

# Burning Coal, Burning Cash

RANKING THE STATES THAT  
IMPORT THE MOST COAL



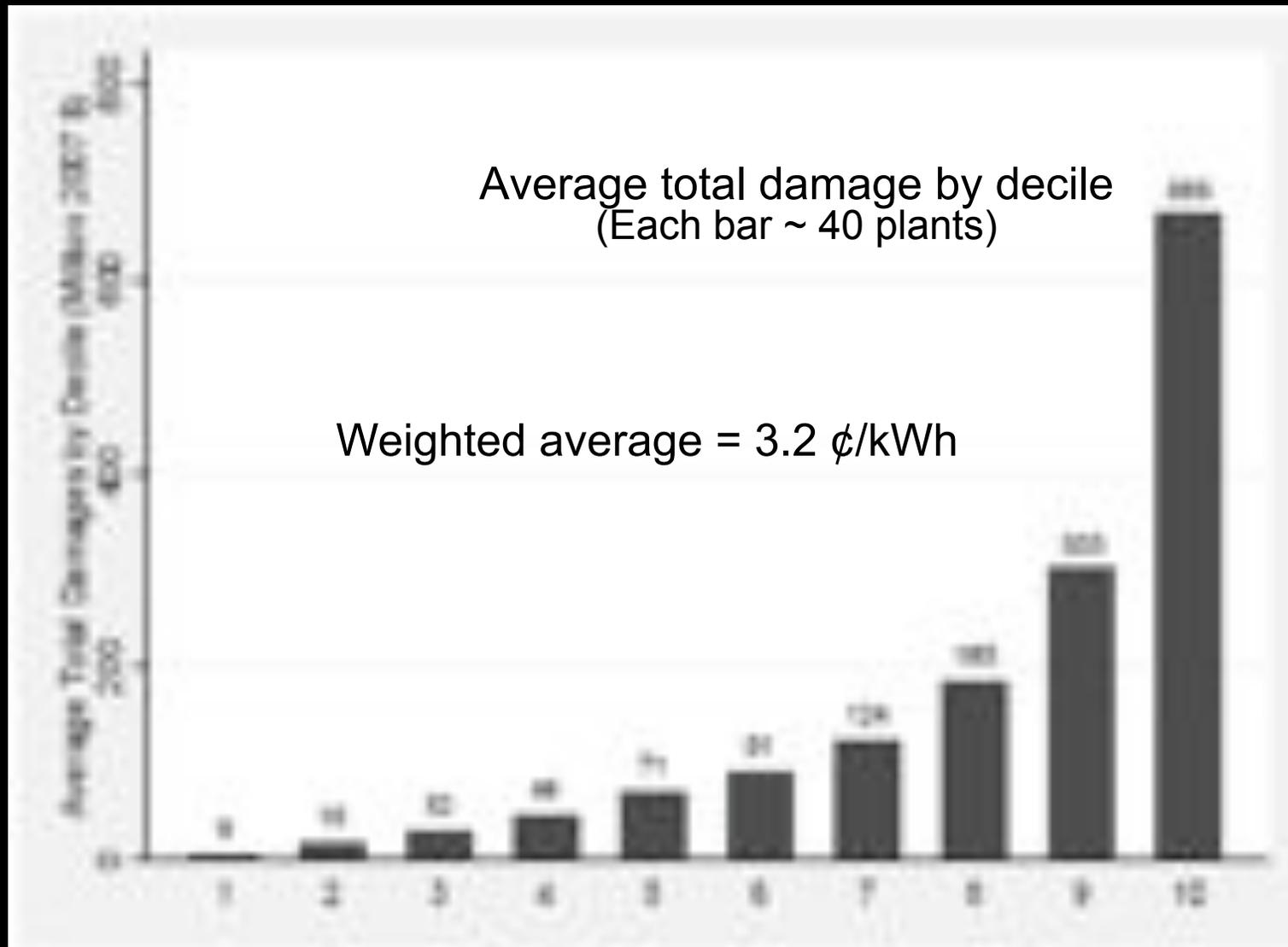
Union of Concerned Scientists  
Citizens and Scientists for Environmental Solutions

