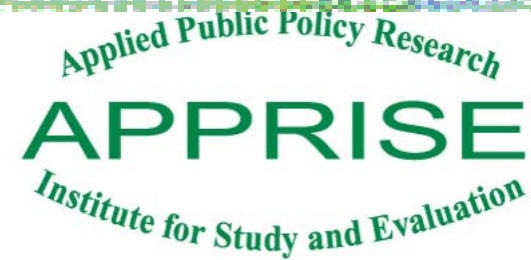


Prepared for **NEADA** By



2009 National Energy Assistance Survey

NEUAC

June 15, 2010

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Background

- 2003 NEA Survey
 - Baseline survey
 - LIHEAP recipients in 20 states
 - Sample selected from LIHEAP state databases
 - Energy needs (beyond bill payment)
 - Importance of LIHEAP

Background

- 2005 NEA Survey
 - Follow-up with 2003 respondents
 - Issue: not all current LIHEAP recipients
 - Cannot project to LIHEAP population

Background

- 2008 NEA Survey
 - LIHEAP recipients in 12 states
 - 3 states were not able to participate and were replaced
 - Energy needs and importance of LIHEAP
 - Change in circumstance over the past year
 - Comparison to 2003 Survey

Background

- 2009 NEA Survey
 - LIHEAP recipients in 13 states
 - Included all 12 states from 2008
 - Special study for Connecticut
 - Energy needs and importance of LIHEAP
 - Change in circumstance over the past year
 - Comparison to 2003 and 2008 Surveys

States Surveyed

California	Maine	New York
Connecticut	Minnesota	North Carolina
Delaware	Montana	Ohio
Georgia	New Mexico	Pennsylvania
Iowa		

Survey Topics

- Screener – eligibility for survey
- Experience with energy assistance
 - When received, how often received, plans to apply next year
- Actions taken to meet energy expenses
 - Sacrifices: housing, food, health, utility service
- Home health issues
 - Smoking, exhaust fans, mold, pests

Survey Topics

- Energy Insecurity
 - Worry about energy bills, reduced expenses
 - Borrowed, skipped paying energy bill
 - Close off part of home, left home, unsafe temperature
 - Use stove or oven for heat
 - Threatened with service termination, shut off
 - Access to heating and air conditioning

Survey Topics

- Change in Circumstance
 - Energy bills
 - Financial situation
- Impact of LIHEAP
 - Would you have experienced some of these problems if LIHEAP had not been available?
 - How important has LIHEAP been in helping you meet your needs?
- Demographics

Methodology

- Use of state LIHEAP databases
 - Samples selected by APPRISE or state office staff
 - Stratification by vulnerable group and poverty level
- Telephone survey
 - Fielded 11/16/09 – 1/26/10
 - 1,828 completed interviews
 - Response rate ranged from 40% in CA to 74% in NC

Demographics

Household Characteristics

	Percent of Respondents
Senior	39%
Disabled	44%
Children under 6	23%
Children under 18	45%
Non-vulnerable	8%
Own Home	46%

Income Sources

	Percent of Respondents
Employment Income	31%
Retirement Income	37%
Public Assistance	40%
Non-Cash Benefits	61%

Poverty Level

Poverty Level	Percent of Respondents
0% - 50%	20%
51% - 100%	42%
101% - 125%	16%
126% - 150%	12%
>150%	10%

Health

Health Status

	All	Senior	Disabled	Child Under 18	Non-Vulnerable
Very Healthy	37%	29%	23%	50%	39%
Somewhat Healthy	43%	48%	42%	41%	46%
Somewhat Unhealthy	12%	14%	20%	7%	8%
Very Unhealthy	6%	8%	13%	2%	3%
Don't know/ Refused	1%	1%	2%	1%	4%

Health Conditions

	All	Senior	Disabled	Child Under 18	Non-Vulnerable
Asthma Symptoms	46%	42%	60%	49%	29%
Bronchitis, Emphysema, COPD	21%	22%	35%	17%	12%
Hypertension, Heart Disease, Heart Attack, or Stroke	51%	75%	66%	32%	40%
Allergies, Wheezing, Burning Eyes, or Headaches	54%	48%	66%	60%	34%

Health Conditions

	All	Senior	Disabled	Child Under 18	Non-Vulnerable
Health Condition	82%	90%	94%	77%	65%
Medical Equipment Uses Electricity	25%	21%	38%	29%	9%

