

Embargoed until: 00:05 CEST Paris Time – 15 June 2021

Trends in Germany

Facts from the *Renewables 2021 Global Status Report*

The entire GSR dataset can be downloaded, sorted and explored at <https://www.ren21.net/gsr>

Germany's Top Highlights in 2020

- Germany ranked 5th globally in terms of installed renewable energy capacity with 132 GW, following China, the United States, Brazil and India. Germany ranked 4th in terms of share of solar and wind power in electricity generation, reaching 33% in 2020, after Denmark (63%), Uruguay (43%) and Ireland (38%). In terms of both solar PV and wind power cumulative capacities, it ranked 1st in the EU.
- As for new offshore wind installations, Germany saw its lowest numbers in nearly a decade, with no new offshore wind power projects under construction at year's end as all projects planned under tenders had been installed. Offshore installations (0.2 GW) were down 80% relative to 2019; onshore additions increased nearly 33% after two years of decline following Germany's shift from a feed-in policy to tenders.
- Germany experienced a 40% increase in heat pump installations, for a cumulative total of more than 1 million units by year's end, entering the top three in Europe for the first time (following France and Italy).
- Germany's stimulus package included EUR 5.9 billion (USD 7.3 billion) in subsidies for EVs and charging infrastructure as well as EUR 7 billion (USD 8.6 billion) for renewable hydrogen for decarbonising heavy transport and industry.
- Germany launched its own hydrogen strategy, including plans to increase hydrogen production capacity to 5 GW by 2030 and 10 GW by 2040 using surplus electricity from renewable energy sources.
- Germany published a draft law that would require airlines to increase sustainable aviation fuel of non-biogenic origin to 0.5% by 2025, 1% by 2028 and 2% by 2030.

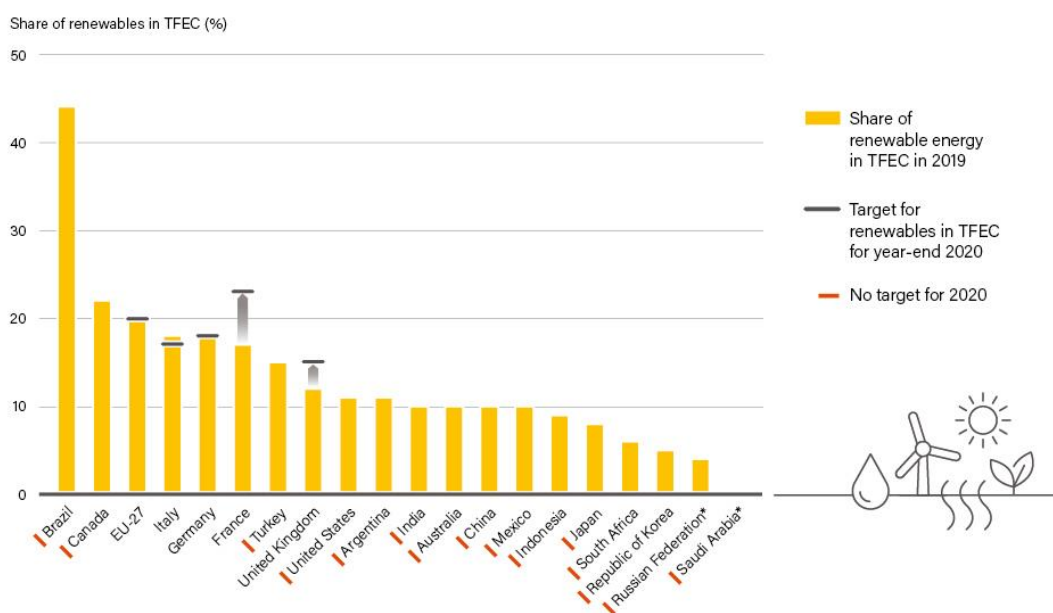
Renewable Shares and targets: Where does Germany stand among G20 countries?

Germany, alongside Italy and the EU-27, was one of the only G20 members to be on track to achieve their target. The figure below shows that renewable energy made up 17.7% of total final energy consumption (TFEC) in 2019. This share rose to 19.6% in 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.





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)
6. Japan (104)

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)
6. Spain (0.9)

Top countries for renewable power capacity additions, 2020 (Gigawatts)

1. China (117)
2. United States (36)
3. Vietnam (11.4)
4. Japan (9.1)
5. **Germany** (7.0)
6. India (6.3)

All report materials, figures, case studies and the full data pack can be downloaded here: <https://www.ren21.net/gsr>

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