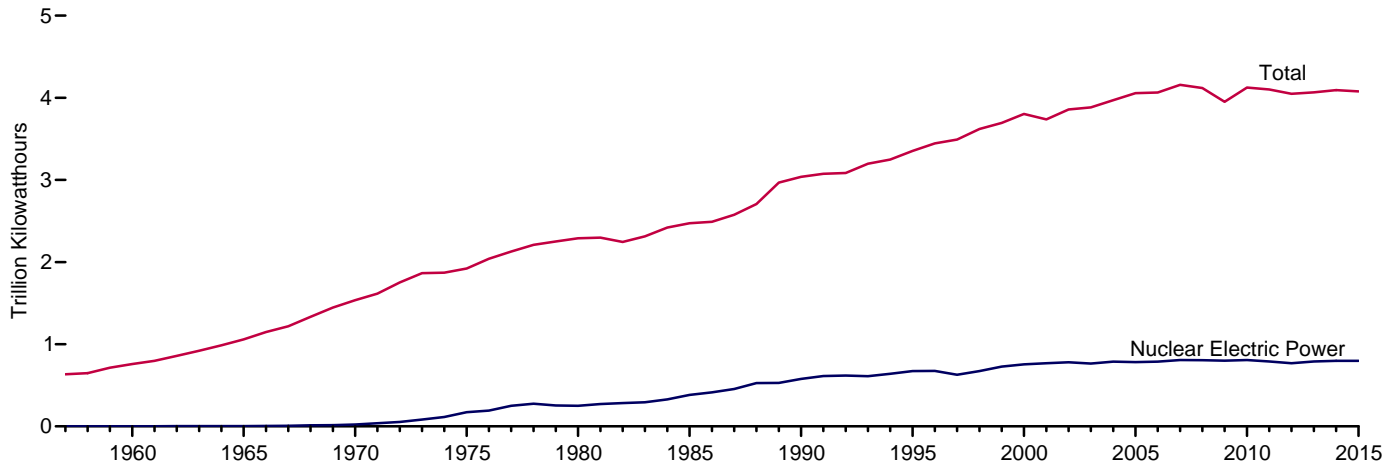


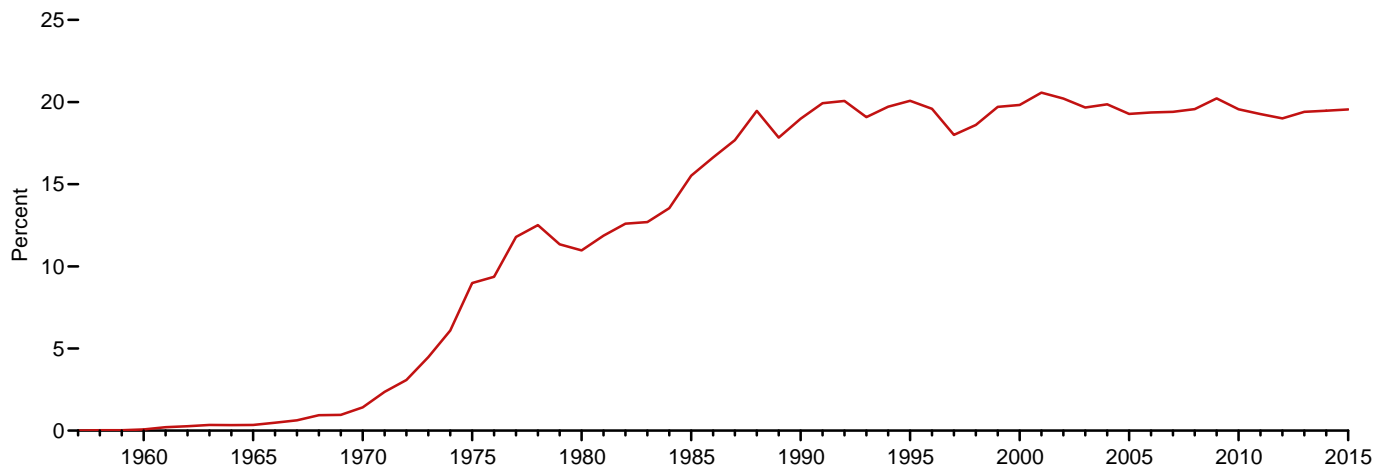
8. Nuclear Energy

Figure 8.1 Nuclear Energy Overview

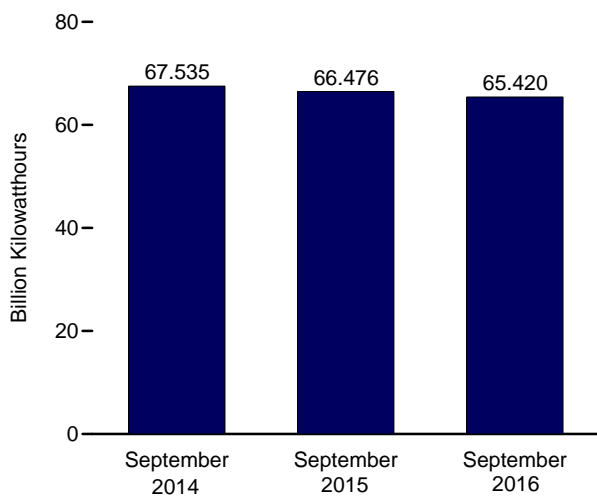
Electricity Net Generation, 1957–2015



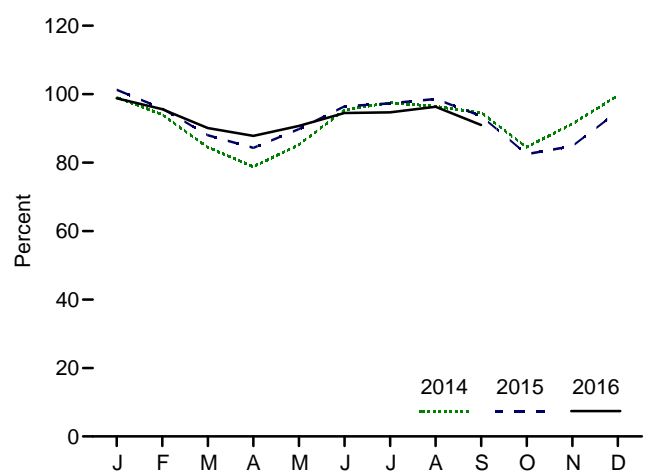
Nuclear Share of Electricity Net Generation, 1957–2015



Nuclear Electricity Net Generation



Capacity Factor, Monthly



Web Page: <http://www.eia.gov/totalenergy/data/monthly/#nuclear>.
Sources: Tables 7.2a and 8.1.

