

Implications of North America Energy and Climate Policies

A U.S. Industrial Base Perspective

DAVID GATTIE (DGATTIE@UGA.EDU)

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE & SECURITY

ENERGY COUNCIL

DECEMBER 9, 2023

Relative, Strategic, Competitive Advantage

The capacity and ability of one actor to achieve their objectives compared to a competitor or competitors

Economic, Military, Technological, Geopolitical



The PRC as a Pacing Challenge

*While Russia constitutes an immediate and acute threat...“the PRC, by contrast, is the only competitor with both the intent to reshape the international order and, increasingly, the economic, diplomatic, military, and technological power to advance that objective”**

*“The PRC presents the most consequential and systemic challenge, while Russia poses acute threats—both to vital U.S. national interests abroad and to the homeland. PRC efforts and activities to contest the rules-based international order make it the pacing challenge...”***

*Biden, J. (2022). National Security Strategy. *The White House*, 23.

**National Defense Strategy of the United States of America. (2022). *U.S. DoD*.

“Both nations [RF, CN] seek military and technological superiority over the U.S. and *will continue attempts to overcome competitive disadvantages by fusing their national capabilities to destabilize the international order.* We will be fully engaged in great power competition with China and Russia, made increasingly complex by the continuing rogue actions of North Korea, Iran’s malign influence, and threats from violent extremist organizations.”

PRESERVING OUR COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE
PERSONNEL AND READINESS STRATEGY FOR 2030
US DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OCTOBER 2020

OTR Freight



Mining



Natural Gas-Fired Power Plants



America's Industrial Base
Depth, Diversity and Innovative
Capacity Will Underpin
Relative, Competitive, Strategic
Advantage

Nucle



A
Fo



Coal-



ing



ction



Refining



Overview

- A contrast in energy trends
- A contrast in energy policy and strategy
- Industrial base implications
- National security concerns

Contrast in Energy Trends

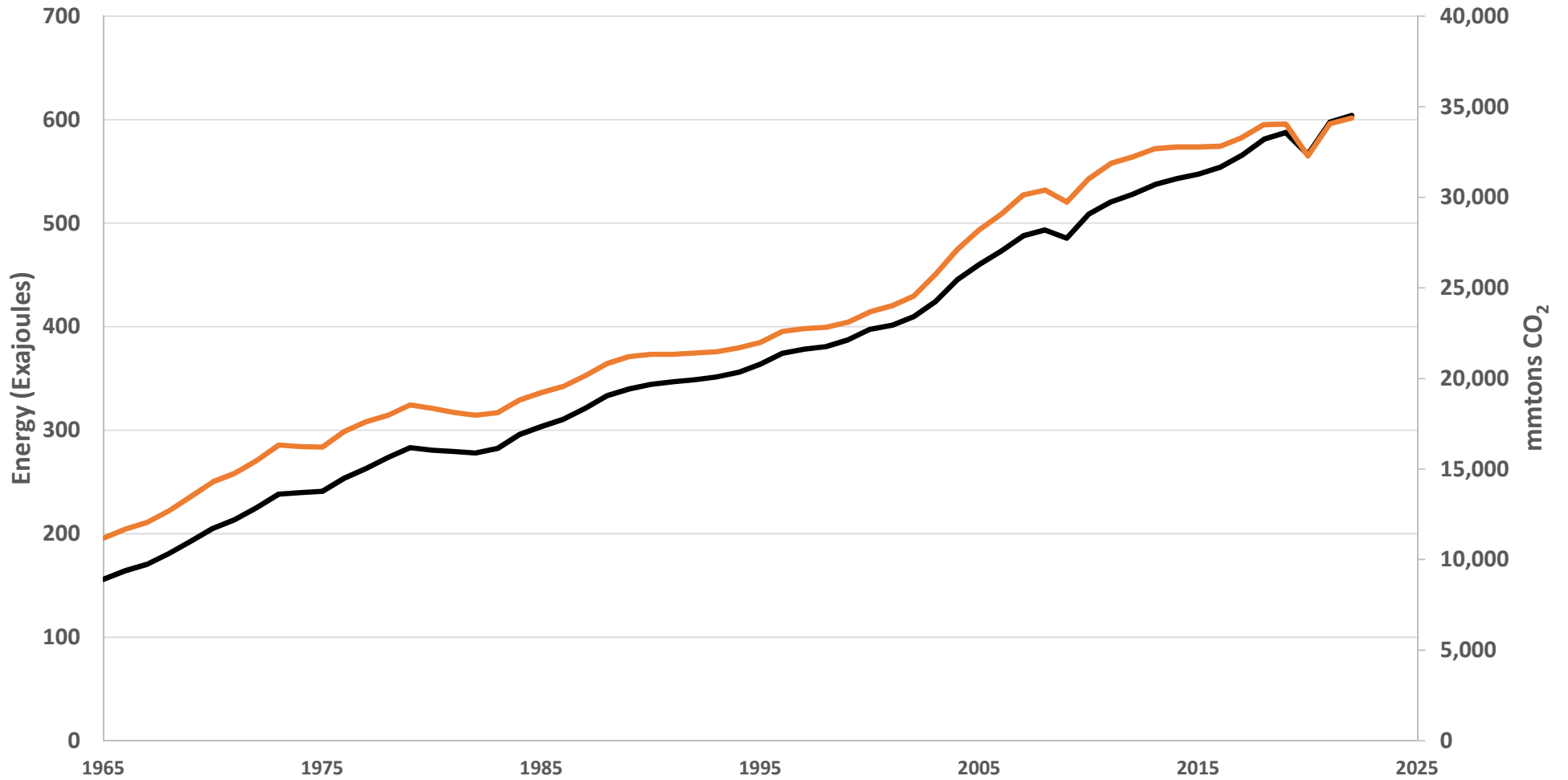
FOSSIL FUELS, NUCLEAR, RENEWABLES
AND CO₂

Data Source: BP Statistical Review 2023

Compiled By: David Gattie

Global Energy Consumption & CO₂ Emissions

— Energy — CO₂



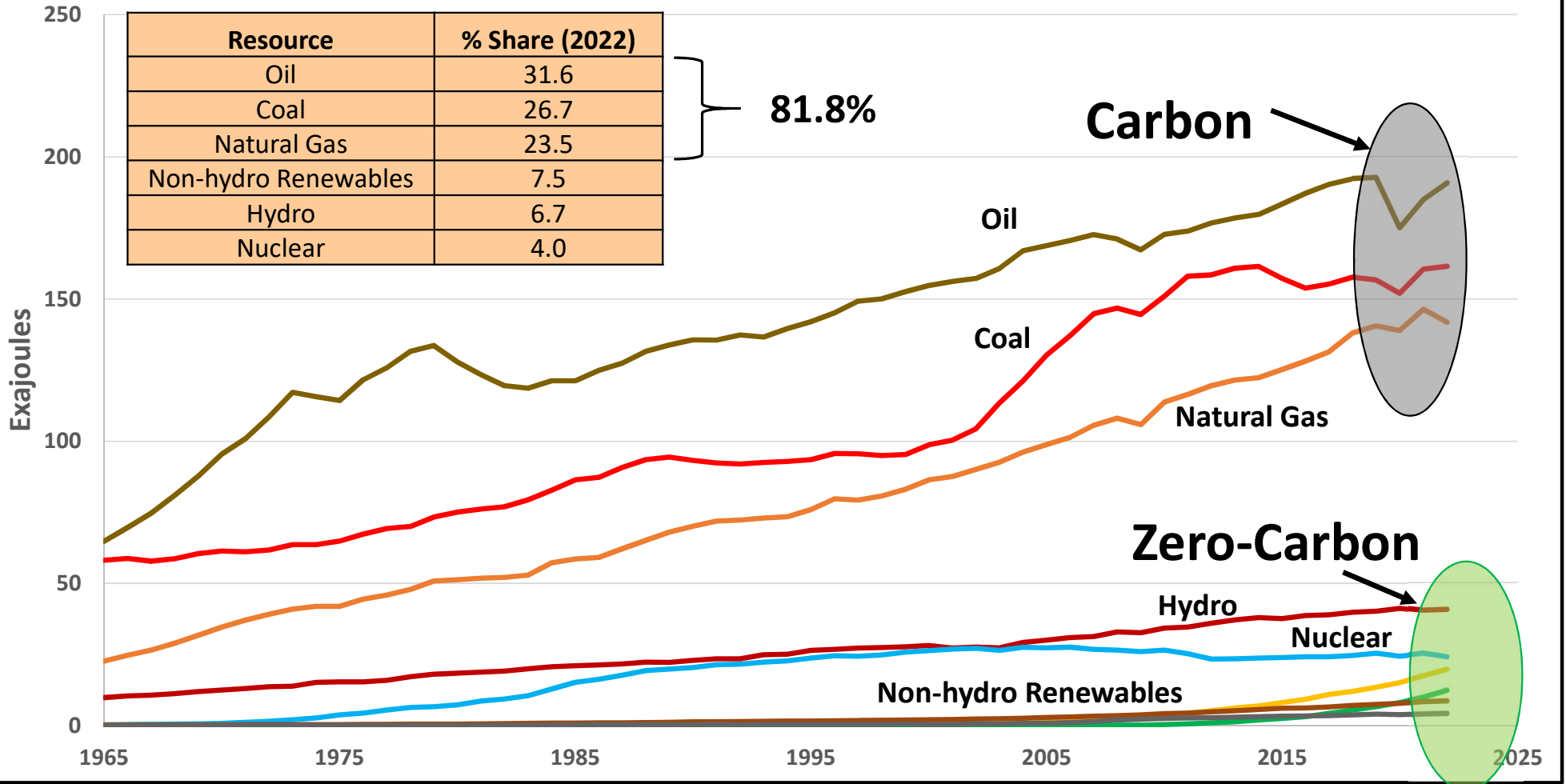
Data Source:

BP Statistical Review 2023

World Energy Consumption: Transportation, Electricity, Heat

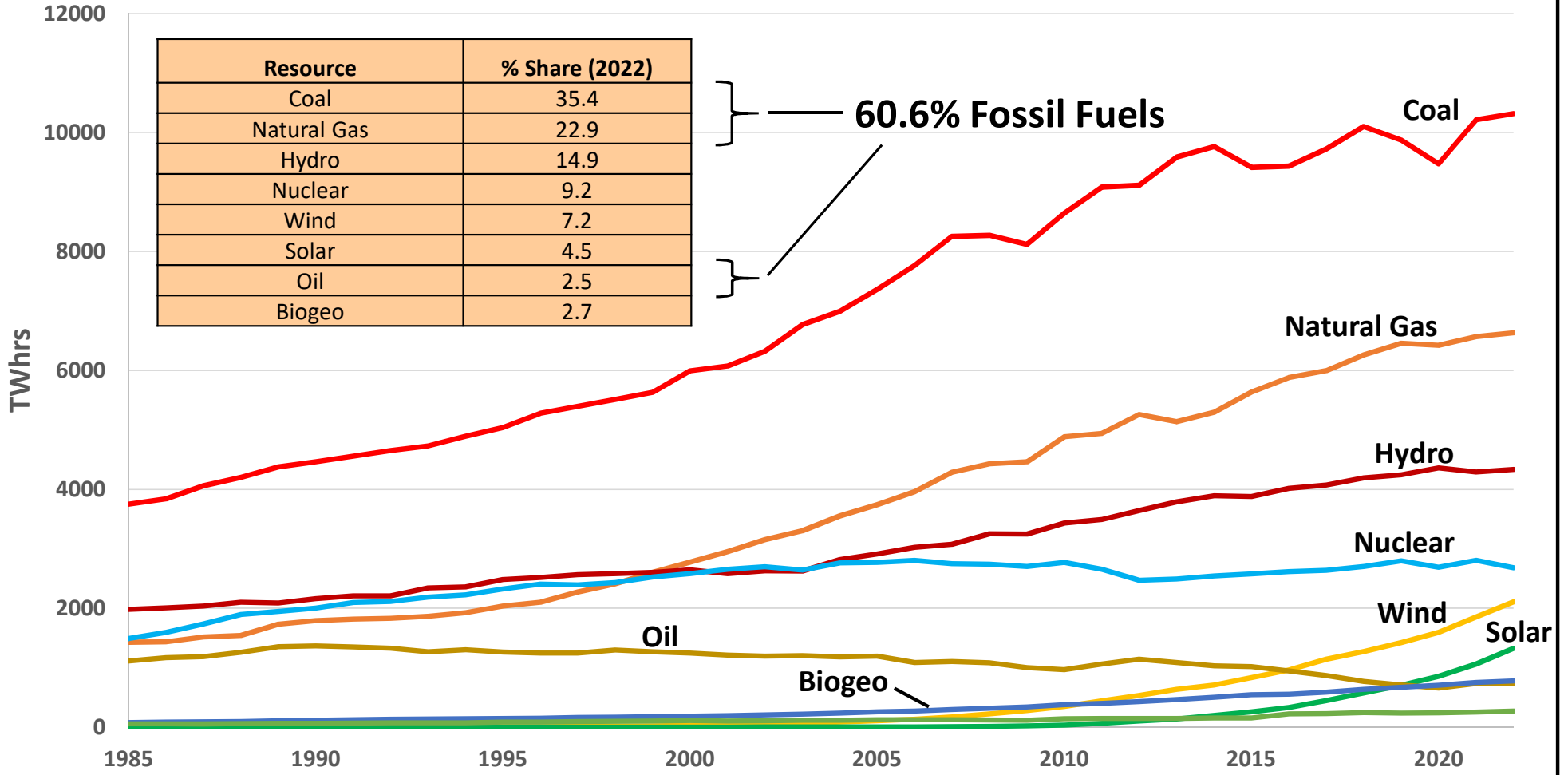
Compiled By: David Gattie

Oil Coal Natural Gas Hydro Nuclear Wind Solar Biogeo Biofuels



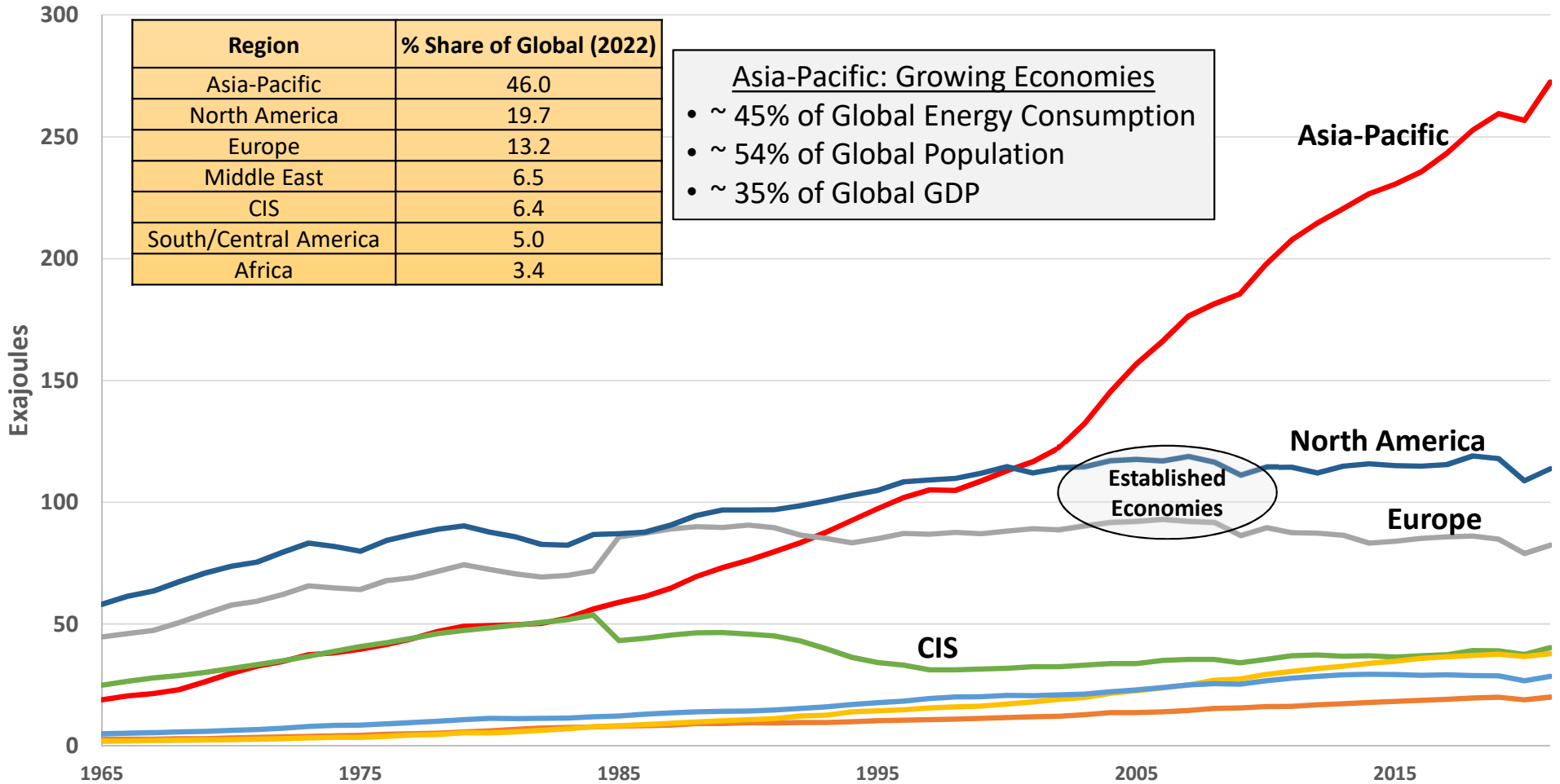
World Electricity by Fuel

Coal Natural Gas Hydro Nuclear Wind Solar Oil Biogeo Other



Energy Consumption by Region

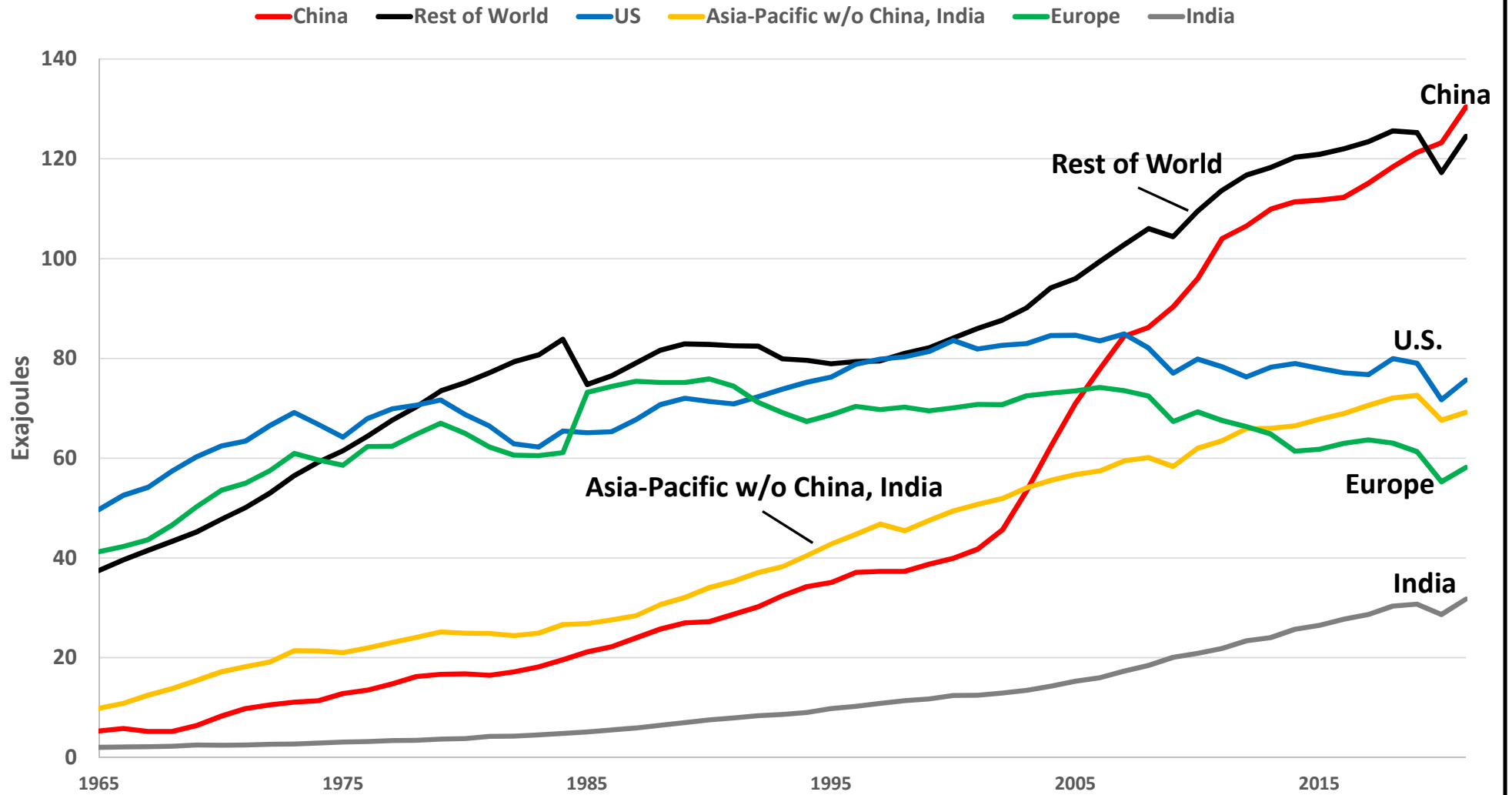
— Africa — Asia Pacific — CIS — Europe — Middle East — North America — S/Central America



