Intel Data Center



**INTRODUCTION:** Intel, the semiconductor manufacturing powerhouse, is planning on building a new data center. Energy availability and usage are some of the key considerations in deciding on a location of the data center. For example, which regions produce a surplus of energy, and are therefore more likely to provide energy at cheaper prices? Which regions rely more on renewable energy sources?   
  
In this project, co-designed with Intel's Sustainability Team, you'll write SQL queries that will power your analysis and create visualizations that will help the Intel team select the best location for the new data center.

**HOW IT WORKS:** Follow the prompts in the questions below to investigate your data. Post your answers in the provided boxes: the **yellow boxes** for the queries you write, **purple boxes** for visualizations and **blue boxes** for text-based answers. When you're done, export your document as a pdf file and submit it on the Milestone page – see instructions for creating a PDF at the end of the Milestone.

**RESOURCES:** If you need hints on the Milestone or are feeling stuck, there are multiple ways of getting help. Attend Drop-In Hours to work on these problems with your peers, or reach out to the HelpHub if you have questions. Good luck!

SQL App: [**Here’s that link**](https://sql.hq.globaltech.org/queries/new) to our specialized SQL app, where you’ll write your SQL queries and interact with the data.

**—** Data Set **Descriptions**

In this project you’ll query 3 datasets as well as write a query to generate a new dataset that you will use in your tableau visualizations. The intel.energy\_data dataset will be the main dataset you’ll be working with. The intel.energy\_by\_plant and intel.power\_plants datasets will be joined for an in-depth analysis of energy production at the power plant level.

Read below to learn more about the datasets and their features.

**intel.energy\_data:** Contains information about daily energy production and consumption for different regions in the United States.

* balancing\_authority- A Balancing Authority is responsible for maintaining the electricity balance within its region. This is a company that makes sure electricity is being exchanged between electric providers and regions so that no region runs out of electricity due to high demand.
* date - The date the energy was produced.
* region- The electric service area within a geographic area of the USA. e.g. California, Midwest, etc.
* time\_at\_end\_of\_hour- The time and date after energy was generated, .e.g., energy generated between 1pm-2pm will show up as 2pm in this field.
* demand- The energy demand in megawatts (MW) on the grid (what the houses/business are using).
* net\_generation - The energy produced in MW in the region by all sources e.g., wind, coal, nuclear, etc.
* all\_petroleum\_products - The energy produced in MW by petroleum products.
* coal - The energy produced in MW by all coal products
* hydropower\_and\_pumped\_storage - The energy produced in MW by water power and pumped heat sources.
* natural\_gas - The energy produced in MW by natural gas sources
* nuclear - The energy produced in MW from nuclear fuel sources
* solar - The energy produced in MW by solar panels and other solar energy capturing methods.
* wind - The energy produced in MW from wind turbines and other wind sources.

**intel.power\_plants:** Contains general information about power plants in the United States.

* plant\_name - The name of the power plant.
* plant\_code - The unique identifier of the plant.
* region - The region in the US where the power plant is located. Matches the regions in the intel.energy\_data
* state - The state where the power plant is located.
* primary\_technology - The primary technology used to generate electricity at the power plant.

**intel.energy\_by\_plant:** Contains total energy production information at the plant for the year 2022.

* plant\_name - The name of the power plant.
* plant\_code - The unique identifier of the plant.
* energy\_type - The kind of energy generated by the power plant. Either renewable energy or fossil fuel.
* energy\_generated\_mw - The total energy generated, in MegaWatts, at the plant for the year 2022.

**— Task 1:** Energy Generation

Let’s first identify regions that are net energy producers. Not all regions generate enough energy to meet the local demand. Some regions purchase power from other regions, while others sell their surplus to regions in need.

1. Write a query using the intel.energy\_data table that calculates the sum total of energy produced, grouped by each region. Sort the output by highest total energy. Which region has the highest positive total energy?

**HINT:** Total energy is equal to the difference between net\_generation and demand.

| SELECT  region,  SUM(net\_generation - demand) AS total\_energy\_produced  FROM  intel.energy\_data  GROUP BY  region  ORDER BY  total\_energy\_produced DESC |
| --- |

| Mid-Atlantic = 31,693,087 |
| --- |

1. Intel is interested in regions that generate a large amount of energy from renewable sources. Renewable energy is defined as any energy generated from hydropower\_and\_pumped\_storage, wind, and solar sources.

