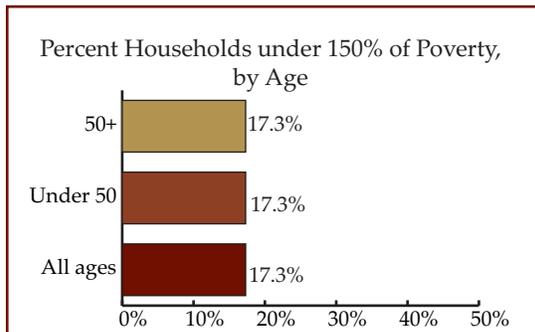


Energy and Telephone Assistance in the States

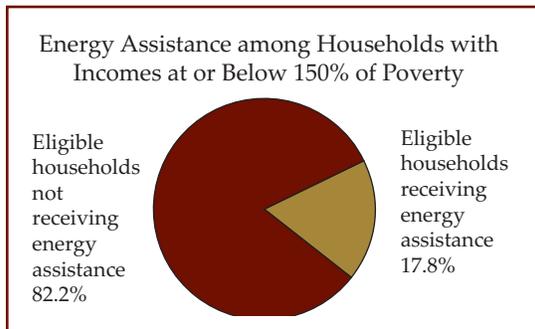
Iowa

Iowa in Brief (2006)

Total state population:	2,982,085
State median income:	\$64,341
Percent households age 50+:	46.5%

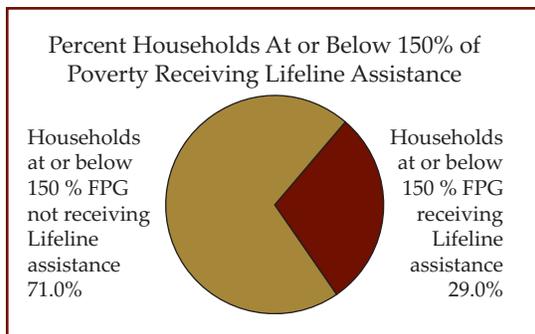


Energy Assistance



Telephone Assistance

Telephone penetration rate in state: 96.3%



Telephone Assistance

Lifeline and Link-Up are the primary sources of telephone assistance for low-income households in Iowa.

Lifeline

Lifeline provides participating low-income households with a monthly credit toward the price of basic local telephone service.

Benefits (2006)

Maximum monthly credit: \$10
 Basic federal support: \$10
 State support: None

Funding (2005)

Federal: \$5,381,711
 State: None

Eligibility (2006)

To receive Lifeline assistance, state residents must complete an application with their local telephone provider and prove that their household incomes are at or below 135% of the federal poverty guideline, or that they are enrolled in any of the following programs:

- Medicaid
- Food stamps
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal public housing, Section 8
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- National School Lunch Program

Beneficiaries must recertify with their local telephone provider periodically to remain eligible for this program.

Participation (2005)

Households served: 61,187

Energy and Telephone Assistance in the States

Participation rate: 33.8% (based on 135% of federal poverty guidelines)

Link-Up

Qualified customers receive a discount on the price of installing new telephone service.

Benefits (2006)

Link-Up subscribers receive the following:

- A credit of \$30 or a 50% reduction in the charges customers pay for connecting to new telephone service, whichever is less
- The option of deferring payment on the balance of the connection fee (up to \$200) with no interest charges for a period not to exceed one year

Funding (2005)

Federal: \$462,014

Eligibility (2006)

Eligibility requirements are the same as for Lifeline.

Participation (2005)

Households served: 20,635

Energy Assistance

Low-income energy assistance programs in Iowa include the following:

- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

The federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides the state of Iowa with a block grant to help eligible low-income households meet their immediate home energy needs. With this grant, Iowa distributes payments for heating assistance, and offers crisis assistance through the Emergency Crisis Intervention Program. The state also uses a portion of the grant to supplement funding Iowa's Weatherization Assistance Program

(WAP). The Iowa Bureau of Energy Assistance administers the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Benefits (FY2005)

Heating: \$317 average per household
Crisis (Emergency Crisis Intervention Program) including furnace repair and replacement: \$1,500
Emergency delivery/reconnect: \$300

Clients receive one benefit a year. Benefits are paid to the energy provider unless the client's home energy costs are included in rent, in which case the payment is sent directly to the client. Both heating and crisis assistance are available from November 1 to April 15. The program uses an early application period of one month for older and disabled applicants.

