Understanding LIHEAP Performance Measures

Presentation hosted by the Office of Community Services (OCS) in the Administration for Families and Children (ACF) presented by APPRISE under contract to OCS

May 2, 2018

Moderator: Holly Ravesloot (OCS Staff)

Presenter: Melissa Torgerson (Verve Associates)





Introduction & Welcome

- Welcome & Overview
 - Holly Ravesloot, OCS
- Presentation Speaker
 - Melissa Torgerson, Verve Associates
- Facilitators
 - Grantees and OCS Staff

OCS Objectives for Session

- Importance of Performance Measures to LIHEAP Program
- Access to and Transparency of LIHEAP Performance Statistics
- OCS and Grantee Investments in the LIHEAP Performance Measurement System



Session Overview

Presentation (45 Minutes)

- Performance Data Review
 - Case Study Example: Idaho
 - PMIWG Analysis Tools: Executive Summary, State Snapshot
 - What do the data tell you?
- Accessing the Performance Manage Website

Hands-On Session (75 Minutes)

- Exercises to practice accessing and using these resources
- Instructions, computer, answer form

• Highest Performing Tables and Teams Win Prizes!!

LIHEAP Performance Data Case Study How this Session Fits

APPRISE will be presenting three training sessions during this conference. *Each focuses on a different approach* LIHEAP grantees can take to understand and use data for Performance Management.

- Understanding LIHEAP Performance Measures—will demonstrate how grantees can quickly identify key "take-aways" from their LIHEAP Performance Measure data.
- LIHEAP Performance Data Case Study—will demonstrate how grantees can use LIHEAP data to answer specific questions about their program.
- Strategies for Enhancing LIHEAP Performance—will demonstrate how grantees can use LIHEAP Performance Measure data to consider and inform new program strategies (e.g., updating benefit matrix).



Understanding LIHEAP Performance Measures Session Objectives

By the end of this session, participants should:

- Understand how to use the LIHEAP Performance Measures Executive Summary to identify four primary LIHEAP Performance outcomes in their own state.
- Feel more comfortable using the LIHEAP Performance Measures State Snapshot to identify patterns in their data where additional attention or evaluation is needed.
- Know where to find the grantee LIHEAP Performance Management resources that will be referenced during the presentation.

Part I - Using the LIHEAP Performance Measures Executive Summary: Idaho FY 2016 Performance Measures Data





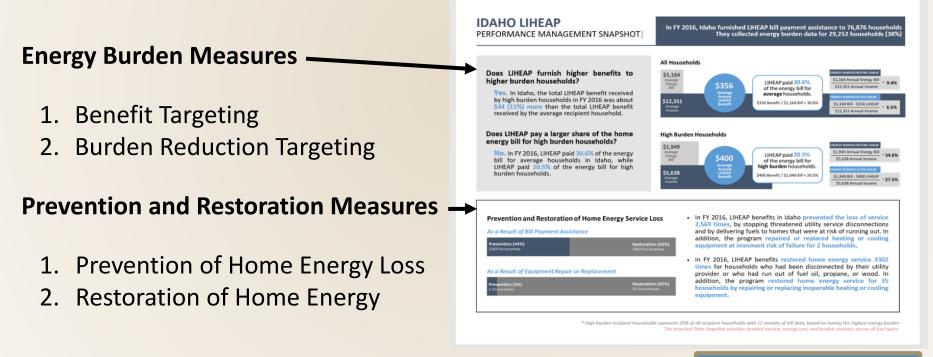
Understanding LIHEAP Performance Measures The LIHEAP Performance Measures State Snapshot



- The LIHEAP Performance Measures State Snapshot was designed by the Performance Measures Implementation Work Group (PMIWG) and APPRISE.
- The purpose of this tool is to make it easier for grantees to interpret, share, and use their LIHEAP Performance Measure data.

Understanding LIHEAP Performance Measures State Snapshot—Executive Summary

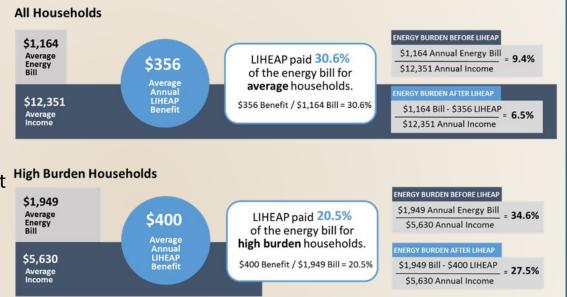
The **Snapshot Executive Summary** is a new addition to the *LIHEAP Performance Measures State Snapshot*. It focuses on the four primary Performance Measures.



