

The Benefits of Natural Gas

While many people think of furnaces and stoves when they hear about natural gas, its daily applications extend much farther than heating and cooking. Not only does clean-burning natural gas heat about half of American homes, it also generates more than one-third of the nation's electricity and is used to manufacture a wide range of products. With proper infrastructure, the growth in domestic natural gas production can continue to bolster America's economy while helping the nation meet its environmental goals.

Cleaner, Reliable Electric Generation

14%↓

Energy-related carbon dioxide emissions, 2005-2017

According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, from 2005 to 2017, U.S. energy-related carbon dioxide emissions declined by 14 percent, largely because of the increased use of natural gas for power generation. Natural gas also supports the growth of renewable energy sources, ensuring we have a reliable mix of energy resources and an on-demand source because renewable power generation is variable.

Natural gas power plants are available on-demand, providing critical support to renewable resources in the absence of wind or sunlight.

Consumers Save with Natural Gas

American consumers continue to benefit greatly from the resurgence in domestic natural gas production. Additionally, homeowners who use natural gas for heating, cooking and clothes drying save an average of \$874 per year on energy bills compared to homeowners who use electricity, according to a 2018 American Gas Association report.

\$874

Annual energy savings for consumers using natural gas to heat their homes, as of 2018

In addition to these economic benefits of natural gas, the increased efficiency of appliances and homes has meant that its use for heating and cooking have also become more efficient. Even as more households directly use natural gas, consumption per household has decreased.

The commercial uses of natural gas include heating buildings and water, refrigeration and cooling equipment, cooking, drying clothes and outdoor lighting. The use of natural gas in 5.5 million commercial buildings has translated into over \$76 billion dollars of savings to the commercial sector since 2009 – savings which are also passed along to consumers as they fuel economic competition.

Manufacturing

Natural gas is driving a resurgence in domestic manufacturing, both as an integral ingredient in products we use daily, and as a fuel or heating source manufacture these products.

Natural Gas...

- ◆ Is clean-burning, affordable and efficient
- ◆ Fuels our economy and our way of life
- ◆ Has afforded American families and businesses lower utility bills and lower costs for goods and services
- ◆ Is integral to American manufacturing, used to produce automobiles, textiles, plastics, steel, chemicals and more
- ◆ Has helped to create thousands of American jobs in the energy production and pipeline sectors, as well as the manufacturing industry
- ◆ Continues to significantly lower greenhouse gas emissions in the United States
- ◆ Is abundant in the United States, providing energy security



Did you Know?

Natural gas represents the majority of energy used in manufacturing aluminum, plastic, glass, brick and other key sectors.

Manufacturing (continued)

Both natural gas and natural gas liquids (i.e. propane, ethane, butane) are key ingredients – for which there is no economical substitute – in the domestic production of most plastics; fertilizers; and other chemicals that serve as the foundation for most goods and products used daily by every consumer.

According to a September 2018 study by the American Chemistry Council, the chemical industry has launched 333 new projects since 2010 due to shale gas. Cumulatively, these projects will create 431,000 direct and indirect jobs by 2025, \$202 billion in new capital investment and \$292 billion in new economic output.



25%
of the energy used in the U.S. came from natural gas.

In addition to fueling your furnace, stove and clothes dryer, natural gas is used to produce...



Products that use raw natural gas...



\$840/year²
Average household savings thanks to abundant, affordable natural gas.

\$68,850
Average wage for a pipeline worker.³

Estimated 374,000
U.S. jobs (direct, indirect and induced) related to increased pipeline construction through 2035.⁴

Why Pipelines?

In short, Pipelines Power America. Pipelines make the daily use of natural gas possible, and without them, none of these benefits would be realized. According to the Department of Transportation, pipelines are the safest and most efficient way to transport energy from production locations to end users, which include homes, businesses, power plants and manufacturing facilities, in part because they are located underground and largely protected from weather events such as high wind or extreme flooding. The natural gas pipeline network is also interconnected and linked to a variety of supply sources and underground storage fields, offering high reliability and alternative routes for delivering natural gas in the rare event of an outage.