Grand Nexus: Information, Materials, Energy



Mark P. Mills

Senior Fellow, Manhattan Institute Faculty Fellow, Northwestern University McCormick School of Engineering Partner, Montrose Lane Ventures

Source of energy demand: machine innovation

Model T: 1908 ~25 years then +25 mmbd



Ford Trimotor: 1928 ~25 years then +8mmbd



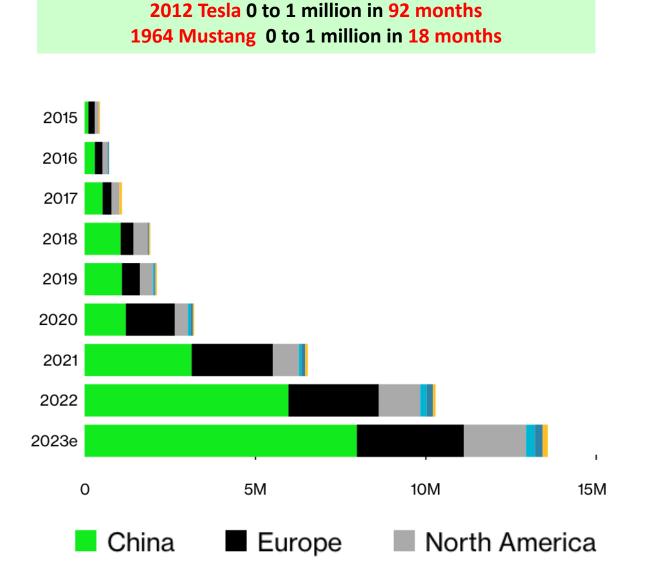
Pharma: 1930 25 years then +15mmbd



Univac: 1952 25 years then +10 mmbd



The EV revolution is real ... 0 to 12 million EVs in 10 yrs



EVs are a complexity swap

PROPULSION

Complex physical-chemistry 1000s of parts



<u>FUEL</u>

Simple



Simple

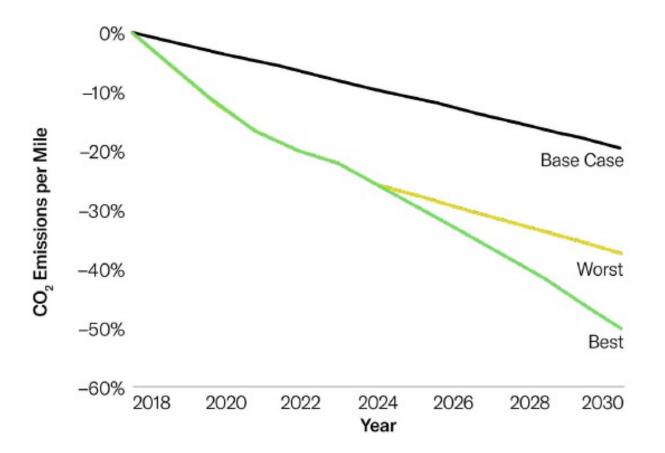


Complex electro-chemistry 1000s of parts

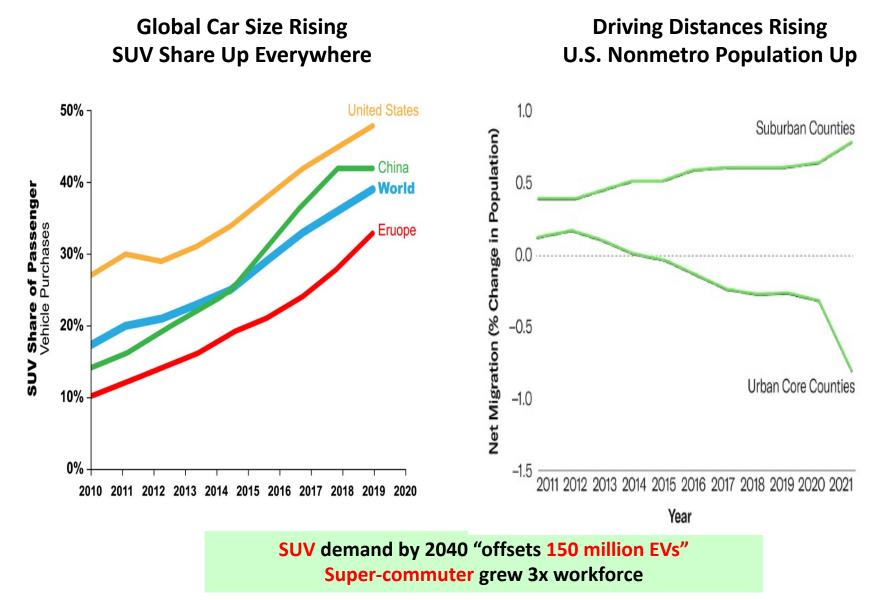


The end of ICE tech innovation?



