

Benchmarking Air Emissions

Of the 100 Largest Electric Power Producers in the United States

June 2019

Data Downloads at: www.mjbradley.com

Updated June 27, 2019 with p. 9 footnote



Contributors:



Preface

The 2019 Benchmarking report is the 15th collaborative effort highlighting environmental performance and progress in the nation's electric power sector. The Benchmarking series began in 1997 and uses publicly reported data to compare the emissions performance of the 100 largest power producers in the United States. The company rankings are based on 2017 generation and emissions data and aggregate industry trends are presented through 2018.

Data on U.S. power plant generation and air emissions are available to the public through several databases maintained by state and federal agencies. Publicly- and privately-owned electric generating companies are required to report fuel and generation data to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA). Most power producers are also required to report air pollutant emissions data to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). These data are reported and recorded at the boiler, generator, or plant level, and must be combined and presented so that company-level comparisons can be made across the industry.

The Benchmarking report facilitates the comparison of emissions performance by combining generation and fuel consumption data compiled by EIA with emissions data on sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), carbon dioxide (CO₂) and mercury (Hg) compiled by EPA; error checking the data; and presenting emissions information for the nation's 100 largest power producers in a graphic format that aids in understanding and evaluating the data. The report is intended for a wide audience, including electric industry executives, environmental advocates, financial analysts, investors, journalists, power plant managers, and public policymakers.

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Plant and company level data used in this report are available at www.mjbradley.com.

Key Findings

- The 100 largest power producers in the United States own roughly 3,000 power plants and account for more than 80 percent of the sector's electric generation and reported air emissions. Their fuel mix, emissions, and emission rates vary widely as summarized throughout this report (based on 2017 data).
- For the electric sector overall, in 2018, power plant SO₂ and NO_x emissions were 92 percent and 84 percent lower, respectively, than they were in 1990 when Congress passed major amendments to the Clean Air Act. In 2018, power plant SO₂ and NO_x emissions were 5.5 percent and 3.7 percent lower than they were in 2017.
- Power sector CO₂ emissions increased about 1 percent between 2017 and 2018. This marked a reversal of the annual declines that had occurred each year since 2014. In 2018, power plant CO₂ emissions were 4 percent lower than 1990 levels, and 25 percent lower than their peak in 2007. Some of the factors driving this longer-term trend include energy efficiency improvements and the displacement of coal by natural gas and renewable energy resources.
- Mercury air emissions from power plants (as reported to the TRI database) have decreased 90 percent since 2000. The first-ever federal limits on mercury and other hazardous air pollutants from coal-fired power plants went into effect in 2015.



BENCHMARKING AIR EMISSIONS

OF THE
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Electricity in the United States

The electricity sector in the United States includes a wide array of companies that produce and distribute electricity to homes and offices, industrial facilities, and other customers. The services it provides are essential to the growth and functioning of the U.S. economy. In 2018, electricity accounted for almost 40 percent* of primary energy use in the United States, and its share of energy supply is expected to increase in the coming decades with the electrification of transportation and other end-uses.

*U.S. EIA Monthly Energy Review, March 2019

Benchmarking Analytical Resources

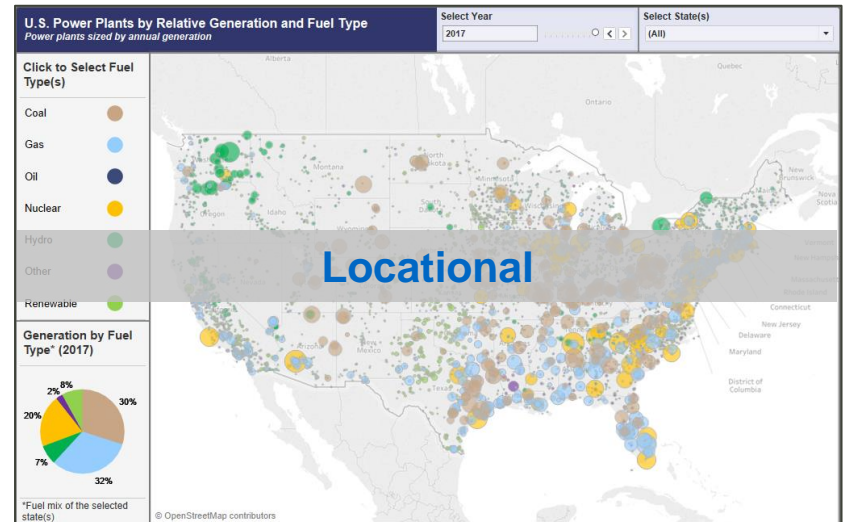
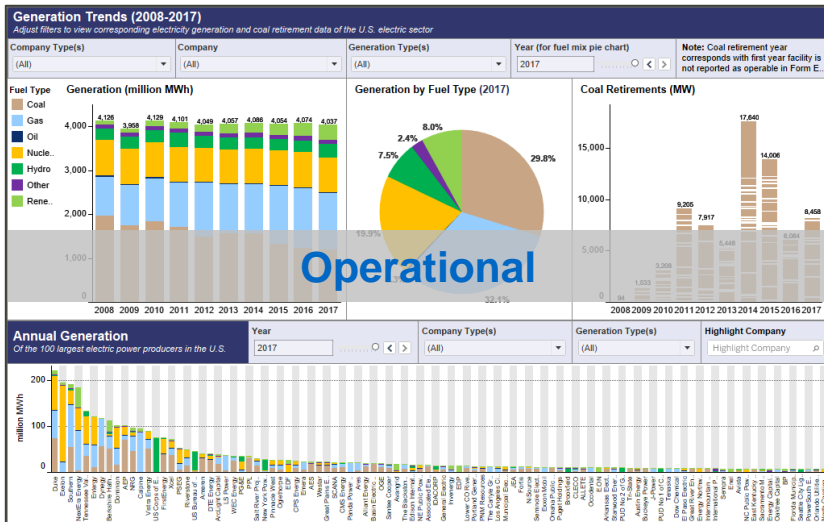
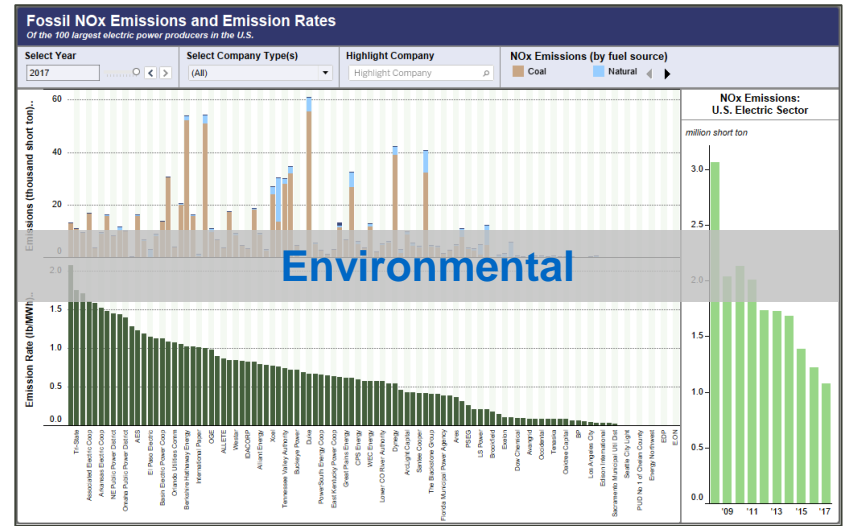
The Benchmarking Report now includes a series of interactive, web-based dashboards to further visualize the emissions and electricity generation from power producers in the United States. These tools provide insight into how facility- and company-level emissions and generation are changing over time by utilizing historical Benchmarking data (2008-2017). Data include:

Environmental: Company-specific emissions and emission rates by company type and pollutant

Operational: Electricity generation and relevant data aggregated by company type, company, and other metrics

Locational: Facility-level emissions and generation visualized by fuel type, company ownership, and other metrics

These tools are available at www.mjbradley.com.



Section I

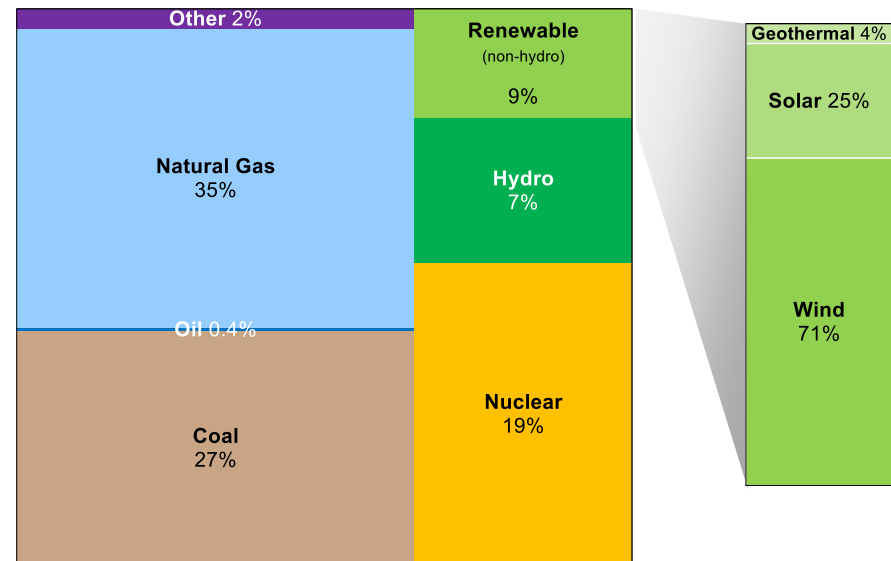
U.S. Electric Sector Highlights



U.S. Generation by Fuel Type

- In 2018, the U.S. electric system continued its general shift away from coal toward lower- and zero-emitting sources. For the second consecutive year, natural gas was the leading source of electricity generation in the U.S. (35 percent), followed by coal (27 percent).
- Nuclear plants accounted for 19 percent, hydroelectric resources 7 percent, and oil-fired resources <1 percent. Non-hydroelectric renewables: wind, solar, and geothermal, accounted for 9 percent of total U.S. generation.
- Other fuel sources such as biomass, municipal solid waste, tire-derived fuel, manufactured and waste gases, etc., accounted for 2 percent.
- This is a significant shift from the generation mix a decade ago. In 2006, coal accounted for 49 percent of power production, while natural gas generated only 20 percent.

U.S. Electricity Generation by Fuel Type (2018)



Zero-Carbon Generation in the United States

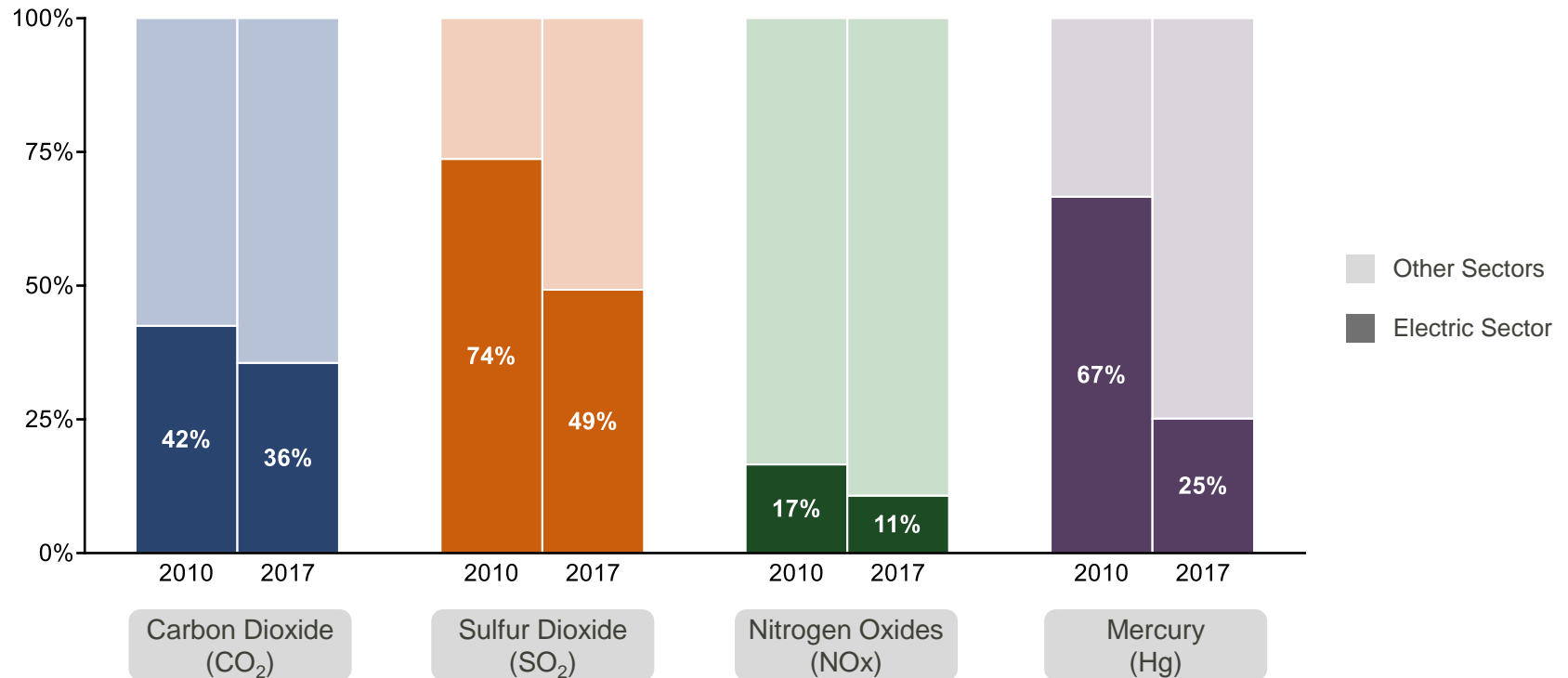
In 2017, renewables and other zero-carbon resources generated more than 35% of U.S. electricity, making it the leading source of power generation for the first time. Natural gas was second (32.1%) and coal was third (29.8%). Of the zero-carbon resources, nuclear made up 56.3%, renewables 22.6%, and hydro 21.1%.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration. Electric Power Monthly, Tables 1.1 and 1.1A. March 2019.

