

NORTH CAROLINA

Top 15 Star Jobs

Top careers with high wages and employment growth by education requirements

Advanced Degree

		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	N/A	\$105,520
★	Lawyers	\$47.79	\$99,400
★	Physicians & Surgeons, All Other	\$94.55	\$196,670
★	Physician Assistants	\$49.13	\$102,180
★	Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	\$42.64	\$88,690
★	Nurse Practitioners	\$48.82	\$101,540
★	Clinical, Counseling, & School Psychologists	\$30.03	\$62,470
★	Speech-Language Pathologists	\$35.22	\$73,250
★	Physical Therapists	\$41.64	\$86,600
★	Business Teachers, Postsecondary	N/A	\$72,920
★	Occupational Therapists	\$40.72	\$84,700
★	Veterinarians	\$44.02	\$91,550
★	Nursing Instructors & Teachers, Postsecondary	N/A	\$64,520
★	Nurse Anesthetists	\$81.39	\$169,300
★	Dentists, General	\$94.08	\$195,680

All wage information is State Median Hourly and Annual Wage data which was calculated based on the May 2018 Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) program of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The OEWS program produces employment and wage estimates annually for more than 800 occupations for the U.S., individual states, and metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas; National occupational estimates for specific industries are also available.

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.

What are Star Jobs?

North Carolina's 5-Star Jobs represent occupations with the greatest projected employment potential through 2028. 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, visit www.nccommerce.com/starjobs



For more information on North Carolina careers go to:

- NCcareers.org
- [@CareersinNC](https://twitter.com/CareersinNC)
- lead@nccommerce.com



NC DEPARTMENT
of COMMERCE
LABOR & ECONOMIC
ANALYSIS

NORTH CAROLINA STAR JOBS TOP 15 BY EDUCATION 2021

NORTH CAROLINA Top 15 Star Jobs

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High School & Work Experience		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	First-Line Supervisors of Const. Trades & Extraction Workers	\$28.39	\$59,040
★	Electricians	\$20.73	\$43,110
★	Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	\$20.74	\$43,140
★	Insurance Sales Agents	\$23.77	\$49,440
★	Food Service Managers	\$26.91	\$55,980
★	Property, Real Estate, & Community Association Managers	\$26.27	\$54,630
★	Electrical Power-Line Installers & Repairers	\$28.70	\$59,690
★	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation & Serving Workers	\$15.31	\$31,850
★	Sales Reps., Wholesale & Mfg., Exc. Tech. & Scientific Products	\$28.81	\$59,920
★	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General	\$18.22	\$37,890
★	Carpenters	\$17.49	\$36,370
★	Medical Secretaries	\$16.09	\$33,470
★	Fitness Trainers & Aerobics Instructors	\$16.50	\$34,310
★	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers	\$22.19	\$46,160
★	Operating Engineers & Other Const. Equipment Operators	\$18.24	\$37,930

Postsecondary Training		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	Computer User Support Specialists	\$23.22	\$48,290
★	HVAC & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	\$20.11	\$41,820
★	Dental Assistants	\$20.03	\$41,660
★	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$20.26	\$42,140
★	Medical Assistants	\$15.73	\$32,710
★	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$21.55	\$44,830
★	Phlebotomists	\$15.24	\$31,700
★	Emergency Medical Technicians & Paramedics	\$16.96	\$35,280
★	Massage Therapists	\$19.03	\$39,590
★	Medical Records & Health Information Technicians	\$17.75	\$36,930
★	Aircraft Mechanics & Service Technicians	\$27.40	\$56,990
★	Surgical Technologists	\$20.82	\$43,300
★	Ophthalmic Medical Technicians	\$17.04	\$35,440
★	Skincare Specialists	\$18.96	\$39,440
★	Audio & Video Equipment Technicians	\$19.05	\$39,620

Associate Degree		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	Dental Hygienists	\$34.00	\$70,720
★	Physical Therapist Assistants	\$28.89	\$60,100
★	Web Developers	\$32.94	\$68,520
★	Respiratory Therapists	\$27.12	\$56,410
★	Occupational Therapy Assistants	\$31.20	\$64,890
★	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	\$32.18	\$66,930
★	Paralegals & Legal Assistants	\$20.93	\$43,530
★	Computer Network Support Specialists	\$29.24	\$60,820
★	Radiologic Technologists	\$27.49	\$57,180
★	Veterinary Technologists & Technicians	\$15.67	\$32,600
★	Medical Equipment Repairers	\$25.85	\$53,760
★	Environmental Science & Protection Techs, Including Health	\$19.70	\$40,990
★	Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists	\$32.28	\$67,140
★	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	\$12.66	\$26,330
★	Civil Engineering Technicians	\$23.01	\$47,870

Bachelor's Degree		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	Registered Nurses	\$30.26	\$62,940
★	General & Operations Managers	\$52.29	\$108,750
★	Accountants & Auditors	\$33.58	\$69,840
★	Software Developers, Applications	\$48.35	\$100,560
★	Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	\$29.99	\$62,370
★	Management Analysts	\$40.24	\$83,700
★	Computer Systems Analysts	\$43.38	\$90,230
★	Human Resources Specialists	\$28.40	\$59,070
★	Construction Managers	\$46.77	\$97,290
★	Financial Managers	\$63.28	\$131,610
★	Sales Reps., Wholesale & Mfg., Tecn. and Scientific Products	\$41.88	\$87,110
★	Loan Officers	\$29.98	\$62,360
★	Securities, Commodities, & Financial Services Sales Agents	\$29.98	\$62,360
★	Computer & Information Systems Managers	\$65.26	\$135,740
★	Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, & Mental Health Cnslr.	\$22.54	\$46,870