

2025 Where-the-jobs-are Occupations^{1,2,3}

SOC	Occupation Title	Employment Growth				Annual Openings				Typical Education Needed for Entry into Occupation	Median Hourly Wage 2023
		Annual Averages		Net Change	Percent Change	Due to Exits from Workforce	Due to Transfers between Occupations	Due to New Job Growth	Total Openings		
		2022	2032								
00-0000	Total, All Occupations	3,465,636	3,982,800	517,164	14.9	176,967	225,465	51,716	454,148	-	\$22.54
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	104,811	123,045	18,234	17.4	2,837	6,119	1,823	10,779	Bachelor's degree	\$48.54
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	75,276	83,453	8,177	10.9	5,210	6,283	818	12,311	No formal educational credential	\$14.37
35-3023	Fast Food and Counter Workers	71,660	85,032	13,372	18.7	8,652	9,235	1,337	19,224	No formal educational credential	\$11.33
41-2011	Cashiers	69,155	72,634	3,479	5.0	6,819	6,870	348	14,037	No formal educational credential	\$13.29
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	66,852	70,023	3,171	4.7	3,825	5,367	317	9,509	High school diploma or equivalent	\$18.12
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	61,959	72,723	10,764	17.4	3,216	5,472	1,076	9,764	No formal educational credential	\$17.46
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	60,768	73,017	12,249	20.2	4,161	6,549	1,225	11,935	High school diploma or equivalent	\$17.25
29-1141	Registered Nurses	60,722	70,730	10,008	16.5	2,182	1,352	1,001	4,535	Bachelor's degree	\$44.68
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	53,795	64,684	10,889	20.2	2,682	3,470	1,089	7,241	Postsecondary nondegree award	\$24.39
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	52,621	58,908	6,287	11.9	4,797	6,739	629	12,165	No formal educational credential	\$12.32
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	50,228	58,207	7,979	15.9	3,776	3,770	798	8,344	No formal educational credential	\$13.80
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	49,019	51,029	2,010	4.1	3,023	2,941	201	6,165	High school diploma or equivalent	\$17.92
47-2061	Construction Laborers	48,532	55,477	6,945	14.3	1,797	2,624	694	5,115	No formal educational credential	\$17.91
43-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	42,002	44,589	2,587	6.2	1,812	2,321	259	4,392	High school diploma or equivalent	\$30.08
43-6014	Secretaries and Admin. Assistants, Ex. Legal, Medical, and Executive	41,655	40,651	-1,004	-2.4	2,396	2,166	-100	4,462	High school diploma or equivalent	\$20.00
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	36,127	42,558	6,431	17.8	1,321	1,293	643	3,257	Bachelor's degree	\$31.08
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	32,830	34,588	1,758	5.4	2,185	1,718	176	4,079	Some college, no degree	\$22.26
35-2021	Food Preparation Workers	32,081	35,554	3,473	10.8	2,998	3,009	347	6,354	No formal educational credential	\$13.28
41-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	30,981	33,165	2,184	7.0	1,250	1,892	218	3,360	High school diploma or equivalent	\$21.62
49-9071	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	30,715	35,832	5,117	16.7	1,466	1,519	512	3,497	High school diploma or equivalent	\$19.41
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	30,547	42,952	12,405	40.6	2,506	2,996	1,240	6,742	No formal educational credential	\$14.41
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	30,428	36,022	5,594	18.4	1,026	1,504	559	3,089	Bachelor's degree	\$39.29
47-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	29,299	33,210	3,911	13.3	1,040	1,420	391	2,851	High school diploma or equivalent	\$34.43
35-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	28,955	35,407	6,452	22.3	1,620	3,082	645	5,347	High school diploma or equivalent	\$17.01
43-4171	Receptionists and Information Clerks	27,582	30,630	3,048	11.1	1,842	2,023	305	4,170	High school diploma or equivalent	\$16.37
33-9032	Security Guards	27,354	31,940	4,586	16.8	1,714	2,204	459	4,377	High school diploma or equivalent	\$14.52
