World Energy Employment

Daniel Wetzel, Head of Unit, Tracking Sustainable Transitions

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The energy sector employs over 65 million people worldwide.

The energy sector accounts for 2% of global employment, relatively evenly distributed across fuel supply, power sector, and end uses – industry, buildings, and transport energy-related jobs.
Oil and gas are a substantial part of energy employment today, especially in producer economies. However, low-emissions energy subsectors are already growing to rival the size of these industries.
Clean energy is fuelling employment growth

Energy employment has exceeded pre-pandemic levels. Resilient growth in clean energy has brought it past the 50% mark of total energy employment, while fossil fuel jobs are just nearing pre-pandemic levels.
Today’s policies lead to peak fossil fuel demand is this decade

Fossil fuel demand in the Stated Policies Scenario, 1900-2050

Today’s policy settings are now sufficiently strong that they produce a distinct peak in fossil fuel use before 2030
Oil supply employs 8 million, with employment stable on the horizon

The oil industry is dominated by workers in extraction, building new wells and infrastructure, as well as refining. Employment is stable on the horizon, with many highly-skilled workers able to shift to other scopes of work.
Natural gas employs 3.9 million, but supply chains are shifting

Extraction and utilities have historically dominated natural gas employment, but the global energy crisis is slowing growth and shifting supply chains. LNG, though is becoming a more prominent part of employment.
In the IEA Net Zero by 2050 scenario, fuel supply jobs decline slightly, driven by coal, but oil and gas employment could also diversify into other low-emissions fuels.

... but the transition could be much faster
The energy sector has a large share of high-skilled labour

The energy sector demands more high-skilled workers than other industries, especially in oil and gas. Many of these skills are transferable to emerging sectors in the new energy economy.