

Energy Costs Come First: A New Approach to Environmental Justice

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In the scatter plots for each state, every panel reflects the relationship between Black population and energy burdens in one Congressional District in that state. Within each district's panel, one dot represents each census tract in that district. The slope of each panel's light blue line reflects the correlation between higher black population and higher energy burdens for that district, with its confidence interval shown in gray (so a wider gray shading represents a looser fit for that panel's blue line). Then, each Congressional District in the states included in PPI's report "Energy Costs Come First: a New Approach to Environmental Justice" is mapped such that the fill color of each census tract scales according to the energy burden as a percent of area median income or the proportion of Black households as share of the tract's population.

This appendix uses data from the Department of Energy's Low-income Energy Affordability Data (LEAD) tool collected through the Census Bureau. Importantly, these estimations are not causal and only reflect the statistical level of similarity between the two characteristics across the range of census tracts in each district. Additionally, the underlying data report values for energy burden calculated from area median income and average annual energy costs and so do not capture varying levels of energy burden within each tract or microdata like individual household burden. Even though this correlation does not allow for direct causal claims, the simplicity of this comparison provides significant insight when paired with the entire PPI report.

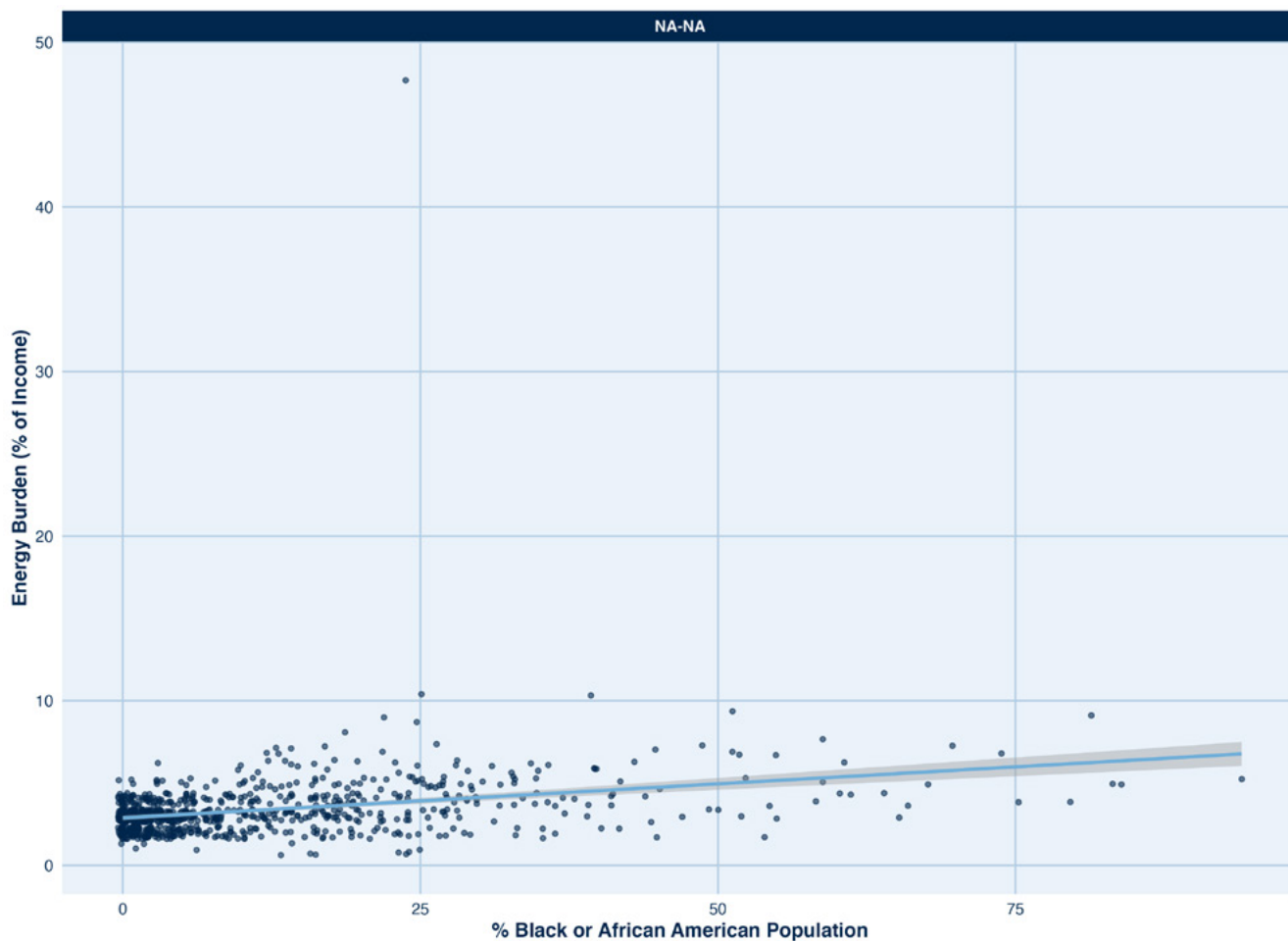


Read the full report at:

www.progressivepolicy.org/energy-costs-come-first/

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BLACK POPULATION SHARE AND ENERGY BURDENS IN CONNECTICUT CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS



Source: DOE LEAD Data

Note: Connecticut is unmapped due to dataset limitations.