Illinois

Energy Efficiency Jobs in America

88,033
Total Jobs

What are EE jobs?

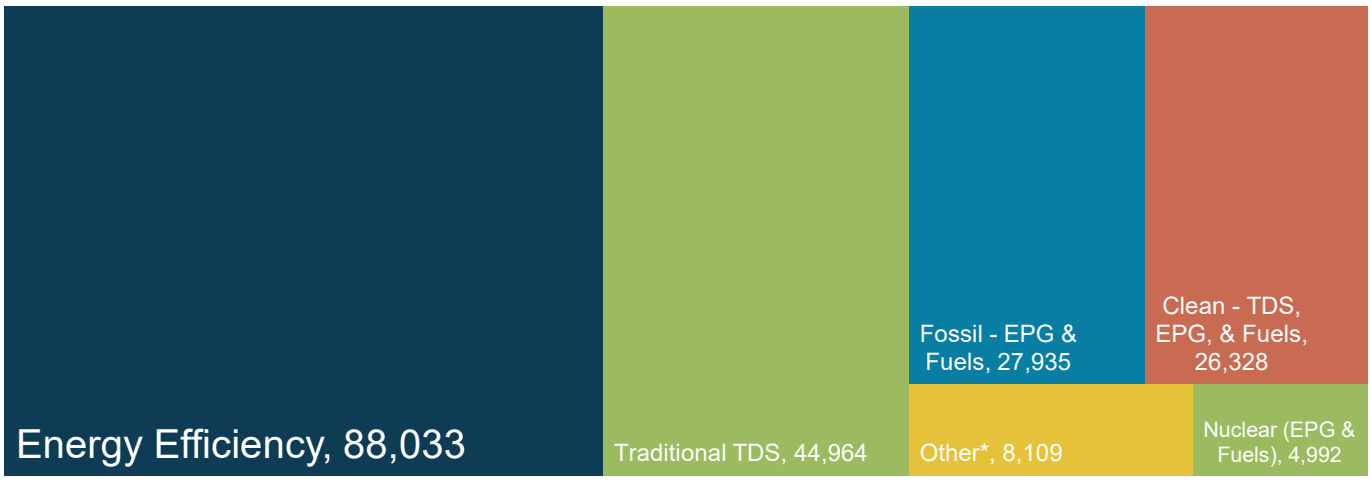
Jobs that reduce energy use by improving efficiency in appliances, buildings, data systems, financing, new technologies, and more.

What do EE workers do?

- **Manufacture and install** high-efficiency systems, controls, windows, insulation, and ENERGY STAR-certified appliances and products in existing and new homes, as well as commercial, and industrial buildings.
- **Design and construct** high-performance buildings such as those earning nationally recognized sustainability and environmental performance ratings.
- **Upgrade and repair** heating, air conditioning, and ventilation (HVAC) and water heating equipment.
- **Educate** property owners and managers on building improvements to unlock savings for businesses, homeowners, schools, states, municipalities, military bases, and more.
- **Analyze building data** using software to maximize energy savings through targeted performance improvements and behavioral changes.
- **Review and approve loans** to finance energy savings performance contracts to improve the comfort, health, and operational costs of buildings.

How does EE compare to other energy sectors in Illinois?

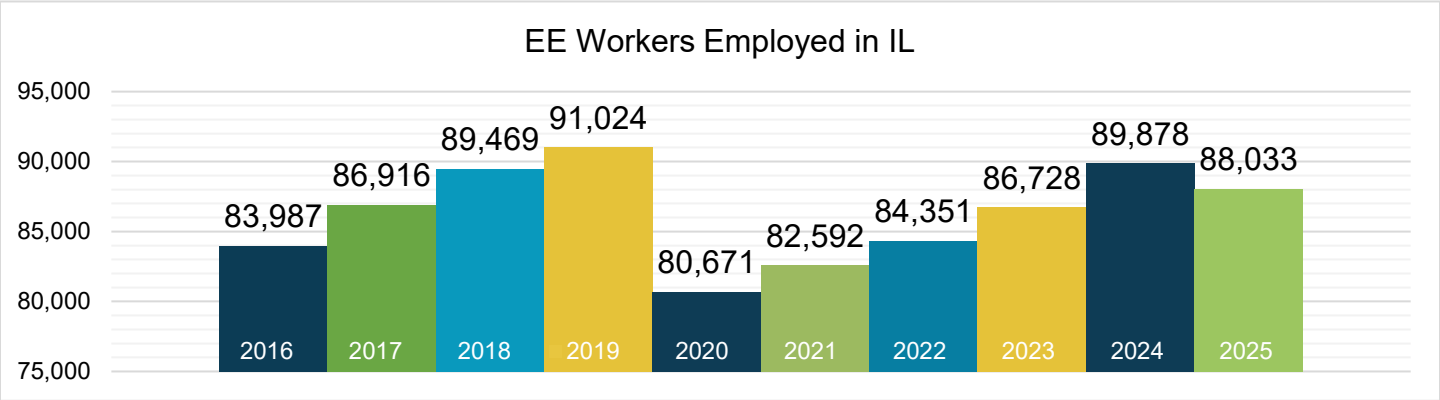
Energy efficiency is the largest energy sector in Illinois.

