

Why Electricity Demand Is Surging and What It Means for Reliability

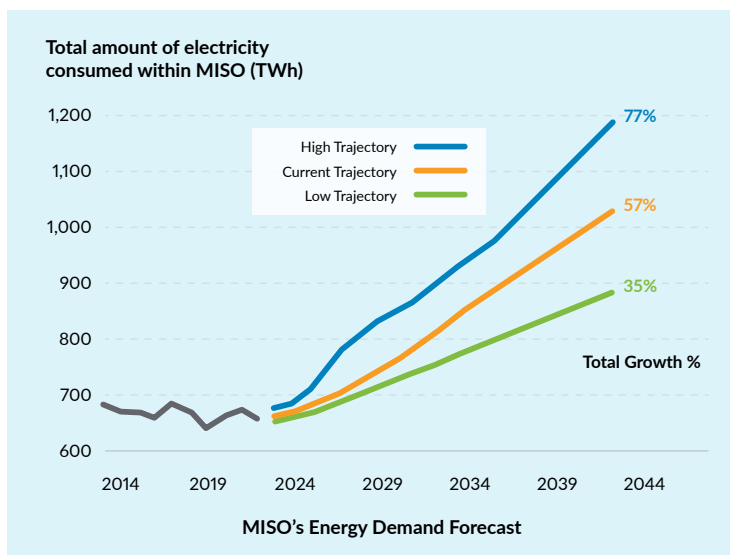


ELECTRICITY DEMAND IS RISING AT HISTORIC LEVELS

For decades, electricity use in the United States has stayed relatively flat. But that's changing—fast. Demand for power is climbing at a pace we haven't seen in decades.

America's industrial renaissance—reshoring, advanced manufacturing, and electrification—is exerting new, concentrated pressure on parts of the grid.

Adding to the strain is the explosive growth of data centers, which require massive amounts of electricity to operate. Across MISO's footprint alone, proposed data center projects account for over 20 gigawatts (GW) of demand.



90% of MISO's members are entities that both generate and deliver electricity, and have a requirement to make sure they have enough power to serve demand

10% rely on MISO's marketplace, where they can buy the extra power they need through a capacity auction

MEETING THE MOMENT: HOW MISO AND PARTNERS ARE DRIVING RELIABILITY

MISO is working with its members, regulators, and stakeholders to keep reliability at the center of progress, ensuring the grid can support America's economic growth with a system that's resilient, efficient, and built to last. To date, MISO, our member utilities, and state partners have made significant strides to meet the moment.

ADDING NEW POWER

More than 5 GW of new accredited generation came online in 2025 and we expect another 8 GW in 2026

CONNECTING POWER FASTER

Streamlining processes to speed up grid connections and expediting approvals for urgently needed projects

REWARDING RELIABILITY

Incentivizing generation that performs strongly when reliability matters most

STRENGTHENING OPERATIONS

Integrating state-of-the-art tools and building a next-generation control room

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Advancing plans to build or improve 42,000 miles of transmission lines