U.S. Gulf Oil & Natural Gas Assets and Infrastructure

The Gulf Coast is home to a large amount of U.S. oil and natural gas assets and infrastructure, and these resources are vulnerable to natural disaster and man-made attacks. Each year, extreme weather and climate events threaten to halt production and take refineries and liquefied natural gas (LNG) export terminals offline. In addition, with such a high concentration in a single region, assets and infrastructure may be susceptible to terrorist attacks, especially given how many ships enter and leave the area.



Information as of December 19, 2023, prepared by Michael Ratner, Specialist in Energy Policy; Mari Lee, Visual Information Specialist; Cassandra Higgins, Geospatial Information Systems Analyst; Eva Lipiec, Analyst in Natural Resources Policy; and Keigh Hammond, Senior Research Librarian. Map source: S&P Global Midstream Essentials Database, U.S. Department of State, and ESRI. Data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Census Bureau, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.



Author Information

Michael Ratner Specialist in Energy Policy

Keigh E. Hammond Senior Research Librarian

Eva Lipiec Specialist in Natural Resource Policy

Disclaimer

This document was prepared by the Congressional Research Service (CRS). CRS serves as nonpartisan shared staff to congressional committees and Members of Congress. It operates solely at the behest of and under the direction of Congress. Information in a CRS Report should not be relied upon for purposes other than public understanding of information that has been provided by CRS to Members of Congress in connection with CRS's institutional role. CRS Reports, as a work of the United States Government, are not subject to copyright protection in the United States. Any CRS Report may be reproduced and distributed in its entirety without permission from CRS. However, as a CRS Report may include copyrighted images or material from a third party, you may need to obtain the permission of the copyright holder if you wish to copy or otherwise use copyrighted material.