From booming suburbs to remote rural communities, America’s electric cooperatives are energy providers and engines of economic development. Electric cooperatives play a vital role in transforming communities.

Cooperatives Power

56% of the nation’s landmass.

Own and maintain 42% (2.6 million miles) of U.S. electric distribution lines that serve our communities.

Power over 20 million businesses, homes, schools and farms in 48 states.

Serve 42 million people across 2,500+ U.S. counties.

834 distribution cooperatives are the foundation of the electric cooperative network. They were built by and serve co-op members in the community with the delivery of electricity and other services.

63 generation & transmission cooperatives provide wholesale power to distribution co-ops through their own electric generation facilities or by purchasing power on behalf of the distribution members.
Co-ops use advanced communications and automation technology to improve reliability and efficiency while reducing environmental impacts by growing the use of renewable resources.

Note: Non-hydro renewables includes owned and directly purchased generation, plus generation in the mix from wholesale market purchases and do not reflect renewable credits.

- Co-ops added **281,000 new members** in 2018.
- **85%** of electric co-ops had a net increase in members in 2018.
- Electricity sales at co-ops increased more than **7%** in 2018, with co-op retail sales reaching **467 billion kilowatt-hours**.
- Residential sales increased **9.3%**, commercial sales increased **3.5%** and industrial sales increased **6.2%**.

Co-op Sales Growth Normally Outpaces the Industry

Co-op sales growth rates generally surpass that of the total electric utility industry as a whole. In 2018, extreme weather caused sales to soar, especially for co-ops whose sales are more heavily residential than the industry as a whole.

% change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Industry Sales Growth</th>
<th>Co-op Sales Growth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>-4.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>-2.0%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>-1.0%</td>
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<td>2008</td>
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<td>3.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
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<td>2012</td>
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<td>2013</td>
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<td>2014</td>
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<td>2016</td>
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<td>2.0%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: EIA Form 861 data; NOAA National Climate Reports

Co-ops generate **5%** of total U.S. electricity and deliver **12%** of all U.S. electricity.
Co-ops are reducing emissions ...

Cleaner air
Cooperatives are meeting member expectations by reducing emissions through a combination of emission-reduction measures at power plants and fuel switching to natural gas and renewables.

Co-ops have:

- Reduced sulphur dioxide emissions 78.2% from 2005-2018.
- Reduced nitrogen oxide emissions 63.2% from 2005-2018.
- Reduced carbon dioxide emissions 5% from 2005-2018.

... and jump starting renewable energy growth

- From 2010 to 2019, co-op renewable energy capacity increased 151% from 4 gigawatts to 10 gigawatts. More than 95 percent of electric co-ops provide electricity generated by renewable energy resources.
- Co-ops also purchase 10 gigawatts of hydropower from federal power marketing administrations.
- Electric co-ops have plans to add 6 gigawatts of new renewable capacity from 2020-2023, including more than 4 GW of additional solar capacity.
- More than 560 co-ops in 36 states use enough wind energy to serve 2 million homes.

Cooperative solar is skyrocketing

Solar Capacity (megawatts AC)

Source: NRECA

NOTE: Co-op solar capacity owned or purchased under contract
Electric cooperatives are economic engines in their communities

In 2017, electric cooperatives supported **611,600 American jobs**
- **68,200** electric co-op jobs
- **97,600** contractor jobs
- **170,900** supplier jobs
- **274,900** consumer spending jobs

**Jobs**

contributed **$88.4 billion** to the U.S. GDP annually

**$88.4 billion**

generated more than **$22 billion** in federal, state and local taxes

**$22 billion**

**The cooperative difference**

Electric co-ops are local energy and technology providers. They are shaped by the specific needs of the communities they serve. This local, member-driven structure is one reason why cooperatives enjoy the highest consumer-satisfaction scores within the electric industry, according to J.D. Power and Associates and the American Consumer Satisfaction Index.

- Electric cooperatives are built by and belong to the communities they serve. They are led by members from the community and are uniquely suited to meet local needs.
- In 2018, America’s electric co-ops returned more than **$1.2 billion in capital credits** to their consumer-members.
- Co-ops **earned the top spot** in the J.D. Power and Associates 2017 Electric Utility Customer Satisfaction Study.
- Electric cooperatives, on average, **score three points higher** than all other electric companies, according to the 2017 American Consumer Satisfaction Index.

**Source:** NRECA

**JOBS**

**Invested $12 billion annually** in local economies

**$12 billion**

**Contributed $88.4 billion** to the U.S. GDP annually

Source: The Economic Impact of America’s Electric Cooperatives, FTI Consulting, March 2019

**LOCAL**

**NRECA**

**America’s Electric Cooperatives**

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