

RMLD

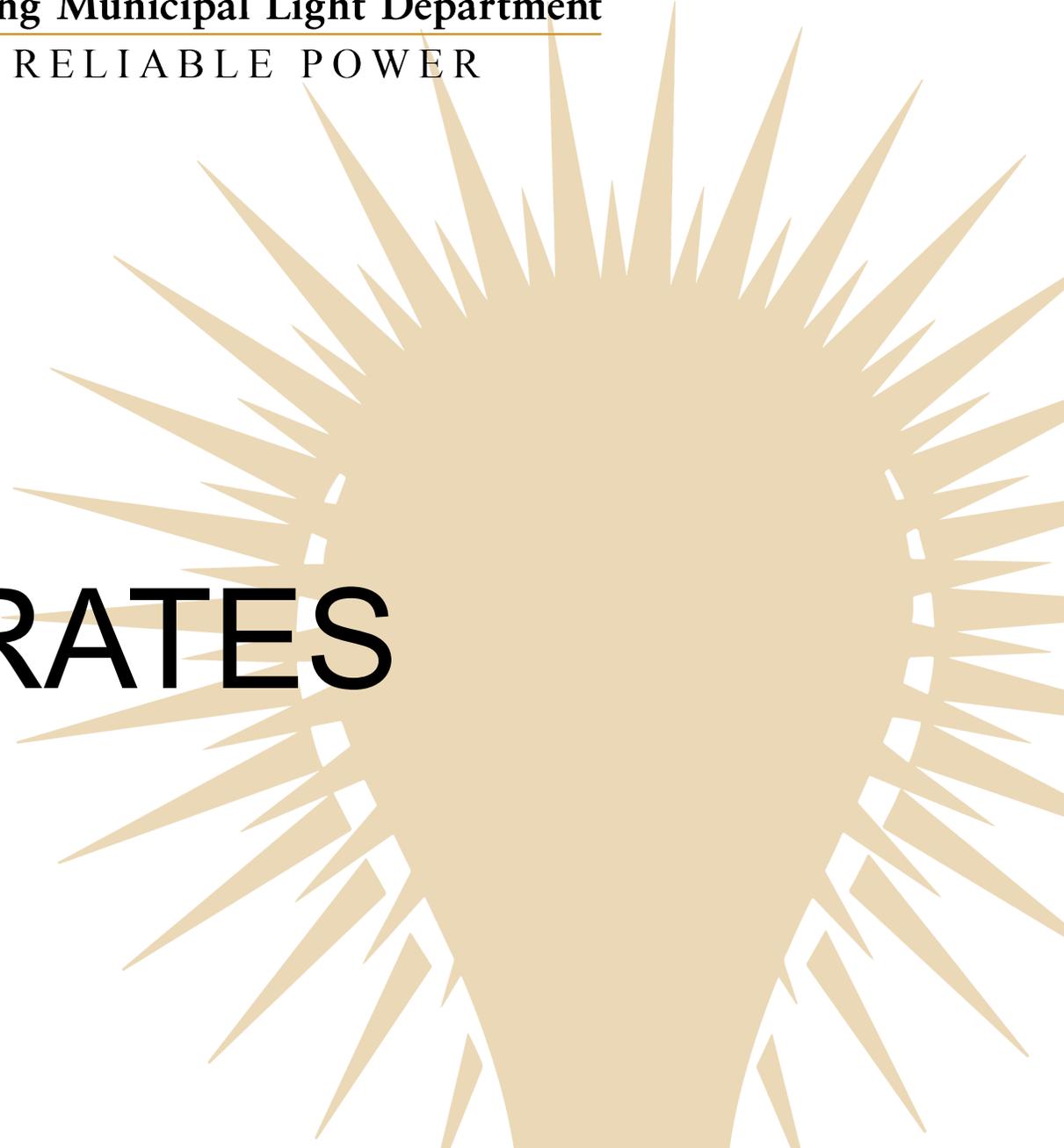


Reading Municipal Light Department  
RELIABLE POWER

# TIME-OF-USE RATES

MEAM-CES Conference - December 8, 2021

Joyce Mulvaney



# RMLD TOU RATES

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- Implemented in 1993
- Offers time-based pricing to coincide with on-peak and off-peak periods
- Intended to reduce peak demand through pricing triggers
- Provides a rate that allows customers to save money on their electric bill by changing their behavior

# CURRENT TOU RATES

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## **Residential** TOU Schedule A2 Rate

**Industrial** TOU Schedule I Rate – available to all non-residential customers but targeted toward large industrial accounts

### Two Pricing Tiers:

- On-peak: M-F 12pm-7pm excluding holidays
- Off-peak: all other hours

### Requirements:

- Customer must stay on rate for a minimum of one year
- TOU meter must be installed (no cost to customer)

