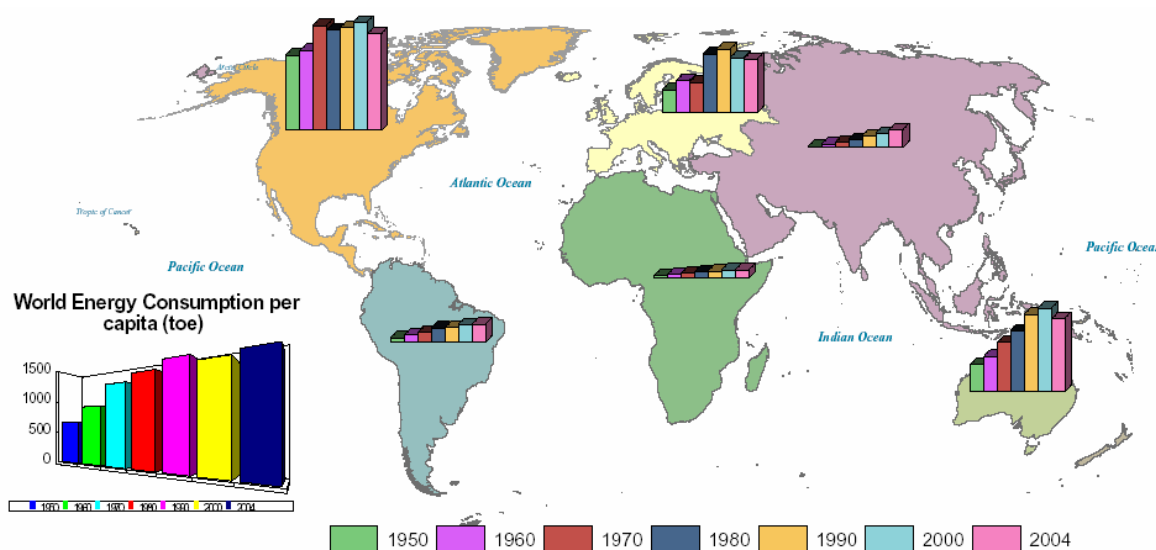


# Energy Statistics

In the past 60 years the Statistical Commission has often discussed energy statistics, endorsing energy data collection efforts of the United Nations Statistics Division. The Energy Statistics Section has played a pivotal role in global energy statistics, focusing primarily on developing methodologies, collecting and disseminating global energy data and indicators, promoting collaboration with international and regional organizations, and fostering technical cooperation with the United Nations Member States.



## Data collection

The United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) currently collects energy statistics annually from 212 countries and territories, excluding those covered by the joint OECD/IEA-UNECE-EUROSTAT energy statistics questionnaire. The UNSD questionnaire covers production, transformation, trade, intermediate and final consumption (end-use) of primary and secondary conventional, non-conventional, new and renewable sources of energy. It is sent, for update and completion, to national statistical offices, ministries of energy, or other national authorities responsible for energy statistics.

Every year in October, countries receive questionnaires for the previous year, pre-filled with data from the past years. The completed and updated questionnaires go through a rigorous process of validation before being used as the primary source for the Energy Statistics Database. Estimates are made when data is not available from the countries' national authorities. The response rate to the questionnaire has traditionally been low in Africa and certain parts of Asia. UNSD makes continuous efforts to change this.

## Data dissemination

UNSD began regular dissemination of country and global energy statistics in 1952, with its first international time series "World Energy Supplies in Selected Years, 1929–1950."

