# California's Green Economy

Green Collar Jobs Council March 17, 2010

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#### Our Working Definition of Green

Green jobs produce ("supply") goods or services that result in:

- Generating and storing renewable energy
- Recycling existing materials
- Energy efficient product manufacturing, distribution, construction, installation, and maintenance
- Education, compliance and awareness
- Natural and sustainable product manufacturing

For the complete definition see:

http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/contentpub/GreenDigest/Californias-Draft-Definition-Green-Industries.pdf

#### Sustainable Practices Increase Demand

#### Important caveat...

- LMID's definition focuses on the "supply" side
- Sustainable business practices (the "<u>demand</u>" side) are equally important to California's green economy
- Demand leads to increased pressure for additional supply of products and services
- Survey covers "supply" and "demand" separately

#### Green Economy Survey Details

- First mailing in May 2009
- Over 50,000 businesses across the California economy; all industries, all sizes, all areas
- 5.2M employment in surveyed firms
- Goal is to create a baseline measure of
  - Number of workers in green or clean product manufacturing and/or services
  - Number of businesses that have adopted green practices
  - Emerging occupations for further study related to skills and workforce needs
- Partnering with Community Colleges, Air Resources Board, California Energy Commission, California Workforce Investment Board, Economic Strategy Panel, Employment Training Panel, and others

#### California's Preliminary Survey Responses

- Over 15,200 employers responded, 35% response rate
- Data collection completed in January 2010
- About 3.8 percent of all workers are working on green products and services (Slightly higher than earlier estimate)
- About two-thirds of green workers spend more than half time on green aspects of job
- About two-thirds of employers report using at least one green business practice
- Almost 80% of current green workers were trained on the job
- About 15% of employers in our initial sample have gone out of business during this difficult time in our economy (almost twice the earlier estimate)

# Comparison to Other States' Recent Green Workforce Surveys?

Green as a percent of total employment

California 3.8 % (Prelim)

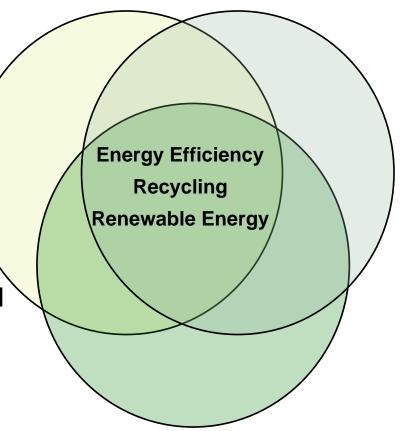
Washington 1.6 %

Oregon 3.0 %

Michigan 3.0 %

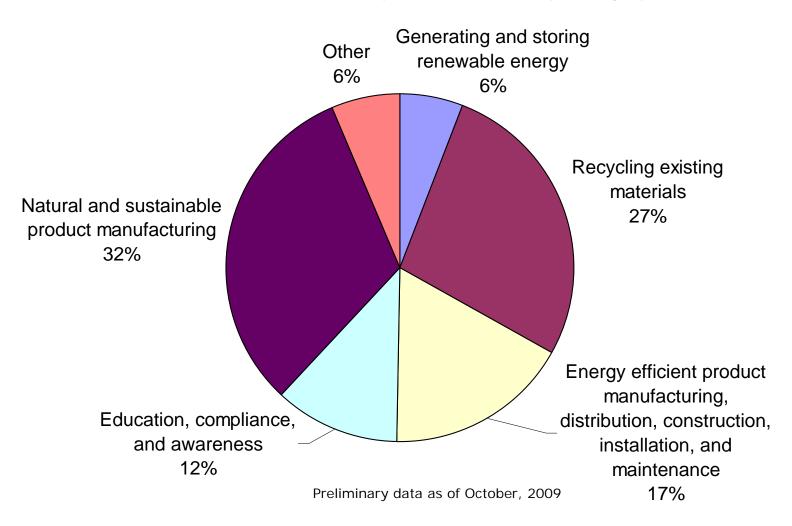
Caveat...Definitions vary somewhat between states...

