

CAREER QUARTERLY

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Virginia's Economy at a Glance

| Data Series | Apr 2021 | May 2021 | June 2021 | July 2021 | Aug 2021 | Sept 2021 |
|--|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|------------|
| Labor Force Data | | | | | | |
| Civilian Labor Force(1) | 4,225.8 | 4,230.0 | 4,233.9 | 4,241.8 | 4,248.1 | (P)4,244.2 |
| Employment(1) | 4,028.5 | 4,040.8 | 4,050.1 | 4,065.6 | 4,079.7 | (P)4,084.4 |
| Unemployment(1) | 197.3 | 189.2 | 183.8 | 176.2 | 168.4 | (P)159.8 |
| Unemployment Rate(2) | 4.7 | 4.5 | 4.3 | 4.2 | 4.0 | (P)3.8 |
| Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment | | | | | | |
| Total Nonfarm(3) | 3,892.0 | 3,891.0 | 3,900.2 | 3,902.7 | 3,926.3 | (P)3,929.0 |
| 12-month % change | 7.8 | 7.1 | 5.3 | 3.8 | 2.5 | (P)1.9 |
| Mining and Logging(3) | 7.5 | 7.4 | 7.5 | 7.7 | 7.7 | (P)7.7 |
| 12-month % change | 10.3 | 7.2 | 10.3 | 13.2 | 11.6 | (P)13.2 |
| Construction(3) | 204.7 | 203.5 | 204.6 | 204.8 | 205.1 | (P)204.9 |
| 12-month % change | 4.2 | 2.9 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 2.6 | (P)1.8 |
| Manufacturing(3) | 237.4 | 236.7 | 236.4 | 236.6 | 237.0 | (P)239.0 |
| 12-month % change | 5.6 | 6.3 | 4.1 | 3.0 | 2.3 | (P)2.6 |
| Trade, Transportation, and Utilities(3) | 657.4 | 656.9 | 658.9 | 656.8 | 654.6 | (P)653.5 |
| 12-month % change | 11.6 | 10.2 | 6.5 | 4.2 | 2.8 | (P)1.6 |
| Information(3) | 65.7 | 63.9 | 64.6 | 65.3 | 65.4 | (P)65.7 |
| 12-month % change | 2.7 | 0.2 | 1.3 | 2.5 | 1.9 | (P)-0.3 |
| Financial Activities(3) | 205.7 | 205.4 | 204.5 | 202.8 | 203.8 | (P)203.2 |
| 12-month % change | -1.2 | -1.1 | -1.1 | -2.3 | -2.2 | (P)-2.7 |
| Professional & Business Services(3) | 767.8 | 770.2 | 771.5 | 775.7 | 771.1 | (P)781.0 |
| 12-month % change | 3.8 | 3.7 | 3.9 | 3.8 | 2.5 | (P)3.1 |
| Education & Health Services(3) | 531.5 | 534.7 | 533.8 | 531.4 | 531.7 | (P)534.6 |
| 12-month % change | 7.8 | 6.3 | 4.3 | 2.8 | 1.9 | (P)1.9 |
| Leisure & Hospitality(3) | 332.4 | 334.4 | 332.6 | 345.2 | 346.9 | (P)344.9 |
| 12-month % change | 53.3 | 46.2 | 26.4 | 16.5 | 11.8 | (P)5.9 |
| Other Services(3) | 180.4 | 180.5 | 181.5 | 180.9 | 185.2 | (P)181.5 |
| 12-month % change | 13.5 | 10.0 | 5.9 | 2.8 | 3.6 | (P)0.6 |
| Government(3) | 701.5 | 697.4 | 704.3 | 695.5 | 717.8 | (P)713.0 |
| 12-month % change | -1.7 | -0.3 | 1.7 | 1.4 | -0.2 | (P)0.5 |

Footnotes

(1) Number of persons, in thousands, seasonally adjusted.

(2) In percent, seasonally adjusted.

(3) Number of jobs, in thousands, seasonally adjusted.

(P) Preliminary

Labor Market Research



Fewer Received Unemployment Insurance as U.S. Recovered From Great Recession

Daniel J. Perez-Lopez

In 2018, the share of adults who received Unemployment Insurance (UI) at some point during the year reached a six-year low as the economy strengthened following the Great Recession.

Also, 7 in 10 adults who received UI at any point during 2018 received it for three months or fewer.

The newly released tables, combined with data from the U.S. Department of Labor and the Census Bureau's experimental Household Pulse Survey (HPS), also shed light on how the COVID-19 pandemic reshaped the profile of unemployment insurance recipients.

