

# FACT SHEET: JOBS

*A Strong American Solar Manufacturing Industry Creates Thousands of Good Paying, Long Term Jobs*

## Job Creation in Solar Industry

- As of the second quarter of 2024, the U.S. solar industry employed approximately 250,000 individuals across the solar supply chain, encompassing roles in manufacturing, engineering, research and development, and installation (source: Syncarpha Capital, 2024).
- The Alliance's seven member and supporter companies are leading the 34,000-worker strong solar manufacturing industry, with plans to add thousands more good-paying, long-term jobs to the U.S. economy in the coming years (source: Syncarpha Capital, 2024).

## Challenges and Market Risks

- In February 2024, CubicPV Inc., a solar manufacturing upstart backed by Bill Gates, canceled its plan to construct a 10 GW wafer factory just 14 months after announcing the plans, citing disintegrating market conditions (source: S&P Global, 2024). Solar cell manufacturer Heleine, postponed leasing a building for its [previously announced](#) solar cell plant in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area (source: PV Tech, 2025)

## Potential Job Growth with Domestic Sourcing

- Chinese-owned companies dominate the market, producing 99% of wafers, 80% of cells, and 90% of polysilicon globally. A study by Dartmouth University, Princeton University, and the BlueGreen Alliance found that sourcing 55% of solar goods domestically could support 900,000 jobs by 2035, up from the current 34,000 solar manufacturing jobs in the U.S. (source: Dartmouth University, Princeton University, and BlueGreen Alliance, 2023).

## Direct and Indirect Job Creation

- Manufacturing facilities contribute significantly to local economies, creating 27,800 indirect jobs. S&P Global projects that enforcing trade laws and increasing domestic manufacturing could create an additional 100,000 solar industry jobs by 2030 (source: S&P Global, 2024).



## Diversity in the Solar Workforce

- The solar industry offers a range of careers for individuals from engineers with PhDs to manufacturing roles without requiring a college degree. As of 2024, 31% of the solar workforce consists of young people aged 18-29, with efforts ongoing to attract more diverse candidates (source: Syncarpha Capital, 2024).

## Labor Protections and Compliance

- The Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act, passed in December 2021, prohibits imports of goods made with forced labor. Since its enactment, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials have stopped \$3.17 billion worth of imports. In 2022 alone, CBP intercepted 2 GW of Chinese-made solar panels valued at nearly \$710 million (source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 2022).

## Current Production and Capacity

- The U.S. produced 4.2 GW of photovoltaic modules in 2024, reflecting a 75% increase from 2023 (source: U.S. Department of Energy, 2024).
- Total current jobs: 33,993 jobs (6,120 direct jobs and 27,873 indirect jobs) (source: Syncarpha Capital, 2024).

## Projected Investments and Job Growth

- Planned expansion projects by domestic and foreign-owned companies aim to add 40,600 MW of capacity.
  - Over 80,580 new jobs are projected (14,650 direct planned jobs and 65,930 indirect planned jobs) (source: U.S. Department of Energy, 2024).
- Major investments in states like Georgia, Ohio, and Texas are expected to contribute significantly to regional economic growth (source: S&P Global, 2024).

