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State Regulations on Airborne Emissions: Update Through 2007 released: June 1, 2008							
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U.S. Energy Information Administration

Montana State Energy Profile

Montana Quick Facts

- Montana has the nation's largest recoverable coal reserves, which is about 30% of the U.S. total, and the state accounts for about 5% of U.S. coal production.
- Montana's temperature extremes and small population contribute to the state's residential sector having the highest per capita energy consumption of any state.
- In 2022, Montana ranked 10th among the states with the largest share of electricity generated from renewables, about 53%.
- Coal-fired power plants provided the largest share of Montana's electricity generation in 2022, accounting for 42% of in-state generation, followed by hydropower at 38%, wind power at 15%, natural gas at 2%, and petroleum coke at nearly 2%.
- Montana's total natural gas consumption is among the five lowest states. About half of state households use natural gas as their primary energy source for home heating.

Last Updated: April 20, 2023

Data

Last Update: June 15, 2023 | **Next Update:** July 20, 2023

Energy Indicators

Demography	Montana	Share of U.S.	Period
Population	1.1 million	0.3%	2022
Civilian Labor Force	0.6 million	0.3%	Apr-23
Economy	**Montana**	**U.S. Rank**	**Period**
Gross Domestic Product	$ 65.0 billion	48	2022
Gross Domestic Product for the Manufacturing Sector	$ 4,141 million	46	2022
Per Capita Personal Income	$ 57,719	36	2022
Vehicle Miles Traveled	13,482 million miles	41	2021
Land in Farms	57.9 million acres	2	2022
Climate	**Montana**	**U.S. Rank**	**Period**
Average Temperature	42.1 degrees Fahrenheit	45	2022

Data

Last Update: June 15, 2023 | **Next Update:** July 20, 2023

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Climate	**Montana**	**U.S. Rank**	**Period**
Average Temperature	42.1 degrees Fahrenheit	45	2022
Precipitation	18.3 inches	40	2022

Prices

Petroleum	Montana	U.S. Average	Period	find more
Domestic Crude Oil First Purchase	$ 70.35 /barrel	$ 72.09 /barrel	Mar-23	
Natural Gas	**Montana**	**U.S. Average**	**Period**	find more
City Gate	$ 4.11 /thousand cu ft	$ 5.27 /thousand cu ft	Mar-23	find more
Residential	$ 10.22 /thousand cu ft	$ 13.80 /thousand cu ft	Mar-23	find more
Coal	**Montana**	**U.S. Average**	**Period**	find more
Average Sales Price	$ 22.66 /short ton	$ 36.50 /short ton	2021	
Delivered to Electric Power Sector	W	$ 2.49 /million Btu	Mar-23	
Electricity	**Montana**	**U.S. Average**	**Period**	find more
Residential	12.15 cents/kWh	15.85 cents/kWh	Mar-23	find more
Commercial	12.03 cents/kWh	12.52 cents/kWh	Mar-23	find more
Industrial	8.37 cents/kWh	7.91 cents/kWh	Mar-23	find more

Reserves

Reserves	Montana	Share of U.S.	Period	find more
Crude Oil (as of Dec. 31)	316 million barrels	0.8%	2021	find more
Expected Future Production of Dry Natural Gas (as of Dec. 31)	715 billion cu ft	0.1%	2021	find more
Expected Future Production of Natural Gas Plant Liquids	16 million barrels	0.1%	2021	find more
Recoverable Coal at Producing Mines	559 million short tons	4.6%	2021	find more
Rotary Rigs & Wells	**Montana**	**Share of U.S.**	**Period**	find more
Natural Gas Producing Wells	5,043 wells	1.0%	2020	find more
Capacity	**Montana**	**Share of U.S.**	**Period**	
Crude Oil Refinery Capacity (as of Jan. 1)	227,600 barrels/calendar day	1.3%	2022	
Electric Power Industry Net Summer Capacity	6,520 MW	0.6%	Mar-23	

Supply & Distribution

Production	Montana	Share of U.S.	Period	find more
Total Energy	757 trillion Btu	0.8%	2020	find more
Crude Oil	68 thousand barrels per day	0.5%	Mar-23	find more
Natural Gas - Marketed	38,693 million cu ft	0.1%	2021	find more
Coal	28,580 thousand short tons	4.9%	2021	find more
Total Utility-Scale Net Electricity Generation	**Montana**	**Share of U.S.**	**Period**	find more
Total Net Electricity Generation	2,245 thousand MWh	0.7%	Mar-23	
Utility-Scale Net Electricity Generation (share of total)	**Montana**	**U.S. Average**	**Period**	
Petroleum-Fired	NM	0.3 %	Mar-23	find more
Natural Gas-Fired	3.5 %	40.0 %	Mar-23	find more
Coal-Fired	50.2 %	15.1 %	Mar-23	find more
Nuclear	0 %	19.0 %	Mar-23	find more
Renewables	43.6 %	25.1 %	Mar-23	

Stocks	Montana	Share of U.S.	Period	find more
Motor Gasoline (Excludes Pipelines)	295 thousand barrels	2.7%	Mar-23	
Distillate Fuel Oil (Excludes Pipelines)	1,104 thousand barrels	1.3%	Mar-23	find more
Natural Gas in Underground Storage	187,443 million cu ft	3.0%	Mar-23	find more
Petroleum Stocks at Electric Power Producers	18 thousand barrels	0.1%	Mar-23	find more
Coal Stocks at Electric Power Producers	W	W	Mar-23	find more
Fueling Stations	**Montana**	**Share of U.S.**	**Period**	
Motor Gasoline	473 stations	0.4%	2021	
Propane	29 stations	1.1%	2022	
Electricity	98 stations	0.2%	2022	
E85	2 stations	*	2022	
Compressed Natural Gas and Other Alternative Fuels	1 stations	*	2022	

Consumption & Expenditures

Summary	Montana	U.S. Rank	Period	
Total Consumption	434 trillion Btu	43	2021	find more
Total Consumption per Capita	395 million Btu	11	2020	find more
Total Expenditures	$ 5,626 million	45	2021	find more
Total Expenditures per Capita	$ 4,052	6	2020	find more
by End-Use Sector	**Montana**	**Share of U.S.**	**Period**	
Consumption				
» Residential	102 trillion Btu	0.5%	2021	find more
» Commercial	84 trillion Btu	0.5%	2021	find more
» Industrial	130 trillion Btu	0.4%	2021	find more
» Transportation	119 trillion Btu	0.4%	2021	find more
Expenditures				
» Residential	$ 1,051 million	0.4%	2021	find more
» Commercial	$ 816 million	0.4%	2021	find more
» Industrial	$ 699 million	0.3%	2021	find more

» Transportation	$ 3,060 million	0.5%	2021	find more

by Source	Montana	Share of U.S.	Period	
Consumption				
» Petroleum	34 million barrels	0.5%	2021	find more
» Natural Gas	82 billion cu ft	0.3%	2021	find more
» Coal	7 million short tons	1.3%	2021	find more
Expenditures				
» Petroleum	$ 3,698 million	0.5%	2021	find more
» Natural Gas	$ 534 million	0.3%	2021	find more
» Coal	$ 284 million	1.2%	2021	find more

Consumption for Electricity Generation	Montana	Share of U.S.	Period	find more
Petroleum	NM	NM	Mar-23	find more
Natural Gas	815 million cu ft	0.1%	Mar-23	find more
Coal	702 thousand short tons	2.5%	Mar-23	find more

Energy Source Used for Home Heating (share of households)	Montana	U.S. Average	Period
Natural Gas	51.3 %	46.5 %	2021
Fuel Oil	0.6 %	4.1 %	2021
Electricity	26.9 %	41.0 %	2021
Propane	12.7 %	5.0 %	2021
Other/None	8.6 %	3.5 %	2021

Environment

Renewable Energy Capacity	Montana	Share of U.S.	Period	find more
Total Renewable Energy Electricity Net Summer Capacity	4,408 MW	1.4%	Mar-23	
Ethanol Plant Nameplate Capacity	--	--	2022	

