### Serving our customers



## Residential Customer Satisfaction Survey Fall 2024

We provide services that are vital to our quality of life.





## Methodology

- As in 2018-2023, data was collected via both telephone interviews and self-administered web surveys among Tacoma Public Utilities' Residential customers in 2024. Both phone and web surveys were conducted from July 15<sup>th</sup> to August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Customer lists provided by Tacoma Public Utilities were used for both the phone and web surveys.
- A total of 403 telephone interviews and 1,049 web surveys were conducted across five customer types. Consistent with 2023\*, Phone and Web data was combined and weighted in 2024 in proportion to their distribution in the TPU residential customer population:

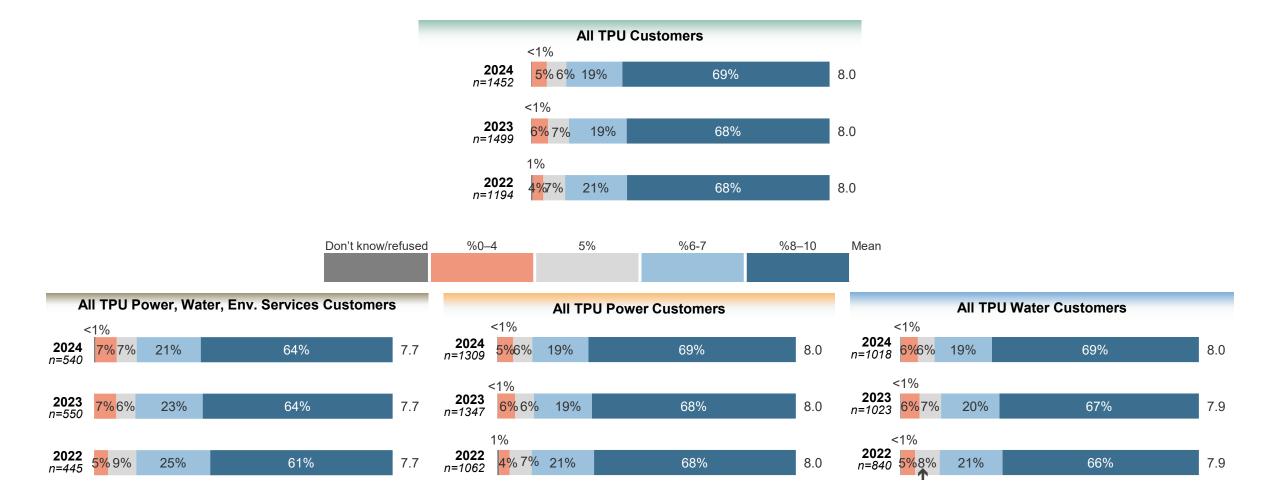
	Phone	Web	Weighted Total
	n=	n=	n=
Power, Water, and Environmental Services	124	416	442
Power only single-family	89	209	325
Power only multi-family	102	231	375
Water only	54	89	187
Power and Water only	34	104	124

- In proportion to the primary contact phone number type (landline or mobile) provided to TPU by Residential customers, 21% of phone respondents were contacted via their landline phone, and 79% were contacted via their mobile phone.
- Tacoma Public Utilities was identified as the study sponsor.
- Residential customers were screened and qualified based on the following criteria:
  - Head or co-head of household who is familiar with their TPU services
  - Adult, 18 years of age and older.
- The sampling error for 403 telephone interviews is +/-4.9% at the 95% confidence level.
- The sampling error for 1,049 online interviews is +/-3.0% at the 95% confidence level.

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## **Overall Satisfaction: Tacoma Public Utilities**





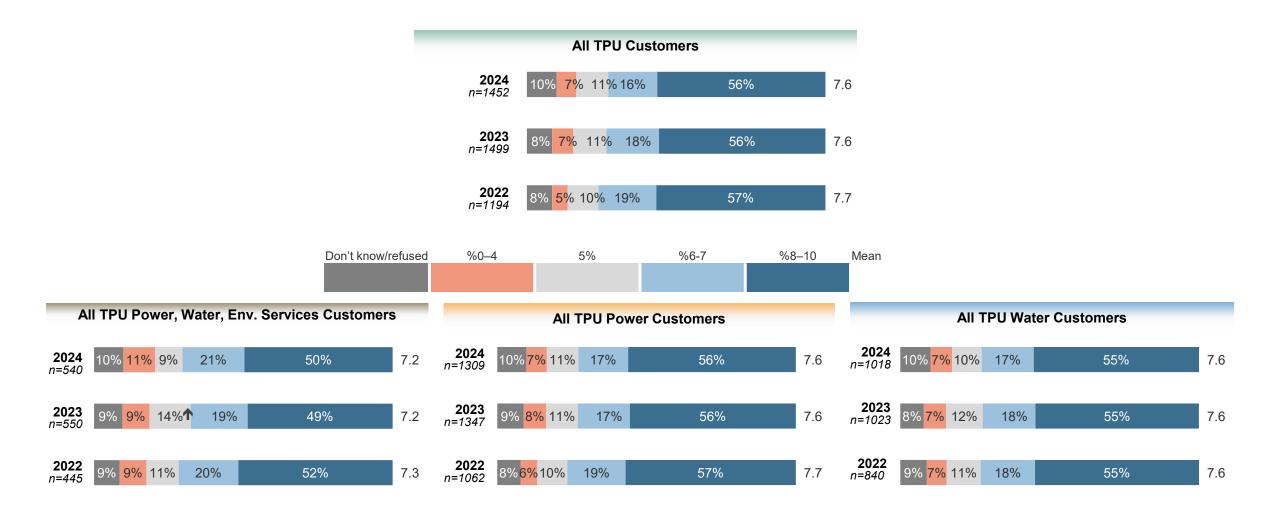
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Q2. Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with Tacoma Public Utilities as a provider of services in your area in general, and not necessarily just those of which you are a current customer or user?

