

# Building Energy Code Status New Hampshire

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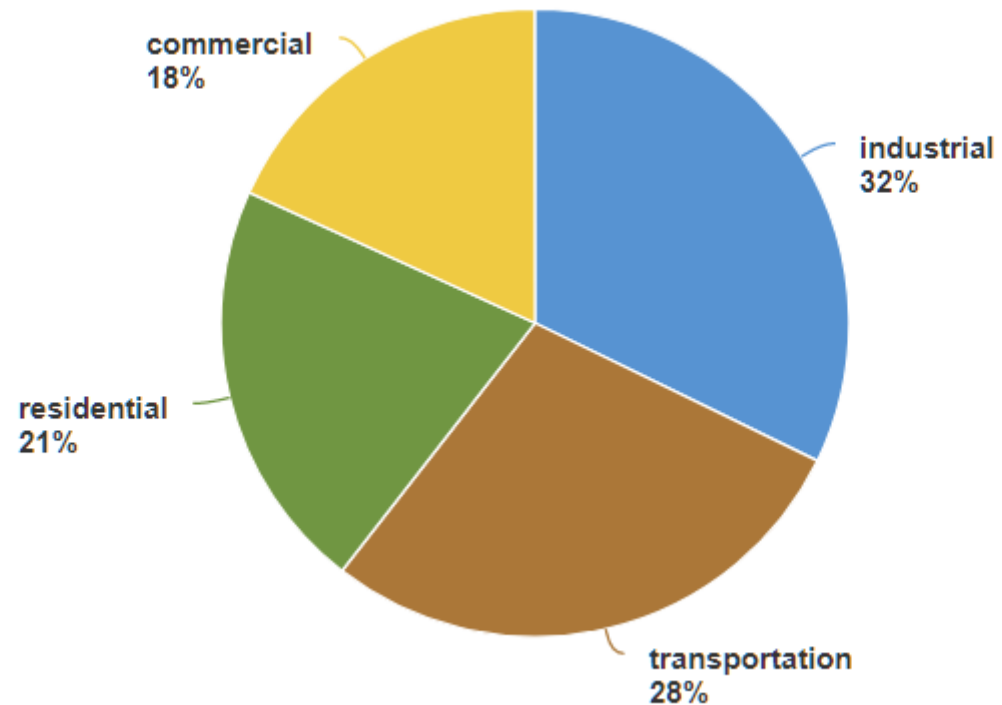
# Who is ASHRAE?

- The organization that performs the research in building science necessary to create recommendations for energy codes
- 50,000 members from over 103 countries committed to advancing the fields of heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and clean indoor air
- Works with local legislators to ensure buildings are as energy efficient as possible while delivering the best indoor air quality possible



