

High Demand Occupations

Looking at the occupations most in demand over the next decade, it is readily apparent that the outlook is somewhat of a mixed bag. When education, training and wages are factored into the equation, one finds that many of the jobs which will require the most new and replacement workers generally pay below average wages and require little or no advanced preparation. There are some notable exceptions to this general tendency, such as **Registered Nurses** and **General & Operations Managers**. Each of these require substantial education or experience and pay well above the regional average. Among the top ten demand occupations, the only other one which promises above average overall pay is **Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor Trailer**. Analysis of the Job Zone data reveals that almost half of the top 100 occupations will require little or no formal training (Job Zones 1 & 2). Roughly four out of ten will require moderate to long term preparation (Job Zones 3 & 4). .

Top 100 Occupations - Annual Demand

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage		Job Zone
				Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual	
1	41-2031	Retail Salespersons	940	\$7.04	\$14,641	\$11.48	\$23,868	2
2	41-2011	Cashiers	840	\$6.73	\$14,000	\$8.02	\$16,680	1
3	29-1111	Registered Nurses	645	\$19.94	\$41,484	\$27.33	\$56,847	4
4	53-3032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	355	\$12.45	\$25,895	\$18.13	\$37,711	2
5	53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	355	\$7.59	\$15,797	\$10.40	\$21,626	1
6	31-1012	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	340	\$7.93	\$16,485	\$9.20	\$19,146	2
7	35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	340	\$6.73	\$14,004	\$7.41	\$15,416	1
8	37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	330	\$7.04	\$14,652	\$9.28	\$19,303	1
9	35-2021	Food Preparation Workers	280	\$6.77	\$14,087	\$7.68	\$15,964	1
10	11-1021	General and Operations Managers	270	\$22.74	\$47,307	\$44.52	\$92,598	4
11	39-9011	Child Care Workers	270	\$6.81	\$14,163	\$7.89	\$16,405	1
12	51-2092	Team Assemblers	270	\$7.59	\$15,791	\$10.85	\$22,561	1
13	43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	245	\$7.54	\$15,677	\$11.01	\$22,902	2
14	35-2011	Cooks, Fast Food	230	\$6.75	\$14,033	\$7.69	\$16,001	2
15	43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	230	\$11.39	\$23,683	\$16.22	\$33,744	3
16	43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	230	\$9.10	\$18,920	\$13.09	\$27,235	2
17	41-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Retail Sales Workers	220	\$10.65	\$22,159	\$17.07	\$35,506	2
18	41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical a	220	\$14.66	\$30,485	\$24.61	\$51,179	2
19	43-6014	Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	220	\$9.26	\$19,266	\$12.62	\$26,259	2
20	29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	205	\$13.34	\$27,747	\$16.64	\$34,604	3
21	43-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Office and Administrative Support Wor	205	\$14.35	\$29,853	\$22.27	\$46,316	3
22	43-3071	Tellers	205	\$8.64	\$17,975	\$10.86	\$22,597	2
23	35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	195	\$6.82	\$14,182	\$7.45	\$15,499	1
24	49-9042	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	195	\$9.83	\$20,443	\$14.08	\$29,290	2
25	37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	185	\$6.72	\$13,976	\$7.45	\$15,505	1
26	43-9061	Office Clerks, General	185	\$7.20	\$14,974	\$10.47	\$21,777	2
27	25-2031	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	170	N/A	\$31,898	N/A	\$42,207	4
28	13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	160	\$16.45	\$34,215	\$26.26	\$54,622	4
29	25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	160	N/A	\$33,147	N/A	\$41,485	4
30	25-9041	Teacher Assistants	145	N/A	\$14,203	N/A	\$15,972	3
31	43-4171	Receptionists and Information Clerks	145	\$7.82	\$16,273	\$10.29	\$21,393	2
32	35-1012	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	120	\$9.46	\$19,671	\$13.15	\$27,344	3
33	43-5071	Shipping, Receiving, and Traffic Clerks	120	\$9.57	\$19,908	\$15.49	\$32,216	1
34	49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	120	\$10.50	\$21,850	\$15.10	\$31,405	3

