

# *How Using Luminaire Level Lighting Controls Can Make HVAC Systems More Efficient*

**Chris Wolgamott**

Principal Product Manager, Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance





# Today's Agenda

- Why LLLC and HVAC should be the next great partnership
- What is LLLC and HVAC
  - The Idea
  - The Pilot
- The Model
  - Results and Findings

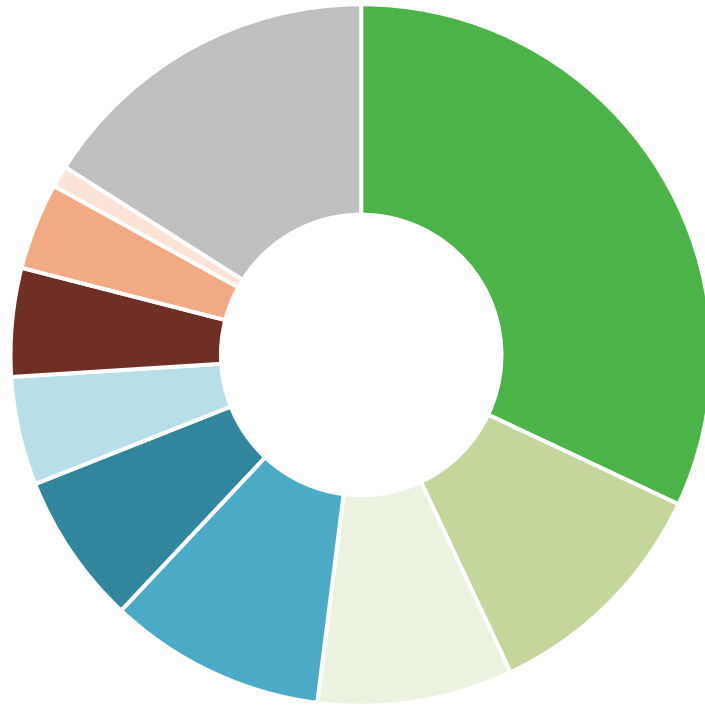


# Who is NEEA



The average commercial building consumes **52% of its energy** operating the heating, cooling and ventilation systems.

Major fuels consumption by end use (2018)



- Space heating (32%)
- Ventilation (11%)
- Cooling (9%)
- Lighting (10%)
- Cooking (7%)
- Refrigeration (5%)
- Water heating (5%)
- Computing (4%)
- Office equipment (1%)
- Other (16%)

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, *Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey*; Note: Btu = British Thermal Units



# What are Luminaire Level Lighting Controls?

## Networked Lighting Control

An intelligent network of individually addressable luminaires and control devices.

Allows for application of multiple control strategies, programmability, building-or enterprise-level control, zoning and rezoning using software, and measuring and monitoring

## Luminaire Level Lighting Controls

**Each luminaire has a networked occupancy sensor and ambient light sensor** installed and directly integrated or embedded into the luminaire form factor during the manufacturing process or installed in the field

