

Influence on solar module prices



Overview

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Median module prices rose from \$0.25/W in February to a peak of \$0.28/W in May, driven by new AD/CVD tariff updates and Section 201 duties. By June, prices had eased to \$0.27/W — still 12% higher than early-year lows but down 3.6% from the May peak.

The inflation-adjusted cost benchmark rose in 2023 for utility-scale PV systems but fell for residential PV systems owing to recent trends in network upgrade costs, Inflation Reduction Act manufacturing tax incentives, and other cost drivers. Why do solar modules cost so much?

However, as the primary cost component of photovoltaic modules, the price of solar cells plays a decisive role in module pricing. Due to the oversupply of polysilicon in earlier periods, prices have been under sustained pressure since 2023, even falling below cost levels in the first half of 2024.

Will price fluctuations affect the photovoltaic module market?

As the global energy transition accelerates, the photovoltaic (PV) industry, as a key component of renewable energy, continues to attract significant attention for its promising development prospects. However, price fluctuations in the photovoltaic module market remain a critical factor influencing the industry's growth.

Does AD/CVD increase solar module costs?

The AD/CVD case on solar cells and modules from Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam, which began in April 2024 and was finalized on May 20th, 2025, increased module costs by 13% year-over-year across the distributed generation segments.

Will module prices drop in 2025 or 2026?

However, the likelihood of significant price drops is minimal, and upward pressure on prices persists. With capacity adjustments, market clearing, and advancements in technological innovation, the supply-demand dynamics are anticipated to improve by late 2025 or early 2026, potentially marking a turning point for module prices.

How much power does a monofacial solar module produce?

Each module has an area (with frame) of 1.9 m² and a rated power of 400 watts, corresponding to an efficiency of 21.1%. The monofacial modules were assembled in the United States in a plant producing 1.5 GW dc per year, using n-type crystalline silicon solar cells produced in Southeast Asia.

Why did solar power prices drop in 2024 compared to 2023?

The average power prices earned by solar projects in 2024 dropped by more than 50% compared to 2023, which has reduced the economic viability of new projects. Additionally, state policy uncertainty caused by proposed legislation last year has shaken developer confidence.

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