



# HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS

## IN THE GULF COAST REGION

### INTRODUCTION

Every two years, Workforce Solutions compiles a list of occupations that are now in demand in the Houston-Galveston Gulf Coast region, or ones that will be in the future. Looking at a variety of data, we're able to project which jobs are expected to have the most growth over the next 10 years. This guide introduces you to those occupations, organized by industry.

In addition, you will also find:

- the median hourly wage (based on 2009 industry standards),
- the current number of jobs in our region and the number of anticipated jobs in 2018, and
- the employment growth for each occupation as a percentage.

Criteria used to identify these occupations are:

- Projected employment for 2018 equal to or greater than the average for all occupations in the region.
- Projected growth rate equal to or greater than the average of all occupations in the region.
- Minimum education requirements of a postsecondary degree or certificate, 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.

There are also indicators of which occupations are supported by Workforce Solutions' scholarships.

This guide is a great first step for students setting out on a career path and adults looking to make a change. For further details about each occupation, individual profiles, called "Focus On" guides, are available online at [www.wrksolutions.com](http://www.wrksolutions.com). You'll also find other career planning resources and information about financial aid.

We encourage you to visit one of our career offices and talk with a counselor about your career options. To locate the office nearest you, call **1-888-469-JOBS (5627)**, or find one on our website under Career Office Locations.

For more information on occupations supported by scholarship contact a Workforce Solutions counselor 1-888-469-JOBS (5627).

Scholarship amounts may vary based on need and individual circumstances. For some educational programs requiring a bachelor's degree or higher, Workforce Solutions will only award scholarships to help finance the last two years of the program of study.

Workforce Solutions is an equal opportunity employer/ program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.  
Texas Relay Numbers: 1-800-735-2989 (TDD) 1-800-735-2988 (voice) or 711

# HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS

IN THE GULF COAST REGION

## EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

### PRIMARY, SECONDARY, & SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOL TEACHERS

Teachers who work in the public school education system teach grades kindergarten through 12. Some teacher can work in private or charter schools, which may serve special needs or gifted children.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	N/A
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	100,560
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	145,690
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	44.9%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	6,955



### POSTSECONDARY TEACHERS

Post-secondary teachers instruct students in a wide range of subjects after high school. In addition, many do research in their area of specialization.

### SUBSET: NURSING INSTRUCTORS AND TEACHERS, POSTSECONDARY \$

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	N/A
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	28,980
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	36,160
<b>Employment Growth</b>	24.8%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings</b>	1,225

### EDUCATION ADMINISTRATORS, ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY SCHOOL

Education administrators are principals, assistant principals, super intendants, and more at elementary and secondary school levels. They play an important role in directing the path of learning for young students and satisfying workforce needs within the schools.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	N/A
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	5,680
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	7,040
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	38.3%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	345

### EDUCATIONAL, VOCATIONAL, & SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Counselors covers a wide scope of activities for students ranging from encouragement of academics, career and personal/social development, to helping students maximize their academic achievements.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$26.79
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	5,680
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	7,650
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	34.7%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	310

\$ Occupations supported by scholarship

\* Annual Average Job Openings includes the total number of jobs available due to replacement or growth per year.

\* Median hourly wage is based on 2009 industry standards

# HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS

## IN THE GULF COAST REGION

### SPECIALTY CONSTRUCTION

#### WELDERS, CUTTERS, SOLDERERS, & BRAZERS \$

Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers can use their skills to pursue careers in high-demand occupations such as; Welder-pipefitter and other pipe trades, Structural Welder, Welder-fitter, Maintenance Mechanics, Scaffold Builders, and Millwrights.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$17.53
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	19,060
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	21,010
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	10.2%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	780

#### ELECTRICIANS \$

Electricians are in short supply and demand continues to grow in response to an ever increasing population and as a growing number of baby boomers retire. The shortage of electricians translates into outstanding career opportunities to individuals entering into the workforce.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$20.21
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	14,240
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	16,400
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	15.2%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	560

#### PLUMBERS, PIPEFITTERS, & STEAMFITTERS \$

Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters are among the largest and highest paid construction occupations. Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters install, maintain, and repair many different types of pipe systems that carry water, steam, air, or other liquids or gases.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$21.75
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	10,530
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	12,340
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	17.2%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	390

