ENERGY POVERTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

District of Saanich

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The **Key Takeaways** for energy poverty in the District of Saanch are as follows:

#1 In the District of Saanich, both **age of dwelling and structure type** are drivers of energy poverty.

#2 In the District of Saanich, households with a **range of incomes** experience energy poverty.

#3 In the District of Saanich, households in **core housing need** experience energy poverty.

#4 In the District of Saanich, **both renters and owners** experience energy poverty.

#5 In the District of Saanich, traditionally underserved household - **including Indigenous, lone-parent, and recent immigrant households** experience energy poverty.

#6 In the District of Saanich, **both urban and rural** households experience energy poverty.

#7 In the District of Saanich, households **with fuel (and electric) and electric only households**, experience energy poverty.

The **Recommended energy goals** for energy poverty in the District of Saanch are as follows:

#1 **Reduce overall energy poverty**

#2 **Reduce inequalities between demographic groups**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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This project was conducted under the mentorship of Glenys Verhulst at the District of Saanich and Allison Ashcroft from the Canadian Urban Sustainability Practitioners (CUSP) network. This project was funded through BC Hydro. The opinions in this report and any errors are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the District of Saanich, CUSP, or the University of British Columbia.

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Saanich

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INTRODUCTION

What is Energy Poverty?

Currently, there is no formal and official definition for energy poverty in Canada. However, it is most commonly characterized in terms of high home energy cost burdens, and using concepts such as affordability. Most households in Canada spend less than 3% of their after-tax income on their energy needs. Households that spend more than twice this value (i.e. more than 6% of their income) on securing access are thought to experience disproportionately high home energy cost burdens (Rezaei, 2017). For purposes of policy discussion and painting an overall picture of energy poverty we use this value as our affordability threshold.

Defining High Energy Cost Burden

$$\text{Energy Cost Burden [\%]} = \frac{\text{Energy Expenditures [\$]}}{\text{After-Tax Income [\$]}}$$

= 3% for households with **median** national home energy cost burdens

= **6% or 2x median**, are defined as households with high home energy cost burdens*

*quantitative proxy for 'Energy Poverty'

Defining Energy Poverty

<u>Qualitative:</u>

The experience of households and communities that **struggle with meeting their home energy needs.** Home energy needs typically include electricity and home heating fuels.

<u>Quantitative:</u>

Households that spend **more than 6% of their after-tax household income** on home energy services (or roughly twice the national median) have high home energy cost burdens, and are said to be experiencing home energy poverty.

What is Equity and Climate Equity?

The terms equality and equity are often used interchangeably; however, they differ in important ways. Equality is typically defined as treating everyone the same and giving everyone access to the same opportunities. Meanwhile, equity refers to proportional representation (by race, class, gender, etc.) in those same opportunities.

As Saanich moves towards 100% renewable energy in our community, there are opportunities to achieve co-benefits such as improved energy bill affordability, and improved access to home energy retrofit programs. Climate action plans, policies and programs for home energy and GHG emissions may have different impacts on equity and energy poverty depending on their design, either alleviating or worsening inequities and energy poverty. Measuring energy poverty in our community is a step in better understanding the equity implications of residential climate programs and policies.

Defining Climate Equity

Climate equity means working towards the **just distribution of the benefits** of climate actions (mitigation and adaptation) and **alleviating unequal burdens** created or worsened by climate change *(2020 Saanich Climate Plan).*

The Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN) defines four aspects of equity:

Procedural

Inclusive, accessible, authentic engagement and representation in the process to develop or implement programs or policies.

Distributional (Access)

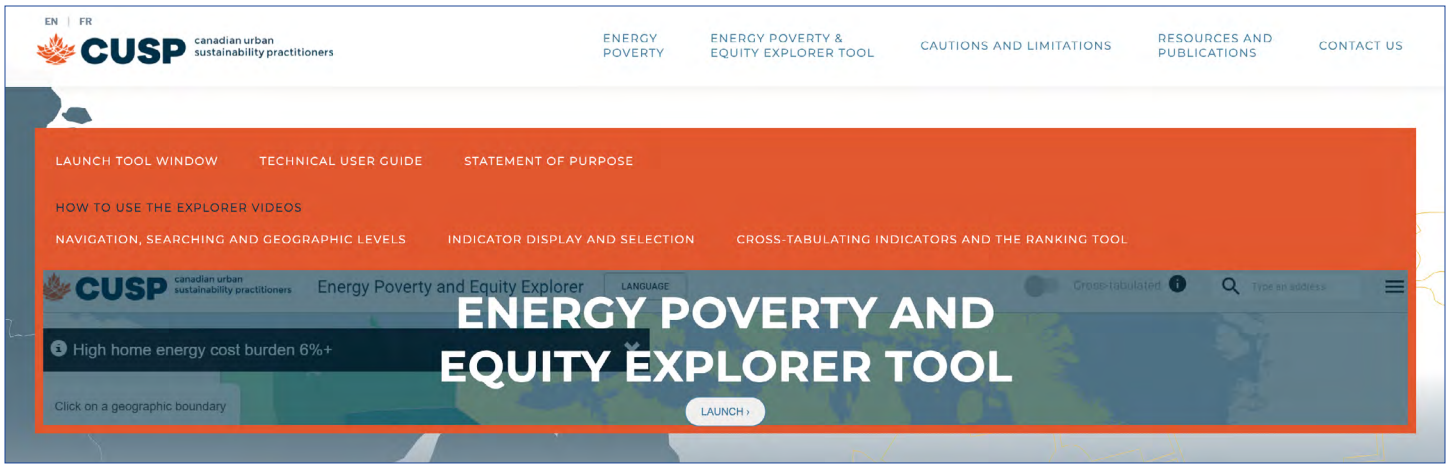
Programs and policies result in fair distributions of benefits and burdens across all segments of a community, prioritizing those with highest need.

Structural

Decision-makers institutionalize accountability; decisions are made with a recognition of the historical, cultural, and institutional dynamics and structures that have routinely advantaged privileged groups in society and resulted in cumulative disadvantage for subordinated groups.

Transgenerational

Decisions consider generational impacts and do not result in unfair burdens on future generations.



Methodology

CUSP's Energy Poverty and Equity Explorer Tool

The equity and energy poverty mapping tool offers cities and their partners access to relevant data so they can better understand energy poverty, and design affordable clean energy policies and programs aimed at households with high energy cost burdens.

The tool helps shift practices by shedding light on:

1. How and what community data is analyzed and applied to climate action planning, policies and programming
2. How and who is engaged in the community for co-design and implementation of clean energy programs
3. How programs are designed, structured, resourced, and evaluated with a priority to achieve social and economic outcomes while pursuing deep emissions reductions

Click here: Read the full Statement of Purpose (www.energypoverty.ca)

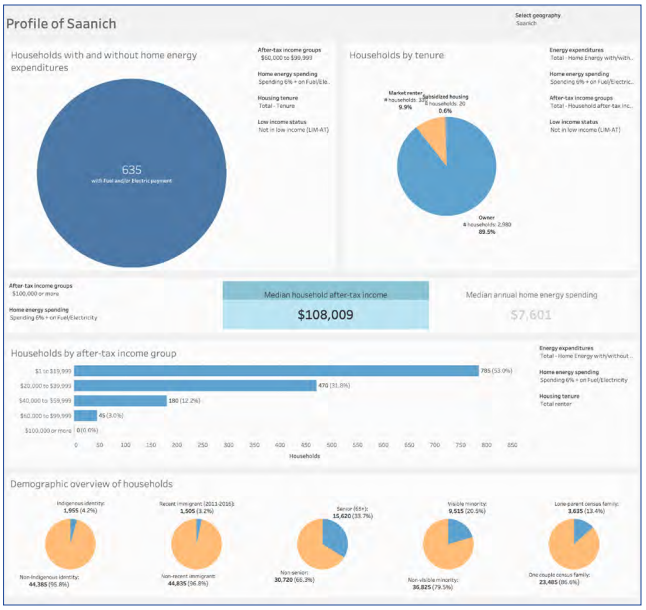
Click here: Technical User Guide (www.energypoverty.ca)

CUSP's Energy Poverty Tableau Dashboards

As part of this project, CUSP developed a series of Tableau dashboards that offered an unprecedented look into the Census Canada data related to Energy Poverty. The three dashboards are:

1. **Dashboard 1** - offers a look at energy expenditures, after-tax income, and demographic information for various geographical levels
2. **Dashboard 2** - offers a more in depth look at low income, demographics information and a housing profile related housing characteristics (age of dwelling, etc.) and household characteristics (number of people living in a household)
3. **Dashboard 3** - offers a spacial analysis to the data that allows for in-depth analysis on a census tract level.

These dashboards were key to the analysis used in this project.



Limitations

Data

Small and Indigenous Communities

To protect the privacy of residents, the Census of Canada excludes information for very small rural communities. The Census also does not collect data from some Indigenous communities. As a result, the tool does not reveal information for these communities. This is important to note because many of these communities, particularly northern communities that are not connected to the electricity grid or natural gas network, tend to experience some of the nation's highest home energy cost burdens.

Renter Versus Owner

Exploring the data in the mapping tool might suggest, in most geographies, that renters are less likely to experience high energy cost burdens than homeowners. This is true for renters as a group. However, renters include two distinct groups: those whose rent includes at least part of their utility costs and those are who are responsible for all their own utility costs. Analysis of the data in the custom tables acquired for this project suggests that while renters as a group are less likely than homeowners to experience high home energy cost burdens, renters whose rent does not include any portion of their utility bills are more likely to have high home energy cost burdens.

Unexpected and Counterintuitive Results

The Energy Poverty and Equity Explorer may return unexpected, even counterintuitive results. For example, the tool highlights high home energy cost burdens in largely affluent communities, such as the District of West Vancouver. This may be the result of individuals who report low incomes, such as seniors living on fixed incomes and in very large detached homes. We recommend practitioners access local knowledge to interpret such results.

Data Sourcing Diversity

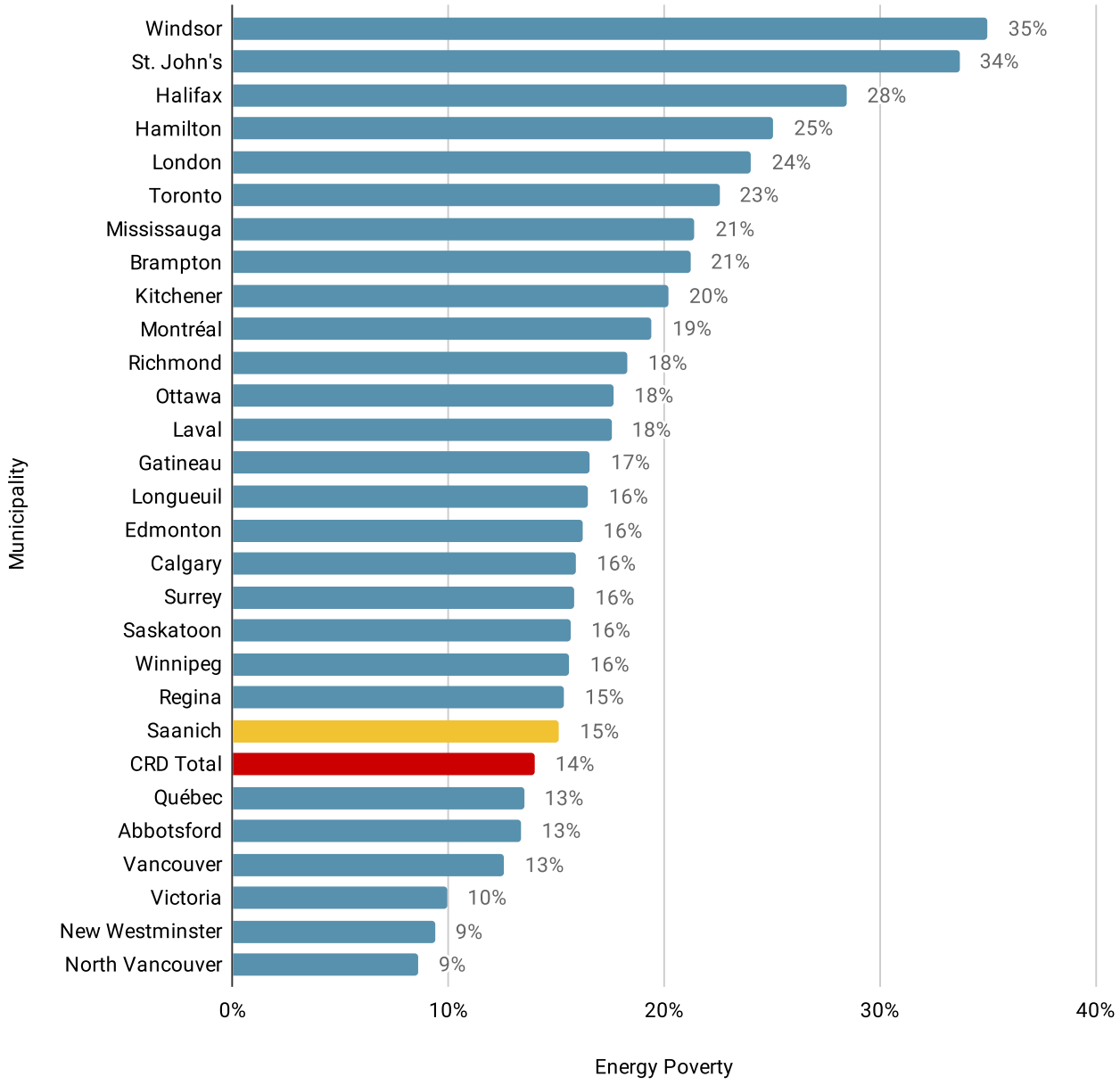
CUSP produced the Energy Poverty and Equity Explorer tool to create visibility and generate conversations around energy poverty and inform clean energy program design and other climate action and equity strategies. We do not recommend using the tool in isolation or as a replacement for local conversations. We believe conversations with citizens and communities will reveal the best insights and the most strategies; the tool can help establish greater understanding and make these local conversations more productive and insightful.

