

Press release

Grupo Red Eléctrica

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

Renewable generation increases by 49% in Aragon and accounts for 68% of its total annual production

- Production from wind and hydro in the region grows by 36.3% and 36.1%, respectively. Solar photovoltaic increased its generation by almost fivefold with respect to 2019, reaching 1,506 GWh.
- 71.5% of the region's power generation fleet is renewable, with wind as the leading technology with the most installed power capacity.
- In 2020, 994 new MWs of clean energy capacity were commissioned in Aragon, 24.7% of all new green power installed in Spain.

Zaragoza, 12 March 2021

In 2020, 68.3% of all energy generation in the region of Aragon came from renewable sources, an increase of 48.6% over the previous year, driven largely by increases in photovoltaic, wind and hydro, which produced 358.9%, 36.3% and 36.1% more than in 2019, respectively. 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."

Aragon, which produced a total of 18,033 GWh in 2020, is one of the regions where electricity generation increased this year: it generated 17.5% more than in 2019. Generation from carbon-free technologies also increased by 49.4%, reaching a share of 69.6%. Wind, with 40.5%, was the leading source of generation in the region, followed by hydro (19.2%), cogeneration (15.5%), combined cycle (12.3%) and solar photovoltaic (8.3 %).

These figures are the highest since records began in Aragon (2011) in terms of the share of renewables in the generation mix of the region of Aragon, especially those of wind and photovoltaic.

Electricity demand (10,105 GWh) in Aragon fell by 6.5% in 2020, in line with the decrease experienced at national level (-5.6%) as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Installed renewable power capacity

Furthermore, Aragon was, after Extremadura, the second region that in 2020 increased most its installed renewable power capacity (17.8% increase compared to 2019), which already accounts for 71.5% of all production capacity in the region (9,183 MW). By technology, noteworthy is wind, with 4,075 MW of installed power capacity (25.1% more than in 2019), combined cycle (1,870 MW, 20.4% of the total), hydro (1,334 MW, 14.5%) and solar photovoltaic, which, with 1.115 MW, was the second technology with the highest increase in 2020, up 18.8%.

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At the end of 2020, Aragon is, after Castilla y León, the second region with the most MWs of installed wind power capacity with 44.4% of all its installed power capacity being wind. Last year, Aragon also decommissioned 1,056 MW of coal-fired generation, while 993 new MW of green energy were commissioned, representing 24.7% of all new renewable power installed in Spain in 2020.

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 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.