

# Coal wind and photovoltaic power generation costs



## Overview

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Renewable Energy Has Achieved Cost Parity: Utility-scale solar (\$28-117/MWh) and onshore wind (\$23-139/MWh) now consistently outcompete fossil fuels, with coal costing \$68-166/MWh and natural gas \$77-130/MWh, making renewables the most economical choice for new. Renewable Energy Has Achieved Cost Parity: Utility-scale solar (\$28-117/MWh) and onshore wind (\$23-139/MWh) now consistently outcompete fossil fuels, with coal costing \$68-166/MWh and natural gas \$77-130/MWh, making renewables the most economical choice for new. Renewable Energy Has Achieved Cost Parity: Utility-scale solar (\$28-117/MWh) and onshore wind (\$23-139/MWh) now consistently outcompete fossil fuels, with coal costing \$68-166/MWh and natural gas \$77-130/MWh, making renewables the most economical choice for new electricity generation in 2025. To accurately reflect the changing cost of new electric power generators in the Annual Energy Outlook 2025 (AEO2025), EIA commissioned Sargent & Lundy (S&L) to evaluate the overnight capital cost and performance characteristics for 19 electric generator types. While the data shows that it is always cheapest to produce electricity from fully depreciated facilities, renewable energy can nevertheless compete in. Different methods of electricity generation can incur a variety of different costs, which can be divided into three general categories: 1) wholesale costs, or all costs paid by utilities associated with acquiring and distributing electricity to consumers, 2) retail costs paid by consumers, and 3). The cost of a new power plant varies widely by the technology used, and since cost of technology is a constantly changing variable, cost must be revisited regularly. Two valuable sources for gathering accurate information on the cost of power plant are the US Energy Information Administration (EIA). The average cost per unit of energy generated across the lifetime of a new power plant. This data is expressed in US dollars per kilowatt-hour. It is adjusted for inflation but does not account for differences in living costs between countries. Data source: IRENA (2025); IRENA (2024) - Learn more.

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### [Coal: Anthracite, Bituminous, Coke, Pictures, Formation, Uses](#)

What is Coal? Coal is an organic sedimentary rock that forms from the accumulation and preservation of plant materials, usually in a swamp environment. Coal is a combustible rock and, along with oil and

### Chart: The Cost of Energy , Statista

This chart shows the levelized cost of energy generation by source (in U.S. dollar per MWh).



### Coal , Properties, Formation, Occurrence and Uses

Coal is primarily composed of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, and sulfur. The exact composition of coal varies depending on its age and origin, but generally, coal can be classified into

### Cost of electricity by source

Capital costs tend to be low for gas and oil power stations; moderate for onshore wind turbines and solar PV (photovoltaics); higher for coal plants and higher still



### What is coal? , U.S. Geological Survey



What is coal? Coal is a sedimentary deposit composed predominantly of carbon that is readily combustible. Coal is black or brownish-black, and has a composition that (including inherent

### [Cost Of Renewable Energy 2025: Complete Guide To Solar, Wind](#)

Comprehensive 2025 guide to renewable energy costs. Compare solar, wind, and clean energy pricing vs fossil fuels. Includes latest LCOE data, trends, and projections.



### **Coal explained**

Coal is a combustible black or brownish-black sedimentary rock with a high amount of carbon and hydrocarbons. Coal is classified as a nonrenewable energy source because it takes millions of years

### **Capital Cost of Power Generation by Source**

Incorrys analyzed these variables for each type of power generation to determine a range of costs (USD/kW) and corresponding timeline (years) and



### **Wind and Solar Energy Are Cheaper Than Electricity**

This year's report concludes that renewables are the "most cost-competitive form of generation," even without subsidies.

## [Estimating the Real Cost of Electricity from Solar, Wind.](#)

Policy and Market Implications: Policymakers and investors must consider these total system costs when planning energy transitions and



## **Lazard LCOE+ (June 2024)**

Despite high end LCOE declines for selected renewable energy technologies, the low ends of our LCOE have increased for the first time ever, driven by the persistence of certain cost pressures (e.g., high

## **Levelized cost of energy for renewables, World**

The average cost per unit of energy generated across the lifetime of a new power plant. This data is expressed in US dollars per kilowatt-hour. It is adjusted for



## [Capital Cost and Performance Characteristics for Utility-Scale](#)

To accurately reflect the changing cost of new electric power generators in the Annual Energy Outlook 2025 (AEO2025), EIA commissioned Sargent & Lundy (S&L) to evaluate the overnight capital cost

## [Coal Power is Rebounding in the U.S. Here's How it Happened](#)

Rising natural gas prices, an explosion of new data centers, and EPA policy changes are giving old coal plants new life.





## **Coal , Uses, Types, Pollution, & Facts , Britannica**

Coal is defined as having more than 50 percent by weight (or 70 percent by volume) carbonaceous matter produced by the compaction and hardening of altered plant remains-namely,

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