



Solar energy in the United States is booming. In the last decade alone, solar has experienced an average annual growth rate of 49%. Thanks to strong federal policies like the solar Investment Tax Credit, rapidly declining costs, and increasing demand across the private and public sector for clean electricity, there are now more than 81 gigawatts (GW) of solar capacity installed nationwide, enough to power 15.7 million homes. Iowa has more than 139 megawatts (MW) installed, enough to power 17,360 homes.

# SOLAR ENERGY

**Did you know that West Des Moines allows residents to install solar energy systems on their property?**

**[LEARN MORE HERE](#)**



## Benefits of Solar Energy

- Adding solar panels to your home can bring in monthly savings of well above \$100 in many states. Extend this to 2 decades & this translates to over \$30,000.
- Solar panels will increase a home's attractiveness on the market. A study conducted by National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) concluded that homes with solar panels sell 20% faster & for 17% more money.
- Solar panel manufacturers include a 20-25-year warranty with their solar panels. The industry standard guarantees 80% performance after 25 years.
- The average residential solar system offsets about 100,000 lbs. of carbon dioxide in 20 years, the equivalent of driving a car for 100,000 miles.
- Solar energy can help to reduce U.S. dependence on foreign energy.

## Iowa Solar Energy Statistics

- Ranked 39th in the nation for production of solar energy
- Has 869 solar jobs in 2020
- The percentage of Iowa's electricity from solar is 0.29%
- There are 70 solar companies operating in Iowa
- The solar industry has invested a total of \$282 million in Iowa