

Green Pricing and Net Metering Programs 2004

Green pricing/marketing programs allow electricity customers to pay the additional costs for renewable energy through direct payments on their monthly bills. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) collects information on green pricing on the Form EIA-861, "Annual Electric Power Industry Report," which is a survey of electric industry participants. All respondents, except independent power producers and qualifying facilities, were asked to report the number of their customers in green pricing programs by state and customer class.

Net metering provisions vary by state and utility, but usually apply only to very small generators that typically use solar or wind energy. This system usually permits a customer operating a small generator to purchase extra electricity when needed. Also, any excess power at the end of the month can be sold back to the utility. Pricing schemes vary by individual utility and customer circumstance. This system facilitates the ease of operating intermittent generators such as those using solar and wind energy and improves their economics. The EIA collects information on net metering on the Form EIA-861 in much the same manner as it does green pricing.

In 2004, the number of electric industry participants reporting customers in green pricing programs was 403, up 31 percent from 2003 (Table H1). The number of customers in green pricing programs dwarfed those in net metering and increased 6 percent from 877,126 nationwide in 2003 to 928,333 in 2004, despite a significant decrease in Pennsylvania. Residential customers accounted for 93 percent of the total green pricing customers in 2004.

Electric industry participants reported having green pricing customers in forty-four states and the District of Columbia, including four states that were reported for the first time in 2004 (Table 63). Ohio led the United States in total number of green pricing customers with 454,509 customers and accounted for 50 percent of the annual increase. Texas, California, Oregon and Colorado followed next in terms of number of green pricing customers.

In 2004, the number of electric industry participants reporting customers in net metering programs was up to 166 from 127 just one year earlier (Table H2). The number of customers in net metering during 2004 was 15,826 and represented a 132 percent increase from 2003. Residential customers accounted for 89 percent of the customers in the program. Electric industry participants reported having net metering customers in 44 states, including six states that were reported for the first time as having net metering programs (Table 64). California dominated with 85 percent of the national total.

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Table H1. Estimated U.S. Green Pricing Customers by Customer Class, 2002-2004

Year	Electric Industry Participants	Participating Customers		
		Customer Class		Total
		Residential	Non-residential	
2002	212	688,069	23,481	711,550
2003	308	819,579	57,547	877,126
2004 ^P	403	864,794	63,539	928,333

^P = Preliminary

Note: Non-residential may include some customers for whom no customer class is specified.

Totals may not equal the sum of the components due to independent rounding.

Source: Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-861, "Annual Electric Power Industry Report."

Table H2. Estimated U.S. Net Metering Customers by Customer Class, 2002-2004

Year	Electric Industry Participants	Participating Customers		
		Customer Class		Total
		Residential	Non-residential	
2002	96	3,559	913	4,472
2003	127	5,870	943	6,813
2004 ^P	166	14,114	1,712	15,826

^P = Preliminary

Note: Non-residential may include some customers for whom no customer class is specified.

Totals may not equal the sum of the components due to independent rounding.

Source: Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-861, "Annual Electric Power Industry Report."

Table 63. Estimated U.S. Green Pricing Customers by State and Customer Class, 2003 and 2004