Home Health Conditions

National Statistics		
Smoke In Home	Mold	Pests
21%	23%	42%

	CT	CT Districts				
		Hartford	Groton Norwich	New Haven	Bridgeport Stamford	Danbury Waterbury
Mold	24%	21%	35%	31%	19%	21%
Pests	28%	29%	27%	27%	34%	24%
Smoke in Home	17%	22%	22%	12%	15%	15%

Home Health Conditions

	Bathroom Exhaust: When Bathing	Kitchen Exhaust: When Cooking
Always	30%	22%
Sometimes	11%	21%
Rarely	8%	16%
Never/ Don't Have	49%	39%

Energy Costs and LIHEAP Benefits

Energy Costs

	2008	2009
< \$500	3%	7%
\$501 - \$1,000	10%	13%
\$1,001 - \$1,500	13%	14%
\$1,501 - \$2,000	15%	16%
Over \$2,000	36%	37%
Don't Know/ Refused	24%	14%

Energy Costs

	CT	CT Districts				
		Hartford	Groton Norwich	New Haven	Bridgeport Stamford	Danbury Waterbury
< \$500	2%	2%	6%	0%	1%	2%
\$501 - \$1,000	5%	6%	9%	3%	4%	3%
\$1,001 - \$1,500	13%	17%	12%	10%	15%	12%
\$1,501 - \$2,000	17%	18%	10%	13%	19%	22%
Over \$2,000	48%	47%	48%	56%	46%	43%
Don't Know/ Refused	15%	10%	16%	18%	15%	18%

LIHEAP Appropriations

(Billions)	FY 2008	FY 2009
Block Grant	\$1.95	\$4.48
Emergency	\$0.61	\$0.59
Total	\$2.56	\$5.07

LIHEAP Benefits

Heating Benefits

	2008	2009
\leq \$100	6%	5%
\$101-\$250	25%	13%
\$251-\$500	39%	45%
\$501-\$750	11%	21%
\$751-\$1,000	6%	7%
\geq \$1,000	3%	6%
Mean Benefit	\$380	\$466

LIHEAP Benefits

Heating, Cooling, and Crisis

	2008	2009
\leq \$100	9%	4%
\$101-\$250	27%	11%
\$251-\$500	40%	41%
\$501-\$750	13%	22%
\$751-\$1,000	7%	10%
\geq \$1,000	5%	11%
Mean Benefit	\$407	\$547

Energy Burden

	Pre-LIHEAP	Post-LIHEAP
$\leq 5\%$	13%	37%
6% - 10%	32%	29%
11% - 15%	19%	17%
16% - 20%	15%	8%
21% - 25%	7%	4%
$>25\%$	14%	7%

Energy Burden

	CT		Hartford		Groton Norwich		New Haven		Bridgeport Stamford		Danbury Waterbury	
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
≤ 5%	16%	59%	20%	66%	26%	76%	9%	49%	11%	54%	14%	50%
6%-10%	38%	28%	41%	21%	39%	20%	37%	38%	40%	31%	35%	33%
11-15%	21%	8%	16%	8%	22%	3%	25%	9%	23%	12%	22%	8%
16-20%	11%	3%	10%	1%	8%	1%	15%	1%	9%	3%	13%	6%
21-25%	6%	1%	8%	1%	0%	0%	8%	1%	6%	0%	7%	3%
>25%	7%	1%	5%	1%	4%	0%	6%	1%	10%	0%	9%	0%

Energy Burden

	Pre-LIHEAP		Post-LIHEAP	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
≤ 10%	39%	45%	55%	66%
>10%	60%	55%	45%	34%

- Lower reported energy costs in 2009
- Higher LIHEAP benefits in 2009
- Natural gas prices down by ~18% from 2008 to 2009
- Heating oil prices down by ~21% from 2008 to 2009

Mean Energy Burden

	All	Senior	Disabled	Child Under 18	Non-Vulnerable
Pre-LIHEAP	16%	14%	17%	16%	16%
Post-LIHEAP	11%	9%	11%	12%	10%

Change in Energy Bills

	2008	2009
Same	24%	37%
Lower	13%	21%
Higher	49%	35%
Don't Know/ Refused	13%	8%

Change in Difficulty Paying Energy Bills

	2008	2009
Same	42%	44%
More Difficult	43%	40%
Less Difficult	9%	13%
Don't Know/ Refused	5%	3%