↑ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

## **Being Well Managed**



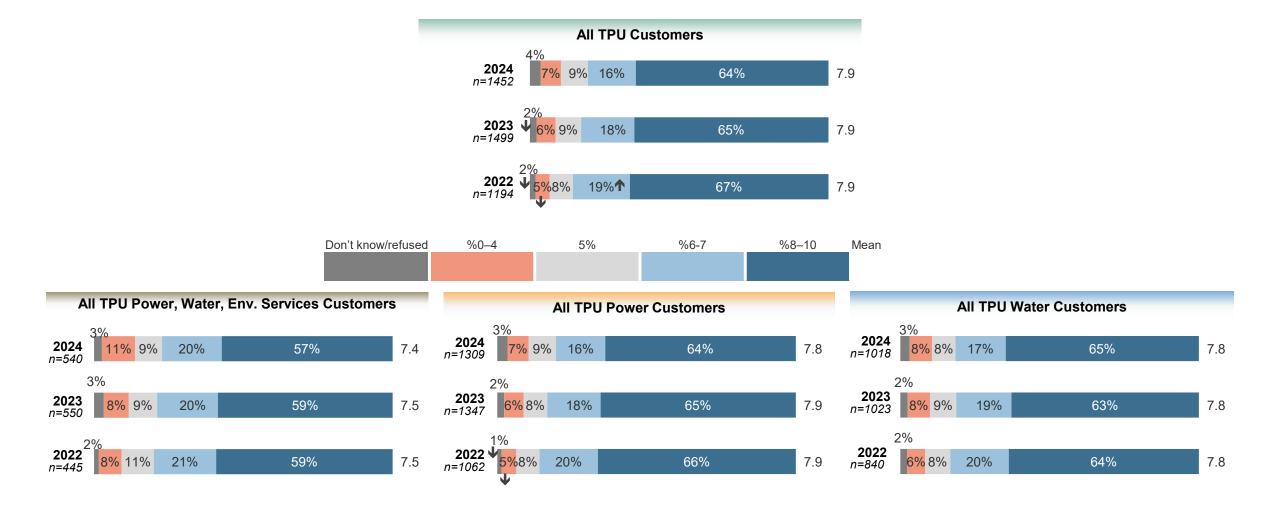




How would you rate T-P-U's performance with regard to…? MANAGE. Being well managed ♠✔ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

## Being an Organization You Can Trust

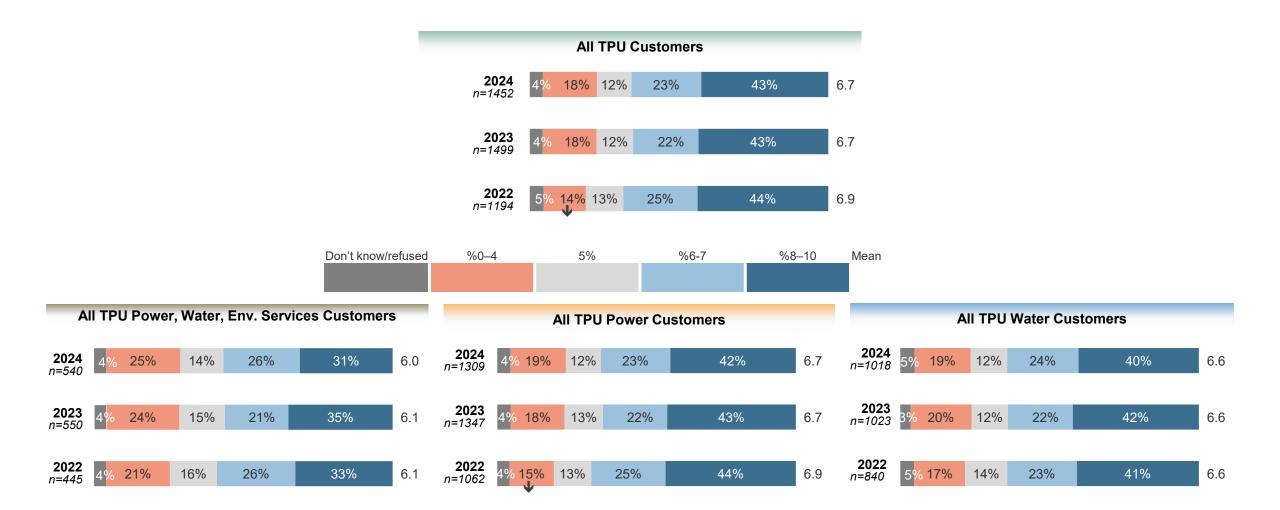




escalent How would you rate T-P-U's performance with regard to...? TRUST. Being a company you can trust ↑↓ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

## **Controlling Costs**

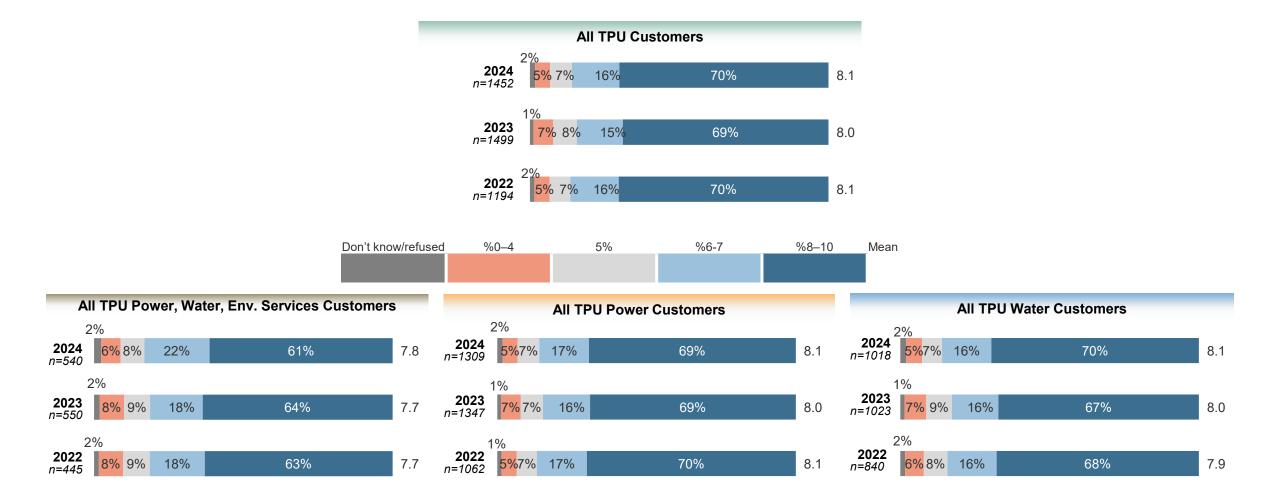




escalent How would you rate T-P-U's performance with regard to...? COSTC. Controlling costs to keep rates low ↑↓ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

