

Economic Effects of Renewable Energy Policy

Eric Bowen, Ph.D.

AUBER Conference
October 2017

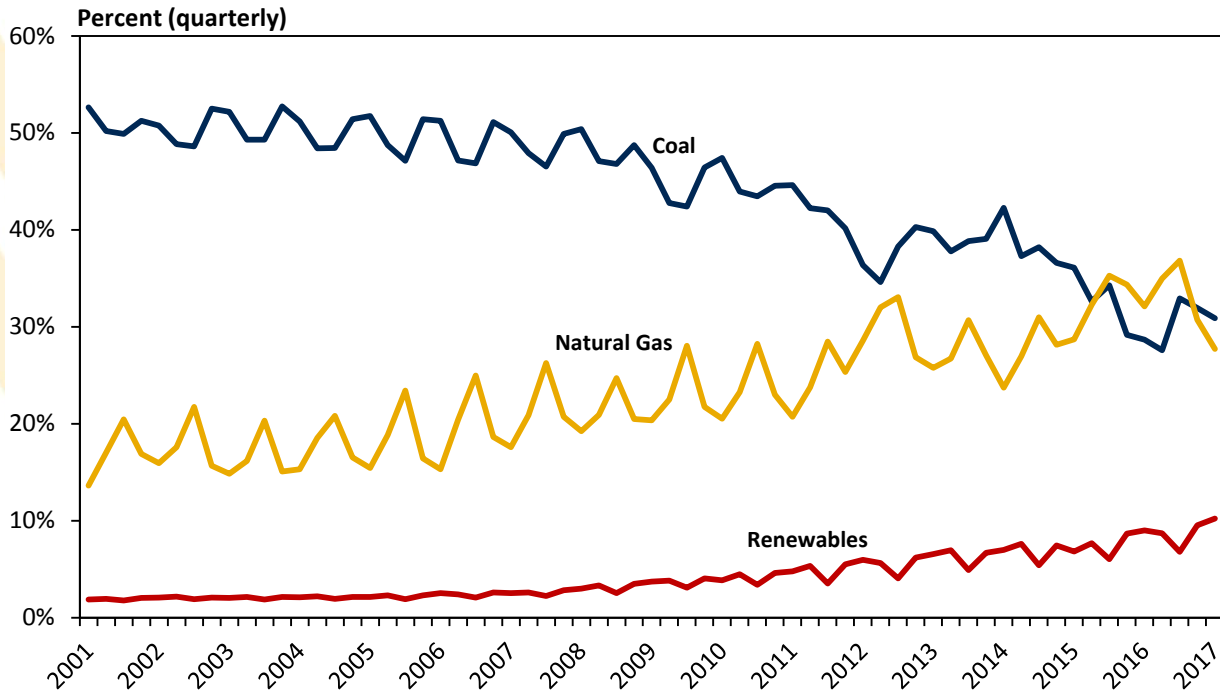
Bureau of Business & Economic Research
College of Business & Economics
West Virginia University
www.be.wvu.edu/bber

