

2025 Opportunity Occupations¹

Occupation Title	Employment Growth				Total Openings	Typical Education Needed for Entry into Occupation	Work Experience in a Related Occupation	Typical On-the-job Training	Median Hourly Wage 2023
	Annual Averages 2022	2032	Net Change	Percent Change					
Business & Financial Operations									
Compliance Officers	7,000	8,167	1,167	16.7	692	Bachelor's degree	None	Moderate OJT	\$36.05
Cost Estimators	5,359	5,757	398	7.4	495	Bachelor's degree	None	Moderate OJT	\$36.48
Human Resources Specialists	16,822	20,334	3,512	20.9	1,870	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$30.39
Logisticians	4,405	5,896	1,491	33.8	556	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$34.69
Project Management Specialists	26,663	30,929	4,266	16.0	2,412	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$46.71
Management Analysts	7,039	8,485	1,446	20.5	769	Bachelor's degree	Less than 5 years	None	\$42.18
Compensation, Benefits, and Job Analysis Specialists	2,006	2,392	386	19.2	191	Bachelor's degree	Less than 5 years	None	\$39.82
Training and Development Specialists	7,798	9,395	1,597	20.5	872	Bachelor's degree	Less than 5 years	None	\$30.40
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	10,791	13,579	2,788	25.8	1,370	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$30.12
Accountants and Auditors	30,428	36,022	5,594	18.4	3,089	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$39.29
Financial and Investment Analysts	6,912	8,323	1,411	20.4	617	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$44.79
Computer and Mathematical Occupations									
Computer Systems Analysts	11,846	15,417	3,571	30.1	1,151	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$54.10
Information Security Analysts	2,448	3,587	1,139	46.5	291	Bachelor's degree	Less than 5 years	None	\$54.46
Computer Network Support Specialists	2,273	2,721	448	19.7	208	Associate's degree	None	Moderate OJT	\$27.21
Computer User Support Specialists	13,377	16,212	2,835	21.2	1,254	Some college, no degree	None	Moderate OJT	\$26.45
Computer Network Architects	2,040	2,369	329	16.1	148	Bachelor's degree	5 years or more	None	\$62.44
Database Administrators	1,304	1,579	275	21.1	110	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$48.91
Database Architects	811	995	184	22.7	70	Bachelor's degree	Less than 5 years	None	\$63.95
Network and Computer Systems Administrators	5,780	6,727	947	16.4	441	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$46.47
Software Developers	19,802	28,367	8,565	43.3	2,131	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$60.44
Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers	3,222	4,394	1,172	36.4	349	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$48.53
Web Developers	1,277	1,711	434	34.0	134	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$44.80
Web and Digital Interface Designers	2,509	3,085	576	23.0	255	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$38.88
Operations Research Analysts	2,264	3,200	936	41.3	257	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$40.81
Data Scientists	3,618	5,217	1,599	44.2	421	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$46.87

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Architecture and Engineering Occupations									
Architects, Except Landscape and Naval Surveyors	1,857	2,035	178	9.6	135	Bachelor's degree	None	Internship/residency	\$37.88
Surveyors	1,847	2,026	179	9.7	139	Bachelor's degree	None	Internship/residency	\$29.67
Aerospace Engineers	1,668	2,097	429	25.7	140	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$67.41
Chemical Engineers	2,166	2,577	411	19.0	165	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$80.03
Civil Engineers	9,415	10,376	961	10.2	675	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$41.99
Computer Hardware Engineers	838	919	81	9.7	55	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$63.44
Electrical Engineers	3,921	4,399	478	12.2	268	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$51.55
Electronics Engineers, Except Computer	1,325	1,519	194	14.6	94	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$59.22
Environmental Engineers	967	1,150	183	18.9	85	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$60.12
Health and Safety Engineers, Ex. Mining Safety	1,106	1,248	142	12.8	79	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$58.44
Industrial Engineers	7,206	8,725	1,519	21.1	588	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$52.19
Marine Engineers and Naval Architects	789	842	53	6.7	43	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$50.59
Materials Engineers	461	516	55	11.9	36	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$66.16
Mechanical Engineers	6,975	8,255	1,280	18.4	541	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$57.10
Mining and Geological Engineers, Incl. Mining Safety	192	226	34	17.7	15	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$48.73
Nuclear Engineers	173	187	14	8.1	11	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$61.19
Petroleum Engineers	5,833	7,102	1,269	21.8	484	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$75.76
Architectural and Civil Drafters	4,499	4,775	276	6.1	455	Associate's degree	None	None	\$28.15
Electrical and Electronics Drafters	962	1,052	90	9.4	90	Associate's degree	None	None	\$30.92
Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians	2,462	2,675	213	8.7	252	Associate's degree	None	None	\$30.33
Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technologists and Technicians	1,622	1,758	136	8.4	176	Associate's degree	None	None	\$32.44
Industrial Engineering Technologists and Technicians	1,288	1,418	130	10.1	135	Associate's degree	None	None	\$36.22
Mechanical Engineering Technologists and Technicians	1,312	1,355	43	3.3	124	Associate's degree	None	None	\$31.49
Calibration Technologists and Technicians	839	940	101	12.0	90	Associate's degree	None	None	\$36.96
Surveying and Mapping Technicians	2,889	3,202	313	10.8	384	HS diploma	None	Moderate OJT	\$23.26