13-1082	Project Management Specialists	26,663	30,929	4,266	16.0	659	1,326	427	2,412	Bachelor's degree	\$46.71
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Ex. Technical and Scientific	25,166	29,518	4,352	17.3	910	1,494	435	2,839	High school diploma or equivalent	\$30.05
25-2031	Secondary School Teachers, Ex. Special and CTE	24,588	29,102	4,514	18.4	779	866	451	2,096	Bachelor's degree	\$31.86
25-9045	Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary	23,884	27,997	4,113	17.2	1,479	1,534	411	3,424	Some college, no degree	\$14.23
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	23,710	23,765	55	0.2	1,658	791	6	2,455	High school diploma or equivalent	\$36.53
41-3091	Sales Reps. of Svcs., Except Advertising, Insurance, Fin. Services, and Travel	22,761	26,681	3,920	17.2	634	1,674	392	2,700	High school diploma or equivalent	\$28.99
11-9199	Managers, All Other	22,624	25,989	3,365	14.9	742	1,016	336	2,094	Bachelor's degree	\$65.67
39-9011	Childcare Workers	22,565	25,205	2,640	11.7	1,724	2,227	264	4,215	High school diploma or equivalent	\$13.41
41-9022	Real Estate Sales Agents	22,401	26,032	3,631	16.2	1,130	878	363	2,371	High school diploma or equivalent	\$24.36
43-5071	Shipping, Receiving, and Inventory Clerks	21,712	23,022	1,310	6.0	922	1,332	131	2,385	High school diploma or equivalent	\$17.71
37-3011	Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	20,625	23,984	3,359	16.3	1,109	1,732	336	3,177	No formal educational credential	\$17.01
47-2111	Electricians	20,281	23,770	3,489	17.2	732	1,186	349	2,267	High school diploma or equivalent	\$28.60
53-3033	Light Truck Drivers	20,256	25,539	5,283	26.1	1,037	1,341	528	2,906	High school diploma or equivalent	\$20.42
15-1252	Software Developers	19,802	28,367	8,565	43.3	413	862	856	2,131	Bachelor's degree	\$60.44
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	19,521	24,444	4,923	25.2	704	1,404	492	2,600	No formal educational credential	\$21.04
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	19,052	21,480	2,428	12.7	1,509	1,361	243	3,113	No formal educational credential	\$14.02

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		Annual Averages		Net Change	Percent Change	Due to Exits from Workforce	Due to Transfers between Occupations	Due to New Job Growth	Total Openings		
		2022	2032								
11-9021	Construction Managers	18,681	21,498	2,817	15.1	503	911	282	1,696	Bachelor's degree	\$48.50
25-3031	Substitute Teachers, Short-Term	18,247	22,417	4,170	22.9	1,269	1,154	417	2,840	Bachelor's degree	\$15.13
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	18,060	20,982	2,922	16.2	1,236	1,528	292	3,056	Postsecondary nondegree award	\$17.14
49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	17,572	19,947	2,375	13.5	652	928	238	1,818	Postsecondary nondegree award	\$22.78
51-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	17,567	19,425	1,858	10.6	666	1,044	186	1,896	High school diploma or equivalent	\$33.29
23-1011	Lawyers	17,128	21,803	4,675	27.3	453	293	468	1,214	Doctoral or professional degree	\$72.82
49-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers	17,059	19,509	2,450	14.4	704	794	245	1,743	High school diploma or equivalent	\$35.95
13-1071	Human Resources Specialists	16,822	20,334	3,512	20.9	555	964	351	1,870	Bachelor's degree	\$30.39
31-9092	Medical Assistants	16,692	21,116	4,424	26.5	887	1,519	442	2,848	Postsecondary nondegree award	\$18.63
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	16,666	18,737	2,071	12.4	536	1,173	207	1,916	High school diploma or equivalent	\$24.94
25-2022	Middle School Teachers, Ex. Special and CTE	16,664	19,687	3,023	18.1	610	597	302	1,509	Bachelor's degree	\$31.93
11-2022	Sales Managers	16,453	19,466	3,013	18.3	437	863	301	1,601	Bachelor's degree	\$62.50
13-1199	Business Operations Specialists, All Other	16,346	19,510	3,164	19.4	597	930	316	1,843	Bachelor's degree	\$38.10
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	15,881	16,641	760	4.8	682	1,173	76	1,931	High school diploma or equivalent	\$21.68
