

The *Solar Jobs Census* series is a product of The Solar Foundation®, an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to increase understanding of solar energy through strategic research that educates the public and transforms markets. The most recent installment of the *National Solar Jobs Census* found that the U.S. solar industry currently employs 173,807 workers, a figure which represents 21.8% growth in employment over the previous year. This growth rate makes 2014 the second consecutive year in which employment both increased by 20% or more and exceeded *Census* growth projections. Since TSF first began tracking solar employment in 2010, the industry has grown by 86% - resulting in nearly 80,000 new domestic jobs. In 2012, TSF began estimating solar employment in each of the 50 states, and introduced stand-alone *Census* reports for select states the following year. This factsheet summarizes the results from the 2014 *State Solar Jobs Census* effort.

## State of the States

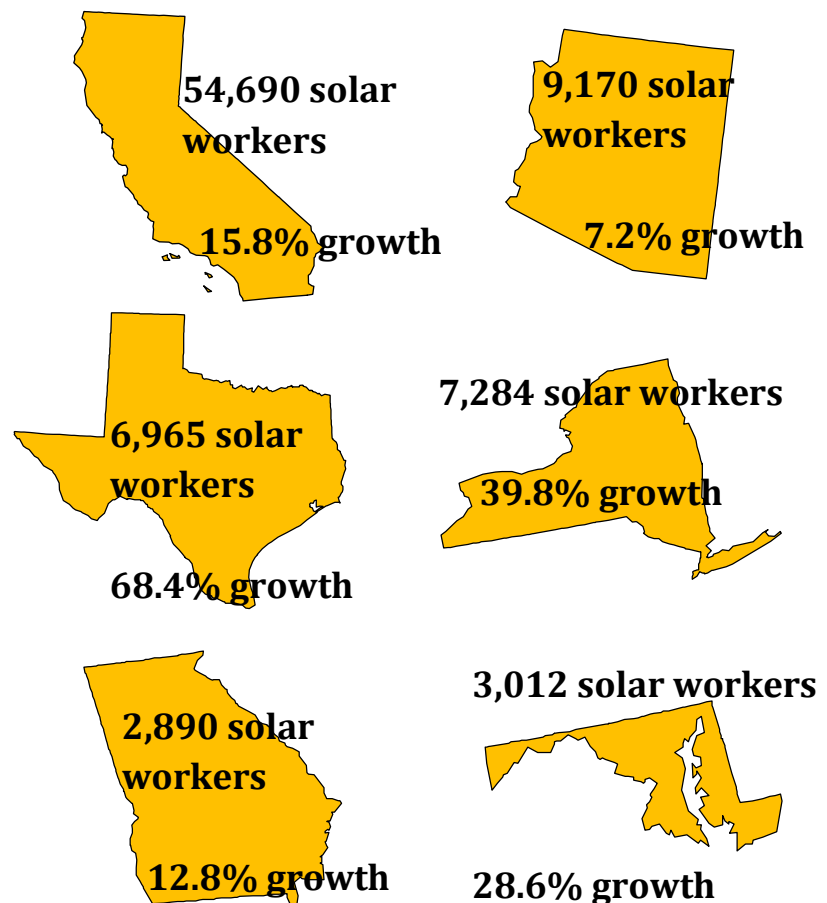
Solar jobs exist in all 50 states and are growing at a very brisk pace in most states. Twenty-eight states (including the District of Columbia) saw positive growth over 2014. While this growth was observed in all regions of the country, solar employment remains highly concentrated, with the top six solar states accounting for over 50% of the employment growth seen in the last year.

As in previous years, California continues to lead in both solar employment and installed solar capacity. Of the 54,690 solar workers in the state, nearly 60% are found in the installation sector. By the end of 2015, California is expected to account for just over 64,000 solar workers, approximately two-thirds of the workers employed by the entire national industry just five years ago.

