

New Zealand uses solar panels to generate electricity



Overview

Solar power in New Zealand is a small but rapidly growing contributor to the country's electricity supply. In 2024, 601 gigawatt-hours of electricity was estimated to have been generated by grid-connected solar, 1. [1] As of the end of January 2026 . Solar electricity via photovoltaics (PV) is the generation of electricity from sunlight. Out of the 270 MW of solar, about 180 MW is in the North Island and is mostly made up of rooftop solar installations.

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Solar generation now and in the future

There is currently around 270 MW of installed solar generation in New Zealand. This adds up to about the same capacity of a coal or gas fired Rankine generation unit. Out of the 270

Solar energy used to generate electricity in New Zealand

This dataset contains information about renewable energy resources in New Zealand, which includes hydro, wind, geothermal, solar, woody biomass, biogas and liquid biofuels.



Solar power in New Zealand

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Solar power in New Zealand explained

Solar power in New Zealand is increasing in capacity, in part due to price supports created through the emissions trading scheme. As of the end of December 2024, New Zealand has 573 MW



Renewables , Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment

Solar is a newer of source of renewable



[Solar farms in investment pipeline could triple NZ's power capacity](#)

Less than a quarter of the planned new generation would come from the big gentailers. Instead, independent New Zealand firms and international investors are behind 35 gigawatts of the

electricity generation in New Zealand. Historically, this has been in the form of 'distributed' installations such as on-site generation or use by



New Zealand Breaks Solar Generation Record

New Zealand's solar generation hit a new peak on 6 March 2025, with 128 megawatts (MW) produced, setting a national record. The Electricity Authority Te Mana Hiko reported that this

New Zealand Electricity Generation Mix 2024

To increase low-carbon electricity generation, New Zealand should pursue ambitious projects in both solar and nuclear energy. These are abundant and reliable sources that can complement existing



Solar energy in New Zealand - facts and outlook , EECA

Discover the benefits, challenges, and future potential of solar energy in New Zealand - from rooftop solar PV systems to emerging grid-scale opportunities.

New Zealand Solar Generation Hits Record High at 128 MW

New Zealand smashes its national record for solar generation, reaching 128 MW. Discover the key projects and companies driving NZ's renewable energy future.



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