



Retail Electricity Prices in the US: Trends and Potential Drivers

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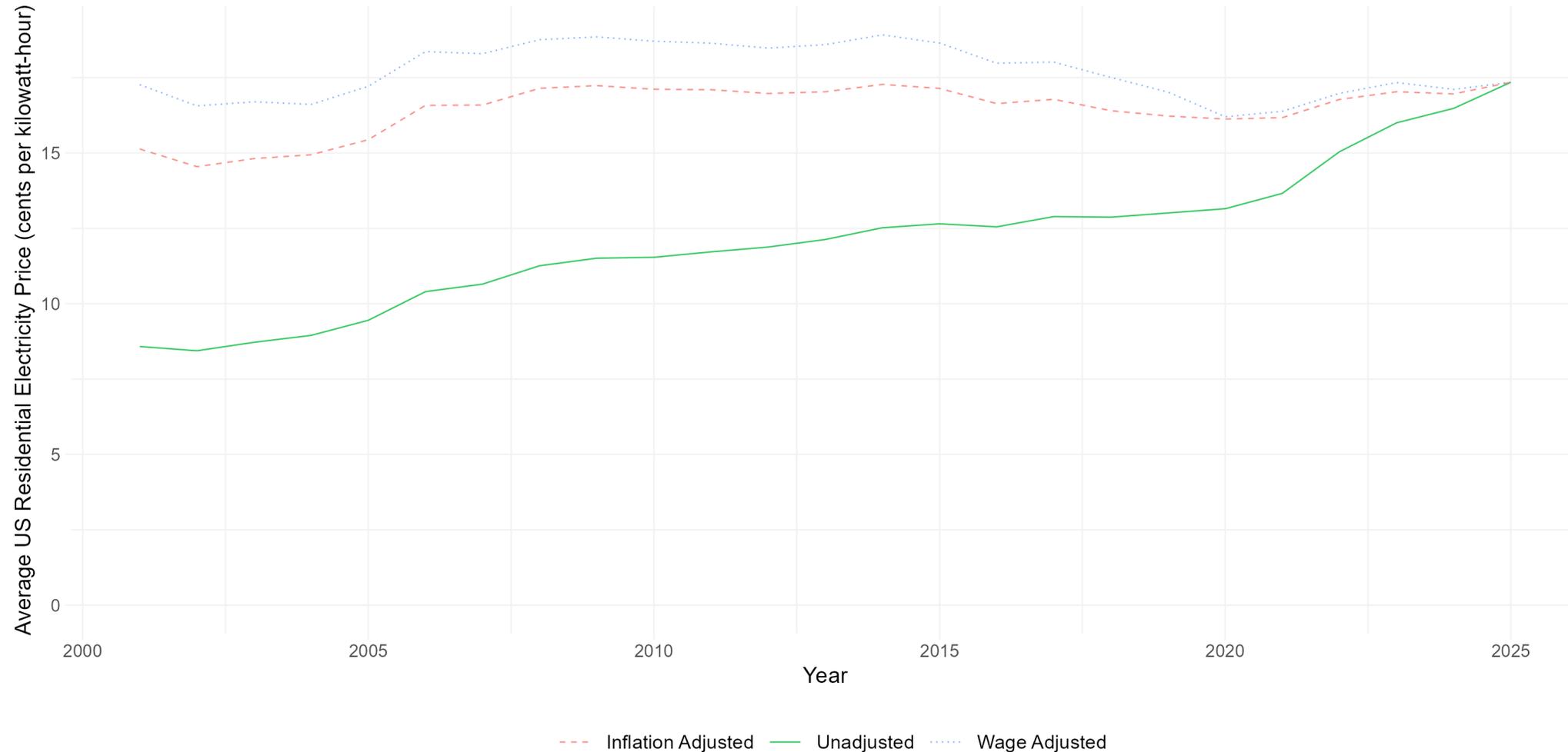
Fellow, Resources For the Future

