

ENERGY DATA SCIENCE

Introduction to the course: Part 2

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ENERGY & SCIENCE

Humans learn to use more energy ...



ENERGY AND POWER

Energy is the ability to do work.

Energy is measured in joule (J), but also in kilowatt hour, etc.:

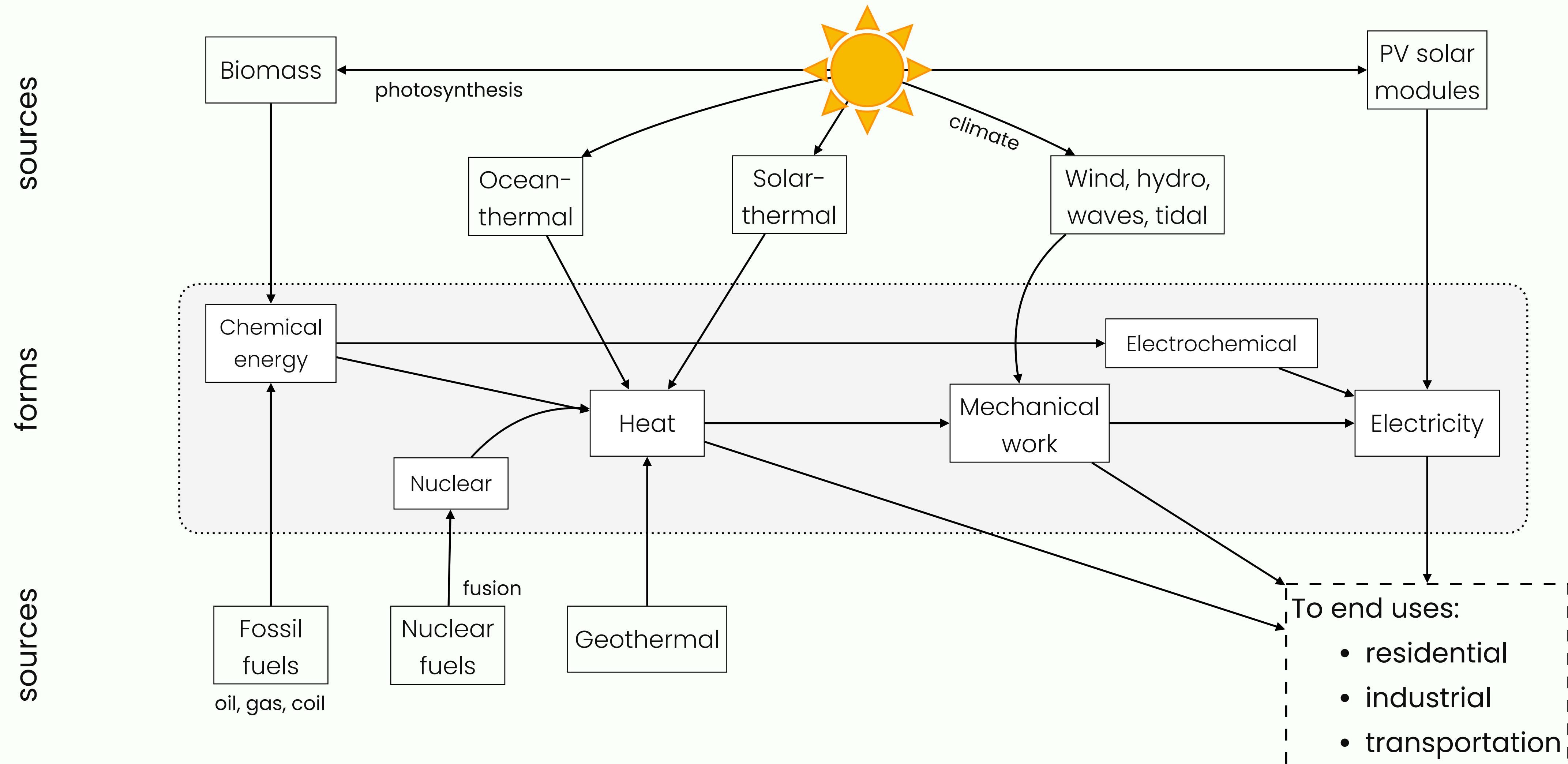
$$1 \text{ joule} = \frac{\text{kilogram} \cdot \text{meter}^2}{\text{second}^2}.$$

Power is the amount of energy transferred or converted per unit time; rate of energy use.

Power is measured in watt (W):

$$1 \text{ watt} = \frac{\text{joule}}{\text{second}}.$$

ENERGY SOURCES AND FORMS



Based on Fig. 1.2 from Tester, J. W., Drake, E. M., Driscoll, M. J., Golay, M. W., & Peters, W. A. (2012). Sustainable energy: choosing among options: MIT press.

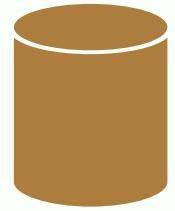
Primary energy is the energy found in nature that has not been subjected to any human engineered conversion process.

Secondary energy is a carrier of energy, such as electricity, produced by conversion from a primary energy source.

NON-RENEWABLE ENERGY



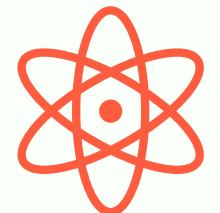
coal



petroleum



natural gas

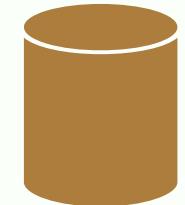


nuclear

NON-RENEWABLE ENERGY



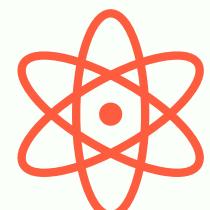
coal



petroleum



natural gas

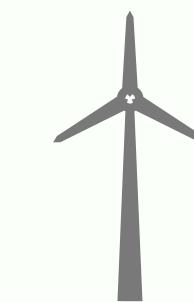


nuclear

Problems:

- Regenerate over hundreds of millions of years
- Environmental hazards: Greenhouse gas emissions, air and water pollution
- Price fluctuations
- Over-dependence

RENEWABLE ENERGY



wind



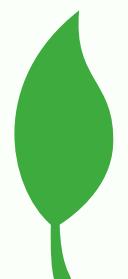
hydro



solar



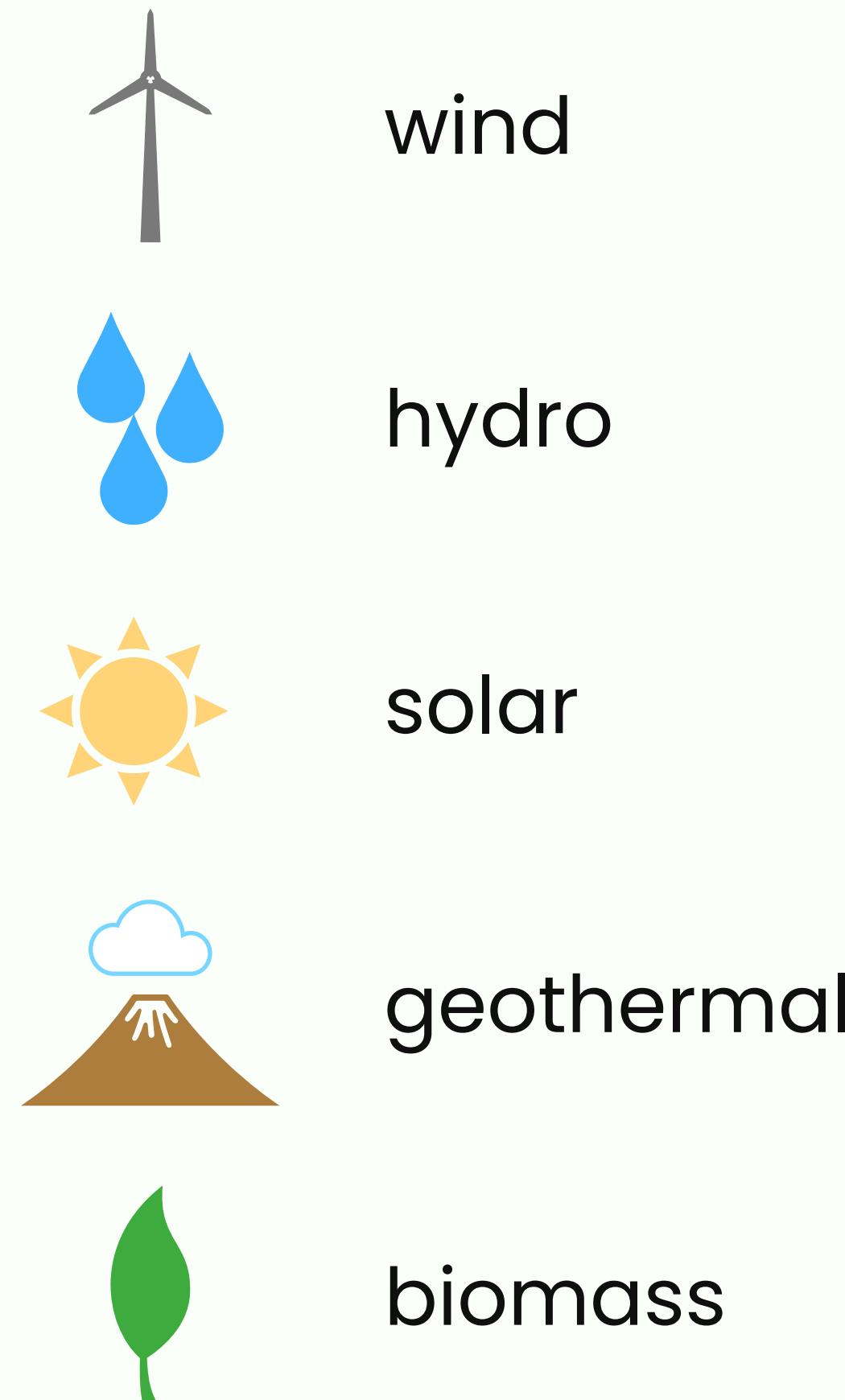
geothermal



biomass

unlimited/sustainable sources

RENEWABLE ENERGY

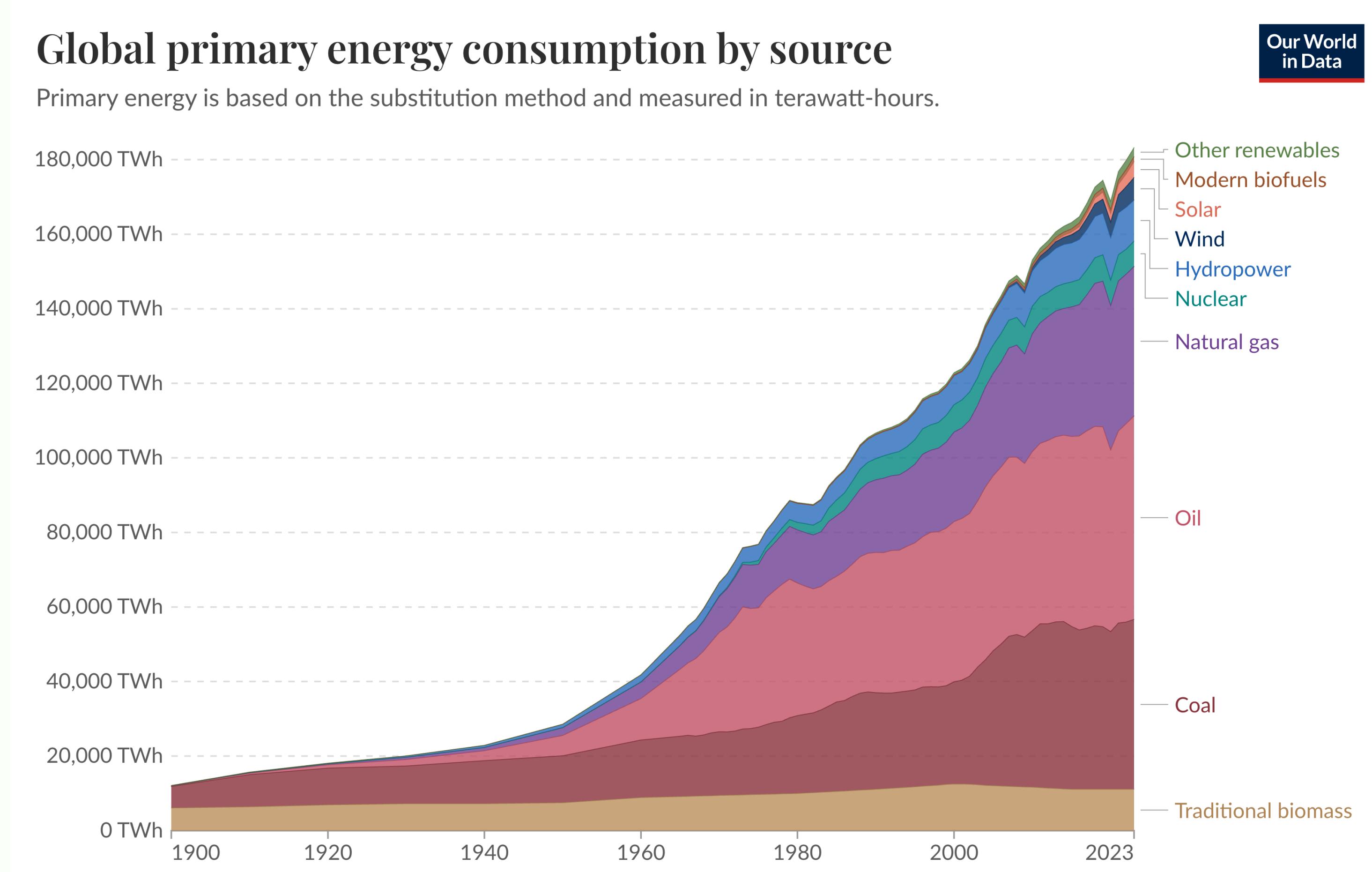


Problems:

