

Energy Industry Overview

Houston is the U.S. energy headquarters and a world center for virtually every segment of the oil and gas industry including exploration, production, transmission, marketing, supply and technology.

- Houston's high concentration of oil expertise and experience has meant a large number of relocations to the Houston region since Shell Oil left New York for Houston in 1971. Energy firms relocating to Houston in recent years include:
 - Schlumberger relocating its U.S. corporate headquarters from New York(2006);
 - Heartland Oil and Gas Corporation relocating its corporate headquarters from Denver (2007);
 - CITGO Petroleum Corporation relocating its corporate headquarters from Tulsa (2004);
 - BP America Inc. centralizing its U.S. headquarters by moving personnel and positions from their Chicago office (2007);
 - ConocoPhillips choosing Houston as headquarters after the merger of Houston-based Conoco Inc. and Phillips Petroleum Company of Bartlesville, Okla., becoming the third-largest integrated energy company in the United States (2002);
 - GlobalSantaFe selecting Houston as headquarters after the merger of Houston's Global Marine Inc. and Dallas-based Santa Fe International Corp.(2002); and
 - Direct Energy, the Toronto-based electricity provider relocating its U.S. headquarters from Stamford, CT (2007).
- More than 3,000 energy-related establishments are located within the Houston Metropolitan Statistical Area, including more than 500 exploration and production firms, more than 150 pipeline transportation establishments and hundreds of manufacturers and wholesalers of energy-sector products.
- Houston is home to 42 of the nation's 141 publicly traded oil and gas exploration and production firms, including 11 of the top 25; 11 of the remaining 14 have subsidiaries, major divisions or other significant operations here.
- The nine refineries in the Houston region produce 2.34 million barrels of crude oil per calendar day – approximately 50 percent of the state's total production and 13.3 percent of the total U.S. capacity.
- The logistics for moving much of the nation's petroleum and natural gas across the country are controlled from Houston. The majority of the top 20 US interstate oil pipeline companies have a presence in the Houston region that includes corporate or divisional headquarters or operating assets. Fifteen of the nation's top 20 natural gas transmission companies have corporate or divisional headquarters in Houston, controlling 110,295 miles of U.S. pipeline which is 57.3 percent of U.S. capacity.
- In December 2009, the Houston MSA held:
 - 31.2 percent of the nation's jobs in oil and gas extraction (50,500 of 161,700);
 - 14.4 percent of jobs in support activities for mining (39,900 of 276,800); and
 - 15.0 percent of agricultural, construction and mining machinery manufacturing jobs (31,100 of 207,300).
- Houston is the Permanent Secretariat of the World Energy Cities Partnership (WECP), a collaboration among 15 energy cities worldwide providing a platform for information exchange, networking and public relations. The Greater Houston Partnership serves as the Secretariat of the WECP and manages the City of Houston's participation in the organization.