February, 2026



Retail electricity prices have risen since 2021

Average US Residential Electricity Prices, 2001–2025

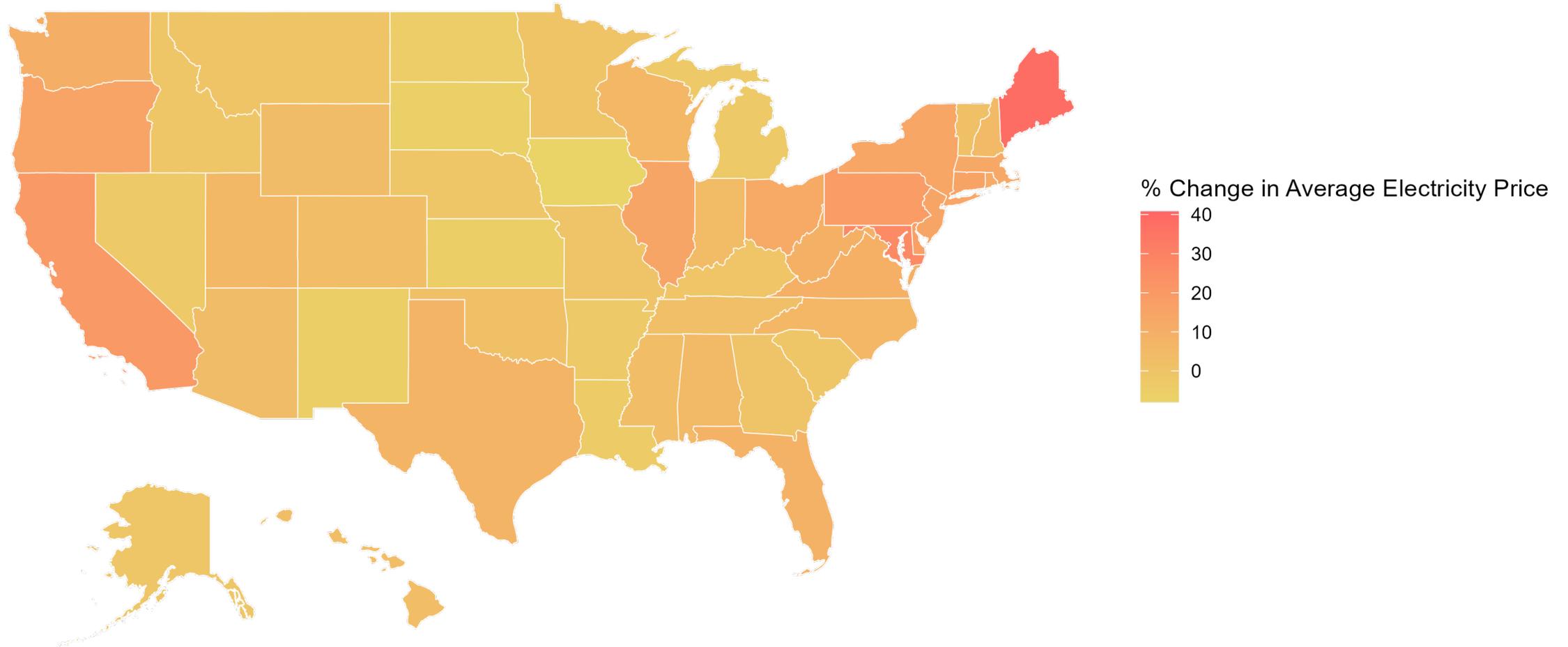


Source: US Energy Information Administration (EIA)



