

US Green Economy Report Series

National Overview

Major Trends

- **States matter:** Subnational actors have been and will remain at the forefront of necessary investment in key sectors tied to the green economy.
- **Policy is not the only driver:** Policy has been and will be the main driver, but economics, private investment and consumer awareness have also stimulated green economy expansion.
- **All states have potential:** Policies, investments and strategies vary widely by state. Progressive states such as California, New York and Colorado are leaders, but all states have green economy sectors that are thriving.
- **“Electrify everything” movement drives policies:** Growth in renewables feeds into electrification of states’ economies, a development that is key to the US delivering on commitments to the Paris Agreement, as well as President Biden’s goal of electrifying the entire US economy.
- **Regional dynamics:** Regional trends and coalitions are important. For instance, states in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast have shown massive potential in offshore wind, the Midwest in waste to energy and biofuels, the East and West coasts in EVs, and the Gulf Coast in CCUS. The Southwest is seeing sharp growth in solar and onshore wind.
- **Cities are increasing ambition:** Cities and local governments have made their own climate commitments and targets – even in the least progressive states.
- **Green economy is growing beyond wind and solar:** While solar and onshore wind receive the most attention, other sectors are seeing massive changes – such as grid modernisation and energy storage.
- **High interconnectedness:** Developing all sectors will be critical for decades to come in order to transition to a green economy and meet state climate commitments for decades to come.

2021 - 2025 JOBS PROJECTIONS: Full-Time Employee (FTE) Adds



342,000-705,000

Energy Efficiency FTEs Added



5871-10,900

Clean Vehicles Manufacturing FTEs Added



102,000-210,000

Energy Storage FTEs Added



101,000

Clean Vehicles Non-Manufacturing FTEs Added



4,000-76,000

Offshore Wind FTEs Added

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Key Sector Findings

- **Electric Vehicles:** The electric vehicle (EV) market in the United States is poised for rapid acceleration as a result of government-backed incentives, growing consumer acceptance, improving vehicle performance, declining battery costs and increased investment in EV infrastructure.
- **Offshore Wind:** The offshore wind industry is expected to see exponential growth over the next decade with most near-term activity on the East Coast.
- **Grid:** The electricity grid is key in connecting all different parts of the green economy. Investment in grid modernisation and grid resiliency will need to grow sharply in coming years and decades for renewables to be seamlessly integrated.
- **Energy Efficiency:** As the trend towards electrification accelerates with EV adoption and renewable energy generation sources, energy efficiency is likely to become a key focus area for utilities and policymakers in balancing supply and demand.
- **Energy Storage:** The energy storage market shows high potential in the coming decades amid declining costs, increased adoption of intermittent renewable energy sources and the possibility of increased disruptions to the electricity grid.
- **Green Consultancy:** Green consultants are expected to find growing opportunities as the renewable energy sector continues to expand. Approximately 60 percent of all proposed renewable energy projects are solar, with onshore wind making up slightly more than a quarter.
- **Waste to Energy:** In the waste to energy sector, the most potential is in biogas, as biomass and alternative fuels such as ethanol and biodiesel have seen mixed progress.
- **CCUS:** In large part, federal action, most importantly the 45Q tax credit, has driven state-level investment in CCUS.
- **Hydrogen:** Despite current infrastructure limitations, the sector has massive potential: Estimates show that hydrogen from low-carbon sources could supply roughly 14 percent of the country's energy needs by 2050.

POLICY AND ACTION OUTLOOK THROUGH 2025

