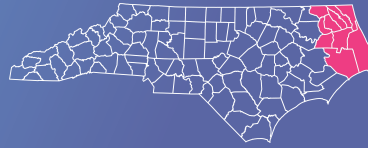


What are Star Jobs?

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.

ELIZABETH CITY REGION



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



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

Advanced Degree

		MEDIAN WAGE	
		Hourly	Annual
★5	Lawyers	\$46.02	\$95,721
★5	Nurse Practitioners	\$56.08	\$116,641
★5	Physician Assistants	\$55.54	\$115,523
★5	Veterinarians	\$53.65	\$111,587
★5	Healthcare Social Workers	\$29.70	\$61,777
★5	Speech-Language Pathologists	\$39.15	\$81,439
★4	Educational, Guidance, and Career Counselors and Advisors	\$27.80	\$57,828
★4	Urban and Regional Planners	\$33.74	\$70,190
★4	Postsecondary Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Teachers	SALARY POSITION	\$66,234
★3	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	\$23.31	\$48,473

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

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	\$32.94	\$68,501
★5	Food Service Managers	\$34.07	\$70,870
★5	Machinists	\$30.41	\$63,265
★5	Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	\$41.86	\$87,065
★5	Sheet Metal Workers	\$40.07	\$83,339
★5	Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators	\$37.90	\$78,841
★4	Property, Real Estate, and Community Association Managers	\$28.21	\$58,683
★4	Electricians	\$24.63	\$51,231
★4	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$27.95	\$58,132
★4	Chefs and Head Cooks	\$28.17	\$58,584

Postsecondary Training

MEDIAN WAGE

Hourly Annual

★4	Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	\$23.94	\$49,788
★4	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$28.85	\$60,009
★4	Paramedics	\$24.28	\$50,501
★4	Avionics Technicians	\$37.22	\$77,412
★4	Ship Engineers	\$29.74	\$61,862
★3	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$22.46	\$46,726
★3	Emergency Medical Technicians	\$20.93	\$43,543
★3	Firefighters	\$20.63	\$42,915
★3	Dental Assistants	\$22.39	\$46,572
★3	Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers	\$29.67	\$61,716

Associate's Degree

MEDIAN WAGE

Hourly Annual

★5	Registered Nurses	\$37.28	\$77,545
★5	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	\$32.69	\$67,987
★5	Physical Therapist Assistants	\$30.47	\$63,373
★5	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	\$39.24	\$81,625
★5	Occupational Therapy Assistants	\$35.84	\$74,544
★4	Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians	\$29.52	\$61,419
★4	Electro-Mechanical and Mechatronics Technologists and Technicians	\$32.51	\$67,615
★3	Environmental Science and Protection Technicians	\$20.28	\$42,181
★3	Architectural and Civil Drafters	\$28.34	\$58,948
★3	Forest and Conservation Technicians	\$22.72	\$47,254

Bachelor's Degree

MEDIAN WAGE

Hourly Annual

★5	General and Operations Managers	\$39.82	\$82,834
★5	Accountants and Auditors	\$35.54	\$73,921
★5	Construction Managers	\$44.30	\$92,143
★5	Medical and Health Services Managers	\$47.08	\$97,925
★5	Management Analysts	\$50.94	\$105,955
★5	Project Management Specialists	\$39.37	\$81,887
★5	Logisticians	\$38.12	\$79,282
★5	Industrial Engineers	\$42.26	\$87,899
★5	Facilities Managers	\$44.58	\$92,725
★5	Information Security Analysts	\$50.15	\$104,307

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.