AUSTRALIAN ROOFTOP SOLAR SNAPSHOT

The Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) is proposing a rule change that will allow households and businesses with rooftop solar to be charged for exporting solar energy to the grid. In light of this proposed rule change, Solar Citizens conducted an analysis of rooftop solar uptake across the country.

Local Government Areas like Adelaide Plains in South Australia, Somerset in Queensland and Narrabri in New South Wales lead the country, with more than 50% of stand alone dwellings having rooftop solar.

Australia's top solar postcodes include Bundaberg with close to 16,000 small-scale solar installations, followed by Mandurah in Western Australia and Hervey Bay also in Queensland.

Postcodes in Victoria and New South Wales saw the most installation growth over the last year, including Craigieburn, Hoppers Crossing and Riverstone all with over 2,000 systems installed since the beginning of 2020.

The ten state electorates with the largest density of rooftop solar are all in Queensland, including Glass House, Logan, and Caloundra. More than 50% of stand alone dwellings in these electorates have solar installed and five of the electorates are marginal.

Overall, the results of this analysis demonstrate the popularity of rooftop solar in outer city suburbs and regional areas. Across the National Electricity Market, it stands to reason that residents living in these high-density solar areas will be the most affected by the AEMC's proposed solar export charges.

All data was sourced from the Australian Energy Regulator and Australian PV Institute.

Australia-wide data

Postcodes with the Highest Number of Small-scale Solar Installations

Postcode	Total number of installations	Ranking
4670 - Bundaberg (Qld)	15,977	1
6210 - Mandurah (WA)	15,632	2
4655 - Hervey Bay (Qld)	14,705	3
4551 - Caloundra (Qld)	13,367	4
3029 - Hoppers Crossing (Vic)	13,206	5
6065 - Wangara (WA)	12,649	6
4350 - Toowoomba (Qld)	12,497	7
3977 - Cranbourne (Vic)	12,363	8
6112 - Armadale (WA)	11,605	9
6164 - Jandakot (WA)	10,861	10

Highest Growth Postcodes for Small-scale Solar Installation Since 1 January 2020

Postcode	Installations since 1 January 2020	Ranking
3064 - Craigieburn (Vic)	2,726	1
3029 - Hoppers Crossing (Vic)	2,679	2
3977 - Cranbourne (Vic)	2,242	3
2765 - Riverstone (NSW)	2,086	4
2155 - Kellyville (NSW)	2,028	5
3030 - Werribee (Vic)	1,965	6
6112 - Armadale (WA)	1,956	7
4300 - Springfield (Qld)	1,939	8
4551 - Caloundra (Qld)	1,937	9
6210 - Mandurah (WA)	1,934	10

Local Government Areas with the Highest Density of Rooftop Solar

LGA	Density	Ranking
Adelaide Plains (SA)	54.7%	1
Somerset (Qld)	53%	2
Narrabri (NSW)	51.1%	3
Scenic Rim (Qld)	50%	4
Chittering (WA)	50%	5
Redland (Qld)	49.7%	6
Sunshine Coast (Qld)	49.2%	7
Light (SA)	49%	8
Alexandrina (SA)	48.8%	9
Lockyer Valley (Qld)	48.7%	10

State Electorates with the Highest Density of Rooftop Solar

State electorate	Density	Ranking
Glass House (Qld) (Marginal)	58.5%	1
Logan (Qld)	56.3%	2
Caloundra (Qld) (Marginal)	54.5%	3
Pumicestone (Qld) (Marginal)	53.4%	4
Kawana (Qld)	53%	5
Redlands (Qld) (Marginal)	52.6%	6
Nicklin (Qld) (Marginal)	52.5%	7
Kurwongbah (Qld)	50.4%	8
Algester (Qld)	50.2%	9
Pine Rivers (Qld)	49.9%	10

New South Wales

NSW Postcodes with the Highest Number of Small-scale Solar Installations

Postcode	Total number of installations	Ranking
2480 - Lismore	8,914	1
2830 - Dubbo	8,468	2
2259 - Warnervale	7,722	3
2155 - Kellyville	7,333	4
2170 - Liverpool	7,239	5
2560 - Campbelltown	7,197	6
2444 - Port Macquarie	7,055	7
2486 - Tweed Heads	6,914	8
2540 - Nowra	6,510	9
2450 - Coffs Harbour	6,153	10

Highest Growth NSW Postcodes for Small-scale Solar Installation Since 1 January 2020

Postcode	Installations since 1 January 2020	Ranking
2765 - Riverstone	2,086	1
2155 - Kellyville	2,028	2
2570 - Camden	1,542	3
2650 - Wagga Wagga	1,487	4
2560 - Campbelltown	1,476	5
2480 - Lismore	1,438	6
2444 - Port Macquarie	1,427	7
2170 - Liverpool	1,381	8
2259 - Warnervale	1,260	9
2747 - Kingswood	1,226	10

Victoria

Victorian Postcodes with the Highest Number of Small-scale Solar Installations

Postcode	Total number of installations	Ranking
3029 - Hoppers Crossing	13,206	1
3977 - Cranbourne	12,363	2
3030 - Werribee	10,339	3
3064 - Craigieburn	9,444	4
3805 - Narre Warren	5,943	5
3023 - Caroline Springs	5,693	6
3810 - Pakenham	5,026	7
3216 - Belmont	5,000	8
3806 - Berwick	4,809	9
3551 - Strathfieldsaye	4,781	10

Highest Growth Vic Postcodes for Small-scale Solar Installation Since 1 January 2020

Postcode	Installations since 1 January 2020	Ranking
3064 - Craigieburn	2,726	1
3029 - Hoppers Crossing	2,679	2
3977 - Cranbourne	2,242	3
3030 - Werribee	1,965	4
3978 - Clyde	1,582	5
3754 - Doreen	983	6
3805 - Narre Warren	923	7
3750 - Wollert	887	8
3690 - Wodonga	859	9
3023 - Caroline Springs	819	10

Queensland

Queensland Postcodes with the Highest Number of Small-scale Solar Installations

Postcode	Total number of installations	Ranking
4670 - Bundaberg	15,977	1
4655 - Hervey Bay	14,705	2
4551 - Caloundra	13,367	3
4350 - Toowoomba	12,497	4
4740 - Mackay	10,778	5
4211 - Nerang	10,614	6
4207 - Beenleigh	10,346	7
4300 - Springfield	10,074	8
4510 - Caboolture	9,902	9
4570 - Gympie	9,901	10

Highest Growth Qld Postcodes for Small-scale Solar Installation Since 1 January 2020

Postcode	Installations since 1 January 2020	Ranking
4300 - Springfield	1,939	1
4551 - Caloundra	1,937	2
4209 - Coomera	1,773	3
4670 - Bundaberg	1,763	4
4655 - Hervey Bay	1,696	5
4350 - Toowoomba	1,575	6
4207 - Beenleigh	1,479	7
4510 - Caboolture	1,449	8
4740 - Mackay	1,432	9
4211 - Nerang	1,321	10