

# TOP JOBS IN CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

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The “Top Jobs” in Central Pennsylvania are identified according to projected job changes from 2017 to 2020 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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<b>Top Jobs Less than 4 Years of Postsecondary Education Highest Projected Job Openings</b>						
Occupation	Jobs	Projected Annual Job Openings	Projected Annual Job Openings (%)	Median Hourly Wages	Typical Entry Level Education	High Priority Occupation
Office Clerks, General	9,311	1,069	11.5%	\$14.28	High school diploma or equivalent	
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	7,592	790	10.4%	\$15.40	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	5,222	702	13.4%	\$12.51	No formal educational credential	
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	4,267	627	14.7%	\$12.91	No formal educational credential	
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	4,982	587	11.8%	\$20.98	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Customer Service Representatives	4,235	583	13.8%	\$12.89	High school diploma or equivalent	
Nursing Assistants	3,675	512	13.9%	\$13.29	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	4,225	415	9.8%	\$16.87	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Team Assemblers	2,678	335	12.5%	\$14.45	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	2,920	315	10.8%	\$16.40	Some college, no degree	x
Construction Laborers	2,664	295	11.1%	\$15.38	No formal educational credential	
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	2,543	271	10.6%	\$16.46	High school diploma or equivalent	
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	1,608	233	14.5%	\$15.66	High school diploma or equivalent	x
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	2,172	231	10.6%	\$24.20	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	2,064	218	10.6%	\$25.14	High school diploma or equivalent	
Bus Drivers, School or Special Client	1,602	217	13.5%	\$14.54	High school diploma or equivalent	
Correctional Officers and Jailers	2,145	197	9.2%	\$24.78	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Carpenters	2,086	197	9.4%	\$17.90	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	1,662	186	11.2%	\$13.51	High school diploma or equivalent	
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	2,263	174	7.7%	\$19.63	Postsecondary nondegree award	x

Source: EMSI, 2017.3

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 2017 to 2020

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2017 Central PA HPO list

<b>Top Jobs            Less than 4 Years of Postsecondary Education            Highest Percentage of Projected Job Openings</b>						
Occupation	Jobs	Projected Annual Job Openings	Projected Annual Job Openings (%)	Median Hourly Wages	Typical Entry Level Education	High Priority Occupation
Protective Service Workers, All Other	244	59	24.2%	\$15.82	High school diploma or equivalent	
Agricultural Equipment Operators	140	24	17.0%	\$15.82	No formal educational credential	x
Fitness Trainers and Aerobics Instructors	487	82	16.8%	\$13.10	High school diploma or equivalent	
Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	178	29	16.5%	\$13.10	No formal educational credential	x
Packers and Packagers, Hand	910	142	15.6%	\$13.35	No formal educational credential	
Helpers--Production Workers	895	139	15.5%	\$13.86	No formal educational credential	
Sales and Related Workers, All Other	128	19	15.1%	\$20.77	High school diploma or equivalent	
Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	144	22	15.1%	\$17.41	No formal educational credential	
Physical Therapist Assistants	230	34	14.8%	\$22.12	Associate's degree	
Medical Equipment Preparers	119	18	14.8%	\$18.23	High school diploma or equivalent	
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	4,267	627	14.7%	\$12.91	No formal educational credential	
Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks	331	48	14.5%	\$17.36	High school diploma or equivalent	
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	1,608	233	14.5%	\$15.66	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Medical Assistants	1,043	151	14.5%	\$14.18	Postsecondary nondegree award	
Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining	134	19	14.5%	\$21.18	No formal educational credential	
Psychiatric Aides	114	16	14.4%	\$13.00	High school diploma or equivalent	
Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity	165	24	14.3%	\$16.43	High school diploma or equivalent	
Occupational Therapy Assistants	135	19	14.3%	\$23.03	Associate's degree	
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	213	30	14.3%	\$13.96	High school diploma or equivalent	
Orderlies	117	17	14.2%	\$14.27	High school diploma or equivalent	