NOTE: Wages in RED are above average

Top 100 Occupations - Annual Demand

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage		Job Zone
				Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual	
35	53-3033	Truck Drivers, Light or Delivery Services	120	\$8.60	\$17,897	\$13.23	\$27,517	1
36	53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	120	\$9.78	\$20,346	\$12.35	\$25,690	1
37	11-1011	Chief Executives	110	\$25.43	\$52,888	\$57.24	\$119,067	5
38	31-1011	Home Health Aides	110	\$7.93	\$16,500	\$9.48	\$19,723	1
39	31-1013	Psychiatric Aides	110	\$8.56	\$17,810	\$9.15	\$19,029	2
40	33-3051	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	110	\$11.75	\$24,442	\$15.09	\$31,386	3
41	35-2012	Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	110	\$6.80	\$14,148	\$8.76	\$18,214	2
42	23-1011	Lawyers	95	\$23.53	\$48,946	\$47.83	\$99,478	5
43	37-3011	Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	95	\$7.75	\$16,117	\$9.96	\$20,717	1
44	43-6011	Executive Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	95	\$12.10	\$25,176	\$16.65	\$34,624	4
45	47-2031	Carpenters	95	\$10.46	\$21,752	\$14.70	\$30,573	3
46	47-2061	Construction Laborers	95	\$7.72	\$16,048	\$11.32	\$23,542	1
47	47-2073	Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	95	\$12.25	\$25,477	\$15.17	\$31,560	3
48	51-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Production and Operating Workers	95	\$13.15	\$27,359	\$20.97	\$43,608	3
49	11-9141	Property, Real Estate, and Community Association Managers	85	\$14.86	\$30,907	\$23.29	\$48,433	4
50	33-9032	Security Guards	85	\$7.40	\$15,389	\$9.25	\$19,236	1
51	35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	85	\$7.15	\$14,878	\$9.05	\$18,818	3
52	41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	85	\$13.86	\$28,832	\$25.76	\$53,580	3
53	43-3011	Bill and Account Collectors	85	\$9.94	\$20,676	\$12.97	\$26,973	2
54	53-3022	Bus Drivers, School	85	\$6.87	\$14,286	\$9.50	\$19,753	1
55	25-2022	Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	75	N/A	\$32,725	N/A	\$40,554	4
56	33-3012	Correctional Officers and Jailers	75	\$10.00	\$20,799	\$12.88	\$26,797	2
57	35-3022	Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession, and Coffee Shop	75	\$6.83	\$14,197	\$7.42	\$15,431	1
58	41-2021	Counter and Rental Clerks	75	\$6.80	\$14,134	\$11.65	\$24,231	1
59	47-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	75	\$14.32	\$29,788	\$21.65	\$45,037	4
60	49-1011	First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers	75	\$15.38	\$31,986	\$24.72	\$51,420	4
61	51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	75	\$11.65	\$24,238	\$15.68	\$32,615	2
62	51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	75	\$7.31	\$15,203	\$10.14	\$21,087	1
63	53-3031	Driver/Sales Workers	75	\$8.65	\$17,994	\$13.68	\$28,446	1
64	53-7064	Packers and Packers, Hand	75	\$6.77	\$14,079	\$8.96	\$18,635	1
65	11-9021	Construction Managers	60	\$18.74	\$38,972	\$29.98	\$62,364	4
66	23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	60	\$12.94	\$26,918	\$18.05	\$37,541	3
67	31-9091	Dental Assistants	60	\$9.99	\$20,783	\$13.72	\$28,536	2

