

California grid battery storage

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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: The state has increased its battery storage capacity over tenfold since the beginning of the Newsom Administration. Adding batteries is critical to achieving the state's ambitious goal of 100% clean electricity by 2045.

What you need to know: California's battery storage capacity has surged by more than 3,000 MW in the last six months alone, now exceeding 13,000 MW total -- a 30% increase as the state endured its hottest summer on record.

SACRAMENTO - California's battery storage capacity has expanded rapidly, increasing by 3,012 megawatts (MW) in just six months to reach a total of 13,391 MW. This growth marks a 30% increase since April 2024, underscoring the state's swift progress in building out clean energy infrastructure, especially during a summer marked by record-breaking heat.

Within the past five years, California has grown its battery storage capacity by more than 15 times, up from just 770 MW in 2019. To put this progress into perspective, it took the state nearly five years to reach 10,000 MW in early 2024 but just six months to add the most recent 3,000 MW.

Deploying battery storage is a critical component of the state's climate and clean energy goals. The state is projected to need 52,000 MW of energy storage capacity by 2045. Today, it's a quarter of the way there.

Increasing storage allows California's grid to store energy from clean energy sources like solar during the day and use it during peak demand in the evening. Ramping up battery storage is a key part of Governor Newsom's energy roadmap for achieving the state's ambitious climate goals and a 100% clean electric grid.

The recent surge in battery storage has significantly enhanced California's ability to maintain grid stability during extreme weather. Throughout the summer of 2024, battery storage reliably discharged to support the grid during the net peak hours - a critical stretch of the day when the sun sets and solar resources rapidly go offline.

The state continues to set clean energy records. From January through September, clean energy supply equaled or exceeded demand in the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) service area for 1,084 hours over 179 different days. That's equivalent to more than 45 days of meeting demand with 100% clean electricity. In August, solar energy serving the grid reached a new peak of 19,600 MW.

Governor Newsom has committed billions of dollars to accelerate clean energy infrastructure development across the state and it is making an impact, helping to fast-track projects needed to meet California''s climate

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and energy goals.

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