

According to data from the 'The Spanish Electricity System. Preliminary Report 2020'

Castilla-La Mancha, the region with the second highest solar photovoltaic production in 2020

- With 3,078 GWh, the region produced one fifth of Spain's photovoltaic energy in 2020.
- Of the region's total production, 52.4% was renewable and 86.2% was generated from carbon-free technologies.
- In 2020, Castilla-La Mancha increased its power generation fleet by 2.9%. The region's installed power capacity is now 75% renewable.

Toledo, 12 March 2021

Castilla-La Mancha closed the year 2020 demonstrating its potential in solar photovoltaic generation: it produced one fifth of the electrical energy generated from the sun in the whole of Spain. With 3,078 GWh, the region was the second largest producer of solar photovoltaic energy, second only to Andalusia. This data is published in the 'Spanish Electricity System. Preliminary Report 2020', a publication prepared by Red Eléctrica de España (REE) that collates the main annual figures of the Spanish electricity system for 2020 and which REE presented today at an event held at the Ministry for Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge.

For the Chairwoman of Red Eléctrica, Beatriz Corredor, "the Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan sets ambitious, but also realistic and achievable goals to mitigate climate change by moving towards a new system in which renewable energies are the cornerstone. And along this road towards the energy transition, the electricity sector plays a key role due to its decarbonisation potential."

The report highlights that Castilla-La Mancha recorded in 2020 a level of generation similar to that registered in 2019, reaching 22,922 GWh. The region closed the year with an 'export' balance to other regions, as it generates twice as much as it consumes. Of the total production, 52.4% was renewable and 86.2% was generated from carbon-free technologies. Therefore in 2020, Castilla-La Mancha was the third region with the highest share of carbon-free technologies in its electricity generation mix, behind Extremadura and Castilla y León.

Regarding the region's generation mix, solar photovoltaic power has experienced significant growth and reached a maximum contribution to the region's generation mix, producing 13.43% of the total (in 2019, its share was less than 9%). Specifically, in 2020 it increased its generation by 56.3% compared to the previous year. Nuclear and wind lead the generation mix, followed by photovoltaic and combined cycle, which in their case grew by 37.8%. Behind them, cogeneration, hydro, solar thermal, other renewables and pumped-storage complete the generation mix in Castilla-La Mancha.

In terms of installed power capacity, as at 31 December, the power generation fleet in Castilla-La Mancha represented 8.4% of the total nationwide with a capacity of 9,202 MW, of which 75% is renewable. Castilla-La Mancha is the region with the third highest installed wind and photovoltaic power capacity. These two technologies head the region's power generation fleet and continue to grow: in 2020, 266 new MWs were commissioned (201 MW of photovoltaic and 65 MW of wind).



Meanwhile, electricity demand in Castilla-La Mancha reached 11,740 GWh in 2020, 3.3% lower than that recorded in 2019. This decrease is less than that recorded at national level, where electricity consumption was 5.6% lower than in the previous year.

2020, Spain's greenest year on record

Renewables produced 44% of the total energy generated in Spain last year, making 2020 the *greenest* year since national records began in 2007. In total, 110,450 GWh were generated from natural and inexhaustible resources such as wind, sun and water, which represents an increase of 12.8% compared to the data for 2019.

The report, which includes the key performance indicators regarding the electricity sector in Spain over the past year, highlights the record production of wind power, responsible for more than a fifth of the total annual generation, and solar photovoltaic, which recorded an increase of 65% compared to the values for 2019. These two renewable technologies were responsible for 21.9% and 6.1%, respectively, of the total annual electricity generation in Spain in 2020.

Achieving this increase in renewable production in Spain would not have been possible without the installation of new MWs of renewable power. At the end of 2020, Spain's complete power generation fleet had increased its renewable power capacity by 4,015 MW, with solar photovoltaic being the technology that has risen the most, with a growth of 29.5% compared to 2019, followed by wind power, which has grown by 5.3%, making it the leading technology nationwide.

In addition, during the past year, 3,950 MW of coal-fired power capacity were decommissioned in Spain, which contributed to the fact that as at 31 December 2020, the total installed renewable power capacity accounted for 53.8% of Spain's overall production capacity.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic had direct consequences on electricity consumption, which in Spain fell to 249,819 GWh, a drop of 5.6% compared to 2019. After having factored in the influence of seasonal temperatures (+0.1%) and working patterns (-0.1%), electricity demand maintained the same variation as in gross terms, falling 5.6% compared to the previous year.