250 Year-History of U.S. Energy Consumption (1776-2025): U.S. Energy Information Administration Report



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The United States Energy Information Administration ("EIA") issued on June 30th a report titled:

The 250-year history of U.S. energy consumption ("Report").

The Report provides an overview of the U.S. energy consumption by source during the United States' 250-year history.

The Report notes that over the United States' 250-year history, energy consumption has evolved from wood use in the 18th and 19th centuries to today's use of the following:

- Renewable
- Hydrocarbon
- Nuclear technology

Total energy used in 2025 in the United States was 96 quadrillion British thermal units (quads). This is noted to be an increase of 2% from 2024, but below 2007's record 99 quads.

Petroleum was still the most-used energy source last year. However, the Report notes this was followed closely by natural gas. In addition, renewable, coal, and nuclear energy each made up about 9% of total energy use.

The Report contains a number of charts illustrating key points in history in which use of various energy sources increased or decreased. The use of energy during key periods of U.S. history is also diagrammed, such as:

- Great Depression
- Oil Crisis of 1973-1979
- Financial Crisis 2007-2009
- COVID-19 Pandemic

A copy of the Report can be found here.