

Statewide Perceptions of the New York State All-Electric Building Act – Executive Overview

Summer 2025

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*This study was funded with support from the
NYSBA Research and Education Foundation*

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ABOUT RESEARCH & MARKETING STRATEGIES, INC.

Research & Marketing Strategies, Inc. (RMS) is a full-service market research firm located in Central New York. Formed in 2002, RMS helps organizations that are looking to know more about their customers and/or potential customers. We conduct surveys, focus groups, mystery shopping, competitive studies, and in-depth analyses. Each project is customized and gets personal attention by the best in the business. We have a reputation for getting results and offers an independent means to conduct telephone, on-line, and mail surveying, in-depth interviews, intercept interviews, and participant recruitment as well as focus group hosting through QualiSIGHT – our onsite call center and focus group facility. Taking advantage of the region’s reputation for being a great market study barometer, we also recruit and moderate for focus groups, community forums, and town meetings. Learn more by visiting our website: rmsresults.com.





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

RMS is pleased to present the findings from the 2025 New York State All-Electric Buildings Act Perceptions and Awareness Study conducted via an online survey. RMS does not take a position for or against the All-Electric Buildings Act. Our role in this study was to analyze the data objectively and present the findings with accuracy and integrity. The insights outlined in this report reflect the perspectives and experiences of respondents and are intended to inform ongoing dialogue and policy discussions. This document provides a condensed report, a full report with a question-by-question analysis was also provided to the New York State Builders Association. Based on the data, the following themes emerged:

- Support for the all-electric legislation remains low across New York State. Public awareness is limited while both awareness and attitudes vary significantly by region. Urban residents, particularly renters and those in multifamily dwellings, often express indifference toward the policy citing limited control over appliances and housing systems.
- Across all regions, residents voiced strong concerns about implementation – especially regarding winter reliability and the need for backup heating systems. Many view electric heat pumps as insufficient for cold climates and stress the continued need for fossil fuel alternatives during extreme weather conditions.
- Cost remains a prominent barrier. Respondents frequently expressed apprehension about affording appliance upgrades, particularly if restrictions extend beyond new construction to existing homes. For many, these concerns raise fears of financial strain or forced changes without adequate support.
- While some participants supported the legislation, citing environmental protection and the urgency of addressing climate change, many others took a more nuanced stance. These individuals generally supported climate action but viewed the current policy as ineffective, overly rigid, or symbolic rather than impactful. Several emphasized that without broader systemic change, the law’s overall effect on emissions would be limited.
- Additionally, the potential for increased home construction costs surfaced repeatedly with some respondents indicating the law would influence their willingness to build or buy a new home. Open-ended responses suggest hesitancy toward future residential development under these conditions.

While many New Yorkers share a desire to address climate change, there is evident need for greater public engagement, infrastructure readiness, and economic support to ensure policies like the All-Electric Buildings Act are both effective and equitable. As the state moves forward, thoughtful communication, regional sensitivity, and stakeholder collaboration will be essential in building trust and achieving shared environmental goals. This report offers a foundation for continued dialogue among policymakers, industry leaders, and the public.



“Concerns include potential higher energy costs, reliance on electricity during outages, and availability of efficient appliances.”

- Study participant



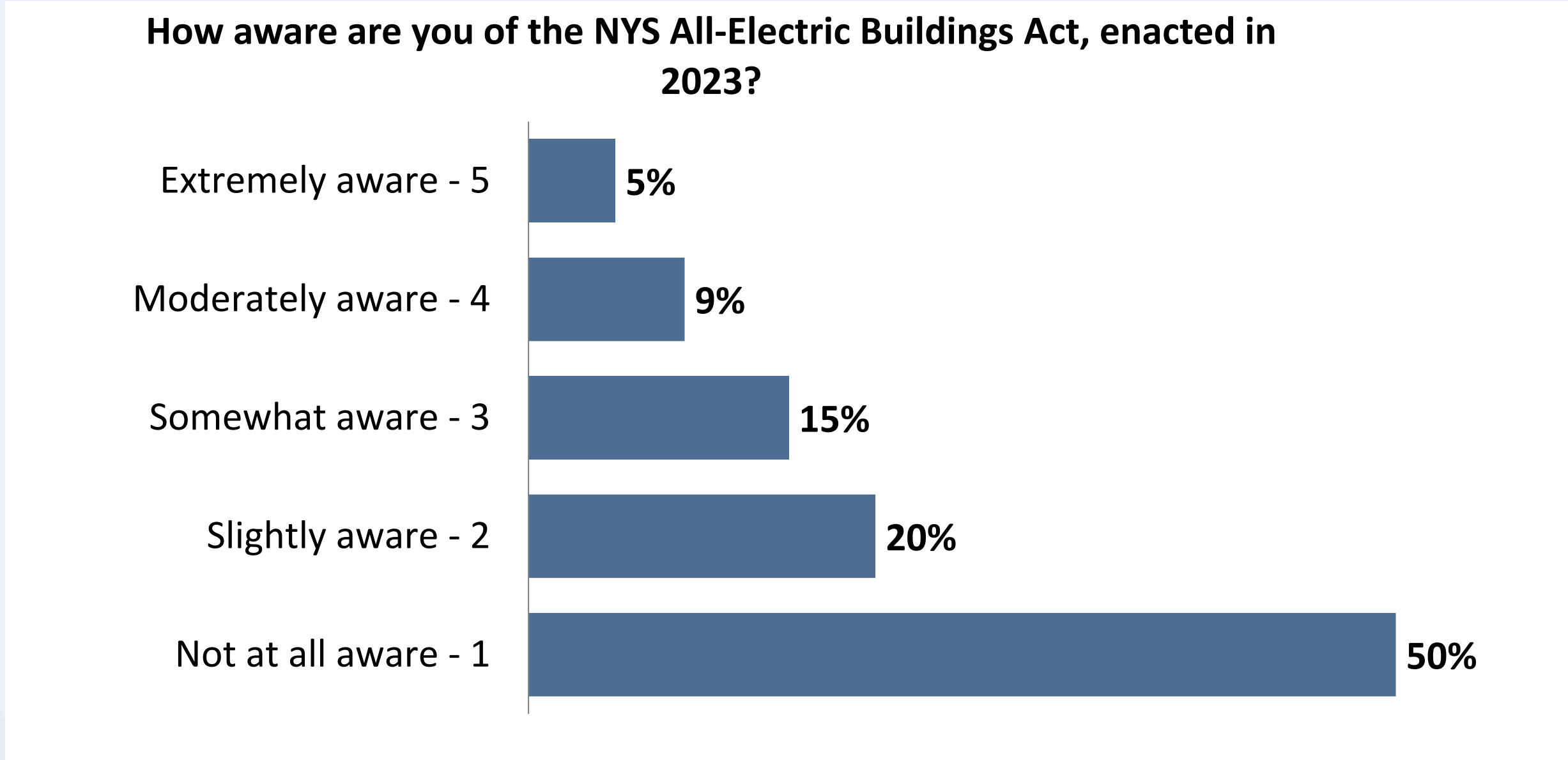
FINDINGS



Awareness of All-Electric Act is Low Among NYS Residents

Awareness of the NYS All-Electric Buildings Act, enacted in 2023, remains very low across the state (2.2 out of 5.0 mean score). Half of all respondents (50%) reported being not at all aware of the legislation, and an additional 20% were only slightly aware. Only 14% of residents indicated they were moderately or extremely aware suggesting that **despite its policy significance, the Act has not yet reached most New Yorkers in a meaningful way**. These findings highlight a significant communication and outreach gap, particularly as the implementation date for residential buildings approaches in 2026. Awareness of the NYS All-Electric Buildings Act is low across all regions, and some key insights include:

- Central NY / Southern Tier residents reported the lowest overall awareness, with a mean score of 1.8 out of 5.0. 55% said they were not at all aware, and only 4% rated their awareness at the highest level.
- The Capital / North / Mohawk / Mid-Hudson region followed closely with a mean score of 2.0 out of 5.0 and 49% indicating no awareness.
- Downstate (NYC + Long Island) and Western NY both reported slightly higher awareness, each with a mean score of 2.2 out of 5.0, and a more even distribution across the scale. Downstate had the highest percentage of respondents (9%) who said they were extremely aware – nearly double other regions. While no region reported high overall awareness, Downstate and Western NY may be slightly ahead potentially due to greater exposure to electrification conversations, dense urban development, or policy outreach. Still, these differences are modest reinforcing that public awareness of the law remains a major challenge statewide.



Region	1	2	3	4	5	Mean
▪ Capital / North / Mohawk / Mid-Hudson	49%	20%	16%	11%	4%	2.0
▪ Central NY / Southern Tier	55%	23%	12%	7%	4%	1.8
▪ Downstate (NYC + Long Island)	49%	14%	18%	10%	9%	2.2
▪ Western NY	42%	20%	20%	13%	4%	2.2

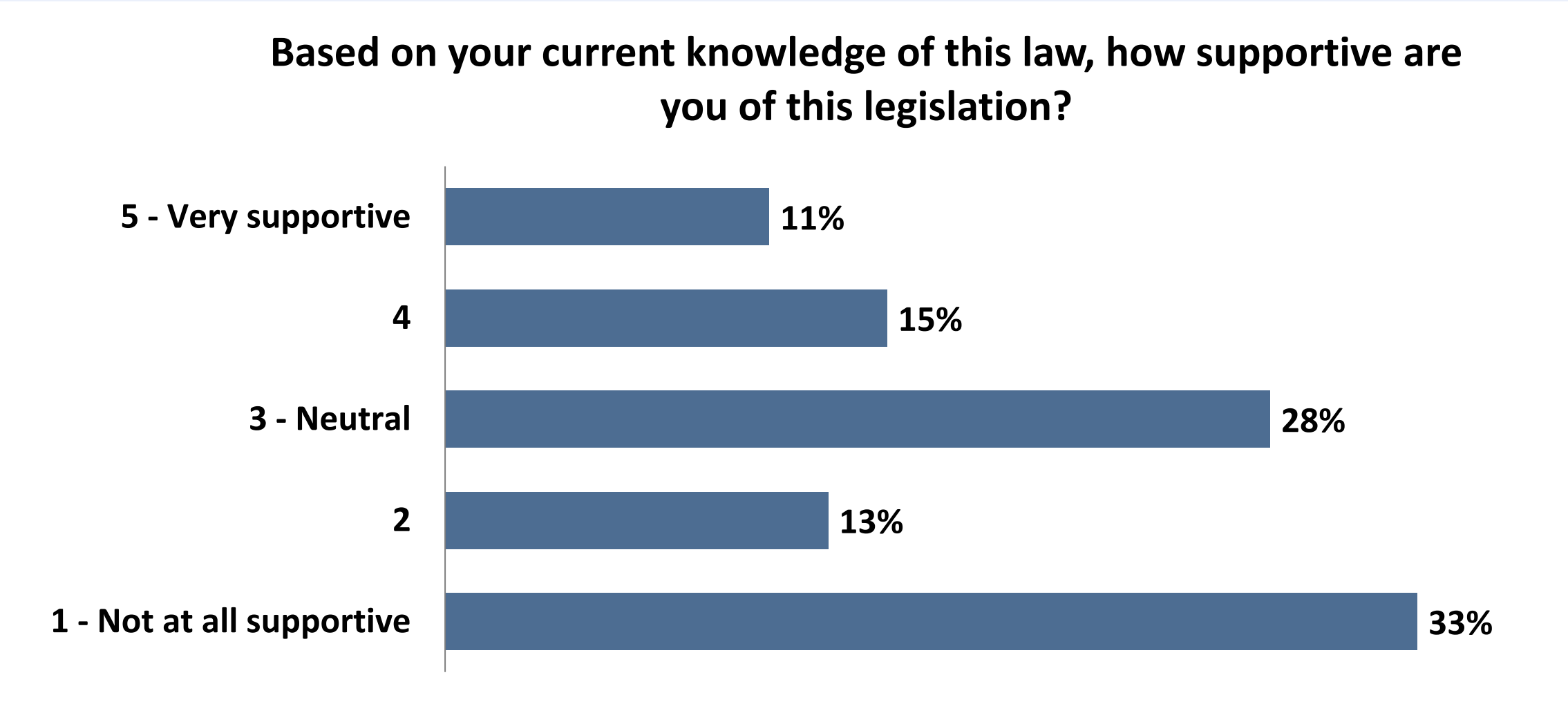


Awareness Is Low, Support Is Limited: New Yorkers on All-Electric Buildings Act

Support for the NYS All-Electric Buildings Act varies by region with Downstate residents demonstrating the highest average support (mean = 3.1 out of 5.0), compared to 2.5–2.8 in other parts of the state.

- Downstate (NYC + Long Island) stands out with stronger positive sentiment: 36% rated their support at a 4 or 5 and 25% rated their support at the bottom two levels. This suggests higher policy alignment or greater exposure to electrification messaging. Or, as other data suggest, largely indifferent due to high rental and multi-family units with limited choice / landlord controlled.
- Capital / North / Mohawk / Mid-Hudson had a mean of 2.8 with a relatively even spread across the scale. 36% responded neutrally, indicating some indifference in this region.
- Central NY / Southern Tier and Western NY both averaged 2.5 with the highest percentages of low support (rating 1 or 2) at 37% and 36% respectively. These regions show more skepticism or lack of enthusiasm toward the law.

Overall, the data suggest that support is limited and regionally based with greater positivity in Downstate areas and more hesitancy in Upstate regions.



Region	1	2	3	4	5	Mean
Capital / North / Mohawk / Mid-Hudson	25%	12%	36%	14%	13%	2.8
Central NY / Southern Tier	37%	13%	26%	12%	13%	2.5
Downstate (NYC + Long Island)	18%	7%	39%	19%	17%	3.1
Western NY	36%	11%	27%	14%	12%	2.5

Supporters v. Non-supporters of Legislation

Supporters

Respondents in this region who expressed support for the policy often cited environmental urgency, modernization, and long-term health and safety as factors why they support the legislation.

