According to a study done by the University of Texas Energy Institute, roughly 20% of households in Texas are energy burdened (Wible & King, 2016). Energy burden is defined as a household’s inability to access adequate energy resources to serve their needs (Boardman, 1991). ………………….However, qualifiers for participating in such a program are needed. Typically, in the literature, energy burden is measured by the percentage of income spent on energy bill’s. Individuals who spend greater than a certain threshold are considered energy burdened.

However, studies have shown that estimating energy burden as a percent of income might overstate the issue (Schuessler, 2014) ( Herrero, 2017). Thus, we use the results of a survey in which respondents stated difficulty with electricity bill in last six months as the indicator for energy burden. Residential energy use in Texas is predominantly electric (Wible & King, 2016), thus we focus on electric burden specifically. Recent studies have also shown a link between health & food insecurity and energy burden (Tuttle & Beatty, 2017). Since geography is a strong predictor of these disparities (Bouzarovski & Simcock, 2017). Thus, this study uses the former to predict the later at a county level for Texas.