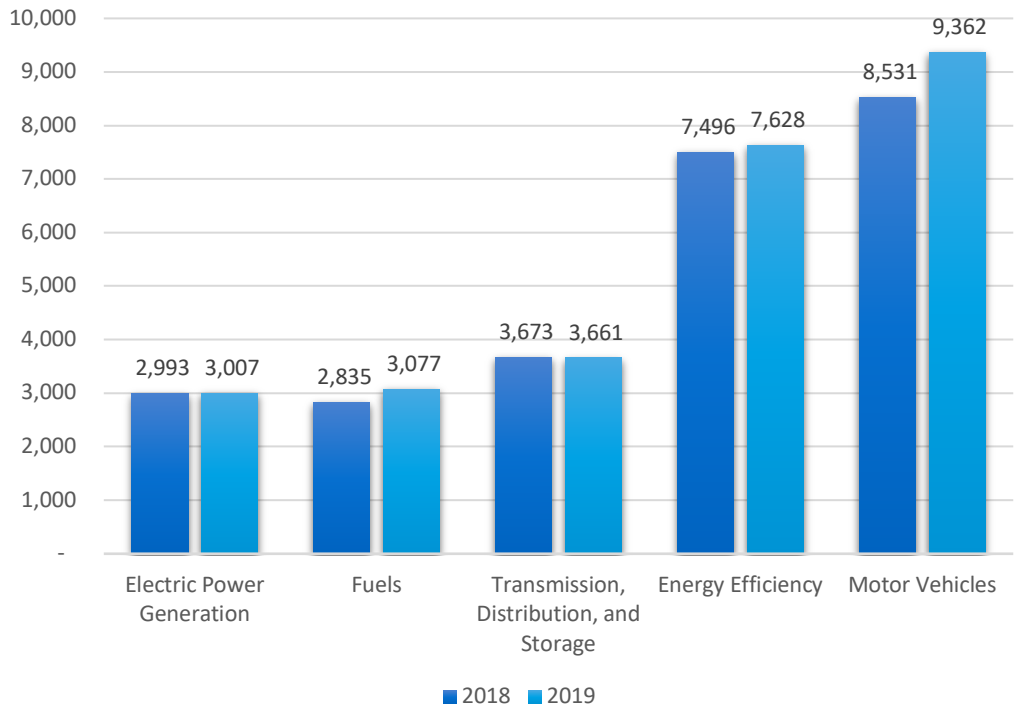
South Dakota

ENERGY AND EMPLOYMENT — 2020

Overview

South Dakota has an average concentration of energy employment, with 9,745 Traditional Energy workers statewide (representing 0.3 percent of all U.S. Traditional Energy jobs). Of these Traditional Energy workers, 3,007 are in Electric Power Generation, 3,077 are in Fuels, and 3,661 are in Transmission, Distribution, and Storage. The Traditional Energy sector in South Dakota is 2.2 percent of total state employment (compared to 2.3 percent of national employment). South Dakota has an additional 7,628 jobs in Energy Efficiency (0.3 percent of all U.S. Energy Efficiency jobs) and 9,362 jobs in Motor Vehicles (0.4 percent of all U.S. Motor Vehicle jobs).