Source: EMSI, 2017.3

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 2017 to 2020 as a **percent** of current jobs in each occupation

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2017 Central PA HPO list



Top Jobs Bachelor's Degree or Higher Highest 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	7,549	556	7.4%	\$29.15	Bachelor's degree	x
Postsecondary Teachers	6,129	532	8.7%	\$35.80	Doctoral or professional degree	
General and Operations Managers	2,464	227	9.2%	\$43.06	Bachelor's degree	x
Accountants and Auditors	1,767	178	10.1%	\$27.97	Bachelor's degree	x
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	2,014	156	7.8%	\$29.25	Bachelor's degree	
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	1,698	126	7.4%	\$28.13	Bachelor's degree	
Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	1,259	97	7.7%	\$27.86	Bachelor's degree	
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	740	86	11.7%	\$24.60	Bachelor's degree	x
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	728	81	11.1%	\$17.86	Bachelor's degree	x
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	742	80	10.7%	\$31.78	Bachelor's degree	
Managers, All Other	933	75	8.0%	\$28.20	Bachelor's degree	
Clergy	574	73	12.7%	\$23.08	Bachelor's degree	
Human Resources Specialists	663	69	10.4%	\$25.23	Bachelor's degree	x
Mental Health Counselors	559	69	12.3%	\$20.76	Master's degree	
Substitute Teachers	617	67	10.9%	\$13.75	Bachelor's degree	
Computer Systems Analysts	697	63	9.1%	\$41.20	Bachelor's degree	
Coaches and Scouts	456	63	13.8%	\$13.82	Bachelor's degree	x
Medical and Health Services Managers	636	61	9.6%	\$38.40	Bachelor's degree	
Teachers and Instructors, All Other	515	59	11.4%	\$18.48	Bachelor's degree	
Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	514	57	11.0%	\$27.03	Master's degree	

Source: EMSI, 2017.3

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 2017 to 2020

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2017 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
Coaches and Scouts	456	63	13.8%	\$13.82	Bachelor's degree	x
Healthcare Social Workers	237	32	13.5%	\$22.51	Master's degree	
Directors, Religious Activities and Education	274	36	13.0%	\$13.92	Bachelor's degree	
Clergy	574	73	12.7%	\$23.08	Bachelor's degree	
Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors	321	40	12.6%	\$21.83	Bachelor's degree	
Mental Health Counselors	559	69	12.3%	\$20.76	Master's degree	
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products	238	29	12.3%	\$37.12	Bachelor's degree	
Insurance Underwriters	104	13	12.2%	\$30.91	Bachelor's degree	
Rehabilitation Counselors	358	43	12.1%	\$15.91	Master's degree	
Meeting, Convention, and Event Planners	185	22	12.1%	\$22.26	Bachelor's degree	
Adult Basic and Secondary Education and Literacy Teachers and Instructors	103	12	12.0%	\$27.10	Bachelor's degree	
Editors	166	20	11.9%	\$19.89	Bachelor's degree	
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	388	46	11.8%	\$16.35	Bachelor's degree	
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	740	86	11.7%	\$24.60	Bachelor's degree	x
Wholesale and Retail Buyers, Except Farm Products	135	16	11.6%	\$23.06	Bachelor's degree	
Teachers and Instructors, All Other	515	59	11.4%	\$18.48	Bachelor's degree	
Public Relations Specialists	366	42	11.4%	\$24.00	Bachelor's degree	
Management Analysts	497	56	11.3%	\$32.67	Bachelor's degree	
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	728	81	11.1%	\$17.86	Bachelor's degree	x
Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	514	57	11.0%	\$27.03	Master's degree	

Source: EMSI, 2017.3

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 2017 to 2020 as a percent of current jobs in each occupation

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High Priority Occupations based on 2017 Central PA HPO list



## Low-Volume Occupations Highest 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	98	21	21.0%	\$14.08	No formal educational credential	
Crossing Guards	99	18	17.9%	\$13.81	No formal educational credential	
Demonstrators and Product Promoters	83	16	19.3%	\$12.62	High school diploma or equivalent	
Healthcare Support Workers, All Other	89	14	15.4%	\$21.17	High school diploma or equivalent	
Helpers--Extraction Workers	99	14	13.8%	\$18.37	High school diploma or equivalent	
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing Machine Operators and Tenders	63	13	21.1%	\$14.09	High school diploma or equivalent	
Pest Control Workers	88	13	14.3%	\$15.09	High school diploma or equivalent	
Life, Physical, and Social Science Technicians, All Other	97	12	12.7%	\$22.01	Associate's degree	
Reporters and Correspondents	97	12	12.7%	\$15.49	Bachelor's degree	
Painters, Transportation Equipment	97	12	12.0%	\$20.53	High school diploma or equivalent	
Health Educators	80	11	14.2%	\$27.25	Bachelor's degree	
Helpers--Electricians	75	11	15.0%	\$13.58	High school diploma or equivalent	
Community Health Workers	79	11	14.0%	\$18.75	High school diploma or equivalent	
Environmental Scientists and Specialists, Including Health	83	11	12.8%	\$30.72	Bachelor's degree	
Community and Social Service Specialists, All Other	70	11	15.2%	\$29.60	Master's degree	
Structural Iron and Steel Workers	88	11	12.1%	\$23.94	High school diploma or equivalent	
Excavating and Loading Machine and Dragline Operators	79	11	13.6%	\$19.92	High school diploma or equivalent	
Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	79	10	13.1%	\$13.45	No formal educational credential	
Print Binding and Finishing Workers	88	10	11.7%	\$16.26	High school diploma or equivalent	
Crushing, Grinding, and Polishing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	89	10	11.6%	\$17.65	High school diploma or equivalent	

Source: EMSI, 2017.3

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

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Textile Bleaching and Dyeing Machine Operators and Tenders	63	13	21.1%	\$14.09	High school diploma or equivalent	
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	98	21	21.0%	\$14.08	No formal educational credential	
Demonstrators and Product Promoters	83	16	19.3%	\$12.62	High school diploma or equivalent	
Tour Guides and Escorts	48	9	18.7%	\$12.57	High school diploma or equivalent	
Crossing Guards	99	18	17.9%	\$13.81	No formal educational credential	
Aircraft Structure, Surfaces, Rigging, and Systems Assemblers	25	4	16.0%	\$22.00	High school diploma or equivalent	
Dental Laboratory Technicians	23	4	15.8%	\$17.68	High school diploma or equivalent	
Healthcare Support Workers, All Other	89	14	15.4%	\$21.17	High school diploma or equivalent	
Morticians, Undertakers, and Funeral Directors	54	8	15.3%	\$20.43	Associate's degree	
Community and Social Service Specialists, All Other	70	11	15.2%	\$29.60	Master's degree	
Forest and Conservation Workers	24	4	15.1%	\$22.60	High school diploma or equivalent	
Helpers--Electricians	75	11	15.0%	\$13.58	High school diploma or equivalent	
Pump Operators, Except Wellhead Pumpers	44	7	15.0%	\$17.00	High school diploma or equivalent	
Helpers--Pipelayers, Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	41	6	14.8%	\$13.98	High school diploma or equivalent	
Derrick Operators, Oil and Gas	45	7	14.8%	\$21.30	No formal educational credential	
Tire Builders	43	6	14.7%	\$15.26	High school diploma or equivalent	
Helpers--Roofers	39	6	14.6%	\$14.06	No formal educational credential	
Helpers--Carpenters	37	5	14.6%	\$13.24	No formal educational credential	
Skincare Specialists	41	6	14.5%	\$13.85	Postsecondary nondegree award	
Pest Control Workers	88	13	14.3%	\$15.09	High school diploma or equivalent	

Source: EMSI, 2017.3

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