

COAL

FUEL FACTS

History of Coal

Coal is formed underground through the compression of rocks, plants, and organic material over the course of millions of years. Because this process takes so long, coal is classified as a nonrenewable energy source. There are several types of coal, each with different energy potential. These include: anthracite, bituminous, and subbituminous. Indiana is a significant producer of bituminous coal, contributing to approximately 9% of all bituminous coal production in the United States.

Coal is a necessary part of Indiana's energy supply, an important part of the State's diverse and balanced energy portfolio.

How is Coal Energy Formed?



Coal is mined underground



Coal arrives by train or truck



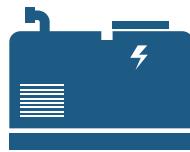
Coal is burned in a furnace



Steam from heat turns turbine connected to a generator



Steam is cooled in cooling towers



Generator converts kinetic energy of spinning turbine to generate electricity

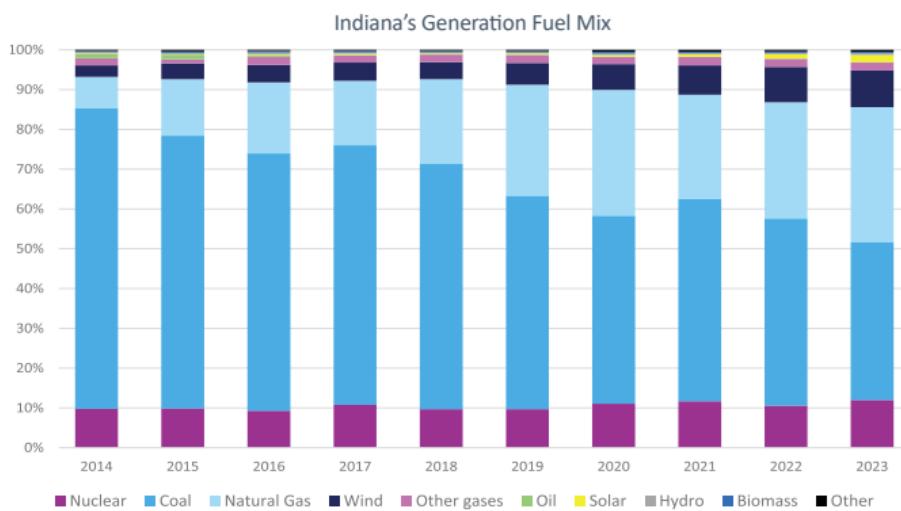


Transformer changes voltage and delivers electricity to users

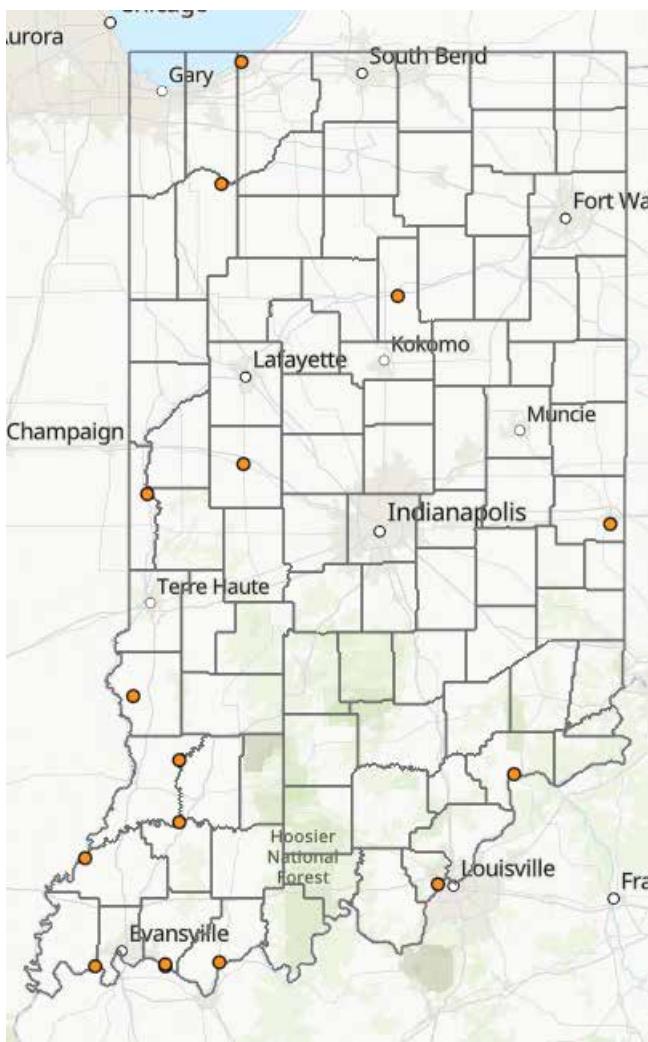
DID YOU KNOW?

- Anthracite has the highest heating value, being able to produce the most energy however, this accounts for less than 1% of U.S. Coal. This coal is mined in Pennsylvania.
- Coal made the Industrial Revolution possible, powering various industries during the 19th Century
- Indiana is one of the top ten coal-producing states in the U.S.!
- Majority of Indiana's coal mines are located in the southwestern region part of the State, within the abundance of the Illinois Basin.

Coal in Indiana



Coal, a major source, has seen a significant decline from contributing to 75.6% of power generation in 2014 to 39.6% in 2023. This shift reflects the increases of other fuel sources like natural gas, wind, and solar, supporting an All-the-Above energy approach.



Indiana's coal industry has provided thousands of jobs for nearly two centuries, contributing millions of dollars to Indiana's economy through operations including mining, transportation, and power generation.



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