



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

More than 60% of electricity generation in La Rioja was emission-free in 2020

- Green energy increased by 10.9 percentage points in the electricity generation mix of the region, which had the second highest share of wind power generation.
- Wind, responsible for 44.1 %, takes the lead over combined cycle in this region (35.5 %).
- 42.7% of installed power capacity in La Rioja is renewable.

Logroño, 12 March 2021

Renewable and carbon-free electricity generation in La Rioja reached a share of 60.3% in the region's total generation mix in 2020, a figure that is 10.9 percentage points higher than the share recorded the previous year. 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."

Red Eléctrica's report also highlights that, during the past year, La Rioja was, only behind Castilla y León, the region with the highest share of wind power in its generation mix, with 44.1%. The second largest source of generation in La Rioja was combined cycle (35.5%), followed in the generation structure by solar photovoltaic (8%), hydro (7.8%), cogeneration (4.3%) and other renewables (0.4%).

Installed power capacity figures increased slightly in La Rioja to 1,410 MW. The power generation fleet of La Rioja is led by combined cycle with 785 MW, followed by wind with 448 MW, solar photovoltaic with 99 MW, hydro with 52 MW, cogeneration with 23 MW and other renewables with 4 MW. As at 31 December 2020, 42.7% of the installed power capacity structure in La Rioja was renewable, 0.3% more than in 2019.

Electricity demand (1,624 GWh) in the region fell by 4.5% last year, a less pronounced decrease than in the rest of Spain (-5.6%).

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.