ENERGY POVERTY BENCHMARKING

Saanich Versus the Rest of Canada

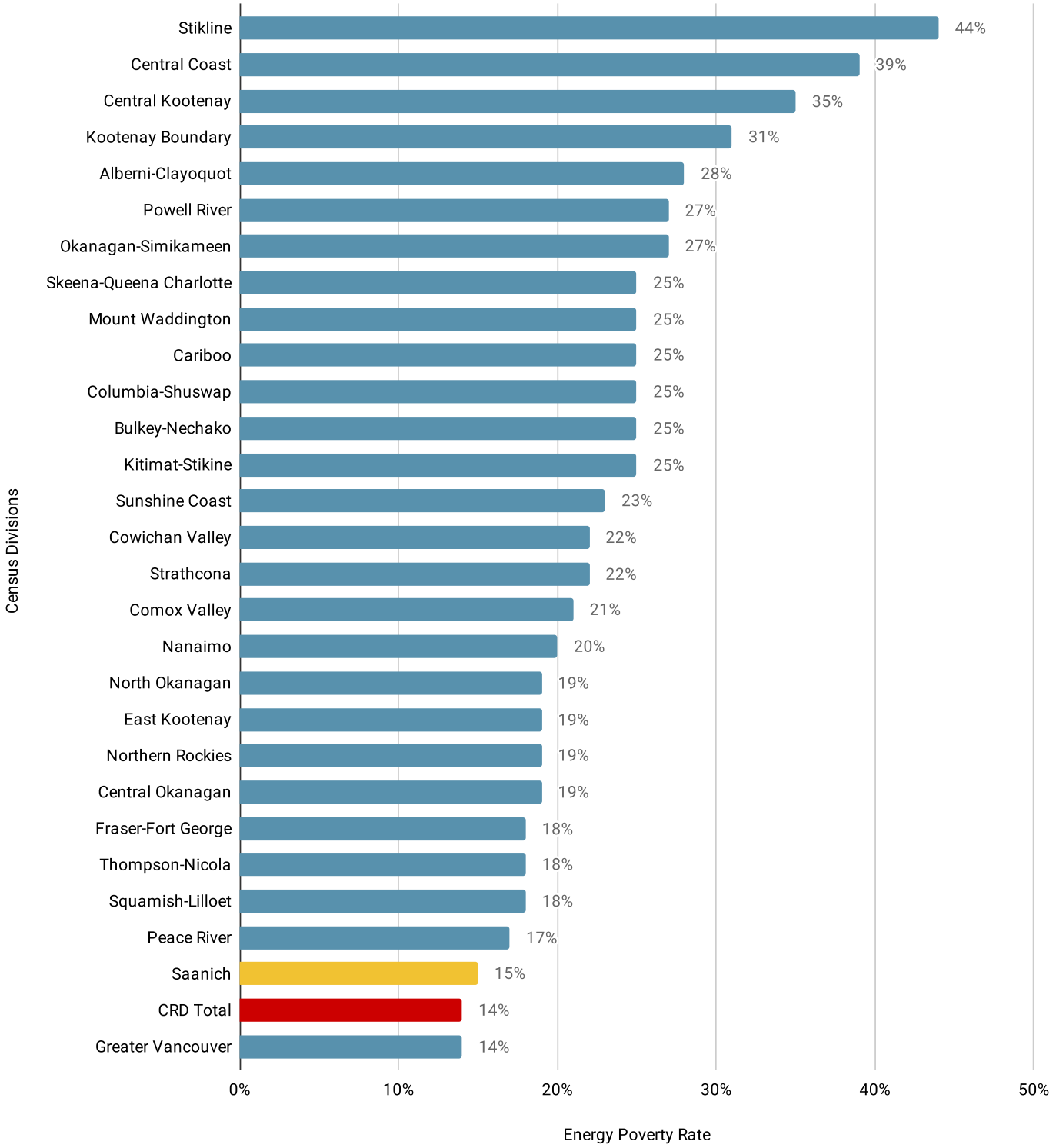
(CUSP and BCMC members)

In Canada, energy poverty is more prevalent in Eastern and Central Canada than Western Canada. This finding is consistent with CUSP's Energy Poverty Backgrounder. While Saanich's rate of Energy poverty is comparatively low to many of the other CUSP and Big City Mayors' Caucus (BCMC) member cities, it is important to note that a 15 per cent rate of energy poverty is more than neighbouring municipalities and areas.



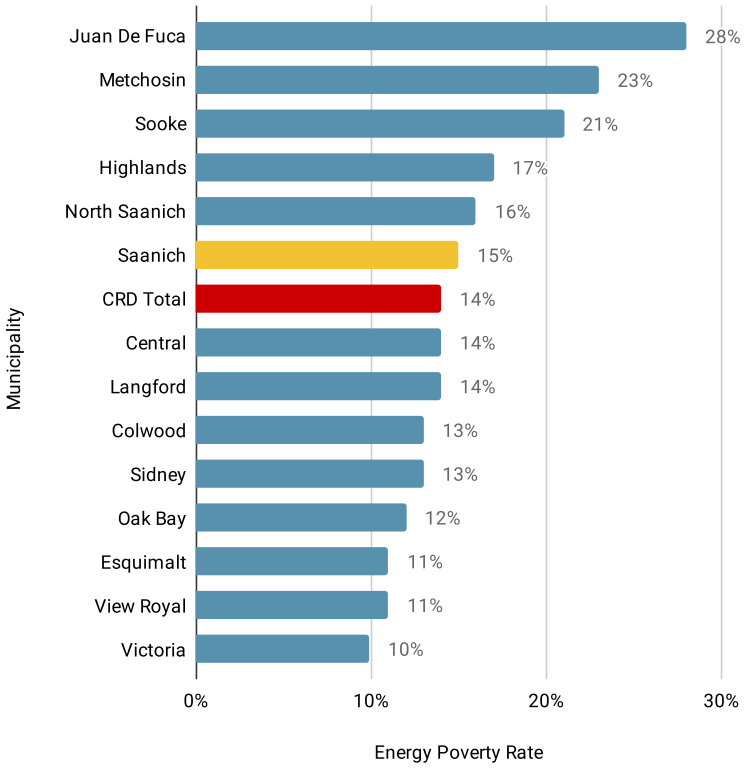
Saanich Versus BC

In BC, many communities that experience Energy Poverty are outside urban centers. In the northern and central parts of the province, areas can experience energy poverty rates between 17 and 44 per cent. The greatest rate was in the Stikline census division in the northwest part of the province. Meanwhile, within Saanich, and the CRD energy poverty rates are around 15 per cent. Additionally, it is important to note that some Indigenous and very small communities are excluded from this dataset for privacy concerns.



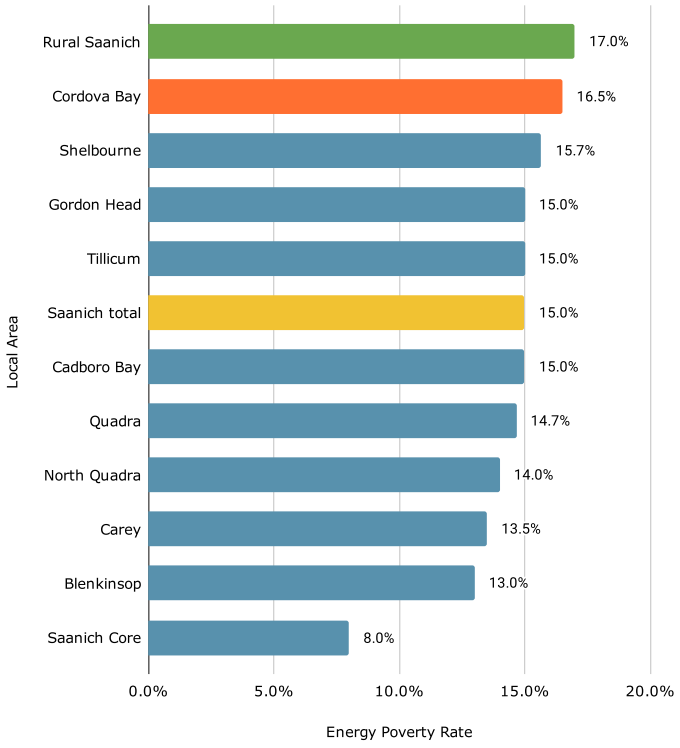
Saanich Versus the CRD

In the CRD, energy poverty rates continue to show more prevalence in rural areas such as the Juan De Fuca, Metchosin, and Sooke. More Urban areas such as Saanich, Langford, Sidney, and Victoria experience less energy poverty. This is consistent with CUSP's finding that rural households in Canada are more likely to experience energy than their urban counterparts.



Saanich Versus It's Local Areas

In Saanich, energy poverty exists in all local areas, with a wide range between 8 and 17 per cent. In portions of the Gordon Head area, energy poverty rates reach up to 22 per cent. It can also reach as low as 8 per cent in the Saanich Core. The graph on the right shows aggregated local area data, meaning they contain an average of rates across multiple census tracks in a certain local area. In this context, rural areas of the District see higher rates of energy poverty than Saanich's total, but not to the degree that is seen in other parts of the CRD, the Province, and Canada.



Rural HH (Outside UCB)
Rural/Urban HH (Inside/Outside UCB)
Urban HH (Inside UCB)

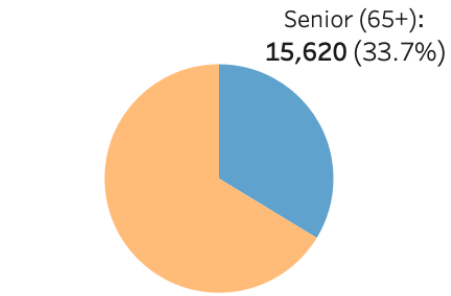
COMMUNITY PROFILE

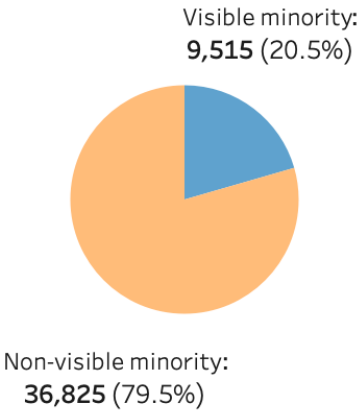
Saanich at a Glance

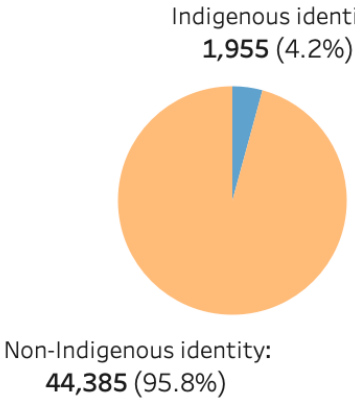
Demographic Overview of Households

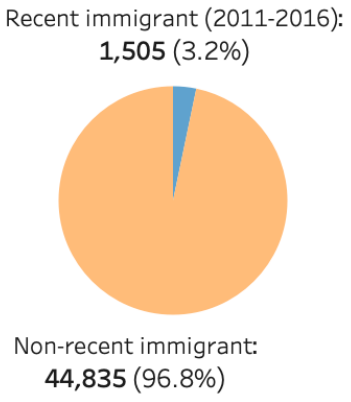
In the District of Saanich, the most prevalent demographic groups are seniors and visible-minorities households. Less prevalent groups are Indigenous, recent immigrant, and lone-parent family households.

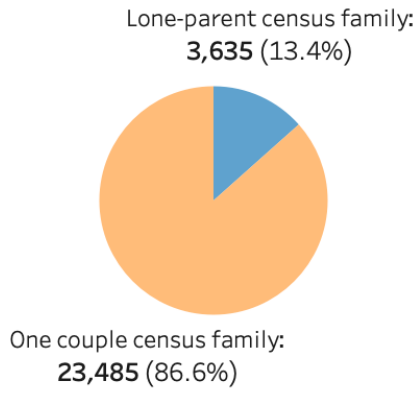
For the purpose of the report, we will focus on seniors and visible-minority households.











Households by After-tax Income Group

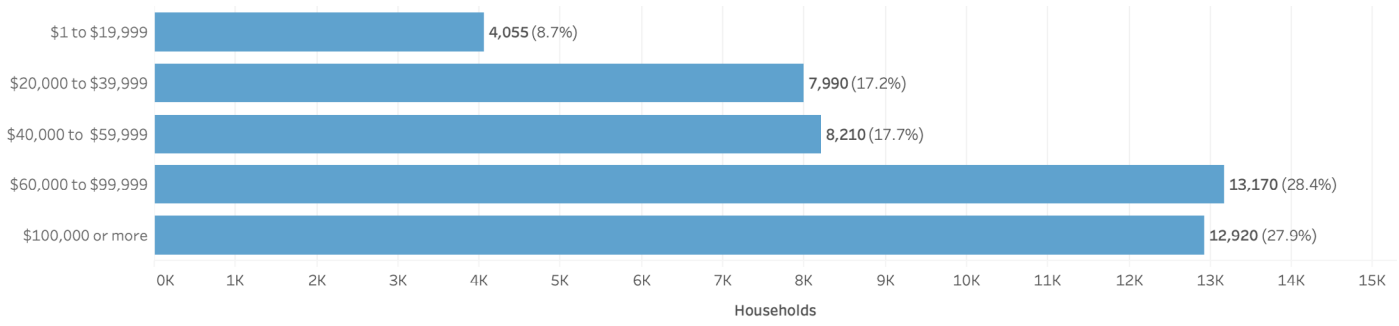
In the District of Saanich, the majority of households fall into the $60,000 to $99,000 and $100,000+ after-tax income groups.

