

Best Job Opportunities - 2026



ANNUAL EMPLOYMENT
GROWTH RATE

0.7 %

MEDIAN ANNUAL
WAGE

\$ 42,480

JOB OPENINGS + FAST GROWTH + HIGH WAGE

Best jobs were selected for positive job creation, above average employment growth rate, above average median annual wage, and minimum of 100 base year employment. Jobs are sorted by total annual openings.

Total annual openings (includes openings created by transfers and exits), new jobs created annually, annual growth rate, and base year employment are based on long-term employment projections from 2016 to 2026.

The median annual wage is from the 2018 Occupational Employment Statistics survey (if noted with asterisk, wage was not available for 2018 and the most current prior year wage is provided).

Education levels are assigned by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Automation index is determined by EMSI, www.economicmodeling.com. It captures an occupation's risk of being affected by automation. Lower indexes indicate less risk from automation, while higher indexes indicate greater risk.

► Less than High School education

	Total Annual Openings	New Jobs Created Annually	Annual Growth Rate	Base Year Emp	Median Annual Wage	Automation Index
Waiters and Waitresses	3,300	1,180	0.7%	16,370	\$48,860	129.8
Construction Laborers	840	620	0.8%	7,420	\$59,220	131.9
Cement Masons and Concrete Finishers	120	80	0.9%	970	\$78,400	126.6
Roofers	120	80	0.7%	1,120	\$55,570	130.8
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	100	70	0.8%	790	\$45,460	119.5
Butchers and Meat Cutters	80	60	0.9%	600	\$42,500	114.4
Floor Layers, ex. Carpet, Wood, Hard Tile	40	30	0.7%	390	\$49,600	139.1
Carpet Installers	30	30	0.7%	350	\$66,510	129.2
Pipelayers	10	10	1.0%	110	\$59,710	124.9

► High School or equivalent

	Total Annual Openings	New Jobs Created Annually	Annual Growth Rate	Base Year Emp	Median Annual Wage	Automation Index
General Maintenance and Repair Workers	810	650	0.9%	7,390	\$45,650	109.6
Electricians	520	290	0.7%	4,370	\$74,140	110.3
Hotel, Motel, and Resort Desk Clerks	410	210	0.9%	2,410	\$44,790	104.0
Property, Real Estate, Community Assn. Managers	370	360	0.8%	4,330	\$54,690	83.8
Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity	320	280	1.2%	2,330	\$46,010	98.0

