

U.S. Electric Power & Thermal Capacity *Overview & National Security Implications*

DAVID GATTIE (DGATTIE@UGA.EDU)

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE & SECURITY

SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S NUCLEAR ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

DECEMBER 15, 2025

OTR Freight



Mining Oil, Natural Gas, Coal, Uranium, Minerals, Metals



Natural Gas-Fired Power Plants



Nuclear Power Plants



Rail & Shipping



Agriculture & Food Production



Defense Industrial Base



Electric Power Grid



Cement Production



Coal-Fired Power Plants



Chemical Production



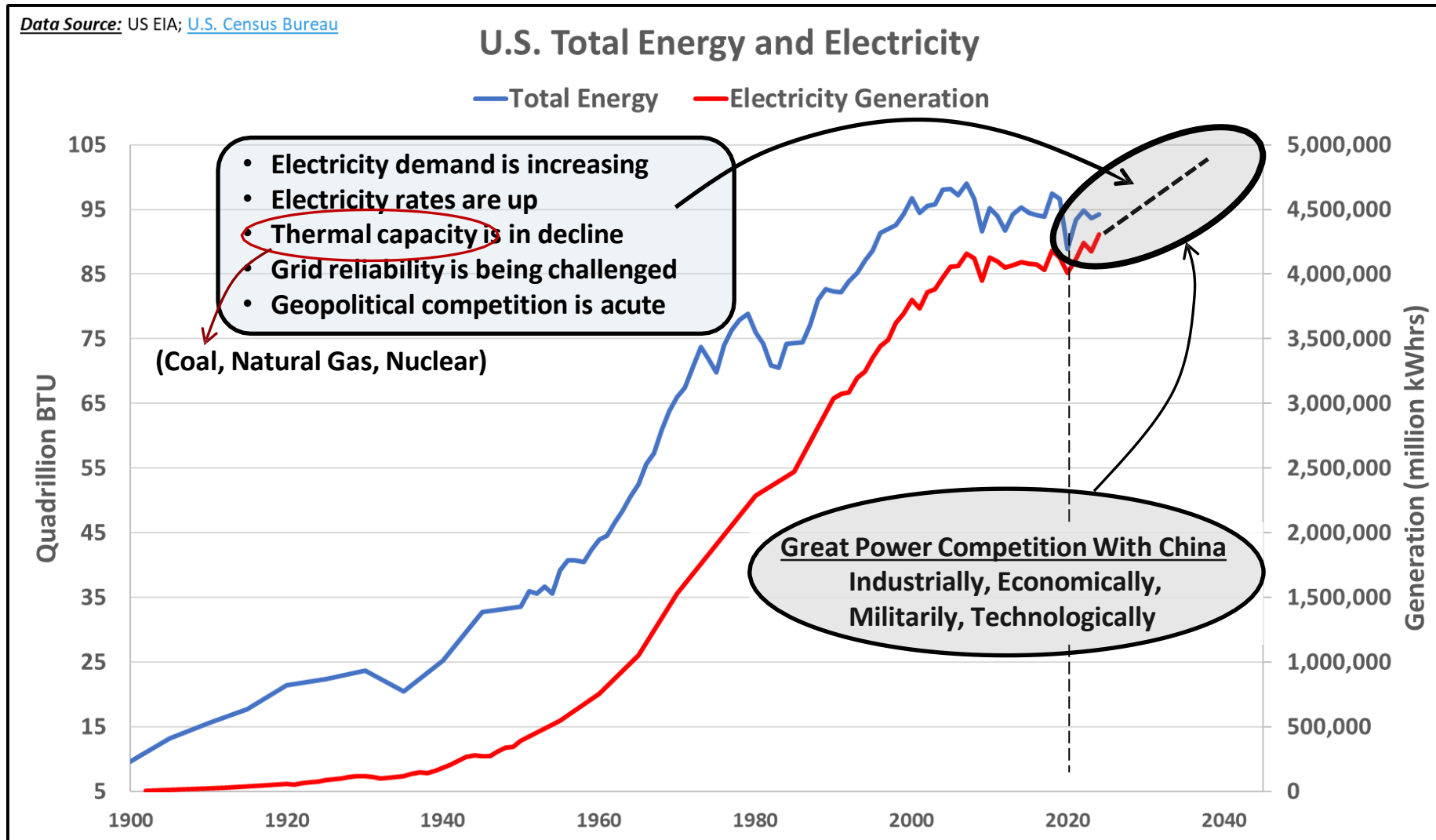
Iron and Steel Forging



Oil and Natural Gas Refining



Bottom Line Up Front



National Power

“In general, a state’s natural resources, geography, economy, infrastructure, and industrial base are traditionally recognized as foundational elements of power—those that are critical for supporting strategic actions.”

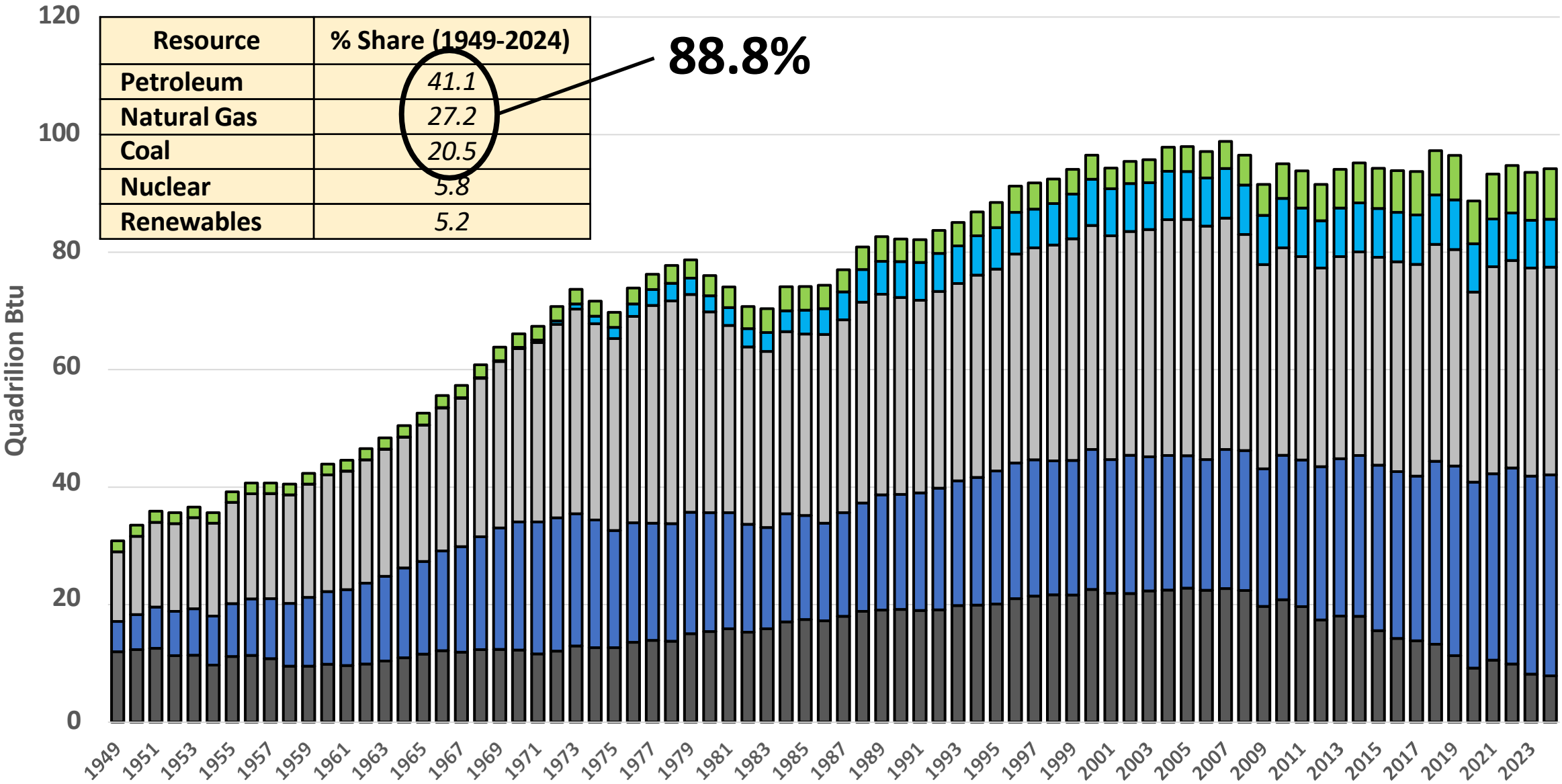
(National War College. 2019. A National Security Strategy Primer. Steven Heffington, Adam Oler, and David Tretler, Editors. National Defense University Press, Washington, DC.)

U.S. National Security

- America's capacity to defend against and deter any and all threats to its citizens, its freedoms and liberties, its economy, its institutions and its government
- A core measure of America's capacity to provide and sustain national security is having competitive advantage relative to nations that pose a threat—multiple advantages:
 - Economic, natural resources, energy, military, technological, diplomatic, geopolitical
 - A deep, diverse industrial base
 - A flexible, reliable, resilient power grid

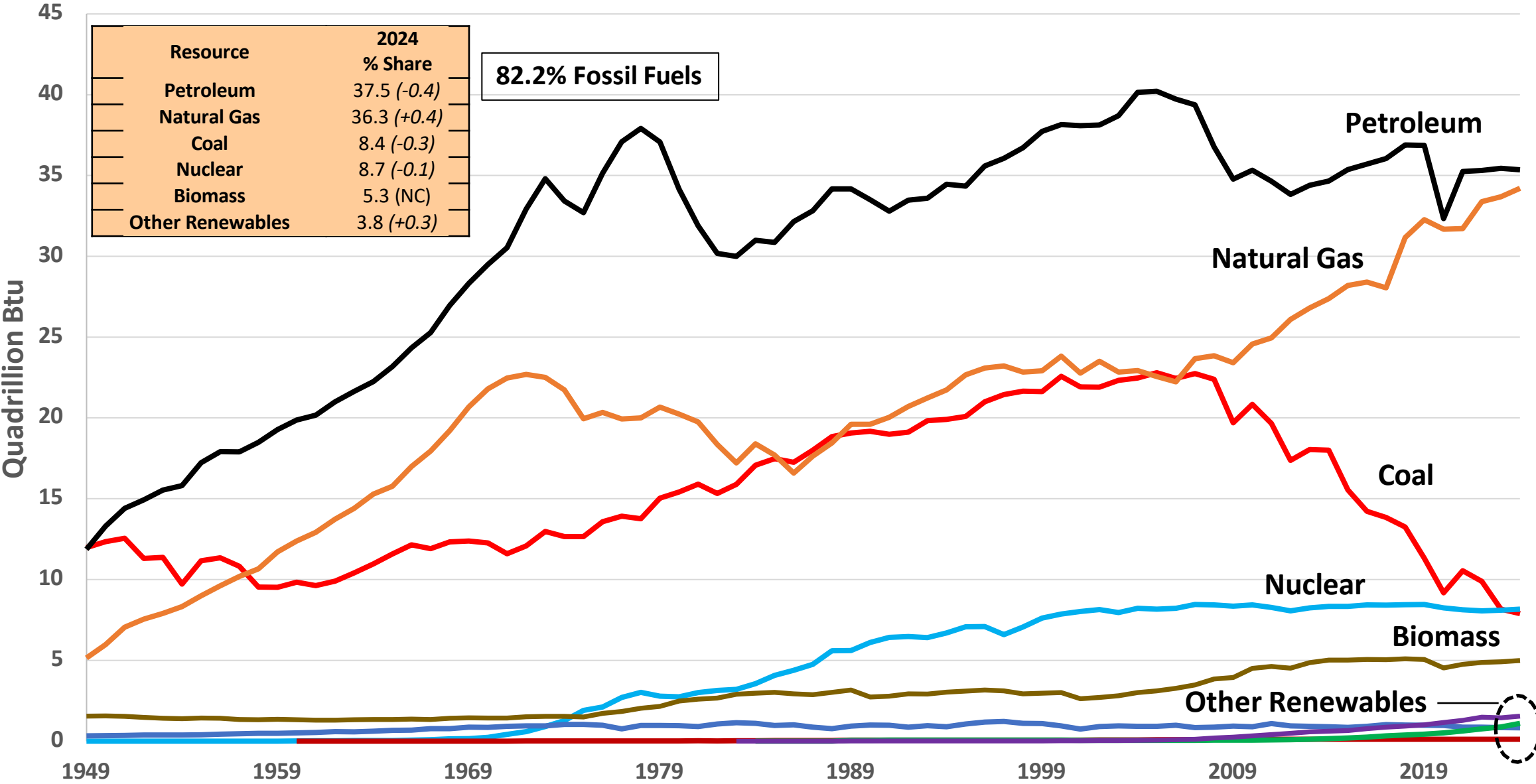
Total U.S. Energy Consumption by Resource

Coal Natural Gas Petroleum Nuclear Renewables



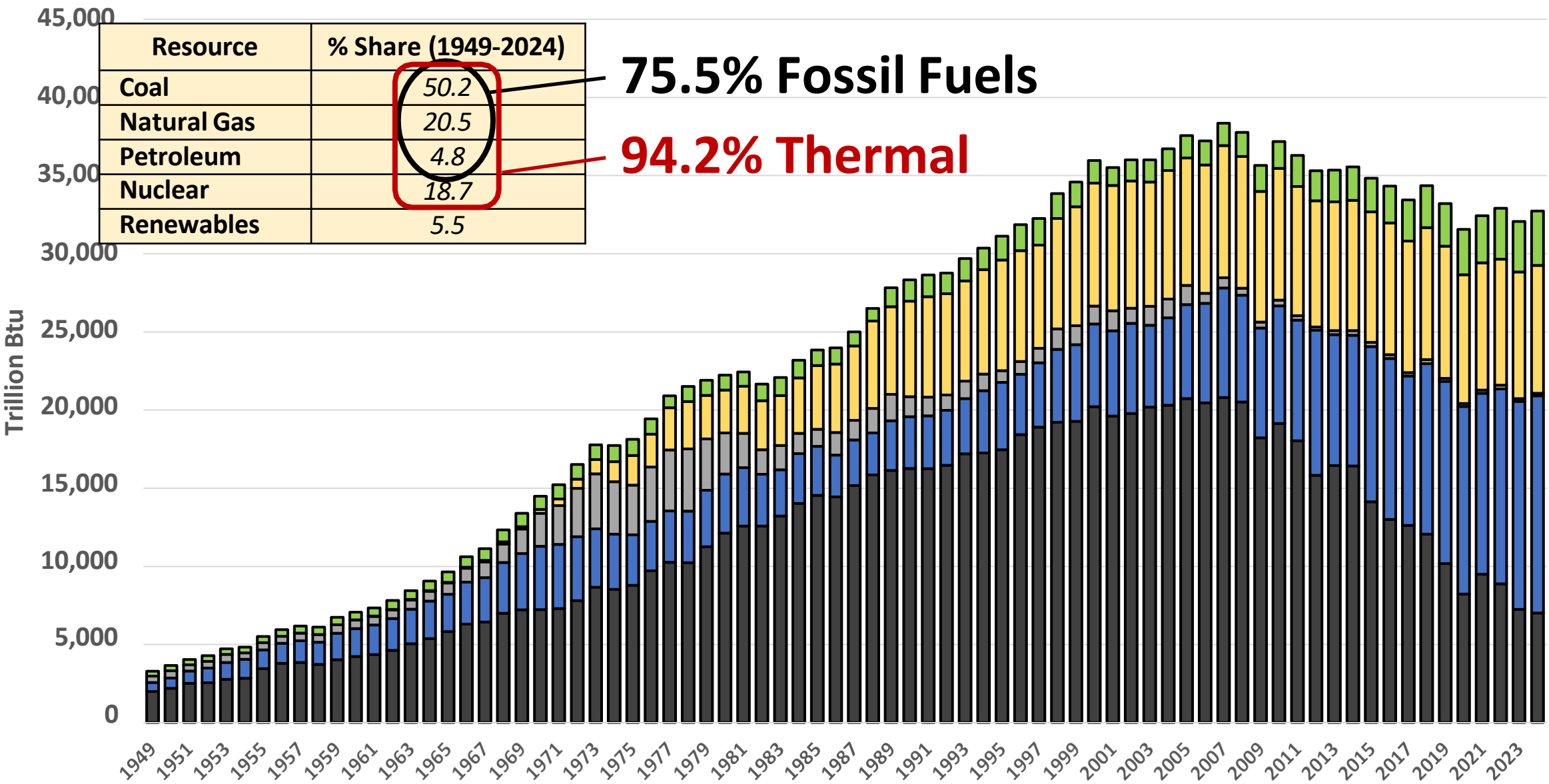
U.S. Total Energy Consumption: Transportation, Electricity, Heat

Coal Natural Gas Petroleum Nuclear Hydro Geothermal Solar Wind Biomass

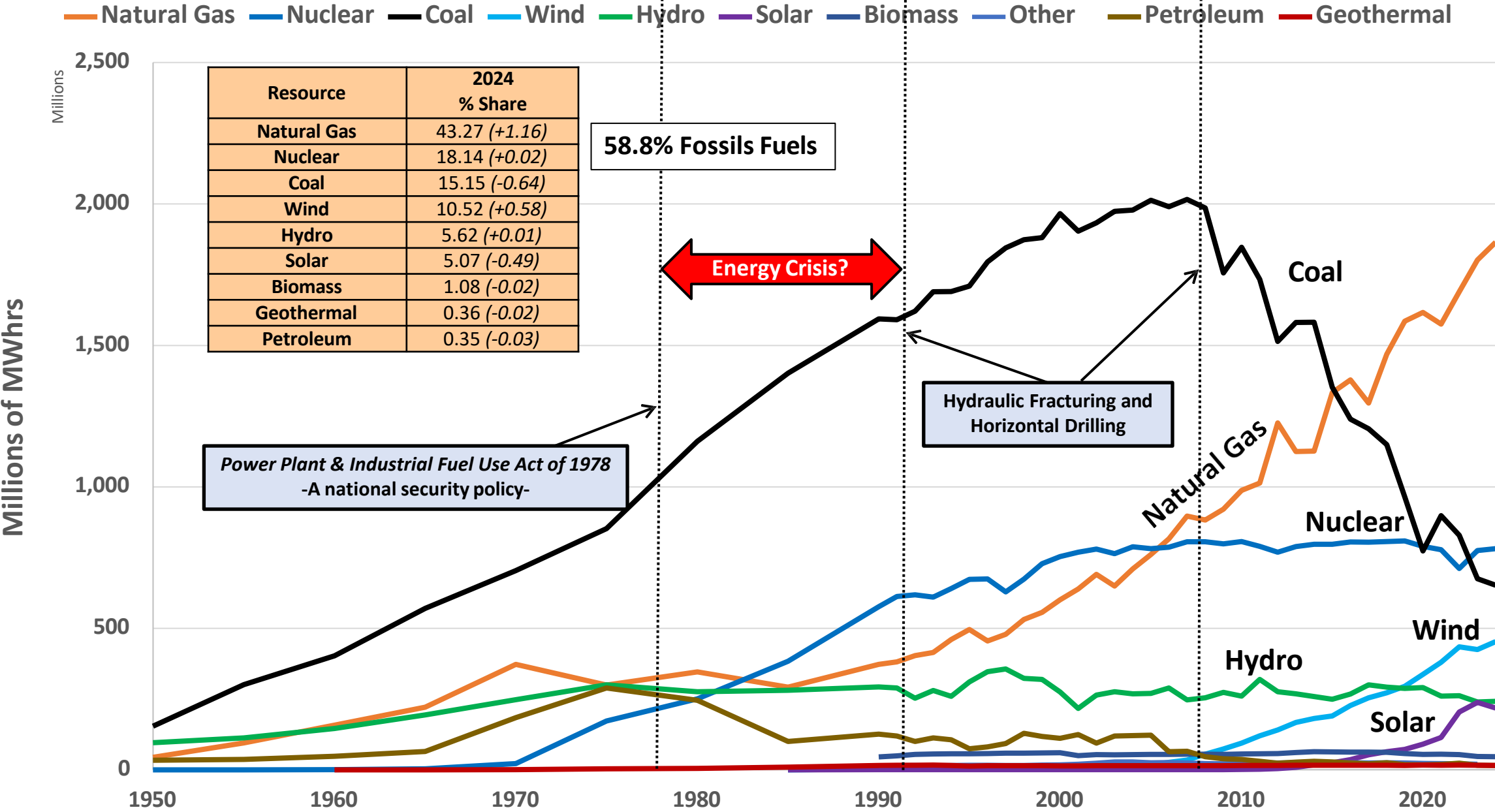


U.S. Electric Power Sector Energy Consumption

Coal Natural Gas Petroleum Nuclear Renewables



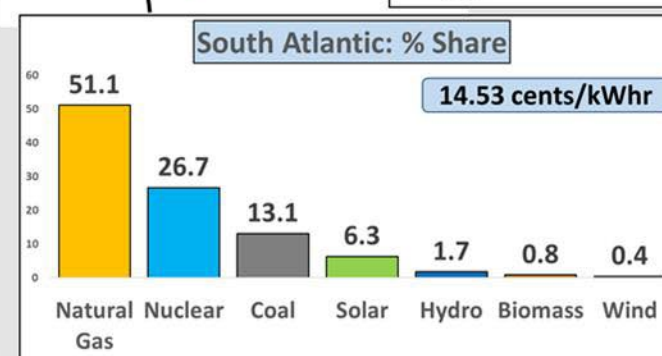
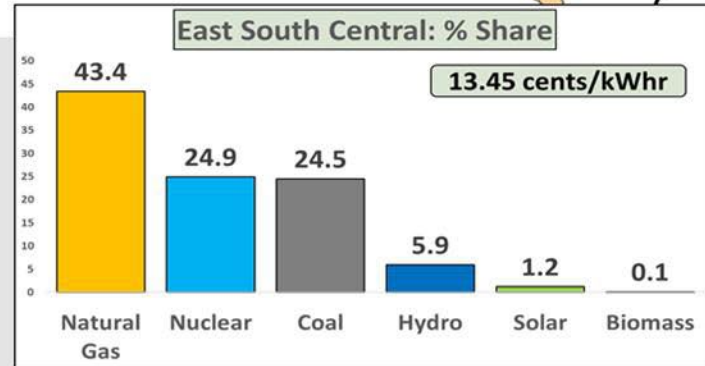
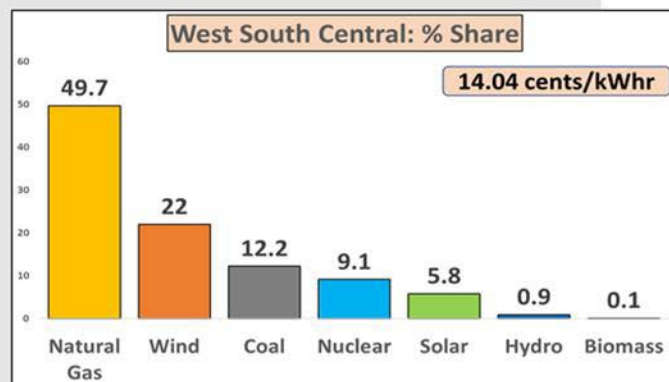
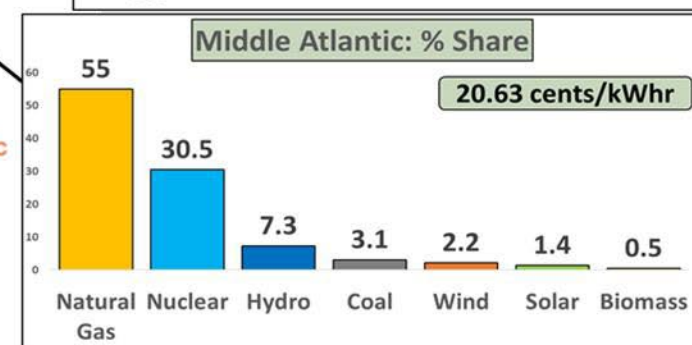
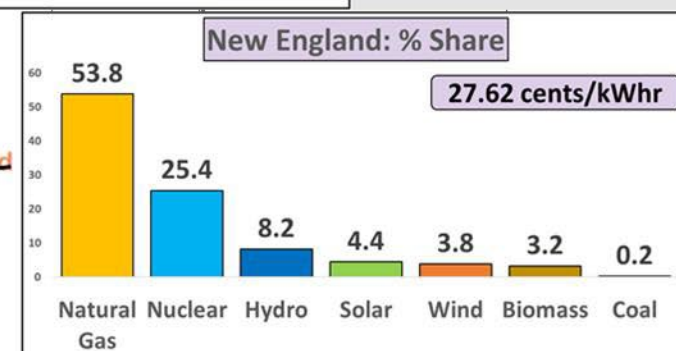
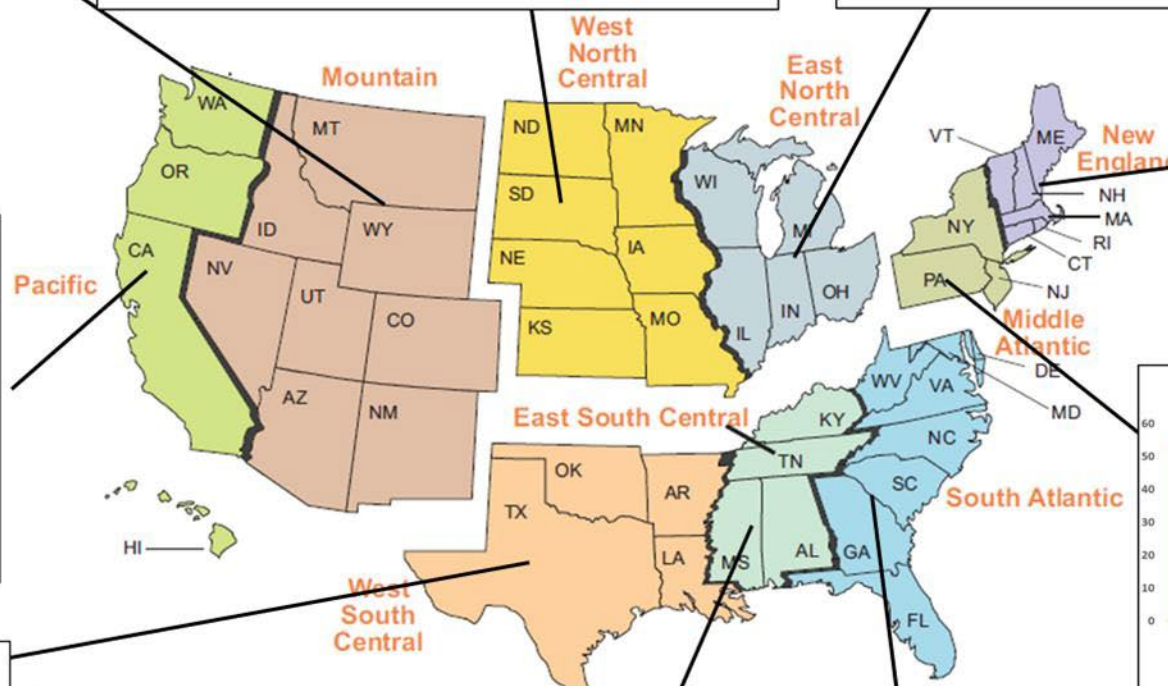
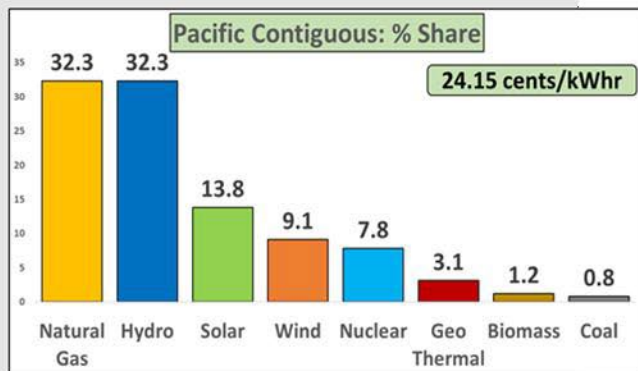
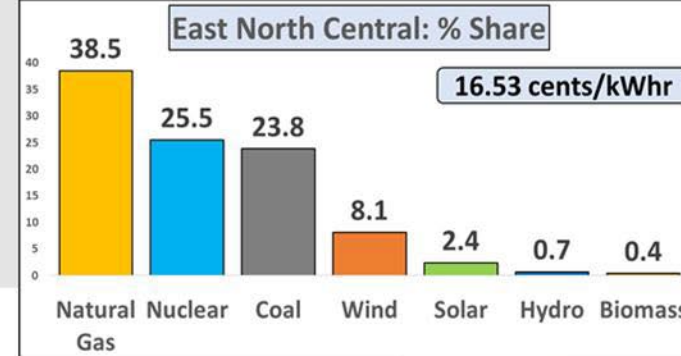
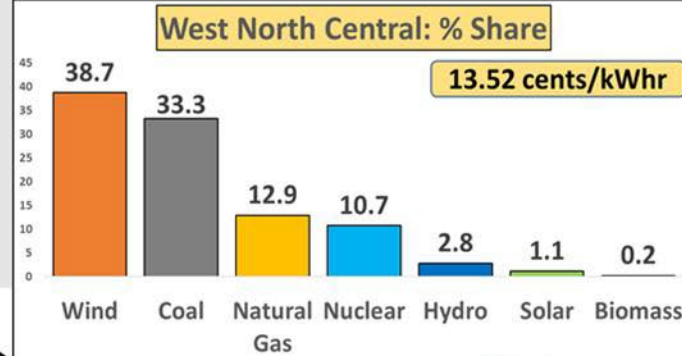
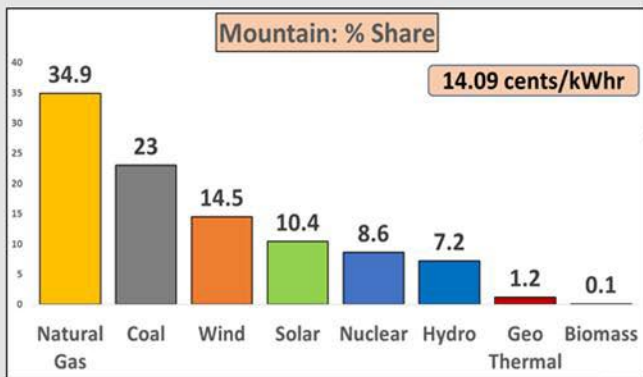
U.S. Electricity Generation by Resource



