



PDHonline Course C765 (8 PDH)

Sustainability for Civil Engineers

PDH Online | PDH Center

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Sustainability for Civil Engineers

University Course Material



- The following material was developed for use in University settings for Civil Engineers, however, it can be used for other purposes.
- This slideshow discusses infrastructure sustainability and introduces the Envision rating system, and other related topics.
- Some of the material is time sensitive, so updates will be needed.
- We welcome comments and suggestions. We also welcome your input concerning Sustainability material that you use in your lectures, readings, or homework.
- This material was assembled from many sources by Frank Sherkow.
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or
 - mghoseha@uno.edu (Malay Ghose Hajra, Ph.D., P.E., ENV SP)

Sustainability – University Course

By Frank Sherkow, P.E., ENV SP, F.ASCE



- Rev. 10.3.13
- Topics
 - Global Issues (starts on slide 3)
 - People (starts on slide 10)
 - Technology starts on slide 16)
 - Financial Issues (starts on slide 23)
 - Energy & Materials (starts on slide 29)
 - Sustainability (starts on slide 70)
 - Life Cycle (starts on slide 102)
 - Role of the Engineer (starts on slide 108)
 - Citizen Engineer (starts on slide 116)
 - Ethics & Policies (starts on slide 143)
 - Major Global Projects (starts on slide 149)
 - Laws & Regulations (starts on slide 169)
 - Envision (starts on slide 172)
 - LEED (starts on slide 197)
 - Other rating systems (starts on slide 221)

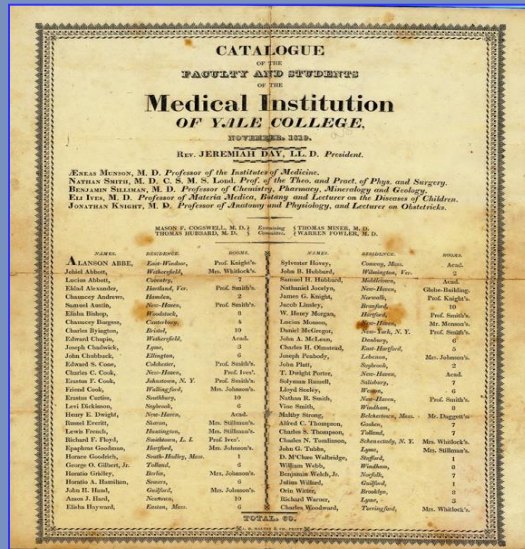
What are the issues and why study them?



Civil Engineers DO have an Important Impact on Society and Public Wellbeing



"...the greatest advances in improving human health were the development of clean drinking water and sewage systems. So, **we owe our health as much to civil engineering as we do to biology.**"



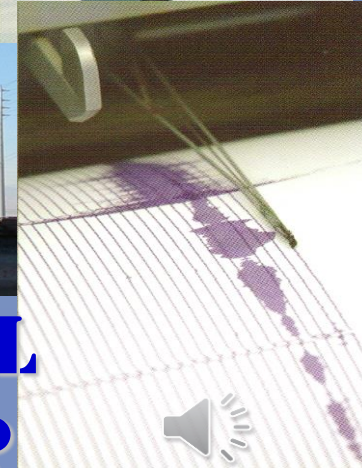
Dr. Lewis Thomas
(1913-1993)
Dean, Yale Medical School



Global & Environmental Issues



- **Shift Even More to Urban Areas**
- **Require Widespread Sustainability**
- **Climate Change**
- **Transportation**
- **Energy Supplies**
- **Clean Water and Air**
- **Safe Waste Disposal**
- **Population Pressure**
 - Food
 - Disease
 - Space/Density
- **Terrorism/War/Unrest/Natural Events**
- **Other resource limitations**



**WHAT CAN CIVIL
ENGINEERS DO?**

Source: ASCE and others



Top US Social/Political Issues



1. Federal spending
2. Jobs & economy
3. Government regulations
4. National security
5. Illegal Immigration
6. Health care
7. Gun rights
8. Energy
9. Education
10. Social Security / Medicare

Poll Question: How important will each of the following issues be to you this year and next?

Fox News; Dec. 2012

National Academy of Science – Grand Challenges of the 21st Century Engineering

Source: *The Essential Engineer*

1. Make Solar Energy Affordable
2. Provide Energy From Fusion
3. Develop Carbon Sequestration Methods
4. Manage the Nitrogen Cycle
5. Provide Access to Clean Water
6. Restore and Improve Urban Infrastructure
7. Advance Health Informatics
8. Engineer Better Medicines
9. Reverse-Engineer the Brain
10. Prevent Nuclear Terror
11. Secure Cyberspace
12. Enhance Virtual Reality
13. Advance Personalized Learning
14. Engineer the Tools for Scientific Discovery



CE/CEM Environment



- Increased constraints on financial resources
- Major demographic changes
- Rapid globalization with increasing competition
- Rapid technology advances and fusing of engineering and science disciplines are driving changing engineering needs



Climate Change – Different Points of View?

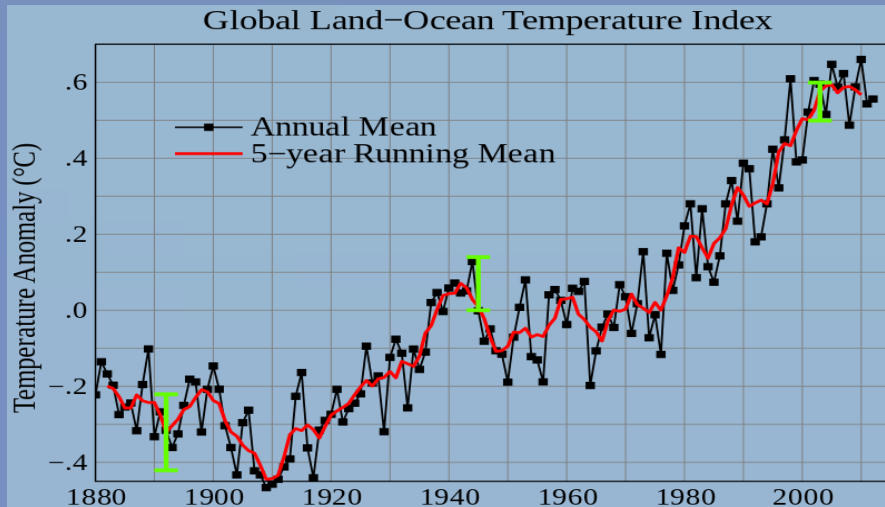
Remember: Weather is not climate!



• Global Warming

Strategies

- Conservation
- Make motors more efficient
- Build 600 nuclear power plants



• Global Cooling

- A new NASA study shows that from 1978 to 2010 the total extent of sea ice surrounding Antarctica in the Southern Ocean grew by roughly 6,600 square miles every year, an area larger than the state of Connecticut. And, previous research by the same authors indicates that this rate of increase has recently accelerated, up from an average rate of almost 4,300 square miles per year from 1978 to 2006. *NASA*

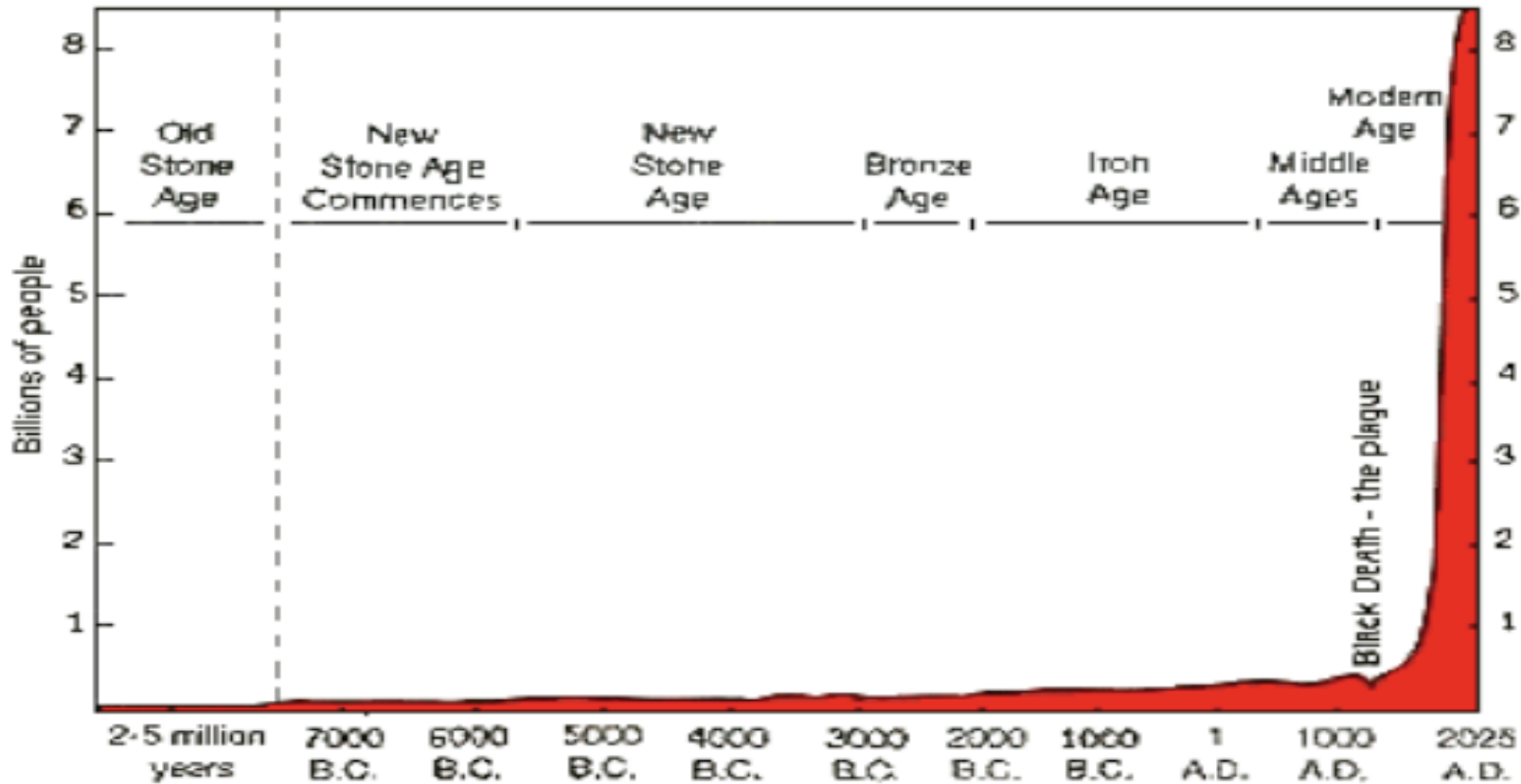
Strategies

- Conservation
- Make motors more efficient
- Build 600 nuclear power plants

People



Human Population



Resource Constraints *will* Intensify.

Growth in China's Urban Population

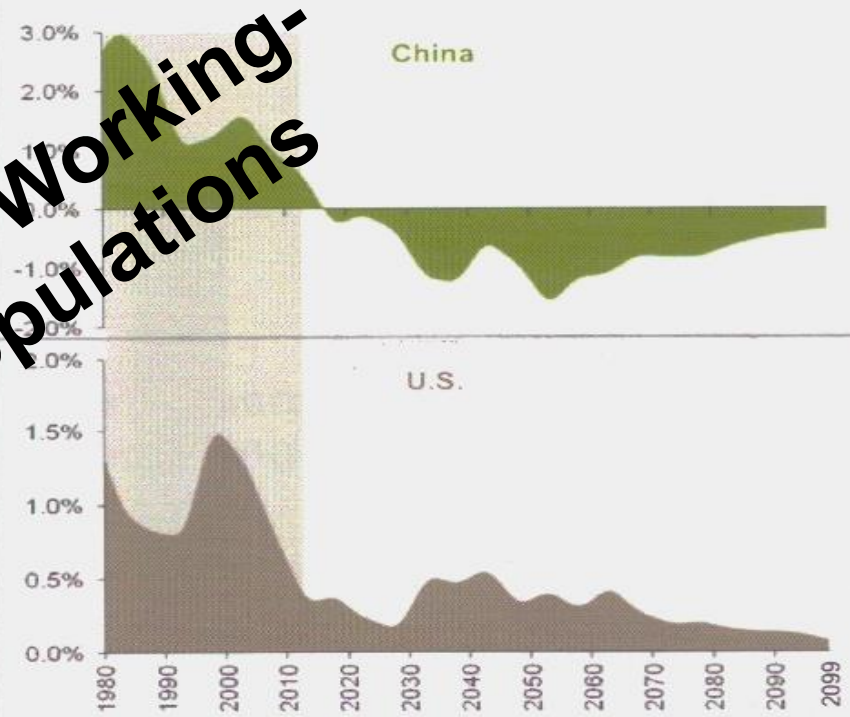
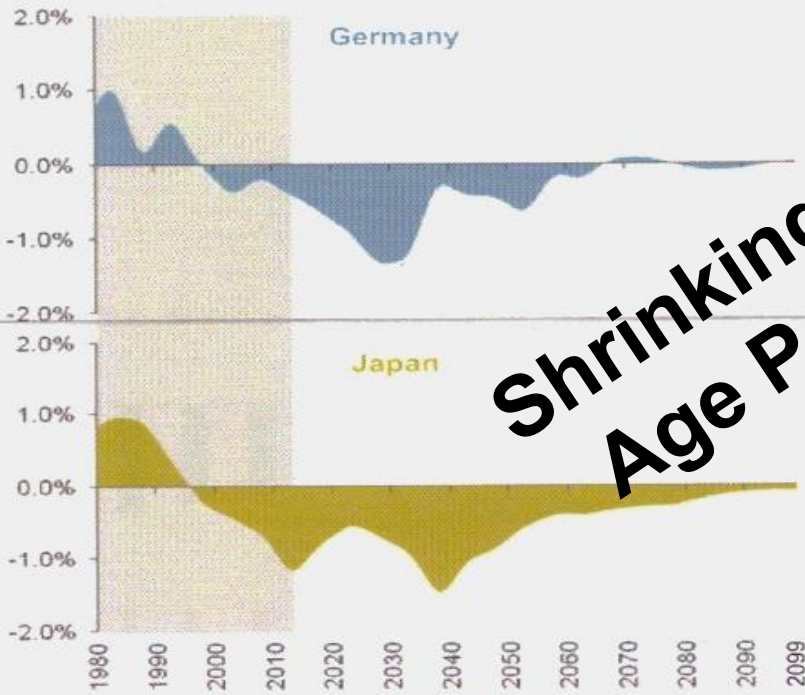


Source: "Preparing for China's Urban Billion," McKinsey Global Institute

Demographics Favorable Relative to Many Other Economies

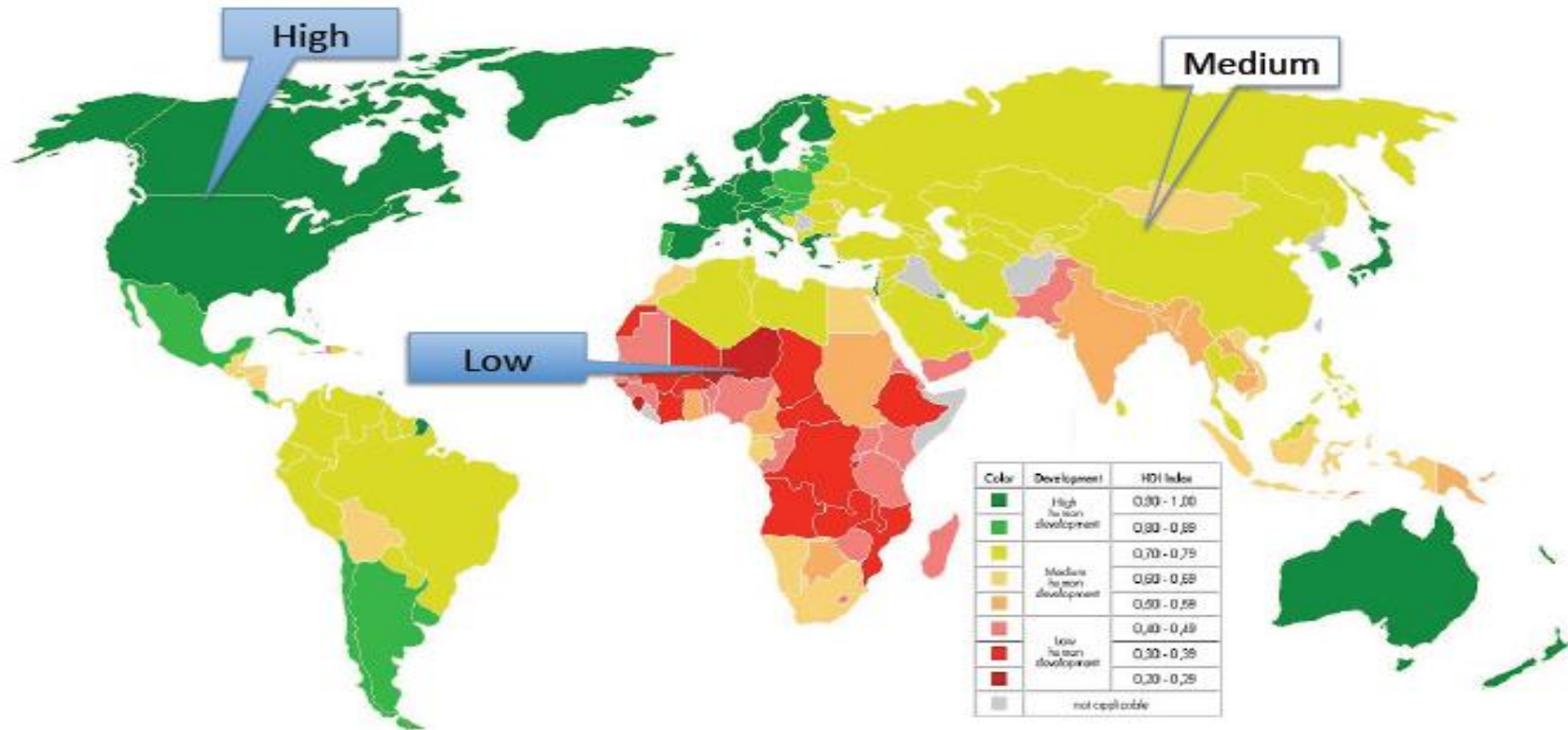
The U.S. is expected to face slower growth of its working-age population—a key factor for economic growth—over the next several decades relative to its post-WWII experience, but the growth rate will remain positive. In contrast, working-age populations are already declining in Japan and Germany, and will begin to fall in China during the next several years.