# RESIDENTIAL: STANDARD RATE VS TOU

## November 2021 Rate Examples

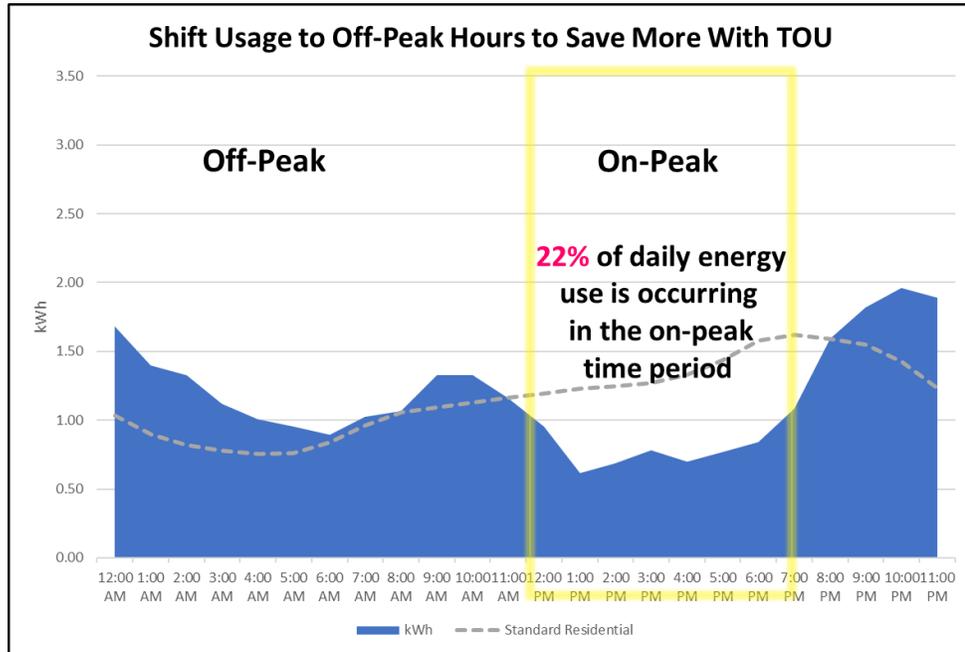
	Standard Residential Rate	Residential TOU Rate	
Customer Charge per month	\$5.12	\$8.00	
Distribution Energy Charge per kWh	\$0.06711	\$0.04022	
Energy Conservation Charge per kWh	\$0.00100	\$0.00100	
NYPA per kWh (November 2021)	-\$0.00292	-\$0.00292	
Fuel per kWh (November 2021)	\$0.04600	On-Peak	Off-Peak
		\$0.09535	\$0.03187
PPCT per kWh (November 2021)	\$0.03804	\$0.03804	
<b>Total Cost per kWh (average usage)</b>	<b>\$0.16</b>	<b>\$0.13</b>	

Current # of Residential Customers on TOU: **556** (27,139 standard residential customers)

Source: RMLD Service Requirements Handbook Appendix C: Rates, and Current Monthly Rate Adjustments

# SHIFTING USAGE SAVES MONEY

Shifting from 38% on-peak to 22% on-peak results in a 19% savings.



	Residential Rate	Time-of-Use Rate
	Nov 2021 \$/kWh Rate	Nov 2021 \$/kWh Rate
Daily Electricity Cost:	\$3.11	\$2.39
Monthly Bill b/f Customer Charge:	\$95.00	\$72.75
Customer Charge:	\$5.12	\$8.00
Monthly Bill:	\$100.12	\$80.75
<b>Savings:</b>		<b>\$19.37</b>

# COMMERCIAL: STANDARD RATE VS TOU

## November 2021 Rate Examples

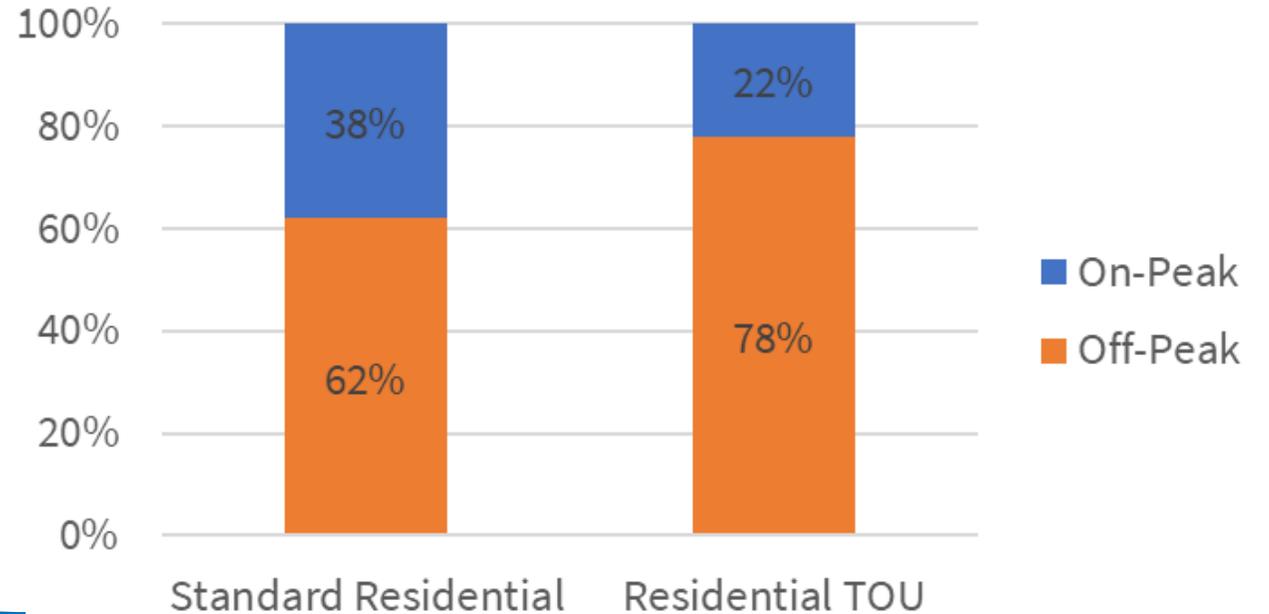
	Standard Commercial Rate	Industrial TOU Rate	
Customer Charge per month	\$7.77	\$39.18	
Distribution Energy Charge per kWh	\$0.01725	N/A	
Distribution Demand Charge per kW	\$8.13	\$9.79	
Energy Conservation Charge per kWh	\$0.00100	\$0.00100	
Fuel per kWh (November 2021)	\$0.04600	On-Peak \$0.09535	Off-Peak \$0.03187
PPCT per kWh (November 2021)	\$0.03804 per kWh	N/A	
PPCT Demand per kW (November 2021)	N/A	\$8.00	
PPCT Energy per kWh (November 2021)	N/A	\$0.03109	
<b>Total Cost per kWh (average usage)</b>	<b>\$0.13</b>	<b>\$0.11</b>	