Residential Rates 2024

U.S. Avg: 16.48 cents/kWhr

2024 Data
Accessed 4/20/2025



Data Source: US EIA

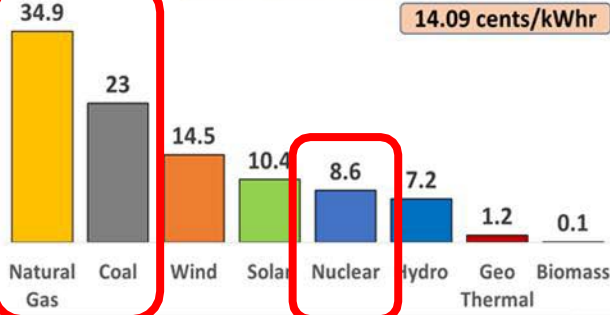
Residential Rates 2024

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2024 Data
Accessed 4/20/2025

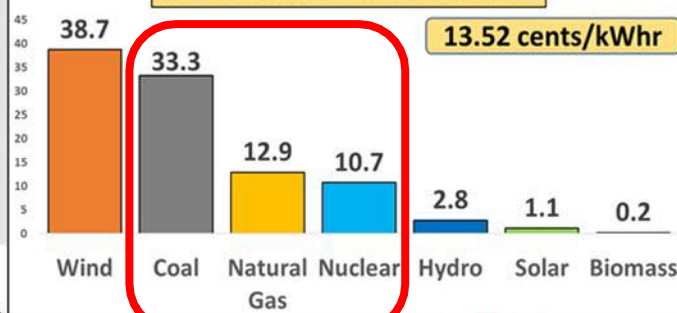
Mountain: % Share

14.09 cents/kWhr



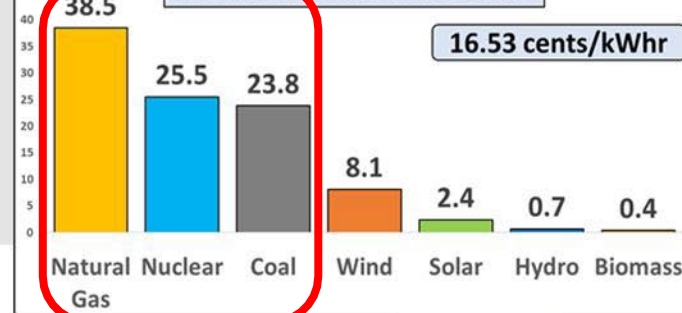
West North Central: % Share

13.52 cents/kWhr



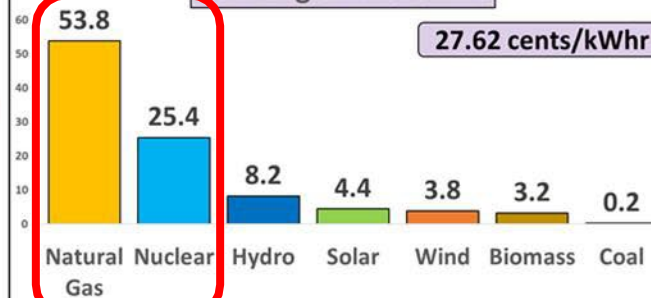
East North Central: % Share

16.53 cents/kWhr



New England: % Share

27.62 cents/kWhr



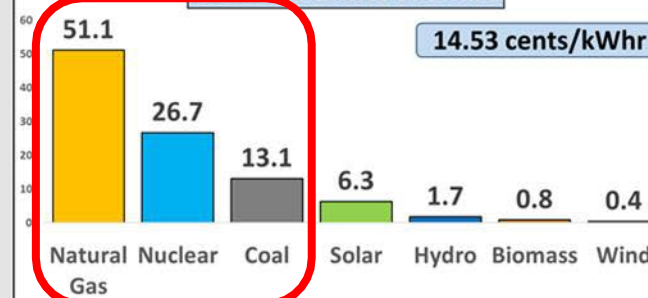
Middle Atlantic: % Share

20.63 cents/kWhr



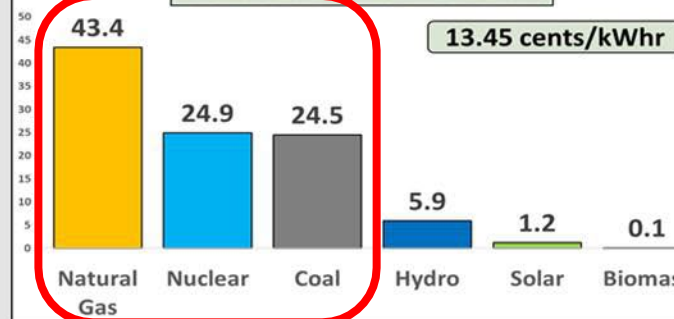
South Atlantic: % Share

14.53 cents/kWhr



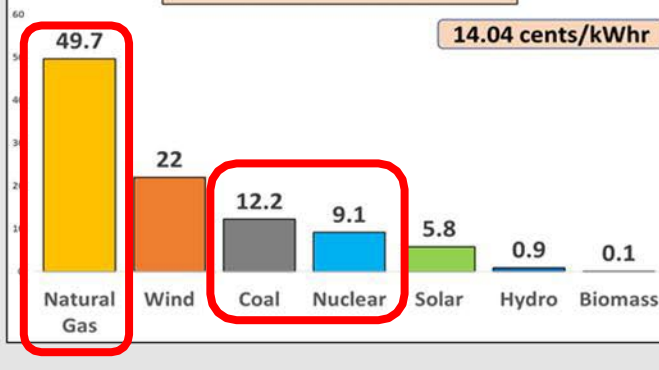
East South Central: % Share

13.45 cents/kWhr



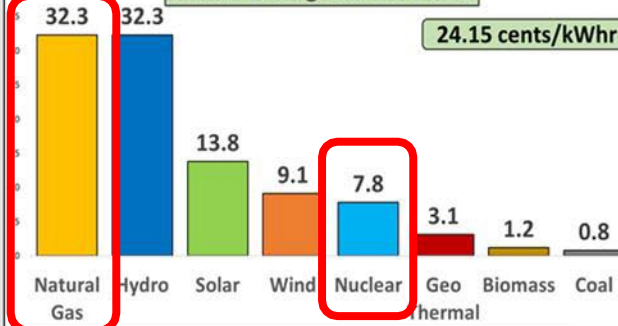
West South Central: % Share

14.04 cents/kWhr



Pacific Contiguous: % Share

24.15 cents/kWhr



Thermal Capacity

Data Source: US EIA

Thermal Capacity Trends

NERC 2024 Long-Term Reliability Assessment

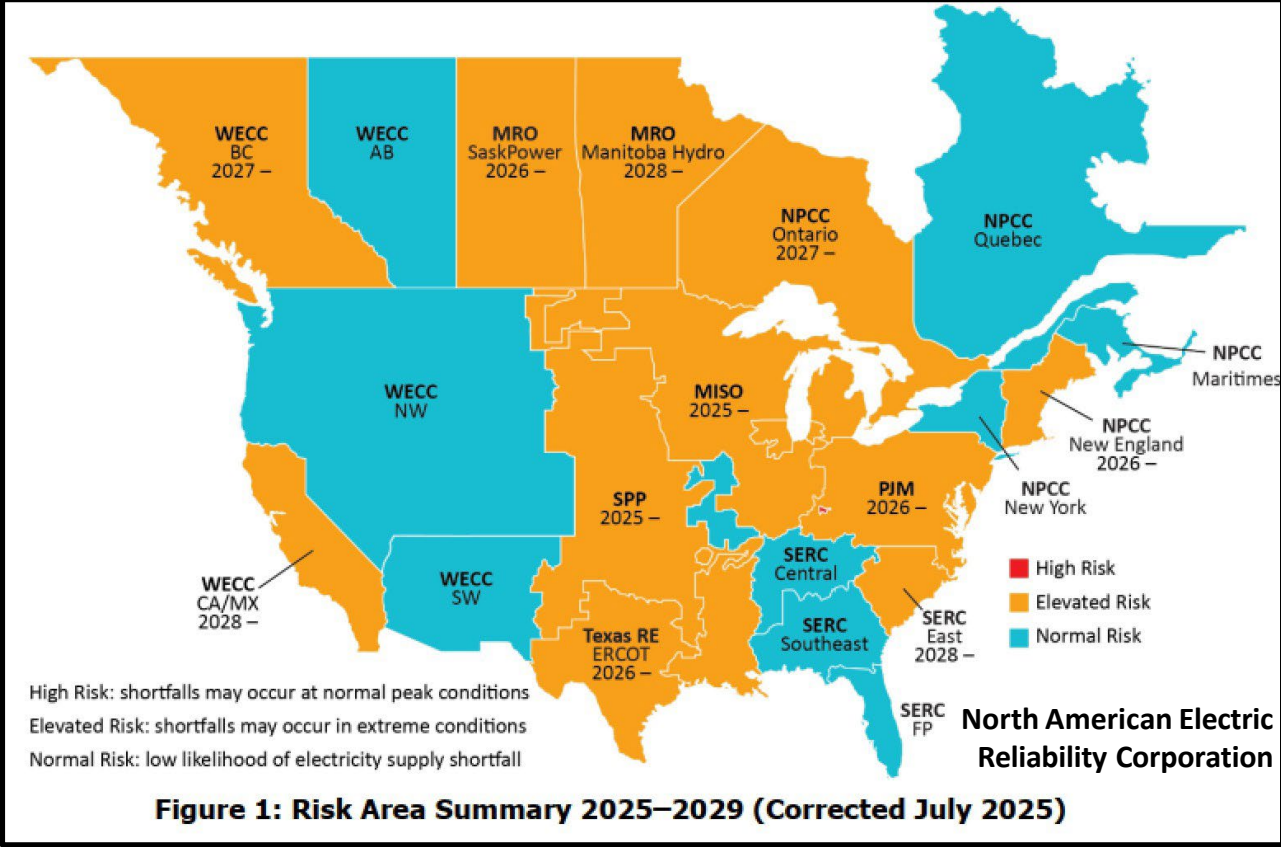
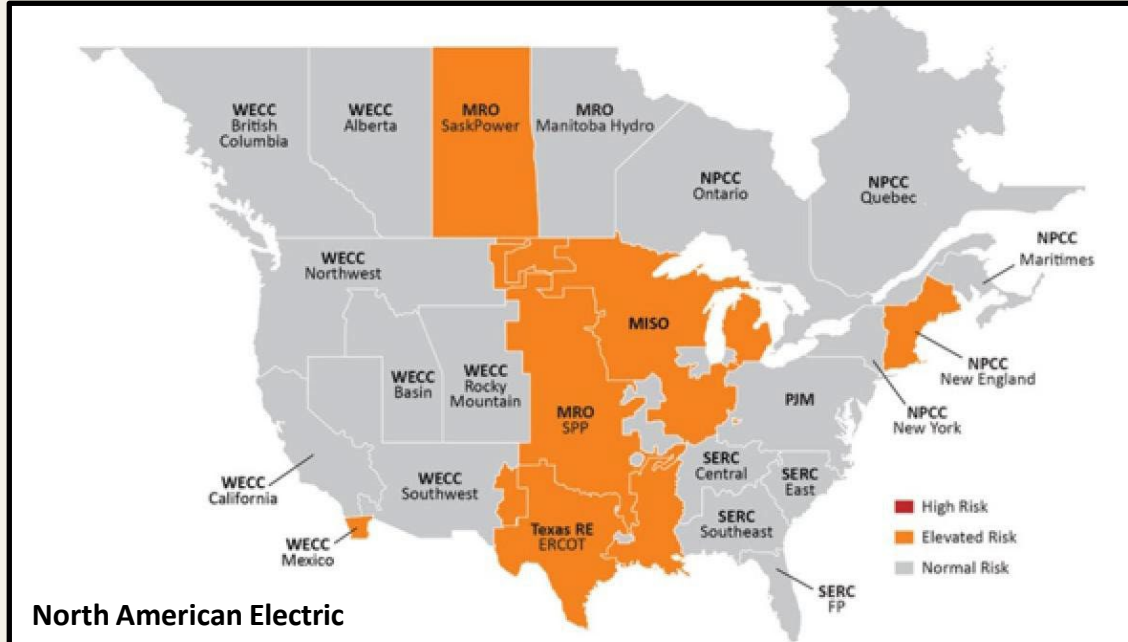


Figure 1: Risk Area Summary 2025–2029 (Corrected July 2025)

As older fossil-fired generators retire and are replaced by more solar PV and wind resources, the resource mix is becoming increasingly variable and weather-dependent. Solar PV, wind, and other variable energy resources (VER) contribute some fraction of their nameplate capacity output to serving demand based on the energy-producing inputs (e.g., solar irradiance, wind speed). The new resources also have different physical and operating characteristics from the generators that they are replacing, affecting the essential reliability services (ERS) that the resource mix provides. As generators are deactivated and replaced by new types of resources, ERS must still be maintained for the grid to operate reliably.

NERC 2025 Summer Reliability Assessment



North American Electric Reliability Corporation

Figure 1: Summer Reliability Risk Area Summary

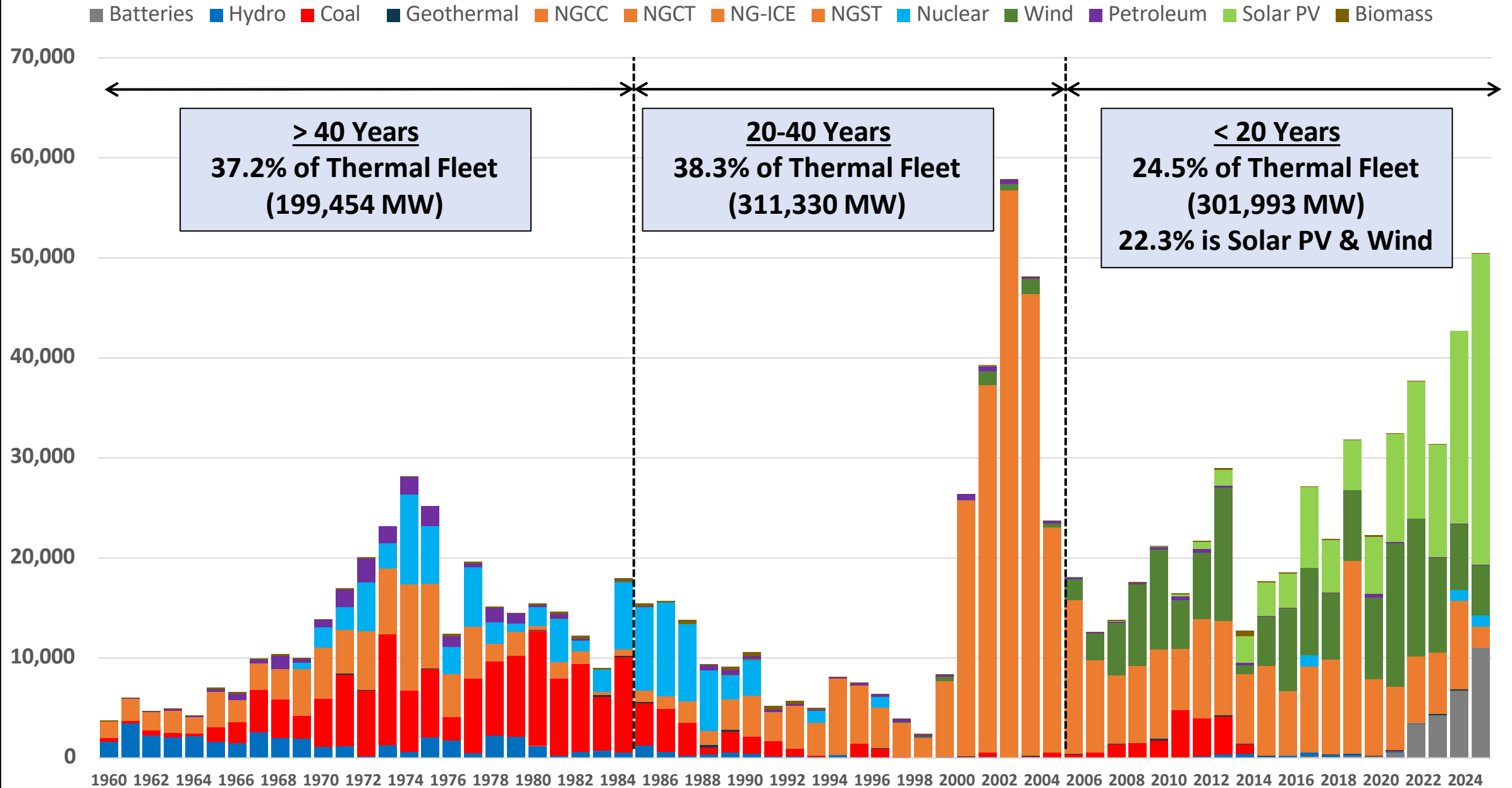
Seasonal Risk Assessment Summary	
High	Potential for insufficient operating reserves in normal peak conditions
Elevated	Potential for insufficient operating reserves in above-normal conditions
Normal	Sufficient operating reserves expected

In the 2024 LTRA, NERC finds that most of the North American BPS faces mounting resource adequacy challenges over the next 10 years as surging demand growth continues and thermal generators announce plans for retirement. New solar PV, battery, and hybrid resources continue to flood interconnection queues, but completion rates are lagging behind the need for new generation. Furthermore, the performance of these replacement resources is more variable and weather-dependent than the generators they are replacing. As a result, less overall capacity (dispatchable capacity in particular) is being added to the system than what was projected and needed to meet future demand. **The trends point to critical reliability challenges facing the industry: satisfying escalating energy growth, managing generator retirements, and accelerating resource and transmission development.**

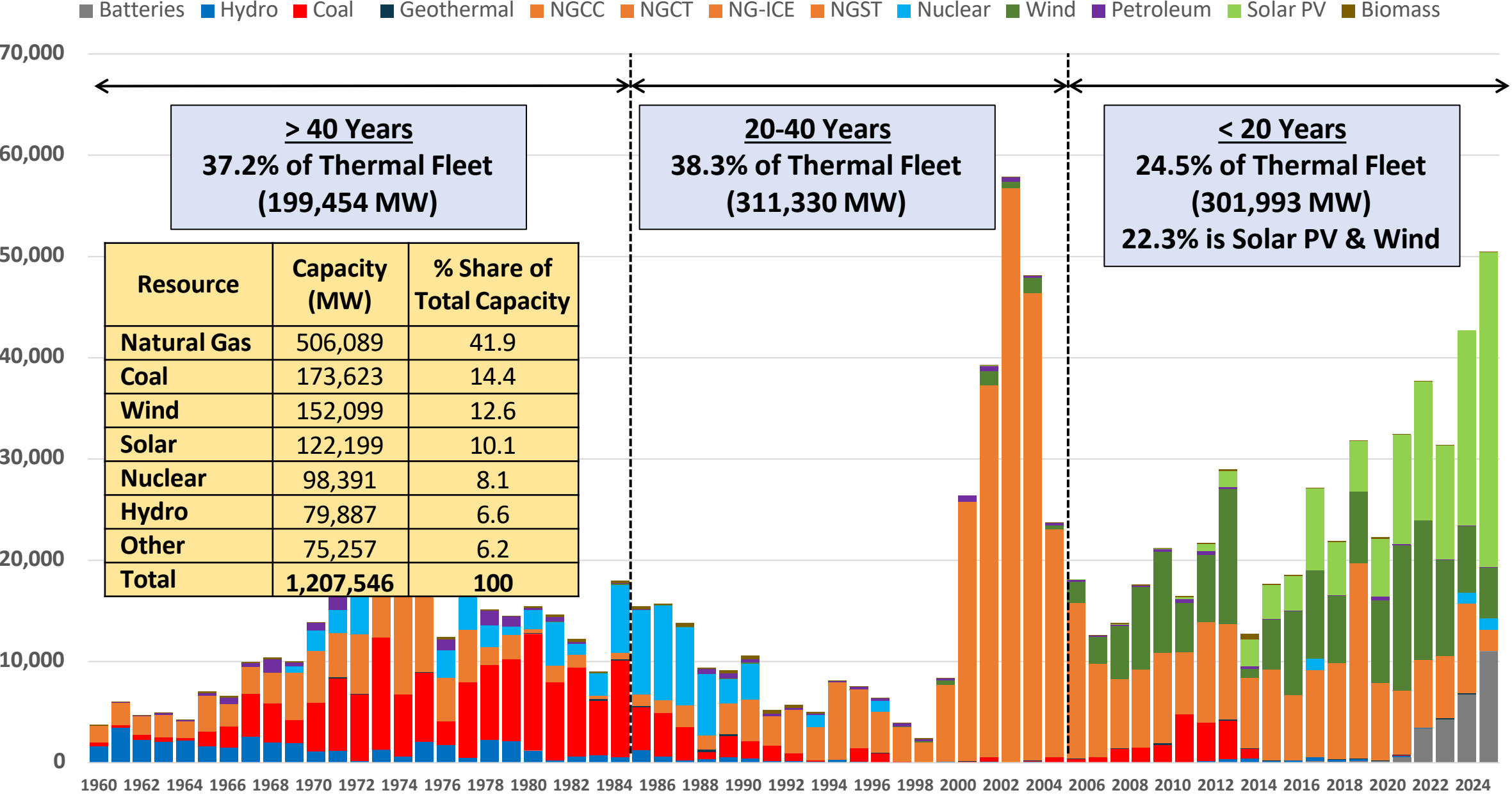
Data Source: US EIA

Compiled By: David Gattie

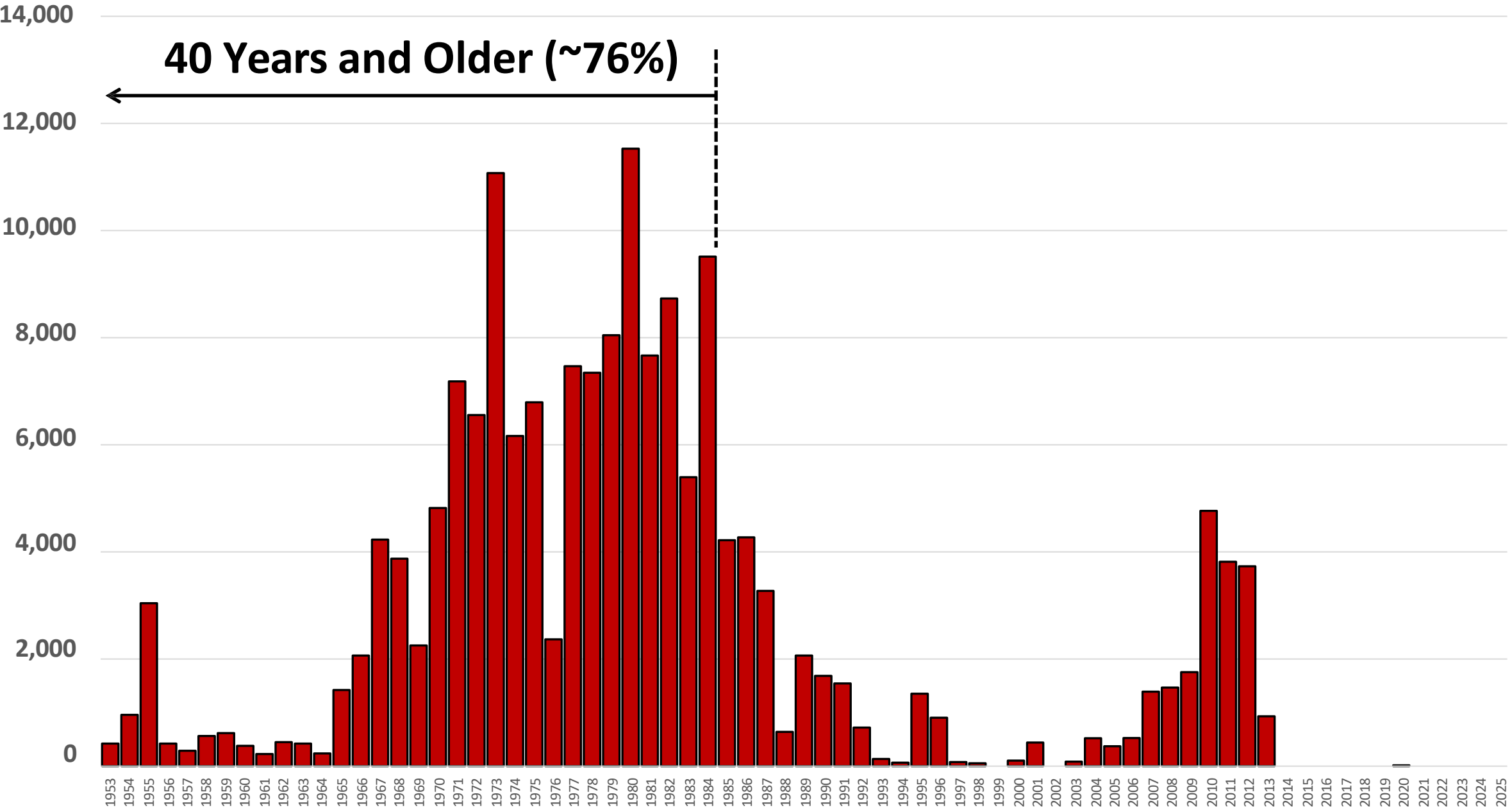
U.S.: Power Generation Fleet by Operational Year (MW)



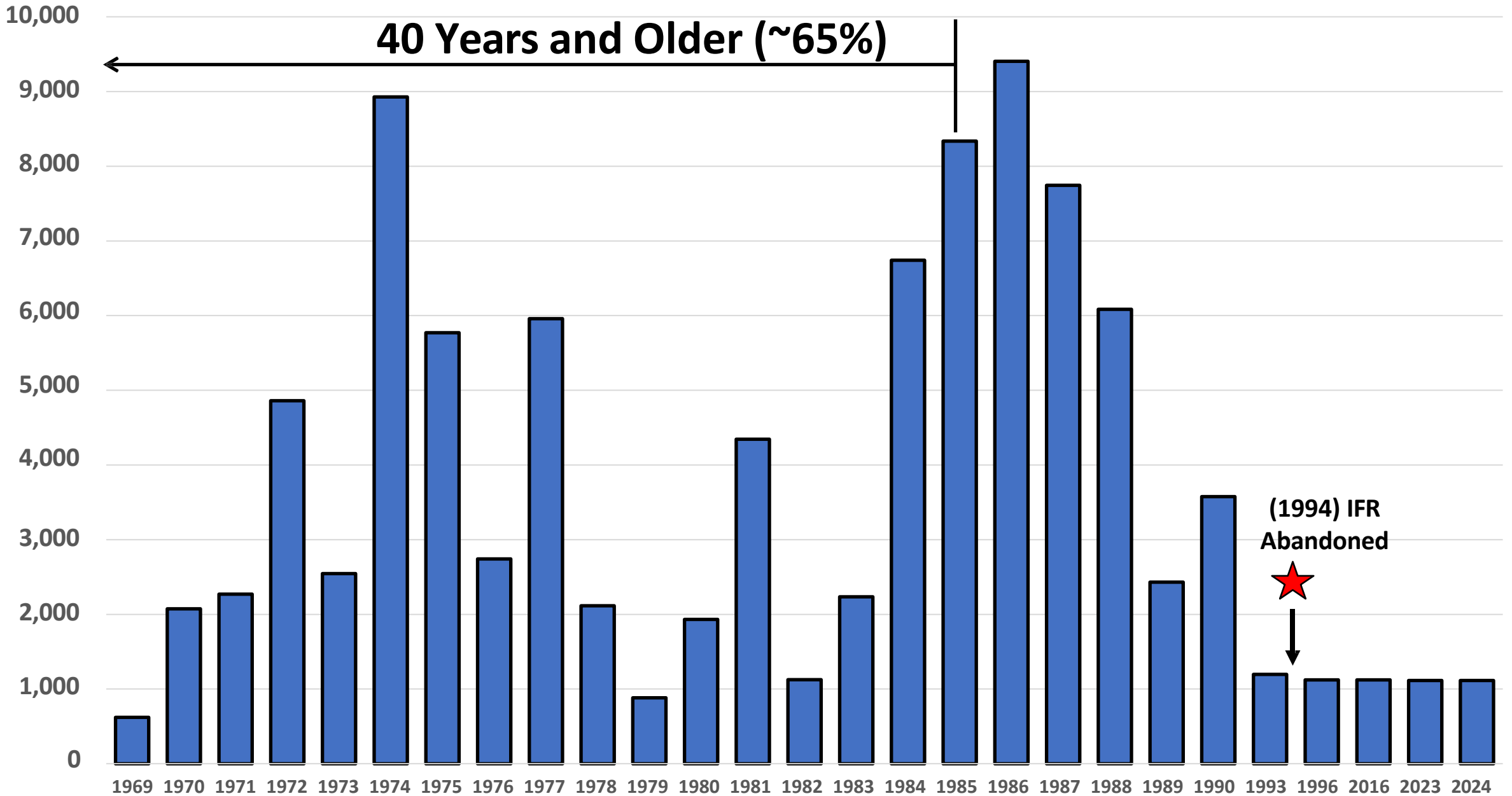
U.S.: Power Generation Fleet by Operational Year (MW)