- Renewable energy is intermittent
- The efficiency of renewable technologies is low
- Initial cost is high
- Installations require a lot of space
- Utilisation concerns (recycling)

unlimited/sustainable sources

HISTORIC PERSPECTIVE

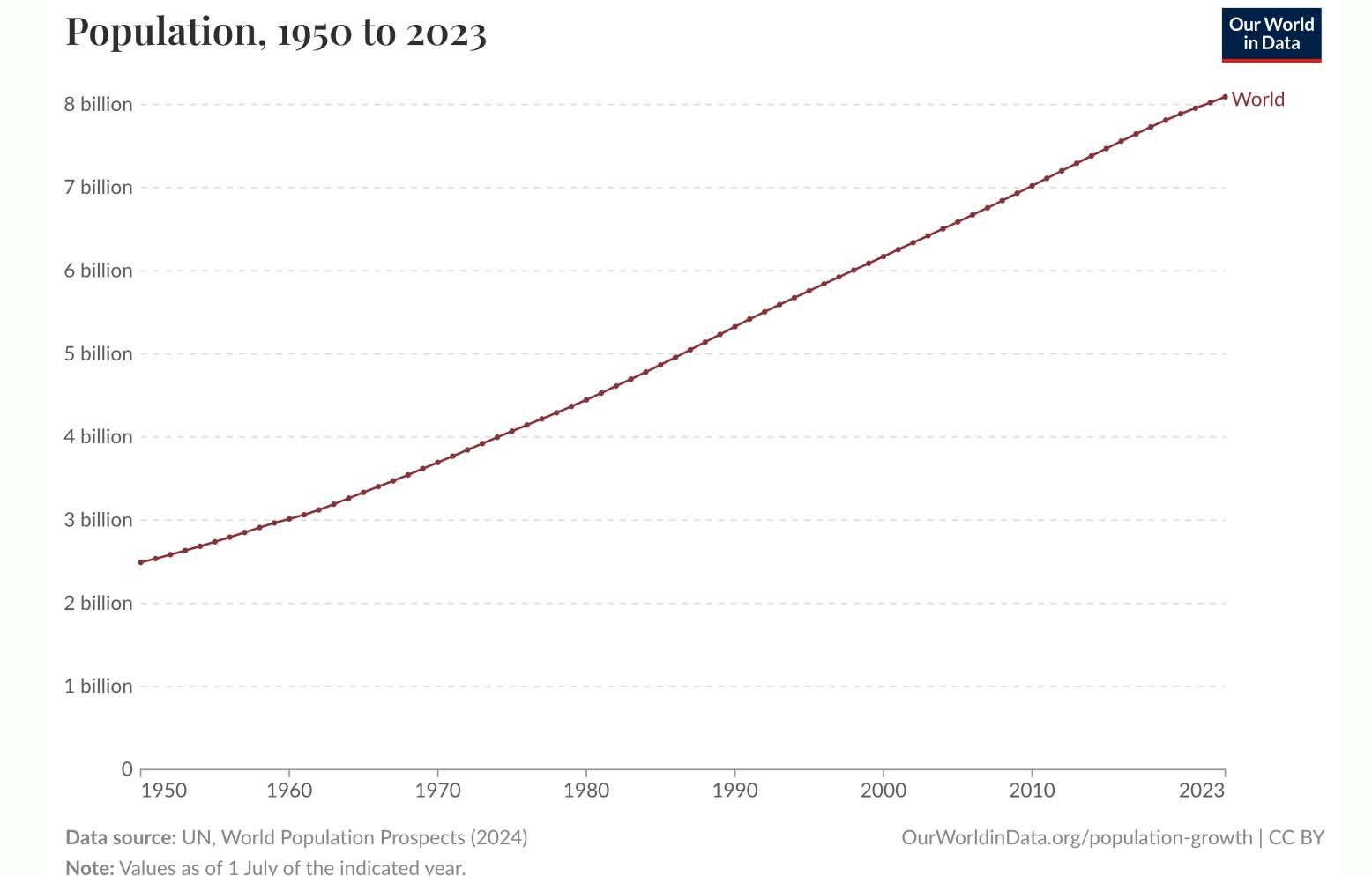
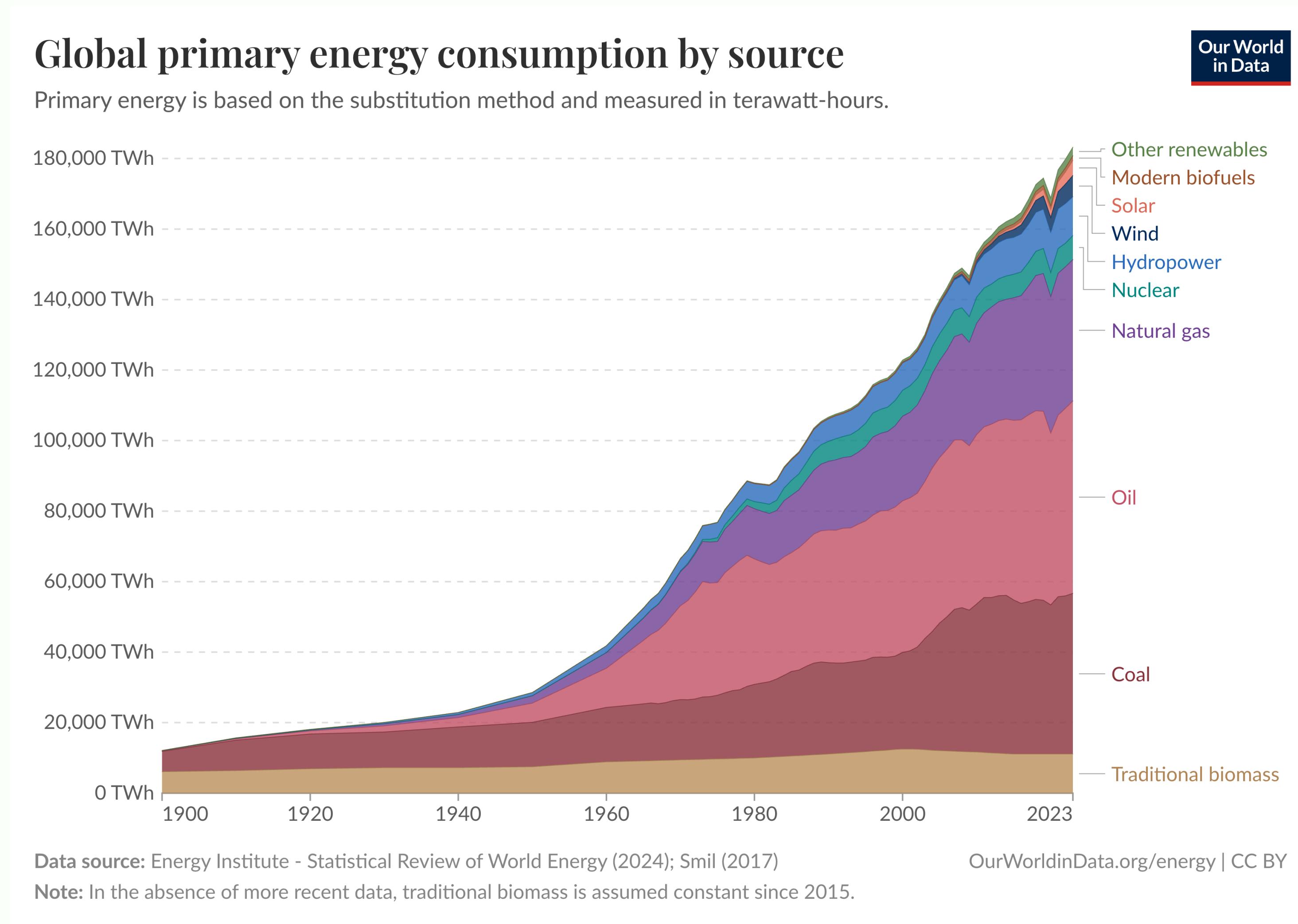


Data source: Energy Institute - Statistical Review of World Energy (2024); Smil (2017)

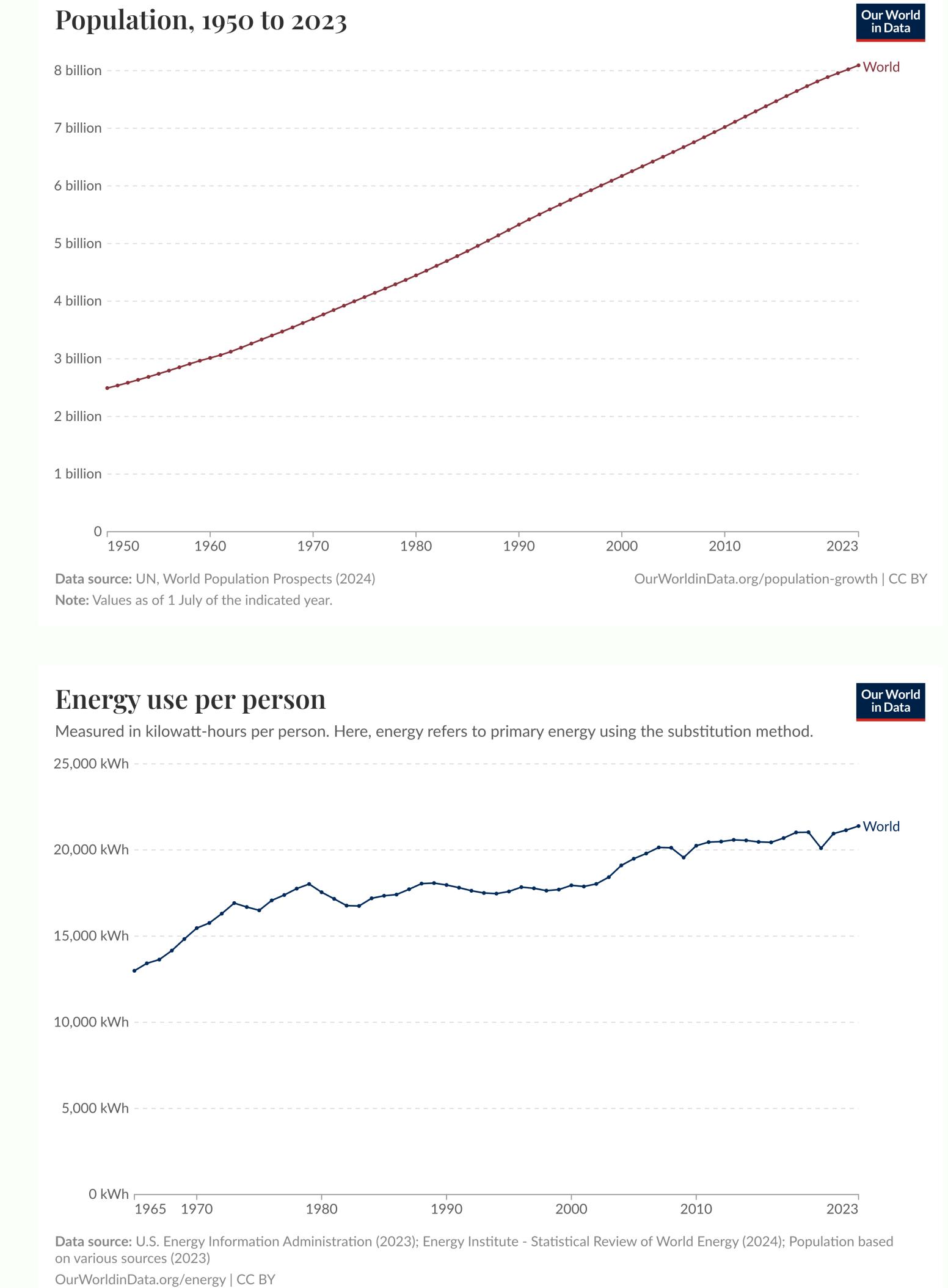
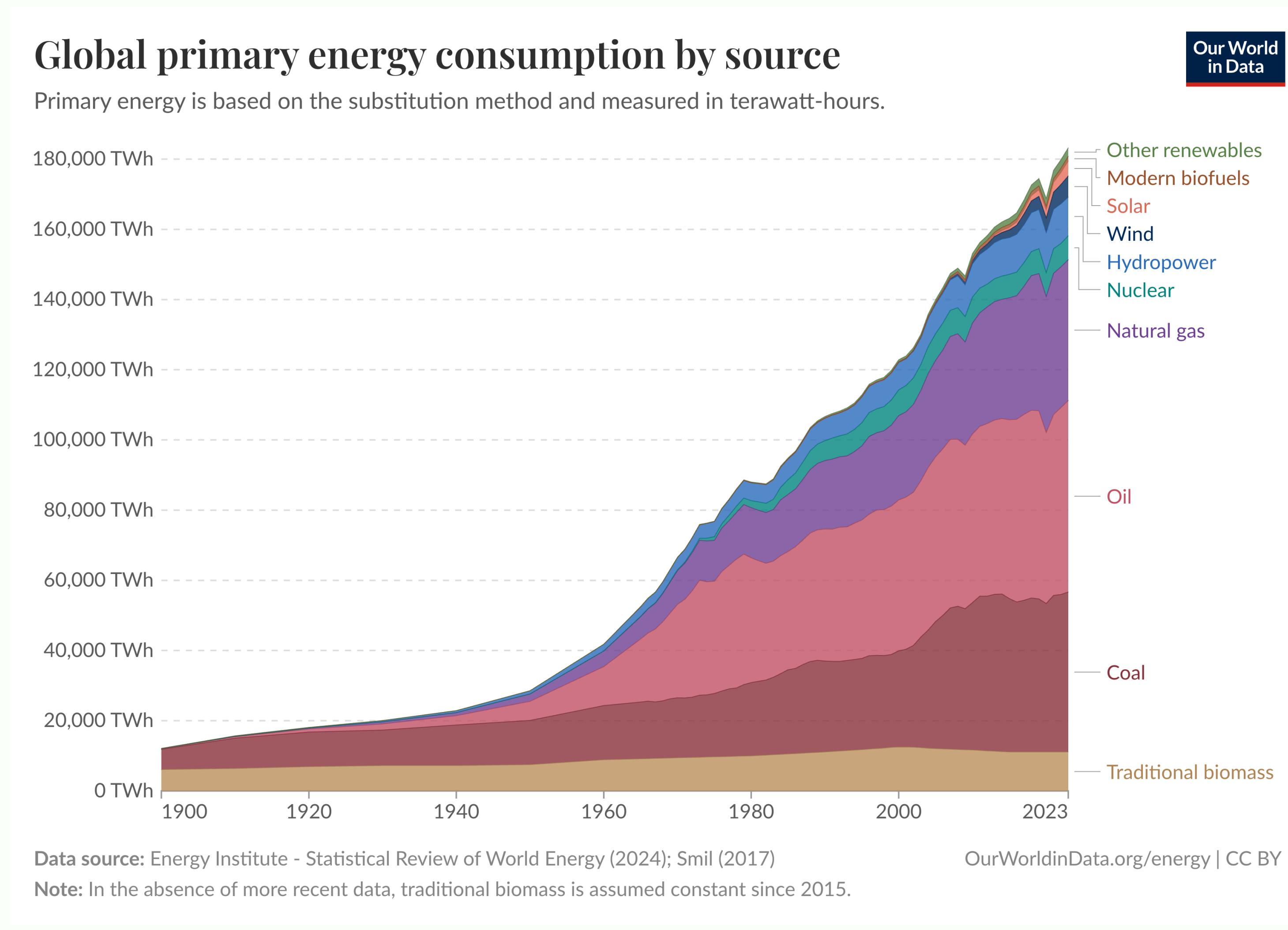
Note: In the absence of more recent data, traditional biomass is assumed constant since 2015.

