

# VIRGINIA

## SOLAR JOBS CENSUS 2018



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](http://SolarStates.org) to view an interactive map of solar jobs in 2018 by state, county, metro area, and congressional district.

Virginia's solar workforce grew in 2018 to reach nearly 4,000 jobs. Future job growth is expected as the state's community solar ramps up and more corporations invest in renewable energy projects.



**STATE SOLAR JOBS: 3,890**



**20** STATE RANKING FOR SOLAR JOBS

**34** STATE RANKING FOR SOLAR JOBS PER CAPITA

**325** New Solar Jobs, 2018

**9.1%** Solar Jobs Growth, 2018

**11** State Rank by Net Solar Jobs Added, 2018

**5.3%** Projected Jobs Growth, 2019

**4.8%** Percentage of State Solar Workers Who Are Veterans



### SOLAR JOBS BY SECTOR

#### INSTALLATION



**2,903**  
(9% increase)

#### MANUFACTURING



**288**  
(10% decrease)

#### WHOLESALE TRADE & DISTRIBUTION



**280**  
(12% decrease)

#### OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE



**223**

#### OTHER



**196**  
(26% decrease)

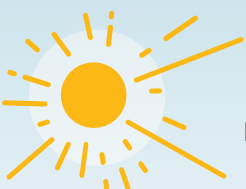


### SOLAR INDUSTRY CONTEXT

**731 MW**  
CUMULATIVE INSTALLED SOLAR CAPACITY<sup>1</sup>

**17**

STATE RANKING FOR INSTALLED SOLAR CAPACITY<sup>1</sup>



ENOUGH SOLAR TO POWER **82,314** HOMES<sup>12</sup>

**253**

Solar Companies<sup>2</sup>

**1.03%**

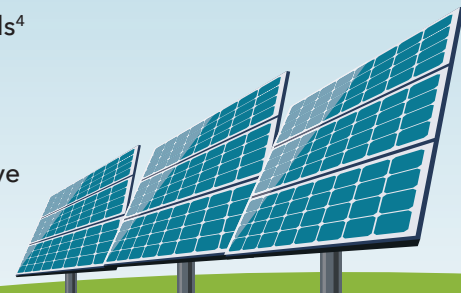
of State's Electricity Generation from Solar<sup>3</sup>

**30**

K-12 Solar Schools<sup>4</sup>

**1.0%**

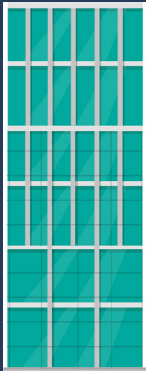
K-12 Schools Have Gone Solar<sup>4</sup>



# TOP METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS FOR SOLAR JOBS

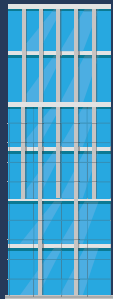
4,212

Washington-Arlington-Alexandria



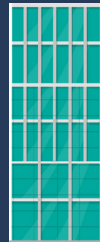
732

Richmond



625

Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News



409

Charlottesville



## DID YOU KNOW?

A Virginia Tech team won the international Solar Decathlon for building FutureHAUS, a house entirely powered by solar that took over six years of research and hard work by over 100 faculty and students.<sup>5</sup>

# VIRGINIA



## SOLAR POLICY CONTEXT

**C**

Net Metering Policy Grade<sup>6</sup>

**A**

Interconnection Policy Grade<sup>6</sup>

Residential solar installations up to 20 kW, non-residential solar installations up to 1 MW, and agricultural solar installations up to 200 kW receive compensation for solar sent back to the grid at the retail rate. The number of systems covered under net metering is set at 1% of utility's adjusted peak-load forecast for the previous year. Residential systems greater than 10 kW must pay a monthly standby charge.

## STATE INSTALLER LICENSING REQUIREMENTS<sup>7</sup>



State PV Specialty License

## RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD<sup>10</sup>

**15%**

by 2025 (voluntary)

## RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD CARVEOUTS<sup>10</sup>

Solar receives a 2x multiplier toward overall goal

## COMMUNITY SOLAR<sup>8</sup>

Legislation Enacted

## COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION STATUS<sup>9</sup>

CCA Enabling Legislation

## LEGAL STATUS OF THIRD PARTY OWNERSHIP<sup>10</sup>

Authorized by state, at least in certain jurisdictions

## PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY FINANCING (PACE) STATUS<sup>11</sup>

PACE-enabling Legislation; Active Commercial PACE Programs

**10%**

Employers Reporting It Was "Very Difficult" to Hire Qualified Employees

**30**

STATE RANKING FOR AVERAGE ELECTRICITY PRICE<sup>3</sup>  
(Highest to Lowest)

**9.58**

CENTS/kWh

AVERAGE ELECTRICITY PRICE<sup>3</sup>

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  
 4 The Solar Foundation, SEIA, and Generation 180, *Brighter Future: A Study on Solar in U.S. Schools, 2nd Edition*  
 5 <https://www.digitaltrends.com/cool-tech/virginia-tech-futurehaus-solar-decathlon/#/6>  
 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/](http://pacenation.us/pace-programs/)  
 12 SEIA