Increased Difficulty Paying Energy Bills

Main Reason for Increased Difficulty Paying Energy Bills	2008	2009
Lower Income/Lost Job/ Worse Economic Situation	37%	60%
Increased Energy Bill	50%	21%

Unaffordable Energy Bills: Signs and Responses

Signs of the Problem

	2003	2008	2009
Worried About Paying Home Energy Bill	72%	72%	74%
Reduced Expenses for Household Necessities	78%	80%	79%
Borrowed from a Friend or Relative	46%	43%	46%

Signs of the Problem

	All	Children	≤50%
Worried About Paying Home Energy Bill	74%	88%	85%
Reduced Expenses for Household Necessities	79%	88%	84%
Borrowed from a Friend or Relative	46%	56%	61%

Responses to the Problem

	2003	2008	2009
Closed off Part of Home	39%	44%	36%
Kept Home at Unsafe Temperature	25%	28%	26%
Left Home for Part of the Day	24%	23%	20%
Used Kitchen Stove to Provide Heat	31%	33%	33%

Responses to the Problem

	All	Children	≤50%
Closed off Part of Home	36%	31%	35%
Kept Home at Unsafe Temperature	26%	26%	28%
Left Home for Part of the Day	20%	25%	26%
Used Kitchen Stove to Provide Heat	33%	38%	39%

Inability to Pay Energy Bills

	2003	2008	2009
Skipped Paying Energy Bill	52%	47%	50%
Received Disconnect Notice	38%	37%	36%
Electricity Shut Off	8%	9%	9%

Inability to Pay Energy Bills

	All	Children	≤50%
Skipped Paying Energy Bill	50%	65%	63%
Received Disconnect Notice	36%	50%	44%
Electricity Shut Off	9%	13%	14%

Inability to Pay Energy Bills

Service Terminated	CT	CT Districts				
		Hartford	Groton Norwich	New Haven	Bridgeport Stamford	Danbury Waterbury
Electric	8%	7%	6%	11%	9%	7%
Gas	5%	9%	6%	4%	5%	1%
Either	11%	12%	10%	12%	14%	7%

Energy Sacrifices

Unable to Use Heat

	2003	2008	2009
Heating System Broken	10%	13%	13%
Unable to Pay for Fuel Delivery	10%	13%	11%
Electric or Gas Service Shut Off	11%	13%	11%

Unable to Use Heat

	All	Children	≤50%
Heating System Broken	13%	16%	13%
Unable to Pay for Fuel Delivery	11%	13%	11%
Electric or Gas Service Shut Off	11%	17%	15%
Unable For Any of 3 Reasons	27%	36%	30%

Unable to Use Air Conditioning

	2003	2008	2009
Air Conditioning Broken	12%	12%	12%
Electric Service Shut Off	6%	7%	8%

Unable to Use Air Conditioning

	All	Children	≤50%
Air Conditioning Broken	12%	13%	18%
Electric Service Shut Off	8%	11%	12%
Unable to Use AC due to Either Reason	17%	21%	25%

Other Sacrifices

	2003	2008	2009
Lack of Hot Water – Went Without Showers/Baths	9%	10%	10%
Lack of Cooking Fuel – Went Without Hot Meals	5%	7%	7%
Lack of Lights – Used Candles or Lanterns	8%	7%	8%

Other Sacrifices

	All	Children	≤50%
Lack of Hot Water – Went Without Showers/Baths	10%	13%	14%
Lack of Cooking Fuel – Went Without Hot Meals	7%	10%	12%
Lack of Lights – Used Candles or Lanterns	8%	12%	14%

Housing, Financial, and Medical Problems

Housing Problems (Past 5 Years)

	2003	2008	2009
Did Not Make Full Rent or Mortgage Payment	28%	28%	31%
Evicted from Home or Apartment	4%	4%	5%
Moved in with Friends or Family	9%	11%	12%
Moved into Shelter or Was Homeless	4%	3%	3%

Housing Problems (Past 5 Years)

	All	Children	≤50%
Did Not Make Full Rent or Mortgage Payment	31%	45%	38%
Evicted from Home or Apartment	5%	8%	8%
Moved in with Friends or Family	12%	17%	20%
Moved into Shelter or Was Homeless	3%	5%	5%

Financial Problems (Past 5 Years)

	2008	2009
Obtained a Payday Loan	15%	17%
Forced into Bankruptcy	3%	2%

Financial Problems (Past 5 Years)

	All	Children	$\leq 50\%$
Obtained a Payday Loan	17%	23%	21%
Forced into Bankruptcy	2%	4%	3%