State	Electric Industry Participants 2004 ^a	Participating Customers			
		2004 ^p			2003
		Residential	Non-residential	Total	Total
Alabama	2	735	20	755	
Alaska					
Arizona	3	5,701	91	5,792	5,934
Arkansas					
California	12	59,158	2,932	62,090	62,279
Colorado	23	39,389	777	40,166	44,194
Connecticut					
Delaware	2	8	7	15	
District of Columbia	2	4,994	228	5,222	4,824
Florida	3	11,053	23	11,076	218
Georgia	14	3,223	18	3,241	3,895
Hawaii	3	3,965	40	4,005	3,579
Idaho	6	4,173	110	4,283	2,508
Illinois	3	31		31	8
Indiana	8	1,313	26	1,339	1,091
Iowa	50	7,239	74	7,313	5,785
Kansas					
Kentucky	11	502	11	513	118
Maine	1		8	8	5
Maryland	2	14,985	193	15,178	14,356
Massachusetts	3	2,741	125	2,866	1
Michigan	7	1,319	57	1,376	1,346
Minnesota	90	22,803	255	23,058	20,255
Mississippi	2	79	2	81	7
Missouri	7	392	6	398	261
Montana	6	398	9	407	49
Nebraska	5	4,017	54	4,071	4,171
Nevada	2	493	5	498	285
New Hampshire					
New Jersey	3	1,575	336	1,911	1,816
New Mexico	7	8,031	430	8,461	5,774
New York	3	1,272	213	1,485	134
North Carolina	15	6,024	242	6,266	3,913
North Dakota	11	4,666	21	4,687	1,792
Ohio	3	407,051	47,458	454,509	428,849
Oklahoma	7	9,342	195	9,537	6,758
Oregon	12	52,655	1,247	53,902	42,139
Pennsylvania	3	36,299	29	36,328	74,676
Rhode Island	2	1,469	36	1,505	
South Carolina	8	1,842	234	2,076	1,725
South Dakota	8	460	13	473	624
Tennessee	1	6,216	307	6,523	1
Texas	4	62,331	6,049	68,380	68,611
Utah	3	13,660	407	14,067	15,480
Vermont	1	868	31	899	
Virginia	2	3,418	20	3,438	4,639
Washington	19	27,554	555	28,109	16,858
West Virginia					
Wisconsin	56	28,607	592	29,199	26,595
Wyoming	6	2,743	53	2,796	1,573
Total	403	864,794	63,539	928,333	877,126

^a Includes entities with green pricing programs in more than one state.

^p = Preliminary

Note: Non-residential may include some customers for whom no customer class is specified. Blank cells indicate no data was reported for the state or the number of customers in a class was zero. Totals may not equal the sum of the components due to independent rounding.

Source: Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-861, "Annual Electric Power Industry Report."

Table 64. Estimated U.S. Net Metering Customers by State and Customer Class, 2003 and 2004

State	Electric Industry Participants 2004 ^a	Participating Customers			
		2004 ^P			2003
		Residential	Non-residential	Total	Total
Alabama	1			13	13
Alaska					2
Arizona	2	41	2	43	330
Arkansas	2	2	1	3	
California	13	12,253	1,253	13,506	5,242
Colorado	10	81	6	87	163
Connecticut	2	21	10	31	28
Delaware					10
District of Columbia					
Florida	4	19	11	30	10
Georgia	1	2		2	1
Hawaii	3	42	4	46	31
Idaho	3	16	3	19	18
Illinois	2	1	1	2	1
Indiana	2	8	8	16	3
Iowa	6	6	2	8	2
Kansas	3	7	3	10	5
Kentucky	2		2	2	14
Maine					
Maryland	4	7	2	9	5
Massachusetts	4	161	9	170	91
Michigan	2	3	2	5	3
Minnesota	23	226	7	233	140
Mississippi	1	1		1	
Missouri	2	1	1	2	2
Montana	2	119	67	186	3
Nebraska					
Nevada	2	89	11	100	56
New Hampshire	4	55	26	81	73
New Jersey	2	277	30	307	
New Mexico	4	5	6	11	10
New York	2	48	39	87	46
North Carolina	1		1	1	
North Dakota	2	4		4	2
Ohio	5	11	7	18	11
Oklahoma	2	1	30	31	36
Oregon	7	202	30	232	37
Pennsylvania	4	68	21	89	60
Rhode Island	2	18	7	25	16
South Carolina					
South Dakota					
Tennessee	1	7		7	
Texas	5	10	6	16	13
Utah	2	8	2	10	1
Vermont	3	55	12	67	52
Virginia	8	18	1	19	12
Washington	11	55	18	73	48
West Virginia	1		1	1	2
Wisconsin	9	157	55	212	232
Wyoming	6	9	2	11	2
Total	166	14,114	1,712	15,826	6,813

^a Includes entities with net metering programs in more than one state.

^P = Preliminary

Note: Non-residential may include some customers for whom no customer class is specified. Blank cells indicate no data was reported for the state or the number of customers in a class was zero. Totals may not equal the sum of the components due to independent rounding.

Source: Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-861, "Annual Electric Power Industry Report."