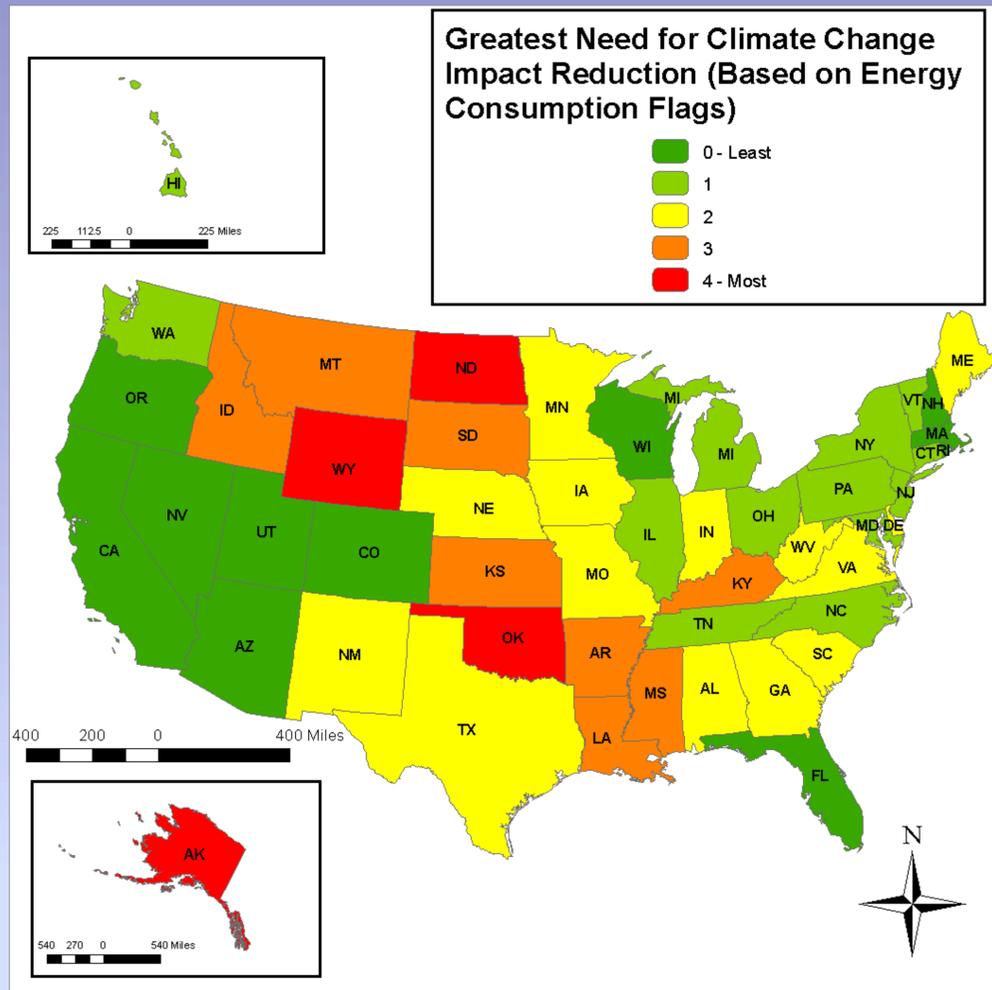


Energy Consumption by State: Implications for Climate Change Action

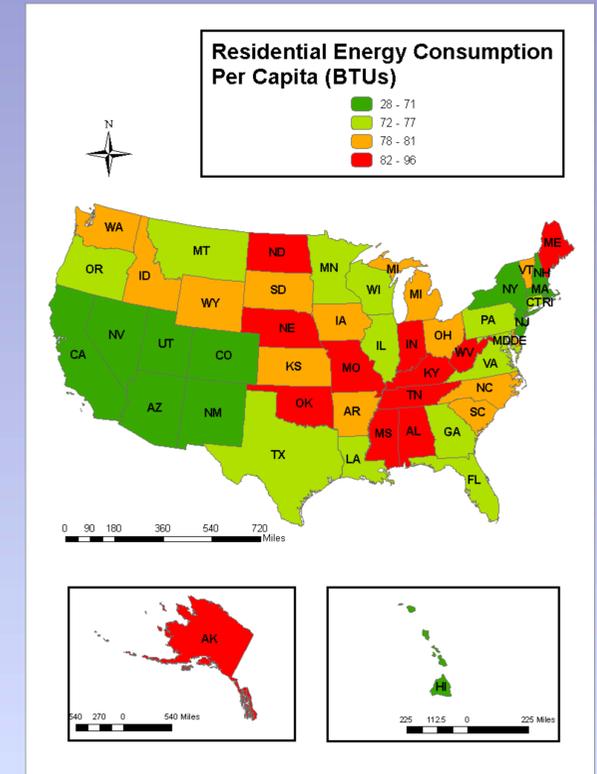
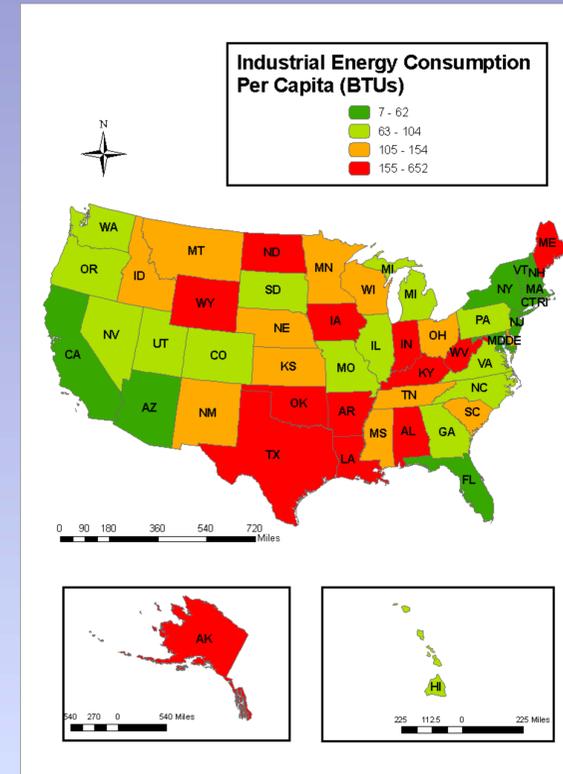
Map by Kari Hewitt
USA Contiguous Albers Equal Area Conic USGS
Sources: US EPA—eGRID and
National Atlas—EIA data

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Current State Actions:

- RGGI (Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative): Connecticut, Maine, Delaware, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maryland, Vermont, New York, New Jersey
- Midwestern Greenhouse Gas Reduction Accord: Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin
- Western Climate Initiative: California, Oregon, Washington, Montana, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico
- Other States with Completed Action Plans: Hawaii, Alabama, North Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Missouri
- States with No Completed Plan ranked as 3 or 4 in map to the left: Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oklahoma, Wyoming, Alaska



Project Description

The purpose of this project was to evaluate the United States' contributions to greenhouse gas emissions in order to demonstrate where the greatest need for mitigative action is. This was done using the following steps:

- Acquire CO2 emissions data from electric generating facilities using the EPA eGRID data.
- Use Energy Information Administration per capita energy consumption data for residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation sectors as a proxy for emissions levels. (In other words, assumption that higher energy consumption results in higher emissions levels.)
- Display this data in the 5 maps shown to the right.
- Flagged as "high" energy consumption, within each of the four consumption categories, if the state's energy consumption was above the national median.
- Aggregate this information for the final map above. Each state could score between 0 and 4. If the energy consumption was above the median in every category, the state scored a 4. If it was below the median for all categories, it scored a 0.

Therefore, if energy consumption is an appropriate proxy for greenhouse gas emissions, then the map above shows that the orange and red states are in the greatest need of mitigative action toward climate change. The maps to the right demonstrate which sectors in particular are in need of reductions.