Working-Age Population Growth



Shrinking Working-Age Populations

World map of Human Development Index (HDI) (UN metric based on life expectancy, education, GDP)

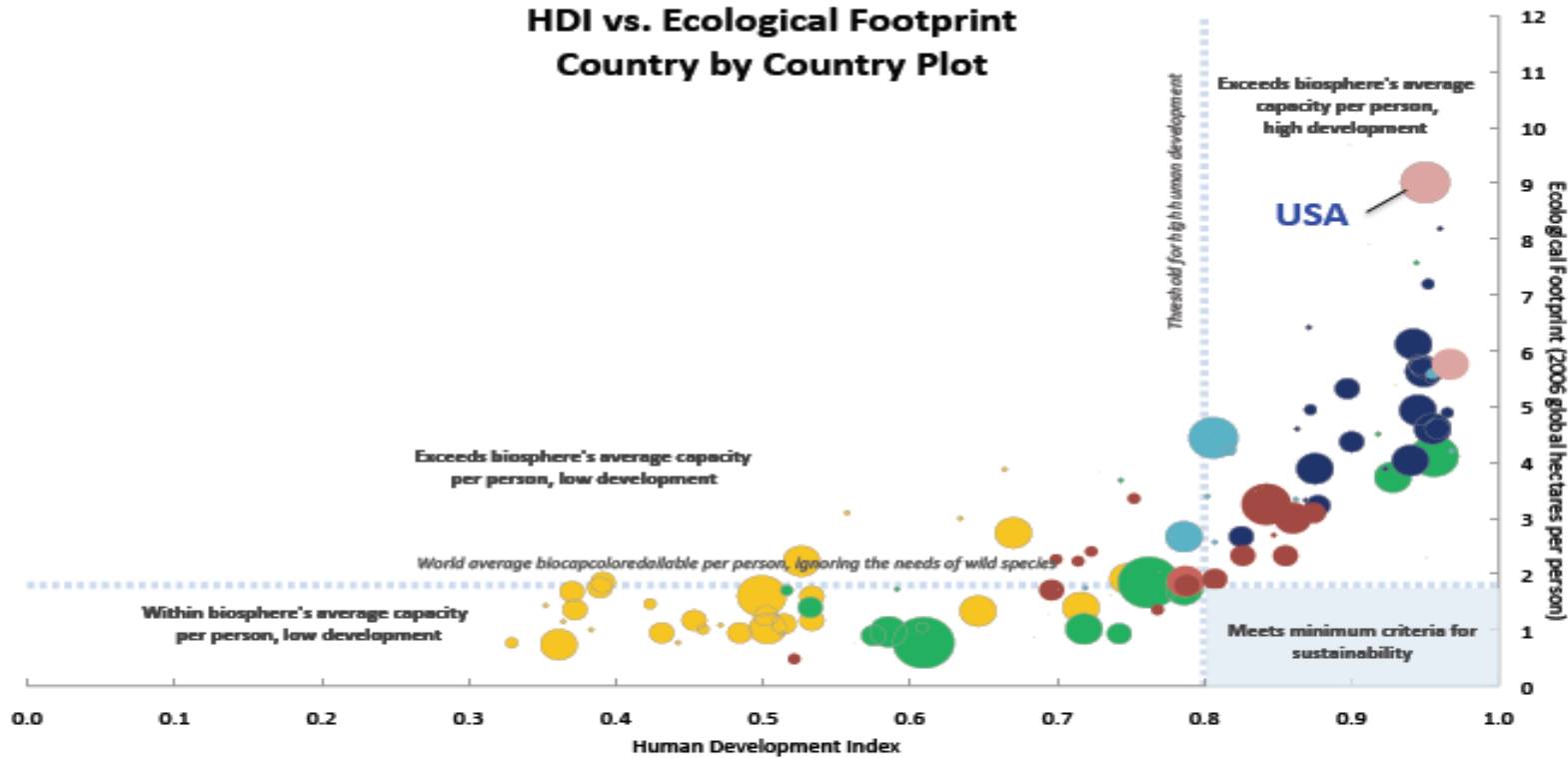


From PPT by William A. Wallace, ASCE ILC Spring Mtg 2010

Human Development Index vs. Ecological Footprint



**HDI vs. Ecological Footprint
Country by Country Plot**



Source: Irene Dhong, University of Florida, ENV 6932

Technology



Technology Environment in 2020



- Rapid and accelerating pace of **technological innovation**
- The world will be intensely **connected**
- Technology in our everyday lives will be **seamless, transparent, and more significant** than ever
- People involved with or affected by technology will be **increasingly diverse**
- Social, cultural, political and economic forces will continue to **shape and affect the success of technological innovation**

Boeing Engineering



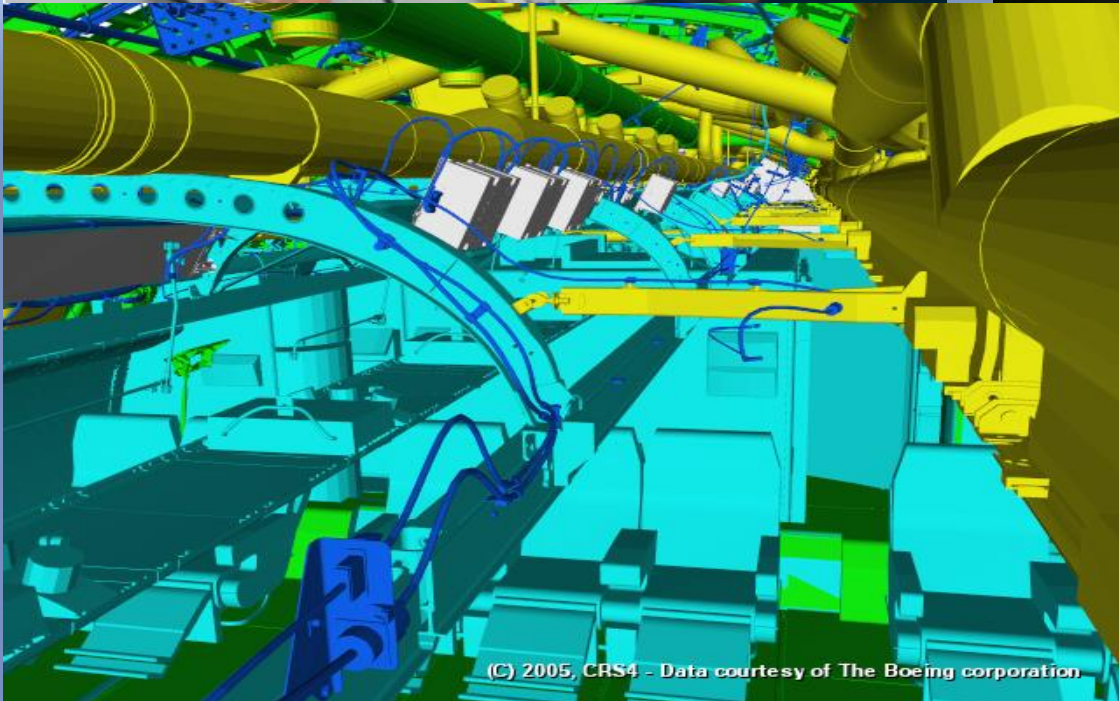
1942

WHERE BOEING PLANES GET THEIR START

Part of the Boeing Aircraft Company's engineering department made up of graduate engineers. Here new designs are initiated, all the complicated matters of stress, balance, weight, etc., are worked out and a considerable amount of research is conducted.



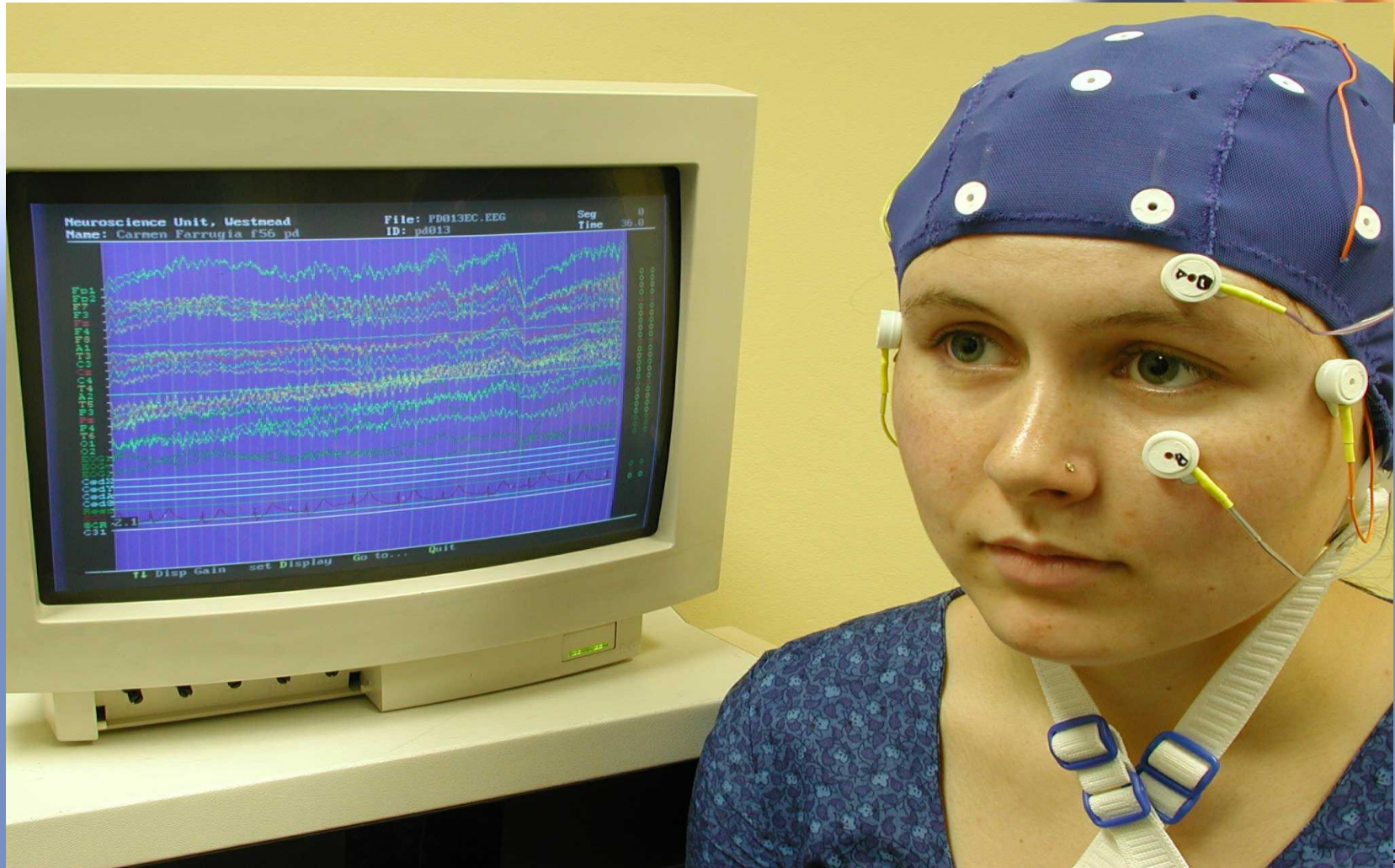
2005



(C) 2005, CRS4 - Data courtesy of The Boeing corporation



Future???



IT Future Trends



- Everything will become connected
 - Devices, systems, machines, business processes, even networks
- Digital technology is making transactions ‘smarter’
 - Tiny processors see, listen, and pass messages to one another in sensor networks
- Digital technology is spawning new technical areas and creating new sub-industries
 - Molecular-level drug design, genomics – gene diagnostics and therapies

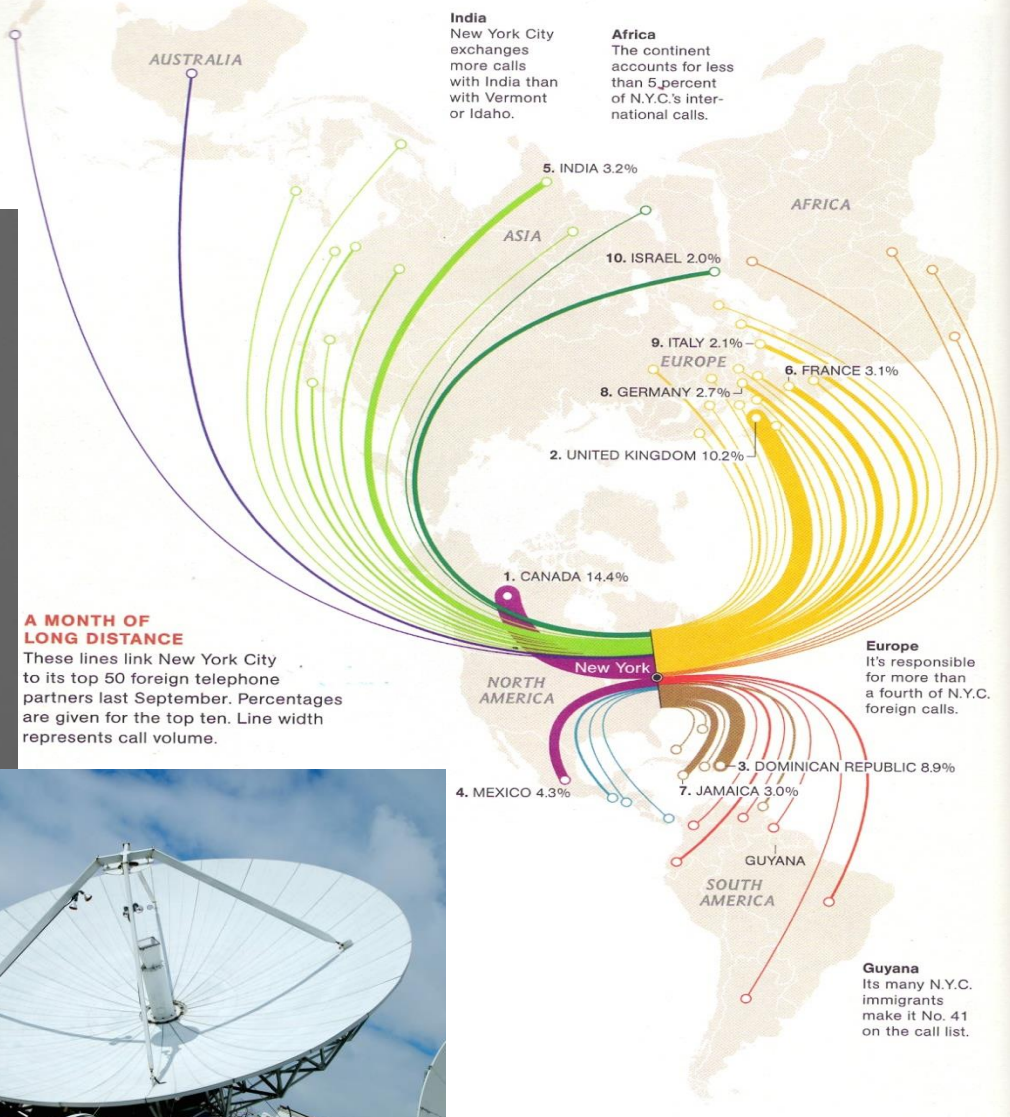
Implications: continuing culture changes

Connectivity



A MONTH OF LONG DISTANCE

These lines link New York City to its top 50 foreign telephone partners last September. Percentages are given for the top ten. Line width represents call volume.



Finance



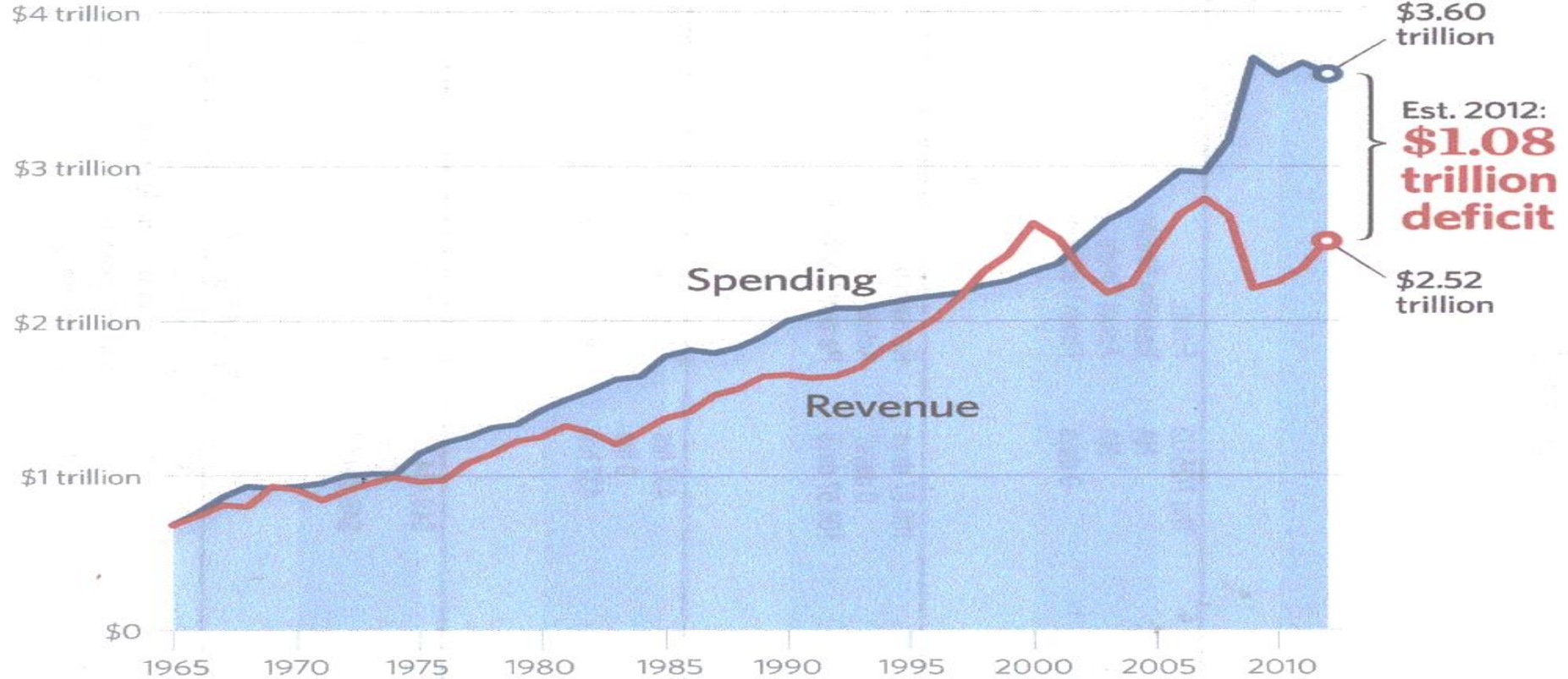
- “You can’t be environmentally sustainable without having long-term financial sustainability.”

source: Frank Sherkow, P.E., F.ASCE

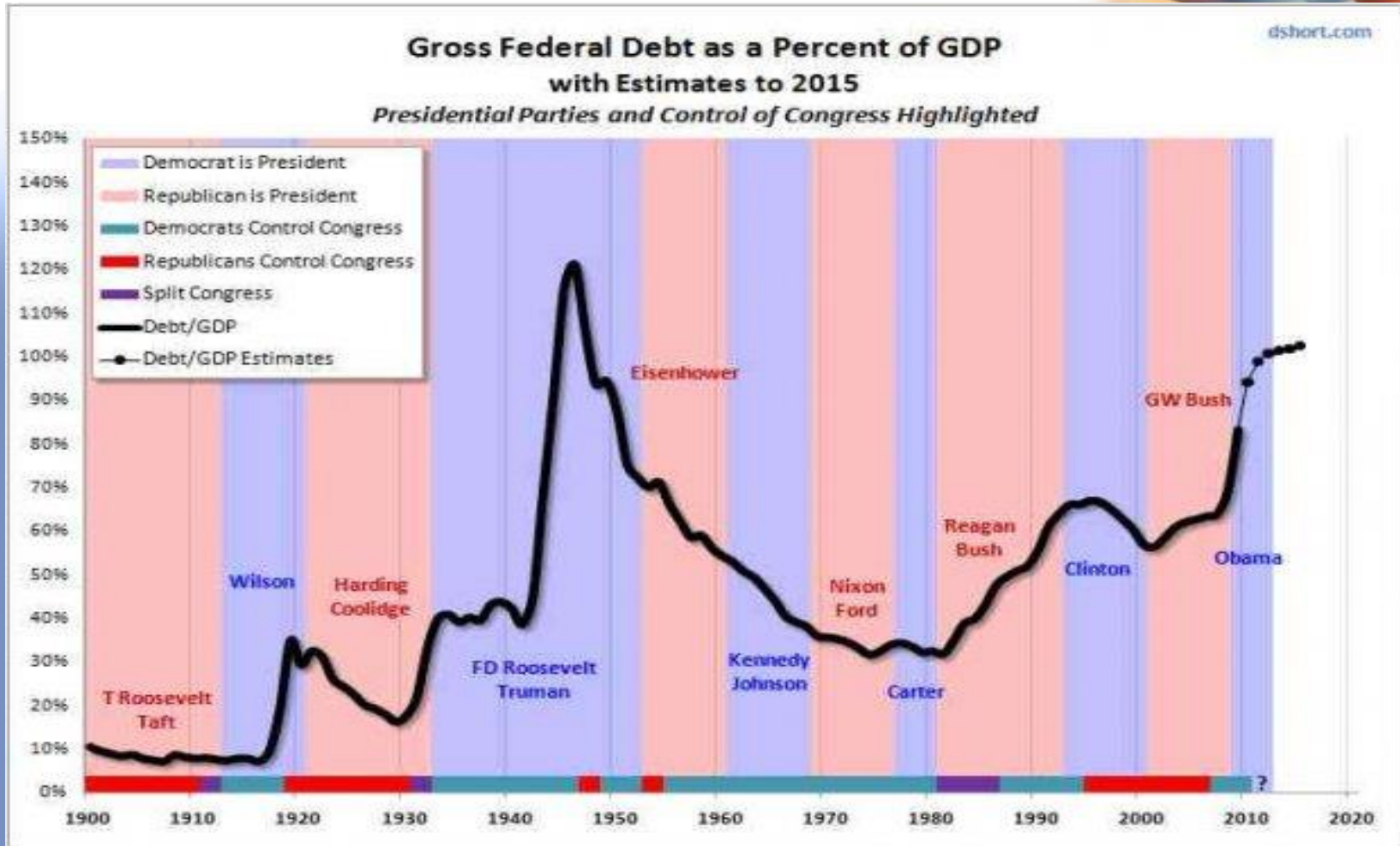
Federal Spending and Revenue



INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS (2012)



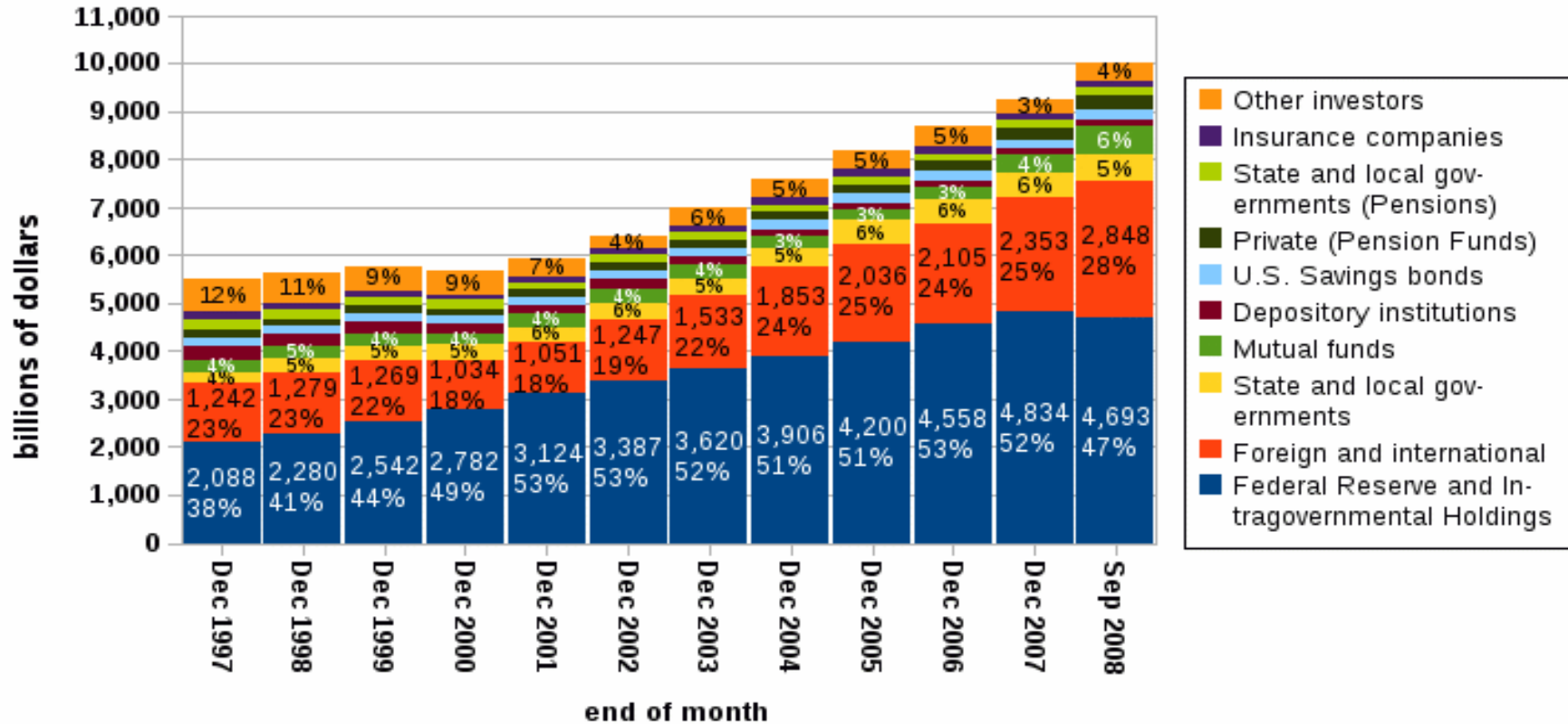
Federal Debt



Who Owns Our Debt?



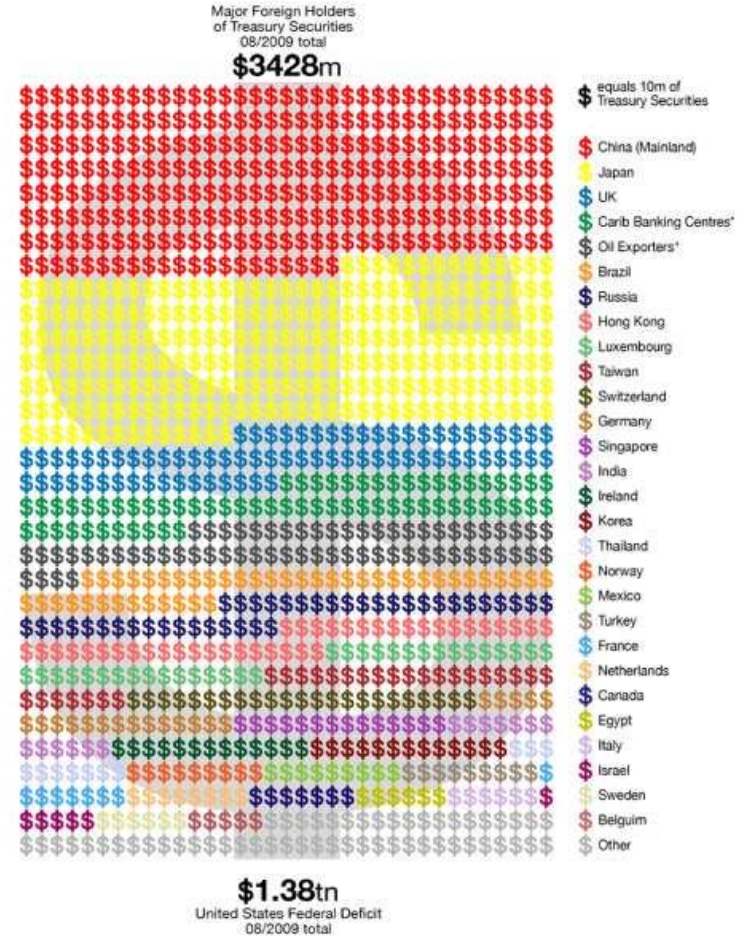
Estimated Ownership of Federal Securities



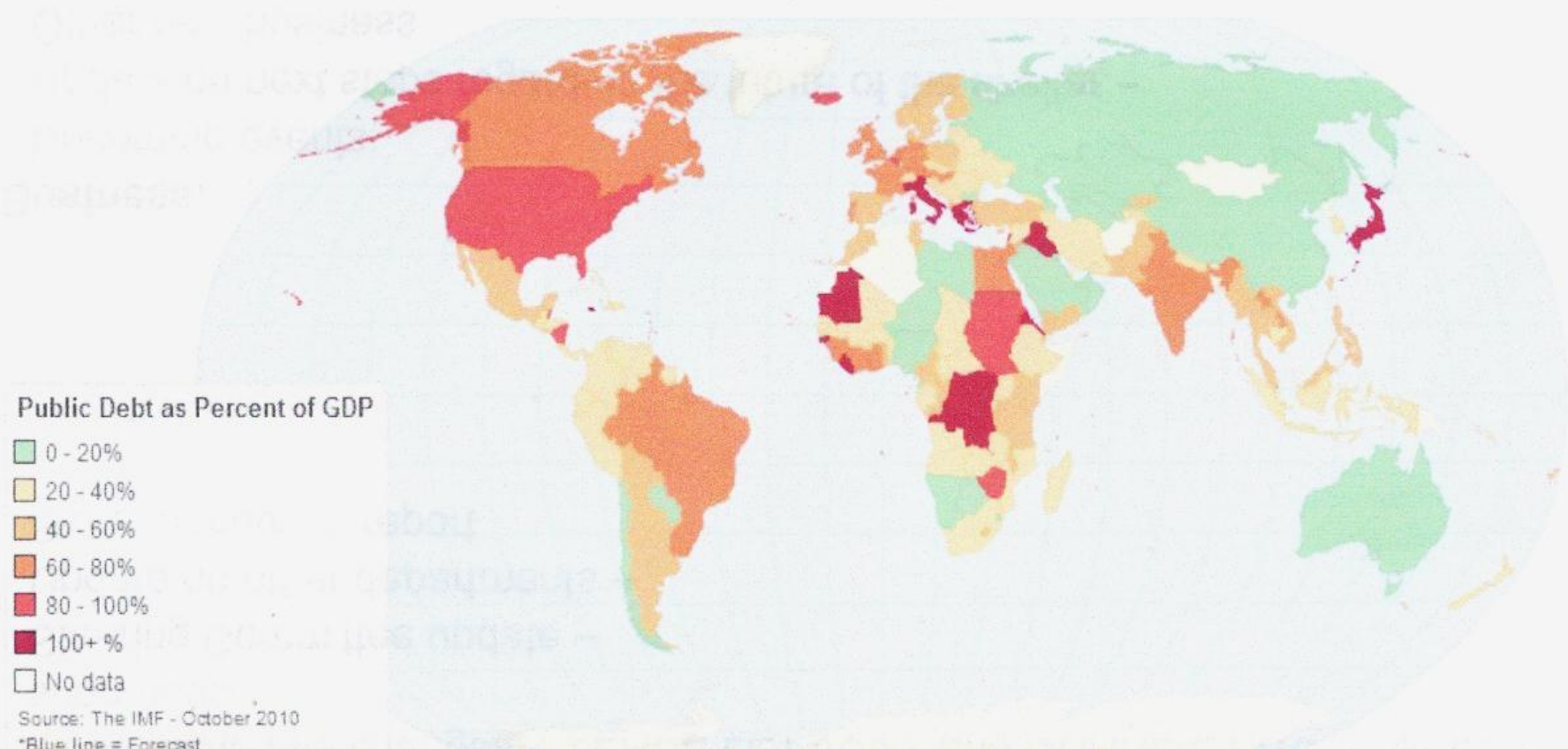
Who Owns Our Debt?



Which countries which own America's debt?



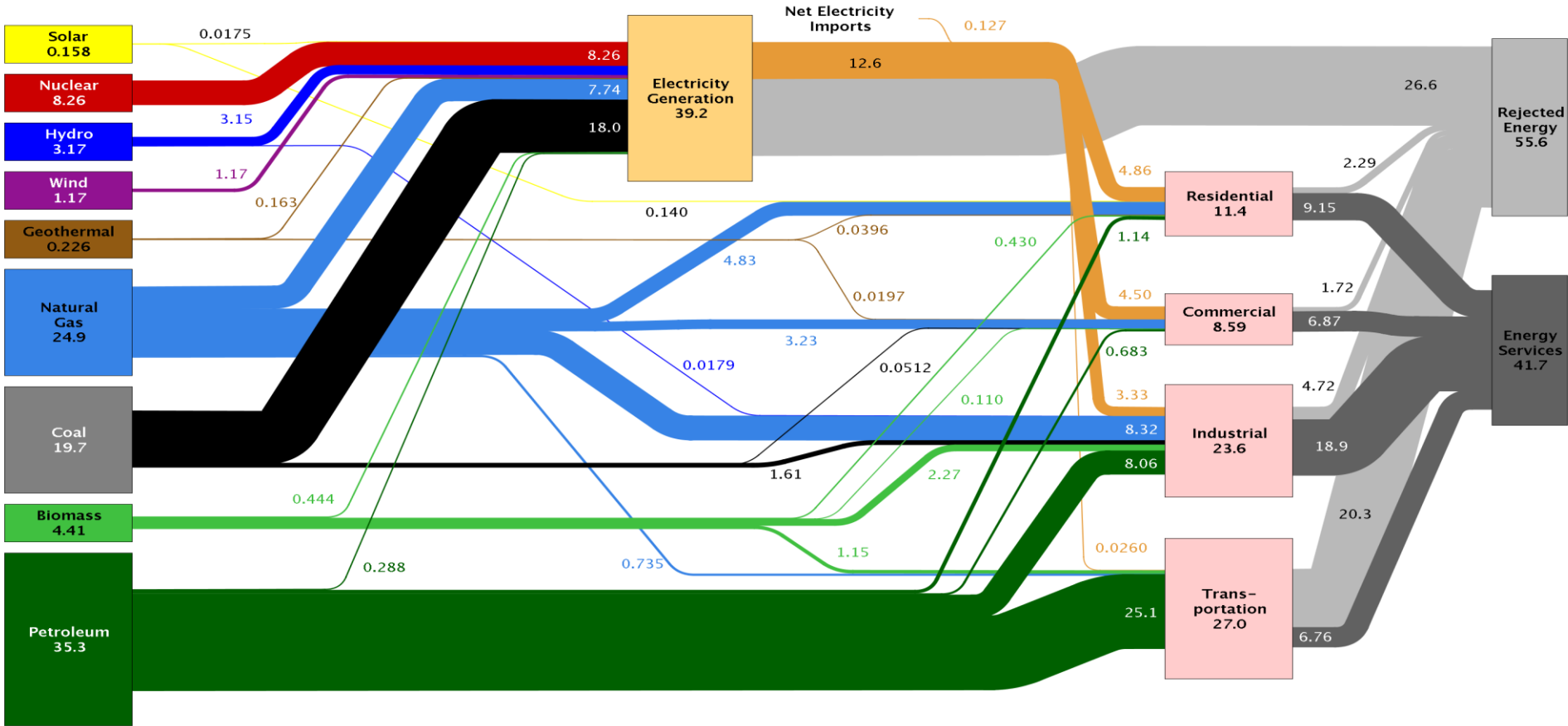
General Government Debt as Percent of GDP by Country



