



Human and Environmental Development Program

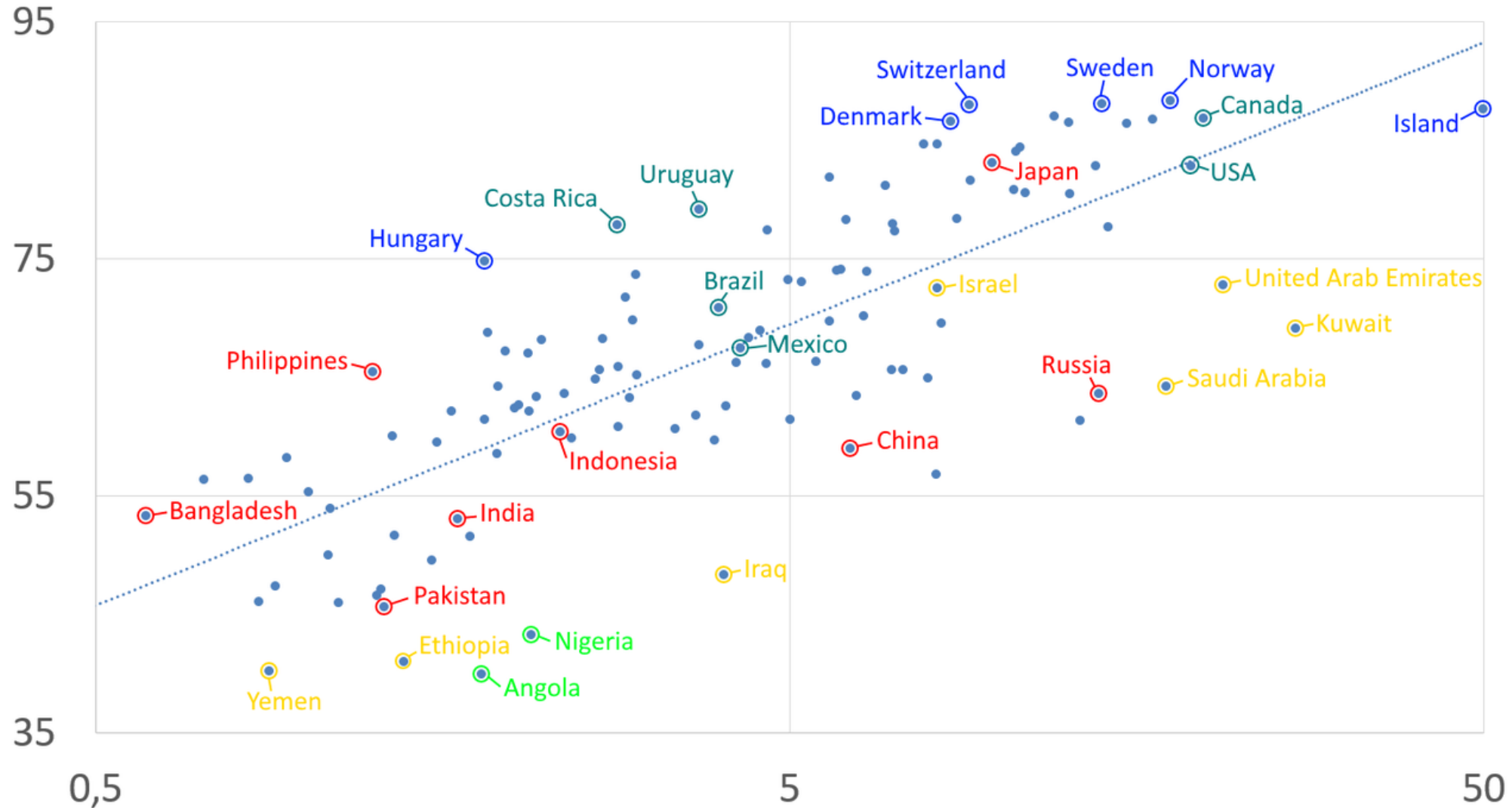
Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church

17 November 2019

The world has seen many advancements and progress, but much has been said in recent decades about a growing world population, irresponsible development, environmental degradation and global warming.

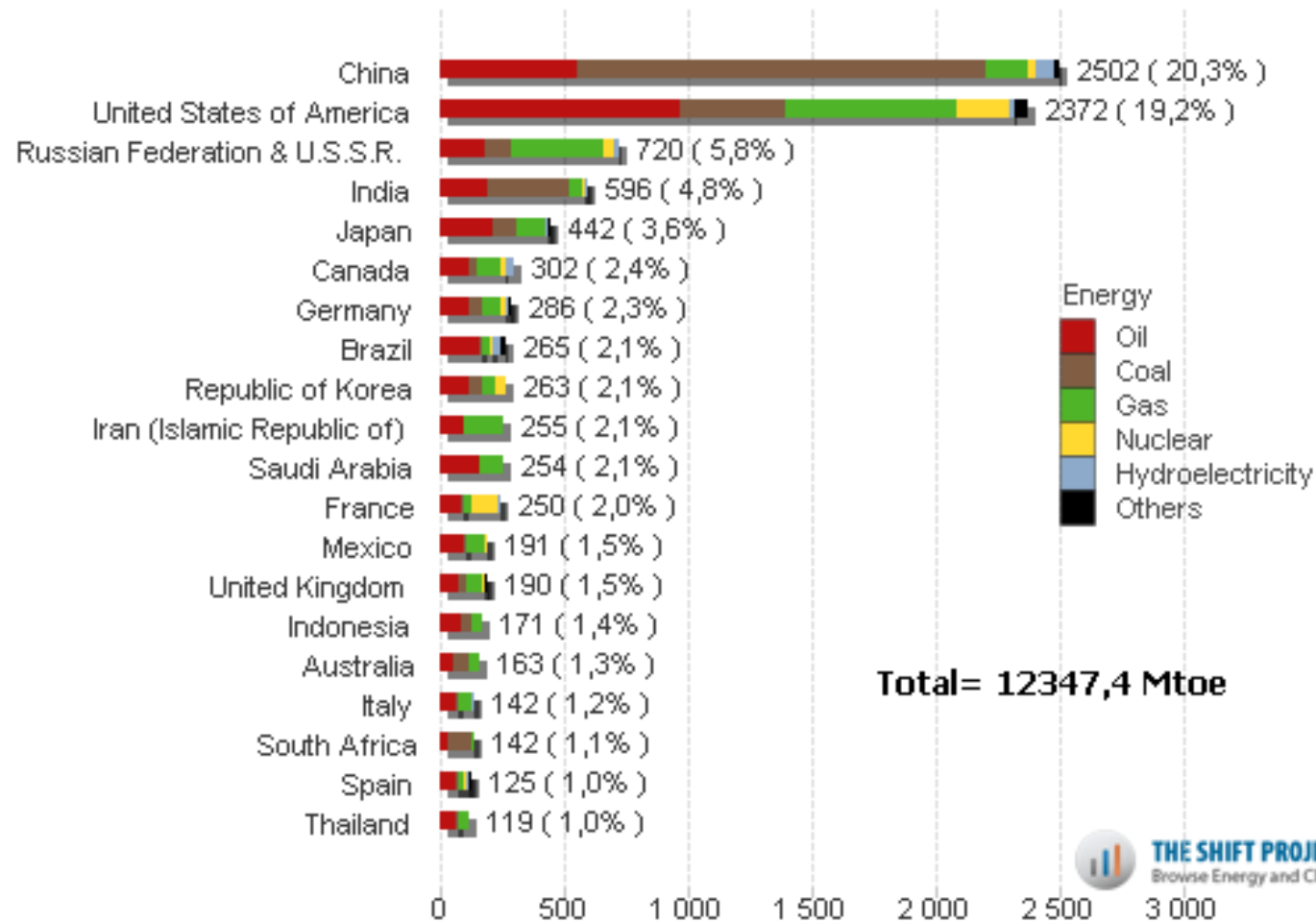
Is resource consumption a reality because the world's population is steadily increasing or because wealthy people are taking an unjustly large share of the world's resources?