Understanding LIHEAP Performance Measures IDAHO State Snapshot (Executive Summary—Energy Burden Measures)

Does LIHEAP furnish higher benefits to higher burden households?

Yes. In Idaho, the total LIHEAP benefit received by high burden households in FY 2016 was about **\$44 (12%) more** than the total LIHEAP benefit received by the average recipient household.



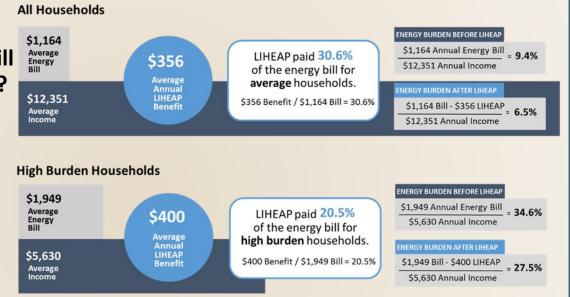
Why is this important?

Section 2605(b)(5) of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981 (42 U.S. C. §8624(b)(5)) states that grantees "provide, in a timely manner, that the highest level of energy assistance will be furnished to those households that have the lowest incomes and the highest energy costs or needs in relation to income, taking into account family size."

Understanding LIHEAP Performance Measures IDAHO State Snapshot (Executive Summary—Energy Burden Measures)

Does LIHEAP pay a larger share of the home energy bill for high burden households?

No. In FY 2016, LIHEAP paid **30.6%** of the energy bill for average households in Idaho, while LIHEAP paid **20.5%** of the energy bill for high burden households.



Why is this important?

It is important to understand the extent to which the LIHEAP benefit is reducing household energy burden. In Idaho, although high burden households are receiving a \$44 higher LIHEAP benefit, they are having less of their bill paid than average households (and therefore, less of their energy burden reduced).

Understanding LIHEAP Performance Measures IDAHO State Snapshot (Executive Summary—Prevention and Restoration Measures)

35 Occurrences

Prevention and Restoration of Home Energy Service Loss

As a Result of Bill Payment Assistance



Why is this important?

By increasing the number of households where loss is prevented (relative to those households where home energy is restored), LIHEAP is mitigating crises—including health risks and costly reconnection fees—associated with home energy loss.

- In FY 2016, LIHEAP benefits in Idaho prevented the loss of service 2,569 times by stopping threatened utility service disconnections and by delivering fuels to homes that were at risk of running out. In addition, the program repaired or replaced heating or cooling equipment at imminent risk of failure for 2 households.
- In FY 2016, LIHEAP benefits restored home energy service 3,302 times for households who had been disconnected by their utility provider or who had run out of fuel oil, propane, or wood. In addition, the program restored home energy service for 35 households by repairing or replacing inoperable heating or cooling equipment.

2 Occurrences

Understanding LIHEAP Performance Measures Accessing the Executive Summary in the PM Website

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HOME REPORTS TO CONGRESS DATA WAREHOUSE PERFORMANCE MEASURES PMIWG	GRANTEE RESOURCES GRANTEE FORUM IMPORTANT LINKS WHAT'S NEW? HELP		
Welcome to the LIHEAP Performance Management Website! This federal website provides resources, tools, and a dynamic Data Warehouse to help local program administrators, policymakers, and the public access performance management information and performance measurement data for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).			
Previous Slide Next Slide Pause Slides Assisted Households by Percent of HHS Poverty Guideline - FY 2010 All Grantees 7.55 15.05 - 7.55 Poverty - Heating Assisted Households - <75% Poverty - Heating Assisted Households - 75%-100% Poverty - Heating Assisted Households - 101%-125% Poverty - Heating Assisted Households - >10% Poverty - Heating Assisted Households - >150% Poverty - Heating	Create Reports and Analyze Data The LIHEAP Data Warehouse contains data reported by grantees and developed by the Office of Community Services (OCS) since 2001. The Data Warehouse has four different options for accessing data: • The Grantee Profiles (2014) tool allows you to access 1-page profiles for each LIHEAP state grantee, compiled using the Data that OCS published in the 2014 LIHEAP Report to Congress.		