11-3031	Financial Managers	15,510	20,146	4,636	29.9	459	728	464	1,651	Bachelor's degree	\$78.90
33-3051	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	15,477	17,650	2,173	14.0	484	773	217	1,474	High school diploma or equivalent	\$33.21
53-1047	First-Line Sprv. of Transportation and Material Moving Workers, Ex. Aircraft Cargo	14,930	17,842	2,912	19.5	554	1,073	291	1,918	High school diploma or equivalent	\$28.13
25-2011	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	14,563	17,643	3,080	21.2	737	950	308	1,995	Associate's degree	\$16.46
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	13,728	17,253	3,525	25.7	550	641	352	1,543	High school diploma or equivalent	\$29.90
43-6013	Medical Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	13,475	15,818	2,343	17.4	777	742	234	1,753	High school diploma or equivalent	\$18.39
15-1232	Computer User Support Specialists	13,377	16,212	2,835	21.2	363	607	284	1,254	Some college, no degree	\$26.45
47-2031	Carpenters	13,164	14,223	1,059	8.0	477	645	106	1,228	High school diploma or equivalent	\$23.00
39-5012	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	12,984	15,197	2,213	17.0	840	1,059	221	2,120	Postsecondary nondegree award	\$14.23
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	12,906	14,764	1,858	14.4	561	486	186	1,233	Postsecondary nondegree award	\$28.37
21-2011	Clergy	12,578	13,750	1,172	9.3	526	543	117	1,186	Bachelor's degree	\$27.59
35-9011	Dining Room and Cafeteria Attendants and Bartender Helpers	12,246	14,764	2,518	20.6	1,294	1,217	252	2,763	No formal educational credential	\$11.79
35-3011	Bartenders	12,229	14,447	2,218	18.1	724	1,556	222	2,502	No formal educational credential	\$12.46
53-3031	Driver/Sales Workers	12,200	15,093	2,893	23.7	618	799	289	1,706	High school diploma or equivalent	\$13.09
45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	12,040	11,975	-65	-0.5	681	1,087	-6	1,762	No formal educational credential	\$15.39
15-1211	Computer Systems Analysts	11,846	15,417	3,571	30.1	341	453	357	1,151	Bachelor's degree	\$54.10
33-3012	Correctional Officers and Jailers	11,668	11,335	-333	-2.9	396	596	-33	959	High school diploma or equivalent	\$23.09
15-1299	Computer Occupations, All Other	11,422	14,460	3,038	26.6	313	487	304	1,104	Bachelor's degree	\$50.04
11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	11,315	16,032	4,717	41.7	381	566	472	1,419	Bachelor's degree	\$52.00
11-3021	Computer and Information Systems Managers	11,284	14,836	3,552	31.5	254	579	355	1,188	Bachelor's degree	\$78.51
47-2152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	11,144	12,593	1,449	13.0	374	636	145	1,155	High school diploma or equivalent	\$28.98
47-2073	Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	11,105	12,615	1,510	13.6	393	598	151	1,142	High school diploma or equivalent	\$22.94
13-1161	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	10,791	13,579	2,788	25.8	382	709	279	1,370	Bachelor's degree	\$30.12
11-9141	Property, Real Estate, and Community Association Managers	10,299	12,077	1,778	17.3	470	380	178	1,028	High school diploma or equivalent	\$35.13
53-7064	Packers and Packagers, Hand	9,904	10,967	1,063	10.7	626	862	106	1,594	No formal educational credential	\$14.37
43-6011	Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants	9,864	8,584	-1,280	-13.0	416	520	-128	808	High school diploma or equivalent	\$33.72
35-2012	Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	9,822	11,495	1,673	17.0	727	869	167	1,763	No formal educational credential	\$15.34
41-3031	Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	9,816	10,979	1,163	11.8	288	471	116	875	Bachelor's degree	\$30.70
35-9031	Hosts and Hostesses, Restaurant, Lounge, and Coffee Shop	9,790	11,440	1,650	16.9	1,427	1,240	165	2,832	No formal educational credential	\$13.35
43-3021	Billing and Posting Clerks	9,617	10,744	1,127	11.7	482	559	113	1,154	High school diploma or equivalent	\$21.40