Defined by the Design Lights Consortium



# Tiers for Network Lighting Control Types

## Tier 0



## Tier 1



## Tier 2



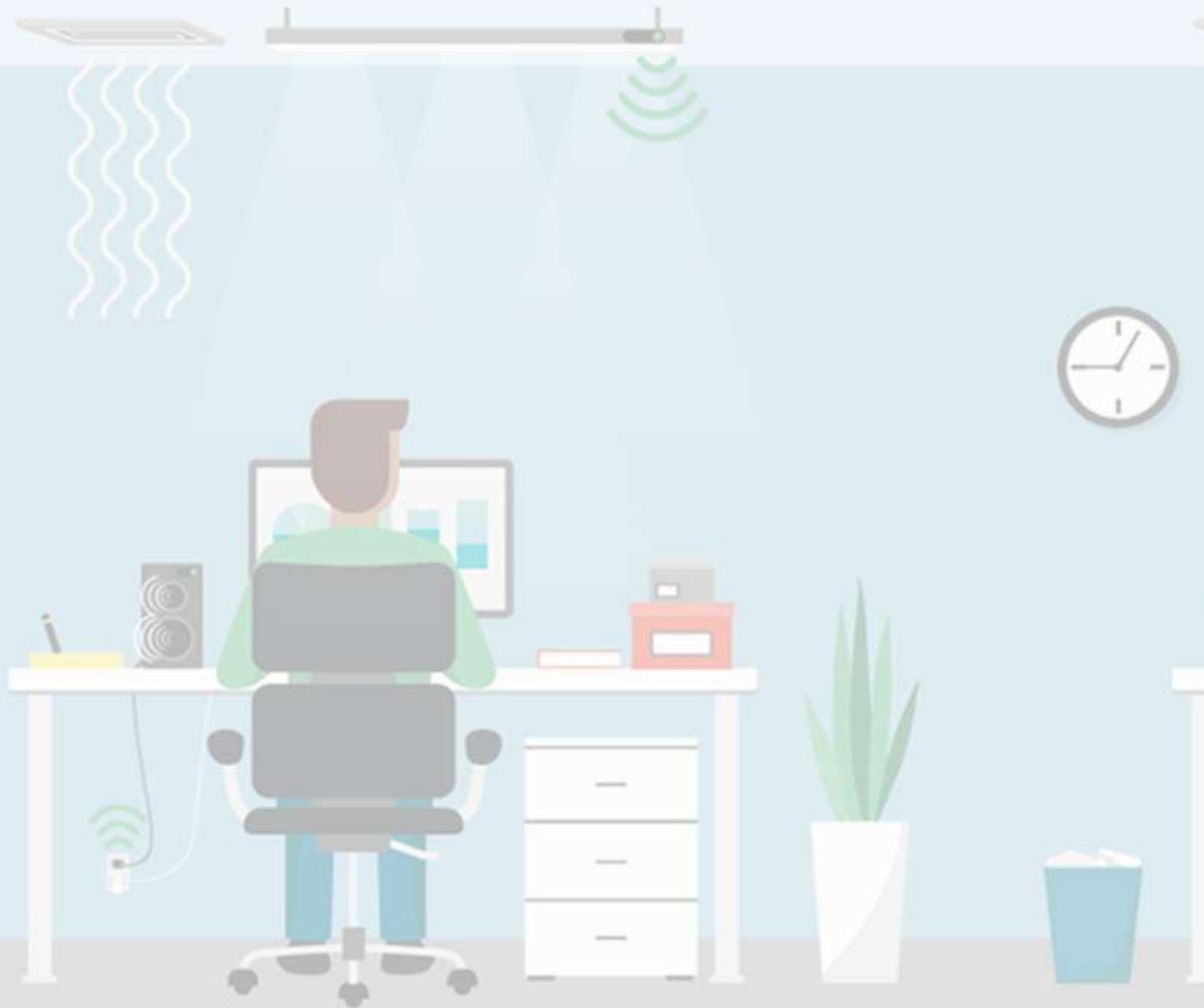
Sensor



Load controller in hub or luminaire

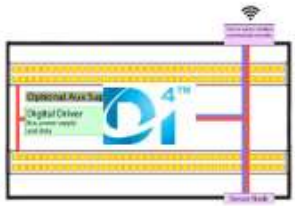


# What is LLLC & HVAC Integration

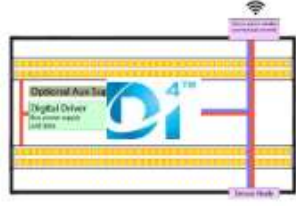


- Occupancy sensors at a granular level (a sensor in every fixture)
- LLLC provides a source of power for the occupancy sensors
- Occupancy signal from lighting can be shared with multiple other building systems, including the HVAC system
- Lighting provides a visual indication the sensor is functioning
- 5-25% energy savings from the mechanical system on top of the 50-65% energy saving from the lighting

