Find Out About Jobs and Employers

What are the hot jobs and industries in your area? Which employers are hiring, and do they welcome older workers? Where do you find salary information?

This list will help you zoom in on the most promising job openings. Do your research and you can match your job search to fields where your skills are in demand.

Learn about labor market trends

- **Career Guide to Industries**: A guide to the top 42 industries in the U.S., compiled by the Department of Labor. This is very useful if you're thinking of changing careers and want an overview of the industry, job prospects, and working conditions. [http://stats.bls.gov/oco/cg/home.htm](http://stats.bls.gov/oco/cg/home.htm)

- **Career InfoNet [www.CareerInfoNet.org](http://www.CareerInfoNet.org)**: This site is a prime source of information for the job seeker. It has many levels of information but is fairly easy to search. (Try the "Topics A-Z" search box.) Here is a sampling of what you'll find:
  
  o **Occupational Information**
    - Look up profiles for more than 800 occupations.
    - Find the top occupations ranked by wages and job growth.
  
  o **Industry Information**
    - Top 50 fastest-growing industries (top three in the U.S.: consulting firms, elderly services, and gambling industries)
    - Top 50 industries with declining employment (manufacturing dominates the list)
    - Industries with largest employment (schools, hospitals, restaurants)

Find out about your state

Once again, Career InfoNet is a good bet. The state information page is a gateway to detailed information about your state.

- Look at your **state profile**. You'll find demographic data, occupation rankings, the state's largest employers, and more.

- From your state profile, search for occupations by the level of education required. For example, you can look up occupations in Arizona with the most openings that require a bachelor's degree. (Top listed: elementary school teachers.)

- Go to the **labor market information** for a comprehensive list of job-related services in your state.
Find tools to help in your search

Career InfoNet offers a variety of tools to help you learn more about occupations, skills and qualifications. Among them are Useful ones include:

- **Career Videos** give you a visual snapshot of 550 jobs.
- **Education and Training Finder** points you to training programs in your area.
- **Skills Profiler** helps you assess your skills and match them to jobs.

Learn about employers

- **Company websites**: Once you identify employers you're interested in, go to their website to get a sense of the company culture and to scan available jobs. Look for things like
  - Clear explanations of benefits
  - Training and growth opportunities
  - Images of workers of different ages
  - Examples of corporate citizenship

- The **Riley Guide**: This online guide for job seekers lists dozens of sources for researching employers and locations. [http://rileyguide.com/research.html#top](http://rileyguide.com/research.html#top)

- **Career InfoNet** offers an Employer Locator which you can search by industry sector, state, and area within the state for a list of employers near you.

- The **AARP National Employer Team** includes more than 30 large employers who welcome 50+ workers; find out more at [www.aarp.org/employerteam](http://www.aarp.org/employerteam).

Find salary information

- Independent websites such as [www.salary.com](http://www.salary.com) let you search by job title and location to see comparable salaries.

- Career InfoNet compares Wages by Occupation and Local Area. (Find it in the section on Occupation Information.) Choose your state and see how wages in your area compare to other localities, to your state overall, and to national. Example: the median wage for dental hygienist in Fresno, CA, is $48,900 a year—compared to $62,800 for U.S. as a whole.