

« What Is Energy Mix? »

(Video Transcript)

What is the Energy Mix?

The **energy mix** = breakdown of the various primary energy sources: coal, oil, gas, hydro, nuclear, other renewable energies used to meet energy needs (electricity, fuel, heat, etc.) in a given geographical area.

Did you know it's sometimes referred to as the "**energy matrix**"?

The mix varies greatly from one country to another because it depends on :

- The availability of viable resources in the region and on facilities.
- Whether or not it's possible to import resources.
- The extent and type of energy needs to be met.

Example : The energy mixes of Brazil and the United States are very different because:

2 nuclear reactors  vs. 98 nuclear reactors 

- Policies related to the country's specific features: historical – social – demographic – economic – environmental – geopolitical.

The energy mix can also change from one period to the next.

Example: In France, renewable energies represented less than 10% of the mix in 2015. In 2018, they represented nearly 12%.

The global energy mix is made up of **more than 80%** non-renewable fossil fuels. So countries are being encouraged to adjust their energy mix quickly, particularly by including much more energy from renewable sources: hydro, solar, wind, bioenergy, geothermal. These help slow down the effects of climate change, because they emit less CO₂.

Summary:

Energy mix: The breakdown of the various primary energy sources used to meet energy needs in a given geographical area.

It depends on resource availability, imports and the type of energy needs to be met.

It also depends on policies related to the country's specific features.

The global energy mix is made up of more than 80% fossil fuels, which is why it is so important to develop renewable energies.