OurWorldinData.org/energy | CC BY

HISTORIC PERSPECTIVE



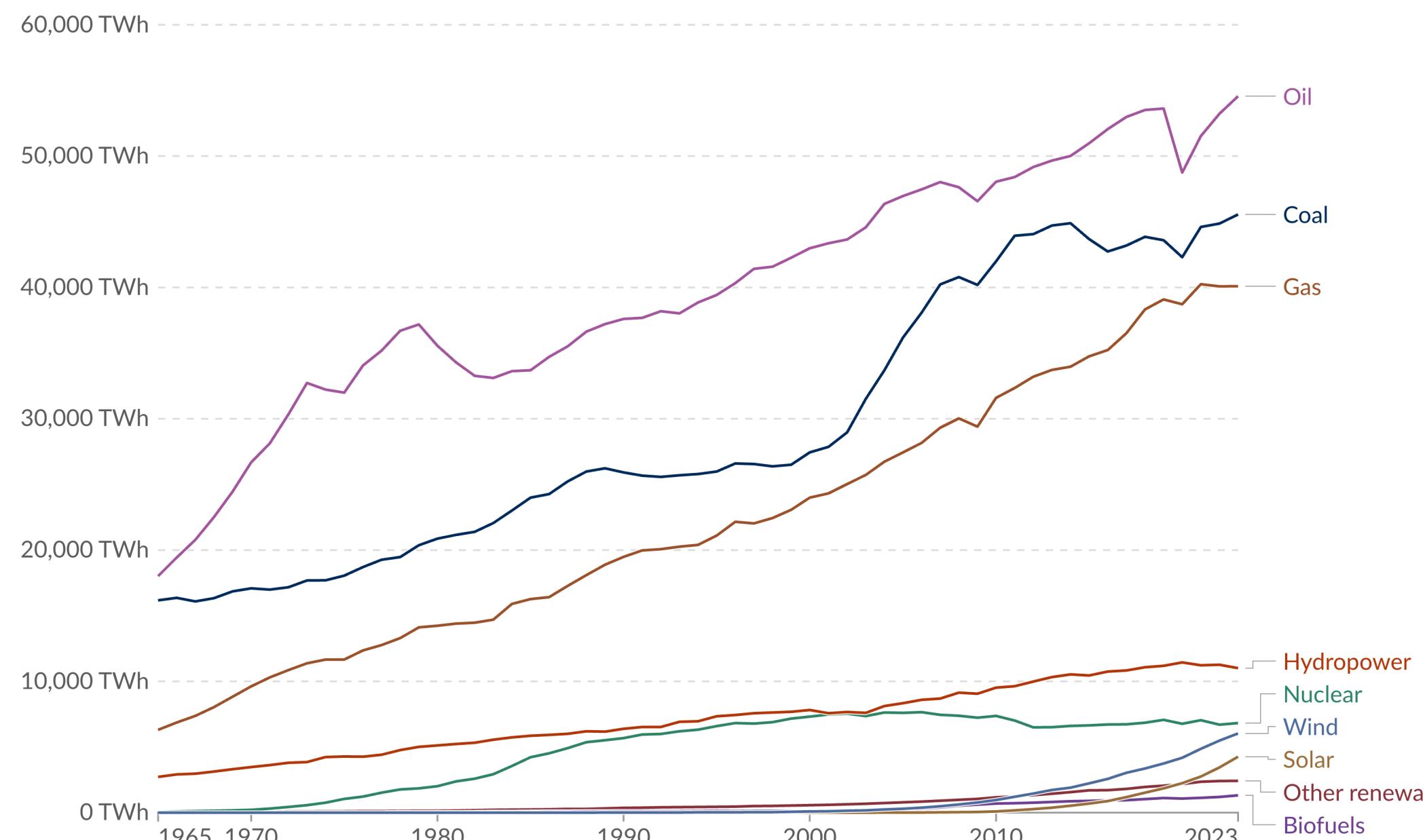
HISTORIC PERSPECTIVE



HISTORIC PERSPECTIVE (2)

Primary energy consumption by source, World

Primary energy is measured in terawatt-hours, using the substitution method.



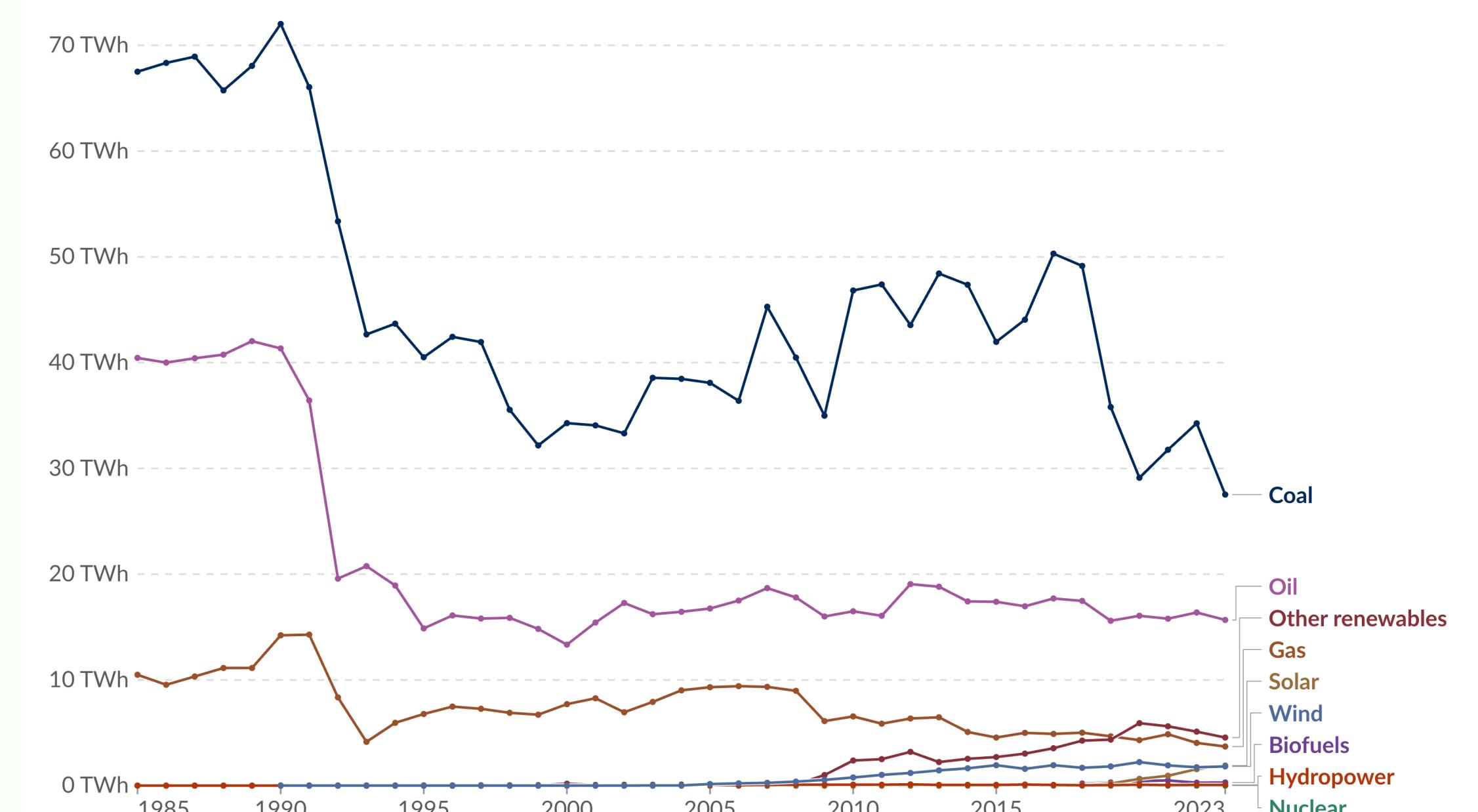
Data source: Energy Institute - Statistical Review of World Energy (2024)

OurWorldinData.org/energy | CC BY

Our World
in Data

Primary energy consumption by source, Estonia

Primary energy is measured in terawatt-hours, using the substitution method.



Data source: Energy Institute - Statistical Review of World Energy (2024)

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Our World
in Data

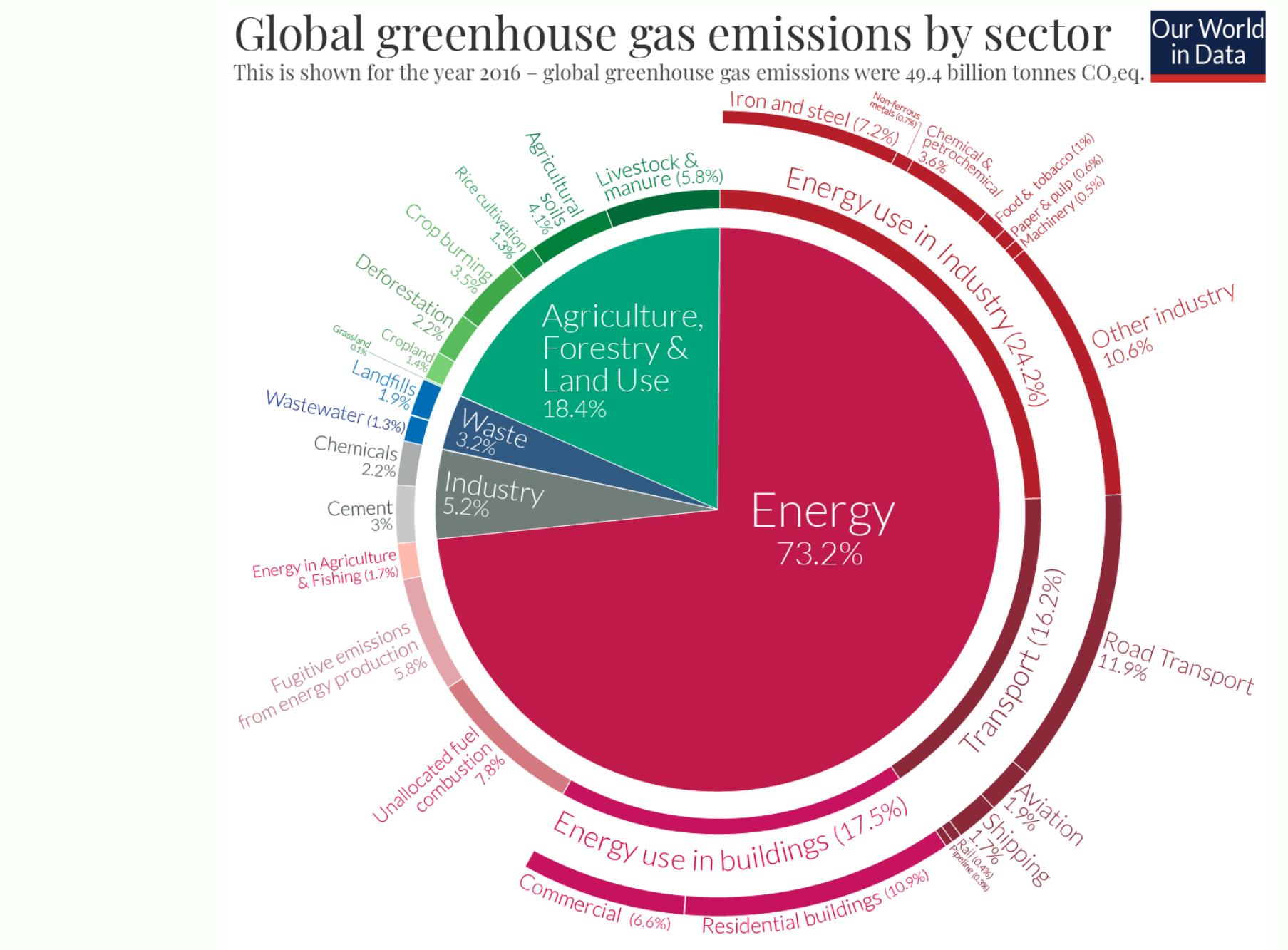
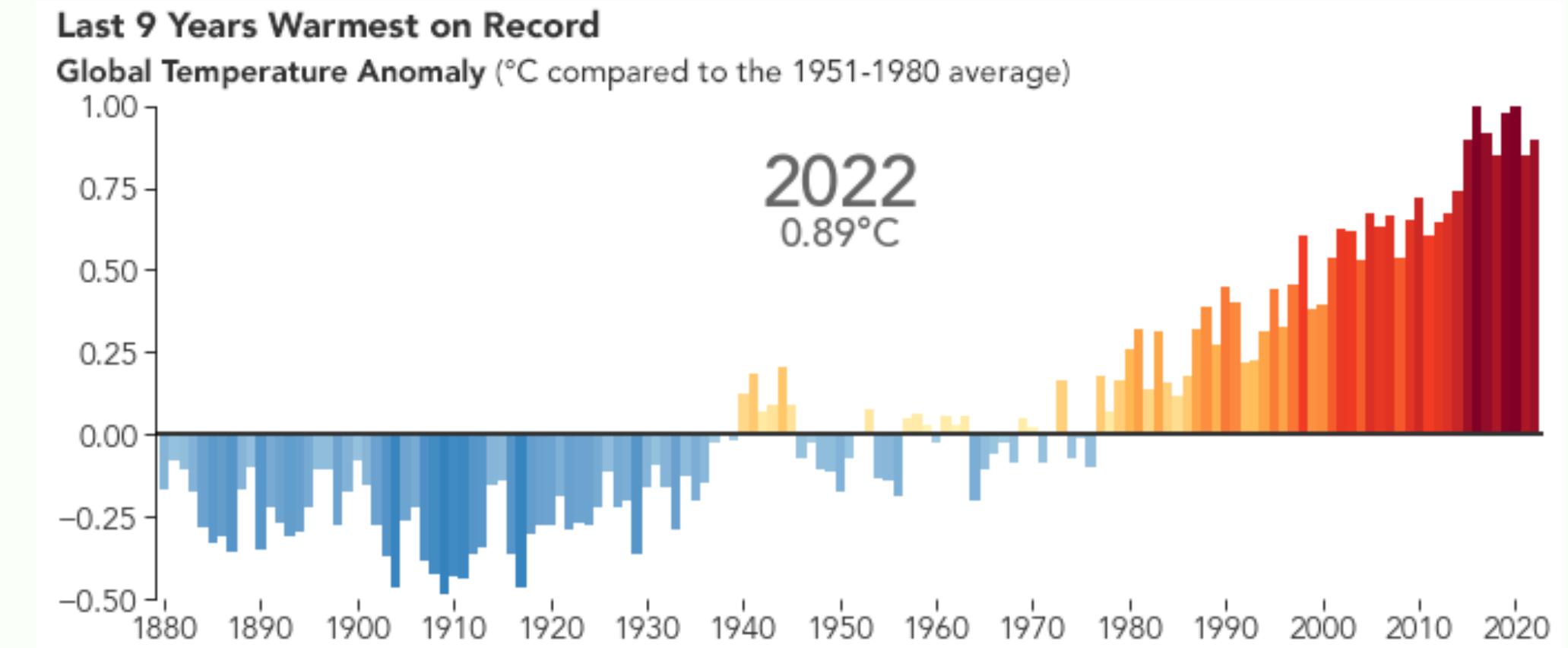
Global challenges in energy domain

CLIMATE CHANGE

Problem statement: Climate change caused by carbon emissions

Brief explanation: Burning fossil fuels releases greenhouse gases, leading to global warming

Illustrative example: The melting of polar ice caps due to rising temperatures



(NON)RENEWABLE ENERGY

Problem statement: Overdependence on non-renewable energy sources

Brief explanation: Finite nature of non-renewable resources and their negative environmental impact

