



Hoosier Renewable Facts

*Renewable energy is **homegrown, low-cost** and provides **economic benefits**.*

Homegrown Natural Resources for Indiana

Renewable energy like solar and wind is growing in Indiana – but we can do better.

- Wind, solar, biomass and other renewables are abundant Indiana energy resources.
- According to a recent [IU study](#) examining preferences for renewable energy among different ideological groups (liberal, conservative and moderate), “... the broad consensus favored a future in which the nation primarily relied on renewable energy and used much less fossil fuel.
- In 2009, slightly more than 1% of Hoosier electric generation came from renewable energy; and by 2019 that number was up to 6.95%, primarily from local wind projects.
- Sixty percent of new electricity generation in Indiana brought on line during 2017 was powered by renewable energy sources.
- But, Indiana is ranked 36th in the U.S. for renewable energy generation, behind other states in the region, including Illinois, Michigan, Iowa and Minnesota.
- Indiana’s ability to offer renewable energy gives us a competitive edge in attracting industries that bring jobs and revenue to our towns. In 2019 nine of Indiana’s biggest companies requested better access to renewable energy.
 - ⇒ **Keep Indiana competitive and our economy growing with renewable energy.**
 - ⇒ Solar generation is expected to grow thirtyfold in Indiana to 16 gigawatts, compared to 500 megawatts we have now, but none of that is guaranteed without community and statewide support

Low-Cost, Reliable Renewable Energy – a Common Sense Approach to Our Energy Future

Affordable and reliable energy for our families

- From 2010 to 2018, the average cost per megawatt hour (MWH) of wind dropped from \$124 to \$40, while solar average costs dropped from \$248 to \$40 per MWH.
- As of 2020, the cost of electricity generation from renewable energy sources is now lower than the cost of natural gas or coal.
- **Since 2010, Solar electricity generation costs have dropped an extraordinary 89% and wind costs have dropped 70%.**
- NIPSCO has said that “...in addition to the economic benefits that projects like these add, the transition we’re making in our electric generation equates to an **estimated \$4 billion in cost-savings for customers** over the long-term.”
- **With growing renewable energy, reliability of the electric grid is unchanged**
 - ⇒ According to data from the North American Electric Reliability Corporation, reliability performance is stable in the Midwest and California, two areas where the share of renewable energy has grown above the national average.
 - ⇒ In nearby Iowa, they have achieved 40% electricity generation from wind power.

Renewable Energy Delivers Local Benefits, Revenue for Your Community

Millions in additional tax revenue for schools, hospitals, first responders and roads.

- Renewable energy projects **generate large tax gains for the communities**, supporting services and reducing the burden on local taxpayers.
 - ⇒ Between 2008 and 2018, taxes on Benton County wind farms have allowed the county to give \$3 million to schools, more money to medical services and \$35 million for new roads.
 - ⇒ A proposed solar farm in Lake County will invest at least \$200 million in the project, and over the life of the project will generate \$40 million in property taxes.
 - ⇒ In Shelby County [Speedway Solar](#) will generate \$15.7 million in tax revenue.
 - ⇒ In Warren and Benton Counties, the [Jordan Creek Wind Project](#) will pay local taxes of \$1.6 million per year.
 - ⇒ In Howard County, the proposed Emerald Green Solar Project, projects \$30 million dollars in tax revenue for Howard County over the life of the project with \$19.8 million going to the Eastern Howard School Corporation
- Renewable projects provide **direct cash support to farmers**, providing a steady, reliable income for decades.
 - ⇒ Landowners leasing their land for turbines will receive more than \$2.5 million per year at the [Jordan Creek Wind Project](#).
 - ⇒ Through 2018, EDP wind farms have paid over \$59.1 million in lease payments to Hoosier landowners.
 - ⇒ Statewide, Hoosier family farms receive between \$5 and \$10 million annually in lease payments.
- Renewable energy investments **benefit local schools** and first responders, help build and improve roads and provide other resources for local government.
 - ⇒ In Randolph County, they are embarking on project to bring equal access to broadband throughout the county thanks to \$4 million from wind farm payments.
 - ⇒ [Speedway Solar](#) in Shelby County provided a \$1.6 million economic development agreement payment to the county upon completion.
 - ⇒ An economic development fund generated by wind farm revenue in White County provided \$3 million in incentives to save a cherished local amusement park, which provided local jobs and tax revenue.

Wind and Solar Energy in Indiana Creates Local Jobs

Thousands of direct and indirect jobs are created by renewable projects and the revenue supports continued economic growth.

- A recent study says that if the expected demand for renewable energy from commercial and industrial customers is met, Indiana could see \$5.78 billion in new investment and up to 25,000 new jobs.
- 3,200 Hoosiers work in jobs in non-petroleum fuels, like corn ethanol and biomass.
- Renewable projects often use local resources and support local jobs.
 - ⇒ [Benton County](#) has already seen the benefit from the multiple wind farms with lower property taxes for residents and almost **100 new jobs**.
 - ⇒ The [Jordan Creek](#) Wind Project will **create 300 construction jobs**.
 - ⇒ The Meadow Lake Wind Farm in White County created 429 full-time equivalent jobs during construction and another 48 permanent jobs for the project.
- Colleges and Universities are retooling to prepare Hoosiers for jobs in this growing industry.
 - ⇒ Ivy Tech Community College has the [Porter Energy Center](#) to help students complete certificates and degrees in the advanced energy field, such as the Renewable Energy Technology Technical Certificate and the Industrial Wind Technology Technical Certificate.

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