

ASHEVILLE REGION

Top 10 Star Jobs

Top careers with high wages and employment growth by education requirements

Advanced Degree

	Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★ Physicians & Surgeons	\$94.55 ⁱ	\$196,670 ⁱ
★ Physician Assistants	\$50.15	\$104,319
★ Nurse Practitioners	\$48.14	\$100,141
★ Physical Therapists	\$42.18	\$87,738
★ Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers	\$21.15	\$43,989
★ Lawyers	\$48.51	\$100,894
★ Speech-Language Pathologists	\$35.94	\$74,749
★ Occupational Therapists	\$40.53	\$84,308
★ Clinical, Counseling, & School Psychologists	\$30.01	\$62,427
★ Nurse Anesthetists	\$72.45	\$150,703

All wage information is Prosperity Zone Sub-Region Median Hourly and Annual Wage data which was calculated based on the May 2018 Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) program of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The OEWS 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. State Median Wage

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 2028. 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/starjobs



For more information on North Carolina careers go to:

- NCcareers.org
- [@CareersinNC](https://twitter.com/CareersinNC)
- lead@nccommerce.com



NC DEPARTMENT
of COMMERCE
LABOR & ECONOMIC
ANALYSIS

ASHEVILLE REGION STAR JOBS TOP 10 BY EDUCATION 2021



Buncombe | Henderson | Madison
Polk | Rutherford | Transylvania

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High School & Work Experience		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	First-Line Supervisors of Const. Trades & Extraction Workers	\$27.95	\$58,136
★	Medical Secretaries	\$16.88	\$35,118
★	Electricians	\$19.74	\$41,067
★	Food Service Managers	\$27.96	\$58,148
★	Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	\$21.23	\$44,157
★	Insurance Sales Agents	\$26.55	\$55,221
★	Real Estate Brokers	\$33.69	\$70,070
★	Chefs & Head Cooks	\$24.40	\$50,745
★	Property, Real Estate, & Community Association Managers	\$33.75	\$70,203
★	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation & Serving Workers	\$17.55	\$36,507

Associate Degree		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	Physical Therapist Assistants	\$27.60	\$57,415
★	Dental Hygienists	\$28.54	\$59,360
★	Occupational Therapy Assistants	\$30.78	\$64,017
★	Respiratory Therapists	\$25.90	\$53,868
★	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	\$32.17	\$66,910
★	Paralegals & Legal Assistants	\$19.96	\$41,512
★	Radiologic Technologists	\$23.82	\$49,556
★	Civil Engineering Technicians	\$22.45	\$46,702
★	Veterinary Technologists & Technicians	\$14.97	\$31,141
★	Morticians, Undertakers, & Funeral Directors	\$27.88	\$58,000

Postsecondary Training		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	Heating, A/C, & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	\$19.16	\$39,862
★	Dental Assistants	\$20.16	\$41,923
★	Computer User Support Specialists	\$20.73	\$43,109
★	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$20.05	\$41,698
★	Medical Assistants	\$15.04	\$31,292
★	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$21.17	\$44,042
★	Massage Therapists	\$14.95	\$31,089
★	Emergency Medical Technicians & Paramedics	\$17.81	\$37,049
★	Phlebotomists	\$14.45	\$30,055
★	Ophthalmic Medical Technicians	\$15.72	\$32,695

Bachelor's Degree		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	Registered Nurses	\$30.10	\$62,609
★	General & Operations Managers	\$44.32	\$92,178
★	Accountants & Auditors	\$30.25	\$62,917
★	Sub. Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, & Mental Health Counselors	\$22.61	\$47,033
★	Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	\$23.40	\$48,677
★	Medical & Health Services Managers	\$47.90	\$99,625
★	Construction Managers	\$38.08	\$79,213
★	Software Developers, Applications	\$42.60	\$88,606
★	Management Analysts	\$30.11	\$62,624
★	Clinical Laboratory Technologists & Technicians	\$22.04	\$45,849