Renewable Energy Production	Montana	Share of U.S.	Period	find more
Utility-Scale Hydroelectric Net Electricity Generation	593 thousand MWh	2.9%	Mar-23	
Utility-Scale Solar, Wind, and Geothermal Net Electricity	384 thousand MWh	0.7%	Mar-23	

Generation				
Utility-Scale Biomass Net Electricity Generation	3 thousand MWh	0.1%	Mar-23	
Small-Scale Solar Photovoltaic Generation	6 thousand MWh	0.1%	Mar-23	
Fuel Ethanol Production	0 thousand barrels	0.0%	2020	
Renewable Energy Consumption	**Montana**	**U.S. Rank**	**Period**	find more
Renewable Energy Consumption as a Share of State Total	33.2 %	6	2020	
Fuel Ethanol Consumption	1,324 thousand barrels	42	2021	
Total Emissions	**Montana**	**Share of U.S.**	**Period**	find more
Carbon Dioxide	26.2 million metric tons	0.6%	2020	
Electric Power Industry Emissions	**Montana**	**Share of U.S.**	**Period**	find more
Carbon Dioxide	12,777 thousand metric tons	0.8%	2021	
Sulfur Dioxide	8 thousand metric tons	0.7%	2021	
Nitrogen Oxide	11 thousand metric tons	0.9%	2021	

Analysis

Last Updated: April 20, 2023

Overview

Montana, known as Big Sky Country, is the fourth-largest state and a significant supplier of energy to the rest of the nation.[1,2,3] The state is rich in both fossil fuels and renewable resources.[4] About three-tenths of the nation's estimated recoverable coal reserves are in Montana, and the northern and eastern areas of the state contain deposits of crude oil and natural gas.[5,6,7] The Continental Divide runs along the state's western mountains, making Montana the only state in the nation with rivers that drain into the Pacific Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, and Canada's Hudson Bay.[8] The Missouri River, the longest river in the United States, starts in the Rocky Mountains in western Montana and flows eastward across the state.[9] The river and its tributaries offer substantial hydroelectric energy resources.[10,11] Montana's western mountains capture warm, moist air from the Pacific Ocean, creating a more moderate climate in the western third of the state than farther east, where the Rocky Mountains give way to dry, wind-swept plains that stretch into the Dakotas.[12] The state's vast plains provide Montana with some of the best wind resources in the nation.[13] Montana is the third least densely populated state, averaging about 7 people per square mile. Montana's population crossed the 1 million threshold in 2012 and the state continues to grow, but still ranks among the 10 states with the fewest residents.[14,15,16] Montana's residents are clustered in and around a few cities, mainly in the valleys of the Missouri River and its tributaries.[17] Much of the eastern third of the state has, on average, less than one resident per square mile.[18]

Montana's early economy was built around mining, ranching, wheat farming, and timber. After World War II, spurred by such popular destinations as Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks, tourism increased. In 1970, tourism surpassed

mining to become the second-largest industry in the state after agriculture. Today, finance, insurance, real estate, rentals, and leasing are the largest contributors to the state's gross domestic product (GDP), but energy resource extraction and mining continue to be significant parts of the state's economy.[20] Mining, crude oil and natural gas production, petroleum refining, and agricultural industries are all energy-intensive. Those industries, as well as the amount of transportation fuels used to travel the long distances within the state and the state's small population, help place Montana's per capita energy consumption near the top one-fifth of the states, even though its total energy consumption is among the 10 lowest states.[21,22]

The industrial sector leads Montana's end-use energy consumption, accounting for about 30% of the state total, followed by the transportation sector at 27%. The residential sector makes up 23% of the state's energy use, and the commercial sector accounts for 19%.[23] Montana's summer heat can exceed 100°F on the plains and winter can bring Arctic blasts with subzero temperatures.[24] The state's temperature extremes and its small population contribute to Montana's residential sector having the highest per capita energy consumption of any state.[25]

Montana has the highest residential sector per capita energy consumption of any state.

