



HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS IN THE GULF COAST REGION

INTRODUCTION

Workforce Solutions collects and organizes local economic data to help employers meet their human resource needs and individuals build careers, so that both can compete in the global economy.

We regularly provide a list of occupations that are currently in high demand along with careers that will be in high demand in the future throughout the Houston-Galveston area. In this booklet, you will find median salaries and wages, average annual job openings and employment growth projections for the best-paying, high-skill, high-growth jobs available in the local area.

The blue symbols located in parentheses to the right of each occupation title indicate whether it is supported by Career Training (*) and/or Career Advancement Training (\$) Workforce Solutions scholarships. The green symbol located to the left of the occupation title indicates which field of high school endorsements that occupation qualifies for: Business & Industry, STEM or Public Service.

Start planning for your future today!

For more information on occupations supported by scholarship contact a Workforce Solutions counselor at 1.888.469.JOBS (5627).

For more details on career options with high wages and strong job growth in the region, visit www.wrksolutions.com/careerexploration

All wages shown are from 2016.

Hourly wages rather than annual salaries are shown for occupations whose total hours worked in a year may vary from the 2,080 hours typical of salaried occupations.

High-skill, high-growth jobs are those that offer the best employment opportunities for Gulf Coast residents now and in the immediate future based on criteria set forth by the Gulf Coast Workforce Board. Occupations meeting some but not all of the criteria have also been included based on the best regional labor market intelligence available. Criteria used to identify these occupations are:

- Projected employment for 2024 equal to or greater than the average for all occupations in the region. (> 5,633)
- Projected growth rate equal to or greater than the average of all occupations in the region. (> 22.4%)
- Minimum education requirements of a postsecondary degree or certificate, moderate on-the-job training, long-term on-the-job training, or work experience in a related occupation.
- Median hourly wages equal to or greater than the median for all occupations in the region. (> \$18.06)

HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS IN THE GULF COAST REGION

PROFESSIONAL, BUSINESS & TECHNICAL SERVICES



Accountants & Auditors (*/\$)

Accountants and auditors ensure that a company is run efficiently, its public records are kept accurately and its taxes are paid properly and timely.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$78,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 21.6% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 1,920 |



Computer Systems Analysts (*/\$)

Computer Systems Analysts automate or improve existing systems and review computer system capabilities, workflow and scheduling limitations. They may also analyze or recommend commercially available software.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$93,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 27.7% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 730 |



Engineers: Aerospace, Electrical, Mechanical, Environmental, All Other (*/\$)

All engineers research, design, create and test project equipment to prevent and control possible causes of hazards from their projects.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$104,000 /Year |
| Employment Growth: | 18.9% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 1,015 |



Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technicians (*/\$)

Electrical and electronics engineering technicians work with electrical engineers to design, build, repair, calibrate and modify electrical components, circuitry, controls, and machinery for evaluation and use in design decisions.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$27.91/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 14.8% |
| Minimum Education: | Associate's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 210 |



Insurance Claims & Policy Processing Clerks

Insurance claims and policy processing clerks process and modify insurance policies, obtain information from policyholders on claims forms, applications and related documents and update company records.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$17.84/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 25.7% |
| Minimum Education: | High school diploma |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | Less than 12 months |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 255 |



Insurance Sales Agents

Insurance sales agents may work for a single insurance company or an insurance brokerage to sell life, property, casualty, health, automotive or other types of insurance.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$20.80/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 25.8% |
| Minimum Education: | High school diploma |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | Less than 12 months |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 475 |



Business & Industry



STEM



Public Services

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HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS IN THE GULF COAST REGION

PROFESSIONAL, BUSINESS & TECHNICAL SERVICES (Continued)



Lawyers

Lawyers advocate their clients' interests by drawing up legal documents, arguing in civil or criminal litigation, or simply advising their clients on the best legal courses of action.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$161,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 22.4% |
| Minimum Education: | Doctoral or professional degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 580 |



Paralegals & Legal Assistants (*/\$)

Paralegals assist lawyers by researching legal precedent, investigating situations, or prepping legal documents surrounding a legal proceeding.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$57,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 27.4% |
| Minimum Education: | Associate's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 280 |



Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists

Research market conditions in local, regional or national areas to determine potential sales of a product or service, or create a marketing campaign. They may gather the same information on competitors, as well.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$68,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 32.1% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 310 |



Personal Financial Advisors

Personal financial advisors aid clients in adopting healthy money habits by encouraging positive financial objectives and investments using their knowledge in tax and investment strategies, securities, insurance, pension plans and real estate.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$81,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 34.8% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor's degree |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | 12 months or more |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 250 |



Network and Computer Systems Administrators (*/\$)

Administrators support the efficiency and security of an organization's local area network (LAN), wide area network (WAN) and Internet systems by maintaining computer connections within the larger network.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$90,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 17.2% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 260 |

FUN FACTS!

ACCOUNTANTS & AUDITORS

Did you know that around 15% of special agents employed by the FBI today are Certified Public Accountants? The FBI considers accountants a crucial part of its team since it included a dozen bank examiners in its first investigative team of 34 people in 1908.

Source: FBI <https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/fbi-forensic-accountants>



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PROFESSIONAL, BUSINESS & TECHNICAL SERVICES (Continued)



Applications Software Developers (*/\$)

Applications software developers design, build, customize, test and maintain general computer applications software or specialized utility programs, such as the “apps” on your phone.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$105,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 23.2% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor’s degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 435 |



Systems Software Developers (*/\$)

Systems software developers design and test programs like operating systems-level software, compilers and network distribution software that integrate numerous applications into a larger system.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$105,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 19.1% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor’s degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 280 |

HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS IN THE GULF COAST REGION

CONSTRUCTION



Civil Engineers (*/\$)

Civil engineers plan, design and oversee construction and maintenance of building structures and facilities, such as roads, railroads, airports, bridges, harbors, channels, dams, irrigation projects, pipelines, power plants and water and sewage systems.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$106,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 26.5% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor’s degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 620 |



Cost Estimators (*/\$)

Prepare cost estimates for product manufacturing, construction projects, or services to aid management in bidding on or determining the price of a product or service. May specialize according to particular service performed or type of product manufactured.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$68,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 25.1% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor’s degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 265 |

Business & Industry

STEM

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CONSTRUCTION (Continued)



Electricians (*/\$)

Install, maintain and repair electrical wiring, equipment and fixtures, in a variety of settings, to ensure that work is in accordance with relevant codes.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$22.45/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 30.8% |
| Minimum Education: | High school diploma |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | Full Apprenticeship |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 850 |



Plumbers, Pipefitters & Steamfitters (*/\$)

Assemble, install, alter and repair pipelines or pipe systems that carry fluids (water, steam, natural gas, etc.). Includes sprinklerfitters.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$23.89/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 28.2% |
| Minimum Education: | High school diploma |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | Full Apprenticeship |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 560 |



Heating, AC & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers (*/\$)

Install or repair heating, central air conditioning, or refrigeration systems, including oil burners, hot-air furnaces and heating stoves.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$22.47/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 33.4% |
| Minimum Education: | Postsecondary vocational training |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | 12 months or more |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 285 |



Welders, Cutters, Solderers and Brazers (*/\$)

Use hand-welding, flame-cutting, hand soldering, or brazing equipment to weld or join metal components, or to fill holes, indentations or seams of fabricated metal products.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$22.22/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 15.1% |
| Minimum Education: | High school diploma |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | Less than 12 months |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 825 |



Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators (*/\$)

Operate and repair various types of power construction equipment, such as motor graders, bulldozers, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovels, tractors or front-end loaders. These machines help to excavate, move and grade earth, erect structures, or pour pavement.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$18.59/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 22.7% |
| Minimum Education: | High school diploma |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | Less than 12 months |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 410 |

FUN FACTS!

WELDERS

Roughly 95% of NASCAR race cars are tungsten inert gas (TIG) welded by hand, with 950 man hours welding the parts of each vehicle before it even hits the track. Reaching speeds of 200 mph at every turn, every car must be welded perfectly to stay in one piece.

