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
88% of U.S. counties.

831 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.

62 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 **333,013 new members** in 2017.
- **83%** of electric co-ops had a net increase in members in 2017.
- Electricity demand at co-ops decreased about one-half of one percent in 2017, with co-op retail sales reaching **437 billion kilowatt-hours**.
- Co-op residential electricity sales decreased **2%**.
- Commercial & industrial sales increased **2.85%;** irrigation sales decreased **6.3%**.

### Electricity sales growth
Co-op sales growth rates generally surpass that of the electric utility industry as a whole.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Industry Sales Growth</th>
<th>Co-op Sales Growth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>-0.1%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: EIA

### Co-ops generate 5% of total U.S. electricity and sell 13% of all U.S. electricity

Source: NRUCFC, RUS and EIA

**2017 RETAIL FUEL MIX**
- **40%** Coal
- **25%** Natural Gas
- **15%** Nuclear
- **10%** Hydro
- **8%** Non-Hydro Renewables
- **2%** Oil, Other & Unknown

Source: NRECA

**2017 SALES**
- Residential: 53%
- Commercial: 20%
- Other: 3%
- Industrial: 24%
- Non-Hydro Renewables: 5%
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.

- Since 2010, co-op renewable energy capacity has increased 145% from 4 gigawatts to 9.7 gigawatts. More than 90 percent of electric co-ops provide electricity generated by renewable energy resources.
- A Department of Energy partnership with 17 electric co-ops has supported the development of 30 megawatts of utility-scale solar in 10 states.
- Co-ops also purchase 10 gigawatts of hydropower from federal power marketing administrations.
- More than 560 co-ops in 36 states use enough wind energy to serve 2 million homes.

... and jump starting renewable energy growth

Co-op solar is skyrocketing

Co-ops have:

- Reduced sulphur dioxide emissions 68% from 2009-2017.
- Reduced nitrogen oxide emissions 34% from 2009-2017.
- Reduced carbon dioxide emissions 9% since 2009 while increasing generation by more than 12 million megawatt-hours.

Source: EPA and EIA

Source: 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

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 2017, America’s electric co-ops returned **more than $1.1 billion** in excess revenue 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 Economic Impact of America’s Electric Cooperatives, FTI Consulting, March 2019

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

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

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

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

Source: NRECA