

VECAN

VERMONT ENERGY & CLIMATE
ACTION NETWORK

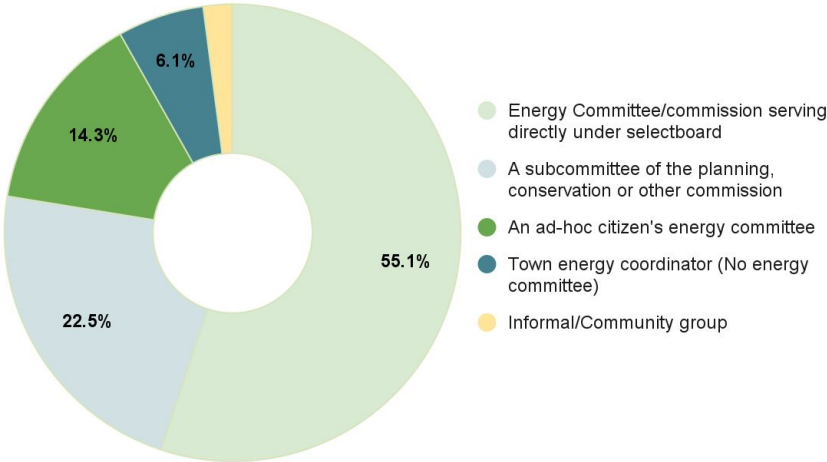
2022 Survey Results

A summary of the priorities, opportunities, and challenges we heard from energy committees across Vermont in our 2022 survey

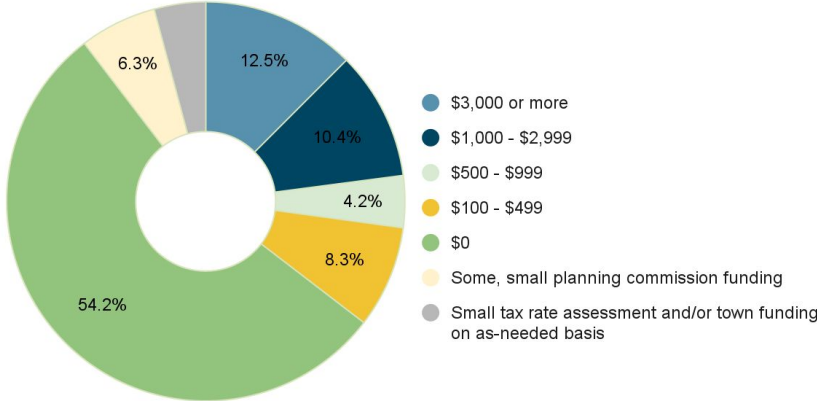
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Structure, Age & Funding

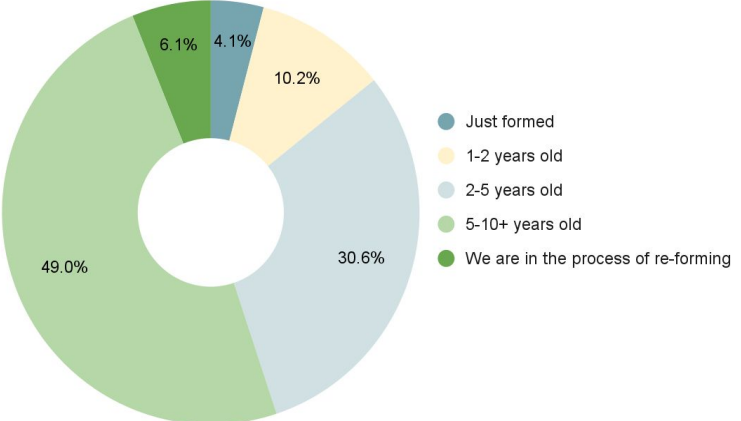
What is the organizational structure of your energy group?