Write a query that calculates the sum total of renewable energy by region. Sort the output by the region with the highest renewable energy. What are the top two regions for total renewable energy production?

**HINT:** You need to add the 3 energy sources together in one line before doing your group by: SUM(col1 + col2 + col3) AS new\_column

| SELECT  region,  SUM(hydropower\_and\_pumped\_storage + wind + solar) AS total\_renewable\_energy  FROM  intel.energy\_data  GROUP BY  region  ORDER BY  total\_renewable\_energy DESC |
| --- |

| Northwest & Texas |
| --- |

1. Modify your query slightly so that it calculates the **percentage** of renewable energy by region.   
     
   **HINT:** Divide the amount of renewable energy by the sum total of net\_generation, and then multiply the result by 100.

| SELECT  region,  (SUM(hydropower\_and\_pumped\_storage + wind + solar) / SUM(net\_generation)) \* 100 AS renewable\_energy\_percentage  FROM  intel.energy\_data  GROUP BY  region  ORDER BY  renewable\_energy\_percentage DESC |
| --- |

1. Which regions change from the top 3 when looking at total renewable energy vs percentage of renewable energy?

| Highest: Northwest 2nd Highest: Central 3rd Highest: California |
| --- |

**— Task 2:** Generating New Data by Energy Type

Intel would like to know how renewable energy and fossil fuels trend over time. In order to do this, you will first need to generate a new table using your SQL knowledge and the intel.energy\_data table before visualizing trends in Tableau Cloud.

1. Write a query that calculates the renewable energy generated for each row. Return only the date, region, and energy\_generated\_mw columns.

**Note:** energy\_generated\_mw is the alias for hydropower\_and\_pumped\_storage + wind + solar.

| SELECT  date,  region,  hydropower\_and\_pumped\_storage + wind + solar AS renewable\_energy\_generated\_mw  FROM  intel.energy\_data |
| --- |

After showing the result of the query to your manager, she tells you that she wants it to be clear that the energy\_generated\_mw column is referring to renewable energy types. She asks you to create a new column called energy\_type that has the value ‘renewable energy’ for each row.

A colleague teaches you a simple method to do this. When writing your query, add an additional column after your select statement. Here is an example:

| SELECT  \*, -- any relevant fields to the query  'renewable energy' AS energy\_type  FROM intel.energy\_data |
| --- |

1. Modify your query from Part **A.** to include the energy\_type column.

| SELECT  date,  region,  hydropower\_and\_pumped\_storage + wind + solar AS renewable\_energy\_generated\_mw,  'renewable energy' AS energy\_type  FROM  intel.energy\_data |
| --- |

1. Next, write a **new** query that calculates the fossil fuel energy generated for each row. As in Part **A.**, return only the date, region, and energy\_generated\_mw columns, where energy\_generated\_mw is now the alias for all\_petroleum\_products + coal + natural\_gas + nuclear + other\_fuel\_sources.

| SELECT  date,  region,  all\_petroleum\_products + coal + natural\_gas + nuclear + other\_fuel\_sources AS fossil\_fuel\_energy\_generated\_mw  FROM  intel.energy\_data |
| --- |

1. Modify your query in Part **C.** to include the energy\_type column. This column should have the value ‘fossil fuel’ for each row.

**HINT:** This is very similar to Part **B.**!

| SELECT  date,  region,  all\_petroleum\_products + coal + natural\_gas + nuclear + other\_fuel\_sources AS fossil\_fuel\_energy\_generated\_mw,  'fossil fuel' AS energy\_type  FROM  intel.energy\_data |
| --- |

1. Your queries from Parts **B.** and **D.** should both have the columns date, region, energy\_generated, and energy\_type. Write one final query that UNIONs these two together.

| SELECT  date,  region,  hydropower\_and\_pumped\_storage + wind + solar AS energy\_generated,  'renewable energy' AS energy\_type  FROM  intel.energy\_data  UNION ALL  SELECT  date,  region,  all\_petroleum\_products + coal + natural\_gas + nuclear + other\_fuel\_sources AS energy\_generated,  'fossil fuel' AS energy\_type  FROM  intel.energy\_data |
| --- |

**Task 3:** Aggregating Power Plant Data

Intel has provided you with additional data in order to reach the best conclusion about the location of its next data center. In this task you will be working with two tables intel.power\_plants and intel.energy\_by\_power\_plant. You will need to join these tables before you can aggregate them to help the Intel team with their analysis.