Massachusetts saw a significant increase in solar employment in 2014 - to the tune of 3,000 new jobs - unseating Arizona as the second-largest employer of solar workers. Though Arizona fell to 3<sup>rd</sup> in 2014, solar employment there grew by 7.2% to 9,170 workers, which is especially welcome news given the large decrease in employment seen in the year prior. By the end of 2015, Arizona is expected to employ over 11,000 solar workers - a 13% increase over the 9,800 jobs found in 2012.

## A Deeper Dive

The 2013 *Census* effort marked the first year in which stand-alone reports (with district-level data) were produced for California, Arizona, and Minnesota. This year, full reports were produced for six states (below).



The *National Solar Jobs Census 2014* and separate *Census* reports for CA, AZ, TX, GA, MD, and NY - including employment by legislative district, are available at [www.tsfcensus.org](http://www.tsfcensus.org)

# States Gaining Ground

While Massachusetts' move into the #2 spot was impressive, many other states made noteworthy gains in employment rank. Nevada advanced over ten spots, from the 18-largest employer of solar workers in 2013 to 7<sup>th</sup> place last year. Illinois and Maryland both moved up seven places over the previous year, ending 2014 as the 12<sup>th</sup>- and 13<sup>th</sup>-largest solar jobs states, respectively.

Since The Solar Foundation began estimating state-level solar employment in 2012, nearly half the states in the nation have doubled (or more) the size of their solar workforce.



SolarStates.org

## Top Twenty Solar Jobs States - 2014

State	Solar Workers 2014 (2013)	Rank 2014 (2013)	2013-2014 % Diff.	2012-2014 % Diff. *	Solar Workers per Capita Rank 2014 (2013)	Solar Workers as % of State Employment Rank 2014
CA	54,690 (47,223)	1 (1)	15.8%	25.1%	4 (5)	3
MA	9,400 (6,400)	2 (4)	46.9%	108.9%	5 (6)	6
AZ	9,170 (8,558)	3 (2)	7.2%	-6.4%	6 (4)	2
NY	7,284 (5,210)	4 (5)	39.8%	120.7%	21 (32)	20
NJ	7,200 (6,500)	5 (3)	10.8%	26.3%	8 (9)	8
TX	6,965 (4,136)	6 (6)	68.4%	117.7%	33 (44)	34
NV	5,900 (2,400)	7 (18)	145.8%	145.8%	1 (8)	1
NC	5,600 (3,100)	8 (10)	80.4%	300.0%	11 (25)	10
FL	4,800 (4,000)	9 (7)	20.0%	92.0%	35 (39)	32
OH	4,300 (3,800)	10 (8)	13.2%	48.3%	20 (23)	19
CO	4,200 (3,600)	11 (9)	16.7%	16.7%	9 (10)	9
IL	3,800 (2,100)	12 (19)	81.0%	123.5%	28 (43)	28
MD	3,012 (2,342)	13 (20)	28.6%	58.5%	14 (19)	13
GA	2,890 (2,562)	14 (16)	12.8%	261.3%	31 (32)	24
PA	2,800 (2,900)	15 (11)	-3.4%	-30.0%	36 (36)	37
MO	2,500 (2,800)	16 (12)	-10.7%	108.3%	18 (17)	18
WA	2,400 (2,000)	17 (20)	20.0%	84.6%	22 (30)	21
HI	2,200 (2,600)	18 (16)	-15.4%	37.5%	3 (2)	4
TN	2,200 (2,800)	18 (12)	-21.4%	-4.3%	23 (18)	22
MI	2,100 (2,700)	20 (14)	-22.2%	-30.0%	40 (31)	36
OR	2,100 (2,700)	20 (14)	-22.2%	-27.6%	12 (11)	11

\*Note that the methodology for the State Census has been refined each year to account for increased data, allowing for greater accuracy.

View statistics for all 50 states in our interactive map, available at [www.SolarStates.org](http://www.SolarStates.org)

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