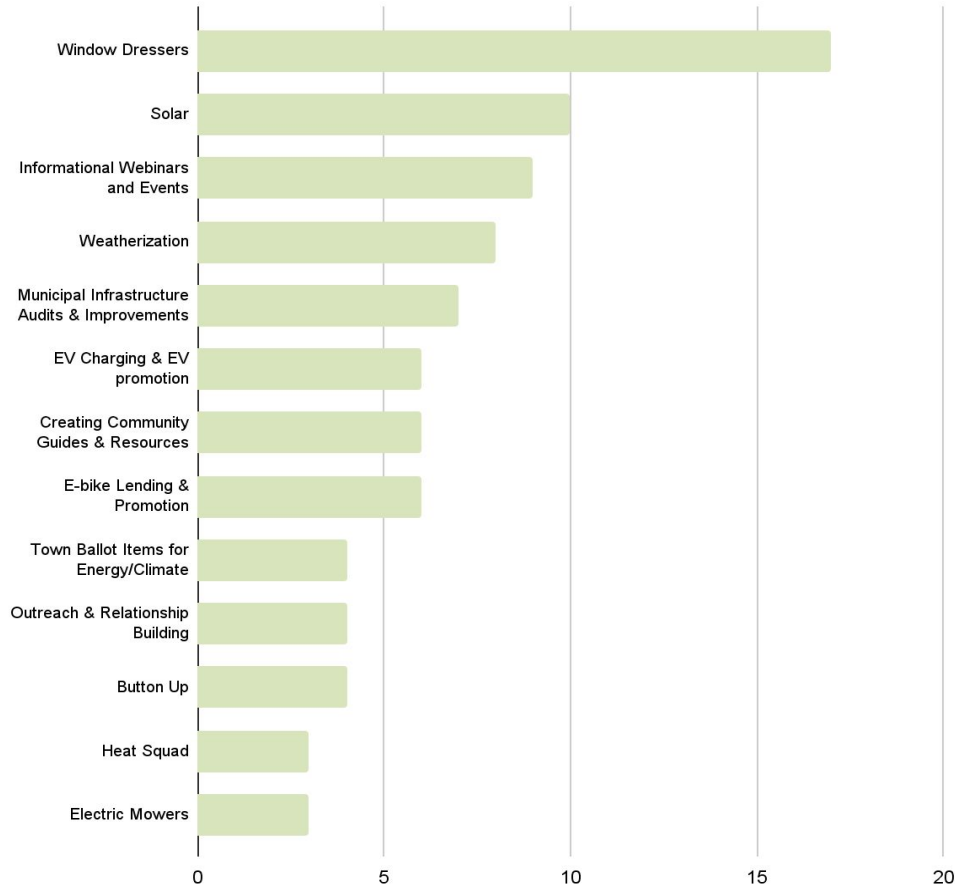
Does your energy group receive any money from your town/city or other sources? If so, how much?



How old is your energy group?



Notable Energy Projects & Programs of the Past Year



Recent Successes

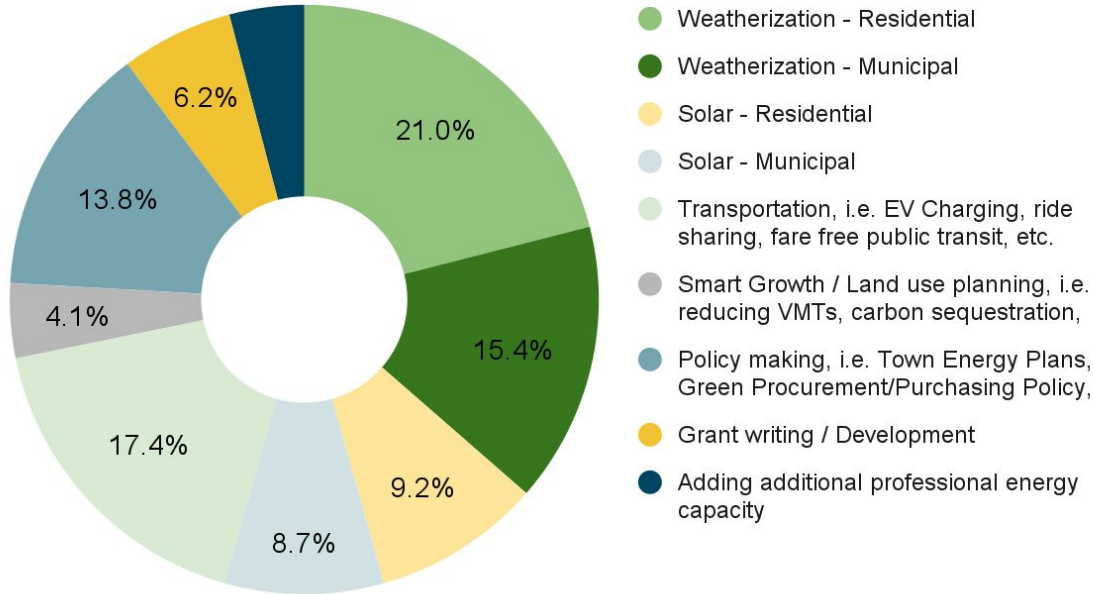
Other recent notable successes:

- Energy Committee Member on Selectboard
- Green Procurement Policy for all town departments
- Mapping of all commercial and residential solar arrays in town
- Local auto dealer donated an EV to school driver's education program
- Exploring bike/pedestrian investments in a town study

...and so many more!

