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.
Electricity use and energy mix

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.

Source: EIA Form 861 data; NOAA National Climate Reports

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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.

- 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 475 co-ops in 33 states use enough **wind** energy to serve 2 million homes.

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### Cooperative solar is skyrocketing

**Solar Capacity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Solar Capacity (megawatts AC)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
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<td>2014</td>
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<td>2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>1,098</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Co-op solar capacity owned or purchased under contract

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### ... and jump starting renewable energy growth

- Reduced **sulphur dioxide** emissions 82.8% from 2005-2019.

- Reduced **nitrogen oxide** emissions 68.8% from 2005-2019.

- Reduced **carbon dioxide** emissions 18.1% since 2005.

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Source: EPA, EIA, NRECA
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

• 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.

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.

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

Source: NRECA