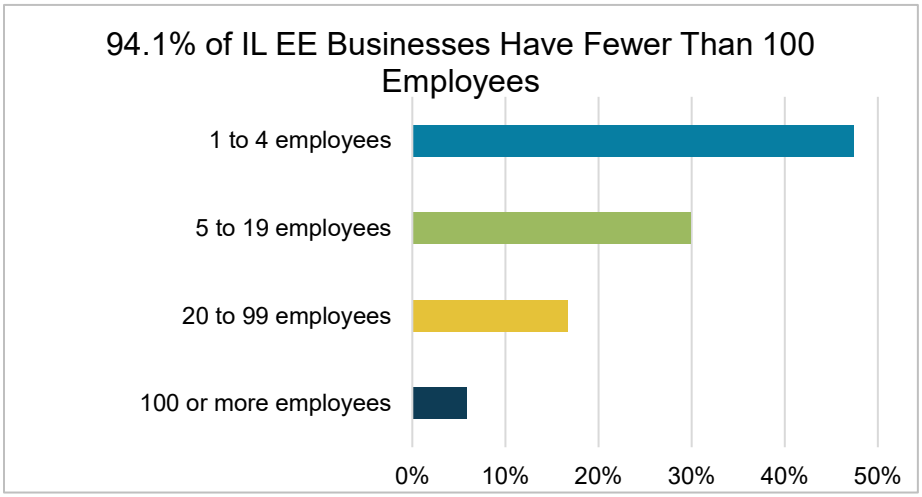


TDS = Transmission, Distribution, & Storage
EPG = Electric Power Generation
*Includes other energy subsectors such as corn ethanol, woody biomass, large hydropower, and others.

Presented by:

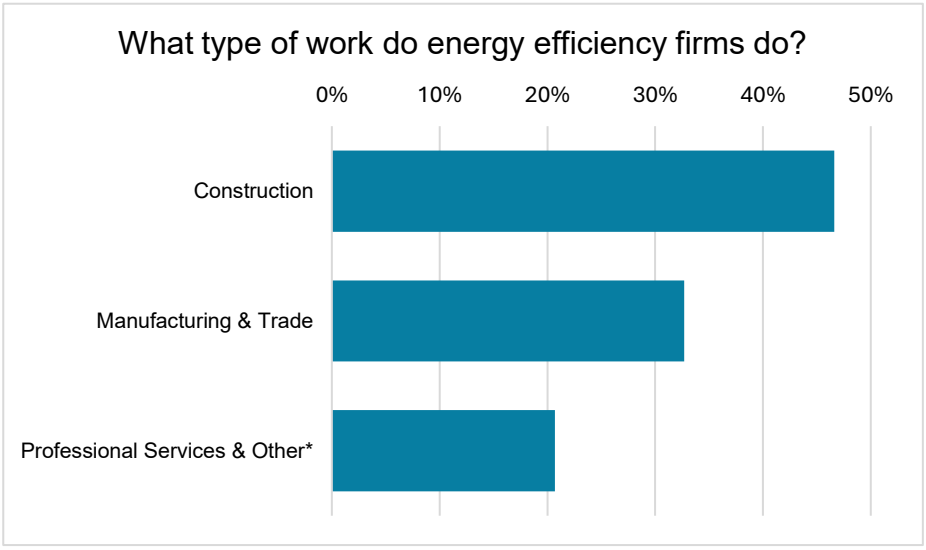
What does EE look like in Illinois?



