

ETHANOL FOR ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

On the day of his inauguration, President Trump made it clear that energy independence would be a top priority of his administration. He declared a national energy emergency and issued an executive order focused on “Unleashing American Energy.” The declaration specifically pointed to ethanol, and stated, “An affordable and reliable domestic supply of energy is a fundamental requirement for the national and economic security of any nation.”

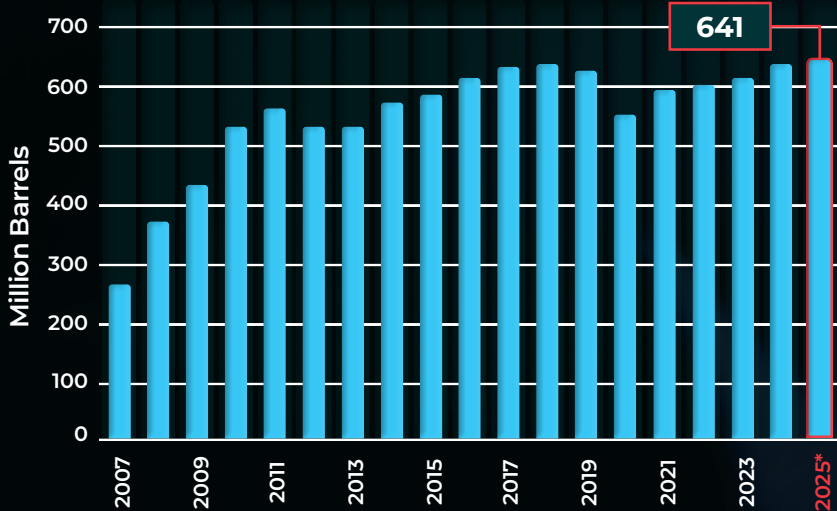
Ethanol delivers on those criteria: it is both affordable and reliable. More than 99 percent of the ethanol consumed in the United States is produced domestically—and it’s made exclusively from grain grown on American farms. The ethanol produced in the United States displaced the equivalent of 641 million barrels of oil in 2025.

Moreover, ethanol continued to save consumers money at the pump. On average, the price of ethanol was more than 25 cents per gallon below the price of gasoline blendstock on the futures market, a discount of 13 percent.

On the other hand, despite recent policies that are highly favorable to the oil industry, the U.S. still imported nearly 200 million barrels of oil per month in 2025. Imports continued to account for nearly one-third of the total U.S. oil supply and nearly 40 percent of inputs to refineries. As a result, Americans paid OPEC countries such as Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Venezuela \$23 billion for crude oil.

Notably, 2025 marked the 20th anniversary of the Renewable Fuel Standard, a primary objective of which was to bolster U.S. energy security. The RFS has delivered on this promise, as the average ethanol content in the nation’s gasoline pool reached a record of 10.5 percent. And as demonstrated by the record-shattering corn crop harvested last fall, the resources exist to support even more domestic ethanol production as the adoption of E15 expands.

HISTORICAL OIL IMPORT DISPLACEMENT BY ETHANOL



Source: RFA based on U.S. Dept. of Energy data *Forecast

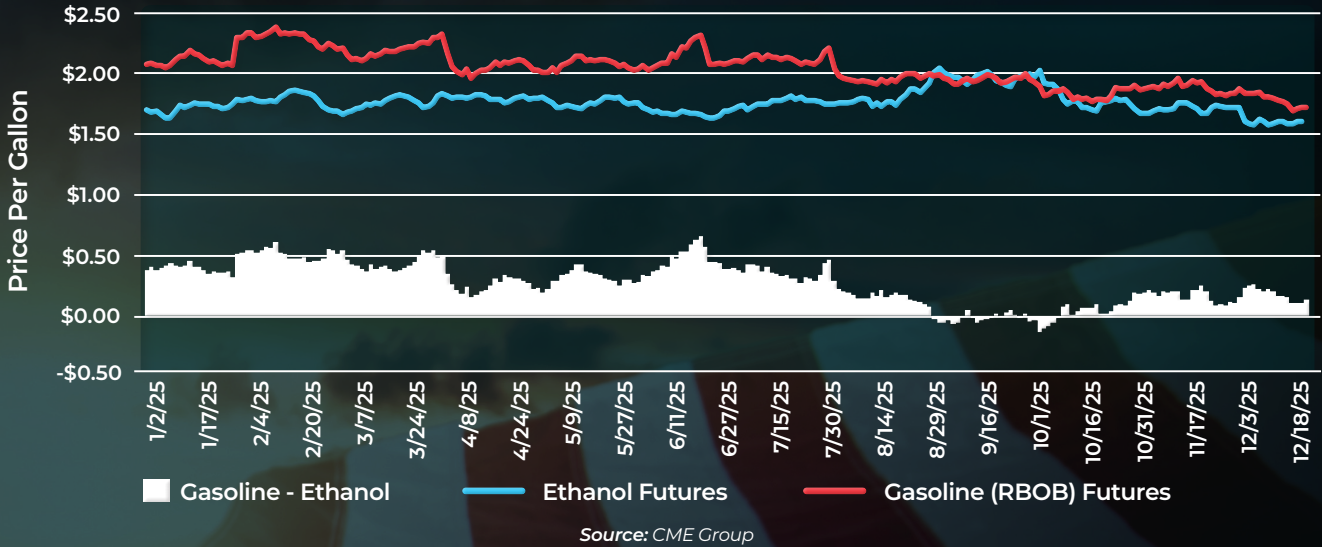
TRANSFERRING AMERICAN WEALTH TO OPEC

The U.S. still pays billions of dollars every year to OPEC countries such as Saudi Arabia and Venezuela for crude oil.

