



High-Skill, High-Growth Jobs

In the Austin Metro Area



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THE AUSTIN METRO HIRE LOCAL PLAN seeks to bring career awareness of high-skill, high-growth jobs in the Capital Area and Austin Metro Area. By gathering information about these opportunities, you can find out which skills and certifications local employers need. This will give you the best chance to find a good career!

We have provided ten-year employment growth projections, which consider new job creation, as well as job openings due to retirements and people transferring out of a job to take a position in another field. We also included entry-level, median, and experienced hourly rates and salaries for these occupations, which shows you how much you can earn throughout your career.

Workforce Solutions Capital Area regularly provides a list of careers currently in high demand along with careers that will be in demand in the future throughout the Austin MSA and Capital Area. Below is the latest update describing some of the high-skill, high-growth

jobs available in our area, and what you must do to qualify for those jobs. If you see an asterisk by a job title, that job is one designated as high demand in the Capital Area Targeted Occupation List. If a job is a Targeted Occupation, then training scholarships will be available to Travis County job seekers interested in training for these careers. Learn more by emailing us at careerladder@wfscapitalarea.com

Employers are actively searching for people in these positions, but they are having trouble finding qualified workers. Data from the E3 Alliance show that students who enter the workforce directly after graduating high school, but who also never complete a post-secondary degree of any kind, have a 12% change of earning a living wage more than 10 years after graduating high school. The occupations listed below generally require more than a high school diploma but less than a four-year degree. Thus, these occupations present a great opportunity for you to explore a career!

Data Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Labor Insights, Texas Workforce Commission TexasLMI.com Wage Estimates; JobsEQ. Data are specific to the Austin MSA.



Civil Drafters*

Prepare detailed drawings of architectural and structural features of buildings or drawings and topographical relief maps used in civil engineering projects, such as highways, bridges, and public works. Use knowledge of building materials, engineering practices, and mathematics to complete drawings.

Current employed: **1,318**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$37,200**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$17.89**

Median Annual Wage: **\$52,000**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$24.99**

Experienced Salary: **\$67,300**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$32.36**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED, Apprenticeship, and associate degree.**

Projected Annual Growth: **1.5%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **294**



Carpenters*

Construct, erect, install, or repair structures and fixtures made of wood and comparable materials, such as concrete forms; building frameworks, including partitions, joists,

studding, and rafters; and wood stairways, window and door frames, and hardwood floors. May also install cabinets, siding, drywall, and batt or roll insulation. Includes brattice builders who build doors or brattices (ventilation walls or partitions) in underground passageways.

Current employed: **6,063**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$29,400**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$14.12**

Median Annual Wage: **\$40,200**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$19.35**

Experienced Salary: **\$45,700**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$21.97**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.1%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **333**



Electricians*

Electricians install and replace wiring and must be licensed by the state. Those who earn amaster electrician's license has the highest earning potential.

Current employed: **6,314**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$34,000**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$16.36**

Median Annual Wage: **\$50,400**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$24.24**

Experienced Salary: **\$63,600**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$30.60**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED & Apprenticeship**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.8%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **486**



Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers*

Heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics and installers work on heating, ventilation, cooling, and refrigeration systems.

Current employed: **3,444**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$33,000**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$15.86**

Median Annual Wage: **\$44,600**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$21.47**

Experienced Salary: **\$52,700**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$25.31**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED, Apprenticeship, and associate degree.**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.4%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **901**



Helpers—Electricians

Help electricians by performing duties requiring less skill. Duties include using, supplying, or holding materials or tools, and cleaning work area and equipment.

Current employed: **893**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$26,600**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$12.77**

Median Annual Wage: **\$35,800**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$17.23**

Experienced Salary: **\$41,900**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$20.12**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED**

Projected Annual Growth: **1.9%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **102**



Helpers—Pipelayers, Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters

Help plumbers, pipefitters, steamfitters, or pipelayers by performing duties requiring less skill. Duties include using, supplying, or holding materials or tools, and cleaning work area and equipment.