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		Annual Averages		Net Change	Percent Change	Due to Exits from Workforce	Due to Transfers between Occupations	Due to New Job Growth	Total Openings		
		2022	2032								
25-3021	Self-Enrichment Teachers	9,594	11,315	1,721	17.9	652	593	172	1,417	High school diploma or equivalent	\$15.85
17-2051	Civil Engineers	9,415	10,376	961	10.2	213	366	96	675	Bachelor's degree	\$41.99
35-9021	Dishwashers	9,364	10,542	1,178	12.6	877	836	118	1,831	No formal educational credential	\$12.96
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	9,356	10,831	1,475	15.8	378	419	148	945	High school diploma or equivalent	\$21.75
25-1071	Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	9,074	11,413	2,339	25.8	451	346	234	1,031	Doctoral or professional degree	\$66.37
53-7061	Cleaners of Vehicles and Equipment	8,882	10,408	1,526	17.2	523	745	153	1,421	No formal educational credential	\$13.71
47-2141	Painters, Construction and Maintenance	8,852	9,502	650	7.3	312	392	65	769	No formal educational credential	\$21.22
29-2052	Pharmacy Technicians	8,713	10,241	1,528	17.5	371	477	153	1,001	High school diploma or equivalent	\$20.92
41-2021	Counter and Rental Clerks	8,525	9,784	1,259	14.8	518	542	126	1,186	No formal educational credential	\$17.03
25-9031	Instructional Coordinators	8,312	9,795	1,483	17.8	418	355	148	921	Master's degree	\$36.70
31-9091	Dental Assistants	7,953	9,433	1,480	18.6	483	707	148	1,338	Postsecondary nondegree award	\$18.40
43-5061	Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks	7,911	9,104	1,193	15.1	331	531	119	981	High school diploma or equivalent	\$23.45
13-1151	Training and Development Specialists	7,798	9,395	1,597	20.5	261	451	160	872	Bachelor's degree	\$30.40
11-9032	Education Administrators, Kindergarten through Secondary	7,707	9,119	1,412	18.3	230	323	141	694	Master's degree	\$46.14
11-2021	Marketing Managers	7,547	8,896	1,349	17.9	195	446	135	776	Bachelor's degree	\$65.85
49-9021	Heating, Air Conditioning, Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	7,414	8,836	1,422	19.2	255	419	142	816	Postsecondary nondegree award	\$26.06
35-2011	Cooks, Fast Food	7,264	7,407	143	2.0	500	598	14	1,112	No formal educational credential	\$10.41
21-1012	Educational, Guidance, and Career Counselors and Advisors	7,235	8,596	1,361	18.8	238	320	136	694	Master's degree	\$33.64
17-2112	Industrial Engineers	7,206	8,725	1,519	21.1	194	242	152	588	Bachelor's degree	\$52.19
53-3051	Bus Drivers, School	7,187	8,385	1,198	16.7	823	357	120	1,300	High school diploma or equivalent	\$21.10
41-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Non-Retail Sales Workers	7,141	7,792	651	9.1	253	349	65	667	High school diploma or equivalent	\$36.38
13-1111	Management Analysts	7,039	8,485	1,446	20.5	267	357	145	769	Bachelor's degree	\$42.18
13-1041	Compliance Officers	7,000	8,167	1,167	16.7	262	313	117	692	Bachelor's degree	\$36.05
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	6,934	7,067	133	1.9	471	619	13	1,103	High school diploma or equivalent	\$16.46
13-2051	Financial and Investment Analysts	6,912	8,323	1,411	20.4	164	312	141	617	Bachelor's degree	\$44.79
39-9031	Exercise Trainers and Group Fitness Instructors	6,887	8,982	2,095	30.4	482	973	210	1,665	High school diploma or equivalent	\$18.79
43-5052	Postal Service Mail Carriers	6,811	8,028	1,217	17.9	301	253	122	676	No formal educational credential	\$27.08
49-3031	Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	6,779	7,630	851	12.6	257	335	85	677	High school diploma or equivalent	\$28.29
13-2052	Personal Financial Advisors	6,730	8,071	1,341	19.9	200	255	134	589	Bachelor's degree	\$38.97
41-4011	Sales Reps, Wholesale and Mfg., Technical and Scientific Products	6,540	7,734	1,194	18.3	237	390	119	746	Bachelor's degree	\$46.88
27-3031	Public Relations Specialists	6,455	7,557	1,102	17.1	168	381	110	659	Bachelor's degree	\$29.06
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	6,393	7,940	1,547	24.2	270	454	155	879	Associate's degree	\$28.34
