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Story #7: Energy Production

Research Question: How do state-level energy production patterns reflect regional strengths and vulnerabilities, and what are the implications for U.S. energy security?

The map shows that most U.S. states have a low energy dependency ratio, indicating that they produce energy at levels close to or exceeding their consumption. This widespread self-sufficiency is especially prominent in energy-rich states such as Texas, Wyoming, and New Mexico, which are net energy exporters. Only a few states, mainly in the Northeast and parts of the West Coast, show higher dependency ratios, relying more heavily on energy imports to meet their needs.

This general trend toward self-sufficiency enhances energy security across much of the country, reducing vulnerability to external supply shocks. However, the states with higher dependency ratios may still face risks that necessitate targeted policy interventions, such as investing in local energy infrastructure or diversifying energy sources. Overall, the map highlights opportunities for regional cooperation to balance production and consumption while promoting sustainable energy policies tailored to each state's unique energy profile.

