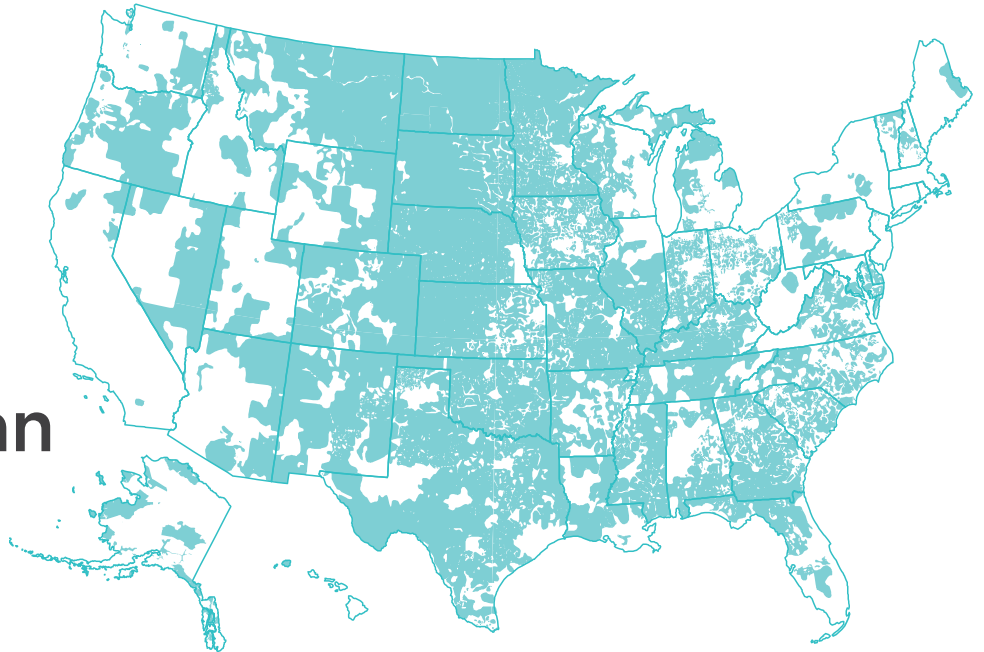


# America's Electric Cooperatives



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

Cooperatives  
power  
**56%**  
of the American  
landscape.



## Our co-ops ...

... SERVE

**42 million**

people, including **92% of persistent poverty counties.**

... POWER more than

**23 million**

businesses, homes, schools and farms in **48 states.**

... RETURN more than

**\$1.3 billion**

**to their consumer-members** annually as not-for-profit organizations.

NRECA is the national service organization that represents America's electric cooperatives.



**830**

**distribution cooperatives**

are the foundation of the electric cooperative network. They were built by and serve co-op members in the community by delivering electricity and other services.



**60**

**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.

# Demand is outpacing supply

## Demand is skyrocketing.

Across the country, electricity demand is surging, driven by growing communities, electrification of the economy, power-hungry data centers and new manufacturing plants.

According to the North American Electric Reliability Corp.'s 2025 Long-Term Reliability Assessment, peak electricity demand during summer and winter months is expected to skyrocket over the next 10 years, increasing by 69% and 65%, respectively.