Data Source:
BP Statistical Review 2022

Fossil Fuel Consumption

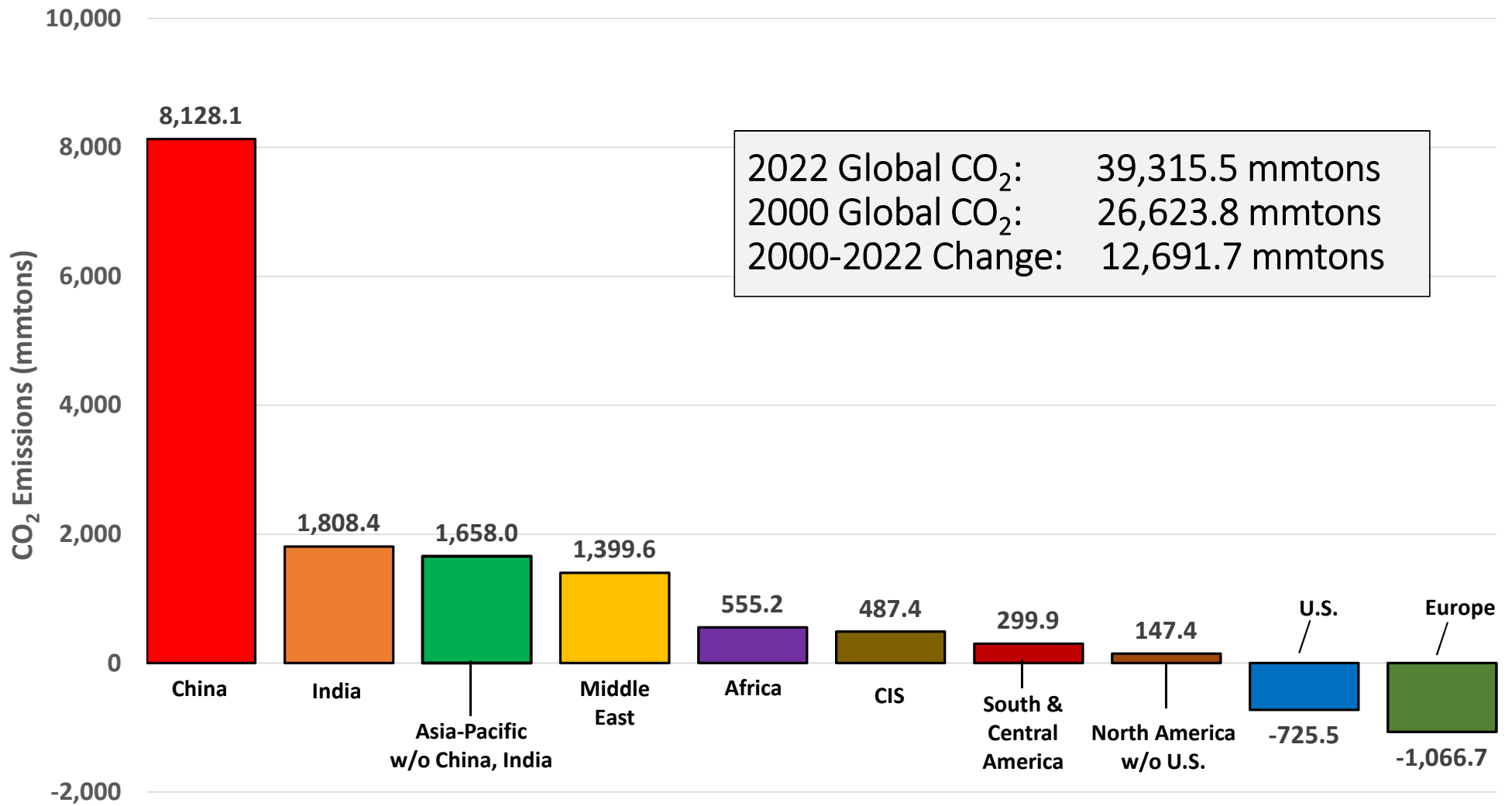
Compiled By: David Gattie



Data Source: BP Statistical Review 2023

Compiled By: David Gattie

Change in CO₂ Emissions (2000-2022)

