

New jobs for energy and transport in Europe

Bridging the solar skills gap through quality

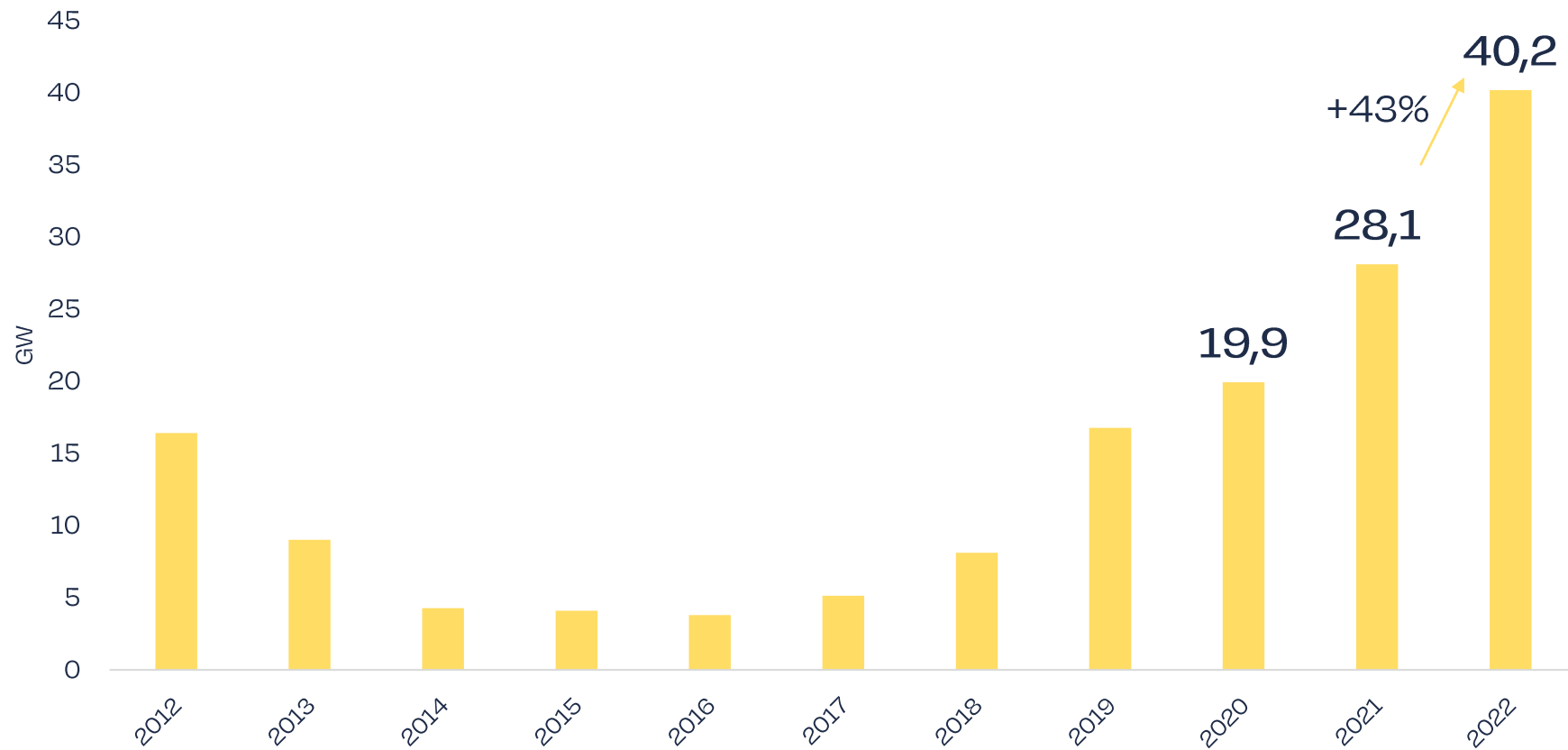
