



# The price of photovoltaic panels in the past two years

How has photovoltaic efficiency changed over time?

Since their inception in the 1950s, photovoltaic efficiency over time has shown remarkable improvement, transforming solar energy from a niche technology to a mainstream power source. In the early days, solar efficiency over time was relatively low, with panels converting only about 6% of sunlight into electricity.

What happened to PV & PPA prices?

U.S. PV system and PPA prices have been flat or increased over the past 2 years. Global polysilicon spot prices fell 18% from mid-October (\$10.53/kg) to mid-January (\$8.70/kg), approaching their lowest levels of the past several years. Global module prices reached yet another record low, falling 22% between mid-October and mid-January to \$0.11/Wdc.

Will PV system price trends remain a downward trajectory?

As shown in Figure 13, most analysts also project that PV system price trends will maintain their downward trajectory in the near term. Owing to the global scope of most solar companies, analysts often project system prices across sectors and countries.

How many PV projections are there?

The 11 projections (six for utility-scale PV, five for distributed PV) vary in their focus on specific companies, countries, and sectors. The lower end of the distributed PV range mostly comprises projections for countries with low pricing environments, whereas the upper end of the range comprises projections for more expensive markets.

Today's premium monocrystalline solar panels typically cost between \$1 and \$1.50 per Watt, putting the price of a single 400-watt solar panel between \$400 and \$600, depending on how you buy it. Less efficient polycrystalline panels ...



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