Part II - Using the LIHEAP Performance Measures State Snapshot: Idaho FY 2016 Performance Measures Data







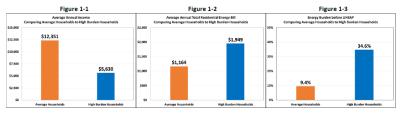
The remainder of the *LIHEAP Performance Measures State Snapshot* contains charts that compare the following statistics between average and high burden households, and across fuel types:

- Annual Income
- Annual Total Residential Energy Bill
- **Energy Burden Before LIHEAP**
- Annual Total LIHEAP Benefit
- **Energy Burden After LIHEAP**
- Percentage of Energy Bill Paid

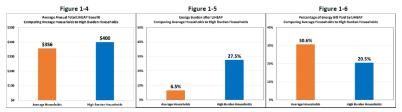
The first set of tables in the *LIHEAP Performance Measures State Snapshot* (Figures 1.1 through 1.6) compare the following statistics between **average** and **high burden** households:

FY 2016 LIHEAP Performance Measures State Snapshot – Idaho

The charts on this page present key metrics comparing high burden recipient households to the average recipient household. The first three charts provide a summary of the average annual income, average annual total residential energy bill (main heating fuel bill and electric), and energy burden before LHEAP for high burden recipient households and the average recipient household.

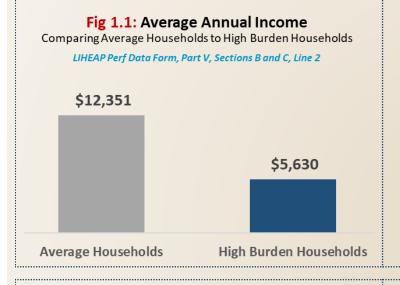


The second three charts below provide a summary of the average annual total LIHEAP benefit, energy burden after LIHEAP, and percentage reduction in energy burden due to receiving LIHEAP benefits, comparing high burden recipient households to the average recipient household.



Note: the data shown in Figure 1-1 through Figure 1-6 are broken down by heating fuel type in the charts on pages 2-4.

- Annual Income
- Annual Total Residential Energy Bill
- Energy Burden Before LIHEAP
- Annual Total LIHEAP Benefit
- Energy Burden After LIHEAP
- Percentage of Energy Bill Paid

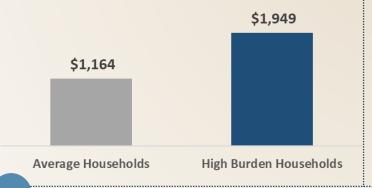


Annual Income

High burden households have an average annual income that is **\$6,721 or 54% less** than average households.

Fig 1.2: Average Annual Total Residential Energy Bill Comparing Average Households to High Burden Households

LIHEAP Perf Data Form, Part V, Sections B and C, Line 6



Annual Energy Bill

High burden households have an average energy bill that is **\$785 or 67%** greater than average households. Energy Burden is the percentage of income a household pays toward energy bills:

Energy Bill Income = Energy Burden

Understanding whether differences in household energy burden are a product of lower income or higher energy costs (or both) can help grantees hone in on particular areas of their benefit matrix to improve targeting.

In Idaho, the difference in energy burden between average and high burden households is a product of <u>both</u> lower income and higher energy costs.

Fig 1.3: Average Energy Burden Before LIHEAP Comparing Average Households to High Burden Households LIHEAP Perf Data Form, Part V, Sections B and C, Line 7 34.6% 9.4% Average Households High Burden Households

Energy Burden before LIHEAP

Before LIHEAP, high burden households are paying **3.7 times** as much of their income toward energy costs than average households.

Annual LIHEAP Benefit

High burden households

receive an average annual

12% higher than average

households.

LIHEAP benefit that is **\$44 or**

Comparing Figures 1.3 and 1.4 in the State Snapshot provides some initial insight into whether LIHEAP benefits are effectively targeting energy burden.

For example:

Although high burden households in Idaho are paying **3.7** *times* as much of their income toward energy bills, they are only receiving a LIHEAP benefit that is **12% higher** than average households.

Fig 1.4: Average Annual Total LIHEAP Benefit Comparing Average Households to High Burden Households

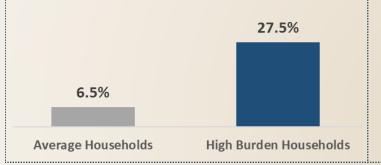
LIHEAP Perf Data Form, Part V, Sections B and C, Line 3



Fig 1.5: Average Energy Burden After LIHEAP

Comparing Average Households to High Burden Households



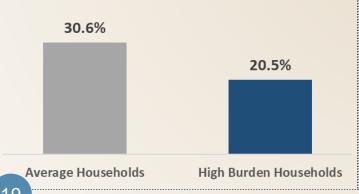


Energy Burden after LIHEAP

After LIHEAP, high burden households are paying **4.2 times** as much of their income toward energy costs than average households.

