Iowa
ENERGY AND EMPLOYMENT — 2022

Overview

Iowa had 83,599 energy workers statewide in 2021, representing 1.1% of all U.S. energy jobs. Of these energy jobs, 10,323 are in electric power generation; 9,428 in fuels; 12,994 in transmission, distribution, and storage; 18,864 in energy efficiency; and 31,991 in motor vehicles. From 2020 to 2021, energy jobs in the state increased by 4,287 jobs, or 5.4%. The energy sector in Iowa represents 5.6% of total state employment.

Figure IA-1.
Employment by Major Energy Technology Application

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electric Power Generation</td>
<td>9,331</td>
<td>8,928</td>
<td>10,323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuels</td>
<td>11,148</td>
<td>9,703</td>
<td>9,428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transmission, Distribution, and Storage</td>
<td>13,500</td>
<td>12,904</td>
<td>12,994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Efficiency</td>
<td>21,165</td>
<td>18,240</td>
<td>18,864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicles</td>
<td>29,536</td>
<td>31,745</td>
<td>31,991</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Breakdown by Technology Applications

Electric Power Generation

The electric power generation sector employed 10,323 workers in Iowa, 1.2% of the national electricity total, and added 1,394 jobs over the past year (15.6%).

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

Construction work represents the largest industry sector in the electric power generation sector, with 54.4% of jobs. Utilities is second largest with 21.9%.

Figure IA-3. 
Electric Power Generation Employment by Industry Sector
**Fuels**

The fuel sector employed 9,428 workers in Iowa, 1% of the national total in fuels. The sector lost 275 jobs and decreased 2.8% in the past year.

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

Wholesale trade jobs represent 43.2% of fuels jobs in Iowa.

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

The transmission, distribution, and storage (TDS) sector employed 12,994 workers in Iowa, 1% of the national TDS total. The sector gained 90 jobs and increased 0.7% in the past year.

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

Construction work represents the greatest proportion of TDS jobs in Iowa, accounting for 38.1% of the sector’s jobs statewide.

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

The energy efficiency (EE) sector employed 18,864 workers in Iowa, 0.9% of the national EE total. The EE sector added 624 jobs and increased 3.4% in the past year.

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

EE employment is primarily found in the construction industry.

Figure IA-9.
Energy Efficiency Employment by Industry Sector
Motor Vehicles and Component Parts

The motor vehicles and component sector employed 31,991 workers in Iowa, 1.3% of the national total for the sector. Motor vehicles and component parts added 2,454 jobs and increased 8.3% in the past year. Repair and maintenance work represents the largest proportion of motor vehicle jobs.

Figure IA-10.
Motor Vehicle Employment by Industry Sector

Workforce Characteristics

Employer Growth

Employers in Iowa are less optimistic than their peers across the country about energy sector job growth over the next year.

Table IA-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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electric Power Generation</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric Power Transmission, Distribution, and Storage</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Efficiency</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuels</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicles</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hiring Difficulty

Employers in Iowa reported 52.0% overall hiring difficulty.

Table IA-2
Hiring Difficulty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hiring Difficulty</th>
<th>Very Difficult (percent)</th>
<th>Somewhat Difficult (percent)</th>
<th>Not at All Difficult (percent)</th>
<th>Did Not Hire (percent)</th>
<th>Overall Hiring Difficulty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>23.6</td>
<td>28.4</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>37.7</td>
<td>52.0</td>
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