These findings come from tables recently released by the U.S. Census Bureau, detailing demographic characteristics of recipients of social insurance programs in 2018 captured in the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP).

Unemployment Insurance After the Great Recession

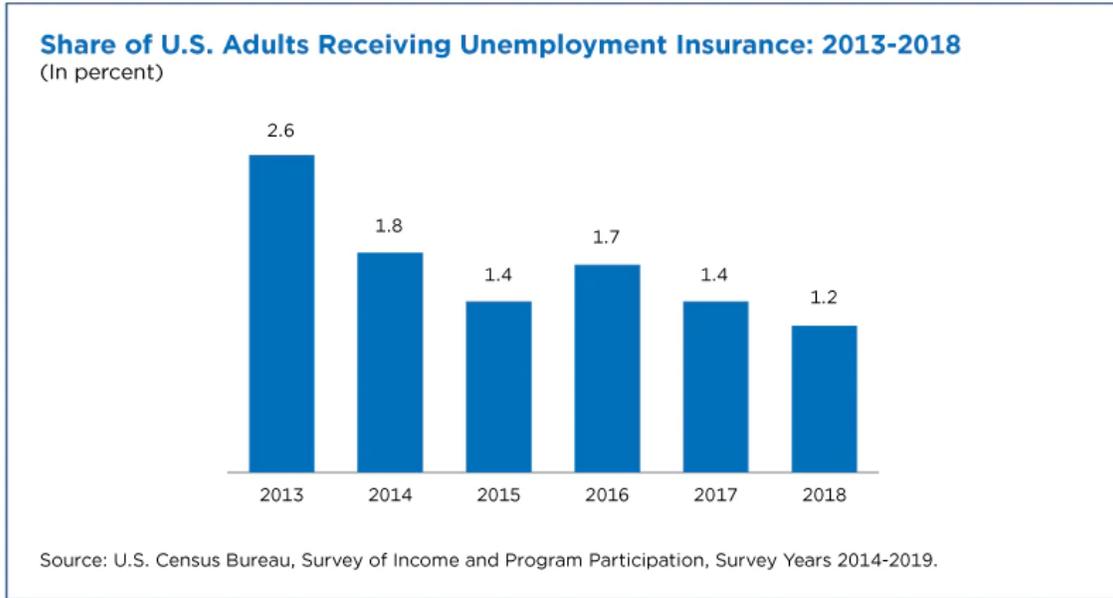
The UI program supports millions of workers who lose their jobs through no fault of their own every year. Typically, more adults receive UI during times of economic recession, and fewer adults receive it during times of economic expansion.

Often, Congress extends the number of weeks workers can collect UI during recessions, as it did during the so-called Great Recession from December 2007-June 2009. Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) was available in some form from 2008 through 2013.

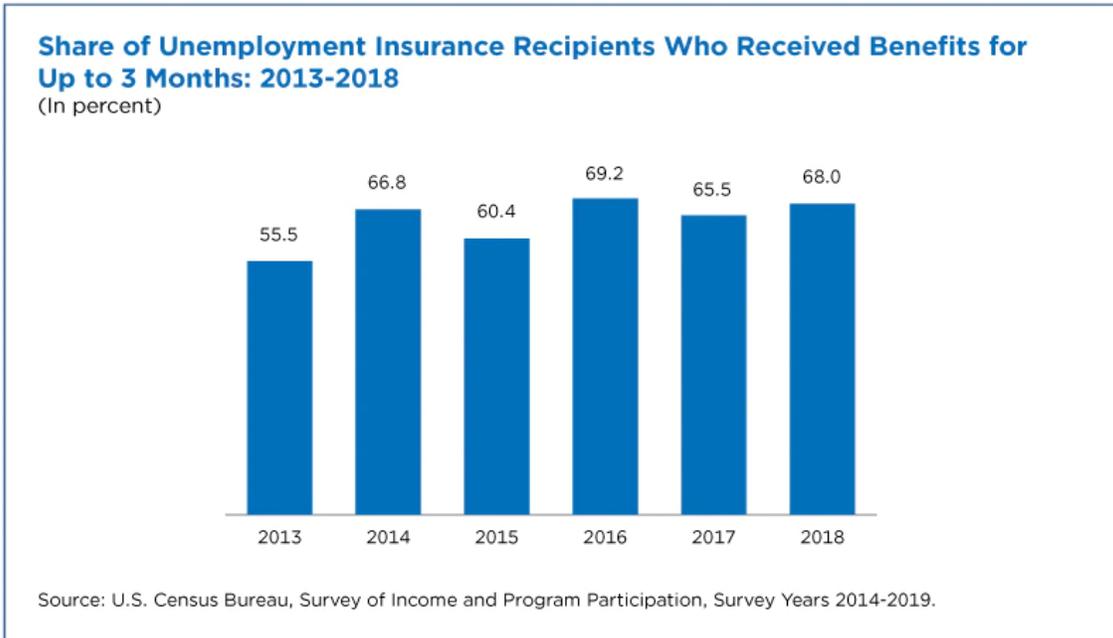
The following decade was a time of economic recovery. In fact, 2018 marked the ninth consecutive year of the longest post-WWII expansion, which lasted through February 2020 until the pandemic took hold in the United States.