Current employed: **760**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$27,700**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$13.30**

Median Annual Wage: **\$34,800**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$16.72**

Experienced Salary: **\$39,800**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$19.11**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.4%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **80**



Maintenance and Repair Workers, General*

Perform work involving the skills of two or more maintenance or craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of a building in repair. Duties may involve pipe fitting; HVAC maintenance; insulating; welding; machining; carpentry; repairing electrical or mechanical equipment; installing, aligning, and balancing new equipment; and repairing buildings, floors, or stairs.

Current employed: **10,972**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$24,900**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$11.97**

Median Annual Wage: **\$36,300**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$17.47**

Experienced Salary: **\$44,000**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$21.15**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED, Apprenticeship, and associate degree.**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.7%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **4,753**



Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters*

Assemble, install, alter, and repair pipelines or pipe systems that carry water, steam, air, or other liquids or gases. May install heating and cooling equipment and mechanical control systems. Includes sprinkler fitters.

Current employed: **4,408**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$33,700**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$16.18**

Median Annual Wage: **\$50,500**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$24.26**

Experienced Salary: **\$61,600**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$29.63**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED, Apprenticeship, and associate degree.**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.4%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **581**



Sheet Metal Workers*

Fabricate, assemble, install, and repair sheet metal products and equipment, such as ducts, control boxes, drainpipes, and furnace casings. Work may involve any of the following: setting up and operating fabricating machines to cut, bend, and straighten sheet metal; shaping metal over anvils, blocks, or forms using hammer; operating soldering and welding equipment to join sheet metal parts; or inspecting, assembling, and smoothing seams and joints of burred surfaces. Includes sheet metal duct

installers who install prefabricated sheet metal ducts used for heating, air conditioning, or other purposes.

Current employed: **1,033**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$32,200**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$15.49**

Median Annual Wage: **\$51,200**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$24.61**

Experienced Salary: **\$58,600**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$28.20**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.2%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **102**



Welders, Cutters, Solderers, Brazers and Apprenticeship*

Use hand-welding, flame-cutting, hand-soldering, or brazing equipment to weld or join metal components or to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products.

Current employed: **2,502**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$33,700**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$16.22**

Median Annual Wage: **\$43,700**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$21.02**

Experienced Salary: **\$51,400**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$24.73**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.6%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **224**



Graphic Designers

Design or create graphics to meet specific commercial or promotional needs, such as packaging, displays, or logos. May use a variety of mediums to achieve artistic or decorative effects.

Current employed: **2,388**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$34,500**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$16.60**

Median Annual Wage: **\$51,300**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$24.67**

Experienced Salary: **\$64,100**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$30.80**

Minimum Education: **Bachelor's degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.3%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **603**



Special Effects Artists and Animators

Create special effects or animations using film, video, computers, or other electronic tools and media for use in products, such as computer games, movies, music videos, and commercials.

Current employed: **844**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$44,000**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$21.17**

Median Annual Wage: **\$63,700**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$30.63**

Experienced Salary: **\$75,300**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$36.18**

Minimum Education: **Bachelor's degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **3.1%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **251**



Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks*

Compute, classify, and record numerical data to keep financial records complete. Perform any combination of routine calculating, posting, and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data for use in maintaining accounting records. May also check the accuracy of figures, calculations, and postings pertaining to business transactions recorded by other workers.

Current employed: **13,317**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$30,800**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$14.80**

Median Annual Wage: **\$41,900**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$20.16**

Experienced Salary: **\$50,000**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$24.02**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED, On-the-Job Training, and associate degree.**

Projected Annual Growth: **1.6%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **1,519**



Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants*

Provide high-level administrative support by conducting research, preparing statistical reports, and handling information requests, as well as performing routine administrative functions such as preparing correspondence, receiving visitors, arranging conference calls, and scheduling meetings. May also train and supervise lower-level clerical staff.

Current employed: **4,649**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$45,500**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$21.87**

Median Annual Wage: **\$59,600**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$28.67**

Experienced Salary: **\$69,800**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$33.54**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED, On-the-Job Training, and associate degree.**

Projected Annual Growth: **-0.3%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **661**



Legal Secretaries and Administrative Assistants*

Perform secretarial duties using legal terminology, procedures, and documents. Prepare legal papers and correspondence, such as summonses, complaints, motions, and subpoenas. May also assist with legal research.

Current employed: **1,388**

*Training scholarships are available for eligible job seekers interested in this career.