The rise in retail prices varies across the US

Percent Change in Inflation-Adjusted Residential Electricity Prices,
2021–2025

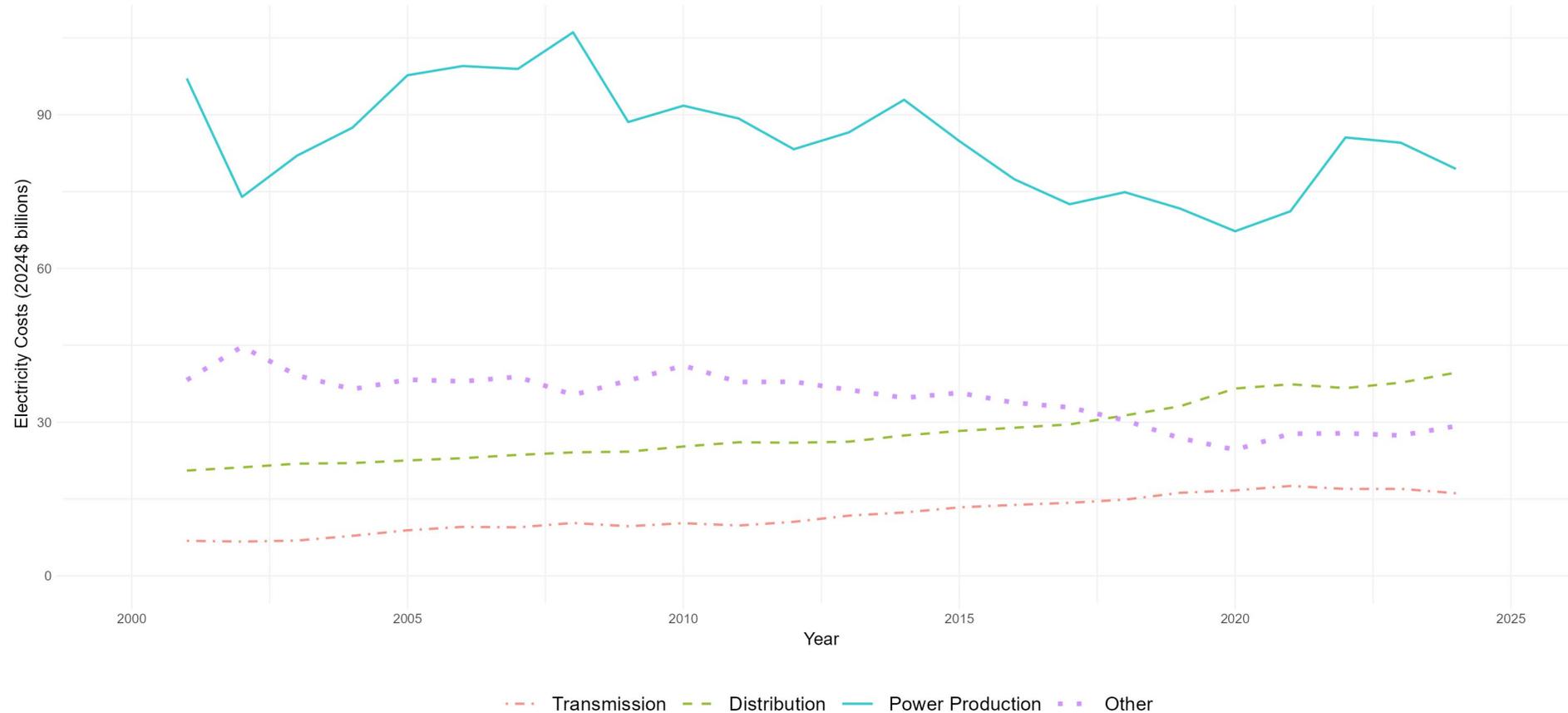


Source: US Energy Information Administration (EIA)



In states where prices are rising, how have costs varied over time?

Electricity Costs by Category for 14 US States with the Highest Recent Price Increases and Washington, DC

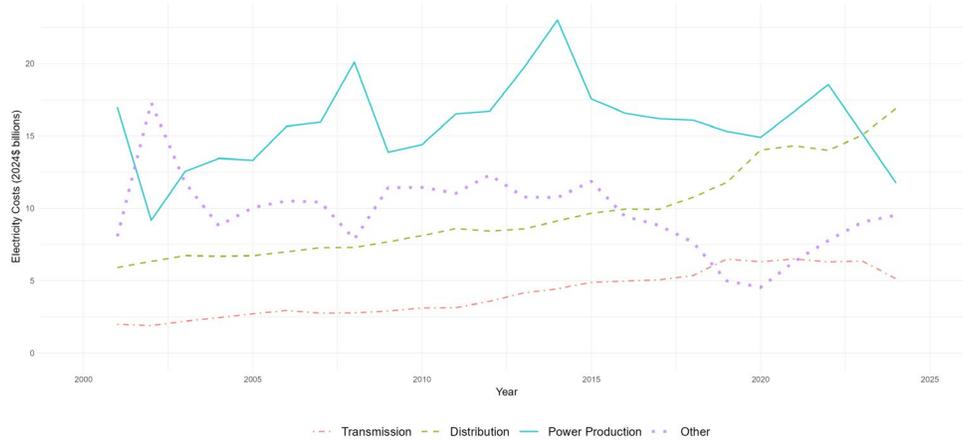


Source: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), downloaded via The Public Utility Data Liberation Project (PUDL)

