

TOP JOBS IN THE SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES

The “Top Jobs” in the Southern Alleghenies are identified according to projected job changes from 2019 to 2022 using data from Economic Modeling Specialists, International.

There are 3 categories of Top Jobs to consider:

1. Occupations with 100 or more jobs with typical entry education levels of *Less than 4 Years of Postsecondary Education (i.e., an Associate’s Degree or Less)*,
2. Occupations with 100 or more jobs with typical entry education levels of a *Bachelor’s Degree or Higher*, and
3. *Low-Volume Occupations* that have less than 100 jobs.

To be considered a Top Job, an occupation must have a median hourly wage of at least \$12.50.

Top Jobs are identified by two separate methods:

1. Occupations with the highest *number* of projected annual job openings, and
2. Occupations with the highest *percentage* of projected annual job openings.

Percentages refer to the number of projected annual job openings as a percent of current job levels, which can be considered the rate of projected annual job openings.

For both types of Top Jobs (number and percentage of openings), projected job openings include *new job openings*, which are created due to business expansion or new companies opening, and *replacement job openings* that occur as the result of employee turnover.

The data tables include current median hourly occupational wages. Occupational wages do not include benefits. Furthermore, each Top Job is identified if it is found on the Southern Alleghenies High Priority Occupation list.

For additional information, please contact:

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Top Jobs						
Less than 4 Years of Postsecondary Education						
Highest Projected Annual Job Openings						
Occupation	Jobs	Projected Annual Job Openings	Projected Annual Job Openings (%)	Median Hourly Wages	Typical Entry Level Education	High Priority Occupation
Office Clerks, General	4,772	574	12.0%	\$13.61	High school diploma or equivalent	
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	3,300	468	14.2%	\$13.48	No formal educational credential	
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	3,603	413	11.5%	\$19.73	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	3,689	411	11.1%	\$13.85	High school diploma or equivalent	
Customer Service Representatives	2,663	353	13.3%	\$13.66	High school diploma or equivalent	
Construction Laborers	2,186	269	12.3%	\$14.75	No formal educational credential	
Nursing Assistants	2,330	260	11.1%	\$14.25	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other, Including Team Assemblers	1,759	224	12.7%	\$14.50	High school diploma or equivalent	
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	2,011	220	10.9%	\$16.97	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	2,022	207	10.3%	\$16.54	High school diploma or equivalent	x
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	1,793	188	10.5%	\$23.99	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	1,514	179	11.8%	\$15.45	Some college, no degree	
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	1,112	173	15.6%	\$14.55	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Correctional Officers and Jailers	1,948	170	8.7%	\$25.25	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Carpenters	1,440	151	10.5%	\$17.52	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	1,153	151	13.1%	\$19.30	High school diploma or equivalent	
Social and Human Service Assistants	1,125	150	13.3%	\$15.86	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Electrical, Electronic, and Electromechanical Assemblers, Except Coil Winders, Tapers, and Finishers	1,009	139	13.8%	\$15.88	High school diploma or equivalent	
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	1,229	139	11.3%	\$23.03	High school diploma or equivalent	
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	1,381	138	10.0%	\$14.63	Postsecondary nondegree award	x

Source: EMSI, 2020.1

Criteria: Occupations have at least 100 jobs, median hourly wages of \$12.50 or more, and typical entry education levels of less than a bachelor's degree

Results sorted based on projected annual job openings (new and replacement) from 2019 to 2022

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2019 Southern Alleghenies HPO list

Top Jobs						
Less than 4 Years of Postsecondary Education						
Highest Percentage of Projected Annual Job Openings						
Occupation	Jobs	Projected Annual Job Openings	Projected Annual Job Openings (%)	Median Hourly Wages	Typical Entry Level Education	High Priority Occupation
Protective Service Workers, All Other	171	43	25.0%	\$18.51	High school diploma or equivalent	
Demonstrators and Product Promoters	124	21	16.7%	\$17.24	No formal educational credential	
Logging Equipment Operators	125	20	15.7%	\$16.45	High school diploma or equivalent	
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	1,112	173	15.6%	\$14.55	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Helpers--Production Workers	575	89	15.5%	\$15.41	High school diploma or equivalent	
Telecommunications Line Installers and Repairers	153	22	14.6%	\$26.77	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Woodworking Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Except Sawing	153	22	14.6%	\$14.87	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	683	99	14.4%	\$12.55	No formal educational credential	
Continuous Mining Machine Operators	104	15	14.4%	\$17.19	No formal educational credential	
Packers and Packagers, Hand	600	86	14.4%	\$13.94	No formal educational credential	
Physical Therapist Assistants	262	38	14.4%	\$24.64	Associate's degree	x
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	3,300	468	14.2%	\$13.48	No formal educational credential	
Chefs and Head Cooks	104	15	14.1%	\$23.31	High school diploma or equivalent	
Helpers--Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Workers	114	16	14.0%	\$17.05	High school diploma or equivalent	
Excavating and Loading Machine and Dragline Operators	128	18	13.8%	\$18.44	High school diploma or equivalent	
Taxi Drivers and Chauffeurs	468	65	13.8%	\$12.87	No formal educational credential	
Electrical, Electronic, and Electromechanical Assemblers, Except Coil Winders, Tapers, and Finishers	1,009	139	13.8%	\$15.88	High school diploma or equivalent	
Massage Therapists	186	25	13.6%	\$18.94	Postsecondary nondegree award	
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	981	133	13.6%	\$17.66	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Mixing and Blending Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	153	21	13.5%	\$16.14	High school diploma or equivalent	

Source: EMSI, 2020.1

Criteria: Occupations have at least 100 jobs, median hourly wages of \$12.50 or more, and typical entry education levels of less than a bachelor's degree

Results sorted based on projected annual job openings (new and replacement) from 2019 to 2022 as a percent of current jobs in each occupation

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2019 Southern Alleghenies HPO list

Top Jobs						
Bachelor's Degree or Higher						
Highest Projected Annual Job Openings						
Occupation	Jobs	Projected Annual Job Openings	Projected Annual Job Openings (%)	Median Hourly Wages	Typical Entry Level Education	High Priority Occupation
Registered Nurses	4,136	233	5.6%	\$30.20	Bachelor's degree	x
General and Operations Managers	1,823	175	9.6%	\$40.89	Bachelor's degree	x
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	1,851	136	7.4%	\$26.08	Bachelor's degree	
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	1,909	132	6.9%	\$25.51	Bachelor's degree	
Accountants and Auditors	1,154	117	10.1%	\$27.35	Bachelor's degree	x
Postsecondary Teachers	1,249	114	9.1%	\$26.16	Doctoral or professional degree	
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	866	113	13.1%	\$20.94	Bachelor's degree	
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	842	91	10.8%	\$17.17	Bachelor's degree	
Substitute Teachers	626	71	11.3%	\$12.70	Bachelor's degree	
Clergy	516	69	13.3%	\$21.06	Bachelor's degree	
Managers, All Other	648	58	9.0%	\$30.05	Bachelor's degree	
Human Resources Specialists	496	53	10.7%	\$24.86	Bachelor's degree	x
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	362	46	12.6%	\$24.64	Bachelor's degree	
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	389	46	11.7%	\$31.03	Bachelor's degree	
Medical and Health Services Managers	488	45	9.2%	\$37.03	Bachelor's degree	
Rehabilitation Counselors	384	43	11.2%	\$16.89	Master's degree	
Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	570	43	7.5%	\$16.80	Bachelor's degree	
Mechanical Engineers	394	40	10.1%	\$35.86	Bachelor's degree	
Buyers and Purchasing Agents	363	38	10.6%	\$26.05	Bachelor's degree	
Management Analysts	316	36	11.4%	\$31.03	Bachelor's degree	

Source: EMSI, 2020.1

Criteria: Occupations have at least 100 jobs, median hourly wages of \$12.50 or more, and typical entry education levels of a bachelor's degree or higher

Results sorted based on projected annual job openings (new and replacement) from 2019 to 2022

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2019 Southern Alleghenies HPO list

Top Jobs						
Bachelor's Degree or Higher						
Highest Percentage of Projected Annual Job Openings						
Occupation	Jobs	Projected Annual Job Openings	Projected Annual Job Openings (%)	Median Hourly Wages	Typical Entry Level Education	High Priority Occupation
Clergy	516	69	13.3%	\$21.06	Bachelor's degree	
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	866	113	13.1%	\$20.94	Bachelor's degree	
Community and Social Service Specialists, All Other	101	13	12.9%	\$22.46	Bachelor's degree	
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	362	46	12.6%	\$24.64	Bachelor's degree	
Teachers and Instructors, All Other	258	32	12.5%	\$15.58	Bachelor's degree	
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	275	34	12.5%	\$16.76	Master's degree	
Fundraisers	151	18	12.1%	\$33.97	Bachelor's degree	
Editors	110	13	12.1%	\$18.27	Bachelor's degree	
Logisticians	133	16	12.1%	\$31.34	Bachelor's degree	
Public Relations Specialists	117	14	12.0%	\$19.90	Bachelor's degree	
Training and Development Specialists	192	23	11.8%	\$27.24	Bachelor's degree	
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	389	46	11.7%	\$31.03	Bachelor's degree	
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products	217	25	11.5%	\$57.43	Bachelor's degree	
Industrial Engineers	259	30	11.5%	\$39.17	Bachelor's degree	
Management Analysts	316	36	11.4%	\$31.03	Bachelor's degree	
Substitute Teachers	626	71	11.3%	\$12.70	Bachelor's degree	
Rehabilitation Counselors	384	43	11.2%	\$16.89	Master's degree	
Cost Estimators	237	26	11.1%	\$25.53	Bachelor's degree	x
Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	237	26	11.1%	\$22.38	Master's degree	
Healthcare Social Workers	257	28	10.9%	\$21.46	Master's degree	