Energy and Materials

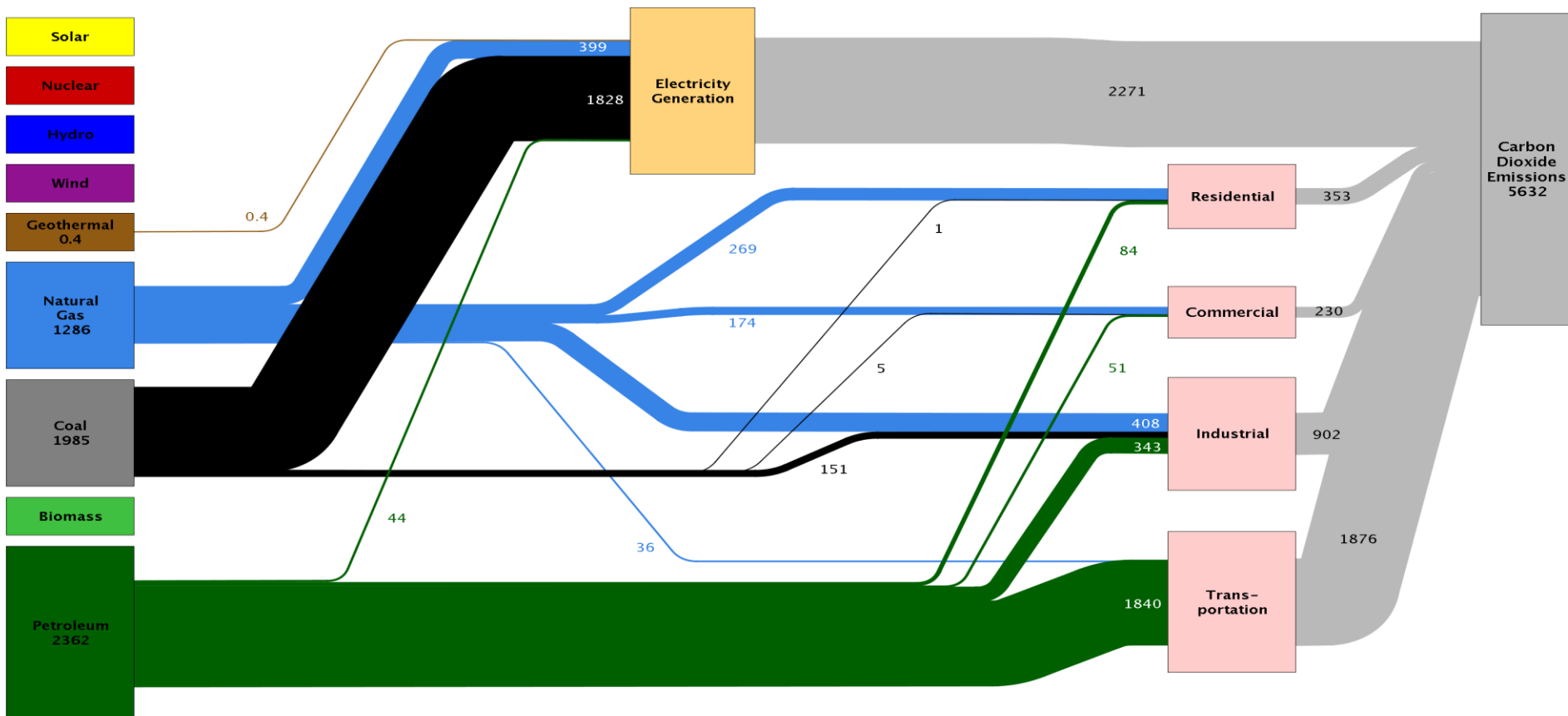


Estimated U.S. Energy Use in 2011: ~97.3 Quads



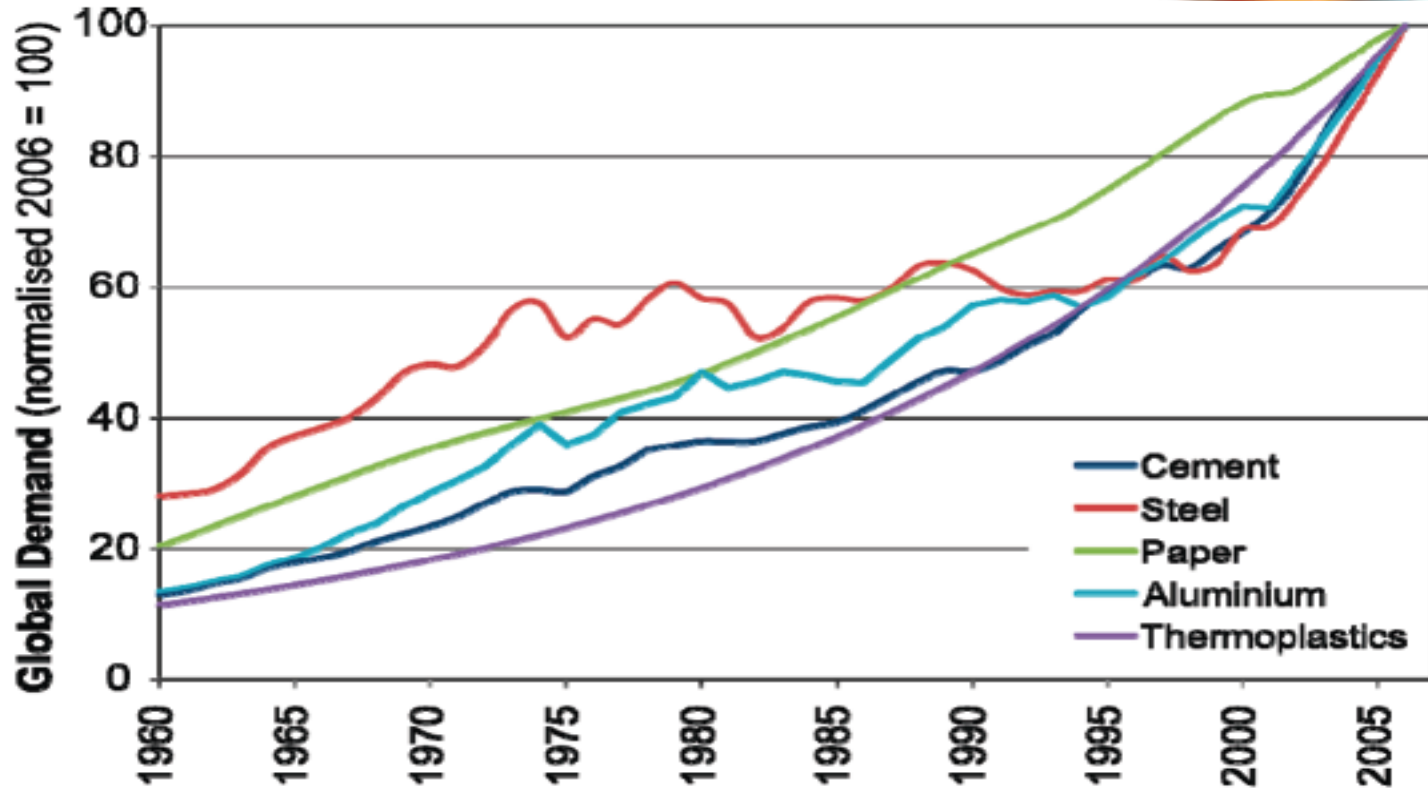
Source: LLNL 2012. Data is based on DOE/EIA-0384(2011), October, 2012. If this information or a reproduction of it is used, credit must be given to the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and the Department of Energy, under whose auspices the work was performed. Distributed electricity represents only retail electricity sales and does not include self-generation. EIA reports flows for non-thermal resources (i.e., hydro, wind and solar) in BTU-equivalent values by assuming a typical fossil fuel plant "heat rate." The efficiency of electricity production is calculated as the total retail electricity delivered divided by the primary energy input into electricity generation. End use efficiency is estimated as 80% for the residential, commercial and industrial sectors, and as 25% for the transportation sector. Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding. LLNL-MI-410527

Energy-Related U.S. Carbon Dioxide Emissions in 2010: ~5632 Million Metric Tons



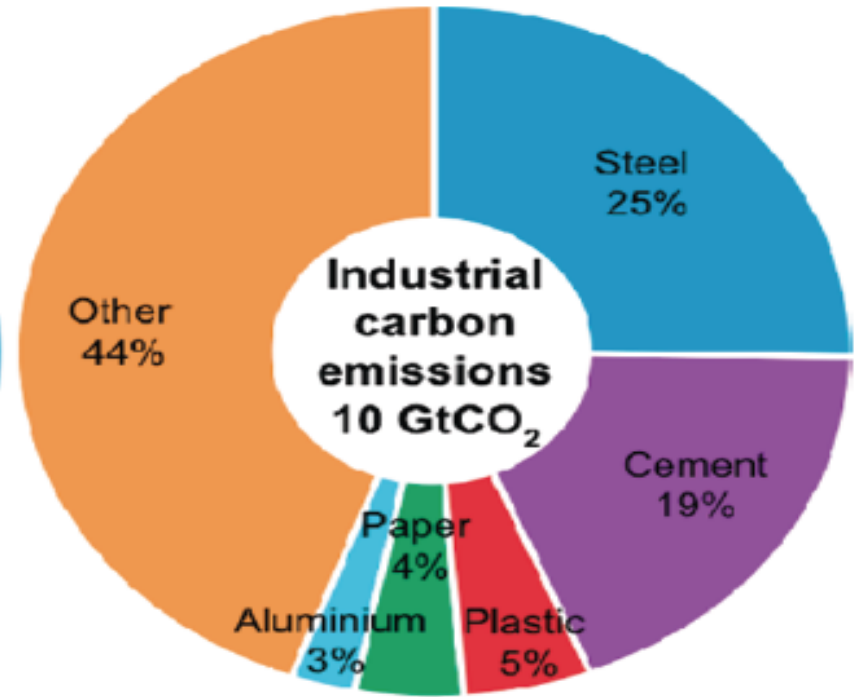
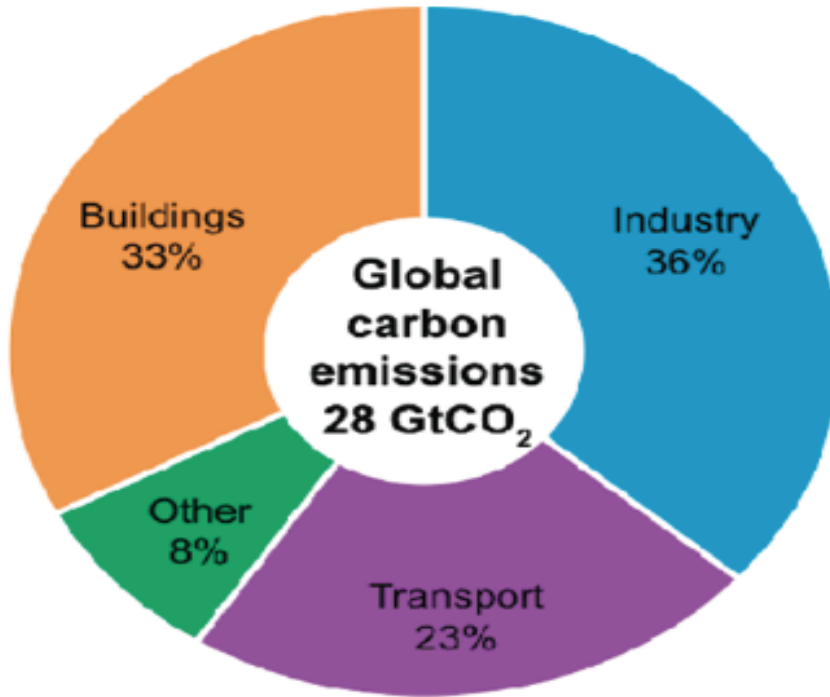
Source: LLNL 2011. Data is based on DOE/EIA-0384(2010), October 2011. If this information or a reproduction of it is used, credit must be given to the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and the Department of Energy, under whose auspices the work was performed. Non-fuel carbon and non-energy CO₂ is not shown. The flow of petroleum to electricity production includes both petroleum fuels and the plastics component of municipal solid waste. The combustion of biologically derived fuels is assumed to have zero net carbon emissions - lifecycle emissions associated with biofuels are accounted for in the Industrial and Commercial sectors. Emissions from U.S. Territories and international aviation and marine bunkers are not included. Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding. LLNL-MI-411167

Increasing Raw Materials Demand



Allwood, Cullen, and Milford (2010), Options for Achieving a 50% Cut in Industrial Carbon Emissions by 2050, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 44, 1888–1894.

CO₂ Production

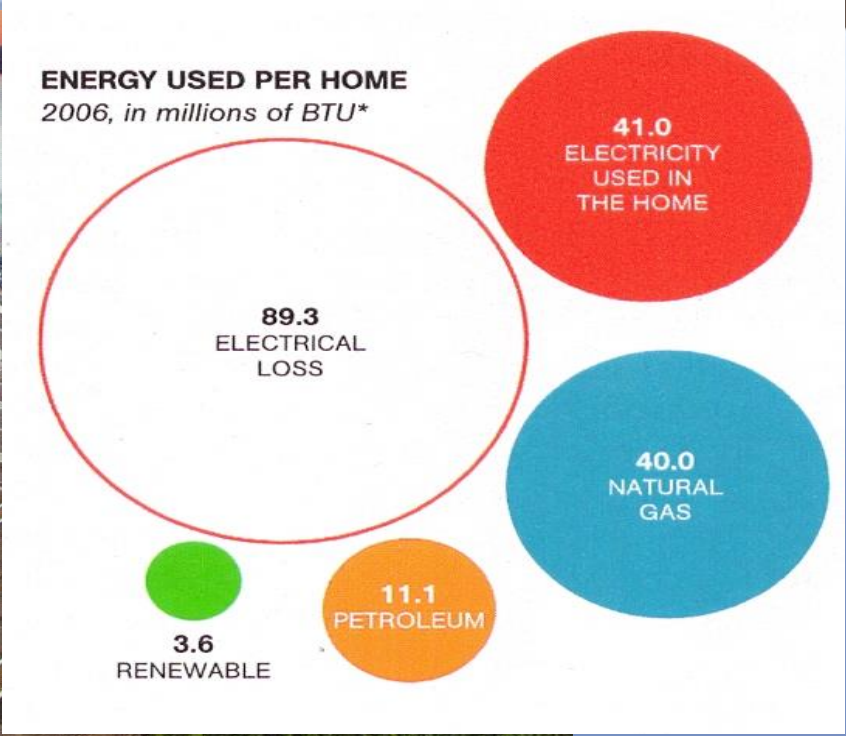


Allwood, Cullen, and Milford (2010), Options for Achieving a 50% Cut in Industrial Carbon Emissions by 2050, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 44, 1888–1894.



1970 Earth Day Button

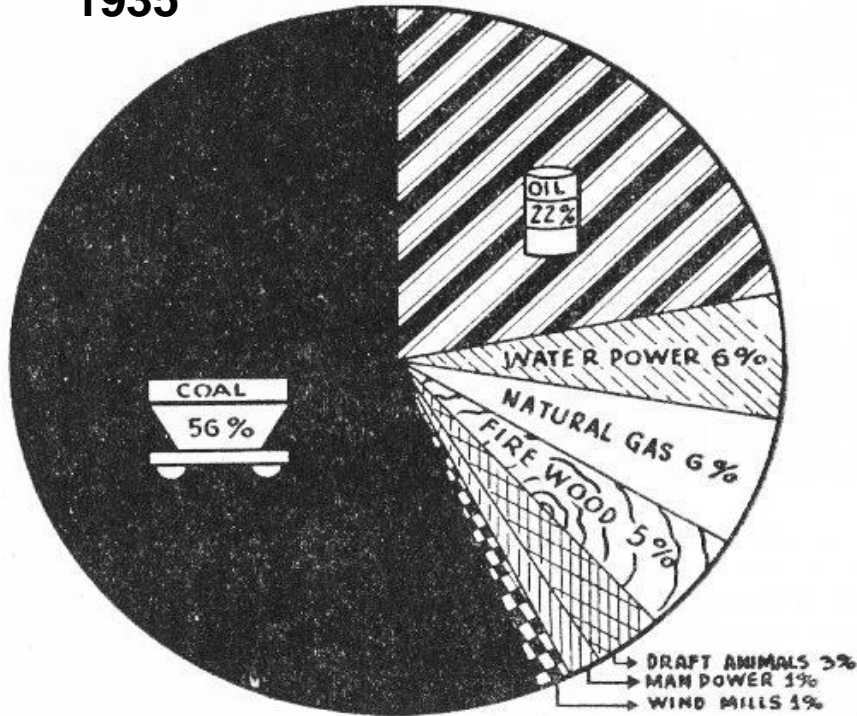
Home Energy in U.S.



Energy in U.S. by Source



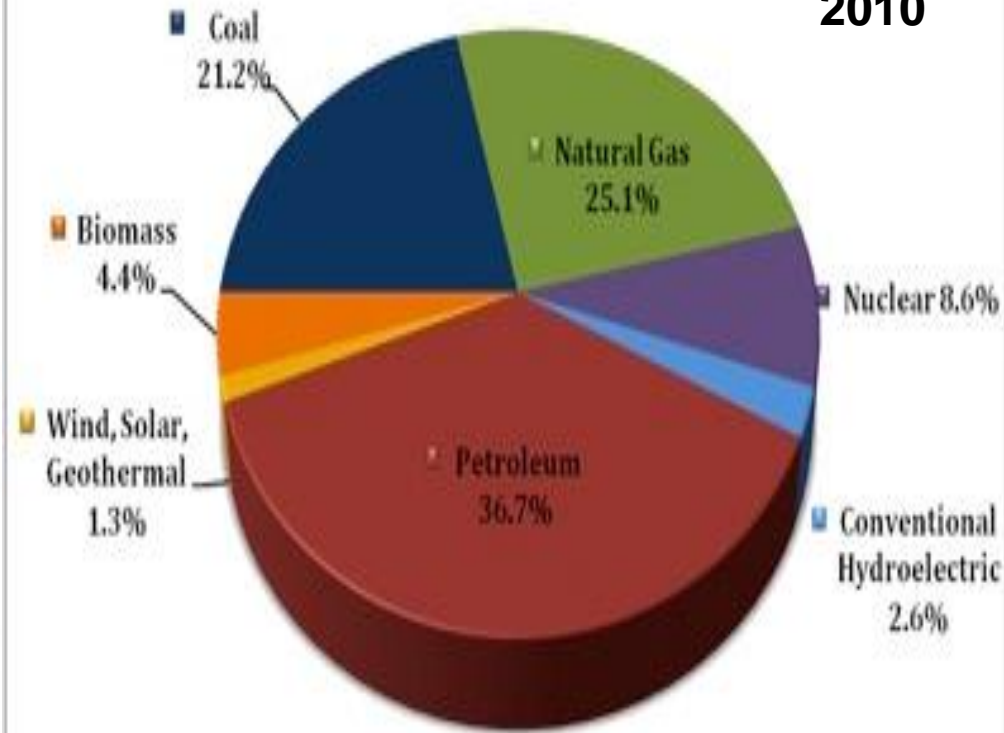
1935



Courtesy of "Building America."

This graph shows what percentage of American power is produced from each of our natural resources.

2010



Source: EIA, *Monthly Energy Review*, March 2011, Table 1.3 Primary Energy Consumption by Source (Quadrillion Btu), 7, <http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/mer/pdf/mer.pdf>.

Why Worry About Energy Efficiency in Built Environment?



- **39% of total energy use**
 - 68% of total electrical consumption
 - 38% of carbon emissions
- Most cost efficient: energy efficiency
 - Investment return usually 20-40%

Green/Ultra-Efficient Buildings



Ultra-efficient buildings optimize and include the following design features:

- Climate-specific design
(construction for energy efficiency)
- Passive solar heating and cooling
- Energy-efficient appliances and lighting (daylighting?)



Energy-efficient homes in Lenoir City, Tennessee (left), and in Oberdorf, Switzerland.



The world's largest 'passive' office building in Ulm, Germany.

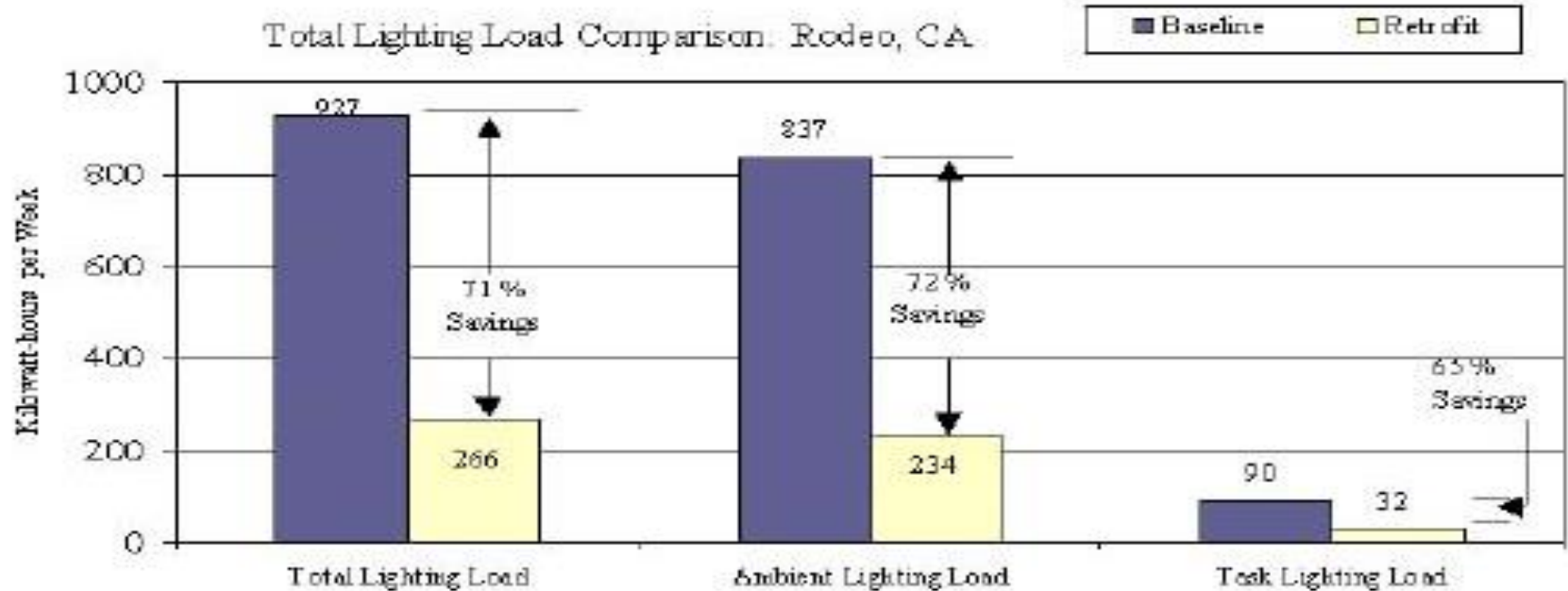
Example: Energy Efficiency & Lighting

A hand holding a globe, symbolizing global energy efficiency and environmental impact.

