TEPRI
Texas Energy Poverty Research Institute

South Texas: Our Work and Priorities

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Brownsville, TX
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TEPRI
Texas Energy Poverty Research Institute

*TEPRI advances **equitable solutions for affordable, reliable, and clean energy** so all people can thrive.*

1 **Affordable**

Decrease energy burdens for low-to-moderate income houses

2 **Reliable**

Improve energy resilience, address energy access, and respond to energy outages

3 **Clean**

Increase parity in clean energy technology access and adoption.

TEPRI
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Our Strategy

Conduct Research

on the energy priorities of people with lower incomes

Develop Tools

to advance lasting energy solutions

Build a Strong Network

including community and energy stakeholders

Pilot Innovative Models

to demonstrate technological developments

Collaboration with come dream. come build.

Solar Pilot

Working with cdcb and MiCASiTA to explore solar options for affordable, modular homes at scale

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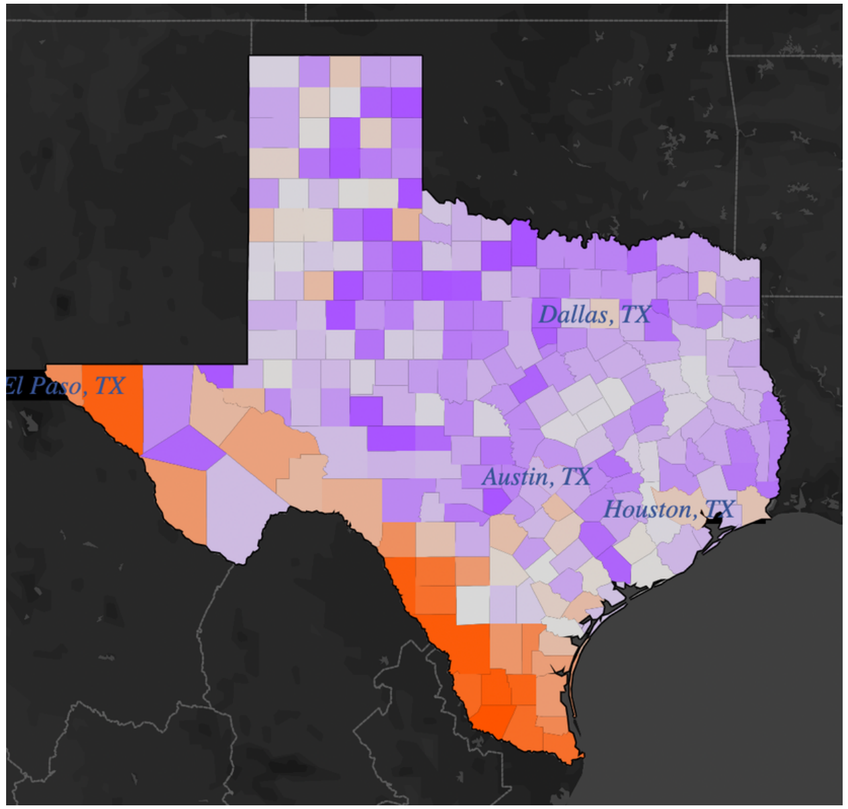
cdcb come dream. come build.

Tools: Energy Equity Inspector



Utilizes publicly available datasets to help measure the impact of **energy and environmental challenges**

Allows users to better understand the relationships between factors like **energy cost burden, greenhouse gas emissions, racial demographics, and housing stock.**

Covers all **southeastern states and Texas** and can get down to the census tract level for some datasets.

The tool is not currently released to the public and is still in beta form.