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Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations									
Geoscientists, Except Hydrologists and Geographers	2,582	3,200	618	23.9	284	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$67.76
Clinical and Counseling Psychologists	592	716	124	20.9	43	Doctoral or professional	None	Internship/residency	\$27.03
School Psychologists	1,700	2,046	346	20.4	155	Master's degree	None	Internship/residency	\$38.55
Biological Technicians	1,867	2,138	271	14.5	272	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$24.05
Chemical Technicians	2,612	2,815	203	7.8	331	Associate's degree	None	Moderate OJT	\$43.26
Environmental Science and Protection Technicians, Incl. Health	816	1,019	203	24.9	112	Associate's degree	None	None	\$22.90
Geological Technicians, Except Hydrologic Technicians	1,032	1,130	98	9.5	119	Associate's degree	None	Moderate OJT	\$27.31
Hydrologic Technicians	215	220	5	2.3	22	Associate's degree	None	Moderate OJT	\$24.53
Occupational Health and Safety Specialists	5,589	7,224	1,635	29.3	835	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$38.46
Community and Social Service Occupations									
Educational, Guidance, and Career Counselors and Advisors	7,235	8,596	1,361	18.8	694	Master's degree	None	None	\$33.64
Substance Abuse, Behavioral and Mental Health Counselors	4,617	5,906	1,289	27.9	561	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$27.45
Legal Occupations									
Lawyers	17,128	21,803	4,675	27.3	1,214	Doctoral or professional	None	None	\$72.82
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	6,393	7,940	1,547	24.2	879	Associate's degree	None	None	\$28.34
Title Examiners, Abstractors, and Searchers	2,143	2,575	432	20.2	265	HS diploma	None	Moderate OJT	\$29.38
Educational Instruction and Library Occupations									
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	9,074	11,413	2,339	25.8	1,031	Doctoral or professional	Less than 5 years	None	\$66.37
Nursing Instructors and Teachers, Postsecondary	1,651	2,100	449	27.2	191	Doctoral or professional	Less than 5 years	None	\$49.09
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	14,563	17,643	3,080	21.2	1,995	Associate's degree	None	None	\$16.46
Kindergarten Teachers, Except Special Education	3,774	4,415	641	17.0	493	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$31.71
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	36,127	42,558	6,431	17.8	3,257	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$31.08
Middle School Teachers, Ex. Special and CTE	16,664	19,687	3,023	18.1	1,509	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$31.93
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and CTE	24,588	29,102	4,514	18.4	2,096	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$31.86
Career/Technical Education Teachers, Secondary School	3,020	3,528	508	16.8	252	Bachelor's degree	Less than 5 years	None	\$32.30
Special Education Teachers, Kindergarten and Elementary School	3,480	4,071	591	17.0	310	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$31.54
Special Education Teachers, Middle School	1,771	2,072	301	17.0	158	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$31.91
Special Education Teachers, Secondary School	2,493	2,925	432	17.3	224	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$31.78
Adult Basic Education, Adult Secondary Education, and ESL	644	655	11	1.7	78	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$25.44