U.S. Coal Fleet by Operational Year (MW)

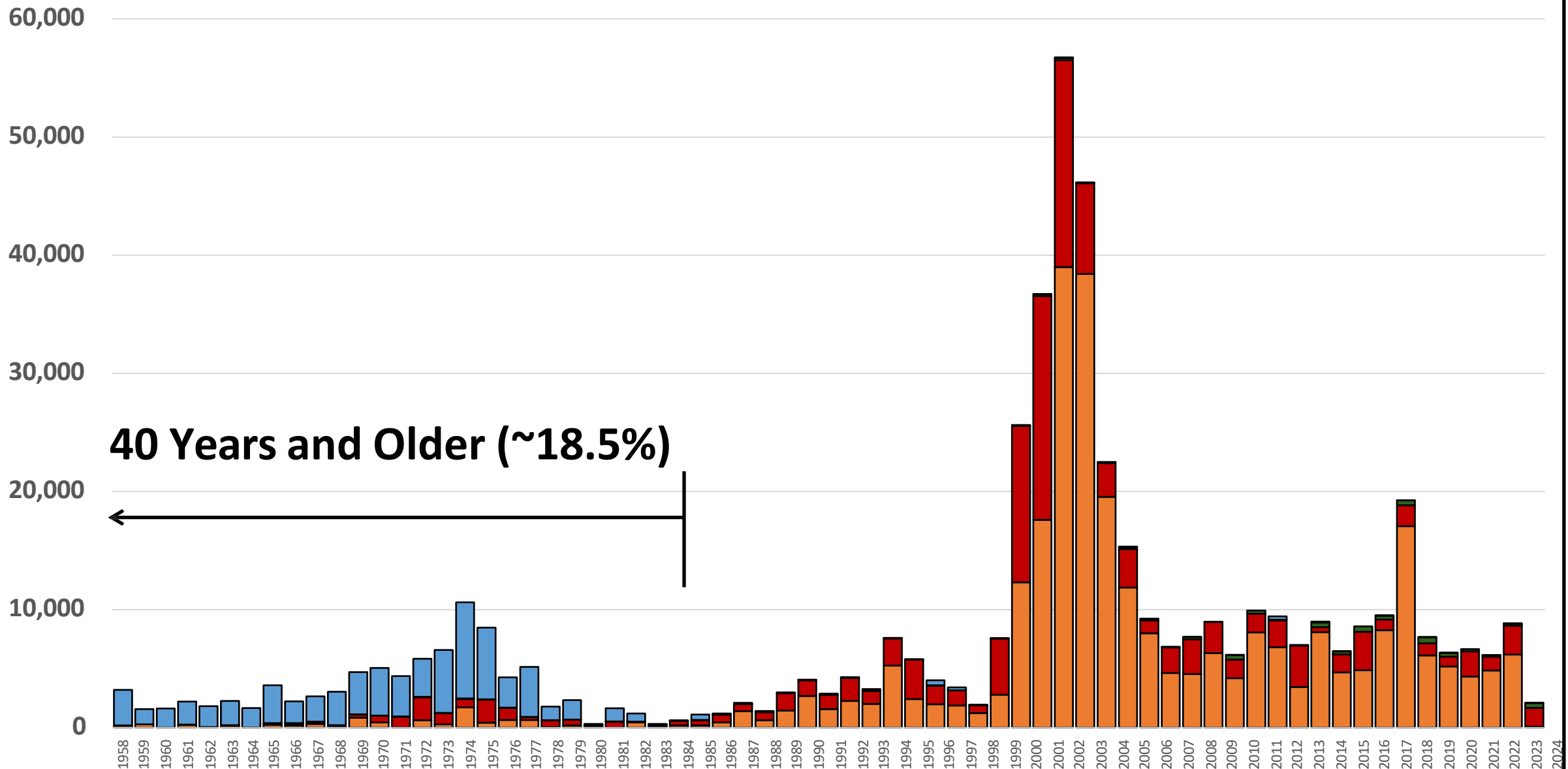


U.S. Nuclear Fleet by Operational Year (MW)



U.S. Natural Gas Fleet by Operational Year (MW)

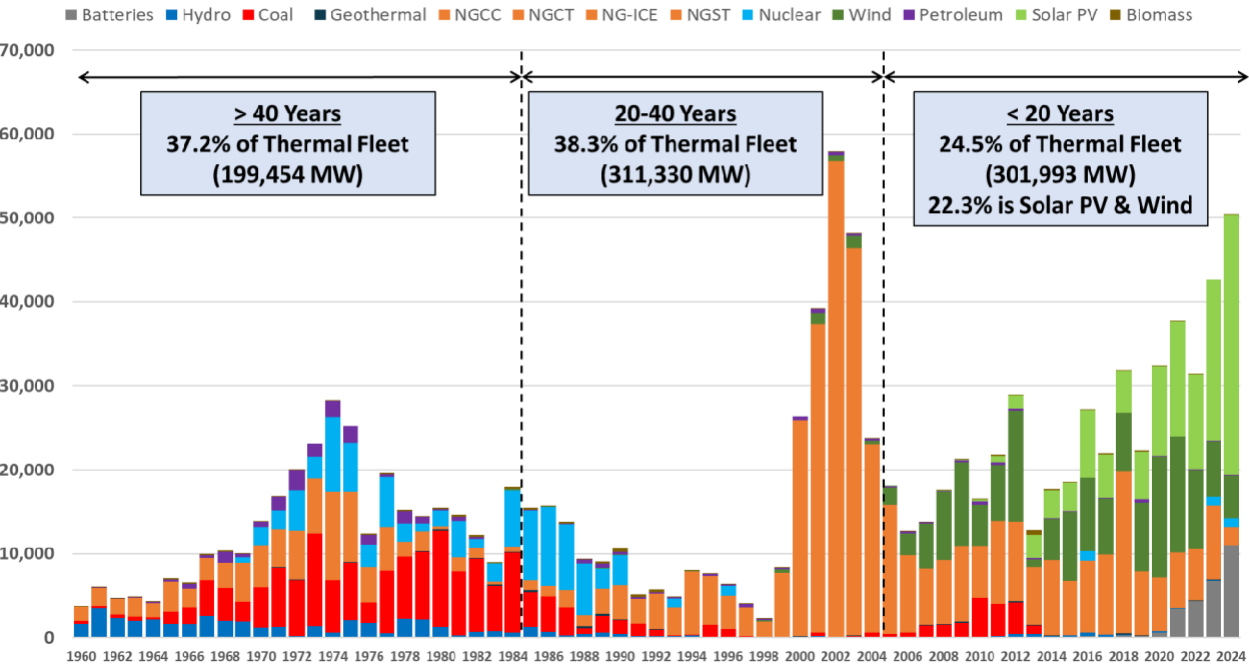
NGCC NGCT NG-ICE NGST



Data Source: US EIA

U.S.: Power Generation Fleet by Operational Year (MW)

Compiled By: David Gattie



Current Thermal 66.2%



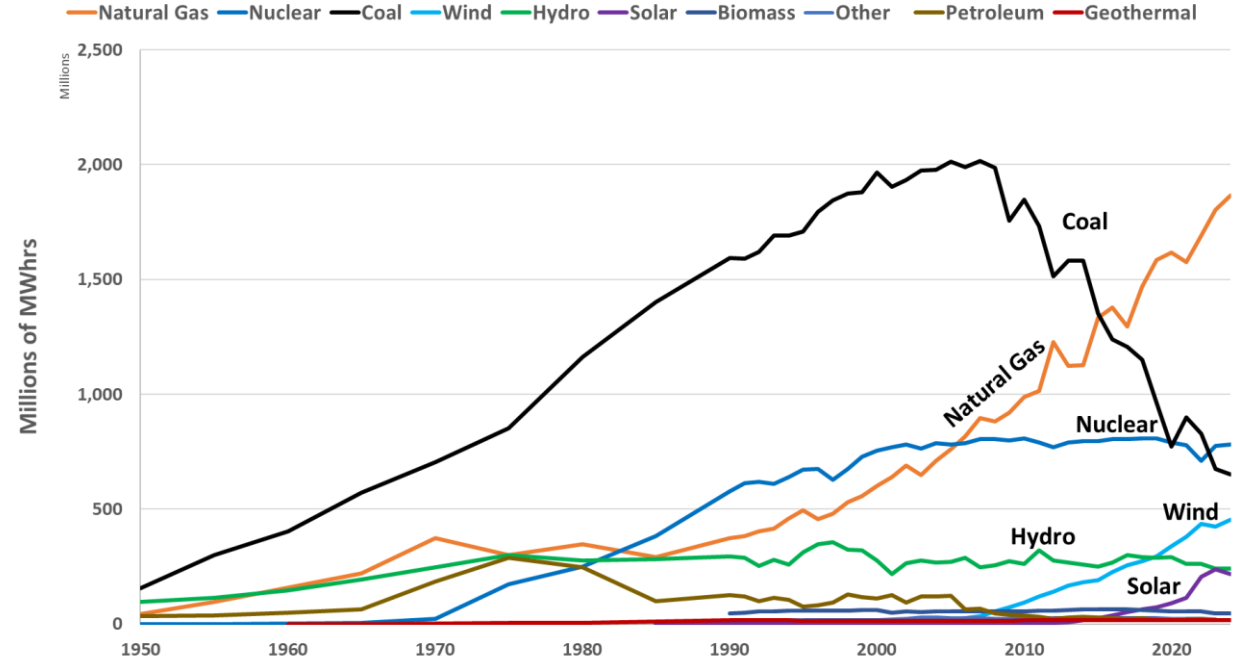
Technology	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
NGCC	291,805	24.2
Coal	173,623	14.4
Onshore Wind	151,928	12.6
NGCT	133,064	11.0
Solar PV	122,199	10.1
Nuclear	98,391	8.1
Hydro	79,887	6.6
NGST	74,904	6.2
Petroleum	27,282	2.3
Other	54,464	4.5
Total	1,207,546	

2024 Residential Rate
16.48 cents/kWhr

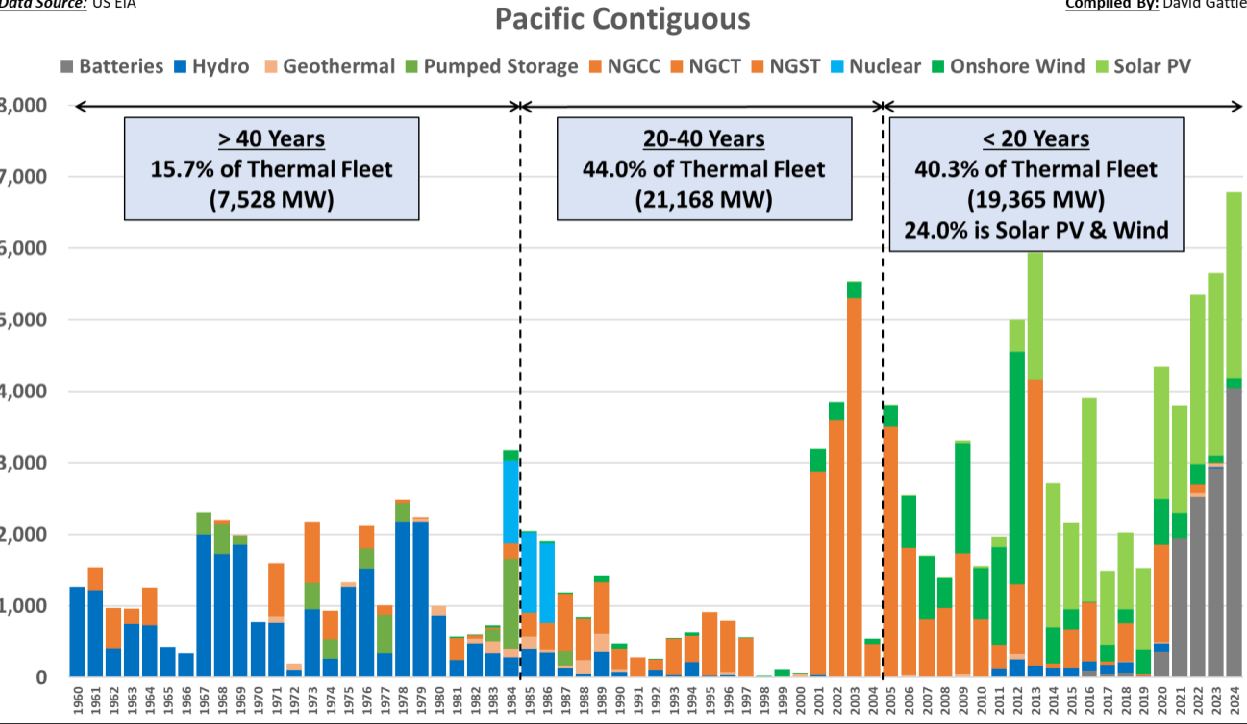
Data Source: US EIA

U.S. Electricity Generation by Resource

Compiled By: David Gattie



U.S. Regions

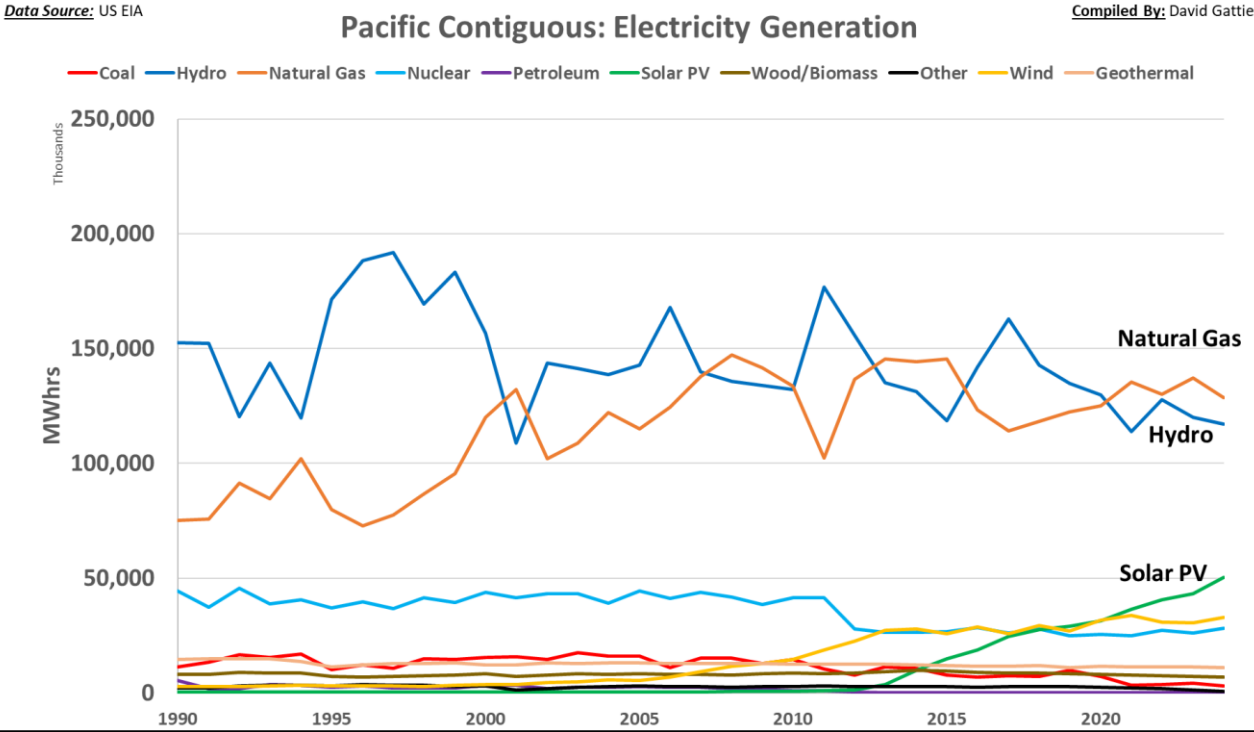


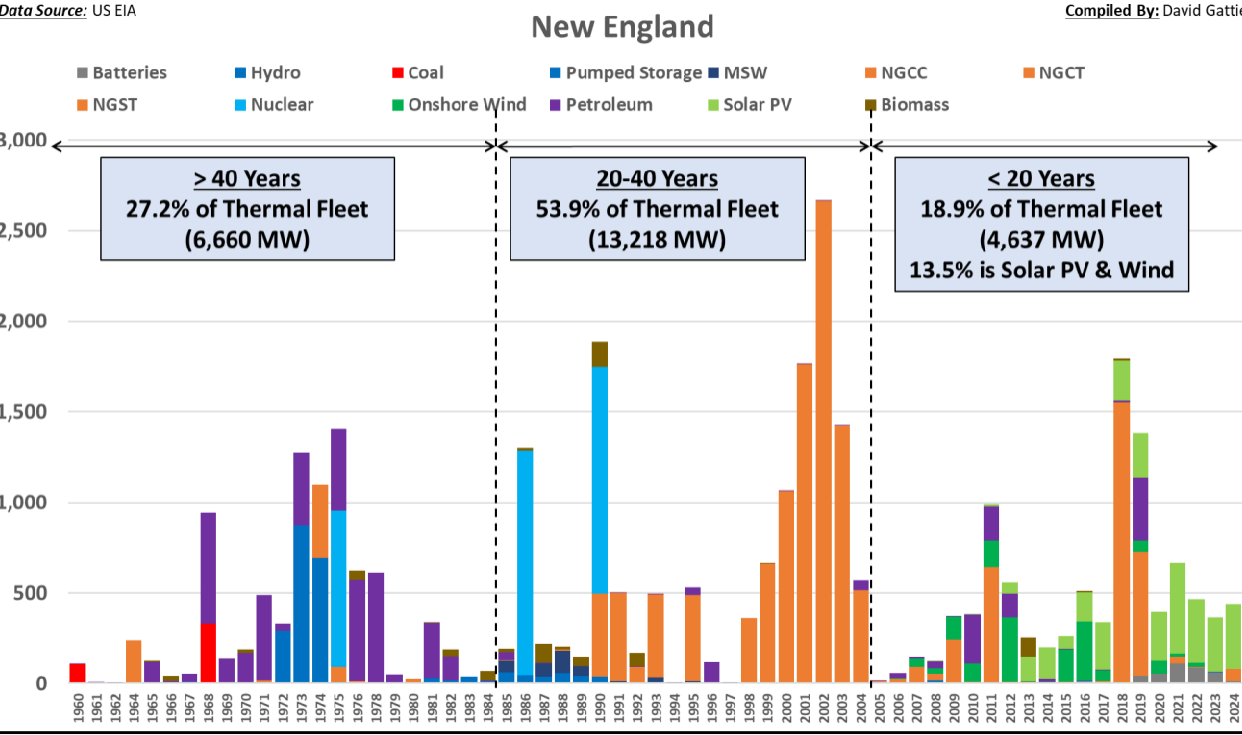
Technology	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
Hydro	39,991	27.5
NGCC	26,458	18.2
Solar PV	22,666	15.6
Onshore Wind	13,802	9.5
NGCT	12,350	8.5
Batteries	12,043	8.3
Pumped Storage	4,184	2.9
NGST	3,747	2.6
Nuclear	3,391	2.3
Geothermal	1,901	1.3
Total	145,465	

Current Thermal 32.9%

States
California
Oregon
Washington

2024 Residential Rate
24.15 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48



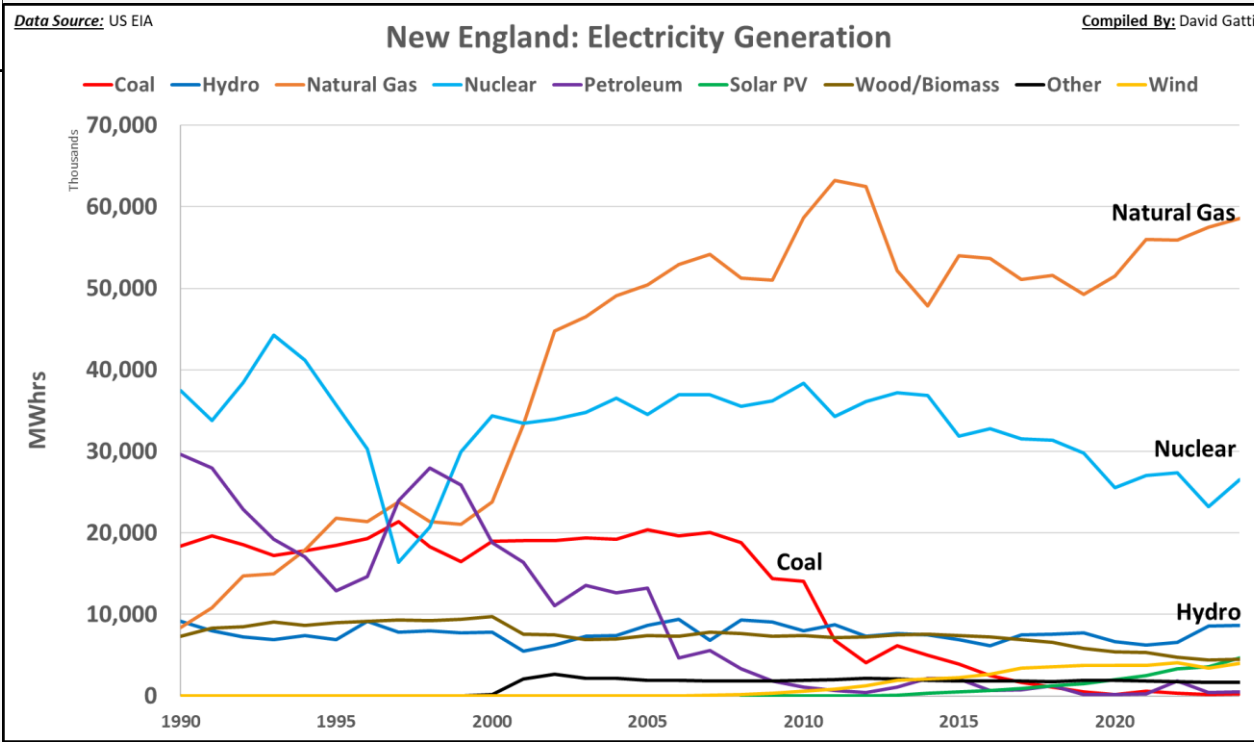


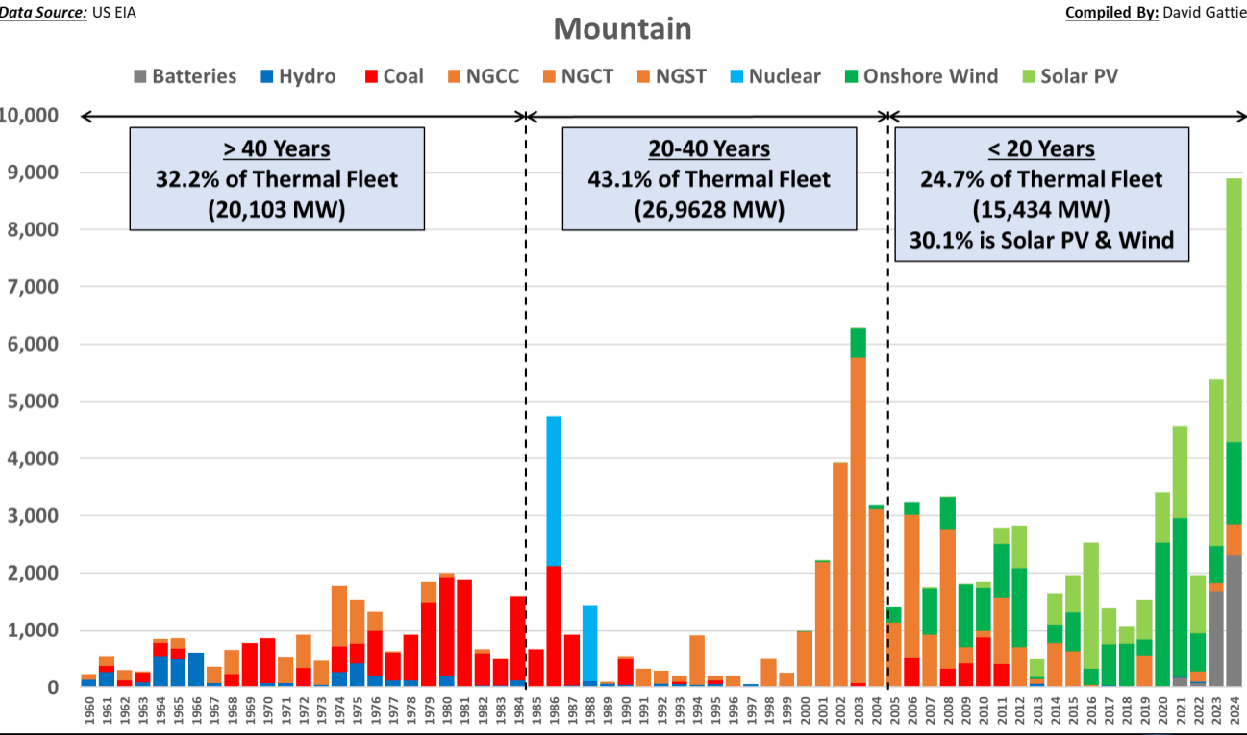
2024 Residential Rate
27.62 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

Technology	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
NGCC	12,524	36.1
Petroleum	5,557	16.0
Nuclear	3,354	9.7
Solar PV	3,121	9.0
Hydro	1,952	5.6
Pumped Storage	1,863	5.4
Wind	1,546	4.5
NGCT	1,456	4.2
Other Thermal	1,448	4.2
Total	34,702	

Current Thermal 70.1%

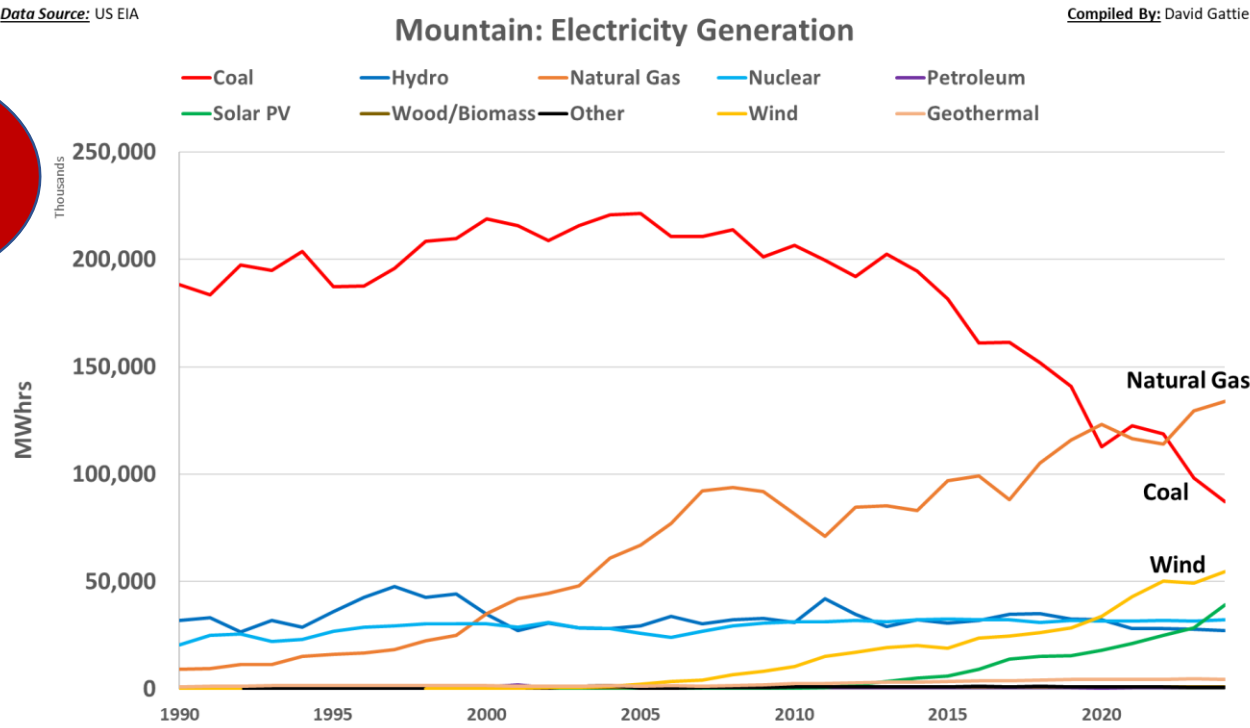
States
Connecticut
Maine
Massachusetts
New Hampshire
Rhode Island
Vermont





