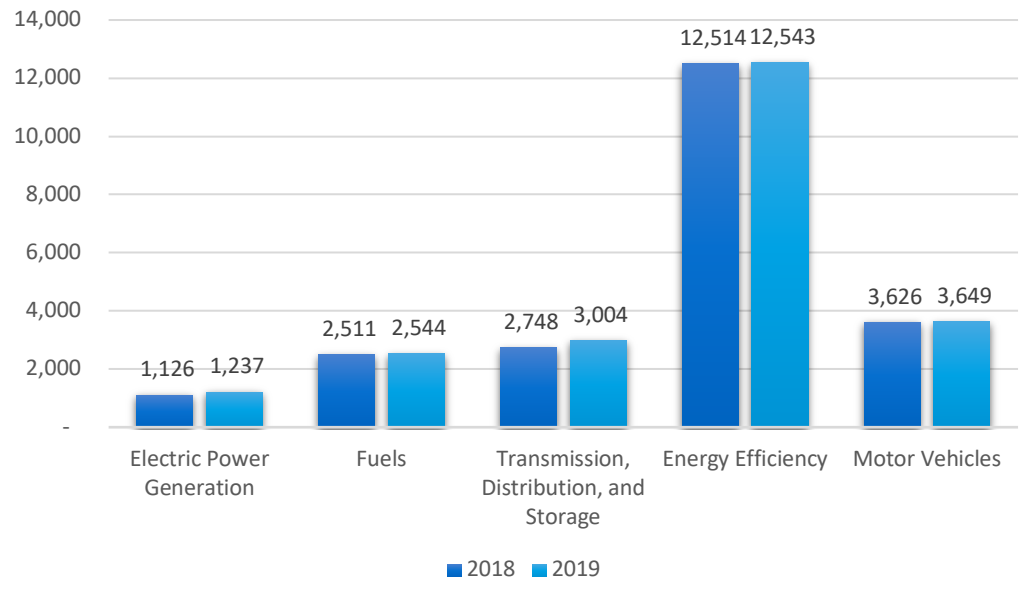
Delaware

ENERGY AND EMPLOYMENT — 2020

Overview

Delaware has a low concentration of energy employment, with 6,785 Traditional Energy workers statewide (representing 0.2 percent of all U.S. Traditional Energy jobs). Of these Traditional Energy workers, 1,237 are in Electric Power Generation, 2,544 are in Fuels, and 3,004 are in Transmission, Distribution, and Storage. The Traditional Energy sector in Delaware is 1.5 percent of total state employment (compared to 2.3 percent of national employment). Delaware has an additional 12,543 jobs in Energy Efficiency (0.5 percent of all U.S. Energy Efficiency jobs) and 3,649 jobs in Motor Vehicles (0.1 percent of all U.S. Motor Vehicle jobs).

Figure DE-1.
Employment by Major Energy Technology Application



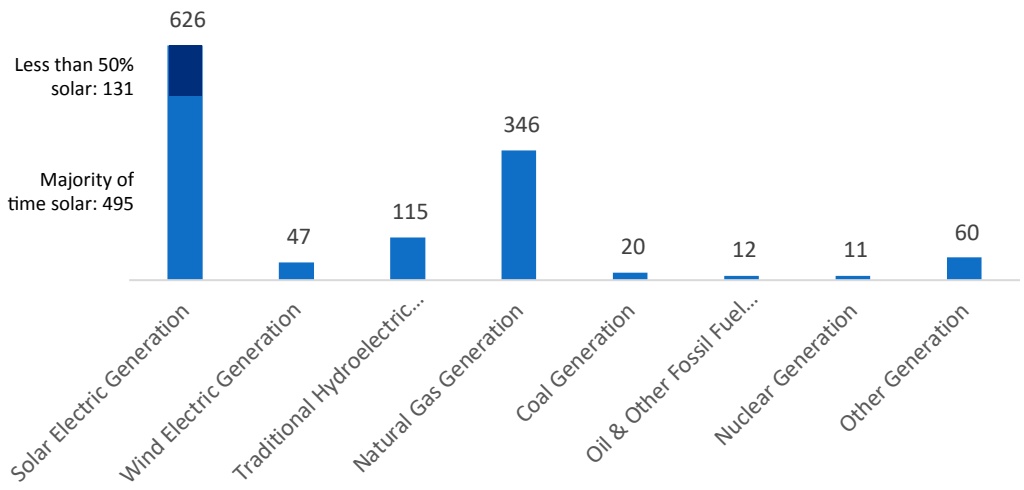
Overall, Traditional Energy jobs grew by 6.3 percent since the 2019 report, increasing by 401 jobs over the period. Energy Efficiency jobs added 29 jobs (0.2 percent) and motor vehicles added 24 jobs (0.7 percent).