Fig 1.6: Percentage of Energy Bill Paid by LIHEAP Comparing Average Households to High Burden Households

LIHEAP Perf Data Form, Part V, Sections B and C, Line 10



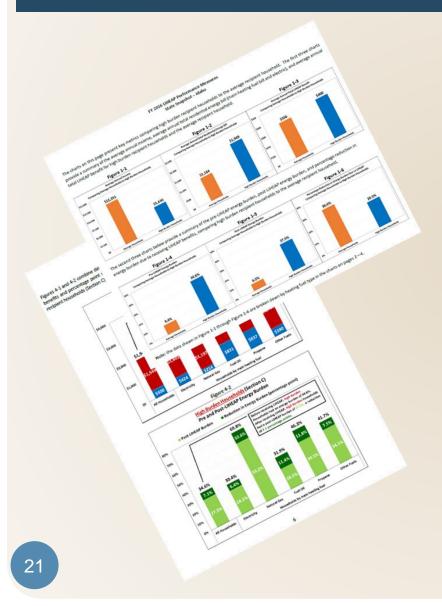
Percentage of Bill Paid

On average, high burden households have **33% less** of their energy bill paid with LIHEAP than average households. Figures 1.5 and 1.6 of the Snapshot allow grantees to compare outcomes against overarching program goals.

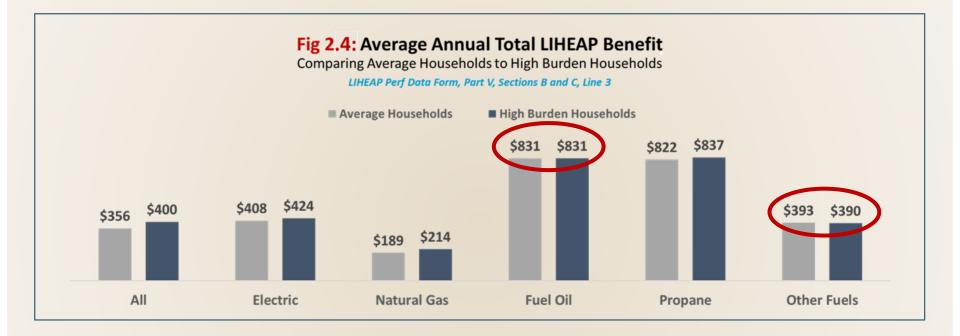
- Some grantees have a goal of bringing all LIHEAP households to a "maximum" or "manageable" energy burden level (Figure 1.5).
- Other grantees have a goal of paying a minimum or specific percentage of the bill for all LIHEAP households (Figure 1.6).

Understanding LIHEAP Performance Measures Accessing the State Snapshot in the PM Website

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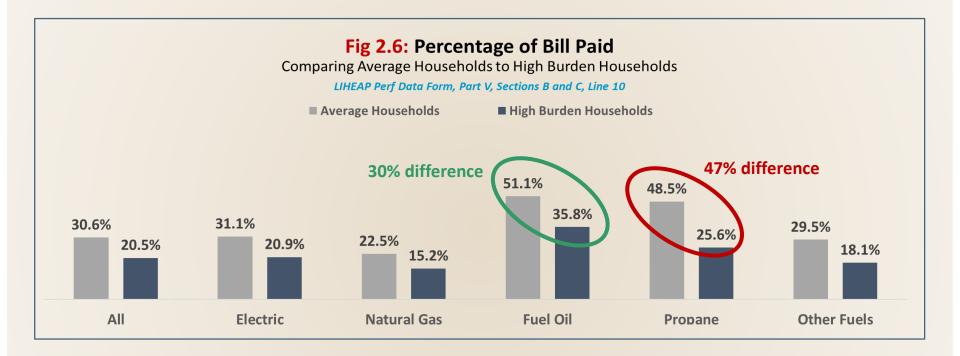


The remainder of the LIHEAP Performance Measures State Snapshot provides grantees with detailed statistics broken out by fuel type.



Does LIHEAP furnish higher benefits to higher burden households across all fuel types?

No. In FY 2016, high burden households in Idaho who used fuel oil for main heat received the <u>same</u> LIHEAP benefit as average fuel oil households. High burden households who used "other fuels" (e.g., wood) received a <u>lower</u> benefit than average "other fuel" households.



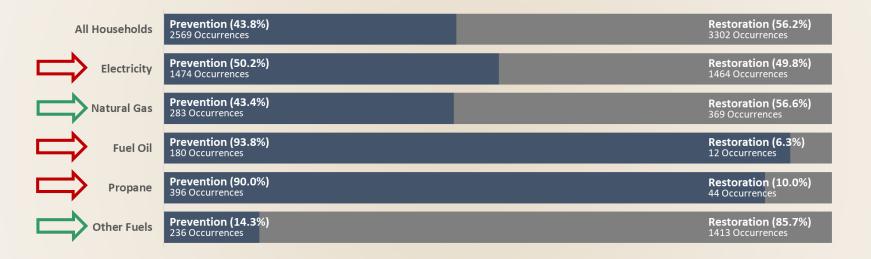
Does LIHEAP pay more of the energy bill for high burden households across all fuel types?

No. In FY 2016, high burden households in Idaho had less of their energy bill paid with LIHEAP than average households, *regardless of fuel type*. However, <u>the extent of this difference varies</u> by fuel type.

Fig 5.1: Prevention and Restoration of Home Energy Service Loss

As a Result of BILL PAYMENT ASSISTANCE

LIHEAP Perf Data Form, Parts VI and VII, Section A, Lines 1-2



Are patterns of LIHEAP prevention and restoration of home energy service loss (as a result of bill payment assistance) consistent <u>across all fuel types?</u>

In FY 2016, bill payment assistance used to pay electric, fuel oil, and propane bills resulted in higher rates of prevention (relative to restoration) among Idaho LIHEAP households. Conversely, natural gas and "other fuel" benefits resulted in more occurrences of restoration (relative to prevention).

Understanding LIHEAP Performance Measures IDAHO State Snapshot—Summary of Key Findings

Key Findings	Possible Next Questions
In FY 2016, high burden households in Idaho paid 3.7 times as much of their income toward energy costs as average households. However, high burden households only received an 11% higher LIHEAP benefit than average households.	 How is our current matrix designed to target higher benefits to higher burden households? Is our matrix yielding expected results? If not, why?
High burden and average fuel oil households received equal benefits in FY 2016. High burden "other fuels" households received a lower benefit than average "other fuels" households.	 Does our current benefit matrix accurately reflect income and energy cost differences among deliverable fuel households? Are there specific benefit determination or payment processes related to deliverable fuels that impact the way our matrix works?

Understanding LIHEAP Performance Measures IDAHO State Snapshot—Summary of Key Findings

Key Findings	Possible Next Questions
For all households (both average and high burden), the percentage of bill paid with LIHEAP varies considerably between fuel types.	 Is it our intention to vary the percentage of bill we pay based on fuel type? Or is our goal to pay the same percentage of a household's energy bill regardless of fuel type? Does our benefit matrix reflect our goal?
Compared to average households, high burden households <i>across all fuel types</i> have a lesser share of their energy bill paid with LIHEAP. The extent of this difference varies by fuel type.	 Is it our expectation that all households will have an equal share of their bill paid? Or that high burden households should have a higher share of their bill paid? Is our matrix designed to reflect our expectations?
In FY 2016, bill payment assistance used to pay natural gas and "other fuel" benefits resulted in more occurrences of restoration (relative to prevention).	 Why are more natural gas and "other fuel" households waiting until they are disconnected or out of fuel to access LIHEAP? How can we work with local partners and utilities to encourage households to apply sooner?

Understanding LIHEAP Performance Measures Accessing the State Snapshot in the PM Website

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Understanding LIHEAP Performance Measures Accessing the State Snapshot Data in the Data Warehouse

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Questions?

Understanding LIHEAP Performance Measures LIHEAP Performance Management Resources for Grantees

For more information, please contact:

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Dan Bausch Daniel-Bausch@appriseinc.org 609-252-9050

Training Exercise

Now we are going to turn you over to your facilitators who will help you to walk through the training exercise.

- 1. You'll be working in groups of three with the laptops at your table.
- 2. Your facilitator will hand out your team assignments and exercise materials.
- 3. You'll work in your teams to complete the exercises and win prizes!!