

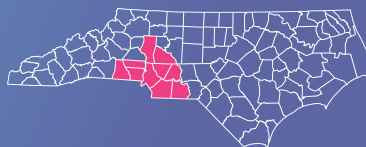
What are Star Jobs?

North Carolina's 5-Star Jobs represent occupations with the greatest projected employment potential through 2032. 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/data-tools-reports/labor-market-data-tools/employment-projections#StarJobs-274

CHARLOTTE REGION



Anson | Cabarrus | Cleveland | Gaston
Iredell | Lincoln | Mecklenburg
Rowan | Stanley | Union

Advanced Degree

		MEDIAN WAGE	
		Hourly	Annual
5	Lawyers	\$66.93	\$139,216
5	Pharmacists	\$68.12	\$141,701
5	Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	\$28.99	\$60,293
5	Physician Assistants	\$64.41	\$133,988
5	Nurse Practitioners	\$64.51	\$134,188
5	Speech-Language Pathologists	\$48.43	\$100,722
5	Veterinarians	\$60.02	\$124,843
5	Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	SALARY POSITION	\$70,609
4	Educational, Guidance, and Career Counselors and Advisors	\$29.05	\$60,408
4	Librarians and Media Collections Specialists	\$30.19	\$62,806

All wages are based on LEAD analysis of data of Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) 2024 Data released in May 2025.

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NORTH CAROLINA Star Jobs CHARLOTTE REGION 2025

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 Food Preparation and Serving Workers	\$22.64	\$47,094
★5	First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	\$37.56	\$78,121
★5	Electricians	\$27.06	\$56,289
★5	Insurance Sales Agents	\$29.75	\$61,894
★5	Property, Real Estate, and Community Association Managers	\$35.16	\$73,123
★5	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	\$31.89	\$66,333
★5	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$31.11	\$64,712
★5	Food Service Managers	\$36.10	\$75,082
★5	Exercise Trainers and Group Fitness Instructors	\$21.37	\$44,434
★5	Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	\$37.17	\$77,304

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

★5	Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	\$28.35	\$58,971
★5	Massage Therapists	\$29.05	\$60,423
★4	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$24.77	\$51,536
★4	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	\$25.34	\$52,698
★4	Computer User Support Specialists	\$30.61	\$63,672
★4	Medical Assistants	\$22.27	\$46,333
★4	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$30.94	\$64,367
★4	Dental Assistants	\$24.02	\$49,972
★4	Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	\$30.29	\$62,995
★4	Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers	\$34.75	\$72,294

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

★5	Registered Nurses	\$41.01	\$85,320
★5	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	\$34.75	\$72,267
★5	Dental Hygienists	\$45.65	\$94,952
★5	Medical Equipment Repairers	\$30.37	\$63,161
★5	Computer Network Support Specialists	\$31.88	\$66,305
★5	Physical Therapist Assistants	\$32.43	\$67,451
★4	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$26.87	\$55,888
★4	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	\$22.17	\$46,112
★4	Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technologists and Technicians	\$35.21	\$73,247
★4	Industrial Engineering Technologists and Technicians	\$35.82	\$74,513

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

★5	General and Operations Managers	\$52.54	\$109,274
★5	Software Developers	\$64.41	\$133,973
★5	Accountants and Auditors	\$41.78	\$86,911
★5	Construction Managers	\$51.21	\$106,518
★5	Computer Systems Analysts	\$53.50	\$111,272
★5	Management Analysts	\$50.89	\$105,859
★5	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	\$38.16	\$79,372
★5	Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	\$40.88	\$85,030
★5	Financial Managers	\$81.70	\$169,931
★5	Human Resources Specialists	\$35.81	\$74,487

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.