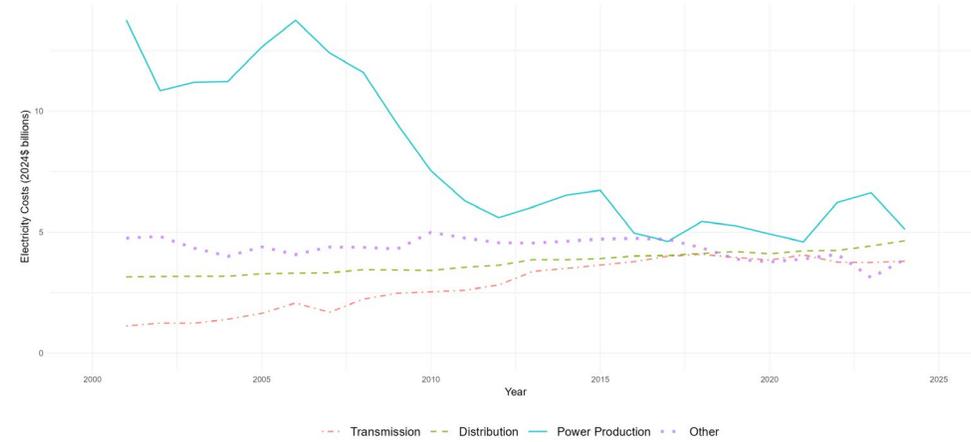


Increases in electricity costs vary across categories

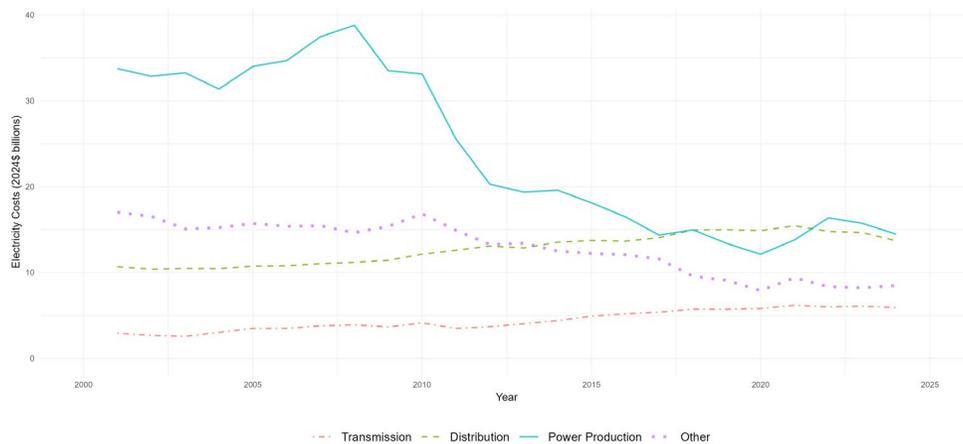
Electricity Costs by Category - California



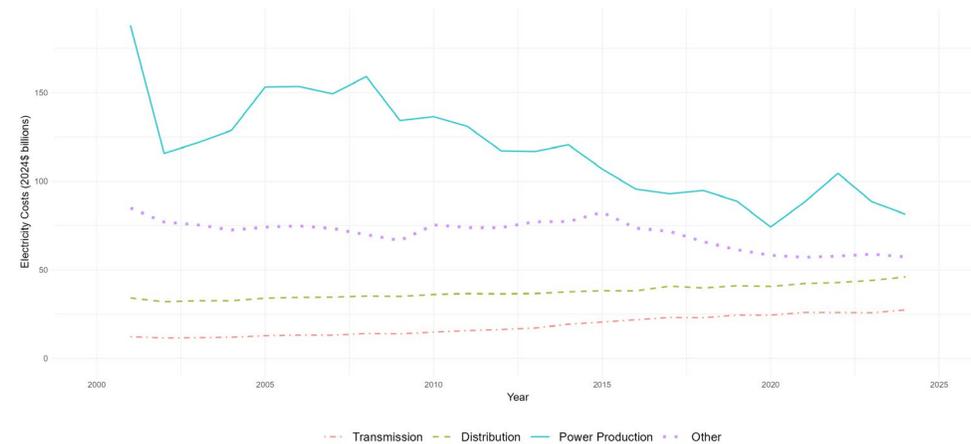
Electricity Costs by Category - Northeast