- Energy savings up to 80%
- Sources of Savings:
 - Lighting
 - Windows
 - HVAC Systems
- Efficient lighting & better windows can lead to smaller and less costly HVAC system
- Energy savings from efficient lighting:
 - Payback period can be < 2 years
 - Average investment return 50-80%

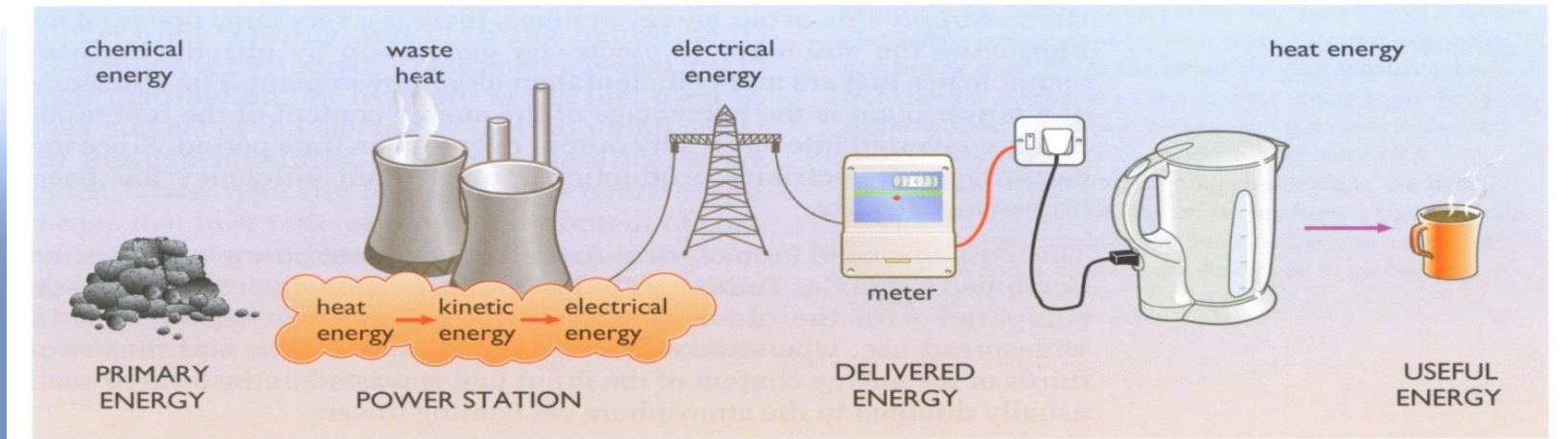
Energy Efficiency & Lighting

Case Study: Retrofit of US Postal Service, Rodeo, CA



- Total lighting load decreased 71%
- Decrease in both ambient and task lighting

Efficiency of a series of processes



From conversion chain:

combustion (& heat exchanger) → steam turbine →
electric generator → distribution grid → appliance


$$\eta_{system} = \eta_{combustion} \times \eta_{turbine} \times \eta_{generator} \times \eta_{grid} \times \eta_{appliance}$$

Example: Efficiency of an

TABLE 1.2 Efficiencies of selected components and biological systems

Component	Energy Conversion Path	Efficiency (percent)
Large electric generators	m → e	98–99
Large power plant boilers	c → t	90–98
Large electric motors	e → m	90–97
Home natural gas furnaces	c → t	90–96
Drycell batteries	c → e	85–95
Waterwheels (overshot)	m → m	60–85
Small electric motors	e → m	60–75
Large steam turbines	t → m	40–45
Wood stoves	c → t	25–45
Large gas turbines	c → m	35–40
Diesel engines	c → m	30–35
Photovoltaic cells	r → e	20–30
Large steam engines	c → m	20–25
Internal combustion engines	c → m	15–25
Steam locomotives	c → m	3–6
<i>Light Sources</i>		
High-pressure sodium lamps	e → r	15–20
Fluorescent lights	e → r	10–12
Incandescent light bulbs	e → r	2–5
Paraffin candles	c → r	1–2
<i>Biological Systems</i>		
Milk production	c → c	15–20
Broiler production	c → c	10–15
Beef production	c → c	5–10
Local photosynthesis	r → c	4–5
Global photosynthesis	r → c	0.3

Energy conversion path labels: c = chemical, e = electrical, m = mechanical, r = radiant, t = thermal.



Assume grid
efficiency $\approx 92\%$

Already includes typical
Carnot term

Example: Efficiency of an incandescent lamp



$$\eta_{system} = \eta_{combustion} \times \eta_{turbine} \times \eta_{generator} \times \eta_{grid} \times \eta_{appliance}$$

From the table and info we can get the following

$$\eta_{system} = 94\% \times 42\% \times 98\% \times 92\% \times 4\% = 1.5\%$$

For comparison, a candle is about 1.5% efficient...

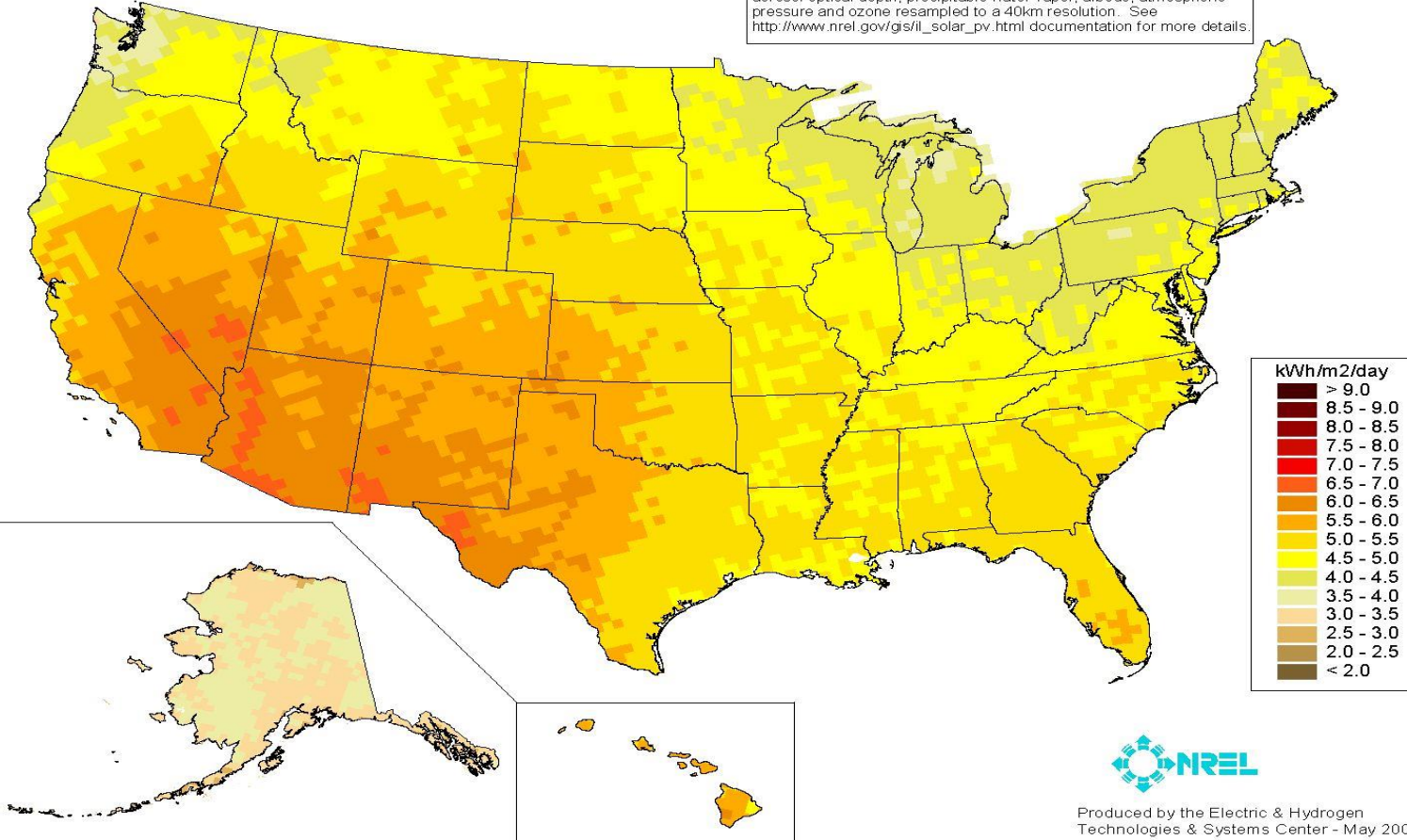
US Annual Insolation



PV Solar Radiation (Flat Plate, Facing South, Latitude Tilt)

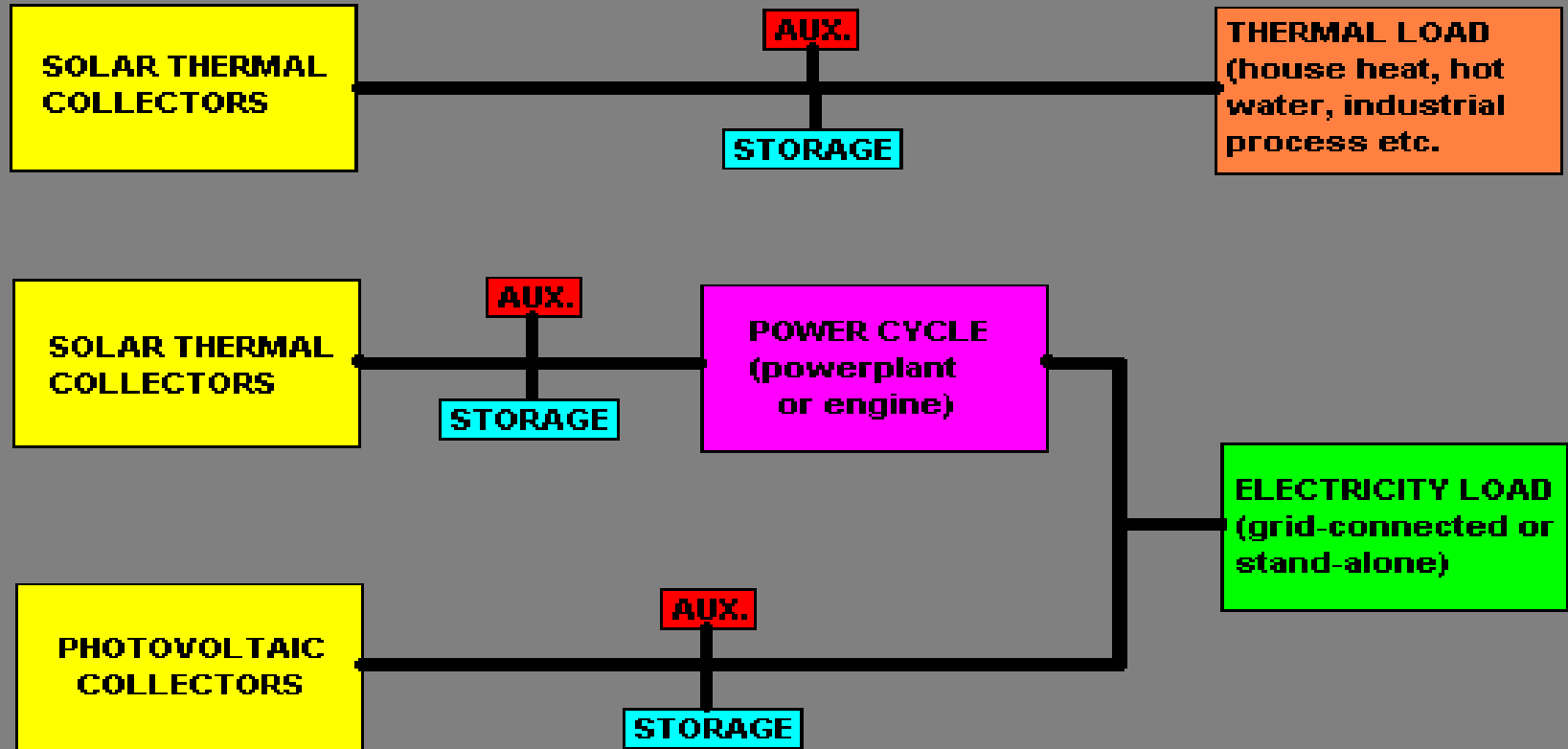
Annual

Model estimates of monthly average daily total radiation using inputs derived from satellite and/or surface observations of cloud cover, aerosol optical depth, precipitable water vapor, albedo, atmospheric pressure and ozone resampled to a 40km resolution. See http://www.nrel.gov/gis/il_solar_pv.html documentation for more details.

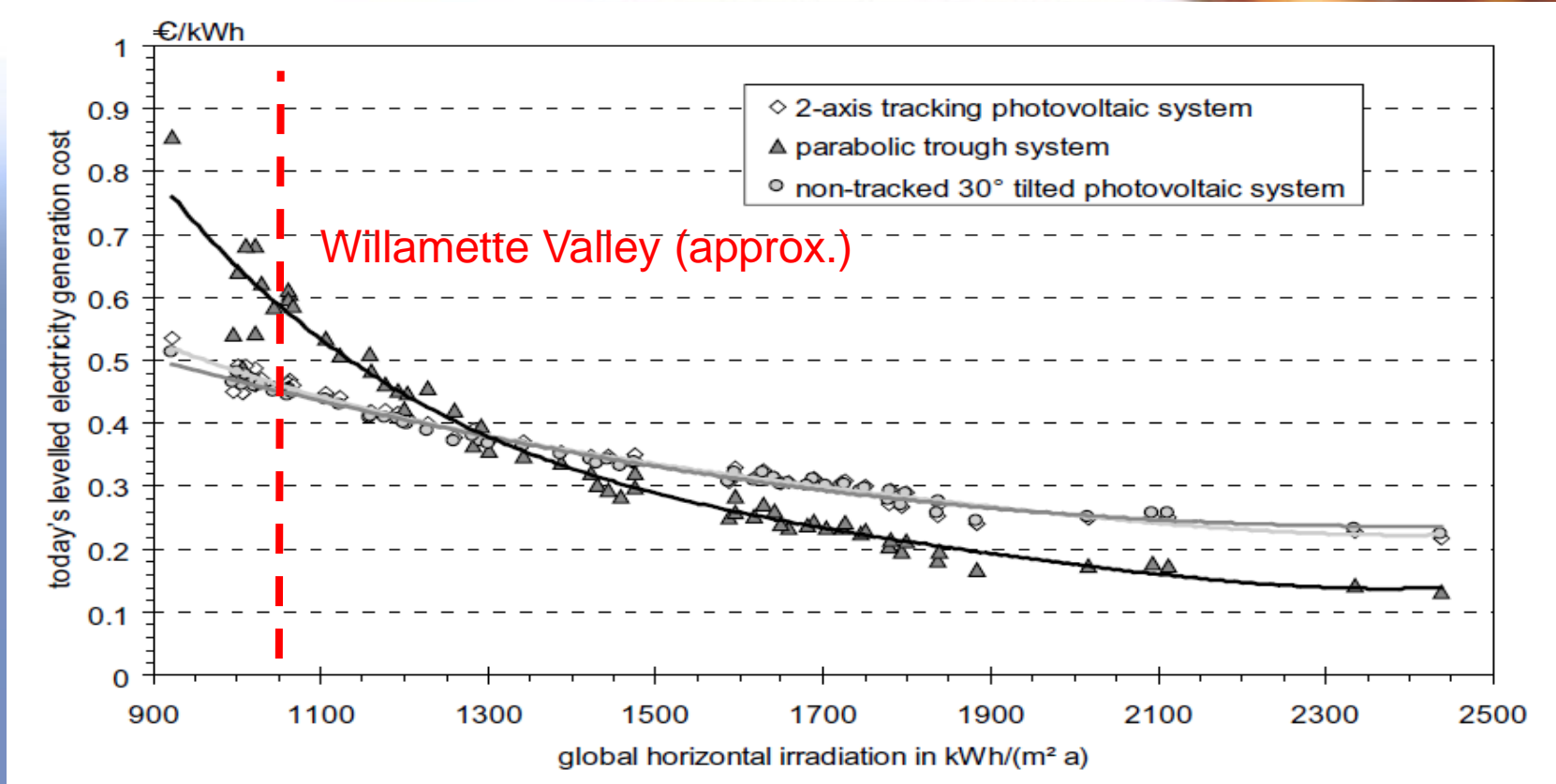


Produced by the Electric & Hydrogen
Technologies & Systems Center - May 2004

Solar Energy

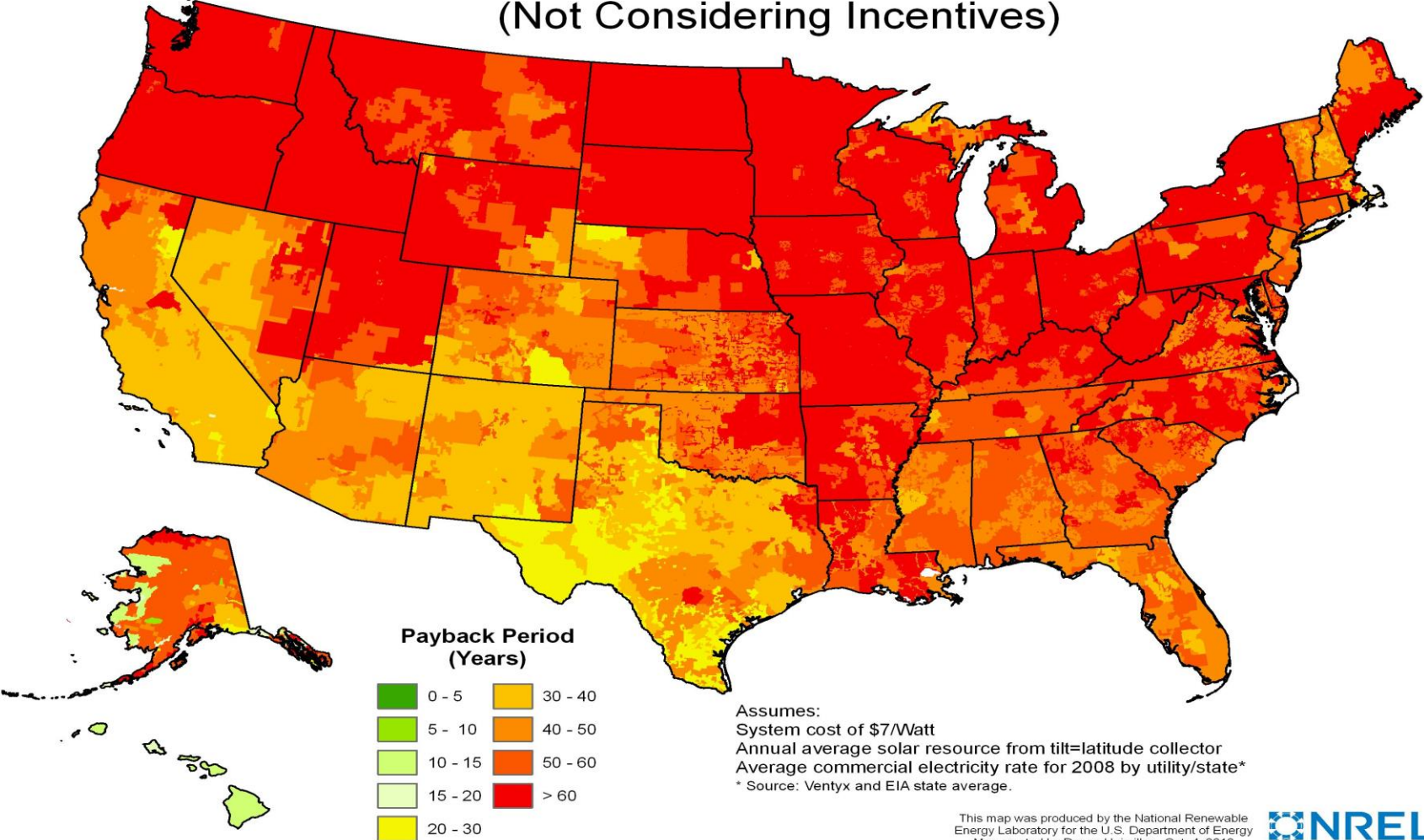


Which Solar Technology?



