

# Public power: Nebraska- powered. Nebraska-focused.

There are public power utilities in 49 states, but **Nebraska is the only state** where 100% of the customers receive their electricity from a not-for-profit, consumer-owned utility. **Nebraska's public power utilities deliver low rates, responsibly invest in infrastructure to keep service and reliability high, and prioritize customers.** Governed locally by boards or councils, they enable citizen input — demonstrating public ownership can be affordable, reliable and democratic.

To learn more about the benefits of public power in Nebraska, visit [publicpowered.com](http://publicpowered.com).

**Public power is:**  
Affordable.  
Reliable.  
Yours.

Revised 2/18/26 SM

## THE STATE OF PUBLIC POWER

2026 Information Guide



# As energy costs rise regionally and nationally, Nebraska holds steady.

Affordability remains top of mind for many. Nebraska's public power utilities **have a long history** of providing customers with **some of the nation's lowest electricity costs.**

Public power districts are not-for-profit, and any **surplus revenues** created by the generation and consumption of power **are used to stabilize rates** and are reinvested in the systems that serve everyone.

Since 2022, Nebraska's public power rates have saved customers an average of

**\$1.25 BILLION ANNUALLY**

when compared to typical U.S. customers using the same amount of electricity.

## STATES WITH THE LOWEST AVERAGE OVERALL COST PER KILOWATT HOUR - ALL ENERGY SECTORS - 2024

RANKING	STATE	CENTS PER kWh
1	North Dakota	\$0.0792
2	Louisiana	\$0.0880
<b>3</b>	<b>NEBRASKA</b>	<b>\$0.0907</b>
4	Oklahoma	\$0.0908
5	Wyoming	\$0.0913

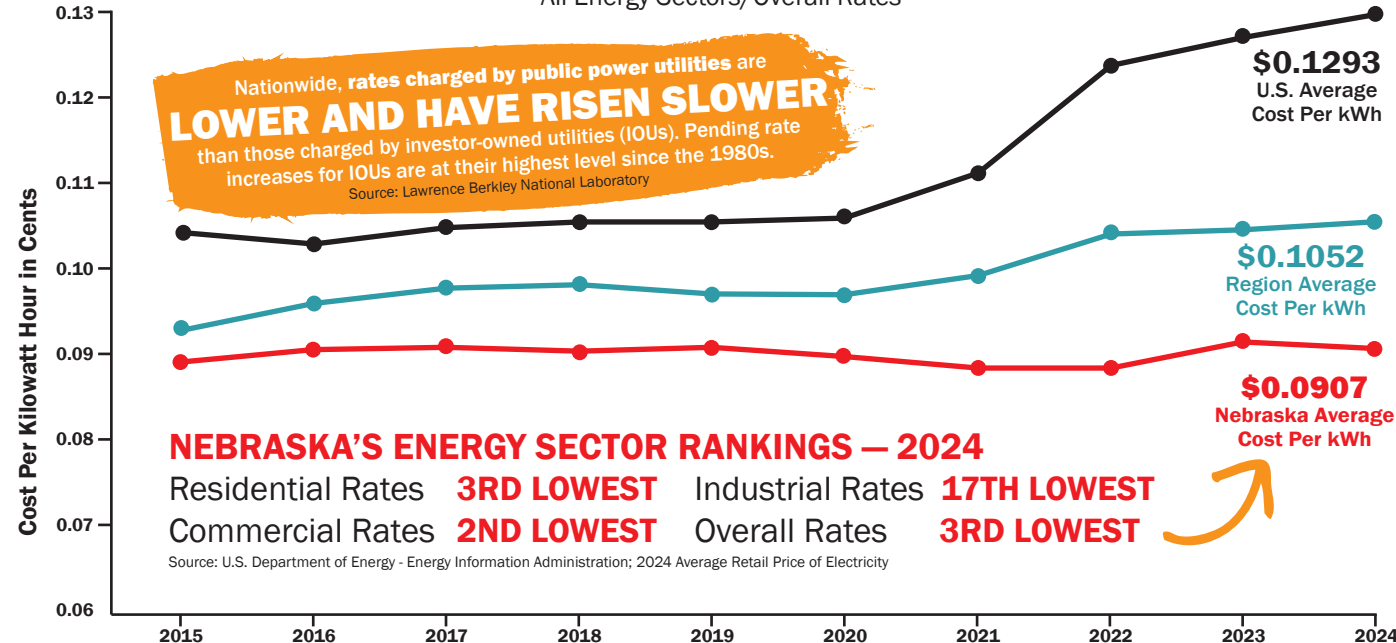
Compared to states with the highest overall costs

46	Massachusetts	\$0.2393
47	Rhode Island	\$0.2414
48	Connecticut	\$0.2436
49	California	\$0.2703
50	Hawaii	\$0.3799

Source: U.S. Department of Energy - Energy Information Administration; 2024 Average Retail Price of Electricity. Data is based on the average cost per kilowatt hour and total megawatt sales for residential, commercial and industrial energy sectors. Kilowatt per hour cost for electricity only. Does not include service fees, lease payments, or taxes.