Breakdown by Technology Applications

ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION

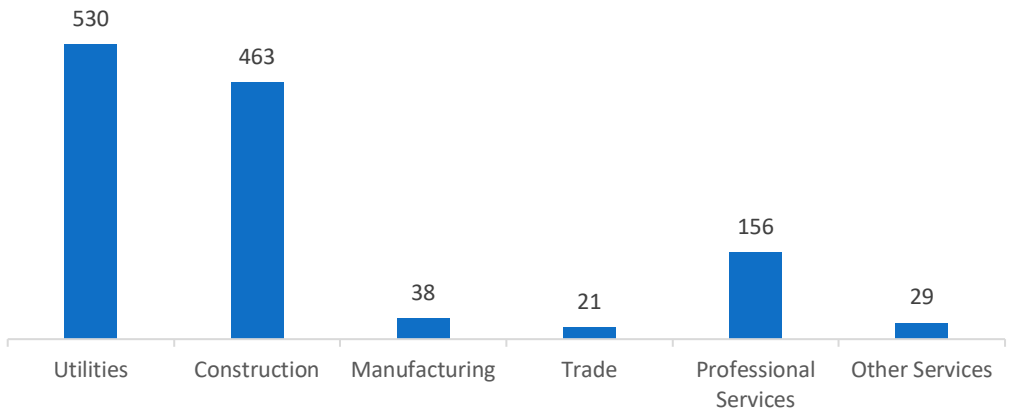
Electric Power Generation employs 1,237 workers in Delaware, 0.1 percent of the national total and adding 111 jobs over the past year (9.8 percent). Solar makes up the largest segment of employment related to Electric Power Generation, with 626 jobs (up 7.4 percent), followed by traditional fossil fuel generation at 378 jobs (up 8.0 percent).

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



Utilities are the largest industry sector in Electric Power Generation, with 42.8 percent of jobs. Construction is next with 37.4 percent.

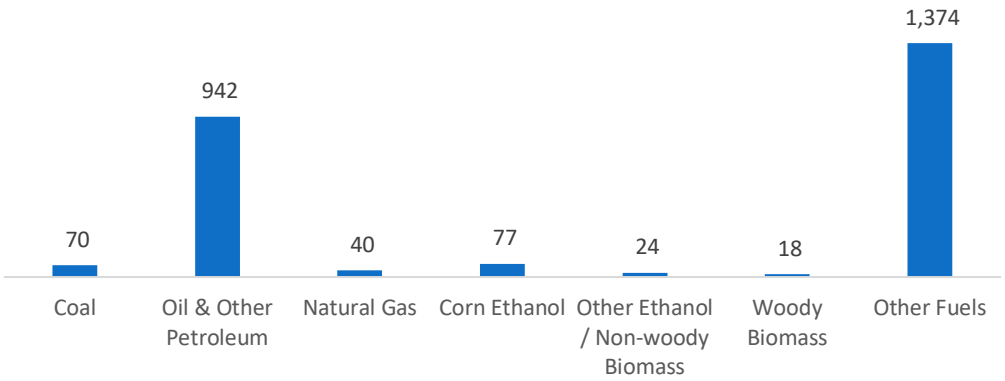
Figure DE-3.
Electric Power Generation by Industry Sector



FUELS

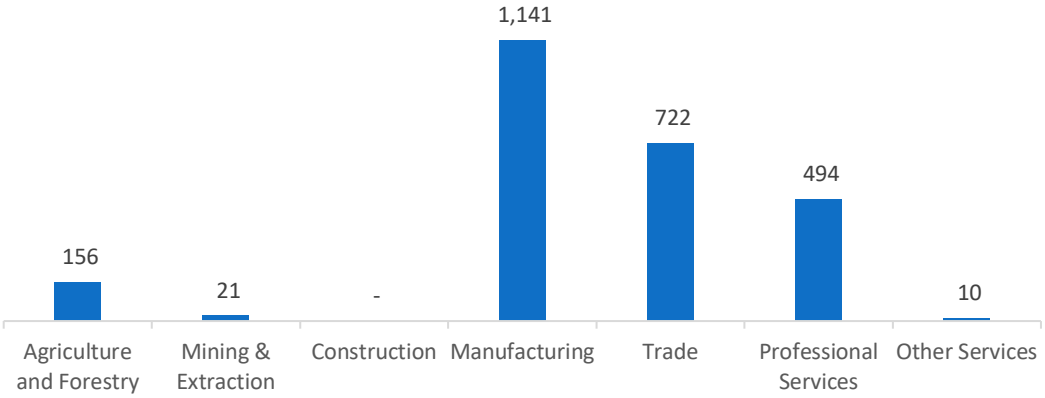
Fuels employs 2,544 workers in Delaware, 0.2 percent of the national total, up 1.3 percent over the past year. Other fuels makes up the largest segment of employment related to Fuels.

