

RESNET

Residential Energy Services Network

Setting the Standards for Quality

Results of RESNET Survey on HERS Scoring Options

On-Line Survey

RESNET posted a survey on a secure survey web site. RESNET Board members were asked to submit names to RESNET to be included in the survey. In addition the National Association of Home Builders forwarded the survey to members of its energy subcommittee and RESNET sent the survey to its e-mail distribution list. The survey asked the following questions:

1. What best describes your background:
 - General consumer
 - Building industry
 - Utility industry
 - Government agency
 - Home Energy Rating industry

2. How would you describe your familiarity with the Home Energy Rating System (HERS)?
 - Very knowledgeable
 - Somewhat knowledgeable
 - Have heard of it but don't know how it works
 - Didn't know it existed

3. How important do you think it is for the general public to understand and be able to compare the energy performance of one or more homes, and to identify cost-effective energy efficiency improvements?
 - Very important
 - Somewhat important
 - Not at all important

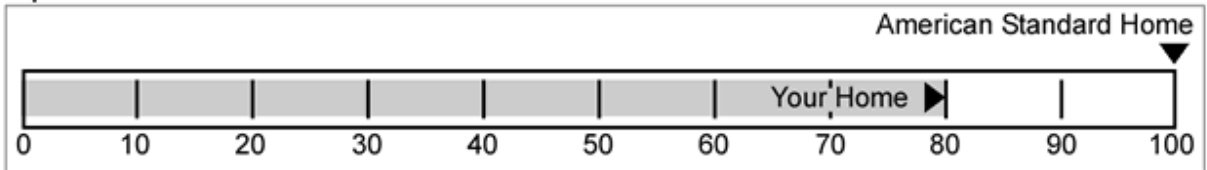
4. Which of the following best represents your opinion on the importance of energy efficiency in homes?
 - Very important, it should be a national priority
 - Somewhat important
 - Not very important, there are many more important things

The next 4 questions are based on the options that RESNET is considering for representing the energy performance of a home.

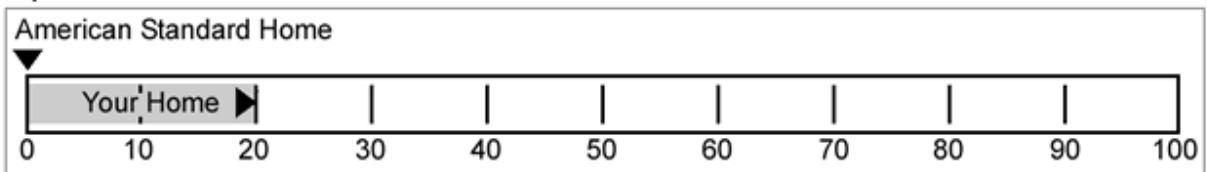
Your home has been determined by a certified home energy rater to use 20% less energy resources than the American Standard Home.

Below is a graphic representation of three options for summarizing your home's performance followed by the survey question asking which option is easiest for you to understand.

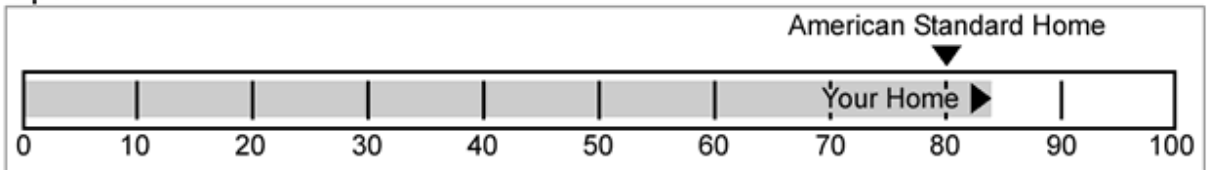
Option 1:



Option 2:



Option 3:



5. Which of these options is easiest to understand and explain?

Option 1: The energy performance score of the **Standard Home is 100** and the energy performance score for **Your Home is 80**.

