The following tables present data on ratings of characteristics of Home Energy Score and Building Energy Estimate graphic labels from a survey of 244 Vermont residents who are also homeowners in the state of Vermont. Respondents were members of a statewide panel (N = 201) and Efficiency Vermont’s own panel (N = 43).

The percentage of those who rated each characteristic 1-4 on a 1-10 scale (where 1 was Strongly Agree and 10 was Strongly Disagree) are presented as a composite of all respondents followed by a breakdown of the state panel and the Efficiency Vermont panel. The tables follow the order of the survey questions on the PDF version of the survey accompanying this document beginning on page 4 of this document.

Demographic information on survey respondents begin on page 32.
Brief Summary of Label Comparisons:

- Labels A, B, & C each had a majority rating positive characteristics in the 1-4 range (strongly agree), although Label B had a larger number in the high 70% and 80% range among composite scores than labels A & C.

- Graphs beginning on page 22 reinforce this initial indication, favoring label B for help during an energy audit, when deciding to make energy-related upgrades, after completing home energy efficiency upgrades, when listing an energy efficient home for sale, and when shopping for a home.

- Many of the open-ended comments for Label A suggested the labels should have less text and should convey the necessary information more simply and Label C should have more color. The color was well received in Label B.

- Open-ended responses pertaining to what additional information would be helpful on these labels if comparing the energy performance of different homes indicated that type of fuels/energy used, and energy use by time of year, as well when the last energy audit was done would be helpful information to add to these labels.

- Open-ended responses pertaining to what additional information would be helpful on these labels when considering making energy upgrades to existing homes indicated that information on cost savings for upgrades would be beneficial additions to these labels.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Question Label Comparison</th>
<th>Composite Label A (1-4%)</th>
<th>Composite Label B (1-4%)</th>
<th>Composite Label C (1-4%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This presentation is easy to comprehend in a short period of time</td>
<td>59.4%</td>
<td>77.1</td>
<td>68.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This graphic in this label presents home energy use clearly</td>
<td>60.5</td>
<td>77.9</td>
<td>67.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This label would motivate me to learn more about my own home energy use</td>
<td>64.3</td>
<td>73.9</td>
<td>60.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This label would motivate me to move forward with energy efficiency updates to my home</td>
<td>59.2</td>
<td>68.1</td>
<td>55.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having this graphic in color rather than black and white is important in presenting this information</td>
<td>65.8</td>
<td>78.6</td>
<td>66.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The information in this label would be useful in purchasing a home</td>
<td>70.6</td>
<td>79.7</td>
<td>71.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having access to this label on two different homes would help me select between the two in a purchase decision</td>
<td>70.8</td>
<td>77.6</td>
<td>71.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This label would not affect my home purchase decision</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>21.3</td>
<td>21.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Efficiency Vermont Homeowner Survey

Your Building Energy Estimate (BEE) ranks your home's energy consumption based on typical occupancy and weather. The lower, the better—a low BEE identifies a home in Vermont as energy-efficient with lower energy costs and energy usage.

**150**

The BEE shows the estimated total annual building energy use (electricity and fuel in MMBtu) of your home for one year. The lower, the better!

MMBtu = 1,000,000 British thermal units (Btu) of energy

### HOME INFORMATION

- **Location:** 123 Main Street
  Anytown, VT 05400
- **Year built:** 2002
- **Size of home (sq. ft.):** 1723
- **Fuel mix:** oil, wood
- **Other energy features:** solar hot water
- **Score issue date:** 6/23/13

