

According to data from the 'The Spanish Electricity System. Preliminary Report 2020'

Renewables generate 17.5% of the total electricity on the Canary Islands in 2020, the highest share since records began

- Wind also reached its highest share since 2007, producing 13.8% of the islands' electricity.
- The electricity systems of Tenerife, Gran Canaria and Lanzarote-Fuerteventura recorded various peaks in the instantaneous share of renewables in demand coverage during 2020.
- Electricity demand in the archipelago fell by 10.5% in 2020.

Canarias, 12 March 2021

Renewable and carbon-free electricity generation in the Canary Islands accounted for 17.5% of the archipelago's total electricity production in 2020, the highest share since records began in 2007. This data is published in the 'Spanish Electricity System. Preliminary Report 2020', a publication prepared by Red Eléctrica de España (REE) that collates the main annual figures of the Spanish electricity system for 2020 and which REE presented today at an event held at the Ministry for Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge.

For the Chairwoman of Red Eléctrica, Beatriz Corredor, "the Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan sets ambitious, but also realistic and achievable goals to mitigate climate change by moving towards a new system in which renewable energies are the cornerstone. And along this road towards the energy transition, the electricity sector plays a key role due to its decarbonisation potential."

According to the report, combined cycle continues to be the leading technology in the Canary Islands' generation mix with a share of 41% of the total. It is followed by diesel generators (21.6%), gas turbines (17.5%) and wind, which recorded its highest share since records began in 2007, with a 13.8 % share of the islands' total mix.

The wind power generation fleet of the Canary Islands closed 2020 with an installed capacity of 445 MW, an increase of 3.3% compared to 2019. As a result, as at 31 December 2020, renewable power capacity accounted for 20.8% of the total.

Between July and September 2020, record highs were recorded for the instantaneous participation of renewable generation in the electricity demands of Tenerife (63.9% of the total, recorded on 27 September at 10:55 am); Gran Canaria (52.8% of the mix, recorded on 13 August at 3:20 am), and the Lanzarote-Fuerteventura system, where *green* energies reached 37.6% of the total (reached on 28 June at 4:20 pm). For its part, the island of El Hierro was 100% renewable for 1,314 hours in 2020.

In the Canary Islands as a whole, electricity demand in 2020 fell by 10.5% compared to 2019, a year in which consumption in the archipelago totalled 7,945 GWh, accounting for 3.2% of the total national demand (249,819 GWh).

2020, Spain's greenest year on record

Renewables produced 44% of the total energy generated in Spain last year, making 2020 the *greenest* year since national records began in 2007. In total, 110,450 GWh were generated from natural and inexhaustible resources such as wind, sun and water, which represents an increase of 12.8% compared to the data for 2019.



The report, which includes the key performance indicators regarding the electricity sector in Spain over the past year, highlights the record production of wind power, responsible for more than a fifth of the total annual generation, and solar photovoltaic, which recorded an increase of 65% compared to the values for 2019. These two renewable technologies were responsible for 21.9% and 6.1%, respectively, of the total annual electricity generation in Spain in 2020.

Achieving this increase in renewable production in Spain would not have been possible without the installation of new MWs of renewable power. At the end of 2020, Spain's complete power generation fleet had increased its renewable power capacity by 4,015 MW, with solar photovoltaic being the technology that has risen the most, with a growth of 29.5% compared to 2019, followed by wind power, which has grown by 5.3%, making it the leading technology nationwide.

In addition, during the past year, 3,950 MW of coal-fired power capacity were decommissioned in Spain, which contributed to the fact that as at 31 December 2020, the total installed renewable power capacity accounted for 53.8% of Spain's overall production capacity.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic had direct consequences on electricity consumption, which in Spain fell to 249,819 GWh, a drop of 5.6% compared to 2019. After having factored in the influence of seasonal temperatures (+0.1%) and working patterns (-0.1%), electricity demand maintained the same variation as in gross terms, falling 5.6 % compared to the previous year.