## Being Easy to Do Business with

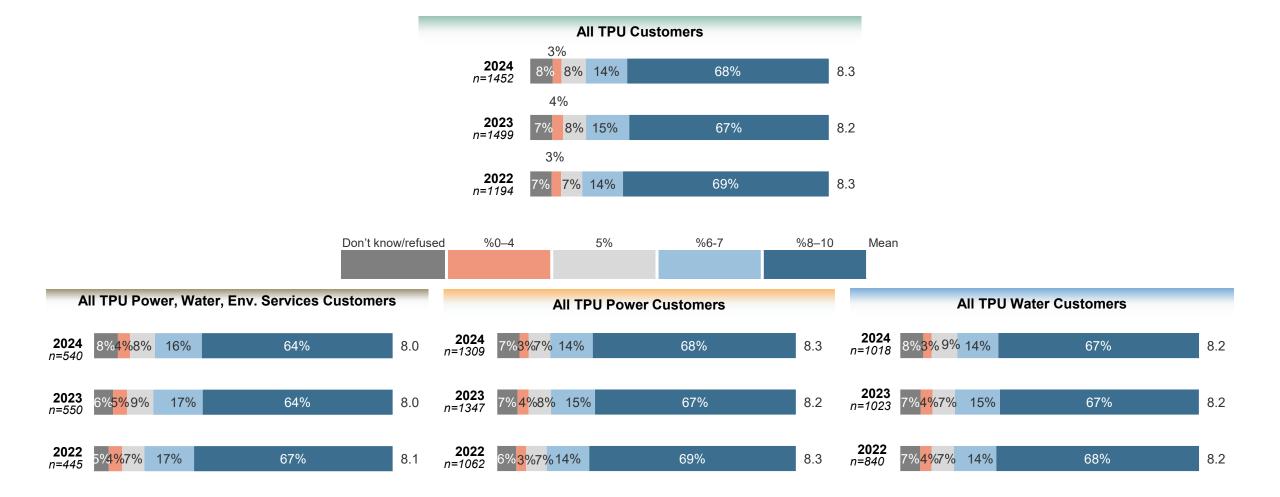




escalent How would you rate T-P-U's performance with regard to...? EASYBUS. Being easy to do business with ↑↓ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

## Having Knowledgeable and Well-Trained Employees

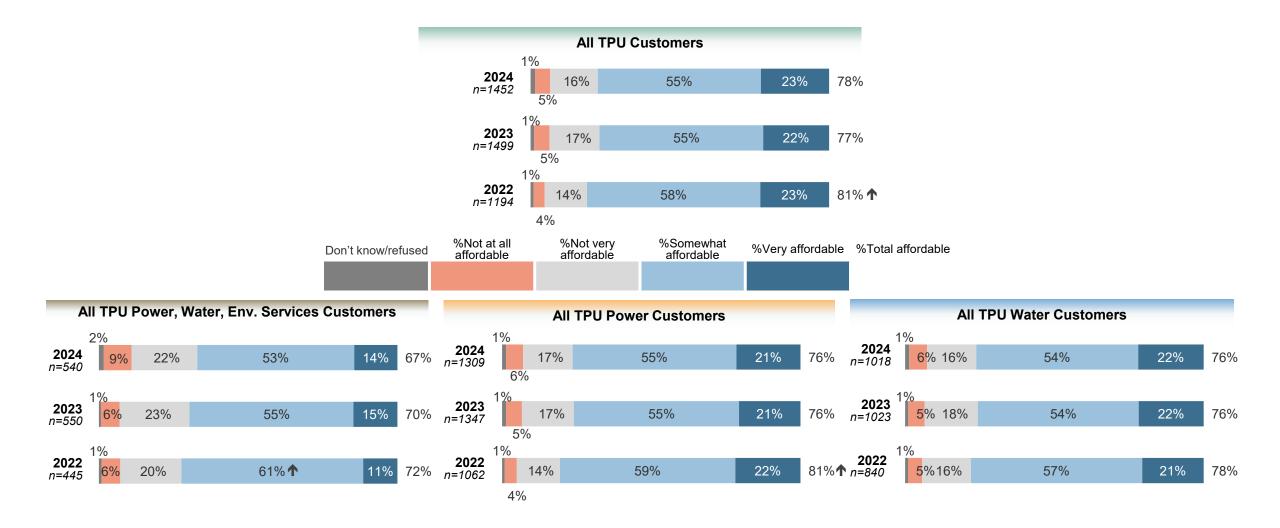




escalent How would you rate T-P-U's performance with regard to...? KNOWLEDG. Having knowledgeable and well-trained employees ↑↓ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

## **Bill Affordability**



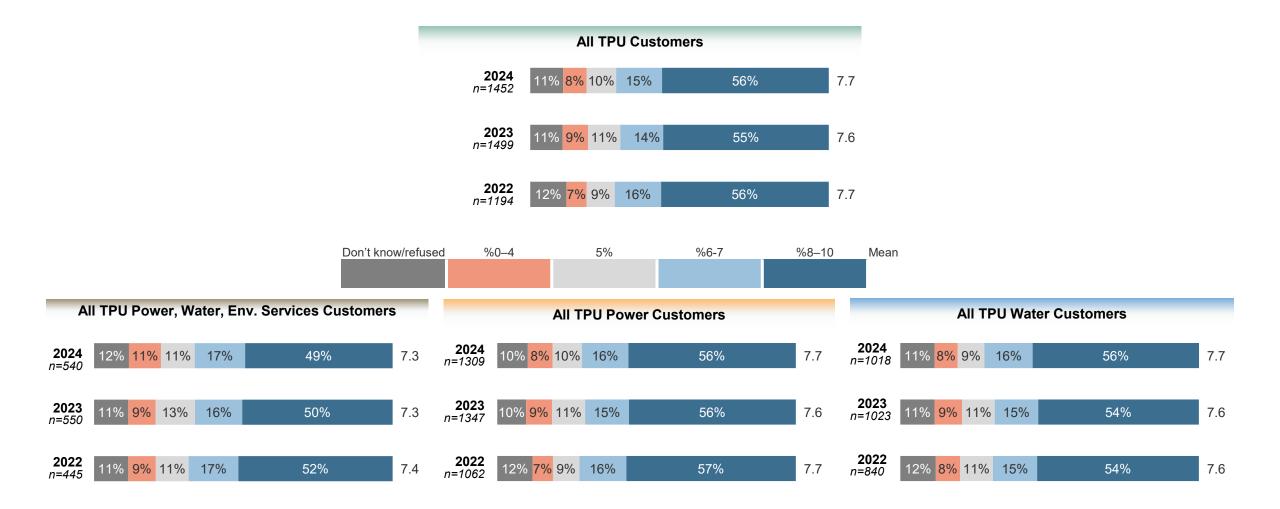


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BILLAFF. Given your household's financial circumstances, would you characterize the bills you receive from T-P-U as being…? ↑↓ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

