

### **Reporting Item**

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

January 18, 2022

**ITEM** 

Customer Trends Update [Note: Not presented due to time. Update posted on oppd.com.]

#### <u>PURPOSE</u>

To provide a quarterly update on customer trends and energy assistance

#### FACTS

- 1. The Board requested that management provide regular reports on the progress of customer programs and trends.
- 2. Customer accounts receivable balances have normalized in 2021.
- 3. Management will provide an update on aged debt and related trends as of December 31, 2021.

#### **RECOMMENDED:**

-DocuSigned by:

Juli a. Comstock

Juli A. Comstock Vice President – Customer Service APPROVED FOR REPORTING TO BOARD:

— DocuSigned by:

Javier Fernandez

L. Javier Fernandez President and Chief Executive Officer

JAC:rak



# **Customer Trends Quarterly Update**

as of December 31, 2021

All Committee Meeting January 18, 2022







Continuing to monitor and adjust OPPD's solutions as our customers' needs are changing.



### Customer First Solutions Expired 12/31/2021

- Automatically waive collection & reconnect fees on first field visit
- Customer service representatives to waive up to 3 late payment charges for a customer in a 12-month period
- Suspend assessing additional deposits due to field collection visits

### **Customer First Solutions Continuing**

- Call to business customers regarding upcoming disconnections
- Call to customers with scheduled field visits for proactive communications and awareness
- Flexible payment schedules will remain available for customers

### Energy Assistance

• OPPD received \$131,871 for Heating Supplemental benefits for 349 customers

### Promotional/Marketing Campaign



• Promotions live for upcoming Heat the Streets scheduled for March 5, 2022

#### **Next Steps**

- Continue to review economic recovery indicators to suggest alternatives
- Customer arrears review for a noticeable shift beyond consistent historical metrics
- Review of industry & pandemic trends
- Payment Installment Plan shift from pilot program to standard business practice in Q2 of 2022
- Development underway for Customer Assistance Program pilot. (CAP)



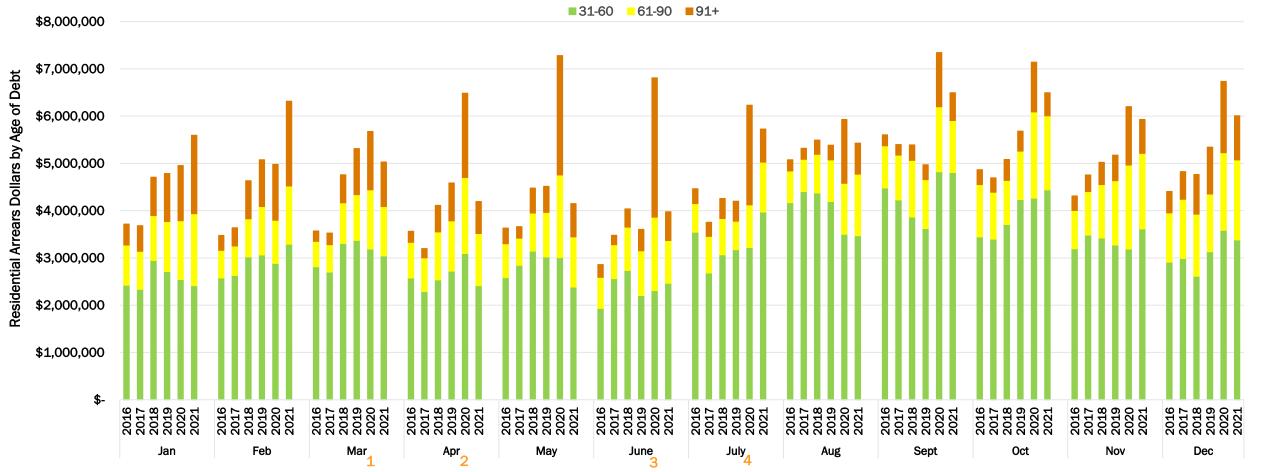
# **Summary of Aged Debt**

	Residential			Commercial & Industrial		
	December 2021	December 2020	% Change	December 2021	December 2020	% Change
% of Accounts Current	88.9%	89.0%	-0.1% 🖊	92.2%	92.3%	-0.1% 🖊
% of Accounts in Arrears	11.1%	11.0%	0.9% 懀	7.8%	7.7%	1.7% 🕇
Total Aged Debt > 30 days (in millions)	\$6.0	\$6.7	-10.8%	\$3.4	\$1.7	98.5% 懀
Total Aged Debt 91+ Days (in millions)	\$0.9	\$1.5	-38.1%	\$0.2	\$0.2	0.0%
Total Service Agreement Count > 30 Days (in thousands)	42.3	41.9	1.0% 🕇	2.2	2.2	0.0%
Total Service Agreement Count > 91+ Days (in thousands)	7.7	9.9	-20% 🖊	0.5	0.5	0.0%

