



MASSACHUSETTS
CLEAN ENERGY
CENTER®

Massachusetts Climate Careers: Powering the Future

Climate Hero Spotlight: Lineworkers



Opening Activity

Power Runs Our Lives

How would a power outage affect

- The pharmacist?
- The corner grocery?
- The crossing guard?
- A taxi driver?
- The hospital?





Today's Agenda

- **The Big Question and My Climate Goals**
- **Lineworkers and Climate Resilience**
- **Lineworker Career Paths**
- **Lineworker Critical Response Scenarios**
- **Takeaways and Closing**





The Big Question

How do lineworkers and other electric utility workers contribute to climate solutions?





My Climate Goals

When you complete this lesson, you'll be able to

1. Examine the role of lineworkers and how they contribute to climate resiliency and public safety
2. Discuss the relationship between lineworkers and the state's climate goals
3. Identify the skills and training needed to become an electrical lineworker
4. Determine which aspects of a lineworker's career align with their skills, interests, and desired work environment.





Lineworkers

Lineworkers keep electricity flowing so homes, schools, and hospitals can function.

- Install and repair power lines
- Respond to outages in all weather
- Help modernize the grid for clean energy



Build a Cleaner Future

Lineworkers help upgrade power grids to support clean energy:

- New solar, geothermal, wind, and other renewable energy projects
- Electrifying buildings and infrastructure
- Electric vehicle charging capability
- Strengthening the grid against climate events





Climate Watch Video





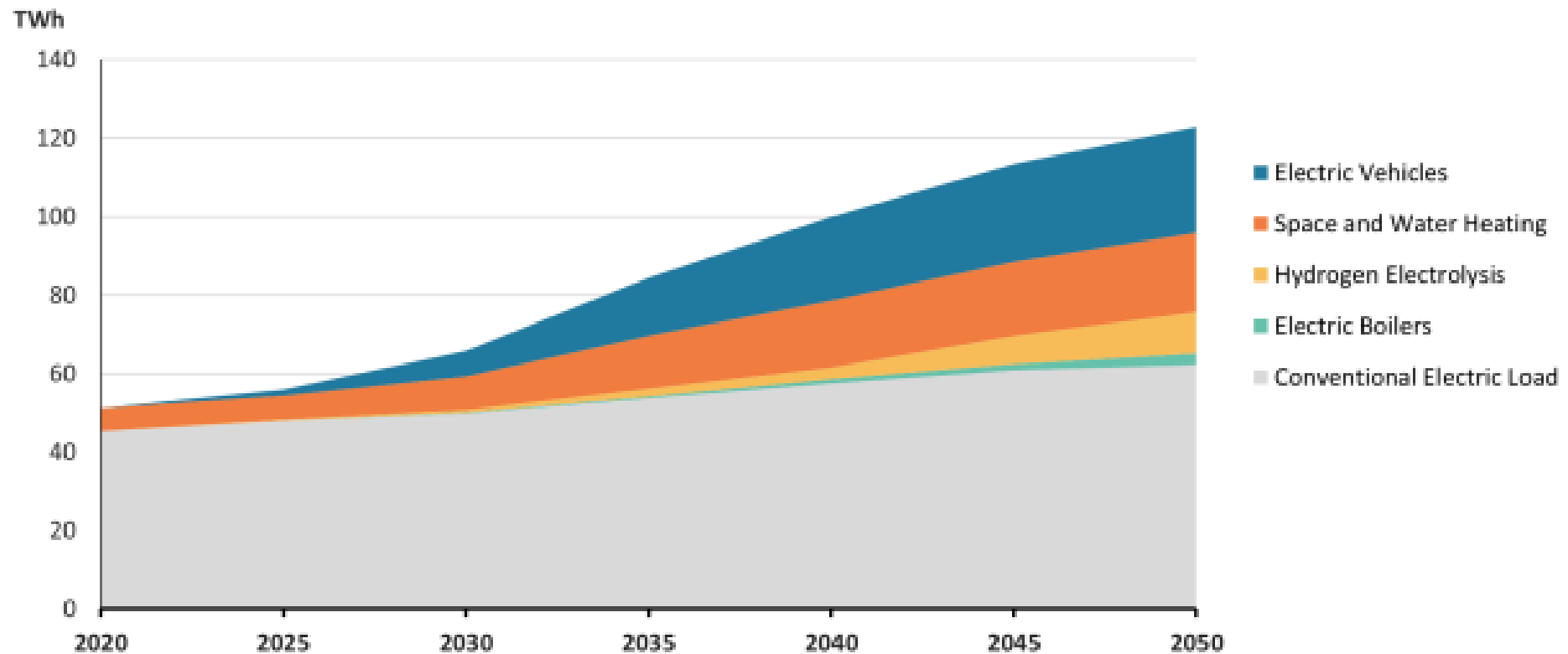
Climate Watch Discussion

1. How similar (or different) are the apprenticeship programs for electricians and lineworkers?
2. What is one challenge of pursuing an apprenticeship mentioned in the video?
3. What are some of the benefits of the pursuing an apprenticeship to be a lineworker?

Massachusetts's Climate Plan

Lineworkers are essential to meeting climate goals.

FIGURE 4-1. PROJECTION OF MASSACHUSETTS ELECTRICITY LOAD



Source: MA Clean Energy and Climate Action Plan for 2050





Lineworker Demand

Demand for lineworkers will **double** by 2030 to maintain wind, solar, and battery infrastructure and to build new power lines for clean energy.





Prevailing wage rates can be higher.



96% Male
4% Female

DEMOGRAPHICS



82%
Without a
Bachelor's Degree

3.3 / 5
State Occupation
Star Ranking

JOB OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS CLEAN ENERGY SECTOR





Skills and Training

Skills:

- Technical proficiency
- Physical stamina
- Problem-solving
- Safety awareness

Training:

- Apprenticeships
- Vocational programs





nationalgrid

Lineworker Career Paths

- Become a journeyman or specialized technician.
- Join one of Massachusetts's training options, such as one of their apprenticeship programs!



Group Activity

Critical Response: Lineworkers in MA Climate Emergencies

Winter Storm Riley



Source: Live595.com

Tornado Outbreak



Source: Weather.com

Heat Wave



Source: Boston Magazine





Activity Debrief

- How do lineworkers contribute to climate solutions?
- Why is their role critical in ensuring the safety and well-being of communities?
- How does the ability to restore power during emergencies contribute to broader climate resilience goals, such as clean energy access and reliable infrastructure?



Key Points

- Lineworkers are essential workers.
- Lineworkers contribute to climate resilience.
- The demand for lineworkers will continue to grow in Massachusetts.
- Linework requires a combination of physical and technical skills and training.





Closing Activity

1. Why are lineworkers critical to Massachusetts achieving its climate goals?
2. How do lineworkers contribute to climate resiliency?
3. What is one unique aspect of working as a lineworker?





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