

# EEBA High-Performance Home Summit 2019

October 2, 2019, Denver, CO

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

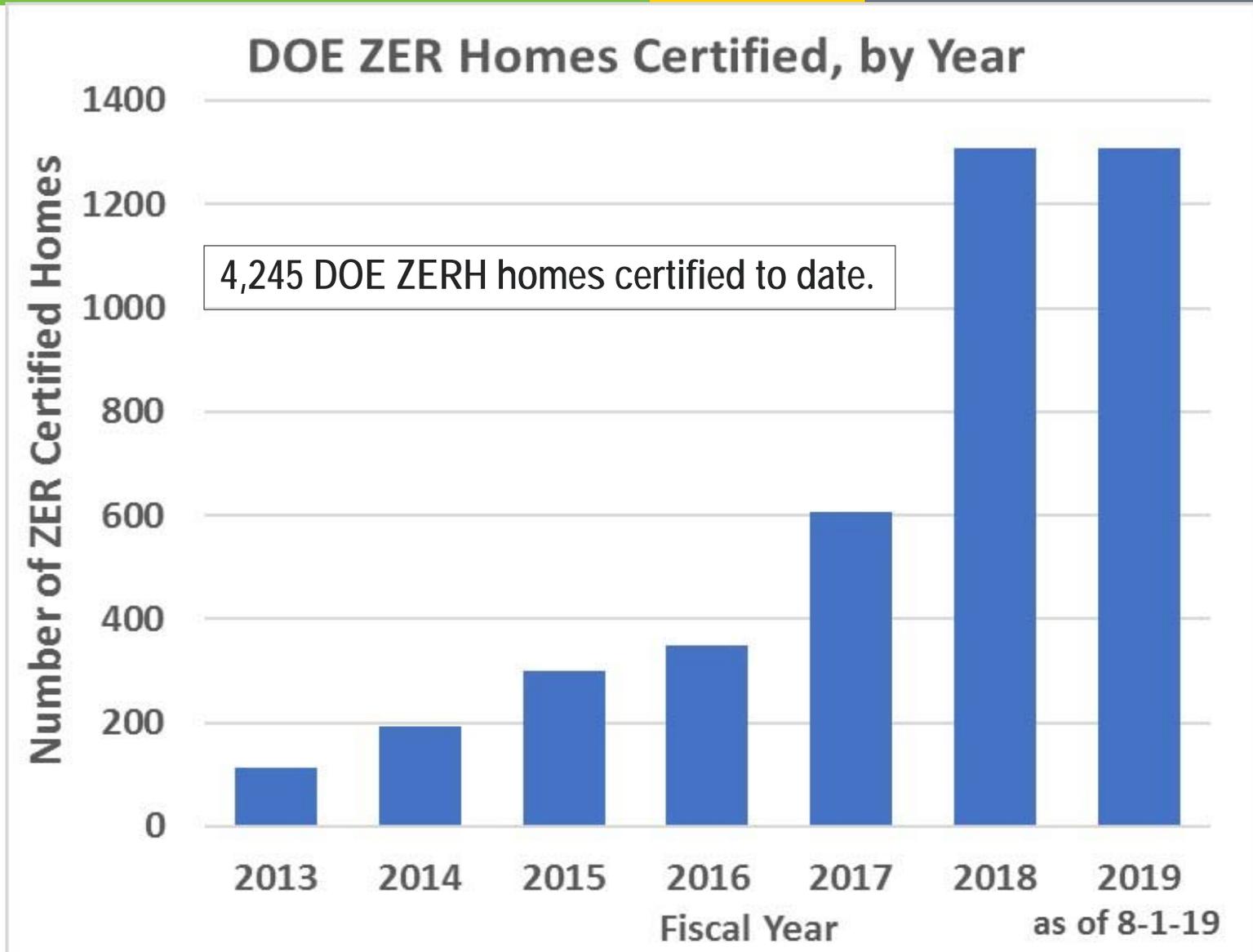
Energy Efficiency &  
Renewable Energy



## Zero Made Easier

**Theresa Gilbride, Joe Nebbia**  
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory,  
Newport Partners

# DOE ZERH is taking off!



# Zero Coming Soon to a City Near You

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## CA Building Code Takes Big Step Toward Net-Zero Energy

May 09, 2018

Pierre Delforge



Image courtesy of Wakeland Housing and Development Corporation

# DOE ZERH Program Requirements

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## How to Achieve a DOE Zero Energy Ready Home

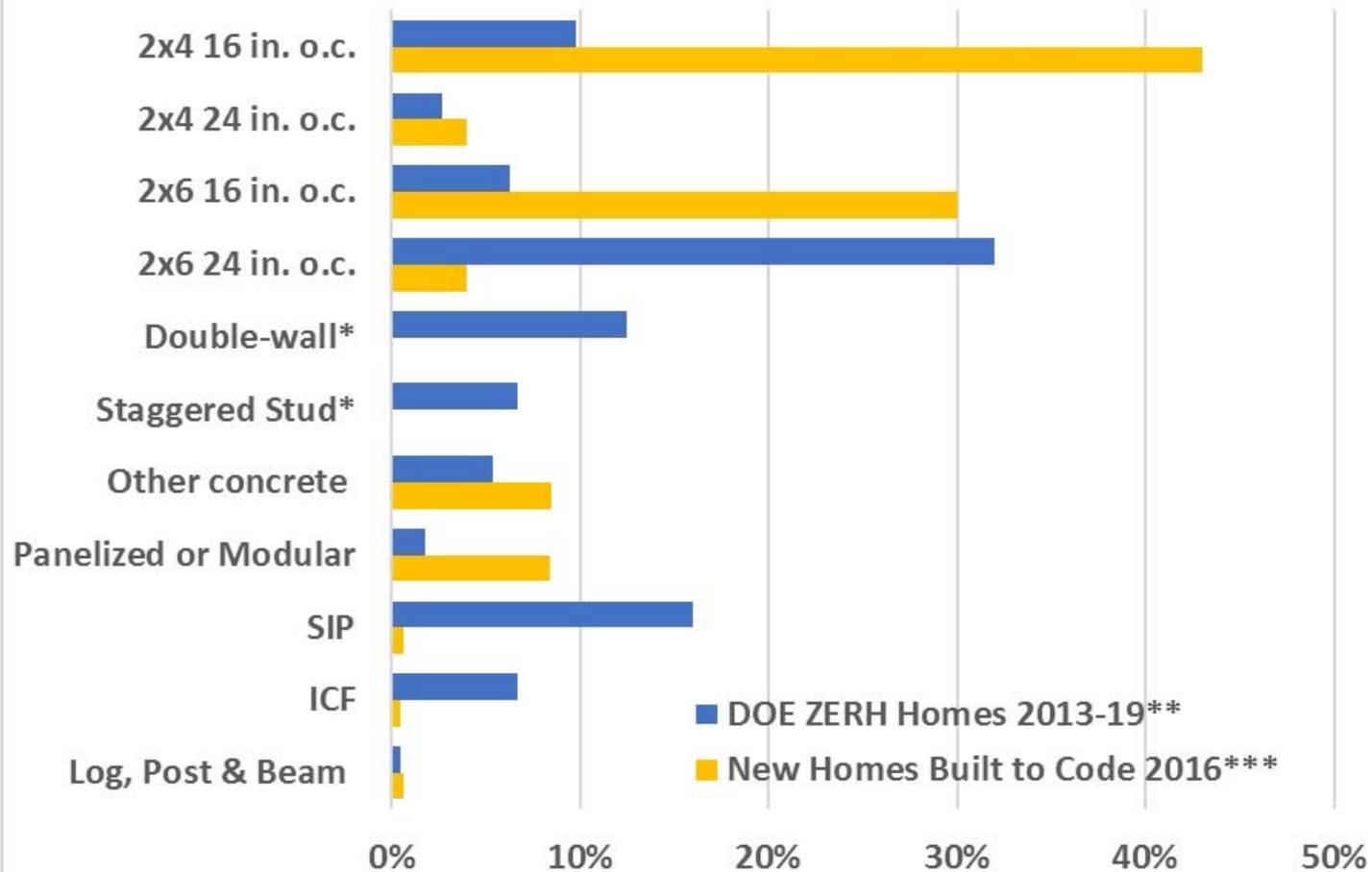


- START WITH ENERGY STAR Certified Homes V. 3.0
- ENVELOPE meets or exceeds 2012 IECC levels
- DUCT SYSTEM located within the home's thermal boundary
- WATER EFFICIENCY meets WaterSense hot water distribution spec.

- LIGHTING AND APPLIANCES ENERGY STAR qualified
- INDOOR AIR QUALITY meets or exceeds the EPA Indoor airPLUS Verification Checklist
- SOLAR meets PV Ready Checklist
- HVAC, HW, and ACH50 meet specs or tradeoff
- BUILD, Label, Sell

# Wall Type

## Wall Type: How Do ZERH Homes Compare?



\*Staggered and double walls were not reported by Home Innovation Research Labs. **Percent of Homes**

2x4s staggered on 2x6 plates, or 2x6s staggered on 2x8 plates.

\*\*Participants in DOE ZERH Housing Innovation Awards 2013 to 2019.

\*\*\*2016 new homes study by Home Innovation Research Labs.