**89 Industrial TOU Customers** represent 30% of total kWh sales, and 53% of C&I kWh sales (3,686 standard commercial customers)

*Source: RMLD Service Requirements Handbook Appendix C: Rates, and Current Monthly Rate Adjustments*

# MEASURING IMPACT/SUCCESS

- Residential customers are shifting load!
- TOU rate for larger C&I customers successfully minimizes loads during peak hours.



# TOU AND ELECTRIFICATION

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- In light of increasing electrification, reducing peak demand is even more important:
  - Electricity use expected to increase by over 1% annually in New England from 2021-2030
  - Summer peak demand expected to grow by 0.71% annually (driven strongly by electric vehicles)
    - EVs expected to make up ~7% of all light-duty vehicles by 2030, ~10% by 2032
    - 80% of EV owners charge their vehicles at home
  - Winter peak demand expected to grow by 1.34% annually (driven strongly by new heat pumps)
    - 23% of homes in MA expected to have full or partial heat pumps by 2030
- TOU rates are an effective mechanism to reduce peak demand

*Source: ISD-NE CELT Report: 2021-2030 Forecast Report of Capacity, Energy, Loads, and Transmission, Published 5-3-2021*

# NEW EV-FOCUSED TOU RATE

- To be implemented in 2022: **Residential** TOU Schedule A3 Rate
- Targeted towards Electric Vehicle owners but open to any residential customer
- Three pricing tiers (rates TBD):
  - On-peak: M-F 2pm-10pm excluding holidays
  - Shoulder: M-F 6am-2pm excluding holidays
  - Off-peak: M-F 10pm-6am, weekends, holidays

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
Monday																									
Tuesday																									
Wednesday																									
Thursday																									
Friday																									
Saturday																									
Sunday																									

Off-Peak

Shoulder

On-Peak

# RATE DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS

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- Should the rate be for the whole home or should an additional meter be installed for the EV Charger?
- What is the billing infrastructure/software capable of?
- Minimize risk for customers while incentivizing behavior change?
- ???



# Time of Use Rates & Electrification

Michael Vigeant  
GreatBlue Research, CEO

Joyce Mulvaney  
RMLD, Communications Manager

MEAM Conference 2021 | December 8, 2021



# Agenda

- Intros
- Topics/Agenda
- Q & A

# Your Presenters



Michael Vigeant

- 2 plus decades of market research experience
- MEAM partner since 1998
- Body double in TV show "Two and a Half Men"



Joyce Mulvaney

- Eight years of utility communications experience
- ~ 5 years experience in electricity
- No known celebrity look-a-likes

# 4 Key Questions

- What are we trying to solve?
- Perceptions?
- Cost?
- Environment?

# Utility Data More Important Than Ever!

## Time of Use & Electrification

- What are customers current knowledge of TOU programs & electrification strategies?
- What are customers thoughts on the reduction of natural gas?
- What are the drivers & barriers for electrification?
- Perceptions of the path to Net Zero emissions?
- Understanding the impact of Electric Vehicles & charging stations

# Electrification: What does it mean?

## (Internally & Externally)

For the industry folks, it's more obvious.

For the general public :: Replacing technologies that use fossil fuels, like natural gas, with electricity as a source of energy.

What needs to change & what does the path look like?

- Heating & cooling
- Cooking
- Transportation
- EV infrastructure



# Potential Headlines and/or Opportunities

- While carbon dioxide emission is not that high, burning natural gas also releases methane, which is a strong greenhouse gas that leaks to the atmosphere in a big amount. Burning natural gas also emits carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides (NOx), and sulfur dioxide (SO2)
- Combustion of natural gas emits about half as much carbon dioxide as coal and 30 percent less than oil, as well as far fewer pollutants, per unit of energy delivered
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shows that as of 2019, electricity accounted for 25% of GHG emissions
  - The transportation sector accounted for the highest GHG emissions at 29%
  - The commercial & residential sector accounted for 13% of emissions
- Deregulation to remove electric monopoly. Are we heading back there?
- Cost control measures in place?

