

Latest distribution of South African power base stations





Overview

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What is the main data source for South Africa's power generation pipeline?

The main data source is African Energy Live Data. Don't have an account?

This graphic collects together a series of maps and charts illustrating South Africa's power generation pipeline.

How many power plants are in South Africa?

South Africa has 830 power plants totalling 66,236 MW and 83,087 km of power lines mapped on OpenStreetMap. If multiple sources are listed for a power plant, only the first source is used in this breakdown. Statistics on the electricity network in South Africa from OpenStreetMap.

How much electricity does South Africa produce in 2021?

South Africa produced around 245,000 GWh of electricity in 2021. Most of this electricity is produced using coal and is consumed domestically. In 2022, 12,300 GWh were exported to Eswatini, Botswana, Mozambique, Lesotho, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe and other countries participating in the Southern African Power Pool.

Where are South Africa's nuclear power plants located?

The two reactors at Koeberg are (as of 2017) the only commercial nuclear power plants on the African continent, and account for around 5% of South Africa's electricity production. Low and intermediate waste is disposed of at Vaalputs Radioactive Waste Disposal Facility in the Northern Cape.

Does South Africa have a diesel generator capacity factor?

The total monthly installed capacity of utility-scale generation capacity in



South Africa from January to December 2024. The coal monthly capacity factor increased from April 2024; this has led to a significant reduction in the diesel generator capacity factor compared to 2023.

How does South Africa generate electricity?

Most of the electricity generated in South Africa, however, is still produced by burning fossil fuels that release pollutants (emissions). These large, coal-fired generators need regular maintenance and experience breakdowns and this affects the amount of electricity that can be generated (outage performance).



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