Coal

Montana holds about 30% of U.S. total recoverable coal reserves.

Montana has the largest estimated recoverable coal reserves among the states, accounting for about 30% of the U.S. total.[26] Montana is the fourth-largest coal-producing state. In 2021, the state produced about 5% of the nation's coal from six operating mines. Most of Montana's coal production came from five large surface mines in the Powder River Basin in the southeastern corner of the state.[27,28] Montana's Spring Creek Coal mine was the seventh-largest U.S. coal-producing mine in 2021.[29] The state's Rosebud surface mine supplied almost all of its production to Montana's largest electricity generating station—the Colstrip coal-fired power plant located next to the mine about 90 miles east of Billings. Two of the plant's 4 generating units were retired in early 2020, reducing the plant's generating capacity to about 1,500 megawatts.[30,31,32]

In 2021, about three-tenths of Montana's coal that was distributed was delivered within the state, almost all to the electric power sector. Nearly half of Montana's coal was sent to other states, mainly by rail to Michigan, Minnesota, and Washington, for electricity generation. The remaining one-fourth was exported to other countries, mostly to western Canada, where much of it continued on to Asia.[33,34,35] Montana's coal production has declined in recent years, mainly because of competition in the United States from natural gas and renewable energy sources as fuel for electricity generation and retirements of coal-fired power plants.[36,37,38,39]

Petroleum

Montana holds less than 1% of U.S. total proved crude oil reserves, and the state accounts for about 1 in every 200 barrels of U.S. oil produced annually.[40,41] Most of Montana's crude oil production comes from the Bakken Formation in the northeastern corner of the state along the border with North Dakota.[42,43,44] Montana's Elm Coulee field, which began producing oil in 2001, was initially the most prolific oil field in the Williston Basin, a geologic basin that spreads from eastern Montana into North Dakota and Canada.[45] However, the state's oil production declined from its 2006 peak of nearly 100,000 barrels per day as drilling activity moved to North Dakota, where the Bakken Shale formation is thicker, covers a larger area, and holds more oil. In 2022, Montana's annual crude oil production increased for the first time in three years, rising to 56,000 barrels per day.[46,47]

Montana has 4 refineries with a combined crude oil processing capacity of about 218,000 barrels per calendar day. The three largest refineries are in the Billings area. There is a smaller refinery in Great Falls that in early 2023 finished an

Montana's 4 refineries can

expansion project that allowed it to make renewable aviation fuel from animal fat and vegetable oil.[48,49] The refineries receive crude oil mainly from Canada and Wyoming and produce a wide range of refined products, including motor gasoline, ultra-low sulfur diesel fuels, aviation fuels, butane, propane, petroleum coke, and asphalt.[50,51,52,53] Pipelines and railroads are used to ship crude oil to the refineries and to transport the facilities' refined products throughout Montana and to nearby states. Several pipelines carry Montana crude oil to refineries in other states as well.[54] In January 2021, the Biden administration canceled the permit for the Keystone XL Pipeline extension, which would have crossed the state as a shorter route to transport Canadian crude oil to refineries along the U.S. Gulf Coast.[55]

process about 218,000 barrels of crude oil per calendar day.

Although Montana's total petroleum consumption is among the lowest 10 states, its small population helps place it among the top 10 states in petroleum consumption per capita.[56] The transportation sector consumes more than three-fifths of the petroleum used in Montana.[57] The state ranks among the top five in both per capita annual vehicle miles traveled and per capita gasoline expenditures.[58,59] During the winter months, federal air quality standards require oxygenated motor gasoline use in the Missoula metropolitan area near the Idaho border.[60] Montana has no ethanol production plants, but it receives ethanol from other states that is blended with motor gasoline at Montana's petroleum product terminals.[61,62] The industrial sector is the second-largest consumer of petroleum, accounting for almost one-fourth of the state's total use. The residential sector—where about 1 out of 7 households heat with propane, fuel oil, or kerosene—and the electric power and commercial sectors together make up the rest, about 13%, of the state's petroleum consumption.[63,64]

