

First Solar's cost per watt





Overview

While First Solar witnessed record sales of over \$3.37 billion in 2012, its restructuring efforts impacted the bottom line, leading to a net loss of \$96.3 million – or \$1.11 per share – for the year. Historically, the low cost of First Solar's modules has been the key to its market performance. The use of cadmium telluride instead of silicon allowed it to achieve a significantly lower module cost (\$0.67 per watt), compared to crystalline-silicon PV, which averaged \$1.85 per watt in 2010.

On February 24, 2009, First Solar's cost per watt broke \$1 reaching \$0.98. 11.4 GW of solar modules were sold in 2023. Production costs of 18.8 Cent/Watt were forecast in February 2024, with average sales prices of 18.2 Cent/kWh for sales of around 16 GW in 2024. How much does first solar cost?

Pricing can fluctuate based on supply and demand in the solar market. First Solar's thin-film technology has historically given them a cost advantage. In 2010, First Solar's module cost was \$0.67 per watt, compared to an average of \$1.85 per watt for crystalline-silicon PV modules.

Does first solar have a cost advantage?

First Solar's thin-film technology has historically given them a cost advantage. In 2010, First Solar's module cost was \$0.67 per watt, compared to an average of \$1.85 per watt for crystalline-silicon PV modules. This cost advantage has narrowed over time as crystalline silicon technology has also improved.

Who was the first solar company?

The history of the first solar company, formerly known as Glasstech Solar, Inc., is marked by significant milestones in the solar energy development sector. Starting in the 1990s, the company evolved from its initial formation to become a leader in the photovoltaic industry.

How many solar installations does first solar have?

First Solar had installed 1,505 MW of solar capacity as of 2012. As of 2019, First Solar has over 17GW deployed globally. Below are some of First Solar's solar installations and development projects: 802 MW Copper Mountain Solar



Facility near Boulder City, NV, constructed in 5 phases for Sempra Energy and Consolidated Edison.

When did first solar go public?

The company was founded in 1990 by inventor Harold McMaster as Solar Cells, Inc. and the Florida Corporation in 1993 with JD Polk. In 1999 it was purchased by True North Partners, LLC, who rebranded it as First Solar, Inc. The company went public in 2006, trading on the NASDAQ.

Why should you choose first solar?

First Solar uses cadmium telluride (CdTe) thin-film technology, which has allowed them to achieve lower production costs compared to traditional crystalline silicon panels. As one of the largest solar manufacturers globally, First Solar benefits from economies of scale. Pricing can fluctuate based on supply and demand in the solar market.



First Solar s cost per watt



What is the Brief History of the First Solar Company?

These were designed to be produced at a lower cost per watt compared to conventional crystalline silicon modules. This innovative approach marked a significant step in ...

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Utility-scale solar installation costs rose 8% in Q1, ...

A solar farm in Virginia is seen from an aerial view. The National Renewable Energy Laboratory found that utility-scale solar installation costs ...



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First Solar Series 6 & Series 7 Solar Modules , Performance, ...

While exact pricing can vary based on volume, location, and specific product, a general price range for First Solar's Series 6 modules is approximately \$0.46 per watt.

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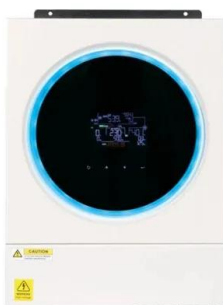
First Solar breaks solar energy's \$1 per watt barrier

First Solar Inc this week claimed a milestone in the solar industry toward providing a sustainable and affordable solar energy solution: solar modules manufactured below the \$1 per watt



point, ...

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First Solar: Quest for the \$1 Watt

But if you want the off-peak market, you'll have to price your cells at about US \$1 per watt. That price is called grid parity, and it's the holy grail of the photovoltaic industry. At ...

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An Analysis of Cost and Performance of Photovoltaic ...

While the cost of these materials per module increases with module area, the rate of this increase is lower than the rate of increase in the module power rating; since cost per watt is equal to the ...

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Microsoft Word

In 2009, First Solar broke cost records by becoming the first photovoltaic (PV) manufacturer to produce panels that generated a megawatt of power at a manufacturing cost of less than \$1.00 ...

