

Solar Electric System Pricing

Focus on Energy encourages a competitive solar electric market. We suggest that all prospective system owners receive at least three bids. Prices are changing rapidly.

Every quarter Focus on Energy will post solar electric system price data based on the applications we've received. These prices represent the installed cost before any incentives. The prices include all standard costs including: components (modules, inverter, racking), materials, installation labor, permits, tax, equipment rental, and shipping.

The following types of systems tend to have higher prices:

- Small systems of under 3 kilowatts (kW)
- Systems that are difficult to install
- Systems on commercial buildings
- Ground-mounted systems
- Roof-mounted systems that are raised above the roofline
- Systems using high-efficiency modules

During 2009, average prices for both fix-mounted systems and dual-axis tracking systems declined by 12 percent, suggesting an increasingly competitive market. Take a look at the chart below and see how much the price dropped from the beginning, to the end of the year.

2009 Average Price Based on Applications Received for a Fix-Mounted System Prices				
	Q1 2010	Q2 2009	Q3 2009	Q4 2009
Average price (\$/kW)	\$7,334	\$8,853	\$8,126	\$7,203
Average size (kW)	9.1	5.6	6.8	7.1

2009 Average Price Based on Applications Received for a Dual-Axis Tracking System Prices				
	Q1 2010	Q2 2009	Q3 2009	Q4 2009
Average price (\$/kW)	\$10,170	\$10,335	\$9,831	\$9,389
Average size (kW)	5.3	4.4	5.9	7.4

