

Career Opportunities

Occupational Trends 2006–2016

Identifying occupations with favorable job prospects is important when making career decisions. Several factors need to be considered. The two most important are the employment growth rate and total job openings.

Jobs with fast growth rates generally offer good job opportunities. However, large occupations with slow or moderate job growth often provide more job openings than small, fast-growing occupations. For example, occupational therapist assistants are expected to grow by 31 percent with 109 job openings a year, while cashiers are expected to grow by only 13 percent, but will provide 6,600 openings per year. Therefore, it is important to look at both the rates of growth and total annual openings to determine future job prospects.

The fastest growing occupations, based on rate of employment growth, offer good employment opportunities and conditions favorable for wage advances. More than 60 percent of fast-growing occupations require at least a bachelor's degree. The projected employment growth rates of these occupations are impressive compared to the 5.0 percent projected growth for all occupations combined. However, remember that annual openings may be few.

Service and professional occupations, particularly in the fields of health, business, and education, dominate the list of occupations gaining the most employment or growing the fastest.



Jobs will be available at all education levels. Not surprisingly, among the 100 highest paying jobs, 92 require at least post-secondary training. Jobs requiring at least some formal training after high school will grow at a faster than average rate—10.7 percent compared to the statewide projected average of 5.0 percent.



Total annual openings result from new job growth and replacement job openings due to transfers, deaths, or retirements. Many occupations with the most annual openings have high employment and high replacement needs and tend to be lower skilled. However, more than one in four of these jobs will require training after high school.

Most job openings in the majority of occupations result from the need to replace workers who leave the labor force or transfer to another occupation. Therefore, even declining occupations provide opportunities for employment, although job prospects are generally not as favorable as in growing occupations. Examples of declining occupations in Ohio that will have substantial replacement needs include cashiers; stock clerks and order filers; team assemblers; and general and operations managers.

Today's Decisions... Your Future

Interests

Students should evaluate their interests, skills and aptitudes when choosing careers. However, another factor to consider is the number of job opportunities that are likely to be available upon graduation. In addition to the expected number of annual openings, the number of students entering a career field affects how easy or difficult it may be to find a job.

Education and Training

For one in seven occupations, high school is the usual education attained. The fastest growing occupations are those with workers with at least some college education.

On the whole, workers with higher levels of education have more options in the job market and better prospects for obtaining higher paying jobs than those with less education.



Education Pays

Education and training can benefit workers in their careers. Typically, the more education, the higher the weekly earnings.

Median Weekly Earnings in 2007

Doctoral degree	\$1,497
Professional degree	\$1,427
Master's degree	\$1,165
Bachelor's degree	\$987
Associate degree	\$740
Some college, no degree	\$683
High school graduate	\$604
Less than high school	\$428

Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers, ages 25 and over, in the United States.
Source: U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



Ohio

Department of
Job and Family Services

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Occupations in Ohio with High-Employment Prospects

The occupations listed below offer an average median wage of \$14.85 an hour and are projected to have at least 700 openings per year.

	Average Annual Openings 2006-2016	Average Wage May 2007
MODERATE-TERM ON-THE-JOB TRAINING		
Customer Service Representatives	3,958	\$15.00
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	2,001	\$18.25
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks	1,795	\$15.15
Construction Laborers	537	\$17.77
LONG-TERM ON-THE-JOB TRAINING		
Carpenters	929	\$18.37
Fire Fighters	903	\$19.08
Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers	854	\$22.55
Electricians	798	\$22.81
WORK EXPERIENCE IN A RELATED OCCUPATION		
Sales Reps., Wholesale & Mfg., ex. Tech./Sci. Products	1,876	\$30.12
Executive Secretaries & Administrative Assistants	1,545	\$18.67
First-Line Supervisors & Mgrs. of Retail Sales Workers	1,334	\$18.39
First-Line Supervisors & Mgrs. of Office & Admn. Support	963	\$21.67
First-Line Supervisors & Mgrs. of Prod./Operating Workers	669	\$24.49
POSTSECONDARY VOCATIONAL AWARD		
Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	1,593	\$18.57
Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	801	\$17.03
ASSOCIATE DEGREE		
Registered Nurses [†]	4,425	\$27.56
Computer Support Specialists	652	\$19.70
BACHELOR'S DEGREE		
Elementary School Teachers, ex. Special Education	1,631	\$51,880*
Secondary School Teachers, ex. Special & Voc. Ed.	1,586	\$53,420*
Accountants & Auditors	1,357	\$28.41
Insurance Sales Agents	903	\$25.99
Computer Software Engineers, Applications	880	\$37.29
Middle School Teachers, ex. Special & Voc. Ed.	830	\$53,290*
Computer Systems Analysts	730	\$34.21
Network Systems & Data Communication Analysts	544	\$34.32
Securities, Commodities & Financial Service Sales Agents	542	\$32.62
Network & Computer Systems Administrators	523	\$29.98
WORK EXPERIENCE PLUS A BACHELOR'S OR HIGHER DEGREE		
Postsecondary Teachers	1,547	\$66,157*
General & Operations Managers	1,369	\$47.17
Management Analysts	706	\$36.75
Lawyers	642	\$48.42

[†]Training is met through a two-year associate degree, a three-year diploma or a four-year bachelor's degree.

