

4 Installed renewable electricity-generating capacity (watts per capita)

Definition and scope

The indicator is defined as the installed capacity of power plants that generate electricity from renewable energy sources divided by the total population of a country. Installed capacity is defined as the net maximum electrical capacity installed at the year end, and renewable energy sources are as defined in the IRENA Statute. The IRENA Statute promotes all forms of renewable energy, including bioenergy, geothermal, hydropower, ocean (tidal and wave), solar (photovoltaic and thermal) and wind energy.

This is a common indicator for both SDG 7.b.1 and 12.a.1 under Goals 7 (Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all) and 12 (Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns).

More:

<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-12-0a-01.docx>

Factsheet rationale

The indicator provides data on sustainable infrastructure for energy production independently of the total consumption share, and therefore provides a comparison of investments among countries.

As stated in the SDG, the infrastructure and technologies required to supply modern and sustainable energy services cover a wide range of equipment and devices used across numerous economic sectors. The focus of this indicator on electricity reflects the emphasis on modern sources of energy and is particularly relevant for developing countries, where demand for electricity is often high and availability is limited. Furthermore, the focus on renewables reflects the fact that the technologies used to produce renewable electricity are generally modern and more sustainable than non-renewables, particularly in the fastest growing sub-sectors of electricity generation from wind and solar energy.

Current situation and progress in the Mediterranean region

The available SDG datasets track progress in the southern and eastern Mediterranean region countries (EU SwitchMed-related), showing an upward trend for two countries, Turkey and Jordan. The trends for the remaining countries showed no progress prior to 2018, despite Algeria and Palestine still reporting very low numbers in this regard (watts per capita).

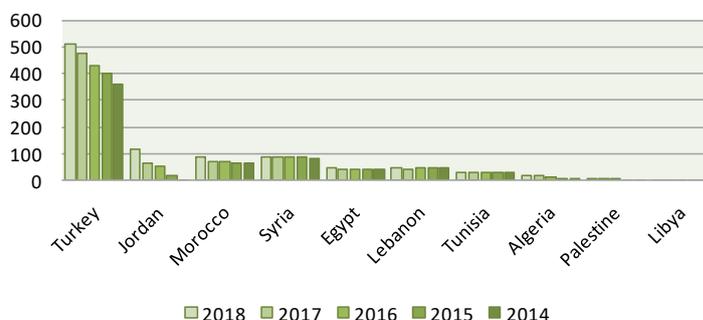
Sources
Global Footprint Network

Links
<https://www.footprintnetwork.org>

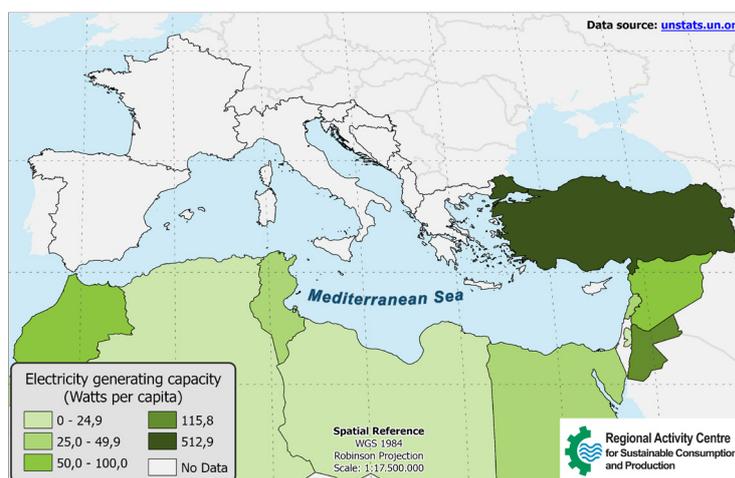
Key message

There are clear differences in installed renewable electricity-generating capacity (watts per capita) among southern and eastern Mediterranean region countries.

Installed renewable electricity trends (2014-2018)



Installed renewable electricity generating capacity (2018)



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