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Librarians and Media Collections Specialists	1,927	2,250	323	16.8	225	Master's degree	None	None	\$33.59
Instructional Coordinators	8,312	9,795	1,483	17.8	921	Master's degree	5 years or more	None	\$36.70
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations									
Interpreters and Translators	3,125	3,598	473	15.1	377	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$26.66
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations									
Chiropractors	617	761	144	23.3	39	Doctoral or professional	None	None	\$38.16
Dentists, General	2,955	3,420	465	15.7	135	Doctoral or professional	None	None	\$94.58
Optometrists	846	1,042	196	23.2	48	Doctoral or professional	None	None	\$58.20
Pharmacists	6,453	7,403	950	14.7	351	Doctoral or professional	None	None	\$64.93
Physician Assistants	3,001	3,953	952	31.7	266	Master's degree	None	None	\$62.90
Podiatrists	88	101	13	14.8	3	Doctoral or professional	None	Internship/residency	\$79.62
Occupational Therapists	1,990	2,450	460	23.1	166	Master's degree	None	None	\$47.77
Physical Therapists	3,592	4,449	857	23.9	240	Doctoral or professional	None	None	\$52.45
Radiation Therapists	310	359	49	15.8	19	Associate's degree	None	None	\$50.73
Recreational Therapists	174	199	25	14.4	16	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$26.58
Respiratory Therapists	3,089	3,878	789	25.5	250	Associate's degree	None	None	\$37.49
Speech-Language Pathologists	3,101	4,205	1,104	35.6	303	Master's degree	None	Internship/residency	\$43.30
Exercise Physiologists	213	261	48	22.5	19	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$30.82
Therapists, All Other	1,940	2,369	429	22.1	170	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$31.33
Veterinarians	1,554	2,016	462	29.7	104	Doctoral or professional	None	None	\$59.94
Registered Nurses	60,722	70,730	10,008	16.5	4,535	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$44.68
Nurse Anesthetists	1,352	1,619	267	19.7	85	Master's degree	None	None	\$93.12
Nurse Midwives	82	98	16	19.5	6	Master's degree	None	None	\$58.63
Nurse Practitioners	3,869	5,934	2,065	53.4	423	Master's degree	None	None	\$62.15
Audiologists	160	187	27	16.9	11	Doctoral or professional	None	None	\$42.88
Anesthesiologists	426	485	59	13.9	18	Doctoral or professional	None	Internship/residency	\$82.28
Cardiologists	122	142	20	16.4	6	Doctoral or professional	None	Internship/residency	\$83.71
Dermatologists	388	453	65	16.8	17	Doctoral or professional	None	Internship/residency	No Data
Emergency Medicine Physicians	113	123	10	8.8	4	Doctoral or professional	None	Internship/residency	\$100.96
Family Medicine Physicians	3,273	3,826	553	16.9	149	Doctoral or professional	None	Internship/residency	\$78.19
General Internal Medicine Physicians	1,307	1,487	180	13.8	55	Doctoral or professional	None	Internship/residency	\$108.42
Obstetricians and Gynecologists	200	224	24	12.0	7	Doctoral or professional	None	Internship/residency	No Data

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Pediatricians, General	1,934	2,175	241	12.5	78	Doctoral or professional	None	Internship/residency	No Data
Physicians, Pathologists	286	340	54	18.9	13	Doctoral or professional	None	Internship/residency	No Data
Psychiatrists	296	336	40	13.5	12	Doctoral or professional	None	Internship/residency	\$72.08
Radiologists	357	427	70	19.6	17	Doctoral or professional	None	Internship/residency	No Data
Physicians, All Other ²	6,748	7,788	1,040	15.4	296	Doctoral or professional	None	Internship/residency	\$101.92
Orthopedic Surgeons, Except Pediatric	76	87	11	14.5	2	Doctoral or professional	None	Internship/residency	\$37.14
Dental Hygienists	2,066	2,467	401	19.4	187	Associate's degree	None	None	\$45.03
Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians	6,511	7,744	1,233	18.9	576	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$25.04
Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians	1,043	1,211	168	16.1	85	Associate's degree	None	None	\$21.75
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	1,752	2,290	538	30.7	156	Associate's degree	None	None	\$39.36
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	4,731	5,723	992	21.0	371	Associate's degree	None	None	\$36.82
Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists	816	991	175	21.4	65	Associate's degree	Less than 5 years	None	\$41.28
Medical Dosimetrists	112	134	22	19.6	8	Bachelor's degree	None	None	\$64.42
Healthcare Support Occupations									
Occupational Therapy Assistants	1,002	1,387	385	38.4	201	Associate's degree	None	None	\$34.91
Physical Therapist Assistants	1,728	2,308	580	33.6	331	Associate's degree	None	None	\$36.86
Sales and Related Occupations									
Sales Engineers	1,564	1,832	268	17.1	180	Bachelor's degree	None	Moderate OJT	\$56.84
Office and Administrative Support Occupations									
Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks	7,911	9,104	1,193	15.1	981	HS diploma	None	Moderate OJT	\$23.45
Construction and Extraction Occupations⁴									
First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades	29,299	33,210	3,911	13.3	2,851	HS diploma	5 years or more	None	\$34.43
Boilermakers	1,002	1,105	103	10.3	98	HS diploma	None	Apprenticeship	\$32.41
Carpenters	13,164	14,223	1,059	8.0	1,228	HS diploma	None	Apprenticeship	\$23.00
Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	11,105	12,615	1,510	13.6	1,142	HS diploma	None	Moderate OJT	\$22.94
Electricians	20,281	23,770	3,489	17.2	2,267	HS diploma	None	Apprenticeship	\$28.60
Insulation Workers, Mechanical	1,625	1,750	125	7.7	140	HS diploma	None	Apprenticeship	\$24.07
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	11,144	12,593	1,449	13.0	1,155	HS diploma	None	Apprenticeship	\$28.98
Reinforcing Iron and Rebar Workers	2,344	2,571	227	9.7	218	HS diploma	None	Apprenticeship	\$23.36
Sheet Metal Workers	2,297	2,522	225	9.8	240	HS diploma	None	Apprenticeship	\$24.53

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Structural Iron and Steel Workers	2,166	2,278	112	5.2	199	HS diploma	None	Apprenticeship	\$23.38
Construction and Building Inspectors	4,483	4,805	322	7.2	556	HS diploma	5 years or more	Moderate OJT	\$31.49
Rotary Drill Operators, Oil and Gas	2,099	2,279	180	8.6	239	No formal credential	None	Moderate OJT	\$38.46
Service Unit Operators, Oil and Gas	4,169	4,562	393	9.4	480	No formal credential	None	Moderate OJT	\$25.99
Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	4,817	5,394	577	12.0	574	No formal credential	None	Moderate OJT	\$22.53
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations									
First-Line Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers	17,059	19,509	2,450	14.4	1,743	HS diploma	Less than 5 years	None	\$35.95
Security and Fire Alarm Systems Installers	2,482	2,988	506	20.4	334	HS diploma	None	Moderate OJT	\$23.45
Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	3,465	3,922	457	13.2	312	Postsecondary nondegree	None	None	\$37.85
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	17,572	19,947	2,375	13.5	1,818	Postsecondary nondegree	None	Short-term OJT	\$22.78
Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	6,779	7,630	851	12.6	677	HS diploma	None	Long-term OJT	\$28.29
Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, Except Engines	6,106	7,597	1,491	24.4	711	HS diploma	None	Long-term OJT	\$29.75
Control and Valve Installers and Repairers, Except Mechanical Door	3,506	4,084	578	16.5	334	HS diploma	None	Moderate OJT	\$23.34
HVAC Mechanics and Installers	7,414	8,836	1,422	19.2	816	Postsecondary nondegree	None	Long-term OJT	\$26.06
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	13,728	17,253	3,525	25.7	1,543	HS diploma	None	Long-term OJT	\$29.90
Maintenance Workers, Machinery	2,608	3,089	481	18.4	311	HS diploma	None	Long-term OJT	\$27.17
Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	3,059	3,554	495	16.2	298	HS diploma	None	Long-term OJT	\$36.03
Telecommunications Line Installers and Repairers	2,916	3,296	380	13.0	312	HS diploma	None	Long-term OJT	\$23.79
Medical Equipment Repairers	2,064	2,700	636	30.8	280	Associate's degree	None	Moderate OJT	\$24.30
Wind Turbine Service Technicians	1,683	2,742	1,059	62.9	314	Postsecondary nondegree	None	Long-term OJT	\$29.58
Production Occupations									
Machinists	6,264	7,016	752	12.0	718	HS diploma	None	Long-term OJT	\$24.11
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	16,666	18,737	2,071	12.4	1,916	HS diploma	None	Moderate OJT	\$24.94
Chemical Plant and System Operators	4,762	4,785	23	0.5	2	HS diploma	None	Moderate OJT	\$51.20
Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Operators	4,991	5,067	76	1.5	8	HS diploma	None	Moderate OJT	\$23.89
Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Programmers	721	899	178	24.7	18	Postsecondary nondegree	None	Moderate OJT	\$30.50

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Transportation and Material Moving Occupations									
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	53,795	64,684	10,889	20.2	1,089	Postsecondary nondegree	None	Short-term OJT	\$24.39
Captains, Mates, and Pilots of Water Vessels	2,023	2,141	118	5.8	12	Postsecondary nondegree	Less than 5 years	None	\$57.81
Crane and Tower Operators	3,177	3,582	405	12.7	40	HS diploma	Less than 5 years	Moderate OJT	\$35.39
Pump Operators, Except Wellhead Pumpers	1,379	1,688	309	22.4	31	HS diploma	None	Moderate OJT	\$26.60
Wellhead Pumpers	3,310	4,181	871	26.3	87	HS diploma	Less than 5 years	Moderate OJT	\$37.24

Notes

The Opportunity Occupations List is composed of High-skill High-growth Occupations regardless of their eligibility for tuition assistance from Workforce Solutions.

NOTE: This list should not be used for scholarship determination purposes. Please see the High-skill High-growth Scholarship Eligible Occupations List.

Authorized for use by the Gulf Coast Workforce Board: **February 4, 2025**