NOTE: Wages in RED are above average

Top 100 Occupations - Annual Demand

Rank	SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage		Average Overall Wage		Job Zone
				Hourly	Annual	Hourly	Annual	
68	35-9021	Dishwashers	60	\$6.77	\$14,082	\$7.41	\$15,414	1
69	43-6012	Legal Secretaries	60	\$12.52	\$26,051	\$18.36	\$38,181	3
70	47-2111	Electricians	60	\$12.98	\$26,997	\$21.14	\$43,961	3
71	11-3011	Administrative Services Managers	50	\$15.28	\$31,789	\$26.21	\$54,507	4
72	11-3031	Financial Managers	50	\$22.72	\$47,260	\$37.61	\$78,225	5
73	11-9051	Food Service Managers	50	\$16.80	\$34,938	\$24.01	\$49,936	4
74	11-9151	Social and Community Service Managers	50	\$15.34	\$31,898	\$21.30	\$44,313	4
75	15-1031	Computer Software Engineers, Applications	50	\$22.16	\$46,088	\$31.10	\$64,679	4
76	15-1041	Computer Support Specialists	50	\$12.57	\$26,139	\$19.16	\$39,862	3
77	21-1021	Child, Family, and School Social Workers	50	\$11.33	\$23,558	\$14.89	\$30,972	5
78	27-3031	Public Relations Specialists	50	\$13.70	\$28,492	\$18.66	\$38,813	4
79	29-1062	Family and General Practitioners	50	N/A	N/A	\$93.02	\$193,487	5
80	29-2071	Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	50	\$9.06	\$18,848	\$13.35	\$27,761	3
81	33-2011	Fire Fighters	50	\$11.02	\$22,927	\$15.44	\$32,106	3
82	35-3011	Bartenders	50	\$6.77	\$14,091	\$7.94	\$16,513	2
83	39-3011	Gaming Dealers	50	\$6.60	\$13,736	\$8.89	\$18,490	2
84	39-9032	Recreation Workers	50	\$7.79	\$16,194	\$11.65	\$24,239	3
85	43-4081	Hotel, Motel, and Resort Desk Clerks	50	\$6.72	\$13,981	\$7.95	\$16,527	2
86	45-2092	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	50	\$8.50	\$17,681	\$9.36	\$19,471	1
87	49-3031	Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	50	\$11.02	\$22,918	\$16.12	\$33,538	3
88	51-6011	Laundry and Dry-Cleaning Workers	50	\$6.73	\$13,988	\$8.45	\$17,577	1
89	11-2022	Sales Managers	35	\$24.97	\$51,945	\$44.32	\$92,178	4
90	11-9032	Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	35	N/A	\$53,063	N/A	\$68,970	5
91	11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	35	\$20.82	\$43,302	\$35.23	\$73,271	5
92	13-1071	Employment, Recruitment, and Placement Specialists	35	\$12.05	\$25,065	\$17.13	\$35,622	4
93	13-1073	Training and Development Specialists	35	\$14.20	\$29,533	\$19.97	\$41,535	4
94	15-1051	Computer Systems Analysts	35	\$20.08	\$41,760	\$28.64	\$59,578	4
95	15-1081	Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts	35	\$15.09	\$31,390	\$27.88	\$57,999	3
96	21-1012	Educational, Vocational, and School Counselors	35	\$14.44	\$30,045	\$22.08	\$45,931	4
97	25-2011	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	35	\$6.73	\$13,994	\$10.31	\$21,447	4
98	25-2012	Kindergarten Teachers, Except Special Education	35	N/A	\$21,533	N/A	\$36,269	4
99	25-2032	Vocational Education Teachers, Secondary School	35	N/A	\$35,976	N/A	\$44,708	4
100	25-2041	Special Education Teachers, Preschool, Kindergarten, and Elementary School	35	N/A	\$35,941	N/A	\$45,352	4

NOTE: Wages in RED are above average

Determining the *“Hottest”* Occupations

A variety of methods could have been used to ascertain which occupations might prove to be the most attractive to students and other job seekers. For purposes of this publication, a fairly simple method of indexing desirability was utilized. Assuming that any person seeking work in a particular occupation would want to ensure that there was at least moderate demand for workers in that field and that it should pay a reasonable wage, LMI staff devised a method of indexing these factors. It was determined that the average annual demand for workers among all occupational titles across the Southcentral Mississippi Works region was roughly **30** persons per year. The average annual salary for all surveyed occupations was found to be approximately **\$35,072**. For starting wages the mean was determined to be about **\$16,728**. As a first step, any occupation with below average demand or not paying average or above wages was eliminated. To arrive at the “Hot Factor” used for ranking the remaining occupations, the annual demand for that occupation was divided by the overall average of **30**. Then the annual overall wage for each occupation was divided by the average of **\$35,072** and the starting wage was divided by **\$16,728**. The three “indexes” derived from these calculations were then added together to obtain the “Hot Factor”. For example, if a certain occupation had an annual demand of **50** persons, the first “index” would be **50** divided by **30** or **1.67**. If that same occupation had an annual salary of **\$37,500**, the second “index” would be **\$37,500** divided by **\$35,072** or **1.07**. If the starting wage was **\$20,500**, then dividing **\$20,500** by **\$16,728** would yield **1.23**. Adding the three “indexes” together would produce a “Hot Factor” of **3.97**. Generally speaking, any occupation with above average demand and above average wages would be a candidate for inclusion in the list. Higher wages might offset lower demand or vice versa, but the end result should still yield a reasonable approximation of the most desirable occupations.