Figure SD-1.
Employment by Major Energy Technology Application



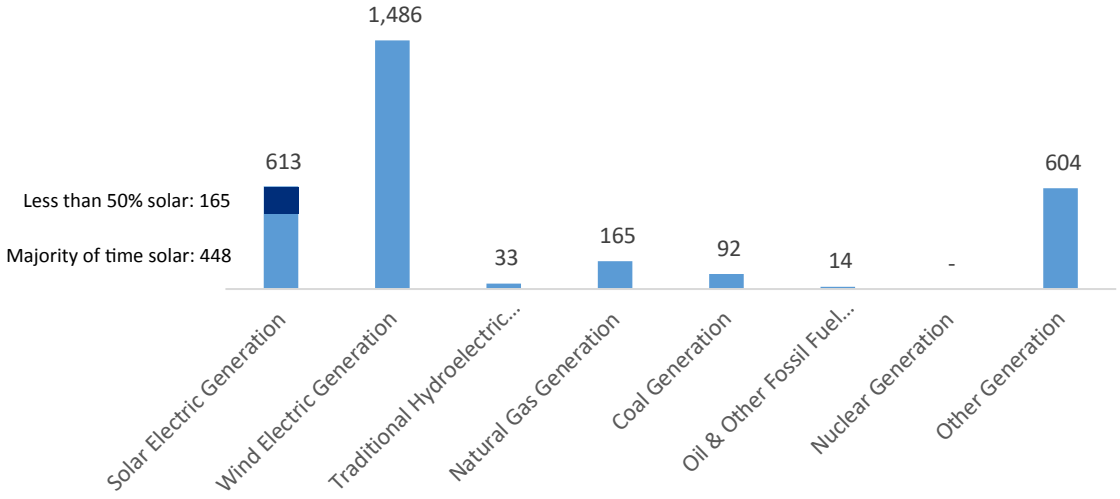
Overall, Traditional Energy jobs grew by 2.6 percent since the 2019 report, increasing by 244 jobs over the period. Energy Efficiency jobs added 132 jobs (1.8 percent) and motor vehicles added 831 jobs (9.7 percent).

Breakdown by Technology Applications

ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION

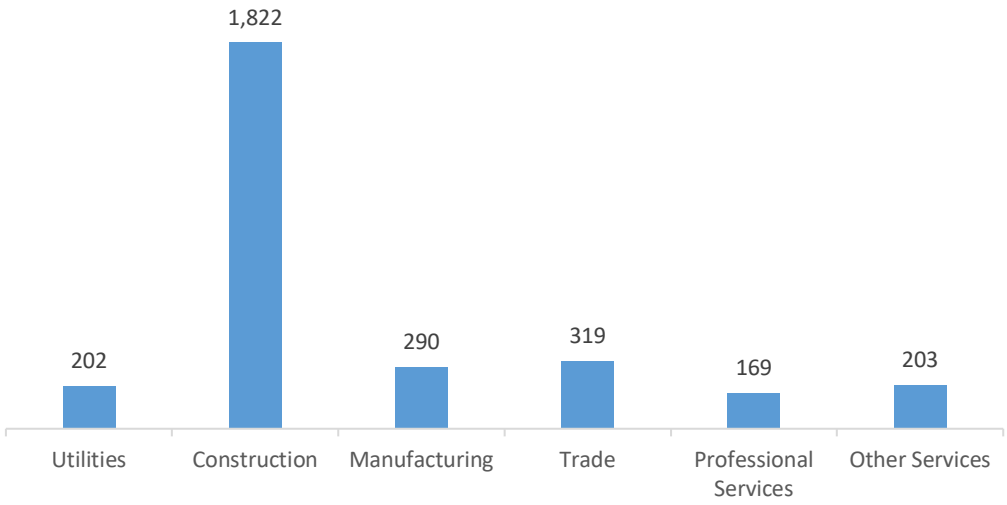
Electric Power Generation employs 3,007 workers in South Dakota, 0.3 percent of the national total and adding 13 jobs over the past year (0.4 percent). Wind makes up the largest segment of employment related to Electric Power Generation, with 1,486 jobs (down -1.0 percent), followed by solar at 613 jobs (up 4.9 percent).

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



Construction is the largest industry sector in Electric Power Generation, with 60.6 percent of jobs. Wholesale trade is next with 10.6 percent.

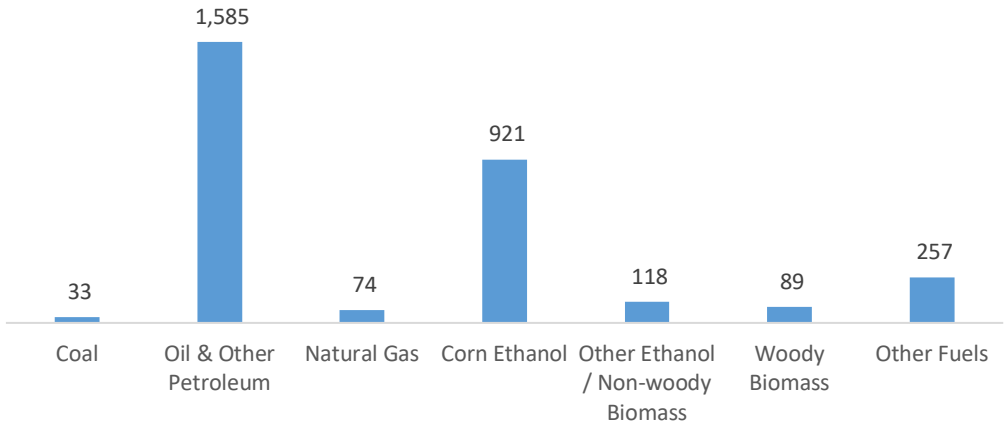
Figure SD-3.
Electric Power Generation by Industry Sector



FUELS

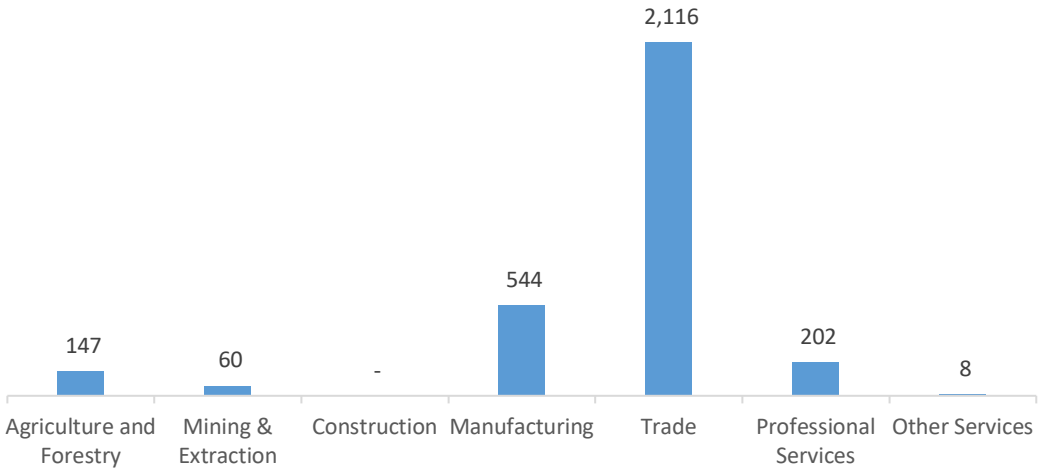
Fuels employs 3,077 workers in South Dakota, 0.3 percent of the national total, up 8.5 percent over the past year. Petroleum and other fossil fuels makes up the largest segment of employment related to Fuels.

Figure SD-4.
Fuels Employment by Detailed Technology Application



Wholesale trade jobs represent 68.8 percent of Fuels jobs in South Dakota.

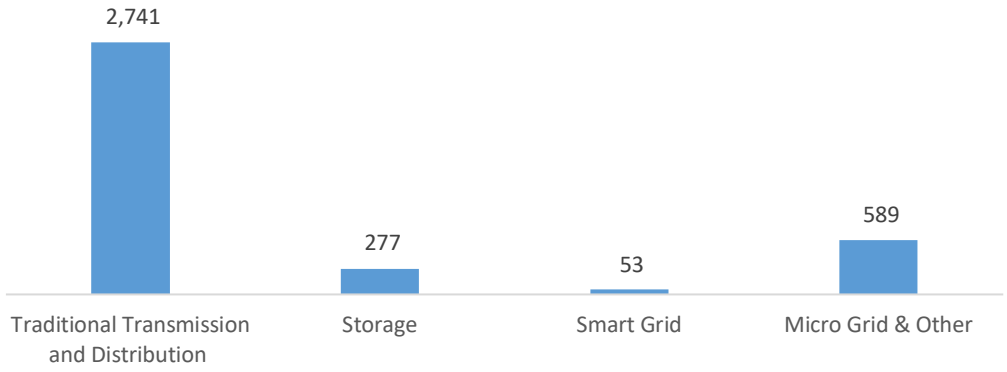
Figure SD-5.
Fuels Employment by Industry Sector



TRANSMISSION, DISTRIBUTION AND STORAGE

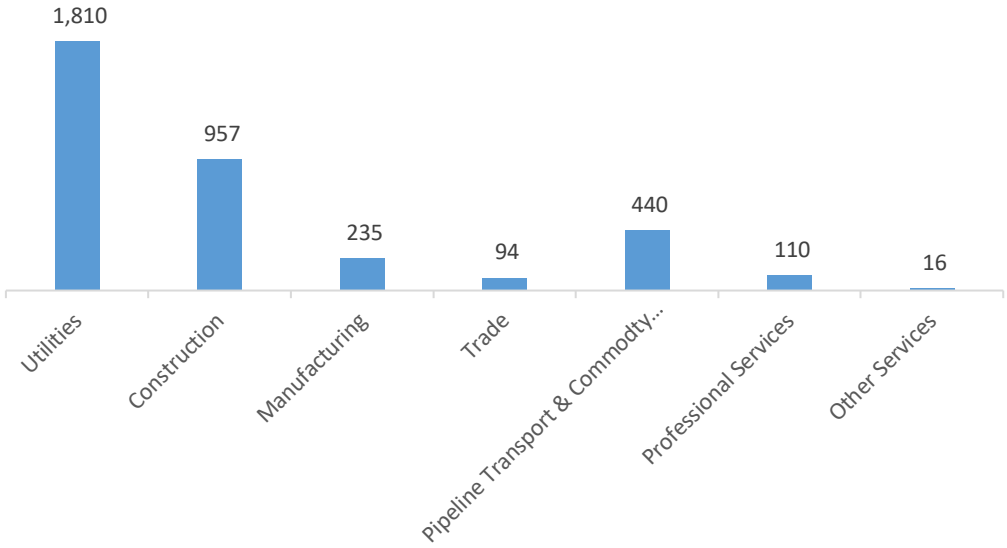
Transmission, Distribution, and Storage employs 3,661 workers in South Dakota, 0.3 percent of the national total, down 0.3 percent or 11 jobs since the 2018 report.

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



Utilities are responsible for the largest percentage of Transmission, Distribution, and Storage jobs in South Dakota, with 49.4 percent of such jobs statewide.

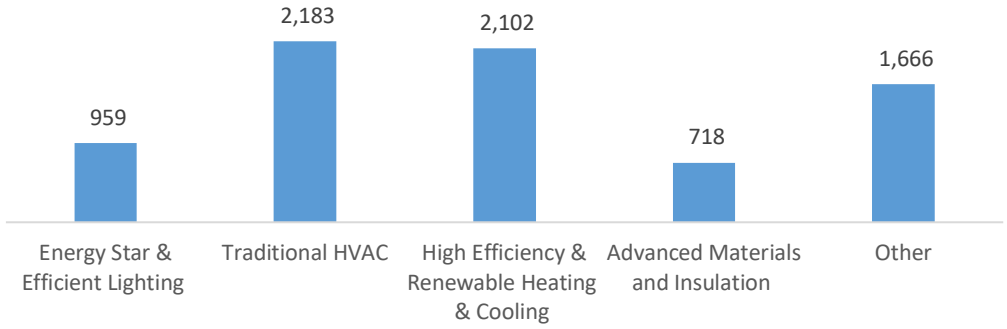
Figure SD-7.
Transmission, Distribution and Storage Employment by Industry Sector



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

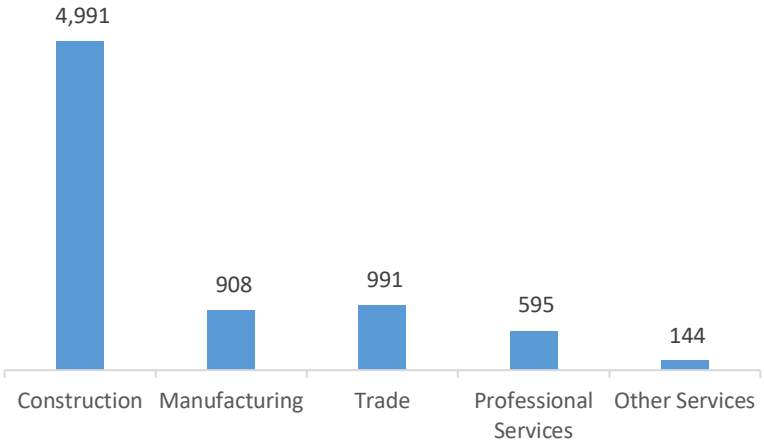
The 7,628 Energy Efficiency jobs in South Dakota represent 0.3 percent of all U.S. Energy Efficiency jobs, adding 132 jobs (1.8 percent) since last year. The largest number of these employees work in (traditional HVAC firms, followed by high efficiency HVAC and renewable heating and cooling.

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



Energy Efficiency employment is primarily found in the construction industry.

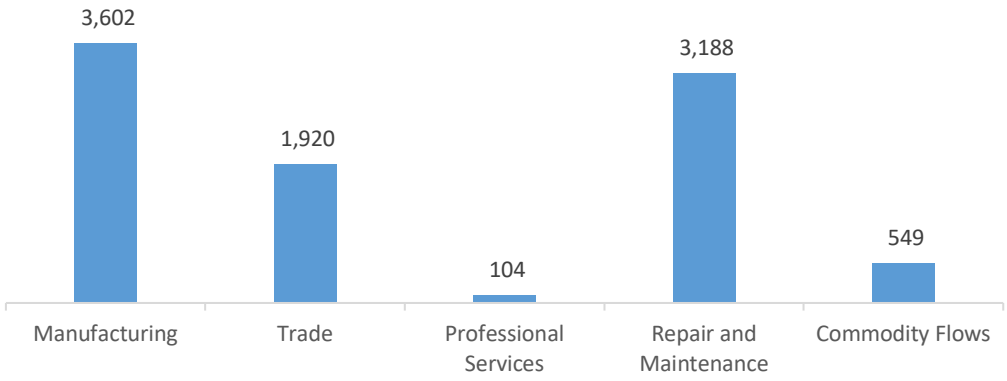
Figure SD-9.
Energy Efficiency Employment by Industry Sector



MOTOR VEHICLES

Motor Vehicle employment accounts for 9,362 jobs in South Dakota, up 831 jobs over the past year (9.7 percent). The industry sector that accounts for the largest fraction of Motor Vehicle jobs is manufacturing.

Figure SD-10.
Motor Vehicle Employment by Industry Sector



Workforce Characteristics

EMPLOYER GROWTH

Employers in South Dakota 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 243 jobs in Energy Efficiency (3.2 percent) and Motor Vehicles employers expect to add 371 jobs (4.0 percent) over the next year.

Table SD-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	6.0	4.8
Electric Power Transmission, Distribution, and Storage	1.0	3.5
Energy Efficiency	3.2	3.0
Fuels	4.9	1.7
Motor Vehicles	4.0	3.1

HIRING DIFFICULTY

Over the last year, 66.7 percent of energy-related employers in South Dakota hired new employees. These employers reported the greatest overall difficulty in hiring workers for jobs in Electric Power Generation.

Table SD-2
Hiring Difficulty by Major Technology Application.

Technology	Very Difficult (percent)	Somewhat Difficult (percent)	Not at All Difficult (percent)
Electric Power Generation	35.1	53.9	11.0
Electric Power Transmission, Distribution, and Storage	35.1	43.9	21.0
Energy Efficiency	29.0	45.0	26.0
Fuels	25.7	35.9	38.4
Motor Vehicles	46.3	41.4	12.2

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

1. Lack of experience, training, or technical skills
2. Economy/structural problem
3. Competition/ small applicant pool

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

1. Technician or mechanical support — $21.52 median hourly wage
2. Electrician/construction workers — $25.82 median hourly wage
3. Sales, marketing, or customer service — $33.71 median hourly wage