Tennessee
ENERGY AND EMPLOYMENT — 2022

Overview

Tennessee had 202,637 energy workers statewide in 2021, representing 2.6% of all U.S. energy jobs. Of these energy jobs, 12,464 are in electric power generation; 6,274 in fuels; 32,422 in transmission, distribution, and storage; 49,076 in energy efficiency; and 102,400 in motor vehicles. From 2020 to 2021, energy jobs in the state increased by 18,114 jobs, or 9.8%. The energy sector in Tennessee represents 6.7% of total state employment.

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

**Electric Power Generation**

The electric power generation sector employed 12,464 workers in Tennessee, 1.5% of the national electricity total, and added 969 jobs over the past year (8.4%).

**Figure TN-2.**

*Electric Power Generation Employment by Detailed Technology Application*

Utilities work represents the largest industry sector in the electric power generation sector, with 45.2% of jobs. Professional and business services is second largest with 21.2%.

**Figure TN-3.**

*Electric Power Generation Employment by Industry Sector*

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3 Nuclear electric power generation job figures in Tennessee are preliminary, under review, and subject to change.
Fuels

The fuel sector employed 6,274 workers in Tennessee, 0.7% of the national total in fuels. The sector lost 206 jobs and decreased 3.2% in the past year.

Figure TN-4.
Fuels Employment by Detailed Technology Application

Professional and business services jobs represent 34.7% of fuel jobs in Tennessee.

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

The transmission, distribution, and storage (TDS) sector employed 32,422 workers in Tennessee, 0.7% of the national TDS total. The sector lost 300 jobs and decreased 0.9% in the past year.

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

Utilities work represents the greatest proportion of TDS jobs in Tennessee, accounting for 38.2% of the sector’s jobs statewide.

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

The energy efficiency (EE) sector employed 49,076 workers in Tennessee, 2.3% of the national EE total. The EE sector added 1,101 jobs and increased 2.3% in the past year.

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

EE employment is primarily found in the construction industry.

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

The motor vehicles and component sector employed 102,400 workers in Tennessee, 4% of the national total for the sector. Motor vehicles and component parts added 16,550 jobs and increased 19.3% in the past year. Manufacturing work represents the largest proportion of motor vehicle jobs.

Figure TN-10.
Motor Vehicle Employment by Industry Sector

Workforce Characteristics

Employer Growth

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

Table TN-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>0.6</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Efficiency</td>
<td>0.9</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 Tennessee reported 50.0% overall hiring difficulty.

**Table TN-2**

<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>20.6</td>
<td>29.4</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>39.2</td>
<td>50.0</td>
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</tbody>
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