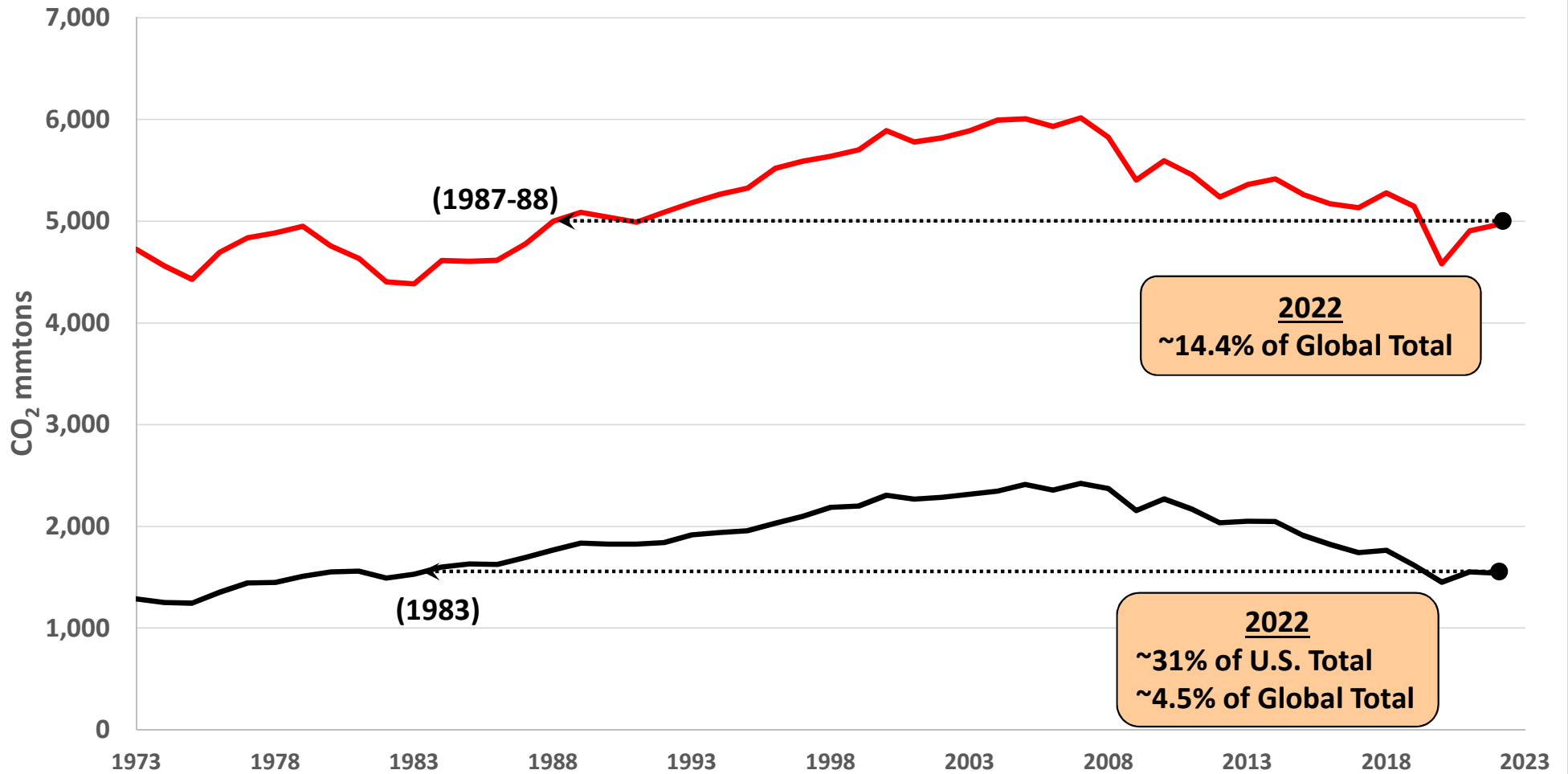


Data Source: US EIA; BP Statistical Review 2023

Compiled By: David Gattie

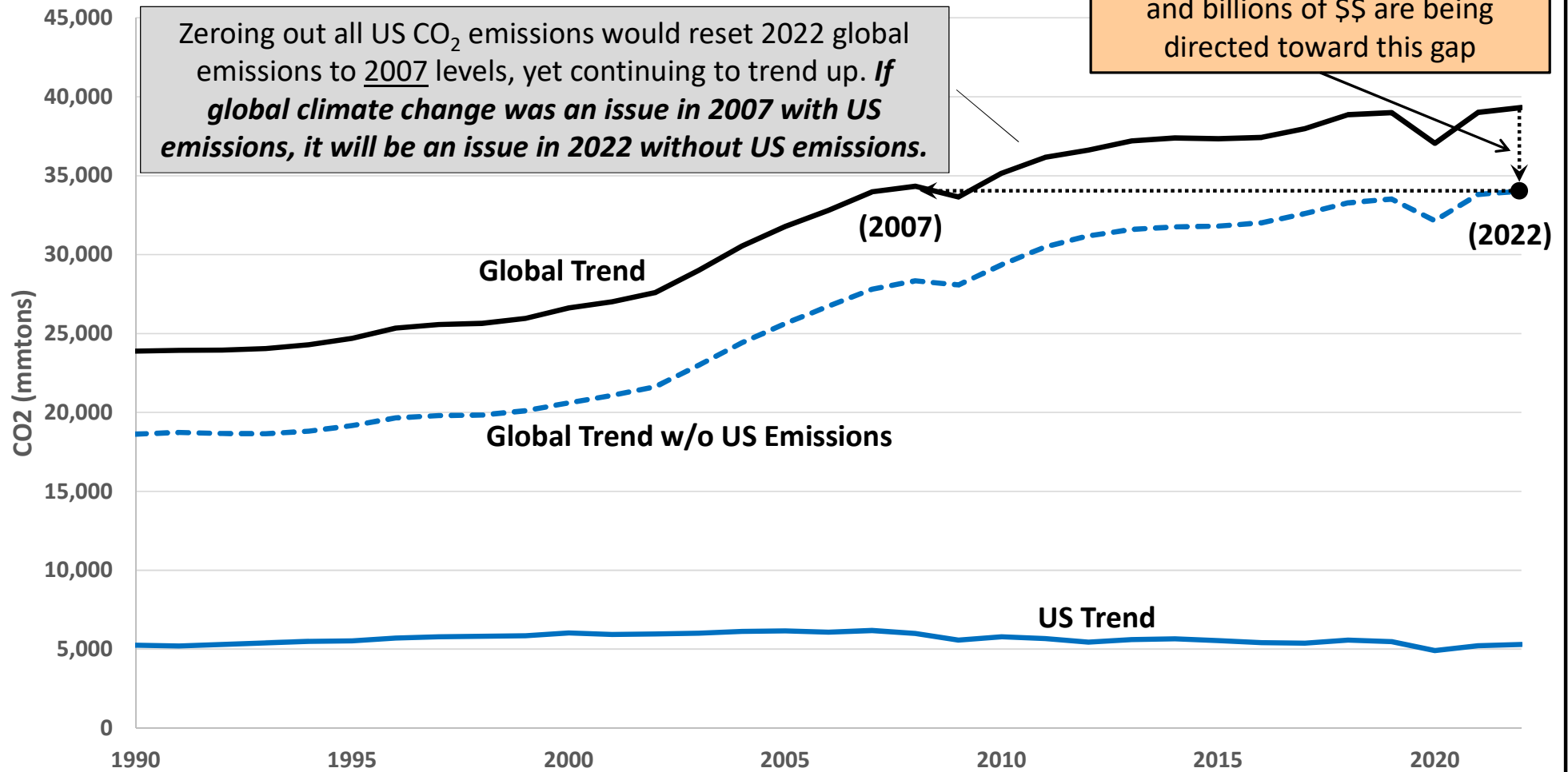
U.S. CO₂ Emissions

— Total Energy CO₂ — Power Sector CO₂



CO2 Emissions: U.S. & World Comparison

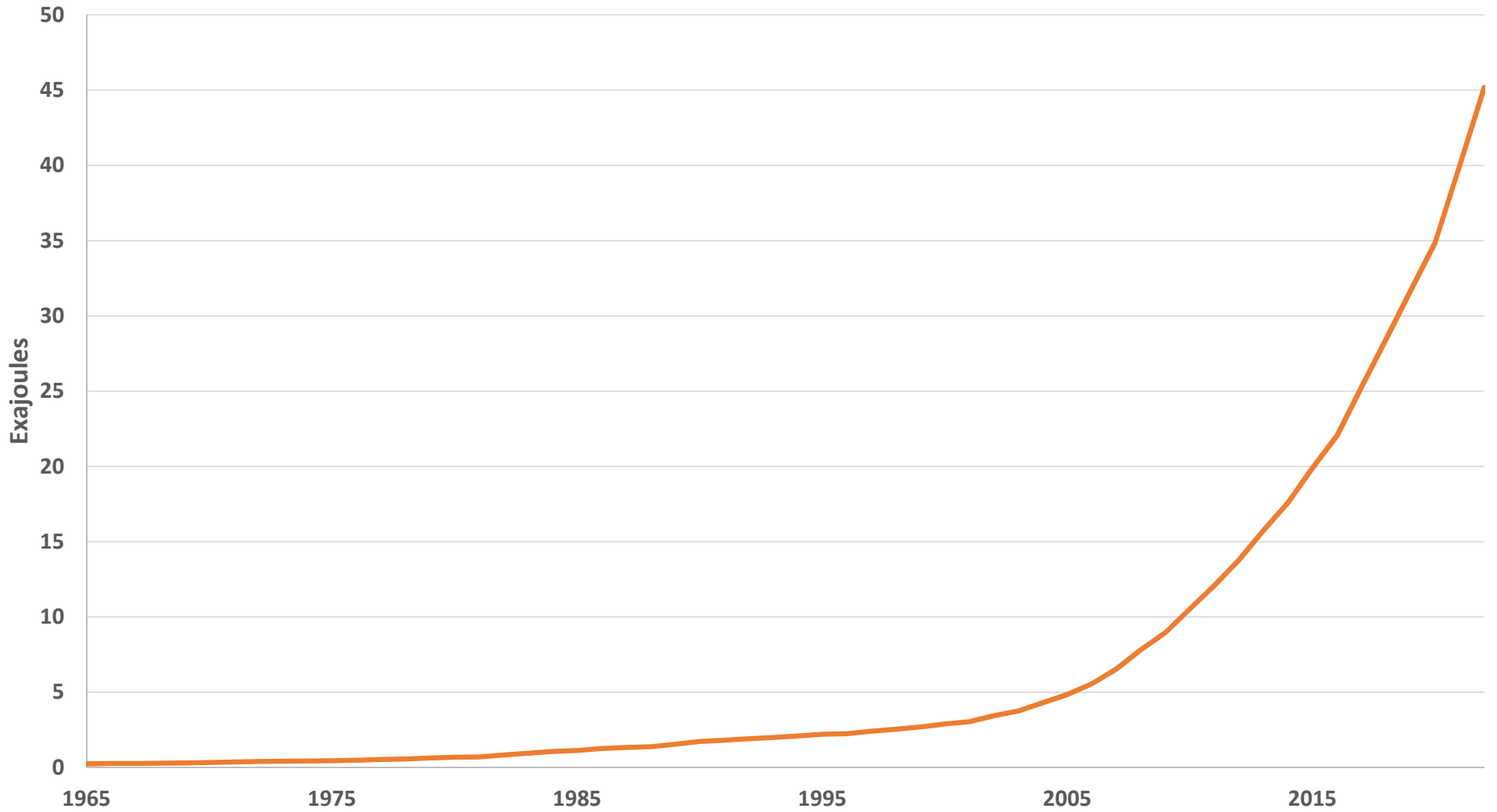
— World — U.S. - - - World w/o U.S.