**Assessor:**
- **Name:** John Doe
- **Phone:** 802-555-1111

*Energy use and costs are estimates only. Actual usage and costs may vary and are based on many factors such as weather and occupant behavior, including use of wood stoves. A Building Energy Estimate takes into account the energy efficient features installed in the home on the date the Building Energy Estimate was issued, assuming average occupant behavior. Your actual energy use will vary depending on how you operate the building, and costs will vary as fuel prices change over time.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>1st Response</th>
<th>2nd Response</th>
<th>3rd Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This presentation is easy to comprehend in a short period of time</td>
<td>59.4%</td>
<td>57.7</td>
<td>67.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This graphic in this label presents home energy use clearly</td>
<td>60.5</td>
<td>59.5</td>
<td>65.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This label would motivate me to learn more about my own home energy use</td>
<td>64.3</td>
<td>61.5</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>This label would motivate me to move forward with energy efficiency updates to my home</td>
<td>59.2</td>
<td>58.2</td>
<td>64.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having this graphic in color rather than black and white is important in presenting this information</td>
<td>65.8</td>
<td>64.4</td>
<td>72.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The information in this label would be useful in purchasing a home</td>
<td>70.6</td>
<td>66.7</td>
<td>88.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having access to this label on two different homes would help me select between the two in a purchase decision</td>
<td>70.8</td>
<td>68.4</td>
<td>81.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This label would not affect my home purchase decision</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>23.8</td>
<td>23.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In this label, a score of 120 suggests a home is more energy efficient than a score of 95</td>
<td>26.3</td>
<td>27.9</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I would prefer a rectangular bar image over the current wedge image to present the score or rating</td>
<td>22.4</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>21.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My preference would be a color scheme of red (where red represents high home energy consumption) to green (where green represents low home energy consumption) than the current grey to green color scheme</td>
<td>55.8</td>
<td>53.2</td>
<td>67.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I would like to invert the wedge graphic which would move the 200+ score to the right side and the zero score to the left side for better understanding</td>
<td>32.4</td>
<td>33.9</td>
<td>25.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I like the name for this label – “Building Energy Estimate”</td>
<td>57.2</td>
<td>58.0</td>
<td>53.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What changes or additional information would make this label more helpful to you or make it clearer to understand?

A larger and more in depth graph

a little more detail

A mark for average

A plain colored graph with labeled X and Y coordinates

a winter score issue date instead of or additional to the June date might convey more information

An estimate of how much money could be saved by making my home consume less energy.

average home use in an area

benchmark with other states

Black and white. Black being bad or more energy use and white being good or less waste

Change building to home or house. Sounds too commercial with building.

change name to Residential/Commercial Building Energy Estimate

Climate and number of people living in home

Color

color differential would be easier

Color Scheme, red and green would work better

Color to make a clearer understanding that higher use is bad! Lower use is good!

cost broken down for average heating year propane vs. electirc

different format use of charts

fine as is

first thing I was going to say was use red and green, but, you already thought of that. Also, I would call it BEER Building energy efficiency rating

Good label!

Have the higher numbers be the good guys.

Have the print one place, the graph another.
home comparisons
i didn't understand it
I don't care for green, but it is the green mountain state so it seems appropriate. It looks very clear and easy to read to me.
I don't know. it is all very confusing
i don't like the color scheme or the fonts
I don't think there needs to be any
I like it the way it is, except I do like the suggestion to have it colored so that really high energy consumption would be in a red zone.
I like it the way it's presented. Red would be too inflammatory/judgmental, turn some people off. I read it fairly quickly - seems clear.
I like the green to red idea, but might also use colored numbering at the top. A number right in the middle of the scale could be yellow, for instance with it shading to orange for lower efficiency or deepening green for high efficiency.
I see comments about cost being estimates, but I do not see any actual $ figures -- even estimates. Worth knowing if 40 vs 111 MMBTU represents 100 vs 1000 $ per year savings.
I think it's good as is.
I think that the MMBtu Key needs to be larger so I can understand the graphic faster.
I think the info is great id like more color that's just me.
I would like to see a bell curve superimposed over this one showing a distribution of other properties, allowing me to better determine where this building falls in relation to them.
I would make a pie graph using different colors to show different energy percentages
If it were vertical and not horizontal
It could use more description, be more colorful
It is already very understandable the way it is.
It is really wordy. Shorter and to the point would be better.
It seems very wordy. Maybe a more condensed version
it would be better as a square graph

It wouldn't be interesting enough to me to try to figure out the meaning.

Looks fine the way it is

Looks pretty good to me the way it is. I think I would make sure that the definition of the BEE were in large enough type to be easy to read.

