

OIL AND NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT



The oil and natural gas sector's employment footprint is widespread and tangible. Few other industries directly employ individuals in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Few other industries currently work as hard to increase the number of minority and female employees throughout. And few other industries anticipate such dramatic growth in the coming decades.

BACKGROUND:

The oil and natural gas industry currently supports 10.3 million jobs across the country, thanks in part to its extensive value chain. Of that group, 2.8 million are working within the industry to help it grow towards an even brighter future, with an employment picture full of potential.

This sector anticipates the need to fill nearly 1.9 million positions by 2035. This is due to projected industry growth as well as the historic number of retirements expected over the next twenty years. Approximately 57 percent of these jobs will employ individuals without a formal college education, including welders, electricians and truck drivers. Of the nearly two million positions that must be filled, 707,000 of them – or 38 percent – are expected to be held by African American and Hispanic employees and 16 percent by women.

The industry has also developed an online platform, called 'Veterans Energy Pipeline,' which helps connect U.S military veterans with gas and oil career opportunities. Their unique experience provides vets the highly-desirable skills necessary for jobs in gas and oil.

Moreover, the oil and natural gas industry features well-paying jobs at a wide range of employment and education levels. Such jobs, which are traditionally almost double the national average salary, can drastically improve the financial health of employees.

FAST FACTS:

- » The natural gas and oil industry supports 10.3 million jobs. While the industry directly supports only 2.8 million jobs, each job in the industry supports an additional 2.7 jobs elsewhere in the economy.
- » As a result of retirements and industry growth, the natural gas and oil industry is expected to need to fill up to 1.9 million positions by 2035. IHS has concluded that 38 percent of these openings could be filled by African American and Hispanic employees, while 16 percent of the total could be filled by women. 57 percent of the job opportunities are projected to be blue collar occupations.
- » The average non-retail salary paid by the natural gas and oil industry in 2015 was more than \$101,000, nearly double the national average salary.

REFERENCES:

1. ["Impacts of the Oil and Natural Gas Industry on the US Economy in 2015,"](#) PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.
2. ["Minority and Female Employment in the Oil & Natural Gas and Petrochemical Industries, 2015 – 2035,"](#) IHS.

