

- Electricity travels 186,000 miles per second. That means, if you had a lamp on the moon connected to a lightswitch in your house, it would take only 1.28 seconds for it to light up 238,857 miles away.
- In 1978, only eight percent of U.S. households had microwave ovens. Today, 83 percent have them.
- Experts estimate that in 2020, high-tech gadgets (like computers, printers and video games) will grow to 25 percent of a typical household energy budget. That would double what it is today.
- The electric power industry "generates" about \$300 billion per year.
- Why don't birds get shocked when they sit on power lines? Because they only touch one wire. Touching two wires at the same time would electrocute them. California wildlife experts are teaching endangered California condors to steer clear of power lines. With wingspans that extend more than nine feet, the birds can easily touch two power lines at the same time!
- How do utility workers repair power lines without getting hurt? By wearing special rubber gloves, rubber sleeves and other protective gear that won't allow any electricity to pass through.
- One lightning strike can generate up to 1 billion volts of electricity. The temperature of a typical lightning bolt is hotter than the surface of the sun!
- You're probably familiar with the electric eel, but did you know that over 500 kinds of fish produce some electricity?



• Seatbelts have saved more than 164,750 lives since 1975. That's the equivalent to the entire population of Tempe, Arizona! In 2003, safety belt use in the United States reached an all-time high of 79 percent—up from 67 percent in 1999. [Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration]