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Trends in Mexico

Facts from the *Renewables 2021 Global Status Report*

Mexico's Top Highlights in 2020

- Mexico was the Latin American leader for geothermal power capacity at the end of 2020. With 0.9 gigawatts (GW) installed, it ranked 6th in the world following the United States (2.6 GW), Indonesia (2.1), the Philippines (1.9), Turkey (1.6), New Zealand (1.0), and ahead of Kenya (0.8), Italy (0.8), Iceland (0.8), and Japan (0.6).
- In 2020, Mexico was the annual leader in terms of solar thermal industrial heat with 77 new installations – ahead of India (44) – and its market for solar heat for industry was the second biggest in the world with 16 new projects, after China (30) and ahead of Germany (10).
- As for solar PV, Mexico was one of Latin America's top four installers in 2020 – with 1.5 GW added capacity – after Brazil and ahead of Chile and Argentina. Nevertheless, the country lost its lead for total capacity (5 GW), as Brazil ended the year with 7.7 GW.
- After two years of ranking among the world's top 10 installers, Mexico's wind market declined 45% in 2020, with only 0.6 MW installed, due to policy and regulatory changes.

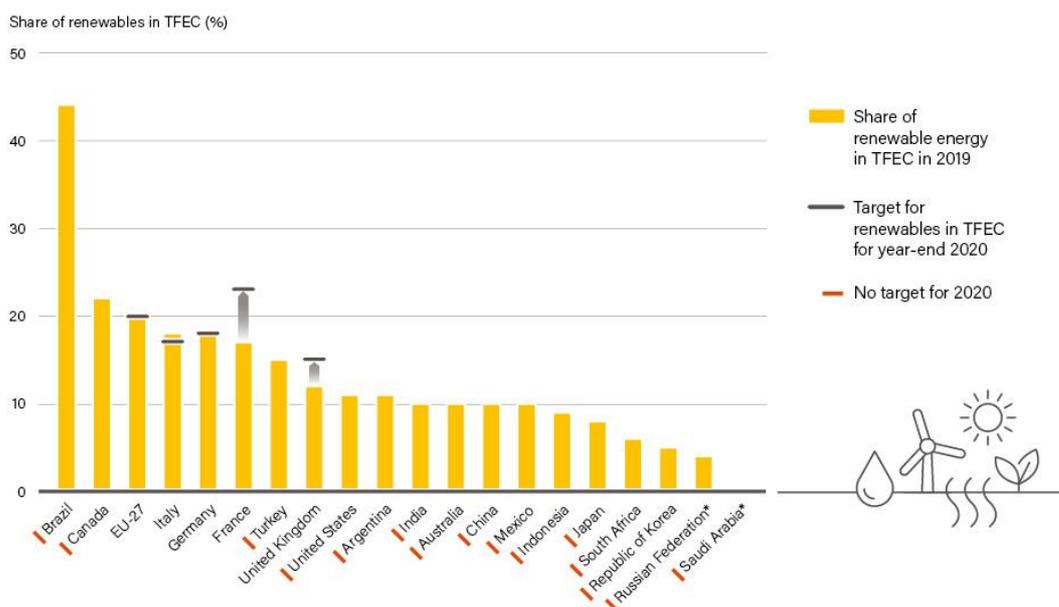
Renewable shares and targets: Where does Mexico stand among G20 countries?

The figure below shows that renewable energy made up almost 10% of Mexico’s total final energy consumption (TFEC), a similar share to China but trailing the world’s largest economies in the European Union and in the Americas. Mexico did not set a target for the share of renewables by 2020.

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)
- ...18. **Mexico** (27)

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)
- ...48. **Mexico** (0.1)

Geothermal power global capacity, 2020 (Gigawatts)

1. United States (2.6)
2. Indonesia (2.1)
3. Philippines (1.9)
4. Turkey (1.6)
5. New Zealand (1.0)
6. **Mexico** (0.9)

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

Questions? Please contact press@ren21.net or +33 1 44 37 50 99.