Table 8.1 Nuclear Energy Overview

	Total Operable Units ^{a,b}	Net Summer Capacity of Operable Units ^{b,c}	Nuclear Electricity Net Generation	Nuclear Share of Electricity Net Generation	Capacity Factor ^d
	Number	Million Kilowatts	Million Kilowatt-hours	Percent	
1957 Total	1	0.055	10	(s)	NA
1960 Total	3	.411	518	.1	NA
1965 Total	13	.793	3,657	.3	NA
1970 Total	20	7.004	21,804	1.4	NA
1975 Total	57	37.267	172,505	9.0	55.9
1980 Total	71	51.810	251,116	11.0	56.3
1985 Total	96	79.397	383,691	15.5	58.0
1990 Total	112	99.624	576,862	19.0	66.0
1995 Total	109	99.515	673,402	20.1	77.4
2000 Total	104	97.860	753,893	19.8	88.1
2001 Total	104	98.159	768,826	20.6	89.4
2002 Total	104	98.657	780,064	20.2	90.3
2003 Total	104	99.209	763,733	19.7	87.9
2004 Total	104	99.628	788,528	19.9	90.1
2005 Total	104	99.988	781,986	19.3	89.3
2006 Total	104	100.334	787,219	19.4	89.6
2007 Total	104	100.266	806,425	19.4	91.8
2008 Total	104	100.755	806,208	19.6	^d 91.1
2009 Total	104	101.004	798,855	20.2	90.3
2010 Total	104	101.167	806,968	19.6	91.1
2011 Total	104	^c 101.419	790,204	19.3	89.1
2012 Total	104	101.885	769,331	19.0	86.1
2013 Total	100	99.240	789,016	19.4	89.9
2014 January	100	99.182	73,163	19.4	99.1
February	100	99.182	62,639	19.3	94.0
March	100	99.182	62,397	18.8	84.5
April	100	99.182	56,385	18.9	78.8
May	100	99.182	62,947	19.4	85.2
June	100	99.182	68,138	19.0	95.4
July	100	99.182	71,940	18.6	97.5
August	100	99.182	71,129	18.5	96.4
September	100	99.182	67,535	19.9	94.6
October	100	99.182	62,391	19.8	84.5
November	100	99.182	65,140	20.5	91.3
December	99	98.569	73,363	21.7	99.6
Total	99	98.569	797,166	19.5	91.7
2015 January	99	^R 98.533	74,270	^R 20.6	101.3
February	99	^R 98.533	^R 63,461	^R 19.0	95.8
March	99	^R 98.533	64,547	19.9	88.0
April	99	^R 98.533	^R 59,784	20.3	^R 84.3
May	99	^R 98.533	^R 65,827	20.4	^R 89.8
June	99	^R 98.672	^R 68,516	18.9	96.4
July	99	^R 98.672	71,412	17.8	^R 97.3
August	99	^R 98.672	72,415	^R 18.5	98.6
September	99	^R 98.672	^R 66,476	^R 19.0	^R 93.6
October	99	^R 98.672	60,571	19.4	82.5
November	99	^R 98.672	60,264	20.0	84.8
December	99	^R 98.672	69,634	21.5	^R 94.9
Total	99	^R 98.672	797,178	^R 19.6	92.2
2016 January	99	^{RE} 98.672	72,536	^R 20.6	^E 98.8
February	99	^{RE} 98.672	65,638	20.9	^{RE} 95.6
March	99	^{RE} 98.672	66,149	21.8	^E 90.1
April	99	^{RE} 98.672	62,365	21.3	^E 87.8
May	99	^E 98.672	66,563	^R 21.0	^{RE} 90.7
June	99	^E 99.794	67,175	18.2	^E 94.5
July	100	^E 99.794	70,349	^R 17.1	^E 94.7
August	100	^E 99.794	71,526	^R 17.5	^E 96.3
September	100	^E 99.794	65,420	18.6	^E 91.0
9-Month Total	100	^E 99.794	607,720	19.5	^E 93.3
2015 9-Month Total	99	98.672	606,709	19.3	93.9
2014 9-Month Total	100	99.182	596,272	19.1	91.7

^a Total of nuclear generating units holding full-power licenses, or equivalent permission to operate, at end of period. See Note 1, "Operable Nuclear Reactors," at end of section.

^b At end of period.

^c For the definition of "Net Summer Capacity," see Note 2, "Nuclear Capacity," at end of section. Beginning in 2011, monthly capacity values are estimated in two steps: 1) uprates and derates reported on Form EIA-860M are added to specific months; and 2) the difference between the resulting year-end capacity (from data reported on Form EIA-860M) and final capacity (reported on Form EIA-860) is allocated to the month of January.

^d Beginning in 2008, capacity factor data are calculated using a new

methodology. For an explanation of the method of calculating the capacity factor, see Note 2, "Nuclear Capacity," at end of section.

^R=Revised. ^E=Estimate. NA=Not available. (s)=Less than 0.05%.

Notes: • For a discussion of nuclear reactor unit coverage, see Note 1, "Operable Nuclear Reactors," at end of section. • Nuclear electricity net generation totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding. • Geographic coverage is the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Web Page: See <http://www.eia.gov/totalenergy/data/monthly/#nuclear> (Excel and CSV files) for all available annual data beginning in 1957 and monthly data beginning in 1973.

