from a model by Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) that incorporates updates of the 2001 U.S. Department of Energy Residential Energy Consumption Survey (RECS <http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/recs>) database records. (See the ORNL paper: Joel F. Eisenberg, "The Impact of Forecasted Energy Price Increases on Low-Income Consumers," Oak Ridge National Laboratory, TN, November 2005. ORNL/Con 495 at <http://weatherization/ornl.gov>.)

The 2001 values reported for usage and expenditures were modified by ORNL using actual weather data and prices for 2004-2005 and the EIA October Winter Fuel Outlook projections for 2006. Quarterly EIA data were grouped so as to provide fiscal year results, rather than calendar year. The ORNL database has been further modified by this Economic Opportunity Studies (EOS) analysis in order to incorporate updated income information for every record and to change the prices and weather information to reflect February 2006 information.

Household records were given 2006 estimated income and energy usage based on current price and weather projections from the Energy Information Administration Short Term Energy Outlook of Feb 2006 as well as actual Heating Degree Days through January 2006. We estimated incomes as of the end of 2004 for each quintile of the population in each of nine Census Divisions; households' 2001 incomes were updated by the national average increase for that quintile in 2004 as compared to 2001. This allows us to use statistical tools to project the Energy Burdens for different groups.

The model is a static one from 2001 to the present because it assumes that a consumer's weather-adjusted usage remains constant regardless of price; this is obviously not realistic, especially for households with very limited disposable income. Its results indicate what it would take for consumers to stay as comfortable as at the time they answered the RECS survey in 2001 and to use the same appliances and lighting in the same way.

Related analyses are available at <http://www.opportunitystudies.org/>.

B. DETAILED TABLES**History: Energy Bills by Census Division and LIHEAP Eligibility Status****Tools:****a. Guide to Census Divisions**

New England	CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT
Middle Atlantic	PA, NJ, NY
East North Central	IL, IN, OH, MI, WI
West North Central	IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD
South Atlantic	DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV
East South Central	AL, KY, MS, TN
West South Central	AR, OK, LA, TX
Mountain	AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY
Pacific	AK, CA, HI, OR, WA

**b. National Average and Median Bills and Burdens
By Year and LIHEAP Eligibility Status**

Est. FY 2006 Bills and Previous Fiscal Years	Not LIHEAP Elig.		LIHEAP Elig.	
	Avg.	Median	Avg.	Median
FY 2006 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,994	\$ 1,801	\$ 1,590	\$ 1,442
FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,861	\$ 1,717	\$ 1,463	\$ 1,307
FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,776	\$ 1,644	\$ 1,393	\$ 1,253
2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,596	\$ 1,464	\$ 1,266	\$ 1,172
Energy Burden FY 06	4%	3%	16%	10%
Energy Burden FY 05	4%	3%	14%	9%
Energy Burden FY 04	3%	3%	14%	9%
Energy Burden 2001	3%	3%	13%	8%

History: Energy Bills by Census Division and LIHEAP Eligibility Status

Census Division	History	Not LIHEAP Elig.		LIHEAP Elig.	
		Avg.	Median	Avg.	Median
New England	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 2,658	\$ 2,537	\$ 2,170	\$ 2,091
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 2,448	\$ 2,252	\$ 1,959	\$ 1,934
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 2,217	\$ 2,070	\$ 1,786	\$ 1,700
	2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,922	\$ 1,820	\$ 1,587	\$ 1,461
Middle Atlantic	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 2,495	\$ 2,309	\$ 1,872	\$ 1,705
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 2,113	\$ 1,958	\$ 1,522	\$ 1,366
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 2,005	\$ 1,878	\$ 1,443	\$ 1,295
	2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,873	\$ 1,781	\$ 1,391	\$ 1,257
East North Central	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 1,845	\$ 1,725	\$ 1,652	\$ 1,589
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,946	\$ 1,880	\$ 1,704	\$ 1,630
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,853	\$ 1,781	\$ 1,615	\$ 1,561
	2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,592	\$ 1,493	\$ 1,401	\$ 1,362
West North Central	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 1,903	\$ 1,772	\$ 1,746	\$ 1,761
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,916	\$ 1,798	\$ 1,748	\$ 1,637
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,837	\$ 1,721	\$ 1,665	\$ 1,559
	2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,618	\$ 1,525	\$ 1,417	\$ 1,341
South Atlantic	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 2,140	\$ 1,966	\$ 1,698	\$ 1,626
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,888	\$ 1,754	\$ 1,477	\$ 1,386
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,807	\$ 1,654	\$ 1,411	\$ 1,332
	2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,622	\$ 1,495	\$ 1,293	\$ 1,252
East South Central	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 1,640	\$ 1,476	\$ 1,269	\$ 1,181
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,844	\$ 1,683	\$ 1,419	\$ 1,311
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,764	\$ 1,611	\$ 1,357	\$ 1,260
	2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,376	\$ 1,158	\$ 1,103
West South Central	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 2,076	\$ 1,955	\$ 1,623	\$ 1,477
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 2,043	\$ 1,901	\$ 1,559	\$ 1,392
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,968	\$ 1,830	\$ 1,496	\$ 1,342
	2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,747	\$ 1,616	\$ 1,350	\$ 1,196
Mountain	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 1,566	\$ 1,480	\$ 1,381	\$ 1,288
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,531	\$ 1,406	\$ 1,308	\$ 1,191
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,459	\$ 1,337	\$ 1,241	\$ 1,127
	2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,328	\$ 1,247	\$ 1,145	\$ 1,057
Pacific	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 1,608	\$ 1,431	\$ 1,080	\$ 921
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,318	\$ 1,189	\$ 870	\$ 714
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,287	\$ 1,145	\$ 852	\$ 704
	2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,254	\$ 1,130	\$ 842	\$ 719

