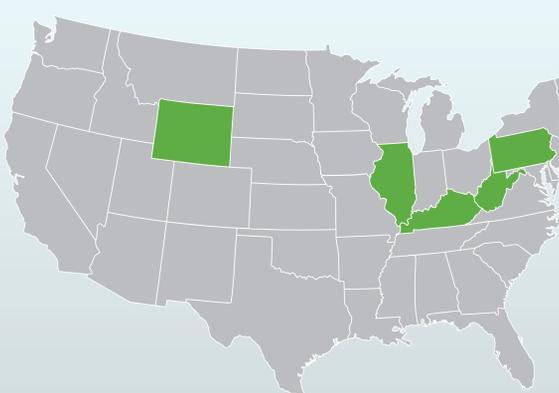




# 7 Things You May Not Know About Coal

## The U.S. has more coal than any other country

As of 2024, we have an estimated **469 billion** short tons of coal in the United States. Our coal resources are larger than our remaining oil and natural gas reserves.



## Five states produce of the nation's coal **73%**

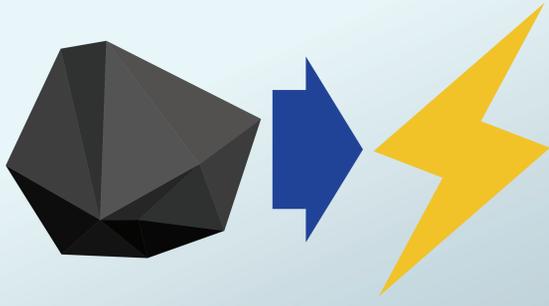
Wyoming, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Kentucky together produced **433 million** of the nation's 594 million short tons of coal in 2022. Wyoming alone produced **41%** of our coal. West Virginia was second at about **14%**.

## **16.2%** of our electricity is coal-generated

In 2023, fossil fuels made up about **60%** of electricity generation. Coal is the third most used energy source to generate electricity after natural gas (**43.1%**) and nuclear energy (**18.6%**).

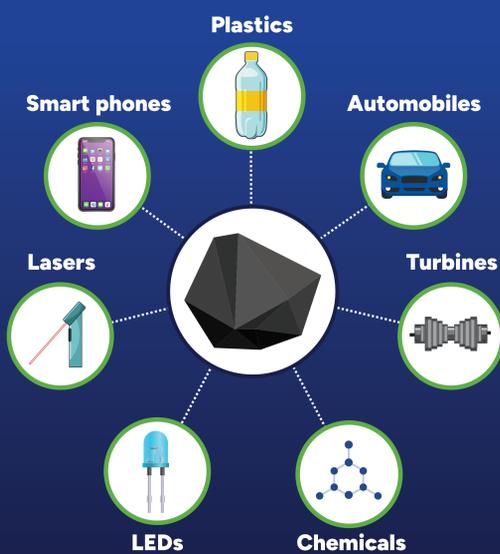
## There are a variety of ways to cleanly convert coal into electricity

The U.S. Department of Energy has a long history of developing technologies that make coal use cleaner. These technologies include **coal gasification, advanced coal-energy conversion, and advanced emissions control systems.**



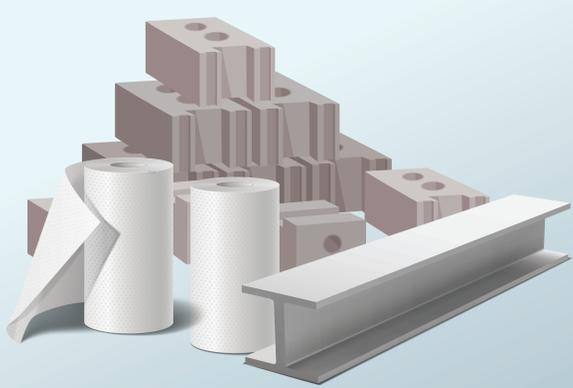
## Byproducts of coal have many beneficial and valuable uses

Byproducts of coal use include rare earth elements, hydrogen, and carbon dioxide. Rare earth elements are used to make smart phones, lasers, and LEDs. Hydrogen and other coal gases can be used in automobiles, fuel cells, turbines, or as chemical "building blocks" for a wide range of commercial products. Carbon dioxide can be used in enhanced oil recovery and to help make valuable products like plastics and chemicals.



## Coal is vital for making products like steel, concrete, and paper

In 2024, **5.4 million** short tons of coal were consumed at manufacturing plants across America. This includes manufacturing plants such as concrete and cement plants, paper mills, and steel mills.



## Clean coal stimulates the economy and strengthens energy security

Using coal cleanly reduces our dependence on other countries for natural resources, which boosts our national security. Additionally, clean coal can create new jobs and grow the economy, particularly in high coal producing states.



### Sources

U.S. Coal Reserves - U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)  
Where our coal comes from - U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)

How much coal is left - U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)

Electricity generation, capacity, and sales in the United States - U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)

Annual Coal Reports - U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)

Quarterly Coal Report - U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)