# Residential & Commercial Sectors

- Residential & Commercial buildings contribute to about 13% of all US greenhouse gas emissions
  - **Space Heating** - converting furnaces and boilers that run on natural gas to ground or air source heat pumps
  - **Water Heating** - replacing gas powered heaters with heat pump water heaters
  - **Cooking** - replacing gas ovens with propane, electric ranges & induction cook tops
- These conversions can be costly when:
  - Replacing existing technologies in older buildings/homes
  - Geographic areas such as the Northeast reach colder temperatures making conversions less economically feasible



# Electric Vehicles- What to prepare for

- The transportation sector accounts for 29% of US greenhouse gas emissions
- A net zero emissions economy by 2050 would mean 300 million EV's on the road - we're currently at about 2 million today
- EV charging infrastructures - understanding the demand & planning for it

## Benefits of Electric Vehicles

- EV's produce fewer CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Improve air quality
- More fuel efficient relative to gasoline & diesel
- Provide benefits to the electric grid by charging when electricity is abundant & demand is low
- Government tax credits

## Opportunities

- Time-of-Use rate structures
- Financial incentives to switch to EV's
- Development of charging infrastructures
- Electrifying fleets
- Providing other incentives
- Energy storage at charging stations



# One Size DOES NOT Fit All (Yet)!

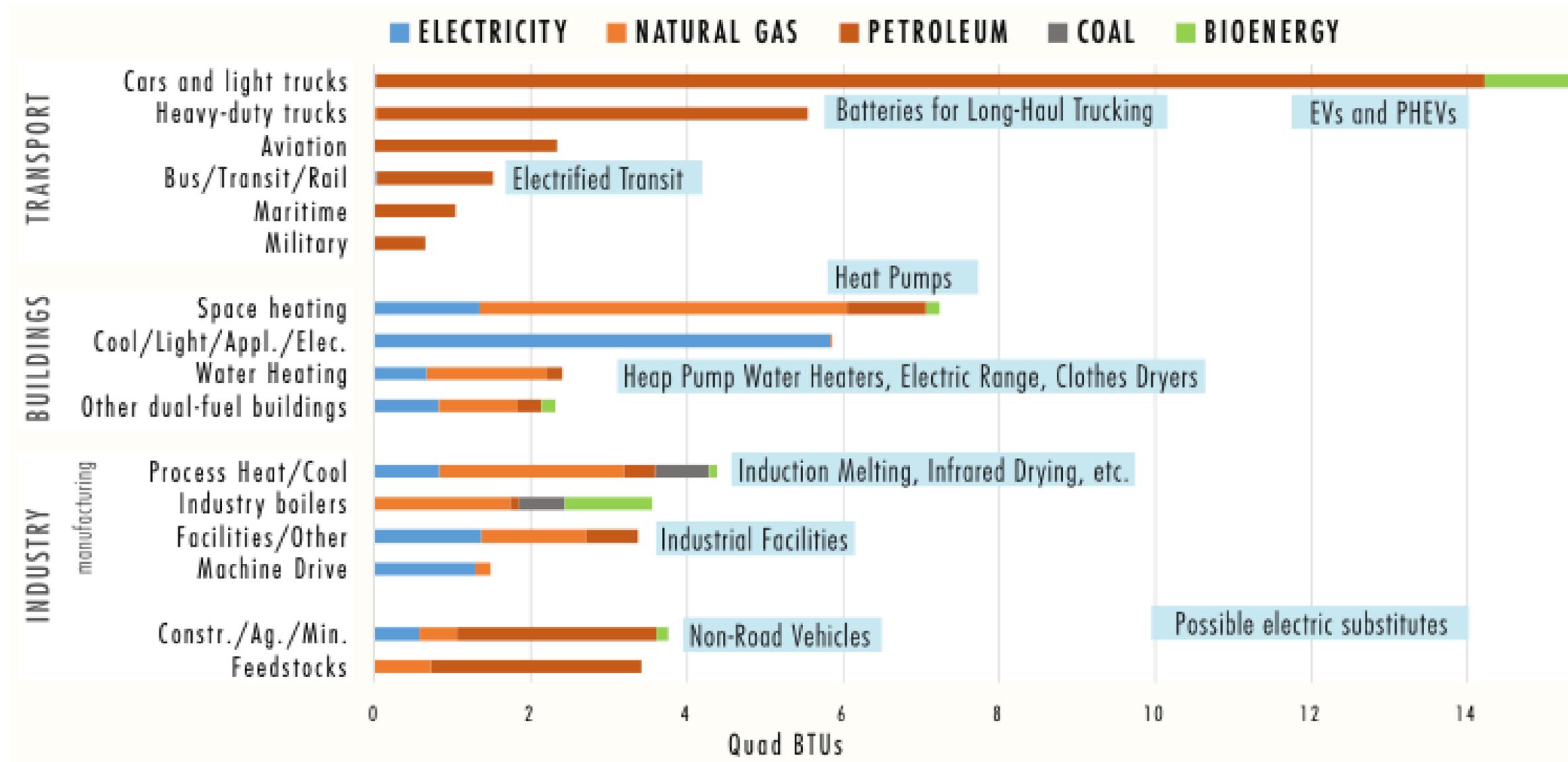


Figure 1-1. 2015 U.S. final energy by fuel and application. Possible electric substitutes in blue.

