

# TOP JOBS IN CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

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The “Top Jobs” in Central Pennsylvania are identified according to projected job changes from 2019 to 2022 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	9,693	1,157	11.9%	\$15.29	High school diploma or equivalent	
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	7,175	795	11.1%	\$15.54	High school diploma or equivalent	
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	5,356	729	13.6%	\$12.88	No formal educational credential	
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	4,754	699	14.7%	\$13.32	No formal educational credential	
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	5,109	644	12.6%	\$20.49	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Customer Service Representatives	4,476	610	13.6%	\$14.15	High school diploma or equivalent	
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	4,398	452	10.3%	\$17.79	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Nursing Assistants	3,362	415	12.3%	\$13.83	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Construction Laborers	2,843	355	12.5%	\$15.93	No formal educational credential	
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other, Including Team Assemblers	2,764	326	11.8%	\$15.12	High school diploma or equivalent	
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	1,964	314	16.0%	\$16.37	High school diploma or equivalent	x
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	2,698	297	11.0%	\$16.87	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	2,507	295	11.8%	\$16.50	Some college, no degree	
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	1,891	272	14.4%	\$13.64	No formal educational credential	
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	2,424	259	10.7%	\$24.77	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Carpenters	2,181	250	11.4%	\$19.03	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Bus Drivers, School or Special Client	1,590	219	13.8%	\$14.41	High school diploma or equivalent	
Correctional Officers and Jailers	2,284	215	9.4%	\$23.84	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	2,244	212	9.4%	\$19.99	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	1,821	201	11.0%	\$24.54	High school diploma or equivalent	

Source: EMSI, 2020.1

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 2019 to 2022

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2019 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	251	63	25.0%	\$13.91	High school diploma or equivalent	
Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	143	31	21.4%	\$15.92	No formal educational credential	
Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining	222	47	21.2%	\$23.69	No formal educational credential	
Rotary Drill Operators, Oil and Gas	159	30	19.1%	\$30.41	No formal educational credential	
Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers	264	50	18.8%	\$13.68	High school diploma or equivalent	
Logging Equipment Operators	199	37	18.4%	\$18.72	High school diploma or equivalent	
Funeral Attendants	119	21	17.9%	\$14.91	High school diploma or equivalent	
First-Line Supervisors of Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Workers	115	20	17.1%	\$26.10	High school diploma or equivalent	
Refuse and Recyclable Material Collectors	243	39	16.2%	\$16.04	No formal educational credential	
Telemarketers	112	18	16.1%	\$13.01	No formal educational credential	
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	1,964	314	16.0%	\$16.37	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Helpers--Production Workers	1,118	176	15.7%	\$12.90	High school diploma or equivalent	
Food Batchmakers	622	97	15.6%	\$14.60	High school diploma or equivalent	
Pest Control Workers	101	16	15.5%	\$15.87	High school diploma or equivalent	
Library Technicians	315	48	15.1%	\$14.35	Postsecondary nondegree award	
Physical Therapist Assistants	268	40	15.0%	\$25.75	Associate's degree	
Woodworking Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Except Sawing	613	92	15.0%	\$14.95	High school diploma or equivalent	
Chefs and Head Cooks	164	24	14.9%	\$28.74	High school diploma or equivalent	
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	4,754	699	14.7%	\$13.32	No formal educational credential	
Medical Assistants	1,086	159	14.7%	\$15.00	Postsecondary nondegree award	x

Source: EMSI, 2020.1

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 2019 to 2022 as a percent of current jobs in each occupation

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2019 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
Postsecondary Teachers	6,473	549	8.5%	\$31.24	Doctoral or professional degree	
Registered Nurses	6,904	492	7.1%	\$31.06	Bachelor's degree	x
General and Operations Managers	2,826	279	9.9%	\$40.37	Bachelor's degree	x
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	2,295	178	7.8%	\$29.86	Bachelor's degree	
Accountants and Auditors	1,784	178	10.0%	\$27.36	Bachelor's degree	x
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	1,757	127	7.2%	\$28.33	Bachelor's degree	
Managers, All Other	1,429	126	8.8%	\$40.76	Bachelor's degree	
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	870	113	13.0%	\$21.52	Bachelor's degree	
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	853	104	12.2%	\$25.95	Bachelor's degree	x
Substitute Teachers	829	95	11.5%	\$15.43	Bachelor's degree	
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	861	92	10.6%	\$17.67	Bachelor's degree	x
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	726	87	12.0%	\$33.10	Bachelor's degree	
Human Resources Specialists	752	80	10.6%	\$25.33	Bachelor's degree	
Management Analysts	687	79	11.6%	\$32.70	Bachelor's degree	
Clergy	582	78	13.4%	\$21.84	Bachelor's degree	
Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	896	70	7.8%	\$29.30	Bachelor's degree	
Medical and Health Services Managers	644	69	10.8%	\$41.65	Bachelor's degree	
Buyers and Purchasing Agents	638	65	10.1%	\$25.46	Bachelor's degree	
Coaches and Scouts	402	63	15.7%	\$14.21	Bachelor's degree	
Financial Managers	639	60	9.4%	\$51.58	Bachelor's degree	

Source: EMSI, 2020.1

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 2019 to 2022

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2019 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	402	63	15.7%	\$14.21	Bachelor's degree	
Healthcare Social Workers	301	41	13.5%	\$22.21	Master's degree	
Community and Social Service Specialists, All Other	146	20	13.5%	\$21.72	Bachelor's degree	
Clergy	582	78	13.4%	\$21.84	Bachelor's degree	
Teachers and Instructors, All Other	419	55	13.2%	\$18.17	Bachelor's degree	
Meeting, Convention, and Event Planners	178	23	13.1%	\$23.56	Bachelor's degree	
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	870	113	13.0%	\$21.52	Bachelor's degree	
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	281	36	12.8%	\$17.42	Master's degree	
Health Educators	144	18	12.5%	\$27.00	Bachelor's degree	
Counselors, All Other	111	14	12.3%	\$19.85	Master's degree	
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	853	104	12.2%	\$25.95	Bachelor's degree	x
Training and Development Specialists	386	46	12.0%	\$25.78	Bachelor's degree	
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	726	87	12.0%	\$33.10	Bachelor's degree	
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products	207	25	11.9%	\$46.41	Bachelor's degree	
Interpreters and Translators	126	15	11.9%	\$18.51	Bachelor's degree	
Rehabilitation Counselors	387	46	11.8%	\$16.39	Master's degree	
Environmental Scientists and Specialists, Including Health	130	15	11.8%	\$21.93	Bachelor's degree	
Writers and Authors	151	18	11.7%	\$19.28	Bachelor's degree	
Editors	148	17	11.7%	\$18.68	Bachelor's degree	
Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	362	42	11.6%	\$28.06	Master's degree	

Source: EMSI, 2020.1

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 2019 to 2022 as a percent of current jobs in each occupation

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2019 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
Agricultural Equipment Operators	88	16	18.5%	\$16.28	No formal educational credential	
Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	97	15	15.8%	\$24.45	High school diploma or equivalent	
Crossing Guards	76	15	19.3%	\$13.49	No formal educational credential	
Cutting and Slicing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	100	13	13.4%	\$15.44	High school diploma or equivalent	
Music Directors and Composers	96	13	13.6%	\$17.61	Bachelor's degree	
Tree Trimmers and Pruners	85	13	15.2%	\$13.14	High school diploma or equivalent	
Animal Trainers	74	13	17.0%	\$12.95	High school diploma or equivalent	
Manicurists and Pedicurists	99	13	12.8%	\$13.96	Postsecondary nondegree award	
Tour and Travel Guides	72	13	17.7%	\$13.09	High school diploma or equivalent	
Surveying and Mapping Technicians	96	12	12.8%	\$19.76	High school diploma or equivalent	
Structural Iron and Steel Workers	86	12	14.3%	\$28.45	High school diploma or equivalent	
First-Line Supervisors of Protective Service Workers, All Other	92	12	13.0%	\$13.94	High school diploma or equivalent	
Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	70	12	16.8%	\$12.60	No formal educational credential	
Derrick Operators, Oil and Gas	58	11	19.5%	\$28.16	No formal educational credential	
Radio and Television Announcers	84	11	13.1%	\$29.66	Bachelor's degree	
Telecommunications Line Installers and Repairers	94	11	11.7%	\$29.73	High school diploma or equivalent	
Social Workers, All Other	92	11	11.6%	\$30.77	Bachelor's degree	
Broadcast Technicians	87	11	12.2%	\$29.15	Associate's degree	
Orderlies	90	11	11.8%	\$13.48	High school diploma or equivalent	
Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, and Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	79	11	13.5%	\$22.20	High school diploma or equivalent	

Source: EMSI, 2020.1

Criteria: Occupations have less than 100 jobs and median hourly wages of \$12.50 or more  
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Top Jobs						
Low-Volume Occupations						
<i>Highest Percentage of Projected Job Openings</i>						
Occupation	Jobs	Projected Annual Job Openings	Projected Annual Job Openings (%)	Median Hourly Wages	Typical Entry Level Education	High Priority Occupation
Helpers--Extraction Workers	40	9	21.5%	\$25.77	High school diploma or equivalent	
Forest and Conservation Workers	27	6	20.8%	\$16.74	High school diploma or equivalent	
Derrick Operators, Oil and Gas	58	11	19.5%	\$28.16	No formal educational credential	
Crossing Guards	76	15	19.3%	\$13.49	No formal educational credential	
Earth Drillers, Except Oil and Gas	45	9	19.3%	\$19.54	High school diploma or equivalent	
Fallers	28	5	19.1%	\$13.04	High school diploma or equivalent	
Agricultural Equipment Operators	88	16	18.5%	\$16.28	No formal educational credential	
Log Graders and Scalers	25	5	18.4%	\$14.11	High school diploma or equivalent	
Tour and Travel Guides	72	13	17.7%	\$13.09	High school diploma or equivalent	
Petroleum Engineers	23	4	17.5%	\$49.43	Bachelor's degree	
Petroleum Pump System Operators, Refinery Operators, and Gaugers	39	7	17.3%	\$26.54	High school diploma or equivalent	
Animal Trainers	74	13	17.0%	\$12.95	High school diploma or equivalent	
Fishers and Related Fishing Workers	29	5	17.0%	\$12.74	No formal educational credential	
Wind Turbine Service Technicians	38	6	16.8%	\$25.20	Postsecondary nondegree award	
Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	70	12	16.8%	\$12.60	No formal educational credential	
Food Cooking Machine Operators and Tenders	52	9	16.7%	\$14.27	High school diploma or equivalent	
Security and Fire Alarm Systems Installers	42	7	16.6%	\$17.20	High school diploma or equivalent	
Slaughterers and Meat Packers	53	9	16.5%	\$13.80	No formal educational credential	
Geological and Petroleum Technicians	22	4	16.3%	\$20.98	Associate's degree	
Agricultural Inspectors	45	7	16.2%	\$24.41	Bachelor's degree	

Source: EMSI, 2020.1

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 2019 Central PA HPO list