REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Vermont Clean Energy Industry 2020

After years of growth, Vermont’s clean energy economy has established itself as a steady, dependable source of employment for its residents.

![Graph showing total employment growth from 2013 to 2020](chart.png)


Total Employment

14,788 15,286 16,231 17,715 19,081 18,759 18,886 18,910

Clean energy jobs are more than 2.5x more concentrated in Vermont’s workforce than the national average.

![Comparison of clean energy jobs in Vermont vs. the United States](chart2.png)

UNITED STATES VERMONT

COVID-19 Considerations

The 2020 Vermont Clean Energy Industry Report is based on data collected in the last quarter of 2019, before the advent of COVID-19. Vermont has already lost an estimated 2,600 clean energy jobs as of April 2020—a 15 percent decline—due to the COVID-19 economic fallout.

Since 2014, full-time equivalent clean energy jobs have grown faster than total clean energy jobs, indicating that clean energy activities are playing an increasingly larger role in labor hours.

![Graph showing growth in FTEs and total jobs](chart3.png)

2014 2016 2018 2020

FTEs Total

31% 24%
Vermont’s Wood Fuels Sector

Every two years, the Vermont Clean Energy Industry Report assesses the health of the state’s Wood Fuels industry, a critical sub-sector of Vermont’s clean energy economy. Vermont organizations—including the CEDF, Department of Economic Development, Department of Environmental Conservation, and Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation—have taken steps to support the state’s wood fuels industry.

The industry employed 1,794 workers and contributed just over $64.3 million to Vermont’s Gross Regional Product in 2019.

35% of firms reported making investments in their business because they expected to grow over the next 12 months.

Among employers that had experience with various government programs, over 60% found each to be somewhat or very helpful to business health.

Overall, the employers surveyed expressed general optimism in industry trends and positivity toward established programs and incentives. The biggest concerns were with government regulations that limit harvesting, low fuel product prices, and climate impact on forest resources.