1. Join the intel.power\_plants and intel.energy\_by\_power\_plant data on the plant\_code. This joined table will form the basis for the rest of the task.   
     
   If done correctly, your output will have 2,504 rows.

| SELECT  pp.\*,  ebp.energy\_type,  ebp.energy\_generated\_mw  FROM  intel.power\_plants pp  JOIN intel.energy\_by\_plant ebp ON pp.plant\_code = ebp.plant\_code |
| --- |

**Note:** It is recommended to use the **WITH** keyword for the remainder of this Task to simplify your queries. For a refresher, rewatch “🍿The **WITH** Keyword” in SkillBuilder 6.

1. Write a query that returns the total number of **renewable energy** power plants for each region. Which region has the most renewable power plants?

| WITH renewable\_power\_plants\_count AS (  SELECT  pp.region,  COUNT(\*) AS renewable\_plants\_count  FROM  intel.power\_plants pp  JOIN intel.energy\_by\_plant ebp ON pp.plant\_code = ebp.plant\_code  WHERE  ebp.energy\_type = 'renewable\_energy'  GROUP BY  pp.region  )  SELECT  region,  renewable\_plants\_count  FROM  renewable\_power\_plants\_count  ORDER BY  renewable\_plants\_count DESC  LIMIT  1 |
| --- |

| Midwest = 234 |
| --- |

1. Next, write a query that returns both the total number of power plants and the total energy generated, specifically from plants that use “Solar Photovoltaic” technology, grouped by each region.

| WITH solar\_power\_plants\_count AS (  SELECT  pp.region,  COUNT(\*) AS solar\_plants\_count  FROM  intel.power\_plants pp  JOIN intel.energy\_by\_plant ebp ON pp.plant\_code = ebp.plant\_code  WHERE  pp.primary\_technology = 'Solar Photovoltaic'  GROUP BY  pp.region  HAVING  COUNT(\*) >= 50  )  SELECT  region,  solar\_plants\_count  FROM  solar\_power\_plants\_count  ORDER BY  solar\_plants\_count DESC |
| --- |

1. Modify your query in part **C** to only show regions having at least 50 power plants that use “Solar Photovoltaic” technology. What can you infer about the efficiency (or size) of the power plants in the Midwest region relative to the other regions in your output?

| WITH solar\_power\_plants\_count AS (  SELECT  pp.region,  COUNT(\*) AS solar\_plants\_count,  AVG(ebp.energy\_generated\_mw) AS avg\_energy\_generated\_per\_plant  FROM  intel.power\_plants pp  JOIN intel.energy\_by\_plant ebp ON pp.plant\_code = ebp.plant\_code  WHERE  pp.primary\_technology = 'Solar Photovoltaic'  GROUP BY  pp.region  HAVING  COUNT(\*) >= 50  )  SELECT  region,  solar\_plants\_count,  avg\_energy\_generated\_per\_plant  FROM  solar\_power\_plants\_count  ORDER BY  avg\_energy\_generated\_per\_plant DESC |
| --- |

| Since the Midwest region has the highest count of solar power plants among all regions, it suggests that the region has a significant number of solar energy installations. |
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**Note:** There is more Tableau work up ahead! If you want to skip the LevelUp jump straight to **Task 4** below!

**— LevelUp:** Hourly Trends in Renewable Energy

Before moving on to your Tableau Visualizations, let’s investigate how renewable energy generation fluctuates with the time of day.