Share of Emissions by Sector

Share of Emissions: U.S. Electric Sector and Other Sectors

% Share of Air Emissions



Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Air Emissions Inventory for Criteria Air Pollutants (March 2019). TRI National Analysis (October 2018).

Section II

Emissions of the 100 Largest Electric Power Producers



The 100 Largest Electric Power Producers

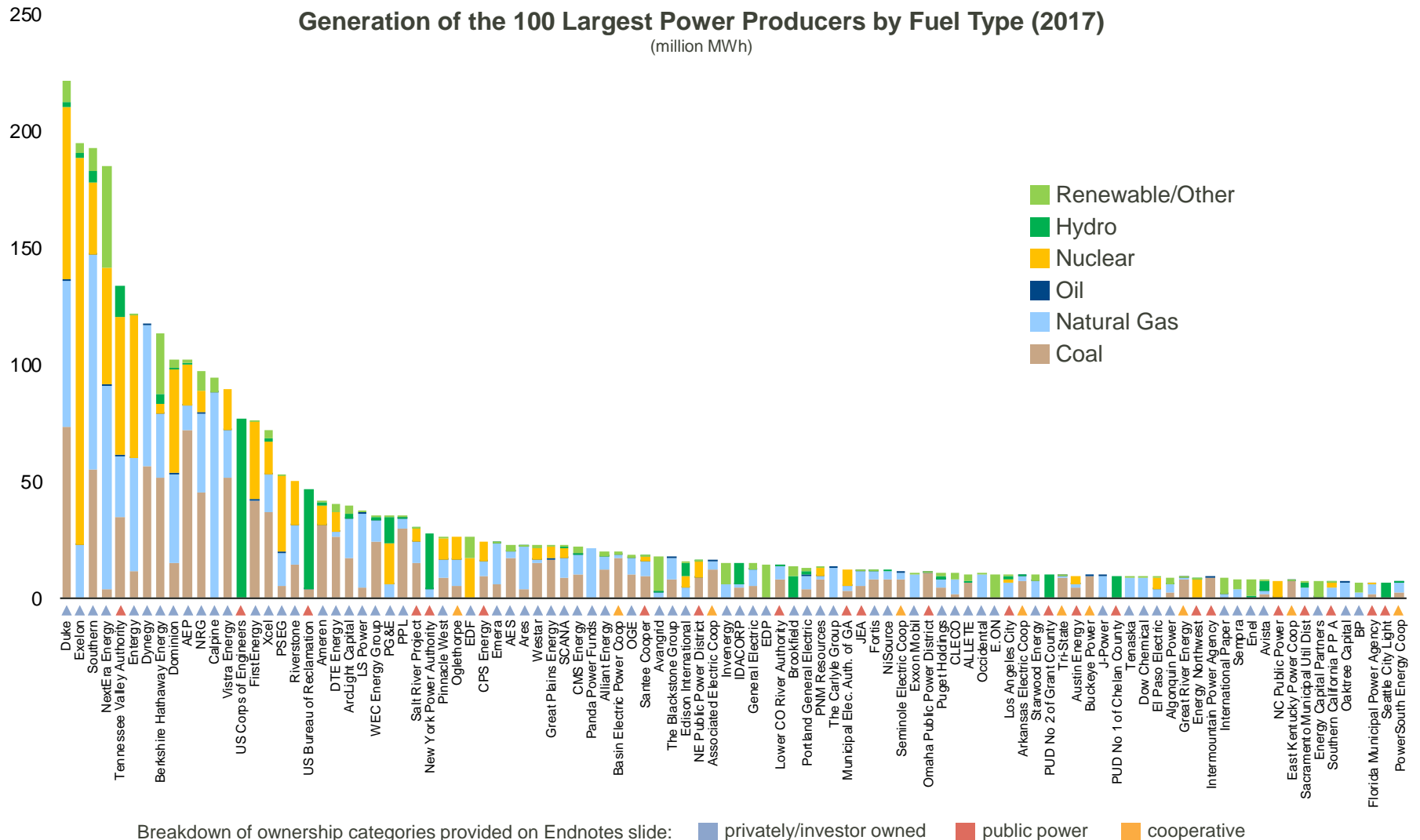
The report examines and compares the stack air pollutant emissions of the 100 largest power producers in the United States based on their 2017 generation, plant ownership, and emissions data. The table below lists the 100 largest power producers featured in this report ranked by their total electricity generation from fossil fuel, nuclear, and renewable energy facilities. These producers include public and private entities (collectively referred to as “companies” or “producers” in this report) that own roughly 3,000 power plants and account for 84 percent of reported electric generation and 86 percent of the industry’s reported emissions.¹

The report focuses on four power plant pollutants for which public emissions data are available: sulfur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), mercury (Hg), and carbon dioxide (CO₂). At sufficient concentrations, these pollutants are associated with significant environmental and public health problems, including acid deposition, mercury deposition, nitrogen deposition, global warming, ground-level ozone, regional haze, and/or fine particle air pollution, which can lead to asthma and other respiratory illnesses. The report benchmarks, or ranks, each company’s absolute emissions and its emission rate (determined by dividing emissions by electricity produced) for each pollutant. The 100 largest power producers emitted in aggregate approximately 1.15 million tons of SO₂, 0.89 million tons of NO_x, 4 tons of mercury, and 1.64 billion tons of CO₂.

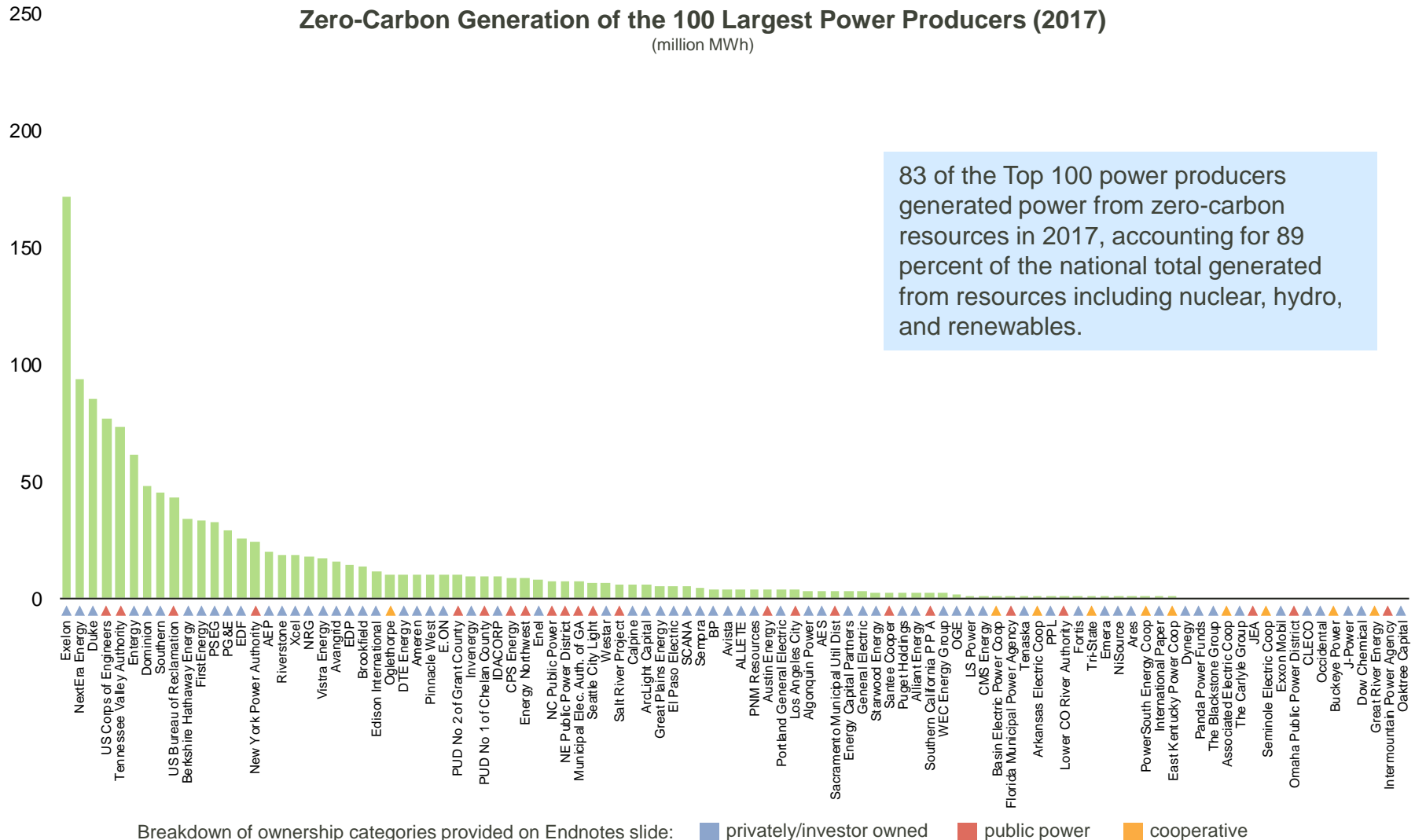
RANK	PRODUCER NAME	2017 MWh (million)	RANK	PRODUCER NAME	2017 MWh (million)	RANK	PRODUCER NAME	2017 MWh (million)	RANK	PRODUCER NAME	2017 MWh (million)
1	Duke	221.4	26	PPL	34.5	51	IDACORP	14.9	76	Austin Energy	9.4
2	Exelon	194.7	27	Salt River Project	29.8	52	General Electric	14.9	77	Buckeye Power	9.4
3	Southern	192.5	28	New York Power Authority	27.8	53	EDP	14.6	78	J-Power	9.4
4	NextEra Energy	185.1	29	Pinnacle West	26.3	54	Lower Colorado River Authority	14.0	79	PUD No 1 of Chelan County	9.2
5	Tennessee Valley Authority	134.1	30	Oglethorpe	26.2	55	Brookfield	13.8	80	Tenaska	9.0
6	Entergy	121.7	31	EDF	26.0	56	Portland General Electric	13.0	81	Dow Chemical	9.0
7	Dynegy	117.3	32	CPS Energy	24.0	57	PNM Resources	13.0	82	El Paso Electric	9.0
8	Berkshire Hathaway Energy	113.3	33	Emera	23.7	58	The Carlyle Group	13.0	83	Algonquin Power	8.8
9	Dominion	102.2	34	AES	23.0	59	Municipal Elec. Auth. of GA	12.3	84	Great River Energy	8.5
10	AEP	102.0	35	Ares	22.6	60	JEA	12.2	85	Energy Northwest	8.4
11	NRG	97.4	36	Westar	22.5	61	Fortis	11.8	86	Intermountain Power Agency	8.4
12	Calpine	94.2	37	Great Plains Energy	22.0	62	NiSource	11.5	87	International Paper	8.3
13	Verstra Energy	89.2	38	SCANA	22.0	63	Seminole Electric Coop	11.0	88	Sempra	7.9
14	US Corps of Engineers	76.5	39	CMS Energy	21.7	64	Exxon Mobil	10.8	89	Enel	7.8
15	FirstEnergy	76.2	40	Panda Power Funds	21.5	65	Omaha Public Power District	10.8	90	Avista	7.4
16	Xcel	71.8	41	Alliant Energy	19.8	66	Puget Holdings	10.7	91	NC Public Power	7.4
17	PSEG	52.3	42	Basin Electric Power Coop	19.6	67	CLECO	10.4	92	East Kentucky Power Coop	7.4
18	Riverstone	50.0	43	OGE	18.5	68	ALLETE	10.3	93	Sacramento Municipal Util Dist	7.3
19	US Bureau of Reclamation	46.5	44	Santee Cooper	18.0	69	Occidental	10.1	94	Energy Capital Partners	7.1
20	Ameren	41.1	45	Avangrid	17.8	70	E.ON	9.9	95	Southern California PPA	6.8
21	DTE Energy	40.4	46	The Blackstone Group	16.8	71	Los Angeles City	9.8	96	Oaktree Capital	6.5
22	ArcLight Capital	39.8	47	Edison International	15.9	72	Arkansas Electric Coop	9.8	97	BP	6.5
23	LS Power	37.6	48	NE Public Power District	15.9	73	Starwood Energy	9.7	98	Florida Municipal Power Agency	6.4
24	WEC Energy Group	35.5	49	Associated Electric Coop	15.7	74	PUD No 2 of Grant County	9.7	99	Seattle City Light	6.4
25	PG&E	34.8	50	Inveney	14.9	75	Tri-State	9.6	100	PowerSouth Energy Coop	6.3

*In June of 2017, NRG’s wholly owned subsidiary, GenOn Energy, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy and was deconsolidated from NRG’s financial statements. Because GenOn did not complete reorganization and emerge from Chapter 11 as a newly formed company independent from NRG until December 2018, Benchmarking methodology dictates that GenOn assets remain allocated to NRG through 2017. This separation will therefore be reflected in future editions of the Benchmarking Report. Although this scenario is uncommon, acquisitions, divestitures, and other separations with similar timelines may be responsible for discrepancies between internal company tracking and Benchmarking data. If GenOn assets were removed from NRG’s portfolio in 2017, for instance, total NRG generation would decline 18% and CO₂ emissions would fall 21%; NO_x, SO₂, and mercury emissions would also be reduced by 24%, 15%, and 13%, respectively.

Rankings by Generation



Rankings by Zero-Carbon Generation



Emission Rankings

Important Note on Emission Rankings

The Benchmarking Report presents generation and emissions information of power producers, not distribution utilities that deliver electricity to customers. In order to apply a uniform methodology to all power producers, the Report assigns electricity generation and associated emissions to power producers according to their known generating asset ownership as of December 31, 2017.

The above is true even when a producer's generating facilities are part of one or more contractual agreements (e.g., power purchase contracts, etc.) with other entities (often utilities). In other words, this Report attributes all generation and emissions to the owner of an asset, not to purchasers of the asset's output or to counterparties to the contracts. Publicly available data do not allow the accurate and exhaustive tracking of such agreements.