Sources: See end of section.

Nuclear Energy

Note 1. Operable Nuclear Reactors. A reactor is generally defined as operable while it possessed a full-power license from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or its predecessor the Atomic Energy Commission, or equivalent permission to operate, at the end of the year or month shown. The definition is liberal in that it does not exclude units retaining full-power licenses during long, non-routine shutdowns that for a time rendered them unable to generate electricity. Examples are:

(a) In 1985 the five then-active Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) units (Browns Ferry 1, 2, and 3, and Sequoyah 1 and 2) were shut down under a regulatory forced outage. All five units were idle for several years, restarting in 2007, 1991, 1995, 1988, and 1988, respectively and were counted as operable during the shutdowns.

(b) Shippingport was shut down from 1974 through 1976 for conversion to a light-water breeder reactor, but is counted as operable from 1957 until its retirement in 1982.

(c) Calvert Cliffs 2 was shut down in 1989 and 1990 for replacement of pressurizer heater sleeves but is counted as operable during those years.

Exceptions to the definition are Shoreham and Three Mile Island 2. Shoreham was granted a full-power license in April 1989, but was shut down two months later and never restarted. In 1991, the license was changed to Possession Only. Although not operable at the end of the year, Shoreham is counted as operable during 1989. A major accident closed Three Mile Island 2 in 1979, and although the unit retained its full-power license for several years, it is considered permanently shut down since that year.

The following nuclear generating units were retired in 2013: Crystal River 3 in February; Kewaunee in May; and San Onofre 2 and 3 in June. Vermont Yankee was retired in December 2014.

Note 2. Nuclear Capacity. Nuclear generating units may have more than one type of net capacity rating, including the following:

(a) Net Summer Capacity—The steady hourly output that generating equipment is expected to supply to system load, exclusive of auxiliary power, as demonstrated by test at the time of summer peak demand. Auxiliary power of a typical nuclear power plant is about 5% of gross generation.

(b) Net Design Capacity or Net Design Electrical Rating (DER)—The nominal net electrical output of a unit, specified by the utility and used for plant design.

Through 2007, the monthly capacity factors are calculated as the monthly nuclear electricity net generation divided by the maximum possible nuclear electricity net generation for that month. The maximum possible nuclear electricity net generation is the number of hours in the month (assuming 24-hour days, with no adjustment for changes to or from Daylight Savings Time) multiplied by the net summer capacity of operable nuclear generating units at the end of the month. That fraction is then multiplied by 100 to obtain a percentage. Annual capacity factors are calculated as the annual nuclear electricity net generation divided by the annual maximum possible nuclear electricity net generation (the sum of the monthly values for maximum possible nuclear electricity net generation). For the methodology used to calculate capacity factors beginning in 2008, see U.S. Energy Information Administration, *Electric Power Monthly*, Appendix C notes on “Average Capacity Factors.”

Table 8.1 Sources

Total Operable Units and Net Summer Capacity of Operable Units

1957–1982: Compiled from various sources, primarily U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Nuclear Reactor Programs, “U.S. Central Station Nuclear Electric Generating Units: Significant Milestones.”

1983 forward: U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), Form EIA-860, “Annual Electric Generator Report,” and predecessor forms; Form EIA-860M, “Monthly Update to the Annual Electric Generator Report”; and monthly updates as appropriate. For a list of operable units as of November 2011, see http://www.eia.gov/nuclear/reactors/stats_table1.html.

Nuclear Electricity Net Generation and Nuclear Share of Electricity Net Generation

1957 forward: Table 7.2a.

Capacity Factor

1973–2007: Calculated by EIA using the method described above in Note 2.

2008 forward: EIA, Form EIA-860, “Annual Electric Generator Report”; Form EIA-860M, “Monthly Update to the Annual Electric Generator Report”; and Form EIA-923, “Power Plant Operations Report.”