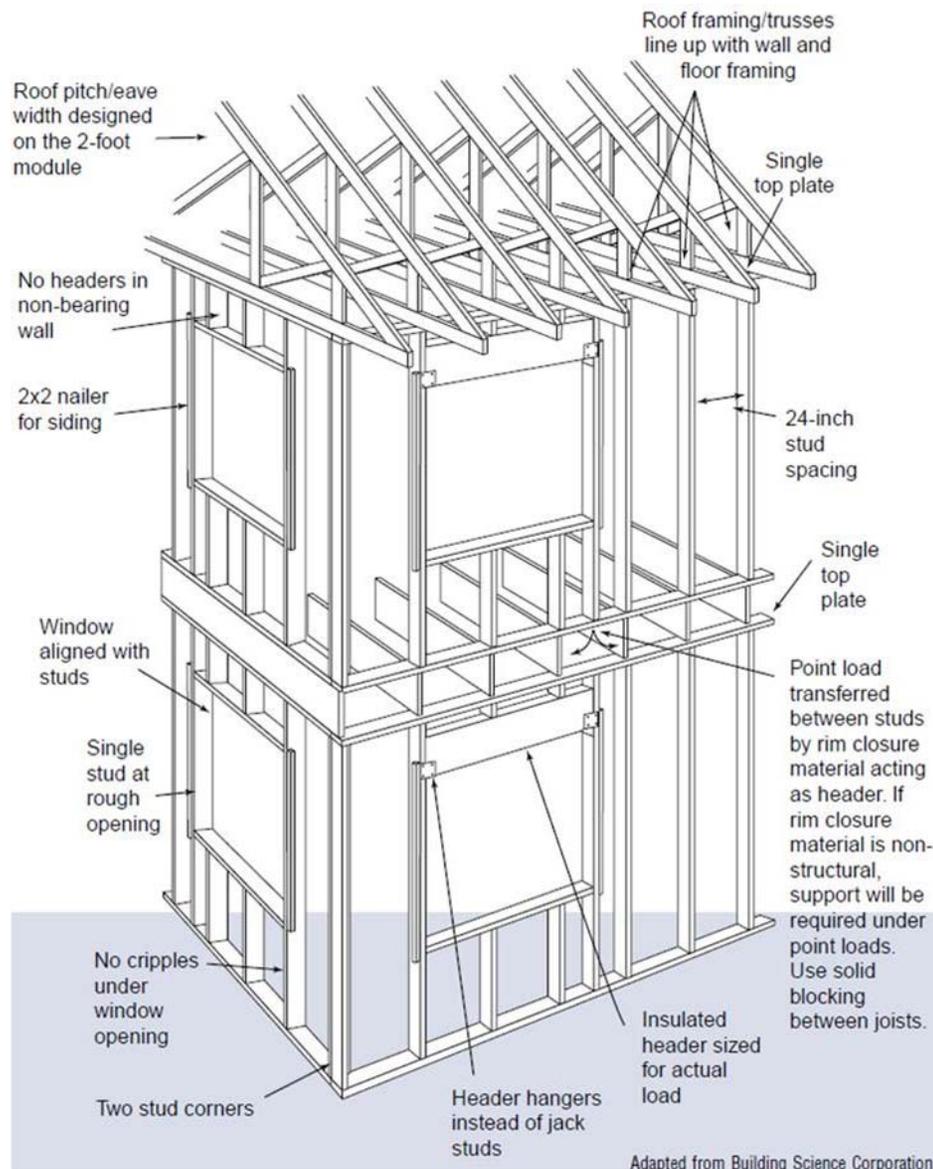
# A Better Stud Wall

## Advanced Framing

- 2-foot grid
- Less lumber, Less time, Less waste
- More room for insulation



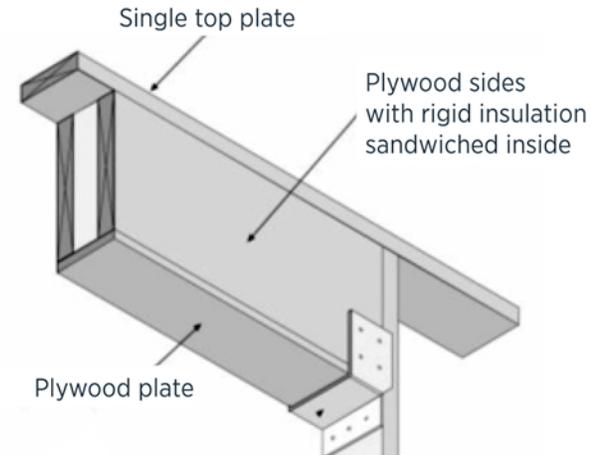
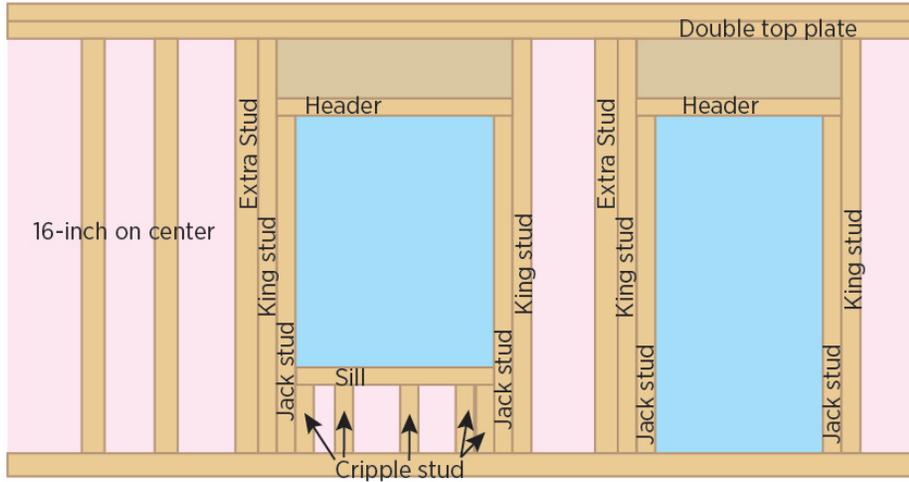
# Advanced Framing



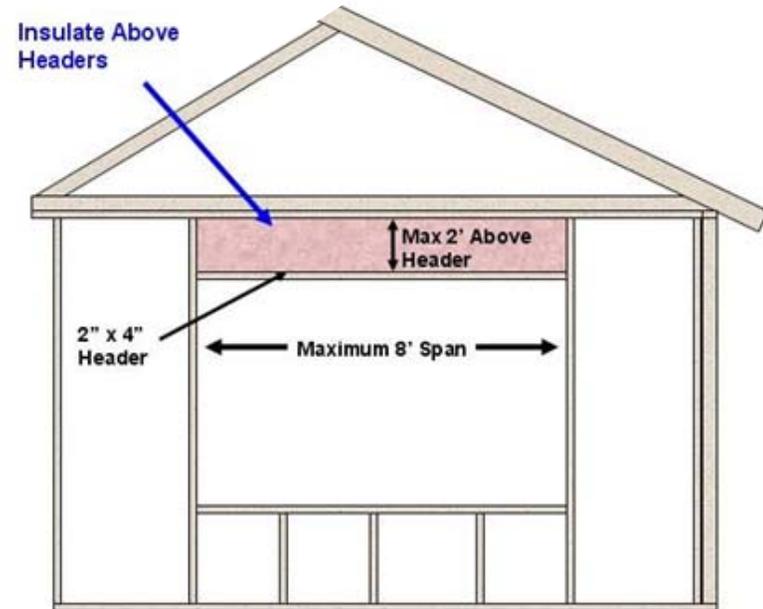
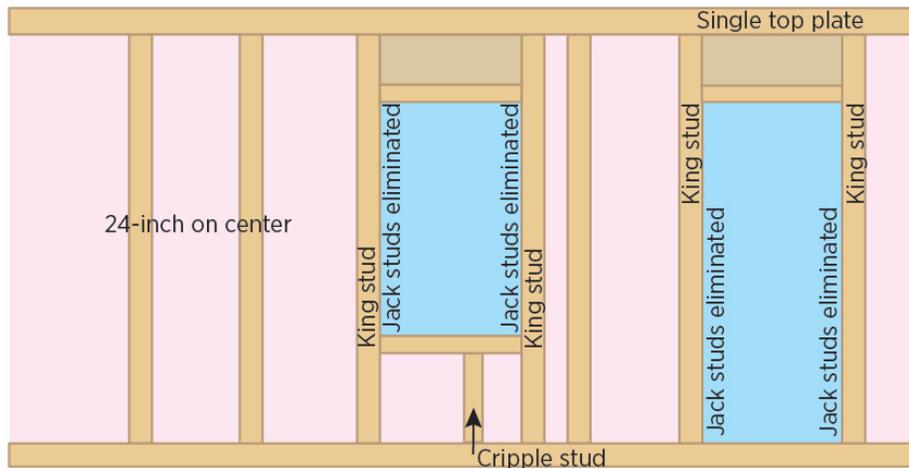
Advanced framing on a 2-foot grid.

# Advanced Framing

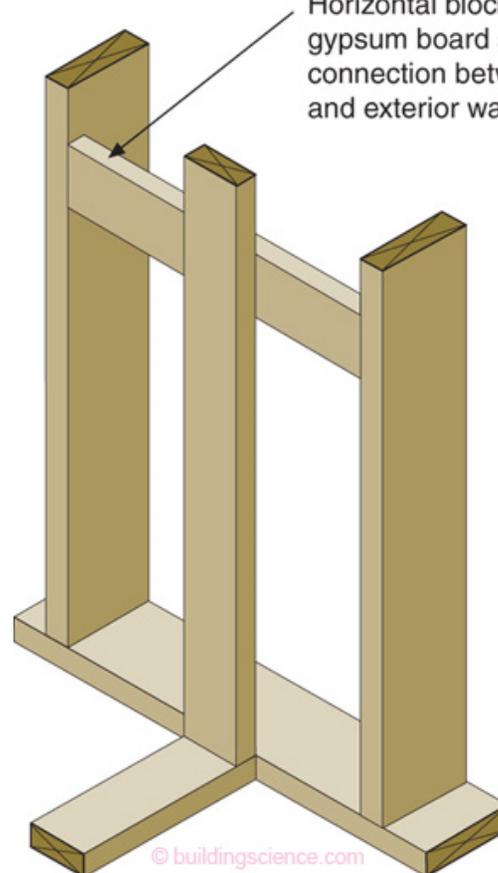
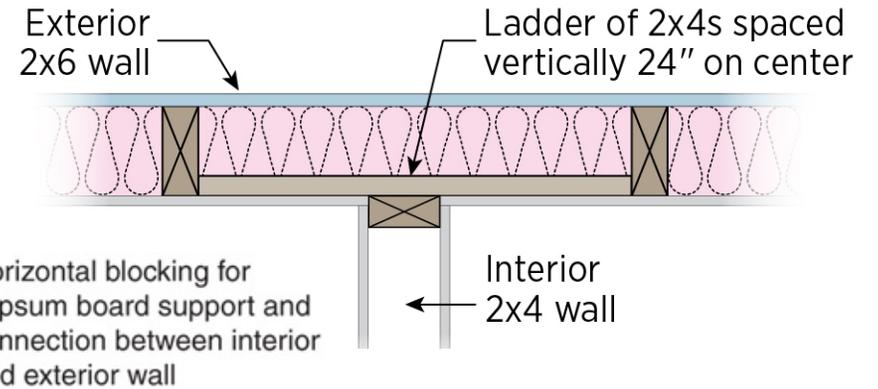
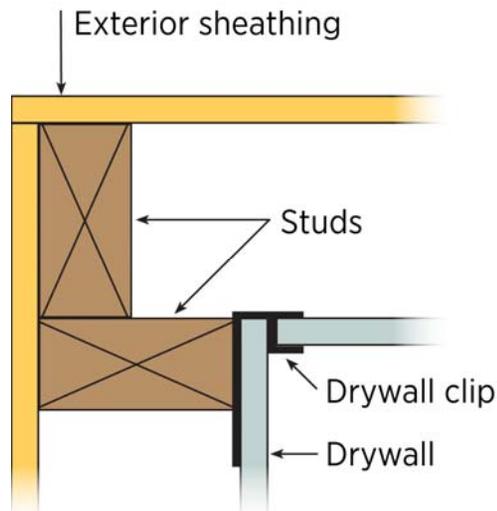
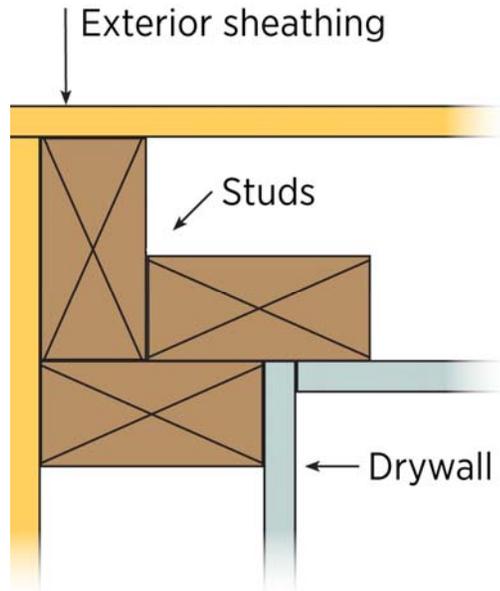
## Traditional Framing



## Advanced Framing Techniques



# More Advanced Frame



# 2-ft grid top to bottom

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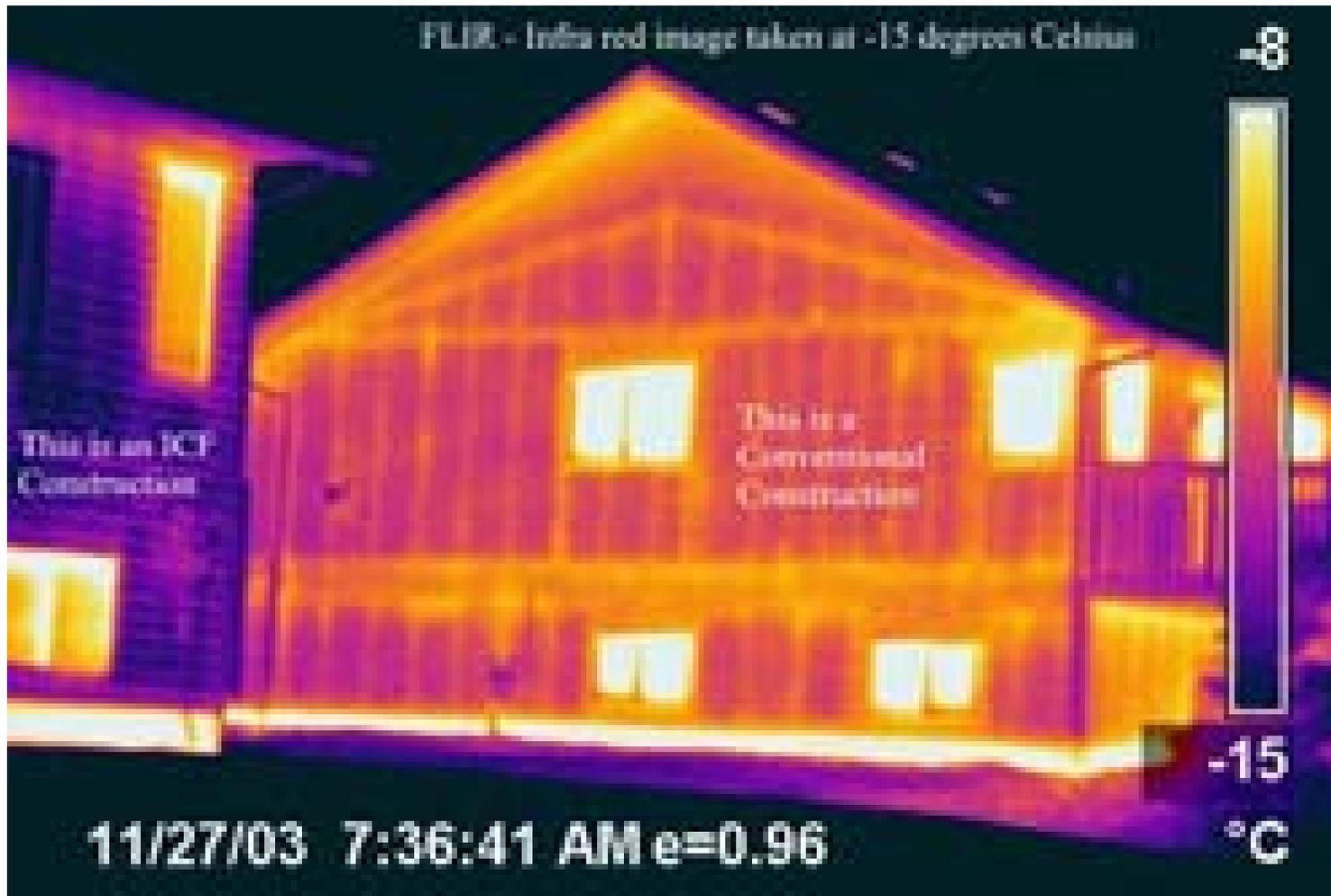


An uncommon 6.55/12 roof pitch provides space for exactly 4 ½ sheets of 4-foot-wide roof sheathing with just one cut and optimal PV angle.