## Offering Assistance to Customers in Need\*





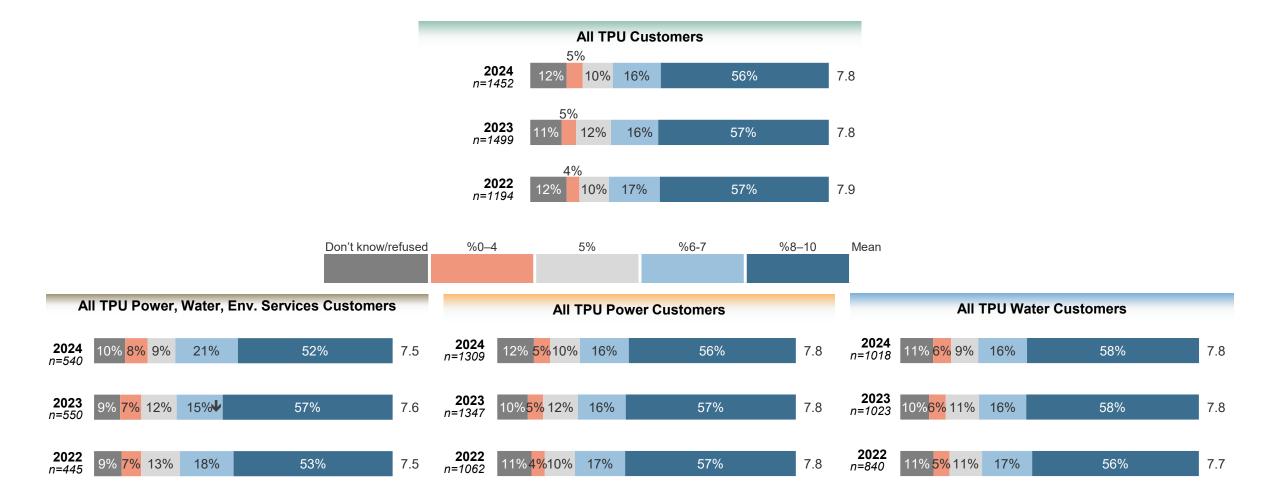


\*In 2020, BILLAST was changed from "Offering assistance to customers who are behind on paying their utility bills" to "Offering assistance to customers in need." How would you rate T-P-U's performance with regard to...? BILLAST. Offering assistance to customers in need

↑ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

## **Being Environmentally Responsible**





escalent How would you rate T-P-U's performance with regard to...? ENVRESP. Being environmentally responsible ↑↓ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

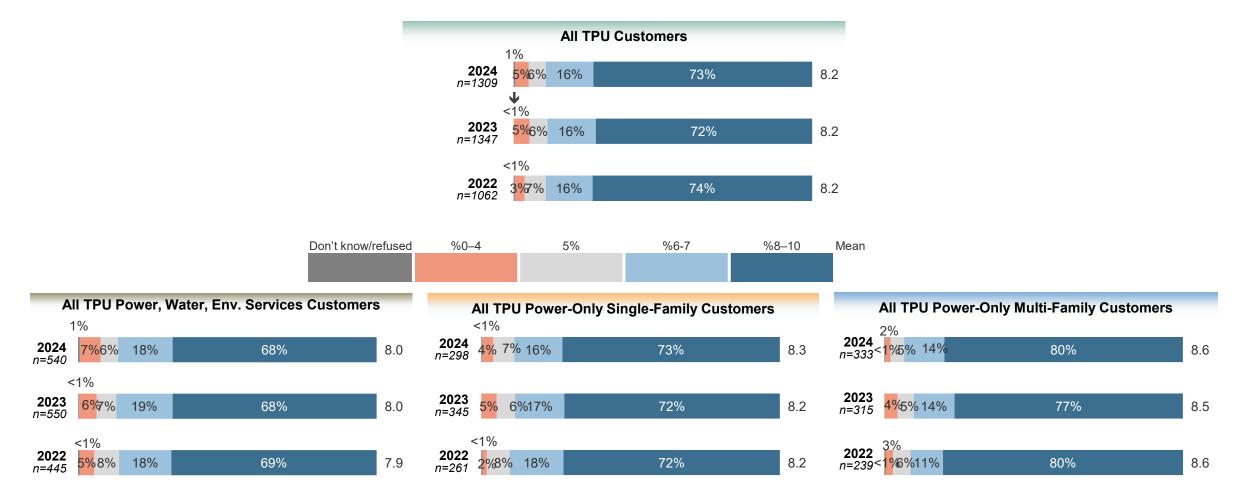


# Electric Service Measures



## Overall Satisfaction with Electric Service Provided by Tacoma Power

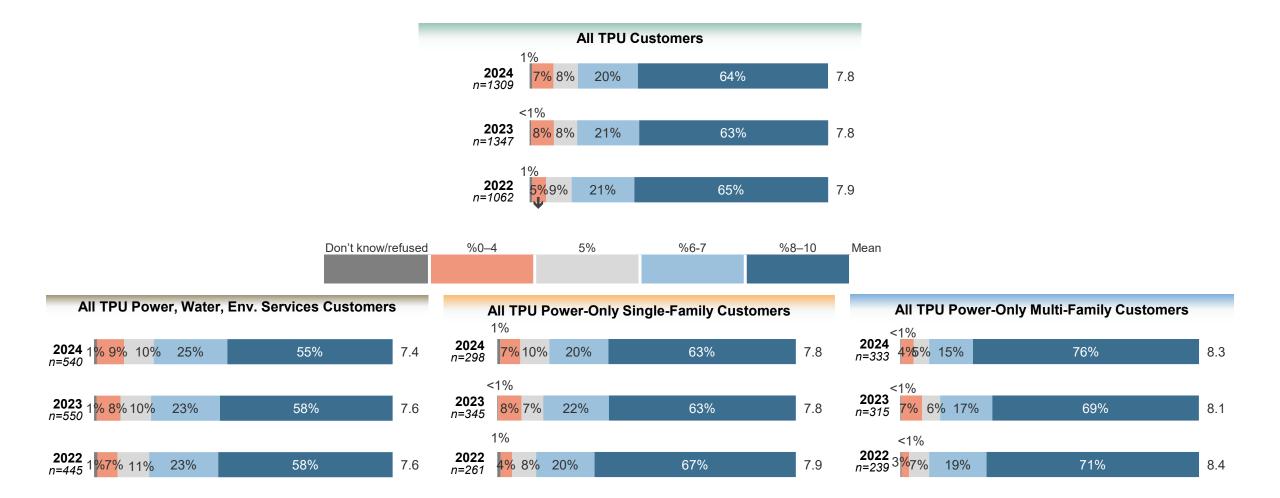




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## Value of Electric Service





