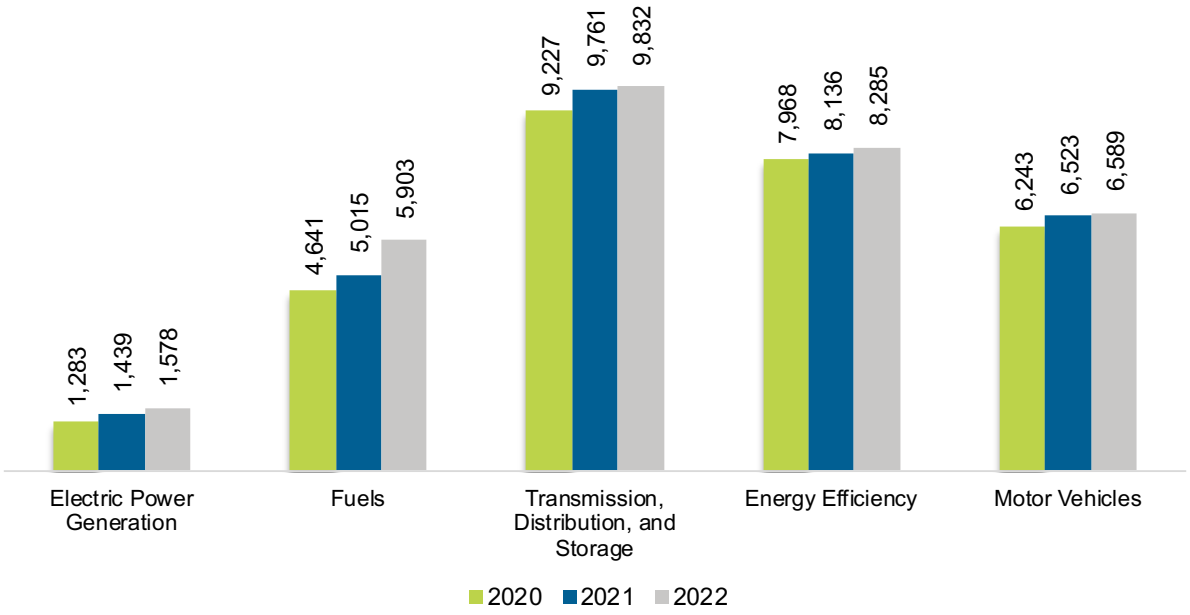
Montana

U.S. ENERGY AND EMPLOYMENT REPORT — 2023

Overview

Montana had 32,187 energy workers statewide in 2022, representing 0.4% of all U.S. energy jobs. Of these energy jobs, 1,578 were in electric power generation; 5,903 in fuels; 9,832 in transmission, distribution, and storage; 8,285 in energy efficiency; and 6,589 in motor vehicles. From 2021 to 2022, energy jobs in the state increased 1,312 jobs, or 4.3% (Figure MT-1). The energy sector in Montana represented 6.4% of total state employment.