Copyright ©2017 by WVU Research Corporation



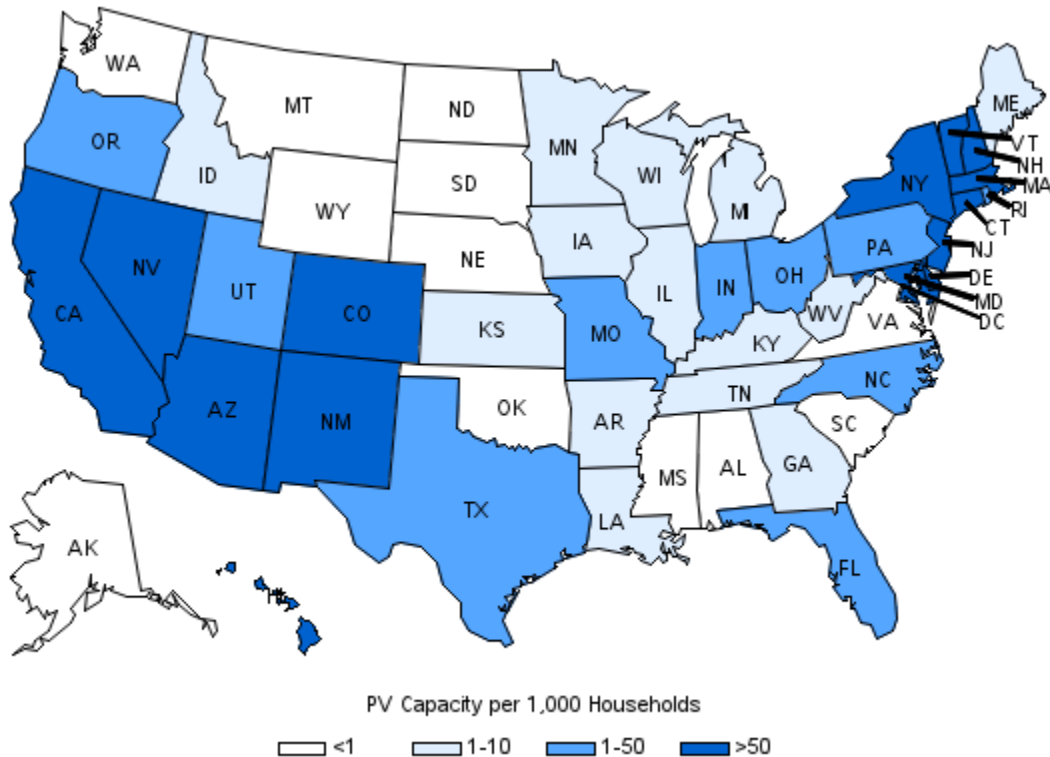
Rise in Renewable Energy

Electricity Generation by Fuel Type, US (Quarterly)