1. Write a query that calculates the total **renewable** energy generated in each region for each hour of the day.

**HINT:** You’ll need to use the date\_part function to get the hour from the time\_at\_end\_of\_hour column. Your result should only have the values 0-23 for that new column.

| (paste your query here) |
| --- |

1. Modify your query to filter to the ‘California’ and ‘Northwest’ regions only.

| (paste your query here) |
| --- |

1. Use the built-in visualizer in the SQL app to plot a line graph of the energy generated for each hour of the day and colored by the region. If done correctly you should have two lines in your visualization.

| (paste your visualization here) |
| --- |

1. What can you say about the renewable energy generation between California (CAL) and the Pacific Northwest (NW)?

| (write your answer here) |
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**— Task 4:** Visualizing and Analyzing Using Tableau

Phew! Now that you’ve gotten the queries out of the way, you’re ready to dive into investigating the best regions for Intel to put its next data center. The remaining Tasks will be completed in Tableau, and will focus on visualizing and analyzing your results. [**Click this link**](https://prod-useast-b.online.tableau.com/t/globaltech/views/ProjectIntelDataCenter_16950609495020/Questions) **to navigate**  **to the workbook you’ll use to complete the remainder of this Project.**

Once you’ve published your Tableau Workbook, paste the Share Link in the box below.

**Note:** Your share link must begin with:

https://prod-useast-b.online.tableau.com/#/site/globaltech/workbooks/...

| https://prod-useast-b.online.tableau.com/t/globaltech/authoring/AntonioRosadoPortfolioProject/EnergybyState#1 |
| --- |

**Continue to post your answers in the provided boxes: purple boxes for your visualizations, and blue boxes for text-based answers.**

1. On the “Net Production” sheet, create a bar chart of net production , by region. Sort the chart in *descending* order, from tallest to smallest.  
     
   The net energy produced is calculated by subtracting the total energy demand from the total energy generation. This is already created in the field called Net Production.

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| --- |

1. Next, on the “Renewable Energy” sheet, create a bar chart illustrating which regions generate the greatest percentage of renewable energy.  
     
   **HINT:** In Tableau, you have a field called Percent Renewable Energy

.

Create a bar chart in descending order of regions with the most renewable energy percentage.

|  |
| --- |

1. On the “Energy Source by Region” sheet, create a line chart of the energy generated for each energy source (fossil fuels & renewable energy) at the weekly date level. Add a filter for the region to your chart.

For this chart, you will use the energy\_by\_source dataset loaded into your Tableau workbook.

|  |
| --- |

1. On the “Energy by State” sheet create a bar chart of the total energy generated by each state and energy type. Color the bars by energy type. Include a region filter in your chart to reduce the amount of bars shown.  
     
   For this chart you will use the power\_plant\_energy dataset that you created. You can select the data source in the upper left hand column in Tableau.

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**— Task 5:** Communicating Results

Your manager wants you to share the visualizations you created in Task 3 with the Sustainability team for visibility. She has created a dashboard with your visualizations (see the “Dashboard” sheet in Tableau) and has asked you to write a short paragraph explaining which region you recommend that the next data center be built.

1. In 1-2 paragraphs, summarize what can be gleaned from your visualizations. What **region** and **state** do you think is best and why?

| From the visualizations, we can infer that California leads in net energy production, with the Mid-Atlantic region following closely behind. In terms of renewable energy generation, the Northwest region is the highest, with the Central region coming in second. The line chart depicting energy sources by region shows a peak around the 21st day followed by a significant dip around the 30th day, indicating some fluctuation in energy generation patterns. Finally, in the energy by state bar chart, Florida appears to be the highest energy producer, followed by Illinois. Based on these observations, California could be considered the best region overall due to its strong performance in net energy production, while Florida might be the best state for energy generation, considering its high total energy output. |
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That’s it! Submit your final project for evaluation, and go celebrate your achievement! You just completed a rich, complex data analysis project representing real-world level work. You’ve gained some impressive skills! Well done, and never stop learning 😀

**— Submission**

Great work completing your Portfolio Project!! To submit your completed project file, you will need to download / export this document as a PDF and then upload it to the Milestone submission page. You can find the option to download as a PDF from the File menu in the upper-left corner of the Google Doc interface. Triple check the link to your Tableau workbook.

# Evaluation Rubric

| Task | Task title | Max points |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Energy Generation | 50 |
| 2 | Generating a New Table by Energy Type | 55 |
| 3 | Aggregating Power Plant Data | 35 |
| 4 | Visualizing Using Tableau | 40 |
| 5 | Communicating Results | 20 |
| **TOTAL POINTS:** | | 200 |
| **LevelUp** | | |
| 1 | Hourly Trends in Renewable Energy | 20 |