

HIGH-DEMAND OCCUPATIONS THROUGH 2028

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR EQUIVALENT AND SHORT-TERM TRAINING			
OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL OPENINGS	GROWTH %	WAGE RANGE
Childcare Workers	700	4.5	\$11–\$13
Construction Laborers	635	7.4	\$15–\$22
Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	210	9.1	\$13–\$17
Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	410	9.7	\$11–\$13
Food Prep. and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	3,515	8.0	\$10–\$12
Food Servers, Nonrestaurant	195	9.7	\$11–\$14
Helpers–Production Workers	1,225	23.2	\$13–\$18
Home Health Aides	400	31.5	\$11–\$14
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	740	4.0	\$14–\$20
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Housekeepers	1,915	6.1	\$12–\$16
Laborers and Freight, Stock and Material Movers	2,630	5.2	\$11–\$18
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	905	5.8	\$13–\$19
Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	745	3.5	\$12–\$23
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	775	2.5	\$11–\$15
Nonfarm Animal Caretakers	200	11.8	\$11–\$15
Packers and Packagers, Hand	1,440	2.5	\$12–\$15
Recreation Workers	285	6.9	\$12–\$18
Refuse and Recyclable Material Collectors	85	6.9	\$18–\$25
Social and Human Service Assistants	250	14.2	\$13–\$17
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	1,205	2.5	\$11–\$16

HIGH-DEMAND, HIGH-WAGE OCCUPATIONS THROUGH 2028

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS (STEM)			
OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL OPENINGS	GROWTH %	WAGE RANGE
Architects, Except Landscape and Naval	40	6.4	\$32–\$49
Architectural and Engineering Managers	100	3.0	\$50–\$70
Chemists	55	9.3	\$26–\$46
Civil Engineering Technicians	25	8.3	\$18–\$29
Civil Engineers	55	4.3	\$30–\$47
Computer and Information Systems Managers	90	5.7	\$44–\$68
Computer Systems Analysts	95	1.5	\$30–\$45
Computer User Support Specialists	225	4.7	\$20–\$29
Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technicians	45	0.0	\$22–\$35
Electrical Engineers	90	5.6	\$30–\$49
Industrial Engineering Technicians	90	4.8	\$20–\$29
Industrial Engineers	360	10.2	\$32–\$47
Mechanical Engineering Technicians	50	4.0	\$21–\$31
Mechanical Engineers	405	5.7	\$30–\$46
Natural Sciences Managers	25	4.2	\$35–\$61
Network and Computer Systems Administrators	85	0.0	\$26–\$40
Sales Engineers	35	3.6	\$33–\$51
Sales Reps., Tech. and Scientific Products	95	2.3	\$23–\$44
Software Developers, Applications	190	14.3	\$31–\$47
Web Developers	40	3.9	\$21–\$37



WEST MICHIGAN CAREER OUTLOOK THROUGH 2028

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

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EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING



HIGH-DEMAND, HIGH-WAGE OCCUPATIONS THROUGH 2028

POSTSECONDARY CERTIFICATE OR MODERATE-TERM TRAINING			
OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL OPENINGS	GROWTH %	WAGE RANGE
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	210	5.3	\$16–\$22
Cement Masons and Concrete Finishers	145	8.1	\$16–\$24
CNC Machine Tool Programmers	85	26.7	\$22–\$30
Computer User Support Specialists	225	4.7	\$20–\$29
Ctrl. and Valve Install. and Repairers, Ex. Mech. Door	55	7.1	\$25–\$40
Dental Assistants	155	0.0	\$17–\$27
Dispatchers, Except Police, Fire, and Ambulance	115	0.8	\$17–\$28
Forming, Pressing, and Compacting Machine Op.	105	2.1	\$15–\$23
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,485	6.4	\$18–\$25
Insurance Sales Agents	250	5.0	\$22–\$44
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	225	7.7	\$21–\$26
Massage Therapists	80	13.8	\$19–\$28
Mixing and Blending Machine Operators	190	2.5	\$16–\$23
Operating Engineers	150	6.7	\$22–\$32*
Painters, Construction and Maintenance	155	3.4	\$17–\$27
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	160	0.9	\$24–\$36
Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks	260	3.8	\$18–\$28
Sales Reps., Except Tech. and Scientific Products	1,070	4.4	\$21–\$42
Surgical Technologists	75	4.8	\$16–\$24
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	410	4.0	\$17–\$23

ASSOCIATE DEGREE/LONG-TERM TRAINING/APPRENTICESHIPS			
OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL OPENINGS	GROWTH %	WAGE RANGE
Brickmasons and Blockmasons	60	7.4	\$20–\$30
Bus and Truck Mech. And Diesel Engine Specialists	220	6.5	\$20–\$28
Carpenters	545	4.7	\$17–\$25
Dental Hygienists	90	0.0	\$27–\$33
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	30	11.9	\$27–\$35
Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	75	4.8	\$30–\$48
Electricians	510	7.5	\$18–\$30
HVAC and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	215	11.8	\$19–\$32
Industrial Engineering Technicians	90	4.8	\$20–\$29
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	545	9.9	\$20–\$29
Machinists	610	5.0	\$16–\$25
Maintenance Workers, Machinery	30	11.5	\$19–\$30
Millwrights	35	11.8	\$23–\$32
Occupational Therapy Assistants	40	20.0	\$18–\$26
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	110	8.5	\$23–\$39
Physical Therapist Assistants	95	15.2	\$21–\$28
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	285	9.8	\$19–\$31
Radiologic Technologists	65	2.8	\$22–\$32
Respiratory Therapists	60	19.5	\$25–\$31
Sheet Metal Workers	95	6.3	\$20–\$26

BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER			
OCCUPATION (JOB TITLE)	ANNUAL OPENINGS	GROWTH %	WAGE RANGE
Accountants and Auditors	545	4.0	\$25–\$40
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	285	7.2	\$19–\$29
Construction Managers	130	6.3	\$34–\$56
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary	105	6.8	\$36–\$49
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	90	7.7	\$33–\$52
Educational, Guidance, and School Counselors	165	12.7	\$21–\$31
Elementary School Teachers	500	6.4	\$23–\$37
Financial Managers	235	12.4	\$40–\$67
General and Operations Managers	890	5.1	\$30–\$71
Industrial Engineers	360	10.2	\$32–\$47
Industrial Production Managers	210	5.4	\$42–\$63
Management Analysts	235	5.7	\$29–\$49
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	395	15.2	\$20–\$35
Mechanical Engineers	405	5.7	\$30–\$46
Medical and Health Services Managers	160	12.7	\$34–\$57
Middle School Teachers	205	6.5	\$23–\$38
Registered Nurses	990	8.9	\$29–\$38
Secondary School Teachers	385	6.6	\$23–\$35
Software Developers, Applications	190	14.3	\$31–\$47
Substance, Behavioral, and Mental Health Counselors	135	17.3	\$20–\$28

*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 represents the 25th to 75th percentiles.

Source: Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget