Resources & Stats

Reliable and Affordable Energy

U.S. Nuclear Industry Capacity Factors (1971 - 2007)

Over the past two decades, nuclear power plants have achieved increasingly higher capacity factors with the same or greater levels of safety. The average capacity factor for U.S. plants in operation in 1980 was 56.3 percent; in 1990, 66 percent; and in 2007, 91.8 percent.