- *“It would be better for the environment”*
- *“Well, anything that’s better for the environment has got to be good. Even if I like a gas stove, I can go without if needed. Doing this for my kids and grandkids.”*
- *“It’s overall better for the environment”*
- *“I’m scared of anything connected to gas pipelines. Also, electricity prices are so low in WNY that I'd favor that.”*

Non-Supporters

Disapproval was generally grounded in economic concerns, skepticism about feasibility, and a desire for individual freedom of choice regarding appliances.

- *“I think people should be allowed to have whatever they want in their homes. Forcing them to have one and not options is wrong.”*
- *“Too restrictive and does not give homeowner the option to decide for themselves.”*
- *“I understand the why but question the actual impact it would have on how few new homes are built.”*
- *“All for climate protections but think this legislation is a bit of a stretch and could do more beneficial things for the environment than focus on homes. We need so much housing, now isn't the time for more regulations”*
- *“What if you're not financially prepared to make those changes right away? If i had not filled out this survey, I would not have even been aware that this was coming down the pipeline.”*



Only 4% Indicate Strong Intent to Buy a New Construction Home in 2026

When asked about their likelihood of purchasing a brand-new construction home in 2026, the overwhelming majority of respondents (81%) indicated they are *not at all likely* to do so. Only 4% selected either a 4 or 5 on the scale, suggesting limited purchase intent for survey participants (mean score of 1.4).

This sentiment is consistent across most regions with particularly low interest seen in Central NY / Southern Tier (mean = 1.2) and Western NY (mean = 1.5). The Downstate region shows comparatively higher interest (mean = 2.2), but overall demand for new construction appears quite limited statewide. These findings may reflect broader concerns about affordability, economic uncertainty, or preferences for existing housing stock. No longitudinal or comparative data is available, so these findings should be interpreted with caution when evaluating potential trends in new home construction.

How likely are you to purchase a brand-new construction home in 2026?



Region	1	2	3	4	5	Mean
Capital / North / Mohawk / Mid-Hudson	67%	14%	10%	3%	5%	1.7
Central NY / Southern Tier	87%	8%	3%	1%	0.7%	1.2
Downstate (NYC + Long Island)	4%	13%	21%	8%	12%	2.2
Western NY	76%	10%	7%	3%	4.1%	1.5

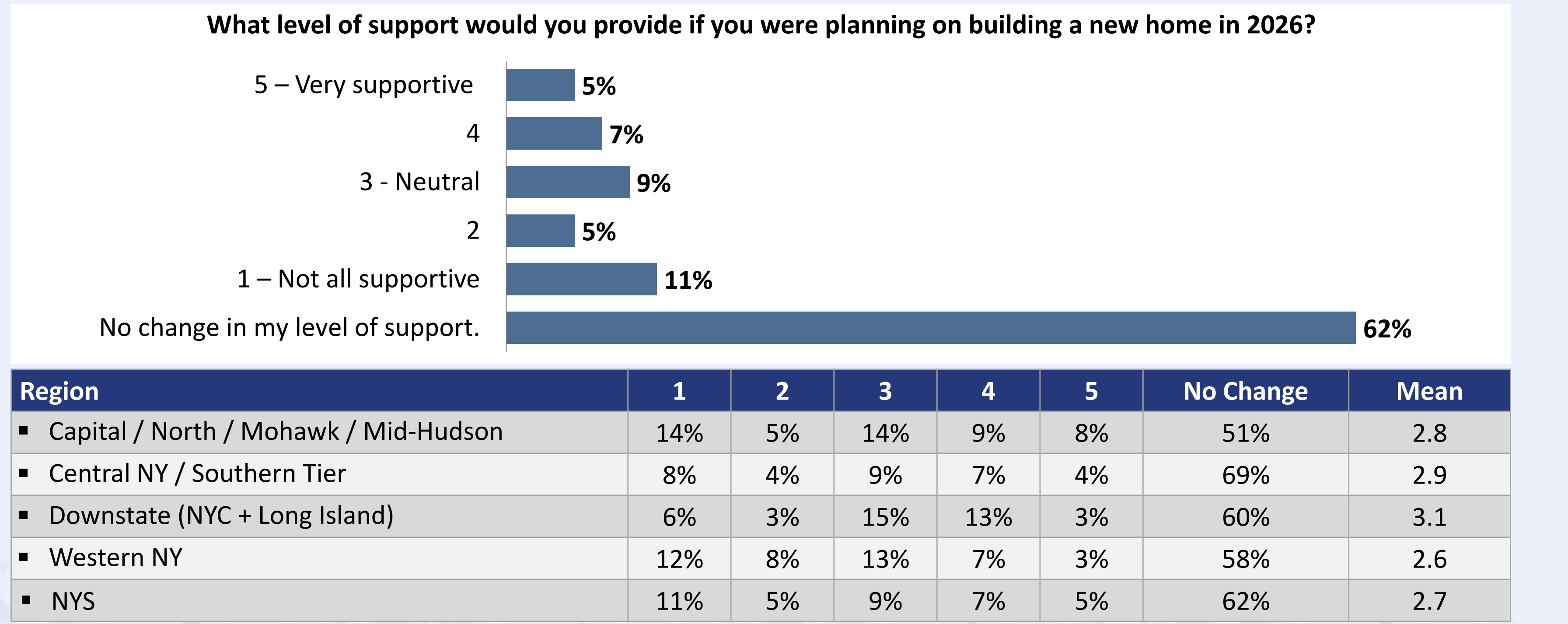




New Construction Homebuilding Plans May Shift Support on the All-Electric Buildings Act

When asked whether their support for the building electrification legislation would change if they were planning to build a new home in 2026, the majority of respondents (62%) indicated no change in support. This suggests that for most individuals, their views on the legislation are stable regardless of personal building plans. However, a substantial share of respondents expressed either strong opposition (16% selecting “1 – Not at all supportive” or a 2) or strong support (13% selecting “5 – Very supportive” or 4), highlighting polarized views on the legislation.

Regionally, average support scores were relatively consistent ranging from a low of 2.6 in Western NY to a high of 3.1 in Downstate (NYC + Long Island). Central NY / Southern Tier reported the highest rate of “no change” responses (69%). While these findings suggest limited influence of personal homebuilding plans on support levels, a meaningful subset of respondents may reconsider their position if they were directly affected by the law.



Concerns Regarding Utility Costs, Reliability, and Practicality Leads to Reduced Support of Legislation

Across all regions, sentiment slightly skewed toward opposition as individuals learned more about the policy with most participants voicing concerns or outright resistance to the transition to all-electric homes. While a few individuals mentioned potential benefits (especially environmental or cost savings over time), these voices were outnumbered by those expressing doubts. The most consistent concerns were about cost, reliability, forced mandates, and the practicality of electric technology in New York’s cold climate.

“I think the law will help to lessen the state's need for fossil fuels in the future and I know that is good for the environment.”

- Study participant

Change in Support	Summary Across Regions
Decreased Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Most participants expressed strong resistance due to higher upfront costs, fear of power outages, loss of choice, and skepticism about policy impacts. Many felt the change was mandated without enough planning or infrastructure and feared being dependent on a fragile grid.
Neutral or Mixed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A few participants were open to the idea but voiced conditional support, such as needing more reliable battery storage or wanting the option to opt-in rather than being required.
Increased Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A minority voiced long-term optimism mentioning reduced energy bills, improved technology, or environmental benefits — but these comments were rare and often paired with caveats about implementation challenges.