Figure MT-1. Employment by Major Energy Technology Application

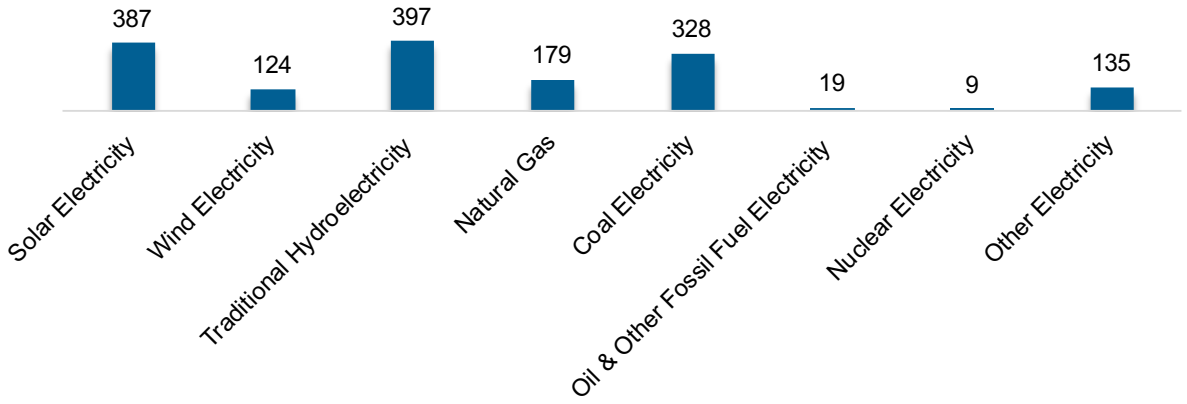


Breakdown by Technology Applications

Electric Power Generation

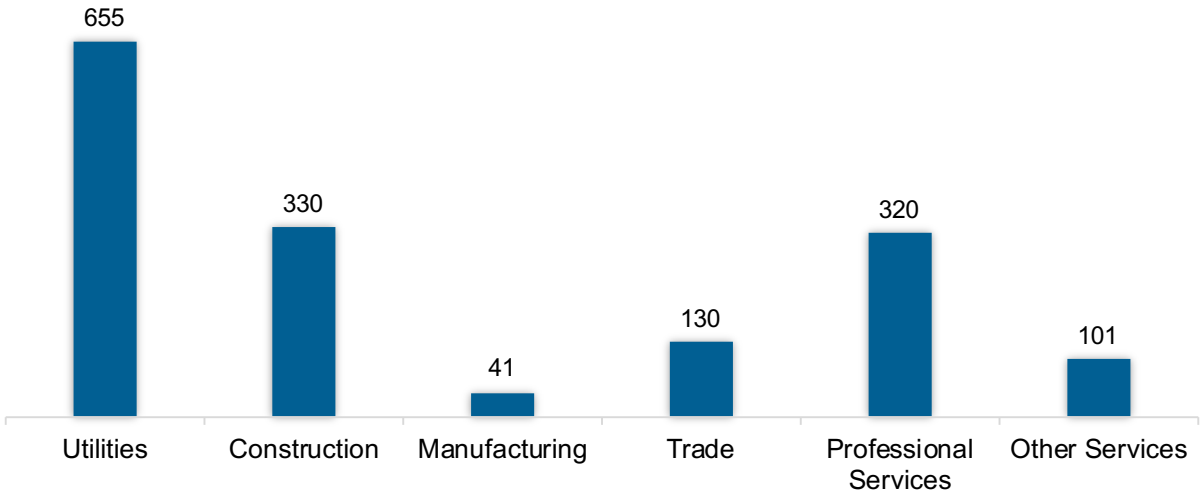
As shown in Figure MT-2, the electric power generation sector employed 1,578 workers in Montana, 0.2% of the national electricity total, and added 139 jobs from 2021 to 2022 (9.6%).

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



Utilities was the largest industry sector in the electric power generation sector, with 41.5% of jobs. Construction was second largest with 20.9% (Figure MT-3).

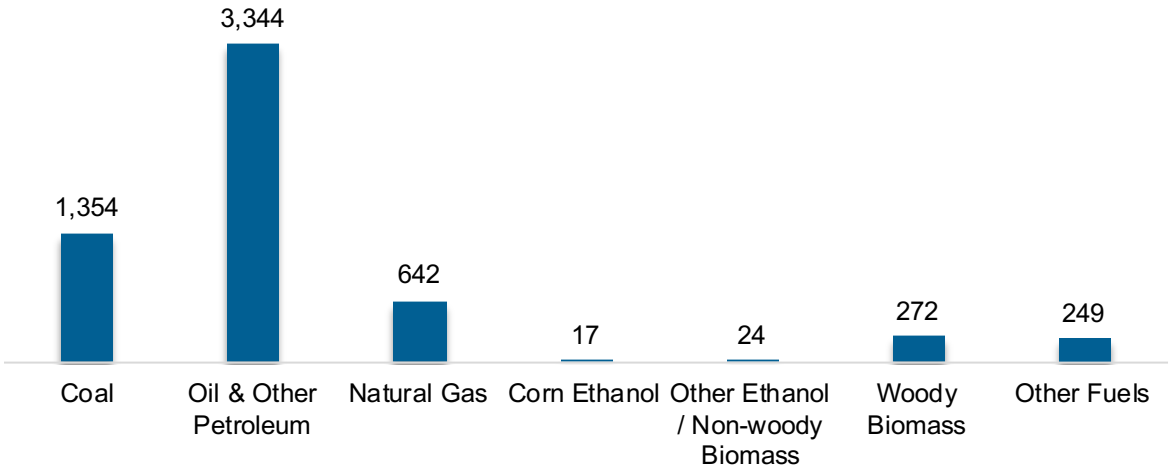
Figure MT-3. Electric Power Generation Employment by Industry Sector