Figure DE-4.
Fuels Employment by Detailed Technology Application



Manufacturing jobs represent 44.8 percent of Fuels jobs in Delaware.

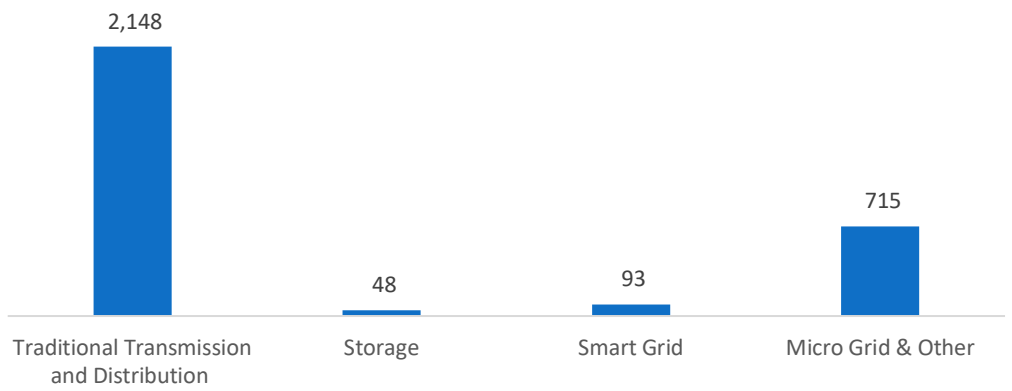
Figure DE-5.
Fuels Employment by Industry Sector



TRANSMISSION, DISTRIBUTION AND STORAGE

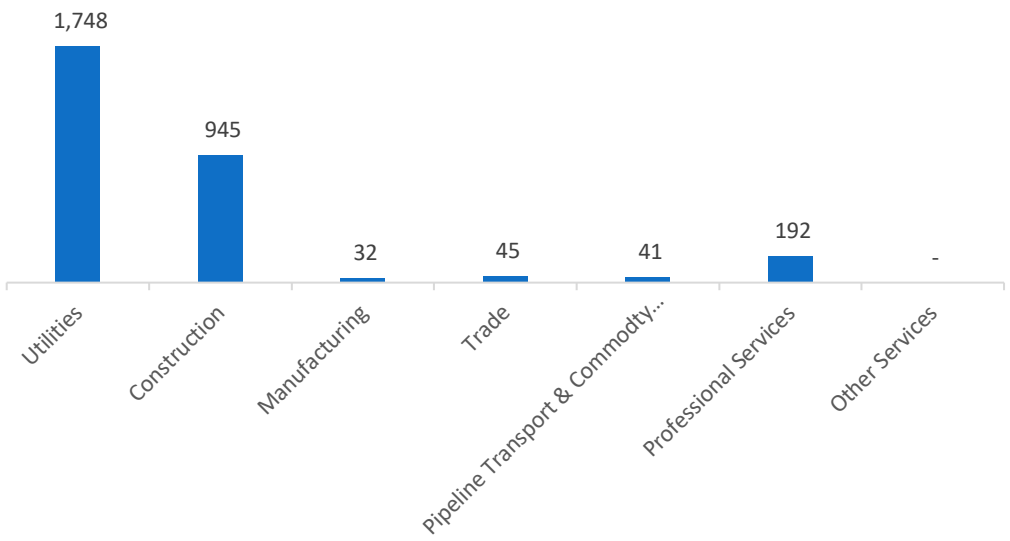
Transmission, Distribution, and Storage employs 3,004 workers in Delaware, 0.2 percent of the national total, up 9.3 percent or 256 jobs since the 2018 report.

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



Utilities are responsible for the largest percentage of Transmission, Distribution, and Storage jobs in Delaware, with 58.2 percent of such jobs statewide.

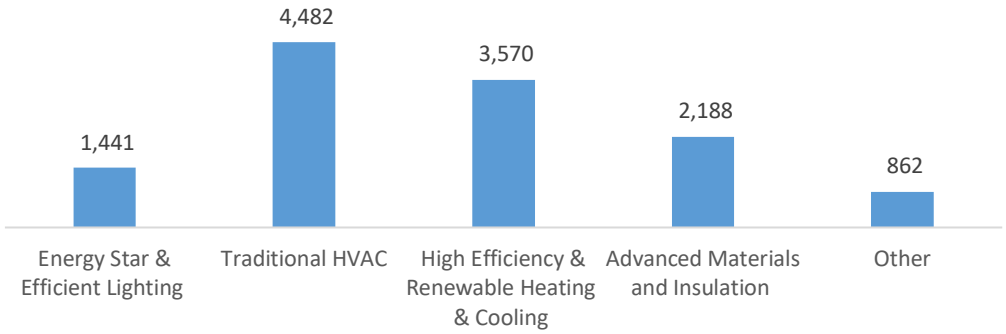
Figure DE-7.
Transmission, Distribution and Storage Employment by Industry Sector