Technology	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
NGCC	23,011	20.0
Coal	20,209	17.6
Onshore Wind	17,736	15.4
Solar PV	17,572	15.3
Hydro	10,594	9.2
NGCT	9,916	8.6
Batteries	4,312	3.7
NGST	4,128	3.6
Nuclear	3,937	3.4
Total	115,142	

- States
- Arizona
 - Colorado
 - Idaho
 - Montana
 - Nevada
 - New Mexico
 - Utah
 - Wyoming



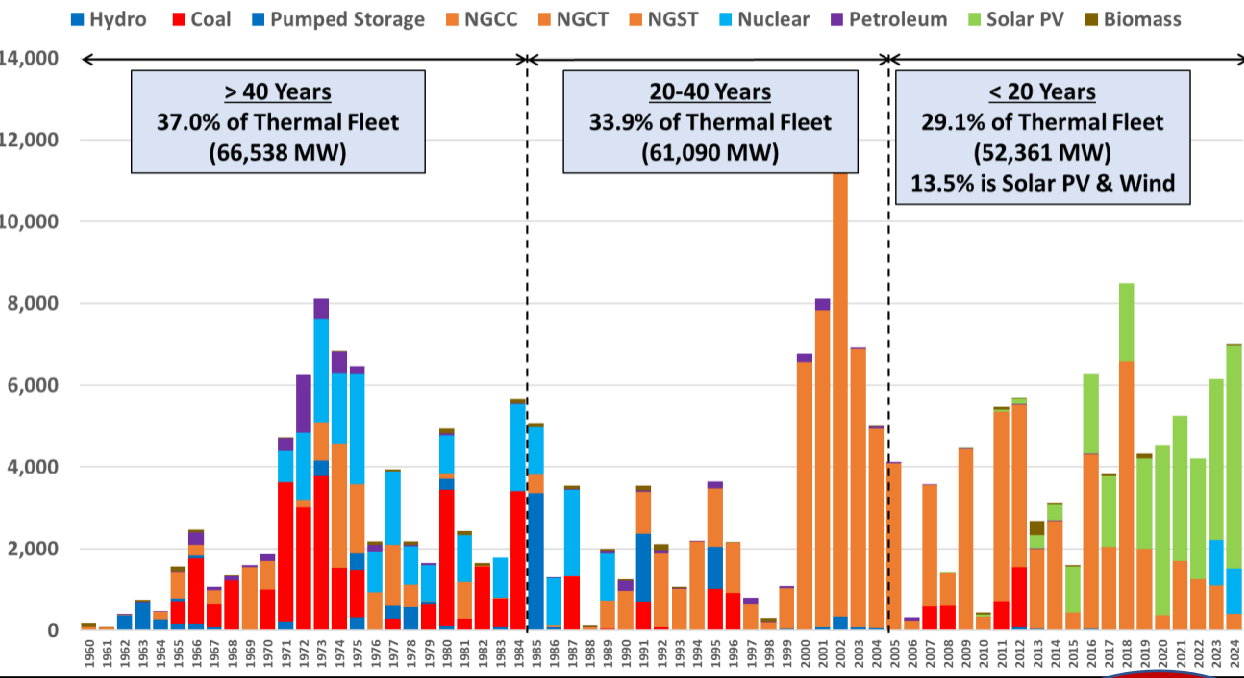
2024 Residential Rate
14.09 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

Current Thermal 54.2%

Data Source: US EIA

South Atlantic

Compiled By: David Gattie



Technology	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
NGCC	65,889	28.4
Coal	35,415	15.3
NGCT	32,492	14.0
Solar PV	29,971	12.9
Nuclear	27,018	11.6
NGST	12,948	5.6
Pumped Storage	8,273	3.6
Hydro	7,054	3.0
Petroleum	5,849	2.5
Biomass	2,649	1.1
Total	232,141	

States

Delaware
DC
Florida
Georgia
Maryland
North Carolina
South Carolina
Virginia
West Virginia

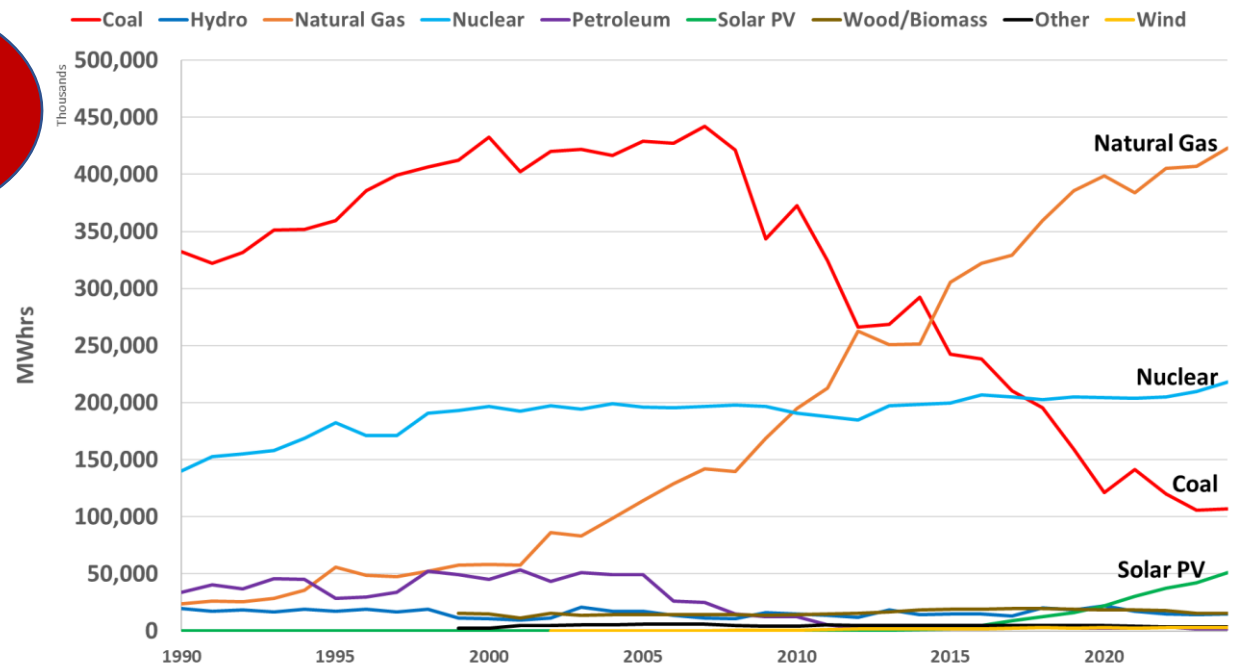
2024 Residential Rate
14.53 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

Current Thermal 77.5%

Data Source: US EIA

South Atlantic: Electricity Generation

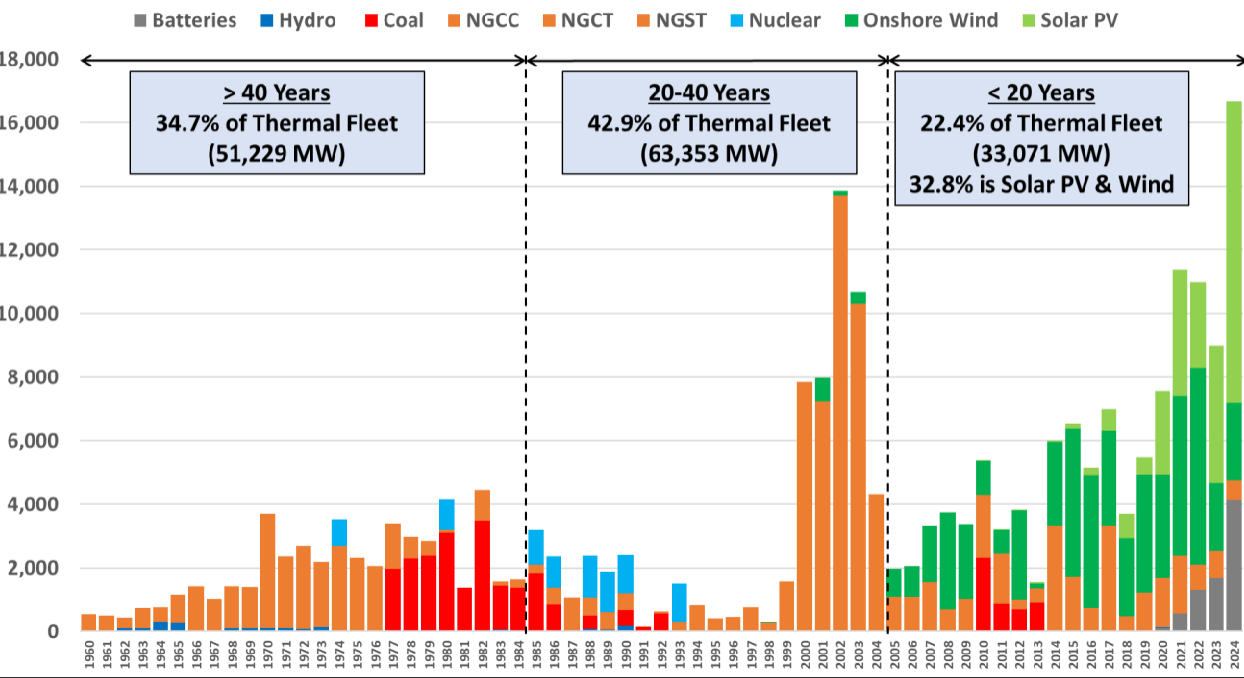
Compiled By: David Gattie



Data Source: US EIA

West South Central

Compiled By: David Gattie



Technology	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
NGCC	64,444	26.7
Onshore Wind	54,726	22.7
NGST	27,390	11.4
Coal	26,394	10.9
Solar PV	25,724	10.7
NGCT	17,447	7.2
Nuclear	8,853	3.7
Batteries	7,943	3.3
Hydro	3,002	1.2
Total	241,304	

Current Thermal 60.8%

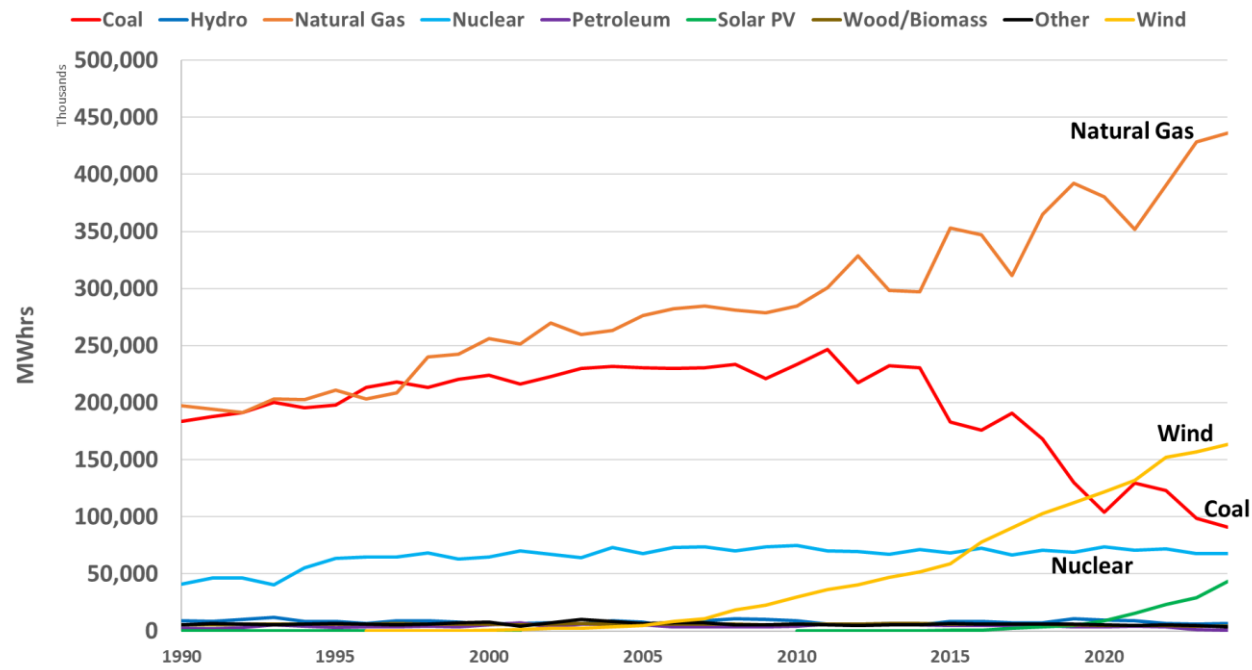
States
Arkansas
Louisiana
Oklahoma
Texas

2024 Residential Rate
14.04 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

Data Source: US EIA

West South Central: Electricity Generation

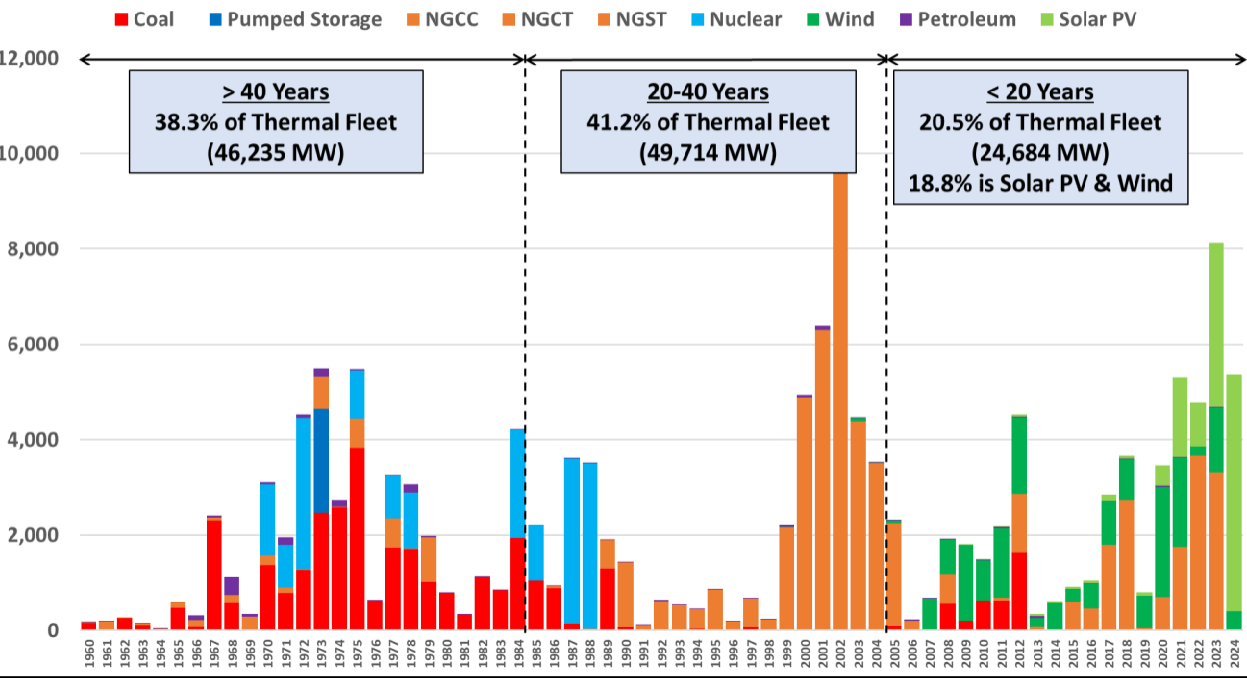
Compiled By: David Gattie



Data Source: US EIA

Compiled By: David Gattie

East North Central



2024 Residential Rate
16.53 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

Technology	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
Coal	35,957	23.3
NGCC	31,065	20.2
NGCT	26,166	17.0
Nuclear	18,997	12.3
Wind	17,215	11.2
Solar PV	11,935	7.7
NGST	3,839	2.5
Pumped Storage	2,180	1.4
Petroleum	2,147	1.4
Total	154,162	

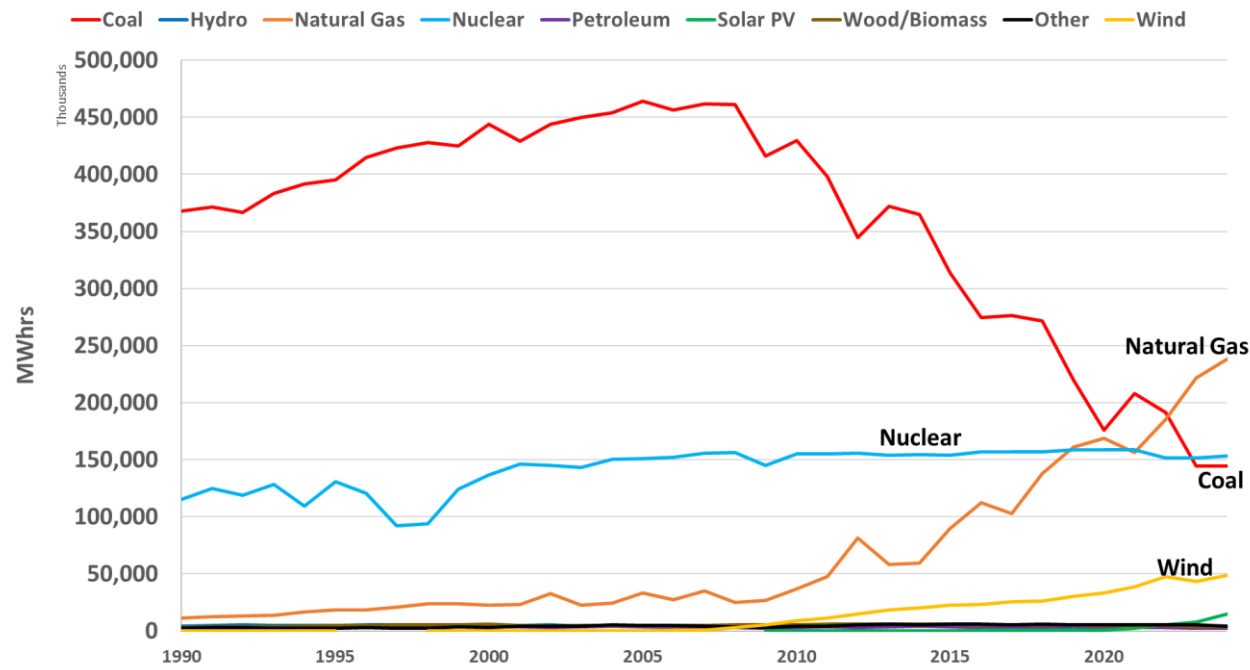
Current Thermal
77.2%

- States
- Illinois
 - Indiana
 - Michigan
 - Ohio
 - Wisconsin

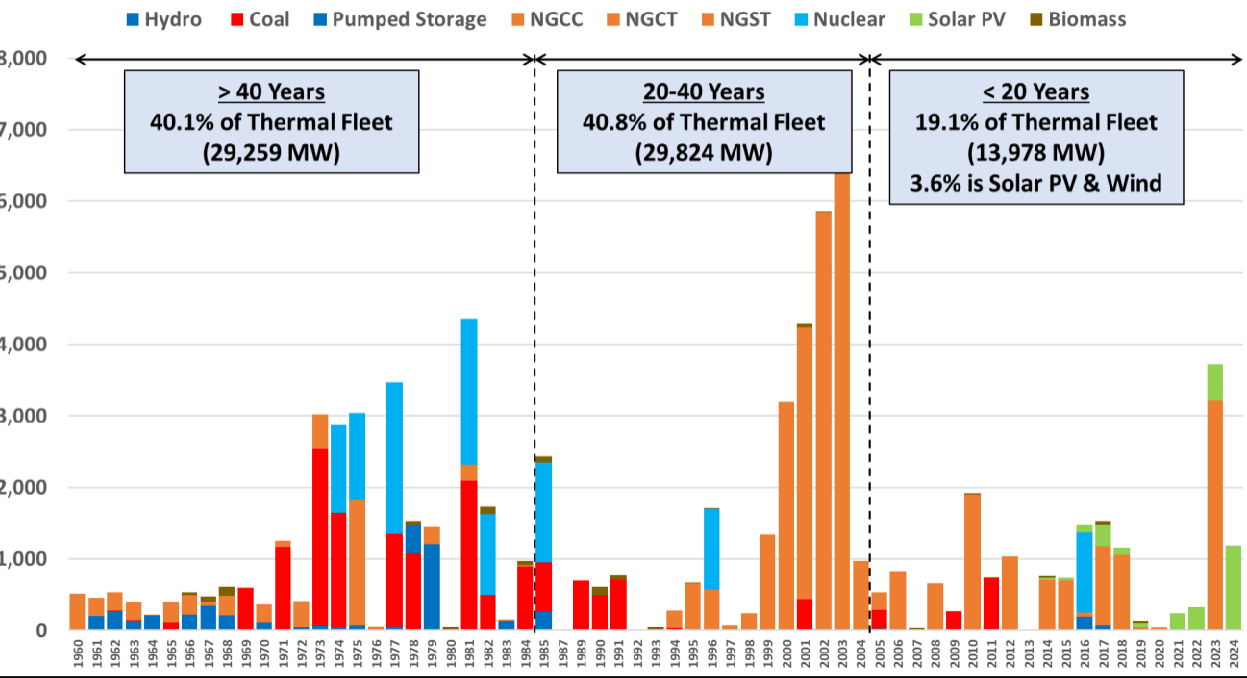
Data Source: US EIA

Compiled By: David Gattie

East North Central: Electricity Generation



East South Central



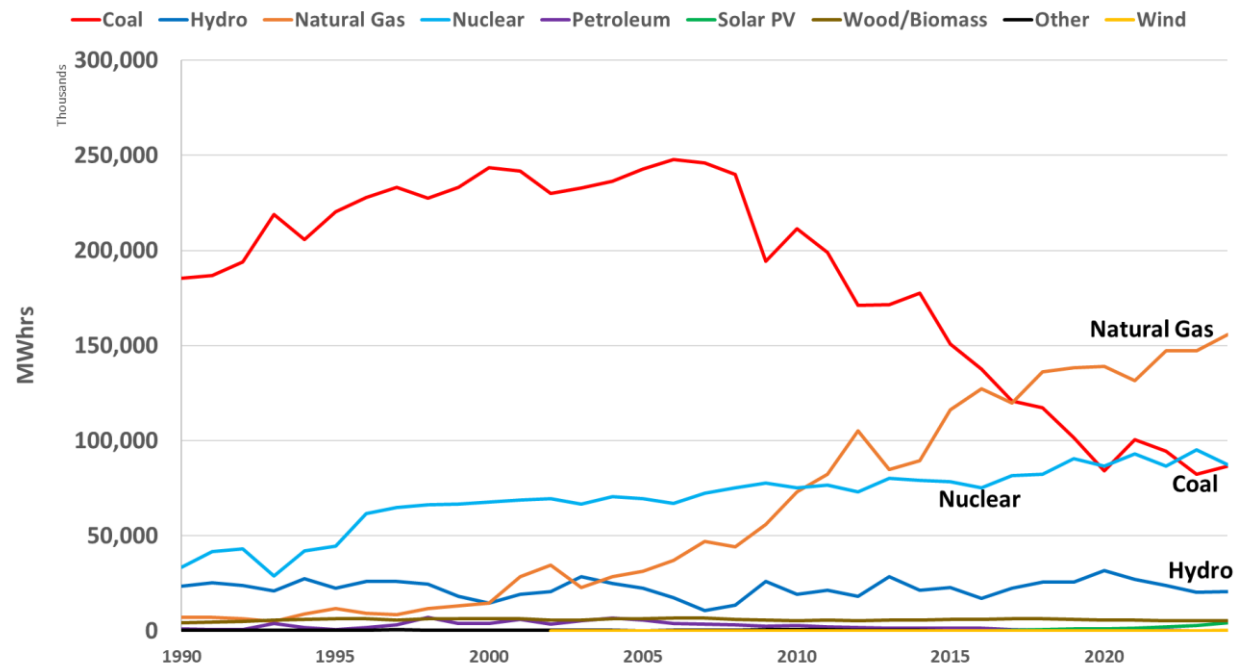
Technology	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
NGCC	23,835	27.7
Coal	19,507	22.7
NGCT	13,685	15.9
Nuclear	11,366	13.2
Hydro	7,037	8.2
NGST	4,082	4.8
Solar PV	2,910	3.4
Pumped Storage	1,616	1.9
Biomass	1,033	1.2
Total	85,942	

Current Thermal 85.0%

States
Alabama
Kentucky
Mississippi
Tennessee

2024 Residential Rate
13.45 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

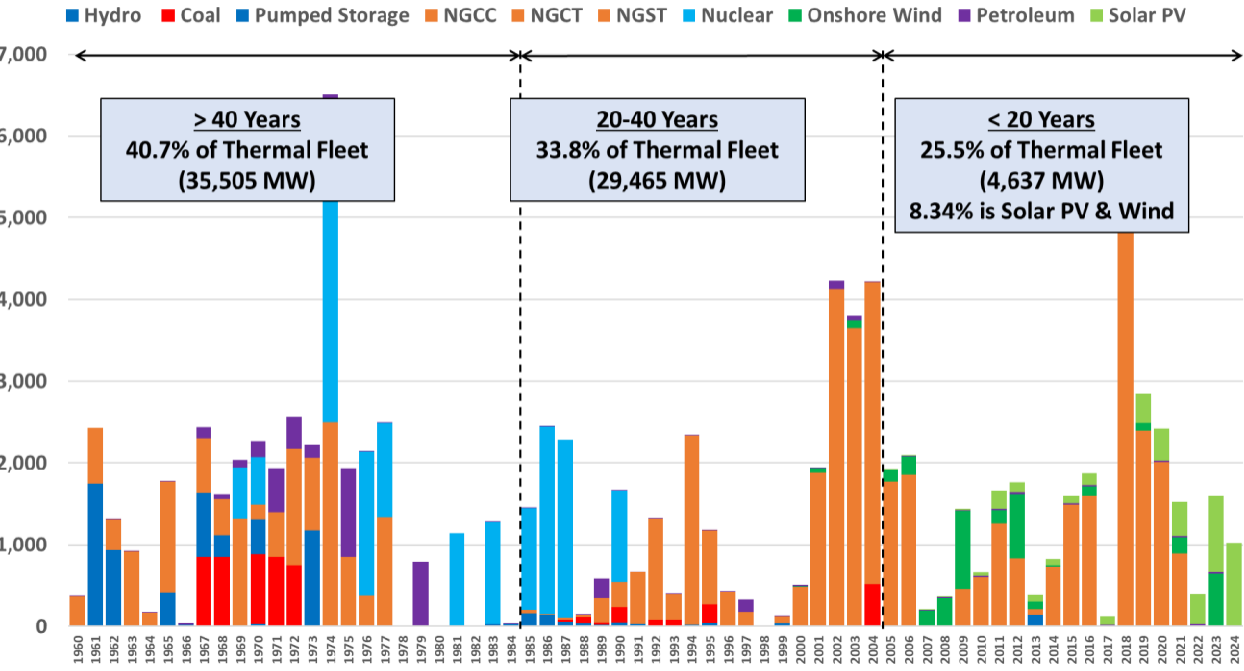
East South Central: Electricity Generation



Data Source: US EIA

Middle Atlantic

Compiled By: David Gattie



2024 Residential Rate
20.63 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

Technology	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
NGCC	37,152	34.8
Nuclear	16,683	15.6
NGST	15,487	14.5
NGCT	6,971	6.5
Hydro	5,505	5.2
Coal	5,383	5.0
Petroleum	5,092	4.8
Solar PV	4,628	4.3
Onshore Wind	4,300	4.0
Pumped Storage	3,317	3.1
Total	106,636	

