

2012



Weatherization Assistance Program

Evaluation of Austin Energy's ARRA-Supported
Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

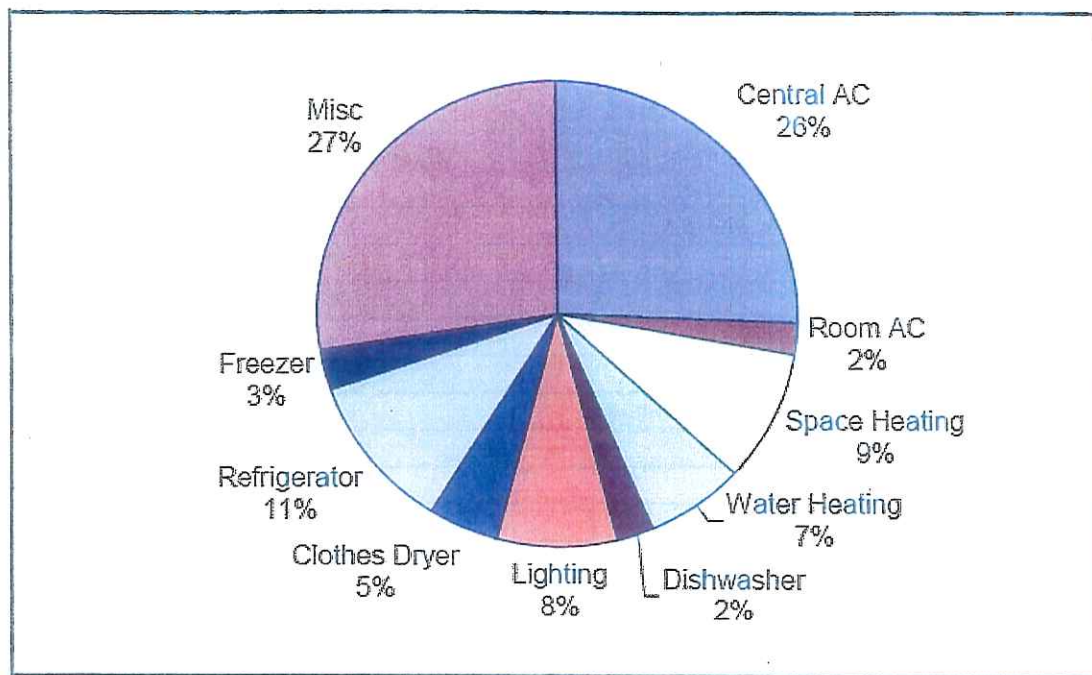
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Figure 4: Texas Energy End-Use Distribution



To better understand housing characteristics, Itron looked at the measures implemented or existing in Texas homes.

7 Findings and Recommendations

The following sections contain GDS findings and recommendation based upon the impact and process evaluations conducted on Austin Energy's ARRA funded WAP Program.

7.1 Impact Evaluation

The cost-effectiveness of the measures was evaluated as retrofit measures in the prototype homes. Full cost of the installations is used for evaluating the savings from the base homes.⁴¹

The top five measures currently installed as part of Austin Energy's WAP Program that generate the most energy savings according to percent annual MMBtu reductions are (ranked from greatest to lowest savings):

- 1) Install Low Flow Showerheads
- 2) Air Infiltration Reduction
- 3) Upgrade Attic Insulation to R38
- 4) Replace Furnace
- 5) Replace Incandescent with CFLs

The top five measures currently installed as part of Austin Energy's WAP Program that generate the most energy savings according to annual kWh reductions are:

- 1) Incandescent CFLs
- 2) Replace Central AC – 14.5 SEER
- 3) ENERGY STAR® Window Replacement⁴²
- 4) ENERGY STAR® Refrigerator Replacement
- 5) Programmable Thermostat

The top five packages currently installed as part of Austin Energy's WAP Program that generate the most savings according to percent annual MMBtu reductions are:

- 1) Replace Central AC – 14.5 SEER, Upgrade Attic Insulation to R29, Repair Ducts, Add Solar Screens, Install Programmable Thermostat, Replace Furnace
- 2) Air and Duct Sealing, Upgrade Attic Insulation to R38, Add Solar Screens
- 3) Air and Duct Sealing, Upgrade Attic Insulation to R38, Install Programmable Thermostat, Replace Domestic Hot Water Heater
- 4) Replace Central AC – 14.5 SEER, Upgrade Attic Insulation to R29, Repair Ducts, Install Programmable Thermostat, Replace Furnace

⁴¹ The evaluation of market opportunity measures would be based on incremental cost and would need to be compared against a baseline home built to current code to evaluate the measure savings.

⁴² Note ENERGY STAR® Window Replacements were not part of Austin Energy's standard WAP program; however, it was analyzed based on the fact that broken windows were replaced as part of the program and to demonstrate the future potential savings as a standard program offering.