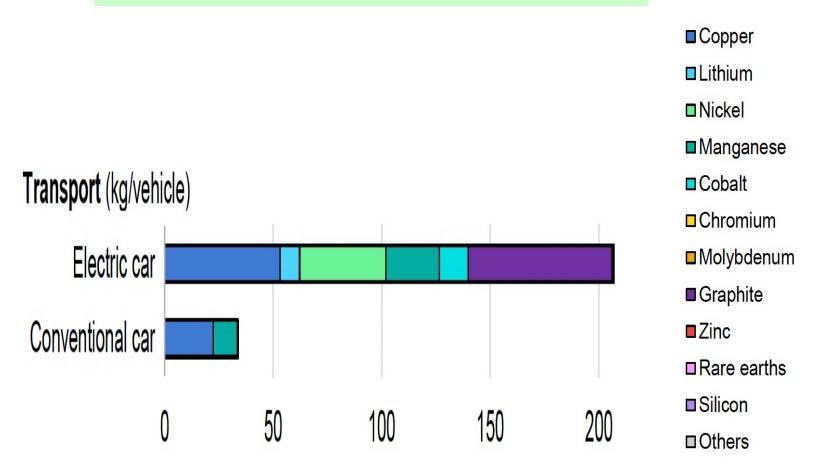


Consumer preferences in the age of climate awareness

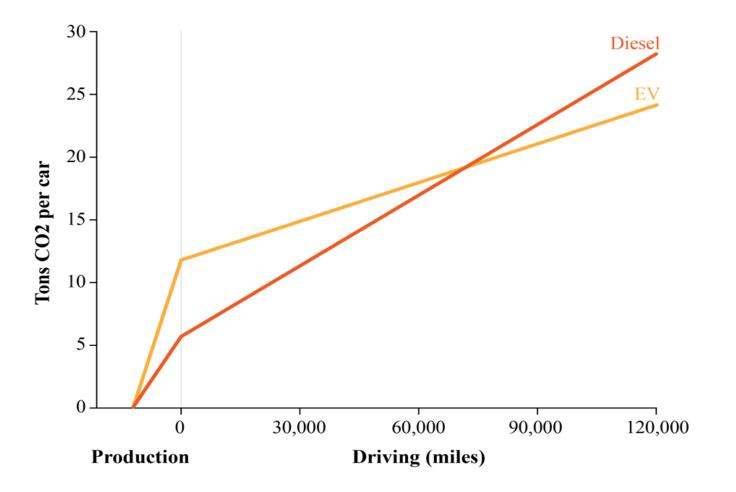


The minerals & metals needed to build a car

500,000 pounds mining to build one EV battery

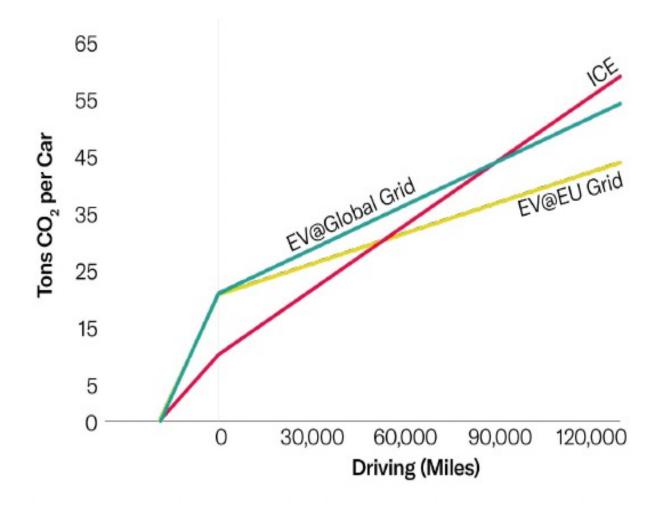


EV elsewhere CO₂ emissions



Battery 1/2 std size

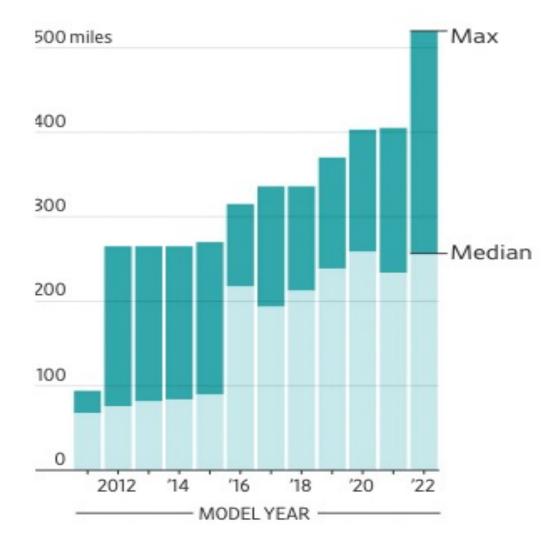
EV elsewhere CO₂ variables



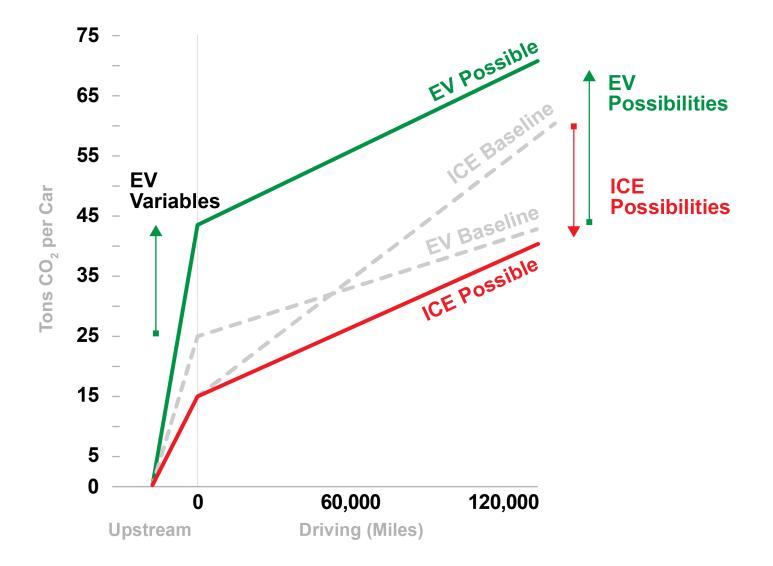
Battery 3/4 std size

Bigger batteries \rightarrow more minerals

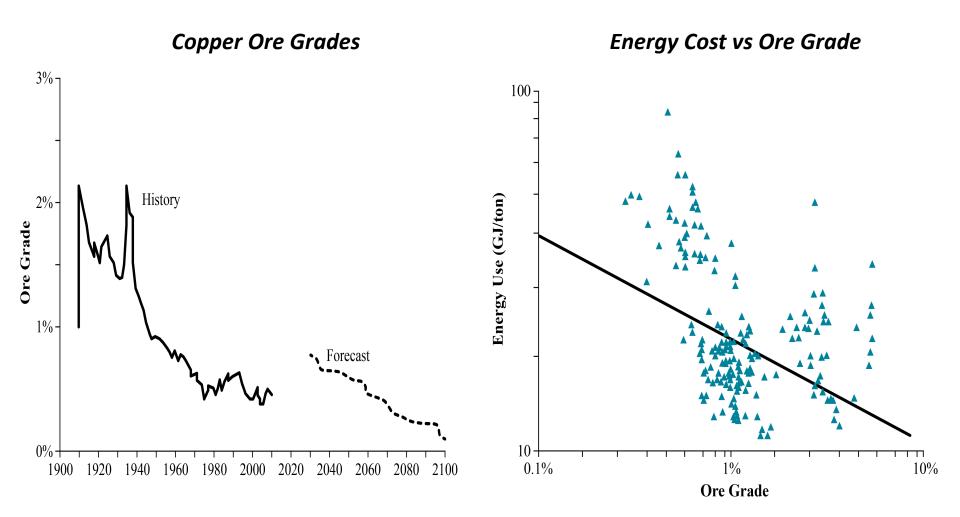
Median and maximum range of electric vehicles offered for sale in the U.S.



