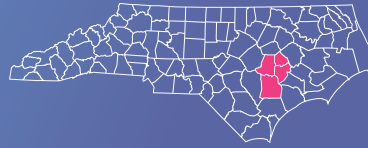


What are Star Jobs?

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.

GOLDSBORO-KINSTON REGION



Duplin | Greene | Lenoir | Wayne



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 Kindergarten through Secondary Education Administrators | SALARY POSITION | \$78,270 |
| ★ 5 Pharmacists | \$64.07 | \$133,261 |
| ★ 5 Nurse Practitioners | \$50.57 | \$105,181 |
| ★ 5 Physical Therapists | \$48.46 | \$100,787 |
| ★ 5 Physician Assistants | \$55.61 | \$115,668 |
| ★ 5 Veterinarians | \$51.90 | \$107,946 |
| ★ 4 Educational, Guidance, and Career Counselors and Advisors | \$28.19 | \$58,643 |
| ★ 4 Librarians and Media Collections Specialists | \$26.56 | \$55,257 |
| ★ 4 Urban and Regional Planners | \$36.61 | \$76,158 |
| ★ 3 Rehabilitation Counselors | \$22.56 | \$46,921 |

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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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 Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers | \$36.14 | \$75,189 |
| ★5 | Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers | \$37.46 | \$77,922 |
| ★5 | Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers | \$42.28 | \$87,938 |
| ★5 | Chefs and Head Cooks | \$28.90 | \$60,109 |
| ★4 | Industrial Machinery Mechanics | \$25.78 | \$53,618 |
| ★4 | Electricians | \$24.71 | \$51,390 |
| ★4 | Insurance Sales Agents | \$28.23 | \$58,711 |
| ★4 | Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists | \$24.98 | \$51,961 |
| ★4 | Property, Real Estate, and Community Association Managers | \$25.85 | \$53,773 |
| ★4 | Construction and Building Inspectors | \$24.95 | \$51,917 |

Postsecondary Training

MEDIAN WAGE

Hourly Annual

| | | | |
|----|--|-----------------|-----------|
| ★5 | Commercial Pilots | SALARY POSITION | \$121,906 |
| ★5 | Computer Numerically Controlled Tool Programmers | \$34.68 | \$72,148 |
| ★4 | First-Line Supervisors of Firefighting and Prevention Workers | \$24.92 | \$51,829 |
| ★4 | Powerhouse, Substation, and Relay Electrical and Electronics Repairers | \$41.75 | \$86,837 |
| ★3 | Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | \$22.96 | \$47,751 |
| ★3 | Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics | \$22.66 | \$47,130 |
| ★3 | Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers | \$22.91 | \$47,643 |
| ★3 | Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses | \$28.43 | \$59,121 |
| ★3 | Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians | \$38.90 | \$80,920 |
| ★3 | Dental Assistants | \$22.39 | \$46,572 |

Associate's Degree

MEDIAN WAGE

Hourly Annual

| | | | |
|----|---|---------|----------|
| ★5 | Registered Nurses | \$38.97 | \$81,048 |
| ★5 | Physical Therapist Assistants | \$33.24 | \$69,153 |
| ★5 | Diagnostic Medical Sonographers | \$39.40 | \$81,953 |
| ★5 | Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians | \$29.31 | \$60,958 |
| ★5 | Occupational Therapy Assistants | \$29.73 | \$61,823 |
| ★4 | Architectural and Civil Drafters | \$29.16 | \$60,641 |
| ★4 | Industrial Engineering Technologists and Technicians | \$28.70 | \$59,706 |
| ★3 | Paralegals and Legal Assistants | \$23.67 | \$49,237 |
| ★3 | Medical Equipment Repairers | \$25.30 | \$52,621 |
| ★3 | Health Information Technologists and Medical Registrars | \$23.65 | \$49,202 |

Bachelor's Degree

MEDIAN WAGE

Hourly Annual

| | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| ★5 | General and Operations Managers | \$41.86 | \$87,054 |
| ★5 | Accountants and Auditors | \$35.93 | \$74,751 |
| ★5 | Construction Managers | \$48.26 | \$100,381 |
| ★5 | Medical and Health Services Managers | \$50.52 | \$105,071 |
| ★5 | Project Management Specialists | \$44.19 | \$91,914 |
| ★5 | Industrial Engineers | \$41.16 | \$85,610 |
| ★5 | Logisticians | \$37.17 | \$77,309 |
| ★5 | Management Analysts | \$37.15 | \$77,272 |
| ★5 | Mechanical Engineers | \$43.82 | \$91,159 |
| ★5 | Computer Systems Analysts | \$42.28 | \$87,946 |

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.