Make clear in graph title that annual energy usage is being depicted. I believe increasing energy from left to right on x axis is more intuitive.

make current energy use more visible

Maybe convert Btu to gallons of oil or gas, KwH or cords of wood etc.

More clarity.

More color in text

More color on the high end than on the low end,

More information

none- I love this and I want to know my own score now

none, it's very informative

not interested

not sure

nothing i like it just the way it is

Perhaps have some averages to compare to.

Perhaps using a house that fills from green to red to show energy consumption and put real dollars to represent how much some in the green would spend and how much some one in the red zone would spend.

please mention a website to get more detailed information, also saying something like you can get a free estimate

Possibly changing the Graph.

Red coloring for negative or bigger less energy efficient

Redesign it entirely
Show a bar/line showing an average acceptable 1700 ft home consumption.

Straight forward.

switch grey for red color.

That number "150" sort of floats up there without context, and it's hard to tie it to the little black text next to the number - which doesn't include the rating. A big clear sentence that said something like "This building's energy estimate consumption is 150 on a scale from 0 to 200. Lower numbers mean more energy savings." would be more helpful.

the colors as noted above.....red/green, etc.

the estimate word doesn’t fit right they need to change it.

The graph does not take into account the buildings square footage of living space. I'm assuming that a 6000 square foot home built to the same energy standard as a 1000 square foot home, would have a higher MMBtu rating.

The MMBtu means very little to me, When I get the bill the final cost is what I get!

The paragraph above the line and to the right of the graphic suggests the score is based on cost and energy usage; however the narrative to the right of the 150 just refers to use - what is it? If lower usage leads to lower costs, then need to make this clear. The print is too small/letters too close together so very hard to read. Not clear at first glance what the 150 is. Consider saying "of this home" instead of "your home" since it will be a label for potential purchasers. Regarding motivating me to move forward on improvements, I would first need to understand what the uses are related to energy consumption and the costs to mitigate these. Info somewhat helpful in comparing information with another home, but I would want to know more about what factors contributed to the rating and what involved in mitigating these. Since all this information can't be put on a label, perhaps can a at least list the factors (e.g. old appliances, poor roof insulation) and then have a website link to get the detailed report. Regarding name, I like option 2 much better.

The way it is would be a good start.

This is a good graph.

this looks and works fine just like it is,i would imagine after few more minutes use it would come as second nature.

to make more legit.

To much information given in graphic.

unsure.
Use a non-condensed font for the labels, and a more thoughtful display of the unit lines.

Very good job

very vague.

Website address where you can go to learn more

What would be the cost comparison to go with it?

Yeah sure
The Energy Performance Score (EPS) ranks your home’s energy consumption based on typical occupancy and weather. The lower, the better—a low EPS identifies a home in Vermont as energy-efficient with lower energy costs and energy usage.

**EFFICIENCY VERMONT HOMEOWNER SURVEY Page 11**

**Label B**

**ENERGY PERFORMANCE SCORE**

- **LOWEST ENERGY USE**: 0 MMBtu/yr
- **HIGH PERFORMANCE HOME**: 40 MMBtu/yr
- **HOME BUILT TO ENERGY CODE**: 111 MMBtu/yr
- **HIGHEST ENERGY USE**: 200+ MMBtu/yr

**HOME INFORMATION**

- **Location:** 123 Main Street
- **Anytown, VT 05400**
- **Year built:** 2002
- **Size of home (sq. ft.):** 1723
- **Fuel mix:** oil, wood
- **Other energy features:** solar hot water
- **Score issue date:** 6/23/13
- **Assessor:**
  - **Name:** John Doe
  - **Phone:** 802-555-1111