Source: EMSI, 2020.1

Criteria: Occupations have at least 100 jobs, median hourly wages of \$12.50 or more, and typical entry education levels of a bachelor's degree or higher

Results sorted based on projected annual job openings (new and replacement) from 2019 to 2022 as a percent of current jobs in each occupation

Occupational wages do not include benefits

High Priority Occupations based on 2019 Southern Alleghenies HPO list

Top Jobs						
Low-Volume Occupations						
Highest Projected Annual Job Openings						
Occupation	Jobs	Projected Annual Job Openings	Projected Annual Job Openings (%)	Median Hourly Wages	Typical Entry Level Education	High Priority Occupation
Agricultural Equipment Operators	76	14	18.7%	\$16.00	No formal educational credential	x
Chemical Technicians	97	14	14.1%	\$22.07	Associate's degree	
First-Line Supervisors of Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Workers	85	14	16.0%	\$24.42	High school diploma or equivalent	
Advertising Sales Agents	95	13	13.7%	\$20.37	High school diploma or equivalent	
Community Health Workers	96	13	13.2%	\$14.28	High school diploma or equivalent	
Physical Therapist Aides	91	13	13.9%	\$12.71	High school diploma or equivalent	
Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	75	13	17.0%	\$20.39	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Phlebotomists	92	12	13.4%	\$15.08	Postsecondary nondegree award	x
Marriage and Family Therapists	90	12	13.3%	\$21.36	Master's degree	
Sheet Metal Workers	87	12	13.7%	\$15.39	High school diploma or equivalent	
Structural Iron and Steel Workers	81	12	14.8%	\$25.64	High school diploma or equivalent	
Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, and Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	85	12	14.2%	\$18.70	High school diploma or equivalent	
Crane and Tower Operators	85	12	13.7%	\$14.87	High school diploma or equivalent	
Meeting, Convention, and Event Planners	81	11	14.0%	\$21.01	Bachelor's degree	
Industrial Engineering Technicians	81	11	14.0%	\$29.22	Associate's degree	
File Clerks	96	11	11.8%	\$13.33	High school diploma or equivalent	
Pump Operators, Except Wellhead Pumps	85	11	13.3%	\$15.13	High school diploma or equivalent	
Music Directors and Composers	81	11	13.6%	\$17.69	Bachelor's degree	
Reporters and Correspondents	81	11	13.6%	\$20.88	Bachelor's degree	
Human Resources Managers	97	10	10.7%	\$48.78	Bachelor's degree	

Source: EMSI, 2020.1

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Top Jobs						
Low-Volume Occupations						
Highest Percentage of Projected Annual Job Openings						
Occupation	Jobs	Projected Annual Job Openings	Projected Annual Job Openings (%)	Median Hourly Wages	Typical Entry Level Education	High Priority Occupation
Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining	21	5	22.5%	\$19.47	No formal educational credential	
Pourers and Casters, Metal	32	6	19.9%	\$24.08	High school diploma or equivalent	
Gas Plant Operators	25	5	18.9%	\$37.66	High school diploma or equivalent	
Agricultural Equipment Operators	76	14	18.7%	\$16.00	No formal educational credential	x
Food and Tobacco Roasting, Baking, and Drying Machine Operators and Tenders	26	5	17.7%	\$14.81	No formal educational credential	
Pest Control Workers	27	5	17.5%	\$17.38	High school diploma or equivalent	
Forest and Conservation Workers	23	4	17.5%	\$13.05	High school diploma or equivalent	
Food Cooking Machine Operators and Tenders	25	4	17.4%	\$16.62	High school diploma or equivalent	
Jewelers and Precious Stone and Metal Workers	40	7	17.4%	\$18.59	High school diploma or equivalent	
Mine Cutting and Channeling Machine Operators	23	4	17.1%	\$29.67	High school diploma or equivalent	
Petroleum Pump System Operators, Refinery Operators, and Gaugers	25	4	17.0%	\$26.59	High school diploma or equivalent	
Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	75	13	17.0%	\$20.39	High school diploma or equivalent	x
Helpers--Extraction Workers	46	8	16.6%	\$23.57	High school diploma or equivalent	
Earth Drillers, Except Oil and Gas	45	7	16.4%	\$19.91	High school diploma or equivalent	
First-Line Supervisors of Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Workers	85	14	16.0%	\$24.42	High school diploma or equivalent	
Roof Bolters, Mining	63	10	15.9%	\$28.65	High school diploma or equivalent	
Tour and Travel Guides	46	7	15.9%	\$13.58	High school diploma or equivalent	
Paving, Surfacing, and Tamping Equipment Operators	57	9	15.7%	\$19.27	High school diploma or equivalent	
Concierges	23	4	15.7%	\$13.65	High school diploma or equivalent	
Metal-Refining Furnace Operators and Tenders	36	6	15.7%	\$23.39	High school diploma or equivalent	

Source: EMSI, 2020.1

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High Priority Occupations based on 2019 Southern Alleghenies HPO list