Illustrative example: Solar power plants as an alternative to coal power plants



ENERGY STORAGE

Problem statement: Limited energy storage capabilities

Brief explanation: Current energy storage technologies have limitations in terms of capacity, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness



Illustrative example: Lithium-ion batteries used in electric vehicles

GRID INTEGRATION

Problem statement: Integration of renewable energy into existing grids

Brief explanation: Renewable energy sources are intermittent and require storage and backup power



Illustrative example: The need for smart grids to manage the integration of renewable energy sources

ENERGY EFFICIENCY/PERFORMANCE

Problem statement: Inefficient use of energy resources

Brief explanation: Wasteful energy consumption practices lead to increased energy costs and carbon emissions



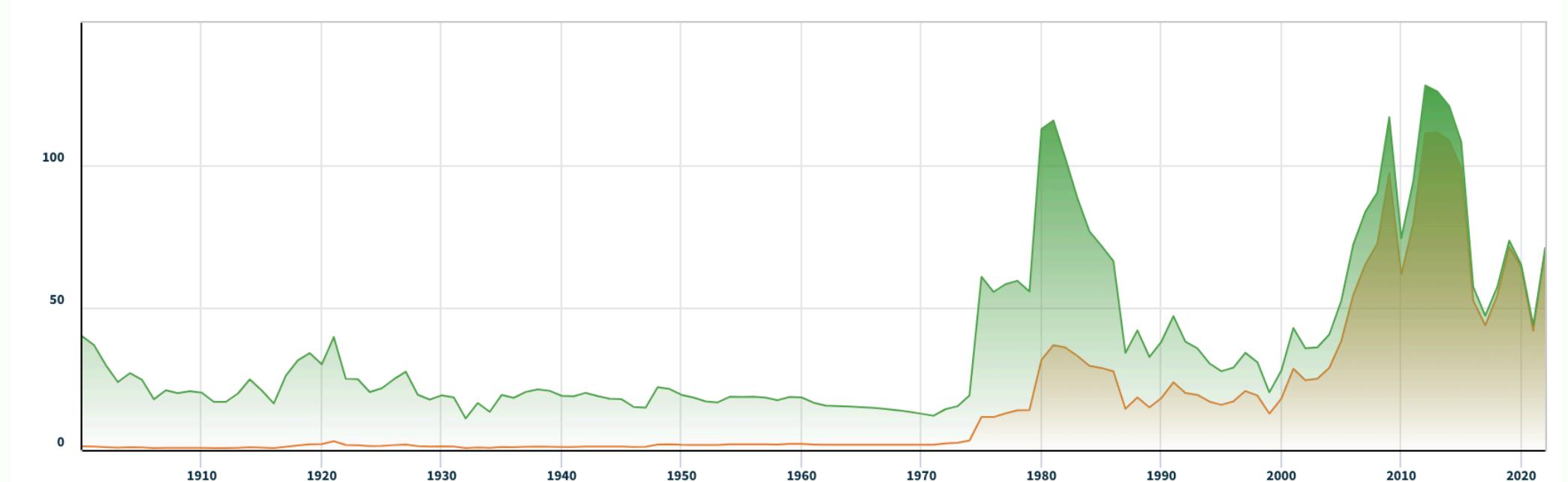
Illustrative example: Energy-efficient buildings that reduce energy usage and cost

ENERGY SECURITY

Problem statement: Dependence on foreign sources of energy



Brief explanation: Dependence on energy imports can lead to geopolitical tensions, supply disruptions, and economic instability

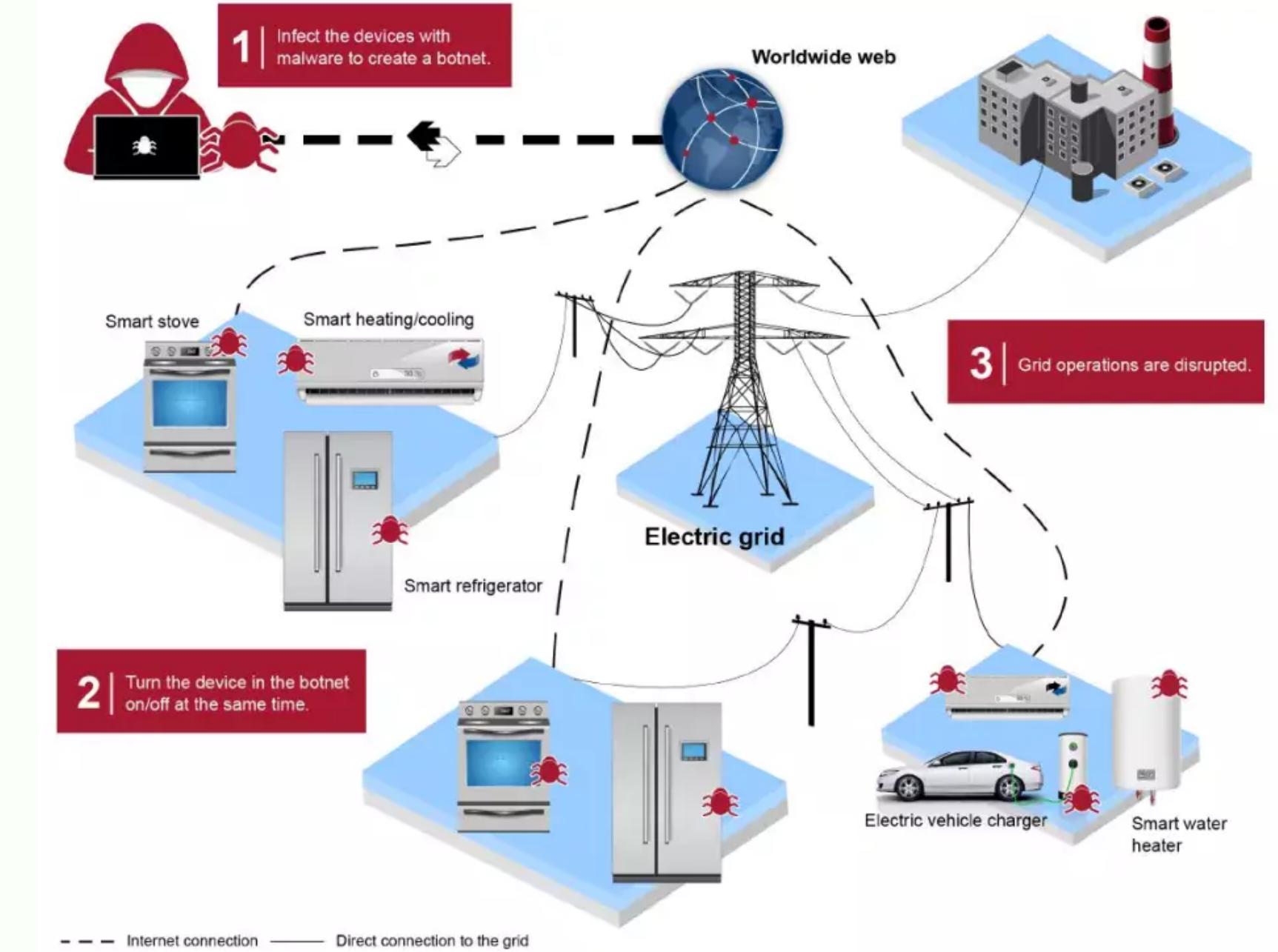


Illustrative example: The impact of oil price shocks (oil crisis) on the global economy

CYBER SECURITY

Problem statement: Increasing cyber security threats

Brief explanation: Cyber security threats in power grids pose significant risks to the reliability, stability, and security of electrical systems



Illustrative example: Cyber attackers may target operation centres to gain unauthorized access, disrupt operations, or manipulate data.

ENERGY POVERTY

Problem statement: Lack of access to energy resources

Brief explanation: Energy poverty affects millions of people around the world, leading to social, economic, and health problems

Illustrative example: Solar-powered lamps for communities without access to electricity

ENERGY POLICY

Problem statement: Lack of comprehensive energy policies

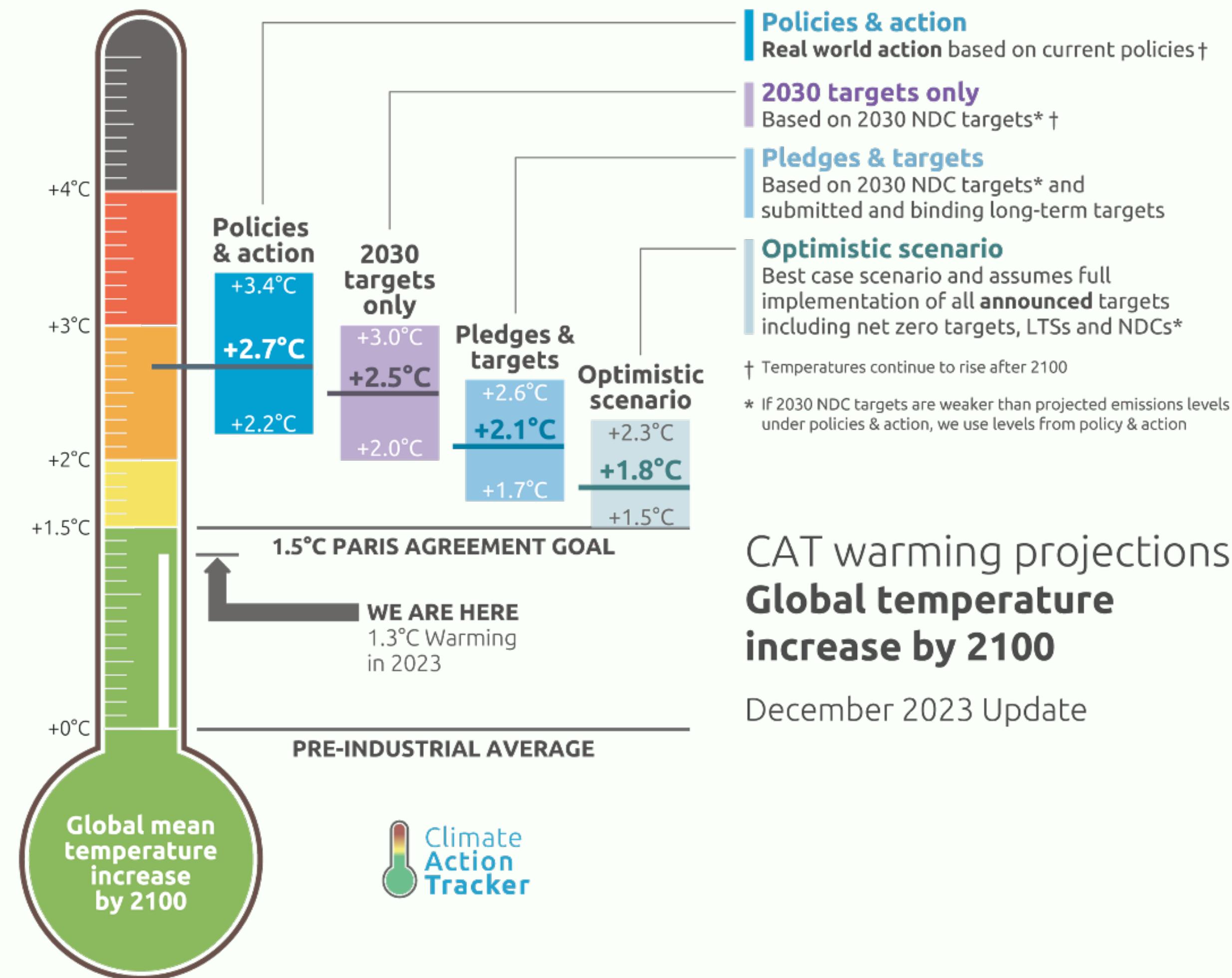
Brief explanation: Comprehensive energy policies are essential for addressing energy-related challenges

Illustrative example: The EU's Energy Union initiative

PARIS AGREEMENT, 2016

The goal is to hold “the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels” and pursue efforts “to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.”

HOW ARE WE DOING?



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



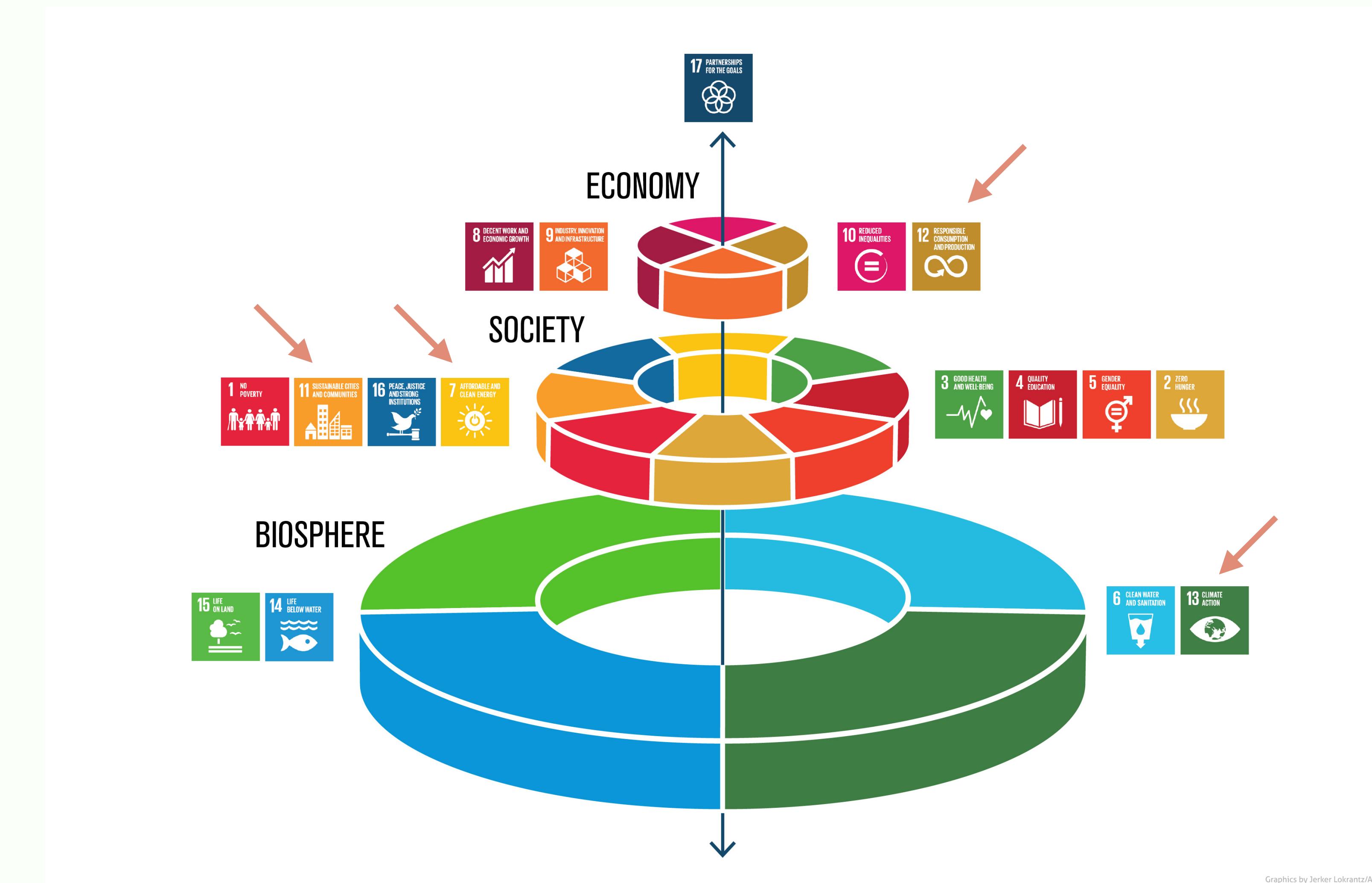
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

SDG7
SDG11
SDG12
SDG13



GLOBAL VISION (2)

SDG7
SDG11
SDG12
SDG13



WHAT IS SUSTAINABILITY?

