

TOP JOBS IN CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

The “Top Jobs” in Central Pennsylvania are identified according to projected job changes from 2016 to 2019 using data from Economic Modeling Specialists, International.

There are three (3) categories of Top Jobs to consider:

1. Occupations with 100 or more jobs with typical entry education levels of ***less than 4 years of postsecondary education (an associate’s degree or less)***,
2. Occupations with 100 or more jobs with typical entry education levels of a ***4-year degree (bachelor’s degree) or higher***, and
3. ***Low-volume occupations*** which have less than 100 jobs.

To be considered a Top Job, an occupation must have a median wage of at least \$12.50 per hour.

Top Jobs are identified by two separate methods:

1. Occupations with the highest ***number*** of projected annual job openings, and
2. Occupations with the highest ***percentage*** of projected annual job openings.

The percentages shown on each table refer to the number of projected annual job openings as a percent of current job levels.

For both types of Top Jobs (number and percentage of openings), projected job openings include **new job openings**, which are created due to business expansion or new companies opening, and **replacement job openings** that occur as the result of employee turnover.

Additionally, the tables include current median hourly occupational wages. Occupational wages do not include benefits. Finally, each Top Job is marked if it is found on the Central Pennsylvania High Priority Occupation list.

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Top Jobs Less than 4 Years of Postsecondary Education Most Projected Job Openings						
Occupation	Jobs	Projected Annual Job Openings	Projected Annual Job Openings (%)	Median Hourly Wages	Typical Entry Level Education	High Priority Occupation
Office Clerks, General	9,005	243	2.7%	\$13.67	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	3,943	188	4.8%	\$13.07	No formal educational credential	
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	5,194	184	3.5%	\$20.27	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Nursing Assistants	3,764	165	4.4%	\$12.94	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	4,231	163	3.8%	\$15.67	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Customer Service Representatives	3,410	150	4.4%	\$14.51	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	5,309	144	2.7%	\$12.80	No formal educational credential	
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	7,678	112	1.5%	\$14.67	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Team Assemblers	3,116	107	3.4%	\$14.67	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	2,163	103	4.7%	\$19.44	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Correctional Officers and Jailers	1,996	93	4.7%	\$26.11	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	2,527	80	3.2%	\$16.65	High school diploma or equivalent	
Construction Laborers	2,353	66	2.8%	\$15.02	No formal educational credential	x
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	2,436	65	2.7%	\$16.42	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	2,121	65	3.1%	\$24.34	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	1,734	64	3.7%	\$14.57	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Receptionists and Information Clerks	1,476	63	4.3%	\$12.62	High school diploma or equivalent	
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	1,551	63	4.0%	\$15.19	High school diploma or equivalent	x
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	2,021	62	3.1%	\$23.85	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Medical Assistants	1,071	56	5.2%	\$13.51	Postsecondary nondegree award	

Source: EMSI, 2017.1

Criteria: Occupations have at least 100 jobs, median hourly wages of \$12.50 or more, and typical entry education levels of less than a bachelor's degree

Results sorted based on projected **annual** job openings (new and replacement) from 2016 to 2019

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2016 Central PA HPO list

Top Jobs Less than 4 Years of Postsecondary Education Highest Percentage of Projected Job Openings						
Occupation	Jobs	Projected Annual Job Openings	Projected Annual Job Openings (%)	Median Hourly Wages	Typical Entry Level Education	High Priority Occupation
Rotary Drill Operators, Oil and Gas	171	21	12.3%	\$22.93	No formal educational credential	x
Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks	223	24	10.6%	\$17.24	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators	320	33	10.2%	\$25.83	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining	154	14	9.3%	\$17.62	No formal educational credential	
Power Plant Operators	113	9	8.2%	\$34.59	High school diploma or equivalent	
Helpers--Extraction Workers	125	10	8.0%	\$16.25	High school diploma or equivalent	
Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	264	21	8.0%	\$29.76	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	172	13	7.8%	\$17.03	No formal educational credential	x
Physical Therapist Assistants	214	15	6.9%	\$21.77	Associate's degree	x
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	896	53	6.0%	\$22.51	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal and Plastic	507	29	5.8%	\$15.88	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other	209	12	5.8%	\$18.41	High school diploma or equivalent	
Library Technicians	317	17	5.4%	\$14.32	Postsecondary nondegree award	
Medical Equipment Preparers	115	6	5.2%	\$15.77	High school diploma or equivalent	
Medical Assistants	1,071	56	5.2%	\$13.51	Postsecondary nondegree award	
Civil Engineering Technicians	115	6	5.2%	\$18.82	Associate's degree	
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	109	6	5.2%	\$28.44	Associate's degree	x
Respiratory Therapists	293	15	5.1%	\$27.31	Associate's degree	x
Logging Equipment Operators	177	9	5.1%	\$16.42	High school diploma or equivalent	
Medical Equipment Repairers	124	6	5.1%	\$19.73	Associate's degree	