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

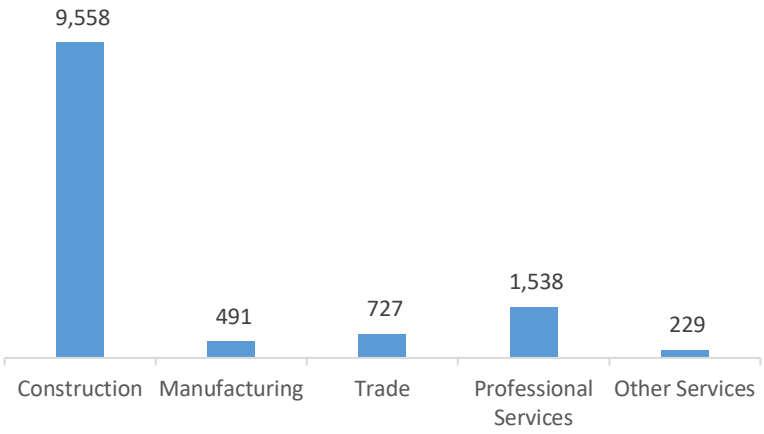
The 12,543 Energy Efficiency jobs in Delaware represent 0.5 percent of all U.S. Energy Efficiency jobs, adding 29 jobs (0.2 percent) since last year. The largest number of these employees work in (traditional HVAC firms, followed by high efficiency HVAC and renewable heating and cooling.

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



Energy Efficiency employment is primarily found in the construction industry.

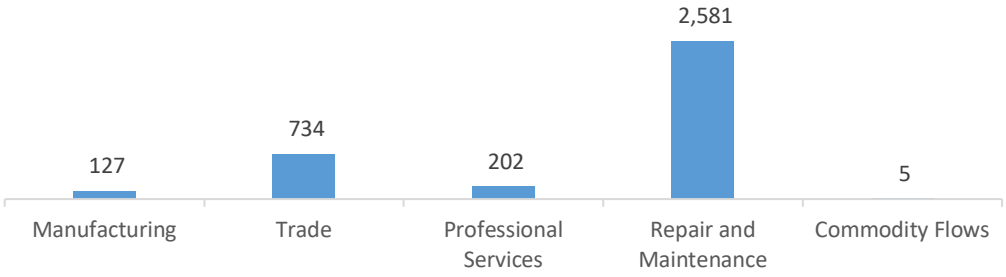
Figure DE-9.
Energy Efficiency Employment by Industry Sector



MOTOR VEHICLES

Motor Vehicle employment accounts for 3,649 jobs in Delaware, up 24 jobs over the past year (0.7 percent). The industry sector that accounts for the largest fraction of Motor Vehicle jobs is repair and maintenance.

Figure DE-10.
Motor Vehicle Employment by Industry Sector



Workforce Characteristics

EMPLOYER GROWTH

Employers in Delaware are more optimistic to their peers across the country in regards to their job growth over the next year in Traditional Energy (3.7 percent versus 3.2 percent nationally). Energy Efficiency employers expect to add 363 jobs in Energy Efficiency (2.9 percent) and Motor Vehicles employers expect to add 289 jobs (7.9 percent) over the next year.

Table DE-1
Projected Growth by Major Technology Application.

Technology	State Projected Growth Next 12 Months (percent)	U.S. Projected Growth Next 12 Months (percent)
Electric Power Generation	3.7	4.8
Electric Power Transmission, Distribution, and Storage	3.5	3.5
Energy Efficiency	2.9	3.0
Fuels	4.0	1.7
Motor Vehicles	7.9	3.1

HIRING DIFFICULTY

Over the last year, 50.0 percent of energy-related employers in Delaware hired new employees. These employers reported the greatest overall difficulty in hiring workers for jobs in Electric Power Generation.

Table DE-2
Hiring Difficulty by Major Technology Application.

Technology	Very Difficult (percent)	Somewhat Difficult (percent)	Not at All Difficult (percent)
Electric Power Generation	25.4	66.1	8.5
Electric Power Transmission, Distribution, and Storage	28.2	62.4	9.4
Energy Efficiency	39.4	45.5	15.2
Fuels	30.8	39.9	29.3
Motor Vehicles	34.2	54.0	11.8

Employers in Delaware gave the following as the top three reasons for their reported difficulty:

1. Competition/ small applicant pool
2. Insufficient non-technical skills (work ethic, dependability, critical thinking)
3. Lack of experience, training, or technical skills

Employers reported the following as the three most difficult occupations to hire for:

1. Electrician/construction workers — $22.79 median hourly wage
2. Sales, marketing, or customer service — $31.16 median hourly wage
3. Installation workers — $20.65 median hourly wage