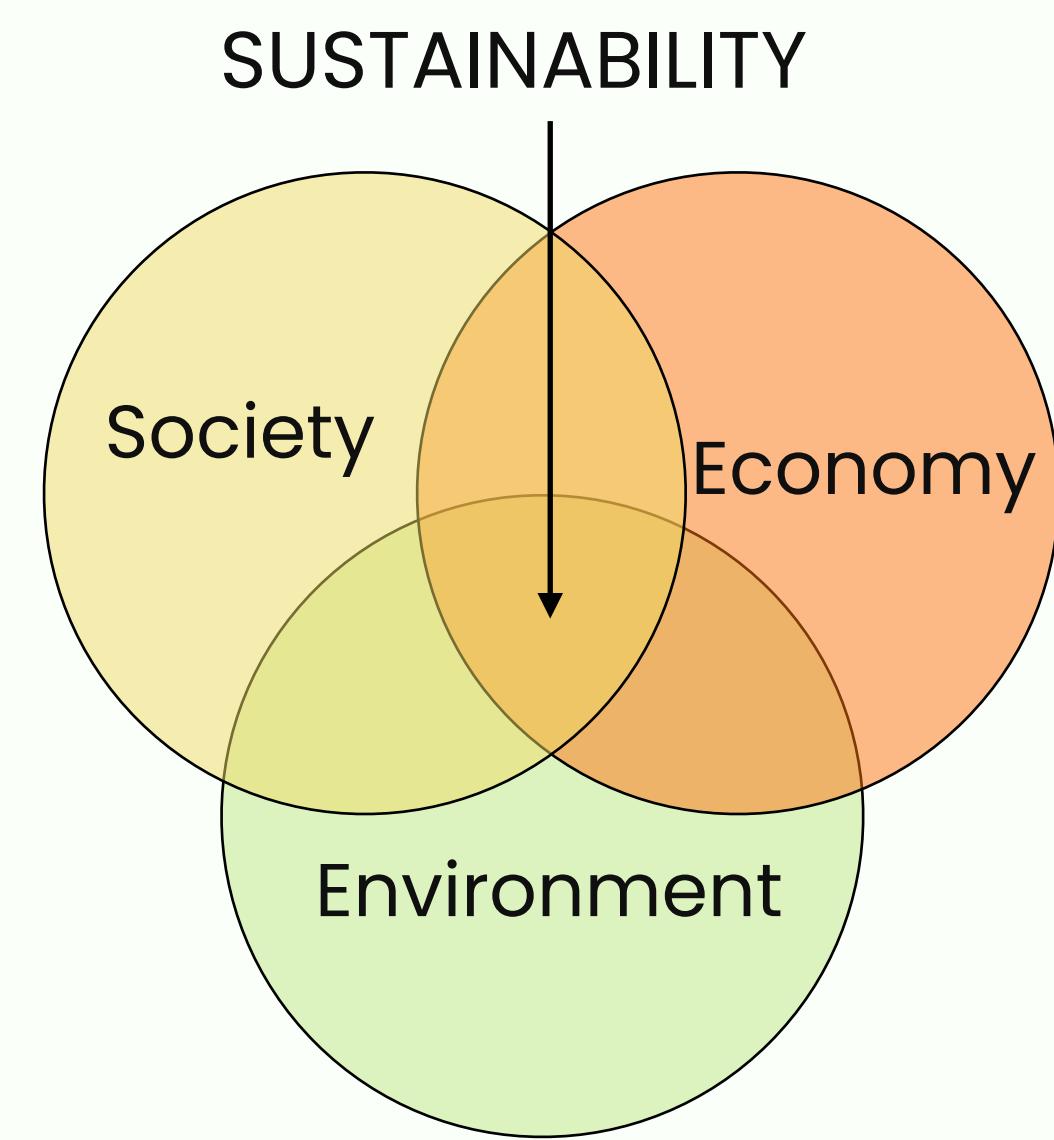
Sustainability is hard to define in a unique way.

[Accessed May 5, 2025], <https://www.un.org/en/academic-impact/sustainability>
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/5987our-common-future.pdf>

Solow, R. (1995). An almost practical step toward sustainability. *Ekistics*, 62(370/371/372), 15–20. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/43623526>
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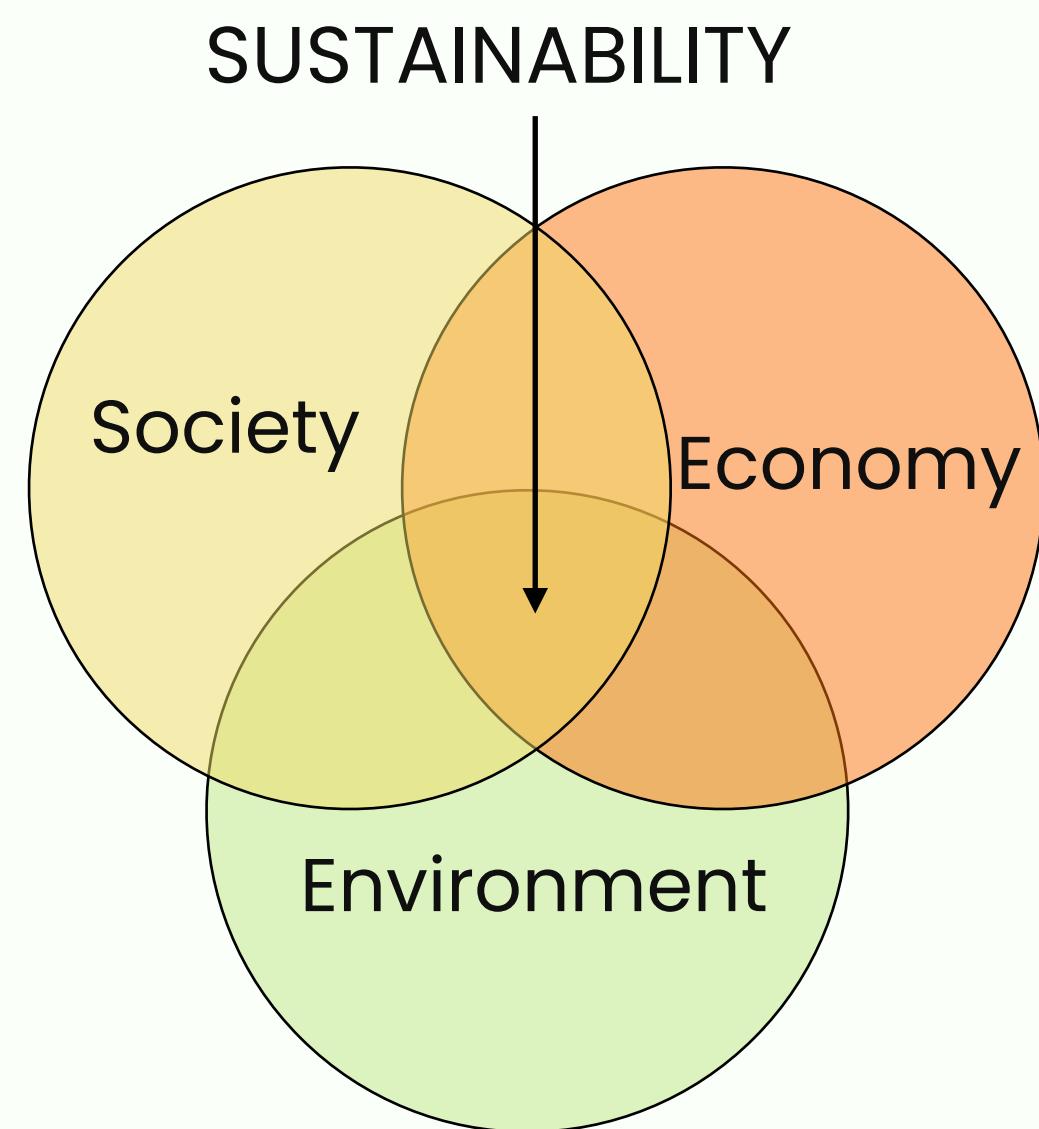
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WHAT IS SUSTAINABILITY?

Sustainability is hard to define in a unique way.

- ◆ Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. UN report, Brundtland, 1987
- ◆ Preservation of productive capacity for the foreseeable future. Solow, 1992
- ◆ A dynamic harmony between the equitable availability of energy-intensive goods and services to all people and preservation of the earth for future generations. Tester, 2005



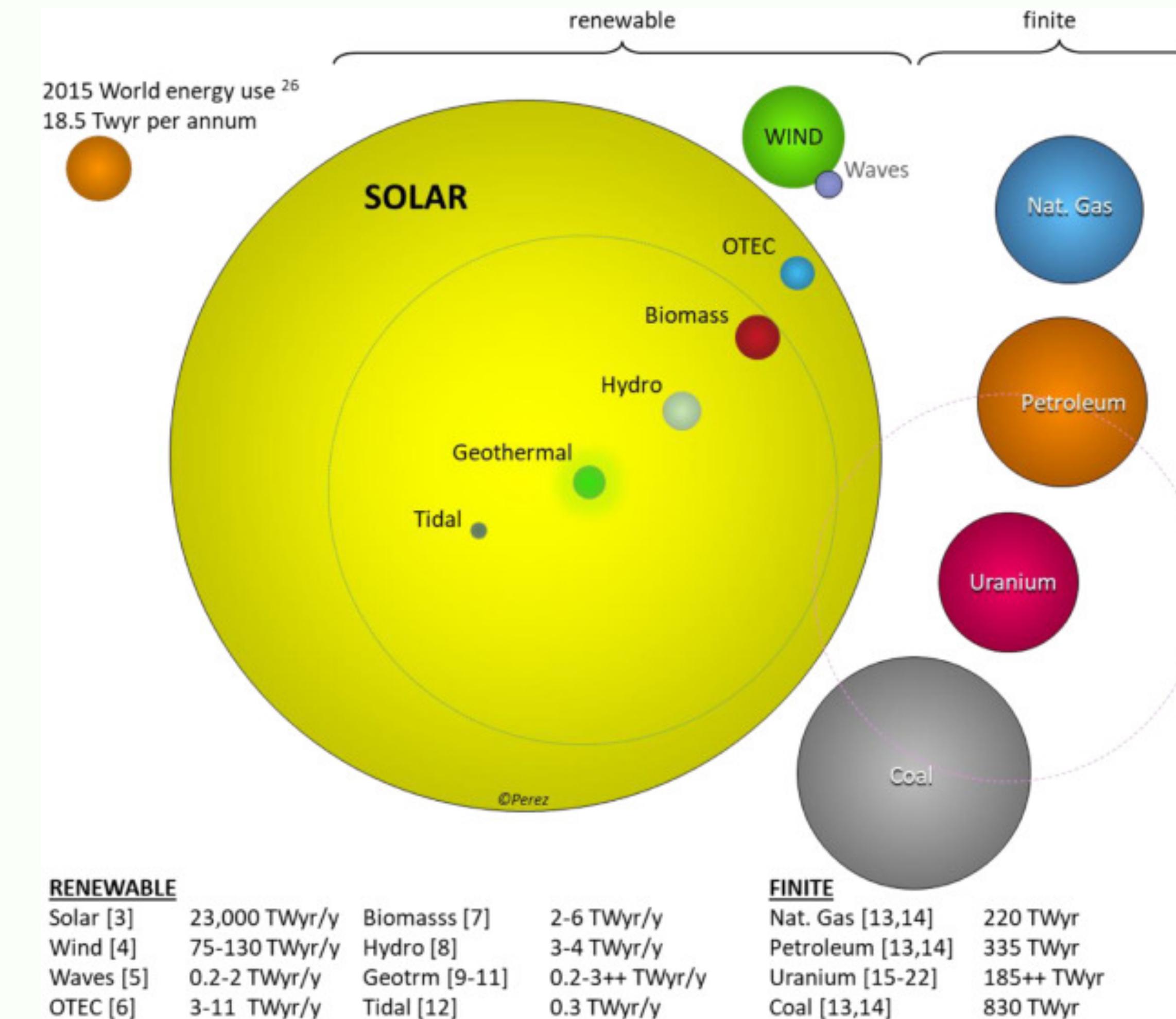
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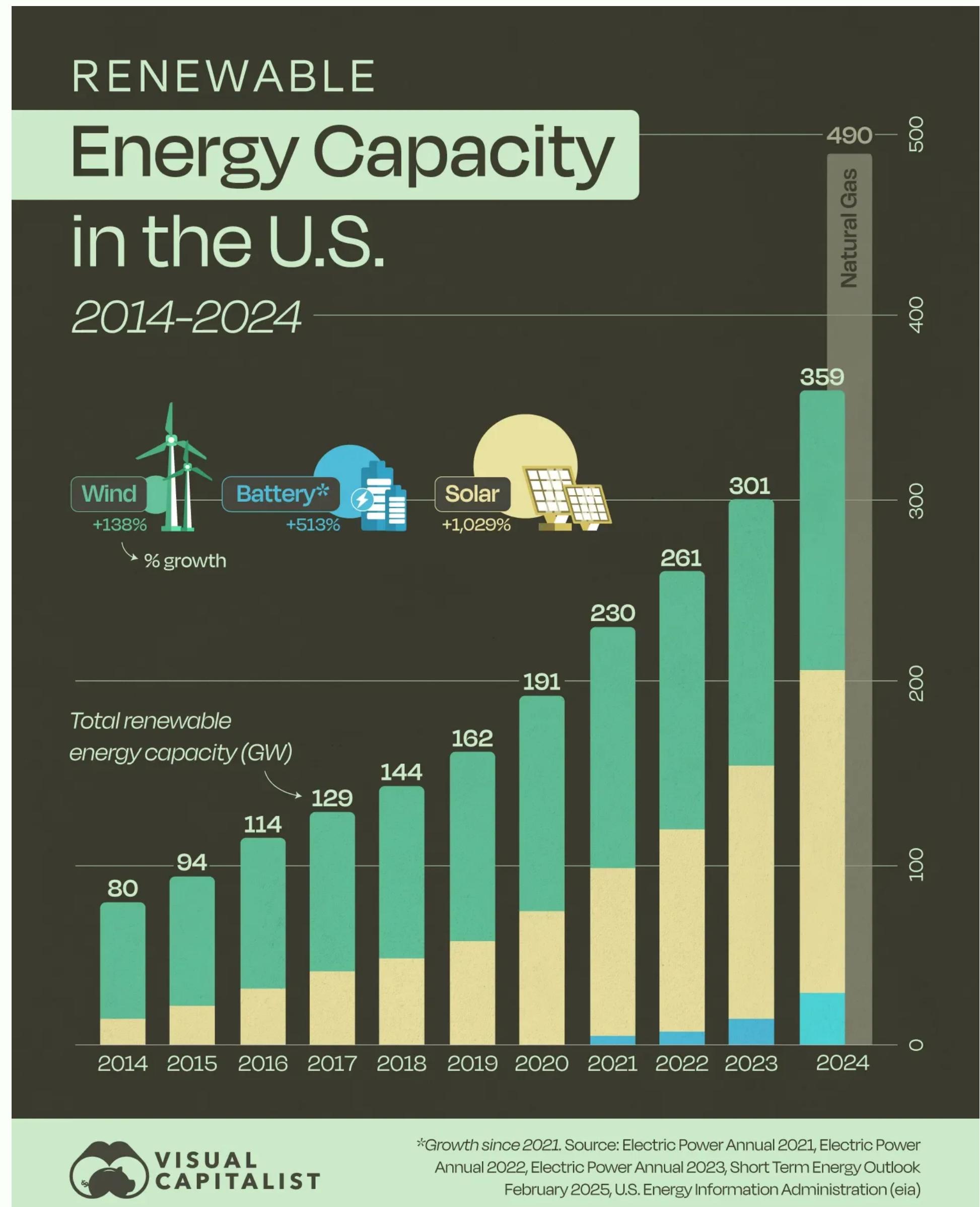
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Shift energy production from fossil
to renewable energy sources.

