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UK Big Watts and Solar



Overview

Renewables accounted for majority of annual UK electricity generation for the first time in 2024, with solar enjoying record highs despite fewer sun hours. Gains for PV reflect increased deployed capacity, which hit 18 GW in February 2025 according to the latest government figures. How much solar power does the UK produce a month?

The amount of electricity generated from solar also hit a new high of 2.5TWh in May 2025, beating April 2025's 2.3TWh into second place. The previous record of 2.1TWh was set in June 2024. The figure below shows the average monthly output of the UK's solar capacity, in MW.

Will the UK build more solar power this year?

As a result, the UK is forecast to build 50 per cent more solar power generation capacity this year than it did in 2024, which was a 20 per cent rise on the year before, according to Solar Media Market Research.

How much solar power will the UK have by 2030?

The UK aims to install 45-47GW of solar PV capacity by 2030 under its Clean Power 2030 Action Plan, with potential to exceed this target, according to Solar Energy UK. The latest data from the UK government has shown that the UK now has 16.9GW of solar capacity online as of the end of June 2024, with more under construction or committed.

How has solar power benefited the UK?

So far, this year's solar electricity output in the UK has avoided gas imports of roughly \$813.9 million, which would have released approximately 6.61 million tons of carbon dioxide. Though this year's solar record was driven partially by the sunniest spring on record, rising capacity also helped.

Why is solar power so high in the UK?

The extra sunshine this spring contributed to unusually high solar power

output per unit of installed capacity, a metric known as the “capacity factor” of the UK’s solar plants.

Are solar farms generating more electricity in the UK?

Solar farms and rooftops in the United Kingdom generated a record 42 percent more electricity from January through May 2025 than during the same period in 2024, according to a new analysis by Carbon Brief. The UK also just had its sunniest spring since record keeping began in 1910, the Met Office said.

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