Australian Government
Australian Renewable Energy Agency

ARENA

Media Release

New interactive map sheds light on Australian solar power

ARENA is pleased today to highlight a new solar map website, which tracks the contribution of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems in Australia's energy mix and provides a guide to the location and capacity of PV installations across the country.

ARENA CEO Ivor Frischknecht said the maps were developed by the Australian PV Institute (APVI) and supported with $270,000 of ARENA funding.

"The maps are an invaluable resource for demonstrating and tracking the contribution solar PV systems make to Australia's energy markets," Mr Frischknecht said.

"They have generated signficant interest since they were made available late last year, recording more than 14,000 unique visits since going live in late 2013.

"The interactive or 'live' map allows us to track vital and timely information nationally as well as by state and territory, such as the contribution of solar to the grid during periods of high electricity demand.

"For example, at peak output in January this year, the map estimated solar PV produced more than 5 per cent of Victoria and New South Wales' power, more than 10 per cent of Queensland and Western Australia's power and almost one quarter of South Australia's power."

Mr Frischknecht said a second map complemented the 'live' solar map and indicated where PV systems were located, down to the level of local government area and postcode, as well as their installed capacity.

"The solar status map shows the percentage of dwellings across Australia with a PV system along with their total capacity – it includes small-scale rooftop installations and pinpoints larger-scale PV power stations with a capacity of more than 100kW," Mr Frischknecht said.

Mr Frischknecht said the solar maps were a truly collaborative effort, sourcing data from PVOutput.org, the Australian Energy Market Operator, the Clean Energy Regulator and the Independent Market Operator in Western Australia.

"ARENA was pleased to contribute funding to the APVI to develop these solar maps which will provide valuable data for the solar industry, government and consumers into the future," Mr Frischknecht said.

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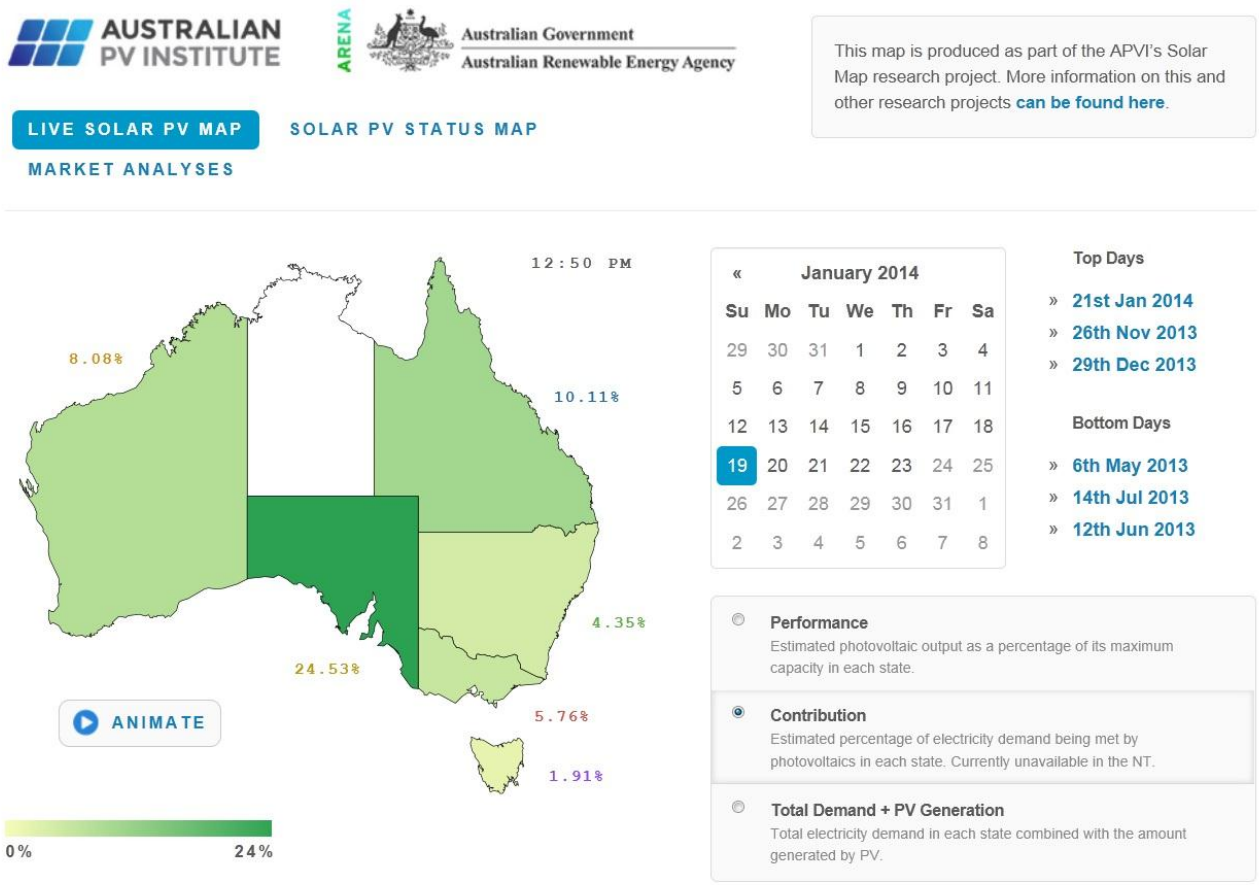
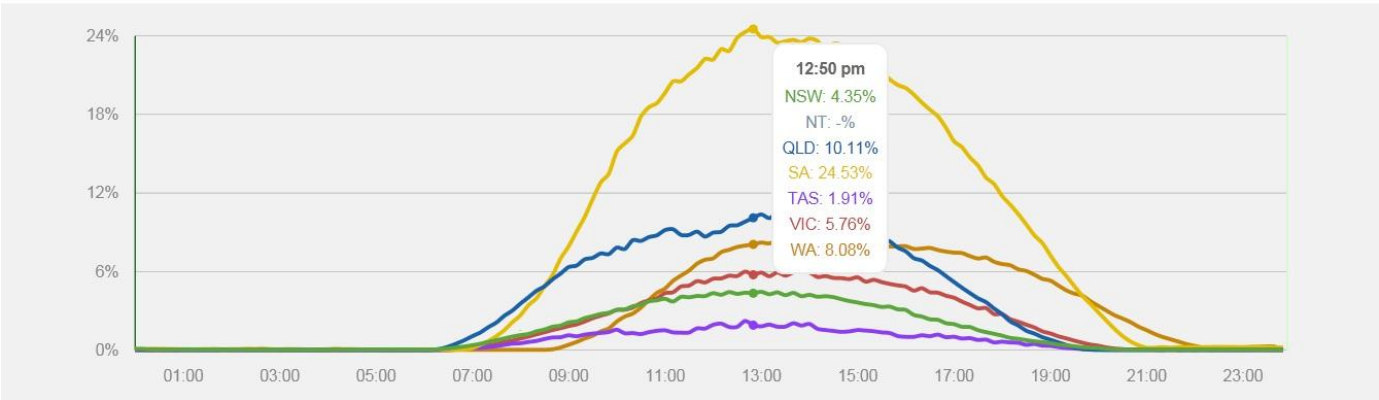
"This is part of ARENA's ongoing commitment to support knowledge sharing activities and further advance renewable energy expertise in Australia."