Is it the answer?

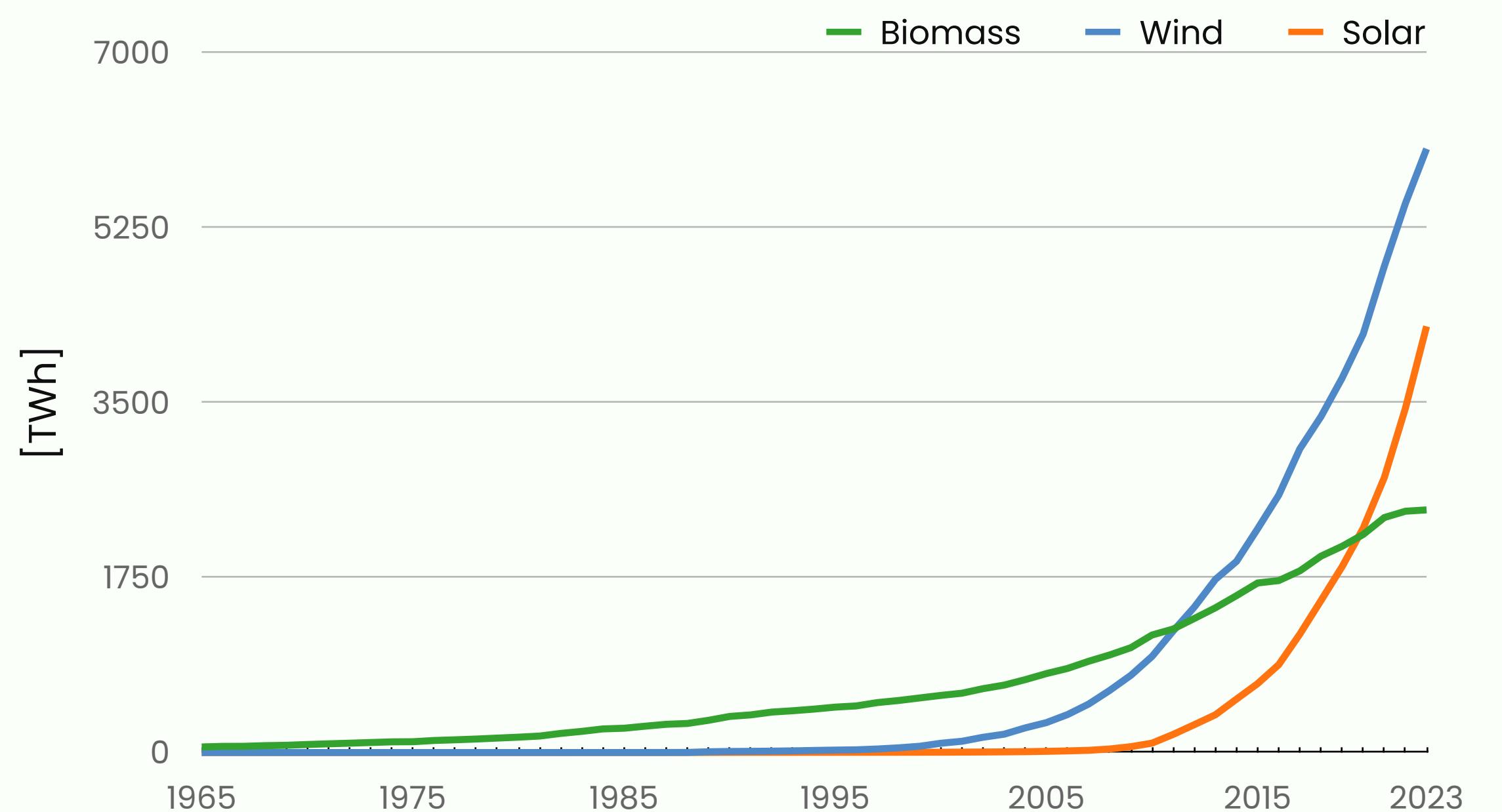
ENERGY POTENTIAL



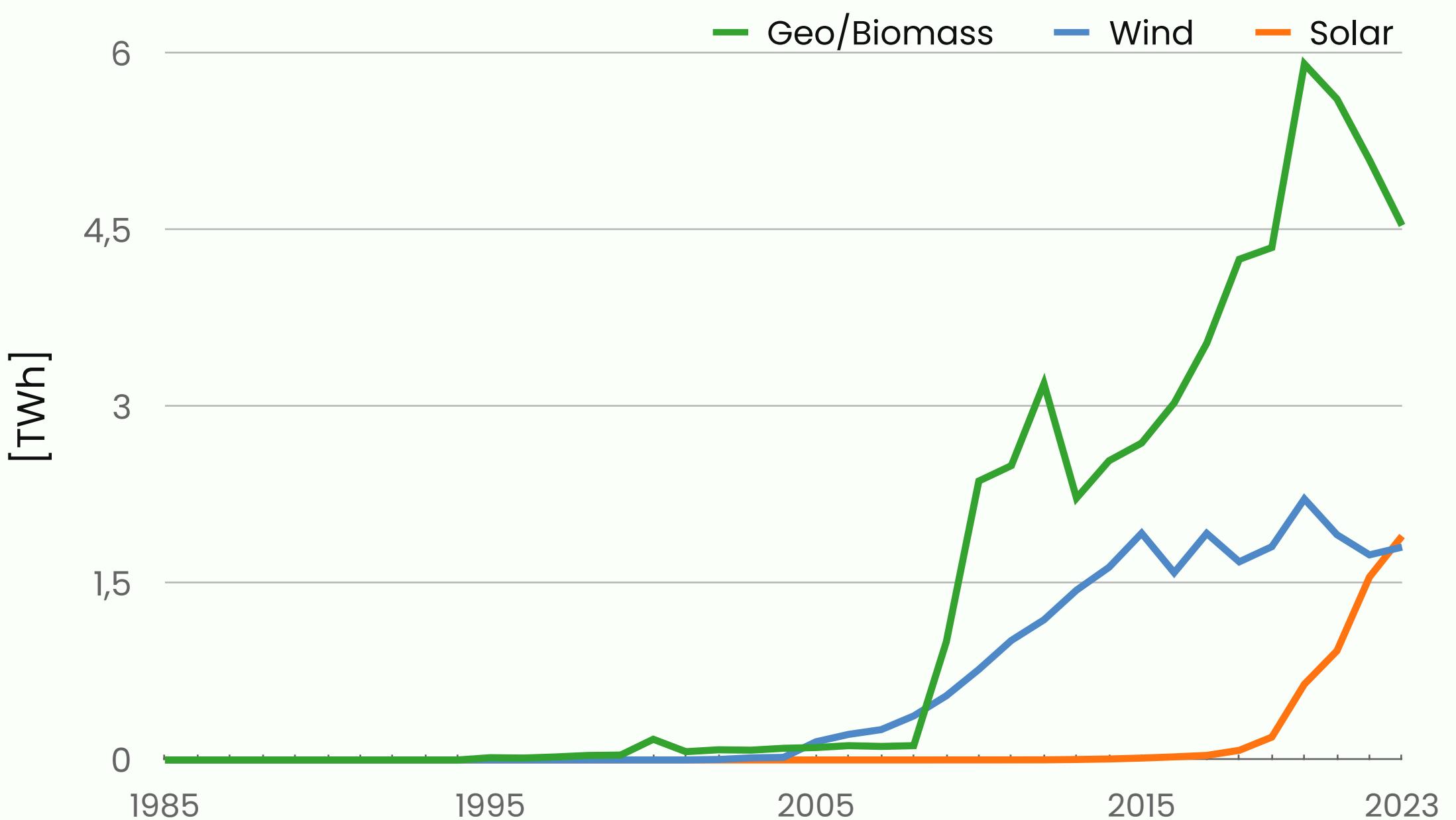


RENEWABLE ENERGY

World



Estonia



RENEWABLE ENERGY IN SCOPE

Main directive COM(2016) 767/F2

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2018.328.01.0082.01.ENG&toc=OJ:L:2018:328:TOC

EU Goals on renewable energy source (from COM(2016) 767/F2):

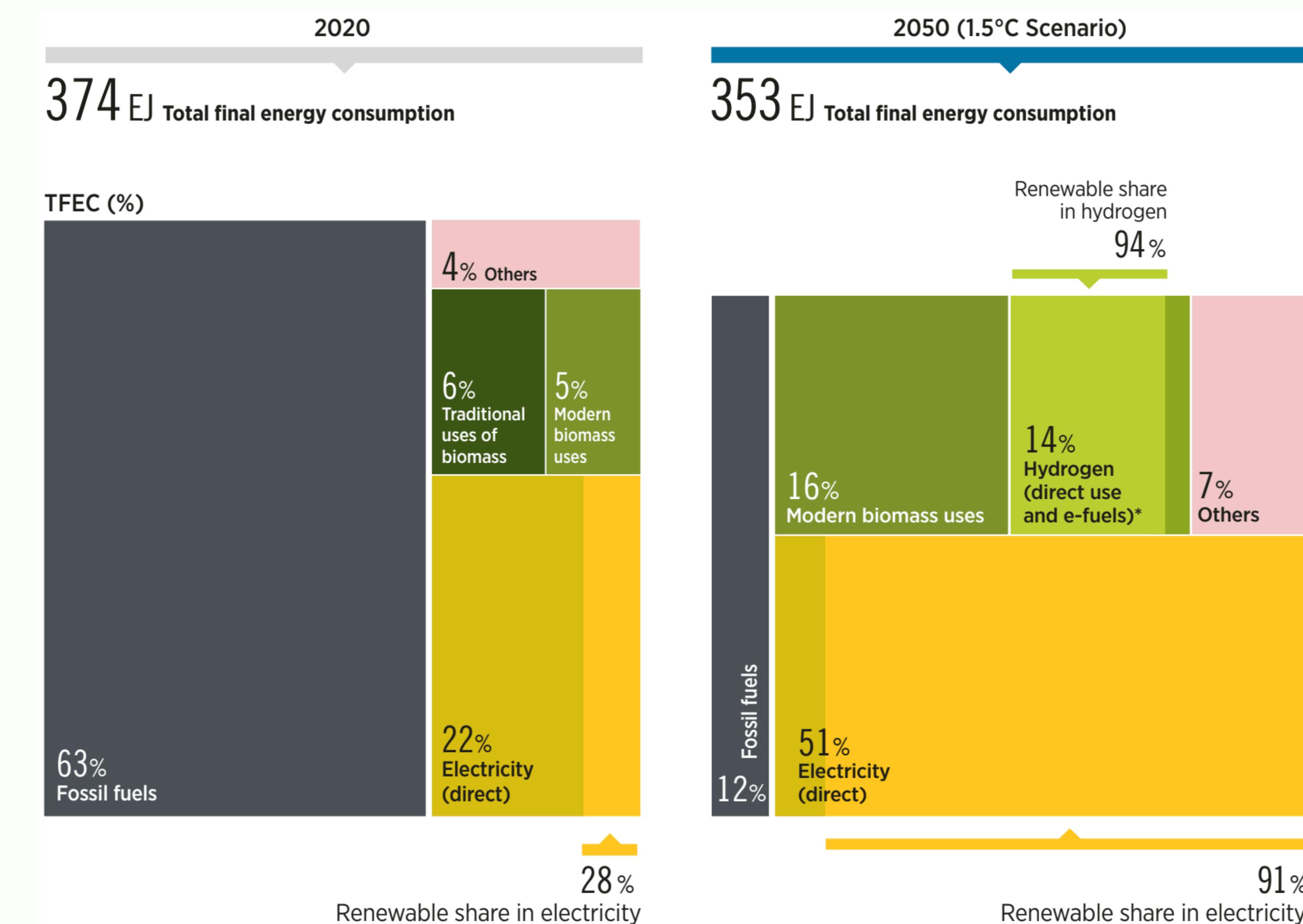
>32% by 2030 Reaching this threshold is in accordance with Paris agreement 2016