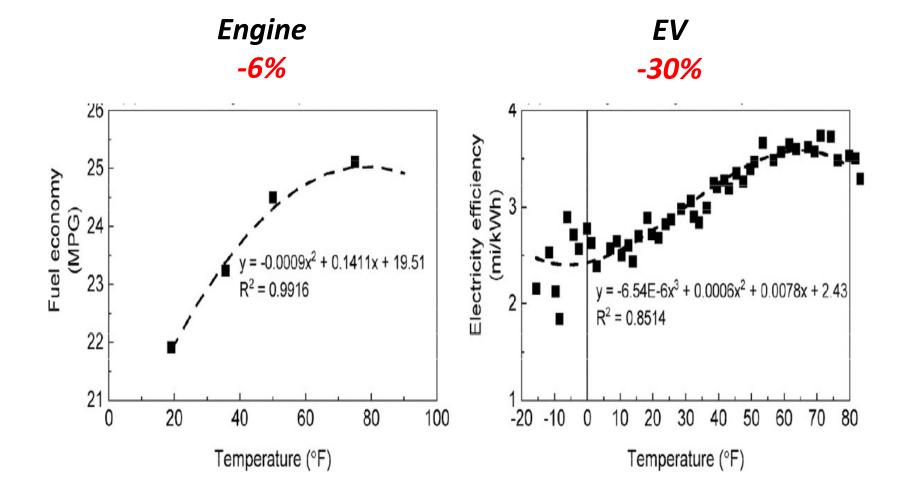
EV CO₂ emissions: Known unknowns



Iron Law of declining metal ore grades

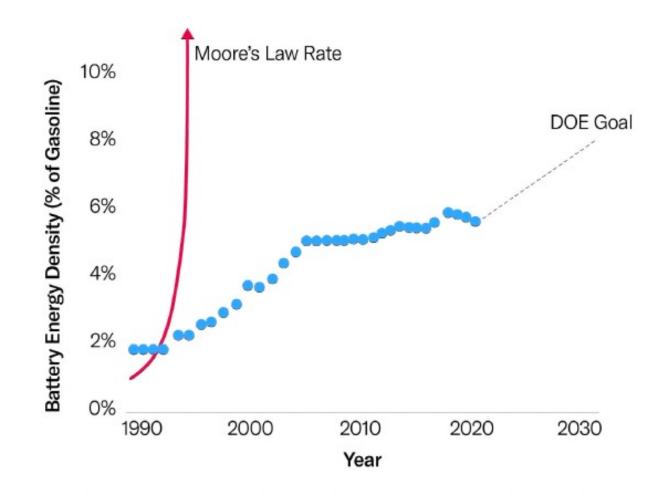


More known unknowns: temperature & fuel efficiency



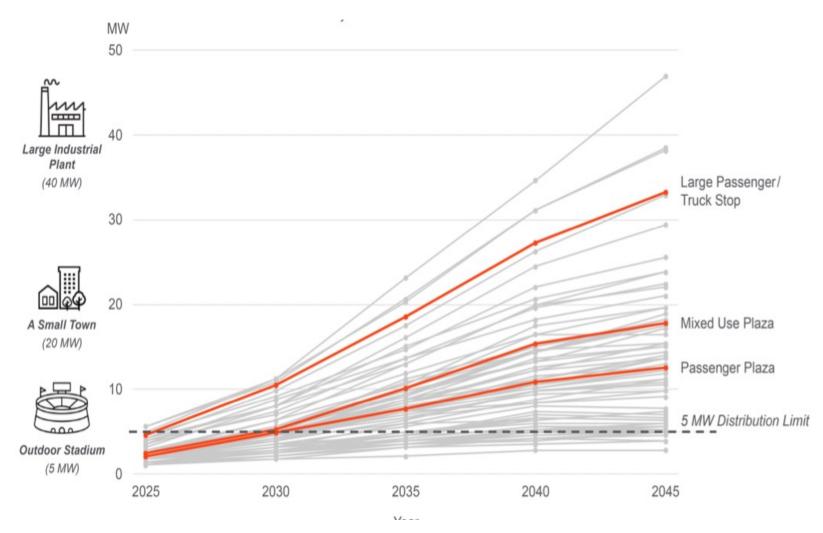
The battery tech trope: Moore's Law

Progress in Lithium Battery Performance*

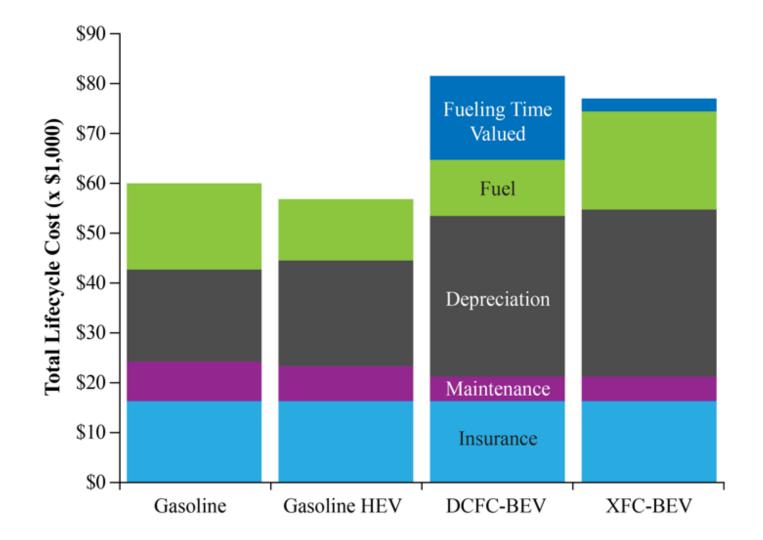


Grid infrastructure costs hidden in plain sight

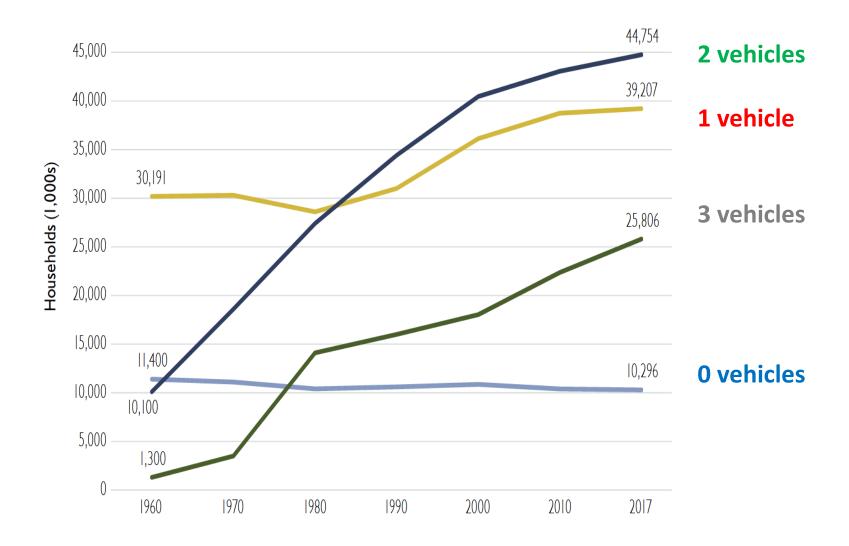
MW grid capacity per single fueling station



The cheaper trope; if people's time is valued . . .



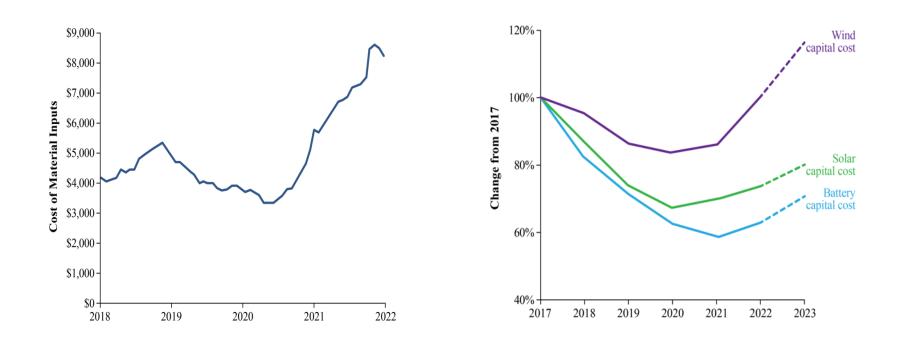
There are lots of multicar households but . . .