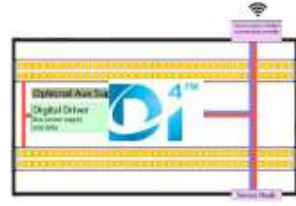
# NEEA Field Evaluation



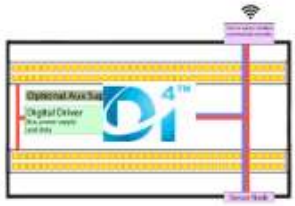
Fixture A



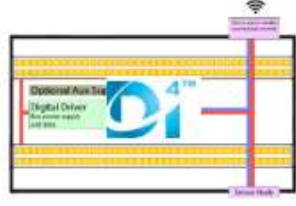
Fixture D



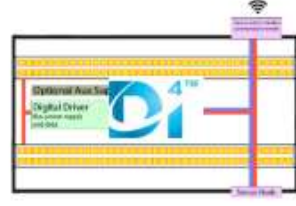
Fixture G



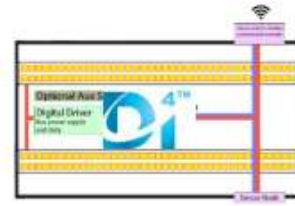
Fixture B



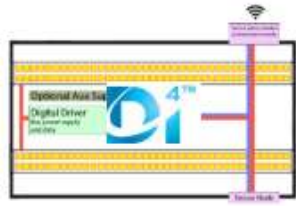
Fixture E



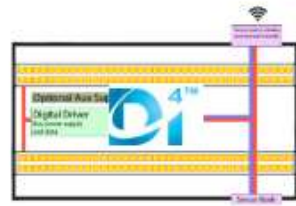
Fixture H



Fixture C



Fixture F



Fixture I

# Fixtures	HVAC
≥ 7 occupancy	Normal float
4-6 occupancy	Normal float + 1°
≤ 3 occupancy	Normal float + 2°

Simple  
 Limited HVAC changes  
 Some energy savings  
 Suited to small buildings (60% of bldgs)

