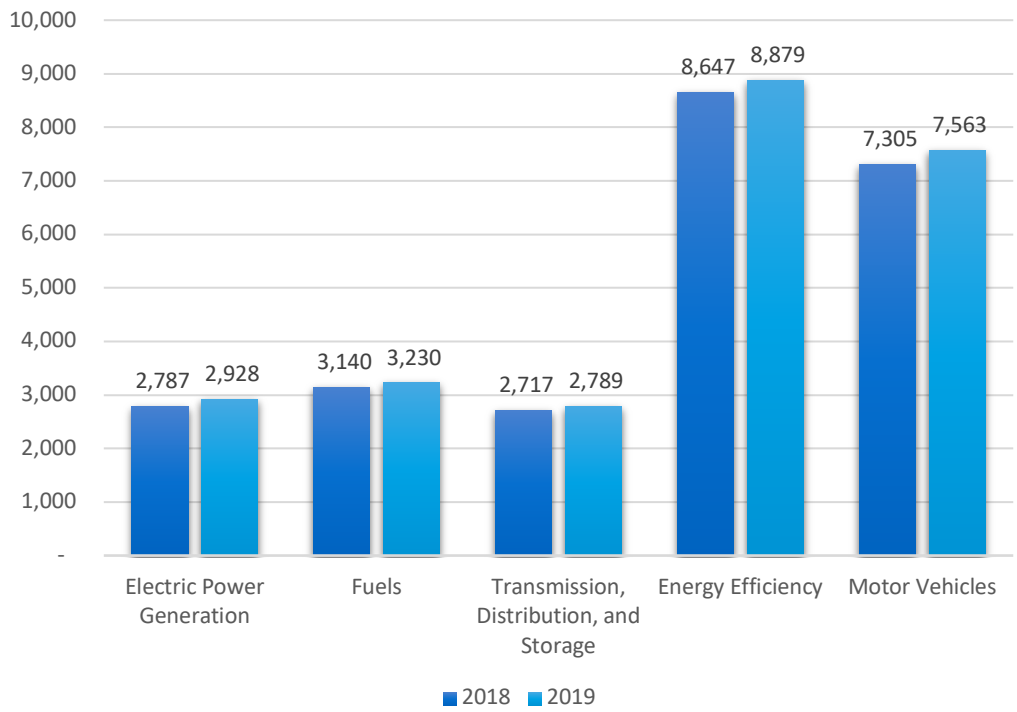
Maine

ENERGY AND EMPLOYMENT — 2020

Overview

Maine has a low concentration of energy employment, with 8,946 Traditional Energy workers statewide (representing 0.3 percent of all U.S. Traditional Energy jobs). Of these Traditional Energy workers, 2,928 are in Electric Power Generation, 3,230 are in Fuels, and 2,789 are in Transmission, Distribution, and Storage. The Traditional Energy sector in Maine is 1.4 percent of total state employment (compared to 2.3 percent of national employment). Maine has an additional 8,879 jobs in Energy Efficiency (0.4 percent of all U.S. Energy Efficiency jobs) and 7,563 jobs in Motor Vehicles (0.3 percent of all U.S. Motor Vehicle jobs).