Median household after-tax income

$67,597

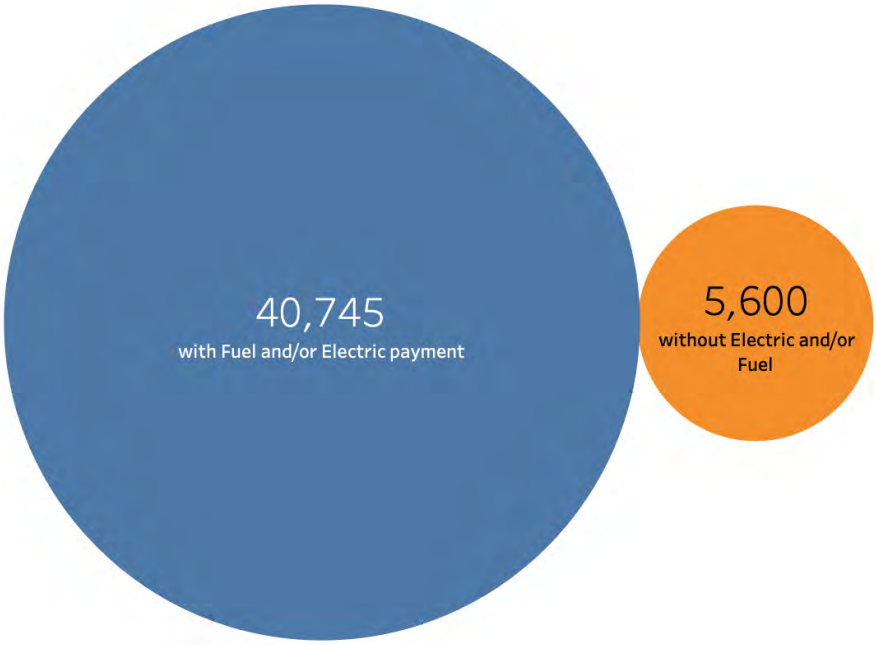
Median annual home energy spending

$1,857

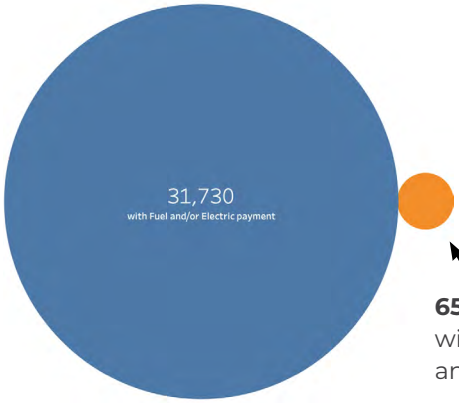


Households with and without Home Energy Expenditures

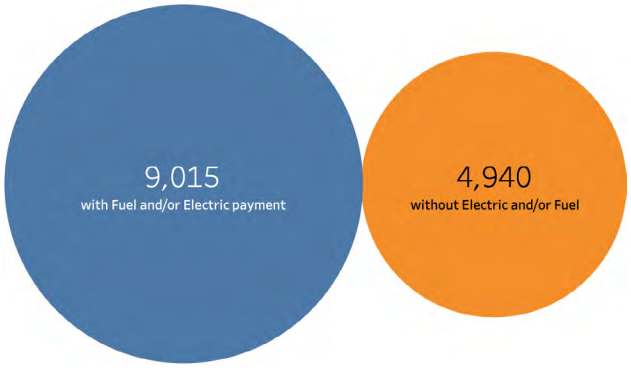
In the District of Saanich, most households have fuel and/or electric payments. Among owner households, the vast majority of have fuel and/or electric payments. Renter households are far more likely to not have any energy payments likely due to having utilities included in rent. However, renters are likely under represented in census data as they are more likely to be missed during the census-taking process due to their transitory nature.



Owner Households

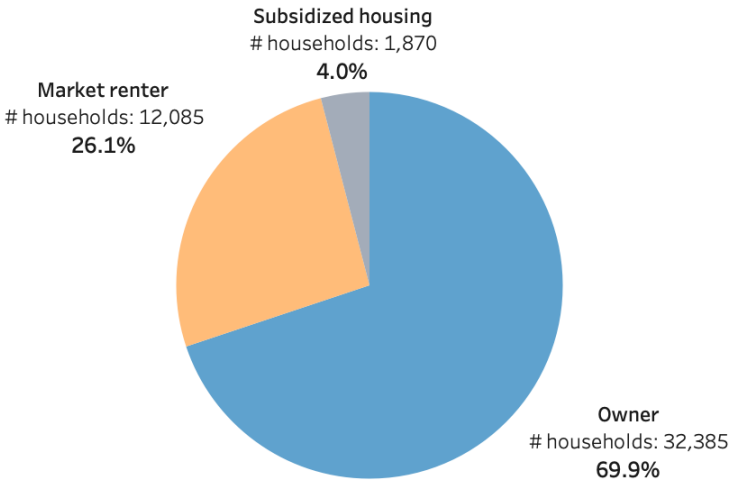


Renter Households



Households by Tenure

In Saanich, owner households make up the majority of housing tenures. Market renters make up just over a quarter of all households while subsidized housing makes up less than five per cent of all households.



Energy Poverty

In Saanich, 15% of households experience energy poverty and the average home energy expenditure is $1,857.

Among households with energy payments, energy expenditures can range from $251 in the lowest income group, to $9,014 in the $40,00 to $59,999 after-tax income group. When taking a look at energy poverty on a district level, neighbourhoods in Gordon Head show the highest levels of energy poverty.

15%

of Households Experience Energy Poverty

$1,857

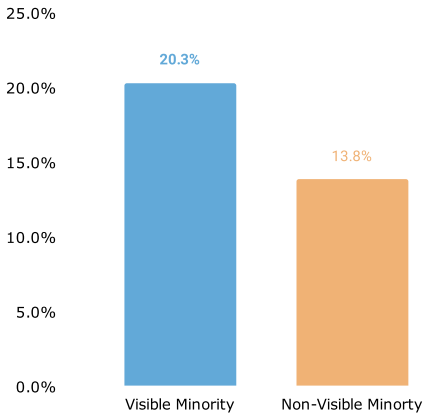
Median Household Energy Expenditure

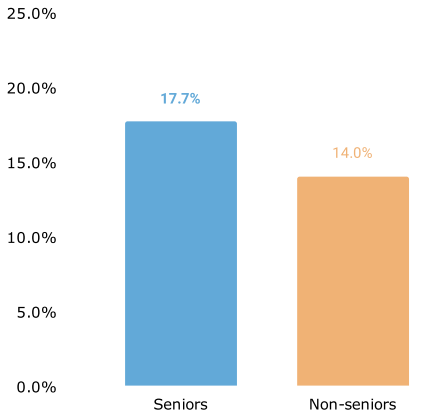
Median Home Energy Expenditures by after-tax income group

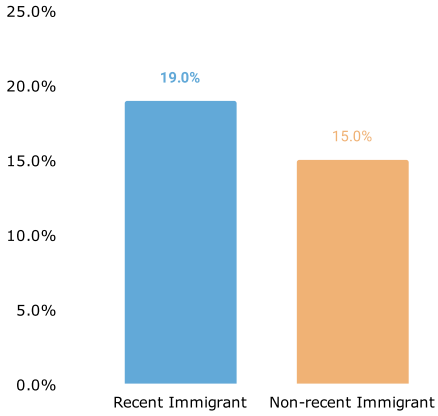
	Median annual home energy spending				
After-tax income group	Low (<3%)	Moderate (3-6%)	High (6% +)	Very High (10% +)	Extreme (15% +)
$1 to $19,999	$251	$600	$1,512	$2,000	$2,203
$20,000 to $39,999	$401	$1,206	$2,504	$3,603	$5,282
$40,000 to $59,999	$604	$1,902	$3,499	$5,496	$9,014
$60,000 to $99,999	$1,298	$2,597	$4,999	$7,805	-
$100,000 or more	$2,106	$4,000	$7,601	-	-

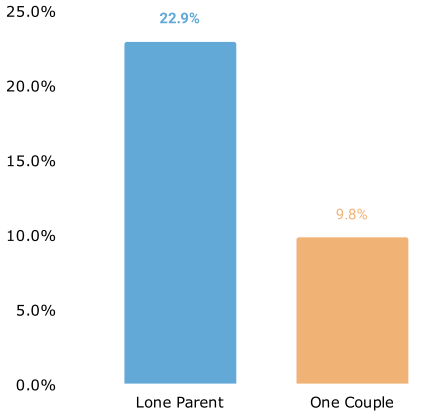
Energy Poverty in Demographic Groups

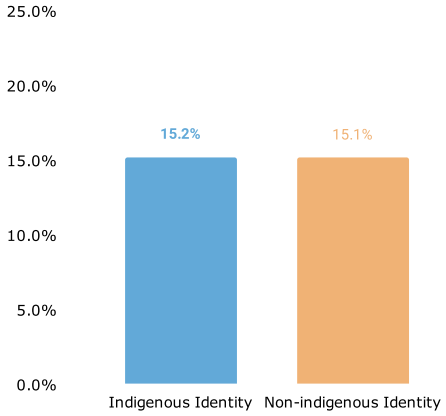
Lone parent and visible minority and recent immigrant households show the highest incidence rates of energy poverty while indigenous households show the lowest. For these demographic groups, all have higher rates of energy poverty than Saanich's total and their comparative non-demographic group.









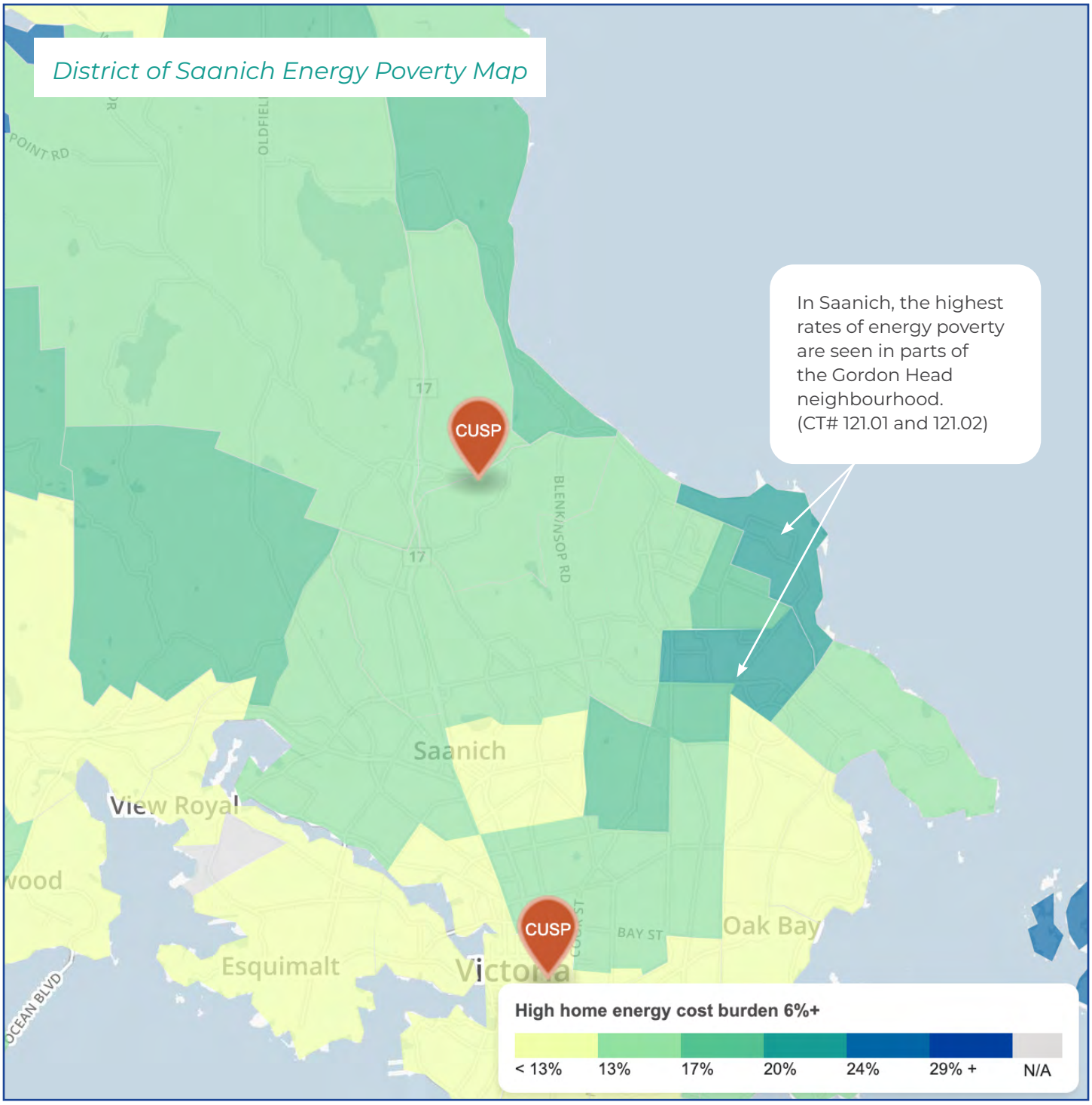


Are Certain Groups more likely to be in Energy Poverty?

In Saanich, certain groups are significantly more likely to be in energy poverty compared to their inverse group. Households in low income are 4.8 times more likely to be in energy poverty than those not in low income. Similarly, lone parent households are 2.3 times more likely to be in energy poverty than one-couple households. Visible Minority households are 1.5 times more likely to be in energy poverty than non-visible minority households. Both seniors and recent immigrant households are 1.3 times more likely to be in energy poverty than their inverse grouping. Finally, Indigenous households are equally as likely to be in energy poverty as non-indigenous households.

The amount by which a select group is more likely to be in energy poverty than its inverse group

4.8 x	In Low Income
1.5 x	Visibile Minority
1.3 x	Seniors
1.3 x	Recent Immigrant
2.3 x	Lone Parent
1.0 x	Indigenous Identity


District of Saanich Energy Poverty Map
In Saanich, the highest rates of energy poverty are seen in parts of the Gordon Head neighbourhood. (CT# 121.01 and 121.02)
CUSP
CUSP
Saanich
View Royal
Esquimalt
Victoria
Oak Bay
BAY ST
BLENKINSOP RD
17
17
POINT RD
OCEAN BLVD
High home energy cost burden 6%+
< 13%
13%
17%
20%
24%
29% +
N/A

Key Takeaways at a Glance

The Key Takeaways are as follows:

#	Indicator Group	Key Takeaway	Implication
1	**Housing**	In the District of Saanich, both **age of dwelling and Structure type** are drivers of energy poverty.	Land use Climate action Housing Sustainability
2	**Income**	In the District of Saanich, households with a **range of incomes** experience energy poverty.	Climate action Housing
3	**Housing**	In the District of Saanich, households in **core housing need** experience energy poverty.	Housing
4	**Housing**	In the District of Saanich, **both renters and owners** experience energy poverty.	Housing Land use
5	**Demographics**	In the District of Saanich, traditionally **underserved households - including Indigenous, lone-parent, and racialized households** experience energy poverty.	Community outreach
6	**Urban/Rural**	In the District of Saanich, both **urban and rural** households experience energy poverty.	Climate action Housing Sustainability
7	**Fuel Type**	In the District of Saanich, households **with fuel (and electric) and electric only households**, experience energy poverty.	Climate action Housing Sustainability

Key Takeaways Guide

Key Takeaway indicator group

Key Takeaway statement

Preliminary Findings section that explain textually the contents and analysis of the Key Takeaway

Descriptive Statistic section looks directly at the Key takeaway and its relation to energy poverty

Deeper Dive section analyzes both Seniors and Visible minorities in relation to the Key Takeaway and energy poverty.

