

**Rhode Island  
Energy Efficiency Council**

# **2024 Annual Report Executive Summary**



Helping Rhode Islanders  
save on energy costs.

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# What is Energy Efficiency?

Energy efficiency is the practice of using *less energy* to achieve the *same result* or perform the same task.

## Examples of Energy Efficiency in the Home:



- INSULATION
- AIR SEALING
- WINDOWS & DOORS
- HEAT PUMPS
- THERMOSTATS
- WATER HEATING
- APPLIANCES
- ELECTRONICS
- LOW-FLOW FIXTURES

## Energy Efficiency Programs in Rhode Island

In Rhode Island, energy efficiency programs are offered by the state's regulated distribution utilities. The major investor-owned utility operating in the state, Rhode Island Energy, offers an array of energy saving programs that benefit all Rhode Islanders.

### Rhode Island Energy's efficiency programs:



- Are available to residential, commercial & industrial customers
- Offer financial incentives & rebates, loans & grants, and technical assistance
- Must pass cost-effective tests
- Have significant oversight & regulation
- Are funded through a small surcharge on all gas & electric bills

# Energy Efficiency Supports Jobs, Economy & Climate



In 2023, energy efficiency programs in Rhode Island created...

**749 jobs**  
(full-time equivalent)



**626 companies**

Delivered energy efficiency services in 2023



In 2023, energy efficiency programs resulted in...

**\$495 million**  
in total benefits to  
Rhode Islanders



Over their lifetime, energy efficiency measures installed in 2023 will prevent more than...

**609,000 metric tons**  
of greenhouse gas emissions



Equivalent to taking over...

**145,000 cars**  
off the road for one year

# What is the Rhode Island Energy Efficiency Council?

## MISSION

The Energy Efficiency Council monitors the state's energy efficiency programs to maximize cost-effective energy savings for all Rhode Islanders through comprehensive stakeholder representation and expert technical evaluation.

## ABOUT

The Rhode Island Energy and Efficiency Resource Management Council (EERMC), otherwise known more simply as "The Energy Efficiency Council" was established by statute in 2006 to provide oversight of the state's ratepayer-funded energy efficiency programs. The Council includes fifteen appointed members that represent the interests of homeowners, renters, workers, businesses, municipalities, and the environment.

Rhode Island is a leader in energy efficiency in North America. The Council is a key driver of that success, providing technical expertise and informed stakeholder input that shapes energy strategy, planning, and implementation in Rhode Island.

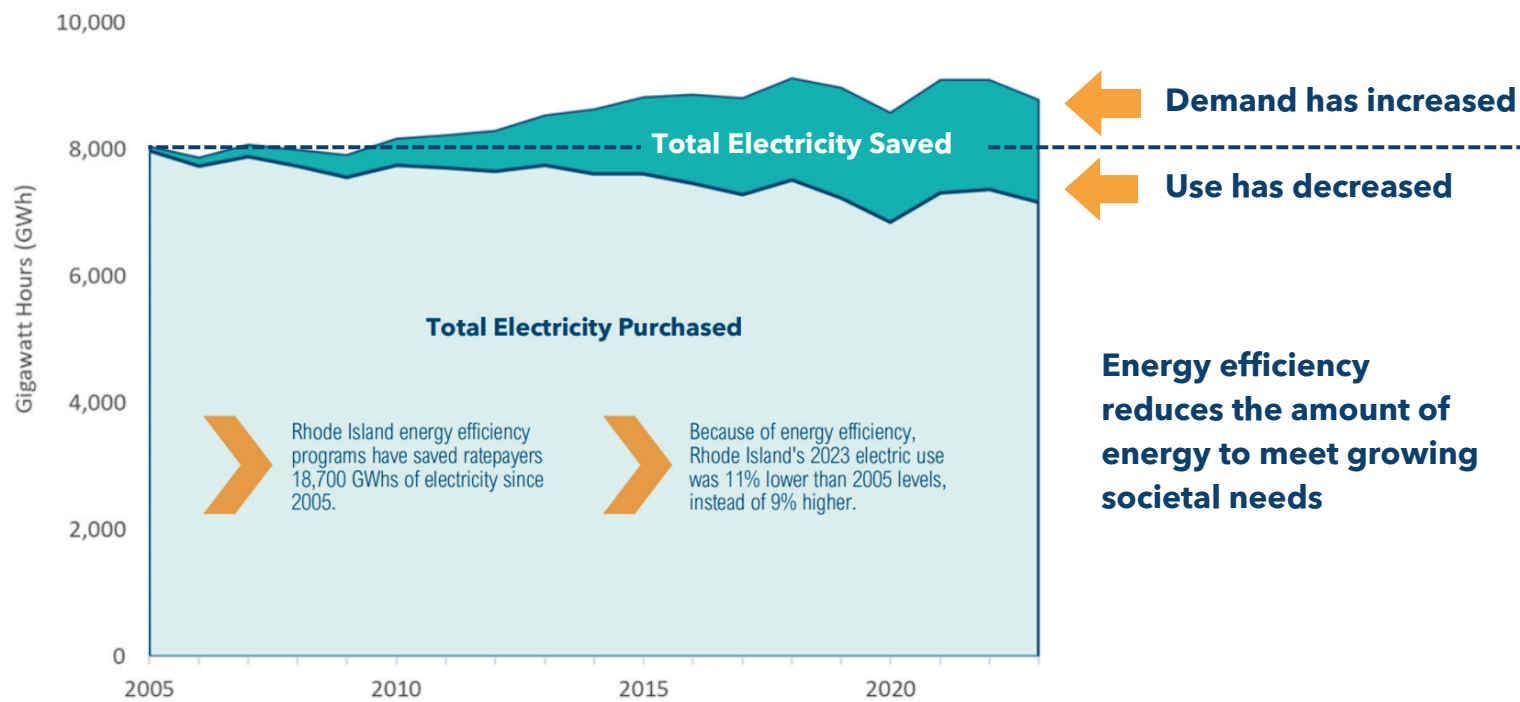
Cost-effective energy efficiency is the foundation of a sustainable energy future. The Council is committed to helping Rhode Island achieve its climate mandates and work toward a clean, reliable, and affordable energy economy. This is achievable when all Rhode Islanders have access to the full benefits of energy efficiency.