# Stud Walls are Great - Except for Thermal Bridging

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# Stop Thermal Bridging – Put on a Sweater



Builders use rigid foam exterior insulation to stop thermal bridging.



# Rigid Foam Sheathing – all in one

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Rigid foam can serve as insulation, sheathing, and weather-resistant barrier, all exterior insulation to stop thermal bridging.

# Rigid Foam Sheathing



Builders use rigid foam exterior insulation to stop thermal bridging.



# Extended Plate and Beam



2x4 on 2x6 Plate  
Provides solid  
nailing surface  
at top and  
bottom plate



# Staggered Studs



Staggered studs:  
Builders weave  
insulation around  
the studs to stop  
thermal bridging.



# Double Walls



# SIPs



# SIPs



Graphite SIPs



EPS and Steel panels



# ICF Igloos



# It's a Marshmallow World in the Winter

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# Just like Legos



Habitat  
Volunteers  
build an  
ICF house  
in Florida

# DIY ICF Foundation



# AAC – a different kind of concrete

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# Modular - Modern

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# Modular - Traditional

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Traditional Dutch colonial made from traditional materials in nontraditional factory setting.

# Modular with I Beams



Panelized factory construction with 9.5-inch I-joist wall studs.



# Panelized

Panelized homes – Insight  
Production Homes  
Deltec the new Sears Roebuck  
House.



# Insulated Concrete Panels

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# Concrete Panel House



Insulated concrete panels assemble quickly on site, sit on gravel, no foundation is poured.



# Spray Foam Slab Edge



# Spray Foam Just where you need it.

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Judicious use of spray foam

# Paint-On Flashing



Paint-on flashing and weather-resistant barrier.

# Extraordinary Air Sealing

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Air Sealing Tape and Caulk Details



# No Holes Up There



# Aerosol Sealing



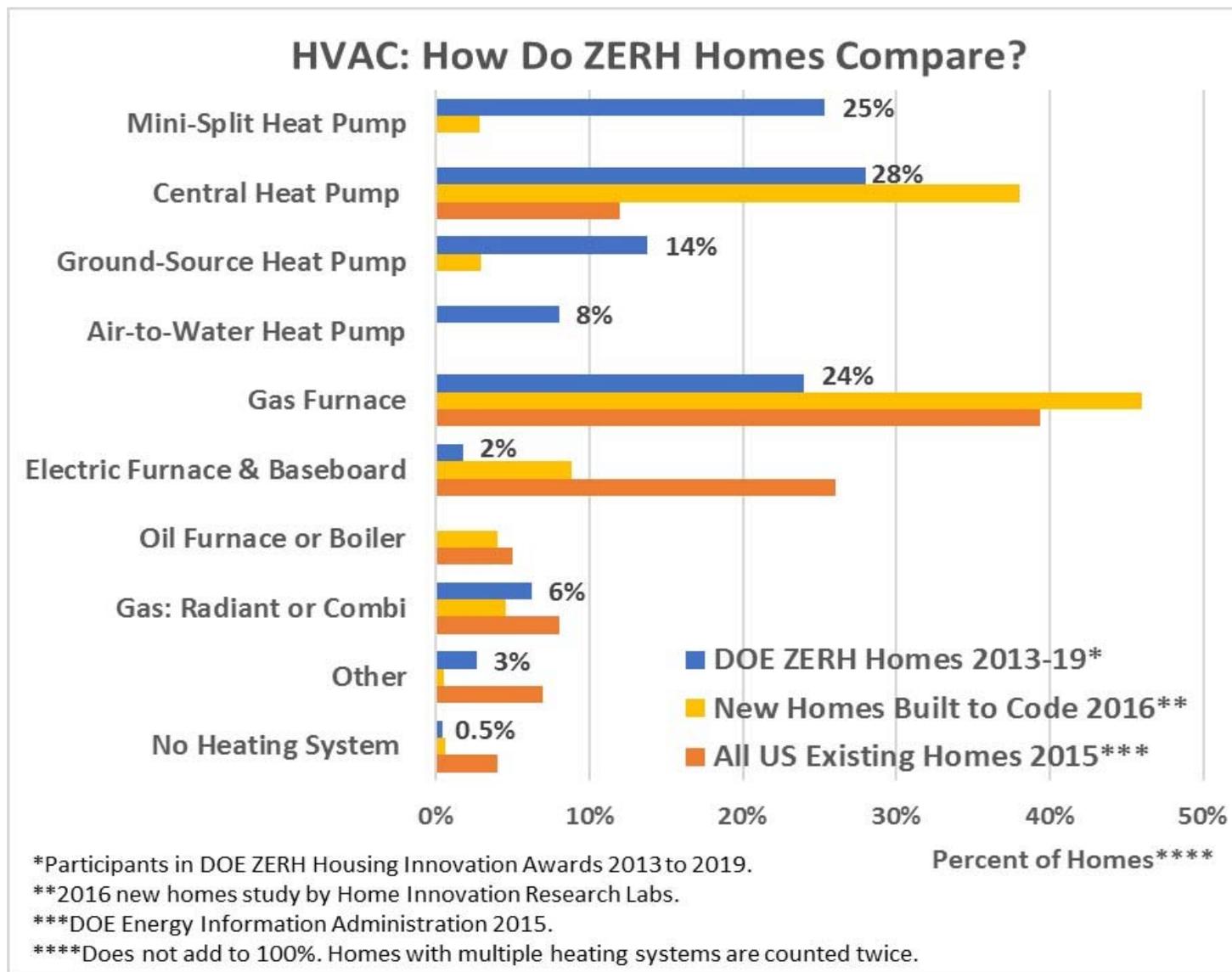
Air seal everywhere all at once.  
Aerosol sealant seals off every nook and cranny.

# Air Sealing

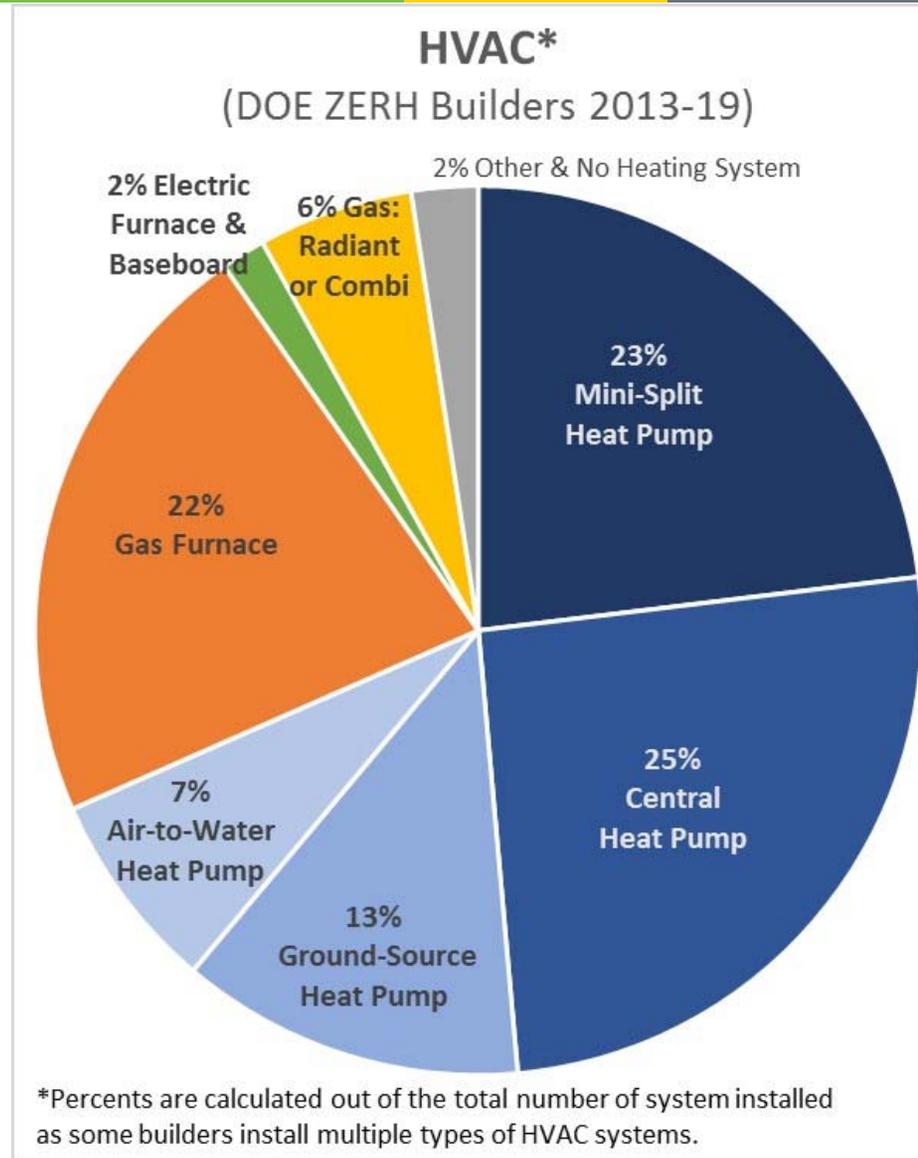


Buy your own  
or build your  
own blower  
door.

