



Executive Summary

RI Energy's custom multifamily program consists of five distinct pathways: Electric EnergyWise Multifamily (EWMF), Gas EWMF, Electric Income-Eligible Multifamily (IEMF), Gas IEMF, and C&I Multifamily. Collectively, the program offers comprehensive energy services for multifamily customers operating buildings that have five or more dwelling units. Although each pathway is designed to reach specific market segments, RI Energy coordinates across the pathways for a consistent and holistic offering for eligible customers. In 2022 and 2023, the program completed 76 projects at 40 different multifamily facilities across the state.

Why Evaluation?

RI Energy uses evaluation to retrospectively assess the performance of its programs and estimate savings for future program years. As part of its 2024 Annual Plan, RI Energy identified multifamily programs (and specifically custom projects) that would benefit from evaluation support. RI Energy requested that Cadeo conduct an impact evaluation to assess energy savings attributed to the program and to identify opportunities for program enhancement. Overall, RI Energy's goal was to evaluate the electric and gas energy savings attributed to multifamily custom measures. This evaluation study focuses solely on custom, non-lighting energy-efficiency measures.

Key Impact Findings

As part of the evaluation, Cadeo conducted a comprehensive analysis of program tracking data to summarize program activity, performed desk reviews for 65 projects, and completed virtual site visits for a subset of projects to verify energy savings calculation inputs and methods.



Gross Realization Rates

Overall, energy savings estimates accurately reflect realized energy savings, with the evaluation calculating realization rates of 100.1% for electric projects and 100.4% for natural gas projects. However, RI Energy appears to have under-reported energy savings for three projects due to data transcription errors.



Income-Eligible Projects

Income-eligible projects contribute most of the reported energy savings—86% of electric and 76% of natural gas savings—with Public Housing projects demonstrating particularly high average savings.



Dual-Fuel Projects

Most sites completed both electric and natural gas projects. Over two-thirds (68%) of electric savings and nearly all (96%) natural gas savings came from projects that included both measure types.

Conclusions

The evaluation validates the program's energy savings while highlighting areas for improved data management and evaluation methods. Implementing the recommendations presented in the report can enhance future program tracking, support more accurate savings verification, and inform strategies for optimizing multifamily energy efficiency initiatives.