

WIND ENERGY IN IDAHO



Wind energy means economic development for Idaho.

Idaho's growing number of wind farms add up to economic growth and clean energy generation for the state. Wind power generates 15 percent of Idaho's electricity and there are currently at least three manufacturing facilities in Idaho producing components for the wind industry. Idaho's proximity to important wind energy areas, combined with manufacturing expertise, could make Idaho a major manufacturing player for the wind industry.

BENEFITS Jobs & Economic Benefits

The U.S. wind industry is a major economic development driver. In addition to job creation and billions of dollars in project investment, the wind industry invests heavily in local communities, providing significant revenue in the form of property, state, and local taxes.

- Direct wind industry jobs in 2018: <500
- Capital investment in wind projects through 2018*: **\$2.1 billion**
- Annual state and local tax payments by wind projects: **\$13 million**
- Annual land lease payments*: **\$1 - \$5 million**

*Source: Based on state and national averages from LBNL, NREL

Wind-Related Manufacturing

Over 500 manufacturing facilities in the U.S. make products for the wind industry, from blades, towers, and turbine nacelles to raw components such as fiberglass and steel.

- Number of active manufacturing facilities in the state: **3**



Online Wind Project



Wind-related Manufacturing Facility

Wind Projects as of 2Q 2019

- Installed wind capacity: **973 MW**
 - » State rank for installed wind capacity: **20th**
- Number of wind turbines: **541**
 - » State rank for number of wind turbines: **20th**
- Wind projects online: **15** (Projects larger than 10 MW: 15)
- Wind capacity under construction: **0 MW**
- Wind capacity in advanced development: **0 MW**

Wind Generation

In 2018, wind energy provided **14.7%** of all in-state electricity production.

- State rank for share of electricity: **12th**
- Equivalent number of homes powered by wind in 2018: **246,300**

Wind Energy Potential

- Land-based technical wind potential at 80 m hub height: **212,830 MW**
(Source: AWS Truepower, NREL)
- Offshore net technical wind potential at 100 m hub height: **NA**

Environmental Benefits

Generating wind power creates no emissions and uses virtually no water.

- 2018 annual state water consumption savings*: **120 million gallons**
- 2018 equivalent number of water bottles saved: **909 million**
- 2018 annual state carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions avoided: **255,000 metric tons**
- 2018 equivalent cars' worth of emissions avoided: **54,000**

*Based on national average water consumption factors for coal and gas plants.

Idaho

The state of Idaho does not currently have a renewable portfolio standard (RPS) or goal set in place to require utilities to generate a certain percentage of electricity from renewable sources.