Note: Takeaways #5, #6, and #7 look at different non-demographic data points.

Spacial Analysis section looks at a District wide map and areas that experience various data points related to the Key Takeaway and energy expeditures.

Note: Takeaway #7 does not have a spacial aspect

Key Takeaway #1

Housing

In the District of Saanich, both **age of dwelling and Structure type** are drivers of energy poverty.

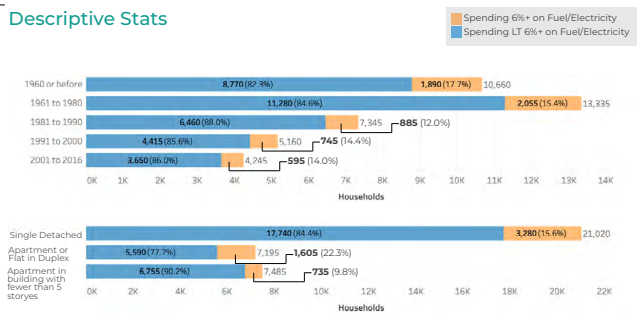
Preliminary Findings

Housing built before the 1980s make up around 33 per cent of households that experience energy poverty with a greater prevalence among housing built before 1960. Similarly, single detached housing, which represents the majority of housing type in Saanich, experience high energy poverty rates.

Among seniors in energy poverty who live in houses built before 1960, 25 per cent are in low income. However, for non seniors in this same housing group, more than 50 per cent are in low income. For visible minorities in energy poverty in single detached homes, 56 per cent are in low income while 36 per cent of non-visible minorities.

In the District of Saanich, Households built before 1960s that are in energy poverty are likely located in the Rural Saanich. The same is true for single detached homes in energy poverty with increasing prevalence in the Cordova Bay neighbourhood.

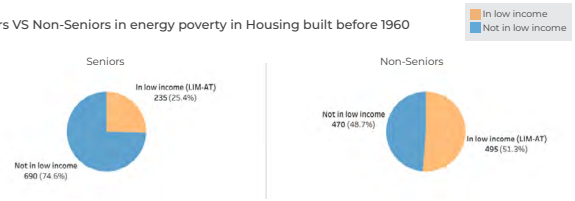
Descriptive Stats



Deeper Dive

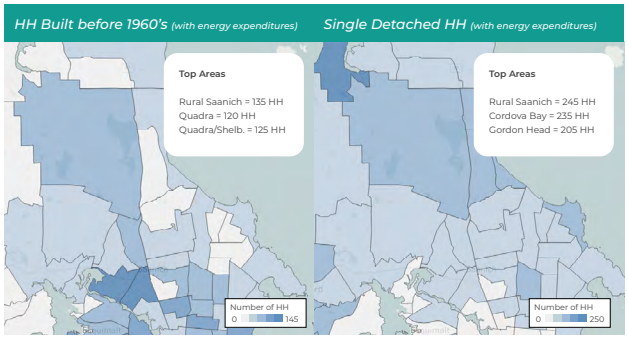
Housing

Seniors VS Non-Seniors in energy poverty in Housing built before 1960



Visible Minorities VS Non-Visible Minorities in energy poverty living in single detached homes

Spacial Analysis




ESSO
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Key Takeaway #1

Housing

In the District of Saanich, both **age of dwelling and structure type** are drivers of energy poverty.

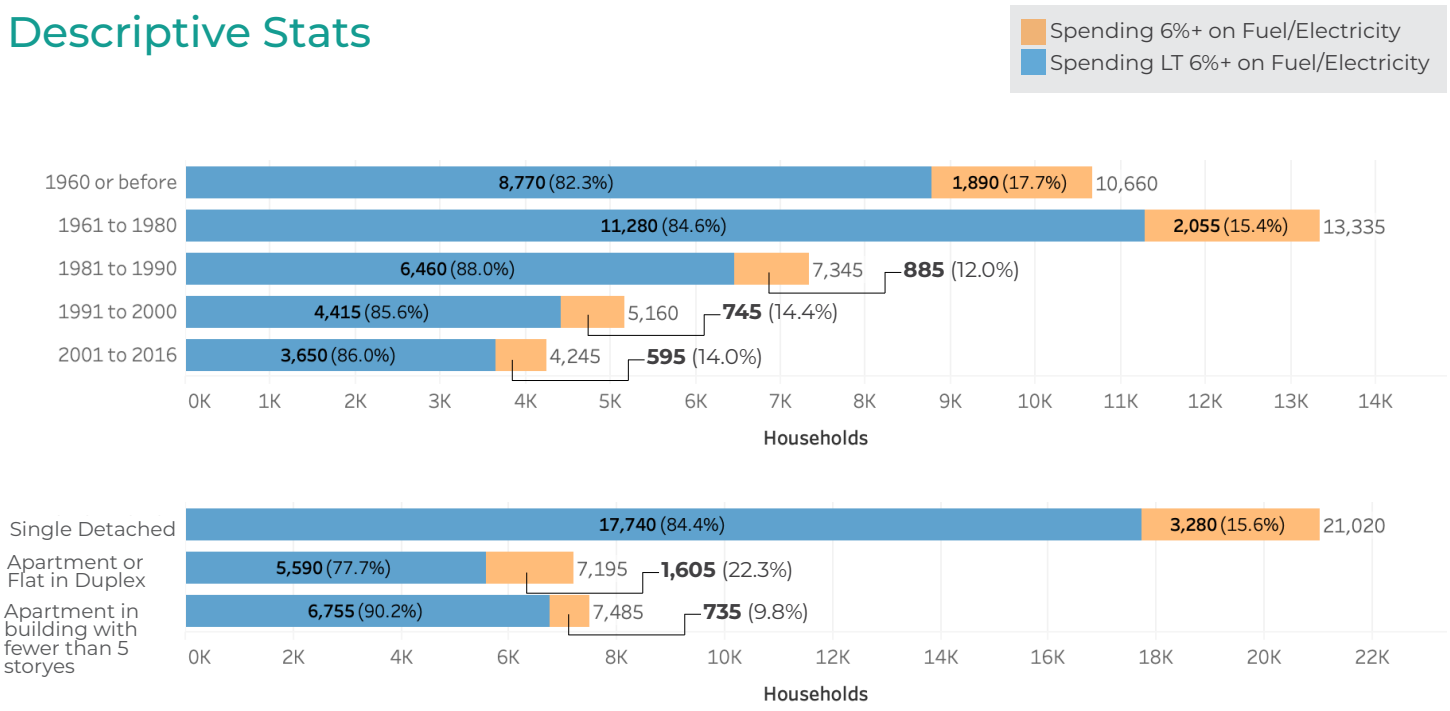
Preliminary Findings

Housing built before the 1980s make up around 33 per cent of households that experience energy poverty with a greater prevalence among housing built before 1960. Similarly, single detached housing, which represents the majority of housing types in Saanich, experience high energy poverty rates.'

Among seniors in energy poverty who live in houses built before 1960, 25 per cent are in low income. However, for non-seniors in this same housing group, more than 50 per cent are in low income. For visible minorities in energy poverty in single detached homes, 56 per cent are in low income while 36 per cent of non-visible minorities are also in low income.

In the District of Saanich, the greatest number of households built before 1960 that are in energy poverty are located in the Rural Saanich. The same is true for single detached in energy poverty with increasing prevalence in the Cordova Bay neighbourhood.

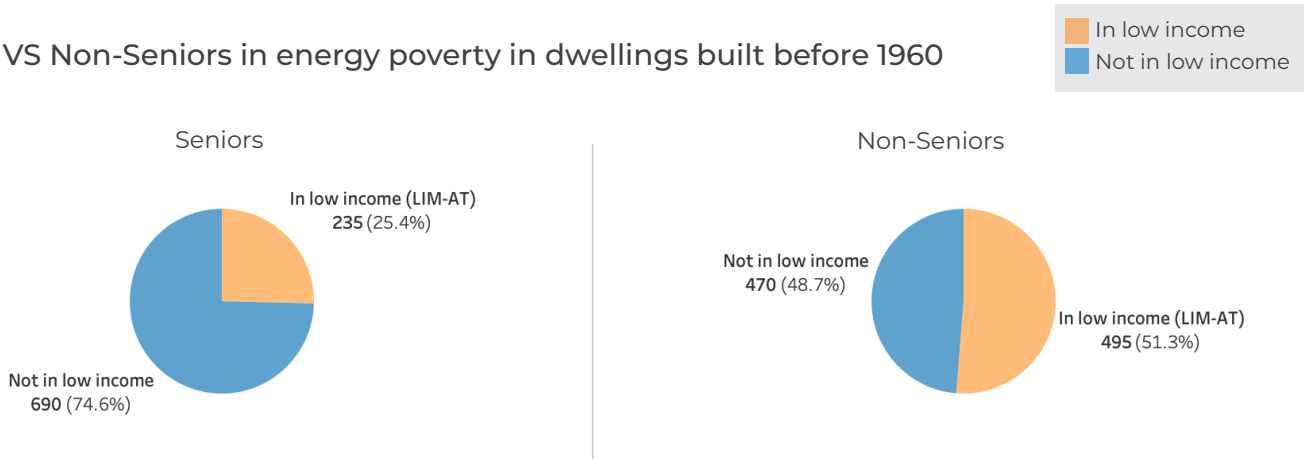
Descriptive Stats



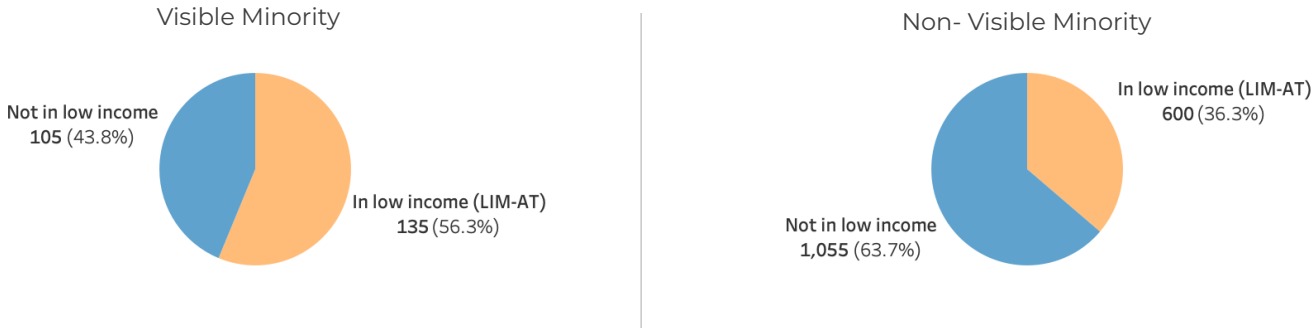
Deeper Dive

Housing

Seniors VS Non-Seniors in energy poverty in dwellings built before 1960

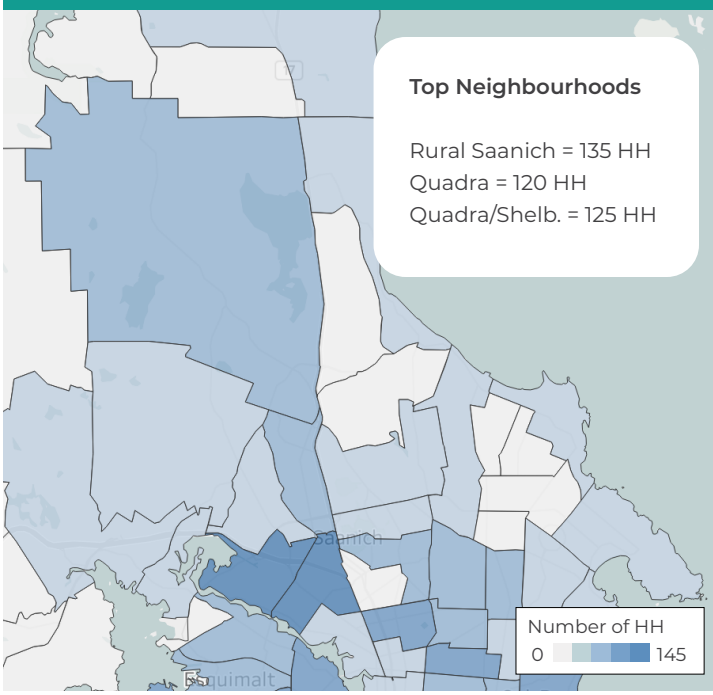


Visible Minorities VS Non-Visible Minorities in energy poverty living in single detached homes

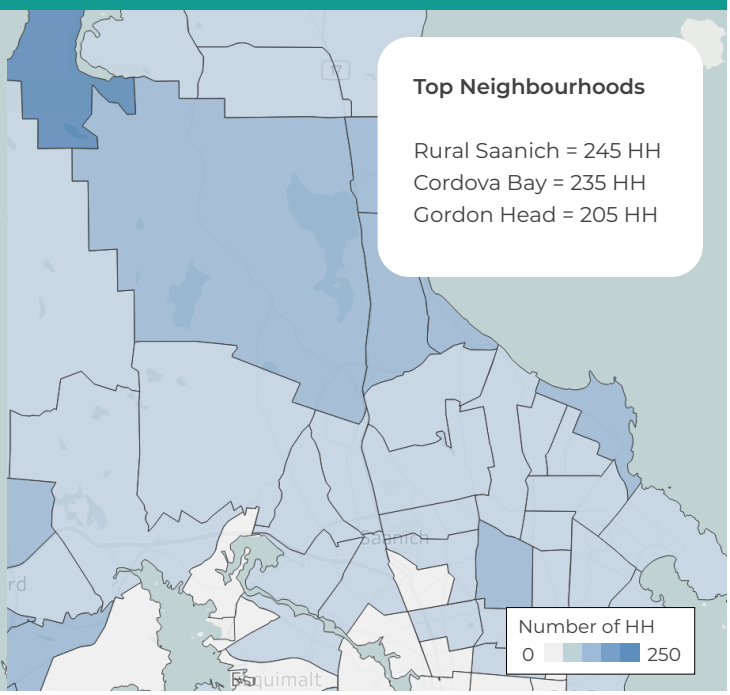


Spacial Analysis

# of HH Built before 1960's (in energy poverty)



# of Single Detached HH (in energy poverty)



Key Takeaway #2

Income

In the District of Saanich, households with a **range of incomes** experience energy poverty

Preliminary Findings

Households with a range of incomes experience energy poverty, from households with after-tax income below $20,000 and above $100,000. The most prevalent rates of energy poverty exist in the $1 - $19,999 after tax-income group with rates around 15.5 per cent.

