Some people, especially communities on the frontlines of climate change, experience energy burden.

What is energy burden? Energy burden is the percentage of your income spent on energy. Older buildings often need more energy to function, which costs renters and local businesses more money.

The buildings we live and work in account for 74% of U.S. electricity usage and a third of national greenhouse gas emissions. Older buildings with higher emissions can lead to negative impacts for your health and wallet.

BUILDINGS AFFECT YOUR HEALTH

Americans spend up to 90% of their time indoors. If your building does not have consistent clean air, appropriate lighting, heating, and cooling, then your health can be at risk.

THE COST OF LIVING IS NOT THE SAME FOR EVERYONE.

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BUILDINGS ARE BARRIERS AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE.

As our planet warms, severe weather will be more common and more damaging. Buildings can shield us during extreme weather events like heat waves, extreme cold, and hurricanes.

Learn more about IMT’s community engagement work.