 Renewable energy, recycling, and energy efficiency are in each states definition

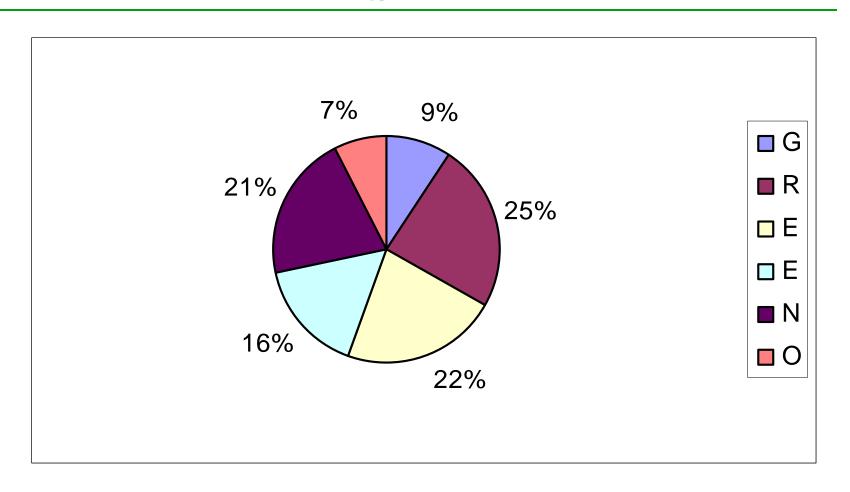


#### Green Workers Reported October 2009

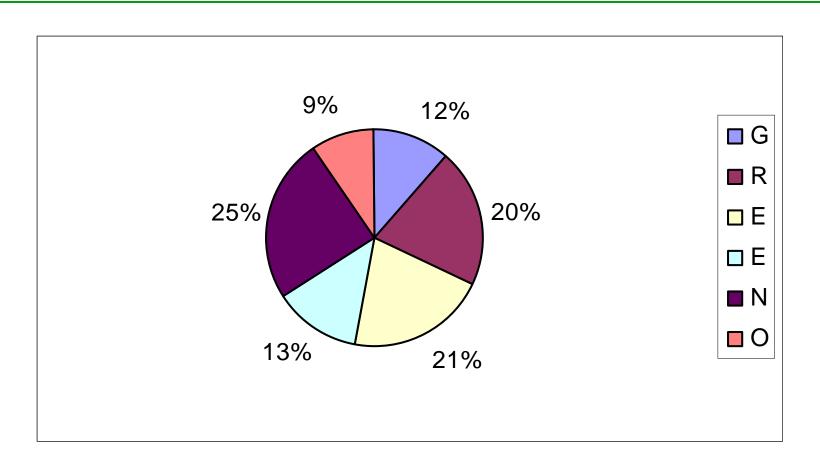
#### **Total Green Employment Reported by Category**



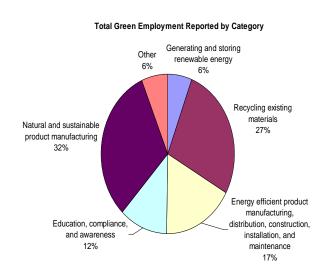
#### Green Workers Reported (Any % of time)