Source: EMSI, 2017.1

Criteria: Occupations have at least 100 jobs, median hourly wages of \$12.50 or more, and typical entry education levels of less than a bachelor's degree

Results sorted based on projected **annual** job openings (new and replacement) from 2015 to 2018 as a **percent** of current jobs in each occupation

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2016 Central PA HPO list



Top Jobs Bachelor's Degree or Higher Most Projected Job Openings						
Occupation	Jobs	Projected Annual Job Openings	Projected Annual Job Openings (%)	Median Hourly Wages	Typical Entry Level Education	High Priority Occupation
Registered Nurses	7,051	347	4.9%	\$28.50	Bachelor's degree	x
Postsecondary Teachers	5,989	146	2.4%	\$34.01	Doctoral or professional degree	
General and Operations Managers	2,399	105	4.4%	\$40.93	Bachelor's degree	x
Accountants and Auditors	1,812	79	4.3%	\$28.06	Bachelor's degree	x
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	2,167	54	2.5%	\$26.67	Bachelor's degree	
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	1,576	41	2.6%	\$28.03	Bachelor's degree	
Computer Systems Analysts	736	35	4.8%	\$40.56	Bachelor's degree	x
Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	1,377	33	2.4%	\$25.69	Bachelor's degree	
Managers, All Other	911	32	3.5%	\$28.31	Bachelor's degree	
Physical Therapists	478	31	6.4%	\$37.22	Doctoral or professional degree	
Medical and Health Services Managers	591	30	5.1%	\$39.04	Bachelor's degree	
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	684	29	4.2%	\$17.39	Bachelor's degree	x
Civil Engineers	528	28	5.2%	\$35.52	Bachelor's degree	x
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	533	27	5.0%	\$87.57	Doctoral or professional degree	
Human Resources Specialists	627	26	4.1%	\$25.79	Bachelor's degree	
Clergy	558	25	4.5%	\$21.75	Bachelor's degree	
Financial Managers	573	25	4.4%	\$54.25	Bachelor's degree	
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	598	25	4.2%	\$29.30	Bachelor's degree	
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	656	25	3.8%	\$25.51	Bachelor's degree	x
Management Analysts	598	24	4.1%	\$29.06	Bachelor's degree	x

Source: EMSI, 2017.1

Criteria: Occupations have at least 100 jobs, median hourly wages of \$12.50 or more, and typical entry education levels of a bachelor's degree or higher

Results sorted based on projected annual job openings (new and replacement) from 2016 to 2019

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2016 Central PA HPO list

Top Jobs Bachelor's Degree or Higher Highest Percentage of Projected Job Openings						
Occupation	Jobs	Projected Annual Job Openings	Projected Annual Job Openings (%)	Median Hourly Wages	Typical Entry Level Education	High Priority Occupation
Nurse Practitioners	241	18	7.5%	\$42.06	Master's degree	x
Healthcare Social Workers	231	15	6.5%	\$22.00	Master's degree	x
Physical Therapists	478	31	6.4%	\$37.22	Doctoral or professional degree	
Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents	133	8	6.0%	\$14.00	Bachelor's degree	
Marketing Managers	170	10	5.7%	\$63.43	Bachelor's degree	
Mechanical Engineers	331	19	5.6%	\$35.15	Bachelor's degree	x
Physician Assistants	309	17	5.6%	\$44.77	Master's degree	x
Personal Financial Advisors	298	17	5.6%	\$42.11	Bachelor's degree	
Financial Analysts	176	10	5.5%	\$33.66	Bachelor's degree	x
Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors	227	12	5.4%	\$21.69	Bachelor's degree	x
Environmental Engineers	111	6	5.4%	\$34.37	Bachelor's degree	
Occupational Therapists	205	11	5.4%	\$34.01	Master's degree	
Civil Engineers	528	28	5.2%	\$35.52	Bachelor's degree	x
Human Resources Managers	166	9	5.2%	\$46.59	Bachelor's degree	
Industrial Engineers	372	19	5.2%	\$34.26	Bachelor's degree	x
Architectural and Engineering Managers	174	9	5.2%	\$60.81	Bachelor's degree	
Medical and Health Services Managers	591	30	5.1%	\$39.04	Bachelor's degree	
Mental Health Counselors	414	21	5.1%	\$20.72	Master's degree	
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	533	27	5.0%	\$87.57	Doctoral or professional degree	
Registered Nurses	7,051	347	4.9%	\$28.50	Bachelor's degree	x

Source: EMSI, 2017.1

Criteria: Occupations have at least 100 jobs, median hourly wages of \$12.50 or more, and typical entry education levels of a bachelor's degree or higher

