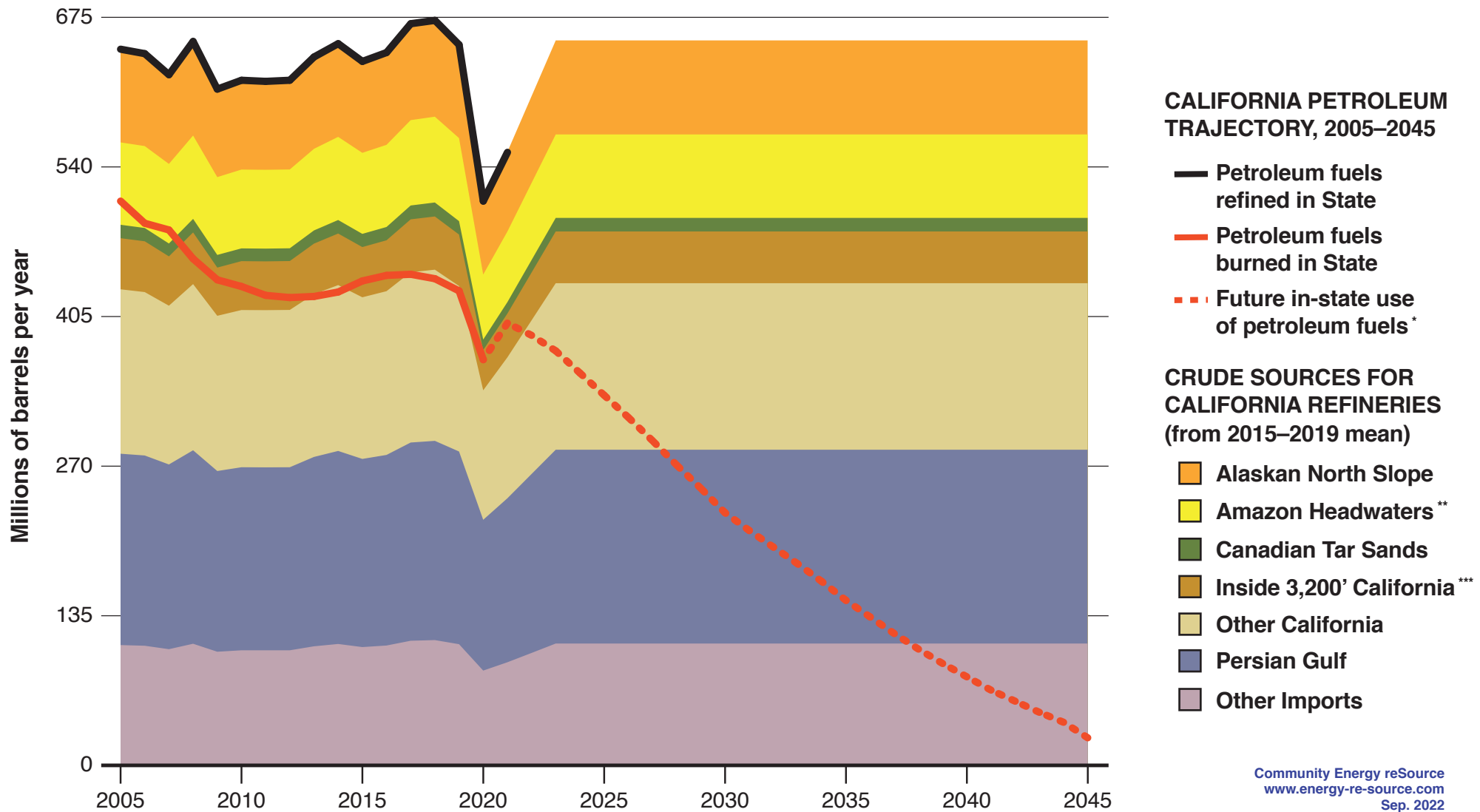


# How Much Oil Could California Keep in the Ground if it Curbs Refining for Export?



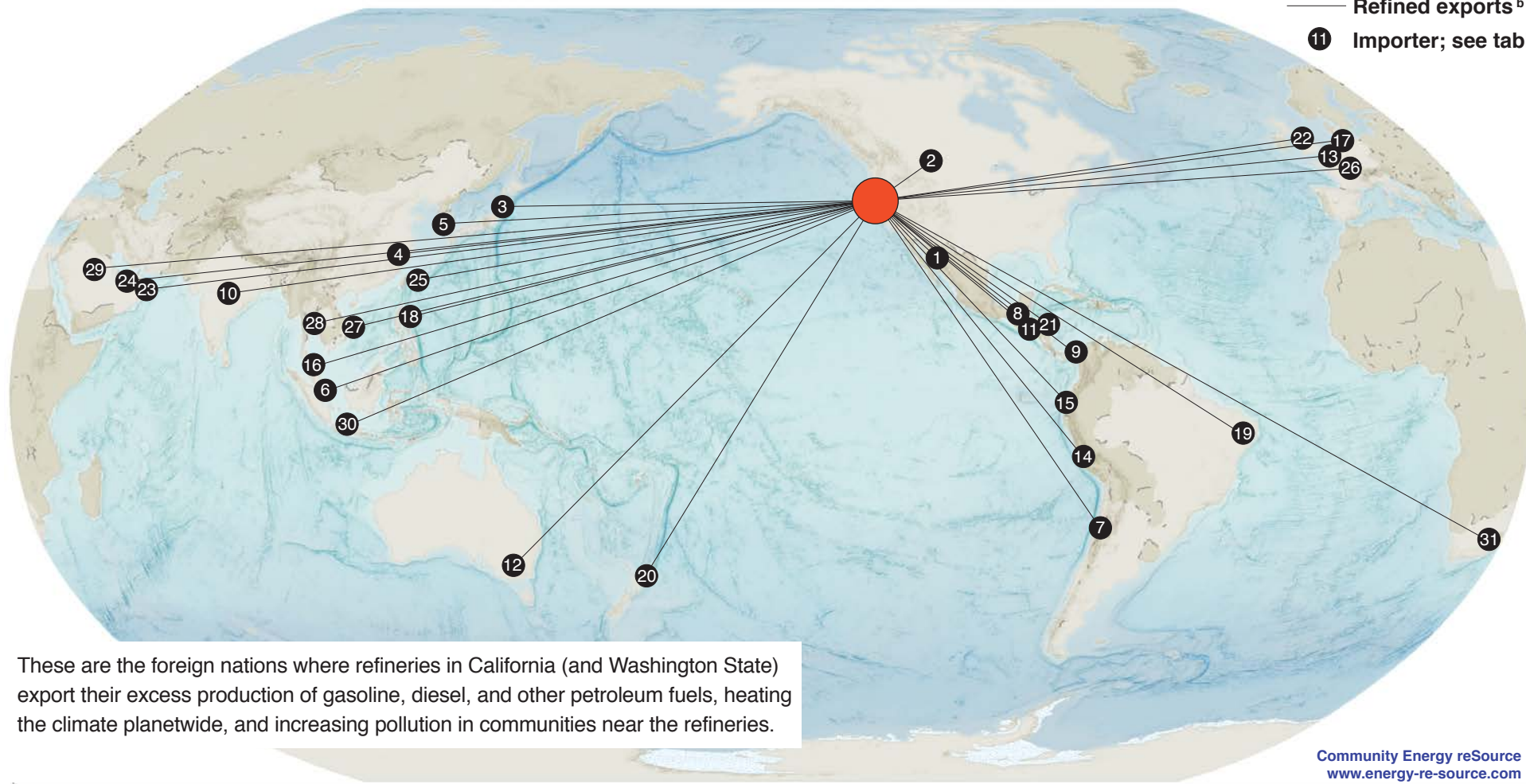
Community Energy reSource  
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 Sep. 2022

**California refineries process much more oil than California consumes.** Refiners here processed approximately 1.4 billion barrels more crude oil than Californians burned from 2013–2019. That’s more than they imported from the Amazon Headwaters, Alaskan North Slope and Canadian Tars Sands *combined*. And we plan to burn much less oil in the future. So why the extra pollution? Because the State’s climate and environment efforts have not yet curbed refining for export.

