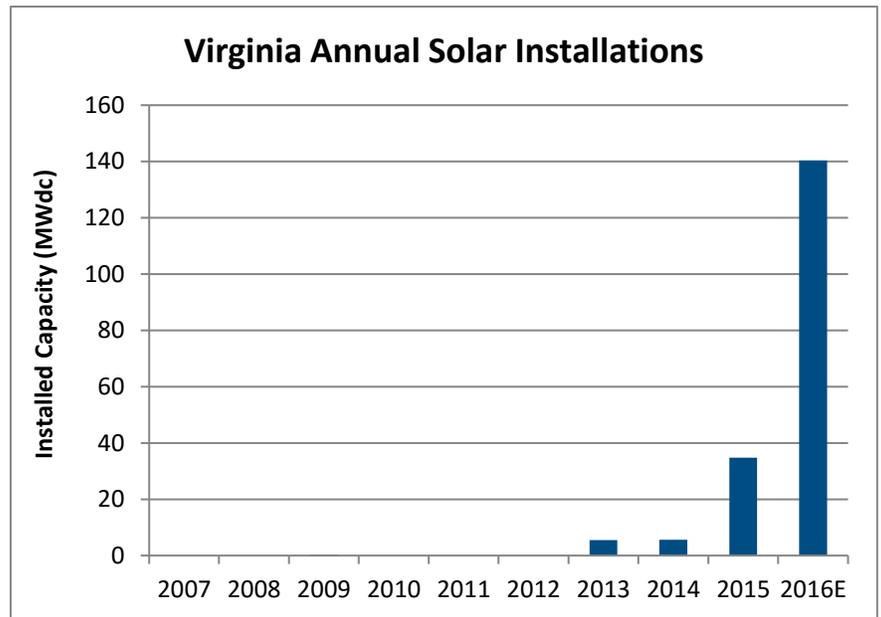


# Solar Spotlight: Virginia

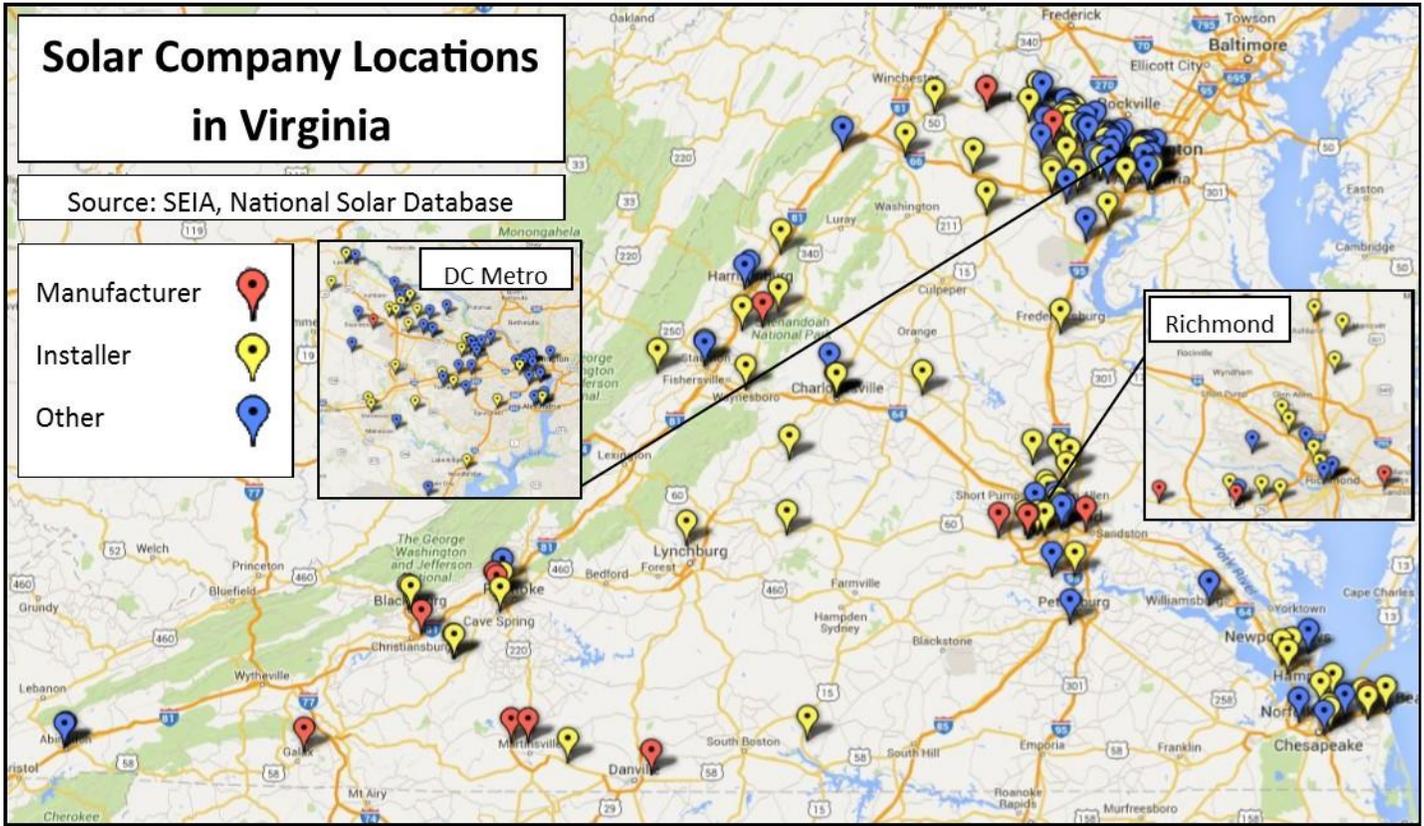
## At a glance

- There are currently more than **184 solar companies**<sup>1</sup> at work throughout the value chain in Virginia, **employing 1,963 people**<sup>2</sup>. These companies provide a wide variety of solar products and services ranging from solar system installations to the manufacturing of components used in photovoltaic (PV) panels. These companies can be broken down across the following categories: 21 manufacturers, 9 manufacturing facilities, 71 contractor/installers, 20 project developers, 9 distributors and 63 engaged in other solar activities including financing, engineering and legal support.
- In 2015, Virginia **installed 10 MW of solar electric capacity**, ranking it 30th nationally. Installed solar capacity in Virginia has grown by 72% over the last year.<sup>3</sup>
- In 2015, **\$28 million was invested on solar installations** in Virginia. This represents a 86% increase over the previous year, and is expected to grow again this year.
- The **49 MW of solar energy currently installed** in Virginia ranks the state 29th in the country in installed solar capacity. Of this capacity, **12 MW** are residential, **10 MW** are commercial and **27 MW** are utility-scale. There is enough solar energy installed in the state to power 4,800 homes.