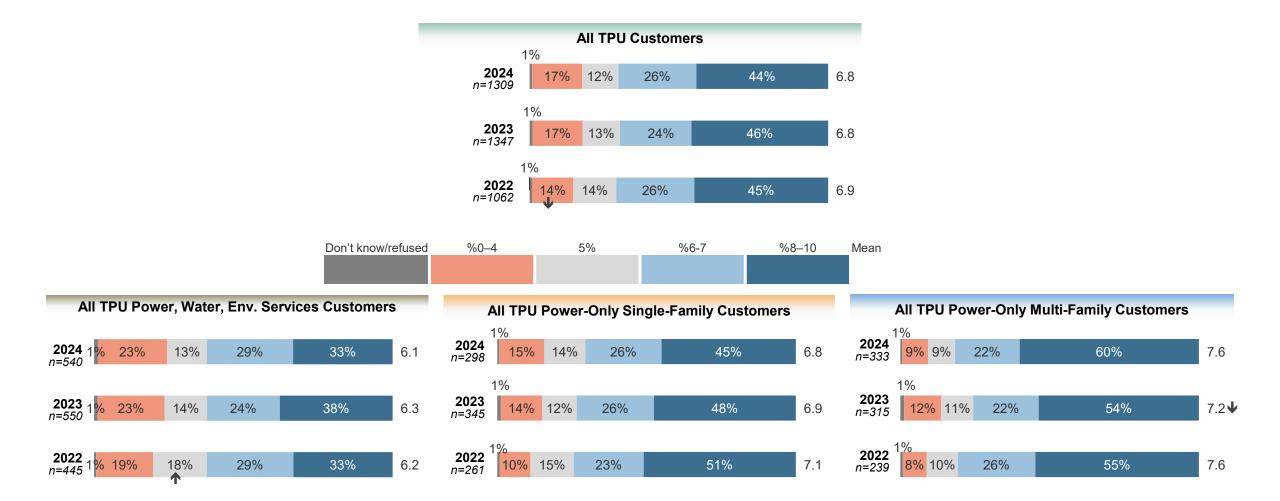
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Q12. Using the scale from a 0 to 10 scale where a 0 means you receive a very poor value and a 10 means you receive a very good value, how would you rate the value you receive from Tacoma Power in terms of the electric service you receive.

▲↓ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

## **Reasonableness of Electric Rates**



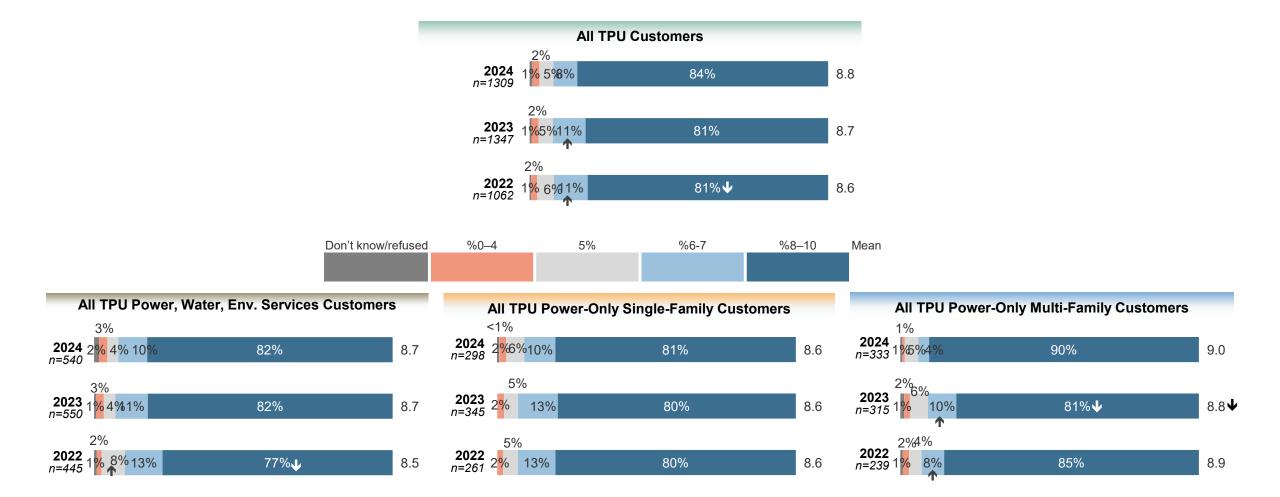


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RATESE. In general, to what extent do you think the rates you pay for the electric service you receive from Tacoma Power are reasonable? ↑↓ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

## **Providing Reliable Electric Service**





escalent How would you rate T-P-U's performance with regard to...? RELIABLE. Providing reliable electric service ↑↓ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