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# ENERGY EFFICIENCY IS A RESOURCE

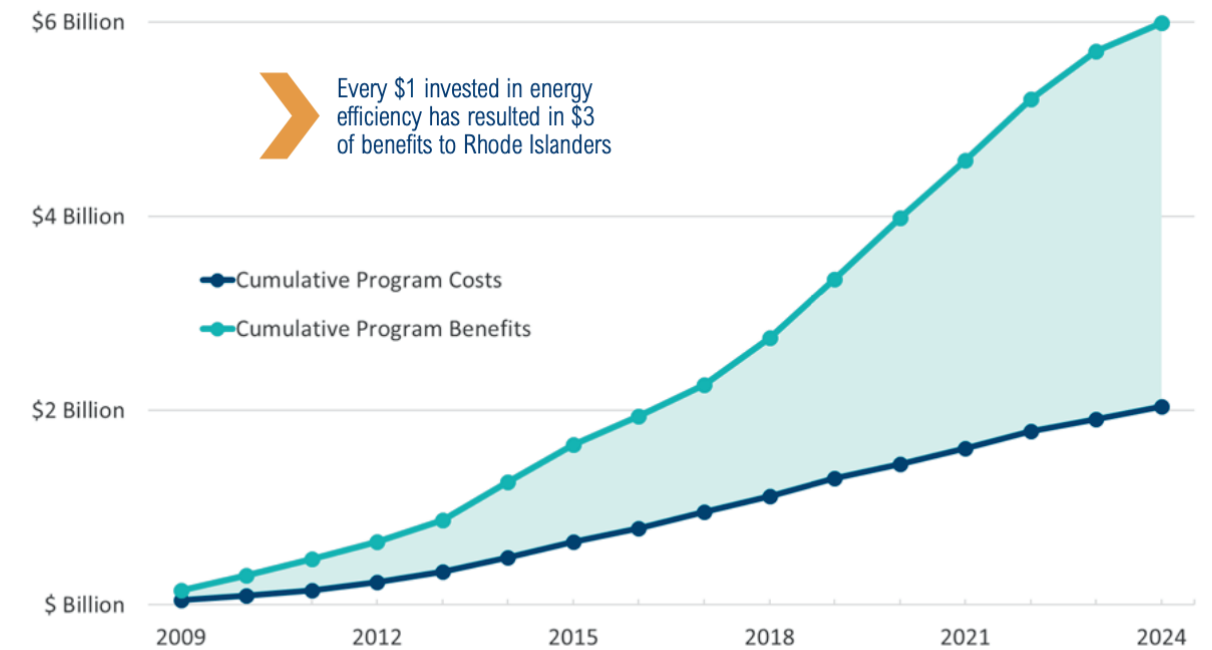
**Cumulative Impact of Energy Efficiency on RI Electric Use**



In general, there are two options for meeting the energy needs of consumers, businesses, and institutions: producing energy supply or reducing energy demand. In other words, energy efficiency is capable of displacing energy supply. Because efficiency programs are generally significantly cheaper to implement than acquiring conventional supply (e.g. buying electricity), efficiency is widely considered to be not only a resource, but often the “first fuel” of choice. Efficiency programs can also defer expensive upgrades to utility infrastructure, improve system reliability, reduce peak demand, and increase energy security.

# ENERGY EFFICIENCY IS COST EFFECTIVE

**Value of Energy Efficiency Program Benefits Compared to Costs**



Over time the cumulative benefits of energy efficiency programs far outweigh the costs of implementation. Since 2009, Rhode Island’s ratepayer funded energy efficiency programs have provided over \$5.7 billion in realized benefits. This compares to total program costs of about \$1.9 billion, meaning that every \$1 invested in energy efficiency has resulted in \$3 of benefits to Rhode Islanders. Achievement of the energy savings goals set in the 2024 Energy Efficiency Program Plan will push the total realized benefits to nearly \$6 billion.

## POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1** Promote energy efficiency as a primary tool to meet Act on Climate mandates
- 2** Support workforce development for energy efficiency and clean energy
- 3** Prioritize equitable access in energy efficiency programs
- 4** Coordinate and supplement statewide energy efficiency programming with federal funding opportunities
- 5** Maximize opportunities for weatherization and for addressing pre-weatherization barriers
- 6** Ensure the state’s energy future through coordinated planning