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[2025 Solar Panel Prices , Per Watt and by Type](#)

HomeAdvisor's Solar Panel Price Guide gives the average home solar system and panel prices. Explore solar panel pricing per watt or square foot.

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First Solar Passes \$1 Per Watt Milestone - Cuts Manufacturing Cost To

First Solar, Inc. announced that it reduced its manufacturing cost for solar modules in the fourth quarter to 98 cents per watt, breaking the \$1 per watt price barrier.

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Cheaper Than China Again, First Solar Vindicates US Investment

After investing \$775 million in technology, First Solar is producing panels for as little as 40 cents a watt, or about 15% less than China's Trina Solar Ltd. In 2019, First Solar's ...

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First Solar

Historically, the low cost of First Solar's modules has been the key to its market performance. The use of cadmium telluride instead of silicon allowed it to achieve a significantly lower module ...

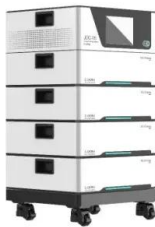
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[First Solar Series 6 & Series 7 Solar Modules](#)

While exact pricing can vary based on volume, location, and specific product, a general price range for First Solar's Series 6 modules is ...

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[How Much Do Solar Panels Cost? \(Aug 2025\)](#)

The average 6-kW residential solar panel installation is \$17,852 before incentives. Learn about cost factors, financing options, tax breaks and ...

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First Solar

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Cost Per Watt Calculator

Cost per watt is a metric used to describe the unit cost of one watt of power. It's most often



used in electronics or when looking at devices like solar panels.

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Solar Installed System Cost Analysis , Solar Market ...

Solar Installed System Cost Analysis NREL analyzes the total costs associated with installing photovoltaic (PV) systems for residential rooftop, ...

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First Solar Breaks \$1/Watt Barrier for Photovoltaics

First Solar announced it has broken the \$1 per watt price barrier in manufacturing photovoltaic (PV) solar module. Since 2004, First Solar has decreased its manufacturing costs ...

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First Solar Passes \$1 Per Watt Milestone - Cuts Manufacturing ...

First Solar, Inc. announced that it reduced its manufacturing cost for solar modules in the fourth quarter to 98 cents per watt, breaking the \$1 per watt price barrier.

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The Price and Efficiency Journey of Solar Panels Over Time

The cost of solar photovoltaic (PV) modules have dropped from \$100 per watt in the 1970s to an average \$0.20 to \$0.30 per watt. It's not just the modules that have become cheaper; the ...

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First Solar Is Eyeing Long-Term Growth

The current bill calls for up to \$0.11 per watt in tax credits per solar module, which compares to First Solar's sale price of \$0.27 per watt in the first ...

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Cheaper Than China Again, First Solar Vindicates US ...

After investing \$775 million in technology, First Solar is producing panels for as little as 40 cents a watt, or about 15% less than China's Trina ...

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Solar panel costs in 2025: Prices & savings

Average cost range: Residential solar panel system costs currently range \$2.65-\$3.30 per watt before incentives Federal Tax Credit: The 30% ...

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First Solar Reaches US \$1 Per Watt Milestone

First Solar Inc. announced it reduced its manufacturing cost for solar modules in the fourth quarter to US \$0.98/watt, breaking the \$1 per watt price barrier that the industry has ...

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First Solar May Once Again Regain Cost Advantages ...

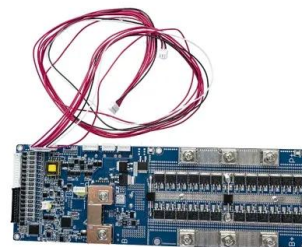
(Data compiled from FSLR's and JKS's annual reports. Module manufacturing cost listed as USD per watt.) The surge in global solar demand ...

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First Solar: Quest for the \$1 Watt

But if you want the off-peak market, you'll have to price your cells at about US \$1 per watt. That price is called grid parity, and it's the holy grail of ...

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first solar cost per watt

The solar panels themselves usually account for about 30% of total costs. 1 KW = 1000 watts, so for example, a 7.8KW system is 7800 watts. Demystifying solar panel cost per watt - ...

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