Electricity

In 2022, coal generated 42% of Montana's in-state electricity generation. Until 2016, coal consistently supplied more than half of its in-state generation. However, over the past decade coal's share declined because of the growth of renewable electricity, retirement of coal-fired power plants, and increased price competitiveness of natural gas.[65,66,67,68] In 2020, hydroelectric power generation exceeded coal-fired generation, the only time in more than two decades, before coal returned to the top spot in 2021 and 2022.[69]

In 2022, hydropower accounted for 38% of Montana's in-state net generation. However, the state's largest power plant by generating capacity in 2022 was coal-fired, but 5 of the 10 largest were hydroelectric.[70,71] There are several projects planned to expand the state's hydroelectric generating capacity. A large pumped hydro storage project with 400 megawatts of generating capacity is in development about 100 miles northwest of Billings.[72,73,74] Pumped-storage hydroelectric plants generate electricity during peak demand periods, when power prices are higher, using water pumped into an elevated storage reservoir during off-peak periods and then releasing it to flow back to a lower reservoir through turbine generators when additional power is needed.[75] In 2022, wind power had the third-largest share, about 15%, of the state's generation, and natural gas provided 2%. Petroleum coke accounted for almost 2% of Montana's generation, the highest share of any state.[76,77]

Montana consumers use about 70% of the electricity generated in the state.[78] The rest is sent over high-voltage transmission lines to other western states, mostly Washington and Oregon.[79] Several transmission projects are in development that will increase capacity to move Montana-generated electricity to other states.[80,81] Most of Montana is part of the Western Interconnection, an electric grid which serves western states, Canadian provinces, and a small part of northern Mexico. A portion of eastern Montana is connected to the Eastern Interconnection of the U.S. grid.[82,83] One of the nation's eight converter stations that connect the eastern and western electric grids is located at Miles City, Montana.[84]

Montana has one of the nation's eight converter stations that connect the eastern and western U.S. electric grids.

In 2022, the residential sector accounted for about 37% of the electricity sales in the state, with the commercial and industrial sectors close behind at 33% and 30%, respectively.[85] About one-fourth of Montana households use electricity as their [86]

primary heating source. In 2022, Montana's average electricity price was below the national average and less than in about fourth-fifths of the states.[87]

Renewable energy

Montana has substantial renewable energy resources, and in 2022 it ranked among the top 10 states with the largest share of electricity generated from renewables. Renewable energy, primarily hydropower, accounted for 53% of Montana's in-state electricity generation.[88,89] The state's mountainous terrain along the Continental Divide creates fast-running rivers from the 300 inches of snow and rain that fall in the region annually and provide the water resources for hydroelectric power generation. The headwaters of the Missouri River, the longest river in North America, are in the mountains of southwestern Montana.[90,91] In 2022, Montana was the seventh-largest producer of hydroelectric power in the nation.[92] The state has about two dozen utility-scale (1 megawatt or larger) hydroelectric plants, and most of them are located in the western half of the state. Six of Montana's 10 largest power plants by generating capacity are hydroelectric facilities.[93,94]

In 2022, Montana was the nation's seventh-largest producer of hydroelectric power.

With its broad plains dotted with hills, wide river valleys, and occasional mountains, eastern Montana has some of the best utility-scale wind power potential in the nation.[95,96] The first utility-scale wind farm in the state came online in 2005.[97] Wind energy powers 3 of the state's 10 largest generating plants by capacity and 2 of the 10 largest by actual yearly generation.[98] The state's largest wind facility, the 366-megawatt Clearwater wind farm, came online in eastern Montana at the end of 2022. In early 2023, the state had nearly 1,500 megawatts of wind power generating capacity in operation. Another 1,400 megawatts of wind capacity and related battery energy storage were in various stages of planning and construction.[99]

