Wind energy means economic development for Massachusetts.

Wind power can help Massachusetts meet its renewable energy goals while creating economic development in the state. Many companies in Massachusetts have already entered the wind energy supply chain, with manufacturer Phoenix Inc serving as the main U.S. assembler for Aeronautica wind turbine nacelles. Expanding wind power will create even more opportunities for manufacturers and service suppliers.

### Jobs & Economic

An investment in wind power is an investment in jobs, including jobs in operations and maintenance, construction, manufacturing and many support sectors. In addition, wind projects produce lease payments for landowners and increase the tax base of communities.

- 2015 direct and indirect jobs supported: 101 to 500
- Total capital investment: $220 million
- Annual land lease payments: $100,000 - 500,000

### Wind-Related Manufacturing

The United States has over 500 manufacturing facilities producing products for the wind industry that range from blade, tower and turbine nacelle assembly facilities to raw component suppliers, including fiberglass and steel.

- Number of active manufacturing facilities in the state: 9
Wind Projects

- **Installed wind capacity:** 107 MW
- **State rank for installed wind capacity:** 34th
- **Number of wind turbines:** 83
- **State rank for number of wind turbines:** 31st
- **Wind projects online:** 44
- **Wind capacity under construction:** 8 MW

Current Wind Generation

In 2015, wind energy provided 0.68% of all in-state electricity production.

- **Equivalent number of homes powered by wind:** 20,000

Wind Generation Potential

The DOE Wind Vision Scenario projects that Massachusetts could produce enough wind energy by 2030 to power the equivalent of 993,000 average American homes.

- **Land based technical wind potential at 80 m hub height:** 1,583 MW
- **Land based technical wind potential at 110 m hub height:** 8,069 MW (Source: NREL)

Environmental Benefits

Generating wind power creates no emissions and uses virtually no water.

- **2014 annual state water consumption savings:** 278.4 million gallons
- **2014 equivalent number of water bottles saved:** 2.1 billion
- **2014 annual state carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions avoided:** 607,000 metric tons
- **2014 equivalent cars worth of emissions avoided:** 129,000

Renewable Portfolio Standard

Massachusetts adopted an RPS in 2002, strengthening it in 2008 with two standards. The Class I standard for new resources calls for 15% of all retail electricity suppliers sales to come from eligible renewable energy resources by 2020, with an additional 1% escalation each year thereafter. Wind energy has historically been the renewable resource chosen to meet RPS requirements, fulfilling 86% of RPS requirements through 2011.