

What are Star Jobs?

North Carolina's 5-Star Jobs represent occupations with the greatest projected employment potential through 2034. 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, scan the QR code or visit:
www.commerce.nc.gov/star-jobs

ELIZABETH CITY REGION



Camden | Chowan | Currituck | Dare
Gates | Hyde | Pasquotank
Perquimans | Tyrrell | Washington

Advanced Degree

		MEDIAN WAGE	
		Hourly	Annual
★5	Lawyers	\$43.13	\$89,721
★5	Nurse Practitioners	\$58.26	\$121,181
★5	Physician Assistants	\$57.02	\$118,594
★5	Pharmacists	\$64.40	\$133,943
★5	Healthcare Social Workers	\$29.37	\$61,095
★5	Speech-Language Pathologists	\$38.33	\$79,722
★4	Educational, Guidance, and Career Counselors and Advisors	\$26.97	\$56,089
★4	Urban and Regional Planners	\$39.42	\$81,985
★4	Postsecondary Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Teachers	SALARY POSITION	\$64,320
★3	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	\$27.80	\$57,827

All wages are based on LEAD analysis of data of Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) 2025 Data released in June 2026.

This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner.

NC DREAM IT. PLAN IT. BE IT.
careers.org

DREAM IT. PLAN IT. BE IT.
NCcareers.org

NORTH CAROLINA Star Jobs

ELIZABETH CITY REGION

2026

Top 10 careers with high wages and employment growth, grouped by education requirements.



High School & Work Experience**MEDIAN WAGE****Hourly Annual**

★5	First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	\$32.53	\$67,655
★5	Food Service Managers	\$35.56	\$73,967
★5	Machinists	\$27.00	\$56,157
★5	Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$43.58	\$90,648
★5	Sheet Metal Workers	\$41.35	\$86,008
★5	Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators	\$32.00	\$66,550
★4	Property, Real Estate, and Community Association Managers	\$28.41	\$59,091
★4	Electricians	\$26.67	\$55,469
★4	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$29.17	\$60,679
★4	Chefs and Head Cooks	\$28.63	\$59,549

Postsecondary Training**MEDIAN WAGE****Hourly Annual**

★4	Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	\$23.23	\$48,323
★4	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$29.15	\$60,642
★4	Paramedics	\$28.77	\$59,833
★4	Surgical Technologists	\$29.10	\$60,522
★4	Ship Engineers	\$30.23	\$62,885
★3	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$23.04	\$47,922
★3	Emergency Medical Technicians	\$19.11	\$39,745
★3	Firefighters	\$21.45	\$44,611
★3	Dental Assistants	\$23.51	\$48,899
★3	Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers	\$29.71	\$61,804

Associate's Degree**MEDIAN WAGE****Hourly Annual**

★5	Registered Nurses	\$38.76	\$80,614
★5	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	\$36.03	\$74,936
★5	Physical Therapist Assistants	\$30.54	\$63,519
★5	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	\$45.76	\$95,176
★5	Occupational Therapy Assistants	\$33.76	\$70,212
★4	Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians	\$29.99	\$62,375
★3	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$26.92	\$55,987
★3	Environmental Science and Protection Technicians	\$20.59	\$42,838
★3	Architectural and Civil Drafters	\$28.67	\$59,631
★3	Forest and Conservation Technicians	\$23.07	\$47,990

Bachelor's Degree**MEDIAN WAGE****Hourly Annual**

★5	General and Operations Managers	\$40.29	\$83,798
★5	Accountants and Auditors	\$36.37	\$75,649
★5	Construction Managers	\$48.69	\$101,282
★5	Medical and Health Services Managers	\$49.44	\$102,836
★5	Management Analysts	\$52.32	\$108,831
★5	Project Management Specialists	\$45.44	\$94,515
★5	Logisticians	\$44.68	\$92,934
★5	Industrial Engineers	\$47.68	\$99,168
★5	Facilities Managers	\$45.29	\$94,210
★5	Information Security Analysts	\$56.64	\$117,815

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.