Figure ME-1.
Employment by Major Energy Technology Application



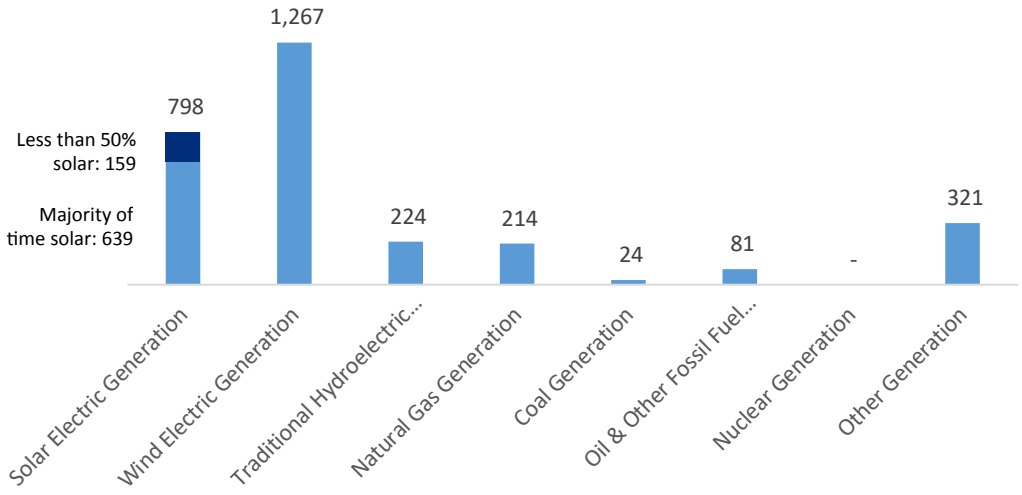
Overall, Traditional Energy jobs grew by 3.5 percent since the 2019 report, increasing by 303 jobs over the period. Energy Efficiency jobs added 232 jobs (2.7 percent) and motor vehicles added 258 jobs (3.5 percent).

Breakdown by Technology Applications

ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION

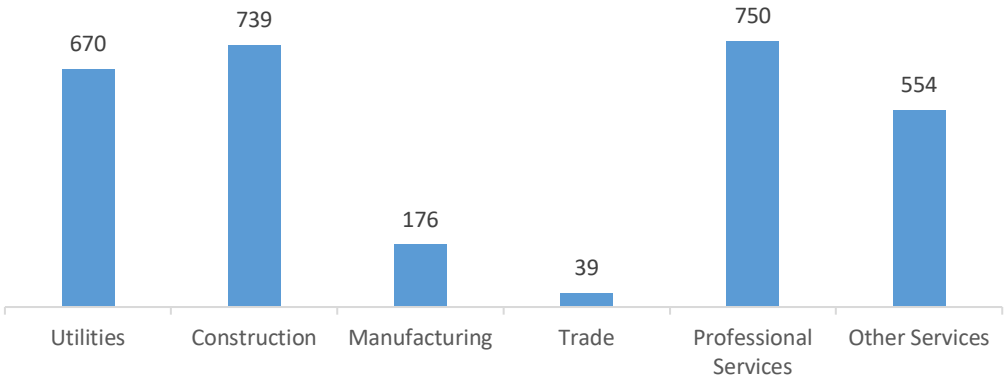
Electric Power Generation employs 2,928 workers in Maine, 0.3 percent of the national total and adding 141 jobs over the past year (5.1 percent). Wind makes up the largest segment of employment related to Electric Power Generation, with 1,267 jobs (down -0.2 percent), followed by solar at 798 jobs (up 5.3 percent).

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



Professional and business services are the largest industry sector in Electric Power Generation, with 25.6 percent of jobs. Construction is next with 25.2 percent.

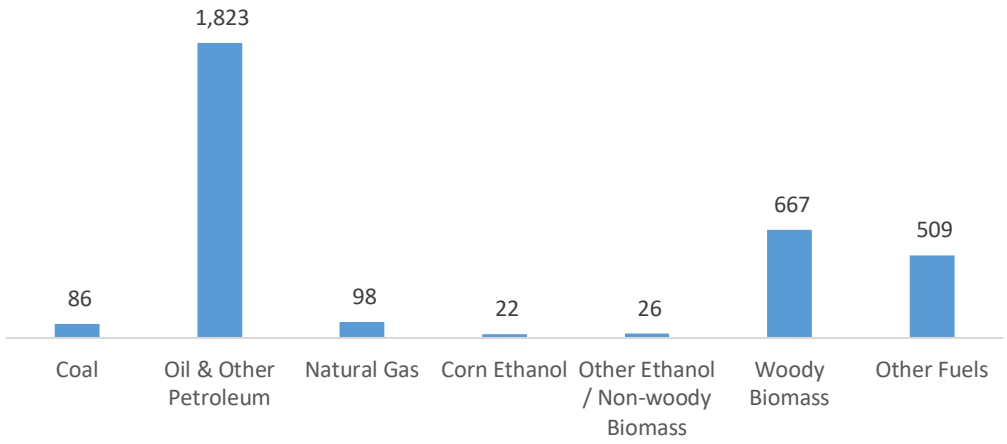
Figure ME-3.
Electric Power Generation by Industry Sector



FUELS

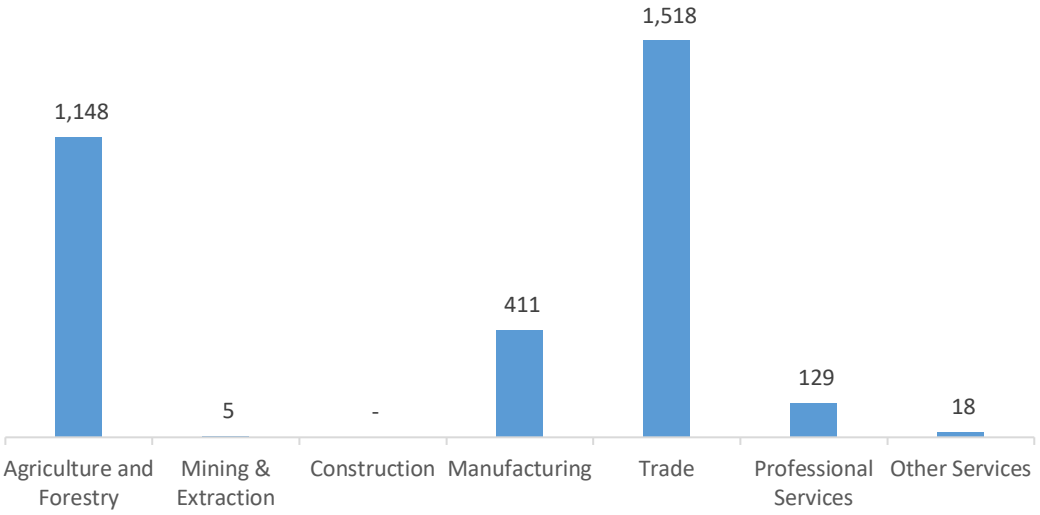
Fuels employs 3,230 workers in Maine, 0.3 percent of the national total, up 2.8 percent over the past year. Petroleum and other fossil fuels makes up the largest segment of employment related to Fuels.

Figure ME-4.
Fuels Employment by Detailed Technology Application



Wholesale trade jobs represent 47.0 percent of Fuels jobs in Maine.

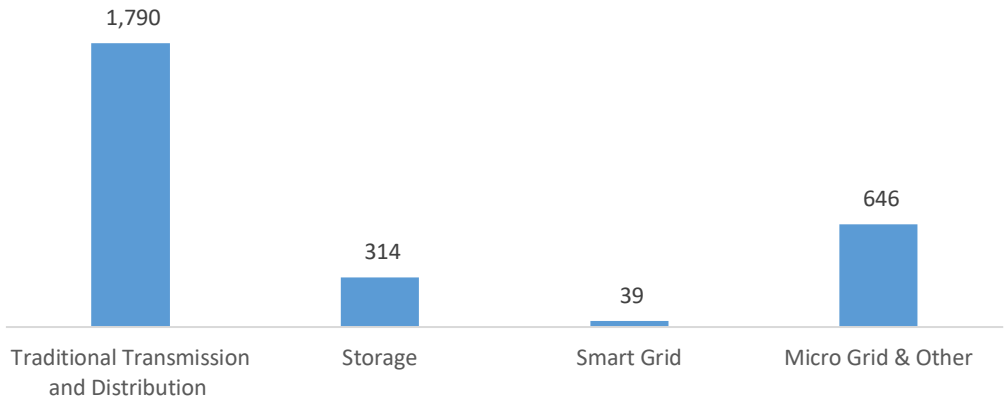
Figure ME-5.
Fuels Employment by Industry Sector



TRANSMISSION, DISTRIBUTION AND STORAGE

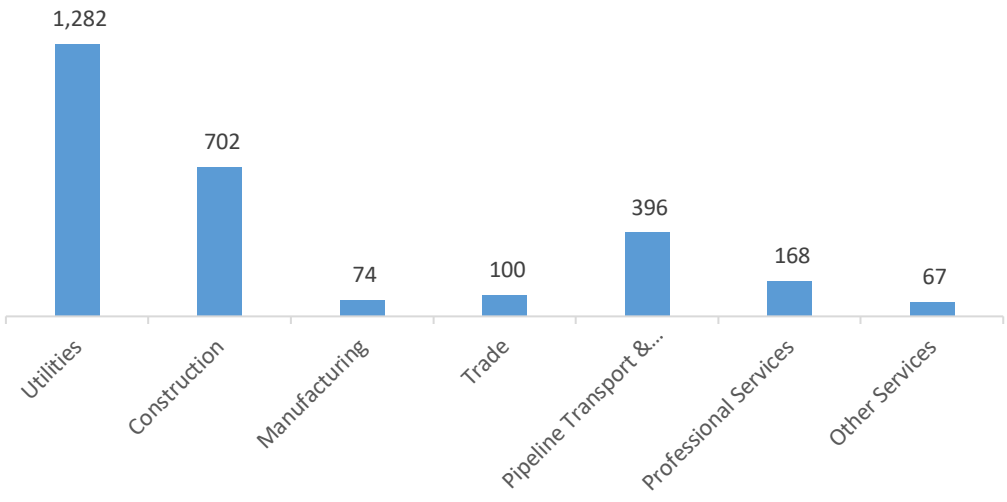
Transmission, Distribution, and Storage employs 2,789 workers in Maine, 0.2 percent of the national total, up 2.7 percent or 72 jobs since the 2018 report.

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



Utilities are responsible for the largest percentage of Transmission, Distribution, and Storage jobs in Maine, with 46.0 percent of such jobs statewide.

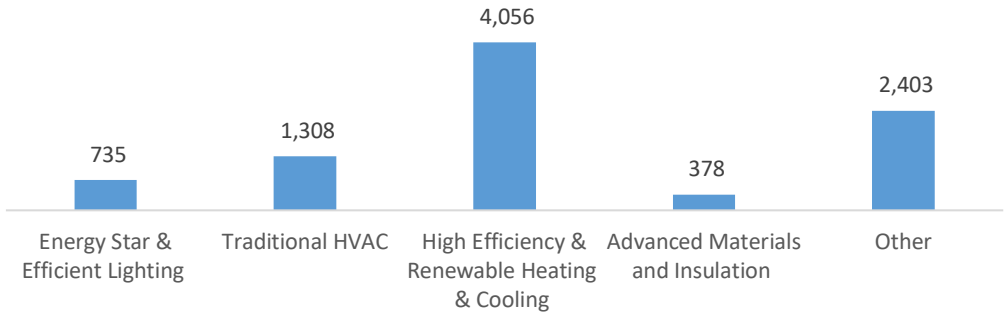
Figure ME-7.
Transmission, Distribution and Storage Employment by Industry Sector



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

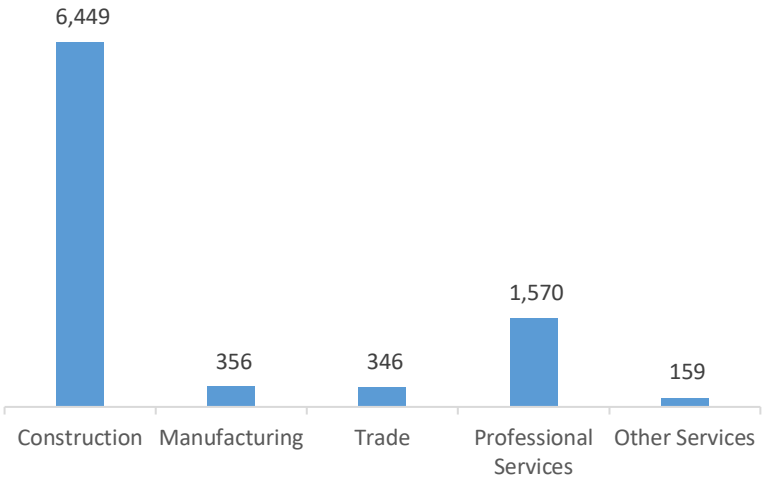
The 8,879 Energy Efficiency jobs in Maine represent 0.4 percent of all U.S. Energy Efficiency jobs, adding 232 jobs (2.7 percent) since last year. The largest number of these employees work in (high efficiency HVAC and renewable heating and cooling firms, followed by other energy efficiency products and services.

Figure ME-8.
Energy Efficiency Employment by Detailed Technology Application



Energy Efficiency employment is primarily found in the construction industry.

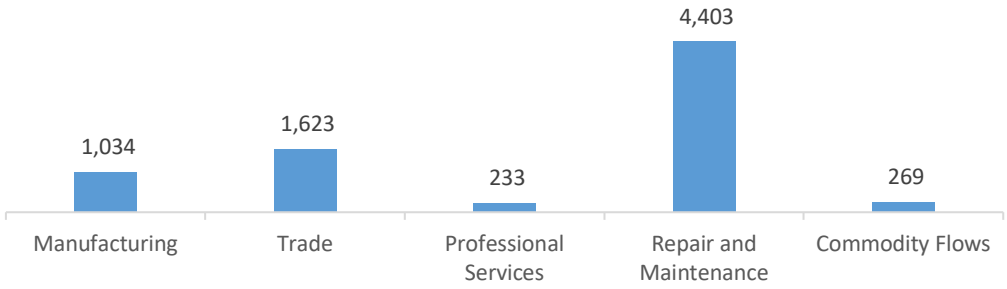
Figure ME-9.
Energy Efficiency Employment by Industry Sector



MOTOR VEHICLES

Motor Vehicle employment accounts for 7,563 jobs in Maine, up 258 jobs over the past year (3.5 percent). The industry sector that accounts for the largest fraction of Motor Vehicle jobs is repair and maintenance.

Figure ME-10.
Motor Vehicle Employment by Industry Sector



Workforce Characteristics

EMPLOYER GROWTH

Employers in Maine are more optimistic to their peers across the country in regards to their job growth over the next year in Traditional Energy (5.6 percent versus 3.2 percent nationally). Energy Efficiency employers expect to add 419 jobs in Energy Efficiency (4.7 percent) and Motor Vehicles employers expect to add 255 jobs (3.4 percent) over the next year.

Table ME-1
Projected Growth by Major Technology Application.

Technology	State Projected Growth Next 12 Months (percent)	U.S. Projected Growth Next 12 Months (percent)
Electric Power Generation	7.4	4.8
Electric Power Transmission, Distribution, and Storage	1.9	3.5
Energy Efficiency	4.7	3.0
Fuels	7.3	1.7
Motor Vehicles	3.4	3.1

HIRING DIFFICULTY

Over the last year, 37.5 percent of energy-related employers in Maine hired new employees. These employers reported the greatest overall difficulty in hiring workers for jobs in Energy Efficiency.

Table ME-2
Hiring Difficulty by Major Technology Application.

Technology	Very Difficult (percent)	Somewhat Difficult (percent)	Not at All Difficult (percent)
Electric Power Generation	22.8	62.6	14.6
Electric Power Transmission, Distribution, and Storage	25.4	61.2	13.4
Energy Efficiency	38.2	43.6	18.2
Fuels	30.8	39.9	29.3
Motor Vehicles	52.6	33.7	13.7

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

1. Lack of experience, training, or technical skills
2. Competition/ small applicant pool
3. Insufficient qualifications (certifications or education)

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

1. Technician or mechanical support — $23.84 median hourly wage
2. Electrician/construction workers — $29.02 median hourly wage
3. Management (directors, supervisors, vice presidents) — $48.41 median hourly wage