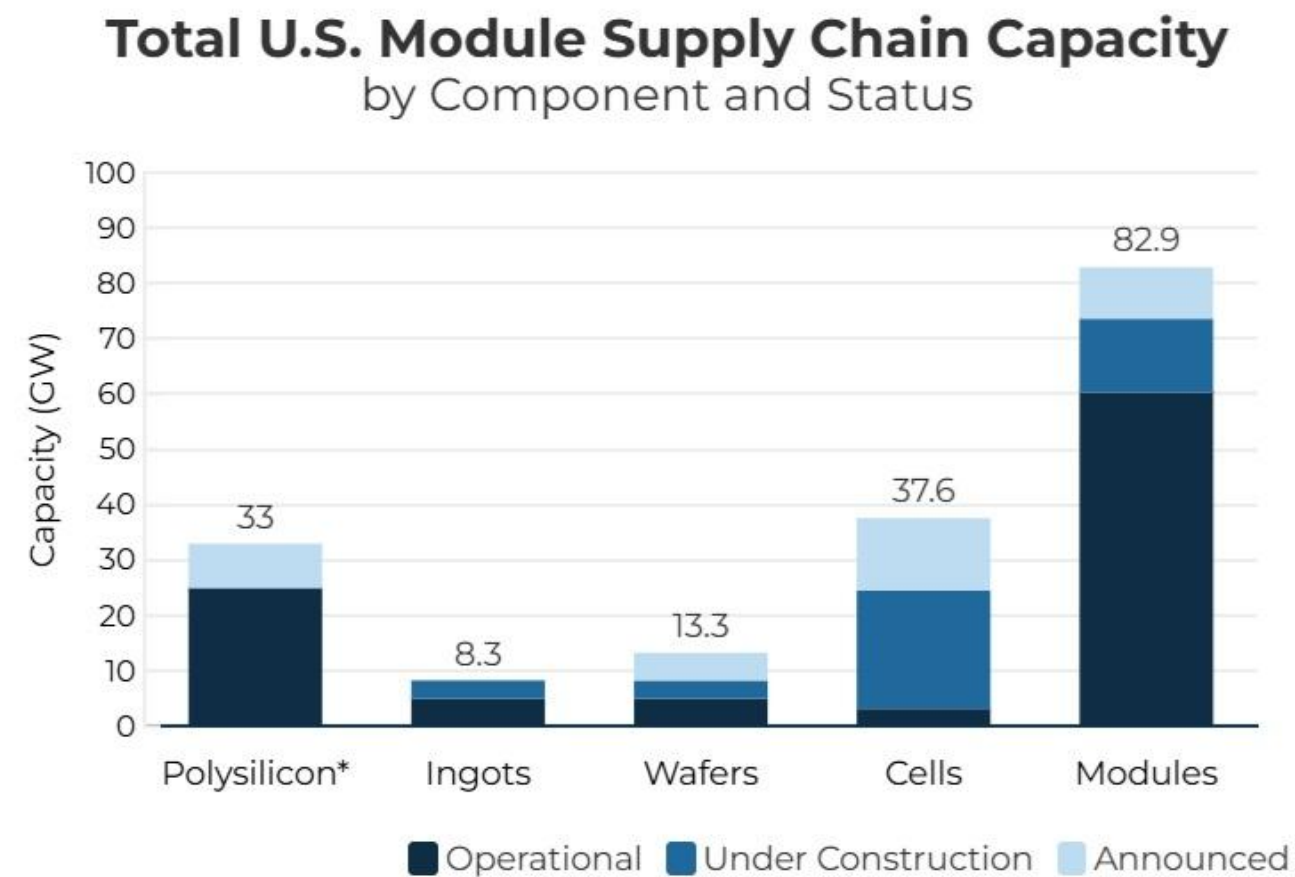




Planet Pulse

**A rhythmic check-in on
climate issues**





Source: [SEIA Solar and Storage Supply Chain Dashboard](#), November 2025

*Polysilicon values have been converted to GW using NREL's assumption of 2.0 g/W



Domesticated solar

- According to the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA), the industry's largest trade group, the U.S. has reshored its entire solar supply chain.
- With 65 added or expanded facilities coming online this year, the U.S. now has more than 60 gigawatts of domestic solar module production capacity.
- That's a 37% increase from the previous year.
- Given the growing trade tensions with China, lessening our dependence on the Chinese is essential.

NEXT PAGE



Finally, someone is saying it

- Given it's simply counterproductive to talk about achieving the impossible, I've implored the climate community to admit that **1.5° C is unattainable**.
- Yet, as recently as last week, during a Climate Change Lab webinar, a panelist from Antigua-Barbuda described abandoning 1.5° C as a "death sentence."
- I understand the small island's vulnerability, but if that's the case, start making funeral plans.
- Wood Mackenzie has finally said out loud what I believe many have known for a while: global net zero 2050 is "impossible."
- Citing the fact that no G7 country is on track to achieve its emissions goals, the research firm describes it as unlikely that we'll contain warming below 2.0° C.
- Unfortunate as it is, the best course now is to reset and re-strategize.