Wednesday 8th November 2023



Tuesday 26 September 2023

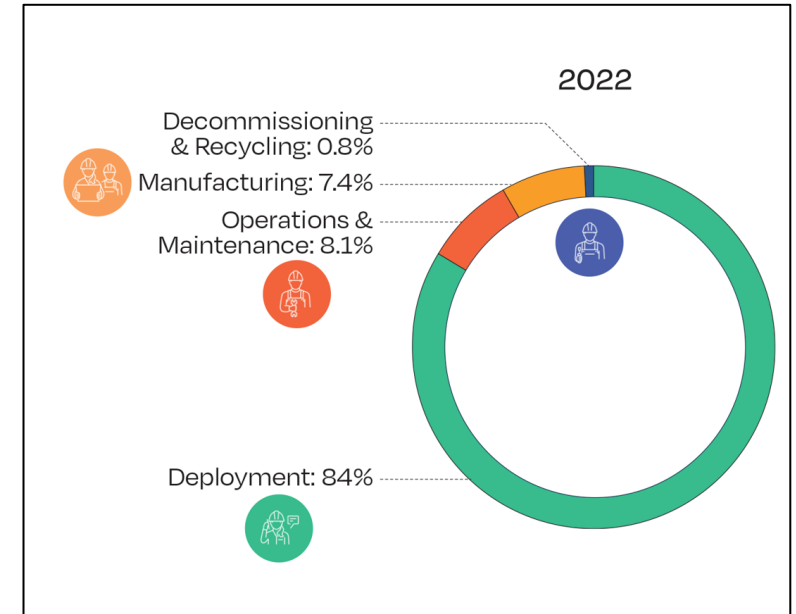
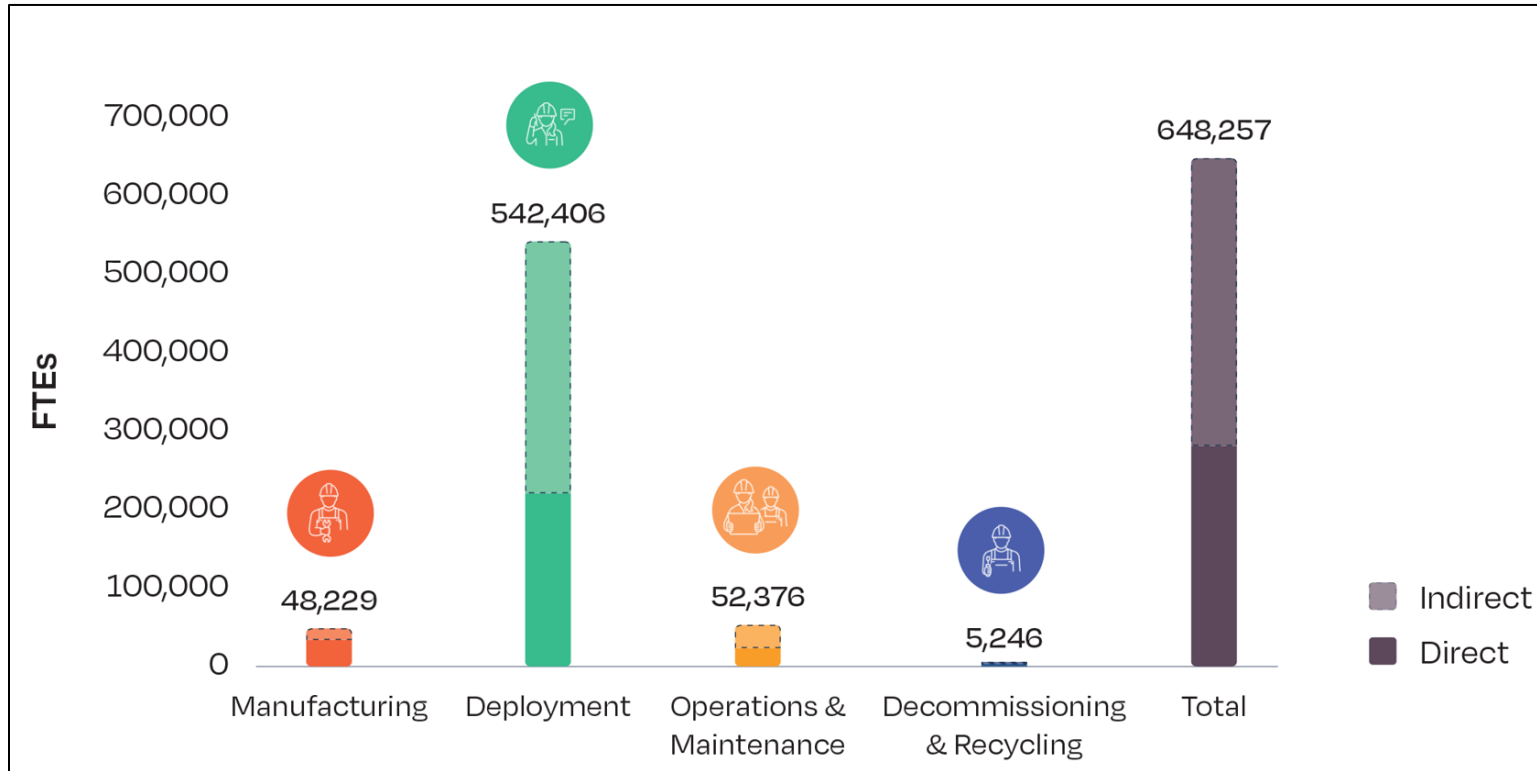
www.solarpowereurope.org