# Health Costs from Coal

- \$62 billion in costs from coal emissions (premature deaths, heart and lung disease)
- \$156 million per plant
- Doesn't count mercury, other toxics, global warming, mining



# Worst 10% of plants produce 43% of damage



Source: NRC, 2009

# What is a Coal State?



major producers



major consumers

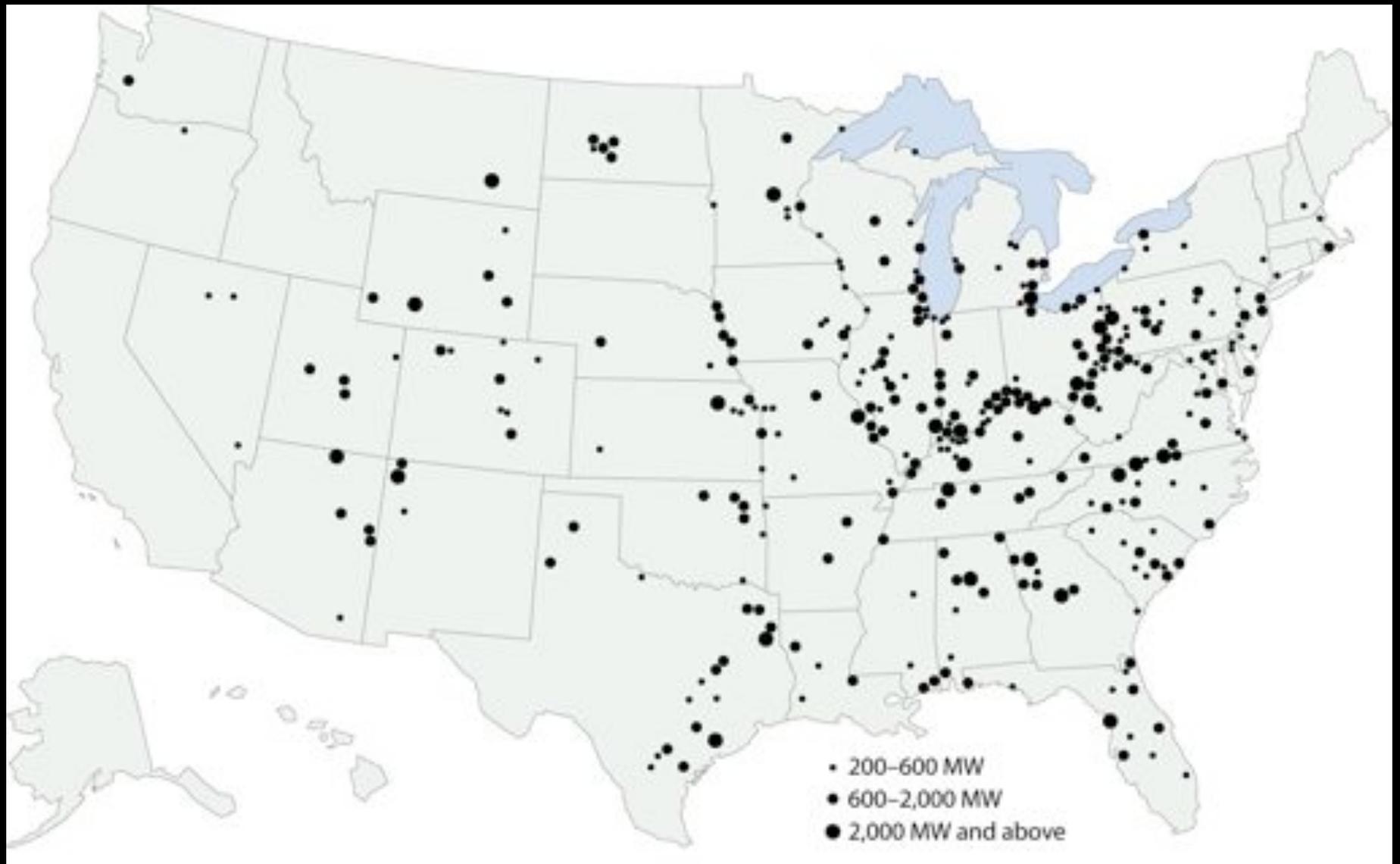
*Their economic interests differ*

- **Most coal from west**
  - Wyoming's Powder River Basin mines
- **Most plants in east**
  - Wyoming coal fuels plants in 34 states (inc. New York, Georgia)
- **States increasingly dependent on distant coal**