The newly released tables, combined with data from the U.S. Department of Labor and the Census Bureau's experimental Household Pulse Survey (HPS), also shed light on how the COVID-19 pandemic reshaped the profile of unemployment insurance recipients.

The Great Recession unemployment rate peaked at 10% in October 2009, but the lingering effects of the recession and the availability of extended benefits under EUC were evident in elevated receipt of UI as late as 2013.



In 2013, 2.6% of adults received UI at some point. However, by 2018, the share of adults that received UI had been cut in half to 1.2%.



As the share of Americans receiving UI fell, more received the benefits for shorter periods except in 2015 (when the share of recipients of up to 3 months of UI was about the same as in 2013).

In 2013, just over half of UI recipients collected the benefits for three or fewer months; by 2018, nearly 70% of recipients collected UI for three or fewer months.

UI Transformed During COVID-19

The federal government responded to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic by transforming the UI program.

The program underwent several temporary changes under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act enacted in March 2020. Weekly benefit checks were increased by \$600 and the number of weeks of benefits available were extended.

Plus, it created the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program, allowing individuals who were not previously eligible for regular UI—such as workers with shorter work histories, self-employed workers, independent contractors, and gig workers—to receive benefits if their employment was affected by COVID-19.

Administrative UI data from the Department of Labor show the magnitude of disruption and changes to the UI program triggered by the pandemic. In the second quarter of 2019, before the pandemic hit the United States, 2.6 million UI claims were filed. In the second quarter of 2020, 33.7 million claims were filed.

What Happens After the Pandemic

Will UI follow the same trajectory in post-pandemic recovery as after the Great Recession?

Data from the Census Bureau's experimental Household Pulse Survey (HPS) show that UI receipt remained high although economic conditions improved by the summer of 2021. By June 2021, 6.8% of adults in households reported receiving UI in the first half of 2021.

SIPP and HPS data also show that the profile of UI recipients changed in the wake of the pandemic-related economic disruption and changes to the UI program.

In 2018, SIPP data show that about 60% of UI recipients were non-Hispanic White adults. HPS data show that in June 2021, about 50% of all those who reported receiving UI since January were non-Hispanic White adults.

In 2018, about 30% of those who received UI had a bachelor's degree or higher, according to the SIPP. In June 2021, the HPS found that only about 20% of adults who reported UI receipt had at least a bachelor's degree.

The living situation of UI recipients has also changed during the pandemic. The SIPP data from 2018 show that 15.6% of UI recipients lived alone. By June 2021, the HPS shows that only 7.0% of households that reported receiving UI that year were single-person households.

About the Data

SIPP is a nationally representative longitudinal survey administered by the U.S. Census Bureau that provides comprehensive information on the dynamics of income, employment, household composition, and government program participation.

For technical documentation and more information about SIPP data quality, please visit the SIPP website's Technical Documentation page.

HPS is designed to provide near real-time data on how the pandemic is affecting American lives. Information on the methodology and reliability of these estimates can be found in the source and accuracy statements for each HPS data release.

Data users interested in state-level sample sizes, the number of respondents, weighted response rates and occupied housing unit coverage ratios can consult the quality measures file available at the same location.

All comparative statements in this report have undergone statistical testing and, unless otherwise noted, all comparisons are statistically significant at the 10% significance level.

The June 2021 data were collected from June 23-July 5, 2021 during week 33 of the survey. The Census Bureau sent invitations to 1,042,285 households and received a total of 66,262 responses, for a weighted response rate of 6.3%.

Source: Daniel J. Perez-Lopez is a survey statistician in the Census Bureau's Social, Economic, and Housing Statistics Division.

https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2021/11/will-unemployment-insurance-after-pandemic-follow-same-path-as-after-great-recession.html?utm_campaign=20211103msacos1ccs&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Job Searching



Projected Openings in Occupations That Require a College Degree

Elka Torpey

Which college-level occupations are expected to have many openings in the coming years? What types of career fields are they in? And how much do they pay? Data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) answer these questions.