Where do we come from ? EU solar market 2012-2022



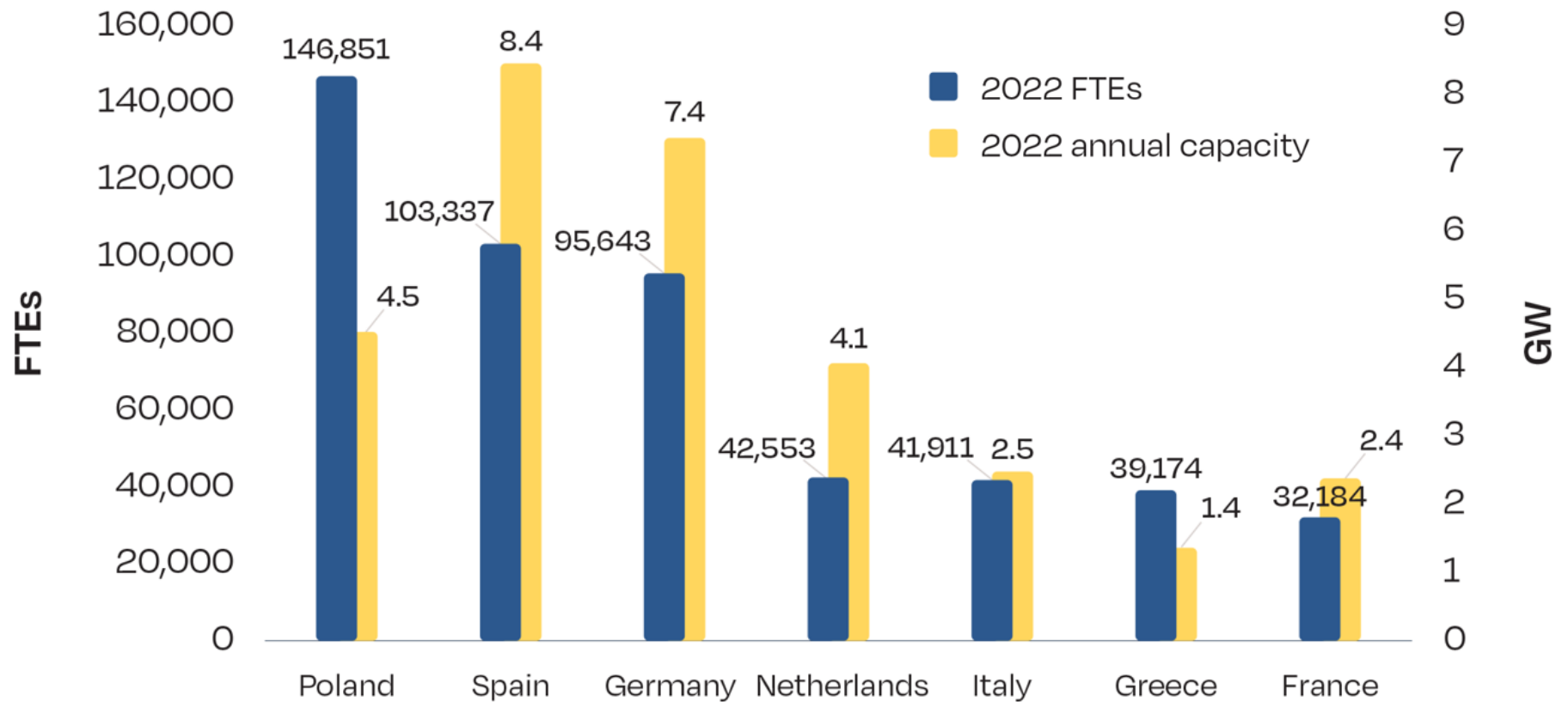
EU members states installed 40.2 GW in 2022 – that's a 43% improvement over the 28.1 GW installed in 2021.