*Energy use and costs are estimates only. Actual usage and costs may vary and are based on many factors such as weather and occupant behavior, including use of wood stoves. An Energy Performance Score takes into account the energy-efficient features installed in the home on the date the Energy Performance Score was issued, assuming average occupant behavior. Your actual energy use will vary depending on how you operate the building, and costs will vary as fuel prices change over time.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics: Label B</th>
<th>Composite (1-4%)</th>
<th>Statewide Panel (1-4%)</th>
<th>Efficiency VT Panel (1-4%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This presentation is easy to comprehend in a short period of time</td>
<td>77.1%</td>
<td>74.5</td>
<td>89.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This graphic in this label presents home energy use clearly</td>
<td>77.9</td>
<td>76.0</td>
<td>87.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This label would motivate me to learn more about my own home energy use</td>
<td>73.9</td>
<td>72.3</td>
<td>81.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This label would motivate me to move forward with energy efficiency updates to my home</td>
<td>68.1</td>
<td>67.2</td>
<td>73.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having this graphic in color rather than black and white is important in presenting this information</td>
<td>78.6</td>
<td>77.4</td>
<td>84.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The information in this label would be useful in purchasing a home</td>
<td>79.7</td>
<td>78.3</td>
<td>86.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having access to this label on two different homes would help me select between the two in a purchase decision</td>
<td>77.6</td>
<td>74.7</td>
<td>92.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This label would not affect my home purchase decision</td>
<td>21.3</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>14.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In this label, a score of 58 suggests a home is more energy efficient than a score of 130</td>
<td>81.4</td>
<td>79.2</td>
<td>92.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I would prefer a wedge image over the current bar image to present the score or rating</td>
<td>26.6</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>41.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My preference would be a color scheme of grey (where grey represents high home energy consumption) to green (where green represents low home energy consumption) than the current green to red color scheme</td>
<td>18.6</td>
<td>19.1</td>
<td>16.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I would like to invert the bar graphic which would move the zero score to the right side and the 200 score to the left side for better understanding</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>21.3</td>
<td>12.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I like the name for this label – “Energy Performance Score”</td>
<td>65.9</td>
<td>64.5</td>
<td>73.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What changes or additional information would make this label more helpful to you or make it clearer to understand?

Add a marking for average

Add finished and unfinished sq ft of home

again none, these are quick & easy to understand

Again, the condensed label font is needlessly hard to read

An estimate of how much money could be saved by making my home more energy efficient.

as before -- actual $ estimates

As stated

At first glance, this one is much easier to understand than the other one.

average home use for similar homes in area

Average is 150 ?

BIGGER WORDS

Can't think of anything

color

color change

Don't like color graduation visually jarring

Equate it to dollars and cents, make the picture a house filling up versus a rectangle or wedge.

excellent

fine as is

Freeze graphic image so questions scroll below it but always have the graphic visible.

giving some mean values that good homes have in vermont and also mentioning on a average how most homes get a worse score might shows how much needs to be done

Great label
had to tell if this is a good score or not; a score for winter might add useful information in addition to this score which has a June date

i dont know

I like the 111 "home built to energy code" info, but recognize that just because a home is built to code it doesn't mean it is the most energy efficient. I think that 111 statement convince some one that a home with that score doesn't need any energy efficiency improvement.

I like the reddish orange used!

I like this a lot

I like this better than the last one.

i like this chart alot better then the other

I like this more than the first label.

I like this name better than the previous one and the multiple colors really stand out. It would be interesting to know how energy use is rated and scored.

I still would like a clear sentence in a large font that contextualizes the "150" number.

I think that the MMBtu Key needs to be larger so I can understand the graphic faster.

i wouldnt i like score in it its like a chart on your home to no the energy saving or energy wasting

it is counter intuitive

It would be helpful to have a breakdown of information by either time-of-year or type of consumption (heat / cool).

it's better than the last one but I'm still unsure

It's easy to understand with the color and the rectangle shape.

Keep the color!

