There are 242,343 Americans working in solar as of 2018, according to The Solar Foundation’s latest National Solar Jobs Census. Visit SolarStates.org to view an interactive map of solar jobs in 2018 by state, county, metro area, and congressional district.

South Carolina now supports almost 3,000 solar workers. With supportive policies at the state and local levels, the Palmetto State has enormous potential for growth.

**STATE SOLAR JOBS: 2,983**

- **New Solar Jobs, 2018:** 154
- **State Rank by Net Solar Jobs Added, 2018:** 15
- **Percentage of State Solar Workers Who Are Veterans:** 9.1%

**STATE RANKING FOR SOLAR JOBS**

- **25**

**STATE RANKING FOR SOLAR JOBS PER CAPITA**

- **24**

**SOLAR JOBS BY SECTOR**

- **INSTALLATION**
  - Jobs Growth, 2018: 5.4%
  - Projected Jobs Growth, 2019: 8.3%

- **MANUFACTURING**
  - Jobs Growth, 2018: 8.3%

- **WHOLESALE TRADE & DISTRIBUTION**
  - Jobs Growth, 2018: 4.2%

- **OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE**

- **OTHER**

**SOLAR INDUSTRY CONTEXT**

- **662 MW** CUMULATIVE INSTALLED SOLAR CAPACITY¹
- **80** Solar Companies²
- **0.86%** of State’s Electricity Generation from Solar³
- **18** STATE RANKING FOR INSTALLED SOLAR CAPACITY¹
- **42** K-12 Solar Schools⁴
- **2.7%** K-12 Schools Have Gone Solar⁴
- **ENOUGH SOLAR TO POWER 77,244 HOMES¹²

Learn more at SolarStates.org
TOP METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS FOR SOLAR JOBS

1,436
Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord

816
Greenville-Anderson-Mauldin

653
Charleston-North Charleston

495
Columbia

196
Myrtle Beach-Conway-North Myrtle Beach

DID YOU KNOW?
Charleston was one of the first communities in the Southeast to receive Gold designation from SolSmart, a national program that recognizes local governments for opening up solar markets.

SOUTH CAROLINA

SOLAR POLICY CONTEXT

B
Net Metering Policy Grade

A
Interconnection Policy Grade

Residential solar installations up to 20 kW and non-residential solar installations up to 1 MW receive compensation for solar sent back to the grid. Excess kwh credits roll over to the next month and utilities must annually compensate any excess electric production at the avoided cost rate. The number of systems covered under net metering is set at 2% of the average retail peak demand for the previous 5 years.

STATE INSTALLER LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

Electrician’s License

RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD

2%
by 2021

RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD CARVEOUTS

N/A
Solar

0.25%
Distributed Generation

COMMUNITY SOLAR

N/A

COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION STATUS

CCA Not Available

LEGAL STATUS OF THIRD PARTY OWNERSHIP

Authorized by state, at least in certain jurisdictions

PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY FINANCING (PACE) STATUS

N/A

38%
Employers Reporting It Was “Very Difficult” to Hire Qualified Employees

STATE RANKING FOR AVERAGE ELECTRICITY PRICE

28
(Highest to Lowest)

9.71
CENTS/kWh

AVERAGE ELECTRICITY PRICE

1 Wood Mackenzie, Limited and Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA), U.S. Solar Market Insight
2 SEIA, National Solar Database
3 U.S. Energy Information Administration
5 https://www.solsmart.org/case-study-charleston-county-south-carolina/
6 Freeing the Grid 2015, a joint project of Vote Solar, Interstate Renewable Energy Council, and EQ Research
7 National Solar Licensing Map, Interstate Renewable Energy Council
8 Shared Renewables HQ, an initiative of Vote Solar in partnership with Lee Barken
9 Local Energy Aggregation Network
10 North Carolina Clean Technology Center at North Carolina State University, Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency
11 PACENation, available at pacenation.us/pace-programs/
12 SEIA