

Outlet: Renewable Energy Society

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63% OF AUSSIES SAY SOLAR IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE SOURCE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

New data commissioned by the Online Research Unit has revealed **almost two thirds of Australians say solar is the most effective source of renewable energy**. According to the Australian survey, 63.6 per cent say solar is the most effective renewable energy, followed by hydro energy at 16.8 per cent, wind energy at 10.3 per cent and geothermal energy at 4.4 per cent.

New investment into renewable energy is forecast to match last year's record levels, despite the coronavirus pandemic. Data from the Clean Energy Council suggests Australia will install a record 6.3 gigawatts of new solar and wind energy this year, largely driven through a boom in small-scale rooftop solar PV installations. That's the electricity equivalent to four large coal plants.

The numbers make a clear case that Australian homeowners and commercial enterprises are embracing solar with open arms. Just last month, 100 per cent of South Australia's energy demand was generated through rooftop and utility-scale solar – **the first major jurisdiction in the world to be powered completely through solar energy**.

A string of Australian companies have also set ambitious renewable energy targets. Most recently, *Woolworths* announced it will power all operations – including almost 3,300 stores – with renewable electricity before 2025. It joins a series of companies pushing green energy, including *ALDI*, *Bunnings*, *Officeworks* and *Telstra*.

The shift to solar as a renewable energy source comes down to the financial, environmental and resale benefits, increase in a property's value and the sophisticated technology that the energy solution affords homeowners.

Financial Benefits

Taking into account the general increase in prices across all goods and services, real electricity price increased 100.9 per cent on average in the 10 years to 2019, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The average household can already expect to pay \$3,081 per annum on electricity. However, households with solar can experience up to a **60 to 80 per cent drop on their electricity bill** – creating an average saving of \$1,850 to \$2,464 each year.

Environmental Benefits

Solar is a true and simple form of renewable energy, deriving power from the sun. Household and business investment into solar can help reduce Australia's greenhouse gas emissions and collective dependence on

fossil fuels to generate electricity. In fact, a **10-kW rooftop solar PV system will reduce CO₂ emissions by approximately 12 tonnes each year.**

Resale Benefits & Increase in Property Value

Sustainable homes outperform other property types. Recent data from PRD Nationwide and the Queensland University of Technology reveals the median sale price of a 'green' home is 10 per cent higher and on average, sustainable homes sell 13 days faster. Moreover, according to an [Origin Energy survey](#), 77 per cent of Australians think solar panels add value to a property and **57 per cent would pay up to \$10,000 more for a home with solar energy installed** – proving solar can be an attractive addition for prospective buyers and renters

Sophisticated Technology

Renewable energy around the world is getting cheaper and growing faster, when compared to conventional power sources. Today, **the average cost of a rooftop solar panel is as low as \$0.40 per watt.** In the coming years, new research and advancements promise to increase energy efficiency, solar energy storage and design and lower the cost of solar PV technology even further.

About Instyle Solar

In 2012, Instyle Solar's founders set out to create a company with a focus to educate the customer on how to understand their power bill and energy consumption and provide a transparent and valuable service and product. Instyle Solar is now one of Australia's largest residential and commercial solar companies, completing over 18,000 solar installations across Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia.

Head to Instyle Solar at <https://instylesolar.com/> for more information.

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