# HVAC ZERH-New Homes-EIA

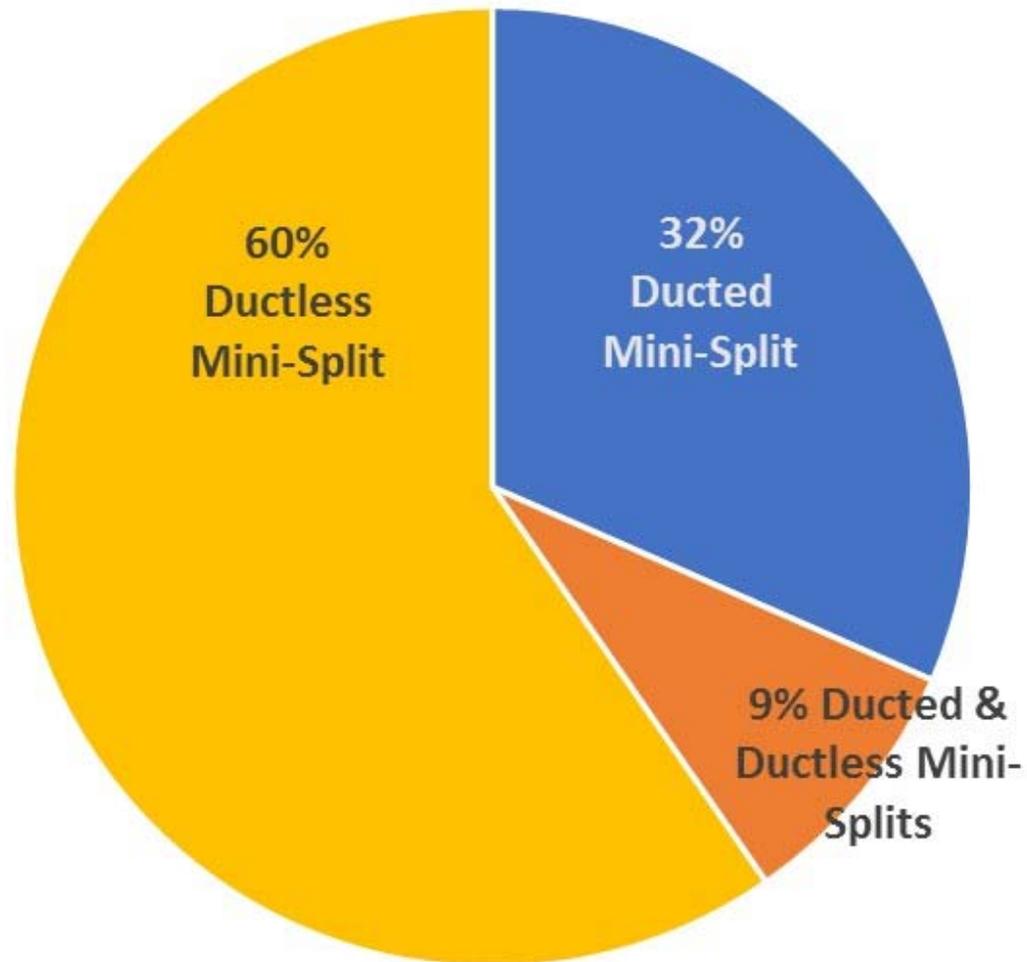


# HVAC (DOE ZERH Builders 2013-19)

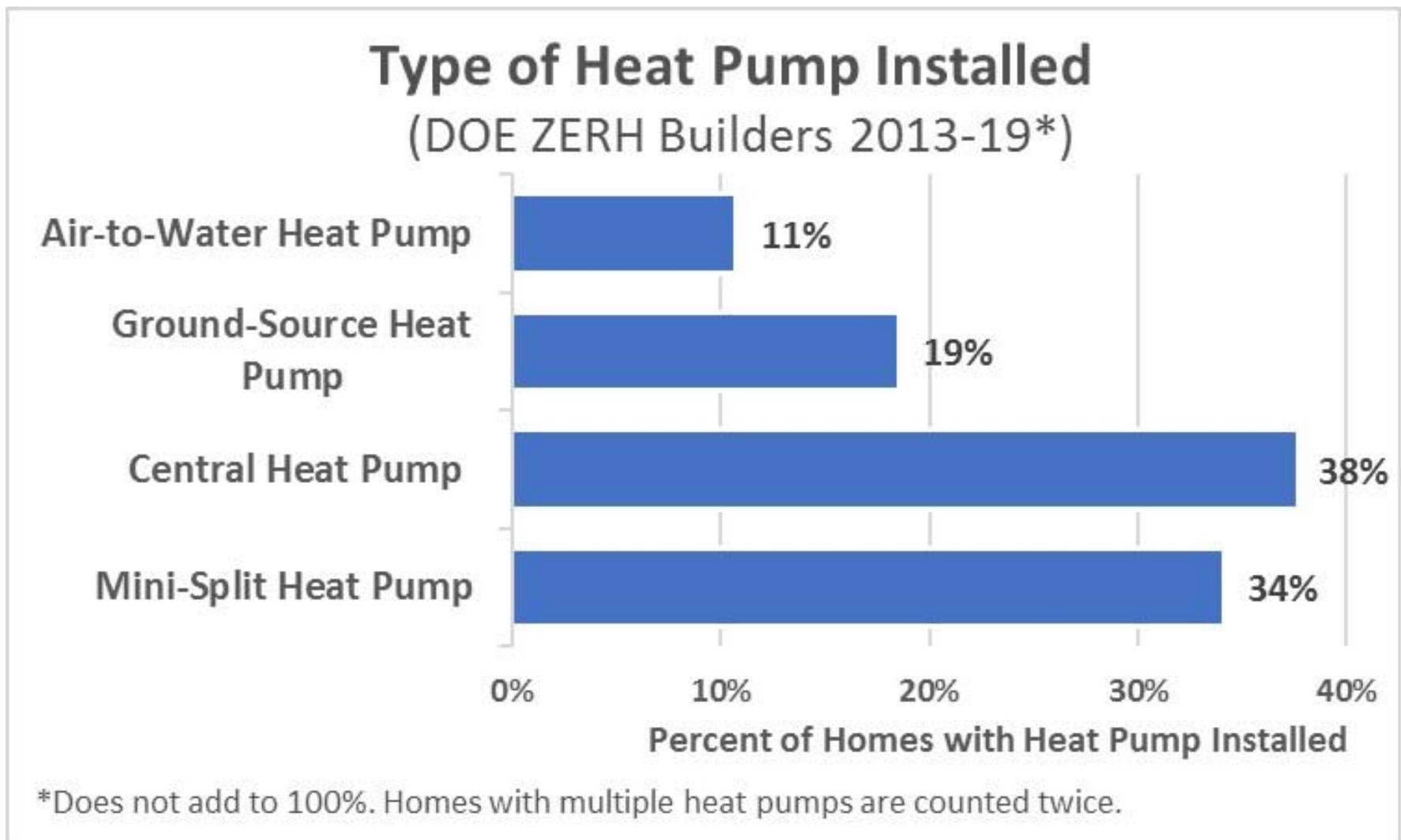


# Heat Pumps

**Mini-Split Heat Pumps: Ducted vs Ductless**  
(DOE ZERH Builders 2013-19)



# Heat Pumps



# Where's the minisplit?



Find the mini-split.

# Mini-Split Heat Pumps

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# Just one ductless



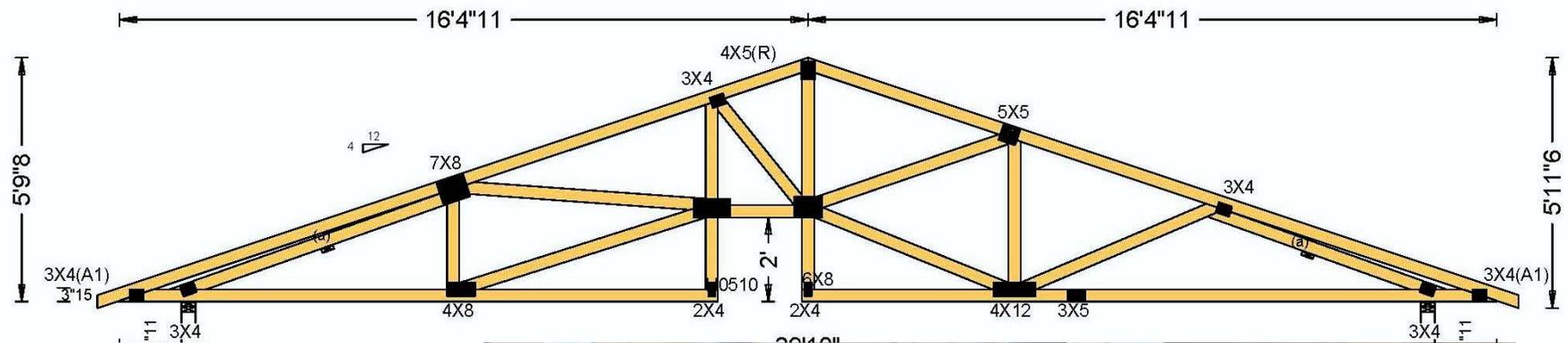
Maximizing mini-splits, with exhaust fans?!

# Air Sealed Chase



Trunk ducts are inside conditioned space in a dropped ceiling chase.

# Tucked in Ducts



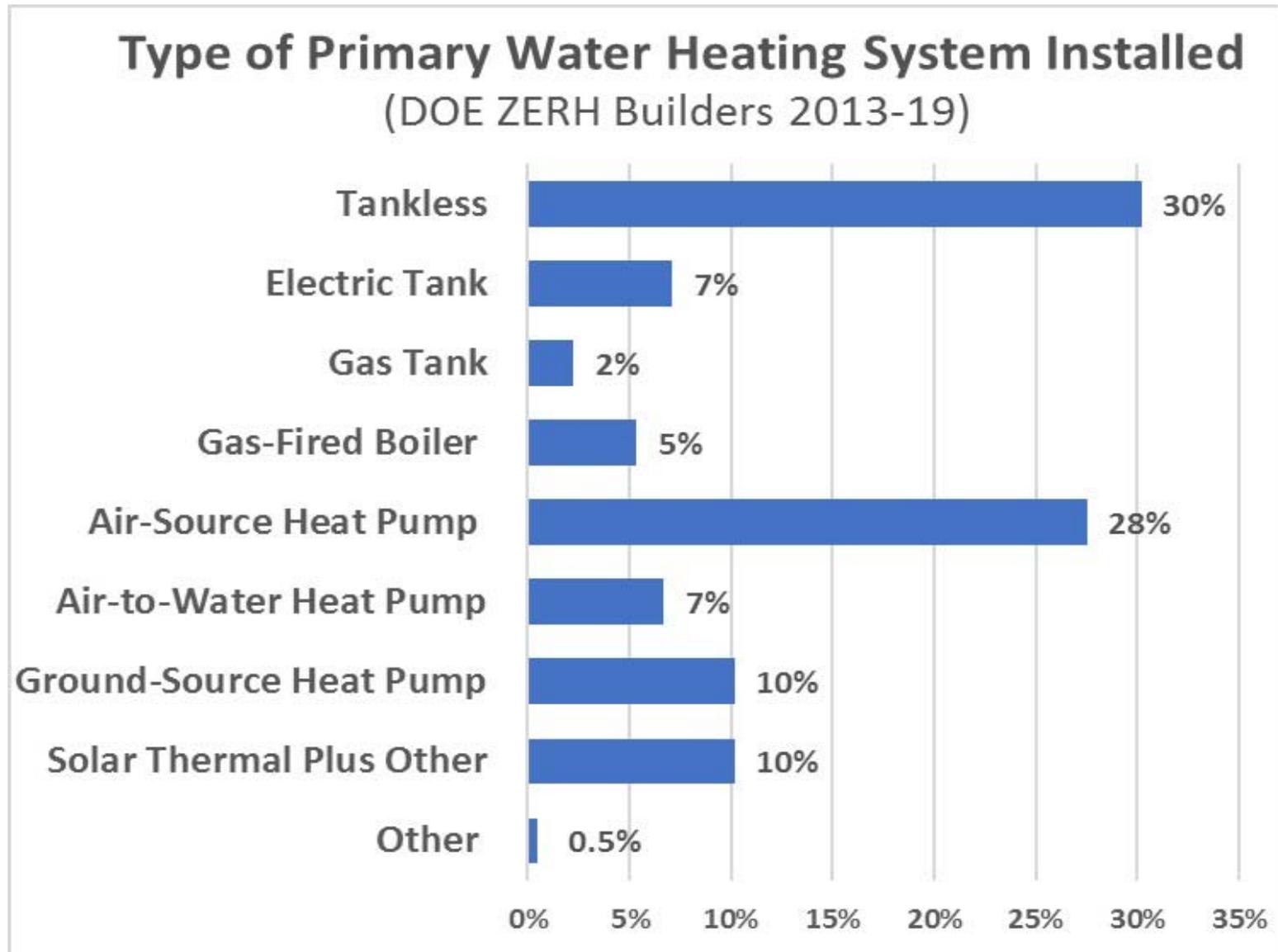
Trunk ducts are inside conditioned space in a dropped ceiling chase.



