



A Real World Comparison of Modern Power v. Alternative “Green” Energy

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Fossil Fuels

Fossil fuels are a fuel formed over millions of year from organic material (ex. Coal, Natural Gas, Oil, and Petroleum) When Burned, its main source of energy production, fossil fuels give off heavy amounts of CO₂. Even with its harmful by-product, Fossil fuels are still the main energy resource in the USA

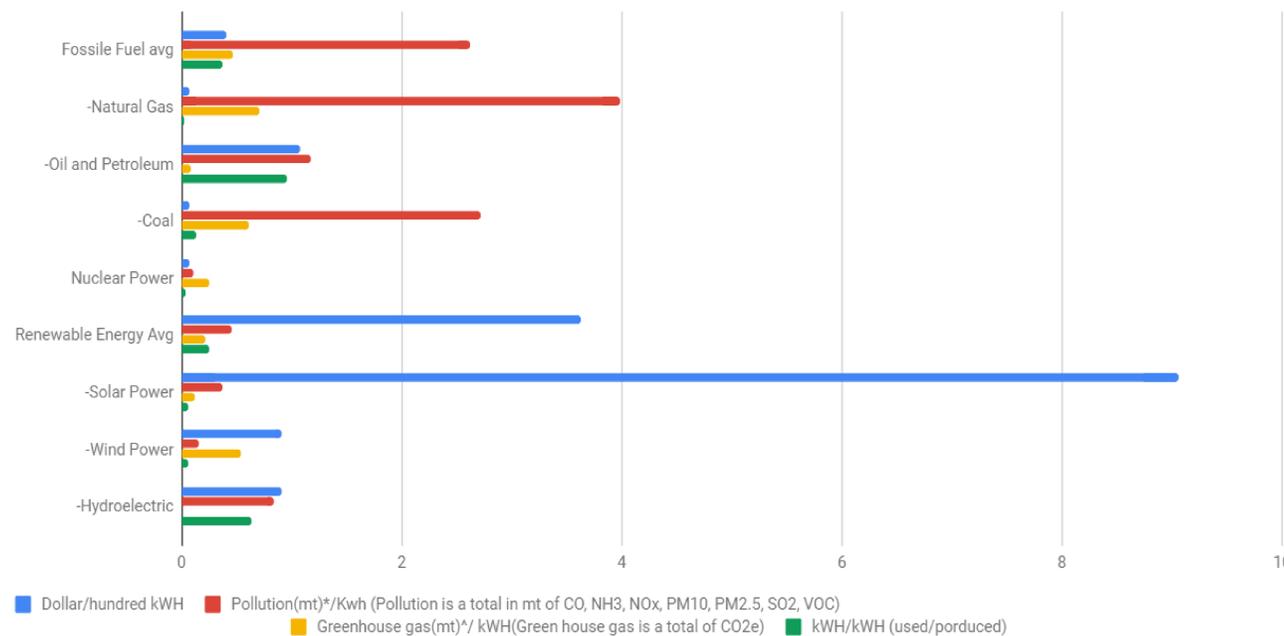
Nuclear Power

Uranium ore is mined from underground and transported to refineries to be enriched. Enriched uranium is shaped into rods and transported to power plants. Fuel rods undergo a nuclear fission reaction to produce heat to create steam, which spins a turbine generating power. Spent nuclear fuel is called waste and is highly radioactive.

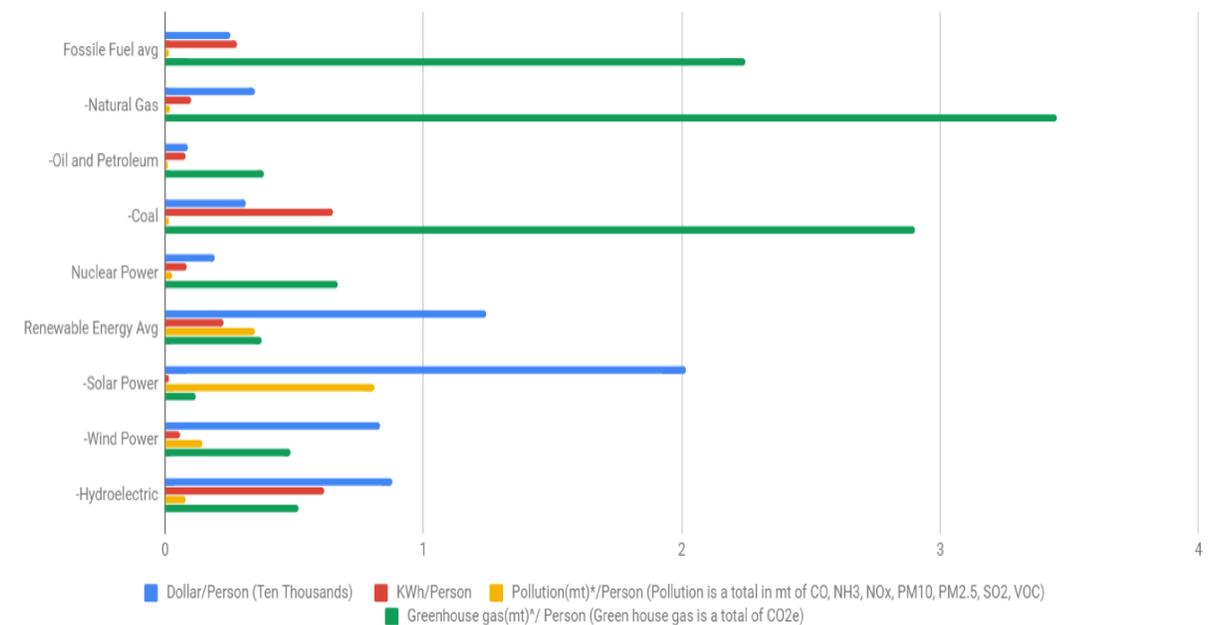
Renewable Energy

Renewable energy is energy from sources which are easily available and will not be depleted by their use. Common renewable energy sources are solar, wind, and hydroelectric power. These sources tend to be more situational than fossil fuels or nuclear power.

Real World Comparison of Modern Power v. Alternative “Green” Energy: Energy Sources Per kWh produced



Real World Comparison of Modern Power v. Alternative “Green” Energy: Energy Sources per Person



Method

After Doing extensive Research into the energy field, we selected a focus on a four stage analysis of the main suppliers of the United states present power grid. Using source percentages and amount of money spent in those sectors we calculated values with the EIO for four fields; Economic Activity, Power Production, Air Pollution, and Greenhouse Gas emissions. From there In an effort to compare them we created a person by person ratio for each value and plotted them in the chart attached, to have a better unbiased look at what energy sources cost and provide.

Conclusion

Based off our finding the largest hindrance on the Green alternative energy is money and lack of deployment. Looking at the fossil fuels, they are able to keep economic activity down as they have an infrastructure in place. Also something to note is to install said green alternatives, other non green methods and power sources are put into use. Finally and most disturbing is fossil fuels average of 3.5 metric tons of greenhouse gas pollution per person.

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