

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 energy 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:
 - Honghua America, LLC relocates its operations from Chengdu, China (2015);
 - AKO Engineering relocates their U.S. headquarters from Phoenix, Arizona (2014);
 - Occidental Petroleum Corp. relocated their headquarters from Los Angeles, California (2013);
 - Nexen Petroleum U.S.A. moved its headquarters from Plano, Texas (2012);
 - Direct Energy moved their corporate headquarters from Toronto, Canada (2012);
 - Calpine's headquarters were relocated from San Jose, California (2009);
 - GE Oil & Gas, based in Florence, Italy, selected Houston as their headquarters for the Americas (2008);
 - BP America Inc. centralized its U.S. headquarters in Houston by moving personnel and positions from their Chicago office (2007);
 - Heartland Oil and Gas Corporation relocated its corporate headquarters from Denver (2007);
 - Schlumberger relocated their U.S. corporate headquarters from New York (2006);
 - CITGO Petroleum Corporation relocated its corporate headquarters from Tulsa (2004)
- Approximately 4,800 energy-related firms are located within the Houston Metropolitan Statistical Area, including more than 750 exploration and production firms, nearly 800 oilfield service companies, more than 80 pipeline transportation firms and hundreds of manufacturers and wholesalers of energy-sector products.
- Houston is home to 39 of the nation's 137 publicly traded oil and gas exploration and production firms, including nine of the top 25. Seven more among the top 25 have subsidiaries, major divisions or other significant operations in the Houston area.
- The 10 refineries in the Houston region process more than 2.2 million barrels of crude oil per calendar day – approximately 40 percent of the state's total production and 12.1 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. Fourteen of the nation's 20 largest oil pipeline operators have corporate or divisional headquarters or ownership interests based in the Houston region. These 14 pipeline companies control 63,585 miles, or 39 percent of all U.S. oil pipeline capacity. Eleven of the nation's top 20 natural gas transmission companies have corporate or divisional headquarters in Houston, controlling 88,054 miles of U.S. pipeline, which is 45.2 percent of the total U.S. natural gas pipeline capacity.
- In April 2017, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Houston MSA held:
 - 25.6 percent of the nation's jobs in oil and gas extraction (45,900 of 179,400); and
 - 13.5 percent of jobs in support activities for mining (37,700 of 279,900).
- Houston is the Permanent Secretariat of the World Energy Cities Partnership (WECP), a collaboration among 19 energy cities worldwide providing a platform for information exchange, networking and public relations.