

TOP JOBS IN CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

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 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	9,246	1,105	12.0%	\$14.27	High school diploma or equivalent	
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	7,559	822	10.9%	\$15.40	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Customer Service Representatives	4,188	601	14.4%	\$12.93	High school diploma or equivalent	
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	4,844	577	11.9%	\$20.26	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Nursing Assistants	3,602	480	13.3%	\$13.29	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	4,183	441	10.5%	\$16.90	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Team Assemblers	2,673	342	12.8%	\$14.48	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	2,915	322	11.0%	\$16.50	Some college, no degree	x
Construction Laborers	2,623	301	11.5%	\$14.91	No formal educational credential	
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	2,539	274	10.8%	\$15.77	High school diploma or equivalent	
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	2,159	241	11.2%	\$24.27	High school diploma or equivalent	x
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	1,598	237	14.8%	\$15.68	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	2,022	222	11.0%	\$25.06	High school diploma or equivalent	
Bus Drivers, School or Special Client	1,591	211	13.2%	\$14.57	High school diploma or equivalent	
Correctional Officers and Jailers	2,129	205	9.6%	\$24.28	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	2,218	199	9.0%	\$19.65	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Carpenters	2,038	198	9.7%	\$16.64	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	1,650	187	11.3%	\$13.37	High school diploma or equivalent	
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	1,539	171	11.1%	\$12.83	High school diploma or equivalent	
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	1,669	165	9.9%	\$14.12	Postsecondary nondegree award	x

Source: EMSI, 2018.1

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 2017 to 2020

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2017 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	244	63	25.7%	\$15.11	High school diploma or equivalent	
Fitness Trainers and Aerobics Instructors	495	88	17.8%	\$13.55	High school diploma or equivalent	
Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining	121	20	16.8%	\$21.20	No formal educational credential	
Agricultural Equipment Operators	135	23	16.8%	\$15.31	No formal educational credential	x
Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	177	29	16.6%	\$12.95	No formal educational credential	x
Occupational Therapy Assistants	132	22	16.4%	\$23.00	Associate's degree	
Logging Equipment Operators	214	35	16.3%	\$15.59	High school diploma or equivalent	
Packers and Packagers, Hand	906	147	16.2%	\$13.20	No formal educational credential	
Physical Therapist Assistants	223	36	16.1%	\$22.16	Associate's degree	
Helpers--Production Workers	895	143	16.0%	\$13.67	High school diploma or equivalent	
Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks	313	50	15.9%	\$17.38	High school diploma or equivalent	
Medical Equipment Preparers	118	18	15.3%	\$18.21	High school diploma or equivalent	
Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	138	21	15.3%	\$17.50	No formal educational credential	
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	1,598	237	14.8%	\$15.68	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators	356	53	14.8%	\$25.07	High school diploma or equivalent	
Sales and Related Workers, All Other	124	18	14.8%	\$21.79	High school diploma or equivalent	
Food Cooking Machine Operators and Tenders	109	16	14.7%	\$16.89	High school diploma or equivalent	
Rotary Drill Operators, Oil and Gas	125	18	14.7%	\$24.74	No formal educational credential	
Separating, Filtering, Clarifying, Precipitating, and Still Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	100	15	14.6%	\$17.78	High school diploma or equivalent	
First-Line Supervisors of Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Workers	119	17	14.6%	\$25.43	High school diploma or equivalent	

Source: EMSI, 2018.1

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 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	7,471	546	7.3%	\$29.04	Bachelor's degree	x
Postsecondary Teachers	6,194	526	8.5%	\$35.50	Doctoral or professional degree	
General and Operations Managers	2,446	236	9.6%	\$43.10	Bachelor's degree	x
Accountants and Auditors	1,765	184	10.4%	\$27.93	Bachelor's degree	x
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	2,029	144	7.1%	\$28.95	Bachelor's degree	
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	1,715	118	6.9%	\$27.98	Bachelor's degree	
Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	1,271	90	7.1%	\$27.45	Bachelor's degree	
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	733	88	12.0%	\$24.55	Bachelor's degree	x
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	739	85	11.5%	\$32.03	Bachelor's degree	
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	724	83	11.4%	\$17.36	Bachelor's degree	x
Managers, All Other	920	76	8.3%	\$19.61	Bachelor's degree	
Clergy	555	73	13.2%	\$20.91	Bachelor's degree	
Human Resources Specialists	657	72	11.0%	\$25.42	Bachelor's degree	x
Mental Health Counselors	545	70	12.8%	\$21.39	Master's degree	
Substitute Teachers	623	69	11.0%	\$13.70	Bachelor's degree	
Medical and Health Services Managers	628	65	10.3%	\$38.22	Bachelor's degree	
Computer Systems Analysts	684	64	9.3%	\$39.75	Bachelor's degree	
Coaches and Scouts	462	63	13.7%	\$14.10	Bachelor's degree	x
Teachers and Instructors, All Other	526	63	11.9%	\$19.06	Bachelor's degree	
Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	519	58	11.1%	\$27.13	Master's degree	

