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| **Quads of energy consumption (quadrillion Btu)** | | | | | |  |
| **Oil** | **Natural gas** | **Coal** | **Nuclear** | **Hydroelectric** | **Wood** | **Year** |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1805 |
| 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 1867 |
| 1 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0.5 | 3 | 1895 |
| 6 | 2 | 15 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1926 |
| 15 | 10 | 10 | 0.5 | 2 | 1 | 1956 |
| 38 | 23 | 13 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1970 |
| 30 | 17 | 20 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1987 |
| 40 | 24 | 23 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 2008 |
| 35 | 28 | 17 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 2012 |

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| The predominant energy source until 1875 🡪 |
| At that point, it became 🡪 |
| Did not begin until 1950 🡪 |
| The 1970s saw a dramatic dip in 🡪 |
| The top three sources today are 🡪 |
| Since 2000, there has been an increase in 🡪  🡪 WHY? |