NEXT PAGE





Annual cost of weather and climate-related disasters in US

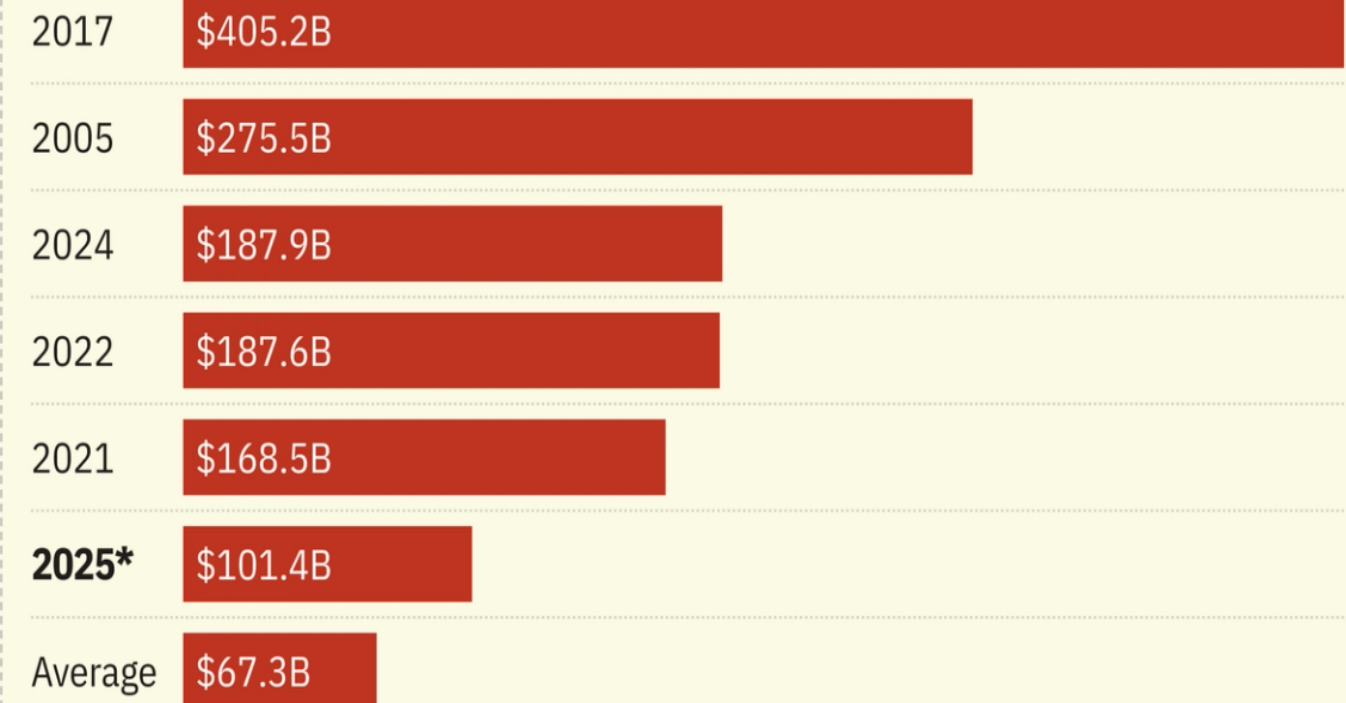
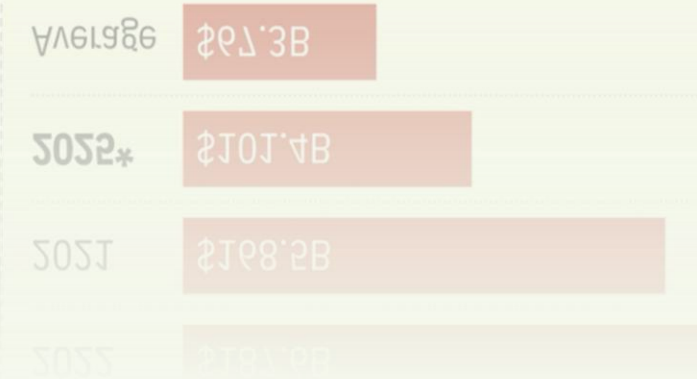


Figure only includes data for first six months of 2025.

Chart: Brendan Ruberry/Semafor • Source: Climate Central

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Figure only includes data for first six months of 2025.



Growth returns us to neutral

- The first half of 2025 set a record, but not a good one. It's the costliest first half for weather disasters in the U.S.
- The culprit: the California wildfires.
- The good news is that 2025 isn't likely to be the costliest year in total. By a longshot, 2017 has that distinction.
- However, that isn't what drew my attention to this story. It was a Bloomberg estimate.
- According to Bloomberg near 36% of US GDP growth since 2000 has been driven by disaster relief including insurance, engineering/construction, hardware, storage facilities, and waste disposal.
- Let that sink in. Over a third of our economic growth is tied to getting back to where we were. There's a data point I could build a message around.

NEXT PAGE



Tiny, but with potential



- Given the many technical challenges, and now the headwinds from the shifting political climate, the widescale deployment of green hydrogen remains years away.
- Still, I believe hydrogen will play a critical future role. Thus, when I come across a hydrogen “win” I like to mention it.
- Kirkwall Airport in the UK is such a win. The facility recently fired up its Hydrogen Combustion Engine system, and now runs its operation solely on locally produced green hydrogen.
- The facility is small but it serves as a model to scale to larger facilities.



Kirkwall uses electrolyzer technology powered by wind and tidal energy to generate green hydrogen.



The only exhaust from the system is water vapor.



Kirkwall is a small airport. But it serves as a model to scale to larger facilities.



Unbiased and Unfiltered

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