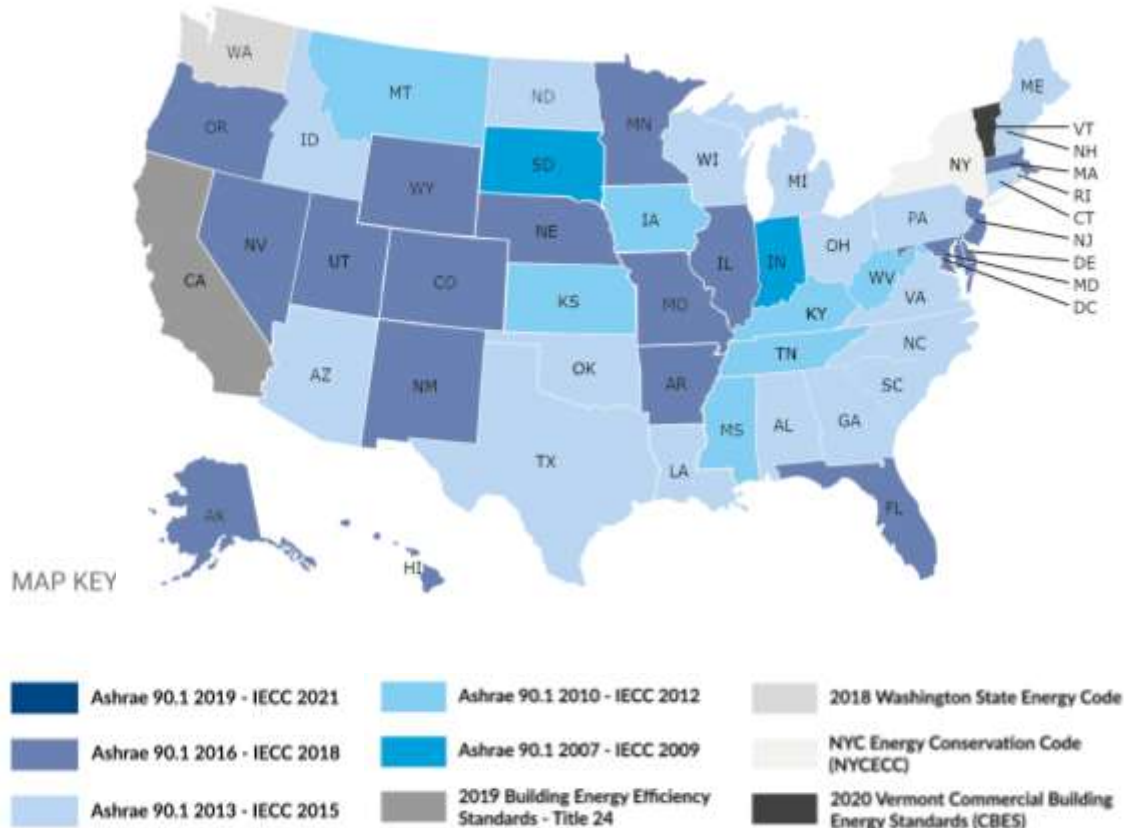




# Energy Codes Are Primary Drivers for Integration

...and getting more stringent

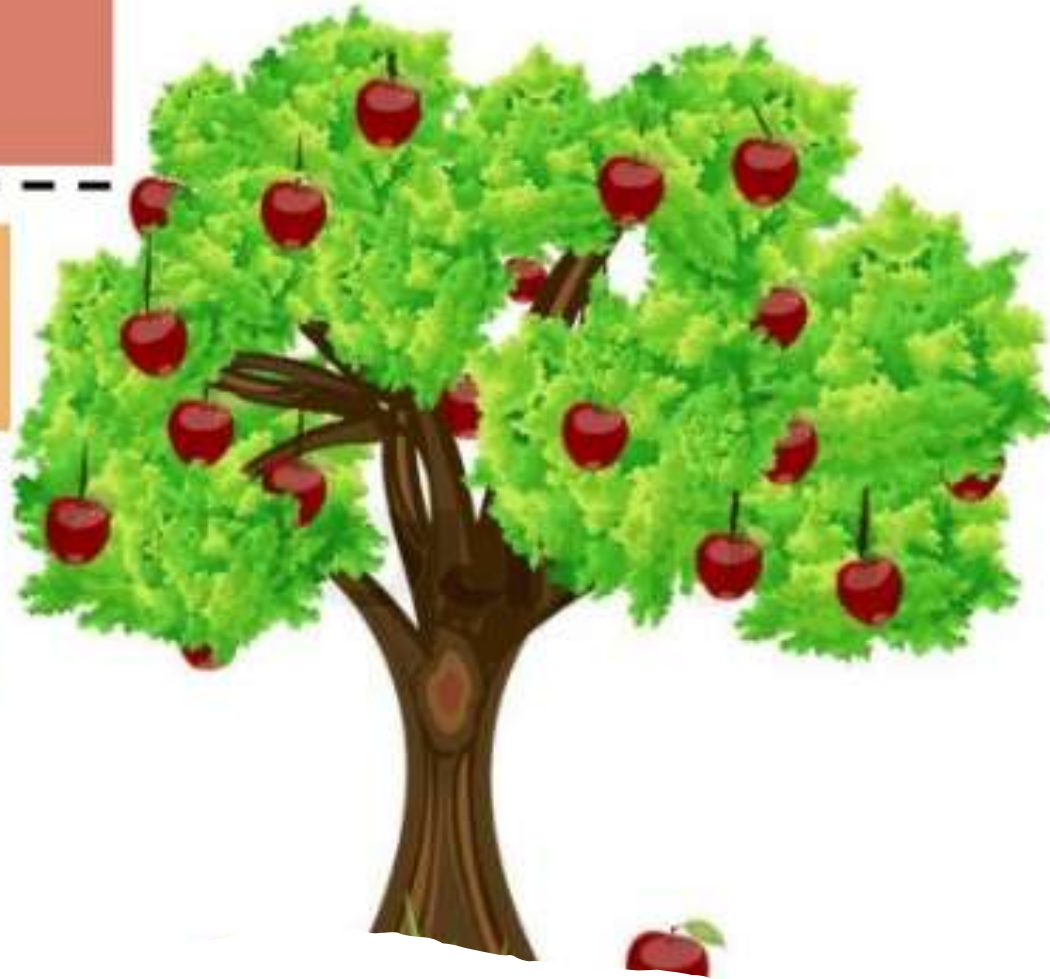
- Occupancy Sensors (Lighting and HVAC)
- Occupied Standby (HVAC)
- Plug Load Controls
- Demand Response



**DIFFICULT**

**MODERATE**

**EASY**



**The Low-Hanging Fruit is gone!**

# *The Changing world of Utility Incentives*

*LED Fixture incentives shrinking or disappearing*

*Control Incentives still available*

*Systems becoming more valuable than Widgets*

*HVAC energy savings much greater than lighting incentives*

*Flex Load (Demand Response) becoming very important*





# *What is the Project?*

## Physical characteristics

- Mid-size commercial facility (25,000 ft<sup>2</sup>)
  - 10,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of offices, conference rooms, lunch/break room
  - 15,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of warehouse and production space
- Building vintage: 2001

## Project duration:

- Installation and commissioning Q3 2024
- Data gathering began late Q4 2024



## *Retrofit Project Details: HVAC Integration*

- Hardwired thermostats replaced with wireless mesh-enabled models and connected to edge gateway
- Created 5 HVAC zones
  - RTU #1: Accounting, Administration, Sales, Open Plan East, Open Plan West, OPEE, PC, Library
  - RTU #2: Executive 31, Executive #2, Executive #3, Conference Room
  - RTU #3: Kitchen, Dining, Lounge, Restrooms
  - RTU #4 & 5: Not participating in demonstration



