

Why Heat Pumps are the Answer to Heat Waves

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Do Heat Pumps Keep People Safe and Comfortable?

- Extreme heat events are prompting people to add AC in traditionally mild climates
- Heat pumps are an effective and climate-friendly solution for addressing increasing cooling demands
 - Provide both heating and cooling, high efficiency heating, and can reduce utility bills
 - Have lower GHG emissions, supporting Oregon's Climate Action Plan
 - Appropriately sized to handle heat wave conditions

Analysis Background

- In Seattle temperatures reached a scorching 108°F in June, creating hazardous conditions inside homes.
- RMI modeled the performance of several cooling options for a typical existing single-family home in Seattle during the three-day heat wave.
- Our objective was to see which system could meet a setpoint temperature of 75°F and examine the impacts on the home's annual utility bills.

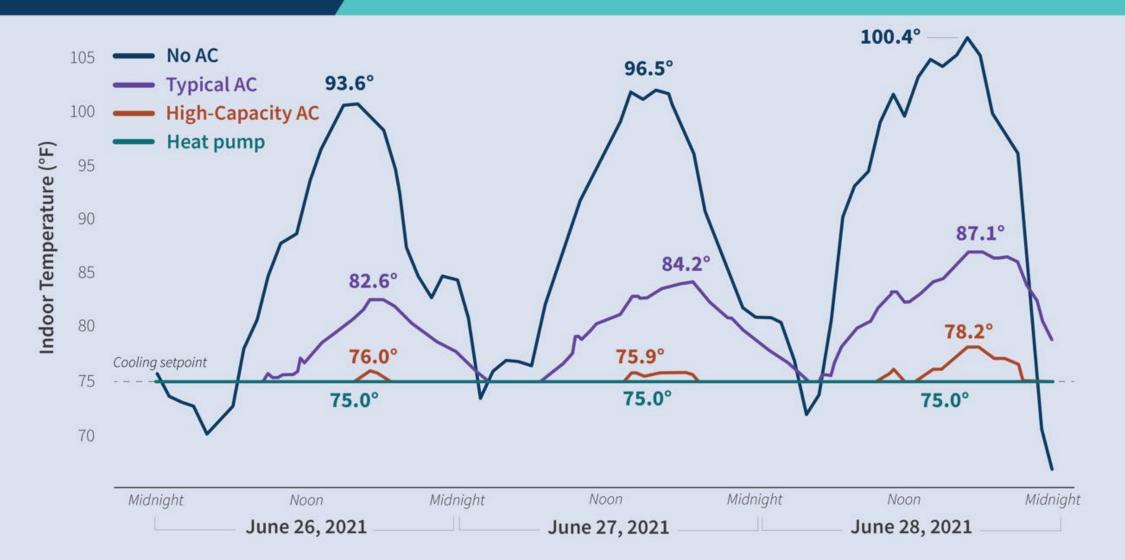






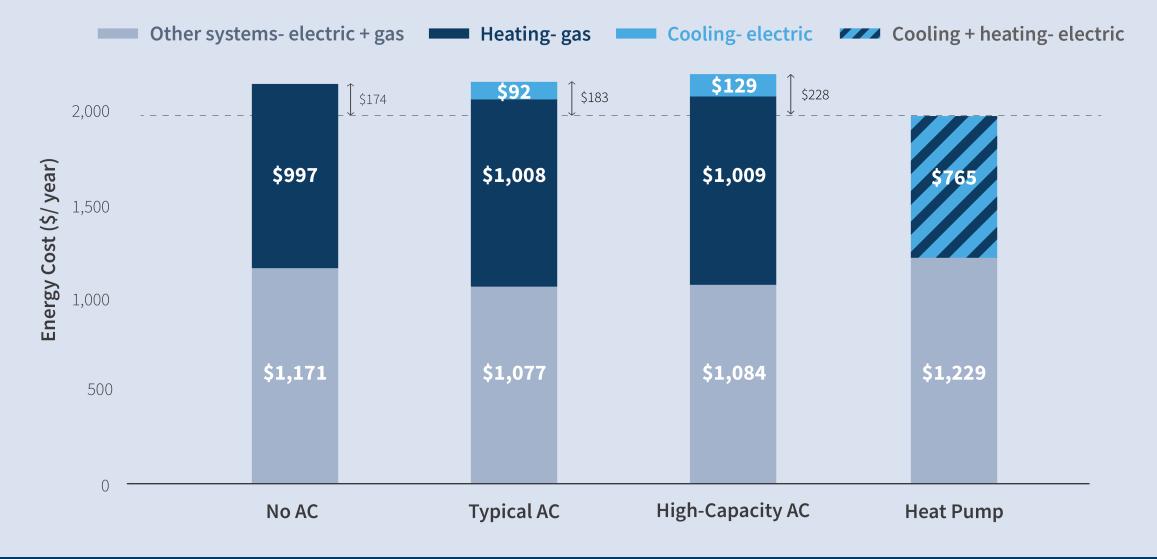
Temperature

- Heat pumps keep you cool and comfortable



Annual Utility Bill Impacts

- Heat pumps cost less to operate than a dual fuel cooling + heating system



Heat Pumps Keep People Safe and Comfortable

- Extreme heat events present a clear opportunity and an intervention point for policymakers to support the deployment of heat pumps today
- Policymakers are critical to helping OR access this technology
 - Incentives are needed to mitigate upfront costs
- Efficiency and weatherization measures are a key counterpart and should also be prioritized, particularly for low and moderate-income households



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