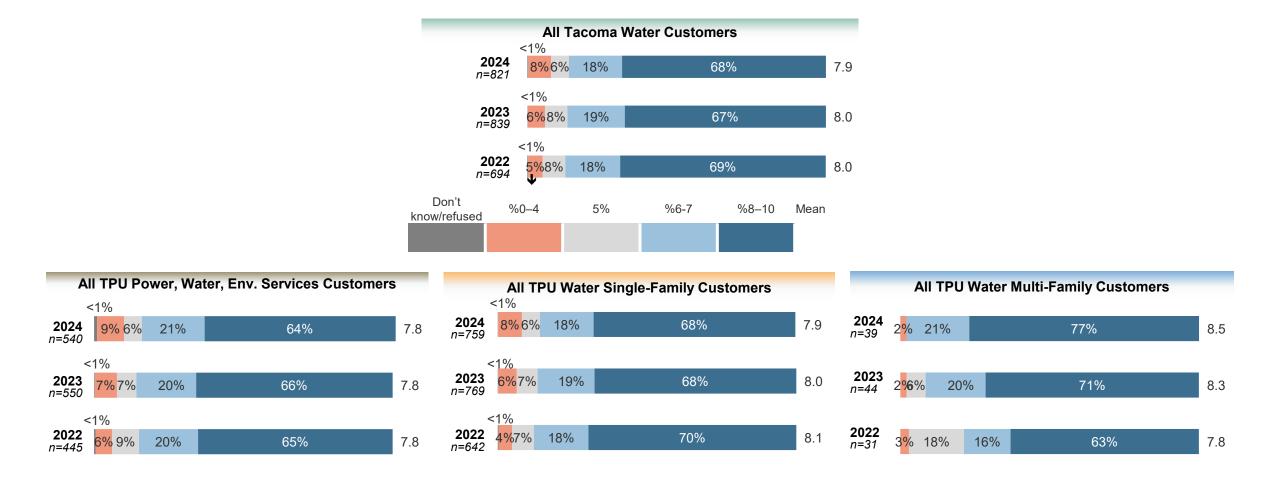


## Water Service Measures



## **Overall Satisfaction with Water Service**



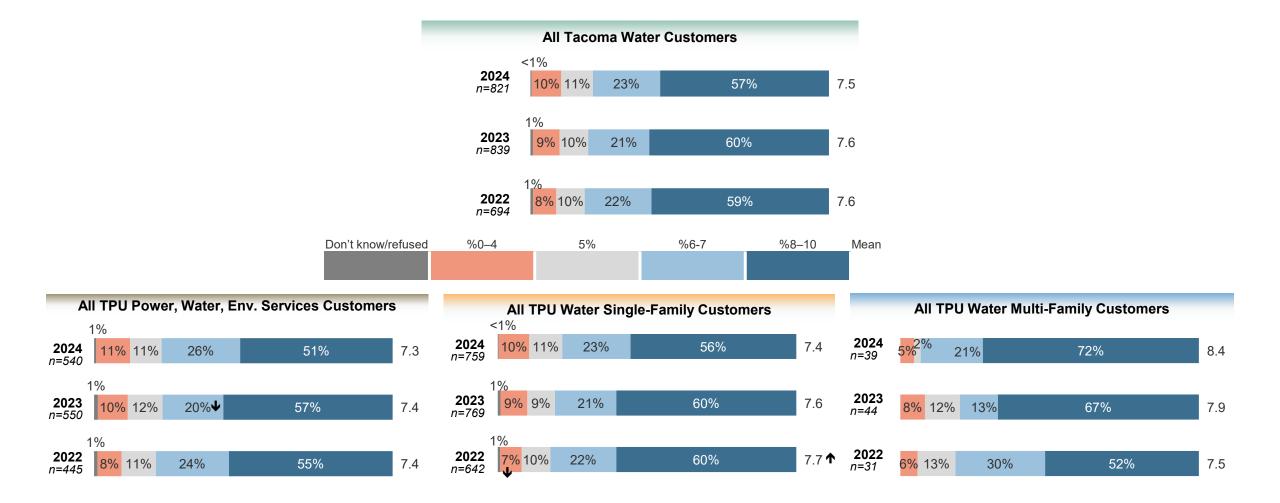


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Q3\_2. Based on your overall experience as a customer, and using that same scale, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with water service provided by Tacoma Water ↓ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

## Value of Water Service





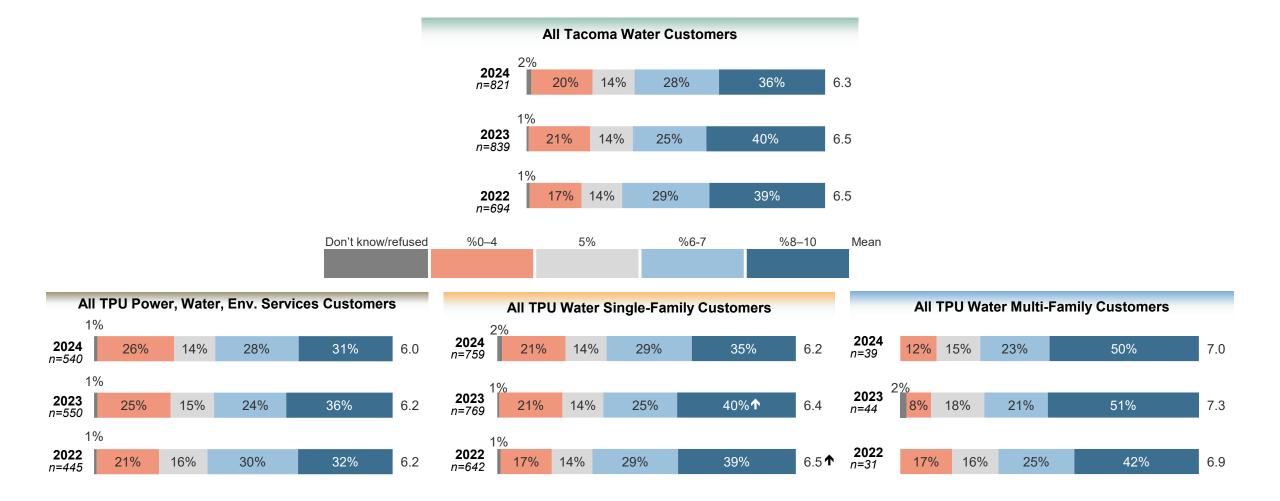
\*Base size <30, interpret results with caution, \*\* Insufficient sample size (n<10). Q13. Using the scale from a 0 to 10 scale where a 0 means you receive a very p

Q13. Using the scale from a 0 to 10 scale where a 0 means you receive a very poor value and a 10 means you receive a very good value, how would you rate the value you receive from Tacoma Water in terms of the water service you receive

↑↓ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

## **Reasonableness of Water Rates**





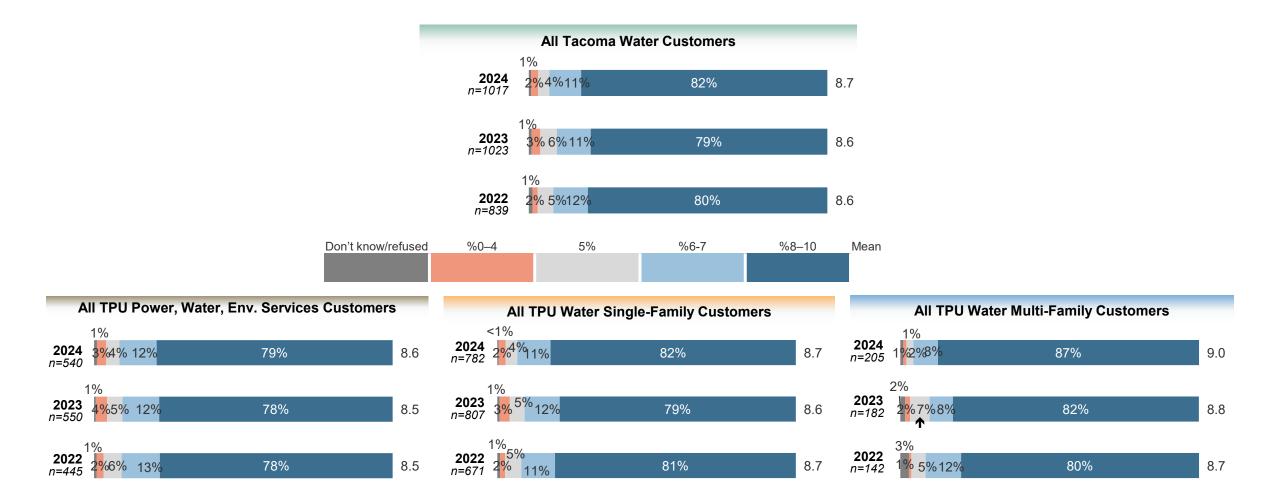
\*\*Base size <30, interpret results with caution, \*\* Insufficient sample size (n<10).

