Utility Type	*Number of Households*	*Average Annual Costs*	*Adjusted Average Monthly*	*Funds Needed for 15 Months (Max Benefit)*	*Expected Need for Renters ~*
Electric	5000	$ 1,166.00	$ 97.17	$ 7,287,500.00	$ 7,287,500.00
Thermal*	3750	$ 1,997.00	$ 83.00	$ 4,668,750.00	$ 4,668,750.00
Water	500	$ 400.00	$ 33.33	$ 250,000.00	$ 250,000.00
Wastewater	500	$ 400.00	$ 33.33	$ 250,000.00	$ 250,000.00
				$ 12,456,250.00	$ 12,456,250.00

Note: Customers needing assistance with thermal have been reduced due to the likelihood

Overall Budget	
Program management	**$ 12,456,250**
Staff	**$ 200,000**
Program development	
Software changes	**$ 50,000**
Utility Assistance	**$ 12,706,250**

Sources and Assumptions:

The Department estimates there are about 5000 households that would be eligible based on the following:

According to the COVID-19 Data Hub Household Pulse Survey, 24.8% of Vermonters oare expiernecing diffculty paying for usual household expenses

Vermont is ranked #1 in the nation for tneants who must pay extra for utilities. 25% of renters pay extra for utilities in Vermont

About 17,382 renter households in Vermont are severely cost burdened (housingdata.org)

The median household income in Vermont for renters if $35,789, well below the income threshold for assistance from the Energency Rental Assitance Program.

The Department's estimates are largely forward looking and based largely on the following:

Based on a recent outreach to Vermont utilities, we estimate that the arrearage levels among regulated utilities is approximately $15 million and growing

The forward looking estimates combine estimates of both past and accumulating arrearages and forward looking utilities based on the eligible household population of roughly 5000 households.

The scope of qualifying utilities increases significantly to include thermal heating fuels. Other than natural gas, thermal heating fuels were not including in the VCAAP.

LIHEAP covers only a share of heating across all types. Figures above where adjusted for LIHEAP.

Efficiency Vermont, 2019 Vermont Energy Burden Report

RESULTS

We estimate that, on average, Vermont households are spending about $5,830 annually on electricity, thermal and transportation energy (Table 1), approximately 10% of total household income. We observed the greatest variation among households in spending on electricity and thermal energy. We observed a range of $1,400 in spending on electricity and $1,900 in thermal energy spending. In contrast, our estimates of transportation energy spending only varied by about $800 statewide (Figure 1). However, transportation spending is the highest cost across the board: an average of $2,638. Nearly half of household energy spending goes to transportation energy (45%) followed by spending on thermal energy (35%), and electricity (20%; Figure 2).

To help illustrate the results of this analysis, we have included profiles of three highly energy-burdened communities, providing a demographic overview and potential paths for residents to take to reduce their energy costs.

thermal	2040.5
electric	1166