

Clean Energy is Key for **Economic Recovery** in North Dakota

As North Dakota and the rest of America looks toward economic recovery, the clean energy industry will play a key role because of its size, reach, and growth potential.

2019 Quick Facts

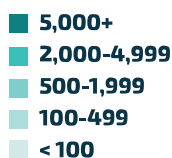
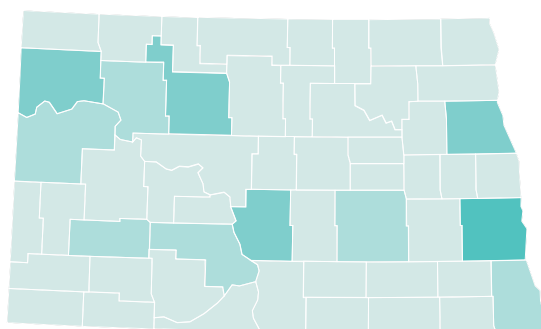
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Jobs in 2019

>50%Over 50% of North Dakota
clean energy jobs were in rural areas**64%**64 percent of North Dakota
clean energy businesses
are small businesses

Prior to the COVID-19 crisis, there were more than 9,100 clean energy jobs in North Dakota, according to the latest available data. Across the state, the industry showed a consistent and growing job base, adding over 120 jobs in 2019. At the end of 2019, more people in North Dakota worked in clean energy than those working as real estate agents and brokers, computer programmers, web developers, and waiters and waitresses combined. However, according to a recent analysis of U.S. Department of Labor unemployment data, in just the first three months after the pandemic began more than 1,800 workers in clean energy-related companies lost their jobs.

Clean Energy Jobs in North Dakota



North Dakota's largest clean energy employer was energy efficiency; the sector represented more than 61 percent of the state's clean energy jobs and grew 3 percent last year. The state also experienced robust growth in clean fuels jobs (6.8 percent).

Clean energy jobs are found in every corner of the state. While some of the largest hubs were urban areas like Fargo (2,250 jobs) and Bismarck (1,320 jobs), the majority – or 4,960 jobs – were at the end of 2019 based in rural areas.

Companies across North Dakota's geography and economy employed clean energy workers in 2019. Before the crisis hit, these employers anticipated adding 470 jobs, a projected growth rate of 5 percent.

Policies Matter

As lawmakers look to reinvigorate our economy and get America back to work, they must consider how they can support clean energy workers and provide stimulus funding that can drive job creation and economic growth for years to come.

At the federal level, lawmakers should:

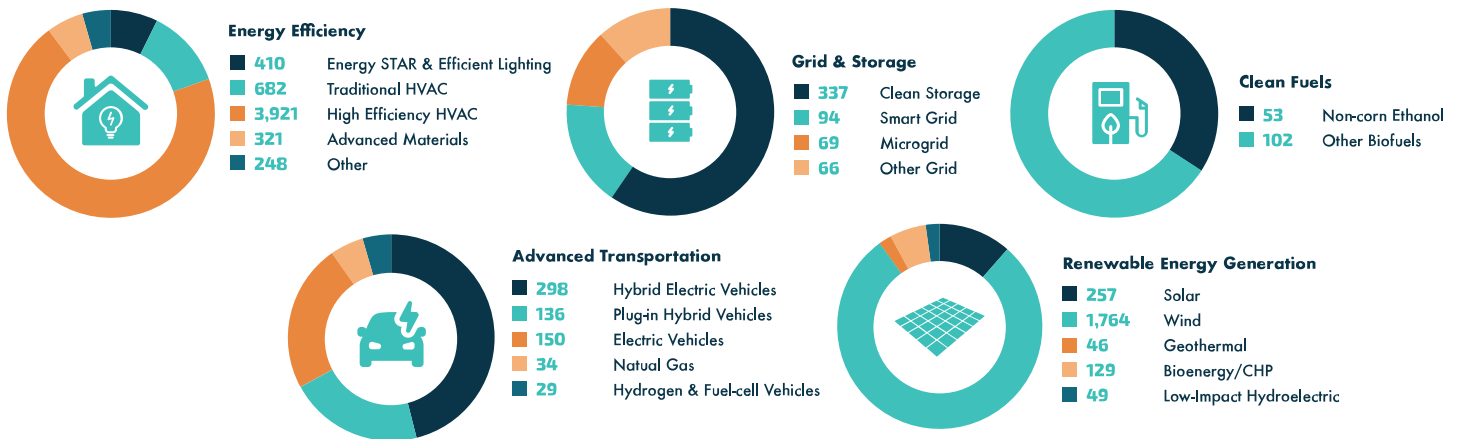
- **Boost renewables:** Secure projects and jobs that rely on incentive-based funding by extending federal clean energy incentive deadlines to account for COVID-19-related delays. Also, extend, expand, and reform clean energy incentives like the Production Tax Credit and expired energy efficiency tax credits for commercial and residential buildings and include direct pay options for each.
- **Rev up advanced transportation:** Invest in the infrastructure we need to expand the nation's electric vehicle charging network and clean fuel infrastructure; support robust fuel efficiency standards.
- **Keep energy efficiency on track:** Fund energy efficiency programs to immediately restore demand for the services of the electricians, construction workers, installers, and factory workers whose jobs have been impacted by COVID.
- **Invest in energy storage and other cutting-edge technologies:** Increase funding for U.S. Department of Energy programs like the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) and the federal loan guarantee program. This will spur the kinds of world-leading innovations we need to create new opportunities now while also driving growth for decades to come.

North Dakota can also do its part to help save and create jobs by adopting state policies that support renewables, energy efficiency, and electric vehicles.

Jobs by Sector



Subsector Details



64% Small businesses drive the state's clean energy sector -- 64 percent of North Dakota clean energy businesses employed fewer than 20 individuals

11% 11 percent of clean energy workers in North Dakota were veterans -- nearly twice the representation of veterans in the state's overall workforce

Unless otherwise stated, the data and analyses presented in this report by Clean Energy Trust and Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2) are based on data collected for the 2020 U.S. Energy Employment Report (2020 USEER), produced by the Energy Futures Initiative (EFI) in partnership with the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) and collected and analyzed by BW Research Partnership (BWRP). For more information on the survey methodology please visit cleanjobsmidwest.com/about