Data Source:
BP Statistical Review 2023

World Energy Consumption of Non-hydro Renewables

Compiled By: David Gattie

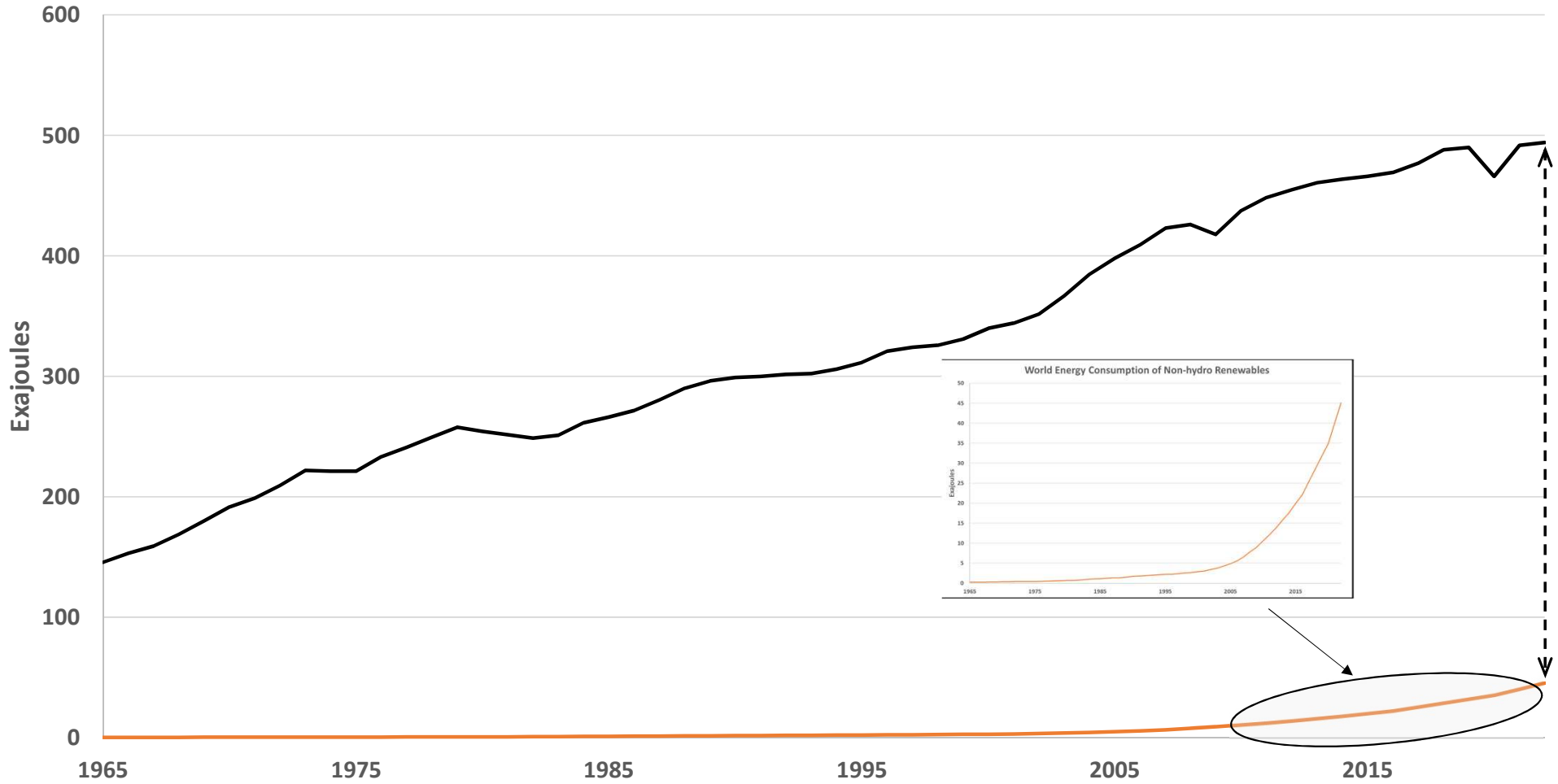


Data Source:
BP Statistical Review 2023

World Energy: Fossil Fuels & Non-hydro Renewables

Compiled By: David Gattie

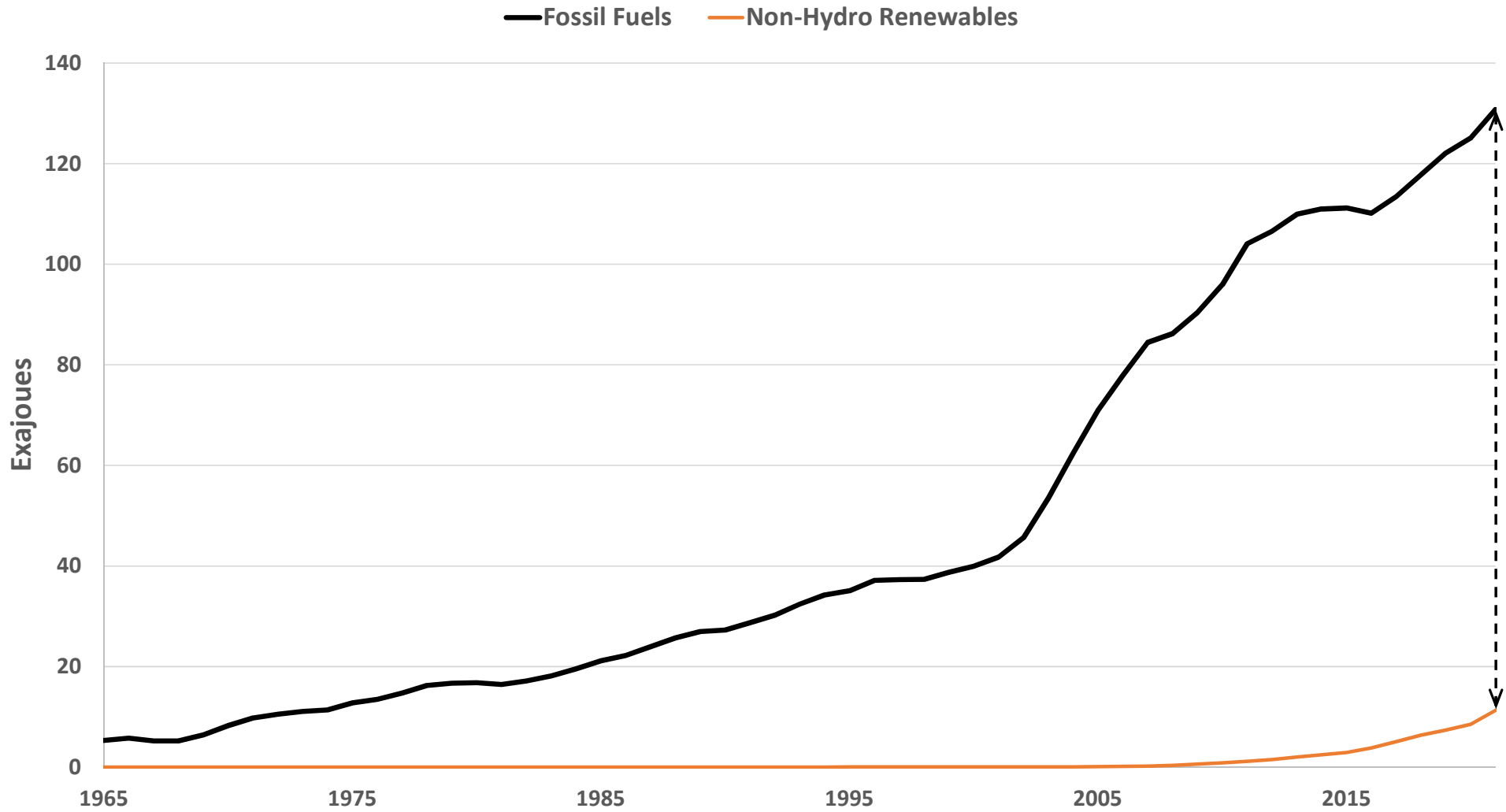
— Fossil Fuels — Non-hydro Renewables



Data Source: BP Statistical Review 2023

China: Fossil Fuels & Non-Hydro Renewables

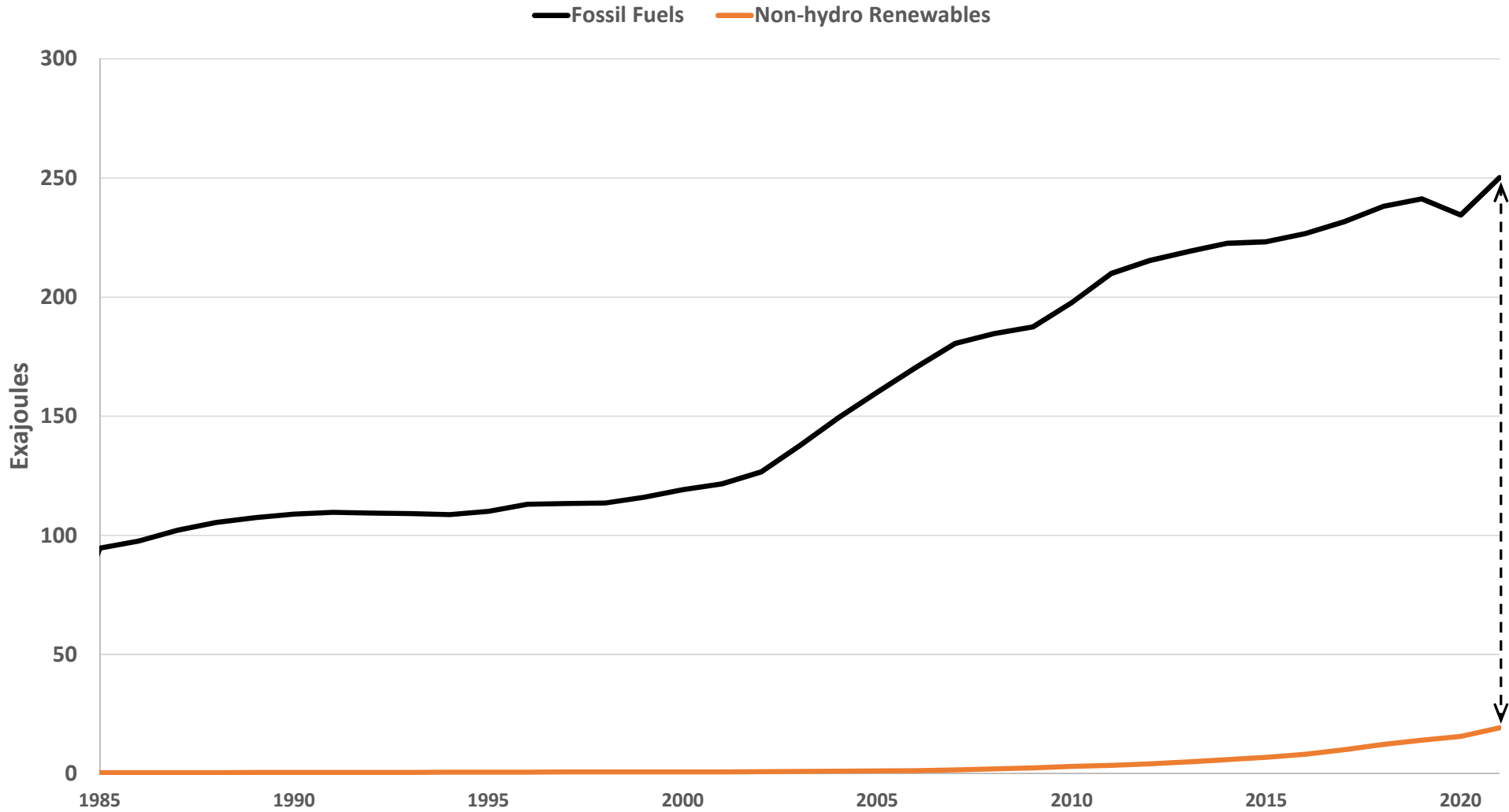
Compiled By: David Gattie



Data Source:
BP Statistical Review 2022

Emerging Markets: Fossil Fuels & Non-hydro Renewables

Compiled By: David Gattie

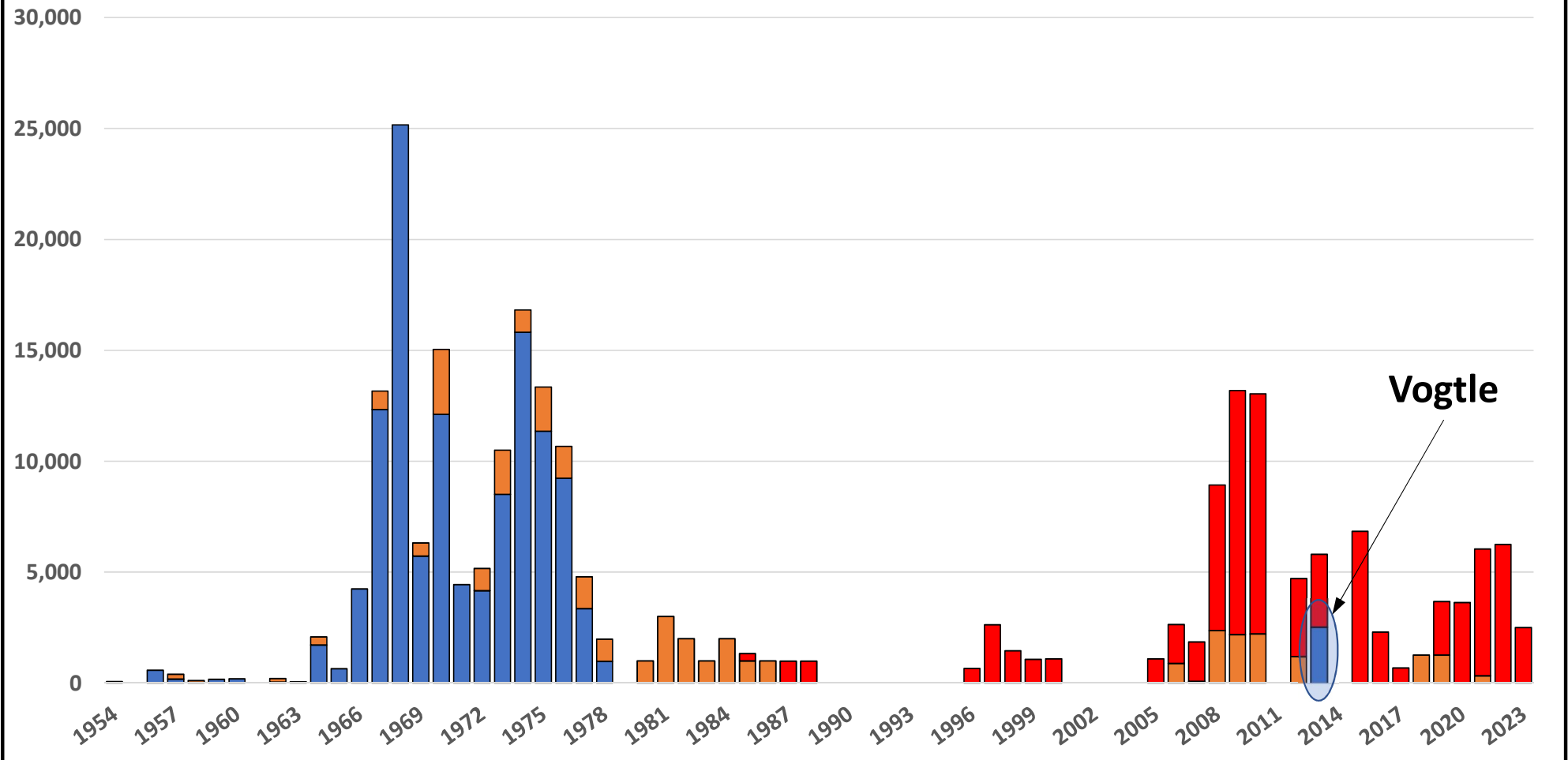


Nuclear Reactor Construction Starts: Historical Total (MW)

Compiled By: David Gattie

Data Source:
IAEA; Power Reactor Information System

■ US ■ Russia ■ China



Nuclear Power in the 21st Century

Of these 170 reactors, 114 are associated with China or Russia—either by location or by reactor technology.

Number of Reactors Since 2000			
Country	Connected to Grid	Under Construction	Russian or Chinese
China	52	21	73
Russia	13	3	16
India	12	8	4
South Korea	11	3	0
Japan	5	2	0
Pakistan	6	0	6
Czech Republic	2	0	2
Ukraine	2	2	2
Argentina	1	1	0
Belarus	2	0	2
Brazil	1	1	0
Iran	1	1	1
UAE	3	1	0
US	2	1	0
Romania	1	0	0
Bangladesh	0	2	2
Finland	1	0	0
France	0	1	0
Slovakia	1	1	2
Taiwan	0	0	0
Turkey	0	4	4
UK	0	2	0
Total	116	54	114

Source: World Nuclear Association; IAEA (2023)

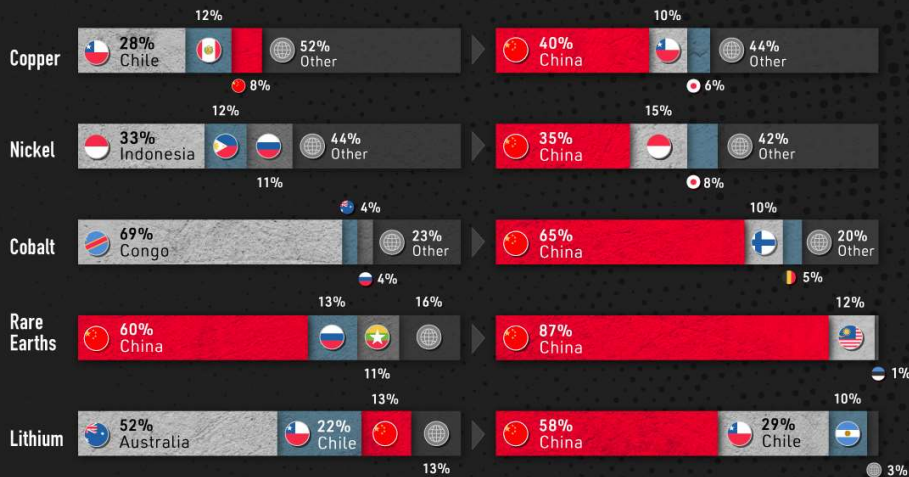
VISUALIZING CHINA'S DOMINANCE IN CLEAN ENERGY METALS

Renewable sources of energy are expected to replace fossil fuels in the next decades, as the world's economies try to reduce carbon emissions and mitigate climate change.

This graphic based on data from the International Energy Agency illustrates where the extraction and processing of key metals for the green revolution take place, and how China is leading the process.

Where Clean Energy Metals are Produced

Where Clean Energy Metals are Processed



World demand for lithium is forecast to more than double between 2020 and 2023 as global electric vehicle uptake rises.

The Biden administration has targeted rare earths among domestic supply chain priorities.

Of the 255,000 Congolese mining for cobalt, 40,000 are children.

Source: International Energy Agency

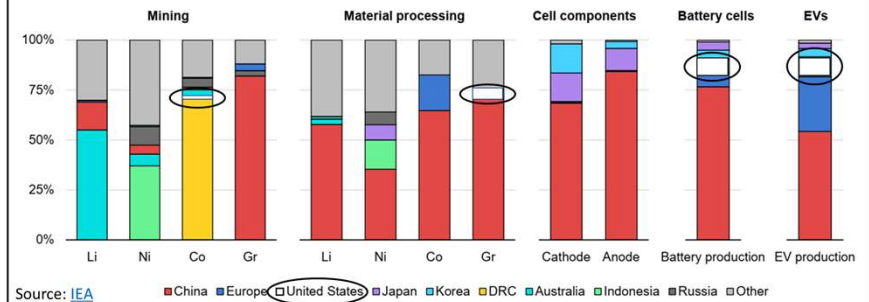


The Earth's natural resources power our everyday lives. VC Elements breaks down the building blocks of the universe.

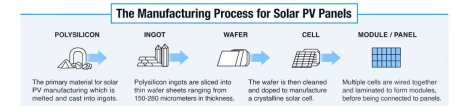
We live in a material world.

China dominates the entire downstream EV battery supply chain

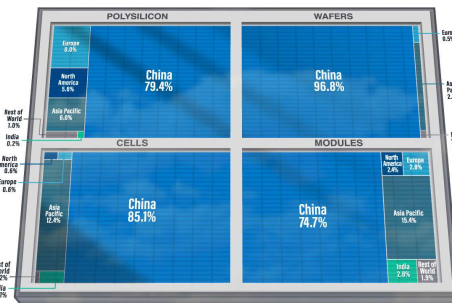
Geographical distribution of the global EV battery supply chain



Who Controls the Solar Panel Supply Chain?



Share of Manufacturing Capacity by Country/Region in 2021



China made up 95% of global solar panel manufacturing capacity in 2020, with its share rising to 84% in 2021.