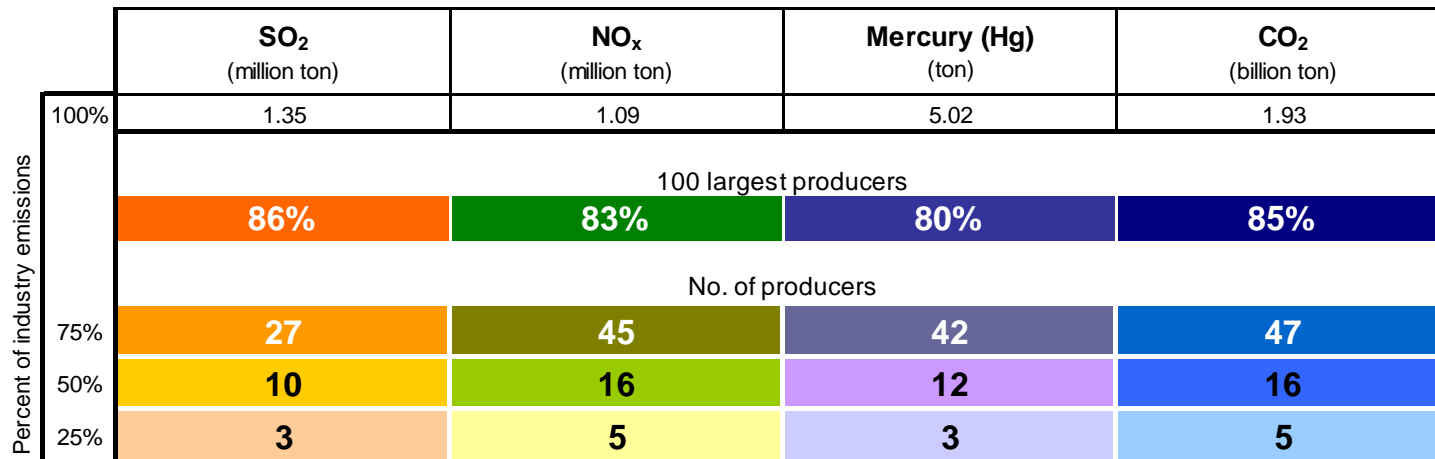
There are a host of reasons why a company's generation profile may differ from that of the electricity it delivers to customers. For example, rural cooperatives, which are non-profit entities and are thus generally unable to directly take advantage of renewable tax credits, tend to rely on power purchase agreements and other non-asset owning mechanisms to deliver renewable electricity to their customers.

A vertically integrated utility that owns a large fossil generating fleet, but also delivers purchased renewable electricity to its customers, might have lower average emission rates than the level attributed in this report to the power producer that owns the said fossil fleet, if the renewable energy purchases were factored into the utility's performance. By the same token, the utility's emissions or emission rate would increase if it contracted with a higher emitting facility or relied on market purchases with associated emissions.

The charts in the next few slides present both the total emissions by company as well as their average emission rates. The evaluation of emissions performance by both emission levels and emission rates provides a more complete picture of relative emissions performance than viewing these measures in isolation. Total emission levels are useful for understanding each producer's contribution to overall emissions loading, while emission rates are useful for assessing how electric power producers compare according to emissions per unit of energy produced when size is eliminated as a performance factor.

The charts illustrate significant differences in the total emission levels and emission rates of the 100 largest power producers. For example, the tons of CO₂ emissions range from zero to over 104 million tons per year. The NO_x emission rates range from zero to 2.3 pounds per megawatt hour of generation. A power producer's total emissions are influenced by the amount of generation that the producer owns and by the fuels and technologies that it uses to generate electricity.

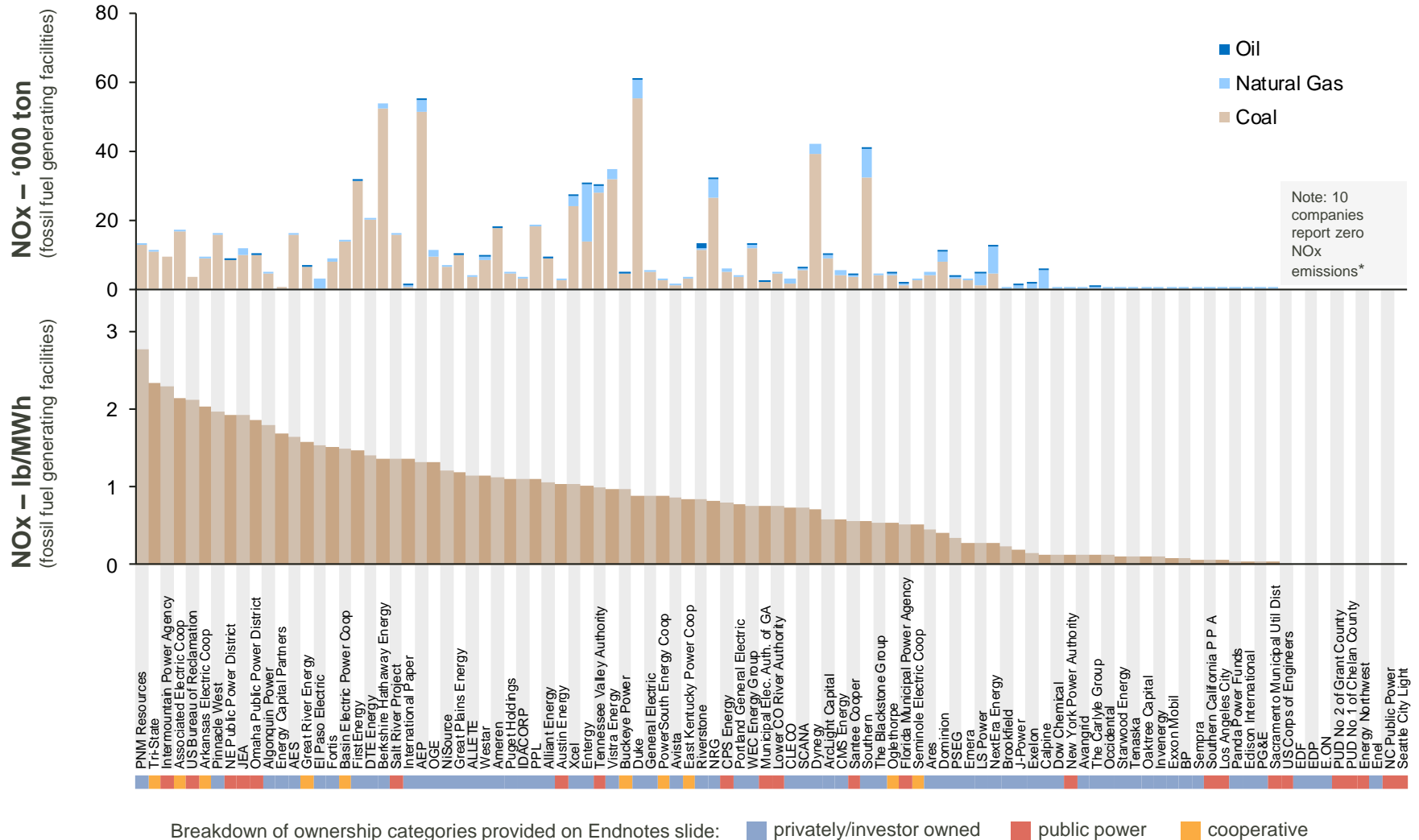
Emission Contributions



Air pollution emissions from power plants are highly concentrated among a small number of producers. For example, nearly a quarter of the electric power industry's SO₂ and CO₂ emissions are emitted by just three and five top 100 producers, respectively.

