

Tennessee Industry AND Occupational Employment Projections 2015 to 2017

The overall state economy is projected to grow at an average rate of 1.6 percent over the next two years (2015 Q3 to 2017 Q3), with an expected total employment in the third quarter of 2017 of 3.2 million and total openings of 126.7 thousand.

The fastest growing major occupational group is projected to be Computer and Mathematical occupations with a growth rate of 3.1 percent. The second fastest growing major group, construction and extraction occupations, is expected to increase at an average annual rate of 2.6 percent.

Business and financial operations occupations are expected to grow at a rate of 2.4 percent. Healthcare support occupations are also expected to grow at a rate of 2.4 percent; with growth in the healthcare sector. Similarly, healthcare practitioners and technical occupations are expected to grow at a rate of 2.1 percent.

The top five fastest growing occupations with 1500 or more projected employment and 500 or more annual total openings include home health aides; heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics and installers; accountants and auditors; electricians; and personal care aides.

More detailed occupational projections can be found at: www.projectionscentral.com.

Fastest Growing Occupations with 1,500 or more Employment and greater than 500 Openings in 2015					
Occupation	Employment 2015 Q3	Total Annual Openings	Annual Growth Rate	Projected Employment 2017 Q3	2014 Median Wage
Home Health Aides	9,940	600	4.2%	10,800	\$18,729
Heating, A/C, and Re. Mech & Inst.	8,080	540	4.1%	8,760	\$38,948
Accountants and Auditors	20,920	1,400	3.7%	22,510	\$58,905
Electricians	11,150	610	3.6%	11,970	\$46,784
Personal Care Aides	21,660	895	3.5%	23,210	\$18,535
Packers and Packagers	21,480	1,180	2.7%	22,670	\$19,229
Clergy	11,800	550	2.7%	12,450	\$43,239
Cooks, Restaurant	25,020	1,170	2.6%	26,360	\$21,161
Food Preparation and Serving	65,460	4,785	2.5%	68,760	\$17,835

2015-2017 Employment Projections					
Occupational Group	2015 Q3 Employment	Projected 2017 Q3 Employment	Annual Growth Rate	Total Annual Openings	2014 Median Wage
Computer and Mathematical ¹	51,260	54,450	3.1%	2,350	\$67,129
Construction and Extraction ¹	108,230	113,830	2.6%	4,635	\$34,900
Business and Financial Operations ¹	114,420	119,980	2.4%	5,005	\$55,905
Healthcare Support ¹	81,600	85,490	2.4%	3,370	\$24,041
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical ¹	193,750	201,780	2.1%	7,600	\$51,435
Food Preparation and Serving Related ²	261,960	272,370	2.0%	16,510	\$18,311
Community and Social Services	48,520	50,520	2.0%	2,060	\$36,722
Architecture and Engineering	46,230	47,880	1.8%	1,890	\$70,381
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	130,780	135,350	1.7%	5,215	\$38,961
Transportation and Material Moving ²	285,220	294,700	1.6%	11,670	\$27,859
Personal Care and Service	101,170	104,530	1.6%	4,205	\$19,285
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	45,610	47,090	1.6%	1,775	\$38,792
Management	207,660	214,070	1.5%	7,245	\$76,457
Education, Training, and Library	147,940	152,020	1.4%	5,020	\$43,193
Office and Administrative Support ²	483,560	496,350	1.3%	17,685	\$29,699
Production ²	267,780	274,190	1.2%	9,280	\$30,440
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	115,610	118,370	1.2%	3,605	\$20,952
Protective Service	65,490	66,980	1.1%	2,495	\$31,664
Sales and Related ²	300,900	307,010	1.0%	13,425	\$23,658
Life, Physical, and Social Science	17,200	17,540	1.0%	675	\$54,841
Legal	16,200	16,510	0.9%	395	\$66,085
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	17,870	18,050	0.5%	605	\$25,502
Total All Occupations	3,108,950	3,209,030	1.6%	126,715	\$31,251

¹ One of the five fastest growing groups

² One of the five major groups expect to have the most jobs in 2017

Source: Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Labor Market Information Section, Tennessee Employment Projections 2015 Q3 to 2017 Q3.