STATE OF HAWAII'S BEST JOB OPPORTUNITIES - 2026

► High School or equivalent

	Total Annual Openings	New Jobs Created Annually	Annual Growth Rate	Base Year Emp	Median Annual Wage	Automation Index
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	320	280	1.0%	2,700	\$64,700	116.3
Reservation & Transp. Ticket Agents & Travel Clerks	320	250	0.9%	2,770	\$42,480	94.4
Food Service Managers	320	230	0.8%	2,660	\$60,250	104.4
Supervisors of Construction Trades & Extraction Wkrs	300	240	0.8%	2,820	\$82,400	106.2
Operating Engineers & Other Const. Equip. Oprs.	280	210	0.9%	2,300	\$82,000	120.3
Chefs and Head Cooks	250	170	0.9%	1,780	\$63,810	93.2
Supervisors of Housekeeping and Janitorial Workers	240	170	0.9%	1,940	\$46,100	101.1
Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, Repairers	230	180	0.7%	2,460	\$75,290	94.0
Fitness Trainers and Aerobics Instructors	210	130	1.2%	1,090	\$46,230	84.4
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	200	190	0.7%	2,820	\$73,370	94.5
Supervisors of Personal Service Workers	170	180	1.2%	1,530	\$46,490	91.4
Supervisors of Transportation & Vehicle Operators	150	140	1.1%	1,230	*\$50,720	N/A
Supervisors of Landscaping & Groundskeeping Wkrs	140	120	0.9%	1,280	\$55,970	101.3
Insurance Sales Agents	130	100	0.8%	1,240	\$53,160	96.0
Sheet Metal Workers	120	70	0.7%	1,020	\$81,250	117.7
Bus & Truck Mechanics & Diesel Engine Specialists	110	140	1.3%	1,050	\$58,440	114.6
Construction and Building Inspectors	100	60	0.8%	840	\$64,100	92.7
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	80	70	0.9%	770	\$67,030	109.8
Community Health Workers	70	90	1.8%	490	\$42,610	80.6
Automotive Body and Related Repairers	70	60	1.1%	600	\$51,210	119.3
Supervisors of Helpers, Laborers, & Material Movers	70	60	0.9%	630	*\$45,680	N/A
Lodging Managers	70	50	0.7%	650	\$80,650	97.3
Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks	70	40	0.7%	620	\$51,390	94.0
Security and Fire Alarm Systems Installers	60	50	1.1%	480	\$46,300	113.2
Reinforcing Iron and Rebar Workers	60	50	0.9%	510	\$78,450	137.2
Solar Photovoltaic Installers	50	180	9.2%	190	\$54,040	119.7
Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, ex. Engines	50	40	0.8%	490	\$68,900	109.6
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	50	40	0.7%	600	\$88,710	88.2
Glaziers	50	30	0.8%	360	\$75,700	127.1
Opticians, Dispensing	40	60	1.2%	460	\$45,040	92.9
Hazardous Materials Removal Workers	40	50	1.7%	280	\$56,220	124.2
Supervisors of Police & Detectives	40	50	0.7%	660	\$113,490	84.5
Tree Trimmers and Pruners	40	30	0.8%	340	\$44,930	122.8
Painters, Transportation Equipment	30	30	1.2%	210	\$52,160	119.0
Tax Preparers	30	20	0.7%	300	\$53,210	102.0
Aircraft Cargo Handling Supervisors	20	30	1.7%	160	\$55,130	81.6
Septic Tank Servicers & Sewer Pipe Cleaners	20	20	2.0%	120	\$45,840	118.6
Structural Iron and Steel Workers	20	20	0.9%	180	\$75,960	132.2
Crane and Tower Operators	20	20	0.8%	200	\$86,230	121.5
Stonemasons	20	20	0.8%	250	\$46,920	134.4
Outdoor Power Equip. & Other Small Engine Mechanics	20	10	0.9%	160	\$51,000	115.8
Police, Fire, and Ambulance Dispatchers	20	10	0.7%	200	\$46,240	90.6
Transportation Inspectors	20	10	0.7%	160	\$75,080	102.5
Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers, Applicators, Vegetation	20	10	0.7%	130	\$42,810	126.2
Private Detectives and Investigators	10	10	0.9%	120	*\$51,200	97.3
Surveying and Mapping Technicians	10	10	0.7%	100	\$46,960	94.3

STATE OF HAWAII'S BEST JOB OPPORTUNITIES - 2026

► Postsecondary or some college	Total Annual Openings	New Jobs Created Annually	Annual Growth Rate	Base Year Emp	Median Annual Wage	Automation Index
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	460	270	0.7%	3,950	\$46,780	110.1
Massage Therapists	300	450	2.0%	2,290	\$57,740	86.5
Captains, Mates, Pilots of Water Vessels	150	90	0.7%	1,340	\$51,010	97.0
Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	120	160	1.2%	1,330	\$49,360	84.8
Computer User Support Specialists	110	130	1.0%	1,210	\$45,960	82.9
Heating, Air Conditioning, Refrigeration Mechanics	110	100	1.1%	950	\$60,070	113.0
Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics	70	120	1.3%	860	\$54,470	83.7
Audio and Video Equipment Technicians	60	80	1.3%	570	\$53,300	97.8
Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	50	70	1.1%	650	\$47,020	91.7
Skincare Specialists	50	40	1.1%	380	\$45,810	93.7
Surgical Technologists	30	40	1.2%	340	\$48,780	89.0
Supervisors of Fire Fighting & Prevention Workers	30	30	0.7%	470	\$92,430	79.6

► Associate's degree	Total Annual Openings	New Jobs Created Annually	Annual Growth Rate	Base Year Emp	Median Annual Wage	Automation Index
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	140	120	1.0%	1,190	\$50,170	89.4
Dental Hygienists	70	150	1.6%	920	\$76,670	96.8
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians	60	90	1.2%	730	*\$46,790	97.9
Physical Therapist Assistants	50	100	3.3%	290	\$58,140	88.1
Computer Network Support Specialists	50	50	0.8%	540	\$60,510	86.9
Radiologic Technologists	40	60	0.9%	680	\$76,930	94.1
Web Developers	30	40	1.2%	340	\$61,760	88.4
Environmental Science & Protection Techs, incl. Health	30	20	0.7%	260	\$45,400	88.5
Respiratory Therapists	20	50	1.7%	320	\$71,640	93.2
Radio, Cellular, Tower Equipment Installers & Repairs	20	20	1.7%	140	\$51,840	109.4
Electrical and Electronics Drafters	20	20	1.0%	190	\$59,100	91.0
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	10	30	1.8%	170	\$95,020	93.3
Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists	10	10	1.1%	100	\$91,890	92.8
Avionics Technicians	10	10	0.7%	130	\$70,030	100.0
Civil Engineering Technicians	10	10	0.7%	150	\$54,690	92.4

