

ALABAMA'S HOT 40

DEMAND OCCUPATIONS

Occupation	Skills	Knowledge	Training/Education Requirements	Mean Annual Salary 2009*	Job Description	Average Annual Job Openings 2008-2018
High Skills - The developed talents that appear in occupations requiring an associate's degree or higher.						
Anesthesiologists	Reading Comprehension, Active Listening, Critical Thinking	Medicine and Dentistry, Biology, Customer and Personal Service	First professional degree	\$196,320	Physicians who administer anesthetics prior to, during, or after surgery or other medical procedures.	40
Biological Science Teachers, Postsecondary	Reading Comprehension, Speaking, Writing	Biology, Education and Training, English Language	Master's degree	\$109,990	Teach courses in biological sciences.	85
Computer Software Engineers, Applications	Troubleshooting, Programming, Systems Evaluation	Computers and Electronics, Mathematics, English Language	Bachelor's degree	\$83,580	Develop, create, and modify general computer applications software or specialized utility programs.	190
Computer Software Engineers, Systems Software	Reading Comprehension, Critical Thinking, Active Listening	Computers and Electronics, Engineering and Technology, Mathematics	Bachelor's degree	\$85,560	Research, design, develop, and test operating systems-level software, compilers, and network distribution software for medical, industrial, military, communications, aerospace, business, scientific, and general computing applications.	190
Computer Systems Analysts	Reading Comprehension, Critical Thinking, Quality Control Analysis	Computers and Electronics, English Language, Mathematics	Bachelor's degree	\$71,560	Analyze science, engineering, business, and other data processing problems to implement and improve computer systems.	380
Construction Managers	Monitoring, Coordination, Persuasion	Building and Construction, Administration and Management, Design	Bachelor's degree	\$75,140	Plan, direct, or coordinate, usually through subordinate supervisory personnel, activities concerned with the construction and maintenance of structures, facilities, and systems.	260
Cost Estimators	Reading Comprehension, Active Listening, Critical Thinking	Mathematics, Engineering and Technology, Computers and Electronics	Bachelor's degree	\$54,010	Prepare cost estimates for product manufacturing, construction projects, or services to aid management in bidding on or determining price of product or service.	110
Database Administrators	Reading Comprehension, Critical Thinking, Monitoring	Computers and Electronics, Customer and Personal Service, Mathematics	Bachelor's degree	\$61,540	Administer, test, and implement computer databases, applying knowledge of database management systems.	40
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	Learning Strategies, Speaking, Instructing	Education and Training, English Language, Psychology	Bachelor's degree	\$46,810	Teach students basic academic, social, and other formative skills in public or private schools at the elementary level.	755
Industrial Engineers	Reading Comprehension, Critical Thinking, Monitoring	Administration and Management, Clerical, Economics and Accounting	Bachelor's degree	\$72,820	Design, develop, test, and evaluate integrated systems for managing industrial production processes.	140
Logisticians	Monitoring, Coordination, Critical Thinking	Customer and Personal Service, Computers and Electronics, Administration and Management	Bachelor's degree	\$78,290	Analyze and coordinate the logistical functions of a firm or organization.	90
Management Analysts	Reading Comprehension, Active Listening, Speaking	Customer and Personal Service, Clerical, Administration and Management	Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work experience	\$82,910	Conduct organizational studies and evaluations, design systems and procedures, conduct work simplification and measurement studies, and prepare operations and procedures manuals to assist management in operating more efficiently and effectively.	265
