

# POVERTY SIMULATION

DATA SNAPSHOT

## Low-income families face high energy burdens



2020 POVERTY RATE **11.4%**  
**37.2M** LIVING IN POVERTY

THE POVERTY  
RATE FOR  
FAMILIES  
**INCREASED**



7.8% IN 2019 → 8.7% IN 2020

**1 IN 5** households reported reducing or foregoing food or medicine to pay an energy bill

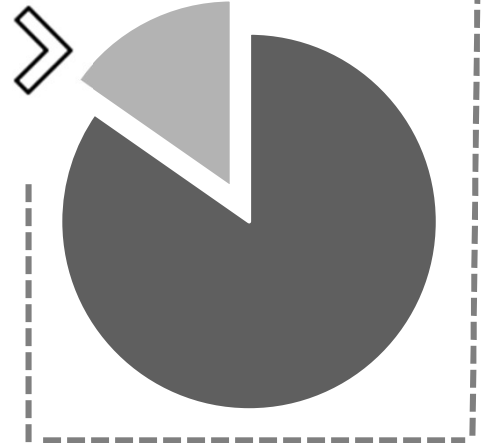
**34M** households reported facing challenges paying energy bills or sustaining adequate heating & cooling

## ENERGY BURDEN

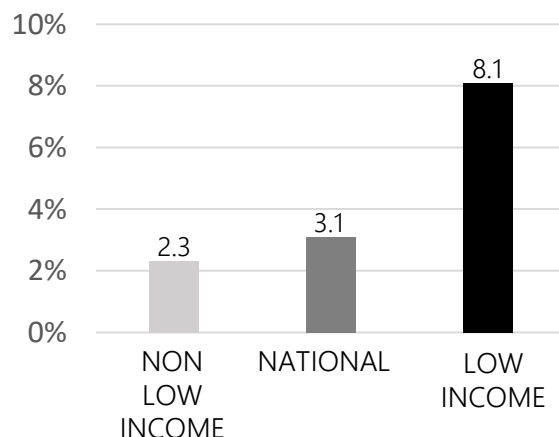
THE PERCENTAGE OF  
HOUSEHOLD INCOME  
SPENT ON ENERGY BILLS

Many advocates consider households with a **6%** energy burden or higher to experience a high or unsustainable burden

HOWEVER  
Just **5.2M** households  
received federal energy  
assistance



### Median Energy Burden



Those who can least afford it have disproportionately higher energy burdens compared with the average household