

TOP JOBS IN CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

The “Top Jobs” in Central Pennsylvania are identified according to projected job changes from 2018 to 2021 using data from Economic Modeling Specialists, International.

There are 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 (i.e., an Associate’s Degree or Less)***,
2. Occupations with 100 or more jobs with typical entry education levels of a ***Bachelor’s Degree or Higher***, and
3. ***Low-Volume Occupations*** that have less than 100 jobs.

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

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.

Percentages refer to the number of projected annual job openings as a percent of current job levels, which can be considered the rate of projected annual job openings.

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.

The data tables include current median hourly occupational wages. Occupational wages do not include benefits. Furthermore, each Top Job is identified 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						
Highest 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	10,062	1,173	11.7%	\$14.73	High school diploma or equivalent	
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	7,547	794	10.5%	\$15.37	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	5,260	711	13.5%	\$12.60	No formal educational credential	
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	4,644	683	14.7%	\$13.09	No formal educational credential	
Customer Service Representatives	4,392	603	13.7%	\$13.77	High school diploma or equivalent	
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	4,757	551	11.6%	\$20.24	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Nursing Assistants	3,683	467	12.7%	\$13.67	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	4,387	458	10.4%	\$17.39	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Construction Laborers	2,676	312	11.6%	\$15.06	No formal educational credential	
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	2,744	308	11.2%	\$16.54	Some college, no degree	x
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other, Including Team Assemblers	2,572	300	11.7%	\$15.73	High school diploma or equivalent	
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	2,636	278	10.6%	\$15.66	High school diploma or equivalent	
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	1,788	261	14.6%	\$15.53	High school diploma or equivalent	x
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	2,479	259	10.4%	\$24.94	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Bus Drivers, School or Special Client	1,599	209	13.0%	\$14.17	High school diploma or equivalent	
Correctional Officers and Jailers	2,367	207	8.8%	\$25.00	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Carpenters	2,092	203	9.7%	\$16.70	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	1,867	201	10.8%	\$24.27	High school diploma or equivalent	
Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	1,712	192	11.2%	\$12.52	High school diploma or equivalent	
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	2,084	183	8.8%	\$19.75	Postsecondary nondegree award	x

Source: EMSI, 2018.4

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 2018 to 2021

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2018 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
Protective Service Workers, All Other	245	63	25.7%	\$13.27	High school diploma or equivalent	
Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	119	24	19.8%	\$17.32	No formal educational credential	
Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining	193	35	18.3%	\$21.97	No formal educational credential	
Fitness Trainers and Aerobics Instructors	519	95	18.3%	\$13.16	High school diploma or equivalent	
Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	201	37	18.2%	\$12.69	No formal educational credential	x
Slaughterers and Meat Packers	108	18	16.7%	\$13.29	No formal educational credential	
Helpers--Production Workers	939	156	16.6%	\$13.98	High school diploma or equivalent	
Rotary Drill Operators, Oil and Gas	168	27	16.3%	\$27.01	No formal educational credential	
Logging Equipment Operators	207	33	15.8%	\$16.03	High school diploma or equivalent	
Packers and Packagers, Hand	883	139	15.7%	\$14.46	No formal educational credential	
Community Health Workers	108	17	15.5%	\$17.10	High school diploma or equivalent	
Physical Therapist Assistants	233	36	15.3%	\$24.55	Associate's degree	
First-Line Supervisors of Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Workers	111	17	15.3%	\$26.07	High school diploma or equivalent	
Pest Control Workers	105	16	15.2%	\$15.25	High school diploma or equivalent	
Medical Assistants	1,024	155	15.1%	\$14.36	Postsecondary nondegree award	
Occupational Therapy Assistants	163	25	15.1%	\$24.45	Associate's degree	
Medical Equipment Preparers	106	16	15.0%	\$18.53	High school diploma or equivalent	
Telecommunications Line Installers and Repairers	165	25	15.0%	\$24.87	High school diploma or equivalent	
Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	276	41	14.8%	\$37.16	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	4,644	683	14.7%	\$13.09	No formal educational credential	

