

Fastest growing occupations, 2006–16

[Numbers in thousands]

2006 National Employment Matrix code and title		Employment		Change, 2006–16		Quartile rank by 2006 median annual wages ¹	Most significant source of postsecondary education or training ²
		2006	2016	Number	Percent		
15–1081	Network systems and data communications analysts.....	262	402	140	53.4	VH	Bachelor's degree
39–9021	Personal and home care aides.....	767	1,156	389	50.6	VL	Short-term on-the-job training
31–1011	Home health aides.....	787	1,171	384	48.7	VL	Short-term on-the-job training
15–1031	Computer software engineers, applications.....	507	733	226	44.6	VH	Bachelor's degree
29–2056	Veterinary technologists and technicians.....	71	100	29	41.0	L	Associate degree
13–2052	Personal financial advisors.....	176	248	72	41.0	VH	Bachelor's degree
39–5091	Makeup artists, theatrical and performance.....	2	3	1	39.8	H	Postsecondary vocational award
31–9092	Medical assistants.....	417	565	148	35.4	L	Moderate-term on-the-job training
29–1131	Veterinarians.....	62	84	22	35.0	VH	First professional degree
21–1011	Substance abuse and behavioral disorder counselors.....	83	112	29	34.3	H	Bachelor's degree
39–5094	Skin care specialists.....	38	51	13	34.3	L	Postsecondary vocational award
13–2051	Financial analysts.....	221	295	75	33.8	VH	Bachelor's degree
21–1093	Social and human service assistants.....	339	453	114	33.6	L	Moderate-term on-the-job training
33–9031	Gaming surveillance officers and gaming investigators.....	9	12	3	33.6	L	Moderate-term on-the-job training
31–2021	Physical therapist assistants.....	60	80	20	32.4	H	Associate degree
29–2052	Pharmacy technicians.....	285	376	91	32.0	L	Moderate-term on-the-job training
19–4092	Forensic science technicians.....	13	17	4	30.7	H	Bachelor's degree
29–2021	Dental hygienists.....	167	217	50	30.1	VH	Associate degree
21–1014	Mental health counselors.....	100	130	30	30.0	H	Master's degree
21–1023	Mental health and substance abuse social workers.....	122	159	37	29.9	H	Master's degree
21–1013	Marriage and family therapists.....	25	32	7	29.8	H	Master's degree
31–9091	Dental assistants.....	280	362	82	29.2	L	Moderate-term on-the-job training
15–1051	Computer systems analysts.....	504	650	146	29.0	VH	Bachelor's degree
15–1061	Database administrators.....	119	154	34	28.6	VH	Bachelor's degree
15–1032	Computer software engineers, systems software.....	350	449	99	28.2	VH	Bachelor's degree
39–3012	Gaming and sports book writers and runners.....	18	24	5	28.0	VL	Short-term on-the-job training
19–4091	Environmental science and protection technicians, including health.....	36	47	10	28.0	H	Associate degree

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Continued—Fastest growing occupations, 2006–16

[Numbers in thousands]

2006 National Employment Matrix code and title		Employment		Change, 2006–16		Quartile rank by 2006 median annual wages ¹	Most significant source of postsecondary education or training ²
		2006	2016	Number	Percent		
39–5092	Manicurists and pedicurists.....	78	100	22	27.6	VL	Postsecondary vocational award
29–1123	Physical therapists.....	173	220	47	27.1	VH	Master's degree
29–1071	Physician assistants.....	66	83	18	27.0	VH	Master's degree

¹ The quartile rankings of Occupational Employment Statistics Survey annual wages data are presented in the following categories: VH = very high (\$46,360 or more), H = high (\$30,630 to \$46,300), L = low (\$21,260 to \$30,560), and VL = very low (up to \$21,220). The rankings were based on quartiles, with one-fourth of total employment defining each quartile. Wages are for wage and salary workers.

² An occupation is placed into 1 of 11 categories that best describes the postsecondary education or training needed by most workers to become fully qualified in that occupation. For more information about the categories, see *Occupational Projections and Training Data*, 2006–07 edition, Bulletin 2602 (Bureau of Labor Statistics, February 2006), and *Occupational Projections and Training Data*, 2008–09 edition, Bulletin 2702 (Bureau of Labor Statistics, forthcoming).