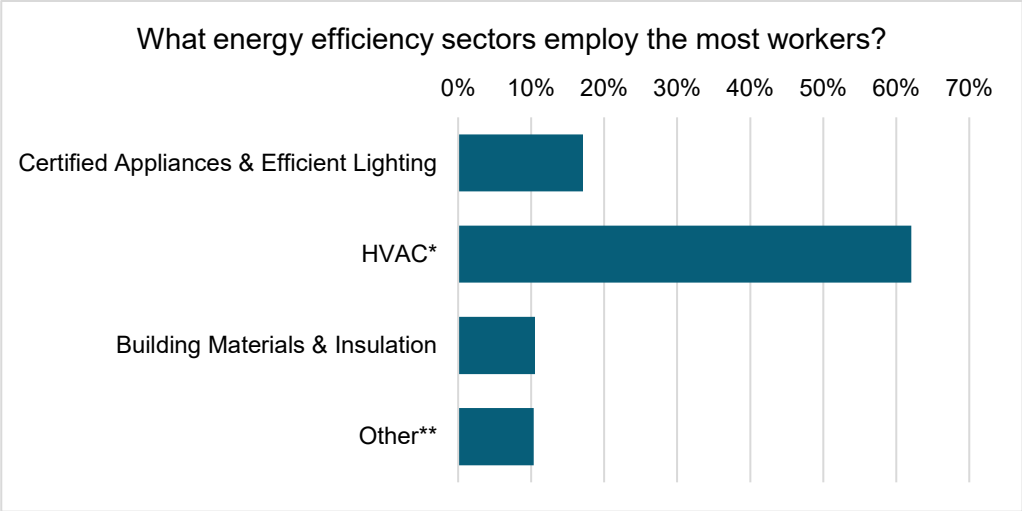








*Professional services include finance, accounting, architecture, engineering, research and development, and more. The "other" category includes roles in maintenance, business operations, and nonprofit organizations.



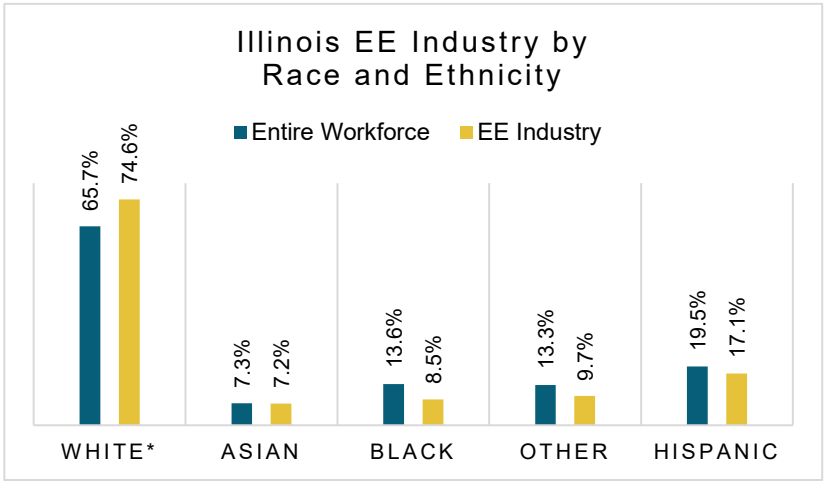
9% of Illinois EE workers are **veterans**

Certified Appliances = ENERGY STAR-certified appliances
*Heating, ventilation, air conditioning of higher than standard efficiency/renewable heating and cooling
**Other includes energy audits, building certifications, and software services

How representative is the EE workforce in Illinois?

Demographic data is critical to measure progress towards a more representative EE workforce. Tracking this data helps show how well Illinois' EE workforce reflects the communities it serves and where gaps remain.

Expanded training programs in Illinois can help ensure energy efficiency careers are accessible to all.



*Includes non-Hispanic and Hispanic whites.

