

GULF COAST WORKFORCE REGION

High-Skill, High-Growth Jobs Targeted by the Gulf Coast Workforce Board^{1,2}

SOC	Occupational Title	Employment Growth				Annual Average Job Openings				Typical Education Needed	Work Experience in Related Occ	Typical On-the-job Training	Median Hrly Wage 2017
		Annual Averages 2016	2026	Absolute Change	Percent Change	Exits	Transfers	Growth	Total				
	Professional, Business, & Technical Services												
13-2011	Accountants & Auditors	40,808	48,606	7,798	19.1	1,320	2,572	780	4,672	Bachelor's	None	None	\$37.36
17-2XXX	Engineers, Aerospace, Electrical, Environmental, Mechanical ^{2,3}	18,820	22,555	3,735	19.8	447	830	373	1,650	Bachelor's	None	None	\$51.78
15-1121	Computer Systems Analysts ²	15,630	17,580	1,950	12.5	304	741	195	1,240	Bachelor's	None	None	\$44.48
15-1141	Database Administrators	3,278	3,851	573	17.5	75	148	57	280	Bachelor's	None	None	\$42.49
17-3023	Electrical & Electronic Engineering Technicians ³	4,825	5,549	724	15.0	166	273	72	511	Associate's	None	None	\$30.27
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents ³	8,964	10,233	1,269	14.2	390	516	127	1,033	High school	None	Moderate-term	\$18.51
27-3091	Interpreters & Translators	2,064	2,545	481	23.3	104	100	48	252	Bachelor's	None	None	\$24.78
23-1011	Lawyers ³	15,874	18,281	2,407	15.2	339	369	241	949	Doctoral or prof.	None	None	\$75.57
17-3027	Mechanical Engineering Technicians	2,102	2,548	446	21.2	74	122	45	241	Associate's	None	None	\$35.31
15-1142	Network & Computer Systems Administrators ²	8,313	9,300	987	11.9	124	414	99	637	Bachelor's	None	None	\$45.80
15-2031	Operations Research Analysts	2,166	2,838	672	31.0	51	94	67	212	Bachelor's	None	None	\$40.21
23-2011	Paralegals & Legal Assistants ²	5,965	7,172	1,207	20.2	217	437	121	775	Associate's	None	None	\$27.58
15-1132	Software Developers, Applications	12,585	16,426	3,841	30.5	198	712	384	1,294	Bachelor's	None	None	\$52.59
15-1133	Software Developers, Systems Software ²	7,212	8,079	867	12.0	104	375	87	566	Bachelor's	None	None	\$53.27
	Construction												
17-3011	Architectural & Civil Drafters	4,195	5,070	875	20.9	137	250	88	475	Associate's	None	None	\$25.31
17-3022	Civil Engineering Technicians	2,888	3,462	574	19.9	102	167	57	326	Associate's	None	None	\$25.48
17-2051	Civil Engineers	10,634	12,841	2,207	20.8	254	578	221	1,053	Bachelor's	None	None	\$50.37
47-4011	Construction & Building Inspectors	2,452	2,985	533	21.7	134	154	53	341	High school	5 years or more	Moderate-term	\$29.89
13-1051	Cost Estimators	5,194	6,192	998	19.2	179	370	100	649	Bachelor's	None	Moderate-term	\$34.46
47-2111	Electricians ²	19,432	22,445	3,013	15.5	729	1,556	301	2,586	High school	None	Apprenticeship	\$26.25
49-9021	Heating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	6,378	7,725	1,347	21.1	195	473	135	803	Postsecondary nondegree	None	Long-term	\$21.85
47-2132	Insulation Workers, Mechanical	1,580	1,863	283	17.9	46	132	28	206	High school	None	Apprenticeship	\$20.90
47-2073	Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	10,504	12,741	2,237	21.3	444	815	224	1,483	High school	None	Moderate-term	\$19.10
47-2152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	14,522	17,420	2,898	20.0	579	1,068	290	1,937	High school	None	Apprenticeship	\$25.70
47-2221	Structural Iron & Steel Workers	3,094	3,698	604	19.5	98	256	60	414	High school	None	Apprenticeship	\$20.63
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	18,269	22,318	4,049	22.2	540	1,585	405	2,530	High school	None	Moderate-term	\$23.04
	Education												
25-20XX	Kinder., Elem., Middle, Secondary Teachers, Ex. Special Ed. ³	81,238	99,123	17,885	22.0	2,962	3,425	1,788	8,175	Bachelor's	None	None	\$28.96
25-205X	Special Ed. Teachers, Preschool thru Secondary ^{2,3}	6,395	7,776	1,381	21.6	235	259	138	632	Bachelor's	None	None	\$29.86
25-2032	Career/Technical Education Teachers, Secondary School	1,657	2,006	349	21.1	56	68	35	159	Bachelor's	Less than 5 years	None	\$30.36
21-1012	Educational, Guidance, School, & Vocational Counselors	5,715	6,902	1,187	20.8	232	413	119	764	Master's	None	None	\$30.02
25-1071	Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	3,089	3,803	714	23.1	126	131	71	328	Doctoral or prof.	Less than 5 years	None	\$70.59
25-9031	Instructional Coordinators	3,588	4,337	749	20.9	188	162	75	425	Master's	5 years or more	None	\$34.65
25-4021	Librarians	2,412	2,855	443	18.4	144	98	44	286	Master's	None	None	\$28.99
25-2011	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education ³	10,651	12,455	1,804	16.9	498	617	180	1,295	Associate's	None	None	\$11.55
	Healthcare												
29-10XX	Physicians incl. Dentists ^{2,3}	10,316	12,902	2,586	25.1	251	171	368	790	Doctoral or prof.	None	Internship/residency	\$80.94
17-2031	Biomedical Engineers ³	231	259	28	12.1	5	11	3	19	Bachelor's	None	None	\$40.29
29-2031	Cardiovascular Technologists & Technicians	1,585	1,893	308	19.4	45	43	31	119	Associate's	None	None	\$20.90
19-3031	Clinical, Counseling, & School Psychologists	1,779	2,141	362	20.3	49	75	36	160	Doctoral or prof.	None	High-Skill High-Growth Internship/residency	\$31.19