Much clearer and less wordy. No need to make changes.

name is ambiguous

No

none - good

None I like the way this graph is done.
none- I prefer the previous chart though
none, I like it
Nonee
Nothing. This clearly got my attention and was very eye catching and easy to understand.
nothing. I like the way that it is
Once again, there is no compensation for square footage of living space between different size homes.
Perhaps a staircase would be a better graphic to improve clarity.
Perhaps Annual Home Energy Usage Index would make a better chart title
Perhaps more written information could be included. I seem to prefer the triangle, and L to R orientation of the first graphic, can't say why.
pretty clear
Red is angry color...BAD BAD BAD
Some type of average to compare to.
The paragraph above the line and to the right of the graphic suggests the score is based on cost and energy usage; however the narrative to the right of the 150 just refers to use - what is it? If lower usage leads to lower costs, then need to make this clear. The print is too small/letters too close together so very hard to read. Not clear at first glance what the 150 is. Consider saying "of this home" instead of "your home" since it will be a label for potential purchasers. Regarding motivating me to move forward on improvements, I would first need to understand what the uses are related to energy consumption and the costs to mitigate these. Info somewhat helpful in comparing information with another home, but I would want to know more about what factors contributed to the rating and what involved in mitigating these. Since all this information can't be put on a label, perhaps can a at least list the factors (e.g. old appliances, poor roof insulation) and then have a website link to get the detailed report.
the wedge is quicker to understand
The yellow to red section seems very negative & ominous with red meaning 'danger'.
This is a great chart but it doesn't help me afford to do what needs to be done at my home to make it energy efficient
This is better than the wedge
This is much better than option 1! It seems so much clearer and easier to understand right off the bat. The color scheme really helps to tell which is good and which is bad.

This label is much more understandable than the other.

This was very clear

unsure

works just as well either the 1st way or the second, I think the first is better though as some people are color blind

yeah why not

You crafty folks, switching the answers like that - consistency is key, don't you think?
Home Energy Score

Score

Address: 12345 Honeysuckle Lane
Smithville AR 72466

Home size: 2,800 square feet
Year built: 1970
Air conditioned: Yes

Your home’s current score

Uses more energy

Top 20% of similarly sized homes score here or better

Uses less energy

Assessment date: 01/12/2012
Scored in: 2012
Score ID: 1913575
Qualified assessor #: 101019

The Home Energy Score is a national rating system developed by the U.S. Department of Energy. The Score reflects the energy efficiency of a home based on the home’s structure and heating, cooling, and hot water systems. The Home Facts provide details about the current structure and systems. Recommendations show how to improve the energy efficiency of the home to achieve a higher score and save money.
## Characteristics: Label C

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Composite (1-4%)</th>
<th>Statewide Panel (1-4%)</th>
<th>Efficiency VT Panel (1-4%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This presentation is easy to comprehend in a short period of time</td>
<td>68.9%</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>80.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This graphic in this label presents home energy use clearly</td>
<td>67.0%</td>
<td>65.4%</td>
<td>75.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This label would motivate me to learn more about my own home energy use</td>
<td>60.5%</td>
<td>57.6%</td>
<td>75.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This label would motivate me to move forward with energy efficiency updates to my home</td>
<td>55.7%</td>
<td>54.6%</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having this graphic in color rather than black and white is important in presenting this information</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>64.5%</td>
<td>77.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The information in this label would be useful in purchasing a home</td>
<td>71.0%</td>
<td>68.3%</td>
<td>85.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having access to this label on two different homes would help me select between the two in a purchase decision</td>
<td>71.8%</td>
<td>68.1%</td>
<td>91.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This label would not affect my home purchase decision</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
<td>23.3%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In this label, a score of 8 suggests a home is more energy efficient than a score of 4</td>
<td>76.1%</td>
<td>73.4%</td>
<td>88.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I would prefer a wedge image over the current bar image to present the score or rating</td>
<td>29.5%</td>
<td>28.9%</td>
<td>32.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My preference would be a color scheme of red (where red represents high home energy consumption) to green (where green represents low home energy consumption) than the current grey to green color scheme</td>
<td>52.2%</td>
<td>48.6%</td>
<td>71.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I would like to invert the bar graphic which would move the 1 score to the right side and the 10 score to the left side for better understanding</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>25.9%</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I like the name for this label – “Home Energy Score”</td>
<td>64.4%</td>
<td>65.0%</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What changes or additional information would make this label more helpful to you or make it clearer to understand?

