

Natural Gas for Cooking

Review of Recent Articles/Studies

February 9, 2023 | Sustainability Committee

Background

Resident Emails to Council Members

- Multiple City Council members received similar emails

I'm writing to you today because I believe our community must urgently pass a building electrification policy and phase fossil fuels out of our homes and businesses.

Buildings are responsible for 13% of greenhouse gas emissions in the US, and recent study from the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health found that gas stoves are responsible for 1 in 8 cases of childhood asthma – that's on par with secondhand smoke.

Burning gas in homes also generates harmful emissions of formaldehyde, methane, nitrogen oxides, and other pollutants.

As your constituent, I'm urging you to do everything in your power to ensure new buildings in our community are all-electric and help phase gas and other fossil fuels out of existing buildings.

Thank you.

Issue in the news

Carried by multiple outlets

News

Mike DeWine defines natural gas as green energy; the U.S. Govt. says gas ranges cause climate change: Today in Ohio

Published: Jan. 10, 2023, 10:02 a.m.

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

U.S. agency examines secret pollution source in 40 million homes: Gas stoves.

The hidden hazard of these appliances, indoor air quality exposure and asthma is finally getting attention

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

ENERGY

Why US Regulators Are Scrutinizing Gas Stoves

Analysis by Ari Natter | Bloomberg
January 11, 2023 at 2:09 p.m. EST

The New York Times

OPINION
FARHAD MANJOO

Your Gas Stove May Be Killing You. How Much Should You Worry?

Jan. 13, 2023

The New York Times

OPINION
SPENCER BOKAT-LINDELL

Is the Era of Gas Stoves Burning Out?

Jan. 25, 2023

Gas Stoves | Could They Be Banned? | Climate and Health Concerns | How to Lower Your Risk | Alternatives to Gas Stoves

In the Fight Over Gas Stoves, Meet the Industry's Go-To Scientist

Longstanding research shows the health dangers of gas-burning ranges. Utilities are turning to Julie Goodman, a toxicologist with a firm whose work raises questions about the science.

Prompted by two events

Meta Study and Consumer Product Safety Commission

- Comment by SPSC commissioner to Bloomberg (later backtracked by chair)
- Meta study by researchers, including one who previously studied the topic for RMI

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Green Greener Living

US Safety Agency to Consider Ban on Gas Stoves Amid Health Fears

The US Consumer Product Safety Commission will move to regulate gas stoves as new research links them to childhood asthma.

International Journal of *Environmental Research and Public Health*

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Population Attributable Fraction of Gas Stoves and Childhood Asthma in the United States