The total value of global solar PV related trade increased by more than 100% YoY to reach over \$40B in 2021.

Source: IEA

Shift to Dependency on China and Its Partners

Contrast in Energy Policy and Strategy

AMERICA AND ITS COMPETITORS

Xi Doubles Down on Alliance With Putin

October 28, 2022

China's top diplomat signaled that Chinese leader Xi Jinping, fresh from extending his power for a norm-breaking third term, intends to double-down on his tight relationship with Russia's Vladimir Putin—driving an even deeper wedge between the two authoritarian rulers and the West. Russia and China are also conducting more financial transactions in the ruble and yuan, rather than the euro or dollar, a move that helps insulate the two against future sanctions and put the Chinese currency into wider circulation. In a written statement, China's Foreign Ministry said "China and Russia are comprehensive strategic cooperative partners of each other. The development of bilateral relations is based on the principles of non-alliance, non-confrontation and non-targeting of third parties."

Russia and China have long sought to dull the U.S.'s influence in the world, a shared objective that has come into sharper focus in recent years as the two nations have grown confident they can reshape an international order that both view as biased in favor of the West and its allies.



Photo Credit: [The Wall Street Journal](#)

Sources: [Xi-Putin CN RF Relations](#);
[CN Nods to Tighter Ties With RF](#)

Xi Pledges More Energy Deals With Gulf Producers



"Saudi Arabia has always considered China as a strategic partner, and that the Committee strives for further alignment between the Saudi and China visions of the future, especially in the energy sphere, where there are multiple synergies," Prince Abdulaziz said. In the meeting, the co-chairs discussed areas where Saudi Arabia and China look to strengthen their relationship, such as oil and petrochemicals, decarbonization technologies, electricity and renewables, hydrogen, energy efficiency, civil nuclear energy, and supply chain security, in addition to industrial cooperation, the fourth industrial revolution, mining and logistics, civil aviation and aviation security, and digital economy." (October 27, 2022)

Xi Visits KSA

December 8, 2022

Chinese leader Xi Jinping traveled to Saudi Arabia this week for a series of summits with countries from around the Middle East, cementing over thirty energy and investment deals and basking in a good bit of pageantry courtesy of the host nation. From the Saudi side, China is the Kingdom's number one trade partner, a major tech supplier, a long-term energy customer, and a comprehensive strategic partner with a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council

The Saudi energy minister on Wednesday said Riyadh would stay a "trusted and reliable" energy partner for Beijing and the two would boost cooperation in energy supply chains by setting up a regional centre in the kingdom for Chinese factories.