Update 2022 – EU-27 solar job market in 2022



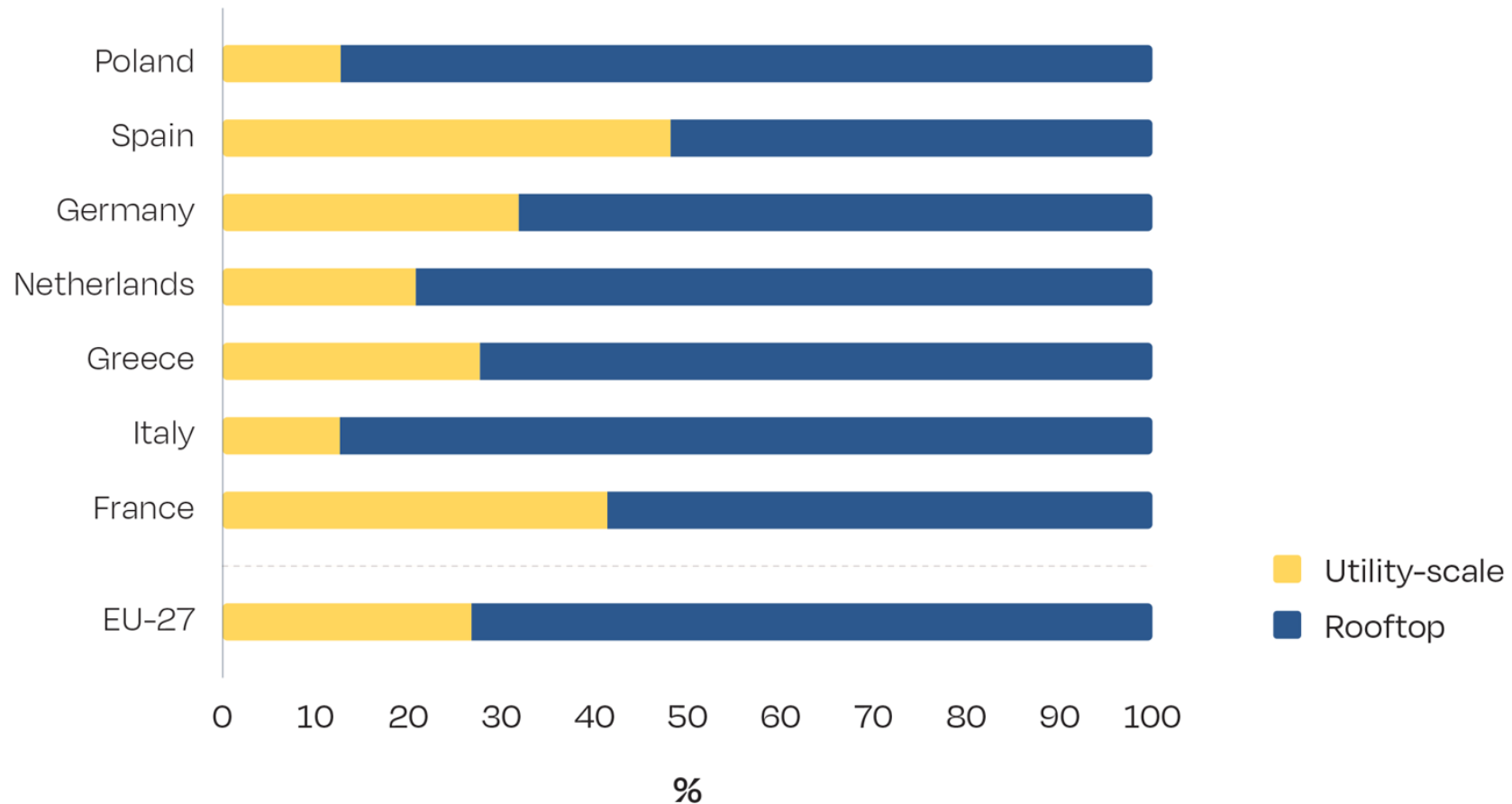
In 2022, 648,000 people were employed by the solar sector in the EU, a 39% growth from 2021. The great majority of jobs (81%) are associated with solar deployment activities.