In 2022, solar generated less than 1% of Montana's in-state electricity. Montana's solar energy power was provided only by customer-sited, small-scale (less than 1 megawatt) residential and business solar panel installations until 2017, when the state's first utility-scale power facilities began generating electricity. In early 2023, Montana had seven utility-scale solar power farms with a combined generating capacity of 98 megawatts. An 80-megawatt solar farm near Billings came online in January 2023, and another solar project totaling 80 megawatts will be operational in mid-2023.[100,101]

Montana has biomass resources, and about 7 in 100 households heat their homes with wood. The state has the third-highest share of wood-burning households, after Vermont and Maine. However, very little electricity generation in the state comes from biomass.[102,103] The state's only utility-scale wood biomass-fueled generating facility has 3 megawatts of capacity and is owned by a lumber company in northwest Montana. An electric cooperative owns a 1.6-megawatt generating unit that is fueled by landfill gas.[104,105] Woody biomass is also used as fuel in boilers to provide heat, mostly in western Montana schools, hospitals, and other public buildings.[106]

Montana has geothermal resources, but there are no utility-scale geothermal electricity generating facilities in the state.[107] Montana's most significant geothermal resources are in the mountainous southwest. Low- and moderate-temperature geothermal resources are found in nearly all areas of the state.[108] Montana's geothermal resources have a variety of direct-use applications, including recreational hot springs, greenhouses, and fish farms. Several hot springs resorts and public bathing facilities in Montana use geothermal energy for space heating and mineral baths.[109]

Enacted in 2005, Montana's renewable portfolio standard (RPS) requires electricity retail suppliers to acquire at least 15% of the electricity they sell in-state from renewable energy sources by 2015. They reached the requirement in 2015 and continue to meet it. Qualifying renewable resources include: wind, solar, geothermal, biomass, small hydroelectric facilities, landfill gas, anaerobic digesters, and renewable fuel cells. The RPS also requires electricity suppliers to buy a set amount of power from smaller, community-based renewable energy projects.[110] Montana provides low-interest loans to households and businesses to pay for energy-saving measures, like energy-efficient appliances and windows. The loans also cover alternative energy systems, including solar panels, geothermal systems, wind generators, and low-[111]

emission wood stoves.

Natural gas

Montana accounts for about 0.1% of U.S. total natural gas reserves and marketed production.[112,113] The state's natural gas production is about one-third of what it was at its peak in 2007. Production from natural gas wells and coalbed methane wells in the state generally trended downward in recent years as energy companies focused on drilling for oil rather than for natural gas.[114,115] About three-fourths of Montana's natural gas production comes from wells located in the northern part of the state near the Canadian border. Almost all the remaining natural gas production comes from wells in the Williston Basin in northeastern Montana near the North Dakota border.[116]

Montana has the largest single underground natural gas storage site in the nation.

Montana consumes about twice as much natural gas as it produces.[117,118] Interstate natural gas pipelines cross Montana from Canada, North Dakota, and Wyoming.[119] In 2021, about 86% of the natural gas that entered the state came from Canada, crossing the border at two import points of entry. Of the remaining natural gas shipments, about 8% came from Wyoming and 6% came from North Dakota.[120,121] In 2022, almost one-tenth of all the natural gas the United States imported by pipeline from Canada entered through Montana.[122] About four-fifths of the natural gas that enters Montana leaves the state, almost all of it continuing on to North Dakota on its way to Midwestern markets.[123] Some of the natural gas that enters Montana is put in storage. The state has more underground natural gas storage capacity than any other state in the Rocky Mountain region and has the nation's largest single underground storage site—the depleted Baker field in the Williston Basin in eastern Montana. That storage field can hold 287 billion cubic feet of gas.[124,125]

Montana's total natural gas consumption is among the five lowest states. However, with its frigid winters and small population, Montana ranks near the middle of the states in per capita natural gas use.[126,127] The commercial sector is the largest natural gas consumer in Montana, accounting for 33% of the state's total natural gas use, followed by the industrial sector at 31%. The residential sector makes up about 27% of natural gas consumption and the electric power sector accounts for about 9%.[128] About half of Montana households use natural gas as their primary energy source for home heating.[129]