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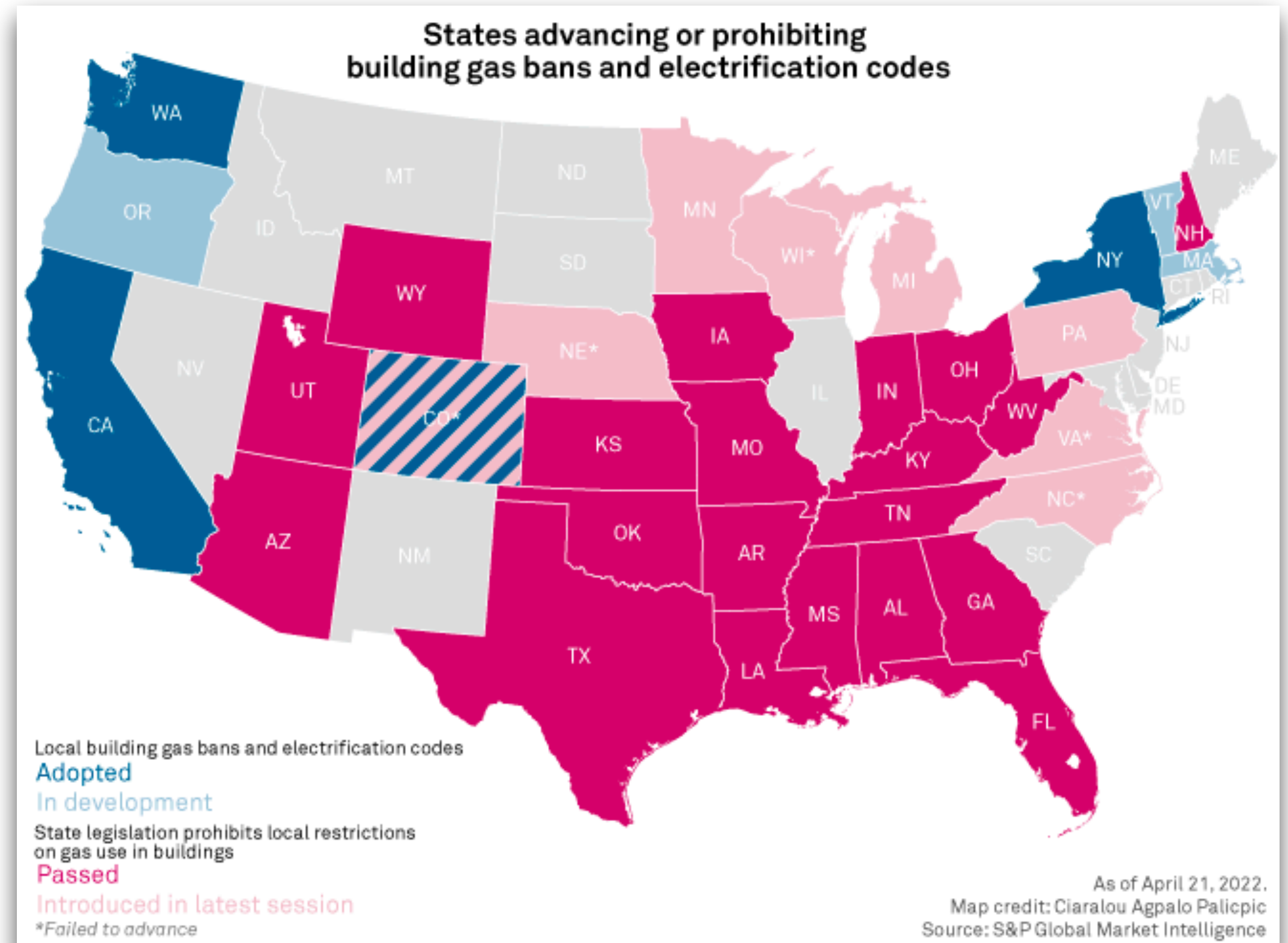
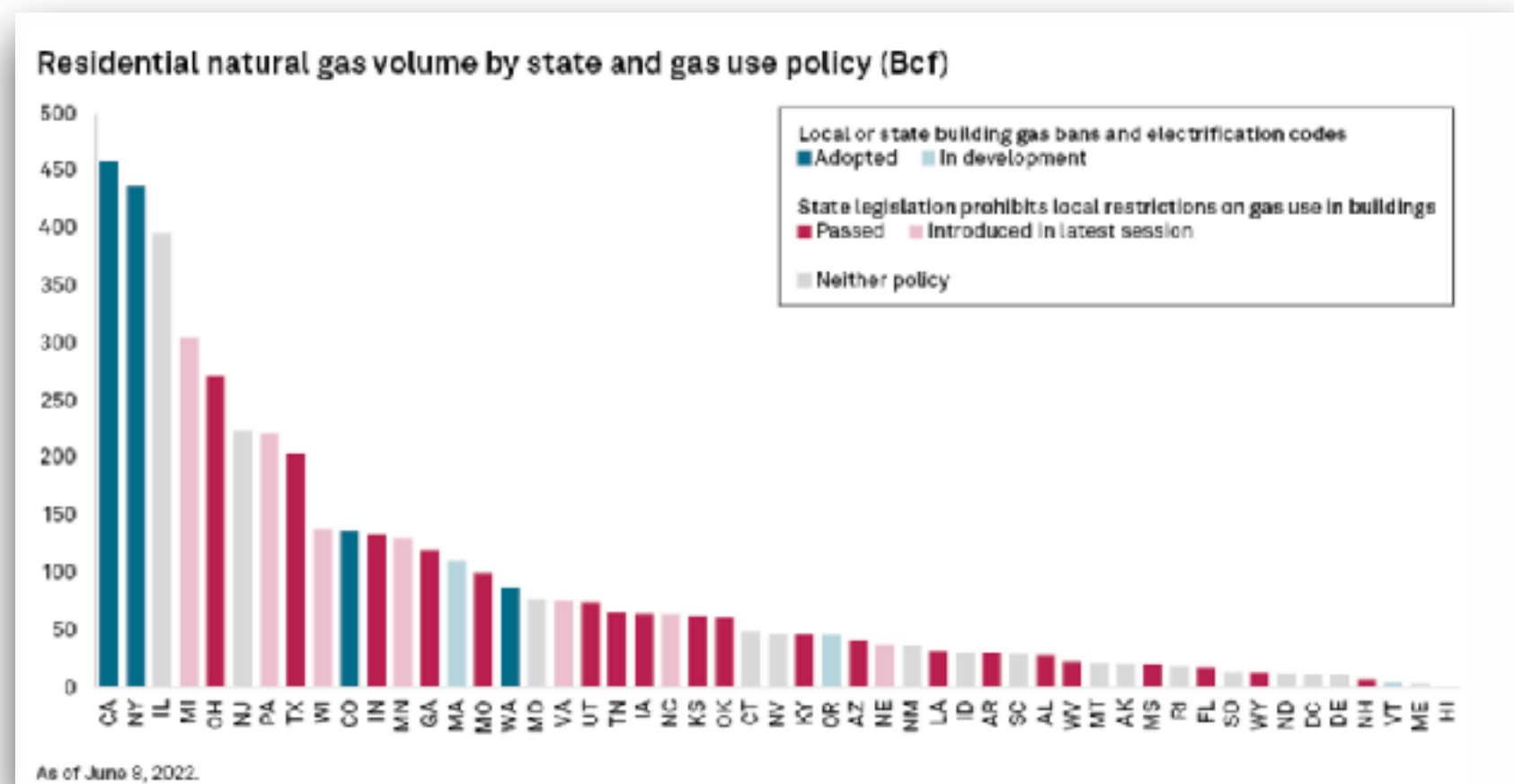
Received: 4 November 2022 / Revised: 12 December 2022 / Accepted: 14 December 2022 / Published: 21 December 2022

