

## Frequently Asked Questions

Below are answers to some of the most frequently asked questions about the [Energy Efficiency Jobs in America](#) 2024 report.

If your question is not answered here, contact [info@building-performance.org](mailto:info@building-performance.org) or [info@e4thefuture.org](mailto:info@e4thefuture.org).

### **Q: How important are energy efficiency jobs?**

A: Nearly 2.3 million Americans work in energy efficiency, the largest part of the U.S. clean energy sector. Efficiency workers cut energy waste in myriad ways. They are also an economic development engine devoted to designing and building a better, healthier future.

### **Q: What does the report base its findings on?**

A: The data foundational to all annual *Energy Efficiency Jobs in America* reports originates with the [U.S. Energy and Employment Report \(USEER\)](#), an annual comprehensive report produced by the U.S. Department of Energy that examines employment across the entire U.S. energy sector. The USEER methodology has been used for local, state, and federal energy related data collection and analysis for a decade.

The [2024 USEER](#) analyzes the most recent data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) to track annual employment across: Fuels; Electric Power Generation; Transmission, Distribution, and Storage; Energy Efficiency; and Motor Vehicles. It was prepared by BW Research Partnership and reviewed and published by the Department of Energy. The 2024 USEER also includes data from a unique supplemental survey capturing responses from approximately 42,100 business representatives across the U.S.

### **Q: Can you tell me more about the supplemental survey?**

A: The survey of 42,100 businesses identifies energy-related employment within key subsectors of the industries classified by the U.S. BLS, and was conducted by BW Research Partnership and ReconMR. These jobs are assigned to their component energy and energy efficiency sectors. The data set includes technology, value-chain, and energy employment data to the county-level in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

Taken together, the BLS and survey data provide the most comprehensive calculation of energy-related employment available.

For further detail see the 2024 methodology in the [USEER's Appendix B](#), starting on page 6.

**Q: What counts as an “energy efficiency job” in this report?**

A: Energy efficiency employment covers jobs in both the production of energy-saving products and the provision of services that reduce end-use energy consumption. These services include not only the manufacture of ENERGY STAR® appliances and other ENERGY STAR labeled products, but also building design and contracting services that provide insulation, improve natural lighting, and reduce overall energy consumption across homes and businesses.

Jobs in sales and professional services (e.g., in finance/accounting, architecture, engineering, software development and R&D) are also included, as well as a tiny percentage of “other” jobs such as nonprofit organizational positions.

Energy efficiency jobs are predominantly focused on how effectively energy is used; i.e., how well a system cools or heats a building, and how to reduce waste via advanced materials and smart technology.

**Q: Are any energy efficiency jobs excluded from *Energy Efficiency Jobs in America*?**

A: Yes. The report is a conservative estimate. It captures only jobs using certified energy efficiency products or those installed according to ENERGY STAR guidelines, and high-performance building materials. Jobs in advanced transportation and electric grid technologies, water or waste management are omitted, among other categories. Indirect or induced employment are not modeled or estimated. Also excluded are jobs related to vehicle fuel efficiency and the jobs related to efficient manufacturing processes. EE jobs at utilities are not categorized as EE for this report because those jobs fall under electric power generation, distribution, or transmission per BLS definitions.

**Q: How do energy efficiency job numbers compare to other energy sectors?**

A: In 2024, two of every five U.S. energy sector jobs is in energy efficiency (>40%). Energy efficiency is the second-largest energy sector employer in the U.S., employing more than the rest of clean energy sectors\* combined (excluding vehicle-related jobs), and 2.1 times more workers than the entire fossil fuel industry.

**Q: Where can I get jobs data on the rest of the energy sector?**

A: You can download the 2024 USEER report [here](#) to see a full breakdown of the U.S. energy economy by the Fuels, Electric Power Generation, Traditional Transmission and Distribution, Energy Efficiency, and Motor Vehicles sectors.

**Q: Who created this report?**

A: [BW Research Partnership](#), who supplied data for the annual USEER report, produced the detailed analysis of energy efficiency sector jobs for nonprofit groups [Building Performance Association](#) and [E4TheFuture](#).

**Q: Can I get the job numbers for my state?**

A: Yes. The report provides details for all 50 states and the District of Columbia, including how many energy efficiency businesses are in each state, state-specific demographics, industry breakdowns, and more detailed geographic data.

**Q: What additional details are available for my state?**

A: Breakdown with job numbers by county and metropolitan areas, as well as per-capita employment per state.

**Q: I want to see examples of real people behind the numbers. Do you provide any local workers in my state?**

A: Yes. You can access examples in various ways. Visit <https://building-performance.org/faces-of-ee> to see real-life workers who raise awareness about the benefits of working in energy efficiency, or use #FacesOfEE on social media to find examples across the country.

**Q: How can I support the growth of energy efficiency jobs in America, my state or region, and my community?**

A: If you are an energy efficiency professional, you may join the Faces of EE at no cost: See [Join the Faces of EE Campaign](#). Everyone is welcome to download and use educational materials. You can visit and sign up to learn of the latest events and other ways to get involved locally.

\*The USEER definition of “clean energy” is narrower than most private sector definitions. It refers to net-zero emissions aligned technologies including renewable energy, nuclear, non-fossil energy efficiency, zero emission vehicles, and carbon capture, utilization, and storage.