

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE GREEN ECONOMY:

## A STATE-BY-STATE PICTURE OF OCCUPATIONS THAT

GAIN FROM GREEN INVESTMENTS

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This report provides a snapshot of what kinds of jobs are needed to build a green economy in the United States. We focus on six key strategies for attacking global warming and highlight some of the major "green jobs" associated with each of these approaches.

The six green strategies we examine here are: building retrofitting, mass transit, energy-efficient automobiles, wind power, solar power, and cellulosic biomass fuels. We show that the vast majority of jobs associated with these six green strategies are in the same areas of employment that people already work in today, in every region and state of the country. For example, constructing wind farms creates jobs for sheet metal workers, machinists and truck drivers, among many others. Increasing the energy efficiency of buildings through retrofitting relies, among others, on roofers, insulators and building inspectors. What makes these entirely familiar occupations "green jobs" is that the people working in them are contributing their everyday labors toward building a green economy. We therefore consider and refer to the strategies examined in this report as green investments, in addition to global warming solutions.

We present data on employment conditions in 12 separate states: Florida, Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and Wisconsin. For each of the 12 states, we report the number of people who are employed in each of the occupations that will be affected by our six green economy strategies, and what the average wages are in each state for each of these job types. We then also provide data on the national employment picture for each of the job categories we examine.

What is clear from this report is that millions of U.S. workers-across a wide range of familiar occupations, states, and income and skill levels-will all benefit from the project of defeating global warming and transforming the United States into a green economy.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE GREEN ECONOMY

Fighting global warming and transforming the United States into a green economy is a massive and defining challenge for our time. It is the work of a generation, and specifically, the work of millions of people, performing the jobs needed to build the green economy.

This report provides information on what kinds of jobs are needed to fight global warming and build a green economy in the United States. A green economy is based on the efficient use of energy, reducing polluting emissions, and the use of renewable sources of power. A green economy uses these investments to create new opportunities, good jobs, and stronger communities. The term "green jobs" has spread rapidly over the past year. We seek to make the term concrete by highlighting many-but by no means all-of the occupations that will play a central role in building the green economy.

We do not attempt here to estimate how much growth there is likely to be in any area of green investments or green jobs in the United States. Our aim is much

more modest: to simply provide a snapshot of some of the key industries and occupations that will experience increasing growth through green investments. In work that is forthcoming later this summer with the Center for American Progress, we will provide a detailed study on what employment growth could be in the United States under various green economy scenarios. ${ }^{1}$

We focus here on six key strategies for attacking global warming and highlight some of the major occupations associated with each of the strategies. In the table below, we provide a list of the six green economy strategies that we examine-building retrofitting, mass transit, energy-efficient automobiles, wind power, solar power, and cellulosic biomass fuels-and a list of representative occupations that will be needed for advancing each of these strategies. ${ }^{2}$ In the detailed tables that follow, we present data on total employment in each state for each of the occupations and the average wage workers earn in these occupations.

JOBS that will build the green u.s. economy and fight global warming

| Strategies for Green <br> Economy Investments | Representative Jobs |
| :--- | :--- |
| Building Retrofitting | Electricians, Heating/Air Conditioning Installers, Carpenters, <br> Construction Equipment Operators, Roofers, Insulation Workers, <br> Carpenter Helpers, Industrial Truck Drivers, Construction <br> Managers, Building Inspectors |
| Mass Transit | Civil Engineers, Rail Track Layers, Electricians, Welders, Metal <br> Fabricators, Engine Assemblers, Production Helpers, Bus Drivers, <br> First-Line Transportation Supervisors, Dispatchers |
| Energy-Efficient | Computer Software Engineers, Electrical Engineers, Engineering <br> Technicians, Welders, Transportation Equipment Painters, Metal <br> Fabricators, Computer-Controlled Machine Operators, Engine |
| Automobiles | Assemblers, Production Helpers, Operations Managers |

[^0]As we show, new job activities will certainly be created in building the green economy and implementing global warming solutions, such as installing solar panels and researching new ways to build efficient biofuel engines. But the vast majority of green jobs are in the same areas of employment that people already work in today, in every region and state of the country. For example, constructing wind farms creates jobs for sheet metal workers, machinists and truck drivers, among many others. Increasing the energy efficiency of buildings through retrofitting relies, among others, on roofers, insulators and building inspectors. Expanding mass transit systems employs civil engineers, electricians, and dispatchers. So green jobs don't just mean new jobs-they can also mean greater job security for people who already work in these fields.

What makes these entirely familiar occupations "green jobs" is that the people working in them are contributing their everyday labors toward environmental solutions. Put simply, a green job is one that is contributing to fighting global warming and building a green economy. Train operators who currently deliver furniture may one day deliver wind turbine component parts, meaning that their work will be contributing to a green economy that solves global warming and builds healthier communities. This same green economy is creating new employment in rail transportation.

At the same time, it is important to link the idea of green jobs with decent employment opportunities: jobs that pay at least a living wage, and offer career ladders, training opportunities and some measure of security. A green economy should be one that is sustainable along two equally important dimensions: for the environment itself, of course; but also in terms of people's ability to live at a decent material standard and to enjoy basic rights and opportunities at their workplaces. From the data in this study it is clear that pursuing solutions to climate change can produce good jobs that are broadly based throughout our economy.