**Chart data:** Total petroleum fuels refined from Cal. Energy Commission, [www.energy.ca.gov/data-reports/reports/weekly-fuels-watch](http://www.energy.ca.gov/data-reports/reports/weekly-fuels-watch). Fuels burned in-state from Cal. Air Resources Board GHG Inventory, Fuel Combustion & Heat Content, <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/ghg-inventory-data>. Crude source data from CARB, <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/lcfs-crude-oil-life-cycle-assessment>, apportioned to fuels production. This apportionment basis (2015–2019) is a conservative estimate for the continued refining-for-export scenario. Crude imports could continue to grow faster than flow from in-state oil fields declines.  
 \* Decline in petroleum fuels use in-state from CARB proposed climate plan modeling (Scenario 3) <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/ab-32-climate-change-scoping-plan/2022-scoping-plan-documents>.  
 \*\* Amazon headwaters crude streams: Napo, Oriente (Ecuador); Cano Limon, Chaza, Magdalena, South Blend (Colombia); Loreto, Mayna, Pirana, RPS–Residual Peruano de la Selva (Peru).  
 \*\*\* Inside 3,200’ California: Wells surfacing within 3,200 feet of homes, hospitals or schools, volume % from [www.fractracker.org/2022/04/implications-of-a-3200-foot-setback-in-california](http://www.fractracker.org/2022/04/implications-of-a-3200-foot-setback-in-california).

# Where Do West Coast Refineries Export Finished Products?

- West Coast (PADD 5) Petroleum Refining <sup>a</sup>
- Refined exports <sup>b</sup>
- ⑪ Importer; see table <sup>b</sup>



These are the foreign nations where refineries in California (and Washington State) export their excess production of gasoline, diesel, and other petroleum fuels, heating the climate planetwide, and increasing pollution in communities near the refineries.

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<i>In millions of barrels</i>	2015–2019	2010–2014	Change		2015–2019	2010–2014	Change		2015–2019	2010–2014	Change		
All importers	734.8	636.9	97.9	<b>14</b>	Peru	13.4	8.3	5.1	<b>28</b>	Thailand	1.4	0.6	0.8
<b>1</b> Mexico	151.1	120.5	30.5	<b>15</b>	Ecuador	12.2	9.2	2.9	<b>29</b>	Saudi Arabia	1.3	0.7	0.6
<b>2</b> Canada	101.3	129.1	-27.8	<b>16</b>	Malaysia	11.5	2.7	8.8	<b>30</b>	Indonesia	0.7	0.5	0.2
<b>3</b> Japan	91.9	104.1	-12.2	<b>17</b>	Netherlands	3.8	3.3	0.5	<b>31</b>	South Africa	0.7	1.0	-0.3
<b>4</b> China	64.1	55.2	8.9	<b>18</b>	Philippines	3.6	0.1	3.6					
<b>5</b> S. Korea	53.5	14.3	39.2	<b>19</b>	Brazil	3.2	6.4	-3.1					
<b>6</b> Singapore	45.6	40.4	5.2	<b>20</b>	New Zealand	3.0	3.8	-0.8					
<b>7</b> Chile	43.5	60.0	-16.5	<b>21</b>	Nicaragua	2.8	0.0	2.8					
<b>8</b> Guatemala	27.1	8.8	18.3	<b>22</b>	U. Kingdom	2.5	0.3	2.1					
<b>9</b> Panama	19.0	8.1	10.9	<b>23</b>	Oman	2.0	0.0	2.0					
<b>10</b> India	17.2	18.9	-1.7	<b>24</b>	UA Emirates	1.9	0.5	1.4					
<b>11</b> El Salvador	15.4	4.9	10.6	<b>25</b>	Taiwan	1.8	1.2	0.6					
<b>12</b> Australia	14.6	16.1	-1.5	<b>26</b>	Germany	1.7	1.5	0.1					
<b>13</b> Belgium	14.2	8.3	6.0	<b>27</b>	Vietnam	1.5	0.2	1.3					

**a.** California (15 refineries) and Washington (5 plants) host 90% of West Coast (PADD 5) refining capacity.  
**b.** The table shows West Coast refined products exports for each significant (>0.1%) importer; net exports rose 97.9 million barrels in 2015–2019. Data: [www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet\\_move\\_expcp\\_a2\\_r50\\_epp0\\_eex\\_mbbbl\\_a.htm](http://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_move_expcp_a2_r50_epp0_eex_mbbbl_a.htm). Figures may not add due to rounding.