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Trends in Chile

Facts from the *Renewables 2021 Global Status Report*

Chile's Top Highlights in 2020

- In 2020, Chile unveiled a national green hydrogen strategy that aims to develop the country into a global producer and exporter by 2040. It also updated the country's NDC by setting out a target for renewable hydrogen to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 18-27%.
- 2020 saw a record of 684 megawatts (MW) wind power installations in Chile, a 30% increase compared to 2019 and second place in South America following Argentina at around 900 MW. The country was also one of the top four solar PV installers in Latin America in 2020, installing 0.8 gigawatts (GW) of capacity. Chile ranked 3rd after Brazil (3.1 GW) and Mexico (1.5 GW), and ahead of Argentina (0.3 GW).
- For solar thermal industrial heat as of early 2020, Chile was one of the leading countries in terms of total installed capacity in 2020 (25MW-thermal), after Oman (300) and ahead of China (24).
- Chile was also one of the few countries with concentrating solar thermal power (CSP) capacity under construction during the year. The 110 MW Cerro Dominador tower project will be the first commercial CSP facility in Latin America and is expected to be operational in 2021.
- Chile ranked fifth in Latin America for renewable energy capacity in operation with 14.0 GW installed. It followed Brazil (150 GW), Mexico (27 GW), Venezuela (16 GW) and just trailed Argentina (14.1 GW), while leading Colombia (13.8 GW) and Peru (6.1 GW).

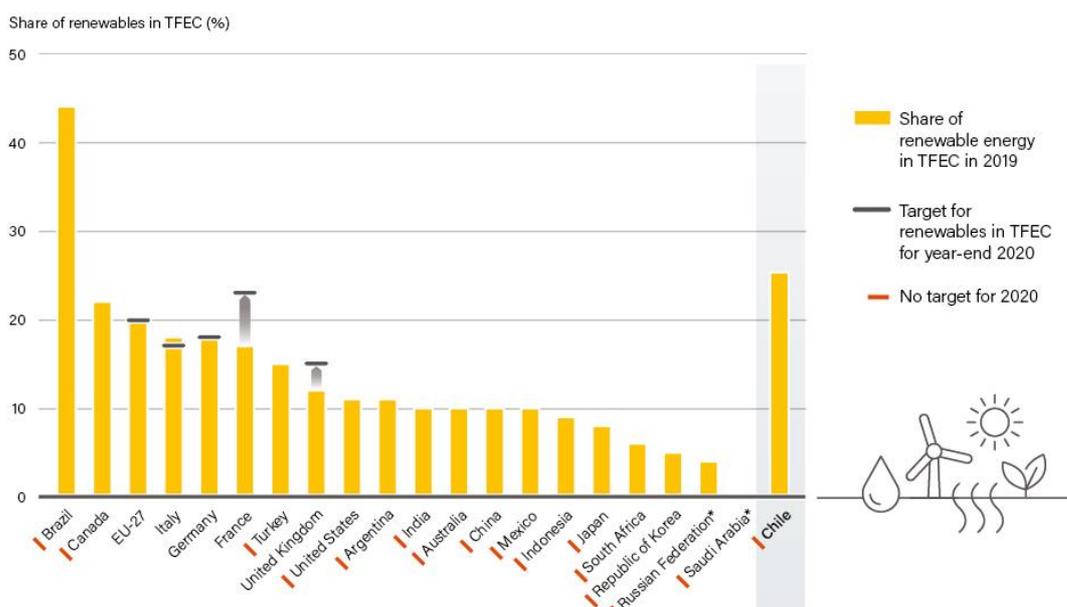
Renewable shares and targets: Where does Chile stand relative to G20 countries?

The figure below shows that renewables made up around 25% of Chile’s total final energy consumption (TFEC) in 2019, and the country did not have a specific 2020 target for share of renewable energy in TFEC.

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.





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

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)
- ...25. **Chile** (14)

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

1. Iceland (2.1)
2. Denmark (1.7)
3. Sweden (1.6)
4. Germany (1.5)
5. Australia (1.1)
- ...27. **Chile** (0.4)

Wind power capacity additions in Latin America in 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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