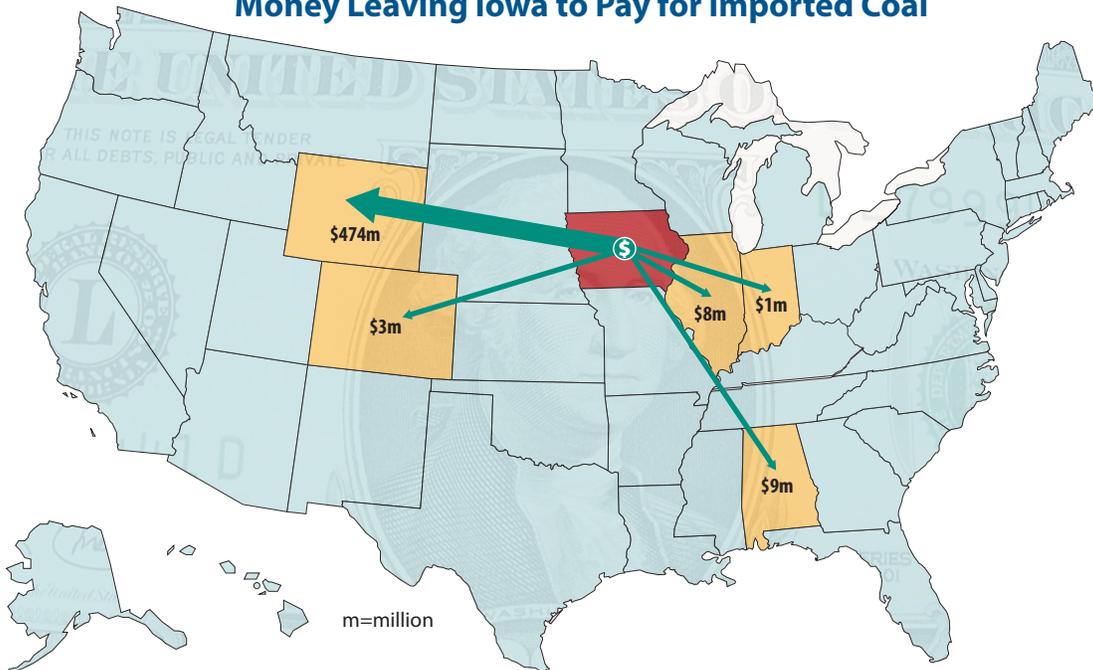


Iowa's Dependence on Imported Coal

Iowa imported all the coal its power plants burned in 2008. To pay for that coal, Iowa sent **\$496 million** out of state—primarily to Wyoming.

Money Leaving Iowa to Pay for Imported Coal

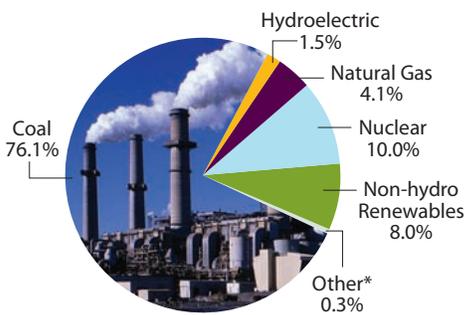


Note: Not all these funds will necessarily land in the state or nation where the mining occurs. Mine owners may divert the profits to parent companies in other locations, for example. Amounts also include the cost of transportation.

Compared with other states, Iowa:

- Is the 2nd most dependent on net imports as a share of total power use: 78 percent
- Spent the 10th most on net imports per person: \$166
- Spent the 11th most on net imports relative to gross state product: 0.37 percent
- Imported the 11th most in net weight: 25.3 million tons

Iowa's Mix of Electricity Sources (2008)



Iowa relies on coal for three-quarters of its in-state electricity generation, despite having to import all the coal it uses.

* "Other" includes oil, municipal solid waste, tires, propane, or other manufactured and waste gases from fossil fuel.

How Iowa Is Boosting Energy Independence with Clean Energy Solutions

Investing in energy efficiency is one of the quickest and most affordable ways to replace coal-fired power while boosting the local economy. Iowa spent nearly \$19 per person on ratepayer-funded energy efficiency programs in 2007, cutting electricity use by 0.7 percent. That is one of the highest investments in the nation, but still nearly nine times less than the state spent per person on imported coal.

In 2008, Iowa required utilities to submit plans to curb power demand by 1.5 percent annually. Twenty-two other states have adopted such power-saving targets, with several committing to annual savings of 2 percent or more.

Iowa is also poised to reduce its dependence on imported coal by tapping its own wealth of renewable energy resources. The state has the technical potential to generate nearly 39 times its 2008 electricity needs from renewable energy, primarily from wind and bioenergy. Though economic and physical barriers will curb some of that potential, Iowa is already a national leader in deploying wind power, with more than 3,600 megawatts of installed capacity. That helps Iowa and other midwestern states meet their renewable electricity standards, which require utilities to gradually increase their use of renewable resources. Twenty-nine states and the District of Columbia have already adopted this proven policy.



Union of Concerned Scientists

Citizens and Scientists for Environmental Solutions

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This fact sheet is based on the findings of *Burning Coal, Burning Cash: Ranking the States That Import the Most Coal*, a report by the Union of Concerned Scientists. The fully referenced report, along with other state profiles, is available on the UCS website at www.ucsusa.org/burningcoalburningcash. The Union of Concerned Scientists is the leading science-based nonprofit working for a healthy environment and safer world.

National Headquarters

Two Brattle Square
Cambridge, MA 02238-9105
Phone: (617) 547-5552
Fax: (617) 864-9405

Washington, DC, Office

1825 K St. NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20006-1232
Phone: (202) 223-6133
Fax: (202) 223-6162

West Coast Office

2397 Shattuck Ave., Suite 203
Berkeley, CA 94704-1567
Phone: (510) 843-1872
Fax: (510) 843-3785

Midwest Office

One N. LaSalle St., Suite 1904
Chicago, IL 60602-4064
Phone: (312) 578-1750
Fax: (312) 578-1751