

Wind Power is much closer to reaching grid power parity compared to Solar Energy initiated energy generation, although solar energy cost per watt is declining much more aggressively than wind. Current Wind Power is centralized and not distributed and needs serious investment in transmission & grid infrastructure to get it to the places like West and East coast where energy is used. Actual generation will vary between 25% to 40% of the installed capacity, based on wind zones & optimum wind speeds.

Future work will focus on distributed wind power and improving efficiencies and effectiveness.

Cumulative Installed Wind Power Capacity by Selected Country and World, 1980-2007								
Year	Germany	U.S.	Spain	India	China	Denmark	Other	World
	Megawatts							
1980	0	8	0	0	n.a.	5	0	10
1981	0	18	0	0	n.a.	7	0	25
1982	0	84	0	0	n.a.	12	0	90
1983	0	254	0	0	n.a.	20	0	210
1984	0	653	0	0	n.a.	27	0	600
1985	0	945	0	0	n.a.	50	25	1,020
1986	0	1,265	0	0	n.a.	82	0	1,270
1987	5	1,333	0	0	n.a.	115	0	1,450
1988	15	1,231	0	0	n.a.	197	137	1,580
1989	27	1,332	0	0	n.a.	262	109	1,730
1990	62	1,484	0	0	n.a.	343	41	1,930
1991	112	1,709	5	39	n.a.	413	0	2,170
1992	180	1,680	50	39	n.a.	458	103	2,510
1993	335	1,635	60	79	n.a.	487	394	2,990
1994	643	1,663	70	185	n.a.	539	390	3,490
1995	1,130	1,612	140	576	38	637	647	4,780
1996	1,548	1,614	230	820	79	835	974	6,100
1997	2,080	1,611	512	940	170	1,120	1,167	7,600
1998	2,870	1,837	830	1,015	224	1,428	1,996	10,200
1999	4,445	2,490	1,584	1,077	268	1,718	2,018	13,600
2000	6,104	2,578	2,235	1,220	346	2,300	2,617	17,400
2001	8,754	4,275	3,337	1,456	402	2,417	3,259	23,900
2002	11,994	4,685	4,825	1,702	469	2,880	4,545	31,100
2003	14,609	6,372	6,203	2,125	567	3,110	6,445	39,431
2004	16,629	6,725	8,263	3,000	764	3,117	9,122	47,620
2005	18,415	9,149	10,027	4,430	1,260	3,128	12,682	59,091
2006	20,622	11,575	11,623	6,270	2,604	3,136	18,303	74,133
2007	22,247	16,818	15,145	8,000	6,050	3,125	22,737	94,122
Note: n.a. = data not available. The sum of individual country totals may not match world total since data are from different sources.								
Source: Compiled by Earth Policy Institute, 1980-1995 world data from Janet L. Sawin, "Wind Power Still Soaring," in Worldwatch Institute, Vital Signs 2007-2008 (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2007); 1980-1999 data from Worldwatch Institute, Signposts 2001 , CD-ROM (Washington, DC: 2001); 1995-1999 China data from Li Junfeng et al., 2007 China Wind Power Report (Beijing: Chinese Renewable Energy Industry Association, 2007); 2000-2004 Denmark data from American Wind Energy Association, Global Wind Energy Market Report (Washington, DC: 2002-2005); 2000-2005 country data (Denmark 2005) from Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC), Global Wind 2006 Report (Brussels: 2007); 2006-2007 country and 1996-2007 world data from GWEC, "U.S., China & Spain								