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		Annual Averages		Absolute	Percent	Job Openings							
		2016	2026	Change	Change	Exits	Transfers	Growth	Total				
29-2021	Dental Hygienists	2,629	3,148	519	19.7	104	65	52	221	Associate's	None	None	\$34.51
29-2032	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	1,691	2,274	583	34.5	51	49	58	158	Associate's	None	None	\$35.60
21-1022	Healthcare Social Workers	2,708	3,466	758	28.0	111	196	76	383	Master's	None	Internship/residency	\$30.26
29-2061	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses ²	13,460	16,720	3,260	24.2	532	524	326	1,382	Postsecondary nondegree	None	None	\$22.70
29-2012	Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technicians	2,544	3,071	527	20.7	85	85	53	223	Associate's	None	None	\$25.27
29-2011	Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists	3,306	4,028	722	21.8	111	111	72	294	Bachelor's	None	None	\$25.28
29-2071	Medical Records & Health Information Technicians	3,756	4,603	847	22.6	123	124	85	332	Postsecondary nondegree	None	None	\$20.16
29-1151	Nurse Anesthetists	2,131	2,753	622	29.2	33	80	62	175	Master's	None	None	\$75.80
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	2,148	3,048	900	41.9	50	74	90	214	Master's	None	None	\$57.93
29-9011	Occupational Health & Safety Specialists	4,764	5,601	837	17.6	115	142	84	341	Bachelor's	None	None	\$36.05
29-1122	Occupational Therapists	1,935	2,450	515	26.6	45	61	52	158	Master's	None	None	\$42.83
29-1123	Physical Therapists ²	3,011	3,864	853	28.3	66	72	85	223	Doctoral or prof.	None	None	\$44.36
29-1071	Physician Assistants	1,817	2,527	710	39.1	38	77	71	186	Master's	None	None	\$51.12
29-2034	Radiologic Technologists	3,922	4,924	1,002	25.5	114	110	100	324	Associate's	None	None	\$29.76
29-1141	Registered Nurses	52,641	65,839	13,198	25.1	1,696	1,288	1,320	4,304	Bachelor's	None	None	\$37.49
29-1126	Respiratory Therapists	2,628	3,161	533	20.3	68	66	53	187	Associate's	None	None	\$29.30
29-1127	Speech-Language Pathologists	2,756	3,499	743	27.0	57	97	74	228	Master's	None	Internship/residency	\$38.92
29-2055	Surgical Technologists	3,129	3,820	691	22.1	113	154	69	336	Postsecondary nondegree	None	None	\$24.35
	Oil & Gas and Related Manufacturing												
17-2XXX	Engineers, Chem., Industrial, Materials, Marine, Mining, Petroleum ^{2,3}	21,650	25,813	4,163	19.2	551	1,240	499	2,290	Bachelor's	None	None	\$65.29
51-8091	Chemical Plant & System Operators ⁴	2,920	2,760	-160	-5.5	66	213	-16	263	High school	None	Moderate-term	\$33.90
51-4011	Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal & Plastic	3,915	4,868	953	24.3	121	308	95	524	High school	None	Moderate-term	\$21.62
19-4041	Geological & Petroleum Technicians ²	2,618	3,043	425	16.2	78	204	42	324	Associate's	None	Moderate-term	\$33.10
19-2042	Geoscientists, Except Hydrologists & Geographers	6,286	7,525	1,239	19.7	149	474	124	747	Bachelor's	None	None	\$64.47
17-2111	Health & Safety Engineers, Except Mining Safety Engineers & Inspectors ³	1,419	1,627	208	14.7	35	62	21	118	Bachelor's	None	None	\$47.50
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	10,901	13,138	2,237	20.5	406	621	224	1,251	High school	None	Long-term	\$27.94
51-4041	Machinists	9,758	12,260	2,502	25.6	382	717	250	1,349	High school	None	Long-term	\$21.97
49-9043	Maintenance Workers, Machinery	2,811	3,352	541	19.2	132	178	54	364	High school	None	Long-term	\$20.41
17-3013	Mechanical Drafters	2,062	2,485	423	20.5	67	123	42	232	Associate's	None	None	\$32.44
51-8093	Petroleum Pump System Operators, Refinery Operators, & Gaugers ²	4,409	4,578	169	3.8	104	337	17	458	High school	None	Moderate-term	\$33.44
47-5013	Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, & Mining ⁵	5,520	6,376	856	15.5	147	552	86	785	No formal credential	None	Moderate-term	\$22.94
47-2211	Sheet Metal Workers	3,204	3,945	741	23.1	124	245	74	443	High school	None	Apprenticeship	\$20.30
17-3031	Surveying & Mapping Technicians	3,000	3,727	727	24.2	111	239	73	423	High school	None	Moderate-term	\$22.03
17-1022	Surveyors	1,520	1,887	367	24.1	50	69	37	156	Bachelor's	Internship/residency	None	\$29.07