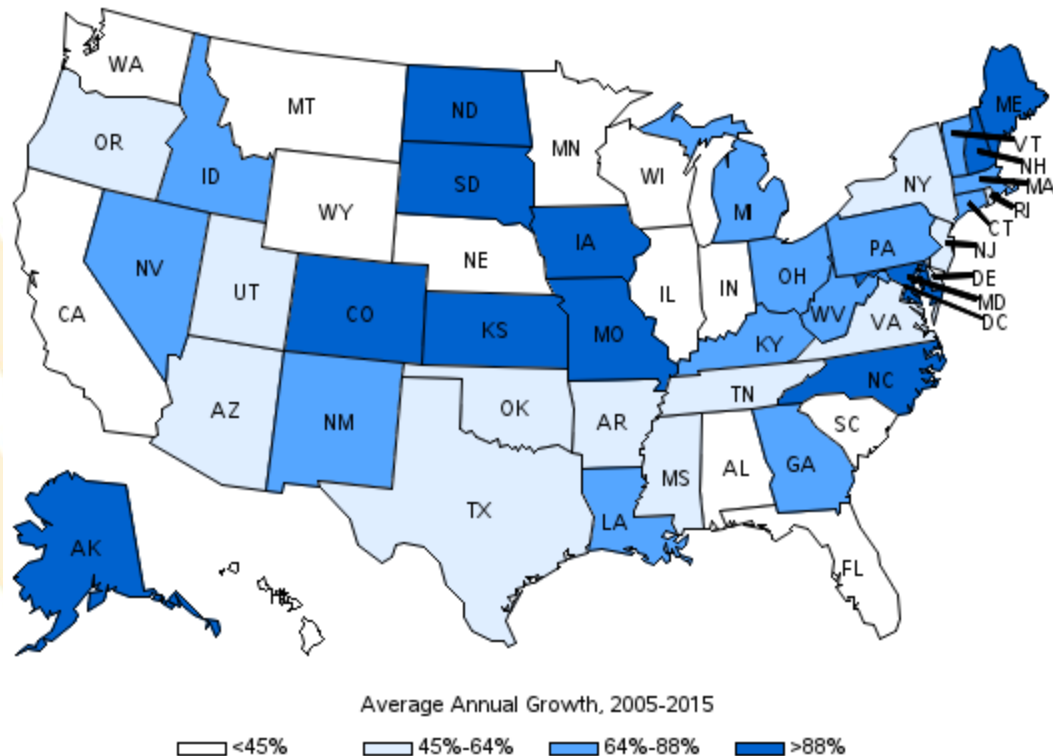


Source: US Energy Information Administration

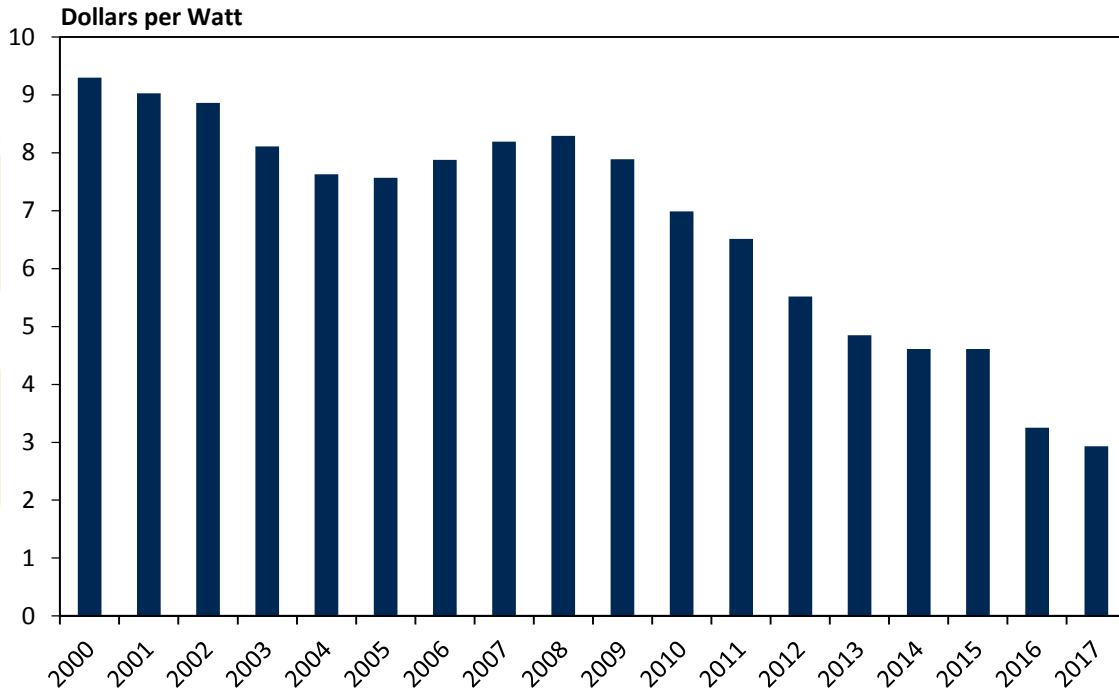
Small-Scale PV Capacity per 1,000 Households



Small-Scale PV Capacity Growth per 1,000 Households



Small-Scale PV Cost



Source: US National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Author Calculations

Net Metering

Net Metering Overview

- 46 states with some form of net metering
- Allows consumers to sell excess power back to utility
- Typically reimbursed at retail rate
- Several states have reduced reimbursements as solar has grown

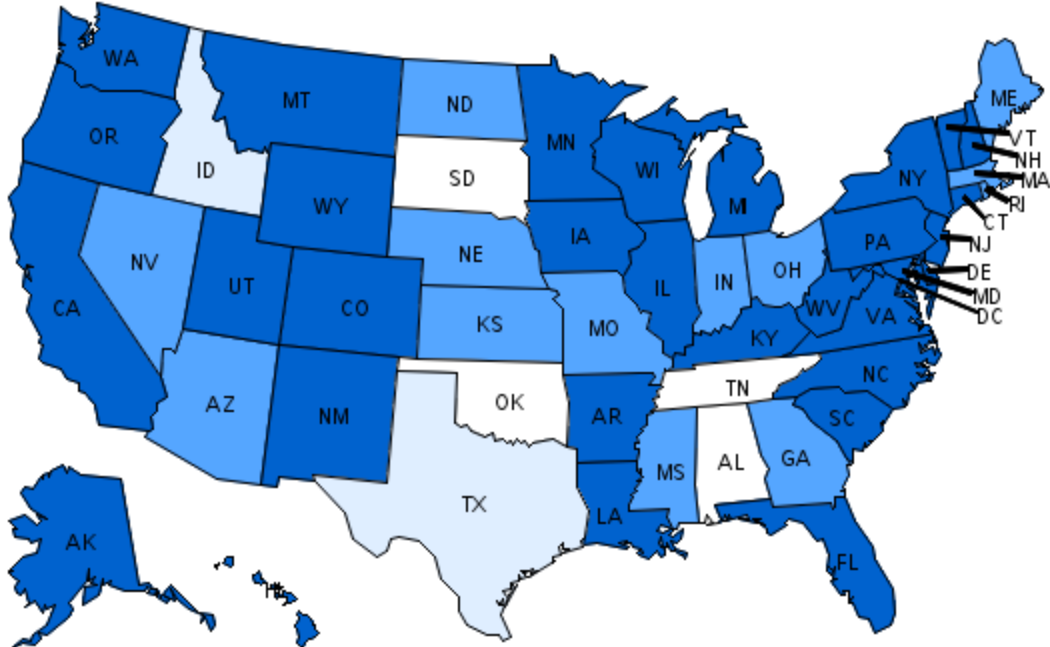
Net Metering Pushback

- Utilities have argued that net metering pushes costs onto other customers
- Six states have reduced reimbursements