Stable Housing Plans Across Regions, but Appliance Priorities Vary

Across NYS, only 13% of respondents indicated they are planning or considering moving into a different (non-new construction) home in 2026. Regionally, the share of respondents planning to move into a different (non-new construction) home in 2026 remains low, ranging from 14% in Western NY to 20% in Central NY / Southern Tier. This suggests consistently low housing mobility throughout the state.

However, among all respondents, appliances still play a role in decision-making for many. While 25% rated appliances as insignificant in their home decision process, 27% rated them as important (scores of 4 or 5) and 32% were neutral. The importance placed on appliances in home decision-making varies more widely by region. In Central NY / Southern Tier, appliances are least influential (mean = 2.1) with nearly half rating their importance as a 1. In contrast, Downstate respondents place the highest importance on appliances (mean = 3.0), followed closely by Western NY (2.9). 25% of Western NY residents rated appliance importance as a 5, more than any other region. This suggests that even if most residents aren't moving, appliance-related policies, such as the All-Electric Buildings Act, resonate with many even if not directly impacted.

“It may initially raise the cost of home construction and contribute to economic problems.”

- Study participant

Are you moving in 2026?	Yes	No
Capital / North / Mohawk / Mid-Hudson	17%	84%
Central NY / Southern Tier	20%	80%
Downstate (NYC + Long Island)	15%	84%
Western NY	14%	86%

How Important are appliances in your decision making (1=not at all, 5=very).	1	2	3	4	5	MEAN
Capital / North / Mohawk / Mid-Hudson	26%	7%	42%	7%	17%	2.7
Central NY / Southern Tier	46%	16%	24%	7%	8%	2.1
Downstate (NYC + Long Island)	10%	17%	46%	19%	9%	3.0
Western NY	7%	-	54%	8%	25%	2.9

Statewide Perceptions of Legislation Benefits

When discussing the benefits of this legislation, supporters view electric appliances as cleaner, safer, and increasingly cost-effective. Supporters commented that environmental consciousness is growing, particularly when paired with concerns about climate and public health. Five benefits emerged from the data, which are explained below.

1. Efficiency & Long-Term Cost Savings

Respondents frequently pointed to the efficiency of electric appliances with many believing that while initial costs may be higher, electric systems offer better long-term affordability and energy savings. This belief was especially common in references to electric dryers and stoves. Some shared, “[electric appliances are] cheaper in the long run,” and “cost-efficient and easier to maintain.”

2. Environmental and Health Motivation

Environmental benefits emerged as a top theme, particularly among those who see electrification as part of a broader move toward sustainability and clean energy. Some mentioned reducing fossil fuel use and emissions while a few highlighted health-related advantages, like improved indoor air quality. “Better for the environment,” and “Safer for indoor air,” shared two participants.

3. Ease of Use and Convenience

Electric appliances were often described as easier to use and simpler to maintain than gas alternatives. Users valued fewer maintenance issues, faster installs, and greater ease of integration with modern homes. For example, electric stoves and ovens were often cited as being “plug-and-go” compared to gas. “No need to vent,” “More modern and user-friendly,” and “Simpler and safer,” voiced several respondents.

4. Infrastructure Compatibility

Several comments indicated that electric appliances were the default or only option based on home infrastructure, particularly in multi-family dwellings or newer builds. Some respondents said they already used electric making it an easy choice, while others noted that gas lines were not available or allowed. “Electric is what we have”, “No gas hook-up,” and “ my apartment won’t allow gas,” explained three respondents.

5. Safety

Safety emerged as a distinct theme, especially for those with children or concerns about gas leaks. Electric appliances were considered lower-risk with no open flames, combustion, or emissions making them more appealing for indoor use, especially fireplaces and stoves. As some shared, “no gas leak worries,” “safer with kids,” and “no flame or venting needed.”

“I think new build construction will slow.”

- Study participant

Statewide Perceptions of Legislation Concerns

When asked about the concerns of the legislation, responses were consistent across regions. The concerns largely related to cost, performance, technology, and perceptions that the legislation is politically motivated.

1. Increased Utility Costs

Many cited concerns that they felt their utility bill will increase substantially moving to all electric. Some mentioned the impact on affordable to low-income families, and fear that landlords will raise rents.

2. Performance

Many cited concerns about the electric grid not being able to support the increases in electricity demands. Others shared that during cold weather, they want a back-up gas powered system for reliability.

3. Government Overreach

Numerous respondents across all regions shared they felt this policy was an overreach of government authority. Many cited they want the freedom to pick their own appliance type.

4. Well-Meaning, But Misaligned Policy

Many felt that the policy has positive intentions, but the practicality of the policy calls it into question. For example, individuals shared that the policy may impact certain groups more than others. "'One size fits all' approach is neither wise, nor practical," commented one participant alluding to the vast diversity of NYS, housing infrastructure across the state, and the various rural/urban settings along with very different weather patterns.

"Better for the environment and electric companies. Maybe safer? Maybe safer to install, I don't know. But if New York is the only state to do this, the overall impact will be minimal at best."

- Study participant

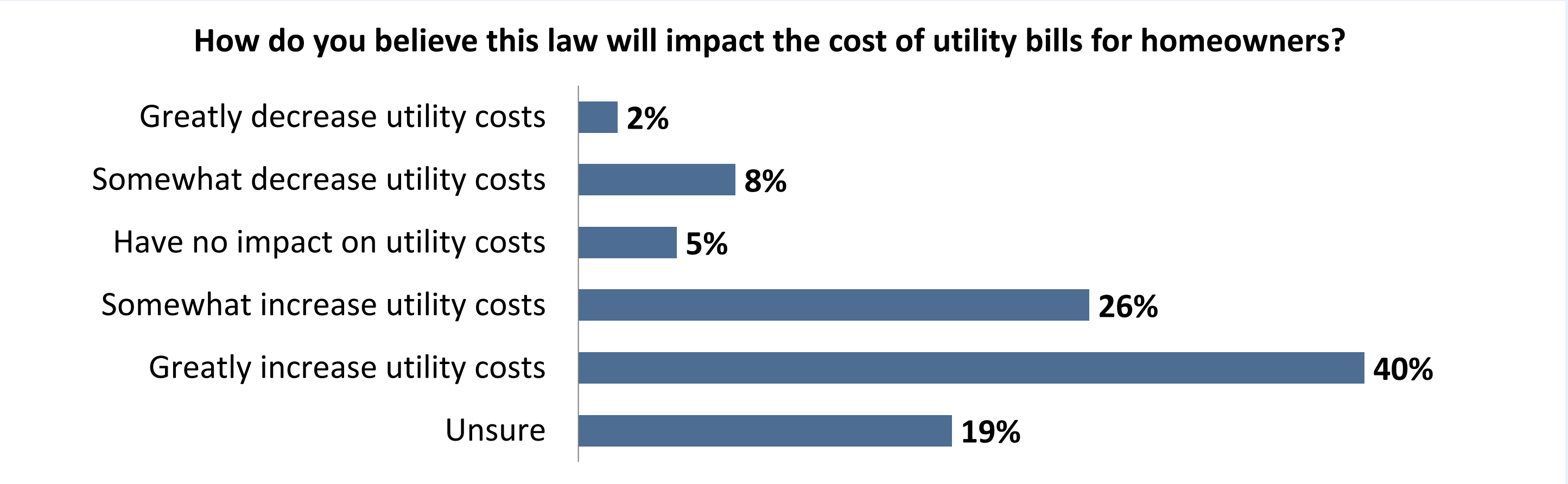


Most Expect Utility Bills to Rise Under All-Electric Mandate

When asked how the All-Electric Buildings Act would impact utility costs for homeowners, a majority of respondents (66%) anticipated an increase with 40% expecting a *great* increase and 26% anticipating *somewhat* of an increase. Very few respondents believed costs would decrease (only 10% total) while 19% were unsure.