# What's the plan?

## 5 Steps to preparing for a carbon-neutral future:

1. **Energy Storage** - Investments & adoption in battery storage
2. **Automation & Communication** - Investments in these systems improve the reliability and efficiency of electric networks
3. **Digital Operations** - Increase operations to enable a fully digitalized utility work (i.e. using VR to be virtually “on-site” with customers)
4. **Next Gen Video Analytics** - Video & drone infrastructures to better track & manage assets and keep up with the increase in electricity use expected over the coming years
5. **Real Time Grid Analytics** - Software that uses artificial intelligence to predict what is happening on the grid, in real time

# What are Utilities doing right now to prepare for Electrification

## Transportation Electrification - EV Programs

Not just supplying the electricity but also:

- Improving customer programs - rebates, incentives
- Improve service offerings - offering tiered rate options
- Improving communications - assess awareness of programs & services



## Solar

### Smart meters

### Connected Home Devices

### Helping customers



# Long-Term Strategies for Electrification

- **Community partnership can help accelerate energy transition**

- Inclusion of all customer segments, including underserved communities
- Credits for customers who enroll in energy saving programs
- Incentives to home builders to construct electric homes
- Community programs that assist low-to-moderate incomes participate

- **Utilizing AMI's for predictive analysis of future savings opportunities**

- **Changes to grids**

- Costs associated to those changes
- Updates to control centers & transmission lines will help manage more complex future grids

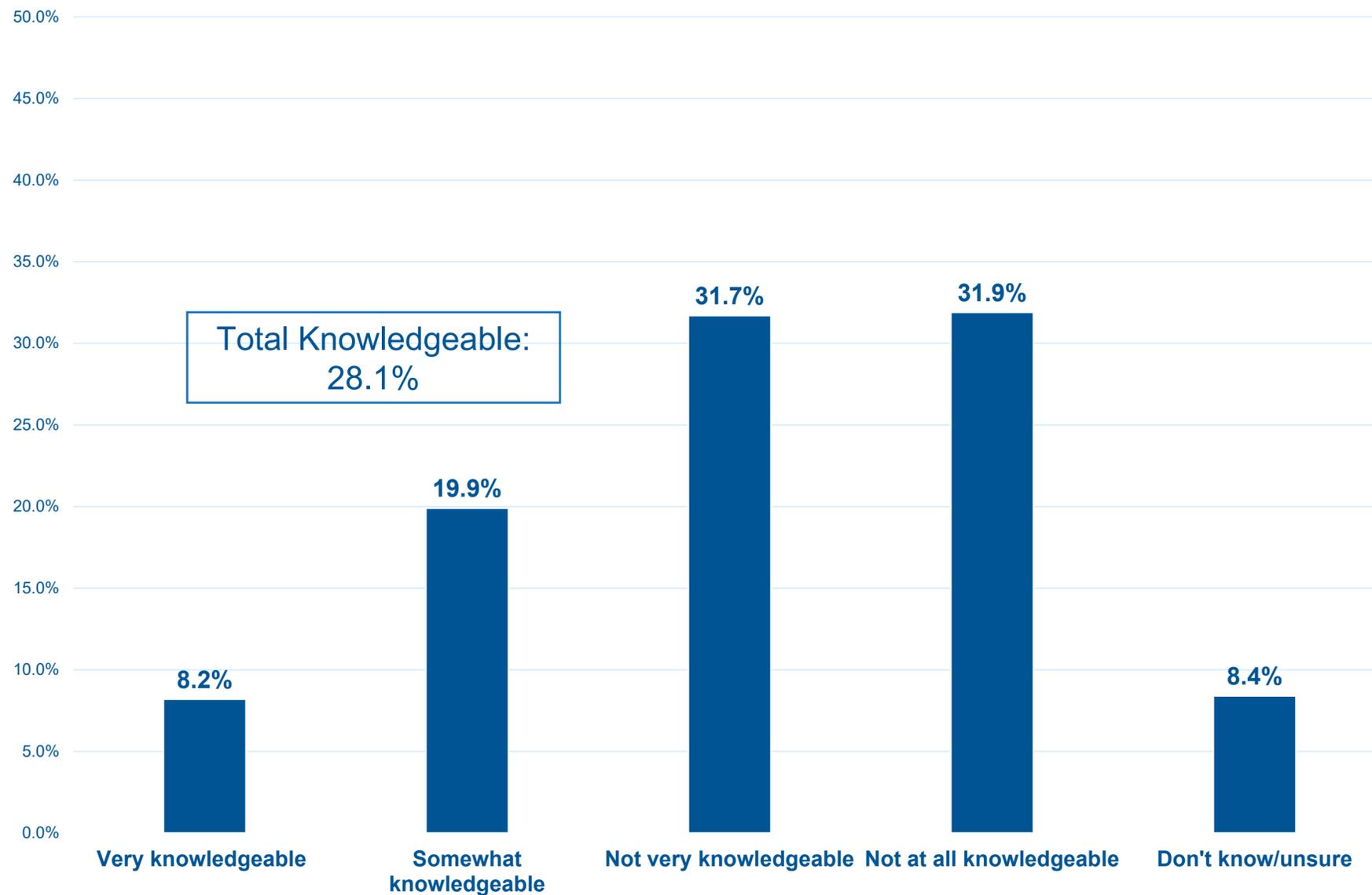
- **Time-of-use rates**

- Helps reduce customer bill
- Decreases wholesale expenditures
- Decreases carbon emissions
- TOU to manage EV charging

METRICS	BENEFIT		
	CUSTOMER	UTILITY	SOCIETY
<b>ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY</b> -it costs less	✓	✓	✓
<b>ENERGY EFFICIENCY</b> -uses fewer BTUs overall	✓	✓	✓
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b> -CO <sub>2</sub> savings -emission reductions, water savings	✓	✓	✓
<b>GRID FLEXIBILITY</b>	✓	✓	✓
<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b> -jobs creation and retention -development of community assets	✓	✓	✓
<b>PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS</b> -plant output increase -reduction in energy intensity -improved product quality	✓		✓
<b>WORKER SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS</b> -reduced lost time and accidents	✓		✓

