



IN FOCUS

TRAINING & WORKFORCE ▸ CLEANPOWER

# WIND TURBINE TECH JOBS: 2025-2026 INDUSTRY OUTLOOK

Working as a wind tech typically requires comfort at heights, mechanical and electrical aptitude, and strict adherence to safety procedures. (Courtesy: Shutterstock)



*Wind technicians are essential to delivering reliable, high-uptime renewable energy, so as installations grow and technologies evolve, technician demand is projected to remain robust through 2030 and beyond.*

By WEATHER GUARD LIGHTNING TECH  
and THE UPTIME WIND ENERGY PODCAST STAFF

**W**ind turbine technicians literally provide the foundation of the industry, playing a critical role in the global transition to renewable energy. As the wind sector expands, so does the need for skilled talent to install, maintain, and operate wind turbines safely and reliably.

### THE ROLE OF THE WIND TECHNICIAN IN 2026

Wind-turbine technicians (commonly called wind technicians, or wind-service technicians) are responsible for the installation, inspection, maintenance, and repair of wind turbines and related infrastructure. Working as a wind tech typically requires comfort at heights, mechanical and electrical aptitude, and strict adherence to safety procedures. Common duties include:

- Climbing turbine towers for inspection and servicing.
- Troubleshooting electrical, hydraulic, and mechanical systems.
- Performing routine and predictive maintenance.
- Reporting and documenting repair and performance data (see The Department of Energy's Energy.gov).

Entry into the field typically requires a high school diploma or equivalent, plus specialized post-secondary training. Technical schools and community colleges increasingly offer wind energy or renewable energy technician programs — often coupled with hands-on experience. (The Department of Energy's Energy.gov)

### TECH EMPLOYMENT: U.S. AND GLOBAL DEMAND

In the United States, wind-turbine technician jobs are among the fastest-growing occupations:

Employment growth for wind-turbine service technicians is projected to increase approximately 50 percent from 2024 to 2034 — much faster than average — adding roughly 6,800 new jobs by 2034. (Bureau of Labor Statistics)

The occupation is expected to have about 2,300 openings per year on average over that decade, largely driven by new turbine installations and the replacement of existing personnel. (Bureau of Labor Statistics)

These projections underline the sustained demand for technicians, particularly as older turbines age and require more maintenance work.

Wind-energy growth is stronger in most countries than that seen in the U.S. A number of factors are driving strong demand worldwide.

According to the Global Wind Workforce Outlook 2025-2030, the industry will need approximately 628,000 wind technicians by 2030 to support both onshore and offshore wind fleet deployment and operations. (Global Wind Organisation)

Earlier forecasts estimated that about 569,000 technicians will be required by 2026 to build and maintain the global wind fleet. (Windfair) This global demand highlights opportunities beyond the U.S., concentrated in major markets such as China, the United States, India, Brazil, Japan, Vietnam, and South Korea. (Global Wind Organisation)

For an overview of wind technician training programs in the U.S., visit [BuildTurbines.com](http://BuildTurbines.com).

## WIND TECH COMPENSATION AND CAREER PATH

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in May 2024, the median annual wage for wind-turbine technicians in the U.S. was about \$62,580 in May 2024 (approximately \$30.09/hr).

As with most skilled professions, pay varies by employer and region; experienced technicians and those with advanced certifications can earn much more. Employers may also offer benefits such as health insurance, 401(k) matching, and signing bonuses.

Internationally, salaries vary significantly by country, local labor markets, and employer — especially between developed and emerging wind markets.

Because the wind industry is growing quickly, available career advancement and growth opportunities are better than in many other fields. A typical career path might include:

- **Entry-level wind technician:** Perform basic maintenance and inspections.

- **Senior technician/lead technician:** Higher responsibility for complex troubleshooting and mentorship.

- **Operations & Maintenance (O&M) supervisor or manager:** Oversee teams and maintenance strategies.

- **Specialty roles:** Instrumentation, electrical systems, offshore wind technician, and technical training instructor.

Certifications like those from the Global Wind Organisation (GWO) are increasingly standard and help technicians demonstrate safety and technical competence.

And, many wind technicians find other opportunities, growing into sales or consulting roles, and others with entrepreneurial interests establish businesses of their own in the industry, often as a response to what they learn in a few years in the field.

## SKILLS AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR WIND TECHS

Wind turbine technician roles require a blend of technical training and physical skills:

- **Technical skills:** Mechanical systems, electrical circuits, hydraulics, PLC systems, and SCADA monitoring.

- **Physical and safety skills:** Comfort working at heights, use of fall protection equipment, confined-space procedures.

