

The largest exporter of solar panels





Overview

The world's largest solar panel manufacturer is Tongwei Solar (TW-Solar), which was founded in China in 2009. China's control over the solar industry goes beyond just manufacturing and extends to the entire supply chain, including the production of almost 80% of the silicon needed for solar panels. Which country exports the most solar panels?

With a total over the last 12 months of 19 GW, Brazil is the largest single destination for China's solar module exports outside of Europe. Solar cells, which are unassembled parts that make up solar panels, made up the remaining 10% of China's solar exports by value (\$2.5 bn).

What are China's solar PV exports?

In 2021, the value of China's solar PV exports was over USD 30 billion, almost 7% of China's trade surplus over the last five years. In addition, Chinese investments in Malaysia and Viet Nam also made these countries major exporters of PV products, accounting for around 10% and 5% respectively of their trade surpluses since 2017.

Which countries export solar panels in the EU?

The largest extra-EU export destination for wind turbines was the United Kingdom (30%), followed by the United States (18%). China (98%) was by far the largest partner for extra-EU imports of solar panels in 2023 (see Figure 5). The largest extra-EU export destinations for solar panels were Switzerland (31%) and the United Kingdom (25%).

Which countries export solar cells?

Solar cells, which are unassembled parts that make up solar panels, made up the remaining 10% of China's solar exports by value (\$2.5 bn). The main export destinations for solar cells were Türkiye (33%), India (17%), Cambodia (15%), Thailand (10%) and South Korea (4%). The remainder of the report analyses exports of assembled modules only.



Does China Export solar panels?

China has at least 80% of the global market share in solar manufacturing capacity, making Chinese exports an important dataset for tracking the clean energy transition. In the first half of 2023, exports of solar panels from China grew by 34%, with 114 GW shipped worldwide, compared to 85 GW in the same period last year.

Who exports solar modules to the US?

It is among the largest exporters of solar modules to the US. Several of their firms have plans to expand. For example, the local Sunova Solar Technology in Vietnam exports its solar modules to the US market. It had also announced the opening a solar module manufacturing center in the US in 2024.



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[Executive summary - Solar PV Global Supply Chains](#)

Today, China's share in all the manufacturing stages of solar panels (such as polysilicon, ingots, wafers, cells and modules) exceeds 80%. This is more than double China's share of global PV ...

[Which countries export the most solar panels?](#)

China is the world's leading exporter of solar cells, exporting a large number of solar cells every year. According to the publisher's analysis, in 2021, China exported 3.201 billion solar cells, up ...



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