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## **Trends in Brazil**

### **Facts from the *Renewables 2021 Global Status Report***

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#### **Brazil's Top Highlights in 2020**

- For the first time, Brazil ranked third globally in wind power additions in 2020 (see table below), adding three times more wind power capacity than in the previous year, with 2.3 GW of installations. Annual installations of solar PV in Brazil were 31 GW, up 68.6% over 2019.
- After nearly a decade of adding hydropower capacity in the gigawatt range, Brazil commissioned only 177 MW in 2020, while last year it took the lead in new hydropower capacity, ahead of China. Globally, Brazil has the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest hydropower capacity after China, at 108 GW by end-2020, representing 62% of its total operational power capacity.
- Renewable energy capacity investments in Brazil grew by 23%, marking the seventh consecutive year of growth. Brazil accounted for 2.9% of total global renewable energy capacity investment in 2020.
- Brazil continues to be a world leader in the production and use of bioenergy. Following the United States, it is the world's 2<sup>nd</sup> largest producer of biofuels and holds a 26% share of global production. It leads Indonesia (7%), Germany (3%) and China (3%). In 2020, Brazilian biodiesel production rose 9% to a record 6.4 billion litres to meet increased domestic demand. Brazil also has the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest biopower capacity in operation.
- Overall, Brazil continues to rank third globally in terms of cumulative renewable energy capacity with 150 GW, following China and the United States.

#### **Renewables shares and targets: Where does Brazil stand among G20 countries?**

While Brazil does not have a carbon neutral target for 2060, in 2020 Brazil had the highest share of renewable energy (43%) in total final energy consumption (TFEC) among the G20 countries, due to its extensive use of bioenergy and hydropower.

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. Brazil did not have a target for renewable energy in TFEC in 2020.

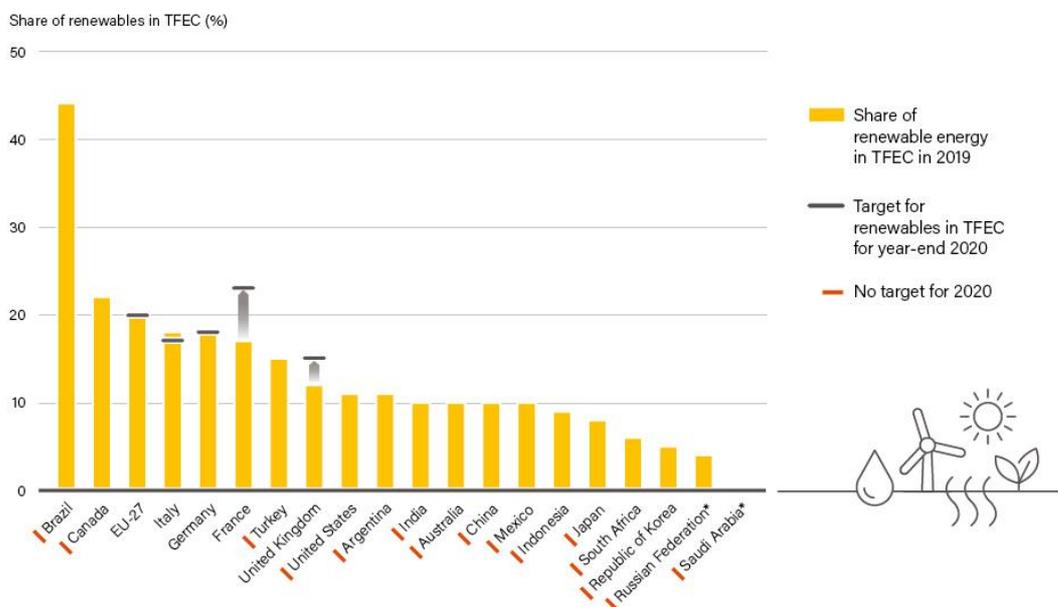
Do net zero targets<sup>1</sup> or targets for renewable shares actually support the uptake of renewables? Targets are needed, as they are binding objectives that can be used to hold countries accountable. Setting net zero targets alone does not necessarily lead to greater attention to renewables or to

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

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.

## 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)
6. Japan (104)

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)
- ...41. **Brazil** (0.2)

Wind Power Capacity Additions, Top Countries, 2020 (Gigawatts)

1. China (52.0)
2. United States (2.3)
3. **Brazil** (2.3)
4. The Netherlands (2.0)
5. Spain (1.7)
6. Germany (1.7)

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

**Questions?** Please contact [press@ren21.net](mailto:press@ren21.net) or +33 1 44 37 50 99.