

HOT 50: MICHIGAN'S HIGH-WAGE, HIGH-DEMAND CAREERS THROUGH 2026

Occupation	Annual Openings	Percent Growth	Wage Range	Typical Education and Training Beyond High School
Accountants and Auditors	3,520	9.4	\$25 - \$42	Bachelor's degree, license
Administrative Services Managers	630	9.6	\$35 - \$55	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
Architectural and Engineering Managers	800	8.9	\$51 - \$74	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience, license
Carpenters	2,600	7.5	\$16 - \$28	Apprenticeship, license
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	1,570	13.6	\$19 - \$28	Bachelor's degree, license
Civil Engineers	860	16.8	\$30 - \$45	Bachelor's degree, license
Commercial and Industrial Designers	740	7.9	\$28 - \$46	Bachelor's degree
Computer and Information Systems Managers	830	12.3	\$46 - \$73	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
Computer Systems Analysts	1,200	8.5	\$31 - \$49	Bachelor's degree
Computer User Support Specialists	1,790	11	\$17 - \$29	Some college, no degree
Construction Managers	540	10.1	\$33 - \$56	Bachelor's degree, plus moderate-term OJT
Dental Hygienists	770	20	\$27 - \$34	Associate's degree, license
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	630	10.7	\$34 - \$66	Master's degree, plus work experience
Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	880	15.2	\$19 - \$33	Master's degree, license
Electrical Engineers	780	13.5	\$33 - \$50	Bachelor's degree, license
Electricians	2,580	6.8	\$20 - \$35	Apprenticeship, license
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	2,840	5.6	\$22 - \$30	Bachelor's degree, license
Financial Managers	1,460	18.4	\$40 - \$72	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
General and Operations Managers	5,760	8.8	\$33 - \$74	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	730	25.4	\$36 - \$82	Doctoral or professional degree
Healthcare Social Workers	800	18.6	\$22 - \$31	Master's degree, plus internship, license
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	1,020	13.6	\$17 - \$29	Postsecondary nondegree award, plus long-term OJT, license
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	6,870	9.7	\$16 - \$24	Postsecondary nondegree award, plus short-term OJT, license
Human Resources Specialists	1,600	7.3	\$21 - \$36	Bachelor's degree
Industrial Engineers	2,200	18.2	\$34 - \$51	Bachelor's degree, license
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	1,840	10	\$19 - \$30	Long-term OJT
Insurance Sales Agents	1,410	9.9	\$17 - \$38	Moderate-term OJT, license

Lawyers	940	7.3	\$33 - \$67	Doctoral or professional degree, license
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	1,420	10.5	\$20 - \$26	Postsecondary nondegree award, license
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	2,080	24	\$21 - \$40	Bachelor's degree
Marketing Managers	450	11.3	\$42 - \$77	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
Mechanical Engineers	3,160	15.2	\$34 - \$53	Bachelor's degree, license
Medical and Health Services Managers	1,180	18	\$35 - \$61	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
Nurse Practitioners	350	34.4	\$43 - \$55	Master's degree, license
Occupational Therapists	380	23	\$31 - \$45	Master's degree, license
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	730	14.6	\$19 - \$29	Associate's degree
Personal Financial Advisors	530	15.2	\$26 - \$72	Bachelor's degree, plus long-term OJT, license
Physical Therapist Assistants	630	30.7	\$20 - \$30	Associate's degree, license
Physical Therapists	630	27.3	\$35 - \$48	Doctoral or professional degree, license
Physician Assistants	440	37.7	\$43 - \$58	Master's degree, license
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	540	9.8	\$29 - \$100+	Doctoral or professional degree, plus residency, license
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	1,620	12.6	\$22 - \$36	Apprenticeship, license
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	1,330	6.6	\$22 - \$33	Moderate-term OJT
Registered Nurses	6,650	13.5	\$28 - \$38	Bachelor's degree, license
Sales Managers	1,000	6.9	\$44 - \$78	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
Sales Representatives, Except Technical and Scientific Products	5,680	2.9	\$20 - \$43	Moderate-term OJT
Social and Community Service Managers	550	16.4	\$26 - \$38	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience
Software Developers, Applications	2,160	31	\$33 - \$53	Bachelor's degree
Software Developers, Systems Software	1,000	15.2	\$33 - \$52	Bachelor's degree
Training and Development Specialists	690	12.4	\$20 - \$36	Bachelor's degree, plus work experience

Source: DTMB, Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives

OJT = On-the-Job Training

Note: This list includes occupations that show a favorable mix of projected long-term job growth, annual job openings, and median wages. It does not necessarily reflect current hiring demand. Hourly wage represents 25th to 75th percentile