One of the main reasons behind Xi's visit to Saudi Arabia is to further advance the Belt and Road Initiative, China's ambitious plan to connect Asia, Europe, and Africa through infrastructure projects and trade. Saudi Arabia is a key partner in the BRI, as it sits at the crossroads of Asia and Europe and is a major transit hub for goods and energy.

Endowed with rich energy resources, including 30 percent of the oil reserve and 20 percent of the natural gas reserve of the world, GCC countries are an energy tank for world economy.



Sources:

[Xi Letter to KSA](#); [Key Takeaways from Xi's Visit to KSA](#)
[What Xi's Visit to KSA Means](#)

The U.S. Energy Policy Trend

- The climate crisis has been placed at the center of U.S. foreign policy and national security
 - Executive Order 14008
- Inflation Reduction Act was passed—favors renewable energy technologies
 - August 16, 2022 (\$433 billion)
- EPA proposed carbon emission standards for coal and natural gas power plants
 - May 11, 2023—This is the 2015 Clean Power Plan 2.0

Downward Pressure on Fossil Fuel Plants

November 5, 2022

"No one is building new coal plants because they can't rely on it, even if they have all the coal guaranteed for the rest of their existence of the plant. We're going to be shutting these plants down all across America and having wind and solar." (President Biden)

May 11, 2023

EPA's proposed power plant rule seeks to slash emissions from new and existing coal- and gas-fired power plants, pushing owners to either close them or outfit them with carbon capture technology or clean hydrogen fuel. The requirements change depending on the plant's use and technology, but the largest plants would have to either close or capture emissions by 2040.

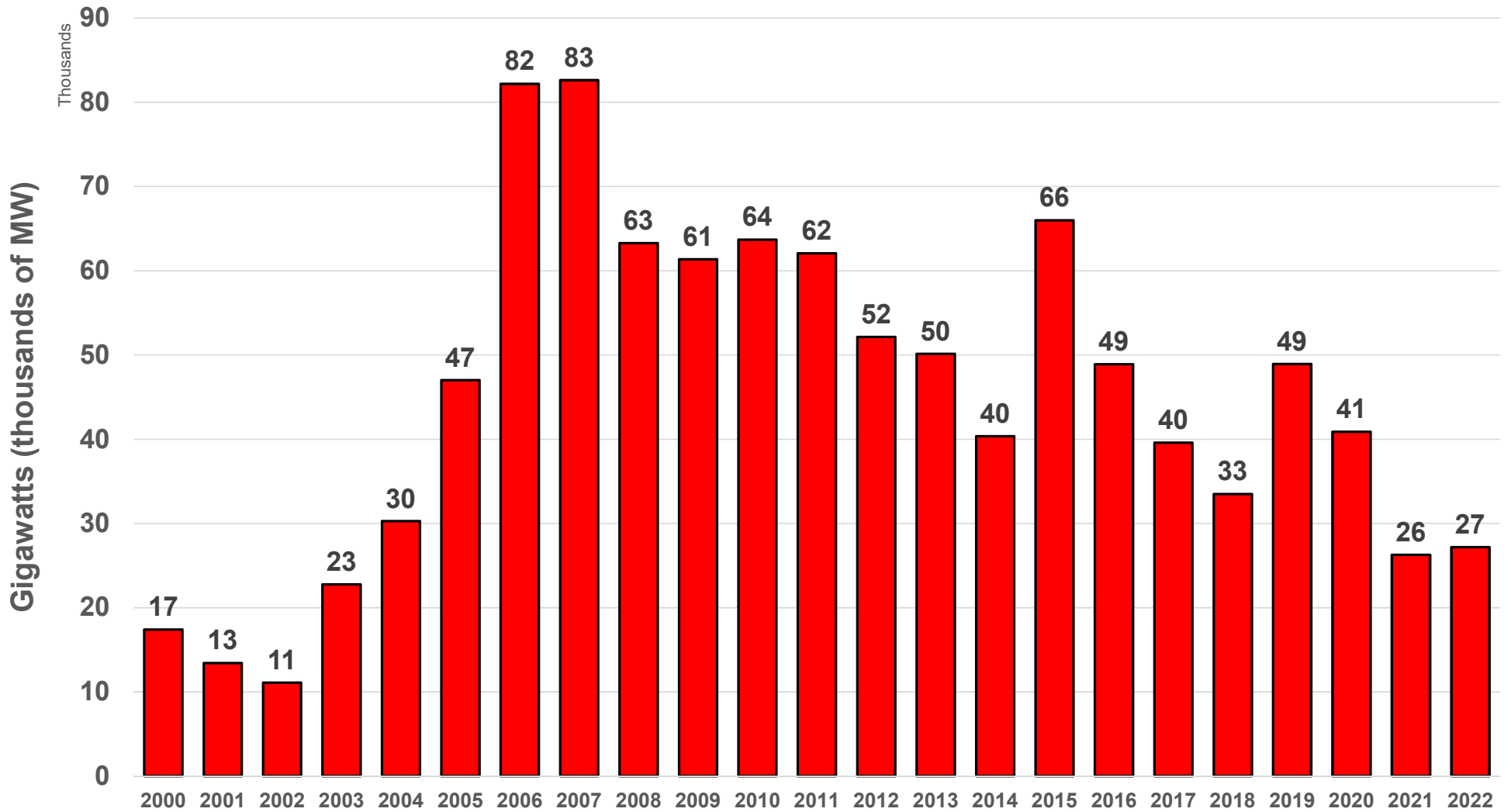


Source: [USEPA](#); [E&E News](#)

Data Source:
Global Energy Monitor

China: New Coal Plant Capacity Added per Year (GW)

Compiled By: David Gattie

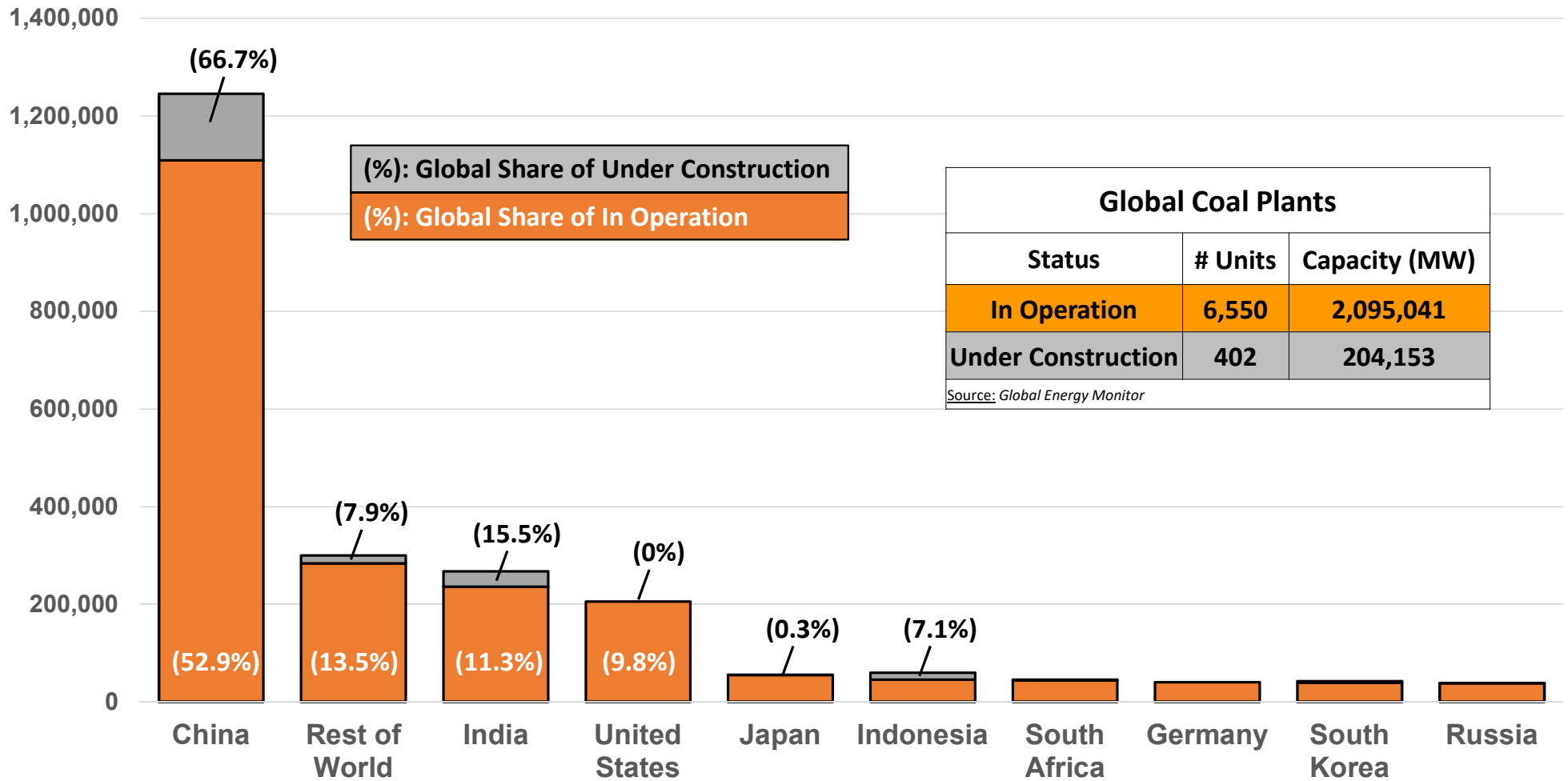


Data Source:
Global Energy Monitor

Coal Plants in Operation & Under Construction (MW)

Compiled By: David Gattie

■ Operating ■ Construction



Global Coal Plants		
Status	# Units	Capacity (MW)
In Operation	6,550	2,095,041
Under Construction	402	204,153

Source: Global Energy Monitor

Fundamental Differences in Energy Strategy

THE U.S.