#### HEATING, AIR CONDITIONING, & REFRIGERATION MECHANICS & INSTALLERS \$

Qualified heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics and installers are in short supply and there are many job opportunities working with systems in private homes and in commercial offices, industrial complexes, manufacturing plants, restaurants, hotels, and more.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$20.24
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	6,700
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	8,980
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	34.0%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	340

#### COST ESTIMATORS

Cost estimators compile and analyze cost estimates for projects in manufacturing, construction projects, and services to assist with bidding or price determinations.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$30.75
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	4,710
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	6,140
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	30.4%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	250

#### ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS DRAFTERS \$

Electrical & electronics drafters prepare technical drawings and plans used to build electrical and electronic equipment.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$24.14
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	1,140
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	1,230
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	7.9%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	35



\$ Occupations supported by scholarship

\* Annual Average Job Openings includes the total number of jobs available due to replacement or growth per year.

\* Median hourly wage is based on 2009 industry standards

# HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS

## IN THE GULF COAST REGION

### PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES

#### COMPUTER SYSTEMS ANALYSTS \$

Computer systems analysts solve computer problems and apply computer technology to meet the needs of an organization. They analyze user requirements, procedures, and problems to automate or improve existing systems, and review computer systems capabilities, workflow, and scheduling limitations.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$36.89
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	11,420
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	13,580
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	18.9%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	460

#### NETWORK SYSTEMS & DATA COMMUNICATIONS ANALYSTS

Network Systems & Data Communications Analysts are responsible for day-to-day on-site administrative support for software users in a variety of work environments, including professional offices, small businesses, government, and large corporations.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$33.19
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	4,640
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	7,170
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	54.5%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	340

#### COMPUTER SOFTWARE ENGINEERS, APPLICATIONS \$

Computer software applications engineers design, build, customize, test, and maintain general computer applications software or specialized utility programs.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$43.24
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	8,580
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	10,950
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	27.6%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	305

#### MARKET RESEARCH ANALYSTS

Market research analysts compile and evaluate statistical data, making recommendations to their client or employer on the promotion, distribution, design, pricing, and expansion of their products or services.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$33.68	<b>Employment Growth:</b>	25.6%
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	4,300	<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	225
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	5,400		

#### NETWORK & COMPUTER SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATORS \$

Network systems and data communications analysts are professionals that analyze, design and test local area networks (LAN), wide area networks (WAN), Internet, intranet, and other data communications systems.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$32.67
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	7,170
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	8,760
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	22.2%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	280

#### COMPUTER SOFTWARE ENGINEERS, SYSTEMS SOFTWARE \$

Computer software systems engineers coordinate the construction, maintenance, and expansion of an organization's computer system.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$42.69
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	8,360
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	10,250
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	22.6%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	260

#### EMPLOYMENT, RECRUITMENT, & PLACEMENT SPECIALISTS

Employment, recruitment, and placement specialists are on the front lines recruiting and placing people in jobs.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$26.57
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	4,470
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	5,650
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	26.4%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	235



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# HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS

IN THE GULF COAST REGION

## ENERGY – PETROCHEMICAL, POWER, OIL/GAS, MANUFACTURING

### ENGINEERS

Engineers design, develop, test, or supervise manufacturing projects and include occupations in Chemical, Civil, Computer Hardware, Electrical, Electronic, Industrial, Mechanical, Petroleum, and others.

#### SUBSET: ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER, PETROLEUM ENGINEERS, MINING AND GEOLOGICAL ENGINEERS \$

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	N/A
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	52,430
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	63,290
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	20.7%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	2,225

### GEOLOGICAL & PETROLEUM TECHNICIANS \$

Geoscientists study the composition, structure, and other physical aspects of the earth for the purpose of oil and gas exploration. Some find additional opportunities in education, mining, government, and the environmental industry.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$64.74
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	4,500
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	5,780
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	28.4%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	255

### GEOLOGICAL & PETROLEUM TECHNICIANS \$

Geological and petroleum technicians assist scientists to find indications of potential sources of oil and gas through the collection and examination of geological data or through the use of electrical, sonic, or nuclear measuring instruments.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$32.80
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	2,820
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	3,560
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	26.2%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	175

