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## Trends in Spain

### Facts from the *Renewables 2021 Global Status Report*

The entire GSR dataset can be downloaded, sorted and explored at [www.ren21.net/gsr](http://www.ren21.net/gsr)

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### Spain's Top Highlights in 2020

- Spain generated 28% of its electricity with solar and wind in 2020, ranking sixth globally in 2020 and following Denmark, Uruguay, Ireland, Germany and Greece.
- In terms of new capacity additions in the European Union, Spain ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> for solar PV (2.8 GW) and 2<sup>nd</sup> for wind power capacity (1.7 GW) added in 2020.
- The Spanish solar thermal heating market fell by 10% in 2020, although it still ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the EU behind Germany and Greece.
- The Spanish solar thermal heating market fell by 10% in 2020, although it still ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the EU-27 with 131 MW<sub>th</sub> behind Germany (450) and Greece (213) and ahead of Poland (113) and Italy (86).
- For the seventh consecutive year, Spain did not add any new concentrating solar thermal power (CSP) capacity in 2020, although it remained the global leader in terms of installed capacity with 2.3 GW, followed by the United States. Spain used to be home to almost all of the world's CSP plants – by the end of 2020, its share had fallen to just under 40% of global capacity compared to a record 80% in 2011.
- In addition to the United Kingdom, Spain broke solar generation records early in the year to reach one-quarter of electricity demand, due largely to new capacity as well as to higher output resulting from clearer air during COVID lockdowns

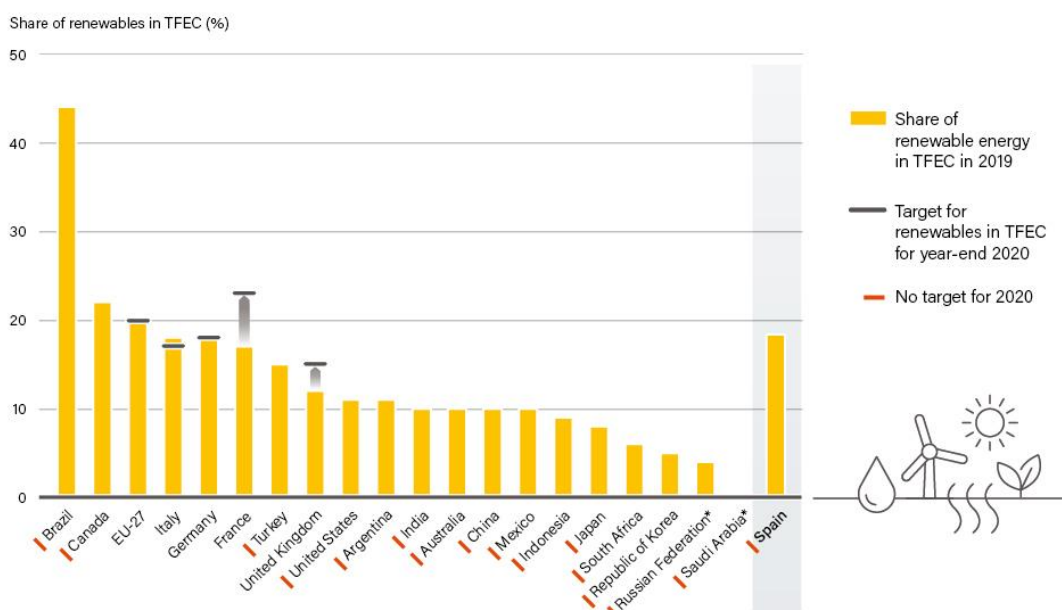
## Renewables shares and targets: Where does Spain stand among G20 countries?

Spain's share of renewable energy in total final energy consumption (TFEC) was around 18%. When compared to G20 countries, Spain ranks 6<sup>th</sup> following Brazil, Canada, EU-27, Italy, Germany and France. Spain was not on track to achieve its target for share of renewables in TFEC they had set (23%).

As seen in the figure below, only five of the world's largest member economies in the G20 – the EU-27, France, Germany, Italy, and the United Kingdom – had set 2020 targets to achieve a certain share of renewables in final energy use.

Do net zero targets or targets for renewable shares actually support the uptake of renewables? Targets are needed, as they are binding objectives that can be used to hold countries accountable. Setting net zero targets alone does not necessarily lead to greater attention to renewables or to success in meeting renewable energy targets. Alongside any kind of target, robust policies and regulations are needed to ensure these targets are met.

 Renewable Energy Shares and Targets, G20 Countries and Spain, 2019 and 2020



Note: TFEC = total final energy consumption.  
 Data for Russian Federation and Saudi Arabia are for 2018 and 2017 respectively.

## Global rankings

Total renewable power capacity,  
end-2020 (Gigawatts)

1. China (908)
2. United States (313)
3. Brazil (150)
4. India (142)
5. Germany (132)
- ...8. **Spain** (58)

Renewable power capacity per  
person, not including  
hydropower, end-2020

1. Iceland
2. Denmark
3. Sweden
4. Germany
5. Australia
6. **Spain**

Concentrating Solar Thermal  
Power (CSP) global capacity, 2020  
(Gigawatts)

1. **Spain** (2.3)
2. United States (1.6)
3. China (0.5)
4. Morocco (0.5)
5. South Africa (0.5)
6. Israel (0.2)

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All report materials, figures, case studies and the full data pack can be downloaded here:  
[www.ren21.net/gsr](http://www.ren21.net/gsr)

**Questions?** Please contact [press@ren21.net](mailto:press@ren21.net) or +33 1 44 37 50 99.