Mississippi

ENERGY AND EMPLOYMENT—2019

Overview

Mississippi has an average concentration of energy employment, with 28,691 Traditional Energy workers statewide (representing 0.9 percent of all U.S. Traditional Energy jobs). Of these Traditional Energy workers, 4,704 are in Electric Power Generation, 11,968 are in Fuels, and 12,018 are in Transmission, Distribution, and Storage. The Traditional Energy sector in Mississippi is 2.5 percent of total state employment (compared to 2.3 percent of national employment). Mississippi has an additional 15,403 jobs in Energy Efficiency (0.7 percent of all U.S. Energy Efficiency jobs) and 25,461 jobs in Motor Vehicles (1.0 percent of all U.S. Motor Vehicle jobs).

Figure MS-1.
Employment by Major Energy Technology Application

Overall, Traditional Energy jobs grew by 3.6 percent since the 2018 report, increasing by 987 jobs over the period. Energy Efficiency jobs added 347 jobs (2.3 percent) and motor vehicles added 158 jobs (0.6 percent).
Breakdown by Technology Applications

Electric Power Generation

Electric Power Generation employs 4,704 workers in Mississippi, 0.5 percent of the national total and adding 21 jobs over the past year (0.5 percent). Traditional fossil fuel generation makes up the largest segment of employment related to Electric Power Generation, with 2,577 jobs (down 1.4 percent), followed by solar at 1,165 jobs (down 2.6 percent).

Figure MS-2.
Electric Power Generation Employment by Detailed Technology Application

Utilities are the largest industry sector in Electric Power Generation, with 43.4 percent of jobs. Construction is next with 23.8 percent.

Figure MS-3.
Fuels

Fuels employs 11,968 workers in Mississippi, 1.1 percent of the national total, up 4.9 percent over the past year. Petroleum and other fossil fuels makes up the largest segment of employment related to Fuels.

**Figure MS-4.**
Fuels Employment by Detailed Technology Application

Manufacturing jobs represent 33.3 percent of Fuels jobs in Mississippi.

**Figure MS-5.**
Fuels Employment by Industry Sector
Transmission, Distribution and Storage

Transmission, Distribution, and Storage employs 12,018 workers in Mississippi, 0.9 percent of the national total, up 3.5 percent or 408 jobs since the 2018 report.

**Figure MS-6.**
Transmission, Distribution and Storage Employment by Detailed Technology

Utilities are responsible for the largest percentage of Transmission, Distribution, and Storage jobs in Mississippi, with 47.6 percent of such jobs statewide.

**Figure MS-7.**
Transmission, Distribution and Storage Employment by Industry Sector
Energy Efficiency

The 15,403 Energy Efficiency jobs in Mississippi represent 0.7 percent of all U.S. Energy Efficiency jobs, adding 347 jobs (2.3 percent) since last year. The largest number of these employees work in other energy efficiency products and services firms, followed by traditional HVAC.

**Figure MS-8.**
Energy Efficiency Employment by Detailed Technology Application

Energy Efficiency employment is primarily found in the construction industry.

**Figure MS-9.**
Energy Efficiency Employment by Industry Sector
Motor Vehicles

Motor Vehicle employment accounts for 25,461 jobs in Mississippi, up 158 jobs over the past year (0.6 percent). The industry sector that accounts for the largest fraction of Motor Vehicle jobs is manufacturing.

Figure MS-10.
Motor Vehicle Employment by Industry Sector

Workforce Characteristics

Employer Growth

Employers in Mississippi are less optimistic to their peers across the country in regards to their job growth over the next year in Traditional Energy (1.5 percent versus 4.1 percent nationally). Energy Efficiency employers expect to add 1,398 jobs in Energy Efficiency (9.1 percent) and Motor Vehicles employers expect to add 504 jobs (2.0 percent) over the next year.

Table MS-1.
Projected Growth by Major Technology Application

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Technology</th>
<th>State Projected Growth Next 12 Months (percent)</th>
<th>U.S. Projected Growth Next 12 Months (percent)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electric Power Generation</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>7.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electric Power Transmission,</td>
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<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution and Storage</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Efficiency</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuels</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicles</td>
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<td>2.2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Hiring Difficulty

Over the last year, 57.7 percent of energy-related employers in Mississippi hired new employees. These employers reported the greatest overall difficulty in hiring workers for jobs in Fuels.

Table MS-2
Hiring Difficulty by Major Technology Application

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Technology</th>
<th>Very Difficult (%)</th>
<th>Somewhat Difficult (%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State</td>
<td>National</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electric Power Generation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electric Power Transmission,</td>
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<td>21.9</td>
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<td>Distribution and Storage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Energy Efficiency</td>
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<td>21.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fuels</td>
<td>40.0</td>
<td>37.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicles</td>
<td>33.3</td>
<td>30.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Employers in Mississippi gave the following as the top three reasons for their reported difficulty:

1. Lack of experience, training, or technical skills
2. Insufficient non-technical skills (work ethic, dependability, critical thinking)
3. Competition/ small applicant pool

Employers reported the following as the three most difficult occupations to hire for:

1. Technician or mechanical support – $20.14 median hourly wage
2. Installation workers – $17.33 median hourly wage
3. Electrician/construction laborers – $21.07 median hourly wage