► Bachelor's degree	Total Annual Openings	New Jobs Created Annually	Annual Growth Rate	Base Year Emp	Median Annual Wage	Automation Index
General and Operations Managers	1,030	950	0.8%	11,210	\$99,510	82.2
Registered Nurses	770	1,530	1.3%	11,460	\$105,300	85.3
Substitute Teachers	740	500	0.8%	6,160	\$47,150	83.3
Accountants and Auditors	530	450	0.9%	5,280	\$61,290	93.1
Management Analysts	280	280	0.9%	2,930	\$78,980	91.1
Construction Managers	240	240	0.8%	3,010	\$100,010	88.6
Sales Managers	240	180	0.7%	2,560	\$83,200	85.7
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	230	190	0.9%	2,000	\$55,820	83.7
Financial Managers	220	400	1.8%	2,230	\$107,980	85.8
Civil Engineers	190	160	0.7%	2,330	\$83,610	81.7

STATE OF HAWAII'S BEST JOB OPPORTUNITIES - 2026

► Bachelor's degree	Total Annual Openings	New Jobs Created Annually	Annual Growth Rate	Base Year Emp	Median Annual Wage	Automation Index
Medical and Health Services Managers	150	270	1.8%	1,490	\$114,490	75.2
Administrative Services Managers	140	150	1.0%	1,500	\$94,940	81.0
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	130	220	2.1%	1,060	\$55,910	88.6
Cost Estimators	130	110	0.9%	1,210	\$79,890	96.5
Public Relations Specialists	130	100	0.8%	1,220	\$59,240	90.0
Airline Pilots, Copilots, and Flight Engineers	110	110	1.1%	1,040	*\$118,070	91.5
Loan Officers	110	110	0.9%	1,200	\$58,430	91.7
Training and Development Specialists	110	100	1.0%	980	\$59,100	88.0
Computer Systems Analysts	90	90	0.7%	1,250	\$76,580	81.7
Software Developers, Applications	80	240	2.8%	840	\$80,000	81.1
Social and Community Service Managers	80	120	1.7%	730	\$65,700	85.7
Meeting, Convention, and Event Planners	80	70	1.2%	580	\$53,740	90.5
Software Developers, Systems Software	70	100	1.2%	880	\$91,240	78.2
Electrical Engineers	70	80	0.9%	930	\$91,070	84.8
Environmental Scientists and Specialists, incl. Health	70	50	0.8%	710	\$67,520	74.6
Substance Abuse & Behavioral Disorder Counselors	60	100	2.5%	410	*\$41,560	84.9
Personal Financial Advisors	60	80	1.2%	620	\$68,010	89.4
Producers and Directors	60	70	1.1%	620	\$70,120	89.1
Mechanical Engineers	60	70	0.9%	740	\$78,490	83.4
Computer & Information Systems Managers	60	60	0.9%	650	\$118,170	79.9
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists	50	70	1.1%	650	*\$68,410	97.9
Health Educators	50	60	1.7%	340	\$68,050	75.6
Human Resources Managers	50	50	0.9%	560	\$98,100	84.0
Marketing Managers	50	50	0.8%	560	\$100,840	76.7
Dietitians and Nutritionists	40	70	1.7%	440	\$69,960	84.7
Financial Analysts	40	40	1.0%	410	\$75,870	88.7
Operations Research Analysts	30	80	2.3%	340	\$107,370	91.2
Appraisers and Assessors of Real Estate	30	50	1.3%	390	\$62,750	89.4
Compensation, Benefits, and Job Analysis Specialists	30	40	1.4%	260	\$59,660	86.4
Public Relations and Fundraising Managers	30	40	1.0%	360	\$96,280	85.1
Occupational Health and Safety Specialists	30	40	0.7%	550	\$69,470	92.5
Fundraisers	30	30	1.4%	240	\$49,970	85.8
Purchasing Managers	30	30	0.9%	320	\$106,470	88.7
Athletic Trainers	20	50	2.4%	200	\$59,670	91.7
Information Security Analysts	20	40	1.9%	220	\$86,720	86.4
Training and Development Managers	20	20	0.9%	210	\$93,360	84.3
Computer Network Architects	20	20	0.8%	270	\$93,440	87.1
Natural Sciences Managers	20	20	0.7%	270	\$112,140	76.8
Database Administrators	20	20	0.7%	270	\$91,490	88.1
Soil and Plant Scientists	20	10	0.9%	130	\$66,060	78.2
Social Science Research Assistants	20	10	0.7%	130	\$49,500	83.7
Camera Operators, Television, Video, Motion Picture	20	10	0.7%	150	\$54,480	99.2
Computer Hardware Engineers	10	20	1.1%	180	\$94,820	83.1
Health & Safety Engineers, ex. Mining Safety	10	20	0.9%	160	\$79,600	84.5
Microbiologists	10	10	0.8%	130	\$68,440	92.3

