

Utilities

- Tennessee's electric power is supplied by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), which serves virtually all of the 95 counties.
- Tennessee's "Total Energy Consumption per Real Dollar of GDP" has fallen dramatically in recent years. Since 1997, the amount of energy consumed for every Real Dollar of GDP has fallen by nearly 30%.
- Over 91% of Tennessee residents heat their homes with either Utility Gas or Electricity.
- Tennessee ranks near the top of hydro-electric generating States east of the Rocky Mountains.
- TVA operates 19 hydroelectric dams, seven coal-fired power plants, two nuclear-power plants, six combustion-turbine sites and one pumped-storage plant in Tennessee, with a combined generating capacity of more than 19,655 megawatts.
- TVA's rates fall well below the national averages as shown below (2008 Energy Information Administration data):
 - Industrial rates: 19% lower
 - Commercial rates: 10% lower
 - Residential rates: 21% lower
- TVA has achieved 99.999% transmission reliability every year since 2000.
- TVA operates three wind turbines on Buffalo Mountain in Oliver Springs, with a generation capacity of 2 megawatts. TVA also purchases the output of 15 additional wind turbines on Buffalo Mountain, owned by Invenergy LLC, with a generation capacity of 27 megawatts.
- The single-unit Watts Bar Nuclear Plant began commercial operation in 1996 and was the last new nuclear reactor to be brought online in the United States.
- Since 1995, TVA has invested \$129 million in economic-development loans for new and expanding industries in Tennessee. These loans have helped create approximately 36,500 new jobs and leveraged more than \$1.7 billion in additional investments from private and public sources.
- TVA dams and reservoirs in Tennessee are operated in conjunction with others in the TVA system to store flood waters for controlled release. Operation of this system helps avert an average of \$230 million in flood damage per year.
- Natural gas prices in Tennessee consistently rank below prices in neighboring states and other states throughout the South.

Source: Tennessee Valley Authority – www.tva.gov ; Energy Information Administration – <http://tonto.eia.doe.gov> ; U.S. Department of Energy – www.eere.energy.gov ; U.S. Census Bureau – www.census.gov