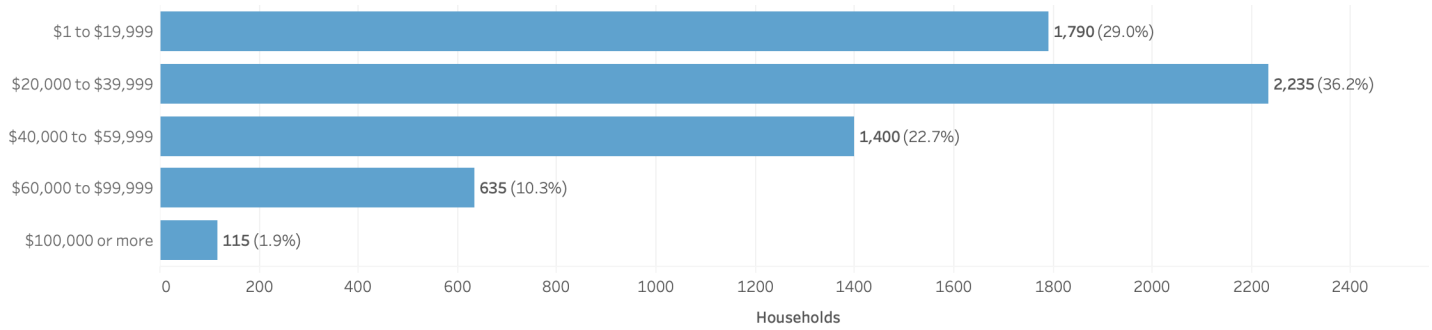
Among seniors in energy poverty in all housing tenures, 40 per cent are in low income. Non-seniors are a larger sub-group with nearly 63 per cent in low income. Among visible minorities in energy poverty, almost 65 per cent are in low income while non-visible minorities make up just over 50 per cent of low income households.

In the District, the highest number of households in low income and in energy poverty are located in the Gordon Head area. The highest number of households who are not in low income but are still in energy poverty are located in Rural Saanich, outside the Urban Containment Boundary (UCB).

Descriptive Stats

Households in Energy Poverty by after-tax income group

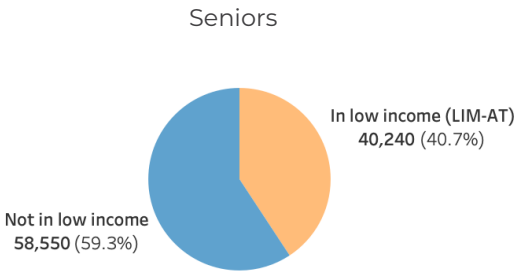
After-tax income group	Median household after tax income	Median annual home energy spending
Total - all groups	$30,773	$2,815
$1 to $19,000	$9,781	$1,512
$20,000 to $39,000	$28,872	$2,504
$40,000 to $59,000	$48,706	$3,499
$60,000 to $99,999	$72,052	$4,999
$100,000 or more	$108,009	$7,601

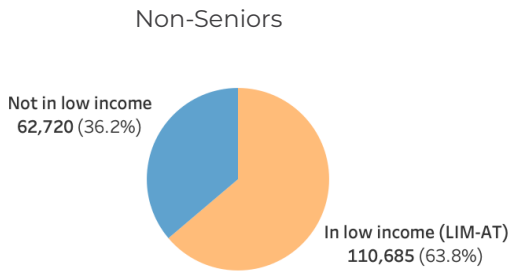


Deeper Dive

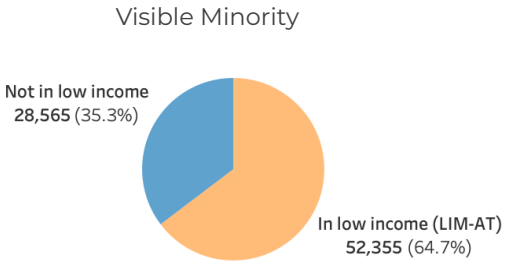
Income

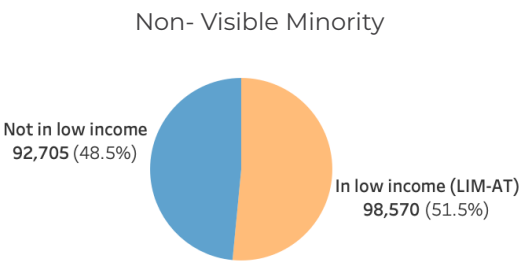
Seniors VS Non-Seniors in Energy Poverty in all housing tenures





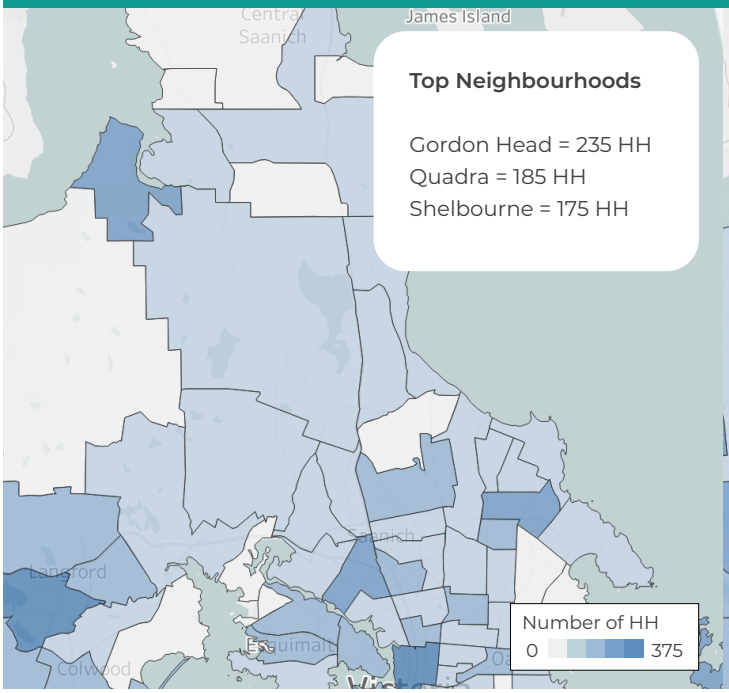
Visible Minorities VS Non-Visible Minorities in Energy Poverty in all housing tenures



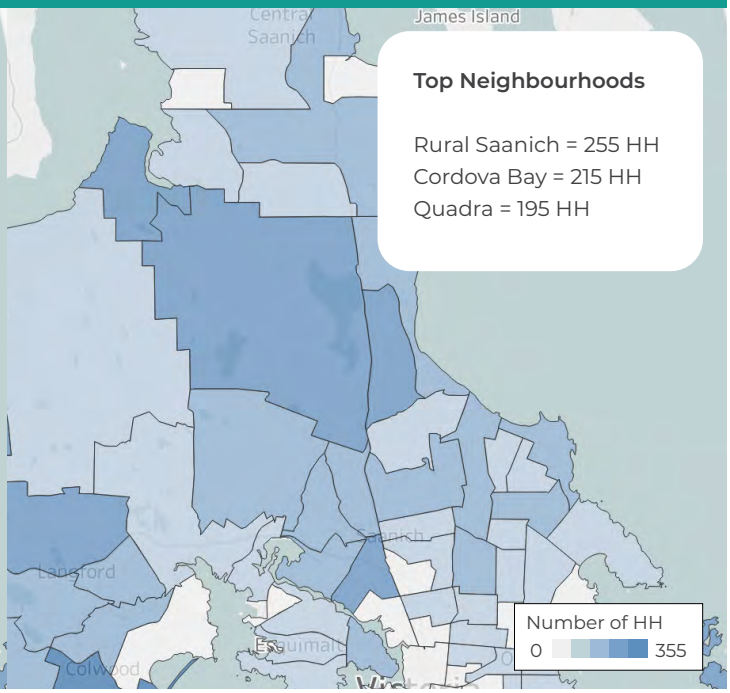


Spacial Analysis

# of HH in low income (in energy poverty)



# of HH not in low income (in energy poverty)



Key Takeaway #3

Housing

In the District of Saanich, households in **core housing need** experience energy poverty.

Preliminary Findings

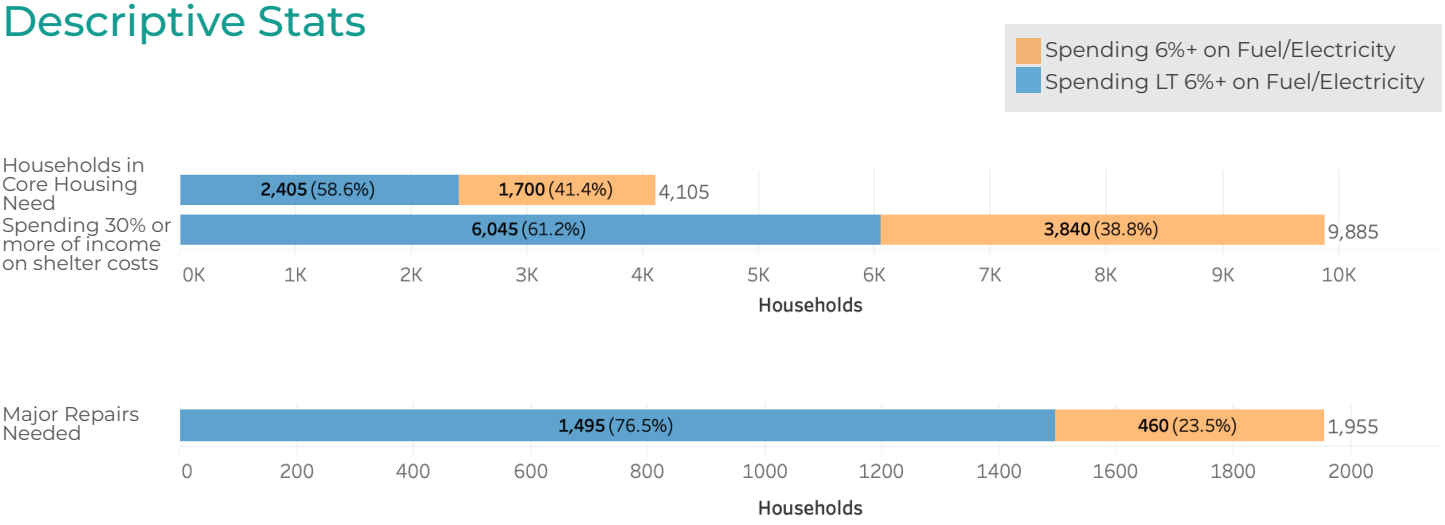
In Saanich, there are 4,105 households in core housing need. Of those households, 41 per cent are in energy poverty. For a household to be in core housing need, they must not live in a house that is considered acceptable housing, or that their before-tax income is sufficient to access acceptable housing (spending no more than 30 per cent on shelter costs). As such, these two indicators are also important to consider.

There are 9,885 households in Saanich that spend more than 30% of their income on shelter costs. Nearly 40 per cent of these homes are in energy poverty. Households in need of major repairs make up 1,995 of households and 24 per cent of these households are in Energy poverty.

Among seniors, 33 per cent are in core housing need and 25 per cent spend more than 30 per cent on their shelter costs. Among visible minorities, 26 per cent are in core housing need and 28 per cent spend more than 30 per cent on shelter costs.

In the District, the highest number of households in core housing need in energy poverty are located in Rural Saanich and Quadra. The greatest number of households that spend more than 30 per cent on shelter costs and are in energy poverty are located in Gordon Head, Rural Saanich, and North Quadra.