Medical and Health Problems (Past 5 Years)

	2003	2008	2009
Went Without Food for At Least One Day	22%	32%	30%
Went Without Medical or Dental Care	38%	42%	41%
Did not Fill Prescription / Took Less Than Full Dose	30%	38%	33%
Unable to Pay Energy Bill Due to Medical Expenses	20%	21%	22%
Became Sick Because Home was Too Cold	21%	24%	25%
Became Sick Because Home was Too Hot	7%	6%	4%

Medical and Health Problems (Past 5 Years)

	All	Children	≤50%
Went Without Food for At Least One Day	30%	33%	33%
Went Without Medical or Dental Care	41%	45%	43%
Did not Fill Prescription / Took Less Than Full Dose	33%	37%	33%
Unable to Pay Energy Bill Due to Medical Expenses	22%	26%	23%
Became Sick Because Home was Too Cold	25%	31%	34%
Became Sick Because Home was Too Hot	4%	4%	6%

Medical and Health Problems (Past 5 Years)

	CT	CT Districts				
		Hartford	Groton Norwich	New Haven	Bridgeport Stamford	Danbury Waterbury
Went Without Food	21%	24%	27%	16%	24%	15%
Went Without Medical or Dental Care	29%	34%	33%	27%	29%	24%
Did not Take Prescription	23%	25%	20%	22%	23%	24%

LIHEAP and Other Assistance

LIHEAP Receipt

	2003	2008	2009
Recalled Receipt of LIHEAP	84%	86%	86%
Received LIHEAP in Each of Past 5 Years	21%	26%	25%
Plans to Apply for LIHEAP in Coming Year	83%	88%	88%

Payment Arrangements With Utility Companies

Tried to Work Out Payment Arrangement in Past Year		Was Able to Work Out Payment Arrangement	
All LIHEAP Recipients		Those Who Tried to Work Out Payment Arrangement	
2008	2009	2008	2009
54%	51%	84%	86%

Fuel Fund or Social Service Assistance

Contacted Fuel Fund or Social Services Agency		Fuel Fund or Social Services Agency Was Able to Help	
Those Who Tried to Work Out Payment Arrangement		Those Who Contacted Fuel Fund or Social Services Agency	
2008	2009	2008	2009
50%	56%	72%	79%

Fuel Fund or Social Service Assistance

Applied for LIHEAP Assistance		Received Assistance From LIHEAP	
Those Who Tried to Work Out Payment Arrangement		Those Who Applied for LIHEAP	
2008	2009	2008	2009
67%	70%	75%	82%

Fuel Fund or Social Service Assistance

	LIHEAP or Agency Assistance Was Sufficient to Prevent Electric or Gas Service Termination		
	Those Who Tried to Work Out Payment Plan	Those Who Applied for Assistance	Those Who Received Assistance from LIHEAP or Social Services
2008	55%	69%	87%
2009	61%	73%	86%

Importance of LIHEAP

Would Have Faced Problems Without LIHEAP

	2003	2008	2009
Worried About Paying Home Energy Bill	66%	77%	76%
Kept Home at Unsafe or Unhealthy Levels	54%	63%	64%
Had Electricity or Home Heating Fuel Shut Off	48%	59%	53%

Would Have Faced Problems Without LIHEAP

	CT	CT Districts				
		Hartford	Groton Norwich	New Haven	Bridgeport Stamford	Danbury Waterbury
Worried About Paying Home Energy Bill	80%	84%	77%	82%	83%	73%
Kept Home at Unsafe or Unhealthy Levels	66%	71%	69%	63%	68%	61%
Had Electricity or Home Heating Fuel Shut Off	47%	49%	55%	44%	51%	42%

LIHEAP Helped Restore Heat

	Restored Heat Due to Electric/ Gas Shut Off	Restored Heat Due to Fuel Running Out	Restored Heat Due to Broken Equipment
2008	51%	64%	63%
2009	61%	69%	58%

Importance of LIHEAP

LIHEAP Is Very Important			
	2003	2008	2009
All	86%	90%	93%
Senior	83%	88%	91%
Disabled	89%	91%	96%
Child	86%	91%	93%

Summary

- Update of national LIHEAP survey
- Special study in CT
- Decline in energy costs, but financial situation is worse
- Greatest difficulty reported by households with children and poverty level $\leq 50\%$
- High importance of LIHEAP
- High reliance on LIHEAP