Price impacts from mineral costs

EV: Raw Materials Costs

Green Machine Costs



60% - 70% cost of batteries are in raw materials (solar modules too)

The end of (new) consequential machine innovation?

Drones \$10B → \$100B 2030



Telemedicine & Bioelectronics \$80B to \$400B by 2030



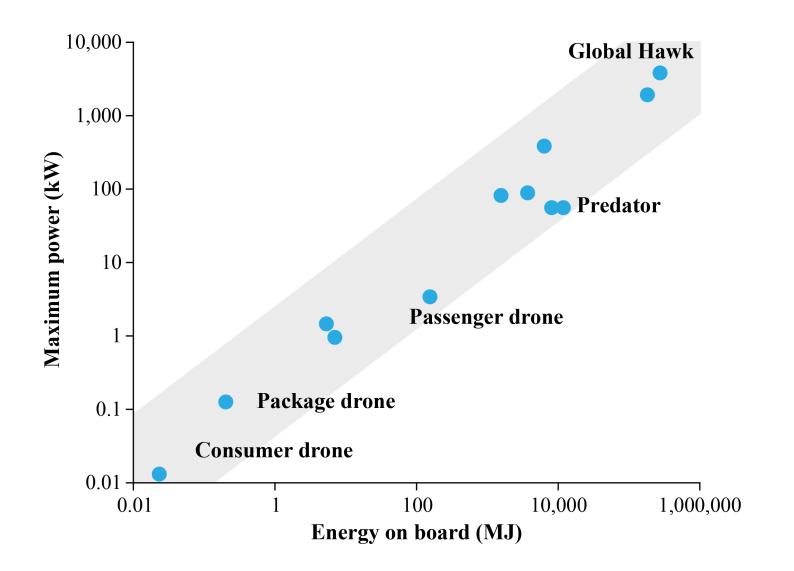
Robots \$15B → \$150B 2030



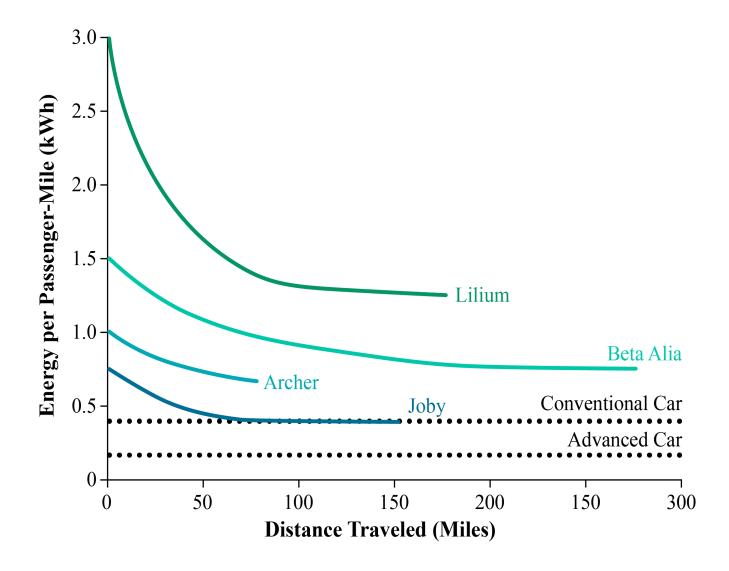
Cloud, AI, VR, AR \$20B → \$200B 2030



Energizing parcel & passenger drones: gravity's a b*tch

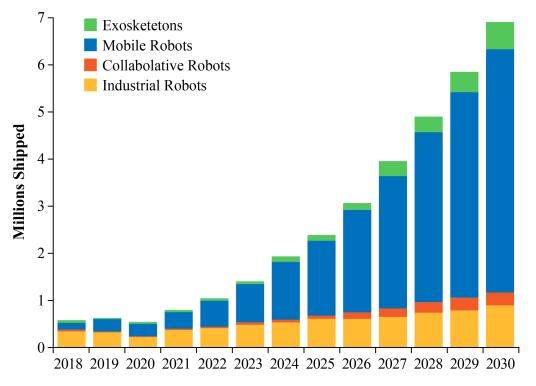


Energy cost of convenience: Air taxis vs automobiles



(At full occupancy)