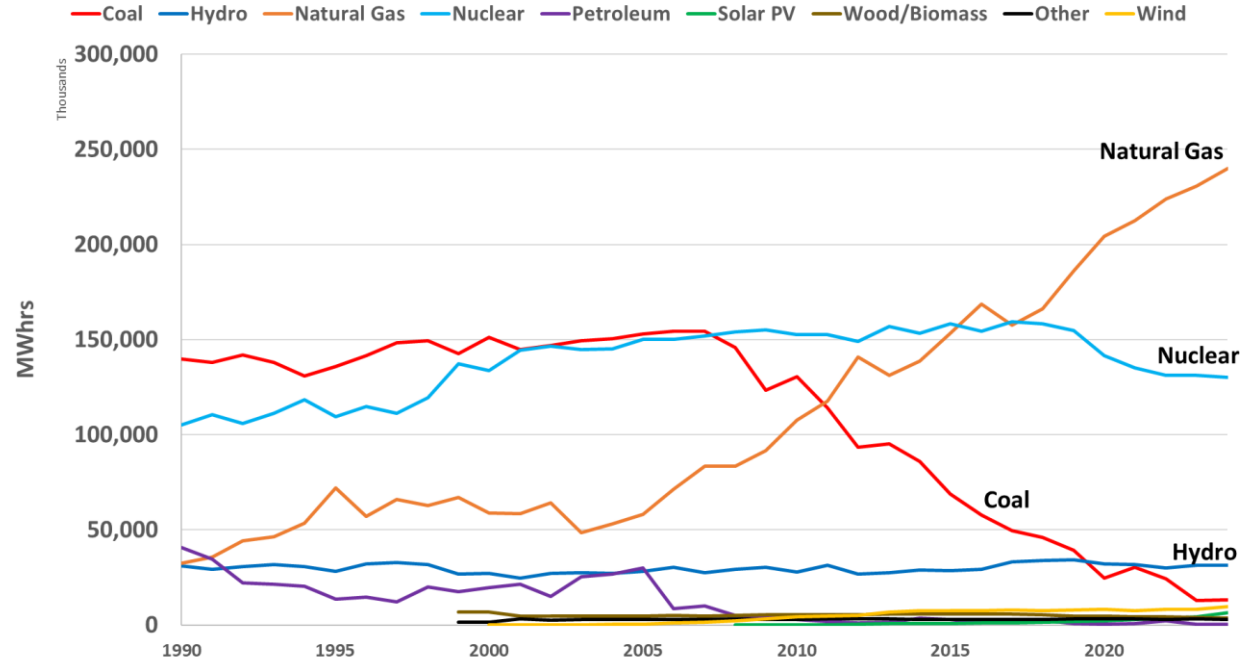
Current Thermal 81.7%

States
New Jersey
New York
Pennsylvania

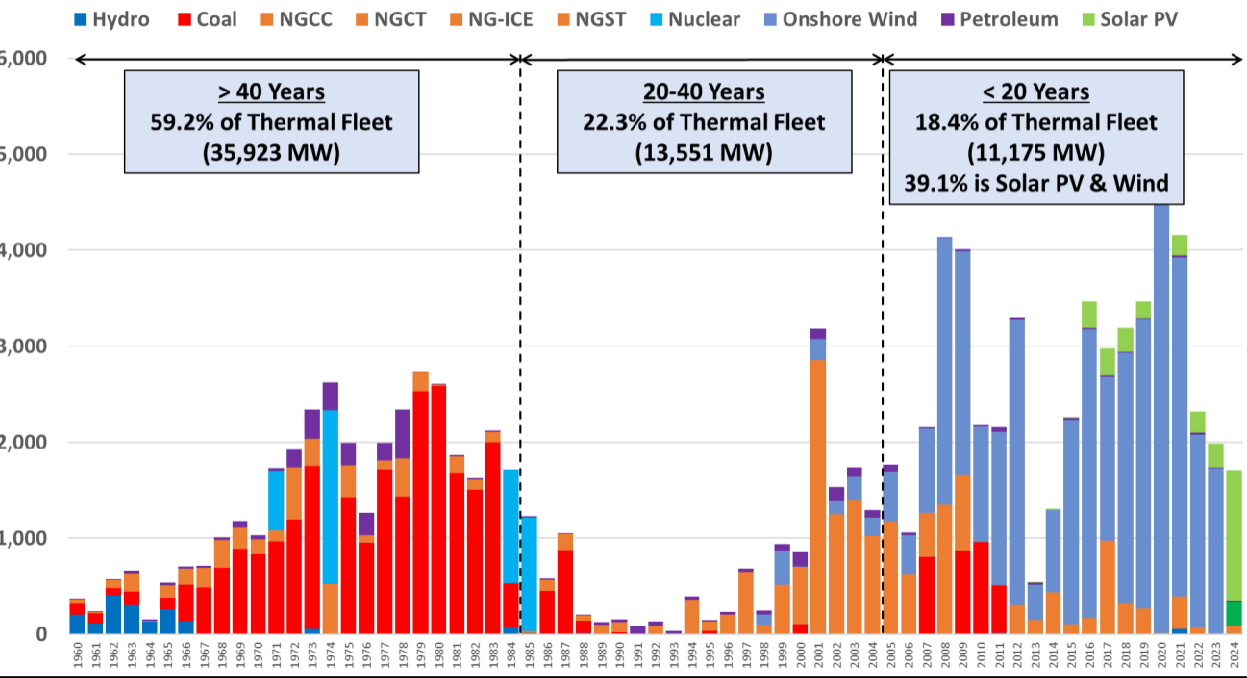
Data Source: US EIA

Middle Atlantic: Electricity Generation

Compiled By: David Gattie



West North Central



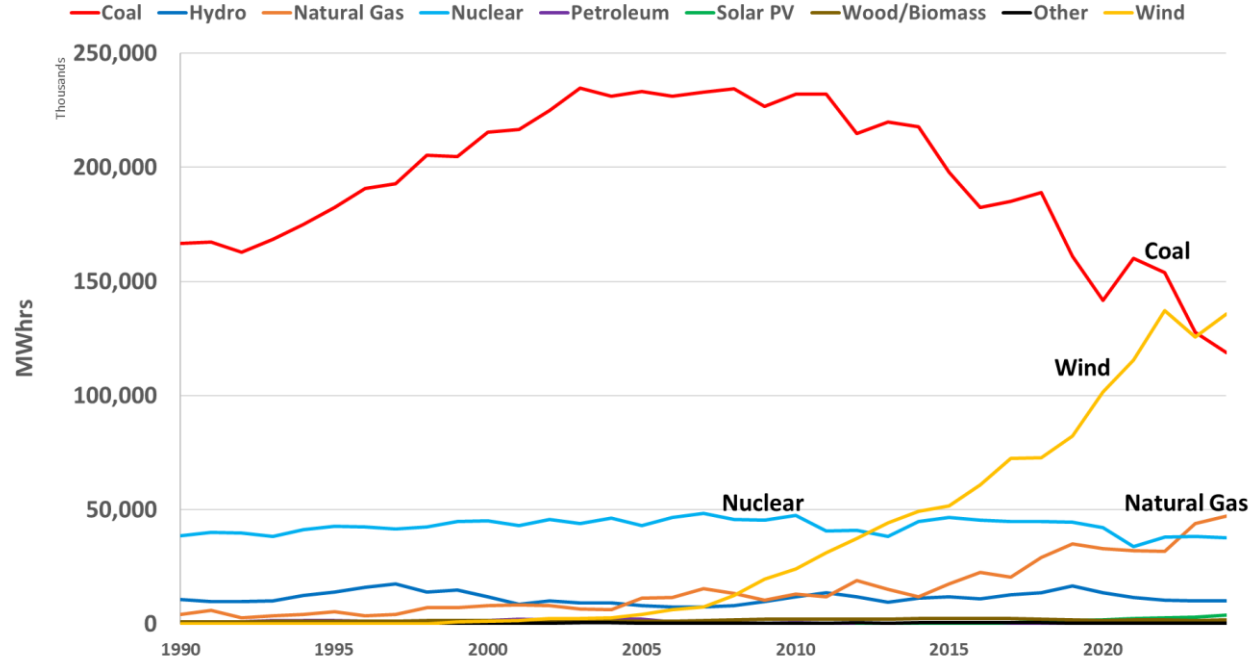
2024 Residential Rate
13.52 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

Technology	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
Onshore Wind	40,679	37.3
Coal	29,330	26.9
NGCT	11,874	10.9
NGCC	7,052	6.5
Nuclear	4,792	4.4
Petroleum	3,815	3.5
Hydro	3,364	3.1
Solar PV	3,199	2.9
NGST	2,368	2.2
NG-ICE	1,379	1.3
Total	108,986	

Current Thermal
55.6%

- States
- Iowa
 - Kansas
 - Minnesota
 - Missouri
 - Nebraska
 - North Dakota
 - South Dakota

West North Central: Electricity Generation

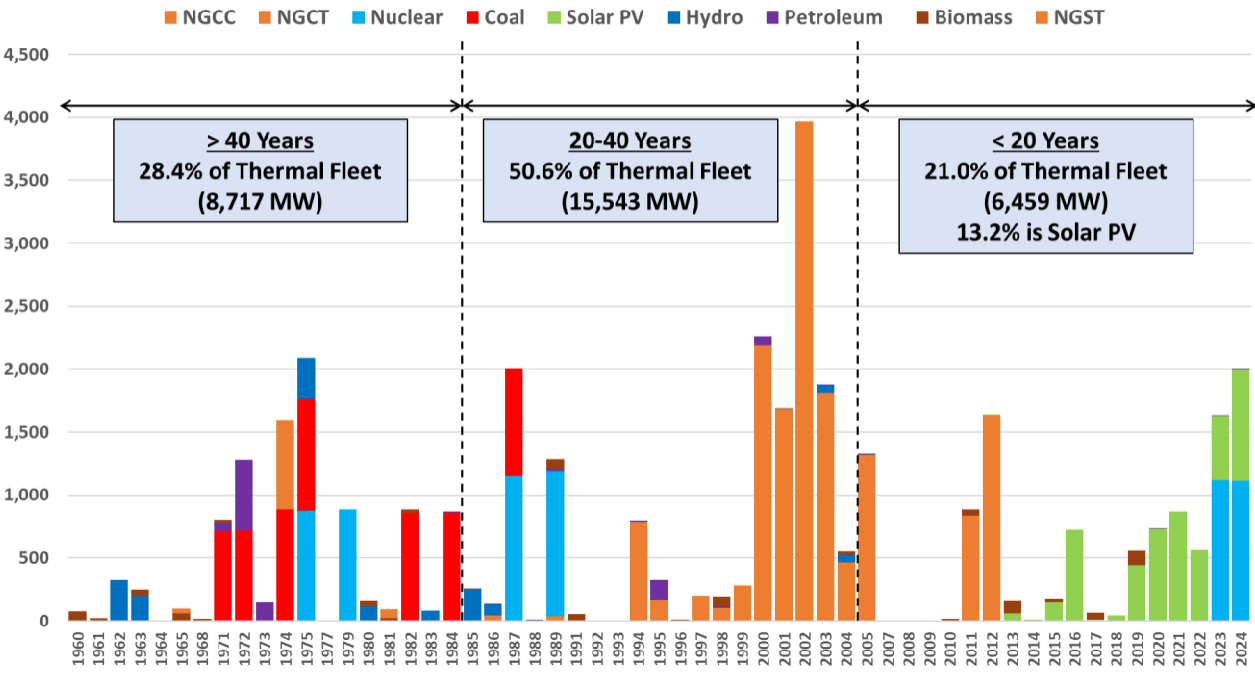


Select Southeastern States

Data Source: US EIA

Georgia: Power Generation Fleet by Operational Year (MW)

Compiled By: David Gattie



**Current
Thermal
78.1%**

Resource	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
Natural Gas	16,387	43.3
Nuclear	6,289	16.6
Coal	5,780	15.3
Solar PV	5,004	13.2
Hydro	1,985	5.2
Petroleum	1,108	2.9
Biomass	1,011	2.7
Other	285	0.8
Total	37,849	100

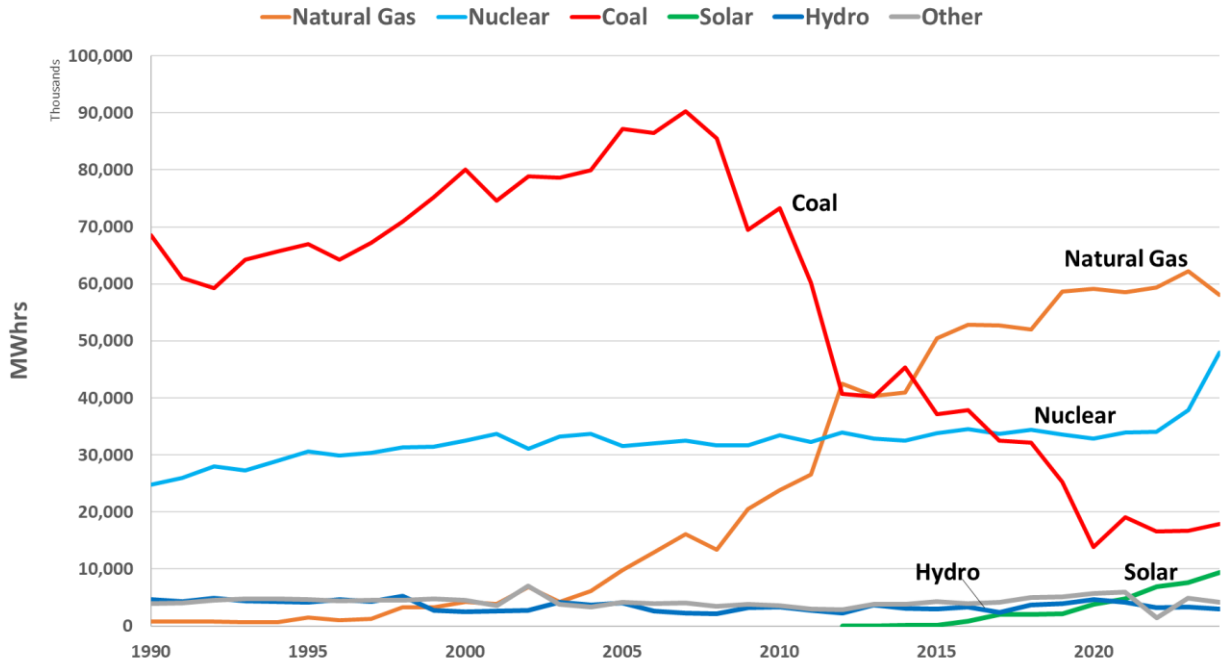


2024 Residential Rate
14.14 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

Data Source: US EIA

Georgia Generation (Regulated)

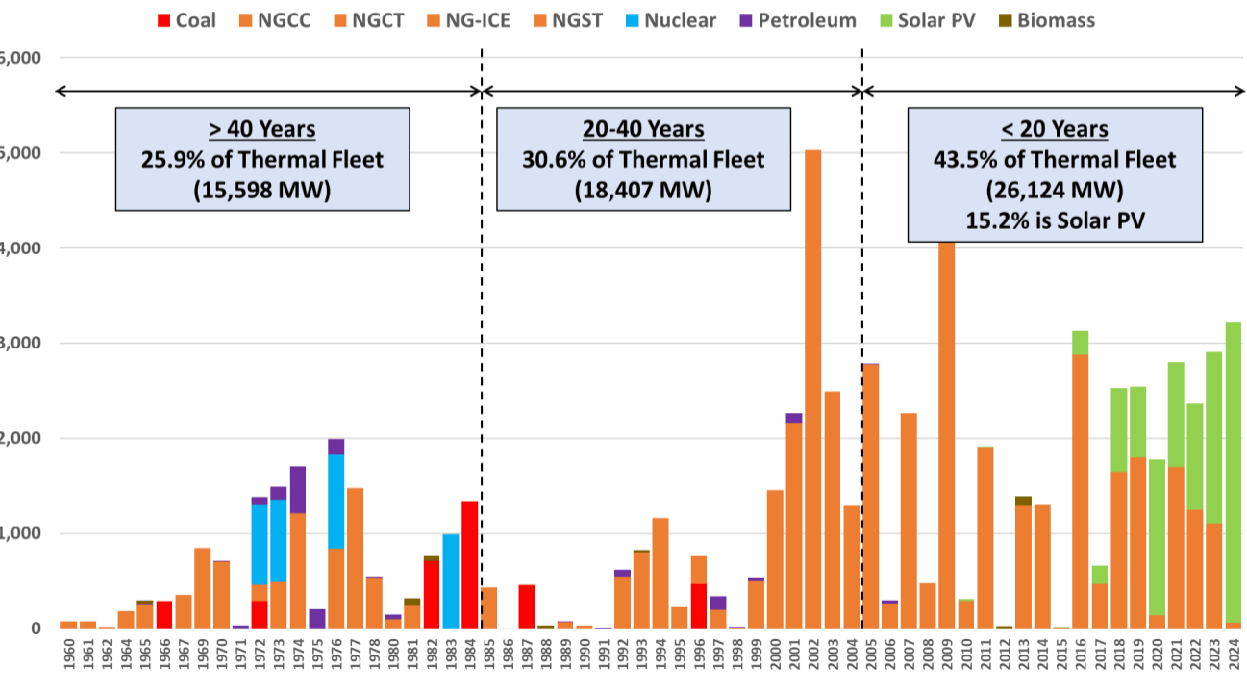
Compiled By: David Gattie



Data Source: US EIA

Florida: Power Generation Fleet by Operational Year (MW)

Compiled By: David Gattie



Current Thermal 82.1%



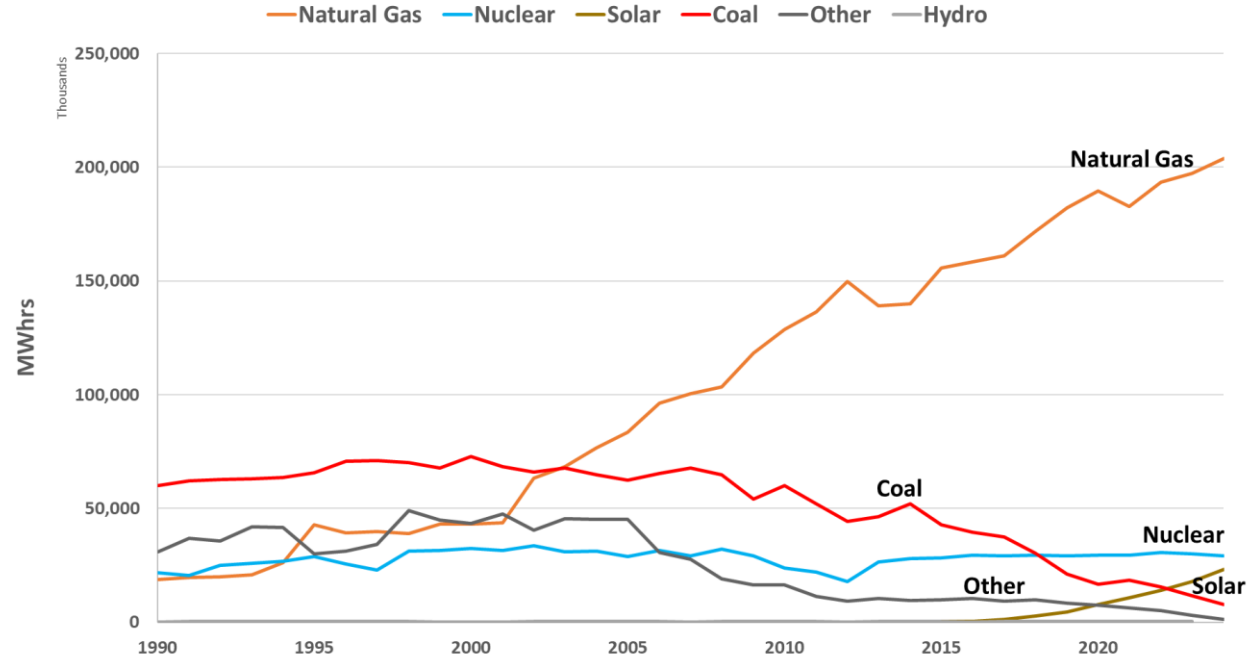
Resource	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
Natural Gas	50,309	69.9
Solar PV	10,949	15.2
Nuclear	3,666	5.1
Coal	3,565	5.0
Other	1,924	2.7
Petroleum	1,597	2.2
Total	72,010	100

2024 Residential Rate
14.15 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

Data Source: US EIA

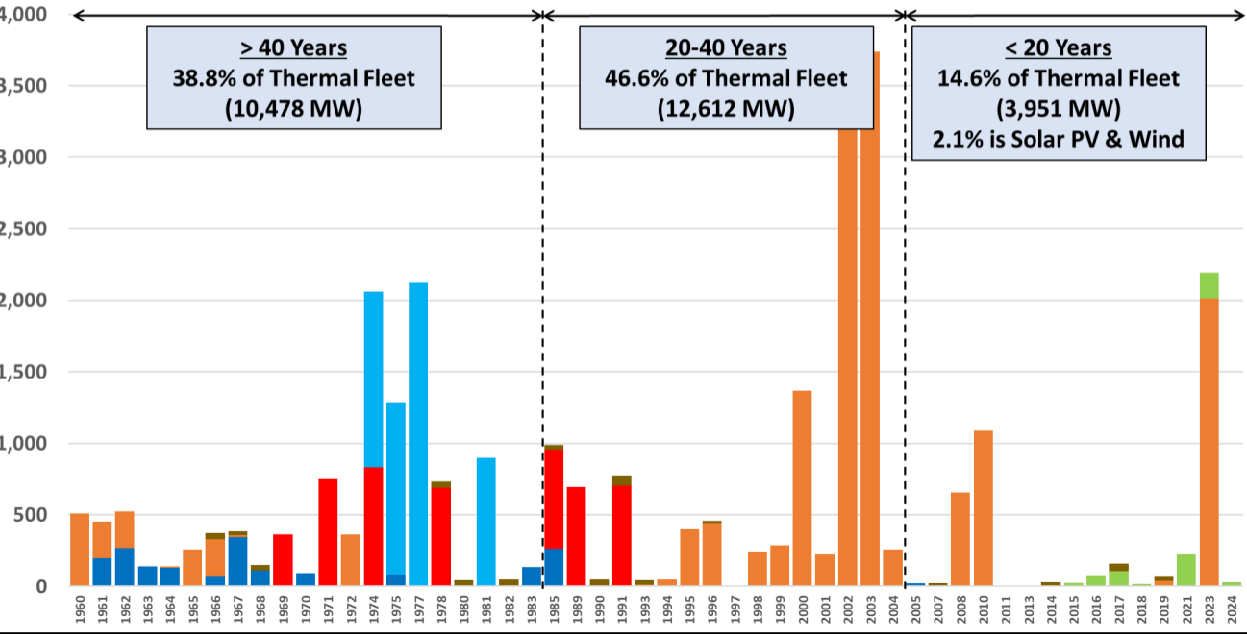
Florida Generation (Regulated)

Compiled By: David Gattie



Alabama

Hydro Coal NGCC NGCT NGST Nuclear Solar PV Biomass



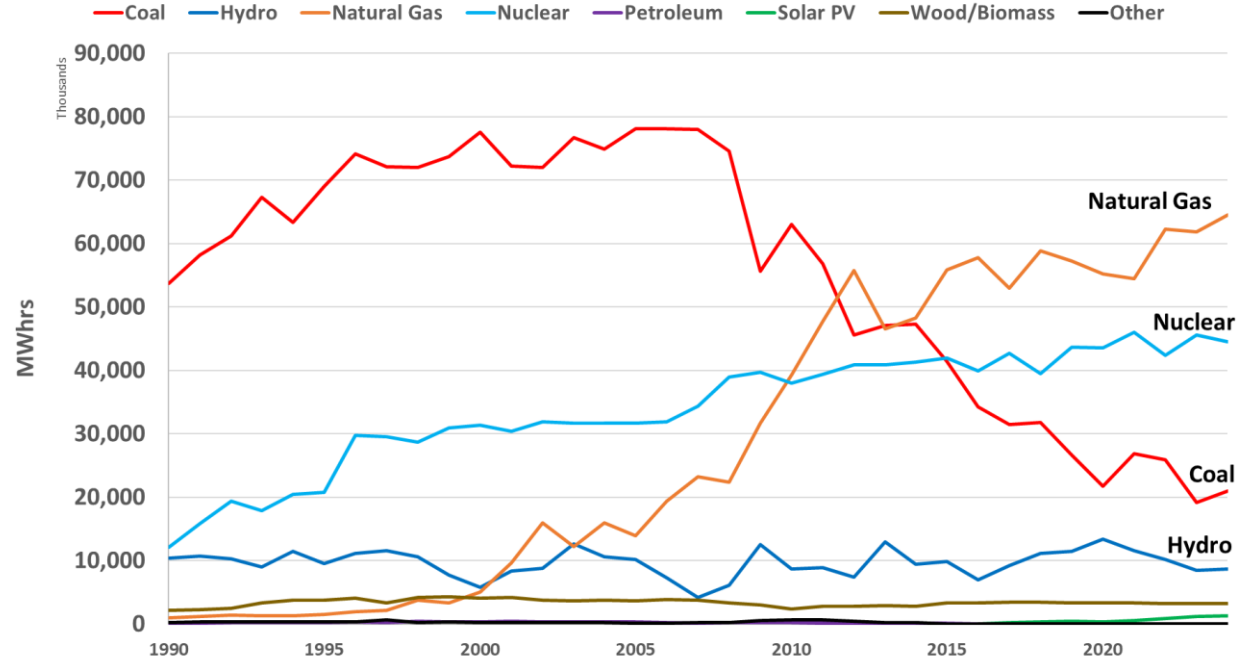
Current Thermal 85.2%



Resource	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
NGCC	11,138	35.9
Nuclear	5,453	17.6
Coal	4,728	15.3
Hydro	3,291	10.6
NGCT	3,285	10.6
NGST	1,752	5.7
Solar PV	664	2.1
Biomass	608	2.0
Total	30,996	

2024 Residential Rate
15.12 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

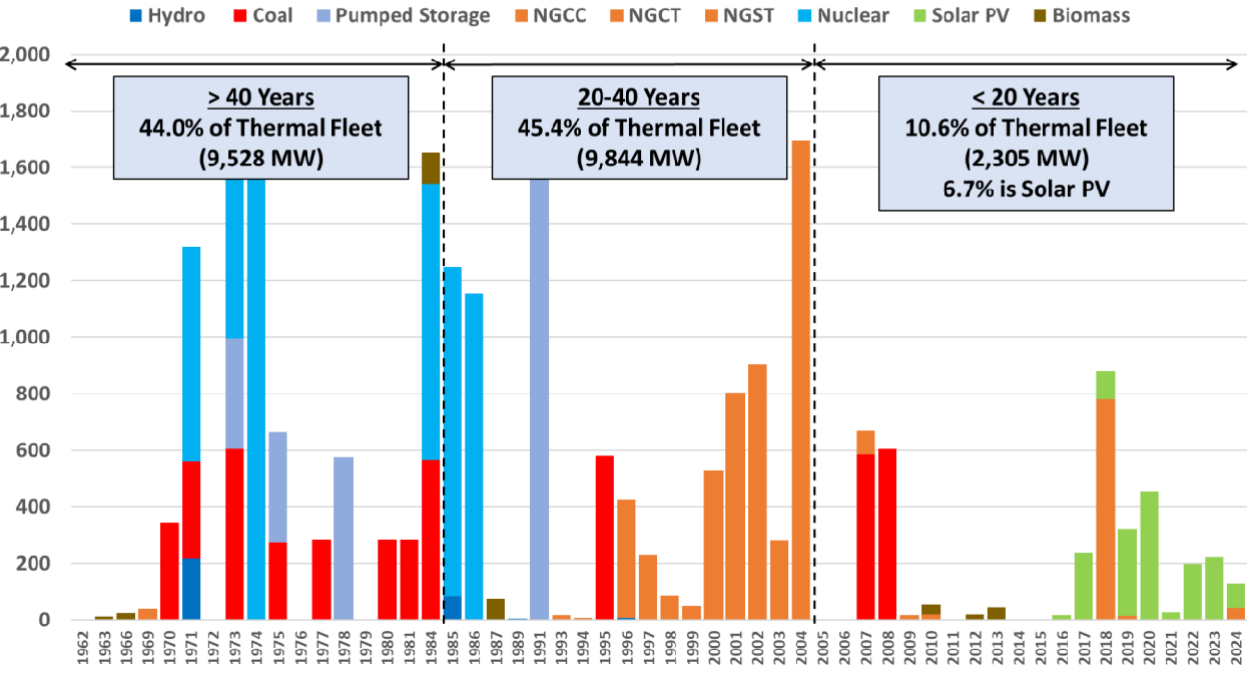
Alabama: Electricity Generation



Data Source: US EIA

South Carolina

Compiled By: David Gattie



Current
Thermal
73.6%



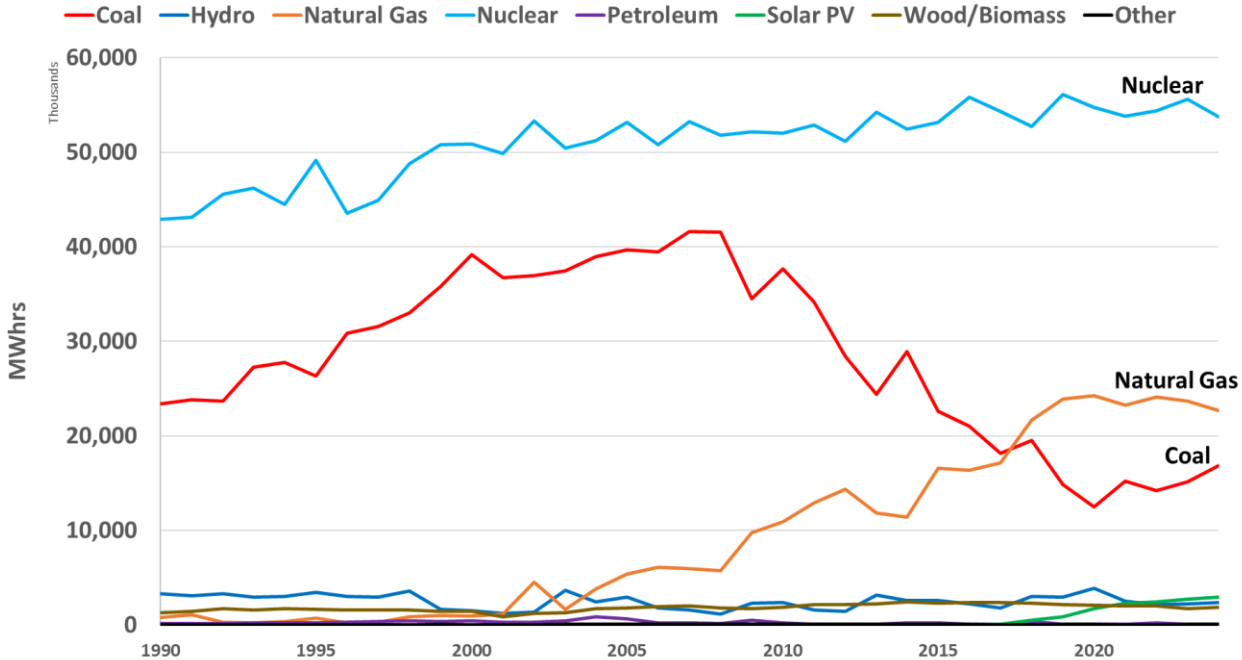
Technology	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
Nuclear	6,600	26.7
Coal	4,754	19.2
NGCC	3,252	13.2
Pumped Storage	3,036	12.3
NGCT	2,548	10.3
Solar PV	1,645	6.7
Hydro	1,294	5.2
NGST	780	3.2
Biomass	422	1.7
Total	24,703	

2024 Residential Rate
14.13 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

Data Source: US EIA

South Carolina: Electricity Generation

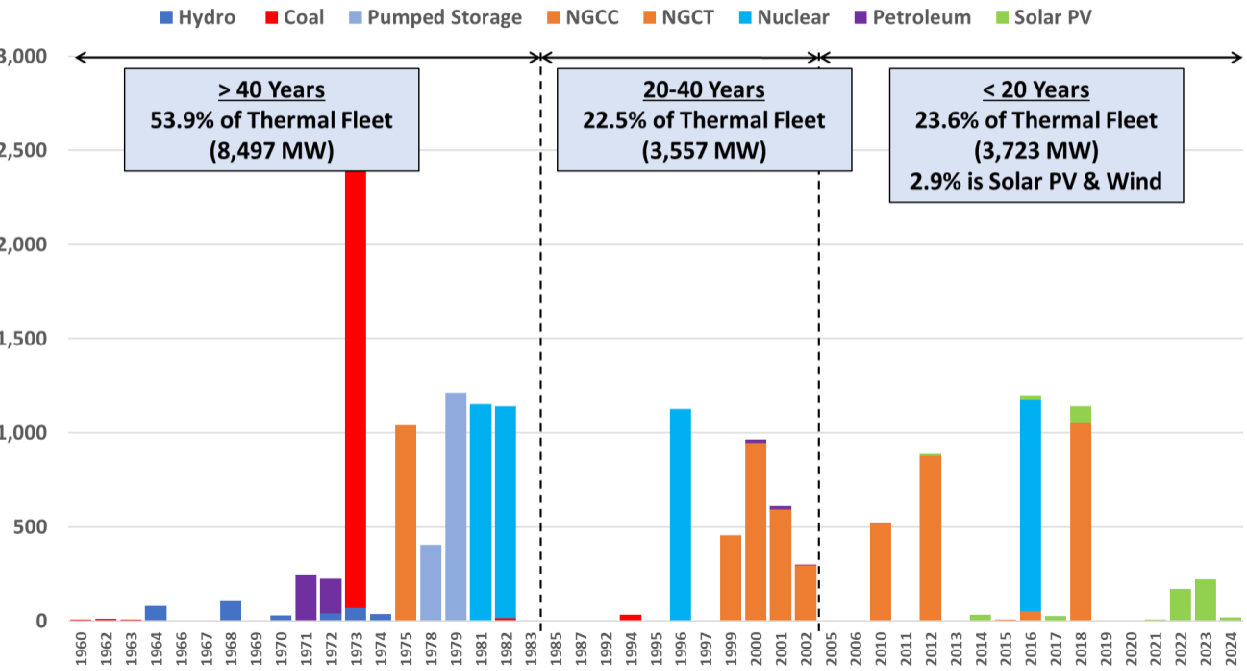
Compiled By: David Gattie



Data Source: US EIA

Compiled By: David Gattie

Tennessee



Current Thermal 76.1%



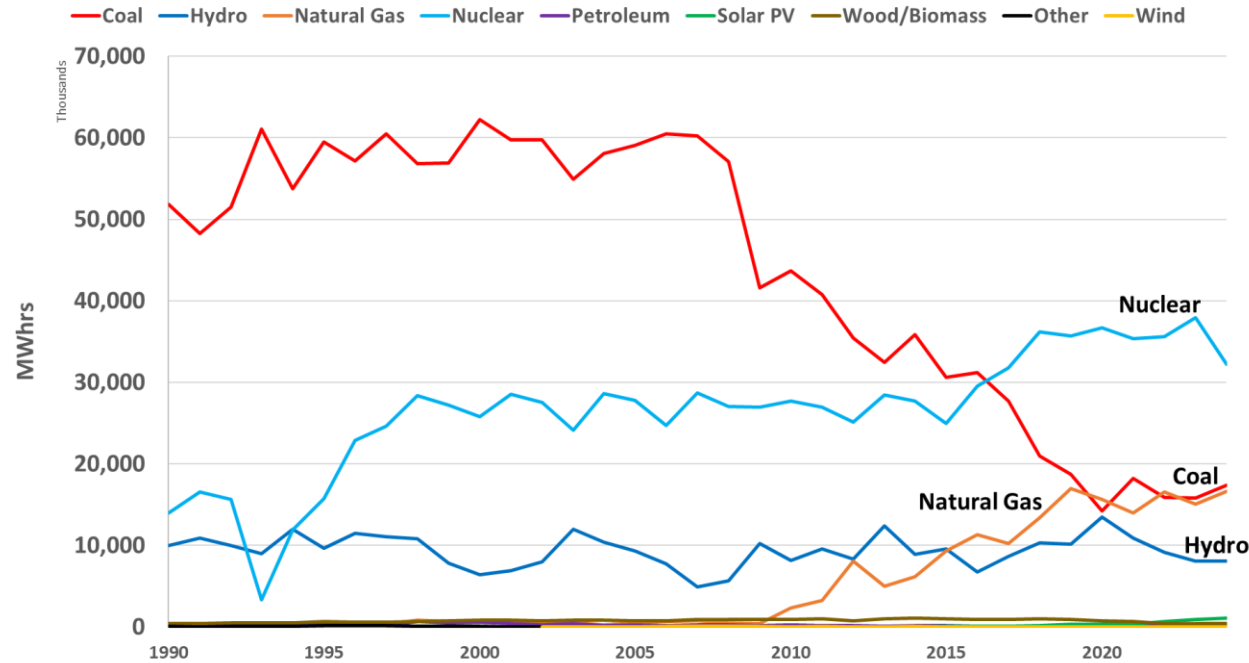
Technology	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
Coal	4,704	22.8
Nuclear	4,523	21.9
NGCT	3,405	16.5
Hydro	2,609	12.7
NGCC	2,455	11.9
Pumped Storage	1,616	7.8
Solar PV	601	2.9
Petroleum	470	2.3
Total	20,605	

2024 Residential Rate
12.54 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

Data Source: US EIA

Compiled By: David Gattie

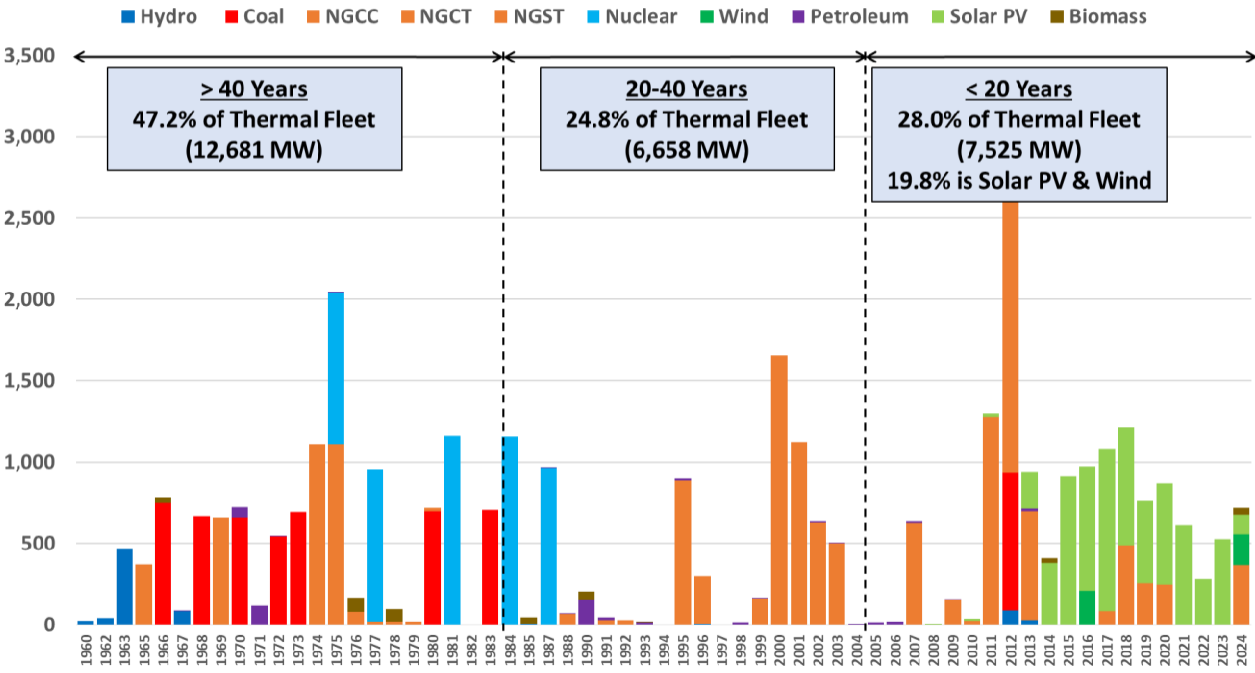
Tennessee: Electricity Generation



Data Source: US EIA

North Carolina

Compiled By: David Gattie



Current Thermal 72.8%



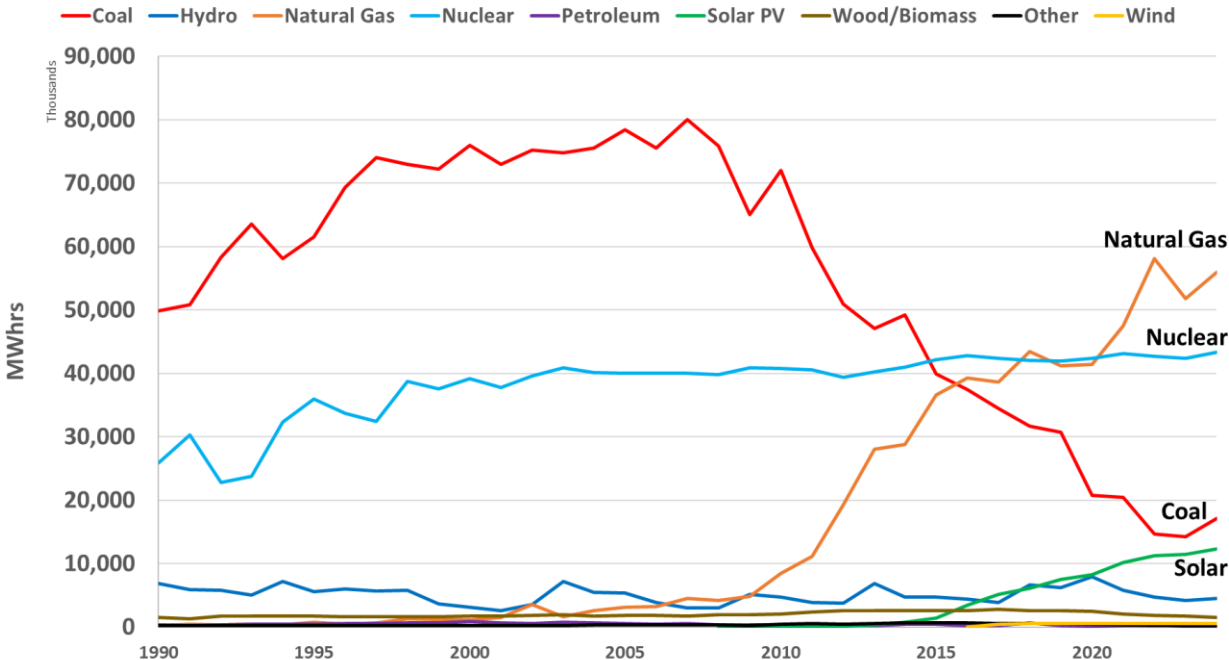
Technology	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
Solar PV	6,787	18.7
NGCT	6,396	17.6
NGCC	5,579	15.4
Coal	5,561	15.3
Nuclear	5,150	14.2
NGST	3,278	9.0
Hydro	2,009	5.5
Petroleum	491	1.4
Wind	397	1.1
Biomass	347	1.0
Total	36,337	

2024 Residential Rate
14.12 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

Data Source: US EIA

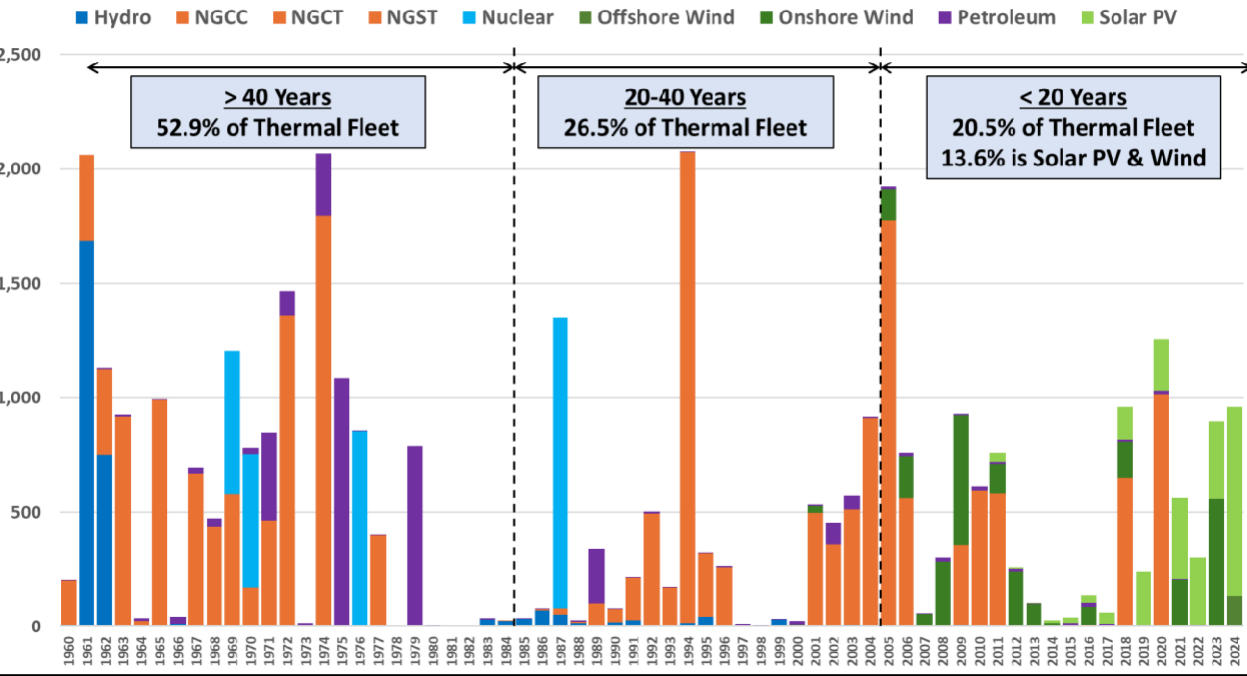
North Carolina: Electricity Generation

Compiled By: David Gattie



Unique Examples

New York: Power Generation Fleet by Operational Year



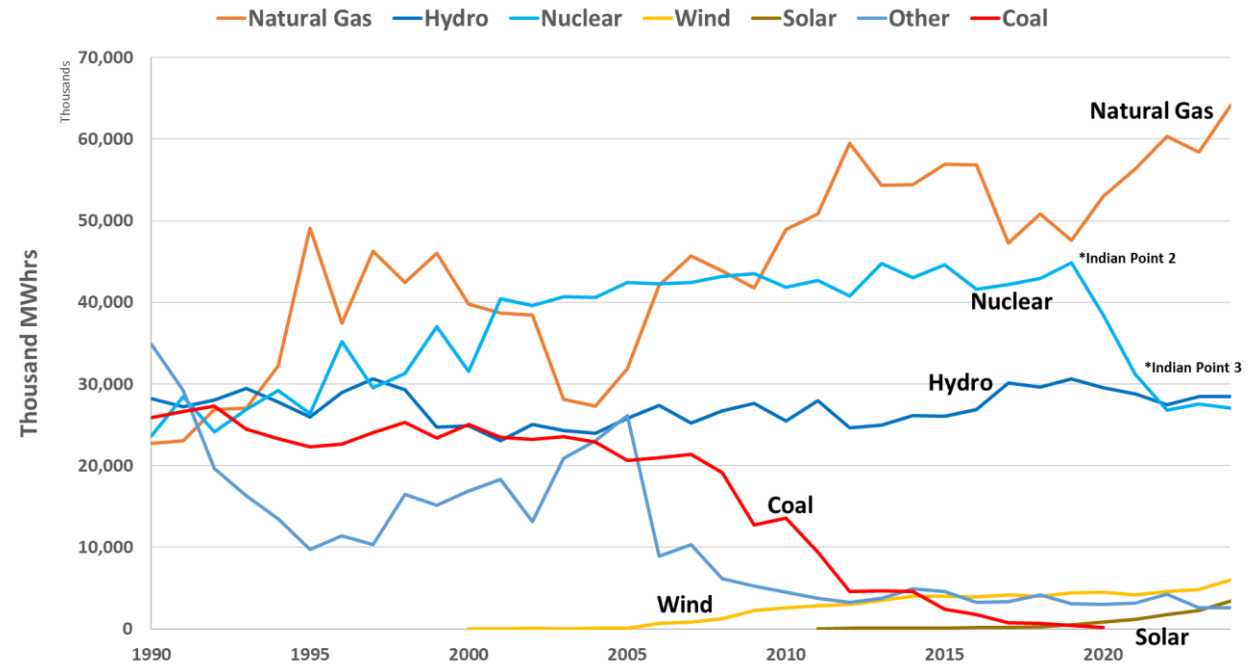
Current Thermal 73.1%



Technology	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Capacity
Natural Gas	22,280	56.0
Hydro	4,563	11.5
Petroleum	3,468	8.7
Nuclear	3,330	8.4
Wind	2,870	7.2
Solar PV	2,589	6.5
Total	39,799	100

2024 Residential Rate
24.37 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

New York Generation (Deregulated)



Governor Hochul Directs New York Power Authority to Develop a Zero-Emission Advanced Nuclear Energy Technology Power Plant

2025-2034

Comprehensive Reliability Plan

A Report from the
New York Independent
System Operator

For October 29, 2025 Management Committee

DRAFT – For Discussion Purposes Only

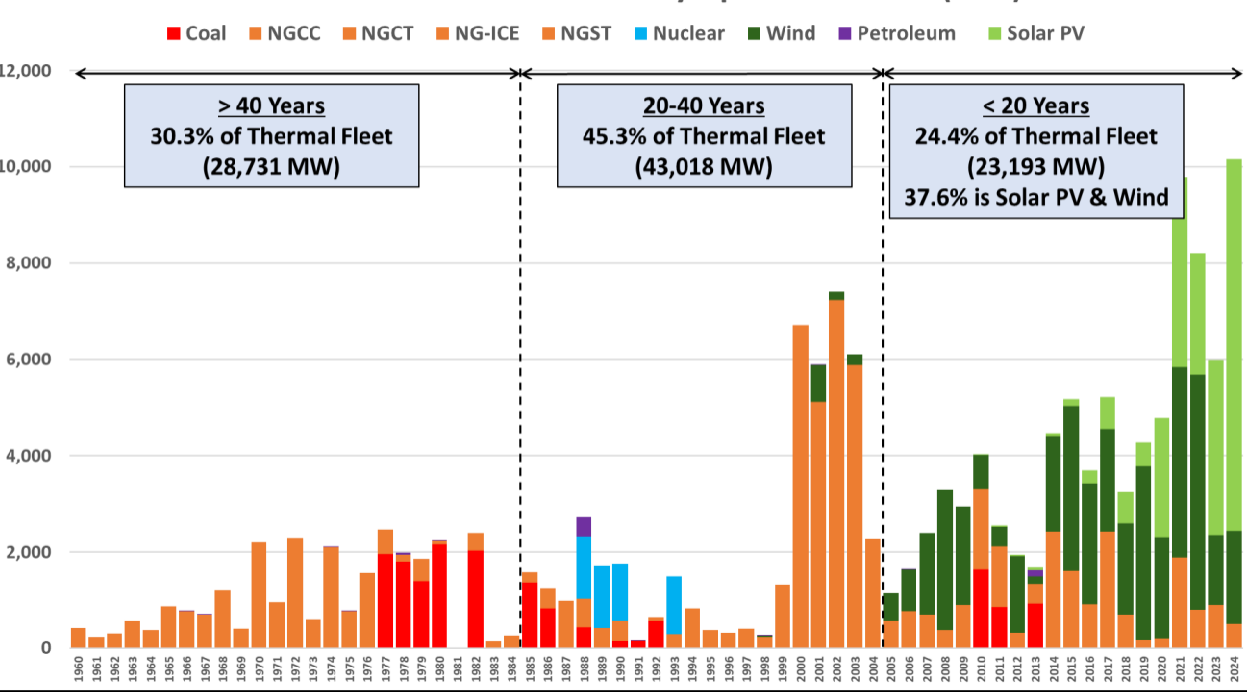
Executive Summary

New York's electric system faces an era of profound reliability challenges as resource retirements accelerate, economic development drives demand growth, and project delays undermine confidence in future supply. Additionally, 25% of the state's total generating capacity is fossil-fuel-based generation that has been in operation for more than 50 years. As these generators age, they are experiencing more frequent and longer outages.

While this 2025–2034 Comprehensive Reliability Plan (CRP), under current applicable reliability criteria and procedures, identifies no actionable Reliability Needs, this outcome should not be mistaken for long-term system adequacy. The margin for error is extremely narrow, and most plausible futures point to significant reliability shortfalls within the next ten years. Depending on demand growth and retirement patterns, the system may need several thousand megawatts of new dispatchable generation over that timeframe.

The grid is at an inflection point, driven by the convergence of three structural trends: the aging of the existing generation fleet, the rapid growth of large loads, and the increasing difficulty of developing new dispatchable resources. These trends are not isolated, they are compounding. As older conventional plants deactivate, the system loses firm capacity and operational flexibility. At the same time, new demand from data centers, industrial facilities, and electrification is accelerating, placing additional stress on the grid.

Texas: Power Generation Fleet by Operational Year (MW)



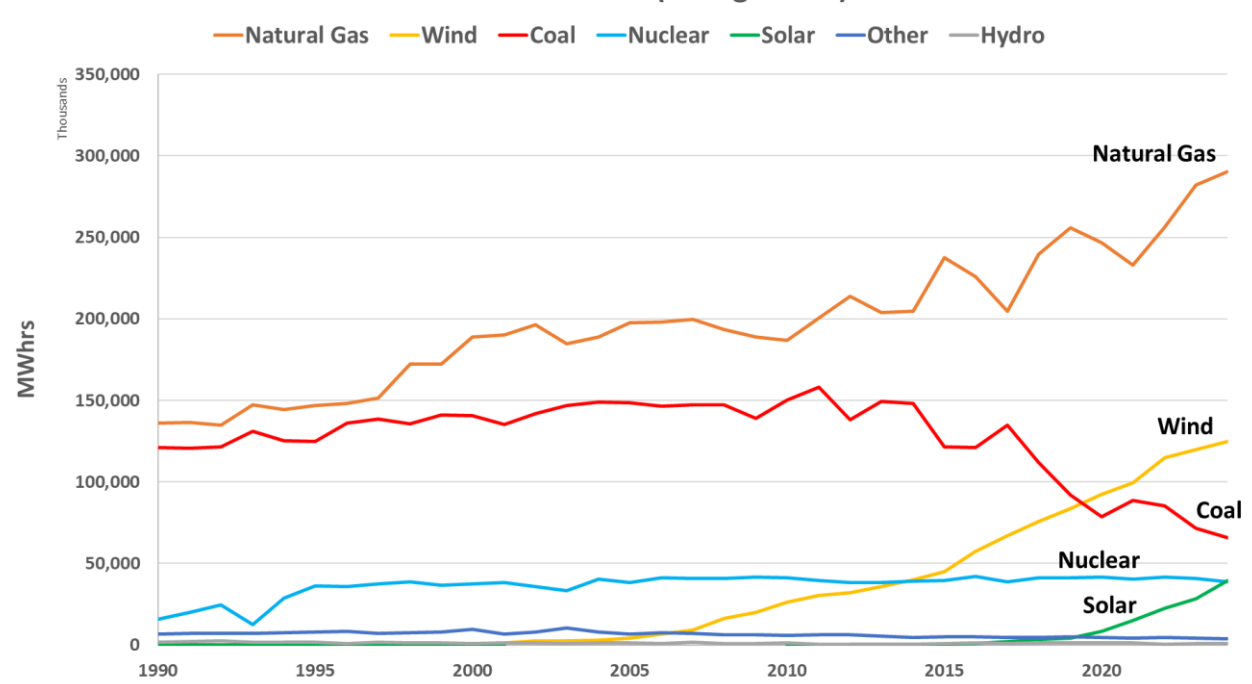
Current Thermal 55.7%



Technology	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Capacity
Natural Gas	72,771	43.1
Wind	41,978	24.9
Solar PV	22,713	13.5
Coal	16,284	9.6
Batteries	7,905	4.7
Nuclear	4,980	3.0
Other	2,154	1.3
Total	168,784	100

2024 Residential Rate
14.94 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

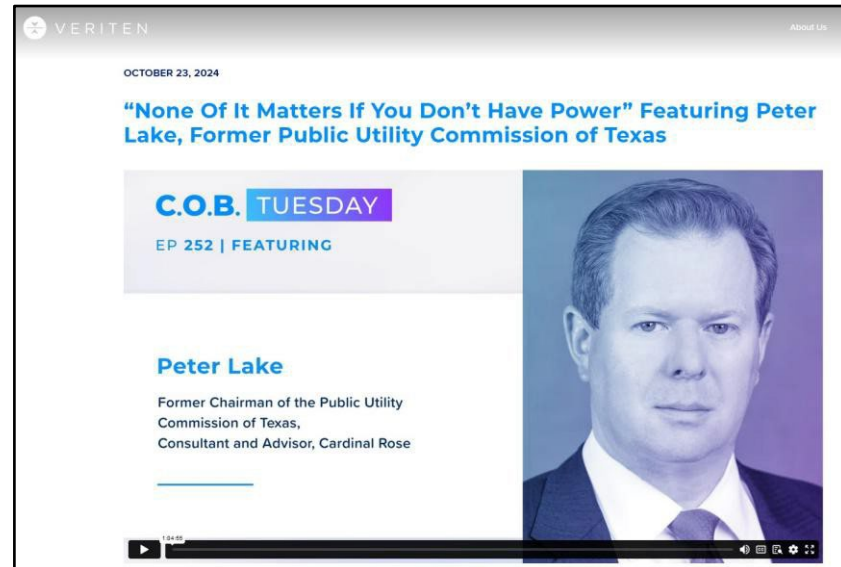
Texas Generation (Deregulated)



"The country has been leaning on and borrowing on the reliability and the operating reserves that were developed over the last 30 years. So the investments that were made to build that dispatchable, reliable power fleet we have been leaning on that as we have over the last 10 years stopped building those plants and built only solar, wind and now batteries. So we're going to get caught up on that kind of credit card debt that we've been taking out on not building those types of reliable resources. So I don't know that we need to necessarily have new incentives. I just think we need to let the value of reliability, which has always been a core part of the energy policy of this country, get back to the front of the line where it belongs".

Link to podcast:

<https://veriten.com/stream/cobt-256/>



"We were 4 minutes and 37 seconds away from a black start, and that is a universal failure—25 million people without power for weeks, at best."

Before Uri: CARE

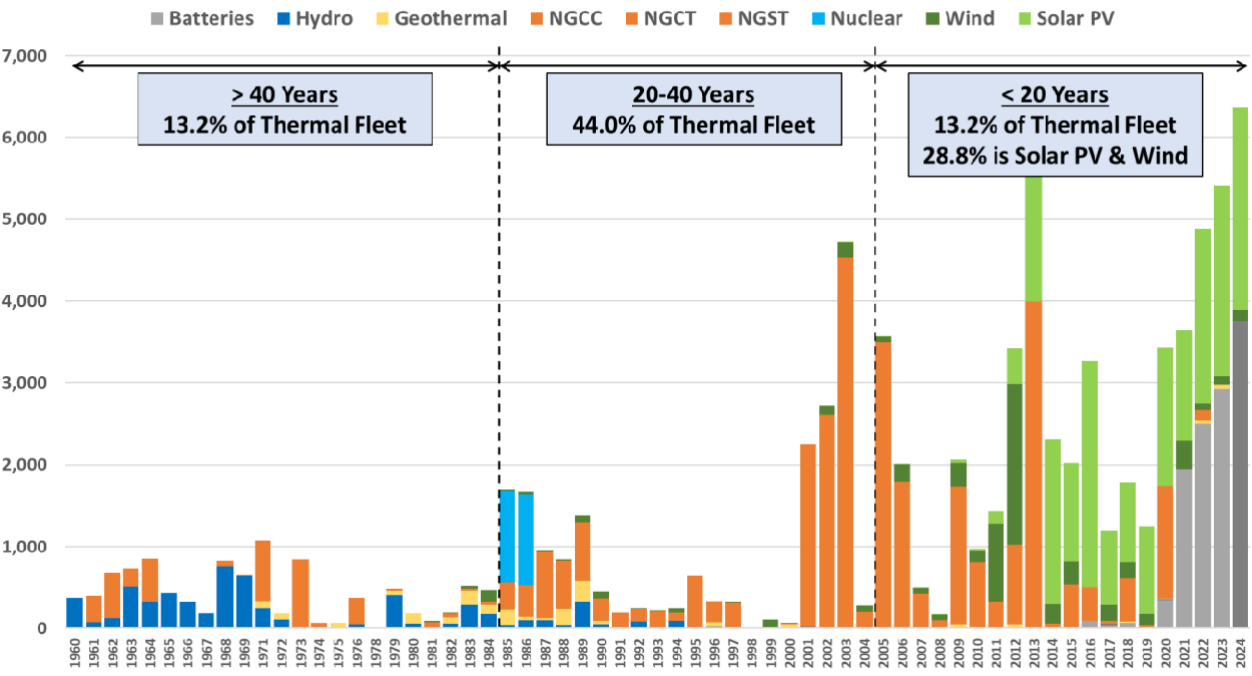
After Uri: RACE (Big R, in Bold)

Link to podcast: <https://veriten.com/stream/cobt-252/>

Data Source: U.S. EIA

California: Power Generation Fleet by Operational Year

Compiled By: David Gattie



Current Thermal
41.8%



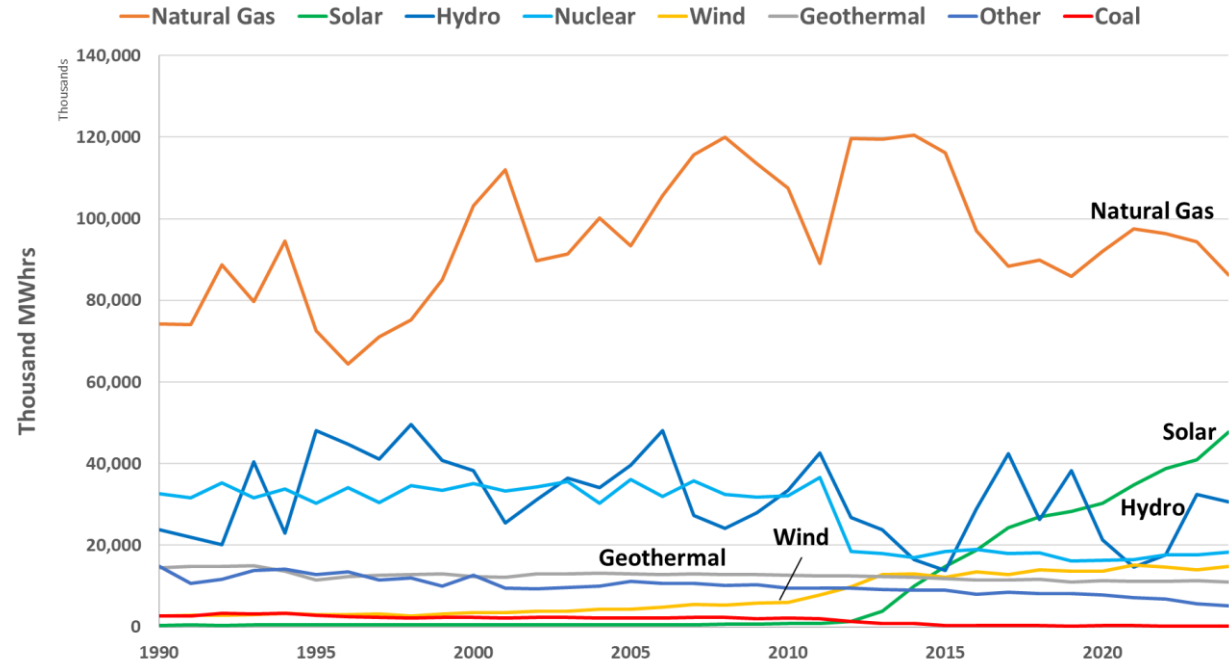
Technology	Capacity (MW)	% Share of Total Capacity
Solar PV	21,346	23.0
NGCC	20,413	22.0
Batteries	11,715	12.6
NGCT	11,506	12.4
Hydro	10,214	11.0
Wind	6,457	6.9
NGST	3,744	4.0
Nuclear	2,240	2.4
Geothermal	1,881	2.0
Total	92,928	

2024 Residential Rate
31.86 cents/kWhr
U.S. Avg: 16.48

Data Source: US EIA

California Generation (Deregulated)

Compiled By: David Gattie



Broader Implications

FROM GRID RELIABILITY TO US NATIONAL SECURITY

OTR Freight



Mining Oil, Natural Gas, Coal, Uranium, Minerals, Metals



Natural Gas-Fired Power Plants



Nuclear Power Plants



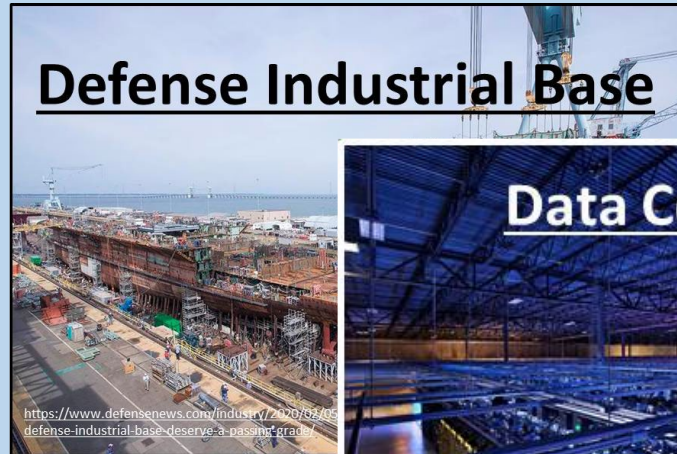
Rail & Shipping



Agriculture & Food Production



Defense Industrial Base



Electric Power Grid



Data Centers



Cement Production



Coal-Fired Power Plants



Chemical Production



Iron and Steel Forging



Oil and Natural Gas Refining



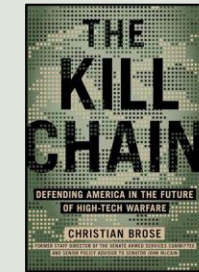
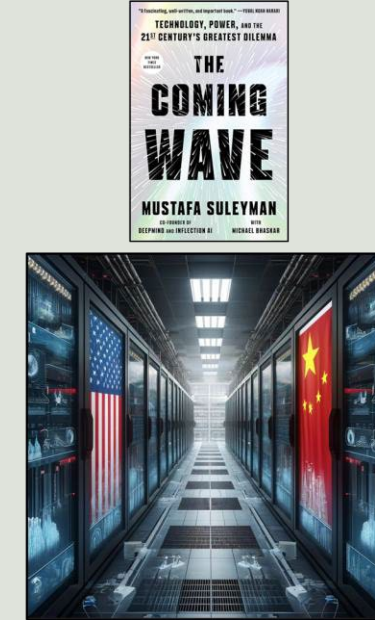
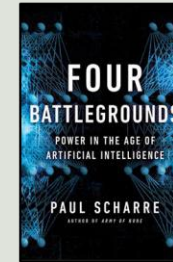
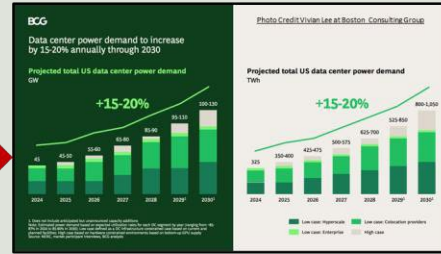


The Next Wave of Energy Demand *...and Strategic Competition*



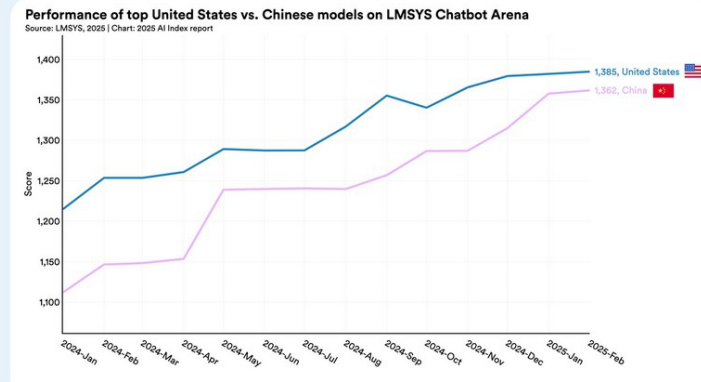
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) and data centers are foundational technologies for the 21st century—nations, economies, industries, militaries
- For the U.S. to maintain its status as the dominant global power and its competitive advantage over its pacing challenger, China, the U.S. must be the global leader in AI

Data Centers & AI Power Demand & National Security



4. The U.S. still leads in producing top AI models—but China is closing the performance gap.

In 2024, U.S.-based institutions produced 40 notable AI models, significantly outpacing China's 15 and Europe's three. While the U.S. maintains its lead in quantity, Chinese models have rapidly closed the quality gap: performance differences on major benchmarks such as MMLU and HumanEval shrank from double digits in 2023 to near parity in 2024. Meanwhile, China continues to lead in AI publications and patents. At the same time, model development is increasingly global, with notable launches from regions such as the Middle East, Latin America, and Southeast Asia.



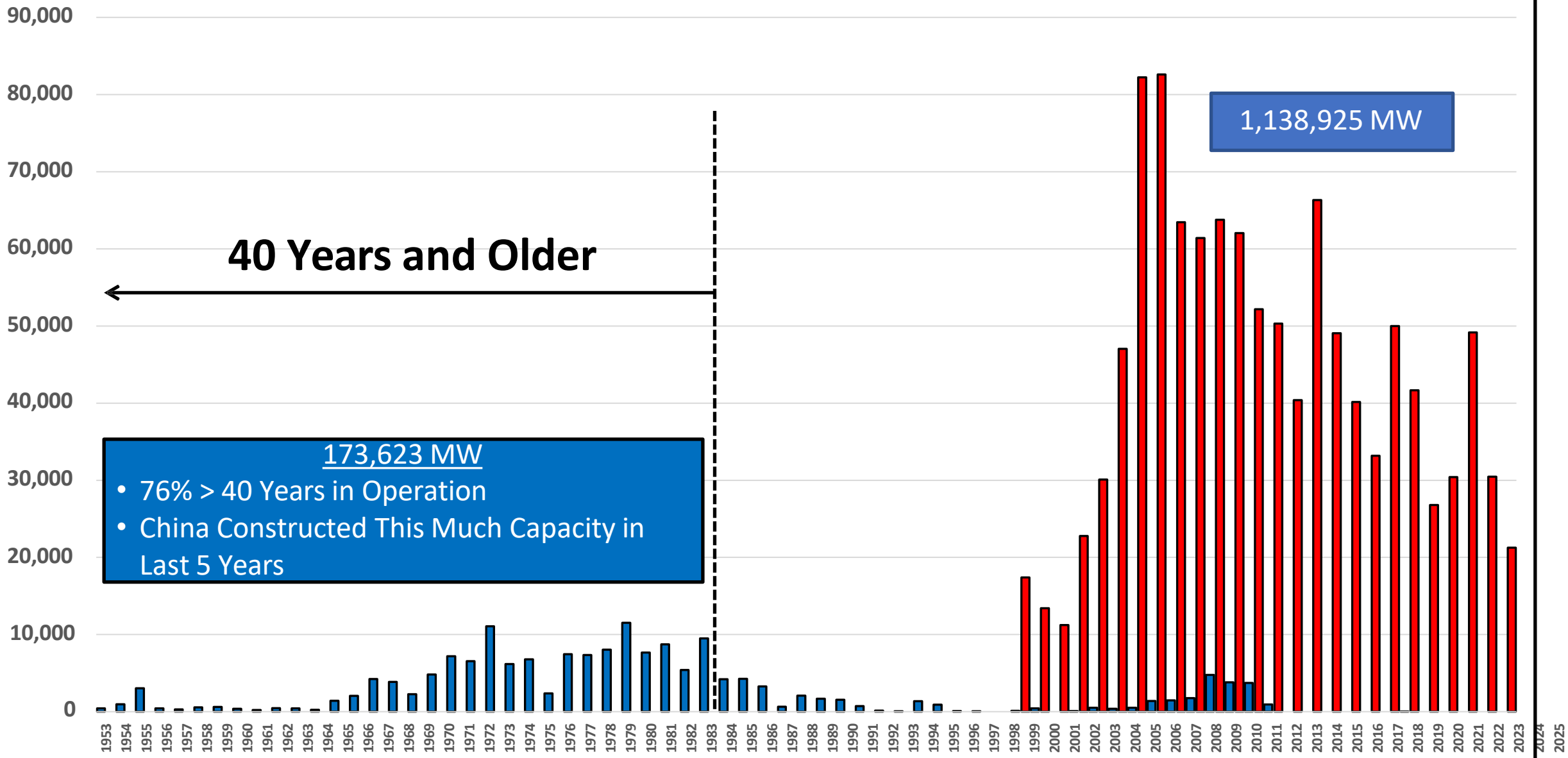
Source: <https://hai.stanford.edu/ai-index/2025-ai-index-report>

“...AI could transform the **power and prosperity of nations** in the decades to come... Militaries and intelligence agencies must harness AI’s transformative potential... **countries stand to gain a competitive edge if they can adopt AI at scale across the economy and society.** Winning the race to AGI development...will boost the leading country’s **national security, economic vitality, and global technological influence.** (Kahl and Mitre, [Foreign Affairs](#); 2025)

“...may well be the next such transformative technology that has **profound implications for the United States, its position in the world order, and U.S. national security and economic strength.**” ([RAND](#), How AGI Could Affect the Rise and Fall of Nations, 2025)

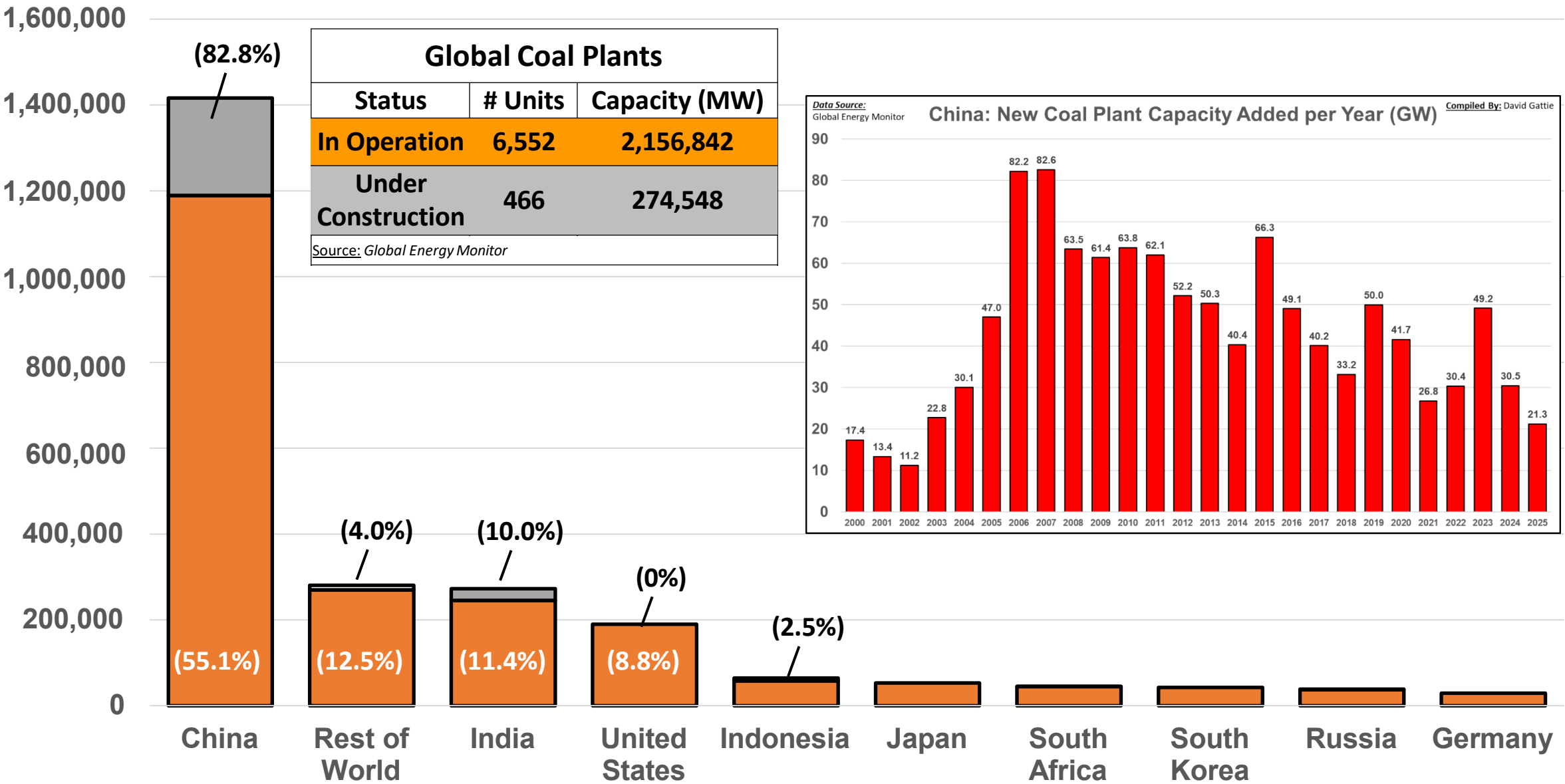
Coal Fleet Capacity by Operational Year (MW)

■ U.S. ■ China



Coal Plants in Operation and Under Construction (MW)

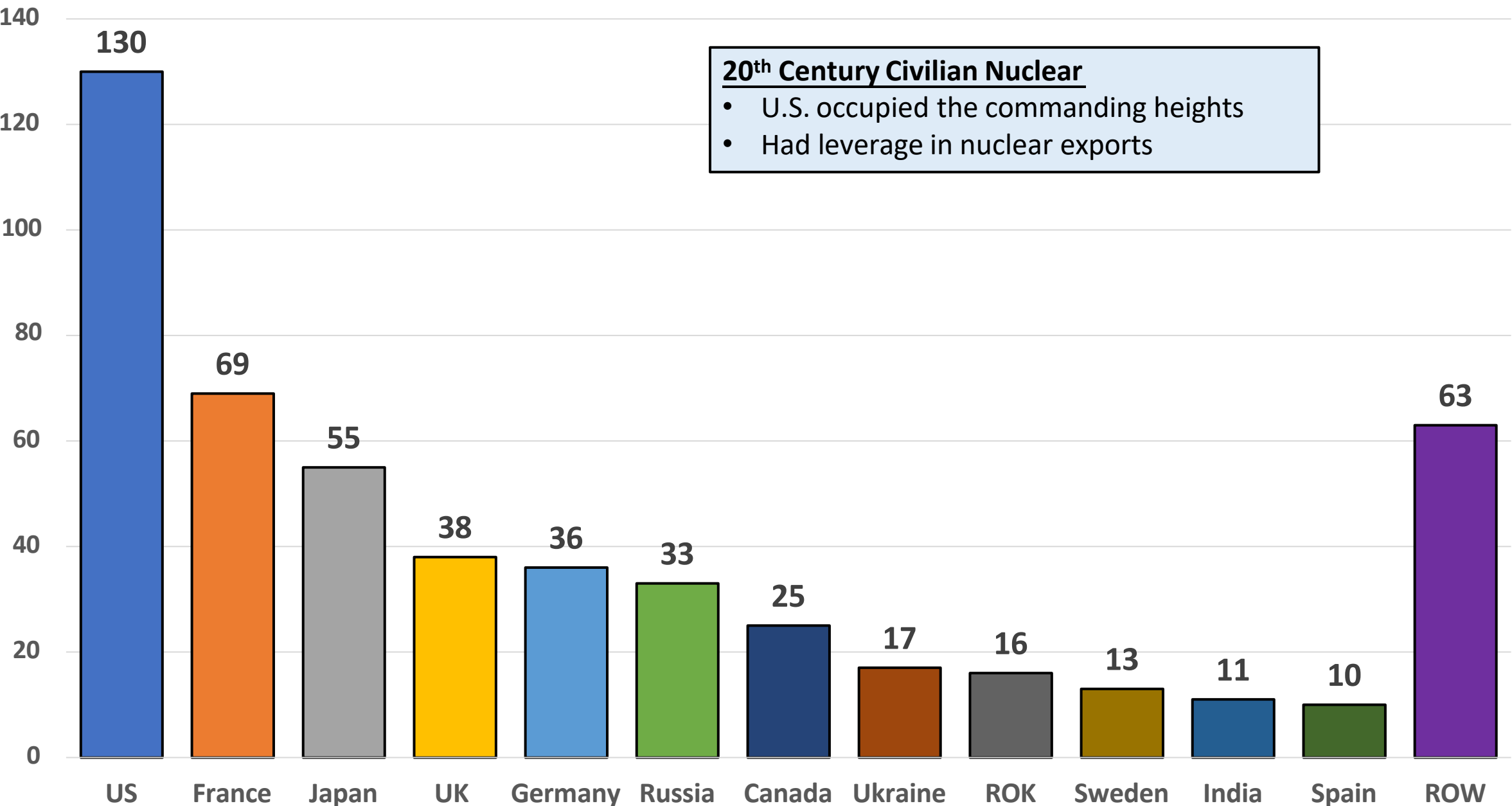
■ Operating ■ Construction



Source: IAEA; PRIS (2024)
Data Accessed: 03-07-2025

Compiled By: David Gattie

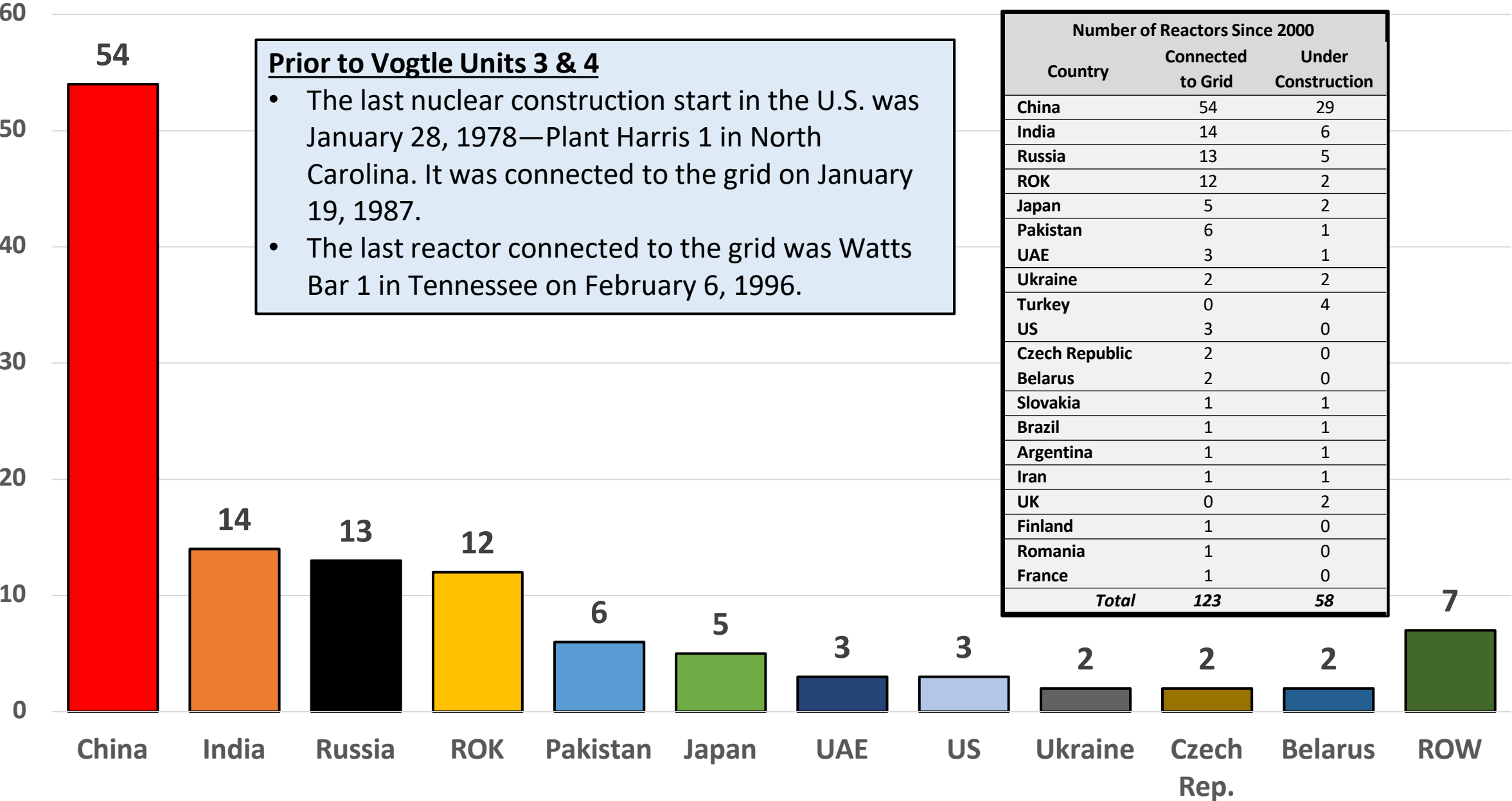
Reactors Connected to Grid (1960-1999)



Source: IAEA; PRIS (2024);
Data Accessed:
11-16-2025)

Reactors Connected to Grid & Under Construction (2000-Present)

Compiled By:
David Gattie

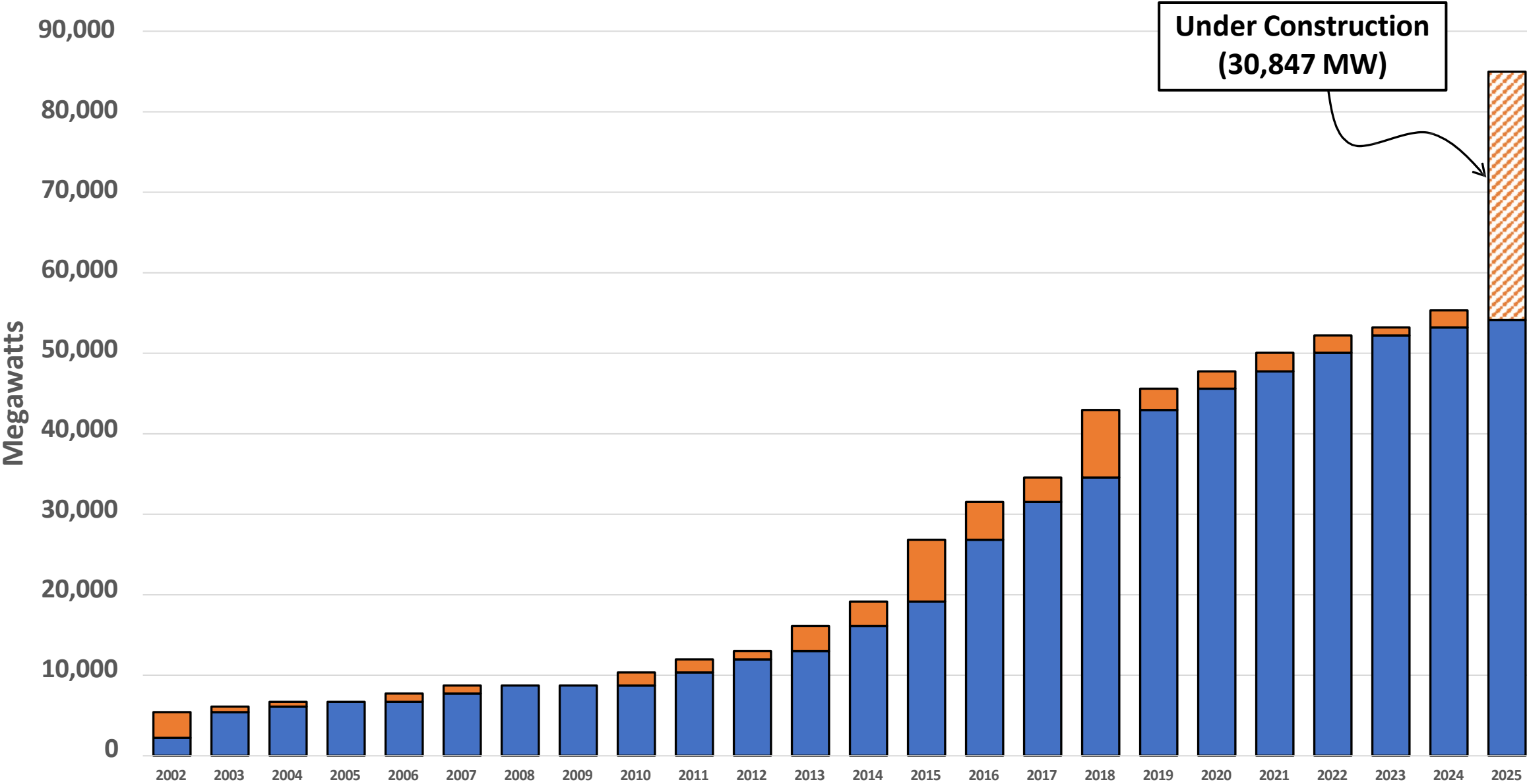


Source: IAEA; PRIS
Data Accessed: 11-15-2025

Compiled By: David Gattie

China Civilian Nuclear Trend (MW)

■ In Operation ■ Capacity Added



Nuclear Power: Beyond the Numbers

THE NATIONAL SECURITY IMPERATIVE

America's Special Relationship With Nuclear Power

*“The riven atom, uncontrolled, can be only a growing menace to us all, and there can be no final safety short of full control throughout the world. Nor can we hope to realize the vast potential wealth of atomic energy until it is disarmed and rendered harmless. **Upon us, as the people who first harnessed and made use of this force, there rests a grave and continuing responsibility for leadership in turning it toward life, not death.**”*

([Henry Stimson](#), Secretary of War, 1940-1945)

The Enduring First Principles of U.S. Nuclear Power Policy

(NSC Report 5507/2: Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, 1955)

- Maintaining U.S. leadership in the field, particularly in the development and application of atomic power. [*Soft Power*]
- Using such U.S. leadership to promote cohesion within the free world and to forestall successful Soviet exploitation of the peaceful uses of atomic energy to attract the allegiance of the uncommitted peoples of the world. [*Soft Power*]
- Increasing progress in developing and applying the peaceful uses of atomic energy in free nations abroad. [*Soft Power*]
- Assuring continued U.S. access to foreign uranium and thorium supplies.
- Preventing the diversion to non-peaceful uses of any fissionable materials provided to other countries.