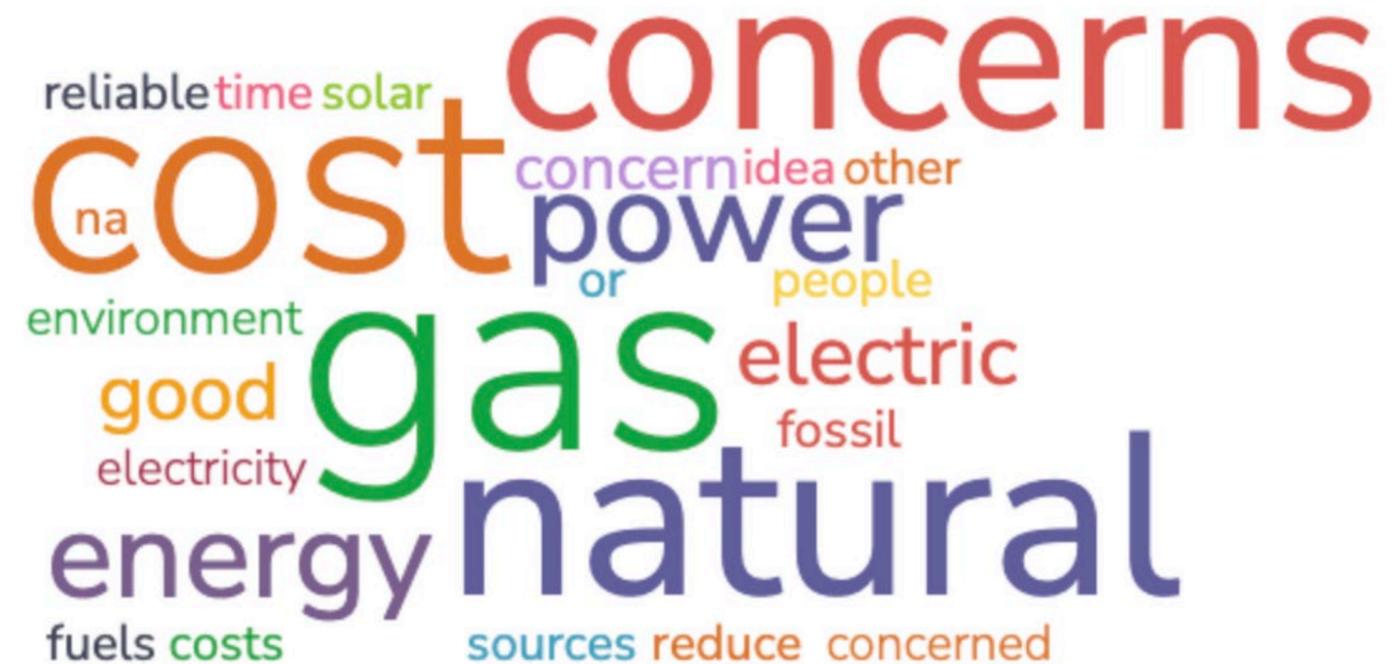
Figure 1-2. Efficient Electrification Potential Benefits. Metrics in blue are explicitly modeled in the USNEA. Other potential benefits have been explored in prior EPRI research or case studies.