- Executive Order 14008 (January 27, 2021)
 - *“Putting the Climate Crisis at the Center of United States Foreign Policy and National Security”*
- America’s National Security Strategy (October 12, 2022)
 - *“Climate” is defined as “the greatest and potentially existential for all nations”*
 - *“Combatting the climate crisis, bolstering our energy security, and hastening the clean energy transition is integral to our industrial strategy, economic growth, and security. Events like Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine have made clear the urgent need to accelerate the transition away from fossil fuels”*

CHINA

- Xi Jinping’s speech to the CCP (January 24, 2022)
 - *“Reducing emissions is not about reducing productivity, and it is not about not emitting at all, either...the gradual withdrawal of traditional energy must be based on the safe and reliable replacement by new energy. This in practice means less restrictions on fossil fuel.”**
- Xi Jinping’s “Report to the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China” (October 16, 2022)
 - *“Based on China’s energy and resource endowment, we will advance initiatives to reach peak carbon emissions in a well-planned and phased way in line with the principle of building the new before discarding the old”.*

* <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/jan/26/xi-jinping-warns-chinas-low-carbon-ambitions-must-not-interfere-with-normal-life>

Industrial Base Implications

AMERICA AND ITS COMPETITORS

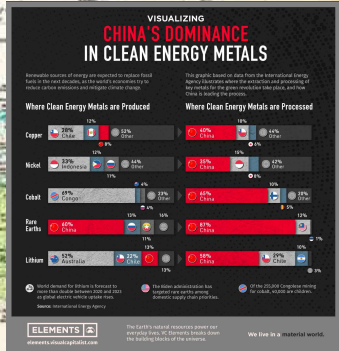
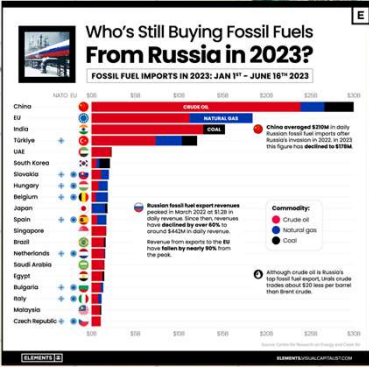
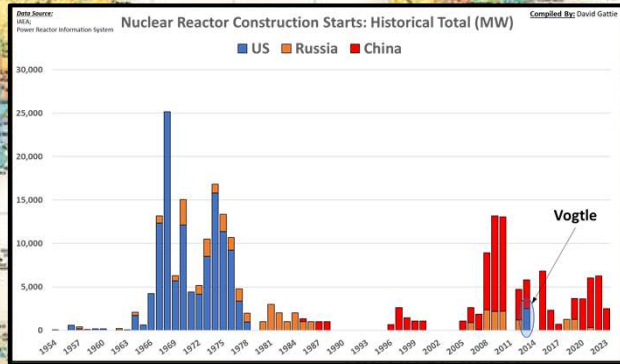
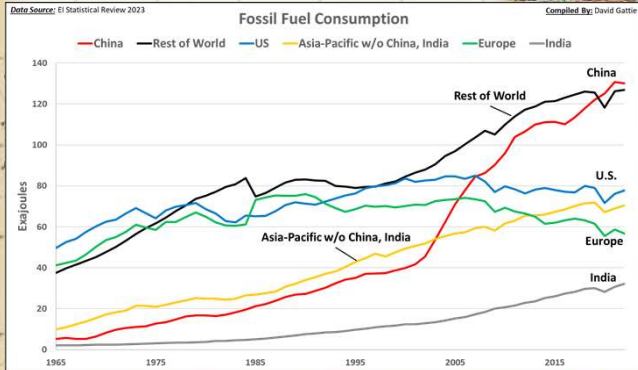
A Contrast in Perspective & Strategy

Climate Change is at the Center of U.S. Foreign Policy and National Security



Russia
Oil, Gas,
Nuclear

China BRI
Coal, Nuclear, Solar
& Battery Supply
Chain, Financing



Which Industrial Base Has the Relative Advantage?



OTR Freight

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

Natural Gas-fired Power Plants

Nuclear Power Plants

Rail and Shipping

Agri Food

Coal-Fire

Gas Refining

Production

Industrial Strategy Energy Transition

OTR Freight

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

Natural Gas-fired Power Plants

Nuclear Power Plants

**China Aerospace Studies Institute
CHINA'S MILITARY-CIVIL
FUSION STRATEGY**

Electric Power Grid

Rail and Shipping

Agri Food

Coal-Fire

Gas Refining

Production

Industrial Strategy All Energy Resources

National Security Concerns

AMERICA AND ITS COMPETITORS

National Security Concerns

1. China and Russia are strategically exploiting fossil fuel resources and technologies and leading in nuclear deployment as the U.S. debates moving away from fossil fuels and as developing economies move in the same direction as China, Russia and other authoritarian states
 - Asymmetric shift in energy resources, energy technologies and industrial bases relative to great power competitors

National Security Concerns

2. If the U.S. decarbonizes its economy by transitioning away from fossil fuels in an effort to battle global climate change, what is the U.S. climate return on that investment?
3. Will policymakers in China and Russia subject their respective energy enterprises, industrial bases and state-owned enterprises to an all-in effort to reduce carbon emissions and solve the climate crisis?

America's Proposed Energy Transition

The U.S. is proposing an industrial strategy/policy to decarbonize its economy and transition away from fossil fuels, at a time when we're facing what are arguably the greatest geopolitical challenges in our country's history

Can the U.S., with its industrial base restructured around low- and zero-carbon energy, retain its 20th century economic, military, industrial and geopolitical advantage relative to 21st century strategic competitors and outcompete China and deny the CCP of its intentions to disrupt a rules-based international order?

Thank You

Additional References

- Gattie D, Hewitt M. National Security as a Value-Added Proposition for Advanced Nuclear Reactors: A U.S. Focus. *Energies*. 2023; 16(17):6162. <https://doi.org/10.3390/en16176162>
- Gattie, D. 2023. Georgia's Reality-Based Approach to Energy and Economic Growth. *James Magazine*. May/June Issue, pp. 57-58. [Link to Article](#)
- Gattie, D. 2023. US hyperfocus on decarbonization creates geopolitical blind spots. *The Hill*. March 7, 2023. [Link to Article](#)
- Gattie, D, and Hewitt, M. 2022. The U.S. Can't Lose the Global Nuclear Energy Race. *The National Interest*. December 17, 2022. ([Link to Article](#))
- Gattie, D. 2023. National interests are best served by an all-of-the-above energy approach. *Ohio Cooperative Living*. February 1, 2023. [Link to Article](#)
- Gattie, D. 2023. Testimony Before the U.S. House Energy and Committee. January 26, 2023. [Link to Testimony](#)
- Gattie, D and Hewitt, M. 2022. The U.S. Can't Lose the Global Nuclear Energy Race. *The National Interest*. December 17, 2022. [Link to Article](#).
- Gattie, D. 2022. Georgia's Future of Prioritizing Energy Security and Reliability. *James Magazine*, September/October Issue, pp. 27-29. [Link to Article](#)
- Gattie, D, and Hewitt, M. 2022. Security-centric and climate-inclusive: Energy policy for an era of great power politics. *Force Distance Times*. June 23, 2022. [Link to Article](#)
- Gattie, D, and Hewitt, M. 2022. Energy Sovereignty Will Be the Westphalian Principle of the 21st Century. *The National Interest*. February 22, 2022. ([Link to Article](#))
- Gattie, DK, Conrad, J, and Massey, J. 2022. UGA Energy Outlook. [Outlook Description](#) [[Link to Outlook Presentation](#)]
- McFarlane, R, and Gattie D. 2021. Nuclear Affairs. *The National Interest*, (176): 69-75. November/December Issue. [Link to Article](#)
- Gattie, DK. 2021. South Korea's Summit Solution Dreams and Zero Carbon Realities. *The National Interest*. March 30, 2021. ([Link to article](#))

Additional References

- Gattie, DK. 2021. *President Biden's Executive Order on Climate Change: Implications for the US Industrial Base*. Expert Brief for Global America Business Institute. February 24, 2021. [[Link to Brief](#)]
- Gattie DK and Massey JNK. 2020. 21st Century US Nuclear Power Policy: Standing at a Strategic Crossroads. Strategic Studies Quarterly [[Link to Paper](#)]
- Gattie, DK. 2020. US energy, climate and nuclear power policy in the 21st century: The primacy of national security. *The Electricity Journal*, 33(1) 106690. [[Link to Paper](#)]
- Gattie, DK. 2020. House climate plan needs global and national security context. *The Hill*. July 9, 2020. [[Article Link](#)]
- Gattie, DK. 2019. Testimony Before the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change. [[Link to Gattie Testimony](#)]
- Gattie, DK. 2019. Will the US Lead? Or let China and Russia dominate nuclear energy. *The Hill*. May 22, 2019. [[Article Link](#)]
- Gattie, DK. 2019. 100% Renewable Energy isn't a Response to Climate Change—It's a Retreat. *The Hill*. March 14, 2019. [[Article Link](#)]
- Gattie, DK. 2019. The Green New Deal: Isolationist in scope and blind to geopolitical realities. *The Hill*. February 11, 2019. [[Article Link](#)]
- Gattie, DK. 2018. U.S. Nuclear Power: Too Strategic to Fail. *The Hill*. August 30, 2018. [[Article Link](#)]
- Gattie, DK. 2018. The problem with California going all-in on solar energy. *The Hill*, May 11, 2018. [[Article Link](#)]
- Gattie, DK. 2018. Nuclear Energy: A Key Component of America's Global Leadership. *Morning Consult*, February 16, 2018. [[Article Link](#)]
- Gattie, DK and N. Hertel. 2018. The Public Service Commission's Proper Vogtle Decision. *James Magazine*, Jan/Feb 2018. [[Article Link](#)].
- Gattie, DK. 2017. Nuclear power's resilience and security benefits are priceless. *The Hill*, December 8, 2017. [[Article Link](#)].

Additional References

- Gattie, DK. 2017. The US can do better than the Clean Power Plan. *The Hill*, October 13, 2017. [[Article Link](#)].
- Gattie, DK. 2017. America is sacrificing its leadership role in nuclear energy. *The Hill*, October 6, 2017. [[Article Link](#)]
- Gattie, DK. 2017. U.S. National Security and a Call for American Primacy in Civilian Nuclear Power. *Forbes*. Sept. 7, 2017. [[Article Link](#)]
- Gattie, DK. Nuclear Power in America Requires Political Resolve. *Morning Consult*. May 23, 2017. [[Article Link](#)]
- Gattie, DK, and Jones S. An America Without Nuclear Power. *Forbes*. April 24, 2017. [[Article Link](#)].