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Reduce Oil Dependence Costs

Save Money

Reduce Oil Dependence Costs

Today, over half of the oil we use is imported (58%), and our dependence will increase as we use up domestic resources.

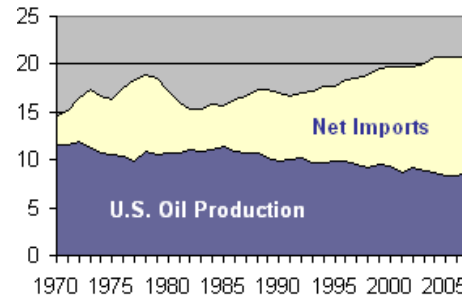
Reduce Climate Change

Most of the world's oil reserves are concentrated in the Middle East, and about two-thirds are controlled by OPEC members.

Increase Energy Sustainability

Oil price shocks and price manipulation by OPEC have cost our economy dearly—about \$1.9 trillion from 2004 to 2008—and each major shock was followed by a recession.

U.S. Petroleum Use, 1970-2007
(million barrels/day)



Source: EIA, *Annual Energy Review 2007*, Table 5.1, June 2008.

Solutions

We may never eliminate our need to import oil, but we can reduce cartel market control and the economic impact of price shocks by reducing our demand.

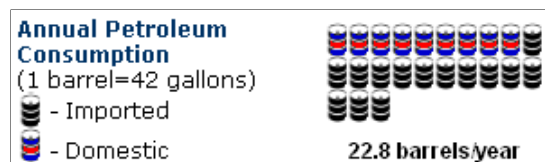
Congress recently passed legislation to decrease our dependence on oil by increasing corporate average fuel economy (CAFE) standards on new cars and trucks to 35 mpg by model year 2020. This could reduce our petroleum use by 25 billion gallons by 2030.

Ultimately, the solution to this problem lies in technological progress:

- Developing [advanced vehicle technologies](#) that use energy more efficiently
- Creating new energy sources that can replace petroleum cleanly and cost-effectively

You Can Help

You can help improve our energy security by selecting a vehicle that uses less petroleum. Each vehicle in our [Find and Compare Cars](#) section has an [Energy Impact Score](#) that shows the amount of petroleum it uses each year.



You can also decrease your petroleum use by getting the best fuel economy possible out of your current car by [driving sensibly](#), [keeping your car in shape](#), and [planning and combining trips](#).

Data Sources

U.S. petroleum use: Energy Information Administration. 2008. [Annual Energy Review 2007](#), Table 5.1 Petroleum Overview, 1949-2007.

Proven oil reserve estimate: Energy Information Administration. 2005. "Non-OPEC Fact Sheet," June.

Fuel use reduction from new CAFE standards calculated based on: Energy Information Administration. 2008. [*Annual Energy Outlook 2008*](#), p. 67.