



# MEMORANDUM

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## LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

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**To:** City-County Task Force on Climate and Economic Equity  
**From:** Luke Knapp, Legislative Fiscal Analyst  
**Date:** 12/18/19  
**Subject:** Energy Burden – City of Milwaukee

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At the December 10, 2019 meeting of the City-County Task Force on Climate and Economic Equity, there was a request for the Legislative Reference Bureau to create a map depicting the energy burden on Milwaukee residents, broken down by census tract. Attached to this memo is a map that does so, using 2016 data collected by the U.S. Department of Energy's Low-Income Energy Affordability Data (LEAD) tool.

For each census tract, the area median income and estimates of residential energy consumption, based on U.S. Census housing data from the 2016 5-year American Community Survey, are used to determine the energy burden on households. 10% of household income used on energy costs is considered to be high, and as the map shows, some census tracts in Milwaukee reach between 13% and 19% of household income. The owner-occupancy map previously provided to the Task Force showed owner-occupancy at its highest in southern Milwaukee and parts of west and northern Milwaukee. The attached energy burden map shows the inverse - census tracts in central Milwaukee and renter-heavy areas experience the highest energy burden.

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