



**Energy Savings from Networked  
Lighting Control (NLC) Systems  
With and Without LLLC  
Capabilities**

10/15/2020

# Speakers



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NEEA

# Agenda

- Introduction
- Methodology and Results
- Findings and Recommendations
- Efficiency Programs' Use of this Data
- Q&A

# Webinar Logistics

- All attendees on mute
- Ask questions as we go using Question feature of webinar
- If you experience any technical issues, use Chat feature to let us know
- Presentation and recorded webinar will be posted to the DLC website

# Thank you to Data Contributors



UNIVERSITY  
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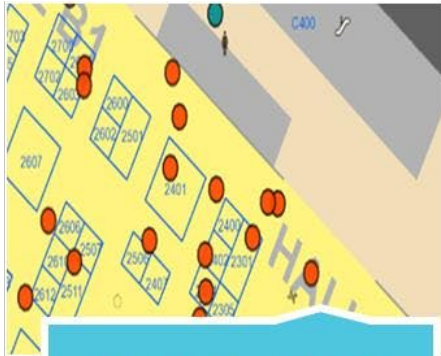
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President



# Introduction



# Networked Lighting Controls Provide Significant Additional Energy Savings and Non-Energy Benefits



**Asset Tracking**



**Space Utilization**



**Indoor Positioning**



**Diagnose and Report**



**Conference Room Scheduling**



**Security**

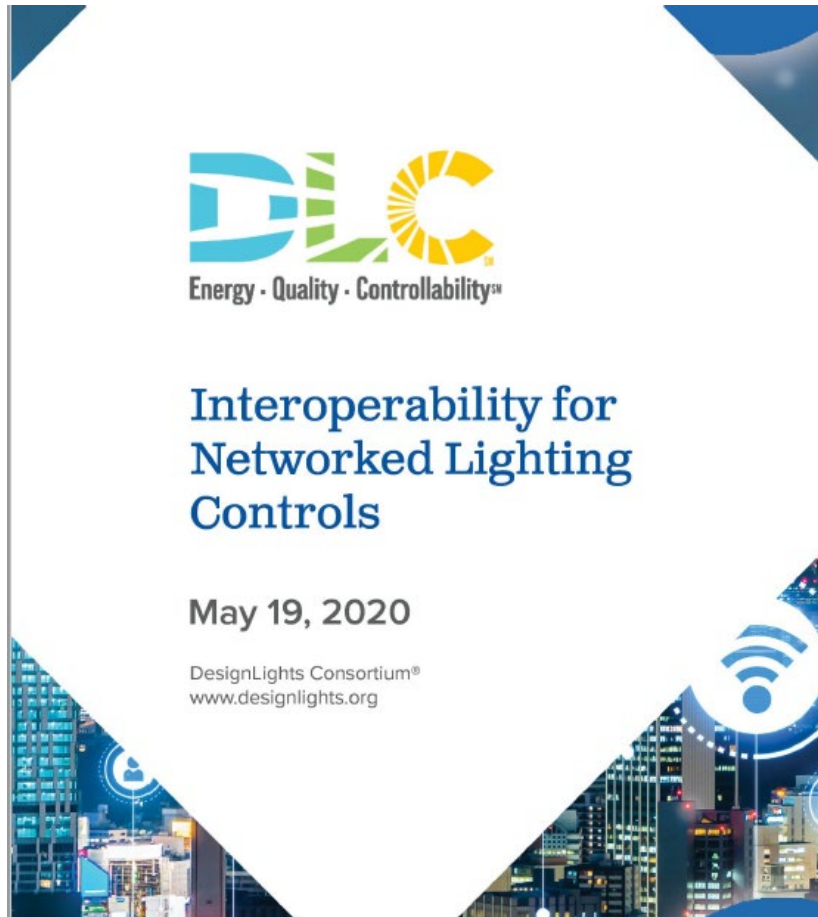


**Energy Tracking**



**Integrate with BMS/HVAC**

# DLC Interoperability Report published in May 2020

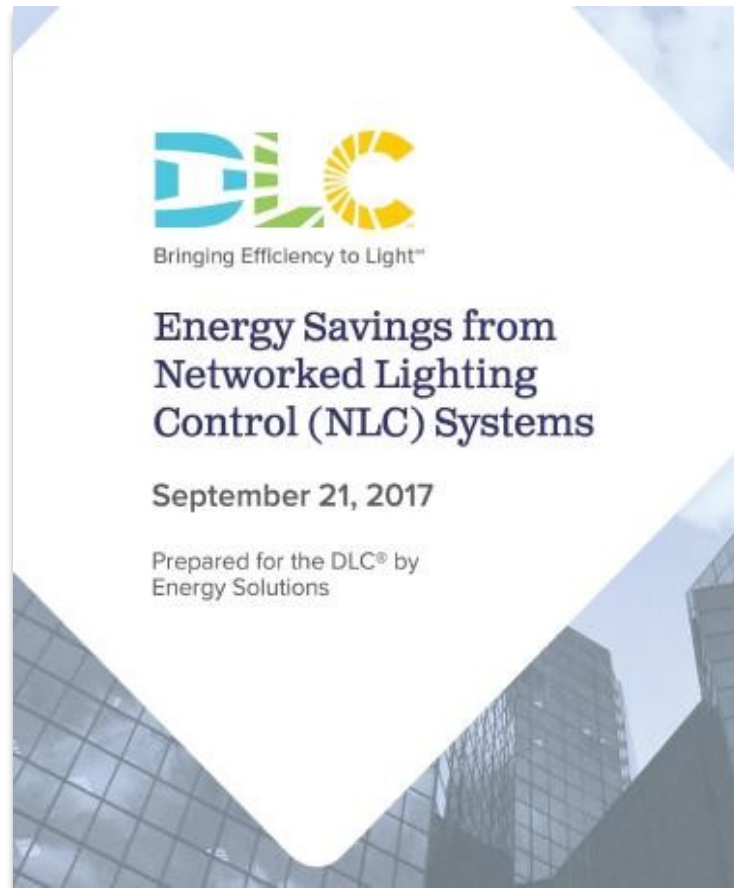


- Identified three critical use cases of NLCs to accelerate market adoption:
  - Energy Monitoring
  - Demand Response
  - External Systems Integration
- Capture the untapped energy savings

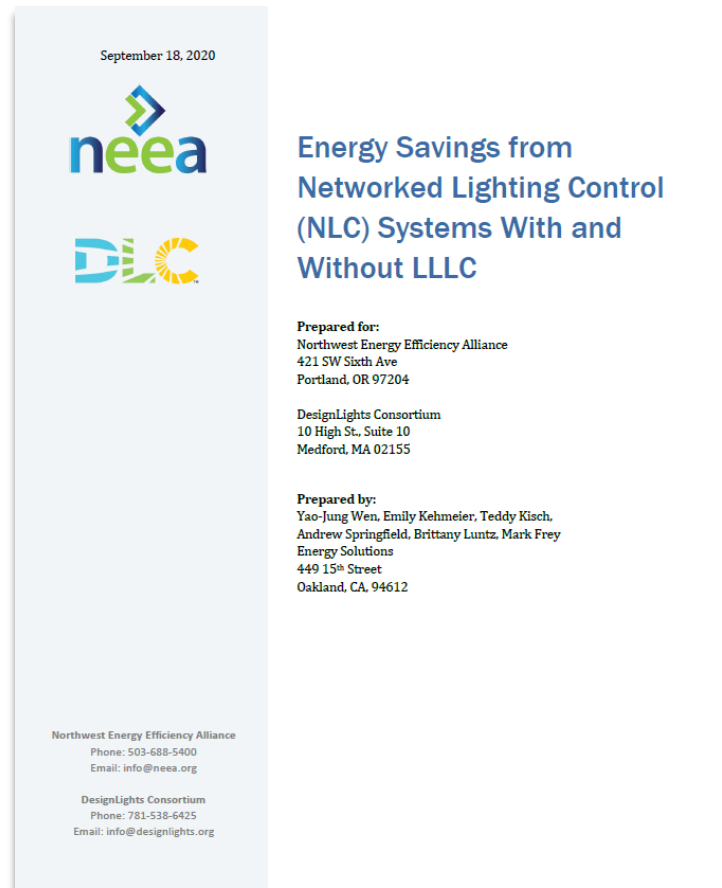


# This Report Builds upon the 2017 NLC Savings Study

2017



2020



- Augmented sample size (114 to 194)
- Increased manufacturer diversity (5 to 12)
- Added 1 building type (Healthcare)
- Analyzed the effect of high-end trim vs other control strategies
- Analyzed the effect of LLLC