Mechanical Engineers	Reading Comprehension, Mathematics, Science	Design, Engineering and Technology, Mathematics	Bachelor's degree	\$77,970	Perform engineering duties in planning and designing tools, engines, machines, and other mechanically functioning equipment.	150
Medical and Public Health Social Workers	Social Perceptiveness, Active Listening, Service Orientation	Therapy and Counseling, Psychology, Customer and Personal Service	Bachelor's degree	\$41,670	Provide individuals, families, and groups with the psychosocial support needed to cope with chronic, acute, or terminal illnesses.	110
Network and Computer Systems Administrators	Reading Comprehension, Critical Thinking, Monitoring	Computers and Electronics, Telecommunications, Computers and Electronics	Bachelor's degree	\$63,390	Install, configure, and support an organization's local area network (LAN), wide area network (WAN), and Internet system or a segment of a network system. Maintain network hardware and software.	185
Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts	Monitoring, Operations Analysis, Systems Analysis	Computers and Electronics, Telecommunications, Customer and Personal Service	Bachelor's degree	\$62,390	Analyze, design, test, and evaluate network systems, such as local area networks (LAN), wide area networks (WAN), Internet, intranet, and other data communications systems.	180
Occupational Therapists	Reading Comprehension, Active Listening, Speaking	Therapy and Counseling, Psychology, Education and Training	Master's degree	\$66,240	Assess, plan, organize, and participate in rehabilitative programs that help build or restore vocational, homemaking, and daily living skills, as well as general independence, to persons with disabilities or developmental delays.	45
Personal Financial Advisors	Speaking, Critical Thinking, Reading Comprehension	Customer and Personal Service, Mathematics, Economics and Accounting	Bachelor's degree	\$108,240	Advise clients on financial plans using knowledge of tax and investment strategies, securities, insurance, pension plans, and real estate.	70
Pharmacists	Reading Comprehension, Active Listening, Writing	Customer and Personal Service, Chemistry, Psychology	First professional degree	\$115,060	Dispense drugs prescribed by physicians and other health practitioners and provide information to patients about medications and their use.	180
Physical Therapists	Reading Comprehension, Active Listening, Speaking	Customer and Personal Service, Education and Training, Therapy and Counseling	Master's degree	\$76,260	Assess, plan, organize, and participate in rehabilitative programs that improve mobility, relieve pain, increase strength, and improve or correct disabling conditions resulting from disease or injury.	80
Special Education Teachers, Preschool, Kindergarten, and Elementary School	Learning Strategies, Social Perceptiveness, Reading Comprehension	Education and Training, English Language, Psychology	Bachelor's degree	\$47,750	Teach preschool subjects to educationally and physically handicapped students.	100
Veterinarians	Reading Comprehension, Science, Active Learning	Medicine and Dentistry, Biology, Customer and Personal Service	First professional degree	\$75,810	Diagnose, treat, or research diseases and injuries of animals.	65
Vocational Education Teachers, Postsecondary	Instructing, Speaking, Writing	Education and Training, Computers and Electronics, Customer and Personal Service	Master's degree	\$45,940	Teach or instruct vocational or occupational subjects at the postsecondary level (but at less than the baccalaureate) to students who have graduated or left high school.	75
Moderate Skills - The developed talents that appear in occupations requiring long-term on the training and postsecondary vocational training.						
Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	Equipment Maintenance, Repairing, Operation Monitoring	Customer and Personal Service, Design, Mechanical	Postsecondary vocational training	\$49,270	Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul aircraft engines and assemblies, such as hydraulic and pneumatic systems.	170
Commercial Pilots	Operation and Control, Operation Monitoring, Critical Thinking	Transportation, Customer and Personal Service, Mechanical	Postsecondary vocational award	\$75,380	Pilot and navigate the flight of fixed-winged aircraft on nonscheduled air carrier routes, or helicopters.	55
Dental Hygienists	Active Listening, Speaking, Writing	Medicine and Dentistry, Psychology, Customer and Personal Service	Associate degree	\$42,970	Clean teeth and examine oral areas, head, and neck for signs of oral disease.	150
Fitness Trainers and Aerobics Instructors	Instructing, Learning Strategies, Active Listening	Customer and Personal Service, Education and Training, Psychology	Postsecondary vocational award	\$31,560	Instruct or coach groups or individuals in exercise activities.	125
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	Reading Comprehension, Active Listening, Writing	Clerical, English Language, Law and Government	Associate degree	\$43,640	Assist lawyers by investigating facts, preparing legal documents, or researching legal precedent.	90
Physical Therapist Assistants	Reading Comprehension, Speaking, Service Orientation	Customer and Personal Service, Education and Training, Psychology	Associate degree	\$44,790	Assist physical therapists in providing physical therapy treatments and procedures.	60
Registered Nurses	Social Perceptiveness, Monitoring, Coordination	Psychology, Customer and Personal Service, Medicine and Dentistry	Associate degree	\$57,860	Assess patient health problems and needs, develop and implement nursing care plans, and maintain medical records.	1,525
Transportation Inspectors	Critical Thinking, Active Listening, Speaking	Mechanical, Education and Training, Customer and Personal Service	Work experience in a related occupation	\$59,830	Inspect equipment or goods in connection with the safe transport of cargo or people.	45
Welding, Soldering, and Brazing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	Operation Monitoring, Operation and Control, Active Listening	Mechanical, Production and Processing, Education and Training	Postsecondary vocational award	\$30,230	Set up, operate, or tend welding, soldering, or brazing machines or robots that weld, braze, solder, or heat treat metal products, components, or assemblies.	155
Basic Skills - The developed talents that appear in occupations requiring short-term and moderate-term on the job training.						
Aircraft Structure, Surfaces, Rigging, and Systems Assemblers	Quality Control Analysis, Reading Comprehension, Active Learning	Mechanical, Public Safety and Security, Design	Moderate-term on-the-job training	\$35,280	Assemble, fit, fasten, and install parts of airplanes, space vehicles, or missiles, such as tails, wings, fuselage, bulkheads, stabilizers, landing gear, rigging and control equipment, or heating and ventilating systems.	125
Bill and Account Collectors	Active Listening, Speaking, Critical Thinking	Customer and Personal Service, Clerical, Computers and Electronics	Short-term on-the-job training	\$28,160	Locate and notify customers of delinquent accounts by mail, telephone, or personal visit to solicit payment.	250
Customer Service Representatives	Active Listening, Speaking, Service Orientation	Customer and Personal Service, Clerical, English Language	Moderate-term on-the-job training	\$28,840	Interact with customers to provide information in response to inquiries about products and services and to handle and resolve	1,210
Dental Assistants	Speaking, Reading Comprehension, Active Listening	Customer and Personal Service, Medicine and Dentistry, English Language	Moderate-term on-the-job training	\$28,590	Assist dentist, set up equipment, prepare patient for treatment, and keep records.	140
Home Health Aides	Active Listening, Service Orientation, Critical Thinking	Psychology, Customer and Personal Service, Medicine and Dentistry	Short-term on-the-job training	\$18,690	Provide routine individualized healthcare such as changing bandages and dressing wounds, and applying topical medications to the elderly, convalescents, or persons with disabilities at the patient's home or in a care facility.	485
Medical Assistants	Active Listening, Speaking, Social Perceptiveness	Customer and Personal Service, Clerical, English Language	Moderate-term on-the-job training	\$24,760	Perform administrative and certain clinical duties under the direction of a physician.	340
Pharmacy Technicians	Active Listening, Reading Comprehension, Speaking	Customer and Personal Service, Clerical, Computers and Electronics	Moderate-term on-the-job training	\$24,570	Prepare medications under the direction of a pharmacist.	430
Railroad Conductors and Yardmasters	Speaking, Monitoring, Critical Thinking	Transportation, Public Safety and Security, Customer and Personal Service	Moderate-term on-the-job training	\$50,610	Coordinate activities of switch-engine crew within railroad yard, industrial plant, or similar location.	55

* To receive the most recent wage data, go to <http://dir.alabama.gov/lmi>.