Electricity Costs by Category - Mid-Atlantic



Electricity Costs by Category - Rest of US

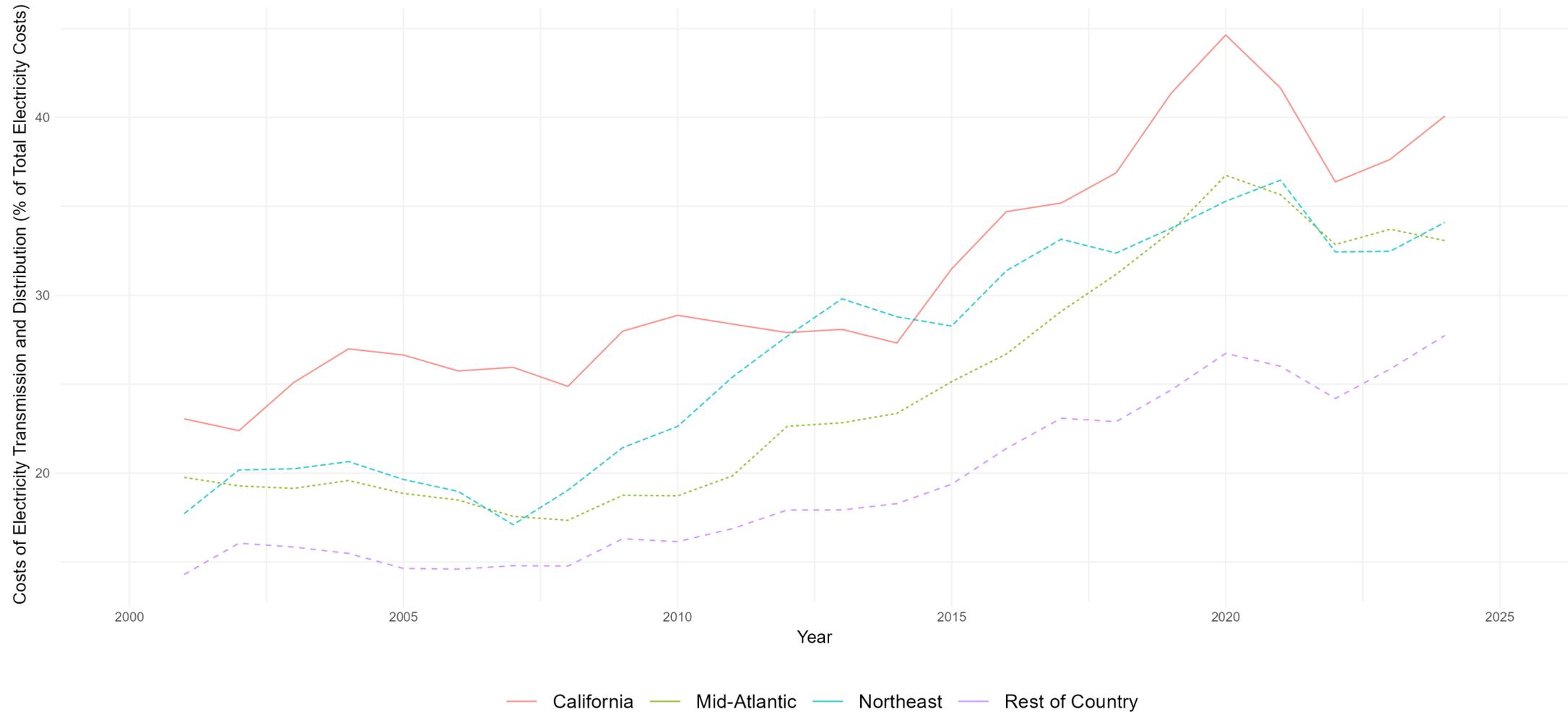


Source: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), downloaded via The Public Utility Data Liberation Project (PUDL)