Source: EMSI, 2018.4

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 2018 to 2021 as a percent of current jobs in each occupation

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2018 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	7,275	529	7.3%	\$29.47	Bachelor's degree	x
Postsecondary Teachers	6,125	524	8.6%	\$35.74	Doctoral or professional degree	
General and Operations Managers	2,647	254	9.6%	\$43.93	Bachelor's degree	x
Accountants and Auditors	1,741	179	10.3%	\$27.96	Bachelor's degree	x
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	2,335	168	7.2%	\$29.45	Bachelor's degree	
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	1,936	134	6.9%	\$28.81	Bachelor's degree	
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	895	114	12.8%	\$20.36	Bachelor's degree	
Substitute Teachers	956	105	11.0%	\$14.03	Bachelor's degree	
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	813	98	12.0%	\$25.22	Bachelor's degree	x
Human Resources Specialists	829	91	11.0%	\$25.85	Bachelor's degree	x
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	701	85	12.1%	\$18.26	Bachelor's degree	x
Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	1,118	80	7.2%	\$28.68	Bachelor's degree	
Managers, All Other	984	79	8.1%	\$20.20	Bachelor's degree	
Buyers and Purchasing Agents	805	77	9.6%	\$25.75	Bachelor's degree	
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	628	76	12.1%	\$33.38	Bachelor's degree	
Clergy	559	73	13.1%	\$21.44	Bachelor's degree	
Medical and Health Services Managers	608	68	11.2%	\$38.91	Bachelor's degree	
Coaches and Scouts	455	67	14.7%	\$14.21	Bachelor's degree	x
Management Analysts	574	63	10.9%	\$28.35	Bachelor's degree	
Financial Managers	625	62	9.9%	\$54.42	Bachelor's degree	x

Source: EMSI, 2018.4

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 2018 to 2021

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2018 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	455	67	14.7%	\$14.21	Bachelor's degree	x
Healthcare Social Workers	292	41	13.9%	\$22.23	Master's degree	
Directors, Religious Activities and Education	300	40	13.4%	\$13.85	Bachelor's degree	
Clergy	559	73	13.1%	\$21.44	Bachelor's degree	
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	286	37	12.8%	\$16.06	Master's degree	
Meeting, Convention, and Event Planners	206	26	12.8%	\$22.33	Bachelor's degree	
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	895	114	12.8%	\$20.36	Bachelor's degree	
Teachers and Instructors, All Other	412	52	12.6%	\$19.84	Bachelor's degree	
Rehabilitation Counselors	458	56	12.2%	\$14.75	Master's degree	
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	701	85	12.1%	\$18.26	Bachelor's degree	x
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	628	76	12.1%	\$33.38	Bachelor's degree	
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	813	98	12.0%	\$25.22	Bachelor's degree	x
Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	454	53	11.7%	\$27.56	Master's degree	
Public Relations Specialists	452	51	11.3%	\$25.39	Bachelor's degree	
Medical and Health Services Managers	608	68	11.2%	\$38.91	Bachelor's degree	
Logisticians	179	20	11.2%	\$30.66	Bachelor's degree	
Training and Development Specialists	418	47	11.2%	\$25.65	Bachelor's degree	
Music Directors and Composers	102	11	11.1%	\$15.20	Bachelor's degree	
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products	396	44	11.0%	\$37.20	Bachelor's degree	
Substitute Teachers	956	105	11.0%	\$14.03	Bachelor's degree	

Source: EMSI, 2018.4

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 2018 to 2021 as a percent of current jobs in each occupation