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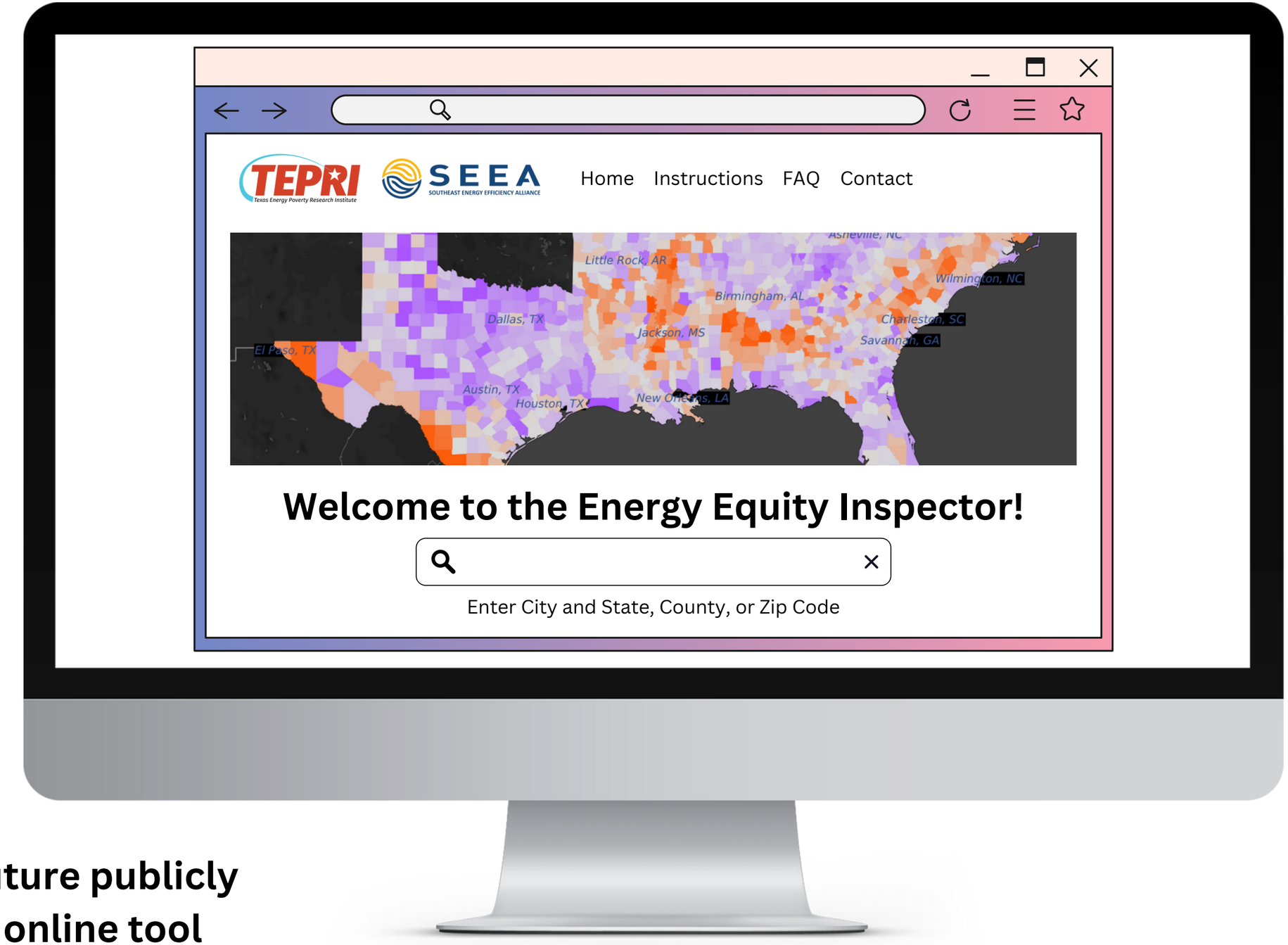
SEEA SOUTHEAST ENERGY EFFICIENCY ALLIANCE

Data Sources

The Energy Equity Inspector incorporates publicly available datasets, including from these sources.