Each year, BLS projects employment and openings for hundreds of occupations. As part of its analysis, BLS determines the education and experience typically needed for people entering an occupation, along with any postentry training required to attain competency.

About half of the occupations analyzed by BLS typically require some type of college degree: associate's, bachelor's, master's, or doctoral or professional. The occupations cover a range of career fields, including

- ▶ Business, management, and sales
- ▶ Computer and engineering
- ▶ Education, social service, and legal
- ▶ Healthcare
- ▶ Media, arts, and sports

Keep reading to see projections and wage data for selected college-level occupations in each of these career fields. Tables show the degree that is typically required, along with 2020 median annual wages and the number of openings projected each year from 2020 to 2030. (A median wage is the wage at which half of workers in the occupation earned more than that amount, and half earned less. These wage data exclude self-employed workers.)

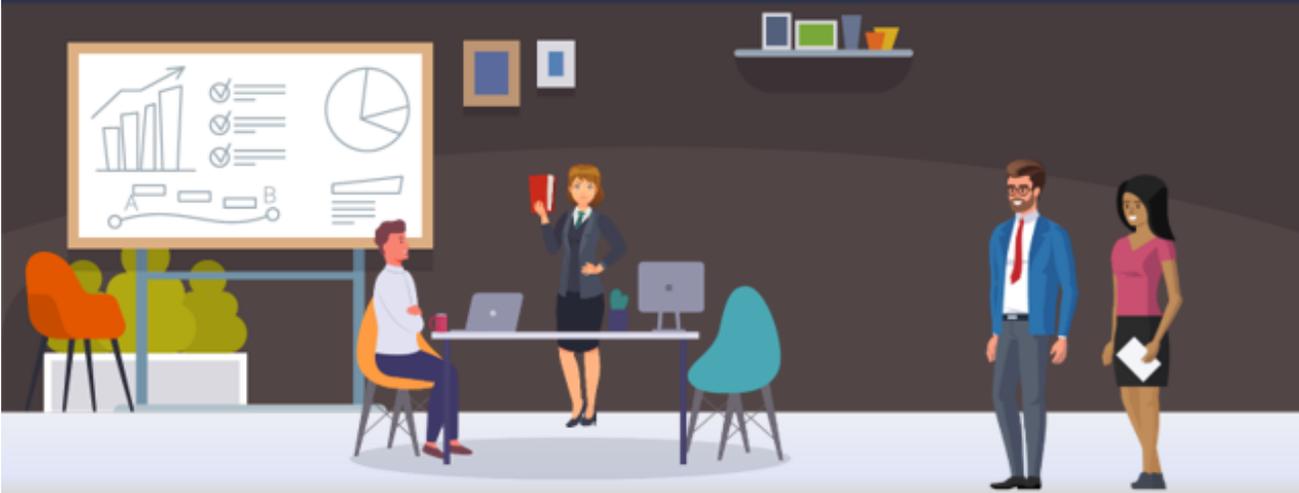
Compare the wages in the tables with the median annual wage for all occupations in 2020 (\$41,950) and with the median wages for occupations at the associate's (\$55,870), bachelor's (\$78,020), master's (\$76,800), and doctoral or professional (\$110,160) degree levels.

Most of the projected openings in these occupations stem from the need to replace workers who leave permanently, such as for retirement. But some openings are expected to result from newly created jobs.

Business, management, and sales

Workers in business, management, and sales occupations help organizations operate, oversee people or money, or promote products and services. Among the occupations in table 1, general and operations managers is projected to have the most openings each year, on average, from 2020 to 2030.

Table 1. Business, management, and sales
Occupations projected to have the most openings each year, on average, 2020–30



| Occupation | Occupational openings, projected 2020–30 annual average | Median annual wage, 2020 | Degree typically required for entry |
|---|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| General and operations managers | 229,600 | \$103,650 | Bachelor's |
| Accountants and auditors | 135,000 | 73,560 | Bachelor's |
| Management analysts | 99,400 | 87,660 | Bachelor's |
| Market research analysts and marketing specialists | 96,000 | 65,810 | Bachelor's |
| Human resources specialists | 73,400 | 63,490 | Bachelor's |
| Financial managers | 64,200 | 134,180 | Bachelor's |
| Medical and health services managers | 51,800 | 104,280 | Bachelor's |
| Securities, commodities, and financial services sales agents | 42,500 | 64,770 | Bachelor's |
| Computer and information systems managers | 42,400 | 151,150 | Bachelor's |
| Financial and investment analysts, financial risk specialists, and financial specialists, all other | 41,000 | 83,660 | Bachelor's |

Note: Work experience in a related occupation is typically required for general and operations managers; management analysts; financial managers; medical and health services managers; and computer and information systems managers. On-the-job training is typically required for securities, commodities, and financial services sales agents.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of Occupational Statistics and Employment Projections.

