



Weatherization Assistance Program

Annual Report 2025



What is the Weatherization Assistance Program?

Delaware's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), located within the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control's (DNREC) State Energy Office, provides services at no cost to qualified low-income Delaware residents to reduce their energy costs. Typical services include air-sealing, insulation, heating system repair, lighting upgrades and minor health-and-safety repairs that are necessary to complete energy-saving measures.

WAP began more than 40 years ago with minor services like caulking and weather-stripping. Now, WAP services are provided by highly trained contractors and are guided by sophisticated diagnostics, including blower-door testing, mechanical ventilation strategies and combustion analysis. Those diagnostics, typically completed before and after home weatherization, ensure that energy saving measures are cost-effective.

More important are the benefits that Delawareans gain from these services. WAP provides long-term savings for vulnerable households. Average yearly energy savings for weatherized households is estimated to be more than \$300 by the Department of Energy. Weatherization also leads to significant non-energy benefits, including improved health, safety and comfort. For example, weatherization can reduce asthma triggers and improve health and safety, which in turn helps low-income families by reducing medical expenses, lost workdays for parents and out-of-school days for children. Weatherization returns \$2.78 in non-energy benefits for every \$1 in WAP.

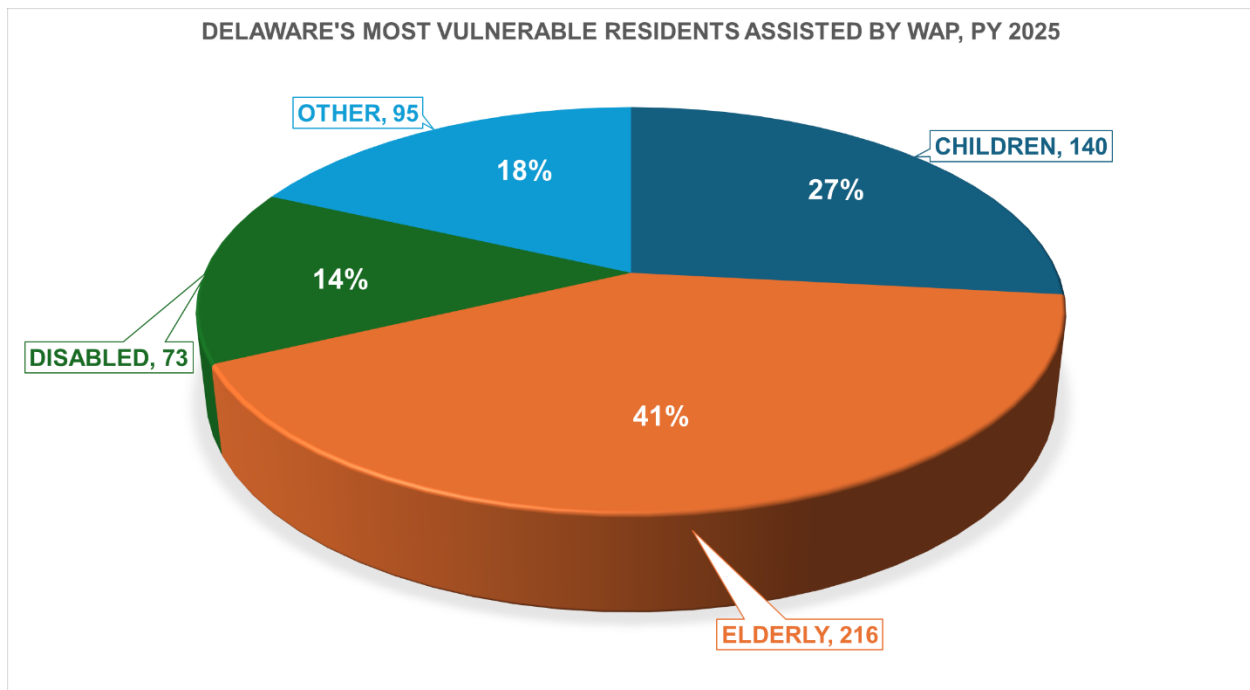


Delawareans Served

WAP serves low-income Delaware residents, defined as those with annual incomes verified at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. WAP serves all types of housing, including detached or attached single-family, mobile or manufactured homes and small multi-family buildings. Services are available to owners and renters, provided the building owner consents and the benefits of weatherization go to the low-income residents.

Eligibility is based on household size (number of people in the household) and household income. Households are prioritized based on need, the age and special needs of residents, and annual funding levels.

In program year (PY) 2025, which ran from April 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026, WAP served 229 households. Prioritization of weatherizing homes is based on need, as well as age (young and elderly) and special needs of residents.



Total spending during this program year is included below, broken out by funding source. These figures include both administrative and programmatic expenses.

Source	Spending
RGGI WAP	\$2,825,334.62
Delmarva Power	\$411,849.12
LIHEAP	\$1,263,868.98
WAP Base	\$371,894.07
Total	\$4,872,946.79

Program Year 2025 Highlights

- In the second half of this program year, DNREC relaunched the PreWAP program, which had previously been managed by Energize Delaware. This program provides added assistance for homes that are not yet ready to go through WAP. Examples of PreWAP work include health and safety work not typically covered by WAP. Without this program, many of these homes would be deferred, meaning they would be unable to benefit from WAP services.
- WAP is assisting with the expansion of a Delaware home repair coalition. This coalition includes state, county and nonprofit organizations across Delaware committed to improving energy efficiency and home performance for disadvantaged Delawareans.

- Focused on continuous improvement strategies, one full-time WAP staff position was reclassified to a Management Analyst. This position is dedicated to improving program operations and data management.
- WAP has been working toward improving our energy modeling software. These updates will streamline data collection, invoicing and produce a new in-home energy auditor tool. This work is expected to continue into the next program year.

Looking Forward

- The start of the WAP program year will be changing from April 1 to July 1. This change will allow the program to align with the state fiscal year and other weatherization programs across the country. The next program year will be July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027.
- WAP intends to increase collaboration with the Green Energy Fund to improve the Low- to Moderate-Income Solar Program. This collaboration will result in an increase in the number of WAP clients who will be able to take advantage of the free solar installation offered to low-income Delawareans by the program.
- Expansion to the services offered by PreWAP are in development. These expansions are intended to reduce the number of homes that must be deferred from the program.
- DNREC has contracted with EcoMetric to perform Evaluation, Measurement and Verification (EM&V) of all of its energy programs. This evaluation will provide updated Delaware specific data on energy bill savings and non-energy benefits for WAP participants.

Contact Us

For more information on the Weatherization Assistance Program and other resources, please visit the DNREC State Energy Office at:

<https://de.gov/seo>

or call 302-735-3480.