Transmission and costs are rising in the long-term

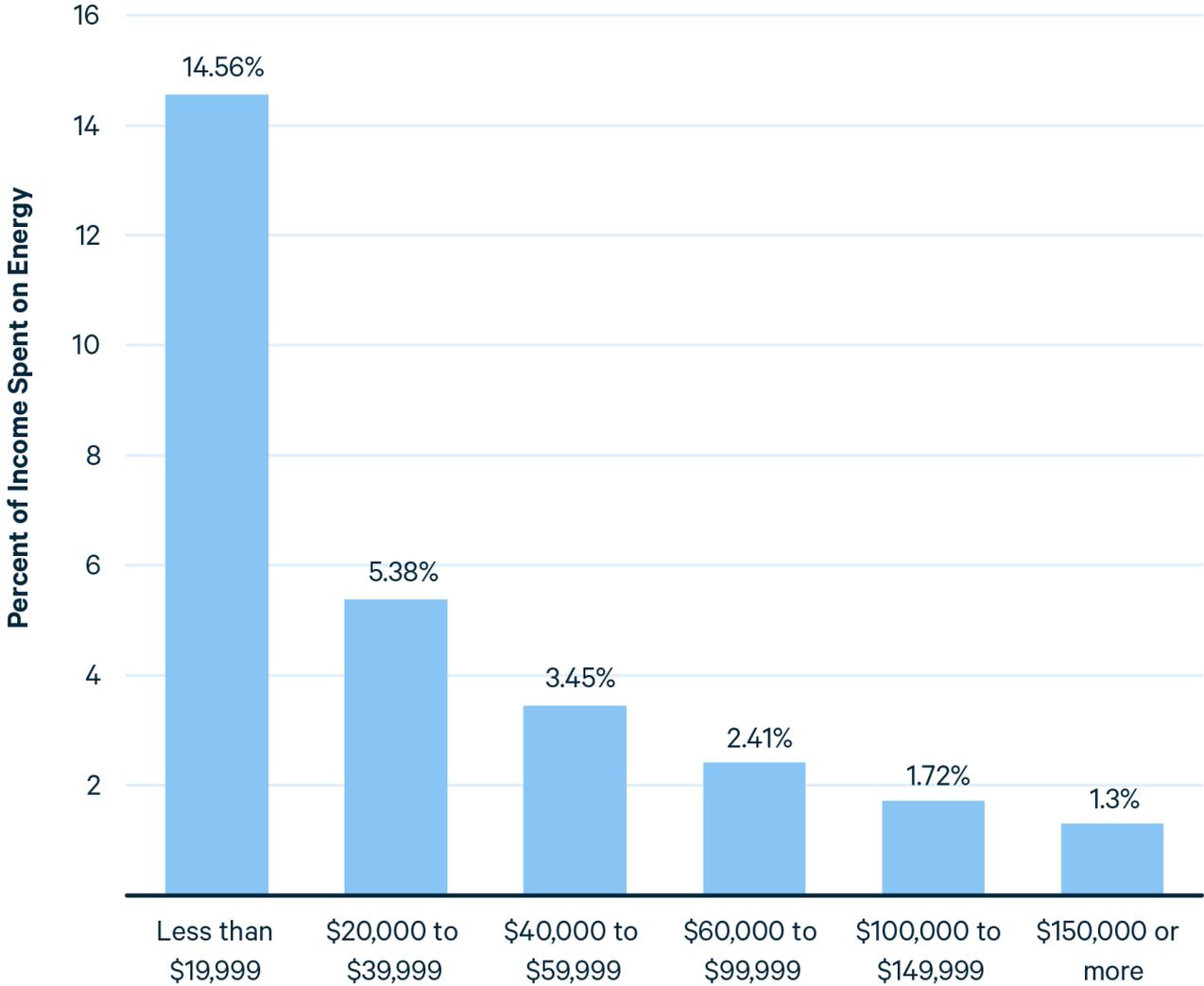
Transmission and Distribution Costs as a Percentage of Total Electricity Costs by Region



Source: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), downloaded via The Public Utility Data Liberation Project (PUDL)



Energy price increases are most impactful for low-income households



Source: 2020 EIA RECS
Percentage is calculated using the midpoint of the income range, with \$200,000 used for the final income category.





Thank you.

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