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	Transportation												
49-3031	Bus & Truck Mechanics & Diesel Engine Specialists ²	7,782	9,448	1,666	21.4	264	492	167	923	High school	None	Long-term	\$23.04
53-7021	Crane & Tower Operators	2,678	3,176	498	18.6	96	205	50	351	High school	Less than 5 years	Moderate-term	\$26.03
53-2031	Flight Attendants	6,367	7,831	1,464	23.0	351	402	146	899	High school	Less than 5 years	Moderate-term	\$27.13
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers ²	41,611	48,742	7,131	17.1	1,916	2,838	713	5,467	Postsecondary nondegree	None	Short-term	\$19.49
13-1081	Logisticians	4,312	5,066	754	17.5	115	330	75	520	Bachelor's	None	None	\$39.60
49-3042	Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, Except Engines	3,448	4,180	732	21.2	119	240	73	432	High school	None	Long-term	\$23.05
43-5061	Production, Planning, & Expediting Clerks	8,626	10,164	1,538	17.8	326	610	154	1,090	High school	None	Moderate-term	\$23.17

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		2016	2026	Change	Change								

Notes
 High-skill jobs targeted by the Gulf Coast Workforce Board are those that offer the best employment opportunities for Gulf Coast residents now and in the immediate future.

1. Criteria used to identify these occupations are:
 - Occupation must be found in one or more GCWB Targeted Industries
 - 50% or more of total occupational employment must be found in Targeted Industries as of 2026
 - Projected employment in 2026 greater than or equal to the median for all occupations in the region ($\geq 1,819$)
 - Projected growth rate greater than or equal to the average of all occupations in the region ($\geq 17.4\%$)
 - 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 2017 median for all occupations in the region ($\geq \$18.70$)
2. Occupations found on the previous High-skill High-growth Occupation List and which meet four of the five qualifying criteria above have been retained.
3. Other occupations meeting some but not all of the above criteria have also been included based on the best regional labor market intelligence available. Employers can petition to have other occupations added or deleted as labor market conditions change.
4. Occupations included on the previous High-Skill High-Growth List that are projected decline over 2016 to 2026, but were retained due to their continued importance to the industry in which they are predominantly found and/or regional economy.
5. Hourly wages were obtained by dividing the reported median annual wage by 2,080 hours. Note that actual per hour earnings are likely to differ as education-related occupations are typically compensated on a 9 or 10 month basis.

Authorized for use by the Gulf Coast Workforce Board: February 2019.