Illinois ENERGY AND EMPLOYMENT – 2020

Overview

Illinois has a low concentration of energy employment, with 114,071 Traditional Energy workers statewide (representing 3.3 percent of all U.S. Traditional Energy jobs). Of these Traditional Energy workers, 31,018 are in Electric Power Generation, 33,080 are in Fuels, and 49,973 are in Transmission, Distribution, and Storage. The Traditional Energy sector in Illinois is 1.9 percent of total state employment (compared to 2.3 percent of national employment). Illinois has an additional 91,024 jobs in Energy Efficiency (3.8 percent of all U.S. Energy Efficiency jobs) and 104,976 jobs in Motor Vehicles (4.1 percent of all U.S. Motor Vehicle jobs).



Figure IL-1.

Overall, Traditional Energy jobs grew by 0.3 percent since the 2019 report,

Employment by Major Energy Technology Application

increasing by 341 jobs over the period. Energy Efficiency jobs added 1,555 jobs (1.7 percent) and motor vehicles added 945 jobs (0.9 percent).

Breakdown by Technology Applications

ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION

Electric Power Generation employs 31,018 workers in Illinois, 3.5 percent of the national total and adding 631 jobs over the past year (2.1 percent). Wind makes up the largest segment of employment related to Electric Power Generation, with 8,763 jobs (up 0.7 percent), followed by traditional fossil fuel generation at 7,376 jobs (down -2.9 percent).

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



Construction is the largest industry sector in Electric Power Generation, with 31.8 percent of jobs. Utilities are next with 25.5 percent.



Figure IL-3. Electric Power Generation by Industry Sector

FUELS

Fuels employs 33,080 workers in Illinois, 2.9 percent of the national total, up 1.0 percent over the past year. Petroleum and other fossil fuels makes up the largest segment of employment related to Fuels.

Figure IL-4.



Fuels Employment by Detailed Technology Application

Manufacturing jobs represent 30.0 percent of Fuels jobs in Illinois.

Figure IL-5. Fuels Employment by Industry Sector



TRANSMISSION, DISTRIBUTION AND STORAGE

Transmission, Distribution, and Storage employs 49,973 workers in Illinois, 3.6 percent of the national total, down 1.2 percent or 604 jobs since the 2018 report.

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



Utilities are responsible for the largest percentage of Transmission, Distribution, and Storage jobs in Illinois, with 35.9 percent of such jobs statewide.





ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The 91,024 Energy Efficiency jobs in Illinois represent 3.8 percent of all U.S. Energy Efficiency jobs, adding 1,555 jobs (1.7 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 IL-8.





Energy Efficiency employment is primarily found in the construction industry.

Figure IL-9. Energy Efficiency Employment by Industry Sector



MOTOR VEHICLES

Motor Vehicle employment accounts for 104,976 jobs in Illinois, up 945 jobs over the past year (0.9 percent). The industry sector that accounts for the largest fraction of Motor Vehicle jobs is repair and maintenance.

Figure IL-10. Motor Vehicle Employment by Industry Sector



Workforce Characteristics

EMPLOYER GROWTH

Employers in Illinois 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 3,621 jobs in Energy Efficiency (4.0 percent) and Motor Vehicles employers expect to add 3,018 jobs (2.9 percent) over the next year.

Table IL-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	5.7	4.8
Electric Power Transmission, Distribution, and Storage	2.6	3.5
Energy Efficiency	4.0	3.0
Fuels	3.4	1.7
Motor Vehicles	2.9	3.1

HIRING DIFFICULTY

Over the last year, 39.3 percent of energy-related employers in Illinois hired new employees. These employers reported the greatest overall difficulty in hiring workers for jobs in Motor Vehicles.

Table IL-2

Hiring Difficulty by Major Technology Application.

Technology	Very Difficult (percent)	Somewhat Difficult (percent)	Not at All Difficult (percent)
Electric Power Generation	12.5	52.8	34.7
Electric Power Transmission, Distribution, and Storage	21.3	47.8	30.9
Energy Efficiency	61.4	28.9	9.6
Fuels	36.9	35.0	28.1
Motor Vehicles	32.7	58.1	9.2

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

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

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

- 1. Technician or mechanical support \$21.25 median hourly wage
- 2. Management (directors, supervisors, vice presidents) \$43.21 median hourly wage
- 3. Sales, marketing, or customer service \$32.37 median hourly wage