Fast Facts on Energy Use



Facts About Energy Use in Commercial and Industrial Facilities

- > Combined number of commercial buildings (4.8 million) and industrial facilities (350,000) in the United States: over 5 million¹
- > Combined annual energy costs for U.S. commercial buildings (\$107.9 billion) and industrial facilities (\$94.4 billion):

\$202.3 billion²

- Portion of energy in buildings used inefficiently or unnecessarily: 30 percent³
- > Combined percentage of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions generated by commercial buildings (17 percent) and industrial facilities (28 percent):

45 percent⁴

- > Percentage of energy use reduction targeted by the ENERGY STAR Challenge: 10 percent⁵
- Amount of money that would be saved if the energy efficiency of commercial and industrial buildings improved by 10 percent:

\$20 billion⁶

- > Amount of greenhouse gas emissions that would be reduced if the energy efficiency of commercial and industrial buildings improved by 10 percent:

 equal to about 30 million vehicles⁷
- > Number of registered automobiles in Illinois, New York, Ohio, and Texas combined: about 30 million⁸

Global Energy Facts

- > The approximate energy released in the burning of a wood match:

 1 Btu⁹
- > Total energy used in the U.S. each year:

99.89 quadrillion Btu¹⁰

- > Portion of U.S. annual energy use created by the combustion of fossil fuels: **86 percent**¹¹
- > Amount of global carbon dioxide (CO₂) released into the atmosphere in 2005: **6,000 million metric tons**¹²
- > U.S. contribution of global greenhouse gas emissions: about 20 percent¹³
- > U.S. population relative to the world:

5 percent¹⁴

- > Amount of greenhouse gas emissions that have increased between 1970 and 2004: **70 percent**¹⁵
- > Period of time in which 11 of the 12 warmest years on record have occurred: 1995 to 2006¹⁶



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- 7 Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas and Sinks: 1990-2005. "USEPA #430-R-07-002, Table 2-16: U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Economic Sector and Gas with Electricity-Related Emissions." April 2007. 14 June 2007 http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/usinventoryreport.html>. From Table 2-16 US Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Economic Sector (CPPD Approved Source) Commercial Total CO₂ = 1024.98 mmt Industrial Electricity Related Only CO₂ = 679.7 mmt Total CO₂ = 1704.68 mmt Using US Climate Technology Cooperation Gateway Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator (CPPD Approved Source/Calculator) 1704.68 Million Metric Tons CO₂ = 304,951,699 vehicles; 10% reduction for Challenge = approximately 30 million vehicles (Source: EPA).
- 8 U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration. "State Motor-Vehicle Registrations 2005." October 2006. 1 June 2007 http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policy/ohim/hs05/htm/mv1.htm. Illinois, New York, Ohio, and Texas add up to 29,951,758 registered vehicles.
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- 10 Energy Information Administration. "Energy Overview." Annual Energy Review. Table 1.1. 2005. 1 June 2007 http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/aer/pdf/pages/sec1_5.pdf>.
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