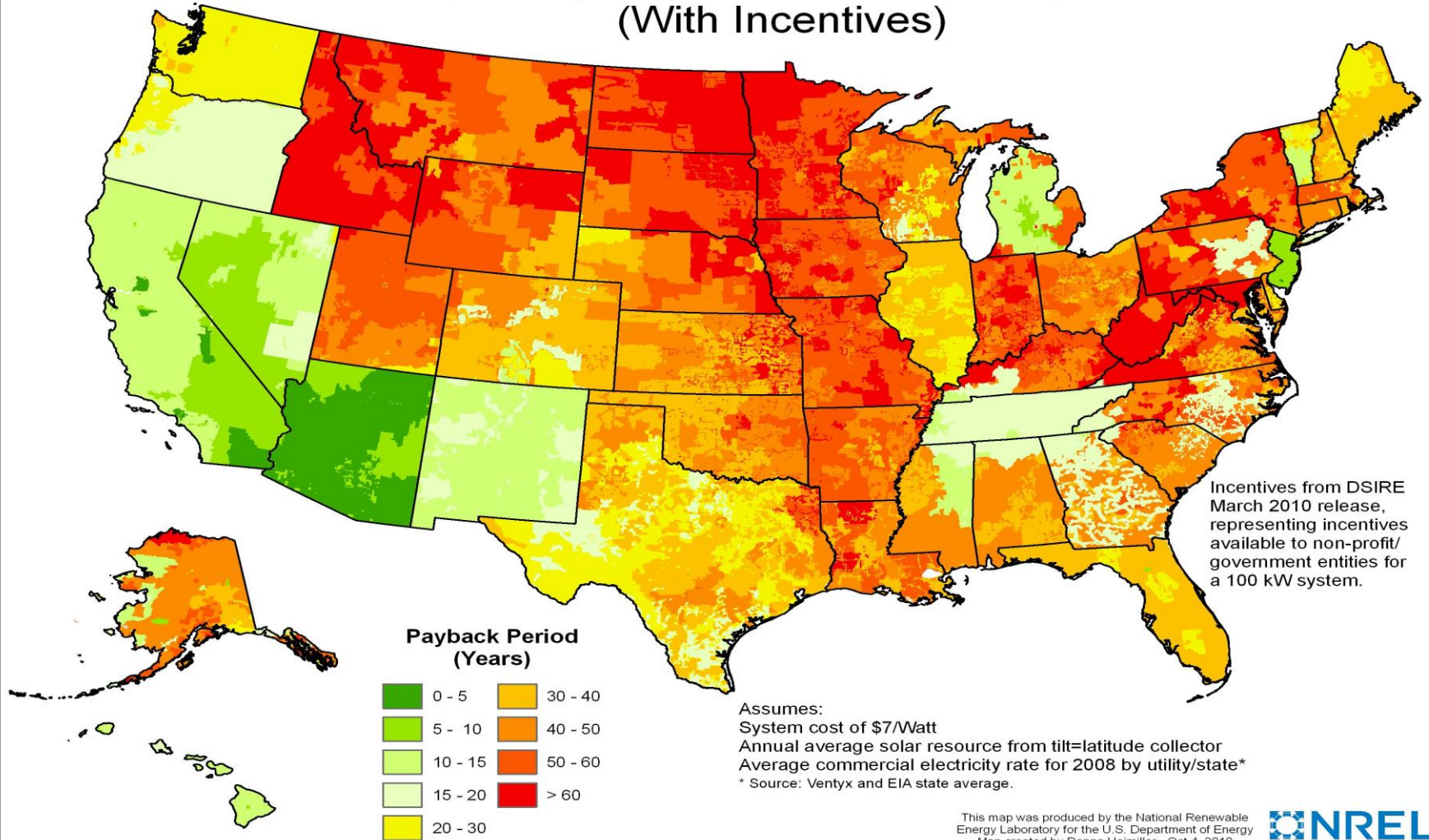
Break even between PV and Thermal at ca. $1300 \text{ kW}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$

Simple Payback for Photovoltaic Systems (Not Considering Incentives)



This map was produced by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy
Map created by Donna Heimiller - Oct. 4, 2010

Simple Payback for Photovoltaic Systems (With Incentives)



PEAK LOAD VS. BASE LOAD ENERGY



+



≠



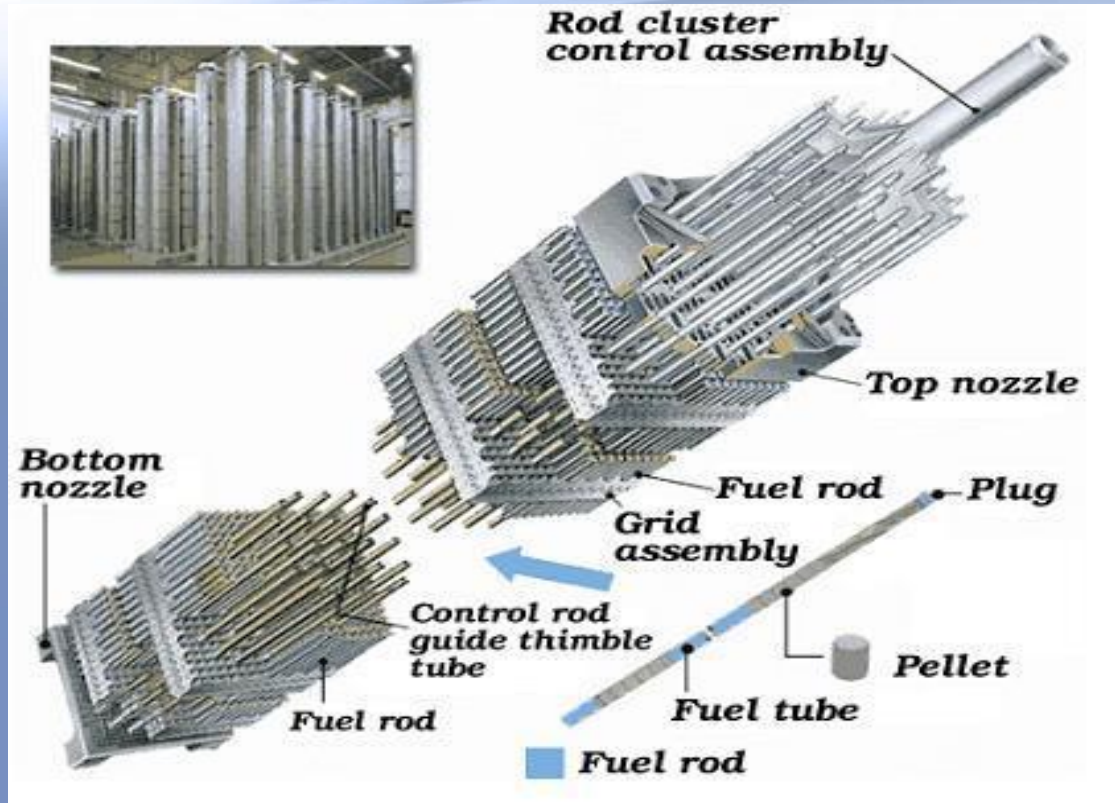
Wind and Solar are relegated to peak load because they are variable, intermittent resources

Nuclear Fuel Pellet



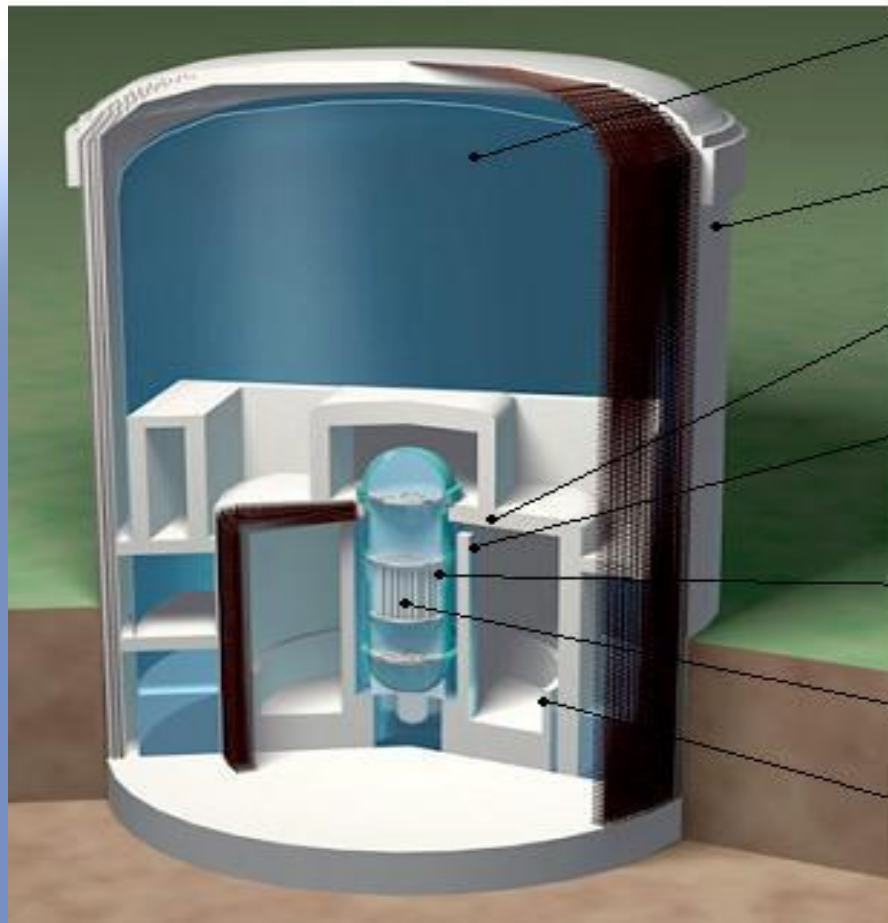
- Ceramic uranium oxide pellet the size of the tip of your little finger
- Equivalent to:
 - **1780 pounds of coal**
 - **149 gallons of oil**
 - **17,000 cu ft natural gas**

Nuclear Fuel Assembly



- Pellets are stacked and sealed in a Zircaloy tube to form a fuel rod
- Fuel rods are placed in a matrix to form a fuel assembly

Safety is Part of Reactor Designs



Containment Vessel

1.5-inch thick steel

Shield Building Wall

3 foot thick reinforced concrete

Dry Well Wall

5 foot thick reinforced concrete

Bio Shield

4 foot thick leaded concrete with
1.5-inch thick steel lining inside and out

Reactor Vessel

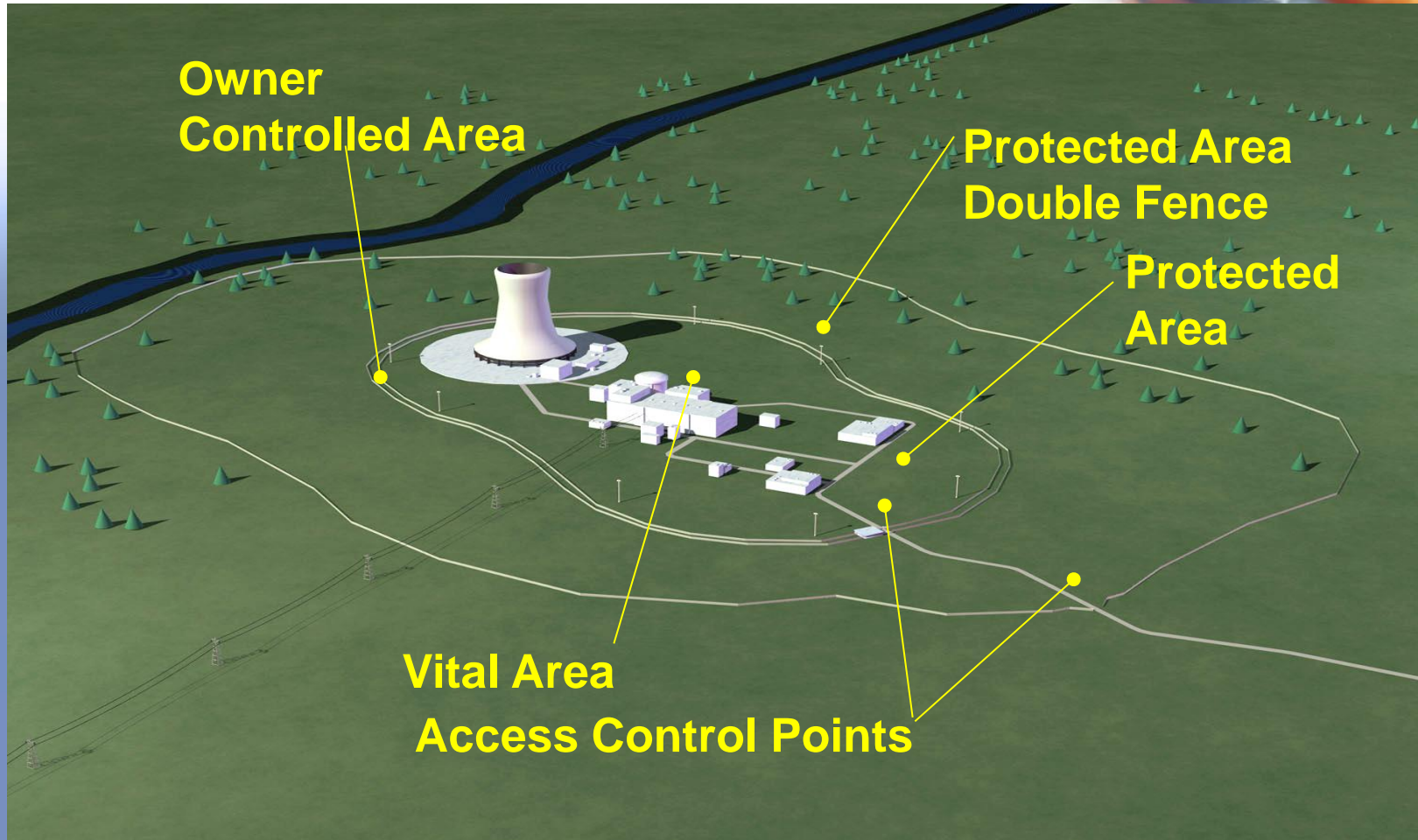
4 to 8 inches thick steel

Reactor Fuel

Weir Wall

1.5 foot thick concrete

Nuclear Plant Security Zones



U.S. Capacity Factors by Fuel Type

2007



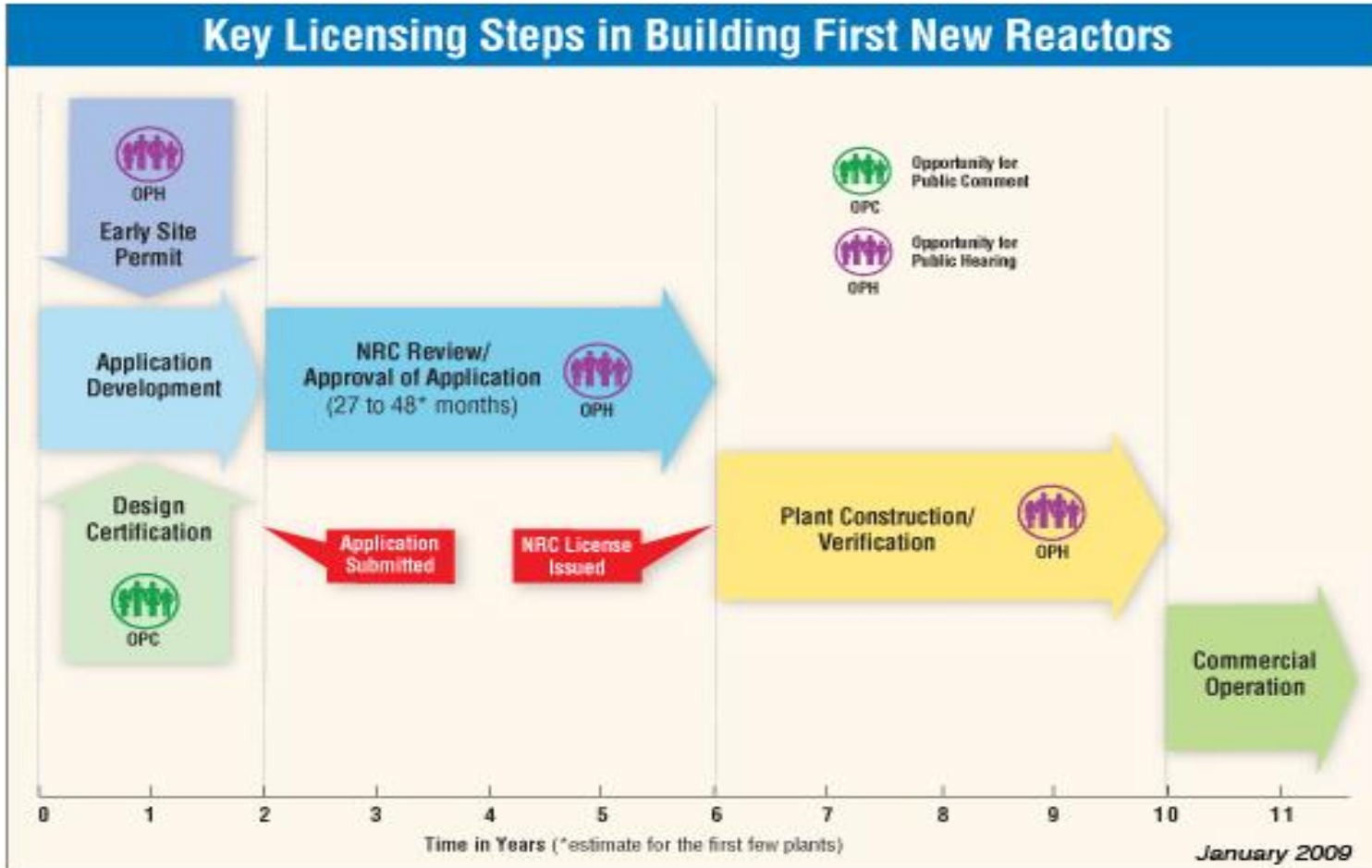
Average Capacity Factors (%)*

Fuel Type

Nuclear	91.8
Coal (Steam Turbine)	71.8
Gas (Combined Cycle)	43.3
Gas (Steam Turbine)	16.0
Oil (Steam Turbine)	19.6
Hydro	27.8
Wind	30.4
Solar	19.8

