Jerusalem electric grid



Jerusalem electric grid

??;?,75%,?99.85%?

The electricity sector in Israel encompasses the production, transmission, and distribution of electricity within the State of Israel and territories under its control. The supply of electricity is entirely regulated by the government of Israel, with every operation requiring approval from the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources and the Electricity Authority.[1]

Since the beginning of commercial electricity production in Mandatory Palestine in the 1920s, the vast majority of production, transmission, distribution, and system management has been carried out by the Israel Electric Corporation (IEC). Over time, IEC transitioned from a public company to a government-owned corporation. In 1967, the East Jerusalem Electric Company (EJEC) received a concession to supply electricity in East Jerusalem, the Bethlehem area, Jericho, and Ramallah. It is the only company, in addition to the IEC, that has been licensed by the Electricity Authority to manage a system for the transmission and distribution of electricity.

During the first decade of the 21st century, the Israeli government initiated attempts to incorporate additional entities into electricity production in Israel, achieving partial success. As part of this effort, the government implemented the electricity sector reform in 2024, aiming to dismantle the existing de facto monopoly in the electricity market in Israel.[2]

In addition to the above steps, Israel and Cyprus are considering implementing the proposed EuroAsia Interconnector project. This consists of laying a 2000MW HVDC undersea power cable between them and between Cyprus and Greece, thus connecting Israel to the greater European power grid.[3] If carried out, this will allow a further increase in the country"s operating reserve as well as sell surplus electricity abroad.

In 2016, total nationwide electricity production was 67.2 GWh, of which 55.2% was generated using natural gas and 43.8% using coal -- the first time the share of electricity production using natural gas exceeded that generated using coal.

In 2015, energy consumption in Israel was 52.86 TWh,[4] or 6,562 kWh per capita.[5] The Israel Electric Corporation (IEC), which is owned by the government, produces most electricity in Israel, with a production capacity of 11,900 megawatts in 2016.[6] In 2016, IEC"s share of the electricity market was 71%.[7]

Most electricity in Israel comes from hydrocarbon fuels from the following IEC power plants:



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The following power plants belong to independent power producers and, although connected to the IEC"s distribution grid, are not operated by the IEC:

As of 2019, Israel's renewable energy production capacity stood at 1,500 MW, almost all of it from solar energy, at 1,438 MW. Additional sources included wind power (27 MW), biogas (25 MW), hydroelectric power (7 MW) and other bio energy (3 MW). Of the solar energy, photovoltaics accounted for 1,190 MW, while concentrated solar power contributed another 248 MW from the Ashalim Power Station.[8]

In the same year, 4.7% of Israel's total electricity consumption came from solar photovoltaics.[9] Production capacity of some 0.56 GW was installed in 2019.[10]

In addition to renewable energy, Israel is building multiple pumped-storage hydroelectricity plants, for a total capacity of 800 MW.[11]

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