# Attic Chase for Ducts

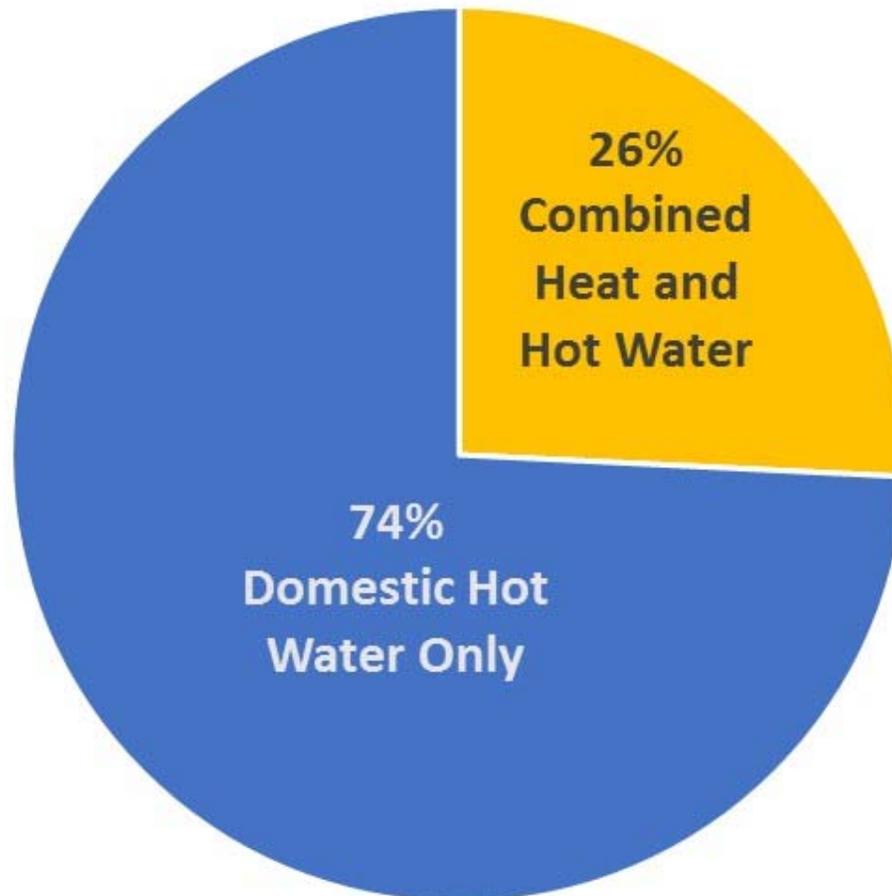


# Water Heating



# Hot Water (DOE Builders 2013-19)

**Combined Heat and Hot Water**  
(DOE ZERH Builders 2013-19)

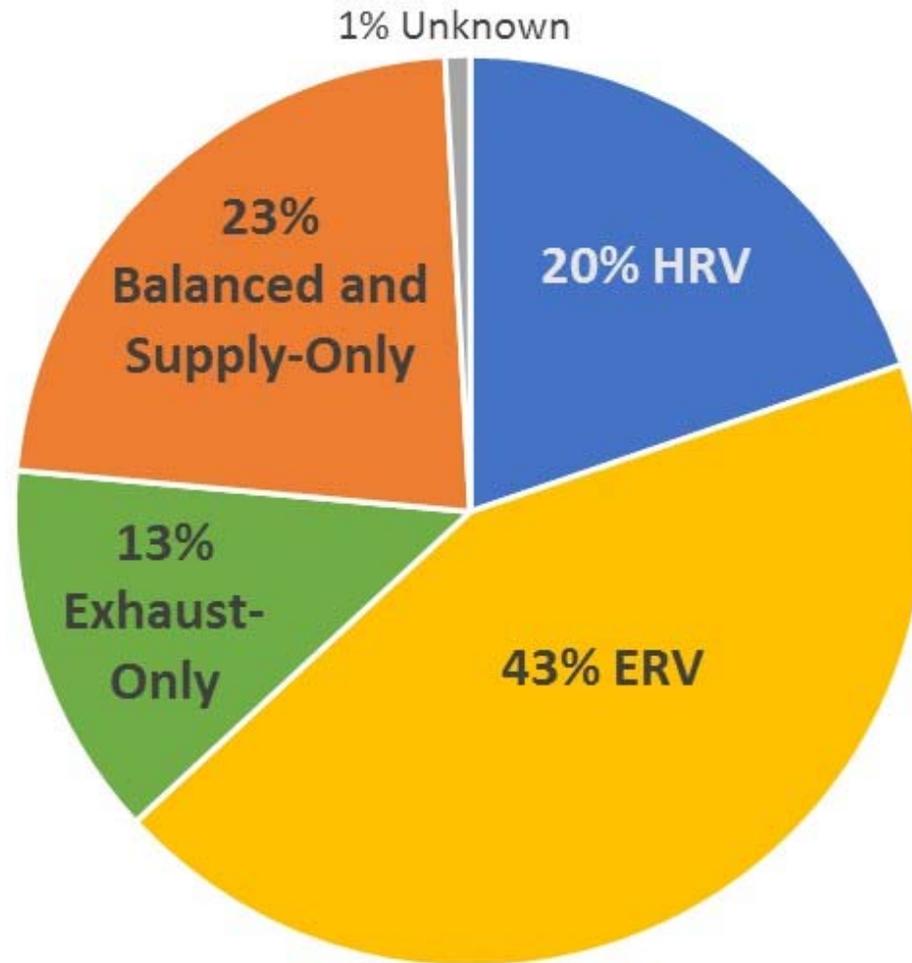


# Ground Source Water Heater



Ground source  
heat pump  
plumbed to heat  
for domestic  
water first then  
space heat

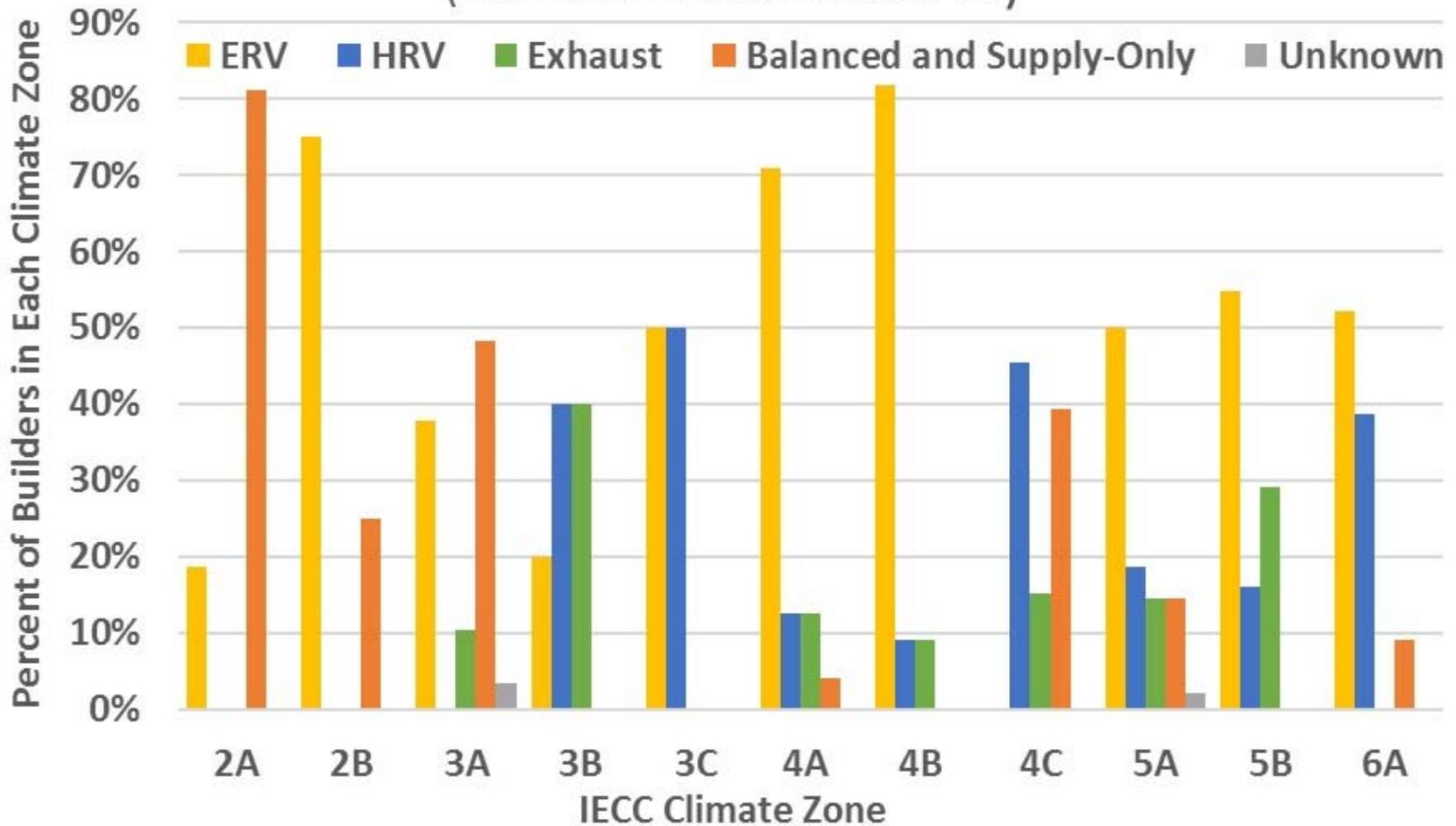
**Ventilation Type**  
(DOE ZERH Builders 2013-19)



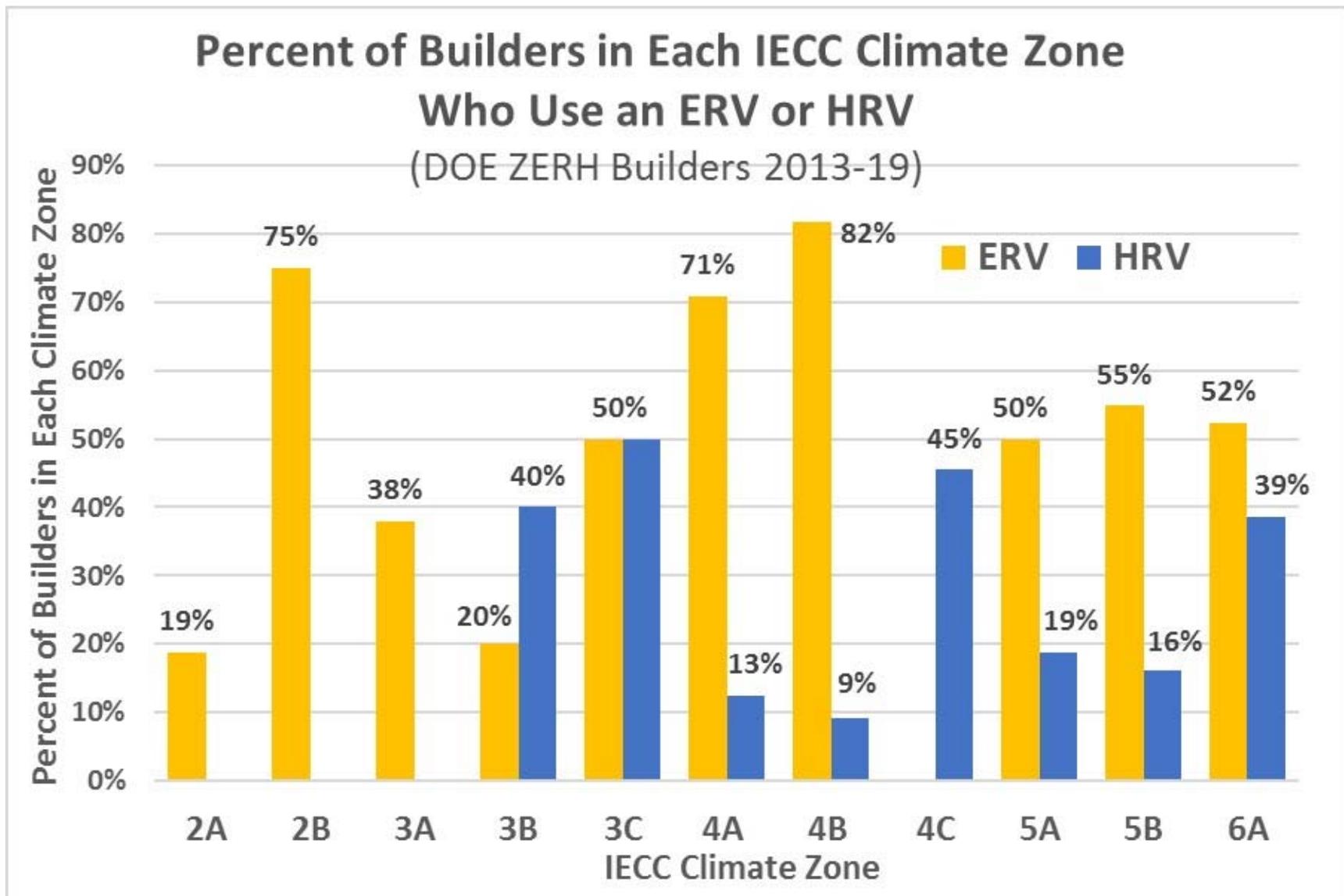
# Ventilation

## Type of Ventilation System by IECC Climate Zone

(DOE ZERH Builders 2013-19)