## COMPILING THE DATA

In the tables that follow, we consider employment conditions in 12 separate states: Florida, Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and Wisconsin. For each of the 12 states, we report the number of people who are employed in each of the occupations that will be affected by our six global warming strategies, and what the average wages are in each state for each of these job types. We then also provide data on the national employment picture for each of the job categories we examine.

To compile these data, we began by consulting the 2005 industrial census of the Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce. This enabled us to see which industries would be actively involved in advancing the six green investment strategies. These include, for example, the construction industry for building retrofitting, manufacturing for building wind turbines, and agriculture and forestry for producing biomass fuels from switchgrass or wood chips-so-called "cellulosic" biomass.

Once we identified the major industrial categories for each solution, we then drew on both the industrial census and specific occupational listings from the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor to identify the 10 job categories that are listed in each of the tables. The Bureau of Labor Statistics' database provides the detailed information on the employment levels and average wage rates for each of the 12 states.

The Methodology section in the back of the report provides a fuller technical explanation as to how we compiled the information in the tables. But it is important to emphasize here a few key features of our approach.

First, as mentioned above, the 10 job categories that we have listed for each strategy are by no means meant to be an exhaustive list. They are rather a representative grouping of some of the jobs that will be most actively engaged by each of the green investment strategies.

Second, some jobs are included under more than one of the solutions. This is because they play a prominent role in more than one of the green investment strategies. For example, electricians play a prominent role both in retrofitting buildings and in improving mass transit systems, and are listed under both strategies. Welders are important in assembling energy-efficient cars as well as trains and buses for mass transit. Industrial truck drivers will be in demand to transport wind turbines as well as switchgrass and woodchips for biofuels.

Third, all of these green energy strategies engage a normal range of service and support activities, including accountants, lawyers, office clerks, human resource managers, cashiers and retail sales persons. We have not included these and related occupations in our tables because these jobs are not directly linked to any of our six green economy strategies. At the same time, new opportunities will certainly also open up in these areas as a result of a growing green economy.

## GOING TO THE NUMBERS



We report a large amount of detailed information here. But there is also a straightforward picture that emerges.

For example, let's come back to the sheet metal workers who could be building high-performance wind turbines over the next decade. There are about 168,000 sheet metal workers now employed throughout the country. Roughly 10,000 are in Florida, 5,000 in Ohio, 1,000 in Nebraska, and 3,000 in Oregon. Depending on where they work, they are now earning, on average, between about \$15.50 (Tennessee) and $\$ 27.00$ (New York) per hour. A push to dramatically increase the country's supply of wind energy will mean increased demand for these workers. Rising demand could also lead to rising average wages.

Consider some other stories that we can take from the data tables. Producing affordable solar energy will increase employment for electrical engineers, of whom there are presently about 150,000 employed throughout the United States. The 590 electrical engineers now working in Nebraska earn about $\$ 35$ an hour. The roughly 1,900 employed in Tennessee are now making, on average, more than

$\$ 36$ an hour. Opportunities for these workers will also grow. An expanding solar energy industry will also employ thousands of equipment operators, budget analysts, laborers, and office clerks. The tables that follow show the number of people employed in these jobs and their average wages.

Welders will certainly play an important role in the green economy, in constructing solar equipment, energy efficient cars, trucks, and trains, and other areas. The 10,000 welders in Missouri now earn about $\$ 15.00$ an hour. The 8,700 welders in Minnesota are paid, on average, $\$ 17.51$. There are nearly 386,000 welders now employed in the country as a whole.

Industrial truck drivers will be in demand throughout the green economy. They will be moving equipment and materials both within the 12 states we have listed, and throughout the country. As our tables show, there are now about 24,000 truck drivers employed in Florida, earning an average of $\$ 12.12$ an hour. Another 22,000 truck drivers are employed in Indiana, 10,000 in Oregon and nearly 34,000 in Pennsylvania, with hourly wages ranging between $\$ 12$ and $\$ 14$. For the country as a whole, nearly 1.7 million people are now working as truck drivers.

Overall, in considering our six areas of green investments, we provide information on 45 representative occupations that, throughout the country, are employing over 14 million people today. That is roughly nine percent of today's total U.S. workforce of 154 million people. The percentage of total U.S. employment involved in green jobs could be expanded dramatically if we had reported the various service and support occupations that will be needed for each of the six green investment areas. And of course, if we increased the number of green investment approaches beyond the six we have included, the listing of representative occupations-again, still not attempting an exhaustive list-would need to expand further.

What is clear from this report is that millions of U.S. workers-across a wide range of occupations, states, and income levels-will all benefit from the project of defeating global warming and transforming the United States into a green economy.

