Electricity is produced from many sources: hydropower, coal, oil, gas, nuclear, geothermal, solar, wind, tide and wave energy, combustible renewables, and waste. Coal is the biggest source of electricity worldwide, followed by gas, hyroelectric power, nuclear and then oil.

Annually 2584 kilowatt hours of electricity were produced for every person living on earth in 2002. The distribution of production is not uniform - Benin and Togo only produce 10 and 11 kilowatt hours per person per year, respectively. Norway and Iceland produce almost 3000 times more per person per year.

“Energy supply and demand plays an increasingly vital role in our national security and the economic output of our nation.”

United States Department of Energy, 2006