



# Ending our Dependence on Oil

A M E R I C A N S E C U R I T Y P R O J E C T  
S I E R R A C L U B

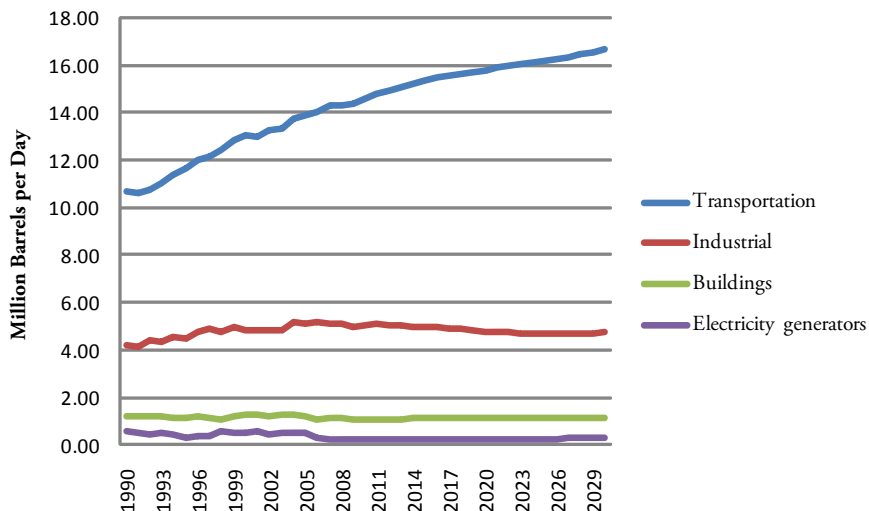
U.S. oil dependence is almost wholly a function of our transportation sector.

Petroleum products power 95 percent of American transportation. We use 13 million barrels of oil every day moving people in automobiles, goods on freight trucks, air travel, rail and transit. **Cars and light trucks account for 60 percent of energy use in the sector,** while more efficient trains and buses only account for three percent.

There are 249 million cars, trucks, and buses on our roads – **more than three vehicles for every four people, or nearly 2.5 cars per household.**

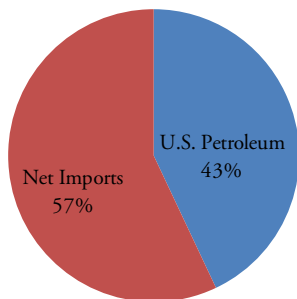
In 2008, American use of public transportation grew by four percent, saving over four billion gallons of gasoline (roughly the equivalent of taking all of Florida’s cars off the road). If we doubled current usage of public transit, **we could decrease our oil consumption by an amount nearly equivalent to our annual imports from Saudi Arabia.**

## Liquid Fuels Consumption By Sector



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

## Net Imports and Domestic Petroleum as Shares of U.S. Demand, 2008



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

The security, economic and climate consequences are grave, yet can be avoided.

Fifty-seven percent of our petroleum is imported. **Sixty-eight percent of imported oil comes from countries at high risk of instability,** several of which work actively against U.S. interests worldwide. Our dependence complicates our foreign policy and embroils the United States in conflicts abroad, while we fund many of our own adversaries.

