Sources for State Charts and Data

**Total State Population**


**State Median Income**

Median income for a family of four in the state


**Percent of Households Age 50+**

This number represents the percentage of households in the state headed by persons age 50 and older.


**Chart: Heating Assistance among Eligible Households**

This chart represents the ratio of the average number of households (between 2004 and 2006) in the state receiving any financial aid from the government specifically intended to help pay for heating costs to the number of households in the state at or below 150 percent of the federal poverty guideline.


**Telephone Penetration Rates**

This number represents the percentage of households in the state with active telephone service.


**Chart: Lifeline Assistance Penetration Rate**

This figure represents the ratio of Lifeline-subscriber households to total households in the state.


LI7Lelifeline Subscribership by State or Jurisdiction; LI8: LinkUp Assistance Subscribers by State or
Energy and Telephone Assistance in the States

Jurisdiction, The Universal Service Administrative Company's Quarterly Filing to the FCC, Third Quarter, 2006.

Sources for Telephone Assistance Programs

Lifeline and LinkUp

Program Descriptions and Eligibility Requirements

The descriptions of the federal Lifeline and LinkUp programs were developed using the following sources:


General descriptions of each state's Lifeline and LinkUp programs, including eligibility requirements, were gathered from state Public Utility Commission (PUC) orders, statutes, and rules; state public service commission web pages; Lifelinesupport.org (a website sponsored by a coalition of the largest local telephone companies); and Community Action Agencies.

Benefits

Information used to develop state Lifeline and LinkUp benefit data was collected from the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), state public utility commission websites, state telephone company websites or reports, or state human services/welfare departments that administer the program.

Funding

Federal

The source of federal Lifeline and LinkUp funding totals was the Universal Service Administrative Company's Quarterly Filing to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), LI7: Low-income Program Dollars Reported.

State

Data on state funding for Lifeline were readily available in only a few states. For the other states, an estimate was developed by multiplying the state portion of a Lifeline monthly credit over 12 months (generally $3.50 x 12 = $42) by the number of participating households.

Information on supplemental state funding for LinkUp was collected from state public utility commission websites, state telephone company websites or reports, or state human services/welfare departments that administer the program.

Initial information on state universal service funds was collected from the National Regulatory Research Institute:


Verification of this information was obtained from state PUCs and other relevant state agencies.

Participation

The total number of Lifeline and LinkUp subscribers in each state for the year 2005 was gathered from The Universal Service Administrative Company's Quarterly Filing to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), LI7: Lifeline Assistance Subscribers by State or Jurisdiction, and LI8: LinkUp Assistance Subscribers by State or Jurisdiction.
Participation Rates
Each state's participation rate in the Lifeline program was calculated in the following manner:

\[
\frac{\text{households subscribing to Lifeline}}{\text{total households}^{3} \text{ eligible for Lifeline assistance in state}} \times 100
\]

The number of households eligible for Lifeline assistance in each state is defined as those households with total incomes at or below the income limit used to define eligibility for the program. For states that use categorical eligibility criteria, that is, use participation in other low-income assistance programs as proxies for income eligibility, the participation rate is based on an estimated income eligibility limit derived using the eligibility criteria of one of the proxy programs. In most instances, the state's own Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) eligibility criteria served as the basis for making such an estimate, primarily because the program has the highest income eligibility criteria among the other proxy programs and thus includes the largest number of eligible households. For the states that use categorical eligibility criteria that do not include LIHEAP, an estimated income limit was derived based on average households participating in state Medicaid or SSI programs. This information is available from the March Supplement of the Current Population Survey.

---

1 The total number of households in each state at or below specific levels of poverty was calculated using a weighted average of state and income data from the 2004, 2005, and 2006 editions of the March Supplement/Current Population Survey prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Census Bureau, U.S. Departments of Labor and Commerce.
Energy and Telephone Assistance in the States

**Funding**
Each state’s LIHEAP Net Block Grant and Emergency Contingency Allotment was obtained initially from the LIHEAP Clearinghouse: <www.ncat.org/liheap/funds01.htm>. These state funding totals were verified or updated by LIHEAP program staff in each state and the District of Columbia.

**Participation**
The total number of households receiving LIHEAP assistance in each of the five LIHEAP program components (heating, cooling, winter/year-round crisis, summer crisis, and weatherization) in each state for FY2006 was obtained from state LIHEAP staff, or where not possible, from the LIHEAP Clearinghouse.

**Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)**

**Program Descriptions and Eligibility Requirements**
The general description of the federal Weatherization Assistance Program was developed from information provided by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Building Technology, State, and Community Programs; Weatherization Assistance Program Technical Assistance Center; LIHEAP Clearinghouse; individual state weatherization web pages and printed literature.

**Benefits**
Each state’s maximum weatherization benefit was developed using data from state Weatherization Assistance Program staff, Weatherization Assistance state plans; state WAP web pages; and the LIHEAP Clearinghouse. Every attempt was made to verify each state’s maximum or average benefit by state WAP staff. Instances where this information was inaccessible are footnoted.

**Funding**

**Federal**
National funding levels for the Weatherization Assistance Program were obtained from the following report:

*Weatherization Program Notice 06-2A Effective Date: January 19, 2005, U.S. Department of Energy,*

Each state’s total federal weatherization funding was obtained from state weatherization staff and from the LIHEAP Clearinghouse: <www.ncat.org/liheap/wx.htm>. LIHEAP contributions to WAP for each state were estimated from the state’s mandated LIHEAP contribution (15 percent of the regular net LIHEAP allotment in most cases). Both DOE funding and estimated additional LIHEAP funding were verified or updated by weatherization staff in each state.

**State and Other Funding**
Total state or other funding for the weatherization program was derived from surveys and interviews with state WAP staff, state plans, and WAP web pages.

**Participation**
The total number of households assisted in each state was obtained from state WAP staff.

**State Energy Assistance Programs**
Participation rates were provided for several of the state energy assistance programs. For each of these programs, the participation rate was calculated as follows:

\[
\text{Participation Rate} = \frac{\text{households participating in program}}{\text{total households eligible for program assistance in state}} \times 100
\]