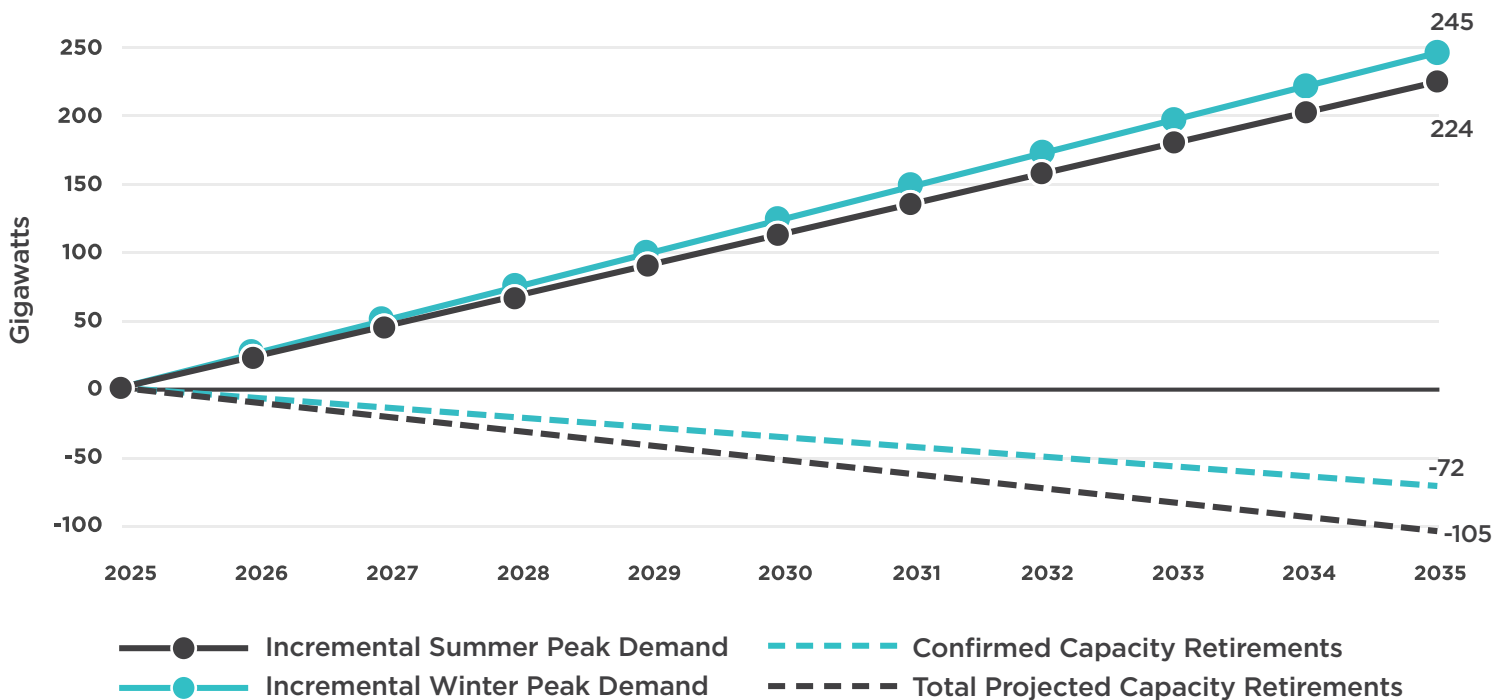
## Supply isn't keeping up.

NERC said power plant retirements could total over **105 gigawatts** of peak seasonal capacity over the next decade—enough energy to power **up to 100 million homes**.

Ongoing challenges, including supply chain bottlenecks and years-long delays in permitting and siting new infrastructure, are making it difficult to replace retiring generation and meet soaring demand.

**As a result, much of the country is at high risk of energy shortfalls over the next 10 years.**

## Demand Growth and Capacity Retirements



Source: NERC 2025 Long-Term Reliability Assessment

## Building to meet demand

Generation and transmission co-ops (G&Ts) are planning unprecedented capital investment to meet tomorrow's energy needs. Survey data from 48 G&Ts underscores a major surge in capital investment.

- G&Ts are projecting **\$88 billion in capital expenditures** over the next 10 years, more than double the CapEx forecast over the same timeframe three years ago.

- About **60%** of the \$88 billion is concentrated in the next five years.
- Power plants and transmission infrastructure comprise roughly **90%** of this spending.
- Natural gas dominates the planned buildout of new co-op generation. G&Ts are planning **nearly \$29 billion** in investment to bring **more than 20 gigawatts** of new natural gas capacity online.

# Always-available energy is key to keeping the lights on

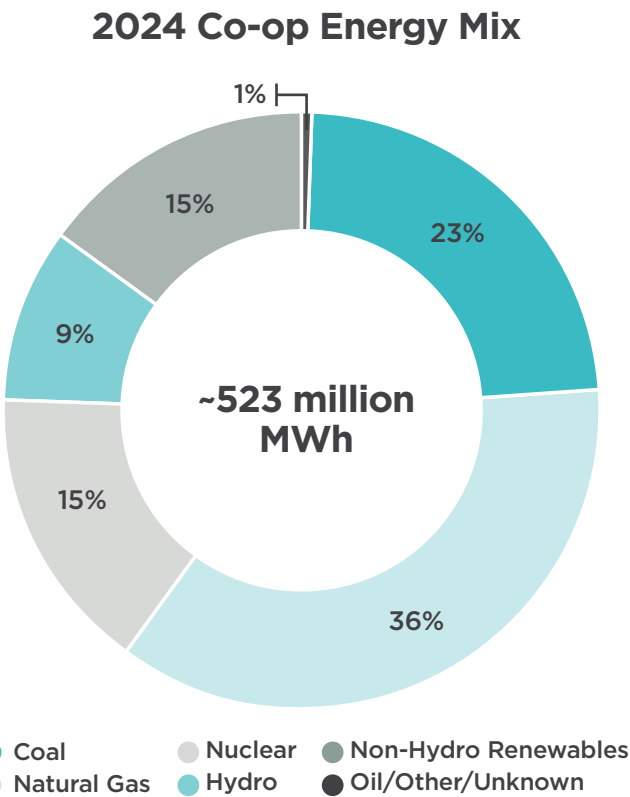
Electric co-ops rely on a diverse suite of resources to reliably meet the energy needs of their local communities.

As of July 2026, electric co-ops have announced plans to add more than **18 gigawatts** of new generation capacity, including 13 GW of natural gas generation. These projects will come online between 2026 and 2031, and additional announcements are expected.

The co-op fuel mix is anchored by **always-available energy (85%)** from coal, natural gas, nuclear and hydroelectric power, supplemented by **non-hydro renewables (15%)**, primarily intermittent wind and solar. Co-ops nationwide are also investing in battery storage technologies that can help address intermittency and improve reliability.

Co-ops thoughtfully explore all options, fuels and technologies as they work to meet their consumers’ evolving energy needs.

***Note:** Percentages do not add up to 100% due to rounding. Estimated fuel mix of all electricity sold at retail including from owned generation and purchased power.*  
***Source:** NRECA analysis*

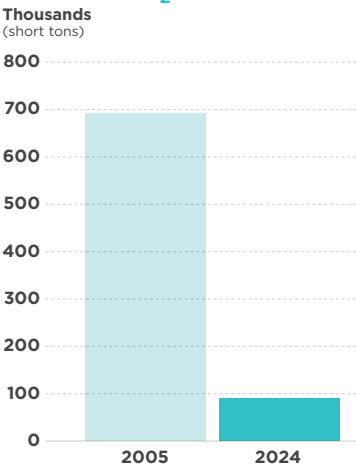


## Co-ops are reducing emissions

Cooperatives are meeting member expectations by reducing emissions and switching to natural gas and renewables.

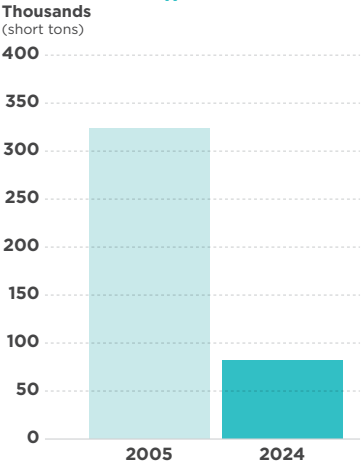
Reduced **sulphur dioxide** emissions 87% from 2005 to 2024.

### TOTAL SO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS



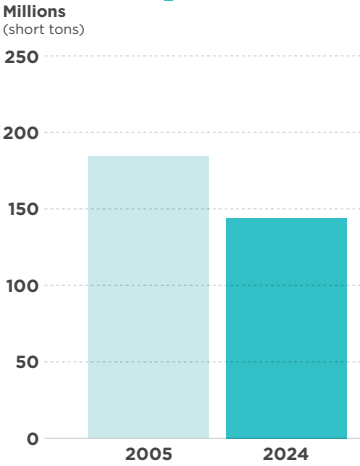
Reduced **nitrogen oxide** emissions 74% from 2005 to 2024.