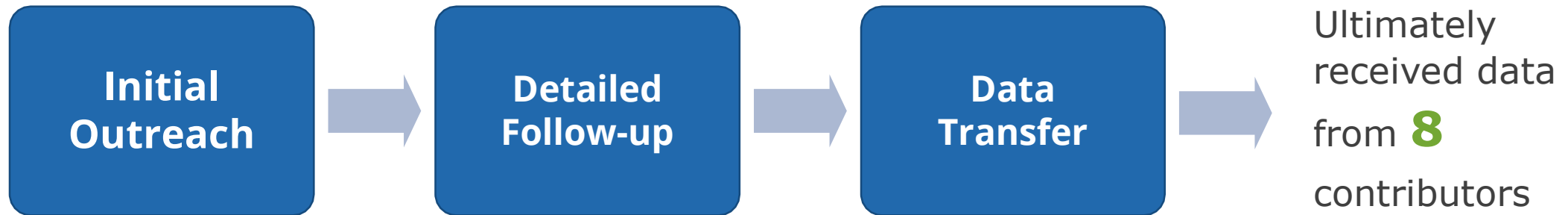
# Methodology & Results



# Methodology: Outreach & Data Collection

# Outreach and Data Collection

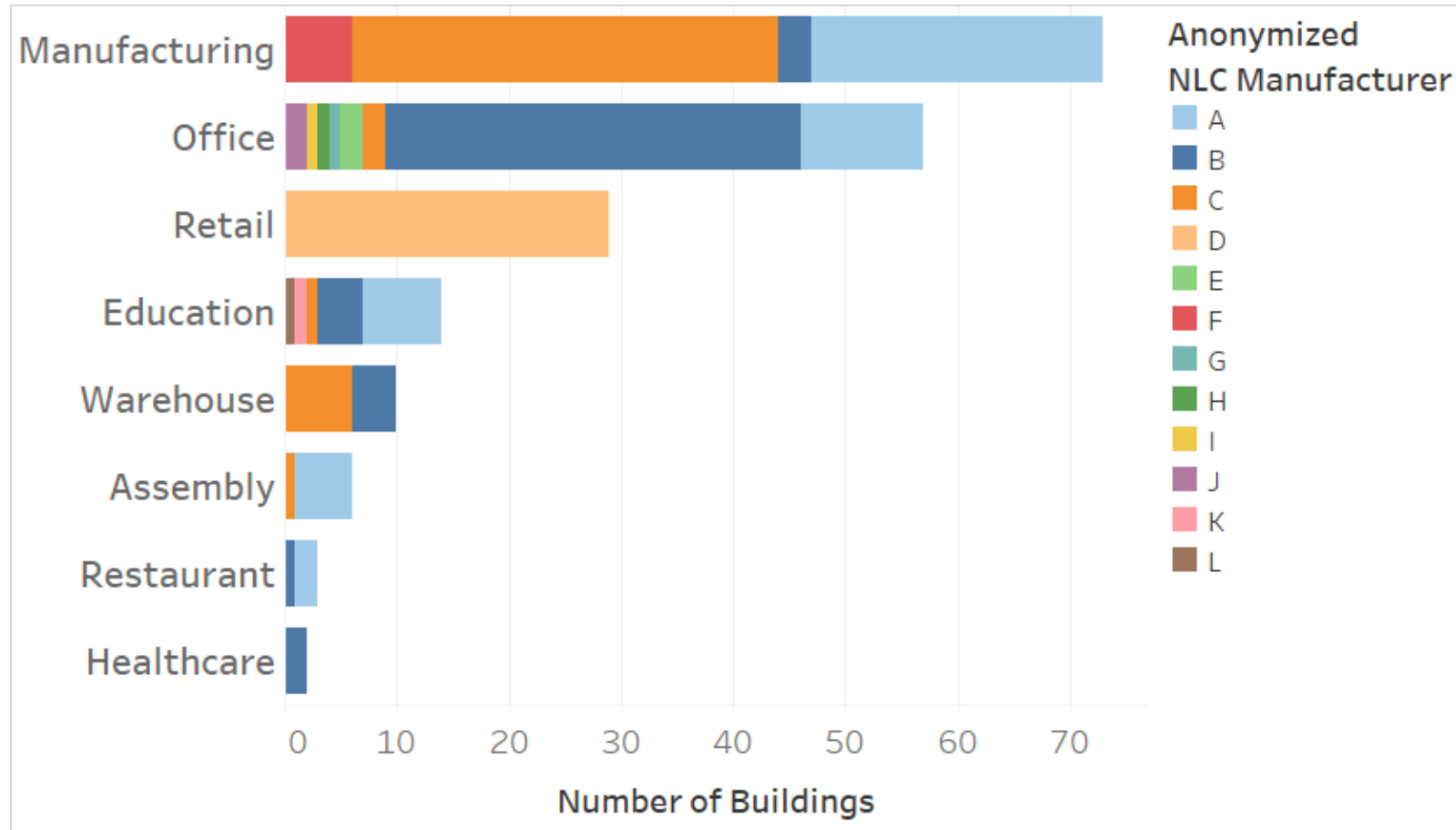
Conducted outreach to 38 organizations – manufacturers, utilities, research orgs, and end customers



Greatest challenges:

- Lack of access to data
- Lack of data

# Summary of Data Collected

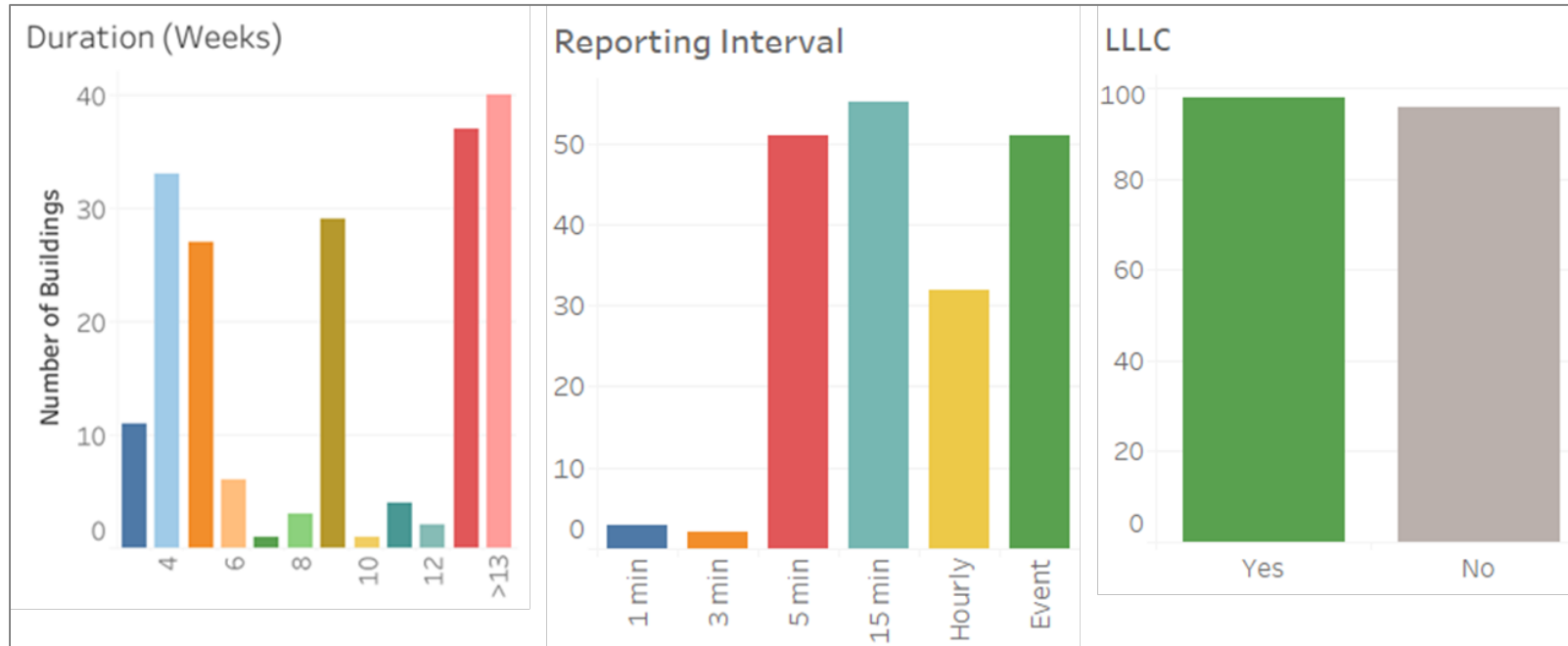


**194** buildings

**8** building types

**12** manufacturers

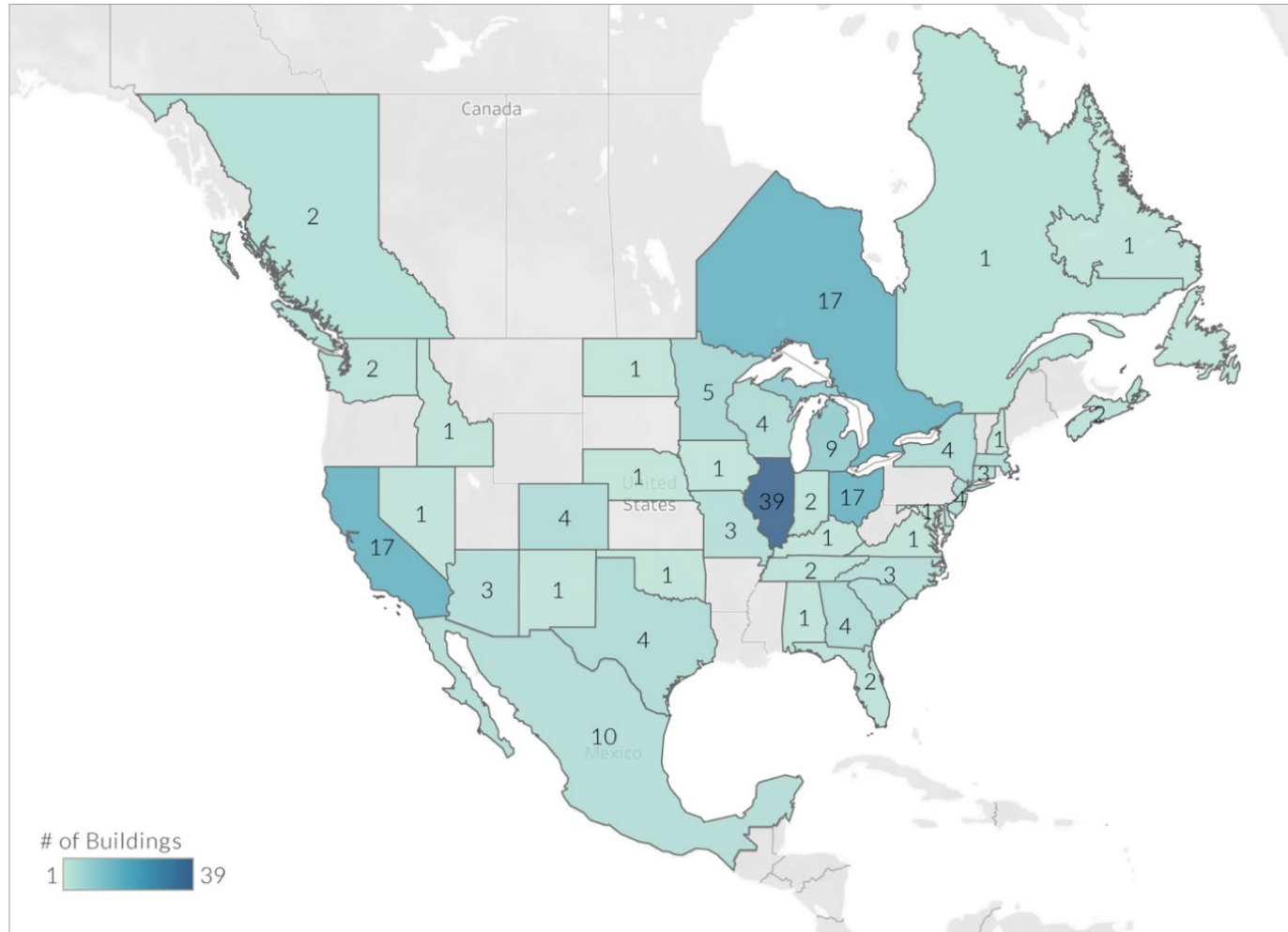
# Summary of Data Attributes



**9** weeks average reporting duration

**50/50** spread between NLCs with and without LLLC

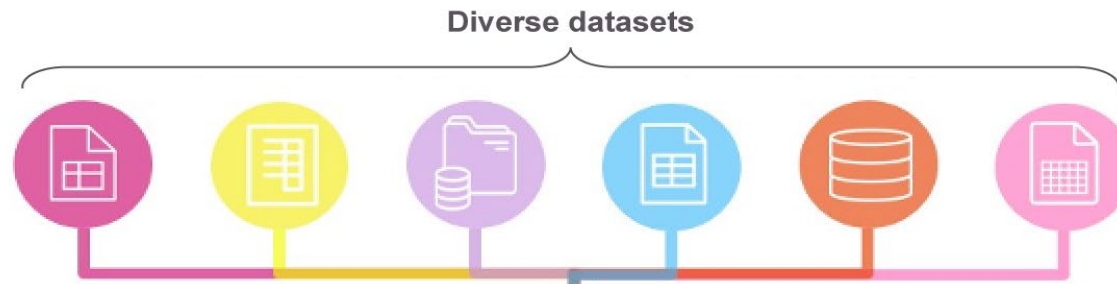
# Geographic Distribution of Datasets



- 35** U.S. states
- 5** Canadian provinces
- &** Mexico

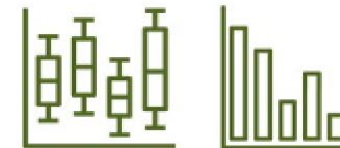
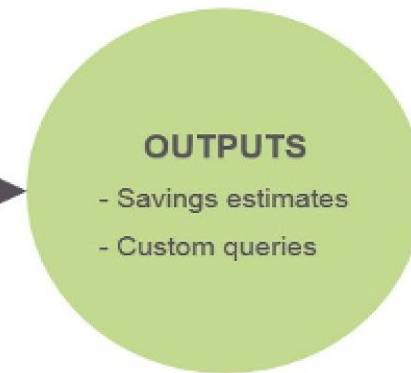


# Data Normalization and Database Architecture



Standardize, map to database fields, import

DATABASE			
	Fixture-level	Zone-level	Building-level
<b>Time Series Data</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Average power</li> <li>- Dimming level</li> <li>- Claimed savings</li> <li>...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Average power</li> <li>- Dimming level</li> <li>- Claimed savings</li> <li>- Inferred baseline</li> <li>...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Average power</li> <li>- Claimed savings</li> <li>...</li> </ul>
<b>Static Attributes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fixture, zone, and building ID</li> <li>- Space type</li> <li>- Rated power</li> <li>...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Zone ID and building ID</li> <li>- Space type</li> <li>- Rated power</li> <li>...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Building ID</li> <li>- Location</li> <li>- Building type</li> <li>- Reported baseline</li> <li>...</li> </ul>



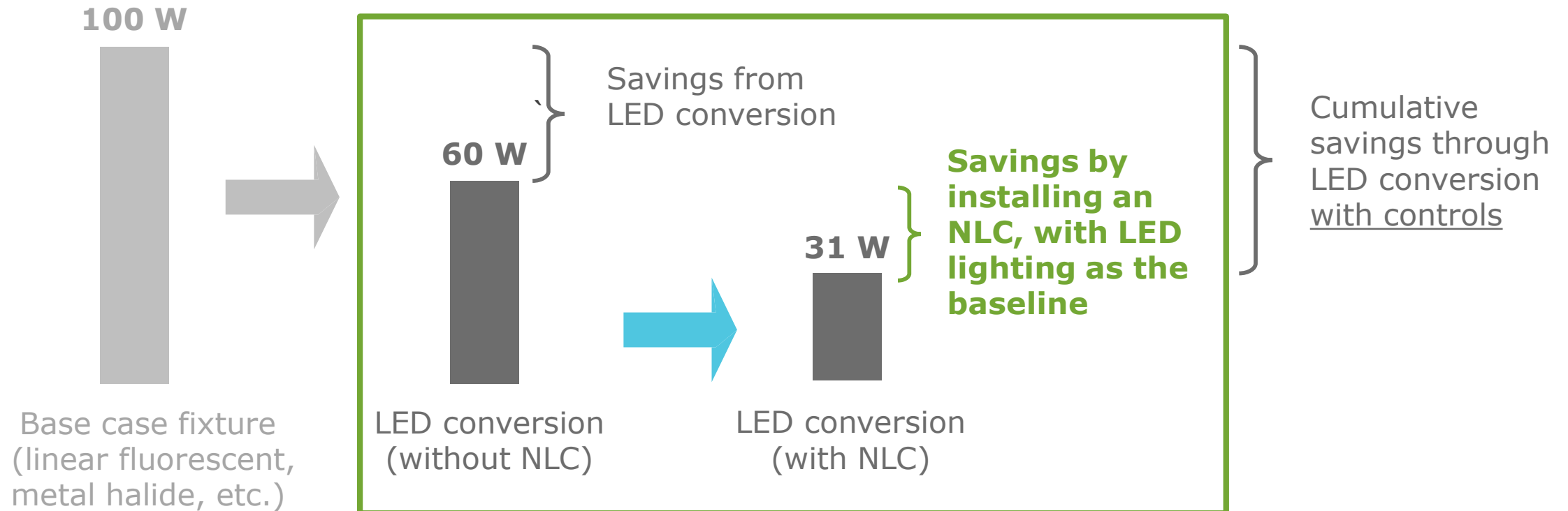
- 8** data contributors
- 9** unique data formats
- 18** sub-formats

**Methods:**

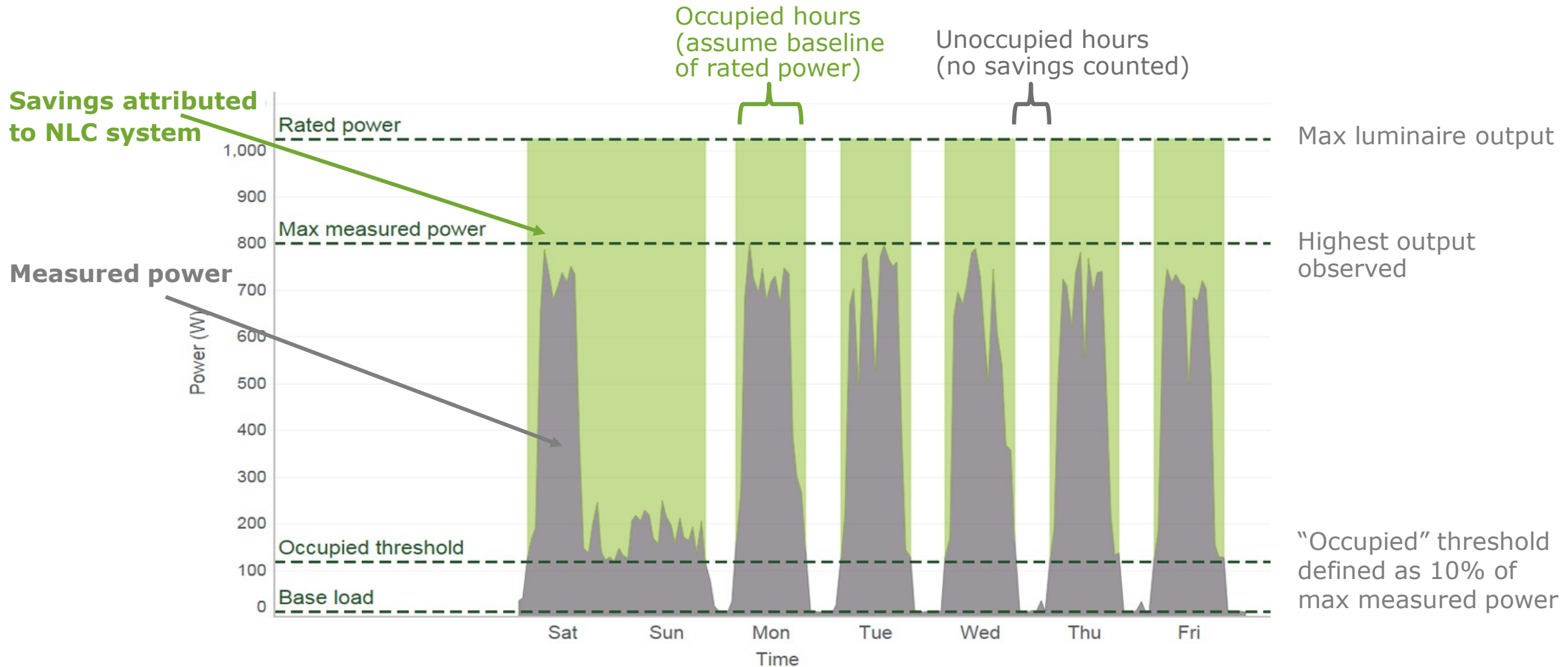
**Energy Savings Calculation**

# Baselining and Savings Calculation

The values in this report represent % savings of installing NLC system with existing LED Luminaires



