



# What energy storage systems do Americans use

What is the future of energy storage?

Storage enables electricity systems to remain in balance despite variations in wind and solar availability, allowing for cost-effective deep decarbonization while maintaining reliability. The Future of Energy Storage report is an essential analysis of this key component in decarbonizing our energy infrastructure and combating climate change.

What is an energy storage system?

An energy storage system (ESS) for electricity generation uses electricity (or some other energy source, such as solar-thermal energy) to charge an energy storage system or device, which is discharged to supply (generate) electricity when needed at desired levels and quality. ESSs provide a variety of services to support electric power grids.

What is compressed air energy storage (CAES)?

The United States has one operating compressed-air energy storage (CAES) system: the PowerSouth Energy Cooperative facility in Alabama, which has 100 MW power capacity and 100 MWh of energy capacity. The system's total gross generation was 23,234 MWh in 2021. The facility uses grid power to compress air in a salt cavern.

What are the different types of energy storage systems?

Other types of ESSs that are in various stages of research, development, and commercialization include capacitors and super-conducting magnetic storage. Hydrogen, when produced by electrolysis and used to generate electricity, could be considered a form of energy storage for electricity generation.

How big is energy storage in the US?

In the U.S., electricity capacity from diurnal storage is expected to grow nearly 25-fold in the next three decades, to reach some 164 gigawatts by 2050. Pumped storage and batteries are the main storage technologies in use in the country. Discover all statistics and data on Energy storage in the U.S. now on [statista.com](https://www.statista.com)!

When will large-scale battery energy storage systems come online?

Most large-scale battery energy storage systems we expect to come online in the United States over the next three years are to be built at power plants that also produce electricity from solar photovoltaics, a change in trend from recent years.



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