## EFFICIENCY STRATEGY: BUILDING RETROFITTING

## 1. Jobs by occupation and state with average wage, May 2007

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { © } \\ & \text { Oㅡㅎ } \\ & \text { 믄 } \end{aligned}$ |  | 0 <br> 0 <br> 0 <br>  <br> E | 들 0 0 2 2 | $\begin{aligned} & \frac{\mathbb{0}}{0} \\ & \text { O } \\ & \frac{0}{0} \\ & \frac{0}{2} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 능 } \\ & \frac{2}{3} \\ & \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$ | $\frac{\circ}{\frac{\circ}{0}}$ |  |  |  | $\frac{\frac{\text { w }}{c}}{\frac{10}{n}}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \frac{-}{\omega} \\ & \frac{0}{0} \\ & \frac{0}{2} \\ & 3 \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Electricians |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 44,140 | 15,000 | 11,570 | 11,850 | 5,230 | 34,340 | 25,560 | 7,480 | 23,280 | 12,020 | 19,760 | 12,440 |
| Average Wage | \$17.51 | \$23.87 | \$27.49 | \$23.77 | \$19.18 | \$28.19 | \$22.20 | \$28.16 | \$23.59 | \$18.78 | \$20.13 | \$24.04 |
| Heating/Air Conditioning Installers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 24,560 | 5,990 | 2,640 | 4,970 | 2,270 | 17,980 | 9,230 | 3,210 | 12,710 | 6,290 | 10,470 | 5,200 |
| Average Wage | \$16.97 | \$18.24 | \$23.33 | \$18.41 | \$17.90 | \$21.18 | \$17.94 | \$18.53 | \$19.42 | \$14.53 | \$17.32 | \$19.86 |
| Carpenters |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 68,570 | 23,860 | 18,920 | 25,200 | 8,020 | 53,830 | 29,370 | 17,240 | 44,920 | 11,770 | 29,200 | 20,630 |
| Average Wage | \$15.61 | \$17.70 | \$19.78 | \$20.25 | \$14.55 | \$21.88 | \$17.33 | \$17.47 | \$18.31 | \$14.54 | \$16.77 | \$18.32 |
| Construction Equipment Operators |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 22,020 | 10,050 | 9,330 | 8,900 | 2,860 | 14,640 | 11,540 | 4,070 | 16,320 | 7,240 | 12,760 | 8,790 |
| Average Wage | \$15.24 | \$20.25 | \$23.70 | \$20.98 | \$16.13 | \$26.34 | \$22.49 | \$20.98 | \$19.84 | \$14.73 | \$16.46 | \$23.60 |
| Roofers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 15,670 | 2,920 | 1,550 | 2,920 | 540 | 4,420 | 4,430 | 2,250 | 4,510 | 1,910 | 3,280 | 2,540 |
| Average Wage | \$14.63 | \$16.41 | \$24.06 | \$19.78 | \$14.05 | \$17.55 | \$16.31 | \$14.53 | \$18.33 | \$14.09 | \$15.09 | \$18.56 |
| Insulation Worker |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 1,240 | 550 | 410 | 630 | 340 | 1,050 | 1,140 | 540 | 650 | 513 | 860 | 270 |
| Average Wage | \$14.35 | \$13.99 | \$18.82 | \$15.22 | \$17.45 | \$17.05 | \$14.52 | \$15.06 | \$15.85 | \$14.92 | \$14.75 | \$15.51 |
| Carpenter Helpers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 7,310 | 1,480 | 1,450 | 1,810 | 790 | 8,170 | 1,270 | 1,030 | 4,050 | 1,510 | 5,460 | 1,020 |
| Average Wage | \$11.52 | \$11.85 | \$11.78 | \$13.68 | \$11.14 | \$11.40 | \$11.29 | \$12.09 | \$12.10 | \$10.84 | \$12.30 | \$12.37 |
| Industrial Truck Drivers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 24,220 | 21,550 | 10,030 | 17,030 | 2,530 | 19,130 | 30,860 | 10,140 | 33,540 | 19,140 | 15,890 | 16,500 |
| Average Wage | \$12.16 | \$14.14 | \$15.67 | \$12.96 | \$13.61 | \$14.92 | \$13.72 | \$14.46 | \$14.29 | \$12.95 | \$12.70 | \$14.46 |
| Construction Managers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 19,560 | 3,830 | 2,710 | 3,140 | 1,630 | 13,140 | 5,450 | 3,600 | 5,120 | 4,440 | 5,570 | 2,730 |
| Average Wage | \$37.36 | \$36.71 | \$39.86 | \$33.02 | \$29.48 | \$52.73 | \$39.21 | \$37.44 | \$37.58 | \$26.63 | \$39.95 | \$38.40 |
| Building Inspectors |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 6,680 | 1,140 | 1,670 | 2,090 | 310 | 5,670 | 3,580 | 1,270 | 5,120 | 1,160 | 3,620 | 1,140 |
| Average Wage | \$23.57 | \$18.66 | \$25.85 | \$21.91 | \$19.96 | \$23.79 | \$20.82 | \$26.73 | \$20.39 | \$19.26 | \$23.88 | \$24.25 |

Sources: May 2007 State Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, Bureau of Labor Statistics; IMPLAN input-output modeling system, Bureau of Economic Analysis 2005 Annual Input-Output Accounts. See Methodology section for details.