### TOTAL NO<sub>x</sub> EMISSIONS



Reduced **carbon dioxide** emissions 22% from 2005 to 2024.

### TOTAL CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS



***Note:** Calculations of 2005 baseline and other years are adjusted to account for units purchased or sold as of the end of 2024.*

***Source:** NRECA analysis of emissions from co-op owned generating units using most recent data from EPA’s Clean Air Markets Program Data (CAMPD) tool.*

# Delivering reliable power at a cost families and businesses can afford.

1 in 4  
households

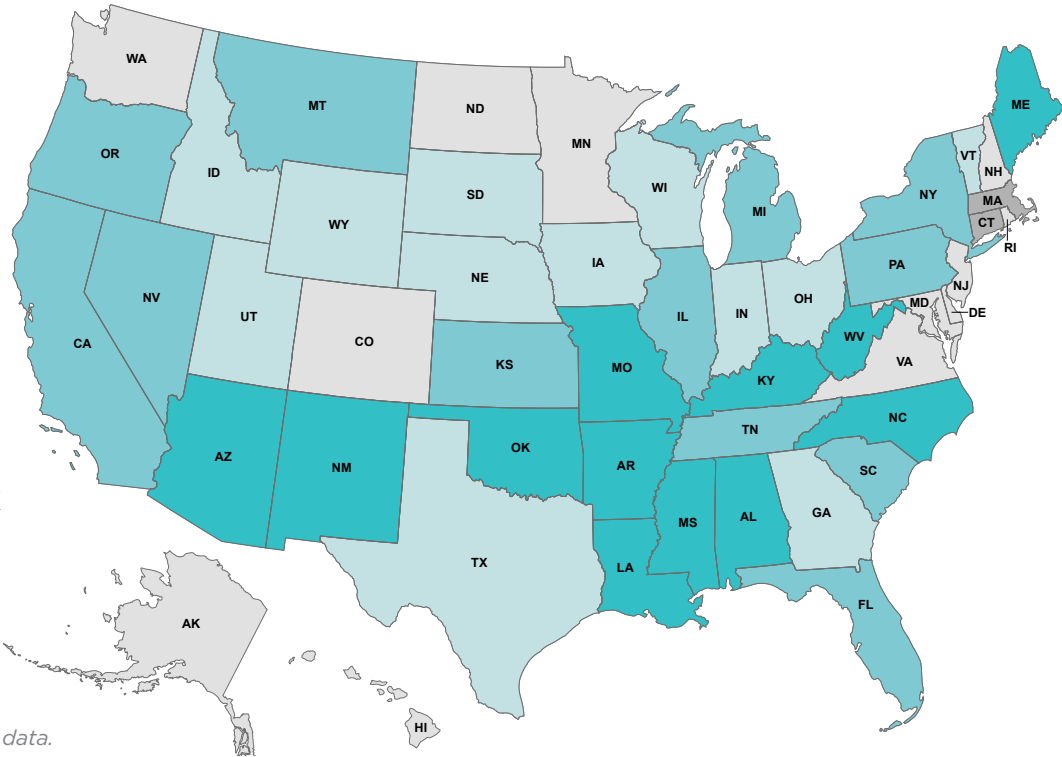
served by electric co-ops  
have an annual income  
below \$35,000.

Every decision made by electric cooperatives ultimately comes back to affordability and reliability for the consumers at the end of the line.

Share of Co-op Households  
With Annual Income Under \$35K

- 13%–20%
- 21%–24%
- 25%–27%
- 28%–39%

NRECA estimates



**Note:** Map reflects most recent available data.  
**Source:** 2024 EIA data

## THE COOPERATIVE DIFFERENCE

- Electric cooperatives are not-for-profit and consumer-owned, built by the communities they serve. Led by members of their communities, co-ops deliver power at cost and are uniquely suited to meet local needs.
- In the 2025 J.D. Power Electric Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction Study, co-ops secured eight of the top 10 spots based on individual scores and the highest average score among all electric utility providers.

