



High School and Work Experience		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★5	Managers of Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	\$26.94	\$56,044
★5	Managers of Mechanics, Installers, & Repairers	\$34.02	\$70,755
★5	Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	\$19.63	\$40,833
★5	Electrical Power-Line Installers & Repairers	\$31.08	\$64,650
★5	Property, Real Estate, & Community Assoc Managers	\$17.92	\$37,283
★5	Managers of Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	\$22.98	\$47,807
★4	Managers of Retail Sales Workers	\$18.80	\$39,113
★4	Managers of Food Prep & Serving Workers	\$14.22	\$29,576
★4	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General	\$15.93	\$33,137
★4	Managers of Office & Administrative Support Workers	\$21.50	\$44,716

Associate Degree		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★5	Paralegals & Legal Assistants	\$18.70	\$38,904
★5	Clinical Lab Technologists & Techs	\$23.39	\$48,642
★5	Radiologic Technologists	\$23.33	\$48,536
★5	Dental Hygienists	\$34.42	\$71,599
★5	Physical Therapist Assistants	\$29.63	\$61,621
★5	Respiratory Therapists	\$24.02	\$49,958
★5	Occupational Therapy Assistants	\$33.36	\$69,379
★4	Veterinary Technologists & Techs	\$14.23	\$29,593
★4	Air Traffic Controllers	\$43.12	\$89,679
★4	Enviro. Science & Protection Techs, Including Health	\$21.98	\$45,718

Advanced Degree		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★5	Pharmacists	\$60.05	\$124,908
★5	Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	N/A	\$54,153
★5	Lawyers	\$42.55	\$88,500
★5	Physician Assistants	\$48.14	\$100,122
★5	Physical Therapists	\$42.27	\$87,924
★5	Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers	\$23.41	\$48,703
★5	Nurse Practitioners	\$48.12	\$100,087
★5	Speech-Language Pathologists	\$42.49	\$88,388
★5	Clinical, Counseling, & School Psychologists	\$30.09	\$62,596
★5	Occupational Therapists	\$44.09	\$91,711

Postsecondary Training		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★4	Automotive Service Techs & Mechanics	\$17.71	\$36,842
★4	Medical Assistants	\$14.52	\$30,201
★4	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$20.92	\$43,513
★4	HVAC & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	\$17.44	\$36,281
★4	Firefighters	\$18.36	\$38,199
★4	Dental Assistants	\$20.67	\$42,985
★4	Computer User Support Specialists	\$20.34	\$42,310
★4	Emergency Medical Techs & Paramedics	\$15.71	\$32,677
★4	Aircraft Mechanics & Service Techs	\$28.18	\$58,615
★4	Massage Therapists	\$23.82	\$49,551

Bachelor's Degree		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★5	Registered Nurses	\$29.05	\$60,425
★5	General & Operations Managers	\$42.93	\$89,299
★5	Accountants & Auditors	\$31.30	\$65,108
★5	Child, Family, & School Social Workers	\$21.87	\$45,481
★5	Management Analysts	\$41.17	\$85,634
★5	Logisticians	\$36.46	\$75,829
★5	Medical & Health Services Managers	\$43.55	\$90,588
★5	Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	\$30.37	\$63,166
★5	Construction Managers	\$48.11	\$100,063
★5	Compliance Officers	\$28.38	\$59,037

All wage information (except where noted) is Regional Median Hourly and Annual Wage data which was calculated based on 2019 release of 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.

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 2026. Occupations were rated from 1-5 stars based on wages, projected growth rates, and projected job openings. For a complete list of Star Jobs and explanation of the rating process, visit www.nccommerce.com/data-tools-reports/labor-market-data-tools/employment-projections#star-jobs