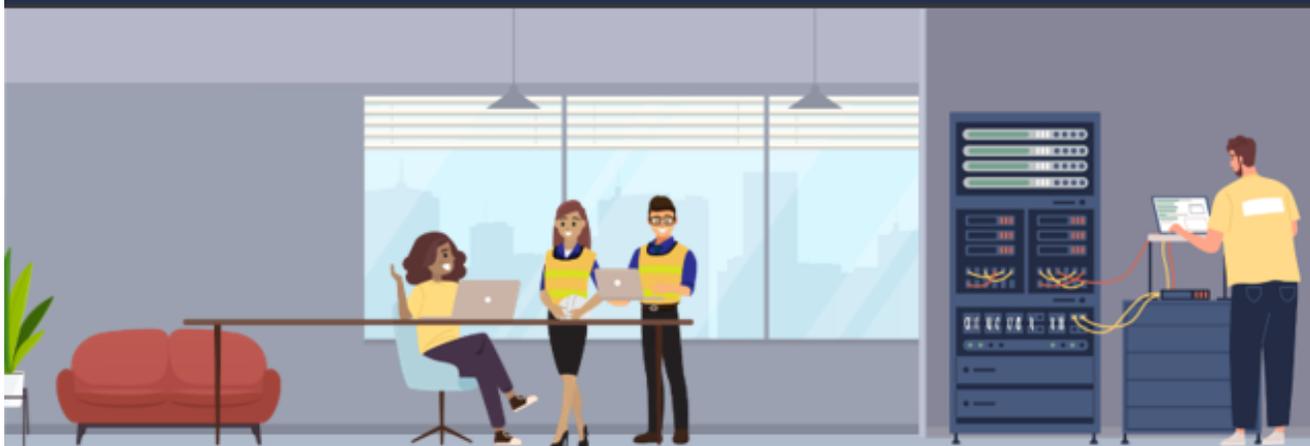
All the occupations in table 1 typically require a bachelor's degree for entry. Managers and management analysts also need work experience in a related occupation. Securities, commodities, and financial services sales agents typically receive on-the-job training after being hired, which may include preparation for the exams required to sell investment products and services.

Computer and engineering

Workers in computer and engineering occupations use technical knowledge to solve problems and to develop products and systems. Of the occupations in table 2, software developers and software quality assurance analysts and testers is expected to have the most openings each year, on average, from 2020 to 2030.

Table 2. Computer and engineering

Occupations projected to have the most openings each year, on average, 2020–30



| Occupation | Occupational openings, projected 2020–30 annual average | Median annual wage, 2020 | Degree typically required for entry |
|---|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Software developers and software quality assurance analysts and testers | 189,200 | \$110,140 | Bachelor's |
| Computer systems analysts | 47,500 | 93,730 | Bachelor's |
| Civil engineers | 25,000 | 88,570 | Bachelor's |
| Network and computer systems administrators | 24,900 | 84,810 | Bachelor's |
| Industrial engineers | 23,300 | 88,950 | Bachelor's |
| Mechanical engineers | 20,200 | 90,160 | Bachelor's |
| Web developers and digital interface designers | 17,900 | 77,200 | Bachelor's |
| Information security analysts | 16,300 | 103,590 | Bachelor's |
| Computer network support specialists | 15,500 | 65,450 | Associate's |
| Database administrators and architects | 13,900 | 98,860 | Bachelor's |

Note: Work experience in a related occupation is typically required for information security analysts.