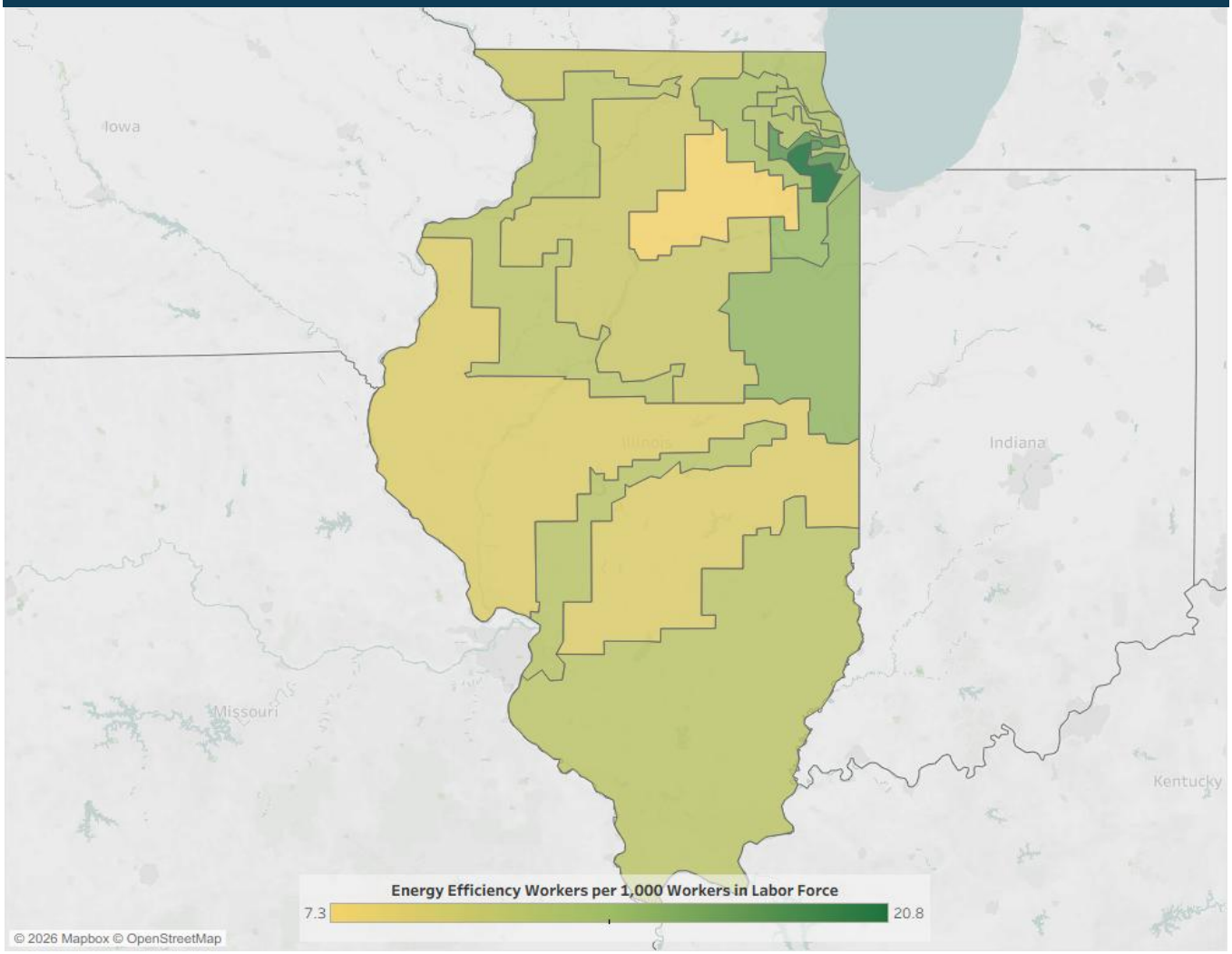
Gender in the Illinois EE Workforce



Note: The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) only includes two genders in their survey. Nonbinary gender data is missing from this document due to this limitation.

Energy efficiency jobs are everywhere

EE Jobs by Congressional District



Congressional				Metropolitan Areas			
District	Jobs	District	Jobs	Area	Jobs	Area	Jobs
1	5,341	10	4,973	Bloomington	834	Rockford	2,323
2	5,267	11	5,408	Cape Girardeau	<10	Springfield	3,587
3	7,259	12	4,095	Champaign-Urbana	1,091	St. Louis	1,219
4	6,432	13	4,417	Chicago-Naperville-Elgin	64,290	Rural	9,858
5	5,742	14	3,021	Danville	378		
6	8,151	15	3,367	Davenport-Moline-Rock Island	949		
7	5,712	16	3,980	Decatur	667		
8	5,260	17	4,262	Kankakee	385		
9	5,347			Peoria	2,451		

State Senate

District	Jobs	District	Jobs	District	Jobs	District	Jobs
1	950	16	1,396	31	1,782	46	1,609
2	1,701	17	1,225	32	1,011	47	856
3	1,798	18	1,611	33	1,309	48	1,555
4	1,549	19	1,364	34	1,693	49	1,062
5	1,127	20	2,638	35	1,179	50	907
6	1,987	21	2,853	36	1,035	51	999
7	1,304	22	1,743	37	923	52	1,108
8	2,051	23	2,281	38	872	53	957
9	1,560	24	2,310	39	1,782	54	967
10	1,836	25	1,839	40	1,364	55	1,288
11	2,551	26	1,150	41	1,853	56	1,375
12	2,539	27	1,642	42	590	57	1,238
13	2,102	28	1,526	43	1,161	58	1,070
14	2,343	29	1,569	44	1,083	59	1,147
15	1,305	30	1,228	45	1,180		