Annual Entry Wage: **\$29,800**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$14.32**

Median Annual Wage: **\$47,200**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$22.68**

Experienced Salary: **\$59,500**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$28.63**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED, On-the-Job Training, and associate degree.**

Projected Annual Growth: **-0.7%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **66**



Real Estate Brokers

Operate real estate office, or work for commercial real estate firm, overseeing real estate transactions. Other duties usually include selling real estate or renting properties and arranging loans.

Current employed: **846**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$28,100**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$13.50**

Median Annual Wage: **\$57,100**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$27.46**

Experienced Salary: **\$100,900**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$48.49**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED, Associate degree, Bachelor's degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.2%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **37**



Real Estate Sales Agents

Rent, buy, or sell property for clients. Perform duties such as study property listings, interview prospective clients, accompany clients to property site, discuss conditions

of sale, and draw up real estate contracts. Includes agents who represent buyer.

Current employed: **4,011**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$34,000**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$16.33**

Median Annual Wage: **\$62,600**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$30.09**

Experienced Salary: **\$84,000**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$40.40**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED, On-the-Job Training, and associate degree.**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.4%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **532**



Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive*

Perform routine administrative functions such as drafting correspondence, scheduling appointments, organizing and maintaining paper and electronic files, or providing information to callers.

Current employed: **16,265**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$27,300**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$13.14**

Median Annual Wage: **\$38,600**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$18.56**

Experienced Salary: **\$45,000**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$21.63**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED**

Projected Annual Growth: **0.9%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **4,777**



EDUCATION, CHILD CARE AND TRAINING



Childcare Workers

Attend to children at schools, businesses, private households, and childcare institutions. Perform a variety of tasks, such as dressing, feeding, bathing, and overseeing play.

Current employed: **6,356**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$19,200**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$9.23**

Median Annual Wage: **\$24,900**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$11.98**

Experienced Salary: **\$29,200**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$14.04**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.9%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **1,210**



Education and Childcare Administrators, Preschool and Daycare

Plan, direct, or coordinate academic or nonacademic activities of preschools or childcare centers and programs, including before- and after-school care.

Current employed: **360**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$29,800**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$14.32**

Median Annual Wage: **\$39,900**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$19.19**

Experienced Salary: **\$49,100**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$23.59**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/
GED, Associate degree, Bachelor's degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **3.1%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **130**



Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education

Teach academic and social skills to students at the elementary school level.

Current employed: **9,513**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$44,200**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$21.26**

Median Annual Wage: **\$58,600**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$28.19**

Experienced Salary: **\$67,000**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$32.19**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/
GED, Associate degree, Bachelor's degree.**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.1%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **2,195**



Kindergarten Teachers, Except Special Education

Teach academic and social skills to kindergarten students.

Current employed: **1,026**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$43,800**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$21.07**

Median Annual Wage: **\$57,500**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$27.66**

Experienced Salary: **\$66,300**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$31.88**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/
GED, Associate degree, Bachelor's degree.**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.2%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **26**



Dental Assistants*

Perform limited clinical duties under the direction of a dentist. Clinical duties may include equipment preparation and sterilization, preparing patients for treatment, assisting the dentist during treatment, and providing patients with instructions for oral healthcare procedures

Current employed: **2,854**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$30,000**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$14.44**

Median Annual Wage: **\$41,600**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$19.99**

Experienced Salary: **\$46,800**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$22.49**

Minimum Education: **Postsecondary non-degree awarded**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.9%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **817**



Dental Hygienists*

Administer oral hygiene care to patients. Assess patient's oral hygiene problems or needs and maintain health records. Advise patients on oral health maintenance and disease prevention.

Current employed: **1,491**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$67,000**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$32.19**

Median Annual Wage: **\$79,200**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$38.07**

Experienced Salary: **\$84,900**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$40.82**

Minimum Education: **Associate degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.9%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **295**



Diagnostic Medical Sonographers*

Produce ultrasonic recordings of internal organs for use by physicians. Includes vascular technologists

Current employed: **421**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$59,100**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$28.43**

Median Annual Wage: **\$74,900**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$36.02**

Experienced Salary: **\$82,500**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$39.66**

Minimum Education: **Associate Degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **3.5%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **374**



Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses*

Care for ill, injured, or convalescing patients or persons with disabilities in hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, private homes, group homes, and similar institutions.