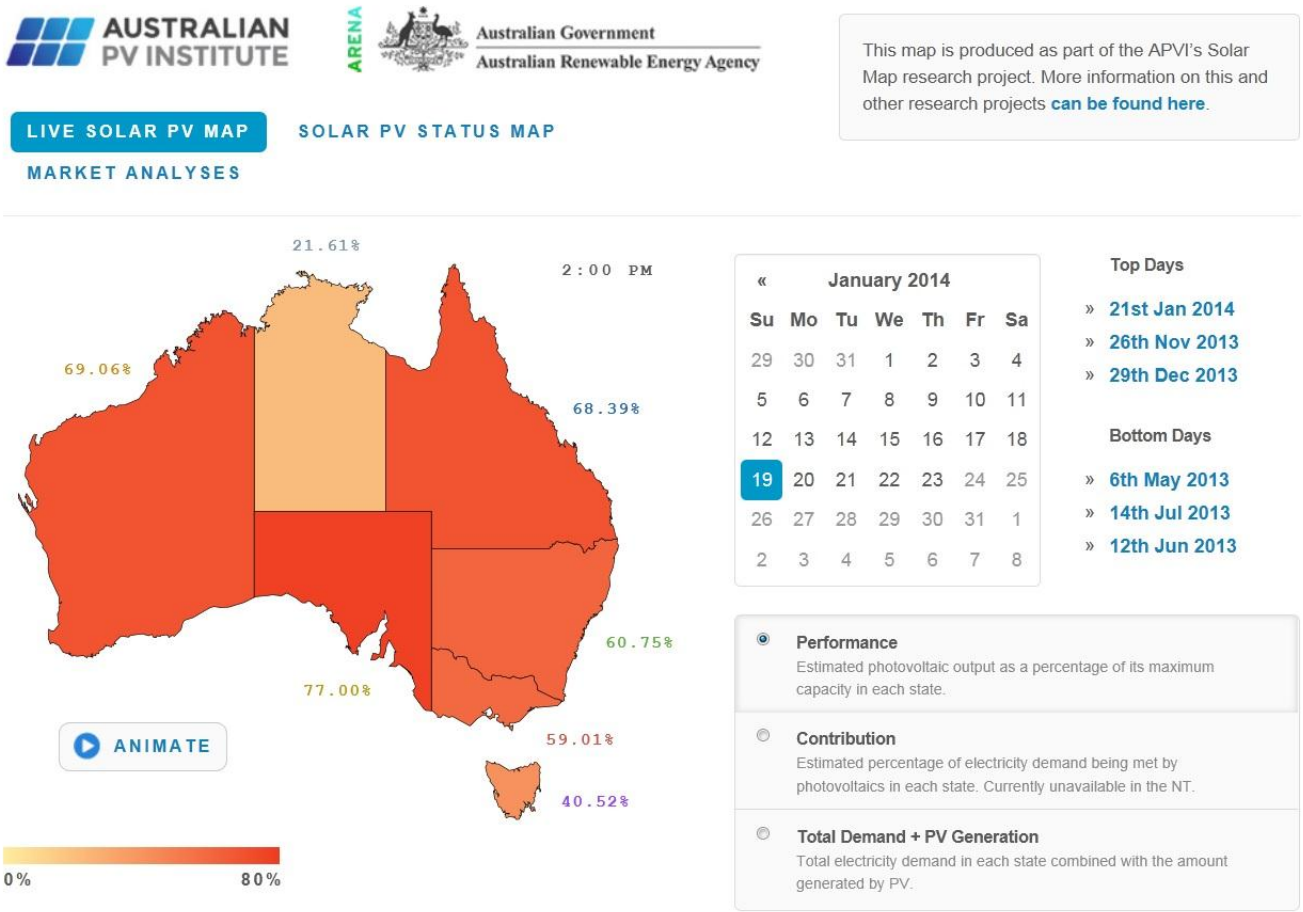
View the maps at **pv-map.apvi.org.au**

About the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA)

ARENA was established by the Australian Government as an independent authority on 1st July 2012 to make renewable energy technologies more affordable and increase the amount of renewable energy used in Australia. ARENA is funded out to 2022 to invest in renewable energy projects, support research and development activities, and increase industry and community knowledge about renewable energy.






AUSTRALIAN PV INSTITUTE
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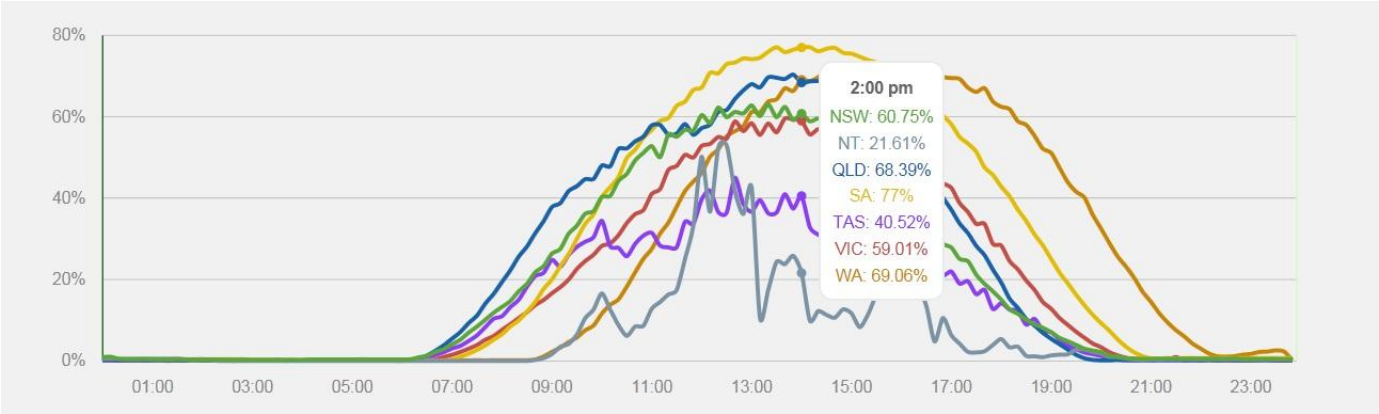
This map is produced as part of the APVI's Solar Map research project. More information on this and other research projects can be found here.
LIVE SOLAR PV MAP
SOLAR PV STATUS MAP
MARKET ANALYSES
21.61%
2:00 PM
69.06%
68.39%
60.75%
77.00%
59.01%
40.52%
ANIMATE
0%
80%
January 2014
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
Top Days
» 21st Jan 2014
» 26th Nov 2013
» 29th Dec 2013
Bottom Days
» 6th May 2013
» 14th Jul 2013
» 12th Jun 2013
Performance
Estimated photovoltaic output as a percentage of its maximum capacity in each state.
Contribution
Estimated percentage of electricity demand being met by photovoltaics in each state. Currently unavailable in the NT.
Total Demand + PV Generation
Total electricity demand in each state combined with the amount generated by PV.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NSW: 60.75%
NT: 21.61%
QLD: 68.39%
SA: 77%
TAS: 40.52%
VIC: 59.01%
WA: 69.06%