AI + materials = mobile robots @ \$15B \rightarrow \$150B by 2030



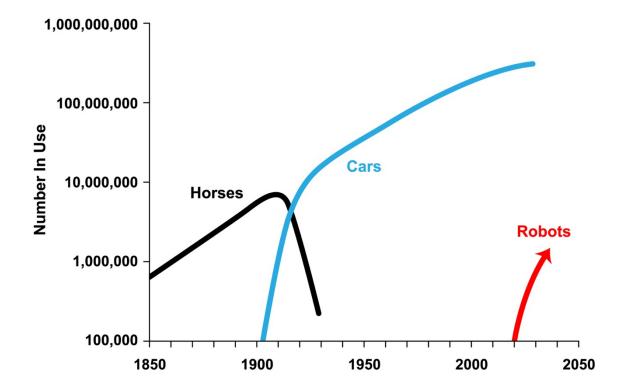
Unimate 1961 Johnny Carson Show



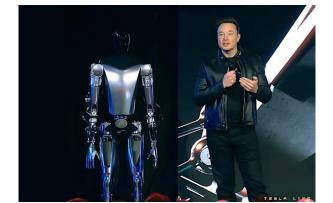
Spot 2022 Jimmy Fallon Show



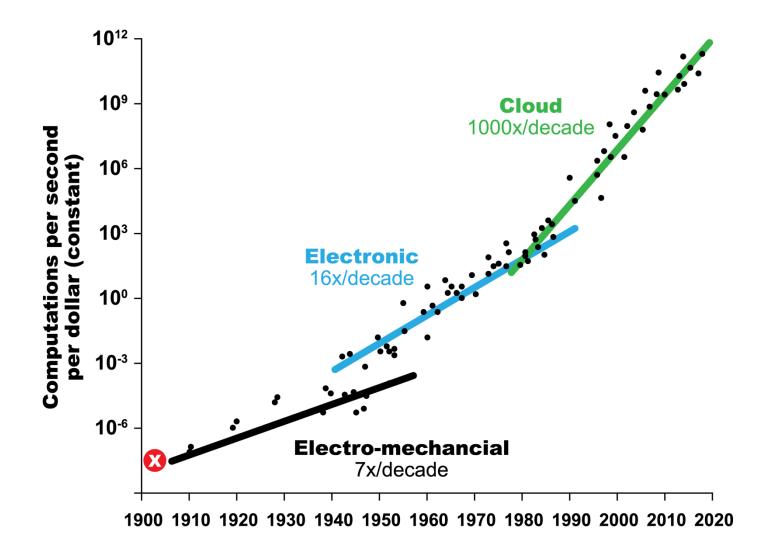
Artificial intelligence: The great accelerator



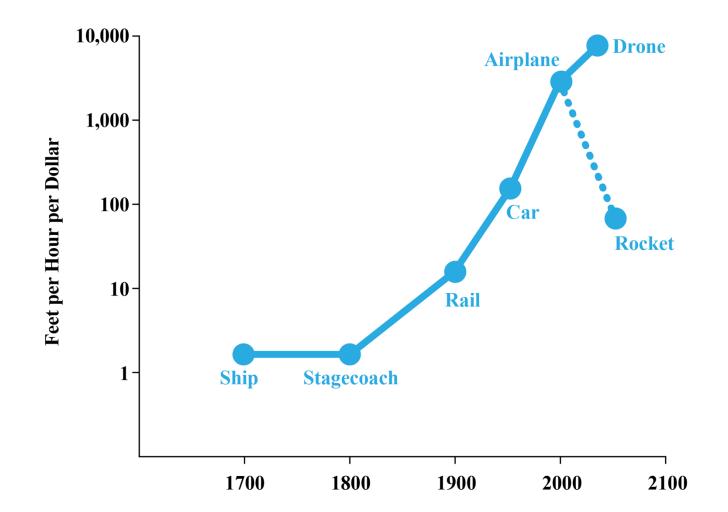




Economics of information services



Economics of transportation services

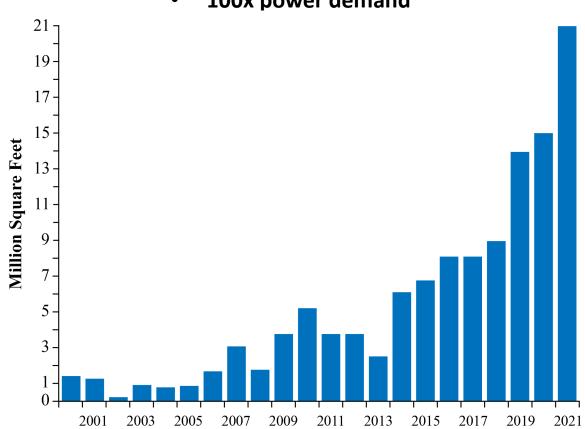


Information infrastructure: Datacenters vs skyscrapers

5,000 enterprise-class datacenters vs 1,500 Empire-class skyscrapers

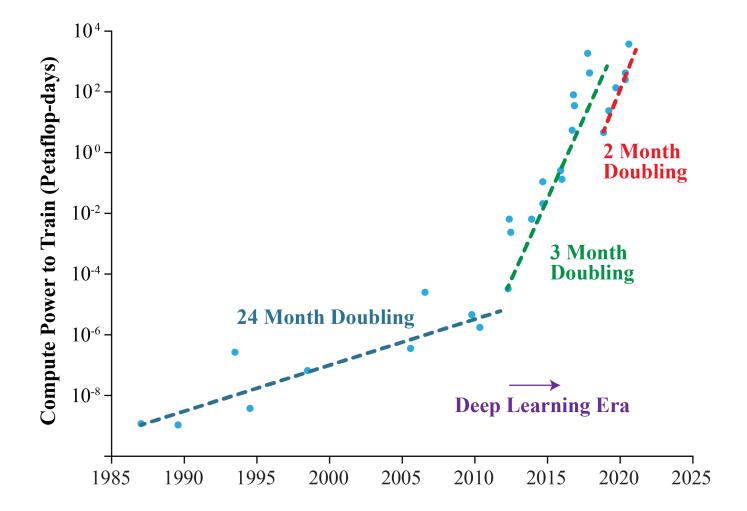
Each square foot of datacenter vs skyscraper:

- Same capex to build
- 5x rent
- 100x power demand

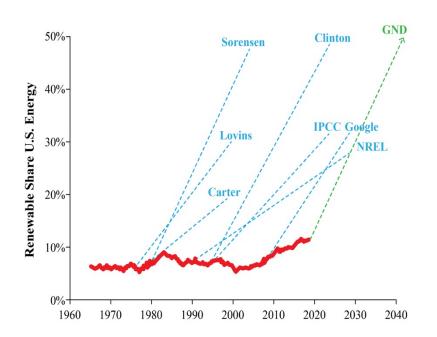


Artificial intelligence: The great accelerator

"It's really a phase change in terms of how we look at infrastructure." Amin Vahdat, VP machine learning and Cloud AI Google Cloud



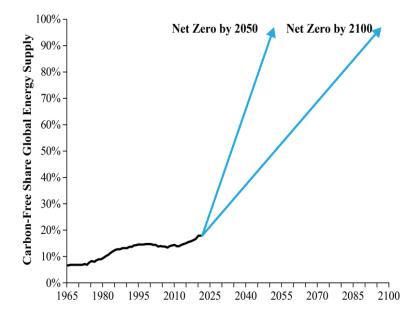
Wildly unrealistic forecasts and policy aspirations



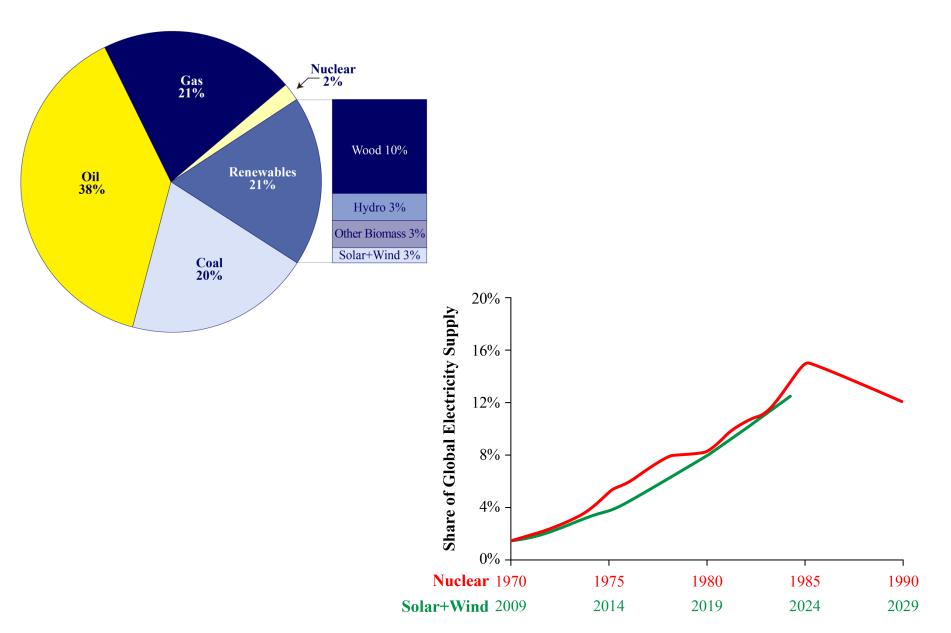
U.S. Renewable Energy Share

& Forecasts

Global Carbon-Free Energy Share & Aspiration

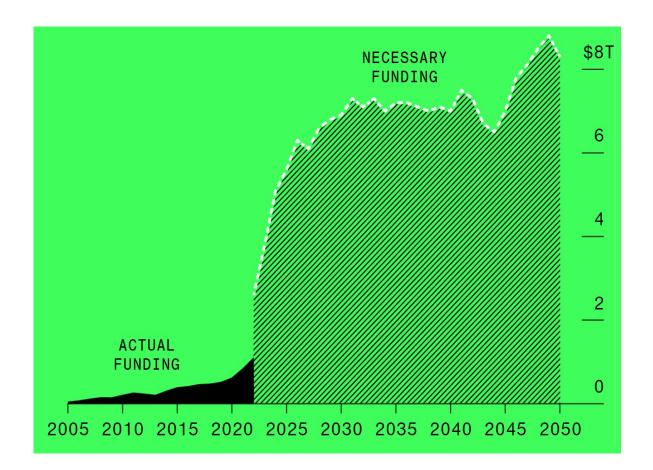


The transition so far: Wood still dominates



Global renewables & IRA's "Christmas for climate tech"