# National Public Power Data — Electrification



Q. How knowledgeable would you say you are of the concept of “strategic electrification”?

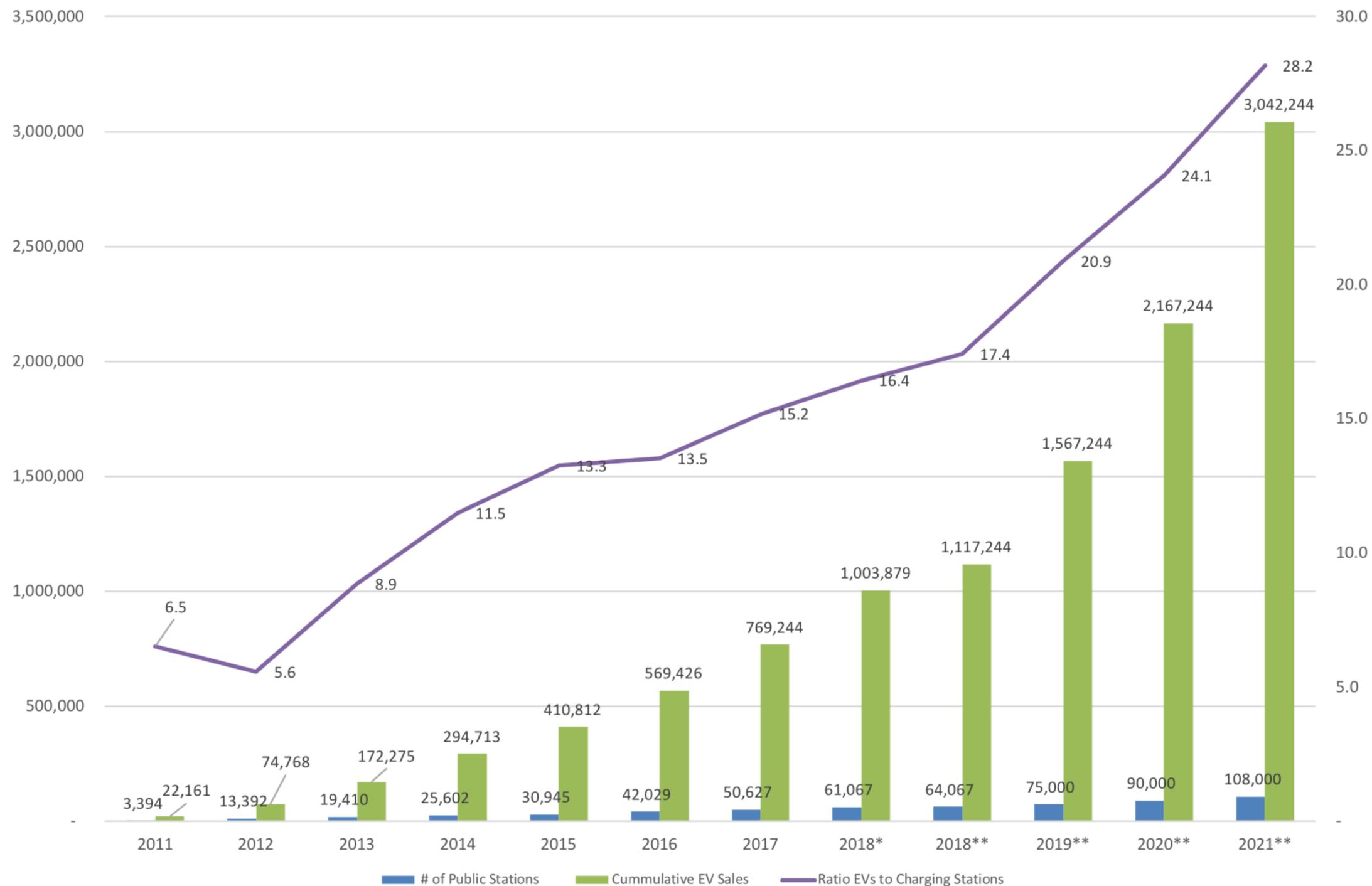
Q. Currently, there is an initiative going on called "strategic electrification." Strategic Electrification is the movement to reduce the consumption of natural gas and replace fossil-fuel burning technologies with electricity-based alternatives to increase energy efficiency. What are your top concerns, if any, of our country reducing its reliance on natural gas in its power supply?



\*Data collected from the Public Power Data Source survey fielded from November – December 2021. N=3,000 public power customers nationwide.

# Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

US: Number of Cumulative EV Sales vs. Cumulative EV Charging Stations + Ratio EVs to Charging Stations | Data: AFDC, InsideEVs | Chart: EVAdoption.com  
 \*Through Sept 2018 | \*\* EVAdoption Forecast



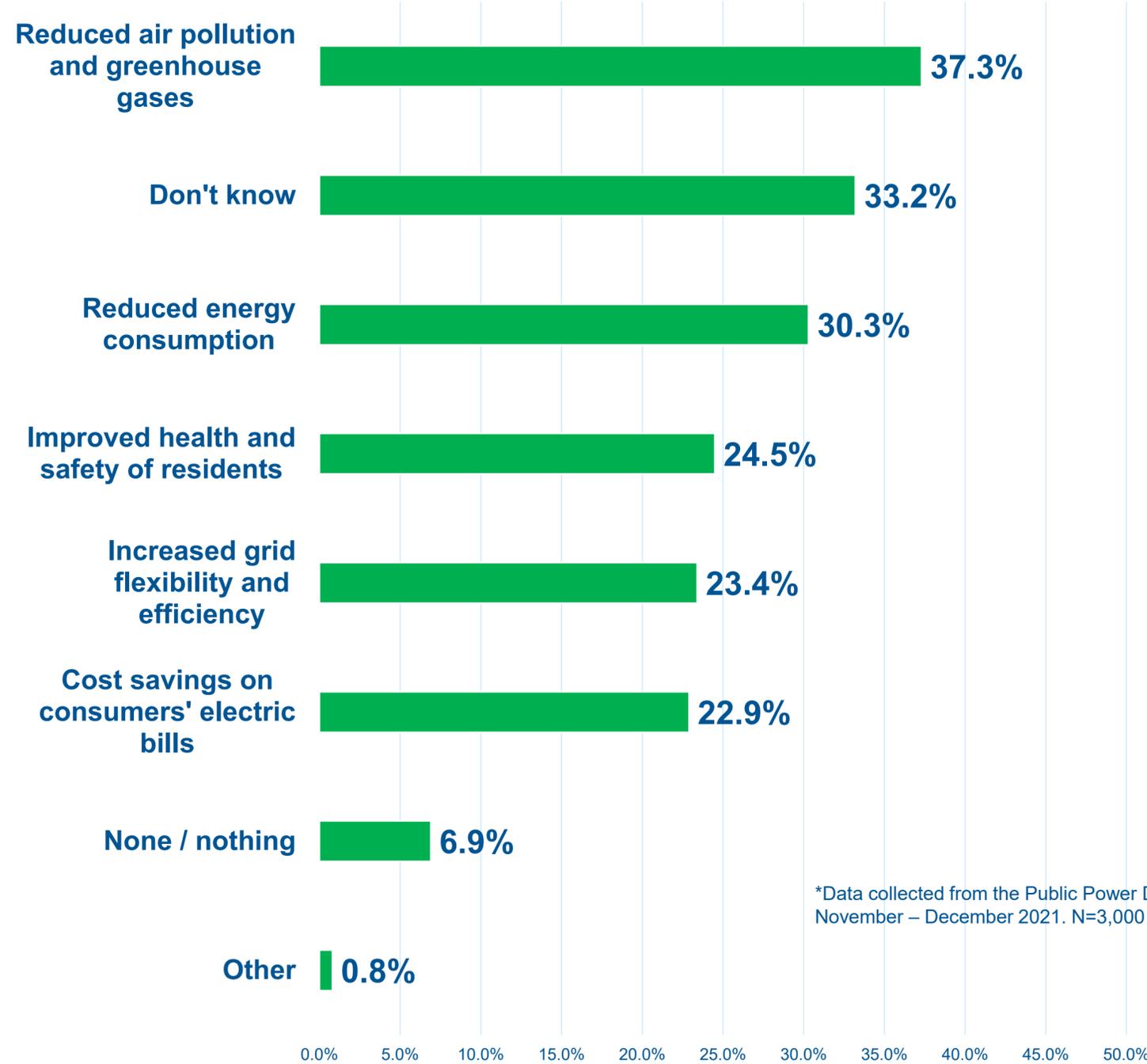
The EV charging station market is projected to grow 17% by 2022

