



# Going Green: Small Businesses Leading the Clean Energy Economy of the Future



Small businesses have long known the benefits of conservation because even the least amount of waste eats into the bottom line. Basic measures like going digital or turning off lights to investing in energy efficient technology, allows small firms to decrease costs and create high paying jobs across urban and rural communities.

Yet, more can be done. Below are some quick facts on the benefits of going green, and opportunities to help small businesses save money and increase their bottom lines.

- Upgrading and replacing energy-consuming equipment has the potential to yield [more than \\$1 trillion](#) in energy savings over a decade, creating over 3.3 million jobs.
- Small businesses spend [over \\$60 billion](#) annually on energy costs. Implementing new, smart technologies has the potential to increase profitability by over 10 percent and can cut utility costs by [10 to 30 percent](#).
- In a [report](#) analyzing small business innovation in green technology, the SBA Office of Advocacy found that small innovative firms are 16 times more productive than large firms and more likely to have green technology as a core part of their business.
- In 2018 alone, [over 2.3 million](#) workers were employed by the energy efficiency economy, many of whom work for small operations.
- SBA can assist small business owners looking to Go Green with financing assistance to invest in energy efficient products and renewable energy solutions.
- The [SBA 504 Loan Program](#) provides loans of up to \$5.5 million for small businesses that modernize their buildings by improving energy efficiency or include renewable energy solutions such as wind or solar, into building projects.

Whether upgrading existing HVAC systems or investing in solar panels, small firms and entrepreneurs are not just taking advantage of green technologies, they are leading the way. Small businesses have always been leaders in innovation and will continue to play a vital role in helping address our nation's energy, economic, and environmental security while creating sustainable economic growth.

**Energy Efficiency Jobs Are Found In Every State**

	Total Jobs in Energy Efficiency	Top Employment by Industry Sector	Number of Jobs in Top Sector of Energy Efficiency
Alabama	29,949	Construction	18,007
Alaska	4,497	Construction	3,406
Arizona	41,886	Construction	30,528
Arkansas	14,782	Construction	10,335
California	310,433	Construction	166,833
Colorado	32,036	Construction	16,348
Connecticut	34,743	Construction	17,512
Delaware	12,372	Construction	9,705
District of Columbia	12,359	Construction	5,750
Florida	112,620	Construction	88,671
Georgia	59,065	Construction	37,565
Hawaii	5,496	Construction	4,555
Idaho	8,227	Construction	5,659
Illinois	86,916	Construction	44,118
Indiana	53,963	Construction	32,456
Iowa	19,694	Construction	12,938
Kansas	16,628	Professional Services	7,443
Kentucky	24,579	Construction	11,946
Louisiana	20,839	Construction	15,453
Maine	8,312	Construction	5,884
Maryland	68,981	Construction	51,741
Massachusetts	84,556	Construction	37,140
Michigan	84,052	Manufacturing	44,506
Minnesota	44,859	Construction	13,750
Mississippi	15,055	Construction	9,861
Missouri	40,166	Construction	24,131
Montana	8,384	Construction	6,444
Nebraska	13,024	Construction	8,977
Nevada	10,316	Construction	8,614
New Hampshire	11,336	Construction	7,145
New Jersey	33,815	Construction	20,482
New Mexico	5,053	Construction	3,502
New York	117,339	Professional Services	51,387
North Carolina	84,020	Construction	37,435
North Dakota	5,128	Construction	3,625
Ohio	79,653	Construction	46,503
Oklahoma	13,403	Construction	9,051
Oregon	41,958	Construction	25,455
Pennsylvania	65,288	Construction	36,455
Rhode Island	12,588	Construction	7,594
South Carolina	29,286	Construction	13,981
South Dakota	7,313	Construction	4,873
Tennessee	51,629	Construction	31,307
Texas	154,565	Construction	94,570
Utah	31,077	Construction	23,951
Vermont	10,939	Construction	4,688
Virginia	76,621	Construction	48,016
Washington	62,519	Construction	42,887
West Virginia	6,523	Construction	5,169
Wisconsin	62,299	Construction	31,250
Wyoming	7,382	Construction	6,458

Source: Staff tabulation of Energy Futures Initiative May 2018 data

Note: Energy Efficiency employment covers both the production of energy-saving products and the provision of services that reduce end-use energy consumption.