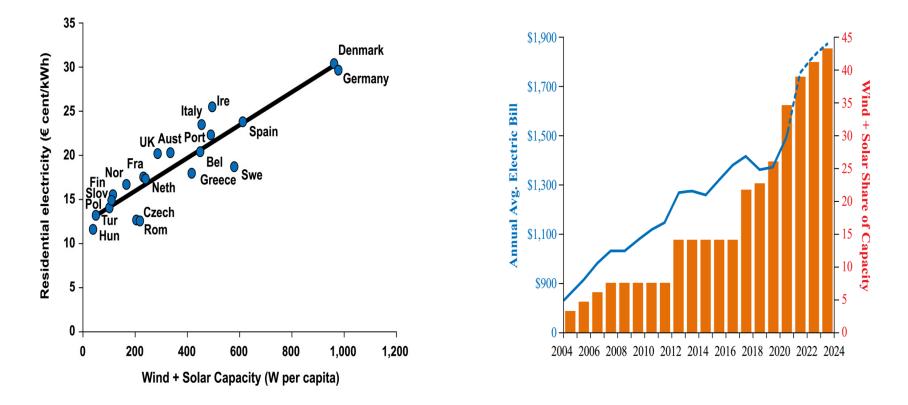
Global "Transition" Spending Gap



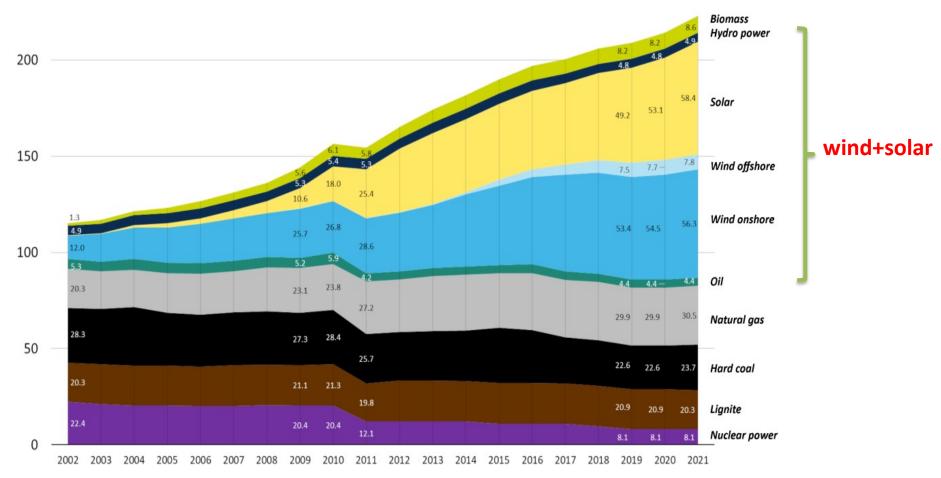
Higher grid costs come with more solar & wind

Europe

Xcel (4 million customers)

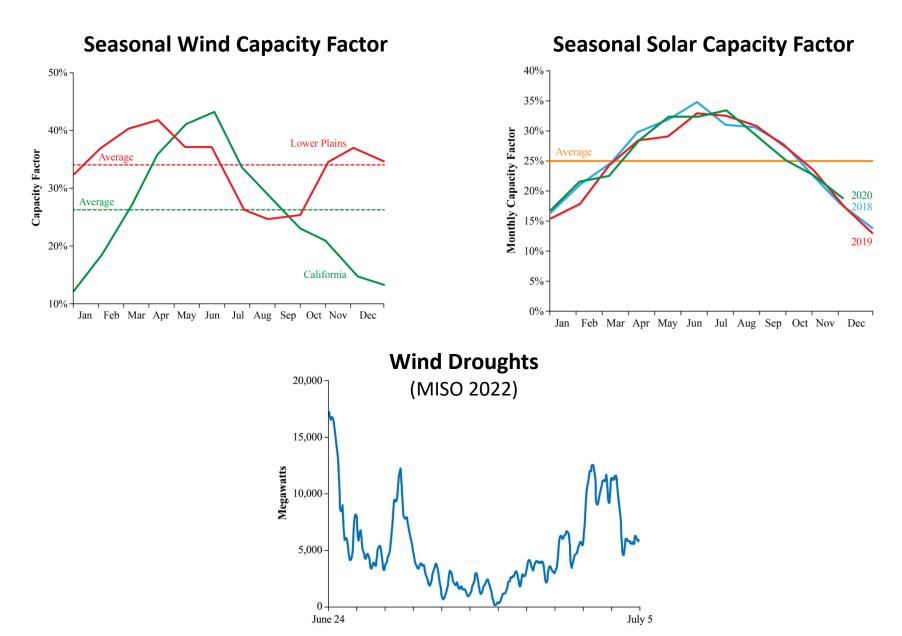


Germany's wind+solar \rightarrow 6% primary energy

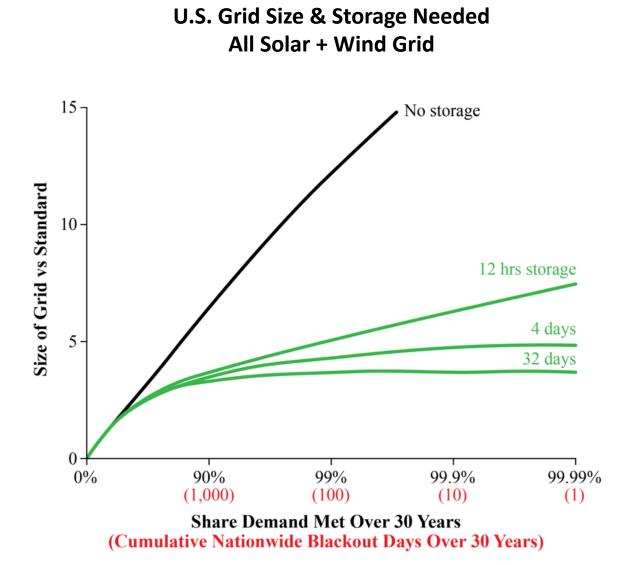


Capacity in gigawatts (GW)

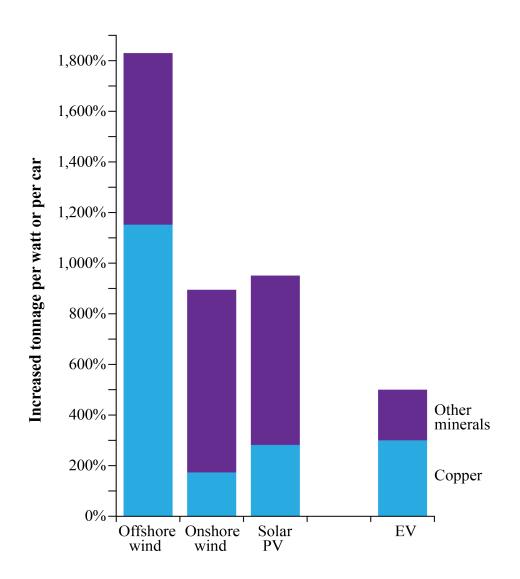
5-day wind/solar "drought" = \$20 trillion batteries



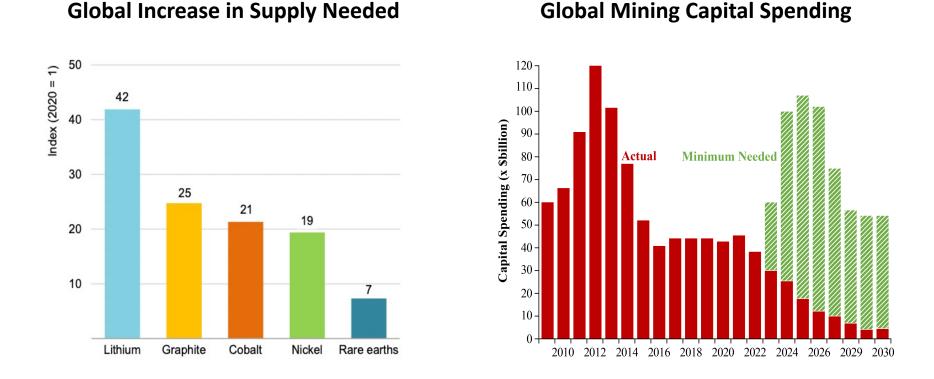
Grid's multi-decade challenge w. variable resources