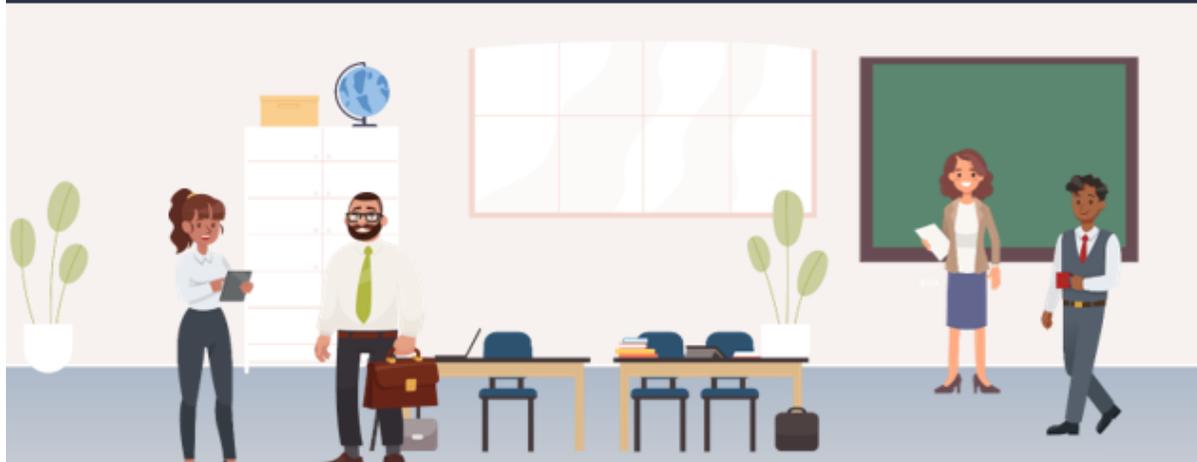
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of Occupational Statistics and Employment Projections.

A bachelor's degree is typically required for all of the occupations in table 2, except for computer network support specialists; workers in this occupation typically need an associate's degree. Information security analysts often need experience in a related occupation. Employers may require information technology (IT) workers to have certifications related to the products they use.

Education, social service, and legal

Education, social service, and legal jobs involve helping people to learn, improve their lives, or resolve problems. Of the occupations in table 3, elementary school teachers is projected to have the most openings annually, on average, from 2020 to 2030.

Table 3. Education, social service, and legal
Occupations projected to have the most openings each year, on average, 2020–30



| Occupation | Occupational openings, projected 2020–30 annual average | Median annual wage, 2020 | Degree typically required for entry |
|--|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Elementary school teachers, except special education | 110,800 | \$60,940 | Bachelor's |
| Secondary school teachers, except special and career/technical education | 77,400 | 62,870 | Bachelor's |
| Preschool teachers, except special education | 59,600 | 31,930 | Associate's |
| Middle school teachers, except special and career/technical education | 48,400 | 60,810 | Bachelor's |
| Lawyers | 46,000 | 126,930 | Doctoral or professional |
| Paralegals and legal assistants | 43,000 | 52,920 | Associate's |
| Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors | 41,000 | 47,660 | Bachelor's |
| Child, family, and school social workers | 36,700 | 48,430 | Bachelor's |
| Educational, guidance, and career counselors and advisors | 35,000 | 58,120 | Master's |
| Health specialties teachers, postsecondary | 30,800 | 99,090 | Doctoral or professional |

Note: Work experience in a related occupation is typically required for health specialties teachers, postsecondary.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of Occupational Statistics and Employment Projections.

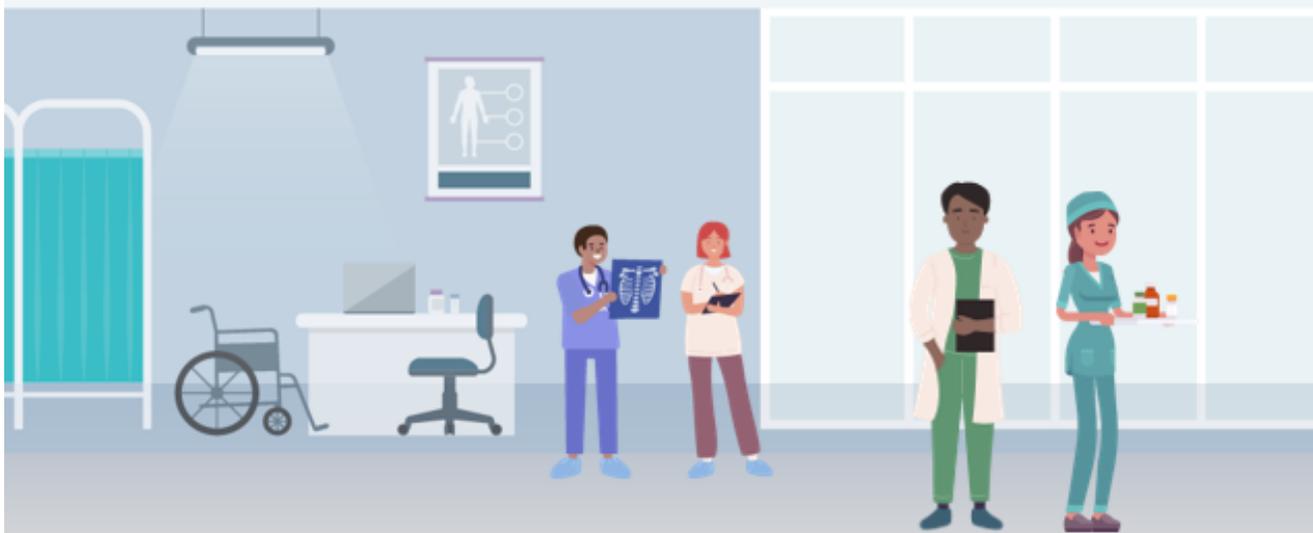
Education assignments for the occupations in table 3 range from an associate’s degree for preschool teachers and paralegals to a doctoral or professional degree for postsecondary health specialties teachers and lawyers. K-12 teachers, counselors, and social workers typically need a bachelor’s or master’s degree for entry. Most of these occupations also require licensure or certification.