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RATESW. In general, to what extent do you think the rates you pay for the water service you receive from Tacoma Water are reasonable? Please answer using a scale from 0 to 10 where a 0 means you think they are extremely unreasonable and a 10 means you think they are extremely reasonable. ↑↓ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

## Water Service Reliability





escalent How would you rate Tacoma Water's performance with regard to...? WTRREL. Overall reliability of water service ↑↓ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

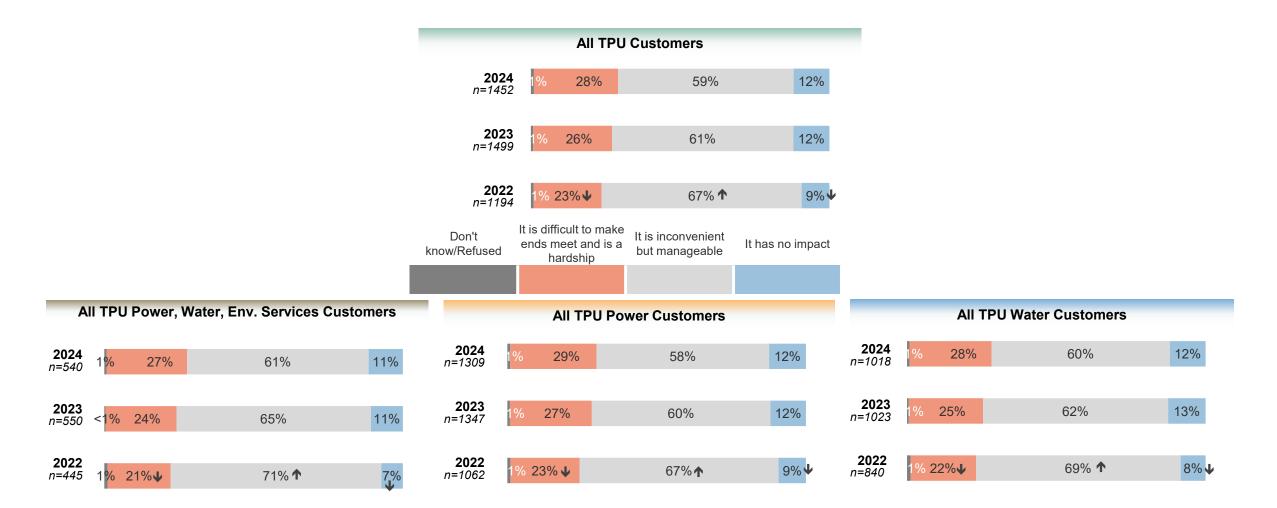


# Economic & Financial Sentiment



## **Impact of Current Economy**



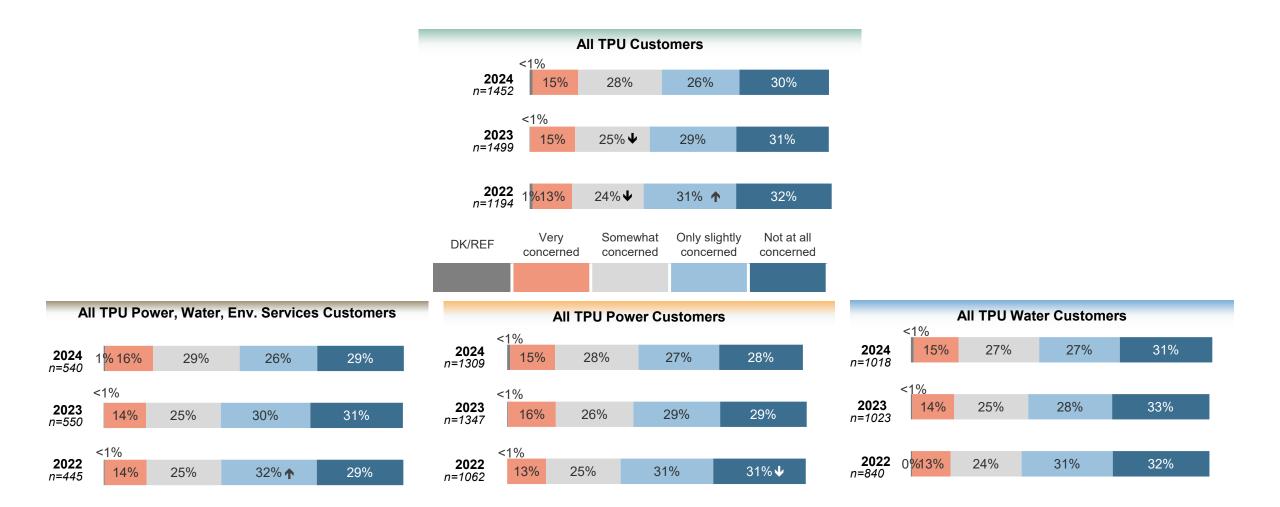


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ECON3. How has the current economy (e.g., higher prices) impacted you and/or your family? ↑↓ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

