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Asia-Pacific emerges as global leader in energy diversification

Energy Institute's 2024 Statistical Review reveals region responsible for nearly half of global fossil fuel avoidance, but emissions are still rising.

The Energy Institute's *Statistical Review of World Energy 2025*, released today in collaboration with KPMG and Kearney, underscores the central role of the Asia-Pacific region in the global energy system.

From world-leading renewable deployment to surging electricity demand, the region is both driving the clean energy transition and contributing the largest share of emissions.

Asia's energy story in 2024 is one of scale, acceleration and contradiction. On one hand, Asia-Pacific is responsible for more avoided fossil fuel use than any other region, with China dominating global renewable energy growth. On the other, China and India together were responsible for three-quarters of the increase in global emissions.

Key highlights

- Asia-Pacific contributed 43% of global avoided fossil fuel use, compared to 21% for Europe.
- China contributed 57% of new wind and solar generation – with solar almost doubling in just two years.
- China was responsible for around half the year-on-year global increase in electricity generation and has nearly doubled its generation over a decade.
- In ASEAN, renewables are growing faster than overall energy demand, signalling a shift toward energy systems powered by renewables.
- Despite progress, China remains the world's largest emitter, responsible for 31% of global emissions in 2024.

Asia's energy landscape is rapidly evolving. The region is leading the world in renewable energy growth, electrification, and avoided fossil fuel use, but is also grappling with soaring demand and persistent emissions.

China's paradox is at the heart of the global energy challenge: it is both the largest driver of renewable energy expansion and the largest single source of emissions.

For ASEAN, the data shows real momentum, rapid energy growth matched by accelerating renewables. **The region is poised to become a major force in the energy transition** if this trend continues.

The global transition hinges on what happens next in Asia. As the region's energy systems scale and modernise, the challenge will be to meet rising demand **without locking in new emissions**, and to build electricity systems that are not only large and low-carbon, but secure and resilient.

Global Highlights

- Wind and solar combined, grew by over 16%, reinforcing their role as the fastest growing areas of the energy system. China was responsible for 57% of new additions with solar almost doubling in just two years.
- Wind and solar grew nearly nine times faster than total energy demand, fossil fuels also grew (just over 1%) in 2024
- The world saw a 2% annual rise in total energy supply, reaching a new high of 592 EJ
- All-time records were reached across ALL forms of energy (coal, oil, gas, renewables, hydro and nuclear)
- At 4%, electricity demand growth continued to outpace total energy demand growth, an indicator that the age of electricity is not just emerging, it is shaping a new global energy system.

Energy Institute President Andy Brown OBE FEI said "This year's data reflects a complex picture of the global energy transition. Electrification is accelerating, particularly across developing economies where access to modern energy is expanding rapidly. However, the pace of renewable deployment continues to be outstripped by overall demand growth, 60% of which was met by fossil fuels. The result is a fourth consecutive year of record emissions, highlighting the structural challenges in aligning global energy consumption with climate goals."

"For the first time since 2006, all major energy sources, including nuclear and hydro, hit record consumption levels, a reflection of surging global demand," **commented Dr Nick Wayth CEng FEI, CEO of the Energy Institute.** "No country has shaped this outcome more than China. Its rapid expansion of renewable capacity, alongside continued reliance on coal, gas, and oil, is driving global energy trends. The scale and direction of China's energy choices will be pivotal in determining whether the world can deliver a secure, affordable, and low-carbon energy future."

Dr Romain Debarre, Partner and Managing Director Energy Transition Institute, Kearney stated: "Last year was another turning point for global energy, driven by rising geopolitical tensions. Energy security, resource access, and technological sovereignty are now taking priority over climate goals. This year's data reveals three trends that are shaping the energy landscape: energy use is rising, but patterns are shifting; electrification is rapidly accelerating; and the energy transition remains chaotic."

"We are witnessing the real dangers of regional differences and the cost of inaction in real time. Record-high GHG emissions and soaring temperatures in 2024 are a deafening wake-up call. We have the strategies, technologies, and know-how to deliver the energy transition with an integrated, secure, and people-centred approach. Now, we must move from promises to action, at scale and at speed."

Wafa Jafri, Lead of Energy and Natural Resources Strategy and Partner KPMG in the UK observed: "COP28 set out a bold vision to triple global renewables by 2030, but progress is proving uneven and despite the rapid growth we have seen globally we are still not at the pace required, as energy demand continues to rise. This year's data highlights how Europe has been facing a reality check,

with rising interest rates and supply chain costs slowing progress on renewables, while China and other emerging markets continue to drive growth at scale. What's emerging is not a uniform transition, but a disorderly one.

"Leaders navigating this need to look beyond headlines and towards practical delivery, regional opportunity, and strategies built for resilience as all facets of the energy trilemma: affordability, security of supply and decarbonisation, compete for priority."

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Notes for editors

1. Media enquiries and for regionally focused releases for Africa, Asia, Europe, Middle East or North America: Gemma Regniez, EI Director of External Affairs gregniez@energyinst.org 07966875843
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2. The global media release, along with the full EI Statistical Review of World Energy 2025 report and other materials, including the full data set and energy charting tool, is available at: <https://www.energyinst.org/statistical-review-under-embargo>
3. The EI Statistical Review of World Energy analyses data on world energy markets from the prior year. It has been providing timely, comprehensive and objective data to the energy community since 1952, originally from bp and, since 2023, under the custodianship of the EI and its co-authors KPMG and Kearney.
Data compilation is undertaken by Heriot-Watt University and additional support is provided by our Knowledge Partner S&P Global Commodities and, during the transition period, by bp.
The Statistical Review continues to be full, first and free: the fullest, most reliable account of energy production, consumption, trade and emissions; the first data source to provide a complete global picture of the previous year; and completely free to access for users.
4. For the 2025 Statistical Review of World Energy, we have changed the way we calculate total primary energy consumption by moving to an updated methodology: total energy supply. More information about the change in methodology can be found [here](#).
5. This year's Statistical Review introduces new mineral data sets, including aluminium, bauxite, tin, vanadium and zinc, as well as additional commodity prices.
6. The [Energy Institute](#) (EI) is the chartered professional membership body for people who work across the world of energy. Our purpose is to create a better energy future for our members and society by accelerating a just global energy transition to net zero. We do this by attracting, developing, and equipping the diverse future energy workforce; informing energy decision-making through convening expertise and advice; and enabling industry and consumers to make energy lower carbon, safer, and more efficient.
7. [Kearney](#) Since 1926, Kearney has been a leading management consulting firm and trusted partner to three-quarters of the Fortune Global 500 and governments around the world. With a presence across more than 40 countries, our people make us who we are. We work impact first, tackling your toughest challenges with original thinking and a commitment to making change

happen together. By your side, we deliver value, results, impact.

8. [KPMG](#) is a global organization of independent professional services firms providing Audit, Tax and Advisory services in 142 countries and territories with more than 275,000 partners and employees working in member firms around the world. KPMG professionals strive to make the difference. They're helping organizations across various sectors accelerate their digital transformation, manage risks, drive forward with their ESG strategies and unlock sustainable growth.