Current employed: **3,968**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$38,800**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$18.64**

Median Annual Wage: **\$49,700**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$23.89**

Experienced Salary: **\$55,100**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$26.48**

Minimum Education: **Postsecondary Certificate**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.7%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **2,075**



Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians*

Perform routine medical laboratory tests for the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease. May work under the supervision of a medical technologist.

Current employed: **1,046**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$30,400**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$14.61**

Median Annual Wage: **\$48,200**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$23.18**

Experienced Salary: **\$59,600**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$28.66**

Minimum Education: **Associate Degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.8%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **819**



Medical Assistants*

Perform administrative and certain clinical duties under the direction of a physician.

Current employed: **5,613**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$28,500**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$13.72**

Median Annual Wage: **\$35,700**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$17.14**

Experienced Salary: **\$39,900**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$19.16**

Minimum Education: **Postsecondary Certificate/Apprenticeship**

Projected Annual Growth: **3.4%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **1,970**



Medical Dosimetrists, Medical Records Specialists, and Health Technologists and Technicians, All other*

Compile, process, and maintain medical records of hospital and clinic patients in a manner consistent with medical, administrative, ethical, legal, and regulatory requirements of the healthcare system.

Current employed: **2,353**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$27,800**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$13.36**

Median Annual Wage: **\$36,700**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$17.66**

Experienced Salary: **\$45,400**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$21.84**

Minimum Education: **Postsecondary Certificate**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.6%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **977**



Medical Secretaries and Administrative Assistants*

Perform secretarial duties using specific knowledge of medical terminology and hospital, clinic, or laboratory procedures.

Current employed: **6,009**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$26,800**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$12.90**

Median Annual Wage: **\$35,100**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$16.90**

Experienced Salary: **\$40,500**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$19.46**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma or Postsecondary Certificate**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.7%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **3,680**



Nursing Assistants*

Provide or assist with basic care or support under the direction of onsite licensed nursing staff. Perform duties such as monitoring of health status, feeding, bathing, dressing, grooming, toileting, or ambulation of patients in a health or nursing facility.

Current employed: **4,618**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$24,700**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$11.87**

Median Annual Wage: **\$30,300**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$14.56**

Experienced Salary: **\$33,500**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$16.13**

Minimum Education: **Postsecondary certificate**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.7%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **2,440**



Occupational Therapy Assistants

Assist occupational therapists in providing occupational therapy treatments and procedures.

Current employed: **349**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$58,600**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$28.15**

Median Annual Wage: **\$75,200**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$36.15**

Experienced Salary: **\$81,100**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$38.97**

Minimum Education: **Associate degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **5.4%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **641**



Paramedics*

Administer basic or advanced emergency medical care and assess injuries and illnesses.

Current employed: **450**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$31,800**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$15.28**

Median Annual Wage: **\$48,200**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$23.17**

Experienced Salary: **\$61,100**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$29.39**

Minimum Education: **Postsecondary certificate**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.8%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **179**



Pharmacy Technicians*

Prepare medications under the direction of a pharmacist. May measure, mix, count out, label, and record amounts and dosages of medications according to prescription orders.

Current employed: **2,657**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$29,300**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$14.06**

Median Annual Wage: **\$36,900**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$17.73**

Experienced Salary: **\$41,300**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$19.84**

Minimum Education: **High school diploma**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.4%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **1,290**



Phlebotomists*

Draw blood for tests, transfusions, donations, or research. May explain the procedure to patients and assist in the recovery of patients with adverse reactions.

Current employed: **923**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$30,600**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$14.70**

Median Annual Wage: **\$38,000**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$18.29**

Experienced Salary: **\$41,700**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$20.06**

Minimum Education: **Postsecondary certificate**

Projected Annual Growth: **3.8%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **462**



Physical Therapist Assistants*

Assist physical therapists in providing physical therapy treatments and procedures

Current employed: **664**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$52,000**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$25.02**

Median Annual Wage: **\$68,800**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$33.06**

Experienced Salary: **\$79,000**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$37.98**

Minimum Education: **Associate degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **5.1%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **327**



Radiologic Technologist and Technicians*

Take x-rays and CAT scans or administer nonradioactive materials into patient's bloodstream for diagnostic or research purposes. Includes radiologic technologists and technicians who specialize in other scanning modalities.