# NEEA Pilot Project

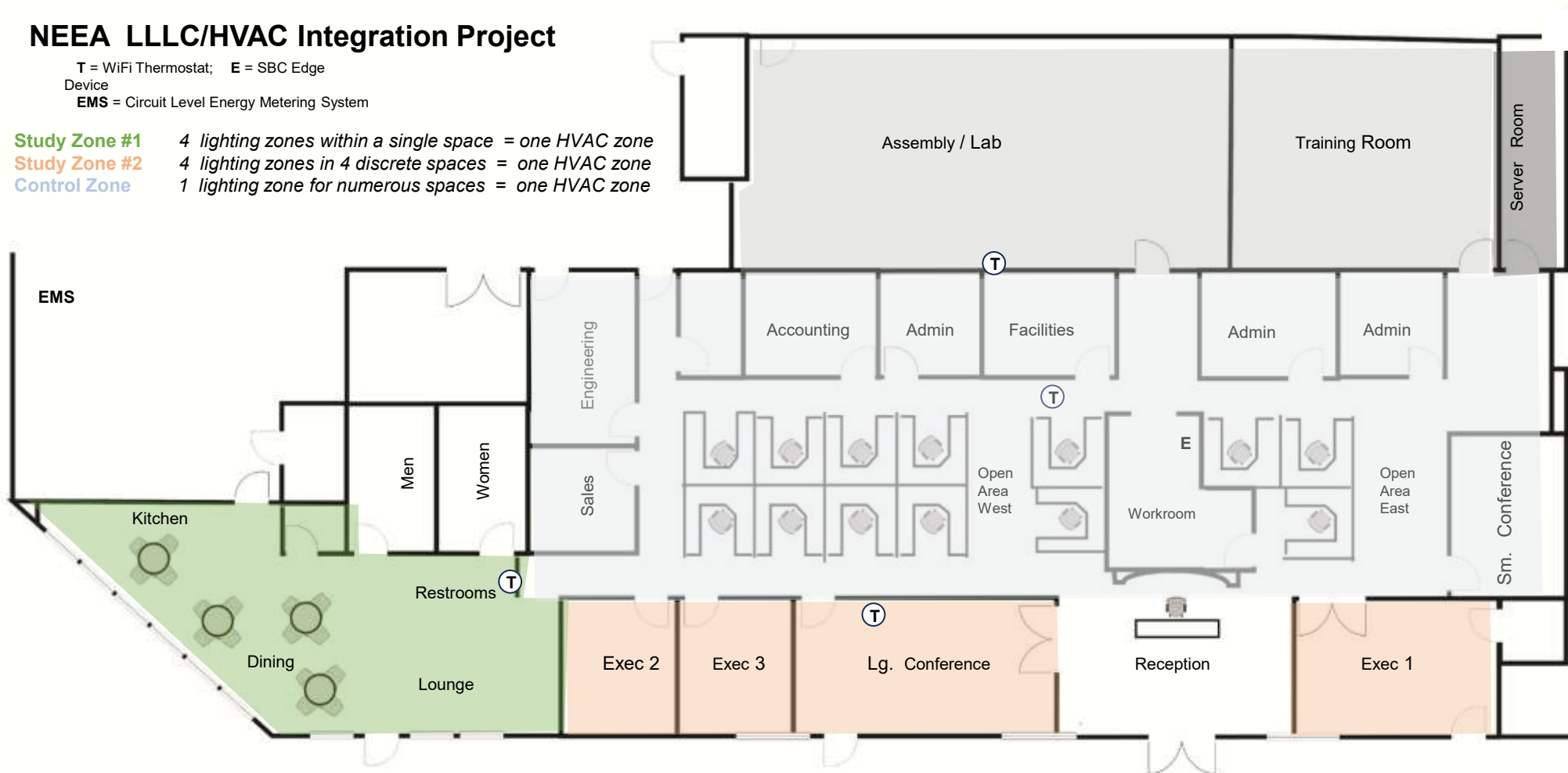
## NEEA LLLC/HVAC Integration Project

T = WiFi Thermostat; E = SBC Edge Device

Device

EMS = Circuit Level Energy Metering System

- Study Zone #1** 4 lighting zones within a single space = one HVAC zone
- Study Zone #2** 4 lighting zones in 4 discrete spaces = one HVAC zone
- Control Zone** 1 lighting zone for numerous spaces = one HVAC zone







