

# Green jobs grew seven times faster than overall jobs in Oregon, study finds

by Matthew Preusch, The Oregonian  
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The number of green jobs grew faster in Oregon in recent years compared than the overall job market, a new study has found. Researchers at the [Pew Charitable Trusts](#) took a [state-by-state look at the green economy](#) to see whether it's really creating the investment and employment officials hope it will. The study found that jobs in Oregon's clean energy economy grew at a rate of 50.7 percent between 1998 and 2007 while state job growth overall was 7.5 percent. The study's authors say Oregon's numbers are part of a national trend where green job growth outstripped the overall economy in 38 states and the District of Columbia. "Oregon has a large and fast-growing piece of America's clean energy economy," said Dan Lombardi, Oregon representative for the Pew Environment Group. "It has more jobs in its clean energy sector, as a share of its overall economy, than any other state." Lombardi said that Oregon attracted \$70 million in clean technology venture capital in the past three years alone. Of course, defining just what is a "green job" is difficult and debatable. But the study's authors said they did not rely on estimates, economic multipliers or projections, using instead a count of actual jobs and businesses. Pew said its definition of the clean energy economy includes jobs in clean energy; energy efficiency; environmentally friendly production; conservation and pollution mitigation; and training and support.

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