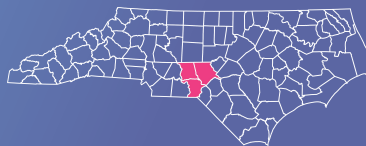


What are Star Jobs?

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.

PINEHURST-ROCKINGHAM REGION



Montgomery | Moore | Richmond



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

Advanced Degree

MEDIAN WAGE

Hourly Annual

★5	Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	\$25.77	\$53,605
★5	Nurse Practitioners	\$58.59	\$121,873
★5	Physician Assistants	\$62.07	\$129,100
★5	Physical Therapists	\$44.97	\$93,541
★5	Speech-Language Pathologists	\$44.90	\$93,392
★5	Occupational Therapists	\$45.98	\$95,656
★5	Nursing Instructors and Teachers, Postsecondary	SALARY POSITION	\$72,800
★4	Pharmacists	\$65.69	\$136,636
★4	Healthcare Social Workers	\$29.07	\$60,463
★4	Biological Science Teachers, Postsecondary	SALARY POSITION	\$61,754

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

This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner.

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NORTH CAROLINA Star Jobs

PINEHURST-ROCKINGHAM REGION
2025

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

High School & Work Experience**MEDIAN WAGE****Hourly Annual**

★5	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	\$25.29	\$52,597
★5	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$28.05	\$58,333
★5	Food Service Managers	\$30.80	\$64,061
★5	Chefs and Head Cooks	\$30.83	\$64,133
★4	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	\$21.86	\$45,479
★4	Construction Laborers	\$19.19	\$39,910
★4	First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	\$32.90	\$68,434
★4	Medical Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	\$18.60	\$38,702
★4	Carpenters	\$19.55	\$40,665
★4	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	\$18.04	\$37,508

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

★5	Medical Assistants	\$18.97	\$39,449
★5	Dental Assistants	\$22.61	\$47,016
★5	Massage Therapists	\$29.93	\$62,242
★4	Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	\$25.18	\$52,375
★4	Emergency Medical Technicians	\$18.21	\$37,872
★4	Paramedics	\$25.91	\$53,905
★3	Nursing Assistants	\$17.23	\$35,841
★3	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$23.49	\$48,851
★3	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$28.81	\$59,927
★3	Firefighters	\$16.35	\$34,007

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

★5	Registered Nurses	\$38.28	\$79,610
★5	Dental Hygienists	\$44.36	\$92,282
★5	Physical Therapist Assistants	\$34.35	\$71,452
★5	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	\$43.75	\$90,997
★5	Occupational Therapy Assistants	\$35.03	\$72,871
★5	Medical Equipment Repairers	\$28.70	\$59,695
★4	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	\$32.42	\$67,449
★4	Health Information Technologists and Medical Registrars	\$24.03	\$49,968
★2	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$23.12	\$48,095
★2	Computer Network Support Specialists	\$27.40	\$57,007

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

★5	Construction Managers	\$49.91	\$103,801
★5	Medical and Health Services Managers	\$49.48	\$102,917
★5	Software Developers	\$58.47	\$121,625
★5	Financial Managers	\$60.29	\$125,393
★5	Management Analysts	\$44.79	\$93,160
★5	Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$64.96	\$135,114
★5	Logisticians	\$31.21	\$64,936
★5	Marketing Managers	\$54.32	\$112,998
★5	Administrative Services Managers	\$40.80	\$84,865
★4	General and Operations Managers	\$43.47	\$90,421

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.