A marking that depicts average
Add heating types, average fuel and electrical use per year
As previously stated
Best label, hands down.
Best one so far
Bolder colors such as the one previously. Caught my attention.
Call it "Home Energy Efficiency Score", change "uses more energy to less efficient and vice versa on the other end"
Can't think of anything
colors
desearve respect
dont like this 1 at all
Even better
fine as is
i am not sure
I feel the MMBtu' numbers provide a clearer score that when I made changes to my home I would be able to acess the progress better.
I like the larger scale better than 1 to 10
i like the more intricate number scale as opposed to this one
I like the name of this best, clearly stated
I like the simplicity of this design best but would like the bar to be colored.
I like the wedge the test, more visual
I like this one best
I like this one best
I like this one the best, especially the information about other houses of similar sizes and how they score
I love this one there whole presentation above tells alot about the home the year the size its scoring your home
I prefer the narratives and layout, house stats and recommendation section of this option, but the graphic in Option 2. Keep 1 on left but go with low usage associated with low number and identify it with consumption rather than score.
I very much like the fact that my score is labeled as such. That same labeling should be used on the prior two graph types if they are chosen.
I would ad more colors to the graph to make it more easily understandable
I would change the graph to a less simple graph make it more complex.
I'm not sure. For some reason using 1-10 has less of an impact than the others
Include more written information, esp. concerning air conditioning. In Arkansas, heating in winter must be a consideration, too. Help reader integrate both kinds of information.
It could use the red color.
Its fine just boring and bland
Make it easier to read
make the range wider
More color
More color
More detailed information would be useful.
no comments on this. It was the most clear so far
none but I prefer the first label to the label B or C presented here
Not as good as the green/red bar
not sure
Nothing
nothing at all
Please include MMBtu information. This would help the homeowners figure energy cost.
Quite easy to understand.
seems to be information sparse
Simple, and direct!
Switch the numbers
That "Top 20%..." indicator is awful -- it does far more harm than good
The 1-10 scale seems less accurate than the previous scales that go to 200.
The color scheme is not powerful enough
The numbering scheme here is a little counter-intuitive: The numbers increase as you use less energy and decrease as you use more energy. I'd suggest reversing this if you go with this scheme. I love the idea of a rating system, and all formats that you have presented are nice. If I had to choose, though, I think I'd pick the first.

The second image was by far the best. If this had the green/red color scheme I think it would be a little more clear. I also liked how the other graphs had the fuel source listed.
The squares are uninteresting/unappealing
The text that says "Your home's current score 5" in the little box is helpful. That plus the labels on the two ends (uses more and uses less energy) plus the "top 20% of homes score here or better" are all helpful. Having bigger numbers be better feels intuitive - going to the right on the scale to improve is what we're more used to in graphs.
The whole idea is too simplistic and seem to lack useful information
this chart is just bad
This name is also better than the first example.
This one is even better than the first two.
Tips on how to make homes more energy efficient.
unsure
very good
while randomly assigned numbers may be easy for most to understand, I think that there should be a legend showing the total btus for each.
Would also invert the meaning of the numbers, with low numbers equated with lower energy usage, not the way this graphs shows.
Which label, A, B, or C would be most helpful to me during a home energy audit, to help me decide whether to make energy upgrades? (%)

- A
- B
- C
- Unsure

Legend:
- Composite
- Statewide Panel
- Efficiency VT Panel
Which label, A, B, or C would be most informative AFTER completing some home energy efficiency upgrades? (%)

Which label, A, B, or C would be most informative if listing my energy-efficient home for sale? (%)

[Bar charts showing preferences for labels A, B, C, and Unsure for both questions, with data segments for Composite, Statewide Panel, and Efficiency VT Panel]
What additional information would you want to see if you were going to buy a home and wanted to compare the energy performance of different homes? (e.g., fuel mix, cost history, etc.)

A average score of normal homes is good. also any information on a free estimate would be good.