Source: NASCAR <http://www.nascar.com/>



Business & Industry



STEM



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HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS IN THE GULF COAST REGION

HEALTHCARE



Biomedical Engineers (*/\$)

Biomedical Engineers handle the research, design, production and testing of projects such as artificial organs, prostheses, instrumentation and medical information systems aimed at improving the healthcare field.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$77,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 35.7% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 15 |



Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses (*/\$)

Licensed Practical & Vocational Nurses (LPNs & LVNs) care for ill, injured or convalescent patients and evaluate their conditions throughout the process. As a part of the nursing team, they often do more hands-on care with patients.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$23.26/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 32.7% |
| Minimum Education: | Postsecondary non-degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 815 |



Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists (*/\$)

Laboratory technologists conduct complex laboratory tests and analyze the results in pursuit of an early diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$61,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 31.2% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 175 |



Medical Records & Health Information Technicians

Data between patients, physicians and their staff is kept secure to uphold a high quality of care. These technicians organize, compile, process and maintain patient information for accurate record databases.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$18.56/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 31.8% |
| Minimum Education: | Postsecondary non-degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 215 |



Occupational Therapists (*/\$)

Occupational therapists assess, plan, organize and participate in rehabilitative programs that help build or restore vocational, homemaking and daily living skills as well as general independence to persons with disabilities or developmental delays.


| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$89,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 34.0% |
| Minimum Education: | Master's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 85 |





Physical Therapists (*/\$)

Physical therapists plan routines and exercises to assist individuals in adapting to loss of mobility or relieving pain due to a physically disabling condition.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$89,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 33.5% |
| Minimum Education: | Doctoral or professional degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 145 |

 Business & Industry

 STEM

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HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS IN THE GULF COAST REGION

HEALTHCARE (Continued)



Physicians, including Dentists

There are two types of physicians: the doctor of medicine (MD) and the doctor of osteopathic medicine (DO). MDs treat all types of diseases and injuries. DOs, or dentists, diagnose, treat diseases and relieve pain of and around teeth.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$160,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 32.3% |
| Minimum Education: | Doctoral or professional degree |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | Internship/Residency |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 945 |



Radiologic Technologists & Technicians (*/\$)

Radiologic technicians maintain equipment and perform x-rays or fluoroscopic imaging to diagnose patients. Technologists often have a wider range of diagnostic imaging specialties than technicians.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$27.68/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 27.0% |
| Minimum Education: | Associate's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 180 |



Registered Nurses (*/\$)

Registered nurses (RNs) administer nursing care to ill, injured, convalescent or disabled patients in a more administrative role than LVNs. RNs often develop and implement the patient's plan of care.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$76,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 33.6% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 2,655 |



Respiratory Therapists (*/\$)

Respiratory therapists generally work in hospitals and nursing homes with patients who are experiencing cardiology or pulmonary dysfunctions or other breathing difficulties.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$59,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 31.8% |
| Minimum Education: | Associate's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 130 |



Speech-Language Pathologists (*/\$)

Speech-language pathologists, or speech therapists, assess and treat patients with difficulties in oral communication. Speech therapists also research speech-language problems to adapt creatively to each patient's needs.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$79,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 34.2% |
| Minimum Education: | Master's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 160 |

FUN FACTS!

SPEECH THERAPISTS

What do Nicole Kidman, Samuel L. Jackson, Bruce Willis, Barbara Walters and Emily Blunt have in common? They all overcame speech impediments with the help of speech therapists!

Source(s): www.stutteringhelp.org/ and www.speechbuddy.com



Business & Industry



STEM



Public Services

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HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS IN THE GULF COAST REGION

OIL & GAS AND RELATED MANUFACTURING



Chemical Plant and System Operators (*/\$)

Chemical plant and system operators inspect and monitor the system of machines in the plant and control their operations.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$31.97/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 18.7% |
| Minimum Education: | High school diploma |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | 12 months or more |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 185 |



Health & Safety Engineers, Excluding Mining Safety Eng. & Inspectors (*/\$)

Health and safety engineers design efficient procedures and systematic approaches that abide by industrial regulations and promote worksite safety.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$105,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 18.7% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 70 |



Engineers, Chemical, Industrial, Materials, Marine and Petroleum (*/\$)

All engineers research, design, create and test project equipment to prevent and control possible causes of hazards from their projects.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$116,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 11.0% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 850 |



Industrial Machinery Mechanics (*/\$)