# Dashboard View

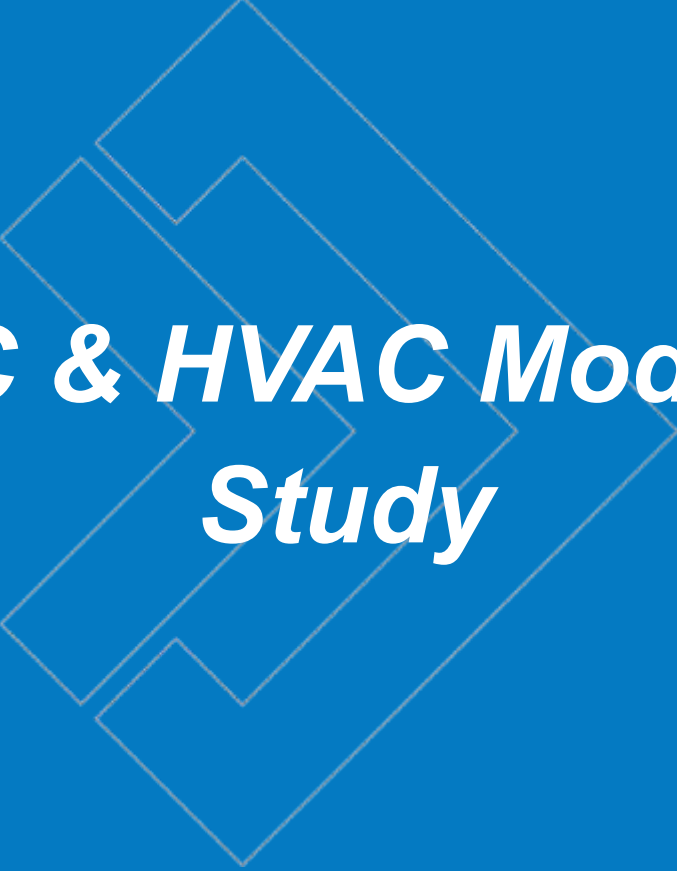
Exec Offices 4 zones

Last 6 Hours < Today > Today 🔍 01:59 PM

● Vacant - 11% ● 25 - 50% ● 50 - 33% ● 75 - 6%

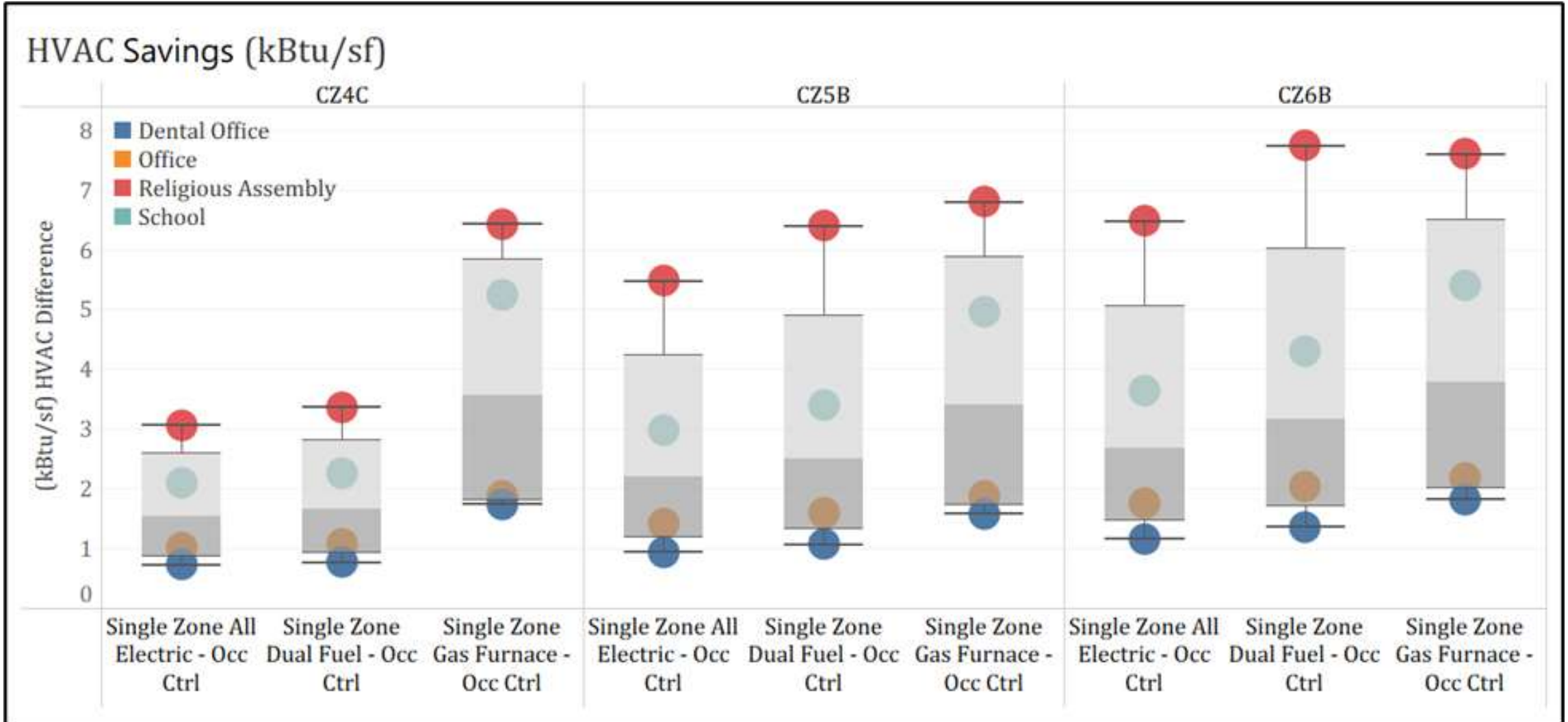
🏠 Thermostat Zone ⬛ Executive-#2 ⬛ Executive-#1 ⬛ Main-Conference ⬛ Executive-#3 🔥 Heating Periods ❄️ Cooling Periods