http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php

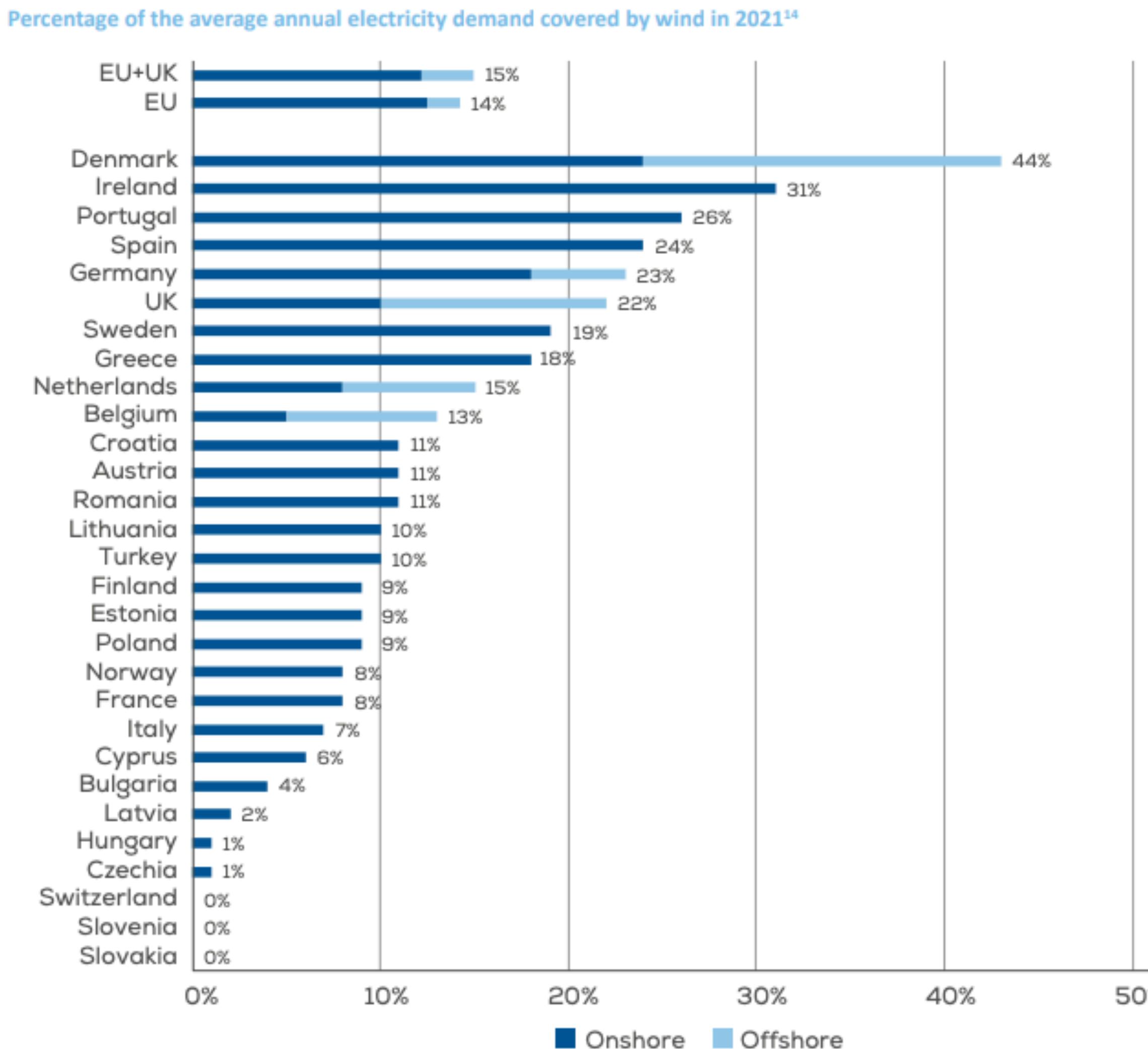
Estonia is discussing possibility to reach 42% by 2035

<https://valitsus.ee/en/media/367/download>

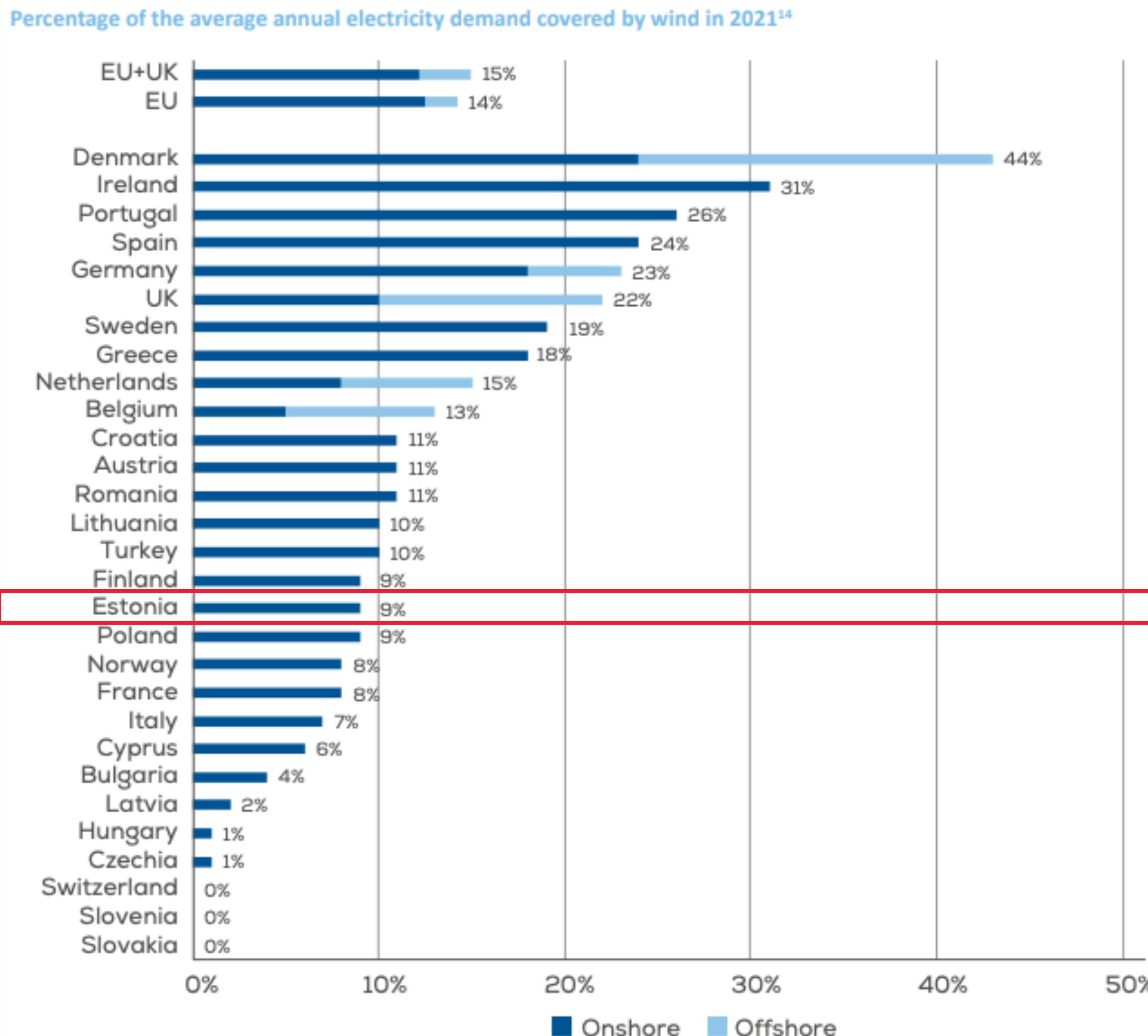
ENERGY CONSUMPTION BREAKDOWN



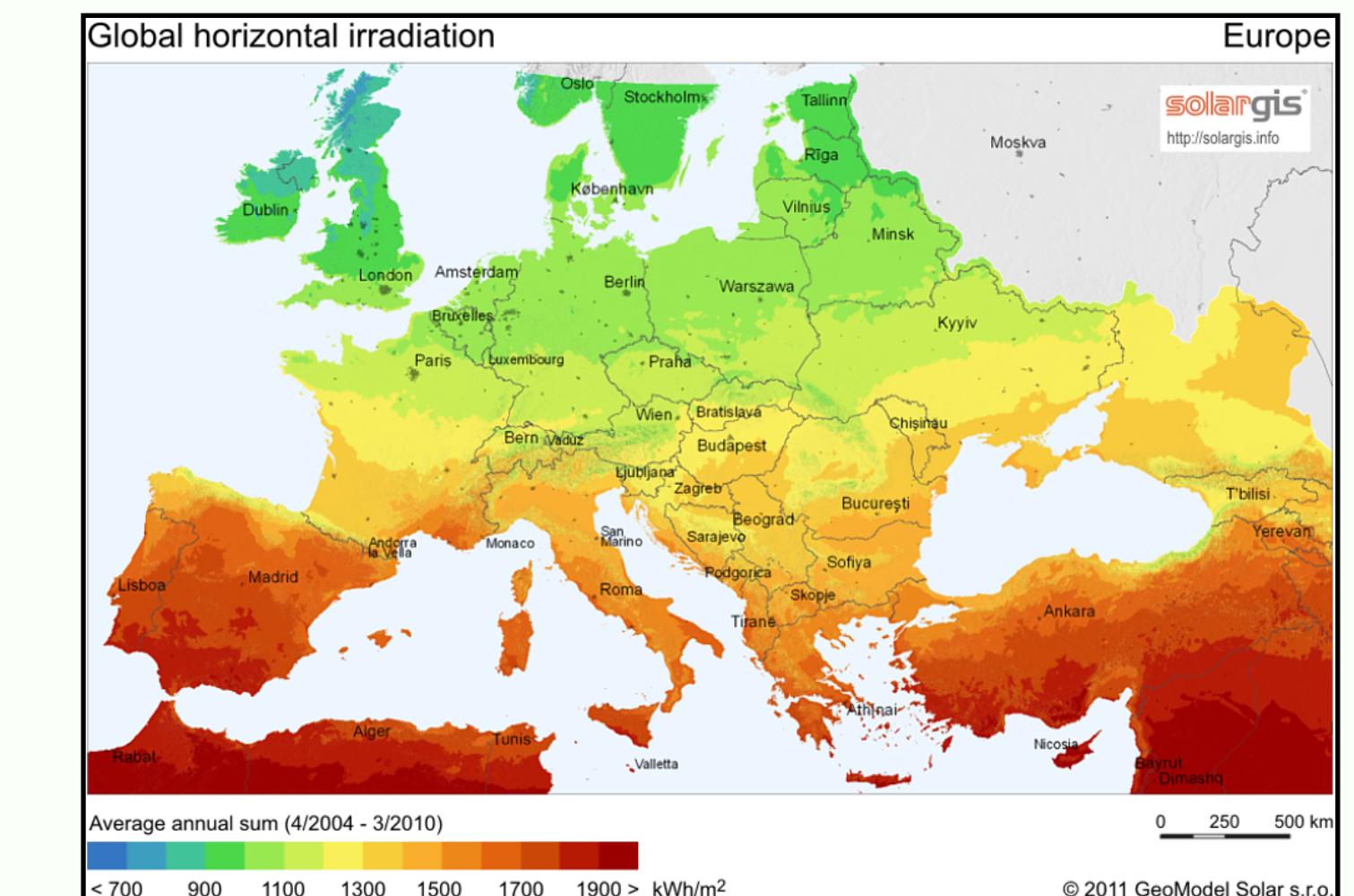
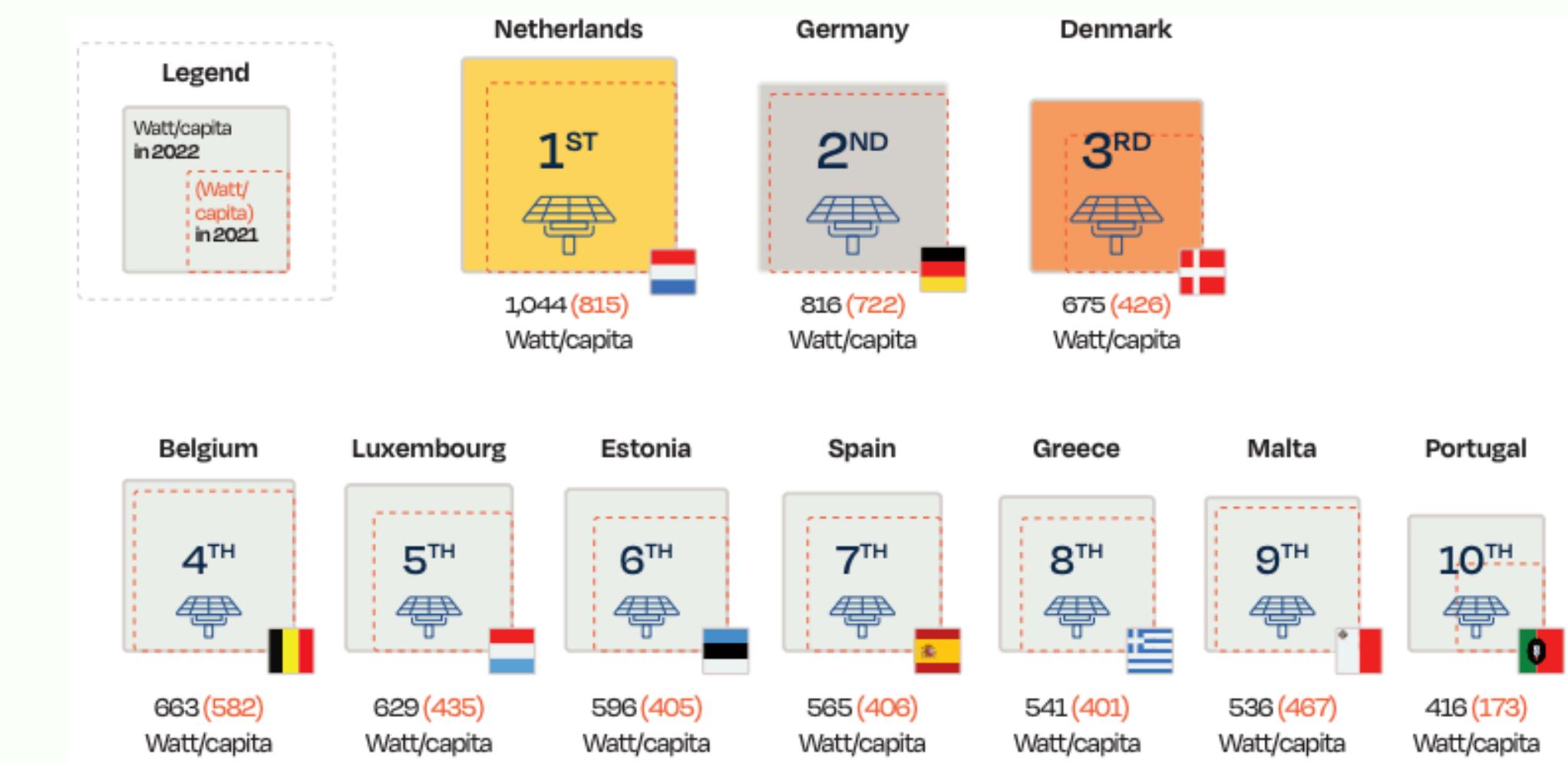
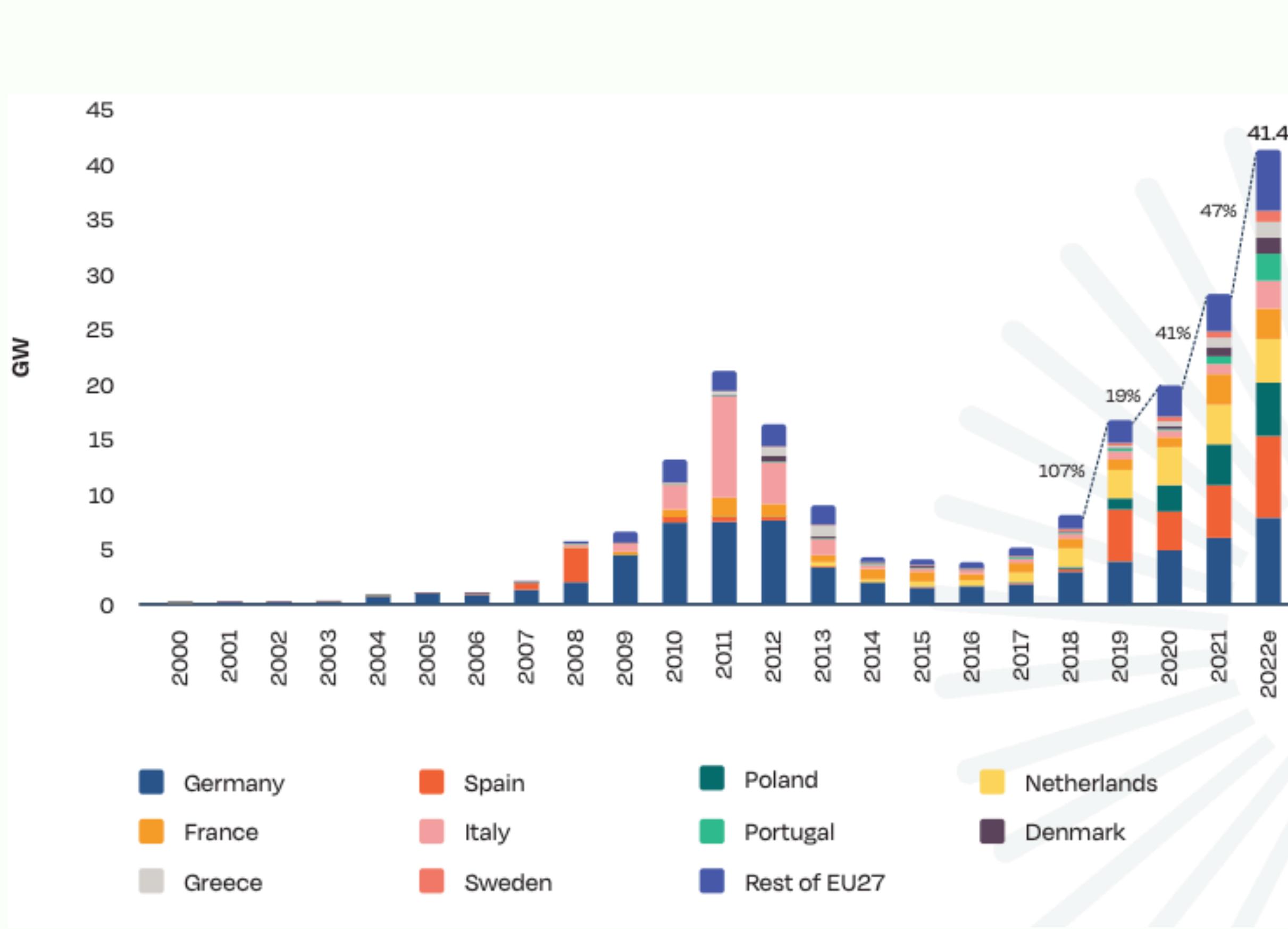
WIND POWER IN EU



