Kansas ENERGY AND EMPLOYMENT – 2020

Overview

Kansas has a high concentration of energy employment, with 48,696 Traditional Energy workers statewide (representing 1.4 percent of all U.S. Traditional Energy jobs). Of these Traditional Energy workers, 16,203 are in Electric Power Generation, 14,908 are in Fuels, and 17,585 are in Transmission, Distribution, and Storage. The Traditional Energy sector in Kansas is 3.5 percent of total state employment (compared to 2.3 percent of national employment). Kansas has an additional 17,848 jobs in Energy Efficiency (0.8 percent of all U.S. Energy Efficiency jobs) and 19,591 jobs in Motor Vehicles (0.8 percent of all U.S. Motor Vehicle jobs).



Figure KS-1.

Employment by Major Energy Technology Application

Overall, Traditional Energy jobs declined by 1.2 percent since the 2019 report, decreasing by 583 jobs over the period. Energy Efficiency jobs added 561 jobs (3.2 percent) and motor vehicles lost 275 jobs (-1.4 percent).

Breakdown by Technology Applications

ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION

Electric Power Generation employs 16,203 workers in Kansas, 1.8 percent of the national total and losing 501 jobs over the past year (-3.0 percent). Traditional fossil fuel generation makes up the largest segment of employment related to Electric Power Generation, with 9,254 jobs (down -5.2 percent), followed by wind at 2,112 jobs (up 1.2 percent).

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



Professional and business services are the largest industry sector in Electric Power Generation, with 59.0 percent of jobs. Construction is next with 23.0 percent.

Figure KS-3.

Electric Power Generation by Industry Sector



FUELS

Figure KS-4.

Fuels employs 14,908 workers in Kansas, 1.3 percent of the national total, up 0.9 percent over the past year. Petroleum and other fossil fuels makes up the largest segment of employment related to Fuels.





Mining and extraction jobs represent 35.6 percent of Fuels jobs in Kansas.

Figure KS-5. Fuels Employment by Industry Sector



TRANSMISSION, DISTRIBUTION AND STORAGE

Transmission, Distribution, and Storage employs 17,585 workers in Kansas, 1.3 percent of the national total, down 1.2 percent or 209 jobs since the 2018 report.

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



Professional and business services are responsible for the largest percentage of Transmission, Distribution, and Storage jobs in Kansas, with 46.7 percent of such jobs statewide.





ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The 17,848 Energy Efficiency jobs in Kansas represent 0.8 percent of all U.S. Energy Efficiency jobs, adding 561 jobs (3.2 percent) since last year. The largest number of these employees work in (other energy efficiency products and services firms, followed by ENERGY STAR and efficient lighting.

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



Energy Efficiency employment is primarily found in the professional and business services industry.



Figure KS-9. Energy Efficiency Employment by Industry Sector

MOTOR VEHICLES

Motor Vehicle employment accounts for 19,591 jobs in Kansas, down 275 jobs over the past year (-1.4 percent). The industry sector that accounts for the largest fraction of Motor Vehicle jobs is repair and maintenance.

Figure KS-10.



Motor Vehicle Employment by Industry Sector

Workforce Characteristics

EMPLOYER GROWTH

Employers in Kansas are more optimistic to their peers across the country in regards to their job growth over the next year in Traditional Energy (3.8 percent versus 3.2 percent nationally). Energy Efficiency employers expect to add 621 jobs in Energy Efficiency (3.5 percent) and Motor Vehicles employers expect to add 777 jobs (4.0 percent) over the next year.

Table KS-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	1.0	3.5
Energy Efficiency	3.5	3.0
Fuels	4.9	1.7
Motor Vehicles	4.0	3.1

HIRING DIFFICULTY

Over the last year, 53.3 percent of energy-related employers in Kansas hired new employees. These employers reported the greatest overall difficulty in hiring workers for jobs in Electric Power Transmission, Distribution, and Storage.

Table KS-2

Hiring Difficulty by Major Technology Application.

Technology	Very Difficult (percent)	Somewhat Difficult (percent)	Not at All Difficult (percent)
Electric Power Generation	39.0	48.8	12.2
Electric Power Transmission, Distribution, and Storage	35.1	53.9	11.0
Energy Efficiency	29.0	55.0	16.0
Fuels	25.7	45.9	28.4
Motor Vehicles	46.3	41.4	12.2

Employers in Kansas 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 \$25.82 median hourly wage
- 2. Technician or mechanical support \$21.52 median hourly wage
- 3. Engineers/scientists \$37.61 median hourly wage