North Dakota

U.S. ENERGY AND EMPLOYMENT REPORT - 2023

Overview

North Dakota had 58,722 energy workers statewide in 2022, representing 0.7% of all U.S. energy jobs. Of these energy jobs, 3,369 were in electric power generation; 33,198 in fuels; 9,646 in transmission, distribution, and storage; 5,110 in energy efficiency; and 7,400 in motor vehicles. From 2021 to 2022, energy jobs in the state increased 8,066 jobs, or 15.9% (Figure ND-1). The energy sector in North Dakota represented 14.0% of total state employment.

Figure ND-1. Employment by Major Energy Technology Application



Breakdown by Technology Applications

Electric Power Generation

As shown in Figure ND-2, the electric power generation sector employed 3,369 workers in North Dakota, 0.4% of the national electricity total, and lost 5 jobs from 2021 to 2022 (-0.1%).



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

Construction was the largest industry sector in the electric power generation sector, with 53.1% of jobs. Utilities was second largest with 29.0% (Figure ND-3).

Figure ND-3. Electric Power Generation Employment by Industry Sector



Fuels

The Fuel sector employed 33,198 workers in North Dakota, 3.2% of the national total in fuels (Figure ND-4). The sector gained 7,786 jobs and increased 30.6% from 2021 to 2022.

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Figure ND-4. Fuels Employment by Detailed Technology Application

Mining and extraction jobs represented 48.6% of fuel jobs in North Dakota (Figure ND-5).





Transmission, Distribution and Storage

The transmission, distribution, and storage (TDS) sector employed 9,646 workers in North Dakota, 3.2% of the national TDS total (Figure ND-6). The sector gained 92 jobs and increased 1.0% from 2021 to 2022.

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



Construction was the largest proportion of TDS jobs in North Dakota, accounting for 41.0% of the sector's jobs statewide (Figure ND-7).

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



Energy Efficiency

The energy efficiency (EE) sector employed 5,110 workers in North Dakota, 0.2% of the national EE total. The EE sector added 166 jobs and increased 3.4% from 2021 to 2022 (Figure ND-8).





Energy efficiency employment was primarily found in the construction industry (Figure ND-9).





Motor Vehicles and Component Parts

The motor vehicles and component sector employed 7,400 workers in North Dakota, 0.3% of the national total for the sector. Motor vehicles and component parts added 28 jobs and increased 0.4% from 2021 to 2022. Repair and maintenance is the largest proportion of motor vehicle jobs (Figure ND-10).





Clean Energy Jobs

In 2022, there were 16,260 jobs in clean energy in North Dakota if traditional transmission and distribution is included and 9,255 jobs if it is not.³⁵ These increased under either definition, growing 2.6% with traditional transmission and distribution and 3.3% without.

Employer Perspectives

Expected Growth

Employers in North Dakota were less optimistic than their peers across the country about energy sector job growth over the next year (Table ND-1).

Technology	State Expected Growth Next 12 Months (percent)	U.S. Expected Growth Next 12 Months (percent)	
Electric Power Generation	4.9	6.0	
Electric Power Transmission, Distribution, and Storage	3.8	3.9	
Energy Efficiency	5.1	6.4	
Fuels	2.7	1.6	
Motor Vehicles	4.6	5.5	

Table ND-1 Expected Growth by Major Technology Application

³⁵ The definition of "clean energy" at the state level differs from the national definition due to data availability. For more information see Appendix A of the national U.S. Energy and Employment Report.

Hiring Difficulty

Employers in North Dakota reported 59% overall hiring difficulty (Table ND-2).

Hiring Difficulty	Very Difficult (percent)	Somewhat Difficult (percent)	Not at All Difficult (percent)	Did not hire (percent)	Overall Hiring Difficulty
Overall	27	32	4	36	59

Table ND-2 Hiring Difficulty by Major Technology Application