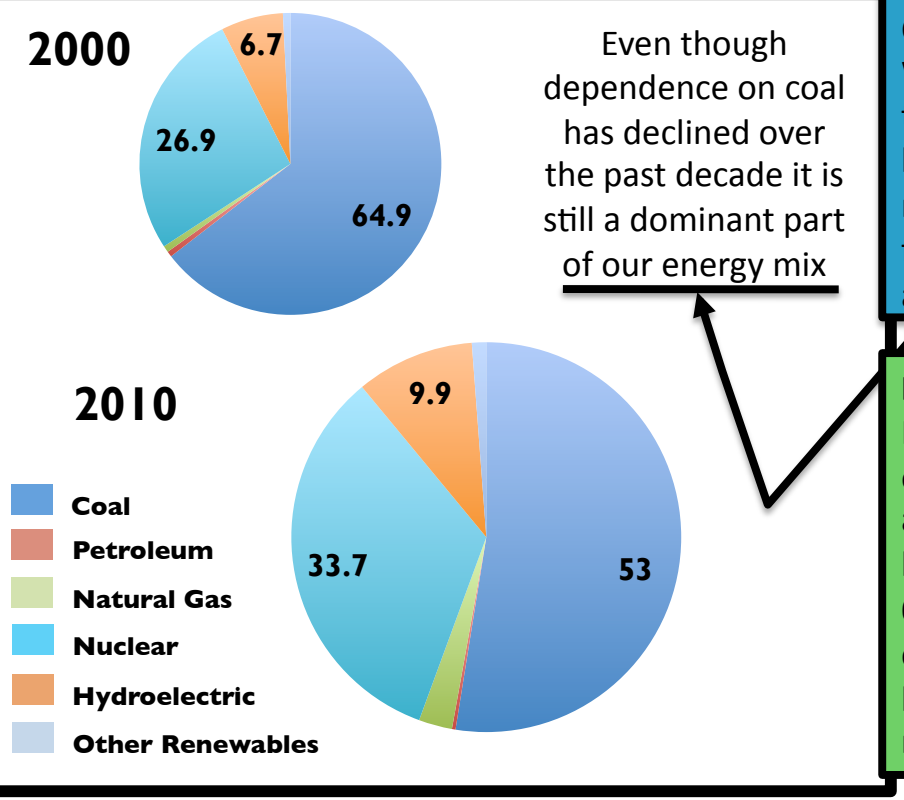
# What's powering Tennessee?




Even though dependence on coal has declined over the past decade it is still a dominant part of our energy mix

**Why Should I Care?**

Coal is one of the oldest and dirtiest sources of energy. While reliance on coal historically kept power rates low, the true cost of coal is extraordinary when we account for the human health and environmental damages associated with mining coal, mountain top removal, transportation of coal from mine to plant, air pollution, water quality degradation and coal waste storage.

**How does it affect me?**

In Tennessee, the Tennessee Valley Authority spend a total of about **$1.21 billion** on coal each year[1] and the state appears at number 11 in the list of the top 15 states for coal health impacts in 2010.[2] There were **340 hospitalizations, 640 heart attacks and 499 deaths** related to pollution from coal plants in Tennessee.[3] The economic cost of hospital bills, missed work, missed school and ongoing health care is rarely considered when balancing the costs of coal.

**Key**

**U** = Number of units upgraded with advanced environmental controls (Flue Gas Desulfurization or Selective Catalytic Reduction)
**R** = Number of units retired or planned for retirement
**NA** = No action taken to upgrade or retire

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## Status of Coal Plants in Tennessee

| Name | County | Capacity (MW) | Years | Units | U | R | NA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Allen | Shelby | 990 | 1959 | 3 | 3 | | |
| Bull Run | Anderson | 950 | 1967 | 1 | 1 | | |
| Cumberland | Stewart | 2600 | 1973 | 2 | 2 | | |
| Gallatin | Summer | 1255.2 | 1956-1959 | 4 | | | 4 |
| John Sevier | Hawkins | 800 | 1955-1957 | 4 | | 4 | |
| Johnsonville | Humphreys | 1485.2 | 1951-1959 | 10 | | 10 | |
| Kingston | Roane | 1700 | 1954-1955 | 9 | 9 | | |

[1]Union of Concerned Scientists, Burning Coal Burning Cash (2010). Data from 2008.
[2]Clean Air Task Force, Toll From Coal (2010).
[3]*Id.*