LIHEAP Only Accounts	December 2021	December 2020	% Change
% of Accounts Current	63%	65%	-2% 🖊
% of Accounts in Arrears	37%	35%	4% 🕇
Total Aged Debt > 30 days (in millions)	\$1.2	\$0.9	29% 🕇
Total Aged Debt 91+ Days (in millions)	\$0.1	\$0.3	-46% 🖊
Total Service Agreement Count > 30 Days (in thousands)	4.3	4.0	8.0% 🕇
Total Service Agreement Count > 91+ Days (in thousands)	1.1	1.4	-22.3%



## Residential Arrears Dollars by Age of Debt Active Accounts



1 Announced suspension of disconnects for non-payment due to COVID-19

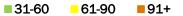
2 Announced suspension of Late Payment Charges

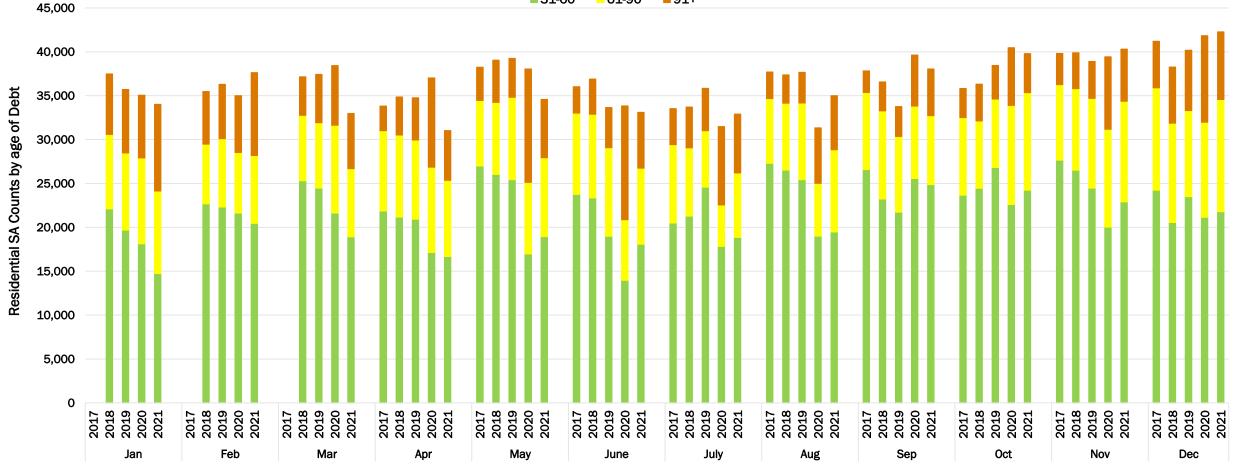
3 Announced reinstatement of Late Payment Charges and disconnects for non-payment beginning in July

4 Resumed assessment of Late Payment Charges and disconnects for non-payment



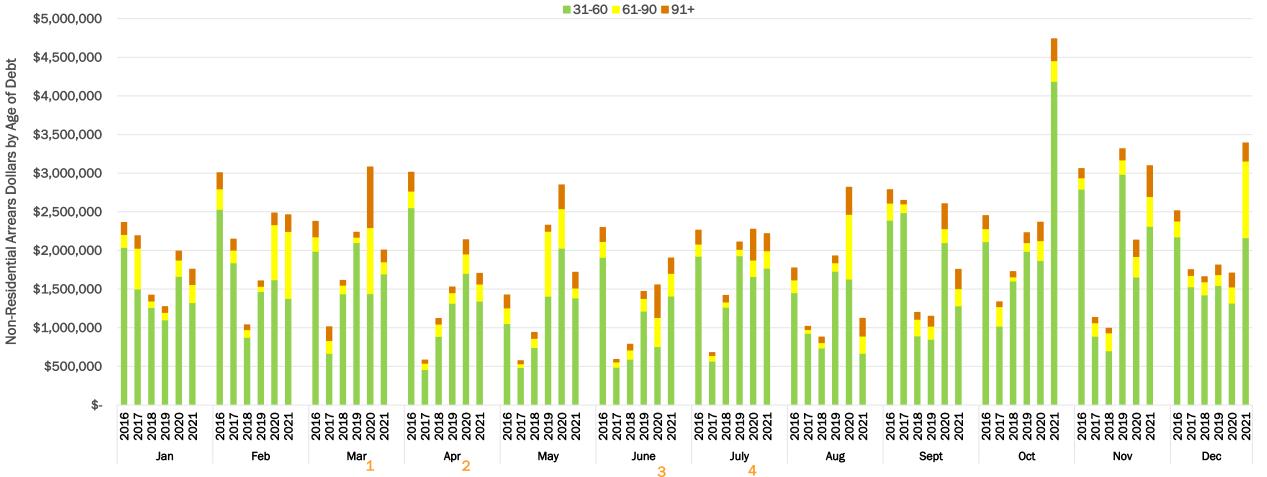
## Residential Counts by Age of Debt Active Accounts







## Commercial & Industrial Arrears Dollars by Age of Debt Active Accounts



1 Announced suspension of disconnects for non-payment due to COVID-19

2 Announced suspension of Late Payment Charges

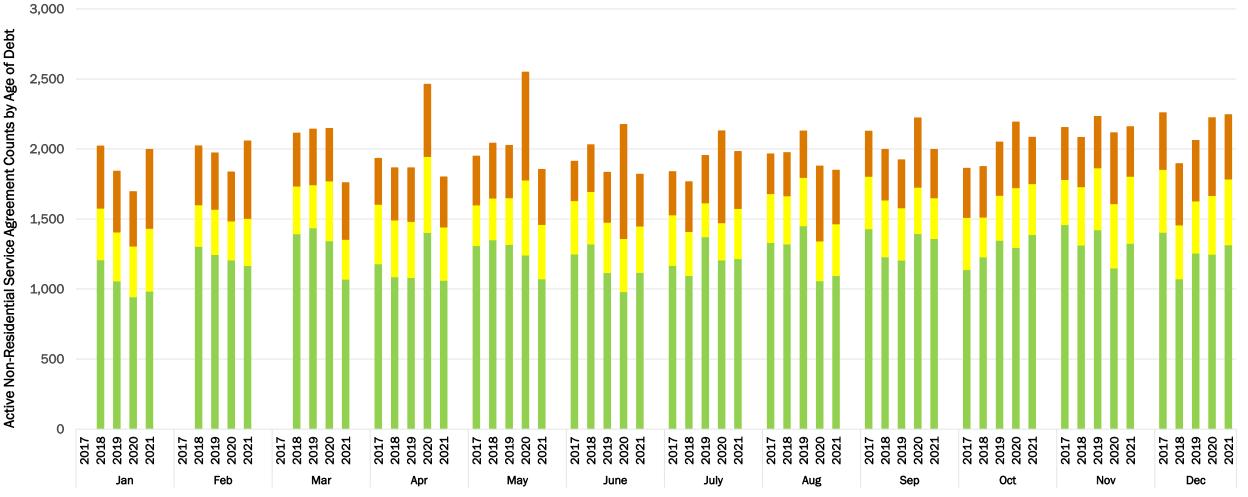
3 Announced reinstatement of Late Payment Charges and disconnects for non-payment beginning in July

4 Resumed assessment of Late Payment Charges and disconnects for non-payment



## Commercial & Industrial Counts by Age of Debt Active Accounts

■ 31-60 **■** 61-90 **■** 91+

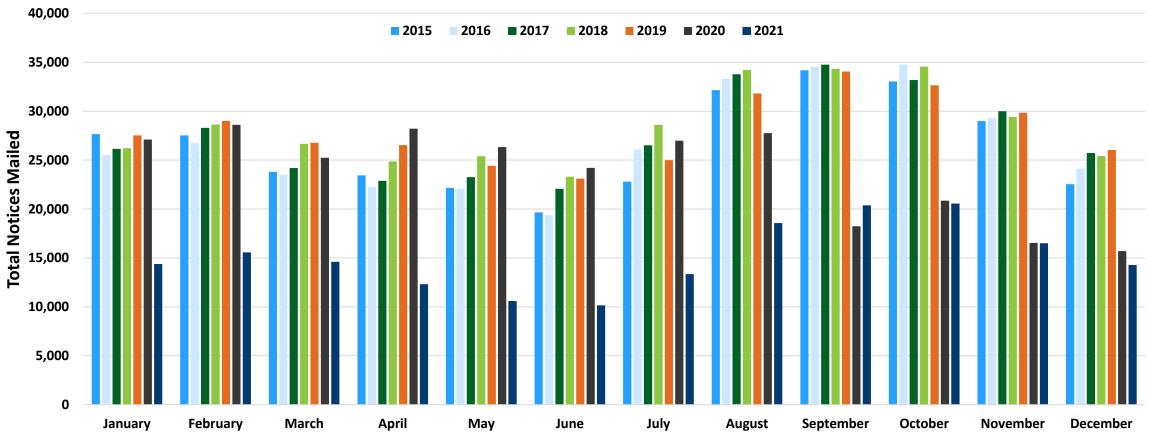


\*Jan. – March 2017 data not available



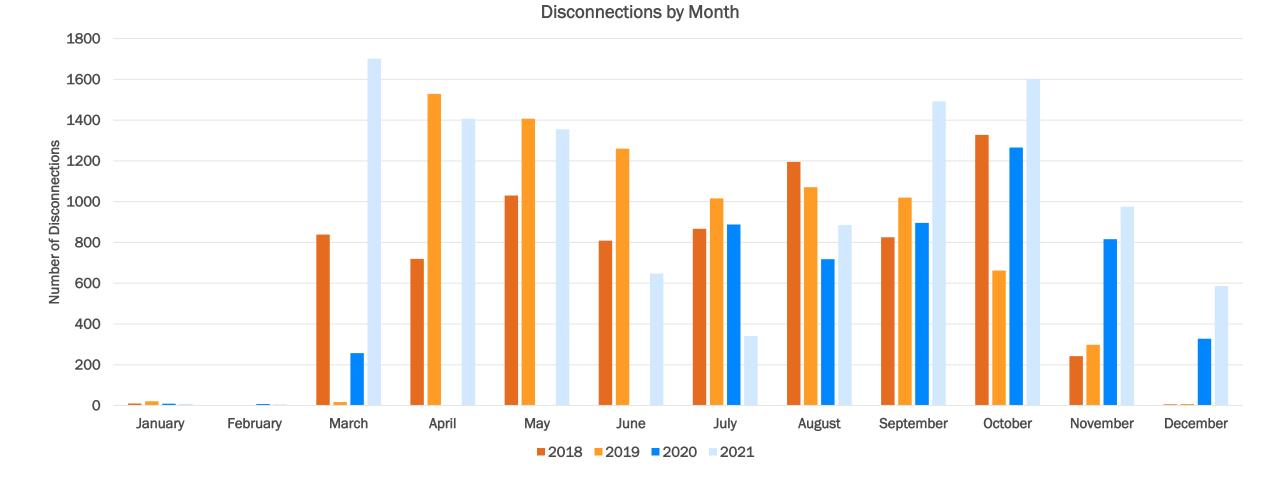
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# **Disconnect Notices Issued**



Note: Historically, a Disconnect Notice was issued to a customer at the time of billing if the past due amount was > \$100 and the customer has not demonstrated a good payment history. During the latter portion of March thru June 2020 a past due reminder letter replaced the Disconnect Notice since disconnects for non-payment were suspended during this time. The values during this period represent accounts that received a letter in lieu of a Disconnect Notice. Effective 8/25/2020, the threshold of the notice was set to > \$200 which will decrease the number of Disconnect Notices generated from that point forward.

# **Disconnections for Non-Payment by Month**

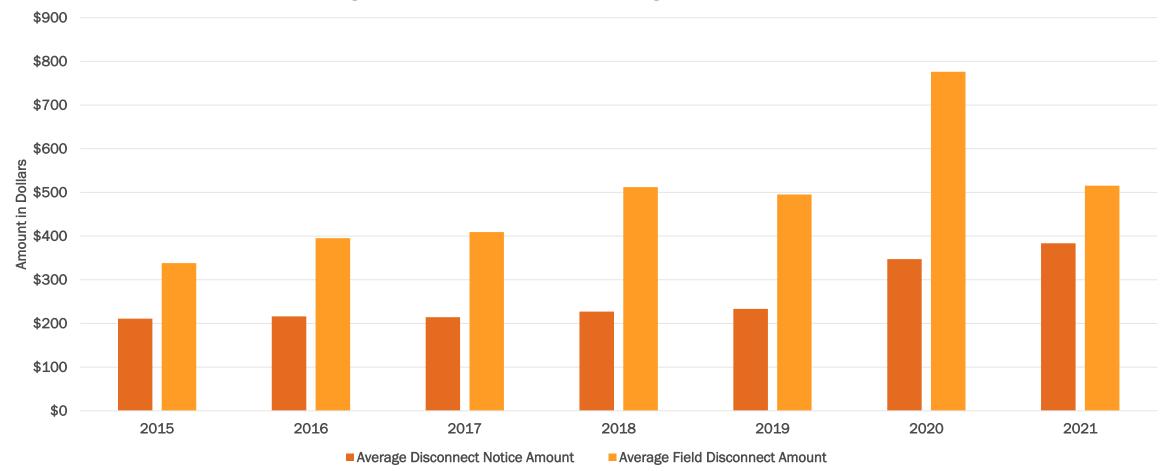


In 2020 Disconnections for non-payment were suspended from early March to mid-July due to COVID-19.



## Average Disconnect Notice Amount vs Average Field Collection Amount

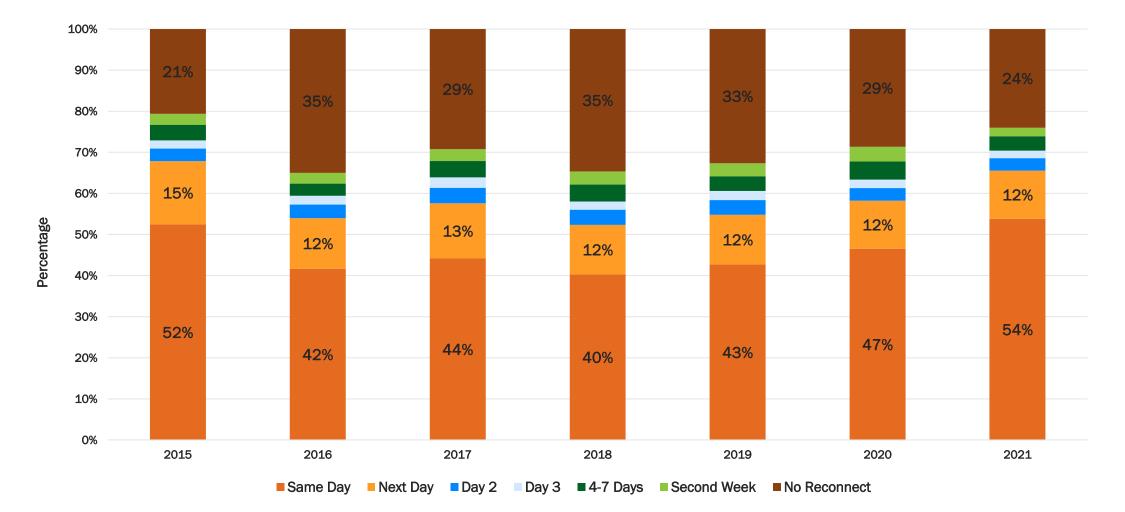
Average Disconnect Notice Amount vs Average Field Collection Amount



Note: OPPD prioritizes field collection and disconnection activities to the highest and riskiest debt which is reflected with the higher dollar value for orders sent to the field for collections/disconnection for non-payment vs the average disconnect notice amount.



# **Timing of Reconnections after Disconnect for Non-Pay**

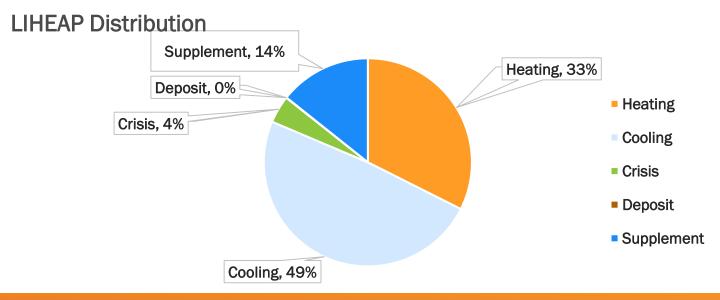




\*2021 Data is YTD

# **Energy Assistance December 2021 YTD**

Funding Source	December 2021 YTD	Average Benefit	Distinct Accounts	# of Payments	2020 Year End Total
Energy Assistance Program	\$261,850	\$321	817	817	\$377,571
COVID Relief Programs	\$1,501,509	\$363	3,940	4,707	\$1,641,914+
LIHEAP	\$5,048,322	\$349	8,415	14,457	\$5,846,198
Other Agencies Assistance	\$3,285,045	\$323	7,369	9,415	\$1,489,902
Total	\$10,096,726	\$343	16,524	29,396	\$9,355,585



Douglas County COVID-19 Utility Assistance Program	5/31/2021		
Completed Applications*#	3,246		
Approved Applications^	2,000		
Average benefit	\$500		
Total Dollars Granted	\$1,000,000		

+2020 amounts do not include the \$501,187 of CARES Act December Payments received that were processed in January 2021

\*Total applications completed for the program. #Electronic applications processed when program closed on 5/7/2021.

^Customers approved for the Douglas County COVID-19 Utility Assistance Program.

