

## Digest of Green Reports and Studies

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| <b>Title</b>                   | <b><i>Green Jobs: A Pathway to a Strong Middle Class</i></b>  |
| <b>Author</b>                  | Staff Report- Office of the Vice President of the United States   |
| <b>Organization</b>            | White House Task Force on the Middle Class- Office of the Vice President of the United States   |
| <b>Author Contact</b>          | None  |
| <b>Publication Type</b>        | Job Impact Study  |
| <b>Publication Date</b>        | 2009  |
| <b># of Pages</b>              | 33pp  |
| <b>URL</b>                     | <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/assets/documents/mctf_one_staff_report.pdf">www.whitehouse.gov/assets/documents/mctf_one_staff_report.pdf</a>  |
| <b>Summary</b>                 | <p>Green Jobs: A Pathway to a Strong Middle Class is a study that was conducted in 2009 by the White House Task Force on the Middle Class. It focuses on the “green jobs movement,” specifically, how green jobs can be used to address economic challenges that face the middle class.</p> <p>The key points that are addressed in the report are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “What is a green job, and what are the characteristics of those jobs?”</li> <li>• How the economic recovery package effects green jobs.</li> <li>• “Green jobs in action: a review of ongoing activities in this area.”</li> <li>• “Policies to help promote the creation of green jobs.”</li> <li>• “Leveraging private capital investment in green jobs.”</li> <li>• “Making sure green jobs are good jobs, accessible to all.”</li> </ul> |
| <b>Key Findings</b>            | The study found that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) will help to increase money for investments, research, job training programs, and the amount of loan money available to green industries. There are additional initiatives (policies, programs, etc.) that are geared towards “building a green jobs movement in communities, states, and the nation.” The findings also revealed that green jobs pay 10 to 20 percent more than other jobs, are usually union jobs, and are more likely to be held by men.  |
| <b>Recommendations</b>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since green jobs are just developing, it is important to keep them open to a diverse workforce, including women, minorities, lower income, and older and younger workers. Training programs will help provide these workers with access to green jobs.</li> <li>• The US government is “the largest energy consumer in the world,” so it is important that it become green itself.</li> <li>• Small changes, such as having your home retrofitted in a “green” way, are a good start towards building a green world.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Definition of “Green”</b>   | “The most general trait of green jobs is that they must be jobs that somehow contribute to the improvement of environmental quality.” The study adds more detail to its definition by drawing from other organization’s definitions. According to the study, a green job must be a job that is associated with improving the environment, is well-compensated and sustainable, and is available to a diverse workforce.   |
| <b>Methodology</b>             | Literature Research   |
| <b>Data Sources Cited</b>      | Council of Economic Advisors (survey)   |
| <b>Report Geography</b>        | Philadelphia  |
| <b>Green Occupations Cited</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electrical power line installers and repairers</li> <li>• computer control programmers and operators</li> <li>• control and valve installers and repairers</li> <li>• electrical and electronic engineers</li> <li>• electrical and electronic repairers, electricians</li> <li>• engine and other machine assemblers</li> <li>• engineering technicians</li> <li>• first line supervisors/managers of mechanics, installers, repairers</li> <li>• industrial and refractory machinery mechanics</li> <li>• lathe and turning machine tool setters/operators</li> <li>• power plant operators/distributors/dispatchers</li> <li>• welding, soldering, and brazing workers</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Green Industries Cited</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Power generation</li> <li>• turbine/engine manufacturing</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Keywords</b>                | Middle class; lower class; trade-level employment.  |
| <b>Legislation Cited</b>       | American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), Pennsylvania state act 129.  |
| <b>Bibliography (Y/N)</b>      | N   |
| <b>Reviewer Name/Org</b>       | D. Costello / Labor Market Information Division, California   |

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