

## **Australia hits 10GW solar**

The PV industry broke a whole set of new records in September.

September data from the APVI shows accelerated growth in utility scale solar, particularly benefiting rural and regional Australia.

Source [www.APVI.org.au](http://www.APVI.org.au) with data from the Clean Energy Regulator

Australia now has over 10.1 GW of solar installed, capable of delivering 14.6 TWhrs and meeting more than 5.5% of Australia's energy demand.

Renate Egan, Chair of the Australian PV Institute (APVI) said "2018 has been an extraordinary year for investment and growth in solar energy. And the year looks to be closing strongly, with September installations setting a whole swathe of new records"

**Record:** Total new solar registered for the month exceeded 725MW – the largest volume of new solar power recorded for a single month.

The record was set with the registration of 667MW of large scale solar – the largest count for large systems >100kW in a single month. The previous record month was in July 2018, when 393MW of large scale solar was registered.

The two largest solar farms in Australia were registered in September: 180MW Daydream Solar Farm and 188MW Coleambally Solar Farm, while Bungala Solar Farm registered another 138MW – doubling its capacity to make it the biggest solar farm in the country.

Each GW of solar requires the installation and connection of over 3 million solar panels and creates more than 1,000 full time jobs a year; in design, engineering, procurement and construction. A further 30-100 ongoing positions are created in operations and maintenance.

Commercial and residential rooftop solar are also powering along with another 100MW expected to be registered in the in those markets, consistent with past months. Australia is on track to exceed 1GW in rooftop solar for 2018. Rooftop connections take longer to register, taking the delayed registration into account, Australia will have over 10.2GW of solar installed.

Over the last quarter a total of 1.56 GW was registered with the Clean Energy Regulator. We saw more PV capacity registered in Q3 2018 than in the record year of 2017.

With 1.95 million installations in Australia, and growing at over 15,000 per month, we expect to have over 2 million installs by the end of 2018.

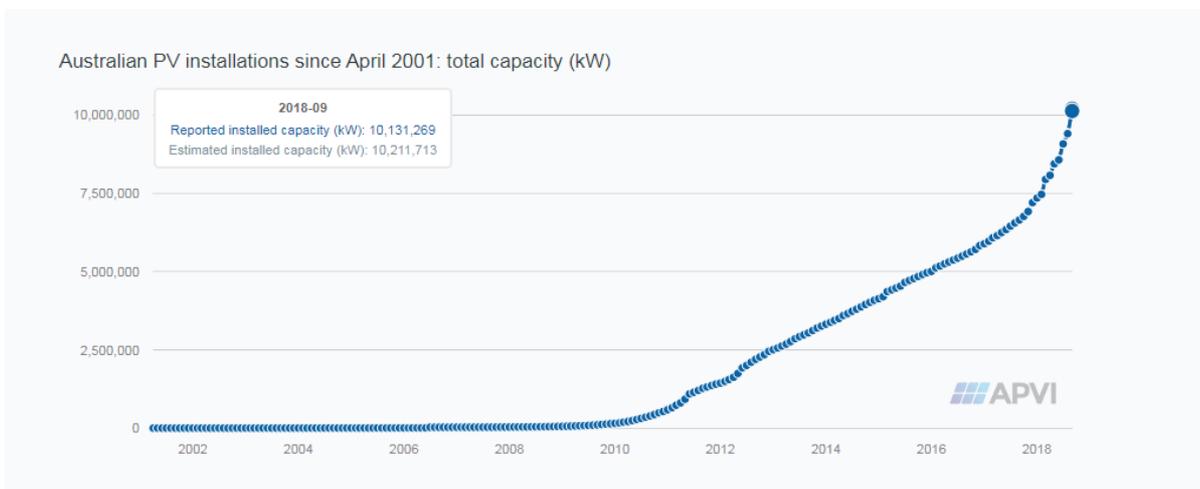


Figure Caption: This image shows the acceleration in total solar installations – driven by the strong growth in utility scale solar. The breakdown by installation size is shown in the image below. <http://pv-map.apvi.org.au/analyses>

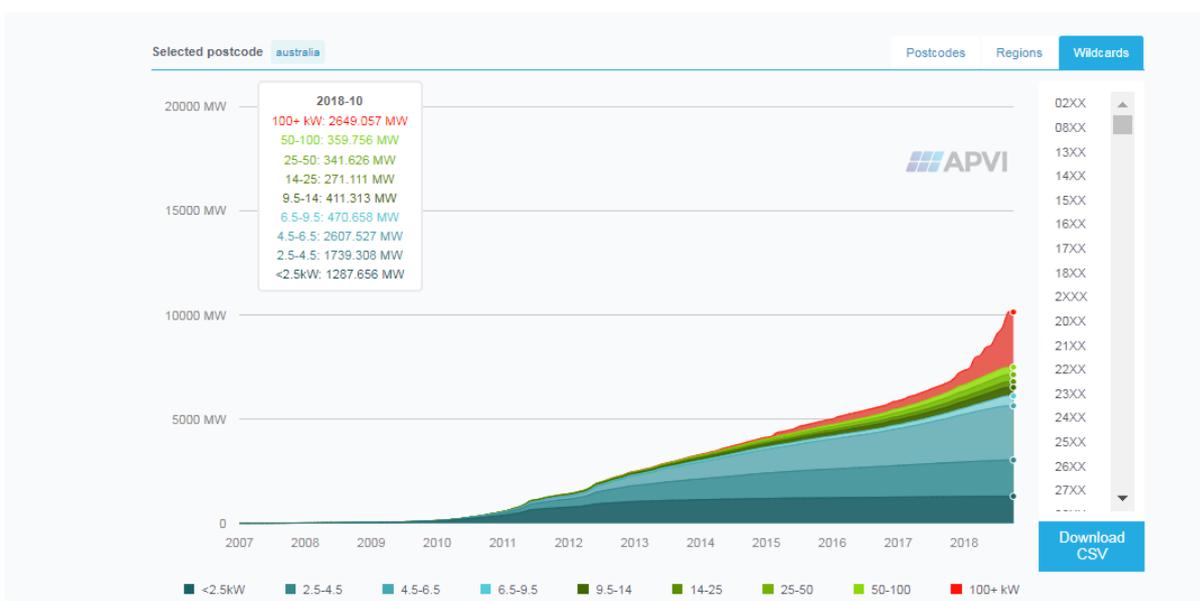


Figure Caption: Strong growth in utility scales solar is shown in red. Commercial rooftop installs are typically 10kW to 100kW (shades of green) while residential rooftop is typically less than 10kW, shown in shades of blue. <http://pv-map.apvi.org.au/postcode>

Renate Egan

Chair, Australian PV Institute

[chair@apvi.org.au](mailto:chair@apvi.org.au) +61 (0)408 223 653

[www.apvi.org.au](http://www.apvi.org.au)

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## About the APVI

The Australian PV Institute is a not-for-profit, member based organisation which focuses on data analysis, independent and balanced information, and collaborative research. Our objective is to *support the increased development and use of PV via research, analysis and information.*

The APVI promotes solar through its live solar mapping platform [<http://pv-map.apvi.org.au>], the national solar research conference and Australia's participation in two International Energy Agency (IEA) programs – PVPS (Photovoltaic Power Systems) for solar photovoltaics and SHC (Solar Heating and Cooling), concerned with new solar thermal products and services.