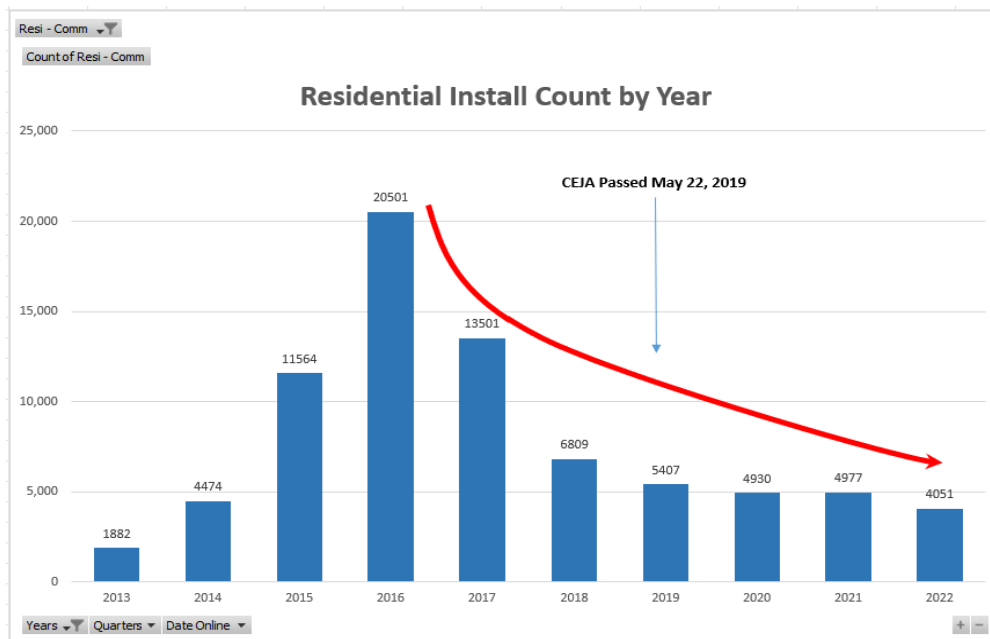


MARYLAND SOLAR INDUSTRY IN 2023



Maryland Rooftop Solar Coalition, est. 2022, is comprised of companies that finance, sell, design, and install solar PV systems with the objective of reviving the rooftop solar market in the state.



STRUGGLING MARKET

The SREC market has collapsed. Passing of CEJA allows for larger scale solar to thrive while smaller scale systems are throttled due to lack of attractive incentives.

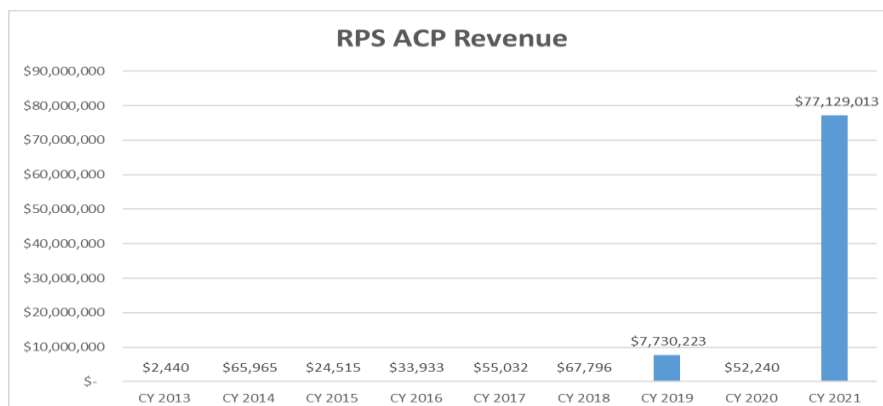
CUSTOMER SITED SOLAR

Residential market in MD is largely absent. Solar grant was reduced to \$1000 and only available for homeowners who own their system.

To meet RPS goal, we need to recycle SACP funds back to their intended purpose, to the creation of new renewable energy sources.

CLEAN ENERGY JOBS ACT (CEJA), 2019

- Increased Maryland's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) to 50% by 2030
- Maryland's solar carve-out increased to 14.5% by 2030
- Electric suppliers' failure to satisfy RPS milestones has led to substantial penalties
- The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) will receive Solar Alternative Compliance Payment (SACP) funds, which are then solely designated to low-income households





What Happens If We Do Nothing?

Maryland Continues to Not Meet RPS Goal The State's RPS requires electricity suppliers to meet a prescribed minimum of their retail electricity sales with various renewable sources. Electric suppliers pay a financial penalty for failing to satisfy the RPS. The intent of SACP funds is to penalize non-compliance and to help support the creation of new renewable sources in the State. In 2021, SEIF was funded \$52,240 in SACP funds.³ In 2022, SEIF will receive around \$77 million.⁴

Current Maryland Statute Directs all SACP Funds to Low- Income Projects As stated in the 2021 SEIF Report from MEA, the current limitations placed on these funds are anticipated to make these funds more difficult to deploy due to certain realities affecting low-income Marylanders.³ The cycle of not meeting the State's RPS targets and collecting penalties will continue if these funds cannot reach consumers.

Limited Income Households Have a Higher Energy Burden Energy burden refers to the percentage of a household's gross income that is spent on energy costs. Lower-income and minority communities have suffered disproportionately from rising energy costs. The average statewide gross energy burden is 13% for all low-income households.⁵ The combination of high average electric rates and high average energy usages (20th highest in US) makes electricity bills in Maryland among the highest in the country.

Maryland Loses More Jobs and Investments As residential solar installations have fallen since 2016, installers and developers are laying off employees and/or shifting focus to other states with better markets. This has resulted in a drastic decline in good paying, local jobs.

What Can We Do For Maryland?

Expand Funding for In-Need Communities Increasing the residential clean energy grant and supporting solar-ready upgrades for households in overburdened, underserved, low-income and moderate-income communities will bring the benefits of renewable energy to families who have suffered disproportionately from the legacy, polluting energy industry.

Increase Residential Grant Up To \$5,000 Providing a rebate equivalent to \$500/kW up to \$5,000 to eligible-customer generators will allow for more Marylanders to afford a solar energy system. Enabling solar leasing and third-party assistance, along with ownership, will also offer consumers greater choice.

Save Marylanders Money Investing in solar demonstrates a community's commitment to sustainability and drastically reduces household electric bills. Solar protects communities from rising energy costs and provides an opportunity for homeowners to boost their property values.

Creates Local, Family Sustaining Jobs Investing in residential renewables creates inherently local jobs and economic growth. The residential market represents over 50% of all solar installation jobs.⁶

For more information, please visit our website at Marylandrooftopsolarcoalition.org

¹ MD Solar Carve-Out Table. <https://www.sretrade.com/blog/tag/rps>

² MD Residential Install Count Graph, PJM GATS.

³ SEIF Report. <https://energy.maryland.gov/SiteAssets/Pages/Strategic-Energy-Investment-Fund-%28SEIF%29-/FY21%20SEIF%20Report%20Vol%201%20Final.pdf>

⁴ PSC of MD, RPS Report, November 2022. https://www.psc.state.md.us/wp-content/uploads/CY21-RPS-Annual-Report_Final.pdf

⁵ Md Low-Income Market Characterization Report. https://assets.cfaassets.net/ntcn17ss1ow9/4YFXI2RD3KNTx6ulRDxQYR/c445a91365b8211bc0d0e7cc374112e3/APRISE_Maryland_Low-Income_Market_Characterization_Report_-_September_2018.pdf

⁶ National Solar Job Census 2021. <https://irecusa.org/resources/national-solar-jobs-census-2021/>