# Inferred Baseline Methodology

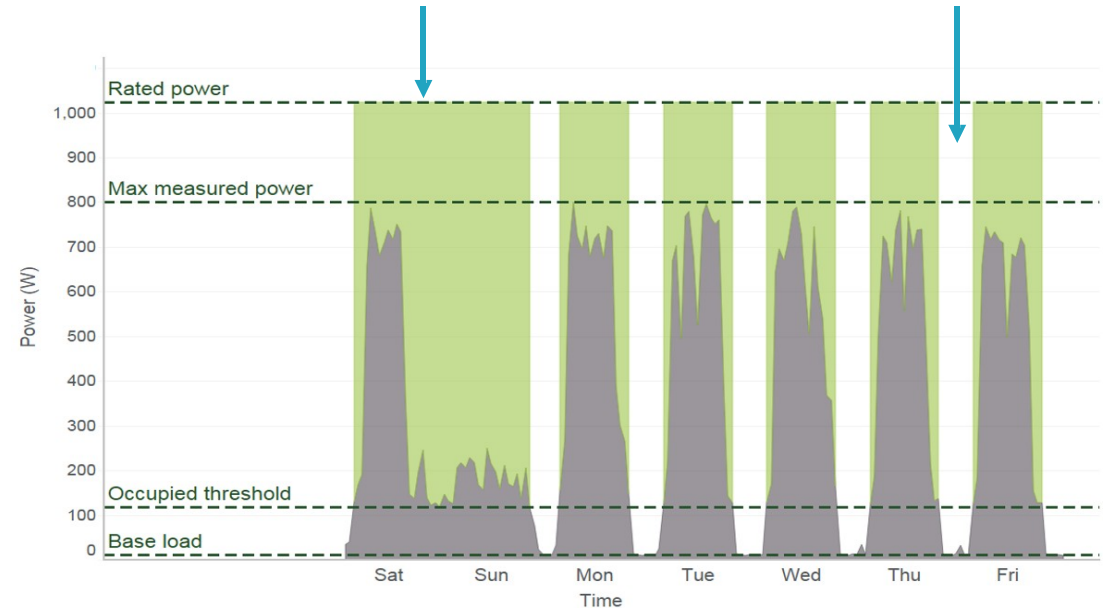


# Rationale and Caveats

- Consistent with the methodology used in the 2017 study
  - Unobtrusive and inexpensive
  - Scalable and reproducible
  - Project-specific and highly granular
  - Reviewed and endorsed by NLC and EM&V experts
- Caveats
  - Assumes 100% power during operating hours → does not account for pre-existing controls
  - Assumes basic scheduling control exists → Does not count any energy savings during non-occupied hours

Assumes baseline of 100% power during operating hours

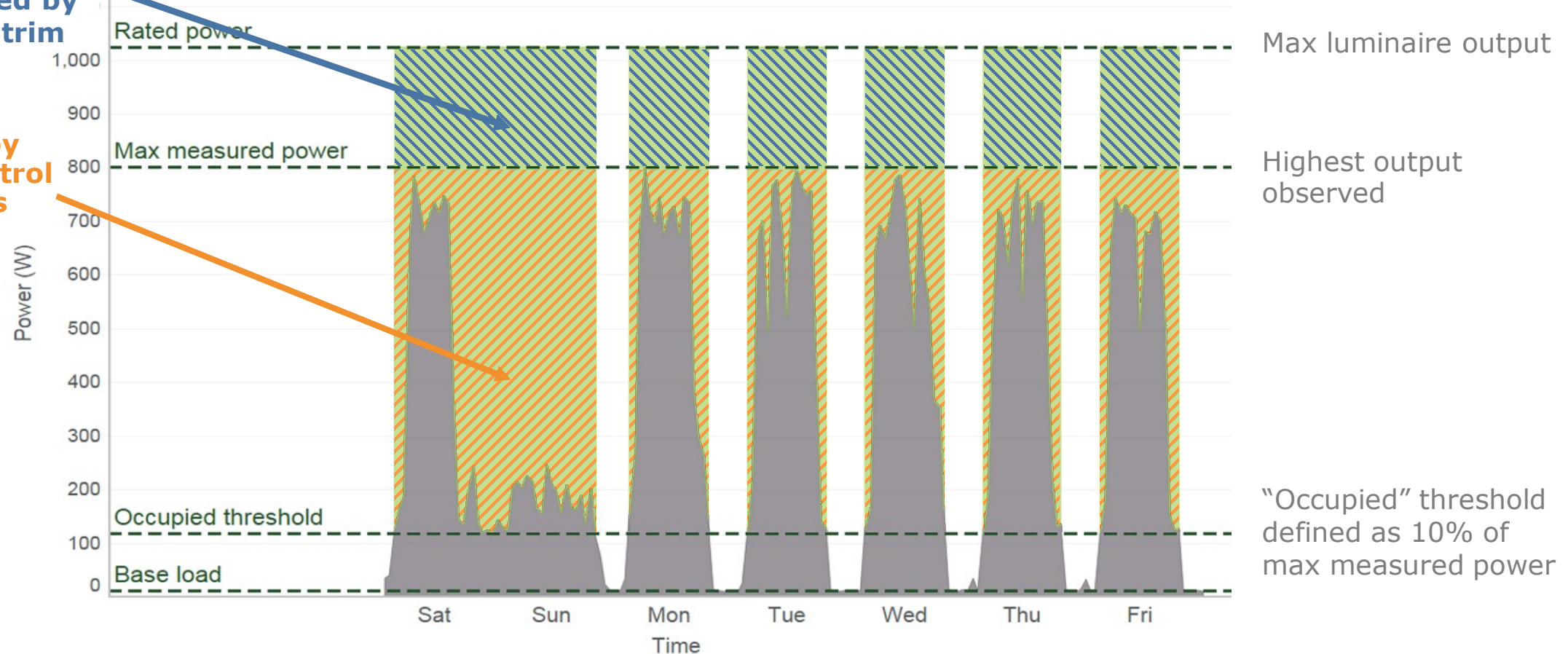
Does not count savings during non-occupied hours