'Green' is an unprecedented shift to mining

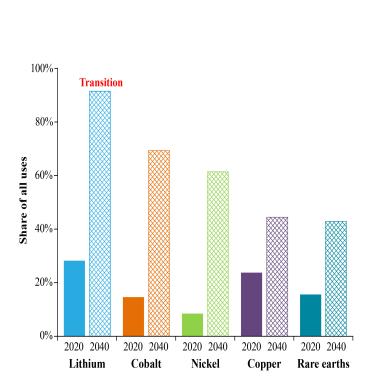


100s new mines needed & 16 yr avg to open new mine



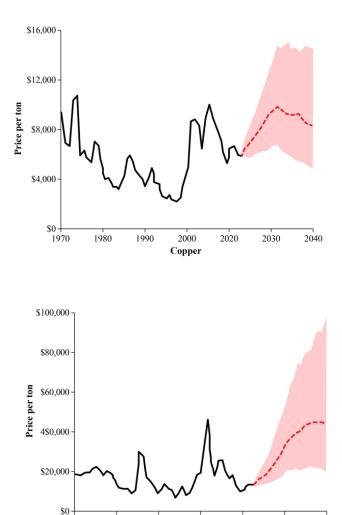
Coal mining capex >> all minerals combined

Price impacts from mineral demands



Energy Minerals Dominate All Uses

IMF: Historic Mineral Inflation



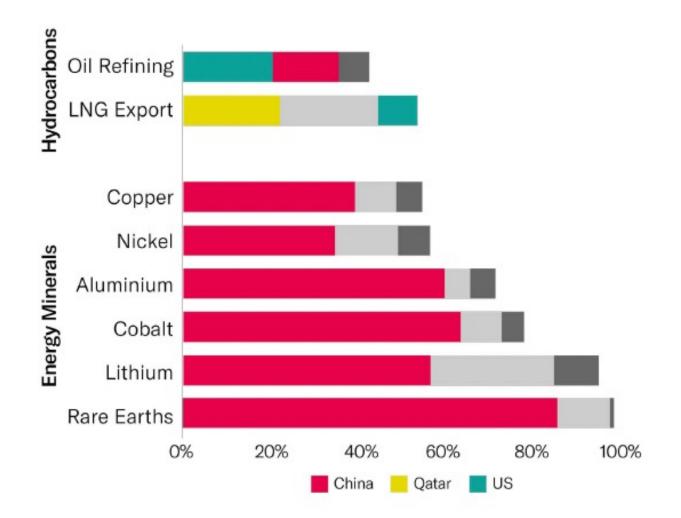
1980 1990 2000 2020 2030 Nickel

2040

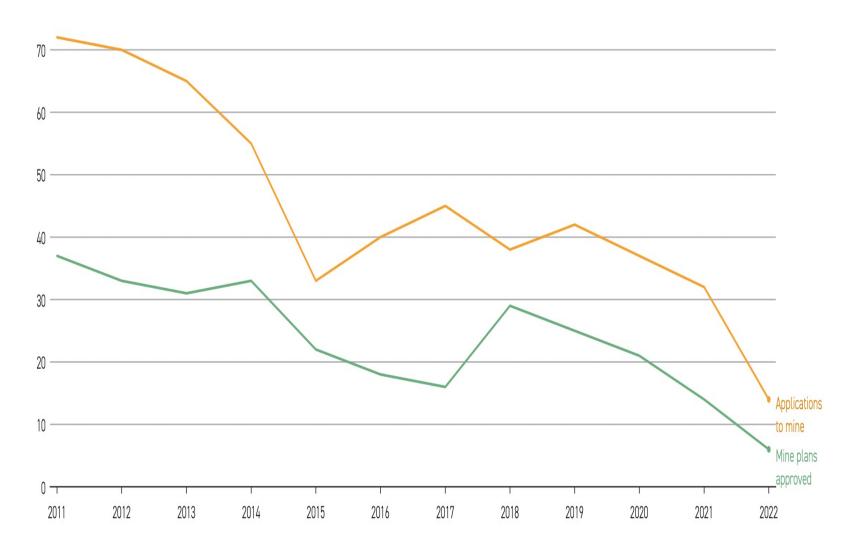
1970

China dominates "energy minerals" supply chains

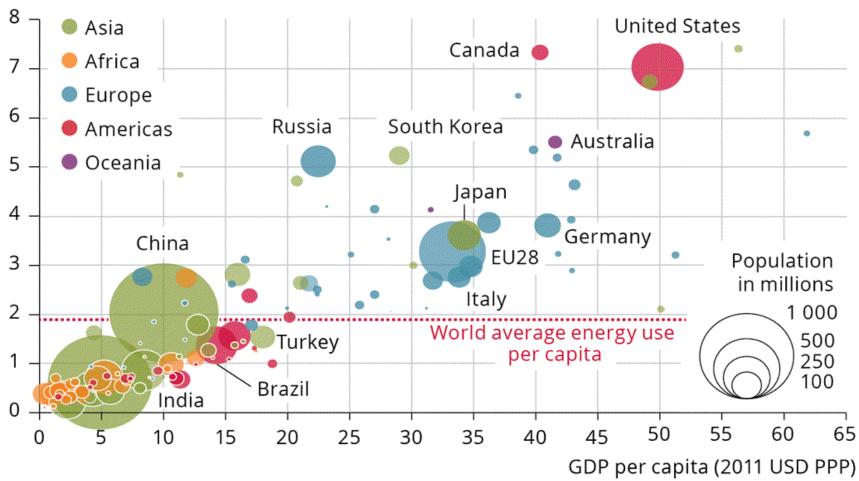
Global Share of Top Three Countries Producing Refined Products



U.S. Federal mine approvals 2010-2022



Iron Law of energy demand & prosperity



Energy use in tonnes of oil equivalent per capita