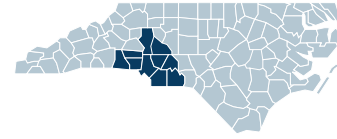


SOUTHWEST Top 15 Star Jobs

Top careers with high wages and employment growth by education requirements



	Advanced Degree	OES Hourly Wage*	Annual Openings**
★	Pharmacists	\$60.15	82
★	Physical Therapists	\$38.58	64
★	Nurse Practitioners	\$45.99	45
★	Education Administrators, Postsecondary	\$37.05	44
★	Physician Assistants	\$45.28	36
★	Speech-Language Pathologists	\$32.18	34
★	Nurse Anesthetists	\$78.32	28
★	Nursing Instructors & Teachers, Postsecondary	\$59,598 ⁱⁱ	27
★	Occupational Therapists	\$37.14	26
★	Business Teachers, Postsecondary	\$62,644 ⁱⁱ	20
★	Lawyers	\$42.37	159
★	Education Administrators, Elementary & Secondary School	\$64,888 ⁱⁱ	61
★	Family & General Practitioners	\$91.70	34
★	Veterinarians	\$46.02	26
★	Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	\$71,356 ⁱⁱ	16

*All wage information is from the **Occupational Employment Statistics (OES)** program of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The OES program produces employment and wage estimates annually for more than 800 occupations for the U.S., individual states, and metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas; national occupational estimates for specific industries are also available.

i. 2015 Statewide Median Hourly Wage ii. 2015 Regional Median Annual Wage

** Total Average Annual Openings include the total number of jobs available due to growth and replacement needs per year.

Note: Selected occupations for each education/experience category are based on the Star Jobs Methodology. Education categories in this brochure represent the minimum level of education required for entry according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Actual market conditions may require additional education and training.

What are Star Jobs?

North Carolina's 5-Star Jobs represent occupations with the greatest projected employment potential through 2022. Occupations were rated from 1-5 stars based on wages, projected growth rates, and projected job openings. For a complete list of Star Jobs, additional information about each career, and explanation of the rating process, visit www.nccommerce.com/lead/data-tools/star-jobs



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SOUTHWEST Top 15 Star Jobs

Top careers with high wages and employment growth by education requirements

High School & Work Experience		OES Hourly Wage*	Annual Openings**
★	First-Line Supervisors of Office & Admin. Support Workers	\$24.13	446
★	First-Line Supervisors of Constr. Trades & Extraction Workers	\$26.76	293
★	Electricians	\$18.54	163
★	Insurance Sales Agents	\$26.02	138
★	Plumbers, Pipefitters & Steamfitters	\$18.23	138
★	Property, Real Estate & Community Association Managers	\$28.56	73
★	Claims Adjusters, Examiners & Investigators	\$32.09	73
★	First-Line Supervisors of Police & Detectives	\$32.68	51
★	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers	\$21.31	262
★	Carpenters	\$17.12	171
★	Real Estate Sales Agents	\$20.47	81
★	Brickmasons & Blockmasons	\$17.09	71
★	Construction & Building Inspectors	\$24.66	50
★	Brokerage Clerks	\$21.90	42
★	Elevator Installers & Repairers	\$34.46 ⁱ	8

Associate Degree		OES Hourly Wage*	Annual Openings**
★	Registered Nurses	\$28.02	913
★	Dental Hygienists	\$34.72	73
★	Web Developers	\$30.27	66
★	Radiologic Technologists	\$26.33	51
★	Computer Network Support Specialists	\$26.08	48
★	Physical Therapist Assistants	\$29.59	33
★	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	\$30.39	19
★	Paralegals & Legal Assistants	\$20.84	94
★	Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technicians	\$18.37	65
★	Veterinary Technologists & Technicians	\$15.72	46
★	Medical Equipment Repairers	\$22.09	35
★	Respiratory Therapists	\$25.96	32
★	Cardiovascular Technologists & Technicians	\$28.38	16
★	Occupational Therapy Assistants	\$28.58	10
★	Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists	\$32.27	9

Postsecondary Training		OES Hourly Wage*	Annual Openings**
★	Computer User Support Specialists	\$22.80	193
★	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$20.22	155
★	Heating, A/C & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	\$20.31	143
★	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$18.13	462
★	Medical Assistants	\$14.25	135
★	Emergency Medical Technicians & Paramedics	\$15.87	90
★	Dental Assistants	\$18.46	69
★	Medical Records & Health Information Technicians	\$16.45	49
★	First-Line Supervisors of Fire Fighting & Prevention Workers	\$28.91	43
★	Surgical Technologists	\$19.37	37
★	Massage Therapists	\$17.82	32
★	Firefighters	\$14.84	147
★	Library Technicians	\$15.31	44
★	Phlebotomists	\$13.77	32
★	Ophthalmic Medical Technicians	\$15.77	15

Bachelor's Degree		OES Hourly Wage*	Annual Openings**
★	General & Operations Managers	\$54.53	544
★	Accountants & Auditors	\$32.83	501
★	Financial Managers	\$65.42	259
★	Computer Systems Analysts	\$42.52	226
★	Securities, Commodities & Financial Services Sales Agents	\$39.02	213
★	Software Developers, Applications	\$42.23	208
★	Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	\$31.45	200
★	Management Analysts	\$38.09	196
★	Financial Analysts	\$39.06	186
★	Personal Financial Advisors	\$42.02	176
★	Construction Managers	\$44.29	165
★	Computer & Information Systems Managers	\$62.75	133
★	Software Developers, Systems Software	\$51.10	128
★	Medical & Health Services Managers	\$45.57	84
★	Information Security Analysts	\$45.38	77