This concern about rising utility bills was consistent across all regions. Central NY / Southern Tier showed the strongest expectation of cost increases (70%), followed by Capital/North (67%) and Western NY (62%). Downstate respondents were slightly more optimistic (53%), but skepticism still dominated.

These results suggest a broad perception that the electrification mandate may lead to higher household expenses, which could contribute to hesitancy or resistance to the policy particularly in upstate regions.




Region	Capital / North / Mohawk / Mid-Hudson	Central NY / Southern Tier	Downstate (NYC + Long Island)	Western NY
Greatly increase utility costs	39%	43%	28%	40%
Somewhat increase utility costs	31%	24%	25%	22%
Have no impact on utility costs	8%	4%	14%	7%
Somewhat decrease utility costs	10%	7%	11%	9%
Greatly decrease utility costs	1%	2%	3%	3%
Unsure	11%	21%	19%	19%

Perceptions Why Utility Bills Will Increase

Many Downstate residents voiced significant concerns about the cost, reliability, and broader policy implications of transitioning to all-electric homes. One participant warned, *“Because once everything is electric you have no choice... the company knows this,”* reflecting fears of monopolistic pricing and reduced consumer options. Another echoed this, stating, *“Electric bills are astronomically high. It will only get worse.”* The concern over financial burden was further highlighted with, *“Everything will be electric, the bills will drastically increase,”* and one individual observed: *“NYSEG said most of the utility bills are due to state-mandated fees.”*

Reliability was another major theme. A resident remarked, *“The power lines on my block are old—very old,”* while others doubted electric’s dependability compared to traditional sources, stating, *“Electric is inefficient and not reliable... Never lost gas.”* There was also strong skepticism about the grid's capacity and policy decisions. One person stated plainly, *“Grid cannot handle... law of supply and demand,”* and another called it, *“a disaster waiting to happen.”* Others saw the policy as driven more by political agendas than by practicality, saying, *“Politicians will prioritize [new homes] getting power... to justify the law,”* and *“Mandates may require expensive upgrades.”*

Concerns about the technology itself surfaced as well, with one respondent stating, *“Electric heaters cost more and recover slower than gas,”* and another noting, *“All new infrastructure has to be financed.”*



“This is a good idea in many parts of the state, but in the extreme north frigid winter temperatures make heat pumps not reliable. Back up needs to be allowed with more traditional alternatives.”

- Study participant

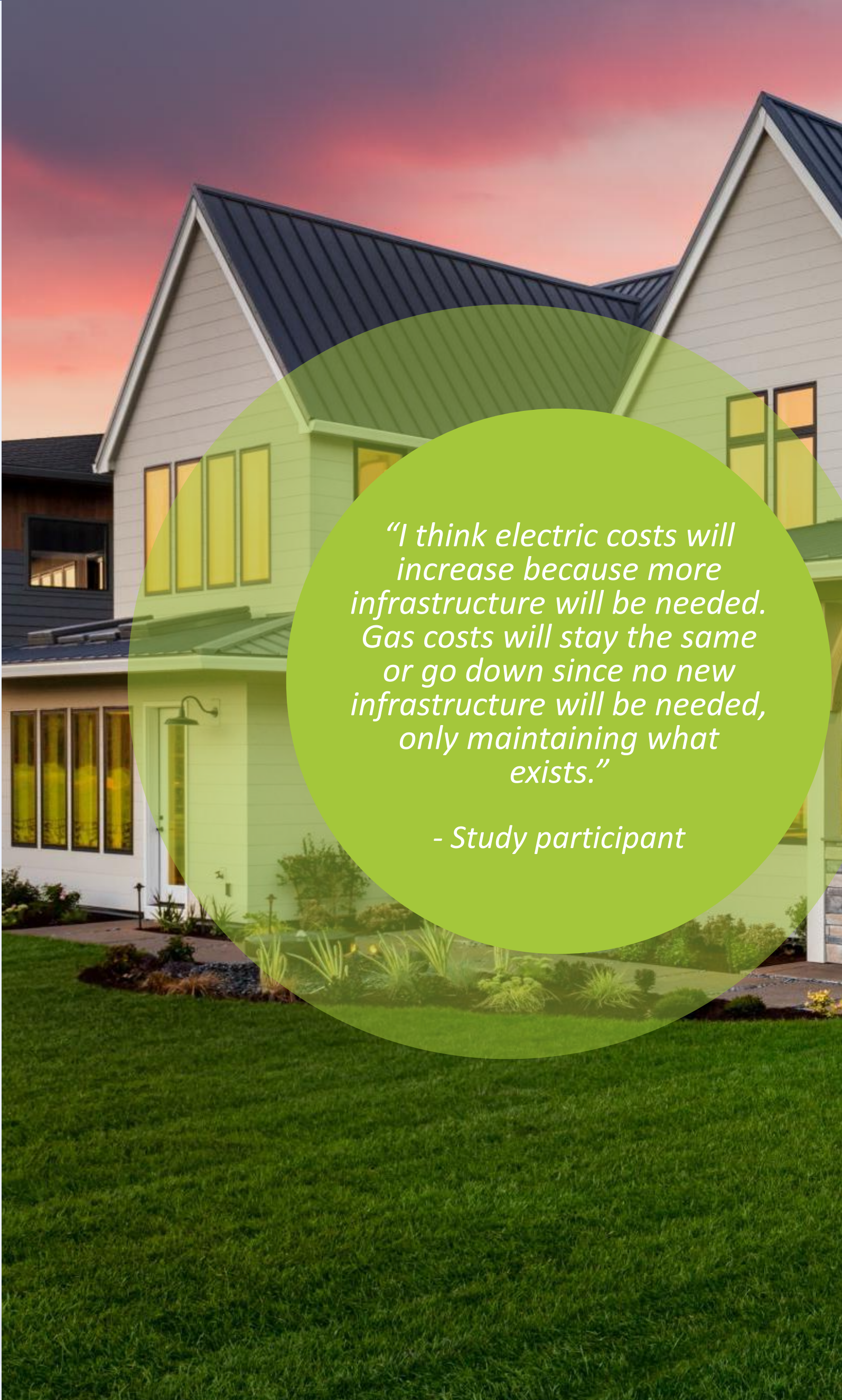
Perceptions Why Utility Bills Will Decrease