Current employed: **1,207**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$37,200**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$17.90**

Median Annual Wage: **\$56,100**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$26.99**

Experienced Salary: **\$67,400**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$32.40**

Minimum Education: **Associate degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.6%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **791**



Registered Nurses*

Assess patient health problems and needs, develop and implement nursing care plans, and maintain medical records. Administer nursing care to ill, injured, convalescent, or disabled patients.

Current employed: **14,321**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$56,000**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$26.92**

Median Annual Wage: **\$72,600**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$34.89**

Experienced Salary: **\$82,000**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$39.41**

Minimum Education: **Associate Degree or Bachelor's degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.6%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **8,931**



Respiratory Therapist*

Assess, treat, and care for patients with breathing disorders. Assume primary responsibility for all respiratory care modalities, including the supervision of respiratory therapy technicians.

Current employed: **682**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$47,800**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$22.96**

Median Annual Wage: **\$60,000**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$28.83**

Experienced Salary: **\$66,500**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$31.98**

Minimum Education: **Associate degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **3.8%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **475**



Surgical Technologist*

Assist in operations, under the supervision of surgeons.

Current employed: **673**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$35,100**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$16.87**

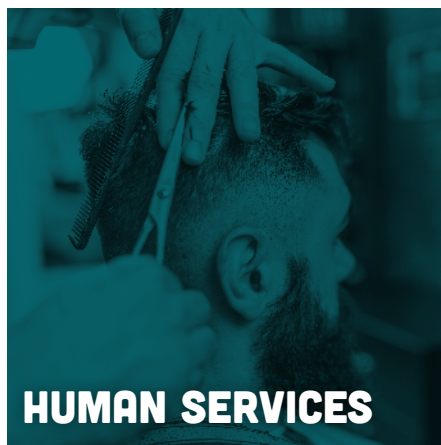
Median Annual Wage: **\$50,600**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$24.35**

Experienced Salary: **\$59,900**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$28.80**

Minimum Education: **Postsecondary certificate**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.6%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **791**



Barbers

Provide barbering services, such as cutting, trimming, shampooing, and styling hair; trimming beards; or giving shaves.

Current employed: **525**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$24,700**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$11.87**

Median Annual Wage: **\$33,000**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$15.84**

Experienced Salary: **\$49,100**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$23.62**

Minimum Education: **Postsecondary certificate**

Projected Annual Growth: **3.8%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **11**



Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists

Provide beauty services, such as cutting, coloring, and styling hair, and massaging and treating scalp.

Current employed: **5,776**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$19,100**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$9.19**

Median Annual Wage: **\$31,000**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$14.91**

Experienced Salary: **\$40,100**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$19.27**

Minimum Education: **Postsecondary certificate**

Projected Annual Growth: **3.9%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **800**



Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors

Counsel and advise individuals with alcohol, tobacco, drug, or other problems, such as gambling and eating disorders

Current employed: **1,919**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$34,300**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$16.50**

Median Annual Wage: **\$49,800**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$23.94**

Experienced Salary: **\$60,800**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$29.22**

Minimum Education: **Associate Degree or Bachelor's degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **4.4%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **1,157**



Computer Network Architects

Design and implement computer and information networks, such as local area networks (LAN), wide area networks (WAN), intranets, extranets, and other data communications networks.

Current employed: **2,475**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$72,500**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$34.86**

Median Annual Wage: **\$120,700**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$58.05**

Experienced Salary: **\$168,200**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$80.85**

Minimum Education: **Bachelor's degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.4%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **929**



Computer Network Support Specialists*

Analyze, test, troubleshoot, and evaluate existing network systems, such as local area networks (LAN), wide area networks (WAN), cloud networks, servers, and other data communications networks.

Current employed: **2,516**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$40,800**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$19.63**

Median Annual Wage: **\$56,900**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$27.36**

Experienced Salary: **\$74,900**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$35.99**

Minimum Education: **Associate degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.6%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **648**



Computer Systems Analysts*

Analyze science, engineering, business, and other data processing problems to develop and implement solutions to complex applications problems, system administration issues, or network concerns.