Mockup: Future publicly available online tool

Cameron County

9.7%

Average Energy Burden
LMI Households

$1,634

Average Annual Energy Costs
LMI Households

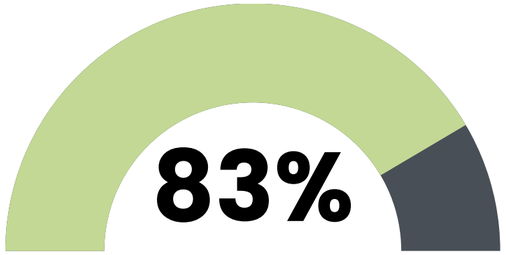
49,660

Households with High or Extreme Energy Burden (>6%)

884 thousand

Tons of greenhouse gas emissions emitted per year

BIPOC population



EJSCREEN Vulnerability Index Percentile

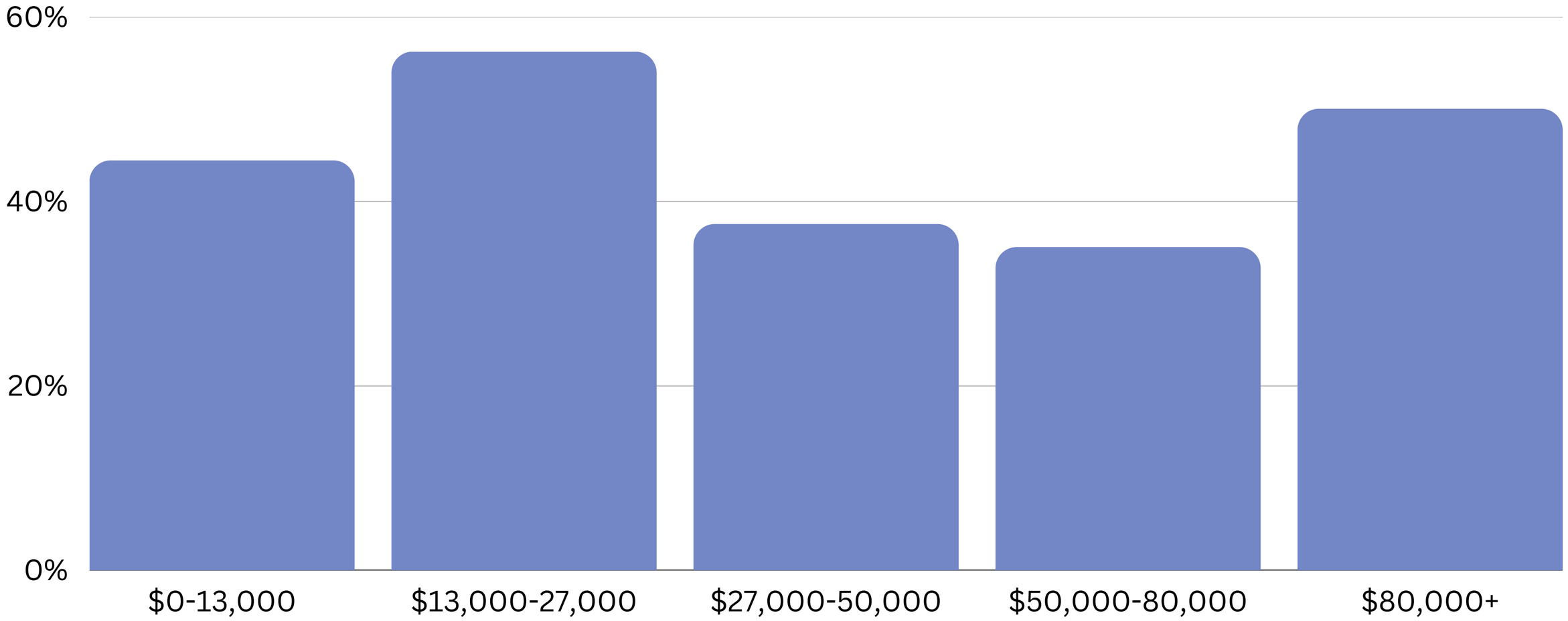
Cameron County Major Cities

City	Average Energy Burden (all incomes)	Average Energy Affordability Gap per Household (in $)
Brownsville	7%	$247
Harlingen	10%	$524
San Benito	10%	$534
La Feria	9%	$549
Rio Hondo	12%	$710