# Savings Attribution

Savings contributed by high-end trim

Savings by other control strategies



Max luminaire output

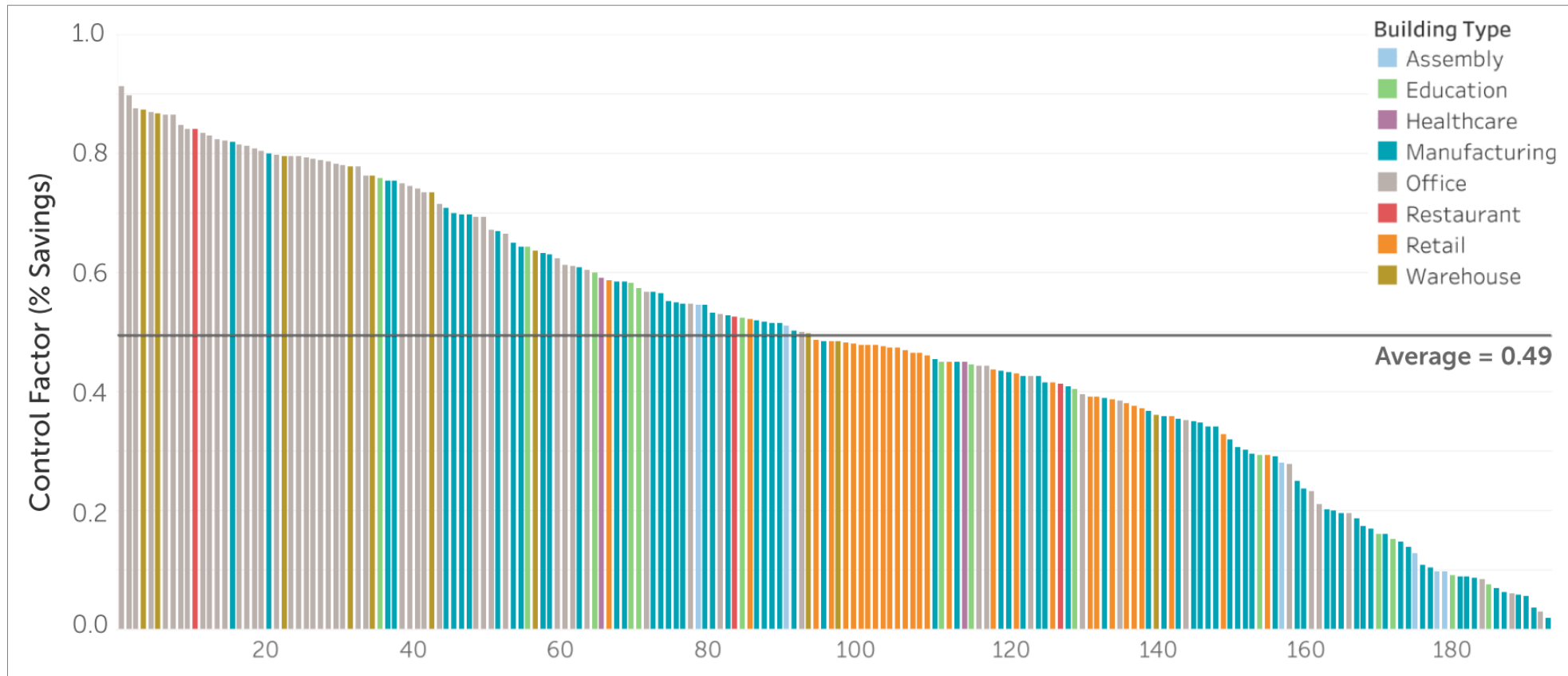
Highest output observed

"Occupied" threshold defined as 10% of max measured power

# Results

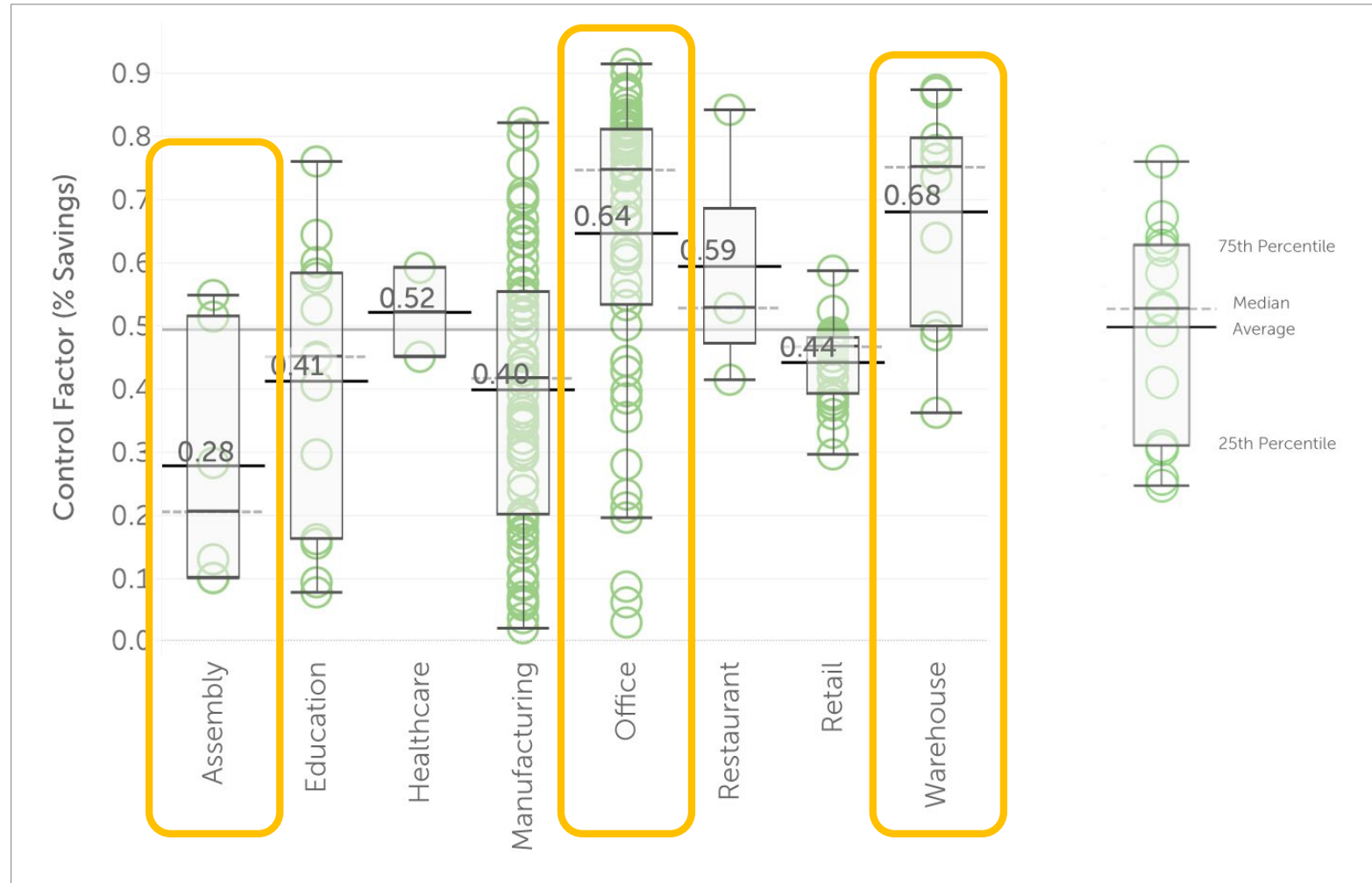
# Distribution of NLC Savings

Average control factor is 0.49 (49% savings)





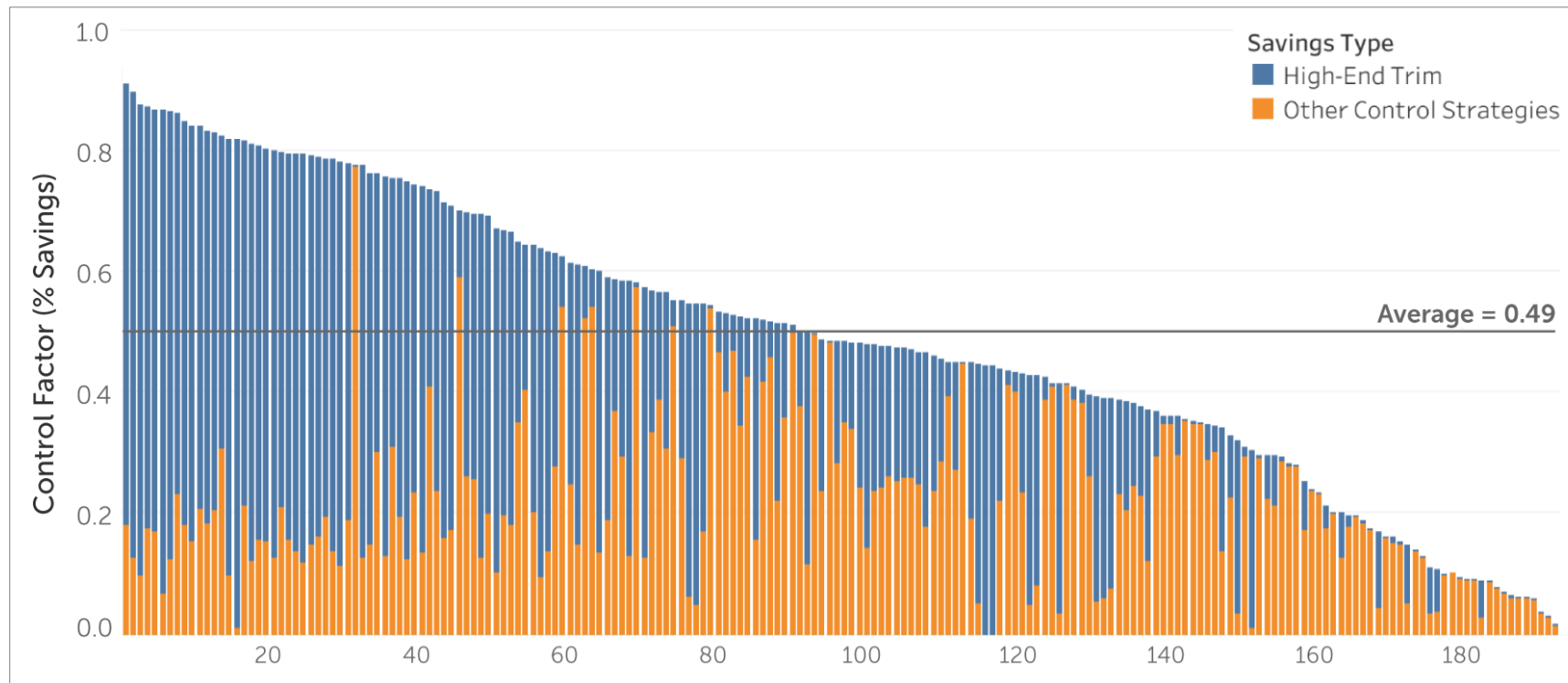
# Distribution of NLC savings across all buildings