### SERVICE UNIT OPERATORS, OIL, GAS, & MINING \$

Service unit operator's responsibility is to maintain or increase oil/gas flow from producing wells.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$18.58	<b>Employment Growth:</b>	16.5%
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	7,290	<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	245
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	8,490		

### MECHANICAL DRAFTERS \$

Mechanical drafters prepare technical drawings and plans used to build mechanical equipment.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$24.54
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	2,820
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	2,990
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	6.0%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	75

### CHEMICAL PLANT & SYSTEM OPERATORS \$

Chemical plant & system operators operate, monitor and troubleshoot the manufacturing process used to make many products.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$30.44
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	6,410
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	6,340
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	-1.1%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	145

### PETROLEUM PUMP SYSTEM OPERATORS, REFINERY OPERATORS, & GAUGERS \$

Petroleum pump system operators, refinery operators, and gaugers control the operation of petroleum refining or processing units. This task is performed by operating steam or electric-driven pumps to circulate crude, semi processed, and finished petroleum products, water, and chemical solution through processing, storage, and shipping departments.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$25.81
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	7,840
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	9,000
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	14.8%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	295



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# HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS

## IN THE GULF COAST REGION

### ENERGY – PETROCHEMICAL, POWER, OIL/GAS, MANUFACTURING CONTINUED ...

#### ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING TECHNICIANS \$

Electrical engineers design, develop, test, or supervise the manufacturing and installation of electrical equipment, components, or systems. Electrical engineers generally focus on power supply and power generation and electronics engineers work on applications of electricity to control systems or process signals.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$27.25
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	4,040
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	4,220
<b>Employment Growth</b>	4.5%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings</b>	95

#### INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY MECHANICS \$

Industrial mechanics perform a wide variety of duties, such as preventive maintenance, detecting breakdown conditions before they happen, making machinery adjustments, and repairing equipment using blueprints, sketches, diagrams, and a variety of tools.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$21.12
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	11,330
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	13,820
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	22.0%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	415

#### ELECTRICAL POWER-LINE INSTALLERS & REPAIRERS \$

Install or repair cables or wires used in electrical power or distribution systems. Some may erect poles and light- or heavy- duty transmission towers.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$23.68
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	3,320
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	4,140
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	24.7%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	200

#### MACHINISTS \$

Machinists are highly skilled manufacturing workers. They use power-operated tools to produce precision metal or plastic parts.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$17.32
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	13,350
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	13,540
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	1.4%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	195

#### COMPUTER-CONTROLLED MACHINE TOOL OPERATORS, METAL & PLASTIC \$

Computer-controlled machine tool operators are skilled manufacturing workers and operate computer-controlled machines that cut away material from a solid block of metal or plastic to form a finished part.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$17.56
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	3,030
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	3,690
<b>Employment Growth</b>	21.8%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings</b>	125

#### BOILERMAKERS

Boilermakers install and maintain boilers, pressure vessels, blast furnaces, storage and process tanks, stacks and other containers that hold liquids and gases under high pressure.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$28.40
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	1,680
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	2,060
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	22.6%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings</b>	75

#### PIPE DRAFTERS \$

Process piping or pipeline drafters make drawings used in oil and gas fields, chemical plants, and other pipe systems.



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\* Median hourly wage is based on 2009 industry standards

# HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS

## IN THE GULF COAST REGION

### HEALTH SERVICES

#### REGISTERED NURSES \$

A Registered Nurse (RN) is a nurse who has graduated from a nursing program at a university or college and has passed a national licensing exam. A registered nurse helps individuals, families, and groups to achieve health and prevent disease.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$32.94
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	39,510
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	53,500
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	35.4%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	2,090

#### LICENSED PRACTICAL & LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSES \$

Licensed vocational nurses (LVNs), referred to as licensed practical nurses in some other states, care for the sick, injured, convalescent, and disabled under the direction of physicians and registered nurses.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$20.39
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	13,570
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	17,660
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	30.1%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	835

#### DOCTORS AND DENTISTS

There are two types of doctors or physicians: the doctor of medicine (M.D.) and the doctor of osteopathic medicine (D.O.). Most doctors are M.D.s who treat all types of diseases and injuries. Dentists help individuals in many ways by diagnosing and treating diseases, repairing smiles, relieving pain, and giving teeth to those without.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	N/A
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	12,290
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	15,780
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	28.4%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	580

