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 Dakota currently has a small number of solar workers, but the state has an abundant solar resource with high potential for growth if supportive policies are in place.

**STATE SOLAR JOBS:** 444

- New Solar Jobs, 2018: -41
- Solar Jobs Growth, 2018: -8.6%
- State Rank by Net Solar Jobs Added, 2018: 31
- Projected Jobs Growth, 2019: 8.6%
- Percentage of State Solar Workers Who Are Veterans: 15.7%

**SOLAR INDUSTRY CONTEXT**

- 2 MW CUMULATIVE INSTALLED SOLAR CAPACITY¹
- ENOUGH SOLAR TO POWER 186 HOMES¹²
- 51 STATE RANKING FOR INSTALLED SOLAR CAPACITY¹

**SOLAR JOBS BY SECTOR**

- **INSTALLATION**
  - Jobs: 306
  - Growth: 2019: 15% decrease
- **MANUFACTURING**
  - Jobs: 42
  - Growth: 2019: 6% decrease
- **WHOLESALE TRADE & DISTRIBUTION**
  - Jobs: 51
  - Growth: 2019: 12% decrease
- **OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE**
  - Jobs: 26
- **OTHER**
  - Jobs: 19
  - Growth: 2019: 26% decrease

**SOUTH DAKOTA**

- CUMULATIVE INSTALLED SOLAR CAPACITY¹: 2 MW
- SOLAR COMPANIES²: 19
- K-12 SOLAR SCHOOLS⁴: 0
- ENOUGH SOLAR TO POWER 186 HOMES¹²
- 0.02% of State’s Electricity Generation from Solar³
- 0.0% K-12 Schools Have Gone Solar⁴

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

DID YOU KNOW?

The Pine Ridge Indian Reservation set up a solar school, Lakota Solar, to train local workers to build solar arrays, furnaces, and water pumps. Established a decade ago, the school hopes to expand economic opportunity and create a solar future for the community.  

161
Rapid City

101
Sioux Falls

SOUTH DAKOTA

SOLAR POLICY CONTEXT

F
Net Metering Policy Grade  

C
Interconnection Policy Grade  

South Dakota does not have statewide net metering policy.

RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD  
10% by 2015 (voluntary)

RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD CARVEOUTS

Solar

Distributed Generation

COMMUNITY SOLAR
N/A

COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION STATUS
CCA Not Available

LEGAL STATUS OF THIRD PARTY OWNERSHIP
Status Unclear or Unknown

PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY FINANCING (PACE) STATUS
N/A

STATE INSTALLER LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

Electrician's License

60%
Employers Reporting It Was “Very Difficult” to Hire Qualified Employees

24
STATE RANKING FOR AVERAGE ELECTRICITY PRICE (Highest to Lowest)

9.99 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://psmag.com/environment/bringing-solar-power-to-the-native-people
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