# HRV vs ERV



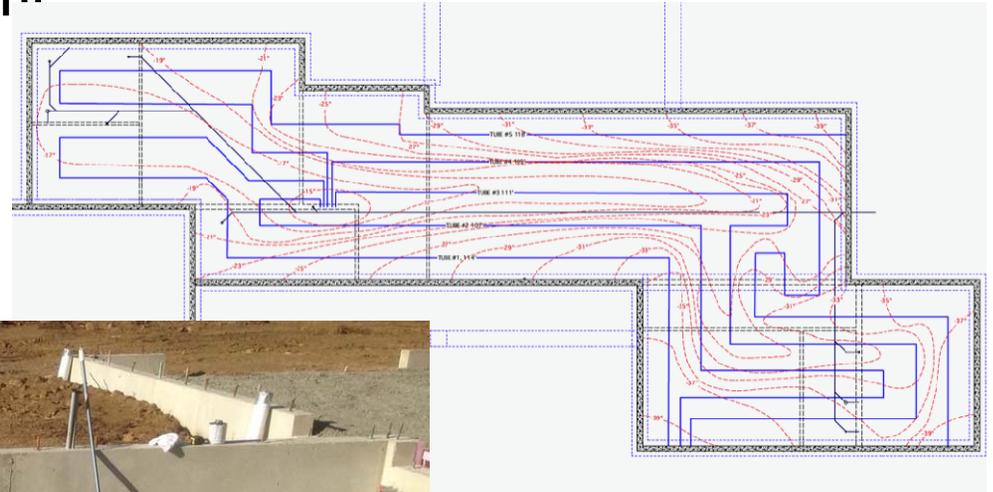
# Do It Yourself HRV



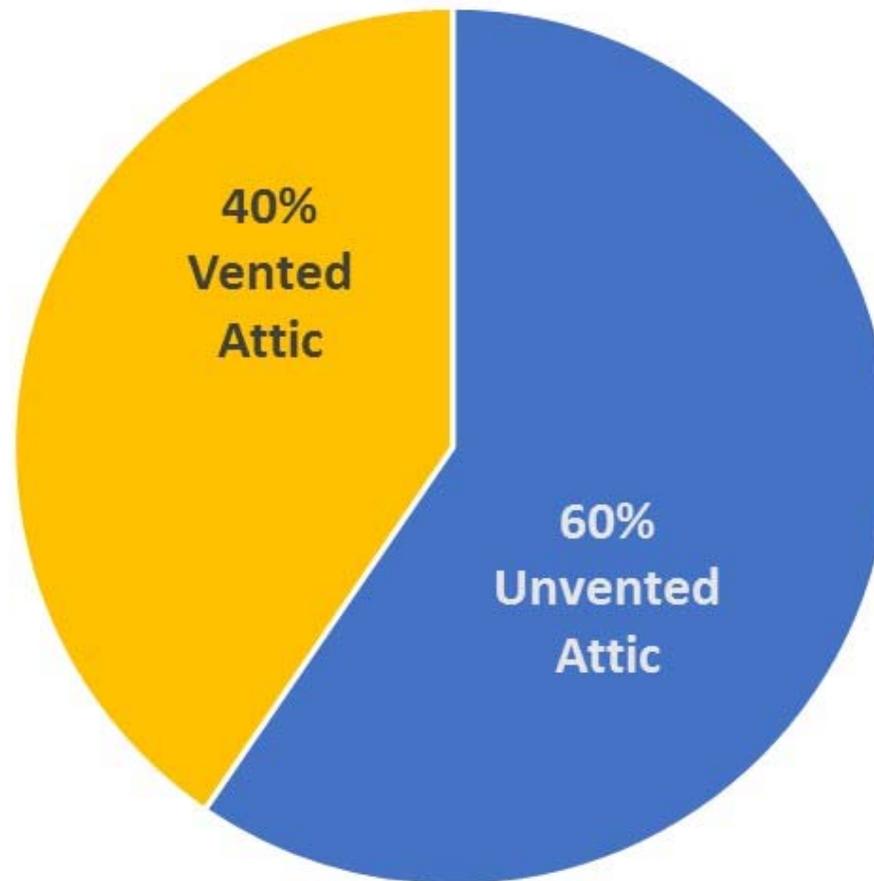
Stained concrete - Fashion statement or heating system?

# Earth Tubes

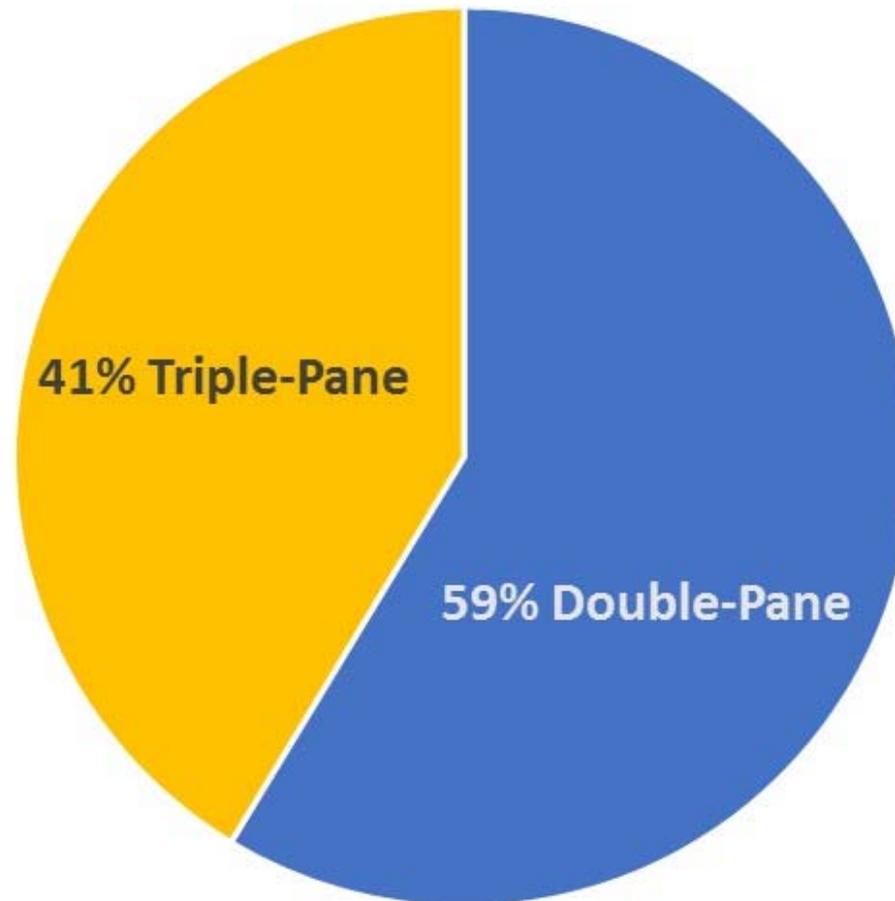
Now for something completely different



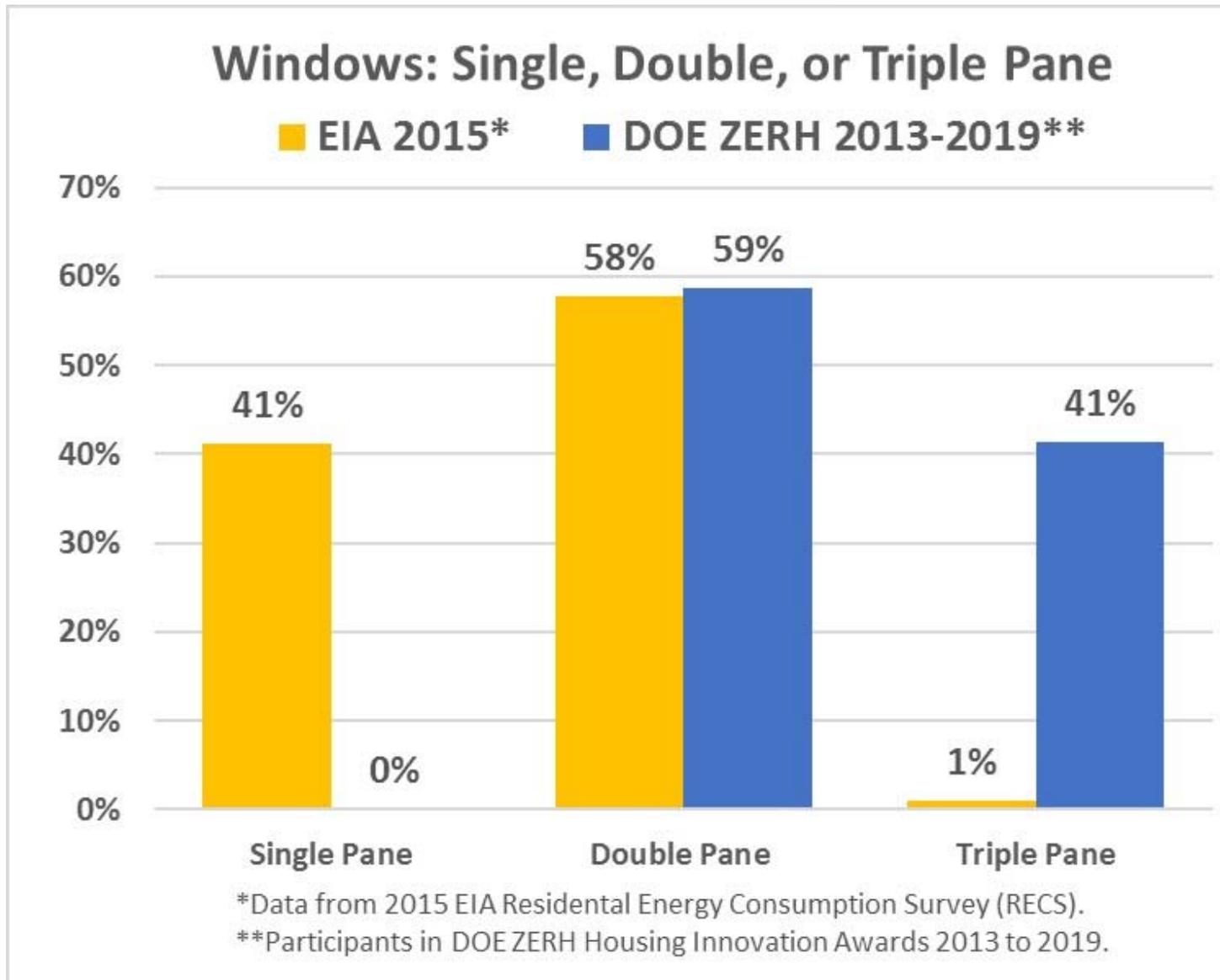
**Attic: Vented vs Unvented**  
(DOE ZERH Builders 2013-19)



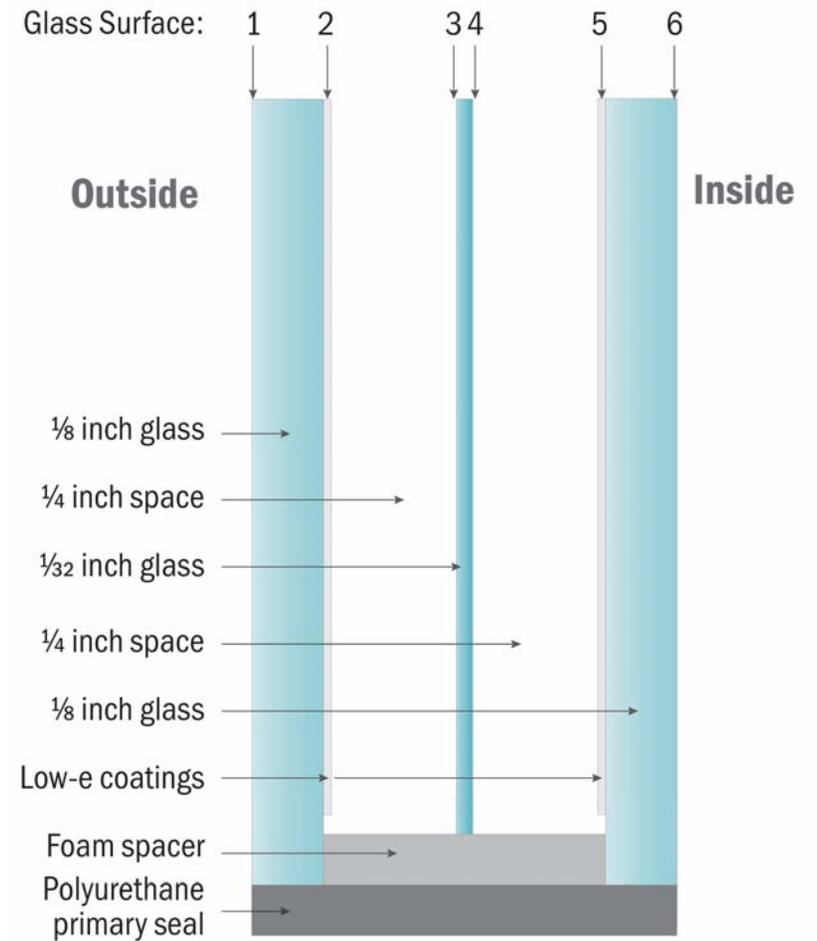
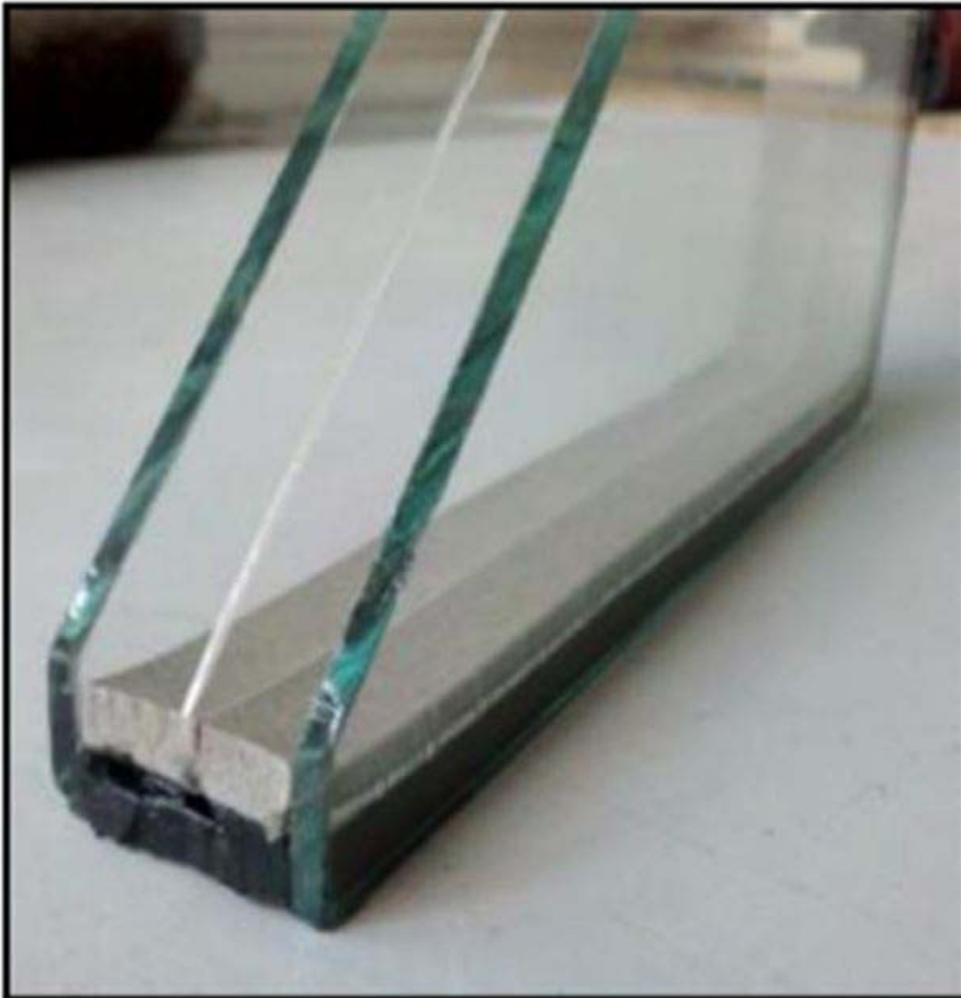
**Windows: Double vs Triple Pane**  
(DOE ZERH Builders 2013-19)