Social Progress Index vs Energy per country

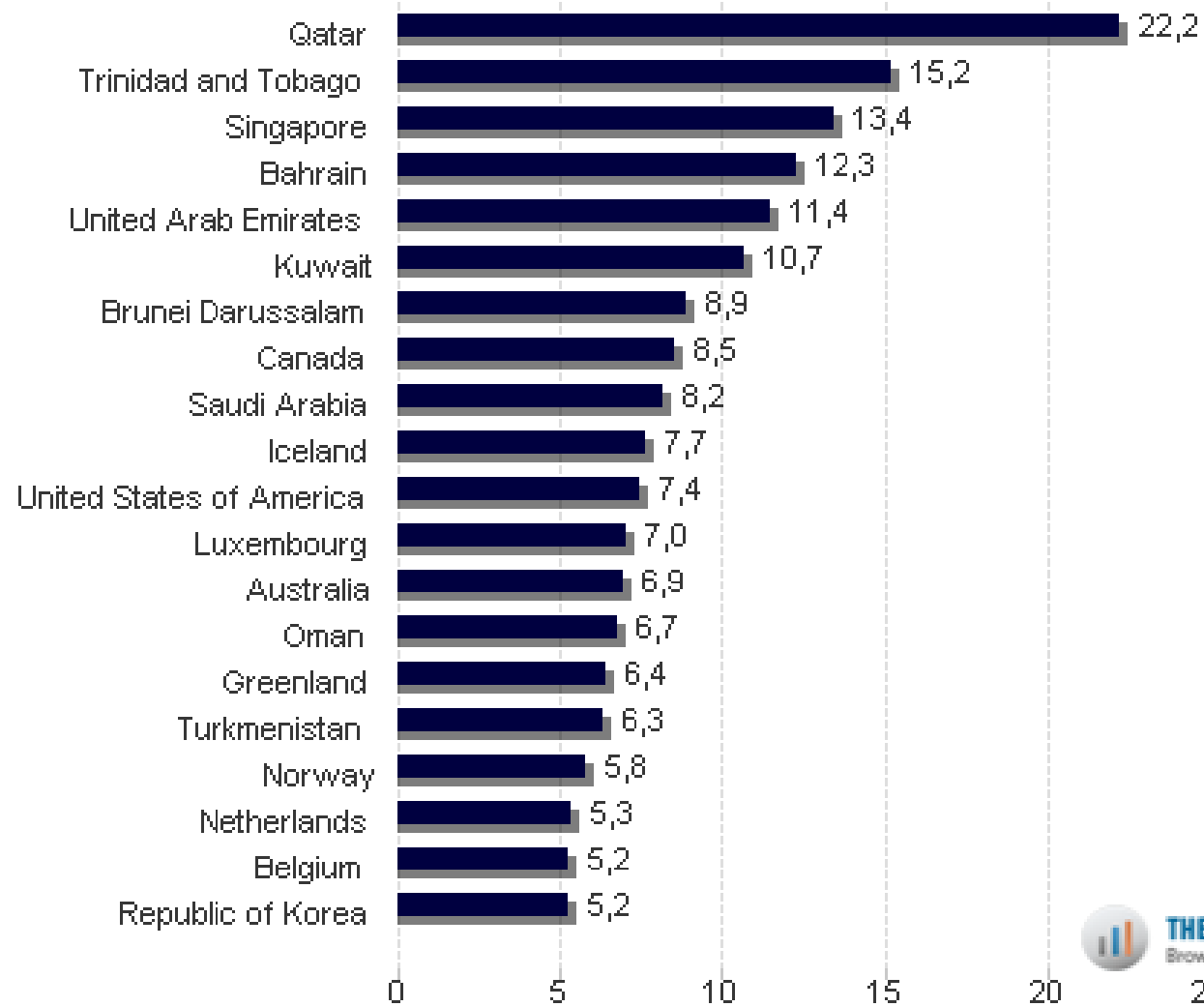


Liter Oil Per Day (Per Capita, Energy Equivalent)
Not all shipping and aviation energy included

TOP Countries with highest primary energy consumption from 11 sources in 2014 (Mtoe)



World TOP 20 Countries with highest Primary Energy Consumption per Capita in 2014 (Mtoe per million people)



Both factors are important, but it appears that the behavior of people is more important than the total numbers.

The wealthiest 20% of the world's population, living primarily in North America, Western Europe and Japan accounts for about 78% of total consumption. The poorest 20% uses 1.5% of the earth's resources.

The wealthiest 10% in the world are responsible for 59% of consumption while the poorest 10% account for just 0.5%.

Religions are assuming more active roles in addressing consumerism and irresponsible development, environmental degradation and global warming.



Several Catholic Popes have made statements about the environment, but none so loud and significant as those by Pope Francis. His encyclical *Laudato Si'* - On Care for Our Common Home was issued in 2015 and challenges all of humanity to take "swift and unified global action."

“There is a nobility to care for creation through little daily actions.” (Laudato Si', 211)

“A constant flood of new consumer goods can baffle the heart and prevent us from cherishing each thing and each moment.” (Laudato Si', 222)

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/pa-pa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html

The Catholic Church has established programs to educate and motivate Catholics to a deeper reverence and respect for God's creation, and to encourage the faithful to address environmental problems, especially as they affect poor and vulnerable people.

Our Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon has responded by establishing the Human and Environmental Development Program.

In turn, our Ss. Peter and Paul Parish has mirrored this initiative with its own Human and Environmental Development Committee.

Our Parish Committee currently consists of the following members:

Pat and Curtis McCoshen

Evelyn and Ernest Boyko

Rose and John Hill

Lesya Sabada and Thomas Nahachewsky

Other interested individuals are welcome to join the Committee.

Our Parish Human and Environmental Development Committee proposes to make a series of brief presentations at selected Knights of Columbus breakfasts to promote awareness and the exploration of relevant issues.

The following topics are being considered for discussion:

Consumerism and Pylipiwka (Philippian Fast Fast)

Ethical Food and Eating Habits

Energy Consciousness

Today represents the Committee's inaugural presentation and exploration of Consumerism, the Pre-Christmas Fast and the Ethical Hierarchy of Gift Purchasing.

This presentation is not intended to create a hard set rules for Things to Do OR Not to Do, but rather to encourage each of us to consider our upcoming actions in a conscious manner consistent with ethical and sustainable principles.



Sustainable Gift Ideas

Instead of wasting a box and plastic with a regular present, why not gift an experience. These often require a simple print out from an email. There are so many options for this, for example, a meal out, tickets, a massage or a class. The recipient will see that the idea is more meaningful and they can make new memories.

Top Tips

- Reuse packaging. Stores often use tissue paper at this time of year; reuse it in the gift, don't throw it away.
- Avoid gifts with excessive plastic packaging. Don't add to this either with ribbons and stickers.
- Use recyclable wrapping paper. If you can scrunch it then its most likely ok to recycle. Don't choose wrapping paper covered in glitter either.