

# Energy Insecurity During COVID-19

## Challenges in Meeting Energy Needs

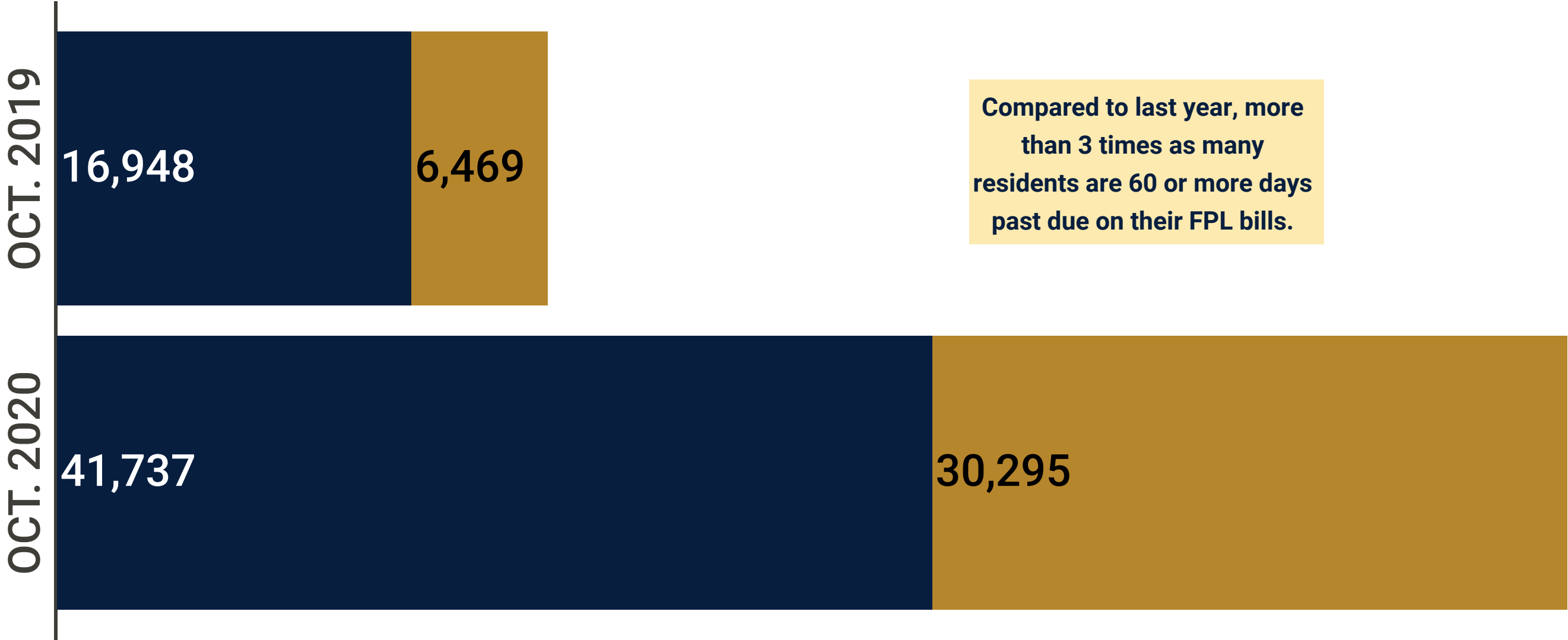


**1 in 5** of U.S. households surveyed from April 2020 through May 2020 reported reducing or forgoing necessities such as food and medicine to pay an energy bill



**1/8** of U.S. households surveyed from April 2020 through May 2020 reported facing a challenge in paying energy bills

## Number of Past Due Florida Power & Light (FPL) Residential Bills



Compared to last year, more than 3 times as many residents are 60 or more days past due on their FPL bills.

● 60-90 days past due ● 90+ days past due

Sources: Survey of Household Energy Insecurity in Time of COVID, Indiana University 2020, Florida Power & Light Company's COVID-19 Customer Impact Data Report 2020, Harris,A. & Smalls, I. (2020). 'I can't afford it': 30,000 people are behind on FPL bills as power shutoffs continue. Miami Herald.

# Why is this significant?

**Energy insecurity may trigger mental health disorders such as anxiety and depression and contribute to poorer quality of physical health.**

# Resources in Miami-Dade County



## Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

A federally funded program that assist low-income homeowners with making their homes energy efficient through the installation of cost-saving measures.

More info: [www.miamidade.gov/socialservices](http://www.miamidade.gov/socialservices)



## Housing Assistance Network of Dade (HAND)

Provides temporary rental assistance to eligible individuals and families in Miami-Dade County who are currently homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless. The Program was recently expanded to help people experiencing economic hardship as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Call: (305)231-7667



## 211 Switchboard

A 24/7 operated helpline partially with trained staff and volunteers provide telephone counseling, crisis intervention, and information and referral to countywide programs and services.

Call: 2-1-1



## Miami-Dade Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)

Provides rental payment assistance for up three months but no more than \$5,000 total to families experiencing financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

More info: [www.miamidade.gov](http://www.miamidade.gov)



## Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

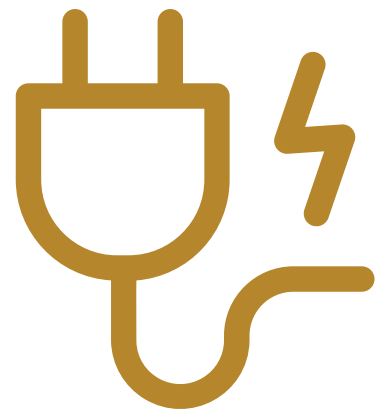
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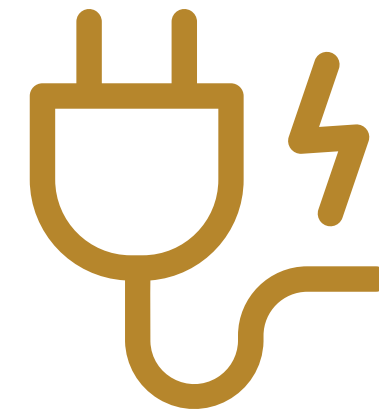


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# Assistance Program Participation



## Housing Assistance Network of Dade (HAND)

received more than **29,000** applications in Miami-Dade County by June 2020.

Of these applicants, **3,466** qualified for the lottery allocation of aid system with **300** initial lottery winners.

## Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

From the launch of COVID-19 Crisis Assistance until September, more than **2,900**

Miami-Dade households received assistance totaling **\$1.7 million**.

Since July, more than **14,000** people have asked for help with more than **5,000** households receiving assistance totaling more than **\$3.2 million** in aid.



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Sources: HAND Rental Assistance Portal June 7th Update

Miami-Dade County Community Action and Human Services Department (CAHSD) Sept. 2020 News Release

Harris, A. & Smalls, I. (2020). 'I can't afford it': 30,000 people are behind on FPL bills as power shutoffs continue. *Miami Herald*.