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Trends in Argentina

Facts from the *Renewables 2021 Global Status Report*

Argentina's Top Highlights in 2020

- Argentina's updated NDC, submitted in 2020 to the UNFCCC secretariat, states that the country's long-term strategy will include the objective of carbon neutrality by 2050.
- 2020 was a record year for wind power in Argentina, as the country added 1 GW of new capacity, following Brazil and ahead of Chile in the Latin America region.
- Argentina continued to expand its solar PV capacity – with 0.3 GW added in 2020 – and was among Latin America and the Caribbean's top installers, after Brazil, Mexico, and Chile.
- The modernisation and refurbishment of hydropower plants continued in 2020. This included the refurbishment and improvement of the 3.1 GW Yacyretá plant on the Argentina/Paraguay border which increased its capacity by over 20% (735 MW).
- The country also dropped from fifth to ninth place among biodiesel producers, as its production decreased some 35% to 1.6 billion litres, with US duties on biodiesel imports discouraging trade.

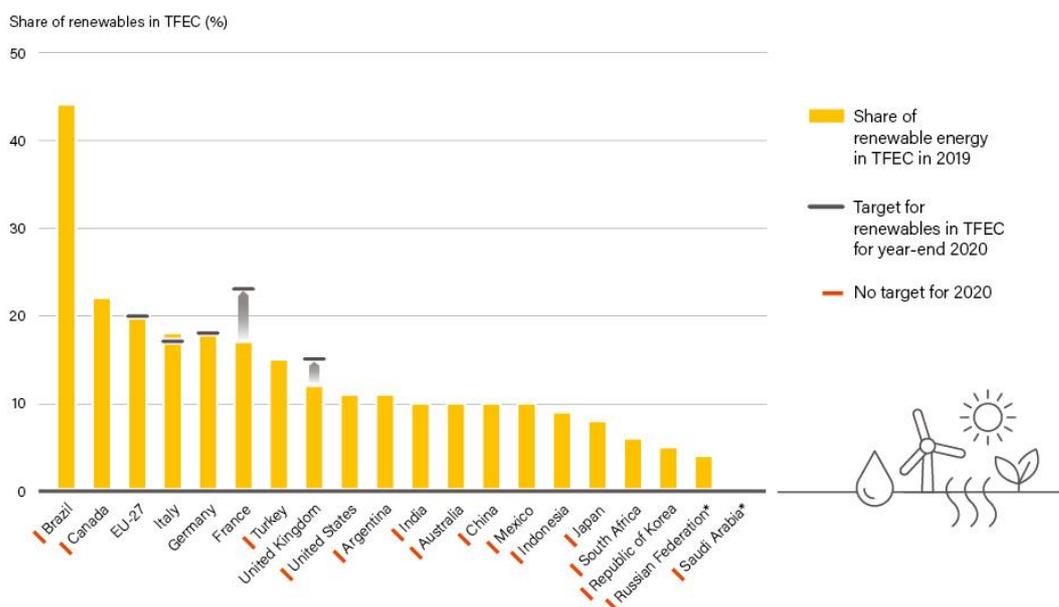
Renewables shares and targets: Where does Argentina stand among G20 countries?

Despite the updated NDC (submitted in 2020) stating that the country’s long-term strategy will include the objective of carbon neutrality by 2050, Argentina did not have a specific annual target for the share of renewables in total final energy consumption (TFEC). In 2020, the with renewables achieving around 10% of TFEC, below neighbouring Brazil.

As seen in the figure below, only five of the world’s largest member economies in the G20 – the EU-27, France, Germany, Italy, and the United Kingdom – had set 2020 targets to achieve a certain share of renewables in final energy use.

Do net zero targets¹ or targets for renewable shares actually support the uptake of renewables? Targets are needed, as they are binding objectives that can be used to hold countries accountable. Setting net zero targets alone does not necessarily lead to greater attention to renewables or to success in meeting renewable energy targets. Alongside any kind of target, robust policies and regulations are needed to ensure these targets are met.

 Renewable Energy Shares and Targets, G20 Countries, 2019 and 2020



Note: TFEC = total final energy consumption.
Data for Russian Federation and Saudi Arabia are for 2018 and 2017 respectively.

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¹Click here to read REN21’s brief overview of net zero targets: <https://www.ren21.net/net-zero-basics/>

Global rankings

Total renewable power capacity, end-2020 (Gigawatts)

1. China (908)
2. United States (313)
3. Brazil (150)
4. India (142)
5. Germany (132)
- ...23. **Argentina** (14.1)

Renewable power capacity per person, not including hydropower, end-2020 (Gigawatts)

1. Iceland (2.1)
2. Denmark (1.7)
3. Sweden (1.6)
4. Germany (1.5)
5. Australia (1.1)
- ...49. **Argentina** (0.08)

Wind power additions in Latin America, 2020 (Gigawatts)

1. Brazil (2.3)
2. **Argentina** (1.1)
3. Chile (0.7)
4. Mexico (0.6)
5. Panama (0.1)
6. Peru (0.04)

The *Renewables 2021 Global Status Report* material is available here: <https://www.ren21.net/gsr>

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