Fuel Mix for Power Generation and Water Desalination in Saudi Arabia

- Saudi Arabia’s fuel mix for power generation and water desalination comprises natural gas (57%) and a suite of liquid fuels (43%). Liquid fuels include crude oil, heavy fuel oil (HFO), and diesel.
- In 2018, Saudi Arabia consumed, on average, around 1,670 trillion British thermal units (Btu) of liquid fuels – equivalent to 760 thousand barrels per day (Kb/d). Natural gas consumption, on the other hand, was about 2,226 trillion Btu, or some 6 billion cubic feet per day.
- Overall fuel consumption saw a significant decline of almost 8% year-on-year in 2018. This was due to increased energy efficiency regulations and energy price reforms. At the beginning of 2018, electricity tariffs increased for low consumption brackets – almost threefold for some households.

Sources: Data from Electricity & Cogeneration Regulatory Authority and KAPSARC.
• The Kingdom’s commitment to gradually reform fuel and electricity prices aims to optimize its fuel mix and rationalize its energy use. Saudi Arabia aims to generate 70% of its power from natural gas and 30% from renewable energy.

• The country’s energy price reforms are also intended to help the electricity sector’s privatization process and enable fuel competition. This will allow for further diversity in the country’s fuel mix, with more power potentially generated by alternative sources such as renewable and nuclear power.

Access the related [dataset](#) from the KAPSARC data portal for further information on the fuel mix for power and water desalination.

Sources:
• Electricity & Cogeneration Regulatory Authority
• KAPSARC
• Energy Research Forum

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