

STATE SOLAR JOBS 2013

The solar industry currently supports more U.S. workers than ever. The Solar Foundation's (TSF) *National Solar Jobs Census 2013* shows that the U.S. solar industry employs 142,698 workers, a figure which represents nearly 20% growth in employment over the previous year, exceeding growth projections for the first time ever. With the addition of almost 24,000 solar workers since *Census 2012*, the U.S. solar industry added an average of 56 workers each day. Since TSF first began tracking solar employment in 2010 via its *Census* series, the industry has grown an astounding 53%, adding nearly 50,000 new jobs. While resources have not allowed a *Census* to be conducted in each state, TSF has internally generated state job figures since 2010. In 2012, TSF adopted what is considered its most reliable methodology for internally tracking employment at the state level. This fact sheet summarizes the new state figures for 2013 and highlights some notable employment trends observed over the past year.

State of the States

Solar jobs exist in all 50 states and are growing at a very brisk pace in most states. Eighteen Southern, Mountain and Midwestern states more than doubled solar jobs in 2013. However, California, Arizona, New Jersey, and Massachusetts account for nearly 50% of total solar jobs in the U.S.

Not surprisingly, California continues to lead in solar employment, as it also leads in installed solar capacity. While over 50% of this employment is in the installation sector, California has a strong manufacturing presence, representing 22% of the state's 47,223 solar jobs. Growth is expected to surge by over 22%, adding 10,500 new jobs to the Golden State by the end of 2014.

Following in its path, Arizona retained 8,558 solar jobs, downsizing from the 9,800 jobs it had in 2012. However, Arizona remains the second-largest hub for solar careers, accounting for 6% of total employment, despite being only the 16th most populous state. Solar employment in Arizona is expected to grow by 5.6% in the next 12 months.



Across State Lines

Although the top four states for solar employment remain the same since 2012, there was a good deal of movement among the rest of the states. Florida jumped 5 spots, from 12th to 7th, while New York increased from 7th to 5th. North Carolina surged from 18th to 10th, and Texas grew from 8th to 6th. Despite these gains, some states did lose their share of jobs. Arizona suffered the worst, losing over 1,000 jobs between 2012 and 2013, closely followed by Michigan and Pennsylvania.

Growth per Capita

Differences in employment gains between states resulted in many changes in per capita solar employment ranks. Topping the list were states with smaller populations, with Vermont and Hawaii enjoying a sizeable lead over the rest of the country. Vermont saw the most significant change, jumping from 11th to 1st in the rankings. Additionally, a few Mountain states saw notable per capita gains – South Dakota jumped from 47th to 19th, Montana from 35th to 16th, and Wyoming from 40th to 13th.



Image courtesy of NREL

State	Total Workers 2013	Rank 2013	Total Workers 2012	Rank 2012	Jobs per Capita Rank 2013	Jobs per Capita Rank 2012	Current Installed Capacity Rank
CA	47,223	1	43,700	1	5	4	1
AZ	8,558	2	9,800	2	4	1	2
NJ	6,500	3	5,700	3	9	9	3
MA	6,400	4	4,500	4	6	8	6
NY	5,000	5	3,300	7	33	26	12
TX	4,100	6	3,200	8	44	30	13
FL	4,000	7	2,500	12	39	28	11
ОН	3,800	8	2,900	10	23	18	15
СО	3,600	9	3,600	6	10	7	7
NC	3,100	10	1,400	18	25	27	5
PA	2,900	11	4,000	5	36	16	9
TN	2,800	12	2,300	14	18	14	17
МО	2,800	12	1,200	20	17	20	23
OR	2,700	14	2,900	10	11	6	16
MI	2,700	14	3,000	9	31	17	25
HI	2,600	16	1,600	17	2	3	8
GA	2,600	16	800	23	32	42	21
NV	2,400	18	2,400	13	8	5	4
IL	2,100	19	1,700	16	43	29	19
WA	2,000	20	1,300	19	30	22	24
MD	2,000	20	1,900	15	20	15	14

View statistics about all 50 states in our interactive map, available at www.SolarStates.org