Energy on tribal lands

More than 5.5 million acres in Montana, about 6% of the state's total land area, are Native American tribal lands.[130] Montana has 7 reservations that are home to 12 tribes.[131] In December 2019, the U.S. Department of the Interior updated regulations to make it easier for tribes to control development of energy resources on their lands.[132] Most of Montana's tribal lands sit on top of coal, crude oil, or natural gas resources.[133]

The largest reservation in the state, the Crow Nation Reservation, covers 2.2 million acres in south-central Montana, and the Crow Tribe mines some of its estimated 9 billion tons of coal reserves. The Crow Nation Reservation also has crude oil and natural gas resources.[134,135,136 137] The Northern Cheyenne Reservation in southeastern Montana, adjacent to the Crow Nation Reservation, also has large coal reserves, but the Northern Cheyenne Tribe does not mine its coal.[138] The Blackfeet Reservation—located on the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains near Glacier National Park with more than 1.5 million acres—has crude oil and natural gas resources. In November 2022, the Blackfeet tribe appealed a federal judge's order to reinstate an oil and natural gas lease near the reservation. While the Blackfeet Tribe has opposed leases on its most sacred lands, it is not against oil and gas development in other areas on the reservation.[139,140,141] Crude oil was discovered in the early 1950s on the Fort Peck Reservation, which is home to two tribes and is the second-largest reservation in the state at over 2 million acres. The Fort Peck Reservation is located in northeastern Montana, and it overlies the western edge of the Bakken formation where there is crude oil production.[142,143]

Much of Montana's tribal lands also have abundant renewable resources. The Fort Peck, Blackfeet, and Crow Nation reservations are among the 15 reservations in the nation with the greatest potential for wind-powered electricity [144]

generation, and the Fort Peck Reservation has some of the highest potential for solar power generation. The Flathead and Crow tribal lands have some of the largest hydropower potential among U.S. tribal lands.[145] The Salish and Kootenai tribes, on the Flathead Reservation in western Montana, became the first tribal owners and operators of a major hydroelectric facility in the nation when they acquired sole ownership of the Kerr Dam on the boundary of their reservation in September 2015.[146] The Flathead Reservation, with its timber resources on the mountains and valleys of northwestern Montana, has the greatest biomass generation potential of all the tribal lands in the state.[147,148]

Endnotes

[1] World Atlas, U.S. States by Size, accessed March 20, 2023.

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Other Resources

Energy-Related Regions and Organizations

- Coal Region: Western
- Petroleum Administration for Defense District (PADD): 4
- Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) and Independent System Operator (ISO): Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), Southwest Power Pool (SPP), Western Power Pool (WPP)
- North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) ERO Enterprise: Regional Entities: Midwest Reliability

Organization (MRO), Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC)