A comparison showing different fuels.

actual heating costs

actual monthly costs (if on budget plan) or yearly total costs

Agree on what fuel (or mix) is used, how the ratings are figured

Air flow/loss Fuel Mix and cost

Any costs are hugely influential
any recent upgrades, especially to electricity utility
Area and property taxes would be great
average heating cost
Comparatives on energy usage of similar sized homes in same general area. Average and peak monthly energy costs.
Cost
Cost for upgrades
cost history
cost history
cost history
Cost history
cost history
cost history
Cost history
cost history
cost history
cost history
Cost history
Cost history
Cost history
Cost history
Cost history
Cost history
Cost history
Cost history
Cost history
Cost history
Cost history
Fuel type
cost history by season, fuel mix
cost history vs cost after efficiency upgrades
Cost history would be helpful.
cost history, fuel mix, energy saving improvements done
cost history, if using numbers instead of btus- a legend re: btus each number represents with the lowest number being the most energy efficient.
Cost history, square footage allocated by finished and unfinished
Cost history, time of last audit if done

Cost history...based on facts from utility companies, not the homeowner's estimates. Fuel mix and costs.

cost of energy used

Cost relative to similar homes in area

Don't know

Don't know

Energy performance in relation to the amount of windows the house has. Also, the individual factors that lead to the overall rating.

fuel cost

fuel cost for a year to heat--history

fuel cost, electricity cost

fuel cost, type insulation etc

fuel mix

Fuel Mix Cost History

Fuel mix is very important.

fuel mix, age of furnace

fuel mix, cost history, whether advantageously sited for solar; in VT, wind energy a possibility? Outlyer: info on off-the-grid homes

Fuel mix, of course the history of the house and its cost for a year in heating and electricity and Taxes!

fuel mix, cost history, price paid per gallon to better monitor history, how many gallons if price per gallon not available

heating cost

heating source

History, and fuel costs, comparison in the area, neighborhood

how it's heated, how the water is heated

how much fuel or wood a year power costs a history on it like buying a car have home facts
How much would it cost to improve my homes energy efficiency by 25 and 50 percent.

I assume that some of the house info (like fuel type etc) is available on the other tabs of the label C above. That's why I assume it is most helpful. The other two labels, A and B, squish all that info into one tab. So if it's a printed label that only has the "score" tab from C, that is less info - but A and B are so dense that they are hard to scan (and I'm a trained librarian who works with large data sets and excel sheets all the time).

I like the home facts and recommendations on example C.

I think going from green to red catches the eye better, but the graphs on 'a' and 'c' would be easier for people to understand

I'd want to see the bell curve I described earlier and I'd also like to see a type-of-energy or time-of-year representation.

if it has other options for power, like solar heat, water or solar panels. Also knowing how it generates heat. how much in the past it has had ot pay for heat on average and perhaps the wiring in teh home as in quality being new or old

If specific areas of the home had a more efficient performance grade.

information on surrounding homes of the property that I am interest in.

label B should also show the fuel mix.

Last 3 years of energy use.

Maybe average heating cost/year? I think if you add too much info, though, it becomes overwhelming.

maybe typical energy usage of the home (how many adults, kids came to that calculation)

More details.

more specific info on the different variable in the home and occupants

Need some absolute measure of energy use. It is missing in C (the #5 is purely relative).

newest change that would effect energy cost

None of the options are ideal. Suggest combining Options 2 and 3 as noted in my comments under those options.

not sure

Not sure
Nothing, very good your labels

Oil prices

Relative energy costs

Samples of other homes in area

Seasonal breakdown between summer and winter (heating and cooling are very different considerations)

simple is always better for everyone to understand

Some dollar comparisons

Square footage of home. MMBtus. Type of energy, i.e., oil, gas, solar, geo-thermal, etc.

square footage, and primary heat source

square footage, type of heating, insulation, water, price.

tax base, school rating, solar power capability

The history of cost of energy

The scores on each home.

The things listed separately.

total cost

type of energy used

type of fuel used, heating/cooling system used

Unsure

unsure

Water consumption. Month by month cost.

What type of heating system is used.

What you have seems good

when were audits done

where the energy was being used
What additional information would you want to see in these labels if you were considering making energy upgrades to an existing home?

