There are 249,983 Americans working in solar as of 2019, according to The Solar Foundation’s latest National Solar Jobs Census. Visit SolarStates.org for details on solar jobs in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

New York is one of the nation’s top solar jobs states, and a commitment to renewable energy at the state and local level will lead to future growth.
TOP METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS FOR SOLAR JOBS

12,015
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island

1,284
Buffalo-Niagara Falls

581
Albany-Schenectady-Troy

470
Glens Falls

NEW YORK

SOLAR POLICY CONTEXT

Different from traditional net metering, solar installations receive compensation for solar sent back to the grid based on a Value of Distributed Energy Resource tariff. Compensation depends on multiple complex factors including the location of the system, distribution grid value, and the external societal value. Compensation covers residential systems up to 25 kW, farm systems up to 100 kW, and non-residential systems up to 2 MW.

STATE INSTALLER LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

Electrician’s License or NABCEP

24%
Employers Reporting It Was “Very Difficult” to Hire Qualified Employees

10
STATE RANKING FOR AVERAGE ELECTRICITY PRICE³
(Highest to Lowest)

14.83
CENTS/KWh
AVERAGE ELECTRICITY PRICE³

RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD

70% by 2030

100% by 2040

RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD CARVEOUTS

N/A

COMMUNITY SOLAR PROGRAM

GRADE

A-

COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION STATUS

CCA enabling legislation

LEGAL STATUS OF THIRD PARTY OWNERSHIP

Authorized by state, at least in certain jurisdictions

PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY FINANCING (PACE) STATUS

PACE enabling legislation; Active commercial PACE programs

DID YOU KNOW?
The new Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act requires the state to procure 6 GW of distributed solar by 2025. The law also sets 70% renewable energy standard by 2030.⁴

1 Wood Mackenzie, Limited and the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA), U.S. Solar Market Insight
2 SEIA, National Solar Database
3 U.S. Energy Information Administration
5 Based on Freeing the Grid 2015, Vote Solar, Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC), and EQ Research. Grades updated by The Solar Foundation
6 IREC, National Solar Licensing Map
7 IREC, 2019 National Shared Renewables Scorecard
9 North Carolina Clean Technology Center at North Carolina State University, Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency
10 PACENation, available at pacenation.us/pace-programs/