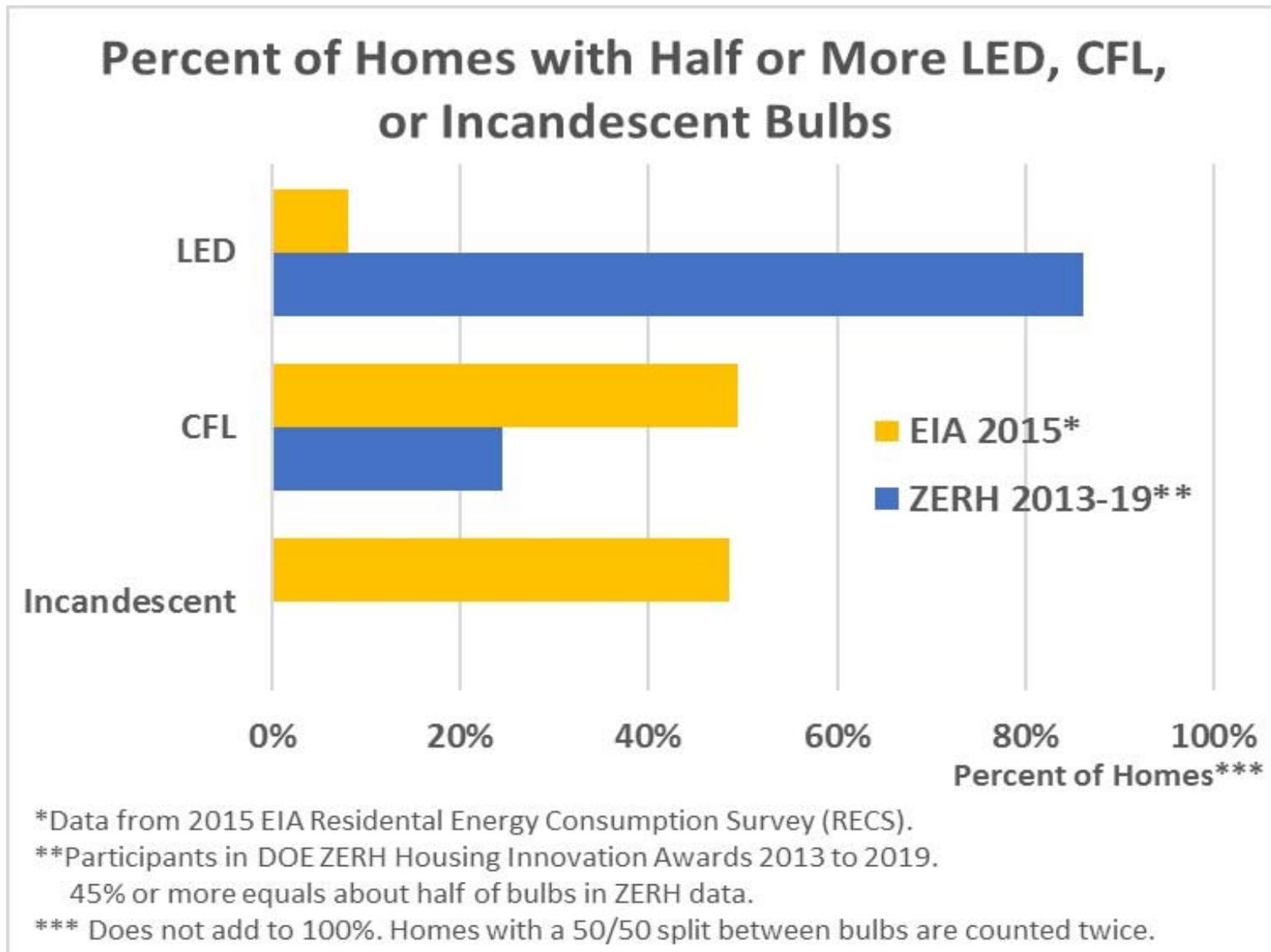
# Windows



# Windows – thin triples



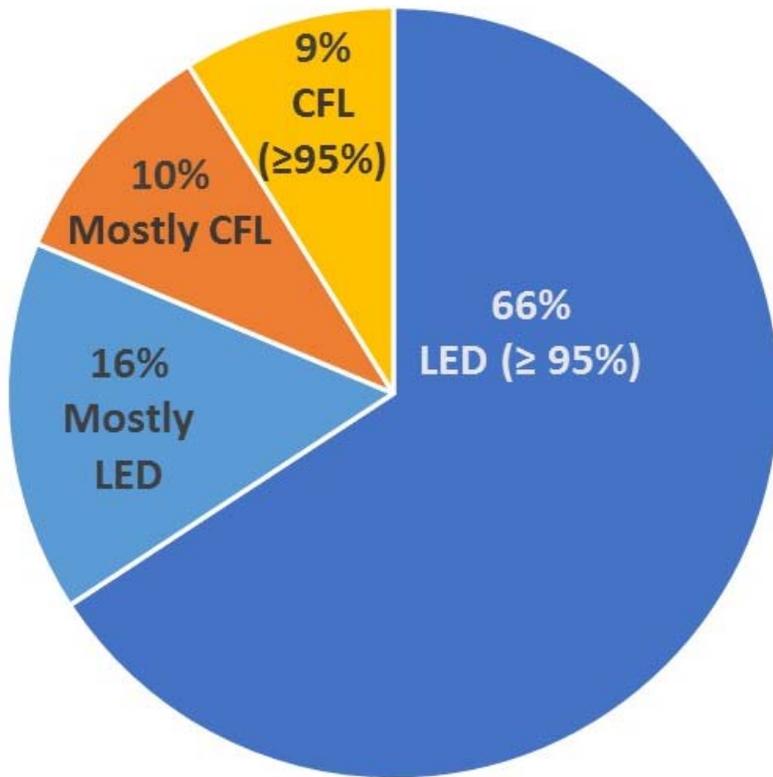
# Lighting



# Lighting

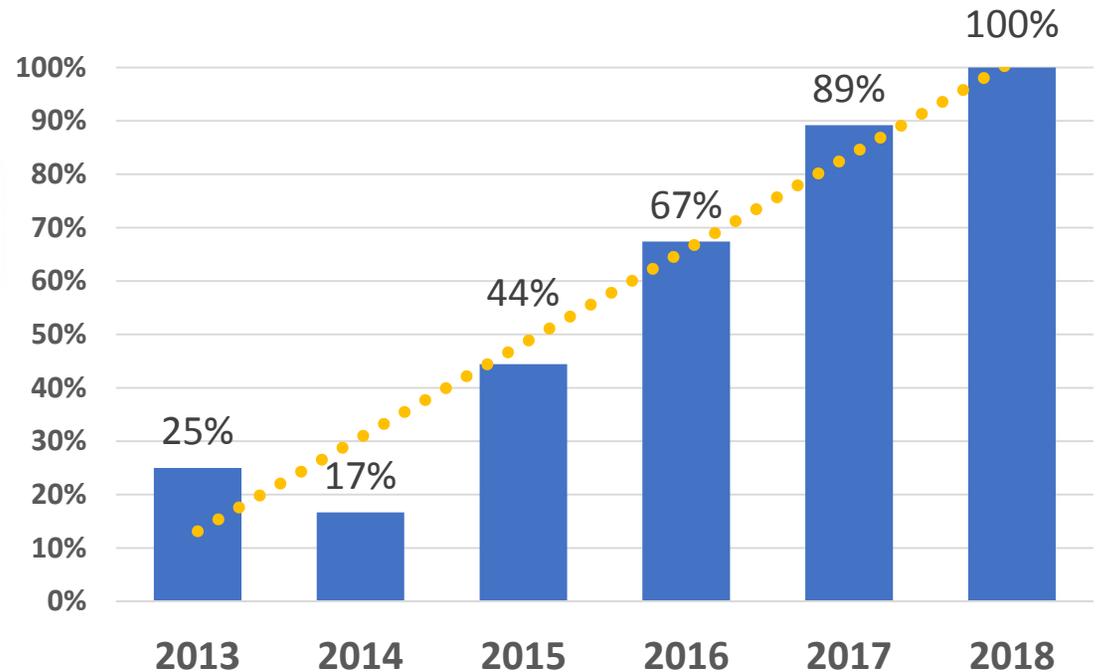
## Lighting

(DOE ZERH Builders 2013-19)



## Percent of Homes with Over 95% LED Lights

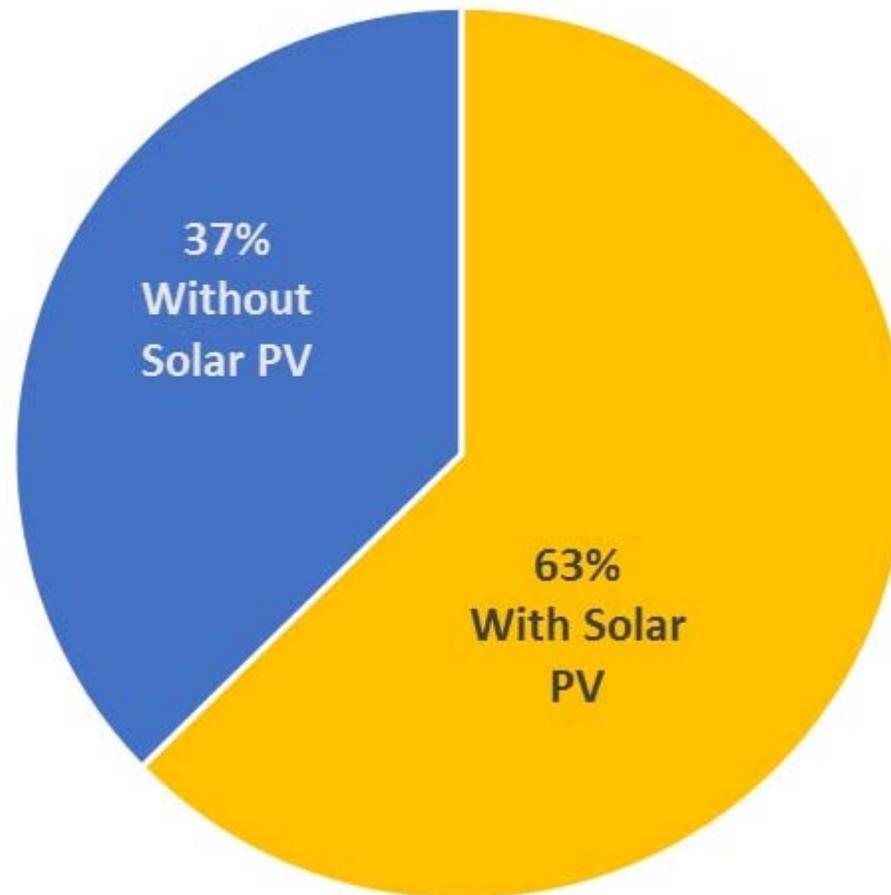
(DOE ZERH Builders 2013-18)



# Pseudo Can Lights



**Photovoltaics**  
(DOE ZERH Builders 2013-19)



# Clever Hacks – Solar

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Tip the hat to solar.

# Solar Slope



Asymmetrical for more solar access. PV tray is water proof and vented.

# Clever Hacks – Solar



Solar shingles blend in with the roof tiles.



Asymmetrical garden shed houses solar panels.



# PV Roofs



PV *IS* the roof for this back porch and covered roof-top deck.

