

# Sunlight Energy vs. Energy Consumption

## SUNLIGHT ENERGY FALLING ON THE EARTH

342 sunlight watts per m <sup>2</sup>	Kiehl JT, Trenberth, Kevin, 1997 "Earth Annual Global Mean Energy Budget", Bulletin of American Meteor. Assn 78
342 Joules/sec per m <sup>2</sup>	1 watt (power)=1 joule (energy)/sec <i>(the total solar radiation arriving at the atmosphere is ~1361 watts/m<sup>2</sup>. However, not all reaches the surface and not all is visible light.) Coddington, O.; Lean, J. L.; Pilewskie, P.; Snow, M.; Lindholm, D. (22 August 2016). "A Solar Irradiance Climate Data Record". Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. 97 (7</i>
30% reflected back	6% atmosphere, 20% cloud, 4% earth
12756200 meters	Earth diameter - cross-section
1.27805E+14 m <sup>2</sup>	Earth cross section area
3.05965E+16 Joules per second (Watts)	Sunlight power (Energy per time) falling on the earth

## WORLD ENERGY CONSUMPTION

599.378 quadrillion BTU per year	2018 world power consumption (energy over time). <a href="http://eia.gov">Http://eia.gov</a>
5.99378E+17 BTU per year	
1055 Joules per BTU	
6.32344E+20 Joules per year	
365 days per year	
24 hr per day	
60 min per hour	
60 seconds per minute	
2.00515E+13 Joules per second (Watts)	World "energy" consumption

**1,526**

Ratio of sunlight to world consumption

If 100% useable

*The sunlight energy falling on the world is 1,526 times the world energy consumption*

## EARTH INTERNAL HEAT

4.70E+13 Watts	Davies, J. H., & Davies, D. R. (2010). Earth's surface heat flux. Solid Earth, 1(1), 5–24.
1 Joules per watt	
4.70E+13 Joules per second	

**2.34**

Ratio of Earth's heat to world consumption

If 100% useable

*The amount of internal Earth heat energy is 2 times the world energy consumption*

## Sunlight Energy vs. Energy Consumption

### UNITED STATES

9,833,520 surface area - km <sup>2</sup>	USA surface area
2.35E+15 Joules per second	sunlight falling on USA if full 24 hr.
78% reduction for sunlight angle	39 degrees latitude
1.83E+15 Joules per second	If 100% useable
92.943 Quadrillion BTU per year	USA power (energy over time) consumption - 2018 (EIA.GOV)
9.2943E+16 BTU per year	
1055 Joules per BTU	
9.80549E+19 Joules per year	
365 days per year	
12 hr per day	
60 min per hour	
60 seconds per minute	
6.2186E+12 USA Joules per second	USA power consumption
<b>294</b> Ratio of sunlight to USA consumption	If 100% useable
0.34%	
33,431 Km <sup>2</sup> of sunlight equal to USA consumption - about size of Maryland	

*The amount of sunlight energy falling on the USA is 294 times its consumption and about equal to that falling on Maryland - pretty impressive. But there's another way of looking at it - if you controlled all the energy used in the US, you only control the state of Maryland compared with the sunlight falling on the whole country.*

*However, the average solar farm output is 200,000 watts per acre*

200,000 Watts per acre	Actual output of a solar farm
31,092,994 acres	Needed to supply USA consumption from solar alone
125,829 km <sup>2</sup>	Needed to supply USA consumption from solar alone
1.3%	of USA land area

*Based on actual solar farm output, the whole state of Mississippi would be necessary To supply USA consumption.*