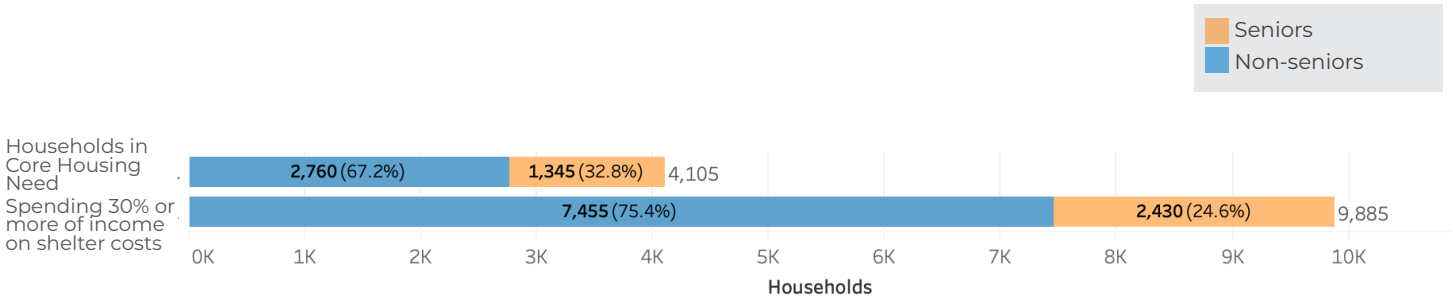
Descriptive Stats



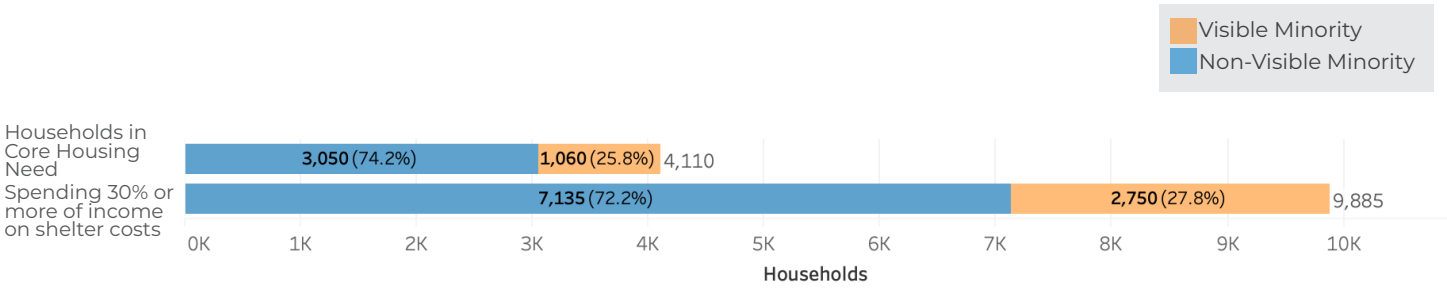
Deeper Dive

Housing

Seniors VS Non-Seniors in core housing need

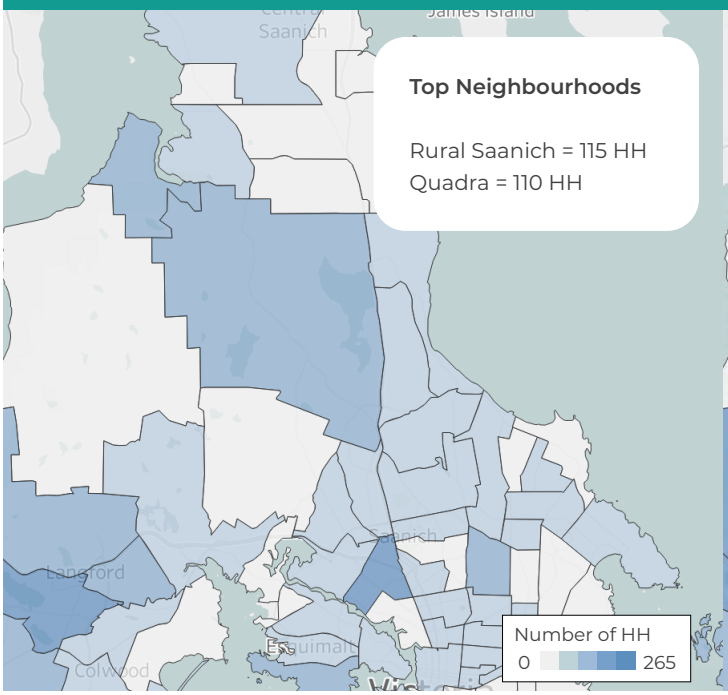


Visible Minorities VS Non-Visible Minorities in core housing need

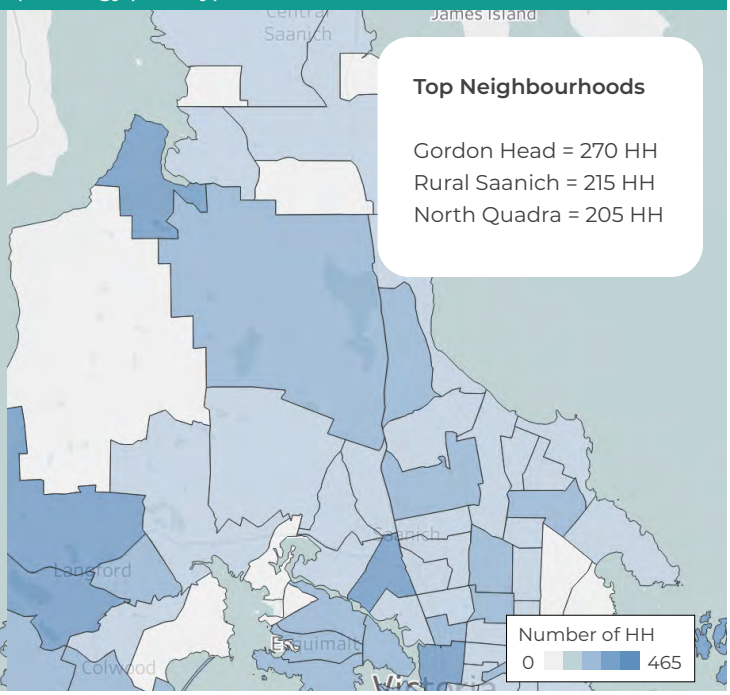


Spacial Analysis

# of HH in Core Housing Need (in energy poverty)



# of HH spending more than 30% on Shelter Costs (in energy poverty)



Key Takeaway #4

Housing

In the District of Saanich, **both renters and owners** experience energy poverty.

Preliminary Findings

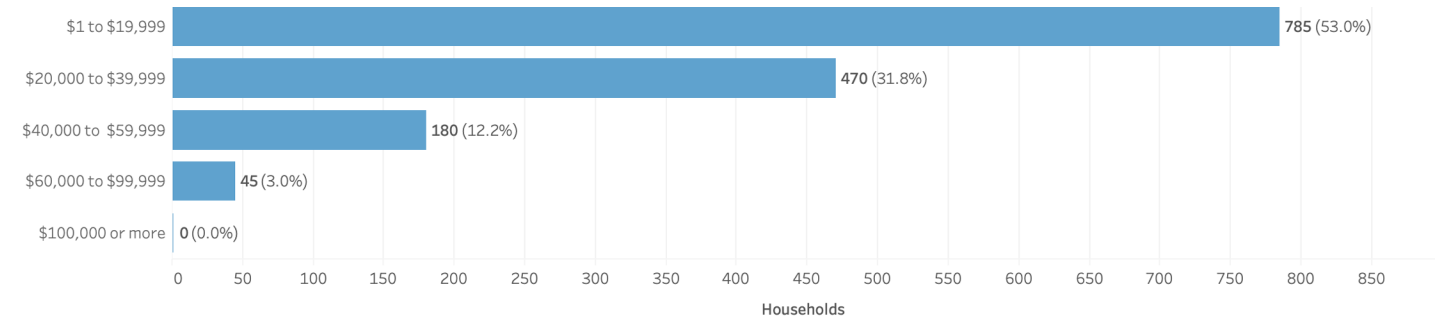
In Saanich, Nearly 76 per cent of owners and 20 per cent of market renters experience energy poverty. The majority of renters fall into the $1 to $19,999 and $20,000 to $39,999 after-tax income brackets. Owners in energy poverty are more likely in the $20,000 to $39,999 and $40,000 to $59,999 after-tax income brackets.

For seniors in energy poverty who rent, nearly 58 per cent are in low income versus non-seniors in which nearly 79 per cent are in low income. Visible minorities in energy poverty who rent, 90 percent are in low income. For non-visible minorities, 71 per cent are in low income.

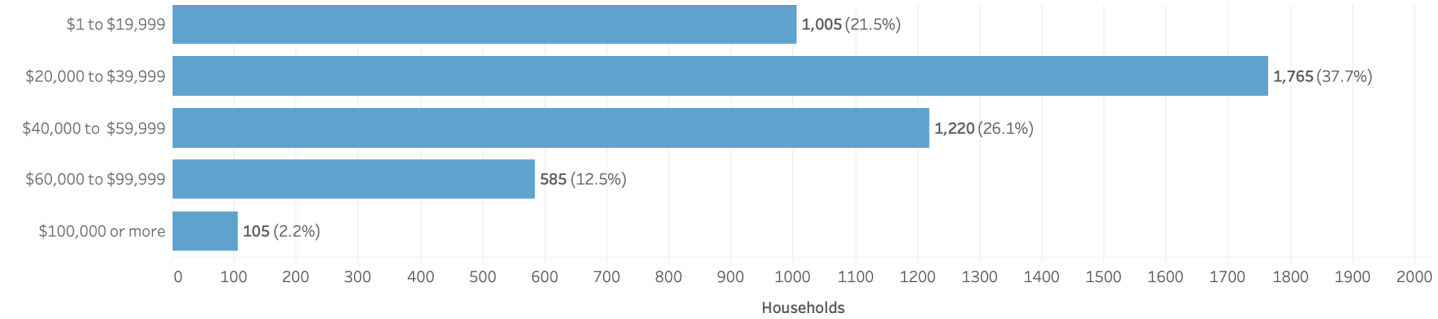
In the District, the greatest number of owner households in energy poverty are located in Gordon Head, Cordova Bay, and Rural Saanich areas. The greatest number of renter households in energy poverty are located in Shelbourne, Saanich Core, and Quadra areas.

Descriptive Stats

Total Renter households in Energy Poverty



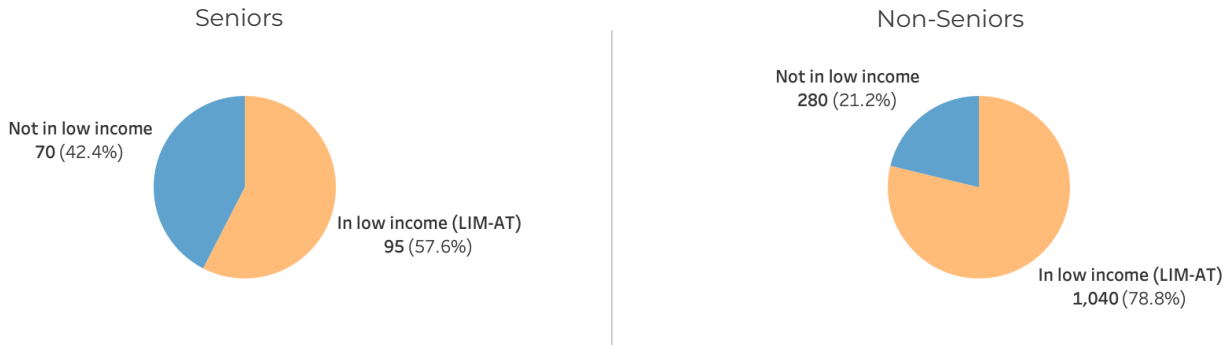
Total Owner households in Energy Poverty



Deeper Dive

Housing

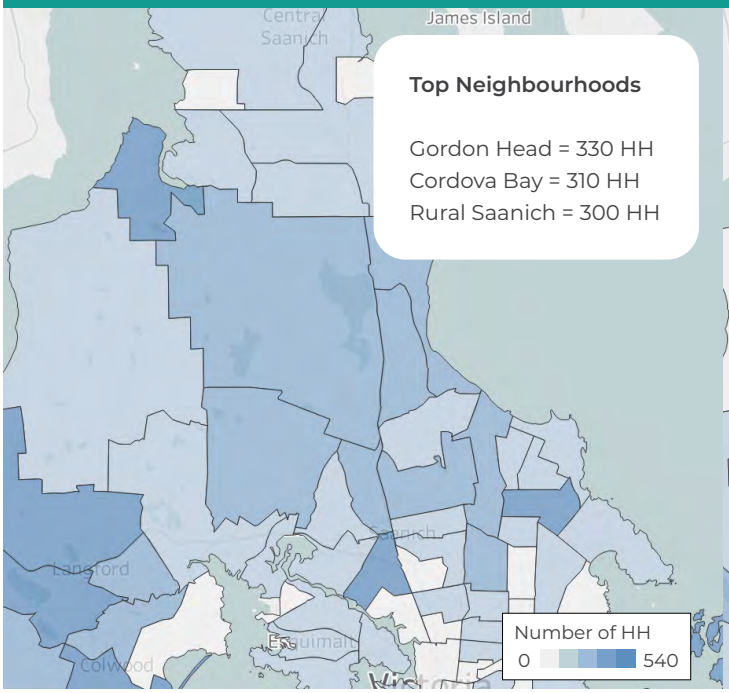
Seniors VS Non-Seniors renters in energy poverty



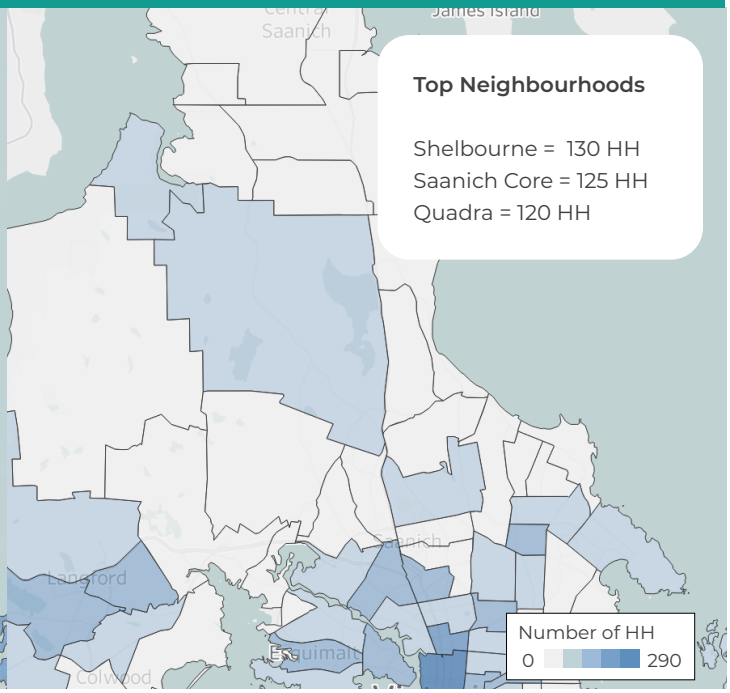
Visible Minorities VS Non-Visible renters in energy poverty

Spacial Analysis

# of Owner HH (in energy poverty)



# of Renter HH (in energy poverty)



Key Takeaway #5

Demographics

In the District of Saanich, traditionally underserved households - **including Indigenous, lone-parent, and recent immigrant** households experience energy poverty

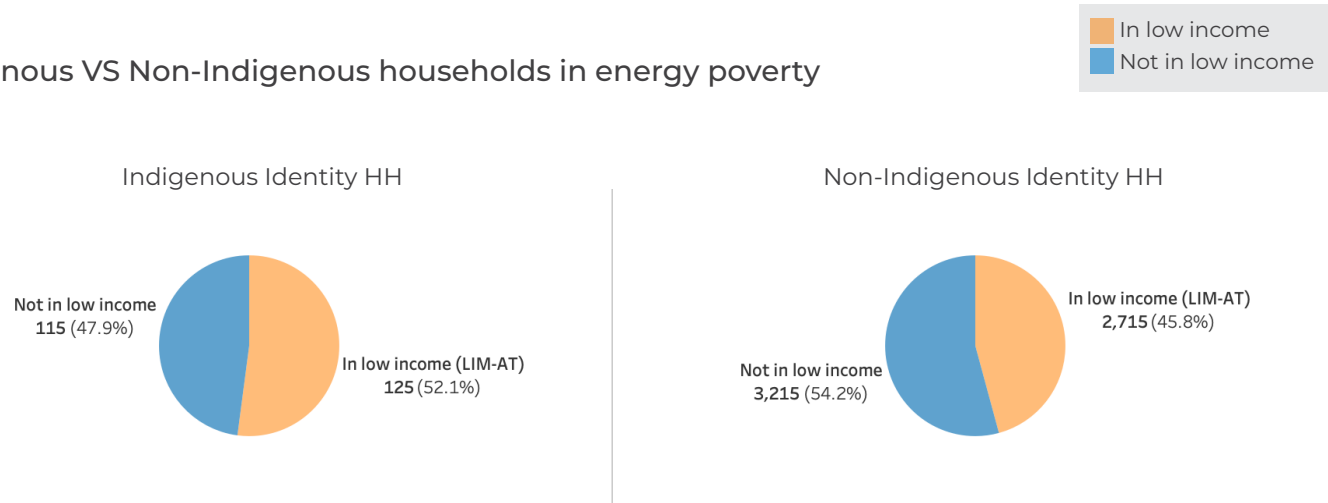
Preliminary Findings

In Saanich, Indigenous identity households are more likely to experience energy poverty than non-indigenous identity households. Additionally, a greater rate of Indigenous identity households are in low income. Similarly, lone parent households are far more likely to experience energy poverty and be in low income than their one couple counterparts. Recent immigrant households also experience a greater rate of energy poverty and nearly 70 per cent of those experiencing energy poverty are also in low income.

