









HIGH-DEMAND OCCUPATIONS THROUGH 2026

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR EQUIVALENT AND SHORT-TERM TRAINING			
OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL OPENINGS	GROWTH %	WAGE RANGE
Amusement and Recreation Attendants	120	17.2	\$10 – \$13
Construction Laborers 	165	12.4	\$13 – \$19
Constr. Trades and Excavation Workers, Supervisors  GP	65	9.2	\$22 – \$34
Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Ag. Managers 	140	2.7	\$27 – \$43 *
Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aqua. Animals	95	22.8	\$10 – \$13 *
Food Prep. and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	660	14.5	\$10 – \$11
Food Prep. and Serving Workers, Supervisors	155	7.3	\$13 – \$19
Helpers–Production Workers	90	21.3	\$12 – \$14
Home Health Aides	100	37.6	\$10 – \$14
Interviewers, Except Eligibility and Loan	45	18.8	\$12 – \$17
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Housekeepers	220	7.6	\$11 – \$17
Land, Lawn, and Grounds Workers, Supervisors	35	10.6	\$17 – \$28
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	290	10.8	\$12 – \$18
Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	85	8.1	\$13 – \$24
Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers, Supervisors 	40	8.1	\$23 – \$39
Personal Care Aides	300	29.8	\$10 – \$13
Production and Operating Workers, Supervisors 	75	5.8	\$19 – \$33
Receptionists and Information Clerks	155	9.2	\$12 – \$17
Retail Sales Workers, Supervisors	185	3.9	\$16 – \$28
Retail Salespersons	780	3.8	\$10 – \$14

IT'S BIGGER THAN DATA.

HIGH-DEMAND, HIGH-WAGE OCCUPATIONS THROUGH 2026

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS (STEM)			
OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL OPENINGS	GROWTH %	WAGE RANGE
Architectural and Engineering Managers 	5	0.0	\$45 – \$69
Civil Engineers 	10	-3.7	\$36 – \$88
Computer and Information Systems Managers	10	5.3	\$38 – \$55
Computer Network Support Specialists GP	5	5.9	\$15 – \$28
Computer Systems Analysts	5	8.3	\$28 – \$42
Computer User Support Specialists GP	25	3.4	\$18 – \$28
Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technicians  GP	5	0.0	\$29 – \$37
Electrical Engineers 	5	12.5	\$34 – \$48
Environ. Scientists and Specialists, Including Health 	10	0.0	\$26 – \$36
Forest and Conservation Technicians 	10	0.0	\$16 – \$23
Industrial Engineering Technicians  GP	5	12.5	\$18 – \$24
Industrial Engineers 	25	12.3	\$28 – \$40
Landscape Architects 	5	0.0	\$37 – \$100+
Mechanical Engineers 	20	5.4	\$30 – \$44
Network and Computer Systems Administrators	10	0.0	\$27 – \$38
Sales Reps., Technical and Scientific Products 	5	0.0	\$20 – \$34
Software Developers, Applications	15	32.0	\$23 – \$47
Surveying and Mapping Technicians	10	-4.8	\$17 – \$28
Web Developers GP	5	0.0	\$18 – \$34
Zoologists and Wildlife Biologists 	5	0.0	\$26 – \$37


















NORTHWEST MICHIGAN CAREER OUTLOOK





STATE OF MICHIGAN
Department of Technology, Management and Budget
Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives

HIGH-DEMAND, HIGH-WAGE OCCUPATIONS

THROUGH 2026


POSTSECONDARY CERTIFICATE OR MODERATE-TERM TRAINING			
OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL OPENINGS	GROWTH %	WAGE RANGE
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics  GP	80	6.9	\$13 – \$24
Billing and Posting Clerks	50	12.8	\$15 – \$19
Cement Masons and Concrete Finishers 	20	16.7	\$16 – \$21
Computer User Support Specialists GP	25	3.4	\$18 – \$28
Dental Assistants	60	13.2	\$16 – \$19
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers 	200	7.6	\$18 – \$24
Insurance Sales Agents	45	10.5	\$15 – \$40
Logging Equipment Operators	15	10.0	\$16 – \$19
Massage Therapists GP	20	16.7	\$15 – \$41
Medical Records and Health Information Technicians GP	10	8.6	\$15 – \$25
Mixing and Blending Machine Operators 	30	10.0	\$17 – \$29
Operating Engineers  GP	45	10.1	\$17 – \$24
Packaging and Filling Machine Operators	90	7.9	\$12 – \$22
Paving, Surfacing, and Tamping Equip. Operators	15	8.3	\$18 – \$23
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	40	2.7	\$20 – \$29
Real Estate Sales Agents	30	6.8	\$17 – \$31
Sales Reps., Except Tech. and Scientific Products	130	5.4	\$17 – \$37
Separating and Filtering Machine Operators 	10	21.4	\$16 – \$28
Surgical Technologists GP	10	7.1	\$17 – \$24
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers  GP	45	5.1	\$15 – \$24



ASSOCIATE DEGREE/LONG-TERM TRAINING/APPRENTICESHIPS			
OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL OPENINGS	GROWTH %	WAGE RANGE
Automotive Body and Related Repairers GP	20	9.1	\$17 – \$29
Brickmasons and Blockmasons GP	20	13.9	\$19 – \$26
Bus and Truck Mech. and Diesel Engine Specialists  GP	30	8.9	\$17 – \$23
Carpenters  GP	130	6.7	\$15 – \$24
Dental Hygienists	20	14.6	\$28 – \$36
Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers  GP	20	-0.9	\$33 – \$41
Electricians  GP	60	15.0	\$18 – \$28
Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians	10	10.7	\$16 – \$22
HVAC and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers  GP	30	20.3	\$19 – \$25
Industrial Machinery Mechanics  GP	50	8.5	\$18 – \$25
Machinists  GP	70	3.2	\$16 – \$24
Maintenance Workers, Machinery GP	10	15.6	\$18 – \$26
Mobile Heavy Equip. Mechanics, Except Engines GP	10	11.7	\$17 – \$23
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	10	10.8	\$19 – \$24
Physical Therapist Assistants GP	20	21.6	\$21 – \$29
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters  GP	30	19.1	\$19 – \$30
Preschool Teachers	20	11.7	\$15 – \$21
Radiologic Technologists GP	10	6.0	\$23 – \$33
Respiratory Therapists GP	10	24.2	\$24 – \$30
Tile and Marble Setters	10	14.1	\$17 – \$28 *

BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER			
OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL OPENINGS	GROWTH %	WAGE RANGE
Accountants and Auditors	80	6.5	\$21 – \$33
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	50	11.1	\$22 – \$29
Construction Managers 	20	8.4	\$32 – \$68
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary	30	6.4	\$38 – \$52
Educational, Guidance, and School Counselors	20	10.2	\$23 – \$34
Elementary School Teachers	90	5.6	\$19 – \$34
Financial Managers	20	17.4	\$32 – \$58
General and Operations Managers 	160	6.9	\$26 – \$53
Healthcare Social Workers	30	12.9	\$22 – \$29
Industrial Engineers 	20	13.4	\$28 – \$40
Loan Officers	20	9.5	\$20 – \$44
Medical and Health Services Managers	30	15.4	\$29 – \$56
Middle School Teachers	40	6.1	\$23 – \$38
Nurse Anesthetists	10	13.9	\$88 – \$100+
Personal Financial Advisors 	10	12.1	\$29 – \$78
Physical Therapists	20	25.4	\$35 – \$47
Physician Assistants	10	34.0	\$43 – \$59
Registered Nurses	200	12.2	\$27 – \$36
Secondary School Teachers	60	6.0	\$21 – \$35
Social and Community Service Managers	20	11.9	\$30 – \$41

*Regional wage data unavailable; Statewide wage data shown.

Note: These lists include occupations that show a favorable mix of projected long-term job growth, projected annual job openings, and median wages. They do not necessarily reflect current hiring demand. Hourly wage range represents the 25th to 75th percentiles.

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