A simple label is of very limited use for this purpose. A detailed report is what I would want.
actual heating and cooling
Again, something showing a comparison of fuels.
All forms of energy used and how that effected cost
also any recommended shops or contractors where you can get it done
any and all possible cost benefits
appliance efficiency, expectation of savings after upgrades are made.
audit of air flow/ loss
average savings/costs for improvements
Before & After
better rating
break down, fuel to electric, Propane, solar
breaking down to separate rooms or areas of the building
C only rates the house in comparison to all the other houses, but does not state what it SHOULD be.
comparisons to other homes of the same size and energy use
Cost for upgrades
Cost savings and payback schedule
Cost savings.
Don't know
estimated savings in fuel costs
For label C, a legend showing that a rating of 5, for example, equals 150 MM Btu. And, MM Btu for what sort of time period? Daily? Yearly?
For question 10 above, the graph would need to have two numbers to be useful, e.g. before and after.
Fuel
fuel mix
Fuel type and cost history
History within the 5 years.
Home Information needs to be on Label C as well.
I don't know
I like 'B' with the colors, but I would prefer either 'a' or 'c' graphing
I would want to know what upgrades would be the most cost effective or most likely to lower the score towards most energy efficient.
individual areas that are not efficient, like refrigerator, washer, etc
Inside and outside temperature averages
insulation thicknesses
Last upgrades
Lines in wedge to separate different energies used to tell me which one to work on first.
location of the home
Maybe a separate report about what you can do to improve your home's energy efficiency. I don't think it needs to be right on the label, because it would be too much information in one space.
MMBtu rating for each type of fuel or energy.
more color - comparisons of different homes (but similar years built and square footage)
More details. Inexpensive improvements.
More specifics about how making changes would impact the score.
No labels. Would prefer the money on this be refunded back to electric customers that pay for this kind of info through the EF charges on their bills. Would prefer to have local utilities do this for free as was done in the past before EF VT was set up!!!!!!!!!!!
None of the options are ideal. Suggest combining Options 2 and 3 as noted in my comments under those options.
Price ranges. How it could change my costs of living after.
Prioritized (based on cost savings or annual energy usage reduction) list of recommended actions.
propane cost vs. electric, wood, vs chips
Recommendations on products and services to make the home use less energy
Separate ones for the heating of the home and the electrical use if not heated with electricity.
Show what possible incases are associated to each upgrade. Double pane window will increase on average of \( (\ ) \) MMBtus/yr per window compared to tripple pane windows. composite door vs. wooden, spray foam vs. hard vs. fiberglass.....
Solar involvement
some suggestions to make home more energy efficient
specific action plan task list with average prices
suggested upgrades
Suggested upgrades such as windows, insulation etc
Tell me who I can talk to for assessments / advice! Is there a hotline # or website for help understanding the program?
the age of the house and the date of the audits
This is sufficient.
to be more like c
total fuel cost for year
type of location. sun exposure, available options for heating systems and how insalated the home was.
unsure
upgrades available
what do the numbers represent? btus for what time period/amount? (i.e. annual, daily, weekly)
What the differnece of before and after the upgrades are done.
Where you can make the most cost effective improvements, ie insulation or windows. Given a budget, how can one best improve their score
where your money is most cost effective for upgrades
windows and doors
year round estimate?

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<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Composite</th>
<th>Statewide Panel</th>
<th>Efficiency VT Panel</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 to 24</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
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<td>35-44</td>
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<table>
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<td>31.6%</td>
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<td>Female</td>
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<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td><strong>Composite</strong></td>
<td><strong>Statewide Panel</strong></td>
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<td>------------------------------</td>
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<td>Eighth grade or less</td>
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<td>High school graduate or GED</td>
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<td>Some college</td>
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<td>Post-graduate or professional degree</td>
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<table>
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<td>$160,000 or more</td>
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<td>Ethnicity</td>
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<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>98.2%</td>
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<td>Hispanic</td>
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<td>Refused/Unsure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Addison</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
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<tr>
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