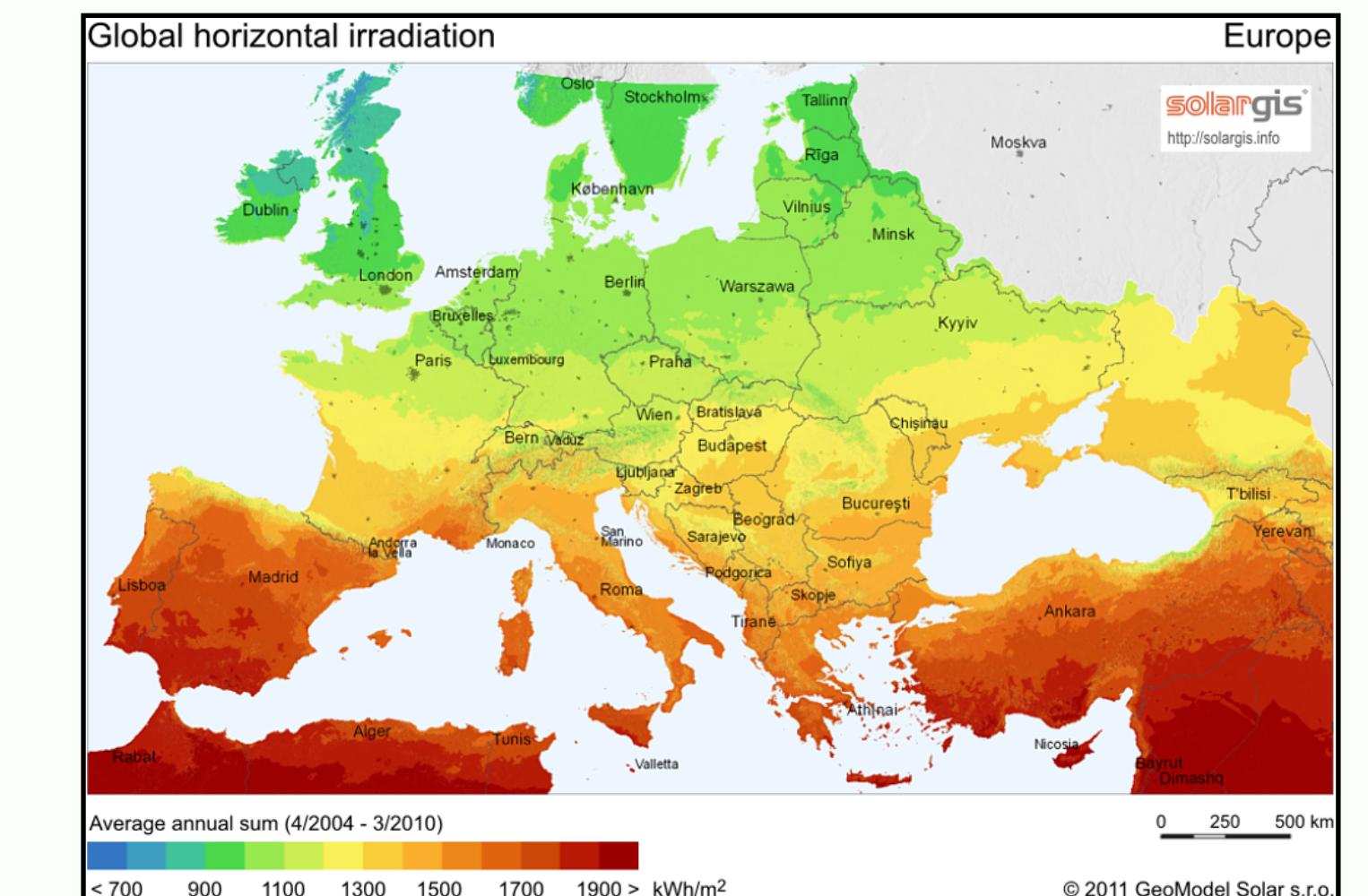
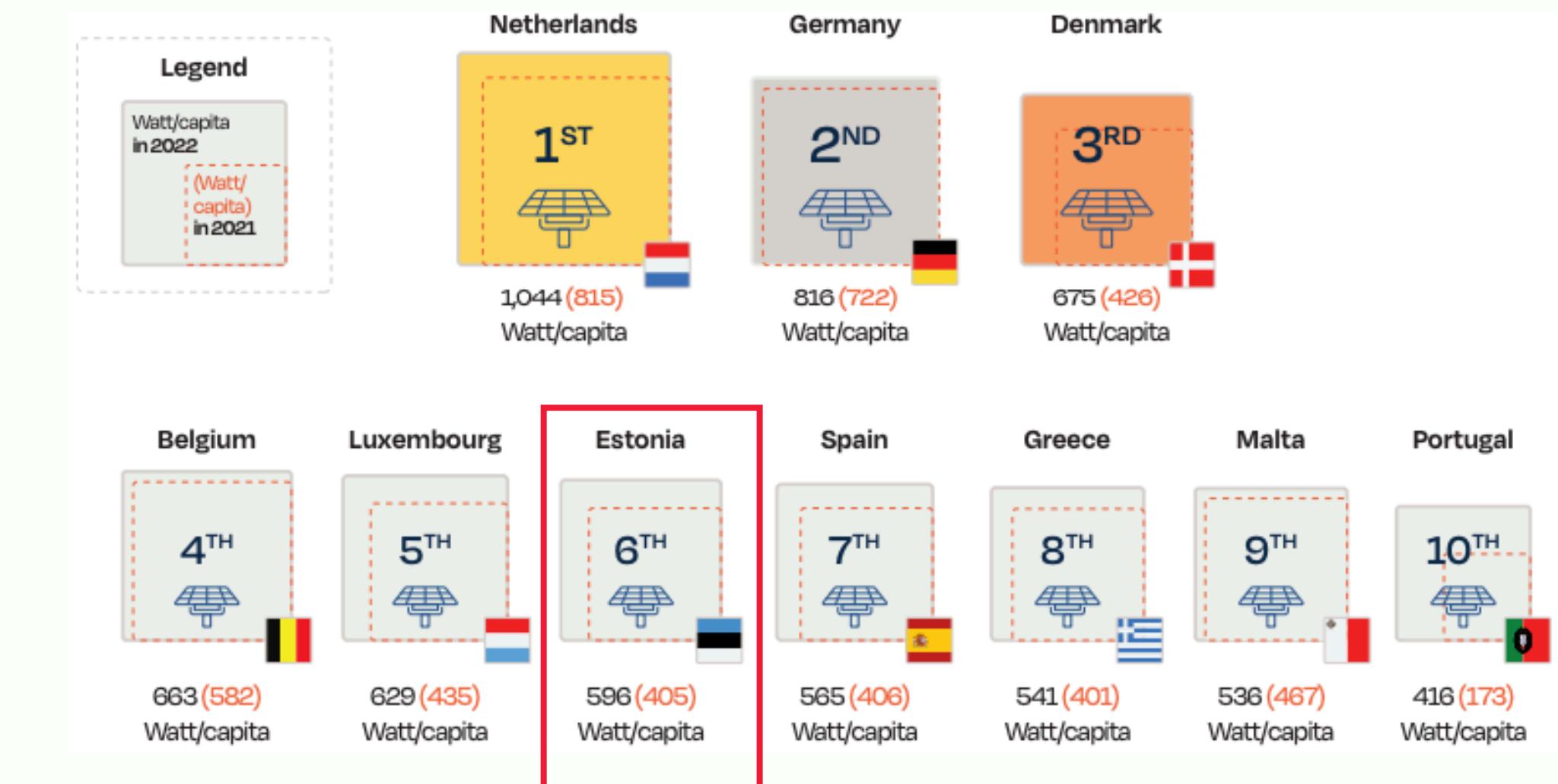
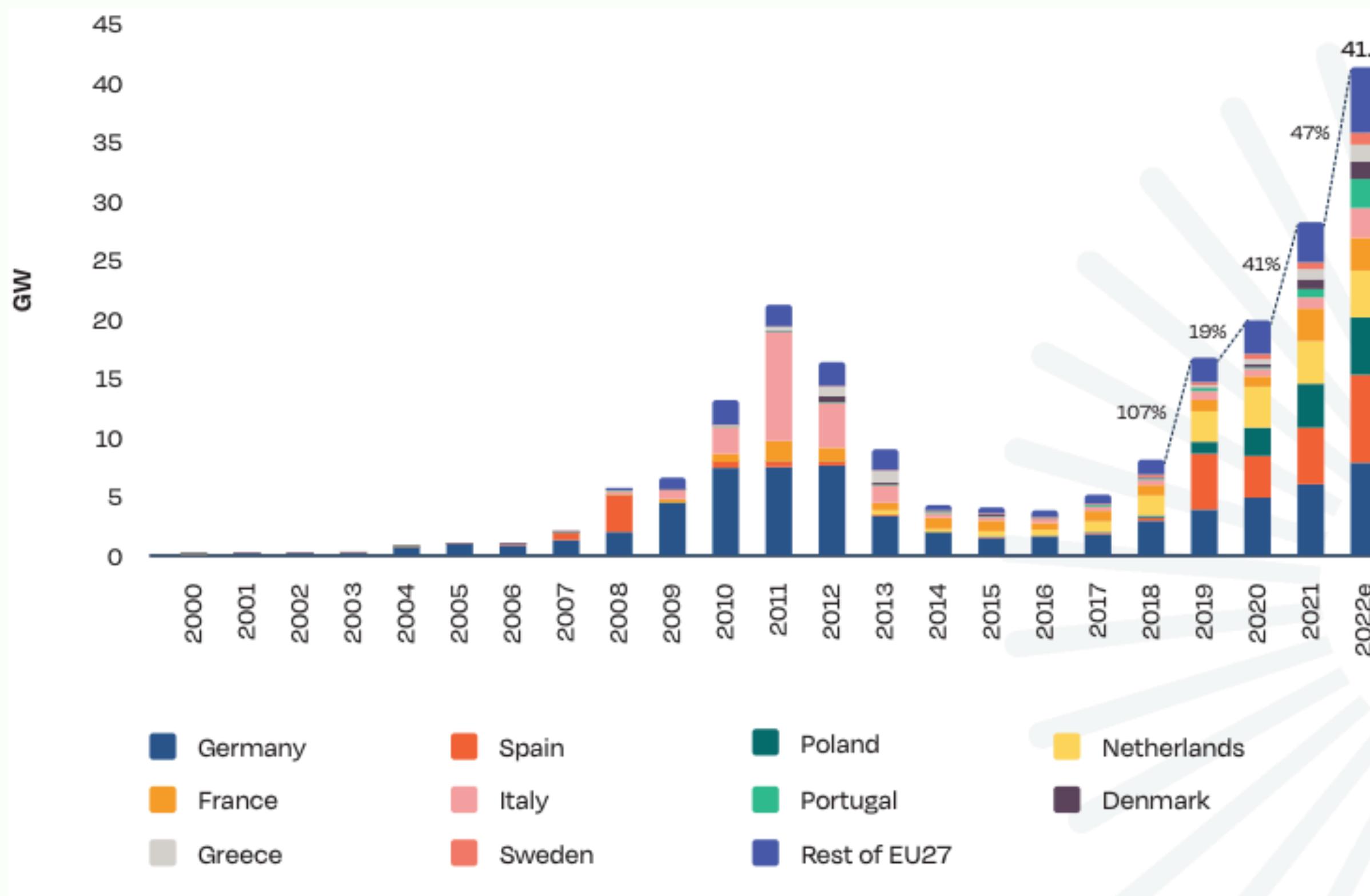
WIND POWER IN EU



SOLAR POWER IN EU



SOLAR POWER IN EU



SOLAR POWER WORLDWIDE PERSPECTIVE

1. Gonghe Talatan Solar Park (China): 15.6 GW
2. Hobq (China): 4 GW
3. Tog Front (China): 4 GW
4. Midong (China): 3.5 GW
5. Bhadla (India): 2.245 GW



SOLAR POWER WORLDWIDE PERSPECTIVE

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Electricity consumption and generation

Estonia's all-time peak electricity consumption was 1,599 MW (4 January 2024).

Thank you!
Questions?