# PV + Battery Storage



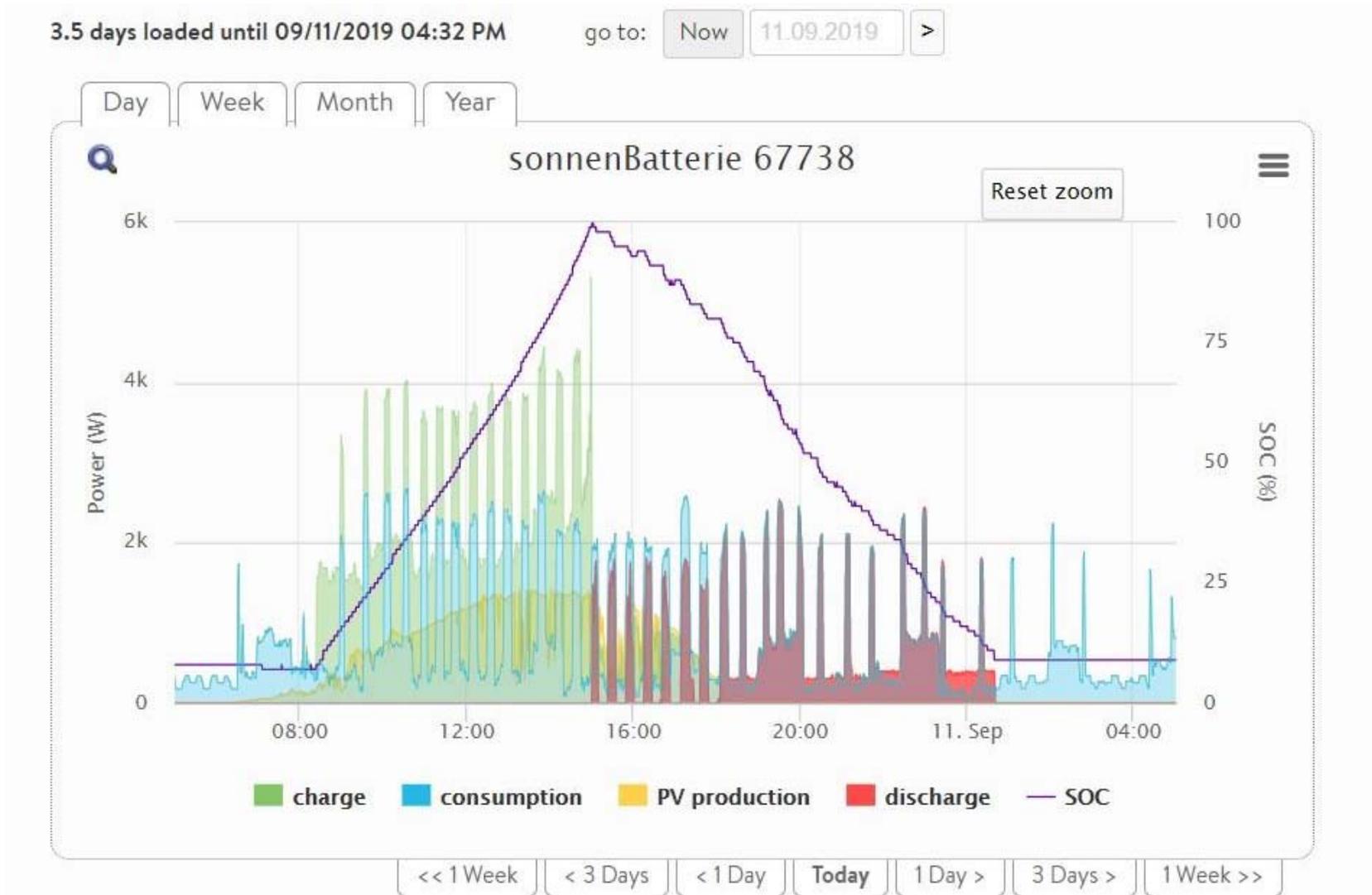
Battery storage =  
more net zero with less PV

For example:

6.2-kW PV = Net Zero

3.6-kW PV = Net Zero  
+ 10-kW battery

# PV + Battery Storage



# Clever Hacks – Expect what you Inspect



Good performance  
= good materials +  
good installation

## Questions?

**For more information contact**



**Theresa Gilbride**

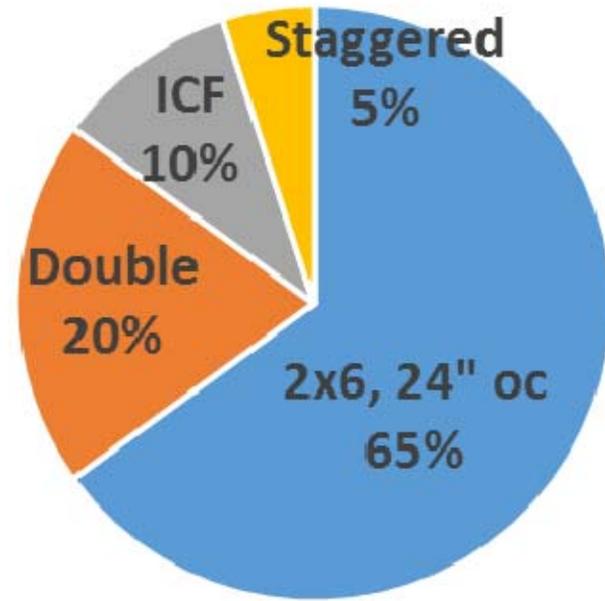
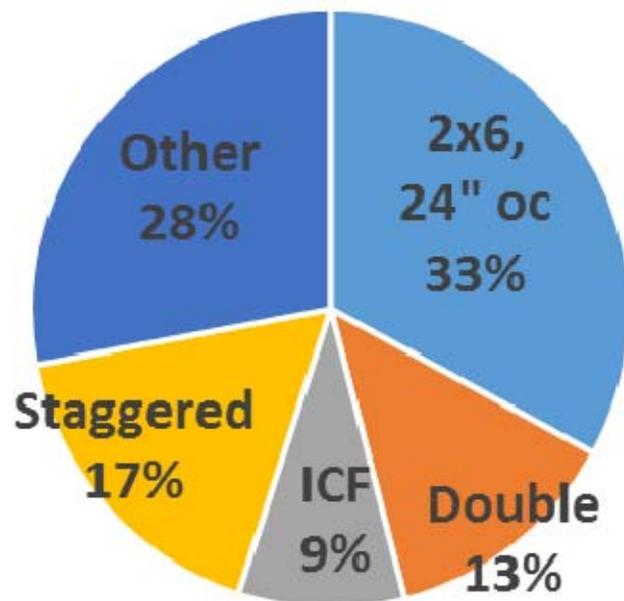
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

[Theresa.Gilbride@pnnl.gov](mailto:Theresa.Gilbride@pnnl.gov)

office: 509-371-6047

# Production Builders

Wall Type Choices for all ZERH Builders    Production Builder Wall Type Choices



# Insulation Reqs IECC

Table 1. Minimum Insulation Requirements for New Homes as Listed in the 2009, 2012, 2015, and 2018 IECC and 2009, 2012, 2015, and 2018 IRC.<sup>a</sup>

Climate Zone	Ceiling R-Value		Wood Frame Wall R-Value		Mass Wall R-Value <sup>i*</sup> (2009 IRC: k)		Floor R-Value		Basement <sup>c</sup> Wall R-Value		Slab <sup>d</sup> R-Value & Depth		Crawl Space <sup>c</sup> Wall R-Value	
	2009 IECC	2012 2015 2018 IECC	2009 IECC	2012 2015 2018 IECC	2009 IECC	2012 2015 2018 IECC	2009 IECC	2012 2015 2018 IECC	2009 IECC	2012 2015 2018 IECC	2009 IECC	2012 2015 2018 IECC	2009 IECC	2012 2015 2018 IECC
1	30	30	13	13	3/4	3/4	13	13	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	30	38	13	13	4/6	4/6	13	13	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	30	38	13	20 or 13+5 <sup>h</sup>	5/8	8/13	19	19	5/13 <sup>f</sup>	5/13 <sup>f</sup>	0	0	5/13	5/13
4 except Marine	38	49	13	20 or 13+5 <sup>h</sup>	5/10	8/13	19	19	10/13	10/13	10, 2 ft	10, 2 ft	10/13	10/13
5 and Marine 4	38	49	20 or 13+5 <sup>h</sup>	20 or 13+5 <sup>h</sup>	13/17	13/17	30 <sup>g</sup>	30 <sup>g</sup>	10/13	15/19	10, 2 ft	10, 2 ft	10/13	15/19
6	49	49	20 or 13+5 <sup>h</sup>	20+5 <sup>h</sup> or 13+10 <sup>h</sup>	15/19	15/20	30 <sup>g</sup>	30 <sup>g</sup>	15/19* IRC: 10/13	15/19	10, 4 ft	10, 4 ft	10/13	15/19
7 and 8	49	49	21	20+5 <sup>h</sup> or 13+10 <sup>h</sup>	19/21	19/21	38 <sup>g*</sup> IRC: 30 <sup>g</sup>	38 <sup>g</sup>	15/19* IRC: 10/13	15/19	10, 4 ft	10, 4 ft	10/13	15/19

<sup>a</sup>For Slab: 1 foot = 304.8 mm

## IECC code table footnotes

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

\*The IRC code requirement differs from the IECC code requirement, as noted.

- a. Table adapted from Table R402.1.1 in the 2009 and 2012 IECC and Table R402.1.2 in the 2015 and 2018 IECC (Table N1102.1 in 2009 IRC, Table 1102.1.1 in 2012 IRC, and Table N1102.1.2 in 2015 and 2018 IRC).  
2012, 2015, and 2018 IECC: R-values are minimums. When insulation is installed in a cavity which is less than the label or design thickness of the insulation, the installed R-value of the insulation shall not be less than the R-value specified in the table.  
2009 IECC: R-values are minimums. R-19 batts compressed into a nominal 2x6 framing cavity such that the R-value is reduced by R-1 or more shall be marked with the compressed batt R-value in addition to the full thickness R-value.
- b. Refers to fenestration requirements not shown on this excerpted table.
- c. 2009-2018 IECC: "10/13" means R-10 continuous insulation (called "insulated sheathing" in 2009 IECC) on the interior or exterior of the home or R-13 cavity insulation at the interior of the basement wall. "15/19" means R-15 continuous insulation on the interior or exterior of the home or R-19 cavity insulation at the interior of the basement wall. Alternatively, compliance with "15/19" shall be R-13 cavity insulation on the interior of the basement wall plus R-5 continuous insulation on the interior or exterior of the home.  
2009 IRC Only: The first R-value applies to continuous insulation, the second to framing cavity insulation; either insulation meets the requirement.
- d. 2018 IECC: R-5 insulation shall be provided under the full slab area of a heated slab in addition to the required slab edge insulation R-value for slabs, as indicated in the table. The slab edge insulation for heated slabs shall not be required to extend below the slab.  
2009, 2012, and 2015 IECC: R-5 shall be added to the required slab edge R-values for heated slabs. Insulation depth shall be the depth of the footing or 2 feet, whichever is less in Climate Zones 1 through 3 for heated slabs.
- e. Refers to fenestration requirements not shown on this excerpted table.
- f. 2009-2018 IECC: Basement wall insulation is not required in warm-humid locations as defined by Figure R301.1 and Table R301.1 (Figure/Table N1101.2 in 2009 IRC and Figure/Table N1101.10 in 2012, 2015, and 2018 IRC).
- g. 2009-2018 IECC: Alternatively, insulation sufficient to fill the framing cavity and providing not less than an R-value of R-19.
- h. 2015 and 2018 IECC: The first value is cavity insulation, the second value is continuous insulation. Therefore, as an example, "13+5" means R-13 cavity insulation plus R-5 continuous insulation.  
2012 IECC: First value is cavity insulation, second value is continuous insulation or insulated siding, so "13+5" means R-13 cavity insulation plus R-5 continuous insulation or insulated siding. If structural sheathing covers 40 percent or less of the exterior, continuous insulation R-value shall be permitted to be reduced by no more than R-3 in the locations where structural sheathing is used – to maintain a consistent total sheathing thickness.  
2009 IECC: "13+5" means R-13 cavity insulation plus R-5 insulated sheathing. If structural sheathing covers 25 percent or less of the exterior, insulating sheathing is not required where structural sheathing is used. If structural sheathing covers more than 25 percent of exterior, structural sheathing shall be supplemented with insulated sheathing of at least R-2.
- i. 2018 IECC: Mass walls shall be in accordance with Section R402.2.5 (N1102.2.5 in 2018 IRC). The second R-value applies where more than half of the insulation is on the interior of the mass wall.  
2009, 2012, and 2015 IECC: The second R-value applies where more than half of the insulation is on the interior of the mass wall. (In the 2009 IRC, footnote "k" addresses mass wall insulation while footnote "i" and "j" address fenestration.)
- j. 2009 IECC Only: Refers to fenestration requirements not shown on this excerpted table.