Fuels

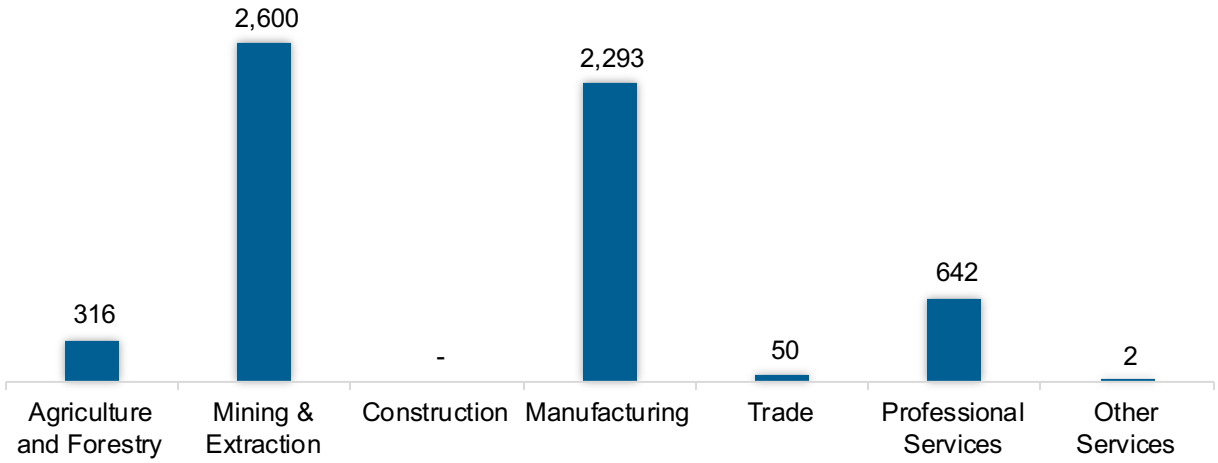
The Fuel sector employed 5,903 workers in Montana, 0.6% of the national total in fuels (Figure MT-4). The sector gained 888 jobs and increased 17.7% from 2021 to 2022.

Figure MT-4. Fuels Employment by Detailed Technology Application



Mining and extraction jobs represented 44.0% of fuel jobs in Montana (Figure MT-5).

