

Global solar power capacity





Overview

Many countries and territories have installed significant capacity into their electrical grids to supplement or provide an alternative to conventional sources. Solar power plants use one of two technologies: • (PV) use , either on or in ground-mounted , converting sunlight directly into electric power.

At the end of 2024, global renewable power capacity amounted to 4 448 GW. Solar, in line with the previous year, accounted for the largest share of the global total, with a capacity of 1 865 GW.

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Cumulative installed solar capacity, measured in gigawatts (GW). Data source: IRENA (2025) – Learn more about this data Total solar (on- and off-grid) electricity installed capacity, measured in gigawatts. This includes solar photovoltaic and concentrated solar power. IRENA (2025) – processed by.

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The Global Solar Power Tracker is a worldwide dataset of utility-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) and solar thermal facilities. It covers all operating solar farm phases with capacities of 1 megawatt (MW) or more and all announced, pre-construction, construction, and shelved projects with capacities.

MUNICH, Germany (Tuesday 6th May 2025): A new report from SolarPower Europe reveals that the world installed a record 597 GW of solar power in 2024 – a 33% surge over 2023. After the world crossed the milestone of 2 terawatts (TW) total solar in late 2024, the annual report predicts the world



could.

IEA figures show the world adding more than 600GW of new renewable capacity in 2024. The world added more than 550GW of new solar in 2024, although renewable power continues to account for a fraction of the world's electricity generation, according to the latest figures from the International. What is the global market outlook for solar power?

By 2030, we expect global installed solar PV capacity to exceed 7 TW by 2030. This would represent about 65% of the total renewable capacity required to meet the 11 TW global target. The Global Market Outlook for Solar Power is launched annually at Intersolar Europe in Munich.

What is the global power capacity of 2024?

At the end of 2024, global renewable power capacity amounted to 4 448 GW. Solar, in line with the previous year, accounted for the largest share of the global total, with a capacity of 1 865 GW. Renewable hydropower¹ and wind energy accounted for most of the remainder, with total capacities of 1 283 GW and 1 133 GW, respectively.

What is the global growth of photovoltaics?

The worldwide growth of photovoltaics is extremely dynamic and varies strongly by country. In April 2022, the total global solar power capacity reached 1 TW, increasing to 2 TW in 2024. The top installers of 2024 included China, the United States, and India. The following table lists these data for each country:.

How many MW is a solar power plant in the UK?

The latest government figures indicates UK solar photovoltaic (PV) generation capacity has reached 12,404 MW in December 2017. Sarnia Photovoltaic Power Plant near Sarnia, Ontario, was in September 2010 the world's largest photovoltaic plant with an installed capacity of 80 MW p. until surpassed by a plant in China.

Which countries use solar power in 2022?

In April 2022, the total global solar power capacity reached 1 TW, increasing to 2 TW in 2024. The top installers of 2024 included China, the United States, and India. The following table lists these data for each country: Total generation from solar in terawatt-hours. Percent of that country's generation



that was solar.

How much solar energy will China generate by 2040?

Given the country's geographic location advantage and the high potential for generating electricity from solar energy, its generation capacity is expected to increase from the current 1.2% of the total 23 GW to at least 3.5% of the total 43 GW generating capacity by 2040.



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[Global solar power installation crosses 2TW in 2024: ...](#)

Global solar power capacity installation surged by 33% in 2024, marking its 20th consecutive year as the fastest-growing renewable energy source, based on SolarPower Europe's annual Global Market Outlook for Solar ...

[Executive summary - Renewables 2024 - Analysis](#)

China is set to cement its position as the global renewables leader, accounting for 60% of the expansion in global capacity to 2030. The country is forecast to be home to every other megawatt of all renewable energy capacity installed ...



[Global Solar Growth to Stabilize at 493 GW in 2025, ...](#)

Rising curtailment of solar power and revenue risks are likely to slow the industry's expansion, bringing a period of stabilization instead. Despite these hurdles, China will remain a global leader in solar manufacturing, holding ...



Massive global growth of renewables to 2030 is set to ...

In terms of technologies, solar PV alone is forecast to account for a massive 80% of the growth in global renewable capacity between



now and 2030 - the result of the construction of new large solar power plants as well as ...



Solar Photovoltaic Power Potential by Country

The potential for electricity generation from solar photovoltaic sources in most countries dwarfs their current electricity demand. Policymakers and investors often wonder whether the PV power potential in a specific country or region is ...

Solar adds record 452 GW to global renewables

...

Global renewables capacity grew by a record 585 GW in 2024, with solar accounting for 452 GW, according to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). Solar and wind together made up 96.6% of the ...



Growth of photovoltaics

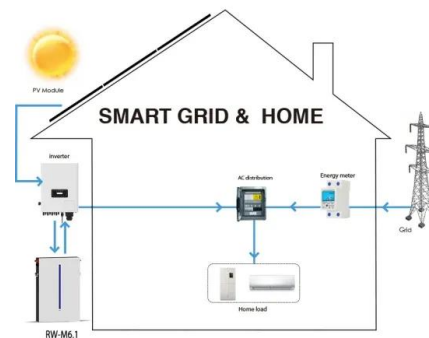
Solar generation by country, 2021 [20] In 2022, the total global photovoltaic capacity increased by 228 GW, with a 24% growth year-on-year of new installations. As a result, the total global capacity exceeded 1,185 GW by the ...



Solar power by country

OverviewGlobal use
figuresAfricaAsiaEuropeNorth
AmericaOceaniaSouth America

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