In the District, the greatest number of Indigenous households in energy poverty are located in Gordon Head, Quadra, and Saanich Core areas. The greatest number of lone-parent households in energy poverty are located in the Gordon Head, Carey, and Rural Saanich Areas.

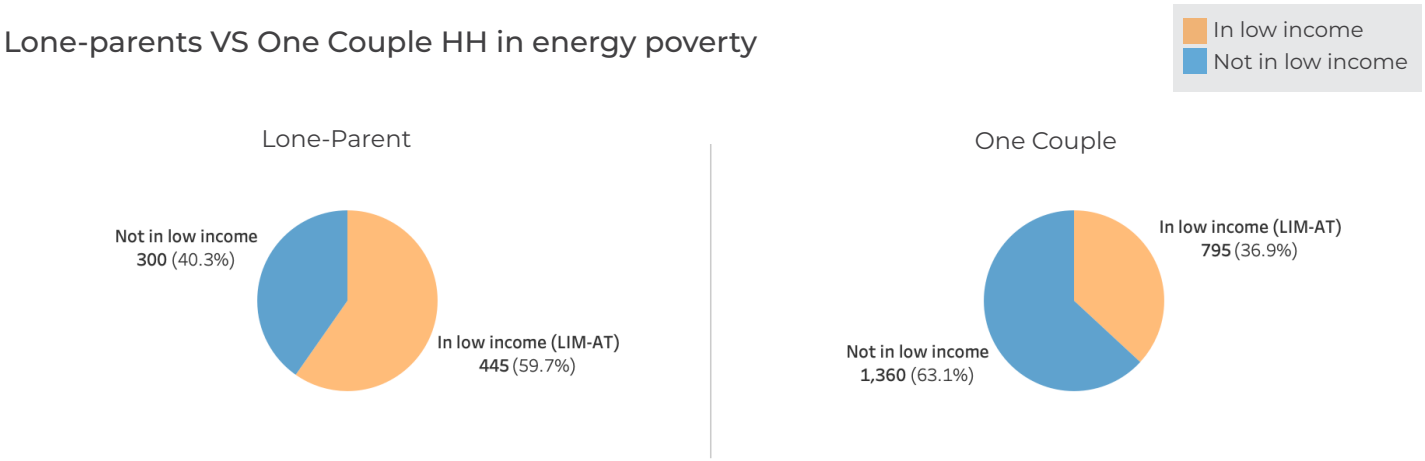
Descriptive Stats

Indigenous VS Non-Indigenous households in energy poverty

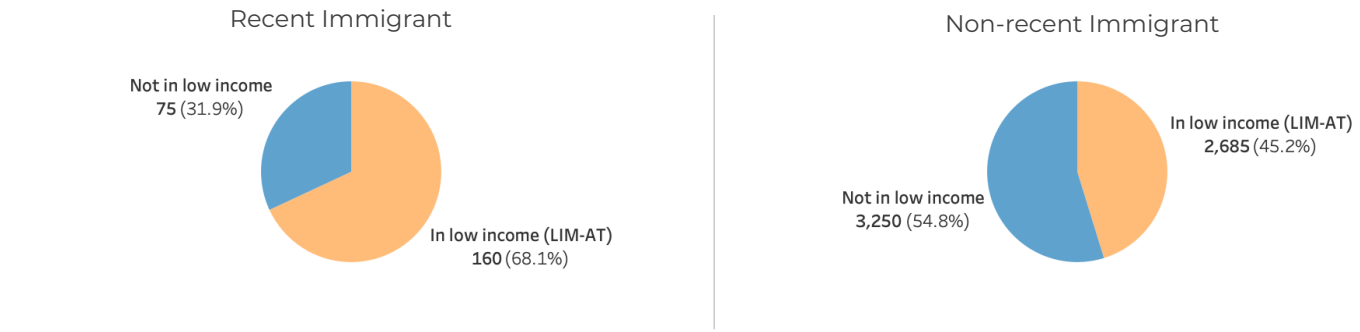


Demographics

Lone-parents VS One Couple HH in energy poverty

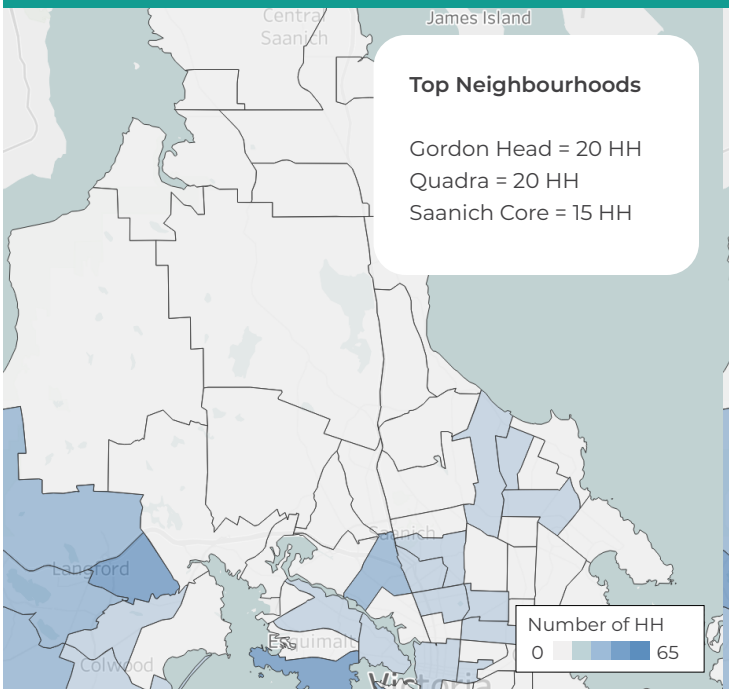


Recent Immigrant VS Non-Recent Immigrant HH in energy poverty

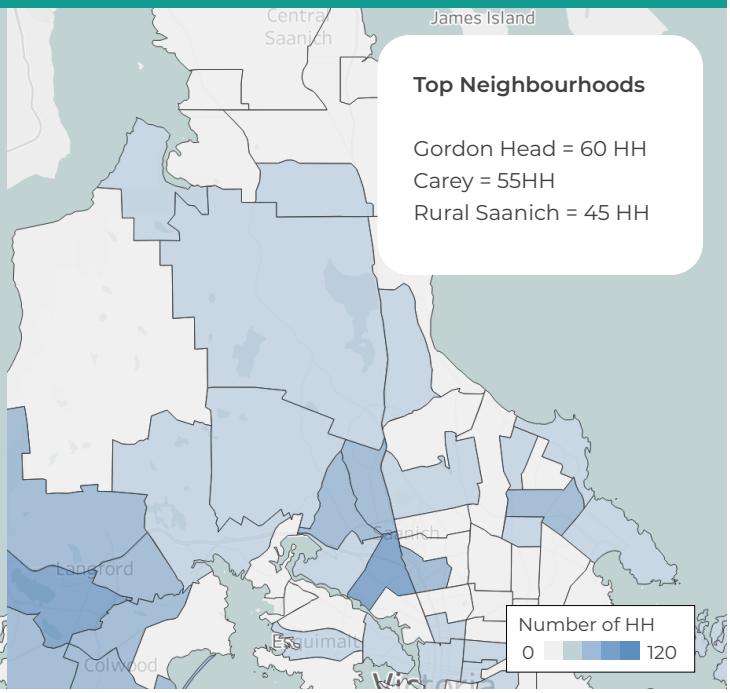


Spacial Analysis

# of Indigenous Identity HH (in energy poverty)



# of Lone-Parent HH (in energy poverty)



Key Takeaway #6

Urban/Rural

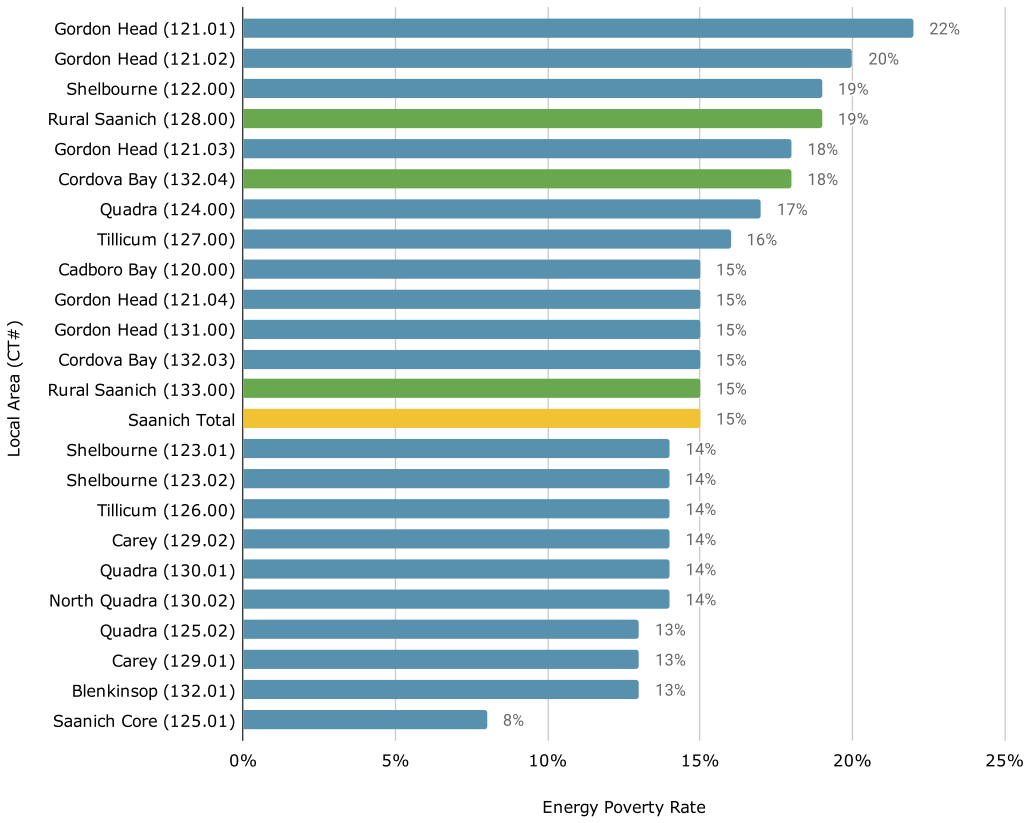
In the District of Saanich, **both urban and rural households** experience energy poverty

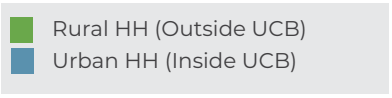
Preliminary Findings

In Saanich, both urban and rural households experience energy poverty. While some urban census tracts experience higher rates of energy poverty, rural census tracts experience a higher rate, on average. Among households, rural households have a greater proportion of owner tenure, median household after-tax income, and median annual home energy spending is higher than their urban counterparts.

Both Rural Saanich census tracts have a higher number of households in energy povertythan the top urban areas.