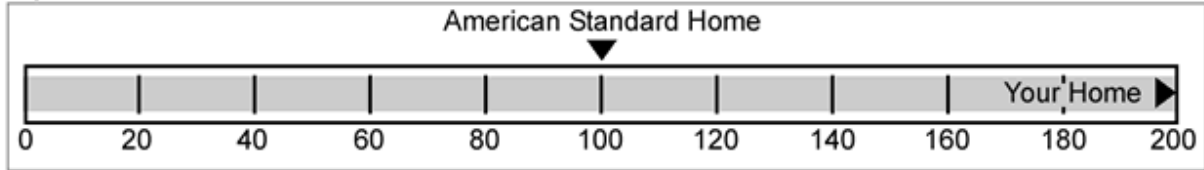
Option 2: The energy performance score of the **Standard Home is 0** and the energy performance score for **Your Home is 20**.

Option 3: The energy performance score of the **Standard Home is 80** and the energy performance score for **Your Home is 84**.

Your home has been determined by a certified home energy rater to use two times the energy resources of the American Standard Home.

Below is a graphic representation of three options for summarizing your home's performance followed by the survey question asking which option is easiest for you to understand.

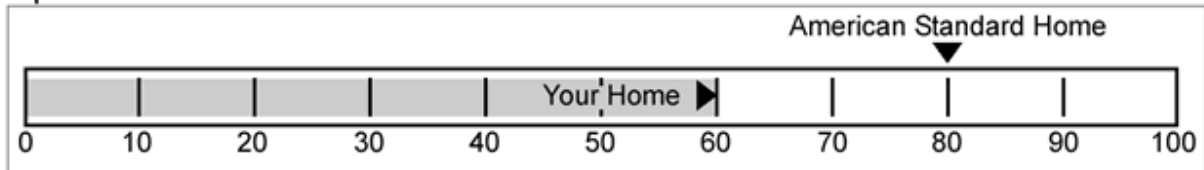
Option 1:



Option 2:



Option 3:



6. Which of the following options is easiest to understand and explain?

Option 1: The energy performance score of the **Standard Home is 100** and the energy performance score for **Your Home is 200**.

Option 2: The energy performance score of the **Standard Home is 0** and the energy performance score for **Your Home is -100**.

Option 3: The energy performance score of the **Standard Home is 80** and the energy performance score for **Your Home is 60**.

7. Of the three options presented above, which one would you recommend RESNET adopt?

- Option 1
- Option 2
- Option 3

As of today, 423 individuals had completed in the survey. The following are the survey's results as of that time:

1. **What best describes your background:**

General consumer

24%

Building industry	21%
Utility industry	11%
Government agency	21%
Home Energy Rating industry	23%

2. ***How would you describe your familiarity with the Home Energy Rating System (HERS)?***

Very knowledgeable	45%
Somewhat knowledgeable	30%
Have heard of it but don't know how it works	16%
Didn't know it existed	9%

3. ***How important do you think it is for the general public to understand and be able to compare the energy performance of one or more homes, and to identify cost-effective energy efficiency improvements?***

Very important	85%
Somewhat important	14%
Not at all important	1%

4. ***Which of the following best represents your opinion on the importance of energy efficiency in homes?***

Very important, it should be a national priority	85%
Somewhat important	14%
Not very important, there are many more important things	1%

5. ***Which of these options is easiest to understand and explain?***

Option 1: The energy performance score of the Standard Home is 100 and the energy performance score for Your Home is 80.	58%
Option 2: The energy performance score of the Standard Home is 0 and the energy performance score for Your Home is 20.	12%
Option 3: The energy performance score of the Standard Home is 80 and the energy performance score for Your Home is 84.	30%

6. ***Which of the following options is easiest to understand and explain?***

Option 1: The energy performance score of the Standard Home is 100 and the energy performance score for Your Home is 200.	60%
Option 2: The energy performance score of the Standard Home is 0 and the energy performance score for Your Home is -100.	13%
Option 3: The energy performance score of the Standard Home	27%

is 80 and the energy performance score for Your Home is 60.

7. ***Of the three options presented above, which one would you recommend RESNET adopt?***

Option 1	60%
Option 2	13%
Option 3	27%

Survey respondents recommended that RESNET adopt Option 1 by over a two-to-one margin over the next highest option.

Respondents were also asked to recommend other options for presenting the rating score. We plan to leave the survey open for a while so if you would like to see updated results of the survey, including the ability to cross tabulate results and view comments, they are available to you online at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/Report.asp?U=121322776263>