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Economic impact of clean energy totals \$40.3 billion in North Carolina
Report reveals clean energy investment growth in all 100 counties

RALEIGH, N.C., June 24, 2021 — In addition to providing renewable, reliable power generation, a biennial report released today reveals how clean energy increasingly powers North Carolina’s economy. The [Economic Impact Analysis of Clean Energy Development in North Carolina—2021 Update](#), conducted by RTI International, finds the cumulative economic impact of renewable energy and energy efficiency projects in the state totals more than \$40 billion over the last 14 years.

The updated analysis also finds renewable energy project investment in 2020 alone totaled \$1.6 billion—62 times the \$26.2 million invested in 2007—and approximately \$22.5 billion was directly spent on clean energy development in North Carolina between 2007 and 2020. Related economic impacts of clean energy development have similarly grown, including supporting 291,183 annual full-time equivalents between 2007 and 2020—up significantly from the 112,720 [clean energy jobs](#) researchers previously identified.

Some of North Carolina’s most economically challenged counties are those that see the greatest economic benefits from clean energy development. Duplin, Robeson, Halifax, Edgecombe, Cumberland, Northampton, and Bladen Counties experienced more than \$500 million each in investment between 2007 and 2020. Forty-two North Carolina counties experienced over \$100 million in investment and a breakdown of investments across all 100 North Carolina counties can be found [here](#).

“We know that clean energy has been and increasingly continues to be a significant economic driver for our state,” said Ward Lenz, Executive Director of North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association (NCSEA). “This report illustrates how forward-thinking clean energy policy can benefit all North Carolinians via cost savings, local job creation, tax revenue generation and community reinvestment, economic development and more. We continue to work diligently toward modernizing North Carolina’s electricity regulatory structure and look forward to realizing the full potential of our clean energy economy together.”

The Economic Impact Analysis of Clean Energy Development in North Carolina report is commissioned by NCSEA and published biennially to capture the economic impacts of new clean energy investment. RTI International has performed this analysis since 2014 and the 2021 update captures results from investments made in 2019 and 2020. View the highlights infographic [here](#).

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About North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association

North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association (NCSEA) is the leading 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that drives public policy and market development for clean energy. Our work enables clean energy jobs, economic opportunities, and affordable energy options for North Carolinians. Learn more about NCSEA, our mission, and vision at www.energync.org.

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