Results sorted based on projected annual job openings (new and replacement) from 2016 to 2019 as a percent of current jobs in each occupation

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2016 Central PA HPO list



Low-Volume Occupations Most Projected Job Openings

Occupation	Jobs	Projected Annual Job Openings	Projected Annual Job Openings (%)	Median Hourly Wages	Typical Entry Level Education	High Priority Occupation
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	97	12	12.7%	\$13.59	No formal educational credential	
Insurance Underwriters	90	7	8.1%	\$29.88	Bachelor's degree	
Occupational Therapy Assistants	91	7	7.3%	\$25.55	Associate's degree	x
Physical Therapist Aides	84	7	7.9%	\$13.33	High school diploma or equivalent	
Environmental Scientists and Specialists, Including Health	94	6	6.4%	\$29.14	Bachelor's degree	
Commercial Pilots	90	6	6.3%	\$43.63	High school diploma or equivalent	
Life, Physical, and Social Science Technicians, All Other	91	5	5.8%	\$20.47	Associate's degree	
Producers and Directors	98	5	5.5%	\$20.25	Bachelor's degree	
Pest Control Workers	99	5	5.4%	\$15.95	High school diploma or equivalent	
Weighers, Measurers, Checkers, and Samplers, Recordkeeping	94	5	5.7%	\$16.47	High school diploma or equivalent	
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing Machine Operators and Tenders	56	5	9.6%	\$14.55	High school diploma or equivalent	
Orderlies	98	5	5.1%	\$13.99	High school diploma or equivalent	
Earth Drillers, Except Oil and Gas	66	5	7.6%	\$19.00	High school diploma or equivalent	
Ambulance Drivers and Attendants, Except Emergency Medical Technicians	90	5	5.6%	\$12.53	High school diploma or equivalent	
Operations Research Analysts	62	5	7.5%	\$33.02	Bachelor's degree	
Psychiatric Aides	88	5	5.3%	\$15.13	High school diploma or equivalent	
Molders, Shapers, and Casters, Except Metal and Plastic	97	5	4.8%	\$15.62	High school diploma or equivalent	
Credit Analysts	78	4	5.6%	\$26.02	Bachelor's degree	
Interpreters and Translators	68	4	6.4%	\$17.87	Bachelor's degree	
Optometrists	78	4	5.6%	\$47.04	Doctoral or professional degree	

Source: EMSI, 2017.1

Criteria: Occupations have less than 100 jobs and median hourly wages of \$12.50 or more

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High Priority Occupations based on 2016 Central PA HPO list

Low-Volume Occupations Highest Percentage of Projected Job Openings

Occupation	Jobs	Projected Annual Job Openings	Projected Annual Job Openings (%)	Median Hourly Wages	Typical Entry Level Education	High Priority Occupation
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	97	12	12.7%	\$13.59	No formal educational credential	
Actuaries	32	4	11.5%	\$49.07	Bachelor's degree	
Pump Operators, Except Wellhead Pumpers	33	4	11.2%	\$19.22	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing Machine Operators and Tenders	56	5	9.6%	\$14.55	High school diploma or equivalent	
Derrick Operators, Oil and Gas	40	4	9.1%	\$20.95	No formal educational credential	x
Insurance Underwriters	90	7	8.1%	\$29.88	Bachelor's degree	
Control and Valve Installers and Repairers, Except Mechanical Door	42	3	8.0%	\$23.05	High school diploma or equivalent	
Physical Therapist Aides	84	7	7.9%	\$13.33	High school diploma or equivalent	
Separating, Filtering, Clarifying, Precipitating, and Still Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	55	4	7.9%	\$17.71	High school diploma or equivalent	
Earth Drillers, Except Oil and Gas	66	5	7.6%	\$19.00	High school diploma or equivalent	
Operations Research Analysts	62	5	7.5%	\$33.02	Bachelor's degree	
Occupational Therapy Assistants	91	7	7.3%	\$25.55	Associate's degree	x
Security and Fire Alarm Systems Installers	55	4	7.3%	\$18.05	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Community and Social Service Specialists, All Other	61	4	6.6%	\$25.05	Master's degree	
Demonstrators and Product Promoters	56	4	6.5%	\$13.27	High school diploma or equivalent	
Interpreters and Translators	68	4	6.4%	\$17.87	Bachelor's degree	
Environmental Scientists and Specialists, Including Health	94	6	6.4%	\$29.14	Bachelor's degree	
Commercial Pilots	90	6	6.3%	\$43.63	High school diploma or equivalent	
Statisticians	54	3	6.2%	\$33.82	Master's degree	
Environmental Science and Protection Technicians, Including Health	60	4	6.1%	\$19.75	Associate's degree	

Source: EMSI, 2017.1

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