

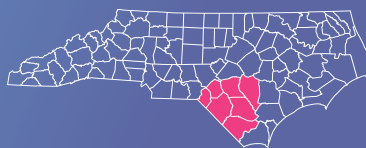
What are Star Jobs?

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

FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON REGION



Bladen | Columbus | Cumberland
Hoke | Robeson | Sampson | Scotland

Advanced Degree

| | | MEDIAN WAGE | |
|----|--|-----------------|-----------|
| | | Hourly | Annual |
| ★5 | Nurse Practitioners | \$57.49 | \$119,574 |
| ★5 | Physician Assistants | \$64.14 | \$133,412 |
| ★5 | Nursing Instructors and Teachers, Postsecondary | SALARY POSITION | \$76,029 |
| ★4 | Pharmacists | \$66.08 | \$137,447 |
| ★4 | Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors | \$25.95 | \$53,982 |
| ★4 | Physical Therapists | \$48.66 | \$101,221 |
| ★4 | Veterinarians | \$52.36 | \$108,906 |
| ★4 | Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists | \$43.79 | \$91,080 |
| ★3 | Educational, Guidance, and Career Counselors and Advisors | \$27.63 | \$57,471 |
| ★3 | Lawyers | \$47.74 | \$99,291 |

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

FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON REGION

2025

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

| High School & Work Experience | | MEDIAN WAGE | |
|-------------------------------|--|-------------|----------|
| | | Hourly | Annual |
| ★5 | Industrial Machinery Mechanics | \$30.63 | \$63,724 |
| ★5 | Chefs and Head Cooks | \$28.52 | \$59,317 |
| ★4 | First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers | \$18.16 | \$37,789 |
| ★4 | Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators | \$20.58 | \$42,807 |
| ★4 | Electricians | \$26.04 | \$54,152 |
| ★4 | Insurance Sales Agents | \$22.71 | \$47,228 |
| ★4 | Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders | \$20.33 | \$42,286 |
| ★4 | Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers | \$31.24 | \$64,968 |
| ★4 | Exercise Trainers and Group Fitness Instructors | \$21.65 | \$45,032 |
| ★4 | Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers | \$44.85 | \$93,288 |

| Postsecondary Training | | MEDIAN WAGE | |
|------------------------|---|-----------------|-----------|
| | | Hourly | Annual |
| ★4 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | \$23.16 | \$48,174 |
| ★4 | Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers | \$25.16 | \$52,323 |
| ★4 | Psychiatric Technicians | \$17.83 | \$37,096 |
| ★4 | Surgical Technologists | \$29.36 | \$61,066 |
| ★4 | Massage Therapists | \$27.46 | \$57,112 |
| ★4 | Commercial Pilots | SALARY POSITION | \$102,774 |
| ★3 | Nursing Assistants | \$17.39 | \$36,172 |
| ★3 | Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics | \$22.53 | \$46,863 |
| ★3 | Medical Assistants | \$18.36 | \$38,179 |
| ★3 | Computer User Support Specialists | \$25.81 | \$53,688 |

| Associate's Degree | | MEDIAN WAGE | |
|--------------------|---|-------------|----------|
| | | Hourly | Annual |
| ★5 | Respiratory Therapists | \$34.43 | \$71,615 |
| ★5 | Physical Therapist Assistants | \$30.39 | \$63,204 |
| ★5 | Occupational Therapy Assistants | \$32.88 | \$68,393 |
| ★4 | Registered Nurses | \$38.67 | \$80,437 |
| ★4 | Radiologic Technologists and Technicians | \$32.99 | \$68,618 |
| ★4 | Computer Network Support Specialists | \$36.88 | \$76,700 |
| ★4 | Medical Equipment Repairers | \$24.53 | \$51,027 |
| ★4 | Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists | \$37.75 | \$78,509 |
| ★4 | Radio, Cellular, and Tower Equipment Installers and Repairers | \$22.56 | \$46,933 |
| ★4 | Health Information Technologists and Medical Registrars | \$30.93 | \$64,332 |

| Bachelor's Degree | | MEDIAN WAGE | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| | | Hourly | Annual |
| ★5 | Construction Managers | \$49.74 | \$103,447 |
| ★5 | Medical and Health Services Managers | \$54.55 | \$113,458 |
| ★5 | Management Analysts | \$47.00 | \$97,764 |
| ★5 | Software Developers | \$58.94 | \$122,585 |
| ★5 | Training and Development Specialists | \$24.35 | \$50,650 |
| ★5 | Logisticians | \$41.68 | \$86,701 |
| ★5 | Financial Managers | \$58.49 | \$121,654 |
| ★5 | Computer Systems Analysts | \$43.40 | \$90,266 |
| ★5 | Industrial Engineers | \$45.94 | \$95,562 |
| ★5 | Personal Financial Advisors | \$48.19 | \$100,228 |

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.