Funding (FY2006)

Total: \$60,981,479

Federal: \$53,931,479

Regular net block grant: \$36,343,186

Additional one-time net block grant: \$419,222

Total emergency cont.: \$15,291,272

Other: \$1,877,799

FY2005 carryover funds

Leveraging incentive program

State: \$2,850,000

State supplemental funding: \$2,850,000

Utility: \$4,200,000

MidAmerican Energy: \$2,500,000

Alliant Energy: \$2,700,000

The Iowa Department of Human Resources, Division of Community Action Agencies, distributes grants to community action agencies throughout the state. These agencies accept applications, determine eligibility, notify clients, and make payments to energy providers and clients.

Iowa allocates LIHEAP funding in the following manner:

- Heating assistance: 60%
- Crisis assistance: 5%

Energy and Telephone Assistance in the States

- Weatherization: 15%
- Administration, etc. 20%,
which includes services to reduce home energy needs (5%), and carryover to FY2007(5%)

Eligibility (FY2006)

State residents with household incomes at or below 150% of poverty are eligible for assistance.

Participation (FY2005)

Households served by program component:

Heating:	85,593
Winter/Year-round Crisis:	4,869
Summer Crisis:	1,525
Weatherization:	2,240

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

Through the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), the U.S. Department of Energy provides Iowa with a formula distribution grant to help low-income residents—especially those 60 years and older, disabled, or living with young children—increase the energy efficiency of their homes, reduce their energy expenditures, and improve health and safety.

Benefits (FY2005)

Average benefit per household: \$4,700

Weatherization technicians use energy audits to identify and implement energy-saving measures for each home. Examples of these measures include the following:

- Insulating attic, walls, crawl spaces, water heater and exposed pipes
- Tuning up, repairing, or replacing the furnace or heating unit and/or air conditioner
- Stopping air infiltration by weather-stripping and caulking around doors and windows, replacing broken glass panes, and sealing attic bypasses
- Replacing inefficient refrigerators and freezers

Funding (FY2006)

Total: \$15,429,185

Federal: \$10,605,356

Department of Energy: \$5,153,879

Additional LIHEAP funding: \$5,451,477

Utility: \$4,823,829

The Department of Human Rights, Division of Community Action Agencies, distributes grants to 18 community action agencies throughout the state. These agencies accept applications, determine eligibility, and provide weatherization services, such as performing energy audits and implementing suggested measures

Eligibility (FY2006)

State residents with household income at or below 150% of poverty are eligible for assistance. Households approved for LIHEAP are automatically eligible for weatherization assistance.

Participation (2005)

Households served: 2,064

Seasonal, Health, and Income-Related Disconnection Policies

Seasonal

From November through April, Iowa prohibits the disconnection of residential electric or natural gas service for nonpayment if the customer is certified eligible for LIHEAP and/ or the Weatherization Assistance Program.

Iowa also prohibits the disconnection of residential electric or natural gas service for nonpayment when the National Weather Service forecasts that the temperature at that location will be 20° F or below for that calendar day.

Health

The state requires utilities to delay for up to 30 days the disconnection of residential service if a physician or other public health official certifies that such an action would adversely affect the health of the customer or a permanent household resident. The delay may be extended for an additional 30 days if the physician certifies

Energy and Telephone Assistance in the States

Iowa

that the problem still exists at the end of the initial period. The customer is required negotiate a payment arrangement to pay the overdue balance.

Deferred Payments

Utilities are required to offer deferred payment arrangements to residential customers in danger of disconnection for nonpayment, and are prohibited from disconnecting service when a customer agrees and adheres to such an arrangement.