

European Solar and Energy Storage Solutions

What are the cost indicators for photovoltaic energy storage



Overview

Based on our bottom-up modeling, the Q1 2021 PV and energy storage cost benchmarks are: \$2.65 per watt DC (WDC) (or \$3.05/WAC) for residential PV systems, 1.56/WDC (or \$1.79/WAC) for commercial roof.

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The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) publishes benchmark reports that disaggregate photovoltaic (PV) and energy storage (battery) system installation costs to inform SETO's R&D investment decisions. This year, we introduce a new PV and storage cost modeling approach.

Each year, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO) and its national laboratory partners analyze cost data for U.S. solar photovoltaic (PV) systems to develop cost benchmarks. These benchmarks help measure progress towards goals for reducing solar electricity costs and guide SETO research and development programs.

Between April 2021 and April 2022, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 9% (FRED 2022a), and global commodity prices rose 48% (FRED 2022b). The PV industry felt the effects of these events in addition to PV-specific cost drivers.

NREL has been modeling U.S. solar photovoltaic (PV) system costs since 2009. This year, our report benchmarks costs of U.S. PV for residential, commercial, and utility-scale systems, with and without storage, built in the first quarter of 2020 (Q1 2020). What are the benchmarks for PV & energy storage systems?

The benchmarks in this report are bottom-up cost estimates of all major inputs to PV and energy storage system installations. Bottom-up costs are based on national averages and do not necessarily represent typical costs in all local markets.

How much does a PV system cost per watt?

In fact, no individual estimate under any approach can reflect the diversity of the PV and storage manufacturing and installation industries. Our residential MMP benchmark (\$2.90 per watt direct current [Wdc]) is 24% higher than the MSP benchmark (\$2.34/Wdc) and 9% lower than our MMP benchmark (\$3.18/Wdc) from Q1 2022 in 2022 U.S. dollars (USD).

Why does Seto need to track solar cost trends?

As part of this effort, SETO must track solar cost trends so it can focus its research and development (R&D) on the highest-impact activities. The benchmarks in this report are bottom-up cost estimates of all major inputs to PV and energy storage system installations.

How does colocating a PV & storage system save money?

Colocating the PV and storage subsystems produces cost savings by reducing costs related to site preparation, permitting, interconnection, installation labor, hardware (via sharing of hardware such as switchgears, transformers, and controls), overhead, and profit.

Will California's New PV rules affect PV-plus-storage systems?

In the longer term, analysts expect the new rules to constrain PV-only deployment in California and ultimately spur the deployment of PV-plus-storage systems, which have higher upfront costs (Wood Mackenzie and SEIA 2022b). Our interviews also indicated market and policy trends affecting system costs between Q1 2022 and Q1 2023.

Why should you co-locate PV and storage subsystems?

Co-locating the PV and storage subsystems produces cost savings by reducing costs related to site preparation, permitting and interconnection, installation labor, hardware (via sharing of hardware such as switchgears, transformers, and controls), overhead, and profit.

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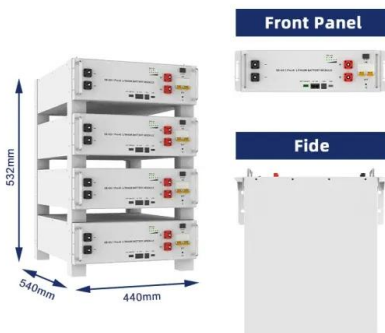


Subsidy Policies and Economic Analysis of Photovoltaic Energy Storage

The lifecycle cost of a photovoltaic energy storage (PV-ES) integrated project encompasses all expenses incurred throughout its entire lifecycle, comprising the investment ...

Q1 2023 U.S. Solar Photovoltaic System and Energy Storage Cost ...

The benchmarks in this report are bottom-up cost estimates of all major inputs to PV and energy storage system installations. Bottom-up costs are based on national averages and do not ...



U.S. Solar Photovoltaic System and Energy Storage Cost ...

NREL has been modeling U.S. solar photovoltaic (PV) system costs since 2009. This year, our report benchmarks costs of U.S. PV for residential, commercial, and utility-scale systems, with ...

Understanding the True Cost of Solar PV Battery ...

When thinking about the overall cost of a solar

energy system, it's vital to keep in mind that the battery storage isn't the only expense. There's a significant investment in the broader solar panel system, including items like ...



Battery Energy Storage System Evaluation Method

This report describes the development of a method to assess battery energy storage system (BESS) performance that the Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) and others can use to evaluate performance of ...

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