## AVERAGE OVERALL ENERGY COST PER KILOWATT HOUR (kWh)

All Energy Sectors/Overall Rates

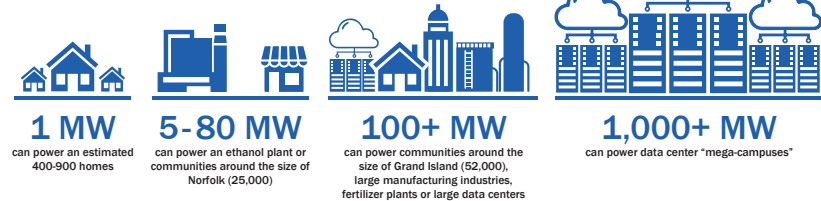


# Public power — empowering a once-in-a-generation opportunity for growth.

Nebraska's affordable rates and top-tier energy infrastructure are a critical advantage, which is why many businesses have or plan to call Nebraska home.

Today's businesses and industries need significantly more electricity. **Loads from 1 to 10 megawatts (MW) were common just two years ago. Now, some businesses require anywhere from 50 MW to well over 100 MW to operate.** In response, Nebraska's public power utilities are meeting the energy needs of both existing and new customers and empowering the momentum of Nebraska's economy.

## Megawatts in Perspective



## Expected Industries Coming to Nebraska



Hydrogen Production



Ethanol Production



Sustainable Aviation Fuel



Food Processing



Data Centers



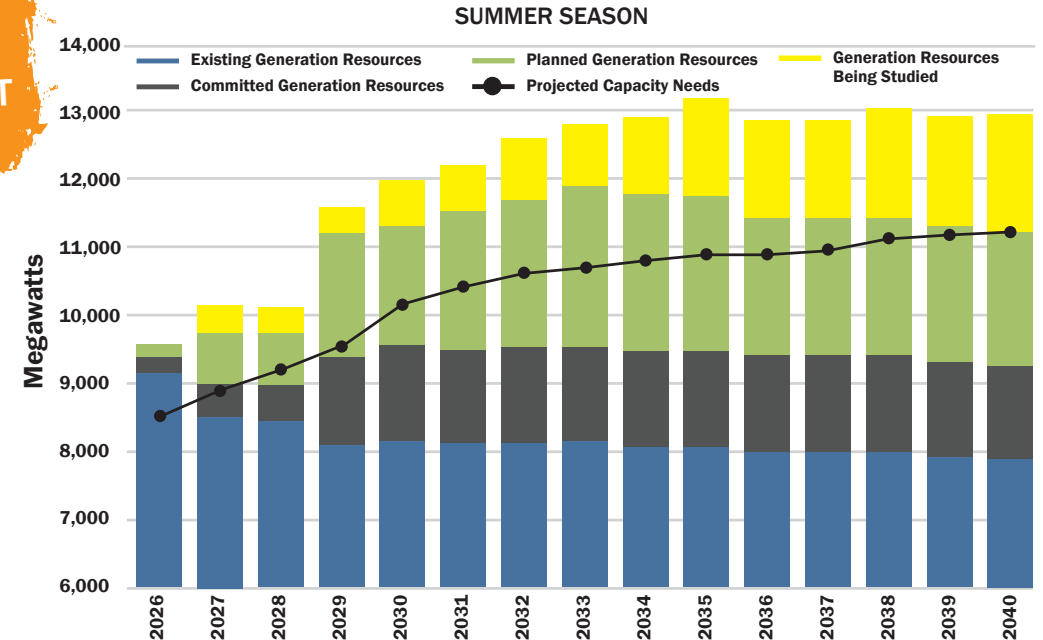
Manufacturing

Nebraska's utilities are currently building and planning for THE STATE'S LARGEST ENERGY GENERATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE BUILDOUT SINCE THE 1970s.

Nebraska isn't facing an energy shortage, but changing times offer a chance to grow. Nebraska's public power utilities are **currently expanding** the state's diverse energy generation resource mix **while strategically planning** to meet the growing electricity demand, focusing on **maintaining reliability and minimizing rate impacts for customers.**

Source: Nebraska Power Association 2025 Load & Capability Report

## NEBRASKA'S ENERGY GENERATION RESOURCE CAPACITY VS. PROJECTED ENERGY NEEDS



Capacity is the maximum amount of power the state's electric utilities can generate to cover peak energy needs.

# Investing responsibly in the state's energy infrastructure.

With electricity demand growing and new energy generating facilities being constructed and planned, **upgrades to Nebraska's transmission system are essential.** The state's public power utilities have a proven record of aligning needed infrastructure investments with customer affordability.

