

## **Australia replaces Germany on rank 2 in the category SOLAR of the SolarSuperState Ranking 2020**

SolarSuperState Association, Thayngen/Kanton Schaffhausen, 27.9.2021

The new SolarSuperState ranking shows shortcomings in climate protection policy in all states. Most important for climate protection is the production of renewable energy. In addition to wind energy, photovoltaics plays the dominant role in renewable energies. The category SOLAR of the SolarSuperState ranking measures each states' performance in photovoltaics. Liechtenstein (some 700 Watt per capita) leads the ranking 2020 ahead of Australia and Germany.

Australia climbs from rank 5 to 2. Australia thus overtakes Vatican City State, Japan, and Germany. In the calendar year 2019, Australia overrides his old world record of 2018 and sets it to now 179 Watt per capita per year. The Kingdom of the Netherlands jumps from rank 10 to 6. The Netherlands pass Malta, San Marino, Italy, and Belgium.

The reasons for the downgrading of Germany, Japan, and Belgium are manifold. Too much solar energy would disrupt the Japanese government's plans for new coal-fired power plants. The addiction of the government to atomic energy is slowing the expansion of solar energy in Belgium. Germany's downgrade is the result of numerous new chicanes in the Renewable Electricity Feed-In Law. Under the supervision of German Chancellor Angela Merkel (CDU, Christian-democrats), the following ministers have put the brakes on renewable electricity in Germany:

- Norbert Röttgen 2009 - 2012 (CDU, Christian-democrats)
- Philipp Rössler 2011 - 2013 (FDP, Liberals)
- Sigmar Gabriel 2013 - 2017 (SPD, Social democrats)
- Peter Altmaier 2012 - 2013 and 2018 - 2021 (CDU, Christian-democrats)

The world's biggest carbon polluters have too little photovoltaic capacity for a top-ten ranking:

- 1) China (rank 28 with 145 Watt / capita)
- 2) USA (rank 15 with 224 Watt / capita)
- 3) India (rank 65 with 31 Watt / capita)
- 4) Russia (rank 98 with 11 Watt / capita)

Pep Puig i Boix, board member of the SolarSuperState Association, emphasizes: „The rapid replacement of all fossil energy by renewable energy is imperative. Photovoltaics is potentially the most important renewable energy in almost all countries. The minimum net annual photovoltaic additions in industrialized states should be 500 Watt per capita per year. That is why anything less is a climate policy failure and non-compliance with the 2015 Paris Agreement. Industrialized countries with lower annual additions possibly contribute to a temperature increase of 3 to 5 degrees Celsius in 2100. Such a temperature increase would destroy the social security systems in all states of the world. Policies that are satisfied with less than 500 Watt per capita per year are possibly suicide policies. Energy storage must complement renewable energy. Finally, all states must shut down all fossil energy power plants within the next five years. It is better to pay the price for the failed past energy policy now than to pay later with the possible destruction of the social security systems of all states of the world.“

Switzerland on rank 11 (290 Watt / capita) is a special case. The Swiss cantons Bern, Ticino, Genève, Vaud, Fribourg, Solothurn, Neuchâtel and the cities Geneva and Lausanne own fossil energy power stations. They should actively pursue the decommissioning of their fossil fuel power plants abroad. Their responsibility arises from the financing of these fossil power plants.

The SolarSuperState Association is a Swiss non-profit, non-governmental organization with an international board. It organizes the SolarSuperState Competition, publishes the SolarSuperState Ranking and awards the SolarSuperState Prize. The association is the global voice of people and organizations that can benefit from rapidly increasing markets for decentralized renewable energy installations. It requests from all states a 100 % renewable energy economy within 10 years. It demands from every state 100 % renewable electricity production versus its consumption within five years from now.


SolarSuperState Ranking 2020 category Solar 31.12.2019 (status 24.9.2021)

Rank	State	Cumulative installed capacity photovoltaics, Watt / capita	Net annual additions in 2019, Watt / capita / year
1	Liechtenstein	712	49
2	Australia	639	179
3	Germany	590	56
4	Japan	500	56
5	Vatican City State	490	0
6	Netherlands	406	143
7	Belgium	403	54
8	San Marino	360	55
9	Italy	346	13
10	Malta	298	33

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