The increase in charging stations is currently not paced to keep up with the increase of EV purchases.

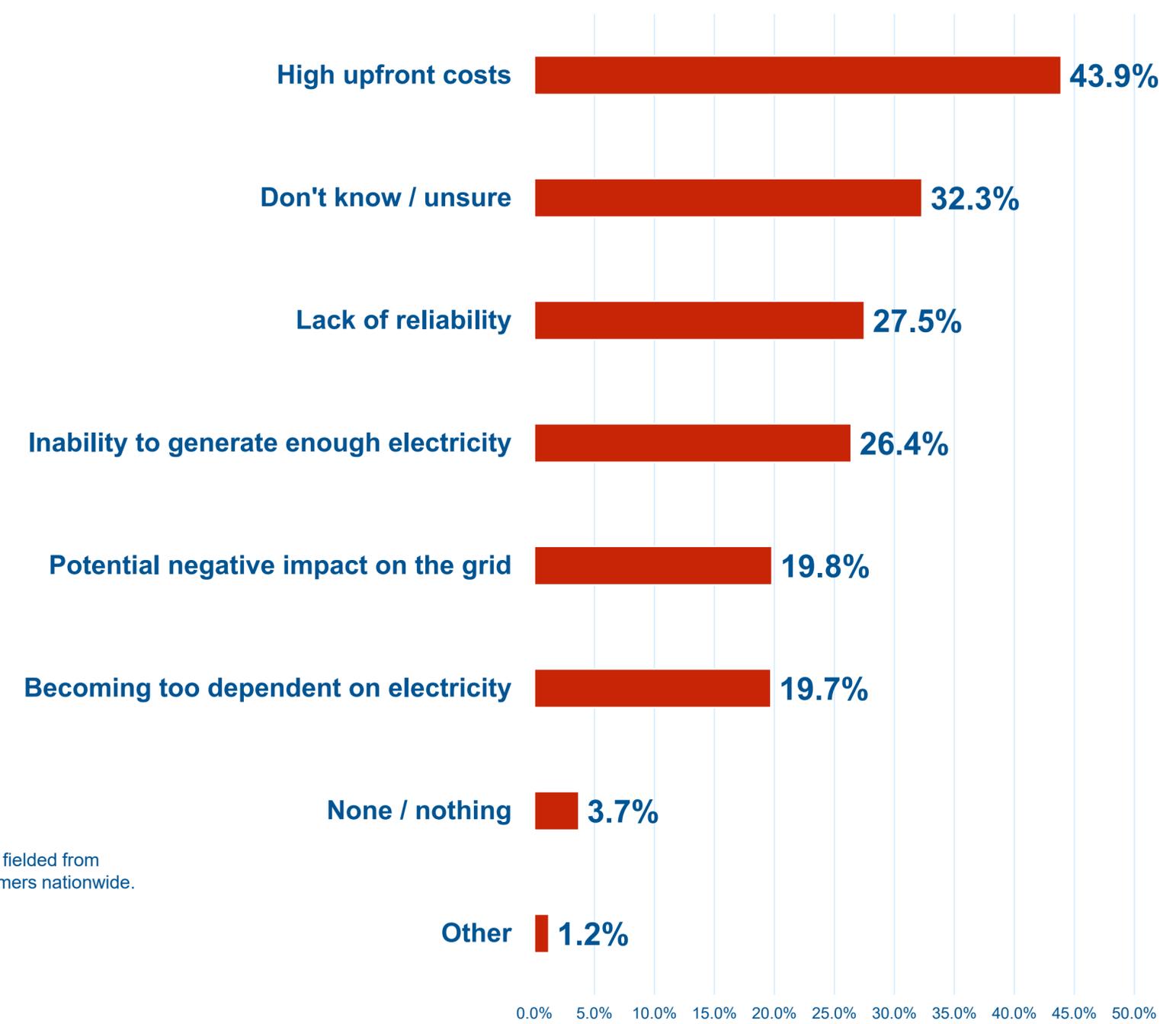
Municipalities have an opportunity to help meet the demand with the implementation of more charging stations

# National Public Power Data — Electrification

Q. In your opinion, what are the benefits of “strategic electrification”? (Select all that apply)



Q. What do you believe to be the drawbacks of “strategic electrification”? (Select all that apply)



\*Data collected from the Public Power Data Source survey fielded from November – December 2021. N=3,000 public power customers nationwide.

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