

The urban concentration of Jordan's economic activity is emissions-intensive for various reasons but has also benefited from agglomeration economies in terms of stimulating job creation.^c Tourism is the country's leading export sector with a significant contribution to GDP; however, its structure has created fewer overall jobs, particularly inclusive ones, relative to competitor countries. As a dynamic emerging market, renewable energy installation services and energy efficiency upgrades will increasingly require a higher mix of occupations, such as service and market sales workers and professionals, similar to those observed in countries more advanced in the green energy transition process (IRENA 2017a and 2017b).⁹³ In the near term, growing demand for renewable energy installation services and energy efficiency upgrades will offer opportunities for micro firms and independent contractors to enter or expand their operations in response to growing demand. Increasing urbanization reduces the transportation demand and can increase agglomeration effects.⁹² Investing in transport sector efficiency through expanded public transportation, better road infrastructure, and interurban truck transport connectivity can reduce transport costs for firms and workers. Whereas construction skills feature prominently in renewable energy installation activities and energy efficiency building upgrades, they are largely comprised of moderate skill levels. The rising temperatures and reduced water availability mean some crops will no longer be viable without significant adaptation, which in turn may displace farm workers, which are some of the most vulnerable groups. However, some of Jordan's agriculture products could be replaced to enhance its untapped export potential.⁹¹ While national food security is important, the sector holds limited potential to create new high-quality jobs unless strategic technological and crop-mix changes are introduced. Transport sector workers are disproportionately male Jordanians, with similar education levels to construction, wholesale, and retail sectors, although transport wages tend to be higher. This conclusion is consistent with IRENA and ILO (2021) global estimates that over four-fifths of new jobs generated under an energy sustainability scenario will require a secondary education or less, because they run primarily on oil and natural gas (Aguilar-Restrepo et al. 2021).