More than  
**\$300,000,000**  
has been invested in the state's transmission system  
**in the last 10 years.**

All of this was done while  
**still keeping Nebraska's rates among the lowest in the nation.**

More than  
**\$1,500,000,000**  
is to be invested in the state's transmission system  
**in the next five years.**

All of this is being planned while  
**still keeping affordability at the forefront.**

Source: Southwest Power Pool (SPP) 2025 Integrated Transmission Plan

*The electric power industry is the most*  
**CAPITAL-INTENSIVE**  
**INDUSTRY**  
*in the United States.*

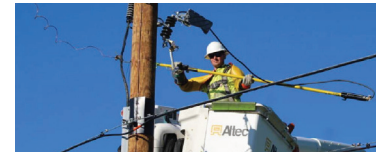
Source: Edison Energy Institute (EEI)



## 2025 BEST STATES RANKING

 **Nebraska**




-  #3 in Power Grid Reliability
- #5 in Best States Overall
- #1 in Infrastructure
- #3 in Energy



Source: U.S. Department of Energy - Energy Information Administration; 2024 Annual Electric Power Industry Report

# Nebraskans depend on reliable energy, and public power delivers.

Nebraska's energy infrastructure consistently ranks among the nation's best. **Customers' dollars get reinvested back into the system** that serves them, **not into the pockets of shareholders.** That's the power of public power.

-  **Top states for grid reliability.**
-  **Top states with fewest annual power outages.**
-  **Top states for shortest duration of power outages.**

# Being thoughtful and doing it right for the long term.

Public power utilities strategize, prioritize and **do things right** — focusing on long-term benefits, reliability and customer accountability. As not-for-profit, consumer-owned entities, **our consistent, determined and customer-focused effort** always serves Nebraska best.

## When an electric utility moves too fast in decision making, several risks can arise:

- **Reliability Risks = Power Outages**
- **Financial Risks = Higher Bills**
- **Safety Risks = Increased Danger**
- **Regulatory & Compliance Risks = Legal & Service Delays**
- **Security Risks = Vulnerable Systems**



# Smart planning and investing keeps Nebraska's energy future bright.

Nebraska's public power utilities' strategic long-term planning, investing, smart budgeting and cost-conscious decisions **ensure long-term value, customer satisfaction and a future-ready energy system** that meets growing and changing demands.

## Key investment drivers include:



### Electricity Demand

Onshoring, AI growth and strong economic development are driving high energy demand.



### Grid Modernization

Transmission and distribution upgrades are needed to improve efficiency and to support new loads.



### Electrification

The shift to EVs, heat pumps and electrified industry is driving higher power consumption.



### Resilience

Additional grid hardening is needed to withstand severe weather events and cyber threats.

# Technology and innovation keep Nebraska powered and connected.

Nebraska's public power utilities have a **long history of embracing cutting-edge technology** and showcasing a **commitment to innovation** when generating and delivering energy, as well as when meeting customers' growing and ever-changing needs.

## Smart Grid Technology

Utilities have adopted advanced metering and automation to manage energy better and respond to issues faster.

## AI & Automation

Utilities are using AI and automation for grid optimization, predictive maintenance, demand forecasting and cyber security.

## Demand Response Programs

Utilities partner with customers to unlock revenue by helping them manage energy use during periods of high demand.

## Partnership & Collaboration

Working with entities like EPRI and UNL's Nebraska Center for Energy Sciences Research, utilities explore and test innovative technologies.



# The key advantages of public power.

**IT'S LOW-COST POWER:** Nebraska's not-for-profit, cost-based rates mean **customers pay only for generating and delivering power**. The result: Nebraskans enjoy some of the lowest energy costs in the nation.

**IT'S NOT-FOR-PROFIT:** Public power exists to serve customers — not shareholders. With no profit motive, **Nebraska utilities can focus solely on keeping rates low and service high**.

**IT'S HIGHLY RELIABLE:** Surplus revenues are reinvested into plants, substations and power lines to ensure **safe, reliable, low-cost electricity and excellent customer service**.

**IT'S POWERED LOCALLY:** Public power gives customers a voice. **Elected board and council members live in the communities they serve**, ensuring decisions carefully reflect local needs and impacts.

**IT'S FOCUSED ON YOU:** Public power utilities prioritize fast, reliable service. **Nebraskans can count on local employees** — friends and neighbors — **to do what's best for customers every time**.

**IT'S GROWTH-MINDED:** Public power utilities play a significant role in **driving economic growth** in the communities they serve, **improving customers' and Nebraska's quality of life**.



Nebraska's public power utilities operate with a **fundamental "obligation to serve" all customers** — from residential homes to small businesses to ag producers to large industrial facilities — **with reliable electricity and with rates that are fair and equitable**.