Priorities for the Year Ahead

Priority Areas for Your Energy Committee

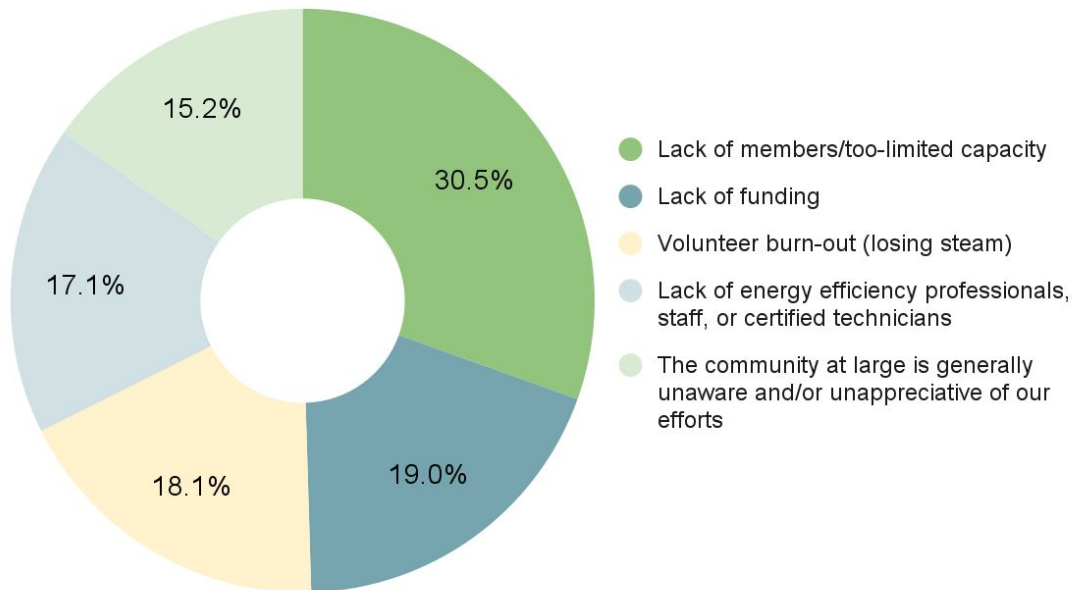


Other priorities noted:

- Municipal fuel-switching
- Implementing the town's Enhanced Energy Plan
- Recruiting new members
- Hosting educational events
- Becoming a Net Zero emissions community