## EFFICIENCY STRATEGY: MASS TRANSIT

## 2. Jobs by occupation and state with average wage, May 2007



Civil Engineers

| \# Employed | 14,640 | 2,780 | 3,460 | 5,390 | 1,620 | 11,890 | 6,250 | 3,750 | 10,470 | 2,560 | 8,070 | 4,250 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Average Wage | \$34.33 | \$30.75 | \$33.75 | \$31.93 | \$31.93 | \$34.58 | \$32.03 | \$32.98 | \$31.21 | \$32.89 | \$35.74 | \$30.26 |
| Rail Track Layers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 410 | 210 | 470 | 360 | 570 | 710 | 640 | 210 | 600 | 380 | 380 | 180 |
| Average Wage | \$21.72 | \$24.33 | \$21.08 | \$21.19 | \$21.80 | \$21.25 | \$21.84 | \$20.63 | \$20.73 | \$19.87 | \$20.78 | \$20.62 |
| Electricians |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 44,140 | 15,000 | 11,570 | 11,850 | 5,230 | 34,340 | 25,560 | 7,480 | 23,280 | 12,020 | 19,760 | 12,440 |
| Average Wage | \$17.51 | \$23.87 | \$27.49 | \$23.77 | \$19.18 | \$28.19 | \$22.20 | \$28.16 | \$23.59 | \$18.78 | \$20.13 | \$24.04 |
| Welders |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 14,090 | 12,010 | 8,710 | 10,310 | 4,000 | 9,410 | 15,710 | 5,570 | 17,520 | 9,530 | 8,000 | 12,900 |
| Average Wage | \$15.48 | \$15.06 | \$17.02 | \$14.69 | \$13.95 | \$16.23 | \$15.26 | \$15.79 | \$16.14 | \$14.76 | \$16.96 | \$16.26 |
| Metal Fabricators |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 3,790 | 4,380 | 1,000 | 1,830 | 960 | 3,260 | 2,660 | 2,220 | 6,360 | 2,320 | 2,330 | 3,330 |
| Average Wage | \$14.04 | \$15.49 | \$17.51 | \$14.65 | \$13.12 | \$15.42 | \$15.08 | \$16.11 | \$15.46 | \$15.04 | \$13.94 | \$16.88 |
| Engine Assemblers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 750 | 1,230 | 260 | 2,240 | 490 | 710 | 4,030 | 390 | 1,030 | 1,600 | 1,000 | 1,820 |
| Average Wage | \$12.44 | \$14.80 | \$16.76 | \$12.79 | \$11.81 | \$15.84 | \$17.40 | \$15.38 | \$16.92 | \$12.13 | \$15.10 | \$16.71 |
| Production Helpers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 19,470 | 17,450 | 9,870 | 11,480 | 3,310 | 18,700 | 30,450 | 5,200 | 28,130 | 20,480 | 8,350 | 14,920 |
| Average Wage | \$ 9.94 | \$10.47 | \$11.03 | \$10.00 | \$11.06 | \$ 9.60 | \$10.92 | \$11.43 | \$11.00 | \$ 9.88 | \$10.08 | \$11.56 |
| Bus Drivers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 9,650 | 1,940 | 2,760 | 2,860 | 700 | 19,530 | 8,550 | 1,830 | 13,960 | 3,140 | 3,760 | 2,870 |
| Average Wage | \$14.06 | \$13.75 | \$15.18 | \$14.54 | \$11.82 | \$21.80 | \$18.76 | (8)- | \$13.80 | \$ 9.20 | \$13.99 | \$18.52 |
| First-Line Transportation Supervisors |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 11,930 | 5,550 | 4,910 | 3,700 | 1,440 | 12,670 | 9,030 | 3,270 | 9,480 | 6,070 | 6,160 | 4,780 |
| Average Wage | \$23.65 | \$23.21 | \$22.36 | \$24.66 | \$23.41 | \$26.60 | \$23.65 | \$21.82 | \$24.09 | \$21.24 | \$24.46 | \$24.05 |
| Dispatchers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 10,500 | 4,510 | 3,200 | 4,320 | 1,760 | 12,280 | 6,880 | 2,530 | 6,650 | 4,520 | 4,220 | 3,220 |
| Average Wage | \$14.83 | \$15.73 | \$18.81 | \$15.27 | \$16.97 | \$15.30 | \$16.37 | \$16.06 | \$15.82 | \$16.09 | \$16.11 | \$15.84 |

Sources: May 2007 State Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, Bureau of Labor Statistics; IMPLAN input-output modeling system, Bureau of Economic Analysis 2005 Annual Input-Output Accounts. See Methodology section for details.

## EFFICIENCY STRATEGY: ENERGY-EFFICIENT AUTOMOBILES

## 3. Jobs by occupation and state with average wage, May 2007



Computer Software Engineers

| \# Employed | 12,300 | 2,600 | 8,580 | 6,220 | 1,940 | 17,960 | 8,080 | 2,300 | 8,950 | 2,900 | 24,940 | 2,200 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Average Wage | \$38.67 | \$35.56 | \$43.54 | \$37.12 | \$34.66 | \$45.30 | \$39.20 | \$44.04 | \$38.90 | \$34.78 | \$47.98 | \$37.24 |
| Electrical Engineers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 7,430 | 2,470 | 3,210 | 2,590 | 590 | 8,480 | 4,170 | 1,380 | 6,330 | 1,860 | 7,140 | 3,490 |
| Average Wage | \$36.00 | \$34.75 | \$37.99 | \$36.58 | \$35.27 | \$38.45 | \$32.36 | \$36.82 | \$36.15 | \$36.38 | \$38.70 | \$34.83 |
| Engineering Technicians |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 3,460 | 1,290 | 2,310 | 840 | 160 | 3,090 | 4,300 | 1,550 | 2,080 | 490 | 2,590 | 810 |
| Average Wage | \$24.74 | \$26.41 | \$24.99 | \$25.71 | \$24.59 | \$22.91 | \$27.66 | \$25.23 | \$29.55 | \$26.19 | \$33.12 | \$25.11 |
| Welders |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 14,090 | 12,010 | 8,710 | 10,310 | 4,000 | 9,410 | 15,710 | 5,570 | 17,520 | 9,530 | 8,000 | 12,900 |
| Average Wage | \$15.48 | \$15.06 | \$17.02 | \$14.69 | \$13.95 | \$16.23 | \$15.26 | \$15.79 | \$16.14 | \$14.76 | \$16.96 | \$16.26 |
| Transportation Equipment Painters |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 3,130 | 1,520 | 750 | 1,500 | 170 | 990 | 1,420 | 1,070 | 2,170 | 1,610 | 1,630 | 1,030 |
| Average Wage | \$16.32 | \$15.49 | \$16.90 | \$21.29 | \$14.93 | \$15.33 | \$17.33 | \$17.10 | \$18.71 | \$22.51 | \$17.48 | \$17.14 |
| Metal Fabricators |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 3,790 | 4,380 | 1,000 | 1,830 | 960 | 3,260 | 2,660 | 2,220 | 6,360 | 2,320 | 2,330 | 3,330 |
| Average Wage | \$14.04 | \$15.49 | \$17.51 | \$14.65 | \$13.12 | \$15.42 | \$15.08 | \$16.11 | \$15.46 | \$15.04 | \$13.94 | \$16.88 |
| Computer-Controlled Machine Operators |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 2,290 | 7,100 | 5,120 | 3,570 | 1,090 | 4,230 | 11,620 | 2,520 | 7,760 | 2,600 | 1,720 | 8,340 |
| Average Wage | \$13.61 | \$15.04 | \$17.24 | \$14.00 | \$15.00 | \$14.82 | \$15.89 | \$17.02 | \$15.76 | \$15.67 | \$16.08 | \$16.11 |
| Engine Assemblers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 750 | 1,230 | 260 | 2,240 | 490 | 710 | 4,030 | 390 | 1,030 | 1,600 | 1,000 | 1,820 |
| Average Wage | \$12.44 | \$14.80 | \$16.76 | \$12.79 | \$11.81 | \$15.84 | \$17.40 | \$15.38 | \$16.92 | \$12.13 | \$15.10 | \$16.71 |
| Production Helpers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 19,470 | 17,450 | 9,870 | 11,480 | 3,310 | 18,700 | 30,450 | 5,200 | 28,130 | 20,480 | 8,350 | 14,920 |
| Average Wage | \$ 9.94 | \$10.47 | \$11.03 | \$10.00 | \$11.06 | \$ 9.60 | \$10.92 | \$11.43 | \$11.00 | \$ 9.88 | \$10.08 | \$11.56 |
| Operations Managers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 55,860 | 24,930 | 31,930 | 27,940 | 5,880 | 95,580 | 47,090 | 19,010 | 35,150 | 45,760 | 32,720 | 24,830 |
| Average Wage | \$41.52 | \$41.94 | \$42.25 | \$40.87 | \$40.91 | \$53.76 | \$41.30 | \$41.44 | \$40.57 | \$34.27 | \$51.15 | \$41.84 |

Sources: May 2007 State Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, Bureau of Labor Statistics; IMPLAN input-output modeling system, Bureau of Economic Analysis 2005 Annual Input-Output Accounts. See Methodology section for details.

## RENEWABLE ENERGY STRATEGY: WIND POWER

## 4. Jobs by occupation and state with average wage, May 2007



Environmental Engineers

| \# Employed | 2,680 | 520 | 570 | 1,230 | 230 | 3,770 | 1,700 | 440 | 2,580 | 1,040 | 1,770 | 1,040 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Average Wage | \$31.35 | \$31.60 | \$35.41 | \$32.83 | \$33.21 | \$35.64 | \$35.45 | \$35.11 | \$36.50 | \$37.20 | \$33.75 | \$33.48 |
| Iron and Steel Workers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 3,120 | 1,970 | 650 | 1,830 | 710 | 4,040 | 2,760 | 400 | 2,880 | 1,040 | 1,970 | 1,370 |
| Average Wage | \$19.17 | \$23.46 | \$27.84 | \$24.09 | \$19.36 | \$34.79 | \$25.82 | \$22.24 | \$22.48 | \$18.39 | \$17.44 | \$27.04 |
| Millwrights |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 1,430 | 2,700 | 1,200 | 1,020 | 260 | 1,160 | 4,120 | 1,670 | 1,850 | 1,890 | 1,020 | 1,610 |
| Average Wage | \$17.82 | \$25.70 | \$26.77 | \$22.79 | \$15.22 | \$24.42 | \$29.09 | \$19.89 | \$19.13 | \$20.50 | \$19.29 | \$24.95 |

Sheet Metal Workers

| \# Employed | 9,750 | 5,160 | 3,730 | 4,620 | 1,040 | 6,120 | 5,330 | 3,340 | 4,760 | 3,600 | 5,360 | 4,060 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Average Wage | \$16.07 | \$19.51 | \$25.99 | \$20.34 | \$22.29 | \$26.59 | \$22.00 | \$19.82 | \$21.60 | \$15.49 | \$17.33 | \$23.84 |
| Machinists |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 9,230 | 14,630 | 9,020 | 10,880 | 2,110 | 14,480 | 29,610 | 3,970 | 21,190 | 11,600 | 6,820 | 16,580 |
| Average Wage | \$16.05 | \$17.05 | \$18.79 | \$14.94 | \$15.35 | \$17.29 | \$16.39 | \$19.41 | \$17.15 | \$17.12 | \$17.51 | \$17.38 |
| Electrical Equipment Assemblers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 11,650 | 5,910 | 5,810 | 4,570 | 1,340 | 14,670 | 7,820 | 6,920 | 9,320 | 3,660 | 4,350 | 6,910 |
| Average Wage | \$11.84 | \$10.72 | \$12.90 | \$13.16 | \$13.00 | \$12.73 | \$12.96 | \$12.95 | \$13.51 | \$11.34 | \$12.63 | \$12.16 |
| Construction Equipment Operators |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 22,020 | 10,050 | 9,330 | 8,900 | 2,860 | 14,640 | 11,540 | 4,070 | 16,320 | 7,240 | 12,760 | 8,790 |
| Average Wage | \$15.24 | \$20.25 | \$23.70 | \$20.98 | \$16.13 | \$26.34 | \$22.49 | \$20.98 | \$19.84 | \$14.73 | \$16.46 | \$23.60 |
| Industrial Truck Drivers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 24,220 | 21,550 | 10,030 | 17,030 | 2,530 | 19,130 | 30,860 | 10,140 | 33,540 | 19,140 | 15,890 | 16,500 |
| Average Wage | \$12.16 | \$14.14 | \$15.67 | \$12.96 | \$13.61 | \$14.92 | \$13.72 | \$14.46 | \$14.29 | \$12.95 | \$12.70 | \$14.46 |
| Industrial Production Managers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 2,980 | 6,310 | 4,350 | 2,260 | 1,010 | 5,490 | 8,690 | 2,670 | 6,180 | 3,470 | 2,370 | 4,930 |
| Average Wage | \$40.40 | \$35.84 | \$39.31 | \$38.56 | \$34.56 | \$42.38 | \$36.94 | \$36.99 | \$36.96 | \$31.10 | \$39.35 | \$35.61 |
| First-Line Production Supervisors |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 20,780 | 25,270 | 15,280 | 10,790 | 4,280 | 27,640 | 38,360 | 8,890 | 29,320 | 18,080 | 13,610 | 21,220 |
| Average Wage | \$23.61 | \$22.65 | \$23.86 | \$22.89 | \$22.35 | \$24.75 | \$23.23 | \$23.13 | \$24.38 | \$20.56 | \$23.54 | \$23.57 |

Sources: May 2007 State Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, Bureau of Labor Statistics; IMPLAN input-output modeling system, Bureau of Economic Analysis 2005 Annual Input-Output Accounts. See Methodology section for details.

## RENEWABLE ENERGY STRATEGY: SOLAR POWER

## 5. Jobs by occupation and state with average wage, May 2007

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| :--- |
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|  |

Sources: May 2007 State Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, Bureau of Labor Statistics; IMPLAN input-output modeling system, Bureau of Economic Analysis 2005 Annual Input-Output Accounts. See Methodology section for details.

## RENEWABLE ENERGY STRATEGY: CELLULOSIC BIOFUELS

## 6. Jobs by occupation and state with average wage, May 2007



Chemical Engineers

| \# Employed | 350 | 480 | 450 | 550 | 90 | 1,450 | 1,800 | 310 | 1,060 | 900 | 790 | 320 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Average Wage | \$35.88 | \$37.42 | \$34.89 | \$36.74 | \$27.20 | \$40.06 | \$37.74 | \$40.56 | \$35.69 | \$39.89 | \$42.48 | \$34.13 |
| Chemists |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 2,220 | 2,230 | 1,690 | 1,580 | 320 | 5,190 | 3,800 | 490 | 4,900 | 1,030 | 1,740 | 1,800 |
| Average Wage | \$23.93 | \$24.77 | \$30.57 | \$28.38 | \$22.91 | \$31.95 | \$28.62 | \$26.06 | \$30.12 | \$29.37 | \$35.09 | \$25.17 |
| Chemical Equipment Operators |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 800 | 1,020 | 280 | 500 | 210 | 1,140 | 2,770 | 540 | 4,220 | 1,580 | 670 | 850 |
| Average Wage | \$19.15 | \$21.85 | \$15.87 | \$20.27 | \$14.48 | \$20.74 | \$20.11 | \$19.99 | \$20.54 | \$20.60 | \$18.62 | \$21.22 |
| Chemical Technicians |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 1,800 | 1,810 | 890 | 680 | 230 | 3,200 | 3,210 | 380 | 4,490 | 1,250 | 970 | 1,750 |
| Average Wage | \$16.95 | \$16.84 | \$18.95 | \$19.75 | \$16.48 | \$19.64 | \$19.24 | \$17.25 | \$19.40 | \$21.24 | \$21.53 | \$17.60 |
| Mixing and Blending Machine Operators |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 7,150 | 3,920 | 2,210 | 3,980 | 1,460 | 10,830 | 8,380 | 880 | 6,180 | 2,950 | 3,350 | 4,130 |
| Average Wage | \$12.82 | \$15.47 | \$15.81 | \$15.58 | \$13.93 | \$16.80 | \$16.23 | \$14.19 | \$16.11 | \$13.78 | \$15.06 | \$15.75 |
| Agricultural Workers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 30,550 | 8,192 | 14,000 | 8,175 | 5,903 | 11,738 | 10,047 | 19,388 | 13,547 | 7,948 | 8,499 | 14,706 |
| Average Wage | \$ 8.85 | \$10.77 | \$10.56 | \$ 9.83 | \$11.92 | \$10.04 | \$ 9.43 | \$ 9.08 | \$10.29 | \$ 8.37 | \$ 9.15 | \$10.03 |
| Industrial Truck Drivers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 24,220 | 21,550 | 10,030 | 17,030 | 2,530 | 19,130 | 30,860 | 10,140 | 33,540 | 19,140 | 15,890 | 16,500 |
| Average Wage | \$12.16 | \$14.14 | \$15.67 | \$12.96 | \$13.61 | \$14.92 | \$13.72 | \$14.46 | \$14.29 | \$12.95 | \$12.70 | \$14.46 |
| Farm Products Purchasers |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 360 | 350 | 420 | 450 | 340 | 640 | 320 | 340 | 490 | 220 | 130 | 520 |
| Average Wage | \$24.27 | \$25.41 | \$26.54 | \$19.69 | \$24.81 | \$35.25 | \$23.68 | \$24.27 | \$21.13 | \$20.45 | \$30.48 | \$17.77 |

First-Line Agricultural and Forestry Supervisors

| \# Employed | 1,050 | 190 | 270 | 250 | 160 | 300 | 310 | 670 | 450 | 180 | 480 | 230 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Average Wage | $\$ 19.55$ | $\$ 18.14$ | $\$ 20.51$ | $\$ 21.83$ | $\$ 18.68$ | $\$ 19.30$ | $\$ 21.02$ | $\$ 20.17$ | $\$ 23.31$ | $\$ 16.31$ | $\$ 21.77$ | $\$ 22.11$ |
| Agricultural Inspectors |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \# Employed | 490 | 200 | 300 | 370 | 320 | 350 | 410 | 190 | 350 | 350 | 340 | 240 |
| Average Wage | $\$ 17.64$ | $\$ 18.75$ | $\$ 20.08$ | $\$ 18.16$ | $\$ 19.88$ | $\$ 22.60$ | $\$ 20.35$ | $\$ 15.12$ | $\$ 19.75$ | $\$ 16.62$ | $\$ 21.10$ | $\$ 19.86$ |

Sources: NA = Data not available. May 2007 State Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, Bureau of Labor Statistics; IMPLAN input-output modeling system, Bureau of Economic Analysis 2005 Annual Input-Output Accounts. See Methodology section for details.

| occupation | \# employed |
| :---: | :---: |
| Agricultural Inspectors | 14,510 |
| Agricultural Workers | 482,950 |
| Building Inspectors | 95,890 |
| Bus Drivers | 189,050 |
| Carpenter Helpers | 96,180 |
| Carpenters | 969,670 |
| Chemical Engineers | 28,780 |
| Chemical Equipment Operators | 52,620 |
| Chemical Technicians | 64,450 |
| Chemists | 79,860 |
| Civil Engineers | 247,370 |
| Computer Software Engineers | 349,140 |
| Computer-Controlled Machine Operators | 140,380 |
| Construction Equipment Operators | 403,620 |
| Construction Managers | 216,120 |
| Dispatchers | 190,190 |
| Electrical Engineers | 148,800 |
| Electrical Equipment Assemblers | 216,470 |
| Electricians | 624,560 |
| Engine Assemblers | 41,100 |
| Engineering Technicians | 78,140 |
| Environmental Engineers | 51,210 |
| Farm Products Purchasers | 12,930 |
| First-Line Agricultural and Forestry Supervisors | 20,860 |
| First-Line Production Supervisors | 666,850 |
| First-Line Transportation Supervisors | 223,710 |
| Heating/Air Conditioning Installers | 262,570 |
| Industrial Machinery Mechanics | 266,550 |
| Industrial Production Managers | 152,870 |
| Industrial Truck Drivers | 1,693,590 |
| Installation Helpers | 153,320 |
| Insulation Worker | 29,660 |
| Iron and Steel Workers | 65,100 |
| Laborers | 2,363,440 |
| Machinists | 410,900 |
| Metal Fabricators | 107,830 |
| Millwrights | 49,360 |
| Mixing and Blending Machine Operators | 139,370 |
| Operations Managers | 1,655,410 |
| Production Helpers | 524,440 |
| Rail Track Layers | 14,050 |
| Roofers | 123,180 |
| Sheet Metal Workers | 167,730 |
| Transportation Equipment Painters | 51,260 |
| Welders | 385,740 |
| Total employment for all listed occupations: | 14.3 million |

Sources: May 2007 National Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, Bureau of Labor Statistics; IMPLAN input-output modeling system, Bureau of Economic Analysis 2005 Annual Input-Output Accounts. See Methodology section for details.


Identifying Green Occupations. We used the following procedure to determine which occupations would be affected by increasing investment in each clean-energy strategy.

We used the 2005 Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) annual input-output accounts (www.bea.gov/industry/index.htm\#annual) to determine how employment in each industry involved in a particular strategy would be affected assuming a $\$ 1$ million increase in investment. Specifically, we used BEA input-output tables at the 65-industry level of detail to determine how output across these industries would change given an increase in investment in a particular clean-energy strategy. We then used BEA Gross-Domestic-Product-by-Industry Accounts data (www.bea.gov/industry/gpotables/gpo_list.cfm?anon=70418\&registered=0) to derive employment multipliers for each industry, i.e., the factor by which an industry's employment would change given a change in output. We used the employment multipliers to determine the total change in employment across the 65 industries given a $\$ 1$ million increase in investment in a particular clean-energy strategy, as well as what each industry's share of this total employment increase would be. We then identified which industries would experience the largest shares of the overall employment increase required to meet the needs of the increased investment in a particular clean-energy strategy. This list of "most affected" industries guided our selection of occupations.

To identify the occupations needed to meet the increased employment demand due to increased investment in a particular clean-energy strategy, we identified which occupations comprise the "most affected" industries using IMPLAN's occupation-by-industry matrix. This matrix provides occupation profiles for each industry.

Employment and Wages by Occupation. Nearly all of the median wage and employment estimates that we provide in our tables are taken directly from the data reported in the May 2007 Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates tables of the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) (state data: www.bls.gov/oes/current/oessrcst.htm; national data: www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm). Throughout the main text, we use the term "average wage" to refer to a median wage.

We imputed estimates for three occupations. First, we imputed insulation worker employment data for Tennessee. The OES reports employment data for carpenter helpers in Tennessee but not insulation workers. We assume the average ratio of carpenter helpers to insulation workers is the same in Tennessee as that in the other eleven states. To impute the employment figure for Tennessee, we apply this ratio to the number of carpenter helpers in Tennessee. Second, we used an analogous procedure to impute the average wage for agricultural inspectors in Pennsylvania. In this case, we had the average wage for "Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers" in Pennsylvania but not for "Agricultural Inspectors." We applied the average wage ratio of "Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers" to "Agricultural Inspectors" in the other eleven states to the average wage reported by the OES for "Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers" in Pennsylvania. Third, because reliable data for agricultural workers by state is unavailable from public data sources we used a combination of the following sources, in addition to the OES state data, to impute this data: 1) Local Area Unemployment Statistics program of the BLS (www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm; 2) State Fact Sheets, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Economic Research Service, Released May 9, 2008 (http://www.ers.usda.gov/StateFacts/); 3) Farm Labor reports (May 18, 2007; Aug. 17, 2007, Nov. 16, 2007; Feb. 15, 2008) of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Agricultural Statistics Board, USDA (http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/homepage.do). Details on this imputation can be provided upon request.

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## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Robert Pollin is co-director of PERI and Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. His recent books include A Measure of Fairness: The Economics of Living Wages and Minimum Wage in the United States (co-authored), An Employment-Targeted Economic Program for South Africa (co-authored) and Contours of Descent: U.S. Economic Fractures and the Landscape of Global Austerity. He is currently directing an ongoing PERI research project, "A Unified Program for Job Creation and a Clean Energy Economy in the United States."

Jeannette Wicks-Lim is Assistant Research Professor at PERI. She is a co-author of A Measure of Fairness: The Economics of Living Wages and Minimum Wage in the United States and Decent Work in America: The State-by-State Work Environment Index.



[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ To be more specific, the authors of the forthcoming study with the Center for American Progress are Robert Pollin, Heidi Garrett-Peltier, James Heintz, and Helen Scharber.
    ${ }^{2}$ These six strategies are of course by no means exhaustive. For example, a 2007 study by McKinsey and Company, "Reducing U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions: How Much at What Cost?" discusses five broad clusters of approaches to reducing greenhouse emissions, including improving energy efficiency in buildings and appliances; increasing fuel efficiency in vehicles and reducing carbon intensity of transportation fuels; improving efficiency in energy-intensive industrial production; expanding and enhancing carbon sinks; and reducing the carbon intensity of electrical power production. Within these five broad clusters, they identify a total of 41 strategies that, in combination, are capable of significantly reducing greenhouse emissions at no net cost to the economy.