Healthcare

Healthcare workers help people get or stay well. The number of projected openings for registered nurses—nearly 200,000 each year, on average, from 2020 to 2030—far surpasses those in the other occupations in table 4.

Table 4. Healthcare

Occupations projected to have the most openings each year, on average, 2020–30



| Occupation | Occupational openings, projected 2020–30 annual average | Median annual wage, 2020 | Degree typically required for entry |
|---|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Registered nurses | 194,500 | \$75,330 | Bachelor's |
| Nurse practitioners | 26,000 | 111,680 | Master's |
| Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians | 25,900 | 54,180 | Bachelor's |
| Physicians and surgeons | 22,700 | >=208,000 | Doctoral or professional |
| Radiologic technologists and technicians | 17,400 | 61,900 | Associate's |
| Physical therapist assistants | 16,400 | 59,770 | Associate's |
| Physical therapists | 15,600 | 91,010 | Doctoral or professional |
| Dental hygienists | 15,600 | 77,090 | Associate's |
| Speech-language pathologists | 15,200 | 80,480 | Master's |
| Physician assistants | 12,200 | 115,390 | Master's |

Note: An internship or residency is typically required for physicians and surgeons and speech-language pathologists.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of Occupational Statistics and Employment Projections.

Table 4 has relatively few bachelor's-level occupations. Dental hygienists, physical therapist assistants, and radiologic technologists typically need an associate's degree. Nurse practitioners, speech-language pathologists, and physician assistants typically need a master's degree, and physicians and surgeons and physical therapists typically need a doctoral or professional degree. Most workers in these occupations must be licensed, and some also must complete an internship or residency.

Media, arts, and sports

Media, arts, and sports workers focus primarily on informing or entertaining. Of the occupations in table 5, coaches and scouts is projected to have the most openings per year, on average, from 2020 to 2030.

Table 5. Media, arts, and sports

Occupations projected to have the most openings each year, on average, 2020–30



| Occupation | Occupational openings, projected 2020–30 annual average | Median annual wage, 2020 | Degree typically required for entry |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Coaches and scouts | 45,100 | \$36,330 | Bachelor's |
| Public relations specialists | 29,200 | 62,810 | Bachelor's |
| Graphic designers | 23,900 | 53,380 | Bachelor's |
| Producers and directors | 15,600 | 76,400 | Bachelor's |
| Writers and authors | 15,400 | 67,120 | Bachelor's |
| Art directors | 11,500 | 97,270 | Bachelor's |
| Editors | 11,200 | 63,400 | Bachelor's |
| Interpreters and translators | 10,400 | 52,330 | Bachelor's |
| Special effects artists and animators | 7,800 | 77,700 | Bachelor's |
| Interior designers | 7,800 | 57,060 | Bachelor's |

Note: Work experience in a related occupation is typically required for producers and directors, art directors, and editors. On-the-job training is typically required for writers and authors.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of Occupational Statistics and Employment Projections.

The occupations in table 5 all typically require a bachelor's degree. Work experience in a related occupation is usually important for several of these occupations, including producers and directors, editors, and art directors. Internships, portfolios, or other ways to show proficiency often are helpful for getting a job in these fields. Some occupations have licensing or other requirements.

For more information

Learn more about what’s required to enter the occupations highlighted in this article, as well as hundreds of others, in the Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH). For example, the How to Become One section of the OOH often describes fields of degree, alternative paths for entering an occupation, or other steps in preparing for a career, such as completing an internship or earning a license or certification.

A full list of occupational projections that includes wages and the BLS education and training assignments is available from the Employment Projections program. Read more about the BLS assignments on the education and training data page.