Update 2022 – EU-27 top 7 FTE countries



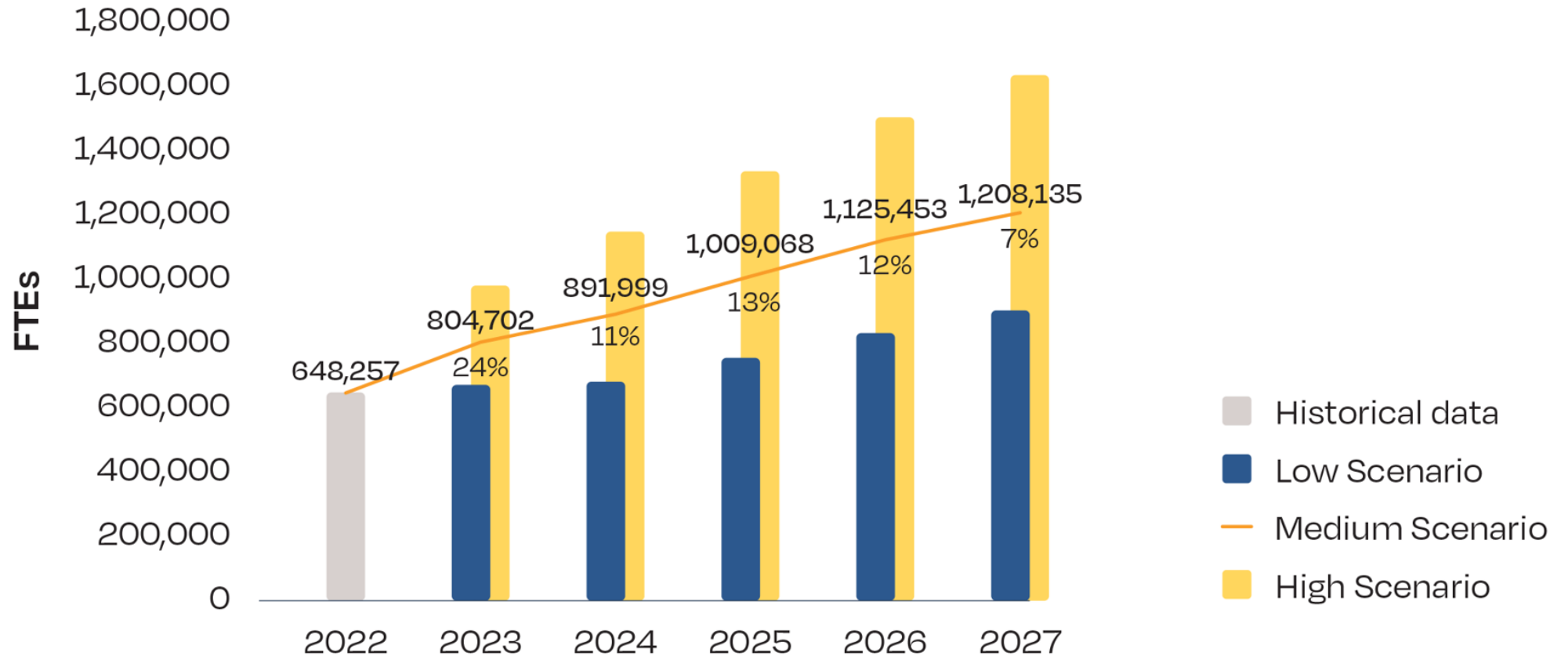
Poland is the largest provider of EU solar jobs, due to the high share of job-intensive residential PV capacity and lower labour costs. All GW scale markets are part of the top 7 countries by job creation.