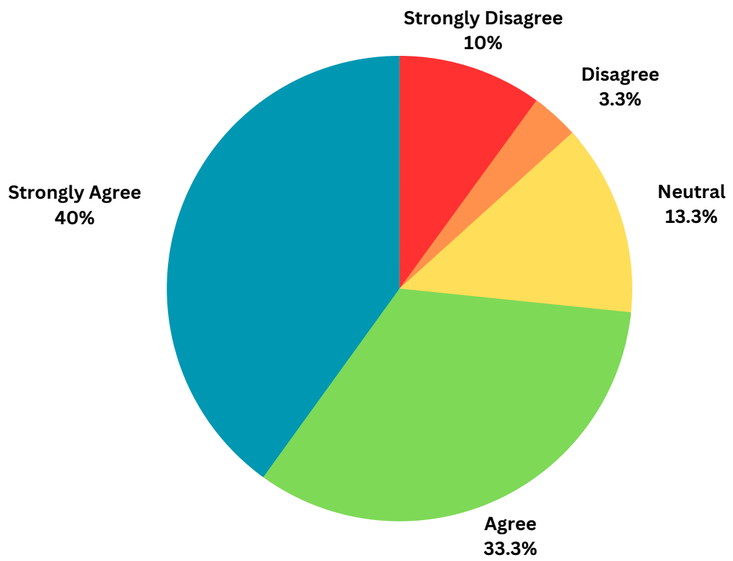
Community Voices in Energy Survey

Cameron County: Selected Results

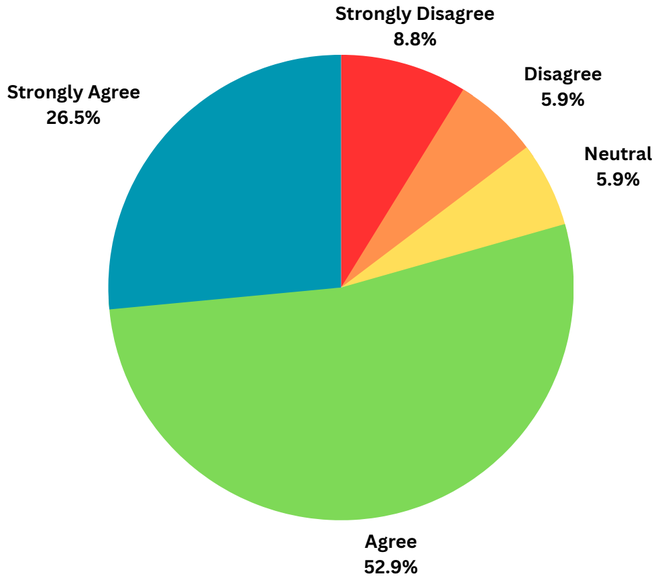
Do you consider your electricity bill to be affordable? ***No.***



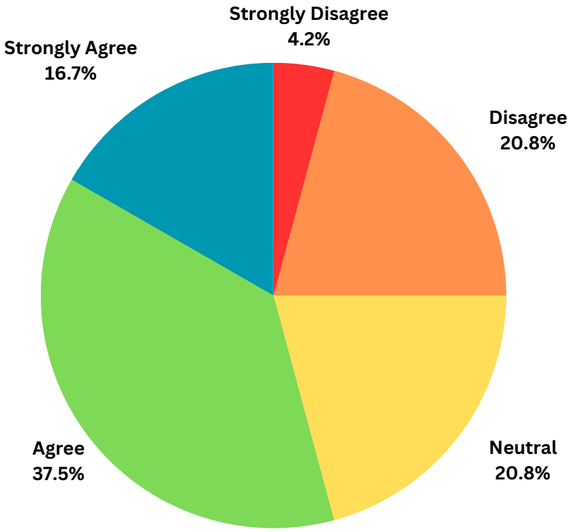
"I have to cut back on spending on other household/essential goods to afford my monthly energy bills."