* Preliminary
Source: Global Energy Decisions / Energy Information Administration
Updated: 4/08

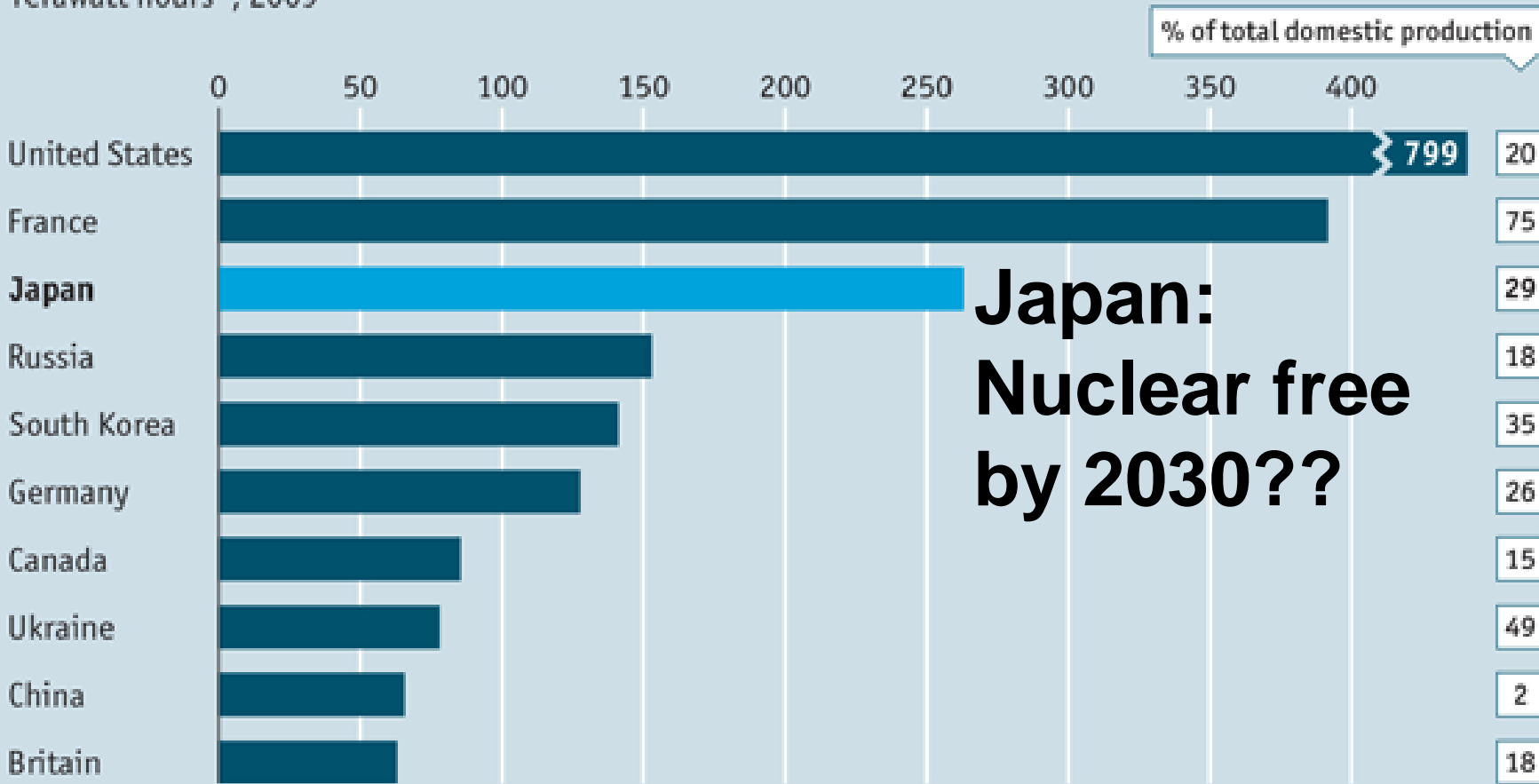
Streamlined NRC Regulatory Processes?



The NRC's new licensing process offers multiple opportunities for public input.

Biggest nuclear-electricity producers

Terawatt hours*, 2009

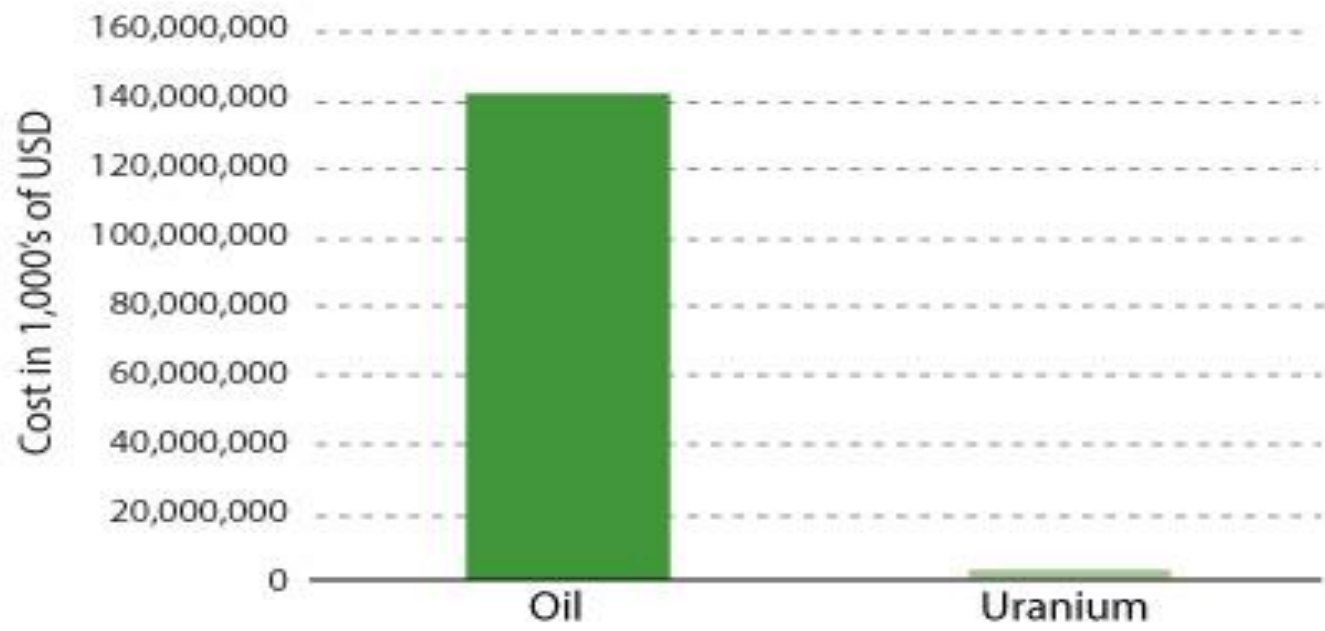


**Japan:
Nuclear free
by 2030??**

Source: World Nuclear Association

*1 terawatt hour = 1 trillion watt hours

Easy Math: A Year's Worth of Energy at a Fraction of the Price...



For what it costs China to run for just two days on oil, they could run a whole year on uranium!

China's Energy Dilemma

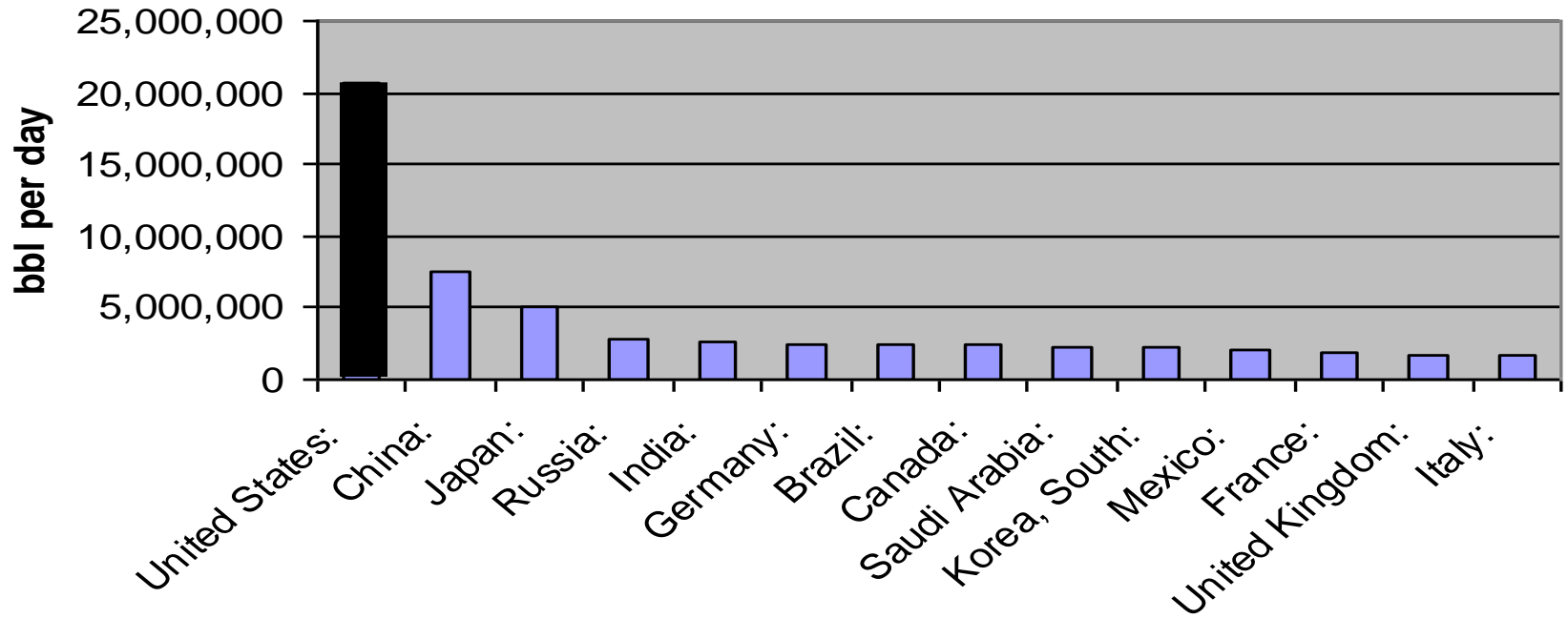


- 80% of its energy from Coal for >1 Billion People
- So, ramp up nuclear! (currently 11 reactors)
- Building 17 more now
- Wants to build ~100 more over the next several years
- China now uses 769 tons of uranium
- They could need **20,000 tons** in the future!
- **Global:** 436 reactors running, 50 being built, 137 in blueprint stage, and 295 more on the table for approval
- ***Nuclear energy has the power to light a city in a lump of uranium the size of a soda can***
- ***Who has uranium? Australia, US, Canada, France, Argentina, Brazil, and India (and some in South Africa, Nigeria, Algeria, and Gabon)***
- **What happens to the price of uranium??**

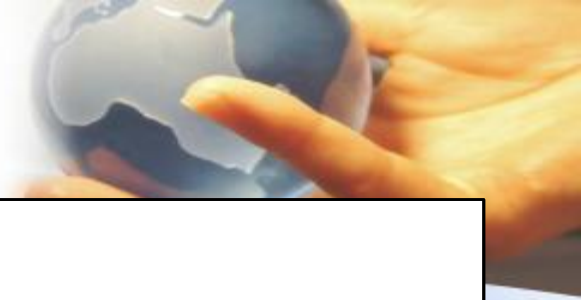
How Much Oil Do We Use?



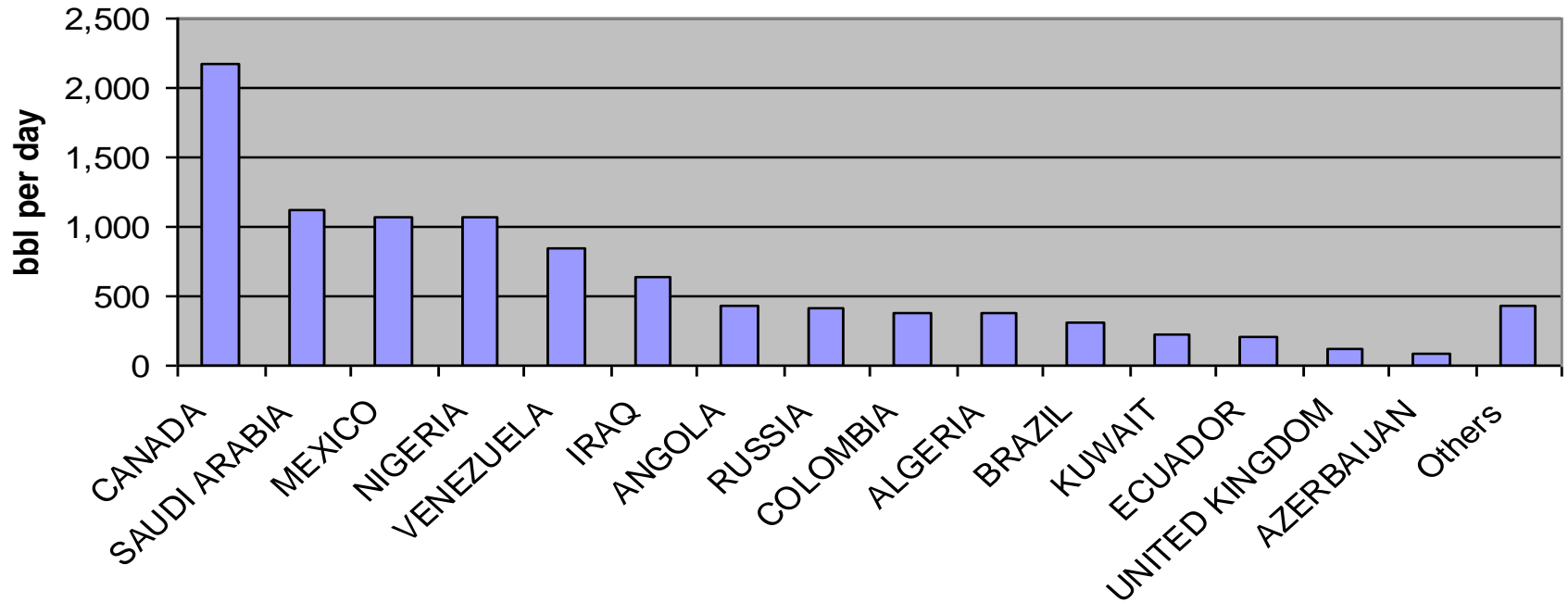
**Oil Consumption By Country
(CIA - 2003-2008)**



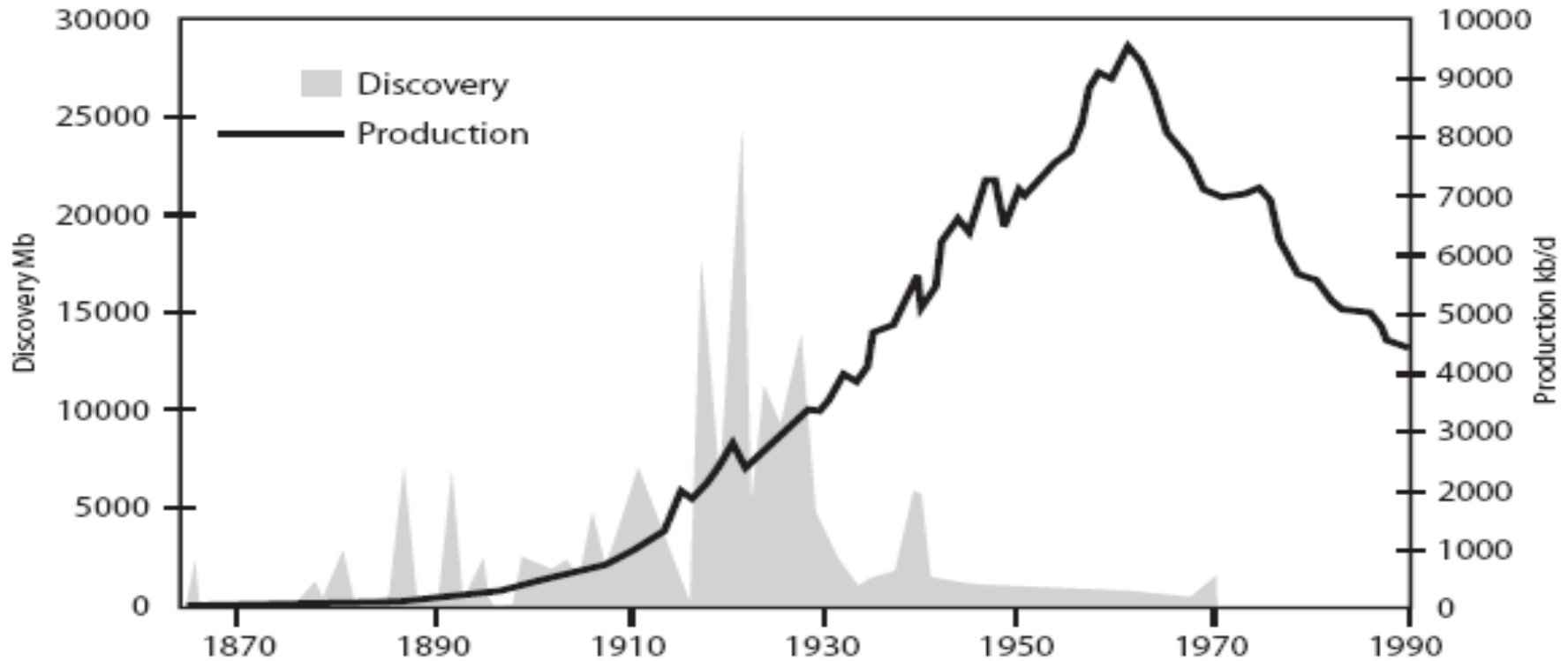
Where Does US Import Oil Come From?



Oil Imports to US
(June 2010 - 9.87 M bbl per day)
US Energy Information Adm.