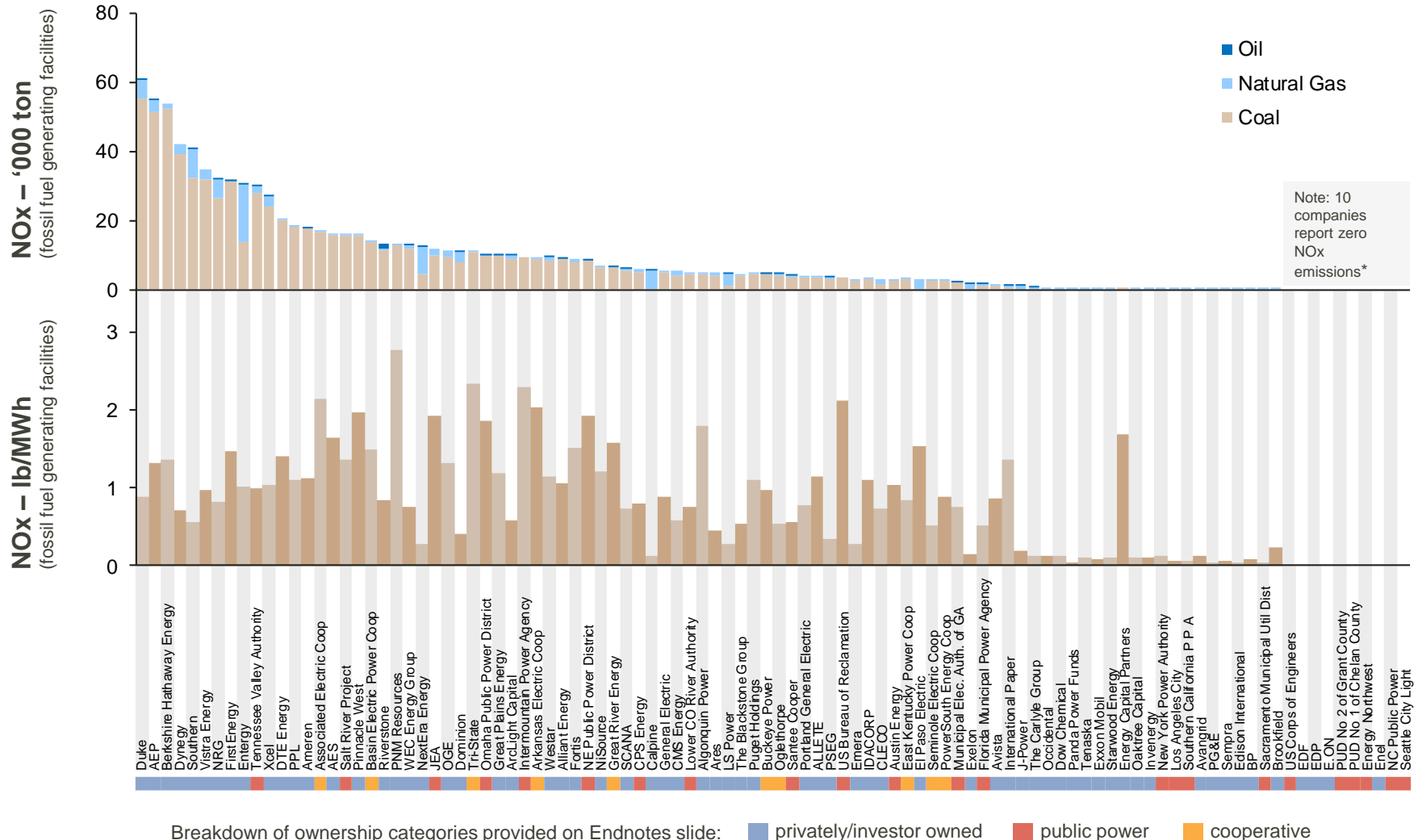
NOx: Total Emissions and Emission Rates

Sorted from highest to lowest by emission rate



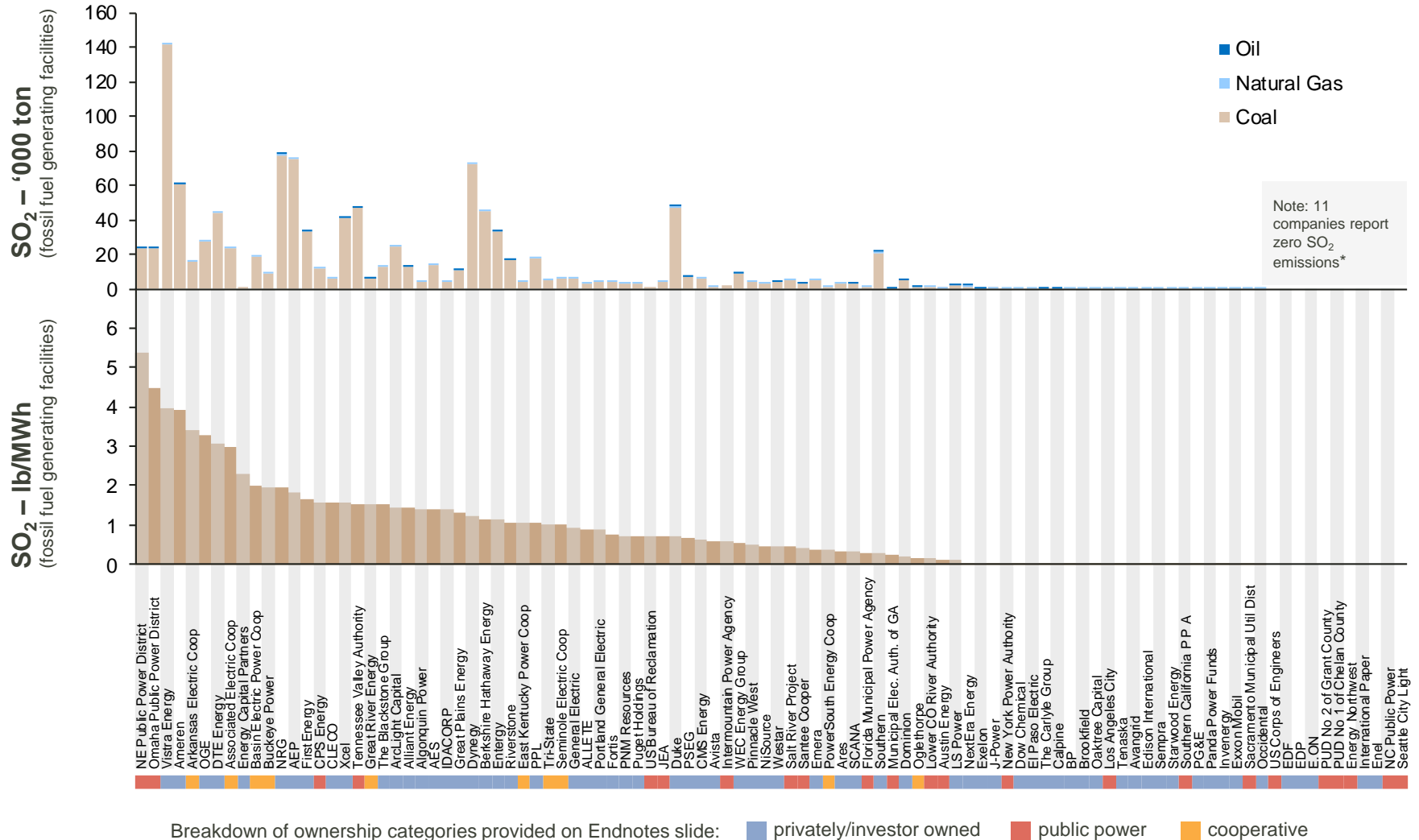
NOx: Total Emissions and Emission Rates

Sorted from highest to lowest by total emission



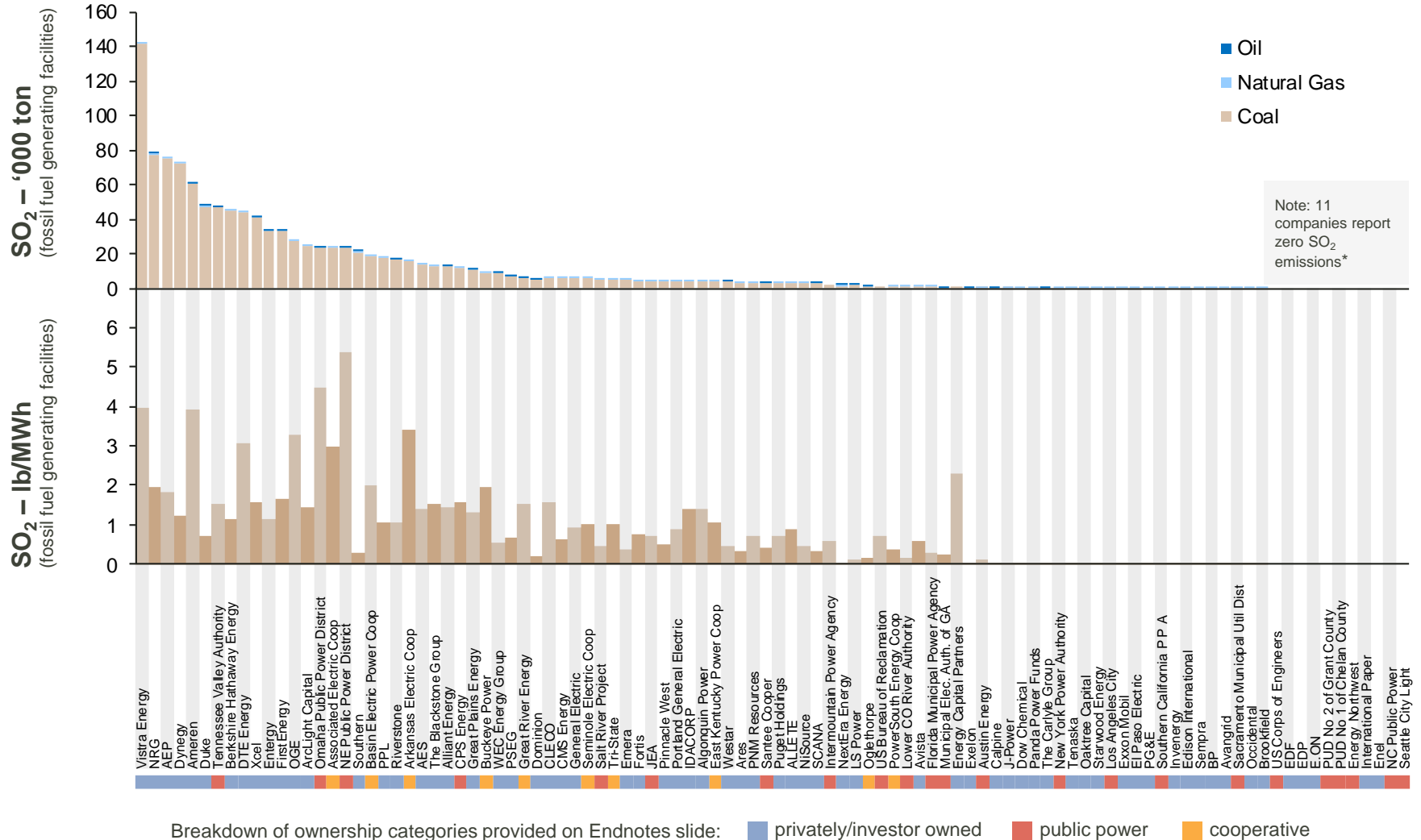
SO₂: Total Emissions and Emission Rates

Sorted from highest to lowest by emission rate

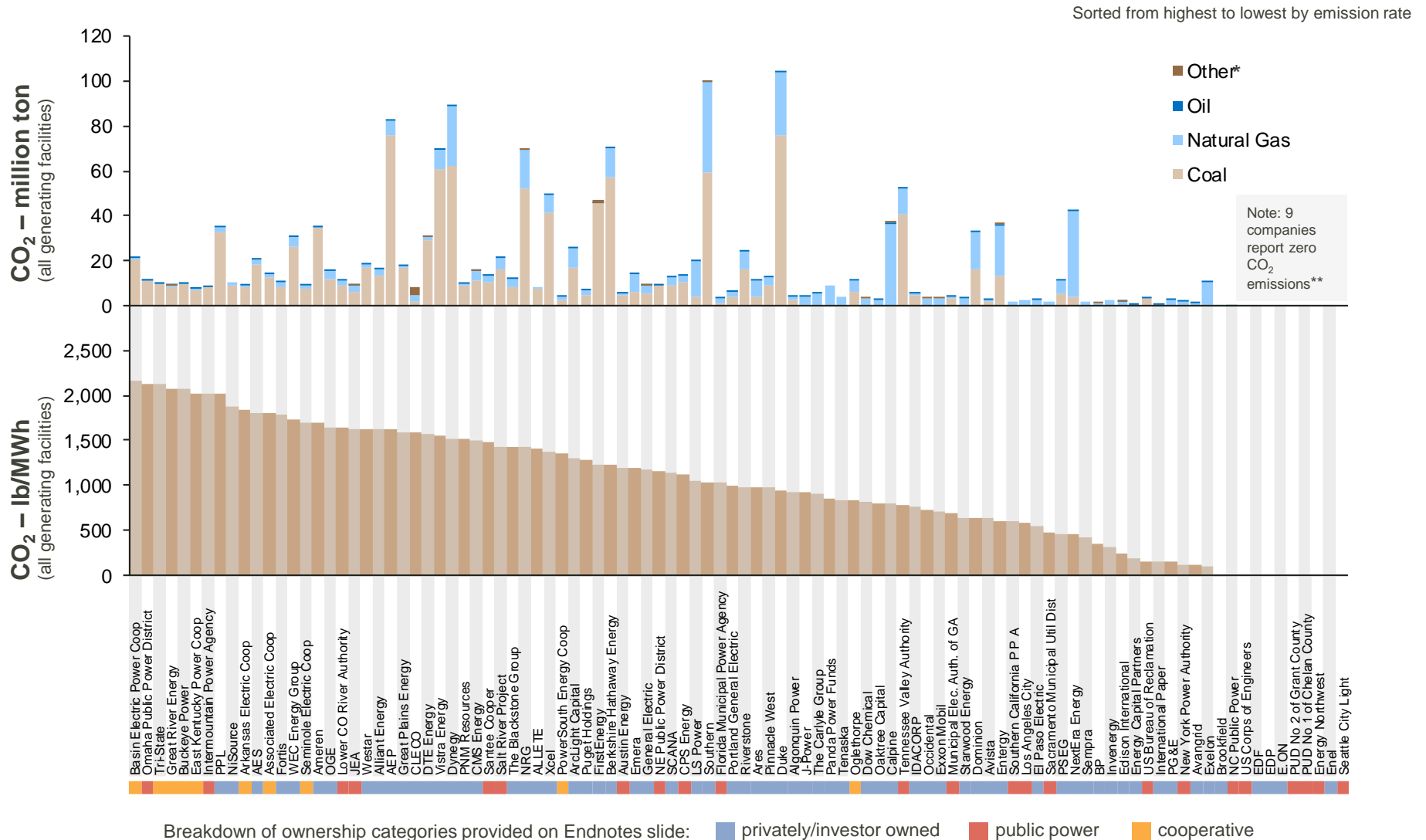


SO₂: Total Emissions and Emission Rates

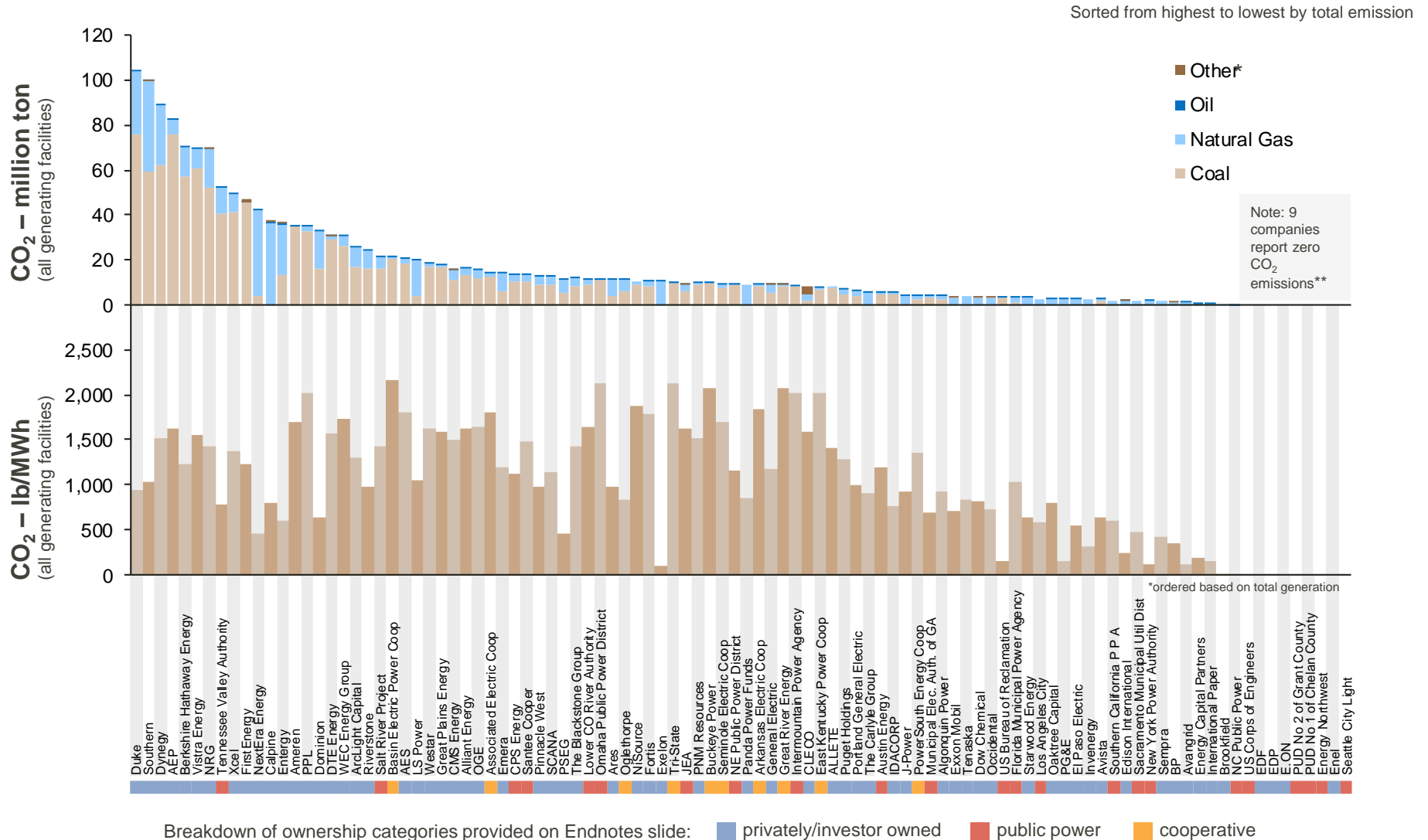
Sorted from highest to lowest by total emission