Several respondents highlighted a more optimistic perspective on the shift toward all-electric homes, emphasizing both long-term cost savings and environmental benefits. One individual expressed confidence in the evolution of energy sources, stating, *“Sustainable energy sources are only getting more reliable.”* This sentiment was echoed by others who noted the financial upside including the view that *“over time, the overall cost of utilities will go down.”*

Technology and performance improvements were key points of encouragement. One participant noted, *“Newer electric appliances are more efficient,”* while another emphasized the practical benefits of modern equipment: *“Heat pumps are more efficient.”* This was supported by another observation: *“More energy efficient appliances cause less energy usage.”*

Despite the acknowledgment of high upfront costs—*“Solar and geothermal have high upfront costs but low long-term bills”*—the long-term view was largely positive. One forward-thinking respondent shared their personal plan, stating, *“I will install solar panels and save a ton of money.”*

Environmental benefits were also part of the appeal. One person emphasized the broader impact by saying, *“More environmentally friendly... will help in the long run.”* Collectively, these responses reflect a sense of hopefulness that newer technologies, energy efficiency, and sustainability will ultimately lead to a better, more affordable future.



“I think electric costs will increase because more infrastructure will be needed. Gas costs will stay the same or go down since no new infrastructure will be needed, only maintaining what exists.”

- Study participant

Statewide Perceptions of Concerns of Living in an All-Electric House

Across all regions, residents expressed significant concerns about transitioning to all-electric homes. **Cost** was a dominant theme with many worried that electrification would drive up utility bills and require costly home upgrades. As one Capital region participant noted, *“It will cost me a lot more.”* Similar sentiments were echoed in Western NY: *“Yes—the cost. Gas is more efficient... It costs more to run electric.”*

Reliability was another major worry, particularly in colder climates where power outages are more common. Respondents feared being left without heat or backup energy during emergencies: *“What about when the power goes out... it gets cold in January,”* shared a Capital respondent. Central NY residents voiced similar concerns, with one noting, *“Power outages... reliability in our climate.”*

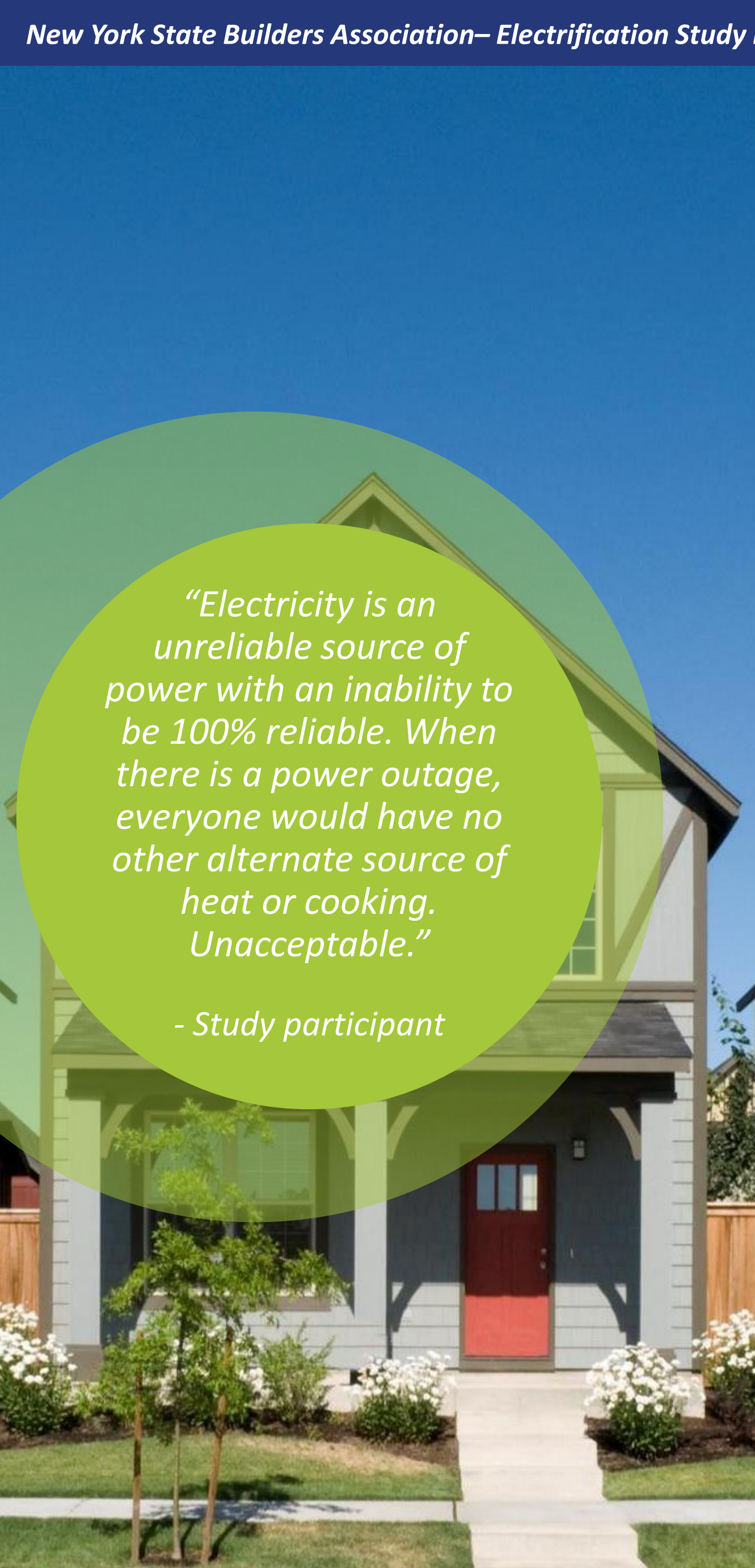
Performance issues, particularly around electric heat pumps and cooking appliances, were frequently mentioned. Participants questioned their effectiveness in extreme weather, with remarks like *“It’s too cold for heat pumps,”* and *“Gas stove allows me to boil water during an outage.”*

There was also a strong desire to retain **freedom and choice** in energy sources with many rejecting mandated electrification. *“I don’t like not having a choice,”* said a Western NY respondent, while another in Central NY emphasized, *“Don’t want my energy source mandated.”*

Concerns about **policy and legislation** focused on distrust of government mandates, fear of future rate hikes, and the feeling that policies were out of touch with homeowners’ realities. *“Utilities will force the government to allow rate hikes,”* was a commonly expressed sentiment.

Technology concerns such as *“single points of failure,”* costly equipment upgrades, and outdated infrastructure were often highlighted. Additionally, **environmental perspectives** were mixed, while some supported the shift for its climate benefits, others questioned whether electric generation still relied on fossil fuels: *“Fossil fuels used to generate electricity will harm the environment,”* noted a Capital region participant.

A more detailed breakdown by region can be found in the appendix.



“Electricity is an unreliable source of power with an inability to be 100% reliable. When there is a power outage, everyone would have no other alternate source of heat or cooking. Unacceptable.”

