



4,399 Billion kWh Forecast as US Electricity Demand Reaches New High

Electricity consumption in the United States is expected to reach a record 4,399 billion kilowatt hours in 2027, driven by growing data centre activity and wider electrification. The Energy Information Administration expects demand to rise from 4,195 billion kWh in 2025 to 4,269 billion kWh in 2026.

Commercial electricity use is projected to exceed residential consumption in 2026 for the first time on record. The change reflects increasing power requirements from artificial intelligence and cryptocurrency data centres, alongside expanding electricity use across buildings, transport and industrial operations.

Renewables are expected to provide 27% of U.S. electricity generation by 2027, compared with around 24% in 2025. Coal's share is forecast to decline to 15%, while natural gas remains at approximately 40%. The projections illustrate the challenge of expanding lower carbon generation while maintaining reliable and affordable electricity supplies during a period of rapidly increasing demand.



31% Rise Makes Europe the Main Driver of Global EV Growth

Electric vehicle registrations in Europe increased by 31% in June to approximately 530,000 units, setting a monthly record and making the region the main driver of global market growth. Worldwide registrations of battery electric and plug in hybrid vehicles rose by 7% from a year earlier to two million.

Global demand expanded for a fourth consecutive month, although performance varied significantly between regions. Registrations in China declined by 11% to around one million vehicles, while North American sales fell by 13% following the end of electric vehicle tax credits in the United States.

Despite weaker demand in the two largest individual markets, Europe's performance supported continued global expansion. Registrations during the first half of 2026 were 2% higher than a year earlier. The figures show how consumer incentives, vehicle availability and regional market conditions continue to influence the pace and geographical distribution of transport electrification.



62% of Deep Sea Vent Molluscs Face Extinction Risk

Approximately 62% of mollusc species assessed near deep sea hydrothermal vents are at risk of extinction as commercial interest in seabed minerals grows. Mining for copper, cobalt and zinc could damage fragile ecosystems, threatening species with highly limited habitats.

Beyond their ecological importance, these molluscs may also hold scientific value. Researchers are exploring their potential applications in medicine, advanced materials and solar technologies, underscoring the wider environmental and innovation benefits of protecting deep sea biodiversity.

4.4 billion kwh

US electricity consumption is forecast to reach a record 4,399 billion kilowatt hours in 2027

31%

European electric vehicle registrations increased by 31% in June to a monthly record of approximately 530,000

62%

Nearly two thirds of assessed deep sea vent mollusc species are considered at risk of extinction