Photo:PictureQuest

# U.S. Coal Plants

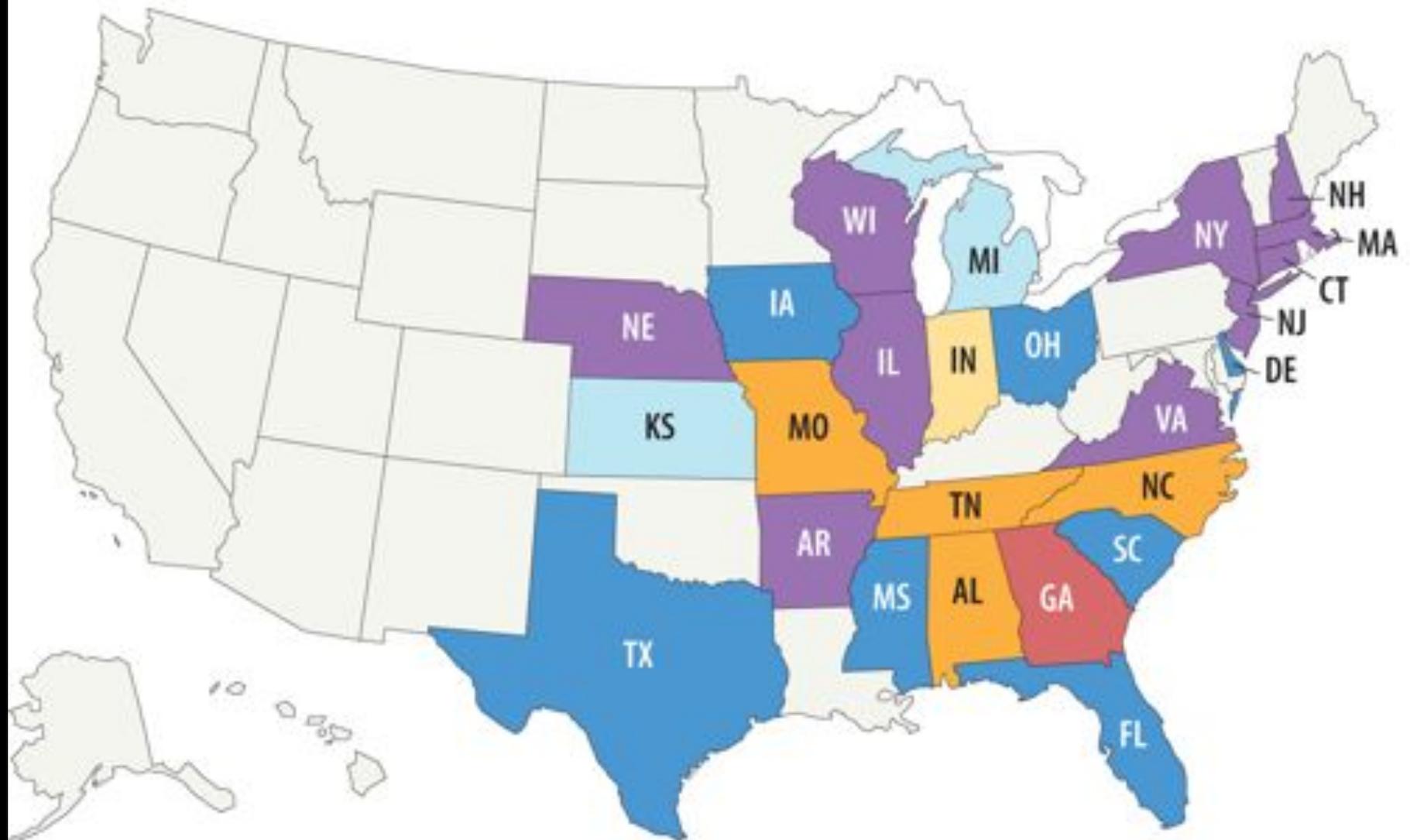


# Six ways to measure dependence

- Net dollars spent
- Net tons imported
- Spending per person
- Spending relative to size of economy
- Imports relative to electricity consumption
- Total international imports



