

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

Solar photovoltaic power in Murcia increased its production by 56.1% in 2020 and became the second source of electricity generation

- Renewables and carbon-free technologies generated 31% more than in 2019.
- Electricity demand in Murcia was 2.6% lower in 2020 than in the previous year, a lower decrease than in the country as a whole (5.6%).

Murcia, 12 March 2021

Solar photovoltaic energy generated in Murcia reached a total of 1,850 GWh in 2020, a value that is 56.1% higher than in the previous year and represented 18% of the GWh produced in the region. The contribution of this technology has been decisive for renewables in Murcia to increase their overall production by 31% compared to that registered in 2019. Thus, *green* technologies and carbon-free technologies were responsible for 23.9% of the total GWh generated in the region. 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."

In terms of electricity production, natural gas combined cycle, which in 2020 saw its production fall by 10% to 6,130 GWh (59.7% of the total), was the leading technology in the region's generation mix, followed by solar photovoltaic and cogeneration, which also fell by 5.4% compared to 2019 accounting for 16.4% of the total. Wind, hydro, solar thermal and other renewables complete the mix in region of Murcia with a share of less than 5% each.

This report also highlights that last year, electricity demand in the region stood at 9,194 GWh, 2.6% less than the previous year, a decrease mainly due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In terms of installed power capacity, the power generation fleet in this region stands at 5,136 MW, with natural gas combined cycle being the technology with the largest share: accounting for 63.5% of the region's total capacity, followed by solar photovoltaic, which added 107 new MWs in 2020 and already accounts for 23.8% of the installed capacity in Murcia. Though far from these values, cogeneration (6% of the total) and wind (5.1%), along with hydro, solar thermal and other renewables (each representing slightly less than 1%) complete Murcia's installed power capacity structure.

In 2020, the region of Murcia added 7.3% more MWs of renewable energy capacity to its power generation fleet, with these technologies accounting for 30.5% of the total.



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.