Impact of Net Metering on Solar Adoption

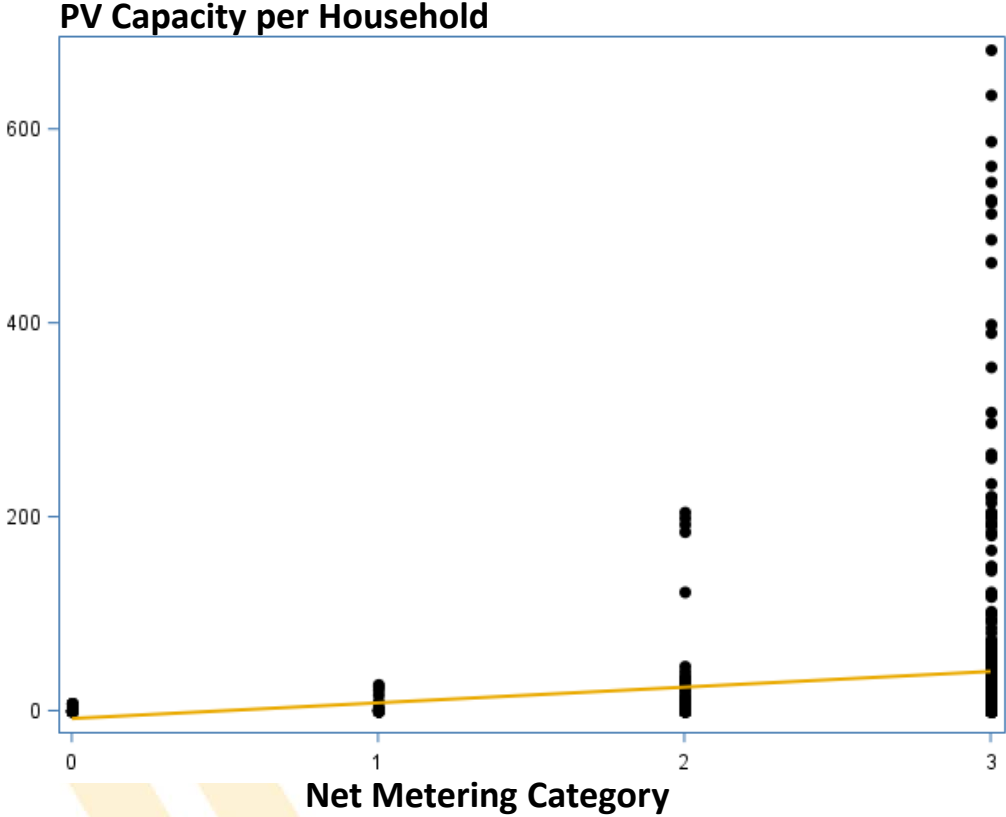
Net Metering States



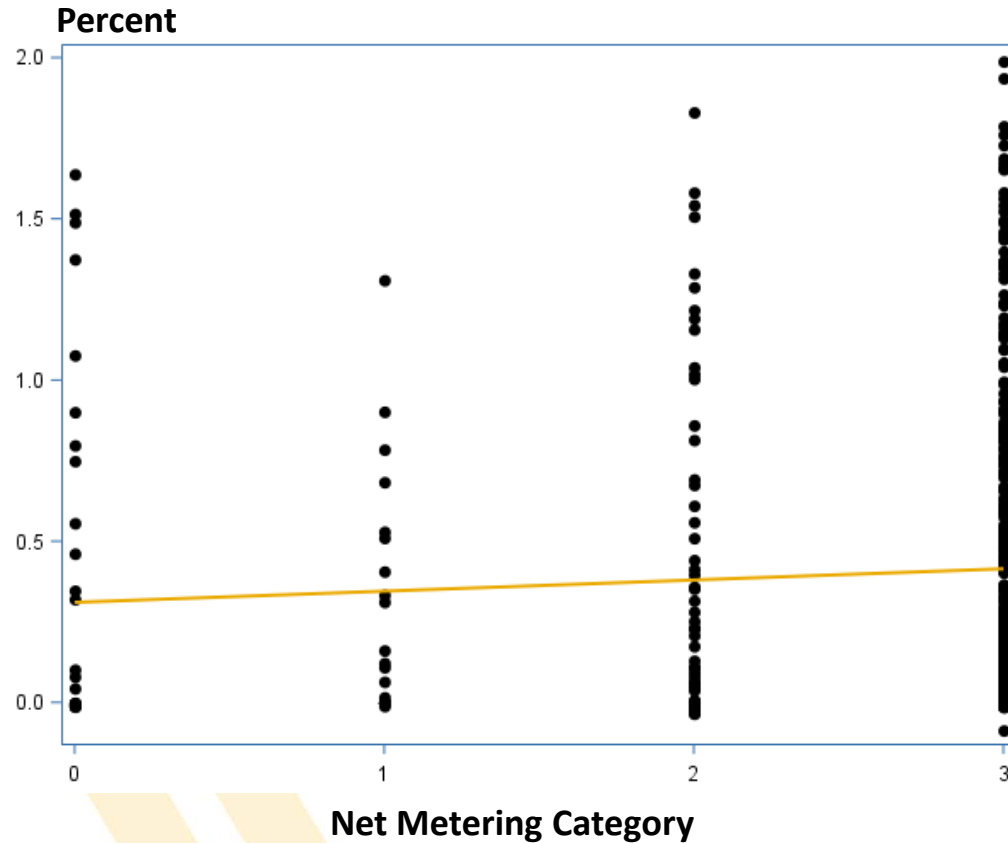
Net Metering Categories

- No Net Metering Law
- Local Laws Only
- Statewide Non-Retail Rate
- Statewide Full Retail Rate

Correlation of Net Metering and PV Capacity



Correlation of Net Metering and PV Capacity Growth



Questions