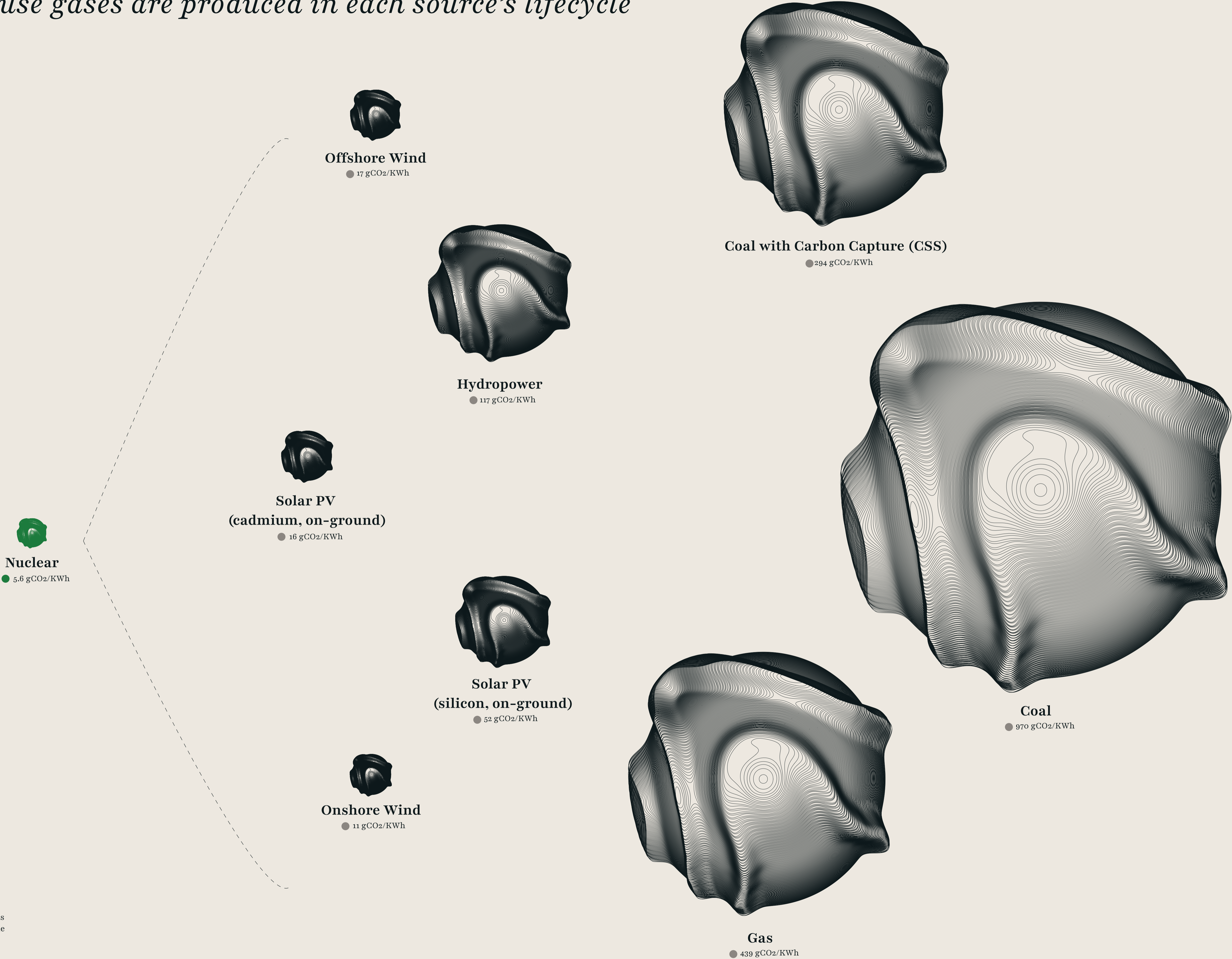


# The Emissions of Our Electricity Sources

*How many greenhouse gases are produced in each source's lifecycle*

Electricity looks identical at the wall socket; the carbon cost of producing it does not. Operational emissions - the chimney number - undercount fossil fuels and overcount renewables. Lifecycle emissions, measured from mine to decommissioning, are the right ruler. On that ruler, nuclear emits 5.6 grams of CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent per kilowatt-hour. Coal emits 970 - a 173x gap. Wind, solar, hydropower, and nuclear all sit below 120; gas, oil, and coal start above 400. Public argument treats nuclear as a fossil-fuel cousin. By the only measure that compares plants on the same terms, it isn't.

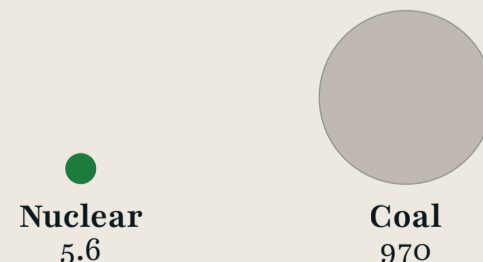


### Legend

Each form is one electricity source. Area is proportional to lifecycle emissions, in grams of CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent per kilowatt-hour delivered. Green marks nuclear; grey marks other sources.

- Green marks nuclear
- Grey marks other sources

Two reference forms shown below at actual size: nuclear at 5.6 gCO<sub>2</sub>/kWh and coal at 970. The ratio between every pair of forms on the poster is shown to the same scale.



### Methodology

Median values from peer-reviewed lifecycle assessments compiled by Our World in Data, IPCC AR5, and UNECE. Real projects vary by site and fuel grade - ranges overlap at the edges, not the centre.