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2018 Central PA HPO list



Top Jobs						
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
Demonstrators and Product Promoters	82	17	20.4%	\$13.18	No formal educational credential	
Agricultural Equipment Operators	97	16	16.2%	\$18.02	No formal educational credential	x
Health Educators	91	14	15.5%	\$26.90	Bachelor's degree	
Healthcare Support Workers, All Other	93	14	15.1%	\$21.49	High school diploma or equivalent	
Helpers--Extraction Workers	77	13	17.3%	\$18.50	High school diploma or equivalent	
Medical Transcriptionists	98	12	12.6%	\$17.54	Postsecondary nondegree award	
Glaziers	92	12	13.5%	\$17.04	High school diploma or equivalent	
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	69	12	17.9%	\$15.07	No formal educational credential	
Cutting and Slicing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	96	12	12.9%	\$16.96	High school diploma or equivalent	
Surveying and Mapping Technicians	100	12	11.7%	\$22.18	High school diploma or equivalent	
Conveyor Operators and Tenders	83	12	14.0%	\$15.70	No formal educational credential	
Tax Preparers	94	11	12.0%	\$18.75	High school diploma or equivalent	
Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	79	11	14.3%	\$13.18	No formal educational credential	
Statisticians	100	11	11.0%	\$32.46	Master's degree	
Structural Iron and Steel Workers	82	11	13.4%	\$23.50	High school diploma or equivalent	
Community and Social Service Specialists, All Other	62	11	17.3%	\$31.12	Bachelor's degree	
Hazardous Materials Removal Workers	71	11	15.0%	\$19.48	High school diploma or equivalent	
Septic Tank Servicers and Sewer Pipe Cleaners	74	11	14.4%	\$18.34	High school diploma or equivalent	
Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers, and Applicators, Vegetation	82	10	12.7%	\$15.08	High school diploma or equivalent	
Prepress Technicians and Workers	81	10	12.7%	\$17.15	Postsecondary nondegree award	

Source: EMSI, 2018.4

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Top Jobs						
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
Wind Turbine Service Technicians	26	6	21.5%	\$25.99	Postsecondary nondegree award	
Demonstrators and Product Promoters	82	17	20.4%	\$13.18	No formal educational credential	
Wellhead Pumpers	25	5	19.8%	\$18.16	High school diploma or equivalent	
Forest and Conservation Workers	25	5	18.8%	\$22.15	High school diploma or equivalent	
Earth Drillers, Except Oil and Gas	47	9	18.4%	\$19.86	High school diploma or equivalent	
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	69	12	17.9%	\$15.07	No formal educational credential	
Derrick Operators, Oil and Gas	41	7	17.7%	\$22.93	No formal educational credential	
Community and Social Service Specialists, All Other	62	11	17.3%	\$31.12	Bachelor's degree	
Helpers--Extraction Workers	77	13	17.3%	\$18.50	High school diploma or equivalent	
Physical Therapist Aides	57	10	16.8%	\$13.46	High school diploma or equivalent	
Helpers--Pipelayers, Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	53	9	16.3%	\$13.53	High school diploma or equivalent	
Agricultural Equipment Operators	97	16	16.2%	\$18.02	No formal educational credential	x
Petroleum Pump System Operators, Refinery Operators, and Gaugers	27	4	16.1%	\$25.65	High school diploma or equivalent	
Security and Fire Alarm Systems Installers	27	4	16.1%	\$22.55	High school diploma or equivalent	
Pump Operators, Except Wellhead Pumpers	44	7	16.0%	\$22.03	High school diploma or equivalent	
Helpers--Carpenters	46	7	15.9%	\$13.56	No formal educational credential	
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing Machine Operators and Tenders	55	9	15.9%	\$14.34	High school diploma or equivalent	
Helpers--Electricians	63	10	15.8%	\$14.46	High school diploma or equivalent	
Gas Compressor and Gas Pumping Station Operators	32	5	15.7%	\$27.06	High school diploma or equivalent	
Health Educators	91	14	15.5%	\$26.90	Bachelor's degree	

Source: EMSI, 2018.4

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High Priority Occupations based on 2018 Central PA HPO list