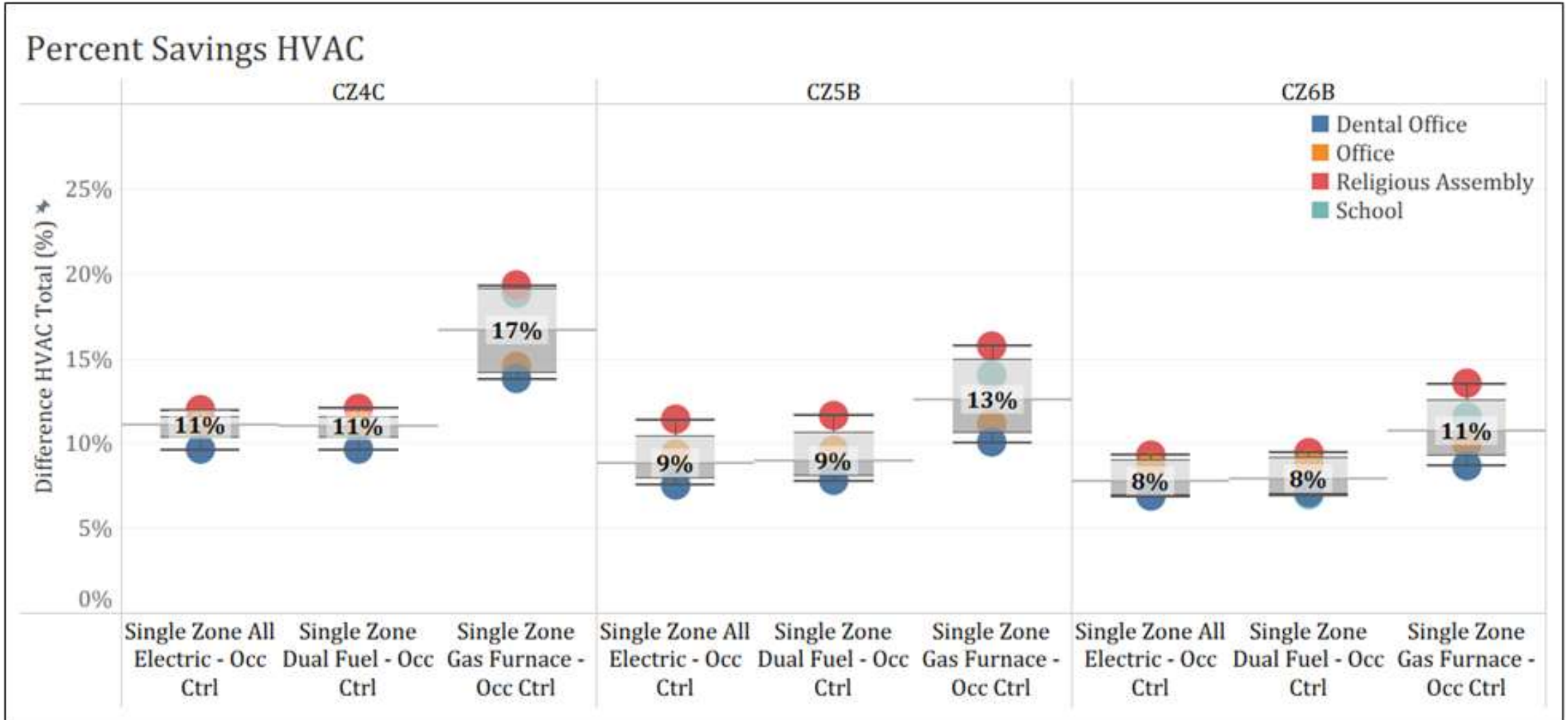
# ***LLLC & HVAC Modeling Study***

# LLC & HVAC Modeling



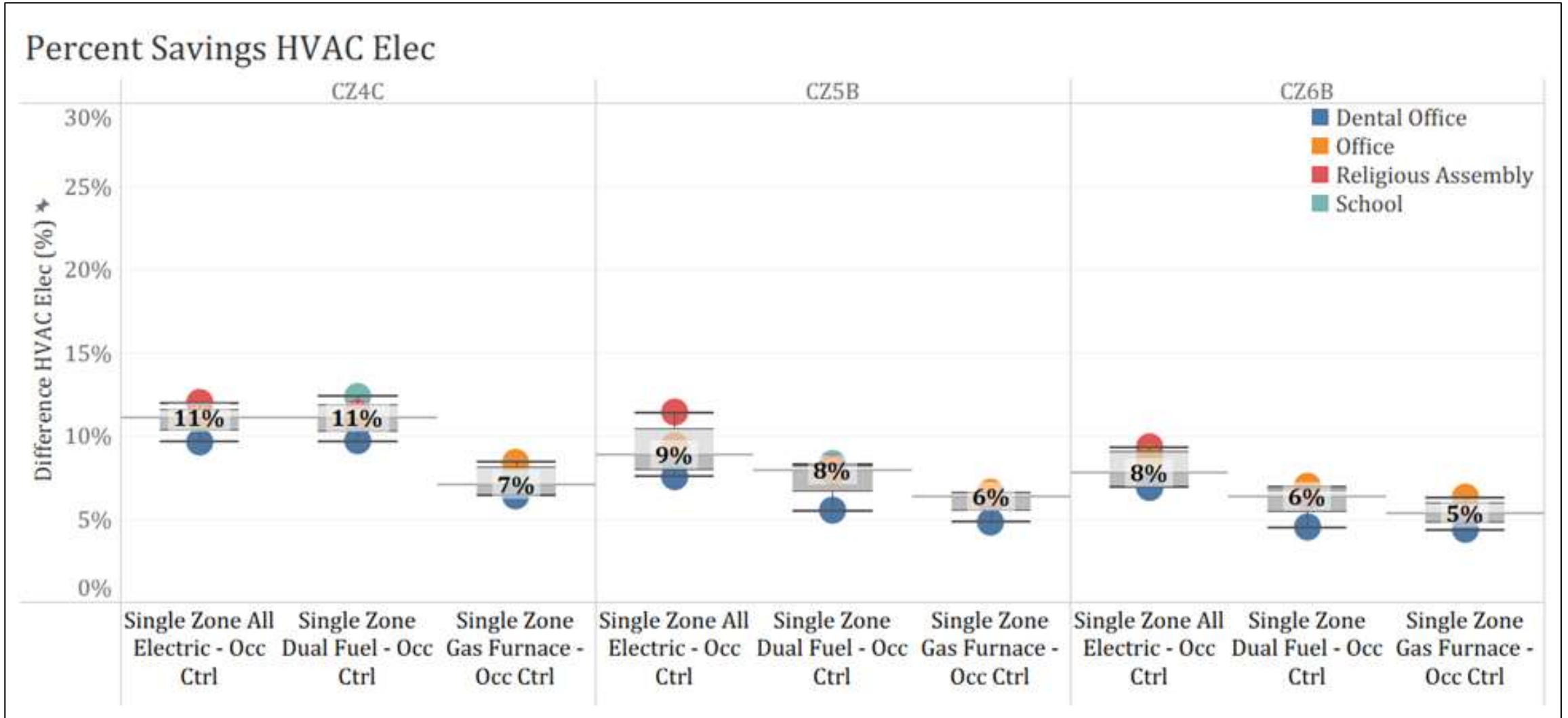


# Modeled Total HVAC Saving Percentages





# Modeled Electric Saving Percentages



# Thank You!

## Chris Wolgamott

Principal Product Manager

[cwolgamott@neea.org](mailto:cwolgamott@neea.org)

