

5 Benefits of Public Power



1

Reliability

The average electric customer in the U.S. is without power for 2 hours and 20 minutes each year, barring major events. The average public power customer experiences outages of less than 1 hour annually.

*Source: "Assessing Changes in the Reliability of the U.S. Electric Power System," Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, August 2015

2

Lower Rates

Public power customers typically pay less for their electricity. In Massachusetts, public power customers pay an average of 13.9 per kilowatt-hour compared to 20.8 cents for customers from privately owned utilities.

*Source: APPA

3

Local Impact

Public power utilities are governed via a light board whose members are elected or appointed by local officials, giving residents input into the practices and policies of the utility.

4

Fast Outage Restoration

When outages occur in public power communities, the public utilities are often able to restore power quickly because the crews are located in town and are already familiar with the local electric distribution system. They can also rely on the aid of other public power utilities to help restore power during widespread outages.

5

Supporting Local Economies

Public power utilities generate more than \$58 billion in revenue and invest more than \$2 billion directly back into the communities they serve. Because of their low rates, public power utility towns also attract businesses and industries.

*Source: APPA