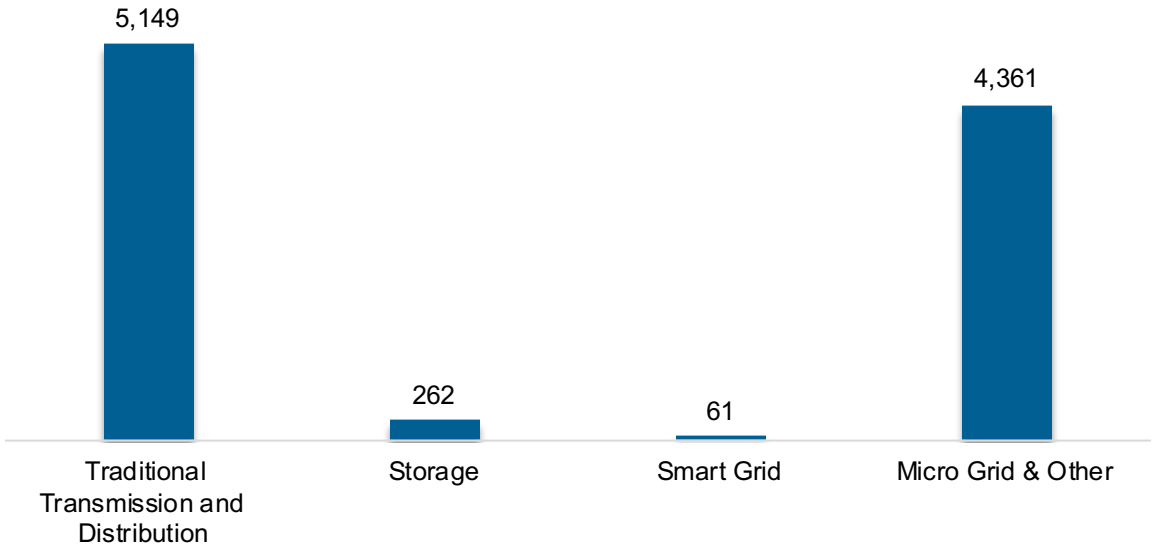
Figure MT-5. Fuels Employment by Industry Sector



Transmission, Distribution and Storage

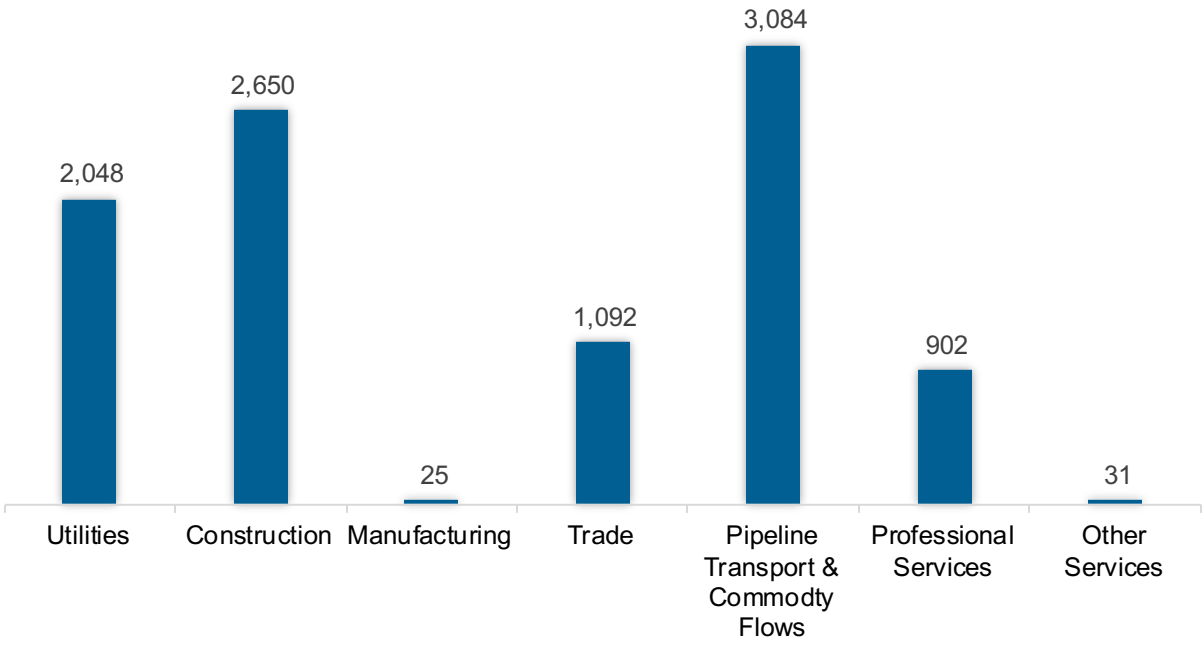
The transmission, distribution, and storage (TDS) sector employed 9,832 workers in Montana, 0.6% of the national TDS total (Figure MT-6). The sector gained 71 jobs and increased 0.7% from 2021 to 2022.

