

TOP JOBS IN CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

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	9,190	1,097	11.9%	\$15.98	High school diploma or equivalent	
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	6,825	755	11.1%	\$16.22	High school diploma or equivalent	
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	5,272	719	13.6%	\$12.86	No formal educational credential	
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	5,506	688	12.5%	\$21.24	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	4,178	624	14.9%	\$13.69	No formal educational credential	
Customer Service Representatives	4,233	581	13.7%	\$14.92	High school diploma or equivalent	
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	4,179	427	10.2%	\$18.60	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Nursing Assistants	3,324	407	12.3%	\$14.33	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	3,261	388	11.9%	\$15.80	High school diploma or equivalent	
Construction Laborers	2,650	333	12.6%	\$16.61	No formal educational credential	
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	2,042	326	16.0%	\$16.51	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	2,726	320	11.7%	\$15.84	Some college, no degree	
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	2,670	299	11.2%	\$16.65	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Passenger Vehicle Drivers, Except Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity	2,105	296	14.1%	\$13.78	High school diploma or equivalent	
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	1,976	290	14.7%	\$13.82	No formal educational credential	
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	2,552	272	10.6%	\$25.04	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Receptionists and Information Clerks	1,692	251	14.8%	\$12.79	High school diploma or equivalent	
Carpenters	2,174	250	11.5%	\$19.36	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Correctional Officers and Jailers	2,273	208	9.2%	\$25.81	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	2,151	202	9.4%	\$21.23	Postsecondary nondegree award	x

Source: EMSI, 2020.3

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 2019 to 2022

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2020 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
School Bus Monitors and Protective Service Workers, All Other	190	48	25.1%	\$15.82	High school diploma or equivalent	
Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	126	30	23.7%	\$19.03	No formal educational credential	
Demonstrators and Product Promoters	113	22	19.4%	\$13.29	No formal educational credential	
Agricultural Workers, All Other	116	22	19.2%	\$17.95	No formal educational credential	
Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers	331	62	18.6%	\$15.05	High school diploma or equivalent	
Logging Equipment Operators	163	30	18.6%	\$17.87	High school diploma or equivalent	
Recreation Workers	617	112	18.1%	\$12.77	High school diploma or equivalent	
Food Preparation and Serving Related Workers, All Other	160	29	17.9%	\$14.05	No formal educational credential	
Service Unit Operators, Oil and Gas	432	75	17.4%	\$22.59	No formal educational credential	
Funeral Attendants	177	31	17.3%	\$15.70	High school diploma or equivalent	
First-Line Supervisors of Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Workers	149	26	17.2%	\$26.51	High school diploma or equivalent	
Refuse and Recyclable Material Collectors	227	39	17.0%	\$15.84	No formal educational credential	
Helpers--Production Workers	589	96	16.2%	\$14.10	High school diploma or equivalent	
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	157	25	16.1%	\$14.79	No formal educational credential	
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	2,042	326	16.0%	\$16.51	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	160	25	15.7%	\$16.33	High school diploma or equivalent	
Woodworking Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Except Sawing	600	94	15.7%	\$15.74	High school diploma or equivalent	
Food Batchmakers	649	101	15.6%	\$16.19	High school diploma or equivalent	
Library Technicians	257	39	15.2%	\$13.78	Postsecondary nondegree award	
Structural Iron and Steel Workers	103	16	15.1%	\$27.09	High school diploma or equivalent	

Source: EMSI, 2020.3

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

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2020 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	6,024	524	8.7%	\$33.99	Doctoral or professional degree	
Registered Nurses	6,825	475	7.0%	\$32.36	Bachelor's degree	x
General and Operations Managers	2,990	300	10.0%	\$41.57	Bachelor's degree	x
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	2,559	197	7.7%	\$29.49	Bachelor's degree	
Accountants and Auditors	1,581	160	10.1%	\$28.20	Bachelor's degree	x
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	2,072	149	7.2%	\$29.42	Bachelor's degree	
Project Management Specialists and Business Operations Specialists, All Other	1,327	145	11.0%	\$32.24	Bachelor's degree	
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	850	114	13.5%	\$19.90	Bachelor's degree	
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	1,052	112	10.7%	\$17.92	Bachelor's degree	x
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	787	97	12.3%	\$28.68	Bachelor's degree	x
Human Resources Specialists	856	92	10.8%	\$25.88	Bachelor's degree	
Personal Service Managers, All Other; Entertainment and Recreation Managers, Except Gambling; and Managers, All Other	970	91	9.4%	\$31.92	Bachelor's degree	
Clergy	626	84	13.4%	\$20.89	Bachelor's degree	
Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers	817	82	10.0%	\$42.81	Bachelor's degree	
Medical and Health Services Managers	761	80	10.6%	\$42.64	Bachelor's degree	
Substitute Teachers, Short-Term	678	79	11.7%	\$15.30	Bachelor's degree	
Management Analysts	691	78	11.3%	\$34.93	Bachelor's degree	
Coaches and Scouts	496	76	15.3%	\$14.09	Bachelor's degree	
Financial Managers	719	69	9.6%	\$50.41	Bachelor's degree	
Tutors and Teachers and Instructors, All Other	542	68	12.5%	\$21.83	Bachelor's degree	