(This article belongs to the Special Issue **Second Edition of the Air Pollution Impact on Children's Health**)

Context

The natural gas industry on the defensive

- NY, CA, CO and WA allow for natural gas bans in new construction; plus cities in OR, MA, and VT
- Multiple states have enacted state-level restrictions through “pre-emption bans”; OH largest by volume



The Accepted Science

Excerpts from recent articles and studies

- A growing body of scientific research has documented indoor air pollution and health problems caused by gas stoves, which emit nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and fine particulate matter when they are turned on.
- Gas stoves also emit methane, even when the stoves are off. Methane is a powerful greenhouse gas and significant contributor to global warming.
- Gas-burning stoves in kitchens across America are responsible for roughly 12.7 percent of childhood asthma cases nationwide — on par with the childhood asthma risks associated with exposure to secondhand smoke.
- The burden of asthma falls disproportionately on children of color and those in lower-income neighborhoods. Black and Hispanic children are twice as likely as White children to be hospitalized for asthma, while poor households are more likely to have smaller kitchens that lack proper ventilation.
- Induction cooktops are readily available, priced competitively, and more efficient; they can be powered by renewable electricity.

Options for Shaker Heights

Ohio House Bill 201 Limits Actions

- The City cannot restrict access to natural gas per HB 201
- It can:
 - * Create programming around education and awareness of the benefits of electrification
 - * Publicize the various incentives in the Inflation Reduction Act for electrification
 - * Encourage (but not require) electrification in development agreements

(134th General Assembly)
(Substitute House Bill Number 201)

AN ACT

To enact sections 4933.40, 4933.41, and 4933.42 of the Revised Code to prevent local governments from limiting use of natural gas and propane.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio:

(C) No legislative or executive authority of any political subdivision shall enact any ordinance or resolution or promulgate or impose any building code, contractual provision, or other requirement that limits, prohibits, or prevents residential, commercial, or industrial consumers within their boundaries from using the following:

(1) Distribution service or retail natural gas service that would otherwise be available to those consumers under Title 49 and regulations promulgated thereunder;

(2) Propane.

(3) Distribution of distribution service under sections 4933.41 and 4933.42 of the Revised Code.