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



Pipeline transport and commodity flows was the largest proportion of TDS jobs in Montana, accounting for 31.4% of the sector's jobs statewide (Figure MT-7).

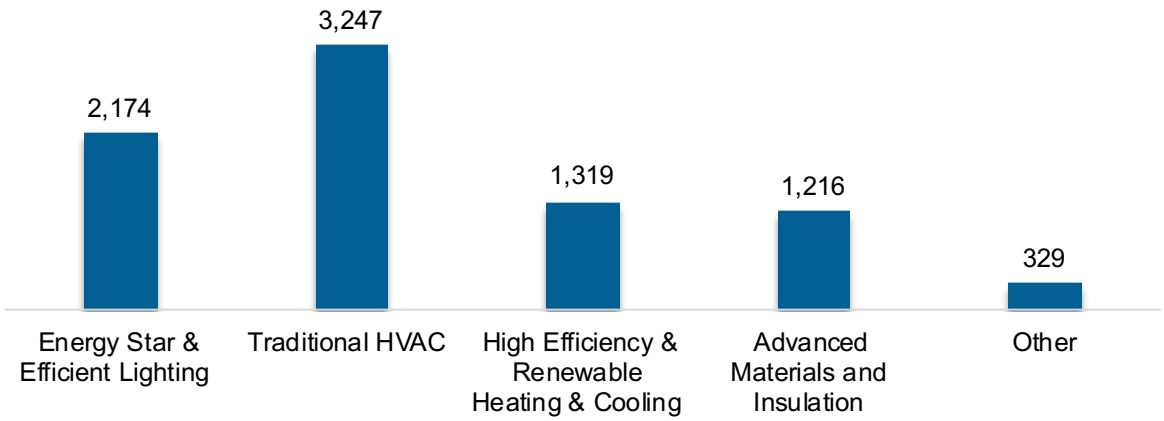
Figure MT-7. Transmission, Distribution and Storage Employment by Industry Sector



Energy Efficiency

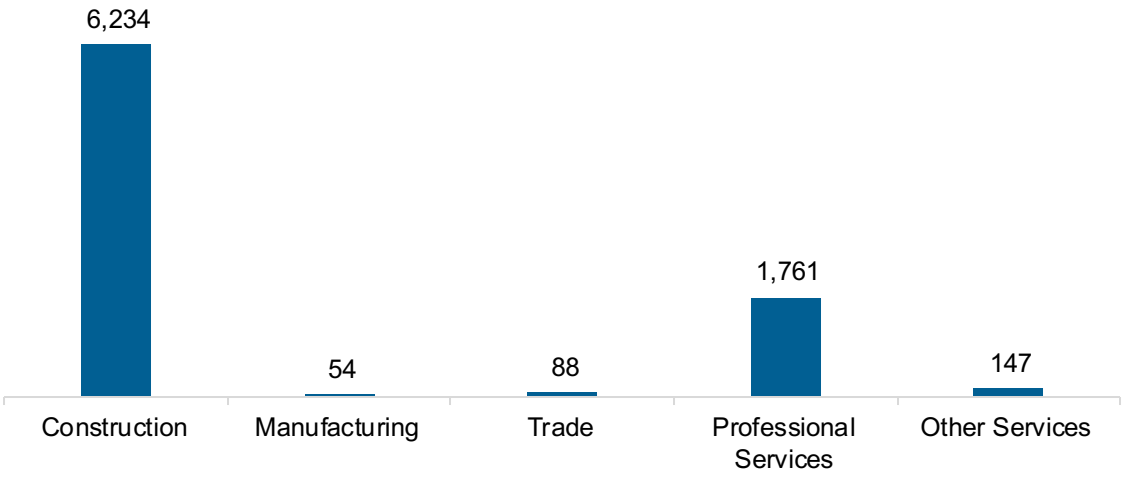
The energy efficiency (EE) sector employed 8,285 workers in Montana, 0.4% of the national EE total. The EE sector added 149 jobs and increased 1.8% from 2021 to 2022 (Figure MT-8).

