Overview

Washington had 140,640 energy workers statewide in 2021, representing 1.8% of all U.S. energy jobs. Of these energy jobs, 14,283 are in electric power generation; 8,962 in fuels; 28,562 in transmission, distribution, and storage; 57,791 in energy efficiency; and 31,042 in motor vehicles. From 2020 to 2021, energy jobs in the state decreased by 65 jobs, effectively 0%. The energy sector in Washington represents 4.2% of total state employment.

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

Electric Power Generation

The electric power generation sector employed 14,283 workers in Washington, 1.7% of the national electricity total, and lost 442 jobs over the past year (-3%).

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

Construction work represents the largest industry sector in the electric power generation sector, with 38.5% of jobs. Professional and business services is second largest with 23.8%.

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

The fuel sector employed 8,962 workers in Washington, 1% of the national total in fuels. The sector lost 226 jobs and decreased 2.5% in the past year.

Figure WA-4.
Fuels Employment by Detailed Technology Application

Manufacturing jobs represent 38.4% of fuel jobs in Washington.

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

The transmission, distribution, and storage (TDS) sector employed 28,562 workers in Washington, 1% of the national TDS total. The sector lost 203 jobs and decreased 0.7% in the past year.

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

Utilities work represents the greatest proportion of TDS jobs in Washington, accounting for 35.6% of the sector’s jobs statewide.

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

The energy efficiency (EE) sector employed 57,791 workers in Washington, 2.7% of the national EE total. The EE sector added 1,071 jobs and increased 1.9% in the past year.

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

EE employment is primarily found in the construction industry.

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

The motor vehicles and component sector employed 31,042 workers in Washington, 1.2% of the national total for the sector. Motor vehicles and component parts lost 264 jobs and decreased 0.8% in the past year. Repair and maintenance work represents the largest proportion of motor vehicle jobs.

Figure WA-10.
Motor Vehicle Employment by Industry Sector

Workforce Characteristics

Employer Growth

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

Table WA-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>-0.2</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric Power Transmission, Distribution, and Storage</td>
<td>-0.8</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Efficiency</td>
<td>-0.5</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuels</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicles</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>3.2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Hiring Difficulty**

Employers in Washington reported 56.0% overall hiring difficulty.

**Table WA-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>26.8</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>56.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>