*Annual earnings, typically for a 9 ½ month school year.



Occupations in Ohio with the Most Annual Job Openings 2006-2016

Occupational Title	Average Annual Openings	Average Wage May 2007
Cashiers	6,630	\$8.44
Waiters & Waitresses	6,370	\$8.12
Retail Salespersons	5,867	\$11.51
Registered Nurses	4,425	\$27.56
Laborers and Freight, Stock & Material Movers, Hand	4,125	\$11.72
Customer Service Representatives	3,958	\$15.00
Comb. Food Prep. & Service Workers, inc. Fast Food	3,401	\$7.79
Office Clerks, General	2,734	\$11.93
Janitors & Cleaners, ex. Maids & Housekeeping	2,461	\$11.48
Home Health Aides	2,408	\$9.64
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	2,001	\$18.25
Sales Reps., Wholesale & Mfg., ex. Tech./Scientific Products	1,876	\$30.12
Team Assemblers	1,850	\$13.29
Nursing Aides, Orderlies & Attendants	1,801	\$11.20
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks	1,795	\$15.15
Food Preparation Workers	1,714	\$9.07
Elementary School Teachers, ex. Special Education	1,631	\$51,880*
Child Care Workers	1,618	\$9.93
Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	1,593	\$18.57
Second School Teachers, ex. Special & Voc. Ed.	1,586	\$53,420*
Postsecondary Teachers	1,547	\$66,157*
Executive Secretaries & Administrative Assistants	1,545	\$18.67
Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	1,538	\$10.80
Receptionists & Information Clerks	1,422	\$11.14
General & Operations Managers	1,369	\$47.17
Accountants & Auditors	1,357	\$28.41
Cooks, Restaurant	1,356	\$9.99
First-Line Supervisors & Mgrs. of Retail Sales Workers	1,334	\$18.39
Tellers	1,255	\$10.83
Cooks, Fast Food	1,184	\$8.24

*Annual earnings, typically for a 9 ½ month school year.

Ohio's Fastest Growing Occupations 2006-2016

Occupational Title	Projected Employment Growth Rate	Average Annual Openings	Average Wage May 2007
Home Health Aides	48.1%	2,408	\$9.64
Network Systems/Data Comm. Analysts	47.9%	544	\$34.32
Personal & Home Care Aides	40.8%	1,107	\$9.44
Computer Software Engineers, Applications	38.9%	880	\$37.29
Skin Care Specialists	37.9%	102	\$13.50
Personal Financial Advisors	34.0%	202	\$41.04
Subst. Abuse/Behav. Disorder Counselors	34.0%	134	\$18.52
Social & Human Service Assistants	33.6%	354	\$12.74
Veterinary Technologists & Technicians	33.2%	121	\$13.87
Medical Assistants	32.1%	845	\$12.47
Physical Therapist Assistants	31.8%	205	\$22.64
Veterinarians	30.2%	96	\$43.56
Mental Health Counselors	29.9%	138	\$19.85
Mental Health/Subst. Abuse Soc. Workers	29.8%	265	\$17.15
Appraisers & Assessors of Real Estate	28.5%	140	\$23.52
Manicurists & Pedicurists	27.3%	124	\$11.30
Health Educators	26.1%	61	\$20.63
Occupational Therapist Assistants	25.3%	96	\$22.92
Physical Therapists	24.8%	251	\$34.80
Social & Community Service Managers	24.5%	146	\$27.95
Medical & Public Health Social Workers	24.5%	272	\$20.68
Database Administrators	24.4%	174	\$32.47
Environmental Engineers	24.3%	99	\$37.03
Financial Analysts	23.6%	202	\$33.63
Physician Assistants	23.4%	59	\$38.12
Occupational Therapists	23.0%	159	\$33.95
Cardiovascular Technologists & Technicians	22.7%	62	\$22.98
Registered Nurses	22.6%	4,425	\$27.56
Surgical Technologists	22.4%	182	\$17.36
Fitness Trainers & Aerobics Instructors	22.3%	252	\$12.02

Additional Information

Occupational trends are only one aspect of career choice and education planning. Other factors to consider include wages, job satisfaction, general unemployment patterns, method of obtaining the required education or training, and working conditions. Use the following sources for additional information:

The **Ohio Job Outlook** includes industry and occupational employment projections for the State of Ohio.

<http://OhioLMI.com/proj/OhioJobOutlook.htm>

The **Occupational Outlook Handbook** offers national information about required training and education, earnings, job prospects, what workers do on the job and working conditions.

<http://www.bls.gov/oco/>

Local **One-Stop Offices** can offer assistance with career decisions.

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/workforce/jobseekers/onestopmap.stm>

Visit **Ohio Means Jobs** to post your resume and search for job opportunities.

<https://OhioMeansJobs.com>



Ted Strickland, Governor

Douglas E. Lumpkin, Director
Ohio Department of Job Family Services
Office of Workforce Development
Bureau Labor Market Information
P.O. Box 1618
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1618
Phone (614) 752-9494

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