51-4041	Machinists	6,264	7,016	752	12.0	265	378	75	718	High school diploma or equivalent	\$24.11
39-2021	Animal Caretakers	6,261	8,164	1,903	30.4	468	828	190	1,486	High school diploma or equivalent	\$13.70
43-5032	Dispatchers, Except Police, Fire, and Ambulance	6,188	6,884	696	11.2	260	350	70	680	High school diploma or equivalent	\$21.44
49-3042	Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, Except Engines	6,106	7,597	1,491	24.4	222	340	149	711	High school diploma or equivalent	\$29.75
11-9051	Food Service Managers	5,749	6,634	885	15.4	226	456	88	770	High school diploma or equivalent	\$32.41
11-3012	Administrative Services Managers	5,668	6,668	1,000	17.6	216	255	100	571	Bachelor's degree	\$51.82
43-4181	Reservation and Transportation Ticket Agents and Travel Clerks	5,662	5,856	194	3.4	274	359	19	652	High school diploma or equivalent	\$19.77
19-5011	Occupational Health and Safety Specialists	5,589	7,224	1,635	29.3	180	491	164	835	Bachelor's degree	\$38.46
37-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Housekeeping and Janitorial Workers	5,549	6,442	893	16.1	311	376	89	776	High school diploma or equivalent	\$18.62
51-3011	Bakers	5,125	6,240	1,115	21.8	402	427	112	941	No formal educational credential	\$14.23
39-3091	Amusement and Recreation Attendants	5,004	5,631	627	12.5	595	890	63	1,548	No formal educational credential	\$11.51
39-1022	First-Line Supervisors of Personal Service Workers	4,827	5,813	986	20.4	224	346	99	669	High school diploma or equivalent	\$20.87

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		2022	2032								
47-5071	Roustabouts, Oil and Gas	4,817	5,394	577	12.0	152	364	58	574	No formal educational credential	\$22.53
21-1093	Social and Human Service Assistants	4,705	5,472	767	16.3	224	291	77	592	High school diploma or equivalent	\$20.89
51-9111	Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	4,590	5,149	559	12.2	232	287	56	575	High school diploma or equivalent	\$17.50
43-4081	Hotel, Motel, and Resort Desk Clerks	4,565	4,983	418	9.2	301	458	42	801	High school diploma or equivalent	\$13.85
35-1011	Chefs and Head Cooks	4,268	5,169	901	21.1	183	372	90	645	High school diploma or equivalent	\$24.92
13-2082	Tax Preparers	4,193	4,952	759	18.1	255	253	76	584	High school diploma or equivalent	\$30.32
25-3041	Tutors	4,181	5,379	1,198	28.7	434	372	120	926	Some college, no degree	\$15.45
53-2031	Flight Attendants	4,165	4,739	574	13.8	286	297	57	640	High school diploma or equivalent	-
45-2093	Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	4,025	4,125	100	2.5	231	369	10	610	No formal educational credential	\$21.69
39-9032	Recreation Workers	3,500	4,420	920	26.3	290	517	92	899	High school diploma or equivalent	\$13.80
35-3041	Food Servers, Nonrestaurant	3,471	4,052	581	16.7	308	306	58	672	No formal educational credential	\$13.59
27-2022	Coaches and Scouts	3,455	4,471	1,016	29.4	217	277	102	596	Bachelor's degree	\$17.79
39-3031	Ushers, Lobby Attendants, and Ticket Takers	2,923	3,251	328	11.2	429	471	33	933	No formal educational credential	\$12.75

Notes

1. The Where-the-jobs-are List includes occupations with the largest number of employment opportunities for Gulf Coast residents based on total employment in 2022 irrespective of wages, educational requirements, or projected growth.
2. Occupations shown are limited to those with projected total annual job openings of 568 or more per year (the average number of openings across all occupations in the region over period of 2022-2032). Note that the majority of openings are likely to be the result of workers switching to new careers (transfers) thereby creating vacancies rather than openings due to retirements (exits) or new jobs created.
3. Source: Texas Workforce Commission - Labor Market and Career Information. 2023 Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) and 2022-2032 Long Term Projections.

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