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



Energy efficiency employment was primarily found in the construction industry (Figure MT-9).

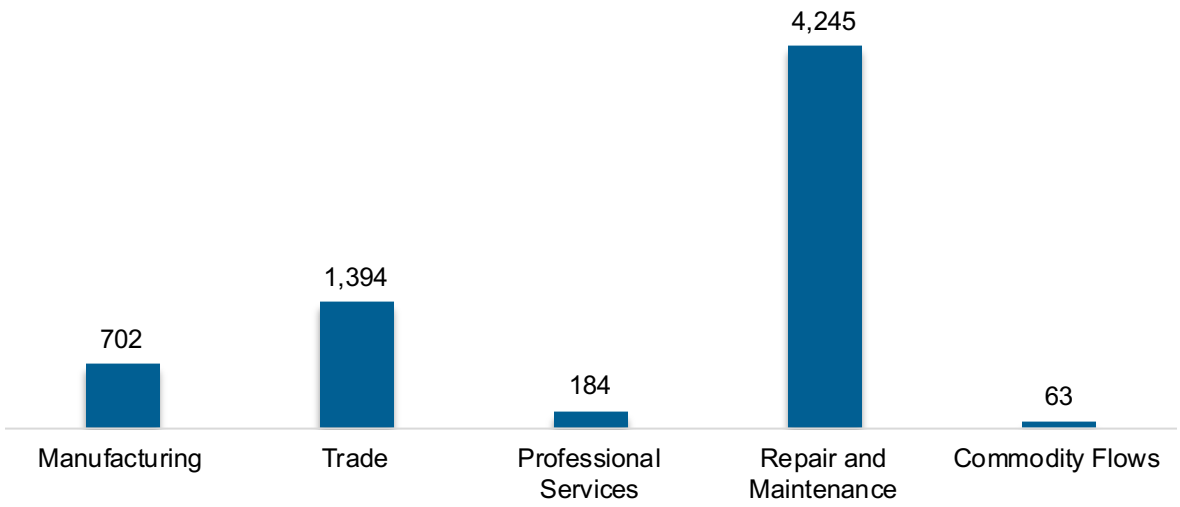
Figure MT-9. Energy Efficiency Employment by Industry Sector



Motor Vehicles and Component Parts

The motor vehicles and component sector employed 6,589 workers in Montana, 0.3% of the national total for the sector. Motor vehicles and component parts added 66 jobs and increased 1.0% from 2021 to 2022. Repair and maintenance is the largest proportion of motor vehicle jobs (Figure MT-10).

Figure MT-10. Motor Vehicle Employment by Industry Sector



Clean Energy Jobs

In 2022, there were 15,696 jobs in clean energy in Montana if traditional transmission and distribution is included and 10,535 jobs if it is not.[27] These increased under either definition, growing 2.8% with traditional transmission and distribution and 3.3% without.

Employer Perspectives

Expected Growth

Employers in Montana were more optimistic than their peers across the country about energy sector job growth over the next year (Table MT-1).

Table MT-1 Expected Growth by Major Technology Application

Technology	State Expected Growth Next 12 Months (percent)	U.S. Expected Growth Next 12 Months (percent)
Electric Power Generation	6.5	6.0
Electric Power Transmission, Distribution, and Storage	5.4	3.9
Energy Efficiency	6.7	6.4
Fuels	4.3	1.6
Motor Vehicles	6.2	5.5

[27] The definition of "clean energy" at the state level differs from the national definition due to data availability. For more information see Appendix A of the national U.S. Energy and Employment Report.

Hiring Difficulty

Employers in Montana reported 53% overall hiring difficulty (Table MT-2).

Table MT-2 Hiring Difficulty by Major Technology Application

Hiring Difficulty	Very Difficult (percent)	Somewhat Difficult (percent)	Not at All Difficult (percent)	Did not hire (percent)	Overall Hiring Difficulty
Overall	29	24	6	41	53