**FIGURE 1. The States Most Dependent on Coal Imports**



Number of Appearances on Lists of Most Coal-Dependent States



# The Billion Dollar Club: Most spent on net coal imports



# Growing drain on states

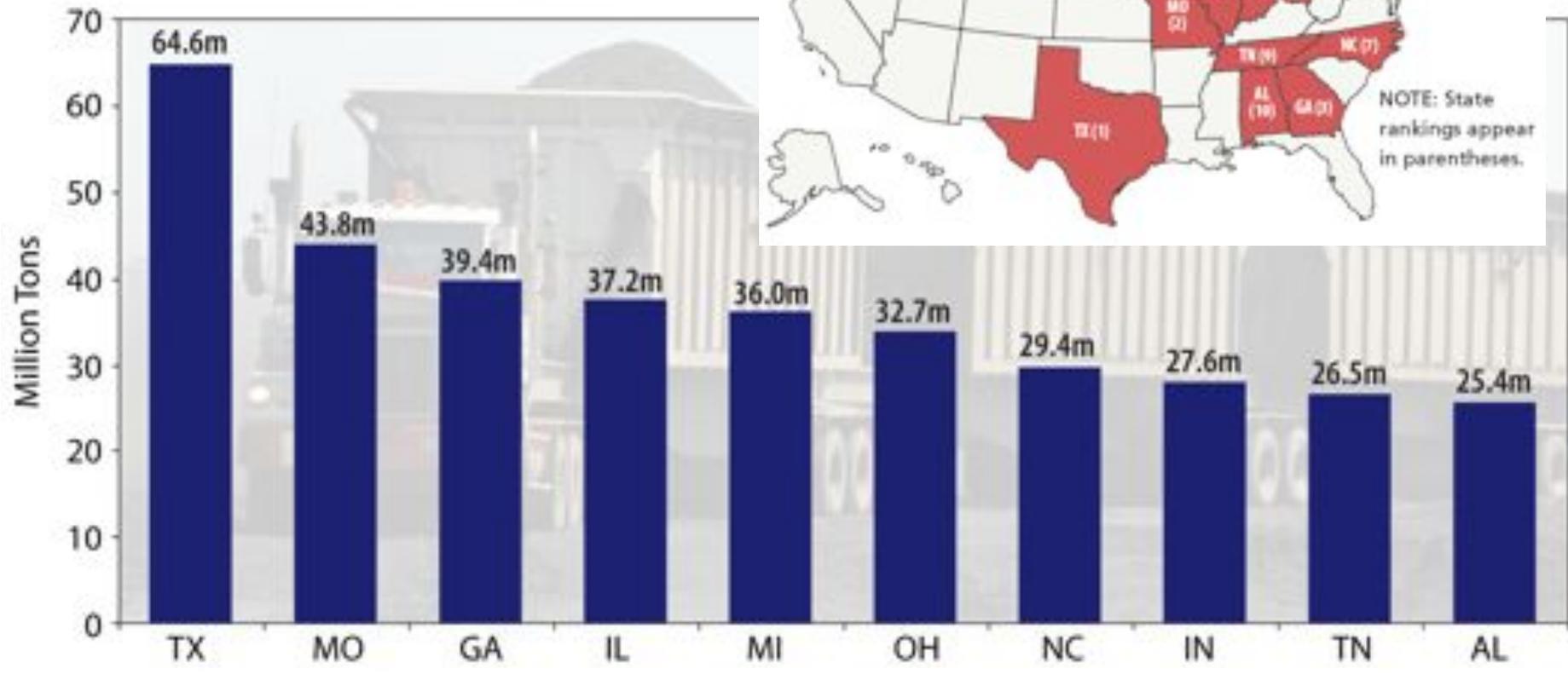


Increase in import costs,  
2002-2008:

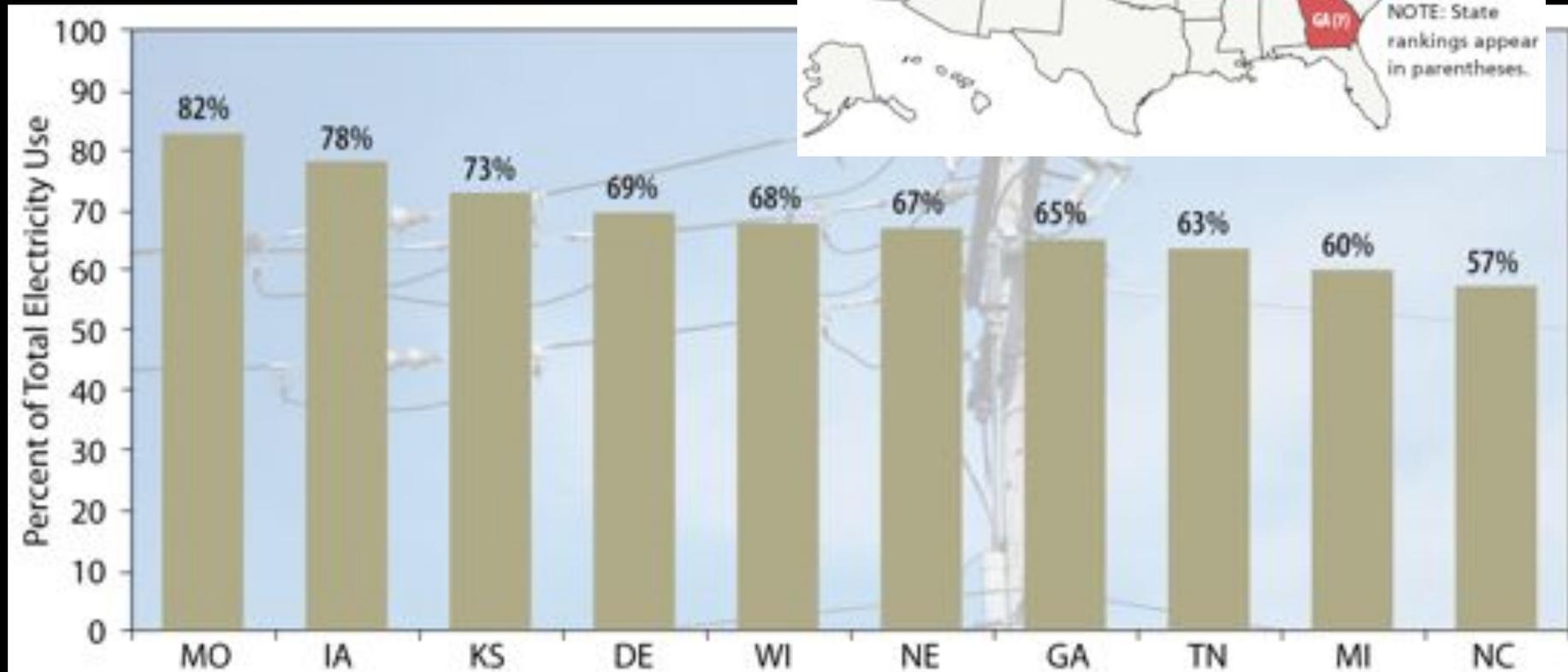
- Georgia: up 87%
- North Carolina: up 88%
- Alabama: up 170%