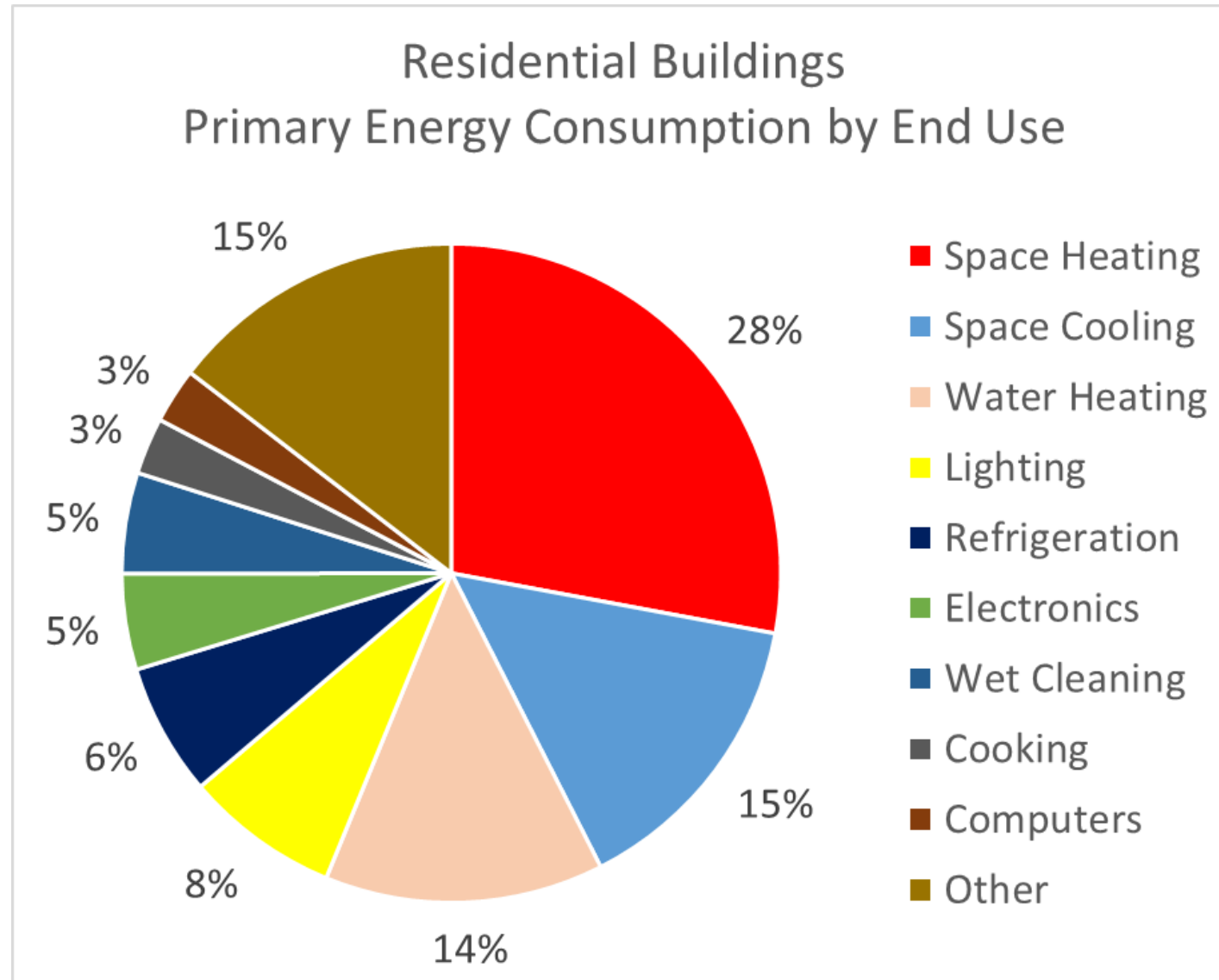
# US Energy Consumption by End Use

The significance of the residential sector



Energy Information Administration

# How Do We Use Energy in Residences?



# Current work at with NH Legislators

- HB 1059
  - Would adopt the entire 2021 ICC code except for the 2021 IECC code. This bill would keep the 2018 version of the energy code in statue
- SB 373
  - Would adopt the entire 2021 ICC code except for the 2021 IECC code. This bill would keep the 2018 version of the energy code in statue
- SB 437
  - The bill, as written, virtually eliminates the ability for communities to adopt more modern building codes than state law requires. It accomplishes this by creating significant administrative burdens for both municipalities and the Building Code Review Board (BCRB) in the event a municipality elects to adopt even small changes to the state building code as defined in RSA 155:A.

# Motives for adopting IECC 2021 energy codes

- Energy Efficiency and Related Operating Cost
  - Shifting cost from “first cost” to “operating cost”
  - Buildings must be well insulated and properly sealed
- Human Comfort
  - Indoor air quality is directly linked to human health.
    - Improved vapor barrier allows for indoor moisture control [[REF1](#)] [[REF 2](#)]
- Increased Property Value
  - 2.7% “average” price premium on energy efficient buildings; 3-5% as compared to less efficient rated homes [[REF 3](#)]
  - Lower interest rates from key lenders. [[REF 4](#)]
- Reduction in Related Carbon Emissions

# Summary

- Inclusion of the IECC 2021 Energy Codes in either HB 1059 or SB 373 does not look likely:
  - NAHB has produced a report that concludes “return of investment” of incremental energy improvements is not worth the upfront investment
  - Legislature appears to accept this false conclusion
- Upcoming Webinar:

**The Energy Working Group, *NH Network for Environment • Energy • Climate*  
and  
NH Healthcare Workers for Climate Action**

- **WHEN:** Thursday, March 7, 2024, 4:00-5:00 pm (admission is free)
- **WHERE:** A virtual event, register at: [bit.ly/Building\\_codes](https://bit.ly/Building_codes)