Descriptive Stats





17%

Average Energy Poverty rate in ***rural*** areas

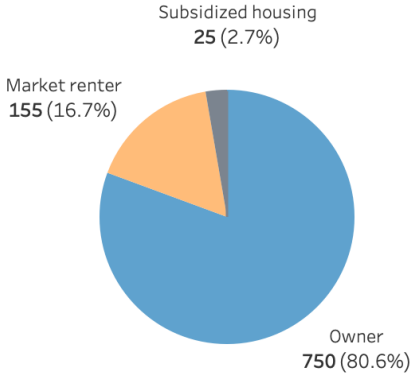
15%

Average Energy Poverty rate in ***urban*** areas

Deeper Dive

Urban/Rural

Rural households in energy poverty



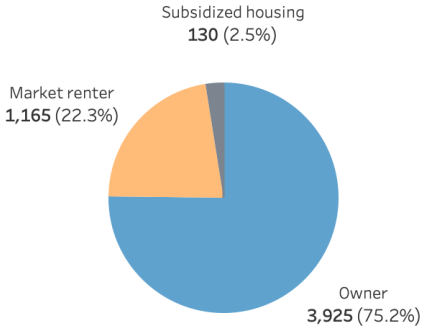
Median household after-tax income
$31,603

Median annual home energy spending
$2,963

Urban households in energy poverty

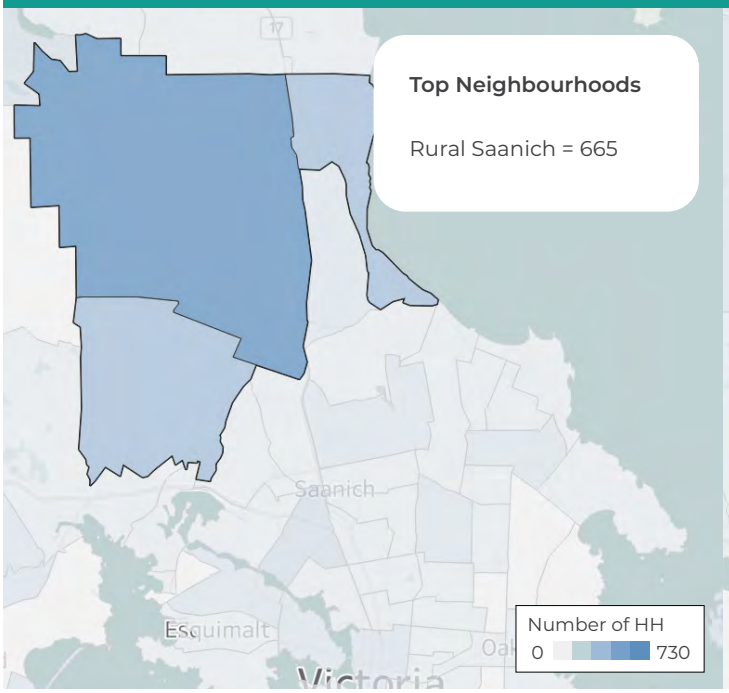
Median household after-tax income
$17,855

Median annual home energy spending
$1,563

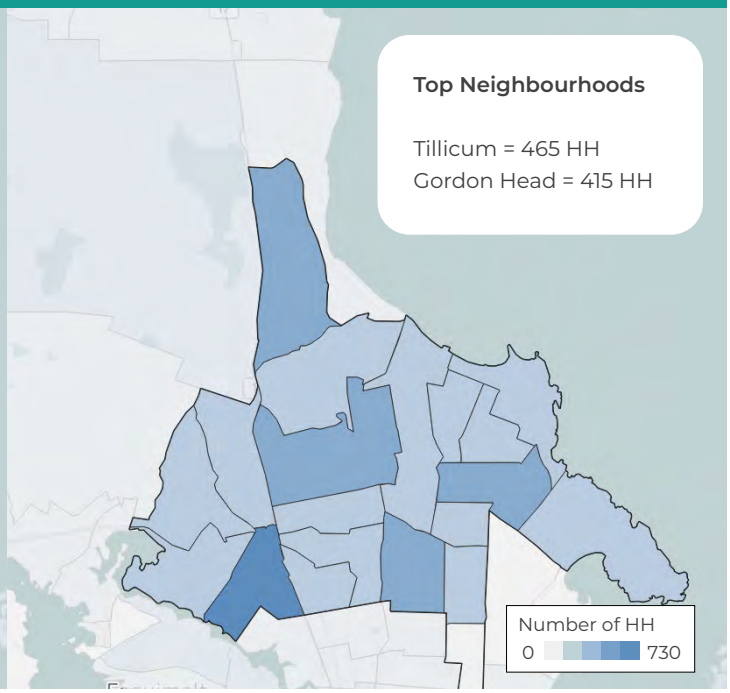


Spacial Analysis

# of Rural HH (in energy poverty)



# of Urban HH (in energy poverty)



Key Takeaway #7

Fuel Type

In the District of Saanich, households **with fuel (and electric) and electric only households**, experience energy poverty

Preliminary Findings

Households in Saanich with fuel and electric (e.g., oil, natural gas, baseboard heating, portable heaters, heatpumps etc.), and electric only (e.g., baseboard heating, portable heaters, heatpumps etc.) households experience energy poverty. Of these households in energy poverty, 58 per cent have fuel and electric while nearly 42 per cent have electric only payments. These rates are low compared to Canada, BC, and the CRD.

Among owners, 66 per cent make fuel and electric payments. For renters, only 33 per cent made fuel and electric payments while the majority only made electric payments.

However, when looking at who does and does not make energy payments, owners are much more likely to be making energy payments. While the majority of renters still make energy payments, 35 per cent do not.

Descriptive Stats

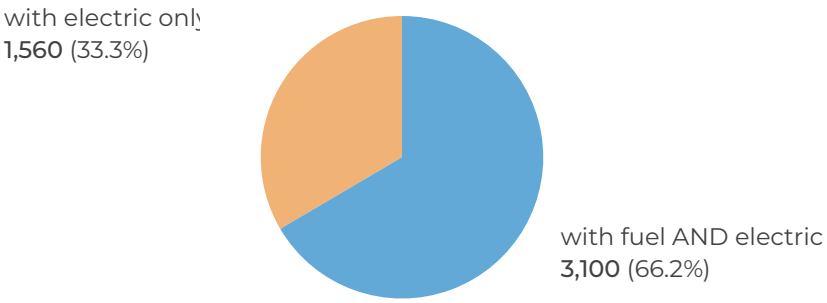
Households in energy poverty by fuel type and geographic area

	Number of Households		Percentage of Households	
Geographic Area	With fuel AND Electric Payments	With Electricity Only	With fuel AND Electric Payments	With Electricity Only
Canada	1,904,925	893,225	67.8%	31.8%
BC	192,670	77,865	70.8%	28.6%
CRD	11,755	8,865	56.7%	42.7%
Saanich	**3,580**	**2,540**	**58.0%**	**41.2%**

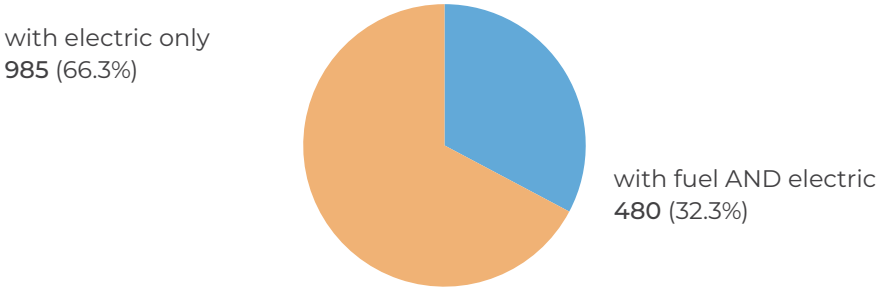
Deeper Dive

Fuel Type

Owners in energy poverty by fuel type



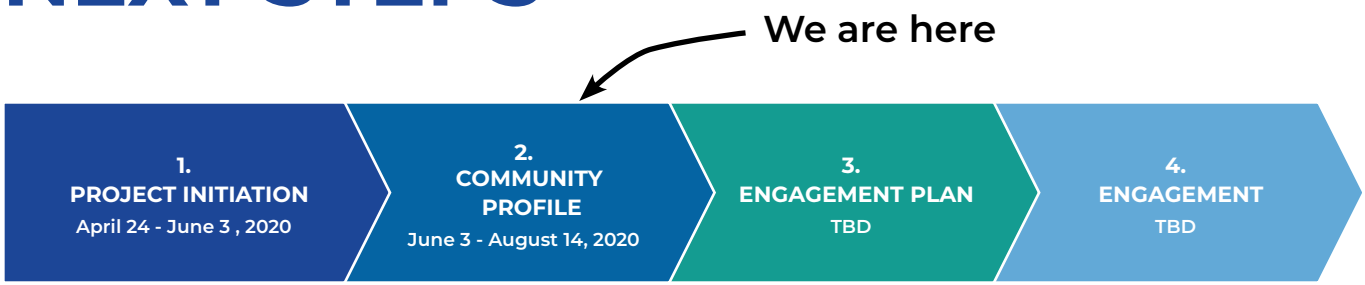
Renters in energy poverty by fuel type



Households with and without energy payments in geographic area

	Owners		Renters	
Geographic Area	With no energy payment	with energy payment	With no energy payment	with energy payment
Canada	3.5%	96.5%	35.2%	64.8%
BC	2.8%	97.2%	30.1%	69.9%
CRD	1.9%	98.1%	28.1%	71.9%
Saanich	**2.0%**	**98.0%**	**35.4%**	**64.6%**

NEXT STEPS



This community profile is just an initial step in addressing energy poverty. The next step involves creating an engagement plan and engaging the community to ensure that what is reflected in this report, and in census data, is accurate and holds true in Saanich's communities. Ultimately, this work will inform the equity tool under Saanich's Climate Plan C2.6.

RECOMMENDED ENERGY GOALS

The following energy goals, through the tracking of indicators, are recommended to be introduced to ensure that the District can reduce energy poverty and limit impacts on demographic groups.

Goal 1: Reduce overall energy poverty

The first energy goal aims to reduce overall energy poverty. In th District of Saanich, the energy poverty rate for all households is 15 per cent. Additionally, 31 per cent of households experience moderate energy cost burdens, 6 percent experience high energy cost burdens, and 3 per cent of experience extreme energy cost burdens.

The District can aim to decrease all of these numbers. By decreasing them, the District can maximize the average benefit to all households.

15%

of Households **Experience Energy Poverty**

31%

of Households Experience **moderate Energy Cost Burdens**

6%

of Households Experience **High Energy Cost Burdens**

3%

of Households Experience **Extreme Energy Cost Burdens**

Goal 2: Reduce inequalities between demographic groups

The second energy goals aim to limit impacts on select demographic groups. The District can focus on reducing the difference between energy poverty rates experienced by different demographic groups, thus reducing inequity in our community. The following demographic groups should be targeted and their energy poverty rates reduced:

- **Lone parent** (23% Energy Poverty rate)
- **Visible minorities** (20% energy poverty rate)
- **Recent immigrants** (19% energy poverty)
- **Seniors** (18% energy poverty)
- **Indigenous Identities** (15% energy poverty)

23%

of **Lone-Parent** Households Experience Energy Poverty

20%

of **Visible Minority** Households Experience Energy Poverty

19%

of **Recent Immigrant** households experience energy poverty

18%

of **Senior** Households Experience Energy Poverty

15%

of **Indigenous Identity** households experience energy poverty

APPENDIX

Definitions

Dimension	Description
Apartment or flat in a duplex	One of two dwellings, located one above the other, may or may not be attached to other dwellings or buildings.
Apartment in a building that has fewer than five storeys	A dwelling unit attached to other dwelling units, commercial units, or other non-residential space in a building that has fewer than five storeys.
Census Tracts	Located in large urban centers with an urban core population of 50,000 or more, and usually containing a population of 2,500 to 8,000 persons
Extreme home energy cost burden 15% +	Households spending 15% or more of after-tax income on home energy as % of all households
HH	Household
High home energy cost burden 6%+	Households spending 6% or more of after-tax income on home energy as % of all households
Home energy expenditures, # households	Counts households with and without energy expenditures.
Home energy spending as % after-tax household income	Households counts by percentage of after-tax income spent on home energy (<3%, 3-6%, 6%+, 10%+, 15%+)
Homeowner affordability - Spending 30% +	Owner households spending 30% of income on housing as % of all owner households
Household Fuel	Households that are powered by natural gas, oil, wood and wood pellets, propane, or other
Household type including Census family structure	Counts households by Census family type (couple family, lone-parent family, etc...)
Household with after-tax income groups in 2015	Households counts by income group with thresholds increasing in $20K increments up to '$100K and over'.
Households in a building that has 5 or more storeys	Housing structure - 5 or more storeys
Households in a building that has fewer than 5 storeys	Housing structure - fewer than 5 storeys

Households in core housing need	Households in core housing need as % of all households. A household in core housing need occupies a dwelling that is considered unsuitable, inadequate or unaffordable and cannot afford alternative suitable and adequate housing in their community.
Households in subsidized housing	Households in subsidized housing as % of all households
Households with income below the after-tax Low Income Measure (LIM-AT)	Households with income below the after-tax Low Income Measure as % of all households
Housing Characteristics	Type, year of construction, and condition of building
Housing condition - Major Repairs	Households in a dwelling requiring major repairs (%). The 'major repairs needed' category includes dwellings needing major repairs such as dwellings with defective plumbing or electrical wiring, and dwellings needing structural repairs to walls, floors or ceilings.
Housing Tenure	Households counts by tenure (owner, renter, subsidized housing)
Indigenous households	Households with at least one person aged 18+ who is Aboriginal identity. 'Aboriginal identity' refers to whether the person identified with the Aboriginal peoples of Canada. This includes those who are First Nations (North American Indian), Métis or Inuk (Inuit) and/or those who are Registered or Treaty Indians (that is, registered under the Indian Act of Canada), and/or those who have membership in a First Nation or Indian band. Aboriginal peoples of Canada are defined in the Constitution Act, 1982, Section 35 (2) as including the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada.
LIM-AT	Household counts by low-income (LIM-AT) status
Lone parent households	Households with one lone parent family (no other persons in the household) as % of all households. A lone-parent family is a lone parent of any marital status with at least one child living in the same dwelling.
Low home energy cost burden <3%	Households spending less than 3% of after-tax income on home energy as % of all households
Median home energy expenditure	Median household expenditure on housing energy ($)
Median household after-tax income	Median household after-tax income ($)
Moderate home energy cost burden 3-6%	Households spending 3 to 6% of after-tax income on home energy as % of all households
One couple households	households with two adult with and without children.

Recent immigrant households	Households with at least one person aged 18+ who is a recent immigrant (period of immigration 2011 to 2016)
Rental housing affordability - Spending 30% +	Rental households paying 30% or more of their income on shelter costs, out of all renter households (%)
Rural Households	Households that are located outside the UCB
Senior households	Households with at least one person aged 65+
Speaking neither English nor French	Households with at least one person aged 18+ who speaks neither English nor French as the language spoken at home
UCB	Urban Containment Boundary
Urban Households	Households that are located inside the UCB
Very high home energy cost burden 10% +	Households spending 10% or more of after-tax income on home energy as % of all households
Visible minority households	Households with at least one person aged 18+ who is a visible minority. 'Visible minority' refers to whether a person belongs to a visible minority group as defined by the Employment Equity Act and, if so, the visible minority group to which the person belongs

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ENERGY POVERTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

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