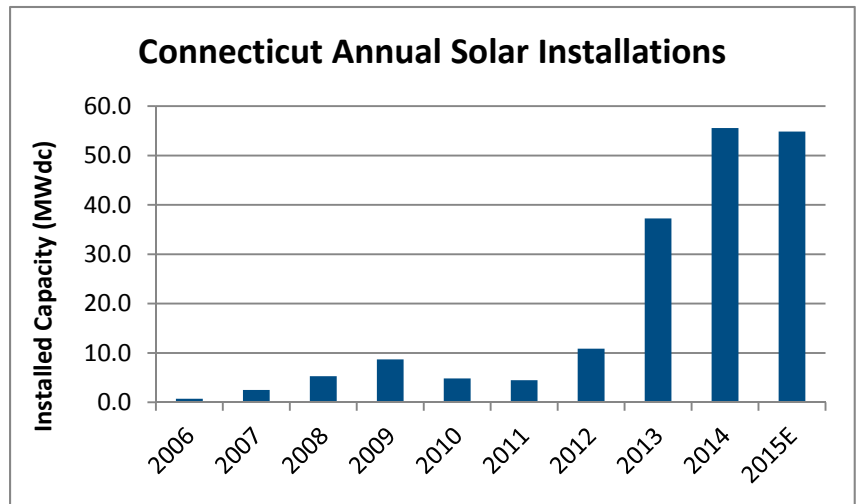


# Solar Spotlight: Connecticut

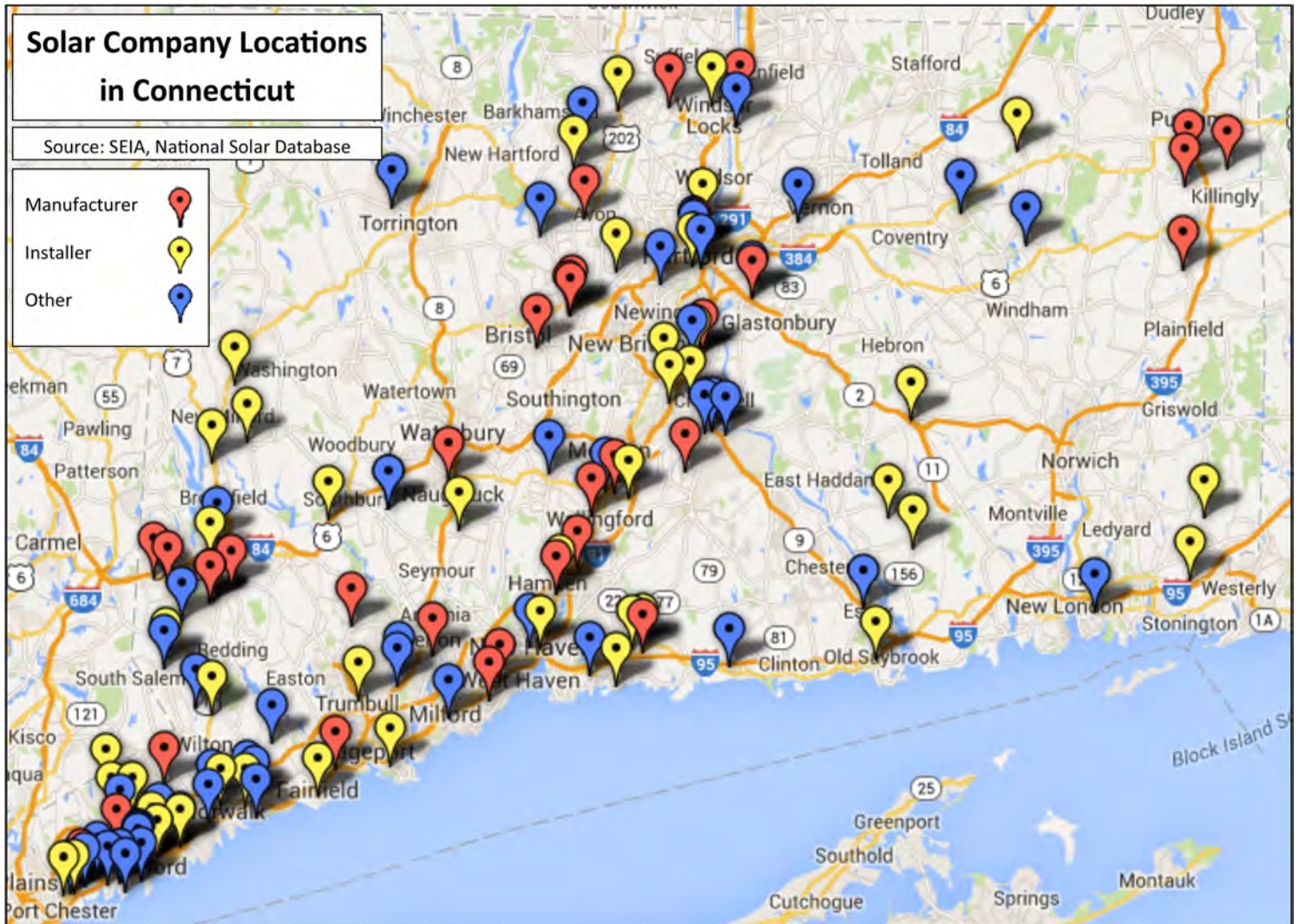
## At a glance

- There are currently more than **138 solar companies**<sup>1</sup> at work throughout the value chain in Connecticut, **employing 1,600 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 panels. These companies can be broken down across the following categories: 33 manufacturers, 15 manufacturing facilities, 47 contractor/installers, 14 project developers, 10 distributors and 34 engaged in other solar activities including financing, engineering and legal support.
- **17 MW of solar energy were installed** in Connecticut in the first quarter of 2015. This marks a 10% increase over the last quarter and a 263% increase over the same quarter last year. Connecticut ranked 13th nationally in first quarter installations.<sup>3</sup>
- In 2014, Connecticut **installed 45 MW of solar electric capacity**, ranking it 17th nationally. Of this capacity, 17 MW were residential, 21 MW were commercial and 7 MW were utility-scale.
- The **147 MW of solar energy currently installed** in Connecticut ranks the state 16th in the country in installed solar capacity. There is enough solar energy installed in the state to power 21,000 homes.
- In 2014, **\$121 million** was invested on solar installations in Connecticut.
- Installed solar photovoltaic system prices in the U.S. have dropped steadily- by **12% from last year and 45% from 2010**.



## Notable Projects

- **Somers Solar Center** was completed in 2013 by developer HelioSage Energy. This photovoltaic project has the capacity to generate 5 MW of electricity- enough to power over 700 Connecticut homes.<sup>4</sup>
- At 5 MW, **East Lyme Solar Park** is among the largest solar installations in Connecticut. Completed in 2014 by Greenskies Renewable Energy, this photovoltaic project has enough electric capacity to power more than 700 homes.<sup>5</sup>
- Several large retailers in Connecticut have gone solar, including **Walmart, Kohl's, Staples, Target** and **Walgreens**. **IKEA** has installed one of the largest corporate photovoltaic systems in the state with 940 kW of solar capacity at their location in New Haven.<sup>6</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, 2014 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 remaining bullets in this section from SEIA/GTM Research *Solar Market Insight*, [www.seia.org/research-resources/us-solar-market-insight](http://www.seia.org/research-resources/us-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> Ibid

<sup>6</sup> SEIA, Solar Means Business, [www.seia.org/research-resources/solar-means-business-report](http://www.seia.org/research-resources/solar-means-business-report)



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