Current employed: **8,132**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$57,100**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$27.46**

Median Annual Wage: **\$82,600**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$39.69**

Experienced Salary: **\$100,000**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$48.07**

Minimum Education: **Bachelor's degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.6%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **2,207**



Computer User Support Specialists*

Provide technical assistance to computer users. Answer questions or resolve computer problems for clients in person, via telephone, or electronically.

Current employed: **9,234**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$34,800**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$16.75**

Median Annual Wage: **\$50,700**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$24.36**

Experienced Salary: **\$63,500**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$30.51**

Minimum Education: **Post-secondary certificate or non-degree award**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.8%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **6,951**



Database Administrators and Architects*

Administer, test, and implement computer databases, applying knowledge of database management systems.

Current employed: **2,044**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$68,200**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$32.77**

Median Annual Wage: **\$107,300**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$51.59**

Experienced Salary: **\$135,100**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$64.96**

Minimum Education: **Bachelor's degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.7%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **1,036**



Information Security Analysts*

Plan, implement, upgrade, or monitor security measures for the protection of computer networks and information.

Current employed: **1,990**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$68,400**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$32.87**

Median Annual Wage: **\$109,300**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$52.55**

Experienced Salary: **\$134,100**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$64.48**

Minimum Education: **Bachelor's degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **4.9%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **1,346**



Management Analysts*

Conduct organizational studies and evaluations, design systems and procedures, conduct work simplification and measurement studies, and prepare operations.

Current employed: **8,421**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$61,800**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$29.72**

Median Annual Wage: **\$87,800**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$42.19**

Experienced Salary: **\$105,300**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$50.64**

Minimum Education: **Bachelor's degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **3.1%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **5,279**



Network and Computer Systems Administrators*

Install, configure, and maintain an organization's local area network (LAN), wide area network (WAN), data communications network, operating systems, and physical and virtual servers.

Current employed: **4,543**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$56,000**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$26.92**

Median Annual Wage: **\$81,200**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$39.05**

Experienced Salary: **\$100,200**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$48.17**

Minimum Education: **Bachelor's degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.4%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **4,400**



Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers*

Develop and execute software tests to identify software problems and their causes.

Current employed: **27,287**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$72,000**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$34.63**

Median Annual Wage: **\$107,100**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$51.49**

Experienced Salary: **\$127,400**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$61.26**

Minimum Education: **Bachelor's degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **3.9%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **19,763**



Web Developers and Digital Interface Designers*

Design digital user interfaces or websites. Develop and test layouts, interfaces, functionality, and navigation menus to ensure compatibility and usability across browsers or devices.

Current employed: **2,414**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$53,600**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$25.79**

Median Annual Wage: **\$75,500**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$36.28**

Experienced Salary: **\$94,800**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$45.60**

Minimum Education: **Bachelor's degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **3.0%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **2,257**



Firefighters

Control and extinguish fires or respond to emergency situations where life, property, or the environment is at risk.

Current employed: **2,108**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$36,100**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$17.34**

Median Annual Wage: **\$66,800**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$32.12**

Experienced Salary: **\$180,400**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$86.71**

Minimum Education: **Postsecondary certificate**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.7%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **21**



Paralegals and Legal Assistants

Assist lawyers by investigating facts, preparing legal documents, or researching legal precedent.

Current employed: **3,143**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$42,200**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$20.29**

Median Annual Wage: **\$57,700**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$27.74**

Experienced Salary: **\$70,200**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$33.74**

Minimum Education: **Associate degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.9%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **721**



Police and Sheriffs Patrol Officers

Maintain order and protect life and property by enforcing local, tribal, state, or federal laws and ordinances.

Current employed: **6,015**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$56,400**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$27.13**

Median Annual Wage: **\$74,400**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$35.76**

Experienced Salary: **\$86,900**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$41.76**

Minimum Education: **High school diploma**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.3%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **245**



Industrial Machinery Mechanic*

Description: Industrial machinery mechanics, machinery maintenance workers, and millwrights install, maintain, and repair factory equipment and other industrial machinery.

