

## ContainerPower Energy Solutions

# PV module price as a percentage of total investment



## Overview

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How much does a PV module cost?

The November 2021 technical report considers a PV module cost of \$0.34 per watt, which is equivalent to: As the size of a solar array increases, photovoltaic modules represent a higher percentage of total costs, while the percentage of soft costs decreases.

How much does a solar PV system cost?

The hardware components constitute a significant portion of real solar PV costs, typically accounting for 50-60% of the total system expense. Solar panels, the primary component, generally range from \$0.70 to \$1.50 per watt depending on efficiency ratings and manufacturer quality.

How much did PV modules cost in Q4 2024?

In Q4 2024, the average U.S. module price (\$0.28/Wdc) was down 3% q/q and about three times higher than the global spot price. Analysts report price premiums in the United States for domestically manufactured modules, with a particular premium for those using domestically produced PV cells.

What is PV system cost model (pvscm)?

In the PV System Cost Model (PVSCM), the owner's overnight capital expense (cash cost) for an installed PV system is divided into eight categories, which are the same for the utility-scale, commercial, and residential PV market segments: Module - The cost to the installer of photovoltaic modules, as delivered.

How do market analysts evaluate the cost of PV systems?

Market analysts routinely monitor and report the average cost of PV systems and components, but more detail is needed to understand the impact of recent and future technology developments on cost. Consequently, benchmark systems in the utility-scale, commercial, and residential PV market

sectors are evaluated each year.

How much does a PV cell cost?

Analysts report price premiums in the United States for domestically manufactured modules, with a particular premium for those using domestically produced PV cells. In Q1 2025, the average imported PV cell price was \$0.11/Wdc. Global polysilicon spot prices rose 12% in Q1 2025, from \$5.54/kg to \$6.24/kg.

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