# Control Strategies Savings Attribution

Average control factor attributed to **high-end trim** is **0.27**

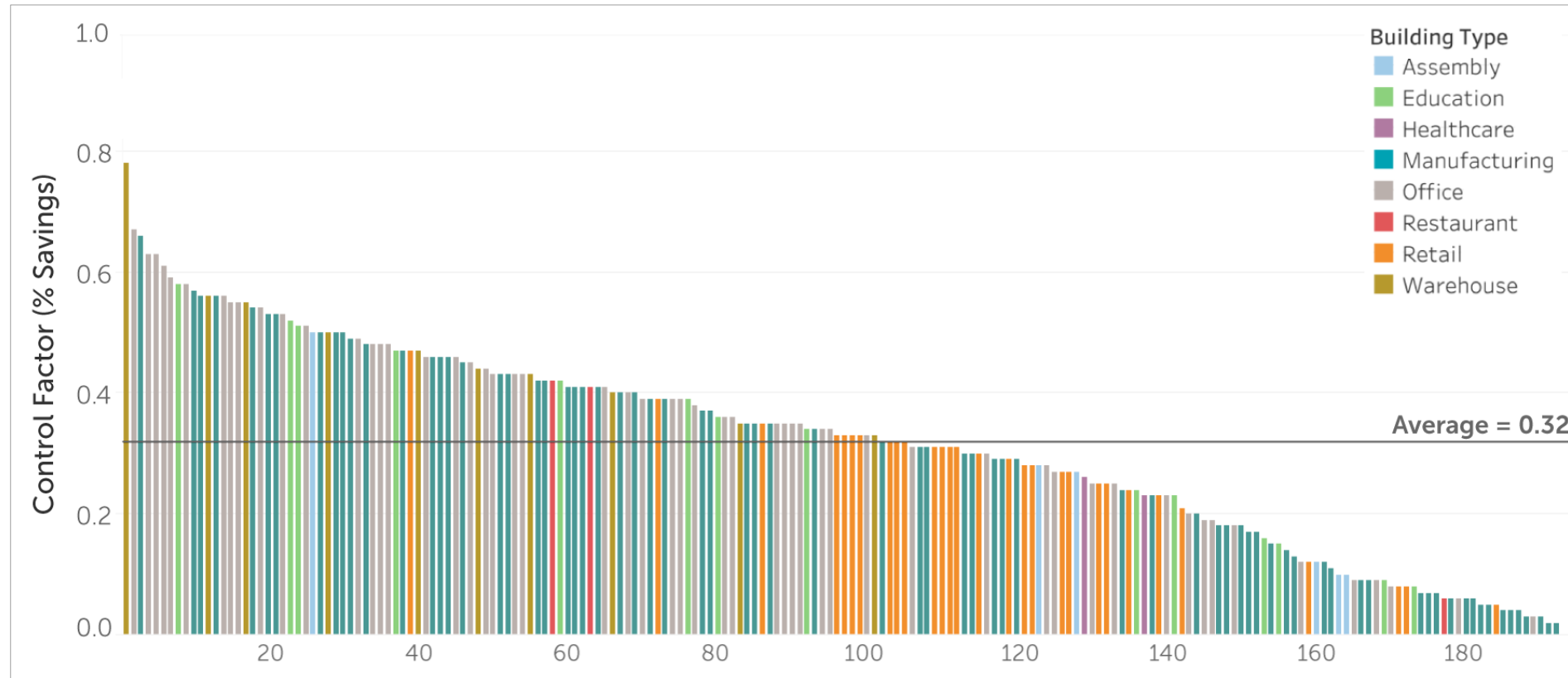
Average control factor attributed to **other controls combined** is **0.32\***



\* Control factors for other control strategies are in comparison to an inferred baseline with savings from high-end trim removed.

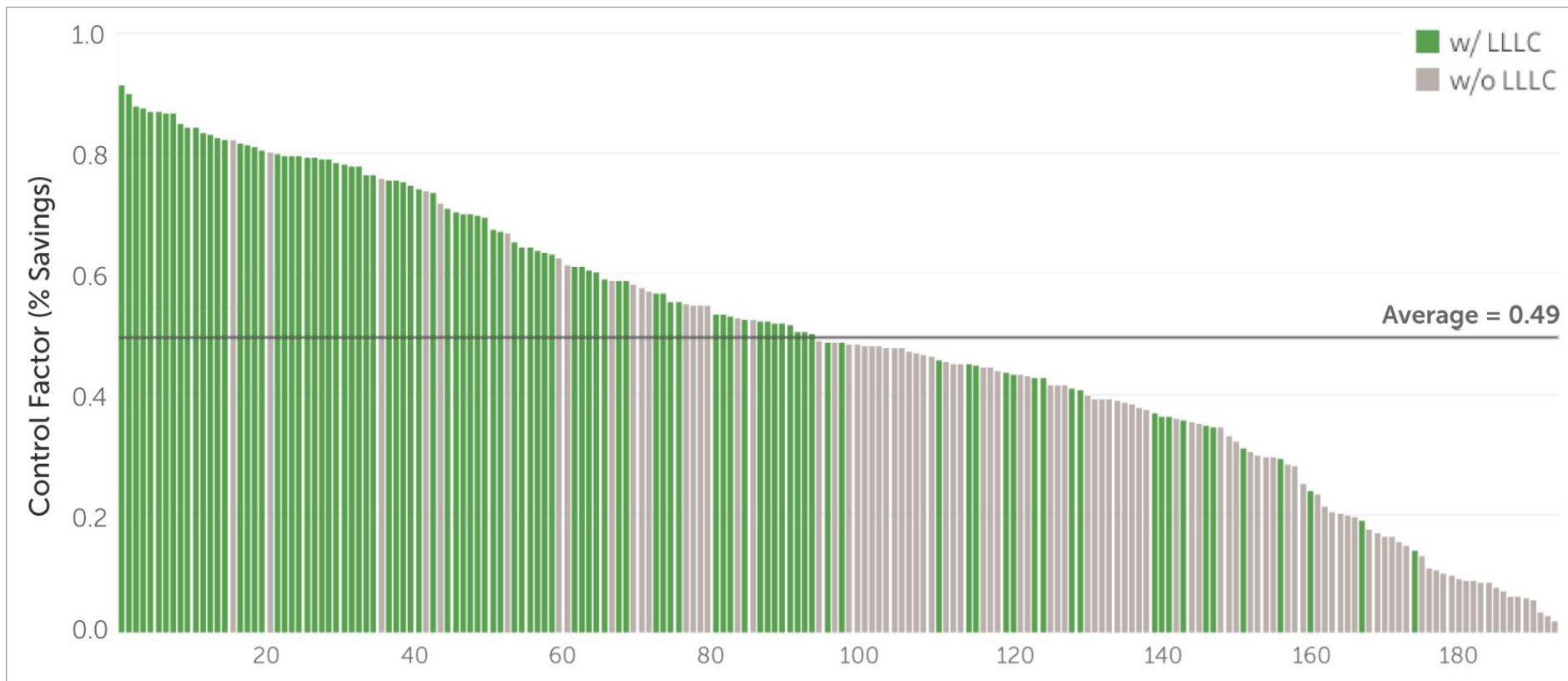
# Savings from Controls other than High-End Trim

Equal savings opportunities across all building types



# Savings for NLCs w/ LLLC

Average control factor for NLCs w/ LLLC is **0.63**



# Findings & Recommendations

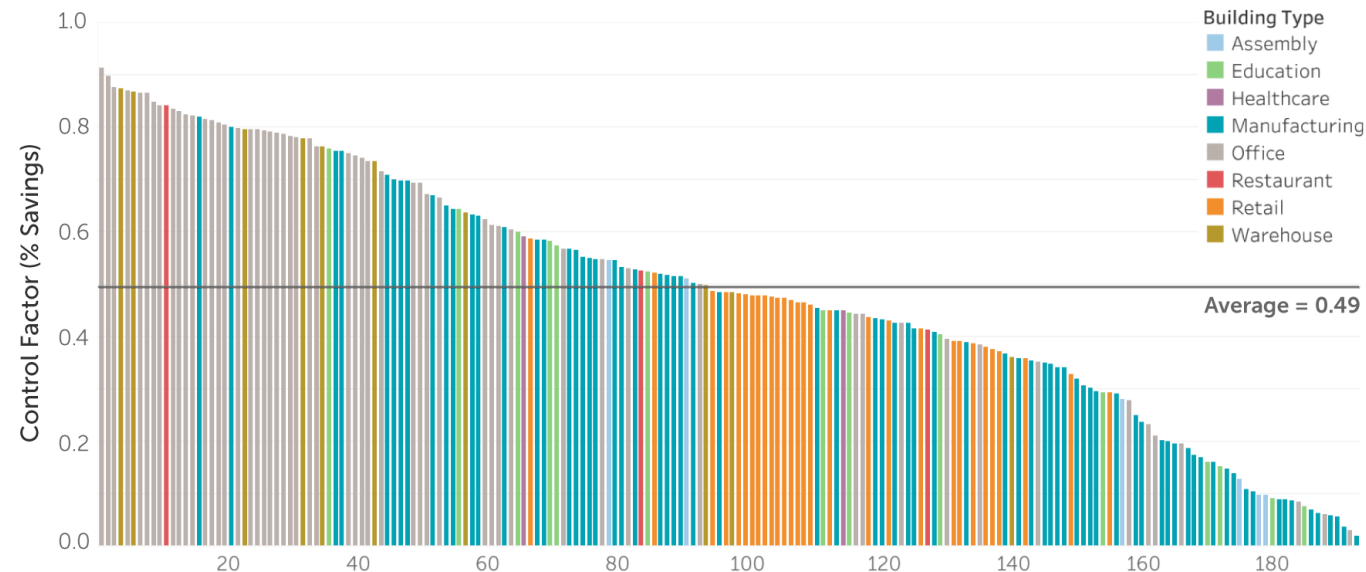


# Key Findings & Recommendations

## Finding #1: Average energy savings in this study was 49%.

- Site-specific variation is the largest driver of savings
  - Which control strategies are used and the settings for those strategies
  - Site characteristics, occupancy, user behavior

## Recommendation #1: Efficiency programs can use 49% as the best portfolio-level estimate.



## Finding #2: NLC systems with LLLC showed overall higher savings.

- Additional study needed to confirm correlation
- Need to control for potential confounding variables

**Recommendation #2: Based on this dataset, it may be worthwhile to explore programs around LLLC for greater average energy savings.**

LLLC Presence	Total Buildings	Control Factor (% Savings)			
		Average	25th-75th Percentile	High-End Trim Contributions	Other Control Strategies
NLCs w/ LLLC	98	0.63	0.50 - 0.79	0.37	0.41
NLCs w/o LLLC	96	0.35	0.17 - 0.48	0.17	0.22
All NLCs	194	0.49	0.35 - 0.69	0.27	0.32

*Note: The numbers provided in this table is meant to provide a high-level overview of average savings trends. Additional study is needed to control for potentially confounding variables, and thus at this time does not imply that LLLC is universally superior and applicable to all building types.*



