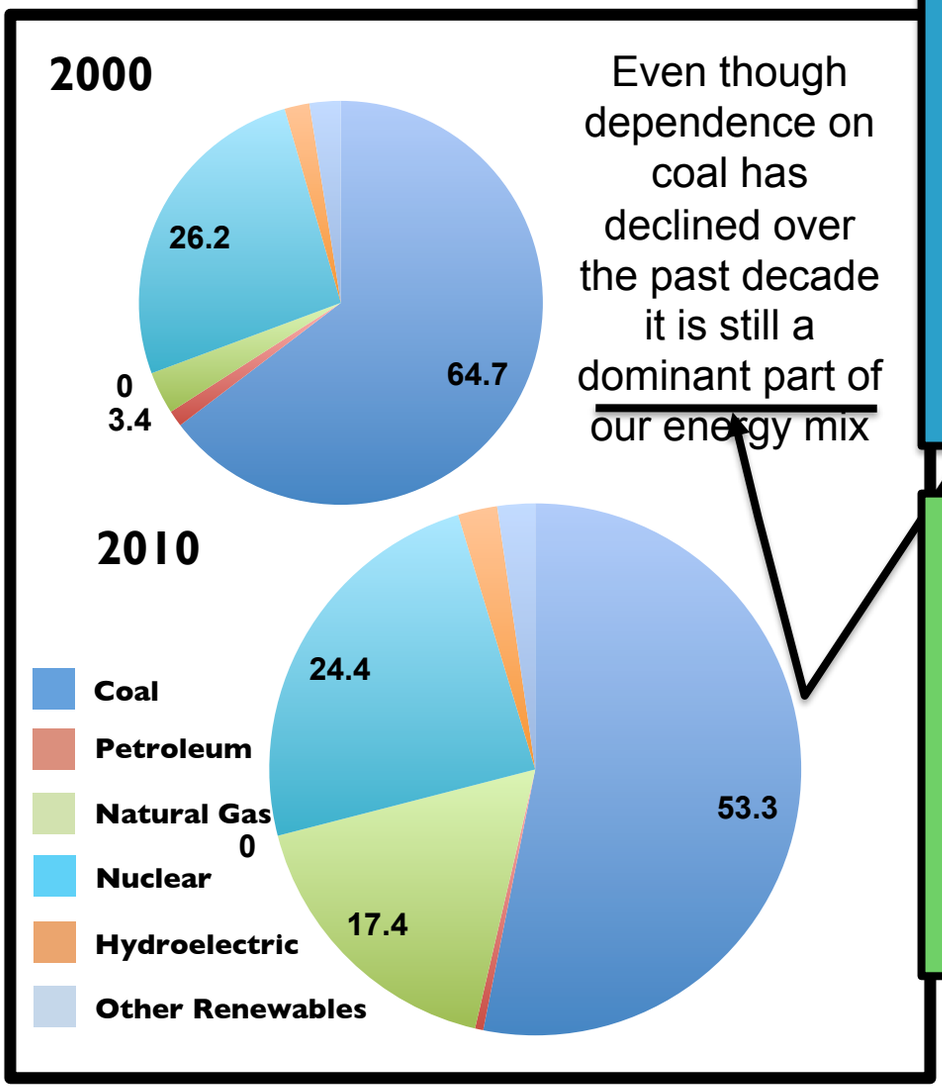
What's powering Georgia?



Even though dependence on coal has declined over the past decade it is still a dominant part of our energy mix

Why Should I Care?

Coal is one of the oldest and dirtiest sources of energy. While reliance on coal historically kept power rates low, the true cost of coal is extraordinary when we account for the human health and environmental damages associated with mining coal, mountain top removal, transportation of coal from mine to plant, air pollution, water quality degradation and coal waste storage.

How does it affect me?

Georgia utilities spend a total of about **$2.6 billion** on coal each year[1] and the state appears at number 9 in the list of the top 15 states for coal health impacts in 2010.[2] There were **396 hospitalizations, 728 heart attacks and 536 deaths** related to pollution from coal plants in Georgia.[3] The economic cost of hospital bills, missed work, missed school and ongoing health care is rarely considered when balancing the costs of coal.

Table Key

U = Number of units upgraded with advanced environmental controls
R = Number of units retired or planned for retirement
NA = No action taken to upgrade or retire

Status of Coal Plants in Georgia

Name	County	Capacity (MW)	Years	Units	U	R	NA
Bowen	Bartow	3498.6	1971-1975	4	4		
Hammond	Floyd	953	1954-1970	4	4		
Harllee Branch	Putnam	1746.2	1965-1969	4		2	2
Jack McDonough	Cobb	598.4	1963-1964	2		2	
Kraft	Catham	207.9	1958-1965	3			3
McIntosh	Effingham	177.6	1979	1			1
Mitchell	Dougherty	163.2	1964	1		1	
Scherer	Monroe	3564	1982-1989	4	4		
Wansley	Heard	1904	1976-1978	2	2		
Yates	Coweta	1487.3	1950	7	1		6

[1]Union of Concerned Scientists, Burning Coal Burning Cash (2010). Data from 2008.
[2]Clean Air Task Force, Toll From Coal (2010).
[3]*Id.*

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