

Lesotho distributed energy systems

Many of us want an overview of how much energy our country consumes, where it comes from, and if we're making progress on decarbonizing our energy mix. This page provides the data for your chosen country across all of the key metrics on this topic.

In the selection box above you can also add or remove additional countries and they will appear on all of the charts on this page. This allows you to compare specific countries you might be interested in, and measure progress against others.

In the energy domain, there are many different units thrown around - joules, exajoules, million tonnes of oil equivalents, barrel equivalents, British thermal units, terawatt-hours, to name a few. This can be confusing, and make comparisons difficult. So at Our World in Data we try to maintain consistency by converting all energy data to watt-hours. We do this to compare energy data across different metrics and sources.

Electricity is a good that adds massive value to modern life: from having light at night; to washing clothes; cooking meals; running machinery; or connecting with people across the world. Many would argue that it is a crucial for poverty alleviation, economic growth and improved living standards.¹

Having clean fuels and technologies for cooking - meaning non-solid fuels such as natural gas, ethanol or even electric technologies - makes these processes more efficient, saving both time and energy.

Like total energy, the amount of electricity a country generates in total is largely reflected by population size, as well as the average incomes of people in the given country.

But the energy mix - the balance of sources of energy in the supply - is becoming increasingly important as countries try to shift away from fossil fuels towards low-carbon sources of energy (nuclear or renewables including hydropower, solar and wind).

One is presented as a stacked area chart - allowing us to see a full breakdown of the sources of energy in the supply. The line chart shows the percentage of total energy supplied by each source.

But the burning of fossil fuels - coal, oil, and gas - is responsible for around three-quarters of global greenhouse gas emissions. They are also a major source of air pollution, which is responsible for at least five million premature deaths every year.



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