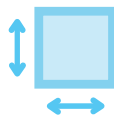


# Energy statistics for U.S. commercial buildings

**U.S. commercial buildings are getting larger and more efficient.**



**5.9 million buildings**  
36 years median age of buildings



**96 billion square feet** **↑11%**  
16,300 average square feet per building



**6.8 quads of energy consumed**  
70,400 average Btu per square foot **↓15%**



**\$141 billion spent on energy**  
\$1.46 per square foot on average

**Electricity is used the most; natural gas is used more for space heating.**



**60%** of energy consumed  
**1.2 billion megawatthours**  
\$119 billion spent on electricity



**34%** of energy consumed  
**2.2 trillion cubic feet**  
\$16 billion spent on natural gas

**Consumption of major fuels for space heating**



natural gas  
district heat  
electricity  
fuel oil

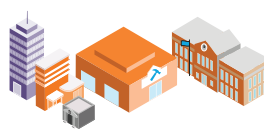


*How do we know all this about commercial buildings?*

Since 1979, the U.S. Energy Information Administration has surveyed buildings to help people understand how they use energy. The 2018 *Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey* (CBECS) is the most recent snapshot of the U.S. building stock. Through robust sampling and data collection, CBECS produces the only independent, statistically representative data on the characteristics and energy use of commercial buildings across the United States.

**To learn more and get the data, visit [eia.gov/cbecs](http://eia.gov/cbecs)**

## U.S. commercial buildings by type



### Most energy consumed

• offices • mercantile • education



### Highest building count

• warehouse and storage  
• office • service



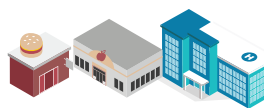
### Largest average building size

• lodging • education • health care



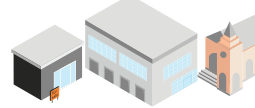
### Most total floorspace

• warehouse and storage  
• office • education



### Most energy intensive

• food service • food sales  
• health care



### Least energy intensive

• vacant • warehouse and storage  
• religious worship

Data source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, 2018 *Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey*

Notes: 2018 annual values. Change shown from 2012 to 2018 if statistically significant at 10% significance level. quads=quadrillion British thermal units (Btu)