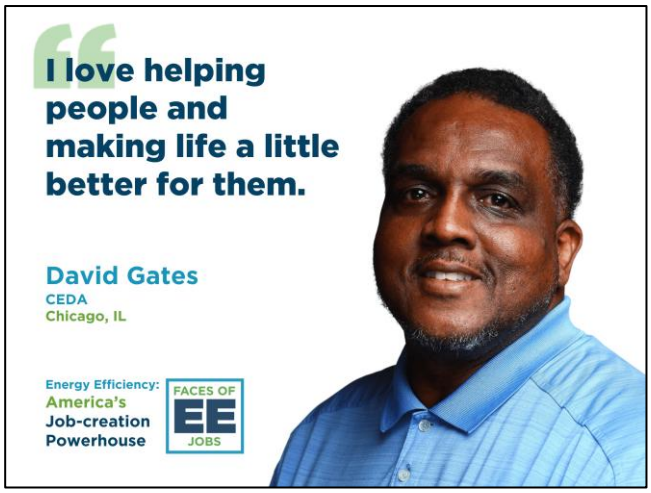
State House of Representatives

District	Jobs	District	Jobs	District	Jobs	District	Jobs
1	756	32	578	63	555	94	263
2	950	33	986	64	456	95	575
3	1,355	34	1,092	65	951	96	980
4	966	35	607	66	510	97	587
5	942	36	1,004	67	616	98	475
6	856	37	608	68	1,077	99	547
7	782	38	756	69	613	100	359
8	768	39	1,271	70	413	101	562
9	359	40	1,368	71	386	102	437
10	768	41	1,539	72	650	103	592
11	1,028	42	1,314	73	479	104	517
12	959	43	762	74	444	105	549
13	541	44	981	75	557	106	408
14	763	45	1,184	76	443	107	565
15	694	46	1,097	77	884	108	402
16	1,357	47	1,253	78	898	109	905
17	499	48	1,057	79	420	110	383
18	1,061	49	643	80	943	111	786
19	443	50	1,017	81	994	112	590
20	772	51	742	82	859	113	544
21	905	52	409	83	247	114	694
22	1,646	53	903	84	393	115	435
23	719	54	739	85	688	116	635
24	1,064	55	1,079	86	473	117	302
25	752	56	447	87	673	118	845
26	717	57	870	88	410		
27	813	58	699	89	523		
28	1,015	59	668	90	656		
29	942	60	561	91	643		
30	658	61	959	92	967		
31	818	62	823	93	593		

Faces of EE

The EE industry creates jobs, lowers bills, and strengthens the economy. Woven through communities via manufacturing, construction, professional services, and more, EE jobs are the backbone of the energy sector. This sample of people highlights just a few of the wide variety of jobs in the energy efficiency industry and the potential for growth when workforce development and training are prioritized.





Note: Some individuals pictured may have changed jobs since they joined Faces of EE.

This report was funded by the Building Performance Foundation and informed by the industry expertise of the Building Performance Association. Research was conducted by BW Research Partnership.

The Building Performance Foundation (BPF) is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that works with policymakers, industry stakeholders, and professionals across the trades to educate and advance understanding of building performance, support workforce development, and expand access to career opportunities. Visit www.foundation.building-performance.org.

The Building Performance Association (BPA) is a 501(c)(6) industry trade association that serves and represents the professionals and businesses working to make America's homes more comfortable, healthy, and energy efficient, supporting them through membership, advocacy, education, and engagement. Visit www.building-performance.org.

BW Research Partnership is a full-service, economic and workforce research consulting firm with offices in Carlsbad, California and Wrentham, Massachusetts. It is the nation's leading provider of accurate, comprehensive energy and clean energy research studies. Visit www.bwresearch.com.

Data Source: Unless otherwise stated, all data are from the August 2026 U.S. Energy and Employment Report, by the U.S. Department of Energy (see Appendix B for methodology details). This methodology—adopted by the U.S. Dept. of Energy for its 2017 U.S. Energy and Employment Report, approved by the Office of Management and Budget and grounded on data collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics—provides the broadly accepted best accounting of all U.S. energy workers.

For questions on BPA analyses, please email communications@building-performance.org.