Oil and natural gas are driving the U.S. economy through a major energy boom and that boom is rippling through the economy of South Dakota, supporting business activity across the state. This finding grows out of a new American Petroleum Institute survey of domestic oil and natural gas vendors,\(^1\) which offers a glimpse into the job and business creation engine that is the current oil and natural gas industry. The survey shows that at least 36 businesses, spread across South Dakota’s at-large congressional district, are part of the larger oil and natural gas supply chain.

The survey’s snapshot of state-by-state activity reinforces the impressive level of industry success throughout the country that is documented in a recent PriceWaterhouseCoopers study conducted for the American Petroleum Institute.\(^2\) That study found that the oil and natural gas industry in South Dakota supports some 22,500 jobs, which is 3.9 percent of the state’s total employment. The amount of South Dakota labor income supported by the oil and natural gas industry comes to $857 million annually. That’s 3.5 percent of the state’s total labor income.

Although South Dakota is not a top U.S. energy producer, these job and labor income figures demonstrate that the people of South Dakota enjoy significant benefits from energy development.\(^3\) The benefits show up in the state’s salary statistics as well. Thus, while the average annual salary in South Dakota across all industries and sectors is $37,086, the average oil and gas industry salary (excluding gas stations) is substantially higher—$55,257 annually. Overall the industry supports $1.5 billion of the South Dakota economy. That’s 3.9 percent of the state’s total economic activity.

South Dakota also benefits from the production of oil and natural gas from shales and so-called “tight formations,” energy development that uses the proven engineering technologies of hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking,” and horizontal drilling. Total jobs supported by these

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1. American Petroleum Institute, “API Onshore Oil and Gas Vendor Identification Survey,” Washington, D.C., 2014. The survey was distributed to API members in January 2014 to collect information for the period October 2012 to September 2013. Included are companies that provide goods and services for onshore oil and natural gas development, whether as operators, contractors, service companies, suppliers, or vendors.

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activities in South Dakota reached 2,013 in 2012. The job total is projected to climb to 3,477 in 2020 and to 3,937 in 2035.

And Americans, including the people of South Dakota, get it. A telephone poll of 1,012 registered voters across the country, conducted on behalf of the American Petroleum Institute, found that 77 percent of Americans, regardless of party affiliation, support increased production of oil and natural gas resources located in the United States.

Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, Increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS/FAO, NPS, NRCan, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), and the GIS User Community

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<th>Congressional District (at Large)</th>
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