- **Certifications:** GWO Basic Safety Training (BST), rescue and fall-protection standards, and employer-specific or manufacturer-specific credentials are common.

On-the-job training typically supplements formal education and is a key part of career development. Partnerships between training schools and employers enhance placement opportunities. (The Department of Energy's [Energy.gov](http://Energy.gov))

For those looking for their first job as a wind technician, it's important to note that on-the-job training should never replace formal job training.

## KEY INDUSTRY TRENDS AFFECTING TECHS

- **Expansion of Offshore Wind:** Offshore wind projects are expanding in Europe, the U.S., and Asia, creating specialized technician roles with higher travel and safety requirements. These roles often pay premiums due to the increased risk and logistical complexity.

- **Advanced maintenance technologies:** Technicians with skills in digital tools and SCADA analytics are increasingly valuable. Predictive maintenance technologies, including data analytics, drones, and machine-learning-based condition monitoring, are reshaping the work scope and roles available to wind technicians. Service teams increasingly use sensors and analytics to predict failures and schedule maintenance more efficiently, which enhances uptime and reduces reactive repairs (arXiv) — and ultimately reduces serious safety risks.

- **Workforce development challenges:** While demand is high, the industry faces training bottlenecks — particularly in the U.S. A skills gap exists between the number of trained technicians and the workforce needed to meet forecast installation and O&M demand, particularly in emerging wind markets. Investments in standardized training and apprenticeship programs are helping close these gaps. (Global Wind Organisation)

## HIRING PRACTICES AND OPPORTUNITIES

- **Entry-Level Positions:** Many wind companies regularly hire entry-level technicians, especially those with GWO or equivalent certifications and technical training. Opportunities include onshore installation and maintenance work with employers such as Vestas, Siemens Gamesa, GE Vernova, NextEra Energy, and Ørsted. (Jobs are listed in industry job boards and sites like Indeed)

Some roles in the U.S. wind industry explicitly list zero-to-minimal prior wind experience as acceptable, emphasizing a willingness to train motivated candidates. (NextEra Energy Resources)



Wind turbine technician roles require a blend of technical training and physical skills. (Courtesy: Shutterstock)

Because there are inherent safety risks in any job that requires working at heights, those new to the industry need to remember that on-the-job training should never replace formal training.

## REGIONAL HIRING OVERVIEW, 2025-2026

▼ **U.S.:** Strong demand exists in wind-rich areas such as Texas, Iowa, and the Midwest.

▼ **Europe and U.K.:** Offshore wind growth supports technician demand, especially in the North Sea and offshore clusters.

▼ **Asia:** China and India continue to expand both onshore and offshore wind capacity, creating wide regional demand.

Online job boards show hundreds of local wind technician openings in regions such as Ohio, where employers routinely seek technicians for both onshore and travel roles. (Indeed)

## CHALLENGES AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR WIND TECHNICIANS AND MANAGERS

Market shifts, including political maneuvering, as well as seasonal and weather impacts, are constantly affecting the industry.

While long-term demand is strong, some major developers have recently announced workforce restructuring, particularly as project pipelines shift and financial pressures mount in offshore sectors. For example, Ørsted — one of the world's largest offshore wind developers — plans workforce reductions amid strategic refocusing. (Reuters) Some of the biggest impacts to the company's business came about in 2025, almost entirely due to U.S. tariffs and energy policy changes.

To remain competitive, wind-operations managers need

to plan for talent retention and strategic training investments and creating clear growth plans for employees.

While wind hiring can be seasonal — many sites see hiring slowdowns in winter months and resume when field conditions improve — larger companies maintain a full workforce year-round, sometimes shifting workers to other countries to maximize their workforce productivity.

## RECOGNIZING THE INCREASING VALUE OF WIND TURBINE TECHNICIANS

Technicians are essential to delivering reliable, high-uptime renewable energy. As installations grow and technologies evolve, technician demand is projected to remain robust through 2030 and beyond.

For entry-level candidates, strong technical training and safety certifications unlock opportunities across onshore and offshore wind. For wind managers, strategic workforce development and adoption of advanced maintenance tools are key to scaling operations effectively.

While continued technological advances have changed the role of wind technicians over the years, it is extremely unlikely that any technology will replace the people who truly keep the turbines turning. For the foreseeable future, wind-turbine technicians remain a foundation of the global wind industry's growth, and career prospects are expected to remain strong. ↵

## ABOUT THE COMPANY

Weather Guard Lightning Tech makes StrikeTape, which protects thousands of wind turbines from lightning damage worldwide. It also produces The Uptime Wind Energy Podcast, reaching more than 1 million subscribers on YouTube. For more information, go to [weatherguardwind.com](http://weatherguardwind.com).