

How much hydropower does China have?

China currently has nearly 436GW of installed hydropower capacity, which represents more than three-quarters of Asia's total capacity, according to the report. The country's dominance in hydropower mirrors its lead in other forms of renewable energy.

What is China's hydropower capacity in 2024?

China's installed hydroelectric capacity in 2024 was 426 GW. Due to China's insufficient reserves of fossil fuels and the government's preference for energy independence, hydropower plays a big part in the energy policy of the country. China's potential hydropower capacity is estimated at up to 400 GW.

Why is hydropower important in China?

Due to China's insufficient reserves of fossil fuels and the government's preference for energy independence, hydropower plays a big part in the energy policy of the country. China's potential hydropower capacity is estimated at up to 400 GW. There is therefore considerable potential for further hydro development.

Does China have a dominance in hydropower?

The country's dominance in hydropower mirrors its lead in other forms of renewable energy. China's solar and wind capacity had surpassed 1,200GW by the end of 2024, meaning the country had already reached a milestone originally targeted for 2030, the report noted.

Why is it so difficult to value hydropower capacity services?

"In many markets, the absence of clear mechanisms for valuing capacity services makes it harder for developers to secure investment." China accounted for almost all of Asia's new hydropower capacity in 2024 as it bets on pumped storage to cope with a changing climate.

Should China invest in hydropower?

"China's renewable energy sector has taken a lead in the world, but to ensure long-term strength and healthy development, it must be tested in a competitive market environment," Liu Manping, an economist at the NDRC, told state news agency Xinhua at the time. China is not the only country investing in hydropower.

The Shilongba Hydropower Station is the first hydroelectric power plant in China. It was built in Yunnan province in 1912, with a capacity of 240 kW. Due to the subsequent period of political and social instability, little additional progress was made in power infrastructure in the country at that time. The total installed capacity before the Japanese occupation was only about 10 MW. During the Japanese occupation several large scale hydroelectric projects were built, and total capacit...



China's hydropower energy storage ranking



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