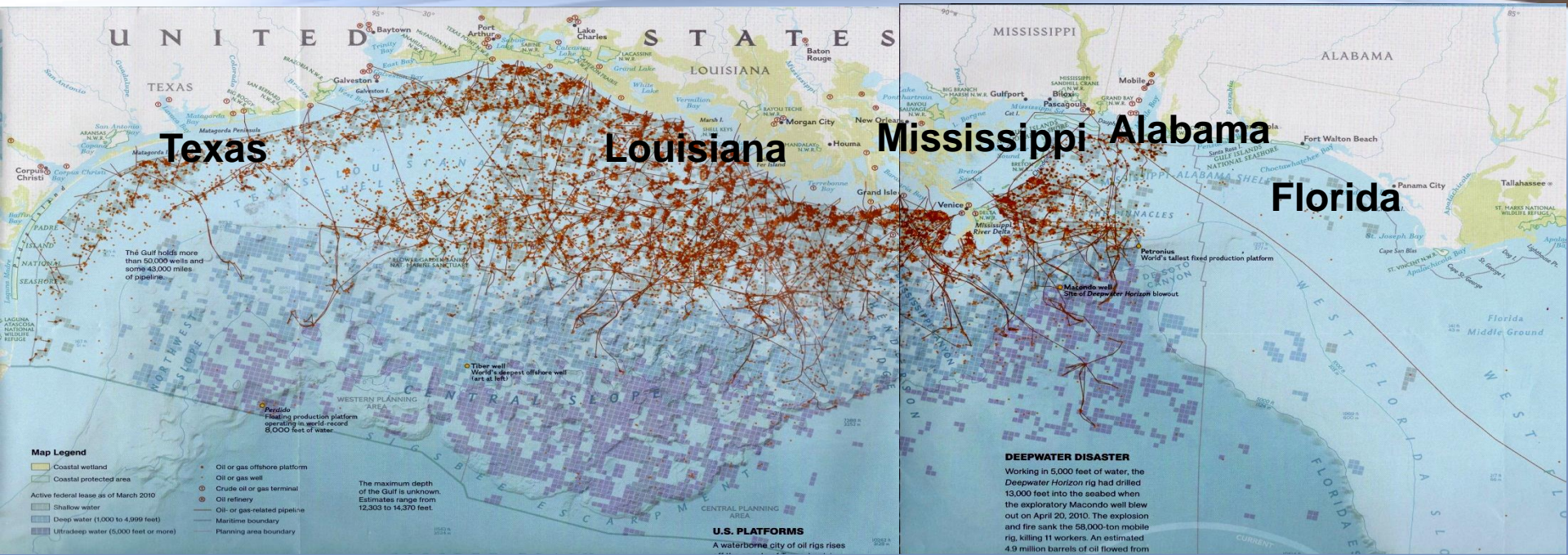
U.S. Peak Oil History



Is there nothing left to discover?? Or, did we stop looking?

- New technology and new locations

Gulf of Mexico – Oil Drilling and Leases



Many Here



None Here



What is fracking?

Hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, is a method of forcing natural gas or oil from rock layer deep below the Earth's surface.

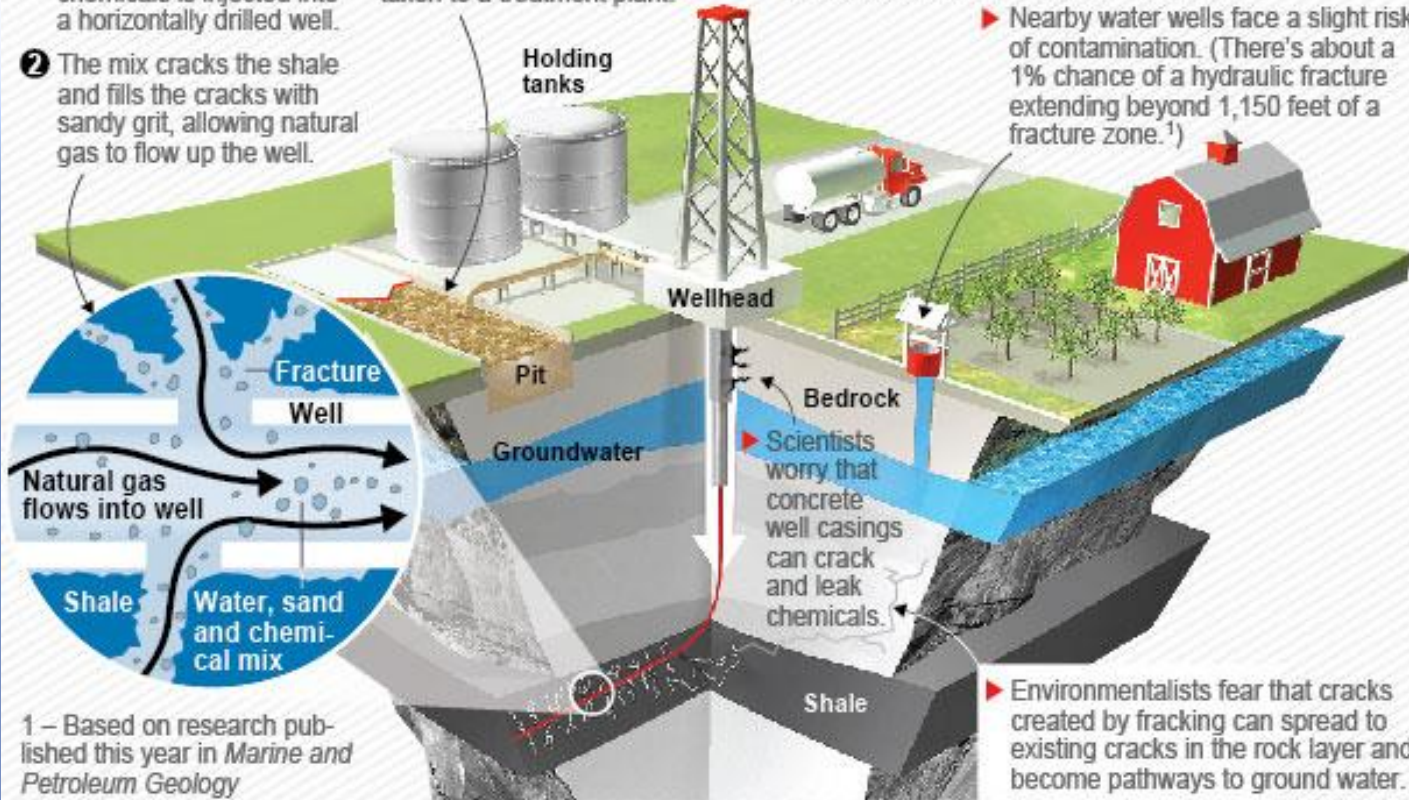
How fracking works ...

- 1 A pressurized mixture of sand, water and chemicals is injected into a horizontally drilled well.
- 2 The mix cracks the shale and fills the cracks with sandy grit, allowing natural gas to flow up the well.
- 3 The recovered water is stored in lined pits or taken to a treatment plant.

... and why it's controversial

Much of the water used in fracking is collected from the well and processed, but some communities have raised concerns that potentially carcinogenic chemicals can escape into drinking water.

- ▶ Nearby water wells face a slight risk of contamination. (There's about a 1% chance of a hydraulic fracture extending beyond 1,150 feet of a fracture zone.¹)



▶ Scientists worry that concrete well casings can crack and leak chemicals.

- ▶ Environmentalists fear that cracks created by fracking can spread to existing cracks in the rock layer and become pathways to ground water.

1 – Based on research published this year in *Marine and Petroleum Geology*

Sources: Duke University; U.S. Energy Information Administration; National Research Council; *Marine and Petroleum Geology*
By Dan Vergano and Karl Gelles, USA TODAY

Fracking – New Technology

North American shale plays (as of May 2011)



Shale Basins – New Locations



U.S. Natural Gas Prices



Source: Short-Term Energy Outlook, August 2010; Reuters News Service



Natural Gas



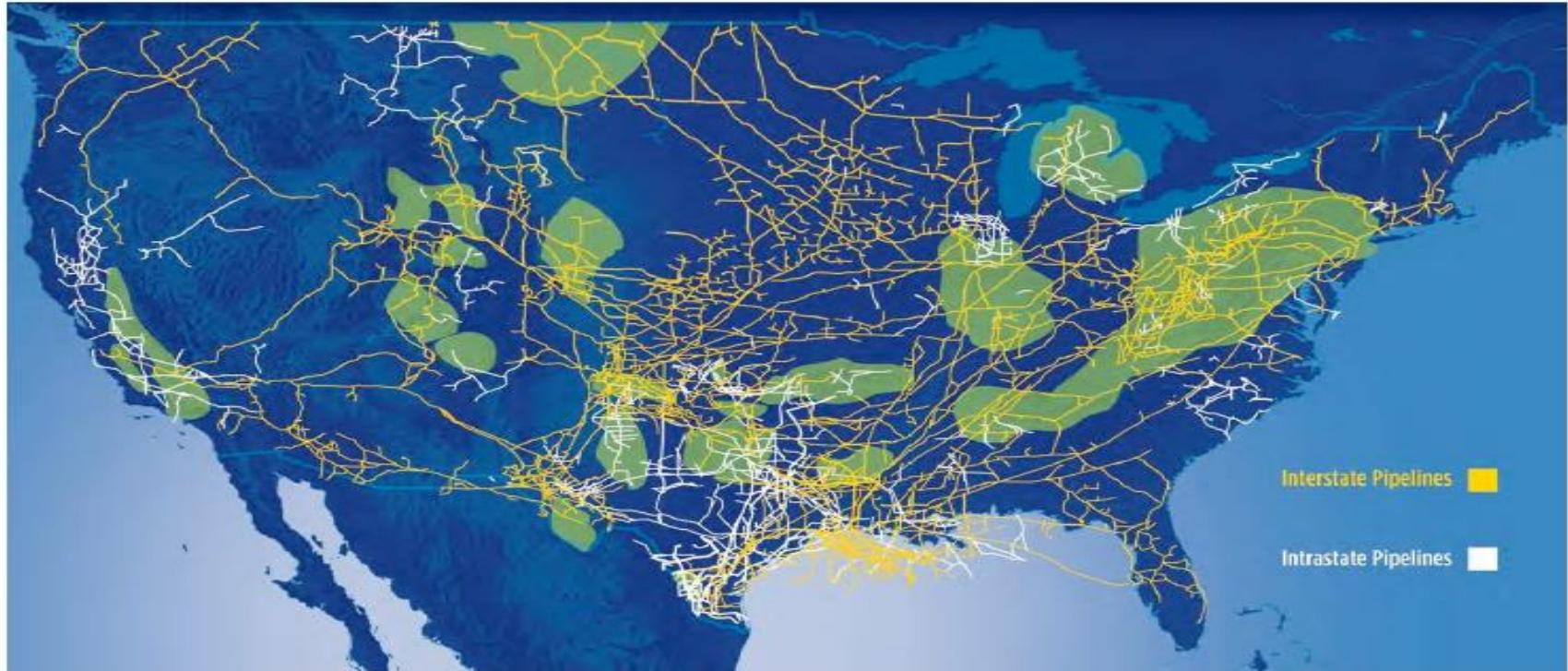
Natural Gas Resource Assessment of the Potential Gas Committee, 2008 (mean values)

Traditional Resources	1,673.4 TCF
Coalbed Gas Resources	163.0 TCF
Total U.S. Resources	1,836.4 TCF
Proved Reserves (EIA)	237.7 TCF
Future Gas Supply	2,074.1 TCF



Pipeline Grid

Shale Basins and the U.S. Pipeline Grid

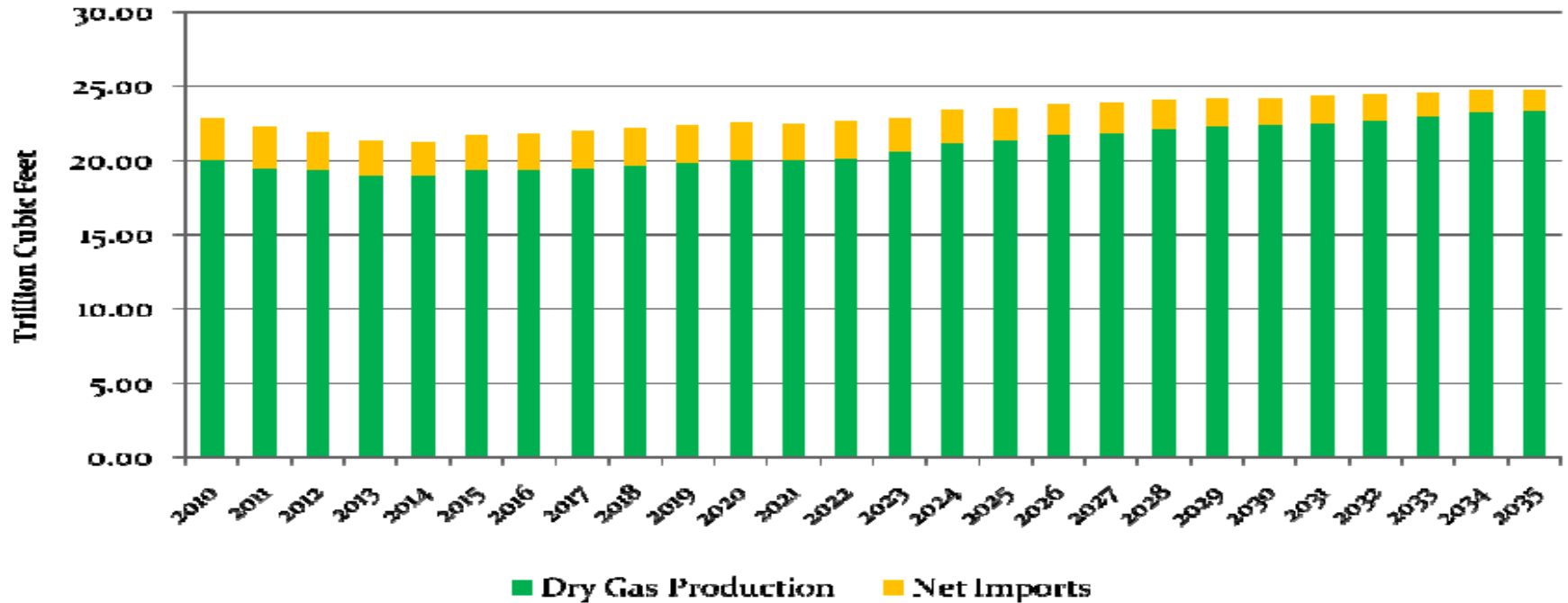


Source: American Clean Skies Foundation.

U.S. Natural Gas Supply



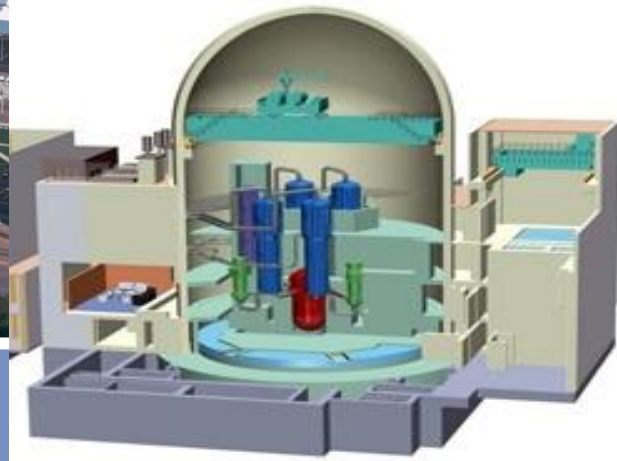
EIA, AEO 2010-2035 Reference Case



AMERICAN GAS ASSOCIATION



What Happens to Future Nuclear Plants if the Supply of NG is Very High and Price is Very Low?



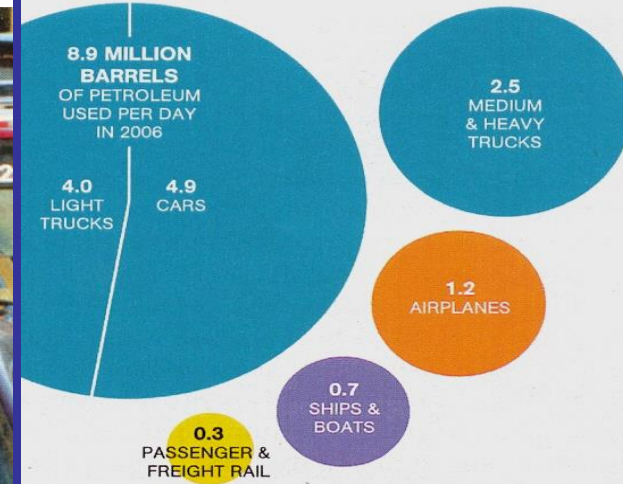
U.S. Transportation



Source: National Geographic, March 2009

TRANSPORTATION TOLLS

Cars and light trucks consume the lion's share of petroleum used for transportation in the U.S. Modest changes in efficiency and driving habits could add up to significant fuel savings.



If we drove our cars 20 fewer miles each week, we could reduce their CO₂ emissions by **107 million tons** each year, a 9 percent decrease.

If we improved our cars' gas mileage by 5 miles a gallon, we could cut their CO₂ emissions by **239 million tons** each year, a 20 percent decrease.

Sustainability



National Academy of Science – Grand Challenges of the 21st Century Engineering



**Themes that are
Essential for
Humanity to
Flourish:**

- 1. Sustainability**
- 2. Health**
- 3. Reducing
Vulnerability**
- 4. Joy of Living**



Source: *The Essential Engineer*

Many definitions...but consistent core principles

Definitions

- Brundtland Commission, 1983 World Commission on Environment & Development
- Ceres Principles
- Equator Principles
- 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development
- Bellagio Principles
- Hannover Principles
- Natural Step
- One Planet Living
- Company-Specific
- and more

Core Principles

- **Finite Resources**
- **Interdependence**
- **Social and Personal Well-being**
- **Legacy and Responsibility**

The World's View of Sustainable Development

The **Brundtland Commission**, formally the **World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED)**, convened by the United Nations in 1983 and defined sustainable development as:

“.... development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”





Universal Core Sustainability Principles



Finite Resources

- **Fresh water** – finite quantities of fresh water and water rights
- **Natural Resources** – limited global supply of carbon-based fuels, metals, and native materials
- **Clean air** – urban air quality is getting worse and air-related health issues are increasing
- **Agricultural land** – more land is taken up by development each year, or lost to desertification
- **Fisheries** – fish stocks around the world are in decline

Interdependence

- **Population increase** – world population continues to increase with increased demand for food and consumer goods
- **Ecological cycles** – Consequences of human intervention in
- **Economic health** – is dependent on health of natural world
- **Increases in impervious surfaces** – changing local and regional hydrology
- **Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and climate change** – affect planet's atmosphere, biosphere and human infrastructure

Principles, cont'd

Social And Personal Well-being

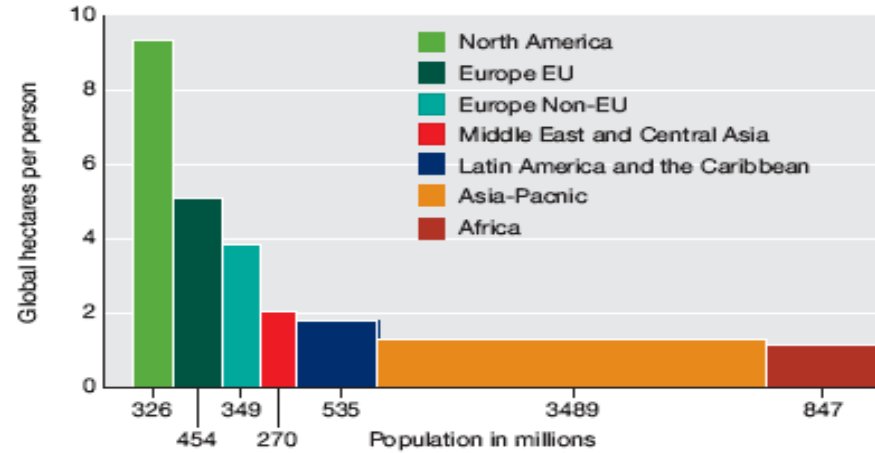
- Health and safety
- Disparities in wealth/income
- Culture and history
- Recreation
- Various freedoms

Legacy And Responsibility

Debts and conditions conveyed to future generations:

- Livable cities
- Adequate farmland and forests
- Abandoned mines
- Landfill reclamation
- Brownfield redevelopment
- Pollution prevention

Figure 1.7: Ecological Footprint by Region, 2003



Source: WWF Living Planet Report 2006