- Study participant

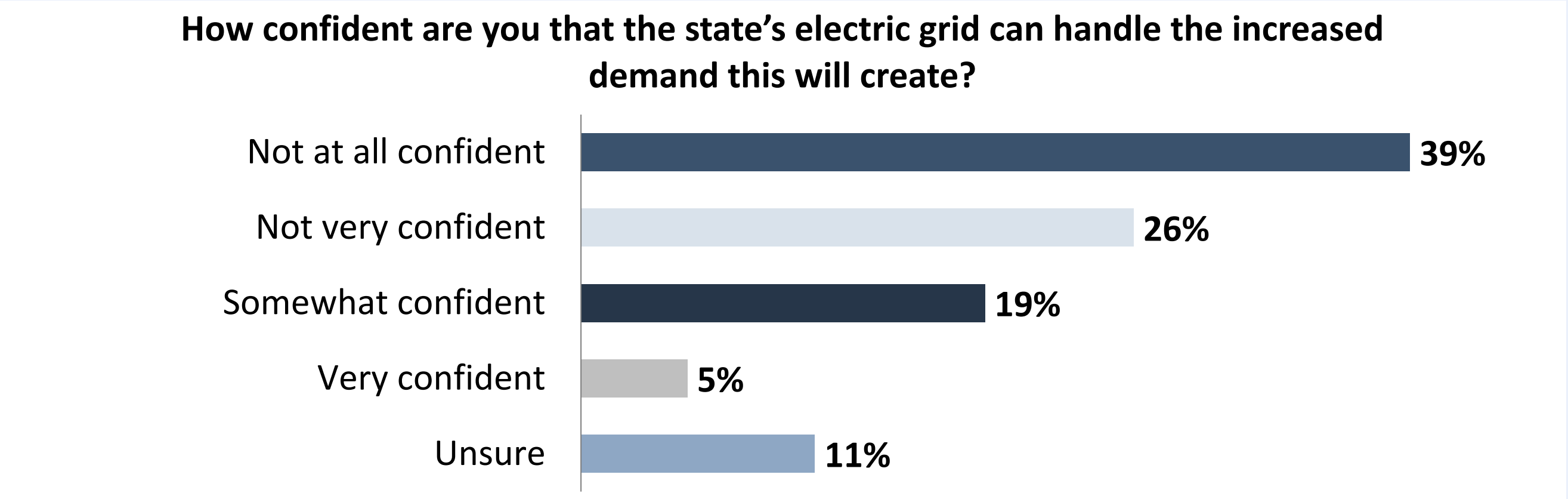


Grid Readiness Doubts Signal Barrier to All-Electric Law Acceptance

A clear majority of New Yorkers lack confidence that the state’s electric grid can handle the increased demand created by the All-Electric Buildings Act. Nearly two-thirds (65%) report being “not at all confident” or “not very confident,” while only 5% express strong confidence.

Regionally, Western New York shows the least faith in grid readiness with 40% saying they are not at all confident and a regional mean score of just 1.8 out of 5. Confidence is somewhat higher in Downstate areas where residents’ mean score was 2.3, though low-confidence remains widespread.

These findings suggest concerns about infrastructure capacity as related to the All-Electric Buildings Act.



Region	Capital / North / Mohawk / Mid-Hudson	Central NY / Southern Tier	Downstate (NYC + Long Island)	Western NY
Very confident	7%	14%	16%	5%
Somewhat confident	26%	18%	22%	17%
Not very confident	24%	27%	25%	26%
Not at all confident	36%	30%	25%	40%
Unsure	8%	11%	12%	13%
MEAN	2.0	2.2	2.3	1.8

Statewide Perceptions of Grid Confidence

“The cost of electric used to be quite high. The environment is very important to me, but I would assume if the cost of electric is still higher than gas, many people would be opposed to it.”

- Study participant

Across New York State, resident confidence in the electrical grid's ability to support a transition to all-electric homes leans towards not having confidence in the current infrastructure. There is some cautious optimism from some and deep skepticism from others. Key themes of concern include **performance during extreme weather, aging infrastructure, policy direction, and the pace of clean energy investment.**

➤ **Confidence is due to Planning and Green Economy Growth**

Some residents expressed faith in the state's intent and ability to adapt the grid over time. In **Western NY**, one resident observed that, *“Grid has been reinforced,”* while another pointed to future-readiness, *“New homes will be added gradually... the grid will grow with usage.”* Others cited environmental progress, *“Green energy is growing—wind and solar farms are going up.”* From **Central NY**, a participant acknowledged current fragility but expressed trust in governance, *“I trust NYS and our lawmakers to plan appropriately.”* There was also recognition of the environmental imperative, *“Without legislative efforts to produce more green energy, the aging grid won’t keep up.”* In the **Capital Region**, a resident offered reassurance by noting, *“We don’t have blackouts now,”* and another reasoned, *“I feel like they would not pass this law without a strong supporting grid.”*