Update 2022 – Rooftop vs utility-scale jobs



The majority of jobs stems from the rooftop PV segment, which provides 73% of total EU solar jobs, from 76% in 2021. It is the first time that rooftop-related jobs covers more than 50% in all top 7 markets.

FTEs Prospects 2023-2027

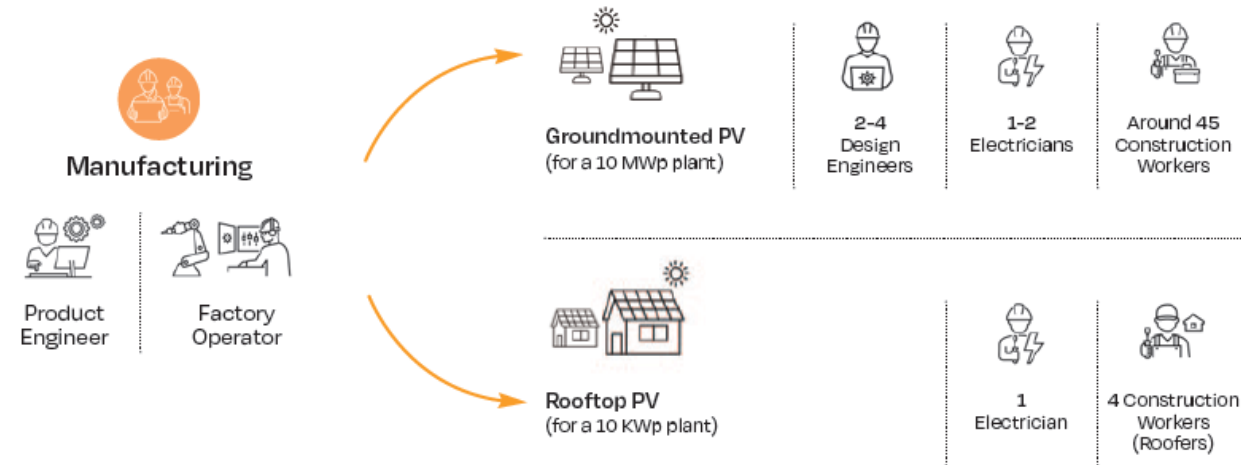


In the Medium Scenario, growth leads to 1 million jobs already in 2025 – a 56% increase compared to 2022 levels.

Analysis

Solving the dilemma:

1. **Urgent**: Urgently ramp up our installation capacity
2. **Mid-term**: Develop a sustainable and attractive model for career development
3. **Continuous**: Maintain high quality and safety standards



Policy recommendations

Assess the lack of workers

- Regular, harmonised and precise reporting from Member States under the RED
- Numbers and skillsets

Communicate on green skills needs

- Strengthen technical education and communicate to all professionals
- Build bridges between theoretical and technical education

Equip workers with solar knowledge

- Train construction workers and electricians to solar work
- Utilise Net-Zero Academies for specialisation

Develop public and private retraining programmes

- Target just transition workers
- Develop modular traineeships with possibility for speedy transition
- Normalise lifelong learning

Skill-proof energy policies

- Carry out integrated planning at local and national level to secure the workforce for every field of the transition

Facilitate intra-EU movement of workers

- Mutual recognition of electrical skills under the Services Directive
- Accelerate the movement of solar workers across borders through the Posted Workers Directive

Integrate the solar industry's needs into immigration policies

- Prioritise solar in Talent Partnerships and EU Talent Pool