

# 2020 Sustainable Energy in America Factbook

## CLEAN ENERGY POWERS DOWN EMISSIONS

Total U.S. greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions have **FALLEN 4.1%** over the past decade, and now sit at roughly **12% below 2005 levels**.

The carbon intensity of the power sector continues to decline. From 2010 to 2019, power sector **emissions FELL NEARLY 25%**.



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY PAYS DIVIDENDS

U.S. spending on energy efficiency through formal frameworks - utilities, ESPCs, and PACE — totaled **\$14.2 BILLION IN 2018**, up from \$9.4 bn in 2010.

**76% OF AMERICANS** live in a state with a building energy code that promotes energy efficiency.

Combined heat and power (CHP) represented **7% of U.S. power generation** in 2018.



## POWERING THE U.S. ECONOMY

**OVER \$390 BILLION** has been invested in new clean energy assets since 2010, an average of **\$39 bn per year**.

Energy efficiency, natural gas, and renewable energy now support over **3.2 MILLION JOBS** (2018).

In the 2010s, the **U.S. OUTCOMPETED** most other countries with low industrial power prices.

The energy productivity of the U.S. economy has **grown 17.6% since 2009** and grew 3.3% in 2019.



## SUSTAINABLE ENERGY GOES MAINSTREAM

Natural gas and renewable energy **GENERATED 56% of U.S. ELECTRICITY** in 2019, up from 34% in 2010.

Corporate PPAs for renewable energy accelerated from 0.1 GW in 2010 to **33.6 GW** by year-end 2019, with a **RECORD BREAKING 13.6 GW in 2019** alone.

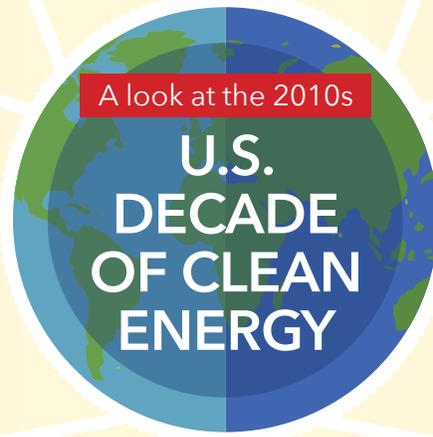
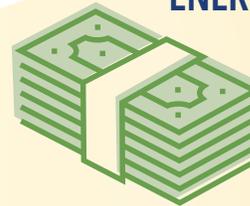


## CHEAPER AND CLEANER ENERGY, MORE CHOICE

U.S. households **SPEND LESS THAN 4%** of their budgets on energy costs, down from 5.1% a decade ago.

Electric and fuel cell vehicle **CHOICES** on the market went from virtually **zero** at the start of 2010 to **83** by year-end 2019.

On average, national retail power prices **FELL 1.5%** in 2019.



## NATURAL GAS USE AND INVESTMENT SURGE

U.S. natural gas utility construction expenditures totaled an estimated **\$185 BILLION** from 2010 to 2018.

The U.S. added **4.7 million** more natural gas customers from 2008 to 2018, an average of about **ONE CUSTOMER PER MINUTE**.

**FIVE STATES** have voluntary tariffs to offer renewable natural gas (RNG) to homes and businesses.



## RENEWABLE ENERGY BOOMS

Renewable energy **PROVIDES 18%** of total U.S. power generation, up from 10% in 2010.

Wind and solar power capacity **QUINTUPLED** over the 2010s, expanding from 36 GW to 183 GW.

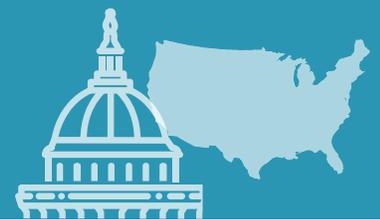
Hydropower pumped storage provides **93% of energy storage** in the U.S.

Biogas, biomass, waste-to-energy, and geothermal represented **17 GW OF U.S. CAPACITY** in 2019.



## THE POLICY LANDSCAPE

Moving forward, smart policies that leverage business investment in energy efficiency, natural gas, and renewable energy are critical to accelerate deployment and emissions reductions in all sectors of the economy. Federal, state, and local governments, in partnership with the business community, should align initiatives to send strong and enduring market signals for economy-wide clean energy investment.



## WHY THE FACTBOOK MATTERS



The Business Council for Sustainable Energy and BloombergNEF created the Factbook to arm policymakers, journalists, and industry professionals with up-to-date, accurate market information about the U.S. energy landscape. **#CleanEnergyDecade #2020Factbook [WWW.BCSE.ORG/FACTBOOK](http://WWW.BCSE.ORG/FACTBOOK)**