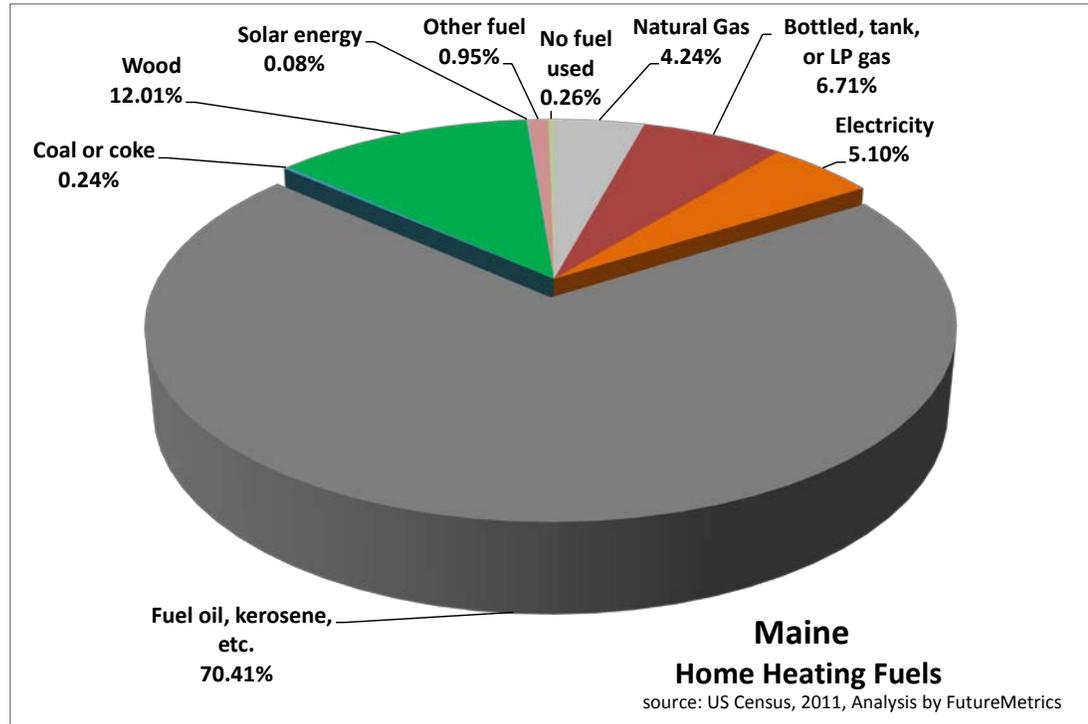


Building Maine's Local Thermal Energy Economy

Maine is the fourth most petroleum dependent state in the country* due to its high use of heating oil. Maine also has almost no homes and businesses with natural gas infrastructure. Only 4% of homes and businesses use natural gas and 70% use heating oil.

State and Rank in the US	Petroleum Dependency*
Connecticut (8)	43.29%
Maine (4)	46.64%
Massachusetts (12)	40.37%
New Hampshire (1)	52.41%
New York (14)	37.28%
Pennsylvania (26)	35.05%
Rhode Island (7)	43.68%
Vermont (2)	51.99%

*Petroleum dependency shows the proportion of the total energy used in the state that is derived from petroleum including transportation and power generation (source: US Energy Information Administration, 2011). Hawaii is excluded.



As a result, Maine EXPORTS more than 1.0 billion dollars every year.

	Number of Households and Businesses that use Heating Oil	Average Gallons Used per Year	Average Total Expenditure Per Year (#2 at \$3.65/gal)	Amount that Does not Stay in the States (EXPORTED)	Job Losses
Maine	543,000	358,142,000	\$ (1,359,507,032)	\$ (1,019,630,274)	-61,108

All of the heating oil money that leaves Maine takes local jobs with it: at current heating oil prices, more than 61,000 Maine jobs are "exported" to OPEC nations and other locations! (See the 25x25 Vision paper at www.nebioheat.org for a full explanation of the basis for the job loss estimates.)

If Maine were to convert only 18.5% of its homes and businesses** from heating oil to locally produced biomass fuels such as pellets, chips, or cordwood used in modern efficient stoves and boilers, it would create about 10,400 permanent and stable jobs. Some of those jobs would be for the production and supply of wood fuels and some of those jobs would be created by no longer exporting money.

Economic growth and job creation, Energy independence, and Environmental stewardship are the rewards of using regionally produced renewable energy for heating Maine's homes and businesses.

For more information, visit the Northeast Biomass Working Group at www.nebioheat.org.

**18.5% is the result of the 25x25 study which determined the sustainable quantity of biomass fuel in the Northeast states.
Analysis by FutureMetrics