Industrial machinery mechanics install, maintain and repair equipment in factories, refineries and pipeline distribution systems.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$26.57/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 27.5% |
| Minimum Education: | High school diploma |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | 12 months or more |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 600 |



Geoscientists, Excluding Hydrologists & Geographers (*/\$)

Geoscientists is the broad terminology for a group of Earth science specialists who study physical aspects of the Earth. Geoscientists often explore for oil, gas, minerals or underground water; or in waste disposal, land reclamation or other environmental problems.


| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$132,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 9.6% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 250 |




Machinists (*/\$)

Machinists set up and operate a variety of machine tools to produce precision parts and instruments to make or repair machine tools or maintain industrial machines, applying knowledge of mechanics, mathematics, metal properties, layout and machining procedures.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$21.49/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 0.7% |
| Minimum Education: | High school diploma |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | 12 months or more |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 405 |

 Business & Industry

 STEM

 Public Services

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HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS IN THE GULF COAST REGION

OIL & GAS AND RELATED MANUFACTURING (Continued)



Petroleum Pump System Ops., Refinery Ops. & Gaugers (*/\$)

Petroleum pump system operators, refinery operators and gaugers are tasked with operating the pumps and adding chemical solutions in synchronized groups that regulate the quality and flow of crude oil into a distributable form.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$32.93/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 12.5% |
| Minimum Education: | High school diploma |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | 12 months or more |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 220 |



Mining & Geological Engineers, Including Mining Safety Eng.

Mining and geological engineers conduct sub-surface surveys to identify the characteristics of potential land or mining development sites, inspect areas for unsafe geological conditions, equipment and working conditions, as well as coordinate mine safety programs.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Annual Salary: | \$152,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | -10.0% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 20 |



Geological & Petroleum Technicians

Geological and petroleum technicians install field equipment that pinpoint potential sources of natural gas and petroleum. These technicians do both data collection field work and laboratory analysis of the geological data.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$35.37/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | -3.0% |
| Minimum Education: | Associate's degree |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | Less than 12 months |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 125 |



Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas & Mining

Service unit operators control equipment to increase oil flow from producing wells or to remove stuck pipe, casing, tools or other obstructions from drilling wells.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$23.50/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | -16.8% |
| Minimum Education: | No Formal Credentials |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | Less than 12 months |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 270 |

FUN FACTS!

OPERATORS & MECHANICS

Crude oil is known as the "mother of all commodities," and since Texas is the leading state in crude oil reserves and production, this state is always looking for more mechanics and operators every year.

Source: US Energy Information Administration
<https://www.eia.gov/state/analysis.php?sid=TX>



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EDUCATION



Career & Technical Ed. Teachers, Secondary School (*/\$)

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Teachers guide students in pursuing real-world training with hands-on skills that put them directly on a path for their chosen career.

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$61,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 20.6% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor's degree |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | Internship/Residency |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 65 |



Preschool Teachers, Excluding Special Ed.

Preschool teachers focus on aiding social, physical and intellectual development in preschool-aged students (often below the age of 5) who grow at different speeds and in different ways.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$23,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 23.6% |
| Minimum Education: | Associate's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 450 |



Educational, Guidance, School & Vocational Counselors (*/\$)

Counselors help students by encouraging academics and providing career and personal/social development guidance to help maximize academic achievements.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$60,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 26.9% |
| Minimum Education: | Master's degree |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 225 |



Special Ed. Teachers, Preschool through High School (*/\$)

Special education teachers adapt general education curriculum for educationally and physically handicapped students as well as inform parents and guardians about skills and resources they can use to help their child.

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$60,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 27.0% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor's degree |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | Internship/Residency |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 250 |



Kinder., Elem., Middle, Secondary Teachers, Excluding Special Ed. (*/\$)

All other careers rely upon teachers to provide students with a solid base for their educational development and a launch point for their social development. So, especially in this region, teaching is a growing field at all levels of learning.


| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$58,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 27.0% |
| Minimum Education: | Bachelor's degree |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | Internship/Residency |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 3,850 |


FUN FACTS!

CAREER & TECH. ED. TEACHERS

CTE teachers are needed both in the Gulf Coast and nationwide. The number of students earning sub-baccalaureate credentials in CTE fields rose 71 percent from 2002 to 2012, compared with a 54 percent increase in all undergraduate awards.