Higher prices, more  
imports

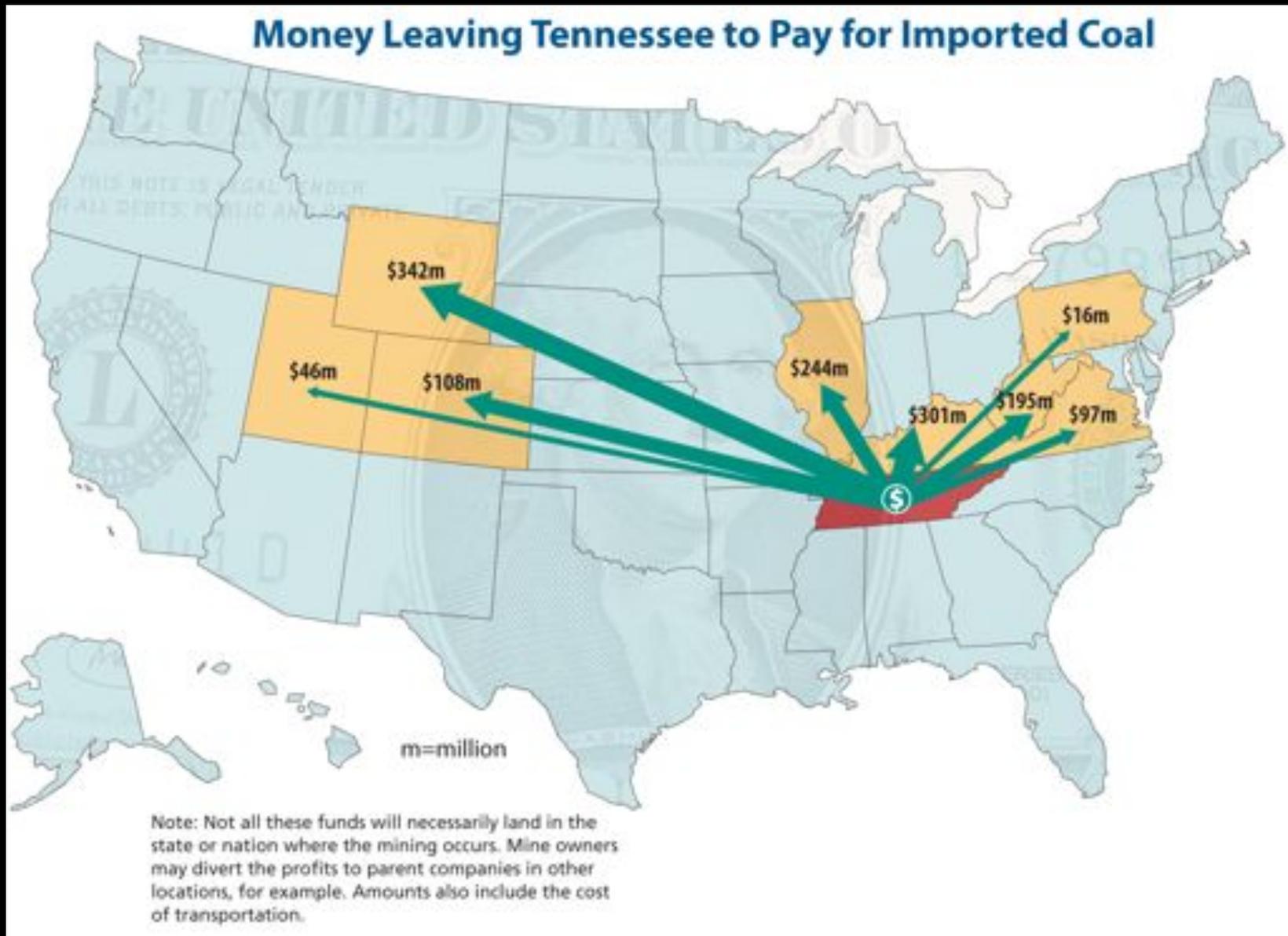
# Most net tons imported



# Net coal imports relative to the state's total electricity use



# \$1.21 billion leaving Tennessee

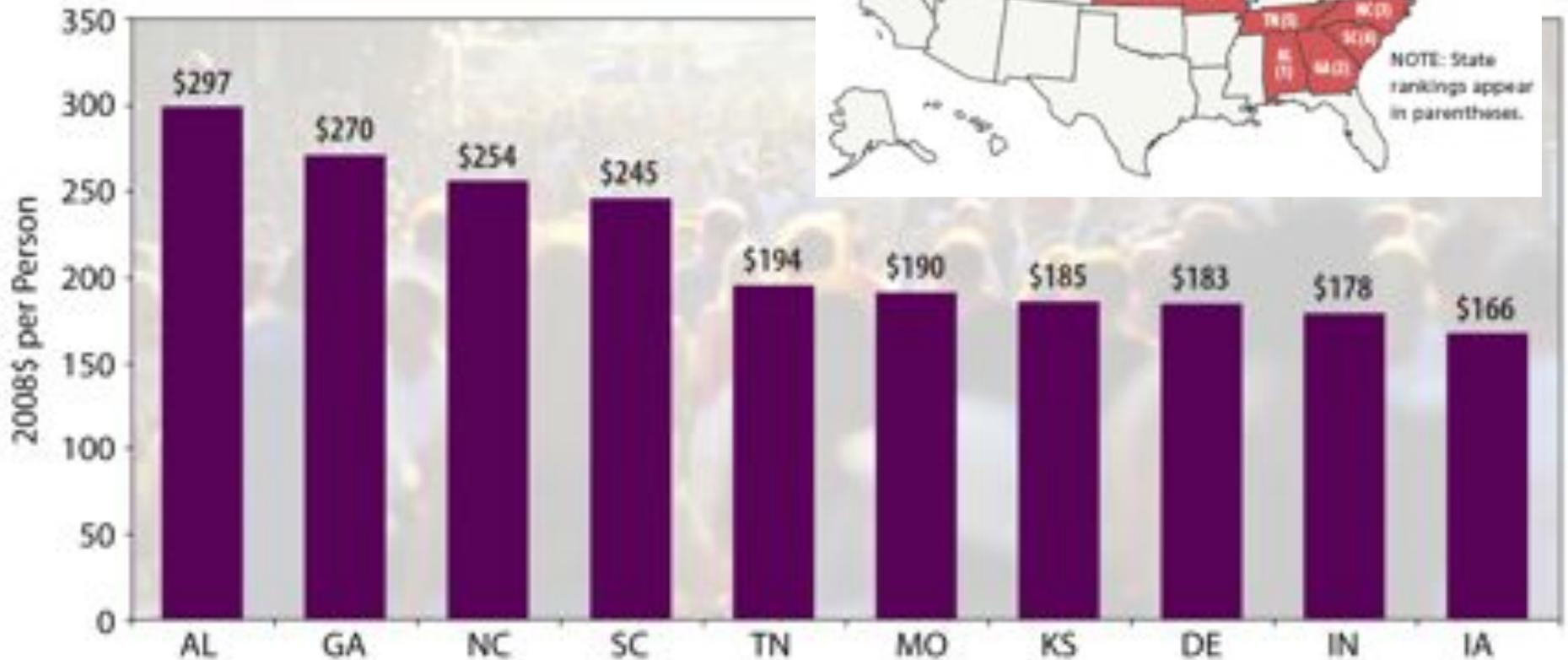


# Comparing coal imports costs and energy efficiency investments

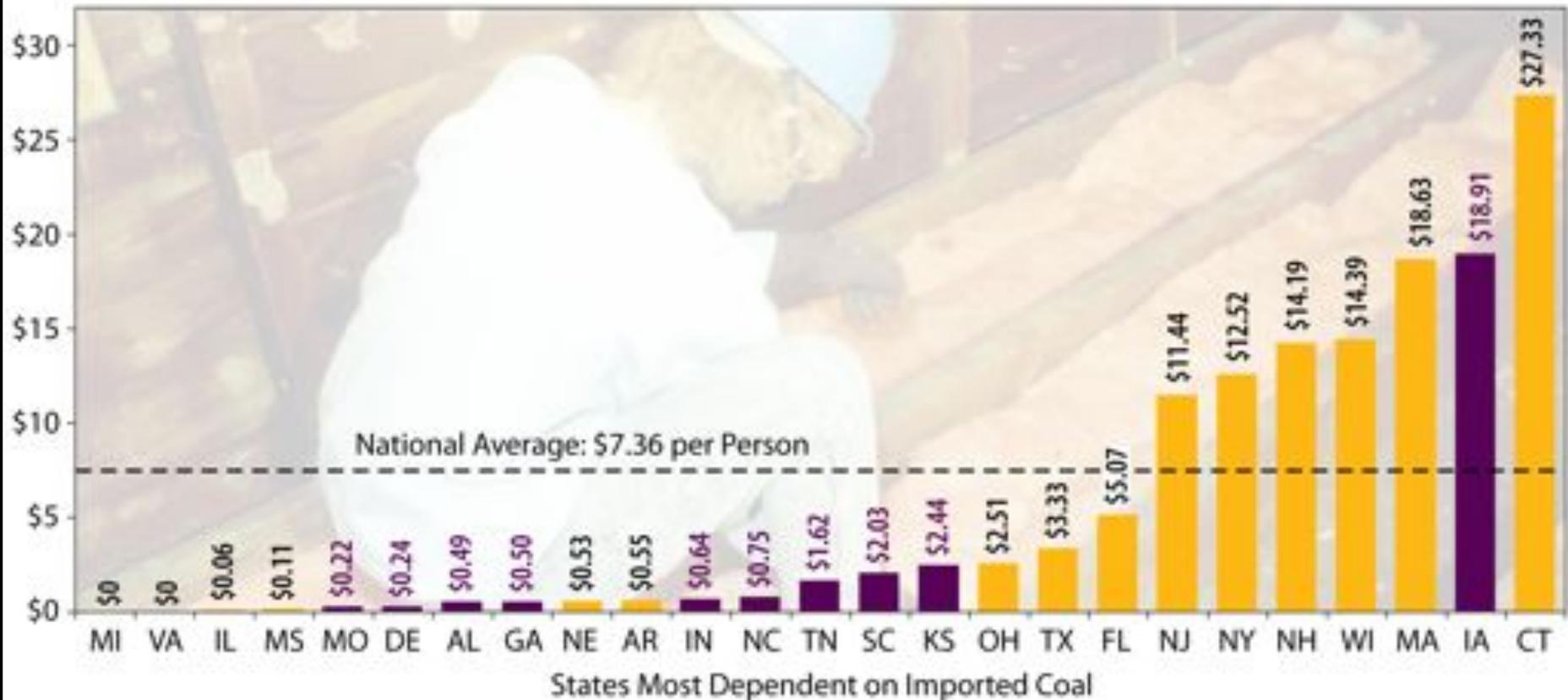
- What Georgia spent to import coal per person (2008): **\$270**
- What Georgia spent on energy efficiency programs per person (2007): **\$0.50**



# Most spent on coal imports per person



# State spending per person on electricity efficiency programs



Source: American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy. 2009. *The 2009 state energy efficiency scorecard.*

# All Regions have Renewable Options

- Some in the Southeast say federal RES will force them to import renewable power
- Southeast has local renewables, little coal
  - Southeast imports coal from S. America, exports biomass to Europe



# Renewables could supply 60% of Tennessee's electricity demand



**30% of Tennessee's electricity demand  
can be met with Solar PV**



# 18% of Tennessee's electricity demand can be met with in-state Biomass



# Co-firing



# An RES will boost manufacturing in Tennessee



Extra Slides