“Are the aims of our foreign policy consistent with the aims of our domestic policy as far as nuclear power is concerned.

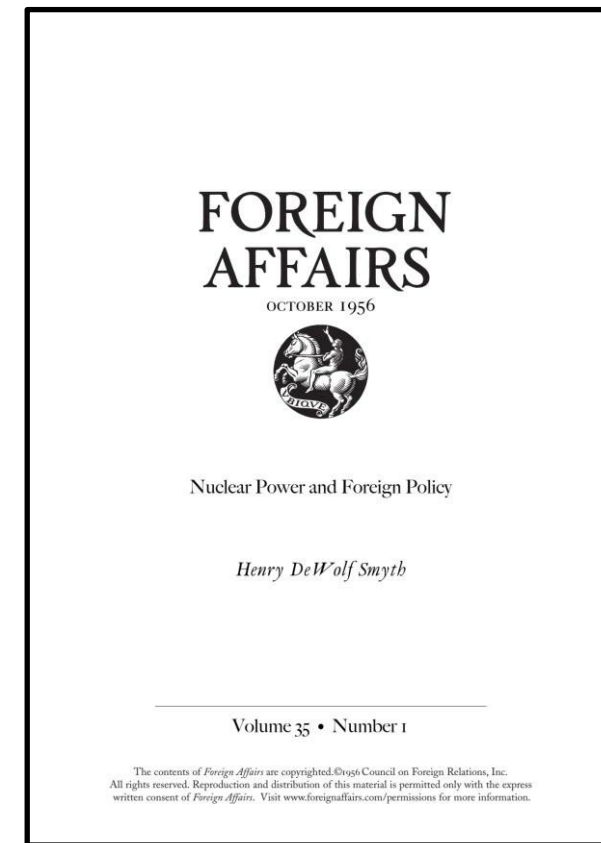
Consequently, we have a specific obligation to back up our foreign policy gestures in this field with growing technological strength. To do so we must maintain a vigorous program of reactor development.

How can we offer to build reactors abroad without building enough reactors here to know what we are doing? How can we expect to send materials and helpful information abroad if we let our technology fall behind?”

Henry DeWolf Smyth

Manhattan Project, Atomic Energy Commission, IAEA U.S. Ambassador
Author of The Smyth Report on “Atomic Energy for Military Purposes”:
<https://www.orau.org/ptp/pdf/smythreport.pdf>

(NUCLEAR POWER AND FOREIGN POLICY; FOREIGN AFFAIRS, 1956)



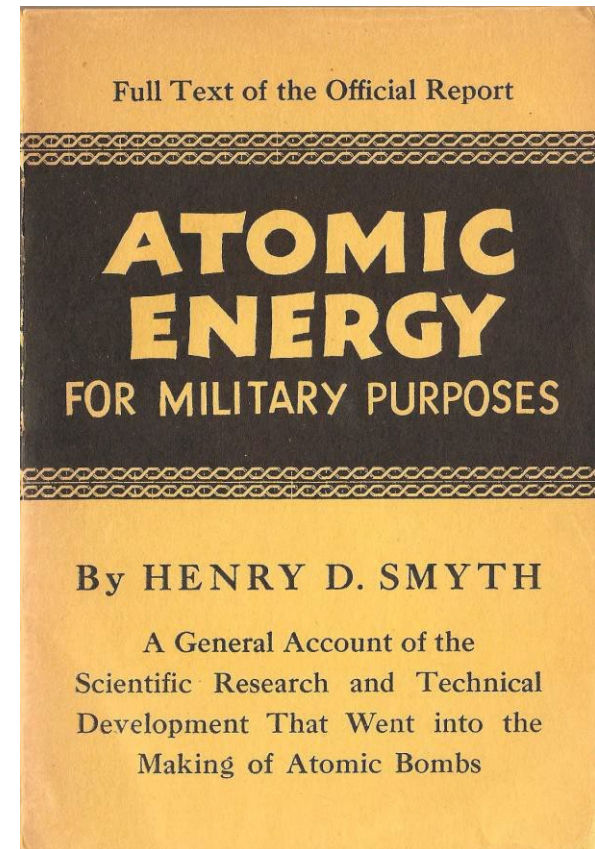
“I have recalled this history to emphasize the fact that decisions about the peacetime development of nuclear energy have not, cannot and probably should not be made on the basis of strict economic realism”

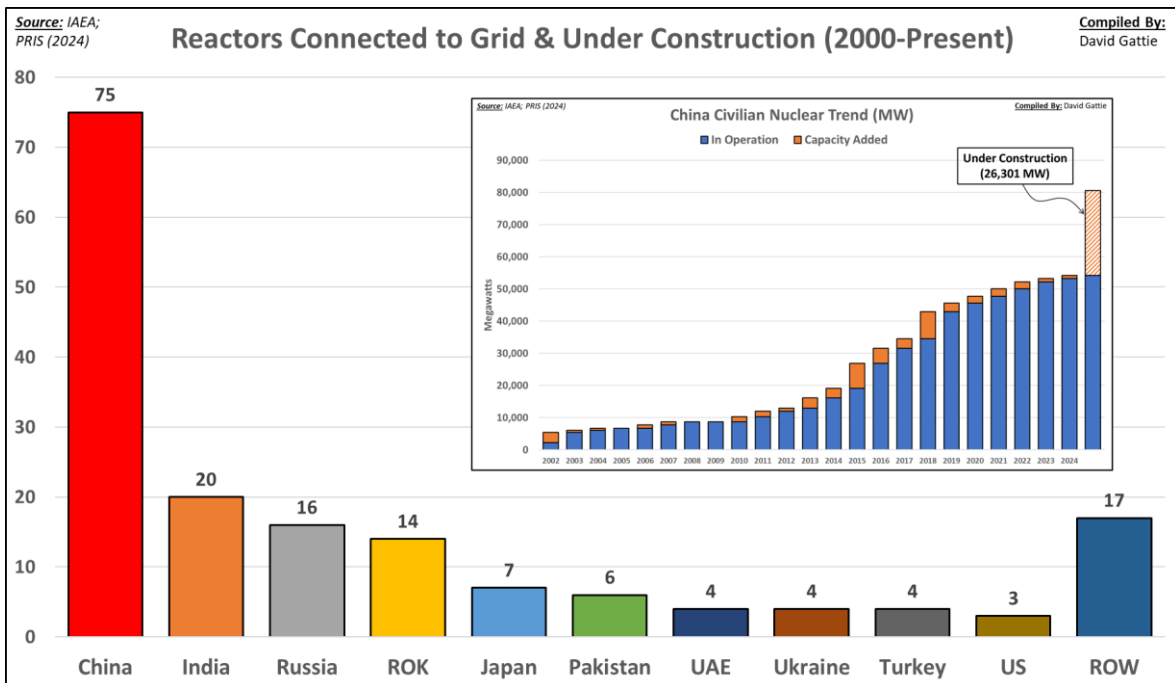
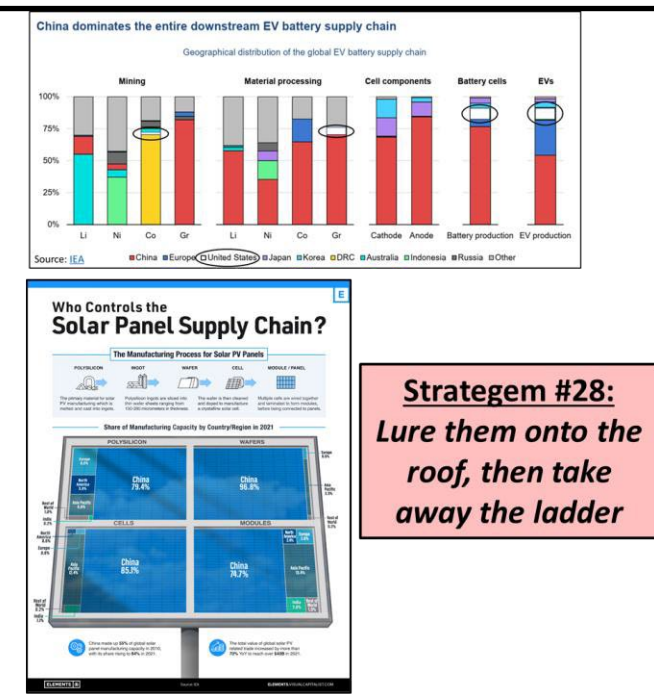
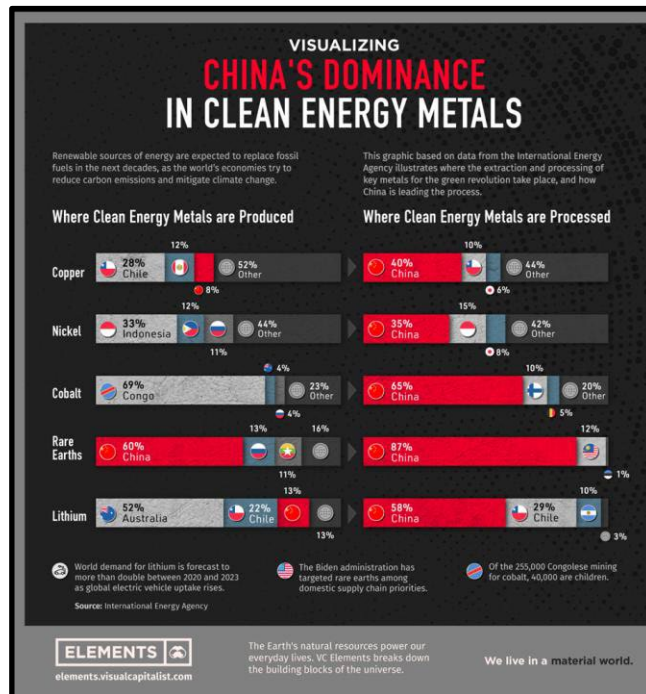
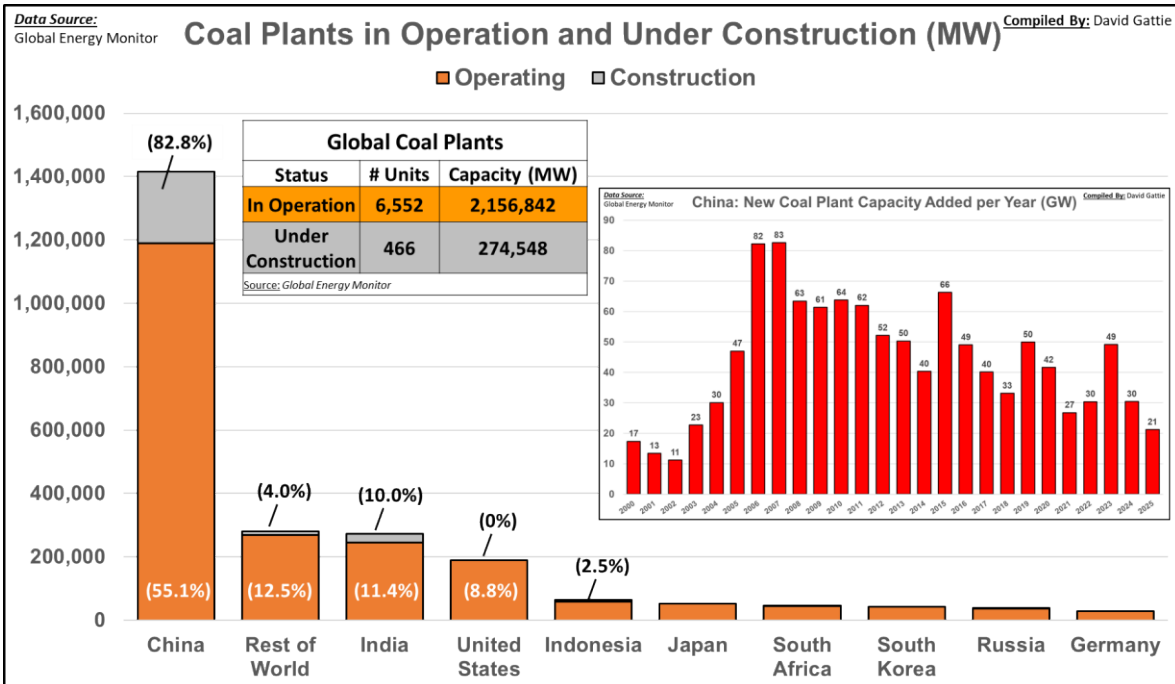
(Nuclear Power and Foreign Policy; Foreign Affairs, 1956)

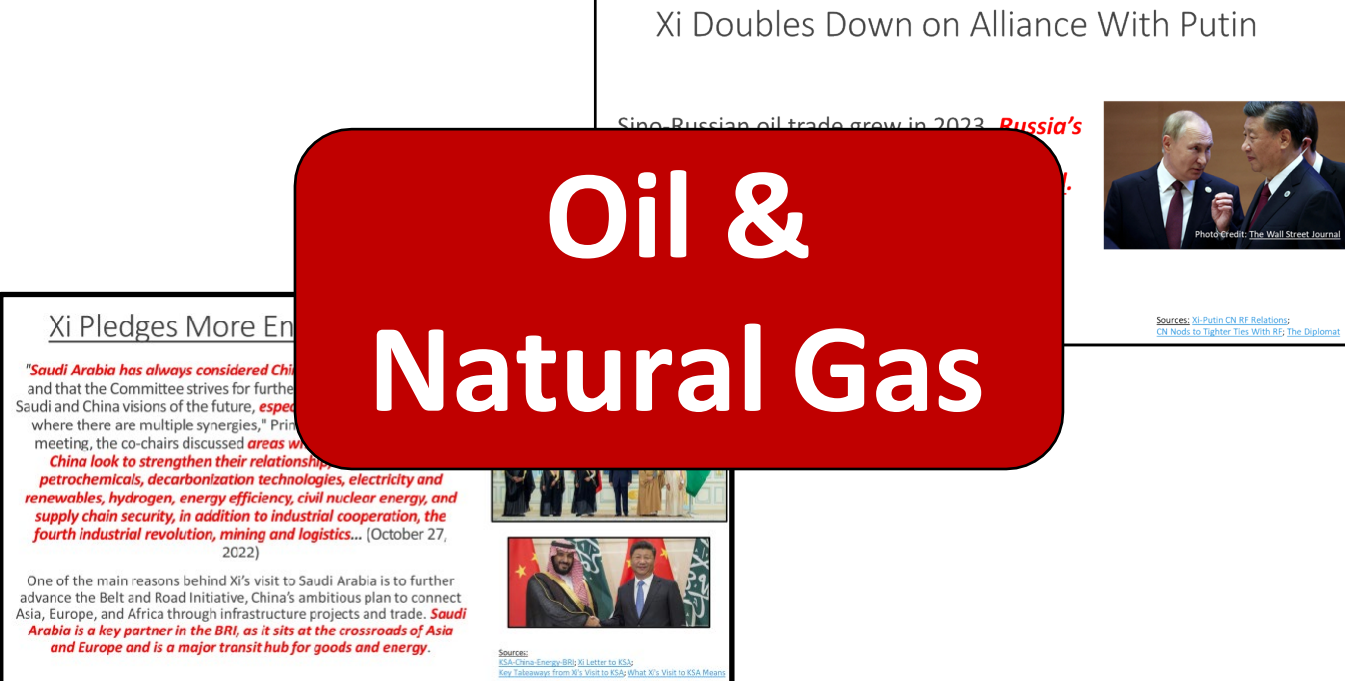
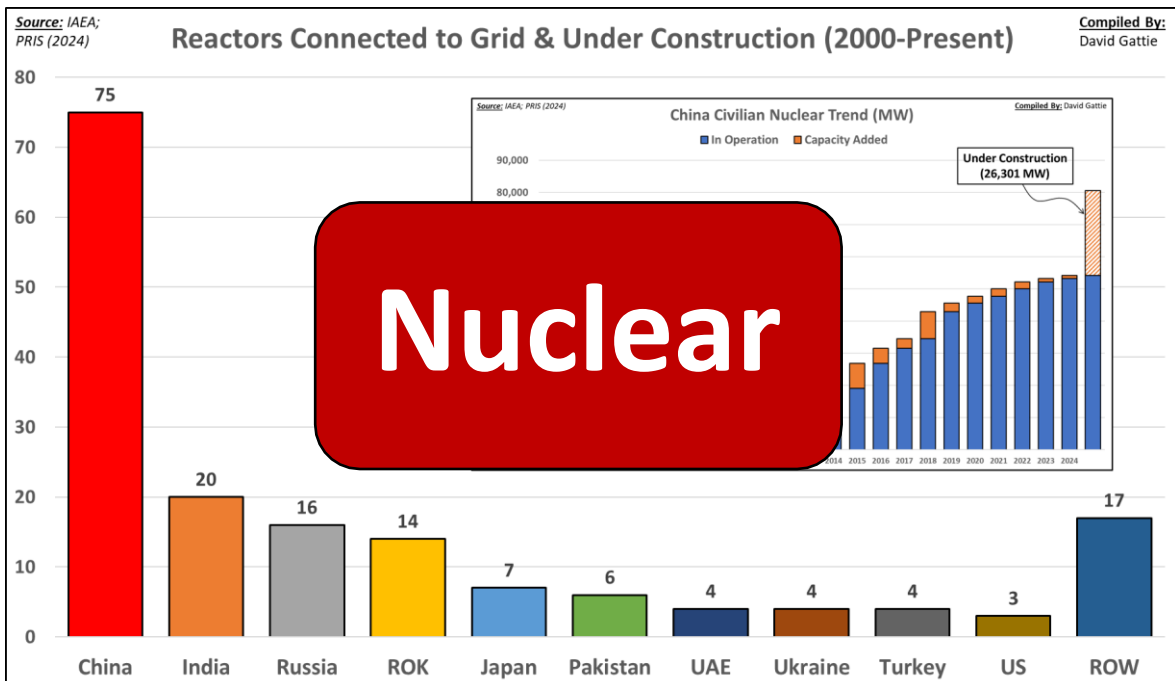
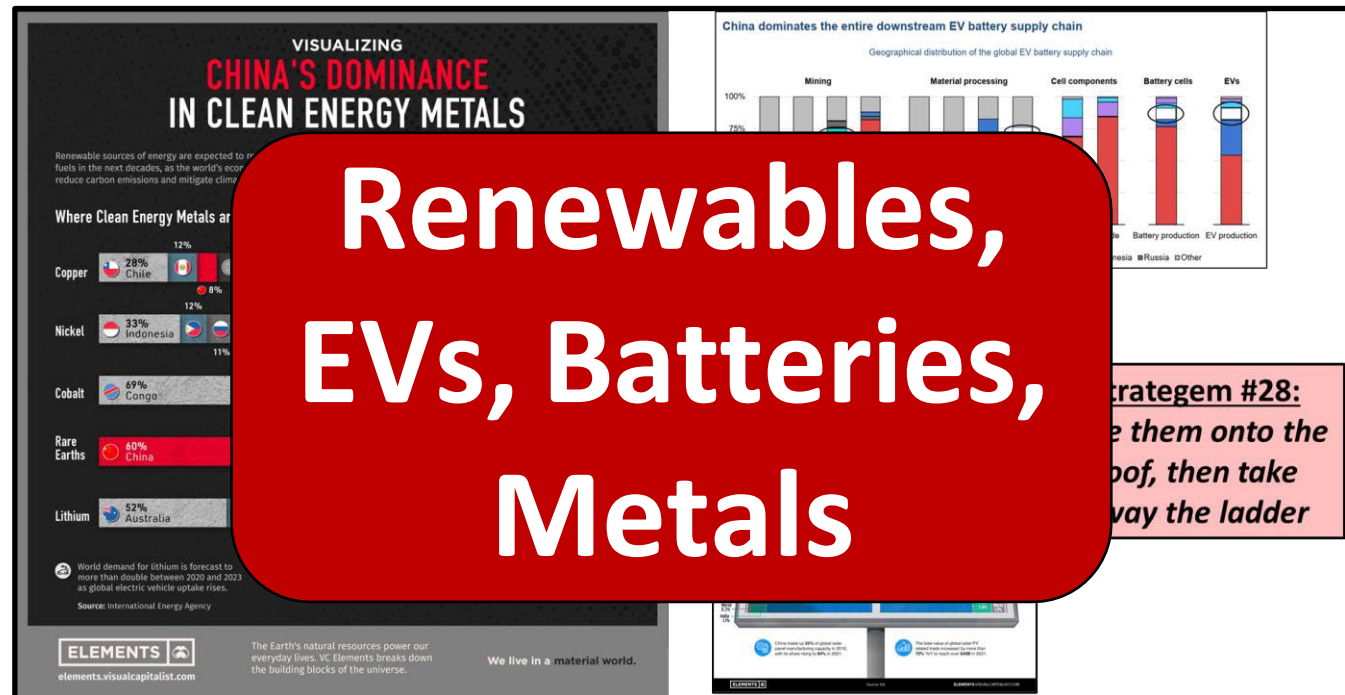
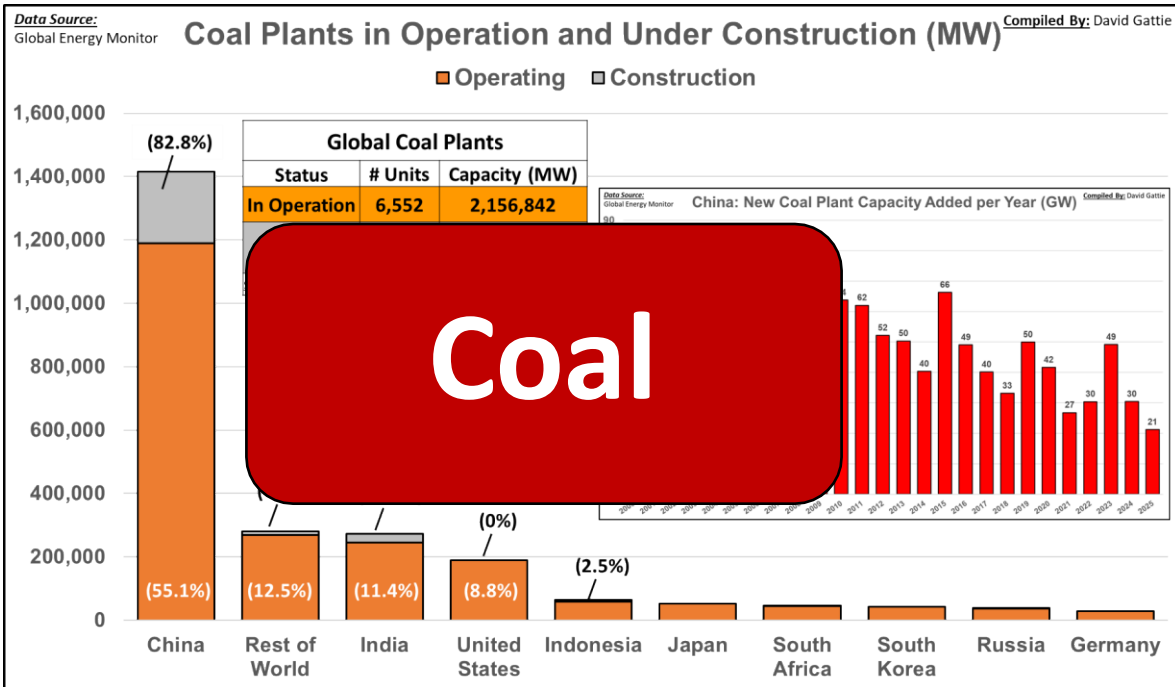
Henry DeWolf Smyth (1956)

Manhattan Project, Atomic Energy Commission, IAEA U.S.
Ambassador

Author of The Smyth Report on “Atomic Energy for Military Purposes”: <https://www.orau.org/ptp/pdf/smythreport.pdf>







To Which Great Power Belongs the Competitive Advantage?



Thank You

National Security Imperative for All Energy Resources & Technologies

THE
NATIONAL
INTEREST



U.S. Energy Strategy: Prioritizing Peace Through Strength

January 29, 2025 | By: David Gattie

TALKING points ♦

U.S. ENERGY: PRIORITIZING NATIONAL POWER AND COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

By David Gattie, Ph.D.
University of Georgia

ON SEPT. 3, 1783, THE AMERICAN WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE officially ended with the signing of the Treaty of Paris, acknowledging that the 13 American colonies were a free, sovereign and independent nation. A free, sovereign and independent nation that would be on its own, exposed and vulnerable to the great powers of the world and no longer under the protection and security of Great Britain — one of the more dominant world powers at that time.

The early founders were keenly aware that the world was an arena of great power competition and those great powers would inevitably challenge America's fledgling experiment in self-governance. They also understood that a strong industrial base and competitive advantage — economic, industrial and military — translated to national power and the capacity to compete in this global arena. Without it, the U.S. would remain exposed and vulnerable to external threats.

Since those early years, the U.S. has become the single most powerful nation in history as was demonstrated on a global scale when America served as the "Arsenal of Democracy" for World War II. It reached a pinnacle at the conclusion of the Cold War with the USSR as the U.S.

emerged as the lone global superpower. What energized and mobilized America's rise to this level of power, what fueled it as the "Arsenal of Democracy," has been predominantly fossil fuels with nuclear power eventually incorporated for broader national security interests.

Simply stated, America's 150-plus years of accrued national power and competitive advantage in energy resources, energy technologies and industrial capacity were enlisted to deliver the great powers of Europe from dictatorship and prevent the spread of Soviet Communism. Yet today fossil fuel consumption is being characterized as an addiction the U.S. should wean itself off of in order to battle a different opponent — global climate change. As if great power competition and authoritarian threats to freedom and democracy have ended and there are no more geopolitical threats to U.S. national security.

While the current administration has reoriented U.S. energy policy away from climate change to energy dominance, the proposed energy transition away from fossil fuels continues to be spoken of as if it's inevitable and can't be reversed. Meaning, efforts to shift the U.S. back to a

NAPExpo.com 59

“Upon us, as the people who first harnessed and made use of this force, there rests a grave and continuing responsibility for leadership in turning it toward life, not death.”

THE NATIONAL INTEREST



Restoring America's Relationship with Nuclear Power as a National Security Priority

June 4, 2025 | By: David Gattie

Contention

The U.S. must prioritize the national security imperative of civilian nuclear power to regain competitive advantage over geopolitical rivals and restore America's special relationship with nuclear power.

Nuclear is not just another energy commodity

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Residential Rates

Residential rates are from the U.S. Energy Information Administration. These rates represent a weighted average of consumer revenue and sales for a state, and do not equal the per KWhr rate charged by the electric power industry participant to an individual consumer. They are offered here in order to provide a common metric for comparison across states.

(Reference: <https://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/pdf/AppendixC.pdf>)