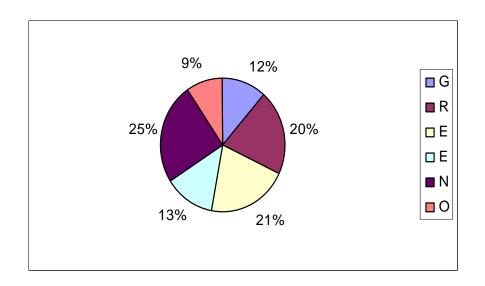


#### Green workers reported (50% of time or more)



# October 2009 v. March 2010 distribution of GREEN Employment

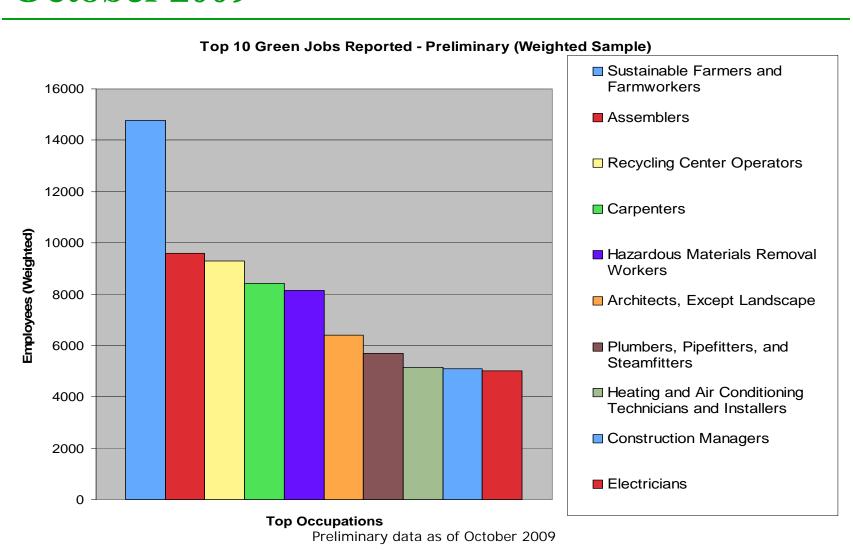




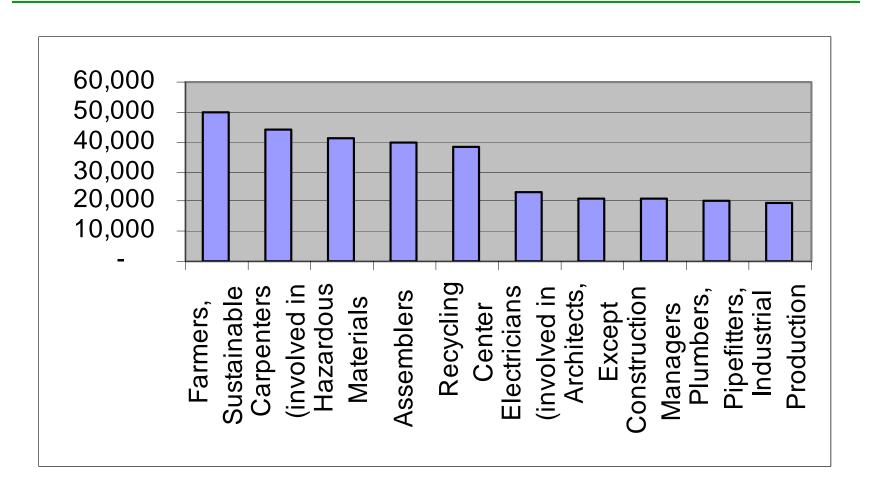
### Preliminary Occupational Findings

- Employers categorized almost 600,000 green employees within the 34 green jobs described on the survey.
- An additional 15,600 workers were reported under "Other Green Job Titles"
- Write ins-include
  - Janitors and Cleaners,
  - Sustainability Assistants,
  - LEED Accredited Professionals,
  - Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics (maintaining electric forklifts),
  - Recyclers (reprocessing on site materials)
- Greater detail will be collected in a subsequent occupational skills survey.

## Survey respondents' top green jobs... October 2009



## Top green jobs 2010



#### Next Steps

- Finalize and complete analysis of data
- Review findings with key players
- Prepare summary report, with regional distinctions as warranted by the data
- Prepare industry level reports
- Detailed occupational follow-up surveys and analysis
- Report on occupational skills and workforce development needs

# Important New Information from the Department of Labor

- Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) plans to study the green economy
- Occupational Information Network (O\*NET)

"Green Economy Sector"

- Green enhanced skills
- Green increased demand
- New and emerging green occupations

http://online.onetcenter.org/find/green

# Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Plans to Count Green Economic Activity

- □ Federal Register Notice released March 16, 2010
- http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-5705.pdf
- Soliciting comments—plans for developing and implementing the collection of new data on Green Jobs
- Written comments due on or before April 30, 2010
- Comments by April 30, 2010 to Rick Clayton, green@bls.gov (or physical address in FRN)

### **BLS Defines Green Jobs**

- "BLS plans to use two approaches in identifying environmental economic activity and measuring associated jobs:
  - (1) The output approach, which identifies establishments that produce green goods and services and counts the associated jobs, and
  - (2) the process approach, which identifies establishments that use environmentally-friendly production processes and practices and counts the associated jobs."

### **BLS Green Jobs Definition**

- Green jobs are jobs involved in economic activities that help protect or restore the environment or conserve natural resources. These economic activities generally fall in the following categories:
  - Renewable energy
  - Energy efficiency
  - Greenhouse gas reduction
  - Pollution reduction and cleanup
  - Recycling and waste reduction
  - Agricultural and natural resources conservation
  - Education, compliance, public awareness, and training

### **BLS** Measurement of Green Jobs

- Direct green goods and services
- Indirect green goods and services
- Specialized inputs
- Distribution of green goods

## Help shape the future of data collection for green jobs! Read the FRN and comment!

- LMID will analyze and comment on the BLS proposal in the context of what we have learned about California's green economy through our survey and other research
- We encourage other stakeholders to review and comment as well!
- BLS's framework and definition will shape the way information about green jobs is collected at the national level.

#### Questions? Thank you!

Feel free to get in touch

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