Other Websites

- Montana Public Service Commission
- Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Low Income Home Energy, Water and Weatherization Assistance Programs
- Montana Department of Environmental Quality, Coal Mining
- Montana Department of Environmental Quality, Energy
- Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Board of Oil and Gas Conservation
- Montana Governor's Office of Indian Affairs
- Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Forest Products, Wood Energy, Biomass
- Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Wood Energy Program
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- Western Governors' Association
- Bonneville Power Administration
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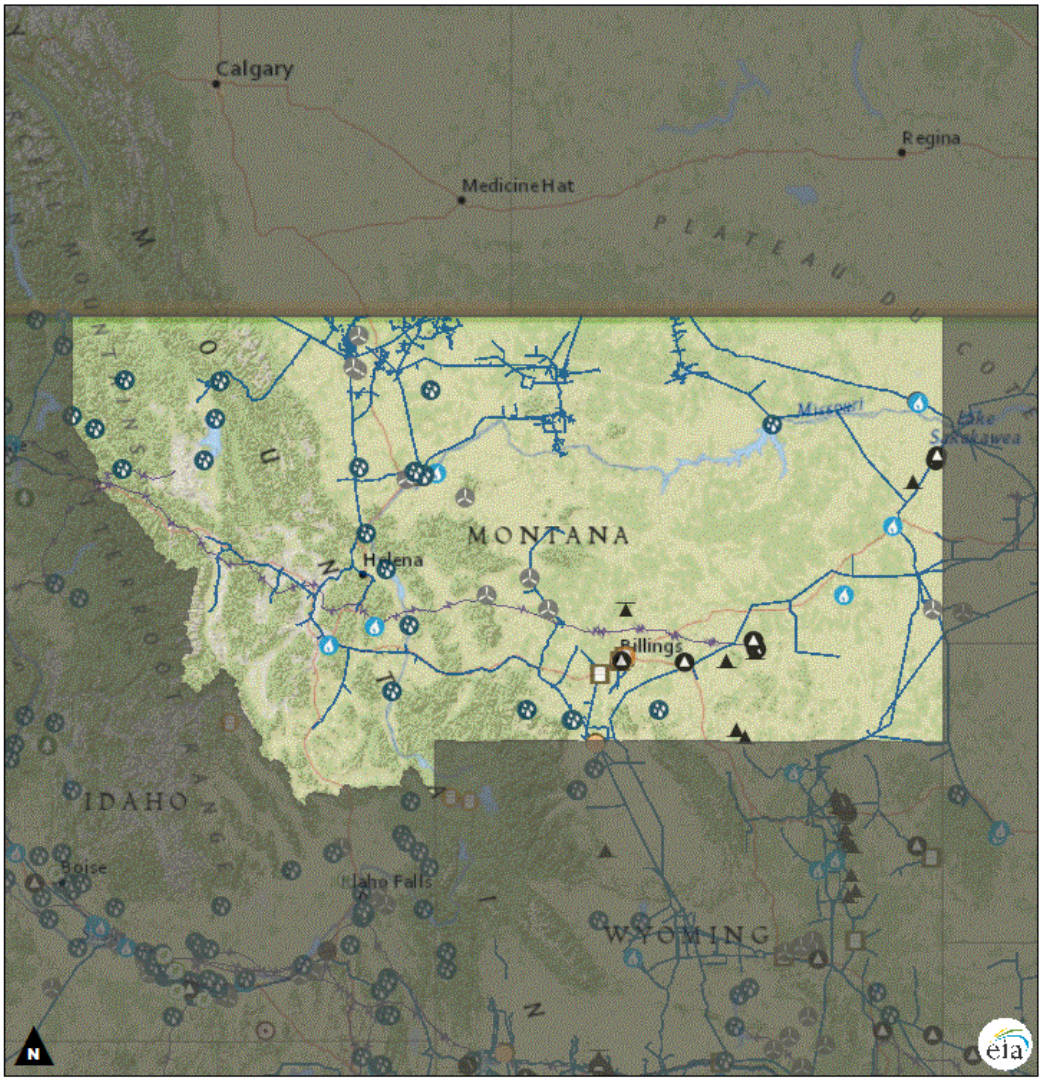
- National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Tribal Energy Atlas
- EIA Natural Gas Storage Dashboard
- EIA Energy Disruptions



States:Electricity Transmission Lines - Ventyx, Velocity Suite;Grey Base:National

0 45 90 180 Miles

Mask	Hydroelectric Power Plant	Pumped Storage Power Plant
Surface Coal Mine	Natural Gas Power Plant	Solar Power Plant
Underground Coal Mine	Nuclear Power Plant	Wind Power Plant
Biomass Power Plant	Other Power Plant	Wood Power Plant
Coal Power Plant	Other Fossil Gases Power Plant	Petroleum Refinery
Geothermal Power Plant	Petroleum Power Plant	Strategic Petroleum Reserve

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Policies

All policies results

Policy	Country	Year	Status	Jurisdiction
An Act Regulating Carbon Sequestration (SB 498)	United States	2009	In force	State/Provincial
Bureau of Land Management Instruction Memorandum No. 2003-253	United States	2003	Ended	National
Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnerships (RCSP)	United States	2003	In force	National
2012 IECC with Montana amendments	United States	2013	In force	State/Provincial

The Energy Mix

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