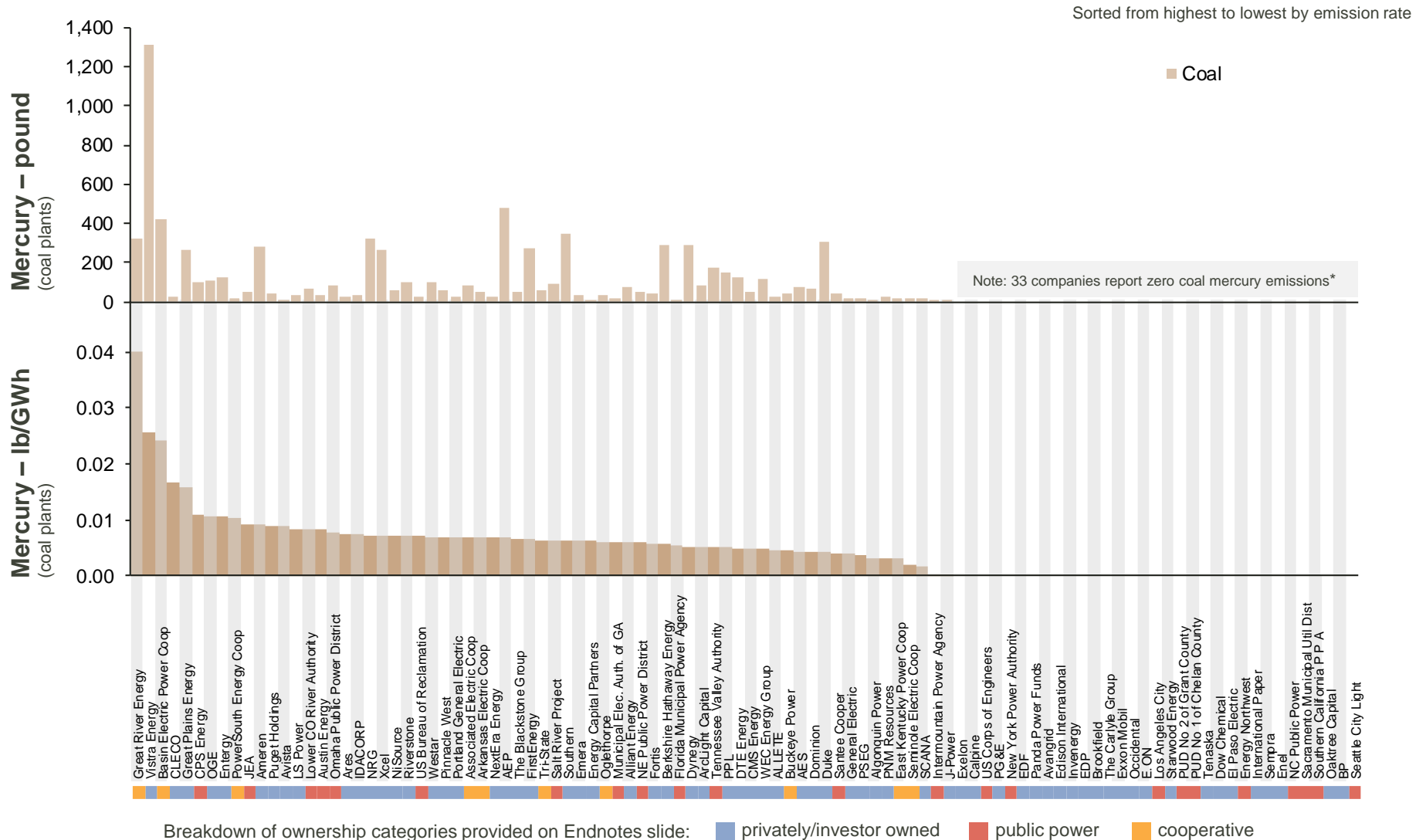
CO₂: Total Emissions and Emission Rates



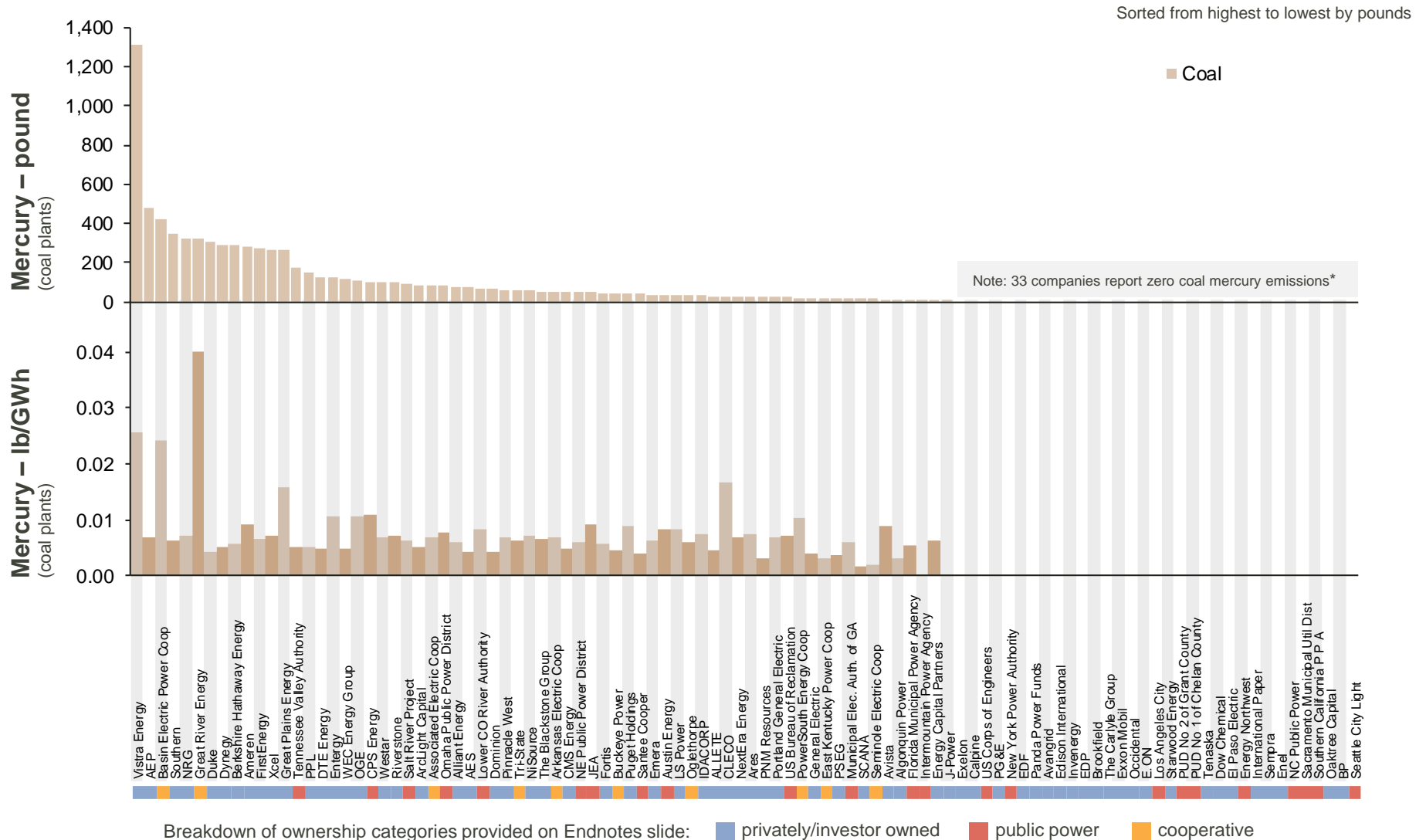
CO₂: Total Emissions and Emission Rates



Mercury: Total Emissions and Emission Rates

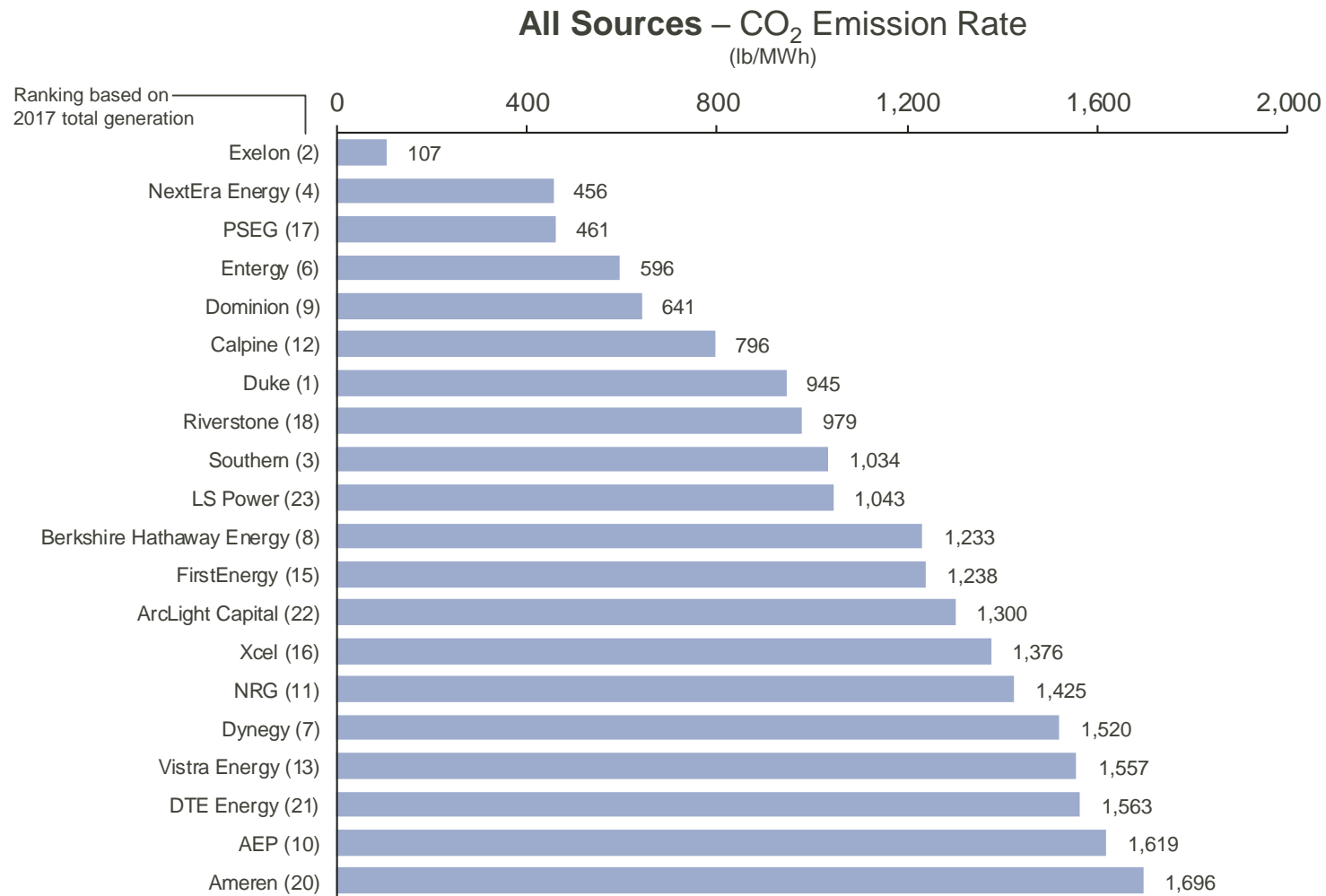


Mercury: Total Emissions and Emission Rates



Rankings by CO₂ Emission Rate

(Top 20 Privately/Investor Owned Power Producers)



Note: “Privately/investor owned” power producers include investor owned, privately held, and foreign owned corporations. This chart does not show public power producers (federal power authorities, state power authorities, municipalities, power districts) or cooperatives.

Section III

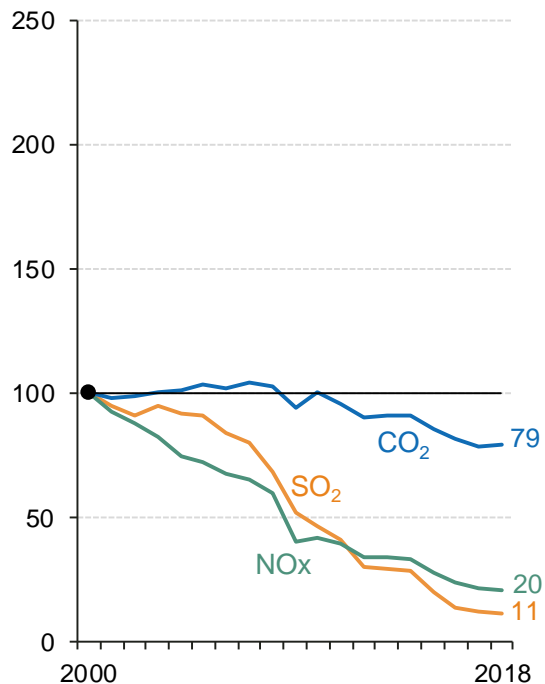
Emissions Trends Analysis



Annual Trends: U.S. Electric Sector

Electric Sector Emissions²

(Indexed; 2000 = 100)

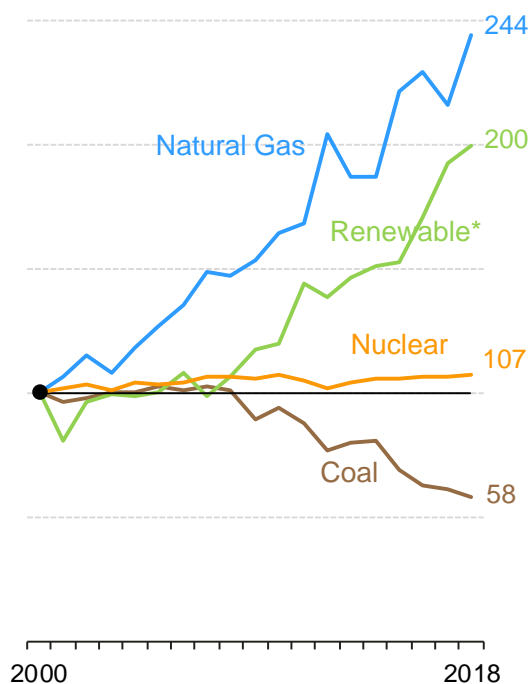


*Includes hydroelectric, wind, solar, biomass, geothermal, and other renewable sources.