Source: EMSI, 2020.3

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 2019 to 2022

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2020 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	496	76	15.3%	\$14.09	Bachelor's degree	
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	260	36	13.7%	\$17.74	Master's degree	
Healthcare Social Workers	312	42	13.6%	\$22.63	Master's degree	
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	850	114	13.5%	\$19.90	Bachelor's degree	
Clergy	626	84	13.4%	\$20.89	Bachelor's degree	
Community and Social Service Specialists, All Other	179	23	13.0%	\$21.46	Bachelor's degree	
Meeting, Convention, and Event Planners	166	21	12.9%	\$23.57	Bachelor's degree	
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products	182	23	12.8%	\$34.12	Bachelor's degree	
Health Education Specialists	132	17	12.7%	\$23.70	Bachelor's degree	
Tutors and Teachers and Instructors, All Other	542	68	12.5%	\$21.83	Bachelor's degree	
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	787	97	12.3%	\$28.68	Bachelor's degree	x
Training and Development Specialists	357	44	12.2%	\$25.74	Bachelor's degree	
Counselors, All Other	130	16	12.1%	\$23.70	Master's degree	
Social Science Research Assistants	107	13	11.9%	\$15.57	Bachelor's degree	
Art Directors	121	14	11.8%	\$18.68	Bachelor's degree	
Writers and Authors	163	19	11.7%	\$22.58	Bachelor's degree	
Substitute Teachers, Short-Term	678	79	11.7%	\$15.30	Bachelor's degree	
Rehabilitation Counselors	213	25	11.6%	\$19.03	Master's degree	
Public Relations Specialists	337	38	11.4%	\$20.28	Bachelor's degree	
Management Analysts	691	78	11.3%	\$34.93	Bachelor's degree	

Source: EMSI, 2020.3

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Results sorted based on projected annual job openings (new and replacement) from 2019 to 2022 as a percent of current jobs in each occupation

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High Priority Occupations based on 2020 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
Motor Vehicle Operators, All Other	98	18	18.0%	\$13.50	No formal educational credential	
First-Line Supervisors of Gambling Services Workers	100	17	17.1%	\$22.31	High school diploma or equivalent	
Helpers--Pipelayers, Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	96	15	15.7%	\$13.88	High school diploma or equivalent	
Teaching Assistants, Postsecondary	60	14	24.0%	\$34.75	Bachelor's degree	
Ophthalmic Laboratory Technicians	98	14	14.3%	\$15.00	High school diploma or equivalent	
Music Directors and Composers	99	14	13.7%	\$17.24	Bachelor's degree	
Computer, Automated Teller, and Office Machine Repairers	91	13	14.7%	\$13.69	Some college, no degree	
Marriage and Family Therapists	83	13	15.3%	\$23.72	Master's degree	
Pest Control Workers	79	12	15.7%	\$17.08	High school diploma or equivalent	
Animal Trainers	67	12	18.4%	\$13.25	High school diploma or equivalent	
Fine Artists, Including Painters, Sculptors, and Illustrators	94	12	12.7%	\$18.19	Bachelor's degree	
Rotary Drill Operators, Oil and Gas	51	12	23.6%	\$21.37	No formal educational credential	
Prepress Technicians and Workers	94	12	12.8%	\$19.07	Postsecondary nondegree award	
Upholsterers	99	12	11.8%	\$15.47	High school diploma or equivalent	
Helpers--Carpenters	72	11	15.7%	\$16.63	No formal educational credential	
Earth Drillers, Except Oil and Gas; and Explosives Workers, Ordnance Handling Experts, and Blasters	70	11	16.1%	\$21.39	High school diploma or equivalent	
Furniture Finishers	99	11	11.5%	\$18.27	High school diploma or equivalent	
Woodworkers, All Other	78	11	14.5%	\$22.71	High school diploma or equivalent	
Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians	95	11	11.6%	\$23.83	Associate's degree	
Environmental Scientists and Specialists, Including Health	95	11	11.6%	\$25.61	Bachelor's degree	

Source: EMSI, 2020.3

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Low-Volume Occupations						
Highest Percentage of Projected Job Openings						
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Teaching Assistants, Postsecondary	60	14	24.0%	\$34.75	Bachelor's degree	
Rotary Drill Operators, Oil and Gas	51	12	23.6%	\$21.37	No formal educational credential	
Helpers--Extraction Workers	18	4	22.6%	\$18.18	High school diploma or equivalent	
Wind Turbine Service Technicians	34	7	21.7%	\$31.01	Postsecondary nondegree award	
Forest and Conservation Workers	25	5	21.2%	\$17.24	High school diploma or equivalent	
Log Graders and Scalers	39	8	19.5%	\$16.27	High school diploma or equivalent	
Fallers	50	9	18.5%	\$20.25	High school diploma or equivalent	
Engine and Other Machine Assemblers	20	4	18.4%	\$21.94	High school diploma or equivalent	
Animal Trainers	67	12	18.4%	\$13.25	High school diploma or equivalent	
Slaughterers and Meat Packers	46	8	18.3%	\$14.66	No formal educational credential	
Motor Vehicle Operators, All Other	98	18	18.0%	\$13.50	No formal educational credential	
Roof Bolters, Mining	33	6	17.2%	\$33.95	High school diploma or equivalent	
First-Line Supervisors of Gambling Services Workers	100	17	17.1%	\$22.31	High school diploma or equivalent	
Concierges	31	5	17.0%	\$13.00	High school diploma or equivalent	
Pump Operators, Except Wellhead Pumpers	27	4	16.3%	\$35.21	High school diploma or equivalent	
Psychiatric Aides	61	10	16.3%	\$16.61	High school diploma or equivalent	
Food Cooking Machine Operators and Tenders	54	9	16.2%	\$16.01	High school diploma or equivalent	
Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products	68	11	16.1%	\$16.30	No formal educational credential	
Earth Drillers, Except Oil and Gas; and Explosives Workers, Ordnance Handling Experts, and Blasters	70	11	16.1%	\$21.39	High school diploma or equivalent	
Cooks, All Other	41	7	16.1%	\$13.14	No formal educational credential	

Source: EMSI, 2020.3

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High Priority Occupations based on 2020 Central PA HPO list