Current employed: **1,866**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$36,200**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$17.40**

Median Annual Wage: **\$54,200**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$26.07**

Experienced Salary: **\$66,000**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$31.74**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma**

Projected Annual Growth: **3.5%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **156**



Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers and Weighers*

Description: Inspect, test, sort, sample, or weigh nonagricultural raw materials or processed, machined, fabricated, or assembled parts or products for defects, wear, and deviations from specifications. May use precision measuring instruments and complex test equipment.

Current employed: **3,777**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$29,700**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$14.26**

Median Annual Wage: **\$41,400**
Median Hourly Wage: **\$19.92**

Experienced Salary: **\$51,900**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$24.94**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma and On-The-Job Training**

Projected Annual Growth: **0.4%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **690**



Machinist*

Description: Machinists and tool and die makers set up and operate equipment to produce precision metal parts, instruments, and tools.

Current employed: **1,642**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$34,300**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$16.48**

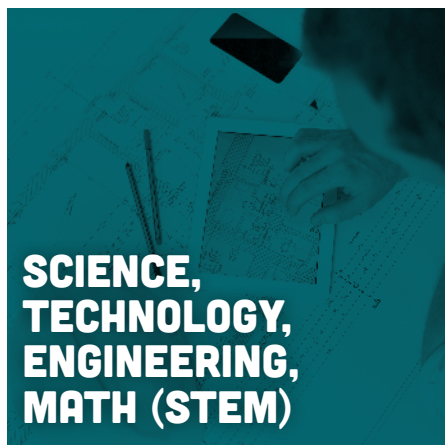
Median Annual Wage: **\$48,200**
Median Hourly Wage: **\$23.18**

Experienced Salary: **\$55,500**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$26.70**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma or Post-Secondary Course; Apprenticeship**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.5%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **99**



Electrical and Electronic Technologists and Technicians*

Electrical and electronic engineering technologists and technicians help engineers design and develop equipment that is powered by electricity or electric current.

Current employed: **1,494**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$50,900**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$24.46**

Median Annual Wage: **\$71,000**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$34.15**

Experienced Salary: **\$79,500**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$34.15**

Minimum Education: **Associate degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **1.7%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **463**

Drafters

Description: Drafters use software to convert the designs of engineers and architects into technical drawings.

Current employed: **1,299**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$39,800**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$19.11**

Median Annual Wage: **\$60,400**
Median Hourly Wage: **\$29.03**

Experienced Salary: **\$39,800**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$33.67**

Minimum Education: **Post-secondary certificate or associate degree**

Projected Annual Growth: **1.6%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **3,763**



Automotive Body and Related Repairers

Repair and refinish automotive vehicle bodies and straighten vehicle frames.

Current employed: **1,060**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$30,700**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$14.77**

Median Annual Wage: **\$46,600**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$22.39**

Experienced Salary: **\$61,200**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$29.41**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.5%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **318**

Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics *

Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automotive vehicles.

Current employed: **4,633**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$33,600**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$16.17**

Median Annual Wage: **\$50,800**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$24.42**

Experienced Salary: **\$65,500**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$31.47**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED, On-the-Job Training, and Associate degree.**

Projected Annual Growth: **1.9%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **1,433**

Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists*

Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul buses and trucks, or maintain and repair any type of diesel engines. Includes mechanics working primarily with automobile or marine diesel engines.

Current employed: **1,633**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$36,400**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$17.49**

Median Annual Wage: **\$54,300**
Entry Hourly Wage: **\$26.11**

Experienced Salary: **\$63,700**
Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$30.61**

Minimum Education: **High School Diploma/GED, On-the-Job Training, and Associate degree.**

Projected Annual Growth: **2.6%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **486**



Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers*

Drive a tractor-trailer combination or a truck with a capacity of at least 26,001 pounds Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW). May be required to unload truck. Requires commercial drivers' license. Includes tow truck drivers.

Current employed: **10,534**

Annual Entry Wage: **\$31,500**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$15.16**

Median Annual Wage: **\$42,800**

Entry Hourly Wage: **\$20.59**

Experienced Salary: **\$51,000**

Experienced Hourly Wage: **\$24.50**

Minimum Education: **High School**

Diploma/GED and postsecondary award

Projected Annual Growth: **2.6%**

Annual Average Job Openings: **5,514**



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