**GDP in chained 2012 dollars.

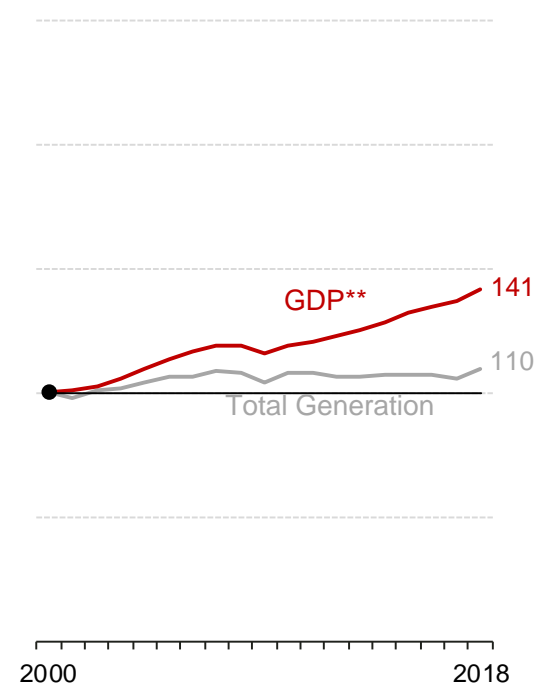
Generation Fuel Mix³

(Indexed; 2000 = 100)



Macroeconomic Indicators⁴

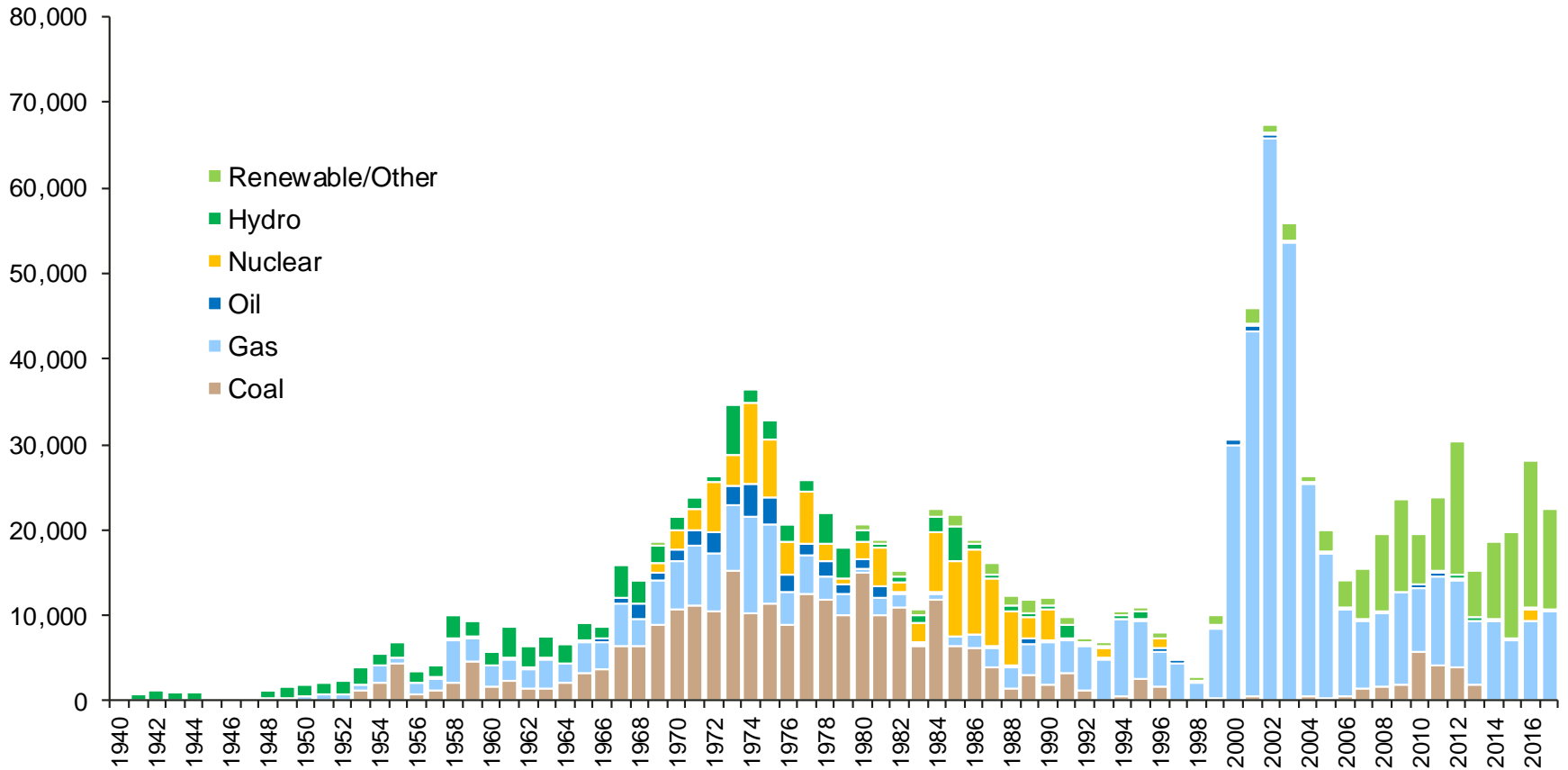
(Indexed; 2000 = 100)



The electric power sector has made significant progress in terms of reducing its NO_x and SO₂ emissions. From 2000 through 2018, NO_x and SO₂ emissions decreased 80 and 89 percent, respectively. From 2000 to 2018, CO₂ emissions decreased 21 percent while GDP grew 41 percent. Over the same period, generation from renewables doubled.⁵

Existing Capacity

U.S. Electric Generating Capacity by In Service Year: 1940 – 2017
(Nameplate Capacity; MW)



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration. EIA-860 Annual Electric Generator Report. September 13, 2018.

Average Capacity Factors

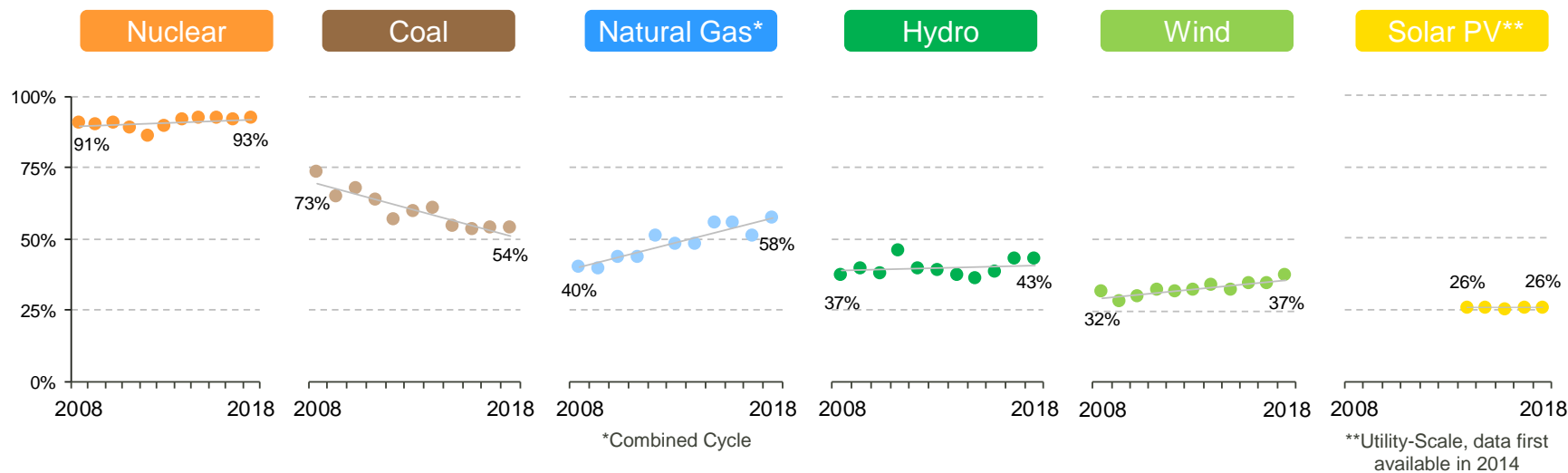
Annual Capacity Factors for Select Fuels and Technologies

Capacity factors measure the extent to which a power plant is utilized over the course of time. The technical definition is the ratio of the electrical energy produced by a generating unit to the electrical energy that could have been produced assuming continuous full power operation.

Coal plant utilization has declined in recent years; the average annual capacity factor of coal plants in the U.S. dropped from 73 percent in 2008 to 54 percent in 2018, while over the same time period, natural gas combined-cycle capacity factors rose from 40 to 58 percent.

Nuclear plants have high utilization rates, consistently running at above 90 percent average capacity factor. Hydropower capacity factors are lower, but have also remained relatively constant over the past decade.

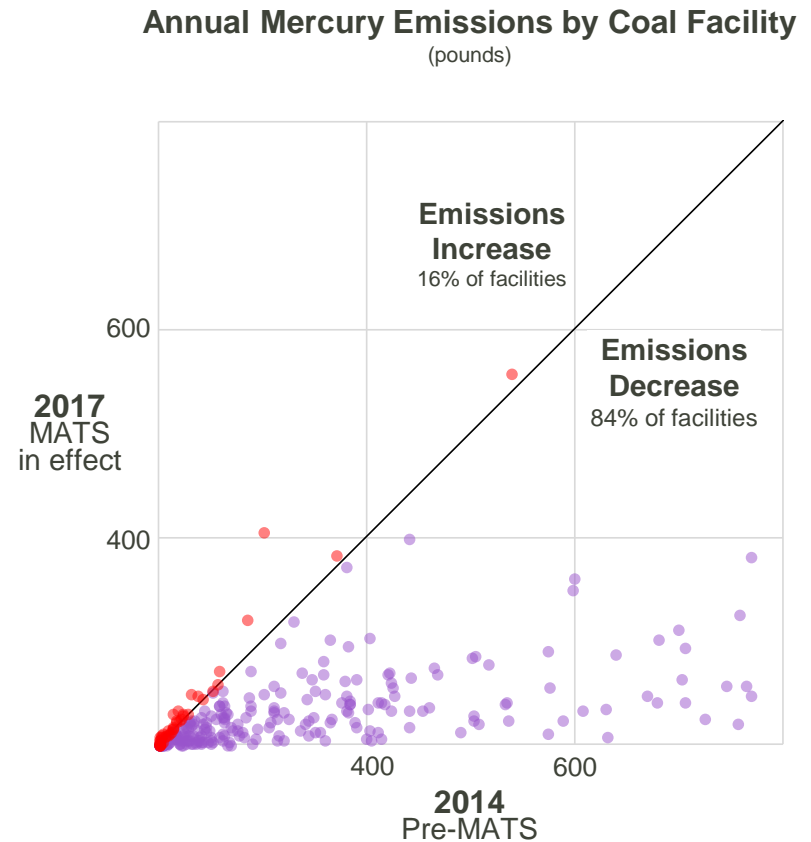
Wind capacity factors have increased from 32 percent in 2008 to 37 percent in 2018, largely due to improvements in wind turbine technology. Since EIA began publishing data for utility-scale solar projects in 2014, annual capacity factors have remained steady at around 26 percent.



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration. Electric Power Monthly, Tables 6.7A and 6.7B. March 2019.

Mercury and Air Toxics Standards Impacts

- In 2012, EPA finalized the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS), regulating emissions of mercury and other hazardous air pollutants from coal- and oil-fired electric generating units. The standards went into effect on April 16, 2015, although many coal units obtained a one-year extension to the initial compliance date.
- Coal mercury emissions from the top 100 power producers in 2017 range from less than 1 pound to 1,315 pounds, and coal mercury emission rates range from 0.0002 pound per gigawatt hour (a gigawatt hour is 1,000 megawatt hours) to 0.040 pound per gigawatt hour.
- Compared to 2014 levels mercury emissions declined at 84 percent of coal facilities that were in operation as of December 31, 2017 (see adjacent chart). Across these facilities, emissions decreased by an average of 69 percent.



Deep Decarbonization

In late 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published a special report evaluating the goal of maintaining global average temperature increases to less than 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. According to the report, in order to limit warming to 1.5°C with limited overshoot, net global CO₂ emissions will need to decline by about 45 percent from 2010 levels by 2030 and reach “net zero” by around 2050. To limit warming to less than 2°C, CO₂ emissions would need to decline 20 percent by 2030 and reach net zero around 2075.

The graphic to the right illustrates the steep reductions in CO₂ (left) and other greenhouse gases (right) that the IPCC models are necessary to limit global warming to 1.5°C. The blue lines chart pathways to meet the goal with little or no overshoot. The gray areas illustrate pathways that overshoot the target, but then come back down.

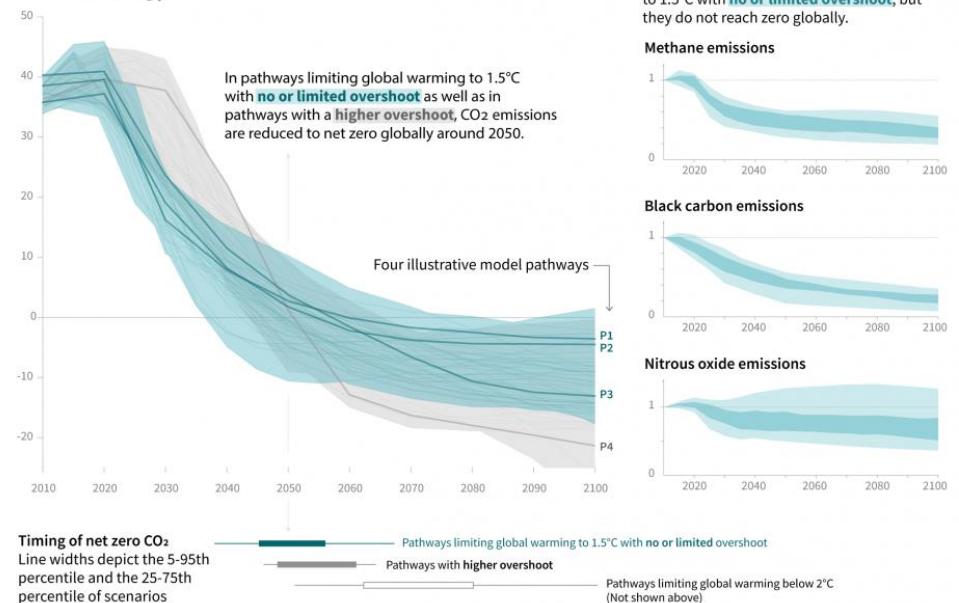
Electric power companies in the U.S. have been evaluating these “deep decarbonization” pathways to understand the potential implications for their business plans and operations. In some cases, companies have announced commitments and specific strategies to reduce their carbon emissions in line with these 2°C and 1.5°C global emissions pathways.

Global emissions pathway characteristics*

General characteristics of the evolution of anthropogenic net emissions of CO₂, and total emissions of methane, black carbon, and nitrous oxide in model pathways that limit global warming to 1.5°C with no or limited overshoot. Net emissions are defined as anthropogenic emissions reduced by anthropogenic removals. Reductions in net emissions can be achieved through different portfolios of mitigation measures illustrated in Figure SPM.3b.

Global total net CO₂ emissions

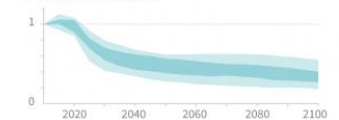
Billion tonnes of CO₂/yr



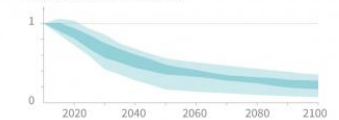
Non-CO₂ emissions relative to 2010

Emissions of non-CO₂ forcers are also reduced or limited in pathways limiting global warming to 1.5°C with **no or limited overshoot**, but they do not reach zero globally.