The 50 *"Hottest"* Jobs

SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage	Average Annual Wage	"Hot" Factor	Job Zone
1	29-1111 Registered Nurses	645	\$41,484	\$56,847	25.60	4
2	11-1021 General and Operations Managers	270	\$47,307	\$92,598	14.47	2
3	53-3032 Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	355	\$25,895	\$37,711	14.46	4
4	29-1065 Pediatricians, General	10	\$104,313	\$155,949	11.02	5
5	41-4012 Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and S	220	\$30,485	\$51,179	10.61	5
6	11-1011 Chief Executives	110	\$52,888	\$119,067	10.22	2
7	43-1011 First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Office and Administrative Support Workers	205	\$29,853	\$46,316	9.94	5
8	41-1011 First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Retail Sales Workers	220	\$22,159	\$35,506	9.67	3
9	13-2011 Accountants and Auditors	160	\$34,215	\$54,622	8.94	2
10	23-1011 Lawyers	95	\$48,946	\$99,478	8.93	4
11	25-2031 Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	170	\$31,898	\$42,207	8.78	4
12	25-2021 Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	160	\$33,147	\$41,485	8.50	4
13	29-1051 Pharmacists	35	\$73,464	\$97,975	8.35	5
14	29-1021 Dentists, General	10	\$54,710	\$126,293	7.20	5
15	11-9041 Engineering Managers	10	\$67,128	\$97,819	7.14	4
16	11-2022 Sales Managers	35	\$51,945	\$92,178	6.90	5
17	11-3031 Financial Managers	50	\$47,260	\$78,225	6.72	4
18	11-9121 Natural Sciences Managers	0	\$62,714	\$97,003	6.51	3
19	17-2051 Civil Engineers	25	\$54,551	\$79,877	6.37	4
20	11-9032 Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	35	\$53,063	\$68,970	6.31	5
21	17-2072 Electronics Engineers, Except Computer	0	\$67,250	\$79,382	6.28	3
22	15-1031 Computer Software Engineers, Applications	50	\$46,088	\$64,679	6.27	4
23	15-1011 Computer and Information Scientists, Research	0	\$63,226	\$86,161	6.24	4
24	41-4011 Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific	25	\$52,681	\$77,205	6.18	4
25	29-1041 Optometrists	0	\$54,917	\$101,306	6.17	4

The 50 *"Hottest"* Jobs

SOC Code	Occupational Title	Annual Demand	Average Starting Wage	Average Annual Wage	"Hot" Factor	Job Zone
26	11-9021 Construction Managers	60	\$38,972	\$62,364	6.11	4
27	41-3021 Insurance Sales Agents	85	\$28,832	\$53,580	6.08	3
28	11-9141 Property, Real Estate, and Community Association Managers	85	\$30,907	\$48,433	6.06	3
29	51-1011 First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Production and Operating Workers	95	\$27,359	\$43,608	6.05	4
30	11-3021 Computer and Information Systems Managers	25	\$48,920	\$77,108	5.96	3
31	49-1011 First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers	75	\$31,986	\$51,420	5.88	3
32	11-9111 Medical and Health Services Managers	35	\$43,302	\$73,271	5.84	4
33	11-2021 Marketing Managers	25	\$43,834	\$83,146	5.82	4
34	17-2141 Mechanical Engineers	10	\$55,889	\$69,745	5.66	3
35	17-2041 Chemical Engineers	0	\$56,923	\$77,529	5.61	1
36	25-2022 Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	75	\$32,725	\$40,554	5.61	4
37	53-2011 Airline Pilots, Copilots, and Flight Engineers	0	\$54,329	\$82,195	5.59	3
38	47-1011 First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	75	\$29,788	\$45,037	5.56	4
39	17-2071 Electrical Engineers	10	\$51,558	\$75,135	5.56	3
40	29-1123 Physical Therapists	10	\$51,572	\$74,965	5.55	3
41	29-1122 Occupational Therapists	10	\$53,440	\$68,879	5.49	4
42	11-3051 Industrial Production Managers	10	\$49,109	\$75,810	5.43	4
43	17-2112 Industrial Engineers	10	\$50,925	\$71,269	5.41	4
44	11-3042 Training and Development Managers	10	\$48,246	\$76,252	5.39	4
45	15-1051 Computer Systems Analysts	35	\$41,760	\$59,578	5.36	3
46	19-2042 Geoscientists, Except Hydrologists and Geographers	0	\$51,287	\$79,824	5.34	4
47	11-9033 Education Administrators, Postsecondary	25	\$44,279	\$64,243	5.31	4
48	11-3041 Compensation and Benefits Managers	10	\$49,050	\$70,037	5.26	3
49	25-1063 Economics Teachers, Postsecondary	0	\$54,415	\$68,309	5.20	4
50	11-9051 Food Service Managers	50	\$34,938	\$49,936	5.18	5