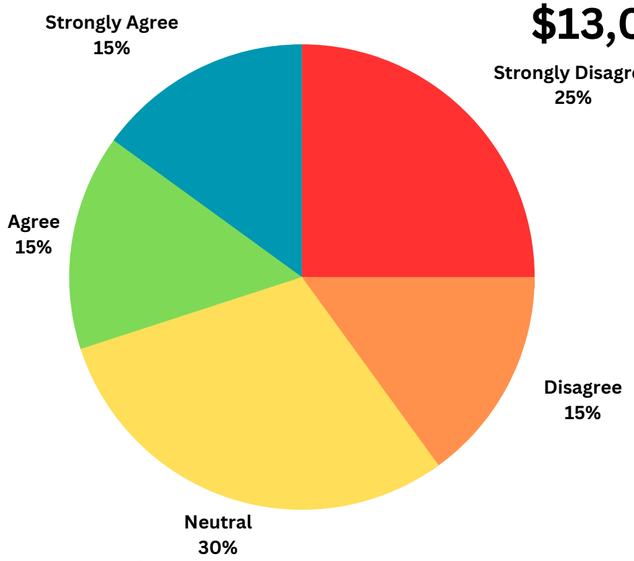
$0-13,000



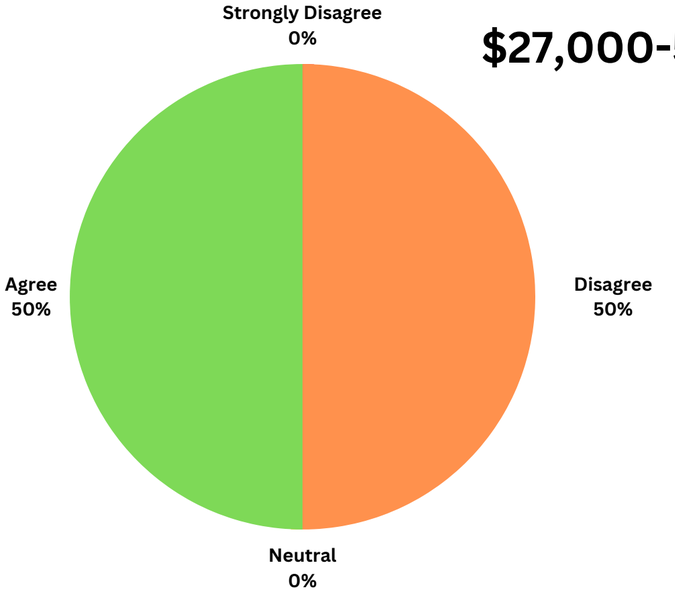
$13,000-27,000



$27,000-50,000

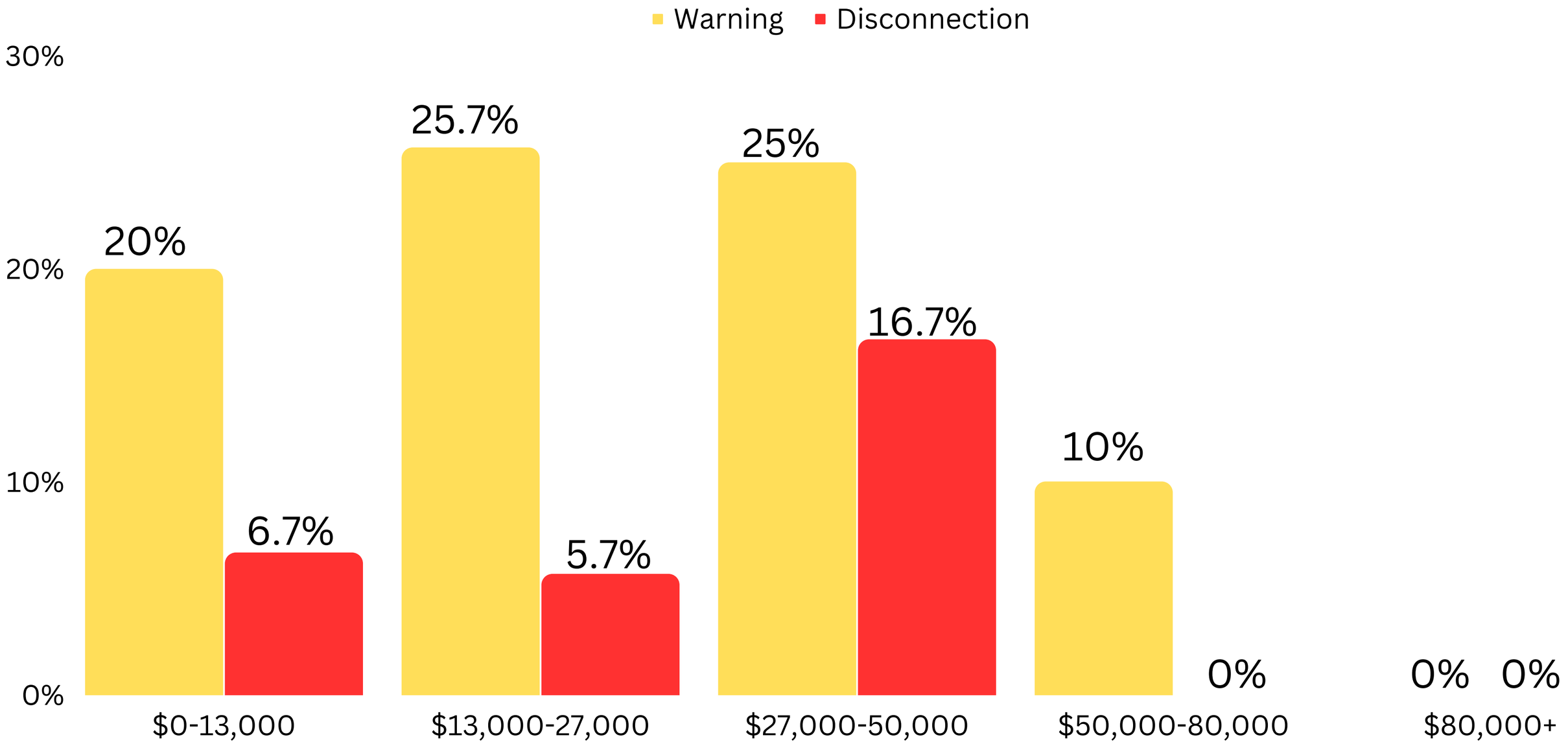


$50,000-80,000

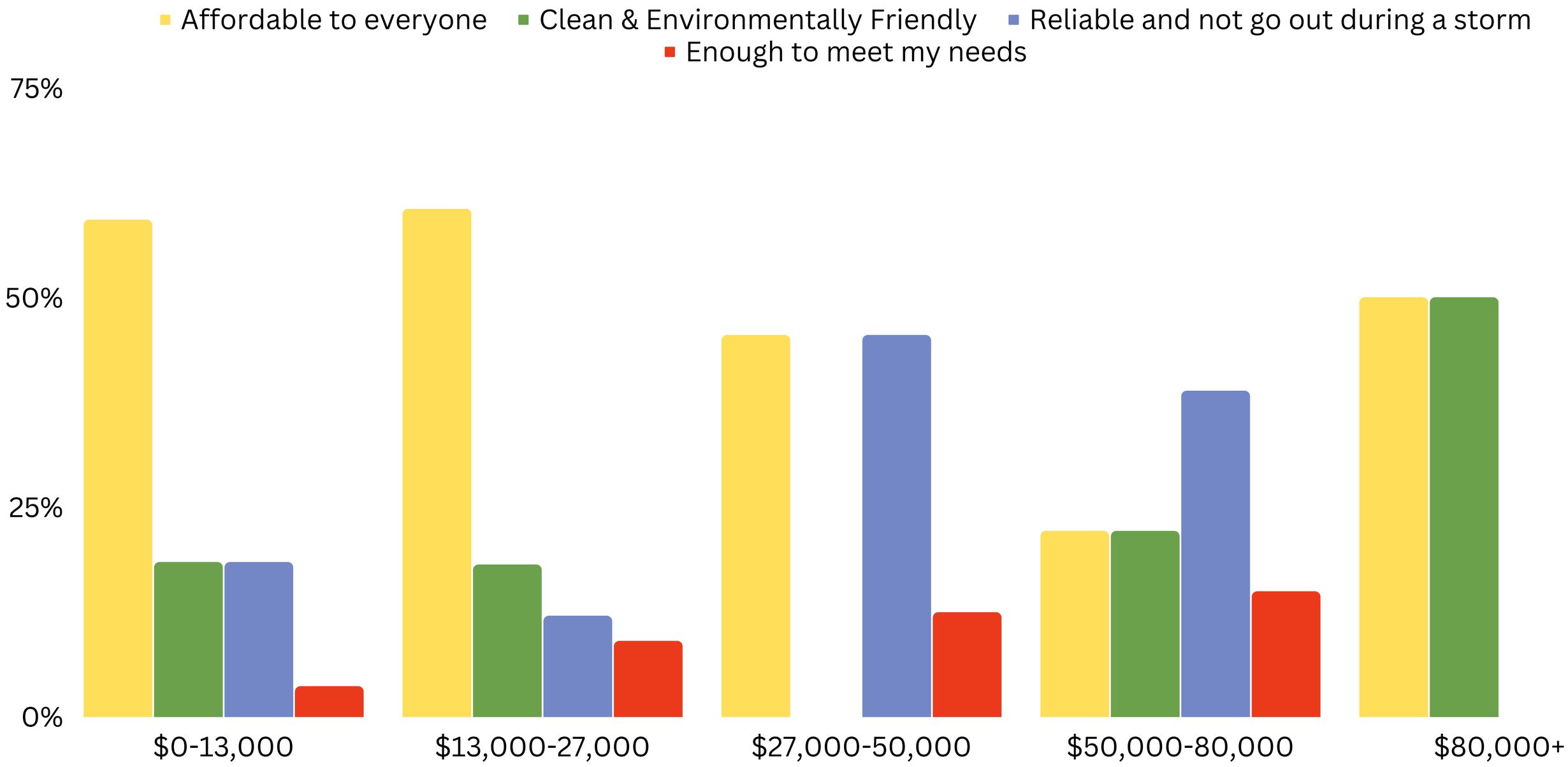


$80,000+

Disconnections and disconnection warnings in the last twelve months



Electricity should be… (which preference was ranked first)



PROJECT STEER

South Texas Energy Equity Resources

What is Project STEER?

Project STEER (South Texas Energy Equity Resources) aims to be a one-stop-shop for South Texas community-based organizations to gain access to tailored information on energy equity funding, opportunities, data, and resources.

What we can offer

Our mission is to connect community organizations and families in South Texas with existing funding opportunities, key data indicators, technical assistance, and educational resources to help strengthen energy equity in the region.

Information on funding opportunities relevant to South Texas

There is now more funding than ever for community-based organizations. We offer up-to-date information on key federal funding opportunities, due dates, and important relevant information

Key data to inform work in your community

You know your community best, but we can help provide robust data to support your organization's goals. Whether you're looking to support a funding application or better understand local trends, we offer free local-level data on key energy indicators.

Educational resources

Project STEER aims to ensure that all Texans understand the value of energy equity. We provide educational materials on how energy efficiency, renewable energy, behavior changes, and other interventions all play into how a more equitable energy future may be achieved and how these interventions can improve households and communities.