Vermont
ENERGY AND EMPLOYMENT — 2019

Overview

Vermont has an average concentration of energy employment, with 7,285 Traditional Energy workers statewide (representing 0.2 percent of all U.S. Traditional Energy jobs). Of these Traditional Energy workers, 2,803 are in Electric Power Generation, 2,573 are in Fuels, and 1,909 are in Transmission, Distribution, and Storage. The Traditional Energy sector in Vermont is 2.3 percent of total state employment (compared to 2.3 percent of national employment). Vermont has an additional 11,035 jobs in Energy Efficiency (0.5 percent of all U.S. Energy Efficiency jobs) and 3,701 jobs in Motor Vehicles (0.1 percent of all U.S. Motor Vehicle jobs).

Figure VT-1.
Employment by Major Energy Technology Application

Overall, Traditional Energy jobs declined by 0.0 percent since the 2018 report, decreasing by -0 jobs over the period. Energy Efficiency jobs added 95 jobs (0.9 percent) and motor vehicles added 118 jobs (3.3 percent).
Breakdown by Technology Applications

Electric Power Generation

Electric Power Generation employs 2,803 workers in Vermont, 0.3 percent of the national total and losing 130 jobs over the past year (-4.4 percent). Solar makes up the largest segment of employment related to Electric Power Generation, with 1,991 jobs (down 8.1 percent), followed by wind at 354 jobs (up 2.4 percent).

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

Construction is the largest industry sector in Electric Power Generation, with 26.1 percent of jobs. Professional and business services are next with 21.0 percent.

Figure VT-3.

Fuels
Fuels employs 2,573 workers in Vermont, 0.2 percent of the national total, up 3.2 percent over the past year. Woody biomass makes up the largest segment of employment related to Fuels.

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

Wholesale trade jobs represent 52.4 percent of Fuels jobs in Vermont.

**Figure VT-5.**
Fuels Employment by Industry Sector

Transmission, Distribution and Storage
Transmission, Distribution, and Storage employs 1,909 workers in Vermont, 0.1 percent of the national total, up 2.7 percent or 50 jobs since the 2018 report.

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

Utilities are responsible for the largest percentage of Transmission, Distribution, and Storage jobs in Vermont, with 66.1 percent of such jobs statewide.

**Figure VT-7.**
Transmission, Distribution and Storage Employment by Industry Sector

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Energy Efficiency
The 11,035 Energy Efficiency jobs in Vermont represent 0.5 percent of all U.S. Energy Efficiency jobs, adding 95 jobs (0.9 percent) since last year. The largest number of these employees work in high efficiency HVAC and renewable heating and cooling firms, followed by traditional HVAC.

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

Energy Efficiency employment is primarily found in the construction industry.

**Figure VT-9.**
Energy Efficiency Employment by Industry Sector

Motor Vehicles
Motor Vehicle employment accounts for 3,701 jobs in Vermont, up 118 jobs over the past year (3.3 percent). The industry sector that accounts for the largest fraction of Motor Vehicle jobs is repair and maintenance.

**Figure VT-10.**
Motor Vehicle Employment by Industry Sector

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**Workforce Characteristics**

**Employer Growth**

Employers in Vermont are less optimistic to their peers across the country in regards to their job growth over the next year in Traditional Energy (2.3 percent versus 4.1 percent nationally). Energy Efficiency employers expect to add 718 jobs in Energy Efficiency (6.5 percent) and Motor Vehicles employers expect to add 73 jobs (2.0 percent) over the next year.

**Table VT-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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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electric Power Generation</td>
<td>5.9</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>
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<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>
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**Hiring Difficulty**
Over the last year, 44.2 percent of energy-related employers in Vermont hired new employees. These employers reported the greatest overall difficulty in hiring workers for jobs in Fuels.

**Table VT-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>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State</td>
<td>National</td>
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<td>Electric Power Generation</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Energy Efficiency</td>
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<td>48.1</td>
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<td>43.0</td>
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<td>Motor Vehicles</td>
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<tr>
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<td>46.4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

1. Lack of experience, training, or technical skills
2. Insufficient qualifications (certifications or education)
3. Difficulty finding industry-specific knowledge, skills, and interest

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

1. Technician or mechanical support – $24.76 median hourly wage
2. Engineers/scientists – $44.51 median hourly wage
3. Electrician/construction laborers – $26.73 median hourly wage