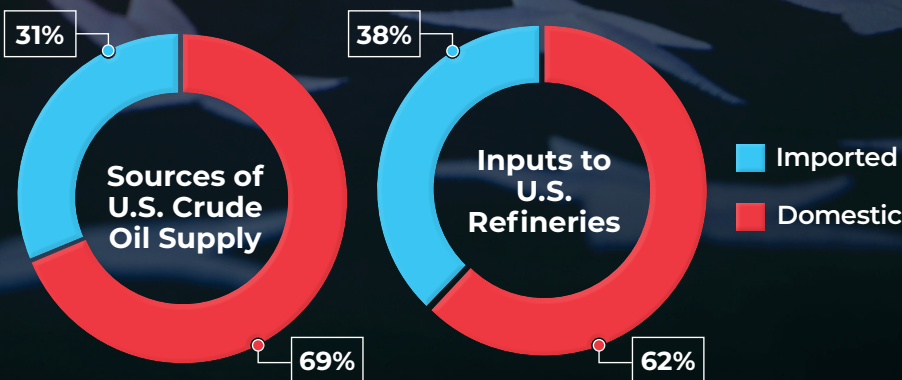
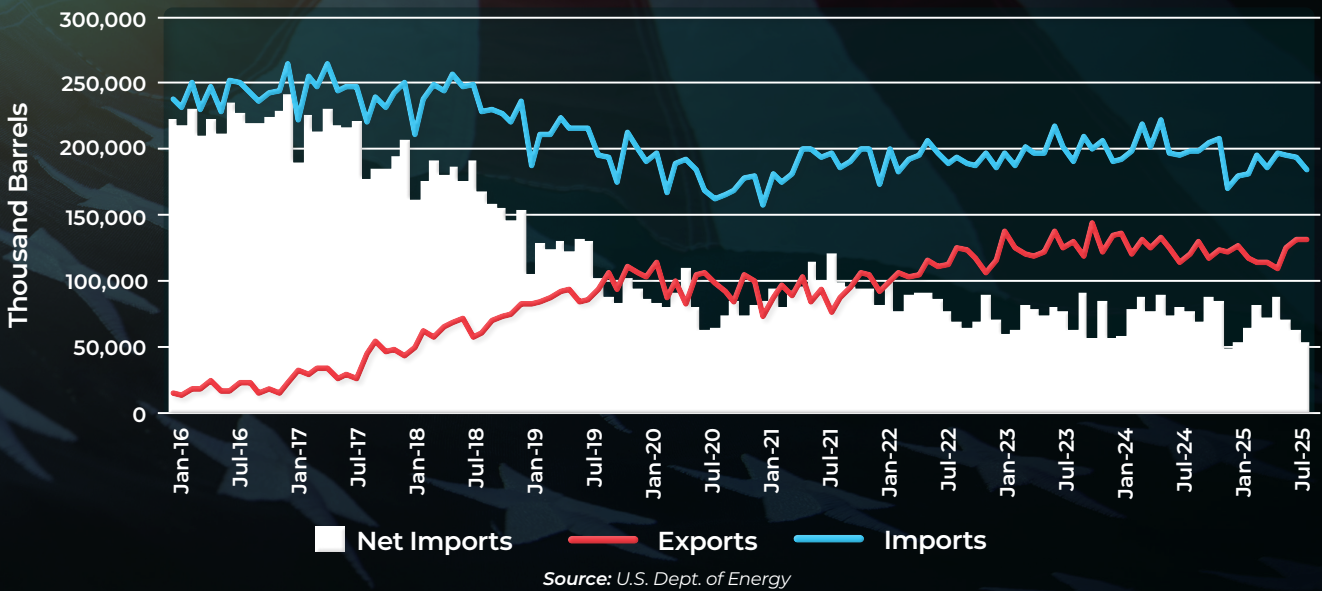
OPEC Nation	U.S. Spending on Crude Oil Imports (Billion \$)
Saudi Arabia	\$7.0
Iraq	\$4.9
Nigeria	\$4.0
Venezuela	\$3.3
Libya	\$1.3
Angola	\$0.9
Other OPEC	\$1.7
Total	\$23.0

Source: RFA based on U.S. Census Bureau data through Sep. 2025

WHOLESALE ETHANOL VS. GASOLINE PRICES



U.S. CRUDE OIL TRADE



Source: RFA based on U.S. Dept. of Energy data

SURVEY SAYS...

A December 2025 survey of registered voters by Morning Consult found that 79% believe it is important for America to be energy independent. Seventy-eight percent believe renewable fuels like ethanol are important to energy independence. And 73% believe it is very or somewhat important for their fuel to be made in America.