

HOME-GROWN ENERGY IN THE HOME NATIONS

Wales



6%

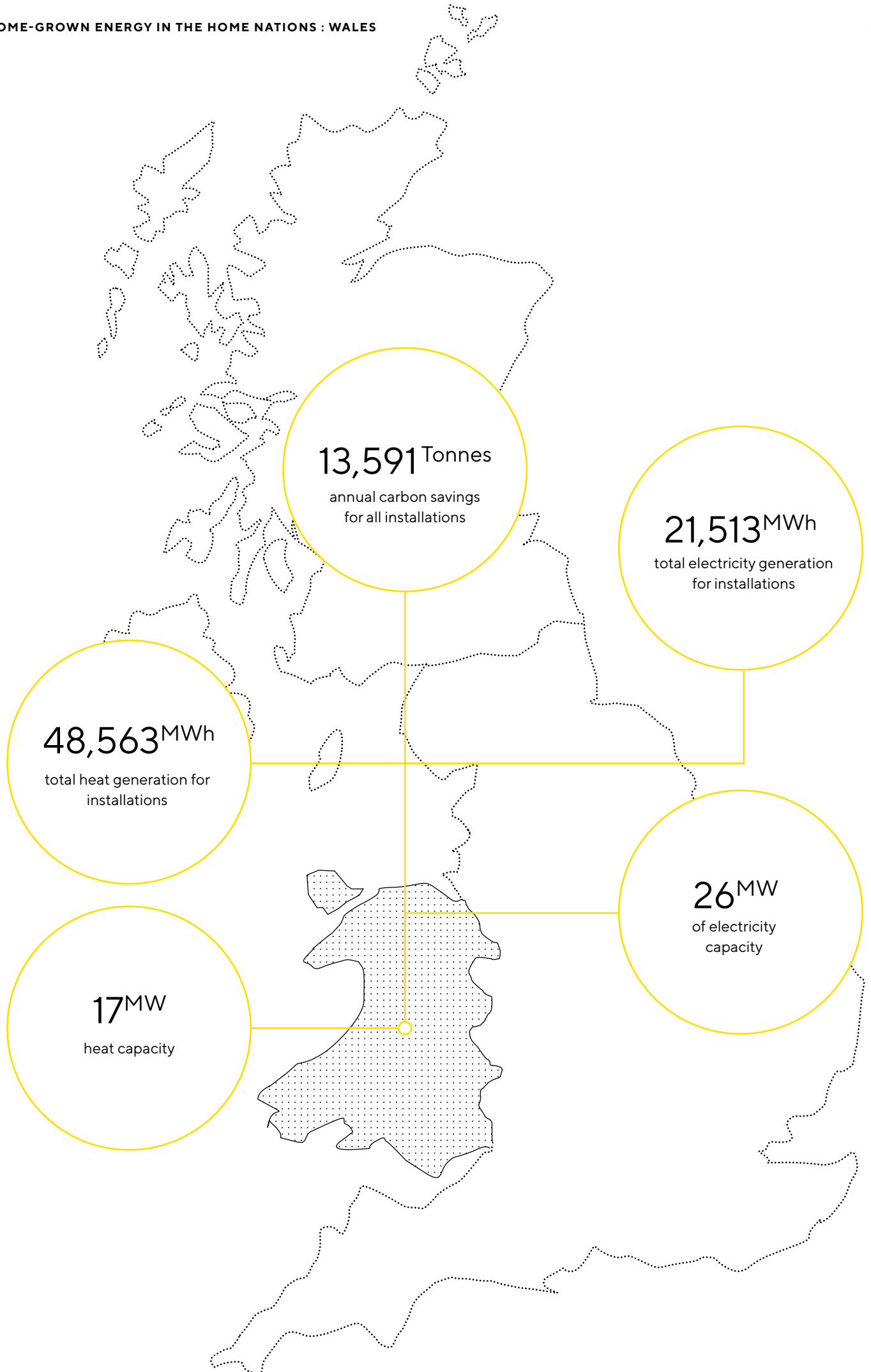
of installations in the UK
between March 2020 and
December 2021 were in
Wales

Like the picture in Scotland, Wales also had far fewer installations than England but the Welsh adoption rate was 0.66%, the second highest of the home nations. The 8,931 installations between March 2020 and December 2021 were 6% of the UK total.

Wales saw the biggest uptake of biomass boilers, with Powys and Carmarthenshire having the UK's highest adoption rates. However, this technology was generally installed in very low numbers across the UK.



CONT.



The Isle of Anglesey – where 42% of households are fuel-poor and 83% classed as rural – is the only Welsh area to rank in the 10 areas with the most households with small-scale renewable installations.

None of the bottom 10 areas in the study period are in Wales, again showing how well the country performs in terms of small-scale renewables adoption.

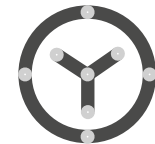
In terms of technologies, Wales had the highest number of ground source heat pump installations when looking at the proportion of households.

The Welsh policy landscape: March 2020 – December 2021

Energy policy in Wales is determined in Westminster and through the Welsh Government at a local level. Wales is included in national schemes to promote renewables alongside England, so the GHGVS increased the take up of heat pump technology in Wales during this study period.

The scheme was superseded by the announcement of the Boiler Upgrade Scheme in late 2021, with Welsh households eligible for this scheme too.

In addition, the Welsh Government Warm Homes Programme provided funding for energy efficiency improvements including solar PV and heat pumps to low-income households and those living in deprived communities across Wales through the Nest and Arbed schemes.



Wales had the highest number of ground source heat pump installations when looking at the proportion of households

42%

of households on the Isle of Anglesey are classed as fuel-poor

0.66%

adoption rate across the whole of Wales

• • • • •
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• the 10 areas with the most households with small-scale •
• renewable installations. •
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Solar success in Wales: Chris Allen Heating Limited

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When MCS certified, Chris Allen Heating Limited, diversified into installing renewable power and heating systems, the company soon found solar PV was their most popular offering with a ready and waiting consumer base.

Chris Allen and his colleagues transitioned into small-scale renewables after more than 35 years of experience in installing traditional heating and electrical technologies. With experience in fitting air source heat pumps already, Chris and the team chose to become MCS certified for solar PV technologies too. Having successfully secured MCS certification, they completed 74 solar PV installations in 2021 alone.

Chris described the company's move towards renewable technology and MCS certification as a natural transition to ensure its continued viability – especially as homeowners recognise the role heat pumps and solar PV will play in the UK's journey to net-zero.

Following the publication of the Government's Heat and Buildings Strategy, Chris reported more and more enquiries from homeowners. As renewable technology became a viable and affordable solution for everyone, a new demographic of consumers expressed interest in renewables, rather than just affluent households.



“
 Not only can the customers see the savings very quickly to their electric bill, but once installed, there are very few, if any, changes to how the customer uses the existing systems in their homes
 ”

CHRIS ALLEN
CHRIS ALLEN HEATING LTD

One impact on consumer awareness was Warm Homes Arbed, a scheme launched by the Welsh Government and Arbed am Byth to provide funding for energy efficiency improvements.

Chris believes solar PV is their most popular technology due to the instant impact: “Not only can the customers see the savings very quickly to their electric bill, but once installed, there are very few, if any, changes to how the customer uses the existing systems in their homes.”

He expects renewable installations will continue to increase year-on-year and believes it is inevitable that fossil fuels will be slowly phased out as they become less affordable. He also sees MCS certification as the way forward for his company, opening doors for future opportunities.

On becoming certified, Chris said: “To us it makes total sense becoming MCS certified; they have kept us at the forefront of our industry. Being certified allows us to keep our engineers highly trained, while bringing apprentices into the workforce and letting us do our bit towards helping the environment and meeting government goals on carbon.”



• • • • •
 • Chris Allen has more than 35 years of heating industry experience and now specialises in renewable energy •
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