

Renewables on the Rise

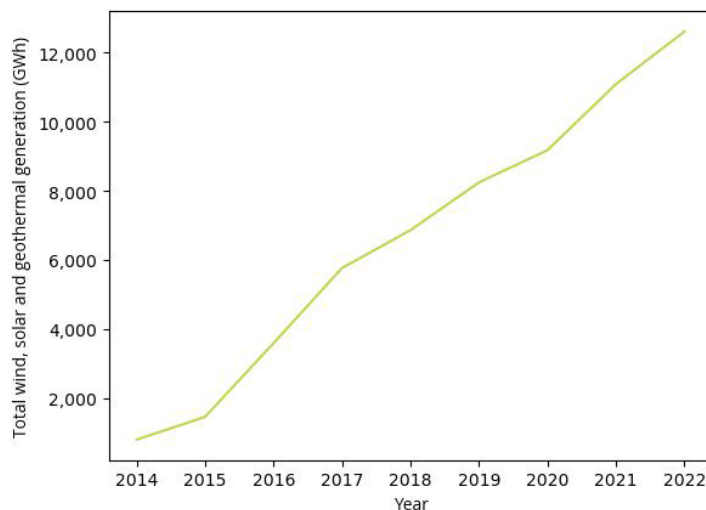
Charting North Carolina's progress toward a clean energy future

In 2022, North Carolina produced the equivalent of **9%** of the electricity it consumes from solar, wind and geothermal power, compared with just **0.3%** in **2013**, part of a larger transition toward clean energy technologies.

- **Solar energy:** In 2022, North Carolina generated 29 times as much solar power as it did in 2013, enough to power 1,135,969 typical homes.
- **Energy efficiency:** Energy efficiency measures installed in North Carolina in 2021 will save 7,524 gigawatt-hours of power over their lifetimes, enough to power 707,657 typical homes for a year.
- **Electric vehicles:** There were 18,444 electric vehicles sold in North Carolina in 2022, 16 times as many as in 2013.
- **EV charging ports:** North Carolina had 3,278 charging ports for electric vehicles at the end of 2022, 12 times as many as in 2013.

The Inflation Reduction Act: Spurring clean energy growth

In 2022, Congress passed the Inflation Reduction Act, which includes key tax credits for renewable energy and electric vehicles, along with other measures to accelerate the transition to clean energy. Together with the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the act promises to spur continued clean energy momentum across the United States.



More electricity in the state is being generated from the sun, the wind and the earth than a decade ago. (Data: Energy Information Administration)

North Carolina has tremendous clean energy potential

According to data from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, North Carolina has the technical potential to generate the equivalent of 33 times its electricity demand in 2020 from the sun and five times its annual electricity demand from the wind.

Even in a scenario with high electrification of buildings and vehicles, North Carolina has the technical potential to generate the equivalent of 18 times its electricity demand in 2050 from the sun and wind.

America can accelerate clean energy progress

In North Carolina and across the nation, America has the capacity to move toward a future powered by 100% renewable energy. To get there, state and federal governments should:

- Adopt 100 percent renewable energy goals
- Provide continued financial and policy support for wind and solar power.
- Strengthen energy efficiency standards and programs to make it easier to repower America with clean energy.
- Invest in technologies like electric vehicles, building electrification and energy storage.

Renewable energy leadership across America

In 2022, America got nearly 17% of its electricity from solar, wind and geothermal power. That's up from just over 5% in 2013.

Fourteen states produced the equivalent of more than 30% of the electricity they used from solar, wind and geothermal in 2022. That is up from just two states in 2013.

State	Solar, wind and geothermal generation as share of electricity consumption
Iowa	83%
South Dakota	77%
Kansas	70%
North Dakota	65%
New Mexico	62%
Wyoming	62%
Oklahoma	54%
Nebraska	38%
Nevada	37%
California	36%

Top 10 states for solar, wind and geothermal energy production as a share of electricity consumption. (Data: Energy Information Administration)



Werner Slocum/NREL

Explore the growth of renewable energy online

Our Renewables on the Rise dashboard allows you to track the growth of key clean energy technologies in your state and around the country. To view the dashboard, visit <http://environmentamerica.org/NorthCarolina/center/resources/renewables-on-the-rise-dashboard/>.