History: Energy Burden by Census Division and LIHEAP Eligibility Status

Census Division	History	Not LIHEAP Elig.		LIHEAP Elig.	
		Avg.	Median	Avg.	Median
New England	Energy Burden FY 06	5%	4%	20%	12%
	Energy Burden FY 05	4%	4%	18%	11%
	Energy Burden FY 04	4%	3%	16%	10%
	Energy Burden 2001	4%	3%	15%	9%
Middle Atlantic	Energy Burden FY 06	4%	4%	22%	12%
	Energy Burden FY 05	4%	3%	17%	10%
	Energy Burden FY 04	4%	3%	16%	10%
	Energy Burden 2001	3%	3%	16%	9%
East North Central	Energy Burden FY 06	4%	3%	14%	9%
	Energy Burden FY 05	4%	3%	14%	9%
	Energy Burden FY 04	4%	3%	14%	9%
	Energy Burden 2001	3%	3%	12%	8%
West North Central	Energy Burden FY 06	4%	3%	16%	12%
	Energy Burden FY 05	4%	3%	16%	12%
	Energy Burden FY 04	4%	3%	15%	12%
	Energy Burden 2001	3%	3%	13%	10%
South Atlantic	Energy Burden FY 06	4%	4%	18%	12%
	Energy Burden FY 05	4%	3%	16%	11%
	Energy Burden FY 04	3%	3%	15%	10%
	Energy Burden 2001	3%	3%	14%	9%
East South Central	Energy Burden FY 06	4%	3%	16%	11%
	Energy Burden FY 05	4%	4%	18%	12%
	Energy Burden FY 04	4%	3%	17%	11%
	Energy Burden 2001	3%	3%	15%	10%
West South Central	Energy Burden FY 06	4%	4%	16%	12%
	Energy Burden FY 05	4%	3%	16%	11%
	Energy Burden FY 04	4%	3%	15%	11%
	Energy Burden 2001	4%	3%	14%	10%
Mountain	Energy Burden FY 06	4%	3%	13%	8%
	Energy Burden FY 05	3%	3%	13%	8%
	Energy Burden FY 04	3%	3%	12%	8%
	Energy Burden 2001	3%	3%	11%	7%
Pacific	Energy Burden FY 06	3%	2%	9%	6%
	Energy Burden FY 05	2%	2%	7%	5%
	Energy Burden FY 04	2%	2%	7%	5%
	Energy Burden 2001	2%	2%	7%	5%

History: Energy Bills by Main Heat Fuel and LIHEAP Eligibility Status

Main Heat Fuel of Home	History	Not LIHEAP Elig.		LIHEAP Elig.	
		Avg.	Median	Avg.	Median
NAT. GAS	FY 2006 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 2,076	\$ 1,887	\$ 1,722	\$ 1,601
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,877	\$ 1,752	\$ 1,527	\$ 1,406
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,794	\$ 1,663	\$ 1,453	\$ 1,337
	2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,658	\$ 1,531	\$ 1,357	\$ 1,274
LIQ. PROPANE	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 2,313	\$ 2,025	\$ 2,007	\$ 1,903
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 2,235	\$ 2,061	\$ 1,962	\$ 1,816
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 2,125	\$ 1,972	\$ 1,866	\$ 1,717
	2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,887	\$ 1,703	\$ 1,634	\$ 1,526
FUEL OIL	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 2,624	\$ 2,451	\$ 2,291	\$ 2,163
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 2,540	\$ 2,394	\$ 2,214	\$ 2,109
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 2,284	\$ 2,165	\$ 1,993	\$ 1,859
	2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,821	\$ 1,684	\$ 1,594	\$ 1,474
KERO	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 1,968	\$ 1,892	\$ 1,684	\$ 1,630
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,914	\$ 1,777	\$ 1,557	\$ 1,490
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,741	\$ 1,665	\$ 1,430	\$ 1,323
	2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,373	\$ 1,329	\$ 1,212	\$ 1,184
ELECTRICITY	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 1,666	\$ 1,514	\$ 1,179	\$ 1,095
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,636	\$ 1,491	\$ 1,138	\$ 1,056
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,595	\$ 1,459	\$ 1,111	\$ 1,040
	2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,416	\$ 1,292	\$ 1,012	\$ 950