# Additional Findings & Recommendations

## Finding #3: Access to NLC data varies from manufacturer to manufacturer.

- Central location of data in the cloud vs locally in each system
- Contractual access agreements vs need to get approval case-by-case

## Recommendation #3: Efficiency programs should drive the sharing of NLC data

- Goal for efficiency programs: Require energy reporting for NLC incentives
- Evaluate savings at each installation
- Consider a clause in participation agreement to require data sharing

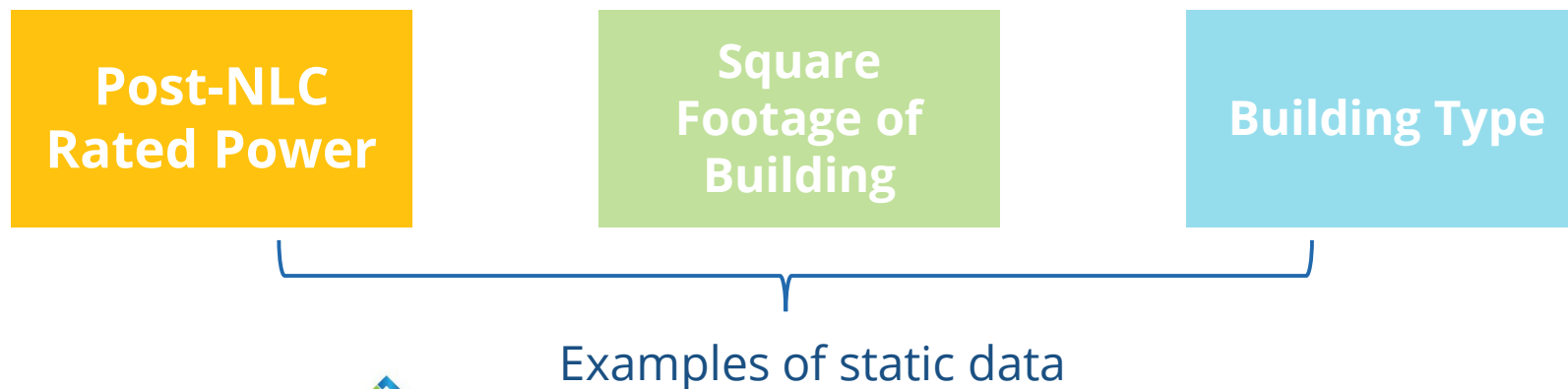
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `designlights.org/lighting-controls/search/`. Below the address bar, there is a search bar with the text "Search by model, brand name, or manufacturer" and a magnifying glass icon. To the right of the search bar are two buttons: "Display As List" (with a list icon) and "Sort By" (with a plus sign and a list icon). Below the search bar, the number "47" is displayed. A dark grey box contains the text "Advanced Capabilities" with a plus sign icon, and below it, a button labeled "Energy Monitoring" with a close icon (X).

## **Finding #4: Collection of static data more error-prone.**

- Time-series data is directly exported
- Static data are entered into the system during startup, and open to human error.

## **Recommendation #4: Static data should be reviewed carefully by the person/entity that facilitates the transfer of data.**

- Critical in ensuring the accuracy of savings calculations
- Best time to verify is at the completion of the installation



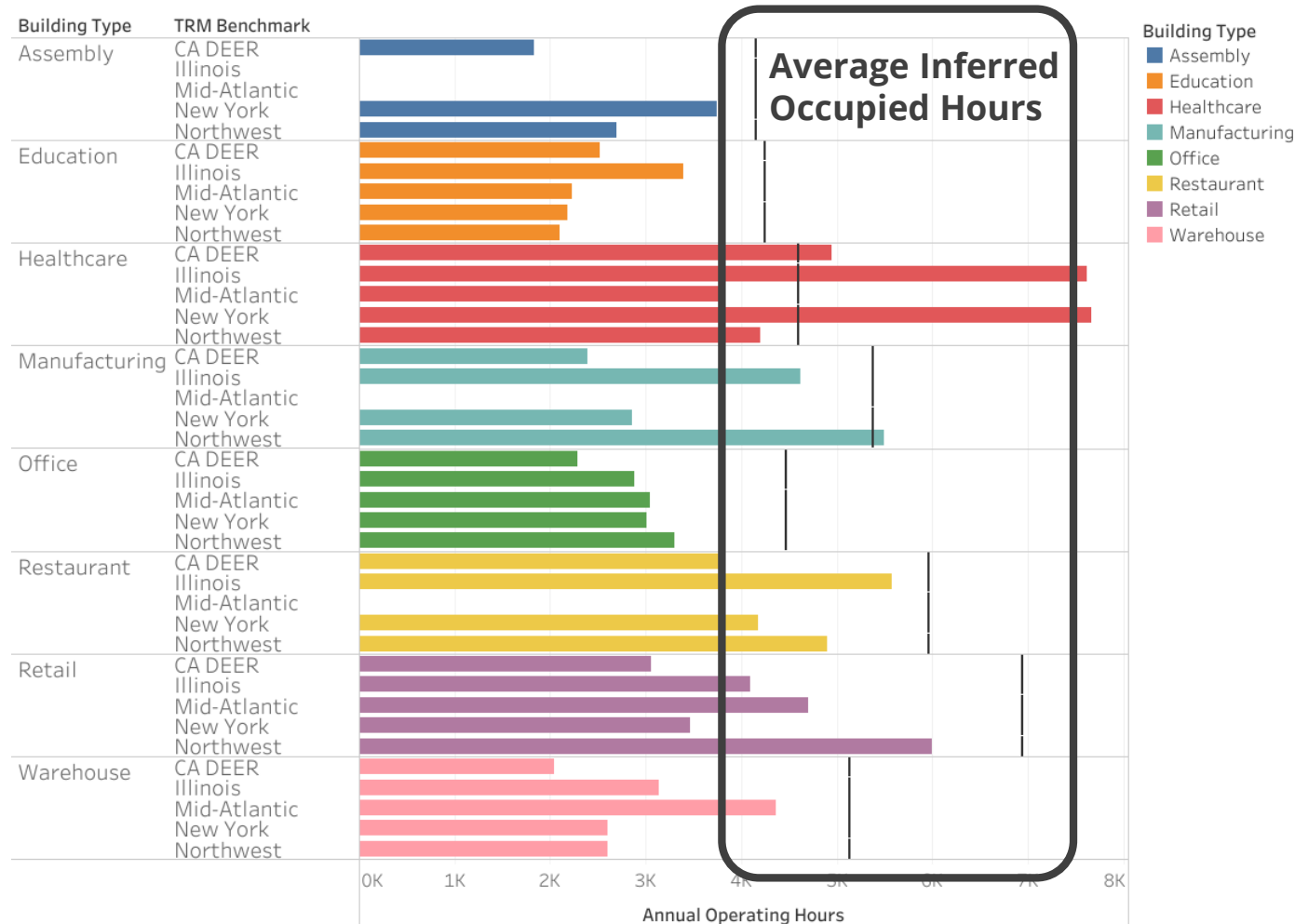
## **Finding #5: The size of energy data files grows rapidly with data granularity.**

- Fixture-level data, for example, had the largest file sizes

## **Recommendation #5: Standardize reporting guidelines for the efficiency program use case.**

- Large size datasets will not be scalable for EE programs - need to strike balance between accuracy and scalability
- Program administrators should work together to standardize a reporting format including:
  - Spatial and temporal granularity
  - Duration
- The DLC is supporting progress on Recommendations #4 and #5 through the NEMA ANSI C137 committee

# Finding #6: Operating hours generally longer than expected

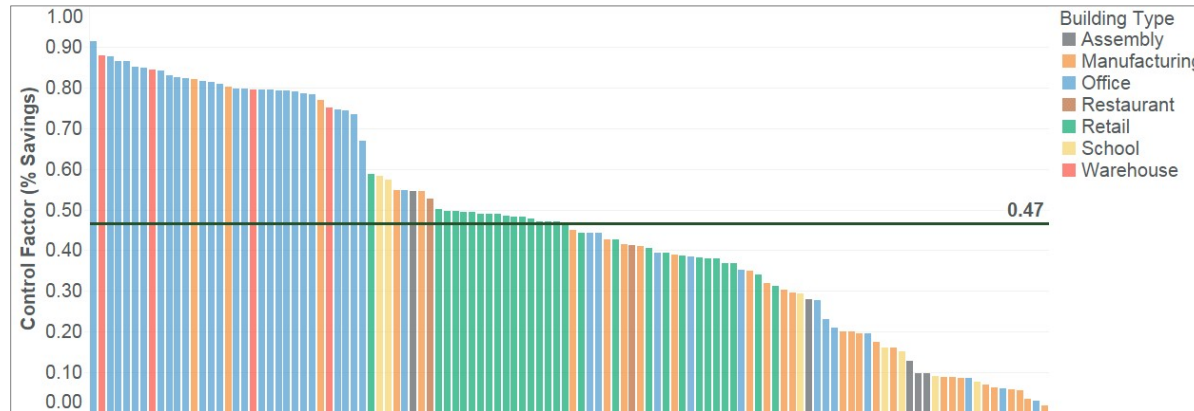


This study could serve as additional data points for the TRMs to calibrate the deemed operating hours