Source: EMSI, 2018.1

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 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
Healthcare Social Workers	231	33	14.3%	\$22.65	Master's degree	
Coaches and Scouts	462	63	13.7%	\$14.10	Bachelor's degree	x
Meeting, Convention, and Event Planners	184	25	13.4%	\$21.37	Bachelor's degree	
Clergy	555	73	13.2%	\$20.91	Bachelor's degree	
Directors, Religious Activities and Education	269	35	13.1%	\$13.85	Bachelor's degree	
Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors	310	40	13.0%	\$20.91	Bachelor's degree	
Wholesale and Retail Buyers, Except Farm Products	137	18	12.9%	\$20.63	Bachelor's degree	
Mental Health Counselors	545	70	12.8%	\$21.39	Master's degree	
Rehabilitation Counselors	357	45	12.5%	\$16.24	Master's degree	
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products	232	29	12.5%	\$36.63	Bachelor's degree	
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	378	47	12.4%	\$16.14	Master's degree	
Adult Basic and Secondary Education and Literacy Teachers and Instructors	105	13	12.4%	\$25.36	Bachelor's degree	
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	733	88	12.0%	\$24.55	Bachelor's degree	x
Teachers and Instructors, All Other	526	63	11.9%	\$19.06	Bachelor's degree	
Logisticians	139	16	11.7%	\$29.81	Bachelor's degree	
Training and Development Specialists	336	39	11.6%	\$24.97	Bachelor's degree	
Producers and Directors	105	12	11.5%	\$25.00	Bachelor's degree	
Management Analysts	500	57	11.5%	\$27.42	Bachelor's degree	
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	739	85	11.5%	\$32.03	Bachelor's degree	
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	724	83	11.4%	\$17.36	Bachelor's degree	x

Source: EMSI, 2018.1

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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

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
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	95	19	20.4%	\$14.18	No formal educational credential	
Crossing Guards	98	18	18.7%	\$14.15	No formal educational credential	
Helpers--Extraction Workers	96	14	14.7%	\$18.01	High school diploma or equivalent	
Healthcare Support Workers, All Other	87	14	15.8%	\$20.81	High school diploma or equivalent	
Pest Control Workers	85	13	15.6%	\$15.34	High school diploma or equivalent	
Insurance Underwriters	97	13	13.4%	\$30.71	Bachelor's degree	
Life, Physical, and Social Science Technicians, All Other	97	13	13.1%	\$21.93	Associate's degree	
Health Educators	79	12	15.6%	\$27.42	Bachelor's degree	
Community and Social Service Specialists, All Other	80	12	15.4%	\$26.43	Bachelor's degree	
Helpers--Electricians	76	12	16.3%	\$13.35	High school diploma or equivalent	
Print Binding and Finishing Workers	93	12	13.2%	\$15.97	High school diploma or equivalent	
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing Machine Operators and Tenders	55	12	22.3%	\$14.16	High school diploma or equivalent	
Community Health Workers	79	12	15.2%	\$18.77	High school diploma or equivalent	
Glaziers	87	12	13.5%	\$17.49	High school diploma or equivalent	
Earth Drillers, Except Oil and Gas	76	12	15.3%	\$19.61	High school diploma or equivalent	
Painters, Transportation Equipment	96	12	12.1%	\$20.54	High school diploma or equivalent	
Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	78	11	14.5%	\$13.10	No formal educational credential	
Structural Iron and Steel Workers	90	11	12.6%	\$23.58	High school diploma or equivalent	
Textile Cutting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	82	11	13.4%	\$17.19	High school diploma or equivalent	
Interpreters and Translators	78	11	13.6%	\$21.36	Bachelor's degree	

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Textile Bleaching and Dyeing Machine Operators and Tenders	55	12	22.3%	\$14.16	High school diploma or equivalent	
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	95	19	20.4%	\$14.18	No formal educational credential	
Crossing Guards	98	18	18.7%	\$14.15	No formal educational credential	
Forest and Conservation Workers	24	4	17.9%	\$23.88	High school diploma or equivalent	
Aircraft Structure, Surfaces, Rigging, and Systems Assemblers	24	4	16.9%	\$22.00	High school diploma or equivalent	
Helpers--Electricians	76	12	16.3%	\$13.35	High school diploma or equivalent	
Helpers--Pipelayers, Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	43	7	16.2%	\$14.18	High school diploma or equivalent	
Helpers--Carpenters	37	6	16.2%	\$13.41	No formal educational credential	
Helpers--Roofers	39	6	16.1%	\$14.15	No formal educational credential	
Pump Operators, Except Wellhead Pumpers	42	7	16.0%	\$17.76	High school diploma or equivalent	
Healthcare Support Workers, All Other	87	14	15.8%	\$20.81	High school diploma or equivalent	
Pest Control Workers	85	13	15.6%	\$15.34	High school diploma or equivalent	
Health Educators	79	12	15.6%	\$27.42	Bachelor's degree	
Derrick Operators, Oil and Gas	41	6	15.5%	\$21.61	No formal educational credential	
Community and Social Service Specialists, All Other	80	12	15.4%	\$26.43	Bachelor's degree	
Earth Drillers, Except Oil and Gas	76	12	15.3%	\$19.61	High school diploma or equivalent	
Community Health Workers	79	12	15.2%	\$18.77	High school diploma or equivalent	
Morticians, Undertakers, and Funeral Directors	53	8	15.2%	\$19.59	Associate's degree	
Fallers	31	5	15.2%	\$17.42	High school diploma or equivalent	
Occupational Therapy Aides	31	5	15.0%	\$13.72	High school diploma or equivalent	

Source: EMSI, 2018.1

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