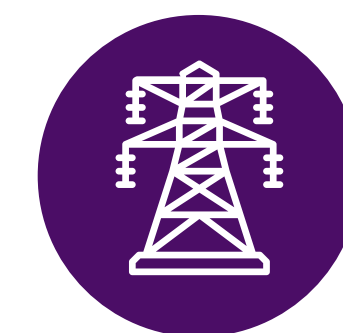


Connecting the Dots

How Utility Data Access Enables Building Performance Success

Colleen Morris, Calico Energy • Katie Kaluzny, Illinois Green Alliance • Rick Tonielli, ComEd • Dan Streit, Slipstream • Jeannette LeZaks, Slipstream



Utility Data Access



Benchmarking



Building Performance Standards



Energy Efficiency Projects



Market Transformation



Utility Savings + Decarbonization

1 Why This Matters



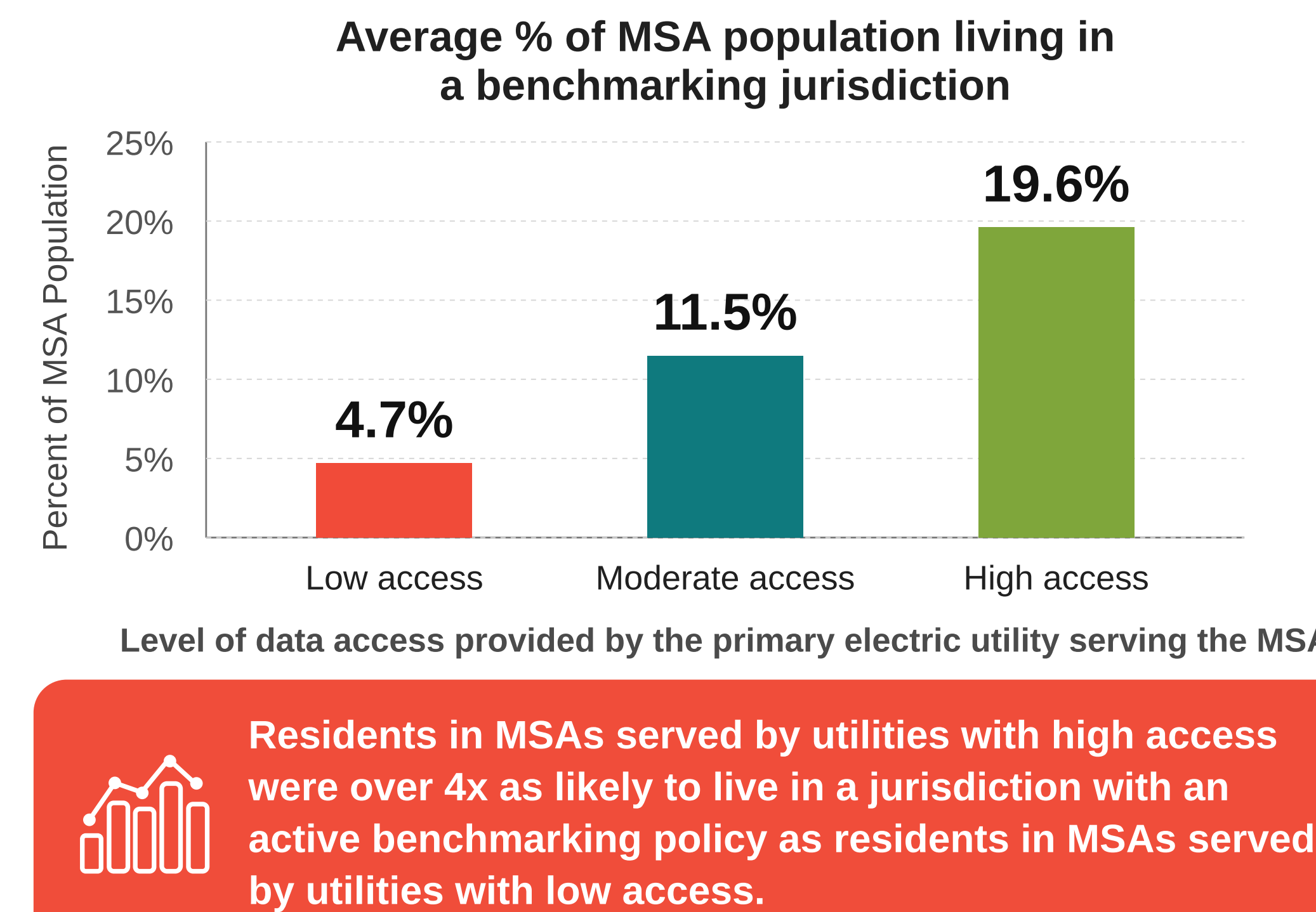
- Building owners need complete and accurate whole-building energy data to manage operational costs and evaluate efficiency opportunities.
- Without utility-enabled aggregated data, benchmarking and Building Performance Standards (BPS) are harder to adopt and implement.
- Utilities serve as stewards of the data needed for compliance and market transformation, balancing the need for greater access with their responsibility to protect customer privacy and manage significant risks.

2 Research Scope

- 57** Jurisdictions with benchmarking policies
- 15** Jurisdictions with BPS policies
- 104** Utilities serving active policy jurisdictions
- 30** Largest U.S. metro areas analyzed
- 10** Stakeholder interviews

Research combined literature review, utility data access analysis, policy review, and stakeholder interviews.

3 Better Data Access = More Benchmarking



4 What Good Data Access Looks Like

High Access



- Commercial aggregation: Yes
- Multifamily aggregation: Yes
- Delivery: Automated web service

Moderate Access



- Commercial aggregation: Yes
- Multifamily aggregation: Yes via spreadsheet, or commercial-only web service
- Delivery: Spreadsheet or partial automation

Low Access



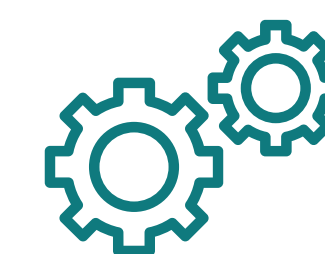
- Aggregation limited or unavailable
- Owners rely on tenant-by-tenant requests
- Delivery: Manual or none

5 Key Findings

- 42** of 50 benchmarking jurisdictions had commercial whole-building aggregation available.
- 41** of 50 had multifamily aggregation available.
- 34** jurisdictions used automated web services; 8 used spreadsheets; 8 had no aggregation.

All 11 local jurisdictions that adopted BPS were served by utilities providing aggregated whole-building data for commercial and multifamily buildings via web service.

6 Implications for Utilities



Reduce administrative burden by automating data requests



Enable local policy adoption and compliance



Increase participation in energy efficiency programs



Claim market transformation savings through support for BPS adoption

Data access is not just a customer service feature — it is essential market infrastructure.

KEY TAKEAWAYS



1. Streamlined access to utility data is foundational to adoption of benchmarking and BPS policies.



2. Higher levels of data access may be connected to increased rates of benchmarking policy adoption.



3. Improving data access can reduce administrative burden, strengthen program delivery, and support market transformation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Publish more benchmarking and BPS compliance data across jurisdictions.
- Expand qualitative research with utilities, municipal staff and building owners.



Source: Based on the ACEEE Summer Study paper "Connecting the Dots: How Utility Data Access Enables Building Performance Success."