BLS education assignments are based on analyses of the academic preparation that workers typically need to enter an occupation. However, the education that workers in an occupation have attained may vary. See American Community Survey data for breakdowns of educational attainment by detailed occupation.

Source: Elka Torpey, “Projected openings in occupations that require a college degree,” Career Outlook, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, September 2021. <https://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2021/article/projected-openings-college-degree.htm>

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OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK HANDBOOK

Search Handbook

Home

Check out this video: [Using the Occupational Outlook Handbook for Your Career Search.](#)

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 - Math
 - Media and Communication
 - Military

SELECT OCCUPATIONS BY

2020 Median Pay Entry-Level Education On-the-job Training

Number of New Jobs (Projected) Growth Rate (Projected)

FEATURED OCCUPATION



Technical Writers

Technical writers prepare instruction manuals, how-to guides, journal articles, and other supporting documents to communicate complex and technical information more easily.

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A-Z INDEX

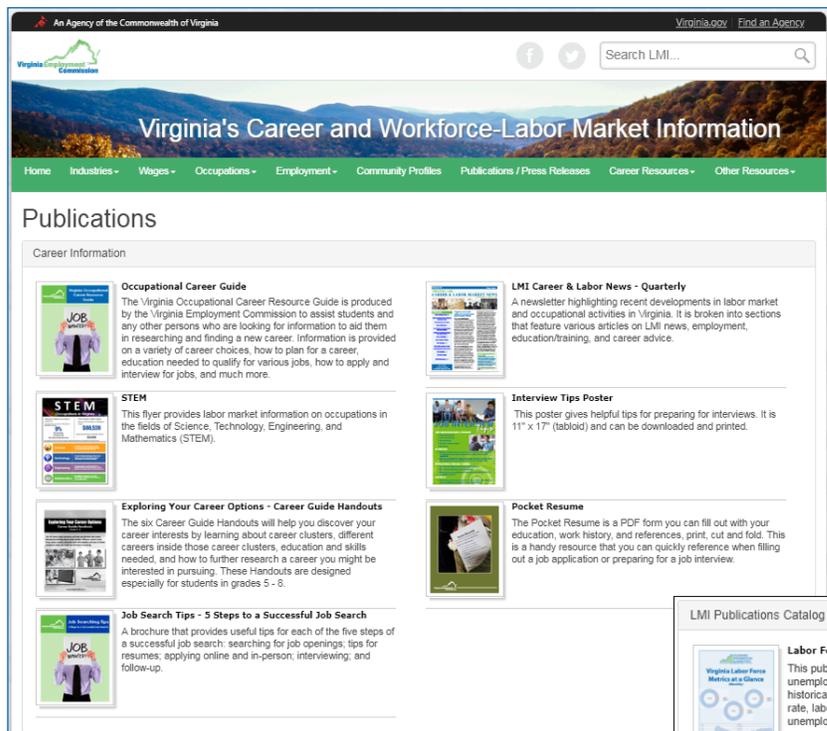
[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

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Career and Labor Market Information Publications

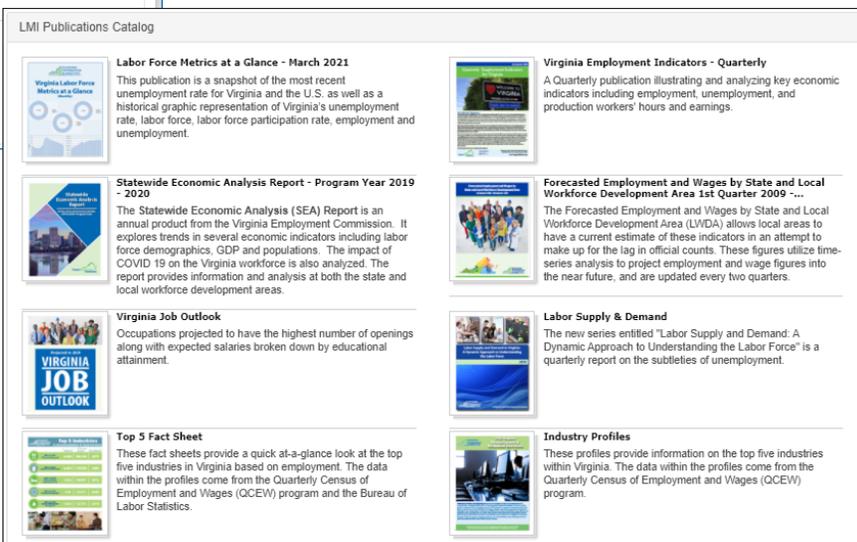
Explore Career possibilities on our Career and Labor Market Information Website at:

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