

Fun facts about solar power

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Perth is one of the sunniest cities in the world, with an average of 8 hours of sunshine per day.

2

Around 36% of WA households across the South West Interconnected System (the SWIS) now have rooftop solar PV systems.

3

All of the rooftop solar PV systems in the SWIS combined can generate twice as much electricity as WA's largest power station at certain times of the day.

4

Pigeons and other birds are the enemy of solar panels. Can you guess why?
(Source: ABC News 2021)

5

Solar energy production typically peaks during the hottest part of the day. In WA, this is usually between 10am and 2pm on days when the sun is shining.

6

It only takes 1 hour for the sun to provide the Earth with more energy than it will use in a year.

Have you heard of the DER Roadmap?

In the past, most households and businesses in WA drew all of their power from the electricity grid. Now, the number of rooftops with solar PV systems in WA, combined with other factors, makes the electricity system harder to manage. Distributed energy resources – or DER is the term given to solar PV systems, batteries, EVs and other small scale energy technologies. DER are transforming the electricity system in WA.

The WA State Government released the DER Roadmap in 2019, outlining how they are planning to meet a range of challenges and opportunities related to how electricity is produced, managed and consumed in WA.

Make the most of your solar PV system

If you have a solar PV system at home, here are some easy ways to help your household to make the most of the energy produced from your system, which may help to reduce the amount of electricity you need to draw from the grid.

- ✓ Try and charge your devices, such as your mobile, tablets and laptops when the sun is shining and your solar PV system is generating electricity.
- ✓ See if you can use appliances such as your washing machine or dishwasher to run during the day (or set a timer so it runs during the middle of the day).