STATE OF HAWAII'S BEST JOB OPPORTUNITIES - 2026

► Master's degree	Total Annual Openings	New Jobs Created Annually	Annual Growth Rate	Base Year Emp	Median Annual Wage	Automation Index
Education, Guidance, School, Vocational Counselors	200	160	1.0%	1,680	\$58,970	80.0
Healthcare Social Workers	140	220	2.1%	1,030	\$64,710	83.5
Instructional Coordinators	140	120	0.8%	1,410	\$64,230	88.5
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	80	120	2.0%	590	\$54,110	81.7
Mental Health Counselors	40	80	2.4%	320	*\$40,590	84.9
Speech-Language Pathologists	40	70	1.1%	620	\$74,130	87.5
Urban and Regional Planners	40	50	1.1%	440	\$74,310	104.9
Nurse Practitioners	30	120	3.6%	330	\$123,570	83.2
Physician Assistants	30	90	3.5%	270	\$116,230	87.8
Art, Drama, and Music Teachers, Postsecondary	30	40	1.1%	370	\$61,960	86.6
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	30	30	0.8%	330	\$114,790	79.6
Occupational Therapists	20	50	1.6%	310	\$85,940	87.3
Computer & Information Research Scientists	10	20	1.7%	130	\$106,860	78.5
Economists	10	20	1.0%	170	\$91,260	83.8

► Doctoral or Professional degree	Total Annual Openings	New Jobs Created Annually	Annual Growth Rate	Base Year Emp	Median Annual Wage	Automation Index
Clinical, Counseling, School Psychologists	90	150	1.3%	1,090	\$78,440	85.4
Physical Therapists	60	190	2.0%	950	\$89,500	85.5
Biological Science Teachers, Postsecondary	60	80	1.3%	630	*\$82,640	86.6
Education Teachers, Postsecondary	50	50	0.8%	640	\$78,030	86.6
Dentists, General	30	110	1.6%	680	\$166,530	87.9
Nursing Instructors and Teachers, Postsecondary	30	70	2.2%	300	\$77,580	86.6
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	30	60	2.3%	240	\$142,660	86.6
Foreign Language & Literature Teachers, Postsecondary	30	30	1.0%	330	*\$63,460	86.6
Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	30	30	1.0%	340	\$77,700	78.6
English Language & Literature Teachers, Postsecondary	30	30	0.8%	400	\$62,510	86.6
Family and General Practitioners	20	60	1.3%	490	*\$176,930	85.2
Veterinarians	20	50	1.5%	310	*\$164,600	83.1
Business Teachers, Postsecondary	20	40	1.6%	220	\$86,750	86.6
Psychology Teachers, Postsecondary	20	20	1.3%	180	\$59,030	86.6
Mathematical Science Teachers, Postsecondary	20	20	0.7%	210	\$69,700	86.6
Internists, General	10	30	1.4%	240	\$195,710	83.3
Optometrists	10	30	1.3%	220	\$119,030	83.2
Pediatricians, General	10	20	1.4%	140	\$158,660	82.7
Philosophy and Religion Teachers, Postsecondary	10	20	1.1%	160	\$72,390	86.6
History Teachers, Postsecondary	10	10	0.9%	130	\$70,470	86.6
Area, Ethnic, Cultural Studies Teachers, Postsecondary	10	10	0.9%	160	\$71,580	86.6
Psychiatrists	10	10	0.9%	150	*\$65,360	85.8
Communications Teachers, Postsecondary	10	10	0.9%	130	\$52,610	86.6
Sociology Teachers, Postsecondary	10	10	0.8%	160	*\$89,430	86.6
Computer Science Teachers, Postsecondary	10	10	0.7%	120	\$90,360	86.6

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