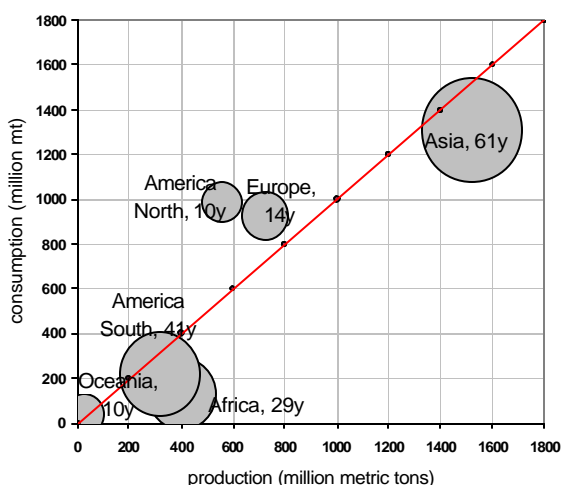


Today, UNSD's flagship publications are the Energy Statistics Yearbook and the biennial Energy Balances and Electricity

Profiles. Selected energy statistics are also published in the United Nations Statistical Yearbook and Monthly Bulletin of Statistics. UNSD focuses on developing countries when compiling the energy balances. The Energy Statistics Yearbook, extracted from the database, is a comprehensive collection of international energy statistics that provides a global framework of comparable data on long-term trends in the supply and demand of mainly commercial energy. The yearbook contains data not only in the original units of the energy commodities, but also, using conversion coefficients, in common units: tons of coal equivalent, tons of oil equivalent, or terajoules, providing comparable data of the global energy production and usage in a country. The electricity profiles give detailed information on electricity generation and use.

The Energy Statistics Database provides significant input to the work on sustainable development, the United Nations Human Development Report and regional publications compiled by the United Nations regional commissions. It also supplies energy data for CO<sub>2</sub> emission estimates. Since 2005 UNSD publishes the Energy Statistics Newsletter, available at:

[http://unstats.un.org/unsd/energy/ENewsletter/UNSDEnergy\\_news.htm](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/energy/ENewsletter/UNSDEnergy_news.htm)



Crude oil: production vs consumption and reserves-to-production ratios (represented by the size of circles) for continents, in 2004.

## Developing energy statistics methodology and international cooperation

UNSD has traditionally been involved in developing concepts and methods of energy statistics, to ensure international comparability of energy data. With the assistance of the Oslo Group on Energy Statistics, it plans to revise a number of key methodological publications in the next few years.

The key publications on methodology are:

- Studies in Methods - Series F No. 29: Concepts and Methods in Energy Statistics, with Special Reference to Energy Accounts and Balances - A Technical Report (1982) (Sales no: E.82.XVII.13)

- Studies in Methods - Series F No. 44: Energy Statistics: Definitions, Units of Measure and Conversion Factors (1987) (Sales no. E.86.XVII.21)
- Studies in Methods - Series F No. 56: Energy Statistics: A Manual for Developing Countries (1991) (Sales No. E.91.XVII.10)

UNSD is an active participant in a number of international initiatives, such as:

- The Oslo Group on Energy Statistics, a forum for countries to discuss methodological issues and learn from good practices, contributing to the methodological development of energy statistics. The Group is now working on updating the UNSD energy statistics manuals, with the goal of harmonizing energy statistics production at international level. The Group works through electronic discussion forums, in addition to annual meetings.
- The monthly oil statistics initiative (JODI), a cooperative effort of seven international organizations (APEC, EUROSTAT, OECD/IEA, IEFS, OLADE, OPEC and UNSD) to report m-1 or m-2 data on crude oil and selected petroleum products on a regular basis to support the oil market transparency and the user-consumer dialogue.
- International cooperation in the area of energy statistics with OECD/IEA, EUROSTAT, OPEC, OLADE, the World Energy Council, APEC, International Sugar Organization and other inter-governmental organizations and NGOs. It also collaborates with the United Nations regional commissions and United Nations specialized agencies, such as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

## Technical Cooperation

Targeted workshops have been organized in those regions where the availability of energy statistics is limited, mainly in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. These seminars and workshops: assist statisticians and energy specialists in developing and improving their knowledge of energy statistics; increase the ability of countries to provide annual and monthly energy data for their governments, policy and decision makers, as well as for international organizations, including UNSD; and facilitate regional cooperation between the participating countries.

## Information on the web

UNSD's website is <http://unstats.un.org>. The energy statistics database is not yet fully accessible online. The data are available in electronic format upon request at: [energy\\_stat@un.org](mailto:energy_stat@un.org). Some data can be found in the Common Database.

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