## **Concern of Paying Utility Bills**





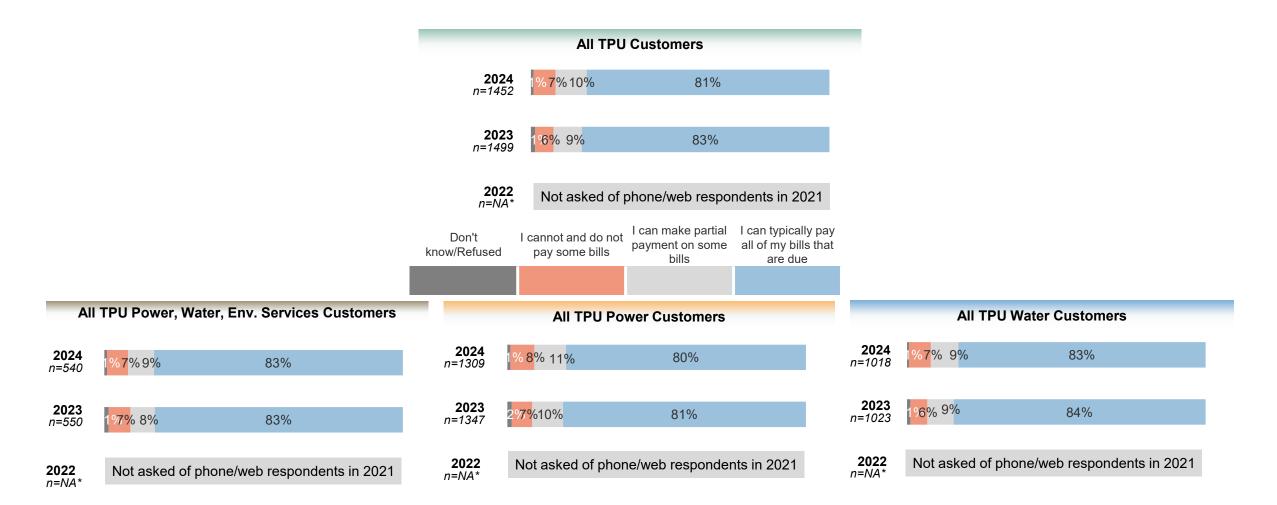
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COV2. How concerned would you say you are about paying basic household bills like your utility bills this year?

↑ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.

## Ability to Pay Bills







BILLS. In a typical month, which best describes your ability to pay all of your bills that are due? ↑↓ Indicate significant differences between the current wave and previous waves.



# Benchmarking



### **Escalent Energy Utility Benchmarking: 2024 Service Areas**

### AEP - AEP Ohio - Appalachian Power - Indiana Michigan Power (I&M) - Kentucky Power - PSO - SWEPCO **AES Corporation** - AES Ohio (Dayton Power & Light) - AES Indiana (IPALCO) Alliant Ameren - Ameren Illinois - Ameren Missouri Arizona Public Service Atmos Energy<sup>^</sup> Austin Energy Avista Avangrid (Iberdrola USA) - Central Maine Power - New York State Electric & Gas - Rochester Gas and Electric Berkshire Hathaway Energy - Mid-American Energy - NV Energy North - NV Energy South - Pacific Power - Rocky Mountain Power Black Hills Corporation<sup>^</sup> CenterPoint Energy CenterPoint S/MW Combined - Vectren Citizens Energy Group **Consumers Energy** Consolidated Edison<sup>^</sup> **CPS Energy**

### DTE Energy **Dominion Energy** - Virginia - North Carolina (PSNC NC) - Ohio (Gas - East Ohio/WV) - South Carolina (SCANA/SCE&G) - West (ID/WY/UT) **Duke Energy** - Duke Carolinas - Duke Progress - Duke Midwest - Duke Florida **Duquesne Light** El Paso Electric Entergy<sup>^</sup> Exelon - Baltimore Gas & Electric - ComEd - PECO - Delmarva Power - Atlantic City Electric - Potomac Electric Power - Connecticut Light & Power - NSTAR - Kansas City Power & Light - Westar Energy - Ohio Edison - The Illuminating Company - Toledo Edison - Met-Ed

- Potomac Edison

#### **Green Mountain Power**

Hawaiian Electric<sup>^</sup>

Idaho Power

### JEA

LA Dept. of Water & Power

Memphis Gas, Light and Water

MDU Resources - MDU

> - Intermountain Gas - Cascade Natural Gas

(MDU, Cascade, Intermountain)

Nashville Electric Service

National Grid<sup>^</sup>

NextEra Energy - Florida Power & Light - FPL NW FL (Gulf Power) - Florida City Gas

#### **New Jersey Natural Gas**

NFG-National Fuel Gas Co.

NiSource

- NIPSCO

- Columbia Energy

NorthWestern Energy

**NW Natural Gas** 

OGE Energy

**ONE Gas^** 

OUC

OPPD

Pacific Gas & Electric

- Pennsylvania Power & Light - PPL Electric Utilities
  - Louisville Gas and Electric
  - Kentucky Utilities

Peoples Energy (IL)



**Tucson Electric Power** 

**UGI Utilities** 

Unitil

### Washington (D.C.) Gas

Wisconsin Energy (WE Energies)

Wisconsin Public Service (Electric Power)

### Xcel Energy

- Xcel Midwest
- Xcel South
- Xcel West

^ Interviews collected across operating companies/service areas



### **Colorado Springs Utilities**

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≣ Ŧ TACOMA TACOMA TACOMA POWER WATER RAIL TACOMA PUBLIC UTILITIES

- **Eversource Energy (NEU)** 

  - Public Service of New Hampshire

### Evergy

### First Energy

- Penelec
- Penn Power

- West Penn Power
- Jersey Central Power & Light

### - Monongahela Power



## Escalent National Energy Utility Benchmarking Residential Electric and Electric-Gas Utility Customers

NOTE: TPU results exclude Water-only customers.

				Number of
	Mean	Rank	Quartile	Utilities
Helping Customers Use Energy Safely	8.2	2	1	91
Value of Electric Product Delivered	7.8	22	1	99
Accessible By Phone During Outage	8.0	1	1	88
Reasonableness of Electric Rates	6.8	31	2	101
Providing Reliable Service	8.8	6	1	101
Being Easy To Do Business With	8.1	8	1	99
Having Friendly And Courteous Employees	8.4	3	1	92
Being a Good Corporate Citizen in the Communities Served	7.7	4	1	94
Promptly Fixing Customer Problems	8.0	3	1	90
Overall Satisfaction	8.2	8	1	100
Restoring Electric Service When Outages Occur	8.4	4	1	101
Reliable Estimates of Power Restored	8.1	4	1	96
Being an Organization You Can Trust	7.8	8	1	101
Having Bills That Are Easy To Understand	8.1	10	1	100
Overall Favorability	7.9	17	1	100
Having Knowledgeable And Well-Trained Employees	8.3	5	1	95
Programs to Help Customers Use Energy More Efficiently	7.5	17	1	95
Providing Accurate Bills	8.1	11	1	101
Being Well-Managed	7.6	13	1	98