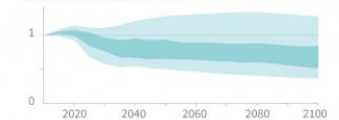
Methane emissions



Black carbon emissions



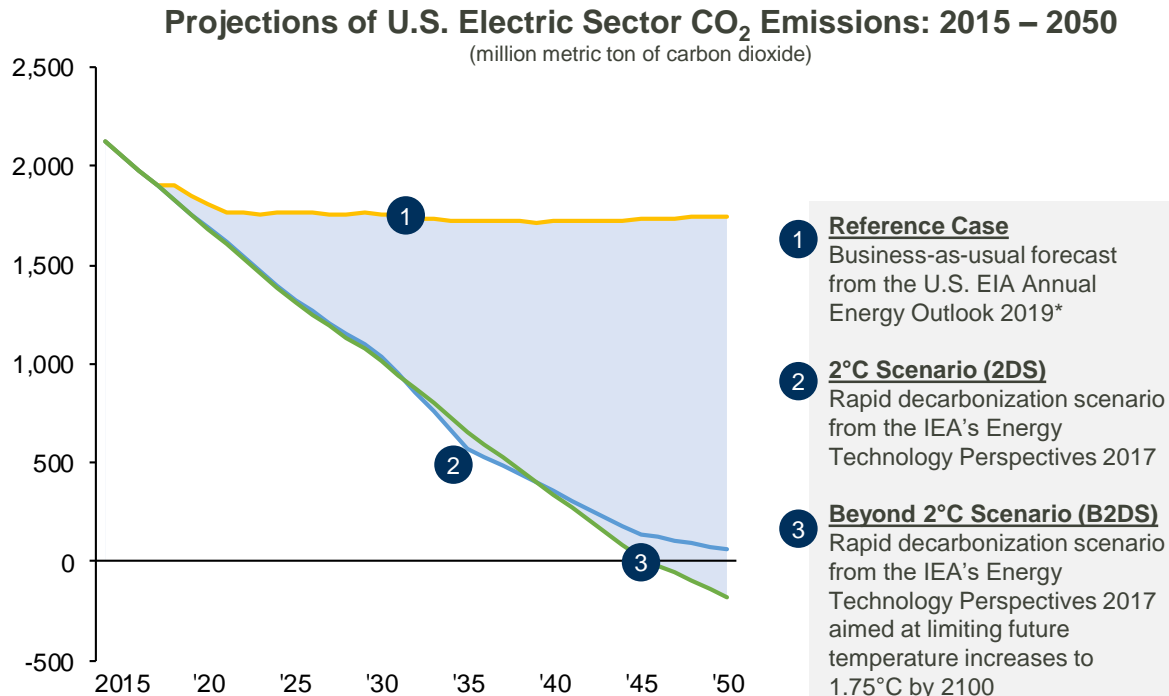
Nitrous oxide emissions



*Graphic reprinted from 2018 IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C

Deep Decarbonization, continued

The International Energy Agency's (IEA) Energy Technology Perspectives 2017, for example, includes two deep decarbonization pathways that are specific to the U.S. electric sector. The chart below plots IEA's projections of U.S. electric sector CO₂ emissions for its "2C Scenario" as well as its "Beyond 2C Scenario". The chart also includes the U.S. Energy Information Administration's (EIA) Reference Case forecast (AEO 2019), for context. These scenarios assume that electricity will account for an increasing share of the nation's energy use due to the electrification of transportation and other sectors of the economy. Also included are the average CO₂ emission rates for the electric sector from the two abatement scenarios.



*adjusted to include an estimate of industrial power producers to align with IEA.

All Source CO₂ Emission Rates† pounds per megawatt hour

U.S. electric sector (2017):

957

IEA B2DS and 2DS (2030):

510 to 514

IEA B2DS and 2DS (2050):

-69 to 25

†All sources include fossil, nuclear, hydroelectric, and renewable generation.

Section IV

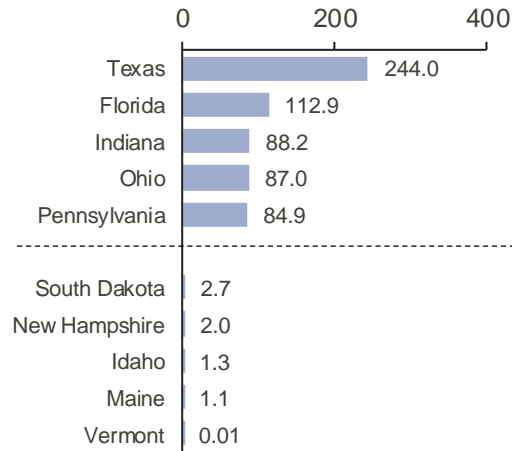
State-by-State Emissions Summary



State-by-State CO₂ Emissions: U.S. Electric Sector

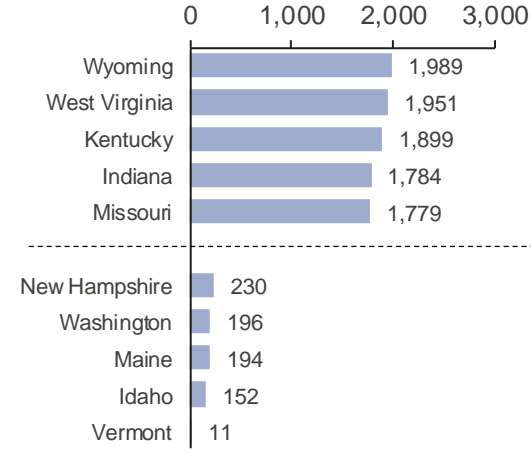
Total CO₂ Emissions by State

(million ton; top 5 and bottom 5 are shown)



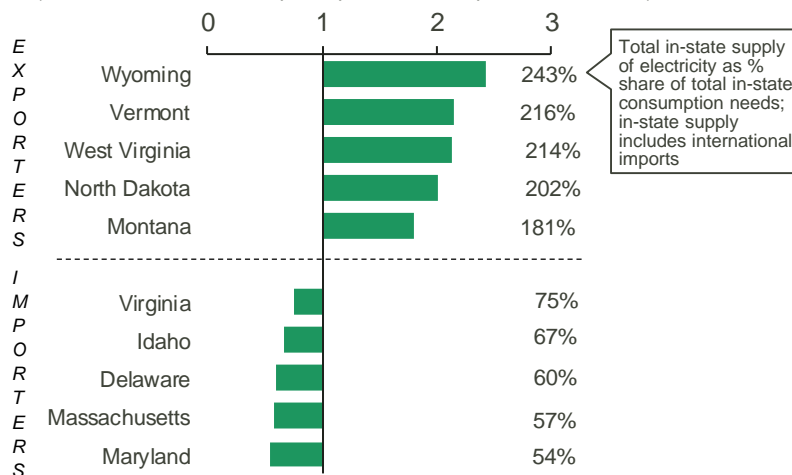
All Generating Sources – CO₂ Emission Rate

(lb/MWh; top 5 and bottom 5 are shown)



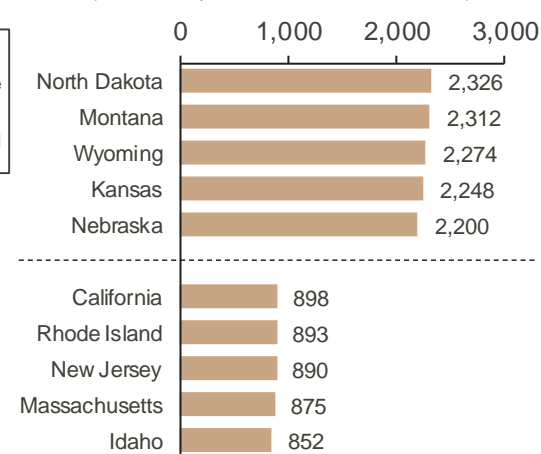
Electricity Exporters/Importers

(2017 Net Trade Index; top 5 exporters and importers are shown)



Fossil Generators – CO₂ Emission Rate

(lb/MWh; top 5 and bottom 5 are shown)



Section V

Fuel Mix of 100 Largest Power Producers in 2017



Fuel Mix of 100 Largest Power Producers

Rank	Holding Company	Total (million MWh)	Share of Total					Renewable / Other
			Coal	Gas	Oil	Nuclear	Hydro	
1	Duke	221.4	33%	28%	0.2%	33%	1%	4%
2	Exelon	194.7	0%	12%	0.1%	85%	1%	2%
3	Southern	192.5	29%	48%	0.0%	16%	2%	5%
4	NextEra Energy	185.1	2%	47%	0.3%	27%	0%	24%
5	Tennessee Valley Authority	134.1	26%	19%	0.1%	45%	10%	0%
6	Entergy	121.7	9%	40%	0.0%	50%	0%	1%
7	Dynegy	117.3	48%	52%	0.1%	0%	0%	0%
8	Berkshire Hathaway Energy	113.3	45%	25%	0.1%	3%	4%	23%
9	Dominion	102.2	15%	37%	0.3%	44%	0%	4%
10	AEP	102.0	70%	10%	0.2%	17%	1%	1%
11	NRG	97.4	46%	35%	0.2%	10%	0%	9%
12	Calpine	94.2	0%	93%	0.1%	0%	0%	7%
13	Vistra Energy	89.2	58%	23%	0.0%	19%	0%	0%
14	US Corps of Engineers	76.5	0%	0%	0.0%	0%	100%	0%
15	FirstEnergy	76.2	55%	0%	0.2%	43%	0%	1%
16	Xcel	71.8	51%	22%	0.0%	19%	2%	5%
17	PSEG	52.3	10%	27%	1.4%	61%	0%	1%
18	Riverstone	50.0	28%	34%	0.2%	37%	0%	0%
19	US Bureau of Reclamation	46.5	7%	0%	0.0%	0%	93%	0%
20	Ameren	41.1	75%	1%	0.0%	20%	4%	0%
21	DTE Energy	40.4	65%	5%	0.1%	22%	0%	8%
22	ArcLight Capital	39.8	43%	43%	0.1%	0%	4%	10%
23	LS Power	37.6	11%	86%	0.2%	0%	0%	3%
24	WEC Energy Group	35.5	68%	26%	0.0%	0%	2%	3%
25	PG&E	34.8	0%	16%	0.0%	51%	31%	1%
26	PPL	34.5	85%	14%	0.0%	0%	1%	0%
27	Salt River Project	29.8	50%	31%	0.1%	19%	0%	0%
28	New York Power Authority	27.8	0%	13%	0.1%	0%	87%	0%
29	Pinnacle West	26.3	32%	31%	0.0%	36%	0%	2%
30	Oglethorpe	26.2	20%	41%	0.0%	39%	0%	0%

Fuel Mix of 100 Largest Power Producers

Rank	Holding Company	Total (million MWh)	Share of Total					Renewable / Other
			Coal	Gas	Oil	Nuclear	Hydro	
31	EDF	26.0	0%	0%	0.0%	65%	0%	35%
32	CPS Energy	24.0	40%	24%	0.0%	36%	0%	0%
33	Emera	23.7	25%	74%	0.0%	0%	0%	0%
34	AES	23.0	73%	14%	0.3%	0%	0%	13%
35	Ares	22.6	15%	81%	0.4%	0%	0%	3%
36	Westar	22.5	65%	7%	0.1%	22%	0%	6%
37	Great Plains Energy	22.0	75%	1%	0.2%	23%	0%	1%
38	SCANA	22.0	39%	38%	0.1%	21%	1%	1%
39	CMS Energy	21.7	48%	39%	0.2%	0%	2%	11%
40	Panda Power Funds	21.5	0%	100%	0.0%	0%	0%	0%
41	Alliant Energy	19.8	61%	27%	0.1%	0%	2%	10%
42	Basin Electric Power Coop	19.6	88%	6%	0.1%	0%	0%	5%
43	OGE	18.5	54%	38%	0.1%	0%	0%	7%
44	Santee Cooper	18.0	53%	32%	0.2%	13%	1%	0%
45	Avangrid	17.8	0%	13%	0.1%	0%	2%	85%
46	The Blackstone Group	16.8	46%	54%	0.1%	0%	0%	0%
47	Edison International	15.9	0%	26%	0.2%	32%	34%	8%
48	NE Public Power District	15.9	53%	2%	0.0%	44%	1%	1%
49	Associated Electric Coop	15.7	77%	23%	0.0%	0%	0%	0%
50	Invergy	14.9	0%	37%	0.0%	0%	0%	63%
51	IDACORP	14.9	29%	10%	0.0%	0%	60%	0%
52	General Electric	14.9	36%	46%	0.2%	0%	1%	18%
53	EDP	14.6	0%	0%	0.0%	0%	0%	100%
54	Lower CO River Authority	14.0	57%	42%	0.1%	0%	1%	0%
55	Brookfield	13.8	0%	1%	0.0%	0%	69%	30%
56	Portland General Electric	13.0	26%	48%	0.1%	0%	14%	12%
57	PNM Resources	13.0	62%	11%	0.2%	25%	0%	2%
58	The Carlyle Group	13.0	0%	99%	0.6%	0%	0%	0%
59	Municipal Elec. Auth. of GA	12.3	22%	22%	0.0%	56%	0%	0%
60	JEA	12.2	45%	48%	0.0%	0%	0%	8%

