



TEXAS ENERGY SAVINGS

- As the nation grapples with the effects of COVID-19, we need to seize every opportunity to drive economic recovery.
- Expanded exploration and production access in the Gulf offers one of the fastest routes to tens of thousands of jobs and billions in GDP for the region's states.
- Texas plays an important role in providing energy for the nation – the state is a top producer of crude oil, natural gas, and wind energy.
- It is imperative that the United States maintains its energy independence and dominance to protect our country from outside influences, such as OPEC+, and establish secure supply chains.
- National security – it is important to have statutory protections in place for military training in the Gulf while supporting both energy security and national security.
- The full Gulf of Mexico needs to be included and involved in any effort in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico. This is a Gulf issue that needs a Gulf solution.

The need for affordable, reliable energy is more important than ever as Texas' economy emerges from COVID-19. Small businesses and manufacturers across the state are reeling from the economic downturn, and consumers are more conscious about how they spend their money. Cultivating industries that create jobs is doubly important now for the state, and especially for those Texans living in poverty and the [more than 1.7 million Texans now suffering from unemployment](#).

Traditionally, the energy industry has been a job creator and employs a skilled, highly paid workforce. In 2019, the offshore oil and gas industry supported roughly [147,000 Texas jobs](#). The overall oil and natural gas industry provided [more than 1.9 million jobs](#) and generated [more than \\$326.3 billion for Texas' economy](#), according to a 2017 study by PricewaterhouseCoopers study. The oil and gas industry contributes 10.3 million direct and indirect jobs across the United States – 5.6 percent of all employment, according to the same study.

The energy industry is critical in creating jobs that will drive the economic recovery in Texas and the U.S., as it has been in every previous modern economic revival. As the COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated, a secure American-based supply chain is essential, and energy is the backbone of any supply chain. Texans stand to benefit when we strengthen our energy industry and our supply chains.

Texas accounts for [more than one-fifth of America's domestically produced energy](#). That includes expansive reserves of crude oil and natural gas throughout the Permian Basin of West Texas as well as utility-scale electricity generation from renewable sources. Almost [470,000 miles of pipelines](#) carry Texas-produced energy to families and businesses throughout the nation. Texas also produces almost one-third of U.S. wind-powered electricity and was the nation's sixth-largest solar producer in 2019.

Moreover, continued energy production will keep contributing to a lower cost of living and generate savings for Texas' families, farmers and small businesses.

Increased production of abundant, affordable natural gas saved Texas consumers more than \$119 billion from 2008-2018.[i] Residential users alone saved over \$9.3 billion. Based on current population estimates, that equals to more than [\\$282 per citizen](#). Texas industries, including aerospace operations and petrochemical and steel manufacturing facilities, saved more than \$101.5 billion. These savings bring relief to Texas' families, keep the state's industries competitive and its jobs abundant.

*Calculations developed by Orion Strategies. \$101.514 billion saved by industrial users, \$8.194 billion saved by residential users, and \$9.332 billion saved by commercial users. This number was calculated by using the annual average price per thousand cubic feet of natural gas for residential, commercial, and industrial consumers, via the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA). This EIA price was then applied to the total MMcfs consumed in Texas, also sourced by EIA. The Consumer Price Index utilized by the Bureau of Labor and Statistics was applied to each year's price in order to adjust each price to 2018 dollars. 2018 is the most recent year for which commercial data was released.