Montana

ENERGY AND EMPLOYMENT — 2022

Overview

Montana had 30,875 energy workers statewide in 2021, representing 0.4% of all U.S. energy jobs. Of these energy jobs, 1,439 are in electric power generation; 5,015 in fuels; 9,761 in transmission, distribution, and storage; 8,136 in energy efficiency; and 6,523 in motor vehicles. From 2020 to 2021, energy jobs in the state increased by 1,513 jobs, or 5.2%. The energy sector in Montana represents 6.5% of total state employment.

Figure MT-1.
Employment by Major Energy Technology Application
Breakdown by Technology Applications

Electric Power Generation

The electric power generation sector employed 1,439 workers in Montana, 0.2% of the national electricity total, and added 156 jobs over the past year (12.2%).

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

Utilities work represents the largest industry sector in the electric power generation sector, with 44.8% of jobs. Construction is second largest with 19.7%.

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

The fuel sector employed 5,015 workers in Montana, 0.6% of the national total in fuels. The sector gained 374 jobs and increased 8.1% in the past year.

Figure MT-4.
Fuels Employment by Detailed Technology Application

Manufacturing jobs represent 41.4% of fuel jobs in Montana.

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

The transmission, distribution, and storage (TDS) sector employed 9,761 workers in Montana, 0.6% of the national TDS total. The sector gained 534 jobs and increased 5.8% in the past year.

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

Pipeline transport and commodity flows work represents the greatest proportion of TDS jobs in Montana, accounting for 31.6% of the sector’s jobs statewide.

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

The energy efficiency (EE) sector employed 8,136 workers in Montana, 0.4% of the national EE total. The EE sector added 168 jobs and increased 2.1% in the past year.

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

EE employment is primarily found in the construction industry.

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

The motor vehicles and component sector employed 6,523 workers in Montana, 0.3% of the national total for the sector. Motor vehicles and component parts added 280 jobs and increased 4.5% in the past year. Repair and maintenance work represents the largest proportion of motor vehicle jobs.

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

**Workforce Characteristics**

**Employer Growth**

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

**Table MT-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>0.6</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric Power Transmission, Distribution, and Storage</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Efficiency</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuels</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicles</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Hiring Difficulty**

Employers in Montana reported 48.1% overall hiring difficulty.

**Table MT-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>22.5</td>
<td>25.7</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>43.8</td>
<td>48.1</td>
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