Fuel Mix of 100 Largest Power Producers

Rank	Holding Company	Total (million MWh)	Share of Total					Renewable / Other
			Coal	Gas	Oil	Nuclear	Hydro	
61	Fortis	11.8	66%	33%	0.1%	0%	0%	1%
62	NiSource	11.5	67%	32%	0.0%	0%	1%	0%
63	Seminole Electric Coop	11.0	70%	30%	0.2%	0%	0%	0%
64	Exxon Mobil	10.8	0%	90%	0.0%	0%	0%	10%
65	Omaha Public Power District	10.8	98%	2%	0.0%	0%	0%	0%
66	Puget Holdings	10.7	41%	35%	0.1%	0%	8%	16%
67	CLECO	10.4	17%	56%	0.0%	0%	0%	27%
68	ALLETE	10.3	62%	0%	0.0%	0%	8%	30%
69	Occidental	10.1	0%	99%	0.0%	0%	0%	1%
70	E.ON	9.9	0%	0%	0.0%	0%	0%	100%
71	Los Angeles City	9.8	0%	65%	0.0%	19%	13%	3%
72	Arkansas Electric Coop	9.8	75%	20%	0.1%	0%	5%	0%
73	Starwood Energy	9.7	0%	73%	0.0%	0%	0%	27%
74	PUD No 2 of Grant County	9.7	0%	0%	0.0%	0%	100%	0%
75	Tri-State	9.6	93%	6%	0.1%	0%	0%	1%
76	Austin Energy	9.4	44%	19%	0.1%	37%	0%	0%
77	Buckeye Power	9.4	98%	2%	0.3%	0%	0%	0%
78	J-Power	9.4	2%	98%	0.1%	0%	0%	0%
79	PUD No 1 of Chelan County	9.2	0%	0%	0.0%	0%	100%	0%
80	Tenaska	9.0	0%	94%	0.0%	0%	0%	6%
81	Dow Chemical	9.0	0%	94%	0.0%	0%	0%	6%
82	El Paso Electric	9.0	0%	43%	0.0%	57%	0%	0%
83	Algonquin Power	8.8	29%	35%	0.1%	0%	0%	36%
84	Great River Energy	8.5	96%	2%	0.1%	0%	0%	2%
85	Energy Northwest	8.4	0%	0%	0.0%	96%	1%	3%
86	Intermountain Power Agency	8.4	100%	0%	0.2%	0%	0%	0%
87	International Paper	8.3	0%	22%	0.5%	0%	0%	78%
88	Sempra	7.9	0%	47%	0.0%	0%	0%	53%
89	Enel	7.8	0%	0%	0.0%	0%	9%	91%
90	Avista	7.4	18%	24%	0.0%	0%	54%	4%

Fuel Mix of 100 Largest Power Producers

Rank	Holding Company	Total (million MWh)	Share of Total					Renewable / Other
			Coal	Gas	Oil	Nuclear	Hydro	
91	NC Public Power	7.4	0%	0%	0.0%	100%	0%	0%
92	East Kentucky Power Coop	7.4	94%	3%	0.4%	0%	0%	2%
93	Sacramento Municipal Util Dist	7.3	0%	58%	0.0%	0%	34%	8%
94	Energy Capital Partners	7.1	5%	1%	0.5%	0%	0%	93%
95	Southern California PPA	6.8	0%	69%	0.0%	28%	1%	2%
96	Oaktree Capital	6.5	0%	100%	0.2%	0%	0%	0%
97	BP	6.5	0%	34%	0.0%	0%	0%	66%
98	Florida Municipal Power Agency	6.4	20%	69%	0.0%	11%	0%	0%
99	Seattle City Light	6.4	0%	0%	0.0%	0%	100%	0%
100	PowerSouth Energy Coop	6.3	33%	67%	0.2%	0%	0%	0%
Total (top-100 producers)		3,402.4	31%	31%	0.1%	23%	7%	8%
Total (all U.S. producers)		4,036.8	30%	32%	0.3%	20%	7%	10%

Section VI

Appendix



Data Sources

The following public data sources were used to develop this report:

EPA AIR MARKETS PROGRAM DATA (AMP): EPA's Air Markets Program Data account for almost all of the SO₂ and NO_x emissions, and about 20 percent of the CO₂ emissions analyzed in this report.

EPA TOXIC RELEASE INVENTORY (TRI): The 2017 mercury emissions used in this report are based on TRI reports submitted by facility managers.

EIA FORMS 923 POWER PLANT DATABASES (2017): EIA Form 923 provides data on the electric generation and heat input by fuel type for utility and non-utility power plants. The heat input data was used to calculate approximately 80 percent of the CO₂ emissions analyzed in this report.

EIA FORM 860 ANNUAL ELECTRIC GENERATOR REPORT (2017): EIA Form 860 is a generating unit level data source that includes information about generators at electric power plants, including information about generator ownership.

EPA U.S. INVENTORY OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND SINKS (2018): EPA's U.S. Inventory of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks report provides in Annex 2 heat contents and carbon content coefficients of various fuel types. This data was used in conjunction with EIA Form 923 to calculate approximately 20 percent of the CO₂ emissions analyzed in this report.

Methodology

Plant Ownership

This report aims to reflect power plant ownership as of December 31, 2017. Plant ownership data used in this report are primarily based on the EIA-860 database from the year 2017. EIA-860 includes ownership information on generators at electric power plants owned or operated by electric utilities and non-utilities, which include independent power producers, combined heat and power producers, and other industrial organizations. It is published annually by EIA.

For the largest 100 power producers, plant ownership is further checked against self-reported data from the producer's 10-K form filed with the SEC, listings on their website, and other media sources. Ownership of plants is updated based on the most recent data available. Consequently, in a number of instances, ultimate assignment of plant ownership in this report differs from EIA-860's reported ownership. This primarily happens when the plant in question falls in one or more of the categories listed below:

1. It is owned by a limited liability partnership of shareholders of which are among the 100 largest power producers.
2. The owner of the plant as listed in EIA-860 is a subsidiary of a company that is among the 100 largest power producers.
3. It was sold or bought during the year 2017. Because form 10-K for a particular year is usually filed by the producer in the first quarter of the following year, this report assumes that ownership as reported in form 10-K is more accurate.

Publicly available data do not provide a straightforward means to accurately track lease arrangements and power purchase agreements. Therefore, in order to apply a standardized methodology to all companies, this report allocates generation and any associated emissions according to reported asset ownership as of December 31, 2017.

Identifying "who owns what" in the dynamic electricity generation industry is probably the single most difficult and complex part of this report. In addition to the categories listed above, shares of power plants are regularly traded and producers merge, reorganize, or cease operations altogether. While considerable effort was expended in ensuring the accuracy of ownership information reflected in this report, there may be inadvertent errors in the assignment of ownership for some plants where public information was either not current or could not be verified.

Generation Data and Cogeneration Facilities

Plant generation data used in this report come from EIA Form 923.

Cogeneration facilities produce both electricity and steam or some other form of useful energy. Because electricity is only a partial output of these plants, their reported emissions data generally overstate the emissions associated with electricity generation. Generation and emissions data included in this report for cogeneration facilities have been adjusted to reflect only their electricity generation. For all such cogeneration facilities emissions data were calculated on the basis of heat input of fuel associated with electricity generation only. Consequently, for all such facilities EIA Form 923, which report a plant's total heat input as well as that which is associated with electricity production only, was used to calculate their emissions.

Methodology (continued)

NO_x and SO₂ Emissions

The EPA AMP database collects and reports SO₂ and NO_x emissions data for nearly all major power plants in the U.S. Emissions information reported in the AMP database is collected from continuous emission monitoring (CEM) systems. SO₂ and NO_x emissions data reported to the AMP account for all of the SO₂ and NO_x emissions assigned to the 100 largest power producers in this report.

The AMP database collects and reports SO₂ and NO_x emissions data by fuel type at the boiler level. This report consolidates this data at the generating unit and plant levels. In the case of jointly owned plants, because joint ownership is determined by producer's share of installed capacity, assignment of SO₂ and NO_x emissions to the producers on this basis implicitly assumes that emission rates are uniform across the different units. This may cause producers to be assigned emission figures that are slightly higher or lower than their actual shares.

The apportionment of NO_x emissions between coal and natural gas at boilers that can burn both fuels may in certain instances slightly overstate coal's share of the emissions. This situation is likely to arise when a dual-fuel boiler that is classified as "coal-fired" within AMP burns natural gas to produce electricity in substantial amounts. In most years there would be very little economic reason to make this switch in a boiler that is not part of a combined cycle setup. Continued low natural gas prices in 2017 led to a small number of boilers switching to natural gas for most or a large part of their electricity output. Because AMP datasets do not make this distinction, apportioning emissions based on the fuel-type of the boiler would increase coal's share of emissions.

SO₂ and CO₂ emissions are mostly not affected by this issue. Natural gas emits virtually no SO₂. CO₂ emissions can be calculated from the heat input data reported in EIA Form 923, which allows for the correct apportionment of emissions between coal and natural gas.

CO₂ Emissions

A majority of CO₂ emissions used in this report were calculated using heat input data from EIA form 923 and carbon content coefficients of various fuel types provided by EPA. The table on the following slide shows the carbon coefficients used in this procedure. Non-emitting fuel types, whose carbon coefficients are zero, are not shown in the table. CO₂ emissions reported through the EPA AMP account for a small share of the CO₂ emissions used in this report.

The datasets report heat input and emissions data by fuel type at either the prime mover or boiler level. This report consolidates that data at the generating unit and plant levels. In the case of jointly owned plants, because joint ownership is determined by producer's share of installed capacity, assignment of CO₂ emissions to the producers on this basis implicitly assumes that emission rates are uniform across the different units. This may cause producers to be assigned emission figures that are slightly higher or lower than their actual shares.

Mercury Emissions

Mercury emissions data for coal power plants presented in this report were obtained from EPA's Toxic Release Inventory (TRI). Mercury emissions reported to the TRI are based on emission factors, mass balance calculations, or data monitoring. The TRI contains facility-level information on the use and environmental release of chemicals classified as toxic under the Clean Air Act. The TRI contains information on all toxic releases from a facility; mercury emissions in this report are based on air releases only. Because coal plants are the primary source of mercury emissions within the electric industry, the mercury emissions and emission rates presented in this report reflect the emissions associated with each producer's fleet of coal plants only.

Carbon Content Coefficients by Fuel Type

From Annex 2 of EPA GHG Inventory 2018

Fuel Type	Carbon Content Coefficients (Tg Carbon/Qbtu)
Coal	
Anthracite Coal	28.28
Bituminous Coal	25.44
Sub-bituminous Coal	26.50
Lignite Coal	26.65
Waste/Other Coal (includes anthracite culm, bituminous gob, fine coal, lignite waste, waste coal)	26.05
Coal-based Synfuel, including briquettes, pellets, or extrusions, which are formed by binding materials or processes that recycle materials	25.34
Coal-based Synthetic Gas	18.55
Oil	
Distillate Fuel Oil (Diesel, No. 1, No. 2, and No. 4 Fuel Oils)	20.17
Jet Fuel	19.70
Kerosene	19.96
Residual Fuel Oil (No. 5, No. 6 Fuel Oils, and Bunker C Fuel Oil)	20.48
Waste/Other Oil (including Crude Oil, Liquid Butane, Liquid Propane, Oil Waste, Re-Refined Motor Oil, Sludge Oil, Tar Oil, or other petroleum-based liquid wastes)	20.55
Petroleum Coke	27.85
Gas	
Natural Gas	14.46
Blast Furnace Gas	18.55
Other Gas	18.55
Gaseous Propane	14.46

Quality Assurance

This report examines the air pollutant emissions of the 100 largest electricity generating companies in the United States based on 2017 electricity generation, emissions, and ownership data. The report relies on publicly-available information reported by the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), state environmental agencies, company websites, and media articles. Emission data may include revisions to 2017 data that companies were in the process of submitting or have already submitted to EPA at the time of publication of this report.

This report relies almost entirely on publicly available information. Data sets published by EIA and EPA are the primary source of the generation and emissions data used in this report. The organizations that fund this report believe maintaining public access to this information is essential to tracking the industry's performance and making accurate and informed analyses and policy decisions.

Endnotes

1. Private entities include investor-owned and privately held utilities and non-utility power producers (e.g., independent power producers). Cooperative electric utilities are owned by their members (i.e., the consumers they serve). Publicly-owned electric utilities are nonprofit government entities that are organized at either the local or State level. There are also several Federal electric utilities in the United States, such as the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Power plant ownership in this report is divided into three categories: privately/investor owned (investor-owned corporations, privately held corporations, foreign-owned corporations), public power (federal power authorities, state power authorities, municipalities, power districts), and cooperative.

2. Electric Sector Emissions data from EPA AMP database available at <http://ampd.epa.gov/ampd/>

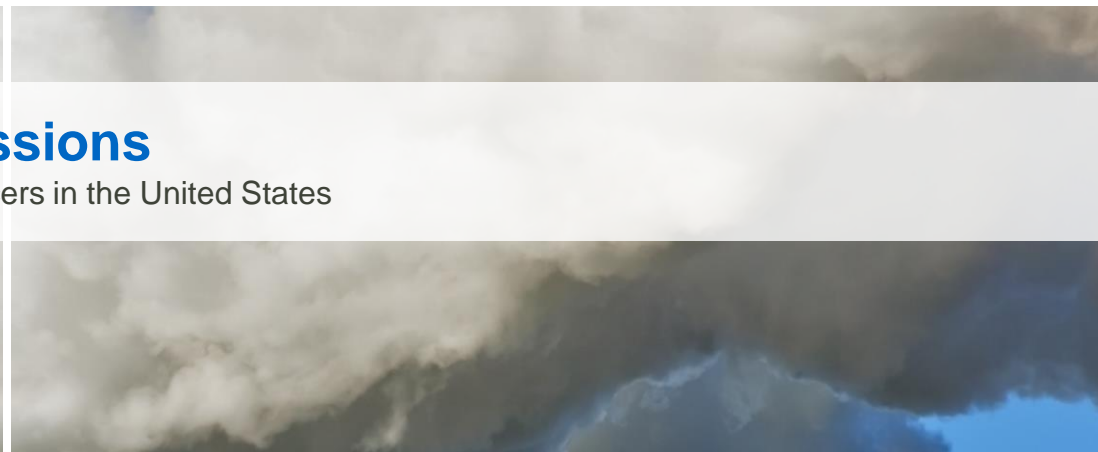
3. Generation data from EIA Monthly Energy Review Table 7.2a Electricity Generation Total for All Sectors available at <https://www.eia.gov/totalenergy/data/monthly/#electricity>

4. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis available at <https://www.bea.gov/national/index.htm#gdp>

5. The sources used in the Annual Trends figure have already made national-level 2018 data available, allowing the trends section to extend through 2018. Detailed 2018 data used for the company-specific analysis of the top 100 electricity producers was not yet available at the time of report publication.

Benchmarking Air Emissions

Of the 100 Largest Electric Power Producers in the United States



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