

**INTRODUCTION**

# Energy Efficiency as a Resource Regional Reports

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WRITTEN BY:

**Sandy Glatt**

Project Manager State and Utility Partnerships  
Office of Industrial Technologies Program  
U.S. Department of Energy

**Ryan Harry**

Technical Research Analyst  
BCS, Incorporated

**Garrett Shields**

Research Associate  
BCS, Incorporated



The energy efficiency as a resource regional reports examine the energy intensities for manufacturing industries throughout the United States. Each report focuses on one of four U.S. Census Bureau regions: the Midwest, Northeast, South, and West. These reports use U.S. Census Bureau Annual Survey of Manufactures (ASM) data along with Energy Information Administration (EIA) Manufacturing Energy Consumption Survey (MECS) data.

The purpose of these reports is to suggest specific industries that could greatly benefit from implementing energy efficiency within their operations. The industries highlighted in each report were found to have energy intensities well above the national average of energy intensity for that sector. These reports do not attempt to find the theoretical minimum for energy intensities, but, rather, focus on the energy and financial savings that could be made from operating at the existing national average energy intensity.

Energy prices play an important part in these reports. Energy-intensive industries often seek to operate in regions where energy prices are lower, using direct energy costs instead of energy efficiency to save money. As a consequence, regions with lower energy prices proved to have higher energy intensities. The analysis for these reports found that the two regions with the lowest energy prices, the Midwest and the South, experienced higher-than-average energy intensities. By contrast, the Northeast and the West, where higher energy prices exist, did not always experience high energy intensities among the regional industry leaders. Nonetheless, this analysis found many important manufacturing industries in each region which could benefit from reducing energy intensity.

By using the regional average energy prices and the amount of energy that could have been saved by operating at national average of energy intensity, these reports estimate the possible savings that each region could have achieved if a number of regionally important industries operated at the national average level. The sum of the energy savings achievable by operating at national average levels totals 2,635 trillion Btu across the four reports. Using the regional weighted average price, this energy savings translates into approximately \$29.3 billion in energy cost savings.

2006 Potential Energy and Economic Savings by Region

Region	Potential Energy Savings (in trillion Btu)	Potential Economic Savings (in millions)
Midwest	670	\$7,300
Northeast	58	\$789
South	1,763	\$19,400
West	144	\$1,830
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,635</b>	<b>\$29,319</b>