- Over the next 5 years, Virginia is expected to install **1101 MW** of solar electric capacity, ranking the state 16th over that time span. This amount is **more than 25 times the amount of solar installed over the last 5 years**.
- Installed **solar PV system prices in the U.S. have dropped steadily**- by 12% from last year and 66% from 2010.



## Notable Projects

- **Philip Morris Solar** was completed in 2016 by developer **Virginia Electric & Power Co.** This photovoltaic project has the capacity to generate **2 MW** of electricity-- enough to power over 200 Virginia homes.<sup>4</sup>
- Several large retailers in Virginia have gone solar. **IKEA** has installed one of the largest corporate photovoltaic systems in the state with **504 kW** of solar capacity at their location in Woodbridge.<sup>5</sup>



<sup>1</sup> SEIA, National Solar Database, [www.seia.org/research-resources/national-solar-database](http://www.seia.org/research-resources/national-solar-database)

<sup>2</sup> The Solar Foundation, 2015 National and State Solar Jobs Census, [www.thesolarfoundation.org/solar-jobs-census/](http://www.thesolarfoundation.org/solar-jobs-census/)

<sup>3</sup> This and all other data in this section from SEIA/GTM Research *U.S. Solar Market Insight*

<sup>4</sup> SEIA, Major Solar Projects List, [www.seia.org/research-resources/major-solar-projects-list](http://www.seia.org/research-resources/major-solar-projects-list)

<sup>5</sup> SEIA, Solar Means Business, [www.seia.org/research-resources/solar-means-business-report](http://www.seia.org/research-resources/solar-means-business-report)