History: Energy Burden by Main Heat Fuel and LIHEAP Eligibility Status

Main Heat Fuel of Home	History	Not LIHEAP Elig.		LIHEAP Elig.	
		Avg.	Median	Avg.	Median
NAT. GAS	Energy Burden FY 06	4%	3%	17%	11%
	Energy Burden FY 05	3%	3%	15%	10%
	Energy Burden FY 04	3%	3%	14%	9%
	Energy Burden 2001	3%	3%	14%	9%
LIQ. PROPANE	Energy Burden FY 06	5%	5%	17%	13%
	Energy Burden FY 05	5%	5%	17%	13%
	Energy Burden FY 04	5%	5%	16%	13%
	Energy Burden 2001	4%	4%	14%	10%
FUEL OIL	Energy Burden FY 06	5%	4%	21%	14%
	Energy Burden FY 05	5%	4%	20%	13%
	Energy Burden FY 04	4%	4%	18%	12%
	Energy Burden 2001	3%	3%	15%	9%
KERO	Energy Burden FY 06	5%	5%	22%	17%
	Energy Burden FY 05	5%	4%	21%	16%
	Energy Burden FY 04	4%	4%	19%	14%
	Energy Burden 2001	3%	3%	16%	13%
ELECTRICITY	Energy Burden FY 06	3%	3%	13%	8%
	Energy Burden FY 05	3%	3%	12%	8%
	Energy Burden FY 04	3%	3%	12%	8%
	Energy Burden 2001	3%	3%	11%	7%

History: Energy Bills & Burdens in the Four Largest States by LIHEAP Eligibility Status

	History: Burden/Bills	Not LIHEAP Elig.	LIHEAP Elig.
		Avg.	Avg.
NY	Energy Burden FY 06	4%	18%
	Energy Burden FY 05	4%	14%
	Energy Burden 2004	3%	14%
	Energy Burden 2001	3%	14%
	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 2,506	\$ 1,942
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 2,067	\$ 1,589
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,955	\$ 1,507
	FY 2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,855	\$ 1,453
CA	Energy Burden FY 06	3%	9%
	Energy Burden FY 05	2%	8%
	Energy Burden 2004	2%	7%
	Energy Burden 2001	2%	7%
	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 1,637	\$ 1,133
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,336	\$ 913
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,301	\$ 887
	FY 2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,283	\$ 887
TX	Energy Burden FY 06	4%	14%
	Energy Burden FY 05	4%	14%
	Energy Burden 2004	4%	13%
	Energy Burden 2001	3%	12%
	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 2,164	\$ 1,478
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 2,140	\$ 1,427
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 2,065	\$ 1,374
	FY 2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,829	\$ 1,239
FL	Energy Burden FY 06	4%	14%
	Energy Burden FY 05	4%	12%
	Energy Burden 2004	3%	12%
	Energy Burden 2001	3%	11%
	FY 2006 All Res.En. Bills	\$ 1,952	\$ 1,555
	FY 2005 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,772	\$ 1,391
	FY 2004 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,715	\$ 1,346
	FY 2001 All Res. En. Bills	\$ 1,521	\$ 1,225

**Great Variation in Energy Burden of Low-Income Groups
Persists Despite Growth in All Group's Burdens**

Poverty Status		Avg.	Median	25th Percentile Is:	75th Percentile Is:	95th Percentile Is:
Not In Poverty	Energy Burden FY 2006	5%	4%	2%	6%	12%
	Energy Burden 2001	4%	3%	2%	5%	10%
In Poverty	Energy Burden FY 2006	25%	16%	9%	30%	80%
	Energy Burden 2001	20%	13%	8%	24%	62%
ALL	Energy Burden FY 2006	8%	4%	3%	8%	23%
	Energy Burden 2001	6%	4%	2%	6%	19%
LIHEAP Eligibility Status		Avg.	Median	25th Percentile Is:	75th Percentile Is:	95th Percentile Is:
Not LIHEAP Elig.	Energy Burden FY 2006	4%	3%	2%	5%	8%
	Energy Burden 2001	3%	3%	2%	4%	6%
LIHEAP Elig.	Energy Burden FY 2006	16%	10%	6%	17%	54%
	Energy Burden 2001	13%	8%	5%	13%	42%
ALL	Energy Burden FY 2006	8%	4%	3%	8%	23%
	Energy Burden 2001	6%	4%	2%	6%	19%