General Challenges

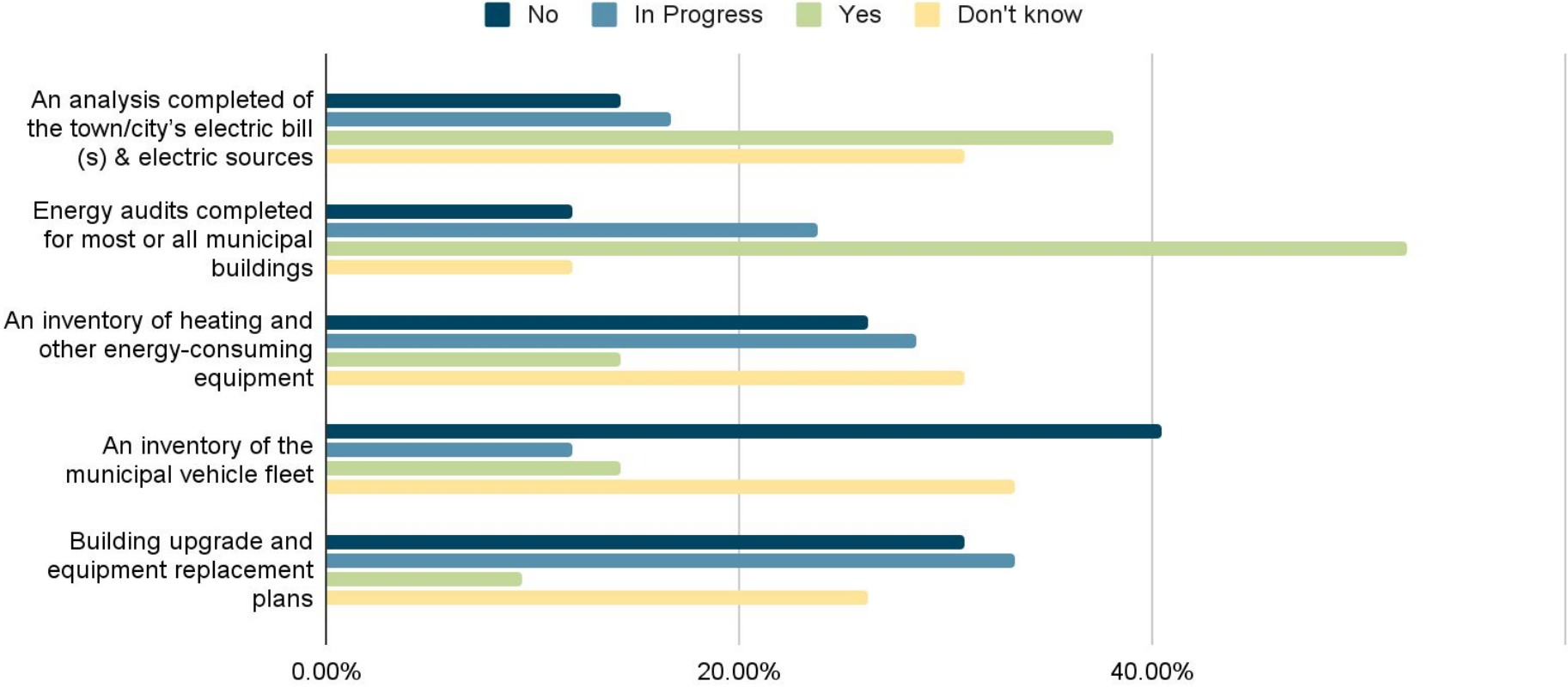
Top 5 Challenges



Other challenges noted:

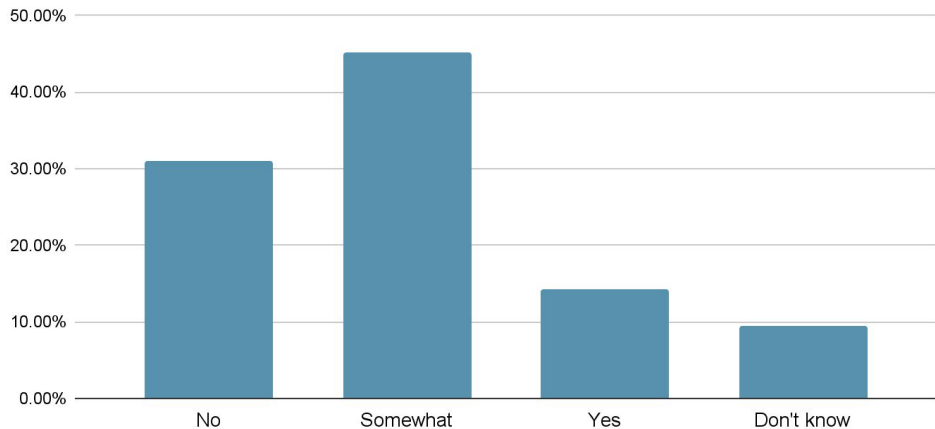
- Outreach to town residents about community energy work
- State and local policy barriers, including information about currently available incentives
- Availability of town resources to implement projects
- COVID-19 related challenges

Understanding Your Municipality's Energy Portfolio

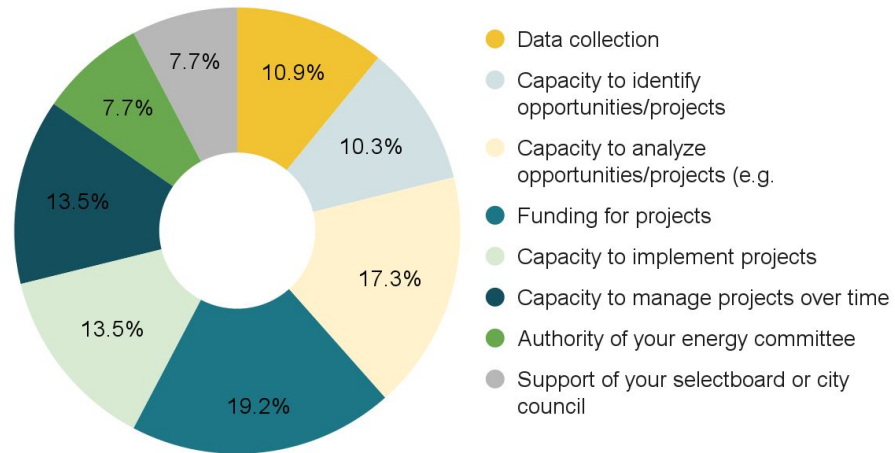


Utilizing ARPA & Municipal Challenges

Do you feel prepared to help your municipality strategically invest ARPA dollars?



What challenges are preventing your town/city from understanding its energy portfolio, identifying opportunities, and implementing projects?



Final Thoughts

- There is a clear need for more capacity - in energy committees, at RPCs, and in Vermont's energy workforce
- Lack of funding is a major challenge – but the moment to capitalize on federal dollars is now!
- At the municipal level, there is a need for more focus on and investments in the transportation and thermal spaces
- There could be more focus on municipal level policy and/or outreach strategies, including town ballot items, Selectboard liaisons, and relationship building
- Energy Planners at RPCs and staff at EVT are here to be resources to energy committees who need support doing this critical work
- Relationship building with your utilities can be very helpful – and RPCs can help facilitate this connection

THANK YOU!

...to all of the Energy Committee leaders who completed VECAN's 2022 Survey – and for the important work you're all doing for your communities and for Vermont as a whole. Your responses will inform our work for the year ahead, and help us better support your individual and our collective efforts.