➤ **Concerns Regarding in Reliability, Underinvestment, and Climate Stress**

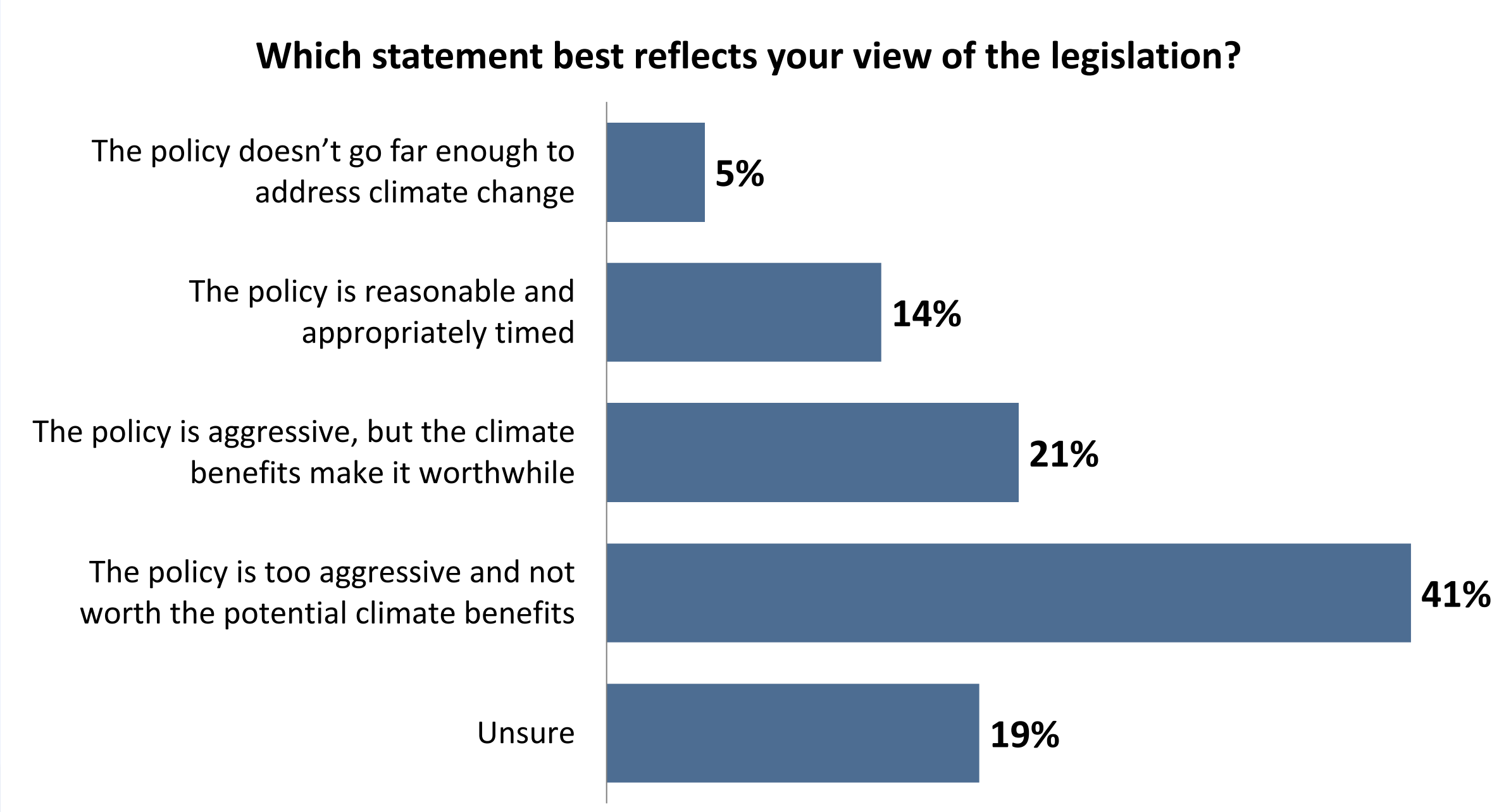
Yet across all regions, there is persistent worry about the grid's ability to perform under pressure, particularly during extreme weather events. **Capital Region** residents shared doubts, *“We’re asked to conserve during high heat... the grid can’t keep up,”* and *“Brownouts are more frequent. No new base-load power plants are being built.”* In **Central NY**, a resident voiced concern that *“the grid still has old technologies... we’re threatened with brownouts.”* Another feared rising costs, *“They are not prepared, and it will eventually cost taxpayers more money.”* **Downstate participants** offered blunt assessments: *“The grid is barely holding on now—it needs updating,”* and, in reference to NYC, *“Power goes out anytime there’s a storm in the Bronx.”*

A sense of inequity was implied as well: *“NYS hasn’t invested enough yet in green energy.”* From **Western NY**, one participant reported real-time reliability issues: *“My power flickers monthly. Now in a heat wave, I expect outages.”* Another criticized long-term neglect: *“This state hemorrhages money. We’ve only done emergency maintenance.”*



Many View All-Electric Act as Too Aggressive, Though Regional Opinions Vary

Many respondents (41% statewide) believe the All-Electric Building Act is too aggressive and not worth the potential climate benefits. This sentiment is strongest in Western New York (46%) and Central NY / Southern Tier (43%) with slightly lower concern in Downstate (30%). Only 14% of New Yorkers feel the policy is appropriately timed and reasonable, and 5% believe it doesn’t go far enough. Even among those who support action, only 21% say the policy is aggressive but justified due to climate needs. “Unsure” remains a notable proportion of responses with nearly 1 in 5 respondents statewide unsure of their stance (regionally the highest percentage is at 22% in Downstate).



Region	Capital / North / Mohawk / Mid-Hudson	Central NY / Southern Tier	Downstate (NYC + Long Island)	Western NY
The policy is too aggressive and not worth the potential climate benefits	41%	43%	30%	46%
The policy is aggressive, but the climate benefits make it worthwhile	23%	25%	20%	16%
The policy is reasonable and appropriately timed	13%	12%	25%	16%
The policy doesn't go far enough to address climate change	7%	5%	4%	5%
Unsure	16%	16%	22%	17%

One-Fifth of New Yorkers Expect All-Electric Compliance to Add Over \$20,000 to Home Construction Costs

When asked about the anticipated additional cost of constructing an all-electric new home, many respondents (32%) indicated they were unsure. Among those with an opinion, most expected meaningful added costs: 21% predicted an increase between \$10,001–\$20,000 and 18% believed the added cost would exceed \$20,000. Only a small minority believed the law would result in no added cost (4%) or less than \$5,000 (5%).

These perceptions were generally consistent across regions with more than half of respondents in each region estimating at least \$10,000 in added costs. 26%–30% across all regions were unsure reinforcing uncertainty about the financial implications of the policy.

Region	Capital / North / Mohawk / Mid-Hudson	Central NY / Southern Tier	Downstate (NYC + Long Island)	Western NY	NYS
No added costs	6%	2%	5%	4%	3%
Less than \$5,000	8%	4%	11%	6%	5%
\$5,000 to \$10,000	16%	19%	21%	19%	18%
\$10,001 to \$20,000	20%	18%	13%	21%	21%
More than \$20,000	28%	26%	20%	24%	21%
Unsure	21%	31%	30%	26%	32%

“As far as I am concerned, buying a brand-new house under construction would not be feasible but if I was in that position, I would be fine with an all-electric home.”

- Study participant

Nearly Half of Respondents Are Not Willing to Pay Additional Costs or Would Not Build a New Home Because of the All-Electric Mandate

New Yorkers express a wide range of views regarding their willingness to incur additional costs to comply with building electrification requirements with noted regional differences. Many respondents statewide, nearly 3 in 10, say they are not willing to pay anything additional with opposition highest in Western New York (36%) and Central New York (33%). Even in more urbanized Downstate areas, resistance remains strong (27%) signaling broad concerns around affordability.

Support for modest additional costs (under \$5,000 or \$10,000) is relatively stable across regions with about one-quarter of respondents statewide falling into these categories. However, willingness to pay higher costs (\$10,000 or more) drops sharply with only a small fraction in any region indicating support. Capital / North is the only region where more than 10% are willing to pay over \$10,000.

In addition to cost sensitivity, nearly one in five across the state say they would opt not to build a new home at all due to these requirements. This highlights the potential for the policy to deter new home construction, particularly in regions already experiencing economic strain.

Region	Capital / North / Mohawk / Mid-Hudson	Central NY / Southern Tier	Downstate (NYC + Long Island)	Western NY	NYS
I would not be willing to pay any additional cost.	27%	33%	27%	36%	29%
Up to \$5,000	14%	12%	15%	8%	12%
\$5,001 to \$10,000	15%	10%	15%	9%	12%
\$10,001 to \$20,000	6%	10%	12%	7%	7%
More than \$20,000	4%	1%	6%	6%	2%
I would decide not to build a new home because of this requirement.	18%	15%	12%	18%	19%
Unsure	17%	19%	14%	16%	18%

“I love my gas stove, gas powered car and my oil burning furnace. The government has no right to tell us what our homes need to have.”

- Study participant

LIMITING TERMS & CONDITIONS

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Certified by: 
Mark Dengler, President
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Date: June 28th, 2024



If you have questions about this report or would like more information about RMS’ services, please reach out to Patrick Fiorenza, Director of Research Analytics at RMS. Patrick can be reached at: PatrickF@RMSresults.com and by phone, 315-635-9802 ext. 214.

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