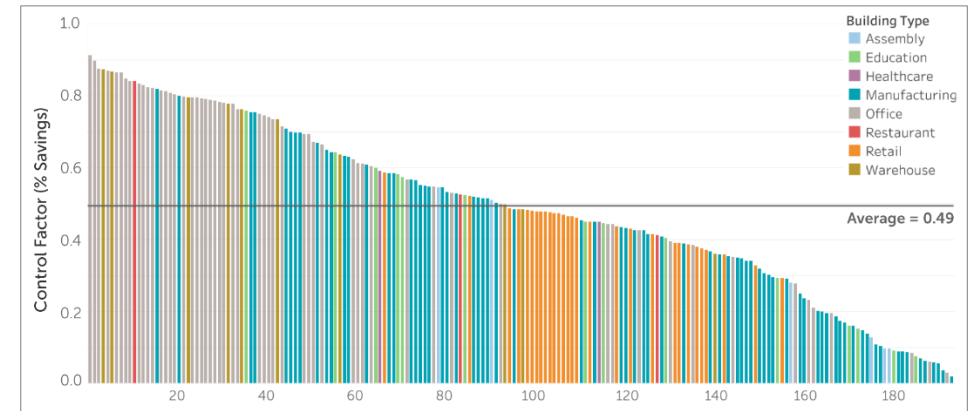


# Efficiency Programs' Use of This Data

# Average Energy Savings Consistent with 2017 Report



2017: **47%** savings



2020: **49%** savings

Opportunity for efficiency programs to update cost-effectiveness and for RTFs to update regional calculators

# Different Average Savings Estimates for Systems with & without LLLC

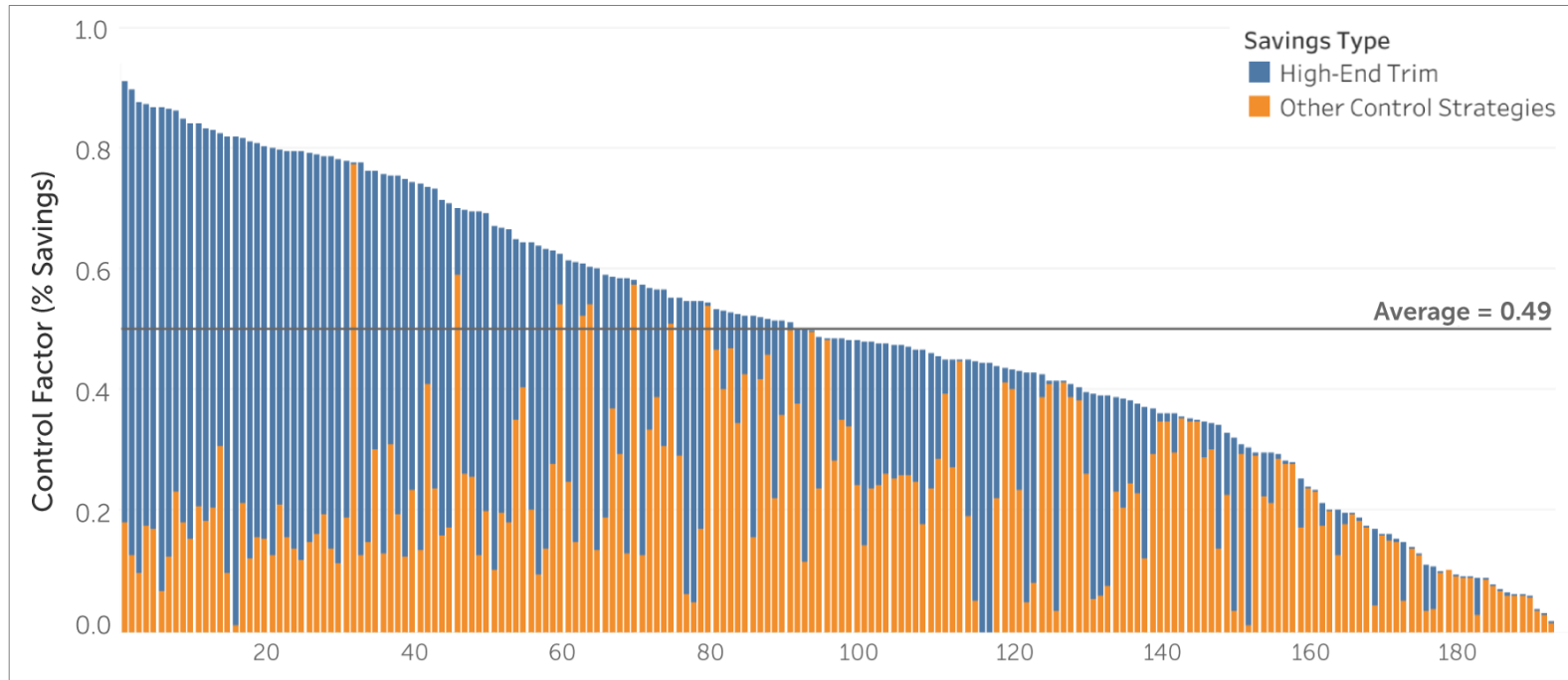
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*Note: The numbers provided in this table is meant to provide a high-level overview of average savings trends. Additional study is needed to control for potentially confounding variables, and thus at this time does not imply that LLLC is universally superior and applicable to all building types.*

Opportunity to offer different incentives for NLCs with LLLC, or otherwise push the sales of NLCs with LLLC.



# Better Differentiation between Control Strategies in all NLCs

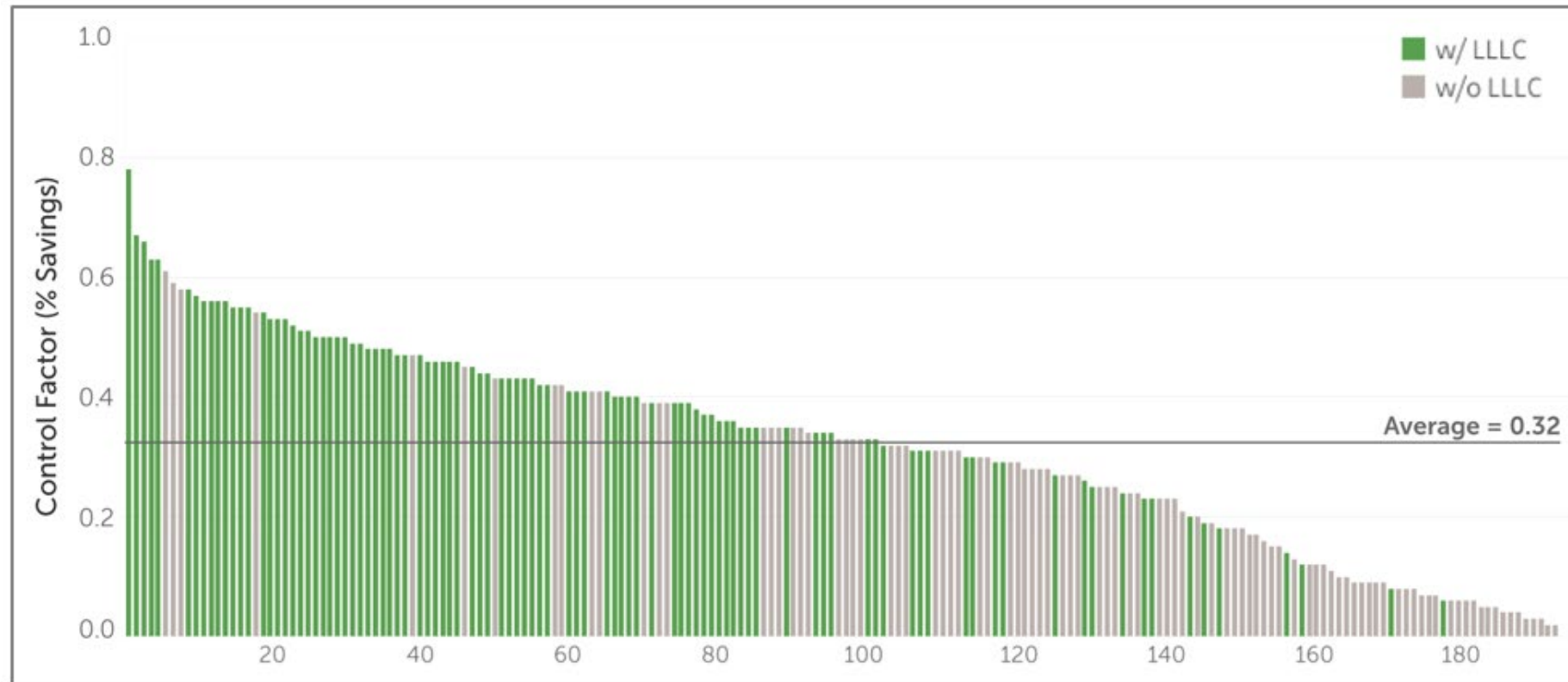


Average control factor attributed to **high-end trim** is **0.27**

Average control factor attributed to **other controls combined** is **0.32**

Opportunity to differentiate incentives for particular control strategies.

# Differentiation between Control Strategies w/LLLC



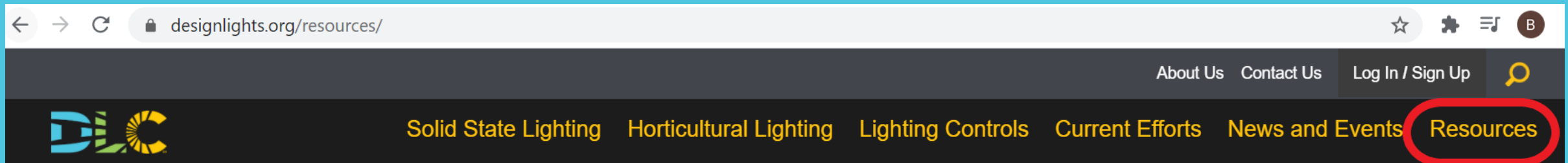
Systems w/ LLLC average control factor attributed to **high-end trim** is **0.37**

Systems w/LLLC average control factor attributed to **other controls combined** is **0.41**

Opportunity to differentiate incentives for particular control strategies.

# Report and Webinar Recording available

- Full report and recording available on DLC website:  
<https://www.designlights.org/resources/>





**Time for Questions**

# Thank You For Attending

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