Source: Association for Career and Technical Education
<https://www.acteonline.org/>

 Business & Industry

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TRANSPORTATION



Bus & Truck Mechanics & Diesel Engine Specialists (*/\$)

Diagnose, adjust, repair or overhaul buses and trucks, or maintain and repair any type of diesel engines, primarily automobile or marine engines.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$22.61/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 28.6% |
| Minimum Education: | High school diploma |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | 12 months or more |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 310 |

Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, Except Engines (*/\$)

Mobile heavy equipment mechanics diagnose and repair mobile tools and vehicles used in construction, logging and surface mining.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$23.81/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 22.2% |
| Minimum Education: | High school diploma |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | 12 months or more |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 215 |

Flight Attendants

Flight attendants represent the airline by providing personal services of food, drinks and answering questions to ensure the passengers' comfort and safety throughout the flight.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Median Wage: | \$24.73/Hour |
| Employment Growth: | 27.5% |
| Minimum Education: | High school diploma |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | Less than 12 months |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 290 |

FUN FACTS!

HEAVY & TRACTOR-TRAILER DRIVERS


Did you know that Sean Connery, the first Bond (James Bond), was raised by a proud Scottish man and truck driver?


Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2013/06/25/world/sean-connery-fast-facts/index.html>


Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers

Drive and (un)load a tractor-trailer combination or a truck with a capacity of at least 26,000 pounds Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW), transport goods, often over long distances, across state lines, or even out of the country.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Median Annual Salary: | \$39,000/Year |
| Employment Growth: | 23.0% |
| Minimum Education: | Postsecondary non-degree |
| Typical On-the-Job Training: | Less than 1 month |
| Annual Average Job Openings: | 1,695 |

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THE HARD FACTS

INFORMATION ABOUT OTHER POPULAR CAREER CHOICES



Below are the jobs that Gulf Coast residents most often state as their career goals. Compare the wages and available openings each year for these jobs with those of the other jobs in this magazine. You might find that you can pursue your skills, interests, values and passion through another pathway that might make more money and have more job openings.

| PROFESSION | MEDIAN WAGE | EMPLOYMENT GROWTH | MINIMUM EDUCATION | ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Actors | \$20.92 | 18.50% | Some college, no degree | 15 |
| Dancers | \$8.65 | 18.2% | High school diploma or equivalent | 10 |
| Musicians and Singers | \$19.41 | 21.70% | No formal educational credential | 35 |
| Estheticians | \$11.13 | 26.80% | Postsecondary non-degree award | 45 |
| Photographers | \$16.48 | 12.1% | High school diploma or equivalent | 60 |
| Graphic Designers | \$20.79 | 20.10% | Bachelor's Degree | 165 |
| Architects, Except Landscape & Naval | \$36.91 | 24.70% | Bachelor's Degree | 130 |
| Cosmetologists ¹ | \$9.77 | 24.70% | Postsecondary non-degree award | 550 |
| Chefs and Head Cooks | \$20.02 | 36.80% | High school diploma or equivalent | 140 |
| Athletes and Sports Competitors | NA | 25.0% | High school diploma or equivalent | 10 |
| Travel Agents | \$17.73 | 17.10% | High school diploma or equivalent | 40 |
| Pediatricians | \$72.83 | 24.10% | Doctoral or professional degree | 40 |
| Home Health Aides | \$9.02 | 49.10% | No formal educational credential | 745 |
| Social Workers | \$39.83 | 22.90% | Bachelor's degree | 30 |
| Psychologists ² | \$30.04 | 23.30% | Doctoral or professional degree | 80 |
| Veterinarians | \$45.34 | 21.70% | Doctoral or professional degree | 35 |
| Zoologists and Wildlife Biologists | \$38.06 | 12.50% | Bachelor's Degree | 0 |
| Nanny | \$9.26 | 20.70% | High school diploma or equivalent | 1,130 |
| Interior Designer | \$25.81 | 24.80% | Bachelor's Degree | 75 |

1 Certificates awarded in the region per year: 1,453. Annual Average Job Openings includes the total number of jobs available due to replacement or growth per year. Median hourly wage is based on 2015 industry standards.

2 Degrees awarded in the region per year: 1,585.