#### PHARMACISTS

Pharmacists count pills, fill prescriptions and provide proper selection and dosage of medications, interactions, and side effects of medications.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$51.44
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	4,920
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	6,070
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	23.4%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	225



#### MEDICAL RECORDS & HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNICIANS \$

Medical records/health information technicians' duties include compiling, processing, and maintaining medical records in a manner consistent with medical, administrative, ethical, legal, and regulatory requirements of the health care system.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$15.02
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	3,200
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	4,130
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	29.1%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	160

#### RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS & TECHNICIANS \$

Radiologic technologists perform imaging tests to assist in diagnosing patients. Some radiologic technologists specialize in computerized tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$25.97
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	3,550
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	4,610
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	29.9%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	155

\$ Occupations supported by scholarship

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# HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS

IN THE GULF COAST REGION

## HEALTH SERVICES CONTINUED...

### SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS \$

Speech-language pathologists, or speech therapists as they are often called, diagnose and treat individuals with problems related to speech and language that are a result of a variety of causes such as brain injury, stroke, developmental delays or disorders, learning disabilities, and many other things.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$30.13
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	2,540
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	3,480
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	37.0%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	140

### PHYSICAL THERAPISTS \$

Physical therapy is the method of treatment that varies case by case and can be anything from therapeutic exercise and functional training to the use of adaptive devices and equipment or even various forms of electrotherapy.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$37.53
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	2,760
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	3,770
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	36.6%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	135

### MEDICAL & CLINICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGISTS \$

Medical and clinical laboratory technologists perform and analyze complex chemical, biological, hematological, immunologic, microscopic, and bacteriological medical tests.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$25.63
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	3,030
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	3,730
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	23.1%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	130

### RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS \$

Respiratory Therapy is a healthcare profession in which specialists work with patients who are experiencing cardiology or pulmonary dysfunction.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$25.72
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	2,200
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	3,010
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	36.8%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	120



### OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS \$

Occupational therapy promotes health by enabling people to perform meaningful and purposeful activities. Occupational therapists work with individuals who suffer from a mentally, physically, developmentally, and/or emotionally disabling condition by utilizing treatments that develop, recover, or maintain clients' activities of daily living.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$35.33
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	1,770
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	2,430
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	37.3%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	95

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# HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS

## IN THE GULF COAST REGION

### OTHER

#### ACCOUNTANTS & AUDITORS \$

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

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$29.71
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	26,030
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	32,910
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	26.4%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	1,130

#### AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TECHNICIANS & MECHANICS \$

Automotive service technicians are highly skilled professionals, and much of the world would simply come to a halt without them. Due to technological advances and the ever-increasing complexity of automobiles, the average person can no longer repair his or her own vehicle.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$19.26
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	13,210
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	15,040
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	13.9%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	435

#### PURCHASING AGENTS (I.E. WHOLESALE, RETAIL, & FARM PRODUCTS)

Purchasing agents buy raw materials, goods, and services that a company uses to operate, not goods for resale that wholesale and retail buyers purchase.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$26.36
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	6,470
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	8,080
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	24.9%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	330

#### FIRE FIGHTERS \$

Firefighters must be physically, mentally and emotionally resilient. Their work can involve lifting persons, carrying equipment up and down stairs, and long nights with no rest.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$19.97
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	4,530
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	5,790
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	27.8%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	265

#### FINANCIAL ANALYSTS

Financial analysts study the performance of stocks, bonds, investments, and commodities to make investment recommendations.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$34.44
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	5,430
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	6,820
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	25.6%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	240

#### PARALEGALS & LEGAL ASSISTANTS

Paralegals, also referred to as legal assistants, assist lawyers by researching legal precedent, investigating facts, or preparing legal documents.

<b>Median Hourly Wage:</b>	\$23.10
<b>Jobs in 2008:</b>	4,790
<b>Estimated Jobs in 2018:</b>	6,130
<b>Employment Growth:</b>	28.0%
<b>Annual Average Job Openings:</b>	190



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\* Median hourly wage is based on 2009 industry standards